

Summary of the Duluth Township Resident Feedback Questionnaire March 2002

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Background

A one-page questionnaire was included as an insert page in the Duluth Township Newsletter delivered the first week of January 2002 to all 790 addresses on the mailing list for the Township. The deadline for responses was February 3rd but returns were accepted through February 26th when the final results were tabulated. A total of 120 questionnaires were returned (68% by mail and 32% in the secure Town Hall news box) for an overall return rate of 15% (up from the 11% responding last year). Responses are anonymous; no names or addresses were asked or known. This is our second annual survey and the questionnaire format that was used is given in Appendix D at the end of this report.

During 2002 our Township was engaged in a number of important planning efforts, including the development of the sewer line along the shore, updating our 25-year old Township Land Use Plan, and creation of a public charter school to save our North Shore Elementary School. These efforts involve steering committees, public information meetings, regular meetings of various boards and commissions, and a lot of volunteer effort. It is important for residents to become involved with the process, to help address the issues and to help anticipate things that need to be taken into account in these planning processes.

The purpose of this Resident Feedback Questionnaire was to provide another means by which all resident's could make their views about the Township known. It is often difficult to get the more reflective views of residents outside the time-limited agenda of official meetings. Furthermore, some residents are unable to attend meetings. This questionnaire provides another way to get the opinions, priorities and ideas of a broader range of residents.

The questionnaire was put together by the Newsletter editor and it included several issues that were in the "to be considered" category for Land Use Planning Steering Committee discussion. In addition there were questions about overall satisfaction with the Township as a place to live and a request for suggested improvements in the Township that the respondent would like to have addressed over the next 10 years.

This report includes a summary of the ratings and comments that were made. Table 1, below, is a summary of responses and Appendices A, B, and C provide a listing of comments that were made. Comments are simply listed rather than further summarized so readers have the full set of information and can see the range of responses their neighbors have provided. Results were summarized in the March Newsletter. This report is available on the Township web site www.duluthtownship.org and a limited number of copies were placed in the Town Hall. The analysis, reporting and photocopying of this report was a donation, not a Township expense. If you have questions about the survey, please contact the Newsletter editor.

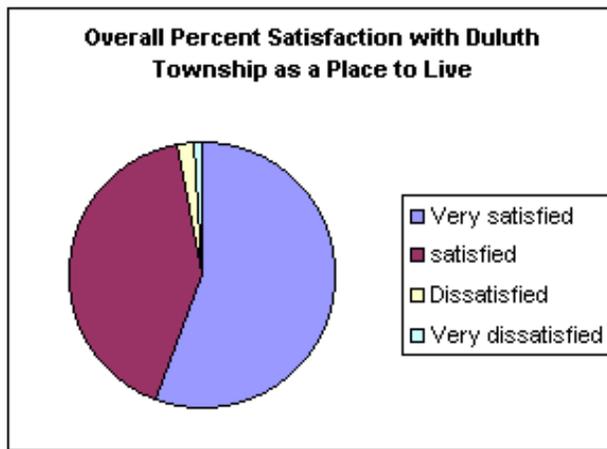
All known households had an opportunity to respond. The primary caution in interpreting these results is that they represent about 15% of the households in the Township. These are respondents who received and read the Newsletter and who were sufficiently interested in Township affairs to share their views.

Thank you to all who responded!

Results

Forty percent of respondents live on the shore side of the freeway and 60% live on the inland side of the freeway. There is no statistically significant difference between responses of those living near the shore and those living inland so only overall results are shown below.

Duluth Township residents were asked about their overall satisfaction with the Township as a place to live. Almost all (97%) said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the Township. The following graph presents these results. Comments respondents provided about their satisfaction rating are given in Appendix A.



Most residents are satisfied with Duluth Township as a place to live

Suggestions for Improvements:

Residents were asked for three suggestions for improvements they would like to see in the Township over the next 10 years. These comments appear in Appendix B, organized generally by topic. More frequently mentioned ideas were about:

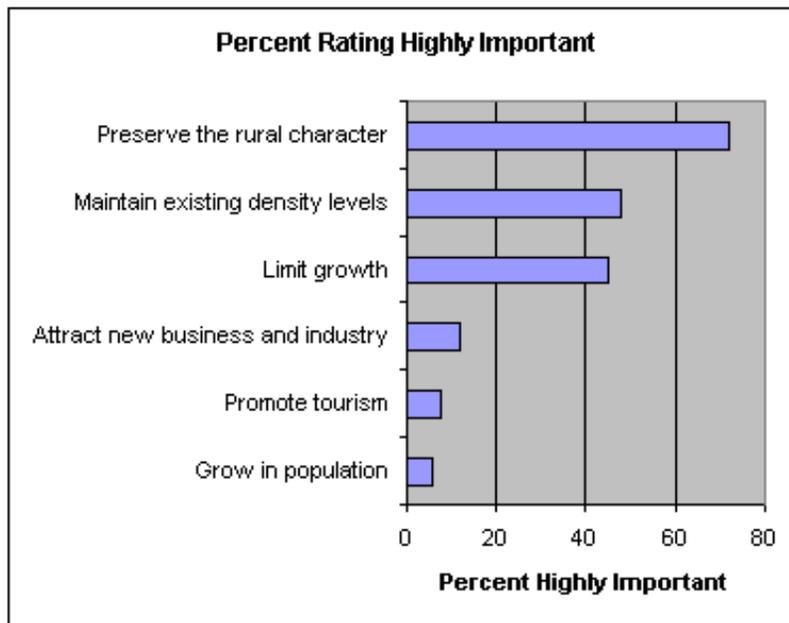
- a. Road maintenance and traffic (although only 11.4 miles of roads are Township roads).
- b. Proposed township projects and governance structure.
- c. Low taxes (only a part of property tax is under Township control and increases in St Louis county assessed land value contributes to this issue).
- d. Suggested speed and zoning ordinance enforcement.
- e. A large number of respondents provided comments related to potential land use plan and zoning ideas. These generally suggested limited change, keeping the area more or less as it is currently.
- f. Respondents provided another long list of suggestions related to public facilities and programs for the Township. Many of these items are not under the direct control of the Township.
- g. Interest in the successful accomplishment of our public charter school.
- h. Interest in completion of the sewer project along the shore.
- i. Other comments from the questionnaire about ridgeline development, towers, buried lines, etc.

