

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

What are the biggest problems facing Jersey County today?

1. Parents not parenting children. Parents do not back up teachers, law, or administrators.
2. Lack of public services- mostly public transportation
3. Law and order, higher taxes
4. The drug problem
5. Drugs in the community, poverty
6. I think that the police are cracking down on the teenager's too much older people do things wrong too.
7. Traffic-roads, drugs, school and government funding
8. Economics, raising real estate taxes.
9. Jail system
10. Controlling money
11. Urban sprawl there are too many new structures going up and taking prime farmland
12. Taxes, juvenile crime
13. Lack of tolerance and understanding towards these who are not white, isolation from any culture besides television, alcohol, and the occasional trip to Wal-Mart
14. Underage drinking parties and the number of parents who endorse these parties. Parents who don't take care of their children, they value drinking and partying over raising healthy children
15. Economic development, zoning, infrastructure
16. Jobs are not there, needs to be more jobs for families
17. Transportation and infrastructure, quality of schools, preserving natural beauty
18. Creation of quality employment, low standard of living for many, lack of planning for building and growth
19. Zoning laws need to be established for County, no comprehensive growth plan, jobs for residents
20. High taxes, no growth plan, traffic
21. Unstructured growth, crime
22. No plan for growth, change in quality of life
23. Pollution, drugs, drug dealers, traffic
24. Roads and the supporting infrastructure associated with that.
25. Lack of planning, but hopefully this project will help that.
26. Transportation and infrastructure, quality of schools, preserving natural beauty
27. Too few professional and industrial jobs too many low wage jobs. Maintaining high quality schools
28. Uncontrolled growth, need of County jail, traffic control, job creation
29. Crime pollution
30. Courts-more and more cases could become backed up.
31. Taxes, drugs, school discipline, traffic, underage smoking, empty buildings, crappy street

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32. Growth without a plan or zoning. Our young people population keeps growing and they don't have a lot of constructive things to do.
33. There has been an influx of new housing, a shift from living town to the outskirts of town.
34. More for kids to do, Paid fire department- quit lying about the population
35. Drugs in the community, poverty
36. Zoning
37. High taxes, poor state highways
38. Taxes, jobs, highways, drugs, growth
39. Property taxes and drugs
40. Lack of variety of businesses- few department stores, lots of fast food, increase in taxes, last name of sport hero- not a way to hire leaders
41. Too many farmers are selling out and that in turn makes the "hometown" turn into a big town or city
42. I feel the biggest problems facing Jersey County today are the influx of drugs from Madison Co. and St. Louis, and the lack of industry in our County.
43. High taxes, traffic problems
44. Getting people to understand growth means having to spend saved money on improved infrastructure
45. Positive communication, working together as a community, realistic planning for the future
46. Overcrowding schools, housing prices
47. Our taxes are too high
48. Taxes, land/housing prices
49. Lack of planning for future, back of jobs
50. Too much growth without a plan to keep it under control and going in the wrong direction, our small town values getting lost in the greed for growth
51. Taxes, tourism
52. Air pollution, poor road conditions, dumping on private property
53. Government regulation at federal, state and local level. Protecting of property rights to property. Allow owners to enjoy the full ownership of theirs.
54. The challenge of orderly growth
55. Vandals, speeding wrecks, very little recreation for young people
56. No zoning, uncontrolled growth, one big school
57. Land usage regulations
58. Law enforcement, court and County litigation costs effecting re taxes, planned growth, lack of business employment economic development
59. Drugs in the community, poverty
60. Drugs in the community, poverty
61. Crime, drugs, lack of planning for growth
62. The growth of illegal drugs supplied/available to anyone and everyone.
63. Taxes, drugs economy
64. Drugs with our youth, education funding, taxes on the rise

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65. The streets in most of the older subdivisions are being neglected and are in need of repair. Nothing is being done to keep them up
66. Crime, funding for school programs, health care
67. The growth is outdistancing infrastructure abilities, streets water/waste systems
68. Lack of zoning, parks and REQ services need to be upgraded to promote the services they do have
69. Employment opportunities, transportation-community options
70. Drug abuse, underage alcohol use, tobacco use by teens, parents tolerating underage drinking and parties on their property
71. Drugs, school funding, lack of things for youth people to do, drinking
72. Being ready to adequately meet our growth demands
73. Roads, streets are crowded, property taxes are high, growth is unimpeded
74. Lack of good jobs and housing for lower income residents, increased drug traffic problems
75. Growing underclass
76. Drugs nothing for high school students to do
77. Dealing with children's behaviors and making parents accountable
78. Lack of zoning, growth and development in the near future
79. Crime is on the rise, poverty level seems increasing
80. Inflation that's everywhere. I have a good job and can afford the cost of living but I don't see how some people get buy and stay afloat.
81. Zoning, taxes, better fire protection, a couple full time firemen
82. High tax increases, drug problems, minimum wage and lower than min. wage jobs
83. Poor planning we are losing our soul to chains, we are not preserving our historical structures or areas
84. Population expansion
85. County zoning. Lack of light industry as an increased tax base, quality of education
86. Crime and law enforcement being able to cover the County
87. Taxes, local jobs, traffic congestion
88. Lack of employment and job options with substantial pay
89. High property taxes, meth labs, increased traffic and congestion
90. Taxes no zoning
91. Zoning laws need to be established for County, no comprehensive growth plan, jobs for residents
92. The higher taxes, lack of zoning control
93. Jobs are not there, needs to be more jobs for families
94. Good employers, parks/recreation, inefficient government
95. Need zoning
96. Infrastructure planning, land use, zoning
97. Meth, not enough local jobs
98. Traffic, little respect for elders

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99. Uncontrolled growth, need of County jail, traffic control, job creation
100. Increase in crime
101. Fast growth, infrastructure, schools
102. High taxes, poor city streets, too much disagreement about buildings new schools
103. Employment quality of housing, land use
104. Lack of jobs in the County, lack of zoning, concern of citizens over rising taxes
105. Urbanization vs. rural stability
106. Increase in crime and traffic
107. Good employment locally, traffic control, quality housing for growth
108. Growth, buildings codes, no zone codes
109. Rules
110. Taxes too high, heavy traffic with commute from south of Jerseyville, lack of business
111. People
112. Building codes in township areas, low paying jobs
113. No control over development of land and sewage
114. Traffic, safety, County board not prepared for future growth law enforcement not ready
115. Our rights and freedoms being lost due to those who are in power that follow their own idea of how it should be rather than holding to those of our founding fathers
116. The older people, I think apartments for the elder people should have 2 doors in each apartment.
117. Highways and roads are poor-access from major roads and highway safety.
118. Raising taxes is out of control. High school children should be given more discipline and made to obey the rules
119. Land use/planning, political gamesmanship, neglect of the outer regions of the County
120. Being able to put a trailer in anywhere thus ruining property values. Derelict cars
121. Wal-Mart
122. The lack of zoning control in the outlying areas
123. Traffic and the taxes
124. Transportation, employment
125. Farm land is being taken away to build new homes with the new highway, will also bring more crime into the County
126. Using up farm ground for housing not bringing in businesses to produce jobs
127. Preparing for the growth in future years
128. Farmland being taken out of production for housing-law enforcement-taxes
129. Crime increasing at a rate of 20% annually, high cost of fighting crime, and housing prisoners, loss of agriculture
130. Jail/security, education
131. Keeping our children from being bored

