

APPENDIX F

Solebury Comprehensive Plan Survey Results 2012

Solebury Township Resident Survey Tabulation

1. How long have you been a resident of Solebury?

Less than five years	183	16 to 25 years	366
5-15 years	690	More than 25 years	450
Not Answered	13		

2. How many persons in the following age groups live in your household?

	1	2	3	4	5
Babies/toddlers	58	5	0	0	0
Preschoolers	75	17	1	0	0
Young Children	182	104	18	0	0
Teenagers	174	99	18	1	0
Young Adults	184	69	9	0	0
Adults	263	489	3	1	0
Senior Adults	387	651	8	0	0
Not Answered	23				

3. Is your residence served by public water and sewerage?

Yes	447	No	1216	Not sure	14
Not Answered		24			

4. Please indicate the area of the township you reside.

Area 1	565	Area 2	862	Area 3	232
Not Answered		43			

5. What are the employment locations of the adult members of your household?

At home	448
Retired	487
Within Solebury/ New Hope	286
Outside of Solebury/ New Hope	1,222

If you travel to your place of employment, approximately how long is your commute?

10 min or less	102	10 miles or less	172
11 - 20 min.	180	11 - 20 miles	233
21 - 30 min.	211	21 - 30 miles	147
31- 40 min.	158	31- 40 miles	71
41 - 50 min.	162	41 plus miles	173
51 plus	288		
Not Answered	151		

6. Have you applied for a subdivision, land development, zoning or building permit?

Yes 367 No 1216 Not Answered 21

If yes, were you satisfied with the permitting regulations in Solebury.

Satisfied 251 Unsatisfied 138 Not Answered 14

7. Why did you choose to live in Solebury? Up to 3 responses.

	1	2	3
Rural Setting	441	236	236
Housing value	129	158	151
Open space/ scenic beauty	482	270	198
Taxes	121	158	161
Close to work	72	50	60
Lived here all my life	88	14	23
Type of home	139	123	140
Family or friends nearby	108	103	101
Quality of schools	241	128	110
Other	25	10	26
Not Answered	186		

8. What is most important to consider when planning for the future of Solebury? Up to 5 responses.

	1	2	3	4	5
Natural resources protection	276	207	193	178	133
Stormwater management/flood control	72	75	67	67	84
Retention of the rural character	413	255	184	128	117
Agricultural/open space preservation	152	189	188	144	114
Conservation of a quality water supply	179	126	154	126	125
Protection of historic sites and resources	58	91	126	129	144
Recreation opportunities	117	68	71	78	75
Diversity of housing types	24	20	22	21	29
Employment opportunities	14	22	17	17	32
Improving traffic flow and roadway cond.	71	69	78	76	100
Economic development	30	26	32	23	34
Taxes	334	146	147	132	126
Emergency services	36	62	62	61	66
Managed development	57	67	76	77	94
Flexible zoning and development ordinances	16	20	33	32	33
Air quality control	38	35	19	30	30
Renewable energy alternative	16	20	22	27	56
Other 1	24	15	11	11	16
Other 2	1	3	5	1	0
Not Answered	142				

Solebury Township Comprehensive Plan
Draft Survey Tabulation
November 28, 2012

9. What is lacking or needed in Solebury?

Senior citizen needs	367
Diversity of housing types	82
Activities for youth	281
Commercial areas for local shopping needs	237
Small business center for employment	73
Park/recreation areas	428
Wildlife management	565
Road improvements	487
Traffic management	312
Library facility	319
Renewable energy	221
conservation educ. & dev.	
Quality of telecommunication services	286
Other 1	201
Other 2	25
Not Answered	119

10. What would you add to Solebury's present recreational opportunities?

Hiking trails/bike paths	952
Sidewalks along roadways	458
Athletic fields	242
Additional access to the canal/towpath	476
River access for boating & fishing	370
Dog park	212
Community vegetable garden	203
Public swimming pool	263
Playgrounds	82
Tennis courts	93
Community center	330
Gymnasium (indoor activities)	209
Other	74
Not answered	143

11. Should Solebury's comprehensive plan address the protection and quality of the Township's water supply?

Yes	1225	No	62	Need more info	383	Not answered	28
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12. Through the purchase of open space and easements, should Solebury continue to pursue preserving open space and farmland?

