



Appendix A – Public Opinion Survey



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APPENDIX A - PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY OVERVIEW

In order to promote citizen participation in the Comprehensive Plan Update and local government in general, City Staff recently solicited input from the residents of De Soto. The following Opinion Survey was prepared by City Staff and circulated to every household within city limits, as well as to those within outlying areas, in the fall of 2002. Of over two thousand surveys mailed, one hundred and sixty six were completed and returned to City Hall.

Area residents were asked to answer a series of questions about existing conditions in De Soto, De Soto's image and character and the future of De Soto. In addition, respondents were asked to provide demographic information about themselves.

Although a relatively small percentage of citizens responded with their opinions, the information collected is invaluable in determining the main concerns of those whom the Comprehensive Plan Update is intended to benefit.

Following are the survey questions asked.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

- 1. Please rate the existing De Soto services by circling the response that best corresponds to your opinion. (Circle ONE answer for each item.)**

	Very Good	Good	Average	Bad	Very Bad	No Opinion
Snow removal.....	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Street conditions (surfacing)	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Junk car removal, etc	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Stormwater/runoff (drainage)	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Sidewalks/pedestrian crossings	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Street lighting	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Parking conditions.....	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Code enforcement	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)

If you marked *Bad* or *Very Bad* please explain. _____



2. Please rate each of the following existing conditions or services in De Soto by circling the response that best corresponds to your opinion. (Circle ONE answer for each item)

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very Bad	No Opinion
Parks	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Recreation Programs	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Should more money be invested in parks	(01)Yes (02)No					
Suggestions for new recreation programs	_____					

Please rate each of the following services. (Circle ONE answer for each item)

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very Bad	No Opinion
Police Protection	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
City Fire Protection	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Johnson County Fire Protection	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Refuse Collection	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Emergency/Medical Services	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
City Water	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Rural Water One	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Rural Water Six	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Sewer – Septic System	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Sewer – Sanitary System	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)

If you marked *Bad* or *Very Bad* please explain. _____

3. How often do you shop in De Soto instead of driving elsewhere? (Circle ONE answer for each)

	Almost Always	Often	Seldom	Almost Never	Not Available	No Opinion
Convenience Items	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Groceries	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Restaurants	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Services (banks, day care, hair care, etc.) ...	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Retail shopping (specialty items, gifts, etc.)	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Entertainment	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)
Gasoline	(01)	(02)	(03)	(04)	(05)	(10)

If you marked *Seldom* or *Almost Never* please explain. _____



IMAGE AND CHARACTER

1. **In your opinion, which of the following characteristics best define De Soto as it exists today?** (Rank your **TOP THREE** choices, 1, 2 & 3, with one as the most important)

(01) Retirement community
 (02) Bedroom community for metro Kansas City
 (03) Rural/agricultural community
 (04) Full-service community
 (05) Limited-service community
 (06) Other _____
 (10) None of the above

2. **In your opinion, what creates a visitor's first impression of the De Soto area?** (Rank your **TOP THREE** choices, 1, 2 & 3, with one as the most important)

(01) Rural development (farms/pastures)
 (02) Commercial development along the Highways
 (03) Housing as you enter the City
 (04) Other _____
 (05) Other _____
 (10) None of the above

Is this a positive impression? (check **ONE**)

(01) Yes (02) No (10) No Opinion

3. **Why did you choose to live in the De Soto area?** (Rank your **TOP THREE** choices, 1, 2 & 3, with one as the most important)

(01) Family
 (02) Work
 (03) Small town character
 (04) Schools
 (05) Born/raised in De Soto
 (06) Housing quality/character
 (07) Cost of living
 (08) Other _____
 (10) None of the above

FUTURE OF DE SOTO

1. **In your opinion, which of the following characteristics do you think should define De Soto in the future?** (Rank your **TOP THREE** choices, 1, 2 & 3, with one as the most important)

(01) Retirement community
 (02) Bedroom community for metro Kansas City
 (03) Rural/agricultural community
 (04) Full-service community
 (05) Limited-service community
 (06) Other _____
 (10) None of the above



2. How long have you lived in the De Soto area? (Check ONE)

- (01) Less than 1 year (04) 6 to 10 years (07) 31 to 40 years
 (02) 1 to 2 years (05) 11 to 20 years (08) 41 to 50 years
 (03) 3 to 5 years (06) 21 to 30 years (09) 50 years or more

