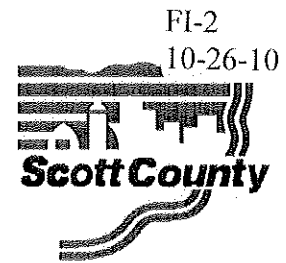


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October 19, 2010

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dee F. Bruemmer
County Administrator

SUBJECT: Progress on Sustainability Plan

The Sustainability Steering Committee will be meeting this week to continue their work on the plan. One of the tools that they will be using is the survey that was completed in August.

I have attached for your review a summary done by Bi-State's staff and the data broke down by urban and rural resident. I will go over the summaries and be available for your questions.

Scott County Sustainability Plan Assessment - Analysis Snapshot

Scott County, Iowa is currently developing a Sustainability Plan to address future critical resources. Our impacts today will affect future generations. The results of the assessment will help guide plan development and prioritize options to become more sustainable. There were 1,007 assessments completed with 18.5% representing rural residents and 81.5% urban residents.

Top Three of Each Assessment Category by important and most important

Community and Livability

1. **Supporting connected street system (71.7%)** - important to 66.5% of the rural respondents and 72.8% of the urban respondents. All age groups in this assessment give this item a high rating for importance, with the highest rating going to the 45-59 year age group with over 75% saying a well connected street system is important or very important to them.
2. **Access to affordable physical and mental health care (71%)** – rated stronger with urban assessment respondents (72.2%) in importance than rural respondents (65.9%).
- 3a. **Improving air quality (65.4%)** – rated important to ~ 65% of both rural and urban respondents. It is important to 58.7% of those responding under age 20 and increases to 73.1% of those over age 74.
- 3b. **Ability to participate in local development decisions (65.4%)** – more urban respondents say it is important than rural 66.8% versus 59% respectively. Davenport respondents find it slightly more important than Bettendorf respondents and rural respondents. This importance increases with age. 80.5% of those over age 74 find it important to participate in local development and policy decisions whereas only 51.1% of those assessment respondents under age 20 find it important.

Environment and Natural Resources

1. **Preserving woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitats and other natural features (80.1%)** – rated important to over 80% of assessment respondents. There are no significant differences in any group.
2. **Improving water quality for Scott County (76.4%)** – rated only slightly higher for Bettendorf respondents. No significant difference in other groups.
3. **Availability of recycling for local homes and businesses (76%)** – was rated slightly more important in the urban area. Over 82% of assessment respondents from Bettendorf rate it as important whereas only about 70% in Davenport rate it as important. Over 84% of those responding under age 20 rate it as important with over 61% rating it very important. ~ 68% of those 60-74 years old rate it as important.

Note: This category had the most highly rated assessed items by important and most important, ranging from 72.5% (Clean energy) to 80.1% (Preserving woodlands, etc.).

Economy: Business, Development and Energy

1. **Growing new and existing businesses (80.3%)** - over 43% of respondents rated it as very important. 80% of urban respondents thought it was important compared to 77.7% of rural respondents. Only 67.4% of survey respondents under age 20 thought growing businesses were important whereas 89.5% of survey respondents over 74 thought it was important.
2. **Supporting locally owned businesses and downtown business districts (77.3%)** - It is more important to Bettendorf survey respondents than Davenport survey respondents by 6%. It is of greatest importance to survey respondent's age 20 – 59 years at 80% compared to only 67.6% of those 60-74 years..
3. **Creating a diverse business environment (i.e. many types and sizes) (73.6%)** - This is slightly higher for urban respondents at 74.2% and Bettendorf respondents at 75.2%. Only 58.7% of those under 20 rated this as being important. The other age groups were in line with the overall majority in their response.

Scott County's Sustainable Future

1. **How important is sustainability to you? (74.8%)** Sustainability is more important to Bettendorf and urban respondents versus rural and Davenport respondents. 20-59 year olds and those over 74 rate sustainability the highest. Fewer than 69% of those under 20 and 60-74 rate it as important.
2. **Renewable energy should be used whenever possible (69.4%)** - Using renewable energy is slightly more important to Bettendorf respondents than Davenport respondents. 78.3% of assessment respondents under age 20 rated this as important. This importance decreases with increasing age and is only rated as important by 53.8% of assessment respondents over age 74.
3. **Reducing our dependency on fossil fuels (67.2%)** - This is slightly more important to respondents from Bettendorf and the rural area than respondents from Davenport. It is important across all age groups.

Other highlights:

-Access to information about growing food, gardening was rated as not important but local farmers markets were important

-Mandatory energy audits were not well supported by respondents

Number of assessment respondents in each age group:

Less than 20 years – 46

20-44 years – 360

45-59 years – 368

60-74 years – 183

Greater than 74 years - 41

Scott County Sustainability Plan Assessment – All Respondents

Percent of assessment respondents who said the concept was important or very important to them.