Yes	1237	No	222	Need more info	227	Not answered	19
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Appendix ____ Solebury Township Resident Survey Results

To generate public input in the comprehensive planning process, a survey consisting of 12 questions and space for additional comments, was developed by the Comprehensive Planning Committee. The survey was mailed to 3,990 property owners based on tax records in the fall of 2012 by the Township Administration staff. The staff of the Bucks County Planning Commission tabulated the 1,711 surveys that were received back (42.8% response rate). The public input from the surveys was examined by the Planning Committee and used to form the community vision, goals and policies outlined in the Plan update. A summary of the respondent's characteristics and survey results are provided below, followed by a detailed tabulation of the survey responses.

Characteristics of survey respondents

Nearly half of the respondents have lived in Solebury for more than 15 years, with approximately 11% of the respondents having moved into the township within the last 5 years. Seniors (55 years or older) comprised nearly 40% of households respondents, and about 25% of the households had members less than 20 years old. Young adults (20 to 35 years) households made up only 8% of the respondents.

Approximately three-quarters of the respondent's properties are served by on-lot water and sewerage facilities, and about one-half of the respondents reside in the area located between Upper York and Stoney Hill road.

One-half of the adult members in households of respondents either are retired or work within the Solebury/New Hope area. Of the adult household members that work, nearly 70% travel 30 miles or less to their worksite. However, approximately 55% travel more than 30 minutes to their worksite, with about one-quarter indicating a travel time of 50 minutes or greater.

Summary of survey results

- About one-quarter of respondents indicated that they had contact with the Township within the past 5 years regarding planning, zoning, or permit applications. Of these, approximately 65% were satisfied with the current township regulations.
- The three top reasons for living in Solebury include:
 - Open space/scenic beauty
 - Rural setting
 - Quality of schools

- The overall five highest ranked priorities to consider for Solebury's future are:
 - Retention of rural character
 - Natural resources protection
 - Taxes
 - Agriculture/open space preservation
 - Conservation of a quality water supply
- The top three needs to address in the Township include:
 - Wildlife management
 - Road improvements
 - Park/recreation areas
- The top three choices for recreation enhancements to add in the Township are:
 - Hiking trails/bike paths
 - Additional access to the canal/towpath
 - Sidewalks along roadways
- The majority of respondents (73%) feel that the comprehensive plan should address the protection and quality of the Township's supply. Approximately 22% respondents felt that additional information on this topic was needed before deciding.
- The majority of respondents (73%) feel that the Township should continue to preserve open space & farmland through the purchase of open space and easements.

1. How long have you been a resident of Solebury?

Less than five years	183	10.8%
5-15 years	691	40.9%
16 to 25 years	366	21.7%
More than 25 years	450	26.6%

¹Total Response 1,690
No Answer 13

2. How many persons in the following age groups live in your household?

	1	2	3	4	Total	
Babies/toddlers (0 to 2)	58	5	0	0	68	1.6%
Preschoolers (3 to 5)	75	17	1	0	112	2.6%
Young Children (6 to 12)	182	105	18	0	446	10.2%
Teenagers (13 to 19)	174	99	18	1	430	9.8%
Young Adults (20 to 35)	184	69	9	0	349	8.0%
Adults (36 to 54)	263	490	3	1	1,256	28.7%
Senior Adults (55 or older)	387	651	8	0	1,713	39.2%

Total Response 4,374
No Answer 23

3. Is your residence served by public water and sewerage?

Yes	448	26.7%
No	1,216	72.5%
Not sure	14	0.8%

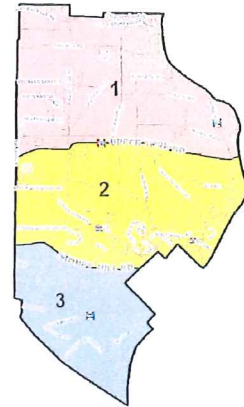
Total Response 1,678
No Answer 24

¹ "Total Response" includes all responses that were provided according to the survey directions. "No Answer" includes responses that were not counted because they were either left blank or not answered in the manner consistent with the survey instructions.