Importance Ratings:

Residents were asked to rate the importance of 6 possible policies for development. Overwhelmingly they wanted to preserve its *rural character* (72% checked this as "very important"). Also ranked high in importance were *maintaining existing density levels* and *limiting growth* (48% and 45% respectively checked these as "very important").

By comparison, very few checked *attracting new business and industry*, *promoting tourism* and *population growth* as "very important" (12%, 8% and 6%, respectively). The following graph shows these results.

The importance of preserving rural character of the Township is also evident when all responses are averaged (4.5 on a 5-point scale where 5 is "very important"), compared to 3.9 for maintaining existing density, 3.6 for limiting growth, 2.5 for attracting new business, 2.4 for promoting tourism, and 2.3 for enlarging the population



Most residents say preserving the Township's rural character is the most important.

Responses About Planning Issues:

Almost two-thirds of respondents said that development along the ridgeline near the shore should be limited so that it is not seen from the shore or roadways (see Table 1). Some comments qualified this, recognizing that the ridgeline needs to be defined and that it is different in different areas. Although not a statistically significant difference, among the 120 responses to the survey those on the shore were somewhat more likely than those farther inland to agree with this statement. Comments about the ridgeline are given toward the end of Appendix B).

Slightly over half (52%) of respondents said that additional towers should be permitted in the Township but among those who said yes, half wanted limitations on tower height (the median height suggested was 100 feet) and almost two-thirds (62%) wanted towers restricted to certain locations (see Table 1). Comments about towers are listed toward the end of Appendix B).

Almost two-thirds (64%) of respondents said that telephone and electric lines should be required to be buried (see Table 1). In comments, a few noted that this might be applied first to new construction unless rock formations prevented it. These comments are also listed toward the end of Appendix B.

Finally, an open-ended question was asked about what should happen with the McQuade Harbor site. At the time of the survey there was still some doubt about the harbor project. Comments about McQuade Harbor are listed in Appendix C. These were classified in terms of their overall view of the project (see Table 1). Over a third (38%) were in favor of going ahead with the safe harbor plan and a few (2%) were neither for nor against it. The majority (60%) of residents were against the harbor project. This includes some (40%) who felt that the plans should be cancelled. Others (20%) felt the harbor project should be cancelled and changed to be a local park with restroom facilities or some other alternative arrangement.

In general, this survey suggests that residents are quite satisfied with the Township as a place to live. They provided a variety of suggestions for improvement of the Township over the next 10 years although many of these are not directly under the control of the Township. Some of these hopes are being accomplished (i.e. saving our school, constructing the shore sewer line). Respondents felt it is important to preserve the Township's current rural character, maintain existing density, and provide for limited population growth. They are not against some traditional growth and development but appear to feel that some steps might be taken to preserve what we have and improve facilities of a more local character. The reader is urged to scan the extensive comments that residents provided.

Many thanks to those who took the time to provide the Township with their feedback and suggestions.

Table 1 – Responses to the January 2001 Survey of Duluth Township Residents ¹

	Question	Percent

1	Place of residence Shore side of freeway Inland side of freeway Outside Duluth Township	40% 60 0 100% (120) ²
2	Percent distribution of overall satisfaction with Duluth Township as a place to live. Very satisfied Satisfied Dissatisfied Very dissatisfied	56% 41 2 1 100% (118)
3	Average rating of importance (1 = "not at all important"; 5 = "very important"): a. Preserve rural character (72% checked "very important") b. Maintain existing density levels (48% checked "very important") c. Limit growth (45% checked "very important") d. Attract new business and industry (12% checked "very important") e. Promote tourism (8% checked "very important") f. Grow in population (6% checked "very important")	(averages) 4.5 (119) 3.9 (116) 3.6 (119) 2.5 (117) 2.4 (118) 2.3 (117)
4	Percent who said development along the ridgeline near the shore should be limited so that it is not seen from the shore or roadways	63% (105)
5	Percent who say additional towers should be permitted in the Township (IF YES, towers should be permitted) Percent who want new towers limited in height (median suggested-100ft) Percent who want new towers restricted to certain locations	52% (114) 50% (50) 62% (53)
6	Percent who feel that telephone and electric lines should be required to be buried	64% (110)
7	View of what should happen with the McQuade Harbor site In favor of going ahead with it Neither for nor against Cancel plans for a safe harbor project Cancel plans, suggested other ideas (park with restrooms, etc)	38% 2 40 20 100% (120)

¹ The single-page questionnaire was an insert in the Duluth Township Newsletter, January 2002 and mailed to 790 addresses. There were 120 responses for a 15% return rate.

² The number in parenthesis is 100% or the number upon which the average is based.

Appendices

- A. [Comments On Overall Satisfaction With Duluth Township As A Place To Live.](#)
- B. [Suggested Improvements To Be Made Over The Next 10 Years.](#)
- C. [Comments On What Should Happen With The McQuade Harbor Site.](#)
- D. [Questionnaire Used In The 2002 Survey](#)

Appendix A: Comments on Overall Satisfaction Rating

We like it here

This is an excellent rural township. Development should be solid, well thought out and sustainable. Growth is inevitable. We are an attractive area

and change in inevitable. Quality development can occur without exorbitant cost.

Wonderful neighbors all just trying to do what is right. We'll work it out.

Natural beauty, good neighbors and great volunteer services. Kudos to Ann Cox!

I love my town! Hate the snowmobilers.

A chief concern for the area is updating zoning laws to preserve the character of this North Shore community and its natural resources.

