



COUNTY of LUZERNE
PENNSYLVANIA
ESTABLISHED 1786

**LUZERNE COUNTY
STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA**

May 22, 2018

Luzerne County Court House
Council Meeting Room
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711

5:00 PM CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

ADDITIONS TO/DELETIONS FROM AGENDA

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion of Strategic Plan and Surveypages 1-38
2. Discuss Strategic Objectives for High Performing Government

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee on matters not listed on the Agenda, but which must be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee. Speakers are requested to submit a Speaker Card before the first speaker is called and to limit individual comments to three (3) minutes. Speakers may not yield or transfer their time to another speaker.

ADJOURNMENT

**RESOLUTION R-2017-91
LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

A Resolution of Luzerne County Council Declaring the Goals for Luzerne County

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Strategic Initiative Committee is dedicated, among other things, to crafting policy that shall serve to communicate to the County Manager regarding Council's vision for the County's future; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council has a vested interest in the smooth, efficient operation of all Luzerne County government functions and operations; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council desires to see the Luzerne County Government to operate effectively under the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council desires to see the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter be strengthened by Luzerne County officials; and

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Strategic Initiative Committee, in the effort to identify goals for Luzerne County, conducted a survey for public; and

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Strategic Initiative Committee compiled the results of the survey and developed a Vision Statement, Mission Statement, Luzerne County Government Statement of Values, and Long Term Goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Council sets forth the following list of goals it desires to be seen achieved for the better function of Luzerne County government:

Long Range Goals for Luzerne County

1. Quality of Life.
 - 1.1 Increase recreational facilities in partnership with other public entities. Provide leadership to develop recreational facilities for youth (e.g., skate-boarding venues).
2. Community Health and Safety.
 - 2.1 Encourage development of a county-wide public safety plan (e.g., police force with regional police stations or regional police organizations serving multiple boroughs and townships that eliminates the need for state police to provide primary police services to boroughs and townships).
 - 2.2 Provide leadership for all aspects of the drug crises affecting our county and society.

2.3 Promote healthy lifestyles. For example:

- Eliminate smoking on most county properties. Provide cessation programs for smoking employees. Address issue of jurors and correctional officers who need to smoke.
- Eliminate high sugar drinks from vending machines on county property.

3. Good County Government Services and Practices.

3.1 Identify sites and strategies for new county correctional facilities that provide a wide range of options for adjudicating convicted offenders and those awaiting disposition of their cases.

3.2 Analyze opportunities to help boroughs and townships save money and human resources by offering or encouraging efficient regional or county-wide ambulance, fire, garbage collection, snow removal, recycling and blight mitigation services.

3.3 Create a robust county website that provides:

- Searchable public documents, including real estate records;
- Easy payment of taxes and other fees;
- Efficient retrieval and filing of legal documents;
- Easy marketing of real estate property and other items sold by the county;
- On-line voter registration;
- Easy access to financial reports, contracts, council emails and other administrative documents;
- Links to and/or documents of County authorities, boards and commissions.

3.4 Create a positive Reserve Account to avoid costly tax anticipation financing and provide for emergency needs and capital investments. Annually make an allocation of at least 2% of the General Fund to the Reserve Account to maintain a healthy balance.

3.5 Fully fund the existing Retirement Fund. Carefully plan for the future.

3.6 Conduct Long Range County Facilities Study to:

- Reduce leasing, operating and other costs;
- Create facilities and locate county operations for efficient services to citizens;
- Further cross training and support of county staff;
- Thoughtfully evaluate county real estate and dispose of those properties not deemed necessary for current or future county use.

3.7 Create more opportunities for supervised prisoners to perform appropriate work tasks outside of correctional facilities.

3.8 Work with PA state legislators and State executive branch to:

- Properly and equitably fund judicial system;
- Revise antiquated state election code;
- Restructure funding of government to rely less on property taxes;

- Create fair voting districts that preserve communities without regard to party affiliation;
- Create new legislation or revise existing legislation so 911 emergency service professionals (not elected officials) determine providers best able to quickly address specific emergencies.
- Adjust retirement age and years of service to reflecting changing life expectancy.

3.9 Promote sale of tax delinquent properties in convenient and secure locations. Provide appropriate guidelines for methods of payment.

3.10 Aggressively identify revenue sources other than property taxes to fund the Operating Fund. Consider:

- Offering advertising opportunities on county properties and vehicles to generate additional revenue.
- Offering services using county mapping data bases and custom maps to developers and others.
- Adoption of the \$5 annual vehicle registration fee with corresponding reduction in property tax millage rate.
- Enacting a county-wide sales tax.

3.11 Formalize the process for appointing and seating individuals to authorities, boards and commissions. For example:

- Conducting swearing-in ceremonies where appointees affirm or swear to make decisions in the best interests of the citizens and future of the county.

3.12 Encourage street renaming and renumbering to avoid confusion and improve dispatching of emergency services.

3.13 Utilize internship programs and high school students, where appropriate, to familiarize those participating with county services.

4. Infrastructure and Environment.

4.1 Encourage Luzerne County to become part of a regional transportation entity to improve freight rail infrastructure and provide passenger rail services.

4.2 Promote construction of sidewalks and trails throughout the county.

4.3 Review services provided by authorities, boards and commissions and consider how they might be assimilated into county operations for efficient and cost effective delivery of services.

4.4 Advocate for clean water. For example, support:

- Separation of storm and sanitary sewers throughout the county.
- Cleaning up acid mine discharges into waterways and otherwise improving water quality of county rivers, streams and lakes.

4.5 Support, encourage and lead efforts to provide high speed internet service throughout the county.

4.6 Promote a clean environment. For example, conduct awareness campaign to reduce littering throughout the county, including campaign to encourage proper disposal of cigarette butts.

4.7 Advocate and influence infrastructure projects. For example, fund and otherwise make concerted effort to address deficient county roads and bridges.

5. Economic Development.

5.1 Create new county-wide “best practices” Zoning and Subdivision and Land Development ordinances and provide incentives for boroughs, townships and cities to adopt uniform ordinances.

5.2 Promote and encourage various modes of transportation within Luzerne County and to areas outside of the county. For example, encourage and promote train excursions from Hazleton and Wilkes-Barre to baseball games at PNC Field and to Jim Thorpe and elsewhere.

5.3 Convene periodic “summits” with economic development agencies and chambers of commerce to discuss strategies to improve economic development in the county and the region.

This Resolution shall become effective six (6) days after adoption.

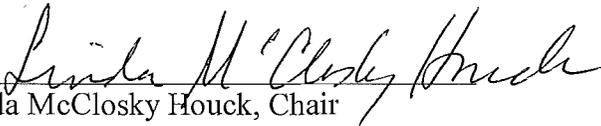
Adopted at a meeting of the Luzerne County Council held on September 12, 2017.

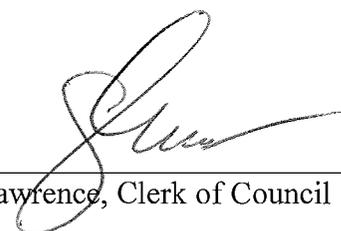
ROLL CALL VOTE (6-2)

YES: Kelleher, McGinley, Schnee, Waitkus, Williams and Houck

NO: Brominski and Dobash

LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

By: 
Linda McClosky Houck, Chair

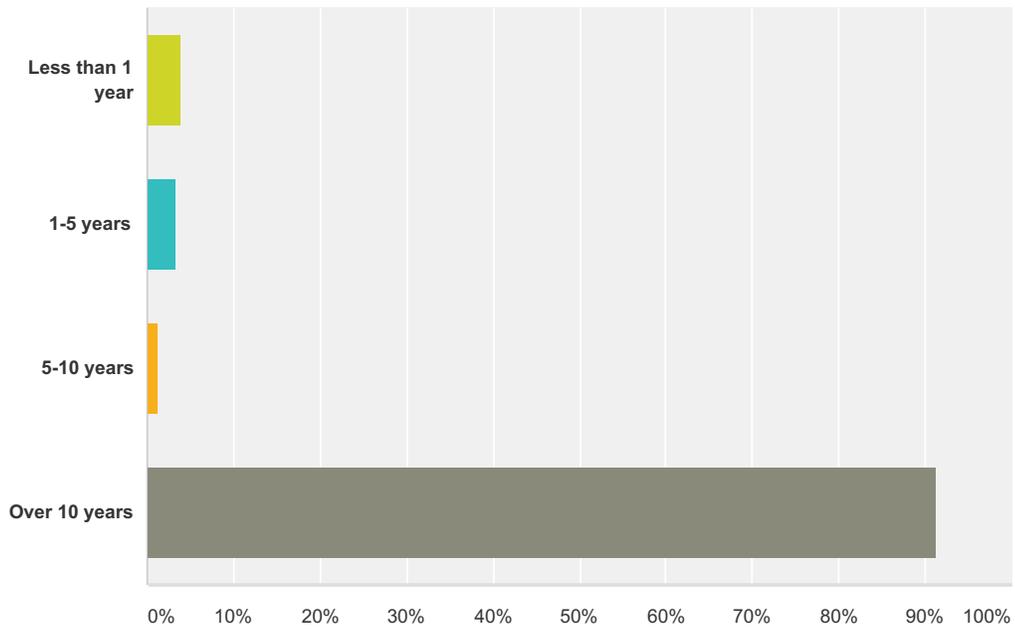
Attest: 
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

LUZERNE COUNTY MANAGER

By: 
C. David Pedri, Esq., County Manager

Q1 How long have you been a County resident?

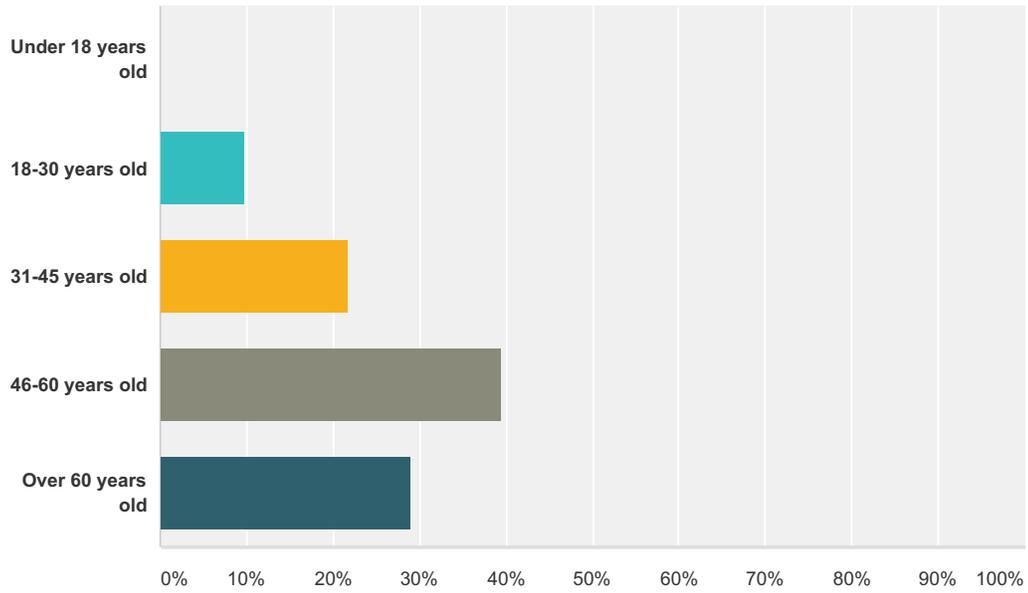
Answered: 150 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
Less than 1 year	4.00% 6
1-5 years	3.33% 5
5-10 years	1.33% 2
Over 10 years	91.33% 137
Total	150

Q2 How old are you?

