

VILLAGE OF VOLENTE COMMUNITY SURVEY

This is a chance to make your voice heard. Please take the time to complete and return this survey by March 5th.

The Village of Volente is conducting a community survey to find out what people in the community think about the Village and its future development. This survey is part of the Village's process for developing a comprehensive land use plan. This comprehensive land use plan will be used as a guideline for how the Village is developed in the future, including everything from commercial to residential guidelines. The survey has been sent to all registered voters and property owners inside the Village of Volente city limits and a sample of residents from throughout the surrounding area. An outside independent consulting firm contracted for this purpose will process survey returns. **Your opinions and views are very important**, so we hope you will take a few minutes to participate in this important project. Your participation in this study is voluntary, but we hope you will decide to take part in it!

A pre-addressed, stamped, return envelope has been enclosed for your convenience. If the return envelope is lost or missing, please mail your completed survey to Freese and Nichols, Inc., 10814 Jollyville Road, Building 4, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78759, Attention: John R. King. **Completed surveys are due by March 5th**. If you have any questions about the survey, please call the Village City Office at 250-2075. If you have any questions or need assistance in responding to the questions, feel free to call 250-2075. Leave a message and someone will contact you as soon as possible. You may also send an email message to the Village City Office at volente@sbcglobal.net.

The Village will also host a Town Hall Meeting at the VVFD Fire Hall and Community Center for you to have the opportunity to visit in person with Village Representatives about this survey, as well as any other issue of interest to you. The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 29, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and there will be reference persons and materials available for your assistance. **If you would like to host a meeting in your home for this same purpose, the Village would be happy to schedule a Representative to join you as a resource.** Just let the Village City Office know the date, time and location of your meeting as soon as possible.

For legal and verification purposes, we do need you to put your name and address on the survey. **The tabulation of all responses will be confidential.** A summary of the final results will be available to the public during a Village of Volente community meeting in March, but the individual results will be kept confidential.

This is a chance to make your voice heard. Please take the time to complete and return this survey by March 5th.

Background Information: Please check, circle, or write-in the appropriate box for each item.

1. Sex

- Female
- Male

2. Age

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75-84
- 85 or older

3. How long have you lived in the Volente area?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-15 years
- 16-20 years
- 21-25 years
- More than 25 years
- I don't live in the Volente area, but I own property there.

4. Circle the number of people currently living in your household, including yourself:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 or more

5. Circle the number of people currently living in your household who are under the age of 18:

None 1 2 3 4 5 6 or more

6. What is your occupation (write in the box)?

Check here if retired:

(Please be as specific as possible.)

7. If currently employed, where do you work?

- At my home
- Within 5 miles from home
- 6-10 miles from home
- 11-15 miles from home
- 16-20 miles from home
- 21-25 miles from home
- 26-30 miles from home
- 31 miles or more from home

8. Do you own or rent your residence?

- Rent
- Own

9. Where do you live?

- Inside the Village of Volente City Limits
- Outside the Village of Volente City Limits
- Not Certain

10. If you live outside the Village of Volente city limits, do you own any property inside the city limits?

- Yes
- No
- Not Certain

11. What is/are the approximate size of your lot(s) (you may make multiple selections)?

- More than 5 acres
- 3 – 5 acres
- 2 – 3 acres
- 1 – 2 acres
- ½ - 1 acre
- Less than ½ acre
- Not Certain

12. How satisfied are you with the overall quality of life in your community?

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- No Opinion

Village of Volente

13. Different people have different ideas about what a community should be. We'd like to know what you think. Please let us know how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Place a check mark in the appropriate column indicating your view: **Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, or No Opinion**

| Volente Should Be... | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | No Opinion |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| A retirement community—a place where retirees can live out their retirement | | | | | |
| A bedroom or residential community—a place of residence for people who work outside of Volente (e.g., in Austin, Georgetown) | | | | | |
| A tourist destination community—a place for tourists to visit | | | | | |
| A rural community—a place where people can "get away from it all" | | | | | |
| A family-oriented community—a place where people can safely raise families | | | | | |
| A hometown community—a place where people can both live and work | | | | | |
| A pedestrian-friendly community—a place where pedestrians and bicycles take precedence over automobiles | | | | | |
| An environmentally-friendly community—a place where the ecological health of the community is preserved | | | | | |
| An urban community—a place with high concentrations of housing and commercial development | | | | | |
| Other/Please specify () | | | | | |

14. In your opinion, what is the **most desirable** thing about living in the Volente area?
Please write your response in the box below.

