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## Chester Township Community Questionnaire Summary Report

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**College of Urban Affairs**

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**CHESTER TOWNSHIP  
COMMUNITY  
QUESTIONNAIRE  
SUMMARY REPORT**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION

The Center for Community Planning and Development at CSU's Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs was engaged by Chester Township to assist with conducting a Community Questionnaire. CSU's role was to work with the Township in developing the questionnaire; and then receiving and analyzing the responses. The questionnaire was mailed to all resident addresses in the Township in May of 2020; responses were received and analyzed during June, July and August. To keep the cost low, the questionnaire was not designed to be a statistically calibrated survey, but rather a questionnaire which would enable the community to get a sense of residents' interests and desires with regard to the Township's future.

Of 4,724 questionnaires mailed, 1,654 were returned and deemed valid, a 35% response rate. This is a very solid response rate indicative of residents' high level of interest in participating in Township affairs and expressing their opinion. Questionnaires included both quantitative (multiple choice) questions and open-ended questions. All responses were analyzed by CSU and summarized in this report.

### DEMOGRAPHICS

Most respondents to the questionnaire were over 45 years old, with 40% over 65, and another 39% aged 45 to 65. The number of men vs women answering the questionnaire were roughly equal. The average length of time respondents have lived in Chester was 30 years. 84% live in households with 2 or more people, and 16% live alone. 21% live in a household with children under 18. 98% of respondents own their own home. 66% of respondents live on properties that are 3 acres or less in size.

This means that respondents to the questionnaire were generally older, as are the residents of the Township. Newer residents are in the minority of respondents.

### QUALITY OF LIFE IN CHESTER

When asked about Chester's best attributes, the highest number of respondents referred to Chester's rural or small town character, and its convenient location close to highways, shopping, work and amenities. Other attributes favored by respondents included large lots and the open character of their properties and neighborhoods; friendly people and sense of community; peace and quiet, privacy and space; schools and family environment; sense of safety; and township services. Characteristics rated "excellent" by over 25% of respondents included air quality, fire and EMS services, police services, local schools, and parks/recreation /walking trails.

When asked to rank their top 5 reasons for living in Chester, 92% of the 1,570 respondents who answered the question ranked Rural Atmosphere in their top 5, followed by Safer Neighborhoods (84%) and Larger Lot Sizes (79%). These three also ranked the highest in number of #1 rankings, in the same order (50%, 23% and 20% respectively). Rural Atmosphere

is clearly at the top of respondents' minds when thinking about life in Chester. The majority of respondents (66%) felt that their quality of life was about the same as when they moved to Chester, followed by 16% who felt that their quality of life was better.

Respondents were asked an open-ended question about ideas for what Chester Township could or should do that would improve their quality of life. The most common topics, with over 30% of respondents mentioning them, were roads/access/mobility (32%), and stores/shopping (31%). In the roads/mobility category, respondents were concerned about improving traffic flow, slowing down speeders on main roads and side roads, installing traffic signals and turning lanes, and adding bike paths and sidewalks. In the shopping category, the most responses addressed the need for a better grocery store. Some mentioned the need for more restaurants. At 24%, the topic of growth and development came in third, most responses focused on the desire to keep the township rural. The fourth most mentioned topic was a community center or the downtown, at 20%; most responses desired places for people to gather. Respondents gave a wide range of specific ideas in answering this question; see the Appendix for a more detailed summary and for the full set of open-ended responses.

Finally, respondents were asked about the relative importance of various options for Chester's future. 79% of respondents indicated that it was extremely or very important for the township to preserve open and green spaces for the community. Also ranked very high at extremely or very important were attracting young families (54%), supporting school-age and pre-teen activities (47%), supporting business development (45%), and strengthening community identity (39%). Conversely, 48% of respondents feel that it is not at all important that the township consider expanding the choice of housing types that are available, although 33% felt it was extremely or very important to expand senior living housing options.

### **CHESTER'S RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS**

One question about Chester's residential districts asked respondents to state the extent to which they agreed with statements related to residential zoning and infrastructure. Respondents clearly preferred to maintain Chester's large lot sizes and limit the expansion of city water and sewer systems, while a slight majority would like to extend bike and pedestrian paths. In-law suites and property maintenance also received general positive support, with over 71% and 59% of respondents strongly agreeing or agreeing with these ideas respectively.

61% of respondents to this question stated that they strongly agreed with supporting minimum lot sizes. Aligning with this sentiment, 57% strongly disagreed with the development of smaller lot neighborhoods. 49% disagreed or strongly disagreed with expanding city water systems into residential districts, while 44% disagreed or strongly disagreed with expanding sanitary sewer systems.

52% agreed or strongly agreed with extending protected bike or pedestrian paths from residential areas to the commercial district.



31% strongly agreed and 40% somewhat agreed with allowing in-law suites in single family homes. 30% strongly agreed and 29% somewhat agreed with adopting basic property maintenance standards for residential districts, while 28% disagreed or strongly disagreed. In other areas, respondents were more equally divided. See the full report for details.

### CHESTER'S COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Respondents were asked an open-ended question about their general impression of the commercial district. The two most commonly mentioned subjects, with 41% and 34% of respondents respectively, were appearance/aesthetics of the commercial center, and limiting development of it. Respondents felt strongly that the commercial district was unattractive, poorly maintained and full of vacancies, while also supporting keeping the district small. Many mentioned the need to fill vacancies before adding any future development; some (23%) also stated that the district is fine as it is.

In a multiple choice question, respondents were asked to rate the desirability of various development options for the commercial center. Options receiving the most "desirable" or "strongly desirable" responses included expanded restaurant and food services (36%/21%), expanded retail (32%/17%), and family recreation and entertainment (36%/21%) uses. Options receiving the most "strongly not desirable" or "not desirable" responses included apartments (62%/20%), modular/manufactured homes (56%/22%), duplex/triplex homes (55%/22%), cluster homes (52%/18%), and small lot single family homes (50%/23%). Other options receiving more divided or neutral responses included live/work studios, retirement/independent living communities, assisted living facilities, and senior skilled nursing facilities.

Respondents were asked to "look forward" by indicating the relative level of importance of various options for the commercial center. Ranking the highest in "extremely important" and "very important" ratings was "providing a full range of daily goods and services in the commercial area", at 74%. "Improving traffic flow on 322 and 306" ranked next highest at 49%. Providing protected pedestrian crossings, and improved pedestrian access and safety, ranked next highest at 45%. Permitting businesses to have larger and digital signs in the commercial district ranked the highest rated "not at all important", at 49% and 54% respectively. In other options, respondents were more divided. See the full report for details.

Finally, respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they agreed with a set of statements regarding the commercial district's character. Ranking the highest as either "strongly agree" or "somewhat agree" were "the Commercial District should have a quaint small town feel" (52%/33%), "The Township should adopt a property maintenance standard for the commercial district" (44%/35%), and "the Township should develop and adopt landscape and tree planting standards to help improve the character of the commercial district" (43%/32%), and "the Township should develop and adopt architectural building standards to ensure quality and consistency of design in the Commercial District" (41%/30%).

In alignment with strong open-ended response sentiment that the commercial center should stay the same size, 52% of respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement “the commercial district is too large”. This supports the idea that township respondents are interested in improvements in quality, not quantity, in the commercial district.

## **TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT AND SERVICES**

Toward the end of the questionnaire, respondents were asked eight separate questions about various topics related to township government and services.

Findings were as follows:

- 1) Recycle Park. 69% of respondents felt the township recycle park was extremely or somewhat important. Only 19% felt that it is not at all important, were not sure, or had no opinion.
- 2) Single-hauler waste removal. Respondents were somewhat divided about whether they supported the idea of a single-hauler waste removal service. 41% answered yes, 30% answered not, and 29% answered “not sure” or “no opinion”. Further discussion is likely warranted with Township residents on this question.
- 3) Flooding, noise issues and erosion. These do not appear to be an issue for the majority of township residents who responded to the questionnaire. (76%, 82%, and 80% respectively answered “no”.)
- 4) New township service buildings. Respondents were asked to rank their top 5 choices for fire, police, road department, and town hall. Only 451 to 659 respondents answered the items in this question (27 to 40% of all valid responses). Of those, 63% gave a township complex the highest ranking, with a police station and fire station following at 36% and 28% respectively. Due to the low response rate and high cost of these items, further discussion of costs and benefits is recommended.
- 5) Community enhancements. In this question, respondents were also asked to rank their top 5 community enhancement priorities from 1 (highest) to 5 (lowest). Enhancements receiving the highest (#1) ranking included revitalizing the commercial district (35%), streetscape beautification on routes 306 and 322 (34%), and park and recreation space (32%).
- 6) Cost of new facilities/services. Respondents were asked, “To what extent would you support an increase in tax dollars to support your highest ranked items?” While the largest proportion of respondents (39%) indicated they would be in support if costs/benefits seemed reasonable, 48% would not support an increase for any reason, or would support only a modest increase. More discussion will certainly be needed, with more detailed information about choices, and exploration of ways to limit any increases.
- 7) Comprehensive Plan. In response to the question, “Based on the results of this questionnaire, do you support the Township exploring options for developing a comprehensive plan?” 53% answered “yes”, with 22% answering “no” and 25% answering “not sure”. More information about a comprehensive plan would be recommended to help residents understand its purpose and benefits, and the value received for the cost.
- 8) Government structure. After an explanation of expanded municipal services and the tax increases that can be involved in providing them, respondents were asked, “would you support

the Township researching the benefits and costs of becoming a City?”. Respondents were overwhelmingly not in support of this idea, with 69% answering “no”.

### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Finally, respondents were offered an open-ended opportunity to provide any additional comments they might have. The most often-mentioned subjects included development concerns (54%), with the majority of respondents feeling that Chester’s small town scale should be left as it is, without extensive additional development.

21% of respondents to this question mentioned topics related to appearance and aesthetics. These comments were focused on property maintenance and overall appearance. A number expressed a desire for a more attractive town center.

19% of respondents to this question mentioned subjects related to traffic, roads, pedestrian and bike access, and mobility in their comments. Speed and near-accidents at intersections are concerns in specific places. Respondents appear to be divided between those who don’t feel sidewalks and bicycle access are needed or worthwhile, and those who would like to see them put in place.

18% of respondents mentioned subjects related to taxes, and managing township revenues and expenses. The majority of respondents felt that taxes should be kept low, and that township budget management could be improved. Many felt that road maintenance should be a priority. There were a few who acknowledged that higher taxes could be justified for better services.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Several messages come through very clearly from Chester Township respondents. They strongly prefer Chester’s rural/small town atmosphere, and would like that to remain. They are not interested in expansion of the commercial district, or the addition of more dense housing options that would change the character of the community, such as townhomes, duplexes or apartments. They love the peace and quiet, space and privacy, and green landscape of the community, and would like that to remain and continue to be protected.

On the other hand, respondents had a great deal to say about the quality of life in Chester. In particular, they are concerned that the commercial district is cluttered and unattractive, with many vacant spaces, and overall declining property maintenance, for which they recommend the township take action. They are in support of parks, recreation and trails. Traffic flow and road maintenance are a concern, creating congestion and safety issues for auto traffic, bicycles, and pedestrians. There is support for the idea of improvements such as a community center, community activities, and township services complex; however there is significant concern about costs that would increase taxes, encouraging keeping improvements modest and within a good cost/benefit balance.

## INTRODUCTION

### CHESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE

The Center for Community Planning & Development (The Center) is pleased to submit this report to the Chester Township Trustees on the results of the Community Questionnaire sent to their residents.

In November of 2019, the Center for Community Planning and Development at the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs was engaged by the Chester Township Board of Trustees to conduct an investigation of the residents' perspectives and priorities for future planning of the township.

The purpose of the questionnaire was to assist the Township in understanding residents' perspectives on priorities for the township moving forward. The questions covered topics related to issues of overall quality of life, the residential district, the commercial district, township services and facilities as well as the characteristics of respondents (demographics of residents).

*It should be noted that the Chester Township Community Questionnaire project was not designed to produce a statistically significant set of results or reporting. Therefore, this Questionnaire was not statistically calibrated, as agreed with the Township Trustees in the project contract with Cleveland State University. A statistically valid survey would have required substantial additional Township funds, to ensure a large enough sample size of complete, valid questionnaires to be statistically representative of the community, and to conduct the statistical analysis. This means that the responses cannot be stated as representing the opinions of the full range of residents of Chester. This summary report makes no representation that the responses detailed here indicate the opinions of the full body of Township residents. It does represent the opinions of the residents who chose and took the time to answer and return the questionnaire. Given the relatively high percentage of responses (35%), it should enable the Township to have a sense of the "pulse" of township residents.*

It should further be noted that this questionnaire was developed and finalized prior to the Coronavirus pandemic, and therefore did not include questions related to any changes or considerations that the Township should undertake as a result.

The steps in the project involved:

- 1) Work with the Chester Township committee to refine questions
- 2) Public input session Monday, November 25, 2019 at the West Geauga Public Library. (see Geauga Maple Leaf article November 28, 2019).
- 3) Surveys mailed to the public on May 1, 2020.

- 4) Second mailing of the survey to include additional addresses mailed to the public on June 3, 2020.
- 5) Surveys received by CSU, analyzed and summarized (late May through August, 2020)
- 6) Interim report submitted to Township July 28, 2020. This included responses at 75% data entry completed, including preliminary quantitative findings, and open-ended responses to Question 1.
- 7) Final report submitted to Township, including both quantitative and open-ended response analysis (September 29, 2020)

See further discussion under methodology below.

## METHODOLOGY

**Questionnaire Mailing.** In May of 2020 a 7-page questionnaire (including cover letter) was mailed to every address located within Chester Township. The questionnaire packet was printed and mailed by Weekley's Mailing Service, Berea, Ohio, under separate contract with the Township. Addresses used were generated by Weekley's in consultation with the Township.

**Second Mailing.** After the first mailing went out, it was discovered that a number of residents had not received a questionnaire, and other residents received a questionnaire but it was not addressed to any members of the family household. Using the Chester Township Voter List and the Geauga County Auditor residential property list, databases were reconciled and it was determined that approximately 675 were either missed, or mis-addressed.

Accordingly, a second mailer of the 7-page questionnaire was sent to these residential addresses with a requested response deadline of June 18, 2020. The replies from this mailing have also been incorporated into this final report. A total of 4,724 questionnaire packets were mailed to Chester Township residents.

**Advertising.** To help increase the response rate, Chester Township made frequent mention of the questionnaire in the Chester Township government update which is published in the Chesterland News. Presentations were also made at trustee meetings by members of the Chester Planning Committee to keep the elected officials and public informed. Social media ('Next Door', and the Chester Planning Committee's Facebook page) was also used to get the word out.

**Receipt and response rate.** A total of 1,672 questionnaires were returned to CSU by respondents. CSU carefully reviewed the returned questionnaires. Of the 1,672 returned, ultimately 1,654 were determined to be valid (98.9%). Questionnaires were removed as "invalid" for reasons such as respondent indicating that they did not in fact reside in Chester Township (10), returned questionnaire was photocopied (not from the original mailed packet (5) or returned completely blank (2). One resident did not return the questionnaire but

provided a handwritten note. This was not included in the responses as it did not address questionnaire questions. The final valid response rate was 35.0% (1,654/4,724).

**Incomplete questionnaires.** It is important to note that not every respondent filled out the questionnaire in its entirety; however, all responses were included in the analysis, even those from incomplete questionnaires. This approach resulted in each question having a varying response rate and total. Responses to each question are reported as percentages to the total responses provided for each question or line item answered, not the total number of residents who returned the questionnaire.

**Data Entry.** Questionnaires were handwritten on paper instruments. Therefore, questionnaires received and rated as valid were entered into Qualtrics software by staff of the Center for Community Planning and Development. All open-ended responses were typed in as best as handwriting would allow. It should be noted that open-ended responses which contained rude or foul language, targeted specific individuals (beyond the Trustees in general), or disclosed personal identifying information, were redacted.

**Data analysis and summary.** Using Qualtrics software, qualitative responses were analyzed for percent response for each question. Quantitative (open-ended) questions were analyzed using Qualtrics software using key words methodology. Qualtrics analysis for each question was reviewed and summarized by Center staff, and consolidated into this report.

Open-ended responses totaled 4,501 across four questions. The full text of open-ended responses is included in the Appendix, along with the detailed key word findings by question and topic. A brief summary of findings for each question is included in the main body of the report under "Questionnaire Findings".

## QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS

Findings reflect analysis of the 1,564 valid questionnaires. As noted earlier, some respondents did not answer every question, therefore many questions had fewer responses. The total number of responses received is given for every question.

### SECTION 1 DEMOGRAPHICS (QUESTIONS 20-27)

Questionnaire respondents exhibit the following demographic characteristics.

- Respondents are almost exclusively homeowners (98%).
- The number of years respondents reported having lived in Chester Township ranged from a few months to 95 years.
  - On average respondents have lived in Chester Township for 28.9 years. 36% have lived in the township for less than 20 years.
  - Nearly 15% have lived in the township for 50 years or more.
  - The most frequently cited response was 30 years (5%).

- Nearly half (49%) reported that there are two individuals in the household. 16% reported living in a household with 1 person. 21% responded that there are children living in the household who are under the age of 18.
- 40% of respondents indicated that they are 65 and over, followed closely by 39% who said that they were 45-64 years of age.

The following tables provide a breakdown of respondents by demographic question.

**Table 1: Respondent Gender**

	Percent	Count
Male	44%	636
Female	47%	681
Prefer not to say	9%	131
Total	100%	1448

**Table 2: Respondent Occupational Status**

	Percent	Number
Not working (retired)	37.02%	579
Unemployed (would like to be working)	0.58%	9
Homemaker	1.73%	27
Self-Employed	12.85%	201
Employed by others	40.47%	633
Student	0.13%	2
Disabled	0.64%	10
Work from Home	2.17%	34
Prefer not to say	4.41%	69
Total	100%	1564

**Table 3: Respondent Reported Age**

	Percent	Number
18-24	0%	5
25-44	15%	237
45-64	39%	628
65-80	33%	535
over 80	7%	120
prefer not to say	5%	87
Total	100%	1612

**Table 4: Home Ownership**

	Percent	Number
Own	98%	1573
Rent	1%	24
Other	1%	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1609</b>

**Table 5: Property Size**

	Percent	Number
0.5 acres or less	3%	43
0.5 to 1.5 acres	33%	539
1.5 to 3 acres	30%	493
3 to 5 acres	16%	264
5 to 10 acres	13%	214
More than 10 acres	3%	43
Don't know	1%	9
Prefer not to say	1%	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1628</b>

**Table 6: Children Under the Age of 18 in the Household**

	Percent	Number
Yes	21%	347
No	79%	1279
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1626</b>

**Table 7: Number of Individuals in the Household**

	Percent	Number
1	16%	256
2	49%	796
3	13%	208
4	14%	233
5	6%	96
6	2%	27
7	0%	2
8	0%	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1621</b>



**Table 8: Number of Years Living in Chester Township**

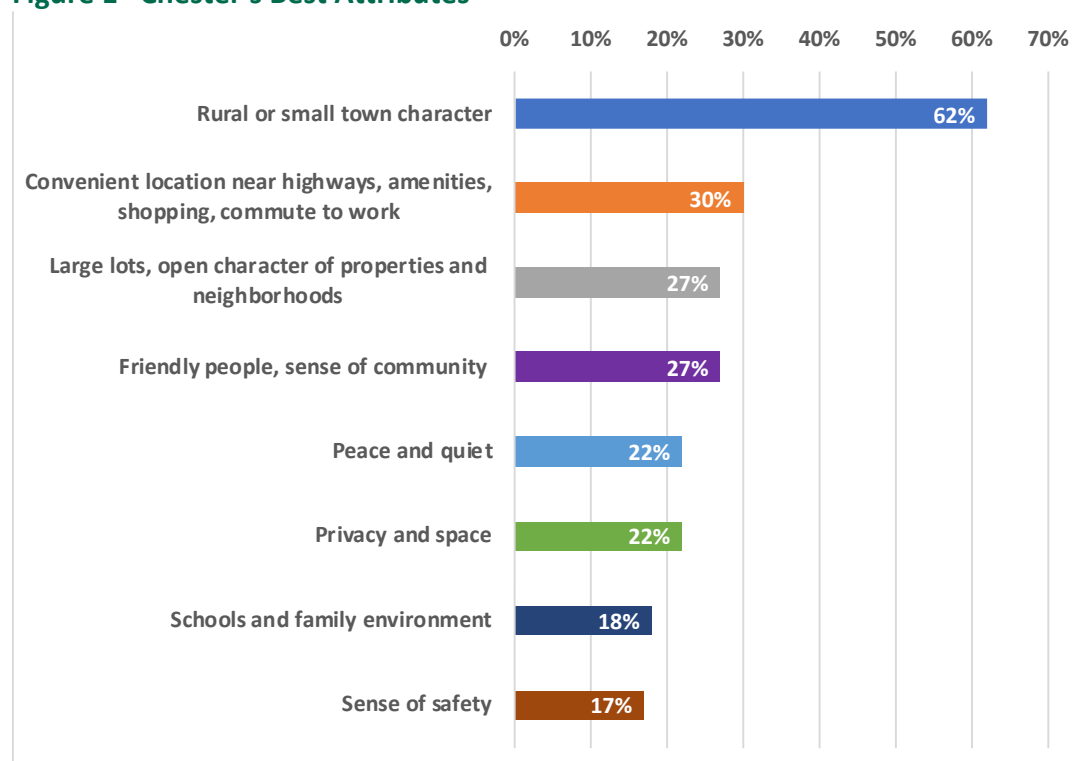
	Percent	Number
<b>0-5 years</b>	12%	196
<b>6-10 years</b>	7%	111
<b>11-15 years</b>	8%	125
<b>16-20</b>	10%	158
<b>over 20</b>	63%	1024
<b>Total</b>	100%	1614

## SECTION 2 OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE

Five questions on the questionnaire asked about respondents' perception of the overall quality of life in Chester Township.

### Question 1: Chester's Best Attributes

**Figure 1 Chester's Best Attributes**



Respondents were asked to describe what they like most about living in Chester Township and what were Chester's best attributes. 1,354 respondents answered this question. The most prevalent topics discussed related to Chester's small town and rural character (62%), while remaining close to amenities, especially shopping and highways (30%). Other attributes mentioned by a large proportion of respondents included large lots and the open character of

their property (27%), friendly people and sense of community (27%), peace and quiet (22%), privacy and space (22%), the schools and family environment (18%), sense of safety (17%), access to specific amenities such as shopping, dining and health care(14%), and police/fire/township services (13%). Additional topics with fewer responses included beautiful landscape, nature and wildlife; low cost and low taxes; park and recreation opportunities; activities and programs.

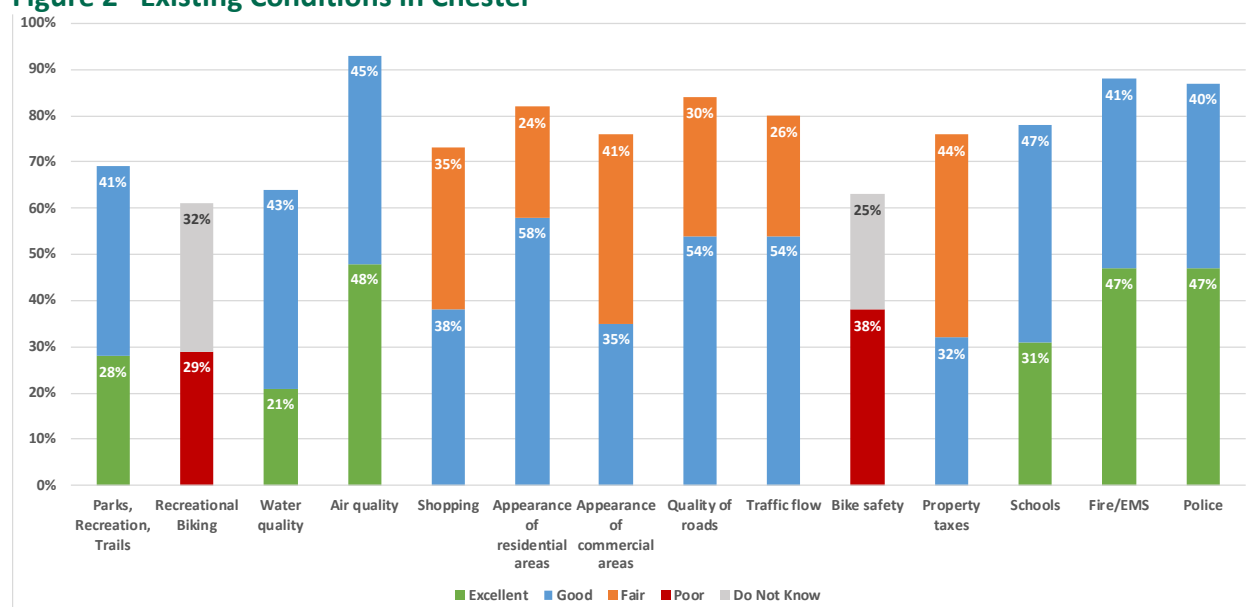
## Question 2: Existing Conditions in Chester:

Respondents were asked to rank various aspects of living in Chester Township on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 indicated “Excellent” and 5 meant “Don’t know/No opinion”. Response rates ranged from 1,539 to 1,609 for each item on the list.

**Table 9: Existing Conditions Ranking**

	Excellent (1)	Good (2)	Fair (3)	Poor (4)	Do not know / No opinion (5)	Total
<b>Parks, Recreational Areas &amp; Walking Trails</b>	28%	41%	19%	6%	7%	1584
<b>Recreational Biking</b>	6%	14%	18%	29%	32%	1555
<b>Water Quality</b>	21%	43%	20%	8%	7%	1539
<b>Air Quality</b>	48%	45%	5%	1%	1%	1590
<b>Availability and quality of shopping</b>	12%	38%	35%	14%	0%	1584
<b>Appearance of residential areas</b>	13%	58%	24%	4%	1%	1585
<b>Appearance of commercial areas</b>	6%	35%	41%	17%	1%	1588
<b>Quality of roads</b>	9%	54%	30%	7%	0%	1609
<b>Traffic flow</b>	13%	54%	26%	7%	1%	1594
<b>Bike safety and convenience on roads</b>	3%	11%	23%	38%	25%	1570
<b>Your property taxes</b>	8%	32%	44%	14%	2%	1579
<b>Local schools</b>	31%	47%	10%	2%	10%	1588
<b>Fire &amp; EMS services</b>	46%	41%	4%	1%	8%	1595
<b>Police Services</b>	47%	40%	6%	2%	5%	1595

Overall, safety services were ranked the highest by those who responded with Fire & EMS services receiving 46% of respondents indicating that they were excellent and Police Services with 47%. However, air quality received the highest number of residents indicating that this aspect of living in Chester Township was excellent with 48%.

**Figure 2 Existing Conditions in Chester**


Shown are the two rankings which received the most votes for each of the subjects listed in the question.

### Question 3: Reasons for Living in Chester

Respondents were asked to rank their top 5 reasons for living in Chester Township from a list of reasons, with 1 being the most important. Response rates

**Table 10: Top 5 Reasons for Living in Chester Township**

	Ranked in Top 5	Ranked in Top 3	Ranked #1	Ranked #2	Ranked #3	Ranked #4	Ranked #5	Number of Responses in Top 5
Access to better schools	56%	37%	17%	11%	10%	10%	8%	881
Less Traffic Congestion	56%	26%	8%	7%	10%	15%	16%	878
Safer Neighborhoods	84%	62%	23%	19%	19%	14%	8%	1,326
Larger Lot Size	79%	57%	20%	21%	17%	14%	9%	1,248
Rural Atmosphere	92%	78%	50%	17%	12%	8%	6%	1,448
I Grew Up Here	16%	11%	7%	2%	1%	2%	4%	254
Close to Family	26%	15%	7%	4%	4%	4%	6%	405
Less Restrictive Zoning	22%	9%	4%	2%	3%	6%	7%	343
Lower Taxes	34%	17%	6%	4%	7%	7%	10%	533
Other	8%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	4%	125
Job or Business Reason	8%	4%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	130
Total Respondents Answering question	1,570							

Of the 1,570 respondents who answered this question, 92% ranked “Rural Atmosphere” in their top 5, followed by “Safer Neighborhoods” (84%) and “Larger Lot Size” (79%). These three also garnered the most “#1” ratings, in the same order, at 50%, 23% and 20% respectively. Rural atmosphere is clearly at the top of respondents’ minds when they think about living in Chester.

This question had an open-ended option for “other – please specify”. 143 respondents filled in this option as an alternative to one of the specified choices. Of the following key words, “near”

or “close” or “location” received the highest level of mentions, at 24. “shopping” and “cost” or “price” or “afford” both received six mentions. “tax” received four mentions. The other key words received two mentions each. This confirms the findings in Question 1, that location was among the most positive attributes of Chester.

## ***Reasons for Living in Chester***

### *Items ranked in respondents’ top 5*

- Rural atmosphere 92%
- Safer Neighborhoods 84%
- Larger Lot Size 79%
- Access to Better Schools 56%
- Less Traffic Congestion 56%
- Lower Taxes 34%

## **Question 4: Change in Quality of Life**

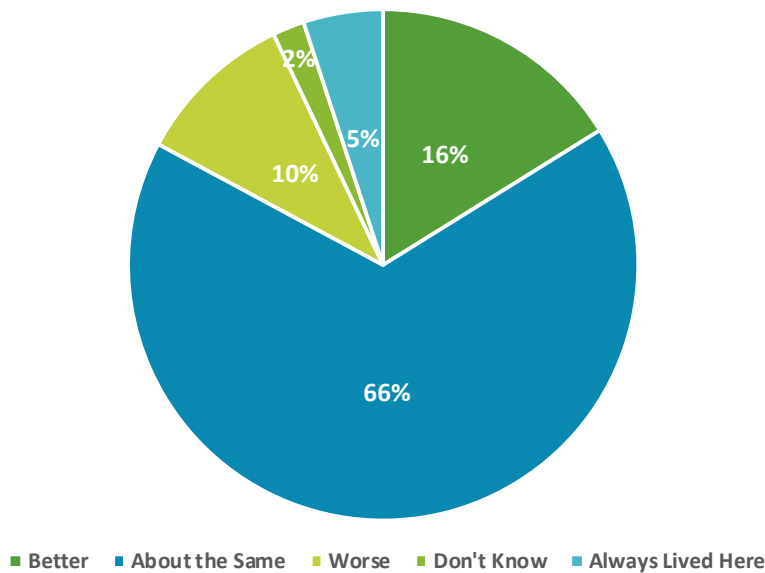
When considering overall quality of life in Chester Township, respondents were asked if they felt that their life in Chester had improved, was about the same or worse than when they first moved.

**Table 11: Overall Quality of Life**

	Percent	Number
<b>Better</b>	16%	259
<b>About the same</b>	66%	1072
<b>Worse</b>	10%	169
<b>Don't know</b>	2%	25
<b>Does not apply to me - I have always lived in Chester Township</b>	5%	88
<b>Total</b>	100%	1613

The majority of respondents indicated that their overall quality of life was about the same as when they had first moved to the township.

**Figure 3 Change in Quality of Life Since Moving to Chester**



### Question 5: Improving Quality of Life

Respondents were asked to provide input if there was anything that they felt Chester Township could or should do that would improve their quality of life. 1,024 respondents answered this question. More than any other question, respondents had specific suggestions and responses that were less defined as to category. It will be important for leaders and residents to read all suggestions for good ideas related to quality of life in Chester. See the full content in the Appendix.

The most common topics, with over 30% of respondents mentioning them, were roads/access/mobility (32%), and stores/shopping (31%). In the roads/mobility category, respondents were concerned about improving traffic flow, slowing down speeders on main roads and side roads, installing traffic signals and turning lanes, and adding bike paths and sidewalks. In the shopping category, the most responses addressed the need for a better grocery store. Some mentioned the need for more restaurants.

At 24%, the topic of growth and development came in third, most responses focused on the desire to keep the township rural. The fourth most mentioned topic was a community center or the downtown, at 20%; most responses desired places for people to gather.

The fifth most mentioned topic was township services, with most respondents feeling that police and fire services were good. Negative comments surrounded the recycling center's appearance, and roads needing repair. Finally, 130 (13%) of respondents to this question mentioned nuisances that they wished could be abated. Most common of these were noise related to off-road vehicles and firearms, property maintenance concerns, and open burning/air quality.

Additional topics with fewer responses included planning and the questionnaire itself; keeping taxes low and managing budgets well; meeting seniors' needs; managing water and flooding; trustees; vacancy and empty buildings. See the full set of responses in the Appendix for specifics.

### Question 6: Looking Forward

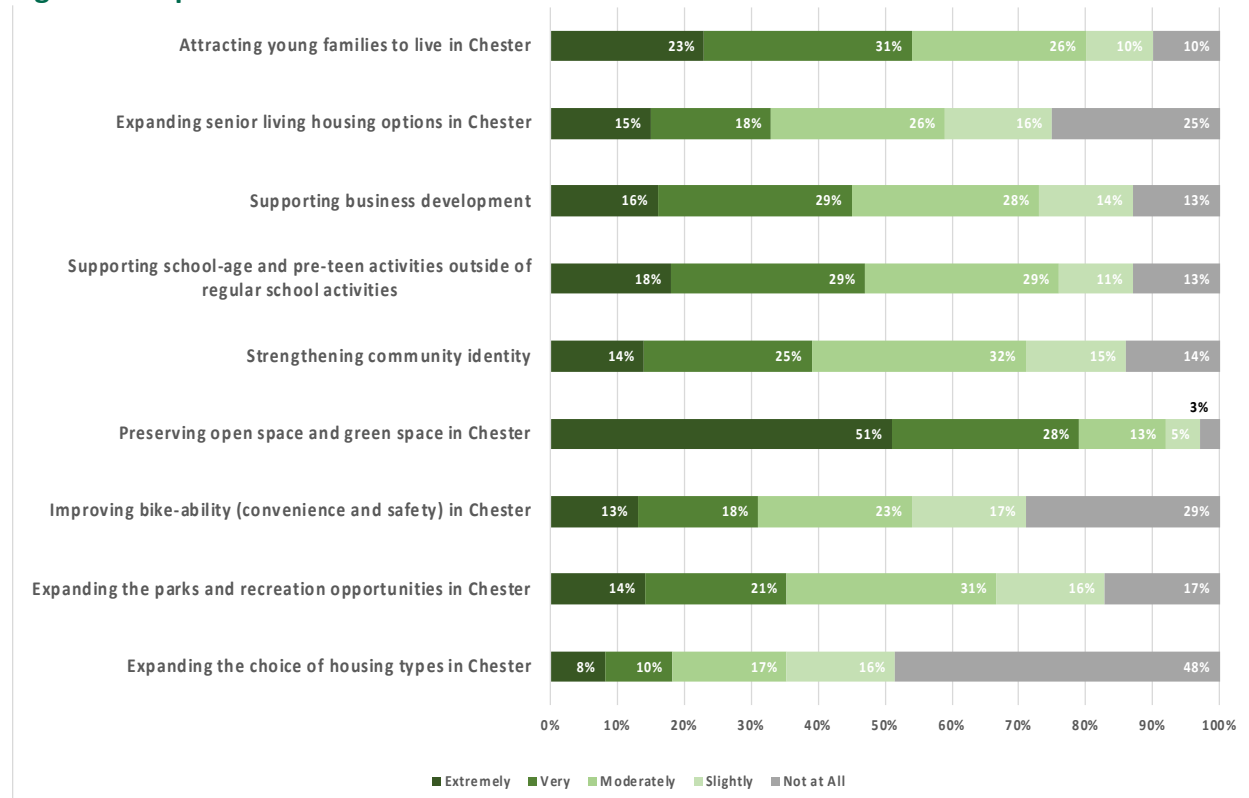
Respondents were asked to rank the importance of a set of statements offering ideas for Chester's future.

**Table 12: Looking Forward Ranking**

	Extremely Important (1)	Very Important (2)	Extremely or Very Important	Moderately Important (3)	Slightly Important (4)	Not at all Important (5)	Total Responses
Expanding the choice of housing types in Chester	8%	10%	18%	17%	16%	48%	1583
Expanding the parks and recreation opportunities in Chester	14%	21%	35%	31%	16%	17%	1619
Improving bike-ability (convenience and safety) in Chester	13%	18%	31%	23%	17%	29%	1592
Preserving open space and green space in Chester	51%	28%	79%	13%	5%	3%	1627
Strengthening community identity	14%	25%	39%	32%	15%	14%	1567
Supporting school-age and pre-teen activities outside of regular school activities	18%	29%	47%	29%	11%	13%	1612
Supporting business development	16%	29%	45%	28%	14%	13%	1570
Expanding senior living housing options in Chester	15%	18%	33%	26%	16%	25%	1623
Attracting young families to live in Chester	23%	31%	54%	26%	10%	10%	1600

A slight majority of respondents (51%) said that it was extremely important for the township to preserve open and green spaces. Taken together, 79% of respondents indicated that it was extremely or very important for the township to preserve open and green spaces for the community. Also ranked very high at extremely or very important were attracting young families (54%), supporting school-age and pre-teen activities (47%), supporting business development (45%), and strengthening community identity (39%). Conversely, 48% of respondents feel that it is not at all important that the township consider expanding the choice of housing types that are available.

**Figure 4 Importance of Priorities for the Future**



Respondents ranked “preserving open space and green space in Chester” the highest.

## SECTION 3 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

### Question 7: Residential Areas

Residents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with a series of nine statements about various aspects of residential development in Chester. Between 1622 and 1639 respondents answered the items in this question. The total number of respondents varied by each item, as some respondents did not answer all items.

The strongest response was for the statement “I support minimum lot sizes to maintain the semi-rural characteristics of the township”, with a total of 85% of respondents noting that they “strongly agreed” or “somewhat agreed” (61% and 24% respectively). Conversely, the second strongest response was for the statement “I support the development of smaller lot neighborhoods”, with 75% “somewhat disagreed” or “strongly disagreed” (18%/57%). Aligning with open-ended responses, it is clear that respondents are in favor of continuing Chester’s lot sizes as they are.

Another strong response was in support of the statement “I support allowing in-law suites in single family homes”, with 71% strongly agreeing or somewhat agreeing (31%/40% respectively). Two other statements received a supportive response from more than half of

respondents: “I support adopting basic property maintenance standards for residential districts” (59%, with 30% “strongly agree” and 29% “somewhat agree”); and “I support extending protected bike/pedestrian paths from residential areas to the commercial district” (52%, with 23% “strongly agree” and 29% “somewhat agree”).

Two areas where there was a noted “strongly disagree” response were support for City water and City sewer connections. 30% and 34% “strongly disagreed”, respectively, with 49% and 44% “strongly disagreeing” or “somewhat disagreeing”; 35% and 38% respectively noted that they “strongly agreed” or “somewhat agreed”.

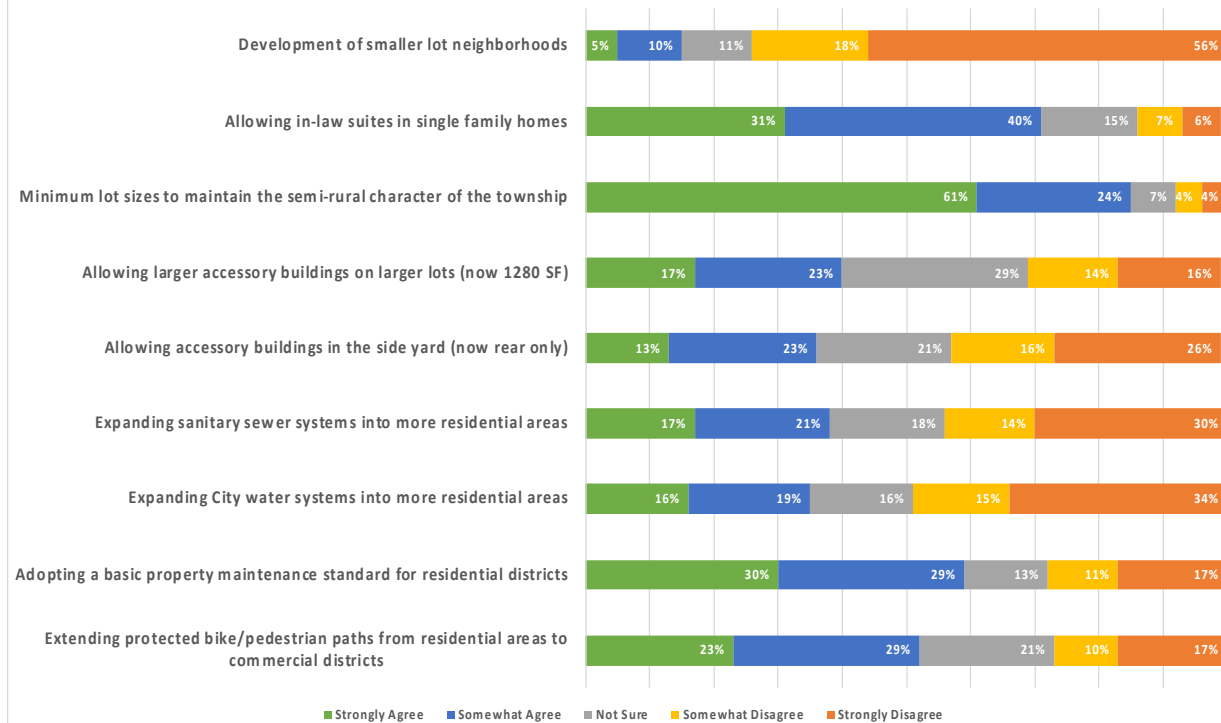
Responses addressing accessory buildings were more evenly distributed across respondents’ opinions. These statements addressed support for larger accessory buildings, and accessory buildings in the side yard.

**Table 13: Residential Areas**

	Strongly Agree (1)	Somewhat Agree (2)	Not Sure (3)	Somewhat Disagree (4)	Strongly Disagree (5)	Total
I support the development of smaller lot neighborhoods	5%	10%	11%	18%	57%	1633
I support allowing in-law suites in single family homes	31%	40%	15%	7%	6%	1634
I support minimum lot sizes to maintain the semi-rural characteristics of the township	61%	24%	7%	4%	4%	1622
I support allowing larger accessory buildings on larger lots (The current maximum is 1280 square feet for all lot sizes)	17%	23%	29%	14%	16%	1625
I support allowing accessory buildings in the side yard (Currently accessory buildings on residential lots are only allowed in the rear yard)	13%	23%	21%	16%	26%	1625
I support expanding sanitary sewer systems into more residential areas	17%	21%	18%	14%	30%	1639
I support expanding City water systems into more residential areas	16%	19%	16%	15%	34%	1636
I support adopting a basic property maintenance standards for residential districts	30%	29%	13%	11%	17%	1638
I support extending protected bike/pedestrian paths from residential areas to the Commercial District	23%	29%	21%	10%	17%	1624



**Figure 5 Development Options for Residential Areas**



*Respondents agreed most strongly with minimum lot sizes; and disagreed most strongly with development of smaller lot neighborhoods, and expanding city water systems into more residential areas.*

## SECTION 4 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

### Question 8: Overall Impression

Respondents were asked an open-ended question about their overall impression of Chester's commercial district. 1,295 respondents answered this question. The two most commonly mentioned subjects, with 41% and 34% of respondents respectively, were appearance/aesthetics of the commercial center, and limiting development of it.

Respondents who mentioned aesthetics were universally in agreement that appearance of the commercial center was not good, using a range of adjectives to give their impressions, from "ugly" to "hodgepodge" to "junky" to "old" and "run down". In particular, poor maintenance and lack of cohesive design were cited. Respondents had a wide range of suggestions about how property needed to be maintained, upgraded and improved.

Most of the comments about development of the town center expressed an interest in it staying the same size. A number of respondents noted that filling vacancies should be prioritized over building new spaces.

About 300 respondents (23%) used terms like "fine", "OK", "satisfied", and "adequate" when responding to this question.

The fourth and fifth most mentioned topics were the disorganized nature of the commercial area and traffic/mobility (both at about 16% respondents). In the former, a range of adjectives were used to describe the unplanned nature of the commercial area. Traffic/mobility concerns centered around traffic flow, excessive speed, accidents at key intersections, and pedestrian and bicycle access.

Finally, 15% of respondents to this question mentioned concerns related to vacancy of buildings and commercial spaces. There was a strong sentiment that every effort should be made to improve building quality and attract businesses to fill vacant spaces and buildings.

Additional topics with fewer responses included housing choices, planning, township services, a community center, and nuisances. See the full responses in the Appendix for details.

***What is your overall impression of the Commercial District? (open-ended; most mentions)***

- **Appearance/Aesthetics 41%**
  - Many ways of saying “ugly, not good, junky, old, rundown”
  - Many mentions of poor maintenance
- **Limiting development of commercial center 34%**
  - Keep it the same size
  - Fill vacancies first
- **OK, fine, adequate, etc. 23%**
- **Disorderly and disorganized 16%**
- **Traffic is a concern 16%**

**Question 9: Commercial District Development Options**

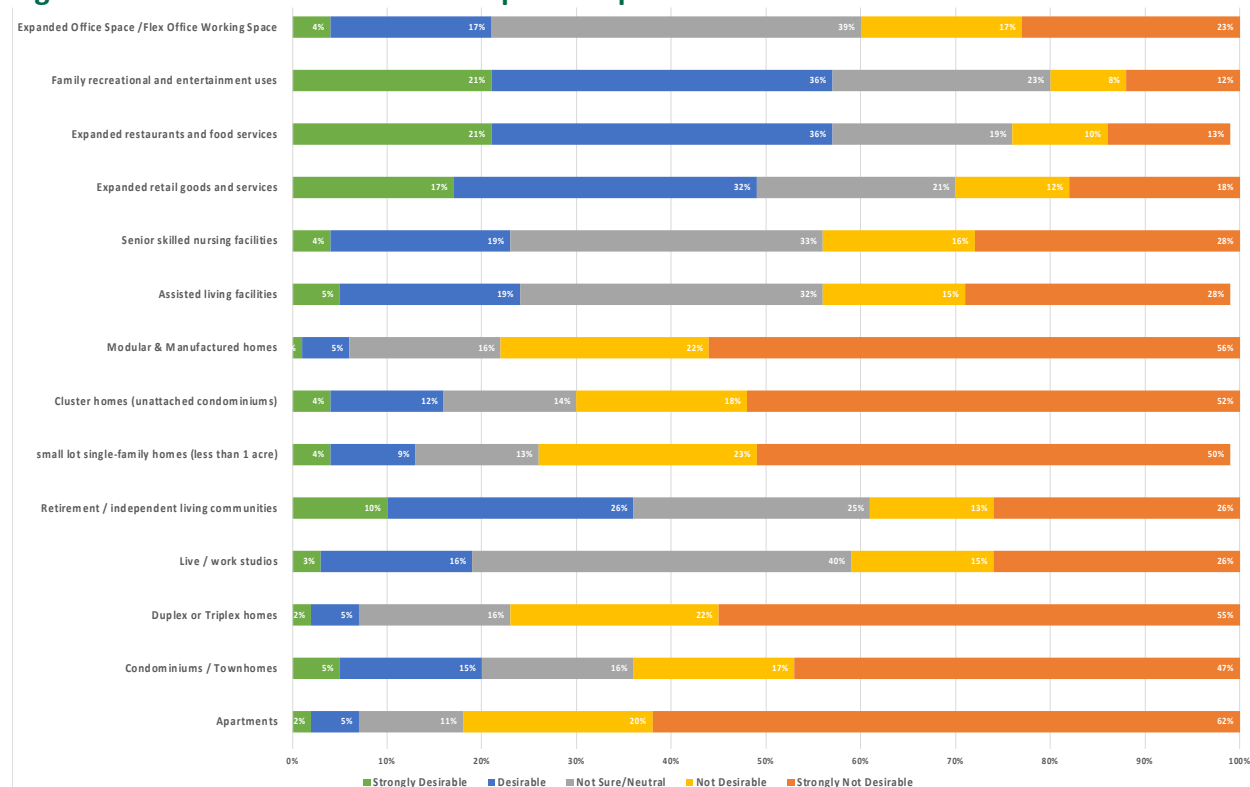
When considering the development or redevelopment of the Chester commercial district, respondents were asked to rate a number of development options and uses based on their desirability for the township.

Only two choices were identified as being desirable or strongly desirable by respondents. Both expanded restaurants and food services, and family recreational and entertainment uses were identified by 57% of respondents as being desirable for the township to consider in the development choices for the commercial district. Of the 14 uses options that were listed in the questionnaire, five (5) were identified by half or more of respondents as being strongly not desirable. Respondents indicated that for the township it is not desirable for them to consider apartment, small lot family homes, duplexes or townhomes, cluster homes, or modular and manufactures homes.

In total 82% responded that it was not desirable or strongly not desirable for apartment to be considered for development in the township commercial district. Further, 78% indicated that it

was not desirable to have modular and manufactured homes in the commercial district. 73% do not want to see small lot single-family homes as part of development considerations.

**Figure 6 Commercial District Development Options**



Respondents found most options “strongly not desirable”, with the strongest reactions to apartments and modular/manufactured homes. Retirement/independent living communities had the most desirability, which was still comparable to the not desirable group at 36% to 39% respectively.

**Table 14: Commercial District Development Options Desirability**

	Strongly Desirable (1)	Desirable (2)	Not Sure or Neutral (3)	Not Desirable (4)	Strongly Not Desirable (5)	Total
Apartments	2%	5%	11%	20%	62%	1614
Condominiums / Townhomes	5%	15%	16%	17%	47%	1606
Duplex or Triplex homes	2%	5%	16%	22%	55%	1592
Live / work studios	3%	16%	40%	15%	26%	1577
Retirement / independent living communities	10%	26%	25%	13%	27%	1603
small lot single-family homes (less than 1 acre)	4%	9%	13%	23%	50%	1603
Cluster homes (unattached condominiums)	4%	12%	14%	18%	52%	1592
Modular & Manufactured homes	1%	5%	16%	22%	56%	1604
Assisted living facilities	5%	19%	32%	15%	28%	1597
Senior skilled nursing facilities	4%	19%	33%	16%	28%	1597
Expanded retail goods and services	17%	32%	21%	12%	18%	1603
Expanded restaurants and food services	21%	36%	19%	10%	13%	1604
Family recreational and entertainment uses	21%	36%	23%	8%	12%	1573
Expanded Office Space / Shared / Flex Office Working Space	4%	17%	39%	17%	23%	1597

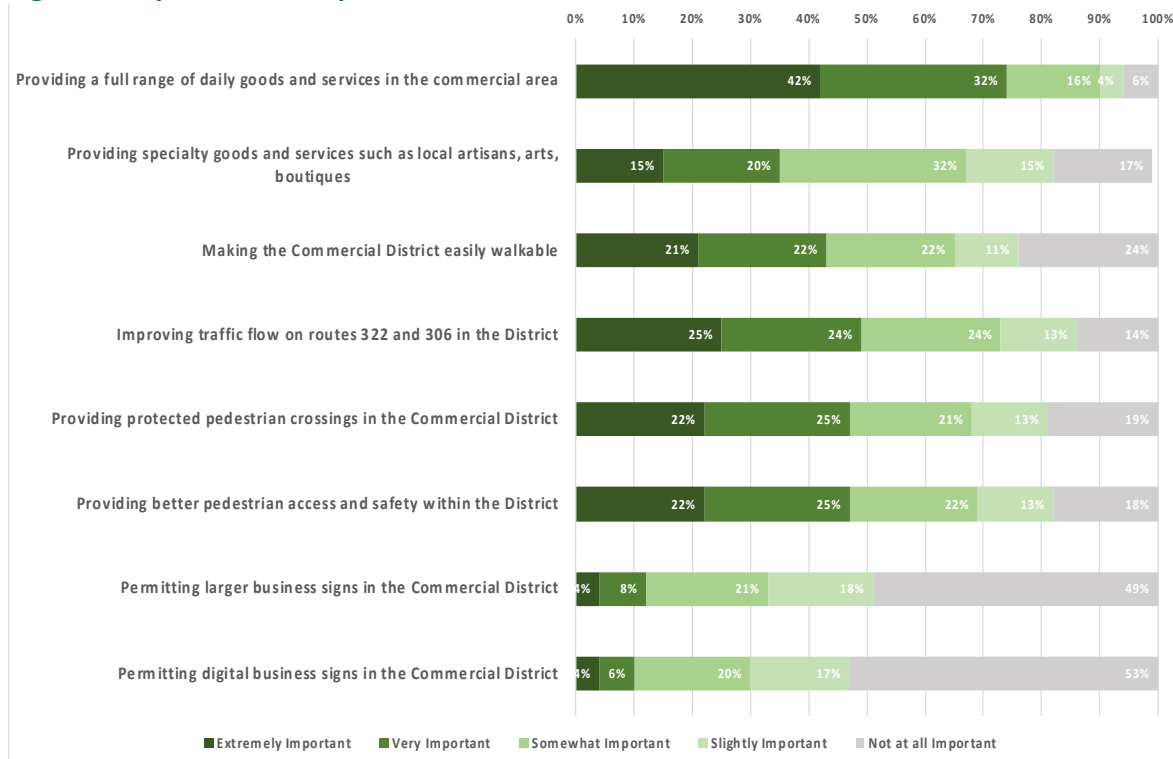
### Question 10: Looking Forward (Commercial District)

Respondents were asked to rank the importance of various options for the future of the Commercial District. While 42% of respondents indicated that it was extremely important that the township is able to provide a full range of daily goods and services in the commercial district, a significant number indicated that it was not at all important that the township permit businesses operating in the commercial district to have larger signs (49%) or to allow for digital signage (54%). There was not strong consensus either for feeling that it was extremely important nor for not being at all important on the other aspects of the commercial district, such as the need for providing specialty goods and services.

**Table 15: Looking Forward in the Commercial District**

	Extremely Important (1)	Very Important (2)	Somewhat Important (3)	Slightly Important (4)	Not at all Important (5)	Total
Providing a full range of daily goods and services in the commercial area (such as grocery, hardware, drug store, dry cleaning, coffee shop, bank, shipping/delivery, fitness, and beauty/barber)	42%	32%	16%	4%	6%	1609
Providing specialty goods and services such as local artisans, arts/hobby, clothing and boutiques in the Commercial District	15%	20%	32%	15%	17%	1628
Making the Commercial District easily walkable	21%	22%	22%	11%	24%	1612
Improving traffic flow on routes 322 and 306 in the Commercial District	25%	24%	24%	13%	15%	1625
Providing protected pedestrian crossings in the Commercial District	22%	25%	21%	13%	19%	1613
Providing better pedestrian access and safety within the Commercial District	22%	25%	22%	13%	19%	1622
Permitting businesses operating in the Commercial District to have larger signs	4%	8%	21%	18%	49%	1621
Permitting businesses operating in the Commercial District to have digital signs	4%	6%	20%	17%	54%	1614

**Figure 7 Importance of Options for the Commercial District's Future**



Respondents felt most strongly about the importance of providing a full range of goods and services in the commercial area.

### Question 11: Commercial District Character

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with seven statements concerning the character of the commercial district. Between 1596 and 1622 respondents answered this question, with some respondents not addressing every statement.

On six of the statements, at least 50% of respondents indicated they “strongly agreed” or “somewhat agreed”. The strongest response was to the statement “The commercial district should have a quaint small town feel”, with 85% in agreement (52% “strongly agree” and 33% somewhat agree). Other topics addressed support for adoption of a property maintenance standard (44%/35%), landscape and tree planting standards (43%/32%), architectural building standards (41%/30%), and strengthening the identity of the town center (35%/35%). Support for dedicated ingress and egress lanes also fell into this category (22%/29%), with an additional 29% unsure.

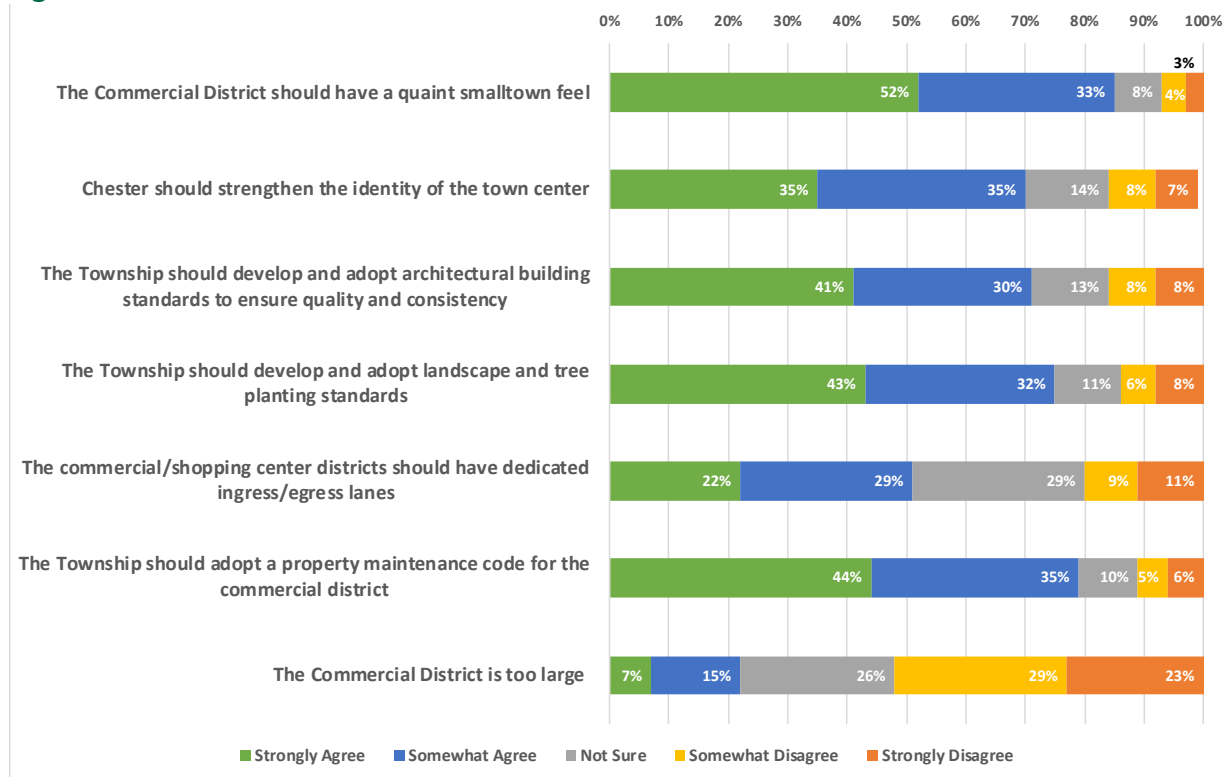
Disagreement was somewhat strong for one statement, “The Commercial District is too large”. For that statement, 52% somewhat disagreed or strongly disagreed (29% and 23% respectively), with an additional 26% unsure. This response is ambiguous in light of open-ended responses to Question 8, where only about 23% noted that the district is just fine as it is. It is possible that this question asked for a simple assessment, where the open-ended responses allowed for the

more nuanced response, where people were concerned about appearance more than size, and preferred that vacant spaces be filled before new ones were developed.

