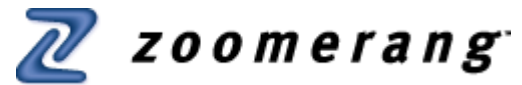


The 2011 Annual Winnetka Caucus Survey

Results Overview



Date: 9/19/2011 8:53 AM PST
Responses: Completes | Partial
Filter: Eliminate responses with codes only

Tips for Taking the 2011 E-Survey Please answer the questions in the order as they appear. Answer questions to the best of your ability, but feel free to skip questions for which you do not feel qualified or for which you have no opinion. Questions marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory. After you finish questions on each page, hit "Submit" to save your answers and move to the next page. To change an answer on the same page, just "click" on the one you want and "unclick" the one you don't. To change an answer on a previous page, hit your browser's "Back" button, make your change and hit "Submit." You will have to re-enter any responses on subsequent pages. It is easier to complete the survey if you "maximize" this window. We hope you enjoy the process and look forward to your input! Sincerely, the 2011 Winnetka Caucus Council.

Demographic Questions

2. I am a resident of:

Winnetka		1321	99%
Northfield		4	0%
Glencoe		6	0%
Kenilworth		0	0%
Total		1331	100%

3. How many years have you lived in your community?

0-2 years		109	8%
3-5 years		133	10%
6-9 years		159	12%
10-15 years		250	19%
16-25 years		259	19%
>25 years		421	32%
Total		1331	100%

4. Below are age ranges. Please indicate the number of persons in your household in each applicable age range.

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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respondents selecting the option.											
0-4 years old	114 66%	44 25%	9 5%	5 3%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	1 1%	
5-9 years old	177 57%	123 39%	10 3%	2 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	0 0%	0 0%	
10-13 years old	220 67%	102 31%	7 2%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	
14-17 years old	239 73%	82 25%	4 1%	1 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	
18-24 years old	176 58%	109 36%	13 4%	4 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	
25-34 years old	60 65%	32 35%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	
35-44 years old	117 37%	196 63%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	
45-54 years old	195 39%	306 61%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	
55-64 years old	174 47%	197 53%	2 1%	1 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	
65-74 years old	116 50%	115 49%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	1 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	0 0%	
75 years old or older	68 52%	61 47%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	2 2%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	





5. Do you own or rent your home?

Own		1307	98%
Rent		24	2%
Total		1331	100%

6. What is your gender?

Male		592	44%
Female		739	56%
Total		1331	100%

7. What is your source for information about current events and key issues in our village? (check all that apply)

Winnetka Current		961	74%
Winnetka Patch		360	28%
Winnetka Talk		997	77%
Trib Local		687	53%




Other, please specify		363	28%
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Image - Affordable Housing questions are next ...




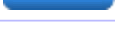
Winnetka Caucus Questions

Historical archives tell us that in 1915, a group of village leaders formed what is now the Caucus system to do away with elections in which "except for personalities, there were no real issues." Thus, the Caucus system negates the need for campaigning except in the event of a contested election. If you are at least 18 years old, you are a member of the Caucus and your vote at the Annual Town Meeting is meaningful. The Caucus Council's mission is to recruit and nominate candidates for the Village's four separate boards; we conduct the annual survey; we prepare the annual platforms based on your survey responses; and we hold the Annual Town Meeting where you vote on the platforms and candidates.




8. Do you understand how the Caucus system works in Winnetka?

Yes		1077	83%
No		60	5%
Not Sure		164	13%
Total		1301	100%



9. How familiar are you with the work of the Caucus Council?


Very familiar		355	27%
Somewhat familiar		554	43%
Familiar		205	16%
Not at all familiar		183	14%
Total		1297	100%

10. Do you favor the Caucus system used in Winnetka?



Yes		796	61%
No		140	11%
Not Sure		359	28%
Total		1295	100%

12. Did you know that the Caucus is not a part of the Village government?





Yes		974	76%
No		220	17%

Not Sure		89	7%
Total		1283	100%




13. Did you know that the Caucus Council does not receive any Village funding?

Yes		946	73%
No		268	21%
Not Sure		76	6%
Total		1290	100%





14. Is the Caucus relevant in Village matters?

Always		328	25%
Sometimes		694	54%
Rarely		76	6%
Not Sure		189	15%
Total		1287	100%

15. Do you believe that the Caucus Council is objective in the Annual Surveys and in representing the interests of the community?

