

Survey Results

Greenbrier County Community Survey

Demographic and Rate this Issues Responses

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I. Introduction

Methodology. The survey process started with a kickoff meeting on July 29, 2008 at the Greenbrier Public Library, where participants completed a draft survey in order to test the preliminary survey instrument. Following the meeting, the survey was revised and Planning Commission members began distributing the survey around Greenbrier County in mid-August. An online version of the survey was designed through SurveyMonkey and added to the County website at the same time. Surveys were distributed through the Planning Commission members, local organizations, the Planning and Building Office, and online through the County website. As of September 25, 2008, the County received 291 surveys, of which 101 were electronic (online version) and 190 were paper.

The level of response varied from survey to survey. Some of the surveys were only partially completed, leaving out responses to some of the items; others were fully completed and included additional comments on separate sheets of paper or in the margins of the survey. The varying level of "completeness" had an impact on survey results, especially in the "rate this issue" section. Because of this, the mean score for each of the issues was calculated based on the survey population as a whole (n=291) and a second mean score was based on the actual number of responses to a particular question. In addition, the online survey included three additional topics (Preservation of open space, preservation of farm land, and drinking water quality). The mean score for these three issues was calculated based on number of respondents to the actual questions and on the total number of online surveys (n=101).

In addition, the specific subject areas in the "Rate this Issue" portion of the survey was cross-analyzed with the demographic information provided in the first section of the survey, specifically by census tract (location of residence), age, and gender. The subject areas include the Planning and Land Use, Government, and Economic Development Issues. The other topics were not analyzed on the same level, initially, because the responses were far more homogeneous across demographics. Regardless of area, age, or gender, respondents generally agreed that the environment, public education, and roads were either important, more important, or very important.

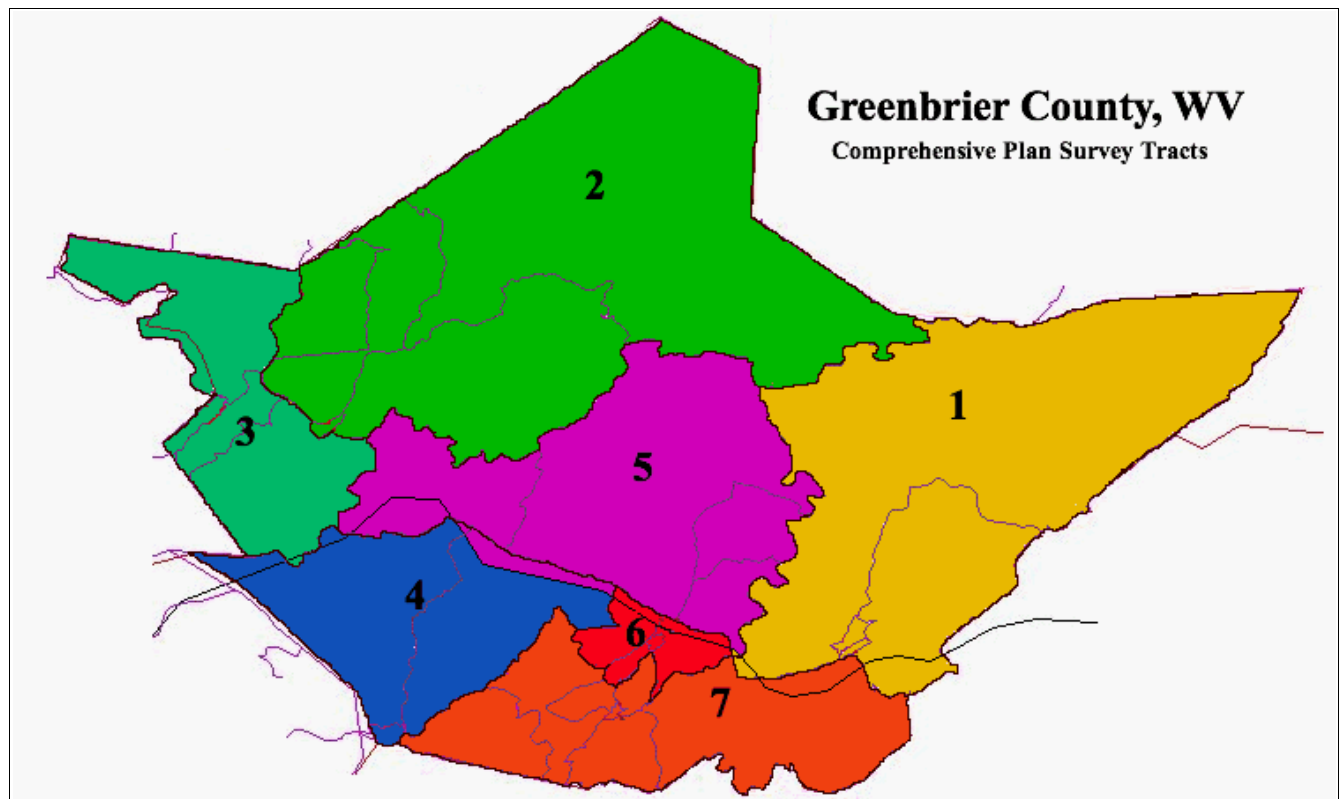
Written responses, which will be released prior to the first work session on October 15th, were coded and sorted based on a primary category designation (subject categories for the comprehensive plan) and then recoded and sorted based on secondary categories. For example, all comments concerning transportation issues (roads, rail, air, trails, etc.) were first sorted under transportation and then sorted under sub-categories: trails, bikeways, and walkways; 219 corridor; 60 corridor; road quality; air transportation; and so forth. The written comments, unsorted beyond the primary category, have been included in this report to allow citizens to see the range of comments included in the survey responses. With the exception of spelling and grammatical errors or extraneous personal attacks, the comments have not been edited.

Distribution of Responses. The survey included a census tract map on the fourth page. Although there is some variation in the numbering, the map divisions and the US Census tract divisions are identical. The variation in numbering was done to facilitate data analysis of the 219 corridor, which represents

one of the significant growth area in the County. The use of the 2000 Census population distribution provides a method of tracking survey distribution to insure that all portions of Greenbrier County are fairly represented in the survey results.

This analysis reflects results as of September 25, 2008, and is meant to provide a guide to current response patterns. At this point, the majority of respondents (67%) live in or within close proximity of the 219 corridor, from Organ Cave north to immediately south of Renick (Census tracts 9504, 9506 and 9507, survey tracts 5,6,7), although the three areas, in terms of population, represent less than half (41%) of the County's overall population. Of the seven geographic areas, Lewisburg (9506 / 6) is heavily represented (42% of respondents and 13% of the overall population). The southwestern portion of the county--Alderson north to US 60 (9505/ 4)-- is marginally above statistical range of the population distribution for Region 4 (11% of the surveys, 9% of the population) while Ronceverte/Organ Cave south to the Monroe County line (9507 / 7) is moderately below statistical range of the population distribution of Region 7 with 10% of the surveys and 19% of the population. All other geographic areas are significantly under-represented, especially in terms of response Regions 1 (White Sulphur Springs north to the Pocahontas county line) with 8% of the responses and 15% of

Census Tract	2000 Census Population	% of County Population	Geographic Code on Survey	Responses from Census Tract(9/25)	% of overall Responses
9501	5229	15%	1	23	8%
9502	4137	12%	2	21	7%
9503	4422	13%	3	7	2%
9505	3250	9%	4	33	11%
9504	6549	19%	5	43	15%
9506	4478	13%	6	122	42%
9507	6388	19%	7	28	10%
			Unknown	14	5%



the population, 2 (north county, including Renick and west county, including Rupert), with 12% of the population and 7% of the surveys, and 3 (west county, including Quinwood and Rainelle) with 13% of the population and 2% of the surveys. These three area, collectively, represent 40% of the overall population, but only 17% of the survey responses. As additional surveys arrive from respondents in the eastern, northern, and western portions of Greenbrier County, there will likely be some variation in the types and range of responses to the survey questions.

II. Who Participated?

The Purpose of the Demographic Questions:

Specific demographic questions were included in the survey to function as a response check, a way to confirm that the survey results reflected the distribution of residents as a whole. These questions included gender, age, location, home ownership, occupation, and housing type. The question concerning children in the public schools charts the current or former percentage draw on local resources. Families who currently have children in the public schools or who have had children in the public schools generally use or have used more government services than those without children.

The demographic questions also provide a method of seeing if there are significant differences in responses based on demographic groups: are families with children more likely to support educational facilities than those who do not; are younger respondents more likely to support the development of trail and recreational facilities than those who are younger; do the types of desired economic development depend on the area of the county; or does the support of planning vary based on age or location.

1. Did you fill out this survey as part of a group or a meeting? (Response as of 9/28/08) Participants were asked whether they had filled out the survey as part of group or organizational meeting. Of the 298 response, 68.9% were submitted by individuals unaffiliated with a specific group or organization. The remaining 29.8% were submitted by individuals associated with a specific organization, including:

- Greenbrier Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Kickoff Meeting
- North House Museum
- Lewisburg Rotary Club
- FOTLGB
- Greenbrier Valley Bicycle Club
- Greenbrier County Teachers
- STAND
- Aleron Main Street
- Lewisburg House and Garden Club
- Rolling Hills Home Owners Association
- Lewisburg Preservation
- West Virginia/Greenbrier County Farm Bureau
- St. James Episcopal Church
- White Sulphur Springs City Council
- Meadow River Watershed Association

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	29.8%	89
No	68.9%	206
If so, name the group or organization		89
<i>answered question</i>		295
<i>skipped question</i>		4

2. Previous participation in the comprehensive planning process (9/28)

The response to the question of prior participation is not particularly surprising given the 18 year time lapse between the last update and the current process. The majority of participants (74.9%) are new to the comprehensive planning process.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	18.4%	55
No	74.9%	224
<i>answered question</i>		279
<i>skipped question</i>		20

3. What is your gender? (9/28)

Survey responses are reasonably well balanced by gender and mirror the results from the 2000 Census, where 51% of the population were female and 49% were male.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Female	50.2%	146
Male	48.8%	142
<i>answered question</i>		288
<i>skipped question</i>		11

4. What is your age? (9/28)

Unlike gender, there are some fairly significant differences between the response rate by age in survey and the age distribution from the 2000 Census. The response rate for those 65 and older, those between 35 and 49, and those 25 to 34 are within range of the Census percentages. Those 65 and older represent 18% of the total population and 19.7% of the responses; the age group of 35 to 49 represent 23% of the overall population and 22.4% of respondents, and those 25 to 34 represent 11% of the overall population and 9% of the responses. Nearly a quarter of the population, those under the age of eighteen are not represented in the survey response primarily because the survey was targeted at those eighteen and older. The response rates for the remaining two age groups do not match the demographic distribution indicated in the 2000 Census. Those between the ages of 18 and 24 are significantly underrepresented in the survey results; where they represent approximately 8% of the population, they represent less than 1% (.7) of the survey respondents. Conversely, those between the ages of 50 and 64 are significantly overrepresented (19% of the overall population, 46.2% of the survey respondents). The disparity may not be overly surprising, given age group behaviors and the County's median age. Younger residents (18 to 24) are far less likely to be involved in civic activities than those between 50 and 64.

The median age in Greenbrier (41.6 years) is significantly higher than either West Virginia (38.9 years) or the United States (35.3 years).

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Under 18	0.0%	0
18 to 24	0.7%	2
25 to 34	9.0%	27
35 to 49	22.4%	67
50 to 64	46.2%	138
65 or older	19.7%	59
<i>answered question</i>		293
<i>skipped question</i>		6

5 & 6. Where do you reside (name of closest community) and how long have you lived in Greenbrier County? (9/28)

Alderson	20	Hinton	1
Alvon	1	Hopper	1
Alta	2	Kessler	1
Beckley	2	Lewisburg	114
Big Draft Rd.	1	Lexinton, VA	1
Blue Sulphur	1	Maxwelton	5
Brush Rd.	1	Muddy Creek Mtn	2
Buckingham Hills	1	Neola	1
Buffalo	1	North Caldwell	2
Caldwell	7	Organ Cave	7
Charleston	2	Orion Mtn	1
Charlottesville, VA	2	Pittsburgh	1
Charmco	1	Princeton	1
Clintonville	6	Rainelle	7
Comstalk	2	Renick	17
Crawley	4	Richlands	10
Davis-Stuart Rd.	1	Ronceverte	13
Dawson	1	Rupert	6
Fairlea	6	Shaw-Me-Del-Eca	1
Fort Springs	2	Smoot	3
Frankford	8	Trout	1
Friars Hill	2	Upper Spring Creek	1
Greenbrier Valley	6	White Sulphur Springs	13
Hines	1	Williamsburg	6

On average, repondents have lived in Greenbrier County 26.6 years (median = 27 years).

Length of Residency, in years	Number of Respondents	% of Respondents
1 year or less	17	5.7%
2 to 5 years	31	10.4%
6 to 10 years	31	10.4%
11 to 20 years	41	13.7%
21 to 30 years	66	22.1%
31 to 50 years	68	22.7%
Over 50 years	37	12.4%

7 and 8. Where do you work (Name of the Closest Community) and what is your occupation (9/28)

The largest percentage of survey respondents (38%) work in Lewisburg or Fairlea or are retired (16%). With the exception of 7% who commute to locations outside of Greenbrier County, either to another West Virginia County or to a location in Virginia, the rest work in locations scattered around the County. Interestingly enough, although The Greenbrier Resort is the largest employer in Greenbrier County, very few of the survey respondents work there. Only 5% of the respondents identified working in or near White Sulphur Springs.

Location	Number of Respondents	Location	Number of Respondents
AEP	1	Renick	6
Alderson	6	Richland	4
Caldwell	1	Ronceverte	6
Charmco	6	Rupert	8
Cornstalk	1	Smoot	1
Fairlea	16	White Sulphur Springs	13
Fort Spring	1	Home/Self Emp.	14
Frankford	3	County	21
Harts Run	2	State	16
Lewisburg	93	Out-of-State	5
N. Caldwell	1	Retired	46
Pence Springs	1	Disabled	1
Phillipi	1	Student	1
Quinwood	3	Not employed	2
Rainelle	5		

Of those who responded to the survey, 24% work for an educational institution, either the Greenbrier County Public School system or the New River Community and Technical College. Professors and instructors affiliated with the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine were included under the Health and Mental Health (11% of respondents) rather than education. Retirees were the third highest employment category and represent 10% of respondents.

Profession	Number of Respondents	Profession	Number of Respondents
Administration/Management	10	Engineer	5
Agriculture/Forestry/Landscaping	11	Social Services	14
Arts/Music/Theater	8	Fitness/Recreation	6
Construction/Contracting/Maintenance	15	Homemaker	2
Business Owner	5	Jeweler and other Crafts	1
Education	58	Law/Legal Services	7
Health/ Mental Health	32	Marketing/Advertising/Media	4
Writer	4	Professional (Unspecified)	3
Sciences/Tech	10	Retail and Sales	8
Community & Rural Development	4	Retired	29
Consultant	5	Utilities	3
Chef/Food/Restaurants	4	Public Safety	2
Hotel/Motel	1	Self-employed	4
Writer	4	Transportation Services	2
Real Estate	11	Clerical	5
Government	2	Executive (unspecified)	4

9. Do you have children in the public schools? (9/28)

The rate of response from households with children in public schools is moderately below the percentage of households, according to the U.S. Census, with children under the age of 18. Even accounting for children under the age of five, this particular group is under-represented in the survey. It should be noted that, according to the family data from 2000 Census, Greenbrier County has fewer households with children (25% of households) than does either West Virginia (29%) or the nation as a whole (33%). Despite the lower number, however, the concerns of families with children may be better represented than other groups in the overall survey results due to the number of public school teachers who responded to the survey.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	19.4%	57
No	42.5%	125
They have already graduated	38.1%	112
<i>answered question</i>		294
<i>skipped question</i>		5

10 and 11. Do you own or rent your own home and how would you describe your house? (9/28)

The ownership rate of respondents (91.6%) is significantly above the ownership rate overall for Greenbrier County (76.6%). According to the the 2000 Census, Greenbrier County rate for owner occupied units was slightly higher than that of West Virginia (75.2%) and significantly higher than the nation as a whole (66.2%). The higher ownership rate among respondents may well reflect the age of the respondents. As noted in the age question, the response rate for those 50 to 64 was significantly higher than the age group in the population as a whole.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Own	91.6%	274
Rent	6.0%	18
Other	1.0%	3
<i>answered question</i>		295
<i>skipped question</i>		4

The majority of respondents (90%) live in single-family-detached structures, including 70.6% in

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Traditional House (stick-built, custom built, brick, stone, etc.)	70.6%	211
Historic House (50 years or older)	19.4%	58
Manufactured Home	3.3%	10
Modular Home	1.3%	4
Duplex	0.7%	2
Townhouse	0.3%	1
Apartment	0.3%	1
Other	1.0%	3
<i>answered question</i>		290
<i>skipped question</i>		9

"traditional homes," 19.4% in historic homes (homes 50 years and older), 3.3% in manufactured homes, and 1.3% in Modular Homes. Only four respondents identified living either in single-family attached dwellings (townhomes) or in multi-family units (duplexes or apartments).

12 and 13: Do you have a computer and internet access at home?

The final two questions were meant to assess the level of computer ownership and usage and the level of digital divide within Greenbrier County, both of which are indicators for the potential efficacy of a web-based comprehensive planning process and the use of the County website as a public input/outreach and education tool. As the current results indicate, computer ownership (92% of participants) is fairly wide spread among those involved in the comprehensive planning process. On the whole, the survey respondents are self selecting and may not be representative of county-wide computer trends. However, based on the participant data for the online survey, computer ownership and usage is not limited to the 219 corridor and the results to date indicate that web-based government processes, going into future, may be a viable approach to the distribution of services and information as well as an effective public input mechanism.

Do you have a computer at home?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	92.0%	275
No	7.0%	21
<i>answered question</i>		296
<i>skipped question</i>		3

Do you have internet access?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	88.6%	265
No	9.4%	28
If yes, what type of connection (DSL, Cable, Satellite, Dial-up, etc.) do you have?		209
<i>answered question</i>		293
<i>skipped question</i>		6

Internet Connection Type	Number of Responses
At Work	1
Broadband	7
Cable	50
Dial-up	44
DSL	79
High Speed	8
Pipeline	1
Satelite	17
Wireless	1
WVNet	1

II. Envisioning the Future

Participants were asked to look 20 years hence and envision the future of Greenbrier County. Of the 105 surveys included in this initial report, 82 included a statement about the future. The comments, as with the other sections of this report, have not been edited. Unlike other sections, the comments have not been sorted by subject.

A county where there is a quality of life for all that allows economic opportunities for every individual, health services, and an environment that promotes well being of all citizens. A sharing of resources to share in well being of all around the entire county.
A clean place with jobs
More employment opportunities. Bypass around Lewisburg. Limit on box stores. Better zoning and control of development.
There are many people who have chosen to move to Greenbrier that are financially free to live anywhere. That speaks well of the way Greenbrier County is now. Keeping what we have – what the county is, is what we need to leave to our children
Would like to drive around without seeing residential and commercial trash and junk from road. Like to see a full service YMCA or Recreational Center that is clean, modern, affordable and with an INDOOR POOL. At least one good museum that exhibits art that is not CRAFT but considered progressive – or major gallery circuit for traveling exhibits. Like to have Recycling Center that also takes glass and styrofoam. Have clean energy acceptance – (non-coal) with emphasis on solar, wind, perhaps water and also progressive, cutting edge, newly developed alternatives. Like our County to be “up there” with Portland, OR; San Francisco, Seattle and other leading cities/communities setting a good example for how we can be successful without polluting the planet. Jobs – that pay decent wages and employ all levels of workers. Jobs that hire based on experience/merit not who you know (or who you blow – sorry)
A place where the youth of town can find jobs and/or return to area after graduating from high school/college
I look to Europe as a moden – farmland (and other open land) is rare and preserved. Housing is treated as an equally rare commodity and planned carefully, clustered tastefully and adjusted to affordability. Farmers sometimes do not live on their land or tend land not theirs. People can find McDonalds without 100' signs. We can see gas stations without blinding lights. A larger youth center, pool, something would be nice. Less business sprawl is a must.
I would like to see this historical areas and structures to remain as they are. I would like to see economic development that will bring jobs to our youth so they do not have to leave the state to make a living. I would like to see more opportunities for our citizens in terms of senior centers, recreational facilities for our youth
I would like to see it remain pretty much the way it is now. Do not allow developers taking over farms.
Not too different from now!
1. Parks for children; 2. Walking trails; 3. More paved roads.
This county has soil that is not found anywhere else. The climate is great for agriculture, so lets develop a plan to make agriculture the important resource to promote.
1. Maintain present character—mix of agricultural and town atmosphere; 2 Only carefully planned development, with adequate infrastructure and properly built structures; 3. A place that does not have to “send 18-34 yr. Olds away.
Protected by zoning which supports the development of a strong economy, a zealously guarded historic heritage and agricultural environment. Heritage tourism protected scenery, active, exciting small towns with industry designed to provide good careers and fit this area. It is not geared to the lowest denominator—but aspiring to a excellent quality of life enhanced by the natural beauty of the region.
A county which has opportunities for young people, encourages clean industry. Maintains our heritage as well as historic structures and fair and reasonable taxes.
1) Still have lots of rural areas. 2) Clear air, water. 3) Excellent infrastructure, 4) Recreational facilities available – particularly outdoors, 5) Educational opportunities, 6) No urban sprawl, 7) More young families
Wide, uncongested streets and roads with walkways and bicycle lanes everywhere. Neighborhoods with reasonable, enforced building and maintenance codes and covenants. Planned traffic patterns with signals properly controlling flow of motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians fairly. Commercial, industrial, and academic development in harmony with residential development, enabling opportunity for youth to “stay home” for a career.
Industrial growth in a defined area – or several areas, with plent of areas left for forestry, agriculture and recreation. Roads and infrastructure are an important first step to encourage growth. Strict enforcement of zoning and ordinances.

<p>Preserve the beauty and keep the quality of life. For our children and grandchildren. Support our local businesses and keep our values and integrity along the way.</p>
<p>A clean, healthy environment that is open-minded and open to responsible development, tourism, and embraces all its many diverse individuals while preserving (and recognizing) how unique our natural resources are.</p>
<p>Clean environment. Well trained workforce with good work ethic. Less poverty, healthy minds. Work opportunities. Airport. Increased pay-scale.</p>
<p>Steady growth (moderate)</p>
<p>Clean air, clean water, low crime, good jobs, well educated involved population. Diverse population.</p>
<p>A county that is well planned, zoned, developed that promotes healthy lifestyles, a good standard of living, and allows growth that is gradual that allows us to keep the heritage of our county and region yet give opportunities for us to keep our young people here instead of them leaving for greater work opportunities.</p>
<p>I would like to see it as it was 20 years ago. No urban sprawl on 219 and more trees and green space. What we are currently passing on to the next generation is destruction and devastation everywhere.</p>
<p>I sincerely hope that in 20 years Greenbrier County still possesses the charm that it has today with its beautiful landscapes, waterways, and small town(s) feeling.</p>
<p>Greenbrier County is experiencing a rapid rate of land development and more and more green space is turning into gray space (concrete). The catch 22 of growth is : The "better" you make a community, the more people will want to live there, until it is no better than any other community. (Then people will want to go elsewhere in search of what they have lost in originally coming here.)</p>
<p>It is a quality of life issue for me. Bigger (via more... more...more..) is not necessarily better in my experience. I once lived in Beckley, WV. (Couldn't wait to leave Beckley!) And now, at times, I feel Beckley has followed me to Lewisburg as I continue to bear witness to all the commercial development along 219.</p>
<p>The gateway to Lewisburg has already lost the appeal of not so long ago. Had some simple forethought gone into the development along 219, a much more attractive corridor could have been created via setbacks with landscaping and vegetative/visual buffer zones.</p>
<p>One with the same beauty but more outdoor opportunities closer to lewisburg. I'd like to see most of the community riding bikes and walking by then. Also, a much "greener" community.</p>
<p>Clean. Green. Culture-rich.</p>
<p>a county with regulations that protect us yet do not inhibit us from enjoying our lives. Regulations are for the general public so as not to interfere with others. I would like to see the general status quo but with a society respectful of others, a good place for rearing children, a school system that is superior for all grades, a system that is helpful to the elderly, a healthful environment for everyone.</p>
<p>I would like a long term plan that would move us away from the iron clad grip of the coal and oil industry. We must not fall for the "clean coal" shame. We need to direct ALL OF OUR RESOURCES toward ALTERNATIVE ENERGY and not continue to pollute the earth by burning coal. We need to encourage the use of locally grown food. We need to re introduce the family farmer to our county and STOP supporting the corporate blight that is destroying our country.</p>
<p>one that blends a modern city with the closeness of old towns providing places for young and old to enjoy themselves with out losing the history of Greenbrier county.</p>
<p>Clean air and water. Established outdoor recreational areas - bicycle/walking paths. Additional arts and culture opportunities and exposure. Free-flowing traffic. Environmental friendly businesses and manufacturing that provide employment opportunities with competitive wages.</p>
<p>The county should be very careful to maintain what it is, and not go to what it could be. For instance, the county was a better place before walmart and the other big box stores. Now we must maintain the positive aspects of the county and not try to make it better by inviting in the problems that other rural communities have gotten for their "progress". Support local businesses and the airport. So, I see a county very much as it is today.</p>
<p>better environment and schools</p>
<p>a county that people seek out to visit and live in because we were smart enough to realize that there are enough roads and communities dedicated to consumerism, malls, chain stores and chain restaurants and that what makes us attractive is that we still have a real community that does not look like the rest of the country.</p>

environmentally clean air, water and a place to raise your children where they can still appreciate our life style
We moved here 28 years ago and although progress is important, lack of planning and greed is turning this community into the kind of place that is becoming less attractive. Planning, zoning and the wise use of natural resources is paramount.
I'd like to see Greenbrier County as a place where all people can thrive, where families do not have to worry about their houses burning down because they can't afford to heat them safely. I'd like to see sidewalks on every street so everyone can safely travel. I'd like to preserve as much open space as possible while allowing affordable growth for our citizens.
Better road to move about, more business, less government
Nearly energy independant, clean, a city state community and zoning ordinance to stop crazy bulling buy big business.
A community that thought ahead and developed biking paths, development of a retirement community inclusive of recreational, social and medical ammenities.
A nice comprehensive recreational facility with diverse sports...ie soccer, swimming, tennis, etc. Greenbrier County needs to protect her environment, keeping the Greenbrier River pure, evaluating air quality as we have alot of pollution from Charleston...what can we do to ameliorate?
Support our strong artist community. Zoning across the county...a necessity for protection for all.
A county where all the communities are as attractive and progressive as Lewisburg.
I would like to see a county that is still actively farmed, has a thriving small business economy, and offers strong educational and cultural experiences.
I love the fact that we have maintained the beauty and intregerity of the farmlands and the downtown historical features. I hope we maintain that area but also expand outward from town to allow growth and jobs so our children can stay here and find quality jobs if they chose to stay. In order to expand something has to be done about the traffic problem. This needs to be addressed.
One with a long range comprehensive plan for the future. A county where children can be trained to live an work. We need a technical or vocational school. We need more vocational classes in the high school, especially Greenbrier West. The Community College is great but not every student needs to go to college. They need affordable housing and jobs that will pay enough for them to live and raise their families here.
A community that retains <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the rural value system 2. is family friendly 3. has a well balanced mix of industrial and agricultural businesses 4. maintains a healthy arts community 5. is less dependant on the success of The Greenbrier Hotel 6. grows a robust tourism industry 7. has an expanded community college program.
Maintain the beauty with bike paths/swimming facilities/improved traffic patterns with good educational facilities.
A model community that serves "All" it's citizens. Good retirement communities with adequate Health/Hospital care. A "model" multi-stage retirement community built and active.
a county with new schools, new teachers, not just ones who are rewarded for their longevitiy but ones rewarded for their talent as teachers, a county where recreational oportunites abound, private investment, less regulation, appropariate zoning and county officials who obey the laws, and who our interest and not their own as primary goals.
A community that passes on our land and culture to the next generation. WE have the responsibility to do this, and there are many decisions we face every day that can intensely harm both the land and the culture. Appalachia is a special place, specifically Greenbrier County. We must take on the moral obligation to preserve it.
A more environmentally sustainable community with many cultural opportunities. Bike lanes. Clean/green industry.
Not like Beckley, Not like Beckley, Not like Beckley....yet we are becoming like Beckley. Please preserve our natural resources quickly. They are deteriorating as I have noticed this change for over 30 years. Over growth of algae in the river south of Ronceverte is very concerning as an example which may ultimately lead to the demise of our rivers much like other river systems in WV such as Monongalia, Ohio, Kanawha. We just keep the tourist rivers as clean as possible while the others have been damaged by industry. What is the stopping point of industry and the beginning of environmental protection. Will wind power help this cause?

