

Landscapes3 Community Health Survey Results

Q1 - There is sufficient public parks and open space for active and passive recreational use in Chester County.					
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count			
Strongly Agree	11.4%	9			
Agree	32.9%	26			
No Opinion	13.9%	11			
Disagree	32.9%	26			
Strongly Disagree	8.9%	7			
	answered question	79			
	skipped question	0			

Q2 - There should be more public parks and open space for active and passive use by Chester County residents.					
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count			
Strongly Agree	33.3%	26			
Agree	41.0%	32			
No Opinion	17.9%	14			
Disagree	6.4%	5			
Strongly Disagree	1.3%	1			
	answered question	78			
	skipped question	1			

Q3 - More multi-use trails should be developed to connect multiple destinations including schools, libraries, parks and other community related facilities.					
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count			
Strongly Agree	59.5%	47			
Agree	34.2%	27			
No Opinion	6.3%	5			
Disagree	0.0%	0			
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0			
	answered question	79			
	skipped question	0			

Q4 - What is your preference relative to the proximity between where you live and where a multi-use trail would be located?						
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count				
Within Walking/Biking Distance	58.2%	46				
Within Driving Distance	24.1%	19				
Right Next to Me	12.7%	10				
No Preference	5.1%	4				
	answered question	79				
	skipped question	0				

	ı	2	3	4	Rating Average	Response Count
Multi-Use Trails	43	12	14	4	1.71	73
	58.90%	16.44%	19.18%	5.48%		
Neighborhood Parks / Playgrounds	17	29	24	8	2.29	78
	21.79%	37.18%	30.77%	10.26%		
Passive Recreation / Open Space	11	25	21	17	2.59	74
	14.86%	33.78%	28.38%	22.97%		
Active Recreation Fields (baseball, soccer, etc.)	5	8	16	44	3.36	73
•	6.85%	10.96%	21.92%	60.27%		

Q6 - Do you have any additional comments on parks and open space in Chester County?					
Answer Options		Response Count			
		26			
	answered question	26			
	skipped question	53			

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 26 comments were submitted.

A goal to consider is an active recreation fields/centers in each township/municipality with connected to neighborhoods and other concentrated population centers by multi-use trails

Keep the open spaces! Downingtown is turning one of our only open spaces into a disc golf course, and now my children will have fewer opportunities to enjoy the space.

Walking/Biking trails are important for health, transportation, and tourist attractions.

I like natural, nature oriented parks, not places that have been artificially levelled for sports fields.

I think all of the above answers to number 5 should be a priority because it will keep our youth off the streets and doing something positive with their lives. Swimming, exercise and other family related activities should be included also.

You're doing a great job so far! With so much pressure on development, there is never too much open space. Need better parking.

Multi-used trails have been shown to increase property values according to the ULI.

Would like to see every resident in easy walking distance to a park, additional non-sport programming at parks.

I'd love it if you could connect up the biking trails - Struble and CVT for example.

The Chester Valley Trail is great, but I wish I could get to it without driving.

We have wonderful parks and trails. Plus there is the preserved open space. More downloadable maps with details for the areas would be helpful. More links on the county webpage to the other parks and organizations in Chester county.

The park by Ship road and Swedesford road should be focused on for completion. This could be a valuable space for residents that is being ignored.

Keeping making more trails!

I am disappointed by the increase in development in the East Whiteland area.

The parks I have visited are well maintained. Please keep those "doggie clean up" bag dispensers stocked!

Keep up the good work...more open space, less Mcmansions.

I rate neighborhood parks 1st because I believe they are most likely to promote a sense of community....which will decrease over time unless the leaders take active steps to help a sense of community flourish.

I appreciate the Commissioners' commitment to continue funding open space and trails.

The parks and trails close to my home consist of walking paths that are circular or end abruptly after a few feet of walking. I would love to have a two or three mile trail close to my home in the Parkesburg area.