Always		312	24%
Sometimes		654	51%
Rarely		90	7%
Not Sure		221	17%
Total		1277	100%

16. Do you believe that the Caucus Council does an effective job in conveying the priorities of the community to the Village's governing boards, i.e., Library, Parks, Schools and Village?

Always		257	20%
Sometimes		709	55%
Rarely		108	8%
Not Sure		215	17%
Total		1289	100%

17. Do you get sufficient information about the Caucus or the Caucus Council and its activities?

Yes		732	57%
No		336	26%







Not Sure		216	17%
Total		1284	100%






Image - Affordable Housing questions are next ...

Affordable Housing Questions

Beginning in 1979, the Winnetka Plan Commission identified the need for modest-priced housing for seniors, young families, and those who work in the community. For a variety of reasons, over the ensuing years Winnetka lost many rental units and restrictions on renting coach houses further impacted the stock of modest-priced housing. In 2004, the State of Illinois enacted the Affordable Housing Act, and under it Winnetka was required to file an affordable housing plan. However, in 2005, Winnetka adopted Home Rule and asserted its rights to have local control over the affordable housing issue. That same year, Winnetka filed an Affordable Housing Plan with the State declaring that Winnetka would assert its Home Rule authority and not be subject to the State's standards for Affordable Housing. The Village Council instructed the Winnetka Plan Commission to conduct further studies and propose a customized affordable housing plan for Winnetka. The resulting proposal from the Plan Commission includes zoning, code changes and other options to foster the availability of modest-priced housing. It expands its vision to establish a program to set aside some units as affordable housing units and creates tools that bridge the affordability gap for qualified households. This Affordable Housing program is limited to multi-family units within Winnetka's commercial districts and includes preferential access to these units for long-time residents and those who work in the community. Because of the higher affordability standards, it would not qualify for state or federal affordable housing funds or fit under Section 8 housing. The new program would engage local government – either the Village Council or an appointed agency – in housing issues, as the new administrator would determine (according to the program's guidelines) who may live in these affordable housing units and at what cost. Resources would be required to manage the program and properties on a permanent basis (i.e. forever) and, potentially, to purchase property. Further, the program would require developers of multi-family projects to dedicate a portion of their units to the Affordable Housing program in which the units would be sold or rented at below-market "affordable" rates.






19. As an overall concept, should Winnetka expand its Affordable Housing Plan to set aside affordable housing units and provide tools to bridge the affordability gap for qualifying households? If you think that Winnetka SHOULD expand its Affordable Housing Plan, please specify the reasons: (check all that apply)

Village government should use its powers to require the development of affordable housing.		163	34%
Winnetka needs more affordable housing options for seniors.		329	69%
Winnetka needs more affordable housing options for young families.		253	53%
Winnetka needs more affordable housing options for those who work in the community.		303	64%
Home Rule allows us to design our		224	47%

own affordable housing plan.			
Winnetka has a social responsibility to provide affordable housing.		224	47%
Winnetka could recapture the historical character of the Village in which the people who worked here also lived here.		212	45%
Neighboring communities have broader Affordable Housing plans.		97	20%
This is an important issue and should be a high priority for the Village.		176	37%
Other, please specify		108	23%

20.

If you think that Winnetka SHOULD NOT expand its Affordable Housing Plan, please specify the reasons: (check all that apply)

The Village has higher priorities than Affordable Housing.		723	79%
Winnetka needs more modest-priced housing but not "affordable" housing.		176	19%
A fund to help bridge affordability gaps for Winnetka seniors and workers could be established and funded privately.		126	14%
It is not appropriate for Village government to be involved in determining who can live here and what prices can be charged for housing in Winnetka.		784	85%
Under Home Rule, Winnetka is not required to expand		552	60%








its Affordable Housing plan.			
Experience with Affordable Housing in neighboring communities suggests that the program would fail to deliver and ultimately become a burden on the Village.		478	52%
Once enacted, the Affordable Housing program would put in place a structure that can be amended and expanded.		275	30%
Other, please specify		197	21%

Image - Business District and Storm Water questions are next ...

Affordable Housing Questions (continued) If you answered that Winnetka SHOULD NOT expand its Affordable Housing plan, please skip questions below that are based on the Plan Commission's proposed Affordable Housing Plan, and proceed to the next section of the Survey. The following questions ask for your feedback on components of the Plan Commission's recommendations to expand Winnetka's Affordable Housing Plan. The proposed Affordable Housing (AH) Plan reflects Winnetka's policy of favoring development of modest-priced housing by revising and relaxing certain zoning and code restrictions in an effort to bring coach houses back into the housing pool and to reverse the trend of converting downtown residential space to commercial space. The Plan Commission's proposed AH Plan goes further by adopting tools to help bridge the affordability gap for identified households using a framework commonly referred to as affordable housing. Under the framework, the Village designates certain residential units as Affordable Housing units on a permanent basis and provides these units to qualifying households at below-market, "affordable" rates.





