

# Carthage Comprehensive Plan Community Survey

Responses 558

*Listed below as the first number for each item is the number of responses and, in most cases, the percent of responses for each item is listed as the second number.*

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very satisfied and 5 being very dissatisfied, please circle your level of satisfaction concerning community services in Carthage.

	<b>Very Satisfied</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Indifferent</b>	<b>Dissatisfied</b>	<b>Very Dissatisfied</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
a. Fire protection	291, 52%	220, 39%	12, 2%	0	2, .4%	17, 3%
b. Law enforcement	187, 34%	267, 48%	37, 7%	32, 6%	10, 2%	10, 2%
c. Condition of streets	31, 6%	211, 38%	111, 20%	146, 26%	38, 7%	6, 1%
d. Condition of sidewalks	11, 2%	98, 18%	92, 17%	217, 39%	109, 20%	13, 2%
e. Ambulance services	197, 35%	255, 46%	33, 6%	10, 2%	2, .4%	37, 7%
f. Sewer quality and service	74, 13%	278, 50%	80, 14%	69, 12%	24, 4%	15, 3%
g. Natural gas	130, 23%	284, 51%	54, 10%	12, 2%	10, 2%	37, 7%
h. Electricity	157, 28%	318, 57%	41, 7%	16, 3%	4, .7%	7, 1%
i. Cable TV	36, 7%	135, 24%	95, 17%	124, 22%	97, 17%	45, 8%
j. Telephone	75, 13%	246, 44%	108, 19%	71, 13%	31, 6%	5, .9%
k. Drinking water quality and service	46, 8%	186, 33%	77, 14%	145, 26%	78, 14%	6, 1%
l. Leadership of the city provided by the city council and mayor	108, 19%	235, 42%	104, 19%	39, 7%	33, 6%	21, 4%
m. Responsiveness of city employees	115, 21%	252, 45%	87, 16%	42, 8%	15, 3%	27, 5%
n. Services for senior citizens	74, 13%	205, 37%	109, 20%	41, 7%	14, 3%	98, 18%
o. Public health services	98, 18%	280, 50%	64, 12%	26, 5%	12, 2%	61, 11%
p. Mental health services	92, 17%	244, 44%	82, 15%	16, 3%	6, 1%	95, 17%
q. Dental services	44, 8%	152, 27%	123, 22%	109, 20%	34, 6%	73, 13%
r. Library	169, 30%	273, 49%	52, 9%	21, 4%	4, .7%	23, 4%
s. Internet services	71, 13%	177, 32%	86, 15%	49, 9%	21, 4%	112, 20%

2. Have you used Memorial Hospital in Carthage within the last three years?

446, 80% Yes                      105, 19% No

a. If Yes, what was your overall level of satisfaction with the care you received at the hospital on a scale of 1 to 10?

Very Dissatisfied									Very Satisfied
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
35, 6%	18, 3%	17, 3%	14, 3%	31, 6%	18, 3%	43, 8%	80, 14%	74, 13%	126, 23%



## Carthage Comprehensive Plan Community Survey

7. Please identify the relative priority for the following economic development programs in Carthage:

	<u>Priority</u>					<b>Don't Know</b>
	<b>Very High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Very Low</b>	
a. Supporting and expanding existing businesses	184, 33%	207, 37%	96, 17%	16, 3%	10, 2%	19, 3%
b. Attracting new retail businesses	202, 36%	180, 32%	89, 16%	32, 6%	18, 3%	17, 3%
c. Attracting manufacturing businesses	228, 41%	175, 31%	74, 13%	24, 4%	13, 2%	18, 3%
d. Promoting new residential development	83, 15%	152, 27%	182, 33%	66, 12%	16, 3%	30, 5%
e. Attracting new service businesses	124, 22%	205, 37%	131, 24%	36, 7%	15, 3%	23, 4%
f. Preserving and promoting agriculture/agribusiness	170, 31%	195, 35%	105, 19%	28, 5%	9, 2%	29, 5%
g. Promoting tourism	99, 18%	172, 31%	156, 28%	62, 11%	18, 3%	24, 4%
h. Supporting and expanding health care Services	214, 38%	201, 36%	74, 13%	16, 3%	10, 2%	22, 4%

8. What should be done with the old College campus?

a. Education/Tech Center	100	f. Recreation	31
b. Housing	81	g. Get Possession	21
c. Other	76	h. Business	15
d. Sell	66	i. Arts, Entertainment, Cultural Center	10
e. Demolish	55	j. LDS Church	8

9. Here are some statements about Carthage. Please indicate how you feel about each statement by circling the number that matches your opinion.