Community and Livability

Rank	Percent	Question
1	71.7%	Supporting a street system that is well connected
2	71.0%	Access to affordable physical and mental health care.
3	65.4%	Ability to participate in local development and policy decisions.
4	65.4%	Improving air quality through a reduction in emissions.
5	64.8%	Increasing access to active recreation activities (bike lanes, trails, parks).
6	58.8%	Using tree canopy to reduce heat effects.
7	56.2%	Providing affordable housing for people of all income levels.
8	54.3%	Options for flexible work weeks, such as working from home or a managed work week.
9	52.1%	Easily accessible public transportation and alternative forms of transportation.
10	49.5%	Walking access (1/2 mile or less) to goods and services, such as shopping, transit, and schools.
11	49.3%	Reducing vehicle trips to alleviate traffic.
12	41.2%	Increasing outdoor lighting choices that reduce glare and allow stargazing.
13	39.6%	Access to information about growing your own food, gardening and healthy foods.

Environment and Natural Resources

Rank	Percent	Question
1	80.1%	Preserving woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitats and other natural features.
2	76.4%	Improving water quality for Scott County.
3	76.0%	Availability of recycling for local homes and businesses.
4	74.0%	Protecting agricultural lands.
5	73.3%	Providing a local farmers' market or generating other opportunities to purchase locally made goods.
6	72.5%	Relying more on clean energy (wind turbines, solar panels, geothermal, etc.).
7	69.8%	Reducing storm water runoff into creeks and streams.

Economy: Business, Development and Energy

Rank	Percent	Question
1	80.3 %	Growing new and existing businesses.
2	77.3%	Supporting locally owned businesses and downtown business districts.
3	73.6%	Creating a diverse business environment (i.e. many types and sizes).
4	72.2%	Minimizing the production of waste.
5	70.2%	Incentives to use more energy efficient practices.
6	67.6%	Making homes and businesses more energy efficient.
7	58.8%	Creating "Green Jobs."
8	44.4%	Requiring Energy Audits for residential and commercial buildings.

Scott County's Sustainable Future

Rank	Percent	Question
1	74.8%	In general, how important is sustainability to you?
2	69.4%	Renewable energy should be used whenever possible.
3	67.2%	Reducing our dependency on fossil fuels.
4	67.7%	Promoting the importance of volunteers in the community.
5	55.6%	Spending more in order to protect the environment.
6	48.5%	Protecting sites of cultural importance, even if it impacts economic development.

Scott County Sustainability Plan Assessment - Urban Respondents

Percent of assessment respondents who said the concept was important or very important to them.

Community and Livability

Rank	Percent	Question
1	72.8%	Supporting a street system that is well connected
2	72.2%	Access to affordable physical and mental health care.
3	66.8%	Ability to participate in local development and policy decisions.
4	65.5%	Improving air quality through a reduction in emissions.
5	65.4%	Increasing access to active recreation activities (bike lanes, trails, parks).
6	58.2%	Using tree canopy to reduce heat effects.
7	57.0%	Providing affordable housing for people of all income levels.
8	54.5%	Options for flexible work weeks, such as working from home or a managed work week.
9	52.2%	Walking access (1/2 mile or less) to goods and services, such as shopping, transit, and schools.
10	52.1%	Easily accessible public transportation and alternative forms of transportation.
11	49.1%	Reducing vehicle trips to alleviate traffic.
12	40.3%	Increasing outdoor lighting choices that reduce glare and allow stargazing.
13	38.6%	Access to information about growing your own food, gardening and healthy foods.

Environment and Natural Resources

Rank	Percent	Question
1	80.2%	Preserving woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitats and other natural features.
2	76.7%	Improving water quality for Scott County.
3	76.5%	Availability of recycling for local homes and businesses.
4	73.7%	Protecting agricultural lands.
5	72.8%	Providing a local farmers' market or generating other opportunities to purchase locally made goods.
6	72.7%	Relying more on clean energy (wind turbines, solar panels, geothermal, etc.).
7	70.4%	Reducing storm water runoff into creeks and streams.

Economy: Business, Development and Energy

Rank	Percent	Question
1	80.8%	Growing new and existing businesses.
2	78.1%	Supporting locally owned businesses and downtown business districts.
3	74.2%	Creating a diverse business environment (i.e. many types and sizes).
4	72.3%	Minimizing the production of waste.
5	71.0%	Incentives to use more energy efficient practices.
6	67.6%	Making homes and businesses more energy efficient.
7	59.2%	Creating "Green Jobs."
8	44.1%	Requiring Energy Audits for residential and commercial buildings.