This plays an important role for getting people active as part of a healthy lifestyle. Can't be enough.

Desperately need improved and more park and playground facilities in low income communities like Coatesville.

Q7 - Chester County is a safe place to walk and bike.						
Answer Options	Response Percent	Respons Count	е			
Strongly Agree	10.5%	8				
Agree	39.5%	30				
No Opinion	5.3%	4				
Disagree	38.2%	29				
Strongly Disagree	6.6%	5				
	answered question		76			
	skipped question		3			

Q8 - The bicycle and pedestrian network in Chester County is well connected to encourage active transportation, such as walking and biking to work and/or school.					
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count			
Strongly Agree	5.3%	4			
Agree	7.9%	6			
No Opinion	9.2%	7			
Disagree	65.8%	50			
Strongly Disagree	11.8%	9			
	answered question	76			
	skipped question	3			

Q9 - Chester County's public transit system is convenient and reliable for its users.						
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count				
Strongly Agree	1.3%	1				
Agree	8.0%	6				
No Opinion	26.7%	20				
Disagree	48.0%	36				
Strongly Disagree	16.0%	12				
	answered question	75				
	skipped question	4				

% 22 % 31	15 2.39% 22 1.88% 17	15 22.39% 11 15.94% 17	6 8.96% 10 14.49% 11	4 5.97% 6 8.70% 6	3 4.48% 1 1.45% 3	2.49	67 69
% 31	22 1.88% 17	11 15.94%	10	6 8.70%	1 1.45%		69
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Q11 - Please prioritize the locations where bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements should occur to encourage active transportation (1 being the highest priority and 4 being the lowest priority).						
Answer Options	1	2	3	4	Rating Average	Response Count
Suburban areas close to urban centers	26	34	8	0	1.74	68
	38.24%	50.00%	11.76%	0.00%		
Urban centers	26	11	18	13	2.26	68
	38.24%	16.18%	26.47%	19.12%		
Suburban areas that are far away from urban centers	11	19	34	4	2.46	68
	16.18%	27.94%	50.00%	5.88%		
Rural areas	8	5	7	51	3.42	71
	11.27%	7.04%	9.86%	71.83%		
	·	·		answere	d question	72
				skippe	d question	7

Q12 - Do you have any additional comments on active transportation in Chester County?					
Answer Options		Response Count			
		18			
	answered question	18			
	skipped question	61			

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 18 comments were submitted.

In regard to rural areas - a focus on two lane country road improvements to widen enough to provide more shoulder room & maintained in good condition. More attention to tar & chipping operations to significantly decrease size of stone, roll to compress and sweep or gather excess.

Green street scape amenities should be considered when planning future sidewalk connections. More permeable asphalt sidewalks would help reduce the amount of runoff created by new paths.

The lack of sidewalks and bike lanes (or even shoulders) in residential areas make it extremely unsafe to walk or bike to parks, trails, and urban centers in the area.

There's already too much transportation in Chester County.

The need for safe bike lanes.

Rt 82 needs at least a road shoulder and maybe a bike/walking lane on both sides of Rt. 82 from Coatesville to Strasburg Rd. in East Fallowfield.

Wish the train service was better, esp. Sunday service for Thorndale/Coatesville SEPTA. Good bus connections at train stations. Bus service in more rural areas like where I live in western Chester Co.

There should be serious consideration to widening all roads to make them safer for walkers and bicyclists.

You can have the best trail from a to b and its useless if there is no bike parking at b.

Sidewalks are desperately needed, but there is such limited space in the older developments and roads. Swedesford/Darby Road is a great example. The Y is near it, bikers use the road and it has no shoulder or even sidewalk. It would be nice to be able to walk from Route 30 to the Y or to Saint Norbert, safely.

Widen the 2 lane county roads! E.G. Goshen Road, Reservoir Road, 282, etc. There is very little room for cyclists who seem to appear out of nowhere when I am driving.

