



Village of Blissfield Comprehensive Plan

Approved by the Village Council

October 23, 2017

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PART I
INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF PLAN

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

Blissfield's initial Comprehensive Community Plan was completed in 1973 and since that time, numerous changes have occurred within the Village. An updated Plan, which reflects the current opportunities and constraints of the community, is needed to assist the Village with future development. The purpose of this Plan update is to determine future land use development trends and establish priorities for the development of roads and utilities. The Plan will also update socio-economic data.

The Village derives its authority for the preparation of a master plan from the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended. Sections 6 31 and 33 of the Act states in part that:

Section 31. A planning commission shall make and approve a master plan as a guide for development...The planning jurisdiction may include any areas outside of the municipal boundaries that, in the planning commission's judgement, are related to the planning of the municipality.
Section 33. A master plan shall address land use and infrastructure issues and may project 20 years or more into the future. A master plan shall include maps, plats, charts, and descriptive, explanatory, and other related matter and shall show the planning commission's recommendations for the physical development of the planning jurisdiction.

HISTORY OF PLANNING EFFORTS IN THE VILLAGE

In 1973, Blissfield's first comprehensive community plan was completed. The plan included sections on natural resources, economics, population, housing, land use, transportation and community facilities. This latest revision is in response to important issues which have arisen in the years since the plan was last updated in November 2012. Issues such as future road and infrastructure improvements, industrial expansion, and commercial/residential development are also addressed by the plan.

PLANNING PROCESS

The planning process used in the development of this comprehensive community plan is based on an analytical approach and measures to insure public review. As part of the plan development process, public input was gathered at a Planning Commission hearing. Also, as part of the plan development process, citizen and business surveys were conducted to ascertain the public's feeling toward land use issues in the Village. The planning process also included review of socio-economic and community facility background studies. This information together with development policies is combined to

develop a preliminary plan. The plan includes implementation strategies and specific recommendations regarding future development. Preliminary plans have been reviewed by the community to insure that the plan is consistent with the overall development policies of the Village. It is the intent of this plan to provide a guide for the orderly development of the Village and assist the community's efforts to provide a pleasant environment in which to work and to reside.

PART II

**COMMUNITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
AND ACTION STEPS**

Community Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps

Based upon information developed from the background studies, a Policy Plan and Community Goals can be formulated. The adoption of a Policy Plan and Community Goals is a vital step in the planning process. The desires and needs of the people must be properly interpreted so that workable solutions can be achieved. It, therefore, requires careful analysis of the various factors which characterize the Village of Blissfield and the specific problems to be faced.

I. Community Identity Goals:

A. Promote the Village of Blissfield as a community with an individual identity and a “small town” atmosphere.

1. Identify community identity.

Action Step: Conduct community input sessions to determine community's overall “identity”.

Action step: Strengthen status as a “green community”, by encouraging green businesses and practices.

2. Coordinate with the Downtown Development Authority as well as various other groups to promote improvements within the community.

Action Step: Share information between DDA/Main Street Board, the Planning Commission, Village Council, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, nonprofit community organizations, and citizens of the Village through correspondence, special meetings, regular reporting, and use of mutual resources.

3. Identify the critical issues, recommend physical improvements, and formulate strategies for the Village as a community.

Action Step: Any new subdivision should be required to construct sidewalks prior to the issuance of any building permits.

Action Step: Sidewalks should be constructed in gaps in existing areas in order to create a connected community.

Action Step: ~~Continue to investigate a Historic Commercial District~~ Continue façade projects, encourage appropriate/aesthetically pleasing signage, and begin to replace street signs with historical replications on an as needed basis.

Action Step: Improve the visual appearance of the current DPW and create buffering.

Action Step: Issue a report that investigates the feasibility of the relocation of the DPW which must include, but is not limited to, approval from the DEQ that soil is up to standard for approved use of existing land and proof of complete outside funding for the new DPW facility.

4. Promote the usage of Village resources and preservation while carefully controlling the type of growth.

Action Step: ~~Advertise and announce locations for recycling centers and~~ Encourage community groups to actively promote village clean ups of parks, sidewalks, and other common use areas.

~~Action Step: Investigate the feasibility of voluntary curb-side recycling, and (if feasible) implement it.~~

Action Steps: work with non-profit organizations that will help citizens and businesses take advantage of grants, loans, and other financial resources to preserve and renovate existing buildings and homes.

B. Encourage recreation and culture by utilizing the River Raisin, Community parks and Recreation Facilities, the Downtown District and the U.S. 223 corridor.

1. Insure sufficient land area and resources are available to meet the leisure time recreation needs of both existing and future residents.

Action Step: ~~Using the "Boundless Playground" in Bachmayer LL Field as a catalyst~~ Continue to work to upgrade the Village park facilities to fully comply with handicapped-accessibility requirements (including ramps, paved paths, parking, facility access, and bathroom facilities), and promote our success in doing so.

Action Step: Require useable "green space" within each new subdivision area.

2. Maximize the quality of open space and satisfy the people's outdoor recreational needs.

Action Step: Develop a linear parkway along the River Raisin, as well as an interconnecting bicycle and walking path, in conjunction with Blissfield's Parks & Recreation Plan.

Action Step: Develop a nature preserve along the River Raisin.

3. Develop a plan for growth of music and the arts in the downtown area.

Action Step: Encourage the recreation director to have concerts downtown in the summer, utilizing local talent such as the Blissfield Marching Band and the Jazz Band.

Action Step: Encourage and display public art in the downtown area and along the US223 corridor with projects such as sculpture display, art studios in storefronts, and art classes.

Action Step: Work with the DDA/Main Street Board and non profit groups to bring music and the arts alive in the downtown area.

4. Promote healthy lifestyles with an emphasis on exercise and pedestrian friendly facilities.

Action step: Connect all the areas and neighborhoods in the Village with a complete sidewalk system.

Action step: Install walkways and trails to complement the Village's sidewalk system, particularly along the River Raisin and in and between the Village's parks and the schools' community recreation facilities.

C. Maintain a balance of agricultural heritage, a prosperous commercial district, and industry.

1. Preserve open space areas. Open space deals with those parts of our physical environment which have not been built upon intensively which nevertheless exist as integral parts of the total environment.

Action Step: Develop and revise ordinances that encourage residential and commercial development which supports and accents natural environments.

Action Step: Work with the Parks and Recreation Board to develop riverfront walking paths and nature trails.

Action Step: Continue to encourage development of clean industry which is environmentally friendly.

2. Encourage the preservation, enhancement, and protection of natural environmental systems in the Village without totally divorcing them from the people.

Action Step: Work with the Village Council and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to support, maintain, and develop the existing vacant lands, including floodplains, in such a way that respects the integrity of the natural environment.

Action Step: Educate Villagers and visitors to the Village of the natural environment distinctive to the Blissfield area.

D. Provide and maintain a safe and peaceful residential community which encourages citizen participation.

1. Encourage Safety within the Village.

Action Step: Continue 24 hour police and fire protection.

Action Step: Ensure adequate street-lighting within the Village, including ~~investigating the feasibility of continuing to~~ switching to LED street-lighting.

Action Step: Develop sidewalks to connect the Village.

2. Encourage volunteer groups and clubs that promote social interaction and positive activity within the community.

Action Step: Encourage safety organizations such as Neighborhood Watch programs.

Action Step: Provide incentives, such as mini-grants, for community clubs and organizations that benefit the community with such actions as volunteer flower planting.

II. Growth and Economic Development Goals:

A. Encourage “green” businesses and practices, by the Village, businesses, organizations, and residents.

1. Encourage Village departments and entities to utilize “green” practices.

Action Step: Incorporate “green” practices in Village operations and activities.

Action Step: Incorporate “green” practices in Village building and infrastructure projects.

2. Encourage businesses, organizations, and residents to use “green” practices.

Action Step: Provide businesses and organizations with information regarding "green" practices.

B. Provide for the planned, controlled growth of the Blissfield Community with support for beneficial change.

1. Encourage local planning decision makers to engage in land use planning on a Village-wide basis. Developers will be encouraged to use the following guidelines:

Action Step: Conform to the State Land Division Act and encourage continuous and coordinated platting of land throughout the Village.

Action Step: Promote curvilinear subdivision design and cluster or planned unit subdivision layouts rather than "grid" plats.

Action Step: Construct sidewalks with intention of connecting the Village and subdivisions.

2. Bring about a land use pattern that will optimize existing infrastructure and discourage the creation of residential densities requiring the premature extension of public facilities such as water supply and sanitary sewers.

Action Step: Encourage economical use of existing infrastructure to serve new developments.

Action Step: Look at future land use plan to develop handout materials.

~~Action Step: Create "Mixed Use Districts" where appropriate, to optimize land use patterns in those areas.~~

C. Increase commercial growth by five percent over the next five years.

1. Provide commercial environments that utilize a comprehensive plan approval process with emphasis on clustered commercial development.

Action Step: Create adequate parking for the size of the development, which includes aesthetically pleasing landscaping in open areas through the use of zoning ordinances.

Action Step: Promote the development of unique and existing land uses within the downtown area by coordinating with the Downtown Development Authority/Main Street Board.

2. Concentrate efforts upon redevelopment and restoration of existing commercial areas.

Action Step: Support the work of the DDA/Main Street Board to continue streetscape improvements in the downtown area and the US223 corridor, as well as storefront façade improvements in those areas.

Action Step: Encourage ~~the Chamber of Commerce and~~ the DDA/main Street Board to hold events that will bring people into the downtown business district.

Action Step: Coordinate development with availability of vacant parcels by providing information on available properties in the Village office.

Action Step: Work with the Downtown Development Authority/Main Street Board to increase business recruiting and retention efforts in the Village's commercial areas.

3. Promote tourism as a function of economic development.

Action Step: Work with the DDA/Main Street Board to hold events that will bring people into the downtown business district.

Action Step: Promote the unique characteristics of the Village such as the River Raisin, the downtown, etc.

4. Review and enforce the Village sign ordinance.

Action Step: Work with the Village zoning administrator to assess and revise current sign ordinances.

Action Step: Provide information about ordinances to current and future Village residents/ business owners through the Village office.

D. Increase industrial (specifically, business and technology) growth by two percent over the next five years.

1. Encourage location of future business and technology parks so as to maximize the efficient use of available transportation facilities such as rail and highway.

Action Step: Concentrate industrial, business, and technology areas and buffer them from residential uses through use of zoning ordinances.

Action Step: Plan the location of new business and technology uses (industrial zoning) to assist in providing an employment base and tax base for the residents of the Village through use of future land use plan.

~~Action Step: Create plan for and market business and industrial development at former "Home Canning" site.~~

2. Encourage light, clean industry clustered in business and technology parks. Encourage owner managed or locally responsive businesses, and require respect for the environment.

Action Step: Favor uses that do not pollute the air soils, water, or are offensive to neighboring residents because of noise or sight.

Action Step: Require appropriate landscaping of each developed industrial site.

III. Housing Goals:

A. Encourage home-owners to utilize "green" construction methods and practices.

Action Step: Provide information on "green" construction methods to property-owners and building permit applicants.

B. Provide a pleasant and safe home environment for citizens of the Village of Blissfield.

1. Promote the maintenance of existing housing structure.

Action Step: Review housing codes and maintain strict enforcement to prevent deterioration of housing stock by working with the building inspector.

Action Step: Encourage community action groups to assist home owners in home maintenance projects.

2. Encourage adequate design and landscaping to create an aesthetically pleasing atmosphere in all housing areas.

Action Step: Construct sidewalks to connect the neighborhood and increase pedestrian safety.

Action Step: Use boulevards, trees, shrubs, and other means to preserve open space and a rural atmosphere through the use of the Village Street Tree Plan and coordination with Village Administration.

C. Promote a five percent growth of housing units over the next five years.

1. Promote quality housing, such as houses, apartments, condos, and duplexes in proper densities to maintain the small town character of the community.

Action Step: Designate areas, which may lend themselves to higher density development such as apartments, condos and townhouses through the use of future land use planning.

Action Step: Construct cluster development and senior citizen housing in moderate and medium density areas.

Action Step: Use State and Federal housing grant applications to assist senior citizens and low and moderate income individuals.

Action Step: Encourage a high percentage of home ownership and permanent housing types through land use planning.

Action Step: Encourage upper-story residential uses in the Central Business District, in part by assisting downtown property-owners in obtaining state Rental Rehabilitation Grants.

2. Policies should provide zoning alternatives whereby natural features are preserved.

Action Step: Provide a sufficient open space to serve each dwelling unit either through yard spaces and/or public open space areas with the use of Village ordinances.

3. Promote a plan which reduces the number of driveway and street access points along major roadways.

Action Step: Provide street access or road easement to vacant parcels in a way that is conducive to safe traffic patterns by using subdivision approval processes through ordinance and site plan review.

D. Encourage the preservation of historic homes.

~~**1. Continue to investigate the feasibility of a Historic District within the Village of Blissfield.**~~

~~Action Step: Continue the work of the Historic District Study Committee in studying Historic district possibilities.~~

~~Action Step: Encourage the Village Administration to inform the council and citizens of available grants and tax incentives that are available through the state and federal governments.~~

1. Promote and encourage individuals and groups that aim to preserve and maintain the historic homes and buildings in the Village.

Action Step: Encourage individuals and groups to take on projects that will benefit historic homes and buildings.

IV. Public Safety and Village Services Goals:

A. Utilize “green” practices, and incorporate them whenever/wherever possible.

Action Step: Incorporate “green” practices in Village operations and activities.

Action Step: Incorporate “green” practices in Village building and infrastructure projects.

B. Provide safe and efficient thoroughfare system throughout the Village.

1. Encourage efficient transportation routes for motorized and non-motorized vehicles and pedestrians throughout the Village.

Action Step: Construct sidewalks to connect all parts of the village.

Action Step: Support Parks and Recreation plan to develop an incremental plan for construction of a river walk/trail system.

2. Carefully use the site plan provisions of the zoning ordinance and sign ordinance standards during the review of development plans to assure minimum conflict with the transportation system.

Action Step: Review and enforce current sign ordinance provisions.

Action Step: Use sign ordinances to insure proper size and location for each individual development.

Action Step: Insure monitoring of sign ordinance compliance by zoning administration.

3. Provide interconnection of proposed subdivisions in the Village where appropriate.

Action Step: Require road/utility easements in new subdivisions to permit connectability to the village proper and future developments.

4. Road planning and right-of-way standards should be incorporated into the Village thoroughfare plan.

Action Step: Encourage features such as boulevards at entrances to subdivisions for aesthetic value and efficient traffic movement.

Action Step: The thoroughfare must meet appropriate standards of village or other affected governing body.

5. Recognize the necessity for public transit and pedestrian needs in the thoroughfare plan. Appropriate reference should be made to regional transportation facilities.

Action Step: Investigate the feasibility of a pedestrian-only crossing over or under 223.

C. Provide public services effectively and efficiently to enhance safety and quality of life for Village residents.

Public Facilities Management

1. Adequately maintain all Village public facilities including Parks and Recreation.

Action Step: Continue to support interaction between Village administration, various Village departments and boards, and community service groups.

Action Step: Continue to improve the visual appearance of the current DPW site.

Action Step: Investigate the relocation of the DPW.

~~**2. Relocate and expand the Village Office.**~~

~~Action Step: Relocate the Village Administrative Offices, Police Department, and Council Chambers, as funds become available and within the Village budget.~~

Sewer and Water Management

3. Continue updates of infrastructure and equipment within the Water Plant on an as needed basis.

Action Step: Encourage the sale of water to new area industries.

Action Step: Continue to monitor the water quality, and improve as warranted.

4. Continue improvements to the Village sewer systems in order to insure quality service to all residents and users.

Action Step: Using the 2016-2017 Utilities Study, update water and wastewater equipment and facilities.

Police and Fire

5. Require water systems, which provide adequate fire fighting protection.

Action Step: Use subdivision ordinances and site plans to insure protection.

6. Continue to coordinate police protection programs with adjacent communities, and fire protection with the Township.

Action Step: Promote interaction and cooperation between the Village Police and other departments.

Action Step: Continue 24-hour police coverage.

~~**7. Update police facilities and equipment.**~~

~~Action Step: Coordinate with the village administration to provide new facilities for the Village Police Department in conjunction with the new Village Office.~~

Infrastructure

8. Continue to review/update the Capital Improvement Plan.

Action Step: Coordinate with Village Administration on future capital improvement projects and support a separate plan.

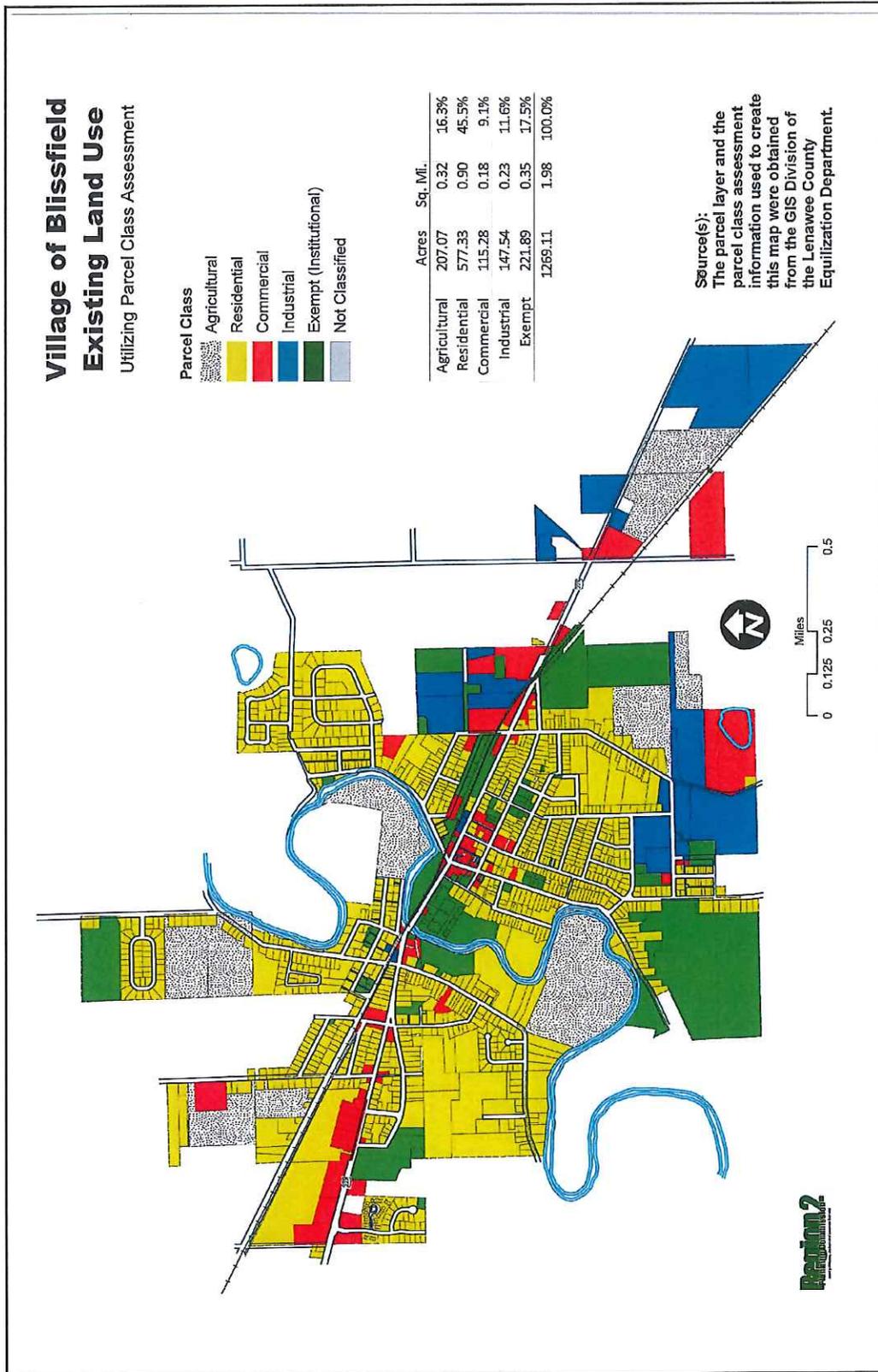
PART III
LIST OF PRIORITIES

Priority Action Step List

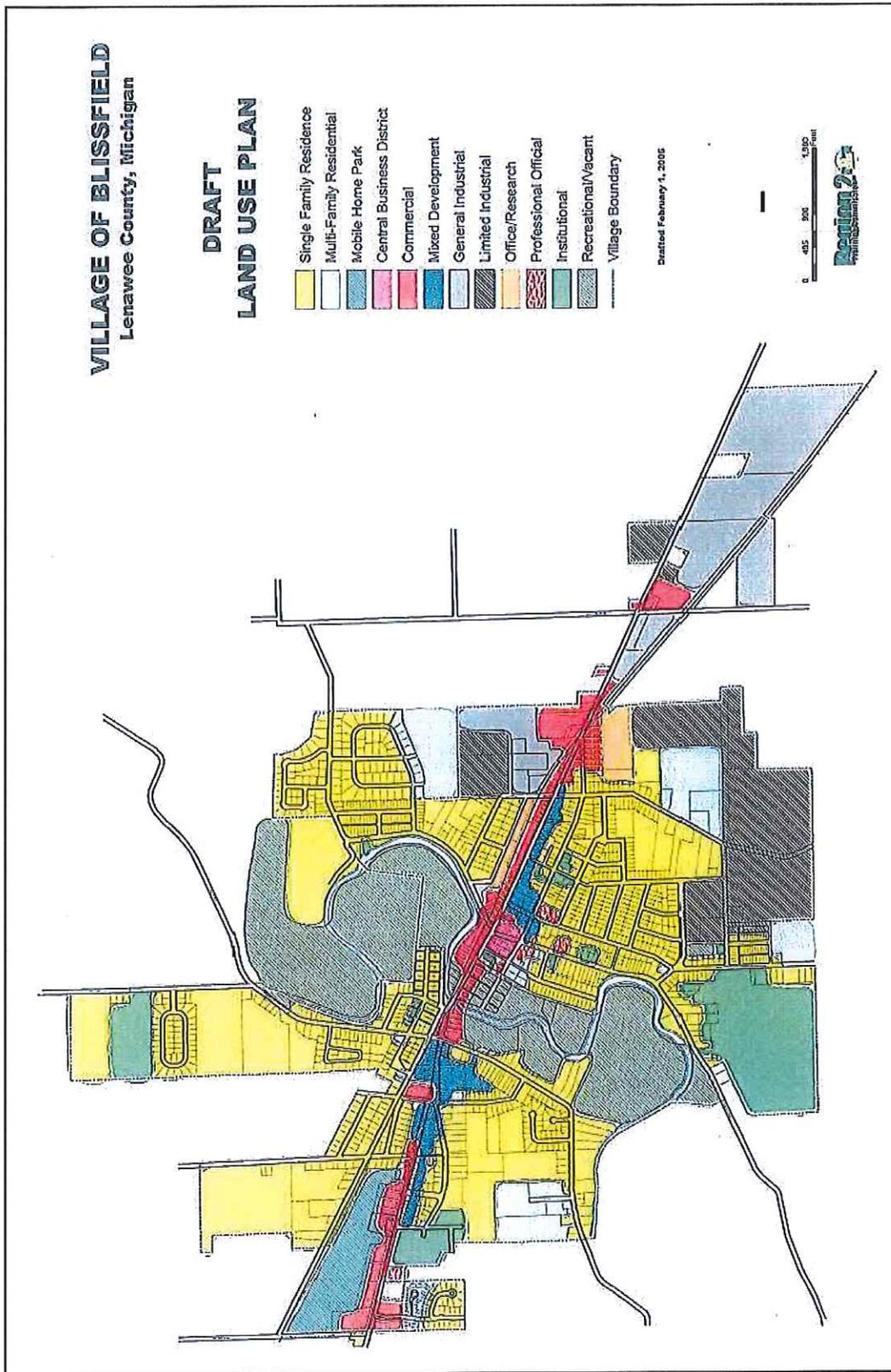
(in no particular order)

