

Appendix A
Town of Sherman Comprehensive Plan
2023

Public Participation Plan

Town of Sherman Comprehensive Planning Process “Public Participation Plan”

**Prepared by the Northwest Regional Planning Commission and the Town of
Sherman Plan Commission**

Adopted by the Town of Sherman, Plan Commission - 08/10/2022
Adopted by the Town of Sherman, Board of Supervisors - 08/16/2022

INTRODUCTION

Recognizing that the Town of Sherman Comprehensive Plan must reflect the people it serves, the Town of Sherman encourages resident (both permanent and seasonal) input throughout the revision of the plan. Public participation procedures will provide for a broad dissemination of proposals and alternatives, public meetings after effective notice, opportunity for written comments, communication programs, information services, provisions for open discussion, and consideration of and response to public comments. These enhanced procedures augment the minimum public notification requirements required by law.

The Town of Sherman's Public Participation Plan forms the basic framework for achieving an interactive dialogue between local, state and federal decision-makers and the residents of the Town of Sherman. This plan outlines the public participation strategy for the development, evaluation and eventual adoption of the comprehensive plan for the Town of Sherman. The creation of the Public Participation Plan is the first step in meeting the requirements of Wisconsin's comprehensive planning legislation and will apply throughout the local planning process leading to the adoption of the revised Town of Sherman Comprehensive Plan.

The Town of Sherman will comply with the Public Participation Plan as appropriate to the situation. As the planning process develops, it should be expected that deviations from the plan might be warranted.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

General

The main goal of the Public Participation Plan is to make the residents of the Town of Sherman aware of the progress of the comprehensive plan revision process and to offer the public opportunities to make suggestions and comments during the process. To reach these goals, the Town of Sherman has adopted the following plan to encourage public participation through the revision process. Taken individually, the activities described in this plan are not expected to reach and inform each and every resident and property owner of the Town of Sherman. Collectively, however, the plan activities should provide a broad-based dissemination of information and maximize the opportunity for public involvement and comment.

The majority of the public participation activities will focus on public information, education, and input. Public meetings and workshops will provide opportunities for the public to openly discuss comprehensive planning issues with planning committee members, town board supervisors and consultant staff. Formal public hearings will also be conducted as part of the plan adoption process to allow public testimony to be made regarding the comprehensive plan. During the comprehensive plan revision process, every effort will be made to ensure that public meetings are held at locations convenient to all residents of the Town of Sherman. Other public participation activities will be explored to inform and receive input from residents that may not be able to attend public meetings and hearings.

Provisions for Open Discussion

The Town of Sherman will ensure that public meetings allow for an open discussion of the relevant issues at hand and those public hearings allow for appropriate testimony. When public meetings or hearings are conducted, the Town of Sherman will make every effort to ensure those who choose to participate in the plan revision process have the opportunity to actually have their opinions heard. To accomplish this, the following actions will be implemented:

- An agenda will be established that clearly defines the purpose of the public meeting or hearing, the items to be discussed, and any actions that may be taken.
- The scheduled date, time, and place will be convenient to encourage participation by the town residents and property owners.
- A clearly identifiable facilitator or chair will conduct the meeting or hearing in an orderly fashion to ensure that attendees have an opportunity to offer comments, discuss issues, or provide testimony.
- The facilitator or chair will provide opening remarks that clearly outline the purpose of the meeting or hearing, describe procedures attendees should use during the meeting or hearing when offering input, and describe how the public input will be used.
- As appropriate, an overview of documents or proposals to be considered will be discussed.
- All persons attending the meeting or hearing that desire to participate should be allowed to do so. However, specific factors, such as the meeting or hearing purpose, number in attendance, time considerations, or future opportunities to participate may require that appropriate constraints be applied. These constraints will be clearly outlined by the facilitator or chair if the need arises.
- All attendees will be encouraged to sign in using a provided sign in sheet.
- Meeting notes will be made available as soon as possible.
- Special arrangements will be made under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) with sufficient advance notice.

Opportunity for Written Comments

Detailed comments can most often be better expressed through written format. Town of Sherman residents may direct written comment to:

Town of Sherman, Plan Commission, 3063W State Hwy 182, Park Falls WI 54552

Plan Commission Chair email as published

Persons speaking or testifying will be encouraged to concisely express their comments and provide specific details in written format.

Consideration of and Response to Public Comments

The various methods for involving the public and soliciting public opinions and comments during the comprehensive plan revision process are defined herein. These methods represent the initial steps for bringing public comment into the decision-making process. The following steps will be taken to ensure that public recommendations and comments are taken into consideration by the decision-makers when developing the comprehensive plan:

- Time will be reserved after the close of a meeting, hearing, or comment deadline and prior to the actual decision or recommendation being made to ensure that decision makers can adequately review all relevant materials or comments.
- Decision-makers may reconvene a public hearing for the purpose of addressing public comments.
- Meeting notes will be compiled by appointed committee members and made available to decision makers for their review and consideration.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Land Owner Survey

A 23 question opinion survey was mailed December 2021 to all landowners. The response rate was 55%. Results of the survey will be used during the revision of the plan.

Public Meetings

Planning Group Meetings

The Town of Sherman will hold public meetings to assimilate information collected relevant to the nine elements of the comprehensive plan. Through local public meetings, residents will be able to become an instrumental part of their community's plan revision process. By participating in meetings, residents can aid their elected officials and planning committee in creating a vision for their community's comprehensive plan. Interested citizens can also become involved in the plan revision process as members of their community's planning committee.

Meeting/Hearing Notices

Official meeting notices will be prepared for any of the above public meetings or hearings conducted pertaining to the comprehensive planning process. At a minimum, the requirements of §19.31 pertaining to public meetings and notification will be met. The town clerk or other town staff will place meeting notices at the town's designated posting location(s). It is recommended that meeting notices be posted at least one week prior to the meeting. All public hearings will follow the same public meeting notice, except as required by law.

Planning Document Dissemination

Documents that contain or describe the proposed plan's policies, maps, or recommendations will be made available for public review. Documents will be available on the town website prior to any public meeting or hearing scheduled for their discussion or a decision.

Public Hearings – Final Draft

Once the final draft of the revised Town of Sherman Comprehensive Plan is completed, the Town of Sherman with assistance from the consultant will conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed plan. As plan revision progresses, a schedule for these meetings will be prepared.

Hearing Notices

The Town of Sherman will place legal notice of hearings in the official newspaper. Hearing notices should be published as required by local and state requirements.

Prior to the town approving the comprehensive plan, a hearing shall be conducted preceded by a Class 1 public notice that is published at least 30 days before the hearing is held. The town may also provide notice of the hearing by any other means it considers appropriate. According to the comprehensive planning legislation, the Class 1 notice shall contain at least the following information:

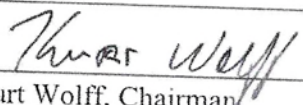

1. The date, time, and place of hearing.
2. The name of the local governmental individual who may provide additional information regarding the proposed plan.
3. Information relating to where and when the revised comprehensive plan may be inspected before the hearing and how a copy of the updated plan may be obtained.

At least 30 days before the hearing is held, the Town of Sherman shall provide written notice to all of the following:

1. An operator who has obtained, or made application for, a permit that is described under s. 295.12(3)(d).
2. A person who has registered a marketable nonmetallic mineral deposit under s. 295.20.; Any other property owner or leaseholder who has an interest in property pursuant to which the person may extract nonmetallic mineral resources, if the property owner or leaseholder requests in writing that the local governmental unit provide the property owner or leaseholder notice of the hearing described in 66.1001 (4)(d).

Town of Sherman Comprehensive Plan Adoption Process

The Town of Sherman will follow the procedures for adopting the comprehensive plan as listed in §66.1001. The first step in the adoption process is being met by the adoption of this document that details written procedures that are designed to foster public participation throughout the comprehensive planning process.