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132. Drugs too easily accessible as well as alcohol for our youth
133. Tax increases
134. Taxes and over population of liberals
135. Inexperienced law enforcement to handle growth problems
136. No growth of high paying jobs, rapid growth with no plan, rapidly increasing property taxes
137. Growth without a plan or zoning. Our young people population keeps growing and they don't have a lot of constructive things to do.
138. Poor roads/streets, real estate taxes, more sidewalks in Jerseyville
139. Traffic
140. Lack of zoning and planning, completion of highway
141. Services and infrastructure to keep up with growth
142. Congestion
143. Unregulated growth/we want to keep Jersey co. beautiful
144. Traffic congestion to Alton, lack of employment opportunities for college trained individuals.
145. Jail situation, meth problem
146. Meth labs and drugs
147. Bigger drug problems with expansion
148. Control of residential building
149. Lack of zoning and planning, completion of highway
150. Meth labs and drugs
151. Taxes
152. A Democrat controlled board, we can't even elect a chairman in town months
153. Drugs, we have a lot of untaxed property in the County compared to in town there are few services in the County
154. Lack of planning and foresight for future growth, access, traffic flow, zoning
155. Roads are not capable of large population explosion. People moving into the township do not have adequate roads.
156. Taxes, rural road infrastructure
157. Loss of farmland, poor middle and high school
158. Crime-need for a larger or new jail, traffic-especially in Jerseyville, good paying jobs
159. Over crowded roads
160. Taxes and zoning in the County, I believe zoning should begin at a low level and be increased over the years
161. Poverty, crime, drugs, bigger jail
162. Drugs with our youth, education funding, taxes on the rise
163. High taxes, drugs
164. The meth problem and crime in general
165. Country zoning I don't want to buy an acre of land to build a home and then have someone buy an acre right next to me for farming, over crowding in schools
166. Unregulated growth/we want to keep Jersey co. beautiful

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167. Traffic through town, taxes
168. Government keeping its head in the sand is proactive. Educated the public, look ahead for us, be prepared
169. Land use control
170. Growing subdivisions, water and sewage use, traffic is now becoming a problem
171. Taxes, lack of good payers, jobs.
172. Growing to fast and losing the small town feelings and appeal that makes it special, rising property taxes
173. Lack of enforcement of any kind of laws-drugs, alcohol, and higher taxes-not enough good jobs. Building schools when it was voted not to be built
174. County boards inability to confront the growth and the foresight to enact zoning and other building restrictions in order to preserve a tolerable lifestyle they should look at models in west County St. Louis.
175. Losing our small town values just to get more job or money
176. Losing the rural way of life. Urban sprawl is taking away precious farmland, no zoning to control what and where things get built. Are being erected.
177. Taxes getting to high
178. Lack of motivation and respect in some of the younger generations, increased drugs and violence
179. High taxes, drugs
180. The unavailability of high paying jobs except for those on the public payrolls
181. Crime such as drugs, gangs, etc.
182. We want to grow in positive ways. With the new schools and planned subdivisions I feel we are on the right track
183. Roads and infrastructure
184. Crime and law enforcement being able to cover the County
185. Healthcare-malpractice, zoning, infrastructure, taxation
186. Land use, lack of zoning
187. Too much traffic
188. We are too big for our fire/police department to handle. We are still acting like a community of 5000 instead of 10000
189. Too much traffic, too fast on narrow country roads
190. The people who run this town don't have the respect or trust of the residents. Also, the middle and lower income residents are being pushed out of the town they have lived in their whole lives.
191. Increased taxes, becoming over populated, too much influx of outsiders will eventually change what we have, this will cause us to loose what we value most
192. Taxes and over population of liberals
193. Loss of farmland and how County will change for worst when new road is complete
194. A little town, acting likes a large city. Acting like something they are not will only hurt the County. Letting foreigners move in and take over

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195. Schools fixing old ones up and than trying to go to a big and better one by building a new one or moving everyone around so some schools can sit empty, too many kids in one class.
196. Taxes, drugs, school discipline, traffic, underage smoking, empty buildings, crappy street
197. Controlling growth, so that subdivisions don't take good farmland, AI see the 5 acre sale rub as detrimental in that it encourages removing even more farmland from production
198. The lack of proactive planning for orderly growth and the prevention of "urban sprawl"
199. Taxes, to meet future needs in the County
200. No zoning, uncontrolled growth, one big school
201. The taxes are increasing yearly without any benefits to us
202. Can Jersey keep up with the fast growth
203. Property taxes that are way out of line. Who would buy a house with a 400 dollar property tax bill? That is more like rent. New schools, against the vote of 71% of the public.
204. While providing new streets, new water/sewer services
205. No zoning, jail too small, better control over land use
206. Business growth, no zoning laws or regulations
207. Land use, overcrowding.

What are three things you would like to change about Jersey County?

1. Safe schools, allowing students to smoke on the streets, parent support groups
2. Closed campus at high school, expand existing schools, more cultural events
3. Lower taxes
4. The drug problem, the taxes, higher punishment for offenders
5. Higher punishment for second offenders, drug problems, taxes
6. I think we need more restaurants, clothing stores, and less taxes
7. School taxes lower or steady completion of g7 corridor.
8. More industry, phone system-school system, more restaurants
9. I would like to see more restaurants so that I don't have to travel to Alton
10. Hiring practice, clean up properties
11. More police, paid fire department
12. Traffic through main street, Jerseyville drug problem
13. More tolerance, more options for social activities, greater support for high standards in education kids
14. Start walking trails throughout the city. Make parents accountable for their children's behavior
15. Business opportunities attract more and larger business, building permits.