Still lots of open spaces. Public transportation, bike trails for use to get to work, not only recreation. Continued growth in educational opportunities for all. Lack of eyesores in the form sprawl, mines, wind turbines.
Desire a better educated youth. Would love to pass on a County supporting production of food and energy as well as quality water and outdoor experiences.
Not overly governed. Farmland. Nice people. What it is...without ordinances on zoning, bad traffic and wind turbines
The only thing I would like to change and pass on would be better and more recycling services, programs, and awareness.
I would like to see a county where citizens have an equal opportunity to receive critical services in a economical fashion. Additionally, I would like to see development of property be done in a responsible fashion as well as clean up existing problems as they directly affect the local environment. I believe all areas with in the county should have reasonable access to water, sewer, fire, ems, law enforcement and other services.
Look at some examples of great places to visit in the NE LOOK at MAINE AND VERMONT FOR DEVELOPMENT IDEA And models LOOK AT ECO TOURISM AND NOT EXTRACTION INDUSTRIES LOOK FOR HIGH TECH not DIGGING OR CUTTING OUR MTS THE BETTER THE SCHOOLS THE BETTER THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT WILL COME HERE
A well cared for environment of natural beauty with clean rivers and streams. A progressive community that takes pride in being good stewards of the environment and is willing to lead in using alternative energies and conserving energy. A community that remains small enough that its member work together for the betterment of all and respects itself. I hope the community will continue to foster the arts, alternative farming and all areas of creativity. Greenbrier County should be the jewel of West Virginia.
The kind of county that Greenbrier is now, with an even stronger commitment to preserving the natural beauty, environmental quality (water, air AND land), and quality of life.
I would like to see Greenbrier County be the leader in the state of West Virginia when it comes to sustainable, planned, progressive development and government. Not to sell out the county's resources to the Oil, coal and gas industry, seek alternatives for energy production; wind, solar, biofuels, landfill gas etc..
Let this area be the beacon of hope around the state that a community can survive and flourish without selling out to the cheapest bidder, thinking about the future with every decision. Acknowledging climate change as a fact and sign the mayors Climate Change agreement. Sustain the historic and cultural significance of the county, preserving farming and agricultural as a viable industry. Supporting a local resource mentality, that farmers can provide for the citizens of the county and beyond. To have some of the cleanest streams in the state, that provide for a diverse aquatic ecosystem and recreational opportunities abound. Understand that WV is control of her natural resources, not a coal or gas company. Support local movements to nourish this ideology of sustainability, in every facet of life
Same rural setting with more opportunity for employment so young adults don't feel the need to leave to better themselves and their families
Bypass for Lewisburg
Environmentally sound, historic areas preserved, greenways and open space
A classic south eastern town w/modern amenities and infrastructure
I would like to see growth and lots of technology. In Greensburg Kansas there entire town is environmentally friendly. They use solar & wind energy. Use recyclable products to build houses - I would love to see this happen here. We can grow and become bigger and better withut destroying the beauty of the County.
To maintain the beauty of the area. But one with more job opportunities - we educate our children but then they have to move elsewhere to find jobs.
Continue as Art & Culture Center, Continue as Historic Site
1. A Bypass around Lewisburg 2. 100% employment - that means getting the Greenbrier back up to par 3. More tourism 4. No more Wal-Mart type stores to run little shops out of business 5. Better Public Schools 6. Protection of the Greenbrier River and Greenbrier St. Forest and National Forests
Bypass around Lewisburg Better Public School Conditions 100% employment

I would like to see less cars, more people on bikes and walking - with dogs and strollers and everything. I think they would if it were more accessible. I would like to see some of the run-down empty buildings right off of mainstreet fixed up. I would like to see more independant businesses - especially grocery stores and such.
I would like to see the county as a vibrant place to live and work. We need more opportunities for our young people to stay in the area.
Greenbrier County is growing and changing so fast, the positive values of the area are being lost.
Promotion of tourism and retirement services that are up to date. Easier access to basic services. More jobs (clean) created for younger people in the services industry. Basic services, transportation, recycling center, mail services, internet access, clean air act, etc.
A place my grown children will want to at least visit, or perhaps even choose to live. A place where quality schools at every level are funded. That the beauty of the area is not desecrated by any old kind of industry. That the current cultural institutions (Carnegie, GVT, Trillium, Chorale, etc.) are thriving or adapted well to whatever comes down the road. That outdoor activities are readily available, like the River Trail, Greenbrier River activities, road biking, hiking, etc, and that pollution has not threatened nor diminished nor destroyed same. That the historical places and events are nourished. That any one industry or business (like the Greenbrier Hotel or WVSOM) does not hold inordinate power to make changes that negatively effect the area.
I'd like to see Greenbrier County preserve its history and culture while moving into the modern world by providing career options for young professionals that are competitive not just on a state scale but a national scale. While Greenbrier County is certainly one of the most beautiful regions in WV, there is nothing here to entice young families in pursuit of the American dream. We can respect its history and preserve its historical landmarks without be stuck in the 1800's while prices of all kind have exceeded anyone's wildest imagination over the past 10 years. Saleries however have not increased, nor have employment opportunities beyond the food service industry. And we wonder why so many are dependent upon credit card usage to meet everyday expenditures.
Our schools employ teachers who are rude and discouraging to our children, and who have been disciplined only to return to the classrooms and employ the same negative teaching and communication methods. There is no support from the county school system for parents and children in regard to this manner. Some of our schools are brand new while others operate in asbestos filled buildings that are structurally inadequate for their purpose, yet somehow this is a controversial political issue. Political games have no place in the betterment of our children's futures. Our schools need improvement!
We need to stop relying solely upon the local churches to provide recreational areas and opportunities for our youth. There are vacant buildings large enough to accomodate a youth center. This would provide an array of job oportunites and a healthy, positive environment for our kids to socialize. The statisitcs for underage drinking and substance abuse continue to climb; however we as a community don't provide an alternative means of entertainment outside of sporting events and the Greenbrier Valley Theatre.
Keeping up with other states - facilities, opportunities, technology, modern schools, alternative routes
I would like to see a community where my children have an opportunity to work and make a quality wage. I feel like we are losing a generation because of lack of job opportunities.
Businesses located on the western end. Better quality school buildings. Stronger and more available sheriff's department.
I think its moving in a positive direction. We have Lewisburg, Alderson, & Roncaverte working to preserve our history. But we also have modern shopping and restaurants
clean industry, road bypass
I would like to see a county-wide (area-wide) public transportation system. The county would include universal access to high speed internet or some version thereof, as well as a widespread "organized" infrastructure that would provide recreational opportunities for all age groups (especially children and youth). The infrastructure would be in place to allow for the expansion of significant, well-paying jobs so that our youth would be willing and able to remain in Greenbrier County. Our schools should be of a quality that would warrant inclusion in a nationwide showcase.
More chopping choices available (don't need any more antique shops). Better cable/internet choices. Perhaps more recreation opportunities--indoor swimming pool, etc.
Greenbrier County is a well rounded community. I'd like to see that continue w/perhaps a stress on shopping for clothes, shoes, etc. the basic necessities
A county that is fair for all citizens not just looking for improving the tourist industry
outdoor biking & running trails sidewalks bike lane on Hwy 60

A county government working together to improve infrastructure, schools, recreation, traffic, senior citizens facilities
Clean with natural resources protected and clean. Well thought out & developed - no office bldgs. in the middle of neighborhoods. I do not want to pass on a county that looks like Beckley.
Better than we found it
I personally would like to see some availability of public transportation throughout entire county. Have more programs available for children in the western end of the county. A basketball and skate park on the western end of the county.
I would like to see a continued historic preservation coupled with further economic development to promote a climate for both young and old--similar to Williamsburg, VA. Our county also needs to develop multiple economic growth other than education and tourism services. At some point, teenagers and young adults may see the county as more than a large retirement community.
I would like to see a place where children can still call home. Where they can come back to and find employment and raise their children with the same morals and values we have now. A place that has kept up with technology and jobs can be found. A place where the next generation can be involved in making and keeping the community alive.
Jobs for the younger generation where they don't need to leave here to make a living.
With a byway around Lewisburg to relieve traffic on 219 and 60
I'd like to see Greenbrier County economically sound without urban sprawl and without compromising the area's natural beauty. I'd like to see economic development that doesn't just include big box stores and chains, but that supports small, privately owned businesses.
Everyone employed with good paying jobs and health care
Continue to be beautiful with a public transportation system, plenty of jobs
We need --collaboration --problem solving --initiative between the County Commission , Board of Education, Local Governments for families in need for extracurricular infrastructure.
A county with the same proportion of farms and forests, clean streams and water, and no urban sprawl. A county whose citizens are much better educated, informed and involved. A county that many from the outside would like to move to, but can't because our planning process has defined growth limits and boundaries and have strictly enforced them.
A clean, eco-friendly place that still has the little town feel. Hopefully we would have some industrial areas out near the airport to provide more jobs. Our community college will provide a wide range of educational and training opportunities. The Western end will have more industrial or other kinds of service industries to provide more employment opportunities. The quality of life in Western end will match that of the Eastern end. We will have a North-South bypass that routes the heavy trucks and Fair traffic around the town. Our cultural life will flourish.
Lewisburg with its narrow streets has no hope for expansion and cannot handle the traffic it will bring. A bypass is needed now so people can enjoy the downtown area without getting ran into or ran over. North of Lewisburg is prime area for development. Careful planning and good infrastructure will let the citizens of Greenbrier County enjoy the town of Lewisburg and the city of Maxwelton. A dam on the Greenbrier to raise water levels in the summer will bring more enjoyment to the people and tourist and bike paths along all new roads is a must.
Still green and beautiful. I do not like the 219 Bypass idea and, better choices for schools Better airline services to bigger cities.
A county of natural beauty. Where family farms still provide for the local & extended communities. A place where every child will have access to the best quality of public education. A place where children are safe, & free to be children. A place that provides offerings of great diverse cultural events, from the fantastic selection that Carnegie Hall brings in, to the brilliance of the local plays that the Greenbrier Theater offers. Not to mention the glories of the State Fair ! Greenbrier County has it all. Let's work hard today to maintain that balance of growth & rural beauty for the future.
I would like to see the county stay the same size with limited population growth. Open space is important. I would like see the environment preserved with limited development, but access to the recreational opportunities that exist there. Preservation of the history of the county is also very important. I do not want Lewisburg to become like the rest of America with cookie cutter housing, fast food chains and Walmarts....so we should work on getting those torn down. We should focus on giving all of our business to local business owners and providing jobs in other ways. At the same time we need to make sure we have great educational opportunities for our children so they are exposed to everything that the rest of the world has to offer.

I would like to see Greenbrier County as a recreation destination - along with many cultural options for after activity during the day.
In a perfect world, in 20 years, Greenbrier County (and specifically Lewisburg) would... - be a place known for its natural beauty (rivers, forests, parks, paths, etc.). - honor the environment by monitoring negative behaviors and creating real consequences for negative impacts. - educate its children so they are happy, healthy adults, parents, neighbors, and engaged citizens who contribute to creating solutions rather problems (or just standing by when problems occur). - offer diverse and career enhancing work opportunities (making it possible to attract new and retain existing talent) - support local business ownership and patronage. - offer a variety of cultural/social/recreational attractions. - have a greater focus on being healthy (being active, having healthy food choices, being informed, etc.) - offer access to good health care. - have a low rate of crime and domestic violence. - have diverse "communities" with attractive, safe living conditions (good buildings and infrastructure). - be a friendly, safe, affordable place that's welcoming to families and singles of all ages.
An area that cares for the natural environment, where tourists visit and return annually, where there are jobs that attract a younger, well educated worker and where seniors can afford to live and remain active.
20 years from now - still the same eclectic and varied community with improved accesssibility to schools and shops by walking, cycling or public transportation for the next gen - a clean and safe place to live, work and have a family
One that still has a small town feel and feels safe. One that maintains beautiful rural areas to live and visit. Clean water. One that still has thriving small business. Let's resist selling out to the sprawl of chain stores! One that is not littered with decaying windmill skeletons. One that is not sludged over by mine runoff.
One that is much the same as it has always been in terms of the sense of community and small town sort of appeal. One that has controlled development in such a way as to protect its natural beauty and health of its environment. One that has not exploited its natural resources to benefit big business. A place that is safe and healthy to live.
A jewel, an oasis of culture and crafts. The most popular tourist destination for the Eastern Seaboard.
A clean, green, uncrowded town.
Would like to keep the small-town, rural feel with natural landscapes untouched by mountaintop removal, the placement of wind turbines or the expansion of clear cutting and other mining operations. Land should just be able to exist without purpose. Every inch of space does NOT have to be developed, mined, or otherwise interfered with.
One just as safe and more ecologically-oriented than it is now. Preserve the countryside and the small communities.
A place where the scenic beauty and rural character have been preserved. Growth has been allowed, but controlled, so that quality of life has not been lowered.
as close to the way it is now as possible
A sustainable community that balances the needs of people to live and work productively and happily with the need to preserve and protect the physical environment that sustains us. A high tech job base that relies on an educated and forward looking workforce and a job base that has weaned itself from the extractive and detrimental industries that have drained the live from this state. Intelligent tourism A community that regularly comes together to work out our differences and is engaged in the process of building a future and present that can work for us all. A community that is independent and compassionate to come together to solve problems such as education, housing, elder care, land use.
i would like to see a hold on large developement until we come up with a real plan to provide infrastructure to support it. for example, if we keep building, we will need a reservoir for more water to supply these new homes or we will drain the river. i would like to see more support for the arts as we are lucky enough to have a large and tallented community of artists here. this can be even more of a draw for tourists and local business. and i would like to see more space available for children, like rec centers or playgrounds so our kids have places to gop.

A true community formed based around the arts, a renaissance of local artists and interest in it.
I would like to see the counties economic base be retirees. The people who move here love this place for what it is not for what it might become. Forget about economic development. Retirees would like just enough retail to provide their needs and there is almost enough now. Retirees would like more entertainment venues and recreational opportunities - swimming pools, ice and roller skating rinks, auto racing, more dancing and music for them to spend their money. A convention center would introduce a lot of people to a nice place to retire to. But we're going to have improve our infrastructure.
A clean county with defined green spaces. Controlled growth that does not allow the rich to restrict local access to our mountains. Over development of former agricultural areas is becoming a burden.
Special ed students will be noticed and programs would be put in place to help them be successful in their lives both educationally and vocationally.
I will be moving to Lake Norman, NC. This area doesn't offer much to our kids in general with degrees in many fields, teaching is the only opportunity for our educated kids. Our family is moving because my children are in other fields that employ in larger cities.
Populated with more young couples. Traffic issues lessened.
A county that has grown with the modern larger cities up north, better health care.
I would like to see our county provide quality housing and employment to all economic levels. It should provide shopping services, recreation, education, and art activities to keep people at home. It should be environmentally sound and retain the pristine beauty we have.
The ideal community would be one devoid of power politics and controlled by needs of the community. It is difficult to financially meet the needs of all age groups; however, they must be considered. So a community that provides education, medical care, transportation, recreation, and accessible infrastructure (water, sewer, power, roads, safe bridges) would be one I would like to pass on.
Much the same as now. Reliance on promoting our natural beauty, historical and recreational offerings, maintaining agricultural vitality, stopping sprawl, and retaining our unique social personality.
I would like to see an indoor swimming pool. This would be an asset to young and old. We have outdoor pools, but nothing for the winter months. Swimming is an excellent form of exercise. This would be so good for older persons. Traffic congestion reduced.
More educated population--yet, still a small community setting.
The agricultural aspect of the community has been preserved, but citizens are well-educated and families are involved in organized sports/recreation--There are several medium and large technology-based companies located here. Communities are safe and neighbors know each other. Citizens can still drink the water.
No change--no more population growth More recycling Less litter on roadways
Prosperous New people moving in Lots for kids to do.
A clean place with an emphasis on making our area a good place for families to prosper.
I want our county to maintain its natural beauty and historic qualities. These are assets which when gone, are very difficult if not impossible to regain. However, we tend to choke ourselves and our community off from healthy growth and sustainability with a NIMBY mentality. I would like to see Greenbrier County as a whole energy independent through the use of geo-thermal, solar, hydro-electric, and wind power. I would like to see a thriving contribution to the Web 2.0 based business community coming from our area.
I would like to see more job opportunities in different industries.
Keep it clean, rural Improve availability of quality medical care Improve poverty situation
Above areas (#2 Infrastructure upgrading--including cellular service) repaired
Strong education system; variety Greener; no more development of chain strips and housing developments Continue to focus on arts and agriculture Open, family-oriented--small town. Value the traditions that have kept Greenbrier so unique--Volunteer, support each other, hard work, don't shy away from issues.

an affordable recreation facility with a pool
THE BEAUTY OF LAND AND WATER PRESERVED BUT AT THE SAME TIME GROWTH THROUGH JOBS AND RECREATION
A county that prospers economically but also in quality. An area that offers so much that people will want to move here and stay here. A county that is progressive, get away from the normal routine and please county commissioners get out of politics. This county is treasured among many far and wide. Keep it that way, but also address the issues instead of talking about them. Take a stand and plan, then act. The educational system, especially higher, must continue to grow. Opportunities for the "golden" age must continue. Make sure the complete county is included in your plans and not just the eastern side (I live in the eastern side, Lewisburg).
I would like to see Greenbrier as a "favored" destination for visitors from Wash. Phila, Richmond, and Baltimore, and see it as a quality "community" for those "baby boomers" from the cities who retire or relocate to a rural setting. A community whose largest and most productive industry is the "service" industry. This is the most achievable model for our county given its location, beauty and also lack of infrastructure or educated population to support any heavy manufacturing. We are well suited as a "bedroom" community to serve the more likely industrial centers of Beckley, Bluefield, Princeton, and others than being one ourselves.
I would hope that many of the lovely wooded areas will be protected from logging. I would also hope that strip mining will be curtailed, and that Natural Gas or Turbine wind farms will be added as sources of energy. I would also hope that there would be more entertainment activities for young people - i.e. teen clubs, bowling alleys, skateboard parks, etc.
Greenbrier County needs to be more self-sufficient with a strong stance on the protection of our agricultural lands--we're the best in the state, people! Why are we developing it?
I would like to see some industry come to this area that would employ people and I would like to see County Government stop squandering and politicking with our money such as the Hotel/Motel tax and use it to entice business to come to the area. I would like to see another assessor elected that would change the tax districts and put each new development in their own district as Monroe County has to keep taxes lower for the rest of the County.
No drug dealers, root out the Board of Education. Too many kin token (nepotism) working. Get rid of Curry, at East get rid of Lockhart. At East, help the special ed students learn. Do not put them in regular class. This does not work. They will just quit because they cannot keep up. I know because my son was S.Ed. He is A.D.D. You don't get over it. They put him in Regular class. I went and talked to Lockhart and Curry to no avail. TEACH OUR KIDS.
A thriving town should exist w/out urban sprawl. We should stick to our historic and cultural heritage as our mainstay. Also keep agriculture and farming and 4H an integral part of the community. Don't try to become a Big "Little" City!
A rural agricultural community
*The apparent reluctance of elected officials tackle the real issues, such as building roads to ease congestion, and preserve the important attributes of the area. I see a lack of will in defending the area from exploitation by moneyed developers who will attempt to do anything just to make money. The short-term projects of so many of these people will leave little of benefit in the long-term for the area. Here I would site housing development and wind farm developers. *We should plan for a county that recognizes its unique natural beauty. We should plan our development to preserve that. Yes, look for clean, renewable energy, but do it to provide energy for Greenbrier County. Take us off the grid and let other areas worry about their energy source. *We should actively promote energy conservation in all its forms and educate our citizens towards better use of energy. *We should promote less waste and recycling of resources. *We should encourage healthy outdoor activities by providing safe facilities on our roads for walking and biking. Along with [?] schools to promote outdoor, healthy activities so as to reduce overweight in our citizens and the ailments that go with that so to improve the quality of life of our workforce. *This should involve plans to move traffic which is not meant for the center of town, away from [?] the center of Lewisburg. This will benefit the businesses in downtown Lewisburg and give opportunity for safe walking and biking. *Over a period of time we could develop a community aware of healthy, environmentally-conscious lifestyles which will still offer a beautiful area to live in, safe for future generations and an example to other communities.
Enhanced computer technology education attracting high end software jobs-- Parking lots--converted to rain gardens, filtering pollutants--clean ground water Let's grow while protecting our beautiful resources. Grow smart--don't lose the beauty which is what makes us unique.
Still undeveloped Clean air and water Safe A rural haven

clean and green
Maintain the small town lifestyle--don't develop too much of the farm area Develop a bypass around Lewisburg to link with 219 and I-64 Improve senior living facilities
Unchecked growth managed and not left up simply to the whim and winds of developers, no matter how much tax base, etc., they bring to the county. Recreational areas expanded throughout the county including recreational opportunities for older citizens. Agricultural heritage preserved through enlightened means and process. Entry points into town pleasing to the eye, lots of screening and vegetation. Instead of allowing all the beautiful maple trees die out or be cut down, a plan to protect these resources and provide pleasing and pleasant views in and around the county. Maintained and increased green space, park/recreation areas, full protection for the Greenbrier River Trail. All sewage adequately treated from all sources, and groundwater and surface waters all protected and clean. Development, especially commercial/retail development, planned, managed and landscaped and other viewsheds and visual screens used throughout the developed areas, especially in entryway roads and in agricultural areas. The inexorable creep and slide toward the Beckleyization of Lewisburg and environs halted and reversed, and the areas that are attractive and appealing protected through land management techniques. Appropriate business and jobs for county residents while at the same time protecting the environmental, cultural and historic features of the county.
Development should not be hindered. Industry should be recruited. We need some good paying jobs. We need to keep pushing for good medical facilities/assisting the O school grow and develop.
Young people are leaving the area - because of job situation. We are blessed to have retired people in this community who spend nothing except eating. You can see we have plenty of eating facilities. My grandson loves Greenbrier. He just finished college and will have to leave the area.
I would like to see ample parking, free theaters, and activities to lure others to our area to spend their money
I would like to see the county take more effective action against illegal drug use and not let the "movers and shakers" off the hook
About the same as it is - but with planned growth. It is a wonderful place to live and raise a family. People really care about one another. This family is happy!!
A county that is not dying out because no new business is coming in. A county that has a strong economic growth policy in place, but one that also takes care of the infrastructure of its communities so they can attract new residences and businesses.
I would like to see Greenbrier County encourage a broader spectrum of people to enjoy its unique beauty by supporting development of housing & facilities that are both attractive & affordable. Places like The Retreat, The Greenbrier Sporting Club, etc. should not define the county. This is an absolutely wonderful place to retire and there should be more attention paid to providing communities that serve middle income retirees. Welcome them!!
A county where aesthetics are important and not sacrificed for the sake of economic development. If we fill the county up with chain stores and fast food places and other commercialism, we destroy the character that makes this a special place. Focusing on cultural, educational, medical, and recreational needs will improve people's quality of life. We must also get serious about preserving our environment and conserving resources - we owe the next generation that
I desire to see Greenbrier County remain naturally beautiful offering a great place for those to work, reside, and raise families. The crime rate remains low and we put more focus on child abuse issues and domestic violence. Industrial jobs/business assist to aid those who don't desire to leave WV in order to reach middle income levels
In 20 years, I see this area as an oasis from larger, dirtier, congested areas--"metropolitan" I hope the next generation sees a greener, environmentally focused, wild and wonderful Greenbrier County.
A place where the historical areas have been cared for. Where clean and hi-tech jobs are available. A bypass has been constructed from Maxwelton to Organ Cave. Where there is nice affordable housing for seniors. A nice "progressive care" establishment.
Keep as much of our natural beauty as possible--no windmills unless they feed us and not mega cities far away. Better education for all. Preservation of our natural resources! Trees, water, etc. One that works hand-in-hand with the cities and towns.
Planned development on land not suited to agriculture
Plenty of green space, unique shopping/entertainment establishments (not all chains). Better cross-county (intra-county) relationships. Certainly greater (non-car/truck) transportation opportunities--public transportation. Taxis, sidewalks, bike paths; less emphasis on sprawling developments and more "neighborhoods" to cut transportation problems. Movement of activities toward center of County to modify traffic, create neighborhoods like the small-town/local schools used to support.