- Connect sidewalks throughout the Village
- Upgrade park facilities to comply with ADA regulations
- Create a linear parkway/nature preserve/park
- Improve lighting in conjunction with sidewalk projects
- Investigate potential locations for a future business and technology park
- Develop a plan to encourage community action to assist homeowners in maintaining their property
- Improve the appearance of the DPW site
- Investigate the feasibility of moving the DPW site
- Investigate the feasibility of a pedestrian-only crossing of 223
- Upgrade, as appropriate, the water plant and system
- Upgrade, as appropriate, the wastewater plant and system
- Review the needs of fire protection
- Streets and infrastructure improvements
- Develop a plan for growth of music and the arts in the downtown area
- Continue to implement Capital Improvement Plan

Map 1 - Existing land use



Map 2 – Land Use Plan



Appendix Y
Village of Blissfield Master Plan

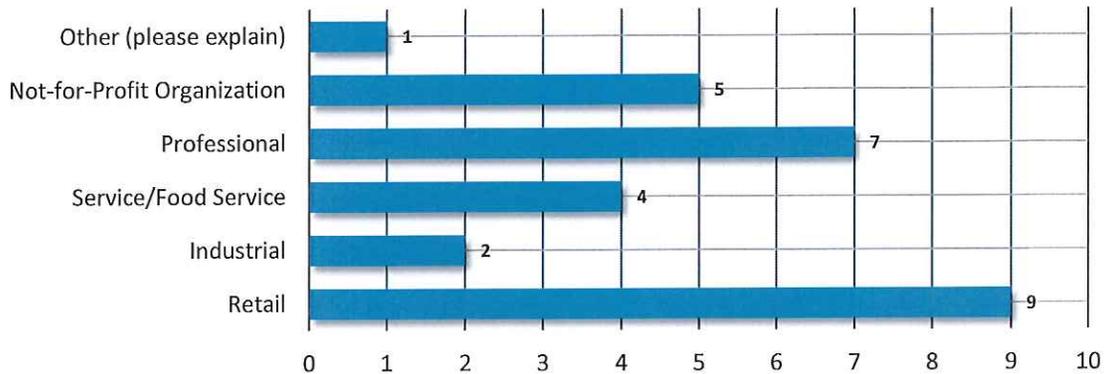


Blissfield in Fall

**Summary of the 2016 Business/Non-Profit
Organization Questionnaire Results**

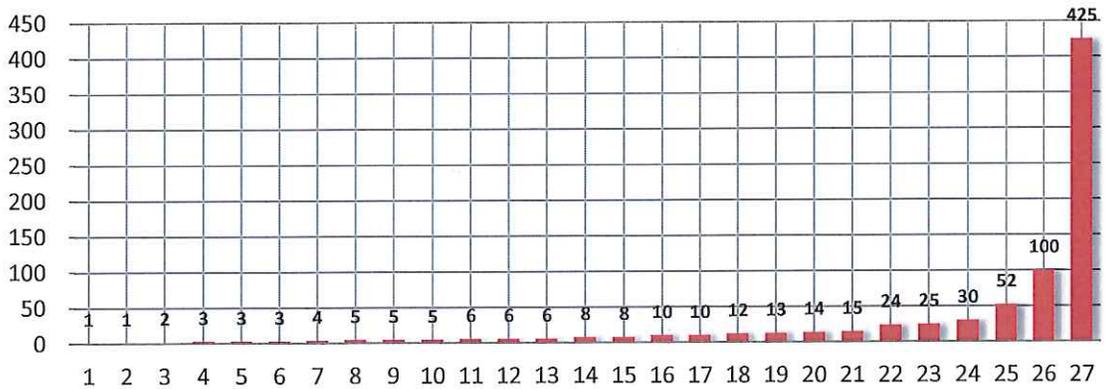
The Village solicited the opinions of Blissfield businesses and non-profit organizations during the spring of 2016. The Survey was conducted as part of the effort to update the *Village of Blissfield Master Plan*.

1. Please indicate your type of Business



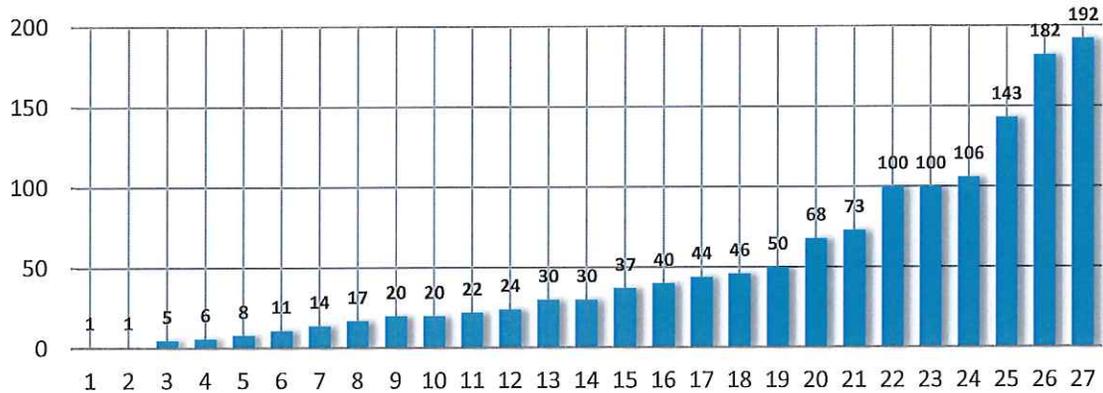
Owners/operators of retail businesses comprised 32.1% of survey respondents while professionals comprised 25%. Not-for profit organizations comprised 17.9% of respondents and the service/food service industries comprised 14.3%. Industrial plants/shops comprised 7.1% of respondents and the railroad (i.e., other) comprised 3.6%.

2. How many employees does your business have?



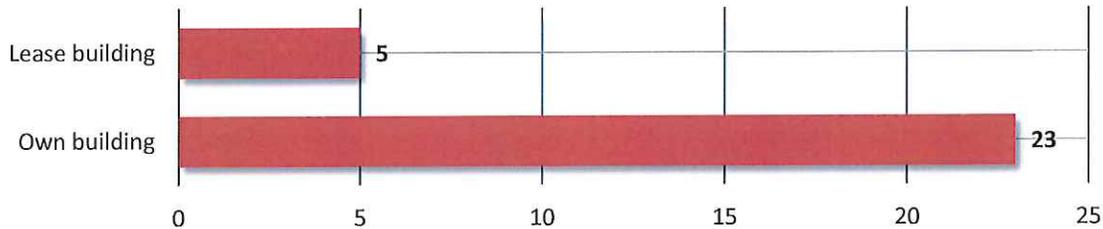
The number of employees each survey respondent ranged from 1 to 425 (i.e., industrial) people. However, all but 2 of the respondents employ less than 20 people, which skew the average of 29.5 (i.e., mean) people per business. If the 6 outliers are disregarded, the median number of people employed is 6.4, significantly less than the entire average of 10.8 people.

3. How long has your business been in Blissfield?



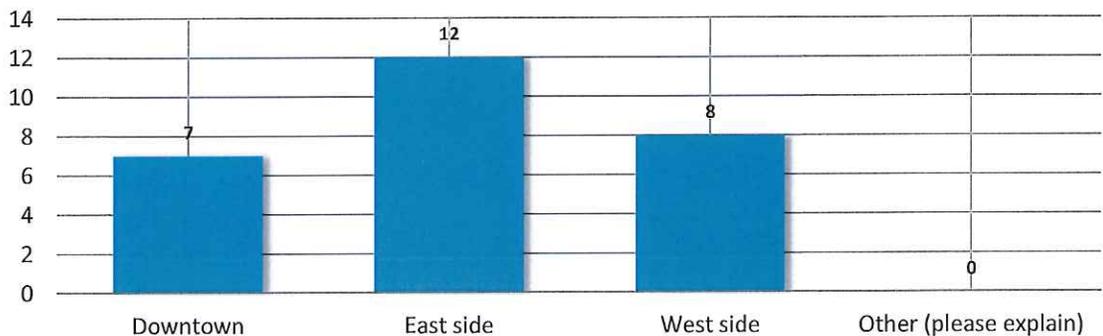
The number of years each survey respondent had been in business ranges from 1 to 192 years. However, all but 6 of the respondents have been in business less than 100 years, which skew the average of 51.5 (i.e., mean) people per business. If the 6 outliers are disregarded, the median number of people employed is 22 people, less than the average of 25.8 people.

4. Please indicate the status of the building for your business?



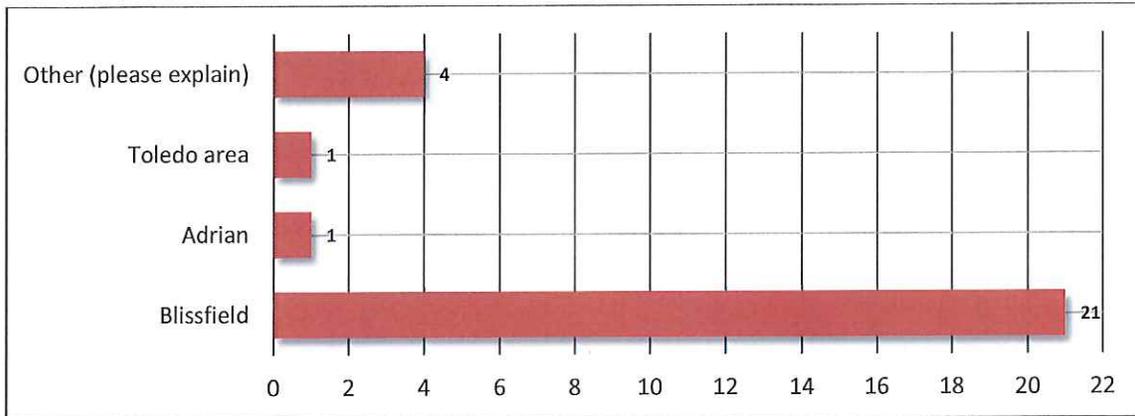
The vast majority (82.1%) of survey respondents owned the building in which their business is located. Only 17.9% of survey respondents did not own the building in which their business is located.

5. Where is your business located in relation to the River Raisin?



The east side of the Village contains 44.4% of the businesses owned/operated by survey respondents. The west side contains 29.6% of respondents. Downtown Blissfield only contains 25.9% of the businesses owned/operated by survey respondents.

6. Are you a resident of?



The overwhelming majority (77.8%) of survey residents lived in Blissfield. Adrian and the Toledo area are each home to 3.6% of survey residents. Finally, 21.4% lived elsewhere (i.e., Deerfield, Dexter, and Palmyra (2)).

7. If not a Blissfield resident, why did you locate your business here?

- Because that is where the railroad was.
- Close to US 23.
- Father started it here.
- Grew up here/school.
- I am from Blissfield.
- It was a nice town. No small business tax.
- Own business in Deerfield, always running to Blissfield for deliveries. [Blissfield] building empty thought it would be a better way to serve Blissfield residents.

8. How would you rate the following Village services?

	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	No Opinion	n=
Downtown parking	17%	38%	28%	10%	0%	7%	29
Downtown (DDA) Main Street Program	17%	48%	21%	0%	0%	14%	29
Street maintenance	31%	52%	14%	0%	0%	3%	29
Street snow removal	34%	52%	7%	3%	0%	3%	29
Street lighting	45%	34%	10%	7%	0%	3%	29
Water	29%	43%	18%	7%	0%	4%	28
Sewer	24%	48%	17%	0%	7%	3%	29
Sidewalk maintenance	36%	36%	18%	4%	0%	7%	28
Sidewalk snow removal	24%	45%	17%	3%	0%	10%	29
Police-							
Traffic enforcement	45%	34%	14%	0%	0%	7%	29
Law enforcement	46%	36%	11%	0%	0%	7%	28
Parks	36%	43%	7%	7%	0%	7%	28
Swimming pool	7%	31%	17%	10%	7%	28%	29
Recreation	10%	48%	24%	0%	3%	14%	29

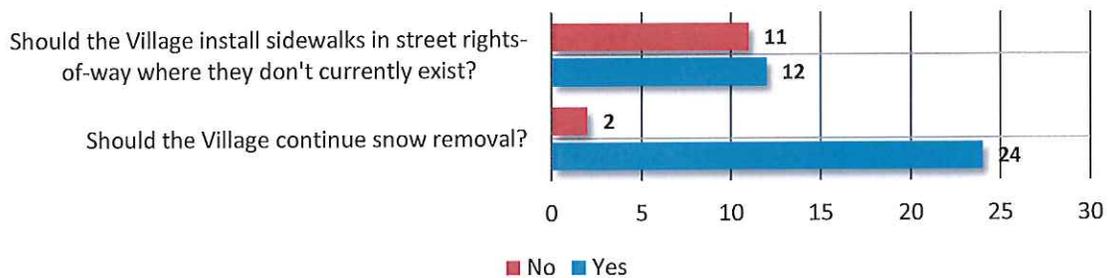
	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	No Opinion	n=
Library	45%	38%	3%	0%	0%	14%	29
Leaf/brush collection	31%	38%	14%	0%	0%	17%	29
Street tree management	18%	54%	11%	0%	0%	18%	28
Curbside recycling	28%	38%	10%	3%	0%	21%	29
Village government	22%	48%	15%	4%	0%	11%	27
Property maintenance code enforcement							
<i>Residential</i>	7%	39%	29%	4%	4%	18%	28
<i>Non-Residential</i>	7%	37%	30%	4%	0%	22%	27

The largest group of survey respondents rated Village services as “good” with some exceptions. Street lighting, sidewalk maintenance, police traffic enforcement and law enforcement, and the Schultz-Homes Memorial Library were all rated “very good”. In fact, at least 50% of respondents rated most Village services as “very good” or “good”. The only exceptions were the swimming pool and residential and non-residential property maintenance code enforcement. However, it should be noted that “no opinion” was a substantial response to those questions.

Other Comments:

- Downtown parking is dangerous with angle parking on one side.
- Have struggled with recycling program. Getting a bin delivered then getting it picked up regularly. Very frustrating.
- I've rated the park at poor - last summer the restrooms were beyond filthy.
- Keep business local!
- Please keep the pool going!
- Since the police office renovation our street and building smell like sewer gas. Our complaints fall on deaf ears. Fix it!
- Too many buildings empty downtown and in the Borchardt's Plaza/Lighthouse Plaza.
- Water is very costly. Pay [] a month for what I pay in Deerfield for 3 months. Don't know if there is a major leak, I know we don't use that much water. Heard landlord “checked” it out.

9. How often do you and/or your family use the following Village facilities?



The overwhelming majority (92.3%) of survey respondents supported the continuation of snow removal. However, support for the installation of sidewalks where they don’t currently exist only was only 47.8%.

Other Comments:

- Maybe in some spots.
- No opinion.
- Not enough info to answer. Only if majority of homeowners on the street request it.
- There is not a yes or no answer for this question. Logic would have to be used to determine if a sidewalk would be practical for the street/area - don't put one in 'just because'.
- We hire a contractor to do our sidewalks but a lot of residents are unable to afford this luxury and may not always be able to do their sidewalks. So perhaps the Village doing them is a good thing, but costly with labor and equip.
- Where appropriate.

10. What does your business need help with to be more successful, either through the DDA/Main Street Program or the Village in general?

- After hour security.
- Cheaper taxes and cost of living to free up more dollars for available services.
- DDA - Hands on classes or help with computer programs such as Facebook.
- Filling unoccupied store fronts with good businesses/stores/shops.
- Less money in DDA and more in general fund. DDA should be just Giles to Bridge/Monroe Street, US 223 to Jefferson. Then the DDA could assess special taxes for snow removal, curb appeal, etc. More info on how to opt out of DDA.
- Lower property taxes and water/sewer bills. Advertising on US-223 for downtown businesses.
- More businesses in town overall helps all of us business owners. More traffic generated, more people, more opportunities. Empty buildings [are] not good for any of us.
- More downtown events. Farmer's market on Lake St. More community involvement. More retail. We need an ordinance in the downtown to [attract] more retail and not allow more offices. We need more retail to attract more customers.
- More population.
- Need to continue update on sewer and storm water. Do when river is high. Basements don't flood.
- No help required.
- No.
- None.
- Nothing.
- River Raisin Festival - Private parking. Keep people from parking at business so real buying customers and employees have some place to park.
- Start and continue a 'shop local' campaign. Money spent in "Blissfield" tends to get passed around many times by people doing business with other Blissfield people/businesses.
- The DDA and the Village should stress the importance of buying locally. This would include giving local businesses inside track regarding bid work.
- We are good with the current process. Keep up the façade program if possible, much work to be done yet.

11. Where in the village should future business development occur?

- Any currently vacant building/storefront.
- Both downtown and the industrial plant/park.
- Business should develop on the east and west side, [of] the 223 corridor.
- Downtown.
- Downtown (see comment above), Coach Light Plaza, empty lot adjacent to Frosty Boy, old site of Blissfield Lumber.
- Downtown.
- East side - "Cannery" area.
- East side of town.
- Everywhere and anywhere.
- Fill the stores downtown, more specialty shops. Kind of would like to see the DPW building moved as long as it doesn't create an environmental problem.
- Focus on vacant buildings.
- Have always liked the idea of a "downtown" but a "vibrant" downtown. Guess I'd try to start there.
- I believe it is up to each business to control its own success. Taxpayer's money should not be applied to private enterprise. Businesses will reap only what they invest.
- I don't know.
- Industrial Park. Old Canning Company area.
- Industrial park. Fill empty stores downtown. East end.
- Let's get any and all empty store fronts/buildings filled - Coach Light Plaza.
- Need to fill empty buildings. Not push for new ones. No tax increase for improving property.
- North side of 223. 5 or 6 blocks out. West of Borchardt Brothers.
- Out by the old canning plant put a park and rec field there by the road. It could be the gem of the town and help our image.
- Try to fill existing empty spaces first, but west and east of town seems the alternative for expansion.
- West side. Lighthouse Plaza needs to be overhauled/remodeled. Not a good looking place to be. The most prominent business building in town on 223.

12. Has the Village's DDA/Main Street Program helped your business in any way?

- Advertising. Bringing people into town. Planning events. Keeping Village clean. Promoting the Village. Keeping Village safe.
- Blue Grass was nice to invite me for concession last year.
- Façade grant.
- Façade program was a big help.
- It offers opportunity to participate in programs and service - specifically rental rehab and networking events where sharing helps spread our story using WOM [(word of mouth)]. Successful events strengthen the entire town's image.
- No
- No, mostly because we are a non-profit and not really their target audience.
- No.
- No.

- No.
- No.
- No.
- No.
- Not really.
- Not so much. It seems to concentrate on "downtown". Don't know about the east end of town, but the west end pretty much gets forgot about.
- Outside of the downtown - as 'neat' as our downtown is - the older, small, limited size and access does not provide for 'most' new business locations, i.e. Dollar General, grocery stores, etc. Businesses that would supply a large variety of product also require easy access for large truck deliveries.
- The Blissfield DDA program that I appreciated the most was the façade program that renovated the exterior of our downtown buildings. It made me feel good, but does not impact my business.
- Village - yes. DDA - no.
- Yes via networking. Some advertising opportunities. Bringing family friendly events to our community.
- Yes, façade improvement program.
- Yes, it absolutely helps us by expanding our customer base. On average our sales increase by 500% during an event. We rely on these events to pay our bills.
- Yes. Help me get new doors for my business.

13. We would appreciate any other comments of suggestions that you may have. Please write your comments in the space provided below.