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16. Bring more jobs, have more jobs and opportunity. For kids, let the farmers get better pay
17. Create destination opportunities, leisure activities
18. Property taxes are too high to encourage new residents
19. More business, small industry, better schools
20. Add businesses and jobs locally, do long-range planning, grow economically
21. Highway, more economical growth
22. Unstructured growth
23. Nothing, only be a more prosperous and self sufficient community
24. Pollution, drug dealers, drugs, rush hour traffic.
25. Maintain small town feel while achieving acceptable population growth. Need to entice one or two major manufacturers here. Route 109-finish what is started
26. More business to contribute to tax base, more industrial growth
27. Improve access from/to St. Louis, Alton, Edwardsville, improve telecommunications
28. Reduction of stable real estate taxes
29. Fire protection, need to go to district upgrade all aspects
30. Main street traffic, underage smoking, taxes, "junky property"
31. Improvement in the roads, traffic flow, improvement in Jerseyville
32. More stores- competition for Wal-Mart, specialty shops, a good bakery
33. Need more restaurants, stores- shopping and activities for students to participate in.
34. Nothing
35. Taxes, jobs and the junk yard next to St. Francis cemetery
36. Tax base lowered, keeping drugs and alcohol from kids
37. Lower property taxes and enforce laws for drug use, I would also like to see more interest in the County not the politics involved.
38. Property taxes, zoning for residential vs. commercial, businesses Variety
39. Lower taxes, more crack down on drug and alcohol less of the who you are politics
40. I would like to see some sort of industry. Some to our area to help support our schools, hospital, and police.
41. High taxes, traffic problems
42. The backward people who are negative about change
43. I would like all of citizens to realize the school system is concerned about the area, we are not out to just raise taxes and take their money
44. Lower house prices, lower taxes, more Christian values
45. Nothing really, I like the small town rural setting, maybe more restaurants, not fast food
46. Have better roads in the County gravel roads are way out dated, more jobs
47. Taxes
48. Stay the same
49. Taxes to come down

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50. Improve care of Marquette park, this year it was mowed only rarely, restrooms unopened, roads not cared for, should be a safe place to be enjoyed by all
51. I like it the way it is.
52. Enforced law use control over zoning throughout the County
53. Recreation dept. should have more activities for seniors, enforce burning laws
54. We need zoning, improved roads
55. Better north south highways, zoning
56. Tourism expansion and improvement, light industrial growth, transportation improvements
57. Cheaper property taxes
58. Empty buildings and businesses in downtown area, lower crime rate-its too high for population, full time fire department
59. County government, roads, for a planning commission
60. Have nicer restaurants, have an indoor ice rink, lower property taxes
61. More industry, more nice restaurants, new highway for less congested traffic
62. State street-congestion, tax increases, the need for a bigger jail we need to worry more about why we have more crime
63. I would like to see more hometown stores to buy clothing instead of spending our money in Madison co. or St. Louis. I would like to have some kind of industry so Jersey co. people will have some job opportunities
64. Politics, taxes on property
65. Same as federal government. Do not pass so many laws that cannot be enforced, stop waste
66. More cooperation between the cities of Grafton, Dow, and Jerseyville, school support for the whole community, recycling commitment,
67. See new businesses, retail, restaurants, industrial established
68. The laws regarding the above and how serious the offenses are
69. Educational goals need to be more stringent, traffic flow, lack of choice
70. Increased support of our schools, increased positive activities for our youth and teens
71. Continue to expand medical services, provide more family oriented events
72. I'd like to see more racial diversity, and more low impact development. More fine arts
73. Narrow minded views involving education and growth
74. More sit down restaurants, more activities for children and teens
75. The road to Godfrey, unsafe drivers, stronger discipline of delinquents
76. I would like to see a plan for the County's growth. Growth can be good with proper planning
77. Better roads
78. Public knowledge of your every move, traffic reports in local papers are an invasion of privacy, why does every citizen need to know if I get a seatbelt ticket?
79. Education being a bigger priority, families involved in showing respect of our school system.

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80. When something is put to a vote and voted down the school board shouldn't change it.
81. Have a moratorium on chain and fast food establishments, establish historical districts, encourage retail businesses
82. Wider variety of stores, better roads, and better drug control
83. Protection of farm land, regulations of residential construction, adequate disposal of sewage
84. All County acquired FEMA property to be clean, County villages to be patrolled by law enforcement, villages to be cleaned up
85. A fairer way to divide taxation, better representation of all areas in our County government
86. I would like to open new employment and bring funding to our communities
87. Moderate prop tax growth, increased number of County deputies to patrol town to prevent dumping and 4 wheeler racing, more township involvement.
88. More zoning laws in unimportant areas
89. Lower taxes, more tax incentives for new/small business, more small businesses that creates small town atmosphere
90. More jobs less taxes, the rural roads widened and fixed
91. More good employers, better park system, improved cost, efficient government/lower taxes
92. Zoning, better roads, a modest starting zoning plan
93. Zoning in unincorporated areas, public perception of the change that is coming, city planning
94. Need land use policy
95. Would like to see land-use control or zoning, more beautification in our towns etc. a progressive attitude in all governing bodies and citizens
96. We need zoning desperately, small manufacturing employment
97. Need County zoning, need an ice rink, amount of traffic downtown
98. Greater diversity of population, public transportation, opportunities, opportunities of youth employment
99. Better zoning and planning in the city of Jerseyville, city roads, improve country roads
100. Real estate taxes-funding for public schools
101. Stabilize tax raise
102. Strict building codes for new homes, better traffic flow, increased business presence
103. Not a thing
104. Get rid of junkers, get some industry
105. Property taxes, youth recreation, active elderly care
106. Taxes, good jobs
107. Plan for land use. Building codes for new construction, create jobs in the County, some way to support schools other than property taxes

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108. Less government control, outside of our basic court system, the real promotion to pursue life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The promotion of Christian values
109. Get less hamburger places and bring in a fish place
110. Highway safety, educational system
111. Make high school kids stay on school property. Quit raising taxes every year. Maintain County roads much better
112. More restrictions, like Madison County. Incentives to demolish old houses, less trailers
113. Small business opportunities, better communication between teachers, parents, police and neighbors. Hunting, fishing opportunities for new landowners.
114. I don't want to change it as much as I want to preserve what we have and to make sure we continue to view it as a whole and not just Jerseyville.
115. More diverse population
116. More new housing
117. Instead of buildings new home maybe some renovation can be done to existing buildings and properties
118. Bring back the hometown feel that it used to have. Bring businesses o downtown.
119. Lower real estate taxes, better hospitals, less rural development.
120. The people need to slow down and enjoy our neighbors and families. Have more smaller farms and livestock
121. Boards, councils, government, curb appeal, traffic control
122. No gangs, park closer to town, more housing
123. Traffic conditions, something for teenagers to do
124. More sidewalks
125. Taxes, industrial growth
126. Lower student to teacher ratios
127. Jerseyville streets are embarrassing-side streets
128. Zoning and better highways
129. Land use, development-zoning.
130. High property taxes, need airport with concrete runway
131. Educate self-serving interest groups that are opposed to everything
132. A land use plan, building codes and less subdivisions
133. Moderate increased population
134. Reduce eyesores
135. Nothing
136. More zoning, children's recreation programs, ice rink, swimming pool
137. Stop meth labs
138. Taxes, school board, County board, traffic
139. The board, town months and nothing
140. Small communities
141. Slow down the rapid increase in property taxes