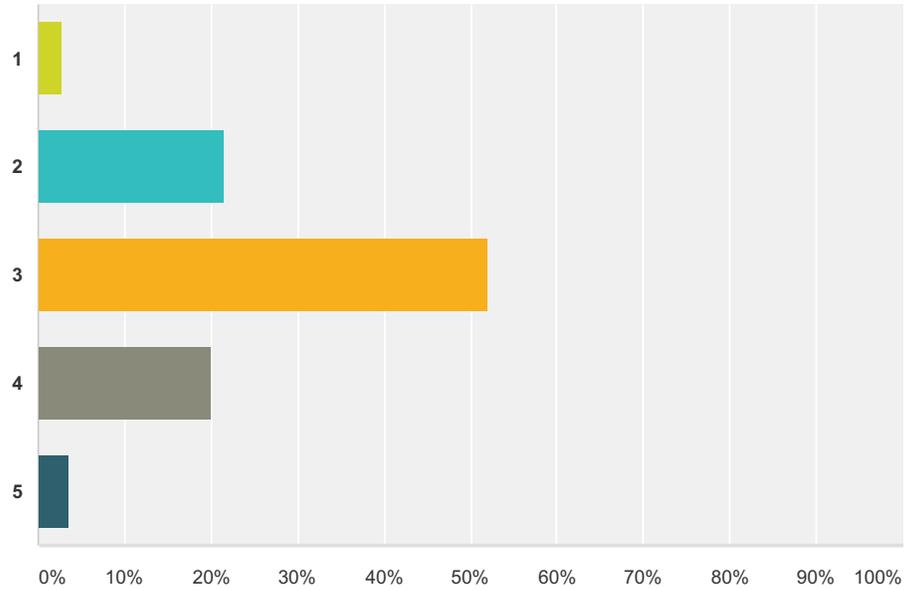
Answered: 152 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Under 18 years old	0.00% 0
18-30 years old	9.87% 15
31-45 years old	21.71% 33
46-60 years old	39.47% 60
Over 60 years old	28.95% 44
Total	152

Q3 How would you rate the quality of life in Luzerne County? Rate 1-5 with 5 being excellent quality of life.

Answered: 144 Skipped: 8



Answer Choices	Responses
1	2.78% 4
2	21.53% 31
3	52.08% 75
4	20.14% 29
5	3.47% 5
Total	144

Q4 What do you think are the County's strengths? For instance, small town feeling, affordable, close to large metropolitan areas, outdoor recreation, etc.

Answered: 123 Skipped: 29

#	Responses	Date
1	Susquehanna River runs through it.	5/31/2017 1:27 PM
2	close to large metropolitan areas, low crime rate, good outdoor activities and natural areas, relatively low cost of living	5/30/2017 7:59 PM
3	Close access to necessities	5/19/2017 3:42 PM
4	small town feel,close to large metropolitan areas	5/16/2017 2:45 PM
5	closeness to so much, small town, local ethnic dining and festivals	5/12/2017 2:38 PM
6	Small town, affordable, close to NY & Phila, charming ethnic diversity	5/11/2017 4:54 PM
7	Affordable,close to Phila & NY, colleges	5/11/2017 1:56 PM
8	Used to be a small town feeling...not anymore.	5/11/2017 12:30 PM
9	Hard working people,close to towns and parks.	5/10/2017 9:02 PM
10	Small town feeling	5/10/2017 9:35 AM
11	small town, easy access to major highways	5/9/2017 3:06 PM
12	close to major cities and outdoor attractions	5/9/2017 1:25 PM
13	small town feeling and close to metro areas	5/8/2017 9:20 AM
14	Small town personality with some metropolitan opportunities. Plenty of rural wooded areas for recreation	5/7/2017 11:56 AM
15	small town feeling	5/4/2017 11:28 AM
16	close to large metropolitan areas	5/4/2017 10:56 AM
17	Affordable, Location to NYC & PHL, Access to Venues & Events	5/4/2017 9:10 AM
18	affordable	5/3/2017 1:58 PM
19	underpaid employment, high property taxes	5/3/2017 10:10 AM
20	employment, shopping, updated mainstreets in towns	5/3/2017 9:43 AM
21	Outdoor recreation is wonderful, proximity to larger metropolitan cities.	5/2/2017 9:41 PM
22	River area since it was redone	5/2/2017 3:31 PM
23	none	5/2/2017 2:09 PM
24	It's home!	5/2/2017 1:43 PM
25	Out door recreation and close to metropolitan areas	5/2/2017 7:47 AM
26	close to large metropolitan areas, and a strong working class families.	5/2/2017 6:37 AM
27	Preserved lands. Rural.	5/1/2017 6:50 PM
28	Beautiful rural areas	5/1/2017 3:56 PM
29	affordable, convenient, accessible	5/1/2017 3:18 PM
30	small town feeling	5/1/2017 2:29 PM
31	outdoor recreation	5/1/2017 2:17 PM
32	small town feel	5/1/2017 1:26 PM

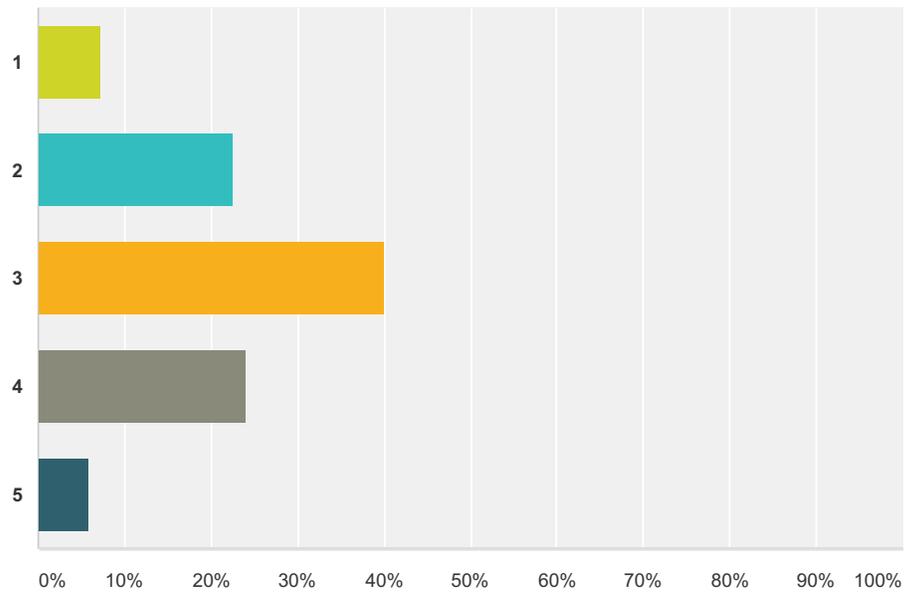
33	Multitude of recreational opportunities, along with easy access to the transportation system.	5/1/2017 1:11 PM
34	I am so sorry to say I cannot think of anything I would call a strength.	5/1/2017 12:45 PM
35	beautiful area, multiple colleges, a usable river, (not currently used), relatively low population density	5/1/2017 11:41 AM
36	Affordability, access to outdoor recreation, sense of community	5/1/2017 11:28 AM
37	Small town feeling yet close to nyc and philly	5/1/2017 11:04 AM
38	affordable, and recreation	5/1/2017 10:41 AM
39	close to large metropolitan areas	5/1/2017 10:02 AM
40	Affordable housing, small town feeling, schools	5/1/2017 9:25 AM
41	affordable, friendly atmosphere, nearby shopping and entertainment.	5/1/2017 9:23 AM
42	affordable	5/1/2017 9:13 AM
43	Some area have amazing natural beauty.	5/1/2017 8:45 AM
44	most of the small communities are cohesive , real estate is affordable, growing opportunities	5/1/2017 8:32 AM
45	Good recreation areas.good professional sports team and facilities	4/29/2017 10:01 AM
46	Affordable and starting to see outdoor rec. being update	4/28/2017 3:38 PM
47	close to large met areas, lower crime rates compared to other PA areas.	4/28/2017 3:03 PM
48	small town feeling	4/28/2017 2:17 PM
49	SMALL TOWN FEELING	4/28/2017 2:08 PM
50	Affordable cost of living; small town feeling; near NYC & Phila; outdoor activities- areas for skiing, hiking, biking, fitness; beautiful landscape	4/28/2017 2:01 PM
51	Proximity to Philadelphia, NYC, and major interstate highways	4/28/2017 1:58 PM
52	close to metropolitan areas	4/28/2017 1:56 PM
53	small neighborhoods where everyone watches out for each other a sense of belonging with strong community involvement	4/28/2017 1:53 PM
54	For the most part, LC has resilient, hard-working people, the changing of the seasons would be something I would miss if I relocated to southern states. People here are very traditional but that proves to be a double-edged sword when changes need to be made.	4/28/2017 1:42 PM
55	Outdoor recreation	4/28/2017 1:41 PM
56	Affordable living close to large metropolitan areas	4/28/2017 1:39 PM
57	Affordable	4/28/2017 1:26 PM
58	Beautiful outdoors, close enough to big cities	4/28/2017 1:23 PM
59	nice, affordable area close to large metropolitan areas	4/28/2017 1:05 PM
60	choices of higher education, shopping/eating, outdoor recreation	4/28/2017 12:34 PM
61	HOSPITALS	4/28/2017 12:26 PM
62	affordable	4/28/2017 12:26 PM
63	affordable living	4/28/2017 11:56 AM
64	Wide variety of restaurants, small towns	4/28/2017 11:47 AM
65	small town feeling and that is it	4/28/2017 11:41 AM
66	CLOSE TO ALL MAJOR HIGHWAYS	4/28/2017 11:31 AM
67	very affordable housing, manageable living	4/28/2017 11:29 AM
68	The rural areas of Luzerne County are wonderful. Wilkes Barre, not so much	4/28/2017 11:28 AM
69	I do not reside in the County. I only work in the County.	4/28/2017 11:23 AM
70	Not much at this point- I plan on moving when I retire	4/28/2017 11:17 AM

71	I like the home town feeling, but I believe that we have to much crime, high cost of living	4/28/2017 11:06 AM
72	The county has many strengths in relation to outdoor recreational opportunities and close proximity to larger cities such as NY and Philadelphia while still permitting the residents to live in a smaller community setting. The local ethnic festivals and close neighborhood relationships are also a positive for living in the area. It is much easier for people to know their neighbors and maintain a relationship with them.	4/28/2017 11:03 AM
73	I'd say it's strengths lie in the small town feeling, the proximity to larger metropolitan areas such as Philadelphia and NYC, and the vast opportunities for quality education within the area.	4/28/2017 10:54 AM
74	A good number of colleges and universities, many recreational and entertainment venues	4/28/2017 10:44 AM
75	affordable	4/28/2017 10:32 AM
76	Affordable housing.	4/28/2017 10:30 AM
77	small town feeling is gone, gangs & drugs have taken over	4/28/2017 10:29 AM
78	affordable	4/28/2017 10:23 AM
79	Historical area with several colleges and parks/recreation areas	4/28/2017 10:21 AM
80	close to large metropolitan areas	4/28/2017 10:19 AM
81	Small town feeling, access to major highways, great care for the elderly, mixture of nationalities, great place to raise a family	4/28/2017 10:18 AM
82	small town feeling and affordable	4/28/2017 10:17 AM
83	outdoor recreation, small town feeling	4/28/2017 10:16 AM
84	Affordable, close to metropolitan areas, outdoor recreation	4/28/2017 10:12 AM
85	Proximity to large cities and outdoor recreation.	4/28/2017 10:12 AM
86	small town	4/28/2017 10:09 AM
87	Not much to do, hard to find good paying jobs	4/28/2017 10:07 AM
88	generational family communities	4/28/2017 10:06 AM
89	close to cities. Family values	4/28/2017 10:04 AM
90	Geographic Location	4/28/2017 10:04 AM
91	Cost of living, low violent crime	4/28/2017 10:01 AM
92	all of the above except the small-town feeling, thats been gone for a long time	4/28/2017 10:01 AM
93	Friendly people, many state parks and trails, and yes, small town feeling.	4/28/2017 10:01 AM
94	small town feeling	4/28/2017 9:58 AM
95	Has great entertainment venues, is affordable	4/28/2017 9:57 AM
96	proximity to interstates, friendly small town atmosphere, work ethic of residents	4/28/2017 9:52 AM
97	Rich in history and scenically beautiful	4/28/2017 9:51 AM
98	beautiful scenery, access to major highways,	4/28/2017 9:49 AM
99	I'd list all of the above!	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
100	outdoor recreation	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
101	afordable	4/28/2017 9:45 AM
102	Small town feeling	4/28/2017 9:45 AM
103	afordablility, close to major cities.	4/28/2017 9:44 AM
104	beautiful area	4/28/2017 9:42 AM
105	All of the above	4/28/2017 9:41 AM
106	Small communities	4/28/2017 9:40 AM
107	CLOSE TO RECREATION,	4/28/2017 9:39 AM

108	recreation & dining	4/28/2017 9:39 AM
109	outdoor recreation, hometown feeling	4/28/2017 9:38 AM
110	Beautiful nature areas	4/28/2017 9:37 AM
111	Everything mentioned above.	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
112	Location to interstate and cities and small town feel	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
113	Affordable.	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
114	affordable	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
115	Close to large metropolitan areas	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
116	affordable cost of living, proximity to metroplitian areas as well as rural areas (state parks, etc), entertainment options,	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
117	Natural Beauty, strategic location for distribution & manufacturing, interesting events and activities	4/28/2017 9:33 AM
118	Run down drug riddled low income low paying	4/28/2017 9:32 AM
119	Small town feel and close to larger cities.	4/28/2017 9:17 AM
120	None, the county does not fulfill its obligations or contribute to making the county a better place	4/28/2017 8:54 AM
121	entertainment theaters and sports complex	4/27/2017 4:29 PM
122	I honestly can't think of one.	4/27/2017 4:03 PM
123	small town feeling	4/25/2017 4:38 PM

**Q5 How safe do you feel in our community?
Rate 1-5 with 5 being the safest.**

Answered: 137 Skipped: 15



Answer Choices	Responses
1	7.30% 10
2	22.63% 31
3	40.15% 55
4	24.09% 33
5	5.84% 8
Total	137

Q6 How would you suggest our community improve on the safety of the area?