	<u>Strongly Agree</u>			<u>Strongly Disagree</u>		<b>Don't Know</b>
	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Agree</b>		
a. I am satisfied with things as they are	13, 2%	200, 36%	225, 40%	71, 13%	20, 4%	
b. The future of Carthage looks bright	16, 3%	196, 35%	204, 37%	63, 11%	61, 11%	
c. Citizens of Carthage have a positive attitude toward attracting new business and industry	44, 8%	228, 41%	141, 25%	72, 13%	59, 11%	
d. Local businesses serve the needs of the residents of Carthage	18, 3%	232, 42%	201, 36%	63, 11%	22, 4%	
e. Adequate resources are being used to develop new jobs in the community	9, 2%	114, 20%	201, 36%	85, 15%	131, 24%	
f. There are sufficient opportunities for earning a respectable income in Carthage	7, 1%	89, 16%	250, 45%	149, 27 %	50, 9%	

10. How often do you shop outside Carthage for products and services available within the city?

245, 44%	<b>At least once a week</b>	28, 5%	<b>Once every two months</b>
153, 27%	<b>Once every two weeks</b>	17, 3%	<b>Three or four times a year</b>
107, 19%	<b>Once a month</b>		

## Carthage Comprehensive Plan Community Survey

11. What items are you purchasing out of town that you could buy in Carthage?

a.	Groceries	456	i.	Automobiles	198
b.	Clothing	436	j.	Furniture	187
c.	Electronics –TV, Stereo, gaming	345	k.	Hardware	142
d.	Eating out at Restaurants	337	l.	Lumber & Building Supplies	100
e.	Gifts & Specialty Retail Items	293	m.	Auto Service	94
f.	Appliances	279	n.	Insurance	83
g.	Lawn & Garden	232	o.	Other	71
h.	Medical Supplies & Drugs	199	p.	Banking	38

12. What would encourage you to do more shopping in Carthage? Please identify the two things that would influence you most?

a.	Lower Prices	429	d.	More name brands	68
b.	More choices/greater variety of stores	414	e.	Better & friendlier service	60
c.	More convenient business hours	80	f.	Other	40
				Grocery	11
				Wal-Mart	5
				Discount	3
				Electronics	2

13. What kind of new retail businesses would attract you to the downtown more often? Please list your answers below with "A" being of highest importance, "B" second, and "C" third.

a.	Grocery	184	j.	Appliance	37
b.	Dept/Clothing /Shoes	132	k.	Electronics	27
c.	Restaurants/Fast Food	82	l.	Farm/Home Improve/Hardware	25
d.	Discount Store/Variety	77	m.	Donut/Coffee Shop/Bakery	22
e.	Wal-Mart/Super Wal-Mart	71	n.	Jewelry	16
f.	Other	58	o.	Cleaners/Laundromat	10
g.	Bookstore/Music/Card shop	41	p.	Convenience Store/Gas Station	4
h.	Specialty	29	q.	Health Service/Dentist	4
i.	Entertainment/Recreational/Sporting Goods	39			



## Carthage Comprehensive Plan Community Survey

18. What type of business or development would you like to see happening around the new highway interchange?

a. Truck Stop/Convenience	92, 24%	f. Grocery Store	10, 3%
b. Hotel/Motel	86, 23%	g. Industrial	8, 2%
c. Restaurants/Fast Food	71, 19%	h. Worried About Downtown	8, 2%
d. Shopping/Mall	23, 6%	i. Entertainment	6, 2%
e. Wal-Mart	22, 6%		

19. What priority should be given to the following issues for Carthage?

	<i><b>Priority</b></i>					
	<i><b>Very High</b></i>	<i><b>High</b></i>	<i><b>Medium</b></i>	<i><b>Low</b></i>	<i><b>Very Low</b></i>	<i><b>Don't Know</b></i>
a. Maintaining and improving the YMCA	106, 19%	175, 31%	142, 25%	43, 8%	29, 5%	31, 6%
b. Building a hiking/biking trail	46, 8%	109, 20%	187, 34%	98, 18%	67, 12%	16, 3%
c. Bringing in additional businesses	243, 44%	213, 38%	60, 11%	8, 1%	4, .7%	8, 1%
d. Increasing recreational programs and services	98, 18%	174, 31%	169, 30%	47, 8%	16, 3%	17, 3%
e. Increasing the stock of affordable housing	117, 21%	187, 34%	138, 25%	36, 7%	16, 3%	32, 6%
f. Building special housing for older adults	132, 24%	176, 32%	149, 27%	37, 7%	16, 3%	20, 4%
g. Increasing adult educational programs	49, 9%	116, 21%	241, 43%	59, 11%	18, 3%	34, 6%
h. Building new school buildings	54, 10%	83, 15%	118, 21%	109, 20%	130, 23%	33, 6%
i. Developing more recreational programs for youth	109, 20%	174, 31%	161, 29%	55, 10%	16, 3%	14, 3%
j. Gaining control of the old college campus	287, 51%	135, 24%	54, 10%	20, 4%	20, 4%	19, 3%
k. Developing a recycling program	87, 16%	116, 21%	158, 28%	75, 13%	80, 14%	13, 2%
l. Preserving historic buildings	108, 19%	160, 29%	178, 32%	56, 10%	20, 4%	11, 2%
m. Exercising zoning in the area within one and one half miles of the city limits	97, 17%	125, 22%	138, 25%	40, 7%	63, 11%	63, 11%
n. Other _____						