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142. I would like the taxes lowered, I would like more information, I would like more jobs for people
143. All rural roads sealed and maintained, lower taxes, rural water upgrade
144. Bigger city parks, easier traffic flow, less division between Grafton and Jerseyville
145. Wish there were more stores in downtown Jerseyville
146. Stricter land use
147. More law enforcement, lower taxes, better education in the public schools. We also have too many chiefs and not enough Indians in the education field
148. Modern bigger jail, stricter judge, parents having control over there teens
149. Shoplifting, burglaries
150. Stricter enforcement for people collecting junk around their house
151. More support of the fine arts, more cops, more family activities
152. Implement County zoning
153. Less box stores, keep and encourage small local businesses, fill those empty storefronts downtown, more recreation activities for our youth
154. Good zoning, cheaper water, less taxes
155. Just what you are doing is helping, be ahead of the curve. If our government wants to look ahead, law enforcement, don't wait until we see crime rates rising.
156. We need County zoning
157. Traffic management, more businesses and industry, paid fire fighters
158. Less government involvement in our lives
159. Slow down the growth, stop raising property taxes, bring back the stores in downtown Jerseyville like they were prior to Wal-Mart
160. Stop the selling of farm ground to build houses. Stop 1 person from controlling gas prices in city. Close down Wal-Mart
161. Only one building code not two. It's ridiculous, high price of gasoline, lower sales tax, reduce public schools management personal.
162. There is nothing I would like to change that is why we live here.
163. Change the County board more often
164. Property, side street improvements, promotion of local business
165. Narrow roads, need affordable new housing, need a stop sign on Jefferson and E. Arch St., more sidewalks for young kids to play on
166. The patronage system, the bureaucracy that moves plans forward with out regard to desire of public
167. Crime, traffic, more community services
168. Nothings its a fantastic community full of good families and good people
169. Need land use policy
170. Improved roads, zoning, more jobs
171. The Jersey Co Board members listen to the people who elected them
172. Lower property taxes, city wide clean up, moral, support for school district
173. Stop the destruction of farms as they disappear in subdivisions, urban sprawl out of control

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174. Lower property tax, bring competition to Wal-Mart, develop family/ young people entertainment
175. No property taxes, better water in Grafton, get these dumb city folk out of the country
176. No TIF districts
177. Lower taxes, more tax incentives for new/small business, more small businesses that creates small town atmosphere
178. Taxes-lower them property taxes. Tougher and stricter laws for criminals and juveniles, make them do community service.
179. Trash along the roadsides. Get the prisoners or the kids in trouble in school all the time out there picking it up. Property taxes lower them-library the fees to join are unreal.
180. Taxes, jobs and the junk yard next to St. Francis cemetery
181. Not have everything long distance between different companies and parts of the County. With a 466 nearly everywhere is long distance. It is cheaper to call St. J, or Louisiana than Jerseyville, if u want business growth this is vital
182. We need County leadership that is willing to be innovative, open minded, yet sensible about County growth and community assets, look for innovations in other communities across the country
183. Bring more local business to County
184. The regulation of building, community schools
185. Lower real estate taxes
186. I don't see planning for the future, when the jail was built no grants were utilized so the jail wasn't built large enough
187. Extension of sewer and water to encourage new building
188. Its responsiveness to the vote of the public - new schools, lower property taxes, we are thinking too big. How about using Grafton school as the jail
189. Recreation for our youth, transportation for our seniors, security-fire protection
190. Keep our FEMA inspector in place, bring in more jobs
191. Taxes, good jobs

What do you think Jersey County will be like in five years?

1. Family values are strong
2. Friendliness and the advantage of having lots of relatives nearby and knowing lots of people
3. Small town and County, farm life
4. A growing city with more crime than I would like.
5. A growing County with more crime
6. Growth in population with associated business growth, hopefully still a personable population.
7. A little bigger
8. I would like to see better paying jobs within the next five years

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9. The summer ball leagues, from football on up, the library summer reading club, the wellness center and the city pool
10. Increased development along the I55 corridor, increased taxes
11. If more jobs would come in to Jersey County it would be fine
12. As it is now the eastern portion will end up being the poor sister to the western County
13. No change in quality jobs, have more residents
14. More population
15. Not much different, a little larger
16. More population, more commercial growth
17. More populated, bigger drug problem.
18. More commercial properties
19. More congestion, more pollution, more drugs, more drug dealer
20. Growing population, new roads finally getting done, as St. Louis move north so does associated problems
21. Booming
22. As soon as more people based in St. Louis discover this area there will be tremendous boom in new homes
23. Much more residential
24. Good schools, safe communities
25. Smallness, quietness, safety, good schools, great M.T. services 911, also police force
26. Small town atmosphere and a feeling of safety. Also knowing most of your neighbors is a plus.
27. The people's sense of neighborliness, small town atmosphere
28. The small town atmosphere, I love being able to feel safe without all the city worries. See trees and fields rather than housing.
29. I value the small community togetherness that is in our community.
30. Small town atmosphere and a feeling of safety. Also knowing most of your neighbors is a plus.
31. Good schools, good health care, and generally good people
32. I love living in a rural area
33. Small town atmosphere, hometown owned businesses, community schools, close to the same, too many transient families, based on Christian values with a small town atmosphere
34. Repeating small town, friendly people close to St. Louis if you want city events shopping and sporting events
35. Scary, but probably a small St. Louis
36. More people will be moved in, more crime
37. Not to much change
38. Crowded
39. There will be growth in Jerseyville but the rest of the County will remain about the same