4. Please indicate the area of the township you reside.

Area 1 565 34.0% (North of Upper York Road)
 Area 2 863 51.9% (between Upper York and Stoney Hill Rds)
 Area 3 232 14.0% (South of Stoney Hill Road)

Total Response 1,660
 No Answer 43



5. What are the employment locations of the adult members of your household?

	Self	Spouse	Total	
At home	380	68	448	18.3%
Retired	419	68	487	19.9%
Within Solebury/New Hope	204	82	286	11.7%
Outside Solebury/New Hope	618	605	1,223	50.0%

Total Response 2,444
 No Answer 151

If you travel to your place of employment, approximately how long is your commute?

10 min or less	102	9.3%	10 miles or less	172	21.6%
11 - 20 min.	180	16.3%	11 - 20 miles	233	29.3%
21 - 30 min.	211	19.1%	21 - 30 miles	147	18.5%
31- 40 min.	158	14.3%	31- 40 miles	71	8.9%
41 - 50 min.	162	14.7%	41 plus miles	173	21.7%
51 plusmin.	289	26.2%			

6. Have you applied for a subdivision, land development, zoning or building permit?

Yes 367 23.2%

No 1,216 76.8%

Total Response 1,583
 No Answer 21

If yes, were you satisfied with the permitting regulations in Solebury?

Satisfied with current regulations	251	16.9%
Unsatisfied-current regulations too strict	138	9.3%
Unsatisfied-current regulations not strict enough	14	0.9%

Total Response 403

7. Why do you choose to live in Solebury? (Rank the three most important characteristics from 1 to 3, with 1 being the highest priority.)

	1		2		3		Totals	
Rural Setting	324	23.9%	235	19.0%	235	19.8%	794	20.9%
Housing value	84	6.2%	152	12.3%	151	12.7%	387	10.2%
Open space/scenic beauty	369	27.2%	268	21.7%	198	16.7%	835	22.0%
Taxes	70	5.2%	154	12.5%	160	13.5%	384	10.1%
Close to work	47	3.5%	48	3.9%	58	4.9%	153	4.0%
Lived here all my life	78	5.7%	13	1.1%	22	1.9%	113	3.0%
Type of home	93	6.9%	125	10.1%	138	11.6%	356	9.4%
Family or friends nearby	77	5.7%	101	8.2%	102	8.6%	280	7.4%
Quality of schools	191	14.1%	129	10.4%	107	9.0%	427	11.3%
Other*	24	1.8%	11	0.9%	26	2.2%	61	1.6%
Totals	1,357		1,236		1,187		3,790	

Not Answered 343

***Insert Other:**

Quality of life (2), rural character and scenic setting (x), historic and cultural amenities (x), people or family (x), location (x), arts community and institutional type uses (x), reasonable taxes (x), taxes—too much (x), public safety (2), school system (pro and cons), type of house met needs, inherited property (1).

8. What is most important to consider when planning for the future of Solebury? (Rank the five most important issues on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the highest priority.)

