

## Appendix A

### **Additional Comments by township**

*The comments listed here are taken verbatim from the questionnaires, except for minor edits for clarity (these are in brackets) or changes to protect respondent confidentiality.*

#### **Amboy:**

##### Rural

- I wish to see the rural areas remain [in] agricultural use. The more urban areas can become even more urban if they wish.
- Eastern Fulton County is very much in danger of losing its rural tradition and culture through uninformed and unwise economic development initiatives. The last two decades has demonstrated the [disastrous] effects of urban sprawl (from Toledo) and misguided industrial development—much of which has produced very few jobs and [lots] of pollution. The tale of the recent move to place a Peaking Power Plant in Metamora clearly tells us how destructive “economic development” to what was once a “friendly farm village and community.”
- If a water line was to go by our residence and we were allowed to hook in I’m sure we would. People don’t seem to use local retail shopping so naturally we don’t have any only carryouts. Its fine as long as you are able to drive and go someplace else, but in time it would be nice to have some here. All in all it boils down for a good water source for any kind of development for the township.
- #9-My well goes dry during periods of no rain-must haul water every week.
- We are not familiar with all sections of Fulton County. Generally speaking we would like to see light industrial because they provide jobs in our community as well as tax dollars they pay. Light industrial and manufacturing should be centered around each other, specific areas of Fulton County. New housing should either be in 5-acre lots or perhaps a few subdivisions in Fulton Co. The environment, woods, lakes, should be protected. If tax dollars are to be given to land owners, then the deed should be signed over to the county, state (whoever paid for the property). Landowners should not be paid to not develop their land. Either government purchases the land or not.
- The cost of water is too much around here why should we pay twice as much as town people, after all the water where we get from they did not have to pay for the line or labor. It a big rip off.
- Where are you going to get the money! Taxes are up about 400% since I’ve been here wages are up much less than 100% in the same time. If you figure the school income tax too our tax rate is higher than Ottawa-hills So don’t do anything that would further bleed the Fulton County property owner.

- Keep Aquila out of Metamora.

### **Chesterfield:**

#### Rural

- City water runs to Lyons etc Now they talk of putting in to Tedrow I have asked about city water to Oakshade which falls on deaf ears for 5-10 years now. We're as big as Tedrow! (Politics!) plain and simple It runs couple [miles south] of Oakshade already
- Keep it rural where we live-that is why we chose our house!
- I feel that a landowner should be able to do with his property as he wants, concerning development and selling.

### **Clinton:**

#### Rural

- Questions 7-9 well water quality: I have a lot of pressure, and sometimes only air comes out when faucet is turned on, also water is cloudy at times.

#### Urban

- #8 the taste of the water and smell is undesirable. We buy bottled water to drink. Wauseon needs more chain like restaurants that are more upscale than fast food. Ex. Max and Erma's, chili's, Longhorn's. Wauseon could support a hardware super store such as Lowe's.
- This county would be better served if our county politicians listened to their constituents and resorted less to behind-the-scenes micromanagement and strong arm political tactics
- Questions 36-43 I don't have a clue on these types of developments. Sorry!
- I'm a teacher at delta high school and my #1 concern is that communities do not have enough things for teenagers to do. Since drugs and alcohol are popular uses for teens, it is necessary that the community offers a variety of activities to keep [them] occupied (even at night).
- Balance growth while maintaining small town atmosphere. Judicious use of tax abatements. Careful expansion-if any-of low income housing which tends to lead to increased crime.
- Development and the availability of water and sewage. Small high density lots [create] a new slum. A mixture of farm, industry, and housing if planned for will create a good community.
- Would like to keep Wauseon small and rural, but its big enough for more shopping and variety stores. Much unused space in shopping center by the old Quality F&F. Need a few more nicer restaurants like Doc Holiday's. Sports facilities are adequate, why use the farmland for a huge sports complex? We need to reopen the drive in or get a smaller movie theatre. That took away a lot of family activity by closing and sitting empty. Would like to see a facility for teens to go to for games, go carts, etc. Reighard Park is large enough to add some activities. Ice skating would be a great activity for kids.
- Continue to develop bicycle path. Resurface tennis courts and install pay lighting. Cooperate with school system to develop all weather track. This would benefit school and community.

**Dover:**Rural

- that dover township become zoned.
- I live in the country and the only thing I can think of at this time is that I feel that when farmers dump liquid manure on their fields they should incorporate it into the ground instead of dumping it on top where all the neighbors have to smell it for the next week or more.
- Please let the owners have freedom to do what they wish on their own land. Buy, sell, invest in projects, etc. Why do we have to be ruled by other[s] when we work till our death to have something? Yes there is some good that comes to others when they have control but I would like to see less of the stipulations put on our own ground and what we use it for. We need to survive too!!
- Well often goes dry in dry weather, most homes in the area have water problems; we have to haul water to well. Based on Wauseon being so close and Wauseon being my local area. They need to have adequate water and sewage. Okay in an industrial park.
- You asked about the amount of water we have at our residence. Our water situation is tenuous. We have a cistern or run off well on our property. It is approximately 22 feet deep. The land around us is primarily sand so it doesn't hold water very well. We have lived here for about 22 years and all but maybe 6 years we have had some sort of water shortage in late summer and fall. This year's has been especially dry. In July our water started dropping slowly. By the first of August we went from about 5 feet of constant water level to 3 feet in just one week. (We have been able to determine that 1 foot of water in our well equals 40 gallons.) We have a potato farmer about 1.5 miles from us who irrigates his fields during dry times. We also have a potato "factory", about 3 miles in the opposite direction from us, [that washes] the potatoes that are harvested. When these two businesses are irrigating and washing we notice a considerable drop in our water level. We have [looked] into the possibility of drilling a well but have been told by many people that finding water in this immediate area is extremely difficult. Our income is not as such that we have been able to take a chance and fail at finding water. We have heard that the community of Tedrow is going to have a water line coming from a city water source. Even if this happens, we are about one mile away from Tedrow and would never be able to afford the cost of laying a water line to us.

**Franklin:**Rural

- Building reservoirs for water needs. Health, sanitation, and ground water quality questionable with spreading or enviro soil from Toledo, human sludge from Ft. Wayne, IN; and chicken "compost" from Buckeye egg farm on area farm grounds. Leave ditches, creeks, and streams alone!! We've been losing our filtering areas and area rivers are loading up on nitrates and other chemicals from farm runoff. Economic development handled by cities [that] have the infrastructure to handle the needs of the industry. I haven't seen yet where county or township are installing & maintaining sewer and water lines. Enforcement! Enforcement! Enforcement! Where's the enforcement! What good are rules and regulations if there not enforced.

- Keep business' in town and leave our beautiful farmland the way it is. We are business owners in Wauseon!!!!
- My spouse is recently deceased. I do not plan to stay in Fulton County. I tried to be as neutral as possible.
- Some of the questions were confusing. I was not sure if the questions meant my immediate surroundings or Fulton County as a whole. Some questions specified and that was helpful. How might one find out the results of this survey?

**Fulton:**

Rural

- It would be in the best interest for our community, state, and country if Fulton Co. remains a region of N.W. Ohio where the ground is used primarily for agricultural use. Farming has not been too profitable forcing new and older farmer/land owners to sell out. Land acreage is too costly for farmers to purchase, therefore developers buy to sell off lots. One less farmer means one less acre of produce/product... one less customer for the large implement dealer/manufacturer...one less customer for the grain mill and fertilizer supplier and I'm sure the list goes on. My point is lost acreage to development does not only affect the farmer, it affects all of this country's people in some way. Over development has to stop somewhere and sometime. That time is "NOW" in Fulton County!
- Fulton County's #1 priority should be to address water problems that many residents have to deal with on a daily basis.
- My well is insufficient to do laundry for 2 persons. My well's unable to maintain enough supply to operate 2 toilets-we both work and are gone 10-12 hours x 5 days a week. Had we been better educated about the extreme lack of water-I strongly would have reconsidered purchasing this home.
- I applaud the county etc. for seeking input in their decisions and hope that majority opinions are considered in carrying decisions about the community and county.

Urban

- Our water here tastes metallic so we use it for only cooking. I buy bottled water for drinking, this is very inconvenient. We would like to see an improvement in the water situation. Thank you.
- I believe along these lines there should be a better Fulton County effort to have a disposal site for hazard type items such as (batteries) all kinds, lead containing items. Old paint, old tires. Also recycle centers at convenient locations throughout the county. This would help in the long run for better and proper land use.

**German:**

Urban

- 8-water-taste vary-will not drink it-reluctant to use shower-foul taste in mouth.
- Since West Nile [virus] is a concern, why is it a good idea to increase wetlands?

- I hope I helped. We need to realize that we need space as space, and not build solid. My son lives in Oregon and with all that space they are built really close. Please keep space! Thanks. I love to ride bike but don't feel safe on the roads.
- Whenever I marked no opinion it is because I am not well enough informed on the subject. As a senior citizen, I feel younger people should be facing these problems because it involves their future. The place to start educating the public on the pros and cons is in the schools.
- I avoided answering questions 36 thru 44 since I have no opinion on them. When I was clerk of German twp, the township trustees adopted a plan for German Township, and to my recollection it was defeated at the poles. Nothing much came of the planning effort at that time, although now we have a zoning board in the German township. Farmers and property owners felt threatened by planning and proposed land use.

**Gorham:**

Rural

- In this changing world of more and more development there needs to be a balance between development and the natural beauty / rural life style that attracts and retains people in the township and county. A landscape of mushrooming housing development checkering the landscape both disturb the view and creates farm/urban concerns. Concentrate urban/industrial development to the existing larger cities/towns in the county/township and let rural and preserved areas on the perimeter. That would be a beneficial solution to both rural concerns and urban development.
- I would really like to see fulton Co. make a law, that would make people clean up there property and all the junk they leave around there places, its just an eye sore when people drive by or visit you. I would vote for that and it would be very important Thank you.
- I am very sorry I cannot give very much input. I am not familiar enough with Fulton County to provide answers to most of these questions.

Urban

- Keep active feed back, keep active comments, draw in drug store, grocery, gas station, plan on immediate needs, then future needs, develop US20 and Ohio 66, expand Harrison lake facilities, develop highways bypass Fayette to the south, build on cultural tradition.
- Less Co gov, regulation. Not more. Have been involved in 3 building projects which county made into a nightmare! They do not encourage-they act as land police. Also can be rude. Most problem seems to be with Co. Eng office! Severe lack of helpfulness. Seem more [interested] in what you can't do in a project-more than helping to find a way to accomplish projects. Co. Commissioner! Spending large sums- and all without asking the taxpayers. Seem to focus on Wauseon/Archbold and leave the rest of the villages to struggle.

**Pike:**

Rural

- We recently moved to the rural fulton county area, drawn by its serene and beautiful setting. Excessive development or commercialization would destroy the very essence that appeals to so many.

- Farmers should be able to [sell] their property at development property rates. [When] new growth comes and water and sewers are seen-we may not be hooked into it, but it's still assessed for our property use. We loved the quiet county life we had buying an already existing farm-11 years ago-now it is like living in a neighborhood-houses all around us and there is technically room for more!
- I would like to have more rules and regulations regarding [mobile] homes. Zoning? Maybe keep trailers in a park together instead of beside nice homes. They don't beautify the landscape. I would like to see the farmers plow the manure they spread within 24 hours. It would cut down on the flies, they do this in Michigan (somehow turn the soil over after spreading manure)

I would like to see a place to take trash that we pick up along the roadsides. My husband & I picked up 80 bags on 1 mile of Co. Rd M in 1 year. We had unlimited trash then. We take pride in our road. I would like to see incentives for residents to clean up our roadsides. Adopt a mile? A dumpster a couple of times a year for this purpose? Pick up bags, get tickets for each bag to clean the roadsides? Structure laws regarding throwing trash along the roadsides. Thank you.

