

TOWN OF LINCOLN PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

Year-round and Seasonal Residents of Lincoln:

The Town of Lincoln is updating its 1995 Comprehensive Plan to make recommendations for the **next ten years**. Community growth, affordable housing, land use and budget priorities are some of the issues to be addressed. **This is your opportunity to let the Town Council know your priorities for the next decade, including how to spend your tax dollars wisely!**

Please let us know what **YOU THINK** by completing this survey and **returning it by August 15th**. Two people can complete this survey by using different colored ink or pencils. Additional copies of the survey are available on-line at www.lincolmaine.org, or you can get a copy at the Town Office. **To return the survey**, mail it in the enclosed postage paid envelop (**postage only covers the cost of one survey**).

The **results of the survey** will be posted on the town’s WEB page and available at future meetings on the Comprehensive Plan. ***We look forward to hearing from you!***

1. How would you rate the overall quality of life in Lincoln? <i>Check one response with an (X) in the box under your response.</i>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Neutral or No Opinion

2. If your primary residence is in Lincoln, why do you live in Lincoln?
Check all that apply.

- a. I am not a year round resident (*check, and go to question #3*)
- b. I have always lived in Lincoln, it is a family tradition
- c. My family and friends live in Lincoln
- d. It is close to work
- e. Good place for children – good schools, etc.
- f. Nice place to retire
- g. It is a rural community
- h. Most everything I need I can get in Lincoln
- i. I also own a camp in Lincoln
- j. I also own a business in Lincoln
- k. Other (specify?):

3. If you are a seasonal resident, why is your second home or camp in Lincoln?
Check all that apply.

- a. I am not a seasonal resident (*check, and go to question #4*)
- b. I have always had a second home or camp in Lincoln, it is a family tradition
- c. My family lives in Lincoln
- d. I have friends that live or vacation in Lincoln
- e. The lakes and summer recreational opportunities
- f. Winter recreational opportunities
- g. It is a rural community
- h. I plan to live full-time in Lincoln in the future
- i. I would like to live in Lincoln, but can’t find a job
- j. Other (specify?):

4. <u>If you are NOT a year-round or seasonal resident in Lincoln</u>, do you own a business or land in Lincoln? <i>Check all that apply.</i>	Own business	Own land	Other (specify?)

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5. How would you rate the following services/facilities? Check one for each question.	Excellent	Adequate	Needs Improvement	Neutral or No Opinion
a. Town government administration				
b. Town government services				
c. Economic development efforts				
d. Public education for Grades 1 to 12				
e. Vocational Education				
f. Adult education				
g. Downtown infrastructure, in general (the area from monument to monument)				
h. Sidewalks				
i. Public parking				
j. Traffic circulation in the urban area				
k. Ambulance service				
l. Police protection				
m. Fire protection				
n. Gravel roads				
o. Paved roads				
p. Snowplowing and sanding				
q. Recycling				
r. Solid waste disposal				
s. Public water service				
t. Public sewer service				
u. Lincoln Airport				
v. Lincoln Library				
w. Community Events				
x. Recreation programs for youth				
y. Recreation programs for adults				
z. Recreation programs for seniors				
aa. Ballard Hill Community Center				
bb. Public parks				
cc. Public access to lakes and ponds				
dd. Public access to the Penobscot River				
ee. Snowmobile trails				
ff. Land use regulation				
gg. Local code enforcement				

6. Property taxes fund about 70% of town services, including education. What do you think about property taxes? Check one.	Much too high	Too high	About right	Too low	Neutral or No Opinion

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7. How should new or expanded public facilities be funded?	<i>Check as many as you agree with.</i>						
	Local property taxes	Federal/state grants	Private grants/fundraising	Long-term loans/borrowing	Tax increment financing	None of these options	Neutral/No opinion

8. Assuming your funding preferences are used (as you indicated in a general way in question #7), how would you prioritize the following for the next ten years? <i>Check one for each.</i>	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Neutral/No opinion
a. New or major improvements to Town Office				
b. New or major improvements to Public Works facility				
c. Completion of the industrial park to include sewer, water, etc.				
d. Expanded sewer service area to accommodate future growth				
e. Expanded water service area to accommodate future growth				
f. Renovations to the transfer station				
g. Major improvements to the airport				
h. More community events				
i. Development of new Recreation Center				
j. Paving of more gravel roads				
k. Conversion of private camp roads to public roads				
l. Wider/smooth road shoulders for walking, bicycling, etc.				
m. Working with other towns to provide services/facilities more efficiently				
n. More trails for non-motorized recreation (people, bikes, horses, etc)				
o. More or better snowmobile trails				
p. More ATV trails				
q. Better/more public access to lakes, ponds, the Penobscot River				
r. Marketing to bring more business to Lincoln				