I am very concerned that this does not become a place just where people live then drive other places to work, got to school, eat, shop, etc.

Township would need a convenience store. The dog lease law should be enforced.

Don't do anything that will increase road traffic on scenic 61.

Township Newsletter very informative, good job! All of you.

I am concerned about what will happen once the sewer line is functional. I wonder if our zoning ordinances will stand up to money and political pressure.

Ann Cox has a good work ethic and makes Township Board members look good. Also, the rural atmosphere is positive and a nice place to raise kids.

Taxes are too high. Roads are poor.

Keep hunting and shooting as they are in the township. I like the sound of gunfire.

However I think taxes are too high and with what is being planned they are going to get worse which will make it less attractive to live in Duluth Township.

We live in a great community. For those who aren't satisfied there are other places to choose from.

Poor road maintenance. Getting too populated. Too many dogs running free.

Things are fairly nice just the way they are, compared to many areas in the country. And we all should appreciate that and do anything we can to protect and preserve this area. And if it were possible, to even reverse some trends and try to make the area more rural in nature. Developers should be considered the enemy, for where they are and where they go, destruction will follow. In other words, no condos, no large stores or industry, no fast food places or gas stations, etc.

We have one of the beautiful shoreline drives for all – local, out-state, national, international travelers—and yet we need to show our pride by clean-up focusing on trash.

Very weak or non-existence of law and ordinance enforcement. Stronger leadership in governing is becoming a more obvious need.

I am concerned about the prospect of escalating property taxes, particularly the potential loss of taconite tax relief area status (which we have limited control over) and the additional cost of owning and maintaining a charter school (which we have more control over).

We moved our family here precisely for the rural character (i.e. ample undeveloped space and strong sense of community).

A good attempt to distribute information is being made. Voting facilities are very good as are the people who manage the polling.

We came here for the sparse population and lack of big business. You could further develop the missile base as an "industrial use" area. I don't want so many new rules I can't breath. I don't want a network of trails through my land. Don't restrict large animals.

The main reason we live there is for what it already is...rural and peaceful.

We're making an effort to figure things out inclusive of our diversity, not ignorant of it. We must keep trying to make our community more self-sufficient.

New Scenic Café is a wonderful community resource.

I've lived here over 60 years. Things are getting worse.

Duluth Township is a good area to raise a family.

We have managed to keep our rural character and still preserve people's rights.

This is the greatest place I have ever lived.

Too many outsiders moving in with big ideas on how to change our way of living out here.

Living close to Lake Superior is an important factor for my response (very satisfied).

Lower taxes by getting rid of constable (Township Police).

I don't want the township turned to a gated community using our zoning regulations.

Who developed this questionnaire? I believe resident feedback needs to go into questionnaire development and that someone experienced in conducting surveys should participate in order to ensure that a non-biased survey is created. Add a question about quality of survey questions. Public officials – I do not feel that public officials, clerks and treasurers, should be appointed officials. More information needs to come out about this and a new vote should be held after our public is properly informed.

Township leaders often are afraid to make decisions that might ruffle someone's feathers.

As long as I am allowed to hunt my property I'll be satisfied. I do, however, feel growth in the community is important to keep Duluth Township and its school viable.

The 5-member board seems to have brought a more democratic, citizen-friendly and respectable form of government to the Township.

Property taxes need to be lower.

Now it is a very pleasant place. Encroaching development threatens this.

Township Board does a great job.

Lets keep it as is. Many challenges to commercialize North Shore drive will confront the Township. BE STRONG!

Property taxes are too high and poor fiscal management by the School District seems to be a major factor.

I feel very lucky to live in Duluth Township. It is a beautiful rural area with a strong sense of community and a strong sense of its history and a high level of community involvement. I think, especially with being able to keep North Shore open, that it is an ideal place to live. It is also, economically speaking, a wonderfully mixed area with both.

I love the quiet and privacy. Also, I have great neighbors.

While we would like to see a few improvements, we like the natural rural environment and are proud to say we live in Duluth Township and not Duluth.

The sewer line project needs to be stopped until the State's financial situation has improved sufficiently to fund it.

Worried about increasing property taxes!

We feed birds, don't mind too much when the deer nibble on the trees and garden, have a pond for ducks and geese, don't hunt but reserve the right to. We recycle cans, bottles, glass, oil and antifreeze. Get off our back and let us enjoy what we have worked for!!

I am especially concerned about new/over development on the shore reducing the natural beauty of the North Shore.

The complaint by Township resident and resulting action by the City of Duluth to disallow lakeside boat storage for herring netting is a blot on our North Shore heritage. Also, lakeshore residents should be allowed—even encouraged—to clear lakeside vegetation, after learning how to do so to avoid erosion.

Chose this place for retirement a while back because it was quieter, cleaner air than city we lived in, and low traffic. So why would I want it to grow here? Would like more things going on at Town Hall or school like yoga or exercise classes.

Traffic flow during the day is still like living in the country, rural.

Appendix B.

Please List 3 Improvements You Would Like To See Made in Duluth Township Over The Next 10 Years.

About Roads

Note that most of the roads in the Township are St Louis County or State roads over which the Township has no jurisdiction (although he can and does initiate suggestions). Duluth Township has 11.4 miles of roads for which it is responsible. Township roads are: Nordling, Alseth, East Lismore, Shilhon, Gamble, Greenwood, Pine Tree, Spruce Court, Mace, Walter Johnson, Englund, Swanson, Culas, Schoenberg, Henry Hill, North Bergquist, East and West Wildwood, Clover Valley, Aho, Torgeson, Dammon, Olson, Riemer, Jackson/North Ryan and Beck.

Concrete or asphalt roads, no more dirt roads.

No spray in Township ditches.

Traffic speed reduced on Scenic Highway.

Repair of historical wayside.

Continue road improvements.

Turn Scenic Road into a bike trail.

Roads to be kept in good repair.

Keep up and improve road surface on expressway and Scenic Drive.

Homestead Road, Korkki Road to Ryan Road and Ryan resurfaced.

