

Bryson City Land Use Plan

Community Input

Round 1 - Opportunities and Challenges

August-September 2021



The website www.regiona.org/brysoncity2045 was established to inform the community about the Bryson City Land Use Plan process and provide opportunities for public input.

The Opportunities and Challenges survey was open from August-September 2021 and consisted of an online survey (with paper option) and an interactive mapping tool. The purpose of these tools was to hear what the community values most about Bryson City and what opportunities and challenges they see facing Bryson City's future.

BRYSON CITY LAND USE PLAN 2045

The Town of Bryson City is updating its Land Use Plan to guide future changes that will affect residents and visitors over the next 25 years. If you live, work, or play in Bryson City, we want to hear your ideas!

The Opportunities and Challenges Survey will be open from August 10 – September 17, 2021.

Please complete a short [survey](#) and add comments to the [map](#). (The map works best from a computer.)


This page will be updated with survey results, draft recommendations, additional public input opportunities, and more. Stay tuned!



Above: Screenshot of the website during the Opportunities and Challenges Survey.

Opportunities and Challenges Survey

- What is your favorite thing about Bryson City?
- Where do you see opportunities for improvement?
- Where do you see challenges or concerns?
- Many small towns in our region have some degree of zoning to regulate development (Hayesville, Murphy, Franklin, Sylva). Bryson City could consider adopting zoning districts (such as Residential, Commercial, and Industrial) that focus on certain uses in different areas of Town. How do you feel about zoning districts to guide land development?
 - Mostly positive - I think zoning could help our Town.
 - Mostly negative - I think zoning could hurt our Town.
 - I don't know - I would need more information.



The image shows a screenshot of a survey form titled "Bryson City Opportunities and Challenges Survey". At the top, there is a photograph of a scenic view of Bryson City, North Carolina, featuring rolling green hills and mountains in the background. Below the photo, the survey title is displayed. The introductory text states: "The Town of Bryson City is updating its Land Use Plan to guide future changes that will affect residents and visitors over the next 25 years. If you live, work, or play in Bryson City, we want to hear your ideas! This survey is open from August 10-September 17, 2021. There will be additional public input opportunities in the coming months." The form contains two main questions, each followed by a "Long answer text" input field. The first question is "What is your favorite thing about Bryson City?" and the second is "Where do you see opportunities for improvement?".

Bryson City Opportunities and Challenges Survey

The Town of Bryson City is updating its Land Use Plan to guide future changes that will affect residents and visitors over the next 25 years. If you live, work, or play in Bryson City, we want to hear your ideas! This survey is open from August 10-September 17, 2021. There will be additional public input opportunities in the coming months.

What is your favorite thing about Bryson City?

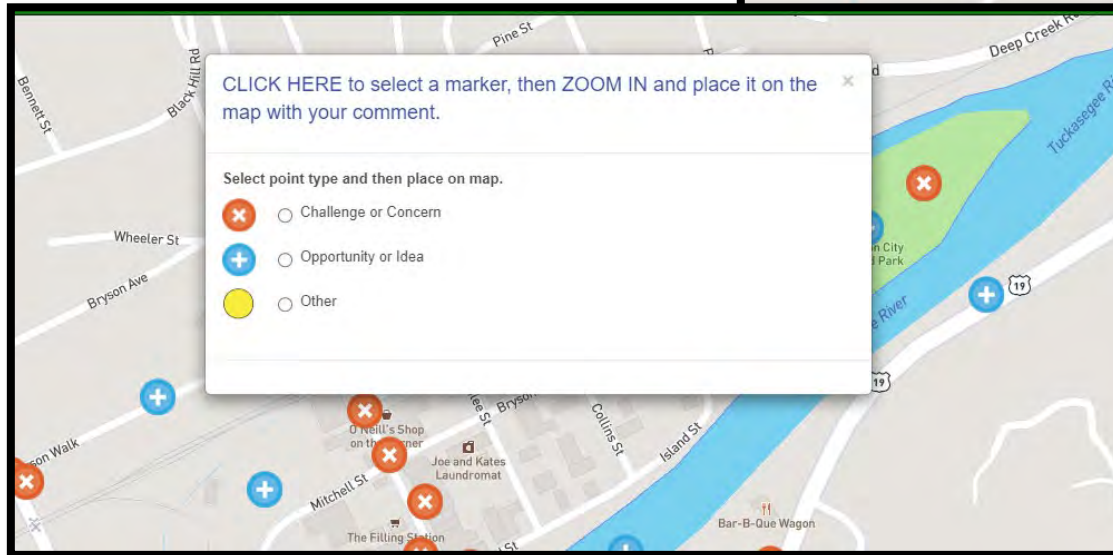
Long answer text

Where do you see opportunities for improvement?