Kurt Wolff, Chairman
Attest: 
Rose Meer, Clerk
Adopted by the Town of Sherman, Board of Supervisors on: <u>8-16-22</u>

Appendix B
Town of Sherman Comprehensive Plan
2023

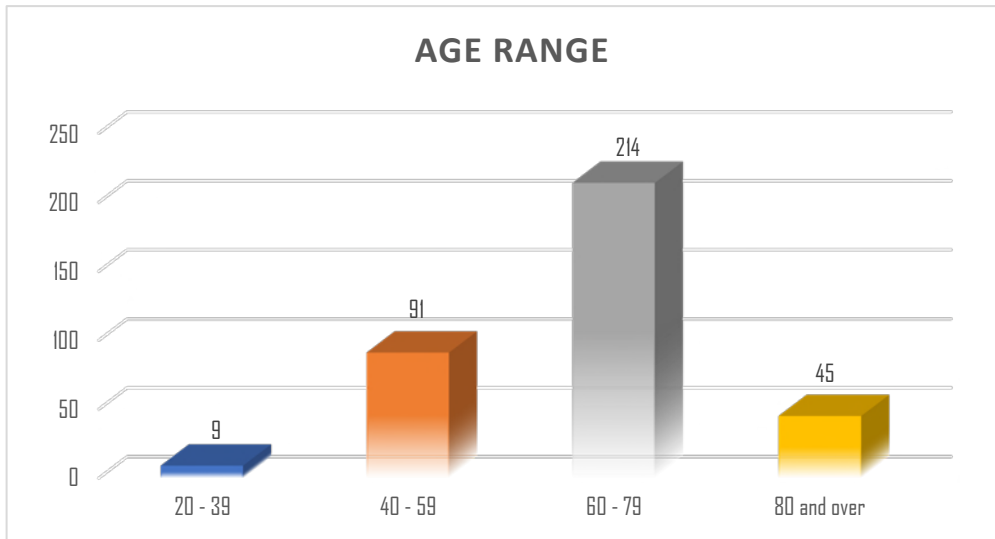
Town Survey Results

Dear Landowner,

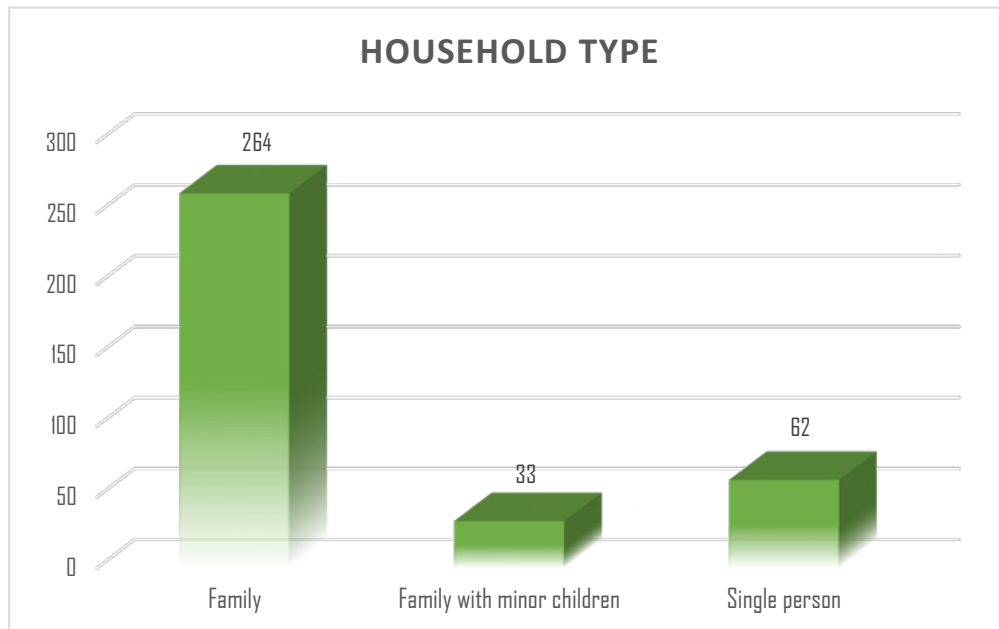
The Town of Sherman is currently working to bring its Comprehensive Plan up to date...and **we need your help!** As a landowner, ***your opinion is crucial*** to the quality and effectiveness of the new Plan. We are asking all landowners in the Town of Sherman to please complete this survey. You will be helping to determine how our updated Comprehensive Plan can be used to support the needs of our community and advance the best management of our beautiful Springstead area. **It should take less than 10 minutes of your time.** The survey is available online (<https://townofsherman.net/survey>), or you can complete this copy and return it in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided. **Please respond no later than January 31, 2022.**



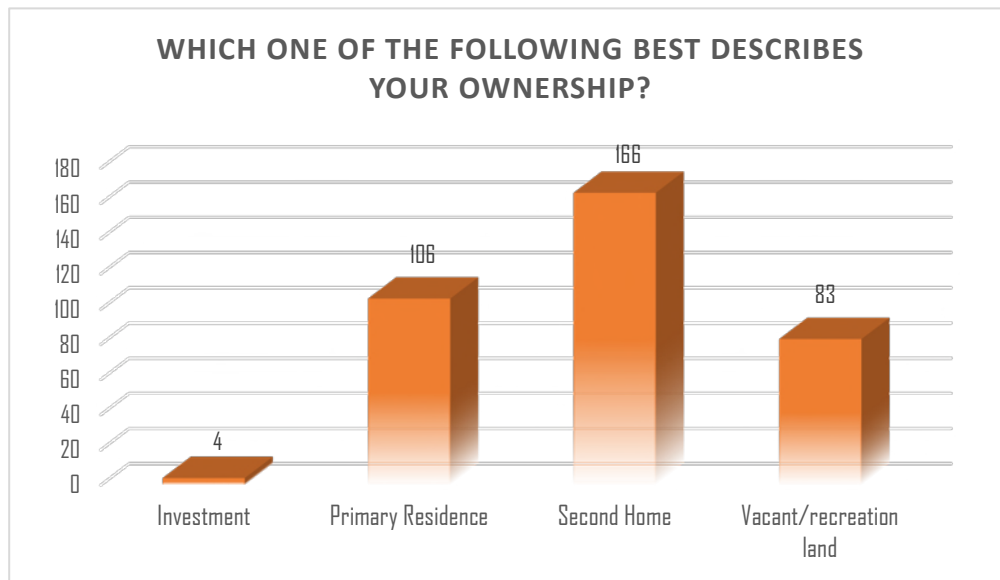
1. What is your age?



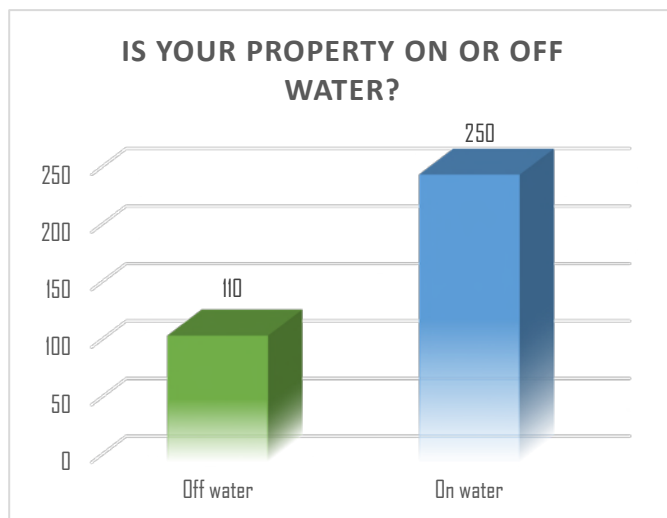
2. Please describe the composition of your household:



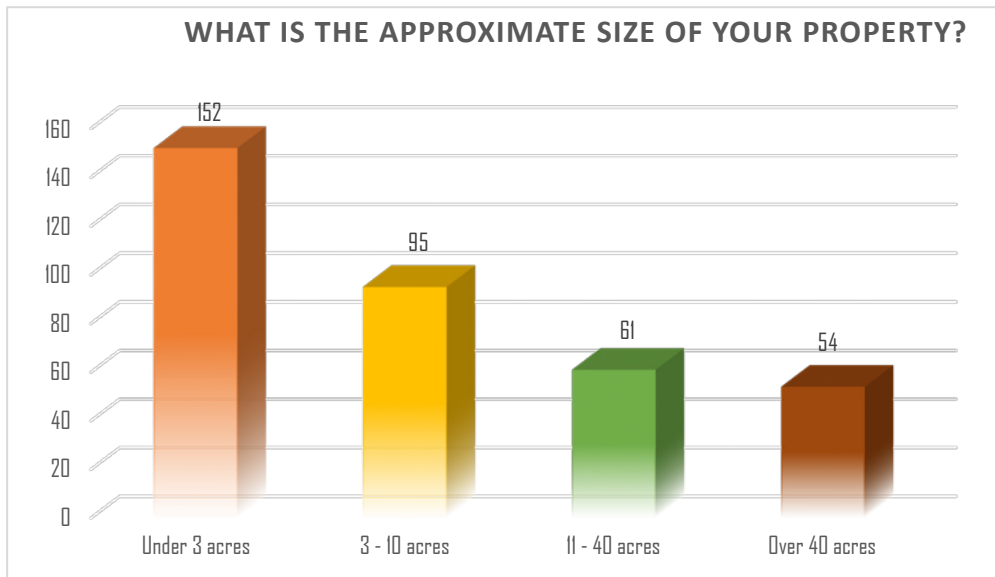
3. Which one of the following best describes your ownership?