Plenty of green space, unique shopping/entertainment establishments (not all chains). Better cross-county (intra-county) relationships. Certainly greater (non-car/truck) transportation opportunities--public transportation. Taxis, sidewalks, bike paths; less emphasis on sprawling developments and more "neighborhoods" to cut transportation problems. Movement of activities toward center of County to modify traffic, create neighborhoods like the small-town/local schools used to support.
The beautiful landscape and historic value we have now, but with more economy that can keep our young people around the area so it isn't just considered a place to retire when you get old.
Better traffic systems. More affordable housing. More jobs with better pay.
Having a large multi-age sports center--something for all ages to exercise more
Leadership in energy production
A more "resident friendly" community with more simple rules and regulations. We should still have the small hometown atmosphere. This atmosphere is what made us attractive to folks for all of these years.
Clean, famous for conserving the beauty. A model for the nation. We should work for development that does not destroy and does not exclude those of other economic brackets. Jobs from solar factory, eco-detergent businesses to keep our rivers clear, a model of sustainable and profitable economic development. I have traveled much and know it is possible. Also, local business; support the farmer, the craftsman, give laborers jobs to feel good about!!
Building alternative energy infrastructure (i.e. solar) Blending historic aspects with new age energy options (i.e. solar) More bike lanes and trails leading into town. (reduce traffic, foreign oil dependency). Live music (Roncerverte)
Solved traffic problems Funding of public schools Effective/ fair zoning Control Growth
Educational, career options for youth Swimming pool A more active use of our existing Y Swimming pool--indoors
Much better school system w/ teachers held accountable. Still a small town/rural atmosphere w/ employment opportunities to keep young people here. Continued affordable housing. Improved wireless service (I take for granted this will happen). More public recreation facilities.
20 years from now I would like Greenbrier County to grow economically, to have good paying jobs, and better health care. I would also like to see better school systems. The school facilities here are old and out of date. On the Western end of the County these issues need to be addressed more.
I should like to pass on a County where the vistas are natural and preserved, the creeks and springs are clean, the people are living in dwellings which are spaced adequately, the children not only get their education in the County, but can afford to stay because they can find a job or start a business.
I would like to see less complaints from some people who do not have a vision for the future for 10 years, 15 years, or more-- It is all me, me, me.
The west end of the County, with all the opportunities the east end has and more, such as schools, grocery stores, mini-malls, theaters, recreation.
RESPECT!!
Top notch schools Capitalize on the great farms and farmland we have. Help with innovative products and marketing cooperative efforts, use, and application of new technology Recreation for all youth to Sr. Citizens.
Controlled growth with employment opportunities that young folks wouldn't have to leave to find a good job. Traffic congestion problem solved
Neighborhood schools Manufacturing plants Safe roads

<p>I'd like it to remain as close to it is now with some improvement to rural roadways. I'd also like to see a north-south Lewisburg by-pass. I think an on/off ramp at Caldwell and improvement to route 63 might accomplish that.</p>
<p>More jobs, industry; better roads, water, sewer systems, better management of the towns.</p>
<p>I would like to see Greenbrier County green and agricultural. More parks and rec--bikeways, etc. Less sprawl More job opportunities for our youth.</p>
<p>Preserve the land and the water--they are God's gift to the earth. We occupy an important role as a relatively unspoiled, natural environment that is habitable (fit for year-round habitation). People lived here during the Stone Age, building sacred mounds, hunting with spears, growing gardens; we need to steward this spot on earth for generation to come.</p>
<p>Get rid of the "old boy" system--add young blood. Become aggressive and bring high tech industry into area. Don't depend on tourism as a primary source of income.</p>
<p>I'd like to see the towns have more financial backing for improvements Keep beautiful farmland We need an indoor year round swimming pool--centrally located if possible Keep improving schools and college An industry or source of income is greatly needed</p>
<p>Similar to now</p>
<p>Coal fire gas instead of Using oil Improvement to cut gas consumption</p>
<p>A more planned, more advanced economic community where farms co-exist with industry to make a more farm friendly and industry friendly environment.</p>
<p>A more planned, more advanced economic community where farms coexist with industry to make a more farm friendly and industry friendly environment</p>
<p>A hub of outdoor recreation with great communities, shopping, restaurants</p>
<p>More environmentally aware and much better transport system. I lived in Denmark when the communities and towns were set up in similar way and they had a bus system all communities could use for work and school. It was inexpensive to the public and efficient. I also think its important to have many free art and creative options open to the people and children of the community. Charter and magnet schools would also be nice--so there would be more educational options open.</p>
<p>More jobs. Less influx of retirement age folks from other places. If there isn't opportunity for working age people, they will leave and basically we are going to become a place for people to retire or scrape by as I have done by working low wage jobs my whole life. Also keep on pushing tourism because without that we wouldn't have much of anything in the way of economic prosperity.</p>
<p>I would like to see our County with more "clean" industry so that so many of our young would not relocate. I would like to see our open areas and farms maintained as is I would like to see an expanded county commission that more fully represents all the citizens rather than the few.</p>
<p>A country that preserves its beauty and promotes its current quality of life by planned and regulated growth. A County with excellent schools and educational facilities that cooperates with its business sector. A vital competitive and growing high tech medical industry and energy related business sector competitive in the world market. An area with protected natural areas that also support tourism and environmental protection as well as quality of life. Support for small farming interests.</p>
<p>With Bicycling and walking paths connecting towns centers. No malls, no casinos, no slot machines, no windmills. More businesses focused on technology, medical, or educational services.</p>
<p>Greenbrier County is an amazingly beautiful place. I hope that over the next 20 years that it retains the charm, beauty, people, and quality of life that so many enjoy. I would like nothing more than to pass to the next generation a county that is green, clean, safe, beautiful, employment opportunities for young people, diverse and sophisticated. Greenbrier County is a gem! That is what we should pass to the next generation...a gem!!</p>
<p>Clean air/water; Greenbrier River. Better Schools, controlled sprawl--no damage to natural resources (caves, rivers, etc.)</p>
<p>Cleaner and Greener</p>

<p>The same loving sense of community Higher standard of education Preservation of nature Better employment opportunities</p>
<p>Would like planned neighborhoods with building codes more like the big cities. Traffic will need to be planned before it gets much worse--we need a beltway like Asheville NC--this was done before the need became acute. Public transportation that is efficient--both ground and air. We need better shopping mall; better grocery stores.</p>
<p>Improved traffic patterns, more high tech jobs, more hiking and biking trails, controlled growth, a grocery store in downtown.</p>
<p>I would like to pass on a county that has planned for all types of growth and with a plan for future growth that provides for our rural atmosphere while allowing growth; jobs and education for all.</p>
<p>Control growth to retain small town semi-rural character. Encourage growth in areas that don't destroy what we have now--computer internet, agriculture, eco-historic tourism, arts, educational opportunities. Work on relationship of Lewisburg with rest of county. Become less dependent on Greenbrier Resort don't put all our eggs in one basket. Discourage polluting growth. Increase walking/biking trails and green spaces. Protect banks and viewshed of Greenbrier River</p>
<p>I would like to see a place where our children could have good jobs within the county.</p>
<p>I would like to see the landscape itself stay much the same but the economy is so bad people can't afford to keep the bills paid. I would like to see more industry and good jobs in the area. This would better the quality of living for area residents and increase taxes for Greenbrier county. Face it folks, everything costs money--The County has to make money to provide good services to area residents. Better the quality of living.</p>
<p>One that is clean and free to live in</p>
<p>Improvements in Western End including cleanup, trails, reopening park at Charmco. Maybe trail along Meadow River.</p>
<p>better roads</p>
<p>There definitely has to be more progress and more business brought into Greenbrier County, especially on the West End of the county. We need business that will prosper and bring in jobs that our children can have so they can live in the County. Our children live here, go to school here, and after college have to leave West Virginia for jobs that they can live on and support a family with. All in all, we need growth and prosperity.</p>
<p>Open space</p>
<p>Much the same as it is now. Added bike trails. Alternate energy sources. Bypass of Lewisburg. Parity among "ends" of the County</p>
<p>I would like for the county to maintain the rural beauty--Housing developments need to be limited and there should be some that are affordable. A county-wide ordinance or deserted and delapidated housing should be in effect.</p>
<p>Bypass to ease congestion Senior housing--upscale Sidewalks everywhere and bike path</p>
<p>Better teachers, not simply better school facilities A bypass for Lewisburg Good, well-paying jobs for young people to stay here</p>
<p>A growing, self-supporting area which draws people here because of the opportunities the County provides</p>
<p>I'd like to see a progressive Greenbrier County that embraces the past and welcomes new ideas and improvement. I hate to admit it, but I believe that many of "perceived ridiculous" zoning restrictions will help preserve the area. I believe that an easily established public walking and bike paths/trails will cut down on traffic and promote a better lifestyle. A connecting trail from Lewisburg to Greenbrier River Trail would be nice.</p>
<p>Keep truck or treating, Don't let kids out night of Oct. 30. I would like to stop to plants in Charleston or anywhere putting pollution in the air because the wind carries it to us. Take curves out of roads. Put shoulders on roads. When vehicles break down, people need a place to park. Traffic is bad on Rt 219 in Lewisburg. Either make more lanes, build a by-pass, put another exit on I-64, or a combination of these. Woodchip trail to walk on. Sidewalks damage the joints and other body parts. Public walks for exercise--a group in every town. They would meet in a certain spot at a certain time. More plants being sold that don't need watering in local stores. Teachers showing concern for how well students do. Nice if people could buy fresh donuts in Alderson.</p>

<p>More economic development Recreation Technology</p>
<p>Controlled growth so that GBC will NOT end up like south Florida, where we moved from.</p>
<p>More and cleaner public transportation. Safe streets for walking and biking. Safe elementary schools with fully electronic learning and testing. Local clean energy sources with support for homeowner conversion to solar and wind power.</p>
<p>I would like to see a prosperous county, with the continued natural resources. I would like better affordable housing for our children and more opportunities so they would not leave state.</p>
<p>Green, culture focused - emphasis on small businesses - not chains. Public schools no longer consolidated - rather, smaller more individualized schools, with more private school offerings. A higher educated work force ... a higher educated police force ... increased public transportation offerings. Better quality health care services.</p>
<p>As president of the Meadow River Watershed Association, I would like to see a county that has an environmentally friendly and sustainable economy. This county has so much history and potential, and I am very happy to see a planning process that is looking toward the long-term.</p>

III. Likes and Dislikes

Participants were asked to identify the three things they liked best and the three things they liked least about Greenbrier County. Out of the 105 surveys included in this result batch, 87 answered the likes question and 83 responded to the dislikes question.

Likes

The responses (87 respondents, 248 individual responses) to what participants liked about Greenbrier County fell into five overlapping categories: 1) the environment, the physical surroundings, and rural atmosphere (36%); 2) cultural and recreational offerings (17%); 3) community character and sense of place (27%); 4) the people (15%); and 5) proximity and range of public and private goods and services (6%). As is typical of answers to open-ended questions, many of the responses could have fit under more than one category. Where more than one respondent wrote an identical phrase (i.e. the people, beauty, etc.), the comment has been included once and the number of times the phrase was used is included in parenthesis following the phrase.

Environment

4 seasons climate
Abundance of natural resources and areas
access to nature
Aesthetics of the area
Aesthetics of the Greenbrier Valley
agricultural opportunities
Agriculture (2)
Agriculture's influence
air quality
All the natural resources
Altitude
Beautiful
Beautiful and friendly
Beautiful and green
Beautiful Area and Landscape
Beautiful country side
Beautiful county
Beautiful land
Beautiful pastoral land.
Beautiful place to live
beautiful place to raise a family
beautiful rural landscape and historic areas
beautiful scenery
Beautiful scenery - Mountains
Beautiful w/ long valleys and farms
Beauty (22)
Beauty of area
Beauty of the area--rural industry--tourism contributes
beauty of the county
beauty of the mountains

beauty--Greenbrier River, Countryside, parks
Beauty, mountains, rivers, caves
Beauty/Clean
Caves (2)
Clean (4)
Clean air
Clean and beautiful place to live
clean and green
Clean water
clean, beautiful
cleanliness
Climate (5)
Cool climate
Environment (5)
Environment-clean
Environment: the Greenbrier River and the ancient mountains
Farming and beauty
Farmland and Forests
Farmlands and way of life of area residence
Farms
Forests
fresh air
Generally ideal weather.
Geographic location
Geography/topography
Green
Green space park in Lewisburg
Green views
Greenbrier River (3)
Greenbrier River and Trail
I like the climate
It is a beautiful county
It is and should remain, mostly rural.
it's bucolic feel
It's farming and farm people
It's green
It's natural beauty, diverse settings, rural
It's natural beauty.
Its beauty
Land/Environment
Less pollution...air quality
Location (5)
Location and weather
Location, I've always loved the farms, mountains and streams.
Low air pollution.
mostly farmland

Mountains (2)
National and State Forests
natural beauty (19)
Natural beauty of mountains and valleys
Natural beauty of the entire county
Natural beauty, agriculture, outdoor activities
Natural landscape and beauty
Natural Resources
Natural surroundings for bicycling, walking
Natural/agricultural environment
Nature (2)
nature
Nature/ scenery
Open green places--public and private but viewable
Open space (4)
Open space--[?] community (2)
Open space, historical/cultural/agricultural/forested/natural areas
Physical beauty
Potential for preservation/planned development including Pocohantas and Monroe Counties
preservation of natural beauty
Right to farm
River
River Trail
River trail (farm land not all developed) (2)
River--wilderness
Rivers
Rural (7)
rural ambience
Rural areas preserved
Rural atmosphere (7)
Rural beauty
Rural beauty / wilderness
rural environment
Rural farming and scenery
Rural life
Rural living
Rural nature (2)
Rural nature of the county
rural setting (5)
rural values
Scenery (6)
Scenery & rural atmosphere
Scenery and location
Scenery, beauty
Scenic (2)
Scenic Areas
Scenic beauty (3)
Scenic beauty of the mountains and valleys
Sights—views, vistas, natural features
So many great outdoor activities.
state parks

still fairly clean water, etc
streams
summer weather
The appearance (beauty)
the beautiful countryside
The beautiful mountains
the beautiful mountains, farms, & landscapes (one example: Lsbg. to Alta via Rt. 60 W)
The beautiful, green areas
The beauty (4)
The beauty of mountains and nature 4) also like cultural opportunities here!
The beauty of our area
The beauty of the land itself--mountains, rivers
The beauty of the land.
The environment (2)
The extraordinary beauty and quality of life
The farms (3)
The land, climate, environment
the landforms
The mountains (3)
The natural beauty (2)
The Natural beauty of the area.
the natural resources (caves, karst lands, Greenbrier River, Parks, Forests, etc.)
The natural setting
The natural vitality and beauty, the quiet, the forests
the numerous one lane back roads that meander throughout the county
The open areas
The overall cleanliness.
The pastoral setting
The physical beauty of the valley
The pristine natural beauty of mountains and rivers.
The River (5)
The river and trail
The rural area where I live
The rural areas and opportunities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, etc.
The rural atmosphere
The rural context
The scenery
The scenery--its a beautiful county
The seclusion
The stars
The territory is lovely
The weather (3)
trees
Undeveloped areas of the county
Weather (2)
Weather
Weather—air quality
What used to be good air quality! (Dusty road)

Community, Sense of Place, and Quality of Life

A good place to live

A good retirement destination

Alderson is small town America at its finest, a great place to live.

Alleys that are dirty, grass, or gravel because doesn't hurt to walk on like sidewalks

Ambiance--Historic

at this time it is an environmentally friendly place to live

churches

combination of arts and rural living

Community (4)

community atmosphere

Community based development--character

community events

Community involvement and activities

Cost of living (2)

crime - well protected

easy life style

Economic well being

Family

Feeling of community involvement especially eastern part of county

For a small town/rural area, plentiful and varied cultural activities

Freedom

Friendliness – trusting by citizens

Good place to raise children, more interaction with schools.

Great place to raise children

Growth has been slow, but still some growth to make the way of life better.

How closeknit the communities are

How the National Guard goes in Natural Disasters

I also like the low crime rate

I was raised here

Independence without too much interference by county government.

Individual rights

It has not been overdeveloped...yet

it's a safe place

It's cultural diversity.

Its home

Its unique quality to not sell out to developers and ruin what is special about GB county and surrounding areas (at least not yet)

Lack of crime

Lack of major sprawl

lack of sprawl

Least amount of people

Less crime

Lewisburg (2)

Lewisburg community amenities

lewisburg has a lot to offer

Lewisburg has an attractive, interesting historic downtown

Lewisburg has good restaurants and cultural/artistic experiences (theatre, music, dance, art...)

Lewisburg offer a small town feeling without it feeling like it's behind the times.

local business

low cost of living

Low crime (4)

Low crime rate (5)
 Low population
 Low population density
 Low taxes
 minimal traffic
 Mix of cultures and economic levels (2)
 Mostly friendly
 Mostly lowkey lifestyle and attitudes
 NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR ATMOSPHERE
 no traffic congestion, except 219
 No traffic problems
 Not over populated (2)
 Not too crowded
 Our beautiful downtown
 Peace and quiet
 Peaceful (2)
 Peaceful serene setting
 Preservation of old and welcoming of change
 Privacy
 progress that is starting to take place
 Progressive Cultural (Artists, Environmentalist, Farmers)
 Progressiveness, esp. of Lewisburg
 Quality of Life (6)
 QUALITY OF LIFE-THE BEAUTY OF AREA
 Quality of social environment
 Quiet (3)
 Relatively light traffic (except for a few times a day on US 219)
 Relatively SAFE community
 Relaxed pace of life
 responsible and planned economic/commercial growth
 Safe (2)
 Safe and just the right size
 Safe area to live and raise a family for most people
 Safe Communities (and people are friendly)
 safe community
 Safe Environment
 Safe environment for raising children
 Safe environment to raise family
 Safe environment to raise kids
 Safe place to live
 Safety (5)
 safety/low crime rate
 Security
 sense of community
 Sense of History
 Sense of home (7th generation)
 Serenity
 Simple life
 Size (2)
 Size and not metropolitan
 Size of population

slow paced
Slow-paced lifestyle
Small City but easy access to other bigger areas
small communities (close)
Small main street shops, hardware store, etc.
Small town atmosphere
Small town atmosphere around Lewisburg
Small town atmosphere--not like a big city--traffic, etc.
Small town charm
Small town environment (2)
Small town environment with sophisticated amenities
Small town feel (3)
Small town feel of Lewisburg with it's great historical and artistic opportunities
small town feeling (3)
Small town living (3)
Small town rural atmosphere, friendliness
Small town values
Small towns
Small towns / semi-rural
Small towns and open country
Social attitude of the residents
Support of education
Support of people for educational, arts, historic endeavors
Support of the arts and history of the area
Taxes
The community feels like a family. Very safe wonderful place to raise children.
The community of people
The farm ethic still lives!
The historic areas
The history
The potential growth
The sleepy country living with a touch of the future and historical grounding.
The slower pace and relative safe and friendly atmosphere
The small population
The Town of Lewisburg
The widespread commitment to the arts, education, social services, and strong communities
There are no big cities.
Town of Lewisburg
Uncongested Lifestyle
uncrowded
Very safe place to live & raise a family - healthy environment
We are, and should remain, mostly native West Virginians.
We are, and should remain, remote.
Working together

Cultural and Recreational Opportunities

1st Friday in Lewisburg & 3rd Thursdays in White Sulphur Springs

Access to arts

Access to outdoor recreation

access to rivers, streams, forests & outdoor activities

activities - church, GVT, Carnegie, Library, etc

Art

Art Galleries

artistic outlets

Arts & Culture

Arts and entertainment opportunities

Arts opportunities

Arts/culture

being outdoors

Carnegie Hall

Carnegie Hall events that are free or low cost, (not all fit this description, especially dances)

Carnegie Hall—nice library

Civilized, friendly people; without crime

cultural such as history and theater

Cultural activities and historic atmosphere

Cultural activities (3)

Cultural activities and opportunities for children

cultural and educational opportunities - great quality of life

Cultural and recreational opportunities.

Cultural arts: theater, concerts, art galleries, public events

Cultural diversity/potential of Lewisburg

Cultural events

Cultural heritage

Cultural offerings

Cultural offerings of downtown Lewisburg

cultural opportunities (7)

Cultural opportunities as an artist, performer

cultural opportunities for all ages

Cultural opportunities in Lewisburg

Cultural opportunity: music and other arts

Cultural uniqueness

Cultural-festivals-arts-entertainment-parks, etc.

Culture (4)

Culture and green country readily available

Dining (2)

Diversity in activities

Diversity of opportunity in Arts & Recreation

Diversity- college, theater, music, etc

entertainment

Excellent recreation

Fishing/ swimming

Great recreational opportunities (that are unfortunately currently threatened)

Greenbrier Valley Theater (3)

Historic areas

historic downtown

historic preservation (3)

historic value
Historic/preserved/ unique character
Historical areas
Historical Landmarks
Historical significance
History (6)
Hunting
impressive availability of arts/cultural activities
Outdoor Activities (4)
Outdoor activities opportunities
Outdoor activities--river, hiking, parks
Outdoor Recreation
Outdoor recreation in state and federal lands, river trail, boating.
Outdoor recreation opportunities
Outdoor recreation--hunting, fishing, camping, etc.
outdoor recreation; hunting, fishing, biking
Outdoor recreational opportunities
Parks
Recreation (2)
Recreational activities in the area
recreational opportunities (5)
Restaurants
Restaurants, coffee houses, pubs
Restaurants, people, libraries, schools
restaurants
Rich cultural offerings
So much art and culture in such a small space.
the art and culture aspects
The cultural aspects
The culture (Carnegie, GVT, etc.)
The Greenbrier - The Sporting Club
The Greenbrier River - Greenbrier Valley Theater
The Greenbrier River Trail
The Greenbrier River; Greenbrier Valley and Carnegie Theaters; Trillium devel.; Farmers' Market; State Fair
The Wild Bean
tourism

People and Community

"Enlightened" core of "progressive" people in Lewisburg area. Vibrant downtown area.

"family" oriented

Caring and respectful community

diversity

diversity of inhabitants

friendliness

Friendliness of inhabitants

Friendliness of people in communities

friendliness of the people

Friendly atmosphere

Friendly atmosphere

Friendly communities

Friendly neighbors

Friendly people (11)

Friendly people, helpful, not shy

Friendly, down to earth people

Friendly, neighbourly atmosphere

Good people

great friendly people

Great neighbors

Great people (3)

Homogeneous population--e.g. no flood of "undocumented"

I like the people in Greenbrier Co.

it is home - beauty - friends - family

Its people (2)

Knowing many people (since elementary school)

Native residents

neighbors are friendly

Nice people (3)

Nice People, Low crime rate

People (23)

People are friendly (2)

People are friendly

People we have

People/community

Population

Quality of people

quality of students

The caring attitude of most people

The friendliness of the people (2)

The friendly people

The friendly, caring people.

The majority of the public are "good" people

The people (19)

The people - friendly and honest that are good to live with

The people (diverse and most are very understanding).

The people and they're involvement

The people who live here

The people--a cosmopolitan community in a small town setting

The people; creative and daring

The quality of its people
Type of people the area attracts
Welcoming people, responsive to new ideas & opportunities
Wonderful people who care about their communities and value the resources we have.

Location, Access, and Availability

A lot of facilities
Access to Interstate--Railway and Air
Access to roads and shopping close to rural community
Access to roads and shopping close to rural community
Access to the Greenbrier River
Accessibility to needed facilities – eg- medical, shopping
Accessiblity to everything worth having.
adequate services (stores, water/utility services, tec)
Airport
All deputy sheriff dept. personnel
Availability of recreational and cultural events
Available art and theatre.
Availability to state parks
Basic services available
Cheap utilities
Close enough drive to larger cities
convenience to recreation/beauty
Convenient to transportation corridors
Education
education oppurtunities
Educational facilities
excellant roads
Excellent library at NRCTC
Fairly good roads--well maintained
good opportunity
Homeschooling / education opportunities
I like the shopping that's available
Keeping up with technology
Medical care is relatively good
Medical facilities
New Library
New library in Lewisburg
Numerous amenities in a relatively rural area
opportunities for outdoor activities
opportunities for youth development
SCHOOL SYSTEM
schools
schools/quality education
Stores and shopping
the excellent health facilities and the good physicians
Unique shops in Lewisburg / Drivers seem friendly
Variety of small businesses and shops
Water fountain

Dislikes

Fewer participants (83 of 105) responded to the question about dislikes, although the dislikes covered a broader range of subjects and in some cases the responses were contradictory with or augmented aspects of the County participants most liked. For example, a number of participants cited the culture and the people, but also noted the presence of narrow-mindedness and intolerance. Not surprising, given the traffic problems on 219 and the percentage of participants from the Lewisburg area, traffic and transportation issues led the list of dislikes, closely followed by issues connected to planning, government, and government services. While some participants noted environmental issues, environmental quality was not a particularly strong area of concern in terms of participants dislikes. Property maintenance issues and differences between east and west did appear more often than initially expected.

Transportation and Traffic

219 growth to being anywhere USA, sprawl

219 traffic jam

219 traffic through Lewisburg

30 mph speed limit on Houfnagle Road, makes no sense at all when you can go 40 mph in Fairlea; 4) Lack of rec center/indoor pool.

7-8:30 am 3-5:30 pm traffic

At times, the traffic on 219 in or out of Lewisburg

Availability of air transportation at affordable rates

Can't seem to get our street paved on Bailey Road off Hoffnagle Rd.

Congested roads--219 area by Walmart--need to widen 219, not bypass--219 should be 2 lane going both directions.

congested traffic

congestion at certain times of the day

congestion in Lewisburg

congestion in Lewisburg

Dependence on cars and vehicles; lack of bike and walk trails and mass transportation, etc.

Despite an overwhelming response against windmills - we're still getting them.

Difficult to live without a car.

Drivers ignore, speed signs on rural roads (residential)

emergence of sprawl & lack of planning based on infrastructure

Ever increasing traffic management problems.

Fares for round trip airline flights originating in Greenbrier Co. are much higher than those from neighboring communities despite subsidies by the CVB. What do tax payers get out of it besides propping up The Greenbrier?