22. Should the Village initiate a housing program where it designates certain residential units as Affordable Housing units on a permanent basis and provides these to qualifying households at below-market, "affordable" rates?

The Village should not be engaged in these housing issues.		410	52%
The Village should enact an Affordable Housing program to provide below-market "affordable" housing options for qualifying households in Winnetka.		180	23%
The Village should not enact a below-market, "affordable"		171	22%

housing program in Winnetka but should promote efforts to enhance the diversity and quality of modest-priced housing options on the market.			
Other, please specify		31	4%
Total		792	100%

Affordability Standards Owners Renters WHO - A two-tiered affordability structure: - All AH units reserved for households with maximum annual income of - One-third of AH units reserved for households with maximum annual income of ... \$105,000 \$75,000 \$75,000 \$45,000 AT WHAT COST - Owners of an AH unit would be required to set the sales price or rental rate such that total housing expenses for the identified family would not exceed 30% of their household income. Housing expenses are identified as: Mortgage Payment Insurance Property taxes Rent Utilities Local Preference Standards would give priority for AH units to long-time Winnetka residents and those who work and serve in the community. Once those needs have been met, units would be available to families from outside the community.

23. Should the Village set Affordability Standards and Local Preference Standards as listed above to determine WHO is eligible for Affordable Housing units in Winnetka?




The Village should not be charged with determining who may purchase or rent any housing in Winnetka.		543	69%
The Village should determine who has access to Affordable Housing units and adopt the recommended Affordability Standards and Local Preference Standards as defined above.		182	23%
The Village should determine who has access to Affordable Housing units and adopt Affordability Standards and Local Preference Standards at higher household income levels.		23	3%
The Village should determine who has access to Affordable Housing units and adopt Affordability		34	4%

Standards and Local Preference Standards at lower household income levels.

Total 782 100%




24.

To identify residential units for the AH Plan, the Village would enact Inclusionary Zoning requiring 15 percent of new multi-family housing be designated as Affordable Housing units and subject to the constraints of the Affordability Standards. Any proposed development that failed to meet this requirement would either be denied approval or be subject to "fees in lieu" of compliance. Should the Village enact Inclusionary Zoning requiring that 15 percent of new multi-family housing be designated as Affordable Housing units and subject to the program's Affordability Standards in the sale or rental of these properties?

The Village should not impose an Inclusionary Zoning requirement on new multi-family development in Winnetka.		494	65%
The Village should establish an Inclusionary Zoning requirement that 15 percent of all new multi-family development be subject to the Affordable Housing program's Affordability Standards, constraints and provisions.		191	25%
The Village should establish an Inclusionary Zoning requirement that a portion less than 15 percent of all new multi-family development be subject to the Affordable Housing program's Affordability Standards, constraints and provisions.		77	10%
	Total	762	100%

25.

To administer and fund the program, two separate trusts are proposed: 1. A Community Land Trust would acquire and manage properties designated as Affordable Housing units on a permanent basis. 2. A Housing Trust Fund would accept monies from public and private sources to fund projects that enhance modest-priced housing. Should a Community Land Trust be established to acquire and manage properties to be designated as Affordable Housing units on a permanent basis?

A Community Land Trust should not be established to retain and manage such property on a permanent basis.		497	66%
The Village should establish a Community Land Trust that would acquire and manage properties designated as Affordable Housing units on a permanent basis.		127	17%
A Community Land Trust should be established and funded through private charitable resources.		133	18%
Total		757	100%

26.

Should a Housing Trust Fund be established that accepts monies from public and private sources and funds projects that enhance modest-priced housing in Winnetka?




A Housing Trust Fund should not be established.		465	60%
The Village should establish a Housing Trust funded through public revenue and private donations.		151	19%
A Housing Trust Fund should be established and funded through private resources and donations.		163	21%
Total		779	100%

Image - Business District and Storm Water questions are next ...

Business District Questions The Village of Winnetka has established the Business Community Development Commission (BCDC) to recommend opportunities for commercial improvements within the East Elm, West Elm, and Hubbard Woods business districts.

27.