Scott County's Sustainable Future

Rank	Percent	Question
1	75.7%	In general, how important is sustainability to you?
2	69.5%	Renewable energy should be used whenever possible.
3	67.2%	Reducing our dependency on fossil fuels.
4	67.4%	Promoting the importance of volunteers in the community.
5	55.8%	Spending more in order to protect the environment.
6	48.6%	Protecting sites of cultural importance, even if it impacts economic development.

Scott County Sustainability Plan Assessment - Rural Respondents

Percent of assessment respondents who said the concept was important or very important to them.

Community and Livability

Rank	Percent	Question
1	66.5%	Supporting a street system that is well connected
2	65.9%	Access to affordable physical and mental health care.
3	64.4%	Improving air quality through a reduction in emissions.
4	61.8%	Increasing access to active recreation activities (bike lanes, trails, parks).
5	61.1%	Using tree canopy to reduce heat effects.
6	59.0%	Ability to participate in local development and policy decisions.
7	53.2%	Options for flexible work weeks, such as working from home or a managed work week.
8	50.5%	Reducing vehicle trips to alleviate traffic.
9	50.3%	Providing affordable housing for people of all income levels.
10	47.0%	Easily accessible public transportation and alternative forms of transportation.
11	45.7%	Increasing outdoor lighting choices that reduce glare and allow stargazing.
12	44.1%	Access to information about growing your own food, gardening and healthy foods.
13	37.6%	Walking access (1/2 mile or less) to goods and services, such as shopping, transit, and schools.

Environment and Natural Resources

Rank	Percent	Question
1	77.9%	Preserving woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitats and other natural features.
2	75.8%	Providing a local farmers' market or generating other opportunities to purchase locally made goods.
3	75.3%	Protecting agricultural lands.
4	74.7%	Improving water quality for Scott County.
5	73.7%	Availability of recycling for local homes and businesses.
6	71.9%	Relying more on clean energy (wind turbines, solar panels, geothermal, etc.).
7	67.5%	Reducing storm water runoff into creeks and streams.

Economy: Business, Development and Energy

Rank	Percent	Question
1	77.7%	Growing new and existing businesses.
2	73.6%	Supporting locally owned businesses and downtown business districts.
3	71.3%	Minimizing the production of waste.
4	71.0%	Creating a diverse business environment (i.e. many types and sizes).
5	66.5%	Incentives to use more energy efficient practices.
6	67.5%	Making homes and businesses more energy efficient.
7	57.5%	Creating "Green Jobs."
8	45.7%	Requiring Energy Audits for residential and commercial buildings.

Scott County's Sustainable Future

Rank	Percent	Question
1	70.3%	In general, how important is sustainability to you?
2	68.8%	Renewable energy should be used whenever possible.
3	67.2%	Reducing our dependency on fossil fuels.
4	63.2%	Promoting the importance of volunteers in the community.
5	59.7%	Spending more in order to protect the environment.
6	47.9%	Protecting sites of cultural importance, even if it impacts economic development.

Scott County Sustainability Plan Assessment

1. Community and Livability

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Walking access (1/2 mile or less) to goods and services, such as shopping, transit, and schools.	13.5% (135)	12.9% (129)	24.0% (241)	24.3% (244)	25.2% (253)	1.00	1,003
Increasing access to active recreation activities (bike lanes, trails, parks).	8.0% (79)	8.0% (79)	19.3% (192)	27.8% (276)	37.0% (367)	1.00	993
Supporting a street system that is well connected.	3.9% (39)	4.6% (46)	19.8% (197)	33.6% (334)	38.1% (379)	1.00	995
Easily accessible public transportation and alternative forms of transportation.	12.3% (123)	11.2% (112)	25.4% (254)	24.8% (248)	26.4% (264)	1.00	1,001
Reducing vehicle trips to alleviate traffic.	10.1% (100)	11.7% (116)	28.9% (288)	27.7% (276)	21.6% (215)	1.00	995
Options for flexible work weeks, such as working from home or a managed work week.	14.0% (140)	10.7% (107)	21.0% (209)	26.5% (264)	27.8% (277)	1.00	997
Access to information about growing your own food, gardening and healthy foods.	15.8% (158)	16.4% (164)	28.2% (282)	21.0% (210)	18.6% (186)	1.00	1,000
Improving air quality through a reduction in emissions.	7.9% (79)	7.8% (78)	19.0% (190)	27.9% (279)	37.5% (375)	1.00	1,001
Providing affordable housing for people of all income levels.	11.2% (112)	9.5% (95)	23.1% (232)	26.0% (261)	30.2% (303)	1.00	1,003
Access to affordable physical and mental health care.	6.8% (68)	5.7% (57)	16.5% (165)	26.5% (266)	44.5% (446)	1.00	1,002
Ability to participate in local development and policy decisions.	3.5% (35)	6.3% (63)	24.8% (247)	34.7% (345)	30.7% (305)	1.00	995
Increasing outdoor lighting choices that reduce glare and allow stargazing.	18.2% (182)	15.2% (152)	25.3% (253)	21.8% (218)	19.4% (194)	1.00	999
Using tree canopy to reduce heat effects.	9.6% (96)	9.2% (92)	22.5% (225)	28.6% (286)	30.2% (302)	1.00	1,001

