

Carlinville, Illinois Community Vision Survey – Results Overview

Survey Period: May 2025 – December 2025

Total Responses Received: 282

Purpose

The City of Carlinville conducted a comprehensive community survey to gather resident input for the update of the Comprehensive Community Plan. The survey was designed to solicit community feedback across multiple critical topic areas that inform the city's future development, policy priorities, and strategic initiatives.

Survey Scope

The survey addressed the following key topic areas:

Community Vision & Strengths: Respondents provided feedback on their vision for Carlinville's future, identified the community's most valued attributes, and highlighted areas in need of improvement. Questions explored perceived strengths (small-town character, safety, local government services, schools) and weaknesses (economic opportunities, infrastructure, traffic, housing).

Land Use & Development: The survey gathered input on development priorities, preferred types of business and industry, geographic areas requiring revitalization, and strategies for infill development and neighborhood revitalization. Questions also assessed community perception of school quality and support for historic preservation initiatives.

Housing: Residents were asked about housing needs (single-family homes, apartments, senior housing, affordable housing options), support for city involvement in affordable housing programs, code enforcement priorities, building code implementation, residential inspection programs, and interest in preserving Sears Standard Addition homes.

Transportation & Connectivity: The survey explored primary transportation challenges, preferences for walking and biking infrastructure improvements, public transportation viability, traffic flow management, and potential willingness to fund transit options.

Parks & Recreation: Respondents provided input on desired park improvements (walking paths, dog parks, community centers, all-abilities playgrounds), new recreational facilities, and strategies for encouraging outdoor activities and community events.

Infrastructure & Utilities: Questions addressed community perception of water treatment services, wastewater systems, broadband internet quality, and willingness to fund infrastructure improvements through rate increases and external funding sources.

Environment & Sustainability: The survey assessed community support for recycling programs, environmental protection measures, stormwater management, and management of the city's natural water resources.

Community Safety & Health: Residents evaluated their sense of safety, police presence and enforcement levels, emergency services quality (fire, EMS, emergency care), and healthcare availability and quality in Carlinville.

Economic Development: The survey explored strategies for attracting new businesses, supporting existing business growth, and revitalizing the downtown area, including infrastructure improvements, façade programs, signage control, and business incentive mechanisms.

Data Collection Format

The survey employed a mixed-methodology approach, combining demographic data collection, multiple-choice questions, multi-select response options, and open-ended questions to capture both quantitative preferences and qualitative community insights.

The survey was open from May 2025 through December 2025, collecting 282 responses that represent community member input across all key planning topic areas.

This feedback dataset provides the foundation for evidence-based policy development and strategic planning to guide Carlinville's comprehensive community plan update.