

City of Racine Comprehensive Plan Survey

Results Overview



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Responses: Completes

Filter: No filter applied

#	Response
	13. When walking or driving through the City of Racine, what elements of the community do you think are most functional and visually appealing? (e.g., neighborhood banners, storefronts, streetscaping)
1	streetscape and ownership of storefronts
2	Downtown area
3	street scaping and appealing storefronts
4	well maintained homes/yards, streets,and store fronts, etc.
5	Downtown is great. The new bike paths along the root river and the lake front are very well done. The icoming corridors are improving, but need more work.
6	Parks, streetcaping Trees Benches
7	Downtown commercial area and immediate southside.
8	don't know
9	well maintained homes & businesses - clean streets and yards - street plantings
10	Trees, variety of architecture, generally clean and well-kept, variety of open space, Lake Michigan and parts of the Root River
11	The downtown business district functions well as a destination for shops, resturants and art galleries. The blend of new developments and facade restorations are a model for other areas of the city to follow
12	We are a city of trees. That alone has visual, environmental and psychological benefits.
13	Neighborhood banners, storefronts, streetscaping, condition of roadways
14	The Downtown area is very appealing compared to the recent past. Pedestrian safety is a real concern though.
15	The neighborhood character surfaces. You sense the "neighborhood pockets" usually centering around commerce of some nature. I like that "small community" feel in the midst of "the big city."
16	Streetscaping, Clean streets and neighborhoods
17	Storefronts and street scapes are very important. I hate telephone poles... We need many, many, trees along Douglas Ave. Maybe boulevards at some spots would be helpful.
18	I think the city for the most part is very clean.
19	Fountains Downtown streetscape
20	Streetscaping efforts are attempting to beautify the areas. More trees need to be added with diversity of species and FEWER mature trees should be cut down in the casual manner they have been. Try incorporating them into the development plans instead. More thought to Urban gardens and community Victory gardens would help an more thought to Eco-friendly native planting should take place.
21	Well maintained buildings and mature trees! Banners are irrelevant and money could better be used for services that directly impact residents.
22	The downtown has beautifully designed facades; planters are exceptional. The vista and landscaped slope to the lake is especially appealing. Historic architecture throughout the city, when properly maintained, gives a sense of history and place.
23	The older homes and the well kept yards. The residential neighborhoods are, for the most part, the greatest asset of the city. We are blessed by having had Danish and German craftsmen build even the humblest worker's cottage with an attention to quality that you don't find anymore.

24	Storefronts and streetscaping.
25	historic buildings that are MAINTAINED, the Lake, character of individual businesses, no more chains!
26	When I have out of town guests, I take them the lakefront, DeKoven Center, College Avenue, Main Street, Erie Street to see the cream brick buildings, downtown. I take them to see our Frank Lloyd Wright buildings and some John Randall MacDonald buildings. The spaces around these buildings are generally well maintained and well landscaped. I feel our strength is our bones. Beautiful neighborhoods don't need banners, they shine by themselves. Bob Hartman storefronts are an example of what can be done with good design.
27	Our downtown is just beautiful. The seasonal banners/decorations are a welcomed sight. The lighting improvements around Racine have done wonders for those streets.
28	element that has the most effect, good and bad - architecture.
29	Streetscaping can be used to slow down traffic, draw attention to businesses and help produce that feeling of a special place.
30	flowers planted and potted
31	Signage, street lights, well-maintained homes
32	The most visible are streetscaping improvements and building facade improvements. These things generate the most positive feedback in general.
33	Streetscaping and when the store owner improves the storefront to draw you in
34	storefronts, streetscaping and neighborhood
35	Mature trees, older well kept buildings blended with new visually appealing buildings, views of the lake and shoreline.
36	All of the items help each other in the appeal of an area. It takes each item to grow. We do not hold accountable the ones that lack on the improvements.
37	The most functional and visually appealing aspects of the city are the storefronts and the lovely plantings in the downtown area. The streetscaping downtown and the newly completed Ohio Street paving are especially inviting and visually appealing.
38	Clean streets, devoid of litter or broken cars and delapidated housing (even garages). Banners are sometimes good idea, but prefer good street singage and working lights.
39	Cleanliness in most areas and the diversity of restaruants and businesses
40	streetscape, storefronts, and cleanliness
41	Front yard gardens, many family homes
42	all of the above examples. Trees!
43	street trees that are not overgrown like 100 years old.
44	I would have to say that all of the listed examples go into a persons view/opinion of the community. Just to concentrate on one item would not be justified in my opinion.
45	The lake front from Goold to 14th
46	Lake Michigan first; quality of the street (potholes, patches); storefronts; quality of houses/maintenance of houses
47	Signage seems to be ok.
48	The Lake Front, the downtown area and the historic area.
49	Downtown streetscaping (floral and plantings)
50	Kept up homes and businesses. Kids playing in peace. The feeling of a good old mid western city.
51	storefronts and streetscaping
52	The lake front is excellent. The lake front is our future. Keep it clean and safe. Extend the bike path into the Wind Point area so one can travel at least as far as the 5 mile road following the lake shore as far as possible.
53	The lake front
54	Just making sure that the side walks are fixed. I like the banners in the neighborhoods. Helps to make it feel more like a community.
55	Streetscaping

