

2018 Community Survey

Marquette Township, Michigan

August 15, 2018



Prepared by the Marquette Township Planning and Zoning Department.

Introduction

In November of 2017, the Marquette Township Planning Commission began efforts to update the community's Master Plan. In order to better understand and provide for the needs of our residents, the Planning Commission tasked the Planning & Zoning Department with conducting a community survey. The 2018 Community Survey (conducted in June/July 2018) included questions regarding quality of life, growth management, transit planning, park and recreation planning, and economic development.

The 2018 citizen survey was distributed by mail to approximately 750 households within the township. These residences were chosen by a random selection, and accounted for just over 40% of all Marquette Township households.

To ensure statistical relevance, staff's goal was to obtain a minimum of 145 completed surveys from Marquette Township residences. This goal was achieved, with approximately 248 surveys having been completed and recorded. The resulting 248 completed surveys have a 95% level of confidence with a precision of +/- 6%.



Survey Findings- Overview

- ❖ **Most Important Issues Facing Marquette Township.** The top three issues indicated by respondents in the sum of their three most important choices were: maintaining a low tax rate (40%), managing future growth (14%) and parks, recreation and open space (9%). Rental housing availability and population growth were indicated as the least important (0%).
- ❖ **Satisfaction of Marquette Township Services.** Overall quality of customer service from Township employees (86%), overall quality of fire services (87%), overall quality of garbage collection (87%) were indicated as the most satisfactory Township services by respondents. Overall effectiveness of traffic and congestion management (50%) was the least satisfactory.
- ❖ **Most Important Actions Marquette Township Can Make.** Based on what respondents felt is very important, improving snow plowing efforts (52%), improving safety efforts by police (39%) and improving fire protection (38%) were the most important actions Marquette Township can make. Improving maintenance of parks (17%) was indicated as the least important action.

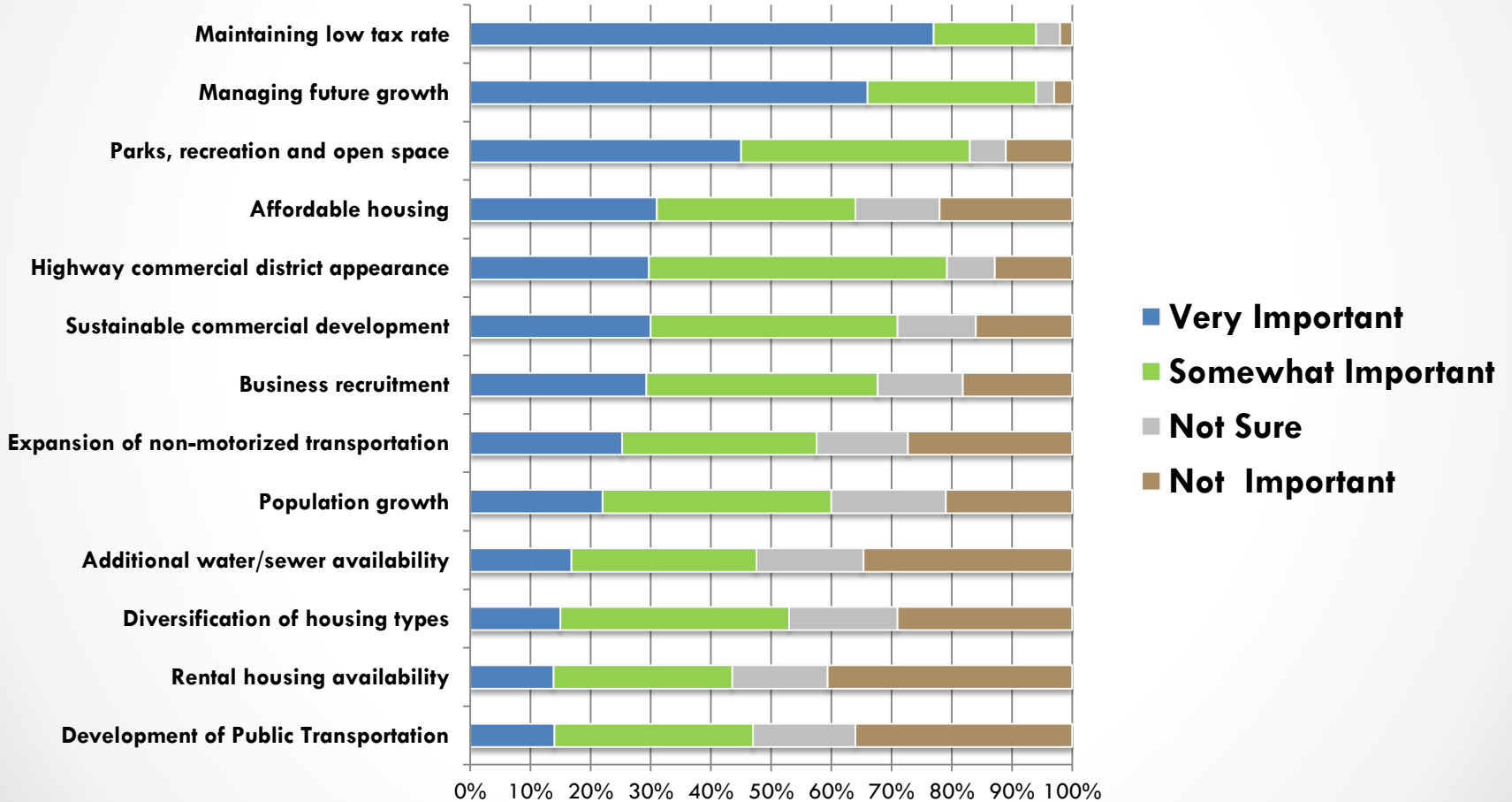
Survey Findings- Overview

- ❖ **Maximum Millage Increase Respondents Would Invest.** Twenty-seven percent (27%) of respondents indicated a 1 mill investment for the types of improvements they indicated as most important. Twenty percent (20%) of respondents indicated a 1.5-2.5 mill investment for desired improvements. Twenty-five (25%) were in favor of a ½ mill investment in improvements. Twenty-eight (28%) of respondents noted that they were in favor of no increased investment in Township improvements.
- ❖ **Support of Maintaining Current Police Services if Funded by Millage.** Fifty-five percent (55%) of respondents were either supportive or very supportive of maintaining current levels of police services if funded by millage. Twenty-three percent (23%) of respondents were not supportive, and twenty-two (22%) were “not sure” of maintaining current police services, if funded by millage.
- ❖ **Support of Millage Dedicated to the Future Replacement of Fire Department Apparatus.** Fifty-one (51%) of respondents indicated support of a ½ mill investment dedicated to the future replacement of fire department apparatus. Fifteen percent (15%) of respondents indicated support of a 1.5-2 mill investment dedicated to the future replacement of fire department apparatus. Thirty-four (34%) of respondents noted that they were in favor of no increased investment dedicated to the future replacement of fire department apparatus .

