



Town of Barrackville

Comprehensive Plan

Final Draft
September 2022

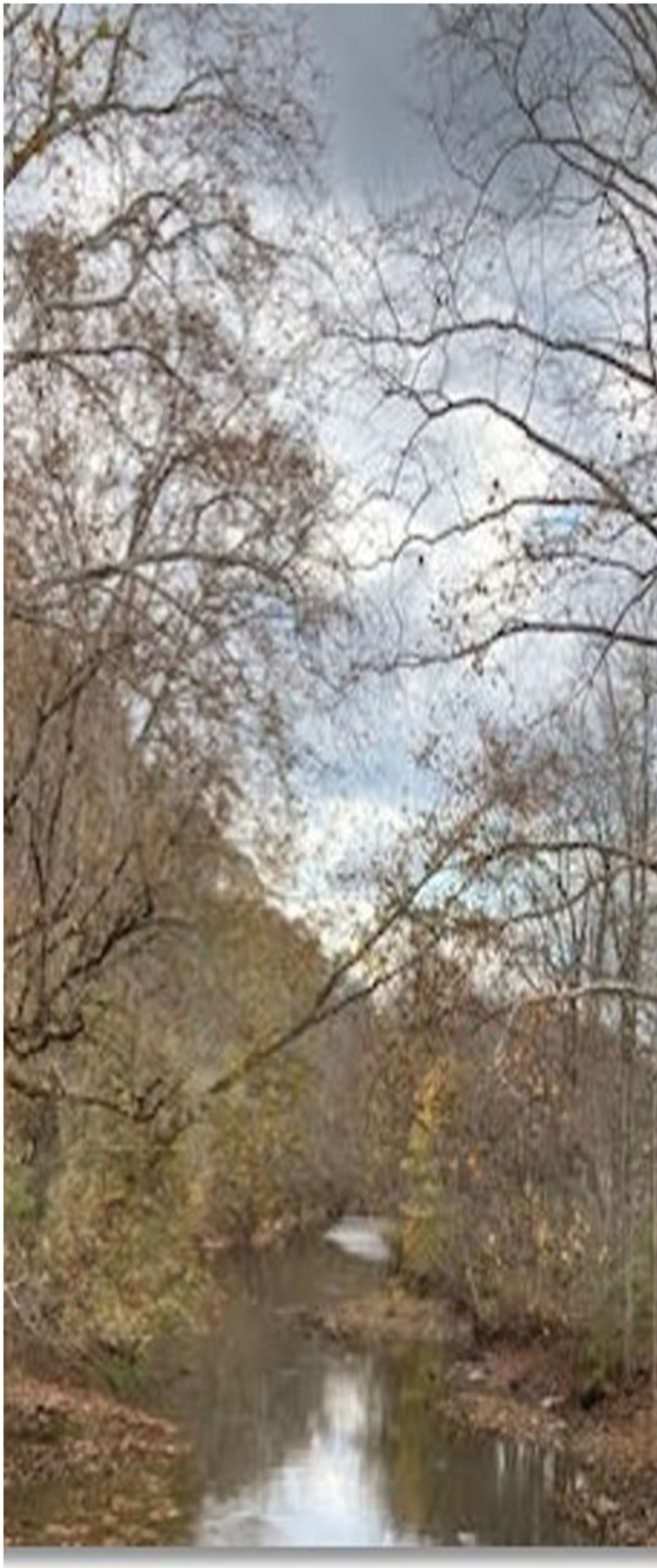


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INTRODUCTION

The Town of Barrackville is a small community located in Marion County. Barrackville was settled in 1767 by William Galloway Ice and was named in honor of an early settler, John Barrack (Marion County CVB, 2022). The town was officially incorporated in January of 1968. One of the most recognizable structures in the town is the Barrackville Covered Bridge that spans the Buffalo Creek. The bridge was built by Lemuel Chenoweth in 1853 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

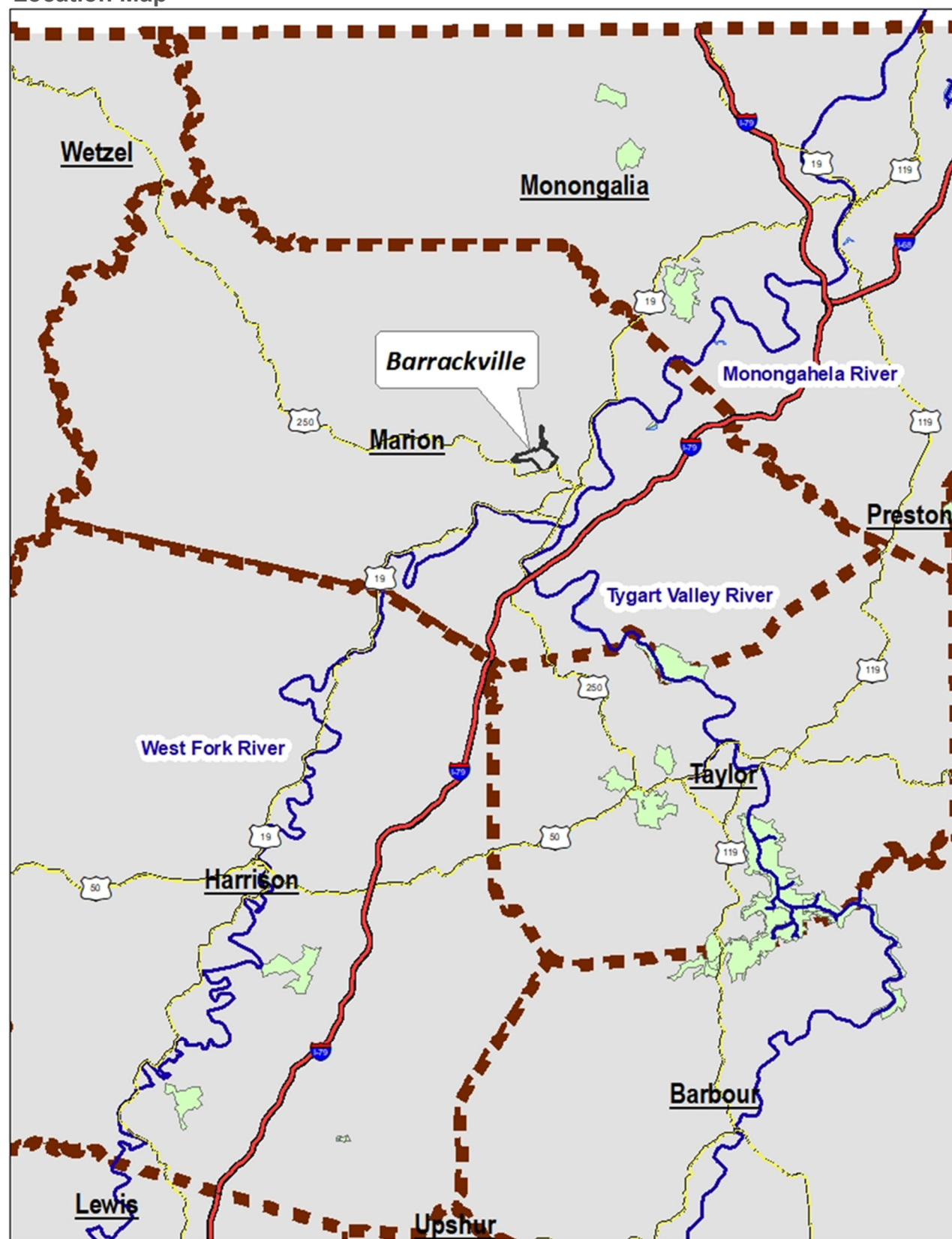
William Ice was the first settler of Barrackville. He was captured by Indians when he was young and later became an Indian fighter and Revolutionary War soldier. His grave is located in Ice Cemetery.

Barrackville is located just outside of Fairmont and within 10 minutes of I-79, as shown on the **Location Map**. Barrackville is geographically situated within driving distance from Bridgeport and Morgantown for anyone looking to settle down in a quiet neighborhood after a busy day.

The development of the Comprehensive Plan was spearheaded by the Barrackville Planning Commission. The planning commission consists of five members that represent a wide range of interests in the community. Members of the Planning Commission have stated that they wanted to create a comprehensive plan for the improvement of the town and for their grandchildren to have the same quality of life, if not better, that they enjoy. The comprehensive plan will assist in laying the foundation for the future growth of Barrackville. Simply put, a comprehensive plan is a vision for the future of a community. While a big part of comprehensive planning is identifying existing and future land uses, the plan also looks at several other elements. A comprehensive plan also considers transportation, community services, economic development, housing, public safety, parks and recreation, and natural and historic resources. All of these elements are inter-related; therefore, a change in one element can have an impact on the others.

Communities without plans can experience increases in crime, unaddressed social problems, and declining property values. Without a shared vision for the future, the Town is concerned that its future will be dictated by outside forces. The Town is not willing to take that chance and hope for the best. Instead, the comprehensive plan will help the Town build upon its assets and move toward intentional and positive change. As Barrackville has a limited budget, the plan will also prioritize key projects that are essential to the community's future and identify funding sources to help implement projects.

Location Map



Who is on the Planning Commission?

Town Council solicited applications for the Planning Commission. All of the Commissioners are volunteer community members. The five current members of the Commission are:

- Bob Pirner, President
- Alex Neville, Vice President
- Andrew Tennant, Commissioner
- Josh Southern, Commissioner
- Brittany Vincent, Commissioner

Former members of the planning commission include David Schoolcraft and Donna Hall.

The work of the planning commission was facilitated and supported by the West Virginia University College of Law Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic.

How does the Planning Commission ensure public input?

Public input is one of the most important aspects of a comprehensive plan. The Planning Commission has formally adopted public input procedures (found in Appendix 1) to ensure that the citizens of Barrackville have an opportunity to provide input for the plan. The West Virginia State Code also sets forth requirements to ensure this public input takes place. All planning commission meetings were open to the public and meeting times and locations were posted at town hall. During the time of COVID-19, the commission met virtually on Zoom. The public was able to participate in the meetings via the internet or phone. Zoom information was detailed on the agenda and no passcode was required to enter the meetings. Results from all the various public input can be found in **Appendix 2: Public Input Results**.

Timeline



WEST VIRGINIA CODE REQUIREMENTS

The West Virginia Code outlines several provisions that must be included in a comprehensive plan. The code also details how local governments must receive public input and adopt a comprehensive plan.

Once the plan is adopted, the planning commission should begin implementation. The plan should be reviewed annually to determine progress and next steps. The plan must be updated every ten (10) years.

The following tables display the mandatory elements required by the West Virginia Code and where the elements can be found in this plan.

Required Objectives of a Comprehensive Plan, W. Va. Code § 8A-3-4	
Code Provision	Page #
Statement of goals and objectives	19, 24, 28, 41
Timeline on how to meet short and long-term goals and objectives	46-50
Action plan with implementation strategies	46-50
Recommendations of a financial program for necessary public funding	46-50, Appendix 4
Statement of recommendations concerning future land use and development policies	14, 19
A program to encourage regional planning, coordination, and cooperation	19
Maps, plats, and/or charts that present basic information on the land, including present and future uses	11, 13, 16, 18

Required Components of a Comprehensive Plan, W. Va. Code § 8A-3-4(c)	
Code Provision	Page #
<i>Land Use</i>	
Different land uses (including, for example, residential, agricultural, historic, conservation)	10, 11, 14-16
Population density and building intensity standards	10
Growth or decline management	12, 14-15
Projected population growth or decline	14-15
Constraints on development (including identifying flood-prone and subsidence areas)	12-13
<i>Housing</i>	
Analyze projected housing needs and different types of housing needed (including affordable housing and accessible housing for persons with disabilities)	10, 12, 15
Identify the number of projected housing units and land needed	15
Address substandard housing	15, 24
Rehabilitate and improve existing housing	24
Adaptive reuse of buildings into housing	15
<i>Transportation</i>	
Vehicular, transit, air, port, railroad, river, and any other mode	37, 42-44
Movement of traffic and parking	37
Pedestrian and bicycle systems	37, 41
Intermodal transportation	37
<i>Economic Development</i>	
Analyze opportunities, strengths, and weaknesses	34-36, 38, 39, 45
Identify and designate economic development sites or sectors	39, 44
Identify types of economic development sought	39, 44
<i>Miscellaneous Components</i>	
Infrastructure	34, 41
Public Services	22, 23, 25, 26, 34-36, 44, 45
Rural	14, 16
Recreation	15, 16, 19, 27-32
Community Design	20
Preferred development areas	15-16
Renewal or redevelopment	15-16
Financing	46, Appendix 4
Historic Preservation	3, 21

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The planning commission created a vision statement to guide plan development. The vision statement paints a picture of an ideal future in Barrackville. The Town used the vision statement to set goals, objectives, and action steps.

The Town of Barrackville is a close-knit community with a longstanding tradition in small-town values. As a bedroom community to several nearby cities and with an excellent elementary/middle school, the Town of Barrackville not only offers proximity to numerous potential employers for its residents but also offers ample community facilities and events, as well as excellent police and fire protection. The Town of Barrackville's family-oriented and family-friendly character is preserved through thoughtful planning and effective local ordinances for the wellbeing of current and future residents.

The next step after creating the vision statement was to determine the most pressing issues facing the town, particularly those that would hamper its ability to achieve the vision. The planning commission completed an exercise describing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the town. In order to determine public opinion on issues and concerns in the town, an online survey was advertised. An initial public meeting was not held due to COVID-19 concerns. The planning commission also solicited input from key stakeholders in the community and a youth survey was advertised at the school. A final open house was held in June of 2022 to present recommendations to the public and ask their help in determining high priorities. An online survey was also created to gather additional input on top priorities. A summary of all public input methods can be found in **Appendix 2: Public Input Results**.

After reviewing the public input received, the planning commission identified four (4) focus areas. Each focus area is examined and then goals and action items are presented to detail how to address the issues and concerns of residents within these focus areas.

Focus Areas

Land Use
Planning

Public
Safety

Recreation

Quality of
Life

FOCUS AREA: LAND USE PLANNING

The Town of Barrackville is a small town located in Marion County with a population of 1,201 people. Population density is approximately 1,800 people per square mile as most of the homes in the town are located on small lots.

Most of the town consists of single-family residential development, as shown on the **Existing Land Use Map**. Multi-family residential development is located on Rice Street at Barrackville Apartments, which consists of eight (8) total units. Other various apartments are scattered throughout town. No affordable housing options or housing for people with disabilities are present within the community.

Public uses downtown include several churches, the Barrackville School, Volunteer Fire Department, Town Hall, and the post office. There is limited commercial development in town limits, with most being located on Pike Street. Retail is very limited in town, and there are no restaurants.





Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan

Existing Land Use


Legend

 Barrackville Municipal Boundry


 Roads


 Streams


Existing Land Use


 Vacant/Wooded


 Farm

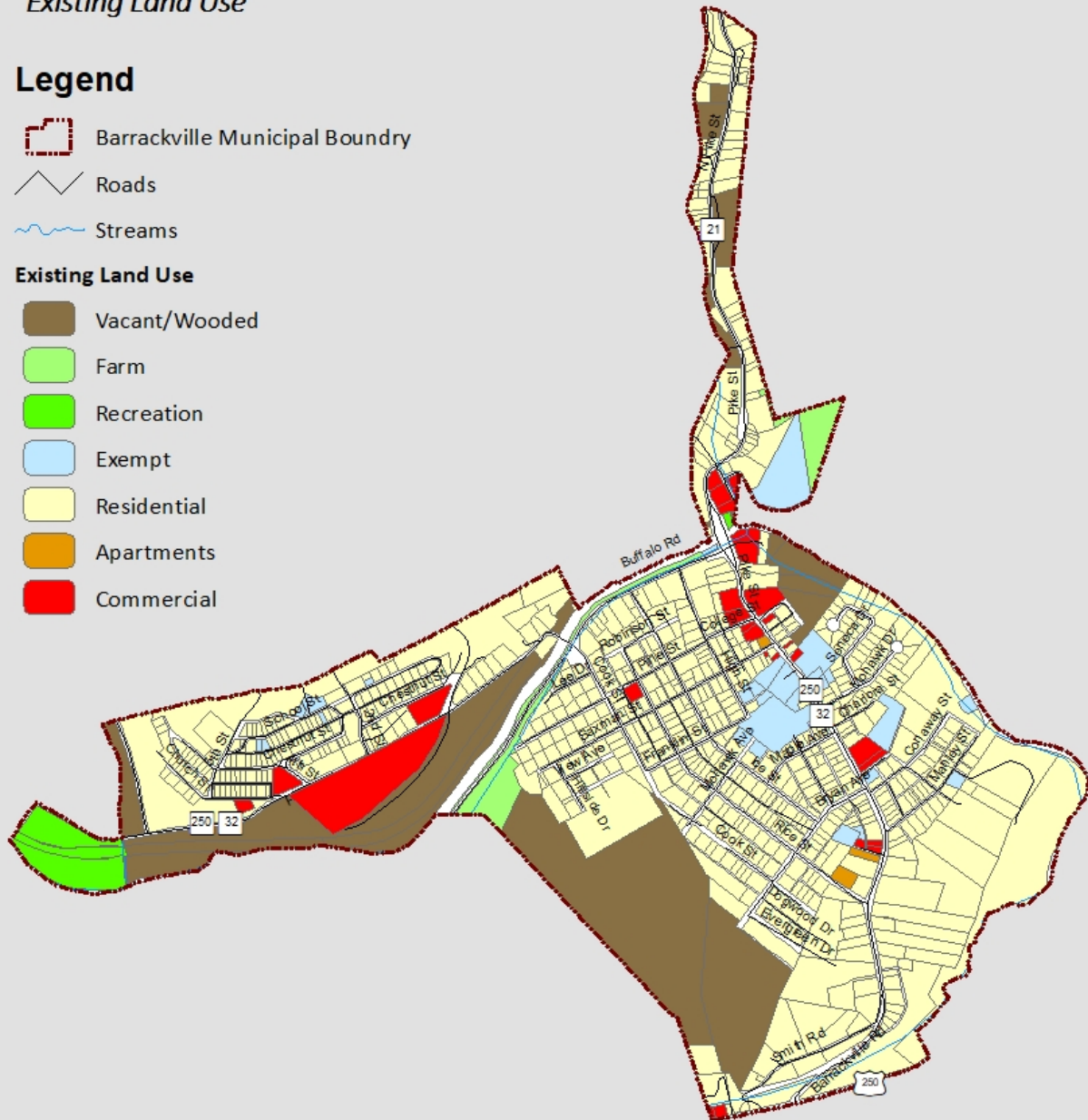
 Recreation

 Exempt

 Residential

 Apartments

 Commercial



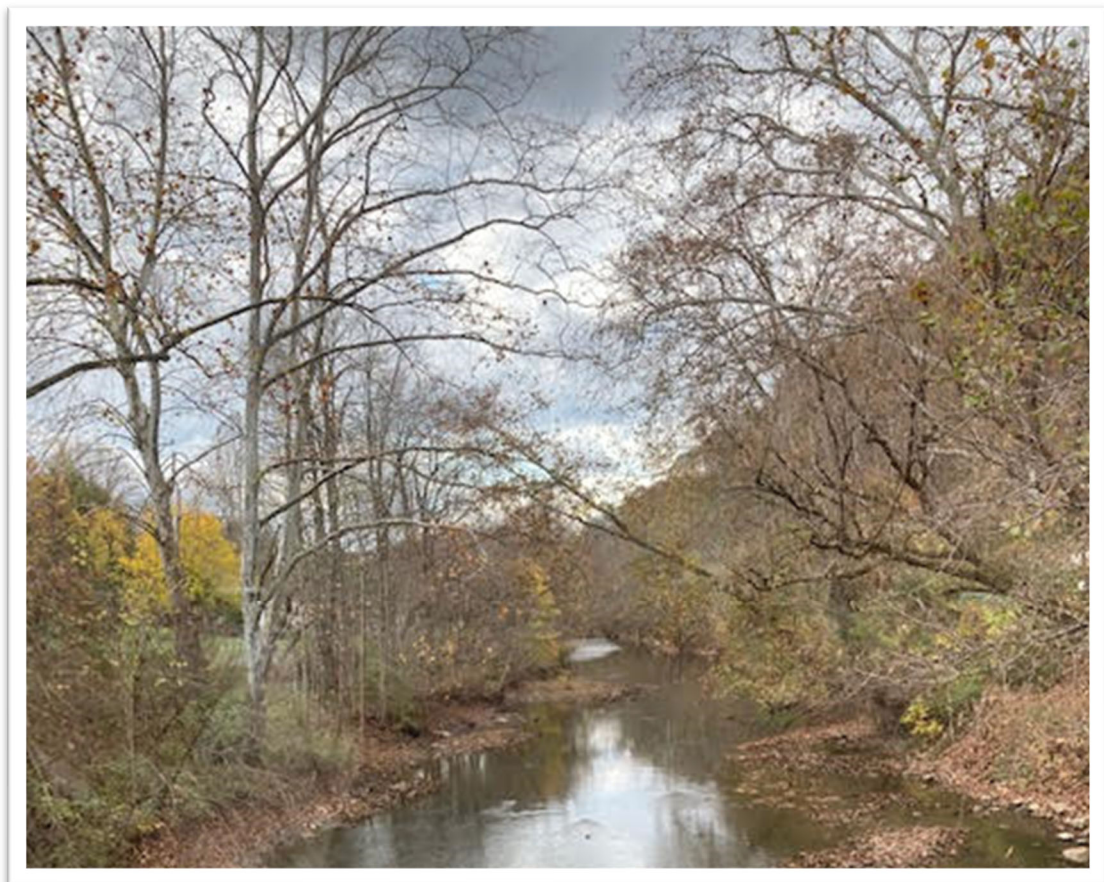
According to the 2019 American Community Survey, Barrackville has approximately 556 housing units within town limits. Home ownership is high in Barrackville, with over 83 percent of residents owning their own home. The vacancy rate in town is approximately 13 percent. Over 36 percent of homes in town were built before 1939. Only a very small percentage (4 percent) were built after 2000. Most of the vacancies in town are in Upper Barrackville. The average value of homes in Barrackville is \$144,500. A strength in Barrackville is that real estate prices are strong, and homes sell very quickly.