Long answer text

ONLINE MAP

- Users were asked to click a point on the map and provide comments regarding where they had a challenge/concern or an opportunity/idea.
- Users could also see the comments left by others, and comment, agree, or disagree with previous comments.





GETTING THE WORD OUT

Press release in the Smoky Mountain Times

Facebook posts

Paper flyers posted around town

Paper surveys available at Town Hall

Email contacts

If you live, work, or play in Bryson City, we want your input!

Bryson City is updating our Land Use Plan to guide future changes that will affect residents and visitors.

There will be multiple opportunities to provide input. The Opportunities and Challenges survey is live now!

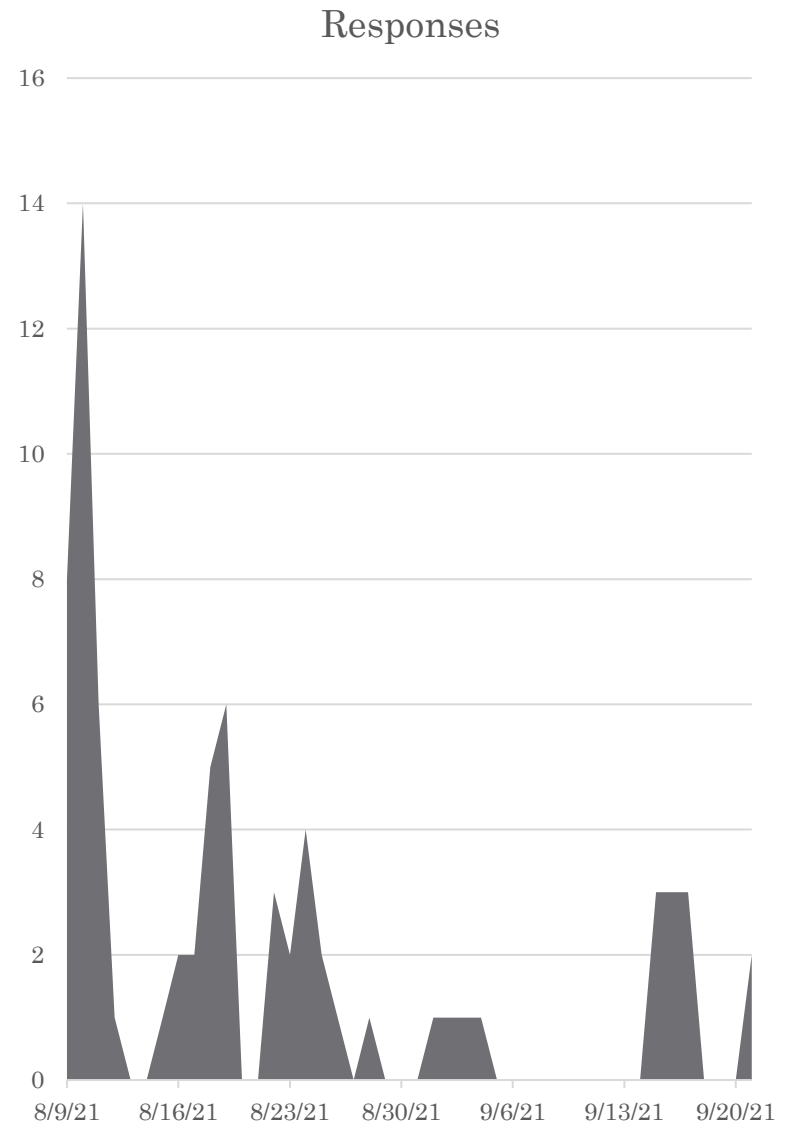


- Visit website to fill out survey (scan QR code with smart phone camera)
- Or pick up a paper survey at Town Hall (45 Everett St.)