9. Do you think the Town of Lincoln should apply for grants for the following improvements or projects? <i>Check one for each.</i>	Yes	Maybe	No	Neutral/No opinion
a. Housing rehabilitation (insulation, plumbing, heating, etc.)				
b. New Town Office				
c. New Recreation Center				
d. New Public Works Building				
e. Public access to ponds/Penobscot River				
f. Land acquisition to preserve important open space				
g. Library expansion				
h. Improvements to the airport				
i. Land acquisition for recreational use				
j. New/improved trails				
k. Emergency response equipment				
l. Economic and business development				
m. Expansion of sewer and water				

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10. The Town Charter requires a public referendum vote for any expenditure greater than \$100,000. This requirement was enacted 13 years ago. Today, many capital expenditures exceed this amount, and therefore require that the town go through the process of holding a referendum vote. Which one of the following statements is the closest to your opinion about this? *Check one.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	a. The charter should continue to require a referendum vote for expenditures greater than \$100,000.
<input type="checkbox"/>	b. The charter should be changed to require a referendum vote for expenditures greater than \$200,000.
<input type="checkbox"/>	c. The charter should be changed to require a referendum vote for expenditures greater than \$300,000.
<input type="checkbox"/>	d. The charter should be changed to eliminate this requirement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	e. Other (specify?)

11. Thinking about the next ten years, what do you think about the each of the following? *Check one for each.*

	Need a lot more	Need some more	Stay the same	Need some less	Need a lot less	Neutral/ No opinion
a. Year-round population						
b. Seasonal population						
c. Single family housing						
d. Multifamily housing						
e. Residences in the urban area						
f. Residences in rural areas						
g. Affordable housing, in general						
h. Senior housing						
i. Businesses (availability of goods/services)						
j. Industrial development						
k. Job opportunities						
l. Tourism and day visitors						
m. Locally grown food; farmers' market, etc.						
n. Agriculture						
o. Forestry						
p. Recreation areas						
q. Public access to open space						
r. Recreation for young adults						

12. Indicate your level of support or opposition for the use of land use regulations to do the following: *Check one for each.*

	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neutral or No Opinion	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
a. Protect residences from new commercial and industrial development					
b. Control the impacts of multifamily developments					
c. Control the impacts of mobile home parks					
d. Control the impacts of home businesses (size, traffic, etc)					
e. Control the impacts of junkyards					
f. Guide commercial development					

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12. (Continued from prior page) Indicate your level of support or opposition for the use of land use regulations to do the following: Check one for each.	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neutral or No Opinion	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
g. Guide industrial development					
h. Control the location of new residential development in rural areas					
i. Protect agriculture and forestry					
j. Protect lake water quality by regulating erosion control and stormwater runoff					
k. Regulate adult businesses					
l. Control the impacts of wind farms					
m. Guide the location of individual driveways along major roads to improve safety and traffic flow					
n. Guide the location of commercial entrances along major roads to improve safety and traffic flow					
o. Provide incentives to influence development					
p. Control how many roads are developed					
q. Encourage the expansion of the urban area to include more residential, commercial and public uses					
r. Control the negative impact of development on natural resources					
s. Dictate building standards					

13. What is your opinion about the following approaches to protecting natural resources?	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neutral/ No opinion	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose
a. Federal/state laws					
b. Local land use laws					
c. State or town purchase of conservation land					
d. Purchase of conservation land by a land trust					
e. Conservation easements					
f. Public education on how to protect natural resources, such as lake associations					
g. Grants to fix environmental problems, such as camp road improvements to eliminate runoff that pollutes lakes					
h. Regulatory incentives, such as allowing smaller lot sizes in developments in exchange for open space					
i. Tax incentives, such as the Tree Growth Program					
j. Other (Specify?)					

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14. What do you think of the current level of regulatory protection for the following?	Too much protection	Adequate protection	Inadequate protection	No opinion/ don't know
a. Lake/pond water quality				
b. Penobscot River				
c. Wetlands				
d. Vernal pools				
e. Groundwater				
f. Wildlife habitat				
g. Deer wintering areas				
h. Important fisheries – stream, river and lake				
i. Scenic views				
j. Farmland				
k. Forests				
l. Historic/archaeological resources				

15. The following questions will help us better understand the results of this survey.	
a. What is the status of your residency and/or land ownership within Lincoln? <i>Check one.</i>	Year-round resident of Lincoln
	Seasonal resident of Lincoln
	Own land, but don't live in Lincoln
	Other (specify)
b. If you work, what town(s) do you work in?	
c. Do you own a business or industry in Lincoln?	
d. Where do you do most of your shopping? In what town(s)?	
e. What is your employment status? <i>Check as many responses as apply.</i>	Self-employed
	Salaried or hourly employee
	Unemployed, looking for work
	Unemployed, NOT looking for work
	Retired
f. What is your present age? <i>Check the appropriate age range.</i>	Other (specify)
	18 to 25
	26 to 44
	45 to 64
	65 or over

***Thank you for completing this survey!
Return this survey by August 15th.***

***Return survey to:
Gwen Hilton, Consultant
31 Weston Avenue
Madison, Maine 04950***

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*Town of Lincoln
Public Opinion Survey*

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how to spend your tax dollars wisely!*

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