Answered: 122 Skipped: 30

#	Responses	Date
1	Get county government efficient so we can have a coordinated county police force	5/31/2017 1:28 PM
2	well trained police force with sensitivity to a diverse population	5/30/2017 8:01 PM
3	Increase presence of law enforcement and getting community involved in reporting crime	5/19/2017 3:43 PM
4	more police presence	5/16/2017 2:45 PM
5	Improve police protection/coverage for small communities who have no local police department and depend on Pa. State Police.	5/13/2017 9:12 AM
6	i think there is a huge problem with homeless or undesirables roaming our public parks and downtowns, limit the section 8 housing or police them a little better, blighted properties or abandoned need to be addressed much sooner	5/12/2017 2:40 PM
7	Gotten less safe lately; more homeless shelters; more education in schools by law enforcement; more rehab/work/remediation for discharged prisoners	5/11/2017 4:56 PM
8	Establish more homeless shelters; have police do more education in schools	5/11/2017 1:58 PM
9	More police officers and enforcement of existing laws and ordinances.	5/11/2017 12:31 PM
10	Drug making and dealing taken more seriously when reported.	5/10/2017 9:04 PM
11	Eliminate gangs	5/10/2017 9:36 AM
12	Shut down the meth labs and drug houses	5/9/2017 3:07 PM
13	Reduce drug use and the crimes related to it. Make Luzerne Co. less attractive to "out-of-town" criminals.	5/9/2017 1:27 PM
14	enforce laws and increase protection	5/8/2017 9:21 AM
15	Wilkes-Barre needs to be rejuvenated. Decaying city without signs of rebuilding. Need some new quiet industry to attract young people.	5/7/2017 11:57 AM
16	Decimalize drugs	5/4/2017 11:29 AM
17	crack down on drug trafficking/more police patrols	5/4/2017 10:57 AM
18	Better monitor Gov't Assistance programs, Implement better leadership structure and fiscal accountability of all residents	5/4/2017 9:11 AM
19	declare war on crime	5/3/2017 1:59 PM
20	More lighting (streets/parking areas)	5/3/2017 10:11 AM
21	I really don't know	5/3/2017 9:43 AM
22	Improved programming for poor and more transient populations.	5/2/2017 9:44 PM
23	More police presence, police presence on bikes and horses as well	5/2/2017 3:32 PM
24	More police	5/2/2017 2:09 PM
25	More police through mergers.	5/2/2017 1:43 PM
26	Better lighting on off-streets, more policeman	5/2/2017 9:15 AM
27	Visual police. Walking the beat.	5/2/2017 7:48 AM
28	consolidate police depts. increase the number of police officers	5/2/2017 6:38 AM
29	Get control of the drug situation and the violence that comes with it.	5/1/2017 3:57 PM
30	fewer drugs	5/1/2017 3:19 PM
31	more police protection	5/1/2017 2:29 PM

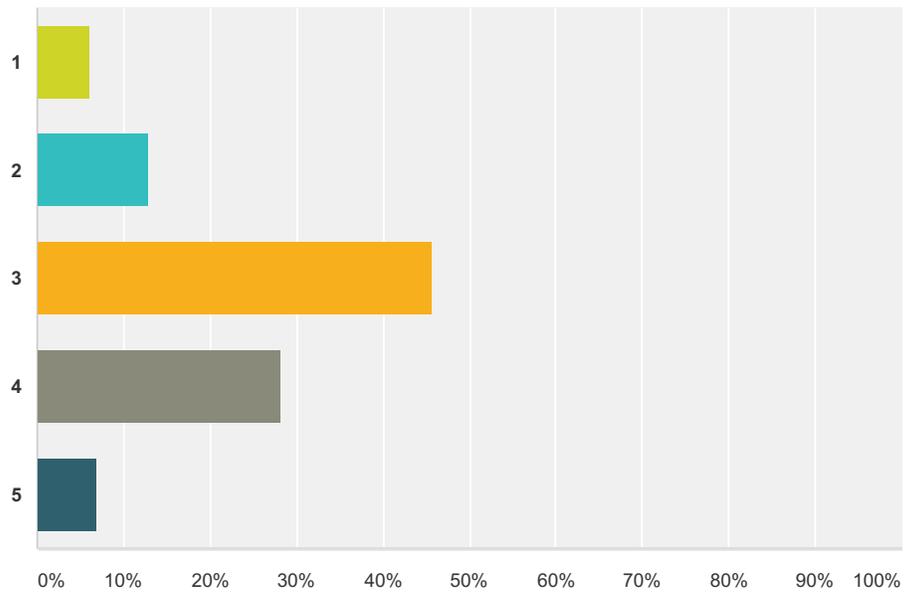
32	impose stiffer laws for drug trafficking, illegal weapons, etc	5/1/2017 2:19 PM
33	more policemen, more pay	5/1/2017 1:26 PM
34	Require a Medicaid work requirement.	5/1/2017 1:12 PM
35	Improve city living, Revamp abandoned sections, make it a wonderful place and increase the COL to drive out the riff raft, same approach as NYC did in the 90's.	5/1/2017 12:48 PM
36	more aggressive policing, crackdown on drugs	5/1/2017 11:41 AM
37	Regionalization and professionalization of polic	5/1/2017 11:05 AM
38	stricter guidelines for landlords and section 8 housing.	5/1/2017 10:45 AM
39	Pothole repair. Better police presence in the township	5/1/2017 10:24 AM
40	more jobs-less crime	5/1/2017 10:02 AM
41	More control of out of area landlords who do not keep up thier properties and do not monitor the activities of those who rent from them (Drug Dealers).	5/1/2017 9:30 AM
42	more policeman patrolling, especially in late evening-early morning hours, better lighting.	5/1/2017 9:25 AM
43	na	5/1/2017 9:13 AM
44	Full scale revitalization of urban areas, demolition of vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed structures. put streets department to work cleaning up streets, roadways, grafitti, pick up litter, irradiate weeds, plant shrubs, and flowers and make areas look presentable. For more info/ideas Google Tidy Town Ireland. Click image or wikipedia	5/1/2017 8:54 AM
45	it is safe where i live but wb area presents risks . improve lighting for downtowns , add police presence as deterrent	5/1/2017 8:34 AM
46	Get rid of assisted housing which unfortunately seems to bring in the criminal element.much tougher stance on the availability of heroin on our streets	4/29/2017 10:03 AM
47	Stronger Police Force	4/28/2017 4:29 PM
48	Starting with out of state people not being able to reside in our public housing as soon as they move to our county. Better screening for people renting and get free housing. Huge problem!!!!	4/28/2017 3:40 PM
49	increase crime watch meetings, more police visibility other than ticketing,etc	4/28/2017 3:04 PM
50	more police patrolling in cars & on foot	4/28/2017 2:19 PM
51	MORE ACTIVITES FOR JUVENILES	4/28/2017 2:08 PM
52	Reduce crime, gang activity; create stronger police force	4/28/2017 2:02 PM
53	My humble opinion is that before the '72 flood more residential real estate was owned by individual owners who lived on the property. Since 1972, we have seen a steady deterioration of our cities and towns due to absent landlords. Someone who rents a property is not going to take care of it the way an actual owner will. Also, the sense of neighborhood diminishes. People don't know their neighbors and it may not be that those people are rude to outsiders but they are afraid of many of the types of tenants who are occupying the properties in their neighborhood. So, my answer would be to establish a solid, conscientious and community and police/county supported program that would track landlords and their properties. Iron-clad laws would need to be adopted to prosecute offenders of the rules laid down by the landlord program. Yes, this would cost a great deal. However, how much has the ongoing problem cost us so far? 2. Residents and businesses need to take ownership and make major efforts to unite neighborhoods and towns so that people get to know their neighbors. If you know your neighbor and his/her habits, you can strengthen the ties people have with their neighbors whereby they will be alerted to any unusual activity (meth labs, child abuse, etc). This is not to suggest that we as individuals become spies on our neighbors in order to turn them into the authorities but being familiar with your neighbors will create bonds and friendships and an inclination to work for the common good of the community.	4/28/2017 2:02 PM
54	Crack down on drug trade	4/28/2017 1:59 PM
55	landlords must be more familiar with who they are possibly renting to keep tabs on what is going on in your rental unit have regular inspections organized crime watch a good one no vigil antees	4/28/2017 1:55 PM
56	More police prescence. I never see police patrol in my neighborhood.	4/28/2017 1:42 PM
57	Hire more police officers in Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton	4/28/2017 1:39 PM
58	Increased police presence, more job opportunities	4/28/2017 1:27 PM

59	Stop making outside criminals want to come here; we give away too many freebies and they come; while they're here, they kill us with their drug trade	4/28/2017 1:26 PM
60	Honestly unsure how to go about the crime within the county	4/28/2017 1:05 PM
61	crack down on drugs, guns, and vacant buildings/homes which can attract bad people	4/28/2017 12:35 PM
62	GET RID OF SECTION 8 HOUSING	4/28/2017 12:28 PM
63	more police	4/28/2017 12:26 PM
64	More crack down on drugs	4/28/2017 12:04 PM
65	Hire more police officers throughout the county	4/28/2017 11:49 AM
66	clean up the drug houses, crack down on crime, hold municipalities accountable for their own area.	4/28/2017 11:42 AM
67	MORE CRACKDOWN ON DRUGS	4/28/2017 11:31 AM
68	hire more law enforcement	4/28/2017 11:30 AM
69	Eliminate sherman hills and more drug enforcement	4/28/2017 11:28 AM
70	Regionalized Police and Fire Departments	4/28/2017 11:18 AM
71	More police on the streets in the small towns that are effected	4/28/2017 11:07 AM
72	There are too many people wandering the streets with no place to go. Many of the neighborhoods are becoming rundown due to absent landlords who do not care who they rent to or maintain their properties. While the downtown areas of the municipalities are improving, the local neighborhoods are deteriorating.	4/28/2017 11:06 AM
73	Improved police presence	4/28/2017 10:55 AM
74	Removal of vacant/condemned buildings	4/28/2017 10:45 AM
75	Really buckling down on not from here landlords.	4/28/2017 10:33 AM
76	More visible law enforcement on the streets.	4/28/2017 10:31 AM
77	use drug task force more forcibly, get rid of illegals	4/28/2017 10:30 AM
78	Police need to identify individuals who have a history of criminal acts, work with citizens to make them alert to criminal situations which need to be reported, town meetings, win the confidence of the town people that they are there to help them, not hurt them.	4/28/2017 10:27 AM
79	more police protection	4/28/2017 10:25 AM
80	Not allow low income housing owners to solicit outside our area	4/28/2017 10:23 AM
81	Remove gangs, not allow people from out of state to be able to access community housing immediately. Expect landlords to keep their properties in order. maybe not allow for out of town landlords. more foot patrol by police	4/28/2017 10:23 AM
82	Each municipality should have social networking to report concerns - followed by a representative of each municipality coming to a quarterly meeting before County Government to give feedback	4/28/2017 10:19 AM
83	Take the criminals seriously and punish accordingly	4/28/2017 10:16 AM
84	Train and Equip Police and review the court and prison system.	4/28/2017 10:15 AM
85	More lighting, paved roads (on Water Street), sidewalks, harsher sentences for crimes	4/28/2017 10:14 AM
86	Could get more police patrols	4/28/2017 10:07 AM
87	more police. neighborhood watches	4/28/2017 10:04 AM
88	Crack down on gangs.	4/28/2017 10:04 AM
89	Steamroll public housing projects	4/28/2017 10:02 AM
90	lordy, need to fully clean up the drug dealers everywhere; i live next to one-no ones looks her way	4/28/2017 10:02 AM
91	more police	4/28/2017 10:01 AM
92	Clean up druggies, and we need safer driving conditions (careless drivers and bad roads)	4/28/2017 10:01 AM
93	get rid of low income housing	4/28/2017 9:59 AM
94	More police hired, much more enforcement from everthing from drug crimes to littering, security cameras, lighting in certain areas	4/28/2017 9:58 AM