Dirt road on Bergquist Road paved.

Do not create anymore Township roads

Have roads listed correctly on maps that are published...example: which is the correct spelling of Berquist (on highway sign) Bergquist on other signs. Also the Hill and Jacobson Roads are Township roads and there are no signs and they are not labeled on the published maps.

Get rid of as many reflectorized signs as possible.

Less use of our roads by trucks from outside the area.

Don't pick on the road maintenance workers and supervisors. Be considerate and helpful with ideas.

Maintain gravel roads better.

Improvement of the exit driveway to Old North Shore road at Lakeview Cemetery.

Blacktop more roads: Shilhon road, Hill, or all if possible, it washes out quite often.

Improve on road maintenance

Improve Homestead road SOON!

Prohibit parking all along the shoreline highway except where designated.

Place large boulders along Stoney Point Drive to discourage parking where erosion is very bad.

Much improved road maintenance, including water runoff control.

Improve maintenance of dirt roads.

Improve roads.

Homestead Drive maintained by county.

The Homestead Road properly resurfaced.

The grass cut along Township roads twice a year. There are too many deer waiting to jump out!

County roads need improvement!

Better road grading in summer.

Don't allow parking on Township roads (too narrow).

Widen Homestead Road and pave.

Roads with wide shoulders to provide for biking and walking.

Earlier application of chloride to roads in spring.

More cost effective road maintenance.

Do a better job of maintaining waysides (i.e. Stoney Point).

Restrict truck traffic on Scenic 61.

Reduce speed limit to 45mph on Scenic 61.

Road maintenance, grading.

Improvement of Township road maintenance.

Better road care in winter (salting).

Better road maintenance – gravel/grading.

Completion of culvert ditching project along railroad tracks to prevent repeated flooding as in the 90's.

Widen and surface existing paved roads. Slope the right of ways.

Too many semi-trailers cracking the pavement on Highway 61.

About Township Governance

Note that these suggestions relate to the way the Township is organized or to programs that the Board of Supervisors might consider.

Fully fund the Fire Department and Police Department new equipment.

Enlarge parking lots at the Town Hall.

Enlarge parking lot at Town Hall into the back (east) before a disaster happens.

Repaint or fix the trim on the Ryan Road Fire Hall. Its terribly faded.

Would like to see a resolution of the old Clover Valley High School site.

The "Old Forest Inn" property/buildings be condemned and cleaned up now. Its been a sore sight for 20 years.

Develop North Shore Community School's possibilities as a community center.

Use of the North Shore Community School building/property as a community center.

Phasing out of being in the school business to the extent we are. Transition the school to a financially independent third party (e.g. a non-profit or for-profit entity).

Now that North Shore School is Township property, this facility should also house the town hall. The Town Hall property could be sold or leased to a start-up business.

Five supervisors are too many, a waste of our money.

Don't need 4/5 supervisors I think.

New Board of Supervisors.

Go back to an unorganized Township.

Should turn over to county.

Keep doing these anonymous resident surveys. They are a great idea! Thanks!

More Township information – Newsletter monthly, agendas posted for all meetings.

More information on getting involved in Township politics where the same people are not on every committee making all our decisions.

Greater circulation of information on what is going on in the Township.

Control change!

Clear budgets and financial reports.

Better use of resources.

Try for grant funding for projects.

After the Comprehensive Plan is completed, do a capital improvement plan and work to get it funded.

Actively become involved in managing public lands (Township involvement).

No hunting from highway 61 to the shore (Town ordinance).

On Taxes

Note that on your property tax statement, the Township portion is one of the smallest parts. It provides the fire and police protection, Township road maintenance, as well as local control of zoning and our budget. Most of the property tax bill is not under the Township's control. Note too, the list (below) of suggested services that Township residents propose. Property values increase as land in the Township becomes more valuable.

Make every effort to hold taxes to a minimum.

Tax relief for individuals who keep a portion of their land in a natural, undeveloped state.

Lower taxes.

Keep control over cost of government services.

Stop the continual property valuation creep or the area will change to an urban area.

We could save on our tax dollars by eliminating the Township Constable position.

Eliminate costs associated with Duluth Police Department.

Lower taxes.

Continued real estate tax reduction and control Township costs.

Lower taxes for seniors.

Some sort of cap on property taxes for seniors.

Lower real estate taxes.

Lower taxes, increase tax base.

About Police and Zoning Rule Enforcement, Fire Protection

Make sure zoning regulations are followed (who checks out building permits and sees where the building actually goes?).

Junky yards are still here. Nothing is being done about it.

Clean up the junkyards on Homestead Road and on Torgeson Road.

Enforce junk car laws.

Get rid of rusty cars, etc. Enforce existing rules.

Make police more visible.

Full-time police activity.

Enforce traffic speeds!

Consistent observation of speed (say 40mph) between Lester River and Two Harbors on County 61. People who wish to take County 61 for the "scenic drive", are being pushed off the road by people who should be taking the freeway. This is a very persistent problem!

Better policing of speeders.

Better fire protection.

Eliminate the constables.

Get rid of Police Department. Too expensive for what we get from it.

About Planning and Zoning

Note that this year the Planning and Zoning Commission has engaged a consulting firm (Biko, the firm that also helped the DNSSD sewer project) to help in the process of developing a land use plan and zoning ordinances to update our 25 year old plans. Some changes are needed simply to get us in line with St Louis County. A resident helped write a grant to cover half of the cost of the Planning and Zoning Commission's consultant. A citizen Steering Committee has been meeting to help update the land use plan. About 50 residents attended the first Steering Committee meeting and there have been about 30 of your neighbors who continue to serve. Requests for volunteers to serve on the Committee were published for several months. To get a broad representation, letters were sent to various potential representatives of the community (businesses, homeowners, older and newer residents, shore and inland residents, farming, etc. etc.). Anyone who volunteered was included. There have been many Steering Committee meetings with the consultants plus two broadly advertised public information meetings. They are in the first of two stages. The first is the development of a vision and policies in a Land Use Plan. The second is updating our zoning ordinances to reflect the resident wishes in the updated Land Use Plan. Both stages involve public meetings and a process of action by the Town Board and it will take most of 2002 to complete the process.