**Table 16: Commercial District Character**

	Strongly Agree (1)	Somewhat Agree (2)	Not Sure (3)	Somewhat Disagree (4)	Strongly Disagree (5)	Total
The Commercial District should have a quaint small-town feel	52%	33%	8%	4%	3%	1610
Chester should strengthen the identity of the town center	35%	35%	15%	8%	7%	1604
The Township should develop and adopt architectural building standards to ensure quality and consistency in design of the Commercial District	41%	30%	13%	8%	8%	1615
The Township should develop and adopt landscape and tree planting standards to help improve the character of the Commercial District	43%	32%	11%	6%	8%	1623
The commercial/shopping center districts should have dedicated ingress and egress lanes	22%	29%	29%	9%	11%	1596
The Township should adopt a property maintenance standard for the commercial district	44%	35%	10%	5%	6%	1622
The Commercial District is too large	7%	15%	26%	29%	23%	1616

**Figure 8 Commercial District Character**



Respondents agreed most strongly with the idea that the Commercial District should have a quaint small town feel. They disagreed most strongly with the statement that the Commercial District is too large.

## SECTION 5 TOWNSHIP SERVICES

The following addresses the quality and future planning for township services.

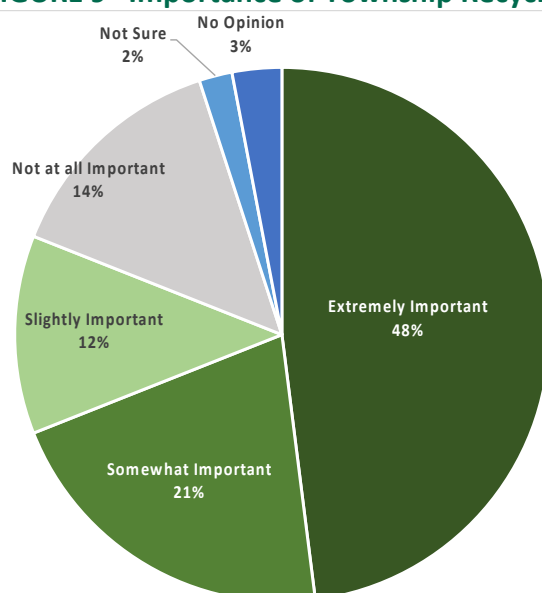
### Question 12: Township Recycle Park

**Table 17: Importance of Township Recycle Park**

	Percent	Number
<b>Extremely Important</b>	48%	755
<b>Somewhat Important</b>	21%	336
<b>Slightly Important</b>	12%	195
<b>Not at all Important</b>	14%	223
<b>Not Sure</b>	2%	30
<b>No Opinion</b>	3%	41
<b>Total</b>	100%	1580

69% of respondents felt the township recycle park was extremely or somewhat important. Only 19% felt that it is not at all important, were not sure, or had no opinion. This information should be noted along with a number of open-ended responses which stated that the recycle park needed to be cleaned up (see Appendix).

**FIGURE 9 Importance of Township Recycle Park**



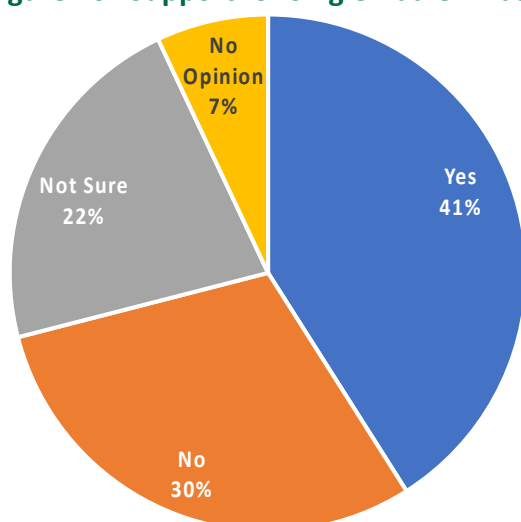
### Question 13: Waste Removal

**Table 18: Support for Single Hauler Waste Removal**

	Percent	Number
<b>Yes</b>	41%	644
<b>No</b>	30%	481
<b>Not Sure</b>	22%	348
<b>No Opinion</b>	7%	117
<b>Total</b>	100%	1590

Respondents were somewhat divided about whether they supported the idea of a single-hauler waste removal service. 41% answered yes, 30% answered not, and 29% answered “not sure” or “no opinion”. Further discussion is likely warranted with Township residents on this question.

**Figure 10 Support for Single Hauler Waste Removal**



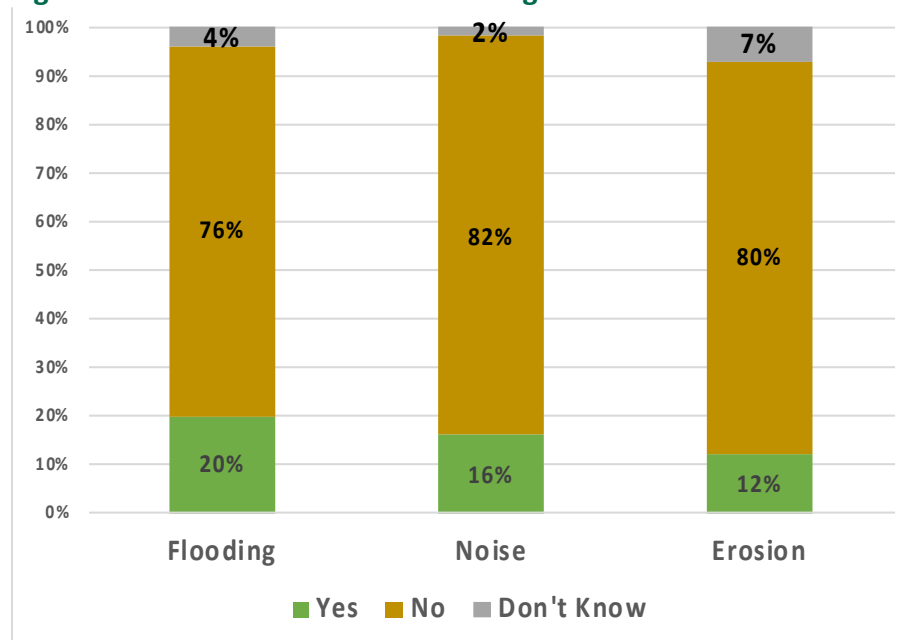
### Question 14: Environmental Issues

**Table 19: Environmental Issues**

	Yes (1)	No (2)	Don't Know (3)	Total
<b>Flooding is an issues in my neighborhood</b>	19.66%	75.86%	4.48%	1607
<b>Noise is an issue in my neighborhood</b>	16.32%	81.99%	1.69%	1599
<b>Erosion is an issue in my neighborhood</b>	12.42%	80.14%	7.44%	1586

Flooding, noise issues and erosion do not appear to be concerns for the majority of township residents who responded to the questionnaire.



**Figure 11 Environmental Issues in Neighborhoods****Question 15: Possible New Facilities/Services****Table 20: Township Facilities/Services Ranking**

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
<b>New Fire Station</b>	28%	24%	20%	12%	16%	484
<b>New Police Station</b>	36%	25%	19%	7%	13%	530
<b>New Road Department Building</b>	15%	15%	20%	17%	34%	459
<b>New Town Hall</b>	18%	21%	13%	23%	25%	451
<b>New Township Complex (Townhall, Fire, Police)</b>	63%	9%	9%	5%	14%	659

In this question, respondents were asked to rank their top choices for new township service buildings from 1 (highest ranking) to 5 (lowest ranking). Note that only 451 to 659 (27 to 40% of 1,654 respondents) answered this question. Of those who responded to each question, 63% gave the highest ranking to a new township complex, with a police station (36%), and fire station (28%) following. Due to the low response rate to this question, the non-statistical validity of the questionnaire, and the high cost of these items, further discussion is most definitely recommended.

## Ranking of Possible New Township Service Buildings

*Note that only 27% to 40% of respondents ranked these items – more conversation is in order.*

- **New township complex 63%**
- **New police station 36%**
- **New fire station 28%**
- **New town hall 18%**
- **New road department building 15%**

**Table 21: Community Enhancements Ranking**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Park and Recreation Space	32%	17%	15%	13%	13%	5%	4%	1023
Revitalize Commercial District	35%	20%	16%	9%	10%	7%	3%	1032
Economic and Business Development	23%	17%	14%	14%	13%	9%	10%	928
Streetscape beautification project on Routes 306 and 322	34%	17%	17%	10%	11%	6%	4%	1085
Biking and hiking trails	26%	19%	15%	11%	12%	9%	7%	901
Community Center	28%	12%	15%	13%	11%	9%	12%	920
Sidewalks on Route 306 and 322	27%	13%	13%	10%	12%	11%	14%	899

In this question, respondents were also asked to rank their top 5 community enhancement priorities from 1 (highest) to 5 (lowest). Note that some respondents also ranked numbers 6 and 7. Enhancements receiving the highest ranking included revitalizing the commercial district (35%), streetscape beautification on routes 306 and 322 (34%), and park and recreation space (32%). A community center and sidewalks on Routes 306 and 322 followed at 28% and 27% respectively. Past the highest ranking, respondents were more or less evenly divided among the other rankings, ranging from 3% to 20%, with most rankings falling between 9 and 14% of respondents to each item.

## Community Enhancement Priorities Receiving the Highest Ranking (5)

- **Revitalizing the Commercial District 35%**
- **Streetscape enhancement on 306 and 322 34%**
- **Park and Recreation Space 32%**
- **Community Center 28%**
- **Sidewalks on 306 and 322 27%**
- **Biking and Hiking Trails 26%**
- **Economic and Business Development 23%**

*Only 57% to 65% of respondents ranked these items*

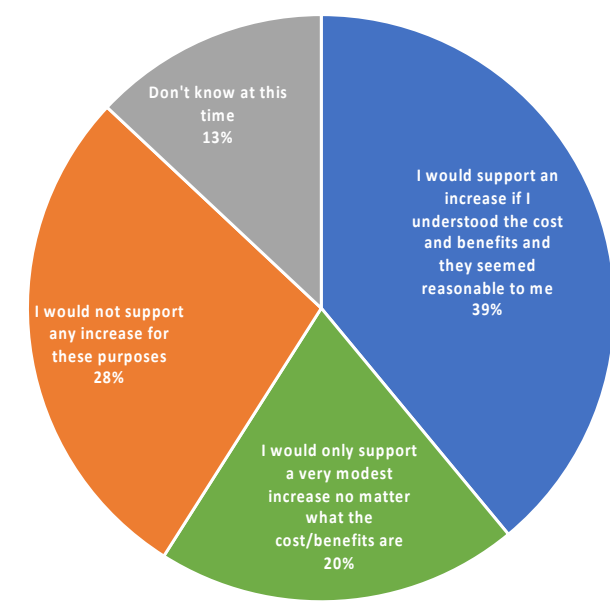
### Question 16: Cost of New Facilities/Services

Respondents were asked, "To what extent would you support an increase in tax dollars to support your highest ranked items?" The largest proportion of respondents (39%) indicated an interest in more information on the cost and benefits, and would be in support if they seemed reasonable. Since 28% would not support an increase for any reason, and 20% would support only a modest increase (48% total), a higher-level increase is not supportable by respondents overall. More discussion would certainly be needed, including more detailed information about choices, and exploration of ways to limit any increases.

**Table 22: Cost of New Facilities Ranking**

	Percent	Number
I would support an increase if I understood the cost and benefits and they seemed reasonable to me	39%	606
I would only support a very modest increase no matter what the cost/benefits are	20%	309
I would not support any increase for these purposes	28%	444
Don't know at this time	13%	207
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1566</b>

**Figure 12 Support for Cost of New Facilities**



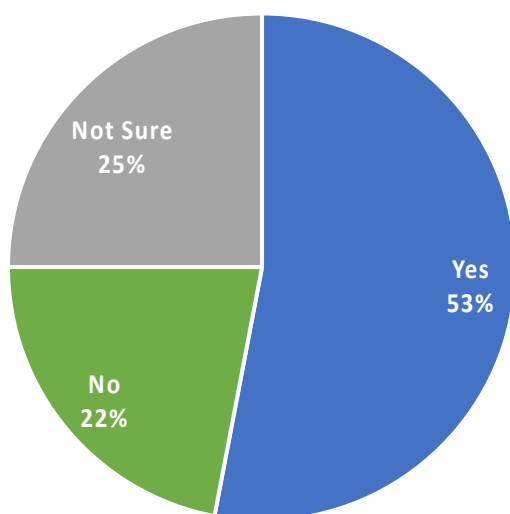
### Question 17: Comprehensive Planning

After an explanation of what a comprehensive plan is, respondents were asked, “Based on the results of this questionnaire, do you support the Township exploring options for developing a comprehensive plan?” 53% answered “yes” to this question, with 22% answering “no” and 25% answering “not sure”. More information about a comprehensive plan would be recommended to help residents understand its purpose and benefits, and the value received for the cost.

**Table 23: Comprehensive Planning Ranking**

	Percent	Number
<b>Yes</b>	53%	836
<b>No</b>	22%	343
<b>Not Sure</b>	25%	388
<b>Total</b>	100%	1567

**Figure 13 Support for the Township Exploring Options for a Comprehensive Plan**



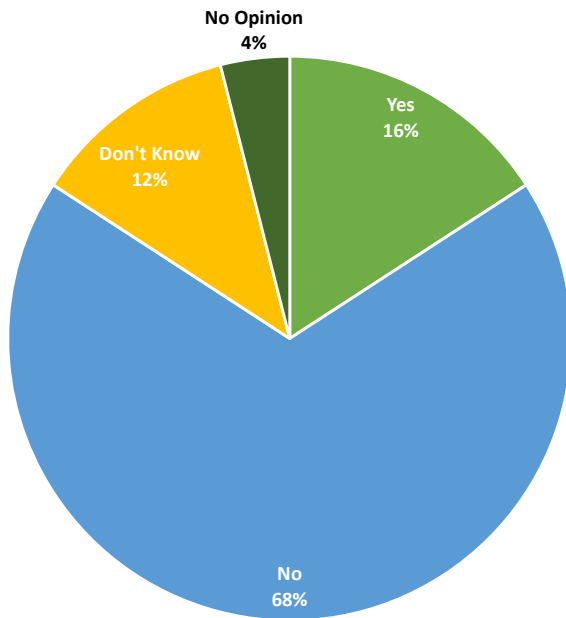
### Question 18: Government Structure

**Table 24: Government Structure Ranking**

	Percent	Number
<b>Yes</b>	16%	253
<b>No</b>	69%	1103
<b>Don't Know</b>	12%	191
<b>No Opinion</b>	4%	63
<b>Total</b>	100%	1610

After an explanation of expanded municipal services and the tax increases often involved in providing them, respondents were asked, “would you support the Township researching the benefits and costs of becoming a City?”. Respondents were overwhelmingly not in support of this idea, with 69% answering “no”. Only 16% responded “Yes”; the remaining 16% responded either “Don’t Know” or “No opinion”. It is clear that respondents would not support the Township moving forward with such an exploration.

**Figure 14 Support for Researching Becoming a City**



### Question 19: Additional Comments

At the end of the questionnaire, respondents were asked to provide any additional comments they might have. 759 respondents answered this question. The most often-mentioned subjects included development concerns, appearance/aesthetics, traffic and mobility, keeping taxes low/managing budgets well, housing choices, and township services. Additional topics with fewer responses included a community center, nuisances, planning, and government/trustees.

407 (54%) of respondents to this question mentioned development, change and expansion in their comments. These responses tended to be longer and more eloquent about what respondents desired. The majority of respondents felt that Chester’s small town scale should be left as it is, without extensive additional development. A few had a desire for some change.

156 (21%) of respondents to this question mentioned topics related to appearance and aesthetics in their comments. These comments were focused on property maintenance and appearance. A number expressed a desire for a more attractive town center.

147 (19%) of respondents to this question mentioned subjects related to traffic, roads, pedestrian and bike access, and mobility in their comments. Speed and near-accidents at intersections are concerns in specific places. Respondents appear to be divided between those who don't feel sidewalks and bicycle access are needed or worthwhile, and those who would like to see them put in place.

137 (18%) of respondents mentioned subjects related to taxes, and managing township revenues and expenses. The majority of respondents felt that taxes should be kept low, and that township budget management could be improved. Many felt that road maintenance should be a priority. There were a few who acknowledged that higher taxes could be justified for better services.

110 (14%) of respondents mentioned subjects related to housing choices. Respondents are divided between those who would like more housing choices, especially for seniors and downsizers, and those who would like the township to remain the same with single family lots.

87 (11%) of respondents mentioned subjects related to services provided by the Township or in the Township, such police, fire, trash pickup, and snow removal. In general, a majority of respondents are positive about police and fire services. Some responses addressed ideas for cost savings on Township services. Individuals had a wide range of specific opinions and ideas – it will be important for leaders to read the full responses. See the Appendix.

**Additional Notes Across All Open-Ended Questions.** As reviewers were reading through the responses, a few topics stood out as being mentioned across all four questions.

**“Rural”.** In Question 1, which asked respondents what they liked best about Chester, 463 of 1,354 in all, or 34%, of respondents included the word “rural” in their response. “Rural” was mentioned an additional 142 times across the other three questions.

**“Schools”.** In Question 1, 204 respondents, or 15%, mentioned “schools” among the things they liked best about Chester. In contrast, in Question 5, which asked what could be done to improve quality of life in Chester, 40 people responded “schools”. The majority of these identified the schools as needing improvement.

**“Gun” and “Shoot”.** These two words were mentioned 80 times across all four of the open-ended questions. 78 of the comments were negative, complaining about the noise and disruption of peaceful outdoor life. Many were concerned about the safety of guns being discharged in neighborhoods. Two responses mentioned that they enjoyed shooting guns in their yards. One response mentioned that Bainbridge Township handles this issue well; it may be worth exploring how other rural communities address this concern.

## CONCLUSIONS

As outlined in this report, several messages come through very clearly from Chester Township respondents. They strongly prefer Chester's rural/small town atmosphere, and would like that to remain. They are not interested in expansion of the commercial district, or the addition of more dense housing options that would change the character of the community, such as townhomes, duplexes or apartments. They love the peace and quiet, space and privacy, and green landscape of the community, and would like that to remain and continue to be protected.

On the other hand, respondents had a great deal to say about the quality of life in Chester. In particular, they are concerned that the commercial district is cluttered and unattractive, with many vacant spaces, and overall declining property maintenance, on which they recommend the township take action. They are in support of parks, recreation and trails. Traffic flow and road maintenance are a concern, creating congestion and safety issues for auto traffic, bicycles, and pedestrians. There is support for the idea of improvements such as a community center, community activities, and township services complex; however there is significant concern about costs that would increase taxes, encouraging keeping improvements modest and within a good cost/benefit balance.

## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX A: QUESTIONNAIRE INSTRUMENT

See the following pages for the questionnaire instrument used in the first mailing. The only change in the second mailing was to extend the due date to June 18, 2020.



## APPENDIX B: OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES ANALYSIS

**Introduction.** Four questions in the questionnaire were open-ended, to which many respondents wrote more subjective and qualitative responses. The following is a summary created using key word text analysis technology. The full content of responses is included in a separate Appendix.

**Methodology.** With a total of 4,501 responses across four questions, many of which addressed multiple topics within one response, it can be daunting to analyze the overall content of those responses. To evaluate the general “gist” of responses to each question, as we reviewed the responses, we identified common topics and themes, and assigned key words to them as filters. Any topic mentioned in 10% or more of responses to the specific question was summarized below; or the top ten mentioned topics were included, if the list over 10% was longer than ten. Some additional notes were made about individual key words across all questions.

### **Q1: Chester’s Best Attributes. *What do you like best about living in Chester Township?***

1,354 respondents answered this question. The most prevalent topics discussed related to Chester’s small town, rural character, while remaining close to amenities, especially shopping and highways. Other areas mentioned by a large proportion of respondents included large lots and open character, privacy and space, friendly people and sense of community, peace and quiet, the schools, sense of safety, and police/fire/township services. Below is more detail on the top ten topics mentioned by at least 10% of respondents. Additional topics with fewer responses included beautiful landscape, nature and wildlife; low cost and low taxes; park and recreation opportunities; activities and programs.

**Topic 1: Rural/small town character.** 835 respondents (62% of respondents to this question) offered reasons related to rural and/or small-town character as things they liked best about living in Chester Township.

Key words:

Rural	Congested	idyllic
Density	Crowded	atmosphere
hometown	City	countryside
Urban	Country	
Congestion	small town	

Typical responses included:

“It has a friendly small-town atmosphere – it is home.”

“Living away from the city’s hustle and bustle”.

“Rural – rustic”.

“No congestion or urban tumult”.

“The country-like setting – peaceful, quiet.”

“Small town, semi-rural.”

“country feel yet close to city. That it's a township and not a city.”

**Topic 2: Location and nearness to amenities.** 403 (30%) of respondents to this question mentioned Chester’s location, and nearness or ease of access to amenities such as shopping, health care, schools, highways, ease of commute, etc. as among the things they liked best about living in Chester Township.

Key words:

Shopping	Proximity	Near
Amenities	Freeway	Nearby
Convenient	Highway	Far
Convenience	Access	Artery
Location	Medical	Arteries
Close	Commute	

Typical responses included:

“living in the country yet close to shopping.”

“Living in the country, close to plenty of shopping, good schools, library, etc. Local shopping, banks, church where people know you!”

“location -can get anywhere in Cleveland in about a half an hour or so”

“Good location - like living in the country but having the convenience of the city and surrounded by great communities.”

“Close to shopping options without the traffic congestion being part of our daily life”

That we are also close to good shopping - Eastgate, Goldengate and the freeway -271 makes this an excellent place.

Convenience to hospital and shopping.

**Topic 3: House or property.** 362 (27%) of respondents to this question mentioned their appreciation of the characteristics of their home and property, particularly larger lots and open land.

Key words:

House	Lot	land
Property	Home	

Typical responses included:

“I love my large house and wooded yard. I also like the subdivision in which I live.”

“Our street. Our home.”

“Nice house and property - first we lived in a smaller house for 14 yrs. Then built a larger house in the same neighborhood.”

“We like the amount of privacy we get from having more land.”

“The unique houses, properties and roaming room is wonderful.”

"Quiet, safety, peaceful, larger lots"

"The semi-rural atmosphere. Woods everywhere, parks and yards, space between homes, great schools, country feel to it."

"The small town and country feel. We moved here for more land and a quieter life."

"Large lots while still having the ability to have nice neighborhoods."

"Owning beautiful property"

**Topic 4: People and community.** 361 (27%) of respondents to this question cited the positive characteristics of residents and sense of community.

Key words:

People	Community	Neighbor
Friend	Helpful	Neighbors
Unfriendly	Kind	Rude
Friendly	Kindness	Family

Typical responses included:

"People are friendly, helpful, and kind."

"Family oriented/friendly."

"We like it here because of the friendly feeling with neighbors and businesses we visit."

"Friendliness of a smaller town where you know your neighbors."

"People always smile and wave hello"

"Most people are kind and friendly."

"Semi-rural, space, peaceful, friendly neighbors, strong community, great school system".

"strong sense of community"

**Topic 5: Peace and quiet.** 303 (22%) of respondents to this question cited peace and quiet among the things they like best about living in Chester.

Key words:

Quiet	Noise	Tranquility
Congested	Peace	peaceful
Congestion	Tranquil	
Beautiful	Tranquility	

Typical responses:

"I moved to Chesterland because of the quiet uncongested life here."

"Peace and quiet. Living on a quiet cul-de-sac street."

"To raise our kids in safe and quiet area. "

"The country like setting.... peaceful, quiet."

"It is a quiet, peaceful place to live!"

There were a few mentions of shooting and firearm noise as a disturbance to peace and quiet:

“Usually quiet except for target-practicing shooters.”

**Topic 6: Privacy and space.** Closely related to home and property, 300 (22%) of respondents to this question cited spaciousness and privacy as among the things they liked best about living in Chester. Many specifically mentioned large lots as the source of this spaciousness.

Key words:

Privacy	large lots	spacious
Space	distance	open

Typical responses:

“The houses are spaced far apart, so there is a lot of privacy”

“I like that my neighbors are distanced and the quiet”

“Privacy, peace and quiet”

“Large properties with lots of yard space, not too close to neighbors”

“The land space between homes and nature”

“Greenery and distance between properties”

“Open spaces, larger lots”

“We appreciate having a larger lot”

“Rural, quiet, small shops, large lots, well water, safety”

**Topic 7: Schools and children.** 247 (18%) of respondents to this question cited the schools and a good place to raise children.

Key words:

School	Kids	Education
Schools	Family	Educational
Children	Families	

Typical responses:

“I moved here in 1998 to get my kids in a better school”

“Chesterland is friendly community where great efforts are made looking after children and senior and their needs”

“excellent schools”

“To raise our kids in safe and quiet area”

“Family oriented/friendly. Focused on education”

“Good school system”

“good schools, library, etc.”

“Low crime, feeling safe, great schools, such a great place to raise a family”

“known for good schools”

**Topic 8: Safety** 224 (17%) of respondents to this question cited safety as one of the things they like best about living in Chester.

Key words:

Safe  
Safety  
Crime

Typical responses:

"Quiet and safe atmosphere"  
"Safe/low crime"  
"Safe neighborhoods!"  
"Very safe place to live"  
"The neighborhoods are safe"  
"Knowing we are safe in a small community"  
"Quiet and relatively safe area"

**Topic 9: Access to local shopping and dining opportunities.** 187(13.8%) of respondents to this question cited specific local shopping and dining opportunities among things they like best about living in Chester.

Keywords:

Restaurant	Shops	Businesses
Grocery	Shopping	Store
Hardware	Drugstore	Stores
Shop	Business	food

Typical responses included:

"Small convenient business center we have now."  
"shopping, church, gas stations, drug store"  
"convenience of township, shopping, business, and restaurants"  
"The availability of services and business is good."  
"close to grocery/drug stores"  
"many great small businesses"  
"small local businesses"  
"the restaurants are great, the variety of services"  
"has shopping for things needed close by"  
"we can access quality shopping and restaurants in surrounding communities"

**Topic 10: Township and services.** 170 (13%) of respondents to this question cited township government and services as among the things they like about living in Chester. Within this topic, police and fire services were cited more often than any other terms.

Key words:

Police	Government	Rubbish
Fire	Trash	Recycling
Township	Service	Recycle

Snow

Typical responses:

“good police/fire/EMS”

“police response very good”

“Public services: police/fire”

“excellent police dept”

“The emergency and roads services are outstanding”

“feel safe and protected by police and first responders and fire dept.”

“non-intrusive government”

“Safety is not a concern as police and fire do an outstanding job”

**Q3: Reasons for Living in Chester, “other”.** This question was multiple choice, but had an open-ended option for “other – please specify”. 143 respondents filled in this option as an alternative to one of the specified choices. Of the following key words, “near” or “close” or “location” received the highest level of mentions, at 24. “shopping” and “cost” or “price” or “afford” both received six mentions. “tax” received four mentions. The other key words received two mentions each. This confirms the findings in Question 1

Key words:

“rural”

“near” or “close” or “location”

“school”

“shopping”

“family”

“cost” or “price” or “afford”

“tax”

**Q5: Improving Quality of Life. *Is there anything that Chester Township could/should do that would improve your quality of life in Chester?***

1,024 respondents answered this question. More than any other question, respondents had specific suggestions and responses that were less defined as to category. It will be important for leaders and residents to read all suggestions for good ideas related to quality of life in Chester. See the full content at the end of this Appendix.

The most common topics, with over 30% of respondents mentioning them, were roads/access/mobility, and stores/shopping. In the roads/mobility category, respondents were concerned about improving traffic flow, slowing down speeders on main roads and side roads, installing traffic signals and turning lanes, and adding bike paths and sidewalks. In the shopping category, the most responses addressed the need for a better grocery store. Some mentioned the need for more restaurants. At 24%, the topic of growth and development came in third, most responses focused on the desire to keep the township rural. The fourth most mentioned

topic was a community center or the downtown, at 20%; most responses desired places for people to gather.

The fifth most mentioned topic was township services, with most respondents feeling that police and fire services were good. Negative comments surrounded the recycling center's appearance, and roads needing repair. Finally, 130 (13%) of respondents to this question mentioned nuisances that they wished could be abated. Most common of these were noise related to off-road vehicles and firearms, property maintenance concerns, and open burning/air quality.

Additional topics with fewer responses included planning and the questionnaire itself; keeping taxes low and managing budgets well; meeting seniors' needs; managing water and flooding; trustees; vacancy and empty buildings.

**Topic 1: Roads and Mobility.** 325 (32%) of respondents to this question had suggestions that related to transportation, roads, traffic, bikes and pedestrians. Many comments related to improving traffic flow, slowing down speeders on main roads and side roads, installing traffic signals and turning lanes, and adding bike paths and sidewalks. There were also many comments about noise and disturbance related to speeding dirt bikes on back roads.

Key words:

Congested	Walkability	Sidewalk
Congestion	Walk	Drive
Traffic	Bike	Parking
Road	Bicycle	Speed
Access	Street	"slow down"
Pedestrian	Crosswalk	signal
Walkable	Accident	

Typical responses included:

More sidewalks would also be nice

Road improvements

Paved biking paths would be great.

Traffic patterns on Mayfield & 306 Both could use turning lanes, especially during rush hours.

Crack down on speeders on back roads

Consider traffic light on 306 at the entrance to Geauga Plaza

I wish it was quiet. I don't like when the kids are riding their dirt bikes or 4 wheelers on residential streets

**Topic 2: Stores and shopping.** 314 (31%) of respondents to this question mentioned shopping needs and businesses in their suggestions. A large number of comments related to improving grocery quality and availability.

Key words:

Restaurant	Shopping	Stores
Commercial	Drugstore	Food
Grocery	Business	Giant Eagle
Hardware	Businesses	
Shop	Store	

Typical responses included:

improve or get a better grocery store

Coffee options ... More mom pop shops

have more of a shopping district with town center.

Better retail opportunities - national chain restaurants are some far away

More food/shopping options in town.

Improve the quality of shopping and restaurants, Stop building empty building and use what we have for shopping. Improve the quality of our grocery store.

Better grocery store, places to eat, UPS store, better dog food store

Better grocery options - more organic and fresh produce

**Topic 3: Growth, change and development.** 250 (24%) of respondents to this question had suggestions related to overall development in Chester. An important key word in these responses was “keep” – many respondents identified things that they would like to keep the same. However, there were also many suggestions related to improving the town center, providing housing for seniors, or providing housing options.

Key words:

Keep	Small	Sprawl
Change	Dense	Leave
Expand	City	status quo
Expanding	Urban	stay
Expansion	Rural	density
Develop	Country	visionary
Developing	Grow	
Development	Growth	

Typical responses:

Stop commercial expansion as there are many vacant areas!

More rural. No big retail or development.

Keep the small-town feel. Keep big businesses out! Be mindful of zoning

Offer housing style living for over 55 residents who want to stay in Chesterland.

Maintain rural atmosphere

Keep the area how it is and do not overdevelop community

Yes, how about some improvements. We have been here for 44 years and nothing hardly has changed. They haven't done anything to improve Chesterland.

Improve the way downtown looks. Don't change the township.

Keep it green



Emulate other cities that have activities, parks, and plans to make it a better place to live.....trails, gatherings, shopping, restaurants.

Control signage. Limit small lot development. Get rid of the idea of a town center.

Keep it the same.

**Topic 4: Community or Downtown Center.** 202 (20%) of respondents to this question mentioned a community center and/or the downtown as a gathering place in their suggestions for improving quality of life in Chester. The downtown center and its role in providing places to gather were also mentioned.

Key words:

Church	Services	events
Activities	Library	pool
Activity	center	gym
Program	senior	
Service	senior	

Typical responses:

Rec center - Build one!

Community center and pool.

We need a community center to use for parties, activities.

It would be great if Chesterland planned more community events - summer cookouts, movie night in the park, community carnival, parades, fireworks - things that bring people and families together.

A community center for everyone - not just senior with events - dance lessons, etc.

A rec center would be nice or bowling alley - something to do indoors in the winter.

Community center, public recreation center, public parks, nicer center of town

Provide more community activities.

More families would like to live in Chester but there are no real family activities (community pool, etc.)

**Topic 5: Township government and other services.** 148 (14%) of respondents to this question had suggestions related to township government, police, fire, EMS and other services. Trash pickup and recycling were mentioned frequently; in particular the condition of the recycling center attracted a lot of concern.

Key words:

Police	Govern	Rubbish
Fire	Governing	Recycling
EMS	Service	Recycle
Township	Services	Snow
Government	Trash	removal

Typical responses:

I think the township does a good job of providing services without being too intrusive or too expensive - stay that way!

The trustees could work together peacefully and respectfully. Fund police and fire services better. Better management of township funds.

continue good community service; police, fire, roads

Better use of Chester School property - recycle dump looks terrible.

Improved vision of township communicated by leadership

Negotiate a contract with a rubbish hauler (like Russell) to bring down the present high cost.

Maintain a website to better provide information about services that are currently available and timely updates. Road updates.

Better township communication between township and other agencies.

Enforce the recycling. People are dumping trash there.

increase snow plow services, better internet options

Expand materials accepted at recycling park.

**Topic 6: Nuisances.** 130 (13%) of respondents to this question mentioned nuisances that they wished could be abated. Most common of these were noise related to off-road vehicles and firearms, property maintenance concerns, and open burning/air quality.

Key words:

Stop	Noise	Shoot
Problem	Rubbish	Guns
Incident	Plow	Junkyard
Nuisance	Geese	Burning
Junk	Firearm	Enforcement
Restrict	Firearms	drug
Pollution	Shooter	
Dump	Shooting	

Adopt a noise ordinance. We have recreational shooters near us and the constant noise is irritating.

restrict or have guidelines for shooting guns - being considerate of neighbors.

Chester should become stronger with mandatory front yards be maintained better and not let residents use a front yard become a junkyard

Reasonable home maintenance - taking care of your property. No gun shooting in neighborhoods. Limit number of cars on property.

Conduct random inspections of properties well, septic, junk, trash, homes abuses such as burning of garbage and illegal road use of ATVs and derbies needs to be enforced.

Enforce zoning equally, enforce noise, burning.

**Q8: Overall impression of Commercial District.** *Many residents have differing opinions about the commercial area in Chester. Please tell us what is your overall impression of the commercial district in Chester.*

1,295 respondents answered this question. The two most commonly mentioned subjects, with 41% and 34% of respondents respectively, were appearance/aesthetics of the commercial center, and limiting development of it. Respondents who mentioned aesthetics were universally in agreement that appearance of the commercial center was not good, using a range of adjectives to give their impressions, from “ugly” to “hodgepodge” to “junky” to “old” and “run down”. In particular, poor maintenance and lack of cohesive design were cited. Respondents had a wide range of suggestions about how property needed to be maintained, upgraded and improved.

Most of the comments about development of the town center expressed an interest in it staying the same size. A number of respondents noted that filling vacancies should be prioritized over building new spaces. About 300 respondents (23%) used terms like “fine”, “OK”, “satisfied”, and “adequate” when responding to this question.

The fourth and fifth most mentioned topics were the disorganized nature of the commercial area and traffic/mobility (both at about 16% respondents). In the former, a range of adjectives were used to describe the unplanned nature of the commercial area. Traffic/mobility concerns centered around traffic flow, excessive speed, accidents at key intersections, and pedestrian and bicycle access.

Finally, 15% of respondents to this question mentioned concerns related to vacancy of buildings and commercial spaces. There was a strong sentiment that every effort should be made to improve building quality and attract businesses to fill vacant spaces and buildings.

Additional topics with fewer responses included housing choices, planning, township services, a community center, and nuisances.

**Topic 1: Appearance and aesthetics.** 537 (41%) of respondents to this question mentioned aspects of Chester’s commercial area that relate to its appearance and aesthetics. They used a variety of descriptive words to express their opinions. The majority of comments were about the need to upgrade buildings and create more attractive aesthetic appeal. A few respondents liked the appearance as it is, or felt it only needed minor improvement.

Key words:

Appear	Outdated	beautification
Appearance	Landscape	look
Design	Landscaping	standards
Designed	Architect	repair
Maintain	Architecture	repairs
Maintenance	Architectural	run down
Attractive	Clean	scenic
Ugly	beauty	identity
Dirty	beautiful	modernize
Old	beautify	upgrade

visual	aesthetic	pretty
visually	aesthetics	tacky
eclectic	quaint	worn
boring	unattractive	dated
updating	junky	honky
eyesore	unsightly	
aesthetically	sprucing	

Typical responses:

It's a total hodge podge of styles and types. The parkside is beautiful.

The buildings, esp. new ones do not have aesthetic appeal and disregard the 'western preserve' look (eg gates mills or chardon square)

Needs to be updated, more restaurant choices, too many vacant spaces.

Old, not well kept. Many old places, vacant or occupied, need to be kept up better. Business owners should be held to higher standards.

Some areas are run down. No sense of community. No cluster or town center feel which would be desirable.

it's not that nice. Miss the big trees that used to be by lumber yard. It's a cold and ugly part of our town.

Unattractive

Too many old, unkept properties

It is unattractive. Poorly zoned and down on its heels.

Commercial district needs a review of current uses that are outdated to include new uses to make it more desirable for development. Need architectural standards.

Starting to look ugly, yuk dollar store! The auto parts store on Mayfield that's orange and blue ugly! trustees have ... allow the hodgepodge and newer commercial junky buildings .... Stop trying to turn Chester into Mayfield.

Junky, run down and cluttered, embarrassing, no plan and no requirements on upkeep. No sense of arrival into town.

Small town feel is good but needs some uniformity in look/design.

Visually it's a bit run down. I would prefer something more aesthetically pleasing with a quaint small town look/feel. I think we have plenty of stores, gas stations, banks, and restaurants.

Chesterland commercial area buildings in front of WG plaza look messy and junk-y. Our town is looking run down and embarrassing. There are a few nice buildings.

**Topic 2: Development in the commercial center.** 439 (34%) of respondents referred to development issues in their responses. While Topic 1 responses indicated that respondents would like the commercial area to look better, the trend in Topic 2 indicates that they would like it to remain small in scale.

Key words:

Keep	Expanding	Small
Change	Develop	Quiet
Expand	Developing	Noise

Dense	Leave	plazas
City	status quo	strip
Urban	stay	square
Urbanized	density	diversity
Rural	visionary	diversify
Country	vision	diversifying
Countryside	build	redevelop
Grow	improved	redeveloped
Growth	downtown	
Sprawl	plaza	

#### Typical responses:

I think we are building too many office buildings. I live in this area and feel we have pretty much all we need.

I like it small. I can shop anywhere else I need either on-line by phone or with a short drive.

Remove old buildings - Leave Chester small as it has always been. No city.

Small town feel, would not change

It's ok, seems to be trying to develop but could use more clean up

Enough is enough - don't overdo the commercial district - keep us rural as possible.

We find ample selection of most needed services and commodities - if we need big box items they are close by in Cuyahoga County - more commercial development would ruin semi-rural atmosphere that keeps us in Chesterland.

We have enough businesses in Chesterland. The only extra business I would support is a fresh market for produce and local suppliers. If I need any other store I can drive 10 minutes to Chardon or Mayfield. Keep Chesterland a small town.

There are newer structures that don't have tenants and I wonder if we need to build without clear cut need. Also, some of the older structures should be improved or taken down.

Local businesses are struggling now. We do not need anymore. Many vacant stores, small population cannot support plus there is easy access to stores/restaurants close by.

I would like to see the existing commercial buildings utilized before new ones are built. We always seem to have a surplus of vacant spaces. If they could be renovated to attract new tenants, that would be ideal.

I also wish there was more bar/restaurants in the area.

Small town feel. Although I would like to see a few more local type businesses/restaurants. I do not want to see it get out of control with traffic or tourist destination.

looks run down. new building keep going up. but are not being occupied. Old buildings are being left to sit empty and unattended. I wouldn't mind expanding retail and food services on vacant property. But not tearing down untouched land when places are sitting empty.

**Topic 3: It's fine.** 292 (23%) of respondents to this question described Chester's downtown as "fine", "acceptable", "OK", or another positive or good-to-neutral descriptor. Most of these comments were short. Most of those that did add qualifications such as "it's fine, but..." mentioned filling vacant buildings, improving aesthetics, improving traffic flow, or improving the mix of restaurants.

Key words:

Fine	Adequate	Acceptable
OK	Satisfied	Good
Okay	Sufficient	positive

Typical responses:

"Satisfied."

"OK".

"There aren't great options but I am ok w/ it. Shopping is not important to me."

"Looks good to me."

"It is fine the way it is. We do not want to look like Chardon."

"Adequate. There are many empty commercial buildings."

"Ok, not great, but not too bad."

"District is ok, but 306 by Dollar Store ugly"

"Commercial area is sufficient for the small town atmosphere. Do not need large mall areas here."

"The commercial district is fine, but needs greenery. Bloom Bros could update their property. Buildings and properties must be maintained."

"Adequate considering so many empty buildings."

"It's fine but you need more restaurants."

"Seems good to us"

"The basic needs are here - with exception of a complete grocery store and a restaurant or 2 with quiet, comfort, nature adult appeal. There are now more than adequate fast food pizza and loud sports bars/restaurants."

**Topic 4: Clutter and disorganization.** 213 (16%) of respondents to this question mentioned a sense of disorganization, clutter, and a desire for order in the downtown.

Key words:

Organize	disjointed	disconnected
Organized	cohesive	choppy
Disorganized	inconsistent	consolidation
unorganized	uniform	consolidated
haphazard	mismatch	scattered
order	consistency	unified
orderly	consistent	continuity
clutter	hodge podge	mess
cluttered	hodgepodge	

Typical responses:

"eclectic and disjointed"

"I would like the hit and miss expansion to be better planned."

"Not cohesive, too spread out"

"Not well thought out. Not aesthetically pleasing. Not uniform"

"Commercial area is disjointed, not pedestrian friendly."

"Horrible - has no character, one of the ugliest business districts in the area. Zoning is non-existent - buildings have no theme - just hodge podge"

"mismatch of.....no consistency to flow of buildings. It's not impressive. Actually embarrassing."

"I believe it's somewhat haphazard in its development. There is no flow at all. Buildings are all over the place - on the main road and set far back - it is difficult to locate a specific site when not familiar with the area."

"Disorganized, no plan."

"Ugly, disjointed, no plan, every building is different. Area near Caves Rd. is farther from 306 and Mayfield, so that can have gas stations and businesses as is. Close to town hall and parkside should look more cohesive with character. Chardon Square is so much nicer."

**Topic 5: traffic and mobility.** 204 (16%) of respondents to this question mentioned issues related to traffic flow, roads, pedestrian and bicycle access. Respondents had both general and specific suggestions. Many felt that pedestrian and bicycle access needed to be improved; a few disagreed. There were specific suggestions related to traffic signals, lanes and turns.

Key words:

Congested	Walkable	Accident
Congestion	Walkability	Accidents
Traffic	Bike	Sidewalk
Road	Bicycle	Sidewalks
Roads	Street	Drive
Access	Streets	Parking
Pedestrian	Crosswalk	speed

Typical responses:

"Improved pedestrian and bicycle access would be desirable."

"Traffic flow is poor during 'rush hour'. Commercial area is disjointed, not pedestrian friendly."

"1 light adequate but need better turning lanes and 2 lanes in either direction in the commercial district. When I come home from work I can be waiting in line to get to 306 from the McDonalds area just to get to the light. I am an adult cyclist and use 306 ( and sometime Mayfield rd) how can we improve bicycling on these roads to improve rider safety?"

Too spread out. Can't walk from place to place. Need better sidewalk system.

no way to access these businesses without a car. Need sidewalks. - too dangerous to walk as it is now."

We don't need sidewalks, traffic lights on 4 lane highway."

"The traffic is already maxed out so we don't need to draw more traffic."

"Consider sidewalks area from WG Plaza to Parkside Park."

"The parking at Drug Mart in front - people have to back out into traffic."

"Awkward layout on one single road, causes traffic congestion"

"Do not believe commercial area needs to be pedestrian friendly as most people must drive to get there anyways."

**Topic 6: Vacancy.** 193 (15%) of respondents to this question mentioned vacancy and unoccupied spaces as a concern. Two themes are common in the responses: 1) a recognition that vacant properties are not maintained as well as occupied ones; and 2) a sentiment that vacant spaces should be filled before new spaces are created.

Key words:

Vacant	Occupy	un-used
Vacancy	Occupied	"not rented"
Vacancies	Empty	not-in-use

Typical responses:

Wished there weren't so many empty spaces  
 Being able to dispose of old obsolete not-in-use buildings should be a priority  
 Need to find a way to lease all the vacant and empty store space in all of the plazas  
 Needs to be updated, more restaurant choices, too many vacant spaces.  
 Many old places, vacant or occupied, need to be kept up better.  
 Too many empty buildings slow down building permits in certain areas.  
 I've noticed new buildings being built but never rented out with older businesses that are empty  
 We have numerous empty buildings that should be occupied before thinking of expansion

**Q19: Additional Comments.** *Please provide any additional comments you may have that the Township should consider.* 759 respondents answered this question. The most often-mentioned subjects included development concerns, appearance/aesthetics, traffic and mobility, keeping taxes low/managing budgets well, housing choices, and township services. Additional topics with fewer responses included a community center, nuisances, planning, and government/trustees.

**Topic 1: Development concerns.** 407 (54%) of respondents to this question mentioned development, change and expansion in their comments. These responses tended to be longer and more eloquent about what respondents desired. The majority of respondents felt that Chester's small town scale should be left as it is, without extensive additional development. A few had a desire for some change.

Key words:

Keep	city	leave
Change	urban	status quo
expand	rural	stay
develop	country	density
small	grow	visionary
dense	sprawl	

Typical responses:



"I really don't know if the township would benefit from a new central plan. What is the old one like? I really don't know if revision or replanning the commercial area is warranted. It is probably under developed now and I like it that way. Keep this in mind"

"I moved to Chesterland because it was small, quiet and convenient. It is no longer that way. Traffic is horrible and widening the roads will make it worse not better. I miss the feeling of living in a small town. Now I live in the shopping area. However small it is, surrounded by McMansions. No individual architecture, not many polite or friendly people. Lost sense of community. We're on this way to becoming another Solon and solon is horrible."

"Please keep the small town feel township greatly preferred over city!"

"If Chester Township become a 'city' you lose the small charm atmosphere of this township. If residents want the 'city' hustle and bustle.....move to a city. I love and reside in small town because of the quietness, green space, knowing my neighbors and friends, less crime, less noise, lots of roaming wildlife"

"People come to Chesterland because its small and quiet over the last few years its deteriorated significantly no one wants Chesterland to become a city"

"I do not want to live in a city or I would have moved to Hudson! Don't ruin our township!!"

"I moved family to Chester to get out of the city. I have no desire to change this town to a city."

"This town needs to get out of its own way. Chesterland is a blank slate with so much potential, yet there's too many people afraid to lose what they have if things change in any way."

"Chesterland should stay as a township as much as possible like it is now. There are plenty of over populated over taxed, over governed places to live if somebody desires that."

"We moved here for the semi-rural feeling Chester Township provides as well as for better schools for our children. If Chester Township becomes a city it will lose its charm, character and desirability."

**Topic 2: Appearance and aesthetics.** 156 (21%) of respondents to this question mentioned topics related to appearance and aesthetics in their comments. These comments were focused on property maintenance and appearance. A number expressed a desire for a more attractive town center.

Key words:

Appear	Landscape	Standard
Design	Landscaping	Repair
Maintain	Architect	Repairs
Maintenance	Architecture	run down
Attractive	Architectural	scenic
Ugly	Clean	identity
Dirty	Beautiful	modernize
Old	Beautify	upgrade
Outdated	Look	upgraded

Typical responses:

Abandoned, run down, unoccupied buildings need to be dealt with better and sooner. Example: Honky Tonk Saloon run down and eyesore for years.

Some properties are in bad need of cleaning up. Some run businesses and have too much trash etc. in yard in residential areas.

There are many properties through out Chesterland that have piles of junk - cars - wood- garbage - buildings falling down, yard not kept up - barking dogs -etc. More action should be taken to prevent and end these practices.

Please do something to improve the 'look' of Chesterland. We have no identity. Zoning requirements don't go far enough. We need a building standard to follow and a need for a 'downtown' destination. A 'town square' is a must to draw people to the park and local businesses.

Clean up residential and commercial properties! A lot of places look like something in the inner city.

The township center should look better. We should maintain the semi rural feel, that's why we live here; no apartments, no building new homes on small lots!

This should be a walkable, warm, interesting to look at community. It currently fails on most of these. How many run down, poorly maintained car repair facilities do we need? How long is reasonable for someone to have their property torn up for repair? How many blue tarp roofs are acceptable? The general disrepair this community fallen into over the past 15 years is embarrassing.

Beautify the center of town!

I like Chesterland's small town feel. I don't think we necessarily need to expand- we just need a more polished look.

Town centers signage needs to be consistent. Need definite building standards and consistency for commercial use. Get rid of eye sore buildings. Landscaping is needed.

**Topic 3: Traffic and mobility.** 147 (18%) of respondents to this question mentioned subjects related to traffic, roads, pedestrian and bike access, and mobility in their comments. Speed and near-accidents at intersections are concerns in specific places. Respondents appear to be divided between those who don't feel sidewalks and bicycle access are needed or worthwhile, and those who would like to see them put in place.

Key words:

Congestion	Walkable	Accident
Traffic	Bike	Sidewalk
Road	Bicycle	Drive
Access	Street	Parking
Pedestrian	Crosswalk	speed

Typical responses:

Traffic is horrible and widening the roads will make it worse not better.

No passing on right sign at 306 & Mulberry!!! See close call accidents every day after work make going from one place to another enjoyable with tree and walkways instead of sprawl, parking lot to parking lot.

Chester is too large to be a walking/biking community. It would be nice to have a nice places like business/downtown/retail district but the priority should be on improving quality of life for

the greatest number of residents. I'd rather drive on repaved roads and enjoy high volumes of quality rust free water than walk around downtown.

The road department spends too much time with trees, etc and should focus more on repair and maintenance of the pavement.

Bikes become a nuisance in the summer. These bike paths need to be on certain roads and bikes restricted on others.

Geauga County is beautiful and attracts a lot of bicyclists. We see small groups of cyclists all the time in Chesterland (despite the roads being very unfriendly to them). What if we capitalize on this by adding simple amenities that cater to cyclists? Become known as a destination for them, similar to the town of peninsula, which has bike rentals, parking lots, etc. which serve visitors of the towpath trail. other ideas that would help: Widen road shoulders wherever possible.

Develop 'greenway' corridors and tie them into other communities. see Mayfield Village for a current successful example.

This is a community that primarily lives with distance between housing and commercial district. Sidewalks do not make sense in the commercial area. Save that money and put it toward general beautification.

Wish we had more sidewalks and bike lanes.

I've seen a lot of input on social media regarding walkability and the concern we become a city. There are beautiful small towns all over this country that put the pedestrian first before the automobile and function just fine not as a city.

**Topic 4: Keeping taxes low and managing money well.** 137 (18%) of respondents mentioned subjects related to taxes, and managing township revenues and expenses. The majority of respondents felt that taxes should be kept low, and that township budget management could be improved. Many felt that road maintenance should be a priority. There were a few who acknowledged that higher taxes could be justified for better services.

Key words:

Cost	Tax	budget
Money	Fee	
Expense	Waste	

Typical responses:

cost of sewer (had this house 5 yrs all other on septic) keeps climbing

Sep 9, 2020 2:25 PM

How much money has been spent of previous research? How has the information been used. I seem like a lot of money wasted.

amm not interested in project that are not needs but simply wants that will increase my taxes Chesterland township should remain a township and work to decrease taxes.

Do not trust local political structures to manage money, budgets, existing tax revenues. Past history is clearly not good - dishonesty and wasteful. Keep personal agendas out of planning and purchasing.

During several years the tax increases were planned for the road conditions improvement. However, we did NOT notice any road improvements. Let's first contribute into this area, before any other spending. Thank You.

I would support being a city as long as the city govt didn't overreach or greatly impact the overall quality of the area and as long as the cost was reasonable. Future development should not completely change the area and turn it into a mayfield hts or univ hts etc area with congestion and high taxes

I love it here. Please don't push me out with additional taxes.

While a city would offer more 'amenities' it would also bring higher taxes and more dense population.

I would support tax increases if they were used for lights on streets, sidewalks and city water. Focus on maintain and preserving our roads. They are deteriorating severely and monies are available to patch and pave and resurface, but it is not being done. Use the money or return to taxpayers.

Taxes are high in Chester Township for what we get back. If you plan to improve Chester, which I feel needs to be done, I feel as a longtime resident, we should be getting more for our money. Small business is necessary to maintain a tax base to support improvement, but not commercializing.

We like our lower taxes with no RITA.

**Topic 5: Housing choice.** 110 (14%) of respondents mentioned subjects related to housing choices. Respondents are divided between those who would like more housing choices, especially for seniors and downsizers, and those who would like the township to remain the same with single family lots.

Key words:

Apartment

Condo

House

Home

Townhome

townhouse

assisted living

senior housing

Typical responses:

"I think the township should allow housing options to encourage senior residents to remain/move in to the community. Ranch style cluster homes or subdivisions for example."

There are plenty of other places to live if you want an apartment or townhouse/condo. People choose to live here because these are not permitted, which help keep crime down.

Do not - under any circumstances create apartments, condo's, townhomes, duplex, triplex's, live/work studios, cluster homes, model or manufacture home in any areas!!!!

We have enough housing. Stop filling our open spaces. Traffic is becoming a problem.

Love it here and would love to stay after retirement. Need to downsize house, no longer need 4 bedrooms. Was hoping condos could be built here so I can stay

We should maintain the semi rural feel, that's why we live here; no apartments, no building new homes on small lots!

Apartments are not needed. Cluster homes are not needed. Smaller lots are not needed. If residents want city services and all that comes with it, they can move back to Mayfield or the like.

Cluster homes ok if development has open space that won't be developed further.

We strongly feel smaller homes/townhomes or condos would be great for younger and older families/couples.

**Topic 6: Township services.** 87 (11%) of respondents mentioned subjects related to services provided by the Township or in the Township, such police, fire, trash pickup, and snow removal. In general, a majority of respondents are positive about police and fire services. Some responses addressed ideas for cost savings on Township services. Individuals had a wide range of differing opinions and ideas – it will be important for leaders to read the full responses.

Key words:

Police

Trash

Snow

Fire

Rubbish

Road maintenance

EMS

Garbage

Service

Recycling

Typical responses:

"Stop dumping. We need sign prohibiting dumping into the county line/Chagrin ravine."

"Give the seniors consideration on rubbish collection and snow plowing. Help pay for part of it."

"Our police and fire dept. are great would support continuing levies for them. Parks are good. How about setting aside funds for a new police department? Our PD is a run down house that is embarrassing to admit we allow our fine officers to operate out of it."

I think if we were a city or village, our police dept would have more authority to help mediate neighbor issues. Every time you ask for assistance, they say they can not legally do anything

The recycling park should be emptied more often. To many times have gone there and the bins are completely full.

Not everyone want to live in a colonial or split. not enough ranches. People are tired of septic systems especially when they have to sell. A water system should be developed. Lack of expanded services has hampered development.

The police, fire do a good job for the most part.

Needs better street snow removal. Town needs better lighting

Fire and police should have the space and conditions of building they need to do there job safety. Get rid of 2nd fire station.

As our school districts merge, is there any value/cost savings to merge with Newberry or Russel for services like road department, police and fire?

**Additional Notes Across All Questions.** As reviewers were reading through the responses, a few topics stood out as being mentioned across all four questions.

**“Rural”.** In Question 2, which asked respondents what they liked best about Chester, 463 of 1,354 in all, or 34%, of respondents included the word “rural” in their response. “Rural” was mentioned an additional 142 times across the other three questions.

**“Schools”.** In Question 2, 204 respondents, or 15%, mentioned “schools” among the things they liked best about Chester. In contrast, in Question 9, which asked what could be done to improve quality of life in Chester, 40 people responded “schools”. The majority of these identified the schools as needing improvement.

**“Gun” and “Shoot”.** These two words were mentioned 80 times across all of the questions. 78 of the comments were negative, complaining about the noise and disruption of peaceful outdoor life. Many were concerned about the safety of guns being discharged in neighborhoods. Two respondents mentioned that they enjoyed shooting guns in their yards.

**APPENDIX C: ALL OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES**

**Q1 - Chester's best attributes. What do you like most about living in Chester Township?**

Why no questions about school? I love Chesterland! I moved here in 1998 to get my kids in a better school and enjoy a better atmosphere from South Euclid. I still works, don't change. There are many things i like about Chesterland. I really like that my house is several hundred feet from my nearest neighbor's house giving us both some privacy. Everytime I look out a window of my home I see green. Lawns, plants, trees, birds, squirrels and an occasional raccoon. Lots of space. That we are also close to good shopping - Eastgate, Goldengate and the freeway -271 makes this an excellent place.

Chesterland is friendly community where great efforts are made looking after children and senior and their needs. We have several churches sharing monthly free meals so those without much food can have a free meal and Geauga County has annual drive where school children can get free school supplies, clothing, and even free haircuts right before school starts in the fall! We also have several local food banks.

A. It has a friendly small town atmosphere - it is home. b. Quiet and safe atmosphere. c. the more rural and less commercial atmosphere. d. the diverse people and businesses mostly committed to the community. A makeover might be nice, but not a change to the underlying, well established community.

I love my large house and wooded yard. I also like the subdivision in which I live. The houses are spaced far apart, so there is a lot of privacy. All of my neighbors take good care of their yards. The neighborhood is a safe place to walk your dog and ride your bike. I also have a business in Chesterland. I have a very short commute to work. I like the fact that I don't have to pay municipal income tax.

I moved to Chesterland because of the quiet uncongested life here. I do not want to see commercial improvements spoil this beautiful area. Chester is close enough to the Chardon On Mayfield Rd. area for commercial living. Thank you for asking us newcomers.

Large wooded lots. Away from urban congestion, yet close enough to urban conveniences. excellent schools. Usually quiet except for 'target-practicing shooters.

Small town, not usually crowded. Close to the shopping areas, giving lots of choices without living in Mayfield Heights, solon or other crowded areas.

our street. Our home. Otherwise the ultra conservative atmosphere is very off-putting. We are actually ready to move. Rude, unfriendly, gun-toting, trump supporting, slow driving, acting like everyone is a cop. and no face masks. What wrong with these people! It's very sad

nice house and property - first we lived in a smaller house for 14 yrs. Then built a larger house in the same neighborhood.