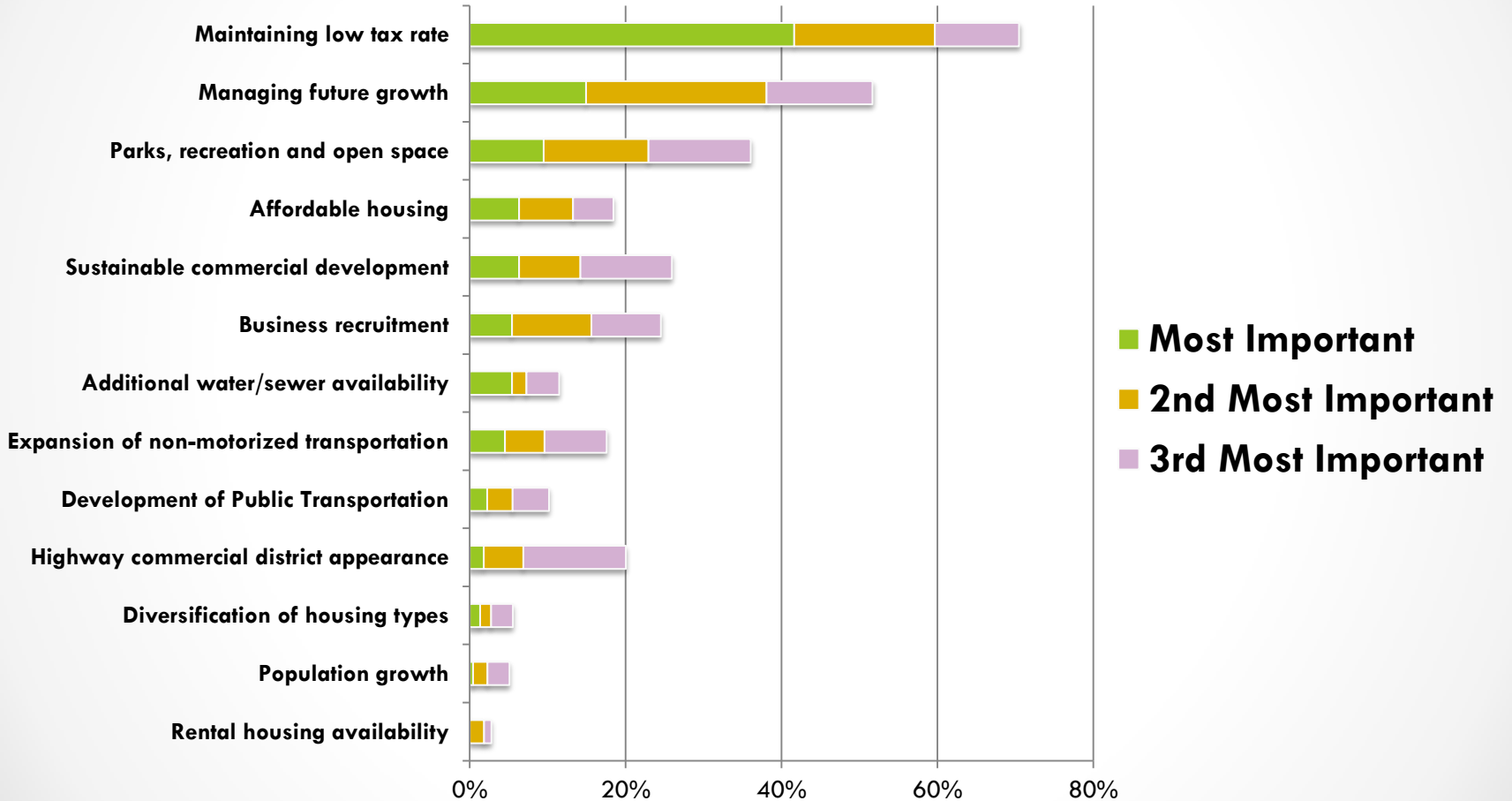
Survey Findings- Overview

- ❖ **Support of Township Pursuing Land Acquisition Opportunities.** Fifty-eight percent (58%) of respondents indicated that they are either very supportive (29%) or somewhat supportive (29%) of Marquette Township pursuing opportunities to acquire additional land with key scenic assets and for parks, trails, and recreation usage. It should also be mentioned that thirty percent (30%) of respondents indicated that they are not supportive of the Township pursuing opportunities to acquire additional land, while twelve (12%) indicated “not sure.”
- ❖ **Support of Township Pursuing Shared Services.** Seventy-four percent (74%) of respondents indicated they feel it is either very important (42%) or somewhat important (32%) for Marquette Township to pursue sharing of services with neighboring communities. Eight percent (8%) of respondents feel that it is not important and the remaining eighteen percent (18%) indicated they are “not sure”.
- ❖ **Desired Future Growth Within Marquette Township.** Commercial/Retail growth was the most desired land use indicated by respondents (31%). Twenty-eight percent (28%) of respondents noted that residential development was desirable, and twenty-eight percent (28%) indicated that parks and recreation growth was most desired. Industrial/manufacturing (13%) growth was the least desirable land use pursuit.

