

# VISUAL PREFERENCE SURVEY

Prepared by



**Harris County  
Comprehensive Plan 2014  
Community Participation Program**

## 1. Where do you live?

- Hamilton
- Waverly Hall
- Pine Mountain
- Shiloh
- Harris County - North of 315 (Hamilton)
- Harris County - South of 315 (Hamilton)

## Rural Farmland vs. Hobby Farm

In the set of photographs below, select which image best represents the type of development or neighborhood you would prefer to see in Harris County.

### Rural Farmland



### Hobby Farm



### 1. Rural Farmland or Hobby Farm

- Rural Farmland
- Hobby Farm

### 2. Rate your preference of the image selected.

- Strongly prefer
- Somewhat prefer
- Little preference

## Rural Neighborhood vs. Cul de sac Subdivision

In the set of photographs below, select which image best represents the type of development or neighborhood you would prefer to see in Harris County.

### Rural Neighborhood



### Cul de sac Subdivision



### 1. Rural Neighborhood or Cul de sac Subdivision

- Rural Neighborhood
- Cul de sac Subdivision

### 2. Rate your preference of the image selected.

- Strongly prefer
- Somewhat prefer
- Little preference

## Cul de sac Subdivision vs. Apartment Complex

In the set of photographs below, select which image best represents the type of development or neighborhood you would prefer to see in Harris County.

### Cul de sac Subdivision



### Apartment Complex



### 1. Cul de sac Subdivision or Apartment Complex

- Cul de sac Subdivision
- Apartment Complex

### 2. Rank your preference of the image you selected.

- Strongly prefer
- Somewhat prefer
- Little preference

## Detached House vs. Cul de sac Subdivision

In the set of photographs below, select which image best represents the type of development or neighborhood you would prefer to see in Harris County.

### Detached House



### Cul de sac Subdivision



### 1. Detached House or Cul de sac Subdivision

- Detached House
- Cul de sac Subdivision

### 2. Rank your preference of the image you selected.

- Strongly prefer
- Somewhat prefer
- Little preference

## Small in-town Apartment vs. Large Apartment Complex

In the set of photographs below, select which image best represents the type of development or neighborhood you would prefer to see in Harris County.

### Small in-town Apartment



### Large Apartment Complex



### 1. Small in-town Apartment or Large Apartment Complex

- Small in-town Apartment
- Large Apartment Complex

### 2. Rank your preference of the image selected.

- Strongly prefer
- Somewhat prefer
- Little preference

## Main Street Commercial vs. Highway Commercial

In the set of photographs below, select the image that best represents the type of development or neighborhood you would prefer to see in Harris County.

### Main Street Commercial



### Highway Commercial



### 1. Main Street Commercial or Highway Commercial

- Main Street Commercial
- Highway Commercial

### 2. Rank your preference of the image selected.

- Strongly prefer
- Somewhat prefer
- Little preference



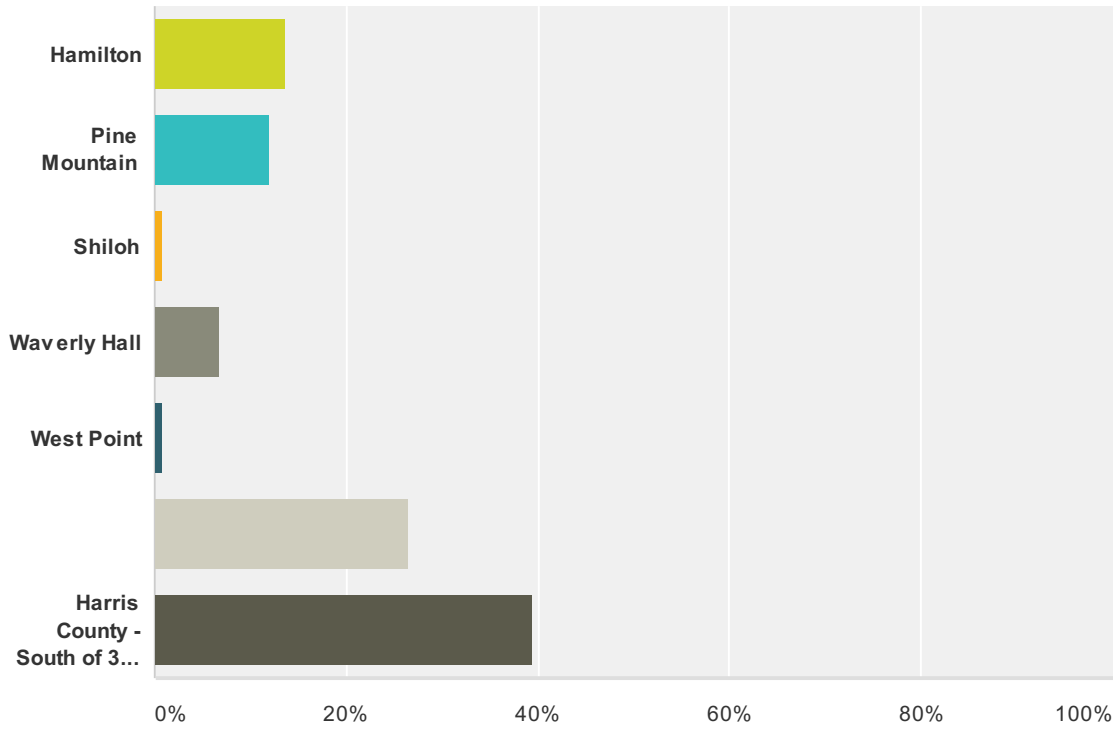
## Comments

### 1. Please enter any comments you have about the Harris County Comprehensive Plan.

The Harris County Comprehensive Plan is available for review on the Downloads section of the River Valley Regional Commission website, [www.rivervalleyrc.org](http://www.rivervalleyrc.org).