It's home (4 generations) People are friendly, helpful, and kind. Close to medical (people and animals) shopping, schools and recreation (parks)

Living away from the city's hustle and bustle. Peace and quiet. Living on a quiet culdesac street. Not having my neighbor right on top of me, but still close by

To raise our kids in safe and quiet area. Better than city life.

Rural atmosphere but stores nearby

Peaceful, no noise ordinance, friendly

It feels rural but it's close enough to the city for work

Open spaces few housing developments. Beautiful evergreen trees. no big box stores. clean parking lots.

Family oriented/friendly. Focused on education. Pleasant atmosphere.

We built our home. It is rural - rustic.

No congestion or urban tumult. Space and quiet. Safe/low crime.

Small town feel without being commercialized - space and quietness of our residential streets. We do not want a Mayfield Hts. atmosphere!

Large lots, good schools and library, playground, concerts, senior activ.

The country like setting....peaceful,, quiet.

I have lived here for 50 yrs. I have been very happy with all of my neighbors with the execption of new people who have moved on the street. Trees were cut down over a year ago and all the tree trunks are still on the ground all of the other owners have all kept the yard nice and presentable.

Trees. Near major highways and stores but still country. Good schools.

Not congested, close to shopping, health services we are happy built 28 yrs. ago.  
friendly atmosphere. Good school system. Lot size. Safe. Still easy access to highway system.  
It is quiet, peaceful place to live! Low crime rate, not many rentals or apartments. Safe neighborhoods!  
Nature all around me! small town safe.  
Suburban country living. No big box stores. Rural!  
Living in the country, close to plenty of shopping, good schools, library, etc. Local shopping, banks, church where people know you!  
rural atmosphere. Friendliness.  
Small town living, semi rural, adequate stores and restaurants, good police/fire/EMS, enough parks and activities, parks are for the people not green conservation nor animal sanctuary  
Low crime, feeling safe, great schools, such a great place to raise a family  
Rural setting - lot sizes 2. location -can get anywhere in Cleveland in about a half an hour or so 3. police response very good  
Born here  
Quiet, Dark, Friendliness of neighbors, excellent road dept in snowy conditions, school system.  
Quiet  
The country atmosphere but close to city facilities. The quiet serene environment.  
Good location - like living in the country but having the convenience of the city and surrounded by great communities.  
My house and lot  
Rural atmosphere  
Rural atmosphere  
Quiet, peaceful community  
fewer restrictions than neighboring cities ex: can have a shed. Low crime rate - rural atmosphere  
privacy and safety  
Like living in the country but close to retail stores and your physicians  
The rural atmosphere  
Privacy  
I like that my neighbors are distanced and the quiet.  
Lack of heavy traffic. Access to route 271 and Mayfield hts. Necessary stores.  
The rural atmosphere  
It's great  
Affordability  
The rural atmosphere and down-to-earth people  
Large lots sizes 'country' feel.  
We like it here because of the friendly feeling with neighbors and businesses we visit.  
Reasons stated in #3  
the small town rural atmosphere  
Friendliness, quality of education  
The large lots, but still neighbors. The school system is better than most.  
Fresh air - open spaces.  
Small town, not busy like Mayfield hts. or Chardon. If people want more they should not move here.  
Privacy, peace and quiet. I moved to Chesterland from Euclid to escape crime, traffic, litter, public housing and high taxes. Chester is just as wonderful as when I came in 1989, but my taxes are now tripled.  
I like it the way it is.  
1. location 2. beauty 3. people  
Small town, semi-rural  
Large lot sizes. Limited traffic.  
Quality of life.  
Semi rural neighborhoods  
We like the amount of privacy we get from having more land. Enjoy knowing everyone in the small town.



Small town rural atmosphere. Not having sidewalks. No busses - less traffic, less noise. Single family homes on large lots, privacy. ability to choose utilities for ourselves.  
Privacy and space. Good schools. Low crime rate.  
Lot size, rural setting, good schools, low crime, access larger communities easily  
Space, convenience to freeways, good schools.  
Low population density Semi rural environment  
Its quiet - neighbors are the best  
Small town feel with access to important amenities and reasonable access to highway system  
The open space and having a country but city feel  
I like the fact that I am close to doctors and hospitals Dentists, vision and a choice of banks and that it is clean and neat in the area and live in and the park is well maintained and we are also close to recreational area in both Cleveland and Akron area's and not a lot of traffic to fight to get where you want to got  
Low crime, not crowded, rural  
Quiet, not crowded  
Quiet semi rural  
Country setting, city amenities.  
low taxes  
The neighborhood  
Small town rural atmosphere  
Drug mart  
Country atmosphere. Lots of green space. The smell of different season (cant' get this in any city). Roaming wildlife (deer and other critters). Houses hidden in the tree. Low lights at night and ability to view the constellations.  
sounds of peepers,  
Love rural living with land and trees  
Small town feel  
Rural atmosphere, natural beauty, lack of traffic, privacy, good neighbors good schools, police and fire, safety!  
I am 15 mins to the north, south, east to do my shopping.  
The people The location The geography  
country feel yet close to city. That it's a township and not a city.  
Casual comfortable place to 'rest', I travel all over for work - internationally and nationally, wear suite everyday.  
Like coming home to wear sweats to the store with no 'second looks' not pretentious here.  
Limited commercial stores and limited apartments  
The schools, the people, great fire dept and police dept  
Great schools!!! Public services : police/fire. Parks?  
Kindness of people and business, and the great feel of freedom.  
Off the beaten path and no one comes here.  
Small town feel, but still close to big city amenities  
True rural atmosphere yet close to 'civilization'. There seems to be real effort to not become a typical 'cookie cutter' suburb. Little to no encroachment into our lives with excessive local ordinances/laws.  
Rural atmosphere. Large lots. Clean air. Don't take down trees that are needed to keep us as rural as possible e.g. Dollar General - we needed it like a hole in the head,  
The small town feel, knowing people in our community 2. the large lot living 3. Housing quality living, yet taxes are still reasonable 4 Good school system and library 5 Many parks to enjoy in our neighborhood - most being very close.  
Small community with rural atmosphere. Easy to get in and out of the commercial district - I like that speed zones allow ramp up once away from the major intersection.  
Being a township. More freedom from complicated city ordinances.  
Friendly community  
Relaxed community - sad part is that there is now senior condo/town h. so many people retired and there is no housing for them and moved to Chardon, Mayfield hts., Aurora, Concord.  
There are no earned income taxes in a township. Red wine and brew close. I can have a small fire in my backyard.  
Rural

Quiet and a lot of land per house  
It still has a country feel  
The country atmosphere (less traffic and city noise) Size of property lots  
Less traffic. Lot sizes. People are friendly.  
Peaceful area; good people; wonderful neighbors; clean air; lovely forests; excellent police dept, etc.  
Space  
I can go into my back yard, hear some traffic, not much most of the time. Trim my trees, take my time cutting grass. Plant whatever, wander around my woods. I can barely see my neighbors during the summer. The only thing I wish was people would go to shooting ranges instead of using their back yards. And respect property lines and stay out of my woods.  
It is not too far from major arteries. It is not overpopulated.  
semi country type living. No sidewalks, not street lights, friendly environment, no curbs.  
The natural beauty and rural appeal. While very conveniently located.  
The community  
I like the larger lots. The emergency and roads services are outstanding.  
The space - lot size in most cases  
Houses are spread apart and not clustered together. Chesterland is rural but not too far away from the city.  
Accessible highway into town for cultural events. Accessible to a multitude of parks for hiking. Accessibility to locally sources fresh fruits, vegetables, eggs & meat. Friendliness of a smaller town where you know your neighbors.  
The library, the Sr. Center, St. Anselm's Church, Women Safe resale shop, Friends, restaurants.  
We like the combination of (rural) countryside qualities and a great location. Close to Mayfield, Mentor and Chagrin Falls. More privacy and more space than in the surrounding townships. Very safe place to live.  
Safe neighborhoods. Small town.  
Friendly community - caring. Family functions. Kept up very well.  
Quiet atmosphere. Good school system.  
lower taxes, lower cost of living, less congestion, space between houses, peaceful area but not too far from conveniences of some congested areas; safety  
Mostly quiet neighborhood safety  
Small town feel, beautiful landscape  
Large lot sizes. Close to shopping options without the traffic congestion being part of our daily life  
small town feel  
Rural atmosphere, great county parks, lots of green space  
Rural-like, proximity to shopping and services, park system  
open space, separation between homes, low crime, quiet  
Safe, Quiet, Nice people  
Rural environment  
it's an idyllic place to live! If you want to associate with your neighbors you can, but if you prefer to be solo the lots are large enough to assure privacy. We're not rural anymore, but we are far from being a densely populated city.  
It's a perfect scenario!  
Small town, rural atmosphere. Keep wells & septic as well as large lot requirements to maintain this feel. Large box stores are readily available in adjoining towns. No need for them here.  
Semi country, quiet. Large lots - at least one acre plus. Fresh air, nice people, feel safe and protected by police and first responders and fire dept.  
Low population density 2. non-intrusive government 3. convenient access to services 4. rural atmosphere  
Rural nature of the township  
peace and quiet  
Small town atmosphere. Semi rural character. yet close to conveniences, hospital, freeway. Local farm markets, responsive police and fire. green space  
Even though more populated, the township still feels like a small town.  
Rural but yet we have some conveniences of city living! Friendliness of citizens safe surroundings, quiet.

Location. Proximity to Gates Mills and the Chagrin River Valley. We like the post office and the people who work there. We like Drug Mart and the Women's Safe thrift store. The expansion of diversity in restaurant choices. Ace hardware is also a plus.

The small town feel - Free to do as we wish - lot sizes/homes - no noise ordinance - schools

Rural nature of area. No congestion

Very spacious and non-industrial

Rural feel

I grew up here since '71. Raised my kids here....

Central location

large open area - that is why we moved here. Our children can go to a school that was highly ranked which in turn kept our property values high.

Rural atmosphere. Very limited development close proximity to mentor/mayfield has. Little change in my 30+ years living here.

I like the distance between houses although recently there has been too much building of houses that it is getting crowded

Essential stores and services easily accessible, not too far away from the freeway and close to hospital. Not overly populated.

No public bus lines. No apartments.

Close proximity to all stores and events

Large lot size. Quieter/safer than city living

Country living, quality of life, school system

1. the people 2. the beauty of the location 3. the fact that all commercial places I would want to go to are nearby 4. it is a safe location, very peaceful

Land, quietness, Low(er) taxes, esp. no RITA - low traffic, few lights - Birds, wildlife

Senior center

Lush meadows and wood, serene. Wonderful area for nature lovers. Quiet neighborhoods but very friendly. Have been residents for over 60 years and appreciate controlled growth

Semi rural but close enough to a freeway entrance,

Rural feel but very close to cities. Large lots. Small town feel. People are friendly. Schools are great (now).

I love Chester but feel we need more business local. I go to Chardon to do my main shopping. Would like to do more in Chesterland. I lost my bank to Chardon.

rural atmosphere. larger lots. Chickens on my road, horses across the road

I enjoy the quiet semi rural area. Safety is not a concern as police and fire do an outstanding job. Ease of travel to shopping and dining areas. Location is excellent if you happen to work in the Cleveland area.

Good schools Bigger lots, overall safe

My house is paid for

Lots of space, rural, safe, great neighbors

Semi rural yet close to other cities with all conveniences

Outside of city, yet close to highway and centrally positioned

Semi-rural environment but close enough to city area for shopping entertainment, etc.

Quiet safe. Can sometimes see the stars. Lots of trees and a variety of birds. Wildlife - deer, rabbits, raccoons, groundhogs. Easy access to highways/state roads to the cities and lake Erie

We like the space of our lot and our neighbor. We like the park system. And we like being close to Cuyahoga County but not living in it.

The rural feel with proximity to the city. The schools are good. The taxes are relatively low. The neighborhood seems safe.

Geauga Cty. lower taxes casual lifestyle friendly people

Large lots!

Go back to larger lots to slow all of this building!

It's small, relaxing, quiet. People always smile and wave hello

Country feeling, less traffic, easy to move along & close enough to some city conveniences

Because it is still the country

Quiet neighborhood, safety, rural atmosphere  
tranquility

The semi-rural atmosphere, sense of community, great schools and a safe place to raise a family  
land

It is a quiet community. We have good neighbors. WE have stores and restaurants within our community. We are conveniently located close to more shopping, restaurants, and business, including our jobs (Mayfield, Beachwood, Chardon, Chagrin, Mentor and Willoughby)

Pros: Rural area, local business community. Cons: Chesterland is know for being a 'drive-thru' of drive by town - people go through to get somewhere else. Residents here are fickle.

We very much enjoy the semi-rural atmosphere of Chester Township. Along with that, we like that the community has a small population base and is not overly populated. We feel that we have a reasonable tax rates and a good quality school system, both important things to us.

Clean country living

Country living

Quiet, small town, low crime, low traffic, close to other cities

It's beautiful, quaint and quiet. I feel so safe! The unique houses, properties and roaming room is wonderful

Rural atmosphere. All necessities are handy. Location with minimal traffic. No big box stores!

rural environment - it feels like you are in the country

comact rural atmosphere

Good schools, open land

not living on top of my neighbor

large lots privacy

The rural character of chester combined with the close access to hospitals, grocery stores, and other shops  
(including the very nice restaurants)

Small community not over populated large property size

Little to no crime. safe neighborhoods

That it's in Geauga County and its location within the country

For the most part, very peaceful. Nice to have Drug Mart, Giant Eagle, Ace and Dollar General for shopping. Also, nice to have a variety of restaurants. We moved from South Euclid 19 years ago because we had young children that needed more room. We're 15 minutes from Mentor, Mayfield or Chardon. We also were looking for a community not burdening its residents with the RITA tax. We've neer had to use the police or fire departments (thank god). The road dept has been great to work with and very prompt with returning messages. The diviseness with trustees seems to be better.

Small town feeling. the rural atmosphere with 2 lane roads. A great school system. People are generally friendly and helpful

1. air quality 2. rural living 3. safe neighborhoods 4. land distance 5. quiet living

The closeness of rural attitude combined with a suburban flavor

The rural nature of the community, while still having necessary shopping and dining nearby

Low taxes. No sewers. No city water. Decent schools. decent city services.

Nice, quiet, safe community

I love the peace and quiet of my home. It is joyful to see the wild flowers and animals on our property!!

Bigger plots of land

Quiet and safe

Small town feel - known for good schools - 'rural' feel, but still have access to stores and necessities.

Small, quiet community we feel safe - good schools

Nice people - freedom- space

Quiet, large lot size, friendly

Great schools and rural atmosphere

Small town feel

Quitet township I. Living, but close to shopping and entertainment venues - short trip to downtown Cleveland via I90/I271. Lower property taxes. No income tax. excellent schools a great place to live!

Not living in a city. small town feeling

Friendly people. senior services.

Family, rural

Rural atmosphere. Large lots.

Values of residents

great location, being close to Chardon, Mayfield Hts for freeway access. We like that its not built up too much.

Love the rural, community aspect and that its still small but with enough conveniences.

Countryside atmosphere but close enough to city life quiet peaceful

Close to cities but having a semi-rural atmosphere

Semi Rural but close to things. Quiet. Great Services Lower crime rate.

We live on a large lot, surrounded by large lots, on the western edge of the township. We love how quiet and peaceful it is here, with lots of room for nature. We moved here because of the semi-rural environment with close proximity to everything we need. However, we rarely shop in Chesterland, as our daily activities take us elsewhere, we like the area very much, but feel under constant threat by people with agendas who want to make the township something else - perhaps they should consider moving to a place that better matches their ideal community. Our taxes have doubled over the years since we moved here and I could not tell you what we get for the money, other than responsive police and fire depts. that said, we do not want to pay more taxes for 'city services'. Those who want city services should move to a city. This is the 3rd attempt at a twp. survey and the initiators still don't want to accept the results.

A. More space and property B. Not a municipality C. country minded folks D. Not as much red tape - zoning E. Safe neighborhoods. If you are going to ask about the best attributes also ask about the worst attributes. A. zoning is terrible B. condition of roads C. ineffective trustees boards - politics over the years have been a joke D. property conditions of some residences are inexcusable - junk all over. nothing done about it.

The safety and general civility of the community; the large lot sizes and rural atmosphere; the history of good schools, although this seems to be less stellar than previous 35 years; the availability of grocery and drug stores and varied restaurants; the various small businesses. Aspects of rural atmosphere includes quiet neighborhoods and generally low light pollution. Having our own water supply and septic system with a safe water table.

Rural lifestyle. Farms. Lot size/acres. no downtown/very small. library. tough life/snow, inaccessible, surrounded by hills, isolation poor roads, lots of trees, poor shopping options. Research the collapse of Richmond Heights because of the development choices made by that city government - let's not become another Richmond Heights.

Good neighbors. Good and quiet community. Small town atmosphere. After 50 years it all is still good. Township people are all good. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

-safety - good school system - low taxes - country living but close to the city - friendly people - survey like these that show the people care!

Semi-rural - rural. Quiet Calming

The country-like atmosphere. Closeness to major highways, shopping areas, restaurants.

Yard size, difference in the homes not cookie cutters. Snowplowing.

Small country town away from crowded city living. not a lot of commercial activity. good school system.

personable police and fire departments

The rural area with access to so much

rural character

Semi-rural, large lots, 3-5 acres preferable

The safety factor!

Still very rural. Small community-not overrun like Mayfield Hts. or Mentor. Large lots for housing.

Mostly nice people. Police EMS fire all ++

The stars and rural atmosphere

Proximity to city while still having land and quality schools

The small town feel

peaceful

1. people 2. location 3. schools

Ruralness, small town feel, relaxed way of life, park

rural areas, low traffic, low noise

Peaceful country side, friendly close to the city downtown, nice surroundings/towns close to freeway, excellent schools because families are involved.  
green space, larger lots than suburbs, that feeling of country living  
Quality of life, community feel, convenient access to other locations 360 via roads  
Proximity to Cleveland, lot size and low taxes  
Safe, quiet, proximity to needed services and roadways. Most people are kind and friendly.  
I feel safe here always and love that there is hardly any traffic. We have all the great places to shop for food and things but I would love to have a dog park and a place to walk.  
It feels more country than city and yet, everything you need is close by.  
We moved to Chester one year ago from Concord Township in Lake County. We were looking for a larger property and a quieter more rural feel. We had been going to church in Chester for many years before, We moved here so we thought we knew community. Wrong! Very undesirable politics and squabbling, no shopping or services, my son goes to private school so no ties to other families, and we spend more time in other counties than we do in Chester.  
We moved to Chesterland from Mentor because of the rural atmosphere. If we wanted housing and commercial development we would have stayed in Mentor.  
Home town feel!  
Not crowded, services close  
Semi-rural property  
large lots, well water, small town, no major store chains, police/EMS/Fire, rural atmosphere, proximity to areas to the east, west, north and south, no bus lines  
It is rural, not a ton of traffic, peaceful, safe, lots of room instead of being on top of each other. Most stores are conveniently located within a few miles. Well water.  
small town, semi-rural, easy access to downtown, airport, etc, well water and septic, forested, quiet, community activities  
small town, rural environment, large lots, good services, still near to shopping  
Rural self-reliant lifestyle  
Privacy, parks, schools, safe, small businesses not chain  
Rural beauty, efficient and responsive police/fire/EMS  
The overall friendly, semi-rural vibe, laid back attitude. low crime, low taxes, not over-regulated. Good schools.  
Love that it's a small town, good school district  
low property taxes, large lot sizes, small town atmosphere  
Feel safe, new freeways but still rural  
The rural atmosphere, hometown feel, the fact that there is a cap on how many houses that can be built due to lot size requirement.  
Country feeling but not close to shopping  
Large lots, green spaces, sense of community, good schools  
We love the open land and country feel of Chesterland. The quiet streets and room to spread out drew us to this area.  
I have lived here 73 years, I have traveled to every state in the United States including Alaska and Hawaii and I still like Chesterland the best. However. Logan, Utah is a close runner up.  
Smaller community  
Safe community, quiet country feel, neighbors looking out for each other, police seem to care  
What we enjoy about living in Chester Township is that it is a safe rural community that is still close to major cities in the NE Ohio area.  
I live near a Orchard Hills Park  
The quiet, beauty, responsive safety forces and the community in general  
Not sure  
Small town feeling, resident neighborliness, quiet  
Rural surroundings, quaint, low amount of safety concerns, friendlier, have what is needed  
Where I live  
It feels safe, convenient grocery store location

We like rural atmosphere, large lots but a sense of community. It is close enough to essentials are available here.  
The township form of government is sufficient.  
Small town feel, not a village or township  
Safe, rural community with easy access to shopping. Highways etc.  
country living close to amenities and downtown Cleveland. Affordable land, Still close to neighbors to be friendly and not isolated. Lower taxes than Cuyahoga County. Tax situation in a township makes living here affordable.  
Nice people in general, safe, low crime, quiet  
Country like setting but close to amenities/stores  
That it is not a city. Please do not turn it into Chardon.  
Country living  
You can feel like you are living in the country yet be a short drive away from downtown Cleveland  
Proximity to both city and rural opportunities  
Rural atmosphere, good school system, close to city shopping, low cost living, no city services  
The neighborhoods are safe and the taxes are affordable. Also like the sub-burbal feel meaning it is a nice mix of rural and suburban. There is land but we are also close to everything we need.  
It's home. it's where I grew up and where I raised my family and where I choose to grow old some day.  
The small town feel.  
Peaceful environment, countryside living, security, improved quality of life, like minded people, greater affordability, convenience  
Small community, land, school community  
I like living in a small town. Like that Chesterland doesn't need a lot of big stores/places to go (Target, Walmart, movie theatre, etc.) because everything is only a 15-20 minute drive away. One way is Mayfield another is Mentor. We don't need a lot (no dollar store!).  
We bought our home in the early 60s to raise our family in a small town atmosphere without much government involvement. We love nature and the park. We know many people here too.  
Family oriented. Quiet, nature, people, community activities and opportunities  
Small community, safe, schools  
Safer, quieter neighborhood, plenty of nature and wildlife. No strangers hanging around  
Country-like area, wooded areas, neighbors not close to you, like idea smaller community than other areas, lots of land as well  
Friendliness, relaxes pace, not congested, safe  
semi-rural, good schools, close to larger shopping areas without having congestion in town. Close to major highways without having as much congestion. Relatively low population density.  
Rural, quiet area but close to good shopping and dining  
Peaceful. laidd back  
Safe, born here and overall do like it but changes needed.  
Convenient  
Small town atmosphere with access to amenities from the cities surrounding us. School district, access to parks  
Senior programs and assistance  
Small town feel with quality school and convenient access to neighboring counties and cities.  
Every thing  
Rural nature  
Rural atmosphere  
Rural but close to city.  
It's quiet and my neighbor's homes are not close to mine so I have privacy. Also it is safe.  
Living in the country.  
Rural atmosphere, good police/fire/EMS  
We like the small town feel, not as consented  
Rural type area away from crowding, larger lots able to have houses, no limit on dogs, cats, can have livestock, farms mixed in with houses, shopping, restaurants.  
Large lots. Wooded areas, small town feel  
no city water, lots of space between houses, good schools, no RITA tax



Less rules! I love the fact that we are a township and not a municipality! Rural feeling. Close to major highways/cities.hospitals, encouraging agriculture  
Semi-rural country living with nearby commercial area- without unwanted city amenities and services. Without the burdensome added costs (city income tax, water and sewer, monthly costs and other fees) of providing 'free' amenities and services.  
It has everything you need; has changed a lot too.  
Small population size, quiet and safe, good schools, most everything you need available locally. Larger shopping areas withing 10 miles.  
Rural living  
Low cost, great value, wonderful people, quiet, space  
It is still rural, we are not subjected to the over regulated and taxing we see in Cuyahoga, Summit and even Lake counties. Our town is friendly, small, low traffic, just enough business for convenience. Small government is best, No mayor or large city council is a benefit.  
Quiet and safe  
We have only been here for two months, so really cannot say anything yet for this question.  
Quiet neighborhood, access to stores, but not in a big city, easy access to freeway to CLE and south, area has minimal crime  
Access to Cleve, Painesville, Chardon, Ravenna AKron and Warren in no more than 40 minutes. Good schools.  
Semi-rural  
Small town community/feel. Everyone knows everyone. Safe for the kids to grow up in.  
Open spaces, reasonable taxes  
Small town feel  
Large lot sizes, close to freeways, country living, friendly and safe community  
We are close to everything from major league sports to country and any shopping someone may need. It is mainly why we do not need it here. I do not need more traffic more problems. I like keeping large lots.  
semi-rural  
Pristine natural areas of woodland, water and clean air, friendly, caring attitude of most residents, proximity to services in other communities. Family life, values  
Open spaces, large lot zoning, low crime, good fire and EMS services, local police dept.  
Semi-rural, space, peaceful, friendly neighobors, strong community, great school system  
The land, people are nice, small businesses, not a lot of businesses  
semi rural  
Small town feeling but close to larger city.  
Enjoy the open green spaces and not too far from major shopping areas  
It being a township  
somewhat rural  
Where I am located, close to town/businesses. Have woods to support mother nature and her animals.  
Quiet and safe, close to major areas, small town with a country feel, friendly people, great small businesses  
space between houses, less congestion, schools  
Big lots sizes, country feel, no big retail stores, proximity to stores in Mayfield and Chardon, quiet place to live, lots of parks and gren spaces.e  
Quiet life, safe, secluded  
low taxes, good value, excellent schools, relaxed environment  
Close to town but country feeling.  
I love the small town charm and beauty of our town. I love that we have a large amount of property but are still within a 20-30 minute drive of just about anything we need. We also love the schools and that was a major factor in moving here.  
Small town atmosphere  
Quiet, rural, no big box stores, many families here been here for generations, small town, good schools, good parks, slow and quiet pace of life  
Rural setting at my residence  
Country atmosphere, wildlife nature



The rural atmosphere  
semi-rural area  
The quietness of a small town.  
Not over populated, people, quiet, proximity to Mentor, spacious residential lot sizes  
We like living in a rural environment  
low taxes, peaceful and quiet, great rural living in Geauga County. This is not Cuyahoga County with its problems.  
country life  
I have a house here!  
No bus lines, apartments, rural small community  
I like how quiet it is and very green.  
Big lots, rural living, country atmosphere  
country life but close to city!  
The size of lots and the sense of privacy.  
Safe, school system, low taxes, location  
The small town rural feel.  
Quiet  
Wide open spaces.  
Rural community, large lots, good schools  
I like the rural atmosphere but close to other venues/Cleveland. It's clean and has a small town feel with good schools. The community seems to care about their neighbors. We have nice churches and public library. I like the bigger lot sizes for the houses. I like the local business people.  
Nothing  
Has everything, rural atmosphere, nice parks, horse and animal friendly, restaurants, drug stores, hardware, banks, post office, churches, food stores, auto repair and recycling  
It's rural setting, so close to other busier places to shop and dine.  
The rural setting. We just love it here. WE moved here from a more urban area and can't believe what a difference it has been. I love the fact that I don't see my neighbors unless I want to.  
It is rural community that is close to my job. It is quiet and safe, has low taxes and good neighborhoods  
small hometown feel  
The country living but close enough to stores, quiet, and peaceful. Larger lot sizes  
Convenient shopping and country living. We do not have to travel for shopping while still living in a rural setting.  
It's a "safe" community.  
Rural, quiet neighbors and neighborhoods with large lots for horses and dogs, etc.  
Quiet  
Acreage and property, country feel, friendly people, for the most part, low crime, compared to larger communities  
Used to be rural atmosphere - not so much anymore  
Improved quality restaurants, good schools, centrally located close to Mayfield, Mentor, Chagrin Falls, Chardon, etc. Surrounded by excellent park system including North and South Chagrin  
Quiet, rural area yet close to shopping and hospitals  
The small town feel.  
rural community, safe, good school system  
I do not live in Chester Township, but I do wish to complete the questionnaire.  
country life, horse farms, friendly people  
Good school system, safe neighborhood  
Small town atmosphere, being part of a small town. Knowing we are safe in a small community. Having large parcels of property and being spread out. Quiet. Limited street lights.  
No RITA taxes, freedom to shoot on property, location to freeways and conveniences  
Logo above "countryside living" community feeling, homestyle vs fast food mentality  
It's a country setting that is close to the city.  
Quiet, very little crime, access to freeway

Nice area, clean, safe environment, close to a lot of things, There is a lot of potential for more practical shopping. The new big furniture store is a waste - could be a large store more practical i.e. Walmart, Target, Home Dept. The Giant Eagle should expand a little. Mayfield Rd should be 2 lanes wherever possible.

Friendly people, beautiful landscape, excellent schools, relaxed atmosphere, less restrictions than city living.

The people

The fact that we are not a city!

Rural atmosphere

Open space, rural atmosphere, safety

Light traffic, house and neighborhood are spacious and very friendly

More rural in general. Wildlife abundance and diversity. Generally good people supportive of community, schools, etc., some good dining options. Youth athletics programs.

Close enough to city activities and far enough away from the same city activities.

Country atmosphere but close to cities (Mayfield, Chardon, Mentor)

It is quiet and peaceful. It has a good school system. Its properties are beautiful. Family and friendly and good stores.

Chesterland is safe and a small town feeling. The school system and the land available for parks, playgrounds and the like.

Green space and country atmosphere

Feel a little country like

It was rural but now it's turning into Mayfield Hts II.

Semi-rural atmosphere

Small town, My spouse and I both grew up here. It's important to us our children have the same country experience growing up as we did. Hiking - playing in rivers, riding dirt bikes, biking etc.

Open space

Living with green space

Small town feel

Not city, safe, friendly, small town feel, good schools

It feels like country living at its best.

Country living, but close to a big city.

All quality. Relatively low taxes

Rural setting, nice size lots, availability to churches, some restaurants, salons and doctors offices

Houses farther apart. Country living, but close to the city. Safe township (low crime rate). one of the lowest in America. Smaller population of people. The appeal of living here is that it is a township.

It is a township. That is the only thing standing in the way of it turning into suburban insanity like Solon or Chagrin Falls.

Privacy, large lots, great schools, rural setting, not far from city

no income tax on wages. Rural setting. Not crowded.

i just love it here but wish 322-306 was like Chagrin Fall - looks like Cleve.

Safety, quiet, rural atmosphere

Feel safe

No multistory buildings, no section 8 housing, no small lot parcels

Quiet country feel. Rural community

Green/nature space, agri-business, small town, acreage for homes, school system, library, parks

Schools, landscape, community feel

The rural areas

low taxes, beautiful country, good schools, small town

Nearly having all the services close by

1. the small town feel 2. excellent safety services - police and fire 3. parks - beautiful and easy to access 4. library - many excellent programs 5. senior programs 6. church is nearby

Safe, quiet, clean air.

Clean air, quiet neighborhood, friendly people

less crime, good churches, good neighbors

It's rural uncongested location

Small village atmosphere

Small town and friendly people.

The small town feel while still offering highly rated schools and business.

Small town feel, township, not as many regulations as a city, safe

I love the space I have with my yard, the privacy is important to me.

semi-rural atmosphere, no income tax, friendly people

Rural setting

Large lot sizes, low crime rate, strong sense of community

I live in Munson.

Trees, large property, less traffic on side streets, no municipal income tax, good schools

It's peaceful. It's not crowded. It's a slower pace of life. It feels safe. It's where I want my future generations to live.

The school system is good. We have access to food, medicine, doctors, entertainment and hospital. The lot minimums prevent overcrowding and keep that country appeal alive. We have outstanding police and fire department.

Neighbors, larger lot size

Almost rural setting, but convenient to Cleveland and other busier areas.

the rural atmosphere - large lots. Close to I-271 and Mayfield Hillcrest Hospital. Good schools.

We love how rural Chesterland is. My husband and I did not grow up in Ohio, but when we were looking for a home we focused on a rural setting with excellent schools. If either of those were to change we would be disappointed. City living is just 15 minutes away for those that want a less rural lifestyle. We love the quiet, the night skies and the friendly neighbors too.

The green spaces and natural resources are the biggest draw for me, but the latter is under assault by a lack of commitment by leadership to protect our trees, waterways and wildlife.

I've lived here for 37 years. Chester is the best mix between country and city. We have no sidewalks or street lights (other than in town) We can have animals and shoot our guns, ride tractors and ATVs, have a bonfire. The community is understanding of all of the above so are the police. Our police are great, our EMS/fire is great. We have good schools and for the most part good people that call Chesterland home. It is a wonderful place to live we have freedom. Everybody respects that.

The open space. We moved out here because we are able to buy a home (which would have been unaffordable to us at this size in the urban/suburban areas we were living in) at an affordable price. Most important was our ability to buy a large land plot (5 acres) that was mostly woodland. We love the quiet serenity and simplicity of this small town.

the laid back, easy going, open areas for the country life. When I have no choice to travel into a city, upon returning into Chesterland, I feel like I can breathe again. I move from S. Florida to here, septic tanks and land - I love it!

We chose to purchase a home and live in Chester where I was raised because of the small government and relative independence. Too many communities have too much government. We love peace and quiet and open spaces with the beauty of nature and enjoy the outdoors. Most people are friendly, neighborly and watch out for one another.

There was a lot of pride in Chester 30 years ago, but for some reason it's become an embarrassment. There is a lot of run down houses that people move into and never update them. Demographics are changing!

It's old time feeling, friendly people

Like the community. Safe, friendly, we like country living but other suburbs are close by. We like the beauty and spacious landscape. Good place to raise children, good school system.

location - easy access everywhere

Location to shopping and social life in Cleveland, No city busing, little subsidized housing, less traffic, higher speed limits, less stop lights, no city taxes, no RITA

Small, quiet, people leave you alone

Rural living, no RITA taxes

It is quiet here. It is semi-rural but close to the freeway/

The people, the relative quiet

Semi-rural environment, good school system, safe  
Low crime rate. Lack of ghetto-bred people. Lack of rundown properties. Lack of section 8 housing. Large lot size.  
Privacy. Quiet. low light pollution.  
Central location on eastside, easy access to 90 and 271  
Open space, rural setting, good school system  
Rural character yet 30 minutes from Cleveland  
Low taxes, open spaces and the township feel, the sense of community with our neighbors  
Large lots/space. Proximity to shopping (large or small businesses). Close to healthcare/hospitals (Hillcrest). Good school (Public and private options). Nice neighborhoods and residents. Affordable (taxes and home prices) and good value.  
Good schools, rural, large lots  
I feel Chesterland has declined since we built a house here in 1981. Other than larger lots, I go to other communities to do business.  
Accessibility to downtown, Lake Erie, country. I like our small businesses and our playground at the center of town.  
Good school district. Our Church (Mayfield) has a great community of people.  
The tranquility  
Country atmosphere, large lots, open space, birds and wildlife, low noise, I can see the stars. Limited government meddling, space between me and my neighbor, low traffic and limited congestion, low crime. I don't want Chesterland become a Chardon or Chagrin Falls or Bainbridge.  
Semi-rural setting but close to everything  
Location near larger centers but cozy, safe.  
Great sense of community.  
Small town vibe, No RTA buses, the rural feel to the town, not overpopulated, no RITA taxes, no Cleveland water department to argue with.  
Rural atmosphere  
lower taxes, good libraries and senior services. Larger lots, beautiful natural surroundings.  
Peaceful and tranquility environment, no big box retail, no apartments, residential zoning lot requirements.  
Chesterland is great at not being all things to everybody. I grew up in Chagrin and it kept its uniqueness.  
Chesterland is rural. One only has to travel a short distance to get anything you need. Being rural, Chesterland's residents pay to live here with higher sewer rates for example. Plus taxes. We don't need to bring the city to the country.  
Open spaces! Country living  
Close to highway, large yard  
Big yards, few restrictions, few/no developments, friendly people  
Rural living close to the city. It's the country while I'm only 30 minutes from Cleveland. If that changed I would have to move further out.  
The extra space, the right knit community, the slower pace  
Just enough amenities to be comfortable and far enough from the city to be country. How can you not love a town with a shopping plaza with a bank, bar, gun shop, and beverage store.  
Safety of the community, convenience of stores, living in Maywood community  
Safety, quiet  
It is quiet and small and has a hometown feel.  
Quiet, land  
The rural feel with close proximity to everything we need. Also, I love the parks in Chester and the surrounding areas.  
Rural, small town, atmosphere, If Chester expands and grows too large I move.  
The corner of Mayfield and 306 with the gazebo and the people!  
We like having more land and less people. We like the school district.  
The country feeling, large lots, lots of wild life  
Chester township is a lovely place to live. Its rural quality tempered by adequate shopping ability suits me very well.  
low taxes, good schools, rural atmosphere

Fresh air, open spaces, friendly people, out in the country and close to the city.  
Large lot sizes, peace and quiet, also it is only a 30 minute drive to Cleveland,  
Easy access to things we like to do  
Peaceful and quiet but close to big city, attractions and shopping  
Country life/space, but close to city/work/stores  
Safe, quiet, close to major shopping, enough retail here without expanding, lower taxes, excellent police, easy access to major thruways  
Rural living, but with easy access to most things  
Space  
Rural atmosphere but near other larger towns and counties, making it easy to go to different places  
I feel safe!  
The excellent school system.  
Low population density. Limited retail, few rental properties, rural atmosphere, excellent police and fire protection  
semi-rural living with quick access to the freeway and other shopping areas.  
Grew up here. Small town, good people, good schools, safe community.  
It's a small town - taxes a plus  
Township laws as opposed to city laws.  
The wide spaces of properties.  
Less regulation and low taxes  
low taxes, red wine and brew, random chickens walking down the street  
Large lots, quiet, good schools, rural life, good police department  
Country but 10 minutes from city  
Country living close to hospital and freeway, quiet wooded areas with wildlife, low taxes  
semi-rural, close to rt 91 shopping and Mayfield Rd.  
I like the small town feel even though we are a short drive to the city. I grew up here and am now raising my family here. I like the safe feeling of our town. I like that it is not built up with major shopping stores.  
Country life  
It's a safe place to live  
Very low crime rate, great location, semi-rural but lots of great restaurants, friendly people  
fresh air, no signal lights  
School system, country feel of the township  
Less traffic, we have the stores we need.  
Rural community with easy access to Cleveland and medical facilities. Safety  
low taxes, country lifestyle, friendly neighbors, community feel, small town feel  
Parks are great. I like well water and no sidewalks.  
Small town, rural character, good place to raise kids  
It's quiet, no sidewalks  
It's a smaller town that still provides our daily necessities like groceries, banking, drug store, and a few fast food options, as well as good quality restaurants. It's nice to have everything close. Malls and specialty stores are not that far away.  
Country living, not too far from other areas.  
Has a rural feel yet close to everything. Parks nearby are great, especially Orchard Hills  
Privacy, no neighbors, no government, nature, security, no apartments or condos, I invested a fortune in my property to escape the congestion and squalor of the city. Why ruin this beautiful place? Should be 5 acre minimum lot.  
It was nice for the children when growing up because there were so many kids on streets. But as they got older, nothing for them to do. That's why nobody wants to come here or stay here.  
Small town, safety, does not have a city feeling but cities are close by, good schools  
The land, school system, proximity of stores and fast food and restaurants  
Laid back life style, peaceful atmosphere, not micro-managed  
I like the sense of community and the fact that the town is open to entire families living here.  
Close to great healthcare (Hillcrest)

Quiet, rural atmosphere of the township, family friendly and safe  
riding bikes in the valley. Country roads  
schools are strong, rural feel, proximity to city, good hospitals  
Large lots and spacing between homes, rural atmosphere, safe community, best to leave as is  
semi-rural, small community, safe with low crime, school district rating  
Quiet and green  
Quiet, friendly people and scenic  
people  
Good schools, a lot of land, quiet town close to city  
Rural, no RITA, large lots, being a township, no sidewalks, no public water or sewer, freedom on my property, no  
mayor, low taxes  
rural and quiet  
Peace and quiet, safety and schools, small town  
Acrage, open spaces, not being congested  
It's a town and not a city.  
Space of land, police and fire dept., close to some stores  
More land available, quiet, small town feel, no RITA  
The quiet, shopping areas, schools  
Close to city, but a somewhat country feel  
The country feel near the city. The safety of the area.  
Privacy, no public transportation, well/septic  
Peaceful, not a lot of traffic,  
Nature, no crowds, not much traffic  
Safe area, quiet and relaxing  
Peace and quiet of our street.  
rural atmosphere but unfortunately has changed to semi-rural  
Ruralness of living but near services and businesses  
Peaceful, safe township  
The yard - which I can't enjoy at night because there are no lights on the streets. There is no feeling of  
neighborhood.  
land, easy to get to Cleveland, close to amenities  
Being a suburb yet availability to surrounding and outside activities.  
It has been kept a township and keep its commitment to stay a rural community.  
It is quiet and has a rural feel while still being close to all the necessities.  
Grew up here and it's a great place to raise a family. Safe, quiet community.  
Quiet, a feeling of being in the country, more relaxed people  
The country views, the parks, low crime rate, low property taxes/ No RITA  
Close to highways but not in a congested area.  
Less busy and neighbors are a lot niver than when we lived in Mayfield Heights. I enjoy having more room between  
houses and the feel of a more rural area.  
We love living in a township, and not a city. We love the small town feel and the fact that we can access quality  
shopping and restaurants in surrounding communities. We love the quality of school district as well as the safety of  
the neighborhoods.  
Rural setting, close to world class hospital system and shopping  
Quiet and close to necessities.  
It's quiet and calm. Good school system.  
Green space, rural character, access to services, safety, low taxes  
Attitude, atmosphere  
Clean air, beautiful trees, love parks  
Access to major highways  
The families - the school district and staff  
Nice place to raise a family.

Large lot with plenty of privacy. Good schools.  
The rural feel but with all necessary conveniences  
Single family homes, homes are not "cookie cutter," acreage  
Small town atmosphere, access to I271 and I90, country living  
countryside living  
Spacing of the houses, living in the country with city convenience  
I grew up in Chesterland. We have great schools, involved parents and a supportive community. We have large enough lot sizes to have peaceful communities and the freedom to be Geauga County residents. We have freedom to enjoy our properties.  
large lots, ample green space, small town, no large malls, friendly people  
The quiet small town feel. Good schools. Out in the country yet close enough to shopping and downtown.  
I have lived here 50 years. I enjoy having relationships with all the people I have come to know.  
West Geauga local schools, rural feel, proximity to family  
I live on 7 plus acres, that are heavily wooded. I enjoy the privacy and scenery  
I live on 8.5 acres. I like the woods and the wildlife. I like letting my dogs out to run. I like having a non-city atmosphere. I love my neighbors. It's quiet here.  
Quiet, safety, peaceful, larger lots  
Rural, but amenities are close.  
The quiet country feel  
Safe environment and atmosphere  
semi-rural surroundings  
I like that public bus transportation goes through the city. I like the open space.  
Privacy, quietness, light traffic, no low income housing  
Homes are not close together like city dwellings. Small town atmosphere  
All the existing conditions  
rural community 25 miles from downtown! No buses and few red lights. No apartments or cluster homes.  
rural atmosphere  
residential is pretty good and kept up very well. People are friendly.  
The school systems, rural atmosphere, small town feel  
large lot zoning, rural setting small town feel.  
Rural setting, large lot size, no cluster homes or apartments  
Openness, gardens and parks  
Small town, community feeling, safe  
Rural living, openness, space  
Chesterland's small community allows for a safe and quiet town to raise a family. The school district has a great reputation.  
The peace and quiet. The rural feel.  
The location  
It's country living but close to needed shopping.  
scenery, convenient shopping, bird variety, schools  
Rural community, large lots, proximity to cities where you can find whatever you are looking for.  
We have roots here  
It's more rural, schools are good, well water, crime is low and I feel safe, no RITA  
Rural atmosphere  
Quiet, natural beauty  
It's part of my heritage. It's home!  
The park at the corner of Mayfield and 306.  
semi-rural  
Rural atmosphere but close to city. Community closeness, great schools  
Chester township is a wonderful place to raise a family. We have lived here 48 yrs. and cannot imagine living anywhere else.  
Large properties with lots of yard space, not too close to neighbors, good schools



Its rural atmosphere. No city taxes, freedom from city restrictions on personal property, no water or sewer bills.  
enjoyment of nature  
Rural atmosphere  
Rural atmosphere  
It's quiet and appears to be very rural, but has shopping for things needed close by.  
Peaceful, easy access to freeways and other cities  
Rural but still close to freeways of shopping. Safe  
It's not the city.  
We love living in a rural setting, but still close to necessities. Love the peace and quiet.  
Country, peace, freedom, close to city shopping. Wonderful snow plowing service and natural beauty  
I think the township's best quality is being a township. It allows the citizens to have more freedom than cities or villages.  
The country atmosphere, police department, road department. Safety. wildlife.  
Semi-rural atmosphere, large lot sizes  
Hunting my own property  
The safety of our city is the best attribute. Along with how clean our township is.  
Settings - rural atmosphere  
Owning beautiful property and the kindness of the residents.  
Quiet, distance between neighbors  
Still has a country feel. Want to continue to feel like a town, not a city!  
I like the more rural areas, less traffic  
More rural, but easy access to Cleveland and surrounding areas. Relatively low crime.. No sidewalks or street lights. Lower noise and light pollution.  
Convenient location within easy access to local and larger shopping areas. Convenient to health care. Large lots while still having the ability to have nice neighborhoods.  
Small town feel, not over populated  
Very comfortable. Township employees are friendly.  
My animals have the space they need to live healthy lives. I don't feel like I have to worry about crime.  
It's not in the city. No apartments!  
Easy access to free way, country setting  
How quiet and peaceful it is even though we are close to shopping areas  
Country living but close to everything. Quiet street. Friendly neighbors  
Rural living  
Living in a small town while still close to the city.  
Maintain the township status. Strong school system. Location, close to major interstates.  
I have lived in many places during my 100 years - it's my home. If the shoe fits, wear it.  
Not over populated. Not over built. Nice people. Light traffic. Rural.  
It's nice having a big yard.  
The country atmosphere. I would hate for us to turn into Mayfield Heights. Leave our parks natural - we don't need paths made through out them all. We are conveniently located.  
Rural living near large cities without transit and crime issues.  
The small town and country feel. We moved here for more land and a quieter life.  
The lack of traffic and green areas.  
Space and not making the township like a suburb  
low traffic, township, schools  
semi-rural, accessible to Cleveland and other suburbs, quiet living conditions  
Does not feel like city life  
Rural atmosphere, just the right amount of services and amenities for size of community.  
It's somewhat rural feeling.  
Rural atmosphere  
The rural feeling.  
Greenspace, lower population, township, wells and septic, no sidewalks, no big box stores



Still fairly rural  
Small town, friendly, spacious lots, feeling of community, cost of living  
Spaces, weather, outdoor living  
Peace and quiet, low population density, low taxes, close to everything  
The relative country feel but with plenty of small businesses clotted throughout. No RITA!  
location, schools  
Big lots, rural, few stores, I am not tied to the city of Cleveland ever increasing water and sewer rates.  
It's close to freeways which allow access to other areas.  
The same town atmosphere, the restaurants are great, the variety of services  
Semi rural living, fairly close to interstate roads  
Small town, most people take pride in their property, taxes are reasonable  
That it's a township, small town feel, no RITA, not tons of regulations,  
It's country but it's 20 minutes to the city  
Semi rural atmosphere,  
My 10 acres, township vs. city, rural community, close to family, highway access, small local businesses, well water  
The semi-rural atmosphere. Woods everywhere, parks and yards, space between homes, great schools, country  
feel to it. We love Chester like it is.  
It is not crowded; peaceful' able to know a lot of community members  
Rural, police, quiet, close to everything  
It's just a great place for family to live.  
We like the rural setting and the township form of government.  
Good property taxes, peace and quiet, decent offices to locals  
We have good neighbors. Our parks are well taken care of.  
Large lots. No sewer, water bills, privacy, able to practice shooting in my yard, close to freeways and downtown  
A semi-rural area  
location, community activities, neighbors  
Small town, friendly atmosphere  
Rural atmosphere, volleyball courts  
Small community. Rural area not far from shopping  
Small town feel. It's safe, great place to raise a family,  
The houses aren't on top of each other. The scenery  
Quiet, safe, rural but close to freeways  
Friendly atmosphere  
Rural country atmosphere  
Privacy  
Friendly people leading to long-term relationships, good schools  
Houses not on top of each other. Larger yards, wild life, safe environment. Drug Mart.  
Rural atmosphere  
Small town feel, larger lots, rural atmosphere  
Quiet and spaciousness  
Small town. Less crime. Township, not city. Convenience to hospital and shopping.  
Safe community, great police department  
Far enough away from the big city, but still close to different things.  
The space and privacy we have at our home, and in the whole township. The great people that live here.  
Chester Township residents are friendly.  
Close to my family and work. Close to shopping and hospitals.  
Semi-rural, quiet, low traffic in most areas  
Quaint, small town feel, great schools, quiet neighborhoods, semi-rural setting  
Large lots, open spaces  
Rural setting, peaceful, quiet  
Our family is happy with a small town feel yet still close to urban areas. We enjoy larger yards that give us privacy  
and the character of neighbors

the rural atmosphere and close proximity to urban areas. The feeling of living in a small town. Relative peace and quiet. Relatively low crime rate. Feels safe to live here.

Our property - large parcek, open space, woods [lants - the beauty of nature.

Big yards, good schools

size

Low crime

Close knit community.

Rural living

Large lot zoning

Semi-rural location, small town feel, location relative to larger urban area, many great small businesses

Rural atmosphere, small community, good services - fire, police, and school system. Ability to maintain lower taxes and less employees to keep the township function.

Rural, friendly people, large lots

Country living, safe

Low crime rate, open spaces, less traffic, quiet, clean

Small community and local feeling.

Space and trees

Country life, but close to grocery/drug stores

Country living open spaces

It has a rural nature.

Rural, township, clean and responsible, open and free, safe

It offers a peaceful and quiet environment. We have a nice piece of land, while property taxes are very reasonable.

Home are far enough apart to enjoy rural environment. The schools are rated high.

It's just rural enough to enjoy the quiet yet very close to freeways, restaurants and leisure activities.

Schools, quiet, low traffic volume, roads well paved, park system, police, fire and library

Safe neighborhood

Living in the middle of the woods - no neighbors. Convenient to grocery/drug/hardware stores and 45 minutes to University Circle and downtown. Farmer's market

Small town feeling, rural atmosphere

It's still country

The small town feel. The land space between homes and nature.

Country style of living, not to rigid zoning regulations, lots sizes, not feeling crowded, feeling safe

Small community, location

Rural location. I can keep my horses at home. Guidos pizza. Good schools. no city water or sewers.

Semi rural area. Open space.

Rural atmosphere. The fact that it is not incorporated.

Quiet, small town feel

Small town living

Quiet, family community, rural atmosphere, schools, services, people

Good location - 5 miles to Mayfield and interstate 271. It is a township - not a city. I moved from a city to be here.

No city tax.

Schools - West Geauga neighbors

Large lots, limited commercial, rural atmosphere

Lower taxes and houses aren't close together on bigger lots.

Enjoy a small-town feel.

Quiet

Township form of government. Semi-rural type of planning, large lot zoning.

Rural atmosphere

Living close to larger community with a full compliment of goods and services, but still enjoying the rural setting of Geauga County.

Rural atmosphere, country roads, quality of service from police, fire and EMTs. Personal relationships with merchants, police, fire, etc. Concerts in the park.

country setting

Rural setting near suburbs and city

Semi-small town feel, open areas, taxes reasonable, schools above average.

Our township feel is very nice and welcoming.

Rural. Less traffic. Pretty area. Close to, but not in, the city. Easy access to Cuyahoga County.

Small community, living a little more rural than suburbia

Larger lot sizes. not much traffic.

Convenience of amenities.

Peace and quiet, distance away from neighbors

Large lots, open space, good access to Cleveland

Small town feel - safety -great school system.

Rural atmosphere and location near enough to urban amenities

1. Not a lot of traffic 2. small town 3 no city tax 4 close to major shopping

Rural setting and basically crimes free

Close to work and on a quiet street

I like having close neighbors - but not too close.

I moved out here because of the rural and quiet atmosphere. Chesterland has a quaint charm all of its own. I

would not want to see it become more suburban.

It is not a suburb with attendant traffic, noise pollution and high density living and unregulated business/industry

No city tax, no apartments, no sidewalks in residential area, Good schools, low crime, small town feel

Semi-rural community close to amenities of large city

The trees, the peacefulness

1.ability to have a large piece of land 2. close to neighboring communities with stores 3. the schools.

Small town living yet close to larger city like Mayfield and Mentor

Space, people, quality of life

Not too populated

Rural environment

Rural area, no sidewalks, low crime, good people. Traffic is not out of control. It's quiet. We have great

police/fire/maint. departments and good schools. Water wells and septic systems.

Beautiful landscape. Easy to get to from another location. Great for families and all people. Make affordable for

families again. Bring new business to town center. Affordability will return school enrollment.

No big box stores and less congestion/traffic. Home values, small community feel, better schools, away from city

feeling, We feel safe in this city and like the community.

Nice area. Nice people. Most services available.

Proximity to parks

Open spaces, less people, minimal commercial properties, primarily residential

It has what we need and close to what we need that it doesn't have. It is close to Cleveland.

Friendliness of community rural yet accessible area. Safe community.

You're not on top of your neighbor

We like that it is somewhat rural and is quiet. And there is not a lot of traffic.

We have been Chester township residents for 43 years. We enjoy the rural atmosphere and large lot sizes.

Excellent schools and reasonable taxes were our initial reasons for buying property here. Responsive police and

fire through the years have been so beneficial to this community. Although rural, we are minutes from excellent

medical help at both Hillcrest Hospital and Geauga Hospital.

We like the rural feel of our development and the land/space. Another reason we chose to move here and like

Chester is the great school system.

Quiet. No crime. No street lights. Country air

I like the larger lot sizes. It's peaceful. It's close to the hospital, doctors, and freeways.

The rural nature of Chester with it being so close to I271 for access to downtown where I work. It is like a different world within minutes.

Quaintness - closeness to stuff like stores, parks and highways.

It's a peaceful and safe place to live

Commute time to work. Large lot zoning! wells and septic. Small governmnet of the township with limited power.

Rural atmosphere

Because it is semi-rural. I like living with lots of trees and lots of birds.

Rural environment. more living room. lower taxes. less crime. basically we moved here to get out of Cuyahoga County.

Rural setting. Larger lot sizes. No multi family homes ie apartments multilevel Zoning appeals. Police Dept A+

It's rural character

Lived here since 1958

It isn't Mayfield Heights. The rural setting.

Good schools.

Small town feel. Safe environment.

NATURE

Privacy of large lots. Friendly businesses.

Quietness. Not a lot of traffic - shopping is convenient.

suburban tranquillity

Lots of space. Relatively quiet. Crime is low

very quiet township

The larger, more private lots allowing space between houses. Fewer residents allow for less traffic.

The rural atmosphere. Clean air. less traffic.

Feel of small town - friendliness

Big lots, trees

space privacy

Small town living.

Rural, grew up here

Rural atmosphere, smaller population, larger lot sizes and the sense of community

Having space and lack of crime

Location, semi-rural setting

Green space, parks, highly rated schools.

rural atmosphere

Small town feel, large lots sizes

Good schools, space and freedom

Country living with access to all other necessities

Property size.

Quiet streets, friendly community, unchanged and prospering for many years.

Large lots. Minimum commercial district. rural atmosphere. quiet pseudo country life.

Beautiful area Large lots.

Open rural feeling. with lots of green. Gates Mills buffer again city.

Rural feeling

The quality of life!

no RTA bus

Just how many survey are needed before the trustees accept the property owners consensus of opinion that they don't want more development in any form?

rural feel yet close to everything

The trees and landscaping, the school system, and its location relative to cuyahoga county's eastern suburbs. The county park system is a great asset, too.

country atmosphere

the rural atmosphere safe neighborhoods

Small town feel, easy highway access, good mix of historic and modern homes.

rural but fairly close to Cleveland

Made friends with a lot of older people who have lived here all their lives and would like to stay if they had a small condo or townhouse. It's safe and friendly community for families, children and elders - good schools and places of worship. I do think we need a mayor - things would be different.

Country living. Safe community. Quietness. Sense of community that West G schools provide. Great education by West G schools. City amenities not too far away.

small town feel , alot of land per house

it feels like the country and its small and peaceful with low crime but close enough to shopping

Location - easy to get to all freeways. Close to all major shopping. Lack of heavy traffic. schools. small town fee.

Instead of asking what people like about Chester, asks them what they don't like. this may give the trustees things to think about changing. Instead of spending money on new things, spend it on fixing things people don't like.

schools

Large property lots and peaceful country atmosphere. Nice neighbors and decent school system.

Great township. Clean up and modernize. Do not overdevelop.

Rural nature of where I live in particular- the smell of new mown grass and being able to see the stars at nights without the light clutter of the city areas. Being able to share my surroundings with animal life without jurisdiction- whether it be dogs, cats, horses, deer, fox, coyote, or hawks. Don't want to lose this.

I grew up here. It has changed so much. I wouldn't like to see it change much more. I loved having horses at home.

Quiet, trees, nature, non-commercial, no congestion peaceful!!

The semi-rural feel. The quality of our schools. The humane police and responsive fire.

Its rural atmosphere and great location to shopping freeways and hospitals

The open land and quiet good residents.

Small town fee. Good schools. Large lot sizes, ability to hunt, own livestock, shoot etc.

rural area, schools, community, safety

small town country atmosphere. Love the farms and rural lifestyle.

Rural area

Small town America. No hassle and traffic like the suburbs.

I like the small town atmosphere and community events.

small and quiet, no large businesses or large sub-developments.

It has remained a township - small community able to have large animals. no city taxes not over populated.

Small community, rural living, lot sizes, space between houses, wooded property, good schools.

Location in NE Ohio

The rural setting. Freedom to garden, compost, etc.

Country living with areas for commercial use not far away.

Quiet and relatively safe area.

It is quiet/peaceful

Rural living

It is a beautiful location and close to amenities. The people are friendly though could use welcoming more diversity.

Where I grew up. Place I know best, friends, family. Semi-rural. Local government stays out of my business for the most part.

Not too many people. Nice historical village.

Safety, privacy, green space

Nature. The land.

1. we like that fact your not on top of your next door neighbor! 2.School system good. 3 St. Arselm church is a good variety of denominations. 4. The corner of 306 and Mayfield with pavillion is shaping up. We need some more shopping. Those empty strips need to be field. we need to make them inviting to business. They should all be kept up. If the owners would lower the rent/lease they might rent more. Be smart not greedy.

Rural, green and quiet atmosphere. The people are nice and friendly.

Larger lot sizes, small businesses and locally owned restaurants, wildlife, everyone is friendly, quiet neighborhood

Small and rural town atmosphere

convenience

The space between my house and neighbors

Rural, large lots

rural not a city

I like the small town atmosphere I like fresh well water not chemical city water. I like living on a larger lot, where I can see my neighbors but not be on top of them like Mayfield.

I - we love the small town feel, the convenience of being close to everything! We love our areas for its beauty. Its like living in the country without being out in the middle of nowhere.