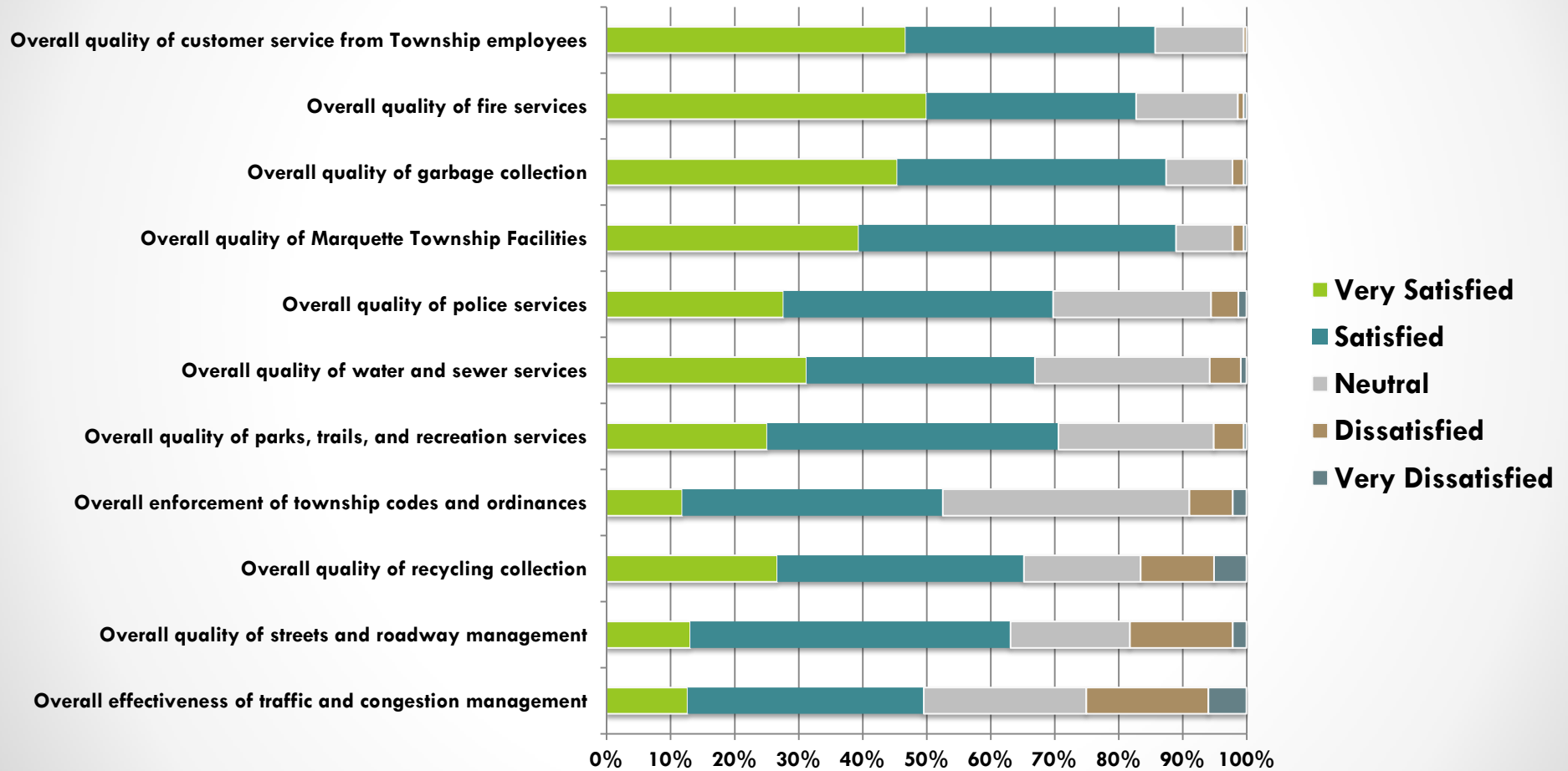
1. For each of the following issues facing Marquette Township, please rate them based on your opinion of importance by checking the appropriate box.



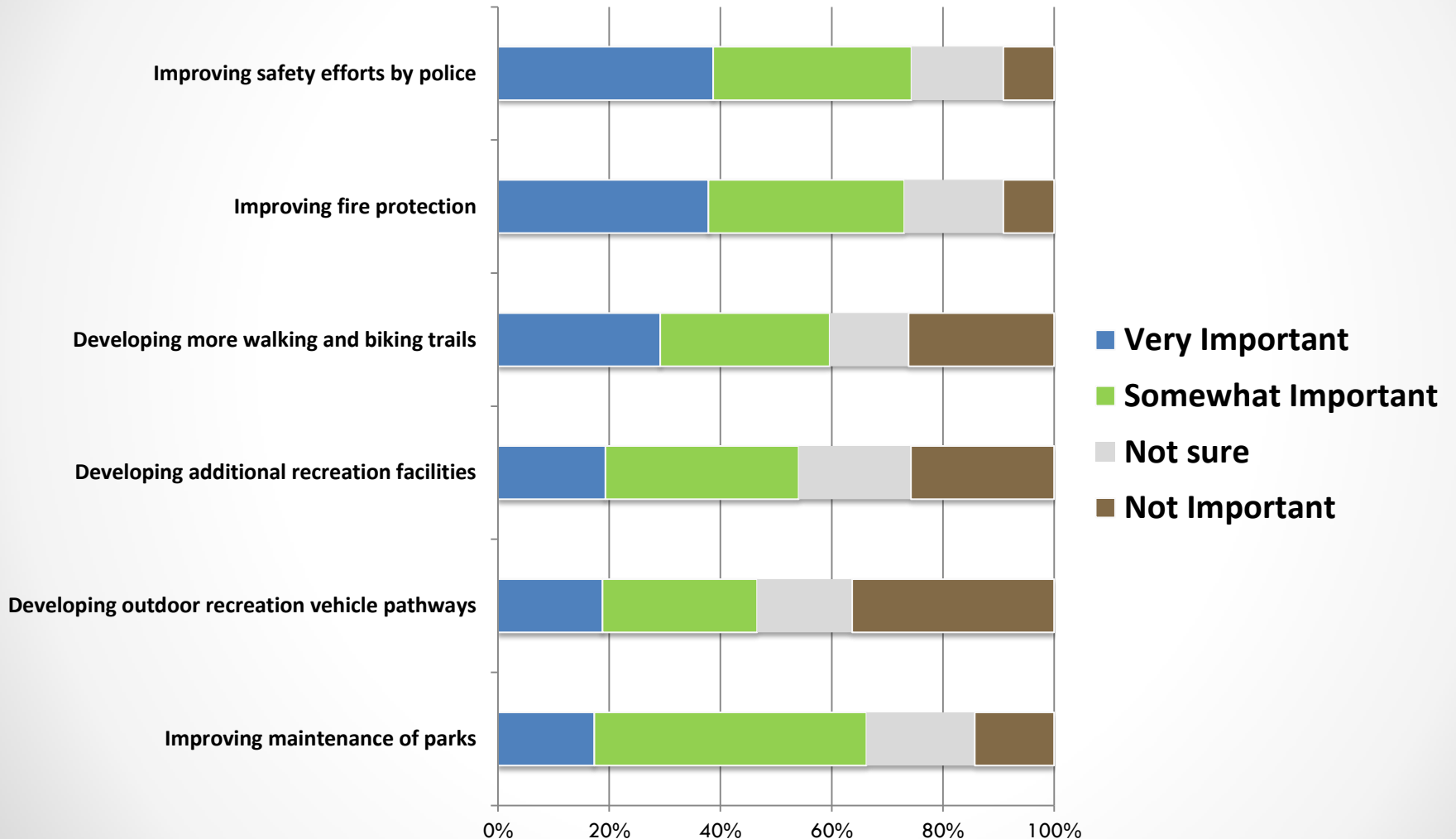
2. Which THREE of the statements regarding Marquette Township's future from the list in Question #1 do you feel are most important?