### Q1 Where do you live?

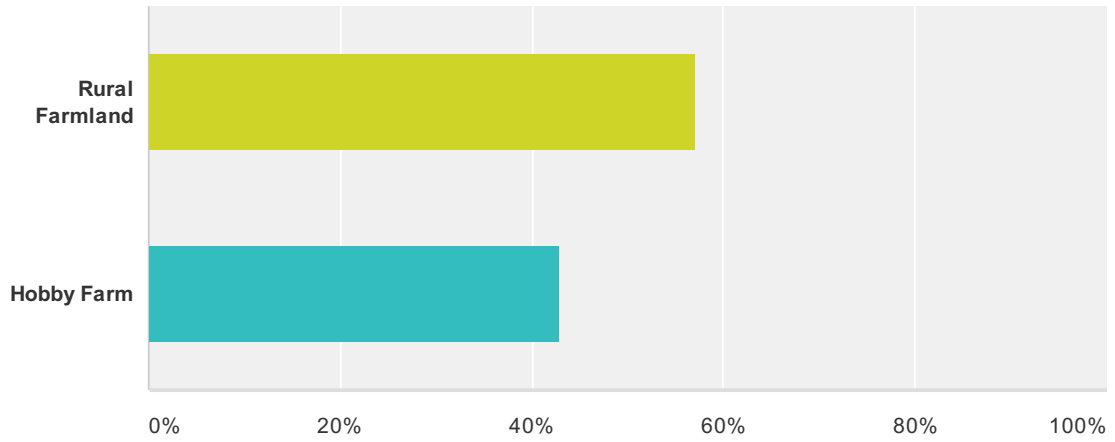
Answered: 132 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Hamilton	13.64%	18
Pine Mountain	12.12%	16
Shiloh	0.76%	1
Waverly Hall	6.82%	9
West Point	0.76%	1
Harris County - North of 315 (Hamilton)	26.52%	35
Harris County - South of 315 (Hamilton)	39.39%	52
<b>Total</b>		<b>132</b>

## Q2 Rural Farmland or Hobby Farm

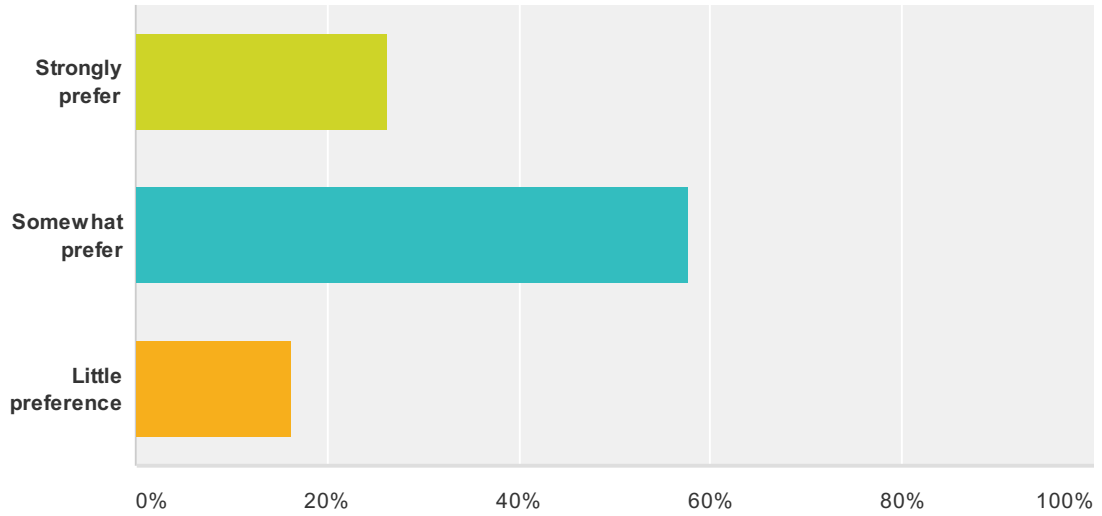
Answered: 128 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Responses
Rural Farmland	57.03% 73
Hobby Farm	42.97% 55
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>

