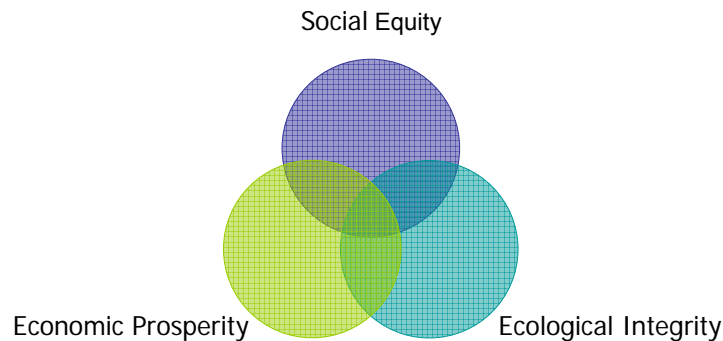


# Marion County Sustainable Comprehensive Plan:

*A Community Vision and  
Comprehensive Plan Created through the Principles of  
Sustainability*

## Draft Vision Report



***"One must care about a world one will never see."***  
***Bertrand Russell***

**Cooperating Partners:**  
EnVISIONing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Marion Area Chamber of Commerce  
Marion United Way  
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## **Executive Summary**

Marion residents arrived at a list of aspirational goals that reflect the values of the Marion County community. Implementing these goals over a long term period can lead to a sustainable future. The Draft Vision Direction and list of goals is as follows:

### **Vision Direction**

A sustainable Marion County will be based on priorities of the residents of this community. The future will be determined by building on current assets while creating innovative opportunities to be leaders in new technologies and unique quality of life attributes. Based on the shared values and desires of the residents of this community the following captures a unique position that will create a sustainable future of Marion residents:

### **Economic Development**

- Target high-paying manufacturing and medical jobs that provide better opportunities for our work force.
- Establish Marion as a strong regional retail center.
- Continue efforts to revitalize Marion's downtown.
- Establish an entrepreneurial-friendly environment.

### **Education**

- Create an educational system that meets the community's needs and expectations.
- Resolve local public school funding issues.
- Match educational focus with the needs of local business and industry.
- Build community-school partnerships to enhance quality while reducing costs.

### **Public Services**

- Find creative ways to consolidate government and public services to gain efficiencies and cost savings.

## **Lifestyle**

- Capitalize on the unique historical possibilities Marion offers as the hometown of a U.S. President.
- Build quality recreational opportunities through parks and facilities.
- Create a transportation system that efficiently moves people within our community as well as access to other cities/interstate highways incorporating alternative forms of transportation.
- Preserve our agricultural heritage and farmland.

In conclusion, the goal of this planning process was simply to create the framework and focus for building a Sustainable Marion Community. That task has now been accomplished through the agenda setting of the residents. The next step is to move forward with identifying the unique specifics of a plan that will set the Marion Community apart as a sustainable community. That task can be done through a Sustainable Comprehensive Plan that combines the talents of local professionals with community leaders and full community support.

# Introduction

## What makes a Sustainability Plan Unique

Sustainability is based on finding the balance between the economic, environmental and social sectors of what creates a community. Each sector is intentionally connected to the other sectors to assure the availability of resources necessary to provide opportunities not simply for today but also for future generations. Every community must establish the cornerstones upon which it will build and sustain itself. The leaders of Marion County have chosen to build their community on the cornerstones of sustainability. These four cornerstones of sustainability have guided the process of Marion County's visioning as follows:

### 1. Balanced and Interconnected:

The concept of sustainability is defined as finding the long-term balance between environmental (built and natural), social and economic issues. Within this context, sustainability seeks to find and nurture a balance among these three key sectors that impact the viability and vitality of a community. Sustainability means giving all three factors careful consideration and act with intentionality, not causality, as community planning, development and redevelopment efforts move forward. The next step in the comprehensive planning process will begin to draw linkages among the input shared through visioning, arriving at holistic and consensus community goals.

### 2. Long Term:

Sustainability planning is about looking out generations, not just decades as is the case with most planning efforts. By focusing on the long term it forces us to look beyond the more immediate conflicts and begin to articulate what we want the future to be. The second question of the visioning sessions, *What do you hope Marion County will become for your grandchildren and great-grandchildren?* pushes residents to think out 50 years.

### 3. Inclusionary:

Sustainability planning is a resident-driven process which insures that all segments of the community have the opportunity to become part of the process. This is accomplished in two ways: first, by insuring that the steering committee is comprised of members of all segments of the community, and second, by insuring that barriers to participation in the

visioning are reduced. Using "Lasswell's Wheel" (see Exhibit I) the steering committee has been formed to insure that all voices in the Marion County community are at the table. Also using this tool, groups and organizations that should be visited were identified. Thirdly, barriers to participation in visioning were reduced by "going to where people gather," that is, by piggybacking on top of already scheduled gatherings, going to places where residents were already familiar and comfortable.

#### 4. Multi-dimensional Indicators:

Multi-dimensional indicators provide an effective method to track and measure if chosen community goals are helping to reach the community's shared vision. They are multi-dimensional because they consider social, economic and environmental qualities in measuring progress.

### **Process**

The following report contains a compilation of resident statements regarding what residents currently value about the Marion County community and what residents hope for future generations in the Marion County community as identified during 55 vision sessions held from September 2004 to September 2005. Over 1,700 Marion County residents of all ages, ethnicity, race, backgrounds and walks of life gave of their valuable time to provide their priorities, thoughts and dreams. What emerges is a commonly shared ethos of Marion County residents. This shared vision will provide direction and goals for the next stage of this planning process, that is, the creation of Marion County's resident-directed comprehensive plan built upon the following cornerstones of sustainability.

## Results from Vision Sessions

This vision session compilation is structured in the following manner:

The three major *components of sustainability* with the corresponding *Themes* emerging from the vision sessions as endorsed by the EnVISION 2020 Advisory Group include the following:

### I. Environmental Sustainability

- Natural Resources
- Parks and Recreation
- Infrastructure/Transportation

### II. Economic Sustainability

- Economic Development

### III. Social Sustainability

- Historical and Cultural Preservation
- Education
- Housing
- Agriculture and Rural Character
- Community Life and Values
- Visionary Leadership
- Social Services

The three components and themes of Sustainability come together in the community's desire to create a comprehensive plan.

### IV. Sustainable Comprehensive Planning

- Land Use and Planning

*Goals* emerging from the resident's comments appear in bold and italics under the appropriate theme. Within each goal the individual resident comments (identified by a ●) were used to formulate a statement of what they "value" about the Marion County Community and what they "hope" for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In some cases resident's similar comments have been aggregated, and the number of times they have been made is shown in parentheses after the comment. Finally, comments are arranged under the community category that each session's group/audience



would fall under, using Lasswell's Values and Institutions Categories as a guide (see Exhibit I).

## Results from Vision Sessions

# COMPONENT: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

## Marion's Natural Environment

### Theme: Natural Resources

#### I. What we value (question #1):

***Marion County residents support the preservation of natural resources and open space. Trees, green space, rivers like the Big Scioto and wildlife areas like Kildeer are examples of current valued areas.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Green space (3)
- Quarry/lakes/river
- Keep the trees
- Trees/woodlands
- Big Scioto
- Green space – nature
- Use the space wisely
- Big Scioto River
- Weather
- Reliable water source

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Land – rich soil/productive ground

Community Category: Affection

- Keep grassy areas
- Kildeer
- Community Category: Wealth/Poverty
- Can get into country easily
- Open space in county
- Natural resources – i.e. Kildeer, Big Island, OSUM Prairie, Dahmer Savannah
- Trees

Community Category: Respect

- Stewards of our natural resources
- Green space (3)

Community Category: Power

- Big Island Wildlife Area
- Habitat and wildlife by rivers

- Green space
- Wide open spaces

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Keep our land – green space

Community Category: Enlightenment

## II: What we hope (question #2):

***Marion County has a clean natural environment with many nature and wildlife areas for enjoyment and recreation based on the clean up of the Scioto River and expansion of parks and nature preserves***

Community Category: Well-Being

- More nature preserves
  - Nature/wildlife preserves
- Wildlife
  - Wildlife areas (2) – rare animals
- More fishing areas – additional lakes
- Clean up Scioto river
- Make the Scioto River area more attractive and useful. It is a beautiful river but no one can use it or get close to it. It is a great “plus” to the area that needs to be opened to the public
- Clean natural waterways, i.e. Scioto, Olentangy
- Cleaner environment
  - Clean air and water
  - Clean air
  - Cleaner streams, rivers
- Improve Quarry Park – Keep other parks up-to-date
- Alternative land fill and fuel sources
- Cleaner city

Community Category: Affection

- Sensitivity to the environment
- Verizon pond
- Quality trash management system
- Solid waste

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- More respect for the environment: clean up rivers, clean up community, provide green space
- Landscape
- Less trash

Community Category: Respect

- Scioto River clean-up
- More green space (2)
- Green space downtown

- Clean air

Community Category: Power

- Environment, streams, fishing (clean streams)
- Scioto River – preserve and keep it clean
- Wildlife preserve in Marion County
- Clean Environment
- Crystal Lake – Sea Camp
- Neater, cleaner community (2)

Community Category: Rectitude

- Finish cleaning the Little Scioto River so it can be used for bike trails and recreation

Community Category: Skills

- Green spaces in town

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Marion County will have a Nature Center

***Marion County's farmland and agriculture provides a sense of the county's rural heritage.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Farmland

Community Category: Respect

- Still have agriculture

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Rural Marion County preserved
- Ag Center (like Wooster)
- Maintain agricultural heritage

Community Category: Power

- **Maintain agricultural heritage**

## Theme: Parks and Recreation

### I. What we value (question #1):

*Marion County values existing resources for recreation for residents of all ages focusing on public parks, the YMCA, youth programs and the fairgrounds.*

Community Category: Well-Being

- Parks (3)
  - Vet Parks (2)
- Local village/township parks
- Recreation/entertainment
- Family community center
- Outside pools
- YMCA
- Bike and recreation space
- YMCA is expanding their programs

Community Category: Affection

- Baseball for youth
- Parks (2)
  - The park at the hospital
  - Sawmill Park, because it was my favorite place to go when I was little and I have good memories there
  - Parks, because its important for kids to have a fun, safe place to go
- Skate board park
- New YMCA (3)
- Country Club (2)
- Gateway Wildlife Center
- Quarry Park
- Bowling Alleys
- All of the Parks, especially Lincoln Park. Also the Rec Centers
- The Marion Recreation Center (2)
- Boys and Girls Club.
- Lakes around Marion because people enjoy to look at the pond & feed the ducks & fish