Provide a grant for specific discounts on bicycles or create a bicycle exclusive day within the week

I do not feel safe riding a bike near vehicle traffic in Chester County due to the lack of signage, lights, and reliable paths. The bus stops are even worse, often being dropped off at stops that do not have pedestrian paths or sidewalks.

Any improvements that will make bike riding along county roadways safer is a must.

A few of the roads that our citizens bike on are very dangerous. Biking groups should be educated on different routes.

Trails, biking and walking related activities/improvements are important, but not the most needed in the County. Public transportation is a greater need.

There is a need for bike lanes or wider shoulders on rural roads in CC.

Q13 - There are many locations in Chester County where residents may 'age in place' within their communities.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	2.7%	2
Agree	37.0%	27
No Opinion	34.2%	25
Disagree	21.9%	16
Strongly Disagree	4.1%	3
	answered question	73
	skipped question	6

Q14 - It is important to retain the ability to remain in your current residence as you age.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	34.2%	25
Agree	47.9%	35
No Opinion	11.0%	8
Disagree	6.8%	5
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
	answered question	73
	skipped question	6

Q15 - It is important that your community offer accessibility to services (including health and human services, public transportation, and healthy lifestyle options) to help the aging population remain in their current community.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	47.9%	35
Agree	45.2%	33
No Opinion	2.7%	2
Disagree	2.7%	2
Strongly Disagree	1.4%	1
	answered question	73
	skipped question	6

Q16 - It is important to stay connected in the community as people age.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	58.9%	43
Agree	38.4%	28
No Opinion	2.7%	2
Disagree	0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
	answered question	73
	skipped question	6

Q17 - If yes, how do you see older residents accomplishing that?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Volunteer	40.8%	29
Program Participant	29.6%	21
Other (please specify) - See below	11.3%	8
Advocate	7.0%	5
No Opinion	7.0%	5
Through Social Media	4.2%	3
	answered question	71
	skipped question	8

Other:
All or most of the above (3)
Interest groups established and maintained
Easy transportation, education for public awareness
Walkable communities where people can interact with neighbors even when programming or events are not happening.
Through Church, YMCA, volunteering, older adult communities

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	31.5%	23
Agree	47.9%	35
No Opinion	12.3%	9
Disagree	8.2%	6
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
3, 3	answered question	7
	skipped question	

Q19 - It is important that your community be walkable and safe for older residents (proper lighting, ADA accessibility, provision and maintenance of sidewalks, etc.).

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	60.3%	44
Agree	37.0%	27
No Opinion	2.7%	2
Disagree	0.0%	0
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
	answered question	73
	skipped question	6

Q20 - Do you have any additional comments on aging friendly communities in Chester County?		
Answer Options		Response Count
		7
	answered question	7
	skipped question	72

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 7 comments were submitted.

Good infrastructure for active transportation in aging communities is friendly for all ages.

Chester County has many aging friendly communities, but already developed communities with aging people living in them should be updated.

I think the lighting and sidewalks are critical for all ages, not just older residents.

The concept is to keep older adults happy and healthy. It's preventative medicine!

We need to do all we can to keep seniors independent.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	13.9%	10
Agree	59.7%	43
No Opinion	9.7%	7
Disagree	15.3%	11
Strongly Disagree	1.4%	1
<i>5, 5</i>	answered question	7
	skipped question	