3. Do you rent or own your place of residence? (Check ONE)

- (01) Rent (02) Own

4. Where do you currently work? (Check ONE)

- (01) De Soto (05) Lenexa (09) Kansas City, MO
 (02) Lawrence (06) Overland Park (10) Douglas County
 (03) Olathe (07) Shawnee (11) Other _____
 (04) Gardner (08) Kansas City, KS (12) Unemployed/Retired

5. What is your age? (Check ONE)

- (01) 15 to 19 (03) 25 to 34 (05) 45 to 54 (07) 60 to 64 (09) 75 to 84
 (02) 20 to 24 (04) 35 to 44 (06) 55 to 59 (08) 65 to 74 (10) 85 +

6. What are the ages of the other people within your household?

(Mark the NUMBER of people in each category)

- (01) Under 5 (04) 15 to 19 (07) 35 to 44 (10) 60 to 64 (13) 85 +
 (02) 5 to 9 (05) 20 to 24 (08) 45 to 54 (11) 65 to 74
 (03) 10 to 14 (06) 25 to 34 (09) 55 to 59 (12) 75 to 84

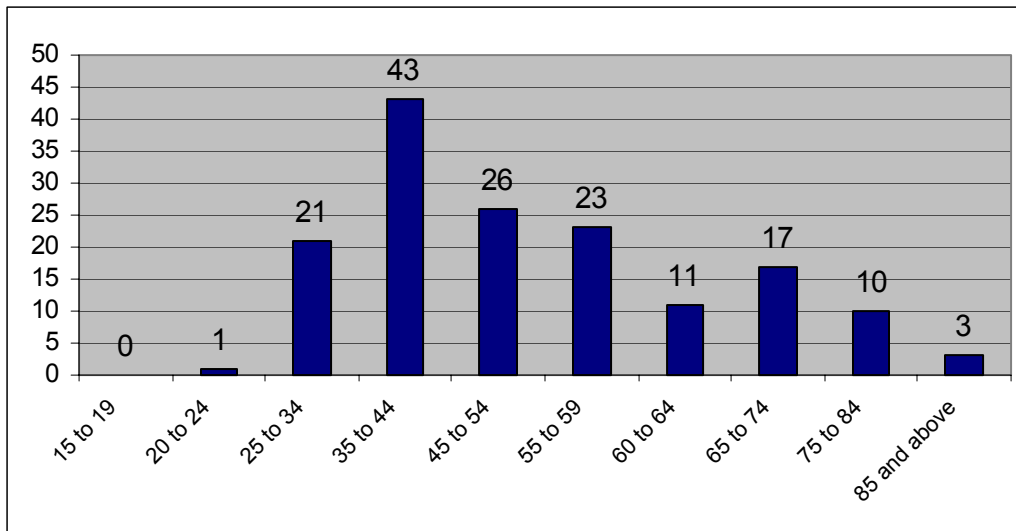
The following opinions were provided by the community and are crucial to the City's planning efforts. They allow policy makers to adopt policies that can be supported and implemented. This information also helps public officials make informed decisions about the future of De Soto.



RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

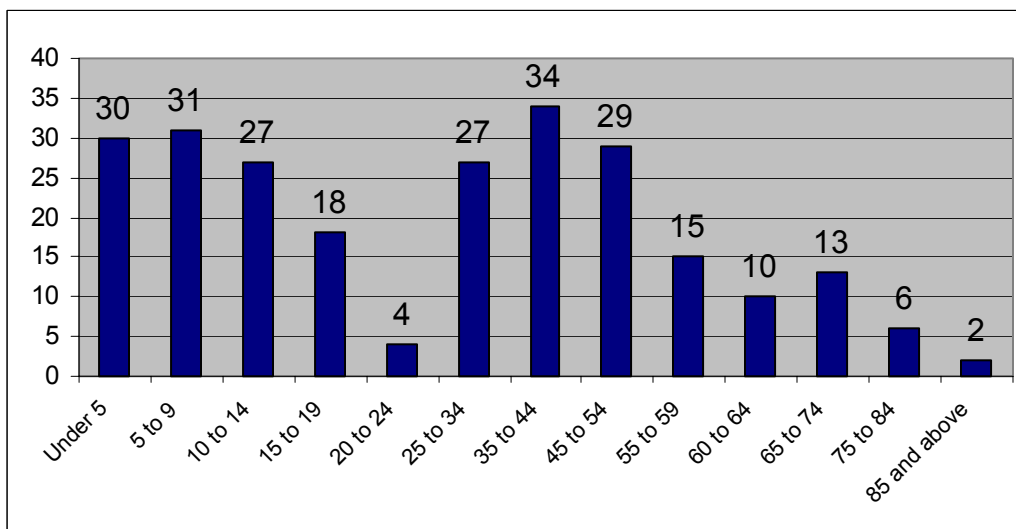
Over 160 recipients responded to the survey. Approximately 28 percent of the respondents were between ages 35 and 44. Another approximately 17 percent of the respondents were 45 to 54 years of age. Twenty percent of the respondents were 65 and older.