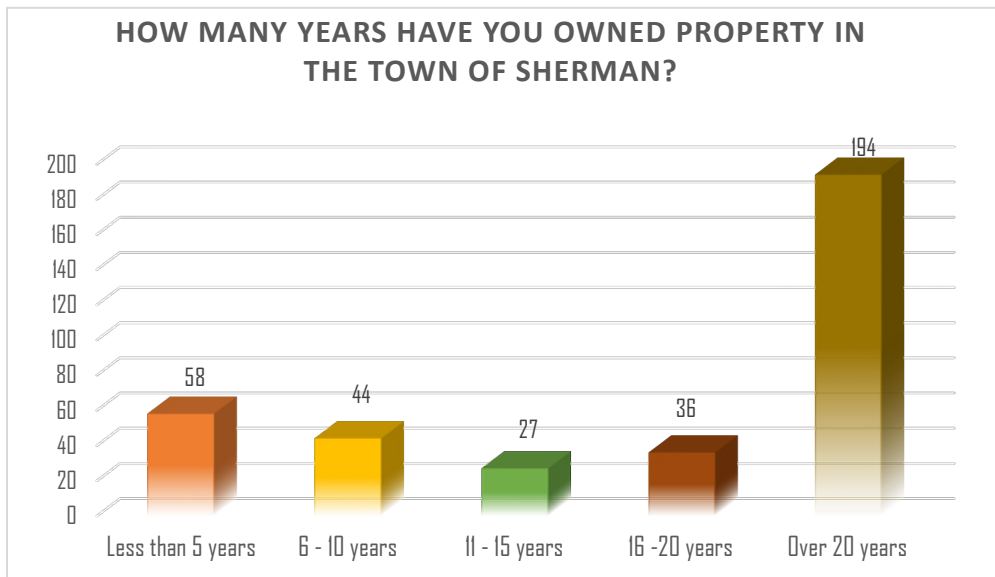
4. Is your property?



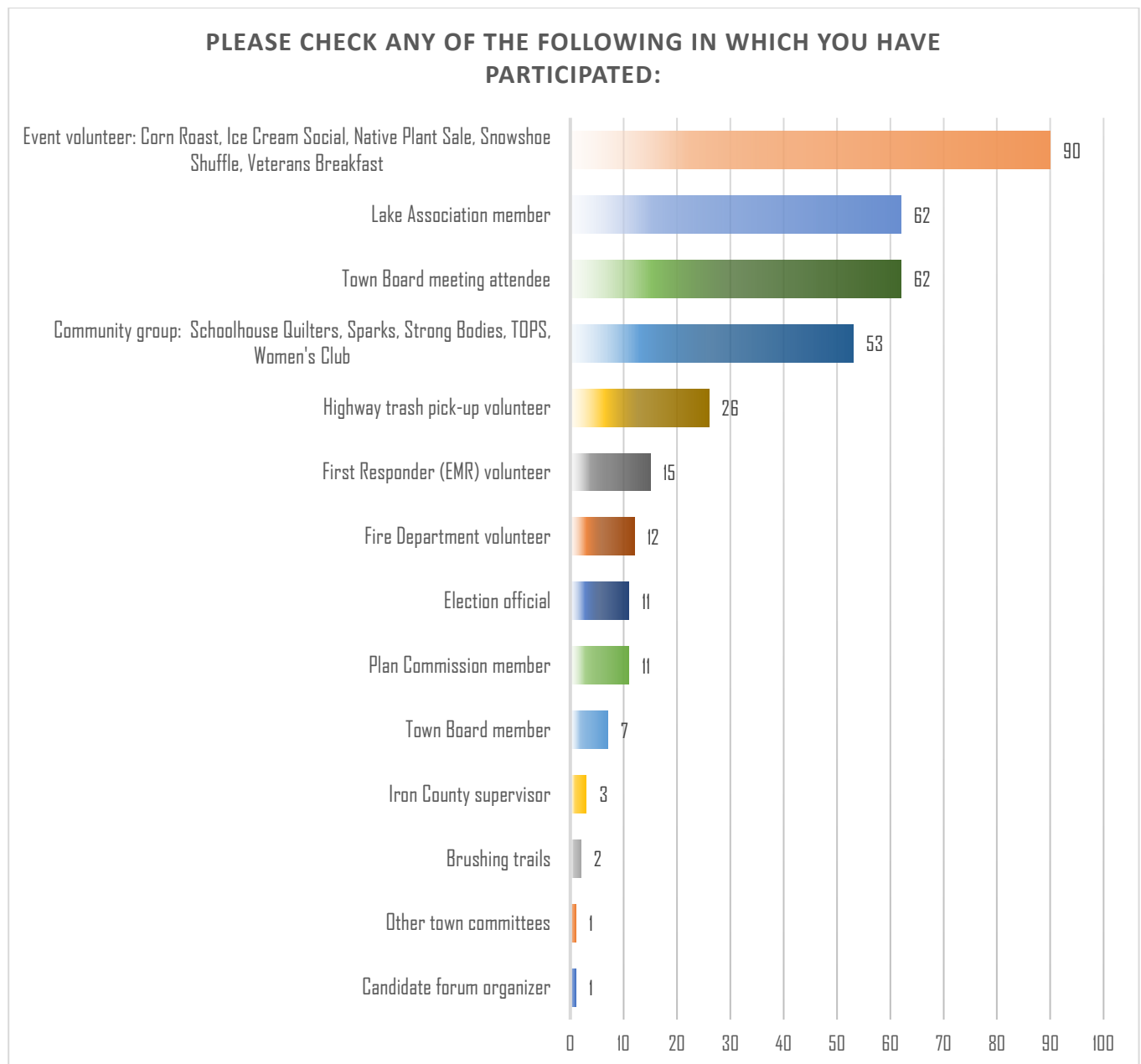
5. What is the approximate size of your property?



