

Borough of Milford

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



THE OFFICE OF
MILFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
111 W. CATHARINE STREET
MILFORD, PIKE CO., PA 18337
(570) 296-7140

July 2004

Dear Voter:

The Milford Borough Council and Planning Commission are conducting a survey to find out how you feel about our community, the issues facing us, and YOUR expectations for the future of our area. The Borough and Milford Township, through the recently appointed Planning Committee, are working together to prepare a comprehensive plan for the two municipalities using a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to pay much of the cost. The comprehensive plan will set the direction for the growth and development of the Borough and Township over the next ten to fifteen years.

Your responses to the survey will help local municipal officials develop goals and objectives for the conservation and development of the area. Please participate! We believe you will find the questions interesting and your answers will be important to the Comprehensive Plan and local officials as decisions are made about guiding land use, community development issues, and community facilities and services.

Please spend the few minutes needed to answer all of the questions and return the form in the enclosed, postage-paid, pre-addressed envelope by **August 16, 2004**. The survey should be completed individually by each registered voter in your household. If you have any questions or if you need an additional survey call the Borough office at 296-7140. You may also print a survey from www.communityplanning.biz, find Pike County and Milford Borough.

The Borough has engaged the services of Community Planning and Management Associates and Shepstone Management Company to conduct the survey and compile the results. When the survey responses are compiled, the Planning Committee will conduct public meetings to present the overall results of the survey and obtain additional public comment.

Let me again stress that your answers are important, and the Committee and local municipal officials will appreciate your participation in the survey because your opinion really does count.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew M. Osterberg".

Matthew M. Osterberg
President, Borough Council

MILFORD BOROUGH COMMUNITY SURVEY

- L This survey is intended to assess your feelings about **your hometown** and **your expectations** about the future. Please keep this intent in your mind when answering the survey questions. You should read the entire survey before you begin to answer the questions. **All answers are confidential.**
- L **Each REGISTERED VOTER in your household should have received a separate survey.** Should you have any questions or if you would like an additional survey form for another person in your household please call the Borough office at 296-7140. You may also print a survey from www.communityplanning.biz, find Pike County and Milford Borough.
- L **Please do not set the survey aside, and take a few minutes now to complete it.** Return it in the enclosed pre-addressed, postage paid, envelope to Community Planning and Management, LLC, who will tabulate the results. It is very important that you complete and return this survey as soon as possible -- **surveys mailed after August 16, 2004, cannot be included in the results.**
- L Individual survey answers are strictly confidential. The **overall results of the survey will be made public** and a public meeting will be conducted to present the results of the survey and obtain additional public comment.

1. Which BEST describes how Milford Borough has changed since you have lived here.

- " The Borough has become a more desirable place to live.
- " The Borough has become a less desirable place to live.
- " The Borough has not changed much as a place to live.
- " I have not lived here long enough to form an opinion.

Why: _____

2. Which BEST describes how you think Milford Borough will change in the next five to ten years.

- " The Borough will become a more desirable place to live.
- " The Borough will become a less desirable place to live.
- " The Borough will not change much as a place to live.
- " Not sure

Why: _____

3. What most influenced your ORIGINAL decision to live in Milford Borough? (please check all that apply)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| " born or raised here | " low crime rate |
| " close to work | " affordable housing costs |
| " close to friends or relatives | " low taxes |
| " small town lifestyle | " environmental quality |
| " quality of schools | " less regulation |
| " historic character | " other (specify) _____ |

4. Why do you continue to live in Milford Borough? (please check all that apply)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| " born or raised here | " low crime rate |
| " close to work | " affordable housing costs |
| " close to friends or relatives | " low taxes |
| " small town lifestyle | " environmental quality |
| " quality of schools | " less regulation |
| " historic character | " other (specify) _____ |

5. Please rate Milford Borough and the larger community in terms of each of the following:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not sure
Quality of schools -----	"	"	"	"	"
Place to raise children -----	"	"	"	"	"
Job opportunities -----	"	"	"	"	"
Scenic beauty -----	"	"	"	"	"
Environmental quality (water, air, etc.) -----	"	"	"	"	"
Social activities -----	"	"	"	"	"
Recreational opportunities -----	"	"	"	"	"
Cultural activities -----	"	"	"	"	"
Availability of places to shop -----	"	"	"	"	"
Cost of living -----	"	"	"	"	"
Overall quality of life -----	"	"	"	"	"

6. How important to you are each of the following characteristics?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not sure
A. Quality of schools -----	"	"	"	"
B. Place to raise children -----	"	"	"	"
C. Job opportunities -----	"	"	"	"
D. Scenic beauty -----	"	"	"	"
E. Environmental quality(water, air, etc.) -----	"	"	"	"
F. Social activities -----	"	"	"	"
H. Recreational opportunities -----	"	"	"	"
I. Cultural activities -----	"	"	"	"
J. Availability of places to shop -----	"	"	"	"
K. Cost of living -----	"	"	"	"
L. Overall quality of life-----	"	"	"	"

Which 3 of the above are most important. (insert item letters from above) _____

7. What do you like least about Milford Borough? (please check all that apply)

- " cost of services/taxes
- " lack of culture/recreation
- " lack of local shopping/services
- " transportation/traffic difficulties
- " lack of public sewage treatment
- " pace of development
- " quality of public services
- " other (specify) _____

Comments: _____

Please let us know how you feel about the following community facilities and services. . . .