The average rent in Barrackville is \$670.

Approximately 17% of residents rent homes.

Source: 2019 American Community Survey

Buffalo Creek traverses through the town, therefore small portions of the town are located in the floodplain, as shown on the **Development Constraints Map**. The creek occasionally floods but has not caused any significant damage to date. The Town enacted a floodplain ordinance in 2012. Coal mining was prevalent in the region, and the entire town is undermined. As a result, there were subsidence issues on Saxman Street in the 1980s.

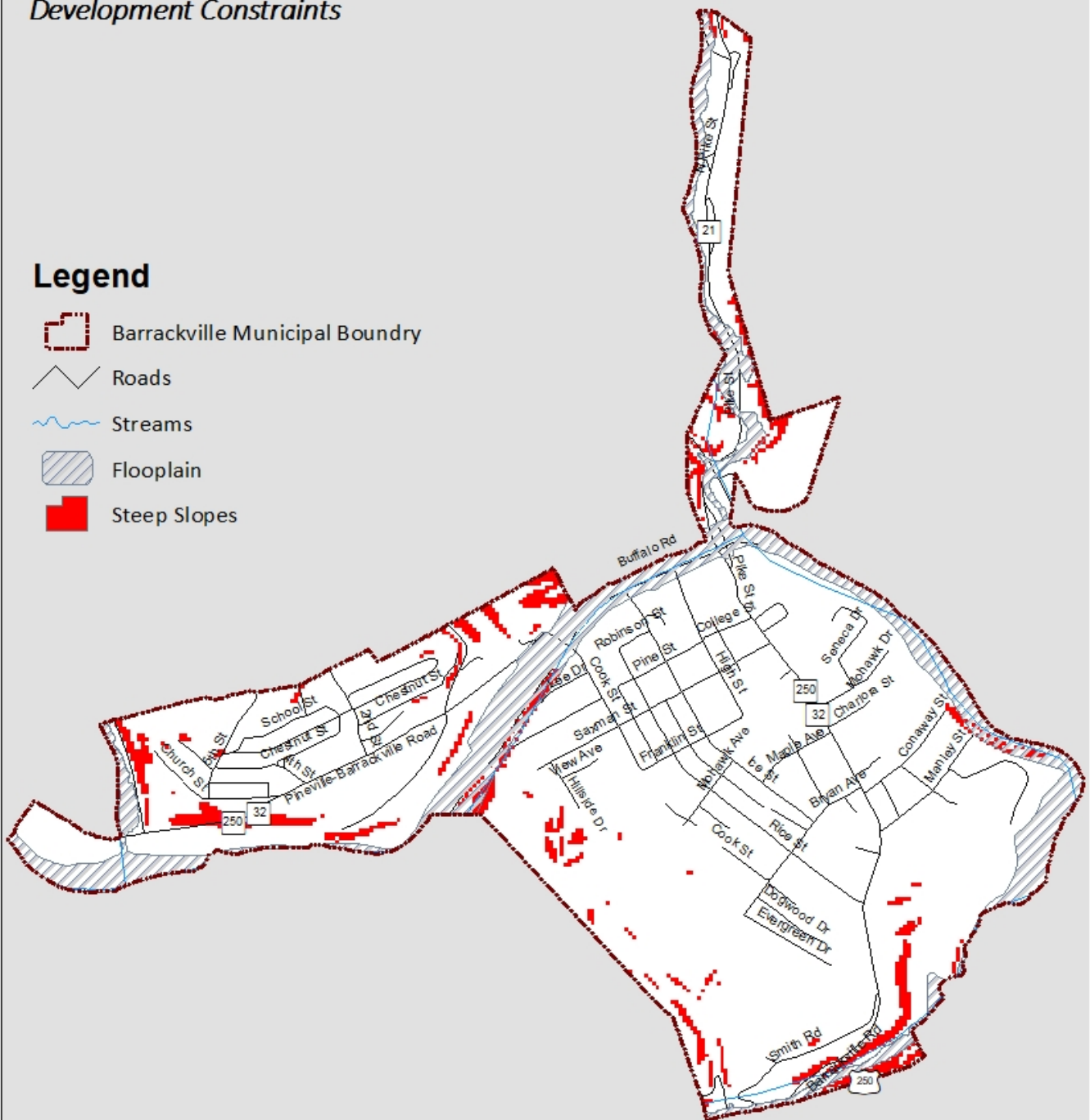


Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan

Development Constraints

Legend

-  Barrackville Municipal Boundry
-  Roads
-  Streams
-  Floodplain
-  Steep Slopes



Future Land Use

As the town is mostly built-out, there is little room left to develop unless the Town were to annex lands in the future. There are limited businesses in town, and the only bank closed in 2020. With no restaurants, manufacturing, or any real opportunity for business and industry in the community, the diversity of land uses within Barrackville is limited, largely due to proximity to Fairmont and road conditions.

A future land use map was created to help guide development within the town. The future land use map is not a zoning map but a visual illustration of the vision of the town considering broader categories of uses. Future land use categories are shown on the **Future Land Use Map**.

- Rural: land that is not intended for urban growth; these areas support agricultural and recreational uses and preserve open space and woods
- Recreation: land intended for parks, recreational facilities, and open space
- Residential: areas for single-family and multi-family development
- Mixed Use: areas intended for a combination of small business, public uses, and residential development
- Commercial: areas intended for commercial uses

Population projections were developed to help local elected officials better understand the services they need to provide based on whether the town will gain or lose population. Population projections for Barrackville were determined evaluating the past population trends. The town experienced a steep decline in population from



A majority of the homes in Barrackville are older which can lead to maintenance issues.

Housing options in Barrackville were rated by online survey respondents as follows:

Excellent: 6.5%

Good: 48.0%

Fair: 39.8%

Poor: 5.7%

Source: Online Survey Results

1980 to 2000 according to the US Census. From 2000 to 2010, population counts show a very small increase with then another decrease between 2010 and 2020. Assuming population trends continue, by 2030, the town may lose an additional 217 people. Taking into account population projections and the built-out nature of the town, there is no room for additional housing within the community. The Town would prefer to maintain its status as a bedroom community in Marion County. Former commercial buildings have been reused into housing on Pike Street; however, there are no additional possibilities for this in the future. The Town would like to focus on improving existing housing and demolishing housing that is abandoned and dilapidated. The Town has identified two (2) renewal/redevelopment areas to focus efforts first, both of which are shown on the **Future Land Use Map**.

- Renewal/Redevelopment Area 1: This area is located along Route 21 and consists of either abandoned and/or dilapidated buildings.
- Renewal/Redevelopment Area 2: This area is called Upper Barrackville and consists of many homes that are in poor condition or have property maintenance issues.

The Town has designated two preferred development areas within town limits for future development. The location of the areas is shown on the **Future Land Use Map**.

- Preferred Development Area 1: This area includes the existing Lewis Hall Field and former mine site. The Town would like to expand the existing Lewis Hall Field to include additional recreation amenities. The potential rail trail would also travel through this area.
- Preferred Development Area 2: This area includes the Barrackville Covered Bridge. The Town would like to see this area expanded to include additional recreational opportunities, such as a pavilion and rail trail. There is also potential in this area for commercial development to support recreational amenities.

Renewal and/or redevelopment areas: slums and other blighted areas that need community renewal, revitalization, and/or redevelopment.

Preferred development areas: where incentives may be used to encourage development, infill development or redevelopment.

W. Va. Code § 8A-3-4


Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan

Future Land Use


Legend


 Barrackville Municipal Boundry


 Roads


 Streams


Future Land Use

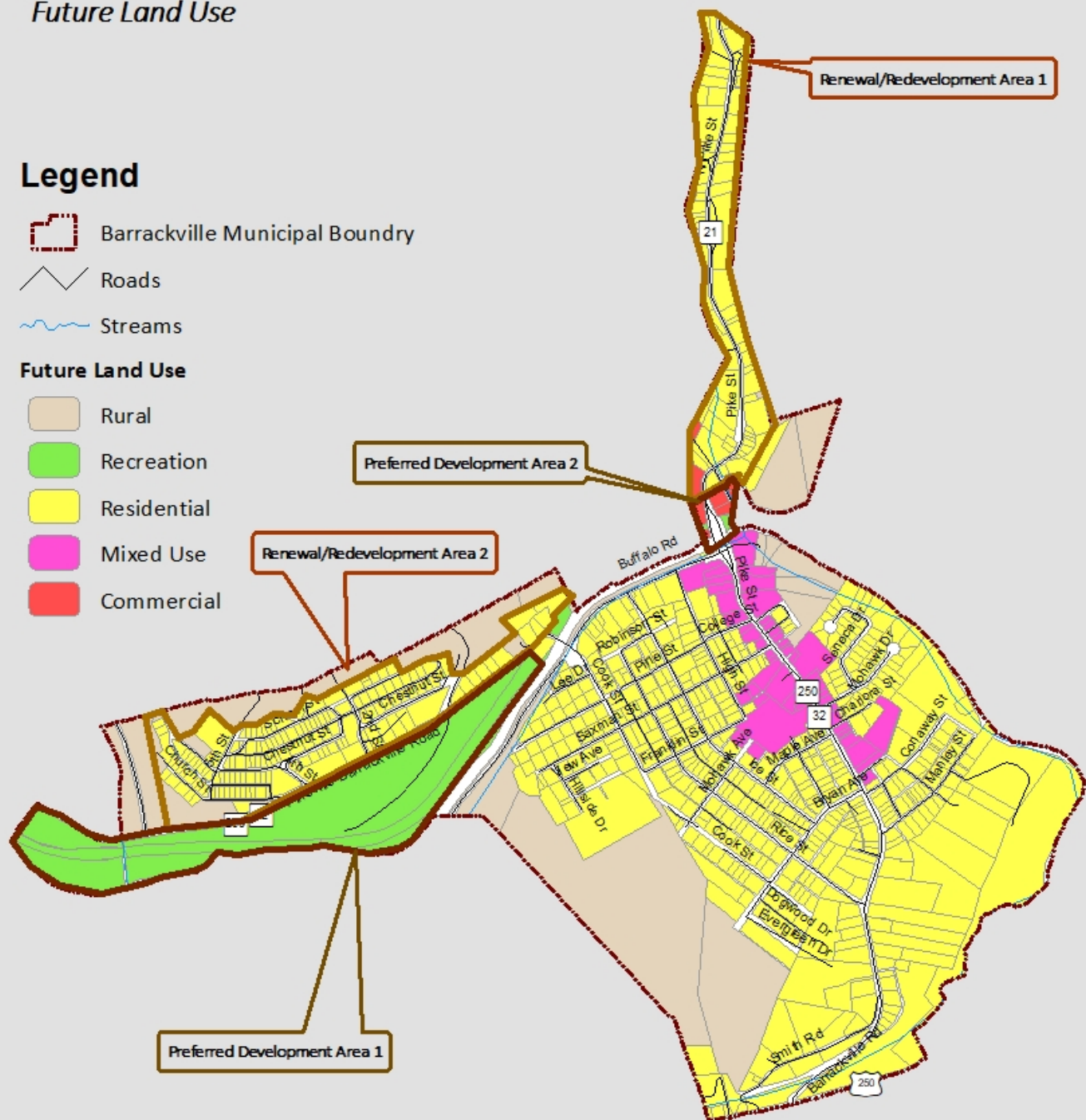
 Rural

 Recreation

 Residential

 Mixed Use

 Commercial



The Town has also designated three (3) annexation areas to expand the town boundaries and tax base while providing municipal services as shown on the **Annexation Map**.

- Annexation Area 1: This area is located along Route 250 and includes the Marion County Soccer Complex. There is potential for residential development in this area in the future and the Town would need to provide services for any new development. Currently, the area is served with water and possibly sewer as well.
- Annexation Area 2: This area includes portions of Chesapeake Road and Route 250. Sewer and water service are available in this area. The Town would like to annex this area to add a scenic overlook and park.
- Annexation Area 3: This area includes a small portion of land that would connect the potential rail trail from Preferred Development Area 1 and 2.

**What type of new development
would you like to see in
Barrackville?**

Single family residential: 45.16%

Commercial: 37.9%

No new development: 22.58%

Multi-family residential (includes
townhouses, condos, and
apartments): 9.68%

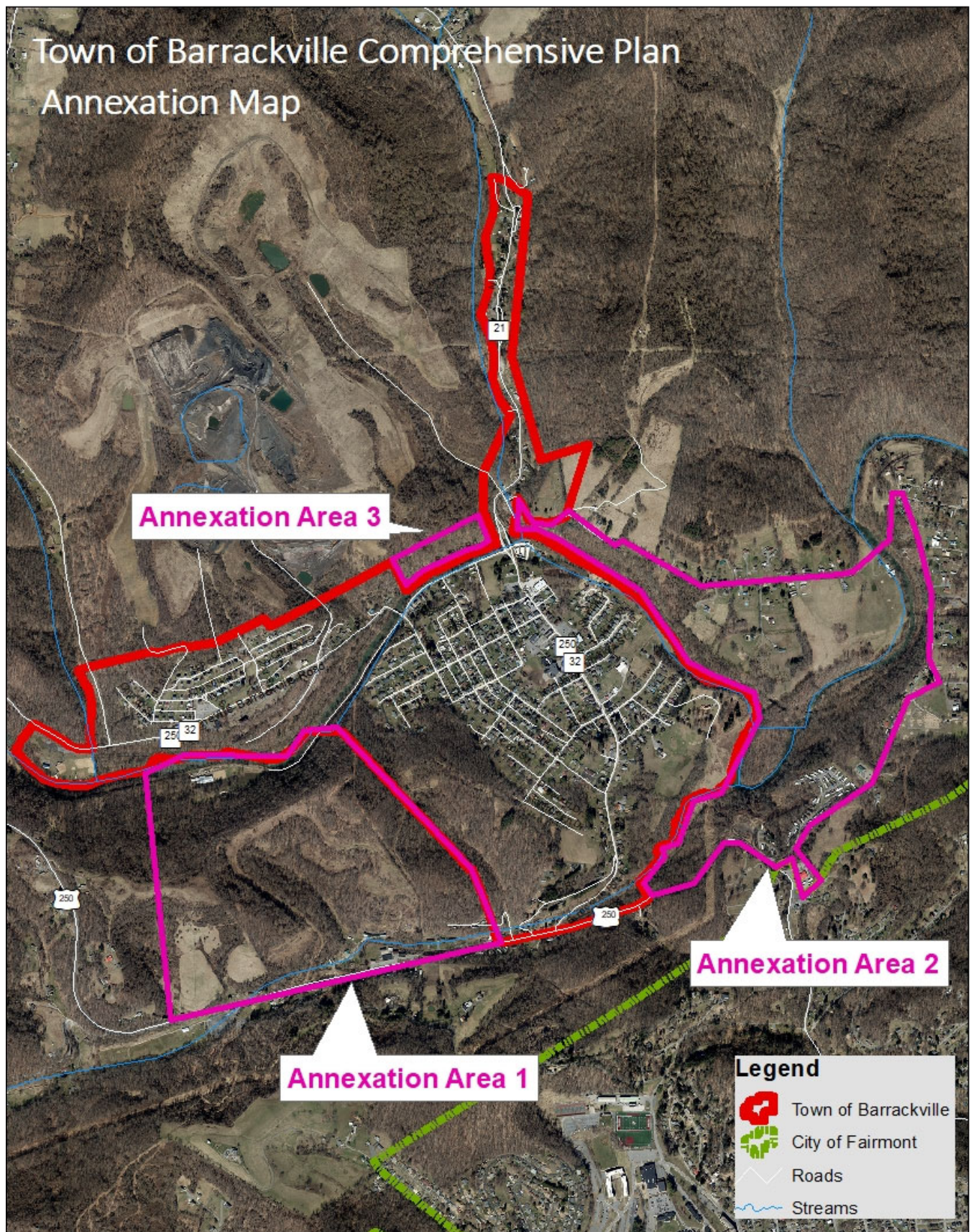
Industrial: 6.45%

Source: Online Survey Results



Source: Marion County Soccer Club Facebook Page

Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan Annexation Map



Goal: Promote the orderly development of land through land use planning

Action Step: Enact a zoning ordinance to protect the character of the town

The town does not have any land use regulations in place at this time. Enacting a zoning ordinance would help maintain the character of the town. Over the past several years, many different types of uses have been built within town limits that were not compatible with the character of the town. Zoning would enable the Town to direct development to appropriate locations.

Do you support the Town enacting a zoning ordinance?

Yes: 68.33% No: 31.67%

Source: Online Survey Results

Objective:
Enact land use ordinances consistent with the comprehensive plan

Objective:
Consider partnerships with other local governments

Objective:
Improve the appearance of the town

Action Step: Consider regional planning opportunities with Marion County and the City of Fairmont

Local elected officials in Barrackville should facilitate discussions with the Marion County Commissioners and municipalities within the county to discuss regional planning issues and opportunities to work together.

Specifically, the Town of Barrackville should discuss recreation partnerships with Marion County Parks and Recreation, the City of Fairmont, Mannington, and Farmington. The discussion should center on the formation of a rail trail that would travel from the City of Fairmont, through Barrackville, and end in Mannington for a total of 13 miles along the Buffalo Creek Rail Corridor.

Other possible partnerships could determine the feasibility of shared code enforcement through intergovernmental cooperation agreements.

Action Step: Advertise town-wide clean-up events

The town hosts annual town-wide clean-up events twice a year. Dumpsters are provided for residents to dispose of garbage. Construction dumpsters are also available to dispose of storm debris.

Respondents of the online survey are concerned about the visual appearance of the Town.

Source: Online Survey Results

The clean-up events are typically held in Spring and Summer. Local elected officials have stated that the events need to be advertised more to town residents. The Town should consider expanding the clean-up days to include a litter sweep. Volunteers would pick up litter throughout the town. The Town should also consider coordinating volunteer groups to help elderly and low-income residents clean up their yards. The event could also include a curbside clean-up where residents place large and bulky items not suitable for regular garbage pickup.

Action Step: Create a monthly home contest to improve pride in properties

The holiday decorating contest held in 2021 was a huge success. The Town should expand on the contest and consider sponsoring a monthly home and yard contest. The contest could incentivize residents to clean up their property. A prize could be given to a resident with the most improved home and yard.



