

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

ADMINISTRATION—RELEASE INTERNAL INPUT SURVEY

WHEREAS, as the Board of Commissioners routinely conducts a planning process to establish annual and term based goals; and

WHEREAS, an internal input survey has been developed to assist in the planning process for the 2021-22 term and incorporates the summary results of the citizen survey completed this year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the release of the input survey to each commissioner, chief judge, and elected official; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the County Administrator shall also submit an input survey.

Dear Commissioner, Chief Judge or County Elected Official:

The Board of Commissioners has a process of establishing annual or term-based goals. This process has been very successful in achieving major accomplishments. Such accomplishments often require the work and assistance of many individuals or teams (e.g. construction of a Sheriff's Office and Corrections Center, completion of annual budgets and audits, settlement of Collective Bargaining Agreements, establishment of a Public Defender's Office, sale of buildings/property, Capital Improvement Program and reporting, and many more).

In preparation for the next term, the Board sought to engage broader input through an independently facilitated citizen survey (released 2019). Now the Board is asking for your direct input. A majority of this input survey (link below) directly aligns to the summary of the National Citizen Survey.

Official online responses are to be submitted prior to 5:00 pm on Dec 18 via the following link: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6062526/Board-2021-22-Planning-Survey>. The survey will be closed immediately thereafter. The only results compiled will be those submitted through the online survey.

Results will be compiled, sent to all invited participants, and presented to the Board at the January 14 Planning Session {Or January 7 if the Board would like a special meeting}.

This MS Word document (specifically the questions below) is designed to be a working version of the survey that you may use to prepare for your final submission of the online version. You may choose to incorporate input from others; however, only one survey shall be submitted per official. Example: an elected official may solicit input from members of their team and consider such input in their official submission; however, the elected official will only submit one survey online to be considered in the official report going to the Board.

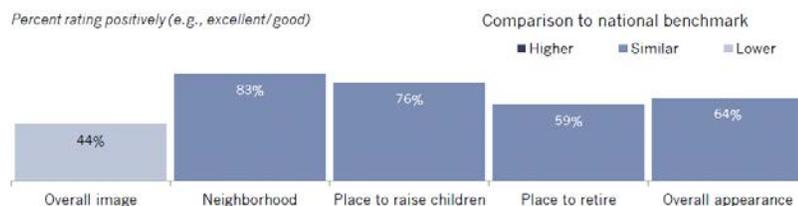
Thank you,

Robert J. Sarro
County Administrator

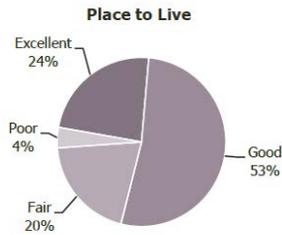
QUALITY OF LIFE

Allegan County residents enjoy a positive quality of life.

About three-quarters of residents rated the overall quality of life in Allegan County and the County as a place to live as excellent or good. About 8 in 10 residents gave positive ratings to their neighborhood as a place to live, while three-quarters gave favorable marks to Allegan County as a place to raise children. Roughly 6 in 10 respondents awarded positive reviews to Allegan County as a place to retire and the overall appearance of the County. About 6 in 10 residents gave excellent or good ratings to the sense of community in the County, while 8 in 10 would recommend Allegan County to someone who asked and nearly 9 in 10 planned to



remain in the County for the next five years. These ratings were similar to those given in other communities across the nation.



Are there aspects of the acknowledged strength Allegan County holds for Quality of Life that the Board should further discuss in setting priorities for 2021-22? Please provide specific details: [OPEN TEXT FIELD]

PUBLIC SAFETY



Safety is important to residents.

Survey respondents indicated that Safety would be an important focus area for the County in the next two years, and ratings within this facet tended to be positive and similar to national averages. About 9 in 10 residents reported feeling very or somewhat safe in their neighborhood and in Allegan County’s downtown/commercial areas, and 8 in 10 rated the overall feeling of safety in the County as excellent or good. At least 7 in 10 residents awarded favorable reviews to the Sheriff Department, fire services, ambulance/EMS, crime prevention, and fire prevention and fire education, and these ratings were similar to those given elsewhere. However, only 4 in 10 residents gave excellent or good scores to emergency preparedness and this rating was lower than average. When asked to indicate how they

would prioritize the use of additional funds garnered from restoring a tax limitation its present-day value, about three-quarters of residents rated improving public safety (adding Deputies) as a high or medium priority.

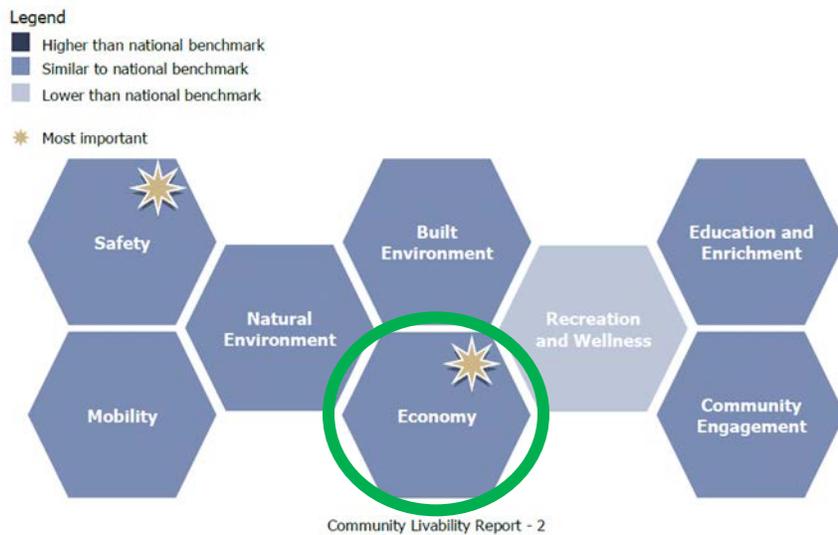
Do you agree the Board should make additional investment and research in PUBLIC SAFETY a priority for 2021-22?