Preserve rural character.

I find it hard to believe that Duluth Township would allow the horses (on 61 east of Homestead on lakeside) in this specific area and on such a small amount of property

We need control of stream drainage.

Increase minimum building lot size.

Increase minimum lot size to either 5 or 10 acres.

Get some control over junk on land.

More emphasis on keeping junk out of yards. Maintaining a minimum standard of building upkeep (example: the spot next to Lakeview Castle should be torn down, owner fined).

Better maintenance and management of public open space, including City of Duluth ownership.

Limit growth.

Growing in population is important to maintain numbers needed for the North Shore Community School, but we need to preserve the character of the area.

Limit any ridgeline development, including inland (for example, Ryan Road and Pioneer Road). This kind of development intrudes on general aesthetics and seems to have changed the hydrology within portions of the Township resulting in increased flooding of personal property and roadways.

Eliminate rifles for hunting deer and bear below Lismore Road to the shore, due to the heavy population.

Very clear and environmentally friendly development codes.

Encourage residents to eliminate nighttime light pollution. Cut back on 2000-watt lights and floodlights.

Hunting in populated areas stopped.

More control over pets that aren't tied up, and this includes cats as they kill so many birds.

Keep new building to at least 10 acres only.

Limit development along shore after sewer is implemented.

Initiatives and zoning to protect the character of the shore.

Manage growth.

Comprehensive planning process – ongoing review.

More agricultural land use.

Self home-based businesses (crafts, farming, horticulture, etc.)

Bury (electric and phone) lines.

Overpopulation

Dogs running free.

At least 10 acres to build.

Limit junk vehicles at homes.

Encourage people to cut out and/or thin balsam and spruce thickets in as many areas as possible. Then plant white and red pine and other "real" pines; the trees that really belong here.

Limit development, especially commercial development. We have plenty of that all too close in two directions now and if you let tourists overrun the area, that will destroy the rural nature faster than anything.

Need a 3-tier development scheme: North Shore (new highway 61 to the lake), highway 61 to the ridgeline, and ridgeline inland.

Protect shoreline from erosion.

Continued land use planning to ensure the preservation of our natural amenities and our current rural character.

Limit on huge yard lights that ruin the view of the sky/stars/northern lights for neighbors.

We need to preserve access to Stoney Point, to preserve scenic and historic sites (particularly along the shore) and to enhance "drive along the shore" viewing of the lake.

Do not allow multiple family dwellings or tract development.

Keep tourism attractions close to the lake.

No more visible radio towers.

No buildings on the ridgeline.

Maintain character of development – no convenience stores, etc.

Development should be limited to a minimum of 10 acres per home or business.

Preserve rural character.

Settle a good land use plan and zoning ordinances.

Keep lot sizes large. Do not become a suburb.

Must have 10 acres in order to build.

Maintain density and rural character.

Be very selfish about our area. I believe we will just become a Duluth suburb if we're not careful!

Comprehensive plan and zoning not changed from present.

Required removal of junk vehicles on properties.

Would like to see time limits included in building permits.

Dog leash law enforced.(need a dog leash law)

Ban mobile homes.

Good land use plan.

A balanced land use and zoning plan.

Protect rural character and limit development!!!

Maintain a steady course – limited changes to zoning requirements and enforce the ordinances we already have.

Don't change zoning to favor development.

Keep 5 acre building requirement or increase building requirement acreage.

Removal or limitation of junk in yards – such as old cars, appliances.

About Township Public Facilities and Programs

Note that respondents had a number of suggestions for things they would like to see in the next 10 years where they either are not under the control of the Township.

Bike/walking path alongside Homestead Road. It could possibly be funded by a grant. Do we have a grant writer? We need one.

Limited area for snowmobilers, less snow traffic.

Arrange for bike and walking paths and road shoulders for kids and others.

Make the power line easement available to everyone, including snowmobiling and 4-wheelers.

High speed fiber-optics and internet access.

Extend Lake Superior hiking trail through area to Duluth.

Walking trail along the shore.

Encourage the establishment of a convenience/gas station/store somewhere in the Township.

Convenience store along the shore.

Convenience store at Homestead and freeway.

Convenience store in the community.

Add a gas station and grocery store (on highway and Homestead road).

Small grocery store and gas station in already established commercial area.

Encourage development of "convenience" store at highway 61 and intersection.

Allow a convenience store in the area.

Definitely would like to see new phone lines so that VDSL could be brought in!

Drop the McQuade harbor plan.

No boat access at McQuade Road or elsewhere.

Build and finish the McQuade harbor.

Safe harbor project completed.

Encourage business development at McQuade site, particularly a gas station convenience store at this location.

Somehow, force this low quality cable TV company that we have along some of the shore area out of here! Everyday there are a couple of channels off the air, interference in others, poor selection of channels, etc. etc.!

Thin trees along shore for better lake views. No clear cut, just thin.

Better communications (telephone, cable, internet) infrastructure.

Snowmobile and 4-sheeler trail link to start trails and lake shore restaurants.

Develop programs for kids, adults, especially elders at the new community center/school (educational, artistic and recreational).

Neighbor forums to discuss respectful ways to live together (land use, animal issues).

Re-establish community groups and forums to explore new ideas for local self-development: agriculture, forest products, "eco-tourism".

Small, general or grocery store/convenience store to encourage staying here not running into town.

Movie theatre to serve us, Two Harbors, East Duluth.

People should clean up their property, get rid of junk cars.

Promote more recycling.

Park/picnic area on Lake Superior.

Continue with effort of quality of place to live.

Better cell phone coverage.

Small store or coop again would be great, in Clover Valley area.

Have a convenience store near Lakeview Castle.