Source: Save the Barrackville Bridge, Again Facebook Page

Action Step: Continue to work on beautification projects

The Town has worked on several beautification projects, such as the restoration of the covered bridge and Christmas decorations throughout downtown. Additional projects the Town would like to complete include gateway signage, plantings, and banners. Town council should consider establishing a small fund to support beautification projects completed by volunteers.

Action Step: Preserve the Barrackville Covered Bridge

The Barrackville Covered Bridge was restored by the state in the 1990s.

However, the large wooden beams that support the bridge were not preserved correctly. The bridge will need to be lifted off its foundation and two main boards will need to be replaced. The Barrackville Covered Bridge Preservation Society is working to repair the bridge with an estimated \$500,000 needed to make all the repairs. Recently, the Society was able to get a power pole placed near the bridge so that the bridge could be lighted for community events (Times West Virginian, 2021).

The society is planning an annual covered bridge festival to raise money to help with repairs and maintenance of the bridge. The Town should continue to support the preservation efforts and work with the Barrackville Covered Bridge Society to raise funds for the preservation.

The Barrackville Bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is one of only two covered bridges in West Virginia that was built by architect Lemuel Chenoweth.



Source: Save the Barrackville Bridge, Again Facebook Page

FOCUS AREA 2: PUBLIC SAFETY

The provision of public safety is an important function of local governments in West Virginia. Public safety services include fire and police protection, emergency medical services, disaster planning, and code enforcement.

The Town is very proactive in preparing for emergencies and has begun conversations with county officials to prepare for any disasters that may occur in the future. While the Town is able to employ a police department, at this time the department consists of only one full-time officer.

The Town of Barrackville is on a limited budget and therefore relies on volunteers for fire safety. The Town of Barrackville has an active volunteer fire department with 21 members. The VFD has a service area of 14.5 square miles that responded to 252 calls in 2021, with an additional 45 calls in a 24-hour period due to flooding. Funding is provided through state funding through the insurance tax, excise tax from utilities of town residents, and private donations.



Source: Barrackville Volunteer Fire Dept Facebook Page

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Fire protection	55.2%	29.6%	14.4%	0.8%
Police protection	40.3%	33.1%	12.9%	13.7%
Enforcement of ordinances	6.6%	33.6%	35.3%	24.6%
Emergency Management	19.2%	43.3%	28.3%	9.2%

Source: Online Survey Results

Town Hall is the designated emergency shelter with generator capabilities. The Town is in the process of working with the county and federal government to purchase cots and food. There is the possibility of partnering with County 911 on a system to alert people of emergencies.

Ambulance service is provided by Marion County EMS and Jan Care. The local station is approximately 7 minutes from town.

The Town of Barrackville Police Department consists of one full-time police officer (with a K9) and one part-time officer. There is funding for another part-time officer. The Marion County Sheriff's Department is located five minutes from town and the state police barracks is located twelve minutes from town. Both the Sheriff and State Police respond to calls within town limits



Source: Save the Barrackville Bridge, Again Facebook Page

in a quick timeframe. In 2021, the Barrackville Police Department responded to 298 calls, 219 traffic contacts, issued 74 citations and participated in K9 assists (Times West Virginian, 2022).

In September of 2022, the town enacted the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) to help address abandoned and dilapidated buildings. The IPMC regulates maintenance and upkeep of existing structures and properties. The town has a limited budget and is in the process of hiring a code enforcement officer on an as-needed basis.

The Planning Commission and Chief of Police toured the town and discovered approximately eighteen structures that are not occupied and uninhabitable and therefore considered abandoned.

	A= Excellent	B= Good	C= Average	D= Below Avg	F= Fail	No Opinion
Fire protection	41.67%	50.00%	3.33%	1.67%	1.67%	1.67%
Police protection	44.07%	35.59%	8.47%	3.39%	6.78%	1.69%

Source: Youth Online Survey Results

Goal: Protect citizens and property through increased public safety measures

Action Step: Enact 8-12-16

The 8-12-16 ordinance allows municipalities to address structures, dwellings, or buildings that are unsafe, unsanitary, dangerous, or detrimental to the public safety or welfare. Procedures set out in the provisions ensure that property owners receive due process. Although similar to the building code in some ways, Section 8-12-16 contains additional authority not included in the building code.

Objective:
Enact ordinances to enhance the appearance of town

Objective:
Protect residents from disasters and prepare for emergencies

Objective:
Improve fire and police services

Action Step: Consider enacting a vacant property registry

The vacant property registry requires property owners to pay an annual registration fee for every vacant building. The registry creates an up-to-date list of vacant buildings, and fees can be used to improve public safety and to monitor and administer the registration program.

Action Step: Apply for Home Rule

Communities must be part of the Home Rule program to utilize on-site citations. On-site citations allow town officials to issue citations to a property owner “on the spot” for sanitation and nuisance violations without the need to go to court.

Do you support the Town enacting ordinances to address abandoned and dilapidated buildings in Barrackville?

Yes: 95.97% No: 4.03%

Source: Online Survey Results

Action Step: Update and modernize the existing nuisance ordinance, in particular by adding provisions to address drug houses

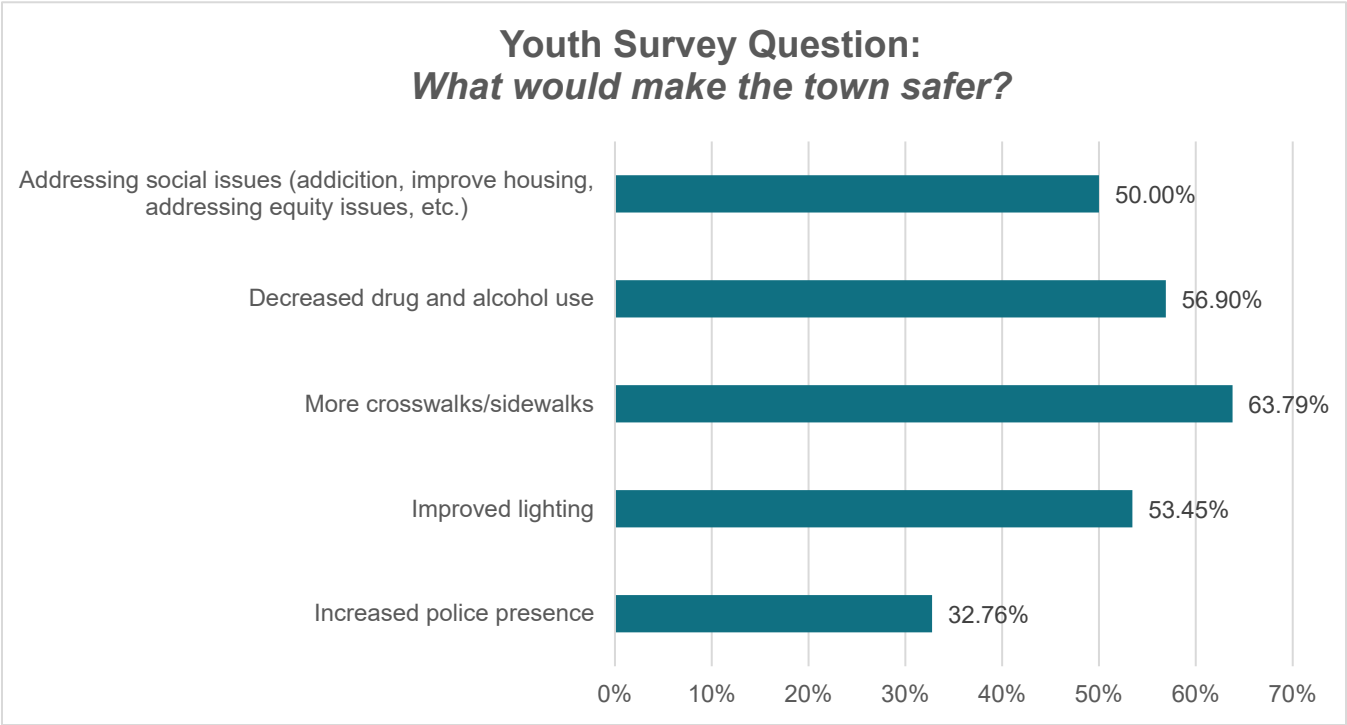
Nuisance ordinances are local laws that declare certain activities as injurious to the public health, safety, or welfare. The ordinances provide for fines for the owners of property where the activity occurs and for orders for the activity to be abated. If not abated, the local government may abate the nuisance and the cost of abatement imposed on the property owner. Ordinance language address very specific nuisance concerns, such as those associated with drug houses, including frequent crime and visible discarded paraphernalia.

Action Step: Continue to support the Volunteer Fire Department

The department would like to purchase a mini pumper in order to better respond to emergencies on narrow streets and streets with on-street parking. Within four years the firefighter turnout gear will need replaced, which will be a significant cost of \$3,000 per set as there are 21 firefighters in the department. Another concern is the lack of fire hydrants within town limits and water flow issues due to one-way lines. Multiple hydrants cannot be operated simultaneously. Three new fire hydrants will be installed soon to help with this issue.

Action Step: Develop community-oriented policing

Approximately 88% of youth survey respondents feel the town is safe. However, there is room for improvement. The police department lacks an automated database to capture enforcement activity. Also, there are concerns regarding drugs in the community. Community-oriented policing brings police and community together by working jointly to address and identify crime. Ways to involve the public include alerts, neighborhood watch meetings, press releases, and classes at the school.



Source: Youth Online Survey Results

Action Step: Continue to review and prepare a Disaster Action Plan

Town Council began developing a Disaster Action Plan in 2021 but has not yet completed the plan. The plan would help the town facilitate emergency preparedness. The plan would look at four key areas: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Action Step: Update the floodplain ordinance

The Town of Barrackville adopted a floodplain ordinance in 2012 to encourage the utilization of appropriate construction practices in order to prevent or minimize flood damage in the future and protect natural drainage. The town should update the current floodplain ordinance to be consistent with the 2019 model floodplain ordinance that was prepared by the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

FOCUS AREA 3: RECREATION

The Lewis Hall Field is Barrackville's only park. The complex includes two lighted little league baseball fields. The complex also includes a swing set, basketball court, pavilion, tennis courts, and playground.

There is also a playground, basketball court, pavilion and small field at the Barrackville Elementary/Middle School that can be used when school is not in session.

The Marion County Soccer Complex is located right outside of town limits. The soccer complex is a joint project operated by Marion County Parks and Recreation and Marion County Soccer Club. The soccer club offers recreational soccer, travel soccer, and clinics/camps.



Goal: Develop facilities, programs, and events to support a strong community

Action Step: Consider forming a Parks and Recreation Commission

Town Council should form a Parks and Recreation Commission to be an advisory body to town council on matters pertaining to parks and recreation. The commission's duties would include making recommendations on facilities, programs, events, and services, as well as providing support for grant applications.

Action Step: Partner with Marion County Parks and Recreation on annual community grant improvements

Using data from the 2019 American Community Survey, different age cohorts were examined to determine what types of recreation is needed in town. Playgrounds are more suitable for younger age cohorts while older age cohorts, such as senior citizens, tend to prefer specific recreational programs.

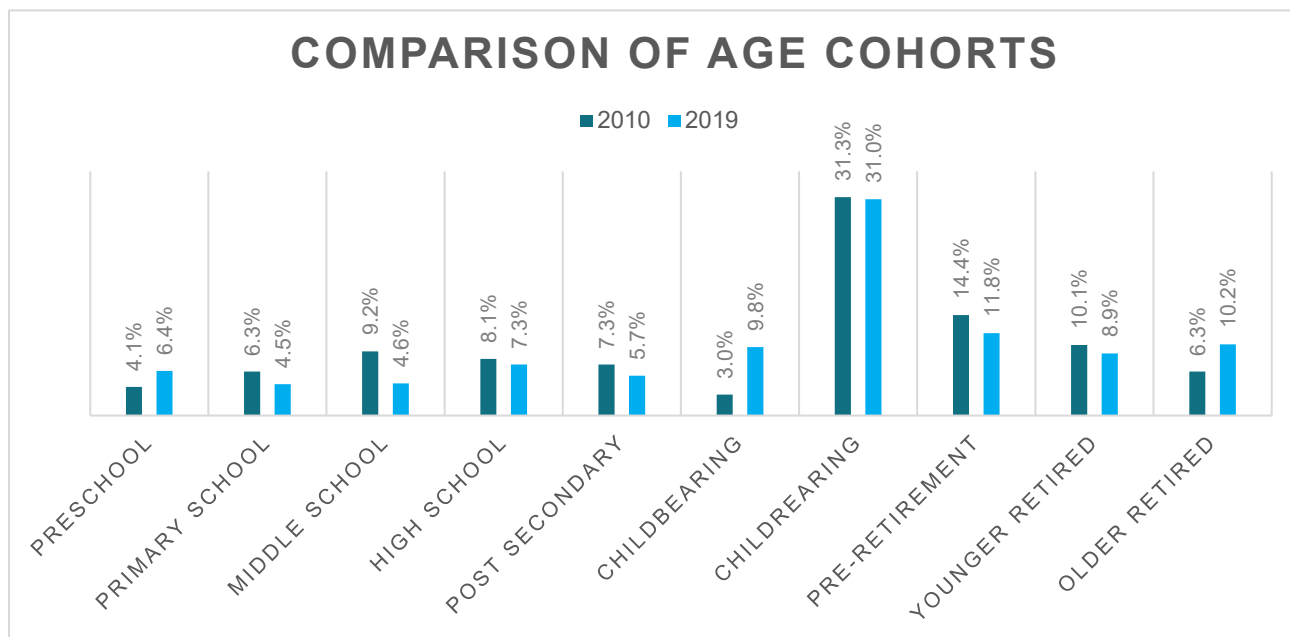
The chart below shows an increase in preschool aged children from 2010 to 2019 but a decrease in primary, middle, and high school children. However, the childbearing age cohort has increased over the past 9 years, which could lead to a bigger increase in young children over the next ten years. The childrearing age group comprises the biggest group. The pre-retirement and younger retired age group decreased over the past 9 years; however, this is most likely due to them aging as the older retired group has increased in size.

Age cohort trends indicate that Barrackville will need a variety of recreational facilities and programs in the future. Online survey respondents would also like to see additional recreational opportunities. Therefore, the town should work with Marion County Parks and Recreation to obtain funding to help with the need for additional recreation in the community.

Objective:
Provide indoor
recreation
opportunities

Objective:
Consider
partnerships to
expand
recreational
programming

Objective:
Provide safe
routes for
walking, biking,
and running



Source: 2019 American Community Survey

The Marion County Parks and Recreation Commission provides technical and financial assistance to municipalities and community groups for the planning, development and rehabilitation of public park and recreation facilities (Marion County Parks & Recreation Commission, 2022). Three types of projects are funded:

- Park rehabilitation and development projects (playgrounds, picnic areas, ball fields, trails, etc.)
- Small communities/small projects (basic parks/recreation facilities such as picnic areas, tot lots, informal ball fields, hiking trails, and minor renovations of indoor recreation facilities)
- Technical assistance grant projects (comprehensive recreation, parks and open space studies)

	Yes	No
There are enough recreation facilities for families	18.49%	81.51%
There are enough programs and facilities for teens and children	19.33%	80.67%
There are enough programs and facilities for senior citizens	12.93%	87.07%
The facilities are adequately maintained	53.98%	46.02%
More park space and facilities are needed	84.03%	15.97%

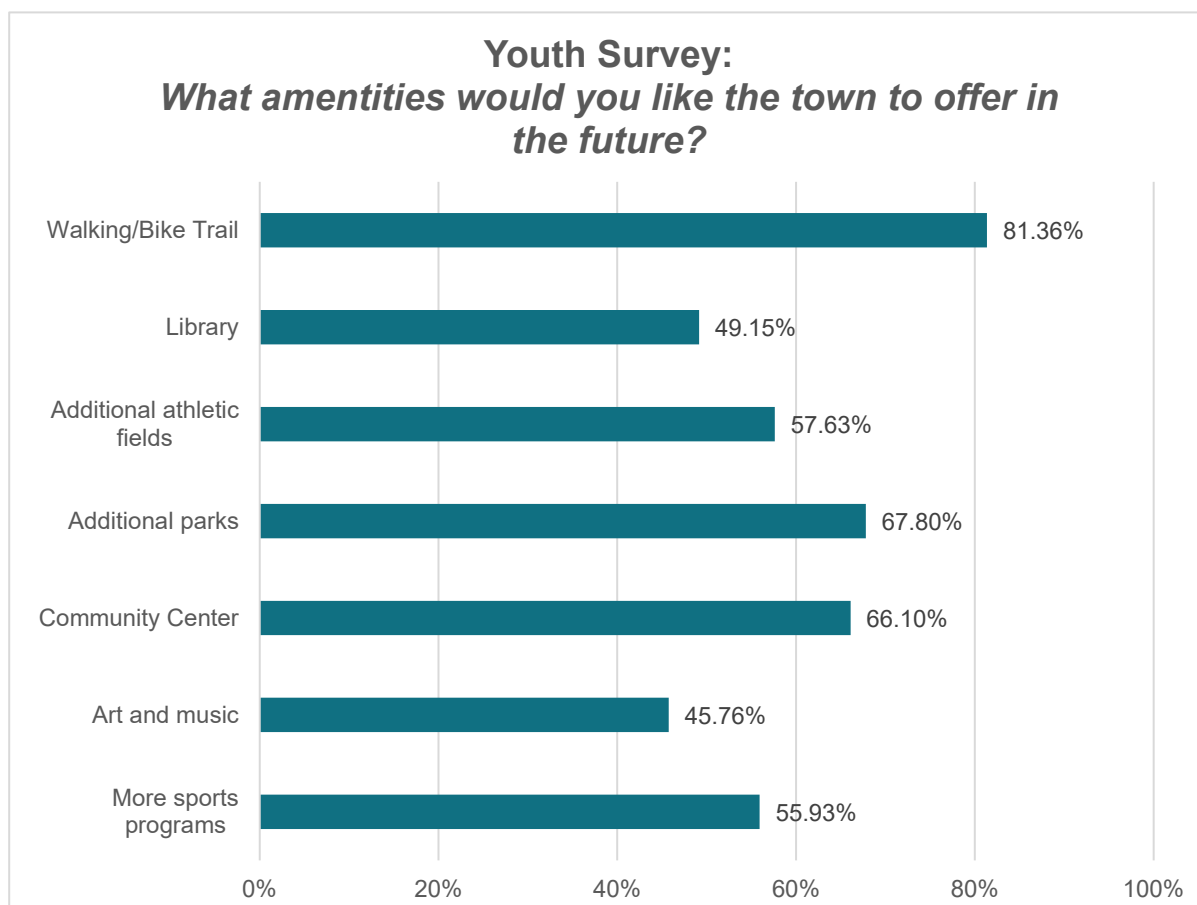
Source: Online Survey Results

Action Step: Partner with school district to provide additional recreational facilities

The playground at Barrackville Elementary/Middle School is the only recreational facility within a reasonable walking distance to most residents. There are no indoor recreational opportunities within town limits. The town should work with the school district to provide additional facilities. Many residents desire an indoor sports facility to provide recreation to residents of all ages throughout the year. The Barrackville Community Foundation is exploring the feasibility of constructing an indoor sports facility on property behind the Barrackville Elementary/Middle School.

	A= Excellent	B= Good	C= Average	D= Below Avg	F= Fail	No Opinion
Availability of recreation	16.67%	13.33%	28.33%	15.00%	18.33%	8.33%
Activities for youth	15.25%	22.03%	28.81%	11.86%	22.03%	0.00%

Source: Youth Online Survey Results



Source: Youth Online Survey Results

Action Step: Improve Lewis Hall Field

The playground at Lewis Hall Field consists of only a swing set. Additional equipment is needed for multiple age groups.

The tennis courts are in poor condition but there are plans to repair the courts in 2022.

Action Step: Develop recreational programming

The Town should develop recreational programming for people of all ages. Youth programming could include sports programs, arts and crafts, outdoor adventure, technology, and hiking. Adult programming could include sports, health/fitness, and educational programming. Senior programming could include senior fitness, book club, excursions and card games.

The youth responded in an online survey on several youth sports programs they would like in Barrackville:

- Baseball
- Dance
- Football
- Boys and Girls Club
- Soccer
- Girls' sports
- Gymnastics
- Cross Country
- Track
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Basketball

The Town should work with Marion County Parks and Recreation Commission to determine if the commission is able to host additional recreational programming in Barrackville. Currently, the commission hosts a playground program at the

Are there any parks and recreation activities that you would like to see in Barrackville?

