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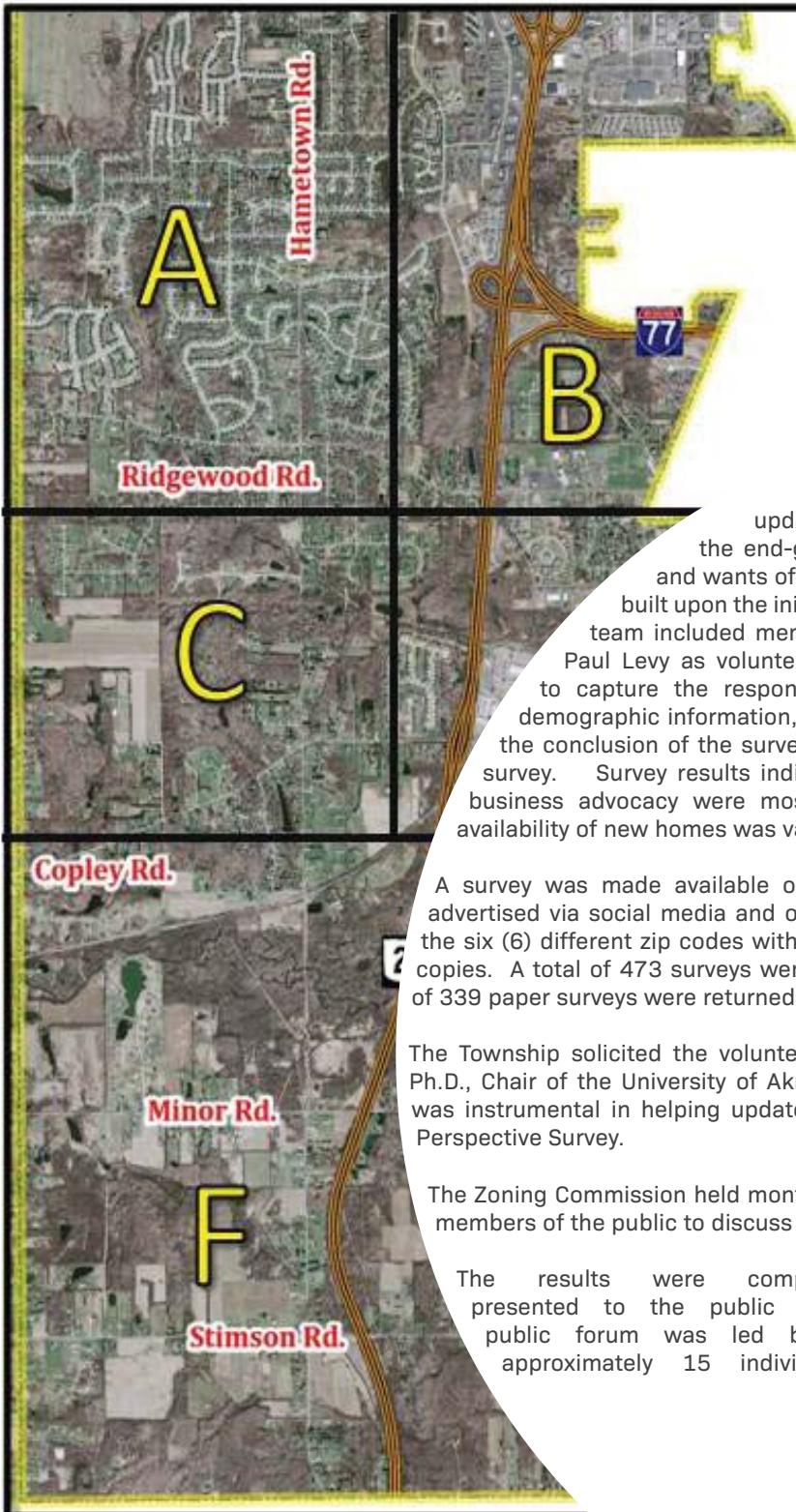
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PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

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Community Perspectives Survey



In 2024,

The Township conducted an updated Community Perspectives Survey with the end-goal of a better understanding of needs and wants of those within the community. This survey built upon the initial survey conducted in 2016. The survey team included members of the zoning commission and Dr. Paul Levy as volunteer consultant. The survey was intended to capture the respondents geographical area of residence, demographic information, and to prioritize areas of interest. Upon the conclusion of the survey, a public forum was held to reveal the survey. Survey results indicated that land preservation and small business advocacy were most important to respondents while the availability of new homes was valued the least.