Figure A.1: Respondent Age



Those surveyed were also asked the ages of the other members of their households. Approximately 31 percent of the respondents have school-aged children in their households, while 13 percent housed children under 5 years of age. Only 4 percent of the respondents had elderly members.

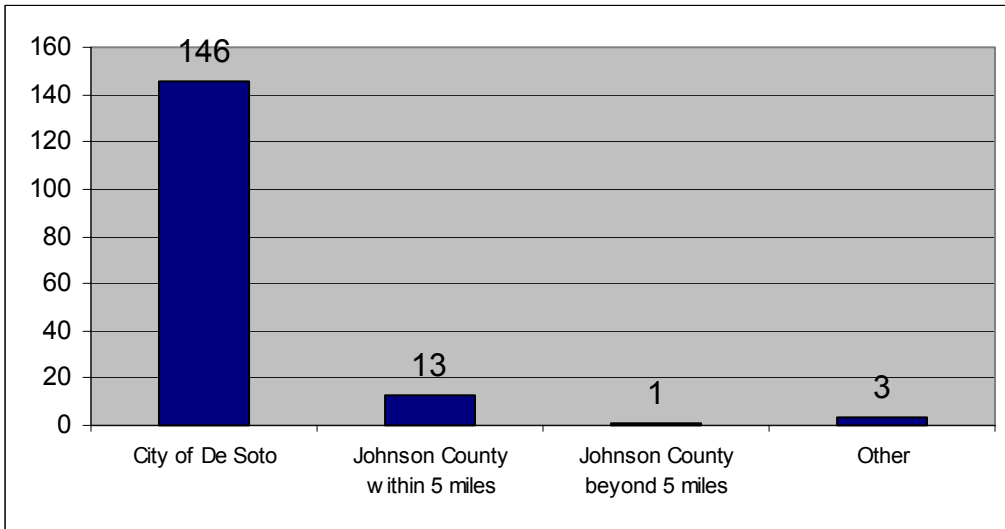
Figure A.2: Ages of Others in Household





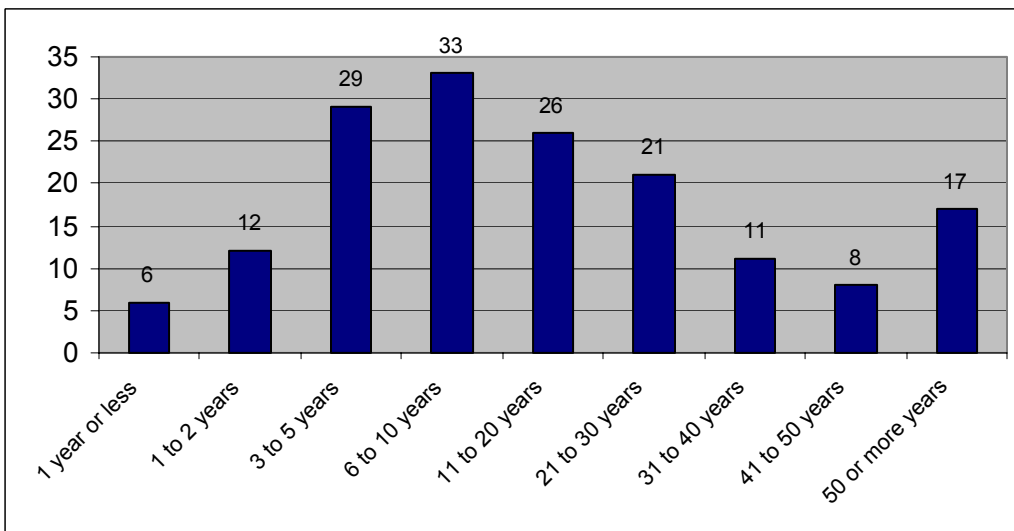
When reviewing the survey data, the residency of the respondents is of interest. Of the respondents to the survey, 90 percent resided within De Soto. An additional 8 percent resided in Johnson County within 5 miles of De Soto.