95	concentrate more police presence in what has become depressed areas of the County.	4/28/2017 9:54 AM
96	adrest the opiates problem which should lead to less crime. developoe and fund programs to this effect	4/28/2017 9:53 AM
97	stop the influx of crimunals and drug dealers using our county as a place to do business. Out of county residents have an easier time getting low income housing and resources then our own county residents thus allowing the influx of crime and violence	4/28/2017 9:51 AM
98	Regionalize our police force	4/28/2017 9:48 AM
99	have a small police base at each major section of town. Have cops walking too.	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
100	Increase funding for the D.A.'s Office; increased preventative measures to counter-attack drug dealers and decrease drug use in county; increase access to drug rehabilitation facilities; anti-drug & anti-gang discussions with children/students particularly in urban schools; increase funding for recreational/educational activities for children.	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
101	police doing more patrolling	4/28/2017 9:46 AM
102	There is alot of drug use in the area. Try to clean that up.	4/28/2017 9:45 AM
103	spending more on education, getting rid of deplorable structures	4/28/2017 9:44 AM
104	Must work on the gang and drug issues which go hand in hand	4/28/2017 9:41 AM
105	shut down sherman hills	4/28/2017 9:40 AM
106	Strong drug enforcement	4/28/2017 9:40 AM
107	Focus on getting the gangs and drugs out of the area.	4/28/2017 9:38 AM
108	Increase education funding and promoting public education through the county and schools need to become more community orientated too	4/28/2017 9:37 AM
109	More police patroles and Community Crime Watches	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
110	regional policing (expand cooperation between agencies), harsher penalties for violent offenses (weapons),	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
111	Jobs.	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
112	less homeless at intersections asking for money	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
113	more crime watch groups	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
114	Address blight in Wilkes-Barre, the county seat. The lack of maintenance and pride shows here. The nice areas are overshadowed.	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
115	more police patrolling neighborhoods at risk	4/28/2017 9:33 AM
116	Confiscate drug houses and kick out any offenders in this county with a drug conviction	4/28/2017 9:32 AM
117	Address community drug problem	4/28/2017 9:32 AM
118	That is a million dollar question. Every day the papers have about shootings, murders, stabbings, etc. Most of the crimes are drug related. This has skyrocketed in the past 5 years. Tackle the drug problem and most of the serious crimes decreases	4/28/2017 9:19 AM
119	Promoting regionalization of services and improving the 911 call centers	4/28/2017 8:55 AM
120	bring back the mounted police for large crowds	4/27/2017 4:29 PM
121	A county police force to aid municipal police especially in Wilkes-Barre and Hazelton	4/27/2017 4:04 PM
122	increase police force	4/25/2017 4:38 PM

Q7 How would you rate County services? Rate 1-5 with 5 being excellent.

Answered: 131 Skipped: 21



Answer Choices	Responses
1	6.11% 8
2	12.98% 17
3	45.80% 60
4	28.24% 37
5	6.87% 9
Total	131

Q8 How can our County provide better government services? For instance, more online interaction, more transparency, Customer Service point of contact, etc.

Answered: 106 Skipped: 46

#	Responses	Date
1	Better website. Pay taxes on line. Search property and other records. Friendlier employees.	5/31/2017 1:29 PM
2	more efficient and less costly tax collection--centralize and have the ability to pay on-line. Fewer boroughs and townships, or consolidation of services. More cooperation with Lackawanna for marketing the entire area.	5/30/2017 8:07 PM
3	Continue presence in the community and outreach to targeted populations	5/19/2017 3:44 PM
4	better communication with residents	5/16/2017 2:46 PM
5	old way of thinking does not apply to today's modern world. Look at the cities that have turned their towns around and implement some of the steps.	5/12/2017 2:42 PM
6	In addition to budgets, do an annual plan with measurable goals, citizen input, publish results.	5/11/2017 4:57 PM
7	By focusing on annual goals for the county, having public hearings, publishing goals	5/11/2017 2:02 PM
8	More employees and better pay rates in Human Services Depts.	5/11/2017 12:32 PM
9	More transparency a lot goes on behind the scene, seem to work on one personal agenda not the big picture.	5/10/2017 9:06 PM
10	Don't know. Not more online interaction.	5/10/2017 9:41 AM
11	update the website and respond to emails	5/9/2017 3:08 PM
12	Make the service options more well known to the public.	5/9/2017 1:28 PM
13	transperacy	5/8/2017 9:22 AM
14	Ambulance and Fire services outside of W-B are poor and not timely.	5/7/2017 11:58 AM
15	Stop corruption and nepotism	5/4/2017 11:30 AM
16	Transparency/better customer service	5/4/2017 10:58 AM
17	Implement templates/SOPs for standard requests	5/4/2017 9:12 AM
18	I needed to go to 2 departments, which are related, the tax office and the assessment office and discovered that they are in 2 separate buildings.	5/3/2017 2:01 PM
19	I don't know	5/3/2017 9:43 AM
20	Customer services should be overhauled. They are antiquated and not always helpful. It takes way too long to get help/support when needed.	5/2/2017 9:48 PM
21	More online information, more education in the community	5/2/2017 3:33 PM
22	More funding and transporation	5/2/2017 2:10 PM
23	More and better customer service	5/2/2017 1:43 PM
24	better road cleaning in winter,	5/2/2017 9:15 AM
25	More online	5/2/2017 7:49 AM
26	Customer service point of contact	5/2/2017 6:39 AM
27	More online interaction, easier and clearer automated phone system	5/1/2017 3:58 PM
28	better customer service	5/1/2017 2:30 PM
29	more online information	5/1/2017 2:19 PM
30	easier to understand	5/1/2017 1:27 PM

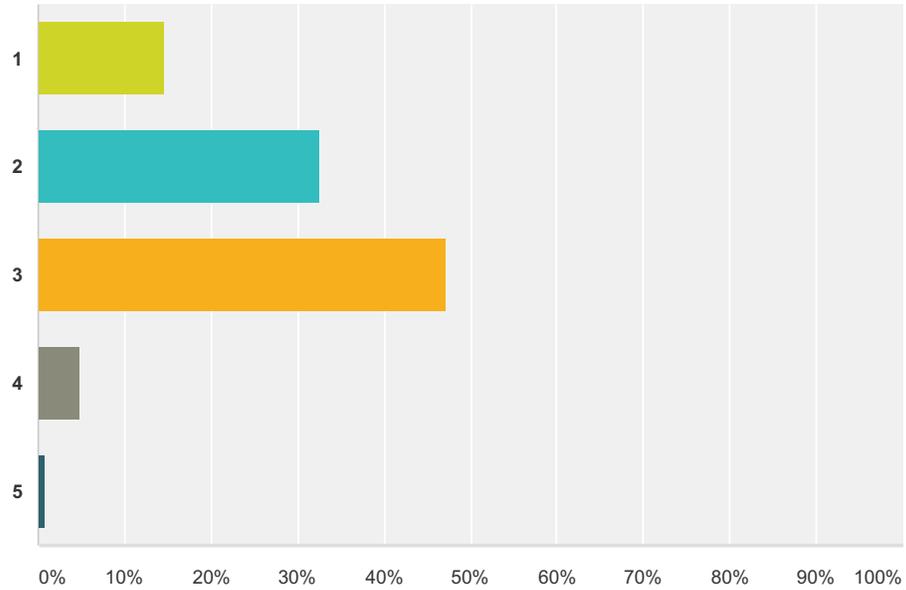
31	Create better training programs for county employees to understand how to appropriately deliver services.	5/1/2017 1:14 PM
32	All services should be available online without the need to go to the courthouse or other facilities. Manual paper submissions need to be eliminated.	5/1/2017 12:50 PM
33	improved attitude of employees	5/1/2017 11:42 AM
34	Not sure	5/1/2017 11:05 AM
35	higher paying jobs	5/1/2017 10:03 AM
36	County Council start working together and stop bickering for votes. It's embarrassing!! Also, improve the pay scale of employees to prevent them from leaving for better pay and taking their experience/contacts with them.	5/1/2017 9:34 AM
37	definitely customer service being on the top of the list and more interaction and involvement with the community	5/1/2017 9:26 AM
38	na	5/1/2017 9:13 AM
39	Fix roads, transparency should go without saying, meet the needs of the community with the most efficient cost effective plans. elected officials should have experience to know what and how to accomplish objectives, if they don't, they have no business hold positions or offices.	5/1/2017 8:58 AM
40	make the system more efficient..too many administrative levels to endure to get something done or fulfill request..on line opportunities would be great but someone needs to be responsible to respond	5/1/2017 8:37 AM
41	Our government could quit being like a big government.it always,seems like either with the former commissionerst or current council form there is always adversity no one works together for the good of the people.always a us against them front.make the council a one term only position not someplace where you spend years	4/29/2017 10:07 AM
42	less corruption, hiring better educated people to responsible positions	4/28/2017 3:06 PM
43	A textbook could be written about this question. 1. Providing better government services: The obvious answer is to hire more people to do the job. But, I understand the forces/budgets that work against us on that point. 2. More online interaction: If you mean asking people to use online services (to pay taxes, etc.), then your working against the demographics that we are dealing with. Most of the senior citizens I've spoken with are NOT interested in technical interaction! They want to speak to a LIVE person. (This is where being traditional is a deficit as I mentioned earlier in this survey). They have no desire to change. So, the County needs to keep this in mind when addressing/informing the public on different topics. 3. More transparency: Well, the Council meetings are streamed so people can see them, the County website is very informative so I, personally, cannot site any specific instances for more transparency. 4. Customer Service Point of Contact: Many of the Courthouse employees are RUDE but not all of them. When someone enters our courthouse, it could be their first time to do so. They may be confused as to where to go or even intimidated by the environment. Every time I been in the Courthouse, the people remind me of zombies. They don't say hello. They don't make eye contact. They seem very angry and frustrated all the time. Why? I have to assume that the tone is set at the top of the chain. Are they treated with respect by judges, attorneys, fellow workers? This definitely needs to be addressed and it needs to start at the t	4/28/2017 2:20 PM
44	DON'T LAY OFF ESSENTIAL PERSONAL	4/28/2017 2:12 PM
45	Uncertain at this time	4/28/2017 2:03 PM
46	going back to old system 3 commissioners and row officers	4/28/2017 1:56 PM
47	I think there are alot of trust issues with Luzerne County. I think the corruption in the County government has left alot of damage amongst the citizens. Transparency would be a major plus.	4/28/2017 1:43 PM
48	More transparancy and better customer service	4/28/2017 1:40 PM
49	Unsure	4/28/2017 1:27 PM
50	Website needs revamped; regulations need to be greatly reduced; workers need to learn true customer service	4/28/2017 1:26 PM
51	People love the jobs they do however there is never money or enough money to provide services for those who need it.	4/28/2017 12:37 PM
52	REDUCE SIZE OF BOARD	4/28/2017 12:30 PM
53	customer service	4/28/2017 12:28 PM
54	more online interaction	4/28/2017 12:05 PM
55	Get the message out there about the services offered.	4/28/2017 11:51 AM
56	stop taxing the citizen's, plain and simple, there is nothing more some people can budget	4/28/2017 11:43 AM
57	earlier notif. of upcoming events	4/28/2017 11:32 AM