A survey was made available online as well as paper/pencil and was advertised via social media and other news outlets. A random sample of the six (6) different zip codes within Copley were used to mail 1326 paper copies. A total of 473 surveys were submitted. Of those submitted, a total of 339 paper surveys were returned while 134 were submitted electronically.

The Township solicited the volunteer consulting services of Dr. Paul Levy, Ph.D., Chair of the University of Akron Department of Psychology. Dr. Levy was instrumental in helping update and review the proposed Community Perspective Survey.

The Zoning Commission held monthly meetings beginning in 2023 including members of the public to discuss and design the updated survey.

The results were compiled, evaluated, discussed and presented to the public during a March 2024 forum. The public forum was led by the Zoning Commission. In total, approximately 15 individuals attended the public forum.

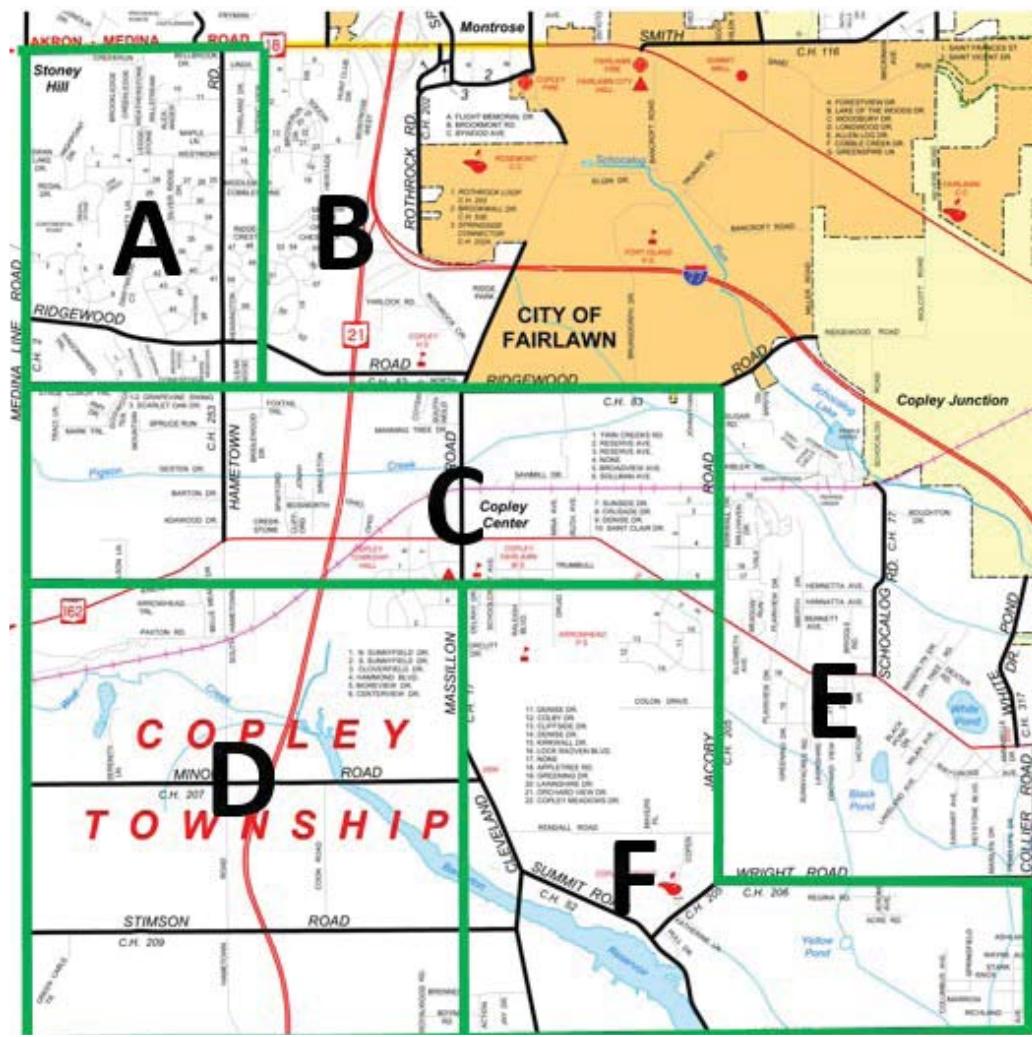
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Community Perspectives Survey

Residents were asked to look at the Township map below and to circle the letter which best described where they live. In general, respondents felt that the following activities are important to the overall success of growth, development and sustainability of our community.