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Wide variety of recreational opportunities including YMCA, Country Club, etc.
- Parks (4)
- Ballparks
- Recreation
- Fairgrounds/coliseum
- Unique and diverse wildlife
- Golf courses
- Country Club
- New YMCA

Community Category: Respect

- Parks – lots, trees, space, inexpensive  
Local park system  
Marion Baseball for Youth – more than 2,000 play for free
- Fairgrounds – the fair and the coliseum
- Hunting
- New YMCA (3)  
YMCA recreational opportunities
- Quarry Park (2)
- Our parks, including Lincoln

Community Category: Power

- Preserve parks (2)
- Public swimming pool (2)
- Active recreation: baseball leagues, adult leagues
- Parks – all of them
- Our parks
- YMCA (2) and Rec Center

Community Category: Rectitude

- Park system – Lincoln Park
- Park and recreation
- The YMCA
- Improvements to Quarry Park and city
- Our parks

Community Category: Skills

- YMCA (2)
- Our parks (keep and expand) (2)
- Project Playground
- Fairgrounds (2)
- 

Community Category: Enlightenment

- McKinley Park/Pond
- YMCA (2)
- Recreation Department programs; especially softball leagues
- All of our parks – especially Lincoln Park

## II. What we hope (question #2):

***Marion County has many quality recreational opportunities and facilities through the expansion of community parks, family activities, creating biking and hiking trails and greater access to indoor recreation.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Accessible recreation/recreation opportunities  
Sports  
Classes
- Recreational programs available  
Recreation areas for youth
- Hiking, biking, walking trails

Bicycle path on old railroad tracks

Off-road trails

- Expanded park land  
There is an increase in the number of parks
- More places for family recreation
- More recreation facilities
- Grand improvements at the fairgrounds so it could be a useful area for the citizens. The popcorn Festival and other such events could easily be moved there, if the improvements were made.
- YMCA in a location to better serve inner city youth
- The parks should be a big focus; getting those cleaned up and family friendly
- After school programs at the rec center for troubled youth
- Downtown green space, parks, gathering place
- More historical and educational green space
- More community programs for kids (camps, 3 v. 3 basketball, all night events)

Community Category: Affection

- Keep our parks and have more of them  
More parks
- Update parks
- Modernized fairground and coliseum
- Theme park
- Water park
- Zoo (2)
- YMCA for folks north of Center Street
- Park where Olney School was
- Teenage recreation center that is free
- More recreation centers and more game places
- Well supervised and structured recreation center
- Race track
- More community activities for ages 0 – 3
- I would like to see good, positive, safe activities in Marion county for my grand/great-grand children and others

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Amusement Park
- Ice rink
- A place to walk and bicycle  
We are a safe place to play, ride bikes, walk – small entertainment  
Open parks – bike paths  
Rails to Trails; bike paths, etc.
- Quarry Lake recreation area
- Modernized fairground and coliseum
- Parks with playgrounds
- Safe recreational activities
- Support county, village, township parks system
- Indoor soccer facility
- Publicly or privately owned swimming pool (through YMCA?)
- Sell old school sites – do not develop into parks
- Nature Center

- Hiking and bike trails

Community Category: Respect

- We have more recreational activities – parks, outdoor activities
- Outdoor recreation – biking, hiking, fishing – exist in area
- Expand recreation
  - Bike paths (2)
  - Park/bike trails
  - Youth recreation
  - Adult recreation
  - Parks/green areas
- Bigger parks and bikeways
- Indoor soccer facility
- Ice skating (indoor)
- Championship golf course (open to public)
- Community education and recreation focus – coordinated in one place

Community Category: Power

- Recreation – family parks – bike trails
- Lake or reservoir
- Rails to Trails – recreational opportunities
- Teen center

Community Category: Rectitude

- Finish cleaning the Little Scioto River so it can be used for bike trails and recreation
- Bike trail
- More recreation opportunities

Community Category: Skills

- We have hiking trails; rails to trails
- There are more recreational opportunities
  - More recreational space/opportunities
- Cultural recreation (support for
- Teen center
- More youth programs

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Bike paths/park attractions
- Downtown draw (recreational)
- Ice skating rink
- More recreational opportunities - Children's recreation
- Additional parks for skating & skateboarding beyond downtown
- Walking path at Sawyer Park (so there is less walking in the cemetery)
- Our YMCA offers affordable access

***In Marion County there are many and varied recreational and entertainment opportunities and activities for youth both in the schools and in the community.***

Community Category: Affection



- Guys volleyball is a school sport
- There are girls on the football team
- A lot more of activities in school for children
- More activities for young people/kids (5)
- A public water park or more things for kids to do
- More places for kids to go, like a bigger Mall, and more places to just hang out with your friends (3)
- More outside of school activities
- More fun for kids and have things for them to do
- Bigger mall
- I'd like to see more hangout places for us teenagers. It seems like the people are too busy building things that we don't really need such as the new car washes, etc.
- Schools with as many sports and extra academic classes as possible. I want my child involved in as many extra curricular activities, church, choirs, sports, etc.
- A better park area
- Offer more for the kids to do, i.e. bigger mall, nicer parks, stuff like Dave and Busters, just more places to hang out
- New mall/Bigger mall/super sized mall (5)
- I would like to see the Mall be like the ones in Georgia
- More activities for kids and teens to do such as a better Mall, Teen Clubs, and parks, etc. Things just for us and younger kids. We also could use more swimming pool and activities for people at a n affordable price
- To be able to have more fun for the children and making the Marion Community not so boring
- More recreation
- More skate parks and bike parks
- 

***Activities and facilities keep youth involved and out of trouble.***

Community Category: Affection

- Marion has more recreational activities so children can be more involved and less likely to get into trouble
- Something constructive for youth to do. A nice place for kids to hang out and not get in trouble. Give them something to do and stay away from drugs.
- I really wish there would be more places for younger kids to go & keep them out of trouble.
- More public activities for children. Maybe more kids won't be in so much trouble.
- More fun activities to do. Not having any violence and bad things in Marion County. A lot more kids playing having fun and playing sports
- Better school systems for young adults. Like no gang bangers and no drinking and driving or/and no drug dealing around Marion
- More activities for younger kids so they will stay out of trouble

## Theme: Infrastructure/Transportation

### I. What we value (question #1):

*Marion residents and businesses value the central location of their community with auto/truck, rail and air transportation routes and alternatives providing easy access both within the community as well as to other metropolitan areas.*

Community Category: Well-Being

- Location – traffic routes to other places

Community Category: Affection

- Public transportation – bus service
- No stop lights at every corner
- Marion airport
- Access to metro area and vice versa
- Lower rate of traffic

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Railroad system
- Marion Airport (2)
- Railroad systems provide rail availability
- Marion is easily accessible
- Airport – expandable
- Access to metro area and vice versa
- Short commutes
- Can get out into country easily
- Location of Marion to: East coast/Cincinnati/Columbus

Community Category: Respect

- Transportation access, in and out
- Transportation/infrastructure
- Convenience to Columbus and other places
- Railroad system
- Urban city feel downtown – pedestrian friendly
- Easily accessible/move throughout the county
- Good roads

Community Category: Power

- No traffic compared to Columbus
- Overpasses

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Lack of traffic, compared to larger cities

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Access – where located on Rt. 23 – can get to metro areas easily
- “Shoot the loop” (perimeter drive around town)

- Ease of community transportation – getting around

## II. What we hope (Question #2):

***Marion has an outer belt which promotes efficient economic activity while preserving the walkability, auto access and quieter feel of the downtown area.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Outer belt around Marion
- Infrastructure will be improved (i.e. roads/outer belt)
- We do need a bypass around Marion to keep trucks off of our roads
- We need a bypass around Marion
- The public attitude toward development is changed, allowing support for an outer belt that would alleviate downtown traffic and encourage growth
- Improvements to traffic; so much traffic and such narrow roadways. There is not need for truck to be routed through downtown. There are ways to get rid of the truck traffic.

Community Category: Affection

- Outer belt

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Perimeter road
- Bypass for city trucks
- West end corridor
- Outer belt around city
- Trucks out of downtown
- Easier access bypass from west side to east side
- Improved access
- A quaint area, easy to get around (not too congested)
- Marion is still here. Hope Marion can benefit from the enormous growth occurring on the two counties to our south. Marion needs a bonifide outer belt...Nothing like that awful plan voters turned down a few years ago. One that allows traffic to flow in & out freely.

Community Category: Respect

- Marion has a comprehensive traffic plan – overpass?
- Trucks out of downtown
- Downtown traffic improved – reroute trucks
- Outer belt, bypass (8)
- Ease of transportation; little congestion, get from one side of town to the other, access/service roads
- Perimeter road
- Infrastructure will be improved (i.e. roads/outer belt)

Community Category: Power

- Loop around Marion
- Bypass around Marion for trucks (2)
- Outer transportation route – more truck traffic for downtown

Community Category: Rectitude

- Need transportation outer belt system
- Completed outer belt
- Reroute traffic from downtown
- Bypass around Marion

Community Category: Skills

- Traffic flow (west to east & back)

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Truck bypass
- New road between 95 & 309
- Bypass/railroad overpass
- There is an outer belt around Marion for truck traffic

***Transportation networks in Marion County and surrounding counties serve the needs of population growth and provide better access to nearby cities***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Better highway system
- Transportation overpasses
- Improvement in transportation
- Off/on ramp – Marion Cardington Road

Community Category: Affection

- Overpass on SR 309
- Overpass SR 4 and Barks Road

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Better (faster) access to Columbus
- Larger infrastructure of roads
- Route 23 is an interstate
- Overpass for Silver Street

Community Category: Respect

- How to get to Marion – roads and infrastructure improved
- Better road system to Columbus (2)
- System to get to big cities – Columbus
- Usable road to Columbus – fast
- Inter urban
- Excellent transportation infrastructure
- There are better traffic patterns throughout town
- Better transportation structure

Community Category: Power

- Entrance to Rt. 23 interchange from Marion Cardington Road
- Better county roads
- Better roads

Community Category: Rectitude

- Need a super highway to offset the growth coming from Columbus
- Infrastructure- traffic

- Route 4 – Route 95 transportation

Community Category: Skills

Community Category: Enlightenment  
Another route to Columbus (I 73)

