

La Crescent Community Survey – Round 1 – Housing and Economic Development

Preliminary Takeaways

- Safety/low crime and price/affordability are the most influential factors of where people choose to live
- 65% of respondents have lived in La Crescent for >10 years
- A majority of respondents (90%) live in a home with 3 or more bedrooms
- If respondents were to move in the next 5 years, only 60% would want a home with 3 or more bedrooms
- 92% live in single family homes
- 92% own their homes
- A large majority (86%) believe their home is in good or excellent condition
- A large majority (84%) are happy with their current homes
- The perceived greatest need for improvement in the housing market is supply/availability (compared to cost or quality)
- 59% of respondents expect to continue living in La Crescent for more than 10 years
- Regarding the need for housing in various categories, the highest number of respondents suggested the City needs more senior condos and apts, assisted living facilities for seniors, and affordable housing
- 26% percent think the city has too many high end homes, 19% think there are too many mobile home parks
- Most respondents spend weekdays in La Crescent (46%) or La Crosse (30%).
- 58% believe their employment is secure in the next 3-5 years. Another 18% felt “somewhat secure”.
- 72% feel the availability of employment opportunities within La Crescent is lacking
- Respondents primarily patronize La Crescent businesses for groceries, gasoline and convenience retail
- Respondents want more sit down restaurants and downtown retail shopping/services
- When asked about local public funding to enhance outdoor recreation opportunities and related tourism, respondents were most strongly in favor of investing in hiking and canoeing & kayaking amenities
- Respondents believe retail/service supply and variety are inadequate in downtown La Crescent
- Only 8% are opposed to new, multi-story buildings Downtown
- What don't people want to see change in the downtown area? Common themes include small-town feel; the grocery store; and a sense of connection to nature, including downtown greenery and views of the bluffs and river
- What other communities do respondents like? The most popular answers were Lanesboro, MN and La Crosse, WI