3. Of the major services Marquette Township provides, please rate your level of satisfaction with each.



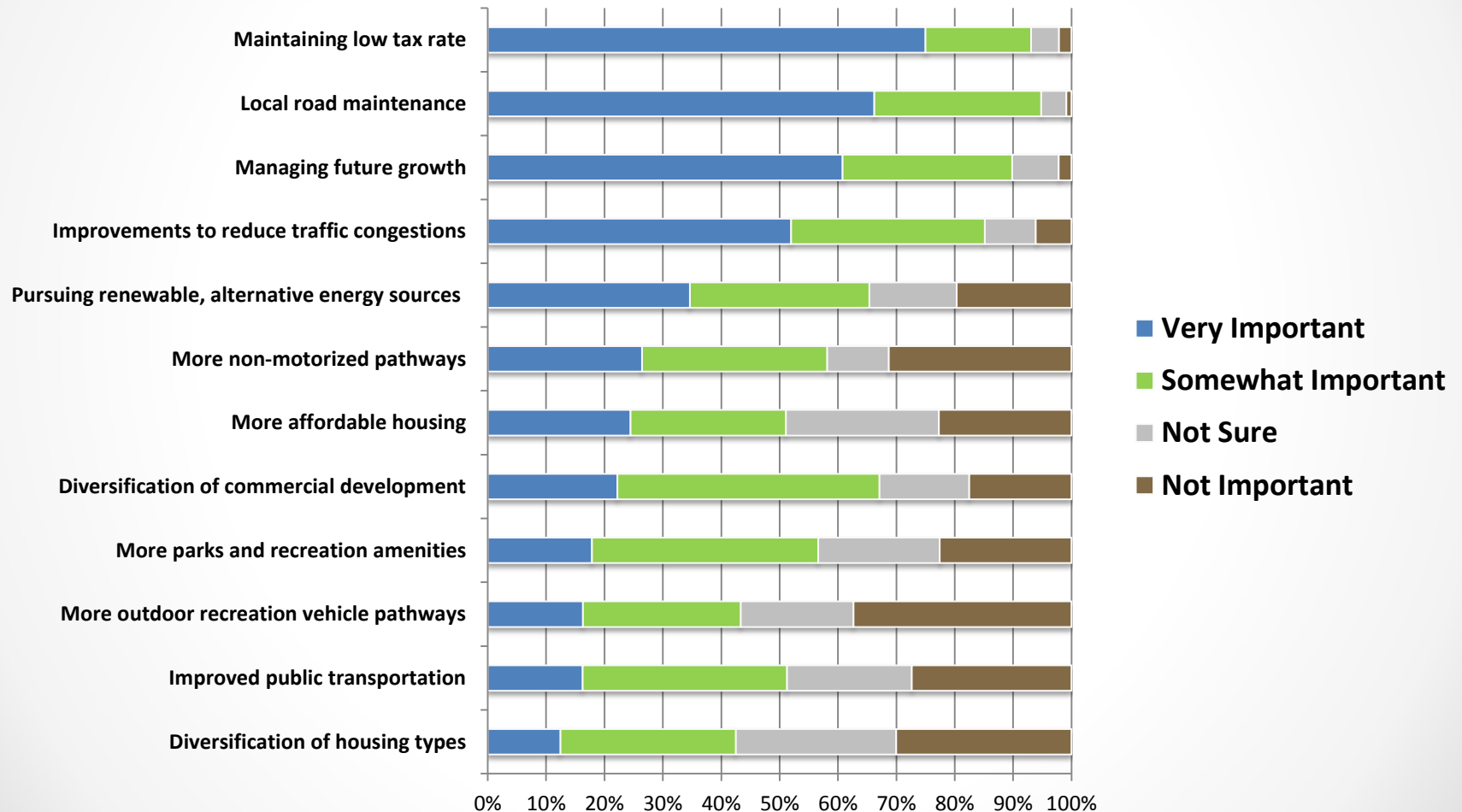
4. For each of the following actions Marquette Township can take, please rate whether you feel the action is very important, somewhat important, not sure, or not important.



Other Actions Indicated by Respondents:

- Red lights & 25 mph signs
- Less development
- US-41 illumination
- Junk car enforcement
- Leave natural places natural
- Transfer station in township
- Deal with traffic problem
- Rewriting noise ordinance
- Road repair
- 2 person fire hall staff, remove siren
- Less trails and rec, more infrastructure
- Preserving natural environment
- Use less salt on roads
- Back road to Lowes
- Developing more residential areas
- Improve street clean up/ collection of leaves
- Provide spring leaf pickup
- Improving yard restoration after paving
- Community gardens
- Protect outdoor rec. opportunities

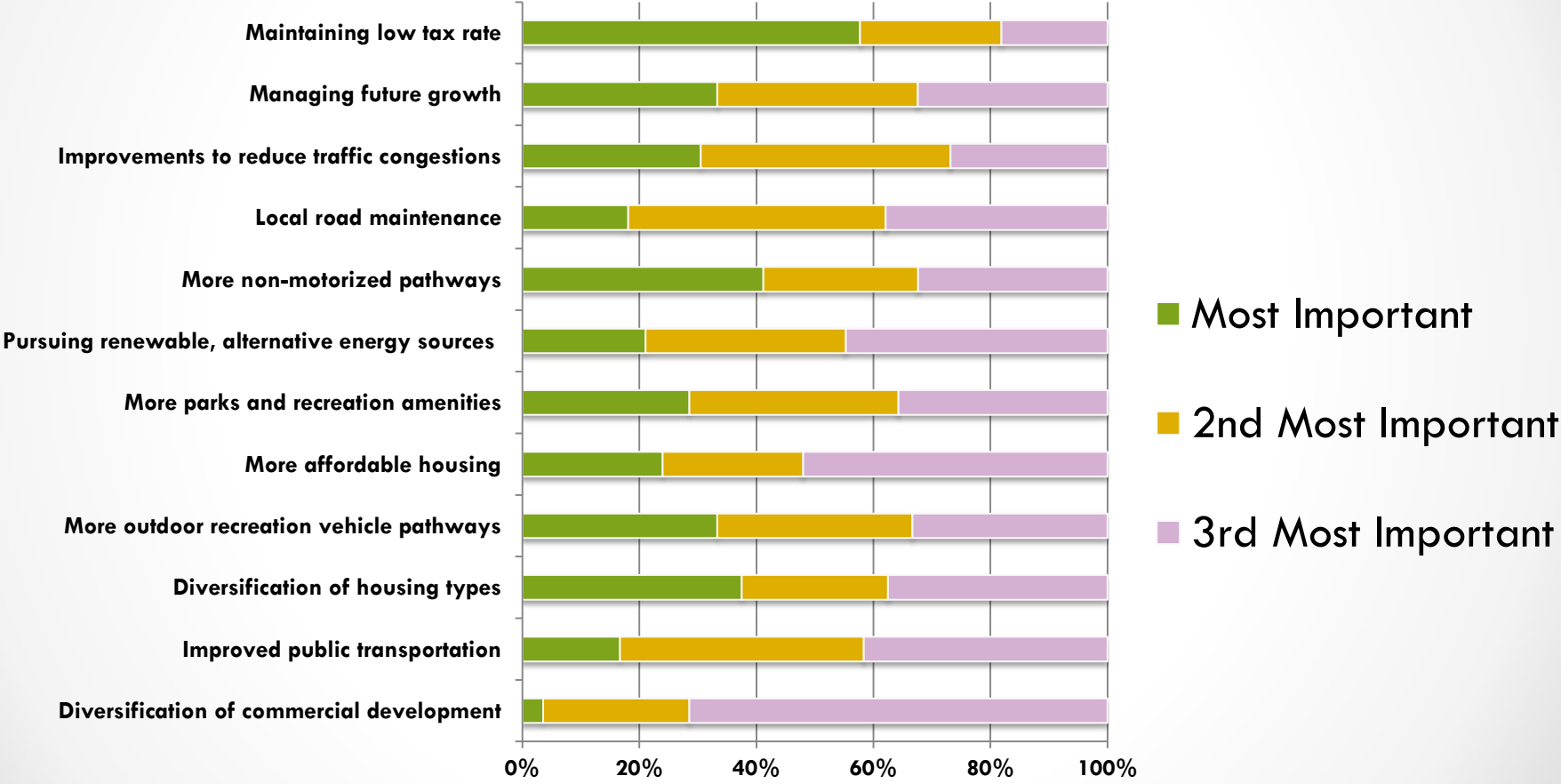
5. For each of the following statements regarding Marquette Township's future, please rate whether you feel the statement is very important, somewhat important, not sure, or not important.