Figure A.3: Residency of Respondents



Approximately 29 percent of the respondents have resided in the De Soto area for 5 years or less. Many respondents, 37 percent, have resided in the area for 6 to 20 years. Thirty five percent have resided in the area for more than 20 years. A significant number of respondents, 11 percent, have lived in the area for 50 or more years.

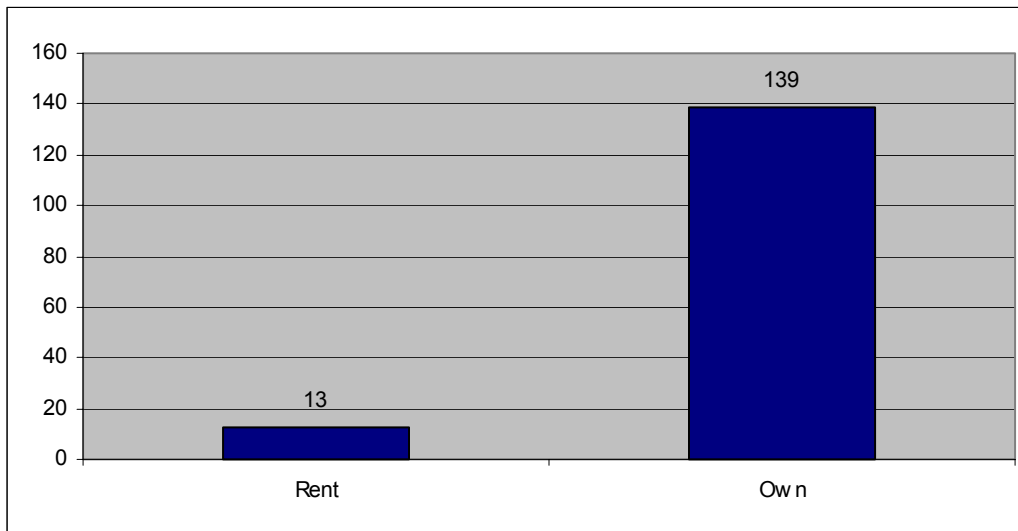
Figure A.4: Respondent Residency in Years





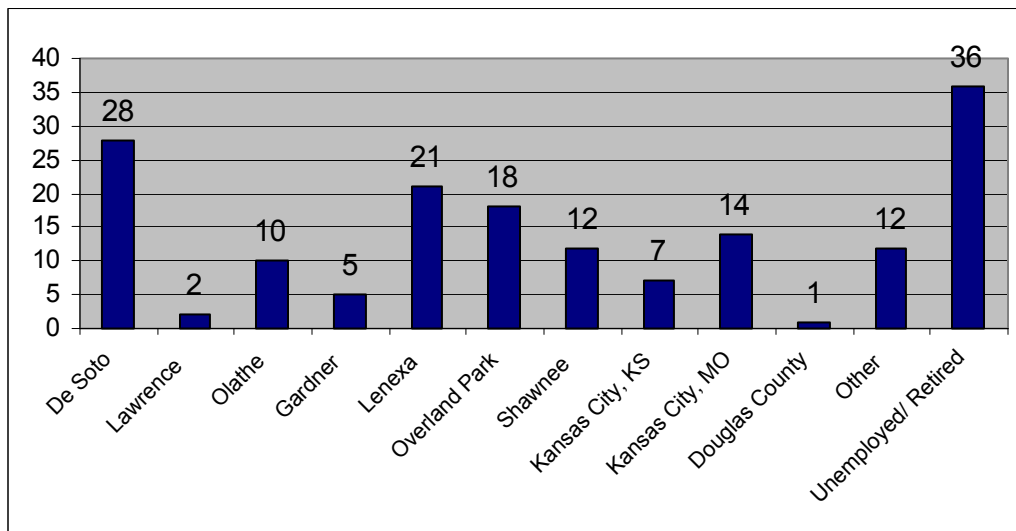
An overwhelming majority of respondents owned or lived in owner occupied residences. Only 9 percent of the respondents rented their residency. Approximately 39 percent of those who rented had school-aged children.