- Bike parks
- Bike trails
- Basketball court
- Playground
- Town "kids day"
- Basketball
- Parks
- Water park
- Pool
- Dog park
- Horseshoe pits
- Splash pad
- Public fishing spots
- Skateboard/hoverboard park
- Climbing wall
- Playground for younger children
- Fishing
- Arts/Crafts
- Singing classes
- Environmental programs
- Planned activities
 - Outdoor movies
 - Neighborhood cookouts
 - Town picnic/cookout
 - Ice cream socials
 - Day camps
 - Movies in the gym

Source: Youth Online Survey Results

Barrackville School Playground. The program is a four-week program for children that includes group activities, field trips, games, weekly themes, and a free lunch (Source: Marion County Parks & Recreation Commission, 2022).

Action Step: Determine the feasibility of a rail trail on the abandoned railroad through town

There is great interest in a rail trail along Buffalo Creek that would connect Fairmont, Barrackville, Farmington, Rachel, and Mannington. The trail would span a total of 13 miles, of which 1 mile is completed in Mannington. The abandoned rail trail is currently owned by CSX.

The Town of Barrackville should work with Fairmont, Farmington, Rachel, Mannington, and Marion County to complete a trail feasibility study of the corridor. A trail feasibility study would assess the abandoned rail corridor to determine the following:

- Legal feasibility: ownership conditions and adjacent landowners
- Potential trail use and demand
- Construction costs for land acquisition, trail construction, and structures
- Access points and parking
- Trail operation and maintenance



FOCUS AREA 4: QUALITY OF LIFE

The quality of life in the Town of Barrackville is an important consideration when discussing the goals and action items the Town must take to achieve its vision for the future. According to respondents of the online survey, there is a high rate of satisfaction regarding the quality of life in town, which speaks to the desirability of Barrackville. However, there is room for improvement, particularly in the provision of specific community services, according to the online survey.

Approximately 85% of residents are very satisfied or satisfied with quality of life in Barrackville.



	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Getting information about Town events and matters	13.6%	48.0%	25.6%	12.8%
Recycling	24.8%	51.2%	21.6%	2.4%
Infrastructure (water/sewer)	5.7%	36.3%	31.5%	26.6%
Public school system	43.1%	40.7%	14.6%	1.6%
Activities for senior citizens	0%	9.0%	41.8%	49.2%
Overall effectiveness of government	4.1%	42.6%	35.3%	18.0%
Arts/Culture	0.8%	10.9%	33.6%	54.6%
Library services	4.2%	19.5%	22.9%	53.4%

Source: Online Survey Results

Community Services

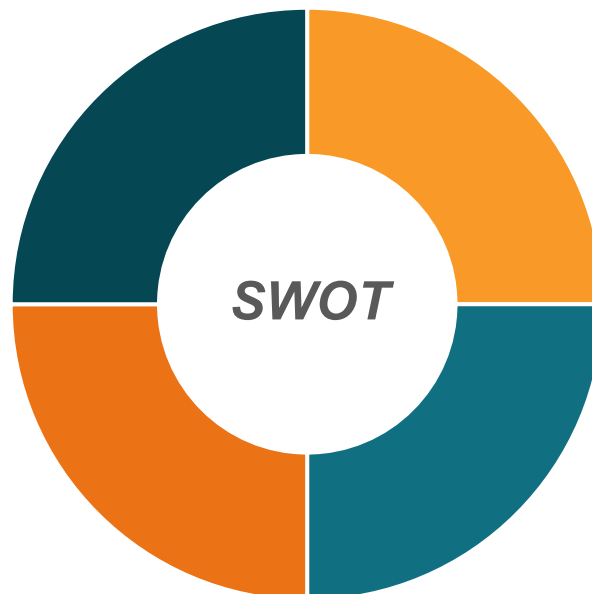
In the beginning of the planning process, the Planning Commission participated in an exercise to determine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in town. As shown below, many of the strengths in Barrackville are community services provided to residents and business owners (public safety, education, events, etc).

STRENGTHS

- Small town character
- Community events
- Sports
- Active VFD
- Police Department
- Churches
- Tradition
- Community action groups
- Barrackville School
- Summer camps
- Proximity to Fairmont and Fairmont State
- Centrally located
- Minutes from I-79
- Bedroom community
- School pride
- Real estate prices

OPPORTUNITIES

- Covered bridge
- Rail Trail
- Indoor recreation facility
- Expansion of outdoor recreation
- Annexation



WEAKNESSES

- Geography
- Lack of indoor recreation
- Limited retail business
- No manufacturing
- No restaurants
- Aging infrastructure
- Lack of zoning regulations

THREATS

- Abandoned and dilapidated properties
- Vacant buildings
- No zoning
- Lack of code enforcement
- Drugs
- Old ordinances

The entire town is serviced with public sewer, which is managed by the Town of Barrackville. Public water is provided by the City of Fairmont. The town has good cell phone reception and internet service. The town also has essential utilities and equipment, such as electric and natural gas.

The nearest hospital to Barrackville is Fairmont Medical Center. Fairmont Medical Center is part of WVU Medicine and offers emergency care, neurology, radiation oncology, cardiology, imaging services, laboratory services and telemedicine. There are no medical offices (doctors, dentists, etc) within town limits, however many options are available in Fairmont.

One of the biggest strengths of the town is the Barrackville Elementary/Middle School. The school provides education to 349 students in grades K through 8. Programs at the school include tutoring and basketball (grades 4th, 5th, and 6th). Students have the option to attend East Fairmont, West Fairmont or North Marion High Schools. At this time, the majority of students in town attend North Marion High School.



The Marion County Library System also provides educational opportunities for residents with three libraries and a bookmobile. The main library is located in the City of Fairmont and two branch libraries are located in Fairview and Mannington. The library receives funds from the property tax levy in Marion County, the State of West Virginia, Marion County, the Marion County School Board, and the cities of Fairmont and Mannington. Programs offered at the library include story hours, crafts, book clubs, 3D printing, Lego robotics, sewing, and table gaming. The bookmobile services Barrackville with stops at the Barrackville Elementary/Middle School and the Dollar General.

Garbage service in town is provided by Barrackville Garbage Service. Recycling bins are located at the Barrackville Post Office. The following types of items can be recycled: cardboard, newspapers, magazines, and plastics.



Source: Barrackville-Christmas in Our Town Facebook Page

The Town and a variety of organizations sponsor many events throughout the year. Community events include the annual “Christmas in Our Town” celebration, which includes lighting of the tree, a live nativity, a home decorating contest, a street sign decorating competition, fireworks, breakfast with Santa, and a parade. The celebration is planned by the Barrackville Lions Club and Christmas in Our Town Committee.

The Barrackville Covered Bridge Festival is a new community event to be held in the summer of 2022. The festival is organized by the Barrackville Covered Bridge Preservation Society and includes children activities, craft shows, and entertainment (Times West Virginian, 2022).

An all-town yard sale is held in the summer. This event is where multiple families host yard sales throughout a designated weekend in the summer.

The Lion’s Club also hosts the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Barrackville Elementary/Middle School. Eggs are separated in age groups, with special prize eggs and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Transportation

Barrackville is approximately 4 miles from Interstate 79. The main roads (US Route 250, State Routes 250/32, and State Route 21) through Barrackville are state owned and maintained. There are no issues with movement of traffic and parking. Most of the local streets are maintained by local residents due to the lack of funding by the Town.



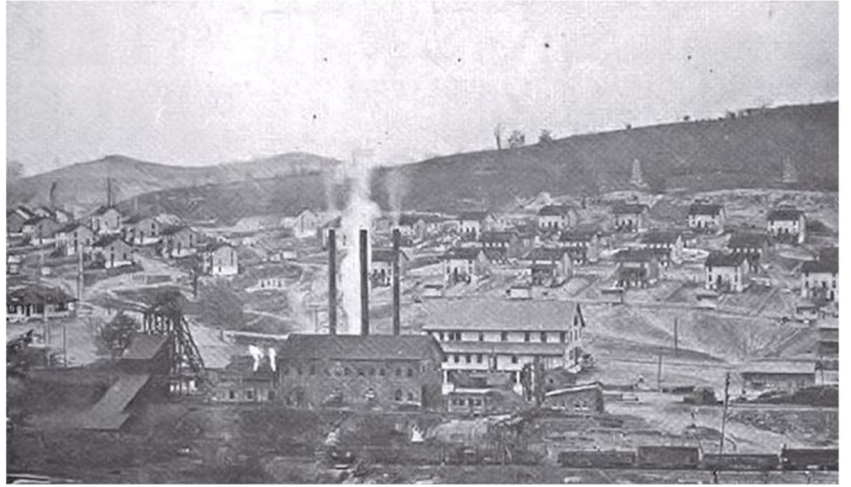
According to Town policy, if a road needs paved, all residents on the road must pay a portion of the cost (cost is calculated based on frontage) and that money is used to pave the entire road. The Town employs three people in the winter that are responsible for snow removal. Two of the three employees are also responsible for maintenance of all town buildings, grass cutting, road repair and sewage system maintenance.

The town is served by the Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority. The Barrackville Bus Route operates Monday through Saturday. There are four (4) stops within town limits with the end destination being the City of Fairmont. Riders can access other bus routes in Fairmont. The transit authority also provides dial-a-ride services, non-medical emergency transport, and ADA paratransit service.

No special lanes or routes exist for bicyclists. There are sidewalks on Pike Street, but most areas in town do not have sidewalks. There is no waterway or active railroads within town limits and no port. At this time there are no intermodal transportation options in the town. The closest airport to Barrackville is the North Central West Virginia Airport in Bridgeport.

Economic Development

In the early 1900s, economic development opportunities centered on the Barrackville coal mine. The Barrackville coal camp was built in 1910 by Jamison Coal and Coke. The mine was purchased by Bethlehem Steel in 1920 and closed in the late 1980s. As with many coal camp towns, once the industry left, many nearby businesses also closed. The coal camp was annexed into town limits several years ago.



Source:

<http://www.coalcampusa.com/nowv/fairmont/barrackville/barrackville.htm>

All that is left of the former mine are four abandoned buildings across the street from the coal camp and a 335-acre refuse pile. The coal refuse pile, located outside of town limits above the coal camp, is trucked to the Grant Town Power Plant. The site is still in use and will likely continue for another decade before reclamation can begin (Power, 2021).

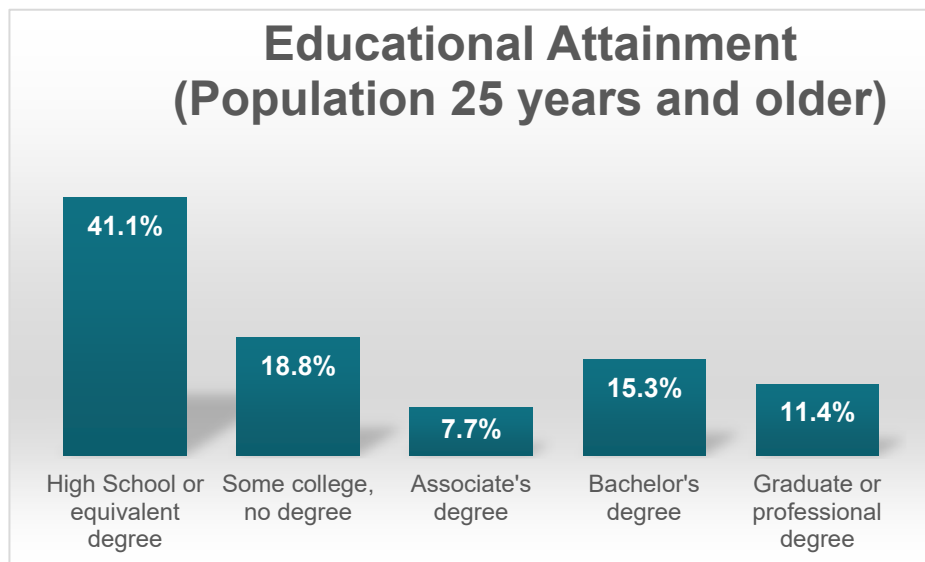


As the Town of Barrackville is mainly a residential community, there are limited economic development opportunities within town limits. Most of the past opportunities were centered on coal mining.

The Town of Barrackville lost over 500 residents from 1980-2000.

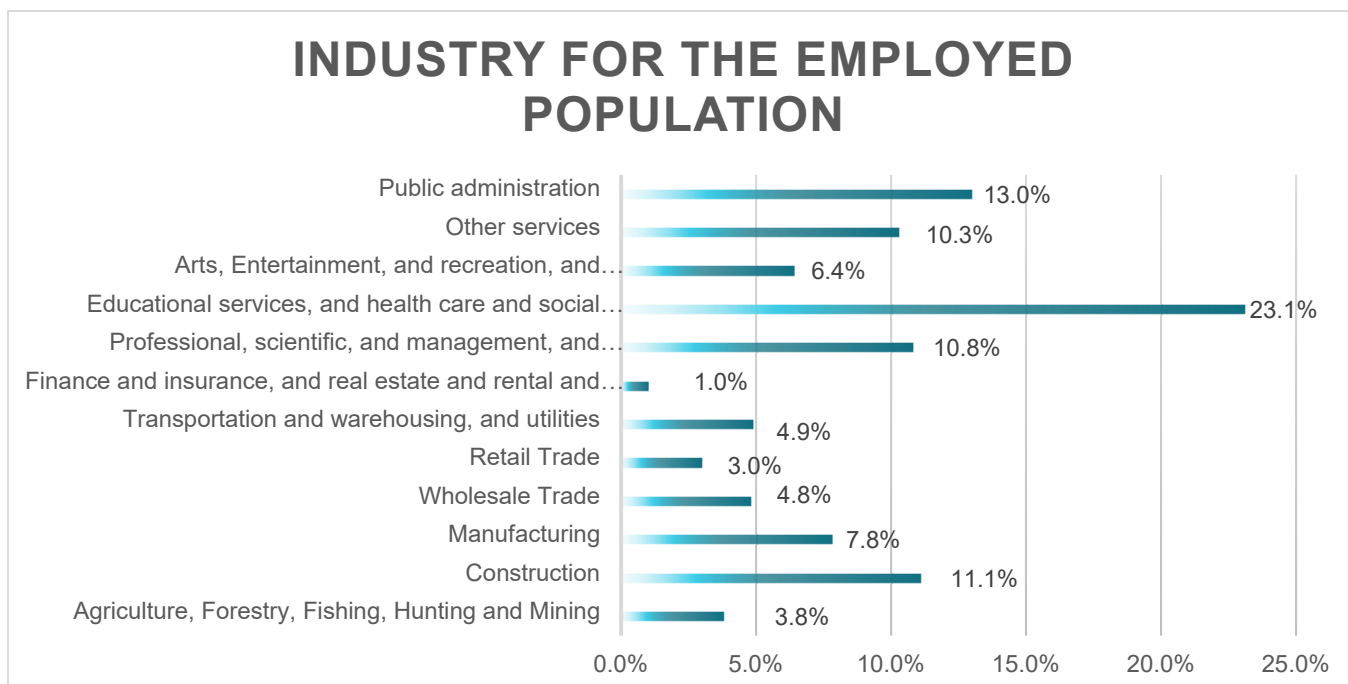
Source: United States Census

According to the 2019 American Community Survey, the average commute time for residents is 23.2 minutes, illustrating that the majority of residents are employed outside of town limits. The available infrastructure and condition of roadways in town limit the Town's ability to attract large industry and business. Therefore, the Town would like to focus on becoming a recreational destination and bedroom community of the City of Fairmont.



Source: 2019 American Community Survey

The 2019 American Community Survey reports that the median household income of residents is \$60,625. This is significantly higher than the median household income of West Virginia of \$48,850. Residents are well-educated, with many having some form of higher education. Most residents work in educational services, health care, and social assistance industries.



Source: 2019 American Community Survey

Data from the 2019 American Community Survey was utilized to better understand economic trends in Barrackville. Approximately 12% of residents are at poverty level. Approximately 58% of residents are employed, higher than West Virginia's rate of 50%. Approximately 31% of residents are within the childrearing age cohort, which tend to make up the bulk of the workforce and have more disposable income. Ten percent of residents comprise the older retired age cohort. As the number of residents in this age cohort increased in the past ten years, it is important for the town to recognize that this age group may have limited finances and need greater access to medical facilities and public transportation.

The average age of residents in Barrackville is 40.5.

Source: 2019 American Community Survey

Goal: Improve the quality of life for existing and future residents

Action Step: Upgrade the town's sewer system

Barrackville's sewer board was established in 1985. In 2011, an overhaul to the sewage system occurred to upgrade lines and alleviate inflow and infiltration problems. The project was funded through a state grant and financing. The minimum rate is \$54.55 for 4,000 gallons and \$13.37 per each additional 1,000 gallons.

Upgrades are currently needed to stop combined sewer overflows into Buffalo Creek. Preliminary estimates are \$2.5 to \$2.7 million to upgrade the system, which would lead to a 25 percent increase in sewage rates.

Action Step: Extend the existing sidewalk on Pike Street

Many residents in Barrackville walk to get around town, but only a small portion of town has sidewalks. A sidewalk exists along Pike Street from the Barrackville Covered Bridge to Maple Avenue. Maple Avenue and a small portion of Cook Street also have sidewalks.

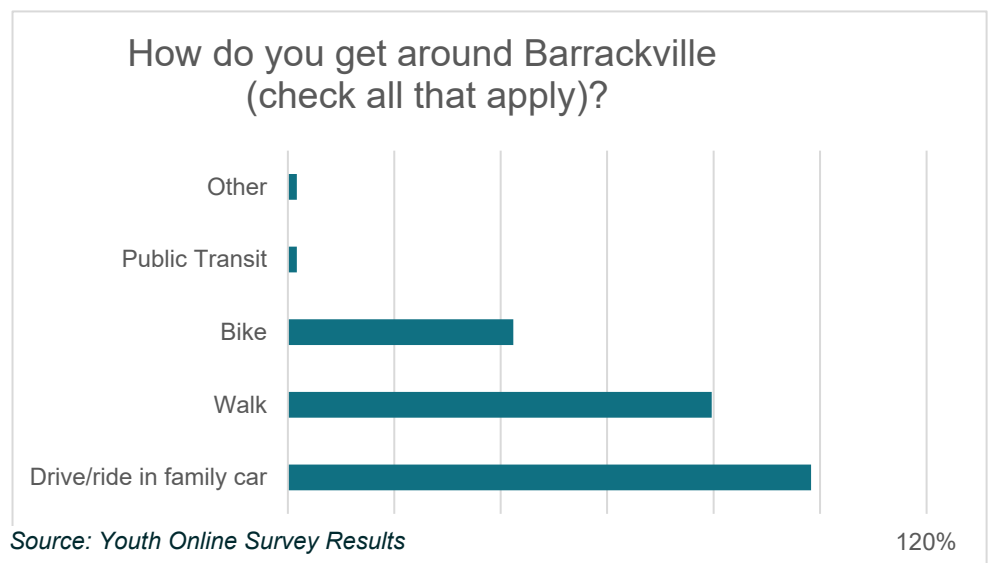
Sidewalk maintenance is the responsibility of the property owner. However, in 2011 and 2016, the Town received grant money to fix sidewalks. At this time, there is limited need for additional sidewalks generally. A continuation of the existing sidewalk on Pike Street to the intersection of Rice Street should be the focus of sidewalk additions, as this portion of town has a

Objective:
Improve infrastructure to serve existing and future development

Objective:
Provide a multi-modal transportation network

Objective:
Improve communication to city residents and business owners

Objective:
Encourage additional economic development opportunities



significant amount of traffic on the roadway. Even though most streets in town do not have sidewalks, survey respondents rated pedestrian safety as excellent to good, most likely due to the low level of traffic on side streets throughout town.