- At some intersections hard to see because of trees, brush growth. N. Monroe and Beagle cannot look north to see for oncoming traffic because of trees/bushes. Lane Street and Washington cannot see around river curve to pull out because of trees/bushes.
- Blissfield is a GREAT place to live, send your kids to school, and do business in. We have a strong church community, we need to promote it that way! [Many] people don't know what we have here, tell them! Promote doing business local, with your friends and neighbors. We cannot buy everything we need here, but a lot of it. Thank you for listening.
- I would like to see the Village plant more flowers and trees.
- Overall the Village does a good job. Thanks for all that is done.
- PLEASE consider updating and keeping the pool going. We need it along with more activities for little ones to enjoy in the summer. It may be a huge expense, but I'm sure the taxpayers may support a levy to keep it going.
- Some but very little as the focus is on the downtown area which is what it was designed for.
- Thank you for asking. 4 lanes on US 223 to Wellsville. Should be 4 lanes all through the Village. Good luck with the State and Federal Highway Commission. Tax forgiveness for buildings taken down (exempt) and turned into green space. Example: Flower shop at Quick and 223.
- The two hour parking signs on the street in front of my business are interesting. Did you consult with my business about this change? Nope. We are currently outgrowing our space. Please explain to me why I should not move my business elsewhere with lower taxes.

- Wish there was a way to get more [participation] throughout the entire DDA/Main Street. Outlying businesses (within the DDA) are not given enough opportunities to their benefit. Downtown events often lack enough participants. Wish I had the answer to get more involvement.

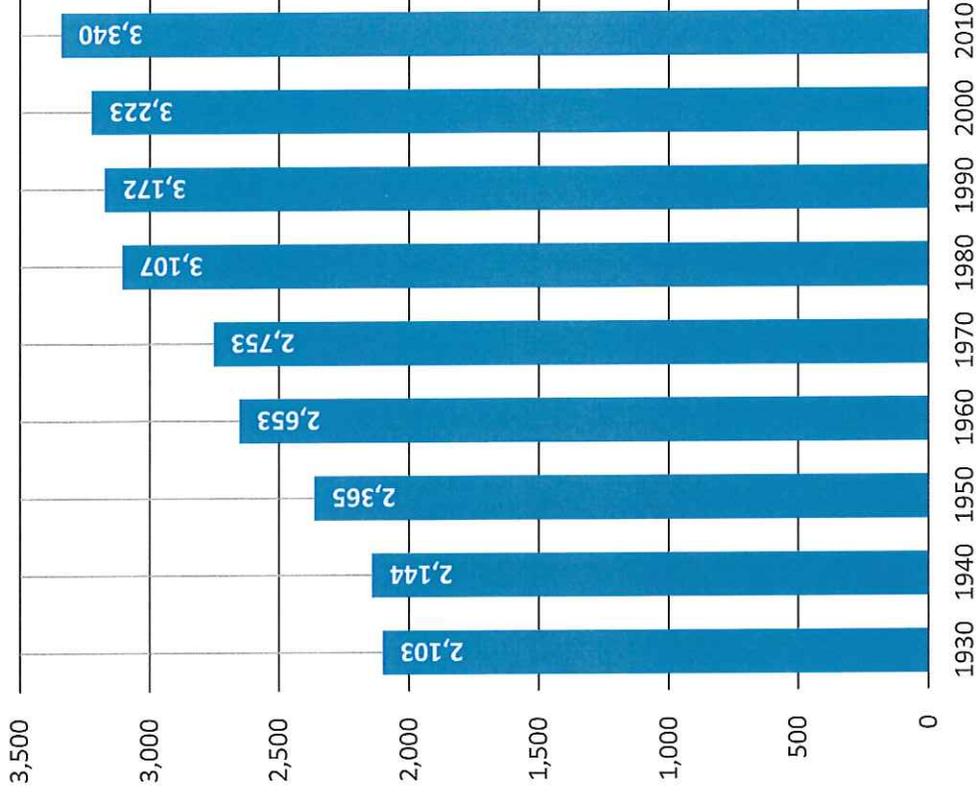
Appendix A

Demographics

Village of Blissfield Master Plan

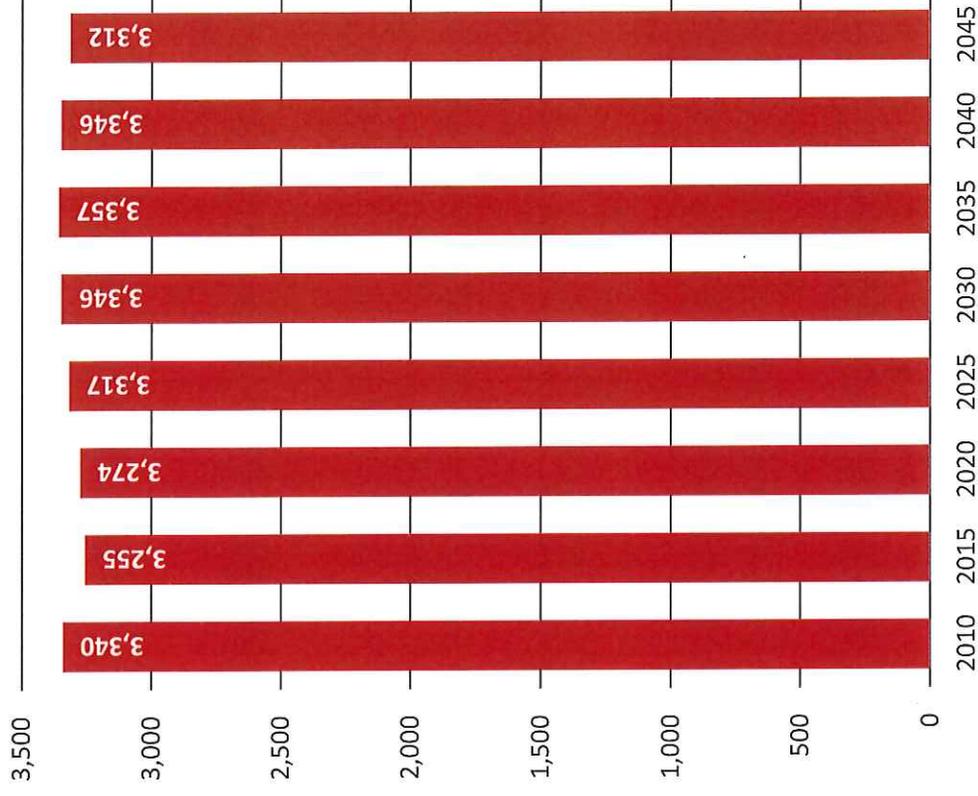
Population History

- Blissfield was home to 3,340 people in 2010 according to the U.S. Census, a 58.8% growth rate since 1930 when the population was 2,103
- The adjacent figure shows Village growth rates by decade:
 - 1.9% growth during the 1930s
 - 10.3% growth during the 1940s
 - 12.2% growth during the 1950s
 - 3.8% growth during the 1960s
 - 12.9% growth during the 1970s
 - 2.1% growth during the 1980s
 - 1.6% growth during the 1990s
 - 3.6% growth during the 2000s



Population Projections

- The population projections utilized in this plan were developed for the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for its statewide transportation model
 - The 2045 projection for Blissfield is grounded on the Regional Economic Models Inc. (REMI) forecast for Lenawee County and its municipalities
 - MDOT then interpolated and factored those projections to REMI controls in 5-year increments between 2015 and 2045
- Utilizing that information, it is reasonable to expect that:
 - The Village population decreased an estimated 2.5% between 2010 and 2015 to a low of 3,225 residents
The ACS estimated a population of 3,154 for the 2011-2015 time period
 - The Village population will then increase an estimated 3.1% between 2015 and 2035 to a high of 3,357 residents
 - The Village population will then decrease an estimated 1.3% between 2035 and 2045 to a low of 3,312 residents



American Community Survey (ACS)

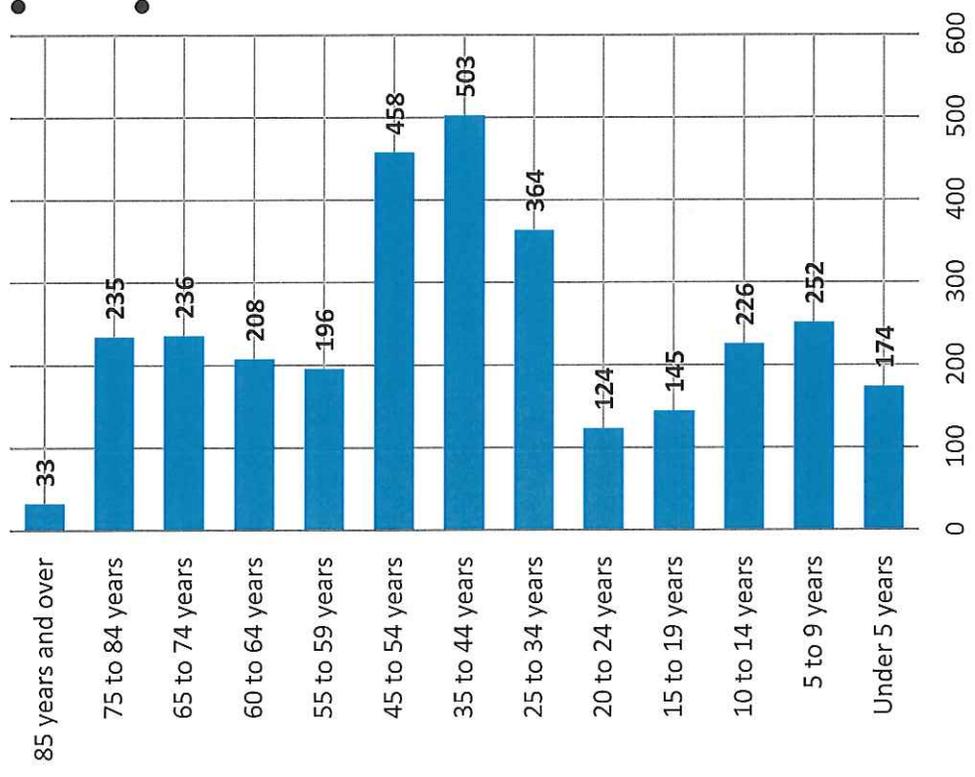
- The use of estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) provides more up-to-date demographics than the decennial census
- Reporting jurisdictions the size of the Village of Blissfield are provided five-year average estimates on a regular basis
- The reporting period available and utilized for this plan is 2011-2015

Age & Gender: 2011-2015

- The estimated median age of Blissfield residents was 40.2 years

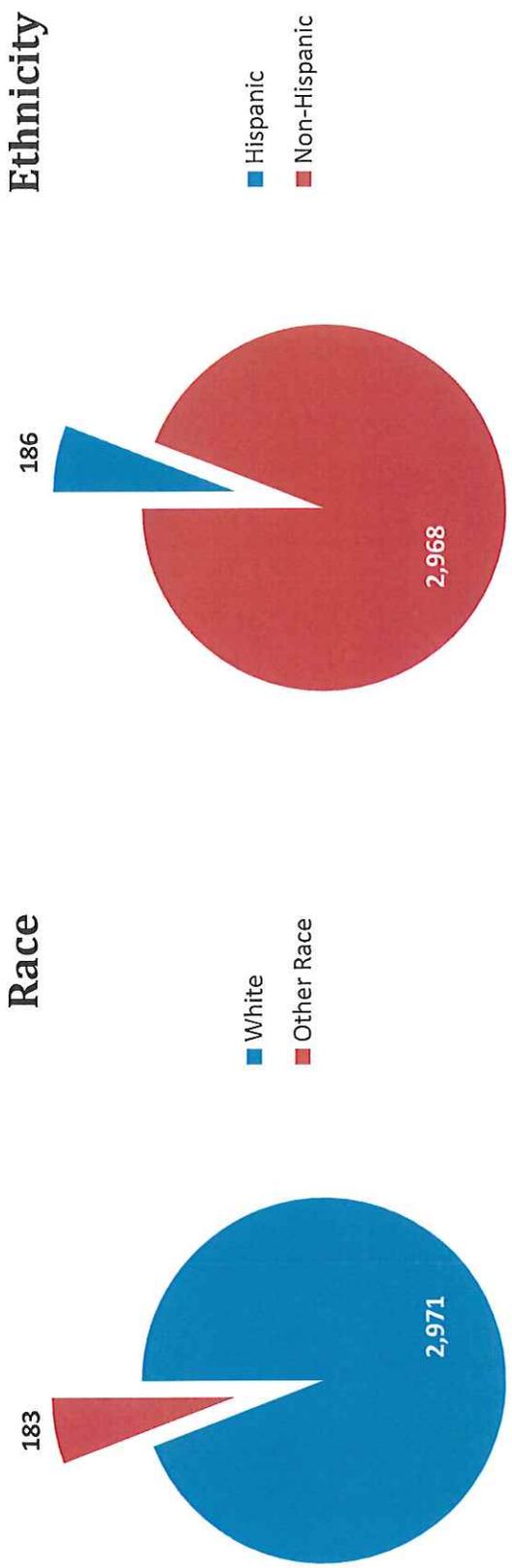
- The adjacent figure illustrates the Village's age cohorts:

- 1.0% — 85 years and over
- 7.5% — 75 to 84 years
- 7.5% — 65 to 74 years
- 6.6% — 60 to 64 years
- 6.2% — 55 to 59 years
- 14.5% — 45 to 54 years
- 15.9% — 35 to 44 years
- 11.5% — 25 to 34 years
- 3.9% — 20 to 24 years
- 4.6% — 15 to 19 years
- 7.2% — 10 to 14 years
- 8.0% — 5 to 9 years
- 5.5% — Under 5 years



- Finally, it is estimated that females comprised 54.5% of the Village's population

Race & Ethnicity: 2011-2015



The population of Blissfield is homogenous with few racial and ethnic minorities

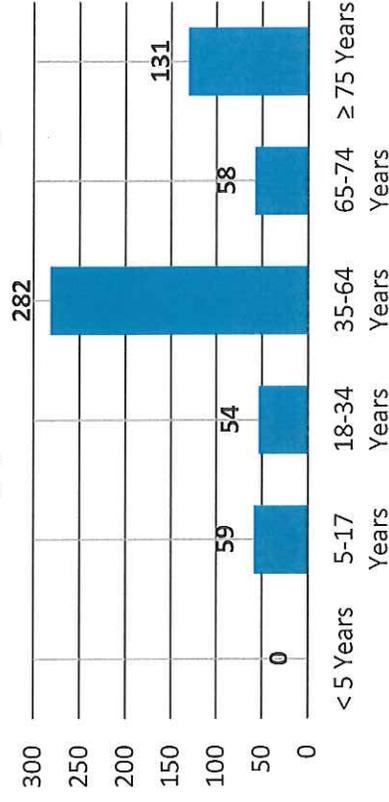
- An estimated 94.2% of the Village's population was white
- An estimated 5.9% of the Village's residents considered themselves Hispanic

Disabilities: 2011-2015

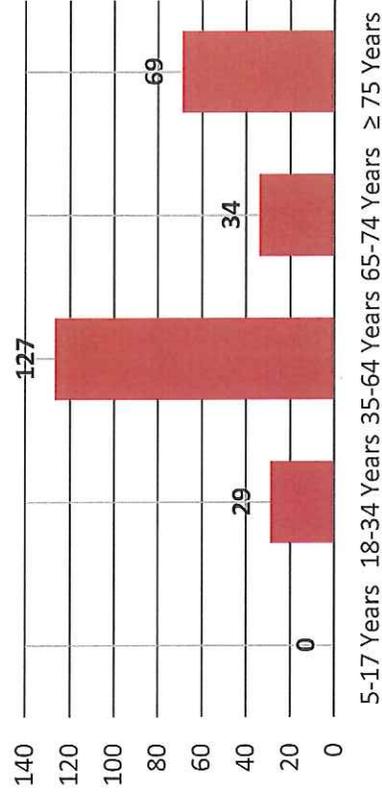
Disabled residents are a significant component of the Blissfield's population

- An estimated 18.5% of Village residents were disabled in some way
- <5 years
 - An estimated 0.0% were disabled
- 5-17 years
 - An estimated 10.4% were disabled
 - An estimated 0.0% had an ambulatory disability
- 18-34 years
 - An estimated 10.0% were disabled
 - An estimated 5.4% had an ambulatory disability
- 35-64 years
 - An estimated 20.7% were disabled
 - An estimated 9.3% had an ambulatory disability
- 65-74 years
 - An estimated 24.6% were disabled
 - An estimated 14.4% had an ambulatory disability
- ≥75 years
 - An estimated 48.9% were disabled
 - An estimated 25.7% had an ambulatory disability

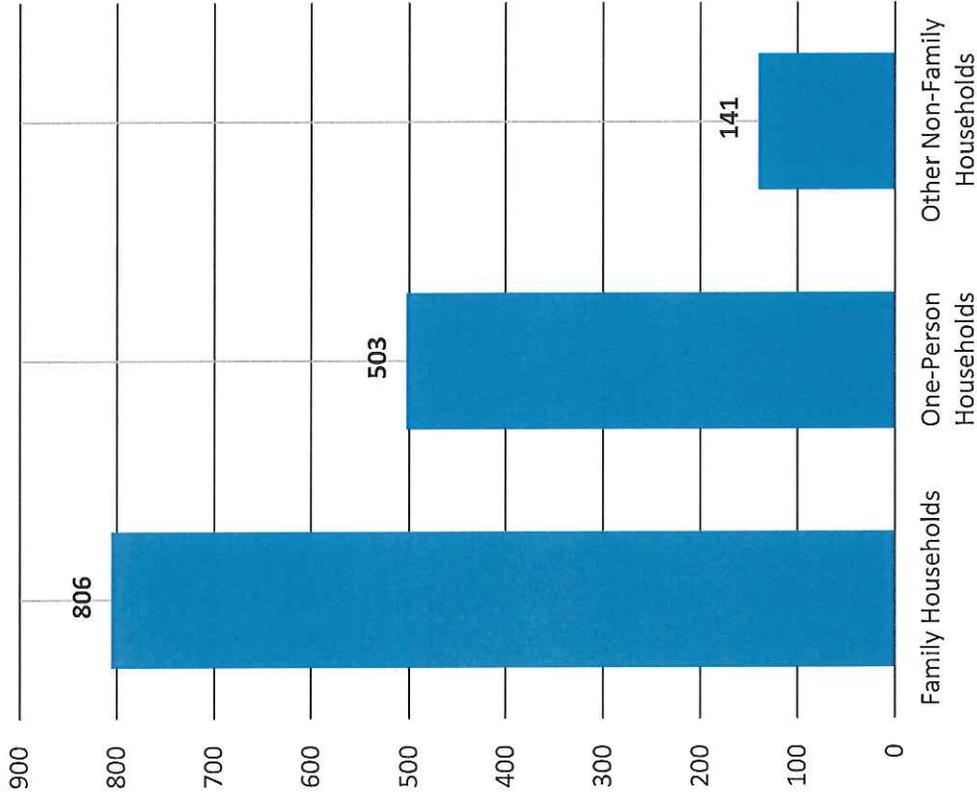
Some Type of Disability



Ambulatory Disability



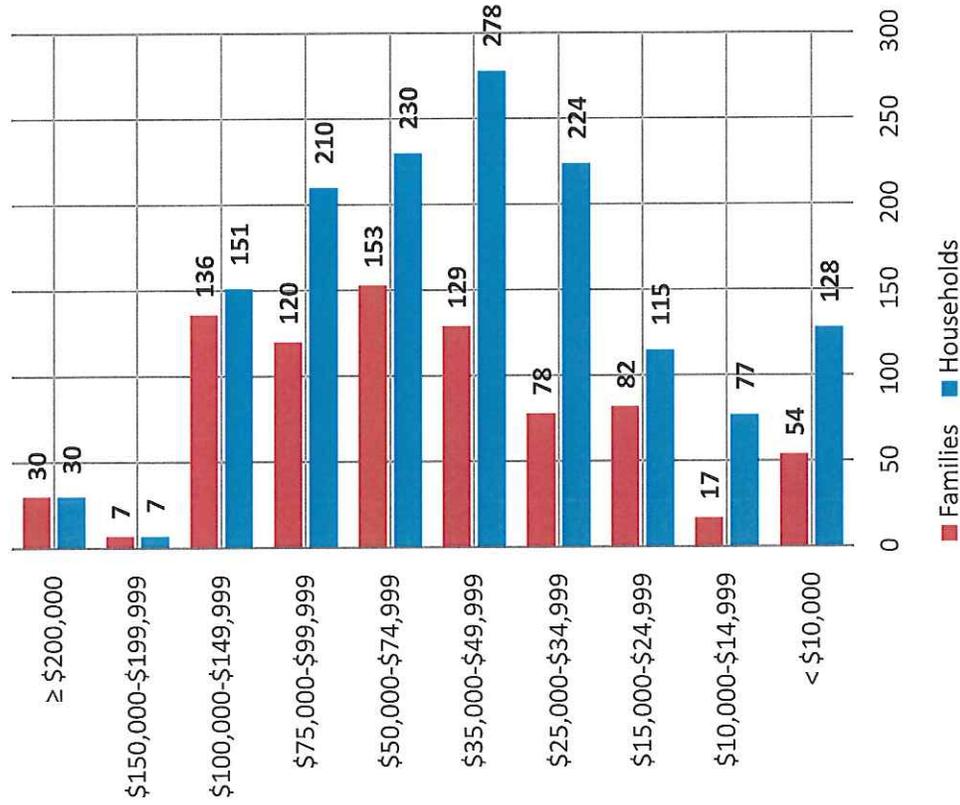
Households & Families: 2011-2015



- Most people live in the estimated 1,450 Blissfield households
- Families comprised an estimated 55.6% of Village households
- An estimated 34.7% of Village households were comprised of a single person
- Other non-family households comprised the remaining estimated 9.7% of households
- Estimated average household and family size was 2.18 people and 2.86 people, respectively (please see the ACS note)
- There were an estimated 26 seasonal or occasional homes (i.e., households)
- Group quarters (e.g., nursing homes, etc.) were home to an estimated 0 people