- Encourage development of reclaimed sites, such as former gas stations and dry cleaners, before using open space
- Encourage and recognize property beautification and cleanliness
- Create more public open space including parks and community gardens
- Create sidewalks and bike lanes which allow people to move freely about the community
- Promote and retain small businesses
- Promote and market Copley as a beneficial place to do business
- Encourage preservation policies in the land planning process
- Create incentives which encourage the preservation of private farmland



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Community Perspectives Survey

Copley Township 2024 Community Perspectives Survey Thank you for your time. This survey will take 4-6 minutes to complete.

SurveyMonkey

	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT1	SLIGHTLY IMPORTANT2	MODERATELY IMPORTANT3	EXTREMELY IMPORTANT4	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
1. Encourage access to a fresh food source, such as a grocery store or farm market, within a 1/2 mile of home	27.27% 120	23.41% 103	23.18% 102	26.14% 115	440	2.48
2. Encourage access to community parks within a 1/2 mile of home	17.01% 75	26.98% 119	29.48% 130	26.53% 117	441	2.66
3. Support opportunities for starter home and entry level home developments	47.61% 209	28.02% 123	13.90% 61	10.48% 46	439	1.87
4. Develop sidewalks and trails connecting neighborhoods to community schools	22.83% 100	23.74% 104	25.80% 113	27.63% 121	438	2.58
5. Support opportunities for assistive housing of Veterans	15.70% 68	35.57% 154	28.18% 122	20.55% 89	433	2.54
6. Ensure people have the ability to utilize public sidewalks and bike lanes to move from one location to another	16.86% 74	24.37% 107	33.03% 145	25.74% 113	439	2.68
7. Encourage access to public transportation such as METRO bus lines	35.08% 154	33.26% 146	20.73% 91	10.93% 48	439	2.08
8. Support opportunities for housing communities for those 55 and older	23.18% 102	35.68% 157	28.18% 124	12.95% 57	440	2.31
9. Ensure housing is available at all income levels	33.79% 148	30.37% 133	19.41% 85	16.44% 72	438	2.18
10. Encourage multi-generational housing such as parents, children and grandparents living on the same piece of land	38.02% 165	31.11% 135	20.28% 88	10.60% 46	434	2.03
11. Encourage the use of green infrastructure such as raingardens, rain barrels, planter boxes (Source: EPA)	17.35% 76	29.91% 131	32.42% 142	20.32% 89	438	2.56
12. Encourage natural resource protection in all development projects	6.39% 28	16.21% 71	29.22% 128	48.17% 211	438	3.19
13. Create incentives which lead to tree preservation in development projects	6.61% 29	12.07% 53	33.94% 149	47.38% 208	439	3.22

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Community Perspectives Survey

14. Support township owned land which protects wetlands and floodplains	8.41% 37	14.32% 63	26.82% 118	50.45% 222	440	3.19
15. Create incentives which encourage the preservation of private farmland	4.55% 20	15.68% 69	33.18% 146	46.59% 205	440	3.22
16. Encourage conservation easements on private farmland. A conservation easement helps protect land by limiting non-agricultural uses of the land (Source: USDA)	11.01% 48	20.87% 91	30.05% 131	38.07% 166	436	2.95
17. Identify projects to help repair at risk land such as eroding stream banks & hillsides and areas prone to flooding (Source: Summit County Engineers Office)	4.54% 20	13.15% 58	37.19% 164	45.12% 199	441	3.23
18. Enhance regulations which lead to increased wetland preservation in development projects	12.10% 53	20.09% 88	30.59% 134	37.21% 163	438	2.93
19. Encourage development in areas of the Township where land is not being used to the highest and best such as unused parking lots, vacant buildings and uses which no longer conform to the current zoning regulations	10.48% 46	15.26% 67	38.95% 171	35.31% 155	439	2.99
20. Promote and retain small businesses	2.05% 9	10.05% 44	29.45% 129	58.45% 256	438	3.44
21. Promote and market Copley as a beneficial place to do business	5.71% 25	13.93% 61	30.82% 135	49.54% 217	438	3.24
22. Develop the Mixed Use Districts along Copley and Jacoby Roads	22.02% 96	27.98% 122	35.55% 155	14.45% 63	436	2.42
23. Support internships, vocational training and work force development opportunities which are compatible with local industry needs	9.79% 43	21.41% 94	35.76% 157	33.03% 145	439	2.92
24. Support development projects which are funded by the Copley Township Community Improvement Corporation	12.27% 53	31.25% 135	36.11% 156	20.37% 88	432	2.65