The small town closeness,

Rural feel with convenience of shopping.

Green space, sense of privacy

Independence with neighborly fee.. Good roads. Have what is needed - can drive to what is wanted.

Semi rural character - that it is not urban or suburban.

Large lots, peaceful, private, good schools

I think the people, the rural quality, and the many parks make it a great place to live.

Friendliness, cleanliness, parkside park childrens play area, family owned/small businesses.

Country living but close enough to freeways and Cleveland.

Rural setting, no RTA no apartments

The country atmosphere. The fact that we are not over regulated. The fact that Chesterland is a township and not a city. Good fire and police departments.

Small town feel. Clean air. Friendly people

The history of the town, especially the Historic village. My church, the Chesterland Baptist which also has a great history in the town having just celebrated 200 years in existing last year (2019) Last but not least Guido's!

Our home and everything associated with it...the property, our neighborhood, etc.

The quiet, peaceful and country-like atmosphere

Rural but can get anywhere (downtown etc...) Have pretty much everything we need (stores/commercial, etc)

large lot zoning and rural atmosphere

That Chesterland is semi-rural and the wildlife here.

Quiet semi-rural, good location

semi-rural yet convenient to access conveniences and freeways. The nature, our parks

Country but near city, beauty

1.Chester Township feels safe. 2. Not over populated. 3 Great mix of suburb/rural living.

Rural. A lot of open space.

No income tax. Limited government.

The nature, land, less traffic. Vicinity to a parks somewhat small town feel school system safe/ low crime rates.

Privacy, space between neighbors, lots of green space. No public transportation. No apartments, big buildings.

Small, uncongested Not city.

Small town feel. Rural country living, lower costs, taxes, no city water bill, less traffic and congestion, great parks and nature near by.

Feel safe. Large lots. Convenient to necessities.

The quietness. The more rural feel. the schools.

our rural character. Nice people. Many churches of different stripes and sizes that are heavily engaged in the community.

Large lots and rural atmosphere, Easy travel to entertainment downtown. Like it being a township

Country living

Large lot sizes. Rural/forested land. Clean air. wildlife, lack of city taxes.

Parks, green spaces, small close knit. Not enough town center

Quiet setting, peaceful

Green space, being close to Cleveland and urban amenities

Rural character, peaceful, friendly neighbors, very quiet (except for the guns) green space.

We feel like we live in a safe community (crime level)

Chester is a family friendly, safe, beautiful community. The township and county services are good. Police are helpful and keep a watchful eye creating a safe environment. The availability of services and business is good. I live on the western end so I appreciate that I am near the Mayfield business district and 271. I appreciate the "rural near the city" environment.

Somewhat rural, relative safety

Small town country feel  
Quiet, yet close to downtown.  
Small town feeling, people are friendly, larger lots for houses  
Rural atmosphere and abundance of wildlife. Orchards, farm markets and local produce, convenience of township, shopping, business, and restaurants, less restrictive regulations, safe area due to lack of transients, good air and water quality  
Less government  
Due to lack of pollution, we are able to enjoy the night skies. We love the large lot sizes which keeps us from feelings suffocated by our neighbors.  
Quietness of where we live.  
Rural, small township  
Small town feelings of safety and friendliness while still being close to the city life. Convenience of all stores, doctors, restaurants, businesses, etc.  
We moved here for a good school system and because it's close to my parents and my husband's job and it's safe.  
Rural atmosphere  
The beauty and rural  
I like the rural atmosphere. Country living but easy access to necessities  
The large lots. Caring neighbors and enough conveniences to keep me here. My road is beautiful to walk or drive down.  
The country environment  
The wildlife  
Convenient location - close to hospitals and shopping; Less populated than suburb, country roads, part of agricultural county, larger lots/wooded areas, good police and fire dept.  
Rural. People  
Small, quiet, not a city, not crowded. Great for families. Perfect location. SAFE. Has everything that is a necessity to make shopping quick. No apartments/section 8. No pushy micromanaging what you do like in a city.  
We really enjoy the small town feel of Chester.  
Rural - not much traffic - good neighbors  
rural atmosphere. large lots  
Privacy. Safety.  
Small town - privacy  
More space between neighbors. Close to parks.  
Country living not far from city. Rural life. Quiet.  
Quiet - Would be nice if there was another grocery store  
Rural atmosphere - small town feel. Easy access to many areas (271,306,322)  
wonderful community, People and layout of homes in town. Road dept - Police - Fire- EMT. The way of life.  
Country atmosphere. large lots. rural feel. nature- not brick and mortar. Chester will never be like downtown Willoughby or Chardon Square - accept what you have and take pride in it!  
We love being in nature, we like the large lot sizes and privacy, and we very much appreciate the uniqueness of all the home (we HATE developments where all the houses look the same and are practically touching) we also enjoy being close to farm markets to buy fresh foods.  
Country atmosphere and still easy access to Cleveland sports and entertainment.  
Rural setting -close to the city  
Large lots and rural atmosphere. Very nice neighbors.  
Enjoy the small town "feel"  
Small, safe and quiet town. Friendly people. Predominantly white. Good place to raise a family.  
Small town feel. Great schools. Safe. You need to listen to young families. They will keep Chesterland alive and make it thrive.  
Lot size and not city tax  
Safety, general friendliness of residents, police and fire/emt responsiveness  
Country living, large lot zoning, police and fire department are excellent  
Community feel - small town, good place to raise children



Rural atmosphere, family oriented community, good school  
Rural area, quiet, large lots size  
Quiet area, large lots  
Wonderful neighbors who take obvious pride in properties  
rural atmosphere, small friendly community, large lots, safe neighborhood  
Small community, excellent school district, country living at its best.  
The quiet peaceful feeling is why I have lived here over 50 years.  
quiet living  
Mostly country living, decent lot size, it is not a city, still not too densely populated  
Quiet community, minimum acreage for homes, friendly people  
The peace and tranquility of our township. Also, that it is a township and not a city.  
Greenery and distance between properties  
The people are friendly and helpful. The police department is very helpful.  
A township prevents the ever rising criminal element. Keep high rise apts or condos out of our township, helps keep transients out of our community! This is only one of a few places to live with excellent police and fire depts at our daily needs.  
I feel quite at home in Chesterland. It was the best move I ever made.  
Getting away from the hassle of daily life. Not densely populated. Connecting with nature.  
lot size is larger than average  
When we first moved here it was beautiful over 30 years. It was quiet and peaceful. It, seems as though neighbors don't respect their neighbors. They throw garbage, cans and bottles all over the neighborhood streets. They often burn anything they feel like burning including garbage! The fire department allows this even when people call, they come out and see no hose, etc. They talk to the people and just leave. They let the fire burn out on its own and they are in the house the entire time! Also, none of these people have a burning permit! The only thing I like the most is my house!  
It's a peaceful quiet town. Easy to access shopping and hiking.  
benefits of big city being close but out of Cuyahoga County. Taxes, insurance and crime went down. People are friendly.  
The land we have! We love our street and the privacy!  
The rural feel but still being close to the cities amenities  
Large lots, good schools, conservative community  
Rural atmosphere but not far from shopping.  
Other than the dollar general store, I like how our stores are classy, not mainstream or cheap. I like well water instead of neurotoxic fluoridated city water. I like that there are churches and temples in the area of all denominations.  
Small government, large lots, semi-rural, easy access to downtown, low crime, hiring own trash contractors  
The quiet and open spaces.  
Rural living, low taxes, wooded lots  
Small town  
Prefer the semi-rural life to living in a city. Was more rural when we first moved here in 1977, then to our second house (also in Chesterland) in 1985. Like the atmosphere of having more space, but still being close enough to have easy access into the city and pretty much anything you need - including good schools and close proximity to hospitals, shopping, etc.  
I like having 2 acres of land and no RITA taxes.  
Rural atmosphere  
Small community  
Large lots, affordable  
semi-rural atmosphere but conveniently located near highways with quick access to downtown Cleveland  
Rural character. limited development. no big box stores. high rises. limited government. lower taxes and expenses.  
Living in the country  
Rural atmosphere, friendly and safe environment  
Openness - rural atmosphere, access to 271



low taxes, safe neighborhood  
Quiet and large lots. Close to cities while being almost rural.  
We are a friendly town that minds its own business. All necessities are readily available without being overcrowded. So far, traffic has not escalated to the point where you hear a lot of horns.  
Rural setting, parks, would support annex to city vs township with greater gun control laws  
Rural atmosphere. Space between neighbors. Expanse of trees, fields and wildlife.  
Private, rural-ish, convenient living with more freedoms than city living.  
The semi-rural atmosphere and proximity to Cleveland. I enjoy nature and seeing deer, turkeys, foxes. and the occasional mink.  
Green space, natural beauty, no major industry, small town feel  
Still a township with some rural character. No apartments. No local income tax.  
Convenience to freeway - shopping, church, gas stations, drug store  
Being able to have land. The school district.  
Small town feeling. Lots of green space.  
The semi-rural atmosphere and spacious lot sizing.  
The rural atmosphere. It hasn't changed much in the last 60 years which I am thankful for.  
Rural character, low noise, large distance from our home to commercial areas. We love all the wildlife traveling through the large green spaces.  
friendly community and greenspace  
Mostly nice place to live with nature  
Safety and low taxes  
Lots of nature/trees/birds; Close to shopping/highways but still feels like country  
Close to the city, yet quieter and comfortable; friendly people; good schools; affordable  
Nature, the quiet  
rural, quiet, trees  
Reasonable taxes at the moment. Large lots.  
A rural quiet environment to raise families.  
Quiet  
Who paid for this awful survey!!! Small township - quiet and residential country living  
Because it's a country setting and the people are pretty nice.  
country or rural feel because of the open spaces. We love that Chesterland is not a typical suburb. Its freedom and its people.  
Proximity to city and country. Great parks nearby. Good schools. Small town feel.  
It's a safe and friendly community!  
Still have lot of trees and green grass which makes it beautiful. Still small, not living on top of each other, can't peer into neighbors windows  
Sense of community, country living, neighborhoods  
large lots. Rural setting. Close to 3 cities - Chardon, Willoughby and Mayfield.  
The land and its wildlife.  
Open spaces! A rural community with large lots. Conveniently located stores.  
Rural area with large lots. Small community atmosphere.  
Still a township with some rural character. No apartments, no local income tax.  
Easy access to better towns to the north and west and easy access to I271 and I90.  
Semi-rural with lot sizes that provide privacy! Good schools.  
It's semi-rural. Not as much suburban BS and more freedoms for rural living.  
Closeness to big city, rural, small population, landscape with trees and openness  
Quiet, not so congested  
Rural atmosphere  
Large lots. Green space but not too far from shopping in Mayfield and Mentor.  
Rural atmosphere, nice wide open spaces  
The people are more friendly than the city  
Quiet, peaceful, freedom, amazing schools

Safe, friendly, open space, semi-rural, great schools  
That it is a township and its ambiance.  
Life moves slower. The land is gorgeous. The emphasis on rural living. Safe. Good schools.  
It has just everything you need in the center of town. It is like living in a small town. People are very friendly. It makes you also feel safer. Too much expansion would be a bad mistake.  
The small town. The beautiful trees and landscape surrounding our town.  
My street and the open acreage that we all have  
Country atmosphere with close access to convenient services  
It's country-ish but not too far from downtown - restaurants, major league sports etc.  
Safe, quiet, laid back, friendly community  
I like the small town rural feel. I like that I'm within walking distance to most everything I need.  
Rural atmosphere  
The rural atmosphere but still close to Cleveland  
country feeling, quiet and beautiful  
Country living, closet to city, great schools  
Best: Rural feel but close to Cleveland and the Heights. Geauga park district. Beautiful farms. Natural settings. good schools. Historically Chester was a pt stop on the way to Chardon. It lack an uptown feel Although there are great ma & pa businesses sprinkled around. If i was fixing up Chester I would focus on small biz and improve the look of the town.  
No city water! no city sewers! This is not Mayfield!  
Quiet, country like but close to city life  
Rural atmosphere. Larger lot sizes give greater privacy. Small convenient business center we have now.  
Large lots, no local bus transportation, no city water  
Safety and natural beauty  
The rural atmosphere  
Privacy, proximity to areas of Cleveland.  
Chesterland is beautiful. The large lots, rural atmosphere, abundance of trees and wildlife make it a serene place to live. We enjoy the great schools, small shops, neighborly feel, and lower taxes. Chesterland is also a good location - to world class care (Cleveland Clinic), to the freeway, and to more shopping.  
Peaceful, safe, uncrowded  
Small town feel, safe neighborhoods, good schools, for the most part friendly people.  
Where I live, I can walk to almost everything I need. I love the small local businesses. I feel safe here, have nice neighbors and housing values are good.  
The rural atmosphere and friendly people.  
I lived here since 1960 and I love it here.  
5 acre lots, prompt care when calling for an ambulance  
Chester has the flavor of the country, but the convenience of the city amenities close by.  
Rural atmosphere. No buses.  
We like the feeling of living in a small town. There isn't a lot of traffic and we feel we have a safe neighborhood.  
Country feeling  
Quiet rural atmosphere  
Large properties  
Feels safe, quiet, country-like atmosphere  
No income "RITA" tax. Low property taxes, no water or sewer bill, I can shoot on my property. I can walk our street and not be run over by cars. The friendly neighbors, police and fire department. Not being a suburb of Cleveland, we are Geauga County!  
It's familiar. I grew up here. That's not to say I would not re-locate and probably will someday (south to warmer climate).  
Rural community green space. Good school system.  
Community just close enough but just far away enough  
Country with urban amenities!

Somewhat of a "country" living atmosphere, close to "cities" and their "conveniences" Backyards abundance of nature woodland animals and many assorted birds to nature ones soul!!

The quiet, non-congested roads along with the many trees and no large stores or apartments. Also, no bus line.

Rural atmosphere

Large lots, large agricultural lots. Very small amount of apartments, duplexes, multifamily or rental homes - no multi homes or apartments would be even better! Solitude and peace. Well Water! Septic Systems!

Large lots. The quiet.

rural living close to freeway

The rural atmosphere

That we are a township, NOT a city. Great school and fantastic library and post office. Fire and police are great.

Low crime and since we aren't in (or part of) cuyahoga county don't have to deal with their issues.

That it's a quiet township. Not a city.

Quieter. Little more space in yards. slightly more rural life.

Rural atmosphere without being too far from medical, shopping and restaurants, good schools

Rural atmosphere

That it manages to maintain a semi-rural, small town feel and atmosphere. Hope it stays that way.

Feeling safe and small town feeling. Great police and fire department.

Our house. Close to chagrin falls and mayfield road

Location- country feel but close enough to the city and everyday necessities.

It's away from the city. Having a larger lot. No street lights/city lights. Quiet!

I love how its home. I like the country feel while being close to the city.

spacious, quiet most of the time, friendly, small town

It's a rural area with large lots and less noise

Fresh air, low noise, low crime, proximity to Cuyahoga amenities, quality neighborhood, small government

Larger lots, quiet, country atmosphere

Poorly designed survey. Not a city! Lower taxes (goofball trustees making things worse). Rural not city amenities

Small town feel, local residents own businesses (not many chains)

semi-rural feel. Excellent schools. Safe community.

Chester township's sense of safety, the amount of land we have allows us to enjoy time outside in our own yard with privacy, and the rural quality of having more acreage, but still having access to necessities.

I like the semi-rural atmosphere as well as the convenience of still living near shopping areas as well as I 271

The people, the schools, the semi-rural nature of the community

Great community. the population and people.

semi-rural environment with lots of space, trees and vegetation between homes; higher elevation and less traffic so air quality is better than in Cleveland; safer

rural atmosphere, large lot zoning, well water and septic systems rather than "city water." Also the fact that we are a township rather than a city of village

low taxes and land cost

Rural feeling, but not far from basic needs, police and fine local services - safety in general. Lower taxes, good schools, attention to road improvements

Quiet living with close grocery shopping, safe neighborhood.

The rural atmosphere yet the convenience to town.

Being close to larger communities, but having the rural atmosphere. Still having control over our property for the most part.

Open spaces, larger lots , No city water cost, no RITA, pretty quiet, nice parks nearby, close to lots of shopping and freeway without living too close to it. good schools!

Beautiful land, roads are pretty good, rural atmosphere, convenience of location, grocery, hardware, restaurants

Small town feel. Mostly peaceful and quiet

We moved here for schools and the longer more private wooded lots of land

Slower pace, friendly

Rural living close to the city/271 agriculture is not discouraged

We like the country atmosphere, and the small town feel. We like the open space, trees, and friendly people. We moved out of a city and have no interest in changing Chesterland.

country, small town feel  
Small town feel, friendly people  
convenient location away from the city  
Out of the way, but close  
Country living with access to city  
Rural, country like setting. Large lots, no big buildings or apartments, Peaceful, quiet, private lifestyle  
semi-rural  
Quiet, larger lot sizes  
Rural country atmosphere. Lovely townshi. Needs to get businesses open. Everyone knows Chesterland makes it difficult to get a business open here. They should HELP new businesses, not make it so difficult.  
Clean  
semi-rural environment: less traffic, etc.  
Rural atmosphere. Large lots. Good schools.  
Rural atmosphere, no traffic, friendly people, close access to shopping  
The residential neighborhoods are nice and the school brought us back to town.  
Geauga Parks, Guidos  
Sense of community  
I moved here to be closer to my job. I love the quiet, rural feeling to my neighborhood. The traffic has gotten worse since I first moved here, but I can see that everywhere I go. I try to shop local. I do not like a dollar store in town.  
Feeling like I live in the country, but a few miles away I'm in the city.  
I've lived here all my life. My family is here. It's a safe, quiet community. Lots of parks, still somewhat rural, but still close to major hospitals for good care. My church is in Chesterland and people are friendly.  
Larger lot sizes, close enough to Cleveland for work and leisure, better schools than Cuyahoga County.  
semi-rural  
I moved here as a child. I've been in Chesterland for 74 years. I really don't like how it has expanded. I miss the rural environment.  
I love the quiet. I love the rural feeling. I love the slower pace and the friendliness of the residents. I love that we are a laid back community that is not trying to be Mentor or Solon.  
quiet surroundings. Peaceful, no sidewalks and street lights. Good access to surrounding areas and reasonable cost of living.  
location  
Safer and clean air. Good schools.  
The open rural areas and the feeling of being in the country but close enough to the city to go to Chardon, Mentor, Willoughby or Cleveland for shopping or entertainment. The best of both worlds!  
Lots of green space, nature. Great police and fire department. Fairly quiet.  
Rural small town feel.  
Rural area, no apartments or bus lanes  
schools and atmosphere  
It's a nice quiet community - and safe! The people are friendly/ The schools are good.  
small town feel. Quality of the schools.  
Lovely quiet community. Friendly residents. Nice homes with plenty of space. Good roads, police and fire services.  
Good variety of commercial and health care services.  
No public transportation  
Semi-rural lifestyle, easy access to large shopping areas, local shopping in one area  
Small town atmosphere. Acreage (sic) allow good distance from neighbors. Rural area, but close to shopping/business/interstate and also close to Geauga Cty attractions. Sense of community with neighbors. Quality of police/fire/schools  
Larger lots, quiet, low crime, moderate taxes, good schools  
the rural small town atmosphere and like the fact that we have not fallen into the trap that turns what is left of our lovely Chester into a city. Why is it that when people move away from the city they immediately begin changing

their property back to where they came from. If they find shopping XXx of the immediate area an inconvenience this is something they should consider before making the move. Some people are never satisfied. Let's keep Chester as lovely as it is now.

I grew up here & raised my family here - the location is great- country without being too far from everything else. it's gorgeous in the fall!

property size, woods

See #3

1. open spac, forested, meadows, open green spaces, large lot requirements2. low traffic, congestion 3. medium-town (not small) atmosphere 4. no multiple-unit apartment complexes 5 semi rural feeling 6. band concerts in summer 7. The bandstand itself and the surrounding park with landscaping - love it!

Country living

The now city feel. Sense of community.

Access to parks and wildlife yet close to hosptial and shopping

1. country-like atmosphere 2. close to bigger cities w shopping opportunities 3. reasonable taxes (real estate) 4. great school district

Living in the country. Peace and quiet. Large lots. Minimal development. proximity to highway. NO RITA.

This is a rip off by Trustees. Why not let trustees who are destroying township pay?? Huh??? I love the green, grass, fields, fresh air, god's nature - deer, etc. Proud of blue-ribbon A-rated schools, our band, of Kiqwaisis and lions club, our parades, our fire and police departments, music in park, the park maintenance. Leave township alone!! GOD BLESS AMERICA

Quiet country like feel while still relatively close to anything you need

Rural small town feel. great schools

Country living but easy access to stores, malls, restaurants, parks school system

Small town feel. good people. not too much traffic. country feeling

Small town atmosphere - friendly people. safety.

Just far enough, yet just close enough to big cities

rural/small town/community feel. small independent stores/restaurant low traffice/congestion majority of time safe community

Peacefulness. We moved in summer of 2019 and have been to 15 of the counties parks. Roads are in good shape.

We like the variety of local restrants and we found a new church home.

quiet and safe

Rural atmosphere yet close to convenient shopping, freeway, etc.

large lots

employment is very close for me

It's a smaller community with some space and it's out away from the "big city."

Rural atmosphere, less government, less crime

Country living, large lots, no apartments or community type living

Close knit community

Rural area, less restrictive zoning

Friendly people, rural setting

Rural, private, small population, limited involvement by governing system, ease of access to urban amenities without them being in my backyard

Country atmosphere, Township not a city, great restaurants, parks

Low crime rate, large yards, space between homes

Able to build camp fires, ride horses, shoot guns

Close to city/freeway

Rural, schools, friendly people

nature and wildlife, relatively small community, not overly developed, less commercial

That it's a township and if you drive 8 miles in any direction you will be in a city. Country living, close to town

Large lots not living on top of each other

country setting while being 7 minutes from suburbia

The location, township feel, still maintains a small population.

small government, and rural atmosphere, agricultural zoning

My husband and I were attracted to Chester Twp due to the rural atmosphere, excellent schools and low real estate taxes.

Country Feel

I love living in Chesterland! The country feel, large lot sizes, and my privacy. I also love that I can have my Township setting but still be 15 minutes away from Larger cities. If I wanted to have a large city atmosphere I would have moved to one. I love going into town to shop and feel like I know everyone, I love the nature on my 6 acre property. If Chesterland ever became a city or city-like I would move out.

Less crime, less traffic, more green space, better roads, better schools, nicer cops

Rural/country/quiet environment, small government, small population, very residential, no mayor, no RTA, lower taxes, conservative county and way of life, freedom, gun freedom, freedom to keep farm animals, big lots, no public sewer, water and garbage collection, and all the insane costs and taxes that come with them. The fact it is a Township and not a village or city. Good school district.

Large lot size, trees, small town feel

I enjoy the small town rural feel. I also feel very safe living here.

Country atmosphere but close to cities. Hometown feel and less hustle and bustle. Safe place to raise a family.

Size of the community. Excellent school system. Friendly people.

No local taxes, good school system, rural/semi-rural open green space.

Safe, quiet, good location

Trees, schools, safety

Larger lots, rural atmosphere

Larger lot sizes, good schools, the people/community

The small town feel of the town. The comfortable standard of living.

Peaceful, low or no crime, neighbors watching out for each other, seeing the star at night, beautiful, hope to keep it this way

The rural atmosphere

We love the natural beauty, clean air, dark nights, local businesses, peace and mostly quiet.

Park on the square, parks, wooded areas

The nature, great school district, metroparks, privacy, friendly neighbors, reasonable property tax, free water  
Chesterland is the perfect balance of country/rural feel. Close to my work, large properties and quiet neighborhoods. Single family homes maintain the rural structure.

Country small town while being close to the city/freeways. We feel Chester gives us the best of both worlds.

Safety, property restrictions, and the feeling of a small town. No highways, no buses, just the right amount of traffic.

Open space, not congested with traffic, acreage, natural environment

Houses are spread out, No street lights, beautiful land, quiet

Rural living

Tree cover, rural lifestyle

The semi-rural environment and the larger lot sizes of residential areas.

It's relatively quiet

The physical/rural environment. Easy travel to regional amenities. Good public schools

Friendly, welcoming, simple, straightforward people, drug mart, cvs, great police officers

It's been home for 40 years.

Open spaces. Friendly people.

Rural atmosphere with adequate city amenities.

No noise ordinance.

Rural and large lots

The small town USA feel. Wide open spaces yet not that far from the city.

Peaceful, quiet, secure, friendly, large properties

Low crime

Feels mostly safe. Far enough away from busy areas but close enough to have easy access to these things.

The country atmosphere, only essential commercialism, feeling of safety and security

Small town living, no public transportation, good schools  
Nice and quiet community, but needs a ton of improvements!  
Safety, beauty, quite, friendly  
It is a rural community  
No RITA tax, great people, close to the city, however still country living, great schools, nice police department  
small town atmosphere, rural not overly built up and progressive  
Semi-rural, spread out, a lot of green spaces, less restrictions and city ordinances - people get to make their own adult decisions with their lives and property. Safe, less traffic congestion, good speed limits, helpful police, we like the parks and local farmer economy  
Proximity to other areas (Mentor, Bainbridge, Mayfield, Chardon), Natural setting, Police are exceptional to residents who need their help  
It is close to Cleveland but not too close  
My home  
Quiet town, large property, low tax, freedom on our property compared to larger towns and cities. The people. The schools. Parks - although there could be more and more accessible. Safe neighborhood  
The serenity and privacy is great. Sense of security and great schools.  
I like having a lot of space around my house. I think the environment allows us to develop a relationship with our neighbors without feeling like we're on top of each other.  
Country township  
Less traffic, open spaces, larger lots, more rural  
Rural atmosphere. Lots of trees and green spaces. Acreage with most homes so there is some privacy.  
I love the convenience to almost everywhere, the quietness and privacy, surrounded by nature (trees, flowers, small animals)  
rural atmosphere, friendliness of residence, having traffic not congested, good upkeep and repair of roads and a safe environment  
Rural atmosphere  
Good balance of privacy and social space, but a more aesthetically identifiable town 'center' would be welcome to build 'pride' in our community. The park at corner of Mayfield Rd and 306 is ok for a 'starter' but more could be done. It also could be more 'welcoming.' The summer concerts are great but we need winter facilities.  
We like the space provided with a larger lot size and semi-rural environment. We like the proximity to shopping nearby communities. Friendly people  
Rural feel, slower pace  
Semi-rural atmosphere, park availability  
Rural atmosphere, nice neighborhoods, decent roads, good access to Geauga Park System. Taxes are not outrageous. "Big Brother" is not sticking their nose into everything. Independent living. Space to live!  
Ruralness yet close to freeways and what all other towns have that we don't, i.e. Mayfield has excellent schools  
Quiet, fresh air, rural, the park  
Township zoning  
The "country" atmosphere is what appeals to us the most. Things have changed over the 30+ years we have lived here, but the rural feel to Chester Twp. is important to us.  
Hard to comment because having issues with neighbors  
Lack of congestion. Being out in the country yet close to the city. The snowplowing left roads accessible throughout bad weather. Peace and quiet most times.  
semi-rural atmosphere  
Nice people, small hometown  
Small community with united government, corruption, etc.  
Rural atmosphere, schools, woods  
We were attracted to this area's scenic landscapes and throughout all of Geauga County. The proximity to rural areas and downtown Cleveland was a good compromise for us. We appreciate having our church nearby, along with a library, parks & various options for schools. We appreciate having a larger lot, that is affordable, and will hopefully provide us with a family home for many years to come.  
Rural, quiet, small shops, large lots, well water, safety



Rural atmosphere is maintained.

**Q3. What are your reasons for living in Chester – “other”.** This question was multiple choice, but had an open-ended option “Other – please specify”. These are the responses to the open-ended option.

Close to freeway, shopping

Love the county

Central to medical and commercial

reasonable price of homes

Expense low with land affordable to build home it was country in the 60s

I have 220' of deep pitch the new road is higher can't cut the grass and cattails can't afford cost to cover it.

great place to raise my family

close to hospitals

My home's location

privacy

No public housing complexes

parks

Moved to be closer to daughter in Russell, Senior services are great in this area.

Access to Church St. Anselm

Green space and trees.

Comfortably live and let live attitudes

People are kind and just a nice place to live

What I could afford to buy

Convenience to I271

Great people live here

i like the home i live in

Fresh air - no pollution

low crime

Friendliness of residents

Clean water and air

Cheaper homes in proximity to Chagrin River Valley

Friendly neighbors and good people

Moved here in 1963

Good neighborhoods

Found a beautiful piece of property

Demographics - Township not a city or village.

more centralized to other places - easier to get somewhere

downsize

close to non-rural amenities

peaceful

It's a township

close to work

close to church

friendly people

No riots!

township

location close to larger suburbs and their amenities

minimal riff-raff

no rita tax

used to be schools but they have gone downhill

park system

nice restaurants and parks

It is a nice place to live. Pretty.



more friendly people  
location  
friendly  
friendlier people  
wooded areas allow for wildlife  
open space  
no city income taxes  
Excellent police and fire  
close to stores in chardon  
Close to job in Mayfield  
Non-public water and sewer  
Parks and hiking trails  
West G needs to end open enrollment because there is no motivation for families to move to Chester.  
born here  
larger house  
Lack of Racial diversity  
no sewer or city water  
Near workplace without being too close to the city.  
just good people  
friendly people and businesses  
few apartments, low residential density  
Convenient to freeway  
close to 271  
no public transportation  
ease to get to 271  
access to i271 and i90  
not close to neighbors  
location  
nice neighbors  
catholic church  
Wife grew up here  
close to Cleveland  
close to freeways  
Quality of housing  
convenience to grocery store  
Beautiful  
trees  
EMS, Police, Fire  
proximity to Cleveland  
secluded  
nice people  
Wells and septic and small government with limited power!  
Been here long time  
No apartments or housing developments  
not true of real estate taxes  
I can't think of two more. Would not move here again without major changes to the township and living.  
Less state restriction on township government  
parks  
Strict commercial zoning  
Investment opportunity  
St. Anselm Church school  
House hunting and ended up here..

Friendliness, sense of community  
convenient access to 2 major shopping districts (Mayfield and Mentor) without the traffic.  
Not a tourist spot  
Access to churches  
Caring neighbors  
circumstance  
close to nature  
White neighborhood  
Wanted my children to grow up in a small town  
within 10-15 minutes of larger shopping areas  
Room for a big garden  
larger lots  
peace and quiet  
no apartments  
Awesome wildlife!  
community  
Close to libraries, garden centers, food markets and friendly neighbors  
No apartments  
I can't afford to go to a place that's better and offers real services and a real government.  
Closer to work  
Close to work  
grass roots form of govt  
close to work  
No bike trails/not walkable  
social services/availability for the elderly  
Better air quality  
As a township, agricultural uses are protected by Ohio Revised Code.  
location convenience  
Don't know  
less air pollution  
NO RITA (local income taxes)  
Enjoy nature and wildlife  
Not a village or city  
access to city/medical care  
convenient to medical facilities and alternate shopping  
Nice people  
I live with my parents who moved here  
Privacy  
Rural yet 20 minutes to any shopping  
convenience/proximity to denser shopping areas and restaurants  
Better neighborhood, quality of air, helpful government facilities

**Q5 - Improving quality of life. Is there anything that Chester Township could/should do that would improve your quality of life in Chester?**

Improving quality of life. Is there anything that Chester Township could/should do that would improve your quality of life in Chester?  
I think the township does a good job of providing services without being too intrusive or too expensive - stay that way! If there were more sidewalks and better bike access that would help but I'm not sure how realistic a bike path along 322 and 306 seems like a good idea.  
Have a flea market/farmers market every weekend in good weather.  
improve or get a better grocery store  
Add bike lanes to the streets.

Love living in the area.

yes. Adopt a noise ordinance. We have recreational shooters near us and the constant noise is irritating. Also, try to get residents who store large boats and RVs in their yard. to screen them from view. Finally, there are a number of nearby residents who openly store junk in their front or side yards and they are eyesores to say the least.

Yes. Put a Decibel restriction on the Chester Tavern. when they have a band I can hear the lyrics in my house with the window closed. Less restrictive zoning in this case is a very bad idea. Also, enforce the speed limits.

Remove the people shooting guns in my back yard. Make people wear face masks.

The trustees could work together peacefully and respectfully. Fund police and fire services better. Better management of township funds.

Yes - expand Giant Eagle!!!

fix the roads. more police.

No passing on right sign at 306/Mulberry

More family activities, expand playground

continue good community service; police, fire, roads

restrict or have guidelines for shooting guns - being considerate of neighbors.

Leave it as is - do not turn it into a Chardon or Mayfield Hts. Let it be comfortable.

Reopen senior center soon!

Chester should become stronger with mandatory front yards be maintained better and not let residents use a front yard become a junkyard, especially in 1 1/2 acre lots and less Ex - Manchester Farms area (and behind)

Better zoning (Junk cars, trailers, etc) are awful. Neighbors running home businesses like car repair is annoying.

Nothing. Keep it rural!!

No

Stop haphazard digging of ditches. No regard for erosion or natural flow of water. One foot ditches have come 3 feet wide and 3-4 feet deep. Sides constantly eroding.

Just help fill these deep pitches in front of house. They are deep and dangerous I hate to spray and kill the grass.

Have zoning reprimand those people who are NOT keeping their properties maintained.

Bike trail on roads, sidewalks among residential areas, main roads.

Have a community building for residents to use.

Rec center - Build one! Make old retail places take better care of their properties street face.

Have a nicer downtown area!

traffic

Develop a more walking friendly center of town

Better grocery store; continue to improve recreational parks

Reasonable home maintenance - taking care of your property. No gun shooting in neighborhoods. Limit number of cars on property.

Keep 322 a 2 lane road. Keep public transportation out. Have a police presence on residential roads. we never see a police car cruising our street.

City water and sewer

Better grocery store

Less building on lots under 3 acres

Keep the commercial areas centrally located.

Update commercial buildings

Nothing specific

Better grocery store

no

Sidewalks along Mayfield Rd.

Slow down on Mayfield Rd to 35 MPH from West Chester to Caves Rd.

Build a community/rec center

Attract a nicer grocery store than Giant Eagle.

Not sure

Improvement with snow plowing, esp going West on Wilson Mills.

Restrict off road vehicles (4 wheelers and dirt bikes) on our streets and power lines (property)

Lower taxes.

The addition of city water to allow local business expansion ie Giant Eagle.

Encourage diversity. The number one reason I consider selling is racist behavior witnessed in schools.

Better grocery store other than Giant Eagle. (Worst store for the Chesterland location). Tornado Sirens - to alert residents of possible issues. Better use of Chester School property - recycle dump looks terrible. Stricter zoning laws - some property look trashy - both residential and business. Community center and pool. All other communities have this! It's shameful that we don't

Lower speed limits on side roads especially Sperry rd. North of Mayfield.

Guns going off is scary - also fire works on small lots close to other homes and noise at all hour from them. bike paths

No, love it here after 40 years as resident. I like the country-rural living. No changes needed.

We have big standing water issues due to poor drainage. Road dept. tried to help out but still bad.

I have a budget. Public official in Geauga think we have an open pocketbook. sPENDING is out of control

Better grocery store. One main school campus. High school is a disgrace. We need a community center to use for parties, activities.

Better public transit. Better zoning - excess fast food.

More gym options. Add street lights. Coffee options (Arabica is awful). More mom pop shops

Keep current lot sizes and zoning. No sidewalks and no busses. Keep our streets safe. No apartments or multigenerational housing keeps our water tables safe and our property values high

Beautify the commercial district. Add bike lanes/paths

Improved vision of township communicated by leadership

This township needs an identity and a focus. There is no sense of community anymore. The business district has terrible shopping choices (I personally leave Chesterland to shop). The community needs zoning that would make it attractive and more uniform vs. a free for all - build what you want attitude. More sidewalks would also be nice.

Also need housing options for senior. you spend your whole life here, but then have to move when you no longer can or need to keep a large home.

Increase minimum lot size for new construction. Strict adherence to zoning.

Stop scraping my grass away

Get multi family developments for seniors and young people who want to step down from bigger house

I like the area and cleanliness of the town.

add sewers, add sidewalks

No

have more of a shopping district with town center.

more shopping

Stop commercial expansion as there are many vacant areas!

Allow clubs to form should the opportunity arise. Neighboring areas have social clubs like American Legions and Masonic organizations while Chester Township does not. Utilizing downtown park the same way Chardon does with the square.

I don't know

Property taxes are too high

Noise ordinance. Speeding on side roads. Dirt bike on main streets and side streets. 4 wheelers on residential streets, rock bands, loud noise.

Better grocery store and a Dunkin Donuts

Improve the downtown area - Hodge podge zoning of business

Road improvements. Rec center.

City Water

Traffic signal at Mayfield and Sperry. Dangerous.

Roads.

Community center with pool. Improve business district (downtown) aesthetics. Sewer systems.

Change a little - Chesterland has been the same for decades with a lack in shopping, eating and recreating. Other communities that are close by like Chardon Chagrin Falls or Bainbridge have all expanded or added to their town centers - we have not!

I've lived here for 50 years, I would not like anywhere else. Leave the good alone.  
Conduct random inspections of properties well, septic, junk, trash, homes  
Improve run down properties - too much junk in a lot of homes. Downtown areas is horrible. Worst in Northern Ohio.  
I think it is important that Giant Eagle has a large space to expand so they can offer more varieties. A community center for gathering (nice for young and old). Paved biking paths would be great.  
We need a better grocery store!!  
Do what's best for the township, bring in review over turn the marijuana laws or get rid of all the other garden and grown centers  
Maintain property values. No more auto part stores. Limit big box stores.  
nothing  
Love living here  
Need to develop a 'center of town' that is neighborhood friendly  
lower taxes  
Recruit more business. Clothing stores, sporting goods, bagel bakery, arcade, movie theater, appliance sales, etc.  
Improve flow of traffic  
Create a town center  
Traffic patterns on Mayfield & 306 Both could use turning lanes, especially during rush hours.  
Reduce noise level - smells from family owned businesses.  
Better management  
More city services. If you are not using the public schools you get few services for your taxes.  
Widen Mayfield rd. Encourage businesses to improve their properties, signage. Privatize parks so they can be safer and cleaner  
Improve quality of roads, including driving areas and pedestrian sidewalks.  
Make Perennials Preferred and some of the housing surround it clean up their property.  
Crack down on speeders on back roads.  
Social gatherings. Love the Kiwanis summer concerts - probably won't have them this year!  
Why so many cemeteries?  
Better traffic flow rt. 322  
I understand that most residents prefer a less restrictive zone but the fact that there are no rules regarding many aspects of upkeeping your property can make it difficult to resolve issues with your neighbors as listed above. There should be more rules regarding upkeep of your property when within a certain proximity to a neighbor's home.  
Some old businesses are looking dumpy. The owners need to do something  
Limit/reduce building to keep it less congestion. Keep out multi unit housing. We want rural - not city.  
A little concerned about presumed "drug route" through Chester  
From Cedar to Sherman to Caves a walking, bike path. Also Mayfield.  
Better diversity of shopping (grocery, eat in restaurant)  
Clean up commercial business  
Negotiate a contract with a rubbish hauler (like Russell) to bring down the present high cost.  
Maintain Chesterland as a small town. New taxes are pushing older residents to leave. Not by choice but economics. Give tax breaks to older residents  
Septic tank regulations, too expensive to install new system.  
Consider traffic light on 306 at the entrance to Geauga Plaza  
Walkable neighborhoods and redesigned downtown areas.  
Lower taxes  
Don't aim to make too many radical changes to denigrate what we have. Would like to see our trustees better support our recycling park as is more the case in nearby communities such as Russell with communication to residents (such as when glass recycling resumes and when bins are scheduled to be emptied)  
Install a swimming pool/recreation center with adult programs!  
Chester is a township that has plenty of money to improve the look of the town. It's ugly and more like urban sprawl. I think there are some slum lords too that some commercial properties sit empty and vacant, a depressing look for a town. You could plant more trees.

Bring back taco bell - admit that Guidos is not good.  
Better retail opportunities - national chain restaurants are some far away  
need of city or Lake Erie water  
Stop building  
Move recycling its disgusting there  
Less street speeding. Less loud noise-motorcycles  
Keep lot sizes large, keep school up, but attention needs to be on commercial/residential properties - some are in horrible shape. Chesterland was always the community to move to-not so much now.  
Zoning for poorly maintained homes hoarding etc.  
Chesterland has become a pass through and during high traffic hours there are to many cars on the road.  
Maintain roads better with summer and winter maintainance.  
no  
Stop open enrollment! Improve town center by getting rid of the trash dump (AKA recycle Park) in prime township property  
-No lawn mowing on Sundays - Giant Eagle renovation (contact HQ!) - No junkyards on front lawns  
Senior living homes, ranch in a neighborhood  
Should not acquire more businesses, more traffic. Should not install invasive street lights and other services offered by cities!  
-Establish better bike/hiking trails(all recreation) - better 'downtown' experience by adding sidewalks and shopping options (better grocery store). -Establish a building review committee for unified aesthetics It is a mish mash now.  
More active places to shop. Thanks for women's safe , dollar store, drug mart, etc.  
Keep up the maintenance of roads better  
Keep schools just open to people who live in Chesterland - No open enrollment  
Stay out of everyone's business Don't need the oversight  
No  
keep rural  
Planned neighborhoods with amenities or sidewalks, senior housing for middle income families  
Senior transportation. Stop the gun fire we often hear!  
Prices at local stores are high. I leave town to shop. Also, no groceries with local fresh produce other than the limited hours farmers market.  
Make/enforce zoning laws. There are houses in our neighborhood that look terrible - home in disrepair and the yard is full of debris/trash.  
Pave my street! It is paved, but full of crater-sized holes. Remove/eliminate structures that are falling down. More effective zoning and/or enforcement. Eliminate the unsightly "car lot" at the corner of Wilson Mills and Sperry road where cars/rv haven't moved in Years!!  
Remove properties that look like Beverly Hillbillies - junk car lots Honky animal pens, etc.  
Develop and form and architectural review board form new commercial dev. Dollar General is a POOR excuse to be in Chesterland. Zoning giving problems to the Albino Family, develop, no problems for Dollar Store?  
Better lighting every street has a street light at the top or beginning of it but ours!  
No need for a street like Sherman to have a 45 MPH speed limit! There should be a bike lane.  
Have lower real estate taxes.Senior citizens should not have to pay school taxes. My kids have been out since 1990.  
I have no need for the schools.  
Less new business and no more restaurants  
Walking/bike trails, Tennis courts (Pickle ball), Better retail choices, community center  
The commercial appeal of 322 is horrendous. There is no uniformity to the buildings. The Giant Eagle need to be torn down and rebuilt to current standards. There needs to be more places up to the standards of Guidos.  
There should be a community pool  
Sidewalks  
More rural. No big retail or development.  
Geauga Market house should be restored to be like it was- like a mini West Side Market. There should be more for kids to do. No pool. Besides recreation counsel summer camp there are no kid friendly activities.

Solve water quality issues. Solve drainage issues/flooding. Promote small business.

We would like to see the township establish and enforce noise ordinances. We feel that installing stop lights at busy intersections (such as Sherman rd. and Rt 306) would provide better safety, convenience and traffic flow. Township directed garbage collection would prevent trash at the street and garbage trucks on our streets on a daily basis.

No

Mayfield road gets so clogged. More lanes if possible.

reduce property taxes

Less people

Get schools back to 'excellent' ranking. Wide Mayfield Rd.

55+ communities and condos. Improve school system.

Improving traffic flow on 322

Do a better job of maintaining the roads and improve snowplowing (Kirtland does a much better job snowplowing)

Get rid of Giant Eagle - ours stinks need a Heinens

Better options for senior living

Clean up commercial district esp. Mayfield Rd. Incentives to bring in national restaurants chains.

Loud dirt bikes ride for hours in our small neighborhood (cranwood/kirkwood). a few weeks ago, three young boys had rode for three hours (not exaggerating). My husband and I went for a walk and one of the bikers drove head on towards me-like playing chicken. Took my phone out the next time they came around. Someone eventually called the police on them and they stopped riding. Is there an ordinance for this kind of noise abuse?

Not really.

Better grocery store - Giant Eagle never home products needed.....

Lower property taxes

Cut the petty arguments among leaders - work on community agenda (not personal).

More biking opportunities and creation of a town center

City pool

Work on zoning so that businesses are not being run in residential areas

People who have junk in their yards should be cited. They thing living here means don't clean up yards, etc.

Have a rec center

55+ over townhouses or condo community

Beautifying/increasing shopping diversity in 'downtown' - more greenspace and landscaping in 'downtown'. Tighter restrictions on shooting guns in neighborhoods and residential streets.

Less zoning/none

noise ordinance

Keep the small town atmosphere. Have more community activities.

In the winter, side streets need to be better plowed

Better road maintenance, more safety traffic lighter in some intersections (notably Wilson Mills and County Line, Mulberry and Caves!

not become a city. We would consider moving.

stricter laws on property # of cars and equip on each property

do not build any more commercial buildings

Clean up all extra vehicles/cars, trucks, farm equipment in peoples front yards

Smaller housing/condos due to maintenance of property limitations

Community pool and recreation center

Lower my taxes! We don't have any kids in West G and the taxes are too high so need to consider moving to areas more affordable.

need senior housing What ever happened to middle school property plans

Contain drugs and drug related crimes. Remove decrepit properties that are collapsing or are dangerous.

Maybe offer sewers.

The agenda never changes: make people pay more to become more urban. We feel threatened by some of the proposed changes described in this survey. Businesses can do a lot on their own to improve the business district and attract customers. We oppose dense development that would result in city sewers and water.

Get rid of retail vacancies, junky residential properties. Get rid of dilapidated nursery on 322 or clean it up. Have trustees worry about business vs. minutia (ie garage sale signs)

Sprucing up some 'downtown' areas and making better use of space, ie the old Chester school, disguising the recycling area.

lower taxes smaller government

Any improvements at any time is always welcome.

We moved to Chesterland about 2 years ago for the reasons above. We do love it here so far. We are a family of 4 that come from Lyndhurst. We miss the city services and event Lyndhurst had. It would be great if Chesterland planned more community events - summer cookouts, movie night in the park, community carnival, parades, fireworks - things that bring people and families together. We would love to have a community center with fitness, pool, reception gathering hall access.

Perhaps more shopping - clothing store, aldis (small) more recreational - swimming pool, minature gold, small bowling lanes

Slow down the speeders. somehow address the littering. As a community service I picked up litter on Sperry from Wilson Mills to Sherman and got a lawn size bag of garbage.

no

no

Not really, we just love it here.

Senior living apartments - one story only or condo's for seniors.

The trustees need to stop fighting and get one garbage hauler

Walking sdiewalks, running trials, community rec center, community pool/splash pad, more restaurants

I would not change the rural atmosphere of Chester Township!

No

Need more amenities. 1. bridal paths 2. atv paths 3. walkability in commercial district 4. beautify (sic) and neighborhoods

keep lot sizes bigger

Better grocery store please and nicer cross road

Not allowing backyard target shooting.

Keep Chester rural

More park development, Water and sewer

Make park with walking trails. Make a dog park.

Better zoning to clean up unkept yards.

We are desperate for better shopping. We do 95% of our shopping in Cuyahoga or Lake county.

No except it would be nice if the township had a contract with a single waste hauler.

ban all political signs larger than 2'x3'

leave it alone.

Perfect the way it is!

Maintaining a home town feel

Bike paths would be nice.

Erosion on our property from several neighbors and street/park run off water.

Eliminate your right wing political agenda from local decision making so that you represent all residents. After 30 years here I plan to leave because of your vocal extreme right agenda.

No

Keep the small town feel. Keep big businesses out! Be mindful of zoning

Improve traffic slow at 306 and 322 during peak hours

Road conditions in winter, schools are declining

Healthier fast food places would be nice. Something similar to panera.

Bigger grocery stores

Community center

Better town center to incorporate a walkable inviting downtown area. This doesn't have to be overly developed, but bike/walking sidewalks would be great. Adding more entertainment for kids would also be great! A rec center would be ideal!



We have some beautiful buildings in Chester, Guidos, etc. But others need a lot of help  
Tear down greenhouse coming into Chesterland from Gates Mills! Embarrassing  
Roads, county line is horrible, trash and recycling at my home  
Additional parks/outdoor activities, public water/sewer availability  
Unsure  
Improve commercial district appearance and new grocery shopping. The Giant Eagle is terrible too small and too limited.  
Offer housing style living for over 55 residents who want to stay in Chesterland. Maywood it is!  
Plow the streets better in the winter. Get a better school superintendent. No more open enrollment at school.  
Adding sidewalks would make visiting local stores and restaurants even more convenient.  
Maintain rural atmosphere  
Stop wasting money trying to change Chesterland.  
Improved services e.g. trash pick up, better internet/cable options  
Continue to try to attract businesses into all the vacant commercial space.  
Reduce the traffic, preserve historic sites  
Create an identity for the township. Think more place-making rather than strip mall.  
Curbside trash and recycling pick up. Night time noise ordinances,  
Do not make any decisions as I feel better capable than most to make my own.  
Personally, I would really like the center of town/shopping district have a more cohesive look and be more walkable. While we are not going to be Chagrin Falls. I think the city lacks charm. Then having safe bike paths to get there. More moderate to higher end bars and restaurants too. No Chains!!  
Need more and diverse types of business dining and shopping. Hate to say it but maybe a chain store restaurant to spark something. When I was growing up here, we had a bowling alley, a community swimming pool, and a dance hall etc. Lots to do and lots of jobs for teens.  
Trash and waste removal. City water/ sewer systems.  
Develop a noise ordinance and enforce  
I'm vegan and eat at my tai weekly. Excited about Pulp. More vegan options would be great. Chesterland Giant Eagle is the worst grocery store I've ever been to. An improvement would be smart.  
Buildings became run down/abandoned. More open store fronts. Tress and powerlines falling. Lack of vision and pride in community as neighborhoods start to run down.  
Respond to 911 quickly  
Please leave Chester alone! There are plenty of neighborhoods that have all the amenities very few left that have the safe, rural feel that Chester has. You can never get it back! I prefer not to give people a reason to come to my neighborhood.  
More stores - grocer, retail. Get rid of Giant Eagle. Put in better stores. Giant Eagle sucks. The worst store. More restaurants to pick from.  
Can't think of an improvement except local politics with too much infighting, too petty!  
Force residential and business owners/renters to maintain their property.  
leave it rural  
Clean up business properties, more activity availability - rec center, bike trails  
Restrict development, lower taxes even if it means cutting services.  
There are a few buildings that ruin the aesthetics. They should be renovated or torn down. Sidewalk access to middle of town.  
Additional senior health care - visiting nurse  
Maintain a website to better provide information about services that are currently available and timely updates.  
Increase access to municipal water supplier lines. Road updates.  
Better road surfaces. Safer bicycling - educated drivers to laws and courtesy.  
Run city water to our house.  
Small group of vocal naysayers need to move.  
Newer grocery store, better shopping and more choices in restaurant, existing shops and restaurant old and dingy looking. Chagrin Falls has much nicer look and landscaped nearly  
More patriotic flags, flowers to show support of all USA in front of all buildings.

end the speed trap mentality. Better township communication between township and other agencies. Township acts as though they are over worked and too good to communicate with other agency on residence.

Mandate how many cars can be in your yard.

Do not turn it into a busy city, we are close enough to anything a city offers that we don't need to bring it into our city!

Keep it green!

Promote and incentives for building to be updated in commercial district.

Take seriously zoning complaints

Change the zoning commission and regulations to be more resident friendly. They are getting out of hand. Don't list what is allowed and if not listed, it is not! List what is not allowed and assume other ok. Historically these people have been over restrictions.

Commercial zoning seems inconsistent. Seems to be sprawl in a relatively small area.

Stop cutting all the trees down. Incorporate them into the commercial district.

The local government is open to ideas and want to improve the township. When we moved in 2020 there was a lot of home boys and gals controlling the township. We went to one township meeting in the first couple of years here and couldn't believe the closed in mindedness of the residents.

Need for senior housing (affordable) need for housing to bring the young people back to the communities

Additional grocery store. No Walmart or Big box stores. Restrict heavy truck road access. Too many landscapers here now.

More food/shopping options in town.

Pave the recycle center

Quit trying to turn us into a city.

Chester township fire rescue has a facebook page and keeps us posted. Maybe police department can post community updates such as expect traffic delays due to road construction, etc. More posts to keep us updated on our community.

Less commercial zoning. Enforce the light pollution codes.

senior living

Do not remove trees from road sides.

More shopping, dining options, some more walkable areas in commercial district, better governmental facilities

Keep residential roads paved and looking nice. Keep fire and police ready to go. Require zoning to enforce properties to upkeep landscaping

A lot of arrogant drivers that don't have any regard for speed limits

There are rules to follow everywhere! They must be followed and enforced the same for everyone!

lower population

Speders on side roads are out of control. Children are not mindful of traffic when on the roads.

Try and bring local business in vacant areas. Clean up run down areas.

Decent diner restaurants

Addition of sidewalks on main roads. Chester is not walkable

A better grocery store would be huge. I would stay within the town to run more errands. I end up supporting more businesses in other towns because I need to leave Chesterland for groceries.

No it is great as is. Bring back a local grocery store like Russos or Rogers.

Pave the roads, bring in businesses, we have a crappy grocery store, no real businesses in this town because trustees have brains stuck in the 1970s.

Repair water issues on Larel Road not corrected as stated it would be by Road Crew in 2019.

Fix the roads

Hold people/business accountable for their properties. Many run down house/businesses that sit idle far too long.

variety of events: pop up markets, people selling their antiques, entertainment

lower taxes. no apartment buildings

Sidewalks in commercial, better zoning and planning in commercial areas.

Stop speeding on Sperry Road. People honk at us when we turn onto our drive with our blinkers on!

Clean up residential homeowner who use their yard as a junk yard

Keep the area how it is and do not overdevelop community

pool

Better snow removal, lower taxes

Stop allowing people to shoot their guns whenever they like, especially on the weekends!

Improve appearance/zoning of downtown center.

Keep our small town feel. Move community events.

fixing roads

Plow the roads in a timely manner in the winter. Especially the hills. When other communities have clear roads Chester is still a mess and quite dangerous.

I wish it was quiet. I don't like when the kids are riding their dirt bikes or 4 wheelers on residential streets. The stores need improvements, our Giant Eagle is outdated and small. The housing is limited.

lower lakes

Have some zoning so we don't have to look at trash and cars in people's homes.

Sidewalks or walking/biking paths on 306 and 322 to township lines

Make all landlords accountable for their property.

Sperry needs to be repaved

Keep it quiet. Don't develop any more land.

Widden Mayfield Road between Caves and 306

Better schools, better stores - another grocery store

Be more supportive of small businesses to service. Work with strip malls to fill vacancies. Do not allow more strip malls to stay vacant. Do not allow big businesses in..

Keep a small government. Larger lot sizes going forward

Rewrite zoning! Trash in yards, junk care, etc. This is a big problem!

Bike paths along Sherman, Country Line

I like it the way it is

Keep Chester country and don't allow any more cheap construction like dollar store.

Maintain appearance of residential areas, people from city who move here don't maintain their property.

public water

Better grocery store. People are great but selection is terrible. We love the open spaces of the current lot sizes. We can be private or public. Would not want smaller lot sizes/ homes traffic would be horrible.

A recreation center, pool, bigger parks, a facility to rent out.

Widen route 322 from 91 to at least 306.

Better large department store - Walmart, Home Depot. It would be nice if Mayfield Road was 2 lanes where Mayfield changes to 1 lane it is very dangerous to make the turn onto wellswood trail off of mayfield. There should be a stop light there.

Force demolition of vacant collapsing buildings. Get owners to clean up eyesore properties.

Become more industrial, bring more industry, not restaurants

recreation center, pool

More restaurants and open later

We should have a more appealing downtown. Commercial and residential properties are in poor shape. There seems to be no zoning/planning. Largely vacant strip business areas one after the other. Hold businesses and residents accountable for the condition of their properties. This should be a walkable community - sidewalks, trails, landscaping.

Walking on sidewalks

Work on water issue

Make downtown Chesterland walkable with sidewalks and cross walks. Improve the quality of shopping and restaurants, Stop building empty building and use what we have for shopping. Improve the quality of air grocery store.

Plant trees in commercial areas. Put restrictions on size of signage. Create bike paths along roads. Fill existing open commercial buildings before building new ones.

Better snow plowing, better business district, restrictions on shooting guns

Make it more unified - as far as aesthetics. Clean up building area.

Maintain our rural atmosphere. We love that road we live on. It's important it stays like that. We want our children to have the same country experience we had growing up.

More activity

Improve and encourage quality small business. Grocery store needed. Better dining options needed.

Better recycling plan - keep it clean, improve recycling area to improve accessibility

Stop building more office and store buildings - don't need!

Easier entrance to exit to commercial area, making left turns at peak traffic time is very difficult. Please let Giant Eagle expand or try to have a second grocery store.

Restrictions on shooting, speed limits and school bus signs

Better grocery store

Would love a tennis court.. A community center for everyone - not just senior with events - dance lessons, etc.

Exercise equipment. Bike trail on side of road b/c no sidewalks. Keep it a township.

Stop trying to seel out to developers, err.....I mean become a city.

Nothing for children to do , no events, pools, rec center, no sidewalks, no skateboard park

Keep it a township. Don't turn into a city.

More attractive town center, clean up old businesses.

Little motor cycles on streets when walking.

No new construction until existing vacant spaces are 90% occupied. Keep taxes low for retired households so that they can stay in Chester,

A plan to attract retail and casual dining, an indoor place to performances, more attention to establishing sidewalks to make the center of town more walkable

Better parks and community fields

better quality township planning in central area, better quality of retail - we should be premiere not second tier.

Rec center. Remove Mapes - Huge eye sore when you first enter Chesterland. Place is a disgrace. Should be forced to clen it up. Why has the city never enforced this?

Affordable senior housing

Senior housing - so we can STAY here.

Maintain zoning regulations

Enforce existing zoning laws. This isn't happening currently. Property values suffer because of this. Noise ordinance needed. Limit number of pets per household.

Add a senior center with a gym.

Better flow of traffic.

Lower taxes

Vote in our favor at the next zoning meeting

Senior living - cluster homes with 1-2 acre lots for privacy with association fees to cover lawn and landscaping and snow removal. \$250,000-350,000

More family activities. For example, Munson has a home days and everyone is invited. They have stuff for kids, food and it's free.

More services for youth and senior citizens

I prefer Chesterland to remain a township

Reduce property taxes

Elect better trustees (responsible)

Improve center of town, more character, cohesive shopping area, maintain and use park facilities

Lower taxes. Put senior housing in, Be more business friendly in order to attract new business development.

Better eat in restaurant, more hiking trails

Increase police patrols on my street/be more visible.