58	With all the transparency it takes too long to get things done and those in charge have all their personal agendas	4/28/2017 11:19 AM
59	We need to remember that the county is a public service organization, not a business. Public service cannot always operate as a business because services will suffer. Customers need to feel more welcome when coming to county buildings to conduct business. This starts with the security personnel who meet them at the door as well as the building appearance in terms of cleanliness and direction as to where to go for the services they need.	4/28/2017 11:09 AM
60	I feel that the County does a great job in this area	4/28/2017 11:08 AM
61	Single point of contact for those making outreach for a County service, for those not clear on what governmental department or service is appropriate to their need.	4/28/2017 10:47 AM
62	My direct interaction with County employees has been a very mixed experience I would estimate that 60% do not practice good customer service and have rude attitudes toward customers.	4/28/2017 10:34 AM
63	more transparency	4/28/2017 10:33 AM
64	Make county residents aware when the county meetings take place, especially county council meeting. Teach employees how to be more customer service savvy when dealing with county residents. How about a county newsletter mailed to county residents. Some residents do not read the newspaper and do not own or know how to use a computer.	4/28/2017 10:31 AM
65	make accessing documents easier with less forms, less limited days and hours, easier web access, more transparency of governments actions especially budgeting and spending.	4/28/2017 10:27 AM
66	more pay for county workers	4/28/2017 10:26 AM
67	customer service point of contact	4/28/2017 10:24 AM
68	Hire additional employees so that customers don't have to wait so long - Get a phone operator, the automated system gets you nowhere	4/28/2017 10:22 AM
69	Customer Service training and online emergency notifications.	4/28/2017 10:16 AM
70	Better online resources on County website, updated website	4/28/2017 10:15 AM
71	Update website	4/28/2017 10:08 AM
72	Customer service easier accessibility.	4/28/2017 10:05 AM
73	Expanding hours of public transportation.	4/28/2017 10:05 AM
74	Efficiency. All managers and dept heads should be Lean Trained and certified, employees should constantly examine their daily processes for improvements using technology. Longtime employees do not keep up with technology. I could go on and on, but in two words Process Improvements.	4/28/2017 10:04 AM
75	more personable interaction... too much online...HUMAN services seem to be a thing of the past	4/28/2017 10:03 AM
76	Stop infighting between parties - we get nowhere!!! Let's work together for the good of all. Nothing ever gets accomplished.	4/28/2017 10:02 AM
77	better county transit	4/28/2017 10:01 AM
78	more online interaction	4/28/2017 9:59 AM
79	The County needs to rid the perception that "everything" is corrupt.	4/28/2017 9:56 AM
80	more robust on line services	4/28/2017 9:54 AM
81	more online access, easier access to agencies, more qualified employees	4/28/2017 9:53 AM
82	The County needs a better website that is easier to navigate and provides detailed information; County website should streamline county business and make it easier to accomplish things online.	4/28/2017 9:50 AM
83	Centralize tax collection already!	4/28/2017 9:48 AM
84	Customer service point of contact. Not all seniors have computers	4/28/2017 9:48 AM
85	not sure	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
86	More online interaction	4/28/2017 9:45 AM
87	transportation, transparency	4/28/2017 9:45 AM
88	Lessen the amount of council members. There are too many which in my view leads to the council being fractured.	4/28/2017 9:43 AM
89	transparency, more after school & summer activities for teenagers	4/28/2017 9:42 AM

90	Keep working on consolidation and efficiency through technology. Run the county as a good business is run. I think I am starting to see this happen. Be more proactive than reactive. This survey is excellent because you will find out where the public feels slighted. While I balked at the news reported cost of a revamped website, a good website is essential for any service business. Why make the public come to the courthouse when they can transact on-line.	4/28/2017 9:42 AM
91	more staff to run departments, more customer service,	4/28/2017 9:40 AM
92	Easier access to services. Better hours, easier parking.	4/28/2017 9:40 AM
93	More streamlining of services. Allow for online application and fees to be paid.	4/28/2017 9:38 AM
94	more transparency, less hiring friends and relatives	4/28/2017 9:37 AM
95	leadership should start with council (stop the grandstanding),	4/28/2017 9:37 AM
96	Transparency.	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
97	na	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
98	better advertising for services	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
99	Customer service for things like the DRS office is horrible when it comes to service. they are extremely rude.	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
100	Integration of services and adding/identifying natural supports to residents	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
101	human services provide excellent service	4/28/2017 9:33 AM
102	County government services are a joke. This government fails to look at cutting costs and chooses to raise taxes and fees to cover the increase. Try and get someone on the phone without at least a 5-10 minute wait or a number of transfers. Does anyone answer their own phones anymore?	4/28/2017 9:20 AM
103	Streamlined interaction via the web	4/28/2017 8:55 AM
104	more town hall meetings and not just in wilkes barre but in the small areas such as Shickshinny	4/27/2017 4:30 PM
105	If you pay people more you'll get better people.	4/27/2017 4:04 PM
106	better information as to what is available	4/25/2017 4:39 PM

Q9 How would you rate infrastructure within Luzerne County? Rate 1-5 with 5 being excellent.

Answered: 123 Skipped: 29



Answer Choices	Responses
1	14.63% 18
2	32.52% 40
3	47.15% 58
4	4.88% 6
5	0.81% 1
Total	123

Q10 How might the county government improve our infrastructure (e.g. more parks, street lights, pot-hole hotline, blighted properties, etc.)? Note: The state and federal governments create and fund much of our transportation infrastructure, but the County can advocate and influence projects.

Answered: 112 Skipped: 40

#	Responses	Date
1	Sidewalks adjacent to all roads. Bike trails. Train service to big cities.	5/31/2017 1:30 PM
2	require sidewalks in new developments, bike/walking paths would be nice, more use of the river as recreation	5/30/2017 8:09 PM
3	Drug hotline	5/19/2017 3:45 PM
4	we need it on a more steady basis.	5/16/2017 2:47 PM
5	Take a driving tour of county roads(that used to be fun).	5/13/2017 9:17 AM
6	roads are a disaster everywhere when my family/friends visit they can't believe the conditions, use the prison staff and parolees to work on these issues to pay off the unpaid fines as community service can be based on their abilities. painting, building fixing. can also gain experience to help them break a cycle and then connect them with companies who are looking for these workers.	5/12/2017 2:45 PM
7	better highways, more money for colleges (major r asset); publicize achievements of graduates of LCC in billboards, tv, etc., let one contract for all waste management services to be offset by tax; publicize achievements of human service agencies; establish a clergy group to advise on improved services	5/11/2017 5:05 PM
8	Upgrade aging water and sewer lines.	5/11/2017 12:32 PM
9	Roads and bridges need faster attention, blighted properties will take care of themselves, don,t shut bridges down fix them low cost ideas.Learn to ask your workers what is needed and keep people that know their job. Stop wasting time on petty problems just because someone thinks another persons property don't fit their ideas if that person whats to pay the other taxes then let them.One of the biggest things this county needs is good jobs so that we can keep or children in the area to work because we loose many to other areas, in the long range this would help the county more than anything.	5/10/2017 9:16 PM
10	Encourage people to take care of their property. Fix pot holes, pick up garbage. Hire county employees to keep the county looking clean & garbage free.	5/10/2017 9:44 AM
11	Rural county roads are in horrible condition	5/9/2017 3:09 PM
12	Address problems created by blighted properties and out of town landlords.	5/9/2017 1:29 PM
13	more parks repair parks we have fix pot holes	5/8/2017 9:23 AM
14	Forever potholes, forever highway repair on I-81	5/7/2017 11:59 AM
15	Staff the Facility Supervisors position with a qualified person	5/4/2017 11:31 AM
16	use better quality materials in constructing our roads so they last longer	5/4/2017 10:59 AM
17	IMPROVE ROADS! Clean up existing properties to minimum standards	5/4/2017 9:13 AM
18	restore the West Division street bridge on the border of WB and Hanover Township	5/3/2017 2:02 PM
19	roads are horrible, need more lighting	5/3/2017 10:13 AM
20	pot holes are terrible but I am not sure what can be done with them since we do have northeast pennsylvania weather.	5/3/2017 9:44 AM
21	The county needs to find creative ways to bring businesses into the downtown area.	5/2/2017 9:52 PM

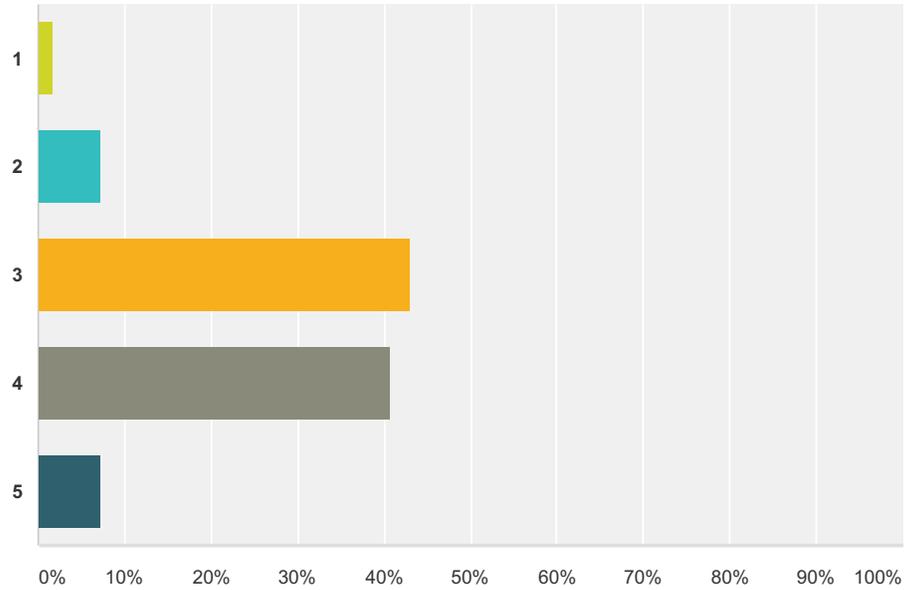
22	There needs to be more parks , more pathways to walk and exercise, revitalize old buildings	5/2/2017 3:34 PM
23	pot holes	5/2/2017 2:10 PM
24	Quit the fighting on the county council to watch those meeting on TV is reality TV and quite disgusting.	5/2/2017 1:45 PM
25	more services for elderly on home care, better street lighting very important	5/2/2017 9:16 AM
26	Blighted properties	5/2/2017 7:50 AM
27	Larger road and bridge crews..pressure PUC to upgrade and better services	5/2/2017 6:40 AM
28	Improve streets. Support local EMS better	5/1/2017 6:51 PM
29	Clean up more properties that are mess and abandoned, roads need attention	5/1/2017 4:07 PM
30	better streets	5/1/2017 2:30 PM
31	fix the streets...add more cameras for crime	5/1/2017 2:21 PM
32	roads need to be fixed	5/1/2017 1:27 PM
33	Create and fund a attainable program to tear down blighted properties.	5/1/2017 1:16 PM
34	Are roads are a disaster, our parks are filthy (kirby), sections of WB need to be knocked down.	5/1/2017 12:51 PM
35	improved road conditions,	5/1/2017 11:43 AM
36	Need public sector to address deteriorating housing stock in communities on valley floor	5/1/2017 11:07 AM
37	fix the pot holes	5/1/2017 10:03 AM
38	Roads are terrible, amount of litter is embarrassing and wide spread, blighted properties are on the increase making the entire area look run down and very poor	5/1/2017 9:37 AM
39	more parks and as I wrote before more lighting, making sure that all residents are documented.	5/1/2017 9:28 AM
40	roads	5/1/2017 9:14 AM
41	Yes to all of the above. Do what needs to be done. Get county govenment MOVING so citizens see there is a govenment at work.	5/1/2017 9:00 AM
42	grant oportunites may be a good option..	5/1/2017 8:38 AM
43	Work with the towns.not easy with the egos u have to deal with	4/29/2017 10:08 AM
44	keeping up on parks for our children.	4/28/2017 3:41 PM
45	studying why our concrete and pavement is the poorest quality, better upkeep of parks	4/28/2017 3:08 PM
46	If we have poor infrastructure, we will not attract new business or residents to our area. It's a top priority. Bridges are in dangerous conditions, many of the streets are dirty and unkempt and, as mentioned, there is many instances of blight. Obviously, money is the short-term answer. But, I'm sounding like a Republican now, government can't do it all by handing out money. People in our area need to take ownership and pride in the communities. Go to Council meetings -- not only when you have a complaint but every month so that you can be apprised of your town's situation on different issues. Become involved!	4/28/2017 2:27 PM
47	CLEAN UP PARKS	4/28/2017 2:12 PM
48	Some areas are well maintained, others need road repair; street lights needed in small developements; increase in code enforcement staff to better resolve environmental concerns for blighted properties; advocate for increased finding for transporation services	4/28/2017 2:06 PM
49	more recreation for youth different ages, making wilkes barre a college town with small eating establishments art and entertainment ; part time security officers well trained in high crime areas policing problem areas inforcing no tolerance policy	4/28/2017 2:01 PM
50	crack down on blighted properties	4/28/2017 2:00 PM
51	pothole problems	4/28/2017 1:58 PM
52	Pot-hole Hotline would be a must- as long as the problems are fixed reasonably quick after they're reported.	4/28/2017 1:44 PM
53	Fix potholes and roads	4/28/2017 1:41 PM

