



TABULATED Land Use Survey



The Town of Linn Land Use Survey was mailed to 2,143 landowners, business owners, and seasonal- and year-round residents in January 2017. A total of 342 were completed, returned to the town, and tabulated by Community Planning & Consulting. The results appear below and on the following pages. Survey questions were divided into four broad categories: 1) You and Your Residence/Property; 2) Your Perspectives on the Town of Linn; 3) Preferences Regarding Future Development; and, 4) Options for Implementing Community Decisions.

Section 1: You and Your Residence/Property

1. Which of the following best describes your relationship to the Town of Linn?

Year-round resident	Seasonal resident	Business owner	Non-resident property owner	Resident property owner	Primary residence, not year-round
45%	44%	2%	7%	2%	1%

2. If year-round resident, how long have you lived in the Town of Linn?

Less than 3 years	3 to 9 years	10 to 20 years	More than 20 years
4%	6%	13%	28%

3. If seasonal resident, how long have you been visiting the Town of Linn?

Less than 3 years	3 to 9 years	10 to 20 years	More than 20 years
1%	3%	9%	35%

4. If business owner, how long have you operated your business in the Town of Linn?

Less than 3 years	3 to 9 years	10 to 20 years	More than 20 years
--	1%	2%	4%

5. If year-round or seasonal resident, which of the following best describes your residence in the Town of Linn?

Farmstead	House/cottage on the lake	House/cottage with access to lake	Single-family house	Duplex or 2-family unit	3-family or more unit	Vacant/Non-buildable lot	South Shore Club
6%	13%	42%	35%	<1%	<1%	1%	<1%

6. If not a resident, which of the following best describes your property?

Farm/Ag land	Business	Long-term rental property	Short-term rental property	Professional office	Vacation house	Land to build house
8%	<1%	2%	--	<1%	2%	<1%

7. How many acres of land do you own in the Town of Linn?

None	Less than 1 acre	1 to 5 acres	6 to 20 acres	21 to 40 acres	41 to 80 acres	More than 80 acres
1%	51%	32%	9%	2%	2%	3%

8. Where is your residence, business, or property located in the Town of Linn?

8% In/around Zenda	38% Between Geneva Lake and South Lakeshore Drive, non-lakefront
9% On the north shore, Geneva Lake	11% South of South Lakeshore Drive (not including Zenda)
12% North of Geneva Lake, non-lakefront	2% Adjoining or east of State Highway 120
21% On the south shore, Geneva Lake	



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9. What is the primary reason you chose the Town of Linn to live, vacation, or run a business?

26% Grew up here/close to family, friends	20% Quality of life
5% Quality of local schools	48% Geneva Lake/natural landscape
4% Cost and quality of housing	2% Close to where I work
Proximity to: Chicago (2%); Elk Grove, Fontana, Lake Geneva, Walworth, and Williams Bay (<1%)	
Other: Camp Augustana (in 1940s), choice land/real estate, close to grandchildren, Faith Christian School, few subdivisions, grandparent's farm, grew up here, inherited home/farm, loved my house, place to retire, rural setting, South Shore Club,	

Section 2: Your Perspectives on the Town of Linn

10. How satisfied are you with the Town of Linn as a place to live, vacation, operate a business, or own property?

Very satisfied 47%	Satisfied 42%	Unsatisfied 3%	Very unsatisfied 2%	No opinion 3%
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11. Which of the following land use issues is of greatest concern to you?

Agriculture	Development	Economy	Environment	Geneva Lake	Roads, transportation	Sanitary sewer
9%	44%	5%	28%	40%	9%	2%

Other: CAFOs, fire department/fire protection, short-term rentals, taxes, tract developments.

12. In your opinion, how adequate is the current availability of the following housing options in the Town of Linn?

	Very Adequate	Adequate	Inadequate	Very Inadequate	No Opinion
Upscale owner-occupied housing	44%	25%	--	<1%	26%
Affordable owner-occupied housing	20%	39%	6%	2%	26%
Upscale rental housing	14%	23%	4%	2%	50%
Affordable rental housing	10%	23%	7%	3%	50%
Housing for seniors	6%	16%	16%	6%	47%
Condominiums/townhouses	17%	26%	6%	2%	42%
Short-term rental housing (for vacationers)	18%	24%	5%	3%	46%
'Sustainable' or 'green' housing	6%	11%	11%	11%	52%

13. How satisfied are you with the quality and/or availability of the following transportation facilities in the Town of Linn?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	No Opinion
Town roads	35%	55%	6%	1%	3%
County roads	33%	59%	5%	1%	3%
State highway 120	36%	53%	4%	2%	5%
Bicycle and pedestrian trails	12%	25%	26%	7%	25%
Equestrian trails	6%	15%	6%	2%	66%
Transportation for seniors	5%	13%	8%	5%	64%
Infrastructure for electric vehicles	3%	8%	8%	4%	71%

Other: Damage to Mohawk Road from heavy grain trucks; no fire protection on snake road; public transportation Fox Lake to Zenda; road lighting



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14. In your opinion, how adequate is the current availability of the following recreational amenities?