Few and poor roads

Inability to act on Lewisburg traffic problems

Inability to get from one part of county to other if one does not have a car

Infrastructure: Roads narrow, few opportunities to SAFELY bike or walk

Isolated from major air transportation

Lack of sidewalks (to Walmart) etc; traffic congestion; No exit at Richlands for I-64

Lack of access to rest of U.S. Via transportation as well as internet (expensive)

Lack of affordable airline service

Lack of air service

lack of alternative transportation
 Lack of bike lanes for safe road biking.
 lack of bike paths/walking paths
 Lack of bikeways, parks, etc.
 Lack of bypass around Lewisburg
 lack of hiking & biking trails around Lewisburg
 Lack of public and pedestrian transportation opportunities
 Lack of public transportation
 Lack of public transportation
 Lack of Public Transportation
 lack of sidewalks and bicycle lanes
 lack of suitable public transportation
 Lack of transportation
 left turns at Rt 60 instead of driving one more block and turning
 left turns at Rt 60 , of course
 Lewisburg congestion
 Lewisburg traffic
 narrow roads
 need more Trails for running and walking...etc
 Need to address traffic problem
 Nimby's on the Bypass
 No Bike paths
 no bike sidewalks for bicycles
 No good traffic solution for 219 except at Fair Time
 No good transportation--sidewalks, bike paths--hard to recycle.
 no one seems to be dealing with the traffic problems north of Lewisburg
 no parking on Court Street - downtown area
 No pike path or sidewalks (except Main Street)
 No shoulders on the roads
 No solid public transportation in all areas
 Not a good airport service
 not addressing traffic needs now
 occasional aggressive driver while walking or bicycling
 Poor traffic direction in Lewisburg
 poorly maintained roads
 Public transportation is poor
 road conditions
 road system
 Road system
 Road systems
 roads
 Roads
 Roads and ½ width roads
 Roads need improving throughout the County--all should be 2 lane
 Route 219
 Route 219
 Route 219 Ronceverte North
 rush hour
 Some of the back roadways
 That there are no bike paths or alternates to 219 or any other major roads.

the ever increasing traffic conjection from I-64 exit through Lewisburg to Ronceverte
The lack of good road system
the one way loop in fairlea.
The road
The roads need repaired
The traffic
The traffic congestion in Lewisburg
The traffic problem from downtown Lewisburg & past the osteopathic school
Too much traffic for existing roads--need a bypass
Traffic
traffic
traffic
Traffic
traffic
Traffic
traffic
Traffic
traffic
Traffic
traffic
traffic
Traffic
Traffic
traffic
traffic & lack of addressing this problem
Traffic and ineffective solutions--no one wants to be negatively effected.
TRAFFIC AROUND LEWISBURG
Traffic around Lewisburg
Traffic at 8:00AM and 4:30-5:30PM
Traffic at Fairlea at 3:30 to 4:30
traffic by walmart
Traffic Congestion
Traffic congestion
traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
traffic congestion
Traffic congestion
Traffic congestion (especially at Fair time)
traffic congestion (particularly on Route 219)
Traffic congestion and heavy truck traffic going through middle of town
Traffic congestion in Lewisburg
traffic congestion on 219 and lack of response to such by local government
Traffic congestion on 219.
traffic in Lewisburg

traffic in Lewisburg
Traffic in Lewisburg
traffic in lewisburg
Traffic in Lewisburg
Traffic in Lewisburg
Traffic in Lewisburg
Traffic in town
Traffic issues--can not remain 2 lane road
traffic near walmart backing up into downtown
Traffic north on 219 in evenings
Traffic on 219
traffic on 219
traffic on 219
traffic on 219 in a.m. and p.m.
Traffic on 219 North
Traffic on Rt. 219 in Lewisburg
traffic patterns
Traffic problem
Traffic problem
Traffic problems especially eastern part of county.
traffic problems in Eastern end of county
Traffic tickets during fair week to residents
traffice getting into Lewisburg
Transportation (Traffic)
unsafe bike routes
Unsynchronized traffic lights
Very dusty roads can ruin your home

Planning, Land Use, and Development

A frequent attitude of growth for growth's sake
Absence of proper ordinance & building code enforcement
agricultural land being developed
Big box stores and shopping areas without landscaping
businesses not locating on western end
Centralization of schools...It is counter productive to a good education and stable communities.
concerns about growth only servicing the very wealthy (as in the boom in gated communities)
control by eastern end over new businesses coming in
covering of every available green space by concrete in the downtown of Lewisburg and its environs
Current degree of rapacious chain "growth" and 219 expansion
development
Development (urban sprawl) into farming areas
Development along the highway--Need to preserve farmland along the highway and develop clean industry behind the farm
Development seems to get a free-ride many times (glad to see a comp plan that may help with this).
development sprawl of housing in farm areas
development that threatens to destroy aesthetic value of the area
excessive cell towers
Getting to many restrictions, permit fees, bond levys
Good old boys network
Gossip

governing body (don't seem to listn to the people)
government
Government (state, county, school board) that ignore what people ask for
Greed
Greenbrier Sporting Club and otehr development like it
Growing number of Superstores, boxstores, chain restaraunts
Growth does not seem to have any rational plan
Haphazard development
historic district current building and sign codes
Hodge-podge commercial building zones & designs.
Housing developments
How some developers can get by with changing plans after approval
Ignoring potential consiquences of development on karst because of extra cost to developers.
In small towns, there does not seem to be much for young people to do.
Infrastructure upgrading--including cellular service
Lack of comprehensive planning
Lack of County zoning for planned growth
Lack of development on western end for infrastructure,
Lack of development on western end for libraries, rec.center (year round & accessible)
lack of foresight for development in area out of city limits
lack of growth and expansion in ways that enhance the lives of those who live here and are not tourists
Lack of infrastructure for development especially sewage systems
Lack of land use planning
Lack of zoning
Lack of zoning
Lack of Zoning and Enforcement
lack of zoning and planning
land development with little-to-no regard for environmental/geological concerns
Land for sale, too cheap.
large home developers destroying agricultural lands
more greenspace to hide box stores
New Zoning Ordinance
No comprehensive plan to manage growth, provide open/green space and to keep the area special, unique
into the future
Over-developed
Planning
Poor planning--petty concerns and regulations
Poor planning--petty concerns and regulations
Projected wind turbine project
Proposed wind turbine invasion
recent development ie walmart lowes etc
sprawl
sprawl
Sprawl around the cities
Sprawl around towns.
Sprawl in the County
sprawl on north 219
Sprawl--very ugly and ruins property values
Spread out--must drive
strip mall development
subdivisions/losing our rural nature/no bike lane on roads

the development along Rt. 219
The impending Wind Turbines
The increasing sprawl near the interstates.
The lack of a plan for the conservation of Greenbrier County's natural heritage
The loss of farmland to development.
The planned Co-Gen plant
Too quickly looking like Beckley
ugly development
Ugly sprawl on 219 off interstate
unplanned growth
Unregulated growth and sprawl. 219N from I-64 to Lewisburg could have been a planned, landscaped entrance to a wonderful town, but it is now a strip mall area just like Eisenhower Drive in Beckley, and just as ugly and just like most every other town/city in US. Nothing unique.
unregulated property development
urban sprawl
Urban sprawl
Urban sprawl near I-64 and 219 in Lewisburg
Urban/commercial creep/ lack of greenspace
want to keep things the same
Wealthy vacation home development

Government and Community Attitudes

Accountability for lack of action from our County Commission
Accountability for lack of action in our local governments
Animosity between the Eastern and Western ends of the County
Apathy for the future.
bickering among county commission. They should work together for good of county
Clannish (Eastern vs. Western)
commissioners not really concerned with the public's concerns just their own venues
competition between rest of county vs. Lewisburg
conservatism towards progress and development
Corruption within
county commission
county commission
County commission decision in the last 10 years
County Commission lack of action on Important Issues for people
County Commission seems sluggish
County government enacting ordinances that people don't want
County government has not been receptive to environmental groups
Developers on County Commission
Differences between east and west ends of the County
Differences between east and west in County
Difficult for newcomers to be accepted
Difficult to work through bureaucracy
Disparity between communities
Disparity in cultural opportunities in different parts of County
Disparity of wealth
dissent between West and East end of County
Division between funds and everything with Eastern and Western parts of the County
Eastern Greenbrier versus Western Greenbrier mentality (haves and have nots)

Elitism
 Elitism
 favors or fear that influence big decisions
 Fear-based decisions (for political issues, in the school system, regarding energy)
 Good Old Boy mentality in politics
 Gov/Com Attitudes
 High Taxes
 High taxes
 Hippies/Liberals
 historical lewisburg getting all the attention
 historical society's arrogant attitude
 Homeowners who don't take pride in their property
 Homes not taken care of
 How the County seat rejects growth in county unless in West End
 Imbalance of wealth and service between east/west side
 Inability of County government to keep public informed of new laws
 inadequate government
 Inconsistency in government
 Increasing liberal influence
 Ineptitude of Alderson City Officials
 inequity between eastern and western ends of the county
 inequity in facilities and opportunities on two ends of county
 Influence exerted by "outsiders" and "transients" in County politics and policies
 Knowing certain influential folks to get what you want
 Lack of citizen involvement in issues that will affect their lives.
 Lack of Civic Participation
 Lack of cooperation with cities
 Lack of County Court action for a recreation center and other infrastructure
 lack of diversity
 Lack of diversity
 Lack of diversity in ethnicity. Racism is still fairly prominent.
 Lack of interest on part of citizens
 Lack of monitoring of holding commission financially responsible for spending; politics--power groups
 lack of some services
 lack of vision
 Lack of vision and proactive course of action by Greenbrier County Commission
 Lack of younger influences on major decisions
 let's get out of doing everything for lewisburg
 LEWISBURG CONTROLLED BY A FEW
 Lewisburg is main emphasis and gets most attention
 Lewisburg too touristy, nothing available if you aren't rich
 local and county overzealous zoning and historical rules and dictates
 Local governmental inability to provide basic quality services. (largely due to lack of financial means.)
 local politics
 Making stupid rules in the "Hysterical District" (see more of comment below map)
 Missing vision of the County
 More social stratification based on income than I realized
 Most 80% town police officers (badge, gun=big head)
 Not consistent in many ways
 Not enough people involved

Not enough people that share my interests
 old boy network
 Old School Politics
 ordinances
 Ordinances and regulation by current county government
 Outdated attitude by many - taking "Mountaineers are always free" to the extreme.
 Outlanders coming in.
 outsiders
 People moving here and then wanting to change things like where they came from.
 People moving here because they like what they see, and no sooner do they get here they want to change it.
 Personal property tax
 Petty political issues
 Petty politicians - but that is slowly changing.
 political agendas
 Political climate, influx of northerners
 Political gridlock (i.e. County Rec Center)
 Politicos
 Politics
 politics
 Politics
 Poor insight to the future. No offense to those who are working on it. You don't have the backing need but all citizens.
 Poor services provided by county business
 racism
 Rampant sprawl development based only on autos (traffic jams, smog, short tempers)
 Readiness of citizens to sacrifice quality of life (air, water, quietude) for meager gain
 Rebel Flags
 Regulation by government appointed agency
 Resistance to change. 4) Logging and coal trucks downtown
RESISTANCE TO GROWTH THROUGH INDUSTRY
 Rich/poor division being supported by government
 Ronceverte (depressing!)
 seeming bickering among county government officials
 Seeming lack of direction – I've lived with Calif. Communities too long perhaps – with no need to reinvent the wheel
 Set in their ways population
 Slow down progress at any price
 Snobbishness
 Some people are racist
 some properties do not seem to pay the fair tax rates
 Stagnation
 Takes a long time to get changes (i.e., the bypass for traffic
 Taxes
 Taxes
 That when I moved back, it was like going back 50 years (intolerance, xenophobic)
 The apparent reluctance of elected officials tackle the real issues, such as building roads to ease congestion, and...
 The County Commission trying to control my property with permits
 The County controls what you can do on your land
 The cultural divide between Eastern and Western parts of county
 The differences in the eastern and western sides of the county.
 The drug use and crime on the Western end of the county.
 The east end gets more gov. help than the west.

The educational opportunities at the western end school
The elite and condescending attitude of the Greenbrier Resort
the few people who complain and fault find in regard to everything here
The Good Old Boy network
The government
The government takes children from parents and won't let aunts and uncles visit
the judicial system here isn't tough enough on sex offenders and dui's
The lack of County Government interest of Western End of County--nothing available for children except sports.
The lack of respect for property owners' rights
The lack of support that the western end receives
The nearsighted pro-development politics
The politics
The prevailing and dominating attitude of the christian right
The secret is out
The seeming resistance to change.
The taxes
The taxes are too high
The unwillingness of the local government to prepare for the future
The west end is left out and has to scarp for all it can get
There are regional differences brought on by government power in the County seat towns in the county competing against lewisburg for the county money
Travel from Western End to get to trails, parks, courthouse, hospital
uneducated citizens

Economic Development and Growth

0 Job opportunities
2nd time around for gambling, it's getting old
Availability of jobs
Being beholden to the Greenbrier Hotel complex
cost of housing & no jobs
curtailing economic development
Dwelling on tourism as a primary source at economic growth; Kids go off to college and have to leave area for a job.
Ecdev
Economic development policies in general.
employment
Empty buildings in Gateway Commons
fast food restaurants
Gambling parlors
Income for good paying jobs are still lower than they should be
It is sometimes difficult to get people to finish jobs they begin.
Job opportunities
Job opportunities are low
Jobs for our young people
lack adequate useful retail like grocery in downtown Lewisburg
Lack of a small grocery store in DT Lewisburg
Lack of aggressiveness re: industrial growth

Lack of any measures to bring in new business to the area.
 Lack of business expansion in select areas
 Lack of competitive wages
 Lack of decent shopping
 Lack of development on western end for economic development
 Lack of economic opportunities
 lack of employment - western end
 Lack of employment (big business)
 Lack of employment opportunities for our youth.
 lack of good jobs
 Lack of high paying jobs in the area.
 Lack of industry
 lack of job opportunities
 lack of job opportunities (quality)
 Lack of jobs
 lack of jobs
 Lack of jobs for college graduates
 Lack of jobs on the western end of county
 Lack of manufacturing opportunities
 Lack of micro breweries
 lack of opportunities in western end of county
 Lack of opportunity
 Lack of progress in western end
 Lack of quality jobs, I graduated from Greenbrier West in 2000, WVU in 2004, and Marshall in 2006. I would like nothing more than to be able to move back to the Greenbrier County area but there are very few environmental firms needing an environmental scientist.
 Lack of shopping – downtown is too expensive!
 Lack of shopping choices--bust go to Beckley to buy nice shoes
 lack of shopping opportunities in mid-range between downtown Lewisbur (upscale) & walmart
 limited job opportunities
 limited retail
 Low Pay Scale
 Low paying jobs
 low paying jobs attracting less educated employees
 Low paying jobs with no health care insurance
 Low wages: employers are exploitive
 Lowes
 Mall and shopping development
 needs grocery stores
 no business grow in western,northern part of the county
 No mall (poor shopping choices)
 no shopping
 No shopping--you have to travel 50 to 80 milest to shop
 Not enough jobs that pay well, but must be no polution type
 Not enough shopping (Kohls, Target, etc.)
 not much assembly type work
 Opportunity
 Retail/strip mall look of exit area around I-64.
 Shopping choices are very limited
 Shopping options
 Some of the run down downtowns with empty storefronts.
 stagnant economy

Struggling locally owned businesses
Subsidies to large corporations such as Wal-Mart and other box stores with low paying jobs
The financial gap
the greenbrier and it's employee problems
The lack of higher paying jobs to keep our young people here
The lack of jobs for young people
The lack of opportunities for our young people
The push for economic development with out regard for the wishes of the general population.
unequal job opportunities outside Lewisburg area
Vocational school (lack of) (trade)
Wal-Mart
Wal-Mart, which harms local business.
WAL-MART. Never went there, never will.
Walmart
walmart
walmart
WalMart
WV as a whole too beholden to coal interests

Environment

abuse of our natural resources for a quick profit
Acid Mine Drainage and other polutants
Air pollution
air pollution from Charleston
Clearcutting of timber in places.
coal mines
Coal mining - specifically mountain top removal practices.
Coal production
cops behaviour towards youth
Cutting of timber
Env
Environmental issues
Few opportunities for easy recycling
hills
Industrial runoff into waterways
Lack of alternative energy exploration
Lack of environmental concern
Lack of protection for rivers, agricultural areas
Lack of support for new business
lack of support from local government for small businesses
lack of variaties of stores
Recycling inconvenient--need more centers (north)
limited recycling program
No glass recycling
No glass recycling.
No limits/laws to control trash/junk visible from roadways
not enough recycling services/programs
Pollution
Polution
Poor air quality (detritus from Charleston)
Poor environmental policy (wind turbines and incinerator--pork barrel projects)

Roadside trash
Roadside trash
Spraying "for black flies" and thereby killing aquatic life in the Greenbrier River.
The future coal burning plant in Rainelle
need for increased enforcement of environmental regulations
need for recycling centers
No adequate preservation of water and other resources
No bottle/ beverage container law / deposit
Trash in ravines and sink holes
Trash on roads and NO COUNTY WIDE RECYCLING of ALL GLASS AND PLASTIC@!!
Trash pickup required--financed through county property tax
Trashy areas in country
Very high nutrient levels in Greenbrier river causing problems in low flow high use times
water pollution and sewage in rivers
Water pollution and sewage in rivers
water quality of streams and rivers
we need better recycling of our trash - it should be mandatory
Willingness to endanger trees and animals
wind turbines
wind turbines about to be constructed near where we live

Housing

affordable housing for the mid and lower income, especially those just starting out in life.
Lack of affordable housing
High Cost of Housing/Living
High price of living for area residents--low wages
High rental fees
housing for middle wage group needs improved
lack of affordable housing for less wealthy people
Lack of senior adult housing

Education

Condition of public schools
Consolidated schools
County schools close because of little snow
Dumbing down standards
Educational opportunities limited for children, especially for high school age--getting better!
Greenbrier Board of Education
Greenbrier Public Schools
Lack of accountability of educators
Lack of affordable educational opportunities for all ages, especially seniors.
lack of choice in higher education
Lack of Educational opportunities for Special Ed. Students.
low public education level
Low rates of education
no mandatory school bus riding to and from schools
not many choices for schools
old schools

Poor education level of residents
Poor educational system
Poor elementary schools
School system--special ed. department has reputation as one of the worst in the State and I can understand why
school system, both public and private, seem inferior on a national scale
schools
Schools in East End seem to get anything and the West End schools get leftovers or just nothing.
Some of the public schools
that they won't get rid of bad teachers
Total lack of vocational opportunities for Special Ed. Students
Weak educational opportunities

Recreation and Youth

Inadequate public swimming pools/gyms
Lack of adequate YMCA
Lack of indoor swimming pool
Lack of Indoor Swimming Pool
Lack of organized recreational opportunities
Lack of programs to engage many young people
Lack of recreational facility managed by non-profit
no indoor swimming pool...folks not going for it because of fear of management
No swimming facilities for winter
no swimming indoor facility
not enough for teenagers to do
Not enough for young people to do.
Not many activities for 18 and under
Not much recreation
There is not much here for the younger people to do

Utilities

Alderson city infrastructure
Alderson water quality and costs
Lack of sewer/water for entire county
No public water for rural areas
The lack of basic services, cable, sewer, mail, street addresses
The spotty power!
The U-save propane tanks next to Interstate

Health and Human Services

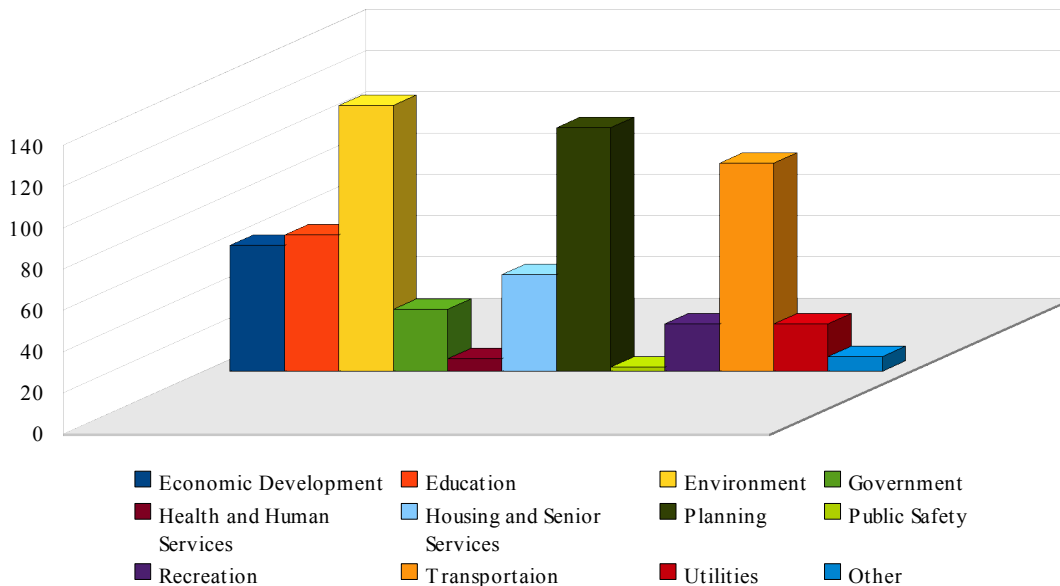
Aid (?) centers
Focus on "the arts" as opposed to health needs, i.e. fitness opportunities (not just the Y, Workmans)
Health care is limited in our area
High Welfare community
Lack of access to great medical care
Lack of adequate medical facilities
Lower quality hospital/medical services - I fear growing older here, in that I might need to use hospital more
- GVMC scares me!
the cancer rate

Other Topics

Alderson Community Center doesn't have dances with rock and roll music.
All the local drug dealers (They are in every town)
Can't get major newspapers delivered in a timely manner (NY Times, Washington Post, etc)
Dogs allowed to run at large and harass wildlife
Drugs--not solved.
everything closes early
few festivals
Gas prices
Having to use septic systems
Having to travel for certain services/projects
High incidence of domestic violence
High insurance because of law suits state wide
Influence of the drug culture on our youth
Junk on property
Lack of food choices
Lack of High Speed internet
Lack of high-speed internet in parts of County
Lack of internet access
Lack of library--this one is inadequate
Lack of services such as high speed internet on outskirts of town
lawnmower noise
Light pollution--light sent into the sky
limited availability of cultural activities
no indoor concert hall for major groups
No symphony
Noise: lawnmowers, blowers, weed wackers, dogs
Noise and litter
State Fair
The coal trucks
The fair and how it takes over for its run
The lack of cleaners of homes in town
Too far from big city
Too much snow
Terrible condition of few home in "historical Lewisburg"

IV. Written Comments by Subject Area: n=299

1. Top Issues Identified by Survey Respondents



The top three issues identified by respondents are: 1) Sprawl and unplanned growth with 34 votes; 2) Affordable and senior housing with 30 votes; and 3) Roads, with 27 votes.

Top Issues, by Subject

Cultural and Historical Resources

Cultural Facilities (13)
Historic Preservation (7)
cultural
maintain historical sites and small town Lewisburg
Continued cultural improvements as basis for development
Preservation of historic structures

Economic Development

Encouraging economic development (22)
Industrial expansion/growth (4)
Economic development (3)
Agriculture (2)
Increased job opportunities (2)
Eco/ Environmental Tourism (2)
Tourism (2)
Retail Expansion
Promote economic activity & revitalization in decaying downtowns vs. sprawl
no sell out to energy companies looking for opportunities here. Educate landowners and others about the potential risks to natural resources with energy, even alternative energy projects

lack of modern business/food establishments/entertainment
Planned economic development
Agriculture--local food, organics
tourist and eco-tourist economic growth
New business
Attracting/Keeping Good Business (For Employment and Services)
Historic tourism
continued supply of safe drinking water
Fostering tourism industry throughout the county rather than only in Eastern part
business
Sound and green economic development
High Tech economic development
Recruiting clean industry (technical sector employment)
jobs
Focus on high tech industry recruitment, fiber optics for high speed communications
agricultural preservation
Increase in Historic/recreational growth-TOURISM
Supporting Local Business/Preventing More "Box Stores"
Gambling
Coal plant in Rainelle
Support sustainable agriculture so that we can export to the eastern seaboard

Education

Educational opportunities for children (23)
Improved educational facilities (14)
Educational opportunities for adults (8)
Education (6)
new school for my grandchildren
education and youth programs and opportunities
Education on preserving the environment in our schools, and for Adults.
Childhood education
Provide affordable educational opportunities for seniors.
Bond issue passed for upgrading schools
Post High School development
equal and strong educational opportunities
Teacher pay / retention increased
Educational quality and opportunity
Quality education
Private school offerings
Promote Arts & Culture activities with grants & P.R.
School System and education
Develop high standard technology training for middle and high school

Environment

ground and surface water quality (11)
Ground water (11)
Environmental (11)
Water Quality (9)
Wind Turbine (alternative energy) (9)
Air Quality (8)
Preserving natural resources (5)
clean water(5)
Surface water quality (5)
karst geology (5)
wind turbine/other energy (coal) projects (3)
Stopping pollution into the Greenbrier River (2)
Drinking water quality (2)
preserving natural forests
Light and noise pollution ordinances.
loss of farm land
Maintain a high level of water quality
Environmental Issues
Alternative Energy and Transportation - let's be creative!
tapping other energy sources, wind turbines, nuclear
Alternative Energy (wind, coal, etc.)
environmental integrity/ air, water
protection of the greenbrier river and tributaries in terms ecological health and water resource
karst protection & collaboration with municipalities on these shared problems
environmental water
Flood measures in Alderson
We need to move toward environmental sustainability. Make Greenbrier county green.
Preserving and Upgrading Our Natural Resources (Water/Land/Air Quality)
Preventing sprawl onto farmlands and open spaces.
Preserving environment, water quality, recycling, etc.
Preservation of open space, farmland, viewsheds, and other quality of life issues.
Water rights
Maintaining the environment
Gas drilling
Shield outdoor lighting--Night Sky initiative
Protect natural beauty & environment
Noise and light pollution ordinances.
Stupid Wind Turbines (This is WV, go for the coal)
Stopping pollution into the Greenbrier River - is it any clearer (no pun intended)
Flood prevention
Protecting the Environment
karst system
environmental integrity of our state
Environmental protection
Environmental Quality (groundwater, surface water, air quality)

Groundwater (especially in light of aging and inadequate septic systems)
Overall environmental quality (water, air, etc.)
environmental air
Clean air
maintain natural beauty
Heavier fines for littering.
cutting of trees
Gas well drilling
SUSTAINABLE, I repeat, sustainable clean energy
Environmental degradation
environmental preservation and responsible recreational/agricultural land use
Stopping the wind turbines

Government

Taxes (14)
Cooperation between towns, villages, and County (2)
High Taxes
Planning and Government (sprawl, subdivision ordinance, public involvement, public info)
All [issues] are important--require public and government support to reach potential
Cost of government services
Cost, quality, and access to government services
less regulation of private business
Fair property taxes
Public involvement in government
having our community be a leader in "green" initiatives

Health and Human Services

poor health of many residents
Obesity rates
Health Care
health care reform
Medical care
Providing Access To Consistently Good Medical Care

Housing and Senior Services

Affordable and Senior Housing (30)
Senior Facilities and Services (6)
Housing (5)
Affordable Housing (2)
Housing: Affordable and Senior (2)
Senior housing
Housing/affordable housing/senior housing

Planning and Land Use

Sprawl and /or unplanned growth (34)
Landowner Property Rights (16)
Zoning (9)
Ordinances (Zoning and Subdivision) (9)
Individual Rights (8)
Preserving agricultural and forestal lands (4)
Landowner Property and Individual Rights (4)
Subdivision Ordinance (3)
Preservation of the rural atmosphere/Town planning/Walkways
Keeping Lewisburg small; limited development
Overall quality of life in our county
PRESERVE SCENIC BEAUTY
Property owner rights
over development
Zoning Ordinance--opposed
Stop the Beech Ridge project
sprawl on 219 north
Stop this out of control unnecessary building along 219
Disappearing agricultural and forested/natural areas; the reason eastern Greenbrier County is so attractive to those visiting and wanting to live here - it all disappearing at a RAPID RATE!
Sustainability so people can live and work productively and sustainably.
Zoning (or whatever it is now called) is the only way to protect what is so quickly disappearing, and that is all the historical, agricultural and forested/natural areas that make this area visually appealing
Street addresses and signs
Urban and commercial sprawl
development with a goal of ecological preservation of land in its natural state
Reasonable zoning
Unplanned Growth
Help for Rainelle and RT 60 west for development
development of farm land
Development on karst
Unplanned and unregulated growth and sprawl
Minimizing Urban Sprawl/Unplanned Growth
GROWTH SPREAD INTO ALL AREAS OF COUNTY
Growth
land planning-zoning-bypass
development
Cost effective expansion
Development
controlled growth
Better planing for development and future building

Recreation

Recreational opportunities (7)
County recreation center (5)
Developing new parks and county recreation facility (2)
More Recreational Facilities
Upgrading existing recreational facilities
YMCA recreational facility
No rec center - supplement the existing gyms - let Fitness Forum stay!
More playing fields for our youth
Developing new parks and non-profit county recreation center
nice recreational opportunities for older adults
recreational facilities
recreation

Safety

Uneducated police officers - require bachelor's degree for city and county cops
good county police force

Transportation

Roads (27)
Traffic Congestion (25)
Alternative Transportation facilities (10)
Public Transportation (7)
Get the Bypass built (3)
Trails (2)
Bike paths and Walking Paths
safety issues in walking or bicycling
Creation of trails for walking, bike riding
creating bicycle lanes and walkways
Bikeways
bike pathways
Alternative transportation and surface water quality
(5) Use other streets as "one way" lanes to relieve traffic congestion
(5) Increase travel and turn lanes on 219 & 60
(5) Increase access to I-64 (via Court St or 60)
Alternative transportation (a network needed - not just the greenbrier river trails)
All resurfaced roads need to have bike lanes to promote safe biking for transportation and tourism.
[5] Bypass for traffic going South on 219 (through Lewisburg)
Safe options for alternative transportation
safe cycling routes

Pedestrian and bicycle paths separate from roadways. This was the most commented issue in the 1995 Comprehensive Plan hearing.
Walkways
Trails and Parks
The lack of walking/biking paths
Sidewalks and walking access to shopping to decrease traffic congestion
make downtown lewisburg traffic free
Improved traffic pattern
Improved pedestrian/bike connections, sidewalks and trails
Resolving traffic issues
Public and alternative transportation
Provide additional and improve existing trails, walkways, and bikeways.
Pedestrian/bike pathways that are separate from roads.