25. Support agriculturally related business and eco-tourism	7.08% 31	26.71% 117	36.99% 162	29.22% 128	438	2.88
26. Increase support for structures, events and programs which encourage art and cultural development	15.53% 68	24.43% 107	36.53% 160	23.52% 103	438	2.68
27. Create more public open space including parks and community gardens	10.27% 45	23.74% 104	33.33% 146	32.65% 143	438	2.88
28. Increase awareness of recreational facilities available through the local school district such as the indoor pool, walking track, playgrounds, athletic fields	7.69% 34	19.46% 86	36.43% 161	36.43% 161	442	3.02
29. Protect/enhance cultural resources including historic structures, sites, and corridors	5.68% 25	22.50% 99	41.82% 184	30.00% 132	440	2.96
30. Increase awareness of Copley's historic resources	9.79% 43	28.47% 125	37.36% 164	24.37% 107	439	2.76
31. Encourage and recognize property beautification and cleanliness	4.78% 21	14.12% 62	33.03% 145	48.06% 211	439	3.24
32. Partner with the local school district to ensure the needs of the community and school system are being recognized	8.18% 36	14.77% 65	32.05% 141	45.00% 198	440	3.14
33. Support property maintenance codes which protect the existing housing stock	5.22% 23	15.42% 68	35.83% 158	43.54% 192	441	3.18
34. Create local funding source to support the upkeep and maintenance of the existing housing stock	13.70% 60	26.26% 115	36.76% 161	23.29% 102	438	2.70
35. Encourage development of reclaimed sites, such as former gas stations and dry cleaners, before using open space	3.86% 17	10.91% 48	30.45% 134	54.77% 241	440	3.36
36. Encourage the use of properly zoned parcels before considering rezoning properties	5.01% 22	12.30% 54	33.49% 147	49.20% 216	439	3.27
37. Encourage preservation policies in the land planning process	5.24% 23	15.95% 70	28.70% 126	50.11% 220	439	3.24
38. Encourage mixed use and compact development in urban corridors of the Township	18.37% 79	28.84% 124	39.30% 169	13.49% 58	430	2.48
39. Reduce stormwater runoff and flooding potential by minimizing paved areas such as concrete and asphalt	10.09% 44	22.25% 97	34.63% 151	33.03% 144	436	2.91
40. Complete a Wildlife Habitat Inventory	17.91% 79	28.80% 127	28.57% 126	24.72% 109	441	2.60
41. Identify and support best measures to protect at-risk species as identified by the Ohio Division of Wildlife	12.44% 55	27.83% 123	29.41% 130	30.32% 134	442	2.78
42. Create a welcoming community that includes people of all backgrounds and experiences	10.93% 48	16.86% 74	24.60% 108	47.61% 209	439	3.09

Chapter 3: Public Engagement

Overview

The Comprehensive Land Use Plan is a product by and for the community we live in. As such, Copley Township strived to make participation in the update process as easy and welcoming as possible.



Public outreach was initiated through the design and implementation of a Public Engagement Plan (PEP). The PEP included a Community Perspective Survey, Community Kiosks, Open Office Hours, Quick Poll Surveys, a Community Open House and Public Hearings.

OPEN OFFICE HOURS

Copley Town Hall
July 25 & August 8, 15
3 - 4 PM

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Copley Town Hall
August 7 & September 4
6 PM

SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

Copley Circle
August 10
7 - 9 PM

COPLEY FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Copley Community Park
September 6
1 - 3 PM

HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK

Copley Community Park
October 25
2 - 4:30 PM

COMMUNITY HALL OPEN HOUSE

Copley Community Hall
(Former Fire Station)
TBD



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Montrose Mini Plan Session

On September 24, 2024, approximately 60 residents and stakeholders gathered with the Copley Township Zoning Commission, staff and consultant, Kimley-Horn to discuss the future of the Montrose Neighborhood.



Residents participated in three exercises including: Assets & Issues Identification, Placemaking, and Circulation, Parking, Mobility & Zoning.

The Kimley-Horn team presented information gathered about the neighborhood including land use, zoning, circulation, parking, mobility features and visual analysis of the existing buildings and landscape.



In general, participants expressed a desire to make the area pedestrian friendly with more opportunities to gather and walk in the Montrose shopping areas.

Chapter 3: Public Engagement

Community Kiosks + Plan Use Social

Halloween in the Park Kiosk



Township staff hosted a community kiosk at Halloween in the Park on October 28, 2023.

Staff discussed the Land Use Plan and

Community Perspectives Survey update with over 45 people, including residents and small business owners. Attendees participated in Quick Poll Surveys designed to test and prepare for the release of the full Community Perspectives Survey.