To facilitate this mission, please rate General Ambience:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
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option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.				
East Elm	223 18%	577 48%	320 26%	88 7%
West Elm	148 12%	581 48%	372 31%	104 9%
Hubbard Woods	162 13%	578 48%	362 30%	100 8%

28. Please rate Appearance of Business District:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	213 18%	594 50%	294 25%	92 8%
West Elm	151 13%	591 49%	355 30%	98 8%
Hubbard Woods	159 13%	581 49%	351 30%	97 8%

29. Please rate Maintenance (sidewalks, streets, lighting, buildings):

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	126 11%	580 49%	355 30%	132 11%
West Elm	113 9%	578 49%	368 31%	131 11%
Hubbard Woods	120 10%	578 49%	358 30%	128 11%

30. Please rate Parking:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	115 10%	730 61%	230 19%	116 10%
West Elm	105 9%	731 61%	250 21%	107 9%
Hubbard Woods	158 13%	710 60%	214 18%	101 9%

31. Please rate Variety of Stores and Services:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	426 36%	580 49%	136 11%	49 4%
West Elm	305 26%	617 52%	203 17%	63 5%
Hubbard Woods	291 25%	617 52%	206 17%	72 6%

32. Please rate Quality of Stores and Services:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	137 12%	620 53%	324 28%	95 8%
West Elm	98 8%	593 50%	385 33%	106 9%
Hubbard Woods	97 8%	606 52%	367 31%	97 8%

33. Please rate Restaurants:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	197 17%	537 46%	345 29%	101 9%
West Elm	278 23%	531 45%	290 24%	85 7%
Hubbard Woods	312 27%	567 49%	223 19%	63 5%

34. Please rate Hours of Operation:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	110 10%	827 72%	133 12%	82 7%
West Elm	108 9%	832 72%	137 12%	83 7%



Hubbard Woods	107 9%	834 73%	130 11%	79 7%
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35. Please rate Events:



Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Poor/Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Above Average	Excellent
East Elm	196 19%	655 65%	105 10%	57 6%
West Elm	182 18%	669 66%	102 10%	57 6%
Hubbard Woods	135 14%	665 67%	133 13%	63 6%

Storm Water Questions Winnetka has experienced severe flooding over the past several years. Storm water runoff and flooding is a community wide issue and affects our quality of life and our property values. Aging infrastructure and community growth (larger home size and more pavement runoff) have exacerbated the situation. Improvements throughout the Village costing \$3.6 million were made between 1994 and 2008. Nonetheless, the core improvements to upgrade the capacity of the storm water infrastructure for the entire Village still needs to be addressed. The Village engaged an engineering firm that recommends drainage improvements in eight different Village areas for an estimated cost of \$15 to \$18 million; the ultimate cost could be higher. If all the recommended improvements are made, standing water that accumulates after a heavy rain will be mitigated, and the amount of water that could cause basement flooding will be reduced, but not eliminated during a heavy rain fall similar to the storms in September, 2008 and July, 2011. After the July 22-23, 2011 storm, the Village identified two areas as having the most severe flooding problems over the longest period of time. These two areas are Sunset/DeWindt and Pine to Willow east of Hibbard Road.

37. Did you experience any flooding damage to your property after the July 22-23 storm?

Yes		525	43%
No		703	57%
Total		1228	100%

38. Due to the urgency of this issue, should the Village proceed with improvements that will provide the most immediate resolution to as many homes as possible? In other words, complete the next steps so that the first improvements can start next spring?

Yes, schedule the first improvements to begin as soon as possible		515	42%
No, wait until the entire plan is determined, including where the funding will come from		598	48%

I do not feel that any improvements need to be made		26	2%
I have no opinion on this		39	3%
Other, please specify		59	5%
Total		1237	100%

A portion of Village cash reserves and other funding options may be used to provide some of the funding, however, this will not be enough to pay the entire cost. A Storm Water Utility Fund could be created, similar to the current Electric Utility Fund. A monthly fee could be assessed on all properties based on a formula that measures the impact on storm water runoff in each neighborhood. Non-residential properties would be calculated individually. Based on funding \$15 Million of improvements over a 20 year period of time, the cost would be approximately \$250 per year per parcel if equally shared between all properties in the Village. Another option would be to increase property taxes to generate funds that would be directly earmarked for Storm Water Management. The advantage to using property taxes is that the amount may be tax deductible to the homeowner as opposed to a user fee with the Storm Water Utility Fund. The disadvantage to increasing property taxes is that the increase in taxes will be proportionate to the value of the property and tax exempt properties would not share in the cost.