Finish the McQuade harbor.

City water and sewer.

Safe harbor built at McQuade.

Get rid of eyesores along paved roads.

Improvements in maintenance of land and trees along shoreline.

Extension into Township of city waterline.

Housing for starter families and seniors.

We need a convenience store where we can get gas and the very basics.

Establish a convenience store/gas station.

Build the safe harbor.

McQuade harbor.

High school.

Cell phone coverage increased.

Would like small, locally owned convenience store.

County and State tax forfeit land made more available to buy and use for recreation and if used as such, taxes should be lower rate than real estate it would put some money back into the Township.

Build safe harbor.

No more "gift shops".

A rest area for tourists on the shoreline.

More spots adjacent to the shore with trees, flowers.

Ask or help some people or old business places to clean up the buildings or property along Scenic North Shore Drive.

Beautiful as is!

More community-wide events.

A real functioning community center at the school site.

McQuade harbor site completed.

Development of wind generator system for Township.

A well-placed gas/convenience/services facility that is not too glitzy.

Park and trail system for low impact recreational activities: hiking, skiing, horse back riding, etc. This should be on private land or purchased by the Township or tax forfeited lands.

Build McQuade harbor.

An annual summer picnic to meet some of the other Duluth Township residents.

A central "park" area to provide a common focus.

Curb side recycling.

Improved telephone services.

Grocery/gas station.

I would like to see camp sites along the shore for canoe/kayak boaters.

Fresh water line as well as sewer.

Extension of Duluth city fresh water line.

A small grocery/gas store.

Evening classes at NSE for older students or people.

Area for older people to exercise/walk indoors (NSE in evening?)

Greater involvement of a variety of people in the community.

Store, gas station, small hardware.

More control over school district (381).

North Shore Charter School

Note that our NSCS (North Shore Community School) public charter school has been approved and will start fall 2002 with full enrollment. The 40 acre NSE property is slated to be transferred to Duluth Township at the end of the current school year in June, 2002 and will be leased to our public charter school.

Enlarge parking lots at the North Shore School.

Keeping a school.

Better parking at North Shore Community School for evening programs.

Continued energy, resources and improvements to North Shore Community School.

Continuing strong support for North Shore Community School.

Enlarge North Shore School parking lot.

Success of the North Shore Community School.

Acquire the North Shore Elementary site as a community center and lease to the charter school.

Acquire North Shore Elementary School and grounds.

Increased citizen participation in Township government and projects from all sectors of residents.

A successful charter school and new Superintendent of Schools in LSD 381.

On the DNSSD Sewer Project

Note that the DNSSD (Duluth, North Shore Sanitary District) will be advertising for bids for construction of the sewer project along the North Shore to begin later this year.

A good sewer and water system.

Completion of DNSSD sewer extension.

Septic completed.

The sewer project to function properly and on schedule.

Complete the sewer project as soon as possible.

Actions to preserve and enhance environmental balance (i.e. implement sewer system).

Sewer problems resolved.

Septic line along the North Shore.

Sewer line (well subsidized).

Have a new sewer line finished.

Sewer.

Sewer project completion.

Hook up DNSSD with WLSSD.

The sewer on the shore and wastewater management inland.

Get the sewer line in so we don't pollute Lake Superior and enjoy God's gift to us.

Sewer project below the freeway completed.

Run sewer along the shore.

Need a good sewer system.

Extension of Duluth sewer line.

Other Comments

On ridgeline development

Minimize ridgeline development.

The ridgeline probably wouldn't be developed anyway.

No large developments on the ridgeline (condo complexes or hotels) but okay for single family homes as long as they use some vegetative scenery. Don't clear-cut the trees and maybe even ask that homes in the ridgeline be done in natural harmony colors rather than white or yellow, etc.

Ridgeline should be regulated to mitigate impact.

Ridgeline development okay as long as its not condos/hotels, just residential.

What do you mean by "the ridgeline near the shore"?

Ridgeline development. I'm not sure. I'd like to see what is being proposed.

Keep buildings low on the ridgeline.

Limit ridgeline development within reason—exceptions will always be needed.

On towers

No towers below freeway.

Towers in forested areas only.

Tower height limit needs to protect birds.

We weren't aware of any major towers! Since there appear to be towers, yes, depending on the tower (i.e. is the tower for local benefit? Will Duluth Township receive revenues from its placement?)

Towers: This is a difficult balancing act. Probably viewsheds and preserving our rural character with still respecting individual property owners rights. Is there some kind of compromise?

Added towers, if necessary.

Towers unless they build one for everybody who wanted it in their back yard.

Allow towers with reasonable design standards, if necessary. Follow tower guidelines/ordances.

Tower issue is more complicated than a "yes /no" answer.

No towers. It is ridiculous to allow tourists and boaters to dictate land use policy in a township in which they have no stake.

Towers. What do other townships do? I feel if a homeowner wants to lest their property they should be allowed to do so.

I would tend to be conservative in the regulation of towers. I am not sure of the pros and cons of this question except for their visual impact.

Towers for cell phone reception.

No towers except for wind power generators.

Towers limited to private wind generators.

Towers are okay if not visible – two story building height where they won't be seen.

Limit tower height as needed.

Towers if necessary.

Limit towers only if it rises above the level of the trees.

On buried phone/electric lines

Buried lines depends on the locale.

Buried lines is power company's obligation.

Buried lines unless it is not practical in some cases such as: the killing of many trees, major ground disturbance or extensive costs.

Bury lines when the site is suitable. You need to look at where and how this could work.

Bury new ones that are laid.

Bury lines on new installation/construction or where revisions are being done.

The future is wireless phones.

Bury new lines.

Good luck on requiring buried lines!

Who would pay for burying lines. It's a nice idea but maybe could apply only to new lines or lines in need of replacement.

Bury lines where possible. Some places outcrops make it difficult.

Buried lines should be up to the resident.

Bury lines where practical.

Burying lines. Leave that decision up to the companies.