	A= Excellent	B= Good	C= Average	D= Below Avg	F= Fail	No Opinion
Pedestrian Safety	20.00%	43.33%	21.67%	8.33%	3.33%	3.33%
Sidewalks	15.00%	41.67%	28.33%	10.00%	5.00%	0%
Road/Street Condition	3.39%	27.12%	35.59%	16.95%	16.95%	0%
Public transportation	10.17%	22.03%	22.03%	15.25%	10.17%	20.34%

Source: Youth Online Survey Results

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Pedestrian Safety	16.8%	52.8%	23.2%	7.2%
Street Condition	5.6%	32.8%	34.4%	27.2%
Sidewalks	5.7%	45.2%	37.9%	11.3%
Traffic Circulation	15.7%	66.9%	16.5%	0.8%
Public transportation	6.7%	38.3%	43.3%	11.7 %

Source: Online Survey Results

Action Step: Consider another solution to paving and maintaining roads

Property owners are required to pay for maintenance of the roadway their house is located on. This is not a popular with town residents and has led to many roads in poor condition, as the repairs are too costly for residents to afford.

The Town should consider a town service fee and/or user fee to help fund road maintenance. A municipal fee would be charged to residents on a monthly basis. A user fee would require employees within town limits to pay a fee on a weekly basis.

The **Road Conditions Map** illustrates the roads in good, fair, and poor condition.

Action Step: Utilize land owned by the town for a public works garage and recreation area

A public works garage is needed to better store public works and sewer board equipment. The town owns land in front of the VFD that could be utilized for a garage and possibly a small recreation area.

Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan

Road Conditions

Legend



Barrackville Municipal Boundry



Streams

Road Condition



No Condition Noted



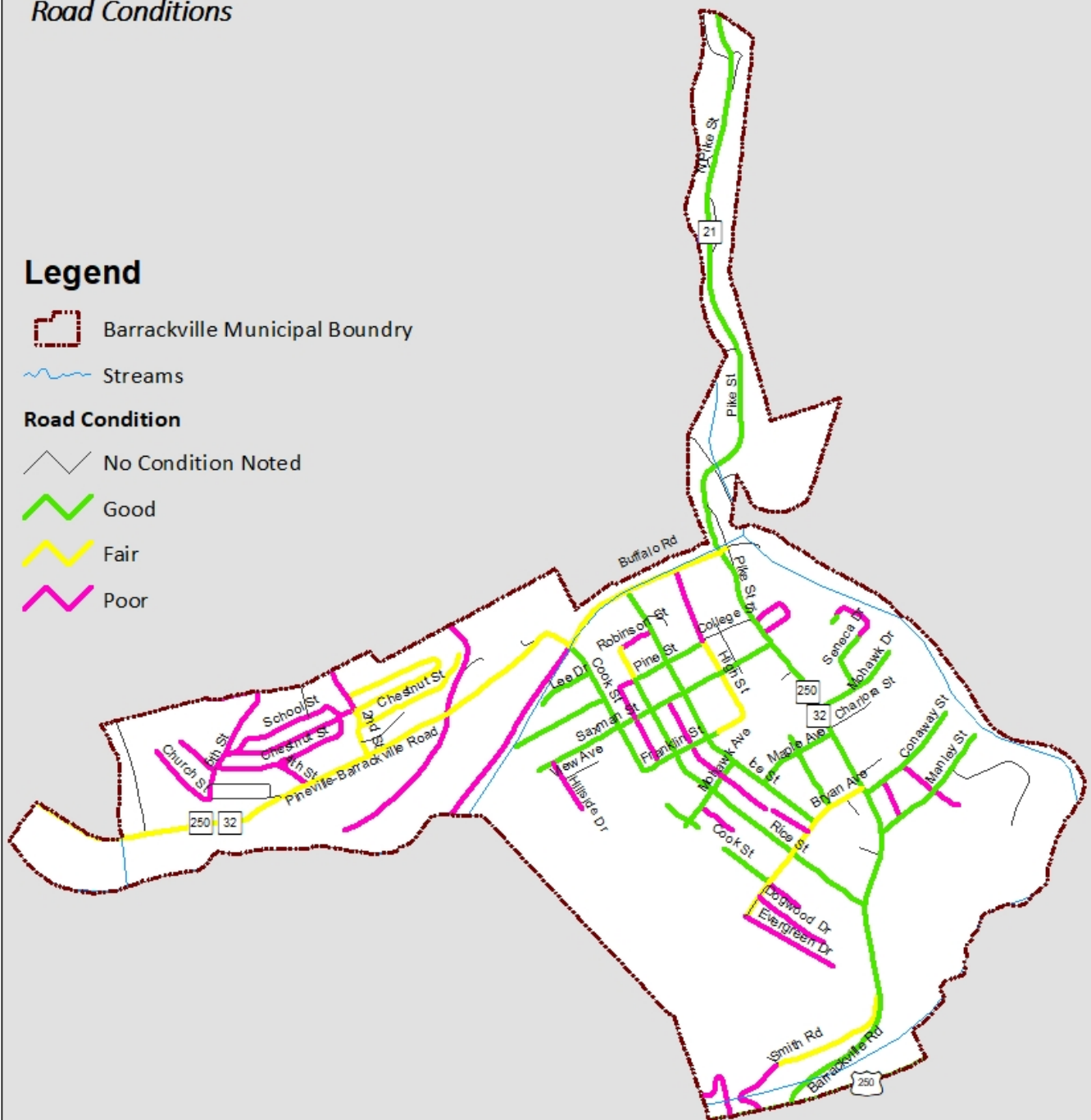
Good



Fair



Poor



Action Step: Publicize and promote public transportation options

Barrackville elected officials should work with the Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority to publicize the service as much as possible to town residents. Signs should be installed at the bus stop locations in town (Pike Street, Saxman Street, Mine Camp, and the Covered Bridge).

Action Step: Continue to hold additional events

Volunteers with various organizations in Barrackville do a great job holding events throughout the year. Local elected officials should continue to support these events and hold additional events to increase the visibility of the town and attract visitors to Barrackville. Other ideas for events include a farmer's market, street parties, movie nights, and craft shows.

Action Step: Develop an official town website and Facebook page

The Town should develop an official website to post meeting agendas, minutes, documents, ordinances, and other important information. The Town should also consider codifying their ordinances and publishing the ordinances online for residents and interested parties to review.

In addition, the town should create an official Facebook page. Town events could be posted on the page. The Town should regularly update the page as a means of communication to residents. Many people use social media to stay informed rather than reading the local newspaper.

Action Step: Schedule a yearly meeting with the youth in the community

During the planning process the youth were asked to take a survey to determine the issues and concerns of young people in Barrackville. Sixty people took the survey and had great insight and comments. Ninety percent of people that took the youth survey would like to have the opportunity to meet with local elected officials and discuss issues and concerns.

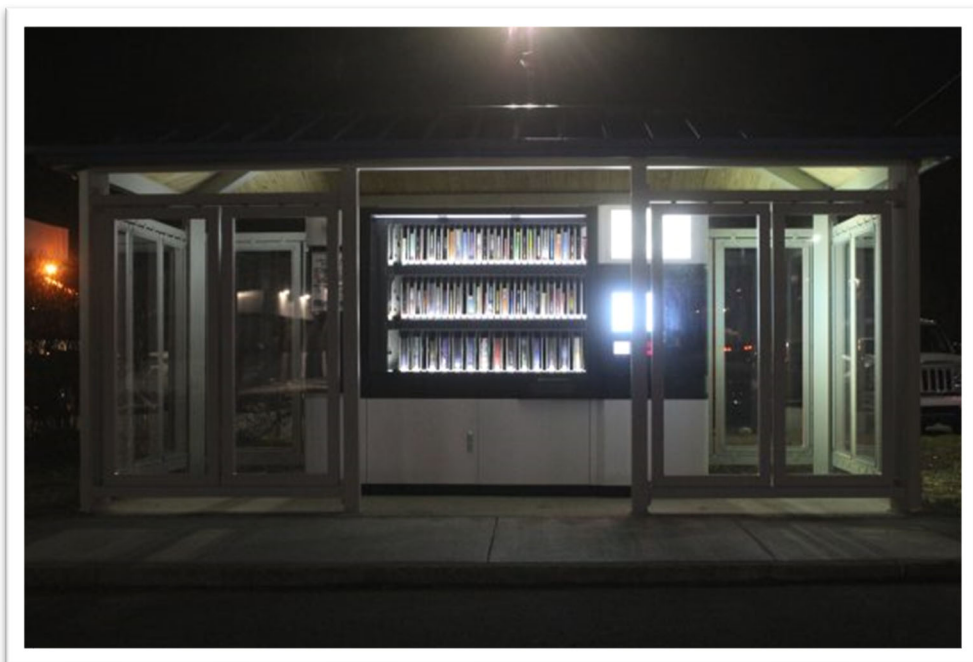
Action Step: Collect Business and Occupation Tax on all businesses

Currently only a few businesses pay the Business and Occupation (B&O) tax due to the number of exemptions listed in the ordinance. There is also a lack of enforcement of the B&O ordinance in collecting revenues. The town should consider revising the ordinance to not include so many exemptions and create a system to ensure businesses are paying the tax as required.

Action Step: Explore the possibility of installing a library kiosk in Barrackville

At this time there is no library within town limits. The bookmobile service is limited with stops in town at the Dollar General every other Wednesday from noon to 1:00 p.m.

The library system currently has a 24-hour kiosk in White Hall. The kiosk holds books, novels, DVDs, and audiobooks. People are able to browse the collection, pick up holds, and return items. There is the possibility of the county installing another kiosk in a town in Marion County. Local elected officials should work with the library to determine the feasibility of installing the kiosk in Barrackville.



Source: Marion County Library website

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Many communities struggle with what to do with a comprehensive plan once the plan is adopted by the local government. Even though lots of work goes into creating a plan, the most important work of the Planning Commission and local government is implementation. To help guide local elected officials, an implementation matrix is included with this plan. The implementation matrix details the priority level of each action item, a timeframe for completion, potential partners for financial or technical assistance, estimated costs, and potential funding sources. The implementation matrix should be used immediately to start implementation of the plan and should be visited regularly to determine the status of each action item and any obstacles that have been encountered.

As the Town of Barrackville has a limited budget and staff, all action items were prioritized based on need. Each action item is listed as either a high, medium, or low priority.

- High priority: most important to implement
- Medium priority: an important project but not as urgent as high priority projects
- Low priority: project that can be implemented as time and funding permit, but only after high and medium priority projects are implemented

A timeframe for each action item was also identified. While some projects may be high priority, they may take longer to implement due to funding and resources. Immediate projects should take less than 1 year to implement. Mid-term projects will take longer, anywhere between 1-2 years. Long-term projects are those that will take 3 plus years to implement.

The cost of the action items depends on the size and scope of the project. The listed costs are estimates only and not actual costs. To help the Town with implementation, a list of funding sources can be found in **Appendix 4**. Local elected officials should work with Marion County to find opportunities for cost efficiency and savings. Additionally, the Town should collaborate with Region VI Planning and Development Council to implement and fund projects detailed in the comprehensive plan. The Town should also look to area foundations for help with implementation.

TOP PRIORITIES

The Planning Commission chose several key projects that they would like to start implementing immediately after plan adoption to build momentum for the implementation of the comprehensive plan. There is a total of 30 projects listed in the comprehensive plan to address the needs and concerns of residents. Seven (7) projects were chosen to be the initial focus of the planning commission due to limited funding, staff capacity, and lack of resources. All the action items listed in the plan are important, but the list below should be considered high priorities for the town. Some of the action items are to be completed in steps.

Enact a zoning ordinance

Enhance the appearance of town

- Step 1: Consider enacting a vacant property registry
- Step 2: Enact 8-12-16
- Step 3: Continue to work on beautification efforts

Provide indoor recreation opportunities and safe routes for walking, biking, and running

- Step 1: Determine the feasibility of a rail trail
- Step 2: Partner with the school district to provide additional recreation facilities

Upgrade the town's sewer system

IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan						
RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY	TIME-FRAME	REF. PAGE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	EST. COSTS
Enact a zoning ordinance to protect the character of the town	High	Immediate	19	Town Council	WVU Land Use Clinic	\$10,000
Consider regional planning opportunities with Marion County and the City of Fairmont	Medium	Long-term	19	Town Council	Marion County, City of Fairmont	N/A
Advertise town-wide clean-up events	Medium	Immediate	20	Town Council	N/A	General fund
Create a monthly home contest to improve pride in properties	Low	Long-term	20	Barrackville Lions Club	Town Council	Dependent on scope of project
Continue to work on beautification projects	High	Long-term	20	Town Council	Barrackville Lions Club, volunteers	Dependent on scope of project
Preserve the Barrackville Covered Bridge	Medium	Mid-term	21	Barrackville Covered Bridge Preservation Society	Town Council	\$500,000
Enact 8-12-16	High	Immediate	24	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Consider enacting a vacant property registry	High	Immediate	24	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Apply for Home Rule	Medium	Mid-term	24	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Update and modernize the existing nuisance ordinance, in particular by adding provisions to address drug houses	Medium	Mid-term	24	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Continue to support the VFD	Low	Long-term	25	Town Council	N/A	Dependent on scope of project
Develop community-oriented policing	Low	Long-term	25	Town Council	N/A	Dependent on scope of project
Continue to review and prepare a Disaster Action Plan	Low	Long-term	26	Town Council	Police Dept., VFD, Marion County	Staff time
Update the floodplain ordinance	High	Immediate	26	Town Council	N/A	Staff time

Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan						
RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY	TIME-FRAME	REF. PAGE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	EST. COSTS
Consider forming a Parks and Recreation Commission	Medium	Mid-term	28	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Partner with the Marion County Parks and Recreation on annual grant improvements	Medium	Long-term	28	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Partner with the school district to provide additional recreational facilities	High	Mid-term	30	Barrackville Community Foundation	Town Council, Marion County	Dependent on scope of project
Improve Lewis Hall Field	High	Mid-term	31	Town Council	Marion County Parks & Recreation Commission	Dependent on scope of project
Develop recreational programming	Low	Long-term	31	Town Council	Marion County Parks & Recreation Commission	Dependent on scope of project
Determine the feasibility of a rail trail on the abandoned railroad through town	High	Immediate	32	Town Council	Fairmont, Farmington, Rachel, Mannington, & Marion County	Dependent on scope of project
Upgrade the town's sewer system	High	Long-term	41	Town Council	Region VI Planning & Development Council	Over \$2 million
Extend the existing sidewalk on Pike Street	High	Mid-term	41	Town Council	Region VI Planning & Development Council	Dependent on scope of project
Consider another solution to paving and maintaining roads	High	Long-term	42	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Utilize land owned by town for public works garage and recreation area	High	Mid-term	42	Town Council	N/A	Dependent of scope of project
Publicize and promote public transportation options	Low	Long-term	44	Town Council	Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority	Staff time
Continue to hold additional events	High	Immediate	44	Various organizations in Barrackville	Town Council	Dependent on size of event

Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan						
RECOMMENDATION	PRIORITY	TIME-FRAME	REF. PAGE	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	POTENTIAL PARTNERS	EST. COSTS
Develop an official town website and Facebook page	High	Immediate	44	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Schedule a yearly meeting with the youth in the community	Low	Long-term	44	Town Council	Barrackville Elementary/ Middle School	Staff time
Collect Business and Occupation Tax on all businesses	High	Immediate	45	Town Council	N/A	Staff time
Explore the possibility of installing a library kiosk in Barrackville	Medium	Mid-term	45	Marion County Library	Town Council	Dependent on scope of project

An open house was held to solicit input from the public regarding their priorities for the future in Barrackville. A total of 12 people attended the open house. Additional input was desired by the Planning Commission; therefore, an online survey was created. The survey asked residents to select the top eight action items they felt the Town should focus on implementing first. A total of 83 people participated in the survey. The top eight action items chosen by the public are:

1. Determine the feasibility of a rail trail on the abandoned railroad through town.
2. Continue to support the Volunteer Fire Department.
3. Preserve the Barrackville Covered Bridge.
4. Enact 8-12-16.
5. Partner with school district to provide additional recreational facilities.
6. Partner with Marion County Parks and Recreation on annual community grant improvements.
7. Continue to work on beautification projects.
8. Continue to hold additional events

Note: The online survey identified enacting the International Property Maintenance Code has the number 8 priority. However, the Town of Barrackville enacted the ordinance after the online survey was published, so this action step was removed, and the next priority action item is listed above.


Appendix I: Public Input Procedures


Town of Barrackville, West Virginia Planning Commission The Comprehensive Plan Procedures for Public Input

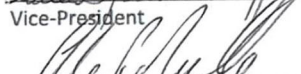
Pursuant to the requirements of W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(c), the Planning Commission of the Town of Barrackville, West Virginia ("Barrackville Planning Commission") hereby adopts the following procedures to encourage and promote public participation in the drafting of the Barrackville Comprehensive Plan ("comprehensive plan"). The comprehensive plan is being drafted pursuant to W. Va. Code § 8A-1-1.

- (1) The Barrackville Planning Commission will request input from other affected governing bodies and units of governments that may be affected by the adoption of the comprehensive plan.
- (2) Under W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(b), once the Barrackville Planning Commission has completed a draft of the comprehensive plan, and before the Barrackville Planning Commission submits a plan to the Town Council for adoption or consent, it must publicize and hold a public hearing on the draft of its plan.
 - a. More particularly, under W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(b), at least thirty (30) days prior to the date set for the public hearing, the Planning Commission will publish a notice of the date, time and place of the public hearing as a Class I legal advertisement in compliance with the provisions of article three, chapter fifty-nine of the West Virginia Code. The notice shall run in a general circulating publication, the publication area will be the area that will be covered by the comprehensive plan.
 - b. In addition to the requirements at W. Va. Code § 8A-3-6(b), above, the Barrackville Planning Commission will publish its draft of the comprehensive plan at least thirty (30) days prior to the public hearing. Specifically, the Planning Commission will post hardcopies for public review at Barrackville Town Hall.
- (3) Public notice of Barrackville Planning Commission meetings will be given pursuant to the West Virginia Open Governmental Proceedings Act, where applicable.
- (4) No provision herein shall be construed as limiting the Barrackville Planning Commission's ability to engage in additional public participation efforts as the Barrackville Planning Commission deems appropriate. No provision herein shall prohibit the Barrackville Planning Commission from amending these procedures.

Adopted this 15th day of December, 2020.


