

TOWN OF LAFAYETTE
2020 COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING RESIDENT OPINION SURVEY

Please return completed survey by **January 31, 2020**

Or choose to take this survey online at: <http://bit.ly/townoflafayettesurvey>

The purpose of LaFayette's Comprehensive Plan is to set the goals and objectives the Town should plan for over the next twenty years. This Plan is updated every ten years. In order to develop a meaningful Plan, the input of the residents is needed, and this survey provides you the means and opportunity to make your voice heard.

Fill in the circle that most closely describes your personal perspective toward the following statements:

Like this: ● Not like this: √, X, or /

Note: Results are from 999 of 999 surveys

BACKGROUND

1. How long have you owned or rented property in the Town of LaFayette?

13%	Less than 5 years	17%	5 to 10 years
16%	11 to 20 years	54%	More than 20 years

2. You are a Town of LaFayette . . . [Mark ● one only]

3%	Seasonal Resident
94%	Year-round Resident
3%	Non-Resident property owner

PLANNING

3. How would you rate the overall quality of life in the Town of LaFayette [Mark ● one only]

41%	Excellent	31%	Good
5%	Fair	21%	Poor
2%	No Opinion		

4. How should public infrastructure and services needed to support growth and development be funded?

[Mark ● all that apply]

25%	Development Impact Fees
41%	User Fees
22%	Taxes
12%	Do not support such funding

5. To permanently protect the Town's tax base and boundaries from annexation and conflicting land uses, should the Town of LaFayette pursue . . . ? [Mark ● one only]

54%	Incorporation of the Town to a Village
38%	Boundary Agreement with the city Chippewa Falls
8%	Boundary Agreement with the Village of Lake Hallie

6.	Rate the current adequacy of the following services and facilities in the Town of LaFayette	Adequate	Inadequate	No Opinion
	Law Enforcement	74%	15%	11%
	Fire Department / Emergency Medical Services	31%	2%	7%
	Town Hall facility	81%	9%	10%
	Recycling	70%	16%	14%
	Organized Recreation Programs	64%	37%	23%
	Other (specify) _____ (See Notes)	16%	55%	29%

7. What new services or facilities would best enhance the LaFayette community? [Mark ● all that apply]
- 8% Public library branch
 - 25% Small specialty shops / stores
 - 22% "Fast food" franchise
 - 7% Mini-mall
 - 9% Other (specify) _____
 - 29% None / No Opinion

- 8a. In terms of law enforcement, with a population over 6,000 and to shorten response times, should the Town of LaFayette explore the possibility of: [Mark ● one only]
- 43% A contract with the Chippewa County Sheriff's Department for a dedicated patrol
 - 6% Joint police services with the Village of Lake Hallie
 - 5% Establishing its own Law Enforcement Department
 - 46% No change, stay with the status quo

- 8b. If LaFayette should establish its own Law Enforcement Department, it should plan to do so:
- 20% Within the next 5 years
 - 18% Within the next 6 - 10 years
 - 7% Not sooner than 11+ years
 - 56% No Law Enforcement Department will be needed

- 9a. Would you support increased Town taxes to fund additional services suggested in Question 8?
- 15% Yes
 - 49% No
 - 36% Not Sure, depends on the amount of increase necessary

- 9b. If you marked YES for Question 9, what would be a fair amount of tax increase per \$100,000 valuation?
- 75% \$50 - \$75 per \$100,000 property valuation
 - 12% \$76 - \$100 per \$100,000 property valuation
 - 9% \$101 - \$125 per \$100,000 property valuation
 - 5% \$125+ per \$100,000 property valuation

HOUSING

10. Do you feel housing is affordable for you in the Town of LaFayette?
- 84% Yes
 - 9% No
 - 7% Not Sure

11. What does the term "affordable housing" mean to you? [Mark ● one only]
- 9% Homes under \$100,000
 - 40% Homes between \$100,000 - \$200,000
 - 15% Homes between \$200,001 - \$300,000
 - 25% Homes between \$300,001 - \$400,000
 - 2% Homes \$400,001 and Above
 - 9% Not Sure

12. What does the term "affordable rent" mean to you? [Mark ● one only]
- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 8% | Rentals under \$500 per month | 23% | Rentals between \$501 - \$1,000 per month |
| 10% | Rentals between \$1,001 - \$1,500 per month | 27% | Rentals \$1,501 and Above per month |
| 12% | Not Sure | | |
13. The Town of LaFayette first adopted its subdivision ordinance in 1996 and has made minor revisions since. The Town of LaFayette should strengthen its regulations for future subdivision development.
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 29% | Strongly Agree | 25% | Agree |
| 20% | Disagree | 9% | Strongly Disagree |
| 17% | No Opinion | | |