Utilities and Energy

Public utilities (water and sewer) (8)
Aging infrastructure (7)
Alderson water pipes
access to utilities
Infrastructure
Storm drains in Alderson
Introduction of Natural Gas
septic systems
Internet Connectivity
water/sewer

Other

Food
maintaining unique identity
High Speed Internet Access
governmental interference in nutritional rights (ie: if I want to drink raw milk it should be my business)
Clean living
Price of gasoline
Repainting the chipping paint in downtown Lewisburg, it makes such a nice city look trashy

2. Planning and Land Use

Please rate the following planning issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Sprawl and/or unplanned growth	12	26	42	51	143	4.05	274
Zoning ordinance	14	23	68	56	98	3.78	259
Subdivision ordinance	16	23	50	42	66	3.6	197
Landowner Property Rights	7	10	39	57	129	4.2	242
Individual Rights	5	8	35	40	133	4.3	221
						Additional comments:	37
						<i>answered question</i>	280
						<i>skipped question</i>	19

Additional comments:

The sprawl of Lewisburg and the county has been ongoing for many years almost nonstop and I have seen no effort by the county to address this issue other than to approve it.

for the protection/rights of others we must have planning, zoning in the county. In the past we have had developers who promised many things, did not follow through. There are examples within the county of those negative impacts upon citizens in the areas when a developer did not give what was promised. I hesitate to mention what, when and where but they are within and without city limits.

Anti-degradation laws to protect Gbr Co's natural environment.

Land owners rights in respect to gas companies rights

we live in an unzoned area and our neighbor just constructed storage units - very unpleasant to us as this is a rural community on a one lane road and it would have been very important to us if the permits issued had been presented to the neighborhood prior to approval

For the good of all...trite as it is. Zoning is the single most important issue that has a common thread in all of the above subjects.

I realize property rights is a touchy subject, but if maintaining and improving our quality of life means offending some people, so be it.

Too much "self-serving" to the "old guard" of the county.

I think that the zoning will be important so that sprawl does not occur and to help assist in framing in how future, unplanned events (building) will be handled.

The loss of agricultural Land and small farms. Environmental degradation

I am not sure what you mean by "individual rights", but I think in general, it is important. I do think that in the context of managing growth, water pollution concerns, etc, that policies need to be made and enforced to protect our beautiful and relatively clean area.

Zoning will be important to help prevent sprawl when unplanned growth proposals arise.

ZONING IS NEEDED AS WELL AS PROTECTION TO OUR NATURAL RESOURCES and a by pass around Lburg

I consider individual rights very important, but not the right to trash the land or abuse it for personal convenience.

& planned growth

This is an example of how you ask the question determines the results. Of course, landowners and individuals have rights that they are concerned about. But compared to what? You should also have a question asking about the citizens' obligations to the community (county/city/neighbors). This is what individual rights are always balanced against, but you are not asking about that!

I'd like to see the area prosper, yet maintain the small town feel. I'd like to see neighborhoods remain neighborhoods (not get infiltrated by bypasses) - maintaining the historic feel. I hope the rural areas remain rural.
Especialy traffic planning...
Greenways and bikeways are important to me. Vehicular traffic relief is important
Zoning should serve to preserve Greenbrier County's unique natural vitality and beauty. Zoning should not solely serve the needs of developers.
Zoning could be a very good thing but only if land owners are fully compensated for those rights taken from them by the zoning. Partial eminent domain.
Zoning=0
Those employees involved and employed [in planning, zoning, subdivisions] should have adequate education, aggressiveness, and experience to oversee these areas.
cut out some of the stupid zoning laws and encourage more growth. riding the historical district horse is old it is time to change the whole county and spread the money countywide to other towns. Alderson, Ronceverte, White Sulphur Springs, Rainelle, Rupert are the areas that need the most help
An individual or landowner has rights, but when thier decisions effect other property owners and the value/integrity of the land then those rights no longer apply. Lawmakers and county officals should ban any laws/regulations in support of Eminent Domain, they have no right to take anothers property.
Note: actual score given to Landowner Property Rights = 10
The subdivision ordinance, if not already, should use the Lewisburg developement model where developers must provide various amenities before selling lots, such as curb/gutter (where feasible due to land) and definately asphalt roads and landscaping.
There has to be growth for any community to survive.
In any modern society the complexity of life has grown to the point that a comprehensive plan is crucial to the health and welfare of all citizens. There are minimal acceptable norms in modern society regarding the issues of everyday life, and my observation in my own community that many believe that any attempt by the citizens or governmental bodies is interference into "personal lives" of the citizens. This approach is not only wrong it is dangerous to the continued advancement of the health and welfare of all. Education of our citizens is necessary to insure that we have the maximum cooperation of all in the development and execution of any comprehensive plan.
Concentrate new development
As things are currently progressing in and around Lewisburg, Lewisburg is already looking like Beckley. Driving into town from I-64 is like driving down Eisenhower Drive - not very inviting or visually appealing. Planned growth is seriously, badly needed. No plan in place to protect the Greenbrier River Trail. No plan in place to protect green/open space and no plan in place to protect rural/agricultural heritage of the county.
The current subdivision ordinance is very restrictive. Only millionaires can do a subdivision under current ordinance and the building code is also very restictive and costly. Most people are sick of bigger government, more regulations and higher taxes and costs.
Opinions of a few when turned into restrictions are an imposition on the whole community
Very important that we don't have [a zoning ordinance] in unzoned areas.
Property/Individual rights depend on the situation.
Sprawl related traffic, pollution, energy usage
I would like to see sustainable developement within Greenbrier County. Redevelopment of abandoned properties will be vital.

3. Cultural and Historic Resources

Please rate the following historical / cultural issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Historic preservation of individual sites and districts	10	29	68	63	104	3.81	274
Cultural facilities (libraries, theaters, music venues, festivals, museums, and so forth)	3	15	54	67	132	4.14	271
						Additional comments:	19
						answered question	277
						skipped question	21

Additional Comments

The destruction of the Civil War campground by the construction of the library was a sad day for Lewisburg as was the cutting of the osage orange trees for the same purpose. The planned sale of land to the school district by the county is another disgrace. This land should be kept as is.

consider what the shopkeepers of Lewisburg have done to make this a town alive: the billboard on Rt 64, the Friday night alive,, Greenbrier Valley Theatre is now the WV State Theatre, the new library has been funded, paid for, the Reenactment is a vivid on-going function, other cities are copying Lewisburg and its activity, WV State Fair brings in thousands of paying citizens and makes money for local citizens, as a historic town many visitors come, use our restaurants, motels, hotels, inns and the economic impact is tremendous...that needs to be made aware to the general public.

Arts & Culture is what sets Gbr Co (& Lewisburg in particular) apart in WV... supporting & promoting these will be key to future growth & quality of life.

These two are the history of who we area and needs to be preserved.

Facilities like Carnegie, GVT and the new library contribute immensely to the appeal of our community. They need all the support we can muster to keep them going.

All of the above are important to our tourism industry and also very important to the cultural atmosphere in which our children are growing up.

"Qualified" individuals on the historic commission, not just "busybodies" who have nothing else to do but stick their nose in others business.

These days, quality of life in an area is a major factor contributing to why people choose to live somewhere, or not live somewhere. This state has a great offering of outdoor recreational opportunities to attract young people, and older alike. However, having the arts available really enriches an area, opens up the area's appeal to a much wider variety of people, and improved diversity which will enrich any environment.

This area is awash in historical sites; exploit this and cultivate it!

Ronceverte library is great service

It's the cultural aspects of Lewisburg that make it so wonderful.

Tend to go overboard with historical and arts, need to be less strict and involve the public more

There are more historic districts in this county than just the one in Lewisburg.

Historical preservation is important but not a necessity. For example....in early years it was common to build a house or markey beside the road as time wore on these locations were not the best choice for future growth within the community. Lewisburg sells itself as a historic community but you only have to pull off the interstate to see how they want the money generated by the 21st century.

Item 16 is why Lewisburg continues to reach the publications and you walk the streets at night meeting visitors from areas far and wide. Very important topic.

The remoteness and lack of infrastructure in our county for manufacturing opportunities of employment is very real, and the natural beauty, location to large cities, and rural atmosphere of Greenbrier County is also evident. It would seem as though development of these natural resources into a viable business is a most logical and important step upon which to embark on economic viability. Our natural resources have proved over time that they offer a natural magnet for tourism and "second" home possibilities for retirees, as well as those who are seeking a less hectic life in the large urban communities that surround us. In order to develop for this economic viability those who are drawn to our communities insist on cultural facilities as well as sound medical and educational possibilities much akin to that which was offered in the more urban areas; therefore a very critical and well planned allocation of assets for these purposes in development is critical to the overall potential for success in these endeavors.

Not something government should be so involved in. There are plenty of private, civic, and privately funded entities to take care of these type of activities.

History is important to be remembered -- we live in the present looking to the future

Would love to see an improvement on the western end of the county. There is nothing for people to do nothing inspiring for individuals to want to do better for their community.

4. Government

Please rate the following government-related issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Public involvement in government	5	11	72	71	115	4.02	274
Public information and government outreach	4	14	68	75	107	4	268
Taxes	6	23	91	43	107	3.82	270
Cost of government services	3	23	85	64	88	3.8	263
Quality of government services	2	3	47	58	130	4.3	240
Access to government services	5	9	59	61	107	4.06	241
Cooperation between towns, villages, and County	6	13	73	75	101	3.94	268
Cooperation with other counties and the State of West Virginia	10	17	65	63	54	3.64	209
						Additional comments:	24
						answered question	277
						skipped	21

Additional comments:
I believe we do cooperate, what more is needed?
In some areas the State is behind the local govts (like clean air / Kyoto protocols, etc). Don't get dragged down by the WV DEP, for example.
Assisting the community and county so that we can all stay in business.
We should be exploring a municipal governing partnership with Ronceverte, Fairlea and maybe even Caldwell.
Being able to work together with other towns and villages in the county can form local identities for things that might assist in marketing (i. e. Greenbrier valley grass fed beef) to attract people to the area, improve small businesses, etc. Cooperation with other counties and the state will increase spending power and make advertising, marketing, raising funds to improve say, business, water quality, etc., more efficient.
Cooperation between towns and villages can help to define characteristics of each individual area and by working together, maximize marketing and economic development for the area in toto.
There is a efficiency to be gained by non-duplication of services.
Ronceverte H20 bill is outrageous
taxes: refunded, increased?
I wish that WV were more welcoming to business. It seems that business is still seen as the big, bad employer (which may be true historically)... but we are constantly losing young people to other states with better employment opportunities.
Many cities and adjacent counties have common problems such as water quality and quantity, karst related development issues, flooding, etc. Solutions should be sought jointly.
Taxes=0
Having the local employees in the court house do their jobs in a respectable manner. Being able to communicate to the public is very important. getting the towns to realize that the money in the county budget is not just for one specific town but for all of the towns and the local government

there needs to be a state wide communication between county's government agencies
You don't even want to get me started on taxes. Property values reassessed caused higher taxes then the county wants to increase the school bond all to please a new Lewisburg Elementary that isn't needed.....so on and so forth. Then the commission includes the western part of the county by throwing them a few carrots just so they can get their "YES" votes this time around when it's placed on the ballots..... all to get a new elementary school in Lewisburg. What a JOKE!!!!
Consolidation is the answer. There is a move in WV for this. Not sure if Greenbrier County - Lewisburg falls under the law to pursue. Would be great for the area, one Lewisburg, population 20,000 to 30,000 at least in the eastern end of the county.
Citizen participation is a necessary part of any successful government. Government is nothing more than the "total of our citizenry" so if some are reticent about participation their voice will become lost in the participation of others. It is important for us to consider cooperation with other counties to develop regional groups to address specific issues that are common to all. In that we are surrounded by counties with much the same demographics as our own this approach is not only sound, but economical in that all of us can realize more by this cooperation. The same approach is sound when speaking of cooperation of towns within the county. Investigation of a possible regional public utility commission to coordinate basic water and sewer issues or an arm of the PSD or DEP to oversee the hands on operation of our water and sewer plants is only one of many possibilities to be considered. We should all understand that such measures are not popular with many, but the "consolidation" of our schools was very unpopular; however it can easily be said that most young people who graduate from our consolidated schools have been exposed to a broader and more comprehensive educational process that would have been the case otherwise.
Government should spend with care.
Each body has its own responsibilities and duties. They should help aid and assist where possible to enhance the others mission.
Keep taxes as low as possible.
Alderson infrastructure is the PITS!! Water taxes and charges way too high for the service received.
Needed traffic control: Electric bus service on Rt. 219 between state highway garage and Eastern Greenbrier Middle School with stops at all traffic lights and at apartments, Lee St. (osteopathic school), Fair Grounds, Greenbrier East High School, Greenbrier Valley Medical Center; Increased sidewalks and bike lanes on roads near and in towns; Removal of school bus garage from Lewisburg residential neighborhood.
Needed pollution control: Moving of dump further from water source; County recycling center with automatic sorter and dedicated pick-up trucks; Removal of school bus garage from beside Price Run in Lewisburg.
I think if people had a better understanding of all the above it would be easier to express for their community.

5. Economic Development

Please rate the following economic issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Encouraging economic development	4	19	50	61	121	4.08	255
Historic tourism	7	26	68	59	84	3.77	244
Eco- or Environmental Tourism	10	28	42	60	105	3.91	245
Commercial/Retail Growth	11	38	70	57	69	3.55	245
Industrial Growth	36	47	61	36	66	3.2	246
High Tech (Internet-based businesses)	6	30	50	67	91	3.85	244
Agriculture and Forestry	5	10	55	86	91	4	247
Mining and Energy Related Growth	53	35	64	47	44	2.98	243
Medical Industry	11	24	69	56	85	3.73	245
Gambling Establishments	139	41	26	10	16	1.81	232
						Additional comments:	41
						<i>answered question</i>	279
						<i>skipped question</i>	19

Additional comments:
I don't believe we need MORE GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS. I have no knowledge of the money produced by gambling establishments...is it available?
Surrendering all for "jobs of any sort" is shooting yourself in the foot. What we still have, which potential investors & entrepreneurs are looking for, is PRISTINE NATURE & CULTURAL ACTIVITY. Gambling is the sign of a region gone bust.
enough medical no gambling! not enough ecological development! no more commercialism!
All the above have a very intergral part of our future growth. Each and everyone has a role in the other- including potetial gambling. Gambling will not be needed if the others are looked into with minds eye for the future.Gambling for resources is a cop-out for revenue.
Need to have bike paths and walking paths that are safe for commuters and tourist friendly also.
Need to exploit what the area has to offer...outdoor rec. and history. In addition, this state is very well set up for small scale agriculture and large scale forestry. Just need to work together to keep both sustainable.
I feel quite strongly that we as a community should RESIST mining and gambling as income for our county.
This area is well suited for agriculture and forestry. Such industries should be encouraged and grown. Mining and energy provision (wood) is also important for this area and the economic development should merge compromises on both the mining end and environmental end so that these industries are sustainable.
PERSERVING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE VERY IMPORTANT EMPHASIS ON LOOKING LIKE MAINE/ VERMONT IN PLANNING FOR OUR TOWNS AND NOT LIKE BECKLEY VERY IMPORTANT BUSINESSES SHOULD HAVE SMALL SIGNS AND GOOD LANDSCAPING TO CREATE A VILLAGE ATMOSPHERE NOT A MALL LOOK!~@

set Gambling at 0 so must be really against it
avoid gambling establishments
Energy related growth should be limited to projects that would keep some of energy produced here for local use, and environmental concerns should be as important as money generated for tax revenue.
I am not sure what you mean about "medical industry" We need a strong and reliable health care system, but I do not like the idea, or support for profit medical care.
Some of these categories are overly broad. What kind of economic development? What kind of energy growth? The rape of our hills and poisoning of our water is a lot different than solar and wind. These should not be lumped together if you direction from the public on this issue.
I'd like to see commercial/ retail growth for local business, not more places like Wal-Mart. On the topic of ag and forestry, I'd like to see small family farms prosper and get more support from the government. meat/grain ag i believe could be minimized and done more sustainably. Forestry needs more emphasis on sustainable harvesting. Clear cutting is ruining our area and the only ones gaining economically from it are the ones at the top. furthermore, I think it is really worth our energies, as a nation, to invest in alternatives to wood, like bamboo, hemp, kenaf, recycled paper, etc. Mining - can't say this enough - mountain top removal is suffocating us - our beautiful state and the beautiful people in it! we need alternatives, yet I'm not looking forward to looking at windmills here. our beautiful scenery is going to be dumped upon by this inefficient energy source. I don't know what the alternatives are, but we need to be making a switch, again as a whole nation. Solar Power? Hydro? I am pleased to hear that GVMC just made a top 100 list. It's important to have quality healthcare available. At the same time, medical care is so over-priced and inaccessible to the average low income west virginian/american. I believe healthcare should be a not for profit industry.
I wish you hadn't grouped mining with energy related growth... I have real concerns about mining (HOW it's being done and how refuse is handled)... energy is a related topic but NOT the same. It would have provided you with clear information if clean energy had been it's own topic. Our medical care is substandard because of insanely high liability insurance. We lost a lot of good medical care and related revenues when insurance became unaffordable - they moved to states with more reasonable rates.
CLEAN ENERGY like wind and hydro
Gambling at the Greenbrier will offset local taxes. Industrial wind power is a boondoggle that will cost countians dearly.
Gambling establishments are not likely to attract the type of retirees and 2nd-home owners moving to the area who will support Lewisburg's unique mix of art/antique/cultural offerings.
i believe tht we have to be extremely cautious about the corporations that make big financial promises but have histories of not following thru. we are very vulnerable in west virginia and i think we need to opt for cleaner industry with low impact on our environment.
Greenbrier County is a beautiful place to retire to. All development reduces its appeal. Retirees bring their own economies with them. The County should market it as it is and just improve its infrastructure for those that choose to live here.
Gambling=0
Gambling=0
Gambling should be banned, I'm not a religious nut but look at the Charleston Gazette and read how much trouble comes with the gambling community. The Greenbrier doesn't need gambling to flourish but if the greedy CEO's want more money then they will have the union beg for it disguised as a need to workers employed.
High Tech = 10
Alternative Energy Related Growth = 5
It seems that the area continues to loose out on any economic development in comparison to other areas. We have the beauty, the resources. Look at what the O school has done for Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, and WV. Look for development in those areas of medical/hi-tech.

<p>Any stimulus for economic growth should be addressed; however there are certain parameters that will dictate the possibility of success of some over others. ("tourism" and possibility of internet related businesses are examples of those which would rate high for potential success). The advent of "gambling" has been a large contributor to the "coffers" of our state as well as other states; however it comes with a price. The possibility of "gambling" in restricted situations that tie into "tourism" certainly has a higher appeal than to open gambling in all phases of "local" life where the potential for abuse, and the possibility of ruin for those most least able to afford to "gamble." is very real. We are economically very poor and any thing that appears to offer those who may be vulnerable as a possible way to solve their individual problems becomes a "toxic" remedy destined to drive our local economy and the welfare of our most vulnerable citizens into ruin.</p>
<p>Balancing act between development and growth is one which must be looked at but not restricted so that nothing will consider the area because of government intervention, regulation etc. Government must scrutinize those who make proposals for government input of money to make the proposals operable such as the Co-Gen Plant and or Windmills etc. If it takes government (county) monies to fund proposals and those who are requesting the funds have been involved in failed proposals here or anywhere else they should be denied from the outset.</p>
<p>Actual score on Mining: 0 Actual score on Gambling: 0</p>
<p>Actual Score for Gambling Establishments = -1</p>
<p>Mining = 0; Green Energy = 5 Medical Industry = 0; Alternative Medicine = 5 Gambling Establishments = 0</p>
<p>Gambling = 0</p>
<p>Gambling Establishments=0</p>
<p>Gambling Establishments = 0</p>
<p>Gambling Establishments = 0</p>
<p>Gambling Establishments: Don't want them</p>
<p>Promoting local clean energy sources as economic development: Wind farms on suitable ridges; Solar electric plants on suitable karst areas; Hydroelectric plants on existing historic mill races; Support for homeowner solar/wind applications; Biodiesel plant for karst grassland not used for livestock; Prohibition of additional coal mining or coal-burning electric plants.</p>
<p>I feel that it is important for any profitable business would be wonderful; however, we need things to bring growth to the communities. Larger corporations would also bennefit the communities.</p>
<p>The greenbrier county area has a rich history that should be sustained and utilized. Ecotourism is a good way to incourage tourism without degrading our natural environment.</p>

6. Education:

Please rate the following education issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Improved educational facilities	4	12	49	54	151	4.24	270
Education opportunities for children	3	8	30	60	168	4.42	269
Educational opportunities for adults	3	11	56	62	114	4.11	246
						Additional comments:	22
						<i>answered question</i>	274
						<i>skipped question</i>	24

Additional comments:
I am somewhat aware of the educational opportunities for adults. I am aware of The Shepherd Center and its contributions to the area. Has that taken the place of what used to be education at the schools in the evenings? Are there still classes being taught at the schools for adults? Sorry, am not sure about that info.
Having a vibrant college is the ticket to economic & social well-being.
There is not any program for 'seniors' to audit college courses for free, or reduced fees, on a class-seat-available basis.
We need an overhaul of the school system to a place where teachers are teaching not training students to take tests. This is why you see more people opting for private education.
More important than improving the educational facilities themselves is improving the quality of education available within them. Kids need more arts and less formulaic memorization of useless facts geared toward improving test scores.
Lewisburg Elementary School needs to be addressed. As a parent I am concerned about the condition of the school.
NEED TO FOCUS ON EDUCATION! Not only is this essential for keeping/attracting young people to live in an area, but our future depends on an educated workforce...and these folks will be determining the law we will have to live by in a the future! This state is rich with coal, wood, fresh water, but it's people among the poorest. We need to educate our young people so they can be free thinkers and drive the future of this state. in addition, quality of life for older individuals now days includes continued learning.
An educated youth and workforce is critical. As folks age, quality of life involves continued ability to learn and educate oneself. Quality and rigorous educational opportunities also top the list of what people look for when exploring places to live.
Elementary school facilities
Yesterday I went down to James Monroe High School in Monroe County and saw their Vocational-Technical center. We need greater on Vo-Tech skills. Many of our high school graduates have no skills and are going into dead end jobs. Without these, they do drugs and try to get on disability, and you can't find any skilled people to do jobs.
We need to replace Lewisburg Elementary
It's interesting that you didn't address the teacher population... the "deadwood" vs. the ability to attract and retain good teachers.

Facilities for athletics
Improving educational opportunities for children is not synonymous with building larger, consolidated schools. Closing smaller schools is a HUGE mistake. The closure of small, rural schools contributes to the demise of small, rural communities.
If the facilities and teachers needed improving why are you waiting till now? New schools won't solve the problem.
Improved educational facilities = 10 Educational opportunities for children = 10
Continue to improve these areas. Education being public and private is the answer to growth. But we must find ways to keep the educated here. Again the O school is helping. Lets move, stop talking, hiring consultants for 30 years, lets find jobs for these people.
The investment in education in a modern society has proven time after time that the rewards or dividends paid back to society are numerous.
DO NOT RAISE TAXES. PEOPLE ARE SICK OF BEING ASKED FOR MORE TAXES. QUIT SPENDING SO MUCH MONEY ON BUILDINGS AND MORE ON EDUCATION AND LEARNING. SPEND WHAT YOU HAVE WISELY. QUIT HAVING LEVIES AND SPECIAL FUNDING INITIATIVES. CUT SERVICES, SPEND WISER, THE MINDSET OF SPEND SPEND SPEND AND ASKING FOR MORE MORE MORE TAXES IS GETTING OLD WITH MOST OF THE PUBLIC.
We seem to be more interested in building more building more schools than building a better education. This must be true in that so many people either home school or private school their children.
Educational improvements: Consolidation of elementary schools; Removal of children from building with asbestos and/or lead accumulations; Improved internet educational access in schools; Improved library services in schools; Improved teacher pay.
I currently attend NewRiver Community and Technical Collage, I feel if there were different programs offered it would increase the need for new businesses.