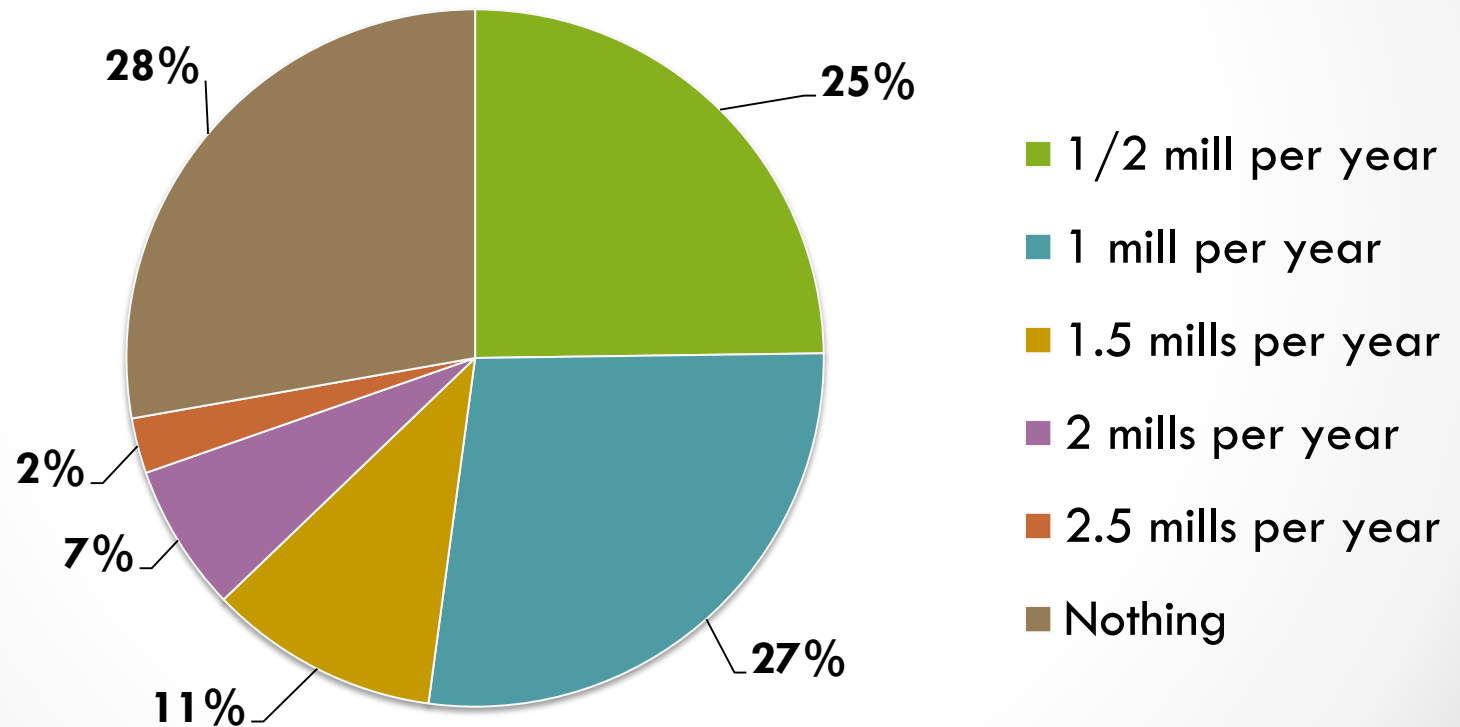
Other Issues Indicated by Respondents:

- US-41 Illumination
- Leaf pickup
- Houses with garages
- Senior Activities
- Limiting commercial development
- Sand clean-up after winter
- Work within your budget
- Sidewalks
- Less commercial development
- Motorized Trails
- Getting rid of junk cars
- US 41 corridor has dangerous traffic patterns
- Promote Natural Gas Expansion for home heating
- Street lighting
- Commercial property tax breaks
- Preserving natural environment
- Return envelope for Township Payment
- Fast internet and good phone coverage
- Safe Access to Businesses
- Better Lighting on Highway
- Back road to Meijers/Lowes
- Plan Roads/ Manage Traffic
- Convenient location for leaf drop off
- Homelessness
- Need service roads