	1		2		3		4		5		Overall Totals	
Natural resources protection	246	15.0%	205	15.3%	193	12.2%	178	15.2%	130	13.2%	952	13.1%
Stormwater manage/flood control	55	3.4%	72	4.5%	64	4.0%	64	5.5%	82	6.1%	337	4.6%
Retention of the rural character	376	23.0%	254	15.8%	183	11.6%	128	10.9%	113	8.4%	1054	14.5%
Agr./openspace preservation	127	7.8%	188	11.7%	187	11.8%	144	12.3%	110	8.2%	756	10.4%
Conserv. of quality water supply	150	9.2%	124	7.7%	153	9.7%	126	10.7%	121	9.0%	674	9.3%
Protect. of historic sites & resources	28	1.7%	89	5.5%	125	7.9%	128	10.9%	141	10.5%	511	7.0%
Recreation opportunities	105	6.4%	67	4.2%	65	4.1%	74	6.3%	71	5.3%	382	5.3%
Diversity of housing types	17	1.0%	18	1.1%	19	1.2%	19	1.6%	23	1.7%	96	1.3%
Employment opportunities	10	0.6%	21	1.3%	14	0.9%	14	1.2%	26	1.9%	85	1.2%
Improve traffic flow & roadway cond.	57	3.5%	66	4.1%	74	4.7%	71	6.1%	98	7.3%	366	5.0%
Economic development	23	1.4%	23	1.4%	28	1.8%	23	2.0%	29	2.2%	126	1.7%
Taxes	302	18.4%	145	9.0%	143	9.0%	130	11.1%	125	9.3%	845	11.7%
Emergency services	23	1.4%	59	3.7%	58	3.7%	60	5.1%	63	4.7%	263	3.6%
Managed development	47	2.9%	65	4.0%	73	4.6%	76	6.5%	89	6.6%	350	4.8%
Flexible zoning & develop. ord.	8	0.5%	17	1.1%	28	1.8%	29	1.4%	31	2.3%	113	1.6%
Air quality control	27	1.6%	32	2.0%	16	1.0%	29	2.5%	27	2.0%	131	1.8%
Renewable energy alternative	12	0.7%	18	1.1%	18	1.1%	24	2.0%	52	3.9%	124	1.7%
Other 1	25	1.6%	18	01.1%	16	1.0%	12	0.9%	16	1.0%	77	1.1%
Totals	1638		1608		1581		1173		1347		7252	
No Answer	192											

Insert other: Over population of deer, Repair canal/towpath,

9. What is lacking or needed in Solebury? (Select up to 3 responses)

Senior citizen needs	367	9.4%
Diversity of housing types	82	2.1%
Activities for youth	282	7.3%
Commercial areas for local shopping needs	238	6.1%
Small business center for employment	73	1.9%
Park/recreation areas	429	11.0%
Wildlife management	565	14.5%
Road improvements	487	12.5%
Traffic management	312	8.0%
Library facility	319	8.2%
Renewable energy conservation educ. & dev.	221	5.7%
Quality of telecommunication services	286	7.4%
Other*	226	5.8%

Total Response 3,887
No Answer 119

* insert other

10. What would you add to Solebury's present recreational opportunities?

Hiking trails/bike paths	952	25.7%
Sidewalks along roadways	459	12.4%
Athletic fields	243	6.6%
Additional access to the canal/towpath	476	12.9%
River accessfor boating and fishing	370	10.0%
Dog park	212	5.7%
Community vegetable garden	203	5.5%
Public swimming pool	263	7.1%
Playgrounds	83	2.2%
Tennis courts	93	2.5%
Community center	330	8.9%
Gymnasium (indoor activities)	209	5.6%
Other	74	2.0%

Total Response 3,704
No answer 143

11. Should Solebury's comprehensive plan address the protection and quality of the Township's supply?

Yes	1,237	73.5%
No	62	3.7%
Need more info	383	22.8%

Total Response 1,682
Not answered 29

12. Through the purchase of open space and easements, should Solebury continue to pursue preserving open space and farmland?

Yes	1,240	73.4%
No	223	13.2%
Need more info	227	13.4%

Total Response 1,690
No answer 21

Other comments you officials should consider in preparing the Comprehensive Plan?

Not Answered	93
Total Responses	130

Summary of Responses:

Open Space:

Government:

Green Community:

Residential:

Community Facilities/Recreation needs:,

Traffic/Pedestrian: