



A few minutes of your time today
can affect the future of Marion
for the next 20 years!

**CITY OF MARION
2009
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY**

[Property owners, Residents, and Business Owners of all ages: Now is your chance to be a part of Marion's future! Community meetings (SPRING 2009) and the results of this survey will help mold the Comprehensive Plan for the City until 2030.]

PLEASE RETURN TO:
City Hall, Advisory Plan Department
301 S. Branson Street, Marion, IN 46952

QUESTIONS:
City Planner, Aletha Dunston 765.651.4295

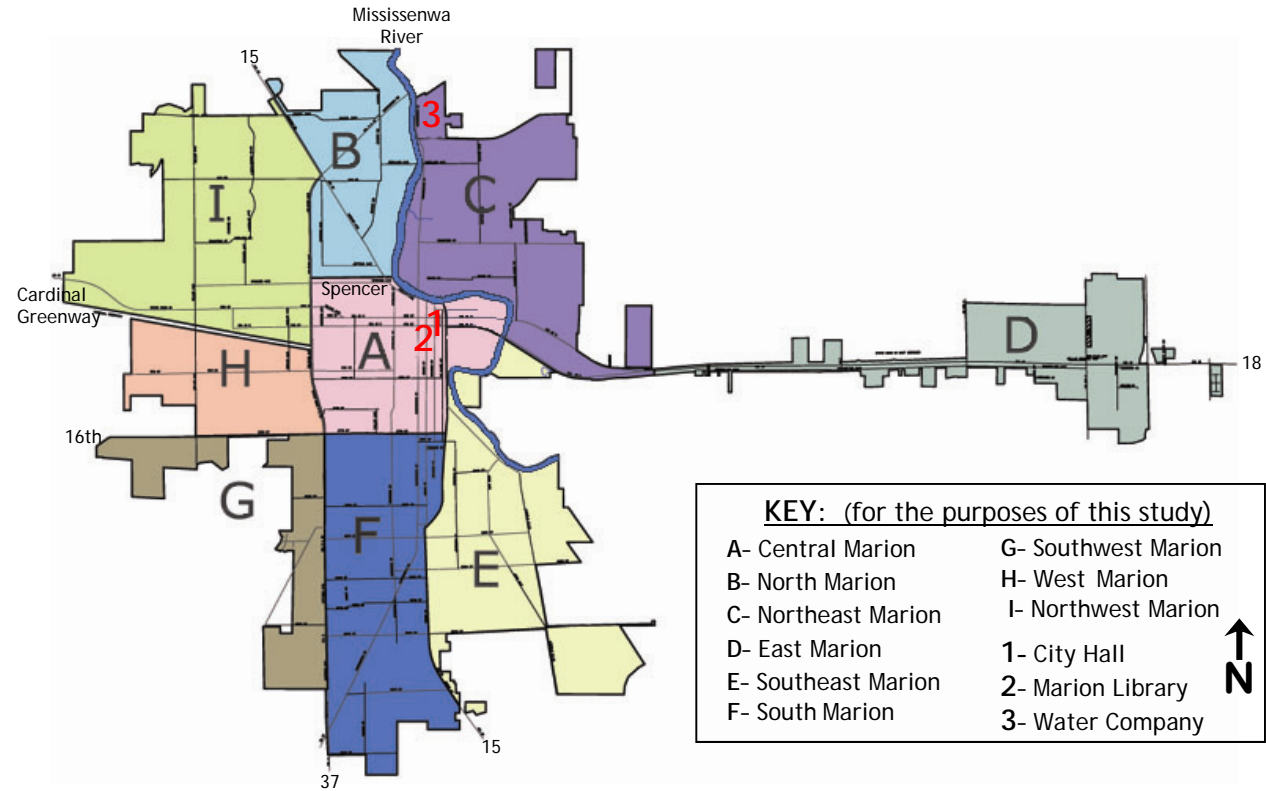
Please Return to:
Advisory Plan Department
301 S. Branson Street
Marion, IN 46952

ADVISORY PLAN DEPARTMENT
301 S. Branson Street
Marion, IN 46952

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

The information gathered from this survey will be used during community meetings and to form the update of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The plan will help guide growth and development within the City by identifying issues and setting long-term goals. The Plan will be used as a decision-making tool by multiple City departments and organizations.