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40. Busy as ever
41. Crowded still waiting for new highways
42. Sporadic residential and commercial development which will or may dictate public service improvements in certain areas
43. It will be more populated. I think more people will move here. That will mean an increase in crime.
44. Beginning to sprawl and expand slowly.
45. Crowded
46. More populated, bigger drug problem.
47. More like the Alton Madison County area as far as businesses and a lot more new homes.
48. Nearing twice the size, crime rates higher, congested streets
49. Too busy and over crowded. Also very high place to live as far as taxes
50. The people, the school system
51. The friendliness of so many individuals most of the personnel, courthouse etc. Are also friendly
52. Safe streets, close enough to St. Louis, surrounded by the community colleges
53. Small town community atmosphere
54. I don't live here, just work, small easy to get to know people, but at the same time everyone knows everyone's business
55. Small town atmosphere and a feeling of safety. Also knowing most of your neighbors is a plus.
56. The positive environment for children and families
57. Rural setting, value of life and community, low crime rate, good schools, variety of stores and activities
58. I know many people, and they are very good to live with and to work with. The Mississippi is a great resource
59. Sense of community, people do support one another
60. Fairly safe, feel comfortable letting young teens going to the movies, Wal-Mart alone.
61. Countryside, Pere Marquette, people helping each other
62. The new schools are a definite plus, good place to raise a family
63. Basic values
64. Safety friendliness, open spaces, family-oriented
65. Neighborhoods that are fairly safe, prosperous downtown area.
66. A peaceful place to live with small town atmosphere, the fairs and special events where you know the people because of small town values
67. Safety, schools, ease of movement
68. Smallness/friendliness
69. Alton, but I would hope for more planning for the future
70. Growing to fast for its own good
71. A lot of new homes from people moving in and young married couples staying in the County

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

72. Population growth, higher crime, need for more County officials, higher traffic in the area.
73. Considerable growth in southern part of Jersey County between Jerseyville and Godfrey.
74. I think it will grow larger than Alton.
75. The new highway will bring large business growth, well see more new subdivision, the schools will be new and attract more families.
76. Population growth. I see more and more people moving into the County
77. Larger in scale but very similar as is today
78. Crowding, better hi-ways
79. Unplanned, piecemeal community with little control over the growth occurring in the County
80. Not sure
81. Growth at a slow pace
82. Bigger population
83. Population will increase 25%
84. More population, more crime, more diversity
85. More people and businesses, more traffic congestion, labor shortages, lots of retired boomers needing health care.
86. Substantially larger, growth towards highway, too many strip malls
87. Population increase-some new business some business that have been in Jerseyville not in business in 5 years
88. Similar to how it is now
89. Continued growth with new school will draw more people, hopefully more business opportunities coming into area, expanding city
90. Good paying jobs
91. Not as much of a rural community
92. Will only grow if attractable and affordable homes, low taxes
93. More houses
94. Very close to the same as it is now
95. I hope it is not a suburb of Alton, more crime. It will not be as friendly a community
96. Probably much the same unless we the people sit back and allow our freedoms to be usurped by allowing liberal thinking politicians to be elected who overstep their powers and implement their personal views over the peoples and those of our founding fathers.
97. Jersey County is really growing and that is good but the bigger growth the higher the taxes will be.
98. Much the same as now
99. More populated including minorities. More politics instead of common sense. Same old cliquish names in politics
100. At the current rate, there will be more trailers, fixed up junk houses for low income renting and the wrong kind of residents moving in.
101. I really don't know it seems to be growing ok. But not all in the right places

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

102. I think as more and more people come to the area it will be more crowded which doesn't have to be a bad thing if we plan carefully
103. Crowded schools
104. I think there will be a small amount of change, unless the new highway gets through here quicker
105. Just about like St. Louis.
106. Much larger, more rural development
107. More housing
108. Slowly progressing like it is today towards a County that has less respect for agriculture and family values.
109. Very close to the same as it is now
110. Help us all
111. Small Alton or Godfrey
112. Don't know
113. More populated
114. If government officials continue to do nothing or pad their own interests, not much farther than we are now.
115. More traffic congestion
116. Larger even without highway
117. Traffic problems
118. Considerable growth in rural housing and business growth
119. I think it will grow faster than expected
120. More people and businesses, more traffic congestion, labor shortages, lots of retired boomers needing health care.
121. More development in agricultural areas
122. Growing population, new roads finally getting done, as St. Louis move north so does associated problems
123. More populated
124. More crowded
125. Populated like Godfrey
126. Growth similar to St. Charles
127. Larger more white collar jobs
128. People
129. Same
130. Small community
131. Will be growing faster than I would like
132. I believe there will be more homes
133. Farmland and livestock farmers
134. More congested
135. Not as safe as today
136. Hopefully not to much change and then changes for the betterment of all, not just a few

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

137. Neighborhoods, streets, school, hospital
138. Friendly and caring families
139. Its a close knit community
140. Safety, proximity to St. Louis, schools
141. Friendly and caring families
142. I hope it stays similar to the way it is now
143. Land development, more traffic, more crime
144. Scared, apprehensive, quality growth, get the infrastructure ready ahead.
145. I expect it to follow in the steps of Godfrey
146. Overgrown
147. Same as it is today, only once the mega-highway is completed business is sure to follow
148. I am not sure but I hope not more like our neighbor Madison County
149. No one knows the future.
150. Just like it is now only more
151. Congested. Problems with rural homeowners dealing with farming methods and chemicals, equipment, dust etc.
152. The way it's growing now I would be afraid to say.
153. Pretty much the same but when the new highway arrives Jersey County as we know it will be gone
154. Overcrowded
155. Many will have moved out for inability to pay their taxes, people will continue to be jaded
156. More congested
157. More diverse population
158. Same and more
159. The same as it is now with more people
160. The open spaces and the beauty
161. Small town feel, my whole family is here
162. Totally out of control without a vision for the future
163. Most of the residents will be St. Louis former residents, more crime, only rich people
164. I don't like to think about it. I have lived here all my life and the part three years my area has been saturated with houses.
165. A big mess
166. Quiet, not crowded
167. Crime will be up. Moe traffic. Housing tasking over rich valuable farm ground lasts forever. Speaking more than 1 language.
168. Trying to keep up with the bigger cities. Houses everywhere farmland gone.
169. It's still a small community and you know most everyone. It's nice to get waved at as you drive down the street. It's a great place to raise a family
170. Unless we get reasonable zoning it will become a hodge podge.
171. Increased population, housing, but not much change in community assets

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

172. Family farm broken up into housing developments
173. I value being in a rural setting and close to St. Louis.
174. Will Jersey be ready for growth, will new businesses be attracted to come here
175. Broke many having lost their property due to inability to pay taxes, especially our elderly on fixed incomes. I know many this is already happening to.
176. Litchfield
177. Without some control it could deteriorate, hopefully a well organized County will be set up, mostly a bedroom community
178. A lot of houses-no new businesses
179. A complete mess

What would you like Jersey County to be like in five years?