8. Please rate the quality of the following services:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not sure
Borough police protection -----	"	"	"	"	"
Fire and emergency protection -----	"	"	"	"	"
Ambulance service -----	"	"	"	"	"
Broad, Harford, 7 th , Rt. 2001 maintenance -----	"	"	"	"	"
Borough road (all others) maintenance -----	"	"	"	"	"
Garbage pick-up -----	"	"	"	"	"
Overall Borough services -----	"	"	"	"	"
Other (specify) _____	"	"	"	"	"

9. Recreation facilities and programs available in the Milford Borough and Milford Township area are adequate.

- " strongly agree " agree " disagree " strongly disagree " not sure
 If you disagree, please list the types of new or expanded recreation facilities and programs needed
- " Baseball fields " Picnic areas " Soccer/football fields " Skateboard/skating areas
 " Basketball courts " Playgrounds " Sawkill Creek access " Adult recreation programs
 " Bicycle routes " Pool " Delaware River access " Senior recreation programs
 " Hiking/walking trails " Tennis courts " Community center " Youth recreation programs
 " Other (specify) _____

10. Some areas of the Borough have sidewalks and some do not, and the type and condition of the sidewalks vary. The Borough should: Please check all you agree with.

- " Focus on improving and maintaining sidewalks on Broad Street and Harford Street.
 " Plan on improving all existing sidewalks in the Borough.
 " Plan on installing sidewalks throughout the Borough.
 " Require property owners to maintain sidewalks.
 " Sidewalks outside of the commercial area are not important.
 " Other (specify) _____

11. The Milford Water Authority should use its financial resources to acquire watershed land or conservation easements to protect the water supply.

- " strongly agree " agree " disagree " strongly disagree " not sure

12. The Borough is not served by a public sewage collection and treatment system. All of the homes and businesses in the Borough use on-lot sewage disposal systems. Central sewage would reduce the possibility of groundwater contamination and could stimulate additional development. The Borough should: Please check all you agree with.

- " Continue to rely on on-lot systems.
 " Focus on providing central sewage to meet the needs of the commercial districts
 " Plan to provide central sewage collection and treatment for the entire Borough
 " I need more information before deciding.
 " Other (specify) _____

13. The Borough should take steps to provide more parking in the commercial districts.

- " strongly agree " agree " disagree " strongly disagree " not sure

14. The Borough is part of the *Tree City USA Program* and the Shade Tree Commission has been working to improve street trees for many years. Please check all you agree with.

- " Street tree management has been positive for the Borough.
- " Street tree management has done little to benefit the Borough.
- " I did not realize there was a street tree management program.
- " Additional steps should be taken to manage street trees.
- " The Borough should not be involved in a street tree management program.
- " I need more information before deciding.

15. Which of the following would you be willing to support with a Borough tax increase? Please check all you agree with.

- " recreation facilities and programs " Borough / Milford Township park
- " Borough street improvements " regional municipal police force
- " Borough alley improvements " public parking lots
- " expanded fire protection " improved sidewalks and streetscapes
- " expanded ambulance service " public restrooms
- " more care and planting of street trees " none
- " other (specify) _____

16. The Borough's commercial zones have been included in a locally regulated historic district where the design of new buildings and the renovation of existing buildings is controlled to ensure compatibility with existing historic buildings.

Please check all you agree with.

- " The commercial historic district has been positive for the Borough.
- " The commercial historic district has done little to benefit the Borough.
- " I did not realize there was a locally regulated historic district.
- " Additional eligible areas should be included in the locally regulated historic district.
- " The Borough should not be involved in historic preservation.
- " I need more information before deciding.

As noted earlier, all your answers are confidential. So, please answer the following questions to help us classify the surveys by the characteristics of those who respond.

17. How long have you lived in the Borough?

- " less than 1 year " 1 - 5 years
- " 6 - 10 years " 11 - 15 years
- " 16 - 20 years " 20 years plus

18. How old are you?

- " 18 to 24 " 25 to 44 " 45 to 64
- " 65 to 74 " 75 or older

19. Which of the following best describes your employment status?

- " Administrative support occupation
- " Executive, administrative, or managerial
- " Farming, forestry, or mining
- " Handler, cleaner, helper, or laborer
- " Homemaker
- " Machine operator, assembler or inspector
- " Precision production, craft or repair
- " Private household occupation
- " Professional occupation
- " Retired
- " Sales occupation
- " Service occupation
- " Student
- " Technician or material moving
- " Transportation or material moving
- " Unemployed or unable to work

20. If you moved to the Borough, from where did you relocate?

- " Always lived in the Borough
- " Elsewhere in Pike County
- " Elsewhere in Pennsylvania
- " Connecticut
- " New Jersey
- " New York
- " Elsewhere in U.S. or outside U.S.

21. If you are employed, which best describes where you work?

- " Home based business
- " In the Borough
- " Elsewhere in Pike County
- " Elsewhere in Pennsylvania
- " New Jersey
- " New York
- " Elsewhere

COMMENTS - Please let us know anything else on your mind about the Borough's current situation and/or future growth and development, or comments about any questions in the survey. (Please attach additional sheets if necessary.)

Thank you for your input.

**Please return your completed questionnaire in the postage paid envelope to:
Community Planning and Management, LLC, HCR #1 Box 59, Paupack, PA 18451**