

Le Sueur County Comprehensive Land Use & Zoning Code Update

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Vision 2050: The Le Sueur County Comprehensive Land Use and Zoning Code Update aims to guide the county's growth by balancing its historical heritage and resources with strategies to expand the tax base. This plan will serve as a policy framework and physical guide for county staff and decision-makers, shaping land use and development over the next 25 years.

During this engagement phase, the project team gathered feedback through various channels, including an online survey, comment map, community forum, pop-up events, focus groups, and a local agency webinar. This summary will provide detailed insights from public feedback and key findings.



VISION 2050
Le Sueur County



Le Sueur County
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW



1

Local Agency
Webinar



1

Community
Forum



2

Community
Pop Ups



3

Focus
Groups



242+

Engagement
Event Attendees



273

Survey Responses



74

INPUTiD
Comments

PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS

273 Survey Responses

 44 Live in Le Sueur County

 51 Own Property in Le Sueur County

 128 Live and Own Property in Le Sueur County

TOP THREE ISSUES TO ADDRESS



1

Jobs & Economic
Development



2

Natural
Resources



3

Housing

TOP HOUSING ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS TO PRIORITIZE OVER THE NEXT 25 YEARS



1st

Single-family
housing



2nd

Incentives & resources to
maintain existing housing



3rd

Senior housing
development

TOP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS TO PRIORITIZE



1st

Small business &
entrepreneurship



2nd

Business recruitment
& retention



3rd

Broadband internet
development

TOP BUSINESSES OR SERVICES NEEDED IN LE SUEUR COUNTY



1st

Food establishments



2nd

Retail businesses



3rd

Childcare providers

TOP PARK OR PUBLIC FACILITY USED IN LE SUEUR COUNTY



1st

Lake Washington



2nd

Ney Nature Center

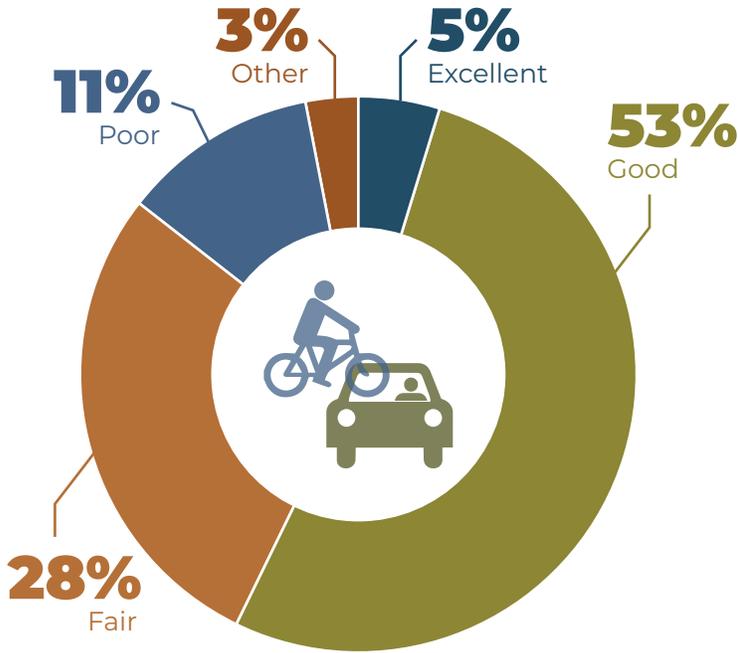


3rd

Sakatah State Park

RATING OF OVERALL CONDITION OF LE SUEUR COUNTY'S TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

(Roads, sidewalks, bike paths, etc.)



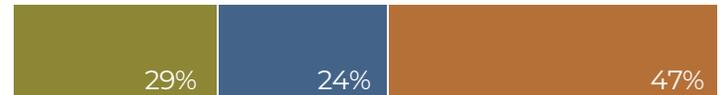
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS?



Quality farmland should be protected



Land use should be deregulated to accommodate private development and respond to market demands



More should be done to protect the water quality of lakes and streams



Mineral mining should be encouraged for economic development while balancing neighbor impacts



TOP COMMENT THEMES

- ★ Value the small-town feel and life in Le Sueur County
- ★ Preserve agricultural land for continued agricultural use
- ★ Prioritize development in and around Cities. Allow for development that is clustered so as not to break up agricultural land
- ★ Pursue economic development efforts that alleviate tax burden. Prioritize activities that support existing businesses
- ★ Desire more trails that provide access to parks and lakes
- ★ Concern about the cost to maintain existing transportation infrastructure, let alone add to it

COMMUNITY FORUM



65+

Community Forum Attendees

Goal of this event was to give an overview of the project and gain input from attendees

TOP COMMENT THEMES:

- ★ Local engagement from residents and property owners is a top concern and desired priority
- ★ Desire to maintain the rural nature of the county – including preservation of prime agricultural land for continued agricultural use
- ★ Desire to maintain good public services and improve county roads, with balance of tax burden on property owners

FOCUS GROUPS



31

Agriculture Focus Group Attendees



12

Business Owner Focus Group Attendees



8

City Focus Group Attendees

TOP COMMENT THEMES:

- ★ Support business retention, expansion and attraction through promotion of the county and business support activities instead of incentives
- ★ Cluster development to minimize loss of farmland
- ★ Promote commercial and industrial development where municipal services can readily be accessed

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES



27

Local Agency Webinar Attendees



74

INPUTiD Comments



150+

People Engaged at Community Pop Ups

Pop Ups held at TCU vs WEM High School Basketball Game and Christmas in the Valley

TOP COMMENT THEMES:

- ★ Desire for more flexibility in the zoning code to support uses such as home based businesses
- ★ Value for natural resources and desire to improve and protect water quality
- ★ Concern for government overstep
- ★ Interactive comment map input provided insight to location-based land use and transportation needs