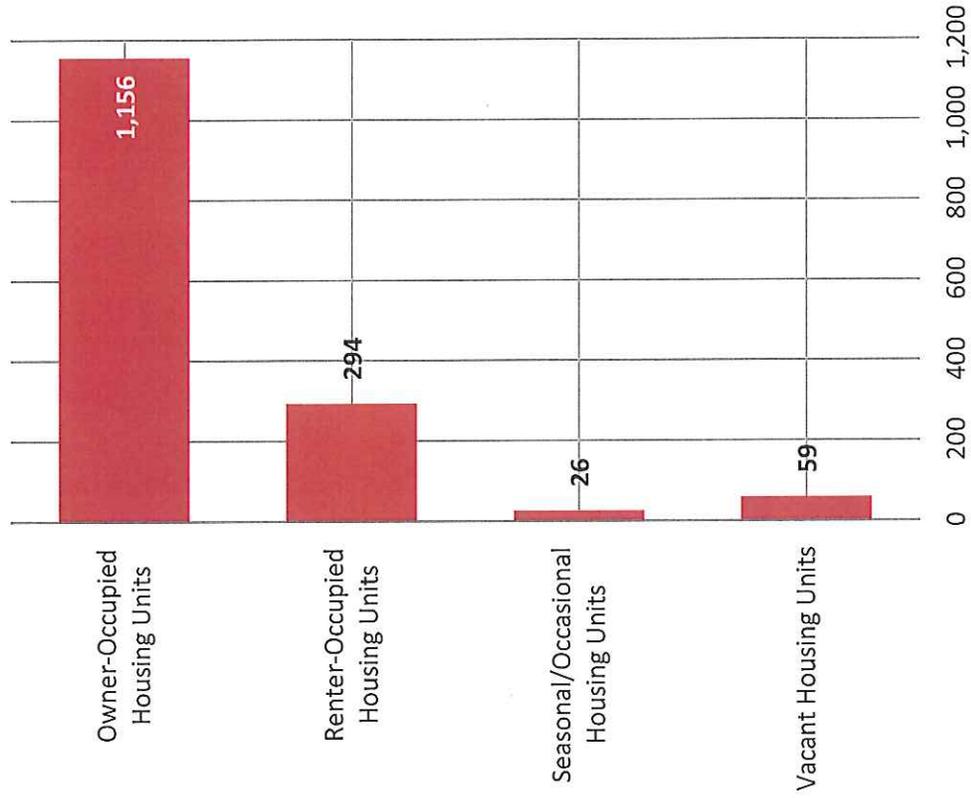
Household & Family Income: 2011-2015

- Estimated Blissfield household income:
 - < \$15,000 — 14.1%
 - \$15,000-\$34,999 — 23.4%
 - \$35,000-\$74,999 — 35.0%
 - \$75,000-\$149,999 — 24.9%
 - ≥ \$150,000 — 2.6%
- Median & Mean — \$46,350 & \$56,495, respectively (please see the ACS note)
- Estimated Village family income:
 - < \$15,000 — 8.8%
 - \$15,000-\$44,999 — 19.9%
 - \$35,000-\$74,999 — 35.0%
 - \$75,000-\$149,999 — 31.8%
 - ≥ \$150,000 — 4.6%
- Median & Mean — \$56,121 & \$68,725, respectively (please see the ACS note)
- Estimated per capita income:
 - Township — \$26,299 (please see the ACS note)



Dwellings & Vacancy Rates: 2011-2015

Blissfield had an estimated 1,535 dwelling units



- An estimated 94.5% of those Village dwellings were occupied

- An estimated 79.7% of those dwellings were owner-occupied

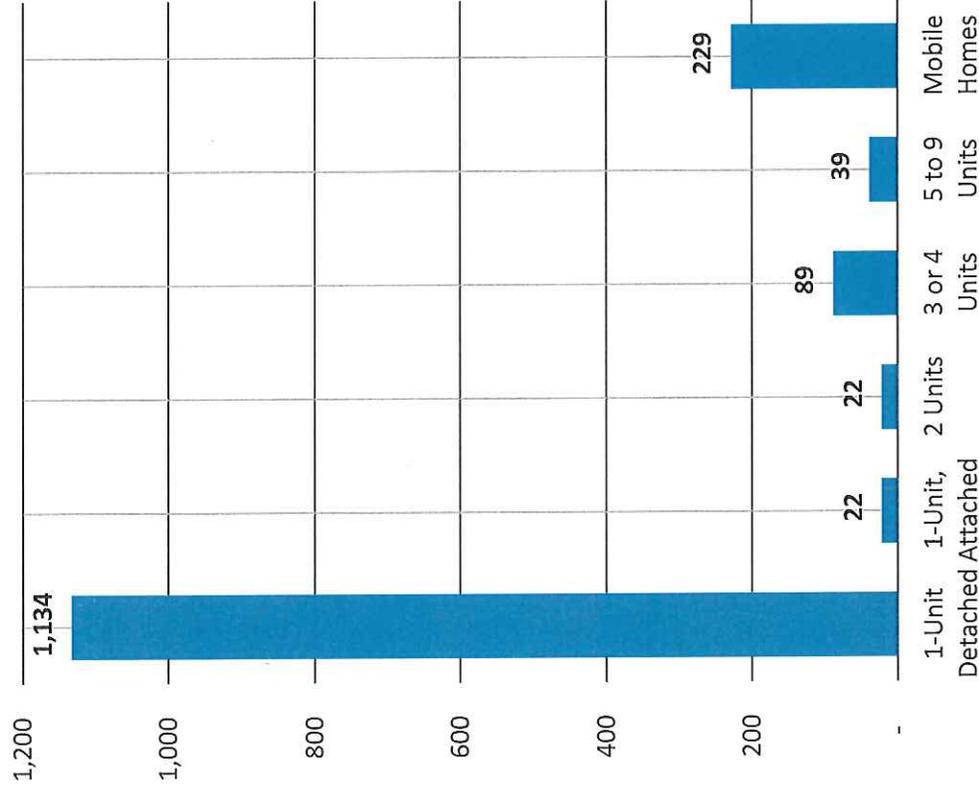
- An estimated 20.3% of those dwellings were renter-occupied

- An estimated 5.5% of those Village dwellings were vacant

- An estimated 30.6% of those dwellings were only used seasonally or occasionally

- An estimated 69.4% of those dwellings were vacant

Housing Types: 2011-2015



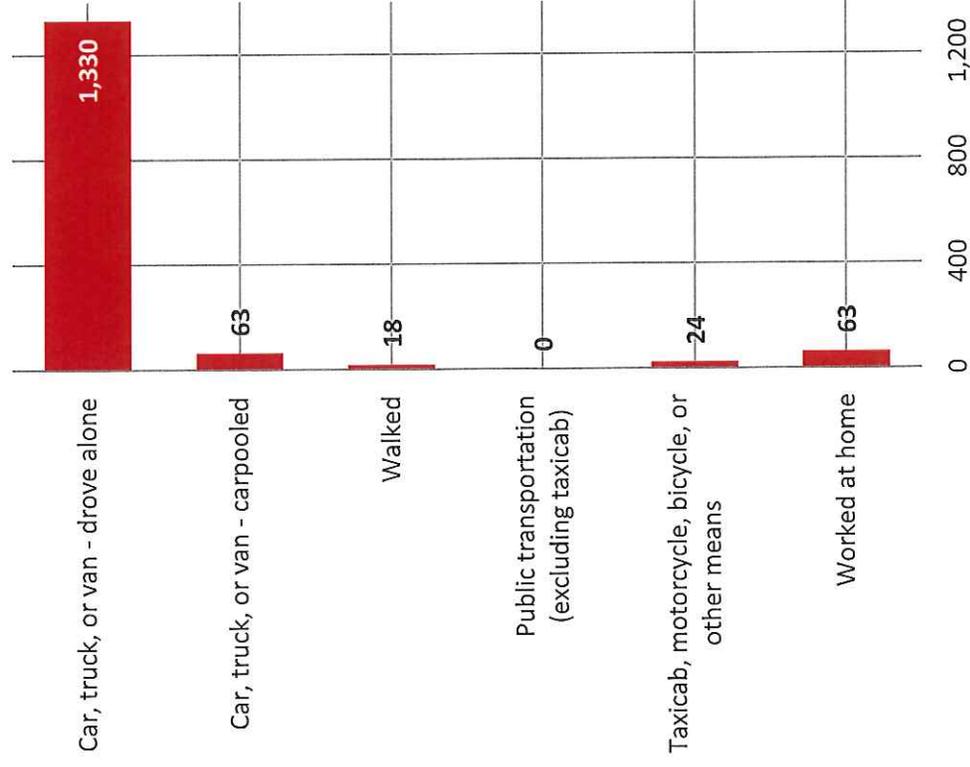
Blissfield had an estimated 1,535 dwelling units

- An estimated 75.3% of Village dwellings were single units
 - An estimated 98.1% of those dwellings were detached single units
 - An estimated 1.9% of those dwellings were attached single units
- An estimated 9.8% of Village dwellings were in multi-unit buildings
 - An estimated 14.7% of those dwellings were in duplexes
 - An estimated 59.3% of those dwellings were in 3-4 unit buildings
 - An estimated 26.0% of those dwellings were in 5-9 unit buildings
- An estimated 14.9% of Village dwellings were mobile homes

Means of Transport to Work: 2011-2015

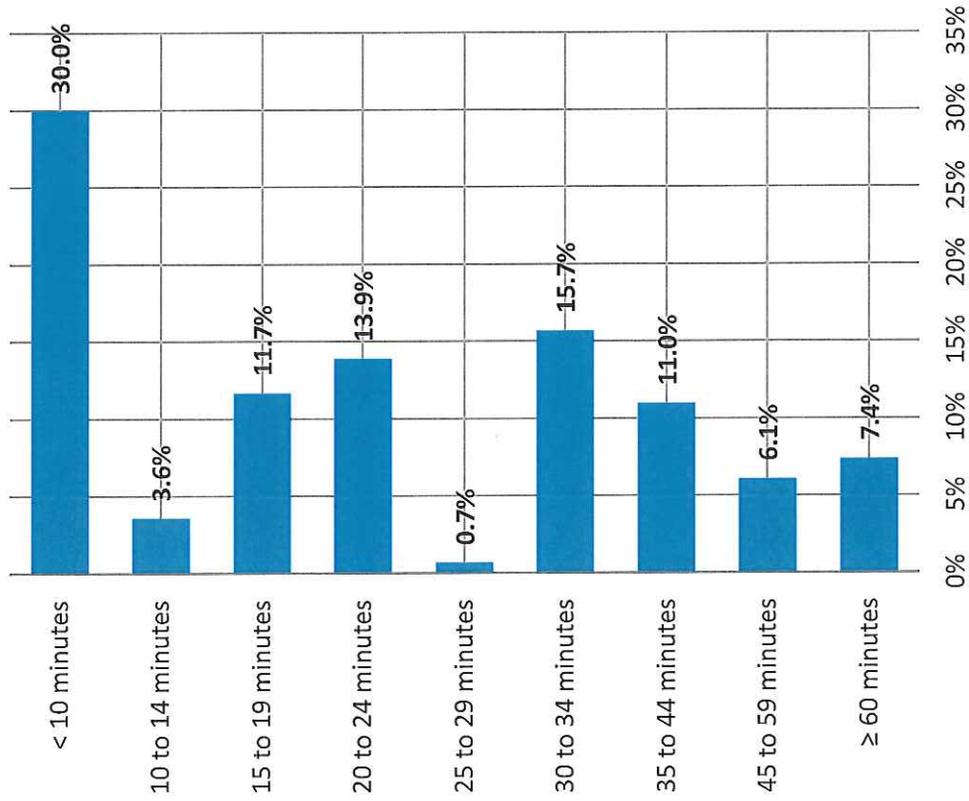
There were an estimated 1,498 workers 16 years and older living in Blissfield

- An estimated 88.8% of those workers drove alone
- An estimated 4.2% of those workers carpooled
- An estimated 1.2% of those workers walked
- An estimated 0.0% of those workers used public transportation
- An estimated 1.6% of those workers used some other means of transportation
- An estimated 4.2% of those workers worked at home



Travel Time to Work: 2011-2015

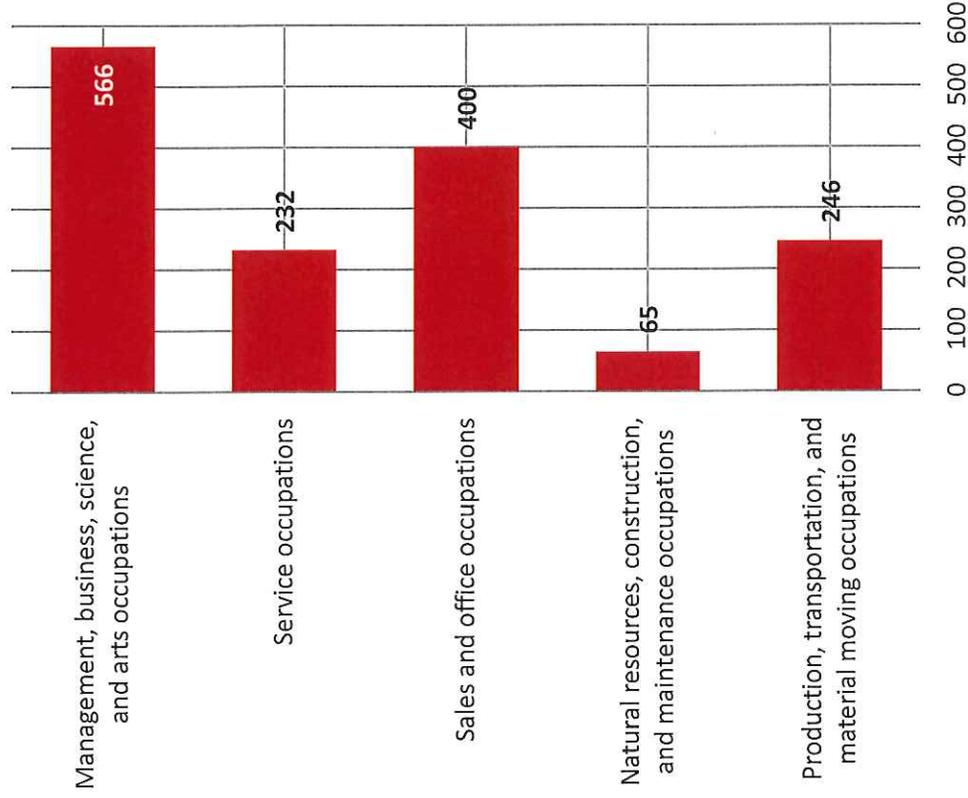
- An estimated 30.0% of workers travel less than 10 minutes to work
- An estimated 3.6% of workers travel 10 to 14 minutes to work
- An estimated 11.7% of workers travel 15 to 19 minutes to work
- An estimated 13.9% of workers travel 20 to 24 minutes to work
- An estimated 0.7% of workers travel 25 to 29 minutes to work
- An estimated 15.7% of workers travel 30 to 34 minutes to work
- An estimated 11.0% of workers travel 35 to 44 minutes to work
- An estimated 6.1% of workers travel 45 to 59 minutes to work
- An estimated 7.4% of workers travel 60 minutes or more to work



Employment by Occupation: 2011-2015

There were an estimated 1,509 workers 16 years and older living in Blissfield

- An estimated 37.5% of them worked in management, business, science, and arts occupations
- An estimated 15.4% of them worked in service occupations
- An estimated 26.5% of them worked in sales and office occupations
- An estimated 4.3% of them worked in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations
- An estimated 16.3% of them worked in production, transportation, and material moving occupations



Appendix X
Village of Blissfield Master Plan



Mystery Train

**Summary of the 2016 Citizen
Questionnaire Results**

The Village solicited the opinions of Blissfield residents during the spring of 2016. The Survey was conducted as part of the effort to update the *Village of Blissfield Master Plan*. Demographic estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau's *American Community Survey* (ACS) were compared to the demographic questions included in the Survey. That analysis revealed that a much older audience than the average Village resident responded to the Survey, causing data to be skewed. For example, while only 7.3% of survey respondent households rented their homes, an estimated 20.9% of all Village households rent their homes. This difference in age should be kept in mind when utilizing the following responses to the Survey questions.

1. How would you rate the following Village services?

	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor	No Opinion	n=
Street maintenance	21.0%	53.2%	21.5%	3.5%	0.3%	0.5%	376
Street snow removal	29.8%	51.4%	14.4%	2.6%	0.8%	1.0%	383
Street lighting	21.4%	47.7%	24.0%	6.0%	0.8%	0.3%	384
Water	18.1%	43.6%	26.5%	8.7%	2.1%	1.0%	381
Sewer	16.2%	50.7%	26.3%	4.8%	1.1%	1.1%	377
Sidewalk maintenance	14.3%	39.1%	29.4%	7.3%	1.6%	8.4%	371
Sidewalk snow removal	18.3%	40.4%	23.5%	7.0%	1.9%	8.9%	371
Police:							
Traffic enforcement	29.0%	43.0%	16.6%	7.1%	1.3%	2.9%	379
Law enforcement	30.8%	42.9%	17.7%	3.8%	0.5%	4.3%	373
Parks	22.9%	53.1%	19.4%	2.4%	0.8%	1.3%	371
Swimming pool	8.6%	25.9%	19.2%	8.9%	4.2%	33.1%	359
Recreation	13.2%	37.4%	25.3%	5.6%	1.9%	16.7%	372
Library	41.2%	36.9%	11.6%	1.6%	0.5%	8.2%	379
Leaf/brush collection	37.5%	45.1%	13.4%	1.6%	0.8%	1.6%	381
Street tree management	17.5%	46.7%	19.4%	5.6%	2.1%	8.8%	377
Curbside recycling	31.7%	30.6%	9.7%	3.3%	1.9%	22.8%	360
Village government	14.8%	41.1%	29.0%	5.4%	1.3%	8.3%	372
Property maintenance code enforcement:							
Residential	7.0%	28.2%	28.0%	11.0%	3.8%	22.0%	372
Non-residential	5.4%	24.1%	30.7%	6.0%	2.3%	31.5%	349

The largest group of survey respondents rated Village services as “good” with several exceptions. Non-residential property maintenance code enforcement was only rated “average” by the largest group of survey respondents. The Schultz-Homes Memorial Library and curbside recycling were rated “very good”. In fact, at least 50% of respondents rated most Village services as “very good” or “good”. The only exceptions were residential property maintenance code enforcement (35.2%), the swimming pool (34.3%), and non-residential property maintenance code enforcement (29.5%). However, it should be noted that “no opinion” was a substantial response to those questions. Leaf/brush collection, street snow removal, the library, and parks were rated “good” or “very good” by at least 75% of survey respondents.

Comments on Village Services:

Survey respondents made 154 comments regarding the Village services listed above:

- **Police Department.** Comments were mixed in nature. However, the perception of Blissfield as a “speed trap” was noted by various respondents.
- **Water & Sewer Services.** Water quality (e.g., smell, taste, solids, etc.) was a common criticism. Sewer backups due to flooding were also a frequent complaint.
- **Sidewalk Maintenance & Snow Removal.** There was praise and complaints regarding the Village’s sidewalk snow removal program. Specific locations were given regarding various maintenance requests/observations.
- **Street Maintenance, Lighting, & Snow Removal.** Suggestions regarding street lighting and snow removal were common. Various street maintenance complaints/observations were also recorded.
- **Swimming Pool.** Comments regarding the public pool were pro and con in nature.

A table containing the complete listing of the comments is located at the back of this appendix.

2. **How often do you and/or your family use the following Village facilities?**

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Rarely	Never	n=
Parks/playgrounds/shelters	2.1%	20.6%	25.4%	45.2%	6.7%	374
Tennis courts	0.0%	0.8%	2.4%	20.9%	75.9%	382
Skateboard park	0.3%	2.1%	1.8%	7.1%	88.7%	382
Swimming pool	2.9%	6.1%	6.6%	28.1%	56.2%	377
Library	2.1%	18.7%	26.1%	42.4%	10.7%	375
Sidewalks	41.8%	32.1%	12.2%	11.1%	2.7%	368
Village office	0.3%	3.5%	51.6%	39.1%	5.6%	376

Village sidewalks are utilized on a “daily” or “weekly” basis by a large majority (73.9%) of survey respondents. In contrast, Village tennis courts (96.9%), skateboard park (95.8%), and the swimming pool (84.4%) are “rarely” or “never” used by the respondents. Blissfield’s parks, playgrounds, and shelters (48.1%), library (46.9%), and village office (55.3%) were used by the respondents on a “monthly,” “weekly,” or “daily” basis

Comments on Village Facilities:

Survey respondents made 60 comments regarding the Village facilities listed above:

- **Parks/Playgrounds/Shelters.** Respondents note their appreciation of Village parks, even if they no longer have children in their households. Some specific projects were also noted.
- **Swimming Pool.** There are mixed comments regarding the community pool. The condition of the facility, the cost of maintenance/operation, and the perceived need for an indoor pool were mentioned.
- **Sidewalks.** The need for a complete sidewalk system was mentioned. The condition of the existing network was also reported. Specific issues/locations were also identified.
- **Skateboard Park.** Comments regarding the skateboard park were mostly negative in nature. The need for bicycle ramps was also noted.
- **Library.** General support for the Schultz-Holmes Memorial Library was indicated.
- **Village Office.** Most of the comments regarding the office were positive.

A table containing the complete listing of the comments is located at the back of this appendix.

3. Please indicate your opinions on the following issues:



A large majority (87.4%) of survey respondents answered “yes” when asked if the Village should continue sidewalk snow removal. A majority (60.7%) of survey respondents answered “yes” when asked if the Village should develop walking/non-motorized trails, either within or outside of the current parks. However, a majority (51.2%) of survey respondents answered “no” when asked if the Village should install sidewalks in street rights-of-way where they don't currently exist.