Q22 - Chester County residents have adequate access to healthy and affordable food.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	13.9%	10
Agree	56.9%	41
No Opinion	13.9%	10
Disagree	12.5%	9
Strongly Disagree	2.8%	2
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q23 - Food insecurity (the inability to consistently get food) is an issue in Chester County.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	5.6%	4
Agree	38.9%	28
No Opinion	18.1%	13
Disagree	31.9%	23
Strongly Disagree	5.6%	4
<i>5.</i>	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q24 - Please rank which aspects of food access you would like to see better represented in Chester County. (1 being most important, 5 being least important)							
Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Fresh, healthy food provided to children in need	29	15	12	9	3	2.15	68
	42.65%	22.06%	17.65%	13.24%	4.41%		
Farm markets	28	8	15	12	4	2.34	67
	41.79%	11.94%	22.39%	17.91%	5.97%		
Food bank/cupboard access	7	23	12	15	13	3.06	70
·	10.00%	32.86%	17.14%	21.43%	18.57%		
Raised bed/gleaning program participation	4	11	18	22	13	3.43	68
	5.88%	16.18%	26.47%	32.35%	19.12%		
Produce auctions	2	12	11	8	33	3.88	66
	3.03%	18.18%	16.67%	12.12%	50.00%		
						d question d question	71 8

Q25 - What are your concerns, if any, regarding access to fresh and local food for Chester County residents who are food insecure?			nd
Answer Options		Respons Count	
		27	
	answered question		27
	skipped question		52

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 27 comments were submitted.

Cost.

Helping provide the means for self-sufficiency through community gardens placed closer to where they reside.

Getting fresh, healthy food. Food banks are good for canned goods but not always healthy.

There are plenty of food stores and produce markets in the area. No need for change.

Farmers Markets can be expensive.

Lack of transportation access so those who need to utilize food banks can get there, especially for those not living right in the boroughs of Coatesville and Phoenixville.

Use food trucks to bring fresh and local food to food insecure areas.

It is a shame that the Coatesville Farmers Market couldn't thrive. I at times shopped there, and also gave organic gardening instruction there through a grant. Maybe there needs to be more p.r. about benefits of local farmers market, even school nutrition and organic benefits instruction to involve younger people to get the message to their parents.

Access and affordability.

NOT ALWAYS ACCESSIBLE FOR WALKING/ BIKING.

Need easier access.

Matching the people who need the food with the services.

I think that Chester County does this pretty well, especially compared to neighboring areas.

The access to fresh, locally grown produce is limited.

The ability for them to gain access to the food locations.

The only city in the county, Coatesville NEEDS adequate food access for its citizens.

Fresh and local food is too expensive for food insecure residents. There needs to be more education regarding the importance and use of fresh and local food.

Lack of easy public transportation to/from underserved areas to food sources.

It is less accessible, lower quality and more expensive in lower income areas.

It's important to realize there are groups of people in Chester County that don't have sufficient food... and that doesn't get lost in trying to look at the big picture.

Health issues that may arise from insufficient nutrients and an abundance of processed foods, herbicides, pesticides, etc.

Residents of the City of Coatesville do not have access to a grocery store that offers fresh and local food. The Food Cupboard does offer opportunities to have access to fresh and local food, but the access is not year round or daily. Residents of Coatesville and seniors living in rural communities need to have access to grocery stores.

Transportation to connect the food with those in need

Shopping opportunities in some Boroughs and the City that do not require a car.

I am concerned that the food insecure population is also limited in their transportation so the ability to walk to food banks and farm stands is critical.

Q26 - Do you have any additional comments on food access and distribution in Chester County?		
Answer Options		Response Count
		10
	answered question	10
	skipped question	69

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 10 comments were submitted.

No need for change.

Use food trucks to bring fresh and local food to food insecure areas.

The traveling produce vans are terrific! It's all coming together, but I think the farmers' market issue is important.

Teach and encourage people how to grown their own food and maintain community gardens.

Chester County is dedicated to helping all people in need.

This section, like the others can be answered in different ways depending on what "residents" we're talking about.