39. Which option do you prefer to fund Storm Water improvements?

Storm Water Utility Fund		530	45%
Increase Property Taxes		227	19%
Combination of Storm Water Utility Fund and Increase Property Taxes		259	22%
Other, please specify		175	15%
Total		1191	100%

Some of the necessary Storm Water improvements will benefit the entire Village and others are more localized. Improvements that affect the capacity of moving storm water and roadway drainage may be considered as a Village-wide issue and funded with general funding sources such as Village cash reserves, Storm Water Utility Fund or increase in Property Taxes. Improvements that primarily benefit a specific area could be financed, in whole or in part, by defining the areas improved and assessing a charge to those properties in that area. This is referred to as a "Special Service Area Tax" and is funded by increasing the property taxes in the special service area. The advantages are: Cost of improvements may be assessed according to benefits received; Creates a reliable source of funding; Tax can be adjusted annually; and, It is fairly easy to explain to property owners. The disadvantages are: Costs are directly proportionate to property values, which may not relate to the nature and extent of the benefit received; and, If the size of the Special Service area is small, the cost may be too high for each homeowner.

40. For areas that will receive a greater benefit, should a special service area be set up so that these parcels pay a greater share of the total cost?

Yes		689	58%
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No		507	42%
Total		1196	100%

There are tools available to help homeowners reduce flooding in their homes. These tools include installing a backflow prevention device, installing an overhead sewer, waterproofing basements and protecting entry pathways. The Village already has a Backflow Prevention Program that reimburses the homeowner for 50% of the cost up to a maximum reimbursement of \$2,500 for a backflow prevention device or installation of an overhead sewer. Based on 13 applications submitted since 2006 for reimbursement, the average cost to the homeowner was \$6,000. To expand the current prevention program, the Village could: - Increase the reimbursement amount for the Backflow Prevention Program (Village Council has tentatively agreed to increase the maximum reimbursement to \$3,500 for a backflow prevention device and \$5,000 for overhead sewer, not more than 50% of total cost); - Offer an annual educational seminar or materials on how homeowners can take steps to prepare for a heavy rainfall and minimize flooding- Provide assistance to homeowners in obtaining a professional assessment and recommendations to address flooding issues on their property.



41. Were you aware of the Village's Backflow Prevention Program?

Yes		369	30%
No		855	70%
Total		1224	100%

42. Are you interested in taking advantage of the Village's Backflow Prevention Program?

Yes, I would be interested in using the current Backflow Prevention Program		288	26%
Yes, and I think the reimbursement amount should be increased		179	16%
Not interested in this program		661	59%
Total		1128	100%

43. Are you interested in the Village offering other educational flood prevention programs for homeowners? (check all that apply):

Yes, I would be interested in educational materials or seminars on flooding issues		473	40%
Yes, I would be interested in assistance in obtaining a professional assessment and		268	23%




recommendations to address flooding problems on my property			
No, I have no need for assistance		401	34%
I do not want the Village offering these programs		219	19%
Other assistance? Please specify		65	6%

Image - Parks questions are next ...

Village Trustee Term Limit Question Village Trustees currently are elected to the Village Council for a two year term; the two year term is set by the Village Code. The current Caucus Rules do not permit a current Village Trustee to be nominated for a third term, this means that they can only serve for a maximum of 4 consecutive years. A Trustee may be elected to a third consecutive term, but without Caucus nomination the candidate must campaign independently and at additional time and cost to the candidate. All other elected Trustees (Schools, Park and Library) serve a 4 year term; and may serve up to 2 consecutive terms for a maximum of 8 consecutive years. With important and complex issues before the Village Council and the need to deliberate decisively, the issue is whether the Village would be better served by increasing the number of consecutive terms to which the Winnetka Caucus can nominate an individual for Village Trustee. Among our 9 neighboring communities, only Wilmette has term limits (2 terms), and their Trustees serve four year terms, therefore allowing them to serve for a total of 8 years. The Village Code would allow a third consecutive term for Village Council Trustees.