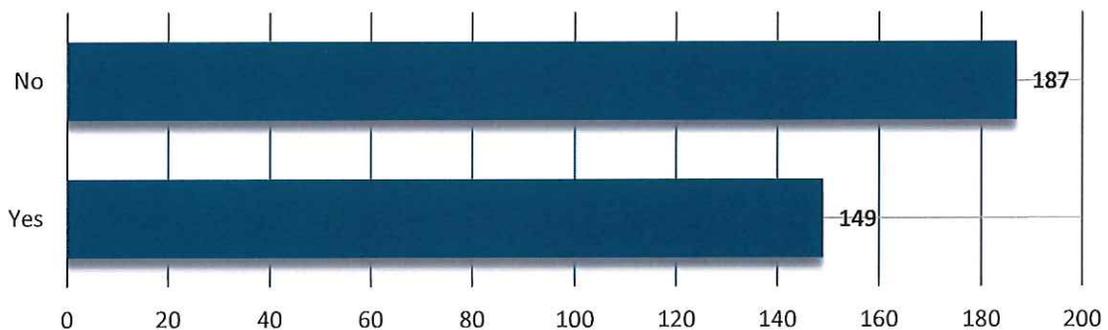
Comments on Issues:

Survey respondents made 105 comments regarding their opinions on the issues listed above.

- **Sidewalks & Trails.** Respondents show widespread support for new trails and an expanded sidewalk system. However, there were also some negative comments.
- **Snow Removal.** Support for snow removal on sidewalks is mixed. However, it is recognized as a positive for elderly property owners. The way the snow is removed was also commented upon.

A table containing the complete listing of the comments is located at the back of this appendix.

4. Should the Village construct and operate a Community Center?



A small majority (55.7%) of survey respondents answered “no” when asked if the Village should construct and operate a community center.

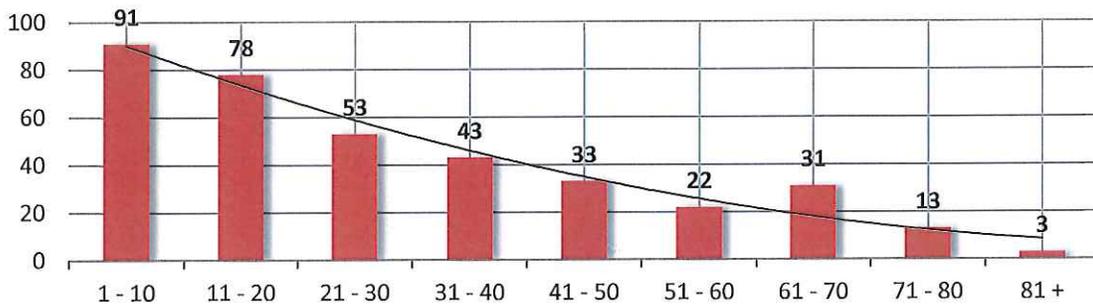
Comments regarding a Community Center:

Survey respondents made 108 comments regarding a community center.

- **Yes.** Many of the comments were positive.
- **Alternate.** Some of the respondents provided an alternative (e.g., include an indoor pool, utilize the fire hall, etc.).
- **Maybe.** A number of respondents said maybe, or that their support depended on details.
- **No.** A number of comments not applicable to the issue were also included.

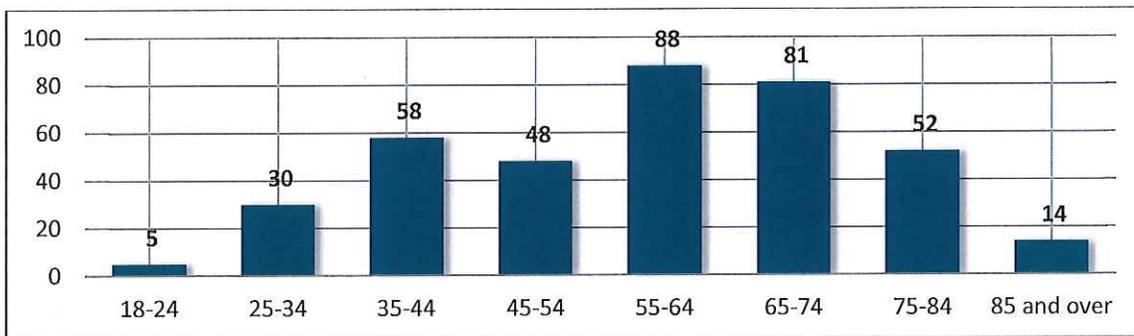
A table containing the complete listing of the comments is located at the back of this appendix.

5. How many years have you been a village resident?



The average (i.e., mean) number of years survey respondents reported living in the Village was 29.3 years. The range of years stretched between 1 and 85 years. Half of the respondents lived in Blissfield no more than 25 years and the other half lived in the Village at least 25 years (i.e., median). The largest group of respondents (i.e., n=18) lived in the Village 20 years. The above figure illustrates that when organized into groups of 10, residency in the Village amongst survey respondents generally followed a predictable curve, with the exception of those who have lived in Blissfield between 61 and 70 years.

6. What is your age group?



Survey respondents tended to be older. For example, almost two-thirds (62.4%) of them were at least 55 years old. The two largest groups were between 55 and 64 years old (23.4%) and between 65 and 74 years old (21.5%), respectively. According to the ACS (see the table below) it is estimated that less than one-third (27.1%) of the population is 55 years or older.

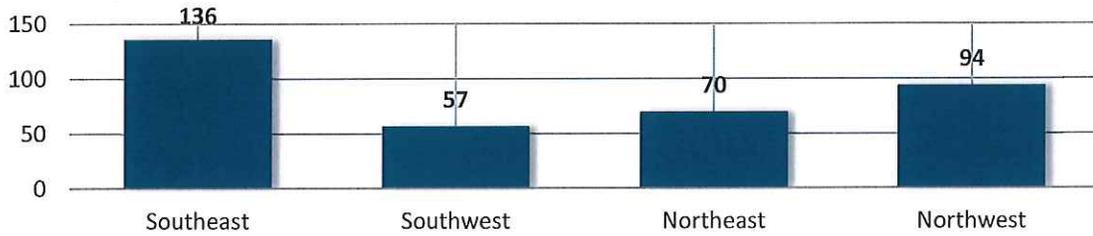
7. Indicate your household size.

The average (i.e., mean) household size of survey respondents was 2.4 people, comparable to the average household and family sizes estimated by the ACS for the entire Village (see the adjacent table). People ranged between 1 and 11 people per household for survey respondents. Single-person households comprised 20.5% of the households of survey respondents, smaller than the percentage comprised of the entire Village.

2010-2014 American Community Survey (ACS)	
Average Household Size	2.26 people
Average Family Size	2.92 people
Households with Kids	27.2% of households
Single Person Households	32.8% of Households
People 55 Years and Older	27.1% of Population
Renter-Occupied Dwellings ...	20.9% of Population

Children (i.e., people under 18 years of age) comprised 27.4% of survey respondent households, similar to that estimated for the entire village. When children were present in households they ranged between 1 and 5 children. The average (i.e., mean) number of children of survey respondent households with children was 1.8 children.

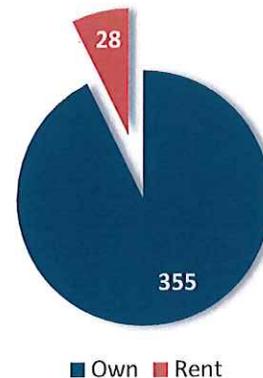
8. In which area of the village do you reside?



The largest group of survey respondents (i.e., 38.1%) lived in the southeast quarter of the Village (i.e., south of US-223 & east of the River Raisin). The second largest group of survey respondents (i.e., 26.3%) lived in the northwest quarter of Blissfield (i.e., north of US-223 & west of the River). The third largest group of survey respondents (i.e., 19.6%) lived in the northeast quarter of the Village (i.e., north of US-223 & east of the River Raisin). The smallest group of survey respondents (i.e., 16.0%) lived in the southwest quarter of Blissfield (i.e., north of US-223 & west of the River).

9. Indicate the status of your residential dwelling.

Survey respondents indicated that 97.2% of them owned their homes. Only 7.3% of respondents rented their homes. The ACS estimates a much larger renter-occupied rate (see the table on the preceding page).



10. We would appreciate any other comments or suggestions that you may have. Please write your comments in the space provided below.

Survey respondents made 135 general comments.

- **Downtown.** Positive and negative comments were made about Downtown Blissfield. Comments included, but were not limited to, parking, a farmer's market, and apartments on upper floors

- **Parks and Recreation.** Positive and negative comments were made about Downtown Blissfield. Comments included, but were not limited to, the pool, a dog park, non-motorized facilities, a community center, community events and festivals, a kayak launch site, theaters/stages, and sports programs.
- **Village Management.** Positive and negative comments were made regarding the management of Blissfield. Comments included, but were not limited to, the Department of Public Works, the Police Department, traffic management, property and building maintenance, sewer and water service, the need enhanced communications (i.e., a newsletter or a better website), and recycling.

A table containing the complete listing of the comments is located at the back of this appendix.

Respondent Comments



Question #1 (i.e., Village Services)

301 N. Quick Street has street lights out.

Absolutely do not need the Village to remove snow from sidewalks (residential).

Although I have no proof nor have I had any problems personally, it does seem to me that the perception that Blissfield is a speed trap may be accurate. I enjoy the relatively safe roadways, but I also sense a few young, over-zealous police personnel that sit with all lights off, ready and waiting to pounce on anyone even remotely close to a traffic violation. Also, the apparent rift between council and the fire department is annoying and child-like.

Appreciate curbside recycling tremendously! Appreciate village trying for whatever is better, yet living with budgetary and constituent restraints. Thanks.

As a mother to a young baby, I would really like to see an area of the park where I could push a stroller around. We live right outside of town, so when we go for walks we have to go to the park, but the park does not have any paths. I would like to see some walking paths.

Bad idea to put new trees in line of power lines. Parking on Pearl Street is very bad. The cars need to be on one side parked or in their own driveways! Some spots are only one lane to get by.

Blissfield has the reputation of being "speed traps". I had a out of state friend who was ticketed for going "38" mph and received a lecture from a wiseXXX cop who has milk behind his ears. I don't trust our current "police department and agree with my friend that the two young cops are wiseXXXes".

Blissfield has too many police officers. Swimming pool needs to be inside for year-round use.

Blissfield water occasionally has bad smell. Also, is very hard and rusty.

Coach Light Estates does not enforce code enforcement. Trashy driveways, trash everywhere. Sidewalks not maintained or weeds cut on sidewalks. Has rules, but not enforced.

Consideration should be taken when snow removal is from or at a cross street as to not pile snow in driveways, where larger amounts of snow build up from plow and release in front of drives while going down the road again.

Cops only pull over certain people! Trucks and farm equipment there is no enforcement.

Do we really need 24 hour police? Tax dollars for nothing!

Don't like the new police SUV -- all black with sparse yellow wording and no lights on top and their trend of "hiding" with their lights out to catch speeders (especially when in private driveways, etc.) seems a bit like entrapment. I do believe the speed laws should be enforced, but not for 3-5 miles over the limit. (I do 30 the whole way through town). Do find it ironic how crazily fast the cops speed sometimes to catch up to a speeder. I live on 223, so witness these things daily.

DPW workers could at least get out of their truck when picking up trash instead of driving with the door open and getting it with a long stick!

During high water and heavy rain water and sewage backs into basement. It doesn't take a sanitary engineer to figure out that the sanitary and storm sewers are not separated.

Fix the issue on Danfield with sewer.

Fix the railroad [crossing] on Silberhorn Hwy. by the grain elevators!

Grass enforcement on sidewalks.

Grates or screening should cover all sewer/gutter openings to prevent small animals from getting in and becoming trapped.

Haven't been impressed with the water testing/treatment issues. Sewer has also been an issue as of late.

Hope to keep the pool open for the kids. Traffic enforcement is great as long as they don't stop me haha. Keep up the good work. Thanks.

House at 113 S. Monroe is an eye sore. Several houses in Village in need of paint and restoration!

I am disappointed the recycling center was taken away and now I have to pay extra to use curbside. I don't see that as much

Question #1 (i.e., Village Services)

of a service the Village can claim responsibility for.

I find the deposit and \$38.00 monthly fee for the water treatment/maintenance ridiculous because I still need to buy bottled water to drink and make my babies their bottles. Also to run humidifiers. I still have sediment in the water that comes from my faucet/bath tub. It's also eating away at my kitchen faucet.

I have lived in Blissfield for about 35 years and have never been able to drink the water, even after putting it in the refrigerator for 24 hours, it still tastes horrible. It's a shame that 1 person has to pay average \$45-50 a month for water that I can't drink.

I hope you can fix the pool (or put one in the school). I would like to see linear paths along the river. I would like to see S. Lane between 223 and Jefferson be one way, southbound only. I would like an amphitheater in the park (where the tractor pulls are during River Raisin festival). I would like to see another pedestrian bridge across the river, from S. Monroe across to Walnut St.

I like the new building, but something about it doesn't seem welcoming.

I like the pool. Used to use it as a child, but anymore I don't use it. I've read where there are issues with the building and pool. I would hope if something is done with the pool it will be move out of flood plain. Maybe building a pool would last longer!

I like the regular police presence in my neighborhood. I don't like the fact the library isn't open on days next to holidays.

I live in Coachlight Mobile Home Park so I don't pay much attention to any of the above, however, I do see police cars drive by which is very comforting to see.

I live on 223 and deal with the traffic. I feel the semi-trucks run too fast through town. Also being 5 houses from a stop light, see a lot of red lights ran and people speeding to get through yellows. Would like to see more patrol there. Also I like how the chief is running things. The offices are a lot more polite. However, the chief needs to work on his manners.

I live on Danfield Street where we continue to have recurring sewer backups.

I miss the paper newsletter. Do we still have the ability to text the police in Blissfield? No one ever says anything about this anymore. Can the "large item" stickers be lower in price? (TRASH PICKUP)

I think for a village the size of Blissfield we receive excellent services.

I think the pool should be updated or a new one built indoors would be even better. Perhaps in a new community center. I think there needs to be some improvements in the rec department. I have not been impressed with how the rec sports programs have been run for my children. There needs to be better organization.

I think there should be more tree and brush collection for residents.

I wish our water quality was better.

I wish the library offered more toddler-friendly programs.

I worry about our water. I filter my water. I have gold flakes, not sure what they are. I know a lot of people buy bottled water. I feel like I live in Flint. Maybe a class on tree trimming would help.

If we get a significant snowfall, some of our neighborhoods become dangerous because it seems like the snow has to stop before the plows get to some of the neighborhoods. By then cars have packed snow down and it becomes icy and stays icy until it melts when it warms up.

In reference to snow removal they lift their blade when they go by our house??

Indoor swimming pool and recreation area is needed. Brush collection should be weekly from March through November. Street trees need trimming.

It would be nice if commercial property owners would repair their broken windows and loose bricks.

It would be nice if the water wasn't so harsh/could be filtered better.

It would be nice to be more informed of when leaf pickup, Christmas tree pickup, and rubbish pickup dates and times.

It's a shame Blissfield is most know as a speed trap. Visibility slows traffic, hiding around corners waiting to bust someone absolutely does not. Street sweeping and brush pickup - those guys do a great job. I won't ever pay to recycle when you can drop it in Ohio for free.

It's hard to rate a pool that doesn't currently function...and probably never will again. I do believe that our DPW, police, fire, library, and parks/recreation are well above what most towns our size have. I am however wondering how we can let the pool and walk bridge get to the point of beyond repair, because of a lack of funding, but we can turn around and fund a dog park (I am a down owner but you won't see me there). Walking trails and some oversized planter boxes for downtown.

It's nice that the library is able to remain independent, but I think there are lots of advantages to being part of the County system. Not only for us, but for all county libraries.

I've never seen snow removal on my sidewalks. Law enforcement haha. People always speeding on 223 - they always sit at fire department and Lt W. They need to find a new place to sit to catch speeders. People pulling out of Uckles at 7 a.m. Crazy people getting off work, speeding pulling out in front of you.

Question #1 (i.e., Village Services)

Junk blue truck Depot and Cherry. Junk truck S. Lane by elementary playground. Many others if you drive through Blissfield. Last summer many bushes, trees not trimmed regularly and were very overgrown at the Bachmayer playground second half of summer.

Leaf and brush removal could be done by private contractors. Swimming pool should be closed down due to high cost of operation and maintenance.

Loved the pool! Great opportunity for swim lessons, vitamin D, fellowship and learning a life-saving skill.

Maintenance enforced. Neighbor has had a boat set in front of his house for over a year and a half and his back yard is a maze. I get tired of looking at junk.

Maintenance enforced. Neighbors [have] had a boat set in front of his house for over a year and a half and his back yard is a maze. I get tired of looking at junk.

Need sidewalk N. Monroe pasted Iffland and out to Blissfield Heights!

Need tennis courts again and pool updates. Very Concerned about our water supply. Healthy/toxic? Smells bad.

Need to adjust manhole covers. Maintenance code not enforced.

Need to clean up driveways with old cars being parked for over 6-7 years. Have no current license plates. Junky yards - clean up. Please take a good look at this situation.

Neighbors complain about putting brush out too early. How about if I don't pick up my yard at all and don't mow grass or anything. What would you rather see? A neat pile of brush at roadside or debris all over yard for months? Don't threaten to fine me. Tell neighbor to mind his own business and besides you are never on the exact date to pick up brush anyways!!!

No sidewalk - N. Lane

Notification of when brush/leaf collection occurs would be more beneficial.

Officer Raburn is a hot head young man who is too young for a badge and a gun. Obviously too young to not drag race in the cop cars.

Our water bills need to reach us much quicker. So we can save money for paying the bill. If you need to hire more people to do the filing than do that.

Park maintenance and facilities are well cared for and used. The festivals in downtown and park areas are well run and well attended. A civic center where parties could rent facility for events is probably an idea whose time is due, though there are rentable venues for such events currently. I think it is wonderful to have curbside leaf/limb pickup, sidewalk clearing, etc., even though I don't personally benefit. This shows commitment of Village leadership to residents safety and comfort.

People drive way too fast on street

Please clamp down on drugs! Keep our community drug free. Let it be known, punishment. Develop task force, motto, etc. Residential, barking dogs policy?

Please, please put more township services online without 'surcharges' for use, such as with paying water bills. In particular, we should be able to pay for services such as water, pet tag renewal, etc. Many communities around the nation are offering these services to their residents and it's honestly a shock to be Blissfield has not done so when we have always embraced new technology, particularly in our schools.

Police Department needs more patrolling than sitting. A lot of speeders and reckless driving are an issue down by the Plaza, leaving town. As a matter of fact, it's all along 223, from entering the Village, to leaving the Village. I see this every day, and everywhere, running stop signs, and not yielding to the right of way.

Pool is good (when it's operating), but needs work.

Rayburn gets carried away with writing tickets!!

Recommend changing street lights to LED.

Regarding traffic law enforcement: I see ALOT of speeding semis and vehicles that never get pulled over. Should have more coverage from one side of town to the other. if possible.

Residential maintenance is often non-enforced/cars in front yards, grass not cut, etc. Street maintenance and snow removal is excellent!!

Residential property code enforcement. Blissfield resident parking (undriveable) a non-running vehicle on side yard. This vehicle has been parked and not ran for 8 years. Does not have current license plate. Eyesore to neighborhood.

Residential street lights could be updated or added in some areas.

Seems as if the law officers target residents - just irritating to feel like your speed is so closely watched...while out of towners fly through and seem to never get pulled over...end rant.

Sewer -concerned about waste treatment plant going into future. Swimming pool - understand improvements needed. Believe they should be done - great asset to community. Residential code enforcement - Is there a code regarding in yards and large trailers and commercial vehicles?

Question #1 (i.e., Village Services)

Sewer is poor! Staff at the Village office need to be more attentive to the customers! Instead they want to chit-chat to a friend while you stand there and wait. This has happened to me twice in the last two months!

Sewer, storm and water infrastructures are very aged!! There are still a lot of lead pipes from city main to curb valves!

Sidewalk maintenance/snow removal: I believe that the condition of the sidewalks, combined with the equipment used [is] mismatched. Often, the snow is only less deep particularly near sidewalk upheavals. Pool: We feel that village government has, for many years, failed to address/budget for the proper maintenance and eventual replacement of the pool, and no, a "splash pad" will NOT teach youngsters to swim; Michigan = lakes and water sports, a lifelong activity.

Sidewalk program is good. Quality of work is poor.

Sidewalk repair - when 2 pieces of sidewalk drop 4" with one raised. Instead of replacing just one section, level the area and replace two sections. Do it right and the sidewalks won't have a washboard effect. Maybe have someone oversee the repairs. Brush collection - The old crew used to rake up the crumbs after picking up brush. The new crew doesn't. It is left to the homeowner. Let's be service oriented.

Sidewalk snow removal: The tractor doesn't remove a lot of the snow. The tractor itself compacts the snow turning it to ice and makes it hard to shovel. Parks: The equipment is in good condition, but the upkeep is almost nonexistent. The park on Veteran's St. needs about a foot of mulch. It is a safety concern because there is no cushion if kids fall and dangerous parts of the equipment is exposed. New sand is needed and one bench is unusable because it needs to be reinstalled. Sidewalk maintenance: Thank you for making the sidewalks stroller-friendly by having the ramps!

Sidewalks on N. Lane Street are in need of repair.

Snow plows are hard on curbs. Sidewalk snow plowing could be better done, but better the village do it than man. Parks/streets need larger trees. Parks need more maintenance/attractions. Lack of funding/public support limits rec program.

snow removal crews are not earlier enough.

Snow removal is fine but we need to sue salt at/on other streets than just down town. It is not gold - \$1000 of salt goes a long way.

Some of the things I don't have much experience with, but we had street light issues for many years and three basement floods caused by the sewer system here on Danfield Street. You will find not too many residents that are happy with village services (some of them) or village admin in this area of town.

Something needs to be done about the city sewers backing up when the river floods.

Sometimes leaf/brush collection is not always as scheduled and leaves marks on lawn from however they lift brush.

Storm sewer backup during extreme rainfall and river flood needs to be fixed.

Street lighting is substandard in my development.

Street maintenance: Repair work where there's been digging isn't done very well and creates uneven pavement. Water: Sometimes water tastes very chlorinated. High in mineral deposits, plugs faucets, seals valves, and faucet screens. Property-Residential - there's a few homes that are poorly kept with garages and out buildings falling and deteriorating and garbage and junk stacked up. This brings in rodents, feral cats, etc. Non-Residential: Empty buildings deteriorating.

