

CITY OF POQUOSON CITIZENS' SURVEY 2017

Dear Citizen,

The following household survey is being conducted as part of Poquoson's Comprehensive Plan Development process. The overall objective of this survey is to obtain public input on specific issues of land use and community development, to guide the future vision of Poquoson as set out in our Comprehensive Plan. **This survey should take about fifteen minutes to complete.** Please ensure your vision for our City's future is considered by completing this questionnaire and returning it in person or via the enclosed return envelope, **no later than June 20.**

For the following questions, please circle the number that best reflects your level of agreement with the following statements. If you are undecided or not sure, please leave the question blank.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Development Aesthetics:					
1. Poquoson's current commercial buildings are of a quality standard appropriate for our City's image.	5	4	3	2	1
2. Poquoson has attractive main streets and gateway entrances.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Poquoson should require higher architectural and landscaping standards in non-residential areas.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Poquoson should invest public funds to plant trees and add quality landscaping along our main streets.	5	4	3	2	1
Smart Growth					
1. It is more important to preserve trees and open space than it is to have more development.	5	4	3	2	1
2. It is important to have less development in Poquoson even if it means we pay more in taxes for services.	5	4	3	2	1
3. New developments should be more compact to make them more walkable and preserve more open space.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Construction of sidewalks in Poquoson is a high priority.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Construction of bike paths in Poquoson is a high priority.	5	4	3	2	1
6. Poquoson currently has a town "center" that serves as the "heart" of our community.	5	4	3	2	1
7. Poquoson should concentrate new development into a walkable "downtown" for citizens to meet, shop, and gather.	5	4	3	2	1
Shopping and Businesses					
1. Existing shopping and businesses in Poquoson meet my needs.	5	4	3	2	1
2. I would like to have more businesses in Poquoson so that I would not have to leave Poquoson to shop.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Poquoson would benefit from more fast food and chain restaurants.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Poquoson would benefit from more chain retail stores.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Having small, locally-owned businesses is better than having big chain stores in Poquoson.	5	4	3	2	1
6. Local businesses and small stores are important indicators of Poquoson's well-being.	5	4	3	2	1

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	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Housing and Residential Development					
1. Zoning codes should be amended to allow renovating or modifying existing homes into apartments or duplexes.	5	4	3	2	1
2. Zoning codes should be amended to allow for new smaller single-family homes on smaller lots.	5	4	3	2	1
3. New multi-family apartments and townhomes should be permitted along Wythe Creek Road and Victory Blvd.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Poquoson needs more modest "starter homes" for young families with school-age children.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Poquoson needs more independent and assisted living options for retirees and the elderly.	5	4	3	2	1
Storm Flooding and Sea Level Rise					
1. Residential and commercial development should not be allowed in areas that are susceptible to flooding.	5	4	3	2	1
2. Poquoson should promote living shorelines and preserve tidal wetlands as a buffer against flooding.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Poquoson needs stricter limits on paving and other development activities that increase stormwater runoff.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Future development should be encouraged in areas of higher ground within Poquoson, such as the Big Woods.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Poquoson is currently doing a good job maintaining roadside drainage ditches to prevent storm flooding.	5	4	3	2	1
Conservation and the Environment					
1. Clear-cutting of woodlands should not be allowed in Poquoson.	5	4	3	2	1
2. Poquoson should incentivize private landowners to plant trees and preserve woodlands.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Poquoson should coordinate more efforts to clean up trash along local waterways and shorelines.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Poquoson should champion the preservation and restoration of shellfish populations in local waters.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Poquoson should encourage using natural methods to control mosquitoes, such as dragonflies and bats.	5	4	3	2	1

Thinking about the future, please clearly write in your answer to the following open-ended questions:

1. What new retail businesses and commercial establishments would you like to see in Poquoson? Please be as specific as possible.

2. What new restaurants and entertainment venues would you like to see in Poquoson?

3. What new cultural, arts, and educational enterprises you would like to see in Poquoson?

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4. The City of Poquoson currently owns 8 acres in Big Woods directly north of City Hall Avenue. How should this property be developed? Please be specific.

5. What types of new land use or development, if any, would you support at Messick Point?

Ranking Questions:

1. Which of the following commercially zoned areas in Poquoson would be the best location for small shops, stores, and restaurants? Please rank the 4 options from 1 to 4, where 1 is your most preferred location and 4 your least preferred location.

- Waterfront areas like Messick Point, Rens Road, and Browns Neck Road
- Along Wythe Creek Road
- Victory Blvd and the Big Woods
- Poquoson Ave, near Hudgins and Odd Road

2. Where should new sidewalks be built in Poquoson? Use the same ranking as the previous question.

- Poquoson Ave, Little Florida Road, and Odd Road (to connect the schools)
- Victory Blvd
- New residential developments
- Older residential neighborhoods

3. Please rank the following communication strategies the City of Poquoson could use to strengthen its ties with city residents. Please rank the options from 1 to 6, where 1 is your most preferred strategy and 6 your least preferred strategy.

- An online City newsletter
- Text alerts for City events and important dates
- Periodic town hall meetings with elected representatives and City staff
- A prominent outdoor electronic message board advertising important events
- Televised broadcasting of additional City boards and commissions
- Posting online minutes and agendas of additional City boards and commissions

Choice Questions:

1. From the following list, please number **up to five** types of land use which you feel would be most appropriate for the Big Woods area of Poquoson. Rank the types you choose in numerical order, where 1 is the land use you would most like to see.

(Number up to five)

- Single-family homes
- Multi-family homes
- Professional office space
- Commercial/retail space
- Medical facilities
- Light industrial or research space
- A public park, field, or community center
- Public/private recreational or sports facilities
- Undeveloped conservation space (maintained at public expense)
- Mixed-use development including open space, shops and residences

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2. Please review the following 11 attributes and number **up to five** that you feel best describe Poquoson's "small town atmosphere." Rank the types you choose in numerical order, where 1 is the statement you feel best describes Poquoson.

(Number up to five)		Small geographical size
		Low density of homes and stores
		Peace and quiet
		A smaller, friendly population
		Smaller roads and less traffic
		Lots of trees and open space
		A low crime rate
		A good school system
		Responsive local government and public services
		Strong civic institutions, like clubs and churches
		Good neighborhood character

Demographic Questions (Circle each answer which applies to you)

What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18 to 34
- 35 to 54
- 55 to 65
- 65+

How long have you lived in Poquoson?

- Less than 1 year
- 1 to 5 years
- 5 to 10 years
- 10 to 20 years
- Over 20 years

Do you work in Poquoson?

- I work in Poquoson
- I work outside the City
- I am currently not working
- I am currently retired

Do you own a business based in Poquoson?

- Yes
- No

How many children in your household are enrolled in, or are planning to attend, Poquoson's public schools?

- None
- One
- Two
- Three or more

Space for additional comments:

Thank you for completing our survey! Please send your responses back to us in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope, no later than June 20.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact the Poquoson Department of Community Development at 757-868-3040.