

“Shaping the Future” Survey Comments from Quincy Township.

The following comments (except summaries) are reproduced exactly as written by respondents to the 1997 Houghton County "Shaping Our Future" Land Use Survey who said they lived in Quincy Township. All local governments and libraries received full survey results in 1998 (also available at <http://emml.mtu.edu/gem/community/planning/planning.html>).

- Quincy Township surveys returned – 9. Total surveys returned, Houghton County – 1,936.

9. Tax incentives, such as tax abatements, should be used to attract new businesses.

- No more abatements for large companies. [1831]*

11. More recreational opportunities are needed in my township/city/village. If so what kind?

- Develop cross country skiing trails & maintain & groom them [1790]

17. Some open space and undeveloped land should be protected from future development.

- Depends on where it is [1775]

18. Some roads should be designated as “scenic” and should retain their natural character. If so, which roads?

Summary (with number of responses indicated; verbatim responses follow):

- ❖ US 41 (to Copper Harbor - 4, unspecified - 1) - 5
- ❖ M-26 (to Copper Harbor - 2, unspecified - 2) - 4
- ❖ Hancock Canal Road/M-203 - 2
- ❖ Gay-Lac La Belle Road (one just said Lac La Belle Road) - 2
- ❖ Houghton Canal Road, covered roads - 1 each

Verbatim responses:

- US 41 to Copper Harbor, Gay to Lac LaBelle, both canal roads [549]
- US 41 & M-26 to Copper Harbor [552]
- M-26 & US 41 between Calumet & Copper Harbor [868]
- M-26 & US 41 [869]
- M203, M26, US 41 past Ahmeek, road to Lac LaBelle [921]
- Covered roads [1775]

C. Comments

General comments not identified with any survey statement were sorted into 33 categories during survey analysis (survey respondents were not aware of these categories). Some general comments that address more than one topic are divided into the appropriate categories, e.g., [251], #25 means that another part of survey 251’s comment is found under category #25. Wording was not changed.

1. Jobs

2. Business and economic development—general

3. Concerns about development

- There is no way that we can keep out all of the Wal-Marts, Shopkos, Burger Kings, etc. But maybe we can just accept one of the department stores and one fast food place with historic small signs, etc. [921]

4. Chain retailers vs. locally owned shops

- Every “chain” business takes dollars out of the county that are lost and will not return. To balance this condition or reverse it, we can only increase MTU enrollment or push harder to get more tourists. Few small manufacturing can survive because of our high freight in/out situation. [221]
- See [868] #17

5. Shopping/entertainment/restaurants

6. Tourism

7. Logging, timber industry, and wood products

- 8. Mining**
- 9. Development location—downtown, renaissance zones, etc.**
- 10. Development—Calumet/Laurium**
- 11. Development—M-26/Sharon Avenue**
- 12. Future U.S. 41 development, Hancock to Calumet**
- 13. Waterfront development and public access**
- 14. Property values and taxes**
- 15. Planning**
- 16. Cooperation among units of government**
- 17. Lack of public input in development decisions, favoritism**
 - Special interest groups i.e.. Non-local or transient individuals have way too much impact on area development. These individuals' economic well-being has no relationship or dependence on the economic well-being of Houghton County. This creates a false reading on the real problems. [868]
- 18. Zoning, ordinances, building permits**
- 19. Balancing environment and development**
- 20. Cultural history/community character/appearance/signs**
 - See [921] #3
- 21. Small-town feeling/quality of life**
- 22. Historic buildings/improving existing properties/blending old and new**
- 23. Open space, undeveloped land**
- 24. Drinking water, wastewater, and health concerns**
- 25. Property rights and regulations**
- 26. Road maintenance, traffic control, and safety**
 - Traffic patterns by the lift bridge, especially at Houghton side needs to be looked into. If nothing else, widen the street by the old Kirkish building on, to accommodate the by-pass traffic, or install a traffic light by the intersection. [1203]
- 27. Snow removal**
- 28. Public and non-motorized transportation**
- 29. Tax incentives**
- 30. Government and public services**
 - See [1221] #32
- 31. Recreation**
- 32. Survey**
 - There's too much money spent in studies & not enough action instead of talking about things to do, do it and not spend money foolishly. [1221]
- 33. Miscellaneous**