56	Trees,decorative street lights, storefronts
57	LAKEFRONT,ZOO
58	I appreciate the planters and banners which add color and a sense of being cared for.
59	The downtown area is visually appealing, for the most part. The crime near downtown takes away from its allure though. Most of Racine is truly visually appealing. There are just a few bad areas. I love how how the lakeside maintains its historic nature yet for big shopping it's just a short hop towards the West.
60	Some Storefronts; most noticeable. The streetscapng has done alot to improve the image. Still need to control store facades. Too many businesses allowed to do "own thing" with store fronts.
61	Buried telephone, electrical cables. Signage that is not too big or garrish. Planting of trees.
62	Good lighting, neighborhood banners.
63	roads in good condition with appropriate sidewalks and trees... trees... trees.
64	Housing in good shape, clean environment (streets, greenspace, yards, etc)
65	storefronts and streetscaping
66	Streetscaping and storefronts.
67	Well maintained buildings! Keep working on Uptown please. Nice street lights, flowers/green space.
68	Well kept streets & lawns. Well maintained houses, junk removed from yards
69	lakefront
70	Downtown looks nice. North Beach is awesome but nice beach house needed at Zoo Beach. Main Street looks OK
71	Downtown is extremely pleasant to visit and hang out around. West Racine needs some revitalization, not apartments.
72	The lake front, the marina, the beach, the bike trail, the zoo
73	Downtown renovation looks very nice, but I like the green space best. The yellow color for the sidewalks looks rather odd, though.
74	Benches; bike racks; some plantings; trash receptacles and recycling receptacles. Occupied stores/retail /commercial. Signs telling me where something is - in relationship to the main street I may be on: eg - church, school, post office, park, playground, government office/bldg.
75	Downtown is the safest compared to uptownor west racine
76	streetscape and storefronts - after that banners
77	Connection to lake, river. Uptown mosaic walls.
78	The store fronts in downtown have been revitalized to look great and make the stores seem more inviting. The same should be done in Uptown. The planters add a great deal of visual appeal. Large outdoor murals in areas of high visability would as well.
79	New buildings.
80	Banners Storefronts (most) Big pots of plants or evergreens Signs
81	Mature street trees, variety of housing styles, downtown: maintenance of historic character
82	I love the storefronts in downtown Racine, I wish that we could have more small businesses there to bring in tourism and bring Racine residents out there on a regular basis. Places like Java Vino and the Elegant Pauper, as well as Sheepish and Funky Hannahs are fantastic, but we need more.
83	Downtown area only. To get there you go down State Street or Washington Ave, Uptown, and it is a disgrace to travel these roads to get downtown. When driving these areas it is not a pretty site.
84	neighborhood development storefronts that reflect the area bike routes
85	The lake