The Quick Poll surveys consisted of questions designed to gather feedback in the following areas:

- Public Space
- Preservation
- Economic Development
- Community Awareness
- Housing

Each survey contained approximately 8 questions and was designed to be completed by hand, on-site, in less than 2-3 minutes. 28 surveys were completed on-site. Results indicated a general desire for preservation and upkeep of existing public resources and housing.

Land Use Plan Social

The Copley Township Zoning Commission hosted a Land Use Plan Social on December 7, 2023. Commission members gathered at Brighten Brewing to host an informal discussion with residents and stakeholders about the upcoming Land Use Plan updates. Staff attended the event and shared a sample of the Community Perspectives Survey planned for distribution in early 2024. Over 15 residents gathered and participated in the event.



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Tree Lighting + Heritage Days

Copley Circle Tree Lighting



Township staff and members of the Zoning Commission attended the Copley Circle Tree Lighting on December 3, 2023. The Tree Lighting event is hosted annually and is well attended by members of the community.

This event was selected by the Zoning Commission because it helps to engage the thoughts and ideas of families with young children in the community.

During the event, staff and members spoke with over 80 attendees about the update to the Land Use Plan. During the event, staff and members distributed invitations to the Land Use Plan Social.

Staff from the Department of Community & Economic Development hosted Community Kiosks to discuss the plan and learn what type of development residents truly want for Copley Township.

Heritage Day Kiosk



The final Community Kiosk was held on August 3, 2024 in conjunction with the Copley Township Heritage Days. The goal of this kiosk was to engage with residents and attendees in an educational way and to introduce the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Staff spoke with residents who attended the rainy event this time, residents were asked to participate in quick poll surveys.

Additionally, attendees were presented with the updated Goals & Initiatives for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Residents were happy to discuss the Future Land Use Plan Map and engage with staff regarding how land is used in Copley. Most residents were not aware that Copley had a Land Use Plan and expressed their gratitude for forward thinking.

Chapter 3: Public Engagement

Zoning Commission Land Use Plan Workshops + Public Hearings

The Copley Township Zoning Commission, including Wes Henry, Michael Karst, Andrew Keys, Sylvia Chinn-Levy, John Martin, Lindsey Wilkinson and Gary Worner, hosted monthly Land Use Plan Workshops open to all residents and stakeholders in the community. Advertised throughout the Township and the Copley High School Drumbeat Newspaper, between 5-10 residents attended the monthly meetings and contributed to the Land Use Plan working group decisions made for the contents each month. The following residents were vital to the success to the overall development of the contents found in the Land Use Plan, Carl Talsma, Ed Arnold, Jim Averill, Sally Gamauf, and Donna Cecil. The workshops took place the first Thursday of each month from 5-7 pm prior to the Zoning Commission Meeting. The Zoning Commission held Public Hearings and sent recommendations to the Board of Trustees in 2025.

Our Town
Copley
Comprehensive Land Use Plan

GET INVOLVED.

land use plan community

WORKSHOPS

JOIN US
LAND USE PLAN WORKSHOPS
FIRST THURSDAY MONTHLY
5-7 PM
COPLEY TOWN HALL
1540 S CLEVELAND MASSILON RD
(LOCATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

CONNECT.
ENGAGE.
DISCOVER.

TAKE THE SURVEY TODAY!

1. Scan the QR Code
2. Pick up a paper copy from Townhall
3. Log on <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3WDF8HP>



Chapter 3:

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Copley Chamber + Farm Focus Group

Copley Chamber



On November 14, 2024, staff from the Department of Community & Economic Development participated at the Copley Chamber Meeting. During this time, staff discussed the Land Use Plan with over 25 business owners in attendance. A quick poll survey was provided to gather feedback on the Economic Development priorities in Copley Township. Five attendees completed the survey and indicated an interest to enhance growth and visibility in the Township.

Farm Focus Group

Residents, Sally Gamauf and Donna Cecil, were instrumental in providing insight and exploring a deeper look into the farming communities and their importance within Copley Township. As part of this initiative, a survey was designed and distributed to members of the community online and at the annual 2024 Farm Breakfast. 119 residents completed the survey. The survey was designed to help understand how residents are farming in Copley. In general, the majority of respondents are using backyard gardens to help feed and care for themselves and their family.



A Farm Focus Workshop was held on September 9, 2024 with the goal to gain a deeper understanding the needs of residents farming in the community. The Workshop was coordinated by staff and residents, Sally Gamauf and Donna Cecil. Over 25 residents attended the workshop. Participants were broken into three groups, including Backyard Farming, Working/Homestead Farms of Less than 10 Acres and Working Farms of Greater than 10 Acres. The groups were asked to develop a narrative for the land use plan update which describes how they use their land to farm and what resources are needed to support farming within the next 10 years.