We would like to see more support for our community and schools! More people should attend the summer concerts at Parkside and attend the school plays

The township needs a noise ordinance so police can respond to shooting in the middle of the night. Twp needs a plan to combat the growing effects of climate change (increased erosion/rainfall, shrinking canopy, invasive pests and diseases that are wreaking havoc on green space.

Keep poeple out that don't like the way we live here. Please keep Chesterland - Chesterland!

Improved bike safety on the roads. Action taken to combat increasing noise pollution.  
None that I can think of. It's perfect as is.  
Generally no. If homes or businesses are obviously abandoned or severely neglected, then for the health and safety of the community, action should be taken to remedy. Also, abuses such as burning of garbage and illegal road use of ATVs and dirtbikes needs to be enforced.  
Get better zoning and have regulations for the houses to be maintained. Chester is looking weathered and its embarrassing.  
Add a turning lane in to businesses on 322, too much congestion  
Commercial area needs improvement, should be more flowing style.  
Shopping, add apartments, Mayfield Road wider, water is terrible  
Get the state to fund all schools though personal income tax. This system is horribly unfair.  
city water  
Make town more uniform and attractive  
Community center, public recreation center, public parks, nicer center of town, more cohesiveness  
Provide garbage pickup. Put in a town pool.  
Allow for development of senior living centers, bring city water everywhere - not just to commercial district. This would increase property values immediately.  
Arts and culture center  
Work on improving what we have. The center of town is two gas stations and a park that you can't see and CVS.  
Our Giant Eagle plaza is tired. There are many buildings near the center of town that are vacant old and should be torn down .  
City water and sewer would be very good for residents and businesses  
Keep large lots  
Better grocery store, places to eat, UPS store, better dog food store, Chester really is behind other communities like Bainbridge and Aurora  
Sidewalk and crosswalk at 322 & 306 intersection. Township supporting small business growth. A rec center would be nice or bowling alley - something to do indoors in the winter.  
Limit mailbox wreckage by road department  
Clean the town up  
Stop passing school levies and developmental disabilities levies. They already consume too much of our tax dollars and our property taxes keep increasing.  
Community events with police, fire, EMS  
Stronger enforcement on eye sore properties.  
Better snow plowing  
zoning enforcement  
Keep lot size and don't allow franchises instead encourage small business.  
Pave Sperry Road  
Yes, instead of a recycle dump should have made a community center with rec area. We spend a lot of taxes for nothing. Look at communities around here - Twinsburg, Mayfield, Solon all have centers.  
A recreation center  
Our biggest issues is with the school board. No more auto parts stores.  
Have a swimming area  
No, but if the community needs something I could support it if it's worthwhile.  
Appearance of commercial district  
More driving space between 322 and 306. Better quality restaurants, better physical appearance of commercial, more activity in the square (not much to offer)  
Maintain rural atmosphere, do not increase housing or add shopping plazas, do not need sidewalks, street lighting  
Community wide trash pick up, another and larger grocery store (Giant Eagle is poor!), water and sewer down route 306  
Do not put in bike paths! Too much money!  
Slowing speed limit on 322

Some improvement to a recreation area, safe biking, a small community room that residents could rent out would be nice.

Better zoning to get rid of empty homes, improve business appearances and bike trails

Would love to see a weekend farmers market, some quality restaurants, sidewalks and bike lanes, improve downtown area, give it some identity

If the county would enforce soil/water regulations - my neighbor 3 lots east just spreads her 5 houses manure over her lot. And now with the temp up, it stinks. It is illegal and no one cares/enforces it. Being allowed to build a garage that would meet my needs.

More walkable, some type of safe biking options

There are many older adults in Chester that would like to remain here but septic and lot sizes are too much to handle for them. A nice adults community newly built would be good.

Better mid-priced restaurants, more affordable housing units, discourage racial bias

Traffic light at 306 and Sherman, another big grocery store

Better zoning

Appearance - business and personal property need to be improved. Town center - should be improved so residents can walk and bike throughout.

Should be a booming area next to Cuyahoga County with Geauga taxes. Nothing ever changes here!

Keep doing a good job of cutting ditch grass. Important getting out of intersections.

Bike path somewhere

Keep the weeds/brush down along roadsides. I was hit by a deer on a motorcycle on mulberry because of hiding places for deer. Also, stones on pavement at large intersection.

When I moved here 20 years ago, the fire, road and police were a family. Now nothing the trustee's worked together now nothing.

I wish more businesses were open later in the evening.

Accountability in our government officials, more support for local startup business, reevaluating the tenure system for teachers at West G.

Better water quality

larger lot sizes, no more parks

Improve recycle park - it's a disgrace, too muddy and always too full

City pool would be nice. It would be wonderful to be able to downsize to a condo or smaller home lot size as we are aging. Very sad there's nothing good here.

I think they should do more events to bring the community together. It would also be nice if Giant Eagle would expand to be more like neighboring ones.

Open a Chipotle restaurant.

bike lanes on 306 and 322, community swimming pool, do more with parks and other land already purchased by township

Senior housing, trash pick up

Better businesses

Like it the way it is.

Limit firearm discharge in populated areas. Limit number of strip malls/stores. Require upkeep of abandoned properties. Limit excess vehicles on property.

More community events to come together and meet each other, farmers market, parade, movie nights, etc.

Some stores could stay open late.

Safer bike/walking options

Lower taxes, stop changing voting areas and get a new board to watch our money.

More places to eat

Ban apartments and condos, 5 acres minimum lot size, lower taxes 50%, increase green space.

Yes, how about some improvements. We have been here for 44 years and nothing hardly has changed. They haven't done anything to improve Chesterland. Same old same old.

Not raising taxes.

Be more informative, give reasons for doing things, be honest and open

I would make it so there is more access to stores like a FedEx office or UPS store.

Stop always changing the rules and regulations for septic every year.  
Allow less burning for better air quality.  
Community center  
Keep green space, don't get commercialized  
Update schools, restrict commercial office space, increase transparency and communication around township initiatives  
Crack down on homes that are not maintained - terrible to have a house that is not kept up on your street.  
City water  
senior living options  
More choice of sit down restaurant  
I do not approve of neighbors being able to shoot guns.  
No large housing developments, nursing homes. Improve grocery store and restaurant selection with non-chains.  
Enforce zoning, garbage pickup  
Keep the rural feel  
speed control on willson mills  
More variety of restaurants, side walk in center area, less auto shops and other mechanical businesses, better grocery store  
More parks  
Try to maintain a rural atmosphere  
Leaf pickup, unified garbage contact, more fast food  
Better grocery options - more organic and fresh produce  
restaurants, walking business district  
Assistance with maintaining houses and property for a reasonable cost for people living alone.  
Better grocery store  
Offer city garbage pick up  
A community pool  
Get a better grocery store or competition for current store.  
Keep properties clean  
Another grocery store, some areas could stand to have higher speed limits and more turn lanes.  
Improve schools, redo west geauga plaza, improve architecture standards  
Continuing to maintain the small town structure and park access for generations to come  
Keep large lot sizes and keep big box stores out  
Maintain sidewalk from Mayfield to Sherman  
Less shopping plazas.  
Allow larger out buildings and flexible placement of them  
Senior living space  
More recreation and pool for the community  
Stop wasting tax payer money.  
Fix our road.  
Require improvements to commercial and residential eye sores.  
More families would like to live in Chester but there are no real family activities (community pool, etc.)  
Enforce zoning laws to remove and clean up homes and businesses.  
Better grocery  
We need better grocery store and more restaurants.  
Maintain the rural smaller town attributes. People move into Chesterland from Cuyahoga County and want to change the things that make Geauga so beautiful and special. We do need more community gathering spaces and activities to grow as a community.  
Need traffic light at Sperry and MAYfield. Monitor speeding traffic  
Repave sperry.  
I am comfortable with things the way they are.  
Improve appearance of commercial buildings, new school buildings, recreation center  
Provide quality senior living facilities



Enforce zoning. Some homesteads in poor condition. We could have a community weekend where we help others who need help with clean up.

Keep the township with limited commercial business.

Better road maintenance, including snow removal.

Nicer central area, get rid of dollar general, better roads, better schools, no crime, zero drug use

Nice facilities for the schools

Provide more community activities.

Have city water and sewer system.

Chester is a great community. If there was some ordinances for home owners and businesses to maintain a clean and uncluttered lot.

City water, it would help our firemen to put out fires.

Improve the way downtown looks. It feels dirty. Don't change the township.

Get a grocery store to compete with Giant Eagle.

revitalize the commercial district

better variety of shopping, more appealing town center, allow variety of businesses to fill empty stores

Add areas to hike/bike safely, add entertainment venue

limited biking trails, need more.

Fix the roads, stop the township political infighting

More recreation areas - parks, trails, pool, rec center, sidewalks, street lights to see at night while walking, vibrant commercial center that's walkable.

Community pool or splash park, better grocery store, more sidewalks

Better shopping/commercial area. Sidewalks on major roads, bike paths

Have the trustees work together instead of bickering.

better upscale restaurants and better grocery stores

Additional grocery store

More outreach to seniors, larger grocery store offering delivery and curbside pickup

More restrictive zoning, add multi-family housing, improve walkability and bikeability, more rec. trails

Ability to get to stores on my motorized wheelchair

No young kids on ATV's on side streets! Or any streets for that matter. Very dangerous

Better grocery options

lower my property taxes

lower taxes

The township could build a more traditional downtown area, with strip of classic two story, brick sytle buildings like Chagrin Falls.

I'm a cyclist, so bike lanes/paths along the main roads would be great!

Full time fire/EMS

Bike path from school to square

Lower taxes

Quicker EMS response

Clean up properties or enforce clean up of properties that are run down and cluttered with debris.

Enforce the recycling. People are dumping trash there.

It seems many people have moved here but can't keep up with their homes and property.

More grocery stores and senior community housing

Affordable living homes for senior citizens.

Limit on roosters. No discharge of large guns

A rec center with a pool and ice rink.

Sidewalks, street lights, bike lanes, improved downtown area with sidewalks

Lower taxes

Improve the residential roads. Better zoning requirements.

Pass an ordinance on open gun shooting. Small acre lots are not the place for shooting guns of any size.

Keep it green

How about a real grocery store so I don't have to drive to Chardon.



Community center with useable rooms for parties. Work out room, and indoor pools. We could charge neighboring communities to use facilities.

Having a turn lane for both 322 and 306 in the commercial district.

No more stores. No chain restaurants. We're happy!

Affordable senior living

Less government and development

Convince some residents that it is inappropriate to fly political flags/banners that contain vulgarities

Nothing I can think of

Be more transparent, honest government

Remove cell tower within view of our windows. Never informed - township did not care for our voice in the matter.

Yes. Put a light at 306 and entrance to Chester plaza

Allow Giant Eagle to expand.

We would love to see sidewalks in residential areas, it would make it safer to walk/exercise.

Sidewalks

Quit trying to bring it up commercially.

Have a garbage removal service, crack down on property owners who don't take care of their property.

Consider cluster homes for seniors

Have businesses clean up property appearance along 322.

Communication from trustees, stop being left in the dark until discussions are already made.

Improving look of business district. Better zoning in residential. Why are there businesses on residential streets?

Most businesses downtown/plazas look like trash

Insure that you do not overbuild/overdevelop it. Do what you can to keep it like it is. Don't make it into Mayfield neighbors

I wish there were more gathering spots, small areas for businesses where you can meet up with moms, friends, have meetings, etc.

Adding additional police

Better grocery store

Empty commercial buildings, lower taxes

No more factory/commercial area. No condos or apartments. A senior housing development would be nice zoning to improve appearance of businesses, less empty buildings, community buildings

Stop adding buildings that sit unoccupied. Monitor traffic and speeding

Get more available shopping to compete with Giant Eagle.

Do not allow apartments

Add bike lanes, add sidewalks, increase snow plow services, better internet options

Get rid of residential and commercial eye sores

lower property taxes

Improve the appearance of the center of town via uniform appearance.

Lower property taxes. Another choice besides Giant Eagle to shop at.

Community center for teens and mid-age, not seniors

Recycling center is often closed and is overall poorly maintained. Attract more boutiques, sit down restaurants and fewer fast food franchises.

Lower taxes

Traffic control on Caves rd.

Better roads, better business areas that offer open stores, lower taxes

Less empty buildings

Sidewalks

We are very pleased with the current atmosphere of the community - the small town feeling. We are happy with police, fire, recreation. The only thing we hope for is a community pool.

Keep it rural.

Improve commercial area, access to parks and recreation areas, walkability

The presence of a community center

Reduce taxes. Increase competency of public officials.

The shopping and restaurants are out of date. You need to get with the times or this will be a ghost town.

Downtown facelift

If we add condos multiple dwelling, the quality of life will go down.

Encourage commercial developed within the existing district

Keep it the same.

Restrict days/times when firearms can be discharged to reduce noise.

Sidewalks; trails to connect paths and parks. Stop building office buildings. Make trashy looking greenhouse clean their area on 322.

More organized zoning

Keep it the same.

Only allow one garbage collection service. Allow recycling of glass at recycle center

Some side streets need to be paved. It would be nice to have sidewalks on main roads. It would be nice to have a community center with maybe a pool, basketball courts, and tennis courts.

Snow removal, glass recycling, appearance of residential and commercial properties

Would love bike trails. Would love a bigger and better Giant Eagle.

Bike/walk paths, trails - no one can go somewhere without feeling and/or getting killed by a car

Reduce traffic congestion

Could lower taxes

Need mailboxes that don't get knocked down during snow plow days

Get rid of recycle park

Community Center

Keep the township rural and require minimum lot sizes. Restrict commercial zoning

re-line commercial district. Increase industrial district. Add smaller size property with restrictions

Control signage. Limit small lot development. Get rid of the idea of a town center.

Community center, activities for kids of all ages

More opportunities for small business owners, more efficient snow removal

More walking paths on streets

Encourage more small business, restaurants

Senior housing. Better sports facilities for kids.

Attract businesses and restaurants to move into empty storefronts.

Get another large grocery store

My quality of life is just fine.

Make the downtown area more attractive.

Work on maintaining large lots, clean up and get continuity in commercial districts.

Emulate other cities that have activities, parks, and plans to make it a better place to live. ie ....trails, gatherings, shopping, restaurants.

Safer roads, ability to walk on shoulders - they seem very dangerous

Bring in more restaurants and shopping.

Improve the Giant Eagle - need an upgraded store. I drive to Chardon or Mayfield for groceries.

Seen increase in traffic from west often traffic at dinner time is backed up past Lyon drive.

Keep it the way it is.

Head to say

Put some people on the zoning commission who are more reasoning.

Keep condos and apartments out

More parks and recreation

Recreation area with a pool

The best thing Chesterland could do is not change anything.

Do not bring in multi family dwellings, small building lot sizes or legacy village style retail establishments.

Walkable/bikable community. Attention towards preserving greenspace and natural areas.

Pay more attention to dilapidated houses and eye sores for commercial district.

Sidewalks - these would connect business in the downtown - would love to see a sidewalk connect the high school to downtown, allow young people safe access to downtown 3 . these would improve the aesthetics.

Add development plan to commercial district. Seems like anything goes, need better zoning.  
Improving zoning for businesses. As of right now any business can erect a building and have it look like a warehouse. No uniformity in downtown Chesterland.  
Get a recreation center with a pool. Ice skating rink, quality restaurants, more parks, a Whole Foods  
Mowing along sides of roads more frequently. Stop knocking down mailboxes with plows.  
Make good road signs. Larger - easy to read for visitors, guests and friends. Like Mayfield Village and other communities - don't spell out road, street, Lane. Easy to read signs. use dr. rd. st. In. cr.  
Senior housing.  
Better grocery store  
Walkable downtown area  
Better drainage, better water  
Yard waste pick up  
Leave it the way it is now.  
Chester Township should NOT permit abandoned and/or condemned buildings to remain as a hazard and eyesore to the community. They are shelters for wild animals and illegal activities in addition to lowering property values.  
I'd like to see senior housing  
Pave county line road especially between Mayfield and Wilson Mills Road. It is terrible and embarrassing the condition it is in.  
Water and septic systems  
Retain wells and septic. Keep government small with limited power.  
Raise ordinances to eliminate noise in early A.M. Ban fires - smoke does not stay in the yard.  
Lower speed limits of Caves rd. More attention to heavy truck traffic.  
Make Chester more unique. Chester is rural community but it does not have a small town feel. Nothing particularly interesting - commercial stuff around a big intersection.  
Implement a property maintenance code! Incorporate to a city. Economic Development. Tax businesses out of their homes - landscapers.  
Stop all the political infighting. It breaks my heart to see all the bickering for non-issues that waste time, \$, energy....harness that energy for something productive.  
Enforce zoning equally, enforce noise, burning.  
Do not make it Mayfield Heights.  
Larger grocery store (Giant Eagle) More modern.  
No more fireworks! Have a noise ordinance. No more stores like dollar general!  
police (sic) fast traffic!  
The recycling park is very untidy. No one follows the rules. Can't they read.  
pick up leaves in the fall and spring pickup of twigs and trash . Townsquare-walk to shops / restaurants  
Safer walking/biking trails or sidewalks to allow walking and biking.  
bring back all the fast foods that left bars and restaurants  
n/a  
Do away with chains like Dollar General and improve opportunities that would allow unique small businesses to thrive! Recreation center for our township and better sports organizations for children.  
lower taxes  
widen the road at 306 & 322  
Better ditch drainage of water. My lot's ditches flood.  
pave West Geauga Trail  
City water. Access to nat. gas.  
Remove school board members  
More pedestrian/bike riding lanes  
Sidewalks, bike lanes, new school buildings.  
Don't build Chesterland up. Too many autoparts stores - would like to see preserve the older building and take pride - unlike Mentor the city that has destroyed almost all (sic) Housing and smaller lots.  
More variety in restaurants, better quality food shopping, safe bike lanes  
Better recreation and public facilities, like a pool. Unified parks and recreation department. Better grocery store.

A Heinen's store

Too late for this! All the improvements you suggest is what I'm hoping to move to! Even though I won't get to enjoy any of them I'm hoping it will help me sell my house faster.

no

I like it here the way it is, a little bedroom community, with our own backyards.

I miss KFC and Taco Bell.

Lower property taxes

outlaw shooting guns

Incorporate a single contractor for trash collection under contract with the township. Open bidding would allow for competition between existing companies that presently serve the township. Win win for all involved.

water and sewers

Less low end franchises, enforce business and residential property maintenance, prioritize rural/natural areas.

Bike access. It's so dangerous to bike on these roads

Should allow senior living with small condos or townhouse and or nice assisted living- no apartments rehab centers.

another grocery store besides Giant Eagle, like Aldi's Starbucks.

No - it's great!

Stop trying to change things.

help residents that are unable to upkeep residential properties, get grants, public monies to help street appeal.

Maintain the appearance of the commercial and residential areas, buildings and housing lots. Keep parks and recycling center clean and functional. Too many empty retail buildings.

Bring in more business. Lower taxes.

Maintain the current rural atmosphere

Allow the Giant Eagle to upgrade to a modern grocery store.

lower taxes, don't overbuild, stay small/rural

Maintain the rural atmosphere. There is plenty of shopping in Chesterland and within a very short drive. We live here because of the country lifestyle.

Build cul-de-sacs with sidewalks with housing to buy. Attract families.

Stricter commercial/industry zoning. No large businesses. Less restrictive zoning for residential buildings.

improve appearance of commercial areas.

Response to city property maintenance. Less bikes on roads.

Remove superintendent and BOE. Do a better job repairing roads.

Keep taxes low

New/better grocery store. Recreation center. Public pool. Sidewalks.

Road improvement/currently we have temporary pavement on our road.

Maintain/fix the roads. Build a community sewer system. Tie into city water.

Fill empty business buildings. Fix the town square/park area. Sidewalk near center of town. More green!

Stay simple. Do not get complex.

sidewalks.....more room along the road to walk

Road dept. is a mess.

Better zoning standards. esp for commercial building - Mayfield rd hodge pod of architecture.

1. A light on 306 & Sherman is very very necessary and also Mayfield and Sperry. Both for safety and flow of traffic. Don't say the people should call, that's why we elect trustees. We need to get out of horse buggy times - when people come to meetings listen with open minds. Assisted living/condos would be great. Let's start beautifying this township. I know we are rural/country. Atmosphere, but we are not a junkyard and tired of being an eyesore. We pay a lot of taxes here. For not too much. The city has neglected to cut the ditches in front of house. Check out Sharp Lowe and streets need to be repaved again. The old house falling down probably with rats and everything else on 306 Mayfield. The one on 306. They built a garage next to it, what is that all about. Some of yards, garbage on the front Mayfield 306 Sperry Wyndott all over. Looks so so bad filthy like Hill Bill Heaven. There probably cleaner. Again with taxes we pay. There should be some restricting and start with clean up. Also, sidewalks should be on Mayfield and 306! Somebody once said on the board, we like our city to look like Chagrin Falls, we no way does it now! Let's get going here. Park behind Shraplowe and Kirkwood was supposed to start 16

years ago with ball park bike trails all different things for kids - perfect spot! Wel.... We need to bring young people in this common and 4 schools to keep our city alive. As well as to make all older people comfortable and happy. The recent increase in taxes for police and fire make me worry that I will not be able to live in the home I have cared for when I retire.

Tear down dilapidated houses and buildings.

Outside recycling yard waste pick up

Yes, upgrade the town -updates needed. Better business selection- condos, senior facilities. Pools.

single trash company , maintain large lot zoning

Quality grocery store. A more uniform look to shopping area. Maybe a tax abatement to fill up all the empty plazas.

yes - our Giant Eagle grocery store is not the best. I wish we had a grocery store more conducive to healthy good and healthy eating.

Stop trying to make it a city.

More parks, trails, places to ride bikes safely with kids.

Maintain the twp. form of government, add additional park lands, maintain semi-rural character of the twp; resist multi-family housing, resist section 8 housing.

Make me proud to live here!

Making senior housing available. Repave the side roads more often.

Can't respond because in Concord Twp I raise 2 sons there active in the school, parks neighborhood. Came here after empty nest and divorce - desperately looking for a home in 2015. I have been forced to settle. However, the service in Giant Eagle regarding friendly is very poor. Bad reflection on this community population.

Sidewalks on 322/306.

Solar Power Speed sign on Lynn Dr people go faster then the posted speed.

No as we have great quality of life in chesterland.

It's become too suburban. Too many homes built loosing greenspace. to new retail when shops stand empty. We are losing it country charm and rural feel.

Walkways to safely traverse teh town (beyond the one aged sidewalk along 306) If a mother or grandma wanted to push a stroller along for a walk it becomes impossible to do so safely and enjoyably.

Improving the side street - don't bring in retail and change the atmosphere

No - (remain rural!)

plant more trees, don't build more storefronts until all current are filled.

Lost its small town community organized feeling. Doesn't feel united any more. Too much in fighting from politics to schools to disrespect and also becoming clickish.

Keep retail and fast food down

Keep open enrollment closed for West G. Keep it safe and rural.

restrict hunting and target practice in residential areas. Home lot size of 5 acres is too small of an area for shooting.

We have good access to parks and trails and some recreational areas but not in Chester. Have to travel. Would like to see recreational park (plus swimming pool!) more for children to do- this town cater to the older population.

Build a community center for the residence.

No it is fine the way it is!

Better food options including healthier/better quality food, as well as better grocery options - better amenities for families including pool/splash pad

no opinion

Have higher standards. Some houses/properties need improved or cleaned up.

Relax some portion of building cose for larger properties. Improve Giant Eagle. Neaten up commercial area.

Spend my tax dollars wisely! Some roads in need of repair.

More affordable housing

Downtown gathering place, walkable, more places for lunch and coffee

Better retail (sic).

Secure a better grocery store location. Only go to current Giant Eagle for last minute items. Refuse to do weekly shopping at the location.

Private property gun control laws need to be stricter.  
Can't think of any. I am satisfied.  
Shopping  
Have a welcome committee.  
Lower property taxes  
More restaurants  
Larger chain type restaurants  
Make our Giant Eagle bigger  
Reducing traffic speed on Mayfield; Quality architecture senior living housing options near shopping areas;  
Curbside leaf, waste and recycling; posted list at town hall of young people and contractors willing to help with senior property maintenance  
Better playground  
Don't increase commercial district sidewalks in downtown area.  
My husband and I raised our family here. Chester has been our home for almost 40 years. I think keeping our schools of a high quality is the most important factor.  
Keep large lots  
Good, strong and consistent leadership. One garbage collection!  
Repave some of the roads. Decrease property taxes. Tell us what they use tax money for.  
Protect large lot zoning.  
Hire someone for the management of road crews and zoning.  
Quit putting in strip malls, buildings that are eye sores and making the quaint village I moved to back to mayberry.  
Maintain country atmosphere, less commercial businesses, protect Christian values - place manager at center of the town  
More welcoming and walkable town center. Stop willy nilly development of town center.  
No Just add some more flowers and trees on in town on 306/322 to spruce it up  
Lower taxes.  
Improve the look of the business district!!!! Put plans in place for zoning which have to do with the look of business buildings!  
leave it rural  
Put in sidewalks. Senior housing. Less shotguns.  
? Limit the number of rental homes on a street. Park commercial vehicles, trailers, RVs etc in back of house  
Affordable senior housing  
improved grocery store  
We wish for an area that we can enjoy going out in. My husband and I travel to downtown willoughby or chgrin falls for date night b/c there is no charming (or even decent) central location for restaurants, movie theater, bars, etc. We would love an area where we could park, walk around and spend an evening out.  
Traffic is worse  
Improve the appearance of center of town  
lower taxes  
Next to the kiddie park, on the old school site put in a pool for the older kids and tweens, a walking area for exercise. A skate park PS There is nothing for the older kids to do.  
keep the taxes low  
remain a township  
Clean up the area towards mayfield/306. Some business look bad.  
more sidewalks and bike lanes  
Walkable downtown, community events, recreation area for youth  
Take care of roads more frequently  
Keep it rural!  
Better  
fix water issued that road dept. created  
Lower the speed limits on roads like sperry and sherman,

Swimming pool, recreation center  
Prohibit police from parking in lots right next to restaurants. Snow plowing could be better. Town pool would be good.  
More variety of retail stores if you want people to shop in their community.  
Recreation center for all ages  
Stricter residential zoning laws.  
Add a family restaurant. The rents are outrageous for business.  
Improve the main grocery store.  
Having community events geared at young children and families.  
Stop letting people open burn on their properties! No pit, no barrel just on the ground!  
Please install a pool at the end of my street.  
Better zoning enforcement. Control of open burning. Prohibit discharge of firearms.  
Improve recycling area. It looks like a dump.  
Replace trustees with town manager.  
Not sure. I guess let us continue to have farms of all kind and don't get too much like a city.  
One top quality restaurants, one clothing department store  
An urgent care facility  
Enforce rules about old cars being stored in driveways. Require houses and lots to be kept up.  
Need community center, need to attract quality businesses such as restaurants, maybe Heinen's  
Please do not turn Chesterland into another "big city"! Prefer the limit to commercial areas. We have enough traffic here already. Is a great place for kids to grow up in.  
Keep it a rural township  
No  
Ease up on zoning for accessory buildings. I.E. Hobby barns. A guy has to have a place to store his stuff.  
Have better electric power  
lower taxes; improve look of 'downtown'  
Like it as is.  
planning retail, having storage in the middle of town wasn't the best plan. Better buildings/retail plan for the center of town.  
Get rid of dilapidated buildings. Make residence accountable for maintenance of their properties.  
Figure out the traffic jams on mayfield rd during rush hour.  
lower taxes and improve schools  
Bike paths and walking trails  
Not unless lowering taxes is an option.  
Enforce gun safety/backyard shooting ranges with inappropriate backstops. Noise resolutions  
Encourage Giant Eagle to op their game.  
More transparent communication of trustees. Chesterland quality of life is outstanding compared to most of the country.  
Enforce the zoning code, provide more parks, provide a bike trail.  
Hold homeowners accountable for property maintenance. Put a noise level restriction in place for fireworks, cars, recreation for kids and families  
Not bring apartments to the township; not go forward with this make Chester urban plan; just ploe the roads when it snows and fix the roads when needed  
More hiking and biking trails  
Add sidewalks or all-purpose paths on the major streets throughout the township  
Garbage pick up provided by Chester  
Forbid gun firing within township limits. It's dangerous for kids playing in the woods.  
Add glass to acceptable recyclable items at recycle park.  
Noise ordinance, places to recycle old oil and chemicals safely  
Sidewalks and bike lanes  
More outdoor exercise opportunities  
Better shopping, improve appearance of commercial district



Rusty drainpipe under driveway 500 of leaves wash down hill. Open ditches  
Prohibit discharge of all guns in residential areas - use shooting or hunting designated areas only.  
More activities for school age and teens.  
Stricter zoning!  
Do not turn it into a city!!!  
Make sure people take care of their properties  
Housing for seniors besides the trailer park. Sm. condos  
Public pool, better zoning  
Stop the raccoons from digging up my yard.  
Support a new local Geauga Co. park  
A single trash collection and recycling provides  
Enforce speed limit on Sherman road  
Not bring apartments to the township, not go forward with this make Chester urban plan, just plow the roads when it snows and fix the roads when necessary.  
Keep it small and simple.  
Put in places for seniors to live and some apartments for younger middle ages people to live and help offset some of the taxes.  
Improve the traffic capacity through the intersection of Mayfield and 306  
Take out recycling area and build senior housing.  
Remember that our founders wanted life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to be goals and did not mention a caveat of if there was a virus slightly more dangerous than already existing flu.  
Less traffic  
More healthy food options  
Less government  
If I could afford a larger lot to be further away from neighbors  
Pressure the illuminating company to upgrade transformers to support current growth  
Only one restaurant open after 3 pm. Have to go to bars to eat after 3 pm.  
Running and bike paths on roads. More visibility of police during early and late hours.  
Better restaurants, commercial, retail (grocery shopping)  
Base courts at the park would be nice.  
I would like to see sidewalk from county line to 306 along Mayfield.  
Uptown cross walks at 306/322 to safely cross to local business. When I first moved here I saw a teenage boy get hit crossing the road. THIS Please!  
Noise reduction - dog barking and motorcycles (noise pollution) Stop open burning of trash and yard waste (air pollution)  
Better parks, Mayfield road needs to be wider and improve the old run down buildings on Mayfield rd.  
Upgrade commercial area to 21st century standards.  
Better communication from and with the school system. Self check at Giant Eagle.  
Actively assist in filling vacant commercial property. Add bike trails, invest in a rec center.  
Regarding bike safety, it depends on the road.  
So many vacant commercial buildings! New ones are built but no new business comes here.  
Get rid of the recycling center at the top of our street. It's a total eye sore and we are sick and tired of all the junk that blows in our yard and there is trash in the ditches from the corner to our front yard from that ridiculous corner.  
Yes, more sidewalks and affordable senior living.  
Have a better grocery store.  
It would be nice if there was a noise ordinance.  
Center of town has no curb appeal. Not pleasant to look at.  
stop political in-fighting  
Better grocery. Improve on many commercial and residential properties. They are run down and we don't do anything about it.  
Less government is good government.



Not allowing discharging weapons in township. Create an identity in township. Ex: chagrin, chardon, hudon.  
Downtown area is a mishmash of building. No theme.  
Eliminate the Keystone Cos giving tickets in 25 MPH speed zones - We look like Mayberry Red!  
Get rid of that horrible eye sore called a recycling a park! put it closer to the police/fire/city yard where it can be monitored and maintained.  
No, leave it like it is.  
Noise ordinance  
lower taxes. Better concert at the park venues (more rock-n-roll)  
There are sewers 9 feet deep on Marilyn road - especially at the end. I have reported this and would like to see them covered. My 4 year old granddaughter could fall in! Also, can some of the homes in major disrepair clean up??  
Nothing  
Yes, make the yuppies go back to cuyahoga co. if they want to have city services, go back to the city.  
community center  
Enforce property maintenance standards. some in the area do a great and others drag down communities with a total lack of care for their properties.  
No open burning allowed. If that already exists it needs to be enforced. Too many people in the neighborhood burn trash. Too much gun fire - target practice and fireworks.  
Maintain the larger lot size for residential building. Maybe after some sort of incentive for small businesses to still all empty storefronts.  
Add bike lanes on roads to create more space for cyclists  
Yes, raise the speed limit up from 25 mph to 35 mph through town. Put 4 way stop at Machester and Devon.  
Update the commercial center of town! It depressing! Too many old buildings needing repair  
proper management of school taxes, road up keep  
Bring gas to whiting dr! that would be amazing!  
Add senior housing immediately, bike paths, clean up/mandate improvement in commercial district  
No. Who is asking these dumb questions?  
No! Leave it alone!  
Better grocery store. 55 and over gated community (condos).  
implement a noise ordinance or at least some rules or times. We have a neighbor shooting his gun for an hour at a time, all times of day and night. It is frightening and disruptive.  
Limit the overblown commercial district - far too much retail use. Stop wasting money on city planning to promote development for commercial district.  
Get a better Giant Eagle  
(sic) down on people who don't take care of their property.  
Hiker and biker trails, improve exterior of commercial buildings, encourage residents to not pile junk in their yards  
Only been here 1 year. Love everything about living here.  
Don't grow into Mayfield or Mentor areas, with restrictions, city water, city sewer with people moving in, maintain it as is. Fill existing commercial spaces before building new ones.  
community center (indoor) or outdoor swimming pool or deal with a local community (mayfield village?) to access theirs.  
Zoning in commercial area needs changes  
Would love to see sidewalks connecting. Commercial areas so you could walk from the plaza to dairy queen for example.  
Township dump/trash day  
No, I like Chesterland as it is.  
Sidewalks or bike lanes  
Leave it alone.  
Giant Eagle could be better. Staff is great, store is not good.  
Strive to keep Township status  
Lower taxes and better roads  
Leaf pick up

What I find attractive here is its rural setting. More nature, less development. I would like to see that it doesn't change.

Keep it "country atmosphere"

?

Improve grocery store.

Better grocery and dining options

While we enjoy our home and neighborhood I wish I could have more pride in our community as a whole. If I have friends/family in from out of town I would not take them to downtown Chesterland to show it off. It's a grab & go town.

Keep my ditch dug-out and clean more often (city's job)

Keep it clean.

Build or something for senior living. affordable!

Larger lot sizes. Less commercial access.

Yes, give us a choice of politicians to vote for who would actually work together rather than fight.

My quality of life here is good

Get a better grocery store.

Have indoor walking somewhere in the malls.

I am not interested in making Chesterland a city with wide roads and city water But I do think we could make downtown more visually appealing with the ability to walk the commercial district.

It would be wonderful to have a walkable downtown square!

Hire a road superintendent that will stay more than 18 months!

More dining options

Parks and recreation - walking friendly

Get a single garbage company. Put sidewalks everywhere.

No, everything is good as is.

sanitary sewers

Keep large lot zoning, allow senior living housing

Hold tighter rein on commercial development by enforcing/developing restrictions.

Leave Chester untouched. Its great the way it is

I don't know if it's really quality of life, but I sure wish the center of town was nicer looking - nothing special. No consistency - wish it looked more like chardon or hudson with more brick, colonial look

Bike path on 306 into town. A town.

demand more/better landscaping from businesses in commercial area. CVS is ugly & neglected lot - same for car washes "pulp" store parking lot \* plant a median of decorative trees in middle of West G. plaza parking lot

WE need a walkable 'town square' instead of huge asphalt parking lots with no green space; more occupied small stores (retail), pedestrian orientated! make it attractive, cohesive designed well with green space.

Leave it alone

improved shopping

We are considering moving because we don't feel safe on our own property with neighbors who target shoot with firearms.

More vibrant downtown. Do not allow extensive developments, especially apartments/condos and smaller lots.

KEEP lots large/keep country atmosphere. Get rid of trustees who like to spend our money - don't be bought out by snooky developers.

Maintain what is currently here, grow community programs i.e. adult and child athletics and activities. Don't change things just to change.

Save the Nads! Sperry Rd between Wilson Mills & Sherman is awful!

Tree cutting along roadside by township needs better regulations. Too many trees being cut down, too many healthy trees being cut down.

Stop businesses from building plazas and new structures - use the empty ones we currently have

No expectations from township. Maintain roads as they currently are and if that requires more funds I am good with tax increase.

lower taxes

promote a turn lane on mayfield thru chester

Do not want sewers. Do not want township to have these three trustees develop a comprehensive plan. Need more qualified trustees. They play too many games. Why don't you ask them why the township can't keep a road superintendent. I know its called 'micromanagement'

there has been a pronounced increase in gunfire near my subdivision. Being originally from cleveland, wehre guns are a commonplace evil, I detest this. As its noise impacts a wide area, target practice, especially with assault weapons should be more restricted.

No, not really.

Give Giant Eagle some competition.

Bring in the option of city water, better garbage collection

Improve the availability of more diverse businesses in township.

Yes, a better grocery store!

Clean up buildings in Center of Chesterland 306/322 intersection

Better cohesive zoning

More green space/bike paths, community pool; more areas for families with children to gather; less empty businesses on 306/322; better grocery store and more of them

Senior living sites

Need better town appeal - boutiques, stores, small businesses

Less government

Improve center of town, better shopping, another food store

Many residents in Chesterland are of retirement age. We need to attract younger/vibrant families.

Expanded access to trails for disabled people who are not necessarily wheelchair bound. For example, being able to use electric golf cart or scooter to get out and enjoy nature.

Pave county line road

Lower property taxes

Maintain one identity. If people want a city atmosphere they would have not moved here. We moved here for the rural life but the distance to cities and larger areas are all close so we have the best of both worlds.

Lowering taxes, promote voluntary (no tax payer money) musical and educational events and activities. More transparency from township government and budget. Keeping the rural/quiet atmosphere, stop wasting tax payer's money with surveys like this.

Side walks and or bike right of way

Better restaurants and shopping

Improve the business district - larger grocery store. Appearance of center of town

High school pool with community access. More walkable business district, similar to Chagrin Falls/Hudson. Netter grocery store.

Have a better grocery store. Have a family style restaurant, not just bars.

More recreational activities for families, clean up businesses/center of town

Keep it the way it is!

Reduce noise, such as shooting firearms in residential areas and loud music

Strict zoning compliance for commercial and private properties that are visual eye sores especially on 322

Access to sidewalks. Gun control - more like when and where

Improve road conditions and keep large lot size. Do not over develop.

Caves Rd speed limit, lower taxes

We want to build a barn on our property.

No

widen 322 near 306, increase speed limit on 306 - people under the limit

Remove the zoning restrictions for location size of old buildings on residential property

Enforce zoning restrictions

Provide free driveway plowing for people 60+ years old, or for all driveways when snow is deeper than 6 inches.

Invest in a community/recreation center. Offering pool, indoor gym, tennis, classes (yoga, etc.) for all ages. I am an active senior living here 30 years. The community needs this (not just a senior center).

Open/improve businesses, change to a "city"

I'd like meeting police - to have a goof neighborhood safety department. Would be nice to have a turning lane on Rt 322 down to Caves Rd from 306 on Mayfield side.

Slow down cars and bikes!

More restaurants

Better road department - better care of roads!

Allow additional dwelling units

Keep property values high. Keep out large corporate business.

Good as is - do not want to see major development

No

Lets get rid of these trustees and move into the 21st century. Understand needs to be a village!

No

No

Cut services - police and fire too visible and not needed

Better communication of township activities, more marketing of what resources are communicated and more virtual/recorded town hall meetings. I like this survey - getting input more regularly is useful.

Offer more retail stores/grocery store, established restaurants, senior citizen housing, recreational provision (pool, fields, kids don't have much to do), better winter roads, stricter zoning for property maintenance

Swimming pool for all residents

No. Keep up the great work! We love living here and kids loved the high school

More green space and bike trails- not just to and from business, fill existing plazas before building new muzzle clay pool

Bike trails/running paths connecting the township, clean and organize the "commercial" area - too many empty buildings, more community events or a rec center

Pave Sperry

Some more sidewalks would make it easier to walk around town.

Water, Trash

Good, no change!

Enforce fireworks - one neighbor almost burned my barn with horses in it! Some neighbor shot off fireworks every weekend all summer. His next door neighbor moved out cause they couldn't stand it. Zoning needs to be enforced - some homes look like dumps!

More visibility of police

stricter zoning being enforced

An arts center - spacious with classrooms, gallery, auditorium

Create a more appealing town center, upgrade store fronts

Better roads, lower taxes

We have thought that having bigger/more robust playgrounds and play spaces would be beneficial in attracting young families

As a senior it would be an asset to have housing/condos available (not just the trailer park)

Keep it rural. Don't waste money on new parks. Geagua park district is great

Setting a higher standard and enforcing it for example, residential and commercial properties maintained and better law enforcement of speed zones both residential and commercial and allowing residents to be heard during township meetings.

Keeping it rural!

New or improved grocery store (building)

No

A recreation center would be a good addition to our community. Ideally no fees would be charged for use of the facilities. A gym, basketball court, and other such facilities for Chester Twp. residents only is appealing. Programs for youth and adults would be welcome.

Need support with neighbor issue - also related to zoning issues

Public swimming pools, more stores, pickle-ball courts

Improve sidewalks

A senior living area

Expand materials accepted at recycling park. Stop clearing new buildings when existing commercial and residential properties already exist that are empty.

Stop building

Downtown Chester is unattractive, bike trails would be great

The major concern that we have with Chester Township is the lack of diversity. Why is Chester 99% White? How has Chester kept people out of this community? Is it too much to hope to live in a semi-rural community that is welcoming to all people?

Remove recycling center in downtown Chesterland. Fill empty commercial buildings - stop building new

Continue to prioritize roads, schools and safety

Get the traffic light system used by Kirtland. I believe flow of traffic would be better, especially 306/322

**Q8 - Overall Impression of the Commercial District. Many residents have differing opinions about the commercial area in Chester. Please tell us what if your overall impression of the Commercial District in Chester.**

Although the commercial district is not centralized or particularly attractive, it features good diversity (ie retail, medical, office, etc) I'm not sure how you could change it or if you would want to. Being able to dispose of old obsolete not-in-use buildings should be a priority and some measure of maintenance and appearance standards.

I think we are building too many office buildings. I live in this area and feel we have pretty much all we need.

Grocery, drug stores, churches, restaurants, parks. We really don't need to build Chester up any more than we have. Except maybe a better senior center. The baby boomers are growing in population.

It is a little bit out of sync visually, but more importantly it is not walkable

i have my office in the commercial district. The building that I occupy is well maintained, and the lot is nicely landscaped. I try to patronize other local businesses especially the Giant Eagle, the Ace hardware store and the Arabic coffee house. I also frequent the post office on a daily basis.

satisfied

eclectic and disjointed

I like it small. I can shop anywhere else I need either on-line by phone or with a short drive.

We don't shop in Chesterland other than wine/beer and pulp. There aren't great options but I am ok w/ it.

Shopping is not important to me.

Boring - but who cares?

I would like the hit and miss expansion to be better planned. Born here, moved away three time and would come back with viewing the mismatch expansion. Also, this adds to evening.night light pollution

It's fine but making Mayfield rd. wider in this area would be nice. I would not want to see it grown.

looks good to me

poor appearance. Just based on auto movement. Needs more green areas. some should be taken down.

Fine how it is. More businesses would cause congestion

Pretty basic

haphazard

I like small family business. No big box we can easily get big box in Mayfield Hts., Chardon, Mentor. I don't even like Dollar General

Haphazard

Remove old buildings - Leave Chester small as it has always been. No city

A lot is vacant - we don't need more

Not at all a walking district - or attractive - thanks to Garden Club for attractive landscaping at 305 & Mayfield.

Why 2 gas stations in prime location at 305 & Mayfield.

It's a total hodge podge of styles and types. The parkside is beautiful.

I like how it is now, change nothing other than making the nursery across from Mayfield church clean up their lot....its a dump!!

I have always felt the commercial district in Chesterland has a lot to be desired. Some of the buildings are not well maintained. Our police and fire dept cou. I feel Kirtland has done a nice job of filing up there commercial district.Id use some reguination

No rhyme or reason. Looks shabby. Do not like used car lots.

Fine and acceptable to us

Overall it is fine. Need to find a way to lease all the vacant and empty store space in all of the plazas  
The buildings, esp. new ones do not have aesthetic appeal and disregard the 'western preserve' look (eg gates mills or chardon square) Too many vacancies already.  
Needs to be updated, more restaurant choices, too many vacant spaces.  
Very spread out, there is no central shopping area other than West Geauga - this needs to be updated with a bigger Giant Eagle. I feel the old school site is not being utilized. I would love to see a super center go there.  
Old, not well kept. Many old places, vacant or occupied, need to be kept up better. Business owners should be held to higher standards.  
We need a nice looking down town area  
For me it is adequate.  
Not well planned. Many vacancies.  
In general it is okay, but the West Geauga plaza area seems disjointed and unplanned.  
Not cohesive, too spread out  
The area is totally inconsistent - zoning is a mess - not enforced. Clean up Blooms! Tear down old buildings - new construction is nice - crap buildings next to pizza hut - do something with taking care of vacant property - restrictions!!!  
West Geauga Plaza sign is horrible. Need a better grocery store. Need to attract businesses.  
Inconsistent appearance  
I think its fine the way it is.  
Never want to see Chester become a Mentor.  
It's a mess!  
Too many empty buildings slow down building permits in certain areas.  
Keep it small  
Satisfactory for a rural community  
It's fine - all the basics are offered  
Poor  
Small town feel, would not change  
It's ok, seems to be trying to develop but could use more clean up  
Lots of empty store fronts, I'd love to see more people in those.  
Needs updating  
There are one or two eyesores on 322. Other than those occupancies, it is fine with me.  
Seems to be okay the way it is.  
Leave well enough alone do not expand  
Could use some sprucing up.  
old, run down, limited.  
none  
Increase retail stores, spread out to lessen congestion.  
The commercial district is fine the way it is now.  
the commercial district is fine as it is.  
Centrally located, easy access. Would like to see more food options.  
It looks run down  
Haphazard and non conforming  
Perino did a beautiful job and Marshall Equipment looks good as well. Other, not up to standards we should have as far as sideways buildings with very little occupancy. Police station needs a new building. The American Railroad tie is laughable and actual laughable. McDonalds and Burger King did an excellent job.  
West Geauga plaza is the strong point of our commercial district.  
Do not like building just built on corner of 322 & 306. Does not fit the rest of township buildings - too modern.  
Some needing cleaning up, but want to keep small town atmosphere. Do NOT want to become a Mayfield Hts. or Chardon.  
No set plan. Too random.  
Does not look very nice.

I like it now. I would not support making it bigger or allowing big box stores into Chester. Maintaining and preserving the rural atmosphere is why I like living in Chester.

When I moved here there were a lot of businesses for sale. It's the same. Sometimes I cannot find businesses because the owners put up signs that are too small.

It is adequate for a small town. Leave it alone.

Its acceptable. We prefer not to be a city filled with commercial business.

It is sufficient for our population, however something should be done to improve the look of the houses opposite city hall.

Too many empty buildings. Most businesses on Mayfield look a little run down.

Not well thought out. Not aesthetically pleasing. Not uniform

No vision/plan or zoning restrictions, the commercial area lacks cohesive look

The commercial district needs to be more uniformed and attractive. It is very disappointing to look at and use. We need a REAL grocery store - not some 1/2 version of one. We need more useful stores like Chardon or Bainbridge or Middlefield have. There needs to be a reason or desire for people to want to shop here. We could definitely use a Heinen's!

Improved pedestrian and bicycle access would be desirable.

Traffic flow is poor during 'rush hour'. Commercial area is disjointed, not pedestrian friendly.

Need more mix use example - clusters, sidewalks, signage and look same

Neutral

Adequate

Some areas are run down. No sense of community. No cluster or town center feel which would be desirable.

too many auto parts stores. No diversity. Limited delivery options.

Stop commercial expansion

Generally no opinion. Would like to see some of the buildings updated to general look of town currently more of a hodge podge based on the period original construction took place

Run down

I don't advocate making/building 'new businesses' unless 'old businesses' are filled up or torn down to build new on the previous business property

park is nice. need more uniformity within commercial areas.

Decent; some businesses/building could have more curb appeal

Horrible - has no character, one of the ugliest business districts in the area. Zoning is non-existent - buildings have no theme - just hodge podge.

No issues, like the small town look

The Guido's expansion is beautiful

Kinda 'junky' looking. BUT this is what makes Chesterland Chesterland. It (sic) the live and let live. I like that. It's comfortable.

Too much commercial on Mayfield rd.

It looks outdated needs to be more modern to attract more people. Widen Rt 322.

No identity - old looking and not functional - not attracting young families or outsiders - too many empty retail/commercial space

I think it is good just the way it is. WE don't want over crowded.

Sloppy, unkept, vacant, outdated

It's practical, but lacks aesthetic appeal.

One word - HORRIBLE!!

No more auto parts stores! It's time Giant Eagle updates/improves their quality. I rate it below sub par.

Enough is enough - don't overdo the commercial district - keep us rural as possible.

Overall we are satisfied with how it is now, but we think it is important to have a larger grocery store. The old gas station in the center of town needs to be torn down!

1 light adequate but need better turning lanes and 2 lanes in either direction in the commercial district. When I come home from work I can be waiting in line to get to 306 from the McDonalds area just to get to the light. I am an adult cyclist and use 306 ( and sometime Mayfield rd) how can we improve bicycling on these roads to improve rider safety?



1. Where's the district on 306? 2. If this is ALL of the commercial district then it needs to extend further to the north, south and east.  
mismatch of.....no consistency to flow of buildings.Its not impressive. Actually embarassing.  
Bloom brother parking lot is an eye sore and their building as well. Parkside park's landscaping on the corner of 306 and Mayfield is not pretty.  
its not that nice. Miss the big trees that used to be by lumber yard. Its a cold and ugly part of our town.  
dont' change  
Commercial district is fine and spread out accordingly for us  
It is not considered friendly. It is too disjointed. Mish Mosh of styles, conditions of building/properties.  
We like and shop in the businesses that are here! More businesses would be beneficial  
I don't see any problem with our commercial district. We need commerce to keep the township living. too many laws, taxes and requirements/zoning laws have proven to restrict commercial growth, resident spending and affluence. Having 322 and 306/322 corners commercial is a good thing.  
OK  
Somewhat hodge podge  
Some of the buildings could use some updating. As well as frontal landscaping.  
We have too many vacant buildings, store fronts and undeveloped lots.  
OK as is  
Newer businesses with front yard 'swamp' is horrible!!! Intersection of 306 & 322 really needs improvement.  
Former Ambrose property is terrible. The adjacent church property is an eye sore. Parking lots need some greenery.  
I think it is good - I think Chester school should become a senior living - or move FD to there and police to FD  
I believe it's somewhat haphazard in its development. There is no flow at all. Buildings are all over the place - on the main road and set far back - it is difficult to locate a specific site when not familiar with the area. A prime example is the abruptness of Bloom Bros. Site vs. the set back visibility of Marshall Equipment - that's nice.  
Some of the business properties need to be cleaned and updated. None I am speaking of are on this map. Paint - landscape - etc.  
Unattractive  
It's fine.  
It looks thrown together, run down and unwelcoming. There is no coherent plan, no town center to attract walking traffic. Last time I looked, they were even prohibiting dog walking in the town park (322 & 306).  
we're Ok with existing commercial area in Chester as is. Maybe public swimming pool to be added.  
We moved to Chesterland for several different reasons; safer community, better school system and larger lots.  
Apartment complexes, duplex, multi family home and rental income will ruin this community. We are willing to pay higher taxes to keep the riff raff OUT! We enjoy the mom & pop places and we do not want or need big commercial places like Walmart.  
One area is fine so people have a choice of where to visit. But no more than there what is already here in Chester.  
Too chopped up. Some very old buildings.  
Too spread out. Can't walk from place to place. Need better sidewalk system.  
theres not much to write about since its so small and really doesnt leave much of an impression as long as it was confined ti this general area and didnt affect the more rural and quiet residential areas surrounding it too much.  
There is no uniformity and appears that there was no plan in its development  
We don't need anymore auto parts stores! The perennials preferred business is an eye sore. Satisfied with the district in general.  
Dated, disconnected appearance, not inviting.  
Older commercial areas need sprucing up in appearance.  
dont expand the footprint  
Tear down old buildings. Clean up yard  
Not a problem  
it's fine  
Keep the district intact and mandate new acceptable, businees only with in this area.  
I do not see a need for the expansion of the commercial district at this time.



It's just a bunch of stuff w/ no real planning. It's obviously just residential converted to commercial. If you buy it you can build it. Not too much oversight and seems haphazard.

I've noticed new buildings being built but never rented out with older businesses that are empty. Stop building in green space that's not needed.

We find ample selection of most needed services and commodities - if we need big box items they are close by in Cuyahoga County - more commercial development would ruin semi-rural atmosphere that keeps us in Chesterland. Some of the buildings look great and others are shabby. Not sure how you can force owners to do basic maintenance and clean up on the properties. I think it's very difficult to change the look to match or enhance without imposing great cost to owners. If stuff/buildings were at least maintained and cleaned up, that would be an improvement.

Wished there weren't so many empty spaces

As I mentioned, it doesn't feel like a fluid community like Chardon with its center. It's more like sprawl which means it looks haphazard. Lots of strip malls that don't have any cohesiveness w/each other. Just one bad architect after another putting more of these up all cheap as can be. Think about the bigger picture. Is Chesterland somewhere I'd want to walk around? Or visit (If I didn't live here?) No

Not appealing - looks junky

It is fine the way it is. We do not want to look like Chardon.

Have to shop elsewhere - limited choices of locations

It's fine

It's a mess looks like hell coming from the east west south Recycle Park? kidding me right there....stupid name

OK

You left Maps off. When you come into Chesterland that is the first business - IT IS A DUMP. This is what needs to be of concern. There are also many houses turning Chesterland into a dump. We did not move here for that.

Do not change

Too many businesses fail. There are too many of same businesses in such a small area

It's not (XXX) at all. There doesn't seem to be any rhyme or reason why businesses are built where they are, and makes the town look ugly.

It needs to be cleaned up with a more consistent appearance. Too many vacant commercial lots.

No op.

#NAME?

It's good

In my opinion, the looks of the commercial area of Chester is the worst part of the town. Mostly it is not the appearance of the buildings but areas between what has been developed. I am very satisfied with the actual stores. I think appropriate landscaping between buildings would help a lot.

No flow. Choppy appearance. needs (encourage) better aesthetics.

Just unattractive!

Should not be expanded. Has already been expanded beyond original zoning limits. Very little effort made in preserving the natural habitat

Ok by me. I miss Taco Bell but they failed due to their own mismanagement. Dentist office now is ok.

- A mix of 'stuff'. No common building theme. - no way to access these businesses without a car. Need sidewalks. - too dangerous to walk as it is now. - would like to see a 'town square' in highlighted area around parkside - Move fire station and road depa

Need more open business - to see more stores open for the public. SAD - I don't know WHY ones can't do business in Chesterland. Chardon is growing - we are not??

Could use some updating

Commercial buildings are looking pretty old and in desperate need of a face lift. Chesterland tavern looks great, after its rehab project. Shopping plazas could use a new updated look.

Works for me

Could be a little neater. didn't move to Chester to shop. Close enough to other areas. We have Giant Eagle, drug stores and ace. All you need for the basics.

Bloom brothers needs to clean up around their building and the look of their building - people see that as they drive into town.

Many businesses block the view of other businesses. After living here awhile, I learned of businesses I never knew existed. Better signage by the main roads would draw more people driving by to businesses that can't be seen by the road.

No plan/grouping. Random group of businesses. Many commercial buildings in disrepair

It is disjointed, disorganized and haphazard. There seems to be no plan, no standards, and no code enforcement.

Some buildings are complete junk with other are Ok, but there is no real continuity or design standards. It's a collection of buildings with very little organization

Geauga county

It's a joke! Chesterland do not open arms to support new business. Zoning is very socialist, Nazi extreme!

Would like to have a restaurant without a bar and TVs. A relaxing place to eat.

I feel it is good.

no order - little thought or planning - a mixed bag.

Definitely needs improvement. Would love it to have small town charm, (like Chagrin Falls). Better walking accessibility and visual appeal

Poor and haphazard. Guidos is the best thing the city has going. The main strip is an eye sore. The planning and zoning people should be embarrassed.

I think the current appearance on the CBD is shabby. There is no cohesive design. Its not attractive at all.

Would like to see more shopping or small business and restaurants/breweries

Would like commercial area to remain largely in center of town

Leave it small

I think overall the commercial district is fine. Occupied buildings are maintained. The unoccupied buildings need some upkeep.

Seems to be more of the same. Either delapated buildings or new grandious buildings.

In general the commercial area in Chester is fine. however, there are some properties that detract from the appeal of the township. Examples include the recycling park, dollar general, napa, bloom brothers and american railroad tie

We have enough businesses in Chesterland. The only extra business I would support is a fresh market for produce and local suppliers. If I need any other store I can drive 10 minutes to Chardon or Mayfield. Keep Chesterland a small town.

Needs improvements and updates. More diversity in types of businesses

It certainly isn't historical and quaint looking. Kind of cattywampus with the building fronts etc.

I like the variety of buildings and varied architecture. WE have numerous empty buildings that should be occupied before thinking of expansion

No real strong opinion

Maintain as is

Mayfield road too narrow. Sinage zonng is helping to make area look okay

Bloom Bros. abandoned property is Ugly. Auto zone, all need attention! Chester Square (Drug Mart) well maintained but get rid of the Leon's

Too many vacant strip malls

A bit on the tacky/unpolished side

It's a good mix of shops, restaurants, grocery, etc.

In general - Okay. Chester politics are a disgrace

Could use some sprucing up

Inconsistent no design that pleases the eye - unorganized.

It's a hodge/podge of small businesses and quite a mess. Need to enforce aesthetic requirements. some properties are an embarrasment to the community, like Mapes property

The area by Georgios has struggled since we moved here in the early 2000s. We would always question why a new building would be build when we had so many vacant stores in a strip mall.

Lack of shopping and restaurants. Many buildings need a facelift and many buildings near 306 N. of Mayfield need to be raised and a new set of buildings to house shops and restaurants could replace them. 1/2 mi every direction from 306 and Mayfield should be our 'downtown'.

insufficient zoning planning....carried over from past years.

I find our commercial district visually unappealing

It is a typical rural business route

Get rid of recycle park and make it a senior housing area (mobile homes) like it was supposed to be. Kirtland has 2 mobile home parks, they look okay.

Some businesses are in somewhat poor condition like blooms- not kept up too much variation in architecture

The commercial district should be in one area, and not next to someone's home.

The corner of Caves & Mayfield looks run down. Chesterland needs more shopping not bars and restaurants.