86	Storefronts and streetscaping. Lighting is extremely important
87	Storefronts and Streetscaping provide a nice small town feeling to Racine.
88	Views of the lake (should not be impeded by developemnt that obruacts public view). Neat yards with curbs and gutters are always pleasant to see. When a neighborhood has an active association, banners are welcoming; sometimes, it's difficult to see any "improvement" they may signify, however.
89	The lake front, the pedestrian walkway/bike path, downtown
90	Streetscaping, plantings, old style street lighting
91	Streetscaping is the most functional and visually appealing.
92	streetscaping and pedestrian access lanes
93	TREES, PLANTINGS, GOOD ROADS & SIDEWALKS
94	I've always thought that the old signs painted on the brick buildings were both beautiful and historic. In addition, having clean, unbroken sidewalks gives people the impression that we invite them to walk through our community -- safely.
95	Banners, trees, light fixtures
96	I love the banners. They seem so simple, yet they speak volumes. The varied and interesting store fronts make me want to see what is inside, and, of course, the plantings.
97	The historic nature of Downtown is great however you need to drive through risky areas to get there.
98	Space like Monument Sq. and S.C. Johnson area add a lot to appeal. Some areas seem crowded. Easier parking along 6th would be helpful.
99	The Downtown is particularly appealing from the street scape to Lake Michigan it is appealing. the planting in the Downtown area is appealing and well maintained. From the perspective of a city of our size Downtown has become a hub of activities.
100	The Lake, the old houses and buildings, parks, the river valley, well-kept residential neighborhoods, sidewalks and boulevards, street trees, downtown banners.
101	Historic buildings in downtown and the southside historic district. The banners and planters are great.
102	In West Racine and Downtown the Historic charm combined with store selection is great and improving. Uptown is not worth the effort of improving both sides of Washington. Eliminate the entire north side and improve the Wash ave Blvd. creating a smoother drive and connection of West Racine and Downtown. Also improving the State St Corridor out to Hwy 38 to a smooth Blvd. for access to Milwaukee and I 94. I would like to see continued widening and smoothing of Hwy 20 from 94 to the Lakefront. Another improvement from a Southern entrance into Our City would be great as well.
103	driving through downtown is easy. storefronts downtown are appealing.
104	I never walk in Racine. I feel unsafe,
105	DOwntown and lakefront walkways and banners
106	Mixed styles of buildings reflecting our diverse heritage
107	gas stations
108	Clean storefronts
109	Storefronts with appeal.
110	The lakefront visible and accessable to the public
111	Trees and plantings downtown and uptown, lakefront improvements, lake and river pathways, Monument Square and Sam Johnson Parkway and their multiple uses
112	clean business lots clear signage streetscaping not to many telephone poles or to many trees
113	Areas not exposed to vacant, poorly maintained property. It is appealing to travel through well maintained exterior facilities - either business or residential
114	Planters and banners are good, but freshly washed sidewalks and clean streets are important to encourage the public to get out of their cars and walk around.
115	Racine has a beautiful mixture of historic buildings. The people are friendly and the city does a good job organizing festivals and activities.
116	downtown is great, the signs lights and crosswalks are great
117	Storefronts and Streetscaping.