Transportation inhibits access to affordable food options

Q27 - Chester County provides quality access to community services and facilities such as the library system.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	27.8%	20
Agree	51.4%	37
No Opinion	12.5%	9
Disagree	8.3%	6
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q28 - Chester County provides quality access to community services and facilities such as YMCA's and Community Centers.			
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	
Strongly Agree	20.8%	15	
Agree	47.2%	34	
No Opinion	13.9%	10	
Disagree	18.1%	13	
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0	
	answered question	72	
	skipped question	7	

Q29 - Chester County provides quality access to community services and facilities such as hospitals, medical facilities, and urgent care facilities. Response Response **Answer Options** Count Percent 26.8% 19 Strongly Agree 37 52.1% Agree 11.3% No Opinion 8 7 Disagree 9.9% 0.0% 0 Strongly Disagree

answered question

skipped question

71

8

Q30 - Chester County provides quality access to community services and facilities such as schools, the CC Intermediate Unit, and other education facilities.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	27.8%	20
Agree	50.0%	36
No Opinion	15.3%	11
Disagree	6.9%	5
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q31 - Appropriate human services programs addressing physical, mental, and behavioral needs are available to Chester County residents.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	11.1%	8
Agree	38.9%	28
No Opinion	34.7%	25
Disagree	9.7%	7
Strongly Disagree	5.6%	4
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q32 - Emergency service providers (fire, police, ambulance) in Chester County maintain adequate response times to emergency situations.			
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	
Strongly Agree	22.2%	16	
Agree	51.4%	37	
No Opinion	23.6%	17	
Disagree	2.8%	2	
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0	
	answered question	72	
	skipped question	7	

Q33 - Regionalization of emergency services (fire, police, ambulance) needs to increase to ensure a cost effective and appropriate emergency response.			
Answer Options Response Percent Count			
Strongly Agree	27.8%	20	
Agree	26.4%	19	
No Opinion	31.9%	23	
Disagree	11.1%	8	
Strongly Disagree	2.8%	2	
o, c	answered question skipped question	72 7	

Q34 - Do you have any additional comments on community services in Chester County?		
Answer Options		Response Count
		23
	answered question	23
	skipped question	56

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 23 comments were submitted.

Don't know if regionalization ensures a responsive emergency service. If the experts recommend this, then I agree.

We need more access (i.e., immediate access) to mental or behavioral support services. When an emergency occurs, it can take weeks to get an appointment. The option seems to be emergency room admission, which then overloads the hospital system, and doesn't get the patient the help they really need.

Your survey asks about quality access. It should ask about equitable access.

Too many separate police departments within a 10 mile radius.

Exton library is crowded and the hours are not adequate. Need to be open at least the same as the mall.

There is always room for improvement when emergency services for the residents is concerned.

More funding, education and outreach for the drug epidemic. One of the wealthiest counties with a huge drug problem...Regionalization of police, fire and EMS services are long overdue. More incentives for volunteers on the county level to volunteer and maintain commitments.

A better township cost sharing model needs to be developed to maintain quality emergency services.

Services such as the YMCA are too expensive for low income residents.

The balkanization of ambulance services puts residents at risk.

The mental health safety net is in need of an all hands review with a long term improvement plan.

Response times are excellent however fireman response in the absence of water due to lack of public water or pump trucks in all areas makes fireman response meaningless.

I am unsure of emergency service response time for the majority of Chester County. Luckily, I live down the street from a firehouse, but others may not. Regionalization of emergency services may offer some consistency across Chester County.

Behavioral/Mental Health is a huge need and there are not enough resources in Chester County to meet that need.

There is a need for public transportation throughout CC and especially Southern CC to access services.

CCIU is fabulous and we have some of the best schools in the commonwealth but there is significant disparity between the funding for schools like Coatesville vs Unionville. That means that there are Chester County children who are being short-changed in one of the wealthiest counties in the U.S.

Transportation is a barrier to services, libraries, medical care.

The County should look to provide or augment emergency services.

We need more police staffing throughout the county and fire services should be full time paid positions.

Q35 - Resiliency to climate change should be addressed within the built environment (flood control / stormwater management structures, transportation infrastructure, etc.) to minimize potential negative environmental, social and economic impacts (including decreased air and water quality, an expanded spectrum of diseases, heat related illnesses, etc.).