15. In your opinion, what is the **least desirable** thing about living in the Volente area?
Please write your response in the box below.

Village of Volente

16. Different people have different ideas about goals for the community. The following are some goals developed in an earlier community meeting and some goals expressed in the Village of Volente Vision Statement. We would like to know what you think. Place a check mark in the appropriate column indicating your view: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, or No Opinion

| Goal Statements.... | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | No Opinion |
|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Maintain the small town, village-like atmosphere | | | | | |
| Create more of a suburb to Austin and less of an independent Village | | | | | |
| Protect the natural environment | | | | | |
| Enhance the safety of the entrance routes to the community | | | | | |
| Encourage mixed-use development—mix of retail, office and residential uses together | | | | | |
| Encourage human-scale development—small buildings, sidewalks, bicycle paths, etc. | | | | | |
| Create a center of the community as the focus of commercial activity (town center or downtown) | | | | | |
| Promote the volunteer spirit in Volente | | | | | |
| Manage future growth and development | | | | | |
| Promote artistic and education opportunities | | | | | |
| Promote the efficient and safe flow of traffic | | | | | |
| Maintain the diverse nature of existing developments | | | | | |
| Encourage architecture that is consistent with traditional Hill Country style | | | | | |
| Maintain a rural atmosphere | | | | | |
| Create an urban atmosphere | | | | | |
| Create family recreational opportunities | | | | | |
| Encourage living, working and shopping within the Village | | | | | |
| Encourage low density housing | | | | | |
| Encourage high density housing | | | | | |
| Encourage commercial development with tax abatements | | | | | |
| Encourage parks and open spaces | | | | | |
| Encourage extensive pedestrian linkages throughout the Village to provide an alternative to short automobile trips | | | | | |
| Honor the history of the community | | | | | |
| Enhance the beauty of the Village by encouraging landscaping | | | | | |
| Provide for coordinated, well-planned growth and development | | | | | |
| Ensure that public services and facilities will adequately serve the needs of the community | | | | | |
| Promote a full life-cycle community | | | | | |
| Promote roadway improvements to encourage additional development | | | | | |
| Other/Please specify () | | | | | |

Village of Volente

17. Each community is different when it comes to the matter of **growth management**. Some local governments take a very active role in growth management and others take no active role. **We want to know what you think** the role should be for the Village of Volente City Council. Place a check mark in the appropriate column indicating your view: **Strong Role, Moderate Role, Minimal Role, No Role, or No Opinion**

| Growth Management Issues.... | Strong Role | Moderate Role | Minimal Role | No Role | No Opinion |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Regulating the height of commercial buildings | | | | | |
| Regulating the height of single-family residential buildings | | | | | |
| Regulating the height of multi-family residential buildings | | | | | |
| Regulating the type of development close to Lake Travis and hillsides | | | | | |
| Regulating where commercial or industrial areas are developed in the community | | | | | |
| Regulating commercial signs in the community | | | | | |
| Regulating the amount of space or buffering between commercial and residential areas | | | | | |
| Regulating commercial or industrial development along major roadways | | | | | |
| Regulating where multi-family housing is located in the community | | | | | |
| Regulating where traditional housing developments are located in the community | | | | | |
| Regulating the size of commercial buildings | | | | | |
| Regulating the number of single-family residential buildings per acre | | | | | |
| Regulating the number of multi-family residential buildings per acre | | | | | |
| Other/Please specify () | | | | | |

18. Listed below are certain **infrastructure facilities, amenities and other issues** that the Village of Volente could sponsor or undertake. Please **provide us with your thoughts** regarding these facilities and issues following the 1 to 4 (or 5=No Opinion) scale listed below. Please place a check mark in the appropriate column: **1=Strongly Disagree in seeing the facility/issue sponsored or undertaken, and, 4=Strongly Agree in seeing facility/issue sponsored or undertaken**

| Infrastructure Facilities, Amenities and Other Issues.... | 1=Strongly Disagree | 2=Disagree | 3=Agree | 4=Strongly Agree | 5=No Opinion |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| The Village of Volente should own its own water supply facility | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should own its own sewer/wastewater facility | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should establish its own police force | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should promote the creation and protection of natural areas/green space | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should provide community parks and playgrounds | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should establish trails for hiking, walking, jogging and bicycling | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should establish trails for wildlife/nature viewing | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should establish trails for horse riding | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should develop a recycling program | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should take an active role with TXDOT (TX Dept. of Transportation) in the traffic flow management of FM 2769 and Bullick Hollow | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should pursue having a permanent City Hall/Community Center | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should provide an indoor activity center for all ages | | | | | |
| Other/Please specify () | | | | | |