PLEASE RETURN THIS SURVEY BY FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH, 2009 to:
Aletha Dunston at City Hall, 301 S. Branson Street, Marion, IN 46952. You may also return it to the Marion Public Library Front Desk or the Marion Utilities Billing Office.



BASED ON THE MAP, IN WHICH SECTORS OF THE CITY DO YOU LIVE OR OWN PROPERTY? (CALL IF UNSURE)

(PLEASE CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY)

A B C D E F G H I I LIVE OUTSIDE OF
MARION CITY LIMITS

IN WHICH SECTOR OF THE CITY DO YOU WORK? (PLEASE CIRCLE ANSWER)

A B C D E F G H I I WORK OUTSIDE OF NOT
MARION CITY LIMITS APPLICABLE

PLEASE FOLD AND TAPE HERE TO MAIL. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

PLEASE ANSWER AS MANY OF THE FOLLOWING SURVEY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE. YOUR INPUT IS VALUABLE TO THE CITY'S PLANNING PROCESS. RESULTS WILL BE POSTED ONCE COMPILED.

THANK YOU!

PLEASE SHARE YOUR OPINION:

1. HOW OFTEN DO YOU OR YOUR FAMILY SHOP IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS? (NEVER, YEARLY, MONTHLY, WEEKLY, DAILY)

- N Y M W D
 Within City limits of Marion
 Within Grant County (excluding Marion)
 Local cities outside of Grant County
 North Park Mall
 Downtown Marion
 SR 37 / Western / "The Bypass"

2. WHICH FACTORS AFFECT YOUR DECISION NOT TO SHOP IN THE MARION AREA? (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Goods and services not available locally
 Better selection of goods and services offered elsewhere
 Better service available elsewhere- friendly, helpful, etc.
 Lower prices elsewhere
 More parking and better traffic conditions elsewhere
 Cleaner/More attractive looking stores and environments
 Other: _____

3. IF YOU ARE A BUSINESS OWNER, WHAT LOCAL FACTORS LIMIT YOUR ABILITY TO SUCCEED/EXPAND? (PLEASE CHOOSE UP TO 5)

- I am not a business owner
 I have no limiting factors Limited access to capital
 Energy costs No marketing opportunities
 Property taxes Land/Facility availability/cost
 Labor availability/cost Raw material availability/cost
 Transportation/Parking Local government regulations
 Other: _____

4. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING? (YES, NO, UNSURE) THE CITY NEEDS...

- Y N U
 more affordable housing
 to set aside land for future development
 to focus on rehabbing/redeveloping within City
 to annex adjacent land/county neighborhoods
 to retain / attract more young professionals
 to focus on becoming attractive to families
 to make job creation a priority
 to make design and appearance a priority
 to make preservation a priority
 more "green" and environmentally friendly practices

5. WHAT SHOULD BE THE CITY'S PRIORITY TO INVEST PUBLIC FUNDS TO IMPROVE THE CITY? (HIGH PRIORITY OR LOW PRIORITY)

- H L
 Encourage residential development / redevelopment
 Encourage industrial development / expansion
 Encourage retail & service development / retention
 Encourage creative / technology growth
 Focus on design / Overall cleanup
 Improved and additional streets and sidewalks
 Cleaner/More attractive stores and environments
 Other: _____

6. FOR WHICH ITEMS ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY SLIGHTLY HIGHER TAXES? (PLEASE CHECK YES OR NO)

- Y N
 Improved or additional sidewalks
 Improved or additional streets
 Improved aesthetics of major gateways into Marion
 Crosswalk / Intersection improvements on major roads
 Public gathering spaces / Parks
 Linked pedestrian paths along roads / Bicycle lanes
 Improving the River / Creating Public Riverfront areas
 Affordable housing / Quality workforce housing
 Infrastructure / Stormwater facilities
 Public parking / Garages
 Better public transportation systems
 Increased public services (police, fire, etc.)
 Other: _____
 Do not raise our taxes for any reason