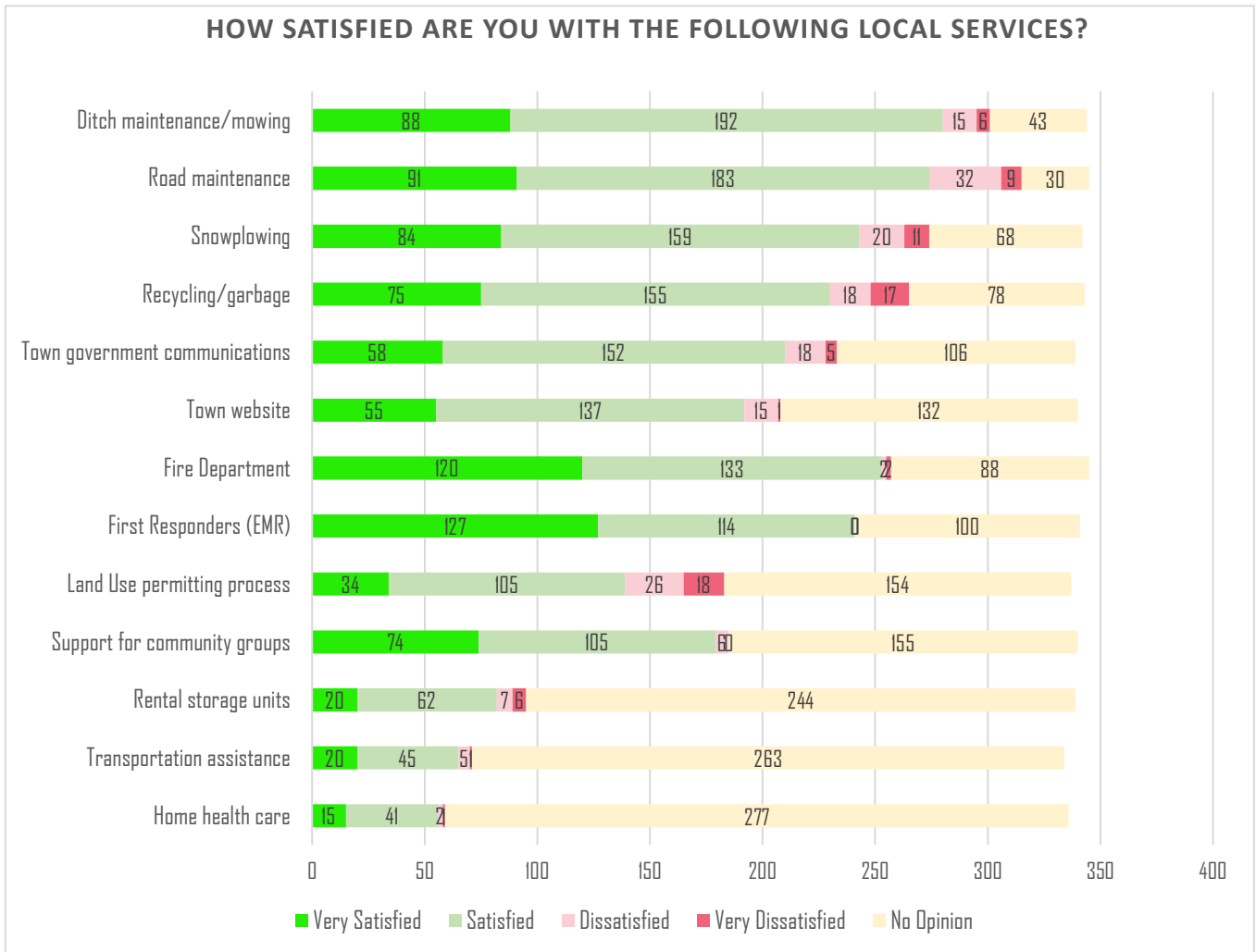
6. How many years have you owned property in the Town of Sherman?



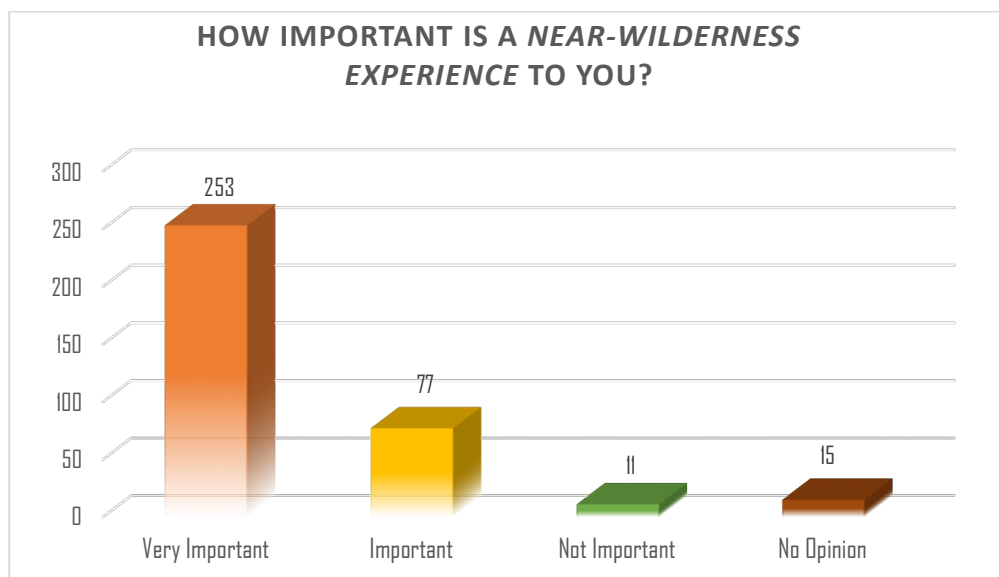
7. Please check any of the following in which you have participated:



8. How satisfied are you with the following local services?



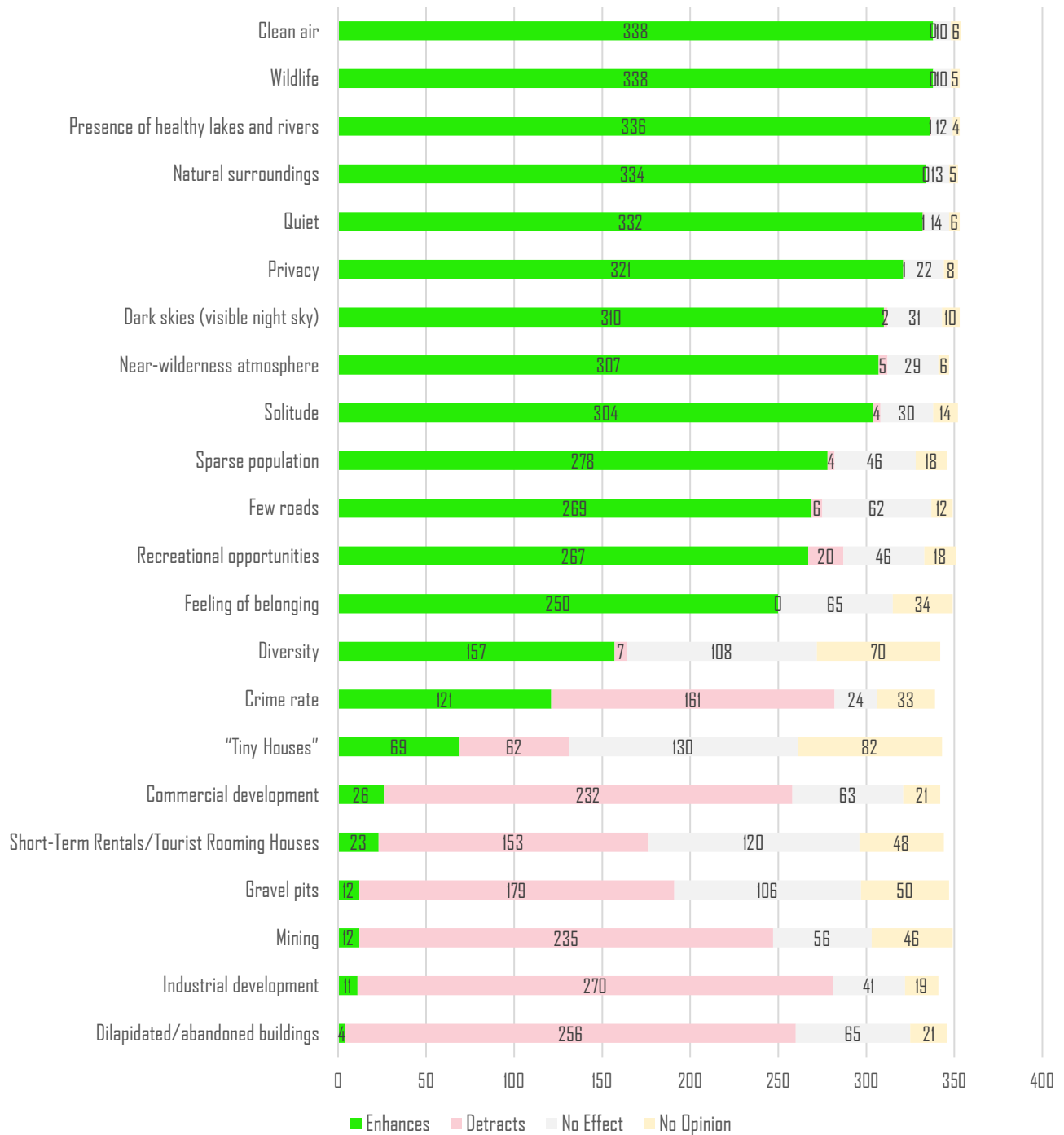
9. How important is a *Near-Wilderness Experience* to you?