It's unattractive and a hodge podge of buildings, signs and too much empty commercial property.

the centers seem more dated than nearby small towns. I'd like to see more landscaping/'greenery' in near the stores in the West G Plaza and the Chester Square would improve appearance.

seems OK

The commercial district is fine, however I firmly believe in property owner right to use as they desire - no/relax zoning

Large enough, expanded commercial district is a magnet for outsiders and crime.

good to fair

not a cohesive look

Some vacant buildings should become parks, dog parks, etc. Attaching locally owned business and restaurants would be ideal. I also believe a small town atmosphere with some more walkability is extremely important

I find it very convenient and pleasant to frequent

It seems ok - we frequent drug Mart and Giant Eagle the most. Come nice restaurants but not many.

It's great I use it everyday. I do not want this town to become a city.

a mess too many empty plaza

use the current empty buildings. Don't build more.

adequate

Too many old, unkept properties

Too much traffic/congestion at times on Mayfield but has been that way for many years, depends on the time of day.

OK

Disjointed - no control over signage, types of buildings, etc.

Get better grocery store!

Very electric and little continuity in appearance - not necessarily bad, but if businesses would consider putting some greenery along their frontage and cleaning out 'junk' it would make a much better overall impression on Mayfield Rd. Some businesses already do a good job. On Chillicothe, it's too bad that a gas station/automotive business dominates the intersection. Again, some pride of ownership (like the autobody shop at Mulberry & 306) would be welcome.

Commercial district needs better maintenance. looks neglected littered w/ vacancies. Some properties are nice other are complete junk. The nursery on Mayfield is a total eye sore and nothing has been done in 15 years.

Gas stations at main intersection are not desirable. District is car friendly which is good as most. customers drive to area. We shouldn't try to recreate Chagrin Falls. Traffic pattern could be improved with modified traffic circle expanding park and moving township hall and police station to old school property.

Too many units. Don't like empty units. Sidewalks would be good. Need more trees.

Just fine.

The commercial district in Chester is acceptable, but I believe it could be improved drastically. There are many nice looking structures, then many dilapidated structures as well. It just doesn't seem to flow together well. We love the local businesses, it would be great if there were more boutique type stores combined with green spaces and a walkway/sidewalk to connect the downtown district. People could eat, shop, walk, interact. Improve the appearance of the storefronts - some are real eyesores! plant trees and landscapes around the high traffic areas. Install decorative street light lamp posts in downtown district.

Commercial district should be kept pretty much the same.

To me it's ok. However, Rt. 322 is too narrow through the business area. It should be 4 lanes, or else, a turn lane the length from county line thru the business area past Rt. 306

There are never structures that don't have tenants and I wonder if we need to build without clear cut need. Also some of the older structures should be improved or taken down.

It's pretty accessible, but I don't like seeing empty store fronts.

The commercial district is unimpressive. Most residents shop outside of chesterland and do not support small business. The township does not take a proactive position in supporting small business.

It is big enough, somewhat staggered, but if all commercial space is filled there would be plenty of business!

Nice variety of stores

It's fine like it is now. If I wanted the added traffic and more commercial bldgs - I'd move to Mentor or Mayfield. so so

Too scattered, too difficult to know where to look at what is where, no continuity of architecture.

Giant Eagle needs improvement!

It's good for a small community

I think there are too many fast food options, no sidewalks and it give a run down appearance. When I have guests I tell them to drive down wilson mills instead

Perfect size for the size of the township. No larger!

1. way too many curb cuts on main roads 2. need properties to have access to other commercial properties with out accessing main roads 3. need traffic circle at 306 & 322 4. Increase mixed use zoning reduce commercial zoning 5. need architectural review board

Don't build it up more

Very poor impression, many empty and dilapidated buildings. It would nice to see improvements.

Needs more upgrading, buildings vacant makes community run down, landscaping

Nice mix of commercial and residential properties currently exist. Keep it that way!

It's fine.

It is fine.

There are too many vacant buildings for lease!

I think it is great! I like the smaller buildings it makes things nice and neat.

It fits our needs

Too many vacant and unkept commercial properties

There is no plan. It's random string of businesses on poor kept properties. No anchor stores, very hard to see businesses from 322. No traffic planning or management. Unusual amount of auto parts stores, only one small overcrowded grocery store.

Excellent. Do not change a thing.

We like that it's close together for easy access it doesn't sprawl out to residential area.

It has too much development (empty buildings)

It's fine. I will not park in one place and walk to other stores to which I plan to go.

The commercial district is proper in size in comparison to the area.

Too many vacancies, need to fill existing buildings before building more.

Ugly, no consistent architectural design/style, fix curb appeal, we don't need more storefronts! Many are not even occupied!

General reflection of a small town

Currently acceptable

Too many old buildings not used along Mayfield. One lane traffic can be very frustrating on Mayfield.

It's a great potential resource for the community but it's being squandered.

It's fine. The small locally owned businesses meet most daily needs. owners are generally able to be set up as they see fit. It's consistent with the small town, semi-rural feel that we like about the area.

It is definitely bigger than it used to be. I would not want any other buildings or businesses. Too many empty buildings and store fronts to be adding buildings. I was very disappointed when Dollar General went in, it is such an eye sore. I would have kept the trees!

It's a bit run down looking.

Most seem run down, too many empty store fronts

It is a sprawling area.

I like the idea of transforming some of the houses for small businesses it keeps the small town feel and noticed that there were a couple houses on Mayfield that are being cleaned up that was a goof thing looks less Ghetto!

It would be nice if this area could be kept up more. Several houses in the area need repairs.

Run down, no flow, no cohesive, not walkable, a lot of empty buildings, no streetscaping. Hodgepodge feeling, poor signage.

Not very impressive

Too much mishmash and older outdated buildings. There's no rhyme or reason to plopping a building wherever. layout is fine, Would like to see quality of restaurants improve.

There is only 1 main grocery store, Giant Eagle, It would be nice to have other, closer options

I am fine with it just would like to see other grocery options. I do not like Giant Eagle so I mostly shop in Mentor where I work for food.

very good

Too spread out and too many empty store fronts.

It is unattractive. Poorly zoned and down on its heels.

Too much business development without filled spaces. These areas could have been used to provide some age qualified communities for older residents to downsize and stay in the area. The development of the office spaces by Lynn Drive was an absolute mistake. That would have made a great space for small condo community for older aged qualified residents.

It's fine for the small community. I hope it stays.

I think it is set up well. I think there is enough room for more expansion in the plaza with Georgio's pizza without expanding into the residential area.

Adequate. There are many empty commercial buildings.

Somewhat run down. Some buildings need rehab.

Lack of continuity in architecture.

I like the smaller buildings and look of many places. Very troubling to see so many vacant commercial spaces and the really run down places need to be cleaned up a bit. But nothing fancy needed.

hodgepodge

Not cute/unified, but decent mix of options very good for a rural town.

Not walkable

Chesterland has a lot to offer, especially in the diversity of business types. However, the growth and development of the commercial district is a bit haphazard and not cohesive. It also sprawls and can be condensed.

It is not pedestrian friendly. Needs more trees and gardens, It's clear many businesses lack vision and support of our community. Perhaps a more compact district would serve everyone better. We don't need more businesses which is clearly indicated by the abundance of vacant spaces/officers.

It's a hodgepodge it has a lot of unused empty shopping stores. Older homes used for business purposes.

Storefronts built with no identity. Stores built for one purpose, used for another.

All areas for the most part seem to be decent and decently maintained

As noted in question 5, overall the commercial district lacks a cohesive look. Also there are no sidewalks to connect everything. If the city wants to attract younger families and empty nesters, the commercial district will need to be more charming and walkable.

Fine, need something to stimulate commercial growth. Too many vacant spaces.

Too many vacant buildings. Do not develop further until current vacancies are filled.

Encourage rental of vacant retail places before allowing new buildings

It could look a little nicer, match a little more, sidewalks would be nice, does not need to grow bigger

No opinion other than I get frustrated when people don't follow the rules for recycling. I am a big recycler and hate the mess there and people not following the signs. I need a place to take my recyclables.

It's fine for my needs

Good selections. Concerned about potential number of customers due to small populations in rural community. If there is a demand and community can support commercial district, plan for success.

Fine as is.

I love Chester just how it is. I would not change any of it.  
Need to expand more. A lot of empty store fronts. Would like to see it built up more. Condos. More retail.  
Restaurants. Expand town a little more.  
Generally I like it. Not clustered, simple, easy access. Doesn't have that cookie-cutter feel, which is good. Feels like it's owned and operated by small, local business people from the area.  
Unorganized. Many old buildings  
Plaza - old and tired, the old Texaco station should be torn down, bloom bros burned, mason's needs a facelift.  
Needs improvement  
Get rid of Giant Eagle and get Heinens there. Remove eye sores such as the Buck Stop. Have the nursery clean up their act. I swear I smell pot being grown there. Maybe install sidewalks and trees so it does not look so chopped up or create a sidewalk/bike path.  
Most businesses look terrible and don't take care of their property. If they maintain and build nice clean properties expand the commercial properties to help with taxes and more for community  
Too spread out  
The facades of the buildings are fairly inconsistent. It would be more appealing if the businesses were required to follow a theme. Some abandoned buildings should be torn down.  
A bit limited and a little aged but overall adequate.  
Shabby could use beautification  
Kind of dumpy  
There are a lot of stores and restaurants that satisfy our shopping needs but the overall appearance is disjointed. It is a mishmash of buildings. It would be nice if there was something to tie everything together.  
Has no uniformity, lots of vacancy  
Most need nicer landscaping and appearance. Nothing appears to be uniform there is no consistency.  
More restaurants  
Has too many offices and store fronts, some are better kept than others. We don't need one size fits all look  
My impression: bad. Empty buildings and yet we continue to allow additional buildings being built. Empty building.  
I think we have everything we need in the commercial area, I am not in support of expanding it.  
uninviting, old/run down  
Leave it alone -It's already overbuilt! It provides a balanced variety of shops, banks, pharmacies, restaurants, and office space as it is now!  
Especially during commute hours, this should be 3 lanes and 25 mph from caves to opaloka Dr.  
Nothing special  
Not cohesive. Needs better planning for future building. Not safely accessible by foot or bike.  
It could use a face lift.  
It is convenient. We certainly don't want development of commercial district. We can easily go to the high tax, high crime shopping areas in Mayfield, Mentor. We don't want higher traffic. WE can get medical help, pharmacy, food, restaurants, bars, hardware, coffee, ice cream, post office. Let the town develop naturally. We don't need a group from Cuyahoga County interfering.  
Seems to be chopped up and wastes a lot of space. There is no real identity of downtown feel to it. Seems like new buildings are put up while other structures vanish.  
It's sufficient - no more strip malls. Leave trees standing although it's too late for many.  
Commercial district needs a review of current uses that are outdated to include new uses to make it more desirable for development. Need architectural standards.  
Access at too many times to your commercial shopping areas is much too restrictive, meaning it is nearly impossible to get in and out of areas on to road. The 25 mph needs to be enforced. Also it seems that new establishments do not stay open for any periods of time. Why are the residents not supporting these local retailers. Are they just not good, poorly run, not open late enough, or their cost of remaining open is too high?  
It is small and quaint. Just wish we had better/healthier food options than McDs, Burger King, etc. Chick Fil A or Panera Bread and a Starbucks or Dunking Donuts would get a lot of business just like the new pulp smoothie shop is.  
Small with limited variety of retail stores and eateries.  
It's fine

Right sized. We're not Chardon stop trying. Stay within your budget  
My overall impression is fair. The area around the west Geauga plaza looks good and well kept. The commercial district on route 322 is a hodgepodge of buildings from different eras. Some look better than others.  
There is too much commercial zoning. The surrounding area has plenty of shopping. There is no reason to bring more here. People live here for rural, stop trying to change it. If you want shopping and condos go live where it already exists.  
Sufficient for local needs. Plenty nearby (Mentor, Mayfield) no need to expand! Grocery store could have more options inside.  
Disjointed, no continuity. No walking or biking ability. No architectural planning.  
Strip of stores. No sense of identity. You don't know you're entering the township.  
Needs a face lift - looks old and outdated  
good  
Mostly good - some areas look very neglected.  
Too many empty buildings and keep building more that aren't occupied.  
It's ok. Could use some beautifying. Some parts are very nice others are run down.  
Ok, not great, but not too bad.  
commercial area can benefit from some beautification and standards.  
Lacking  
Old, run down, vacant buildings need to be addressed, signage too bright, needs to be cleaned up and provide a more accessible, walkable area with sidewalks  
Overall, kind of dumpy. Buildings are in need of upkeep (painting, landscaping).  
Disorganized, no plan.  
322 is so busy. Unless I have a specific destination I am unlikely to stop at locations. I have seen a lot of new places open but I never get around to stopping due to traffic. Then I see the signs that they have gone out of business. It is unfortunate but I wouldn't recommend anyone to start a new business in this town.  
Keep commercial district confined to routes 322 and 306  
Glad it is small and contained. Would hate for it to become like Chardon or worse, Mayfield.  
Commercial district looks like crap. It's just a road with buildings built through the years. I lived in the town since 1975 and it has not progressed much. Widen the road. Build industrial parkways allow a real business district to develop. It would generate huge tax revenue for the township and lower tax base for residents.  
Adequate for size of township.  
Don't add anymore  
As far as aesthetics, our commercial area in Chester is very unappealing. The businesses and plazas and small business fronts should be clean, well kept areas.  
No conformity - mismatch of architecture  
Congested during rush hours. Poor traffic flow.  
Too many empty businesses.  
It's fine as is.  
It's ugly. Not cohesive. Some properties need to be maintained better. Too much un-rented space  
This is a tough one - we shall see who can stay open after the pandemic!  
I think Giant Eagle is horrible. Chesterland needs another grocery option without driving to Mayfield or Chardon.  
The shopping plazas all look tired and run down. They all need a fresher, more inviting look!  
It's a nice area where you can find everything. No expansion is needed or wanted.  
Adequate  
There is no rhyme or reason not to have a center of downtown.  
No formal look to commercial district to distinct it as Chester. It's a mix match of atchitecture with no consideration to a general look. You can drive into many small towns around Chester and there is a feeling right away. Not in Chester  
306 feels cluttered and unregulated  
I like the fact it is on the main road and not spread throughout town.  
It could be more modern/attractive. I think there could be better usage of the space.



I like having our post office, fire and police. I like that dollar store has been added. The Giant Eagle is too old and outdated. Its way too small and the lines are long. We need a little improvements with shopping - more boutiques and specialty shops. We need more spaces to walk and drive where the areas looks more landscaped and upkeep. Commercial district needs to keep their property from collecting cars . . .

Starting to look ugly, yuk dollar store! The auto parts store on Mayfield that's orange and blue ugly! In my 40 years here, I'm positive some trustees have been paid off to allow the hodgepodge and newer commercial junky buildings mentioned above. Stop trying to turn Chester into Mayfield.

We have too many buildings that are not rented.

It is perfect! Don't change a thing.

A bit disjointed.

Perfect size and has every store you need to purchase everything you want.

It's ok

Fine as it is!

Needs improvement, more stores, new grocery store and more than one

It is horrible. All businesses disconnected. Strip mall empty.

Local businesses are struggling now. We do not need anymore. Many vacant stores, small population cannot support plus there is easy access to stores/restaurants close by.

There was no plan you can tell.

Improved zoning restrictions. No more fast food restaurants, there are already too many. Burger King causes traffic problems.

Acceptable

I like the way it is.

It's ridiculous! No clear way to enter many businesses. No clear recognition in signage for the businesses. Such a mess. I would never open a business based on the way you need to drive around to find what you are looking for. Some cheap or ugly buildings mixed in with nicer architecture. Looks a little like vine street in Eastlake in places.

Average, could use some updating and consistency.

Aside from a few buildings along Mayfiel it is fine. We don't need sidewalks, traffic lights on 4 lane highway.

Need to be redeveloped, very spread out, would be nice to have a Chagrin Falls feel

Unappealing, disjointed. Like what Guidos and Dejohn complexion looks like

I feel that in the past few years the business district has improved in regards to appearance it had brought in good business and not much traffic.

If commercial areas are kept neat and clean it should be ok. Places like mapes greenhouses is a disaster and should be condemned.

Mayfield Road should be 2 lanes and more shopping could be added. Some of the places are too far apart and not necessary. Wasted space. More essential businesses i.e. WalMart, Target, Bed Bath and Beyond, Bob Evans - things like that.

First of all, you can't fix the hodgepodge of building types and location on lots. A uniform exterior appearance would help. Instead of issuing more building permits. Work on filling all the vacant store fronts we have now.

Forget walkable center of town. No more franchise businesses.

Too small, not many choices

Can be improved

Congested

Messy unattractive

Disorganized, unappealing, unattractive

small

No order. No rhyme or reason. Not walkable. Not attractive and inviting. Nothing unique.

The commercial area meets the needs of the community. There should be more businesses to meet the needs of the surrounding communities.

Needs improvement of appearance

I like it the way it is.

It looks run down and too many empty store fronts.

Could be increased maybe 50%



It is too sprawling. All Mayfield road is now turning into a strip mall haven. It looks ugly and disfigured. The commercial area should be more condensed. We desperately need trees and planting throughout all the commercial areas that would help tie it together.

Ugly, extremely unattractive. Some buildings are ok architecturally, but a disorganized hodgepodge.

It could use a face lift. But, I don't live here and want septic and water. If those things are important to people they should move out of a township and back to the city.

Lacking

Very disorganized, weird parking patterns, overall embarrassing

Getting better

Not bad, but stop building more office buildings!

I think it is pretty good!

Small businesses open and close on a regular basis. People go through Chesterland to go to work and back home.

Too many businesses don't last and there are vacant buildings.

Not eye appealing presently.

No continuity. Ugly old businesses. Don't want more fast food.

There is no cohesiveness within the commercial shopping centers. Too many empty buildings. Buildings are scattered here and there

Would like more restaurant options. Everything seems to be close early on Sunday.

it's a dump. I like it.

Ugly! Are there rules to make a certain look. 306 and 322 should have every corner looking beautiful. Looks dumpy! Has no identity.

Everything is fine.

Sidewalk or no sidewalk I would add some green space to unify the downtown area.

Good

hodgepodge

Very messy looking looks like Cleve.

Looks run down.

It's big enough. Too many empty buildings.

The amenities satisfy most needs - just right

Too many vacant commercial store fronts/spaces, we should have a restriction on the height allowed on commercial and retail building. Some lower lighting in evenings, light pollution from all the commercial district is becoming too much.

Dated, not enough variety, some properties give a worn appearance, especially on Mayfield Rd.

limited stores, limited hours!

Junky, run down and cluttered, embarrassing, no plan and no requirements on upkeep. No sense of arrival into town.

haphazard

1. Chester's commercial district lacks an upscale dining experience. Bloom Bros. could get spruced up. 2. Keep 'voting signs' at regulated size.

The 322 corridor is fine for commercial - what never should have been allowed was commercial scattered north on SR 306. Police and fire stations need to be visible and one main road - 322 or 306.

This is old and out dated.

Too many empty plazas

good.

District is ok, but 306 by Dollar Store ugly

We live close to the commercial district and enjoy its conveniences, some buildings could use some updating.

Would like to see the architecture more cohesive. Too many different looks

I don't like the way our commercial district is set up. For example, Chagrin Falls is beautiful uniformed and you can easily walk. You need to make it like that and have sidewalks!

The commercial district appears very run down, dated looking, Quality stores (not box stores) need to be attracted to the area but the current housing restrictions, lack of updated real estate prevents those types of stores.

Allowing Dollar General to build was ridiculous when there are so many empty storefronts. Rezoning should be

considered! There are not enough housing options in the city. Losing many young people due to lack of housing options.

Adequate

Ok.

It would be desirable to have a wider range of businesses and services. If this district were more pedestrian friendly and offered more boutique/art/specialty stores, it could become a destination. Currently, to me, it is very utilitarian, and not a place where anyone would choose to spend leisure time. Contrast with Chagrin Falls, which offers the features that I described.

Ugly, disjointed, no plan, every building is different. Area near Caves Rd. is farther from 306 and Mayfield, so that can have gas stations and businesses as is. Close to town hall and parkside should look more cohesive with character. Chardon Square is so much nicer.

It looks very old and run down

Some areas are very nice while others look run down and unattractive to the eye. No consistency.

Ok!

It looks run down and non-cohesive. Why are buildings allowed to be in poor condition with peeling paint and gutters falling down? Why does CVS only have words on one side of the building? Most have logos on 2 sides when on a corner.

I would like to see the existing commercial buildings utilized before new ones are built. We always seem to have a surplus of vacant spaces. If they could be renovated to attract new tenants, that would be ideal. Traffic can be bad along Mayfield at times, but it's easy to avoid.

The Mayfield corridor could look alot better with landscaping/tree planting. So could west Geauga plaza and Drug Mart Plaza. The corridor looks barren and the shopping centers are a sea of concrete. Business owners can improve these properties. The desire of certain property owners (W Geauage Plaza) to knock down and rebuild other types of businesses is a seperate issue, and one that needs to go before voters.

It's fine (just keep it to 306 & 322) Don't let it impeded into the neighborhoods! leave the rest of Chestland alone.

It's a bit of an eyesore. The store fronts are unattractive, many are old/poorly maintained. The fast foos joints and big brand stores are not appealing to see. Not just a problem restricted to Chester. I think an opportunity has been lost to have had a charming downtown square.

Most of the businesses here were located here because there was a organice need that generated for them. Some recent additions like Dollar Store are redundant and not needed. With online shopping, there is still a need for local vendors, but not any need to increase their presence.

There is no flow or planning. Chester had so much potential 30 years ago to become a respected township like Chagrin Falls but it has failed in so many ways.

The look of different businesses is very mixed with old and new, some run down.

Too many vacant store fronts.

Fine as is

Boring

It is what it is!

Several storefronts seem empty and not well kept. No consistency.

There's no uniform, it all over the place and not attractive

Disjointed, unattractive, doesn't look like a town center

Who cares really? Its for my services - who cares? There are a zillion empty office spaces. Concentrate on filling these and bring in taxes that way.

Turn lane would be safer and more attractive

Buildings for commercial use are continually being added when there is too much unused commercial space now. If people want a walkable community they should move somewhere else.

Lacks of identity or design ugly.

It looks like it developed randomly with no plan or vision. There are many vacant buildings and lots that should be raised.

A cohesive design appearance would make the area look better. A building that is purple, red and yellow does not look very good.

I like to support small businesses and like the options Chesterland offers. If needed, we can drive to Mayfield or Chardon (if needed) but hate the congestion of those areas!

It is ok as is.

Poorly maintained, needs updating, really needs an updated grocery stores

It looks like a drunken giant ate a bunch of building from the 1970s and then vomitted them all over 322. A lot of the plazas contain businesses that you can't even tell exist. And Guidos built that massive party center which further confuses the whole dynamic. Wee need some consistency.

It is the way it should be. Plenty of vacancy in existing structures. No need or desire for expansion.

It looks like a mess!

There should be a minimum standard for property maintenance/landscaping in the commercial district. Some properties are in dire need of attention and mke the area look shabby.

It meets our needs

Pockets of deterioration and lack of maintenance. Lots of empty offices.

It is a good mix

It is perfect. I do not want to become Mayfield, Concord, etc. No crowds, less traffic is a good thing. It is 8 minutes to Mayfield to shop, let them keep crowds/traffic.

You put a commercial building at Lynn and Mayfield destroying a residential neighborhood on Lynn Drive. We need zoning enforcement on new buildings.

Junky

Fine as is. No need for expansion. All other services needed are within a 10 mile drive.

Pretty well maintained except for some businesses are over represented

Choppy and sloppy broken up commercial district.

The commercial area is all over the place. Some looks nice and some looks terrible. And its spread out too much.

No consistency.

Too many fast food restaurants, auto stores, crap we don't need. Too many dilapidated buildings. The police station should be in the center of town.

Not visually appealing, many older buildings, car places with junk out front

I like how it is spread out. Many old buildings need to be fixed/sold/demolished. Many opportunities

It should stay as it is. No more id needed

The commercial district is fine for my purposes.

Very small, doesn't seem like a big town, quaint, love the corner with the city park

Most downtown areas offer a lot to do as Chesterland does not. Too many pizza places.

I believe the area is just fine. We don't need to increase commercial area. Everything I need is available. If I need to I can drive to Mentor or Cleveland for whatever is not provided in CHester.

It looks cheap and awful!

It's not uniform and looks dirty and slightly run down.

More uniform building type that blends as you visually come into the center of town.

Some are dumpy and unkept looking. New businesses should be strongly encouraged to maintain a clean store front. The townships should be more selective to the types of businesses allowed and certain requirements.

It is starting to look like Eastlake. There is no cohesive plan for structures, etc. and no town center. There is a lot of empty retail space.

Please no more commercial, there's too much already

Shabby looking! Not attractive! Needs some identity and character

It looks tired and not inviting. Many run down looking buildings on 306 North of Shell station to drug mart. The Dollar General is hideous. Nothing quaint at all. While the Parkside Park is very nice it totally stands out because it is mismatched to the rest of teh strip mall downtown. I would love to see a resident be allowed to paint a mural on the side of the building across from Giant Eagle.

It is fine. No big box stores. 99% of customers drive to businesses so we don't need bike paths or sidewalks

Too many empty commercial properties.

I feel Chesterland has not consistency at all. The main issue is that if you are not from the area, you could never find the police station if you needed to in an emergency.

Not good

We need to centralize commercial and retail areas along with food areas. Give us a quaint area of shops to walk. Also, farmers markets would be good.

The commercial area would be better served if people could walk between business on sidewalks or ride a bike from place to place without taking your life in your hands on the roads. High school children should have a safe path to ride their bike to school.

Too much diversity in building architecture, more uniformity for future structures and remodels needed.

Landscape in front of commercial properties on Mayfield and Rt 306 - tear down, at owner expense, Leons and other dilapidated or plain ugly structures.

Ugly, disorganized town center and commercial area. No defined character of "Chester township," inaccessible pedestrian right of ways, no defined landscaping, commercial properties poorly maintained

Hodge podge! No planning, looks old and worn. Buckstop is an eye sore.

No problem - it's fine.

It looks run down and mismatched. Dated. No congruence in building facades. No flow from business to business. Doesn't seem planned out at all.

I like that the commercial district does a great job in keeping the outside appearance looking nice. I also wish there was more bar/restaurants in the area.

Needs a complete overhaul, if we compare our downtown to Chardon there is no comparison. It is very lacking and disappointing!

Too many empty plazas or empty tenants in existing

322 needs to be expanded to make getting in and out by business areas easier. Too congested.

I would not expand it. It is fine by me. If I need to buy something the local business does not have, I drive to the location that has it.

Some businesses need to clean up their streetscape. Very bad impression driving along Mayfield Rd. called "Chestertucky" because of this. New section by car wash looks great!

There are many eye sores and too much commercial new buildings. It would be good to have some guidelines for exterior maintenance and enforcement. Bloom brothers is hideous.

That there are a lot of empty spaces and they keep building more commercial buildings, why? They should have to fill the existing places first.

I think some areas need to be cleaned up and made to look more professional. Bloom Brother area looks run down.

Generally favorable, prefer to see existing buildings occupied before new ones, would like one new clothing boutique

As one enters Chesterland from the the west, the scene of the north side is a bad reflection on Chester.

Dilapidated green houses.

West Geauga plaza could use some improvements. The Giant Eagle is overpriced and under-stocked always. Could use other grocery store options as most residents leave Chester to shop..

It's workable.

Natural evolution of non-planned and minimally regulated growth over sixty plus years.

Way too many auto parts. Very much a blue collar town. No more fast food. Mom and pop shops would be great.

Clean and well maintained area. Could be more uniform

It's been improving recently. More businesses seem to be moving in.

Good

We like it because everything is all right there.

Need good restaurants. Owners need to make the choice to stay.

Limited and not well landscaped. I'd like to see it evolve to have more of Chagrin Falls feel. Something more where you can walk around and ship at quaint shops and eat at very nice restaurants.

Absolutley not. Keep this a rural township. Chardin is already overdeveloped. Nothing within walking distance.

Boring - liven up. We should be doing what Willobuy has done. Sidewalks, lamp posts, anything to make it more attractive.

Area is nice and small with a variety of stores and businesses. There is no need to expand. There are many open buildings as is.

When a structure is built, it should have purpose, not sit empty. Present empty buildings should try to be reconditioned before new construction is possible.

I believe the commercial area is nicely located on the busiest area of the town. However, everything is too similar in terms of businesses. I wish there was more diversification in business.

Fine. Do not make any radical changes.

We are satisfied as it is new.

Overall, it is not appealing. It is not very nice to look at/drive through. It would be nice if we could improve the look.

Lacks landscaping - greenery One sees parking lot after parking lot with many empty store fronts.

Somewhat disjointed, unattractive

No issues with the way it is now.

too many vacant spaces, giant eagle is highly inconvenient, more green space is needed

Most of the places are very maintained except a few of the auto places.

Getting too crowded. Traffic is extremely busy during certain times of day.

Older areas should update and look more attractive like newer areas.

It's run down looking

I think it's okay the way it is except could have more grocery stores.

Needs a more cohesive structure for business district. Design layout very messy.

Low taxes bring businesses. I know of 3 that have opened due to no RITA. Don't force regulations on them

Rural satisfied

Too much traffic on major roads

I stay away as there is little use for me in the commercial district. We do not need any new buildings as we have plenty of vacant space.

It's not walkable

Small town feel is good but needs some uniformity in look/design.

It's okay.

Sloppy looking

Disappointing to see so many unoccupied buildings - some of which look like old falling apart households. Also just seeing construction of new commercial buildings that stay empty for years!

Sufficient

It would be nice to see central town area to be a more focal point while keeping the country feel.

There is only so much you can develop in the commercial district. Keep Chesterland as it is.

Fine with me.

Outdated

It's spread out. Consolidation and diversifying would be key.

Overdue, No regard to architecture

Current commercial district developed over the past 40 years was poorly planned due to zoning.

Terrible traffic,

Just right

I think it doesn't offer much at all. That's why most people who live here go to Mayfield or Chardon to shop.

Feels disjointed

Too many empty buildings. Use them for needed facilities whatever they may be.

No opinion, Chesterland has a below average food supply. Needs a major grocery store.

It meets all the basic needs.

Commercial district is okay. Some of the buildings along Mayfield road could use some updating.

I think it's fine, needs more and different fast food options.

Not aesthetically pleasing. Could be more organized.

Needs to be updated. It is a very dated area. The grocery store needs to be moved/expanded/torn down.

The commercial district is ugly! There isn't uniform type of structures. It is not at all welcoming or quaint!

New architectural review board, like small sign restrictions, need maintenance and landscaping guidelines.

The commercial district is perfectly sufficient as is, we do not support any additional developments,

Adequate

Look at signage and advertisement. There is a lack of support for businesses in Chesterland.  
Too many plazas that are empty.  
Shabby and sprawled out, but any changes must be well planned and well budgeted.  
Failing, keep it that way. If you don't like it, go back to Mayfield Hgts.  
Too much traffic congestion during peak hours  
No problem.  
Some of the commercial facilities need repair and properties need to be better maintained  
It is a mess. No thought behind it. Needs to be more accessible by sidewalks.  
Haphazard  
Not well planned  
It's okay. Everything is spread out.  
Sort of unorganized commercial district. Fails to have an identity. Kirtland has done a better job. No more gas stations.  
Commercial area is sufficient for the small town atmosphere. Do not need large mall areas here.  
Downtown Chesterland is not much to look at. it's a hodge podge of plazas that could use improvement. Sidewalks and a walkable downtown would be nice.  
Overall, it has satisfied my needs.  
Overall impression is terrible. Run down and vacant. Mixed with residential affects overall appearance.  
Lack of control of business appearance hurts the overall impression of the township.  
It's big enough  
I like the park and town hall area. Most commercial properties are kept up nicely, however businesses like Bloom Bros and the empty lot are eye sores. The run down buildings in the center of town should be torn down.  
It's okay.  
Adequate services are available but some areas are not well maintained or attractive in appearance.  
Adequate.  
It looks horrible! We need to model the area in Chagrin Falls. Get rid of dollar general.  
The buildings look old and deteriorating.  
I support 1 or 2 additional chain businesses to be developed but love supporting local food establishment. It would also be nice to have a grocery store rather than Giant Eagle.  
Some area of the commercial district are updated and others not so much.  
Beautify the area more with trees, flowers, etc. Needs a common theme for structures.  
It seems to be working very well.  
I think we have too many different types of buildings.  
Too big! Too many vacancies, and in some cases very un-kept.  
It seems cluttered and congested. I avoid it.  
a mess.  
Under utilized and over built. Get rid of eye sore houses along Mayfield Road.  
Very mixed. Mayfield Road needs a lot of cleaning up.  
Not usually appealing, would love to have a walkable, more appealing area. Many empty spaces.  
Could be expanded carefully with top grade retail  
Very poor, No identity for the community. The variety of businesses is poor.  
It's unsightly, to clean up would be very expensive. But with schools and location it would be a difference in attracting young families.  
Too spread out and not connected, sidewalks needed  
Too many vacant store fronts, poorly maintained buildings  
First item that needs to be addressed if having a chamber of commerce. Our commercial district is improperly utilized. There is no reason a storefront should go 20 years and never get rented. Mixed use housing will allow diversity in housing and help smaller businesses survive here.  
Very random, no cohesiveness, better zoning would be helpful.  
It looks run down and sad. It has no character.  
Seems okay but would love to have another grocery store and more restaurants.  
No up keep, run down, empty dilapidated buildings, no common structure

Haphazard design, too many vacant stores, too many empty strip malls, lack of any design  
Seems disjointed and every man for himself. Needs to be tied together for strength of purpose and standards.  
It looks very run down in some places, which might give some people negative impressions. Other places, like parkside are well maintained.  
All are ok except Bloom Brothers could be spruced up.  
It is fine as is.  
Chester is a pass through town. Always has been, always will be. Businesses do best that cater to commuters.  
The speed limit changes are a bit confusing and should be more clearly marked.  
Do not allow businesses to build new buildings when there are so many empty spaces.  
It looks rural, which is fine with me.  
It's perfect for our small community.  
It's fine. There's plenty of other shopping nearby. The traffic is already maxed out so we don't need to draw more traffic.  
The overall layout of the commercial area is pretty dated. The township should go for a classic look such as downtown Willoughby, Chagrin Falls.  
I think it is sufficient  
Overall okay, has what I need. Not uniform. But about what I expect for a township.  
Too small, needs more small business  
I think that our commercial district is nice and inviting. I do think that some of our buildings need a face lift and don't fit in with the rest of the buildings.  
Good layout but we need bike/walking paths.  
I prefer shopping in locally owned/small businesses so I appreciate that Chester township is primarily that.  
It's fine. Old and new buildings together.  
Unattractive, does not all support the rural feel. Too many auto parts and large businesses. We need personality in the commercial district, not businesses you see in cities.  
It's fine as it is.  
Too many vacant commercial areas. Something needs to be done to attract more businesses. Better signage is needed.  
Stop expansion and fill vacant properties.  
Needs to be spruced up. Hide eyesores and plant more trees. Make it more appealing  
Looks good to me.  
I don't mind the commercial district though I wouldn't really want it to expand too much. Business owners seem to do a decent job maintaining property.  
Remove houses from commercial property.  
I have no problem with the current business district.  
Too spread out - we need a center of town feel and not so many strip plazas.  
It is lacking a small hometown feel since everything is so spread out.  
It looks like a trash city. Some businesses are run down, un-kept. No sidewalks. Only accessible via car.  
Fragmented. Not very well organized.  
Some businesses need to address the appearance of their buildings and outside grounds. Do not support more development of large commercial activity.  
No opinion  
It's fine. We don't need more shopping.  
Rinky dink  
The commercial district is fine, but needs greenery. Bloom Bros could update their property. Buildings and properties must be maintained.  
Large enough as it is.  
Visually it's a bit run down. I would prefer something more aesthetically pleasing with a quaint small town look/feel. I think we have plenty of stores, gas stations, banks, and restaurants.  
There is no continuity - new buildings, old buildings - some not very appealing  
Leave it alone. If you want to live in a suburb, then move there.  
Perfect, leave it alone!



There is a good mix of business types  
Along 322 and 306  
Seems to be proper  
I guess it does the job. It's not real pretty.  
It's fine how it is. We don't want to see a large commercial area.  
Too many empty storefronts and too many of the same. Accessibility and parking seem pretty good.  
Allow Giant Eagle to expand. Update West Geauga Plaza to match the aesthetics of pulp.  
Ugly and too many empty store fronts dated  
Dated, old, not appealing to shoppers  
The commercial area could be expanded and include dining areas and stores.  
Not desirable  
There is no easy way to get anything - no square or sidewalks! You can't just stroll around and make an on the fly lunch decision.  
It's just fine and suites our needs  
Starting to look sparse. Enjoy many of the businesses that are there, but would like to see more activity.  
Many vacancies - new buildings going up (unoccupied) while there are vacant older building and available  
It looks terrible. Too bad better planning wasn't initiated years ago.  
Important - more uniformity of architecture  
Satisfying generally speaking, like having some restaurants nearby. Rather drive to another area for needs or shopping, keeping Chesterland uncrowded  
It looks a little seedy.  
Need some updating in areas, bring some small businesses in - not big box, Need restaurant opinions  
I don't want it to get all spread out like Chardon  
No flow of architecture within the district. Better signage  
Terrible. Ugly 1960 era buildings. No landscaping.  
I would like to see it remain as it is. No more retail or shopping spots.  
Very unappealing to the eye; it always seems like it's a mess; I love to be able to do two things in one stop  
Just enough!  
It is obvious that there was no foresight in the planning. The town center should capture our identity  
Satisfied as is.  
Too many commercial vacancies - eyesore yet building continues  
This area did not receive enough pre-planning - many structures are in very poor condition and un-kept. We have plenty of vacant office spaces.  
Not well laid out. No quaint town area which would be nice  
In strong need of improvement - upkeep and maintaining current buildings, add uniformity to buildings  
Chesterland commercial area buildings in front of WG plaza look messy and junk-y. Our town is looking run down and embarrassing. There are a few nice buildings.  
The commercial district should not expand  
Does not have a cohesive look  
Lack of zoning requirements to unify the appearance - looks disorganized.  
I think we could use more businesses in the commercial district. Small shops. It would be nice if some of these places would be more attractive.  
Too many empty commercial buildings and continue building new buildings. Many un-kept stores along Mayfield Rd.  
The commercial area is unattractive and unappealing. Too many empty spaces/storefronts. In-cohesive aesthetics and abundance of auto supply stores.  
Not family or friendly designed atmosphere.  
Some commercial property - not kept up - no or little maintenance  
Average at best. Too many closed store fronts.  
Good variety, it would be nice to have a few more shopping stores in town. I would love to stay close to home and support small businesses if they were in our town.



What is wrong with it? We do not need a central shopping center anymore than we presently have. When I want to walk, I do so in my neighborhood

I hate seeing empty stores and new spaces being built that sit empty. I wish there were more sidewalks.

Disjointed, no uniformity, too many vacant spaces for businesses

Some businesses are kept up better than others. I would like more of a rural, yet up-kept feel. More businesses and more local - not chains

Needs more common theme, maybe architecture theme

Overall, it's ok. West and plaza could use a face lift. Business district is big enough and we don't need big box stores coming in.

The shopping plaza as well as Guido's are nice, but the rest of the commercial district is hodge podge. There is nothing that unifies the different buildings. There are many different styles of architecture that don't fit together well. The center of town is not well defined.

hodge podge of development. 2 too much paved areas 3. too little landscaping and trees 4 not pleasing to the eye. I don't even know half the businesses offered because of the poor layout. Terrible. Nothing makes sense. So many empty buildings because they can't stay in business because we don't even know they are there. All are so run down and look like junk.

Adequate considering so many empty buildings.

It's fine.

It doesn't look good - no uniform architecture. It's a hodge-podge, some buildings are rundown and in disrepair. Too many empty store fronts.

Many areas are unattractive. No uniformity. Has improved recently. Often, more parking lot than necessary. Do not like digital signs.

Appreciate the wide variety of medium and small businesses with very few corporate chains. The look of the area is disjointed and could use improvement and commonality. Keep the small town feel with a more unified and beautified look.

I would say that was no planning.

The commercial district is somewhat "hodge-podge."

Do not expand the commercial district beyond the current boundaries. There are several empty spaces. People should be encouraged to move into and or revamp these spaces.

Lacks charm. Too many unweeded properties and older dumpy buildings. Aside from Drug Mart, DQ, SunMart and KeyBank, most of our commerce we do outside of Chester. Need better restaurants.

Chaos. Business and residential is mixed together. Your designer missed several eye sores. Too much emptiness, no sidewalks

It needs updating.

There are some ugly buildings.

Fine the way it is.

It is fine as is.

Small town feel. Although I would like to see a few more local type businesses/restaurants. I do not want to see it get out of control with traffic or tourist destination.

It seems like there are new buildings on the main roads. It would be nice if properties were occupied. We like some of the new development, but it would be great if all the new buildings are occupied.

I don't believe there was a plan to make downtown aesthetically pleasing. New buildings and signs went up with no cohesive plan.

The district is cluttered. There are numerous empty dilapidated properties and unkept yards and store fronts. Our district lacks curb appeal that could be improved by an overall master plan.

Too many strip centers. Need bigger Giant Eagle.

Most of the commercial development is ugly - the house like ones along Mayfield look good. Too many bright lights and light pollution. We used to be able to see stars.

Disjointed. Too spread out, not walkable.

Ok

Could look nicer and come together more. Sidewalks would be nice.

Without knowing what the opinions are, which I would like to know, it is what is and I'm okay with it.

I am satisfied with the overall impression of the commercial district of Chester.  
The commercial district is limited to the main highways. This keeps the township rural.  
Commercial needs to move forward to start keeping to engineering structure. Needs to expand North and South on 306 to East on Mayfield Road.  
No zoning regarding signage - or minimal zoning. Distracts from overall look. Creates visual pollution.  
We could use a few more stores but not many. Need to have a few more choices.  
It is not cohesive in appearance and location. Too many spaces are empty. There are too many properties of poor quality.  
There should be a committee to enforce some kind of cohesive aesthetic for buildings that will be built from this point on.  
It fits perfectly into the Township. This is what we have. Beautiful!  
I do most of my grocery shopping in Mayfield Hgts. or Chagrin Falls. I need to run an errand, I usually go somewhere other than Chesterland.  
Too large, unsightly  
Everything needs to be updated and unified in appearance.  
Some of the buildings need a facelift to look better. Glad to see the church is getting a face lift.  
Trashy buildings. No continuity in appearance.  
The commercial district in Chester satisfies the basic needs of the community. There are many vacancies and does not need to be expanded. the items listed below can be found within a 15 minute drive of Chester and driving will be necessary anyhow. Chester square (drug mart) and the new Guido's are examples of responsible building and maintenance which can exist.  
There are far too many empty storefronts.  
The whole area is a big mish mash. Too many vacant stores - too many plazas. consolidatdate.  
There is no continuity to our buildings. Looks like a mish mash of style. Individuals businesses are, for the most part, pleasant to look at. Some need to go away.  
Encourage small free standing businesses. We don't need any more shopping centers. We don't need additional retail - we're close enough to Chardon, Mentor and Mayfield  
Too many fast food and not many quality dining with entertainment. Social activities for adults and teens, Not just sports.  
Not clearly identified, not planned  
No continuity, too many different styles, no minimum standard.  
Very spread out. not attractive. few choices. so specialty shops.  
Mapes greenhouse and property is a complete eyesore. It's degrading to Chesterland.  
It doesn't look inviting at all. Architecture is random. Some areas could use cleaning up.  
Keep Chester about as is!  
There is a need to provide proper water drainage during bad storms. Businesses should be required to follow eco-friendly environment care and waste disposal.  
I think speed limit should be higher than 25 mph; should be 35.  
It's a hodge podge of different businesses and architecture. There needs to be more consistency.  
Just fine as is.  
The buildings do not have a uniform look. There are many different styles. Some are not well maintained.  
Too many empty buildings  
Some spots need sprucing up - the older areas. The newer buildings are an improvement  
I am satisfied with the commercial district. Most of what I need I can buy here. I would not want to see it expanded.  
Okay for an outer-suburban area like Chesterland  
It could stand better upkeep on the part of the businesses shuttered buildings need to be upgraded and utilized or taken down.  
Not fond of it. Too many businesses for our township. No more business development/expansion  
Most propperties are nicely cared for, some are eyesores. Bloom Bros needs a teardown/rebuild. I would support signage restrictions/uniformity.

On Mayfield it is old and rundown and gives a bad impression. No consistency on architecture. 306 is not so bad. The Drug Mart plaza is nice as is all 4 corners of the intersection.

Although the commercial district has made improvements over the years I would still characterize it as 'messy' in parts of the downtown. 1. the road set-backs and signage have come a long way and are providing cohesiveness 2. the above head powerlines are obtrusive to the view 3. sidewalks in the downtown could provide a great deal. Pathetic, run down, appearance, no planning in place for what is allowed and what is not, maybe just not enforced. Need better enforced zoning, a planning review board should exist. We need to attract people and business opportunities to the area. It is difficult to survive as business owner in the area with current structure. There is no continuity or uniformity. The zoning in Chesterland for commercial buildings is terrible. No appeal at all.

Look generic. Could use some nice landscaping and renovated fronts.

I like that it is not mainstream like Mayfield Hgts. Keep out big box commercial and let's open more mom and pop shops.

Very poor. Need more business selection.

It looks OK for small community. cool signs would get more shop traffic. Hanging baskets are beautiful. Park flowers are beautiful. Climbing for kids is great. Gazebo always looks quaint for town. Nice job over the years township.

Lack of planning, no aesthetic standards,

Scattered. No common identity. Nothing great.

Ugly! Hodge podge looking areas. Looks old, outdated, no character. Lots of areas and buildings need to be cleaned up.

Haphazard

Okay

Could use updating

It looks awful. Empty. Mish mash of buildings.

Business establishments should be held to a standard of maintenance- no junk cars, maintained buildings, no debris.

The economic development of Chester is important. Standards the commercial district should be implemented - for including areas like Mapes. This is visually unappealing and seems to be in disrepair. However the revitalization should be left to the businesses and not the township. Stores that want to expand and remodel their storefronts should not be hindered (ie Giant Eagle and Turney's) But should be helped and encouraged to keep them as a staple of the community. Stop letting companies like Dollar General come in and build ugly storefronts. new uses need to be found for vacant stripmalls and this outdated concept.

I like the way it is. Where city meets country.

It has everything you need.

It is obvious a master plan was not in place when many of the establishments were constructed. No cohesiveness. A precise plan for 306 and Mayfield should make that a focal point for all of Chesterland.

A lot of random empty buildings.

Plenty of commercial and retail space available. Lots of nearby cities -ex: Chardon, Mayfield Hts, Middlefield. No one needs or wants another Mayfield Hts or Cleveland.

It is appropriate and efficient for our rural atmosphere.

We are both in our 80s. We don't need all that much. The present commercial district meets our needs.

Pretty generic and uninteresting. Just an area to pass through on the way to somewhere else. The shopping here is not much. No nice restaurants or shops to speak of.

Very poor trustees 20+ years ago missed a change to go 80/20 with ODOT to widen SR322. Now that is a log jam.

Economic development needed. Widen Mayfield RD (322)

Police department should be more visible.

Building design could be more cohesive at town center, the new bldg next to car wash doesn't match anything.

Zoning should have made them match the plaza.

I like it. I do not want to live in Mayfield Heights.

it would be nice if there were more sidewalks.

Needs more aesthetic appeal. More walkable with cuter shops , cafes. More uniform looking

Very unattractive!

No regulation of buildings. They are built but no tenants. Many empty buildings. Parking lot in West Geauga plaza in poor shape.

poor- lot of vacant shopping centers township should develop architectural standards. Make 322\366 a town square with shops/restaurants you could walk too.

For the size of the township the commercial district is functional. Sidewalks would be beneficial.

seems ok

n/a

There are too many store/office fronts sitting empty. Some sidewalk plans put into place within the commercial district would allow for increased activity at shops and restaurants.

Cluttered, not maintained - too large - not conducive to local shopping

Honky

a mess! - pieced together - very unattractive!

Some of the buildings need updating. Traffic can be challenging at times.

There is a big discrepancy amongst the commercial businesses in regard to appearance and presentation. Some are beautifully maintained and other are dumps that look hill-billyish. It is embarrassing.

Wish were more consolidated

Okay. It would be nice if there were a square that would be recognizable.

Ugly and disjointed. The commercial areas appear to be the result of unguided and haphazard growth. There is no pedestrian accessibility.

We need a Heinen's store

It's a cluster of mismatched buildings with no common theme or anything to tie them together! They look like they were all built at different times. The 2 big main plazas are ok but the rest are not

It works for our community

Somewhat disorganized. No need to expand it. Utilize current open spaces before any more buildings are constructed.

Has a disorganized feel and look

Kind of haphazard. Could be more uniform.

There seems to be no control over architecture.

We like it here the way it is!

no problem with it

great

very ugly!!

It's useful, not pretty. Doesn't have personality. Parkside is a gem though. Overall, it's not a place I can hang out at.

There are no sidewalks, public parking, plazas with public art, etc. It seems like it's not living up to its potential.

somewhat congested

Too much redundant offerings and low end franchises, encourage and promote and support independent businesses of all kinds.

a mishmash of buildings that looks like were built without a master plan

Allow senior living condos and or townhouses - no more office space. You need this type of living spaces they will allow money staying in the community, there are too many office spaces empty now but no businesses want to move to Chesterland reputation.

I think it's great. Alsis and Starbucks would make it excellent. Keeping it less city like is great.

I feel it could have more businesses with the space given

It's fine for a small town, but it would be nice to update the storefronts.

Too scattered, no defined building pattern, no real center feel.

It seems like there is no area that is not commercial in Chesterland. There are businesses operating in residential areas and nothing is being done to change that. So what does commercial area mean?

a lot of it needs a face lift

There are several eyesores that could use cosmetic improvements on the outskirts of town. Examples: commercial houses by farmers market building. Small commercial buildings next to Valley Villa Ice Cream. Honky Tonk Saloon building - still an eyesore even with recent renovations. Far too many empty retail spaces and buildings.

Remove old buildings/houses business along 306 and Mayfield. Adopt standards for business and strip malls.

A bit of an unorganized mess.

Some buildings could use come clean up

Too many strip malls and unrented spaces. Should have limited this years ago. We have enough and should reduce if possible.

I generally like it. It seems we have more buildings than businesses. Also the 25 mph speed limit seems too slow.

Prefer a more condensed commercial area, so everything is in one place.

chester has enough , do not expand, rather workon improving current area, stay small and independent, do not expand chains or big business

Need some appearance changes at some locations. general clean up

it has everything you need. Its two land and no buses.

I think the majority of the vacant run down buildings need to have something done about them. They are an eyesore. The areas that have occupied buildings mostly all look respectably

Not planned well.

Fine

We have too many empty commercial spaces in Chesterland. There should be no inease in commerical apce with out filling vacancie.

I think its great. It has all that I need and looks nice.

Not appealing. Too many strip malls. No walkability/bikability.

Overall Okay. Grocery store is dated and small. Could up-grade if possible.

There is no grand plan. The first impression people get driving down 322 is very poor.

It would be nice to see Chester businesses utilize the empty commercial building..this would bring new job opportunities/variety to the community.

Not pedestrian friendly at all.

More then sufficient.

Would allow walkable shopping/recreation

adequate

Not visually appealing

Mayfield road hodge podge of building. No standards.

Mayfield should be 2 lanes up to 306. For safety faces to shop to get in and out. Sidewalks so people could park and walk to other stores and restaurants when go to decent weather. Like "chgrin falls" A lot of work for that.

The key to success is improving existing structures and capitalizing on how friendly and warm the shop owners treat their customers.

Nice looking. Would like to see it stay that way. No billboard signs - keep the small town look and feel

It looks junky. Facades should be uniform. More walkable and sidewalks and landscaping.

Too many vacant offices and buildings too much traffic congestion and inability to turn/merge into traffice at times of the day.

It's a disgusting mess. The only nice thing is the updated structure next to the car wash with the new juice bar and the new place with the furniture galary. Most everything else is a run down eye sore especially the commercial structure that little ceasars is in.

Too many unattractive buildings

Poor-to many un-used building spaces

It is unsightly and cumberson to enter/exit during peak traffic times. Maybe limit the number of types of businesses to a smaller number i.e. car parts, pizza. Fill what you have before making new.

I believe for the most part it is fine, though I would like to see a nicer array of homes on and in the downtown area.

Like that many local businesses are here. no big box stores.

Has what we need...except for sidewalks to safely access w/o returning to car to drive to next driveway.

It's fine the way it is.

Dollar store is ugly. No architectural style. Overall impression is town with not style, planning, zoning is mishmash of building styles, no cohesive, overall 'look', no real town center! At least the hanging flower baskets all cohesion! it lack a variety of stores. We have to travel out of Chesterland to really shop.

Improving seems to be happening with the older areas.

The run down building on Valley view/322 needs to go, as does the building across from Arabica (I know its not in district) The lot between BK & Buck Stop is an eye sore.

We are find with the overall appearance, we don't like the traffice speed thru residential streets that are connected to commercial district.

We are satisfied.

too many vacant retail properties in existing plazas currently No need to keep building new ones.

Disjointed Hodgepodge

We need to upgrade and improve the appearance of what is already there - not adding more retail to the area.

Example: Giant Eagle is outdated and not modern in funcion. It makes Chesterland look bad. The area needs to maintain the small town appearance. This could be done by giving the commercial buildings a face lift.

It's fine!

1, Lack of architectural zoning permits ugly commercial buildings in the township 2. Need traffic lights at entrance/exits for WG Plaza 3. Architecture and age of commercial district results in a hodgepoge of styles of and lack overall plan, 4 The best looking structure in the township is Guido's Rest.

Its okay, too many empty stores, too many strip shopping centers, no need to expand.

Positive

No rhyme or reason. Nothing is consistent or uniform. Preserve the character of old buildings like bloom brothers. Improve the landscaping.

The commercial area of Chester township is ok, some properties such as bloombrothers leons garage, the randome home structure across fro town hall need to be cleaned up a bit. Chesterland is beautiful, but these businesses make it look worse.

It's fine. We are a small rural town and want it to stay that way.

It seems to big overbuilt. Too many empty storefronts.

Its not very attractive - I've even been told this is visitors/guests from out of town a lot of closed/run down buildings and fast food no real 'town center'

Needs a face lift. We do not need more building just improvements.

It is fine as is!

Not much. Looks like no planning on looks or plan.

It's fine but could look a little more refined.

Has what you need for the most part but appears old, run down, and unkempt. Wish we had better restaurant choices. Hate seeing empty buildings.

Not many quality restaurants.

it is a lot larger than I would believe it would be.

Chester is basically a set of cross roads (306 & 322) so it will never be fancy. Still, I wouldn't mind it looking a little nicer. There are some scruffy building and no real architectural interest. There are too many empty storefronts.

We would be better off with a smaller, denser commercial area. By the way your map has omitted several churches which are a very important part of our community.

There are a lot of empty businesses. I have the businesses that I need

The commercial area should be more accessible for walking and it needs to be more appealing to the eye.

Haphazard, mixed era storefronts and businesses. Town center needs more emphasis on cohesive plan.

Good spacing within the area. Clustering could cause more traffic congestion

Congested at 4:00, lots of plazas and no charm. Not welcoming ascetically.

The area is illdesigned no 'real' recognizable commercial area. This could be due in part to no real center of town.

Perception is everything. Feels more like a bunch of businesses strung together rather than planned together.

No unifying appearance. Area looks like drive thru town without much in the way of retail - many of commercial space are vacant.

looks run down. new building keep going up. but are not being occupied. Old buildings are being left to sit empty and unattended. I wouldn't mind expanding retail and food services on vacant property. But not tearing down untouched land when places are sitting empty.

It is a happy hodgepodge that has grown over time.

Not very well kept.

That's enough area. No need for expansion.

I think it's fine as is.  
Poor zoning codes, sloppy character  
Lack of variety of smaller stores.  
Just fine  
Many of the buildings are run down and unattractive.  
Too many empty office spaces.  
Do not increase size of commercial district. Support improvements to current buildings. Support/bring in more businesses.  
I think that it is extremely convenient while maintaining small town rural charm.  
Parts of the business district are run down looking and have been for quite a while. As a township, I am not sure hoe much control we have legally.  
It is fine.  
Some areas need clean-up!. Very messy and a eye-sore.  
I think it is fine but should limit building new facilities till the ones we have are being used. To many empty buildings/suites.  
I think it is crowded enough. No more commercial space should be built.  
We have enough businesses. fill the vacancies we have before building more. Preserve the few historic (early) buildings left.  
Meets the community's overall needs.  
It's beginning to look like Mayfield  
Not well-planned, destroy atmosphere, too many vacant commercial buildings, loss of quaint atmosphere, undue the traffic congestion from layout of businesses  
Poor. No continuity of design. Random. Too much commercial space that's empty. Fill existing before adding more.  
How many auto parts stores are needed?  
Go after building owners to make improvements to exterior of buildings. No more auto stores. No big retail chains! that is why I moved here!  
Fine as is - Just fill the empty stores.  
Very poor impression thoughtless - with very few exceptions haphazard  
Looks slightly run down /empty. Should utilize existing vacant properties before allowing new builds (ie family dollar)  
too much strip mall expansion  
alot of traffic  
Current impression is fair. Would like to see something that unifies the appearance from the street and make it easier to see where your're entering business names on signs of same size shops color and addresses  
The basic needs are here - with exception of a complete grocery store and a restaurant or 2 with quiet, comfort, nature adult appeal. There are now more than adequate fast food pizza and loud sports bars/restaurants.  
We feel this area currently is just a bunch of sad, disjointed, unattractive strip malls. There are some really wonderful destinations such as an amazing yoga stuido, super cute wine bar, delicious indian good, but they are all tacked onto an ugly parking lot with no charm in the surrounding area and everything feels disconnected.  
OK not terribly attractive  
lacks a western reserve appearance  
convienent shopping,too many empty buildings  
It is just like every small town without any historical history unlike chagrin falls. Every building was put up for the owners without forethought. Therre is no uniform "look" to make it rural and cozy  
looks likea mish mash of styles mostly tacky  
It is fine, however, mapes should clean up. That place is a real eye sore.  
The buildings used for Miss Pats daycare (both buildings) the junky fence and broken toys look horrible. The front building that has apartments needs cleaned up. There is a garage across that is junky.  
OK as it is  
satisfied  
sparce, not walkable, looks a bit run down.



Somewhat dumpy, It is lackluster. The L shaped buildings are terrible for business. Too many empty offices. If our commercial district became more trendy we would draw customers from surrounding towns.

Very good.

We could use a few more good restaurants - not fast foods

It's great the way it is!

The empty buildings should be put to use before new construction for businesses is allowed.

Fine as is.

Good but some buildings like the old trophy store need to be addressed.

A little sloppy, but no need for more large business properties.

It's good but I would like to see more vacancies filled.

There needs to be more restaurants and clothing retail stores as we currently have to drive to chardon or mentor for those things.

Not particularly attractive - but ok as long as they are confined to 306 and 322.

It is relatively occupied. It is fine as it.

Don't need anymore strip malls. We have many unused storefronts now.

Adequate. Enjoy diversity of architecture and independent business rather than national stores.

Needs a major update in buildings and commercial parking lot.

It's ok.

Could be better kept with more standard rules.

Grocery store is essential but could be better. More fast casual food options would be nice.

I believe legal costs are what stops Chesterland from forcing businesses to clean up.

It's fine.

I'm happy with the current set-up/design.

No central commercial district. Seems to have grown with no plan. Stretches too far in many directions.

I believe the commercial district in Chester has a small town feel with limited availability of public commercial needs. I believe the district could improve upon the availability and types of businesses present while preserving the small town charm.

Too many empty buildings.

Haphazard.

Very run down. More business upkeep. More flowers. More continuity. More beauty.

Poorly laid out, not welcoming, no curbside appeal. Chester Tavern Patio is very welcoming and nicely laid out.

Our commercial area is pathetic. An eye sore. We obviously have a very relaxed standard. The new dollar store proves that. It is embarrassing to call this a commercial area. Chesterland looks like a dump.

It's fine.

No structure, poor appearance, need codes for new buildings. Need community center to draw more people.

Chesterland has no identity.

Keep the commercial district on Mayfield rd. keep rt. 306 as residential as possible. There are enough empty spaces for rent in Chester now; we don't need to add more. Mayfield is not exactly "pretty" as a business district, but it would cost the taxpayers way too much to try to change it now.

It is fine.

It's fine and the size is perfect.

Very unorganized.

United in appearance and upkeep. Beginning to look 'run down' in some areas.

Haphazard designed. No overall look/feel. No standard setback. No left turn lanes in some spots.

Is not quaint - with exception of the gazebo and park district. Retail is not inviting

Should spruce up commercial area - spend the money to put up flags and flower baskets - make it look inviting.

Keep all commercial activity together.

The area needs to expand.

Sucks. Traffic and access is poor.

In my opinion, Chester's commercial district offers all essential shopping opportunities for groceries, supplies, fast food and dine-in restaurants.



No community identity in Chesterland. Do not believe commercial area needs to be pedestrian friendly as most people must drive to get there anyways.

There are too many vacant strip type malls to allow any new ones to be built. Fill what we have and make owners keep them looking attractive. There are also too many styles of buildings - no cohesiveness.

commercial district is fine.

It is an ugly collection of strip centers with far too many curb cuts onto Mayfield and Chillicothe. Sign clutter is a problem. There is no defined town square.

Too many unoccupied spaces - stop building!

Architecture could use some work. Sidewalks totally unnecessary. Like the township as it is.

Looks like total crap and is embarrassing. Why isn't Chester making some of the businesses at least paint their building? All the gravel on the sides of the roads in the map make the roads and neighborhoods look bad. It's a small town and should have a quiet downtown area.

We need architectural standards to reflect more Western Reserve quaintness such as Chardon Square or Burton. It's okay.

It's okay. Kind of dingy, but that also helps keep people out of the area to preserve the rural character.

Awkward layout on one single road, causes traffic congestion. But is a nice small town feel.

None

Too many pizza restaurants and auto parts. No gun stores. No more liquor or wine stores. No tattoo parlors.

It's fine, but could look nicer

There is no plan, very disorganized

It could be improved as far as appearance. Also better stores should be added as well as improving existing ones.

It's okay. Miss Wendys and Taco Bell. The parking at Drug Mart in front - people have to back out into traffic.

Not cohesive, under utilization of existing buildings, not required to maintain rural atmosphere with trees (air quality has noticeably decreased), no sidewalks or pedestrian access

Should be expanded and allowed for more manufacturing. This would bring in more income and jobs to the community.

Appearance is not good! Needs landscaping.

Quiet older town - Leave it alone!!

It's fine but you need more restaurants.

It is acceptable. It is not the loveliest, but the way it developed over the years it is hard to change. The park is pretty nice.

It'd be nice to have a downtown area with walking and attractive.

It's fine.

Mish mash of uniformity. Lots of empty spaces.

Eyesore

Too many unleased store fronts and the building that had the fire by subway has not even started construction yet. Had damage before (2 1/5 years ago) and that was never fixed.

It is fine for my needs.

Commercial space is filling up with stores, but residential growth does not seem to be there. Perhaps too many outlets trying to get the same customers. Example: Dollar Gen - have not had to go there once.

Most commercial areas not very attractive

Generally okay. However, some establishments need better upkeep. Some are starting to get rundown. Consider sidewalks area from WG Plaza to Parkside Park.

We have low standards for maintaining commercial property. many of the properties look poorly kept. All the businesses at the intersection of 306 and 322 are in need of curb appeal. CVS always looks unkept. This intersection should look beautiful because it's the face of our community.

Architecture could use some work. Sidewalks totally unnecessary.

Chester could have a nicer grand entrance/appearance. Put trees in the center of the divide and then add a turn lane. Most of 322 is okay with a few dumpy looking exceptions along the way.

Compared to other commercial areas in other townships ours is an embarrassment! The lack of proper zoning for building design creates a poor impression.

Too many shopping areas. Lots of stores are empty.

Years ago this should have been made into a proper square, instead it's now a cluster with a lack of accessibility to the community.

It is ok as is the allow for some expansion

It's unattractive. The buildings disjointed and it's not walkable.

322 gets very congested at rush hour. I try to avoid at this time of day. I do like that township offices (police, fire, townhall) are all in the same vicinity.

It's a mess, too many businesses in old crappy houses. No main street walkable section. Also, too many empty buildings. No consistent development criteria.

Kinda crappy - On one hand, I love freedom, on the other, some kind of standardization would be great

It's a mish mash of different ages and looks but not unpleasant.

Fine the way it is.

So many surveys have been conducted and yet nothing changes - we have too many spotty areas of commercial development.

We don't want the business district expanded if it comes at the cost of hurting the small businesses that are currently operating. We also don't want to lose green space to chain stores.

I have no problem with the way it is now.

Old, outdated, buildings need to be taken down (Best Trophy, lot next to B.King) Need bars and restaurants (walkable strips)

Ok, provides most of what we need. If we need Costco, Home Depot, or Kools, we travel to Mayfield

Don't really have one - seems to have enough variety as far as products needed.

Not enough healthy food options and poor grocery store.

There is a good mix of businesses, however there are many vacant buildings. More should be done to increase occupancy before allowing new buildings to be built.

Present conditions are fine. I am not in favor of too many commercial establishments this will bring in too many restaurants etc.

Giant Eagle should expand.

Need more stores (better quality) improve the appearance of some. Expand medical service.

Bad traffic pattern for WG Plaza. for everyone nicely maintained business there are 10 poorly maintained businesses. Abandoned businesses are a problem. Overall Ugly, outdated businesses.

It's awful and ugly. There isn't any resemblance of order. Houses mixed in with empty strip malls. Terrible trustees! Congested in rush hours

We find it perfect and meets all of our needs. We have all the services we need in an easily accessible convenient location.

There are way too many auto parts stores for now. Need to franchise upper end restaurants.

Dated and unimpressive. Needs updating and also better choices of retail and restaurants.

Too many empty commercial buildings

Eye sore for ages - no continuity. No plan.

Unorganized and shabby looking. More trees need to be planted in the commercial area- and business owners need to be held accountable for maintaining curb appeal. Connect businesses with bike paths to make shops more accessible.

Too many little plazas that sit empty. They clear wooded lots for brick buildings only to sit empty.

Kind of boring and not very pleasing to the eye.

More than adequate, too many vacant storefronts.

It is convenient and ample parking. Everything I need is available.

It is ok and fairly nice for the most part but some commercial areas such as "Mapes" could be improved.

Overall, there are very nice buildings but there are also many eye sores as well. There needs to be some business standards.

Poor!

Indifferent. Drive to Chardon or Mayfield.

Many commercial spaces are built and left empty. Many buildings need maintenance and yard care.

It's fine as is. Chester is perfect.

Lack of planning for overall pleasant visual effect

unorganized. no architectural standards. too many auto stores. Dollar store, landscaping really? I see too many disfunctional vehicles in driveways that are distracting and potentially dangerous  
I really like spring and summer. the slowing trees and plants put up around town are nice.  
needs sprucing up - make it more "village" like - definitely need sidewalks on 306 & 322 - both sides so people can walk more New attractive street lights to make it look inviting  
The cities of Chardon, Burton, Willoughby have squares. Cute shops and restaurants are accessible by walking around them. I spend a lot of time in these areas with friends and family. Perhaps we could do an areas such as these.  
The commercial area is just fine.  
It looks unplanned and poorly maintained  
Lack of architechtrual design throughout. Too many retail plazas. Uncontrolled access to plazas and businesses. ununiform  
So far, so good. I like the fact that traffic can be diverted from 322 & 306 intersection. Please entertain a chick fillet  
Commerical district is spread out to much. Does not feel like we have a plan.  
Good. We have the important businesses (drugstore, grocery, auto, etc.) in town. Would be a great idea to move police and fire to a new/combined facility where the old chester shool/recycling area currently stands. But on the whole, I don't have to go outside chesterland (much) to get what we need.  
Too congested  
Terrible. Restaurant options are terrible. One or two decent pizza places but that's it. Sit down options terrible. marshall & an occassional ace trip for convenience is all we frequent.  
Not very attractive. Appears to be a lot of vacant business sites. Some in repair.  
It looks sad that there are many empty storefronts in Chester Square and West Geauga Plaza. I think we could use a new and improved Giant Eagle.  
more walkable, more young adult friendly restaurants  
Very run down. Old buildings. No charm. no sidewalks. limited shopping. no Heinen's! Needs flowers/flower boxes.  
Too much concrete and asphalt!  
Not overly impressed with the commercial district.  
Some of the buildings could use some cosmetic upgrades. It's also important to have these buildings occupied and not sitting vacant.  
It's perfect. It's just big enough with having everything I need.  
There is a good variety of restaurants. Chester could use another grocery store.  
I think the commercial area is adequate fro the size of chesterland.  
Needs zoning improvements, too many old buildings, too many distressed buildings, too many varied architectural styles. No sidewalks is disheartening  
Terrible, not attractive, vacancies  
Great! not governments for  
Why do you keep approving office buildings to be built when they can't be filled?  
Disjointed. No "main street" charm.  
The commercial area is kept relatively clean and accessible. Bloom bros. could clean up a bit, but overall the businesses do a good job maintaining their properties.  
The chester commercial district is just a series of independent businesses strung along mayfield. Thank goodness many or most are privately and loclly owned. There are already too many franchises, which have the unfortunate potential to make Chester look like Mayfield or Lyndhurst. We don't need to make Chester into a stripmall with a cross roads at 306  
Far too large of a commercial district. The multiple empty office buildings are an eyesore. Too many retail establishments. As we shift to purchasing goods online, these stores will become empty, decaying eyesores.  
Giant Eagle needs an update!  
Decent stores. Many store fronts could be improved, especially old/no longer used properties. Better uniform landscaping throughout the district would go a long way.  
I think it is good the way it is. We are in Chester to have a safe, quiet area. Leave it that way.  
Overall we are satisfied with the commercial district everything is convenient and really not difficult to go from one plaza to the others. would like to see a new larger and improved Giant Eagle store.

It's sufficient.

No cohesiveness, no connections, BAD traffic at rush hours, many vacant buildings, good businesses have been forced out of some locations and spaces remain empty years later, development without any planning that can be observed - it's a mess.

It's a mess. Across from Townhall looks horrible. The buildings look run down. We need sidewalks in commercial district. Looks like no rhyme or reason.

Boring. We'll never be Chagrin Falls or even Chardon but it's boring, unattractive, no cohesion or attempt at tying things remotely in a style.

I like it. There are several run down properties, which I hope a business will invest in and fix up.

Hard to get on Mayfield at times.

I think this is a good size with a good variety of places.

Not cohesive, looks like Mayfield Rd in other cities. Stores in Chesterland are not as busy as stores in urban areas. This is better experience for consumers but challenging for business.

Currently it is fine, except there are too many empty stores. We don't need anymore.

I love the small town feeling, I appreciate seeing new places like Village Trends, Pulp, yoga, etc. But, I would not want our town becoming like Mayfield, busy and out of control but some better options for healthy foods.

It's great!

I'm good with it.

Very run down, many buildings in disrepair, need better zoning/inspection/fire code enforcement. Need wider road (turning lane maybe). Need sidewalks

More and more buildings going up yet they remain unoccupied, as well as existing buildings remain vacant too.

It's okay.

Too many empty stores. It's known that Chesterland is not helpful to get new businesses here.

?

Suitable

Satisfactory

Some properties are poorly maintained - should have some regulations. Other properties are in need of a facelift - but realize owners may not have funds to do so.

Overall poor, except for some of the newer buildings. Very hodge-podge. No common character at all. Nothing we're proud of. Lots of empty storefronts and it's degraded over the years for the most part. I wish we had more of a defined town area and more ability to get around other than our car.

I believe the current commercial zoning size is correct. The balance in this community is good.

I am happy with the commercial district.

Looks a bit shabby in some locations. Like anything goes.

Too much overcrowding of empty buildings.

Too many empty store fronts. Some older buildings not kept up.

Too many empty stores/buildings - being used as a tax write off. Additional taxes and house prices prevent many families from moving here.

to small

Ok structures. Some need cleaned up.

It's a little haphazard but that doesn't really bother us very much

I like that it is small business for the most part. Good service is had by these small businesses. There is no need for big box stores in Chesterland, we have good access to these if needed.

A hodge podge of building types spread over too large an area.

Not enough store choices. Too many empty buildings.

there are way too many empty buildings in the district. I can't really explain why they remain empty but I don't understand people keep building buildings to stay empty.

Shopping and business options exist in Chesterland. I just wish a town square was developed. Manufacturing like Truline didn't receive the support to stay in the area. We need to develop opportunities for ALL types of establishments.

Just clean up the messy properties along 322 and 306. When a new build or remodel happens ask to have it fit in with the rest of the town. Try to stay with the red brick white trim look.

adequate

Not impressive. Sidewalks would help.

It's OK

It's ok, not exceptional.

It is fine just the way it is currently. It is just big enough but not too big. Would prefer to see businesses fill the current spaces instead of building new buildings.

I do think we have a decent variety of businesses. For the most part many are well kept but there are some that need a more welcoming facade.

It's fine.

There is too many empty storefronts. New buildings not needed at this time.

Hasn't had adequate planning for overall continuity. Need protection of green space to preserve natural beauty.

Traffic is an issue and ways to control should be explored.

It is ok

It's very un attractive - wish there was more of a unity in the overall appearance - it's not pretty, quaint or anything special. Wish there were building codes that all building are 1 story - no large signs and lots of brick colonial front looks as a uniform appearance like chardon or hudson.

It's a thrown together conglomeration of strip malls.

It is UGLY UGLY UGLY!!! Please do a Beautification program - trees, shrubs, flower beds are a MUST. Use legacy village as an example of what can be done.

1. scattered, haphazard, without continuity, not cohesive 2. poorly maintained lawns and field areas, not much landscaping 3. no defining style or relationship between shopping, retail, entertainment structures 4. good centralized locations for major convenience stores

fine

To many empty buildings allowed to be built. Most are not designed for or as business which have a daily customer base. building that exist are for offices. State Route 322 needs to be a min. of 3 lanes from caves road to the other side of the auto repair centers east of SR 306

It's unattractive on every level. We would benefit from a planning/development model that would include apartments/senior living, pedestrians only and rec center/community pool for families.

We need another grocery store (heinen's) otherwise good.

Style is important and 'set back' is important. plopping one here and another there doesn't make mayfield or chillicothe rd's attractive. Junking/unrented bldgs is a reflection on the persons living in the community

it adds to the daily ease of quick shopping or limited item purchases not necessary for a trip to a neighboring area.

I would encourage more retail and restaurant/bar choices in our overall community

Too spread out and disorganized

Old looking. The plaza needs to be modernized and refurbished. The same for Chester square.

No issues with placement or availability. Visually, It could look better

It is a hodgepodge. too many empty storefronts. too much redundancy - car supplies/drug stores. use vacant buildings rather than new structures

Hodgepodge of development without standardized codes. We utilize quite a few of the businesses - restaurants, garden monticello marshall, giant eagle and drugmart.

We have many property owners who take pride in appearance of land. The few that don't make it look really bad!

A small town attempting or being forced to grow with little foreplanning

Too many empty building. Sometimes looks not nice.

Disjointed and decidedly pedestrian-unfriendly. Would be nice to have more boutique stores and quality alternative eateries like My Thai. At the very least, minimum aesthetic standards should be adopted: NO WAY should a KFC be allowed to sit unused, or a church near the main intersection go unpainted, for years, or a derelict auto repair shop and scabby vacant lot near the town center even be allowed to exist.

There is already more commercial enterprise in Chester than is needed. It stretches from Caves Road East on 322 to about 1/4 mile past 306, and North on 306 from the post office to Mulberry Road. That's quite a "District." The term expanded is used several times. Chester has enough commercial space. There are about 5 strip shopping malls in addition to West G Plaza, all with vacant store fronts. If Chester has any more expansion, it's going to look like Mayfield Heights.

Unattractive in some cases. Other businesses do a great job when the new building went up by the car wash it should have looked more like W. Geauga Plaza.

A mixed up mess.

It is fine.

The commercial buildings torn down on Mayfield/306 next to Shell was hoping for something a bit nicer looking. Basically put the same thing up as you took down.

It looks tired, but is in a rural area. Would like to see older buildings have a face lift and vacant lots utilized before new buildings occur.

The area along 306 can be improved. Eye sore - Try to develop for use of all citizens to bring people to the square/townhall

Too many vacant buildings/businesses

It looks awful; it does not flow; no charm; too much traffic with the single lanes; too many empty buildings; very ugly

Curb appeal needed for commercial areas. Businesses should be responsible for attractive curb appeal.

Minimal commercial district. If we want bigger commercial district we can drive to Mayfield

Look like it did 20 years ago. There is no order to it.

Mapes is an eyesore. Mapes needs to be cleaned up now! There is junk everywhere. Trees are growing through greenhouses. Plastic from the greenhouses are blowing in the wind. Bloom Bros needs a shot of beautification.

It's a hot mess. Some businesses are well maintained - others look like a trash hole. Chesterland could have so much potential and "curb appeal." Pathetic to have many buildings empty, bring in more businesses!

It is boring, unattractive and consistently has too many vacancies, even in newer attractive properties

It has the necessities. I do not think Chester needs more retail.

No opinion

I like our commercial area. It is functional and provides the immediate needs of the residents. That being said, there are a lot of buildings that are run down and empty. The businesses that are open support our love of a small town feel. We moved here for a more relaxed family life.

We didn't move here to change what is.

Lacks continuity. Too many empty buildings

It's too big and too spread, but it's not up to government to interfere with private business

I enjoy the small town feel.

Poor selection of useful shopping options. Looking forward to see what goes into the new building with "Pulp."

Need to improve the appearance of the district. Encourage new business to locate here.

Needs to look uniform. More walkable - looks like a sea of parking lots. Get rid of dollar general.

Not well organized. Poor appearance/upkeep at some locations.

Very disjointed, sad to see neglected maintenance on some commercial properties, sidewalks would be nice.

I think it's fine.

Fine

Need sidewalk connections to all businesses in the District! Need to expand the variety of businesses!

Limited options - empty strip malls. Some are outdated - has potential - not met. So many close by options - I do support maintaining the rural feel.

Mostly positive. Some areas could be better.

Many older businesses, commercial district has no unifying look

Convenient. Main grocery store is expensive (Giant Eagle)

No opinion either way.

It's spread out enough. Leave it as is

Like it the way it is now. Do not enlarge commercial district footprint. No new commercial building over two stories tall.

Pretty depressing. Lacks cohesive planning, aesthetically unattractive. Very little charm. Traffic flow in and out of businesses onto Mayfield is not always easy.

Terrible. You should look at other small communities and observe what they are doing to make the town center cohesive.

It looks like a dump except for a few lots that are kept looking nicely/nice landscaping and cleanliness. Otherwise most of them look like junkyards or are empty and not kept up.

It's practical but it has the feel of a strip mall. There is no sense of it being a town.

Average - no strong opinion

It seems to be easy for some small restaurants and shops to grow, like increased sales. Seeing shops closing is sad.

What could Chesterland do on weekends to draw community together? Parade with police and military honored.

Schools - sports teams, bands, cheerleading.

Fine as is.

Ok

Leave it alone. It is fine the way it is!

maintain commercial building in one area - not residential area

Seems fine. No issues other than that dump "garden" store on Mayfield. It looks very trashy along with the next to it. Eyesore!

Invest in taking a secluded area that has its own access to a main road and put in roads and utilities that promotes new business. Similar to what they did in Conroe Texas.

It's fine as it is.

It's just fine the way it is.

Most are eye sores, need more attractive, 306/322 looks the same as it did when we moved here in 1974

I love our little commercial district! Many small businesses where you always see people you know and it's never congested.

Needs to be cleaned up! Everything is off balance, 306 commercial district southside of 322 is off balance from the Northside. Police station/fire station is a dump. Should be relocated on the main road

It's a mess.

It's fine

It's fine. It's small town. Everything that you need is right here. If you need more, go to Mayfield! I would like to see the Giant Eagle redone. It's a dump. We have to go to Bainbridge or Mayfield for Heinans.

Sufficient

Random patchwork with a lot of outdated areas (road shops in from Giant Eagle), so many small shops I would love to support, but have no idea what they are - by Tailor's tack, brick buildings near there, strip area by Chesterland Tavern. Some really good spots still not visibly obvious.

Lacks established businesses/restaurants with a previous history of success, needs expansion of roadways, stop light at 306 and Giant Eagle, our business area has empty store fronts that does not attract other businesses

It's a bit congested traffic wise. I do not support more commercial/retail businesses. However, I would support some standards for businesses to be more quaint/decorative like Chardon Square.

Bleak and perhaps incomplete

I like that we have unique and hidden treasures in Chesterland. However, the empty buildings are an eye sore.

Brand new offices built are empty across from old offices, which are also empty. Why build then? The town is mismatched, I do like the Parkside area. It's also hard to navigate the town on foot or bike. You must drive.

No opinion

I enjoy the commercial district in Chester, however I have always noticed that we have a very large amount of restaurants despite being a rather small community. I don't know for sure, but this seems like it would be bad for businesses.

We do not have the 15,000 people to support Commercial District.

They should have to improve and maintain their property. City should inspect and enforce improvements and repairs

Want to see the character of the buildings maintained. Don't want a mish-mash of styles. Similar color schemes and architectural styles. Like the trees, landscaping, hanging baskets and flower beds. Do not want streets widened. Turn lanes are enough.

There is no real design pattern throughout downtown. Very small town feel. The police station is hidden but maybe that is ok. Downtown I think as it is now is too small to have police and fire station.

It is adequate. I feel that the twp needs to spend more time in filling the vacant space. Encourage more business to come here. Fill space you already have.



Needs updating, stiffer requirements regarding maintenance and design of buildings. Every building should have a landscape area with greenery.

I would be in favor of stronger aesthetic standards, but not to the point of becoming a rubber-stamp presentation. Variety is good, but extremes in architectural styles is chaotic and creates incongruous neighbors, which gives the impression of no standards at all.

Not enough options

Choppy architecture, lack of planning

Dumpy, eye sore, no flow or continuity

We are relatively new to the area but would like to have more take-out options (better quality, not fast food) nearby.

Fair/Poor chopped up. Architecturally lacking. Some areas trashy looking

Too much strip mall

My impression is you have no town square and you have a numerous hodge podge of buildings old and new with no theme that house all different businesses and stores mixed among residential streets. You have Parkside at one end and the historical end with Scotland store at the other end of the business district. Very seldom do I see anything going on at Parkside.

Seems good to us

We need a larger grocery store. Our Commercial District otherwise provides great variety of restaurants, stores and services

Commercial District overall is good. We feel zoning is important to keep a consistent look and standards should be enforced to keep a consistent look to the area. Requirements for standards for upkeep of properties should be developed and enforced so the appearance of our community is appealing and uniform.

All accommodations available in small area

It is nice to have the variety of food choices considering the limited space. Basic needs are met in all areas (Drug Mart, CVS, Giant Eagle, Ace Hardware, etc.)

It is not very attractive.

A lot of empty spaces while new lots are cleared. Small shops don't get advertising, the corner of 306 and 322 always looks great with the garden and holiday decorations.

It is what it is, leave it be.

The Commercial District is unattractive - store fronts need to be spruced up big time. Mapes Greenhouses is an eyesore - it is the first thing that you see when arriving. A community clean up would be great.

The Commercial District is convenient. It seems like there are a number of open unites waiting for new businesses, does nto seem to need expansion. The layout at West C Plaza seems to have a lot of unused space due to the parking lot. The City of Fountains is such a tacky welcome to the TWSP, as people drive in from Mayfield. Not entirely sure why it is still there after all these years.

Vacant - too many strips of vacant spaces, then township allows new builds. Fill space already built! Create consistency in colors, sign requirements.

It's nothing special but not terrible either. I would prioritize making 322 four lanes or at least have a turn lane from 306 to Caves

It's fine. I would not want it to expand any further down 322 or 306 either way.

**Q19. Additional Comments.** Please provide any additional comments you have.

**Q24 - Additional Comments.** Please provide any additional comments you may have that the Township should consider.

Additional Comments. Please provide any additional comments you may have that the Township should consider.

I really don't know if the township would benefit from a new central plan. What is the old one like? I really don't know if revision or replanning the commercial area is warrented. It is probably under developed now and I like it that way. Keep this in mind 1. Turney's hardware - the best ever! 2. Giant Eagle - great. 3 Pad Thai - best restaurant 4. Drug Mart -super. just leave these alone

Any extensive development of the township would undermine the current quality and possibly attract unwanted attention/entities. It would also obviously effect taxes. No zoning changes should be made without community input and or vote.



I think the township should allow housing options to encourage senior residents to remain/move in to the community. Ranch style cluster homes or subdivisions for example.

Consider more restrictive zoning regarding storage of junk, vehicles, boats, rvs, etc. on property and in view.

Consider noise ordinance that restrict target shooting on residential property.

I moved to Chesterland because it was small, quiet and convenient. It is no longer that way. Traffic is horrible and widening the roads will make it worse not better. I miss the feeling of living in a small town. Now I live in the shopping area. However small it is, surrounded by McMansions. No individual architecture, not many polite or friendly people. Lost sense of community. We're on this way to becoming another Solon and Solon is horrible. The more you improve, the more the traffic. Where are any questions about schools? I would prefer all of this effort go into the children and education. We are not attending public schools.

Major items: 1. cost of sewer (had this house 5 yrs all other on septic) keeps climbing 2. walking in downtown Chesterland (sidewalks!) 3. light pollution at night. 4. Expand Giant Eagle. The store is the size of the 70s. Chardon is so much nicer.

No passing on right sign at 306 & Mulberry!!! See close call accidents every day after work

Covid changes will have to be considered. Making any answers subject to major change.

Stop dumping. We need sign prohibiting dumping into the county line/Chagrin ravine. Some of the incidents were: Large appliances (county line rd/old mill rd) 5 bags of rubbish (county line rd n. of ravine) Large truck load of rock (deflected water and cause bank collapse) crushed asphalt (n. side of old mill) broken concrete (w. of abandoned county line - 30 years ago)

STOP shooting guns - noise. Stop poisoning yards - spraying chemicals.

Chester is doing well. WE don't need any major 'visionary concepts' to turn everything upside down.

Keep Chester the way it is. We moved from Mayfield to be in this 'country' like area. If I wanted this I would have stayed in Mayfield.

Give the seniors consideration on rubbish collection and snow plowing. Help pay for part of it.

How much money has been spent of previous research? How has the information been used. I seem like a lot of money wasted.

Just the sitting water breeds mold and mosquitos

My wife has been a long time citizen of Chester township and her and I feel a resident community for aged people having lived in Chesterland X amount of years would be strongly desirable.

Lose the rural, the lot sizes, the township - we will move!

Police and fire and EMA need numbered plan for Maywood community. Abandoned, run down, unoccupied buildings need to be dealt with better and sooner. Example: Honky Tonk Saloon run down and eyesore for years.

Note: questionnaire did not fit well in envelope provided.

I think the township should adopt a new structure where as there is a single figure ehad like a mayor/township executive with community board/council. Cuyahoga county has seen more projects move forward with this structure as opposed to the commissioner system.

Current township government is ineffective. There are no laws and ordinances that they can enforce.

Our police and fire dept. are great would support continuing levies for them. Parks are good. Need better committee to handle and to get proper use out of. All churches should have special days to utilize parks and to bond community

There are plenty of other places to live if you want an apartment or townhouse/condo. People choose to live here because these are not permitted, which help keep crime down.

Please keep the small town feel township greatly preferred over city!

We love Chesterland the way it is, we don't need it to be a city!

Leave this community for the most part alone. If folks prefer the conveniences of a city, than please move to the city. It is rural and nice in Chesterland. As far as shopping goes, we have the basic needs. Mayfield Hts. and Chardon are a short drive for those who need more shopping choices. I am not interested in project that are not needs but simply wants that will increase my taxes

I do not like the idea of building up Chester twp. I think it should stay small, but be nicely maintained

Lower speed limits on 322 from Caves rd. to Old Mill Rd.

I do not support any add. tax

Chesterland township should remain a township and work to decrease taxes. WE are still recovering from the million that Spellman stole.....and the taxpayers never got a break from that.

I would like to see trustees that have a long term goal. It seems as if every elected official has a very short term vision that deals only with their time in the position .How about setting aside funds for a new police department? Our PD is a run down house that is embarrassing to admit we allow our fine officers to operate out of it.

This is important, but growing our populations is more important.

We have been here for 42 years. Raised 4 children who have attended West G schools, where we have supported all levies. Even though my children are grown one of them still works for the school system as a teacher and is raising children here. The worst problem here is no community center or pool. Too late for us but if you want to keep people here to spend money, then keep them here instead of having to drive your kids 10-20 miles to contribute to another communities economy, ie Mayfield or Mentor!

Some properties are in bad need of cleaning up. Some run businesses and have too much trash etc. in yard in residential areas. Need to control and clean up.

My property taxes are almost as high as my mortgage. You should work with chuck Walder to increase homestead exemption. I miss Mary Samide, she was a wonderful commissioner.

No RITA taxes

I think if we were a city or village, our police dept would have more authority to help mediate neighbor issues.

Every time you ask for assistance, they say they can not legally do anything. I spent 9 years living in the city - they had more authority to enforce ordinances. They have parks and recreation and trash/recycling services.

The ineffective BZA allowed a three flat apartment building to be constructed within a single family home residential zone across from my house

Government/trustees need to get along and not be self centered. They always and in the past play games to save themselves. Will not do what's best for Chester. Sick of it!

If people want to go shopping there are enough places like Mayfield, Chardon, Mentor etc.

Need trash pick up on roads

Strive to preserve and provide access to green space. We have enough commercial space, much not currently utilized.

An organization such as the VFW would be a way to boost community involvement and increase a small town feel.

A community center with increased activities around the town park will also help the area thrive.

I grew up in Timberlake Ohio and Kelleys Island Ohio. Both are villages and have great benefits. If Chester Township become a 'city' you lose the small charm atmosphere of this township. If residents want the 'city' hustle and bustle.....move to a city. I love and reside in small town because of the quietness, green space, knowing my neighbors and friends, less crime, less noise, lots of roaming wildlife

Would like to see a community center with gym and pool

Quality of roads - Meadowridge Dr. need black top. Do not - under any circumstances create apartments, condo's, townhomes, duplex, triplex's, live/work studios, cluster homes, model or manufacture home in any areas!!!!

Please don't fix/change what isn't broken. Improvements yes. Updates yes. But don't change Chesterland. Not many places are like here. We have a range of economic diversity it's live and let live. I love that. I want to still build bonfires and target shoot with no city restrictions as examples.

Most people live here and move here to get away from cities.

-expand zoning law - remove commercial/retail space that has been vacant for years - Don't allow over saturation of retail/commercial or restaurant spaces we don't need another auto parts store in town or an italian restaurant - Think progressive not old/

Are parks that important? Are bike trails important?

Don't over build commercial areas - we don't want to become an extension of Mayfield Hts. shopping area.

We moved here in part because large lot, lower taxes (No RITA tax) and a good school system. Therefore, I do not want to cancel those benefits.

It would be great if our township had 'identity' and planned grass/nature space - this must be planned! We have a lot of vacant downtown spaces in unrented buildings and in unused properties that we can grow into. What ins the township doing to bring business into our area? We really need competition for Giant Eagle so that the quality of the food improves.

I moved here because it was a township

The political upheaval is constant, annoying and embarrassing. Especially considering its our tax dollars at work  
The recycling park should be emptied more often. To many times have gone there and the bins are completely full.  
We moved here to be in a semi rural area. In less than a year we no longer did. Let's try to keep Chester township ,  
Chester Township. We need to support our police and fire, we don't need to support commerce any more than it  
is. I ran my own business and did not then, nor now, expect other to support it. If I wanted to live in a city, I would  
have bought a house in the city. If people want to live in a city, buy in a city - don't force it on those who chose a  
township.

Keep low taxes

I strongly disagree with becoming a city. if we do become 1 I'll sell my house and move. If I wanted to live in a city  
and deal with a much higher crime rate I'd move to Mayfield or any other city in that direction.

None at this time

I do like the 'small town' feel, but I think drastic changes are necessary to 'reorganize' the business district. A  
turning lane for both Mayfield & 306 would be desirable, as well as a more uniform plan for business identification.  
I full support police/fire and either service bldg or city hall (not all 4 together)

There are many properties through out Chesterland that have piles of junk - cars - wood- garbage - buildings falling  
down, yard not kept up - barking dogs -etc. More action should be taken to prevent and end these practices. You  
can see three beautiful houses and then a pg sty. I've lived here for over 32 years and nothing has changed.  
Business community needs less interference, but encouragement to collaborate on improvements that would  
result in a viable, thriving town center. Do not trust local political structures to mange money, budgets, existing tax  
revenues. Past history is clearly not good - dishonesty and wasteful. Keep personal agendas out of planning and  
purchasing.

During several years the tax increases were planned for the road conditions improvement. However, we did NOT  
notice any road improvements. Let's first contribute into this area, before any other spending. Thank You.

Keep it a wonderful township. Don't want a busy city.

Park space should have baseball diamonds. Trails, fields - like the commons.

i would support being a city as long as the city govt didnt overreach or greatly impact the overall quality of the area  
and as long as the cost was reasonable.Future development should not completely change the area and turn it into  
a mayfield hts or univ hts etc area with congestion and high taxes

If we wanted to live in a city, we would have moved to one. Stay simple, rural. Freedom means we choose our  
service providers. Less government involvement in our daily lives. We can make our provider decisions - and get  
better rates ie NOPEC does not get Chester the lowest rate. I research my own and always get a lower rate.

Competition is good for price and quality.

chesterland is the right size, thats why we and the other families on our small street moved here.

This is a great first step

Not sure but township status is fine

Fix what is broken then look to add. I love it here. Please don't push me out with additional taxes.

While a city would offer more 'amenities' it would also bring higher taxes and more dense population. Most people  
living in Chester Township like it the way it is and want to keep the small town feel. It seems small businesses, esp  
restaurants struggle to survive here. Young couples can't afford to live here.

I am happy with my life and the community in which I live

We've outgrown our trustee management. It's a sad situation.

Leave Chester a township

We have many fine county parks which provide ample park and recreation space. We support and pay taxes for  
these and do not feel a need for further expense/enhancements specific to Chester Townshp.

Obviously this is not an easy answer. I had difficulty because I really don't want much change because I would like  
it to stay forever rural and not 'created'. However, things have to progress and needs change. What I don't want to  
happen is over reach and it happens a lot once these things start to change. So that's what makes these questions  
not always easy to answer because before you know it, there's a 4 lane highway wher there used to be 2, or  
multiple housing which becomes let go.

1. Talk to Giant Eagle about remodeling. That place has the worst energy. 2. Support businesses that the community wants in town and make going from one place to another enjoyable with tree and walkways instead of sprawl, parking lot to parking lot.

Chester Township should remain as it is. A township...

Need shopping opportunities in Chesterland - restaurants etc.

We have enough housing. Stop filling our open spaces. Traffic is becoming a problem.

Move the recycling and stop calling it a park is there a slide?

Stop worrying about expanding - clean up what we have. If people want expanded area- MOVE SOMEWHERE ELSE!

No changes needed

Becoming a city would make Chester a failed rural area.

People come to Chesterland because its small and quiet over the last few years its deteriorated significantly no one wants Chesterland to become a city

We are a township and should stay a township. That's the beauty of Chester.

Not everyone want to live in a colonial or split. not enough ranches. People are tired of septic systems especially when they have to sell. A water system should be developed. Lack of expanded services has hampered development.

The worst idea this township had was to locate a trash dump on primary/valuable property. unbelievable - move it out/get rid of it

Canadian Geese - way to rid? (Goosenator machine) look it up if only for laughs. -more community events.

Goodbye LaurelFest!!!

If, as I believe, most people move to Chesterland for its semi rural atmosphere, why become a city?

Please do something to improve the 'look' of Chesterland. We have no identity. Zoning requirements don't go far enough. We need a building standard to follow and a need for a 'downtown' destination. A 'town square' is a must to draw people to the park and local businesses. Good Luck! I hope you can make this work!!

I like what we have

Love it here and would love to stay after retirement. Need to downsize house, no longer need 4 bedrooms. Was hoping condos could be built here so I can stay

Keep Chesterland the way it is, if people want more and higher taxes let them move other places

No city. Don't move here if you want a city

Leave Chester alone. If people want apartments, townhouse, etc, Mayfield hts is Urbanizing it will push people further out. As far as attracting young families, we have tons of them on my street.5 min away.

Keeping a rural atmosphere with plenty of wooded areas and some local conveniences makes Chesterland a very desirable place to live. I think that this is why people move here rather than the suburbs.

This is an important study for the future of our community. We will look forward to the results

In general - love it here - good job still "Hillbilly" remnants - property speeding pick up trucks - police existence scarce

Widen 322 wider in business area

Clean up residential and commercial properties! A lot of places look like something in the inner city. If we want to see that might as well move their, right?!

When we moved here you needed 5 acres to build a home, now anything goes! Our street had 3 houses build on the opposite side of street - lots of damage to the road - our street is a dead end but Chesterland stole our frontage and made it into a (sic)

Have lived here for 47 years. I have seen the township really grow. As a senior citizen, I am finding it very hard to stay much longer. you need to find a place for us to go.

Our only grocery store, Giant Eagle, needs to be updated (preferably a Market District) and cleaned. so many residents of Chesterland travel to Chardon, Mayfield or Bainbridge to shop.

We need an identity & to improve our commercial properties in order to attract better quality businesses.

Mayfield & 306 are both eye sores.

The township center should look better. We should maintain the semi rural feel, that's why we live here; no apartments, no building new homes on small lots!

I do not agree with the township cutting down all the trees along the road - it looks awful, takes away from the 'rural' look of our town. You should only cut them down if they are dead or dying. This is a waste of \$. The road dept. needs to be cleaning up road kill much more quickly!

Keep this a small town. There is already too much traffic. I strongly oppose city water/sewers. Absolutely no apartments or low income housing. I moved here to escape trashy people and like the rural feel of Chesterland and how easy it is to get to aurora, chardon, mayfield

Love trees-want lots of additional trees!!

The allure and pride of Chester is that it is a township!!!

What we have here is unique and special. I moved here in 1970 to get away from everything you are talking about. We have everything here that we need. We shop local and eat local to avoid Chardon, Chagrin, Mayfield. Other than a lumber store 100% of my shopping would be here. Don't make this town into Chardon. Please!!

Moved here for school. Schools gone down hill. Open enrollment and Newbury merge - I am against. Teacher over pd and poor teaching compared to Chagrin, solon Aurora

What happened to the 2009 plan? It hasn't been that long.

Thank you for sending out this survey and giving residents an opportunity to share their opinions and comments

Neighbors with a 150' wide lots shoot guns outside our doors far house. Totally not happy with this and it is not safe. We need a downtown..using Chagrin Falls as a template. If we need to attract more families. A pleasant downtown would be a nice addition to against school district.

Keep Chester Township rural do not become a city

Lower property taxes

Demolish few of the eye sores along main roads...buildings not being used.

Getting the bikers off main routes and to make bike routes that are safer for the bikers/motorists

I don't mind the landscapers having their business at the home, but the noise level sometimes from chipper/shredders (on Pear Tree Rd) can be annoying. Constant large truck traffic will ruin the roads quicker also.(summers rd.)

We have a zoning issue at the corner of Stratford and Greenfield and the township has done nothing to correct this problem. I am sure there has been complaints. A business is being operated in a residential area.

Please continue to have the rural and small town feel. Many areas need cleaned up....

Have more than 1 grocery store. Would be nice to see a Aldis seeing Giant Eagle is too expensive. Chesterland new more stores like marcs,target, walmart. Gives more jobs to the people in Chesterland. Would be nice to see a rec center for kids of all ages. Gives the kids something to do.

Relax zoning unless adjoining property owners have a complaint. Not a perpetual complainer

the last thing is to (sic) for a local income tax. The more money politicians have the more corruption.

The beauty of Chesterland lies in the fact that it is a small town. Don't ruin that. i do agree with parks and bike paths, and anything that will provide more of a community spirit. We love it here.

We will consider moving if you pull a stunt like the superintendent did with the schools. You'd lose a lot of tax dollars too b/c we both make 6 figures. If you (sic) on giving us city taxes we will move.

please enforce property clean up

please don't ruin this beautiful township by overbuilding/having property owners taxes up

Fix up the ugly houses along 322 Coming from West ie Mapes and those houses in that area are an eye sore. Looks like a junk yard

I would like to have those running for township offices state their political affiliation when they put out materials.

Stay a township!!!! Stay rural

Try looking at township operations for opportunities to streamline/save \$/improve services, we are certain there are low hanging fruits to leverage for prioritizing township goals, and making the best use of the tax revenues already being taken. Gary Pauletto said it all.

see attached

I realize some of our ratings are responses may seem contradictory. While greatly valuing the rural atmosphere and lack of govt restrains in Chesterland, it would be nice to make central areas more attractive. While pedestrian access is an attractive idea, because of Chesterland's large lots and aging population it is unrealistic to make the pedestrian access area extend much beyond the 306/322 area. We don't need more parks, as there are already

wonderful areas at the Commons and Geauga Parks district. The YMCA is a bit inconvenient so some thought should be given to a community pool as the school does not have one.

Buying up commercial units and removing empty units. Limit types of units. Drug Mart and Dollar general in a town this size is a waste. Too bad. We removed trees for this. More green space and walking areas. Why are these surveys always about spending money? Why don't we remove services or combine services with other towns to eliminate cost?

I like everything the way it is. Not too big a town and not too small. I love it here (50 years)

We love Chesterland and love the thought of working together to improve our township. I would be happy to help with planning a strategic initiative or any other community action.

Many of the areas have homes that are not kept well. Cars on the front lawn wood piled in front yard. This is not good for the selling of property. Besides it is an eye sore. Something needs to be done about this!

1. Zoning needs to be better to shut down or have owners make improvements (ie valley view & 322 - junky bldg; Herrick & 306 closed gas station - Junk cars); House falling down on West side of 306 just south of Mulberry, the old Mapes florist property/house/greenhouse - horrible - they need to clean it up! 2. No sidewalks or crosswalks if comm. district stays the same. Sometimes growth isn't good - keep small town/rural atmosphere. 3. need cameras at recycle park so 'dumpers' can be singled out and made to pay a fine 4. parkside is very well taken care of In order to draw more young families here these are almost table stakes! we need to compete with Lakewood, shaker, Beachwood, etc....Most of my friends (early 30s, kids would never move here)

Need more mixed use zoning reduce commercial zoning 2. need more housing options for all ages 3. need atv and bridal paths 4. need festivals during each season to help promote sense of community 5. reduce curb cuts on 306& 322

Keep Chester Township a small town

Ordinance not to collect clutter on trash in backyard

A big part of the reason we moved here was the township government and rural atmosphere.

Chester needs to strike a balance between remaining a township but providing vision and leadership that supports economic growth and local lifestyle. People leave the township to shop and spend their money and to recreate and dine. It's a missed opportunity. Growth doesn't have to mean a loss of freedom.

I love Chesterland.

I noticed this questionnaire is going to CSU, this sounds and reads like a preliminary stunt by the United Nations, or a public administration Doctorate using an indoctrinated education to make improvements in an area that needs none.

Chesterland should stay a township! It is perfect the way it is! Maybe some senior housing needed.

2009 plan? huh - what was achieved/established?

Acceptable as is.

Want to stay rural.

We moved here for the semi-rural atmosphere, limited regulations and low taxes that come with an unincorporated township and good schools. Anything that would encroach on independence and quiet that we enjoy here would be detrimental. If we wanted to live in a city or be more highly regulated we could have moved to Chardon or Mayfield. Don't turn Chester into those areas.

Many live in Chesterland for the small town. If it does start expanding we would highly consider moving.

If I wanted to live in a city/village I would have looked at houses in Mayfield or Chardon. I chose Chesterland because it was rural and still a township.

I think a community center would be an amazing addition to this area. More for kids to do is so important!

The schools also need to be supported and revitalized to continue to attract young families. This is priority number 1 as good schools are crucial in maintaining a good neighborhood.

The commercial is certainly not very attractive

Once again, greenhouse has to go!!! Please!

Roads are horrible, county line has been a mess for a long time.

You should consider regulations on free range farm animals, such as chickens.

Chester township does not need to be a city

Thanks for doing this I look forward to the results.



Housing for age qualified residents who want to downsize and stay in the community. Community center for seniors.

I love the community but our schools are bringing us down. Makes me sad they were part of reason I moved here but now would not encourage anyone to move to is using public schools.

Keep large lot size. This is basically a residential area with sufficient commercial enterprise. Parkside is a good identity.

Do not become a village or township

Remain small, safe with low tax base.

I live out here because it's relaxed, rural and affordable. And I'm willing to have fewer services and amenities to continue that. Don't be too quick to convert to a city.

We live here for the small town feel.

This survey needs to go to every adult. It's rather backward thinking to assume all adults in a single household share the same views and reflects Chesters most egregious problem: a large population of backward thinking people.

I would support having a manager to run the township rather than the current system of trustees. Trustees could provide direction to the manager/for approval of projects, managing the fiscal township, manager would provide day to day operation management and a contact for residents to help residents and businesses.

If/when Chester township loses that small town feel, I will need to relocate.

Maintain and improve upon our countryside living!

We need a better grocery store! Chesterland Giant Eagle is one of the worst grocery stores around. I drive 20 minutes out of the way to go to another store.

We raised our family and have lived here for 57 years without the need for all the services discussed.

Continued and planned improvements each year as needed. Good to have community input and excitement to be implemented little by little. Withing budget. Reg assess needs and plan accordingly.

We are happy as is.

We moved to Chester to get away from all the development that also brings crime to your neighborhood. I would much rather have to drive to go to a commercial district than to have one in our community.

We love living in Chesterland and could update the commercial district. The commercial area. We love the idea of having affordable condos (owned).

Didn't know a questionnaire coming until it showed up in mail. Why not more communication from trustees?

Too many residential owners have let their properties turn into hillbilly heaven. Old motor vehicles and trash litter the driveway and yard. Grass is un-mowed, the house looks dilapidated. All this is driving down property values for entire neighborhoods. I understand that Townships have very little force of law to correct these problems but I am very much against incorporating to city or village status. Rather, I think we should contact our state government officials and see if the Ohio Revised Code can be changed to give us the legal ability to force residents to maintain their properties and keep property values.

I appreciate that the township trustees have gone to the trouble of completing a questionnaire. It's very well done. Clean up the properties. have something for kids, families to do. Rec center.

Chester is too large to be a walking/biking community. It would be nive to have a nice parks like business/downtown/retail district but the priority should be on improving quality of life for the greatest number of residents. I'd rather drive on repaved roads and enjoy high volumes of quality rust free water than walk around downtown.

Maintain rural,

We would like a Heinen's grocery store.

Start with townhall, police, fire complex, build it right and surrounding businesses will hopefully follow suit on appearance.

We do not need more government. We do not need more police - their primary role here is to give out tickets.

They act as rude hard asses. People who want lots of restrictions can move somewhere else.

Limit number of cars in homes. On my street there is a property that has seven cars on property and trash everywhere.

We just passed tax increase for fire department and since then the only thing I have seen from them was birthday parades. I do not want to live in a city or I would have moved to Hudson! Don't ruin our township!!

Turn Chesterland into a city and you will destroy all the reasons present residents chose to live here, while greatly increasing our costs to remain!

The town is just fine. Economy and quality of life will determine change automatically. I am always happy to return to Chester after a half day shopping in Menor, or retruing from Playhouse Square. Once you destroy what we have, you can never go back. I have friends in Cuyahoga County cities that cannot do much to their property without government involvement. We moved here because of what it is. If we want city we can move. Businesses are doing well for last 4 years, even with virus, No riot here either.

Question if should offer a few more choices. Fore question 18, what about researching the benefits of becoming a village?

The township had no character to drive though I'd rather allow bigger signs if it meant saving trees. They add so much beauty to a place. Look at Chagrin Falls and take some lessons - It's all we've ever done - allow the destruction of character.

Citizens need to be recruited to become more involved and shut down the voices of a small group that seems to get more press than they deserve. We need to get more young people involved.

We would love to have the option for city water because our well is so poor that even after installing a 6k water treatment system from Kinetico we still can't drink our water. Very against the idea of apartments/condos.

Please keep Chester township a rural community. Senior housing and shopping malls are only a short distance away from here. We don't need it here. We need to preserve open space and green space in Chester township.

No one moved here or stayed here because it was a city. The

Full time firemen - need equal pay to other fire departments!

Retain rural, small town community!

The township will never advance if there is no planning committee. I support becoming a village or city because the trustees don't plan past their term. I have lived here for almost 30 years and very little has changed or progressed. It's time to advance.

Stay a township and restrict public transportation between Cuyahoga and Geauga to zero. Keep the city out of the country.

One of the reasons. I moved here was because it was a township. I moved from a city.

Chesterland is a drive thru town. Needs to make this town inviting not much here to offer except the basics. Would like to see the commercial and shopping areas more like Chardon Square. Also, no section 8 housing or bus lines! Do something about the falling down greenhouses on 322. Makes the town feel dumpy. Also a bigger park with playground in a safer location, not on top of busy intersection.

If the town's elected officials move forward with planning I would ask that they please work together in our town's best interest. I remember all the arguing and embarrassing newspaper articles covering our towns government in past years. I hope that would never become an issue again.

Why do you want to change our wonderful community? These are horrible ideas. If you want to live in a city then go live in one and leave Chester in peace. Who are you people and why is someone at Cleveland State University intereferring in our township and county? Go back to Cuyahoga County and allow us to maintain our quality of life. We need to move forward as Chester-tuckey has seen stuck in the dark ages. We should be able to move forward with a comprehensive, engineer design city which provides a business community to its residents while at the same time provide zero to very little tax burden to the residents. Someone should tap into the design engineers of teh city of Solon. They did it right!

Provide an area, perhaps in a school cafeteria or auditorium, where the township trustees along with the police and fire officials where the Chester citizens can attend meetings to discuss township decisions in a civil manner. For as long as I've lived here the township has allowed really ugly buildings that can never change. More new buildings are sitting empty. I don't know why you would want to expand buildings. Fill the empty ones you have, I would like to see a senior area for living. I want to be near my family but live independently.

No new taxes. Chesterland is perfect as it currently is.

When they cut the drainage along the road they don't clean up the mess. There are many homes on Sperry and Cedar with yards full of junk. One on Cedar has about 8 junk cars and other piles of scrap. One on the corner Sperry and Ranch has all kinds of animals and junk. The one on Sperry that has been falling down for years is finally going to be torn down. And you are so strict on permits for a shed!



I feel the trustees do not have the Cehster residents best interest at heart. I feel the trustees are out for personal gain.

People moved to Chester for all the reasons you want to change! You school decisions are already impacting residents negatively. Stop there!

I wish they would put a pool where the recycling center if for the community. Then I wouldn't mind the taxes to be highere.

We moved to Chester because we liked the way it is. If one wants to be in a city, move to a city?

The cross from Chagrin Falls into Russell blends very well. Chester has Gates Mills and Hunting Valley right on the border and when you cross between them, it is night and day. It's like you are crossing the famous rail road tracks. Why can't Chester be just as nice!

We moved to Chester for the small town feel. If these changes were made we would look at relocating to Kirtland to keep small town or Chagrin Falls if we wanted more businesses and sidewalks.

I don't want to become a city. That is not at all what Chesterland wants. We want a small town that is quaint and clean that looks desirable with an improvement to the downtown area.

Keep Chesterland rural.

Other than grandfathered old lots, all new lots should be 3A min. No additional gas stations or churches. Need sidewalks or walking bike paths from township lines north and south on 306 and east and west on 322. Allow all restaurants to have outdoor patio dining.

The economy is tanking I definitely don't want a tax increase for anything. Eliminate the police department and have the sheriff department take over.

We moved to Chester Township specifically to get out of the city. We do not support in any way Chester Township becoming a city. If the township does become a city we will move out!

Please stay a township. I moved to Chester to get away from a city. People ant ot be able to shoot their guns, ride their four wheelers and hunt. Making Chester a city would destroy all these freedoms.

We like the commercial area the way it is now and would not like to become a city.

No new tax hike, already way too high.

I moved out of Mayfield Hts 42 years ago becuase of all the strip stores and congestion. Chesterland has become MH! Get businesses in teh strips you have, do not allow more strips and free standing places like auto zone and dollar general. They should have been in the strip malls.

We moved out here for the rural atmosphere - do not want the city to become another Mentor, Solon. Traffic speed to high. Taxes are too high

Parks: recreation are a priority as well as effective zoning enforcement, we live in a quiet and beautiful community and feel it must be a priority to beautify the area similar to our surrounding communities. Business and economic development is also a priority. By upgrading the above increases property values which in turn increases the tax revenue for the township.

We moved here because it was a rural community. We've lived in cities/suburbs and if Chesterland goes in that direction we'll look to move out. We would enjoy a better-designed commercial district that unifies that area and makes it more appealing for the community as a whole.

One of the problems with the questionnaire is it was sent to residents not living in Chester township. Cleveland State University should have been made aware.

Keep it a small town. Consider that we have well water and more growth and population will tax everyone water supply. If we wanted a city feel with sidewalks we wouldn't have moved to Chester. If you want city services like rec centers move to a city that has them.

I would consider becoming a city as long as there is no RITA tax. Huge benefit for people to come here. One of my reasons I moved from Pepper Pike. It's a huge selling point. If we had public water the prices would sky rocket.

Need to attract younger families. Education is key but affordability a must. People will pay for security, community, and clean open spaces. Need to control expenses and not be trapped by city mentality ideas and taxes.

Community needs to start to attract the younger generation

I'm over 80 and have very good quality of health but keeping up with house and yard has become a chore. Would like small condos but not existing - 200-300K

Investigate how dangerous Mayfield Rd is at teh 2 lane to 1 lane drop traveling east bound for people living on and off of wellwood trail. There should be a traffic light there. People travel 50 plus mph and need to turn on

Wellswood. Cars are too aggressive and there are accidents there. Please at least put a traffic light there. Thank you

Fix what is broken - empty stores. Do not do anything to change density, as we will become another Cleveland suburb. Crime was not addressed. Don't spend a fortune trying to fix what you can't fix - walkability. Hire someone to market the empty spaces.

City has more benefits and taxes help

Do not become a city!

Help to improve safety of the many driveways that people have to exit blindly due to a hill -especially on 45 mph roads

This should be a walkable, warm, interesting to look at community. It currently fails on most of these. How many run down, poorly maintained car repair facilities do we need? How long is reasonable for someone to have their property torn up for repair? How many blue tarp roofs are acceptable? The general disrepair this community fallen into over the past 15 years is embarrassing.

Walkways were considered many years ago for 322 and 306 and nothing occurred. People residents would use athletic walkways/multi-use walkways. It would also improve safety for bike riders.

We need to have a way to let people who live in Chester Twp know there are rules to keeping their property clean. Our neighbor lets her trash blow all over her yard then it blows into mine. Very dirty people. Let trash pile up in front of garbage and house.

Whatever happened to the 2009 plan? What if anything came from it. Nothing has changed except more big ugly strip malls that have 'for lease' signs in front of them.

We enjoy living in a township. If we wanted to live in a city we would. Changes like that would take away our rural atmosphere. I feel like all the people who want change are families that have moved here to get out of the city, but yet want to bring the city to where we live.

Not if it becomes a city I would probably look into moving out.

There should be a traffic light on Sherman/306 as it is very difficult getting out of Sherman during morning and evenings. There should be larger sign on 306 changing speed from 45 to 35. People continue speeding at 45 even though the speed had changed to 35 and tailgate on those going 35.

Tennis court next to volleyball courts. Bike trails.

I normally mind my own business. Becoming a city will get me active. Nothing will ruin my home town more.

There should be zoning rules about neighbors being able to dump trash on property lines.

Quit spending money. We live here because it is a township. The residents don't want a city. We would sell and move if it became a city.

The property north on 306 - have community gardens, Have welcome to Chester meet and greet - explain septic vs sewer and township resources

When Spellman stole the township tax money for years, no one noticed it was missing for years, therefore our taxes are more than enough to cover all expenses. We don't need more gov't waste.

enforcing neighborhood yard for clean up and to many trucks cars in drive such as Spruce dr.

Have no interest in becoming a city. I moved here because it was a township and will move if it becomes a city.

The survey is a bit cumbersome and wordy. Goof information but could be more succinct - and also add an online component, could also advertise it, even develop a partnership with the library to even complete it there. Or have computer tablets brought to senior center to complete.

Chesterland is so dated when it comes to a community center with a park/rec space. No pool. Poor fields. Going to other cities it's sad what we have!

I've lived here most of my life but embarrassed. Always wishing it was more like Chagrin Falls and yet trustees bicker and embezzle and can't get their acts together. Local government is a disappointment. We could be a lovely destination!

the zoning is terrible in Chester. They complain if a shed is too close to a house but let Mapes look like a slum. Stop businesses from coming in but let a Dollar General go in. Who's in charge?

We support the growth of this community to better serve our community and will always vote in favor of these taxes. I was surprised at how strict the private zoning was here. We are hoping to be approved for our addition so we can stay in the community and support its growth.

I think you should have citizens on these committees to gain community support. I don't like the idea of a few folks get to decide our future, You could put an ad in the Chesterland news and form a community involvement group to engage support.

If we want Chester to be a wholesome community for citizens of all ages, we need to prohibit cultivation, processing, and distribution of marijuana. We need to prohibit medical marijuana dispensaries. We need to prohibit vape stores. It's a message that we value our health especially our youth!

Keep what you have.

Please stop residents from shooting guns in their back yards and setting off fireworks for a week around the 4th of July. We need more industry to help curb the tax.

Please add a pool to the community center. Please add workout equipment. Please have police catch all the speeding vehicles. Please review the speed limits and stop traffic congestion

Please keep Chesterland rural! Keep the small town but close to everything feel! A single garbage hauler w/ recycle pick up would be great as four garbage companies serve my street each week. And I wish people would respect the rules at the recycle park!

Chester's planning committee is trying to get residents to fund a 'comprehensive plan' so they can change zoning. The township already has a master plan - it's called the land use plan It is updated for free by the county zoning commission.

We are a township not a city! I and think most people that live here agree. I would fight anything that would make us a city!

I've lived in cities all my life. The reason I moved out here was to get away from the high property tax municipalities with their restrictive regulations.

When I tell someone that I live in Chesterland they comment how beautiful it is here. I was once told - then you live in a little piece of heaven. It would be horrible to change something so perfect. I see Chardon made a few changes and it's headed downhill since.

The police, fire do a good job for the most part. The road department spends too much time with trees, etc and should focus more on repair and maintenance of the pavement. We do not desire any expansion of a governmental presence. Preservation of undeveloped property would be desirable.

Chesterland is ugly. There was no planning on commercial district and you have a few nice buildings between garbage box businesses. You need larger signs with addresses to prevent accidents caused by people looking for someplace. Being a city would increase taxes. We should not be looking to spend money on any building we have unless it is unsafe. Our taxes are high enough

Beautify the center of town!

You should have someone proofread. the typos make it difficult to take our leadership seriously.

We keep hearing of a need to make Chester like "Chagrin Falls" - walkable shopping area - really? We live far away from center of town and don't care - I think a little group of folks are trying to make a case for small town America - we don't care....why would I bike 2.5 miles from my home along noisy 306 to go to .....drumroll....downtown Chesterland?? What's the attraction? If I wanted that type of life, I'd live in Euclid. I rest my case.

We have 80 acres on 306 that sit vacant. It should be developed for recreation as was intended.

Don't make the mistake of thinking that progress equals growth. Many townships think that adding residents and business is the answer. It is not. There is a reason that Huntin Valley and Chagrin are desirable. And they don't have most of what you are asking about. Lock in larger lots and restrict builders. Focus on fixing the old stuff that is. Apartments are not needed. Cluster homes are not needed. Smaller lots are not needed. If residents want city services and all that comes with it, they can move back to Mayfield or the like.

Focus and work with what we have. Becoming a city will not make Chesterland a success. Improve aesthetics. Zoning should be enforced/followed better. Businesses operating in residential neighborhoods does not help - please enforce. Wish recycle park was for our township only.

I like Chesterland's small town feel. I don't think we necessarily need to expand- we just need a more polished look. We have plenty of vacant plaza space to accommodate new businesses or possibly rec space. The old houses scattered among the commercial areas look bizarre. The whole layout feel completely disconnected.

Lower our taxes and spend our tax dollars wisely.

We specifically moved here due to the schools and because it's a township.

You will lose more residents than you gain becoming a city vs. township. Chesterland's whole charm is the identity that it has now. Do not try to become something you are not. Embrace the rural characteristics.

I bought in Chester township 30 plus years ago for a reason, Peace and quiet. Knowing I would have to travel out of the area for big box services. Don't make our rural living city life. If you want city life, then move out of Chester/Geauga County.

We need to remain a township with places to shop and a community center for teens and families to use. This would make people want to move here. Also need to look at how money is being spent. A lot of time and money going into planning for nothing. Too many studies no improvement.

We moved here because Chesterland was not over developed. We don't want to become Chardon or Mayfield.

If people want all these things they should move to a suburb of a large city. We are a rural community and that is why people flock to Chesterland. Property values are steady. Houses sell quickly. Leave it alone. I wish it was more rural. All this stuff is for city people. That's not who we are!

If an individual wants something they should go get it. The city does not need to provide these non essential items to the residents. I moved to Chesterland in 2005 to get away from high taxes, small lots, and too many people.

Keep Chesterland small and make improvements.

Stay as it is.

I am satisfied with the status quo. If the community needs something, I will support it if I find it worthwhile I like Chester small and don't want a bunch of development. I also hate having "not sure" skew results because they can be included in either category and go the way you want the survey to go.

Do not want Chester to grow to size of Mentor with sidewalks, street lights and cross walks every corner. I am perfectly content with Chester as is. If I wanted to be in a city I would move there.

Please do not put in bike paths, they are too expensive for the amount of use they would get.

Perhaps a citizen group of qualified residents who have some knowledge to offer.

Zoning! If your trying to improve the quality of life and the general appearance of Chesterland you need to get the residents to clean up their property. You see everything from barns falling down, houses abandoned and falling down, junk cars, piles of all kinds of materials in the yard. Many people who move to Chesterland think they can do and build anything they want on their property. The zoning inspector should put an article in the local newspapers to inform the residents to check with zoning inspector and building inspector before doing anything on their property. That article should be in the local newspapers 2 times a year.

Realize you have a limited budget and eliminate wasteful spending and determine what is best. And do those and not all. If you allow an assisted living facility be sure they make it a beautiful addition to the community with both structure and landscaping. I would imagine between a new facility, the location to more populates areas, it could be big coin. Also jobs for people in Chesterland.

This is why 20 plus years ago I chose Chester, it was the freedom it offered me and the choices in my home and lot modifications. Other than for roads, police, fire and snow removal my taxes go to very little else. That is fine as the more services you have, the more taxes you pay on home/property. It seems every 10 years or so the "dreamers" come out of their holes wanting to transform Chester into a Solon or Beachwood. We cannot forget the Benander Games idea.

We need better planning to have a walking downtown of shops - more like Hudson or Chagrin Falls. It seems that we have too many plazas that have a lot of empty spaces.

It is not always easy to contact the police before or after business hours (9-5). If you don't feel that it is an emergency which requires a 911 call. You may have to wait until the next working day to speak to someone about a lost purse or dog or minor complaint. Even though this type of thing may not constitute an emergency, it would be nice to be able to speak with an officer. Can you make the police station more readily accessible?

I want to see the survey results published in 2020 and actions taken in 2021!

I've lived here over 35 years. The township looks old and tired. Nothing changes, empty store fronts, stupid stores just popping up. We have to drive out of Chesterland for most everything.

Quit pulling cat tails from ditches and putting in other people's ditches.

We may not vote for a tax increase as we aren't planning on staying in Chester long term. The schools aren't good enough. We want to move once kids start school

Less government, abolish police department

More bar/restaurants and giving the town more night life. Keeping things open.

I've been a resident for 22 years and I'm curious why all my tax dollars have done nothing, except decline the township.

Keep lot size minimums

As a senior citizen, try to avoid any tax increase. Don't think I want to become a city. New is always nice but it comes at a cost.

Please require properties to maintain streetscapes. Some areas are deplorable. Should have an architectural review board.

I feel people move here for the small town feel. If you were to make it a city many people would leave. Many do not like the city life that's why we live here. Chester should have standards. I wouldn't want to become a city in any way.

Please consider eliminating the ditches on the sides of the roads. There are areas that have installed large pipes and then covered them over with dirt and grass and still allow drainage. The ditches are not only ugly but a danger in winter. Each winter I see several cars get stuck in the ditches around town.

Explore all the options you want but don't drag it out for too long and let the citizens vote on any changes.

The two best things in Chesterland are guidos and terrys!

Please address flooding and the water ways.

We moved here because it's very Mayberry. We enjoy less hassle and bussle.

Sidewalks and bike paths would be wonderful improvements all the way to the school.

Leave it alone

Help for couples in their 90s to remain in their homes - taxes are hard

I have been disappointed with the number of fast food restaurants and small businesses that have closed. More than likely it is because there is not enough business to support them. So I don't know if there is something that the township can do about this or not.

Place to walk pets, larger parks, more businesses

Overall township is currently a great place to live. It's safe and has a great rural/urban feel. Developing the town center if done right will go a long way to ensuring the prosperity of the township. It would be nice to have a town center that could be a recreational destination event for residents as well as others in nearby communities.

Want government - move far away. We worked a lifetime to escape the control, crime, congestion and communism of city life.

Why can't we have a recreation center for kids. There is no pool except for the middle school. There should be places for kids to go and do. Start beautifying the township. Put in sidewalks and better lighting. I enjoyed it 40 years ago but nothing has changed.

Processed very carefully. What we have is pretty good.

I would prefer it stays a township.

Becoming a city would drastically change Chesterland and it would not be for the better

We desperately need a community center with a pool.

I moved family to Chester to get out of the city. I have no desire to change this town to a city.

You are asking questions that are hard to answer because we do not know costs.

Not a big fan of well water and septic but enjoy having some property. Gun shots and backyard fireworks are a problem.

Being a township is why we moved here.

Would love to see a community center for residents. It would benefit aging residents and families.

It is nice to make improvements but I moved out here with my family for a reason. If I want other changes I will move.

If we wanted to live in a city, we wouldn't have moved here. Leave it alone.

Don't change the identity of the town. It's time for the center to become more civilized with a large variety of dining, shops and better ability to move around.

Need to bring new families in. Seems like a giant old folks village.

Zoning needs to be changed - should be unbiased. Need to consider the small businesses in the community.

Has community explored community wifi and other internet access options?

Parks, trees, senior and youth services

Stay a township

I would support tax increases if they were used for lights on streets, sidewalks and city water.  
Worried about aging population - no where to go so stay in their home and challenging to maintain  
Keep Chesterland rural.  
Chester is a township. If you want to be a city, move back to the city you came from.  
As our school districts merge, is there any value/cost savings to merge with Newberry or Russel for services like road department, police and fire?  
I think we need clean up old falling down buildings. It makes the township look bad.  
We don't need more park space. We don't need to expand the commercial district. It is large enough. The well water supply cannot accommodate small lots and or apartment buildings.  
Our family is in strong opposition of any expansion of housing types or smaller lot size in Chester. We moved here to enjoy the small town feel and spread out houses.  
Not interested in tax increase  
I'm supportive of a better community center services and expanded senior services with a better senior center. I am not supportive of turning Chesterland into anything similar to Mayfield Heights.  
Many people that live here wanted to escape the city environment. They want large lots, lots of green space, and safer living.  
limiting or eliminating the discharging of firearms in residential areas.  
We are over taxed now!  
I am so upset and in disbelief that we don't have a zero tolerance for bullying at our public schools. A girl took her life at the middle school because of constant bullying. We just make sure people have to keep up their homes.  
Keep it the same! Township  
We are very concerned that there is no way to enforce property or exterior home maintenance. Some properties appear so poorly maintained.  
Most people who have moved to Chesterland did so because of the rural community. There are many other places to live if you're looking for housing choices and more services.  
Please keep our township recycle park on contract with a single hauler waste removal company for waste and recycling.  
Get rid of eye-sore houses. Do not build any more building until the existing ones are fully occupied.  
Most important is openness.  
I appreciate the small town feel and rural community. The appearance of the town is poor and embarrassing.  
This is a waste of taxpayer money. If you want to live in a city, move.  
This town needs to get out of its own way. Chesterland is a blank slate with so much potential, yet there's too many people afraid to lose what they have if things change in any way.  
laws and guidelines - restrict open shooting in residential neighborhoods, Noise restrictions  
Take care and protect what we have. Remain a township.  
Do not want to become a city!  
We could use one more larger grocery store.  
Do not pursue or spend time looking to be a city.  
We live here because it is small, rural and not a city. I prefer to keep it that way.  
Next time you do this make it shorter  
I love Chesterland the way it is now! Please don't change it.  
At this time of unemployment and fiscal strain, I do not think it is appropriate to raise taxes. The township should be concerned with helping businesses most impacted by the shut down.  
My family moved to Chester because it is a township. Citizens are treated well by public service.  
I spent much of my career as a municipal property inspector. As such, I see a real need for a basic property maintenance code for residential and commercial properties. The vast majority of the township is well maintaining, but there are properties in almost every neighborhood that could be better maintained.  
I support researching improved municipalities, I do not want to become a city.  
We need to maintain our community as is - no city. Add sidewalks and bike lanes  
We moved here because it's rural.  
Would like Chesterland to have a unique rural feel.



I think it is time to go to a city style government with a city manager. Township form of government reduces our abilities and is no longer best for a community.

I'm concerned that becoming a city would make Chester Township move restrictive and more expensive. I already live 16 miles from work and don't want to feel like I need to move farther from the city of Cleveland to still live in a rural and non-restrictive environment.

I would like there to be better zoning (no roosters). Nobody living here want multi-housing or apartments!

Have a city manager or township administrator.

We need to bring in a business to help support out tax base to stop raising taxes.

I don't want Chester to grow. You will ruin it.

There are some dirty little corners as your drive through the township. Don't want to see car lots and dilapidated buildings as I drive through.

I would like to see green landscape between the street and commercial property with visible signs. I don't see a reason to build new buildings. Bikes become a nuisance in the summer. These bike paths need to be on certain roads and bikes restricted on others.

I really don't want to see Chester Township turn into a city!

I believe most people live here because they chose this type of community - rural and small. Let's not wreck that. I would hate to see Chester turn into Mayfield. Especially since we have everything we need that's not here within 10/20 minute anyhow. No apartments. No section 8. No sidewalks, No public transportation.

Leave the township alone. If you want some other type of municipality, move. Don't spoil the township any further.

We choose Chester because it's a township.

Do not want Chesterland looking like any near by cities

Please save our trees from severe exposure to cell tower frquencies which are destroying them in record numbers, on our own property, and anywhere else in its path

City pool

Chesterland should stay as a township as much as possible like it is now. There are plenty of over populated over taxed, over governed places to live if somebody desires that.

Please keep RITA out. It's a beautiful town that could use a facelift, not an overhaul.

Plenty of \$ in budget - quit trying to turn our township into a city! Listen to the people - not special interest groups that don't represent everyone.

When you have public sewers and water, your taxes must go up! You need a large lot size to support well and septic systems. Need public gun range! People have no common sense. They shoot riffles and hand guns off in back yards.

Would like to see the hiring of a waste removal company. Take bids to hire one company to pick up our garbage.

We love living here on Surrey Ln. for forty years.

We are empty nesters and thinking about moving but would like to stay in this community. Problem is their is no place here that fills our needs. Our property is getting more and more demanding as time marches on. We would love to find an over 60 development.

I live here because I like the small town feel. I don't want big changes.

Promote our current identity, not create new one. No city. Some commercial landscaping and building updates.

With becoming a city, yes more benefits, more taxes and more politics!

We moved to Chesterland because of what it was and is like.

Fire and police should have the space and conditions of building they need to do there job safety. Get rid of 2nd fire station.

Stay small, fill existing retail and commercial

Using the money more wisely

Do not become a city. We moved to a township to get away from a bloated municipality. We should work on solutions to lower taxes for resident.

Just fix your own spending issues. You waste too much money.

I like township status and would fight any push to change to a city! Also, no cluser housing, apartments, or condos.

Lots of transient people = crime. I would support a community center with a gym and pool.

We support developing standards for existing businesses. but we do not agree with expanding the commercial district. A large part of the Chesterland appeal is the small town feel. Enforce the speed limit or add speed bumps. Leave Chester as Township. Let the people who want all city amenities move back to the city. Please keep Chester housing from turning into someplace that changes what it has been all these years. Keep it safe.

Some questions don't provide enough information - or are too many variables.

I would support any research for a better quality of life in Chester, as long as it remains rural.

No new taxes. Property owners are already paying top dollar to live in Chester that has little to no development of businesses to support with tax money.

We do not need bike paths, sidewalks, etc. If a resident wants this, they should move.

We moved here for the semi-rural feeling Chester Township provides as well as for better schools for our children.

If Chester Township becomes a city it will lose its charm, character and desirability.

Needs better street snow removal. Town needs better lighting

Chester Township should stay a township. We are the Gateway to Geauga County and protect it from going commercial.

Thank you for providing us this opportunity to give our feedback!

Focus on maintain and preserving our roads. They are deteriorating severely and monies are available to patch and pave and resurface, but it is not being done. Use the money or return to taxpayers.

No apartments

A comprehensive plan is a great idea but our trustees and planners in past years have demonstrated that they can't do their job, but they know how to spend money! The recycle park is a mess - is used like a dump. We have eye sores all over town.

You move to Chester to get away from the city, now you want to bring the city here.

We are totally against being a city.

Many townships have the above mentioned things. We can too without becoming a city. Presenting the question seems one-sided - what would we lose?

I would like to see Chesterland downtown to continue to upgrade itself. Not to extreme but pleasant to the eye and not over antiquated.

Stay the same

On County Line Rd. we have a major flood issue in hard rains, which also affects safety navigating the street which needs to be addressed ASAP. On another note, people move here in order to get away from city life. Don't ruin the ambiance here.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our time here, the past 22 years. We do not want to see cluster homes, retirement communities or row houses built out here. We love the township and have no interest in becoming a city.

More open space, connected to trails! Cluster homes ok if development has open space that won't be developed further. Room for farms and orchards. Don't need more pavement or parking lots!

Find out what time these businesses close and have police present at these times.

The commercial center should not be expanded. There is already a surplus of vacant buildings. I would not support apartments or senior living complexes or section 8.

Zoning to work on what issues that are happening in the township, not ones that are not happening. Need to work on developing plans for future. One trash hauler, community center. Have available smaller lots with their own septic plants.

Getting a new planning committee. We need to solve the issues we have, not create new ones.

Do not want to become a city!

Like the small town feel and would prefer to give a face lift and encourage a variety of small businesses in the existin garea withoutmaking it a big city feeling. Moved out of Mayfield because of the congestion. Would like to make it more quaint.

No harm in unbiased researhc and thorough. In-law suites are acceptable, even desireable, as long as the regulations do not open the residential area to multifamily (including duplex) residential uses. Township government offers many services w/o cost that must be paid for by taxes in incorporated governments. All motion is not necessarily progress.



Like to keep the rural atmosphere. Like to encourage small stand alone businesses. Discourage townhouses and apartments.

Engage more residents - creat sub-committees to look into ideas.

Making Chester Township a city definitely increases taxes. I enjoy the rural setting with some retail but more importantly a safe community.

We moved here because it is a small rural quiet town. We moved from the city to get away from all of the things that are being proposed.

We enjoy the country feeling of Chesterland. We do not want to become a Chardon. There is too much retail. We would be happy if the commercial district would be cleaned up and was charming.

We live in a township for the benefits it provides. If chester were to become a village or city, we would move out.

I have no interest in Chester becoming a city. We moved here for the rural atmosphere.

One of the reasons younger people want to move here is because there are no city taxes. also home values will stay higher if we do no allow apartments or condos. Having apartments will also cause police and fire to have to spend more money on fire trucks and equipment.

Do not become a city.

Why would you even consider smaller housing lots?

Chesterland does not need to change. It is a wonderful place to live as it is now. Anyone that wants all that other modern, city/suburban stuff should simply move to the city or suburbs. Leave our wonderful community alone!

I support higher density in some areas as long as greenspace is enhanced and preserved. i strongly recommend putting any new buildings close to street with parking behind in the commercial district. Walk/bike -ability would enhance the commercial district.

We need condos for aging population - priced around \$250-300,000 - not more, not less. The senior center needs to be more interactive with the elderly. There should be mandatory septic system evaluations every 10 years.

Make people keep up their property maintenance.

For the people who use roads early in the moring they would like the roads cleaned better and earlier (tertiary roads).

Within the business district, you cannot walk from business to business. There is no grabbing a sandwhich or coffee and then walking over to the park area. You must drive. Need sidewalks and safe crosswalks.

Get rid of Giant Eagle please. We need an organic/health food store.

Make it easier for small businesses to come here

Replace road signs like Mayfield Village -easy. to see and read in the dark. Make Chester Township a place where families would want to live and grow. Excite famillies and residents to pass school levies. No more parks. Redirect funds to make Chester Township a place for families to live and enjoy the community.

We like Chesterland but it has no real identity. I would think a marginal road on 306 at the plaza providing for fewer access would be helpful.

I hope something will be implemented from this. I have seen too many surveys in the past and nothing comes from them.

You should leave Chester a township and not change things. People move out here to get out of the city. We don't want to pay extra for water and sewer. If anything you should focus on building a bigger school.

We need to bring young families into the community. A great asset would be a community center with a pool or splash/sprinkler park. This would drive more people from surrounding areas to come into the city and frequent the commercial district and restaurants. Another addition could be an outdoor amphitheater to add to the gazebo for larger acts and draw of people as well as a stronger community feel. We also need to keep our older residents in the community by providing a form of senior housing in a 55 or older community with condos or townhomes (not a cookie-cutter Ryan Homes development) but somewhere with smaller home and lots for them to move and sell homes to younger families rather than letting thme fall into disrepair. A walkable town center with a stripmall seems outdated. Some areas connected could be nice but frequenting/walking sore . The rural feel of apple orchards etc. Especially in fall can continue to be used to our advantage. Our town should be makreted more as the city that meets the country and align iwth Eddy's, Patterson's, Bremec's etc.

Please leave Chester Township. We have a wonderful community here.

Attract new business and make it more senior friendly by building senior housing

County line road repair at least between Mayfield and Willson Mills.

We have lived here for 40 years. We don't need more parks. We need to keep bikes off roads for safety reasons. We need to keep our township simple so that we have a peaceful place to come home to.

Plenty of surrounding cities. Nothing good has come from Chardon becoming a city. Now 100% more expensive to live there.

I am not well versed enough in the advantage/disadvantage of being a township v. a village or city to comment.

It's time to become a city! To incorporate we only need 5000 residents, I believe we are at 11,000+. Trustees are not (never been) accountable! City management/council form of govt is more suitable at this time. Explore tif's and rids to get some \$ back from county and into Chester.

Not in favor of any new taxes!

Stop the fireworks!!!

Have police monitor traffic on streets other than 322 and the small section of 306 north of 322 as there are many other streets in the township that deserve traffic to be monitored. From 4:00 to midnight 322 seems to be the only monitored street in the township.

I feel as if Chester township hasn't changed with the times. Doing this would boost enrollment in our school district and attract younger generations of families. Also, we need somewhere for senior citizens to downsize while still staying in Chesterland. Many large family houses are retired couples who want to live in Chesterland but have nowhere here to downsize.

Flooding that started in 2011. Chester trustees do not want to address this problem

I moved out of the city for all the above reason listed. BAD idea.

Not interested in new buildings. No housing developments and prefer green spaces.

We moved to Chester township because it is a township. The open spaces and lot sizes. It is not over populated and crime is low.

We are not a poor community, but many areas look poor. There should be standards for businesses and residences.

Can you envision any greater change than has happened the last two months? Bravo to Chesterland as it is!

While I would endorse a quaint small town commercial district, I would not support increased housing! Smaller lots, city water etc.!! moved to Geauga County and Chesterland 30 years ago because it was semi rural. DO NOT want that to change.

The thing I dislike most about living here is the lack of walkability. We don't live far from friends or school but always have to drive. The existence of a master plan from 2009 is one thing that attracted us to Chester as a young family. It has been frustrating to see none of that come to pass while Chester ages older and schools shrink. We need a new master plan with implementation.

Chesterland has not changed and has not been supported to change in the 28 years I've lived here. Township funds should NOT be used to fund these types of surveys, the people interested in pursuing these activities should use their own private funds.

I love Chester Township as it is a township. Perhaps a senior living assisted that could utilize the valley view treatment plant, I would support

1. Architectural building standards for consistency in design 2. Continue to have a quaint small town feel 3.

Landscape and tree planting to help improve character

Limit trustee's terms. Administer penalties for property owners res. and comm. for not maintaining the property.

Grass cutting, garbage in the yard, vehicles that don't work, boarded up houses.

Expand the width of US322 and Ohio 306 in the center of Chesterland!

Moved here 38 years ago to avoid city life and all its restrictions. 1. Recreational biking opportunities abound in nearby Geauga Park district properties our hard earned tax dollars paid for these trails/paths why not use them.

More efficient than duplicating the perk. 2. availability and quality of shopping more than meets the township's needs. Just look at the vacant storefronts and unrented sq. ft. people have chosen to do majority of their shopping elsewhere for many years. The appearance of commercial areas reflect that disinterest. 3. The appearance of residential areas reflect the independent living that a township offers. Beauty is in the eyes of the property owner.

Of course, within zoning regulations. 4. Quality of roads equals levies passed by the taxpayers. 5. Even townships have rush hours. 6. The logistics of the township layout that incorporates township, county and state roads makes it impractical to be bike/pedestrian friendly. 7. All reflect the will of the people based on tax levies passed recently.

Grow up .Become a city.Stop running radar .Get rid of extra police if thats all they have to do.No more shooting ranges in my neighbors back yards.

Geauga County is beautifly and attracts a lot of bicyclists. We see small groups of cyclists all the time in Chesterland (despite the roads being very unfriendly to them). What is we capitalize on this by adding simple amenities that cater to cyclists? Become known as a destinationfor them, similar to the town of peninsula, which has bike rentals, parking lots, etc. which serve visitors of the towpath trail. other ideas that would help: Widen road shoulders wherever possible. Develop 'greenway' corridors and tie them into other communities. see Mayfield Village for a current successful example.

Chesterland has been a great place to grow up and raise my own children.I do not like the idea of a lot of growth + change to become more city-like and more congested.The rural atmosphere + neighborhood safety are what keeps many of our residents here in Chesterland

Encourage new young families. Be honest and transparent with plans, governance and budgets.

Only saying yes because these things are needed, but they have to be used to build the city and make it welcoming. No business wants to come to Chesterland, has anyone noticed all the vacant places Chester has a bad reputation - we need to invite young families and keep the seniors who have lived here all their lives. This is what brings money into the city - real estate tax, retail sales (sales tax revenue) restaurants etc. Not office bldg. Those people go home and spend money in their community not here. Yes the bldg owner needs their rental, but no on supports the business here. I have heard it said many times they go to Chardon or other surrounding communities. We can't have business just paying real estate taxes and get nothing in return but the community support.

Chester should remain a township. If the wheel aint broke, don't try to fix it. Use it and get more done.

I moved to Chesterland in Feb 2020 from Mentor.I love the small town feel and land that comes with the homes .Would love a "downtown"walking area with bars,shops, etc.

Why do the trustees want to change the things that people move to Chesterland to get. If its not broke, why fix it. Keep large lots. Clean up 306 and Mayfield Rd. Business development.

Many seniors are forced to sell their homes because of high property taxes.

The Geauga parks provide beautiful and safe areas to ride bikes, walk, etc. There is no need to spend additonal tax dollars for something that already exists and offer muchmore. Chester already has a wide variety of specialty businesses that attract people from other areas. One of the best attributes of Chester is that we are not overcrowded. The rural atmosphere is why people come here and stay here!!!

1 Paving gravel roads up Heath north of Wilson Mills, Sperry, north of Wilson Mills.

So not change.

Renovate/modernize Giant Eagle interior. really glad for the opportunity to share our opinions! We'd be happy to answer more questionnaires in the future.

stay small, rural, independant , lower taxes

This would negatively affect the rural atmosphere of Chesterland. If we wanted to live in a city we would.

Residential propertys appearance at some homes are disgusting and should be inspected and addressed or fired no reason for getto looks in this township.

No rentals, keep 322, 306 two lane. Keep it a township

I do not want Chester to become a city.

It is a shame Chesterland just built a community sign of the commons, with stick on letters when other communities (Newbury, Mayfield Village, etc) put up community signs that are digital and advise community of events and advertise local business (most likely for a fee).

I think we have enough parks for families to enjoy. I believe widening US322 through the commercial district would be a great start.

A priority should be a competitive grocery store. Regarding #15 Just spend money on the community, then, on yourselves.

Chester recycling park is great. Thank you.

I am willing to consider proposals but I do not believe Chester should be a village or city.

In my experience with family in other locations planning comissions are the start of degreation to the way of life we treasure. They force the will of those with privilege (or who can shout the loudest) on the rest of us. Keep them away!

Stop in-fighting, more cohesive board. Management continues animosity at meetings from attendees.

look on back of page 2 - Thanks. If these corrections are made, soon, in 5 to 10 years, revenue will be plenty - city water tower? We need to better out Chesterland and make us proud and beautify.

I want to keep it a township that affords the freedom to enjoy my property.

I would hate to see public transportation come through here. I love the small town feel.

Chesterland would lose its small community feel if converted to a city. We choose to live here and have a family here for many reasons. If Chesterland were to become a city, I don't know that we would stay. The benefits of becoming a city do not outweigh the disadvantages.

you sent this survey to a residence under a wrong name. Do Better!

no apartments, no condos, no bike paths, no sidewalks, no senior facility

stay a township

I don't want to be a city. I live here to be a town. I don't want RITA, I want to live in a town community. When you become a city politics become a draining force.

No! If I wanted to live in a city I would move to Mayfield!

Good place to live - would like more safe recreational opportunities. Quality condos/live above retail would raise overall property values if CBD appearance is desirable and walkable.

No city water expansion. No sewer expansion. Chesterland has its own character already, it's not urban and it's not suburban. There is no problem attracting enough residents. The level of government services now is sufficient. The great thing about Chesterland and twp living in general is that residents can quietly live life w/o the urban/suburban issues, it better enables healthy family life. Experience has shown me, sometime the best research is no research.

we need a plan soon before the ramshackle business close and are replaced by more dollar store buildings.

zoning needs to be more available and effective. Blight needs to be addressed. The old Mapes nursery. Also 12684 valley view, health and structure issues, roof tarped 4 years! Danger to children. 12630 Valley View, backyard loaded with trash, landscape equipment for business, must be fenced? Bring property values down and people seeing this will not move here. Does it take owners dying as the owner of the station at valley view and 322 and also Harold and 322.

Stay a township, no apartments

We should remain a township. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Chester needs to pass a law/ordinance to not allow target practice with guns on residential property. This township is way to population to allow this to continue. People can go to a shooting range. Rules/law need to be enforced regarding fire in backyards. We have numerous neighbors that burn 'green' wood, leaves, etc that smoke out the entire neighborhood. Some let the fire burn and smoldering all night long. We've had to close our windows on a beautiful day because of this.

I hope the survey didn't cost tax dollars to fund. Not impressed.

I work in cities and love the fact that I can come home to the country to live. Do not want that to change.

So tired of trustees constant bickering/backstabbing. Been this way for years, makes our township look ridiculous and petty.

No town square, everything is fine the way it is.

Clean it up! Make the entrances to Chesterland more appealing and welcoming. Bring landscaping back to corner of 306/322. Give Chesterland a standard coordinated coned business area and make businesses responsible for curbside appeal. Make homeowners keep up yards and homes.

I was born and raised in Chesterland and I love it here. This is my home. Please keep it safe and high quality of living. No sidewalks. No apartments. Chesterland is a home, not a city.

Keep Chester township as it is. We moved here because we liked it. Don't try to change it into something completely different.

Do not buy anymore buildings/property/land. Reduce/sell off some or all unused township and underused township properties.

No I moved to Chesterland to get out of the city!!!

Leave Chesterland alone! It is fine the way it is!

Stay a township.

Community involvement activities - Lakewood has great event that support both community and business. Example: Chocolate Walk, Arts Festival, light up, taste of.....etc. City clean up. Volunteer options.

Where is all the money coming from? Most of this seems like wishful thinking.

1. We are not and will never be Chagrin Falls (among other things, we don't have a falls) We are a nice, rural exurb.  
2. this survey overlooks the centrality of churches to our community. We have several large churches, medium, and smaller churches that are all important anchors. 3. our downtown is too spread out -with lots of gaps and empty spaces. we could use a more compact downtown. 4 City water will mercilessly undercut our large lot zoning. It would destroy our town character. 5 We need to strengthen Giant Eagle. 6. We need some nicer housing for seniors who can't keep up larger home but want to stay in the community.

Road maintenance needs to be improved

Since I've lived here, I've seen a lot of change. I have to say a lot made no sense. A lot of money has been wasted trying to make changes and nothing comes of it. Empty buildings look like hell.

A safe and scenic identity of Chester is most desirable to create a special living environment.

Paves the roads. Road Dept. snow removal is okay (sic) paving is terrible! Improve commercial. business district to include variety of businesses, using the existing vacant buildings first, then consider additional buildings. Need to attract retail - we leave the township to shop which doesn't keep tax base. Create unified township appearance!! current mismatched look lack character. Thank for asking of opinion.

Would love to become a city. We are currently planning to move in 2021 due to the neighbors shooting guns 100 ft. from our daughters bedroom. The use of guns is not handled appropriately like in Bainbridge township.

We are a township! This was done by desire

The property at the southwest corner of 306 and 322 No more auto stores. A restaurant would be nice, Chesterland is too small to become a city.

Mayfield intersection has severe traffic congestion. Not in favor of clusters, mobile home parks, short-term rentals or section 8 housing

As a young family I feel that new school buildings would be a great asset to our community. New buildings would bring more young families to the area. Younger families would improve our community also aesthetic appeal of homes will be (sic) on and updated. As some who works in healthcare, social distance is not going way. New schools are needed so we can get our kids back to school. Several home in the area need work on their exterior of the home and landscape.

Just keep up the roads and other duties as they stand now.

Keep the township rural! Way to many garbage trucks running our street daily! Creates noise, smoke and mostly damage to our streets.

If I wanted to live in a city, I'd move to Chardon. I shop locally but do go to Chardon and Mentor for some things. Stop wasting my money. Don't like Chester? Go to Mayfield or Wickliffe.

Sometimes its better to keep your mouth shut

Please do not destroy the rural atmosphere any further! We want to be a township, not a city. Please stop commercial development!

The township is fine. Just clean up the commercial area. Most people moved here because of the small town feel. We are not/don't need to be a city or anything like chagrin falls. Cities like that are crowded and over commercialized

Why can't the township keep a service director? Something seem wrong with the 'working' of trustees and service

-

I have listed them in the questionnaire. I was here in 2009 when we tried to have consensus. My opinion is not to overload the residents with changes in builk. We need our township to look good and be functional so it is a destination easy to get to and not a pass through to get somewhere else!

please dont screw up a lovely rural community! These ideas are only tax dollars wasted .

we have and pay for this questionnaire done by an outside source - CSU probably already has grants for things like this and maybe could've been a part of obtaining a degree from CSU in planning development (and therefore not cost chester any \$) Or have community development be a part of trustees responsibility. The beauty and draw of Chester Township is that its a township. And in this time of pandemic why would you promote city living like NYC living on top of each other, with massive transit. All now who that's detrimental to health freedom and the true american way of life.

Be reelitve in restructuring quality of education is vital (including library) - business development - try to keep Chester an affordable place for various income levels.

We are a young family, very excited for many things in Chesterland, but when we want to go out to do anything besides hike (we love the nature by us) we have to travel to a neighboring community. We are very excited by the prospects of creating a family friendly town center where we can take our kids, where high school kids can gather and hang out, and have a place to feel a sense of community.

eliminate the planning committee. Restructure the road dept. They are lazy. Never should have unionized them. Make employees contribute more to their medical. Eliminate police dept and bring in sheriff dept. It has worked wonderfully in Newbury.

I may sound negative - but money is tight - people are hungry & losing their homes. DeWine has cut millions from school funding. Taxes can't support that kind of loss. Show me grants, endowments wealthy sharing money to help improve us but no new taxes

If Chesterland became a city I would have to move and so would most of the people I know. We moved here because it is a nice quiet township. Don't screw with perfection. When Newbury school closed and the kids came to W. Geauga they lowered Newbury taxes. I think they should have gone up because they now have a better school system.

Chesterland needs cleaned up a bit. Zoning needs looked at, but we don't need apartments/public transportation! I would support them becoming a village. I would hope that they would get rid of the backyard gun ranges. I feel I can't fully use my property without concern because of stray bullets from neighborhood shooting.

Need more clarification on the difference between township and city

No new taxes!

Traffic light at Sherman and 306

Community center, people can have classes and rent out spaces for parties

Stop trying to make our town Mayfield Hts. Keep it rural.

People moved here to get away from cities.

Do not consider being a city!

A city brings more taxes and more politics. Our form of government is very satisfying.

Keep it the way it is

Chesterland needs to get into the 21st century and develop a sewage system and public water. Commercial area desperately needs renovation.

Becoming a city is a slap in the face after supporting all tax levies for school, fire and police. A city brings all the wrong things that umbrella under city living.

I would at least try to become a village.

This township should consider a noise ordinance! No one should be able to open burn on their property!!

My family and I moved to Chesterland because it's a great town. Whatever changes you make should be welcome and well thought out.

Leave Chester as is.

I feel taxes are quite high for this area and services and amenities available.

We need a town manager! Trustees are a problem!

No city! What a shame that no one really knows that we have a pool. What a shame there is no high school pool that the community can use to stay in shape. We have very little recreation opportunities.

Town centers signage needs to be consistent. Need definite building standards and consistency for commercial use. Get rid of eye sore buildings. Landscaping is needed.

Some neighborhoods need to be cleaned up. Get rid of old cars, trucks, RVs. Clean up businesses. Improve zoning requirements so new buildings look decent.

Get new trustees.

Commercial buildings need better codes. School buildings are embarrassing.

Some of these questions could be answered with "only if...."; such as. I would support a small group of apartments only if they were a very limited number and they were one, possibly two-story design. No high-rise anything in Chester twp! I would be happiest if we could keep the rural atmosphere here and limit traffic and expansion.

Keep Chester as a rural township.

I don't like the idea of Chesterland becoming a city

My bride and I moved to Chester in 1991. We have raised three children to adulthood here. We have seen many changes, not all good. We were newcomers and adapted well. Newcomers now are not adapting but want to



change things "they want to make things better". I'm not sure their changes would be better. I am now filling out a questionnaire with questions about bike paths laws to compel people to maintain their property and even making Chester a city. If you want to make all these changes maybe you should re-think township living and move elsewhere. Chester was just fine before we moved here and will be fine after I'm buried in the township cemetery. I am going to share the problem, as I see it, in Chester township. It may not be popular but it is true. Many people say they want to "move to the country". This is code for "I want to move away from the blacks" Then when in Chester they are upset their neighbor is running a chainsaw at 7:30 am or exercising their 2nd Amendment rights early also. They are unhinged when someone doesn't cut their lawn often enough. So, not happy with Chester they want to impose their city ways on us simple country folk. Chester is just fine. Let us live life on our own terms without big brother watching. We will be just fine without any more intrusive laws and regulations.

No tax increase. Do not add more burdens to middle income families and seniors.

This is a community that primarily lives with distance between housing and commercial district. Sidewalks do not make sense in the commercial area. Save that money and put it toward general beautification .

Stay a great township. It's why residents live here. Trustees stop trying to get more people into Chesterland.

Enforce existing zoning. We have endured 25 years of abandoned commercial trucks on a neighboring lot.

Complained to the zoning and the township never resolved the problem. Hire an administrator. Part time township trustees cannot properly administer the affairs of this township. Do not allow accessory structures in side yards.

I feel it is more important to get kids on dirt bikes and 4 wheelers off the road than pedestrian walkways - also golf carts full of kids road.

Stop this urbanize Chester effort now! We want to remain a township. We do not need apartments or low income housing, We do not need sidewalks and new public buildings.

Why doesn't Chesterland have social media? Would love to see more community events throughout the year. We are a younger family and are always looking for things to do with kids. Would love to see a sprinkler park or large playground area. Social media would allow residents easier access to events in the area. Tell Giant Eagle to remodel their store already!

The number one priority for our family is maintaining the rural character of Chester. We are a young family and this is the environment we want to live in for many years. If the environment in Chester becomes undesirable for us, we will move.

I cannot believe residents are allowed to shoot guns in their yard. Worried about safety and noise. Worried about chemical use in yards. I'm sure it is getting into my well water. Residents on my street and behind me consistently burn wood and garbage in their yard causing pollution and safety concerns.

If landscaping is done, please use a company that only uses native plants and trees

I notice many residential properties look run down or have a lot of junk in their front yards, yet nothing is ever done about these properties.

What benefits do we have from the last (2009) plan! Was anything implemented? As we waste money on this study, will anything be implemented?

Housing for seniors to be able to downsize and stay in the community. Zoning laws need to be improved and enforced. No debris on lots, chicken coups, outside junk in visible site on properties. Looks like the ghetto. We need to clean up lots and homes!

This is the fastest way to vote trustees out of office - petitions will go out

Fixing kim and kenyon.

We strongly want Chesterland to remain a township. Becoming a city would ruin Chester and increase our taxes and greatly lower the quality of life.

We have too many empty retail spaces, yet new buildings have gone up, We have too many hair salons, pizza, auto stores. We need a smaller home community for seniors - not an assisted living or mobile home park.

I want small gov. Larger lots

We are generally pleased with the way Chesterland has evolved over the years. Some areas need to be looked into, but a complete overhaul is not needed nor supported.

No city - no city water - no sewers

Stop this urbanization effort now. We want to remain a township. We do not need apartments or low income housing. We do not need sidewalks and new expensive public buildings. If people want urban living, they should move to urban areas.

Get rid of the current fire chief and assistant fire chief. They don't do anything for the money they get and no one want to work with them. Get rid of the police chief. I haven't seen one single improvement to service since he's been here. The road department does a great job! Kudos to them and the superintendant.

The commercial area is a complete embarrassment.

Too many property owners neglect upkeep of houses and properties. Also, no clear guidelines for parking anything and everything in people's yards like campers, boots, jet skis, etc.

We have almost all that we need here except standardization. I have been here 20 years and love being here.

Chester is a bit hillbilly because of all the weird and different buildings. We can do better with little cost to the property owners.

Leave Chester alone. We definitely do not want to make a city out of Chesterland.

More businesses of a different nature would relocate here if people supported local businesses. It would be nice if the trustees shared the results of this survey instead of burying in the office where access is limited.

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Stop the in-fighting between trustees. Don't lose the country feel of Chesterland.

Community center/pool area and better grocery options would improve the city.

Unsure what benefits becoming a city would possibly be?

Increase zoning restrictions as it pertains to allowing businesses on residential property.

I believe what is best for chester township is to improve the appearance and quality of life but maintain the rural feel that most residents desire. No road widening, no changing into "city" district, no bus stoops or townhouse/apartments. Instead improve quality of life for current residents. Especially our kids, teenagers have nothing to do here!

Quit screwing with the township. You're all a bunch of liars. Cannot be trusted and really don't care about the taxpayers here!

Geauga county and Ohio has some of the highest property tax rates in the country. We don't need more taxes and levies. Stop spending our hard-earned income. We like the township the way it is now. The planning committee should be disbanded

There's a lot of hidden costs to live "off the grid" in Chester. We chose to live here knowing these costs - prepared to pay what it takes to preserve the land and privacy. It upsets me to see so many seniors still living here who can no longer maintain their property.

I beg Chester to create a plan for the future success of our township. We have an aging population. If we remain unchanged, we will not attract young families to move in. Without young families, schools will begin to suffer and so forth.

Having lived here for 32 years, I have seen the dysfunction of the board of trustees. The infighting, childish behavior at meetings, and lack of control to be appalling. Study after study is done at great expense but then nothing happens.

Change recycle center to a city complex - curbside recycling.

Must keep taxes reasonable so people can afford to live.

My daughter and family live 2 miles from me. I need to stay close but I don't know how long I can maintain my home at age 73. We need affordable senior low maintenance housing! Also town can be spruced up and some shopping added but not turned into a big city.

One of the reasons we live in Chester is because it's a township. We live here because it offers more freedom than a city.

Just having moved to be closer to family and job, the two most important negative impressions are the poor upkeep of 2 of the greenhouses on 322 in town and a number of residential homes and properties that are not kept up - junk in the yards, etc. Chesterland is physically beautiful area but there has to be enforced standards of upkeep for commercial and residential properties.

I moved to Chester, like all of my neighbors, to get away from the suburb cities and taxes. Less government is good government. Chester does not need to become Chardon - a high tax suburb city.

Too large a percentage of taxes go to schools and metzenbaum. If you want mayfield heights - live in mayfield heights - people want to relocate further out and find what they left.

Keep as rural. No RTA. Don't want to become a mayfield/mentor/etc.

Being a township allow for a small town community. I don't want RITA



Chesterland can be a gem: - need a board to stop bickering and work together

Keep it a township. There are a lot of seniors who grow out of their large homes/lots in Chester. We need more senior, affordable housing in Chesterland be it a development with small lots and homes or mobile homes for seniors only. Seniors are always looking for home to purchase in my Maywood community!

Let's stay a township

Certain intersections need left turn lanes, both 306 & 322

No City!

I am from Munson Twp and moved here 2 years ago. Munson expanded considerably in my 30 year residence and did it very well.

We moved here 60+ years ago from Cleveland for more land, better schools, lower crime and privacy. We don't want rules and regulations for/from a city standpoint, since politics and bureaucrats always make mountain out of mole hills and waste time and money. Not real happy with increased traffic on Mayfield (especially since the SUV drivers who recently moved out here - and I'm talking in the last 15-20 years) think their kids are all special. Park and drive wherever they want, have no respect for their neighbors and want a leave it to beaver town "Yeah, not going to happen. Go back to Cleveland.

Make like Chardon. Town square is a mess. Move 'town hall' and road dept. out of center of town. Make that whole area a drive through commercial square with small shops and restaurants. Even Burton is better. No reason for road dept to be right in town and any office is fine for council and town meetings. Restaurant, coffee and shops terrible in this area. Giant Eagle, Arabica, Tavern & Oak Ember are the 'staples' and we never go to them because of the low quality, terrible service. Could be a great town if more people took care of properties. A decent town square and coffee/restaurant options. Schools rated well and are safe but teachers lazy and rely too much on online schooling and meeting tests, not teaching.

this little run down town needs lots of help. The town's governing body is very inadequate. Poor officials which make poor decisions and prevent progress.

We live behind West Geauga High School. The speed limit is 45 mph which is way too fast with the school, buses, and children living and playing in the area. Please reduce the speed limit to 35 mph.

I think the road department should be more considerate to homeowners regarding the cutting down and trimming trees in the residential area. I think the police department should be more considerate to issues warning citations to drivers, it is obvious that tickets are issued for money reasons only.

We as a community need to move forward with the items mentioned here: senior housing, revitalizing the business district, developing small communities. It is 2020 and the technology exists for treating waste and bringing water to the township.

Find trustees who represent their constituents - low taxes - no city - responsible trustees

We should not be looking at taxing us more when the schools have made it clear they are going to ask for more money. And why we need a \$20,000 survey I don't know.

We strongly support adopting a basic property maintenance standard for residential and businesses. Your questionnaire asked all of the right questions. Thank you!

This survey creates concern that Chester is trying to gauge becoming more suburban than rural in offering city amenities like sewer/water, garbage, sidewalks, etc. Leaving a very suburban area where every decision about our home was dictated was a very deliberate decision. We chose Chester because of its more rural qualities. it takes a lot of money to maintain our home and property already, much less adding amenities that are core to the reason we left a city.

With the increase in online shopping, there will be little need of the trail that we already have. I am opposed to any effort to prop up a failing commercial district. Let the commercial district die a natural death. I live in Chesterland for the beauty of the land and the people.

Do not build apartments, condos, or any kind of mass living areas. They bring nothing but trouble.

I don't think that we should strive to be a city. If people move here they should accept the wells, septic, etc. as part of the rural aspect. There are plenty of other places to move if they want different things.

residential zoning needs to make sense - less restrictive. Commercial zoning should make sense - be cohesive and some planning. A community center would be nice, if affordable. Part senior center Part rec-swimming pool or co-op with another village or pair up.

Need new townhall, police, and road. All the current buildings old and inefficient.

We moved to Chester for the schools and private lots, but that fact that it was a Township also a huge draw. Homeowners have a vested interest in the community that renters do not. Homeowners are less transient, staying in neighborhoods longer, having a commitment to the community. Homeowners have more multi-generational and family ties. Increasing rental properties weakens community unity.

Becoming a city requires more regulations which impinges our freedom. Would need more police and fire coverage to handle increased crime. We don't need city water, sewers, street lights and sidewalks.

I don't want to live in the city.

Strive to maintain Township feel. Small town feel is hard to keep because you can't have all this city amenities and remain rural.

I moved here because we liked it. Why do people move into area then try to change?

People/families live here & move here because it is not a city. This questionnaire is ridiculous. Chesterland needs leaders who can enhance our community and keep it strong, yet small. I attached the letter published in the Chesterland News. It says it all.

Remain a township; maintain rural environment

Chester needs a change for the better. Seems like nothing ever gets done. We need to focus on our commercial areas for sure. It seems like it's been stuck in the 70s and never left. Can we annex part of the commercial area to another entity (i.e. village) to get better services? We strongly feel smaller homes/townhomes or condos would be great for younger and older families/couples. This township seems to have many political skeletons that prevent anything from progressing forward. The fact that we have to ask our residents if we should update our comp, plan is stounding. Our township should have regularly scheduled updates. Every 5-6 years. I've seen a lot of input on social media regarding walkability and the concern we become a city. There are beautiful small towns all over this country that put the pedestrian first before the automobile and function just fine not as a city. A lot of folks moved here for the rural/semi-rural characteristics and that should certainly be preserved, but we should focus on the beautification of our town.

Any crooked politics or politicians using or laundering money best be hitting the road or doing hard time.

Much of these questions are vague and unclear! This questionnaire seems like it wants to increase the rural atmosphere into suburban/city of a specific group.

Keep Chesterland a township. I moved to Chesterland from a city, I have no desire to live in a city structure area. Raising taxes is not really going to help, spending wiser will. Sometimes taking care, fix up improve upon is even better than more stuff expenses etc.

Wish we had more sidewalks and bike lanes. And Dunkin Donuts!!

Chester should remain a small rural community. There are plenty of other locations to pick to live for those people who want to live in a city!

Acknowledge local groups for contributions to Chester. Promote area activities better coming from our trustees

There is an undertone of political wrangling in the township. This should be put aside by all trustees to work together on a plan to benefit township residents.

In the case of Chester moving forward, progress is more devastating than advantageous. So I say, let's enjoy our township as it presently stands.

I appreciate the efforts to involve the citizens of this community in its future plans. Keep it as green and semi-rural as possible. it is unique in this respect.

Those of us that have lived in chesterland all our lives have done so for 2 reason - leave it alone. Don't need to have sewer, city water, RTA etc.

We need more grocery store options. Giant Eagle is awful. Please consider adding a Heinen

Become a city - I move. Add Sewer Line - you buy my new septic tank. Add water- you buy my new well pump you buy my new filter system

No new taxes

We are operating our property very well without sewers or city water. We absolutely do not need buses coming to the country to transport the nature we may have left let alone the exhaust to restrict our great air in the country. We don't need more crimes! No sewers, no water, no buses, no crimes. clean air moved here for one reason. This is a township and needs to remain so. That is probably the allure that lead people to purchase property here. We don't need to turn this into a city which many people were trying to get away from in the first place. changing this township to a city will probably incur added expenses to the homeowner via taxes and addition of city

services. Let the Country stay the country and allow people to continue living here as they chose to do. If people want city they can move to a city that offers the services that you're asking if we want here.

I don't like seeing multiple cars/trucks permanently in driveways! Also, would like township to do something about vacant/run down houses on own streets!

Don't trust decisions made by township are always in best interest of township

we are a rural community, keep it that way! Stop wasting time trying to please people that want semi-rural/city conveniences. With large yards and quiet streets, several parks people have plenty of room for recreation. City conveniences are within minutes from the center of town

A city requires or will require tax revenue to operate.

snow plowing would it really cost the township more money to drop the plow on state or county roads? The side roads are terrible and unsafe! Keep Chesterland a township! Change some zoning. Have make homeowners accountable for the appearance of their property! If landscapers want to run out of their houses impose a cost for that! keep a close eye on elected officials for underlying agendas!

already too much commercial/business entities in Chester. Too many empty buildings. Promote "chester" or "Chester Twp" rather than chesterland.

Just keep in mind West Geauga has a 10 year plan to centralize their elems up by WGHS WGMS and possibly closing Tindlsey and Westwood

Parts of this questionnaire are scary: Expanded commercial area, office space, retirement communities, skilled nursing facilities, apartments - yike! Somebody has some grandiose ideas for semi-rural Chester Township. Chester is a small community. It should stay that way.

Ken Radtke and Joe Mazvico will no longer have our vote.

Stay rural, no multiple housing units, no small lots, Improve what is here already.

Giant Eagle is a poorly run grocery store. We go elsewhere to shop. Farmers markets on the weekend would be nice. Community activity.

I will move if Chesterland becomes a city. Chesterland has the feel of a small community and the country. Three buildings on 322/306 need to be updated or better used.

Leave Chester a Township.

No city

The Township is why I moved here 15 years ago. A lot of cities are struggling because the internet is killing small business and rental spaces are becoming more and more vacant. I chose to live here for a simpler more satisfying life. As far as bike lanes, 322/306 are probably labeled as roads for experienced riders by Noaca, my kids or myself would never use them if installed. Experienced riders don't need bike lanes and by putting the min I think you are placing the public at risk.

Keep Chester a Township.

It's frustrating and revolting to see that about \$20,000 were wasted to come up with such as poorly-designed survey like this. It's sad, to say the least that such a divisive, misleading and totally biased survey was approved and allowed to be distributed to residents, with several repetitive, hidden-agenda questions that were included as a clear attempt of turning Chester into another liberal, progressivist place. We hope to see more respect and transparency with what is done with taxpayer's money going forward. Chester is perfect the way it is right now. Unhappy residents can always move out as there are plenty of options around.

We can move to Cuyahoga County if we want to live in a city.

Chester Township is no longer a rural community. We have to adapt to these times.

No renters or public transportation. Would like to see improved central business district. Which would help attract new businesses, while retaining the benefits and charm of the township

While we love "Chardon Sq." we realize it would be difficult to achieve the ambiance of it. But, our goal should be to work toward reducing the "strip ctr" look and some signs that deter from the beauty of our town.

Chesterland is a Township out in the country. Leave it that way.

Do not become a city! Do not install sidewalks! Do not ruin Chester!

It seems every time I have gone to the recycle park the bins are full. and people leave bags on the ground. I no longer try to recycle, I've given up.

We chose Chester Township over other localities because it is not a city. We prefer the rural/country feel. If we wanted a suburb, we would have stayed in Mentor.

We have a solid police / five unit I'm against increasing biking because it creates traffic hazards. Police and swat need training in rules of engagement. 1) Seeing a person with gun or knife is not cause for police to shoot. Police can only return fire when fired on. 2) Breaking down door to enter is not allowed. 3) If fellow policemen see inappropriate behavior of policemen, they are required to disengage that policeman from what he is doing. 4) All police must wear bodycam at all times. 5) Any report of police inappropriate behavior is cause for being fired. Better to go on the safe side than to allow a bully to stay hidden on the police force. 6) Police Department is a team not a good old boys club, covering up mistakes of other policemen  
There are no benefits to this semi-rural community becoming a city.

Become a city!

Chesterland is a great location. It's easy travel to many regional amenities. If the town could strengthen/improve the public schools and quality of the downtown area (types of businesses, beauty, walking/biking accessibility). I think it would attract more families.

Are the police getting to know the people to protect citizens and businesses.

Senior Housing

We are fine the way it is out has been.

How about becoming a village with a mayor?

I like it the way it is now.

We moved here because it is a small town. City may bring money, but it also brings less desirable attributes.

The reason we moved here a young family was to avoid living in a city. We will move if this changes. How disappointing that this is even being considered. In a world where change is not always good. Do not fix what is not broken!

Turn Chesterland into a Village! Forget about trustees running this town! We need laws to rules to clean up this mess of a town, looks like a 3rd world country coming up on 322 out of Gates Mills! Such a joke!

This is not a "big city" keep it that way!

People move here because they like the way things are here. Geauga County is a great place. Low taxes, no RITA, good schools and it's quiet and safe. You have some fast food, other restaurants, etc. everything you need is here, and if you need anything else, go to Mayfield. This is why us and many others choose this place to call home! Don't mess it up by making us a city - with city water and sewer. If people want that, then move out!

We appreciate the friendly, quiet, rural nature of Chesterland. We are an independent bunch here and don't need upgrades or higher services. Please don't ruin our nice town with contrived conveniences

We like being able to target shoot safely on our property. We like our bonfires. We like our lower taxes with no RITA.

Get rid of the old town mentality and update for success and pride. Stop the constant bickering and divisions with regard to trustees and citizens of Chester. We can't improve without residential building allowed and business taxes. The schools student populations would increase, allowing for more funding.

I would like to keep the small-town feel of Chester. I do not support large scale housing or business district. I do not support increasing town hall/police/fire/ or becoming a city

I would only support becoming a city if Chesterland remained how it is. If we sacrifice our identity to get the extra tax money, then its not worth it.

I lived in Will Hills from 1970-1987 saw it go from Township to City it was really negative

Need to bring back the "Homestead Property Tax Exemption" for all retired people over 65!

Chesterland is a bit of an "old boys" network or club. Could do with some diversity, age, sex and color, to bring more inclusiveness to the community.

There are many pizza restaurants, would be nice to have a moderate price restaurant. Establish a design with lighting

The township does not have to become a city. If it's not broke, don't fix it. Fill your current empty commercial business space. If you are not aware, you need 25,000 residents for a city. Chesterland is only 10,000 give or take you can not legally make Chesterland a city.

We need strict zoning laws to be made enforceable

I love Chester as a village or Township, as did my late husband. It does need some aesthetic improvement to build community pride, but not in excess to destroy our personality as semi-rural. More attention to physical and arts

activities would boost health and wellness. Small business is necessary to maintain a tax base to support improvement, but not commercializing.

A larger grocery store is very important. Heinen's or larger Giant Eagle. Like the hardware store and discount drug mart. Work with the state of Ohio to implement change in how schools are funded so more tax money can go to the township. Roads need to be re-paved. The street on which we live is badly in need of paving and has high-end homes.

Remove the Grendell Clan from making any decisions for Chesterland. Do not allow developers to over build and over populate the community

This is a beautiful rural community. Leave it alone!

Taxes are high in Chester Township for what we get back. If you plan to improve Chester, which I feel needs to be done, I feel as a long time resident, we should be getting more for our money.

Keep it rural

Becoming a city would destroy the rural feel and freedoms of this town

We do not want multiple unit housing to move into Chester or large box stores that will increase traffic from outside our community. We have the immediate needs served now and other needs can be filled in nearby communities.

Police and city hall have not supported or helped me with any complications having with neighbors

Chester is beautiful as is. We know change occurs and expansion of a community center including a pool and pickle ball courts would lead to a tighter community - fostering joy!

Discharging of firearms

Invasive species, mostly plants, subtract from natural beauty and the wild life in small towns. Any beautifying roads and roadsides should factor in control measures

Leave as is. Greed of developers leads to corruption in government.

For Chester to continue to grow, it needs a strong place for future policy and development. Promoting economic and racial diversity must be a primary goal for the township. One way this can be done is through diverse housing options - and not senior only living options. Families need options, too.

Chesterland is beautiful as it is. The housing market is fantastic. People move here for the small town feel. If I wanted to live in a city, I could move 15 minutes away. My husband and I have lived here our entire lives. Changes to our township will make us consider a move. The out of control trustee bickering and politics in local papers is an embarrassment to the community!