answered question 1,006

skipped question 1

2. Environment and Natural Resources

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting agricultural lands.	4.9% (49)	4.4% (44)	16.7% (166)	30.7% (306)	43.3% (431)	1.00	996
Preserving woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitats and other natural features.	4.4% (44)	4.6% (46)	10.9% (109)	29.7% (297)	50.4% (503)	1.00	999
Reducing storm water runoff into creeks and streams.	5.8% (58)	5.7% (57)	18.6% (186)	31.5% (315)	38.3% (383)	1.00	999
Providing a local farmers' market or generating other opportunities to purchase locally made goods.	5.2% (52)	6.2% (62)	15.2% (152)	29.9% (299)	43.4% (434)	1.00	999
Improving water quality for Scott County.	4.4% (44)	4.5% (45)	14.8% (148)	29.6% (296)	46.8% (468)	1.00	1,001
Availability of recycling for local homes and businesses.	7.1% (71)	3.9% (39)	13.0% (130)	25.8% (257)	50.2% (501)	1.00	998
Relying more on clean energy (wind turbines, solar panels, geothermal, etc.).	9.8% (97)	3.9% (39)	13.8% (137)	23.9% (237)	48.6% (482)	1.00	992
						<i>answered question</i>	1,001
						<i>skipped question</i>	6

3. Economy: Business, Development and Energy

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Creating a diverse business environment (i.e. many types and sizes).	3.3% (33)	4.8% (48)	18.3% (183)	36.6% (366)	37.0% (370)	1.00	1,000
Growing new and existing businesses.	2.4% (24)	2.7% (27)	14.6% (146)	36.9% (368)	43.4% (433)	1.00	998
Creating "Green Jobs."	11.8% (118)	8.2% (82)	21.2% (213)	31.4% (315)	27.4% (275)	1.00	1,003
Minimizing the production of waste.	4.8% (48)	6.2% (62)	16.8% (168)	30.2% (301)	42.0% (419)	1.00	998
Supporting locally owned businesses and downtown business districts.	3.4% (34)	4.8% (48)	14.5% (145)	33.8% (338)	43.5% (435)	1.00	1,000
Incentives to use more energy efficient practices.	7.6% (76)	5.6% (56)	16.6% (165)	32.3% (321)	37.9% (377)	1.00	995
Requiring Energy Audits for residential and commercial buildings.	20.2% (201)	12.4% (124)	23.0% (229)	26.0% (259)	18.4% (183)	1.00	996
Making homes and businesses more energy efficient.	9.1% (91)	7.1% (71)	16.1% (161)	33.3% (332)	34.3% (342)	1.00	997
						answered question	1,003
						skipped question	4

4. Scott County's Sustainable Future

	1	2	3	4	5	Rating Average	Response Count
Renewable energy should be used whenever possible.	8.5% (85)	6.8% (68)	15.4% (154)	23.1% (232)	46.3% (464)	1.00	1,003
Spending more in order to protect the environment.	11.4% (114)	10.7% (107)	21.4% (214)	30.3% (303)	26.3% (263)	1.00	1,001
Protecting sites of cultural importance, even if it impacts economic development.	11.6% (116)	13.5% (135)	26.5% (265)	28.4% (284)	20.1% (201)	1.00	1,001
Reducing our dependency on fossil fuels.	9.5% (95)	6.9% (69)	16.4% (165)	25.5% (256)	41.7% (419)	1.00	1,004
Promoting the importance of volunteers in the community.	4.8% (48)	5.7% (57)	22.9% (230)	35.5% (356)	31.2% (313)	1.00	1,004
In general, how important is sustainability to you?	5.7% (56)	4.0% (40)	15.6% (154)	33.1% (327)	41.7% (412)	1.00	989
						<i>answered question</i>	1,005
						<i>skipped question</i>	2

5. In what zip code do you live?



Response Count

1,007



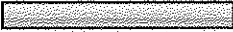
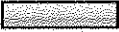

answered question 1,007

skipped question 0


6. Do you live in an unincorporated area (outside city limits)?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		18.5%	186
No		81.5%	821
<i>answered question</i>			1,007
<i>skipped question</i>			0

7. What is your age?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 20 years		4.6%	46
20-44 years		36.1%	360
45-59 years		36.9%	368
60-74 years		18.3%	183
Greater than 74 years		4.1%	41
<i>answered question</i>			998
<i>skipped question</i>			9

8. If you would like to provide additional comments or clarification on the input you have provided, please do so below:

	Response Count
	260
<i>answered question</i>	260
<i>skipped question</i>	747