	Very Adequate	Adequate	Inadequate	Very Inadequate	No Opinion
General park space	19%	51%	13%	2%	12%
Playground facilities	16%	42%	14%	2%	23%
Athletic fields, courts	12%	36%	18%	2%	27%
Golf courses	24%	42%	6%	2%	21%
Pedestrian and bicycle facilities (lanes, sidewalks)	9%	33%	32%	11%	17%
Hiking and off-road biking trails	9%	33%	26%	6%	22%
Ski and snowshoe trails	7%	28%	19%	3%	35%
Nature trails	9%	38%	20%	4%	21%
Quiet places for rest & reflection	10%	43%	12%	3%	21%
Indoor recreation center	6%	25%	19%	9%	35%
Indoor swimming pools	6%	21%	21%	8%	34%
Public access and boat launches, Geneva Lake	25%	43%	9%	4%	14%
Public swimming areas, Geneva Lake	20%	43%	14%	4%	14%
Public access to woodlands, grasslands	15%	44%	13%	3%	21%
Public access to hunting land	34%	18%	8%	5%	51%
Dog parks	10%	24%	11%	5%	42%
Skate and BMX bike parks	9%	17%	6%	2%	58%
Disc golf	6%	14%	9%	1%	60%
Rental facilities for events, family gatherings, etc.	12%	30%	16%	2%	41%
Picnic areas	12%	34%	15%	3%	27%
Camping areas	11%	29%	15%	3%	35%
Other: Entertainment, life guards, military discounts, natural areas, none, off-leash dog areas, path to lake, public transportation, snowmobile trail access					

15. How important to you are the following natural and agricultural features in the Town of Linn?

	Very Important	Important	Unimportant	Very Unimportant	No Opinion
Ground water	80%	14%	<1%	1%	1%
Geneva Lake: general	80%	14%	1%	--	1%
Geneva Lake: boating, fishing, swimming	71%	23%	2%	--	1%
Geneva Lake: public access	45%	34%	10%	2%	3%
Big Foot Beach State Park	43%	37%	12%	2%	8%
Nippersink Creek and other streams	38%	29%	8%	1%	18%
Wetlands	47%	34%	4%	2%	8%
Forests, wooded areas	54%	34%	3%	<1%	5%
Grasslands, meadows, prairies	52%	32%	5%	1%	5%
Aquatic habitat	57%	29%	3%	1%	5%
Wildlife habitat	53%	31%	4%	<1%	4%
Native species	52%	32%	4%	1%	6%
Locally endangered/threatened species	51%	30%	6%	--	6%
Farmland	43%	37%	6%	2%	5%
Barns, silos, fencerows, etc.	36%	35%	12%	2%	12%
Historic structures and places	45%	38%	7%	<1%	5%
Scenic views	53%	35%	5%	--	5%
Dark skies at night	55%	31%	4%	1%	4%
Quietness	64%	23%	3%	--	3%
Other: Sanitary sewer (4, 1%); country environment, county events, fairs, lake level, life guards, light up intersections, odors/nuisances associated with farms					



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Section 3: Your Preferences Regarding Future Development

16. Which of the following types of commercial/industrial development would you view as desirable within appropriate areas of the Town of Linn? (select all that apply)

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|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 24% Upscale retail | 6% Business incubator | 12% Destination resorts |
| 9% Discount retail | 43% Grocery store | 9% Mixed-use development |
| 5% Big box retail | 30% Convenience store | 22% Art galleries |
| 67% Locally-owned small business | 17% Hair salon, spa, barber | 34% Antique, craft stores |
| 36% Upscale restaurant | 9% Corporate/technology offices | 30% Theatre, performing arts |
| 11% National chain restaurant | 30% Healthcare, clinics | 28% Museum, historical center |
| 55% Family dining | 19% Childcare, daycare | 26% Light manufacturing |
| 31% Pubs, bars, taverns | 20% Home-based business, home occupations | 3% Heavy manufacturing |
| 28% Breweries, wineries, distilleries | 17% Lodging | 7% Warehousing and storage |
| 49% Coffee shops, cafes | | |
- Other: None (15, 4%); anything (as long as it's in Zenda), farmland, gas station, large house lots, movie theatre, pharmacy

17. Which of the following types of residential development would you view as desirable within appropriate areas of the Town of Linn? (select all that apply)