54	A pot-hole hotline is a great idea, but many areas don't have cell signals, plus who wants to pull over to make a phone call if there is a signal? Workers should routinely travel different routes to find these holes and put in repair orders. Also, only private companies should be used--they are MUCH faster and more efficient than govt workers.	4/28/2017 1:40 PM
55	More street lights, road upkeep	4/28/2017 1:28 PM
56	start clearing up these condemned buildings, try to get into deals for more income from federal government	4/28/2017 1:08 PM
57	blighted properties, pick up litter, definately more police to crack down on the violence and drugs	4/28/2017 12:39 PM
58	pave the roads properly. Clean up streets.	4/28/2017 12:33 PM
59	ALL OF THE ABOVE	4/28/2017 12:31 PM
60	pot-hole hotline, more recreation.	4/28/2017 12:05 PM
61	Fix the roads! Investigate the cause of all the wrong way drivers on the Interstate	4/28/2017 11:52 AM
62	blighted properties, litter everywhere, more student both high school and college involvement with the communities	4/28/2017 11:44 AM
63	better street maint & street lighting	4/28/2017 11:34 AM
64	BRIDGE AND COUNTY ROAD REPAIRS.	4/28/2017 11:32 AM
65	Better roads, mroe landscaping	4/28/2017 11:29 AM
66	Fix things	4/28/2017 11:19 AM
67	The most deplorable part of the infrastruccion are the quality of the roads. Each year it is the same thing with numerous potholes and other deterioration. Lighting is a major issue. More lighting and keeping up with replacing lights that have burned out on a regular basis would be beneficial. Improved and well-maintained lighting would also benefit crime reduction.	4/28/2017 11:12 AM
68	The streets and roads need to be repaired	4/28/2017 11:09 AM
69	I think the county needs to focus more on improving the quality of the roads within the area.	4/28/2017 10:56 AM
70	Pot-hole hotline would be helpful. The County to concentrate on making full use of existing assets and tools for implementing best management practices.	4/28/2017 10:53 AM
71	Address all of the above suggestions	4/28/2017 10:49 AM
72	please pave Chase Road!	4/28/2017 10:38 AM
73	Please fix the roads, they are atrocious - Spruce up Nesbitt Park, it can be a beautiful place to enjoy	4/28/2017 10:36 AM
74	Have a county hot line whereby the residents can call and make the County aware of items which need to be addressed. It takes less time to pick up the phone and speak to a live person thank it is to send a fax or e mail. A county hot line would be a great way to communicate with the residents.	4/28/2017 10:35 AM
75	more street lights, pot hole hotline	4/28/2017 10:34 AM
76	The street are riddled with pot holes, and then most of the nice weather these same roads are blocked up and backed up for repairs-PA is known for the worst roads in the US and luzerne county is no exception. Circles are not the answer to intersection congestion-they are awful and in other places in the US are being rid of-luzerne again is backwards. Wilkes-Barre is filled with blighted properties that need to be cleaned up or torn down, Plymouth and Edwardsville have their fair share as well. It's sad because these places use to be cute little towns with their own character.	4/28/2017 10:31 AM
77	remove abadoned properties and improve historic sites that have been left to rot such as the train station	4/28/2017 10:26 AM
78	Pave the bad roads (Water Street has craters that pop tires), more lighting on roads and in parks, refurbish the downtown Wilkes-Barre area	4/28/2017 10:19 AM
79	put more police out with the community	4/28/2017 10:17 AM
80	Improve roads and bridges. Sell or demolish abandoned properties.	4/28/2017 10:17 AM
81	Roads are terrible - where does the money go? Sometimes it seems like the roads are made to last two years, then suddenly start to develop potholes. So the contractor can do the road again? Keep those jobs coming! Roads in other states with our weather conditions do not have pot holes like we do. And has anybody looked at Solmon Creek? In a world where others are trying to create a cleaner environment we fall far, far behind.	4/28/2017 10:11 AM
82	There are plenty of run down homes, the roads are terrible, and some of the public area could use upgrades.	4/28/2017 10:09 AM
83	BLIGHT! DO SOMETHING! home values decreasing because of neighborhood	4/28/2017 10:06 AM

84	Eliminating blighted properties, street paving, planting more trees.	4/28/2017 10:06 AM
85	Spend federal money wisely when you get it.	4/28/2017 10:05 AM
86	fix the bad roads "everywhere"- get out there yourselves and find them-you won't have trouble	4/28/2017 10:05 AM
87	More work fixing roads in the cities, street lights, tearing down of blighted properties.	4/28/2017 10:02 AM
88	blighted properties, pot holes	4/28/2017 10:00 AM
89	Create a fund that is truly earmarked for infrastructure repair only.	4/28/2017 9:57 AM
90	highlight the beautiful parks and outdoor areas we already have in the Luzerne County; increase funding for parks and recreational opportunities; fine creative use for county owned properties; do SOMETHING with former juvenile jail (even if it's a rehab to help drug users).	4/28/2017 9:56 AM
91	the area looks run down and needs overall improvement in making the area clean and safe. There also needs to be more roads repaired as the holes are terrible. it would be nice if the area was cleaned up had greenery planted and proper lighting and street signs in all areas of the county	4/28/2017 9:55 AM
92	pot holes and deal with blighted properties	4/28/2017 9:54 AM
93	Quit letting people constantly only paying a little to keep from loosing their properties. There are habitual and they know they can get away with it.	4/28/2017 9:50 AM
94	County government should not be in the road repair business. County owned roads should revert back to the municipalites	4/28/2017 9:49 AM
95	Encourage community gardens that people can work on and get food from. New roads have to been built. Parks to be added that are a tourist attraction. All groups of volunteers can work on these.	4/28/2017 9:49 AM
96	Maintenance. Whenever I see high grass, weeds, broken tree branches (example River Commons), it shows such a lack of pride. The County should never have to wait for United Way's day of caring for such things. The courthouse parking garage is dirty and the stairway is just filthy. This is what the public sees.	4/28/2017 9:48 AM
97	More parks and recreation areas, clean up messy properties. Get rid of abandoned properties	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
98	eliminate blighted properties, street repair	4/28/2017 9:46 AM
99	Blighted properties. The inner cities are falling apart	4/28/2017 9:44 AM
100	repaving roads, keeping parks clean, clean up run down properties	4/28/2017 9:43 AM
101	street lights, no more parks,	4/28/2017 9:41 AM
102	Roads are horrible. Too many run down properties and eye sores.	4/28/2017 9:41 AM
103	rid communities of condemned/ blighted properties faster (hard to do i know), promote community involvement.	4/28/2017 9:40 AM
104	Strict property ordinance penalties and LC housing authority needs to do a better job at overseeing properties	4/28/2017 9:39 AM
105	Better maintained parks, definitely more street lights, fixing potholes	4/28/2017 9:38 AM
106	Blighted Property Program; Conservatorships. Plant flowers in the potholes.	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
107	pot holes, blighted properties	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
108	better road repair services - maybe volunteers?	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
109	roads are horrible. potholes are everywhere causing damage to cars and trucks which is then the costly issue of the owner	4/28/2017 9:34 AM
110	As everywhere else the infrastructure is rapidly deteriorating. Block grants help but restrictions on those projects are becoming more and more stringent. Can the county help in blighted property everywhere or will they just leave it up to the towns to deal with who have limited knowledge or resources to do so?	4/28/2017 9:23 AM
111	Invest in the cities and above all towns so they can create business districts and improve how they look, decentralize the funds away from the county	4/28/2017 8:57 AM
112	take down blighted and abandoned properties	4/27/2017 4:31 PM

Q11 How would you rate the air and water quality in Luzerne County. Rate 1-5 with 5 being excellent.

Answered: 123 Skipped: 29



Answer Choices	Responses
1	1.63% 2
2	7.32% 9
3	43.09% 53
4	40.65% 50
5	7.32% 9
Total	123

Q12 How can the County government improve air and water quality or other aspects of the environment?

Answered: 72 Skipped: 80

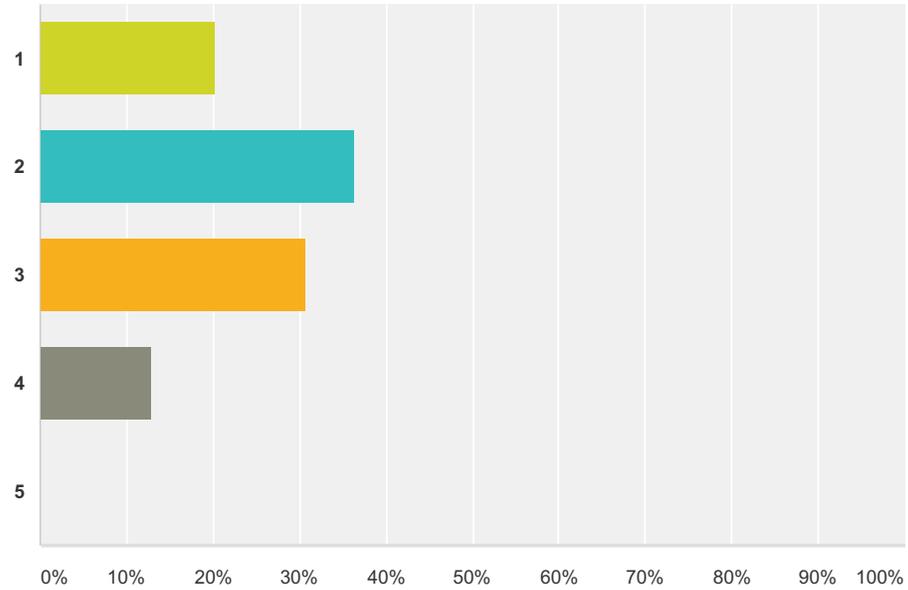
#	Responses	Date
1	Separate storm and waste water sewers. Eliminate mine wastewater in waterways. Stop all smoking on county property.	5/31/2017 1:31 PM
2	I think air quality has improved in the last few years, but this is likely due to less air pollution in the mid-west. water quality I think is good, but we need to be vigilant about it and protect watersheds and fine polluters	5/30/2017 8:12 PM
3	ask the experts	5/16/2017 2:47 PM
4	Flouride in the water	5/12/2017 2:46 PM
5	Evaluate and publicize results of surveys; focus on carbon footprint of county funded services	5/11/2017 5:07 PM
6	Stop raw sewage from going into the waterways.	5/11/2017 12:33 PM
7	Stop ther mine drainage from Butler mine tunnel and others there is money in a fund to do this stop letting others put a hold on this sorce of money.	5/10/2017 9:17 PM
8	Stop Susquehanna pollution.	5/10/2017 9:45 AM
9	Kill the gypsy moths before we have no trees. Clean the trash on the sides of the road, get the prisoners to do it	5/9/2017 3:11 PM
10	Seek community involvement in the clean-up of the river, lakes, parks, neighborhoods, etc.	5/9/2017 1:30 PM
11	Work with EPA to clean the culm banks	5/4/2017 11:33 AM
12	unknown- recycling program?	5/4/2017 9:14 AM
13	County govt. can't control????!!!	5/3/2017 10:14 AM
14	Keep promoting legislation to protect our resources.	5/2/2017 9:52 PM
15	The river needs to be cleaned up	5/2/2017 3:35 PM
16	I think it's fine I would love to see the river cleaned and used more.	5/2/2017 1:45 PM
17	Same as previous answer	5/2/2017 6:41 AM
18	Watch PENDOT more carefully	5/1/2017 6:51 PM
19	pay workers more	5/1/2017 1:28 PM
20	Create a countywide law requiring specified times to clean out septic systems.	5/1/2017 1:17 PM
21	Good job here, keep out polluting big businesses.	5/1/2017 12:51 PM
22	Demand greater regulation and oversight of polluters	5/1/2017 11:07 AM
23	more community outreach programs. utilize prisoners moore	5/1/2017 10:47 AM
24	have it checked periodically	5/1/2017 10:04 AM
25	Work closely with PA DEP to ensure companies operating in the county are in compliance	5/1/2017 9:38 AM
26	don't know.	5/1/2017 9:29 AM
27	na	5/1/2017 9:14 AM
28	Clean up areas that have been used as dumps and clean up litter.	5/1/2017 9:01 AM
29	Stricter emission laws and better monitoring of our water sources	4/29/2017 10:10 AM
30	homes built on Huntsville watershed land	4/28/2017 3:11 PM