TRANSPORTATION

14. How would you rate the general condition of roads in the Town of LaFayette?
- | | | | |
|-----|------------|-----|------|
| 2% | Excellent | 45% | Good |
| 22% | Fair | 29% | Poor |
| 3% | No Opinion | | |
15. The Town of LaFayette should consider assessing properties which front a road to help defray local street repair and reconstruction costs.
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 6% | Strongly Agree | 25% | Agree |
| 25% | Disagree | 19% | Strongly Disagree |
| 25% | No Opinion | | |
16. To improve safety and traffic flow, LaFayette should explore options to improve the following intersection(s) [Mark ● all that apply]
- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|
| 20% | Highway "X" at 190 th Street | 12% | Highway "X" at 197 th Street |
| 31% | Highway "J" at 50 th Avenue | 6% | 50 th Avenue at 160 th Street |
| 30% | None of these / No Opinion | | |
17. Do you believe "Children At Play", "Deer Crossing" or lower speed limit signs increase road safety?
- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|----|----|------------|
| 54% | Yes | 39% | No | 7% | No Opinion |
|-----|-----|-----|----|----|------------|

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

18. In your opinion, how has the quality of the natural environment in the Town of Lafayette changed in the past 5 years?
- | | | | |
|-----|----------|-----|-----------------------|
| 9% | Improved | 39% | Stayed about the same |
| 36% | Declined | 16% | Not Sure |
19. Which of these statements concerning groundwater quality would you agree with? [Mark ● one]
- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----|---|
| 56% | Groundwater quality is good | 31% | There are problems with the groundwater |
| 13% | Not Sure | | |
20. It is important to support the preservation of productive agricultural land in the Town of Lafayette.
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 33% | Strongly Agree | 36% | Agree |
| 12% | Disagree | 9% | Strongly Disagree |
| 10% | No Opinion | | |
21. It is important to support the preservation of green space and natural areas in the Town of Lafayette
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 52% | Strongly Agree | 25% | Agree |
| 18% | Disagree | 1% | Strongly Disagree |
| 5% | No Opinion | | |

22. If you agree with Question 20, do you support preserving these areas if it resulted in increased Town taxes?

31% Yes **40%** No **29%** Not Sure

23. The Town of Lafayette should support increased development of these forms of recreation:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Cross country ski trails	13%	37%	15%	6%	29%
b. Bike trails	19%	52%	11%	5%	14%
c. Hiking trails	18%	49%	11%	4%	18%
d. Equestrian trails	4%	19%	28%	11%	37%
e. Multi-use trails	13%	42%	15%	8%	22%
f. ATV trails	11%	31%	22%	14%	22%
g. Snowmobile trails	10%	31%	20%	11%	28%
h. Water park	9%	15%	24%	33%	19%

24. What impact does Lake Wissota have on your life? [Mark ● all that apply]

18% Real estate value	17% Sense of community
24% Recreational opportunity	20% Enhances quality of life
17% Family	4% No impact

25. Please indicate the activities you participate in on or at Lake Wissota [Mark ● all that apply]

- 12%** Swimming
- 4%** Camping
- 15%** Motorized boating
- 9%** Non-motorized boating (canoe, kayak, etc.)
- 1%** Sailing
- 5%** Water skiing / knee boarding
- 15%** Fishing, ice fishing
- 12%** Hunting
- 12%** Wildlife viewing
- 12%** Scenic viewing
- 5%** Nature photography
- 7%** Winter recreation (cross country skiing, ice skating, snowmobiling, etc.)
- 1%** Other (specify) _____

26. The Town of LaFayette should enact safety regulations and a Room Tax for VRBO /Air BnB tourist rental homes.

61% Yes **19%** No **20%** No Opinion

27. What concerns do you have regarding Lake Wissota? [Mark ● all that apply]

21% Water quality	11% Boating safety
8% Insufficient lake access	4% Excessive lake access
12% Quality of fishing	15% Invasive aquatic plants
12% Other invasive aquatic life	8% Light pollution
5% Insufficient law enforcement	5% Short-term lake home rentals