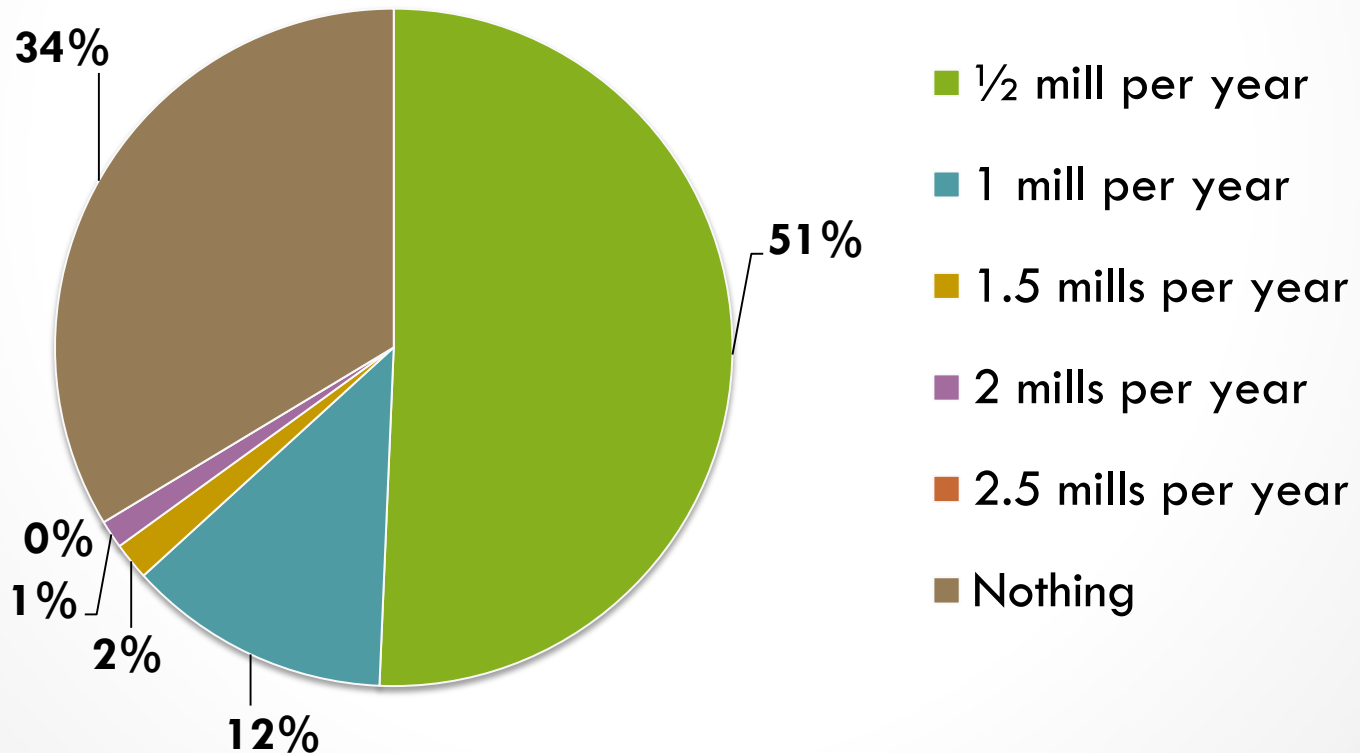
6. Which THREE of the statements regarding Marquette Township's future from the list in question #5 do you feel are most important?



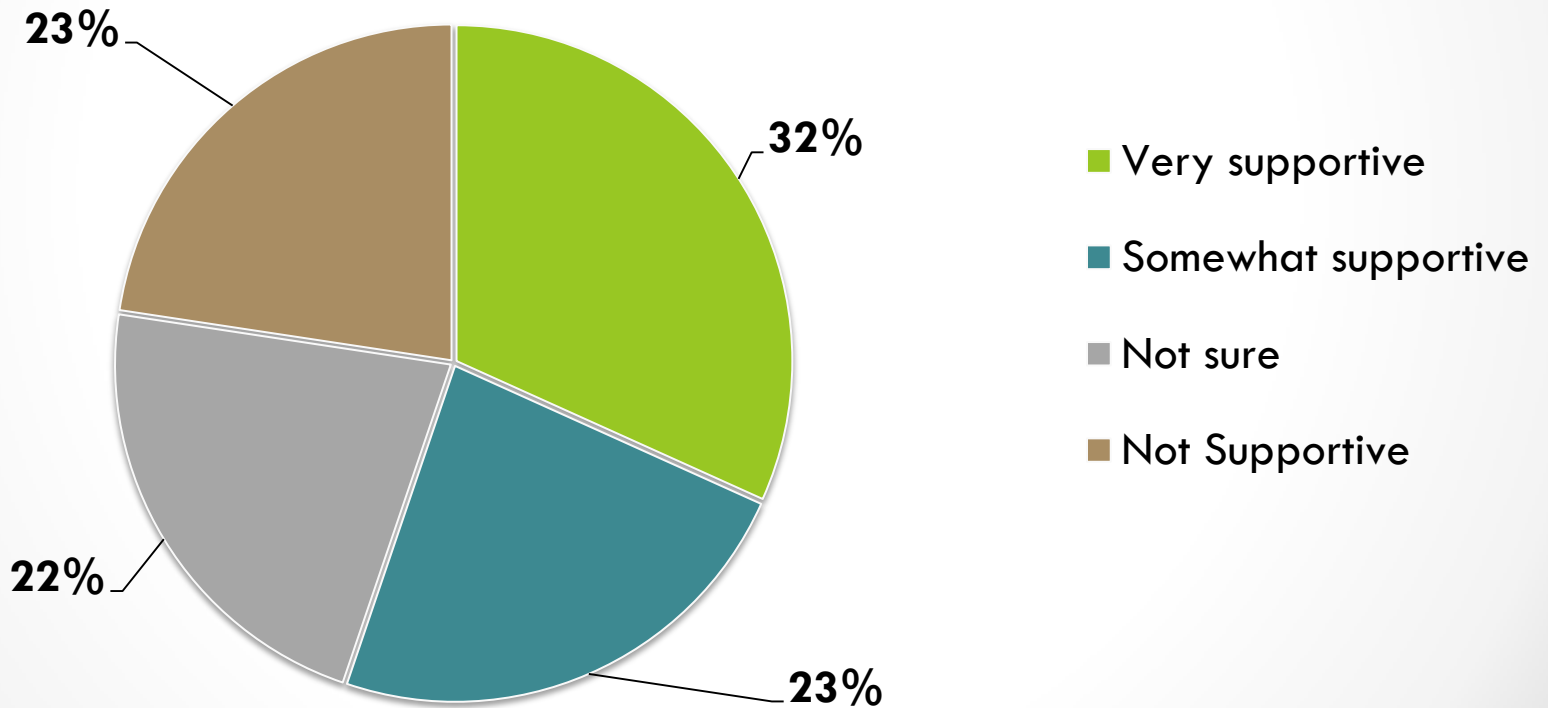
7. What is the maximum additional mill increase you would be willing to invest for the types of Township improvements you indicated are most important to you in Questions #4 and #5?