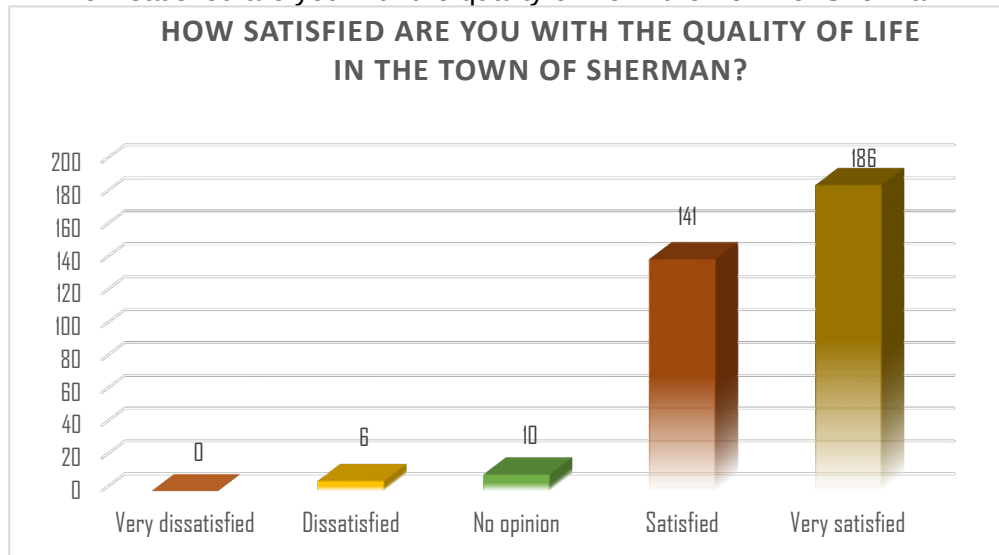
10. With respect to your property in the Town of Sherman, how do (or would) the following affect your quality of life?

	Enhances	No Effect	Detracts	No Opinion
Wildlife	338	10	0	5
Clean air	338	10	0	6
Presence of healthy lakes and rivers	336	12	1	4
Natural surroundings	334	13	0	5
Quiet	332	14	1	6
Privacy	321	22	1	8
Dark skies (visible night sky)	310	31	2	10
Near-wilderness atmosphere	307	29	5	6
Solitude	304	30	4	14
Sparse population	278	46	4	18
Few roads	269	62	6	12
Recreational opportunities	267	46	20	18
Feeling of belonging	250	65	0	34
Diversity	157	108	7	70
Crime rate	121	24	161	33
"Tiny Houses"	69	130	62	82
Commercial development	26	63	232	21
Short-Term Rentals/Tourist Rooming Houses	23	120	153	48
Mining	12	56	235	46
Gravel pits	12	106	179	50
Industrial development	11	41	270	19
Dilapidated/abandoned buildings	4	65	256	21

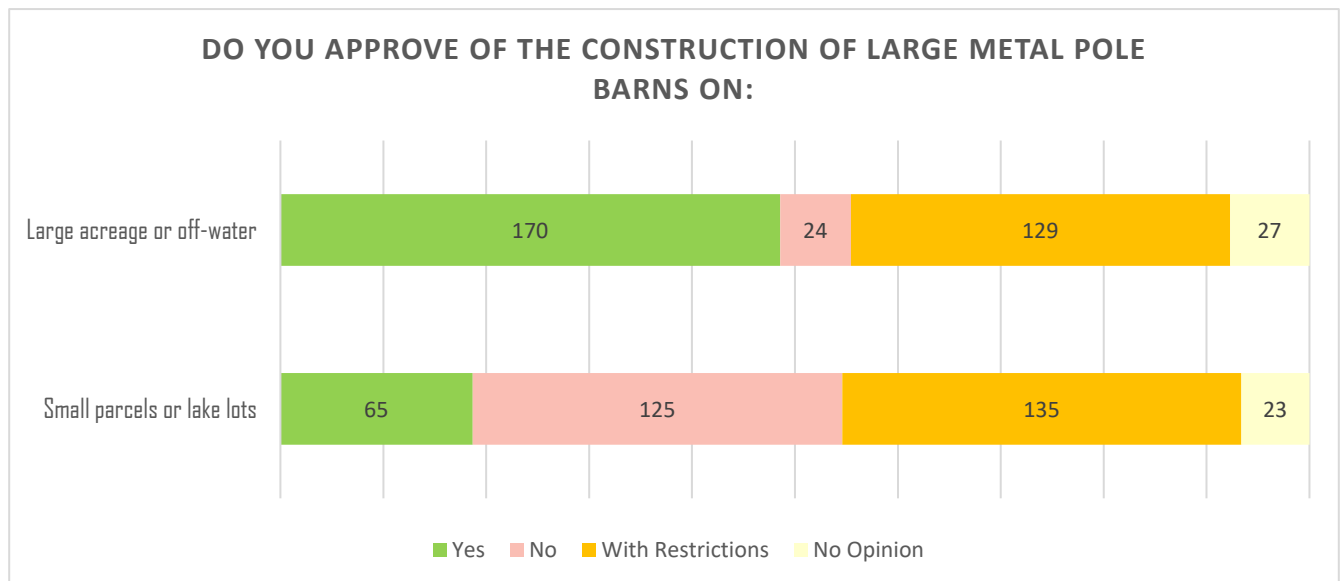
WITH RESPECT TO YOUR PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF SHERMAN, HOW DO (OR WOULD) THE FOLLOWING AFFECT YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE?



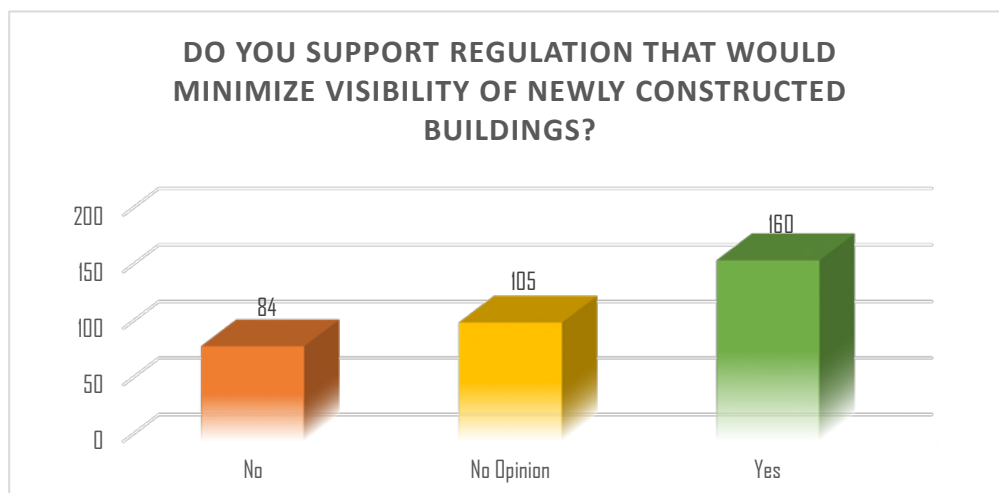
11. How satisfied are you with the quality of life in the Town of Sherman?



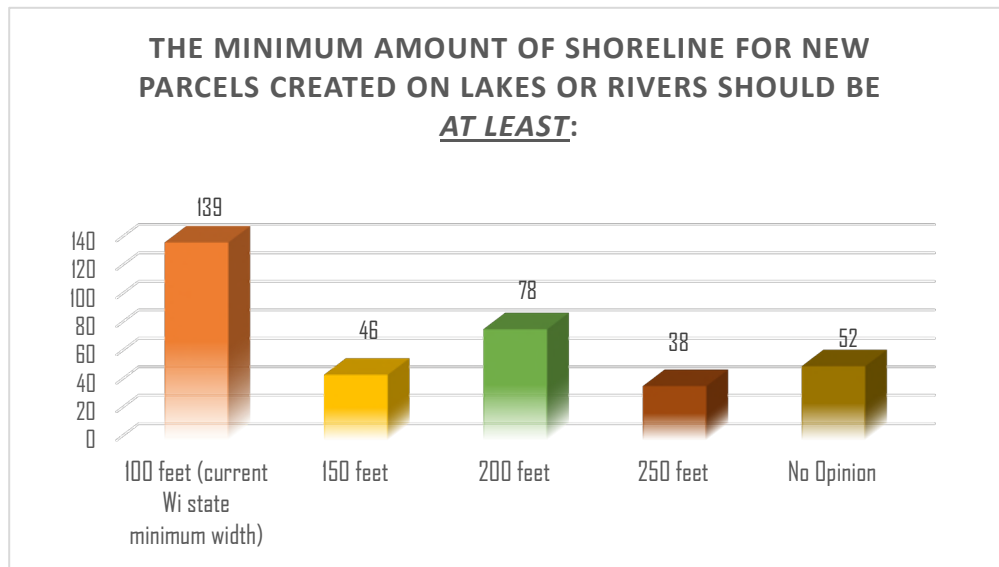
12. Do you approve of the construction of large metal pole barns on:



