

From: Pezzullo, Jason
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 3:16 PM
To: Kirkland, Kenneth
Subject: FW: Comp Plan Update - draft survey questions for the project website
Attachments: Survey123 Questions (SF).docx

From: Steve Frias <stevefrias2001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 11:23 AM
To: Pezzullo, Jason <jpezzullo@CranstonRI.org>
Cc: Sweet, Ashley <sweet.ashley@wseinc.com>; Esq Stephen H. Marsella <shmlaw@verizon.net>
Subject: Re: Comp Plan Update - draft survey questions for the project website

Jason

Here are my edits to the questionnaire. There are in green.

In general, some of the questions appeared to be framed in a way that presupposes certain type of response.

Therefore, I added some neutral questions to allow for different types of responses.

I also added other questions as you will see.

I will explain why I added these various questions.

I added Steve Marsella because as our attorney he should be kept in the loop on this.

PS Cranston was misspelt throughout the document. I corrected that for you.

On Friday, September 22, 2023 at 01:53:43 PM EDT, Pezzullo, Jason <jpezzullo@cranstonri.gov> wrote:

Commissioners,

For the first phase of the Comp Plan update process, the City will be using an interactive website portal to gather initial feedback from the public for the plan. I've attached a draft of the generic questions we are considering using for this early step. Please review and get your feedback to me no later than Wednesday, 12:00 PM so that I can compile your comments and we can discuss them at our October 3rd agenda.

***** DO NOT REPLY ALL WHEN SENDING ME YOUR COMMENTS *****

Have a great weekend and reach out to me directly if you have any questions. Thanks,

Jason

Jason M. Pezzullo,MCP, MPA, AICP

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WEB LINKS/TOOLS

- ArcGIS Survey123 is an intuitive form that we link to our websites. This survey captures data on the web or with mobile devices. The map allows you to pinpoint locations where you can provide site-specific comments. We can choose which basemap and locator is used in the survey (e.g. Open Street Map) or define contents of the basemap using ArcGIS Online.

Question for client: What would you like residents to identify through this map? (examples: places you want to protect, places that need improvement). Locations can be tied to relevant topic areas. Any preference for basemap/content in the survey?

Land Use

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with how your local neighborhood is zoned? (In your answer, please provide the name of your neighborhood).

Do you prefer your neighborhood to be primarily residential or to be a mix of commercial and residential? (In your answer, please provide the name of your neighborhood).

In general, do you prefer residential, commercial and industrial uses to be mixed or to be separated?

In general, in reviewing new developments, should the protection of existing residential neighborhoods be prioritized?

Should the existing density of your neighborhood be maintained or changed? (In your answer, please provide the name of your neighborhood).

In general, do you agree or disagree with maintaining the existing rural nature of Western Cranston?

Where do you see opportunities for new development or redevelopment?

Are there areas that should be rezoned to better reflect their current or desired use?

Which places do you believe are being misused or underutilized?

Housing

Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the amount of low to moderate income housing, which are generally multi-family housing, in Cranston?

Do you believe your neighborhood needs more low to moderate income housing? (In your answer, please provide the name of your neighborhood).

If you believe, there a need for more low to moderate income ~~affordable or diverse~~ housing options, where should it be located?

Are there neighborhoods or buildings in disrepair that need attention?

Where would you like to see more housing developments or community living spaces? (Too vague, what does this mean exactly – provide definitions or drop the question.)

Economic Development

Which areas have potential for new businesses or commercial hubs?

Where do you see opportunities for job creation or economic growth?

Are there underdeveloped areas that could be revitalized for economic purposes?

Natural Resources

Which natural habitats or features should be protected or preserved?

Are there areas where environmental restoration is needed? (Too vague, what does this mean exactly – provide definitions or drop the question.)

Where do you enjoy experiencing nature, and what places are important for local wildlife?

Historic Preservation

Are there unrecognized or under-protected historic sites or buildings in Cranston?

Which areas represent important cultural or historical significance to you?

Are there historic areas at risk that need more attention or preservation?

Services and Facilities

In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the public facilities (e.g. roads, schools) and services provided by the City of Cranston?

Do you believe there is a need for new public facilities or services? If yes, what type of public facility and where should it be located, or what type of services should be provided?

~~Where would you suggest new public facilities (e.g., clinics, schools, fire stations)?~~

Are there areas of Cranston that are underserved by public utilities or services?

~~Which facilities or services do you use most often, and where do you see gaps?~~ (You already asked whether or not they see a need for more facilities or services)

Do you believe there are certain facilities or services provided by the City of Cranston that are unnecessary or too expensive for Cranston?

For you, how important is cost to the taxpayers in determining whether to support the building of a new public facility: very important, somewhat important, somewhat not important or not important at all?

Should the capacity of the existing public facilities such as elementary schools or the cost for providing services such as education be factor or not a factor in evaluating new housing projects?

Open Space and Recreation

In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the open space and recreational facilities by the City of Cranston?