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	44.4%	32
Agree	41.7%	30
No Opinion	6.9%	5
Disagree	4.2%	3
Strongly Disagree	2.8%	2
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q36 - Landscaping - including proper lighting, shade trees and planting buffers between incompatible land uses - improves the overall beauty and aesthetics of a community and makes it a more desirable location to live, work, and play.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	51.4%	37
Agree	41.7%	30
No Opinion	5.6%	4
Disagree	1.4%	1
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q37 - Social equity (providing equal consideration for all demographics) should be more actively addressed in Chester County land use planning decisions.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	43.1%	31
Agree	30.6%	22
No Opinion	15.3%	11
Disagree	8.3%	6
Strongly Disagree	2.8%	2
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q38 - Decreased air quality and implications for individual health are major concerns in Chester County.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	18.1%	13
Agree	33.3%	24
No Opinion	25.0%	18
Disagree	20.8%	15
Strongly Disagree	2.8%	2
	answered question	72
	skipped question	7

Q39 - Decreased water quality and implications for human consumption are major concerns in Chester County.		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree	25.4%	18
Agree	35.2%	25
No Opinion	19.7%	14
Disagree	18.3%	13
Strongly Disagree	1.4%	1
	answered question	71
	skipped question	8

Q40 - Do you have any additional comments on environmental health in Chester County?			
Answer Options		Response Count	
		9	
	answered question	9	
	skipped question	70	

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 9 comments were submitted.

Always important to pay attention to our air and water quality.

More priority should be given to places like Coatesville.

In general a terrific environment to live. But transportation aspect for more rural areas important, and the emphasis on buses and trains rather than cars. The TMACC does a good job - I just wish there was funding available for more futuristic - Rt. 202 corridor transit, e.g., and Rt. 30 and Rt. 340 public transit. When one sees what's available overseas, can't help wishing for better here.

Go after the utility companies who routinely violate clean air standards - Columbia Gas Eagle, Pa (Emissions) and some of the mushroom growers in the southern end of the county. At times the stench is unbearable - it can't be good for you despite what the farmers say.

Modernized, less invasive, environmentally friendly storm water management regulations need to be implemented.

I have lived in 10 states and find Chester County's environmental health to be the best I have seen.

Decreased air and water quality is a problem for some people located in old industrial cities that have declining factories. We should be studying the asthma and cancer rates of those communities to prepare for future problems.

Q41 - How are you involved in Community Health? (Please check all that apply.)			
Answer Options	Response Percent	Respons Count	е
Elected Office	3.5%	2	
Advocate	17.5%	10	
Government Official	19.3%	11	
Professional Career	42.1%	24	
Volunteer	36.8%	21	
Student	1.8%	1	
Other (see below):	10.5%	6	
,	answered question		57
	skipped question		22

Other:
Concerned citizen
Non-profit employee
Public
Very Active user of trails and parks in Chester county
Former township supervisor
Non-profit land trust employee- planning and landowner

Q42 - Any additional comments		
Answer Options		Response Count
		6
	answered question	6
	skipped question	73

Representative comments are provided below, in order of submission. 6 comments were submitted.

Additional consideration for solar energy and water quality should be considered in our current planning process.

I am an organic gardening instructor for wellness programs, libraries, the Coatesville V.A. Medical Center, Chester Co. Hospital, and other entities. I wish there were more funding for my services and others, to reach far more people county-wide and more ways to promote such services. I think this activity is extremely important for the future of the region, the country, the world. It's a fantastic educating tool for not only health and nutrition, but exercise, good water use, and good mental health.

Please address better road and signal signage.

Chester County is a great place to live...always room for improvement.

We need better public and community buy-in on the L3 comprehensive plan whenever it is released. This involves active promotion and awareness campaigns.