### Q3 Rate your preference of the image selected.

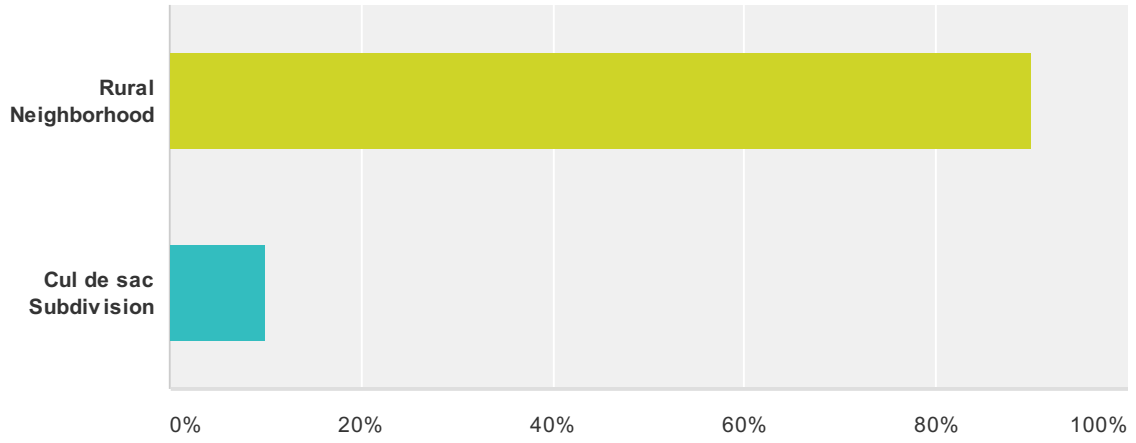
Answered: 130 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly prefer	26.15%	34
Somewhat prefer	57.69%	75
Little preference	16.15%	21
<b>Total</b>		<b>130</b>

### Q4 Rural Neighborhood or Cul de sac Subdivision

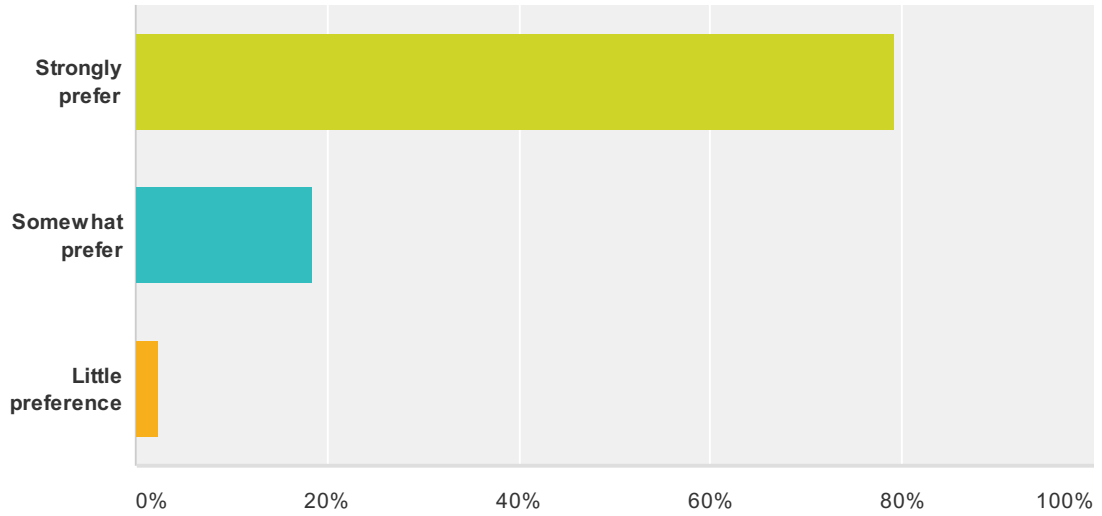
Answered: 130 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses
Rural Neighborhood	90% 117
Cul de sac Subdivision	10% 13
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>

**Q5 Rate your preference of the image selected.**

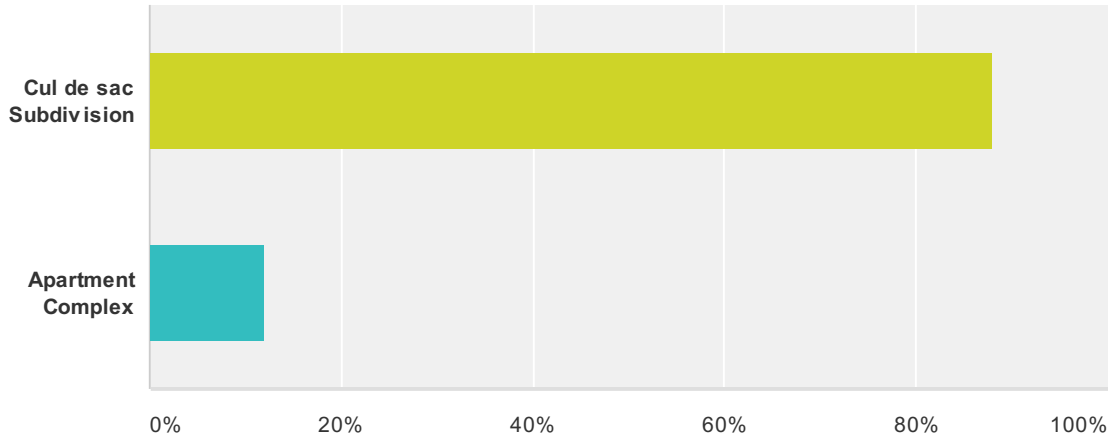
Answered: 130 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly prefer	79.23% 103
Somewhat prefer	18.46% 24
Little preference	2.31% 3
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>