Do Not Agree, Somewhat Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree

Please provide details supporting your response:

If you answered agree or strongly agree, what actions would you suggest to progress in this focus area?
[Open Input Field]

ECONOMY



The Economy is also a resident priority.

Residents also indicated that Economy would be an important area of focus in the coming years. About 6 in 10 residents awarded excellent or good marks to the County as a place to visit, while about half gave favorable scores to the overall quality of business and service establishments, cost of living and Allegan County as a place to work. However, only about 4 in 10 gave positive ratings to the overall economic health of the County and shopping opportunities, and these ratings were lower than those given elsewhere.

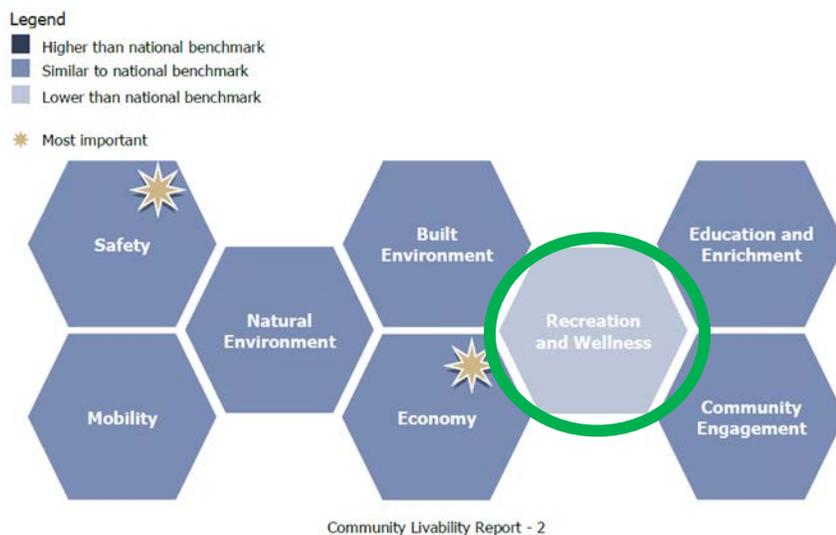
Do you agree the Board should make additional investment and research in ECONOMY and/or related infrastructure a priority for 2021-22?

Do Not Agree, Somewhat Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree

Please provide details supporting your response:

If you answered agree or strongly agree, what actions would you suggest to progress in this focus area?
[Open Input Field]

RECREATION AND WELLNESS



Recreation and Wellness is an area of opportunity for the County.

Ratings within the facet of Recreation and Wellness tended to be lower than those given in other communities across the nation. About 4 in 10 residents or less gave positive ratings to health and wellness opportunities, fitness opportunities, or the availability of affordable quality health care, mental health care, and preventive health services; these ratings were lower than the national benchmarks. Further, about half of residents gave favorable reviews to recreation programs, recreation centers, and health services, and these ratings were also below average. Thus, Recreation and Wellness may also be considered an area of focus for the County in the coming years.

Do you agree the Board should make additional investment and research in RECREATION AND WELLNESS a priority for 2021-22?

Do Not Agree, Somewhat Agree, Agree, Strongly Agree

Please provide details supporting your response:

If you answered agree or strongly agree, what actions would you suggest to progress in this focus area?
[Open Input Field]

OVERALL CITIZEN SURVEY DATA

After reviewing the Citizen Survey summary available at <http://cms.allegancounty.org/sites/Office/BOC/Survey/SitePages/Home.aspx> (the main summary report is the “NCS Community Livability Report – Allegan County 2019”) are there other focus areas that should be a priority for the 2021-22 term? [Open Feedback Field]

COUNTY OVERARCHING STRATEGY AND SERVICES

After reviewing the County’s overarching strategy available at <http://cms.allegancounty.org/Docs/StrategyMap.pdf> are there other focus areas that should be a priority for the 2021-22 term? What is working well? What could be better? [Open Feedback Field]

During the 2019-20 term, the Board was presented plans regarding Sheriff’s staffing, Transportation Services and Debt reduction. These plans are available at www.allegancounty.org/taxlimitproposal. Should the Board consider any of these proposals for the 2021-22 term?

Considering the overall services provided by Allegan County Government, are there services that you believe should be expanded? [Open Feedback Field]

Considering the overall services provided by Allegan County Government, are there services that you believe should be reduced or eliminated? [Open Feedback Field]

STATE MANDATED FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD (P.A 156 of 1856)

	Satisfied with current status/activity Y or N	Comments:
Board Meetings		
Budget/Financial Policies		

Facilities		
Debt		
Tax		
Compensation		
Employee Benefits (pension, health, etc.)		
Collective Bargaining (Public Employee Relations Act)		
Other Areas You Would Like To Consider:		