



Hudson Master Plan Public Forum Social Services and Public Health Summary Report

On Tuesday April 23, 2013, the Town of Hudson convened a public forum to discuss the topics of social services and public health for the 2013 Master Plan project. Approximately 30 people attended the forum, which was held at the Hudson Senior Center from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM. Presenters at the forum were Sam Wong, Town's Public Health Director, Janice Long, Director of the Senior Center, Brian Stearns, Veterans' Services Officer; and representatives from the consulting team (Ralph Willmer, FAICP, and Alyssa Sandoval, AICP).

During the discussion session after the presentation, members of the audience noted that they would support funding for social services through grants rather than solely by municipal funds. Some suggested using grants such as state/federal government grants and a combination of public and private funds. Others noted that there are real concerns with liability regarding recreational programs and noted that caution should be used by the Town in undertaking additional programs.

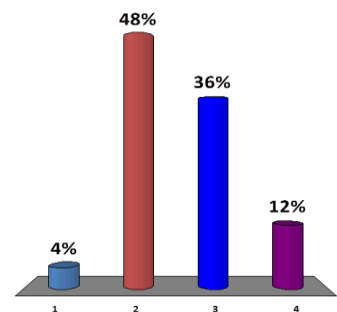
The following sections provide the results from the social services and public health survey of the audiences and participants' responses.

SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEY QUESTIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEY

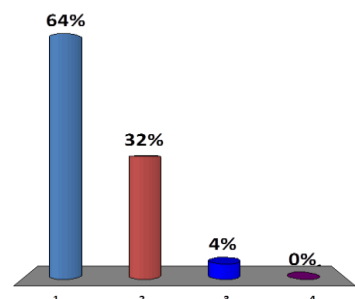
1. Before today, how much did you know about public health?

1. I have complete knowledge of public health (4%)
2. I know some aspects of public health (48%)
3. I only know a little about public health (36%)
4. I know nothing about public health (12%)



2. Is public health important for the future of Hudson?

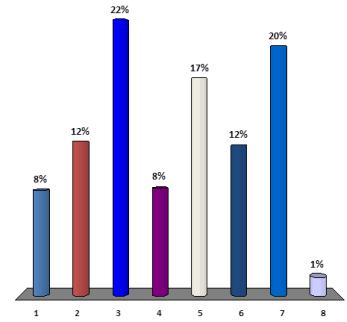
1. Very important (64%)
2. Somewhat important (32%)
3. Not important (4%)
4. Not important (0%)



- 4. Not sure (0%)

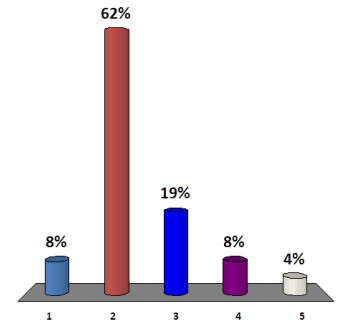
3. What are the most important public health priorities for Hudson? (Rank in order of importance)

- 1. Sanitary regulations for Nail Salons (8%)
- 2. Pre-rental Housing Inspection Program (12%)
- 3. Community/Social Services Coordinator (social worker) (22%)
- 4. Clustered Community Septic Systems (8%)
- 5. Immunization (17%)
- 6. Curbside Household Trash Pickup (12%)
- 7. Hazardous Materials Management (20%)
- 8. None/not sure (1%)



4. Thinking of the funding options, which of the following do you favor for Hudson?

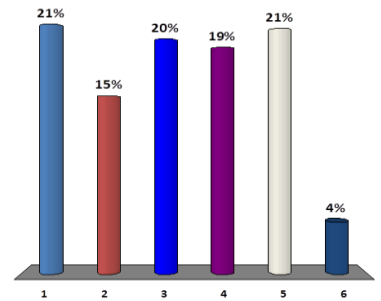
- 1. Maintain the existing level of service with no new programs (8%)
- 2. Only fund new programs through grants and fees (62%)
- 3. Create new programs funded through the municipal budget (19%)
- 4. Eliminate existing programs (8%)
- 5. Not sure (4%)



SOCIAL SERVICES SURVEY

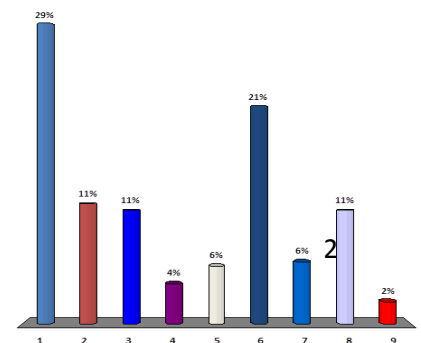
5. Which age-friendly actions would be most important to achieve in Hudson? (Rank in order of importance)

- 1. Assisted living facility (21%)
- 2. Additional pedestrian paths for exercise (15%)
- 3. Program helping seniors to retrofit homes to support aging in place (20%)
- 4. Improve sidewalks in central areas (19%)
- 5. Education to help seniors age in place (21%)
- 6. Other/not sure (4%)



6. What social service programs should Hudson prioritize over the next several years? Vote for up to three.

- 1. Elderly services (29%)
- 2. Veteran's affairs (11%)
- 3. Disabilities/mobility (11%)
- 4. Homelessness prevention (4%)



- 5. Human relations/human rights (6%)
- 6. Youth services (21%)
- 7. Literacy (6%)
- 8. Neighborhood and community outreach (11%)
- 9. None of the above (2%)

7. For new social service programs, would you favor using municipal funding to finance them?

- 1. Yes (53%)
- 2. No (21%)
- 3. Not sure (26%)