### Q6 Cul de sac Subdivision or Apartment Complex

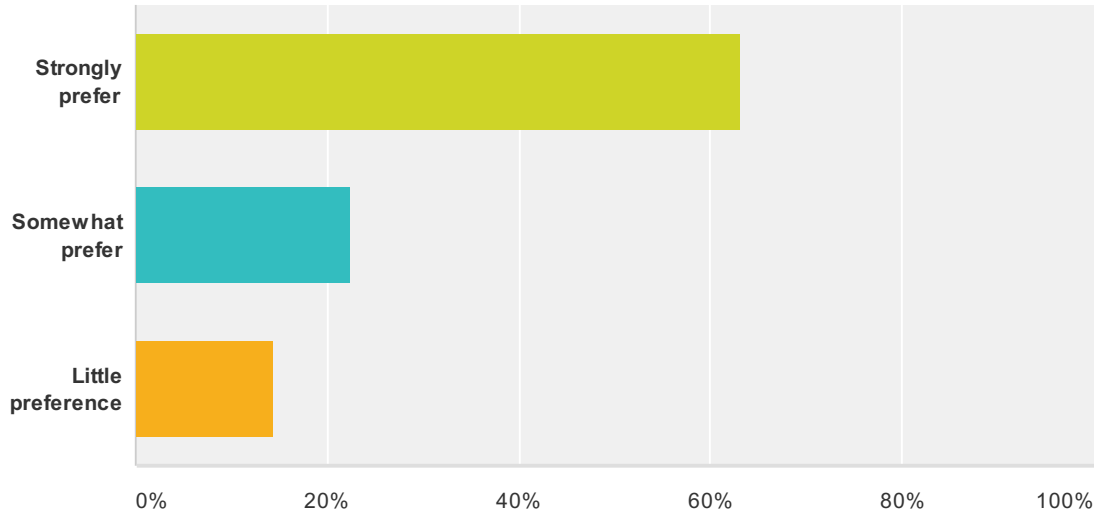
Answered: 124 Skipped: 10



Answer Choices	Responses
Cul de sac Subdivision	87.90% 109
Apartment Complex	12.10% 15
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>

### Q7 Rank your preference of the image you selected.

Answered: 125 Skipped: 9

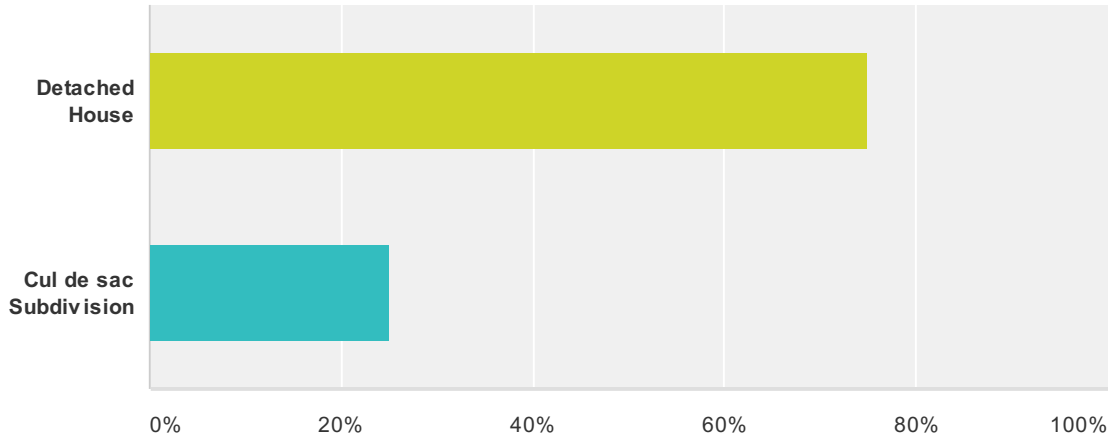


Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly prefer	63.20% 79
Somewhat prefer	22.40% 28
Little preference	14.40% 18
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>