31	The Susquehanna River is a tragic example of the long-term pollution allowed along its path. It could be a beautiful resource for recreation attracting both residents and tourists. The gas companies have blighted our area. We are all living on a time bomb. Do we actually believe that these corporations are interested in keeping our air and water quality at its best?	4/28/2017 2:31 PM
32	STOP DUMPING	4/28/2017 2:13 PM
33	Uncertain at this time	4/28/2017 2:06 PM
34	more frequent water testing	4/28/2017 1:42 PM
35	Government should basically stay out of environmental issues. DEP should basically disappear, so whatever extension flows to the County should also be miniscule. We DO NOT need more regulations!	4/28/2017 1:42 PM
36	rusted with fossil fuels, lets move forward to bettering the enviroment around us and get in on the future energy resources like solar or wind powered	4/28/2017 1:09 PM
37	pick up litter, filtering systems for the water	4/28/2017 12:40 PM
38	ELIMINATE MINE RUNOFF	4/28/2017 12:32 PM
39	work with DEP and other federal agencies and hold them accountable as well	4/28/2017 11:45 AM
40	more community involvement-educate our children	4/28/2017 11:34 AM
41	N/A I HAVE A WELL	4/28/2017 11:33 AM
42	a more effective rail/transportation system	4/28/2017 11:20 AM
43	The air and watere quality locally does not appear to be a major problem. Monitoring dumping and other the deposit of debri would be beneficial.	4/28/2017 11:14 AM
44	I don't know.	4/28/2017 10:57 AM
45	The existing storm an sewer system in Wilkes-Barre needs to be replaced. The system does not belong to the County, but pressure should be put on the people responsible.	4/28/2017 10:55 AM
46	Routine monitoring	4/28/2017 10:50 AM
47	I believe our air quality is fine. I pay for spring water each week because of the taste of tap water. Water companies are always hiking the rates but the taste of the water is terrible. Set standards for the water companies to follow. How about having a taste testing panel?	4/28/2017 10:37 AM
48	Not sure	4/28/2017 10:36 AM
49	The air near the river is disgusting especially in hot weather. The American water company puts so much chlorine in the water it smells like bleach and leaves a residue behind when spilled.	4/28/2017 10:33 AM
50	Enforce stricter rules for industries	4/28/2017 10:27 AM
51	Better public transportation, get the trolley/trains running for commuters	4/28/2017 10:19 AM
52	Clean up the trash. Clean up the mine drainage.	4/28/2017 10:11 AM
53	I am not sure	4/28/2017 10:09 AM
54	Sewer infrastructure needs to be updated in many areas, more litter clean up/enforcement	4/28/2017 10:08 AM
55	Develope Susquehanna River walks and trails. monitor river pollution.	4/28/2017 10:07 AM
56	Work on controlling acid mine drainage.	4/28/2017 10:07 AM
57	get experts in ie: scientists; air/water experts with knowledge; testings	4/28/2017 10:06 AM
58	Clean the mine scarred waterways. They are disgusting.	4/28/2017 10:05 AM
59	better water systems	4/28/2017 10:00 AM
60	Promote greener principles and utilize the river to its full advantage.	4/28/2017 9:59 AM
61	I believe these are fine as is	4/28/2017 9:55 AM
62	Much of the reclamation work has made the valley appear more beautiful from a distance. The county is more than the valley and has so much natural beauty. Keep partnering with DCNR, PEC, and the trail groups. Highlight those projects and encourage the press to cover them.	4/28/2017 9:52 AM
63	Not sure. Is this a county function/responsibility?	4/28/2017 9:50 AM

64	Not sure but I cant imagine drinking all this Chlorine can be good for us.It seems other nations have much better ideas than the US	4/28/2017 9:50 AM
65	More parks, clean up garbage and messy areas.	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
66	Strictly enforce waste water ordinances. Saw the levee grass all over the roads one day, grass clippings pollute our wastewater. Enforce draining pools into the streets etc.	4/28/2017 9:41 AM
67	I don't have any suggestions on this subject	4/28/2017 9:39 AM
68	water needs better filtering standards	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
69	build more ponds in parks	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
70	i do not know much about this issue or how to repair it	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
71	Mine water is still a great hazard. EPA and DEP are making towns adhere to new and strict regulations, but it will cost residents, again.	4/28/2017 9:24 AM
72	Promote healthier life styles and recycling	4/28/2017 8:57 AM

Q13 How would you rate the economic growth currently happening in Luzerne County? Rate 1-5 with 5 being excellent.

Answered: 124 Skipped: 28



Answer Choices	Responses	
1	20.16%	25
2	36.29%	45
3	30.65%	38
4	12.90%	16
5	0.00%	0
Total		124

Q14 What would encourage further economic growth?

Answered: 96 Skipped: 56

#	Responses	Date
1	Focus on tourism. Single county zoning ordinance. Fewer towns. Better combined local government. Countywide fire, garbage, ambulance, recycling. Take burden off towns.	5/31/2017 1:33 PM
2	fewer units of local government; strong, forward thinking planning commission; passenger rail service	5/30/2017 8:16 PM
3	more jobs other than service jobs better wages	5/16/2017 2:48 PM
4	image, selling and marketing. Organizations working together from city, county, chamber, alliances and developers. A cohesive plan not 12 organization all trying to do the same thing 12 different ways and working against one another.	5/12/2017 2:47 PM
5	Better educated population; supporting incubators; partnerships with Scranton to bring industry into area.	5/11/2017 5:09 PM
6	not sure	5/11/2017 12:33 PM
7	You need to work with companies that will encourage young people to stay here. We have 2 interstates, turnpike, rail and many other avenues of transportation.	5/10/2017 9:23 PM
8	Lower taxes	5/10/2017 9:46 AM
9	Better infrastructure, clean streets, businesses	5/9/2017 3:11 PM
10	Lower crime rates and better quality of life to attract businesses to the area.	5/9/2017 1:31 PM
11	jobs	5/8/2017 9:24 AM
12	New quite industry/research etc.	5/7/2017 11:59 AM
13	Bring some manufacturing back to the area	5/4/2017 11:34 AM
14	Fiscal accountability and tighten up hand-outs	5/4/2017 9:14 AM
15	there are many jobs available in this County, mostly low-paying and minimum wage	5/3/2017 2:04 PM
16	Better paying employment/opportunities	5/3/2017 10:15 AM
17	Tax incentives for downtown businesses in addition to creative approaches to generating NEW downtown activities and community spirit.	5/2/2017 9:54 PM
18	Need to bring more higher paying jobs and businesses downtown and in the industrial parks	5/2/2017 3:36 PM
19	lower taxes	5/2/2017 2:10 PM
20	Lower taxes better cooperation.	5/2/2017 1:46 PM
21	more investment in making our towns more attractive such as what Pittston did.	5/2/2017 9:17 AM
22	Less bad press!!	5/2/2017 7:52 AM
23	More businesses that would attract and keep college educated men and women, promote the area to companies and get away from attracting low paying soft manufacturing or service industry jobs	5/2/2017 6:42 AM
24	Stop the landlords from buying properties and turning them into section 8. Clean up our cities and make property owners do it. Maybe then companies will want to open businesses here.	5/1/2017 4:07 PM
25	need more skill jobs	5/1/2017 2:31 PM
26	all of the above	5/1/2017 1:28 PM
27	Draw in more health care companies and align the local educational facilities to offer degrees to create a talent pool for them to hire from.	5/1/2017 1:19 PM
28	No tax for businesses for an extended period of time (10-25 years).	5/1/2017 12:52 PM
29	encourage risk taking	5/1/2017 11:43 AM
30	Public infrastructure investment; support and job training for least fortunate;	5/1/2017 11:09 AM

31	jobs are coming in but they don't pay well.	5/1/2017 10:48 AM
32	keeping younger people in the area.	5/1/2017 10:04 AM
33	Must decrease crime. No company would want to move into a county that is crime/violence infested. Also, County Council to work together and act more professional. The behavior of some members are hurting the image of the county.	5/1/2017 9:41 AM
34	more community based factories like years ago and less outsourcing, making it easier to secure small business loans.	5/1/2017 9:30 AM
35	raises	5/1/2017 9:14 AM
36	I have no idea other than secure a consultant or look at other areas similar to Luzerne county and see how other municipalities are addressing growth that have worked, why reinvent the wheel, do the same and follow a model that has been effective.	5/1/2017 9:03 AM
37	i think that growth is flatlined. not enough jobs that provide wages that families can live on...currently all service jobs with minimun wages	5/1/2017 8:40 AM
38	Create more technical and professional jobs.we bring in company's that hire but \$12 an hour is big around here	4/29/2017 10:11 AM
39	small business enterprises with local universities business programs	4/28/2017 3:12 PM
40	By addressing the issues above would be a good place to start. My son and his family live in the Lansdale area. It's beautiful there! They have many small governing communities as we do but there seems to be a cooperation and sense of the "big picture" that they all share. Many have charming downtown areas. There are innumerable new residential developments that are planned around families and recreation. There are developments for senior citizens (not in condos but in beautiful newly built single homes). Most developments have a central swimming pool and gym/meeting center. Companies like to see these factors integrated into the residential areas. There are two HUGE drug research/manufacturing facilities that employ thousands! If you build it, they will come!	4/28/2017 2:40 PM
41	BETTER JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN COUNTY PAY BETTER WAGES	4/28/2017 2:14 PM
42	Less crime/gang activity	4/28/2017 2:07 PM
43	attracting more industry	4/28/2017 2:02 PM
44	Tax incentives	4/28/2017 2:00 PM
45	Get tougher on crime; make stricter punishments and less comfy jail time for criminals; deport illegal aliens (especially in Hazleton); stop giving freebies like foodstamps, section 8 housing, utility assistance, etc.; I'm confident that I'm more charitable than 99% of your respondents (and I can prove it) and I've directly helped many in need, but giving freebies and nurturing a culture of dependence doesn't help the recipient and breaks the backs of those funding it; I see first-hand each year too many who have learned how to scam the system to maximize their benefits, at the expense of the working man. ALSO, get rid of stupid regulations! I would have started a very lucrative business last year, which would have resulted in more tax revenue to all levels of govt, but the fact that Luzerne County must stick its nose in every aspect of life helped me postpone it--maybe I'll do it in Columbia County one day instead.	4/28/2017 1:52 PM
46	Wilkes Barre City in itself used to thrive. I think if we saw local businesses get a jump start back into the community, the citizens would love that.	4/28/2017 1:45 PM
47	Better jobs for skilled workers	4/28/2017 1:44 PM
48	County is doing well towards innovation and recreating our identity. If we can just shake the opiod epidemic that recently gained national attention, I think we can prosper even more	4/28/2017 1:10 PM
49	pay more money to employees	4/28/2017 12:41 PM
50	BETTER PAYING JOBS, LESS PEOPLE LEAVING AREA	4/28/2017 12:34 PM
51	get rid of the rif raf	4/28/2017 12:34 PM
52	Lower taxes	4/28/2017 11:55 AM
53	start paying better wages other than minimum wage.	4/28/2017 11:46 AM
54	more stores and services	4/28/2017 11:36 AM
55	UNFORTUNATELY I SEE THAT THE ONLY WAY TO CREATE JOBS IN LUZERNE COUNTY IS TO OFFER BIG BUSINESS TAX BRASKS.	4/28/2017 11:34 AM

56	While the economy has improved, the availability of good paying jobs, or jobs in general is lacking. The problem that has always existing with the youth from the area leaving still is present. Young, educated individuals leave to area for better opportunities and pay. Many would prefer to stay but know that can do better financially elsewhere. The cost of living in the county used to be more reasonable but exhorbitant school taxes make it difficult for people to continue to stay in their homes. A centralized zoning and planning that is administered by the county would benefit in encouraging outside business to come into the county as they would not have to deal with small town politics or work with more than one municipality when wishing to re-locate.	4/28/2017 11:20 AM
57	We need more high paying manufacturing jobs less warehouses and call center	4/28/2017 11:10 AM
58	I think further economic growth would be encouraged if businesses had more of an incentive to come into the area. Wilkes-Barre has been doing a wonderful job in bringing in new, exciting businesses to the area and I think the county should strive to look at what Wilkes-Barre is doing and expand upon it.	4/28/2017 10:59 AM
59	I believe union wages and aging infrastructure may keep businesses from locating here.	4/28/2017 10:58 AM
60	Bring better paying jobs back into the valley. My 2 sons left the area after graduating from a local college. They would never make the salary in the valley as they do outside of the area. How can a family survive on our local income? If salaries were up to par in the area, this would increase economic growth. More money being spent locally. Keep our younger generations local.	4/28/2017 10:41 AM
61	Our economy is depressed. Increase wages, eliminate property taxes, increase the sales tax by 1%. People will have more to spend, there will be economic growth	4/28/2017 10:41 AM
62	There are no jobs that pay well available especially to college educated persons. Most of the students that graduate from local colleges leave or remain at home because they cannot find good paying jobs. People who have been living and working in the area struggle to make ends meet because the salaries are so low and property taxes are beyond what most can afford.	4/28/2017 10:35 AM
63	Reduce crime	4/28/2017 10:27 AM
64	Reduce taxes for businesses or give them tax incentives, refurbish downtown Wilkes-Barre	4/28/2017 10:19 AM
65	Leaders need to sell the area to good companies.	4/28/2017 10:19 AM
66	create incentives for businesses to come to our area	4/28/2017 10:17 AM
67	Reuse buildings. Instead of special breaks for promising to hire a lot of employees (which never happens). Give a company a special break for reusing a building. This way an area is improved and more land is not torn up.	4/28/2017 10:12 AM
68	I think bringing in higher paying jobs from bigger companies.	4/28/2017 10:09 AM
69	Expanding industrial parks, attracting high tech companies, bringing back commuter train service to the area.	4/28/2017 10:08 AM
70	Jobs with higher wages	4/28/2017 10:08 AM
71	Get money in consumer's hands. Trickle down economics does not work.	4/28/2017 10:07 AM
72	clean up the county & makes it safe!!!! beautify the area	4/28/2017 10:07 AM
73	Figure it out, that's why you sit there.	4/28/2017 10:06 AM
74	attracting more outside area industry	4/28/2017 10:02 AM
75	Better loan programs for start ups and outreach to major companies/businesses.	4/28/2017 10:00 AM
76	incentives for industry to locate in our industrial parks	4/28/2017 9:57 AM
77	need to offer better wages in this area need to bring more useful business to the area ie ones that meet the needs of our people and provide jobs	4/28/2017 9:57 AM
78	tax incentives to start new business.	4/28/2017 9:57 AM
79	Continue work with manufacturers. Also, I think that the trades are unrepresented. Our blue collar work ethic made this area prosperous. Partner with LCCC and the vocational schools to work on some of the blight. The best thing Luzerne County could do is increase its tax base. A way to do that is increase housing values and occupancy. Increase the number of those who contribute (taxes and talents) and decrease the ratio of pure consumers (services and entitlements).	4/28/2017 9:57 AM
80	Less time spent quibbling at council meetings over small projects	4/28/2017 9:51 AM
81	fix the roads and clean up the area sometimes it looks like the roads are dumps	4/28/2017 9:51 AM
82	We must bring jobs other than food service to the area	4/28/2017 9:51 AM