Do you believe there is a need for new open space and recreational facilities? If yes, where would you like to see more parks, green spaces, or recreational facilities?

Are there current recreational areas that need expansion or improvement?

~~Which trails, parks, or open spaces do you frequent, and what enhancements would you suggest?~~ (You already asked whether or not they see a need for more parks etc)

For you, how important is cost to the taxpayers in determining whether to support the preservation of open space or the building of recreational facilities: very important, somewhat important, somewhat not important or not important at all?

Circulation

In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the level of traffic in the City of Cranston?

Do you believe there are roads or intersections in Cranston where traffic needs improvement? If yes, please list those roads and intersections.

Do you believe there are roads or intersections that ~~Which roads, intersections, or pathways~~ need improvements or repairs? If yes, please list those roads and intersections.

In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the level of public transportation in the City of Cranston?

If you are not satisfied, where do you see the need for better public transportation options or stops?

In general, do you rely primarily on a personal automobile or public transportation?

If you currently rely primarily on a personal automobile, if the level of public transportation in the City of Cranston was increased, would you switch to relying primarily on public transportation?

Are there areas where pedestrian or cyclist safety is a concern?

For the circulation element, it would be preferred* to have an in depth map akin to this:**
https://srpedd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=c411017ec2d44cf7804bb591d0e52b90&webmap=0bb06ab3cb0a403090c68f22d22d5db6&layer=Route6_Map1_2446

***If this cannot be achieved then we should pull questions from this crowdsource reporter tool.

Should the level of traffic be a factor or not a factor in evaluating new housing projects?

Sustainability/Energy

In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the level of renewable energy production in Cranston?

Are there areas in ~~Where could Cranston~~ where benefit from renewable energy installations (e.g., solar farms ~~panels~~, wind turbines) should be located?

Are there areas in Cranston where renewable energy installations (e.g., solar farms, wind turbines) should not be located?

Are there areas where energy-efficient infrastructure or technologies could be implemented?

Which parts of Cranston do you see as potential hubs for sustainability initiatives? (Too vague, what does this mean exactly – provide definitions or drop the question.)

Agriculture (urban and rural)

Which farmlands or agricultural spaces should be preserved?

Are there urban areas suitable for community gardens or urban farming?

Do you know of abandoned lands that could be converted to agricultural use, either urban or rural?

Water Supply

Are there sources of clean water that need protection?

Which areas face issues related to water quality or flooding?

Are there places where infrastructure for water storage or distribution could be enhanced?

From: Pezzullo, Jason
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 3:17 PM
To: Kirkland, Kenneth
Subject: FW: Survey Questions Response

From: Kathleen Lanphear <kathleenmlanphear@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2023 12:17 PM
To: Pezzullo, Jason <jpezzullo@CranstonRI.org>; Stephen H Marsella, Esq. <shmlaw@verizon.net>; Michael E. Smith <mcsmith56@aol.com>
Subject: Survey Questions Response

Good Morning Jason-

I am following up on my response to your request for feedback on the draft interactive survey. In my response to you, I asked a series of general background questions about the survey and suggested that they could be answered at our October 3rd meeting so that all Commissioners could have the benefit of the information. Those questions were not addressed at the meeting so I am asking you to please respond and to provide the information to all Commissioners. I've copied our Solicitor on this in the event he has any concerns.

My email to you is included below and I asked at the meeting that it be made part of the record so that all Commission members would be aware of the questions I asked and the comments I provided.

Thank you for your assistance.

Kathy Lanphear

**Kathleen
Lanphear** <kathleenmlanphear@gmail.com>

Sep 27,
2023,
11:19 AM
(8 days
ago)

to Esq., Jason

Good Morning Jason-

I have some general comments regarding the survey as well as a few questions that can be addressed at our meeting so that the other Commissioners can benefit from the information that will be provided.

Comments: The manner in which survey questions are posed can create answers that are skewed one way or another. I think that many of the questions, as they are currently worded, presuppose facts or circumstances and thereby affect how a question will be answered. I think more general, neutral, and open ended questions should be presented.

In reviewing the topic areas, I'd like to see a topical area that queries about neighborhoods and asks respondents what issues of importance most directly affect their neighborhood (in a positive way and in a negative way) and how the Comprehensive Plan should address those issues. I would also like to ask an open ended/neutral question about what issues addressed in a Comprehensive Plan are most important to the respondent and why. Similarly, a query about what issues directly affect quality of life in Cranston or are the reason they became and continue to be residents of Cranston.

Questions:

Who prepared the survey?

How/Why were these topics chosen?

Why were these specific questions asked?

Is this a standard survey that has been used by other comparable cities/towns when soliciting information for their Comprehensive Plan review?

If not, do such surveys exist that could be reviewed and used as a starting point?

Who is the target audience for this survey?

Thanks for sending the survey for our comments and I look forward to our discussion on Tuesday.

Kathy