### Q8 Detached House or Cul de sac Subdivision

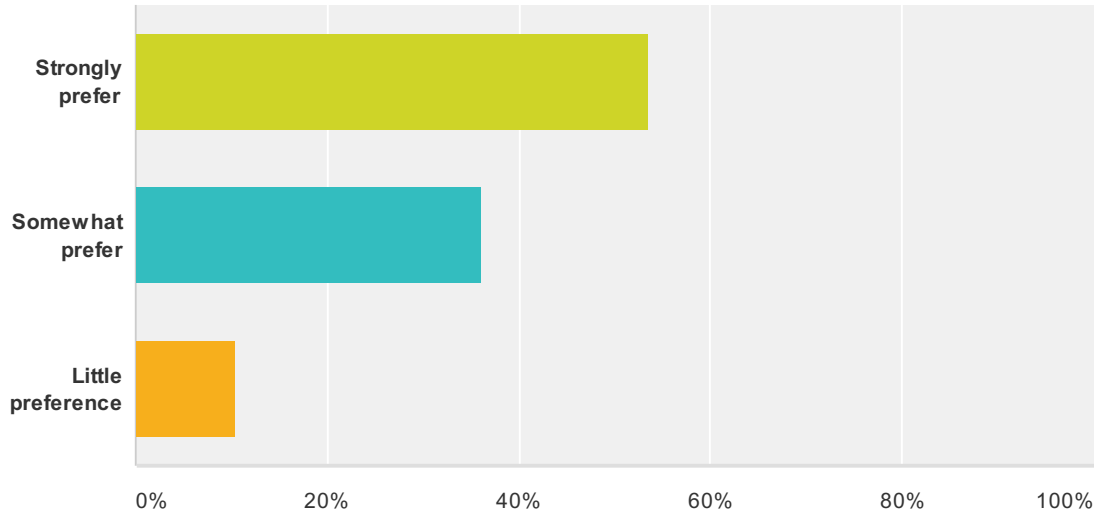
Answered: 124 Skipped: 10



Answer Choices	Responses	
Detached House	75%	93
Cul de sac Subdivision	25%	31
<b>Total</b>		<b>124</b>

### Q9 Rank your preference of the image you selected.

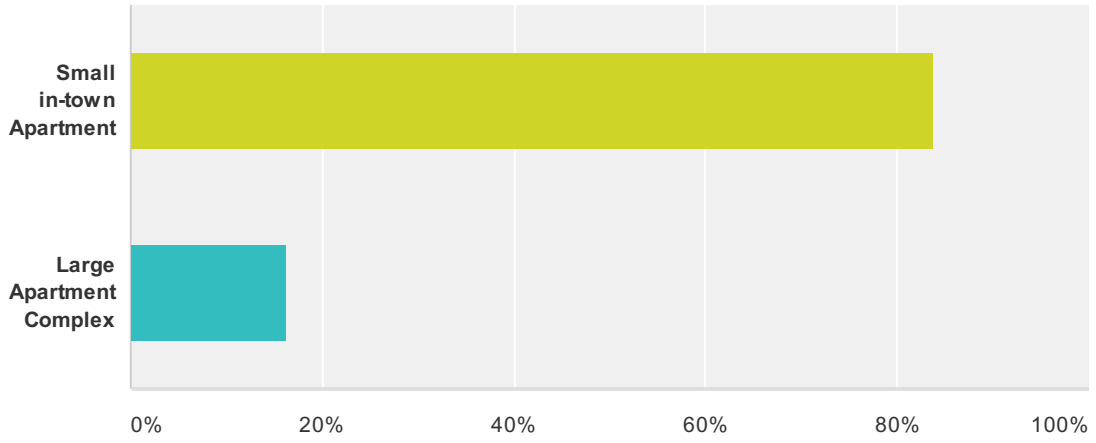
Answered: 125 Skipped: 9



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly prefer	53.60% 67
Somewhat prefer	36% 45
Little preference	10.40% 13
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>

### Q10 Small in-town Apartment or Large Apartment Complex

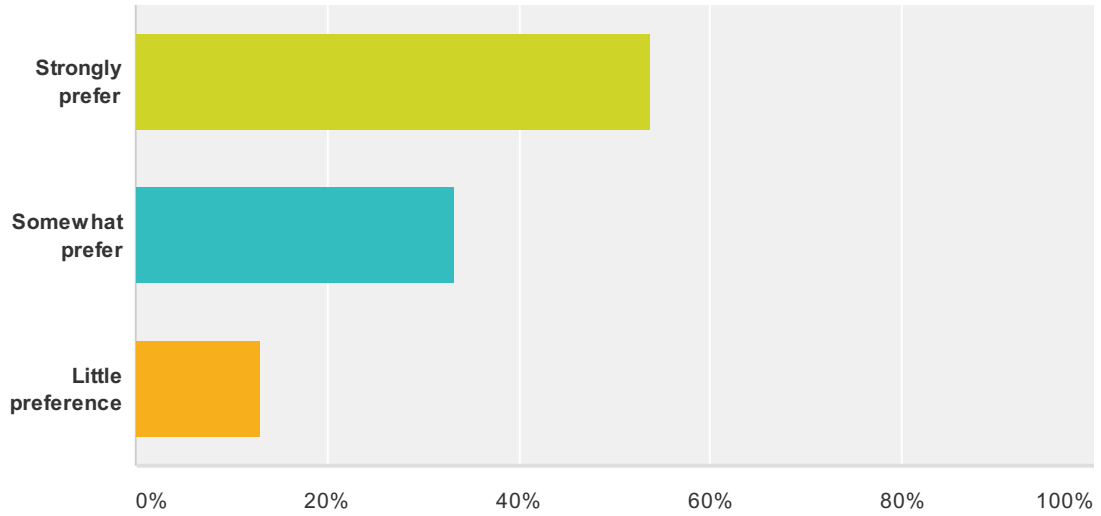
Answered: 123 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Responses	
Small in-town Apartment	83.74%	103
Large Apartment Complex	16.26%	20
<b>Total</b>		<b>123</b>