Figure A.5: Respondent Residency Ownership



Although 90 percent of the total respondents reside in De Soto, only 18 percent work in De Soto. Twenty two percent of the respondents are unemployed or retired. Although this figure seems minimal, it does indicate the loss of a portion of the De Soto workforce.

Figure A.6: Respondent Place of Employment





OPINIONS ON EXISTING CONDITIONS

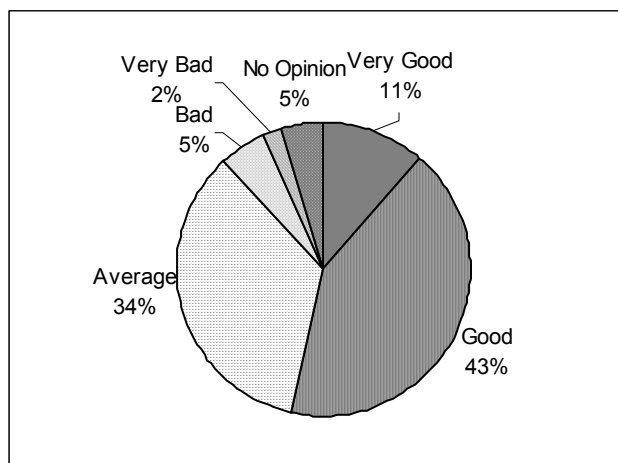
Respondents were asked to rate existing conditions within the City including the City’s street system, public service and public programs. The respondents were asked to rate these conditions from “very good” to “very bad.” A “no opinion” option was also provided.

In regard to De Soto’s existing street system, the opinion of the following conditions was asked:

- snow removal;
- street conditions (surfacing);
- junk car removal;
- stormwater/runoff (drainage);
- sidewalk and pedestrian crossings;
- street lighting;
- parking conditions; and
- code enforcement.

Fifty four percent of the respondents felt snow removal was above average. An additional 34 percent felt traffic conditions were at least average. Only 7 percent of the respondents shared a negative opinion of De Soto’s current snow removal. Seven written comments generally indicated that City snow removal crews had damaged personal property alongside the roadways, and that snow removal was not satisfactory in several annexed areas of De Soto.

Figure A.7: Opinion of Snow Removal

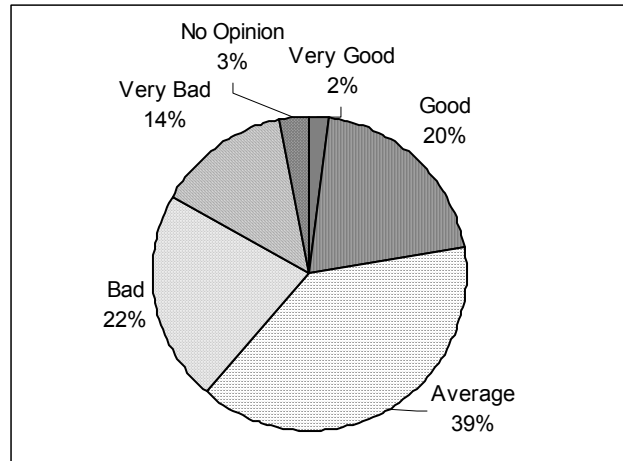


Many of the respondents, 39 percent, were of the opinion that De Soto has average street conditions. Twenty two percent had a positive impression, while 36 percent were of the opinion



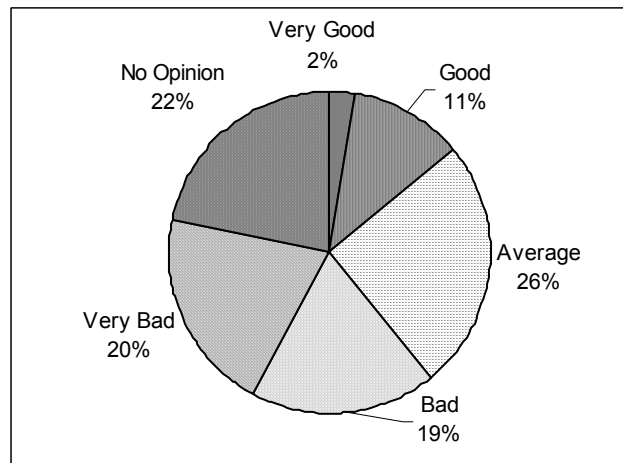
that the surfacing on De Soto's streets is bad. Forty written comments generally indicated that poor surfacing was not isolated to any one particular area.