President


Vice-President

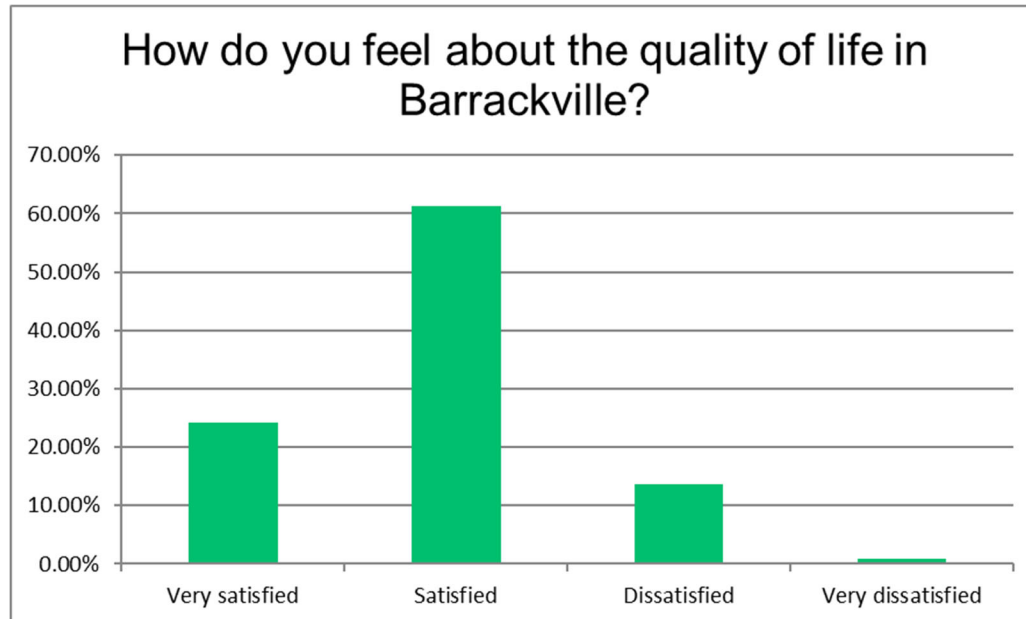

Member

Member

Member

Appendix 2: Public Input Results

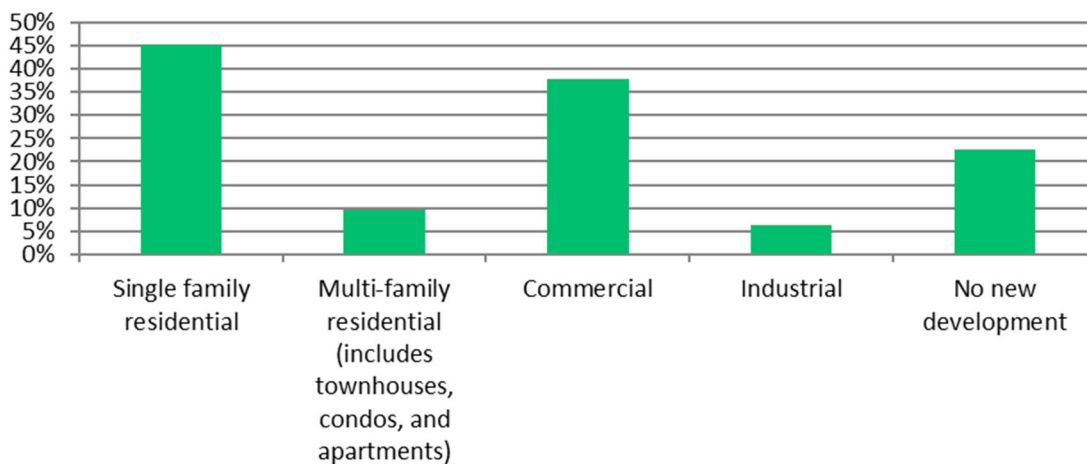
First online survey results



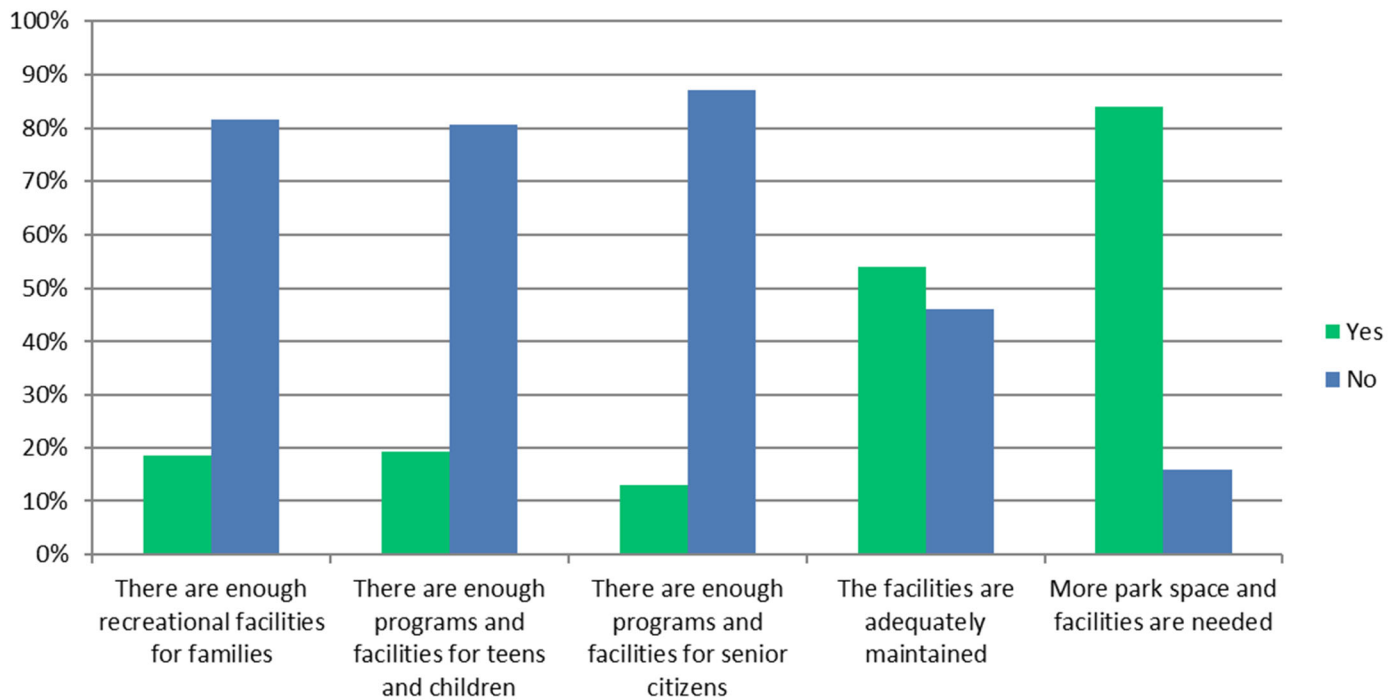
Please rate your level of satisfaction for each of the following:				
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Availability of recreation	0.8%	29.3%	39.0%	30.9%
Fire protection	55.2%	29.6%	14.4%	0.8%
Police protection	40.3%	33.1%	12.9%	13.7%
Public school system	43.1%	40.7%	14.6%	1.6%
Library services	4.2%	19.5%	22.9%	53.4%
Job opportunities	0.0%	7.4%	29.8%	62.8%
Arts/culture	0.8%	10.9%	33.6%	54.6%
Pedestrian Safety	16.8%	52.8%	23.2%	7.2%
Infrastructure (water/sewer)	5.7%	36.3%	31.5%	26.6%
Enforcement of ordinances	6.6%	33.6%	35.3%	24.6%
Housing options	6.5%	48.0%	39.8%	5.7%
Sidewalks	5.7%	45.2%	37.9%	11.3%
Street condition	5.6%	32.8%	34.4%	27.2%
Visual appearance of Barrackville	9.6%	52.8%	29.6%	8.0%
Getting information about Town events and matters	13.6%	48.0%	25.6%	12.8%
Availability of retail	3.2%	28.8%	44.0%	24.0%
Traffic circulation	15.7%	66.9%	16.5%	0.8%
Public transportation	6.7%	38.3%	43.3%	11.7%
Emergency management	19.2%	43.3%	28.3%	9.2%
Activities for senior citizens	0.0%	9.0%	41.8%	49.2%
Recycling	24.8%	51.2%	21.6%	2.4%
Overall effectiveness of government	4.1%	42.6%	35.3%	18.0%
Activities for youth	4.8%	33.1%	39.5%	22.6%
Historic preservation	8.3%	46.7%	30.0%	15.0%

Of the things listed above, what is the one that you feel is MOST important for Barrackville to improve?	
Availability of recreation	12.1%
Fire protection	0.0%
Police protection	8.1%
Public school system	3.2%
Library services	1.6%
Job opportunities	5.7%
Arts/culture	0.0%
Pedestrian Safety	3.2%
Infrastructure (water/sewer)	8.9%
Enforcement of ordinances	11.3%
Housing options	0.0%
Sidewalks	1.6%
Street condition	14.5%
Visual appearance of Barrackville	12.9%
Getting information about Town events and matters	0.0%
Availability of retail	5.7%
Traffic circulation	0.0%
Public transportation	0.0%
Emergency management	0.0%
Activities for senior citizens	1.6%
Recycling	0.0%
Historic preservation	0.0%
Overall effectiveness of government	3.2%
Activities for youth	6.5%

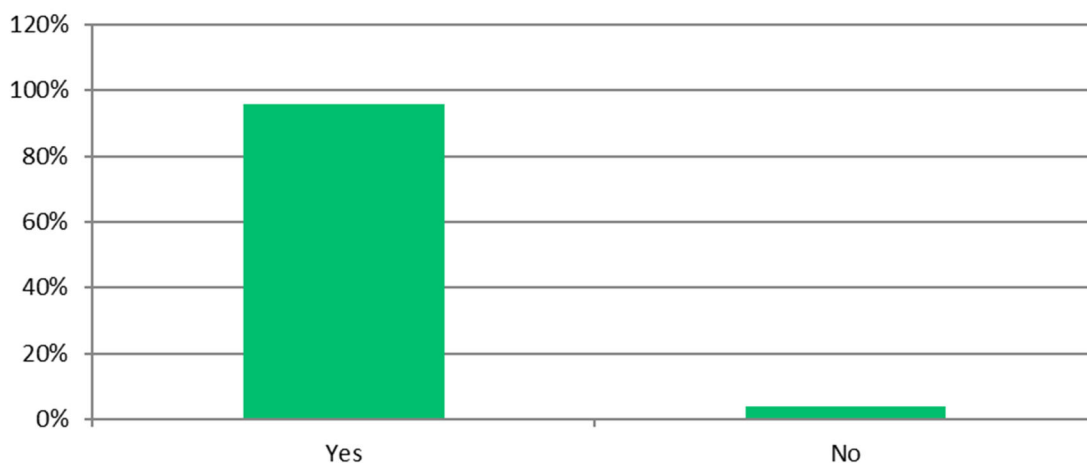
What type of new development would you like to see in Barrackville? Please check all that apply.

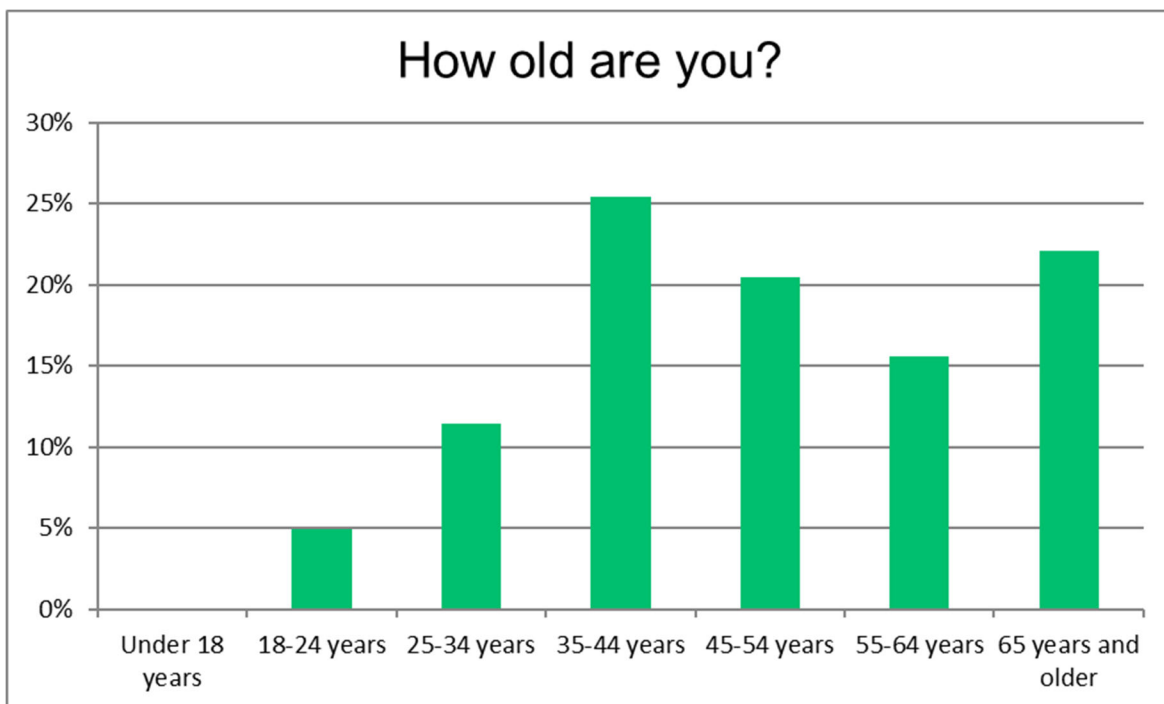
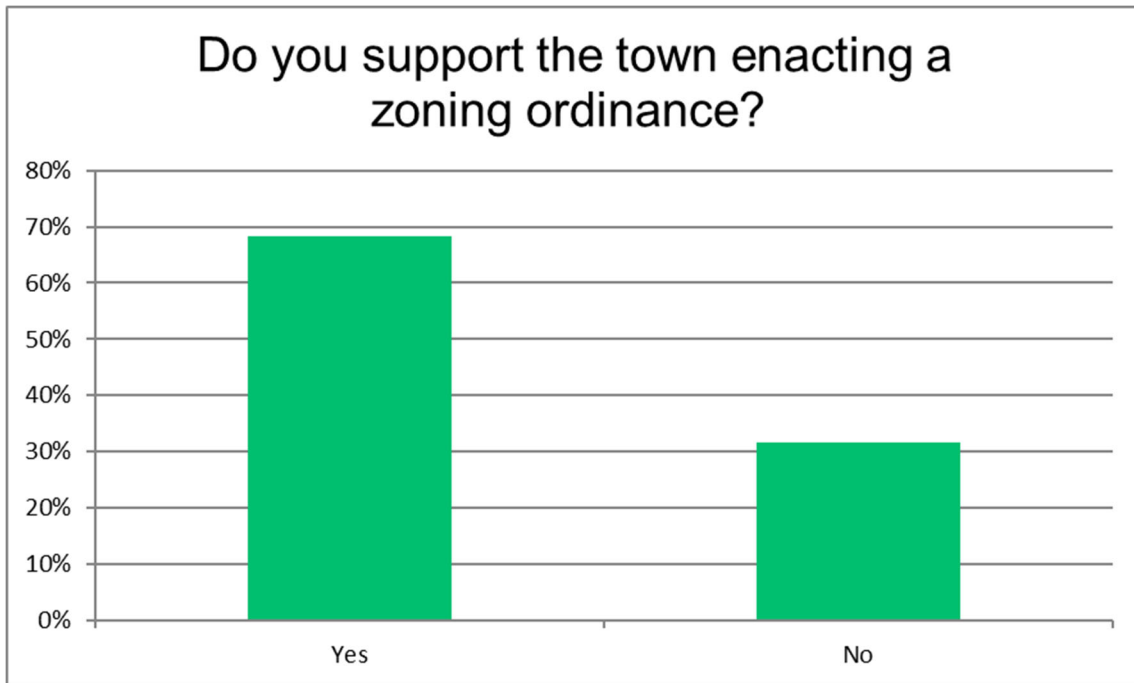


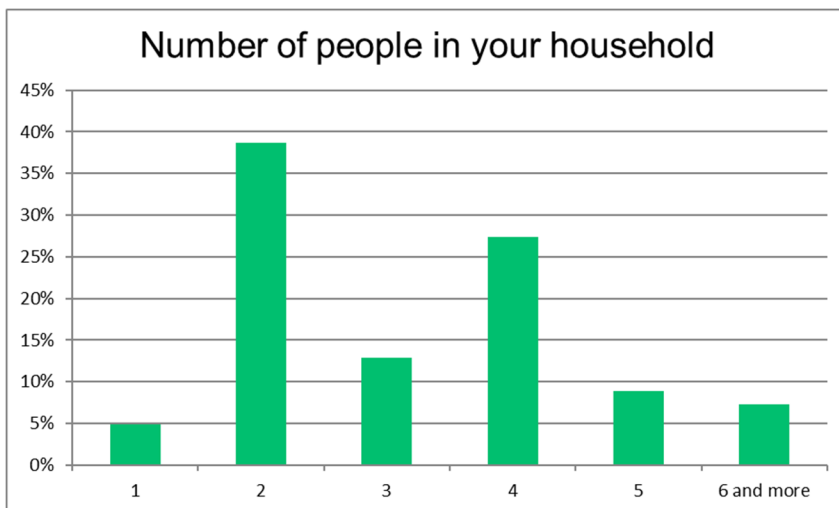
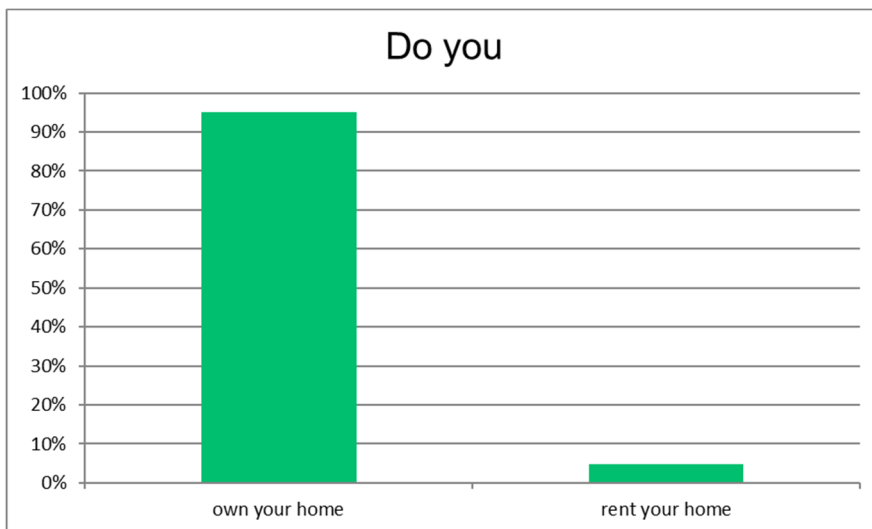
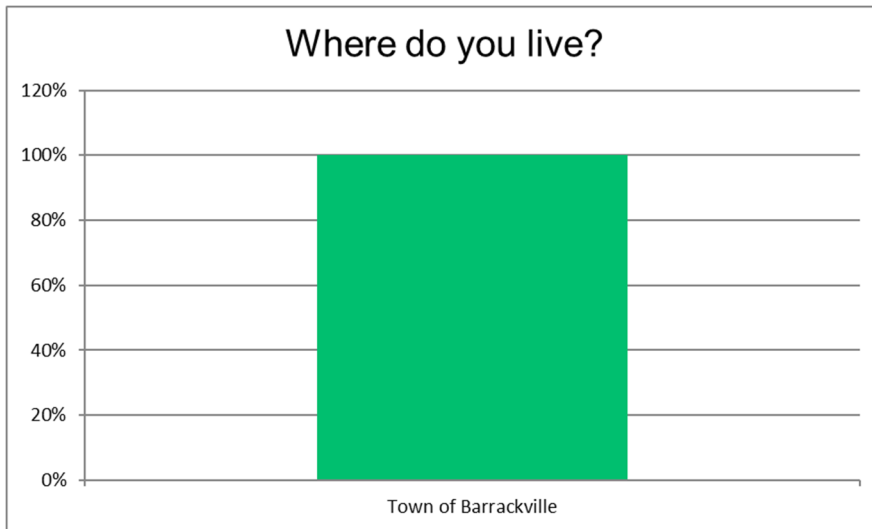
What is your opinion about the recreation provided in Barrackville? Please answer yes or no.



Do you support the town enacting ordinances to address abandoned and dilapidated buildings in Barrackville?