7. Housing and Senior Issues

Please rate the following housing and senior issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Housing (Quality, quantity, location)	9	15	68	66	81	3.82	239
Affordable housing	5	10	57	51	101	4.04	224
Senior housing	5	13	66	56	83	3.89	223
Senior facilities and services	4	11	76	59	89	3.91	239
						Additional comments:	11
						<i>answered question</i>	247
						<i>skipped question</i>	51

Am aware of the Senior assistance programs. How much, where, when I do not know.
need swimming pool to keep joints supple and improve strength
We do not have enough affordable Senior housing opportunities. We also need a better Hospital.
Let's face it, this state's population is old and right now only getting older. We have to look after the ability of these folks to live in an appropriate manner to ensure quality of life and access to health care.
Let's face it...this state is old and growing older. It is imperative that housing and medical services are available for our county residents to offer them quality of life. Also, ensuring quality medical services and housing will make this area more attractive for older folks looking to relocate.
The housing market for average saleried individuals/families is priced too high to enable young families affordable options for purchasing a home. With an average household income of \$40,000-\$65,000 per year and an average home cost of \$200,000 or more, it is preposterous to expect an increase in home purchases without serious risk of bankruptcy or foreclosure within 5 years of purchase.
Quit building on karst.
Affordable housing for those "starting out" is very hard to find.
Our county has a high population of retirees which in itself would suggest attention be paid to development of housing to accomodate these citizens. We must realize that the traditional thought of providing housing for seniors is not economically profitable is nonsense. We are entering into the era of "baby boomers" becoming retirees. These people are not "welfare" reciepients, and are looking for "affordable" housing in a "bucolic" rural setting with good medical facilities in which to retire. Any advances in this area for the county would undoubtedly be a positive economic endeavor.
Government is involved enough without our county government having any additional involvement in senior housing. Let the feds take care of this and the private sector.
While these are important issues, I believe the private real-estate developers in the county will fill any housing needs.

8. Public Utilities

Please rate the following public utility issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Public utilities (water and sewer)	5	17	68	56	121	4.01	267
Public Service Districts and fee structure	9	27	86	60	80	3.67	262
Aging infrastructure (water lines, sewer lines and other public utility facilities)	4	10	65	69	118	4.08	266
Aging or inadequate septic systems	12	13	65	65	109	3.93	264
Additional comments:							22
answered question							268
skipped question							30

Additional comments:
<p>Septic systems have become extremely important in the area. Note that one area outside city limits has had extreme problems according to one former owner in the area with whom I have had information. some areas were not included in the sewer system at the beginning, neither were homes inside the city due to situations or some sort. For instance, Buckingham Acres only has one home on the sewer system, all others are on septic systems. Upgrading of the sewer system is inevitable. Though there are newer types of septic systems, some are very expensive and beyond the capability of some of us.</p>
<p>Enforce top-grade sanitary requirements before population growth & sprawl destroy sensitive karst topography.</p>
<p>our services are very costly!</p>
<p>make sure the health department follows the rules in septic tank permits</p>
<p>I am not sure what is referred to in the second item.</p>
<p>These items are critical for health.</p>
<p>All homes should be inspected to see if they have septic systems that work or sewage lines that are connected to the main!</p>
<p>NO DUMPING INTO CAVES ! NO CONTAMINATING GROUND WATER</p>
<p>From a planning perspective, the important questions are less these questions than the question "what are the limits". How much water can we increasingly draw from the Greenbrier and Meadow Rivers? They do not have infinite supply, and we are nearing their limits. Therefore, water services cannot be randomly extended everywhere in the county, which means you need to decide where growth will be allowed to occur.</p>
<p>Suspect many private septic systems are antiquated and leaching into ground water</p>
<p>AND there's still refuse water going into the caves</p>
<p>Keeping ownership of our local water resources AND cleaning up waste discharge</p>
<p>Keep our water clean! Keep waste water out of the karst and the greenbrier river! Keep the necessity of water and sewer affordable!</p>
<p>Storm water runoff damaging our homes is a very important issue. We need more strategically located storm drains all over town.</p>

Without the correct utilities in place, no development. simple
Public utilities are one of the most imp. facets of community life, and the most expensive but one in most need of attention.
The county environmental health dept. needs revamped, trained and made more efficient and effective. It needs new and updated training for its sanitarians, office personnel, better record keeping, computer and paperfiles, leadership and better and updated training for septic and well installers.
We must maintain our water supply. Our public service districts seem only interested in getting the waste to the treatment plant and not in what that plant puts back in the river. We are also getting a lot of fertilizer and animal waste pollution that needs monitoring.
The water and sewer system in Alderson is renowned...and NOT for the right reasons. The whole infrastructure is falling apart...flooding is rampant, and the whole situation just makes me want to move to a town that cares about its citizens.
Comment to "Aging or inadequate septic systems": Teach them alternatives.
Too much government regulation--too restrictive currently
Alderson water/sewer VERY poor! Most storm drains blocked, streets flood during moderate rain, water lines continually breaking and flooding areas, city charges for water WAY too high for quality and service received.
High coliform counts in the Greenbrier River is a public health issue; Inadequate septic systems on karst topography causes direct fecal contamination of caves draining into the Greenbrier River.
Charmco has terrible water, we have bought expensive water treatments and continue to have trouble.

Other means of public transportation need to be assessed and developed.
congestion in Lewisburg
Not exactly sure what "Roads" means. Do you know? More? Better? Upkeep? The four-lane bypass model that destroyed Summersville, and DOH wants to impose on central Greenbrier County, is unacceptable. The two-lane/bikeway model that citizens proposed is what we should do. Trails, walkways, and bikeways, completely separated from roadways, need to be a goal everywhere in the county. MTA needs to run US 60 from Rainelle to White Sulphur.
Need designated bikeways throughout County
Congestion along US 219 is getting worse. Suggest bypass or opening another interchange at US 0 and I-64 to reroute Fair Traffic and heavy gravel truck traffic away from center of town.
Sidewalks!!!!!!!!!!!!
Greenways and bike paths for commuting
We are really lacking in "greenways" in the Lburg and Fairlea area. We need safe shoulder area or separate pathways/trails for bikers and pedestrians, all around town and especially connecting fairlea and Lewisburg. This and public transpo. can really help reduce our dependence on petro and reduce greenhouse emissions. Furthermore, they both help out low-income families who cannot afford vehicles. I already see a lot of people who are forced to bike and walk in the area, let's make it safe for them and encourage others to choose "green" transpo. Traffic congestion in Lewisburg does not bother me much - I either avoid getting in it or take back roads. I don't know what to say for the folks who don't have this option. Court St. is a beautiful, quiet, historic area and I'd like to see it stay that way. I do understand the inevitability of needing road alternatives, I just don't want it to wreck our small town. Rural roads - please keep them maintained and safe, especially the narrow ones with big drop offs.
"Public" transportation needs to be expanded to the rural, outlying areas of the county.
Pedestrian/bicycle pathways separate from roads are needed. Many people risk their lives trying to walk along 219 to the Mall and to the Walmart shopping area.
What will be the affect of all the gas drilling on roads, traffic, water quality and quantity? With no hope in site for reducing the cost of fuel, it will be important to improve public transportation in rural areas. Extended coverage, Park-n-ride, etc.
Roads. We have been talking, meeting, hiring consultants for years. Do something. Stop meeting. Lewisburg just finished a study, last we have heard about it. Just do it now. One way streets, alternative by-ways, do a lot with out a 4 lane bypass.
Due to the large open area of our county most citizens drive, or have family or friends to transport them from community to community. I have observed the use of the Mountain Transit Busses and they seem to be very underutilized - especially when we may consider the cost to operate vs. the benefit derived by the citizens (as evidenced by the usage).
CITY OF LEWISBURG AND GBR. CO. NEED TO GET THE CONGESTION ISSUES ADDRESSED ON 219 IN LEWISBURG
We want all these things but our biggest problems seem that there is no plan at all
Fairlea: congestion/ roads Western end: Alternative transportation facilities
Needed traffic control: Electric bus service on Rt. 219 between state highway garage and Eastern Greenbrier Middle School with stops at all traffic lights and at apartments, Lee St. (osteopathic school), Fair Grounds, Greenbrier East High School, Greenbrier Valley Medical Center; Increased sidewalks and bike lanes on roads near and in towns; Removal of school bus garage from Lewisburg residential neighborhood.

10. Recreation

Please rate the following recreation issues:								
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count	
Recreational opportunities	9	18	64	79	97	3.89	267	
Upgrading existing recreational facilities	9	24	74	77	84	3.76	268	
Developing new parks	20	41	73	56	73	3.46	263	
Developing a County Recreation Center	30	36	41	35	77	3.42	219	
Additional comments (optional):							38	
							<i>answered question</i>	269
							<i>skipped question</i>	29

Additional comments (optional):
Our county needs an indoor swimming pool/swimming program. I would like to see this happen in the very near future.
against developing a county rec center with current funding proposal!
ht about the future?
Pools, trails, gyms, picnic areas, etc are absolutely golden gems.
The County needs to improve facilities that promote the ever increasing bicycle riding interests.
natural recreational opportunities are plentiful, no need to construct
All of heath, mind and body require good recreational activities. Lots of choices for variety and ensuring season round activities can reduce the counties medical needs and costs. It is so basic it is incomprehensible that this country is so out of shape.
I think building a new rec center would be a major mistake, and I don't like Kevin Workman's plan either. Since when do we give private individuals tax money to enhance their own businesses/property?
We need a complete YMCA facility that includes pool (for laps etc), inside and outside facilities!!
prefer local business investment in recreational activities such as what Kevin Workman has proposed
Community pool should be put beside Greenbrier Physical Therapy and Fitness. The remaining wooded land there should be made into a park with walking trails.
Recreation centers need to meet the needs of both ends of the county, not just Lewisburg. I think there should absolutely be a pool available to the public, as there used to be through WVSOM. The owner of the Forum helath club has some good ideas about this.
This area abounds in outdoor recreational opportunities. This could be greatly supplemented by a county rec center, and these topics in conjunction with alternative transportation options will be important for quality of life and attracting folks to the area to live.
Indoor pool would be sensational.
SWIMMING POOLS ARE NEEDED
This area/community needs a teen recreation center.
County Rec Center should be not for profit
Depends on what you mean by recreational opportunities and facilities. We very much need a public pool in the central county area, but we don't need a \$5 million boondoggle gym so that an elite minority has a meat market to watch each other sweat in Spandex. Walkways and trails should be widely distributed. We also need parks for quiet places and nature, not just basketball courts.

Let's take up Dr. Workman's offer to build a pool and Rec center.
I think it's very important to have safe recreational facilities for young people. A good place for them to play & hangout. I think it's more important to maintain, in quality, the ones we already have, than to build new ones. Take care of what we have, than perhaps add more.
if there is to be a county recreation facility, locate it with easy access to major roadways to avoid more traffic congestion in Lewisburg
I am an avid supporter of local economy. I am a member at the Fitness Forum in Lewisburg. Jeremiah (the owner) has worked hard to maintain his gym. Recently the Visitor's Bureau bought the building that the gym is in. As I understand it the GCVB is supposed to support local economy and tourism. If the GCVB has any intention of pushing the Forum out so that they can receive more state funds for more square footage, they are working against their mission. I believe we have a perfect setup with the gyms in town right now. All 3, each strategically placed in different areas of town for everyone's convenience. If the Forum is knocked out due to the GCVB's own selfish interests, there are going to be some ticked off locals! It's BS! Furthermore we don't need to waste our tax dollars on a new rec center when we can support local business by going to one of the 3 local gyms. A rec center would only take business from them. We don't need to Wal-Martize are rec possibilities. I believe the County could better spend it's money on filling in the holes, by giving us a rec pool for exercise for example. Link in with the local gyms to offer rec opportunities that they are unable to offer.
Why develop a county rec center when all we really need is a public pool?
The money being poured into the recreational facility could be used to develop several parks around the county.
we need to keep our younger generatio entertained so not to get into drugs or trouble
[Should be] County Recreation Centers on both ends of the County.
Do not put the recreation center near the college. With the county school board wanting land, we are choking NRCC. It needs to grow. Put it on 219 north where the whole county can get to it.
The natural surrounding of our rural county would seem to be less reliant on the necessitiy for organized recreational facilities as opposed to urban areas. We have so much natural freedom and beauty to take advantage of that it, in itself, provides a wonderland of recreational activities for all.
The County owned/operated facility is a problem. It would compete with privately owned YMCA Gbr. Fitness and Fitness Forum facilities. These privately owned facilities do not need government competition. WE DO NEED A SWIMMING POOL. WE HAVE NEEDED A SWIMMING POOL. WHY DON'T WE HAVE ONE BY NOW?
We could have had a big National Guard Armory like Beckley 20 years ago but the idea was swept away by community pride or jealousy now that is not an option because the new ones are not usable for public functions. My guess is we will get the gymnasium from Greenbrier College if it can be used for anything?
swimming pool
County recreation center= very important
Developing new parks = 6 County Rec Facility = 6
(5) Indoor pool facility
Not County-owned. YMCA!
Parks in West End
The reason I ranked the County Rec Center low is because they want a swimming pool. I can't go heat pools because the chemical fumes make me sick. That means the whole building would be off limits.
When developing recreational opportunities please remember the western end of the county.

11. Environmental Issues:

Please rate the following environmental issues:							
Answer Options	Not important	Less important	Important	More Important	Very Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Preserving natural resources	0	3	20	22	94	4.49	139
Preserving agricultural and forestal lands	0	3	24	19	89	4.44	135
Drinking water quality	0	0	8	20	109	4.74	137
Karst geology	22	23	56	41	73	3.56	215
Groundwater (subsurface) quality	2	7	30	52	177	4.47	268
Surface (rivers, streams) water quality	2	4	18	45	172	4.58	241
Air quality	4	7	28	49	183	4.48	271
Mine runoff and mine reclamation	13	15	32	49	152	4.2	261
Wind Turbines and alternative energy	25	14	38	48	136	3.98	261
Other energy (coal) projects	40	28	29	40	84	3.45	221
Additional comments (optional):							50
<i>answered question</i>							276
<i>skipped question</i>							22

Additional comments (optional):
Encourage people to use Lewisburg bypass to utilize Rt 60 to Stone House Rd Up Stone Rouse to Rt 219 at State Rd Garage
I support alternative energy (e.g. wind turbines) as long as the means justify the end. In other words, as long as Greenbrier County citizens benefit instead of the out-of-state interest group/business.
Any strip mining in the county should be stopped and no new permits granted. Wind turbines should be stopped.
I believe that wind turbines may be of importance due to the oil crisis now
City water in Gbr Co tastes like a swimming pool. Building a sulphuric-acid-belching coalfired power plant in Rainelle is the OPPOSITE of smart development.
Burning Coal is destroying the earth. We MUST develop alternative energy. Pushing coal for the short term income is WRONG!!!
The gas drilling companies have to be watched as they will destroy water tables, water sheds, and the quality of water. Using proprietary chemicals to fracture the shale, our water could be polluted with no recourse!
Although these are rated by me, they are all equally important and need careful consideration and integration. Future energy needs will require careful consumption of all the above and conservation of the finite resources. Why should Greenbrier County wait for the rest of the country to lead. The rest of the country should follow...lets get going. County property tax breaks for those who venture into the alternative energy sources. This is difficult because most conservation also decreases county tax revenue. This is a problem worth tackling and show the rest of the country how to lead with out of the box green thinking.
Invergy must address the newest technology for wind turbines, the prototype just came out in May. The whole thing is a mess and will destroy Anjean.

Preserving agricultural lands is key to preserving the pleasantly rural sense of the county and, by extension, its tourism industry.
some of your questions are too comprehensive...ie I may not be interested in wind power but alternative energy is included in the question
I am against wind turbines and mountain top removal.
Wind Turbines are a tax break for big energy companies. Developing a local alternative energy infrastucture is my priority.
do not stymie investment and firms willing to invest in our county
I'd like to note that the survey only calls upon participants to rate importance, not stance. For example, Wind Turbines are very importat to me, but I am not in favor of their development. However, I am in favor of other kinds of alternative energy. I hope the Planning Commission takes this complexity and ambiguity into account when looking at the survey results.
No more coal burning power plants.
Right now, I oppose the wind turbines because of their inefficiency, and the extractive energy options because of concerns about drinking water pollution.
As mentioned above, this area is well suited for outdoor recreation. The economy of this area is strongly tied to such activities, as well as agriculture, forestry, and mining. Ensuring quality of water is essential to not only maintain, but if there is any chance of growing the population. Leaders will need to be mindful of the economic importance of what seemingly appear to be conflicting interests - outdoor rec and energy production, and provide strong direction to ensure both are sustainable and do not occur at the expense of environmental quality or economic development.
CLEAN AIR CLEAN WATER NO COGEN NO WIND TURBINES without compensation to effected parties NO wind turbines in populated areas
I strongly support alternative energy, but not the spread of wind turbines in scenic areas when there is little proof that they will be cost effective. They should not be developed to create tax breaks and pollution credits for companies.
I have no problem with gambling establishments. I think wind turbine energy is environmentally friendly and should be used
don't know what "karst" is
Thank God the Co-Gen plant is dead. The next time someone proposes a coal project that uses less-than-best-available technology that would pollute our air and water the County Commission should not invest tax payer money in it. The main purpose of Co-Gen was for the executive proponents to collect six figure salaries for the last five years.
We could explore new clean coal energy
I'm more for developing new, safer, cleaner forms of energy than continuing to rely on coal. To me Wind Turbines are better than the destructive habits of mining. What about hydro power ?
Keeping our area attractive to tourist visits by being evironmentally friendly and green
this rating scale from not impotant to very important is quite a vague way to express opinions on issues. I hope comments are use for census gathering. The alternative energy issue is important to me for a couple of reasons. I want to see our dependency on coal lessen. but, at the same time I don't look forward to my view of our beautiful landscapes being obstructed by wind turbines. the negatives of them outway the positives for our area. I think windmills are great in the proper setting - like out west in the desert, where there is vast terrain to put mass quantities of them and sufficient high winds to make them efficient. I'm for alternative energy when used properly and efficiently. The currently proposed wind project does not meet this sstandard. I have commented on a lot of these issues in prior comments so please refer to them. Mountain top removal is deadly to humans and the environment - it needs to be stopped! Keep all waters clean!

As someone who lives off the grid and produces my own electricity via solar I have come to realize that conservation of energy is far more important. The production of alternative energy with the same old mind set of use as much as you like will never work. Wind turbines in Greenbrier County is promoting this same mind set. It is industrial development the is not a positive change for the county.
The Co-Gen plant is another boondoggle that will cost countians their health and air quality for years to come. As with the Wind Turbines, the only benefit is to the profiteers and carpet baggers.
Wind Turbines are not the best way but Alternative energy is very important.
Wind turbines should be prohibited in this county. It does not fit, with the natural, rural landscape and it has been shown that wind energy does not replace energy from fossil fuel plants. Additionally, WV does NOT have an energy problem and actually EXPORTS 70% of its electricity.
You can call it "clean" Coal, but it is NOT> We need to focus on a cleaner future and phase out non-renewables and polluting energy sources that contribute to global warming.
I am strongly opposed to the Beech Ridge wind project. While we need alternative energy sources, they must be economically viable (which Beech Ridge is NOT) and effective alternatives. Coal gasification is too dirty and inefficient to be considered either.
i am against the wind plant coming in as proposed by invenergy. i am not opposed to wind energy on a less grand scale, and only if we in west virginia get some of the power generaterd by this plant. but to destroy miles of beautiful wilderness so that some corporation in chicago can make some big money at our expense i say absolutely not.
I believe alternative sources of energy should be developed but only when and if they can be can produce with little or know affect on the environment.
Karst=0
Comment in reference to either Wind Turbines or Other Coal Projects: Do not need! Not helpful!! Detrimental. (Comment not specified in relation to specific issue).
Groundwater = 10; Surface Water = 10; Air Quality = 10; Mine Runoff and reclamation = 10
Most of Greenbrier is not affected by mine questions; however the problems that surface mining creates is farr outweighed by the benefits that may be derived from it. As to wind turbines I have witnessed these in other sections of the country and they do not seem to be objectionable there (California around the Palm Springs area for example); however if we are to sell ourselves as a "tourism" destination this may be a large distraction, and an impediment to attracting those who we wish to attract.
Wind turbines and other energy (coal) projects: fine if a good project in right place.
WIND TURBINES ARE NOT A GOOD ALTERNATIVE FOR GBR. CO.
Score for other energy coal projects=0
Mine Runoff: stop it totally! Passive solar is THE WAY. Wind turbines: Stop them! Backwards Primitive!
Mine runoff--reduce it Wind turbines--Only in areas where there are no people within view or 5 miles away
Power Plant
Wind Turbines=0
I have ranked items that I think County Commission/Planning Commission have authority to influence change. Many othrs are state or national responsibilities.
Clean sources for power is a MUST have!! Wind turbines, CNG availability, etc... very important to future environmental issues.
Needed pollution control: Moving of dump further from water source; County recycling center with automatic sorter and dedicated pick-up trucks; Removal of school bus garage from beside Price Run in Lewisburg.
Wind turbines shout not be allowed in beautiful natural forests.

V. Potential Solutions

Participants were asked to suggest possible solution to their top solution. While the solutions will be included under the subject categories in the final report, the are presented here, unsorted, to provide a starting point for discussion.

1. Planning and Land Use

Public transportation needs to be explored. A bypass around 219 to simplify travel needs to be developed. Affordable housing to accomodate more families is a necessity. Growth cannot occur on a large scale until all of these issues are willingly addressed and those making the decisions abandon their former tunnel vision approach to the word growth being associated with tourism alone. This county does not have to be defined by downtown Lewisburg, the Osteopathic school or the Greenbrier Hotel. These wonderful places should accentuate our community, not define it. There is room for so much more! Public transportation needs to be explored. A bypass around 219 to simplify travel needs to be developed. Affordable housing to accomodate more families is a necessity. Growth cannot occur on a large scale until all of these issues are willingly addressed and those making the decisions abandon their former tunnel vision approach to the word growth being associated with tourism alone. This county does not have to be defined by downtown Lewisburg, the Osteopathic school or the Greenbrier Hotel. These wonderful places should accentuate our community, not define it. There is room for so much more!

All of these issues can easily be addressed and remedied within the next 20 years. The time to begin is now!

[Tax breaks and incentives] for use of green building and lifestyle practices.

1. Planned growth

1. Sprawl—zoning;

A moratorium on all new growth on north 210.

A commitment that no trees or green space will be covered in pavement. If trees need to be cut they should be replaced by others of equal or greater size.

A plan that includes conservation as a large part of its goal.

A real, comprehensive Comprehensive Plan to preserve and protect, provide employment opportunities and prevent the change some developers have brought to the Lewisburg area. I can't imagine a more ugly entrance-way into Lewisburg that 219N from I-64 to town, unless it were through an industrial area. Don't let that happen again.

Action and support from County commission to set goals, take initiatives and action to plan visionary economic growth while promoting a beautiful, unspoiled environment through planning and zoning, then developing infrastructure to enhance growth of our primary future industries.

All building and growth is very carefully evaluated for it's potential damage to water and other resources that can not be renewed.

Allow the zoning commission to zone williamsburg.

Consider it in the planning of all of the issues

Controlled growth--limit # of subdivisions. Consolidate to specific area. Clear in to town.

Develop a plan for growth and encourage better land use. Minimize sprawl and maximize development in areas partially developed with exisiting infrastructure.

Develop a zoning plan, stop people from building subdivisions around the airport
Airport noise for homes near the airport will result in airport closure

Develop very restrictive building codes to slow down the unfettered development.

Developers need to have a bond on their work to keep them honest.

Great care w/sprawl

Having worked with the city in land development, new constructed, remodeling the "old," I am frustrated to see the overzealous self-centered agenda of some within the city to impose unrealistic expectations and financial hardships upon those who want to upgrade their properties.

I do not know! A plan that can satisfy business, farmers, and historical buffs.

I like Greenbrier County just the way it is. The reason I moved here is that it is close to nature - it is clean and beautiful! I don't want a comprehensive plan!

I think you have to establish priorities. That would include a needs assessment in infrastructure, identification of areas that can be used for housing and business development and develop funding mechanisms and a plan of implementation.

I would like to see redevelopment of areas that are abandoned or underutilized. The Meadow River Watershed Association was incorporated earlier this month, and one of the first projects that we are working on is returning the roadside park near Rainelle to a public use area.

If you are a landowner, you should be able to build or modify your property without interference from County government. Where are we going with all of the rules of building on your own land? If a landowner is interested in improving their property, why charge them for that right?

Inclusionary zoning
Land Use Plan

instead of developing sprawl why can't we go back and fix all the run down and abandoned business locations in this county

It is extremely important to be careful in development. Consistency and eye to the future is vital.

It seems as though the Planning Commissions in the county and in Lewisburg are doing a reasonable job at looking at the environmental issues surrounding new growth.

Keep agricultural areas. Find a better way than now to protect those areas from sprawl

Keep the historic and selected areas as is but encourage industrial growth in outlying areas to promote economic growth while maintaining the beauty of our mountains and rivers

Limit growth

Limit growth on banks and viewsheds of Greenbrier River so that river activities will remain cleaner and stay beautiful not just be houses of the wealthy to exclude poorer residents from river enjoyment to tourists either.

Limit planning regulation.

Make follow through on plans approved to be enforced and grandfathered to keep developers honest.

Must find a zoning compromise to retain some personal and community control.

No housing developments/apartments should be permitted until the roads, schools & other necessary infrastructure including adequate roads, traffic signals, sidewalks, greenspace etc. Have been planned for and provided!! No one should serve on the zoning/planning commission for more than 2 years and each individual in that position should be required to reveal his/her ties to anyone selling land for development, any builders and any business interest that might influence a planning decision

People need more awareness, and we need to attract new people with a vision

Present subdivision codes are ridiculous and could very well be considered a "taking." Present rules need a "common sense" review.

Preserve farm land in designated areas.

Preserving our rural acreage for tourism and not allowing or zoning for sprawl developments.