Figure A.8: Opinion of Street Conditions



Many of the respondents (26 percent) were of the opinion that De Soto has average junk car removal. Only 13 percent had a positive impression, while a substantial 39 percent were of the opinion that junk car removal was bad. Twenty nine written comments generally indicated that the junk car problem is widespread and gives visitors a negative impression of De Soto.

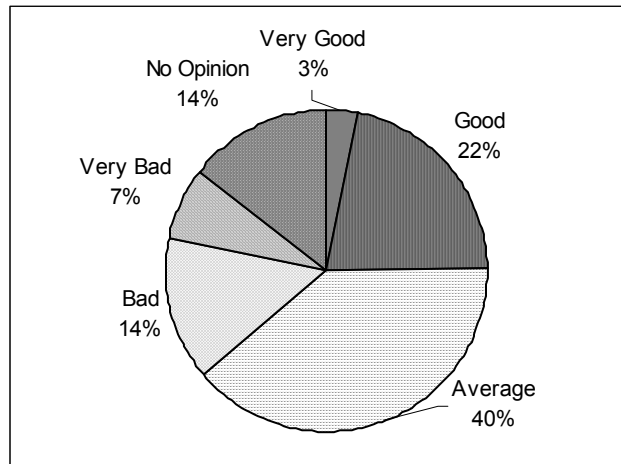
Figure A.9: Opinion of Junk Car Removal



Forty percent of the respondents were of the opinion that De Soto has average stormwater/runoff conditions. Twenty five percent had a positive impression, while another 21 percent were of the opinion that the conditions were bad. This indicates pockets of existing stormwater/runoff problems in the City. Nineteen written comments expressed dissatisfaction with stormwater/runoff controls in their area, particularly standing water in ditches and flooding in drainageways.

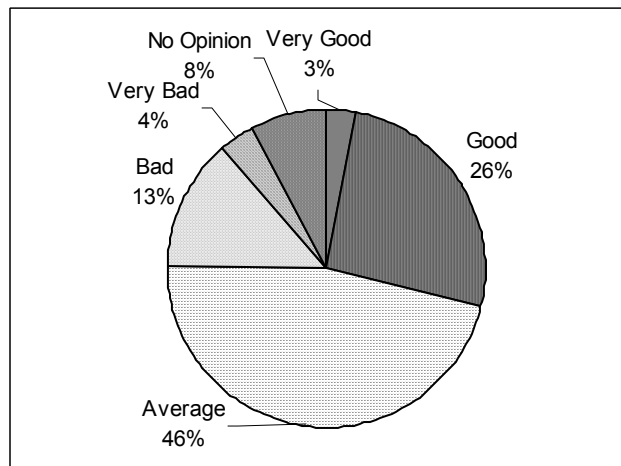


Figure A.10: Opinion of Stormwater/Runoff



Forty six percent of the respondents were of the opinion that De Soto has average sidewalk and pedestrian linkages. Twenty nine percent had a positive impression, while 17 percent were of the opinion that the conditions were bad. Thirty five written comments from respondents indicated lack of linkages in certain key areas.

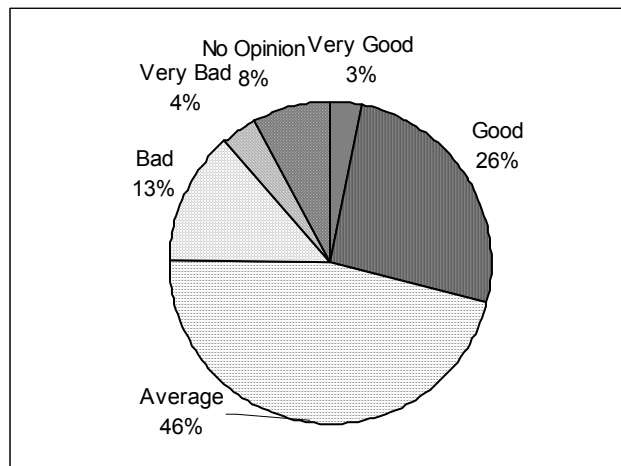
Figure A.11: Opinion of Sidewalk/Pedestrian Crossings



Forty six percent of the respondents were of the opinion that De Soto has average street lighting conditions. A substantial 29 percent had a positive impression, while only 17 percent were of the opinion that the conditions were bad. This indicates a majority opinion of satisfactory lighting conditions in the City. Sixteen written comments regarded lack of adequate lighting in their particular neighborhoods.

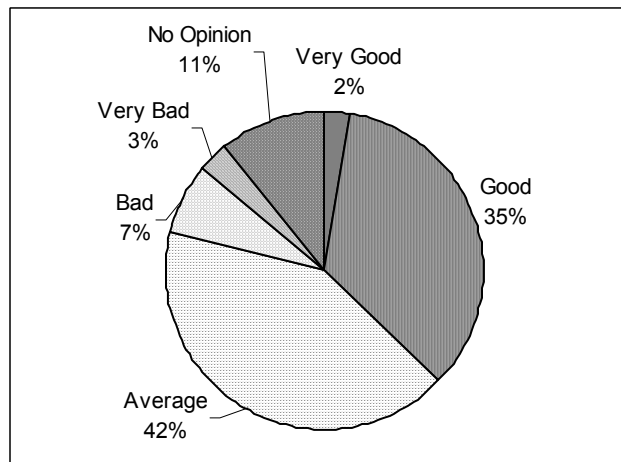


Figure A.12: Opinion of Street Lighting



Many respondents, 42 percent, felt the City’s parking conditions were average. A substantial 37 percent thought that the conditions were above average, while only 10 percent had a negative impression. Seven written comments were given by respondents which generally indicating problems with off street and accessory structure parking.

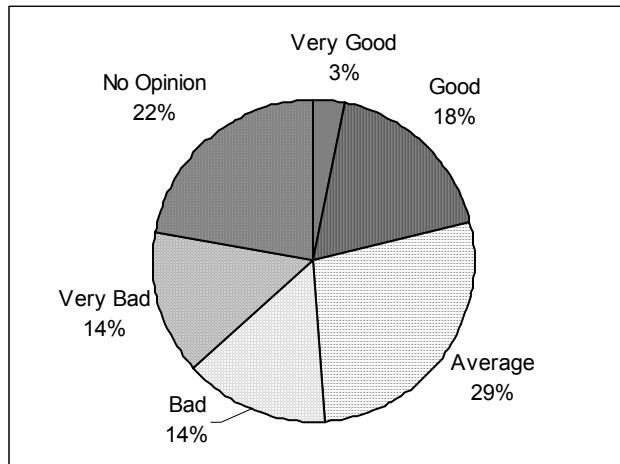
Figure A.13: Opinion of Parking Conditions



Twenty nine percent of the respondents were of the opinion that De Soto has average code enforcement. Twenty one percent had a positive impression, while a substantial 28 percent were of the opinion that code enforcement was inadequate. Thirty six written comments noted a lack of enforcement in the areas of junk car removal and junk removal on personal property in certain areas of the City.



Figure A.14: Opinion of Code Enforcement

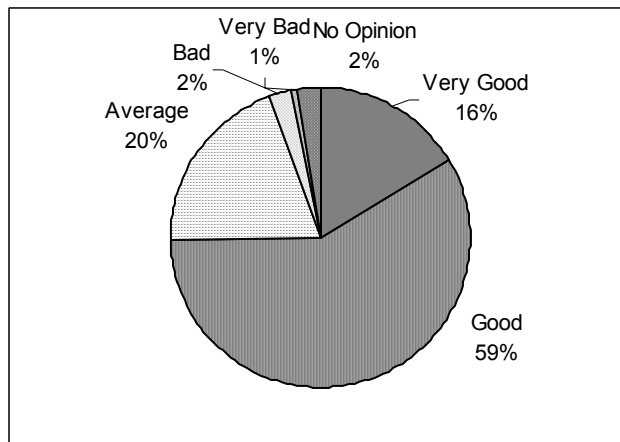


In regard to De Soto’s programs, facilities and services, respondents were asked their opinion of the following:

- parks; and
- recreation programs.

A vast majority, 75 percent, of the respondents were of the opinion that De Soto has an above average parks system. Twenty percent felt that the parks were average, while only 3 percent maintained a negative opinion.