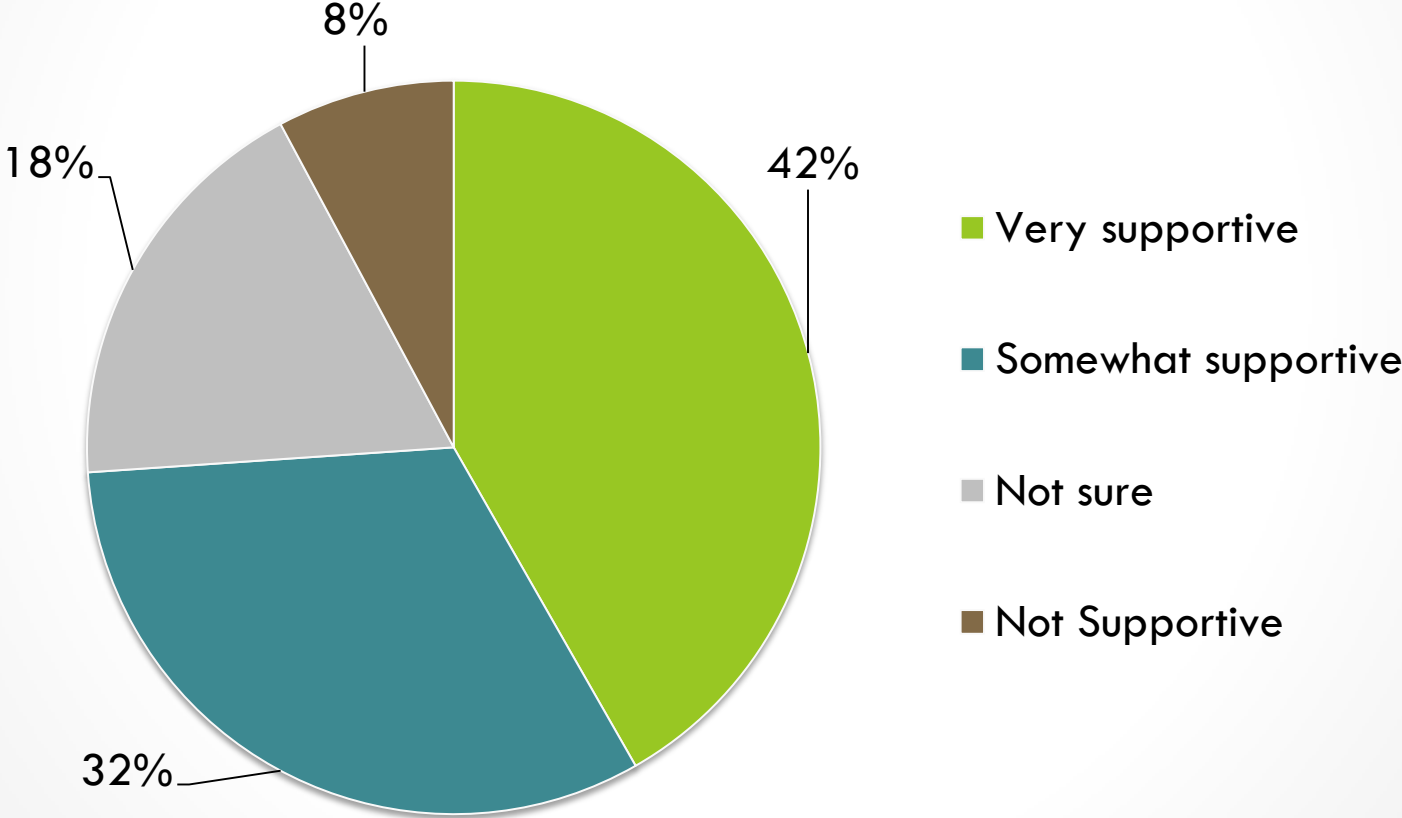
8. In the fall of 2017, a one year special assessment of .25 mills was dedicated to the purchase of an ambulance utilized by the Marquette Township Fire Department. In order to protect the investments of Marquette Township Fire Department assets, would you be in support of a millage dedicated to the future replacement of Fire Department apparatus? If so, what is the maximum additional millage increase you would be in favor of?



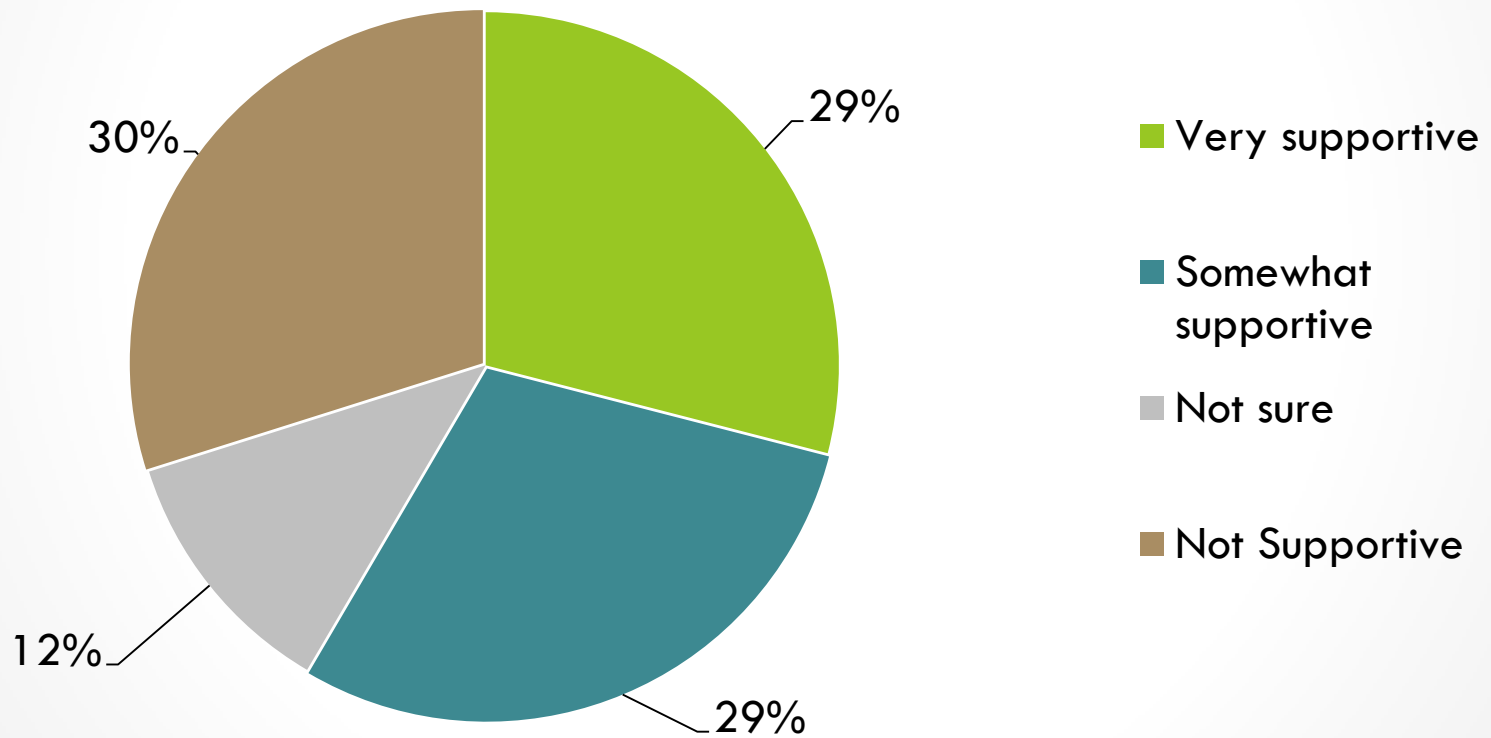
9. Currently, Marquette Township police services are provided by the Marquette County Sheriff's Department under a contract funded for 80 hours per week of additional patrol coverage. How supportive are you of Marquette Township maintaining the current Marquette County Sheriff's Department contract hours if funded by additional millage?



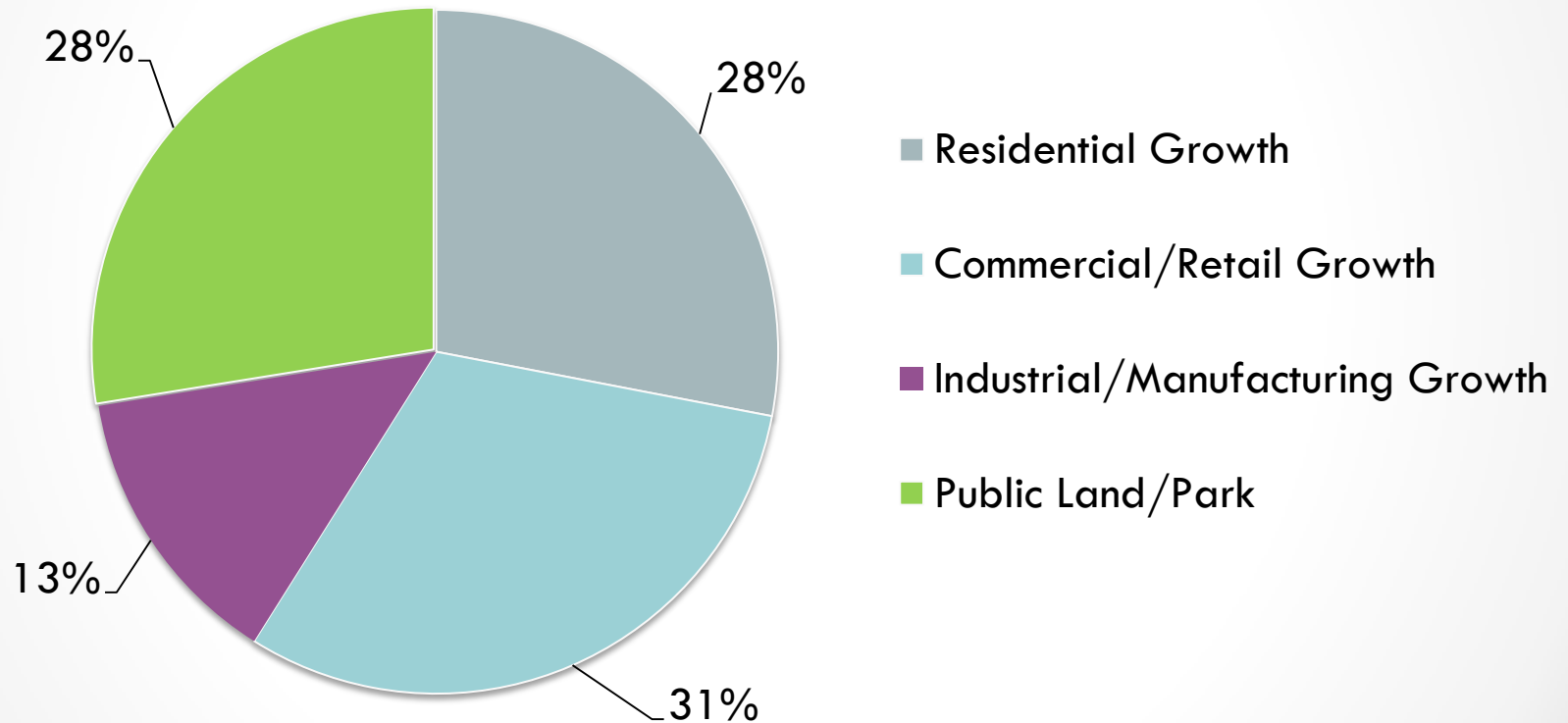
10. How important do you feel it is for Marquette Township to pursue sharing of various services with neighboring communities? (Example: Sands Township, Ishpeming Township, Negaunee Township, Powell Township, Chocolay Township.)



11. How supportive would you be of Marquette Township purchasing additional land within the Heartwood Forest or similar locations with key scenic assets which could be used for preservation, parks, trails, and recreation purposes?

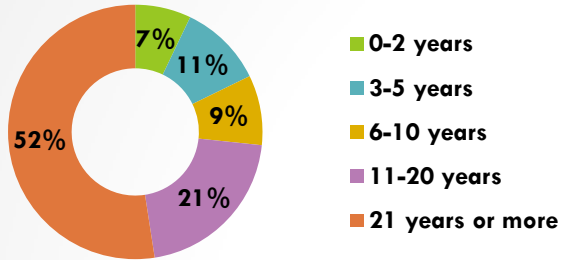


12. What type of development do you most support regarding future growth of Marquette Township?

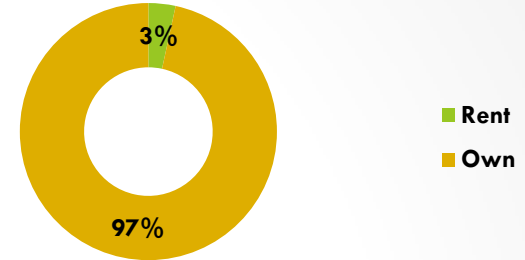


Respondent Demographics

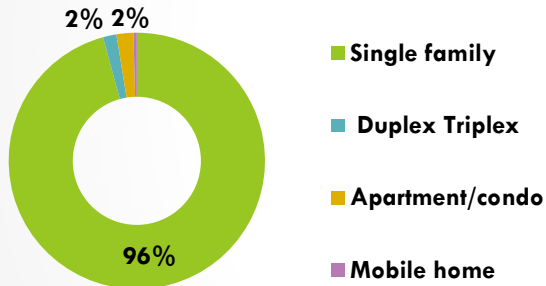
Length of Marquette Township residence



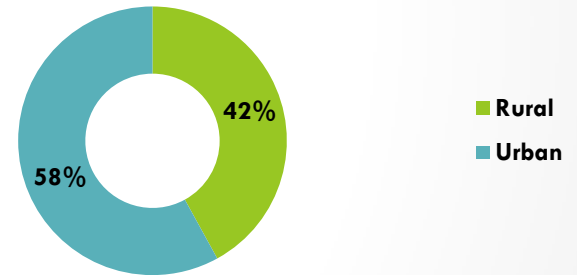
Rental vs Home Ownership



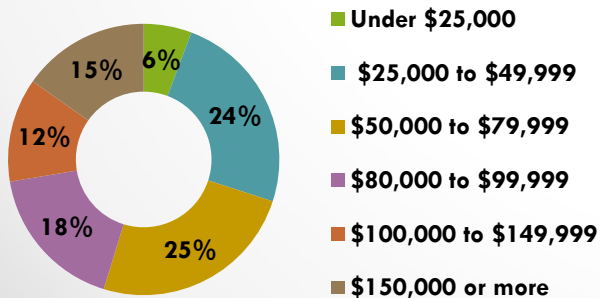
Home Description



Location of Home



Household Income



Gender