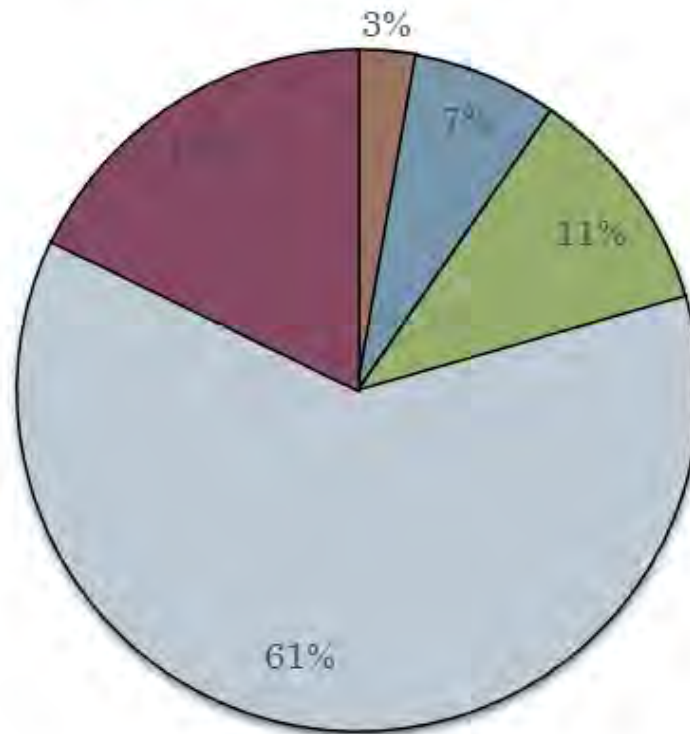


SURVEY RESPONSE

- Survey period open August 9 – September 21 (44 days)
- 71 responses to online survey
- 2 paper surveys received at Town Hall
- Online Map – 72 comments placed at different locations



