

Overview of the Survey Results

651 participants

Profile of Respondents:

- 90% of respondents own their own home
- 62% **do not** have children under 18 living at home
- 46% are working full time and 35% are retired

Q1 Open Comment - Single most important issue facing Township of Scugog:

Online, hard copy and phone respondents conveyed many similar sentiments such as important issues as roads, sidewalks, infrastructure, affordable housing, seniors and community recreation programming.

Q2 – Top three important factors in making any community a good place in which to live and work

Responses Online/Hard Copy:

#1 factor

- The environment in which people live

Tied for #2

- The kinds of jobs that are available for residents locally
- The opportunities people have for education and development of new skills

Tied for # 3

- Opportunities to get involved with organizations and local municipal government
- The opportunities to acquire affordable and/or rental accommodation

Responses by Phone:

Tied for #1

- Opportunities to get involved with organizations and local municipal government
- The opportunities to acquire affordable and/or rental accommodation

Tied for #2

- The opportunities for recreation, sports, leisure and cultural activities
- The quality of Township buildings and overall appearance of the community
- The amount of green space (boulevards, parks, conservation areas)

Tied for #3

- The ease with which people can get information on their community and its government services
- The walkability and likeability of the community(i.e. trails, sidewalks, bike lanes)

Q3 – Responses online indicate we could be doing a better job in:

- Lake Scugog waterfront/shoreline/trails
- Availability of jobs/education locally

- Affordable and Seniors housing/rental
- Need to improve opportunities for recreation and sport/leisure activities
- Walkability and likeability of the community/Sidewalks and trails

Q4 – Online, hard copy and phone version rated satisfaction on the value of programs and services paid for through tax dollars

Very Satisfied to Somewhat Satisfied:

- Fire and Emergency Services
- Community events
- Public Library
- Road and Sidewalk maintenance during spring, summer and fall

Somewhat Dissatisfied to Very Dissatisfied

- Services for Seniors
- Outdoor sports facilities
- Road and Winter Sidewalk maintenance (i.e. repairs, salting, snow plowing)
- Recreational facilities, such as community centres, outdoor sports facilities and Recreational programs
- Number of walking and biking trails
- Air and water quality
- Preservation and reuse of heritage buildings

Additional notes from online ranking question - the Township ranked slightly lower where residents **disagreed** that the priorities of the Township were in touch with the residents' needs

Q6 – Dedicated Roads Levy

The public are in favour of sharing the burden of paying to fix our roads. Almost 250 of 346 respondents agreed to continue with a dedicated roads levy at 1% or 2% increase.

Q7 – Online, hard copy and phone survey asked for opinion on **who** should pay for township services including facility rentals, park and other permits, ice time etc.

#1 Response from both groups is to be paid for through a reasonable combination of general tax revenues and user fees

Q8 – Support for a dedicated levy for the replacement of Blackstock arena

Online response – 70% No

Phone survey – 57% No

Q9 – Support for a dedicated levy to assist in funding construction and operational cost of a municipal pool

Online response – 65% Yes

Phone survey – 66% Yes

Q10 - Method of interaction with the Township. Residents were asked what method they used and to rate the interaction

Most popular methods were in person, by phone, by website and by snail mail. Generally, the Township provides satisfactory customer service.

Q12, Q13 and Q14 Website– For scugog.ca the respondents ranked the website a 3.18 stars out of 5

When using the website respondents' top five searches were looking for:

1. News and events
2. Recreation
3. Planning/Building/By-Law Enforcement
4. Financial/budget
5. Fire Protection/Emergency Management

Responses for what services would respondents like to access:

1. Customer service
2. Applications and building or fire permits
3. Parking and ticket payment

Q15 – Respondents ranked the top three effective methods to communicate

1. Township bulletin/local paper
2. Social media
3. Website

Q16 -18– Community Safety

90% of both online and phone respondents feel Scugog is a safe community

Those that did not feel safe indicated the following:

- Drinking & distracted driving (texting/speeding)
- Need for more visible policing
- Darkness of roads and sidewalks (this item may have improved with recent LED project)

Note: Community safety information was shared with Durham Regional Police Service.