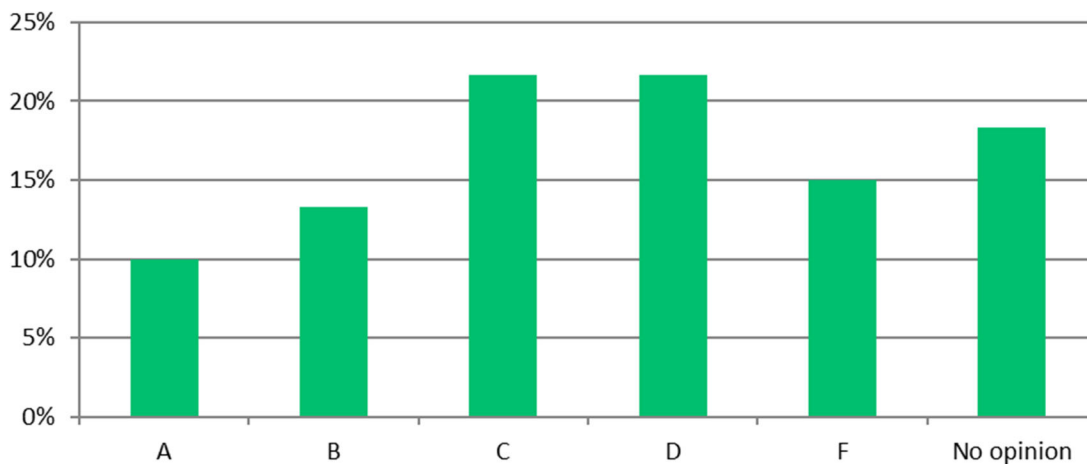
Youth survey results

Town of Barrackville Comprehensive Plan Youth Survey

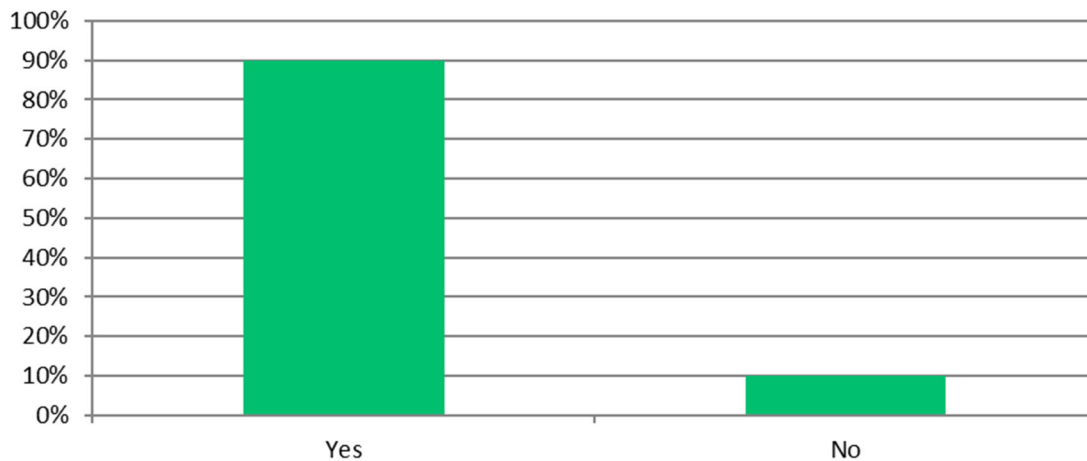
How would you grade the following? A-F

	A= Excellent. Keep up the good work.	B= Good, but there is some room for improvement.	C= Average or just OK. Not great and not horrible.	D= Below Average. A lot of work needs to be done.	F= Fail. Things need to change right away!	No Opinion
Availability of recreation	16.7%	13.3%	28.3%	15.0%	18.3%	8.3%
Fire protection	41.7%	50.0%	3.3%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Police protection	44.1%	35.6%	8.5%	3.4%	6.8%	1.7%
Public school system	35.0%	31.7%	21.7%	6.7%	3.3%	1.7%
Library services	8.3%	5.0%	21.7%	23.3%	20.0%	21.7%
Arts/culture	13.6%	8.5%	10.2%	28.8%	22.0%	17.0%
Pedestrian Safety	20.0%	43.3%	21.7%	8.3%	3.3%	3.3%
Sidewalks	15.0%	41.7%	28.3%	10.0%	5.0%	0.0%
Road/Street condition	3.4%	27.1%	35.6%	17.0%	17.0%	0.0%
Visual appearance of Town of Barrackville	25.0%	45.0%	18.3%	6.7%	3.3%	1.7%
Getting information about town events and matters	25.4%	27.1%	30.5%	10.2%	6.8%	0.0%
Availability of retail stores	17.0%	28.8%	18.6%	18.6%	11.9%	5.1%
Public transportation	10.2%	22.0%	22.0%	15.3%	10.2%	20.3%
Activities for youth	15.3%	22.0%	28.8%	11.9%	22.0%	0.0%

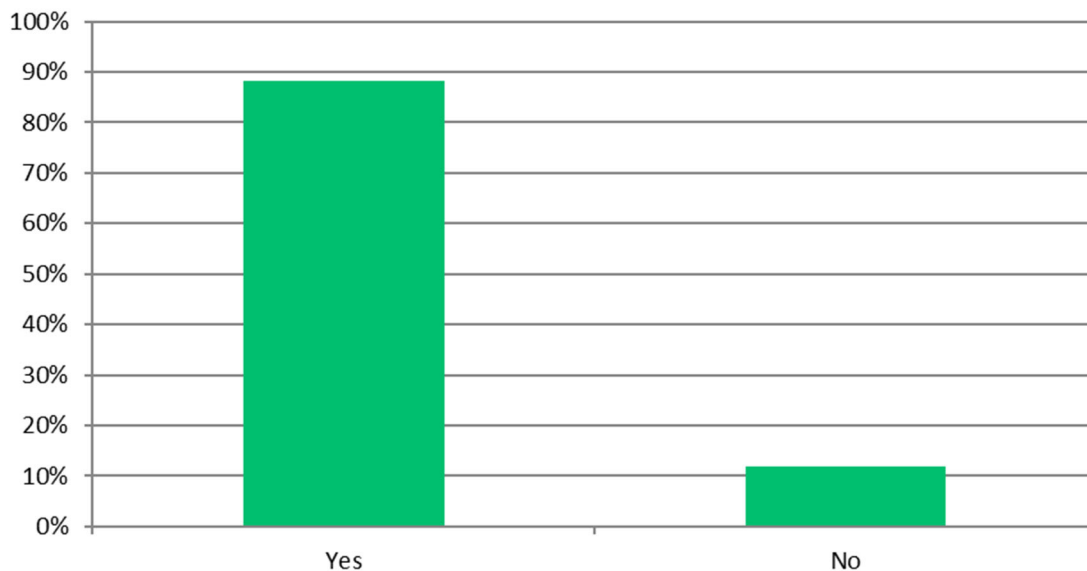
How would you grade youth's ability to participate and talk with local government officials about decisions in Barrackville?



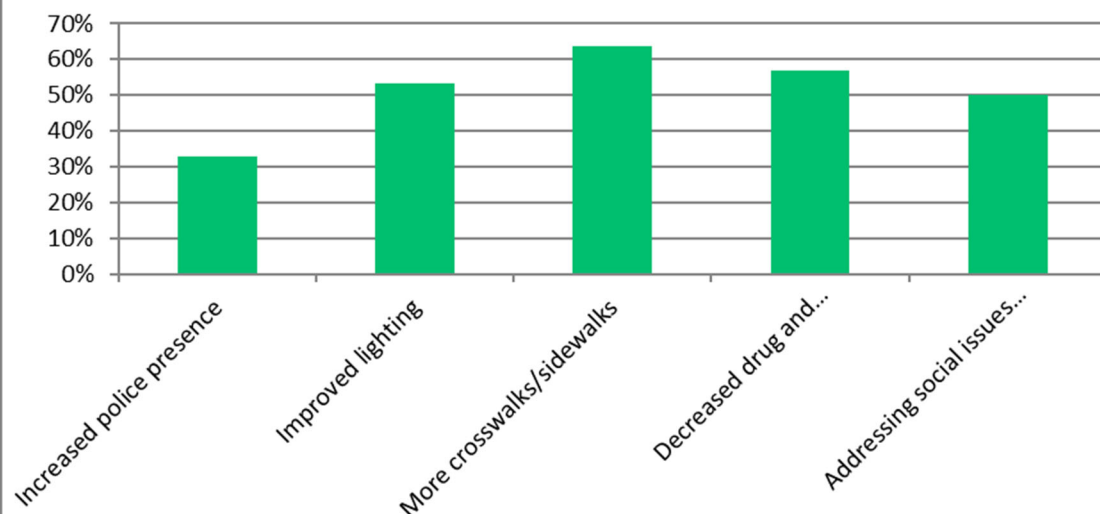
Do you think Barrackville needs to have meetings with the youth to find out what young people think?



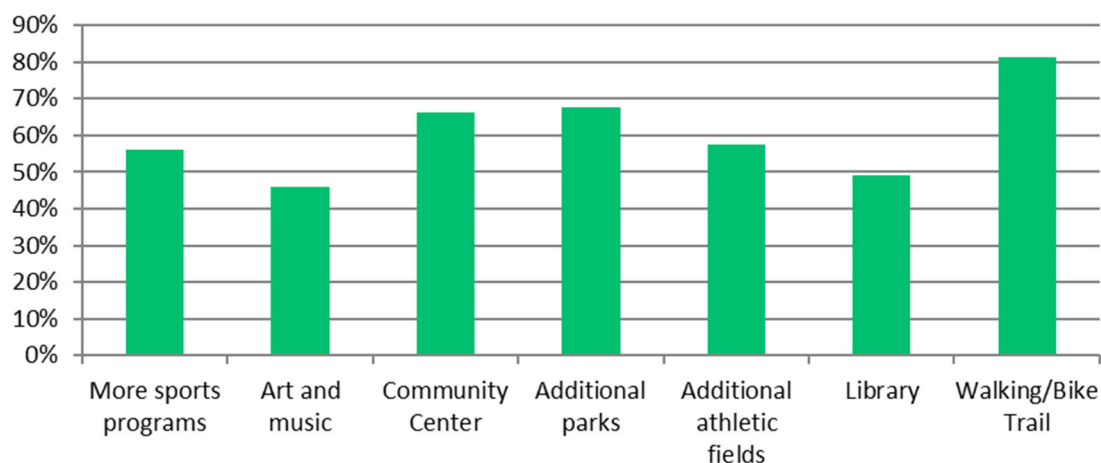
Do you feel the town is safe?



What would make the town safer (check all that apply)?



What amenities would you like to see the town offer in the future (check all that apply)?



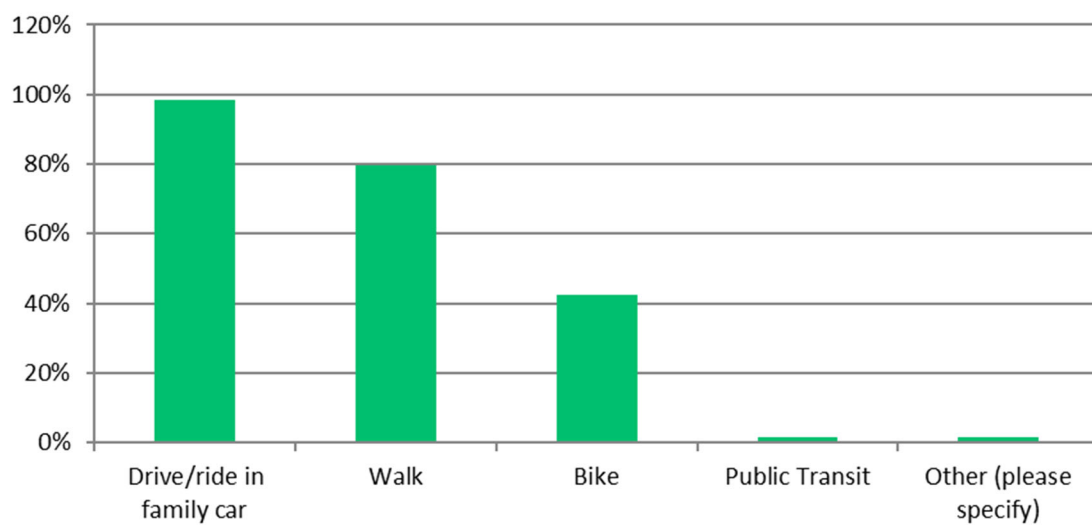
What new youth sports programs would you like to see in Barrackville?
I'm not really sure I feel like we could have our own Football team for Barrackville instead of playing as the Husky pups.
Baseball, Dance, Football
Football games
clubs like boys and girls club
Soccer
Better gym at the school.
None. I am good with the sports options..
The town needs an indoor athletic facility with a full size basketball court. The gym at the school is overused and too small.
Football
No
I would like to see more girls sports, i have to go all the way to Mannington to even play softball. Just like girls soccer even, there are almost no girl sports for Barrackville, only boys.
I would like to see more soccer teams and football teams.
soccer
What new youth sport programs I would to see is a football team.
I don't know.
gymnastics singing classes
soccer
all above
all sports
soccer
Soccer would be nice. The only thing available is t ball & they refused to let my daughter play
It would be nice to have a full size soccer net.
Football, soccer, cross country or track
not sure
4H, recreation center— possibly a pool if funds could be raised and maintained, library, outdoor movie night, community yard sale weekend
Baseball
N/a
It would be nice if there was just a program that encouraged our youth to get outside more, to enjoy the native environment of WV. As a step mother to a son that has weight issues/concerns, especially after the pandemic.. I'm always trying to take him for walks of better yet hikes in the woods, teaching him what trees, and plants are native to WV. I was never found of either the boy scouts or Girl Scouts.. but it would be nice if there was some type of program that teaches our kids fundamental life skills.
Soccer
Pool, day camp,
Tennis, Volleyball
I feel like we have a good variety when it comes to sports. However, my brother enjoys soccer which we do not have in Barrackville.
Soccer, we have many talented people who have to go play for East, West and other schools once in middle school, and there is a lot of talent in the range for soccer.
Basketball programs

Are there any parks and recreation activities that you would like to see in Barrackville?
No, not really I think we're good on that.
Helping the enviormant
Bike parks
bike trails
No
Bike trail. Basketball court
I'd like to see a park that's like the old one which was at the school. The large wooden one with the swirly slide, firemen pole and things like that.
A full size indoor basketball court.
Maybe have a town "kids day" with activities, games, amusement, etc.
Rail trail and sports complex
No
I would like to have bike trails or maybe like a cool park area with a pic-nic table and trees.
I would like to see more cross walks and sidewalks around barrackville so people don't have to walk on the road.
no
There is no parks that I would to see in Barrackville.
No.
PARKS
yes!
libray water park and more parks.
a nicer park and bigger gym
Pool
Library
A walking trail.
yep
a dog park !!!!
Dog park, community garden,
Horseshoe pits
Splash pad
Walking/biking trails! Public fishing spots
Skateboard/hoverboard park, biking, wall climb
More parks
Playground geared towards the younger aged children. School Playground doesn't have swings for children too young to sit on their own.
I would really enjoy a place for younger kids to get out and socialize. It's hard raising a 2 yr old little boy during this pandemic, he never sees strangers smile, or any type of affection. Any time he sees any child he just stops to stare.. he longs for social interaction with other children. A park, a walking trail.. anything at all would be appreciated.
Swimming pool, walking trail
Day camp, outdoor movies, neighborhood cookouts, 4th of July celebration, town picnic/ cookout, ice cream socials, movies in the gym, planned activities, bike safety program, car seat checks,
Swimming pool !
Improvements to rail trail - basketball courts indoors - art and craft opportunities
Fishing, and bike trails
I would love to have a dog park because dogs are not allowed in the school park. I would also like to have a clean up group and more after school activities for youth to participate in.
No not specifically.
Better basketball court

How would you rate the quality of internet service and connection in your home?

	1	2	3	4	5		
star	9.09%	10.91%	21.82%	40.00%	18.18%		

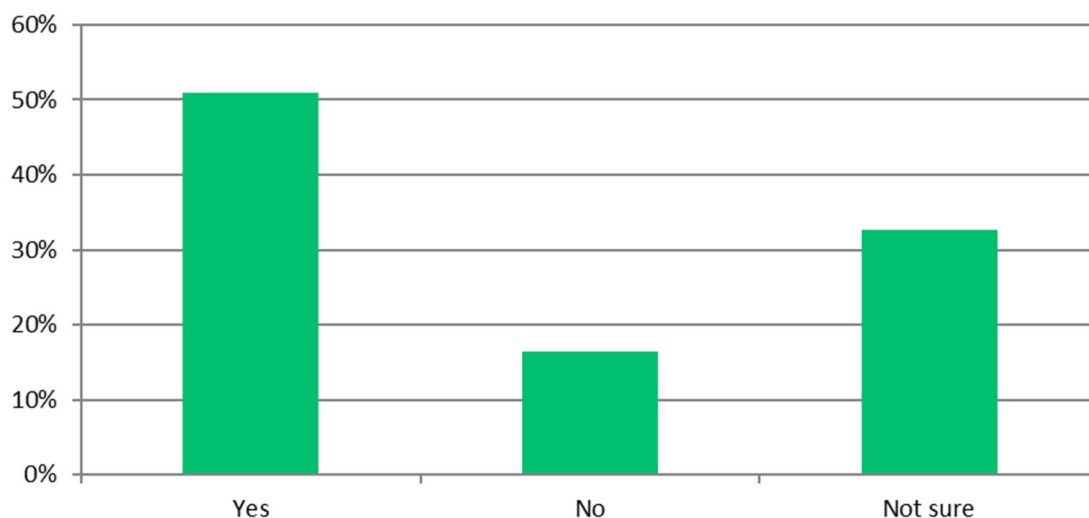
How do you get around Barrackville (check all that apply)?



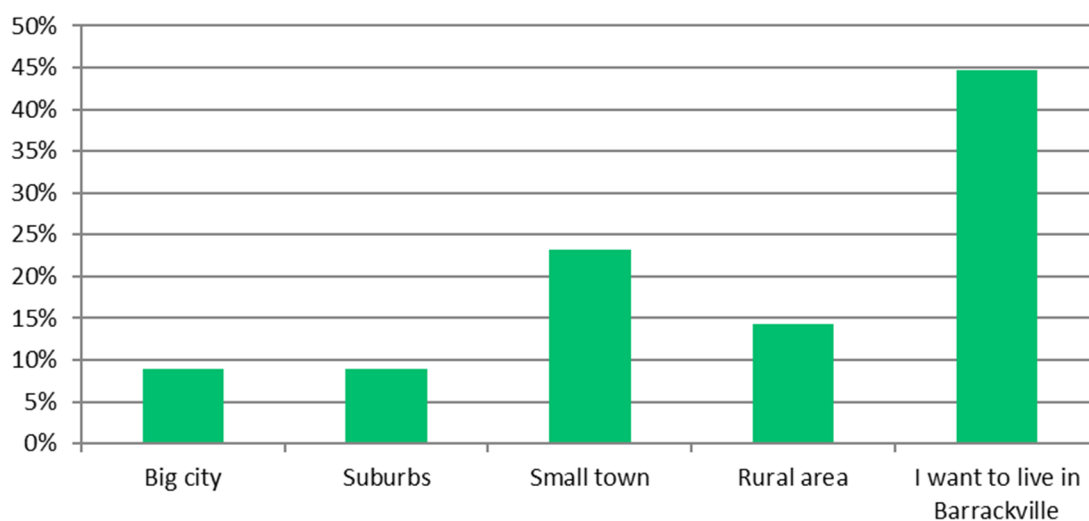
Has Barrackville been a good place to grow up and why?
Yeah, I think It's been a good place to grow up. It's a safe and loving place to grow up.
I don't know because i don't live in Barrackville
Yes because its a nice place to be
yes i feel safe and i have a lot of fun
Yes, because it feels mostly safe to live here, and I have nice neighbors.
Ye, because I know the people
Yes. Safe and can have fun with my friends.
Yes
Yes, it has been. There are Things to improve like park situation, and library.
Yes, lots of friends nearby.
My kids love it and our family loves the community.
Yes. Barrackville is a nice town with friendly people and close to the interstate but not influenced by Fairmont.
Yes, because the school is great.
Yes it has, its a small town i can walk the streets of it with my friends, i just wish it had a little more to do.
Yes because there are a lot of kids to play with an lots of things to do.
Not sure
Yes, I like knowing my community (police, gas station clerks, DG ladies) and able to walk to school & the store
yes because there is a good school and nice people
Yes because it has many people to make as a friend.
Yes Barrackville is amazing I love it. Because Barrackville school is awesome and everyone is super nice.
its been good and bad its good becuase i can make friend in are shool the bad thing is that you canot ride your bike down the road with out super vision from parents like back the but i rate barrackville with a 3
yes, because it is safe
Yes very much so the people are friendly and there is enough place to run around and I love this town!
yea beacause of my fam
no the principal is mean
yes because their are lots of kids to play with
Yes
Na
It's been a great place for my young kids
yes and no too many people talk about each other
i grew up on the outskirts of barrackville, just like my parents. i do think the town is a good place to be
It's a clean and safe community.
Yes, Good People
NO!!!! Neighbors call cps on kids for riding bikes on the streets, Neighbors threaten each other including adults!
So far, so good. Generally feel safe being out and about in the neighborhood.
It's ok but not enough to do have to go to Fairmont
Fair
Yes
Yes because I feel safe
Small community feeling and people look out for each other's kids.
Yes. It's a safe, tight knit community.
Yes. Safe
Yes - people care about each other - it's flat so bike riding and scootering is good. It's safe.
Excellent!!!!
Yes. I lived here in the 80's, moved away in the early 90's, and couldn't wait to buy a home here and move back. I love the safety and community activities, as well as the residents in general.
Barrackville has been a great place to grow up in. The people here are very nice, and helpful.
Barrackville has been a good place to live in because most of the people in my neighborhood are good people and I feel safe riding my bike with my friends around town.
Yes, due to the activities we can do from riding bikes to looking at historical sites.
Yes, it is safe, fun, and has a good community.