Village of Volente

19. We want to know your thoughts about the **quality of life in Volente**. We want to know how important or unimportant do you think it is for the Village of Volente to provide the following opportunities/provisions. Please place a check mark in the appropriate column indicating your view: **1=Very Important, 2=Important, 3=Unimportant, 4=Very Unimportant, 5=No Opinion**

| Quality of Life.... | 1=Very Imp | 2=Imp | 3=Unimp | 4=Very Unimp | 5=No Opinion |
|--|-------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| The Village of Volente should provide adequate community events | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should provide recreational opportunities for children | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should provide recreational opportunities for adults | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should provide opportunities to voice your opinion on Village matters | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should provide a plan for future development which limits future residential and business growth | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should implement policies for protection of existing large trees and vegetation | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should enact an ordinance that places restrictions on excessive outdoor lighting | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should enact an ordinance that places restrictions on excessive outdoor noise (cutoff times, noise level, etc.) | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should encourage a Hill Country style of residential architecture | | | | | |
| The Village of Volente should encourage a Hill Country style of commercial architecture | | | | | |
| Other/Please specify () | | | | | |

20. Each community is different when it comes to the matter of **how tax dollars are spent**. We want to know what you think about the following possible city services. How much more in yearly taxes would you be willing/not be willing to pay to add or improve upon the following city services? Place a check mark in the appropriate column indicating your view: **1=\$0, 2=\$0-25, 3=\$26-50, 4=\$51-75, 5=\$76-100, 6=\$100+, 7=No Opinion**

| Tax Dollars and City Services.... | 1=\$0 | 2=\$0-25 | 3=\$26-50 | 4=\$51-75 | 5=\$76-100 | 6=\$100+ | 7=No Opinion |
|---|--------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Make traffic or street improvements | | | | | | | |
| Set up a city police force | | | | | | | |
| Hire additional city workers | | | | | | | |
| Install curbs and gutters on residential streets | | | | | | | |
| Initiate a recycling program | | | | | | | |
| Provide community parks/playgrounds | | | | | | | |
| Provide trails for hiking, walking, jogging and bicycling | | | | | | | |
| Provide trails for wildlife/nature viewing | | | | | | | |
| Provide trails for horse riding | | | | | | | |
| Establish permanent city hall/community center | | | | | | | |
| Provide water utility services | | | | | | | |
| Provide wastewater utility services | | | | | | | |
| Provide tax rebates to encourage commercial development | | | | | | | |
| Other/Please specify () | | | | | | | |

Village of Volente

21. We would like to know your attitudes about different types of residential and commercial development in the Village. Please place a check mark in the appropriate column indicating your view: 1=Strongly Support, 2=Support, 3=Oppose, 4=Strongly Oppose, 5=No Opinion

| <i>Types of Development Uses</i> | 1=Strongly Support | 2=Support | 3=Oppose | 4=Strongly Oppose | 5=No Opinion |
|---|--------------------|-----------|----------|-------------------|--------------|
| Commercial – Big Box (greater than 50,000 square feet) | | | | | |
| Commercial – Neighborhood Services | | | | | |
| Single-Family Residences | | | | | |
| Multi-Family Residences of 2 units per building | | | | | |
| Multi-Family Residences of 3 units per building | | | | | |
| Multi-Family Residences of 4 units per building | | | | | |
| Multi-Family Residences of more than 4 units per building | | | | | |
| 1-story Office Buildings | | | | | |
| 2-Story Office Buildings | | | | | |
| 3-Story and Taller Office Buildings | | | | | |
| Major Retail Centers | | | | | |
| Neighborhood Retail Centers | | | | | |
| Grocery Stores | | | | | |
| Medical or Healthcare Facilities | | | | | |
| Fast Food Restaurants | | | | | |
| Restaurants (Other Than Fast Food) | | | | | |
| Warehouses or Storage Facilities (Inside) | | | | | |
| Storage Facilities (Outside) | | | | | |
| Light Industrial and Manufacturing Facilities | | | | | |
| Retirement Facilities | | | | | |
| Equestrian Stables | | | | | |
| Hotels or Motels | | | | | |
| Bed and Breakfast Lodging Facilities | | | | | |
| Entertainment Venues (Inside) | | | | | |
| Recreational Facilities (Commercial) | | | | | |
| Entertainment Venues (Outside) | | | | | |
| HUD Code-Manufactured Homes | | | | | |
| Other/Please specify () | | | | | |