118	Improvements in the downtown are dramatically visable.
119	The LAKE FRONT
120	I don't really see anything appealing.
121	I know it's not in the city, but the dog park in Caledonia is wonderful! The old fashioned street lamps in the new section of Dekoven St. are very nice.
122	No opinion.
123	Lakefront area, Downtown, Certain neighborhoods
124	I do like Main Steet and 6th Street. The feel and look of the area is very welcoming. I also like the area of Washington from Ohio to the I. I feel very safe and they have alot of store that I shop in.
125	I think the parks and bike trails are generally attractive although there have been plenty of beautiful summer days when some of the parks are void of activity. Not true of the parks and trails along the lakefront, I'm often amazed at the number and variety of people taking advantage of the area. Downtown and West Racine seem to be doing a good job of restoring the storefronts. While there is some activity on Douglas Ave and in Uptown I think that as a whole these areas still look pretty rundown.
126	Downtown-Main, Marina-lakefront
127	signage for neighborhoods, storefronts keeping with historic nature of the areas
128	I feel that the City of Racine for the most part is functional and visually appealing. The city needs more mass transit especially a train system if people want to live here an access jobs elsewhere or there needs to be an influx of more jobs in Racine.
129	Main Street has cleaned up nicely. Dover Flag and Map did a nice store front upgrade a few years ago. The Johnson Building is a class act. Case Company and Modine also take good care of their properties.
130	The new streetscaping and updates.
131	Streetscaping
132	1.Potted plants and banners downtown 2.Smaller streetlights (NOT the huge industrial-looking ones) 3. Store fronts that are well-maintained and not tacky (Neon is not good)
133	the lakefront
134	I enjoy the new streetscaping on Ohio between Washington Ave and 21st Street. Wouldn't it be fun if more streets were like that and the community could participate in the planting?!
135	Downtown area, Momument square the neighbor-hood feeling
136	Looks are nice but our problems are deeper than aesthetics.
137	The city has done a good job redeveloping downtown. It's a start. The new construction of Racine Street looks great too.. It's a start.
138	Street trees, cleanliness--lack of litter
139	Variety of housing styles, variety of streets, lakefront, downtown area, tree lined streets, green areas, parks.
140	Signs of improvement are visible.
141	Downtown area and lakefront.
142	neighborhood banners, hanging planters on light post, streetscaping, storefront designs and colors in keeping with the historical architecture, clean streets
143	the uptown artist project on the side of the buildings planters and hanging flower baskets banners
144	street scaping and downtown area are greatrubberville
145	Streetscaping, cleanliness, good looking storefronts, not run down or more importantly not vacant! Not a hogpodge of era styling. Racine needs to preserve those buildings and storefronts that are unique to our city and enhance the surrounding areas with new construction that matches that period. The city needs to become a destination area with something unique, not something that follows the ideas of other cities.The most visually appealing to me is the lakefront, the downtown area, and the historic buildings and churches that are scattered throughout the city. They need to be preserved and well maintained.
146	trees are more appealing than any other form of street scape
147	The banners.