Image - Term Limits for Neighboring Villages

A summary of reasons for and against the Caucus nominating candidates for a third term are as follows: FOR allowing the Caucus to nominate for a third 2-year term* Village Council members have said that the learning curve is such that a full understanding of important issues and governance occurs in a Trustee's third and fourth years, and that they could maximize their contribution given another 2 years of service. With the current limits, in April of 2012 the Village Trustees will have combined experience of 17 years; when the new Trustees are seated one month later, the Trustees will have combined experience of only 5 years. * Continuity of leadership would likely help the Council bring longer-term issues to a close, given that Trustees generally would have greater knowledge of issues before the Council. * Trustees also represent Winnetka on important regional government organizations such as Red Center (emergency call center), Northwest Municipal Conference (represents northern Illinois community issues in Springfield), SWANCC (recycling center), and Chamber of Commerce. Our impact with these groups would be greater with longer representation by our Trustees, who would have more experience and expertise in cross-organization issues. AGAINST allowing the Caucus to nominate for a third 2-year term* Limiting service to two terms encourages the Caucus to find new talent, allows greater participation of residents and ensures having Trustees with new viewpoints and experience.* Permits withholding Caucus support for Trustees who, in the opinion of the Caucus, have not served in the best interests of the Village.* Adequate institutional knowledge can be provided by the Village staff. Trustee service length has little impact on how the village staff runs day-to-day operations of the Village.

44. Are you in favor of changing the current Caucus Rule to allow a current Trustee to be nominated for a third consecutive 2-year term?

Yes, I am for changing Winnetka Caucus Rules to allow Village Trustees to be		645	54%
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nominated for a third two-year term.			
No, I am against changing Winnetka Caucus Rules and would like to see the current two two-year term limit continued.		545	46%
Total		1190	100%

Image - Parks questions are next ...





Parks Questions

On April 28, 2011, the Park Board approved the Skokie Playfield Master Plan, www.winpark.org, which sets the direction for the District's largest area of recreation for the next 20 years. Priorities under the Master Plan for the next three years are water management, field reconfiguration, tennis club upgrades, bike/pedestrian trail, parking improvements and Skokie Playfield maintenance facility renovation.

45. Are you familiar with the Park District's Skokie Playfield Master Plan and the plan priorities for the next three years?

Yes		350	29%
Somewhat		585	48%
No		283	23%
Total		1218	100%


46. How can the Park District improve the communication of these plans?

Website		331	31%
Public information meetings		89	8%
Local media		515	48%
Other, please specify		137	13%
Total		1072	100%


The Park District offers hundreds of programs annually for both adults and children.

47. Are the adult program offerings sufficient?

Yes		1013	90%
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No		118	10%
Total		1131	100%

48. Are the youth program offerings sufficient?

Yes		1000	92%
No		85	8%
Total		1085	100%





50.

In June, the Park District and the Village announced a cooperative effort to study the bacteria issues at Elder and Centennial beaches, www.winpark.org. Assuming that this program ultimately identifies the root cause and leads to resolution, what other beach related projects, at any or all of the Village's five waterfront locations (Tower, Lloyd, Maple, Elder and Centennial), would you like the Park District to undertake? (check all that apply)

Improve Amenities		338	31%
Improve Sand Quality		349	32%
Improve Parking, Access or other Infrastructure		162	15%
Nothing		503	46%
Other, please specify		139	13%

52.



How often do you and your immediate family use Winnetka's beaches in the summer (Memorial Day-Labor Day)?

None		238	20%
Fewer than 10 times		618	51%
10-20 times		264	22%
More than 20 times		89	7%
Total		1209	100%

The Hubbard Woods Ice Skating Shelter is located in Hubbard Woods Park at the north end of the Village. This structure serves as a warming hut when conditions allow for ice skating. From time to time throughout the rest of the year the Park District may use the shelter for limited programming or rentals. The current facility requires improvements to ensure functionality and safety. One of several options the Park District is reviewing is to convert the facility into a space that will promote use and increased foot traffic in the Hubbard Woods retail area and to encourage year-round use of the facility. Ideas for the Hubbard Woods Shelter might include a restaurant, cyber café or personal training facility. To this end the Park District has published a Request for Information, www.winpark.org, with principle objectives to: - Enhance the existing asset with features and benefits to the community enabling the facility to become a center-piece destination of ambiance and enjoyment.- Financially, create a viable partnership to defray hard cost improvements and generate new revenue streams for the WPD.







53.

Do you support the Park District engaging in a partnership relationship with the private sector that could reduce the costs to complete improvements to this facility?

Yes		979	84%
No		187	16%
Total		1166	100%

54.

As a general matter unrelated to the above questions, if the Park District needs to increase revenue in the future would you rather:

Raise resident fees		12	1%
Raise non-resident fees		373	32%
Raise resident and non-resident fees equally		205	17%
Raise resident and non-resident fees but increase resident fees by a greater percentage		17	1%
Raise resident and non-resident fees but increase non-resident fees by a greater percentage		486	41%
Other, please specify		80	7%
Total		1173	100%

55.