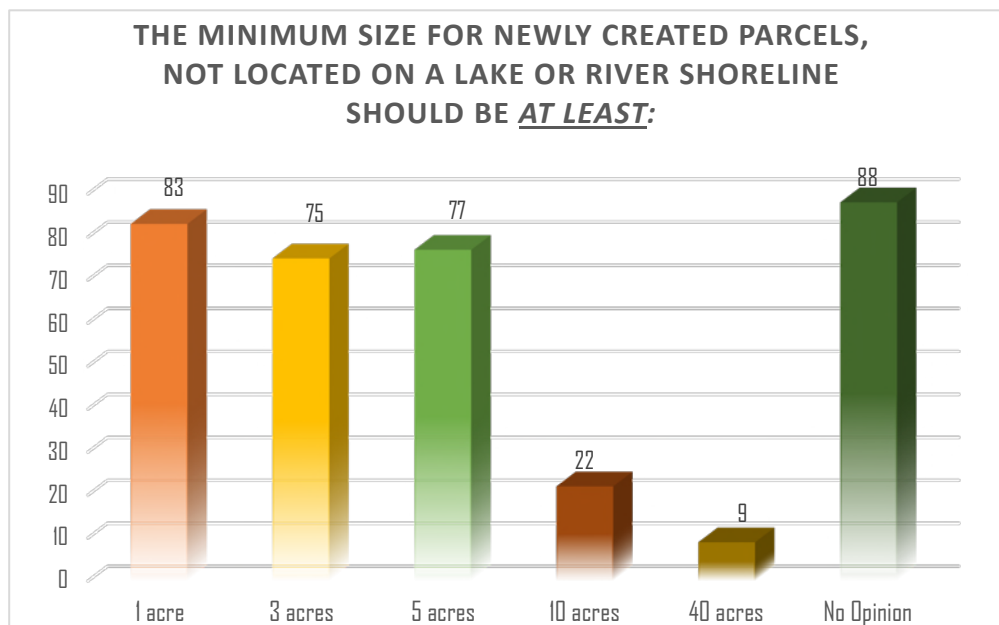
13. Do you support regulation that would minimize visibility of newly constructed buildings?



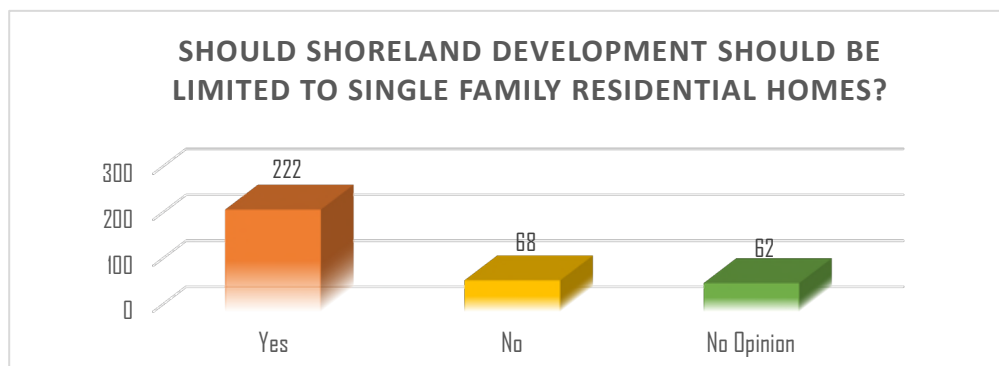
14. The minimum amount of shoreline for new parcels created on lakes or rivers should be **at least**:



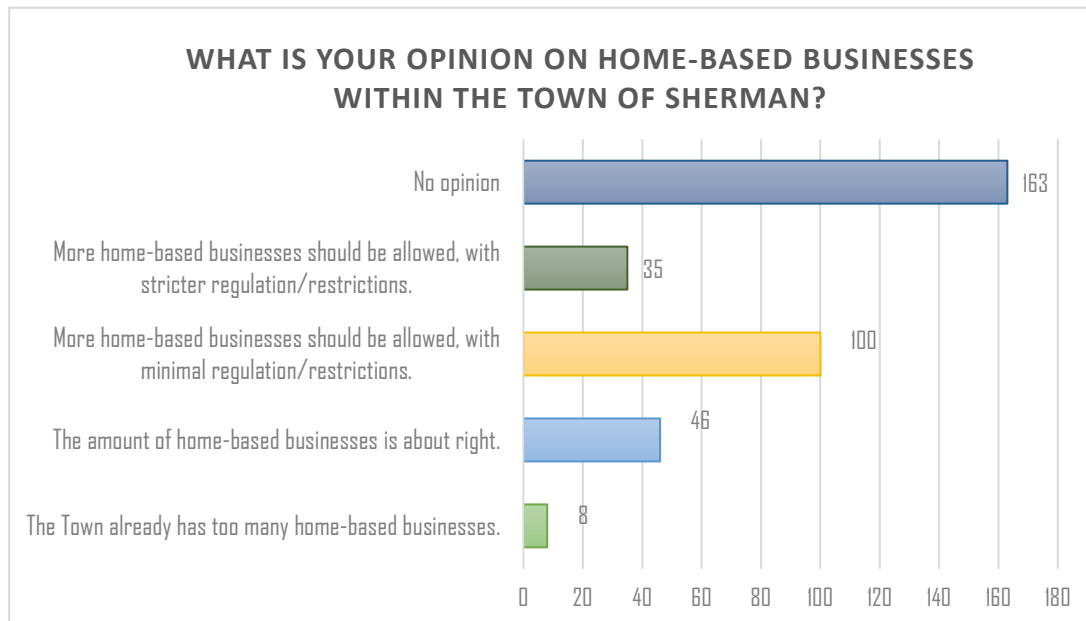
15. The minimum size for newly created parcels, ***not located on a lake or river shoreline***, should be **at least**:



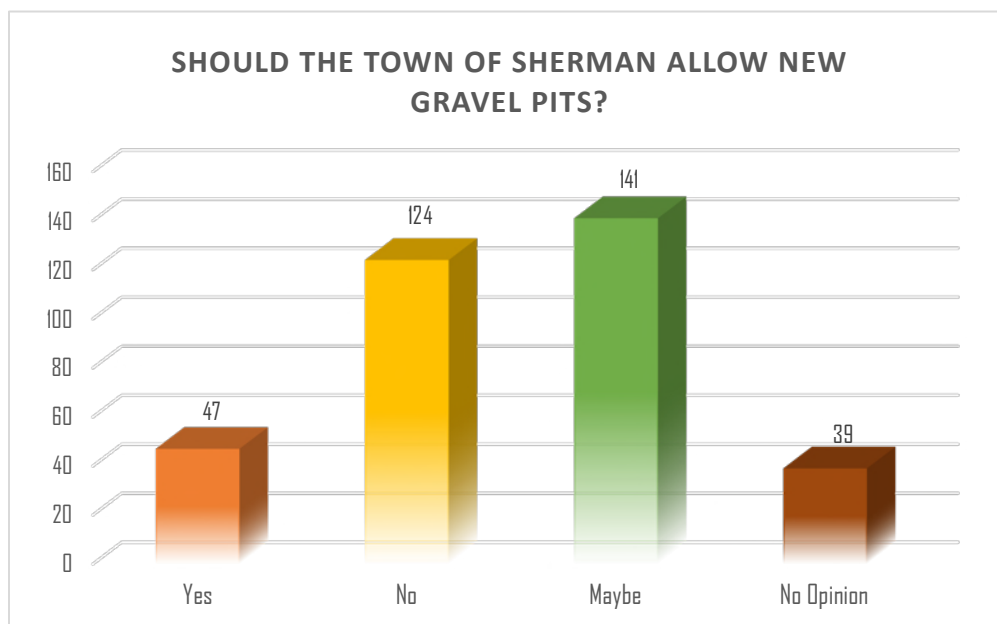
16. Should shoreland development should be limited to single family residential homes?