Prevent breakup of large farming and timber tracts
Probably too late. Let's just keep it beautiful and simple!
Protect good farmland
Sprawl has ruined many areas of the USA and it is beginning to happen here. Those intangibles that make this area a great place to live and visit (beauty, quiet, lack of congestion, clean air, natural areas, etc.) are fragile and can be quickly lost. A well thought-out plan is needed to prevent rampant development.
Stricter zoning.
Strong zoning regulation. Only planned "historically" appealing growth.
Study the issues, look at available research, concerted efforts to bring about change or to maintain status quo. Maintain strict control on infrastructure issues, water quality, etc.
Tax breaks and incentives for restoring and using older existing structures and homes.
the way that i think the county can deal with over population: put a freeze on building spec houses and developments until we know we have a way to support more people on roads, with trash and sewage, and with water. this is serious and i am amazed that no one is recognizing this problem.. the river is going dry, and we just keep putting in more toilets to flush.
Understand Development (Future) before a project is built and prevent a negative impact on the area.
Use and further development current facilities, i.e. the airport, I-64 and railroad.
We have people who lived and worked here all of there life and some have worked hard enough and been fortunate enough to acquire prosperity that they would like to, for lack of better words, develop their property so they would not have to work as hard the rest of their life. The new rules do not allow the average person to afford this so called development. We need zoning and rules, just not so much of them.
We need a comprehensive plan We need zoning--a difficult issue for many We need zoning--an issue from 30 years ago " " " " " " " " " "
We need result based planning!
We need to find common ground when discussing issues as a group. Our planning commission has been known to censor folks with comments, and some folks (whether environmental or developer) are too radical to find middle ground without the help of mediators. If we could find more common ground, I feel all parties will benefit. Also – geologist need to be more involved (by regulation) in development. The state has fallen short there & it endangers our entire way of life it is is not recognized.)
While growth is inevitable, the evidence from other cities should be enough to show that sprawl is deadly to communities. As the business locations are added one by one going north on 219, we have to wonder where that will stop. The valley will be ruined if it doesn't stop somewhere! More focused areas for business parks could make a difference.
With each step we take with new ordinances (i.e. Subdivision, building code) more expenses are added and more taxes will be required. We do not need more taxes.
Withdraws ordinance on subdivision of land permits for rural construction-both unnecessary government
Zoning determined by rigorous city planing.
Zoning farmland as such so we don't become over populated with developments.
ZONING ISSUES NEED TO BE CLEARED UP IN IEWISBURG. tHEY CAN BE INTERPRETED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE FEW IN CONTROL OF CURRENT COMMISSIONS.
Zoning must be done to prevent sprawl

2. Planning and Government

1. Our real estate taxes are assessed at a rate which is too low. While this may be popular, our community ends up having limited funds for valuable community services and projects (beautification, preservation, cultural, the arts, education).

All communities working together
More people from both sides of Greenbrier uniting more

Build a modern state of the art animal shelter that has room to expand, able to handle all types of animals. Move county building, jail, sheriff's dept out of downtown and modernize all county services.

by passing more and more restrictive ordinances, the county commission aided and abetted by the planning commission, is stealing our individual and property rights. The commission no longer represents the people. They represent the County commission. I believe an expanded county commission (5 members) would better represent all of Greenbrier County.

Commissions vow to act only in the best interest of all county residents, not individuals that come to the commission or commissioners

Continue to press and push for citizen involvement in a comprehensive plan for the county.

Designate time periods for county officials such as commissioners to act on issues. If no action, mandate a policy review with legal implication for reasons of inaction.

Designate time frames for projects!!!
Get realistic with building inspections, etc.

Develop opportunity for community input, such as this survey. Communicate the happenings and results of the planning commission through a newsletter, rather than allowing the local paper to interpret the meetings.

Don't try to tell me what to do with my property.
Quit taxing and spending--requiring permits to upkeep my property

Educate people on saving themselves, and the place they grew up in, and love.

Education/information for all citizens. Collect data that gives information to all citizens to all them to be a part of the county. A newsletter, website that gives info to citizens to make good, informed decisions.

Encourage community involvement in every form of government

Get rid of the "old boys network" in county government, especially at the Greenbrier County School board.

Government more available to western end citizens. This could be so many days a week for those services to be available.

Have people in positions with courage to make tough decisions. Nothing will ever happen if we approach everything with "why it can't happen"

I would like to see county, state, and city government work together for the good of all the citizens of the county instead of being so factual [?] and fighting each other on every issue that is brought up. I would like to see county government work together to help the West end and the East End come together and feel more equal.

If the political arena would work as a goal-driven entity for the community and not for private (individual business) interests.

Improve communication between government and people.

Industry with good wages is needed to better the quality of living for area residents. The County has to make money to provide good services to area residents--more jobs--more taxes. County officials can't do anything without money to operate. If people are working and paying taxes it helps. All of these issues are important but it takes income to get things done. Common sense--work on the issues we can improve and better the quality of living for everyone.

Keep government out as much as possible.

Look at success stories of other communities and follow their example! We aren't the first to address all these issues.

Merge city governments into a consolidated county/regional format. Provide equal upgrades throughout county in all issues

More public education about the issues
More public involvement of citizens in decisions to be made: wider polling, wider voting
More creative solutions

No levy bond that stimulates the east end of the co. and the west is left out. The County Commission should stop giving in to the lawyers and doctors on the east end.

Planning and acting upon said plans should be an easy task. A public hearing would be a great start to garner support and gain much-needed advice.

Preserving the Environment and Sustainability:

Our brightest minds need to brainstorm what a sustainable Greenbrier County might look like, then present the plan to industry, business, government, religious and political leaders to be fleshed out, and for those individuals to plan how to turn the dream into a reality that most of the citizens can embrace.

We would need to look at economics, education, infrastructure, preserving farmland, social services.

Then different volunteer groups can each take charge of implementing parts of the plan, and gathering public support. Government leaders would pass legislation to assist this process, such as clean water standards. Government would be required to help fund important initiatives such as refueling stations for alternative fueled vehicles (CNG for example), an electric in town mass transit and biodiesel bus service into the community. Other legislation should be repealed, such as the prohibition against subsidies for alternative energy (except coal) - this might be at the state level.

We need to encourage our citizens to get off drugs and "get off the dole" and become productive, by making participation in the community attractive and compelling.

Pursuing a more regional approach to many of the things that need to be developed such as quality medical, infrastructure, and law enforcement. Greenbrier is a series of small communities none of which on their own can provide the necessary stimulus to insure that these problems are met; however with a comprehensive regional approach many of these problems can become solved or in the least improved to acceptable levels. This will require a great deal of cooperation among our communities and the full cooperation of our local governin bodies as well as a leadership role played by the County Commission.

Put more manpower to work on addressing issues. Speed up the process!

TAXes - are at acceptable level at present - try to maintain rates. Housing is desperately needed for those who can't afford to pay high purchase costs. Folks need more training in finances/credit - how it affects them from early age.

The basic plan starts with a county vote on all to the collated problems. Which to work on first! Once the county votes, everyone start enacting the counties wishes and works together. Building and working on the community goals. TEAM (Together Each Accomplishes More.) Voting on the actions is the best way to get county members involve and ensure success as well as build community and drive toward out goal with success.

The earliest basic issues I would work on are fuel conservation and alternative fuel infrastructure. Health and wellness linked to saving form insurance and medical facilities.....More money in the tax payers pockets and decreased cost on many front. Healthier and happier citizens driven by a community spirit. I hope you have the picture...If needed I could elaborate more but at a later time and hopefully with purpose. I, like you have limited to time to waste. If interest ontact me. Neal Rehberg.

The County Commission has the power to prevent both above mentioned threats to our county, but they underestimate the detrimental effects of both the Co-Gen and the Turbines, plus they are spineless!

The people that make the final decision should not have a conflict of interest and some knowledge of the history and use of the land; not some outsider with an agenda

To see many abandoned buildings--either tear them down or over tax those individuals who own the properties fix them or condemn them. Take this land and build facilities the children can use. Grants probably can be obtained for such facilities. There is NOTHING in Quinwood, Rupert, or Smoot for children to do outside. there are very few areas where children can ride their bikes in these areas. The people live up a huge slope, unpaved, or dirt roads. Its just too dangerous to ride their bikes.

We need to elect politicians that have this realization and can implement statutes, regulations, bill, legislation that will ensure its protection and appropriate uses that serves the needs of people in the community.

3. Cultural and Historical Resources

Alderson Community Center should have more events and have them announced in all the local papers, including Mountain Messenger.

Preservation will occur when it is economically feasible and attractive. It is now, especially with the current housing market – if large (and small) landowners could be educated about their options, tax breaks, continued rights, etc. when conserving land.

Preserving the county's cultural & historic heritage.

See that ALL cultural centers are given equal access to funds and treatment by local media, and a push to bring business to the places as a means of bringing in revenue to the county.

We need to relax some historical district standards in order to bring in more businesses.

4. Economic Development

2. Invite in clean industries like tourism, art and education. The O school is a great asset to the county.

3) Stop building gob burning coal plan in Rainelle to prevent the worsening of water and air quality. Too many have lung and health problems already. The pollution from Rainelle plan will go into the air and then into the rivers. The rivers are our drinking water.

Additional Note: In order for our county/communities to thrive, we need opportunities for economic development. However, we need to progress while keeping a high environmental quality. So, I feel emphasis should be put on creating jobs around development and production of alternative energy sources along with other non-intrusive businesses, such as eco-tourism, historic tourism, and internet based businesses. For internet based businesses to succeed, we must provide a quality infrastructure for High Speed Internet EVERYWHERE!!! Kick Verizon in the butt!!!

Attract new businesses - we get restaurants and that's all. Downtown Lewisburg seemingly only wants businesses that cater to the tourist trade.

County Commission to work on developing the infrastructure of the western end of Greenbrier County - Dawson, Sam Black, Alta, so that more businesses can be developed.

County should support businesses like Gateway industries in Ronceverte who put special ed students to work and give businesses special incentives for hiring special students and people.

Discourage new businesses

Economic development must be county-wide, not in one large building at the airport. Build on strengths of each community and encourage new technology. Get an Econ. Development Corporation that encourages partnerships with communities. The one we have is useless, unhelpful and rude, they help no one except themselves.

Educate people about starting businesses

Farmers need to be given more options to help preserve farmland and forestland. If everyone has to subdivide to survive, we'll ultimately have a bedroom community.

Financial and government support and encouragement for local agriculture and business.

I believe that industry and higher education opportunities go hand-in-hand. You must have 2 components to attract industry in education: 1) One is a quality vocational program that produces students that are job ready on graduation. 2) Higher education choice that produces the necessary professional workforce.

I feel if we could have more interest in tourism and activities to do, the monies could be used for more bike walks, parking, and things we need

I think if we could bring in new jobs that would require educational training then our county would be able to retain students with a higher education and a better future for them and the County.

Industries and business with low environmental impact need to be encouraged while high pollution industries discouraged.

Industries and business with low environmental impact need to be encouraged while high pollution industries discouraged.

Lack of employment opportunities for our youth.

1) Create a business promoting position. 6mo

2) Provide tax incentives for manufacturing to settle in the County. 1yr

3) Encourage business and education to partner in developing a productive/creative workforce. 5yrs

Lack of services - county/community support to small businesses

Lets be reasonable about industrial growth--quit letting the tree huggers decide whether or not we allow industry in. Lets not let our mountains be raped for the sake of some feel good about ourselves windmills to create no jobs to speak of or any other benefit to our local people. These issues were not really covered in the other part of the survey, but they are two things that should be changed.

Like many products, our county needs to promote, invite, and actively attract businesses for further economic development. We have superb educational facilities and opportunities pre-K-college/ o-school as well as wonderful recreational outlets. This county is naturally beautiful. Let's promote and attract development. Instead of just raising wonderful kids to go away to college and employment, promote the county as a "lifelong" place to live, work, and play.

Offer financial incentives to those who farm for a living or otherwise work out of their homes.

Provide tax credits and low financing to lure a large employer to Greenbrier County

Push and support economic development for a source of income to residents
Make incentives and give help to businesses who need it.

Quickly develop a plan to regulate gas development before it destroys our way of life.

Right to work policies.
Lessen laws and taxes for self-employers.

Support the local farmers by providing incentives to remain as farms and not subdivide to developers

Sustainable development is key, with the growth of local business of primary importance. And a local biodeisel bus network so we can afford to go to town. Also this town has a poor history of employment practices: the greed ethic must be subverted by a desire for TRUE community. I am from New York City but have been cheated more here than there. The current local business ethic is backwards. Let us create good businesses.

To encourage business development in Greenbrier County:
- identify specific criteria that would "qualify" a business as attractive to us.
- offer incentives to good businesses to start or relocate here.
- support training that would qualify people to work for these businesses.
- promote WV as a good place to do business (but it has to be true)

Train local workers in jobs that will encourage clean, well paying industry jobs to relocate here and prosper.

We have an aged population resulting in less income via taxes and thus need to attract economic entities that attract working, younger people who can--among other things--help all us old people who want to stay here.

We need growth in reputable employment opportunities that provide decent wages and employee benefits that would entice applicants to view their jobs with a sense of stability and permanency. This requires allowing businesses to be developed without excessive interference and opposition. Building restaurants and strip malls doesn't meet this need. One possible resolution is to keep the power and influence of the historical society in perspective. This organization seems to be out of touch with the common citizens and the needs of the community. There is a balance between lack of growth and expansion and the destruction of places of historic value and importance.

we need to stand strong for tourism and against commercial development.

We should allow gambling at the Greenbrier. Only the rich can afford to go there and we need the taxes that gambling will generate. We should not continue to allow the Christian right to influence the government.

5. Education

3. Improve the school system. Not possible to backtrack and get rid of the centralized schools, but make the teaching better by not teaching tests, but by creating a student body that thinks, problem solves, and questions.

Allow High School seniors to take college credit courses --Have SAT prep classes offered at High School and Community College --More emphasis for students NOT planning on attending college to go to Trade School--plan for Future--need more counseling for graduating seniors.

At East, I had three children attend. They give to any student a pass to bring an automobile to school at a price of 40.00 per year. No one will tell you where that money goes. Even a blindman can tell you that the traffic is higher during the school year. Give passes to the JROTC Sports Band and the student that have after school job only, and only on the days needed.

Better educational opportunities, Better vocational training

Community College w/more programs

Decentralize the schools to re-establish small communities which will ultimately lead to economic development in the outlying areas of Greenbrier County.

Educated children make for a much better community.

Education and children #1

Improving teachers salaries to get better teachers

Replace or clean up schools..keep them nice and clean

EDUCATION EDUCATION EDUCATION

pay teachers more...hire the RIGHT teachers, administrators to get the job done.

I am concerned about the quality of education in the school system. As with any school we have good teachers and bad teachers. The problem is find a solution to get rid of the bad teachers. We should be visionary and make a difference in our children's lives now.

I feel that the county is doing an awesome job in addressing the needs of education for adults & children.

I would like to comment that when we lived there, from 1995 to 1999, my two older children attended Williamsburg Elementary School. I commuted them out there from Lewisburg, for four years. Why, you might ask? Because the unique opportunity that that small local school offered was an amazing opportunity for my children to learn in a school that cared about its children & could offer them something that a larger school couldn't, community. I was saddened to learn that the school had to close. For whatever reasons. Let me say, that those small individual schools give a strength to their children, a security that is hard to find in this rough world. I would prompt you to do everything you can to maintain those small local schools. Not to dump everyone into a larger, more hectic, less individualized school. Our children are not cattle to be corporate farmed. And Greenbrier County has the ability to offer them that unique environment.

If we pass the upcoming bond it will help some of the educational facility problems. We also need to have more opportunities in local areas for continuing their education or trainings. With the price of gas this precludes people notliving in the eastern end from participating in what is offered.

It's too late for smaller schools, but more community involvement in our schools--students need mentoring opportunities.

Legalize charter schools in West Virginia. This state is one of the only states that hasn't provided this option ot the public but it nees to go through legislation. It would be very popular in this area.

More public education about the issues

More vocational opportunities at high schools. Increased support of NRC&TC

Pass School levy on building new schools

Removal of school bus garage from beside Price Run in Lewisburg.

Schools need to prepare kids for college--without continuing education thre is no future.
Adults need to keep current with technology and public issues.

we need to pay our teachers higher wages to attract better qualified individuals to our schools.

West Va. needs to raise teacher salaries to compete with surrounding states

6. Environment

2. Our rivers and streams need protection from pollution.

4.Be very careful about the the environment. Once we screw it up, we are done for, and so is our lineage.

48 states recognize the importance of geoloy on developement and new construction. Greenbrier County has over 1300 caves, the secon highest total in the United States. The County should require geology in all new developments.

Air quality - is vital to maintain this high level of quality and only allow industries that pass the test.

clean, reliable energy - get the wind turbines

County recycling center with automatic sorter and dedicated pick-up trucks.

Develop a karat/sinkhole ordinance. Hire a karst geologist to oversee plans for development on karst. Pass strict pollution ordinances. Hire a field hydrologist to inspect suspected sources of pollution. Pass ordinances to restrict excessive use of water. The state's 750,000 gallons per month unrestrictive usage is absurd.

Enact local regulations controlling night-time light pollution so we can see the stars at night.

Guard our bounty of water--this area is famous in history for the springs, from wooly mammoth times to antebellum. Guard the watershed, the creeks, springs, and rivers from degradation.

Have ordinance officers to keep the county clean e.g. Junk, trash around homes

Hire educators with higher qualifications (increase pay scale), monitor classrooms--test educators as well as students

Make sure text books and materials are not outdated. Lead by example, enforce an environment condusive to learning.

Bullying, vulgar behaviors have no place in education. When children are on the playground, teachers should do more than just stand in their own little huddle.

Keeping pollution to a minimum is important. I don't want industry that pollutes in West Virginia, especially not in my county.

Maintaining and improving environmental quality.

Make environmental concerns a primary consideration instead of an afterthought.

<p>more pro-active environmental groups to PRECEDE the destruction of our environment apparently right now there is a huge push to lease the mineral rights in pocahontas and greenbrier counties the public needs to be made aware of the problems that this may create for future generation, e.g. ruining the already tenuous water in west virginia which would be devastating to future generations since we currently rely on tourism it could potentially destroy the whole state which relies on tourists for there gross income</p>
<p>My #1 issue would have to be concern over my mineral rights. My neighbors (most) sold their mineral rights at a "low ball" price--I'm holding out but the way WV law is written up the well driller can actually suck gas out from under my land. Pennsylvania has what's called "pooling" which if there's a large gas reserve and its under my property, they have to give me royalties on a percentage that would be from my mineral packet.</p>
<p>Preserving & protecting our landscapes & natural resources via environmentally sensitive comprehensive plan goals and county/municipality zoning & land development ordinances.</p>
<p>Protecting local agricultural & resource lands.</p>
<p>Providing better accessibility to more recycling opportunities and awareness</p>
<p>Rain gardens at all new parking lots. Rainwater capture mandates Enhanced river protections and streams.</p>
<p>Recycling available for all, i.e. not having to drive 30 miles to the center</p>
<p>Sign the mayors Climate change agreement and put together a sustainability program and plan for the county</p>
<p>Stop windturbines</p>
<p>Strict codes to assure clean water and soil and air.</p>
<p>The trash problem: "Free debris and tire days" to encourage a cleaner Greenbrier County</p>
<p>Water (ground and surface) needs to be the highest priority!. A solution to the issue of water quality, quantity, and velocity would be to first realize that we have an abundance of the most important element to sustain life.</p>
<p>we need to protect our water and air.</p>
<p>Work with area farmers to educate them OFF of chemical-dependence. The toxic runoff is killing the watershed & giving people cancer.</p>

7. Housing

<p>Help poor families w/housing - more FMHA Homes</p>
<p>Housing market has grown out of control and pay scale does not meet.</p>
<p>Housing need to be address. Tax break for low income housing</p>
<p>It is difficult for a single parent to find a place to live that is affordable in the Lewisburg District.</p>
<p>Offer tax breaks to those who renovate older homes or build a new home on the same site as a previously uninhabited home</p>

8. Recreation

A new recreation center with indoor pool should be built next to a senior center and next to area high school and middle school for great community access and infrastructure development. This will help draw industry to area and promote health of citizens.

Build an indoor swimming pool.

County recreation facility should be run by a non-profit group.

Create a recreational center to include an indoor pool (not to be run by a for profit entity). A community this size should be able to put the politics aside and plan a facility available to seniors, students and the general public.

Don't spend our tax money on a rec center. Supplement what our local gyms don't have, like a swimming pool and basketball court. Let the gyms and members tap into the supplemental rec by paying a small fee that goes to the county. Keep all three local gyms in business.

I am more concerned with recreational opportunities. I think it would help teens to have more choices of things to do rather than drinking or drugs.

The Fair Board has allocated the land, The YMCA has the ability to direct. The community is in need!! Our schools need these facilities as well--they can utilize them once built!

The YMCA has a plan already available and has the support of nationwide experience of many many years for developing recreational facilities. It is a must for this community to support the YMCA in building and operating a facility. We are second in the country for childhood obesity.

The YMCA has a road map of dev/implementing and building the facility already available--

If there is an excellent recreational facility(with pool) available, more people would consider retiring here.

The Y needs the partnership of Gbr County---

With the olympics just ending it makes you realize that we do not offer our children ways to enrich their lives and take part in life changing events such as the olympics. It would be great to see our children have more opportunities, such as swimming, and gymnastics.

9. Transportation

Roads need to be planned to cover the problems of the future not present

1. A "scenic" bypass can be linked with I-64 West of Lewisburg that feeds into the beginning of the one way section of 219 in Fairlea. This takes traffic where it is going: directly. Only a two lane road is needed. Non-commercial: scenic.

1. Do not "improve" or "upgrade" the roads and highways. You can see what bypasses and larger roads have created in in suburban and rural areas when this happens. Maintain in good condition what we have.

1. Implement a traffic plan, 2. Start with appropriate use of "one-way streets, no left turns", engineered traffic lights, 3. Establish logical connectors between major roads, 4. Widen or replace existing major roads to accommodate existing traffic with capacity for 20 years of growth and sidewalks and bike lanes. 5. Movement to establish a bypass is overblown (around Lewisburg). The basic problem is quality and capacity of the roads we all use locally. This needs to be addressed first county-wide

2.. Traffic issues in the Lewisburg area. For a tiny fraction of the cost of an environmentally harmful and expensive bypass, traffic police could direct traffic several hours a day. It has been done in Atlanta very well. Our traffic is better during the State Fair when we have 80,000+ visitors during 10 days.

219 bypass. I think it will change the town to completely commercial town and brings all the problems and crimes of big cities to us.

A by-pass for 219 is essential--the only alternative is to take the by pass around the west side of town--get the project moving now!

A two-lane "completely controlled" bypass with a linear park containing a completely separated pedestrian and bicycle pathway should be embraced by planners and politicians as one of the most important goals. The bypass must avoid the disaster that DOH inflicted on Summersville; look instead at Lexington, VA and some other progressive solutions. The north-south pedestrian bicycle linear park would be the backbone for the alternate transportation, recreation, and health facilities that we provide for future generations and a model for West Virginia.

Access 219 by bypass off I64.

Address the traffic congestion in several ways.

1. Built the least disruptive North South bypass
2. Open another interchange on US 60 and I-64 in Richlands area intersection

Also, big new roads are not the solution for congestion, they will only increase it. Something as simple as the conversion of the roads around the fairgrounds to one-way roads made a huge difference years ago. Perhaps there are other creative ways to move traffic away from the I-64 exit. Also, why not start work on safe and separate bike trails leading to the schools and colleges, for a start? People don't bike because it is too dangerous to share the roads with cars. Also, convert a parking space on each block to bike parking, with attractive and simple steel racks which will encourage folks to use bikes to run short errands.

Another route to Route 219 from Silo Square/Crowfields area. Another north/south route to keep so much traffic at school start and end times.

bike and walking lanes

Bike paths and walking trails are very important. I know of at least one person who's been killed riding along the paved roads in the immediate area.

Block north exit from WalMart during peak hours.

Build a bypass.

Build Sidewalks and biketrails linking all parts of towns.

Bypass should be placed west of Lewisburg.

Connector road between 219 and I64

Construct a by-pass in the interest of all the people, instead of allowing the upper crust to block it for their own selfish interest.

Create a bypass and address other traffic problems, improve infrastructure

Create a bypass around Lewisburg- see below

Create bike/walking paths that connect the river trail with the rest of Greenbrier Valley and that encourage the cutting back of driving.

Develop a transportation plan for communities that addresses all modes of transportation.

develop public transportation

Development of sidewalks and trails for less dependence on cars, school buses, etc.

During peak traffic periods, adjust lights to keep traffic moving. No left turns at peak hours. Metering lights to slow traffic from interstate.

Electric bus service on Rt. 219 between state highway garage and Eastern Greenbrier Middle School with stops at all traffic lights and at apartments, Lee St. (osteopathic school), Fair Grounds, Greenbrier East High School, Greenbrier Valley Medical Center.

Encourage connecting trails from river to parks to adjacent towns.

Get the Bypass built!

Having a plan to build alternative roads that connect one area of town to another without having to rely solely on 219 or 60

The traffic issue should be taken in steps. The only time we see our state and federal elected is during election time. So I think the county and the city of Lewisburg must take the lead. In the city they should one-way streets. Look at intersections and install additional signal lights like Holt Lane area at Washington. Engineer ways where vehicles cannot turn left in the city. If it takes parking spaces, build a garage (like those in Charleston, SC, look like historical buildings)(build one in the parking lot below the court house). Make more green spaces, walk ways to walk on throughout and bike paths along all corridors. For the roads, upgrade route 60 from Lewisburg city to Harts Run, 4 lane. Upgrade Stonehouse road from US 219 to route 60 at the Greenbrier River bridge (at new 4-lane). Stonehouse could remain 2-lane, but wide and straight, a by-way with green space, bike lanes, for a beautiful access to the Greenbrier River Trail. What an asset we have, being the Greenbrier River. Install a corridor from 219 north to Washington Street and on to 219 south in Fairlea near the hospital and schools. Lot of money, but lets get started. Put a good road between 219 north in to Brush Road and onto the upgraded Stonehouse. Do you remember when the state said Fairlea, this coming Sunday will be one-way, temporarily, see if it works? Best thing ever happened. Some complained for a while, but now it is normal. The traffic is snuffing us out of progress. Lets take those first steps and show the state we mean business and maybe money will come from the state (219 to Fairlea). Also the exit in the Richlands is a good idea for Lewisburg's image, (2 exits), but it will not help the traffic problem in Lewisburg. Remember all people and animals alike take the short cuts, not the long haul. What is mapquest for anyway? So lets get started.

hike and bike trail has supposedly been planned? I'd like to see that happen sooner than later. Sidewalks in subdivisions. especially new ones! if someone wants to build a subdivision, make it so they have to build sidewalks, not only in the neighborhood, but all the way to closest town. ie judyville road in Lewisurg and new brookside subdivision. also, don't allow mass townhouses/apts without improving roads in those areas (ie brush road).

I would also like to see the county handle more of the road issues--not leave all of it to the state. Develop and maintain more County roads by the County--not the state.

I would like to see some progress made on the traffic situation in Lewisburg. It is for sure we will not make every one happy, so why not let the department of highways make the decision and will benefit the majority of the community. Perhaps some side streets up 219. Those of us who have to fight the traffic every day would like to see some steps taken.

if we took out the parking on the hill on the corner of 219 and 60. we could add a turn land and ease some of the traffic back ups. Also we could prohibit all turns at that intersection during rush hour. The timing of the lights at 60 and Foster streets should be synchronized. We also need an alternate route around walmart.

Increased sidewalks and bike lanes on roads near and in towns.

Lewisburg must deal with the traffic situation.

Lewisburg traffic problem at bypass

Need a traffic light at Lewisburg exit.