***Marion County offers alternative transportation opportunities.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Rail system to cities
- Expanded rail services (for people and commerce)
- Need interstate system for companies to get products in/out of community
- Light rail (from village to village)

Community Category: Affection

- Transportation infrastructure and monorail
- Invite Amtrak to come to Marion
- Public transit with regular bus stop routes
- Well managed train traffic
- Affordable public transportation
- Bus transportation between Marion and Columbus

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- A place to look at trains
- Hiking/biking trails
- Access/transit to Columbus
- Rail overpass
- Rail passenger service, inner Ohio rail system
- Sidewalks to South and East sides of town for bikers & pedestrians
- Public transportation access to accommodate shift workers
- Affordable public transportation – increased hours
- Big airport
- Trains

Community Category: Respect

- Public transportation
- High speed rail (to Columbus) (2)
- High speed rail to Cleveland and Cincinnati
- Light rail – Columbus to Marion to Mansfield
- Airports (feeder, better) (2)

Community Category: Power

- Alternative transportation to Columbus (2)
- Bus transportation
- High speed transportation to surrounding areas
- Bigger airport – commercial
- Mass transportation

Community Category: Rectitude

- Walking paths – elderly included
- Better sidewalk system – also around the school

- Transportation expanded so people can get downtown
- Rail to Columbus – commuter rail to Columbus
- Bus service to everyone
- Bus routes with regular service

Community Category: Skills

- Public transportation
- Hi-speed transport
- Downtown bus

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Quality taxi service
- Monorail
- Marion County has a full service airport

***Traffic flow, street maintenance, facilities and traffic calming in Marion City and County serves the safety and convenience needs of residents***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Synchronized traffic lights – planned
- Need over passes in county and city
- Center Street/Church Street – two-way streets
- End one way streets; fewer one way streets
- I would like one way streets to be safer
- Better city streets
- I would like to think that we could open Center Street to three or four lanes in the downtown area – our current system simply isn't working for a community of our size

Community Category: Affection

- Better maintained roads
- Turn lanes SR 95 and 98
- Overpass on Barks Road
- Overpass on Bellefontaine
- Improved transportation traffic plan
- More sidewalks
- Safer streets
- Town funded sidewalks (to shopping to Harding & middle school)
- No more angle parking
- Less railroad crossings
- On and off ramps for 23 & 529

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Improve Rt. 39 near Harding High School
- Sara Ave. opened near Harding High School (lighted)
- Patton & State Streets – improve intersection – no truck parking
- More rail overpasses – Silver Street
- Better marked traffic, especially Center Street
- More traffic enforcement in school zone
- More sidewalks
- Fewer one way streets
- Access 23 from 529

- Modern street repair
- Smooth traffic flow – better traffic plan
- Reduce train traffic
- Improved traffic flow
- Good street repair
- Time the darn lights downtown!

Community Category: Respect

- Traffic light at Bex & Uhler
- Better roads and highway connections
- Less or no one way streets (2)
- Marion manages traffic well
- Traffic lights are easy to view
- Streets are improved with curbs and gutters
- Downtown parking ramp
- SW corridor improvement
- User friendly community layout – with service roads – destination roads
- Sidewalks and curbs in all neighborhoods
- All housing developments have sidewalks
- More overpasses

Community Category: Power

- Eliminate one way street
- Better, stronger infrastructure, transportation and utilities
- Remove downtown traffic congestion
- Planned traffic patterns inside and outside of towns
- Good roads
- Two way streets downtown
- Parking old way
- Overpass over railroads
- Overpass on Kenton Avenue
- Better transportation downtown
- Less one way streets

Community Category: Rectitude

- One-way streets become two-way
- Alleys are closed
- Overpass to northwest part of city to improve fire protection
- Speed bumps in alleys
- Speed bumps on city streets to protect kids
- Put overpass on N. Main Street, Williamsport Road and Silver Road
- No more one-way streets
- Pave residential streets in a way that preserves curves
- Fix pot holes
- No gravel roads in residential areas
- Repave roads quickly as soon as they are fixed

Community Category: Skills

- Easier/better signage for traffic flow

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Better roads
- More overpasses

- Two-way streets in the downtown
- Better roads/traffic patterns
- Parking garage downtown

***High speed internet and state-of-the-art communications services are available throughout Marion County at a reasonable cost to individuals, families and business***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Adequate fiber, wireless
- **Technology**

Community Category: Affection

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Improve technology

Community Category: Respect

- Improved technology infrastructure
- Wireless infrastructure (quality)
- Technology
- Excellent communication infrastructure

Community Category: Power

- Electronic infrastructure
- **Better electronic infrastructure**
- **Better communication and information infrastructure**

Community Category: Rectitude

- Wireless community in Marion for students (similar to Pittsburgh)
- 

Community Category: Skills

More technology in county

Community Category: Enlightenment

***Marion residents throughout the County have access to **adequate and affordable water, sewer and other utilities*****

Community Category: Well-Being

- Adequate infrastructures, utilities
- Environmental planning for water and sewage
- Lower utilities (bills)
- Bigger water tower

Community Category: Affection

- More economical utilities
- Better water
- Continue to enlarge storm sewer capacity

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Good water supply – quantity and quality



- County wide sewer system (2)
- Better water
- More economic utilities
- Marion should purchase the water system
- Improved water & sewer

Community Category: Respect

- Water and sewer infrastructure is available throughout the County
- Water/sewer growth/improvement
- Water – draws people
- County wide sewer system
- Availability of water/underground resources

Community Category: Power

- Utilities to meet needs
- Drainage ditches adequate
- Maintain file tile
- Control of utilities
- Underground utilities must be protected
- Infrastructure – water and sewer
- Placement of cell towers where land can't be used for anything else
- Removal of flooding in western part of county

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Our sewer systems are updated
- Our utilities are reasonable

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Improved infrastructure, especially water & sewer
- Better phone company
- Competitive utility money

***County transportation networks are well planned, well maintained and adequate to meet the needs of residents and businesses***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Planned transportation improvements
- A solid infrastructure to provide service but also to draw industry and business interests
- Infrastructure needs developed
- Traffic plan
- The infrastructure to improve traffic flow and attract jobs

Community Category: Affection

Youth:

- Roads that aren't destroyed in town
- I would like the streets to be safer so the kids could play at their own pleasure
- Better roads

Adult:

- Better roads
- Better streets, better blocks

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Improved roadways
- A county which is willing to do the planning and make the financial commitment to develop and improve the infrastructure. Roads, utilities, etc.

Community Category: Respect

- Better county roads/wider/acceptable load limits
- Bridges up-to-date
- Better drainage in county ditch maintenance program (2)
- Underground utilities (2)
- Sensible transportation for all of Marion County/City
- Improve overall transportation

Community Category: Power

Community Category: Rectitude

- Better marked traffic lanes

Community Category: Skills

Community Category: Enlightenment

# COMPONENT: ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

## Theme: Economic Development

### I. What we value (question #1):

#### *Marion County is home to large, world class manufacturers*

##### Community Category: Well-Being

- Local industry and commerce
- Strong business community support
- Keep Marion's good paying large employers
- Whirlpool, Marion Steel and other must have the support of the community to be preserved for the future
- Marion County Job and Family Services do a good job trying to get people training, jobs, and off welfare
- Large Manufacturers
- Whirlpool
- Available jobs in town
- Banking

##### Community Category: Affection

- Keep jobs here
- Major corporation – Whirlpool

##### Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Whirlpool and other businesses
- Major corporation – Whirlpool

##### Community Category: Respect

- Employers
- Whirlpool as an economic engine with 3,000 jobs
- Major employer – Whirlpool (2)
- Manufacturing job base
- Central Soya/Bunge
- Good employers
- Our local employers care for their employees
- Wyandot Company treatment of employees after fire
- The smell from Central Soya
- Location within 600 miles of 80% of US population
- Good Labor-management relationship
- Marion recognized as marketplace for major businesses
- Business and industry

##### Community Category: Power

- Good jobs
- Whirlpool

##### Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Industry (revitalization)
- Whirlpool (2)

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Factories – old and new – Whirlpool, Industrial Parks, etc.

***Marion County values their small and locally owned businesses, appreciating the Mall and those small businesses in the Marion downtown and village centers.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Banking
- Shopping option
- Our downtown
- Local industry and commerce
- Family owned businesses – Crown tower
- Small businesses
- Close to restaurants and shopping

Community Category: Affection

- Mom and pop small businesses
- Grocery stores that people can walk to
- Resources for shopping
- Jerzee Ice cream shop

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Entire downtown
- Music downtown

Community Category: Respect

- Downtown (2)
- Southland Mall
- Chamber of Commerce
- Krogers
- Shopping centers
- Golf courses
- Mall for shopping
- Small mom and pop businesses

Community Category: Power

- Small businesses
- Businesses we presently have
- Local paper, radio and TV stations (2)
- Downtown Marion and small community's downtowns
- Shopping Malls
- Good places to eat
- Decent shopping
- Funding for downtown improvements
- Grocery store variety – organic

- Raceway in LaRue

Community Category: Rectitude

- Openness of community to grow
- Gold courses
- TV 39

Community Category: Skills

- Marion Town Center
- Whole Downtown atmosphere
- Music downtown
- The Mall

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Hometown daily newspaper
- Car show
- Fred Stewarts, Jerzee, smaller restaurants
- Marion Star
- Chamber of commerce
- Family owned businesses
- The Mall
- Radio Stations
- The media
- Accommodations – travel motels

***Marion County residents appreciate the county's affordable standard of living.***

Community Category: Skills

- Low cost standard of living

## **II. What we hope (question #2):**

***Marion County's economic base has a healthy high-tech industry sector***

Community Category: Well-Being

- High tech jobs
    - More high-tech industry and less government housing
    - High tech jobs with better wages and less pollution
    - Marion needs to gain more businesses and high tech employment to keep young people from leaving area for employment
- Jobs – high tech, high wages, enjoyable jobs that pay better  
Marion is attractive to outside businesses- skilled labor, competitive wages

Community Category: Affection

- High quality jobs for young people
- We have higher tech jobs and our children stay in the community
- Skilled workforce
- More high tech jobs

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- R & D businesses are attracted to Marion
- Skilled workforce

Community Category: Respect

- Good jobs – high paying, high tech
- Skilled manufacturing jobs

Community Category: Power

- High tech jobs (2)
- Better mix of low and high tech jobs

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Higher level of technical skills for workforce
- Entrepreneurship/global economy
- Educated workforce
- Hi-tech jobs

### ***Marion County businesses provide more high paying jobs***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Jobs that pay good wages
- There will be better jobs (higher skills, professional, entrepreneurs)
- We have the ability to attract quality jobs
- Jobs – enlarge the dual Railroad along Kellogg Parkway to bring in more jobs and better paying jobs. We have enough restaurants and pizza places
- Better business and job programs
- I hope Marion can bring in jobs that would be worth staying here to live
- More higher paying jobs. My children and grandchildren will not have a reason to stay in Marion, if there are not any jobs
- I would like to see better paying jobs for the community, not just more jobs
- Better paying jobs/more jobs in Marion (2)
- Better jobs (2)
- More jobs
- Higher paying industry/jobs so people want to live and work in Marion
- I hope the job market will improve tremendously from what it is now
- Good paying jobs – blue collar, professional, other
- Good paying jobs (2)
- Jobs that reflect the training provided to our children
- More jobs out there and other services for those who are less fortunate
- High based paying jobs
- Plentiful, available, variety of high-paying jobs
- Well paying blue collar jobs
- An emphasis on education brings high-paying job

Community Category: Affection

- Good paying jobs

- There must be productive jobs brought in so they may provide for their Family
- More jobs

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Living wage
- Good paying jobs (3)
- Jobs
- Workforce development (skilled people)
- Marion will attract business which provides income sufficient to support a family as it has in the past

Community Category: Respect

- Better paying jobs
- Quality jobs and restaurants
- Our pay scale is increased
- Increased median income

Community Category: Power

- More and better paying jobs
- Industry – good paying jobs
- Higher paying jobs
- Living wage
- Good livable wages
- Selective in jobs – decent wage and benefits – good tax base

Community Category: Rectitude

- Opportunity for good jobs

Community Category: Skills

- Better employment opportunities
- Professional positions
- Higher pay for unskilled labor
- Education and training for unskilled workers

Community Category: Enlightenment

***Marion County has a strong and diverse business structure***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Better quality businesses
- More businesses
- Columbus moving north will result in more industry (more industrial jobs available) locating in Marion County
- More corporations move to Marion and provide jobs
- Hopefully a better paying and larger number of employers – jobs
- Less temporary employment businesses – more permanent employment
- Thriving small business communities
- Industrial/commercial development in Marion city
- Prosperous
- Job market needs to expand
- Wide variety of jobs and industry

- Bring factory industry back
- Opportunities exist for those who do not seek education
- Diverse economic base
- Major league team
- Jobs that bring competition – economic and more choices for consumer
- Secure jobs
- More developed with jobs, education, infrastructure
- More corporations move to Marion County creating more jobs
- More business to come to Marion area
- The entire major business district is brought into the City of Marion – we must come into our own like Columbus and Delaware
- Marion's economy is stable
- More productive business for a better tax base. Better tax base will lead to better schools, law enforcement, streets and city services
- There will be more factories and industry in Marion to provide more jobs and tax revenue for the City and County

Community Category: Affection

- More industries
- Attractive employers
- Marion attracts more shopping, restaurants, recreation & industry to the area

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Sustained economic growth
- Attractive employers
- Stronger industrial base
- Better jobs and bigger companies
- Marion has a semi-pro baseball team: games have economic benefit and are family friendly
- More retail – outlet mall

Community Category: Respect

- Professional opportunities
- More white collar employment
- More presence of major corporations; more anchor businesses
- We will attract more diversified employers
- Attract more white collar jobs, so they don't have to go to Columbus

Community Category: Power

- Need jobs (variety)
- Minor league baseball team
- Industry

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Local jobs – keep economy
- We have more employment and a good standard of living
- Casino & race track (2)
- Job security & diversity of jobs

Community Category: Enlightenment



- New major manufacturing firms

***Marion County provides employment and business opportunities that keep our educated youth here***

Community Category: Well-Being

- An environment with economic diversity where education is highly regarded
- I hope that the youth of Marion County begin to have a stronger voice and impact on what goes on in Marion, so that they feel there are opportunities available that will keep them here, instead of losing them to other communities
- We have an ability to retain our own best and brightest in the job market
- The community has increased the opportunities available for youth

Community Category: Affection

- Keeping our youth

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Opportunities exist for all levels of education; jobs for college grads, etc
- We keep our youth in the county

Community Category: Respect

- There are jobs for our grand and great-grandchildren...higher level jobs that keep them here
- Higher level professional jobs are in Marion
- Professional opportunities
- Place to call home with viable employment
- We have jobs that keep our children here – professional jobs
- Good jobs and opportunities to work and live here
- More college level job opportunities – more diverse industry
- Value is placed on young working people
- Jobs that reflect the training provided to our children
- I hope that the youth of Marion County begin to have a stronger voice and impact on what goes on in Marion, so that they feel there are opportunities available that will keep them here, instead of losing them to other communities

Community Category: Power

- Plentiful jobs for young people – career ladder
- Jobs to keep children here – keep them from moving out – bring jobs back

Community Category: Rectitude

- Give apprenticeships

Community Category: Skills

- Keep educated people in community
- We are keeping our children here to grow our community
- A place that grand- and great-grandchildren will com back to and settle in after college

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Young adults will be retained in the community

***Marion's downtown is an attractive place where people and families shop and gather***

Community Category: Well Being

- Downtown is revitalized
  - There are many restaurants downtown
  - Large stores have been lured back to the downtown area, like Penneys, Sears, etc. The Malls are less important and the downtown has been recreated to be what it used to be years ago
  - More stores and restaurants that cater to the middle class and up generate additional commerce in the city
  - Trucks no longer have to drive through the downtown area
  - Our downtown has been repaired to make it more attractive to new businesses and to grow
  - Downtown has attractions beyond bars
  - Downtown Marion is rebuilt
  - Downtown Marion is going strong
  - We have a better downtown with:
    - Unique restaurants
    - Parking (more) garage
    - Renovated buildings
    - Less slum owners
    - More zoning of businesses
    - No tattoo parlors
- Night life  
Vibrant downtown  
Cleaner/more modern downtown  
More good places to eat and shop  
If Casinos become legal, tear down some uptown buildings and build a large one with parking garages (this will not only keep our gamblers here but will obviously draw in many more)

Community Category: Affection

- Marion has a true town center
- We have a downtown to be proud of
- Truck traffic has been taken out of the downtown
- The downtown is developed

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- More retail dollars are spent in Marion
- A true town center
- Downtown open after 5:00 pm
- Night life
- Traditions – parades, lights
- A comfortable downtown that invites you to park and spend time
- More and updated businesses downtown
- More incentives to shop downtown – longer parking
- Fewer lanes and no diagonal parking

Community Category: Rectitude

- Downtown revitalized
- Rezone adult entertainment out of downtown

Community Category: Respect

- Downtown entertainment district – helps keep youth in community and provides economic development opportunities
- Downtown has developed a niche that draws customers and defines Marion
- Marion is a retail trade zone for the region
- Professional employment opportunities exist in the core of the city
- Marion has entertainment/cultural opportunities, i.e. restaurants (hang outs), internet cafes
- Better downtown – more businesses, shops
- Renovated downtown buildings
- Enjoyable, thriving downtown

***A wide variety of retail development options exist throughout the County***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Plentiful retail choices
- Better distribution of retail around county
- Shopping and restaurants are spread out
- More shopping opportunities
- Restaurants (fine dining)
- Retail shopping growth
- Provide places for family entertainment
- Lots of good shopping, restaurants, and Sam's Club so Marion people don't go to Columbus/Polaris or Mansfield

Community Category: Skills

- Better stores/shopping/restaurants
- Develop West Side of Marion
- We have better restaurants
- We have better shopping – Target/Kohl's/Sam's Club/Macy's
- There is a grocery store in the Northwest/West area
- There are drug stores in the Northwest/West area
- Good retail/shopping opportunities
- Good restaurants
- Retail expansion – all stores (diversity, locally owned)
- Better retail space
- More quality restaurants

Community Category: Affection

- A real shopping mall
- Diversity of retail outlets; locally owned
- Variety in dining; ethnic, Tai
- More bookstores
- North, west and southwest business growth
- We have viable shopping centers
- There are more good restaurants – ethnic, independent

Community Category: Rectitude

- Major hotel – Convention Centers
- A better mall
- Better shopping
- Neighborhood business shopping

Community Category: Power

- Specialty shops and industry – closer shopping
- Quality shopping options
- Variety of stores – average (Kohl's)
- Business in empty buildings
- Olive Garden
- Better grade of hotels – cafes

Community Category: Respect

- More retail...department stores
- Better restaurants (beyond pizza & subs) – sit down
- Quality retail shopping
- Quality restaurants
- More shopping
- Revitalize Southland Mall
- We have better shopping – clothing, restaurants other than fast food
- More and better retail stores (men's clothing, women's clothing, and kids)
- Chocolate factory
- Professional office park near Marion Cardington Road
- Greater range of available goods and services
- Barnes and Noble
- Convention Center with 50 mile draw
- Revitalize mall area/south side of town –retail
- New businesses are promoted in county
- Provide places for family entertainment

***Supportive leadership and organizations exist to promote economic development***

Community Category: Respect

Industry friendly government  
Economic development thrust stays strong in the future; secure funding  
for Can Do

# COMPONENT: SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

## Theme: Historical and Cultural Preservation

### I. What we value (question #1):

*We value properties, memorials and landmarks that link us to our past particularly Old Towne Marion, The Harding Memorial and Home, Veterans Park and Palace Theatre*

Community Category: Well-Being

- Local memorials are nice
- Marion is full of rich history
- Downtown area is a very important part of the community
- History and pride of this area is extensive and virtually inspiring
- Want to see the progress that has started continue to bring history of Marion to forefront
- Commend those involved in refurbishing downtown area as well as the development of Heritage Hall, the Huber Museum and the picture book publication of Marion's history
- Keep the Old Town Marion
- The old homes in Old Towne Marion
- Palace Theatre (4)
- Historic Landmarks (3)
  - We have many landmarks that make our history in Marion
  - Marion does a good job of preserving our historical landmarks
  - Landmarks – history and feeling of community
- Harding Memorial and Harding Home (3)
  - Support for Harding Memorial
  - I value the landmarks such as the Harding Home and Memorial
  - People come from all over to see Harding's Home and Monument
- Harding Home (5)
- Harding Memorial and area
  - Harding Memorial area remains as a place of beauty
- Veteran's Park (3)
  - Support for Veteran's Park
- Marion has a lot of great history in old buildings – I would like to see preserved
- A place that remembers and preserves its historical character and yet adapts to the future
- Value areas in and around Marion – that are considered landmarks (i.e. Memorial) – can stay that way
- Stengel & Huber, Heritage Hall
- Museums (3)
- History
- Historic places
- Historic Sites
  - Preserve historical sites in Marion County

- Marion County's sense of pride in our past and the traditions that we hold dear seem most valuable. The fact that this county chooses to constantly recognize our history and prominent citizens that made a difference in the lives of the people.
- Preserve historical locations
- Turning Point (2)

Community Category: Affection

- Keep the Palace Theater (4)
- Palace and historical sites
- Historic churches
- Power Shovel Administration Building
- Veteran's Park
- Heritage Hall
- History and traditions – memorials, festivals
- Harding Memorial
- Palace (3)
- Library
- Courthouse (2)
- Union Depot
- Harding Home (2)

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Veteran's Park
- Harding Hotel
- Palace Theatre (6)
- Palace and historical sites
- Palace Theatre and other historical structures
- Olde Towne Marion – Historical buildings
- Harding Memorial
- Harding Home
- Harding Center
- Historic sites/homes
- All of Marion's history (2)
- Historical Society and Museum
- Churches – older ones – structure and architecture
- History – President
- Courthouse

Community Category: Respect

- History – Harding Aura
- President Harding's heritage – Memorial and Home
- Harding Home and Memorial
- Harding Memorial (5)
- Harding Home (4)
- Palace Theatre (5)
- The Palace and the arts
- Palace Theatre – cultural center
- Veteran's Park/Memorial (2)
- Historical sites
- Historic landmarks
- Heritage Hall (2)
- Cemeteries

- Older homes
- Stengel & Huber Museum – historical artifacts and significant architecture
- Boulevard – well maintained historical
- Veterans Park
- Funeral homes
- Courthouse (3)
- Turning Point (1)

Community Category: Power

- Historical heritage
- Palace theatre (5)
  - Palace Theatre is a landmark
  - Keep old post office structure, hospital, Palace, farmland, Harding Mem.
- Quarry Park – preserve for future children
- Historic homes
- Historic – sell it
- Stengel True Museum open at Christmas
- Museum, Heritage Hall, Railroad station, True
- Quarry park (2)
  - Enhance
  - Old Post Office
- Harding Home and Memorial (3)
- Courthouse
- Carnegie Library

Community Category: Rectitude

- Historical sites
- The Harding Memorial
- Palace Theater
- Heritage Hall
- Hotel Harding
- The “old” Court House

Community Category: Skills

- Harding Home
- Palace Theater (3)
- Historic buildings (3)
- Veterans Memorial Park

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Historical landmarks (2)
- Palace Theatre (3)
- Harding Memorial
- Courthouse
- Union Station

## II. What we hope (question #2):

***Marion County historic properties, downtowns and neighborhoods are well preserved and maintained***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Tying historic sites together more often
- It would be nice to have a museum or something set up to honor the relevance of the train system in Marion
- Preserve the county's historical sites while growing to encourage job development
- Downtown area is preserved, yet improved and expanded
- Olde Towne Marion houses should all be preserved and kept nice
- There should be a program that preserves and works on keeping Old Towne Marion a part of history – keep it cleaned up
- Put requirements on development building codes so that new development is aesthetically pleasing and blend with Historical Landmarks, such as the Harding Memorial
- Keep up with the refurbishing of the older properties
- Expand the hours of operation and display area of the Historical Society (perhaps make use of the old YMCA?); they are unable to properly display the numerous items they hold

Community Category: Affection

- Hessing and Cooper Building preserved
- Buildings downtown are preserved
- Indian Mounds are protected

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Preservation of the old American Shovel Building
- A community that preserves the historic character of the downtown
- Cemetery/historic quarry
- We have a Railway Museum
- Marion is Museum Capital of Ohio

Community Category: Respect

- Area around Harding memorial and Cemetery – remains non-commercial area
- Open historical sites so they are easier to visit
- Vital historic downtown
- Downtown – retail, historic value; preserve history
- Protection of our heritage in the county
- Historical values

Community Category: Power

- History of Marion County – where people came from

Community Category: Rectitude

- Do something with Verizon/GTE building on Delaware Avenue and improve/preserve aesthetics of area and Harding Memorial
- Preserved historical buildings

Community Category: Skills

- The Palace Theatre (2)
- The Harding Home
- The Historical Society
- Vet Memorial Park
- Marion Cemetery



- History/historic significance/preservation

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Palace Theatre is renovated

## Theme: Education

### I. What we value (question #1):

*We value our rural schools*

*We appreciate strong educational programs for students of all ages*

*Marion County is home to quality institutions of higher education and skill development*

Community Category: Well-Being

- Two colleges
- OSUM and MTC (4)
- Ohio State
- Educational system – local, OSU Marion, MTC

Community Category: Affection

- Our higher education capabilities – OSUM, Marion Tech, Tri-Rivers
- Expanded campus opportunities (OSUM Dorms, etc.)
- OSU Marion – bigger & better!
- Educational system – preschool to college
- Albers Scholarships
- Higher education

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Post secondary schools
- OSU Marion & MTC; they help us afford to do what we do
- Schools – all levels (OSU, MTC)
- Access/support to higher education for the older/non-traditional student
- Higher education
- OSU

Community Category: Respect

- Higher Education/academics (2)
- OSU Extension
- OSU Marion and Marion Technical College (2)
- Ohio State education – training right in Marion
- Accessible to higher and continuing education
- Education facilities at all levels – higher education
- Opportunities for four year degrees and technical degrees
- Access to post secondary education
- 

Community Category: Power

- OSU Marion and MTC (3)
- Tri-Rivers

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Marion OSU campus
- Colleges

Community Category: Enlightenment

- OSU Marion (2)
- Tri-Rivers and MTC
- OSU Marion/MTC

***We appreciate our safe, smaller local schools, rural school system, our new educational facilities and variety of educational programs. We appreciate the continuum of educational opportunities from K thru 12, post-secondary and continuing education.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Educational opportunities (3)
- Continue on with the school programs of safety-city and educational programs
- Educational facilities
- The strong educational system
- State-of-the-art technology and up-to-date technology in the school systems allow children the best opportunity to compete in college and the job market
- New schools
- Local school buildings in small towns
- Rural school system
- A good school "potential"
- Education
- Safe place for children to go to school
- Rural schools
- Quality of public schools

Community Category: Affection

- Quality education and access to career pathing
- Pre-school services for special needs kids
- Grant Middle School
- Sound educational system

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- High quality public school systems (2)
- Good parochial schools – parents have options
- Sound educational system
- School system

Community Category: Respect

- Educational facilities; K and up (2)
- Quality schools
- Schools (city and county) – high quality
- Smaller graduating class sizes; 100-200 kids (K-12)
- Schools have good, sound educational programs and special needs programs
- Don't have big city challenges in schools

- School/community involvement
- Education from pre-school through OSUM and tech school
- Educational opportunities – K through college

Community Category: Power

- Educational system – secondary and post secondary
- Good schools (K – 12)
- Well funded schools
- Diversity of schools: city/county/parochial/home schooling
- Educational system – OSUM thru grade schools

Community Category: Rectitude

- Educational system all tied together

Community Category: Skills

- Education system: K-continuing education
- New schools
- All of our schools – OSU, public schools
- Strong schools

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Public school systems
- Catholic schools
- New schools buildings

## II. What we hope (question #2):

***There are a wide variety of different types of educational opportunities in Marion County beyond high school***

Community Category: Well-Being

- There are choices in higher education
- OSUM is expanded and more BA's and Master Degrees are done locally without going to main campus
- Bigger and better OSU and MTC programs
- We have continued expansion of secondary educational offerings (OSUM, MTC, Tri-Rivers Adult Education, etc.)

***Education is valued by youth and adults in Marion County***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Attractive benefits are available for kids who graduate; the community focuses more on kids
- Our community persuades students to value education; for those who do not seek it, opportunities exists for them to thrive also
- Our community is a place where future generations have hope and a sense of opportunity, a chance to make a good living, and the opportunity for higher educations. Our schools are the key for this

***Our schools are excellent through wise allocation of financial resources, expansion of academic offerings and variety of terminal degree offerings from OSU Marion and quality K-12 curriculums***

Community Category: Well-Being

- We have educational excellence (2)
- Our school systems educate youth about local politics and encourage students to become involved at an early age
- Our schools allocate resources to what matters in addition to buildings
- Our schools allocate money to attract good teachers
- Outreach programs are target to students who are at risk
- There are better educational opportunities
- There are many new schools and they will be great for many more generations
- Our teachers are better paid and trained
- Our local schools are strong
- Good educational system
- Good schools
- Our educational system is the best it can be
- We have great school systems with small classrooms
- Our growing community values family and education
- Our educational system score high in academic programs
- Our schools make our community attractive to outside businesses
- Consolidation of schools – eliminate county superintendent
- More green space – educational
- Our schools are consolidated

Community Category: Affection

- Our community supports quality education
- Schools and home schoolers collaborate
- Required education for parents
- Heavy parental involvement in schools
- Great efficiency in school's administration
- Consolidated schools
- Partnerships exist between Marion Tech and OSU Marion (OSUM should accept Marion Tech)
- Nicer, bigger school busses
- Schools are smaller and promote morale
- We take care of our children by providing them with GOOD education and alternative types of education, and this promotes the future of jobs in Marion
- We are a warm community with ample choices for education

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Prayer is back in schools
- We have quality schools and quality teachers
- Schools are consolidated
- Higher education is available
- Expanded OSUM campus with housing

Community Category: Respect

- OSU Marion becomes an integral part of the community

- OSU Marion is a full-service university (beyond “branch”)
- OSU Marion plugs into OSU efforts in Columbus – biotech, tech centers, etc. Will provide career development/job opportunities
- Marion has educational opportunities
- Education – City/County
- Quality education – expanded options
- Schools are consolidated
- Education – quality/efficient/equitable funding
- We are better educated
- University has residential dorms
- Marion has an OSU or another university Agricultural Center (like Wooster)
- High school, college, and tech grad rates increased
- Schools are combined
- Continued expansion of secondary educational offerings (OSUM, MTC, Tri-Rivers Adult Ed, etc.)
- Great school systems, small classrooms
- An educational program that scores high in academic programs

Community Category: Power

- Continue educational excellence in all levels
- Emphasized value of education
- One combined school
- Waldo has their own school
- Prevailing wage applied to school construction
- Combined school systems cut costs

Community Category: Rectitude

- Opportunity for student activities
- Continued affordable secondary education
- Safe passages to and around schools
- Consolidate schools into city and county system

Community Category: Skills

- Stronger support for secondary education
- Use MTC & OSUM to recruit business and industry
- Schools will become community centers for parent involvement
- Higher education
- Strong schools
- Schools are combined
- Strong community/school partnerships

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Expansion of OSUM & MTC for more curriculum
- Education standards are raised; we achieve academic excellence rating
- OSU Marion Campus has residence halls for students
- Our public school systems (K-12) have better academic results

***Residents and state leaders provide adequate and stable funding***

Community Category: Well-Being

- There is funding for schools

- Schools are well funded allowing reasonable cost for extra-curriculars, like sports
  - Adequate school funding eliminates the need to “pay to play”
- The education system survives
- Our businesses are more productive, leading to an expanded tax base and better funding for schools
- School funding is solved
- Taxpayers are willing to support our school systems
- We invest in our local schools
- Education is supported by local residents; school levies are supported and passed

Community Category: Affection

- School community understands customer service and recognizes that tax payer is the customer
- Our schools explain funding
- Consolidated administrative structures and taxing districts of schools

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Improved (reformed) school funding
- Our schools are well funded and funding is stable
- Schools are funded without voters
- Administrative structures and taxing districts of schools are consolidated

Community Category: Respect

- Funding of local education – D-12 tax levies pass
- Our schools are financially secure
- Fixed funding for schools
  - Consolidation of schools (superintendents, etc.)
- Education will once again have support from the local residents (i.e. school levies will once again be supported and passed)

Community Category: Power

- Low student-teacher ratio
- Financially stable schools and well managed

Community Category: Rectitude

- Fund schools with sales tax to help farmers (go away from property taxes)

Community Category: Skills

- Funding for/of education
- Our schools are solvent
- Adequate funding for service/education

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Schools are well funded
- Our public school system is funded by an income tax

## Theme: Housing

### I. What we value (question #1):

***Marion County residents value the cost of housing compared to the Columbus housing market, diversity of housing prices and preservation of existing housing***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Homes and property privacy-my "place to go"
- Neighborhoods (caring)
- Affordable housing
- Less restrictive regulations
- Zoning regulations
- I value how the city has made a push towards cleaning up neighborhoods by tearing down old dilapidated buildings and moving junk cars
- More residents are developing a sense of pride and restoring their homes and becoming involved in the community
- Elderly housing/communities such as Seaton Square, Marion Towers, the Harding Center and the assisted living facilities also

Community Category: Affection

- Architecture

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Real estate values compared to Columbus
- Housing at different price levels
- 

Community Category: Respect

- Pride of inner city housing
- Neighborhoods that provide middle class housing
- Housing at different price levels
- Affordable housing

Community Category: Power

- Cleanliness
- Cultural Diversity

Community Category: Rectitude

- Senior housing, safe and secure

Community Category: Skills

- Housing starts/upscale houses/apartments and condos
- Visual appearance of West End Street Boulevard



Community Category: Enlightenment

- Preservation of historical homes and buildings

## II. What we hope:

### ***Marion County and it's communities have effective and enforced building and zoning codes***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Planned development for residential and commercial
- We have zoning and building codes
- Code for dilapidated structures
- Enforce existing code for trash and junk
- Put a maximum number of houses or condos that could be built to keep open space and farmland
- Improve housing and rid the blight areas. Tear down houses so neighborhoods are more attractive to families. (2)
- Residents make their neighborhoods look nicer in appearance and increase morale of neighbors
- I hope in the future Marion is a cleaner nicer community. People need to clean up their homes now. There are so many beautiful homes going to waste
- A cleaner community with fewer cars parked in yards; caring for property (4) removing trash

Community Category: Affection

- Building codes (2)
- Take down deteriorated houses
- Well maintained homes and rentals

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Reasonable building codes (3)
- Decent Housing
- Marion has an effective zoning and building code
- Substandard homes are rehabilitated
- Landlords who do not keep properties are encouraged to, and there are controls over landlords.
- Housing developments have sidewalks
- A county where people take pride in their property and respect other people and their property
- Building codes

Community Category: Respect

- Marion has a residential building code (2)
- Elimination of public eyesores (housing)
- Zoning/building codes (2)
- City-wide beautification
- Clean-up slum areas
- Maintain personal property rights
- 

Community Category: Power

- Have and enforce a building code (3)
- Zoning for future affordable, quality housing
- Maintaining zoning
- Sidewalks and curbs

Community Category: Rectitude

- Enforceable building code
- Enforceable sound code
- Remove condemned housing

Community Category: Skills

- Building codes-----strip malls

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Clean up of blighted areas

***There is a variety and diversity of housing types that reflect differing income levels, availability of apartment living, housing for senior citizens, park space in new developments and integration of landscaping***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Safe affordable housing (2)
- Good real estate, i.e. housing available
- Move away from increasing government housing which attracts drugs and crime and increase of welfare programs
- More elderly apartment buildings

Community Category: Affection

- More housing for low income
- Parks in new developments
- All mansion----no cheap housing
- Better security in all houses
- Quality affordable housing

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Parks in new development
- Decent Housing
- New homes are built for low income through community organizations and land is turned over for their use
- Eliminate all above ground utilities
- Housing developments have sidewalks
- University has residential dorms
- Affordable housing
- Sidewalks and curbs in all neighborhoods

Community Category: Respect

- Adequate attractive housing for factory workers
- Develop effective housing

- More retirement/nursing facilities
- More housing (low maintenance) for retirees
- Our neighborhoods have age diversity
- Expanded luxury accommodations for seniors (housing & services)
- Affordable housing
- Renewing community
- Reasonable utility rates
- Affordable senior citizen housing in surrounding cities
- Establish a building allowance per year to better support services

Community Category: Power

- Affordable housing, quality
- Neighborhood restoration
- Preserve historic homes

Community Category: Rectitude

- Pleasing community entrances
- Community gardens
- Affordable housing
- More affordable rentals

Community Category: Skills

- Sidewalks-----more funding by tax dollars
- We have adequate affordable housing

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Apartment complexes without income standards

## Theme: Agriculture & Rural Character

### What we value (question #1):

*Marion County residents appreciate our agricultural heritage and the presence of rural areas embodied through farmland.*

#### Community Category: Well-Being

- Rural atmosphere, yet close to city – Marion to Columbus
- Agricultural community
- Not crowded – more rural
- Rural farms
- Predominate rural atmosphere
- Large and small farms
- Local agribusiness – Bunge, Egg Farm
- Family farms
- We are losing our open farm land. We need to keep it open
- Rural atmosphere
- County land – leave the city in the city
- Agricultural base (2)
- Diverse economic base

#### Community Category: Affection

- Cows in backyard
- FFA Program
- OSU Extension/4H
- Marion County Fair
- Agricultural base
- Rural atmosphere/elements
- 

#### Community Category: Wealth-Poverty

- Agriculture – rural living

#### Community Category: Respect

- Maintain our “rural” areas (2)
- Preserve our rural atmosphere
- Farmland
- Wide open spaces – preserve farmland
- Our family farms
- The closeness (proximity) of the city and rural environment
- Agricultural flavor in the country side – view scenery
- Preserve the land (farm land, etc.)
- Livestock production
- Agricultural based industry
- Chicken farm

- Respect, admiration for ag community
- Lawrence Orchards
- Preserve farming

Community Category: Power

- Farming community
- Farms, green space, "no" stairs (?)
- Farmland preserved
- Open space – living in country

Community Category: Rectitude

- Farmland

Community Category: Power

- Agriculture and ag businesses
- Good grain markets

Community Category: Skills

- Blend of rural and urban
- Our farmers

Community Category: Enlightenment

## **What we hope (question #2):**

### ***Agriculture is a viable contributor to Marion County's economic base***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Preserve access to production agriculture
- Family farms are supported
- Marion County uses agricultural districts to enhance agriculture
- Keep agricultural base

Community Category: Affection

- Cows in backyard

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

Agricultural base is still 80% of county

Community Category: Respect

Opportunity to make money from agriculture

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

Community Category: Respect

Community Category: Power

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Preservation of rural life/environment

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Preserve small town environment
- Maintain Small town atmosphere

## Theme: Community Life & Values

### I. What we value (question #1):

***We value Marion County's small town atmosphere, close to urban amenities, where people care about their neighbors, accept diversity, give back to the community through their time, and give time to friends, family and children.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Small town atmosphere (4)
  - Small town atmosphere, but still having the resources we need
  - I value the small town attitude of Marion, and at the same time having the big town services readily at hand (this is why I like the Fahey Bank slogan so much..."small town banking—world wide capabilities")
  - I appreciate not living in a Metropolis...but not being Mayberry either
  - Marion County epitomizes mid-size, middle class America
  - Small town morals
  - Small town environment
  - Small towns
  - Small town character
  - Small town values
- Charity and caring
- Warmth – friendly people (hometown atmosphere)
  - Friendly people
  - The hometown feeling about Marion
  - Small hometown community
- Smaller community – individuals have more influence
- Parent involvement – quality time
- I value the way this community hangs together. If there is a big need, a crisis, etc., you can count on Marion County to come through
  - I value the way this community rallies around those in need
- Caring for people will still be here
- Volunteers
- Privacy
- Family and friends – quick access
- Small town feeling with business on the outside

Community Category: Affection

- Caring people
- Courtesy for funeral processions
- Small town feel (2)
- Sense of community
- Life style
- Tolerance
- Family-friendly atmosphere

- Willingness to reach out to diverse groups

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Unity of community
- Small town charm
- Emphasis on family and family values
- The way people support initiatives in the community, with money and volunteertime
- Small town values; family, church, community schools, know your neighbors
- Family is here, friends are here, this is home
- Small town feel/values – you know people, they know you
- Attitude of people to help one another
- Sense of community
- Small town feel – easy to get around and get things accomplished