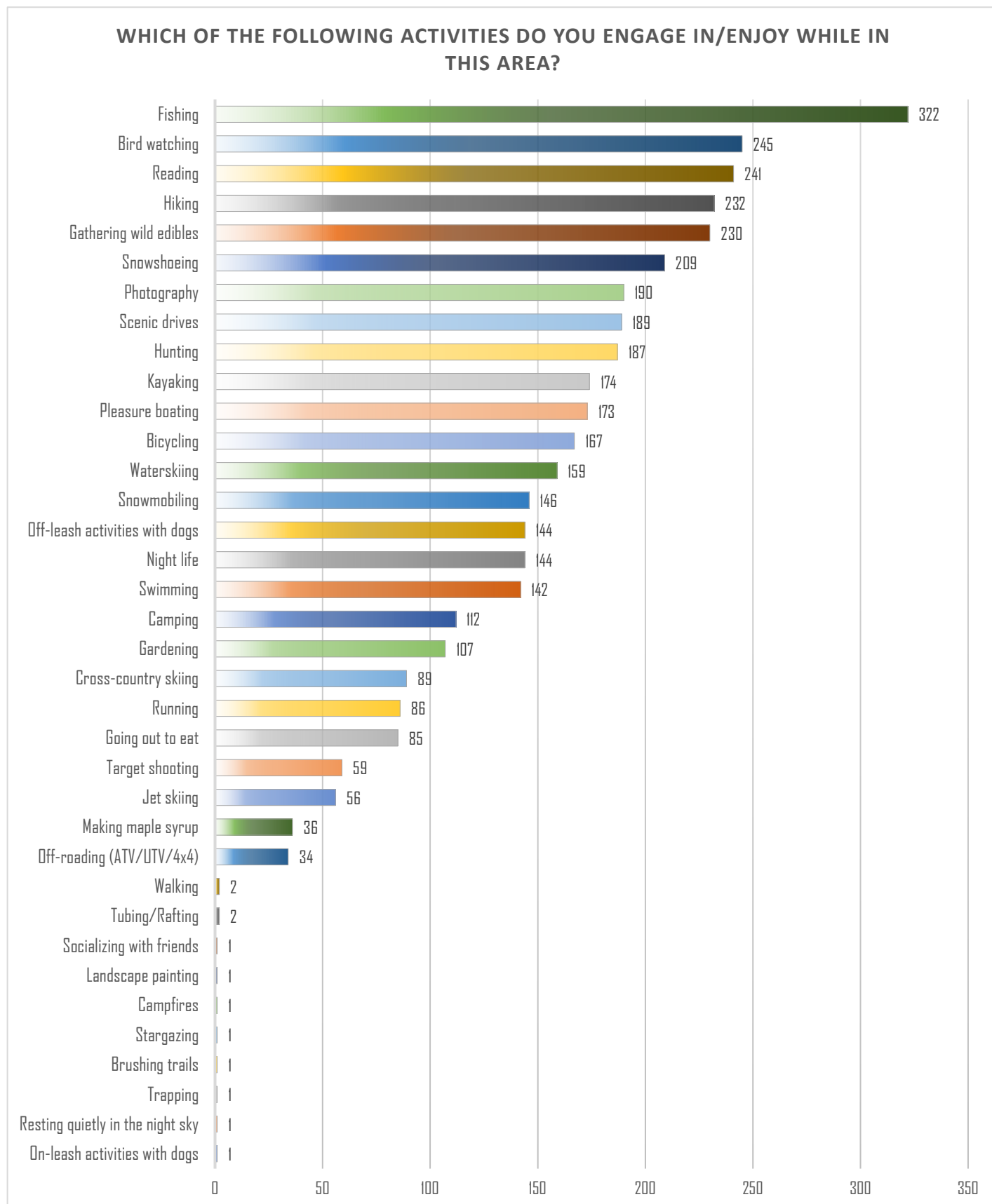
17. What is your opinion on home-based businesses within the Town of Sherman? (*choose one response*)



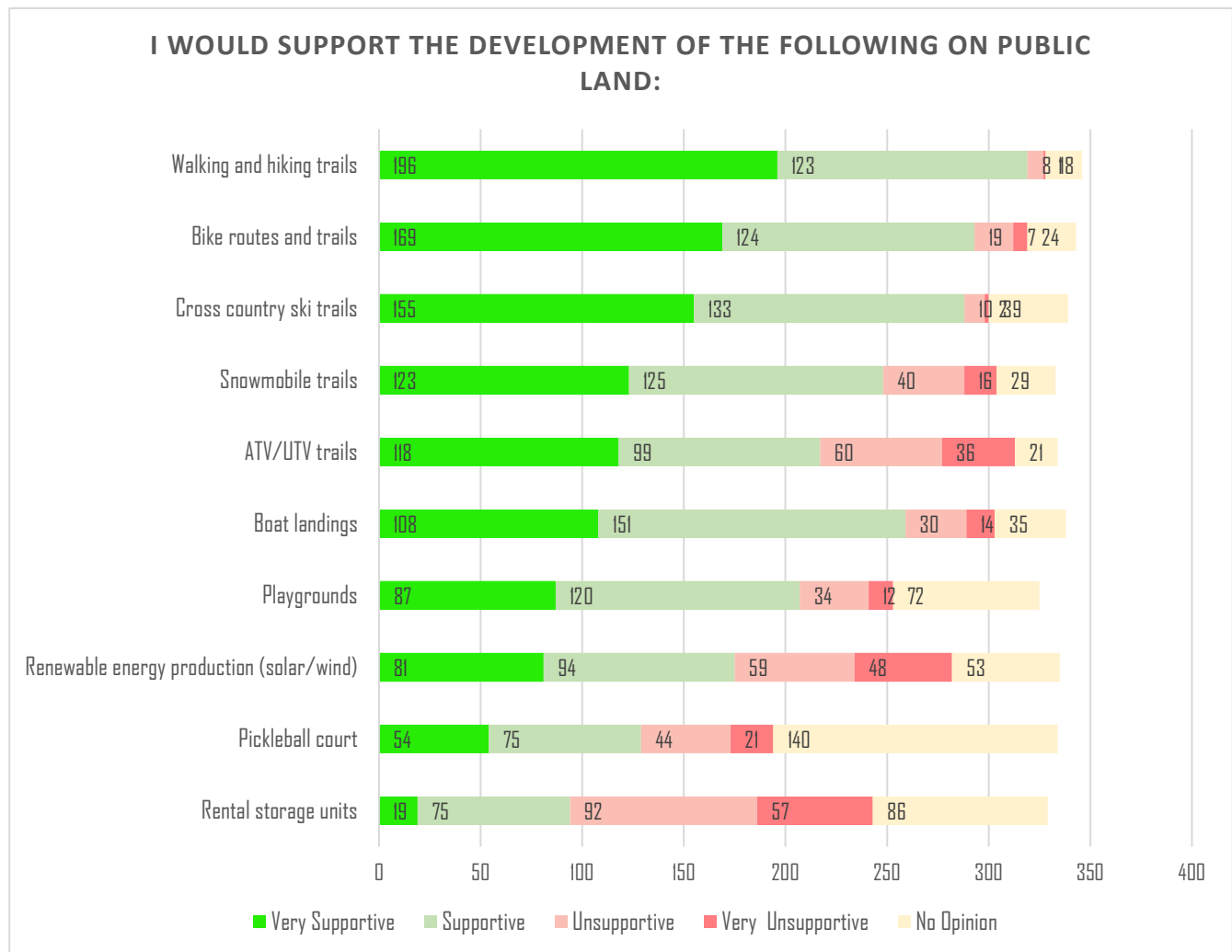
18. Should the Town of Sherman allow new gravel pits?



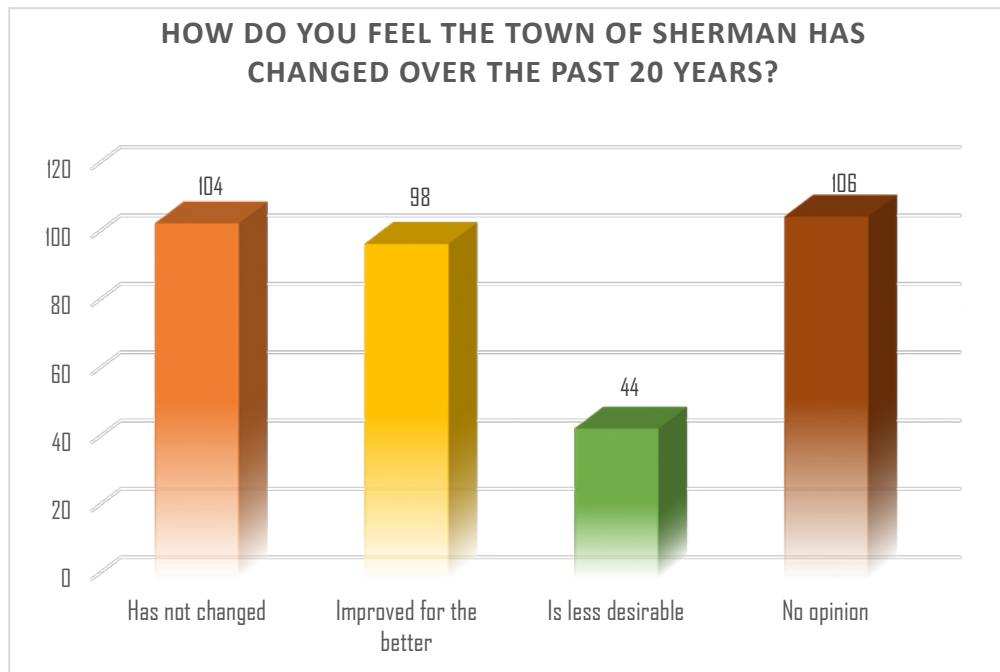
19. Which of the following activities do you engage in/enjoy while in this area?



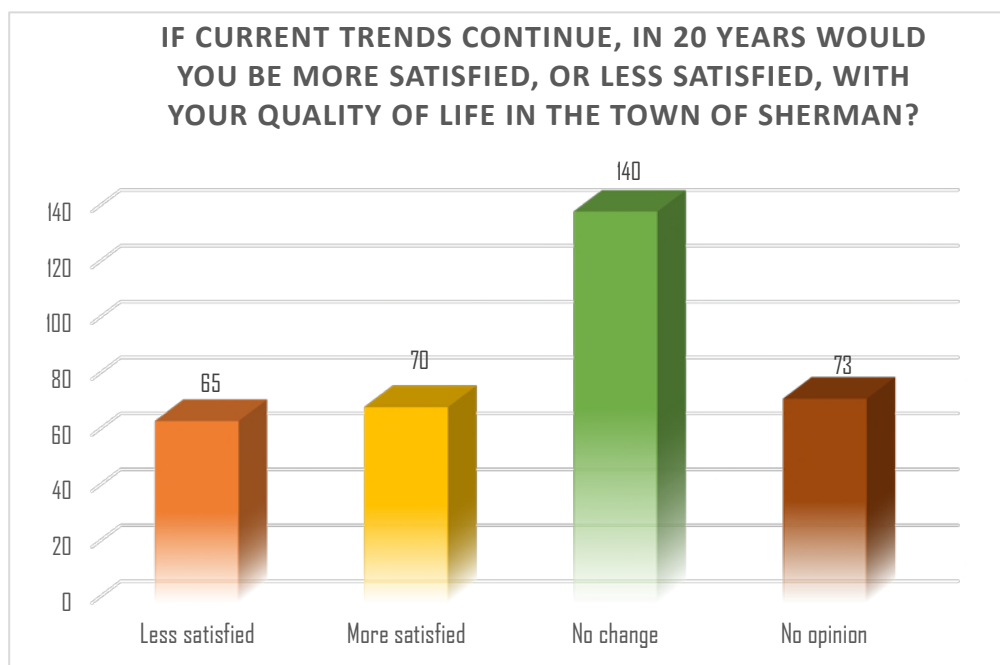
20. I would support the development of the following on public land:



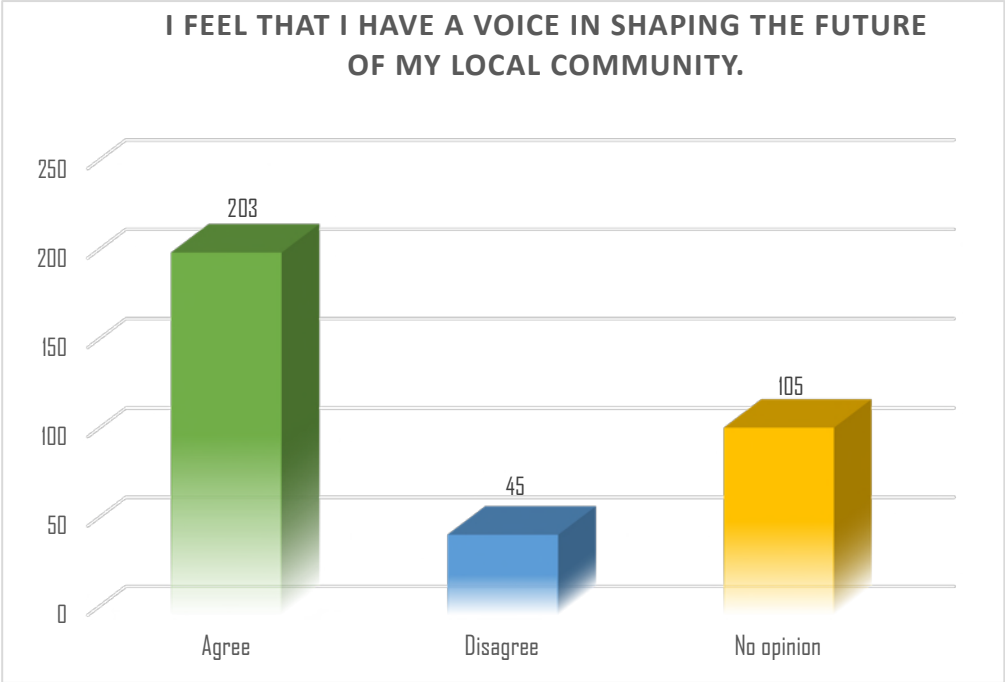
21. How do you feel the Town of Sherman has changed over the past 20 years?



22. If current trends continue, in 20 years would you be more satisfied, or less satisfied, with your quality of life in the Town of Sherman?



23. I feel that I have a voice in shaping the future of my local community.



Appendix C

Town of Sherman Comprehensive Plan
2023

Conflict Resolution

Conflict Resolution Process (CRP)

Purpose:

To provide the framework for resolving planning related conflicts. The CRP is intended to provide a low-cost, flexible approach to resolving planning disputes between governmental entities. This process should not supersede local processes established for conflict resolution and is not intended to be used by parties dissatisfied with the appropriate application of local rules and regulations within their jurisdiction.

1. Open Discussion and Debate

Communication and open discussion between parties involved in a dispute will be the first action taken to resolve conflicts by reaching consensus. Oftentimes, open dialog and debate between affected parties will be sufficient to resolve most conflicts. This action will be undertaken without outside assistance from a neutral third-party.

2. Negotiation Techniques

If parties cannot reach consensus through discussion and debate it may be necessary to utilize facilitation or mediation techniques involving the use of a neutral third-party.

- Facilitation – A conflict resolution method which involves use of a neutral third party to act as a facilitator in discussions between disputants. The facilitator's role is normally limited to providing a forum for the parties to interact directly, including the enforcement of very basic rules of communication during discussions and negotiations.
- Mediation – A form of a conflict resolution in which the parties bring their dispute to a neutral third party, who helps them agree on a settlement. Planning disputes should be mediated by a neutral third-party. A mutually acceptable mediator is to be selected from the Conflict Resolution Subcommittee.

3. Litigation

If discussion and negotiation techniques fail to achieve a resolution to the dispute, the process will move to litigation. This process involves the use of the court system to resolve disputes. While many cases are settled in pre-trial proceedings, this alternative can be very time-consuming and expensive for all parties involved.

Initiating the CRP

The process may be initiated by a local jurisdiction or the Town of Meteor at any time during the planning process. Requests to initiate CRP should be submitted to the consultant and to affected jurisdictions and shall clearly and concisely identify the issue, the jurisdictions involved, and the affected jurisdiction's authorized representatives. Upon receipt of CRP notification, and unless otherwise requested by the jurisdictions involved, the consultant will schedule a meeting between the affected parties to discuss and debate the issue (see #1). If this step fails to resolve

the dispute, the consultant will coordinate meeting to address the dispute using negotiation techniques (see #2). The consultant may, at the request of both parties, act as a facilitator and/or mediator, otherwise this party selected from the Conflict Resolution Subcommittee.