- I think this survey was done for a large size business wanting to move into this area and this is a way to find a spot that would have less impact on the land, and [areas] were people won't put up a fight. Any development of any size has an impact on nature.

### **Royalton:**

#### Rural

- We bought an existing home in the county in 1987 so we could raise our children in a rural setting. In that time we have seen many areas developed to the point that they look like miniature cities. Development in our community should not be dictated by greed. We do not need the growth for the sake of growth and the inherent problems of safety, infrastructure and congestion that comes with it. County, state and federal dollars would best be used to preserve the area in a more natural state as opposed to developing it into something that will drive current residents away.
- I think you should leave Fulton Co. undeveloped, that is why people live here. Development belongs in the city.
- We need city water!
- It is sad to see in Toledo so many unoccupied structures while new structures are being built, taking up farm land. Fulton County's ruralness is great and should be preserved.
- The 2 things I dislike most.
  1. So-called development
  2. Taxes-Taking my money to pay for someone else's desires, (development)
 Government-Defines boundaries-county, state, etc. Protect its citizens, their property and their way of life. Modern definition of government is-ME (the politician).

## Urban

- I feel very strongly that our county should start to care more about the impact that mega-farms are going to leave on our lives, our taxes (and other costs) and mostly about all types of contamination. It has been proven that they do contaminate but still they are allowed to build and expand. As home owners have to keep septic tanks and [leach] beds for people, but animals in great quantities are free to do that which they want.
- I have a vision problem, it is too difficult to look at all of this information. I'm sorry.

## **Swan Creek:**

### Rural

- We live on birdsong lane. In the near future we understand we will be getting a waterline, whether we want it or not. We really didn't have much say in the matter. We know that some areas are having trouble getting water and if they needed a water line, let them have it. Let them pay for it and don't make others, that don't need it, help pay for it. As of right now, we feel that our wells are adequate, provided that sand pits and quarries that keep popping up, are not allowed to pump all the water away.

We accidentally heard about a public meeting on this matter about a year ago. When my wife and I walked in, the people in charged acted shocked that anyone would attend. I think that they were hoping that nobody would be there, and that, to them, that nobody was opposed to the waterline. That was stated, as such, by the attorney in [attendance]. Luckily we had signed up to speak, which we though was a little odd. When we walked in, we were told that if we wanted to speak we had to sign up ahead of time. No one was allowed to if they hadn't signed up. Whatever happened to free speech? The lawyer was very rude and demeaning. When we asked [why] the people that were affected by the waterline weren't notified of the meeting, the lawyer stated that the law requires a notice be posted in one publication. I think they chose the fulton county expositor? Which I didn't believe anyone on our road subscribes to. That a good way to keep attendance down at a public meeting. The theory being no attendance, no opposition. We suggested that these notices be posted in the key shopper, heartland news or something that people in our area receive. That seemed to fall on deaf ears. We were told we could always check the bulliten board at the twp hall, but who wants or desires to do that everyday?

We object to the fact that the water will be coming from the city of Toledo. We feel that we will be at their mercy. They will be able to charge us whatever they want, be able to restrict us to whatever amount they desire or shut us off whenever they feel like. We don't think our best interest will be taken into account. We think the water should be supplied from somewhere in Fulton county or from the Swanton water-treatment plant.

We also feel that there is a home-builder or builders in the area that would greatly benefit and profit from these waterlines being installed. It would allow them to build many more homes on smaller lots. They should not be allowed to pay from one tap, then build as many homes as they want, and supply those homes off one tap. If they build 10 homes, they should be required to pay for 10 taps at the same amount per tap as everyone else has to pay for their tap. 20 homes, 20 tapping fees, 100 homes, 100 tapping fees. Maybe that would lower the overall assessment that we are going to have to pay whether we want to or not.