1. If 67 expands, so will the community, which may bring more diverse cultures
2. I hope growth but keep the same friendly atmosphere, less poverty
3. The same as it is right now I feel safe in Jersey County right now.
4. To remain a small town and a farming community
5. I don't want Jersey County to change
6. Still a rural County with friendly people
7. More industrial, more activities for kids, still small town atmosphere, friendly residents
8. More jobs
9. Some new growth, but if there is no money in the budget to pay law enforcement then I'm not for sure.
10. Appearance of a small clean town, family businesses, abundance of churches
11. The school system is solid, a rural atmosphere, safety, adequate shopping, a good library, adequate avenues for entertainment
12. Small enough to be friendly. Big enough to not know everyone's business. There are good people in Jersey County. Good neighbors
13. A St. Louis suburb
14. Waiting for completion of a new highway and growth that should come with it
15. I am afraid it will be having growing pains and the intolerant will be more vocal and violent towards new arrivals and resistant to change.
16. More traffic congestion, hopefully have a full time fire department, more retail shopping opportunities.
17. Growth and development plan that meets expected growth rates, approved by citizens of the County, sustains quality of life.
18. Not to be full with people living here, but o bring more jobs here
19. Cleaner and more quality of all institutions
20. A steady growth in a business like way
21. Good homes, well developed commercial areas
22. Still small town with small town values

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

23. Well thought out community
24. More commercial properties
25. Cleaner, less pollution, more County police on patrol
26. Very proactive government
27. Hopefully the bypass and 4 lanes will be here and will contribute to growth.
28. Prosperous but still home like
29. Progressive in education, services, and job creation.
30. Additional entertainment and arts festivals
31. Too crowded, drugs even worse (no alcohol acceptance on church grounds)
32. I think the "new road" will feed into State Street and we will have problems if we don't get the extension.
33. I think it will have good schools still. I feel there will be growth in the population. I worry about increase in drug use.
34. Much bigger- with the new highway lots more jobs.
35. I think it will be bigger and busier.
36. Hard to say- improved transportation system could really change things as far as growth is concerned.
37. Higher taxes, new growth, less jobs, more drugs
38. Hopefully with moderate growth it will basically be the same with more opportunities for our youth
39. Many people will move to lower-taxed neighborhoods
40. A mess, Jersey County will sell out just like Alton. There will be less hometown businesses, more taxes and lots of low income or HUD housing.
41. Much like it is today, only bigger in population.
42. About the same, a little more development
43. Depends a great deal on the highway. Sooner it comes, the more growth and change will come.
44. I believe we will experience gradual growth
45. Less farm land and more houses and hopefully more industry
46. Not overly crowded, still friendly and safe
47. More employment
48. Same as today with growth in the industrial park with businesses, that you know will be here and be a part of the community, not use our tax incentives and then leave
49. Stay the way it is, more police protection
50. Growing but maintaining a "rural" atmosphere
51. A County with minimal regulation and government intervention. Create a better job base but not at the cost of more government intervention
52. Better roads, more condominiums and villagers
53. Targeted growth areas where services can be extended at a lower cost and compatibility of non-conflicting uses.
54. I would like to see Jerseyville, be a primary farming community with small town values, but would also like to see more businesses and job opportunities

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

55. Better infrastructure at least an equivalent school system
56. Have more restaurants, have an ice rink, lower property taxes
57. Still a good somewhat safe place to raise children
58. Growing but not too fast
59. More business, higher taxes, more crime
60. Over crowded more crime more people than services can handle
61. Larger population, but very similar in atmosphere
62. Growing even more rapidly
63. Hopefully the community awareness and support will continue, but in an increased population.
64. Depends upon the establishments allowed into the community and the vision and wisdom of board members and community leaders
65. About the same as today, but with more new housing developments. There is a risk of not meeting needs of lower income people
66. About the same but with a much nicer school
67. Some growth but basically the same close , small community
68. Less narrow mindedness, more welcoming to outsiders, more aware of the world
69. Jersey co. should experience moderate growth in the next 5 years
70. Still growing
71. Higher population, more new homes, higher enrollment in all schools, therefore higher taxes.
72. Busy and overcrowded if city fathers aren't wise. Bedroom community to metro east and St. Louis
73. Hopefully the same as now with moderate growth and small town atmosphere, everyone being safe.
74. If we are not careful, it's going to be a patchwork of strip malls.
75. Like Madison County
76. Progressive
77. A safe County, still country, local employment, a better sheriffs patrol for County residents
78. Still have the small town feel and appeal friendliness, feeling safe and secure
79. I would like to see more small business growth in our rural areas
80. Overall school system, ability to purchase property at reasonable prices.
81. I would like to see it maintain the hometown atmosphere that it has now. I know it will grow, but hopefully there will be controlled growth.
82. I would like to see a growth in business
83. More progressive, concentrate on bringing more of the big city amenities to Jerseyville so people will stay more in the area
84. Controlled land use
85. Moderate growth from today with more control over the changes occurring by the community
86. Much the same, but hopefully more jobs so young people will stay in the community

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

87. More stores
88. Desirable
89. I hope we can keep the great community we now have
90. More industry, 4 lane highway and bypass completed, County zoning and controlled growth
91. Well organized with respect to land use, progressive and well informed leadership less reliance on oil dependent vehicles.
92. Good zoning and cods for growth, increased business
93. Low crime rate
94. Similar to now
95. Still have clean look and feel, higher income paying jobs, full time fire dept.
96. The same as it is right now I feel safe in Jersey County right now.
97. Safe, convenience for all needs, quality homes, great quality economic base, attract businesses for jobs and offset property taxes
98. Very close to the same it is now
99. Safe, clean air, food teachers bring back local clothing, shoes etc. stores in downtown.
100. Less discrimination of Christian values, more promotion of business through less government restrictions, less socialistic in its thinking and more to ward the vision of our founding fathers laid out and those visions that Americans have died for that being to uphold our constitution
101. Have a place for the younger children, dope free
102. Make major inroads to 3 problems in item number 3 then tourists will come, the development will come
103. Less taxes, less politics, more younger people
104. Higher quality housing, bringing in higher quality people
105. To have grown some especially in the small business area. Other than bars and convenience stores
106. I would hope we could find a way for commerce and growth to flourish with out disrupting the natural beauty of the area.
107. Younger working people
108. I would still like it to remain basically a small town community where we still know most everyone
109. A busy town with a main street feel. Have a lot of factories to have more jobs to keep more people here.
110. Close to the way it is today
111. Same as it today
112. Much like it was 20 years ago, more farmers, neighbors that help each other out, slower pace of life.
113. Jersey County five years ago
114. The way it was 10 years ago
115. Just like it is now
116. To have more and better paying jobs
117. More diverse government, youth activities, highway completed