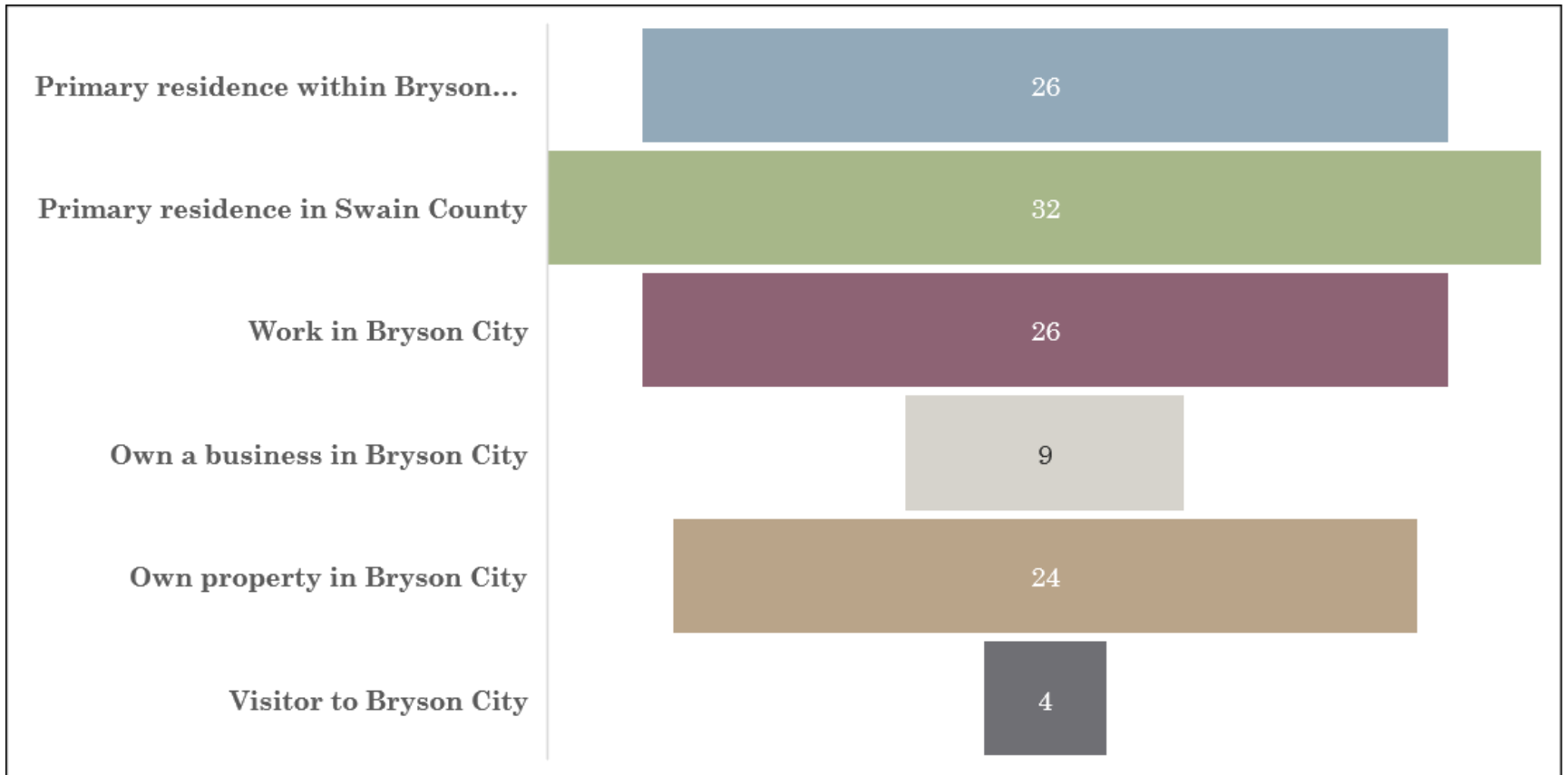
Response by Age



■ 0-17 ■ 18-25 ■ 26-40 ■ 41-64 ■ 65+

Age	Responses
0-17	2
18-25	5
26-40	8
41-64	45
65+	13
Total	73

All Respondents



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE
THING ABOUT BRYSON
CITY?

DOWNTOWN
(5 RESPONSES)

CLIMATE/GEOGRAPHY
(12 RESPONSES)

**SMALL-TOWN
ATMOSPHERE**
(29 RESPONSES)

NATURAL RESOURCES
(14 RESPONSES)

WALKABILITY
(3 RESPONSES)

**OUTDOOR
RECREATION**
(2 RESPONSES)

COMMUNITY/CULTURE
(11 RESPONSES)

LOCAL BUSINESSES
(4 RESPONSES)

SURVEY QUOTES

Favorite Thing about Bryson City

- “The geography, hospitality, the preservation of buildings and structures. I love the overall look of Bryson City.”
- “Small town feel, bustling downtown area yet space to get away when you want.”

Opportunities for Improvement

- “Things for kids and families to do”
- “Housing availability and more sustainable land use (when the mountains are the selling point, it is imperative to keep in mind to maintain biodiversity and greenery)”

Challenges or Concerns

- “Keeping the charm, while accommodating the visitor traffic.”
- “Affordable housing. It’s getting more and more difficult for people to find a place to live that they can afford.”

ZONING

Question:

Many small towns in our region have some degree of zoning to regulate development (Hayesville, Murphy, Franklin, Sylva). Bryson City could consider adopting zoning districts (such as Residential, Commercial, and Industrial) that focus on certain uses in different areas of Town.

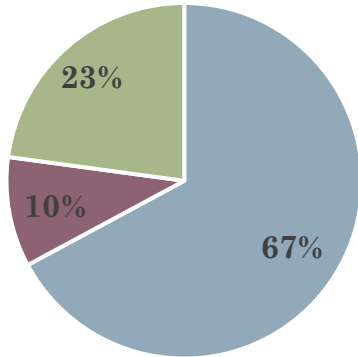
How do you feel about zoning districts to guide land development?

Responses (Total):

- 67% Mostly positive - I think zoning could help our Town.
- 10% Mostly negative - I think zoning could hurt our Town.
- 23% I don't know - I would need more information.

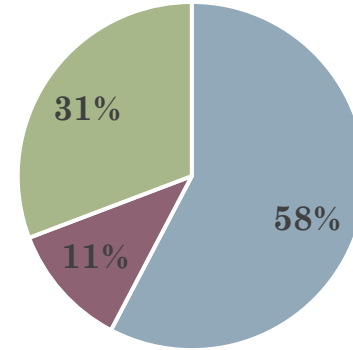
ZONING

All Respondents



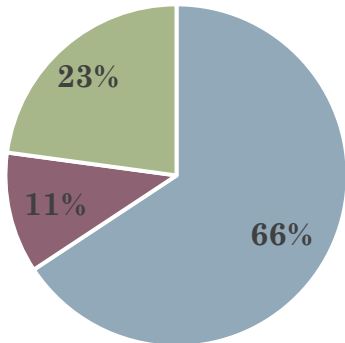
■ Positive ■ Negative ■ Don't Know

Bryson City Residents



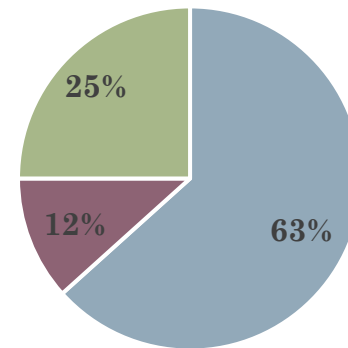
■ Positive ■ Negative ■ Don't Know

Swain County Residents



■ Positive ■ Negative ■ Don't Know

BC Residents, Property & Business Owners



■ Positive ■ Negative ■ Don't Know