7. WHAT MAJOR ISSUES SHOULD THE CITY OF MARION FOCUS ON IN THE NEXT 20 YEARS? (PLEASE CHOOSE TOP 5 ANSWERS)

- Local job opportunities Tourism / Marketing
 Recreational opportunities Neighborhood improvements
 Developing vacant lots Retain/bring youth to live here
 Cultural and civic activities Historic Preservation
 Population growth Restore Downtown Marion
 Community services Housing for young families
 Beautification efforts Housing for elderly / retirees
 Other: _____

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD: (WHERE YOU LIVE OR WORK INSIDE CITY LIMITS)

- 8. HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD?
 Less than a year
 1-5 years
 6-10 years
 11-20 years
 21-30 years
 31+ years
9. HOW MANY PETS (CATS & DOGS) SHOULD BE ALLOWED PER HOUSE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?
 0 4
 1 5
 2 6
 3 7+
 No restrictions; as many as they feel they can care for

10. ARE YOU AWARE OF YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION? (PLEASE CHOOSE ONE)

- Yes, I have attended a meeting in the past
 Yes, but I can't make it to the meetings (date & times)
 Yes, but I am not interested in being involved
 No, I am not aware of our Neighborhood Association

11. PLEASE RATE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD:

- Y N (PLEASE CHECK YES OR NO)
 Our neighborhood is generally safe
 Our neighborhood is safe at night
 Police protection is adequate
 Local schools are adequately preparing our children for the future
 I have easy access to public transportation
 Our overall street appearance/cleanliness is satisfactory
 Owners take good care of their property
 Rental housing appearance/cleanliness is satisfactory
 There should be minimum standards for rental housing regarding appearance, safety, and public health concerns
 We need more parks/recreational opportunities
 We need more local/neighborhood businesses
 I would buy produce regularly at a farmer's market
 I participate in the Annual Neighborhood Cleanup
 I know many of my neighbors
 I would recommend my neighborhood to others to live

12. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT HOME-BASED BUSINESSES IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD? (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Allow home offices that have no impact outside of home
 Allow only on main roads
 Allow anywhere; with parking, signage and lighting restrictions
 Allow anywhere; with no restrictions
 Do not allow in my neighborhood

PLEASE TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF: (YOUR ANSWERS ARE COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS)

- 13. AGE: Under 18 18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56+
14. STATUS: Single Married
15. DO YOU OWN OR RENT YOUR HOME? Own Rent
16. WHERE DO YOU LIVE? Inside city limits of Marion Outside city limits, but within Grant County Outside of Grant County

- 17. ARE YOU EMPLOYED? Yes, employed full-time Yes, employed part-time No, fulltime student No, disabled / retired No, unemployed
18. HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$0-20,000 \$20-40,000 \$40-60,000 \$60-80,000 \$80,000+

- 19. TOTAL # IN HOUSEHOLD: 1 2 3 4 5 6+
20. # OF CHILDREN IN THE HOUSE UNDER 18 YRS: 0 1 2 3 4 5+

21. ARE THE ADDRESS NUMBERS CLEARLY DISPLAYED ON THE FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE?

- Yes
 No (PLEASE DO SO FOR TIMELY EMERGENCY RESPONSE)

22. HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED / WORKED IN MARION?

- Less than a year
 1-5 years
 6-10 years
 11-20 years
 21-30 years
 31+ years

23. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO LIVE / WORK IN MARION? (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Affordable housing
 Availability of services & infrastructure
 Geographic location / Proximity to other nearby cities
 Good place to raise children / Good school system
 Safe place to live
 Quality of life / Small town atmosphere
 Community spirit
 Higher Education / College / Training
 Offered a job / To find work
 Born or raised here
 Good place to retire
 Other: _____

24. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING COULD CAUSE YOU TO LEAVE MARION? (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Cost of living/high taxes
 Lack of job opportunities
 Inadequate shopping opportunities
 Inadequate housing opportunities
 Quality of the schools
 Inadequate parks & recreational facilities
 Lack of nightlife / Lack of entertainment opportunities
 Loss of community character
 Other: _____

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR PARTICIPATING!

PLEASE RETURN BY MARCH 6TH, 2009 TO:

Advisory Plan Department
301 South Branson Street, Marion, IN 46952
Phone: 765.651.4295 Fax: 765.651.4298

Check www.marionindiana.us Advisory Plan Site for survey results and community planning meetings scheduled in your area on the Planning Calendar.