Community Category: Respect

- Citizens
- Retain the atmosphere and “community”
- Sense of community (2)
- Friendly people
- Small town atmosphere (2) – drive by waving
- Family orientation of community
- Friendliness – small town feel
- Friends/relationships (friendly community)
- Average citizen more involved
- People up front with opinions and thoughts
- Freshness, honesty
- Pluck of community – overcome difficult times. Chutzpah
- Sense of community – friendliness, caring, community pulls together

Community Category: Power

- Feeling of community
- Keep our small communities but still make them feel a part of our larger community
- Small town feeling
- Community support in emergencies – outreach
- The people
- Caring, compassionate people
- Community values – doing things right, respecting people
- Hometown values
- Feeling of home, family, community
- Size – friendly

Community Category: Rectitude

- Diverse community – people
- The attitude of the people who are willing to help one another
- Community friendliness

Community Category: Skills

- Preservation of rural life/environment
- Small town feel/atmosphere/similar values
- Sense of community



- Independence of community
- People who support community – volunteerism/fellowship
- Conservative community (thrifty)

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Community mindedness
- Size of community is “just right” – not too big, not too small
- People who stay here get involved in the community
- Volunteerism
- Community cooperation
- Generosity, both personal and business

***Marion County residents value their religious institutions and religious values are an important part of their personal and community life.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Church

Community Category: Affection

- Religious base = cooperation
- Salvation Army
- Churches
- Religious heritage

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Churches (2)

Community Category: Respect

- Churches (2) (lots of)
- Churches – values, morals, family ties, work culture, ethics
- We have over 100 churches
- Churches and religious community – diversity of types of worship (2)
- Churches are focal point of social activities

Community Category: Power

- Faith based community
- Churches

Community Category: Rectitude

- Christian community we presently have in Marion
- Christian TV Station
- Messiah Production
- Churches
- “Behold the Lamb” Production – “How Great Thou Art”
- Christmas Parade

Community Category: Skills

- Keep our beautiful Churches

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Churches

***We appreciate Marion's festivals, the arts and culture, and community events***

Community Category: Skills

- Popcorn Festival (2)

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Popcorn Festival

Community Category: Respect

- Popcorn Festival
- Museums/cultural heritage

Community Category: Well-Being

- Arts
- Popcorn Festival with its free entertainment

Community Category: Affection

- Popcorn Festival (2)

**II. What we hope (question #2):**

***Marion County residents recognize and celebrate their religious and cultural diversity***

Community Category: Well-Being

- We will be a diverse community – successful, ethnic
- Family Christian based values
- Strong churches
- I would love to see a more “equal” representation in all areas of city and county government and city and county services of the minority community. Not a lowering of standards to fill quotas, but an active search and recruitment for qualified persons to fill these positions.

Community Category: Skills

- There are more faith based activities
- Spiritual growth
- Open to diversity and new cultures: Cultural events; Religion
- Support for minorities
- Integration of ethnic cultures

Community Category: Affection

- More resources for our Hispanic Families to learn English

***Marion has a wide offering of cultural programs***

## **Theme: Visionary Leadership**

### **What we value (question #1):**

***We value our public leadership in Marion County including elected/appointed officials and leadership in the service sector, all of whom recognize the importance of responsiveness, networking and collaboration.***

Community Category: Well-Being

- I value our local political system and City Council members specifically
- They are truly people who are concerned about this community and its residents.
- Support for United Way
- There seems to be great networking between many different agencies and groups
- What I value about Marion is how easy it is to contact our elected

officials, whether it is city or county

Community Category: Affection

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- How well agencies and organizations in town work together and collaborate; we are small enough to do that, and we know each other

Community Category: Respect

- Accessibility to all levels/components of leadership
- Enthusiasm of community leaders toward change
- CD/ED Planning and Elected official teamwork
- Elected officials
- Common sense approach in running schools/government

Community Category: Power

- Township trustees

Community Category: Rectitude

- Governmental cooperation

Community Category: Skills

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Marion leadership

## What we hope (Question #2)

***Marion governmental and educational services are effective and efficient, avoiding duplication, and local leadership is of quality and competent***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Government is consolidated
- Less control by the politically elite and economically elite that effect the aforementioned programs, attitudes, etc.
- Better City money management

Community Category: Affection

- Consolidated government
- Broader base of quality candidates
- Grumpy old white men are not elected for political office

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Eliminate township trustees
- More communication, better initiatives with positive outcomes
- Consolidated government
- Consolidation of government – city/county
- Consolidate government – city/county/village
- Elected officials with vision
- Broader base of quality candidates

Community Category: Respect

- Restructured, integrated city/county government
- Marion Township and City are integrated – as a first step. There is strong government in the central area
- Metropolitan government is consolidated (combined city/county)
- Townships are eliminated
- Consolidated government and services
- Consolidation of government
- Government consolidation and fire department consolidation
- Visionary public officials
- Marion County has a wider world view
- Stable, solvent government
- Solid, good leadership
- Diversity (age and culturally) of decision makers
- Less overlapping government – consolidation of fire district, consolidating of school district
- Unified government countywide
- Township and village government
- Cooperation among city and township with unified vision
- More involvement in community by corporate leaders
- Less political subdivision in city/county

Community Category: Power

- Cooperative local and community government elected officials
- Consolidated government – strong fire district, law enforcement and schools
- Town Hall meeting
- In 6 months have another meeting to see where this is going
- Eliminate duplicate services in our community

Community Category: Rectitude

- Community political involvement – “neighborhood meetings”
- Mayor to give state of the City address on television

Community Category: Skills

- Better cooperation between agencies and governmental groups
- Need vision/model/identity – identify and support
- Eliminate/reduce personal agendas of government leaders
- Less talk/more action – implementation
- Look outside Marion County/Ohio for solutions
- United community vs. divisive
-

## Theme: Social Services

### I. What we value (question #1):

#### *Marion County residents value the presence of quality health care and medical services and facilities*

Community Category: Well-Being

- Smith Clinic
- Emergency services cooperation
- Medical Facilities
- Health care-cardiology excellence
- Hospitals

Community Category: Affection

- Hospitals
- Health care facilities
- Accessibility to quality health care

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Medical facilities (2)
- Hospitals
- Health care facilities
- Honest and caring government services and hospitals
- Medical facilities....hub for surrounding areas

Community Category: Respect

- Quality health care (2)
- Marion General Hospital-health care with high quality and local
- Health care facilities
- Convenient medical attention
- Marion General Hospital
- Medical facilities-hub for surrounding communities

Community Category: Power

- Quality of our health and extended care system
- Good doctors and hospitals
- Affordable medical care
- Have doctors downtown
- Hospital and healthcare

Community Category: Rectitude

- The medical facilities

Community Category: Skills

- Health care system and doctors
- Medical community, hospital
- Medical community needs to unite
- Medical facilities
- Private doctors

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Hospital
- Medical services
- Medical facilities/advancements

***Marion County residents value the presence of a quality law enforcement and fire services that creates a safe community***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Safety
- Safety-police programs
- The crime rate is considerably low
- Local volunteer fire department station
- Volunteer fire department and safety services
- Overall respect for law enforcement
- I have always been impressed with the excellent working relationship that is present with the local law enforcement. I was never so proud to be an officer then during the Deputy Winfield's murder investigation and funeral. (2)
- Support of law enforcement (3)

Community Category: Affection

- Safety
- Safety and security

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Emergency response
- Safe community
- Police and fire departments...safety
- Low crime rate
- Emergency services
- Fire protection and EMS

Community Category: Respect

- Police and fire service
- Our professional law enforcement
- Fire protection and EMS
- Low crime rate-feel safe
- Safety of families
- Freedom of fear

Community Category: Power

- Low crime rate (2)
- Fire protection
- Law enforcement and safety services
- Fire departments
- Good law enforcement
- Safety; can walk downtown and not worry

Community Category: Rectitude

- Maintain but continue to pursue diversity in our police, sheriff and fire departments
- Safety; police etc.

Community Category: Skills

- Emergency response
- Safety

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Low crime compared to bigger cities
- City service-fire and police
- Safety and security

***Marion County residents value the presence of a library system, fraternal organizations and a strong social service network***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Social Services and programs
- Integration of community agencies is very well done and is necessary to continue if Marion is to reach it's full potential
- Safety services work well together (4)
- United Way programs and distribution of monies
- Social services...United Way and Children Services
- People are giving...financial. United Way

Community Category: Affection

- Service clubs
- Social services community involvement
- Old downtown library
- Senior Center (2)
- Hardin Hotel for Seniors
- Social services community relationships
- Services for low income folks and children
- Public library access

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Libraries (2)
- Fraternal organizations
- United Way
- Community Agencies
- Support services for families and seniors

Community Category: Respect

- Good network of community services
- Helping agencies
- Library-culture, resources and programming (2)
- Fraternal organizations and charities bring people together and provide money
- Marion Community Foundation
- Public and OSU libraries
- Our social service agencies work well together
- Social services United Way and Children Services



- United Way, Goodwill and other social agencies

Community Category: Power

- Library and their affiliates (2)
- Access to handicapped-sidewalks
- Support of disadvantaged; elderly
- Senior Center
- Library and book sale
- **Non-profit organizations that serve our citizens. All of the volunteers, donors, etc.**

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- Social support programs
- Library (2)

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Post office
- Library (2)
- Day care centers are good
- Fraternal organizations

## II. What we hope (question #2)

***Marion County and its communities have an affordable medical system that provides diverse, quality state of the art services***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Affordable health care (2)
- There is affordable, accessible quality health care
- Places for help with mental health resources
- Community will be smoke free
- Better medical care-urgent care facilities
- Medical research
- Continuation and expansion of medical services like more rehabilitation facilities, cardiac education, cancer research, mental health hospital
- Medical care and good quality physicians

Community Category: Affection

- We have an STD Clinic
- There are lice prevention and education programs
- There are comprehensive sex education programs
- Free prenatal clinic
- More pediatricians and physicians with better attitudes
- More therapists...OT, PT, Speech
- Quality medical care affordable
- A federally qualified health center
- Adequate wellness education...diet, smoking and weight

- Dental care for low income kids and families

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Healthcare
- Smoke free environment
- Better and more access to affordable medical services

Community Category: Respect

- Health care is specialized
- Very good health facilities
- Wellness of individuals is enhanced
- Medical care and good quality physicians
- Affordable health care
- Cheaper prescriptions
- Affordable medical care for senior citizens
- Medical groups that are willing to work together for better health care
- Strong, independent, private practices in medicine exist

Community Category: Power

- Reliable medical facilities
- Clinical training locally
- Affordable health care
- Decent place to live (schools, hospitals, doctors)

Community Category: Rectitude

- Urgent care center and education to use it
- 24 hour pharmacy
- People donate money to free clinics for better pay and buildings

Community Category: Skills

- Our kids are healthy
- More affordable health care (2)
- Emotionally healthy kids
- More medical variety, doctors
- There are more vets

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Expanded hospital services for youth
- Continued growth in medical services
- We are a smoke free community

***Marion County and its communities have an efficient safety system that provides coordinated services***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Safe community (2)
- Safety
- Safe secure community
- Peace and harmony with all mankind
- Support for law enforcement
- Most of all I want Marion to be a safe palace for families.