Swimming pool difficult to rate. So hard to rate something that is negative income to Village and only used for a short time of the year. Don't do curbside recycling. Haven't had experience with property management code enforcement.

Swimming pool: Do not repair or build new. Use #doesn't reflect individual usage#. Community rejected indoor pool at school. Community rejected indoor.

Tap water tastes too much like pool water.

The community pool should be a priority. This village has little else to offer kids beyond playground age or summer sports. In an effort to discourage delinquency in our teenagers a pool, especially indoor pool, would be a great stride and alternative to hanging out at the skate park trading drugs.

The company hired to trim street trees around the power lines were nothing more than butchers! At the rate we are going there will be no more tall trees on the streets in a couple of years.

The kids love the library and would spend every day there if they could.

The men that work for the village do a very good job!

The police need to stop their sitting on the stretch of 223 from Fire Dept. to Wellsville Rd. It's a speed trap. They need to watch the stop lights that people run constantly and stop targeting certain vehicles.

The pool is a difficult decision.

The poor grade for traffic enforcement is because the police use private property and park illegally to watch for traffic violations.

The street light across street from Wellsville Road should be on north east corner, when coming from Adrian, cannot see where to turn at night. Get lots of debris (sand and black stuff) in the water about every one or two months.

Question #1 (i.e., Village Services)

The Village does a great job plowing streets in winter, same for sidewalk maintenance. They do a decent job picking up leaves and brush but too often they leave behind a mess in the street for residents to clean up. Property code enforcement is lax. Nortons has 5' tall weeds. Cars sit unlicensed for a year or more. Traffic enforcement at 4-way stops is NON-EXISTENT. People run stop signs like they aren't even there. 99% of people run stop signs in town. School buses don't stop at stop signs, neither do some councilmen, police officers on duty, FedEx, UPS, Raisin Valley Trucking, pretty much everybody. Me and my neighbor rarely see anyone stop at the stop signs. We've seen some really close calls. Why no enforcement? Has been a serious problem even during Chief Kelley's time. Another BIG problem is people putting out brush early. Never enforced. Our town looks like a dump, brush piled up at most times. Another problem is people putting couches, TV sets, carpeting, shelves at the curb for 2 to 3 weeks and nothing is done about it, especially along 223. Our town looks like a dump. Blissfield has no "mission statement", we don't know what we want to be. Historical? We bulldoze important buildings like Richland Fun Bldg. Gone forever. Another vacant lot. Vacant bldgs. - Just lost ANOTHER business, our bowling alley now closed. Coachlight Plaza 2/3 vacant. Bottom line, Blissfield continues to decline. For past 5-6 years all I hear from outsiders is how Blissfield USED to be so quant and nice, but not anymore. Not much left except Dinner Train to draw people here. Agricultural Toy Museum - it will fail. Who is going to come and look at that stuff? We need to learn from successful towns like Wyandotte, Plymouth, Northville, Chelsea, Ypsilanti, and Frankenmuth. Same ole' is not working.

There's not enough money to fix the pool or walk bridge. But there's enough money to hire more police officers and buy cars. Don't agree with that at all.

They look like a SWAT team! Need to be visible and friendly (police).

To have such HIGH taxes and still have to pay for recycle, trash and have a volunteer fire department is a shame. Blissfield taxes are through the roof and for what we get it isn't a lot. There are cities that pay [fewer] taxes and get more services. There's no reason why our taxes need to be as high as they are now.

Too many police officers per capita. Take the money "wasted" on that and build the dog park and fix the walking bridge. Water prices are too high for the quality of service. Snow removal is good in most places, but it is beyond me why the sidewalks in front of the skate park are never cleared. People walk and ride bikes on the highway due to this and it is dangerous.

Too much chlorine in water. Too much salt on roads that really don't need any salt.

Too much street lighting. Research shows that it is not safer. Around the school area, traffic enforcement was terrible until a child was hit. Better since then. Could use many more recreation opportunities, such as a rec center for youth/adult programs. I don't know of a plan to manage our beautiful urban forest, very old maples and walnuts, what will happen when they are gone? Giles Ave. is a good indicator of poor planning.

Traffic enforcement is just a speed trap for all except trucks. Curbside recycling should not be an extra charge.

Traffic enforcement is too aggressive. I had contractors for needed service tell me they refuse to come to Blissfield because of traffic harassment. Plus, why don't they pull over the speeding trucks? It's like they are afraid of them. In town on Blissfield Hwy., we watch them speed so fast that it shakes our house while the same trucks go the speed limit when a traffic cop is parked at the Baptist Church. Try getting these same trucks 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Traffic in village should be slowed down. Put up sign saying speed enforced then give tickets. Years ago the Village of Britton did that and people soon learned to slow down.

Very disappointed in the pool and the management. Disappointed that there wasn't some sort of refund for the weeks it was down and that I got rude comments and remarks when asked about it. We used the pool 3 times between the weeks it was closed for flooding and then closing the second week of Aug. due to no help. Not worth the money for 3 times.

Very happy with the Village. Super happy with leaf and brush pick up. A+++

Village DPW does an outstanding job on streets and sidewalks. Pool is a disappointment only because of its location. Too close to river. Overall I feel that the village provides excellent services for a town of 3000 people.

Village government has lots of issues. [Have] strong members on board, some so-so! Good ones are not afraid to speak up and challenge issues. Thumbs up to them!

Village offices are most helpful when needed! Thank you! Good job on snow removal on streets!

Village residents need to be reminded to keep dogs on a leash or keep their pets out of neighbor's yards.

Water - very bad tasting and hard on water heaters, toilet bowl, tub (leaves stains).

Water and sewer seems expensive. We really appreciate the brush and leaf pickup - it helps people in the village maintain nice yards! Having a bi-weekly recycling service is wonderful. Sidewalk snow removal is important to me and my family. We walk around town year round and predict if village didn't remove snow, residents would not shovel. We appreciate the police. We feel safe. The library is a wonderful place in our community for meeting friends, gathering, and special events.

Water bill too high! Taxes too high!

Question #1 (i.e., Village Services)

Water tastes "funny" and leaves residue.

Water too much chemical taste. Have no sidewalk on our street. Not enough snow this winter to have formed an opinion.

Water/Sewer Bills too high!

Water: My water tastes and smells like chlorine! Residential property: My neighbor's washing machine drains into the road, creating standing water, puddles. I drive past it almost every single day.

We appreciate being able to recycle curbside, but hope the cost does not continue to increase. The children's recreation selection is fair, but it would be nice to have some adult choices too.

We are very proud of the street care in all respects we receive in the Village. Especially compared to other communities comparable in size. The new chief of police is doing a good job, but needs to concentrate on presence, not 'presents' (law enforcement tools not really vital to our small community). The pool? Shame on everyone involved!!!! The library? More support for their fine programs.

We do not need Rambo cops. This new police car and guns with high capacity clips are not needed in the town! We need black and white cars so people can see police are present. This is not Detroit.

We feel improvement can be made in snow removal of sidewalks within the Village limits. It is unfortunate to see school-age children walking in the roads on snowy days because sidewalks not being cleaned off.

We feel that the DPW men do an excellent job keeping our streets and brush/snow clear and clean. We never have any doubts about their excellent work. They always clear/clean in great time and are always friendly and helpful!

We live on a short street and when it is snow plowed the driver sometimes drops the snow at the end of our driveway. I am a women of 70 years old, my husband is not able to help me do any shoveling and I would really like the snow pushed off to the side so I can get out with the car and not do so much pushing/lifting snow. Sometimes I feel we can't get out and with my husband's health problems, I really need to get out if I have to.

We love that we are able to rake leaves to the curb (without bagging) and have brush pickup. Curbside recycling is also a huge every day convenience to us. The pool is a great amenity for the community. It could use some love to encourage more use and maybe some designated swim times and classes. We take walks regularly and many sidewalks are uneven, broke, and sunken. I even broke my toe on one 2 years ago!!!

We need better lighting when it is dark for traffic that turns (coming through Blissfield going north) into West Brooke Lane. Another lane would be helpful for traffic coming out of Blissfield and continuing north on 223. Many motorists whiz by traffic waiting for south bound traffic to clear so we can turn left onto West Brooke Lane to go to the pharmacy, lott's, TLC and to homes in the condo areas as well as the new homes that have been built on down West Brooke Lane. Coming from Adrian is not a problem because there is a small lane for turning right on to West Brooke Lane coming south on 223.

We need more speed enforcement on N. Monroe Street and N. Lane Street.

We were not putting money aside in 60 years for a replacement on the pool. Poor planning on everyone's part.

We would like to see our police officers get involved in reporting street lights that are burned out sometimes for many months. We have called Consumers many times. This is a safety issue. We are sickened to see our police vehicles camped out in church parking lots presumably to catch speeders. This is not law enforcement. It is a waste of limited resources and does not reflect favorably on our village. The police could be more watchful of vehicles passing in the turn lane near Knapps/Crop Production Services.

When removing snow from sidewalk snow blower get off sidewalk and rips up my lawn. A lot of communities offer free recycling.

When you plant trees in the spot between the street and sidewalk, could you not plant them directly in front of the porch of a house? When you do that you make it impossible to get trucks to the porch when moving out or getting furniture delivery. Just move over a foot or so.

Why are heavy (large) trucks allowed on Giles. I thought Depot was constructed for semi-trucks. Farms and Len. co. trucks speed up and down Giles all the time. Police need to watch the speed of school buses on Giles. What is the black stuff (chunks) that come out of faucets and toilet? Is some kind of chemical added to water that causes this? We didn't have it years ago.

Why can't the water bills get to us before a week before they are due. They need to receive them on time, but we need to get them earlier. Since they are always due on the same day no matter when we receive the bill.

Question #1 (i.e., Village Services)

Winter of 2015 the snow removal of sidewalks were horrible. There was snow right down the center that was left behind. The slow plow left snow at least an inch thick!

Wish we still had recycling of milk containers and water bottles for free. However, I understand people were putting wrong materials in them.

Would like to have recycling s part of existing taxes. Too many services with out of pocket extra cost that should be covered by current taxes paid. Such as recycling and trash pickup.

Would like to know what's happening in regards to recycling.

Would like to know why water/sewer bill is estimated and not an actual reading each month. Example: One month amount is \$88.66 and next is \$36.12. Very difficult for monthly budgeting! I would appreciate an explanation.

Would like to see a community center for our teens. With a director, volunteers, some structure. Focus on the non-athletic and below average students.

Would like to see yard waste material pick up.

Would love to see paved walking paths through park.

You came up with money to build a village office to the extreme, find a way to put the pool in motion.

Your snow removal rules suck! Get rid of the pool. It's a money pit!



Question #2 (i.e., Village Facilities)

Although we no longer have young children, and never use the pool ourselves, we think having a pool is very important for children, teenagers, and their families. I was disappointed to hear the pool will be closed this summer.

Beautiful new offices. Worth the wait!

Get the sidewalks in all streets. It's been 20 years ago this was the plan to get it done.

Glad you made decision to renew village/police offices. Looks great.

Grandchildren like the parks.

I am older, explanation for answers.

I clean the sidewalks more often than they do.

I do not believe we need a dog park in Blissfield. I would like to see the Kiwanis Bridge fixed so I can frequent the parks for a walk over the bridge with my dog.

I do not have young children at home any longer, but believe these services are vital to kids having a place to have fun.

I don't use many of these, but members of my extended family do and many friends.

I know the swimming pool is old, but I think it's a valuable asset to Blissfield. I would love to see more organized activities for kids of all ages - social swims, dances, swim team. Advertise now at school and in the Advance and D&P community channel. Get the kids to put down those game controllers. Ask for volunteers. I'll help!!

I live on a curve. Have a horseshoe driveway. When they plow snow, the first drive has snow in the end that is easily removed with snow blower. The 2nd drive I blow out from the end of drive 52" into road (twice the blower size). When the plow makes the turn, they leave a 2' to 3' bank still in the street at the end of where I clear out to the road and they never come back to move it out of the way.

I think the skate4board park was a bad idea especially since the park floods. Please NO dog park. No bathroom uptown. Who would be responsible to clean it daily?

I used the facilities very regularly when my children were little (although I was a rural, not village, resident at the time).

I would use the pool more if it were fixed. I would use it even more if it were open daily in the school for lap swimming.

If possible, keep up on the basketball courts this summer. Fix the nets when they rip and maybe leave the lights on til 10:30 or 11 p.m. It's fun down there when I get some friends together.

In the summer more.

It would be nice if we had access to an indoor pool. Currently I have to drive 17 miles to use YMCA facilities in Bedford. Perhaps a joint effort could establish a YMCA/JCC facility here rather than either Bedford or Adrian. An indoor pool would be used year-round versus summer use of an outdoor pool. There are lots of senior citizens who would benefit from an indoor pool and children could swim year-round too.

Ladies in village office are very friendly and polite. Appreciate that!

Many kids want to utilize the skate park but do not possess the skill. They do however want a place to ride their bikes. Instead of punishing those who ride there, build them a dirt track; a place to go. If you keep them busy and provide a foundation, you will see some good talent and some good times for our kids.

Question #2 (i.e., Village Facilities)

More flowers! Village offices have been most friendly and helpful.

More new books at library please. Keep parks clean.

Our children are grown, but these places and facilities are very important to the health of this village. The only thing I don't agree with is the pool. It costs the Village 30-40 thousand dollars a year to open it for only 4 months. It is a great babysitter for working parents, but costs too much! A community center with enclosed pool was offered to us via the school/village partnership, but the very conservative (not community minded) voted it down. Like the wind generators.

Our family goes to the park more than monthly once it becomes warmer. The boundless playground is so peaceful and the kids love it.

Our family uses very frequently every park in the village, especially the playgrounds. We really hope the parks continue to be maintained and/or expanded. We are sad the pedestrian bridge over the river between Bachmyer and Ellis Park is closed. We hope the bridge can be saved! We try to be outside as much as possible as a family, walking throughout the village. Sidewalks are nice to have and hope they will also be maintained. The sidewalk north of 223 on N. Lane Street where the railroad tracks are needs desperate repair.

Our parks and playgrounds are very nice. It will be important to do upkeep to keep them nice and areas of pride.

Our parks and pool are wonderful. I am very sad the pool will not be open this summer. It is a great asset to our children and community. It has taught hundreds of people who use it for recreation. I hope it reopens the following year. One of the main reasons we stayed living in town was for the pool. :(

Playground in summer.

Remove skate park

S. Monroe needs side walk all the way around to Ty St.

Sadly times have changed. Most of the times the parks, playgrounds, etc., are VACANT. Most young people are glued to their TV's, video games and cell phones. Rarely do I see activity in our parks, not at basketball court, volleyball area, or skate park. As for sidewalks, a lot of people walk IN THE STREET! With children in strollers too. Very unsafe.

Shame on all who allowed the pool to deteriorate. The library could use more support. It brings people here, brings our community together, provides recreation.

Shelters once a year for family reunion. Playground by little league park once in awhile in summer when we baby sit.

Sidewalks are very uneven, hard to walk on in numerous areas!

Some sidewalks are broken up and big trip hazards.

Swimming pool needs to be indoor!

Teens are always in skateboard park with bikes and run off everyone else.

The bridge between the parks looks terrible! It's not accessible and not safe. Tear it down! PLEASE do not get rid of the pool. A splash pad will not teach children the essential life skill of swimming. It should not be so difficult to work with the library. They should VALUE and ENCOURAGE patronage, not be jerks about an unknown overdue fine. Is it more important to have people use the library or for the people whose taxes pay for the library to pay a dollar fine?

The pool is terribly managed, and not open enough hours. We don't need 3 to 4 lifeguards inside at the front desk, while only 1 watched the entire pool. The skate park is sinking into the pavement and the ramps have no pattern that makes sense. Who was consulted prior to construction? What is that wall for? The ramps need to be redesigned to better reflect the skill level and it should be open to BMXers.

The village government thought only of themselves when they spent \$1 million on an office instead of fixing the current swimming pool.

There are sections of sidewalk that are under water on Giles when rest of sidewalk is dry.

Though I am not as active within the park, I have 2 grandchildren here in town and utilize the park services during pleasant weather.

Time to eliminate the pool due to expenses and very little use.

To pay water bill.

Use to use all more often when younger...

Very thankful for our tennis courts and parks!

We are hoping that the pool remains open/in business for future use.

We feel the swimming pool was used in Blissfield. We are leaving the youth of this town with less to occupy their time during the summer. If the parents have to drive to Adrian/Toledo then so will their shopping. We stated before we live in Michigan. Kids need to learn how to swim. Open the pool! The local government has had a lot of time to figure this out.

We go into Toledo to walk in Secor Metro Park. Also Hidden Lake Gardens and Wildwood Metro Park, Toledo.

We have a soon to be 6 year old who will be using the skate park. Our grandson loves the Lego day at the library and swimming at the park. Thanks!

We need a dog park and walking trails.

Question #2 (i.e., Village Facilities)

We would use a rec center daily, especially during winter months. Is it possible to develop some trails to walk or run on somewhere? By old canning factor? More street crossings need bump-outs to protect pedestrians.

We'd use the pool more if there were steps instead of a ladder. I'd use tennis courts more if I was younger.

Whatever happened to the "CAT" patrol committee? I have so many cats that use my yard, flower beds, bushes to leave their droppings and urinate on my shrubs I cant even set on my porch the odor is so bad. Makes you sick.

Would like to see a couple more baseball fields, 50 70 fields for mid-age kids that are too big for the little league field, but are not ready for the 60 90/high school.

Would like to see bike lanes throughout Blissfield.

Would rather go to Adrian. Treat you like a criminal in Blissfield.

Would use pool more often if it was actually open for more than 2 weeks in the summer.

Would use pool regularly if there were designated lap swimming times. A splash pad would also be a desirable addition to our parks. I do not like the idea of a dog park. Too many "what if's". I own 2 dogs and will not sue it. Waste of \$!

Would use sidewalks if we had them on S. Monroe St.



Question #3 (i.e., Using Village Facilities)

A biking/walking trail would be great.

A walking path along the river in the park would be a real asset.

A walking trail would be wonderful!

Again, this village is doing well by it's residents. I appreciate these services even though I don't benefit personally (condo owner). I think the safety and comfort level provided justifies the cost involved. I like the idea of trail and believe they will be well utilized and contribute to overall healthfulness of Village residents.

At least look into this.

Before we spend money on walking trails or a dog park, we need to rebuild the walk bridge that's currently out of order.

Blissfield is a very walker friendly community. Invariably the sidewalk plow pushes snow I have already cleared back into my driveway. most of us have snow blowers and don't really need this service.

But not at the expense of the homeowner.

Clean my sidewalk before Village comes around. Every street should have sidewalk.

Connecting existing sidewalks and trails within the village and parks would be a great idea and project, esp. with gaining better access to the schools.

Continue snow removal if it is improved!

Continue snow removal on sidewalks because there are a lot of elderly residents who should not or can't shovel.

Dammit hell yes.

Do not like the dog park. People already leave dog poo all over my sidewalk, I doubt the park will be kept tidy. This is a gross public health hazard. All sidewalks should be accessible. Fix the broken curb cuts. The sidewalk situation (with the different levels) on Jefferson between Lane and Pearl are not safe.

Do not need expense of dog park!

Don't put sidewalks where not wanted please.

Fix the railroad xing by the grain elevators on Silberhorn Hwy.

Get the bridge fixed before money spent on anything else.

I am indifferent regarding sidewalk snow removal.

I do not see this as a high priority to have a walking trail but it is a nice thing to have if enough people use it to move the trail and its up-keep feasible.

I don't know how much snow removal they can do now or on sidewalks.

I don't think the Village should continue snow removal from the sidewalks because it never gets the sidewalk completely clean and tears up my yard. Makes a bigger mess than it is a help to residents.

I don't use sidewalks or walking trails so can't answer.

I feel the people would really enjoy walking trails or trails to ride bicycles. It is a huge inconvenience to drive to Adrian or Toledo to enjoy their walking trails.

I find most people walk in the road...

I have no problem with sidewalks plowed for HEAVY snowfalls, but MOST people don't shovel light snow. People have become VERY LAZY. About time residents become more responsible to shovel their own walks! As for more sidewalks and trails, a lot of people walk in the street anyway, why bother.

I really don't know, maybe it would be nice.

Question #3 (i.e., Using Village Facilities)

I think it should be the homeowner or landlord or tenant's responsibility for their sidewalk unless it's at an apartment building. It could save the Village some money. I think they should expand the trestle trail to come out to Blissfield from Adrian, MI.

I think people should be cited for not picking up after themselves and/or pets in the park because it's gross and children are always there. It's dangerous.

I walk with my dog throughout the winter and appreciate when the sidewalks are clean. Isn't there a walking club with Dorothy Steedle?

I would love to see sidewalks on Sugar St. Lots of school traffic, truck traffic. With a park and Farver being in the same area, there are lots of kids that would benefit from this added safety measure.

I would LOVE walking trails! I enjoy walking but I am very fearful of unleashed dogs in people's yards (which there are many). Even a "harmless" dog is scary when it charges at you.

I'd walk more if there were trails to walk on.

If it doesn't jack our taxes up any more than they already are.

If the village continues to remove snow from sidewalks they need to purchase the proper size of equipment to do so and repair the sidewalks. Sidewalks: If the sidewalks are needed to walk to school, ex: Sugar Street.

If you have the law that sidewalks have to be cleared, then you should do it!! How can handicapped and elderly do it? We pay plenty of taxes and should cover it. 35 years ago we had to personally put in and pay out of our pocket for sidewalks. It disgusts me that there are still places without sidewalks. One specific place is in front of Larry Tuttle's apartment building at the junction of Giles and S. Lane.

Improve snow removal, especially on 223. Sidewalks on Depot and Russell where they are lacking.

Interesting idea

It would be nice to have a non-cement walking trail. The sidewalk and streets can be hard to walk on as you get older and have knee and foot problems. Wood chips or some other softer material would be ideal!

It would be nice, but not at the expense of the community pool.

It would be very nice to have a walking path. I see them in Adrian and Sylvania wishing we had them.