For many Park District amenities, the current fee structure assumes a mixture of residents and non-residents. In most cases non-resident fees are higher than resident fees. A resident trying to secure a court time or class opening may not be able to do so because the desired slot has been taken by a non-resident. The Park District could limit non-resident use or possibly grant priority to Winnetka residents over non-residents. Implementing policies such as these would likely require resident fees to increase in order to compensate for the lost revenue from non-residents. Are you in favor of limiting non-resident access to Park District facilities if it means increasing fees for residents?



Yes		446	39%
No		694	61%
Total		1140	100%

Image - Schools questions are next ...

Library Questions

56.



Have you used or are you aware of the following services offered at the the library?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Not Aware	Aware	User
Computer classes	380 33%	722 62%	57 5%
Private book discussions	235 20%	864 75%	48 4%
DVDs	87 8%	672 58%	390 34%
Kindles	440 39%	642 56%	55 5%
Downloadable books	479 43%	604 54%	43 4%
Downloadable audio books	457 41%	613 55%	45 4%
Live chat reference assistance	711 64%	374 34%	26 2%
Genealogical research	647 57%	468 41%	30 3%
Free Wi-Fi	287 25%	713 62%	146 13%

Current Library Hours: Monday - Thursday : 9 - 9 Friday and Saturday : 9 - 5 Sunday : 1 - 5



57.

The Winnetka Library is open for service 68 hours each week throughout the year. Would you support an increase in hours and staffing on Friday evenings and/or on Sunday evenings? (NOTE: There would be an incremental increase in cost to the library budget for staffing and services.)

Yes		226	19%
No		953	81%
Total		1179	100%





58.

If you answered 'Yes' for increasing the hours, please check all that apply:

Friday until 9PM and/or		108	48%
Sunday until 8PM		191	86%

59.

If you answered 'Yes' for increasing the hours, which age group(s) in your family would most utilize these hours? (check all that apply):

Ages 1 thru 14		68	30%
Ages 15 thru 18		80	35%
Ages 19 thru 29		20	9%
Ages 30 thru 55		82	36%

Ages 56 and over



69

31%

61.

The Library Board of Trustees has approved the 2011-2015 strategic plan which can be accessed from their website: www.winnetkalibrary.org. The board approved the mission, objectives and strategies inherent in the plan which was written over almost two years. Prioritizing the order of plans will take place over the next year. Below are 10 of the 17 strategies listed in the plan. Please rank the strategies:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Top Priority	Secondary Priority	Not a Priority
Use internal resources and funding to address the opportunities of popular titles, teens, and digital access and materials.	445 49%	328 36%	142 16%
Eliminate seldom used print materials to increase shelf place for higher-demand items.	289 30%	475 50%	193 20%
Determine condition and comfort of library facilities and furnishings and plan for the future.	285 30%	396 42%	267 28%
Address space limitations for collections, programs, and group meetings.	227 24%	445 48%	261 28%
Use existing staff and spaces more effectively and efficiently.	484 52%	311 34%	132 14%
Ask patrons what they want and need and respond appropriately and promptly.	495 53%	334 36%	109 12%
Improve technology services and equipment available to patrons within library facilities.	381 41%	399 43%	154 16%
Optimize access to all library services for mobile devices.	226 25%	410 45%	282 31%
Create welcoming spaces for teens in our library facilities.	323 34%	387 41%	239 25%
Increase teen awareness of library services.	360 38%	372 39%	210 22%

Image - Schools questions are next ...

Schools Questions

62.

Has your household included any school age children (K-8) within the past 5 years?

Yes	604	51%
No	584	49%
Total		1188 100%

63. If yes, please indicate how many children from your household have attended the following school(s) within the past year?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Crow Island	82 62%	45 34%	3 2%	2 2%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%
Greeley	56 55%	38 38%	4 4%	2 2%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%
Hubbard Woods	57 52%	43 39%	8 7%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%
Skokie	183 82%	29 13%	8 4%	2 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Washburne	220 82%	36 13%	9 3%	2 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Private School	62 49%	39 31%	18 14%	6 5%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%
Home School	0 0%	1 100%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Other	30 71%	8 19%	4 10%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%






64. If yes, please indicate how many children from your household have attended the following school(s) within the past five (5) years?