### Q11 Rank your preference of the image selected.

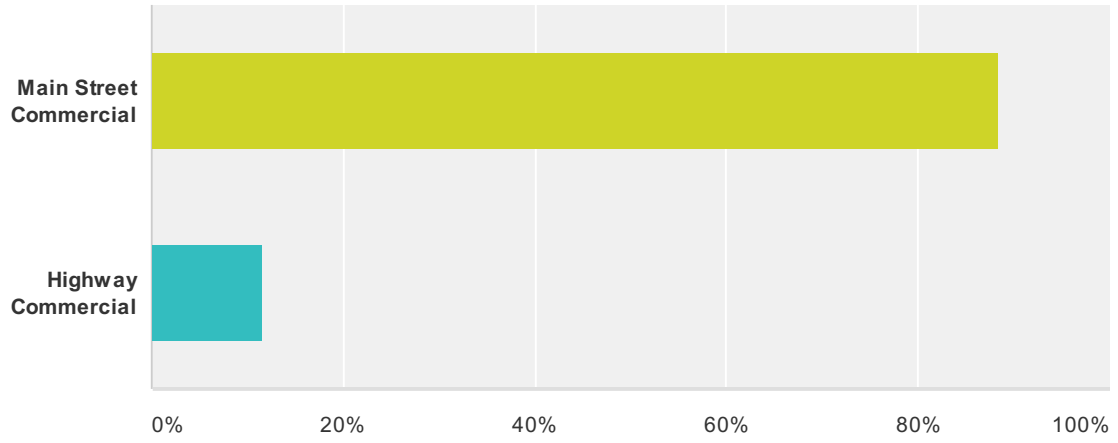
Answered: 123 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly prefer	53.66% 66
Somewhat prefer	33.33% 41
Little preference	13.01% 16
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>

### Q12 Main Street Commercial or Highway Commercial

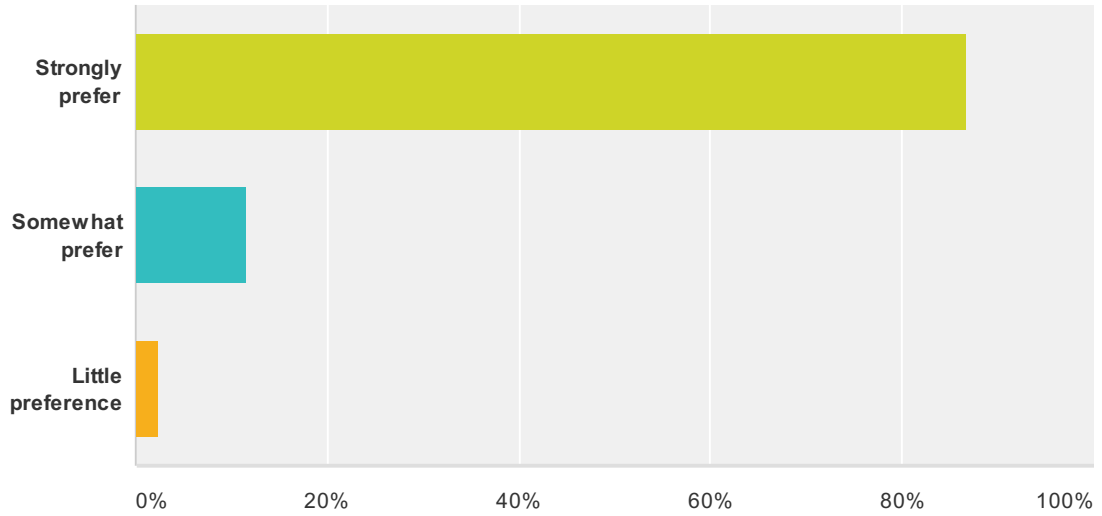
Answered: 128 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Responses	
Main Street Commercial	88.28%	113
Highway Commercial	11.72%	15
<b>Total</b>		<b>128</b>

### Q13 Rank your preference of the image selected.

Answered: 128 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly prefer	86.72% 111
Somewhat prefer	11.72% 15
Little preference	2.34% 3
<b>Total Respondents: 128</b>	