It would be very nice to have a walking path. I see them in Adrian and Sylvania. Wishing we had them.

keep it simple

King Street has cars parked on both sides.

Library hours are not available for working family.

Making trails would be utilized by villagers and be safer than walking along the streets.

Maybe. On village property and downtown for sure. In some areas, but not all. If there's a spot where sidewalks end and then start again, the sidewalks should correct.

Money come out of existing funds. No new taxes for this project. Inside current parks would be ok, but not outside. Again, money from existing funds.

My family wishes the village was much more pedestrian/bike friendly so it was easier to take even small children out. It seems wasteful to drive just to run in-town errands.

My parents are in their 80s, need sidewalk snow removal.

No need for extra trails if sidewalks are repaired. There are plenty of miles of scenic sidewalks to walk throughout the township.

No need for sidewalks in subdivisions. That would be an unnecessary expense. We enjoy the way it is.

No new taxes please.

Only in those areas which are close by the schools.

People don't walk like we used to.

Plowing of sidewalks is nice, but isn't a necessity. Most people have means to shovel or plow, or have someone who could do it. Walking trails are not necessary in such a small town.

Put a bridge (and walkway) between Frank Barer's backyard and Walnut Street. The village should do more for the pedal across lower Michigan riders, telling restaurant owners that 500 bicyclists are coming would be a start. He has offered to have linear park on his property before.

Scenic walking trails are a good idea.

School worked very hard to build a rubberized track to be shared with all community residents. Rarely is it used by anyone other than the school students. A walking trail would not be used. To make our money count, clean up the river. So many dead trees, branches and debris. We can't enjoy it.

Side streets questionable those used a lot. Village does a good job. Downtown and main streets.

Sidewalk clearing in downtown businesses and along 223 o remove snow from MDOT plows not in neighborhoods.

Sidewalk paths that lead to parks and riverfront. Sidewalk bridge under or over 223.

Question #3 (i.e., Using Village Facilities)

Sidewalk snow removal is "excellent" for senior citizens! Thank you for this service.

Sidewalk snow removal is great for the older people. Unless the residents want them. A good place to walk back of Jr. High on the track? Around the park area floods.

Sidewalk snow removal is only for the business and not fair to taxpayers to pay for it. Nowhere else does it. Or you come and do everyone in town.

Sidewalk snow removal is poor. In order not to destroy the grass the blade doesn't hit the surface, this is understandable, but makes walking much worse. I think an ordinance to have property owners responsible is needed.

Sidewalk snow removal ok with correct equipment. Sidewalks (especially near school and playgrounds) should be completed where sidewalks are missing.

Sidewalks needed on S. Monroe St.

Sidewalks not needed in Blissfield Heights.

Snow removal is very important to our family. I don't believe villagers would take the time to clean their sidewalk in winter, limiting many people from being active during the winter. Sidewalks would be great at the area of S. Lane Street at Veterans and N. Monroe Street where sidewalks temporarily end. As a runner and outdoor enthusiast, I am very much pro-trails. I think investing in outdoor activities for the village is very worthwhile.

Snow removal should be based on the amount of snow.

Snow removal was rated "poor" for sidewalks simply because the job is incomplete. However, a complete job would be very labor intensive and expensive. I prefer sidewalk snow removal remain as is and be supplemented by property owners.

Snow removal when necessary helps to keep kids on sidewalks in the a.m. versus the road. Cars in town are not recognizing right of way locations as they should. Walking trails would be a smart upgrade.

Some places. Depends on where. Snow removal is great for those who aren't physically capable to maintain theirs. We don't mind paying for useful amenities such as such. Any recreational walking trails would promote our community to live a healthier lifestyle and would make our village more desirable to live in.

Spend your money on getting the pool up and running instead of walking trails and dog parks. Spend money more wisely.

That would be great. Lots of walkers/joggers in town and sometimes they have to use the street where sidewalks don't exist.

The elderly cannot always do their front sidewalks and to find a neighbor to do it is not easy either.

The park on the west side of River Raisin needs lots of mulch. It would also be very helpful to have a paved sidewalk from the road to the park. It is really difficult to push a stroller through the grass. More sidewalks = better safety. Maybe snow removal only when there is a ton of snow. My hometown required residents to remove their own snow from sidewalks within a specified time.

The Village has never removed snow from my sidewalk in the 7 years I have lived in town.

They are supposed to clean sidewalks. Never do!

They need to come up with a bike path. It will help keep the kids out of the skate board park.

This is Coach Light Estates . We do not get services from the city.

This would be nice, but it would have to be weighed against the cost. Blissfield is pretty safe to walk. If sidewalks were upgraded, would that serve the community better. Trails can lead to problems--drugs , sex, etc. Usually "trails" are more primitive . Now most areas can be "see' and monitored.

Too many aged adults that may not have the health to do it OR resources to pay someone. Plus, younger adults usually have to work and leave early. Children that are older and able to clear walkways for their parents (if they do that anymore (!) go to school early and can't clear the walkways for their parents or as hired by senior citizens if there's school. Then it worsens the route for the mail people and newspaper deliverers. So many of adult children have moved out of state and can't help their aging parents.

Trails across town would be great. Trail system outside of town would be great. Mulched, not paved, for comfortable walking/running.

Trails in the woods in the park would be nice. Snow removal on the sidewalks is a safety matter and should continue. Also makes the community look more inviting in the winter months.

Trails would be amazing!

Trails would be nice. Tecumseh and Adrian have them.

Very much needed.

Village should work on a viable "bike" path on US 223. It is a concern riding on the main thoroughfare so close to highway traffic, especially kids. Designate bike lanes to schools and other destinations within the Village would be helpful.

Walking/bike paths within our great parks would be wonderful.

Walking/non-motorized trails would be awesome!!

Walking-biking trails are quickly becoming a necessity for people looking for a place to live.

We need more signage/policing/and better crosswalks near the school. A stop sign should be at all corners where

Question #3 (i.e., Using Village Facilities)

Giles/Veterans/Lane St. intersect. Speed bumps or stop signs need to be installed along Giles Ave. and Depot St.

We would love some trails to ride with our grandson. We love bike trails.

When the village has done sidewalk snow removal they leave 2-3" of snow. The tires of the equipment then park the snow remaining. Why bother?

When we moved here the Village was in the process of putting in more sidewalks in the residential areas (even though most of the residents were not in favor of most of them). From what we have observed since then it seems most of the "walkers" use the streets even when there are sidewalks on both sides of the streets.

Within current parks ok, but at what cost?

Would be great to have more walking trails.

Would like to have a sidewalk from Blissfield Heights subdivision to current sidewalk on N. Monroe St.

Would like to see sidewalks in some areas of the village.

Would love these.

Would love to have a bike/walking trail in the village.

Would love to see some trails and more sidewalks.

Yes please, on the walking trails in parks.



Question #4 (i.e., Community Center)

A community center could take place at the meeting room in the library or another already existing space.

A community center is not a responsible tax payer responsibility. We all have the town hall if needed to voice our concern. More taxes are not justifiable.

A community center with basketball courts, swimming pool and other activity areas/rooms. This community is wonderful and a great place to raise children, but there is nowhere for them to go. My family envisions a YMCA type facility in Blissfield. Absolutely! Outdoor/indoor basketball courts, batting cages, a four-field baseball complex, a place for our youth to go and adults as well with classes for yoga, aerobics, etc.

Another option besides the library (which is great too) or the skate park would be greatly utilized.

As long as it includes an indoor swimming pool.

At this point in time, the library is offering a great variety of interesting programs and the meeting room is now open to host other events. The "physical aspect" of a community center seems to have been taken up by private offerings/businesses like yoga, dance, martial arts, and programming (sports) through the schools facilities. That money for a new facility would probably be better served to maintain existing services.

Before answering this question, what is the goal of having the community center? What would be offered that isn't available now?

Blissfield has enough in such a small city - waste of money.

But fix the pool and foot bridge first. The foot bridge as the priority.

But need public notice of how it would be used.

Depends how it would be used.

Enough activities in town now with all the sports. Just another thing to maintain, not!

Especially things for neighborhood children during the summer with food/snacks, crafts, and activities.

Fire hall could be used?

Focus on a community pool. Community center should be considered only if it includes an indoor pool.

For what reason?

For what? Yet "more" sports! There's enough sports in school !!! Get a wide biking/walkway for people of ALL ages.

Fund the library! Cooperate with the schools to replace the pool!

Give families something more to do.

I believe a center that is in partnership with the school district would be valuable to both. Possible swimming pool/rec area, stage and auditorium and other school and community-wide events.

I believe a community center in a town or village can be an asset but can our community finance the cost of construction at this time?! If everything that we have now is kept up as getting a "good" rating then it might be time to think about a Community Center if the finances can be obtained. To do so it would be a nice addition to Blissfield.

I believe that a community center with a large gym with multiple courts and a sufficient weight room would be a good addi-

Question #4 (i.e., Community Center)

tion.

I do not think it would be utilized enough to warrant the expense.

I don't believe there is a need for a community center. We have awesome school facilities, churches and the library to gather in.

I don't totally disagree with a community center, it all depends on size, location, and funding.

I have not thought about this concept. Would like to hear ideas.

I think a community center with indoor services and conference/party room would be an asset to the Village. Though there are other rentable halls and venues, this would provide for smaller celebrations, weddings, etc., as well as help defray costs, over time.

I think a community center would be a wonderful addition to our town. It would be great if it included a pool, space for classes to be taught, space to rent out for gatherings and maybe even a stage.

I think it would be accommodating for the elderly, give them something to do and also could rent it out for occasions.

I think the Village should take care of more important things.

I would like to see one that is open to public. I would think these would possibly be some grants to make this happen.

I would like to see something similar to Tecumseh's center for the arts in which the schools would be involved.

I would prefer that this be a private entity.

If the Village decides to have a community center, that is where the swimming pool should be located.

In conjunction with schools/arts, etc. Need to explain taxation/funding better to public to gain support.

Interesting. Might be profitable to rent out! Halls are scarce.

It could be helpful to lots of people, but I don't know if it would support the cost.

It would be a nice addition to our village as long as responsible people ran it and kept it clean (unlike the bathrooms at the park).

It would be a nice amenity, but don't feel it is a priority at this time. Too many other issues need addressed at this time.

It would be nice to have a small community gym instead of having to go to Adrian to work out.

It would be nice to have access to some of the activities that are offered by the YMCA in our own community. Also, access to arts and craft programs would be useful without having to drive 20 miles.

It would be nice to have but upkeep/maintenance and staffing could be difficult. Would be nice to have an indoor pool.

It would be nice! Get grants, money from organizations.

It would depend on what it included and what hours it would have.

Make it affordable for families.

Make it part of the Village offices.

Many of us are willing to pay for a community/rec center, perhaps with a nearby trail running system. Gyms in town are full in the winter. Commute times to nearest gym are 20+ minutes. Our kids in town need more exercise and so do their parents. Please make this a priority.

Maybe in conjunction with the school.

Maybe run a tourist info center out of the Village Offices.

Maybe. How would it be funded - no taxes

Maybe. I say yes. My husband says no. Depends on what it would be like. Would probably not be worth the expense.

Might to nice for young people.

Money would be better spent on existing facilities/addressing pool issues.

My family and I discuss often how Blissfield could do with a community center. One that is available to all as promised, unlike other projects that were supposed to be available for use, then restructured last minute (ie, the fire station).

Need more info!

No comment.

No new taxes please.

No opinion.

No opinion.

No way can this be cost effective.

No, until specific purposed/costs/etc. can be established and put before constituents for vote.

Nobody would use it.

Question #4 (i.e., Community Center)

Not if it means getting ride of the Gail Giles pool.

Not necessary

Not needed with Village offices, fire hall, legion hall, and senior citizen's for meetings etc.

Not opposed if an asset to the Village.

Only if funding is available.

Only if it would offer activities and not be a gossip center.

Perhaps near downtown. This will be good and would make it unnecessary to build public restrooms downtown.

Plenty of space in old downtown buildings.

Plenty of space out at Borchardt Center.

See question #2. We had a great opportunity and blew it.

Should also have an area for teens to use after school (with supervision - either paid or volunteer). Maybe an area for seniors that could be added in the future.

Should include an indoor pool and rooms available for rent to provide some income.

Should investigate this issue. Cost, programs, uses.

The availability of churches, the senior center and school events suffices.

The idea is worth looking into further.

The Village should partner with a private entity to develop a multi-use facility similar to the center in Adrian, but with zero religious affiliation.

There are a lot of families with young children in the community. It would be nice to have a splash pad for the children in the summer.

This could be a great idea, but clear guidelines of what a community center is would need to be discussed. Without the guidelines, I'm hesitant to say yes or no.

This is my dream if I win the lottery! I think the village would benefit from such a space and I would love to get involved if it ever comes to fruition in Blissfield. Often I walk by the huge 20+ acre area on Sugar and Jipson and dream of a large park and community center, a place that offers classes, space for events, and recreational activities. Maybe Riverbend can sponsor the building!

This is not a simple yes or no question. It all depends on what services and activities would be offered, whether or not the membership fee, if any, would be reasonable, and how village property taxes would be affected. However, I would support it if what is proposed would be reasonable and beneficial for the residents.

This would be a good addition and frankly should have been done before the village offices were purchased and refurbished!

Times have changed. Most residents either don't have the time to use a community center or they have a "stay home" mentality = TV, video games, cell phones, Netflix, etc. More money spent that will be a waste.

Too much money! No support from people.

Top priority - foot bridge!! \$ for dog park should have gone to this project. I know it's a drop in the bucket but it would have been a start. No news lately on this project?? Grants?

Unsure on this issue.

Use schools and churches for what is needed. How about American Legion? Seems like a lot of bldgs. could be shared if people had a sharing and get along attitude.

We also need more stores like a Walmart and also something like Wendy's. That's what people want.

We do not feel we have enough information on the type of community center in question. If we do not have the budget to even fix the pool, how do we construct a center. Community Center just for cards? Or one that has sport options? Now? Or years from now?

We have the library, legion, schools, church halls.

We need an indoor facility.

We need this more than useless farm toy museum. Use the land for a water park for the little kids and a center for exercise and classes.

We probably wouldn't use it but we wouldn't be opposed to those who might want and use one.

What about the old kindergarten building? Or what about the old Odd Fellows Hall?

Where would you find the money.

Why?

With rental hall and gym

Question #4 (i.e., Community Center)

Without knowing what operates there....I don't know.

Would be a great place for people to go to.

Would be great!

Would need more information.

Would need more information. Would be a really good idea.

Would need to know more.

Yes but not in coordination with the schools. I want a true COMMUNITY center. An indoor track, a rec room, two or three large gyms. There is nothing to do in Blissfield for teens/youth/kids. A climbing wall would be awesome. Blissfield Schools alienate too many people. That's why I'm against a school community partnership for the facility.

Yes, but be smart about it. Combine it with a new combined complex: Village and township hall, senior center, library, and community center.



Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

Make Lane St. downtown parallel parking on both sides of the street. Terrible setup as it is now.

Leaf pickup and brush we appreciate very much. Guys do a good job!

Stop parking on the street, North Lane Street.

I would like to see downtown developed into apartments. Utilize the building spaces above older buildings. I would like to see a new dog park area where owners can take their dogs to freely run and play. More dog owners in area daily walking, but for sure larger dogs need their space. Would bring that group of citizens together.

I don't think we need a dog park.

Should have a better way of parking long pick-up trucks downtown, such as using parking lots.

Parking of pick-up trucks should not be allowed because they stick out too far.

Better police presence in residential areas at night. Foot patrol at night. Some homes, rental property, business look terrible. House across from post office example.

I think brush and leaves should be picked up more often. Making the community look clean. People have their piles out by the curb for weeks, making it look messy. I understand that it takes time to pick up everyone's, but maybe it can be a better schedule. And young kids driving 4 wheelers on streets, doing wheelies, very scary. That's against the law, but they keep doing it.

I think the village (town) needs to update surveying. Like keeping fences off people's property. Like 1 foot from property line instead of right on line because both people own the line, then 2 fences can't go on 1 line so it needs to be updated like other towns 1 foot from property line. I think that Blissfield police should pay when they damage people's property and not take people's belongings and never return them back. I call that stealing!!!!!!!!!!!!

The dumpsters behind the stores/restaurants south of 223 and the west side of S. Lane are a problem. That little paved nook could be used for outdoor eating. Diners could choose between three restaurants for food and drinks. They would order inside and have food brought out to them. The "community center" should include craft spaces and meeting rooms. The school and library should coordinate for art shows at the library. "Development" can't happen without raising property values. Perhaps someone could buy one of the farms between ??? and Gorman and dig it out for a lake. That would raise values right away. I think ??? should have a stop at Borchardts. I think all of my ideas are impossible, but you never know.

Blissfield is a great small town. A wonderful place to live and raise a family. I think some investment into our village is a good idea and would encourage others to visit or move here. I support the idea of a community center and improvements to our pool and parks. I like that we have rec sports program, but I think they could be expanded and improved. Perhaps the community center could be a partnership with the school and include a pool and a stage that both the school and community could use.

A community center with a pool, banquet room, gym would be a great addition to the community. This could potentially be a joint effort with service clubs in the community, i.e., rotary Kiwanis, Lions, etc.

The family friendly park festivals are wonderful for our family. Family members come to Blissfield to enjoy the day.

Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

The ordinance of putting brush out to street - only the weekend of the actual pick up must be enforced. Lots of people will put brush at the street the same day they pick it up and then its there for 2 weeks to follow. This must be enforced!! We have to walk in the street because no sidewalks, so therefore we are always walking around brush piles that are directly in the street! Could we have a one-day cleanup again? This was always a good way to get rid of unwanted items. I think our cemetery needs some attention with bad trees and shrubs and some grave stones need repair, weather that is family or village responsibility, I don't know! I think we need another traffic light on the west side of town to slow the traffic down, speeds at their end of town are really fast! I think there are too many in and out drives at the shopping center. A lot of the people from the mobile home park will drive through the shopping center to be able to get out on the street faster! Thank you.

Don't ever let anyone build another subdivision without putting cement bases in for street lights. I live in Ron Crist's subdivision. Some light poles are on a 45 degree angle. Nobody gives a shit (looks terrible)!

There should be an ordinance about trailers being parked on the street. It can obstruct the view of traffic when entering or exiting driveways.

Pool needs updating. I think this is important. Bathrooms in park are not well maintained.

Trash and junk in backyards brings down property value of neighbors.

The community pool is important. Please look into repairing it now and then replacing it.

Thank you to the street maintenance people. You do an excellent job. We just moved into Blissfield and appreciate the excellent service. We were just shocked that we have been turned down by contractors to do repairs on our property and were told they don't come into Blissfield because of the aggressive traffic police. I can appreciate nailing the many speeders going through town but we watch in amazement the trucks racing up and down Blissfield Hwy. within the city limits between 11 a.m.-3 p.m. We do feel safe here though!

Would like newsletter regularly with calendar of events.

We haven't been here long enough to know much about the village or form an opinion.

It would be very helpful if the Village offered unlimited trash pickup once or twice per year. This service used to be offered and it was sponsored by a service organization.

I feel Blissfield is very well managed.

I'm 88 years young so it's up to the young citizens to decide.

Because of age I am not able to use a lot of the facilities. Most are a good thing for our village.

The guy who runs the soccer program (Eric something) does a good job. He's helpful and receptive to comments/suggestions. Good guy! Again...KEEP THE POOL. Update the bathroom/changing area though, it's disintegrating. The staff and lifeguards there are very good and friendly with kids. Bring back movies on Main Street. Everything needs to be handicap accessible. Blissfield should check out how Monroe County Library System does their checkout, online renewal and fine forgiveness. The #'s don't lie. When they instituted Fire Free Fridays and then later reduced fines every day, their user base expanded. Get more people in the library and make them feel like they're welcome there. Let's not forget the tragedy of Gail Giles. KEEP THE POOL PLEASE.

A cool addition to the community would be a theater. As a resident I like to spend my money in the community rather than drive to Adrian or Toledo. Even like a family movie night in the park in the summer would be a good activity for the community.

We enjoy living in our village of Blissfield.

Too many cats running around. Dog walkers not cleaning up after their dogs.

No dog runs in the parks/playgrounds/shelter area.

Dog park!!!!

I am a newer resident of Blissfield and enjoy the pride the community takes in its appearance. I moved from a large metropolitan community where there was less pride in the community. some of the services such as leaf and brush pick-up help keep things orderly and faster maintenance of yards.

Extra-long pick-ups should be allowed to angle park on S. Lane.

Thanks for doing this survey and for the work that the village does.

Village should put as much work as possible with private enterprise.

A big issue with our village is we have people who come into town to see our shops on any given day and guess what! They are lucky if one maybe two shops are open! I give up! It's like they open at will, if they want to stay open they need to band together and set some hours they'll be open at the same time. Another vote I would have would be to repair and keep the pool in the park. You will lose everyone by putting at the school. That would be a shame.

Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

Village government-council: Does the board really care about the people of Blissfield or is this just another political power over the people. Village appearance: We would like to see an annual clean up, pertaining to village codes, or do we even have any? If so, why aren't they enforced? Examples: Campers everywhere you look, boats, broken down cars and trucks, snowmobiles, contractors piles of supplies and junk, debris, even brush piles that encourage mosquitoes. Blissfield is becoming the gypsy village. Not only do the eyesores bother us, but the possibilities of rodents nesting in yards, etc., environmental concerns as well. We would like to see someone assigned to make notes and turn them in. Followed up by a property visit and violation warning. Then after a given time, followed by a fine if the expectations are not met and please do not sort out your friends. If they are in violation, ticket them. What about burning regulations? We can't even have the windows open, sit outside, or hang laundry out. The smoke stinks like plastic or rubber at times. Breathing is a necessity. Burning is a daily practice in our neighborhood. There are times of heavy humidity that the smoke hangs for hours. We read in the Advance that the village has a 15 year contract with D&P cable. Since its onset, their customers have decreased and consequently so has their income, so the village added on \$5.00 to everyone's water bill to compensate. Really? Was this first good judgment by the village? Secondly, fair to the rest of us? Parks-Recreation-Pool: We have noticed groups brought into our parks, example, skate boarders from Boysville. Are the parks monitored for our freedom and safety? They should increase the visibility of our local police to help prevent problems. We are glad the pool is closed and hoping the shower/dressing area will be cleaned up. Sidewalks: First snow removal. Whomever has that job is creating problems when they go right down the center, maybe one foot. The rest blows in, re-freezes and you resort to walking in the road. Do you check on the people who do this job? The rest of the walks are pretty good except for skate boarders and bikes. You have laid enough sidewalks. Another concern is motorized gizmos of all kinds operated by very young kids on the streets. This is not only dangerous to them, but to anyone backing out of their drive, etc. Our taxes seem to keep rising. We feel that we are being punished for keeping our property up even though we can hardly afford to. What are we getting more of by paying more taxes? Kudos to the guys that care for our streets and pick up our brush. They are friendly and we appreciate that. Please make us proud of our village. We don't like to watch it deteriorate.