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Crow Island	71 42%	70 42%	24 14%	2 1%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Greeley	54 43%	50 39%	19 15%	4 3%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Hubbard Woods	50 34%	59 40%	33 22%	6 4%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%
Skokie	163 50%	123 38%	33 10%	4 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Washburne	180 53%	131 39%	24 7%	5 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%

Private School	54 43%	46 36%	17 13%	8 6%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%
Home School	5 56%	2 22%	1 11%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 11%
Other	19 68%	7 25%	2 7%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%

65.

If you have had school age children (K-8) who have attended a school other than one in the Winnetka Public Schools while living in Winnetka, what is the primary reason? (check all that apply):

Preference for religious education		76	35%
Preference for private school		45	21%
Desire for all-day kindergarten		40	18%
Dissatisfaction with Winnetka Public Schools		74	34%
Other, please specify		58	27%

66.

In the past year, the Winnetka Public Schools District 36 has experienced several significant leadership changes, including hiring a new Superintendent (Dr. Thomas Hagerman, who started on July 1, 2011). Please rate how useful you would find the following types of community outreach as the new leadership transitions into the District:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very Useful	Somewhat Useful	Not Useful	Not aware or did not attend
Public Q&A sessions	263 30%	324 36%	71 8%	232 26%
Forums addressing specific issues within the District	299 34%	299 34%	53 6%	224 26%
Online discussion forums	106 12%	239 28%	217 25%	305 35%
Conference calls	24 3%	136 16%	340 40%	345 41%
Social gatherings (e.g., coffees, ice cream socials, open houses)	102 12%	345 40%	183 21%	236 27%
Podcasts	79 9%	246 29%	219 25%	316 37%
District sponsored surveys	226 26%	367 43%	91 11%	172 20%
Newsletters/Email updates	423 48%	308 35%	36 4%	113 13%

Presentations and discussion about Performance and Plans at School Board Meetings	256 30%	324 37%	75 9%	212 24%
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68. Have you attended any Winnetka Public Schools District 36 Board of Education meetings or watched Podcasts within the past year?





No		785	72%
Just once		98	9%
More than once		184	17%
Just about all of them		19	2%
Total		1086	100%

Image - Wrap up questions are next ...

Schools Questions (continued)

70. Overall Satisfaction Survey

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know or Does Not Apply
I am satisfied with the financial management of the Winnetka Public Schools.	86 8%	409 37%	189 17%	180 16%	238 22%
I believe the Winnetka Public Schools does a good job of preparing students for success in high school.	224 21%	492 45%	154 14%	56 5%	159 15%
I am satisfied with the communications that come from the Winnetka Public Schools.	141 13%	489 46%	163 15%	97 9%	175 16%
I am satisfied with the performance of the Winnetka Public Schools Board of Education?	76 7%	393 37%	232 22%	124 12%	232 22%
Overall, I'm satisfied with the Winnetka Public Schools?	196 18%	502 46%	183 17%	73 7%	127 12%

71.

In 2009 and 2010, based on community survey responses, the Winnetka Caucus Schools platform identified several areas of focus for the District's leadership as it worked to complete the District's strategic planning process. Please indicate the importance of each of these areas of focus for the new District leadership as it works to continue improving our schools:

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	Very Important	Important	Not Important / No improvement needed	No Opinion
Evaluate and revise the District's approach to assessing and communicating student performance.	325 32%	378 38%	149 15%	152 15%
Evaluate whether the District's curriculum and instruction are adequately preparing students for the next grade level.	531 52%	291 29%	76 7%	117 12%
Evaluate and implement guidelines to ensure consistency across grade levels and between schools.	433 43%	324 32%	119 12%	130 13%
Revise the District's foreign language curriculum to place an increased focus on foreign language skills as opposed to cultural exploration.	339 33%	329 32%	211 21%	134 13%
Evaluate the District's approach to differentiation and enriched learning to ensure that each student is provided an appropriate and challenging education.	374 37%	322 32%	193 19%	122 12%
Evaluate the use of tutors or other private supplemental resources by parents and students to determine whether the District is adequately serving students' educational needs during the school day.	310 31%	287 29%	267 27%	140 14%

Image - Wrap up questions are next ...

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Image - Please Help Us Fulfill our Mission - The Caucus receives no tax dollars or government funding. If you would like to help us keep the Annual Survey alive, please donate in any amount. You can send donations by check made payable to the Winnetka Caucus to: Winnetka Caucus, P.O. Box 311, Winnetka, IL 60093. Thank you!



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