Bury lines, maybe on new construction.

Burying lines unneeded but lean toward burial of lines.

Bury lines if feasible, no bedrock.

Miscellaneous other comments

The horses (on 61 east of Homestead on lakeside) are located directly on the drainage ditch that provides direct runoff to the Sucker and Little Sucker Rivers, and hence to Lake Superior.

The 2 horses (on 61 east of Homestead on lakeside) are on a very small piece of property, a little over half an acre. Many counties require 2 to 2.5 acres per horse.

There is no shelter for the 2 horses (on 61 east of Homestead on lakeside). Again, most counties require shelter for protection from inclement weather.

The Newsletter job is excellent and a welcome addition.

Tourism won't create good jobs, will it?

Newsletter very informative. Thanks.

Thanks for the questionnaire effort.

Please have an article on what to do/who to call if you have a carbon monoxide problem.

The Newsletter is tops.

Questionnaire: Like it, good job.

Who developed this questionnaire? I believe resident feedback needs to go into questionnaire development and that someone experienced in conducting surveys should participate in order to ensure that a non-biased survey is created. Add a question about quality of survey questions.

Public officials. I do not feel that public officials, clerks and treasurers should be appointed officials. More information needs to come out about this and a new vote should be held after our public is properly informed.

Duluth Township isn't that hot for tourism except along the shore.

I really love this area. I don't like to see it trashed by more traffic along the scenic route. I drive home from work at night and am confronted with many high-powered lights (Scenic Café) and flood lights. Too many reflectorized junk signs and small reflectors on mailboxes also add to the "slum" look. Let's shape up!!!!

I read with great interest the short article in the (January) Newsletter by Richard Sill in the History Corner. In it we have this old time fisherman named Marv who is really not bothering anyone or anything. And all of a sudden some government bureaucrats decide to step on him hard because he has a boat, shack and some gear along the shoreline kind of violating the Congdon Trust. God Forbid! And what's interesting here is that now some of these bureaucrats in the government say we really need this ridiculous harbor at McQuade Road, for no real valid reasons in my opinion. And now the Congdon Trust doesn't matter when it applies to them. Very interesting! (The writer of this comment also felt the project should be stopped and noted the low boating density in the area, the small distance to existing harbors, benefits to a small number of people, money could be better used elsewhere).

Appendix C- Describe what you think should happen with the McQuade Harbor site.

Don't do it. Leave the area natural.

I have no information regarding this.

Should not be built! Schools need money first.

We don't want it. Whoever wants it make sure they take care of it, not the Township.

I think that the project should be completed.

Make it a park with public restrooms but no boat landing.

No harbor. It should be a public park and gateway to the North Shore and, in the other direction, to Duluth. No harbor with its environmental harm of blasting the bed of Lake Superior and unnatural rock structures in the lake.

Any development should be sustainable and of good quality. I am concerned about the sustainability of the harbor over time.

Turn it into a small park/picnic site. No marina.

I think it should become a beautiful resting spot for both boaters and tourists, bathrooms and drinking water but no "recreation" spots. Just a safe places to stop on a journey.

Nothing! I don't know much about it but don't think that kind of development is what we need. Change may be good for that area.

The current site needs improvement. There is shoreline erosion and the adjacent area needs improvement in aesthetic appearance. A small lagoon type "safe harbor" with no launch site and no parking facility could be a compromise for all parties.

Leave as open space.

I am in favor. It will probably help tourism.

We would like to see some beautiful natural landscaping done and forget the harbor site. Lets honor the Congdon trust, please!

Don't build it.

Proceed as planned but minimize cost to the Township!

Should be developed with every regulation being able to be preserved for the future. Who will manage this site?

I think it should proceed as planned. I understand the project has been own sized. I would like to see picnic areas and restroom facilities for public use.

Get the landing put in. Its only been about 20 years since the first meeting about it.

I want it. Lets get going on the project. 75% of residents are for it.

It should be left alone. We don't need all the traffic, businesses, and people that would come with it.

Cancel the project. The residents indicated the project was not desired. Doesn't the people's wish count for anything?

To be developed for multiple purposes as well to benefit community school.

It should not be developed as a boat launch/harbor. It would add no value t the North Shore and clearly is not necessary.

Stop development of harbor/boat launch. Remove rocks that have "sneakily" been hauled to the site.

Nothing. A tremendous expense (both construction and maintenance) for the benefit of a very few.

The harbor should not be built. Once that decision is made suggestions for use of the property should be solicited. I don't understand why it is being built when the large majority opposes it.

The safe harbor should be built and used only for "safe harbor" as intended.

No harbor. On the upper side a nice rest area with restrooms. Possibly a small gas station with one or two pumps with rustic convenience store.

Go for it.

Nothing! Don't disturb the beautiful lake shore. That is what is important! There are ample boat launches that have some natural protection from the November storms. Too much money is needed elsewhere.

The harbor should not be built. It is a waste of money and only desired by a small minority. A gasoline station/convenience store would be ideal. Even to buy gas now necessitates going all the way to Two Harbors or Duluth.

It should be completed as soon as possible.

Built it!!

This should add to our economic benefit and provide a recreation area for local and tourist industry.

Remove rocks, leave alone.

Cancel project.

No safe harbor. No benefit. Will end up supporting it with higher taxes.

This project should be stopped and scrapped. There is no need for it -- never was and never will be. It's a ridiculous farce and a complete waste of our time and money! See enclosed letter for a more detailed opinion of this. Make a nice scenic park for all of the people out of the site.

Do not develop. No need!

Plan should go ahead as planned. It will enhance the area; give fisherman a place to launch boats; and keep their trucks and cars off the Scenic highway to eliminate the erosion that is becoming a serious concern.

Fully implement as originally designed.

Leave it as is.

The rocks should be removed and a small playground or park should be installed. The shoreline should remain as is and boaters should use either the Duluth or Knife River marinas. No safe harbor is needed nor meant to be here.

Build it.