148	Clean and cared for
149	stores
150	Little shops, historic places.
151	streetscaping
152	BANNERS, STREETSCAPING
153	The lakefront is beautiful as well as the many parks throughout the city.
154	Store front planters bring out the decor somewhat, and give an enhancement to the general area.
155	streetscaping
156	banners, streetscaping
157	I like the large pots of flowers and other seasonal decorations.
158	well maintained storefronts, streetscaping is a bonus (Uptown looks nice), Well maintained housing, convenient parking is inviting, kid friendly areas (small parks, etc.), garden areas, community areas (benches, picnic tables, etc.)
159	Racine is a great little city and has some good looking older neighborhoods.
160	STREETS ARE CLEAN OF TRASH - SIDEWALKS ARE IN GOOD CONDITION
161	buildings
162	STREETSCAPING & PLANTINGS I REALLY LIKE THE RECENT MOSAIC ARTWORK THAT WAS DONE IN THE UPTOWN AREA.
163	Love the Wind Point and Franksville areas - clean, and visually appealing...Downtown looks much better. But parts of the city look unwelcoming and even scary - a few banners will not make a big difference.
164	Storefronts up close to the road with well maintained sidewalks, plantings, trees creating an inviting walkway.
165	development near Hwy 20 & 31 and along west Spring St (although i believe that's Mt Pleasant). Downtown - but only downtown from Main st Bridge to 8th st and the lake to the police station. The rest of what you consider downtown needs improvement.
166	Downtown and lakefront are the most appealing aspect of racine
167	Downtown plantings/banners attractive. Douglas is still dirty and run-down looking. Our parks throughout the city are a major part of our city's visual attraction
168	clean homes, storefronts, streetscaping
169	Streetscaping, lighting, paths, trails, bike lanes.
170	Initially, I wanted to answer Downtown/Monument Square.....but the boarded up Zahn's building ruins what would otherwise be a great block! Downtown has improved so much.....how about we finish it off? West Racine was also above average.....now we have a big gaping hole where they tore down buildings before firming up what was going there...The empty space by Target were Chi-Chis used to be would at least be landscaped or something.....and now, with the Theatre's lights never on, it is very dark and unwelcoming...makes Pritchard Park look even darker. Durand Ave. needs resurfacing badly.
171	streetscaping
172	Downtown area
173	Washington Park Golf Course, entire lake front, zoo
174	the parks; the lakefront
175	Storefronts, streetscaping, landscaping
176	STREETSCAPING - LAKEFRONT IMPROVEMENTS - BIKE TRAIL BY LAKE - STOREFRONTS
177	The Downtown area storefronts and the lake.
178	streetscaping, (trees)
179	I think Racine has made great improvements re: banners and plantings. Some of the storefronts still need to be remodeled and filled. I am greatly concerned about large retail stores, restaurants, theatres being vacant for extended periods of time. I am also concerned about the large number of vacancies at the mall. Retail space is TOO expensive in all areas of the city to the extent that local businesses are not only unable to make a

	profit but barely make enough to pay their rent. It's unconscionable that building owners would prefer to have vacant buildings rather than charging a realistic rent and keep them occupied. In a word, they're too greedy.
180	streetscape, cleanliness, look of storefronts, neighborhood banners
181	Considering size of City, the overall look is average.
182	Downtown is the best. West Racine and Uptown need to improve along with Douglas ave.
183	New art in uptown area, downtown Racine storefronts, Marina, Festival Park, North Beach, Main St. residential areas
184	Banners, the big planting pots
185	well kept homes and businesses
186	nice streets, parks, very nice downtown, very nice zoo,
187	I think the downtown area has improved immensely since the 1990s. Uptown, while there have been improvements it a drive-through.
188	clean and updated store fronts, streetscaping (new plants etc)
189	historic housing and businesses, good mix of styles, large trees, mature landscaping
190	The north side on Douglas Ave. from around South Street to 5 Mile Road is good. Main Street is good. The Wind Point area and trails are in good condition.
191	The lake front
192	Clean & well maintained streets, sidewalks & parking lots. Plenty of lighting for safety. Streetscaping is also a plus.
193	Clean and well kept buildings and maintained and paved streets
194	Storefronts. Green areas such as parks, floral gardens, etc.
195	How clean the area is
196	The planters in the business areas are nice.
197	lakefront, beach, north main st, facades in the downtown area
198	You can plant or do what you think but the crime is still there
199	nothing
200	I like how the facades of the buildings appear in the downtown area. These same standards should be enforced in the West Racine and Uptown and the 6th Street neighborhoods. The planters and sidewalks look very nice downtown and Christmas decorations are all consistent. I have moved back as an adult to Racine and love the efforts made in the downtown area.
201	lakefront and downtown
202	I like the plantings etc in downtown and up town.
203	I think storefronts, banners, and easy-to-read signage is appealing. Artistic touches to an already artistic community makes a great statement.
204	I enjoy walking the downtown area because of the streetscaping, updated storefronts, events and safety.
205	Downtown is lovely; North Beach is a treasure; DeKoven is a wonderful place
206	Variety of people
207	beautiful flowers during the summer
208	Some streetscaping catches my eye. However, not enough of the better quality spread thruout. Uptown looks like an afterthought, yet downtown is well planned and maintained.
209	Streetscaping and the beautiful planters