83	Embracing what we have - we are rich in higher learning, yet they don't stay in the area	4/28/2017 9:47 AM
84	Lowering all taxes.	4/28/2017 9:44 AM
85	better paying jobs	4/28/2017 9:44 AM
86	Small bussiness. Jobs that have room to move up. Places for college graduates to work in our area so they stay here.	4/28/2017 9:43 AM
87	Fiber optic internet, increased property values (levee fee, flood insurance all hurting people moving into valley cities and towns)	4/28/2017 9:42 AM
88	Trying to attract more businesses, not just service industry but manufacturing	4/28/2017 9:40 AM
89	gentrification of downtown Wilkes-Barre	4/28/2017 9:38 AM
90	small business grants	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
91	higher paying jobs, lower taxes so middle class can survive and have the ability to buy more things therefore raising the economy	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
92	Cleaning up drug problem	4/28/2017 9:35 AM
93	This area is fast gaining a reputation as a welfare area. More and more people are getting public assistance and destroying the area by not being productive. No one wants to move here, and what would attract them unless they are moving here to get public assistance. The criminal element follows.	4/28/2017 9:26 AM
94	Invest in communities and universities	4/28/2017 8:58 AM
95	need more after school and summer work for students	4/27/2017 4:31 PM
96	"Cleaning" out Wilkes-barre and Hazelton	4/27/2017 4:06 PM

Q15 Any additional comments on other areas not addressed in this survey?

Answered: 59 Skipped: 93

#	Responses	Date
1	Get a real 21st century website. Move to regional, efficient government. Help state create fair voting districts and open primaries.	5/31/2017 1:35 PM
2	Welcome qualified county employees from outside of the county. We need alternative points of view and new ideas for solving old problems, as well as the political fortitude to make good decisions that may not be popular, but will make Luzerne County a better place for the next generation.	5/30/2017 8:21 PM
3	Reduce rates of incarceration and emphasize alternatives ves for non violent crime; reduce prison population with a realistic plan for rehabilitation; become leader in this area; have council members actively participate in state wide county associations to bring back new ideas from other counties; develop a program to subsidize and support aging citizens--senior programs, ideas from clergy groups; subsidizing assisted living for low income people.	5/11/2017 5:13 PM
4	Us your time to work on the big problems instead of petty ones.	5/10/2017 9:24 PM
5	Do more to control the gypsy moths.	5/10/2017 9:47 AM
6	Without decreasing drug addiction and drug-related crime, Luzerne County has very little hope of accomplishing anything positive over the long term.	5/9/2017 1:35 PM
7	lower school tax spend money wiser	5/8/2017 9:25 AM
8	Need a competitor with Service Electric Cable	5/7/2017 12:00 PM
9	Rumor is that people move here from other states because welfare benefits are so easily obtained- and they collect in 2 states at times. Need minimum standards for ALL residents, self-respect included.	5/4/2017 9:16 AM
10	Fairness in wages/employment	5/3/2017 10:15 AM
11	It is sad that Wilkes-Barre seems to be drying up - store fronts empty, roads and buildings falling apart etc. The Orton Foundation (https://www.orton.org) might provide some good ideas.	5/2/2017 10:00 PM
12	County Gov't needs to improve and take care of their workers and boost moral, so they can in turn boost moral for the community	5/2/2017 3:37 PM
13	I think some people on the council really tried hard and I think how hard those folks try there are others who will try and destroy there progress. Cut the crap and work for the good of the County, get more jobs and cut the polotics.	5/2/2017 1:48 PM
14	less taxes from school districts,	5/2/2017 9:18 AM
15	Less childish antics at public meetings	5/2/2017 7:53 AM
16	Attract large scale companies with higher salaries, by selling the area and work force	5/2/2017 6:44 AM
17	This once was a beautiful place to live. Unfortunately over the years properties were sold to people that didn't care about this area. So which brought in low income people, which brought in drugs and gangs. I wish it could be that beautiful county that it was when I was growing up. Hold property owners accountable to keep their properties clean. Stop raising the taxes so much that people have to sell their homes. Clean up our streets and parks. Parts of the county look like the Ghetto, While Rural areas are beautiful and clean but are so expensive to live.	5/1/2017 4:13 PM
18	no	5/1/2017 1:28 PM
19	God bless and please help Luzerne county.	5/1/2017 12:52 PM
20	Lots of anger and hate; very parochial mindset; too many folks with limited experience in the real world; far too much economic and social imequality expressed spatially in divide between valley floor and mountaintop and back mtn communities; cities of wb amd hazleton need to annex outlying communities such as wb twsp	5/1/2017 11:12 AM
21	higher pay for county workers	5/1/2017 10:04 AM
22	Join the Federal Government in offering incentives for small businesses to grow in the county. More businesses more tax revenue.	5/1/2017 9:43 AM
23	no	5/1/2017 9:35 AM

24	As citizens of a community I think that government should be sensitive to how the people of a given community feel and find a baromitor to measure improvemet. I also am concerned that the officials in said community do not know how to rectify,maintain, address issues, problem, programs to ensure the needs and wants of the community are being met. We the people elected officials to meet the needs of the community; that's the job officials had sought, now do your job.	5/1/2017 9:10 AM
25	none	4/28/2017 3:12 PM
26	Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback.	4/28/2017 2:41 PM
27	COUNCIL MEMBERS NEED TO GET ALONG FOR THE BEST OF THE COMMUNITY AND DON`T ACT LIKE A SCHOOL BOARD	4/28/2017 2:15 PM
28	Not at this time	4/28/2017 2:07 PM
29	It would be wonderful if Council could stick their politics away in a closet and learn to all act like adults, communicate in a respectful and productive way, show up at meetings, learn to talk and act like a grown up and not attack peers or others, and leave their snotty or prideful attitudes at the door. Most normal people don't get involved in Luzerne County because of the circus that is a council meeting and the same audience members with questions. There is no room for the Regular Joe in Luzerne County, and that's quite unfortunate and a disservice to us all.	4/28/2017 1:59 PM
30	Luzerne County government should look to the Federal government for more fair efficient methods of governing	4/28/2017 1:46 PM
31	This area has been changing for the worse. We have so many fun things to offer , but people dont want to see litter and needles on the ground. Its a shame to when you dont want your kids to play outside because of the violence and drugs. Personally have 2 vacant homes from my house that have been empty for years. Get rid of these building so we can atleast see an empty lot instead of pigeons going in and out of them. We need to take pride in what we have.	4/28/2017 12:44 PM
32	crime is horrible and getting worse.	4/28/2017 12:35 PM
33	Attitudes of residents must be more positive	4/28/2017 11:37 AM
34	The presence of so many colleges in the county more effort should be made to encourage businesses that would be of interest to the college student. Communities with numerous restaurants, specialty shops and bars to attract people to the area would be beneficial. Improvements have been made, however there is room for more to encourage the community to participate.	4/28/2017 11:24 AM
35	Let's get more positive about our valley. I believe it should start with the attitude of county government, starting with county council, county employees, and anyone involved in the day to day operation of the county. I faithfully watch the council meetings and feel the negativity that is perceived at the meetings. No one seems happy or enthusiastic about what happens. Remember - "procrastination is the thief of time." It;s time for the procrastination to stop. We need to prepare for future generations if they are going to stay in the valley.	4/28/2017 10:50 AM
36	I really do love my County. I feel we are way behind the times. We need to keep our young people here.	4/28/2017 10:42 AM
37	-property taxes need to be eliminated, it is outdated and unsustainable -criminal element needs to be addressed that seem to seep in from the nearby cities -area needs to be cleaned up and historical areas restored. People have lost their pride in this area.	4/28/2017 10:40 AM
38	please pave Chase Road	4/28/2017 10:38 AM
39	We really need to clean up our beautiful Susquehanna River. It has been proven that if the environment is cleaned up that alone would bring in more businesses.	4/28/2017 10:14 AM
40	clean up dilapidated properties (havens for druggies); arrest the "quiet" sellers (47 dock lane, WB) the ones you all know about; beautify the area (go back to the 50's-60's time	4/28/2017 10:12 AM
41	Concentrate recources on combating out of town gangs that have moved into our area in recent years.	4/28/2017 10:10 AM
42	Drug enforcement and crime should be number one priority	4/28/2017 10:09 AM
43	Local towns need to hold residents responsible for taking care of their properties.	4/28/2017 10:08 AM
44	No	4/28/2017 10:06 AM
45	cleaner parks and better housing developments	4/28/2017 10:04 AM
46	Nope. I trust you!! Good luck	4/28/2017 9:58 AM
47	Our city and county is filthy compared to other areas. Please Please make the county prisoners who are not a flight risk get out and improve the attractability of our community, especially picking up garbage. Also, our area needs a major tourist attraction. Why should I have to go to Balitmore just to see a beautiful aquarium?	4/28/2017 9:53 AM
48	Not that I can think of!	4/28/2017 9:52 AM

49	Let some of the prisoners earn money by picking up the litter everywhere	4/28/2017 9:52 AM
50	FPA needs to be absorbed and fee spread out just as the stormwater fee is being spread out. A comprehensive plan to reduce the debt needs to be out in place even if it is a temporary tax for just reducing the debt with the promise of the tax being eliminated in x amount of years. Start fighting harder to stop unfounded mandates and fight to have the state pay for the public defenders Office like every other state.	4/28/2017 9:45 AM
51	Youth is pretty much ignored. They have nothing to do with their free time.	4/28/2017 9:44 AM
52	Luzerne County is a great place to live, we need to promote the area and find ways to keep our kids here,, especially those who furthered their education. a well educated work force is the key to economic growth for our area. good luck.	4/28/2017 9:42 AM
53	Heroin. A community conversation focused on treatment of a disease, rather than a crime epidemic. The urge to be seen to be doing something about it (i.e. arrests/busts) is understandable, but not enough.	4/28/2017 9:38 AM
54	na	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
55	county council does not represent the good of luzerne county. there are too many back door deals with the members and other self serving entities.	4/28/2017 9:36 AM
56	It's a tax and spend type of government with no relief in sight. County taxes and fees increase yearly. How much more can taxpayers pay? I expect this county to be like the Bronx in a few years. Thanks goodness I'll be moving like many other people in several years.	4/28/2017 9:28 AM
57	The county lost the faith of the people because of its reputation for corruption. You need to decentralize projects and pass the funds off to the communities	4/28/2017 8:59 AM
58	bring out the inmates to do more work, ie roadway trash pickup	4/27/2017 4:32 PM
59	This county is going down hill more and more each year, it used to be a beautiful, prominent place. Being 2 hrs from NY & Philadelphia we are an attractive area for the down trotted, deviates, drug dealers, and gangs. Something needs to be done to run these people out of town and get back to a thriving metropolis this county once was.	4/27/2017 4:12 PM