**Q14 Please enter any comments you have about the Harris County Comprehensive Plan.**

Answered: 54 Skipped: 80

# Harris County Comprehensive Plan

## Q14 Please enter any comments you have about the Harris County Comprehensive Plan.

Answered: 54 Skipped: 80

#	Responses	Date
1	Harris County needs commercial development off Exit 19 I-185/Hwy315 and/or Exit 25 I-185/Hwy 116. Anchor Store such as Bass Pro, Cabelas, Academy, with some nicer chain restaurants, and grocery stores, and convenience stores such as Publix, Kroger, etc. Build it and the people will come not only from Harris Co. but surrounding counties. Tax dollars would remain here in Harris County and not go to Muscogee or Troup.	2/11/2014 4:27 PM
2	My husband and I chose to build our home in Harris County because of the quieter, safer environment of being in the country. We enjoy the small community feel and the fabulous school system. Having a little commercialization is okay, but if folks want to have city conveniences, then they should move to the city.	2/7/2014 3:28 PM
3	please don't turn harris county into columbus!!!	2/7/2014 7:45 AM
4	Would like to see more commercial activity in Harris county.	2/6/2014 10:39 PM
5	I DO NOT want cookie-cutter subdivisions like Ivy Park! I also DO NOT want apartment complexes that will end up empty and government subsidized in 5 or 10 years.	2/6/2014 10:32 PM
6	Please keep the trees from being cut down	2/6/2014 8:13 PM
7	Please bring more economic opportunities to our county. This will not only boost the overall economic portrait of our county - it will provide part time jobs to our high school kids - local jobs keeps money local - less guys for them to purchase traveling into Columbus - thus more money for them to spend on non-gasoline purchases.	2/6/2014 4:24 PM
8	Prefer the small town look and feel, with neighborhoods with trees. Don't make it look like a huge parking lot. Keep as much nature/trees as possible.	2/6/2014 4:01 PM
9	I strongly prefer the rural feel of living in Harris County with limited development. We live in Harris County to avoid commercial development, houses right next to another, etc. I strongly prefer rural housing developments versus cul de sac developments. I hope that Harris County will preserve the land and rural feel of living in such an area. I understand some development is good for the community from an economic standpoint, but if the County begins to fill up land with commercial properties, apartment complexes, and cookie cutter homes, then the quality of rural living will begin to decline.	2/6/2014 3:56 PM
10	I did not rate one of the selections offered (cul-de-sac or apartments) because I would prefer not to have either type of development in Harris County. Growth, I realize is inevitable, but I would hate to see apartments thrown up along every major highway. Same goes for commercial development. It has been said that it is rare to visit a unique town any more because of so many of the commercial developments and franchise stores - many of them are all the same stores, restaurants and even the structures look the same. If we want to keep tourism a major industry of Harris County, we will need to maintain the unique qualities and characteristics that make it attractive and different. If it looks the same as other cities, what would be our draw? Every city now has a Starbucks, but not every city has a Rose Garden Tea Room. It would be difficult to put a Butts Mill Farm in Columbus, but we have that in Harris County. I want the quality of life in Harris County to remain at the high standard it is today, and restricting dense housing and sprawling commercial growth will ensure that for us and future generations.	2/6/2014 3:40 PM
11	My husband nor I care to see any apartment complexes or major subdivisions in our county. The reason we live in Harris County is quality of life, our beautiful rural spread, and property taxes.	2/1/2014 5:30 PM
12	Harris County has become a preferred market by focusing on schools and not trying to be all things to all people. It would be unfair to current residents to be burdened with costs of building infrastructure for high density housing which many residents moved here to avoid.	1/26/2014 9:13 PM



## Harris County Comprehensive Plan

13	I hear a lot of people, young and old, asking why we can't have a major restaurant or major grocery stores, or apartments in the county. They just don't understand that the county will need a sewer system for any of these projects. It is amazing how many people don't understand the infrastructure needed for these things to be built in the county.	1/26/2014 4:13 PM
14	Need more public facilities west of 185	1/25/2014 7:35 PM
15	The plan represent the much needed modernization/improvement in the county.	1/25/2014 1:17 PM
16	Get the rails to trails going	1/23/2014 10:08 AM
17	Exit 19 has room to grow we really need a Large Grocery store Publics, Kroger, etc... Also need more Restaurants we continue to give all the revenue to Columbus and Lagrange. Lets bring it back to Fortson...	1/18/2014 1:04 PM
18	The Harris County plan seems to be manipulated by the larger River Valley RC....This cannot be good for the citizens of Harris County.	1/13/2014 9:13 PM
19	Complete the rails to trails throughout Harris County. Encourage national retail and restaurants to open locations in our county. Continue to seek clean industry and other job opportunities that are not just seasonal or tourist-related.	1/13/2014 11:50 AM
20	We need to keep a small home town atmosphere for Harris County. Most people who reside in Harris County do so to get away from the big cities, commercial traffic, and high crime rates of larger cities such as Columbus, GA. Harris County is our "Mayberry" of sorts -- and keeping it small attracts residents who don't want to live in a big city. Small towns are safer and a better place to raise and educate children	1/13/2014 10:19 AM
21	Cul de sac development option was not a good choice...dense development similar to Longleaf can be done well in Harris County to avoid sprawl chopping up the wooded vistas (rather than only farmland options) and to consider Harris County as one unit is too simplistic. There are locations in southern and eastern Harris County in towns and interstate exits where more urban development is reasonable, as opposed to many of the rural roadway sections where forests and field viewscapes in northern and central areas should be protected as Harris County's attractiveness	1/10/2014 2:43 PM
22	Include all foreseeable residents and industry. Plan, plan, plan.	1/7/2014 10:25 AM
23	So far so good. Keep the traffic under control...	1/5/2014 7:24 PM
24	High density neighborhoods or high density apartments are not preferred. Neighborhoods should be not less than 1 acre if on sewers, 2 acres if no sewers. Commercial property is important, but must be compatible with the surrounding neighborhoods and older buildings. Taxes on commercial property must be keep low. Harris County needs an industrial park on the south side towards Columbus and on the north side towards LaGrange/West Point.	12/31/2013 3:35 PM
25	Increase acres required to build a house.	12/31/2013 11:08 AM
26	I'd like to see areas of EACH type of housing, including apartment complexes, cul de sac neighborhoods and other high-density developments, as long as they are planned and placed in a sensible way. I'd also like to see the development of white-collar business parks and complexes that mix multi-family housing with commercial and light industrial/office/call center-type businesses within designated areas. In my opinion, Harris County is big enough to accomodate several different types of developments, as long as they are planned and placed in a way that compliments the terrain, the surrounding developments and the wishes of forward-thinking and informed citizens.	12/30/2013 7:53 AM
27	If you really want constructive feedback, you should package this plan in an executive summary covering all areas briefly, with a "bottom line" conclusion for each. Most residents don't have the time to read all this or the knowledge base to full understand all aspects.	12/30/2013 7:46 AM
28	Keep the commercial to a minimum - prefer the small town atmosphere	12/29/2013 8:48 PM
29	Want to keep small town, neighborly environment.	12/29/2013 4:54 PM
30	We have lived in Harris County for 10 years (as of 2014) and would love to see it maintained as we have found it. This, of course, is not possible, so the comprehensive plan appears on initial reading as a viable means of keeping "the dream" of a rural living and working area alive.	12/29/2013 9:48 AM
31	harris county is a rural community, always will be. We would prefer that it stay that way, otherwise we will move back to muscogee county.	12/28/2013 8:27 PM