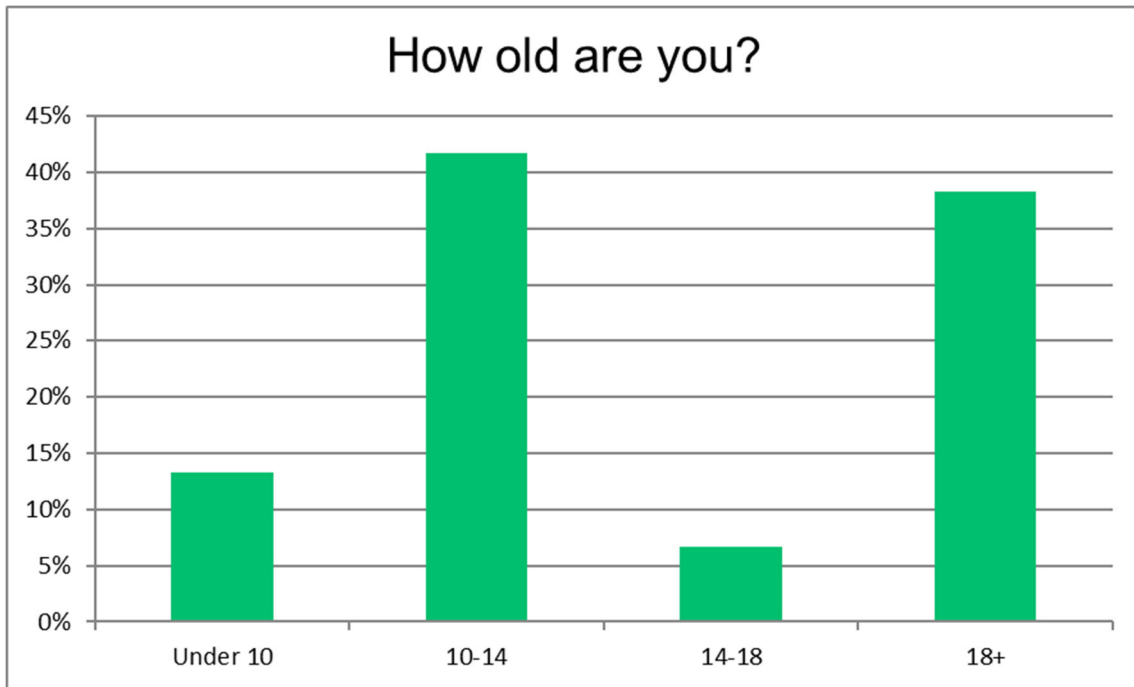
What would you change about Barrackville?
I would wanna make it bigger and have more store opportunities.
More parks, More trees in some places
Keep it safe
how its so small
I would like to have a library here. I would also like to have sidewalks around the school property to make walking to and from school safer.
I don't know
More athletic fields, basketball court
Roads and clean up
I'd like to change the park situation which I mentioned earlier.
We need a full size indoor basketball court.
Traffic volume coming from the camps through the residential area to Rice Street is exceedingly high. I would make Rice Street a one-way street or have traffic enforcement to deter traffic to the main road. There are too many kids in the area and vehicles speed, ignore or don't abide to street signs, and simply use Rice Street to travel quicker to their destination or use the street to bypass the main road, Pike Street, in order to avoid law enforcement.
If possible take the camp out of the city limits of Barrackville. The community is beyond repair and a drain on town resources. It was a big mistake to take over this area.
Nothing
I would change the number of things to do, for kids my age all we can really do for fun i play in buffalo creek or ride bikes, and since there are lots of cars when it finally cools down to ride we normally have to ride down little side streets with pot holes
I would change nothing because it is good here.
Some buildings look old and run down.
more sidewalks
I would not want to change and thing about Barrackville.
Nothing.
the school add parks make it more safer
more youth activity
sidewalks, more programs for children.
nothing
the school
make it clean
Road conditions
Sidewalks. Activities for children. Soccer or some sport
Lower sewer bill. Use grant money to pay off that bill. It is my most expensive utility bill.
more sidewalks, parks kids can actually play at, clean up the trash, people should be fined for having junk around their property, no aggressive animals, and tear down the houses that aren't liveable.
Pave the dirt road Mohawk, located between Ice St and Rice St.
add more kid/pet friendly areas
Restaurants/ cafe, Local shops, festivals, community center with activities and an activity center.
Road conditions and
The price of sewage.
More community involvement opportunities
No jobs
More kid and teen activities
The building of apartment buildings, such as the one at the end of Rice St.
More youth activities
There are lots of run down or abandoned buildings that could be addressed.
Address run down houses. Force horders to clean up property.
People need to clean up their houses and stop littering. I'd like to see a child care facility in the town. We need activities after school and in the summer and on weekends.
Just would to see more young families involved in the decision making.
I would like to see more speed enforcement. Cars tend to fly on the side streets. I live on a dead end, 15 mph road and have to CONSTANTLY make people slow down when our children are playing basketball or riding bikes in front of THEIR home while people drive in excess speeds. Since kind requests and even yelling do not work, I have resorted to walking out into the road and stopping the drivers, just so they have no choice but to slow down. For some reason they won't slow down for children, but will do so when an adult blocks them.
Adding more crosswalks by Bethesda Baptist church so people could get across safely from the churches.
If I got to change Barrackville I would add better lighting at night and more bike trails.
The amount of activities, and possibly turning the old bank into a small diner or library.
More sidewalks and areas for recreation.

Would you consider living in Barrackville after graduation?



If you do not want to live in Barrackville, where would you want to live?





Open House Results- 6/30/22

Action Plan Prioritization Station Results

Enact a zoning ordinance to protect the character of the town	7
Consider regional planning opportunities with Marion County and the City of Fairmont	2
Advertise town-wide clean-up events	1
Create a monthly home contest to improve pride in properties	0
Continue to work on beautification projects	3
Preserve the Barrackville Covered Bridge	11
Enact the IPMC	10
Enact 8-12-16	10
Consider enacting a vacant property registry	0
Hire a code enforcement officer on as-needed basis	9
Apply for Home Rule	0
Update and modernize the existing nuisance ordinance, in particular by adding provisions to address drug houses	1
Continue to support the VFD	4
Develop community-oriented policing	2
Continue to review and prepare a Disaster Action Plan	0
Update the floodplain ordinance	0
Partner with the Marion County Parks and Recreation on annual grant improvements	6
Partner with the school district to provide additional recreational facilities	5
Improve Lewis Hall Field	0
Develop recreational programming	4
Determine the feasibility of a rail trail on the abandoned railroad through town	9
Upgrade the town's sewer system	1
Extend the existing sidewalk on Pike Street	1
Consider another solution to paving and maintaining roads	6
Publicize and promote public transportation options	1
Continue to hold additional events	4
Develop an official town website and update the official town Facebook page on a regular basis	1
Schedule a yearly meeting with the youth in the community	3
Collect Business and Occupation Tax on all businesses	0
Explore the possibility of installing a library kiosk in Barrackville	0

Highest Priority Station Results

- Yearly meeting with youth
- Zoning (2)
- Tear down abandoned houses
- Family events

Final Survey Results

Please pick the top 8 action items that you feel the town should focus on implementing first.	
Determine the feasibility of a rail trail on the abandoned railroad through town. There is great interest in a rail trail along Buffalo Creek that would connect Fairmont, Barrackville, Farmington, Rachel, and Mannington. The trail would span a total of 13 miles, of which 1 mile is completed in Mannington. The abandoned rail trail is currently owned by CSX. The Town of Barrackville should work with Fairmont, Farmington, Rachel, Mannington, and Marion County to complete a trail feasibility study of the corridor.	53.0%
Continue to support the Volunteer Fire Department. Support the VFD efforts to purchase a mini pumper, turnout gear, and additional hydrants.	50.6%
Preserve the Barrackville Covered Bridge. The bridge will need to be lifted off its foundation and two main boards will need to be replaced with an estimated \$500,000 needed to make all the repairs.	47.0%
Enact 8-12-16. The 8-12-16 ordinance allows municipalities to address structures, dwellings, or buildings that are unsafe, unsanitary, dangerous, or detrimental to the public safety or welfare.	45.8%
Partner with school district to provide additional recreational facilities. The town should work with the school district to provide additional facilities. Many residents desire an indoor sports facility to provide recreation to residents of all ages throughout the year. The Barrackville Community Foundation is exploring the feasibility of constructing an indoor sports facility on property behind the Barrackville Elementary/Middle School.	41.0%
Partner with Marion County Parks and Recreation on annual community grant improvements. The town should work with Marion County Parks and Recreation to obtain funding to help with the need for additional recreation in the community.	36.1%
Continue to work on beautification projects. Additional projects the Town would like to complete include gateway signage, plantings, and banners. Town council should consider establishing a small fund to support beautification projects completed by volunteers.	33.7%
Enact the International Property Maintenance Code. The International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) regulates maintenance and upkeep of existing structures and properties.	32.5%
Continue to hold additional events. Local elected officials should continue to support these events and hold additional events to increase the visibility of the town and attract visitors to Barrackville. Other ideas for events include a farmer's market, street parties, movie nights, and craft shows.	32.5%
Advertise town-wide clean-up events. Expand the clean-up days to include a litter sweep. Consider coordinating volunteer groups to help elderly and low income residents clean up their yards. The event could also include a curbside clean-up where residents place large and bulky items not suitable for regular garbage pickup.	31.3%
Update and modernize the existing nuisance ordinance, in particular by adding provisions to address drug houses. Nuisance ordinances are local laws that declare certain activities as injurious to the public health, safety, or welfare. The ordinances provide for fines for the owners of property where the activity occurs and for orders for the activity to be abated.	27.7%
Improve Lewis Hall Field. The playground at Lewis Hall Field consists of only a swing set. Additional equipment is needed for multiple age groups. The tennis courts are in poor condition but there are plans to repair the courts in 2022.	27.7%
Develop an official town website and update the official town Facebook page on a regular basis. The town currently has an official Facebook page where meeting agendas and minutes are posted. Some town events are posted on the page as well. The Town should regularly update the page as a means of communication to residents. In addition, the Town should develop an official website to post documents, ordinances, and other important information. The Town should also consider codifying their ordinances and publishing the ordinances online for residents and interested parties to review.	27.7%
Consider enacting a vacant property registry. The vacant property registry requires property owners to pay an annual registration fee for every vacant building. The registry creates an up to-date list of vacant buildings, and fees can be used to improve public safety and to monitor and administer the registration program.	24.1%
Develop recreational programming. The Town should develop recreational programming for people of all ages. Youth programming could include sports programs, arts and crafts, outdoor adventure, technology, and hiking. Adult programming could include sports, health/fitness, and educational programming. Senior programming could include senior fitness, book club, excursions and card games.	24.1%
Consider another solution to paving and maintaining roads. Property owners are required to pay for maintenance of the roadway their house is located on. The Town should consider a town service fee and/or user fee to help fund road maintenance. A municipal fee would be charged to residents on a monthly basis. A user fee would require employees within town limits to pay a fee on a weekly basis.	20.5%
Collect Business and Occupation Tax on all businesses. Currently only a few businesses pay the Business and Occupation (B&O) tax due to the number of exemptions listed in the ordinance. There is also a lack of enforcement of the B&O ordinance in collecting revenues. The town should consider revising the ordinance to not include so many exemptions and create a system to ensure businesses are paying the tax as required.	19.3%
Consider regional planning opportunities with Marion County and the City of Fairmont. The discussion should center on the formation of a rail trail and the feasibility of shared code enforcement.	16.9%
Apply for Home Rule. Communities must be part of the Home Rule program to utilize on-site citations. On-site citations allow town officials to issue citations to a property owner "on the spot" for sanitation and nuisance violations without the need to go to court.	16.9%
Upgrade the town's sewer system. Upgrades are currently needed to stop combined sewer overflows into Buffalo Creek. Preliminary estimates are \$2.5 to \$2.7 million to upgrade the system, which would lead to a 25 percent increase in sewage rates.	16.9%
Extend the existing sidewalk on Pike Street. A continuation of the existing sidewalk on Pike Street to the intersection of Rice Street should be the focus of sidewalk additions, as this portion of town has a significant amount of traffic on the roadway.	16.9%
Enact a zoning ordinance to protect the character of the town. Zoning would enable the Town to direct development to appropriate locations.	15.7%
Explore the possibility of installing a library kiosk in Barrackville. The library system currently has a 24-hour kiosk in White Hall. The kiosk holds books, novels, DVDs, and audiobooks. People are able to browse the collection, pick up holds, and return items. There is the possibility of the county installing another kiosk in a town in Marion County. Local elected officials should work with the library to determine the feasibility of installing the kiosk in Barrackville.	15.7%
Hire a code enforcement officer on an as-needed basis. The town should initiate discussions with the City of Fairmont and other municipalities in Marion County to determine the feasibility of sharing a code enforcement officer.	13.3%
Publicize and promote public transportation options. Barrackville elected officials should work with the Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority to publicize the service as much as possible to town residents. Signs should be installed at the bus stop locations in town (Pike Street, Saxman Street, Mine Camp, and the Covered Bridge).	12.1%
Develop community-oriented policing. Community-oriented policing brings police and community together by working jointly to address and identify crime. Ways to involve the public include alerts, neighborhood watch meetings, press releases, and classes at the school.	10.8%
Update the floodplain ordinance. The town should update the current floodplain ordinance to be consistent with the 2019 model floodplain ordinance that was prepared by the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.	9.6%
Schedule a yearly meeting with the youth in the community. During the planning process the youth were asked to take a survey to determine the issues and concerns of young people in Barrackville. Sixty people took the survey and had great insight and comments. Ninety percent of people that took the youth survey would like to have the opportunity to meet with local elected officials and discuss issues and concerns.	6.0%
Continue to review and prepare a Disaster Action Plan. The plan would help the town facilitate emergency preparedness. The plan would look at four key areas: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.	3.6%
Create a monthly home contest to improve pride in properties. The contest could incentivize residents to clean up their property. A prize could be given to a resident with the most improved home and yard.	2.4%

Appendix 3: Sources

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Appendix 4: Funding Opportunities

The following information regarding funding sources was obtained from various federal, state, and non-profit websites. Each website has additional information and application forms. The following list is not a comprehensive list but a summary of grants and/or loans that are most commonly awarded in West Virginia.

Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) provides federal grant funds for the support of economic and community development in West Virginia. The goal of ARC is to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life.

Projects approved for ARC assistance must support one of the five general goals:

1. Invest in entrepreneurial and business development strategies that strengthen Appalachia's economy.
2. Increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of residents to work and succeed in Appalachia.
3. Invest in critical infrastructure — especially broadband, transportation, including the Appalachian Development Highway System; and water/wastewater systems.
4. Strengthen Appalachia's community and economic development potential by leveraging the Region's natural and cultural heritage assets.
5. Build the capacity and skills of current and next-generation leaders and organizations to innovate, collaborate, and advance community and economic development.

Project activities include infrastructure projects (water, wastewater, broadband, workforce development, entrepreneurial and business development, and local leadership and community capacity building)

Benedum Foundation

The mission of the Benedum Foundation is to encourage human development in West Virginia and Southwestern Pennsylvania through strategically placed charitable resources. The foundation awards grants in education, economic development, community development and health and human services in West Virginia.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The West Virginia Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) provides grants to local governments (towns, cities, and counties) that do not receive CDBG direct funding from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The primary objective of CDBG funding is to develop sustainable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities principally for persons of low to moderate income.

Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program (USDA)

This program provides affordable funding (low interest loans, grants, or a combination of the two) to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.

Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and / or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Health care facilities such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes or assisted living facilities
- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars or street improvements
- Community support services such as child care centers, community centers, fairgrounds or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
- Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs or greenhouses

Land and Water Conservation Fund (WV Department of Commerce)

The Land and Water Conservation Fund program (LWCF) provides supplemental federal funding for the acquisition and/or development of high-quality, public outdoor recreational areas throughout West Virginia. Assisted or acquired parklands are bound by perpetual restrictive covenants that obligate the project sponsor to operate and maintain the defined project area as a public outdoor recreational facility.

Proposed projects must be consistent with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Park renovations, expansions to promote active lifestyles, innovate community cores, attract or retain visitors to an area, develop trailheads or preserve other natural areas to impact community health objectives or develop brownfields renewal efforts will receive funding priority. Additional priority will be made for projects targeting one or more of the project characteristics noted above that utilize a community coalition or consortium approach towards achieving the project goal. Project consortiums can include, but not be limited to, participation in the West Virginia Development Office's Main Street Program, Certified Development Community Program, or other programs of the Governor's Office of Healthy Lifestyles, West Virginia Department of Highways, or Northern or Southern West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Centers.

Eligible activities:

- Land acquisition for parklands
- Development or renovation of the following types of outdoor recreational facilities:
 - Campgrounds
 - Picnic areas
 - Sports and playfields
 - Golf courses
 - Swimming facilities
 - Boating facilities
 - Fishing facilities
 - Hunting areas
 - Trails
 - Winter sport facilities
 - Support facilities (walks, utilities, bathrooms, etc.)
 - Amphitheaters
 - Lake impoundments
 - Visitor information centers
 - Interpretive centers

Rails to Trails Conservancy

The Trail Grants Program emphasizes strategic investments that support significant regional and community trail development goals. The program supports organizations and projects that will create more opportunities for people to connect with trails in their neighborhoods—either through activities and events, or through improved, connected trail infrastructure.

Recreational Trails Fund Program (WV DOT)

The Recreational Trails Program is available for the construction, upgrade or maintenance of both motorized and non-motorized recreational trails. This is an 80% federal, 20% local reimbursement program that may recognize “in-kind” matches for the local share.

Recycling and Litter Program Grants (WV DEP)

Recycling Assistance Grant Program

The funds are available to any county, municipality, the public or private entity in West Virginia that is interested in planning and implementing recycling programs, related public educational programs or need assistance in recycling market efforts.

Litter Control Grant Program

The Litter Control Grant is a matching fund that assists municipalities and county government agencies with community cleanup and litter enforcement projects.

Covered Electronic Devices Grant Program

Grants that are used for the purpose of conducting electronic collection events and programs. Only municipalities, county commissions or county solid waste authorities are eligible to apply for these grants.

Rural Community Development Initiative Grants (USDA)

RCDI grants are awarded to help non-profit housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities and federally recognized tribes support housing, community facilities and community and economic development projects in rural areas.

Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge (USDA)

The Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge (RPIC) is for eligible entities to help provide planning support, technical assistance and training to foster placemaking activities in rural communities.

Qualified entities can use the funds to help rural communities create plans to enhance capacity for broadband access; preserve cultural and historic structures; and support the development of transportation, housing, and recreational spaces.

State Historic Preservation Office Grants (WV Department of Arts, Culture & History)

The State Development Grant Program is for rehabilitation of properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or a contributing property in a historic district or/and archaeological development of a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Survey & Planning Grant Program is for conducting architectural/archaeological surveys, National Register nominations, predevelopment plans, heritage education projects, etc.

The Endangered Historic Properties Fund Program is to provide emergency funding through a grant for the preservation of threatened and endangered historic and prehistoric structures and sites.

Transportation Alternatives Program (WV DOT)

The Transportation Alternatives (TA) is a funding source for local community development. This is an 80% federal, 20% local reimbursement grant program for non-traditional transportation related projects. Examples include railway depot restoration, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and rail trails. This and other grant programs have also become part of West Virginia's Federal-aid transportation program since passage of the original ISTEA in 1991.

Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program (USDA)

This program provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.

Funds may be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of:

- Drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and distribution
- Sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal
- Solid waste collection, disposal and closure
- Storm water collection, transmission and disposal

In some cases, funding may also be available for related activities such as:

- Legal and engineering fees
- Land acquisition, water and land rights, permits and equipment
- Start-up operations and maintenance
- Interest incurred during construction
- Purchase of facilities to improve service or prevent loss of service
- Other costs determined to be necessary for completion of the project

Youth Engagement through Public Art Grant (WV Department of Arts, Culture & History)

Provides up to \$5,000 in support for public art projects that engage local youth in the planning and/or implementation of the project. Eligible organizations include West Virginia 501(c)(3) youth or arts organizations, schools, and local governments.

Appendix 5: Adoption Materials

To be added after comprehensive plan is adopted