Q19 – Respondents ranked the main priorities for this term of Council

Note: The priority areas are similar, but, the ranking of importance differs. For the online group affordable housing is last, whereas it is the number one priority for the phone group.

Response from Online/Hard Copy Survey:

1. Financial Stability and sustainability (ensure township government is governed efficiently/effectively)
2. Environmental initiatives (preserve/protect natural environment and lake)
3. Local Transportation (maintains/develops adequate road network to respond to growth)
4. Revitalization of Downtown Scugog (balance of commercial/residential growth)
5. Promoting affordable and seniors housing

Response from Phone Survey:

1. Promoting affordable and seniors housing
2. Financial Stability and sustainability (ensure township government is governed efficiently/effectively)
3. Environmental initiatives (preserve/protect natural environment and lake)
4. Revitalization of Downtown Scugog (balance of commercial/residential growth)
5. Local Transportation (maintains/develops adequate road network to respond to growth)

Q20 – Respondents ranked the main Durham Regional priorities for this term of Council to advocate for.

Response from Online/Hard Copy Survey:

1. Maintenance and Improvement to Regional roads within the Township
2. Water/Wastewater - New Municipal Wells and Treatment Facility for drinking water and Expansion to the Nonquon Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) for expansion of sewer water treatment
3. Economic Development and Tourism (i.e., ensure adequate business retention and attraction/market Town as a destination to visit)
4. Durham Regional Official Plan Review/Growth-related Studies (i.e., ensure growth is managed effectively and advocate for Greenbelt compensation and Port Perry urban boundary expansion)
5. Active transportation (pedestrian, cyclist trails, transit service review)

Response from Phone Survey:

1. Maintenance and Improvement to Regional roads within the Township
2. Water/Wastewater - New Municipal Wells and Treatment Facility for drinking water and Expansion to the Nonquon Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) for expansion of sewer water treatment
3. Upgrade the sewer pumping station at the waterfront (beside marina)
4. Finalization and implementation of Durham Region's Broadband Strategy for high speed internet service (note: these are the phone respondents that may not have internet)
5. Economic Development and Tourism (i.e., ensure adequate business retention and attraction/market Town as a destination to visit)

Note: Followed very closely in sixth place for both groups was the **Sanitary Sewer to service the Employment lands.**

Q21 – Respondents asked to rate the priorities along the waterfront/Old Mill

Online, hard copy and phone respondents agreed in the following rank of priorities:

- The Lake Scugog Enhancement project – Priority
- Development of the waterfront lands including the Old Mill – Somewhat a priority
- Accessible public washrooms at Palmer Park – Somewhat a priority
- Parking in the downtown – Not a priority

Q22 Ageing facilities – Where should we relocate Latcham Centre seniors' programs?

340 Online/Hard copy respondents answered:

1. Scugog Community Recreation Centre
2. The Scugog Memorial Public Library
3. The Lawn Bowling Club
4. Port Perry Marina

Q23 Ageing facilities – Should the Township direct funds through tax money to maintain underutilized community halls?

Online/Hard Copy Respondents – 62% No

Phone Survey Respondents – 53% No

Q24 The Old Mill – Respondents asked to choose a suggested use for the Old Mill

The top choices are as follows:

Online/Hard Copy Respondents (341):

- Specialty Food and Gift Market space – 26%
- Public Use (i.e. hotel, arts, live music event space) – 19%
- Food beverage (i.e. cidery, winery, café/restaurant) – 18%
- Sustainable Public and Private use (i.e. museum, meeting space) – 11%
- Do not invest further – 14%
- Other – Tear it down – 5%

Phone Survey Respondents (299):

- Do not invest further- Pursue funding to offset maintenance costs – 28%
- Sustainable Public and Private use (i.e. museum, meeting space) – 21%
- Public Use (i.e. hotel, arts, live music event space) – 15%
- Specialty Food and Gift market (i.e. indoor market, seasonal kiosk) – 13%
- Food and beverage space (i.e. cidery, wnder, café/restaurant) – 11%
- Other – Tear it down – 5%

Note: Between the two groups a large majority is in favour of some revitalization and public use for the Old Mill.

A substantial portion advised through the 'other' field to tear down the Old Mill, yet, there is a split of opinion between condos and return to green space.