Our police officers are very kind and friendly. They do an excellent job of making the Blissfield residents feel safe and secure. All police officers are very friendly and are willing to show kindness to children who are afraid. We greatly appreciate this about our officers. Officer Nigh has gone above and beyond to help our daughter acclimate to police men. She was petrified of them and now views them as people who help us, not to be scared of. Thank you for hiring such great men for these positions!

We would like to see the monthly/quarterly newsletter sent out via mail again. We used to get it sent via email, but that has since quit. I've tried a few times to inquire about it and never get a response back. Would be nice to see what events and when brush pickup, etc., are scheduled. We do receive the Advance, but most times activities, etc., are advertised short notice. Would also like to be able to have a few chickens for egg laying (would keep in coop). I think there should be new updated village rules regarding animals in general. Our village/community should be seen as a compassionate, animal-friendly destination, but responsible pet ownership is a must and needs to be requested with follow-through consequences. Noise ordinance during July 4th and River Raisin Fest needs to be addressed more clearly. Fireworks need to be regulated more.

Would support a tax increase for a rec center

Need sidewalk on S. Monroe St. Would like to see the police car drive by a little more.

Thank you. All in all very pleased with Village. Water is a bit high \$ and quality could be better. Very hard. Had to install softener. Get an A for effort for trying to encourage business and keep downtown vibrant.

Lower the real estate taxes.

There were restrictions on parking trailers all the time in yards and drives, now it does not matter. It's time to put this stuff in order. What happened to our restrictions??????

Skate park known drug use and meeting place. They are selling 2C-E and playing choking game. Only hearsay from friends and their kids. Also, stray animal problem. Cats. Vacant and abandoned homes not being kept up, makes a very bad eyesore.

I am excited about the new dog park and hope to see improvements to the tennis courts and more recreation programming.

It would be helpful if there was a left turn signal on 223 at Lane.

What ever happened to the water treatment factory that was going to save the world? It was tied to Blissfield man.? Overall you the Village do a great job! Thanks!!

Our village tries very hard to keep up with modern thinking while respecting tradition. We have a beautiful village with friendly, caring towns-people and businesses. It is a privilege to be able to live here. Many times I see situations and say "only in Blissfield". *On the negative, I do think more could be done with the water. It ruins the plumbing and appliances with all its residue.

Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

I like Blissfield. I would like to see a movie outdoors, where tomato plant was, drive-in for money for Blissfield Village. Thanks for taking care of us. I'm glad to be residents.

All in all, Blissfield is a great place to live.

On the whole, love living in this Village. It is a great and safe place to raise a family and our services provided are really exceptional. Do really miss the bowling alley and wish that someone could be recruited to open it back up and run it.

Blissfield is an outstanding place to live. We love it! and our neighbors, our church, our favorite restaurants -- all of it! The pool closing is a black mark against the Village Administrator and the council. Shame on all of you. Streets, police A+! but let's stay realistic please. The library should be acknowledged as the community center it is. *We confess to ignorance of how much support is given to the River Raisin Festival. Whatever it is, is too much. The festival is no longer a community asset. It has devolved into a liability and a time to avoid park, downtown, restaurants, or walking anywhere. Please consider this. We are not alone in avoiding the festival now. A different more local festival? Super idea!

Street lights need to be fixed and maintained at all times, so residents can walk in the evening and not be afraid of being attacked.

I grew up in a small town which is why I wanted to raise my family in Blissfield. My town took a lot of pride in their parks and trails. They are beautifully maintained. When I am at a park in Blissfield I always think about what a huge difference could be made with minimal cost. The beautiful play equipment is there. Maintaining the mulch, sand and weeds would go a long way. The park on the east side of River Raisin by the pool needs benches. There used to be some there, but they were removed I'm not sure why the trees there were cut down, but planting new ones would be nice. I live on Jipson St. right after where the road bends when heading south. So many truckers, cars, etc...fly around that curve and go well over 25 mph. I am terrified that someone will whip around that curve the same time one of my small children decide to get a ball that went into the road. I watch my children closely, but as fast as people drive on Jipson, they would not have enough time to react and brake. Is it possible to install a speed bump or have police monitor the road a few times a month? Thank you for letting us give you input and feedback!

Better water. We had ours tested and were told not to drink it.

Ordinances should be strictly enforced. Un-mowed lawns, junk cars sitting in yards, no parking on streets. Why have ordinances if they're not enforced.

We enjoy walking and would like walking/biking paths around town (park area).

I love the Village of Blissfield, and we cannot wait to buy our first home here and to raise our children here. Thanks for all you do!!

Enforce the ordinance on the Blissfield books. Fix pool. Stop drying to make a dinky town into a little Ann Arbor.

Taxes are too high.

Way over staffed on police for our small village. Do not need pool for the migrants to use or the festival carnies. Most kids are not interested in going to the town pool. Not like it was in the 60s, 70s, 80s.

Cut back on police time and use the savings to stop raising water/sewer bills each year.

Snow removal needs to be greatly improved. It's a joke to wait a day after storm to have streets plowed and no plowing on weekend, come on. We don't have village worker hours 9 to 3 M-F. We work nights and weekends and need to get to work and home. North Monroe needs to be paved not chip seal. It is a main road and the worst in the village.

The intersection of High St. and S. Main is confusing and dangerous, especially to drivers that aren't familiar with it. People shouldn't be allowed to park trailers or vehicles on the streets for more than a day or two.

We need to fix or replace foot bridge connecting Ellis Park and Bachmeyer Park. Very important asset to Blissfield. Not sure if we need a dog park, surely not top of residents lists. The pool is needed for our youth for summer activity.

I would like to see an annual trash pickup to get rid of items not normally discarded in weekly pickups. I also never know what to do with my yard waste.

We have a river that could be beautiful. It is here and could provide so much free enjoyment to all residents and passersby. Our parks are for everyone and used a lot by all ages. The elderly can sit in their cars or sit on the benches and watch happenings and the weather. Our parks are where grandparents take grandchildren to enjoy and bond. The bridges and water are part of this experience. Families spend hours year round making memories at the park nearest them. The money spent to maintain or build a new pool could clean up a lot of the river and put bird and duck houses on its banks. It could repair the closed arch bridge which is not only beautiful, but a landmark for Blissfield. (It is fun to walk on too!). The playground equipment, safety issues related to it and general cleanup would benefit also from the money saved by 0 pool. There are a lot of places to walk, i.e., the parks, track or our well-kept sidewalks. If the river were cleaned up, it would offer increased visual pleasure, fishing for free and for all, water activities like canoeing, exercise potential (yoga by the river) (rowing).

Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

Thank you for considering relocating pool funds.

DPW does a good job.

We love it here. Safest most quaint and quiet town we have ever resided in! So glad we chose Blissfield to raise our family.

Repair the walk bridge. Do not waste money on a dog park.

Stump removal!

I would like to say that I appreciate the work the DPW guys do each day. I also appreciate the new lights that say how long you have before the light is going to change to cross the street. They were great for Yuletide. P.S. I appreciate the survey and having my opinion heard.

I really appreciate the holiday decorations each year. Not sure if it is a Village item, but railroad crossings are very bump - even after some spots were filled.

Take a look at what city services are offered for the taxes that are paid.

Keep up the great work. Blissfield is a great place to live. The library is well run, great asset to our community. They have a great selection of magazines, books; and if they don't have what you want, you can request it.

Thank you for taking the initiative to gain feedback from the villagers of Blissfield! I love living here. I feel as though this is such a wonderful place to raise my family. We appreciate the community and all the events the village and the DDA sponsor. We attend as many as possible. My family is very excited about the possibility of the development of trails and would be very motivated to volunteer to make this happen! During the Christmas season, Blissfield looks great, all decked out with lights and garland. However, the rest of the year, and especially on 223 in the village, the commercial and residential areas look rough, worn down and tired. I think it would be worth investing some money and care into the maintenance and facades of these buildings. Many people pass through between Toledo and Irish Hills and I imagine it must be hard to recognize how truly wonderful this village is just by passing by on 223. I would be in favor of having a community day or weekend in the summer (and possibly doing away with River Raisin Festival) so that people within this community have a chance to gather and socialize. I would love to see a few varieties of businesses open on S. Lane St./223. A coffee shop/bakery would be great or a health foods store.

Pedestrian situation for walkers to the school in the morning/afternoon is not good. Some kid is going to get hurt or killed and we will be seen as negligent as a community. We need better crosswalks designed to protect pedestrians - bump-outs, better signage, much more obvious pavement painting, crossing guards (?). Please work with the school to fix this situation before a child gets hurt. This community needs space to exercise and be healthy and meet as a community. Many young moms and dads find it difficult to exercise, especially in winter months. A soft trail system will promote exercise for young and old and will build stronger relationships within the community. Kids need a safe place to hang out and shoot hoops (the park downtown is unsupervised and unsafe for kids). Rec center with indoor and outdoor facilities, trail system.

I think putting in pool facilities along the lines of the family centers would get a lot of use, but it would be unfortunate that swimming lessons would then be "out". This isn't an easy issue.

Please continue to work with and encourage beautification downtown, especially upkeep on buildings. Some look bad. The glass globes on decorative lamps downtown are too bright and modern to match the quaintness of our town. Something more old fashioned would be appropriate. The white Christmas lights are a huge improvement over the colored ones (on the light poles). Our foremen and department need to be treated with respect. We have had to call them twice, both in the middle of the night and what a blessing they are. There are so few firefighters. Maybe because they are not appreciated or treated with the respect they deserve? Also, I don't feel it's necessary to sweep the streets once a week. I think once a month would be plenty.

We are very pleased with your great work! Thank you!

Please continue the curbside recycling. We love it and it saves us money for trash pickup.

Overall I believe the Village leadership is active and with improving and maintain quality of life of our residents and doing a good job, I am very happy to have become a resident where such attention to detail and caring ideas are the norm. Thank you also for providing this survey and a chance to interact with local government and provide opinions.

We get a lot of bang for our tax buck!

Keep the pool open. Fix the bridge in the park. Please don't put in a dog park. It's a waste of money. Why is our water full of calcium?

Continuing pool operations are not or should not be a Village service. Should, if pool continues, be operated by a for profit company. The continued residential sidewalk snow removal is not a service the Village should provide.

Keep up the good works.

Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

People need to pick up dog droppings on sidewalks in residential and downtown area. Parking on South Main Street needs to be limited to "one side" only, too narrow.

We don't need to have a dog park.

A kayak dock on the river downtown would be nice.

So sad that there will be no pool for the youth this summer. Our pool provides jobs for our students coming home for the summer from college. Kids will not be able to receive swimming lessons. What is in Blissfield for the youth? No more bowling alley, no pool, no youth center. Thank goodness there is a summer library program for the middle and grade school children. I hope the event coordinator will have some activities for our youth. If not, it will be a long boring summer for the kids.

I would like to see a farmer's market, like the one in Adrian. There is a lot of space at the end of Jefferson St. and 223. Would be easy to see if someone was passing through town, a lot of parking.

Fix bridge (foot bridge) over the river. Eliminate pool if too expensive to repair. Ask police to be friendly.

As someone who walks our sidewalks daily, I would like to see some sort of "scooper" law enforced. I often have to step around piles of dog feces. I like that people walk their dogs, but they should be cleaning up after them. There are new "piles" almost every day that I walk. I do see people with bags in their hands, but I'm beginning to think it is only for "show". There is way too much on the sidewalks. I have a dog. I have her "go" before the walk and also take bags with me.

Stop using all our taxes for wages and benefits for Village employees. 24 hour police not necessary. What size is Bedford? They don't even have a police department. I blame the citizens for not being aware of what is going on with Village. They need to get involved and get current council out of office and get different people in there. Why send out survey, you all do exactly what you want without getting the opinion of residents. This is why the Village hasn't grown, why would anyone want to move here?

It would be so nice to have a bike wide walking trail. This way most ages could enjoy this. This would also be good for family outings. Biking, strollers, wheelchairs, walkers = for people that need walkers to push as sidewalk cracks are sometimes difficult.

There is no reason we need 2 cops on duty on a week night or week day or basically any time. There are many towns 2 or 3 times the size without officers and it is overkill. We are known far and wide as a speed trap that makes people not want to come here for anything else. We need a dog park. All of the arguments against it are nonsense. There is a high population of dogs and not everyone has a place for them to run. Bring back the community-wide trash (big item) collection that used to happen once a year. I have not received a community newsletter since I can remember. Bring that back as well. Leave lights on at skate park and leave trash receptacles in parks as long as the weather is good. People use the parks all year. Leave restrooms open as long as weather is decent. Better maintain the trees rather than cut down mature trees take care of them.

In the last couple of years the park maintenance has been lacking. Bachmyer Ballfields back at the playground, there is play equipment that is surrounded and overgrown with vegetation. I don't let my kid play over there anymore due to the high risk of ticks in the overgrowth. Also, the last couple of years it has been embarrassing at the festival that people are having to dodge the overgrowth on the walk bridge. You can barely make it through. The overgrowth shrubs in the downtown parking lot on Pearl Street is so bad that you have to walk in the parking lot to get around the inside walk way at the corner. Please keep up the trimming.

Control speed of truck (semi-traffic).

I compliment and thank the village for all they put on and bring to the community. Tractor shows, parades, festivals, craft shows, etc. It's nice to be located in a town that has activities for all ages. There is so much variety as in shopping, places to eat, hair care, and so so much more. Thank you B-Town!!

Appreciate: Curbside recycle, choice of garbage pickup, brush/leaf pickup, beautiful park. Sorry-don't care for "art work creation" in park. Blissfield is a beautiful, historic town with charm. I'm still looking for the connection.

Why not have large pickup trucks park in parking lot? Not main street?

We like the idea of a Riverwalk/Boardwalk in some areas and asphalt in others. And please fix bridge soon. We would like to see some water features or play fountain as well near pool or in place of. We could use a quality Mexican restaurant. Would like to see trash removal service we don't have to pay extra for. The emergency sire really needs to end. Unless there is a tornado or an air attack. This borders on ridiculous. Can we at the very least end it at night time?

There should be no dogs allowed in the park. River Raisin Festival is no place for dogs. Spending money for a dog area is a waste of our money.

Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

I have noticed a lot of clutter in some people's yards. I believe homeowners should be held responsible to keep their yards clean. I've noticed yards with old cars, trash, "junk", and other things that make not only their home, but our town look run down. Many people take pride in their homes and yards and all need to be held to a certain standard.

The village has not planted trees in Blissfield Heights. We have a backhoe in village garage. One scoop of dirt out, one tree in hole. No need for outside help period! Help out for restrooms downtown. When people have a need, they get in their cards and leave! Stop the speeders on 223 from one side of village to the other. Deerfield has sign on road saying speed strictly enforced. Do the same then give tickets.

We do not need so many police officers 24/7. Cover could be part time but charitable. Bad guys would not know when officers were on duty, have changing coverage.

I honestly enjoy living in Blissfield. My issues are with the water (sediment and damage to my faucets). Also I live right in front of the park. I think more police patrol needs to be addressed because kids are in the park at night.

What do we have to do to get railroad crossings, in Blissfield, in Good Repair.

Being a regular at the restaurant downtown, I have witnessed on a daily basis trucks and cars accelerating north on Lane through the downtown area just to beat or try to beat the light at 223. This is just ignorant and unsafe. Ignorant for the safety of auto traffic but mostly unsafe for all foot traffic. My suggestion to alleviate this problem is either installing speed bumps or as I have experienced in the past, what Barton Hills call speed tables which are the same height as a speed bump, but about 4 feet wide. Recommended speed 15 mph, any faster, whoever, will not do it again. Or just lower limit downtown to 15 mph.

Do not believe we need a dog park. Enforce leash laws. Fix the walk bridge or remove it.

Please make the Blissfield website actually work for the town. The banner is fine for people who drive that way regularly, but not all of us do. The events calendar should be utilized for sports sign up deadlines, festivals, music events, polling/voting information and not just council business. Not only would a better internet presence greatly improve information gathering for residents, but it is a great marketing tool for tourists. Participation would increase, allowing for profit increases. Again, I'm surprised our village has not already implemented and maximized this technology especially after all the hard work that went into getting Blissfield's main street certified and beautified. Eventually, services like this will be a determination in where people live. This village should not be playing catch up.

Please! Fix the railroad xing on Silberhorn by the grain elevators. Thank you.

Would love a community center in the Village to be used year-round. Would also like to see the walking bridge replaced or repaired. It's a staple of our community.

I have observed the employees of the Village as they perform their duties. They are always busy and courteous, always helpful.

223 is a nightmare to cross. The need for pedestrian initiated traffic stop(s) is too great to ignore. The playgrounds are becoming broken and are in need of maintenance. The weeds are overgrown. There is a need for mulch. They need to be power washed and any broken plastic pieces need to be replaced. This should be done in spring and fall. A number of buildings look terrible up on 223. Blight is being overlooked in too many areas of the Village. How many vehicles/boats/offroad rec vehicles that don't run, always remain parked does one need?

Thank you for surveying the residents and attempting to get a pulse on impressions and opinions. This is a difficult task and generally thankless. New "construction" such as trails within existing parks, and community centers are really not needed. Beautifying our current assets would be preferable. Maintaining and upgrading sidewalks throughout the Village provides for a nice pathway on which to walk or jog. Keeping trees along the streets pruned and healthy also makes for a pleasant stroll. Flowers downtown and around town are another nice service, whether provided by the Village or simply encouraged. My recommendation would be to continue doing the many things the Village does well, and provide improvement and upgrades where able. Thank you!

Some streets could use better lighting. There are really dead sections on Giles Avenue. This is one example. Maybe have a lighting survey of village streets.

Railroad crossings in Village need repairing especially on north side of 223! Really rough. Welcoming committee formed for new residents in village. Info package for banks, churches, etc. Driving through downtown Blissfield is a safety hazard. Trucks with large beds and a trailer hitch extend out into the street making it bad when someone goes through when meeting larger vehicles, school busses, UPS or another larger car. I avoid driving through and notice many others do also.

I am extremely sad that the pool will not be opening this summer. I think it is an important part of our village activities. I grew up swimming all summer at the pool, took lessons, and became a lifeguard. My children have enjoyed swimming all summer and take part in the swim club and lessons. I understand it is in a flood plain but it has lasted 60 years there.

Question #10 (i.e., General Comments)

Fix the pool! Fix the wooden bridge! Use the toilets in the depot for public use. Don't need any downtown. Fix the approach to the depot if necessary. Sidewalk, signs, landscaping, etc. Dog park - if it can be run safely and maintained. Have a fee to sue. Card or key entry. Proof of dogs health and up to date vaccinations.

Would like to see more downtown business. Some stores along 223 are empty. Give them a tax break or low rent to put these buildings to use and improve the look of our downtown.

The postal service is horrible. We constantly get other people's mail. After delivering the mail ourselves to our neighbors and others almost 3 times weekly, we just started leaving notes on the mail with "wrong house" . Since doing this it has gotten better, but it's not great. The postal worker also walks across the yards instead of using the sidewalk.

Very nice place to live. Many people walk dogs...including me. Wish there were some "trash receptacles" for litter/dog poop, etc. There are some streets which are very dark at night...like White Street, King Street, Gasner, etc.

Resident park they car in driveway at all time. Why? Snow removal, leaf/brush pickup, trash pickup.

Nowhere on this survey does it ask about parking in business district (Lane St. between 223 and Jefferson). Either go back to regular parking (not angle) or eliminate trucks parking there. If parked by a pickup, can't back out safely (can't see past them). Also, too tight for two-way traffic with pickups sticking out. If this was on survey, most people I know would agree with what I wrote. Why did you not put it on the survey? So many people I know feel as I do. I think you know this.

Village needs to take care of issues as they happen, not put off until something seriously happens! Water, sewer problem.

A dog park would be great. Please don't spend my tax dollars on "art".

Require people walking dogs to pick up their dog's 'duty'.

We have a great village and with a few upgrades we can become even better. We need to replace Coney Island! Everyone I know gets sick and has quit eating there. We can do so much better than that. I am embarrassed when we take my in-laws there. The quality is just not there.

It would be nice if the downed trees, debris would be removed and cleaned up behind the DPW along the banks of the river up to the train bridge. This is what River St. stares at every day. Overall, I sincerely appreciate the village staff and services. We have a very nice town. Let's keep it that way. Thank you for all you do for the village residents and the community of Blissfield.

The corruption in the police department is over the top and in the school system. The school is in violation of several federal mandates. A brave few other parents that are concerned about it also. When I get a few more we will all be taking it to the federal marshals since I was told by the chief of police that the school is "no harm, no foul" !!!!!

We think building a dog park is a joke and waste of money. We have plenty of sidewalks to walk dogs and when we had our dog, we had no problem walking and letting our dog run for free. Spending money on the pool and our children is more important. Taxes are high enough, we need to spend money wisely. A community center and trails is not needed in my opinion. Will only raise taxes and keep people from wanting to buy homes in Blissfield. Over the year I have repeatedly heard taxes are too high in Blissfield and friends and others looked elsewhere. Great community, but too expensive. Keep Blissfield simple and quaint.