## Harris County Comprehensive Plan

32	I am very concerned about the pending development of The Grove. The commission needs to ensure the developers don't destroy the "county" setting home owner near this development move to Harris County to enjoy. If we wanted a Walmart in our backyard we would live in Columbus.	12/28/2013 7:32 PM
33	We moved to Harris County to get away from the city life of Columbus, however, I would like to see our dirt roads get paved.	12/28/2013 12:38 PM
34	I moved to a rural area because I was trying to leave the city. I don't want the city to follow me or I will have to look for another rural area. Thanks for asking.	12/28/2013 12:37 PM
35	Building and Zoning coeds need to be updated and changed and they need to be most of all clearly defined as in specific's on what type structures can be located on a person's property, especially in a subdivision so that Property Values aren't hurt by an owners LACK of VALUES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	12/28/2013 11:28 AM
36	If Harris County is to grow it must become more senior friendly, i.e. more affordable.	12/28/2013 10:39 AM
37	I wish for reduced school tax for seniors 65 and over.	12/28/2013 9:56 AM
38	Harris county is starting to look and feel like Columbus. More stringent building code ENFORCEMENT would benefit the county more than anything. Builders in Harris County can do anything they wish without fear, you know that and I know that-everyone knows that.	12/28/2013 9:29 AM
39	Provide county water and sewer throughout county.	12/28/2013 8:45 AM
40	get water and sewer to all first that are in housing developments and put thru tax paying concerns--shopping(food and Drug)property owners pay taxes apartment renters don't	12/28/2013 7:33 AM
41	Need fire protection for area south of 315. This is a critical issue for a comprehensive plan.	12/28/2013 7:13 AM
42	I believe the survey presented was rather deceptive. I am sure most people surveyed felt as though they had to answer each category presented to them. It would seem that had you opted on either of the first two choices, ( rural or mini fam) that any of the choices beyond that such as congested neighborhoods, apartments, condos, etc., would even enter the picture for further consideration. The ambiguity of the options for answers is inane. If you want to know the truth than ask a question that requires a yes or no answer. I do agree with you on thing. Only a Survey Monkey could have come up with such a stupid survey.	12/27/2013 11:45 PM
43	More efforts should be made to protect the environment while developing parts of the county. Exceptions to zoning are too often made - this needs to stop. While more apartment housing is needed, it should be confined to city limits who have resources (water, sewage etc.) to deal with it.	12/27/2013 11:01 PM
44	Preference is for the rural subdivision only, and definitely no apartment complexes. Absolutely 'main street' style for shopping!	12/27/2013 10:51 PM
45	We moved to Harris County to get away from the city. We welcome small businesses and neighborhoods like what we have now. Two acres per lot seems about right for neighborhoods. We do live on a gravel road that we have been told for 10 years would be paved, but it hasn't. That's frustrating, especially when we have small children who frequently ride a bus down slippery, muddy roads. Thank you all for taking this survey and for all your hard work.	12/27/2013 10:36 PM
46	Emphasis on environmental issues.	12/27/2013 10:08 PM
47	Fortson wasn't included as an option for indicating residency.	12/27/2013 9:41 PM
48	I moved to Harris County because I love the rural neighborhoods and the wide open spaces. Please do not over develop the county like they have done in Columbus.	12/27/2013 8:01 PM
49	I would like to see Harris County remain a rural setting with only low or medium density housing. Commercial development should be highly restricted.	12/27/2013 7:56 PM
50	Harris County would do well to offer its residents reasons not to do all of their shopping in Columbus or LaGrange. A mainstream supermarket and a couple of known places to eat would be a welcome addition to the area.	12/27/2013 7:43 PM
51	I live west of Ga HWY 315. Survey is way to general. Pictures should be Harris County pictures.	12/27/2013 7:35 PM

## Harris County Comprehensive Plan

52	I would like to see more focus on recycling, walking trails, bicycle trails, dog parks. I want to see more economic development and a focus on recruiting businesses. We have to stop depending on tourism , we need more business to come to our county. We need to attract more technical companies. We need to develop better paying jobs in the county. People need to earn a living wage. The county jobs available are not market comparable . They are extremely low paying-why is that? Our county offices need an HR person...our county govt. seems unorganized and inefficient and very "good old boy" oriented.	12/27/2013 6:58 PM
53	Harris County really needs some commercial development, as well as residential, to continue to grow and prosper. We need jobs and housing to accommodate!	12/26/2013 1:36 PM
54	Controlled growth is necessary for our community.	12/20/2013 9:58 PM