Other comments: The road along the river in Alderson needs erosion control on the side toward the Greenbrier River. East of Monroe Avenue in Alderson is an alley. It is in such bad shape that a vehicle can not derive down the whole length and a car parks in it. Can't the government fix it?

Paving the road to preserve our homes. And speed bumps to control traffic speed in neighborhoods.

Planning/zoning- prevent the strip development along Route 219. Did no one learn anything from seeing the lack of planning and development in Fairlea? Provide service roads to alleviate traffic congestion along major thoroughfares.

Provide more sidewalks for people to walk

Public Transit mut be developed for all parts of the county. We now have areas with the highest amounts of lower income people without public transit for job opportunities.

Public transportation needs to be explored. A bypass around 219 to simplify travel needs to be developed.

Put in walking/bicycling pathways and extending sidewalks in cities. For example, along 219 North to the shopping area around Walmart.

Re: traffic problems: require kids to ride bus unless Dr. excuse for medical reasons AND put 2195 lights on flashing caution just like Fair week - traffic flows well w/lots of vehicles - it can work

Research the amount of funding it would take to set up a really great transport system. Research other rural areas where this has been successful (Denmark for instance). This would also solve the traffic problem as well as difficult and unruly gas prices for those of us who commute.

Roads need to be planned to cover the problems of the future not present.

Secondary roads need repair and upkeep

The Potholes on Anjean Road

The traffic on 219 N is already completely out of hand and could have been fixed easier 15 years ago. A parallel road is needed before any more land is lost to development. It will be complete gridlock on 219 soon.

traffic - bypass - for through traffic

Traffic congestion - provide access roads to Route 219 allowing additional traffic patterns

Traffic congestion in Lewisburg.

Traffic lights need to be adjusted.

Trying no left turns between the hours 8 to 10 a.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. at the crossroads of 60 and 219 should be helpful. I note that during long lines of traffic on 219 North that many cars are allowed to get into the line of traffic on 219, which delays the cars moving North. I also note that once one gets past the light at Wal Mart traffic moves faster. AND, after the underpass, traffic moves steadily without stopping.

upgrade roads in areas where growth is expected before construction begins

We need a bypass road that will take the traffic to the south of Lewisburg from the Interstate so as to keep downtown Lewisburg as a destination for locals who wish to use the center of town and encourage tourists to visit and enjoy a peaceful, thriving community.

We should build a bypass around Lewisburg.

When developing areas, reworking/repaving current areas, need to keep in mind putting in place paths for alternative transportation use.

10. Utilities and Infrastructure

1) Replace the culverts/ pipes with ones that have valves at the ends so the river water doesn't back up into them--Greenbrier County side or stick a valve on ends of existing ones. Called back flow valves.

2. WE NEED MANDATORY HIGH SPEED INTERNET ACCESS EVERYWHERE. The private sector (Verizon, etc.) is dropping the ball on this in some areas. Local, County, and State government must apply leverage so our community can compete in the Web 2.0 world.

2) Replace waterpipes in Alderson with new ones that work right.

3. Water and waste are primary concerns for our health.

Apparently money is a huge issue as far as fixing city and town infrastructures. I would be for any measure, including a raise in taxes, if it could fix some of the issues we have now, such as the severe water and sewer problems in Alderson.

As rural as most of the county is, we need to think of the possibility of adding water and sewage treatment plants in the county. The few that we do have just do not have the means to provide for the whole county due to our mountains, hills, and valleys

Clean out the storm drains in Alderson: they are clogged.

Fix leaks in water and sewer lines
Remove fluoride addition to city water

Identifying the water quality problems, drafting and initiating a plan to correct the deficiencies and developing a system to assure that the water quality is maintained.

Infrastructure should be in place before development is done. Water / sewage/ roads

Internet access: regulate to require providers to cover rural areas--and limit rates or encourage competition.

New water system in Alderson and control over the city infrastructure to keep from poor spending and DUMB ideas.

Nuclear power plant

Provide public utilities to Sam Black, Dawson areas

The water system in White Sulphur Springs needs improving NOW. The high calcium deposits - water heaters last only one to two years, also causes kidney stones - Just ask the Doctors how many people they treat for this.

UPGRADE WATER PROCESSING FOR BOTH DRINKING AND SEWAGE TREATMENT!

When public water is provided public sewer must be provided

Miscellaneous

Discourage people from moving here

I am not familiar enough with the entire county to feel that I am qualified to offer solutions for the entire county.

More people equals more problems

The procession of a parade should start with people on foot, followed by horses, and then vehicles. When people walk behind horses, they have to walk in their poop. When people and horses walk behind vehicles, they breathe in their exhaust.

Wish I had more concrete solutions, but sorry I don't at this point. I just hate for everything that makes Lewisburg so attractive be destroyed for the monetary benefit of a few, just like in almost all other towns and cities in the state.

V. Places to Conserve / Places to Develop

Participants were asked to identify a specific place where they felt was inappropriate and one place where they felt development was appropriate. Some respondents provided general areas or area types rather than a specific location. Others identified more than one location for each of the two questions. Downtown Lewisburg (historic area) (14 responses) and the Greenbrier watershed (11 responses) were cited most often under areas where development would not be appropriate. The west end of Greenbrier County and the 219 Corridor (specifically on the north side of Lewisburg) were identified most often as areas appropriate for development.

Places Where Development is Inappropriate:

All of It (All/Everywhere/Most)	12	Houfnaggle	1
None of It (Allow change everywhere)	6	Karst Areas	2
Agricultural/Rural Areas (farm/forest)	18	Kate's Mountain	2
Alderson/ Alderson Depot	3	Lake Sherwood	1
Anthony Creek	1	Little Creek	1
Bear town	1	Midland Trail / Route 60	5
Big Draft Road	1	Mountain Ridges	6
Blue Bend	3	Northern Greenbrier	2
Cold Knob	3	Organ Cave	2
Cornstalk	1	Orion Mountain	1
Countryside	2	Remote Areas	1
Cranberry Glade Area	2	Renick	4
Davis-Stuart	1	Rich Hollow	1
Dawson	1	Richlands	10
Downtown Lewisburg / Lewisburg	64	Rivers and Creeks	3
Eastern Greenbrier	1	State/National Forests & Parks	14
Floodplains	2	Second Creek	1
Frankford District / Frankford/ 219 N	10	Smoot	1
Greenbrier County	2	Sunlight	2
Greenbrier Resort	4	West of Lewisburg	2
Greenbrier River/Watershed	22	Williamsburg	4
Greenbrier River Trail	10	my home; My farm	5
Greenbrier Valley Theater	1	It's greeness	1
Historic Areas	1		

Places Where Development is Appropriate:

I-64 Corridor	6	Crowley	1
US 60 Corridor (West of Lewisburg)	6	Dawson	2
Rt. 219 Corridor (Roncevert to Frankford)	38	Fairlea	5
Rt 92 Corridor	3	Fowler	1
Nowhere/ none	5	Frankford	2
None until zoning is implemented	1	Harts Run	1
Not on farmland / not in sight	6	Lewisburg	20
Areas already developed	7	Maxwelton	1
Areas already zoned/ zoning restrictions	5	Meadow Bluff District	1
Areas that are flat/level	1	Organ Cave	2
Anywhere/ Everywhere (depends on development)	14	Quinwood	1
On Shale or Sandstone. Areas that are environmentally safe	6	Rainelle	28
Where there is infrastructure	1	Renick	1
Downtowns/Close to Towns/ Towns	7	Ronceverte	26
Not in historic areas	1	Rupert	13
Mountain tops for wind turbines	3	Sam Black (60/64 Interchange)	9
Airport Area (219 N)	11	Sporting Club	1
Alderson Area	8	West End	36
Alta	3	White Sulphur Springs	28
Brash Road and Stonehouse Road	1	Not sure	3
Building the economy base wherever we can	1	Miscellaneous	5
Central County	2		

VI. Additional Comments

Why only 3 people on county commission?
There are groups of wild dogs roaming the county and we only have two (2) game wardens and we and our neighbors can't seem to get them to help with neighbors who hunt on our posted land
Traffic early AM mid-afternoon in Lewisburg
Road paving; household mail delivery; sidewalks in residential areas.
How many housing units existing currently, Demographics of population; How many acres of agricultural land; Educational facilities usage (not necessarily improve but re-allocate.)
1) Make people aware that property values historically increase with reasonable zoning laws. 2) Excessive property taxes often discourages investment and continued growth
What would attract young people, entice them to remain in Greenbrier County?
Plans, ordinances, building codes, covenants and even laws are so easy to make. Execution and enforcement are the hard parts. It does no good, for example to have building codes not enforced or unequally enforced. Worse yet, the continual request and subsequent approval to make zone exceptions and even gratuitous changes must stop. Growth will occur! It will occur with or without a plan. Better to plan and enforce the plan! Without enforcement, the plan is not a plan.
Zoning and building ordinances need to be enforced with large fines to contractors and city officials who permit ordinances to be violated.
Again, the community and the planning commission need mediators to be sure all voices can be heard (like this) on all topics
Historic homes consideration. Look at other successful communities
We should ask questions designed to understand what people want to see in terms of population growth.
There is a saying that "change is inevitable yet not necessarily good". As we move into the future, let us work diligently to create & maintain a reasonable balance between our ever expanding need for growth and our need for protecting the quality of life that we treasure and enjoy in our county!
One of the most important issues currently is the use of the Greenbrier Valley Airport. My understanding is that we had one or two "slots" at either New York or Washington airports, valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars that, due to ignorance or inability to understand the value of these slots, we gave them up. These slots meant that we could have planes landing at these areas. Once given up, they are gone. If we had someone on that authority who knew airlines and airports perhaps we would not have lost all that money. Again, this is information from someone who is familiar with airports and airlines. I believe that there should be committee members who have some familiarity with airports/airlines. This is not to denigrate our current members but to insist that we need a member familiar with the airline industry to be on that committee. Perhaps it was fine to have committee members at some point who were not pilots, etc but today's world commands informants who ARE knowledgeable in regard to maintaining an airport. And, I believe if we are not careful we will lose this airport..perhaps to private plane companies, etc. not national airlines.
Maintaining the quality of life of Greenbrier county is paramount. If that can be done without passing nasty laws that discriminate against the poor or the "non-mainstream thinkers", that would be great. Not inviting in industry that pollutes is paramount. A non-militaristic police department is important as well. When police in the county are dressed in combat style uniforms it is reminiscent of police states. The police who wear no badge also are hiding behind their uniform without an identification. A well paid police department with pre-employment psychological screening would help with the respect of the department. I will never forget when my 95 year old mother was walking her dog in town and the leash entangled her legs and she fell. A deputy sheriff drove by and would not give her a lift one block to her home as it was against the rules. This behavior and lack of humanitarian care is despicable.

the authorities' are not acting like public servants. the cops, the city employees, the historical board are viewed as having an arrogance attitude rather than a service attitude.
i think that the current push to buy mineral rights has not been addressed and should be immediately made public to educate the population on the PROBLEMS that could ruin future generationa
Let me know if your really serious.
I do not think public water or sewer needs to be pushed onto the rural areas of the county. I think the Job service office needs to stay in Gbr. Co. There has to be some sort of economic push for the western end of the county with full support from eastern end representatives.
Bike/walking paths are important to future generations to stop driving and start walking/biking. If children see people exercising --they will learn to care for environment and themselves better.
that the local perception of county government is not good in many respects such as pat level for ee's, hours of operation in the court house, attitude of certain county employees to the general public, some county offices are just not friendly places and many employees are rude and surly.
The land beside Green brier Valley PT contains many hundred year old trees. This area should be preserved as a park.
We also need a dog park.
People are very irritated to be overly governed. What we do with our property is not the business of County/City government. Government mismanagement is a big problem.
TO MUCH EMPHASIS by the CVB ON WERE JUST A TANKFUL AWAY We like the rural nature of this place and we do not want us to grow faster and with less planning than need for us to maintain that look and feel
County agencies should support all thing that would make Greenbrier Co Green like a bottle bill and complete recycling
Taxes should include funds for landfills so trash collection is free and residence would not have to pay to use the landfill keeping our roads cleaner!
I have not lived in the area long enough to have a complete picture, however, I visited for years befor purchasing a home in the area. I know how disappointed I will be in the environment in the area is destroyed through development and exploitation of resources. I am putting all I own into my life in this community and I want to feel that I have left my children and grandchildren a legacy in a community that is truly progressive and cares about the way we live.
Cost of government
I have faith that you are well aware of the issues facing Greenbrier County
The U Save propane tanks are positioned too close to the interstate and cause danger to traffic going by. They were installed without a permit and cause danger to the homes nearby.
Like I mentioned on Question #6. The Town of WSS seems to open business aimed at Hotel guests. Why not a Magic Mart or something like that, so we don't have to travel to Lewisburg or Covington VA. to shop.
Making stupid rulings in the "Hysterical District" for some people and letting others get by with whatever they want. How did the "Building" on US Rt. 219 across from Robert C. Byrd Clinic get to put acrylic siding on it? It is in the Historic District!

Thoughtful planning is important. The process may be long and drawn out, but we need to protect what we have and at the same time encourage new growth that does not destroy both the beauty and the environment. I'm grateful the time, effort and money is being spent. I'm one of the few people around, it seems, who think our tax load is low, and I would be willing to pay more property taxes for local infrastructure improvement and schools.
More buildings handicapped accessible, sidewalks
Many people from the W-end of Greenbrier County do not feel they are educated enough to attend a meeting of the commission. Have meetings a few times a year would maybe get more of the west end to make their needs known
Sewage 219 North (Homes) People on disability that work
Is there some way to provide recreational opportunities to youth/children outside the Lewisburg/Fairlea regions of the County?
Do not allow massive power lines to transit the county Do not allow gas/natural gas/water pipelines to transit the county Put in a bypass for Hwy 219/60 through Lewisburg
People in middle income bracket and available housing for low to middle income. Low income help is available lots of times. High income can take care of themselves Middle income needs help
Quinwood appears to me to be the forgotten area of the county. Rainelle and Rupert have some business-- Quinwood-NOTHING! there are too many one parent households in which the parents are living off the system. Need something good in this area to help motivate the parents and children to better themselves and their way of life.
Spell Maxwelton correctly Consider zoning/voting regulations that result in hampered economic growth! Examples: signs in Lewisburg Public transportation needed (more) Gambling issue--The Greenbrier.
We need a bypass now around Lewisburg NOW
Addendum comment from question #32: The county recreational facilities--particularly the central location of Lewisburg. The Commission has proven itself impotent in this area--while they cower to the players (businessmen) in the area who cant understand satisfying the needs of the community--youth & seniors--for non profit!!
There are important questions that have not been asked by this survey. My comments pertain to those. The opportunity to comment was the best part of this survey.
This county's policy is dominated by older residents that have good intentions but fail to see how progressive change can make Greenbrier County a better place to live. Somewhat of a narrow minded vision and view and resistance to change. This keeps younger more progressive residents from being involved.
As I said, the rating system on this census is very vague, so please pay special attention to comments.
There is enough talent and energy in this area to make us a model of sustainability and forward looking progress. Preserving the environment does not have to come at the expense of jobs - it can be the producer of jobs and a healthy desirable way of life. Be creative - be brave.
Gas drilling and production in the county has the potential of changing life as we know it and destroying all that is wonderful about this place.
There are permanent buildings and trailers in the Greenbrier River flood plain. Who monitors these? Glass recycling is no longer readily available.

<p>The county should see that there is discrimination against special education students, especially the lower level students. The school board goes out of their way to serve only the higher level students and does not provide the adequate programs needed to teach the lower level students. These children are all left behind in the days of No Child Left Behind.</p>
<p>In order for the county to develop and move towards improvement in the areas listed on previous pages--hire men and women with vision and/or an open mind--a willingness to seek creative solutions and put aside pre-conceived ideas for effective change.</p>
<p>Traffic congestion may () be relieved if north entrance to WalMart is blocked during peak traffic time. County recreation center should not be run by a for-profit group.</p>
<p>Realize that Lewisburg is a small part of this County. It is too often the only concern of the powers that be. Folks outside of this "bubble" feel neglected and, quite frankly, dismissed as irrelevant.</p>
<p>Western Greenbrier Co. needs to be included in advancement. More access to cultural events. Public water and sewer upgrade. Make economic growth in this area a priority.</p>
<p>If the county doesn't realize that if the sewerage treatment plant fails in WSS, there will be no BB money coming in, no sales tax revenue, and gross unemployment because the Greenbrier will have no choice but to close down.</p>
<p>The money spent on promoting tourism in the last three years would have made a new system capable of supporting the burgeoning growth in this area at least affordable.</p>
<p>The PSC has mandated upgrades and repairs, but it falls on the backs of the citizens of White Sulphur to provide the funding. The water and sewer rates have been raised, but it is folly to think that will provide sufficient capital.</p>
<p>Given the enormous boost that the Sporting club and its mega dollar construction have brought via property tax revenues, the Greenbrier and its county tax revenues, and the ongoing problems at the treatment plant, the need for the county to step up to the plate and provide a major amount of capital as an investment in the future development and growth of the tax base is abundantly clear.</p>
<p>There is always a degree of animosity as one end of the county feels slighted by support of the other end. The need in White Sulphur Springs should eclipse all calls of partisanship and bias. The goose that lays the golden egg still needs to go to the toilet !</p>
<p>Are you considering moving away from Greenbrier County? Why? What would keep you here?</p>
<p>You forgot to allow people to identify themselves as interested in participating in a work group.</p>
<p>Princeton resident--"I work in Greenbrier"</p>
<p>That there is more to Greenbrier County than zone 6</p>
<p>I think we covered it for now.</p>
<p>Connection to the global, national, and local needs to be addressed.</p>
<p>People will pay extra to get what they want. Our natural surroundings and lack of "sprawl" are the treasures here; also people that support each other.</p>
<p>Those who have not seen other places often do not appreciate the uniqueness of our county. [?] The Western end is also a treasure; gorgeous.</p>
<p>Thank you for doing the survey and for caring about our futures. Great job.</p>
<p>You have asked most questions.</p>
<p>More questions about the individual completing the survey, and direct the questions to get a sense of the commitment of the individual addressed - ie the individual's commitment to be a part of the solution and not just a critic of the process.</p>

The county needs to balance its development with its natural resources.
Have independent surves of all public places and personnel that are paid by tax dollars. More recreation for children. A tax break for establishments that cater good holsum entertainment for our kids.
Anyone who is caught driving without a license because of a DUI or DWI should be jailed, no ifs, ands, or butts.
(added from Section 3) Drugs are killing our kids. Do not punish the kids who buy and ruin their future, but do to the dealers (whatever).
Please keep our county rural and beautiful by applying subdivision restrictions regarding lot sizes and preserving pristine areas.
How many people are interested in walking and cycling facilities, what would we need to provide them and how much will it cost.
Consider all karst areas carefully. These zones are so easy to pollute--protect these and you will be remembered as the generation that provided clean water for a future that prioritized that overall.
Easy access to government information
We need infrastructure. We need to replace outmoded infrastructure. We need to have state of the art health dept. and leadership in the county commission to let the county grow without government restriction and intervention.
The western end of the county does exist. There should be more cooperation between the eastern and western ends to form interest in the whole county.
Visitor's center has too many people & are wasting money. They expected tenants in new building and lost rent - why? We have highly qualified local people but keep hiring out of area - why? Someone needs to control conflict of interests.
(addition from where to develop: or at least a good bus system to give them access to services. (A large fleet of mini-buses with a more diverse and/or flexible schedule might work best). Things I would like to see happen: 1. A network of hiking and bike trails around Lewisburg an other towns in the county. 2. Access to the local TV channels through satellite (it is not right that they should be blocked here when 85% of the US has access to their local channels via satellite. 3. City sewer on Davis Stuart Road - it is time to get rid of septic tanks whenever possible. 4. A street address assigned for the houses on Davis Stuart Road. W must be among the last to still have rural box numbers. 5. A town recycling program.
Number of kids driven to/picked up from schools privately
They are not making any more land!
Answer to Question 32: I-64 and feeder roads (60, 92, 12) provide good opportunity for development in Alta/Sam Black area if infrastructure were provided the. Woud "spread the wealth" better throughout the county and reduce East-West antagonism, as well as easing some of the "traffic problem" between Maxwellton and Ronceverte.
There are many people who have "new ideas" that would be helpful in solving our problems. Public meetings are--or are perceived to be-- very hostile to "new ideas" and alternative or compromise solutions seem seldom to be welcomed. Ad Hoc committees might expand our opportunities and encourage more input e.g. did anyone ask if people other than GCPC members might be interested in assisting with current upgrades to ordinances???
The county citizens need a good road map and names and directions to the new developments.
Rethink your zoning ordinance

<p>We can make a beautiful future here for our children to live in good health. We need to educate the people about food, for good health, and to support local food growing (economic growth). We should eliminate bogus projects (incinerators/windmills) that ruin property values and profit out-of-state concerns. Let our children grow up in good health in a healthy atmosphere (no pollution), well educated, and loved. Eliminate the abusive employment practices that create and sustain economic and spiritual depression, resulting in continuation of the past cycles of exploitation, that create a poverty of the mind, that support abuse and the tradition of poor parenting, physical abuse, poor nutrition, poor health, and thus high Medicare and Social Service costs.</p>
<p>This is the best county in the state. We need to protect the environment and move toward "green" options for the town. INCREASE RECYCLING OPTIONS (i.e. glass).</p>
<p>Live between Alta and Richlands Seamless continuity of Health and Mental Health Care.</p>
<p>Here's something that's irritated me---OOPS. It isn't County--it's city, so maybe you can pass it along! The Lewisburg city Christmas lights are so pretty but they're turned off too much. They need to stay on later in the evening and especially to be lit during the day when the sun isn't shining. I used to be a tourist who loved shopping in little towns in Virginia, and I know if I was a tourist arriving in Lewisburg and welcomed by Christmas lights, I'd be delighted. I know they're being economical and have the lights programmed but I believe in the small town someone could flip a switch to override the settings on a cloudy or snowy day.</p>
<p>In the future, a lot of functions will have to be decentralized. Schools, for example, farms, and markets, government, citizens groups. Coordination of such will be a challenge.</p>
<p>What are your issues? What do you have against zoning? What will you need to make you happy with zoning? Will you accept limited zoning? What?</p>
<p>I think the County knows a lot but choose to turn the other cheek!</p>
<p>Sometimes I get the feeling that planning groups think or look way off and try to find something to bring back without analyzing what we have and what to do or help 1st what we have. Historical, recreation, schools, agriculture, small business of many kinds, health care, etc.</p>
<p>These surveys have been done. County Commission has paid for some of them and nothing gets done. this is probably another waste of time completing this survey.</p>
<p>I would hate to see the mountains strip mined flat. Although more costly and more dangerous, hole mining is more environmentally friendly. Look what an ugly sight Boxley's quarry is. It would be a shame to have our beautiful mountains ruined.</p>
<p>A retirement community is a one way dead end street.</p>
<p>Make what we have better</p>
<p>Very Isplayed (?) in Number</p>
<p>It seems like Greenbrier County goes on with a "business as usual" plan when new and innovative ideas need to be incorporated.</p>
<p>It seems like Greenbrier County goes on with a "business as usual" plan when new and innovative ideas need to be incorporated.</p>
<p>Thanks for putting out this survey! Just wanted to add: About the bus transportation idea...if you could combine school buss transport with public-private could help fund school buses. There are tons of grants for this type of thing and more buses would have to run so children don't have to wait or ride buses quite so long. etc. etc.</p>
<p>Why in the hell can millions of the tax payers dollars be spent to repave the stretch of I-64 near Lewisburg that didn't need it but nothing can be done about the traffic on 219 or none of the surrounding roads can get repaved or repaired. The roads in the West End of the county are falling apart but every year Lewisburg's roads get fixed.</p>
<p></p>

<p>People in the outlying areas of the County often feel they are not represented and that they are being unfairly governed by those in the populated centers. Because they are unorganized, this is probably true.</p>
<p>The County needs to support voluntary fire departments and rescue squads better.</p>
<p>The Greenbrier County Needs Assessment. In 1999-2000 and another funded study by 2 different appointed County committees in the last 10 years have already identified the need for and the feasibility of a County recreation center with a modern indoor pool. It is exasperating to have a County Commission that continues to spend money on more surveys to determine area needs without taking visionary action to implement suggestions of their committees and surveys (not to mention spending more funds for no action).</p>
<p>I have been studying comprehensive planning for a year now. This is the first time I have received a survey. I hope it can be put into positive action and use.</p>
<p>Greenbrier County needs employment opportunities for young graduates. So often young people are interested in living and establishing a home there...but the employment opportunities are very limited. Children are the next leaders, community members, politicians, doctors, nurses, et c. We need young people to want and have the ability to return to the Greenbrier Valley to spend their lives.</p>
<p>The hospital is LOUSY--nursing is woefully inadequate--the MDs seem better--the way to get good medical care is to pay the nursing office more money so you get better people.</p>
<p>Redevelop town centers before Sprawl--White Sulphur Springs, Alderson, Rainelle, etc to benefit from revitalized town centers. Lewisburg has lots of empty retail/commercial space--K-mart mall, 219 strip near fairgrounds, empty dollar store downtown, as do other towns. Redevelop these first.</p>
<p>More jobs and higher wages are needed to boost the economy people are dollared to death for everything--increase taxes for big business--increase tax breaks for the low income.</p>
<p>The County Commission should concentrate doing the things that government should do. Making safe and cheap water and sewer rates. Seeing roads are in good condition and t raffic can move without conjection. The best way to do economic development is build good roads, make taxes friendly to business, and they will locate on the roads.</p>
<p>I would like to see things more centrally located and who wants to fight traffic at Fairlea</p>
<p>The water quality of Howard's Creek needs to be addressed, particularly its associated impact on the Greenbrier River. The algae growth from the mouth of Howard's creek and downstream is unacceptable.</p>
<p>Most of the stop signs in Alderson are faded and need to be repainted. Some of them are gray. I would like a butterfly garden or a humming bird garden in one of the parks. I would like a pretty statue in Alderson. A house and gardens tour in Alderson would be nice. At least one weeping willow tree in Alderson near the river would look good. Add a skate board park to the municipal park in Alderson. Just a garden tour in Alderson is okay. You don't define eco/environmental tourism. Most don't know. The government doesn't want to relieve congestion on Rt 219 because certain individuals don't want to lose their land. In order not to offend a small group, the government is offending the masses, by not taking action. The government needs to learn that to solve problems, they sometimes have to be aggressive. The traffic problem will get worse and worse. Lewisburg is growing, but their roads aren't. Shame. Shame.</p>
<p>Would like to see 5 to 7 County Commission which would mean one from each district and each district to pick them.</p>
<p>The commissions need to listen to the voices of the voters.</p>
<p>I feel many of the people do not know what changes they want or need, however if the change was gradual they would realize the need for the changes. I feel the communities should gather to see what changes each community needs and then this information needs to be reported.</p>