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|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 25% Scattered housing, small lots | 49% Subdivisions with preserved open space | 10% Secondary suites, 'granny flats' |
| 56% Scattered housing, large lots | 18% Golf course development | 6% Clusters of small apartments |
| 14% Multi-generational housing | 8% Conventional subdivisions | 3% Apartment complexes |
| 6% Live/work units | 19% Equestrian subdivisions | 36% Senior living community |
| 9% Small/tiny houses | | |
- Other: None (6, 2%); leave as is (3, 1%); as little as possible (2, 1%); condos/high-end condos (2, 1%);affordable senior housing, clean up old places, duplexes, farms, green, high performance multi-family, mixed use, no speculative development, no subdivisions

18. Which of the following types of agriculture would you view as desirable in the Town of Linn? (select all that apply)

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|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 65% Organic agriculture | 6% Large-scale animal operations (CAFOs) | 23% Medicinal herbs |
| 22% Agri-tourism | 29% Community Supported Agriculture | 18% Specialty and ethnic agriculture |
| 42% Fruits and nuts | 9% Exotic livestock | 18% Agroforestry, forest products |
| 22% Aquaculture, fish farming | | |
- Other: None (6, 2%); current/as is (3, 1%); family farms (3, 1%); apiculture, cash crops, Christmas trees, dairy farms, hydroponic, no dairy farms, small agricultural operations,

19. Which of the following public projects and civic activities would you view as desirable in the Town of Linn? (select all that apply)

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|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 23% Large community park | 65% Farmers' market | 14% Street art, murals, etc. |
| 46% Small neighborhood parks | 50% Local events, festivals | 17% Water features, fountains, etc. |
| 25% Community gathering places | 33% Outdoor music (band shell, stage, etc.) | 30% Nature/educational center |
| 30% Community gardens | 23% Movies in the park | 32% 'Green' stormwater management |
- Other: None (8, 2%); dog park (2, 1%); fairs (2, 1%); antique shows, Bird City, cemeteries, native prairie, sidewalks, Tree City

20. How supportive are you of the following policies and programs intended to achieve future development goals?

	Very Supportive	Supportive	Unsupportive	Very Unsupportive	No Opinion
TIF Districts	7%	18%	13%	16%	31%
Local business associations	12%	43%	6%	6%	22%
Business Improvement Districts	8%	36%	10%	8%	27%
State and federal grant funding	20%	32%	7%	6%	21%
Public/private partnerships	16%	33%	9%	9%	23%
Detailed local economic studies	14%	27%	10%	9%	30%



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21. How adequate is the current availability of broadband, high-speed Internet access in the Town of Linn?

Very adequate 10%	Adequate 37%	Inadequate 25%	Very inadequate 12%	No opinion 14%
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Section 4: Options for Implementing Community Decisions

22. Do you believe that future development should be guided so that it occurs in certain areas and not in others?

Yes 73%	No 7%	Not sure 17%
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23. To what extent would you encourage the preservation of 'green space' within new residential and commercial development?

Strongly encourage 65%	Encourage 23%	Discourage 3%	Strongly discourage 1%	No opinion 2%
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24. Some types of residential development protect land by clustering houses together on part of a property leaving the remaining open space permanently preserved. This approach allows for the same number of homes, but on smaller lots so that environmentally sensitive areas, farmland, or other special places are left undeveloped. To what extent would you encourage such development in the Town of Linn?

Strongly encourage 27%	Encourage 44%	Discourage 14%	Strongly discourage 5%	No opinion 8%
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25. Purchasing or transferring development rights is an approach some communities use to protect farmland and environmentally sensitive areas. Under such a program, a landowner voluntarily sells or transfers the right to develop a portion of land to a local government or non-profit organization to be permanently preserved. The landowner retains all other existing ownership rights like farming and hunting. How supportive would you be of such a program in the Town of Linn?

Very supportive 29%	Supportive 43%	Unsupportive 10%	Very unsupportive 7%	No opinion 11%
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26. Walworth County currently administers and enforces zoning regulations in the Town of Linn. If the opportunity presented itself, and were it 'cost-neutral', how supportive would you be of the Town of Linn assuming zoning administration and enforcement responsibilities?

Very supportive 25%	Supportive 40%	Unsupportive 16%	Very unsupportive 7%	No opinion 14%
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27. One way to prevent the annexation of Town land is to incorporate as a Village. How supportive would you be of such an action on the part of the Town of Linn?

Very supportive 25%	Supportive 38%	Unsupportive 10%	Very unsupportive 6%	No opinion 20%
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28. To what extent would you support local actions to better prepare for significant storm and weather events?

Very supportive 23%	Supportive 56%	Unsupportive 7%	Very unsupportive 2%	No opinion 11%
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