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

118. Development of business districts, new 4 lane road with bypass
119. Have the 4 lanes
120. Maintain small town atmosphere
121. Retain its warmth of personal relations
122. I would like to see hotels and restaurants developed along the new highway
123. More quality people
124. Contained growth
125. Friendly caring character of population.
126. More small industry
127. Progressive organized peaceable
128. Expanded with the same values
129. Start putting more pressure on land use planning
130. Still a small town community feel but more people
131. Bigger with more people
132. I don't know
133. Madison County out of control of politicians
134. Less farm ground will affect agricultural business adversely, Hope farming doesn't take a back seat to growth
135. Rural roads to be safe, to drive on, and development for residential housing
136. More houses and higher land prices, annexing more land
137. As it is, near the city, but don't have their problems
138. Still feel safe walking by myself on the streets
139. Most of the teens whom do not care about school and to better themselves will turn to crime, could be out of control in 5 yrs.
140. Congested with new interstate
141. Hopefully, similar to now, but a better and safer place to live
142. If problems from number 3 aren't addressed our community wont be as safe
143. Keep the rural beauty and peacefulness
144. Controlled planned growth. We do not want to spend our life waiting in traffic
145. Residential community
146. A small town
147. Where it was five years ago, small town, leave your doors open at night.
148. More like Greene County
149. Farming community, no industry, and no tourism.
150. Much the same as now with the small town friendliness and congeniality. Keep the small outlying schools
151. Less subdivisions
152. Financially sound, safe, friendly
153. Safe, clean air, food teachers bring back local clothing, shoes etc. stores in downtown.
154. Friendly inexpensive, empathetic to allot of our citizens, people hired for their ability not their name, honest.

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

155. Safe, friendly, small town, easy living
156. More diverse, more opportunity for local employment
157. Unrecognizable
158. A community with more opportunities
159. Too crowded, drugs even worse (no alcohol acceptance on church grounds)
160. Hopefully much the same as it is today. I am fearful that too much growth will increase crime rate.
161. Quiet, not overcrowded, people with manners, caring about their neighbors
162. I liked the small town I grew up in. I stayed after high school to allow my children to have that sense of community. My grandchildren will never have it.
163. No more five acres tracks and no more houses
164. Like it was about a century ago
165. Not sure with those in charge wanting so much growth and change
166. Small town living, something for the kids and teens to do, dress codes at school
167. Cleaned up friendly, have some business take more pride in what they are doing and clean the place or places up.
168. Growing
169. I would like to see growth (commercial especially) planned so that roads can be built one time to handle projected traffic and not have to go repeated construction.
170. Innovations in parks, green space, community gathering places, greater opportunity for the arts recreation, education, smartly planned and placed business growth and housing
171. Organized growth
172. It will have a higher population hopefully a plan for growth
173. Expanded new business what is being done to attract large business
174. Mayberry, that's why I moved here 26 years ago, employment opportunities for professionals
175. I would like small town, festivals, community involvement, to stay intact
176. Zoning passed and in effect, a larger jail in place to handle lawbreakers, a completed high way in place
177. A growing business area
178. I would like to see my children grow up here and keep crime out of our community.

What do you value most about Jersey County and community you live in?

1. Schools and parents working together to improve student behavior. More businesses available.
2. Thoughtful and careful growth, great schools, with room for all the services we provide
3. Retired

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

4. The people
5. The people and its safer than living in the big city.
6. I like that you know most of the people and mostly everyone is friendly
7. Still a rural area with people knowing each other, low crime rate with good schools
8. Friendly people, small town atmosphere, values
9. The people, school systems
10. The hometown feel. The small businesses. The small grade schools.
11. A lot of new growth, clean community with a positive look and attitude.
12. Good place to raise a family
13. Small town friendliness
14. The natural beauty, the rural feeling and living close to a larger city
15. The people by in large are very friendly and helpful
16. A small town
17. Hopefully industry growth and continued development along the river area. Not a loss of rural-farming ground
18. A model community where surrounding counties and cities come to look to see how well people can work together, with the majority and minority groups free to work.
19. A community that values education and promotes many educational opportunities for all young people.
20. Community/rural values, quality of life/cost of living, school system
21. I really don't know how to say because the people here don't care or they would go to meetings.
22. Natural beauty.
23. The recreation potential, the small town living.
24. Good people, a great town
25. Friendly, reliable people
26. Small town values
27. People
28. Security, I feel safe.
29. Jersey County still has a country feeling, I like seeing all the wild animals, farms.
30. Friendly hometown atmosphere, good friends, good job.
31. Safety, good schools, great people
32. Small town atmosphere, beautiful scenery, good schools, friendly people
33. The small town cohesiveness
34. People and friendships
35. Good values
36. Its safety, personable folks, still a nice hometown and place to raise your children.
37. Less drugs, smaller classrooms, more community activities
38. I wish it could stay a small town but I think it will be a big city soon.

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

39. I would like it to be a safe place to live, with good schools, good roads, and a good library system.
40. I would like for Jersey County to stay the small hometown but it's growing by leaps and bounds.
41. I would like them to have a variety of activities for both young and old to do.
42. A County on the move with improved transportation (four lane)
43. Taxes lowered, drug free, more business, a little growth
44. I would like to still have the small town atmosphere with moderate growth. Lower property taxes so we can stay in the community. More opportunities for youth.
45. A thriving community with small- town virtues and sense of togetherness- small businesses encouraged to stay
46. A town that could win the "Governors Award" we need to growth but make sure it is the kind that brings in money, not drugs, destruction, and despair.
47. I would like Jersey County to grow, but at a more controlled pace than it seems to be doing.
48. A few more businesses to draw more people to Jerseyville so we can keep the businesses we have.
49. More business, increased buildings, another gold course, and especially a new 67 link to 255
50. A growing community, working together planning for children's future
51. Being left alone in the country, few zoning rules it is safe, protected and is friendly
52. State park
53. Safety, everyone usually knows everyone
54. Growing up here and knowing may of the people of Jersey County and the goodness they share
55. I like the community that I live in to hopes it stay about the same.
56. Rural area, small town atmosphere, freedom to do what you like with your own property- free of intervention from government bodies
57. Small town atmosphere
58. Friendly people and churches
59. Friendly, clean, good schools
60. Scenic beauty along river road.
61. For the most part I think its a safer place to raise kids, unlike your bigger cities
62. That we are close to the crowd but not in it.
63. School system/proximity to larger cities.
64. Still small enough to know or have heard the names or families of most residents
65. Education is very good, our law enforcement does a very good job protecting the community, the people are friendly and giving to others.
66. The people in Jersey County are like no other; we come together in time of need.
67. The friendly people and for the most part a secure and safe place to live.
68. Very safe
69. Better school curriculum