- Staffing safety services is approaching the needs level. This should be evaluated on a regular basis.(4)
- Like to see a community/police positive interaction. CPAAA is an excellent start
- Lower crime rate (2)
- A better relationship between police and MCSD
- Better juvenile system....lacks direction and penalties
- Emergency services cooperation
- Centralized 911 system
- Countywide fire department and EMS
- Consolidation emergency response
- Safe, clean community

Community Category: Affection

- More patrolling for residential and downtown
- Fire station northwest of Marion
- Safety and security
- Consolidated public services

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Law and firemen to grow with town
- Marion County remains a safe place to live
- Safety and security
- Have a safe community

Community Category: Respect

- Place to feel safe
- Marion County is safe
- Safe, clean community (2)
- Improved public safety for all of county
- Our first responders for our public safety departments receive cross training
- Consolidation of EMS and Fire Departments ---consolidation with health departments

Community Category: Power

- Better law enforcement to western Marion County
- Remain as safe as current
- Consolidation of fire departments, police departments ,local government, health departments

Community Category: Rectitude

- Unified countywide safety services
- Police and fire departments get raises

Community Category: Skills

- We are a safe place
- Vibrant and safe place to work

Community Category: Enlightenment

- Security for schools and business

***Marion County social service providers are able to grow at a rate necessary to expand their current level of programs and services***

Community Category: Well-Being

- Library
- Extensive integration of social assistance and services
- Good social services base in community
- Marion needs to expand and not have different government bodies (townships, cities, and county) fighting each other. Stops growth
- I hope the city and county work well with each other and their employees
- Support for those in need
- I hope that financially stable people help the less fortunate through means of their time and money

Community Category: Affection

- System that takes care of senior citizens
- Affordable, quality daycare
- Pest control for families that can't afford it
- There are support groups for parents who have autistic and down syndrome children
- Support for families
- Low teen pregnancy rate

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- Funding for Marion Public Library
- Keep meal sites and home delivery
- Youth services programs... "Partners for Success"
- Social support systems for the elderly
- Consolidated public services

Community Category: Respect

- 

Community Category: Power

Community Category: Rectitude

Community Category: Skills

- We place more value on our elderly
- Childcare
- Day care
- Better care of youth through latchkey program

Community Category: Enlightenment

# COMPONENT: SUSTAINABLE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

Theme: Planning

## II. What do you hope (Question #2):

*Residents of Marion County support and encourage land use and **sustainable** community planning initiatives are undertaken*

Community Category: Respect

- Marion supports real land use planning
- Marion has a regional plan
- There is a community commitment to future/process
- Marion remains a sustainable community – new urbanism

Community Category: Affection

- Planned growth
- Community plan for intelligent growth

Community Category: Power

- Land use plan
- Land use plan that protects our farmland
- Large regional planning efforts
- Better planning of cell tower locations (local input)
- Control/planning for commercial corridors
- Compactness of city and villages – encouraging urban renewal, i.e. maintaining farm land
- **Rezoning to include annexation**
- **Flood control – flood plan modifications**

Community Category: Well-Being

- We have a community plan
- Marion makes positive growth a major priority

Community Category: Skills

- Focus on integrated community planning: transportation, utilities, economic (measurable, feasible, manageable)
- Market the community plan
- Better access to transportation plan
- Urban renewal

Community Category: Wealth/Poverty

- User friendly community layout – with service roads – destination roads
- A renewing community

- Remain a sustainable community – new urbanism
- Have a community that already is new urbanism and sustainable Model
- Improved transportation traffic plan
- Marion has a land use plan that makes sense; for residential/commercial; identifies where we can build
- Comprehensive master plan
- Progressive plan/land plan

**EXHIBIT**  
**EnVISIONing the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**  
**Marion Sustainable Visioning Sessions**  
**Final Status Report - February 10, 2006**

<b>Community Sector and Category</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Organization/Entity</b>	<b>Facilitator(s)</b>	<b># participants</b>
<b>Wealth/Poverty</b> Chamber Industry Small Business Community Action Landowners Insurance Foundations Consumers	9/30/04	Downtown Merchants and Building Owners	Lucinda Floyd	32
	10/19/04	Downtown Retailers & Promotions Group	Lucinda Floyd	27
	10/20/04	Marion Chamber Board	Pam Hall	12
	1/11/05	Marion Chamber Agra-Business Council	Pam Hall & Bill Hudson	18
	2/7/05	Marion Manufacturer's Council	Myra Moss, Pam Hall & Larry Morse	16
	3/9/05	Community Action Meal site	Roxanne Sumerlat & Bill Hudson	38
	5/10/05	Marion Industrial Club	Larry Morse, Pam Stone & Dena Hook	73
	6/21/05	Marion Realtors Association Picnic	Pam Hall, Larry Morse & Bill Hudson	34
			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Well-Being</b> Recreation Law Enforcement Emergency Services/Fire Solid Waste Management/Recycling Health	9/27/04	YMCA Board	Roxanne Somerlat & Pam Stone	12
	11/18/04	Mental Health Case Workers	Dena Hook	26
	11/18/04	Counselors/Therapists	Dena Hook	26
	12/13/04	Red Cross Staff, Board & Volunteers	Pam Stone & Roxanne Somerlat	17 Surveys

	Date?	Marion City Police Dept. Employees	Pam Hall & Major Robbins	42 Surveys
	3/17/05	Scioto Valley Volunteer Fire Dept.	Bill Hudson	12
	3/14/05	Fort Morrow Volunteer Fire Dept.	Bill Hudson	16
	3/14/05	Prospect Volunteer Fire Dept.	Bill Hudson	17
	3/14/05	Green Camp Volunteer Fire Dept.	Bill Hudson	12
	4/5/05	Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Dept.	Bill Hudson	12
	4/4/05	Morrall Volunteer Fire Dept.	Larry Morse	19
	7/6/05	Smith Clinic Middle Management	Bill Hudson & Pam Stone	23
			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>234</b>
<b>Enlightenment</b> Universities Research Organizations Media	Date?	OSU Marion Staff	Debbie Shade & Karen Ream	30
	11/18/04	Clear Channel Staff	Debbie Shade	15
	5/24/05	Marion Star	P. Hall, M. Moss. G. Sims & B. Grunkemeyer	29
			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Rectitude</b> Religious Organizations Ministerial Associations Other	11/19/04	TV 39/Christian Television Network	Rev. Lippert, Elder Frank O'Brien, Bill Hudson, Bill Grunkemeyer, Myra Moss	30 (est.)
	2/21/05	Oakland Methodist Church	Bill Hudson, Larry Morse & Rev. Lippert	32
	8/7/05	Black Ministerial Association	Elder Mayes & Larry Morse	7
			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Skills</b> Public Schools	9/13/04	Junior Services Guild	Dena Hook & Lois Fisher	26



Non-Public Schools Career Centers/Tech Schools/Workforce Dev.	12/21/04	Marion Technical College	Debbie Shade	40
	4/13/05	Marion City School Administrators	P. Hall & D. Hook	20
			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Power</b> City/Village Councils Planning Commission Court System Human Services Township Trustees	2/2/05	Marion County Democratic Party	Bill Hudson & Myra Moss	25
	2/17/05	AFLCIO	Dena Hook & ?	20
	3/17/05	Marion County Trustees Association	Pam Hall, Dave Lippert, Dena Hook & Harry ?	54
	3/21/05	Marion County Republican Club	P. Stone, B. Hudson & L. Morse	40
	4/05	Survey of Marion County Juvenile Court		20
	2/27/05	Regional Planning Commission	P. Hall, B. Grunkemeyer & L. Morse	20
	6/1/05	Caledonia Village Council	Larry Morse & Bill Hudson	7
	7/8/05	Green Camp Village Council	Rev. Lippert & Larry Morse	8
			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>194</b>
<b>Affection</b> Youth Families Senior Citizens 4-H	Date Unk.	Parents of Children Birth – Three Years	Dena Hook & Lois Fisher	15
	9/9/04	Middle School Students	Dena Hook & Lois Fisher	54
	4/13/05	Junior Fairboard	B. Hudson & D. Rasmussen	48
	10/20/04	Marion Mental Health Consumers	Lois Fisher & Dena Hook	18
	11/18/04	Senior Citizens	Lois Fisher & Dena Hook	325
	Date?	Group?	Facilitator?	#?

	12/13/04	Survey of Girl Scout Leaders	Pam Stone & Roxanne Somerlat	6
	1/27/05	Families & Children First	Pam Stone & Roxanne Somerlat	14
	2004	Youth Focus Group Participants		10
	9/9/05	Marion High School Students (survey)	Dena Hook and Tara Dyer	89
			<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>569</b>
<b>Respect</b> Citizen Groups Service Clubs Civil Rights Groups	4/23/04	EnVISIONing the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Board & other community leaders	Pam Hall, Myra Moss & Bill Grunkemeyer	21
	10/21/04	Marion Leadership Class	Pam Hall & Myra Moss	21
	12/14/04	Rotary Club	P. Hall, P. Stone, M. Moss, B. Hudson, B. Grunkemeyer, Others	92
	5/3/05	Ridgedale Lions	B. Hudson & L. Morse	20
	2004	Lions Club/Green Camp	Rev. Lippert & Shawn Keller	20
	5/10/05	River Valley Lion's Club	Rev. Lippert	6
	4/25/05	Noon Lions Club	D. Rasmussen & B. Hudson	14
	4/14/05	Prospect Lions Club	L. Morse & B. Hudson	19
	2/17/05	Farm Bureau Board of Directors	Pam Hall & Bill Hudson	22
				<b>Subtotal:</b>

**Summary:**

**1. Total # of Groups: 55**  
**2. Total # of Participants: 1711**

**3. Total # of Facilitators: 17**  
**4. Youth: 201**