- I think when you live on a main hwy for trucks, and someone buys the land behind you and puts a driveway in I feel they should put speedpumps in when they drive as fast down the back as trucks, and cars do down the front, especially when there's little children playing in the back fenced in yard, and the driveway is only 10' from property line and they're drag racing and driving at high rates of speed everyday trucks and all.
- I know city water is coming this way for rural people, but with the water levels and rain as low as they are don't you think these quarries are wasting the water by pumping it into creeks and such, the underground aquifers only contain so much water, isn't it more important for the whole of the community to benefit from the water, the precious resource that it is, their for some trucks to haul sand around. The few jobs that it supports I don't think over all it looks to the best for the area, county, and the people. Wells are going dry. We, the people, can't live with out water. Clean water!

### Urban

- 1. Strategic planning that will do Swanton some good, must be coordinated with [Lucas] county. Likewise, I'm sure that Williams and Henry counties also need to be cooperated with for the good of all.

Trains in Swanton are a nuisance-we need a tunnel or overpass to get normal traffic flow.

Many of my answers may sound like I am anti-farming. Not the case-I just believe if something no longer works its time to move on to something that does. All I've heard for many years is that the farmers can't make it. Too wet, too dry, too hot, too cold, etc. I'm convinced that small farms, (less than 1000 acres) probably don't do much for our county as well as the people that own them. It's sad to see them go, but I understand that it makes lots more sense to sell out to housing developers or whoever wants to buy.

### **York:**

#### Rural

- Constitutionally the land should be used as the new owner desires. But I hate to see farm land lost.
- I don't know how to answer some of your questions. I'm not involved with the area. I've only lived here for 10 years and I'm retired. I used to live in the city. I don't feel qualified to answer questions I know nothing about. I don't know what the county needs or how to answer the questions. I like living in Fulton County.
- PDR's are ok but there is no way that enough funds could be found to be totally effective. It would be better to find some better way to fund our schools through a statewide plan and not tie taxes to burden local landowners. It would be more equitable for all of Ohio and our children. The current tax abatement [rules] are a [joke] and only promote urban residential, industrial, and commercial sprawl. Make some small changes to existing routes and roads. Building a new rt. 24 will only degrade Toledo more by causing more flight to Greenfields and creating more urban (Toledo) brown fields. Fulton County needs to include in its plan to encourage new housing on old sites that are low rent or not being used at all.



- What is done with the land is none of my business I don't own it. I just feel its [a] shame there are no restrictions to keep junk housing from being put just any where.
- We moved out here from a city-we were born and raised in the city. We moved out here to get away from subdivisions and [strip malls]. Leave it as is we are close enough to shopping centers, job markets, etc. We would like to give our children an alternative from the hustle and bustle of the city!
- Thank you for this I have had some major concerns the last 10 years about our disappearing farmland. Not just to industry but to housing. I moved to the house I live in to be in the country but I don't live there anymore. There have been so many houses built I can see North star day and nights. I don't farm myself but my father does and my grandfather did so we must protect what we have for future generations. Not just our land but the beliefs our fore fathers died for back in 1776. Thanks for your efforts.
- The farmland is how we get our food to feed people. Leave the farmland alone!

#### Urban

- I've had other major priorities sorry for the late response. I am in favor of good planning but we need to look at not adversely [affecting] the economic solution of the people residing in the county. The steel plant did not save me money it cost me money. Some farmers made money, jobs came from out of the county, and concessions cost the county taxpayers. Planning, personal freedom, and economy have to all be in balance. The major asset in this county is farm land. The county should maximize its income from the land and keep as much of this income as possible within the county.
- I do not think that delta can produce safe/good water. Delta's water bills are 3x to 4x more than those of Toledo area. I hope that Delta could get water from Toledo, it is bound to be better, safer, more reliable, and cheaper, even at Toledo's higher rates to its rural customers.

I believe that the local phone company, Alltel, is a poor quality service and in violation of PUCO regulation as a provider of service to a large part of Fulton county. This needs to be addressed and corrected.

I believe that Adelphia cable service is of poor quality and need to be corrected ASAP.