The typical pattern of home ownership follows a cycle beginning with a smaller home and cost for the first-time home buyer, increasing in size as the family grows and the family's income grows, and then back to a downsized home after the children move away and the homeowner becomes elderly. As a result, restrictions placed on home and lot size and type will dictate to some extent the economic and age mix of future Volente residents. With that cause-and-effect relationship in mind, please answer the following set of questions.

22. For future residential developments on well and septic, what lot sizes would you like to see (you may make multiple selections)?

- 1 acre
- 1 ½ acres
- 2 acres
- Greater than 2 acres

23. For future residential developments on organized water and wastewater systems, what lot sizes would you like to see (you may make multiple selections)?

- 1/8 acre
- ¼ acre
- ½ acre
- 1 acre
- 1 ½ acres
- Greater than 2 acres

Urban runoff from rainfall events can cause flooding and can have negative impacts on the environment. To protect against flooding, to protect water quality, to manage erosion, and to maintain a healthy natural habitat for wildlife, many communities have a stormwater management program. We want to know the degree to which you want the Village of Volente to protect your community's environment.

24. One stormwater management strategy that the Village of Volente can implement is to restrict the amount of impervious surfaces that are built over the ground and to encourage the preservation of green spaces throughout the community. "Green space" is the part of open space that is left in an undisturbed vegetative state. "Impervious surfaces" are man-made surfaces which prevent rainfall from percolating into the ground and increase runoff from rainfall. Rooftops and paved areas are typical impervious surfaces. What green space requirements do you think are reasonable for future residential development in the community?

- More than 80% of the ground to remain green space
- 80% of the ground to remain green space
- Between 50% and 80% of the ground to remain green space
- Less than 50% of the ground to remain green space
- Other (Please specify _____%)
- No Opinion

25. Using the same explanation provided in the above question, then, what green space requirements do you think are reasonable for future commercial development in the Village?

- More than 80% of the ground to remain green space
- 80% of the ground to remain green space
- Between 50% and 80% of the ground to remain green space
- Less than 50% of the ground to remain green space
- Other (Please specify _____%)
- No Opinion

26. Another stormwater management strategy that the Village of Volente can implement is to require development to remove pollution from the stormwater runoff before the water ever leaves the site of development. The Lower Colorado River Authority requires development around Lake Travis to remove at least 70% of the pollution caused by development. What amount of pollution removal do you think is reasonable for future residential development in the community?

- More than 95% removal of pollution
- 95% removal of pollution
- 80% removal of pollution
- 70% removal of pollution
- Other (Please specify ___%)
- No Opinion

27. Using the same explanation provided in the above question, then, what amount of pollution removal do you think is reasonable for future commercial development in the community?

- More than 95% removal of pollution
- 95% removal of pollution
- 80% removal of pollution
- 70% removal of pollution
- Other (Please specify ___%)
- No Opinion

28. Stormwater run-off is the portion of rainfall, melted snow, irrigation water or drainage from construction and/or industrial activities that flows across ground surface and eventually is returned to streams. Run-off can pick up pollutants from the air or the land and carry them to receiving water. Stormwater run-off drainage systems that prevent pollution can include roads with drainage systems, catch basins, curbs and gutters, ditches, man-made vegetated open channels, man-made concrete retention ponds, or storm drains designed and used for collecting or conveying stormwater. Which level of stormwater run-off pollution treatment should the Village require of development (you may make multiple selections)?

- Roads with drainage systems
- Catch basins
- Curbs and gutters
- Ditches
- Man-made vegetated open channels
- Man-made concrete retention ponds
- Storm drains
- Other (Please specify _____)
- No Opinion

29. Please write in any comment you wish to add.

Thank you for your participation! Thank you very much for your time, energy and interest in shaping the future of our Village! Please use the pre-addressed, stamped envelope to return your survey by March 5th.

This survey was completed by _____
(Printed Name)

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