A wayside rest with bathrooms and tourist information, not a harbor/boat marina.

I think the McQuade harbor proposal should be cancelled. Too few people will benefit to warrant the high cost that this construction will entail.

We should have one.

Make it into a nice State maintained land park (no boats).

Create a marina/park similar to Silver Bay's

I think the harbor should proceed, however I think the Township members should be able to influence its design. As much green space around the harbor should be protected as possible and artificial wetland should be created to treat runoff from the site parking lot and to provide wildlife habitat.

This site should be used as a simple picnic grounds and beach access. We clearly don't need the kind of project proposed as a safe harbor. A boat launch ramp would be acceptable.

Nothing.

Drop the harbor idea, change to a local area park.

A park for the public, not a harbor.

Cancel the project.

Not be a boat launch! (safe harbor)

Forget the harbor. Rest area and convenience store.

Let the project go forward. The area already looks 100% better after the buildings were destroyed.

Park areas.

Safe harbor needs to be installed.

It should be made into a low maintenance picnic area (with little cost to the taxpayers). It could have a tourist information stand, but not necessarily. The rocks that are stockpiled could be used to shore up the lake walk or other areas of shoreline erosion.

Get on with it.

Fishing bridge and park.

No marina. Should be cleaned up and could be developed with something meaningful. A marina is a waste of money.

Don't develop this site. It should be left as natural shoreline, which was the intent when donated to the city!

Should be utilized as a safe harbor.

Not very feasible. Drop it! It is a bad place for a harbor. No natural protection.

We should work to avoid the harbor or any commercial development along the shore.

Complete McQuade harbor as per plans.

I am satisfied with the planning that has been facilitated by the McQuade Public Access Committee.

Stop it.

Should go in and have restrooms.

Safe harbor.

It should be completed as originally planned.

Don't need it.

A small safe harbor only, not marina in size.

Sold for commercial development – convenience store, etc.

It should be stopped and the money used elsewhere.

I think it should be developed into a safe harbor with a park area for picnicking.

It should die a quick death! The area would make a nice wayside rest and picnic area with covered pavilion and flower gardens supported by the garden clubs.

It should be built. Limited, responsible development of the shore in the areas zoned for commercial use is appropriate. A vocal minority of 25-30%, aided by a Duluth City Council that opposes any ambitious development regardless of a project's merit, has delayed this project too long.

Proceed with current plan to put in a launch and breakwater.

Even though I don't know much about the project, I think it should go forward. However with the situation with the State's budget, funding could be a problem.

No opinion.

Forget the harbor. Divert available funds to other North Shore harbors and/or park as allowed by the DNR financial planning. Make land available to previous owners at original sale price.

It should be built as a safe harbor as was planned.

Build as safe harbor as planned.

Stop it.

It should be completed and eyesore of former Forest Inn removed.

Build harbor.

Forget it! Where are our priorities? The cost is \$8 million for McQuade harbor, \$8 million for sewage line, \$8 million deficit of DNR programs (people).

I think McQuade harbor should be scrapped and a nice roadside picnic area with restrooms and water should be built there.

I think they should proceed to completion as soon as possible. It will be a nice place to go and enjoy the shore.

A town park should be established/upgrade recycling center.

Don't do it.

I was not originally in favor of the "safe harbor" (why didn't we just call it a boat launch for Pete's sake!), but if the land is not used for the boat launch project, I fear it will go to developers and we'll end up with a giant hotel/resort complex complete with lots of traffic and increasing volume of tourists and minimum wage jobs. So I think we should go ahead with the boat launch and put strict limits on what goes on there. A nice park, a nice beach, a nice walk, pier for fishing and personal boat launching, but don't allow commercial activity such as boat tours, charter fishing operations, etc. because that is not fair to nearby residents and commercial activity is probably in violation of the Congdon Trust. (PS I live more than 5 miles from the site but I strongly believe any development/improvements should follow the wishes of the residents of this Township, not bow to outside pressures.)

I think it's a good idea that I would be surprised to see happen.

I do not see any "real" need!! So, I'm not in favor.

Leave the area as is – no harbor.

We believe the entire project should be stopped. Current resources such as the 7 existing Safe Harbors are apparently under utilized by 90%. In addition, the remaining portion of County 61 from Duluth to Two Harbors is in the process of being declared a Scenic Byway. The McQuade Harbor is not exactly what we would consider scenic and doesn't preserve the North Shore's natural beauty!

It should be built, making a landing boat safe harbor.

It should move forward as planned, possibly adding a tourist information building.

A safe harbor, if maintained by the State. No marina to damage the view of the lake and great enlarge the number of tourists/non-residents, requiring more police/fire protection. Possible easy entry point for drugs.

It's a little late to be asking in this question.

No harbor! Money could be better spent on other projects such as existing harbors!

I don't think it is needed. It takes away from the beauty of the shore, the environment around, and is a waste of taxpayer's money.

I don't think it is needed. The only eyesores there now are the rocks and sign.

Many people like taking the scenic route for the sole reason that its undeveloped. I think adding a water access site would disrupt the serenity of the shore. I strongly oppose the development of the McQuade site.

McQuade should be left natural as it is. No boat launch.

The proposal for a harbor at McQuade needs to be scrapped! It's a colossal waste of taxpayer money and not necessary.

All or nothing. Not just for boaters. Picnic area, small boat, kayak, canoe launch. Restrooms, wayside rest, holding tank station for RV's.

No boat launch, no marina, no commercial building. Instead green space, park area, scenic overlook.

The rocks should be removed and site should be made available for private ownership, maybe for a gas station. This project is a coupling between special interests and various government agencies and therefore constitutes at the very least an unethical, maybe fraudulent, use of taxpayer's money. The voters have also been left out.

Waste of taxpayer's money. Spend that money on schools.

Develop it so more people have an easier chance to use the lake!!

I see no reason for a boat landing in this area. Our taxes should definitely be spent more wisely including an adequate sewer system with a good water system.