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

70. Growing community that has a lot to offer young people, growth of citizens, school systems, police force, and hospitals improved
71. Very similar to now, only with less of the drugs etc.
72. Growing but with out losing the qualities of a small town.
73. Expansion of business especially in the retail businesses, quality restaurants, youth centers, excellent new high school with support from students, parents and community in order to offer the best educational experience for all of our students.
74. Maintain the Midwest values, but allow growth and progress on a limited basis.
75. I'd like to be able to enjoy rural landscapes and still have a healthy economy I'd like to have a low crime rate.
76. See above
77. Continued growth and expansion of business, subdivisions, housing, schools and restaurants.
78. Still a safe place to live and raise a family with fair prices on products, gasoline, and taxes.
79. Rural community with a cutting edge education system that's willing to try new things
80. The same as above.
81. I would like to see controlled, planned growth including conscientious zoning.
82. Safe community with family values.
83. Security, location handy to St. Louis, medical facilities.
84. Being country, able to be self employed and feel safe.
85. The small town feel, the combination of rural and small town living
86. The atmosphere and country living with the state park the beauty of our County.
87. Small town feeling.
88. The quiet safe community, the beauty of the area, the friendly people.
89. The small town feel. With low crime rate. The overall clean feel of the cities and County.
90. Small town living
91. Clean friendly
92. Friendliness, clean, good schools
93. Small town atmosphere, beautiful scenery, good schools, friendly people
94. Schools, churches, heritage
95. Interesting churches and local groups, expansion of city streets and business
96. Good place to raise a family, people are good generally hardworking and proud, good schools and hospital
97. Location close to all the good things
98. Low crime, good schools, friendly community
99. Close but not too close to St. Louis and a major airport, lots of friendly people, good schools.
100. Classic architecture and rural vistas my own roots and family connections, the rivers and their unique presence.

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

101. The people- community, the feeling of security
102. The people- real down to earth and caring for the most part.
103. Quality families and individuals, variety of churches and focus on families
104. The hometown atmosphere, friendly people, farming community.
105. The feelings of the location of being close to the big city but not in it.
106. Clean town, good schools, quality people, low crime rate
107. Friendly people, small town atmosphere, values
108. Family, friends, rural country quiet.
109. Rural life and good neighbors
110. Nice to be able to walk the streets at night, small community.
111. Friends and family, my church family
112. Jerseyville is a nice place to live, we enjoy it. We are moose members, they have a number of things to do we like it.
113. Rural setting and geography.
114. I like the country, but not the people. Privacy around my home, and quiet. Nothing much other than these.
115. The small town feel in an area close to a major metropolitan area.
116. Opportunity for a prosperous and respected community if for a strategic plans for the future is put in place now.
117. It still has a small town feel about it.
118. The small town life, the beauty of the natural areas.
119. Friendliness, clean, good schools
120. Health care.
121. The small town feeling. Not a stressful place to live in.
122. Don't value much. Lived here all my life, it is run by certain people that do not care about the normal workingman.
123. I have always liked being from a small community where you can leave you car unlocked and key in and not worry about it not being there when you return.
124. Good schools law enforcement
125. Its people, its churches, its health care.
126. Low crime rate in general, fair amount of local entertainment, clean park, hospital.
127. The good people
128. The community members care for each other
129. The people and shops
130. Closeness, safety and traditions
131. Everybody friendliness attitude, outdoor areas for recreation with out being surrounded by city structure.
132. Small town feel. People are neighborly. People walk on our sidewalks, kids ride bikes down the street. Safety, good school system, good hospital.
133. People
134. Rural town but close to big city.
135. Same as above

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

136. The majority of the people. It's a wonderful place to live.
137. small/safe/community
138. Sense of community, good school systems-churches
139. Small town atmosphere with business structure of larger communities very friendly community.
140. Safety, community involvement, education opportunities medical care available.
141. The people care about each other.
142. Small town setting.
143. Hometown feeling and security of small community.
144. Friendly people, still has a small town feel easy to get around town.
145. Safer place
146. It's still home
147. The same as it is now
148. Rural life, not too heavily populated
149. Privacy, safety, rural setting
150. I enjoy the County and the friends and friendly people, and our schools for the children.
151. School system
152. A growing suburb of St. Louis with many commuters
153. Small town atmosphere, beautiful scenery, good schools, friendly people
154. Safety, a small town, close to bigger cities but not in them.
155. The County and the people
156. We need a center to work with and train kids of all ages that are under activities. Maybe solicit a company that could use their services.
157. Small, intimate, country life
158. A place where people take pride in their homes and town and not much bigger than it is now
159. I would like to see a community theatre built in Jerseyville for the County to enjoy
160. Safe, productive community with zoning regulations and a strong educational program to attract the right people to Jerseyville.
161. Good, small schools the personal touch of neighbors and friends in the community. The freedom of a safe environment for the kids and myself.
162. Small town rural atmosphere
163. Safety and knowing friendly people.
164. The small town atmosphere.
165. Friendliness, clean, good schools
166. Small town, hometown life, if I want a smoke stack factory in my yard I'd move to St. Louis.
167. The rural living and feeling
168. Central location and the fact my roots go back over generations.
169. Small rural communities with in a rural County.
170. Safety and far enough away from the big city.

A Vision for Jersey County: Full Text of Responses to Questions

171. Used to be a good place to live until the board started telling everyone else how to live.
172. We have a lot of great families and great sense of community as a whole. I feel safe, for the most part. I think we have a beautiful community and would like to see it stay that way. I guess I have old values and like to see it the way it was when I grew up here.
173. My neighbors and I look out for one another.
174. The small town feel.
175. Ease with which you can do business and live in safety
176. Family values that are important to community.
177. Friendly, familiar, warm, safe faces.
178. Way of life
179. Safety community, recreational opportunities, way of life.
180. About the same
181. Same as 5
182. I still own and enjoy my elbow room and space
183. I value the close-knit community, but that is gone. The haves run this town, and the have knots are getting run out
184. Open space, rural area, family community
185. The history, nature, and the fact my closest neighbor still lives two miles away
186. No new road next to homes that have been there for 50 years.
187. Small town living, not the city rat race. Secure living, not always looking over your shoulder. I would rather drive 30 or more minutes than to have a store in my backyard.
188. Small town atmosphere, beautiful scenery, good schools, friendly people
189. Just like it has been
190. Friendliness, helpfulness of most business people
191. Locations close to a large urban area yet still rural, our state park and the rivers, Historical Society efforts, the new County newspaper is a wonderful asset
192. Rural area but close to St. Louis, and recreations
193. Peace and quite
194. I would like to see plans for another elementary school, more tourism encouraged, cleaner air quality
195. I like living here because it is a small town
196. The relationships and neighbors, friends, family, looking out for each other and helping each other out. Safely
197. Security, health care, small town living.
198. A rural water system in place for the benefit of rural people we now have good road in the townships
199. I live on a farm and I like space
200. Rural community that I have lived in for all my life. Hope that we can keep it like this for many years to come.