LAND USE

28. Which statement best describes your opinion concerning these land issues?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. The Town should develop a "downtown" or core business and civic area	5%	13%	44%	24%	14%
b. The Town should purchase additional land to ensure space for future growth	3%	22%	32%	18%	24%
c. Lakes and rivers within the Town are being over-developed	13%	30%	25%	7%	25%
d. The Town needs more private recreational development (golf courses, sports facilities)	3%	18%	44%	14%	21%
e. The Town needs more public recreational development (campground, boat landings)	8%	27%	38%	10%	17%
f. Ordinances governing outside lights, light pollution, and noise are enforced	10%	27%	20%	12%	30%
g. The Town should support the construction of more communication towers	7%	31%	23%	16%	23%
h. Zoning ordinances are enforced in the Town	9%	41%	15%	5%	30%
i. The Town needs to manage development in order to preserve our natural environment	28%	53%	7%	2%	10%
j. The Town has an adequate amount of public parks	11%	52%	19%	4%	13%

29. The Town of Lafayette should actively pursue new retail and commercial businesses:

9%	Strongly Agree	33%	Agree
23%	Disagree	22%	Strongly Disagree
14%	No Opinion		

30. The Town of Lafayette should promote an industrial park for light, clean industry:

7%	Strongly Agree
30%	Agree
29%	Disagree
22%	Strongly Disagree
15%	No Opinion

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

31. How many times have you used these facilities in the Town of Lafayette in 2018?

	Did not use facility in 2018	1 - 5 times	6 - 10 times	11 or more times
a. Boat Landings	35%	41%	12%	11%
b. Ray's Beach	55%	37%	5%	3%
c. Lafayette Sports Park	74%	14%	4%	8%
d. Recycling Center	30%	34%	21%	16%

32. Within the next 10 years, the Town of Lafayette will need to build, expand, or develop:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
a. Law Enforcement	17%	37%	25%	10%	12%
b. Fire Department / EMS	6%	40%	30%	9%	16%
c. Parks	6%	29%	38%	8%	19%
d. Community Center	7%	25%	40%	10%	17%
e. LaFayette Sports Park	7%	25%	36%	11%	21%
f. Town Hall Facility	4%	26%	39%	9%	22%
g. Other (Please specify)					

33. The Town of LaFayette should employ sustainable practices in purchasing and operations for energy efficiency and cost-savings
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 23% | Strongly Agree | 34% | Agree |
| 10% | Disagree | 23% | Strongly Disagree |
| 10% | No Opinion | | |
34. At the current development rate, the Town of LaFayette should explore the completion of a water district for the Lake area
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 10% | Strongly Agree | 25% | Agree |
| 23% | Disagree | 20% | Strongly Disagree |
| 22% | No Opinion | | |
35. At the current development rate, the Town of LaFayette should explore the completion of a sanitary district for the Lake area.
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 10% | Strongly Agree | 27% | Agree |
| 25% | Disagree | 21% | Strongly Disagree |
| 17% | No Opinion | | |
36. Should the Town of LaFayette convert to an appointed / hired Town Clerk and Treasurer or retain the elected office holders?
- | | |
|-----|---|
| 17% | Convert to Town Board appointed / hired Clerk and Treasurer |
| 59% | Retain elected Clerk and elected Treasurer |
| 24% | No Opinion |

COMMUNICATION

37. The Town of LaFayette communicates adequately with residents.
- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 6% | Strongly Agree | 44% | Agree |
| 15% | Disagree | 26% | Strongly Disagree |
| 9% | No Opinion | | |
38. What is the best way for the Town to communicate with residents? [Mark ● one only]
- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| 23% | Website | 32% | Email |
| 35% | Newsletters | 1% | Newspaper Articles |
| 7% | Public Meeting | | |
| 3% | Other (Specify): _____ | | |
39. Is there something else you would like to tell us regarding the Town of LaFayette Comprehensive Plan?
- _____
- _____

DEMOGRAPHICS: Please tell us some things about you:

40. Gender
61% Male
39% Female

41. Age
0% 18 - 24 **5%** 25 - 34
22% 35 - 44 **15%** 45 - 54
25% 55 - 64 **33%** 65 and older

42. Employment Status
48% Employed Full-time
6% Employed Part-time
7% Self-employed
3% Unemployed
36% Retired
1% Other (Specify) _____

43. If you are a resident and currently employed, which community do you work in? [Mark ● one only]
14% Town of LaFayette **35%** Eau Claire
14% Chippewa Falls **5%** Village of Lake Hallie
0% Cadott **21%** Boyd /Stanley
4% Altoona
7% Other (Specify) _____

Thank You for completing the Survey !