## Carthage Comprehensive Plan Community Survey

20. Below is a list of services that generally require money for improvement, maintenance, and/or construction. Would you be willing to pay more taxes if you knew that money would be spent in your community for that particular reason?

	Yes	No	<i>Need More Information</i>
a. To improve streets and roads	246, 44%	142, 25%	121, 22%
b. To provide better education	233, 42%	142, 25%	137, 25%
c. To build or improve parks and offer recreation programs	147, 26%	232, 42%	130, 23%
d. To build a trail around the lake	104, 19%	303, 54%	102, 18%
e. To upgrade criminal justice and law enforcement system	163, 29%	214, 38%	133, 24%
f. To improve health and medical services	272, 49%	145, 26%	98, 18%
g. To improve fire protection services	223, 40%	197, 35%	88, 16%
h. To expand the library facility	147, 26%	261, 47%	102, 18%
i. To provide housing for the elderly	202, 36%	180, 32%	135, 24%
j. To help finance low-income housing	123, 22%	264, 47%	123, 22%
k. To support economic development	225, 40%	147, 26%	139, 25%
l. To improve sanitary sewer systems	213, 38%	167, 30%	122, 22%
m. To aggressively pursue developing the old college campus	269, 48%	125, 22%	119, 21%
n. To expand city zoning in the area within one and one half miles of the city limits	184, 33%	191, 34%	135, 24%
o. To improve the entry and exit points of the city	162, 29%	229, 41%	118, 21%
p. To improve the appearance of the downtown	131, 24%	270, 48%	108, 19%
q. To develop a business park	109, 20%	267, 48%	131, 24%
r. To improve the telecommunications system	107, 19%	269, 48%	134, 24%
s. To expand services needed to promote tourism	115, 21%	272, 49%	123, 22%
t. To improve the airport	95, 17%	274, 49%	140, 25%

21. If you could change three things about Carthage what would you change?

a. Retail/Restaurants	125	i. Local Govern/Police/Fire Dept.	46
b. Appearance	113	j. Utilities	45
c. Streets/Sidewalks	60	k. Stop-light/Traffic Patterns	44
d. Schools	59	l. Attitude	44
e. Jobs/Economic Development	55	m. Services	31
f. Housing/Taxes	49	n. Youth Opportunities	28
g. Entertainment/Recreation/YMCA	47	o. Tourism/Promotion of City	11
h. Health Care	47		

22. Do you own or rent your residence?

478, 86%	Own
66, 12%	Rent

23. Please indicate your gender

217, 39%	Male	319, 57%	Female
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## Carthage Comprehensive Plan Community Survey

24. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ years

15 to 24 years	14	2.7%	65 to 74 years	92	17.5%
25 to 34 years	43	8.2%	75 to 84 years	83	15.8%
35 to 44 years	82	15.6%	85 years and over	31	5.9%
45 to 54 years	95	18.1%	Missing	33	
55 to 64 years	85	16.2%			

25. Please indicate the number of people currently living in your household, including yourself.

1 person	159	29.6%	5 person	19	3.5%
2 person	209	38.9%	6 or more person	10	1.9%
3 person	80	14.9%	Missing	21	
4 person	60	11.2%			

26. How many children under 18 years of age live in your home?

0	396	73.5%	4	6	1.1%
1	63	11.7%	5	3	.6%
2	54	10.0%	6	1	.2%
3	14	2.6%	Missing	21	

27. How long have you been a resident of Carthage? \_\_\_\_\_ years

1 to 5 years	74	13.8%
6 to 10 years	58	10.8%
11 to 20 years	92	17.1%
More than 20 years	313	58.3%
System	21	

28. Where do you work?

238, 43%	In Carthage or very close vicinity (within 2 miles)
16, 3%	Within 2 - 10 miles of Carthage
39, 7%	Within 11-25 miles of Carthage
46, 8%	Greater than 25 miles from Carthage
203, 36	I am retired or unemployed