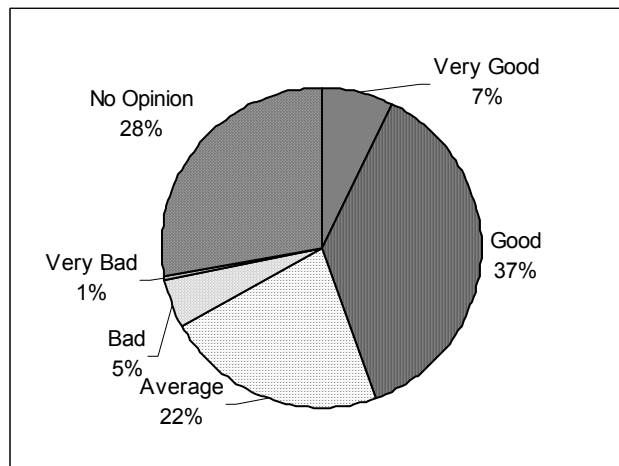
Figure A.15: Opinion of Parks



Twenty two percent of the respondents were of the opinion that De Soto has average recreation programs. Forty four percent had a positive impression, while a substantial 28 percent held no opinion of the recreational programs in De Soto.



Figure A.16: Opinion of Recreation Programs



When asked for their suggestions for new recreation programs, respondents gave a wide range of opinions. Twenty three respondents mentioned specific program ideas including aerobics, yoga and weight training or improvements to existing youth programs. Fourteen respondents indicated that a new community swimming pool should hold priority, while 11 more noted improvements or expansions to the City’s parks and trails.

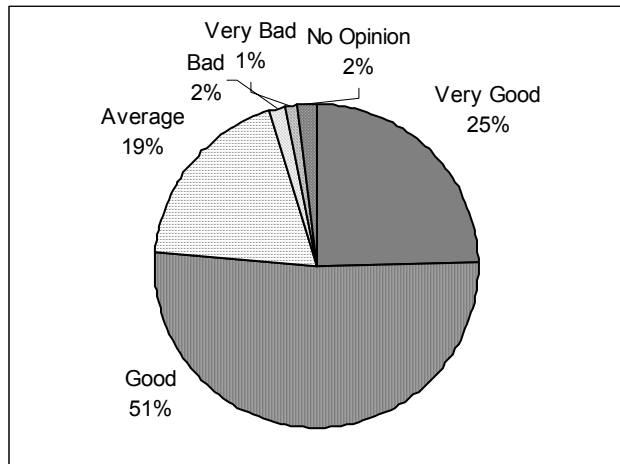
In regard to De Soto’s public services, respondents were asked for their opinions of the following:

- police protection;
- city fire protection;
- county fire protection;
- refuse collection;
- emergency/medical services;
- city water;
- rural water one;
- rural water six;
- sewer-septic system; and
- sewer-sanitary system.

An overwhelming majority of the respondents, 76 percent, were satisfied with the level of police protection that the City offered. Nineteen percent thought they were average, while only 3 percent were dissatisfied with the system. Four written comments from respondents noted their dissatisfaction with the limited number of patrol cars in their area.

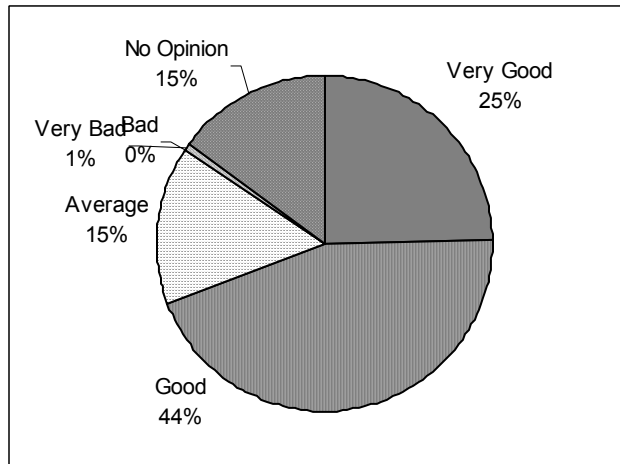


Figure A.17: Opinion of Police Protection



Sixty nine percent of the respondents were of the opinion that the City offered above average fire protection. Fifteen percent thought they were average, while only 1 percent was dissatisfied with the system. Three written comments from respondents questioned the need for both city and county fire protection.

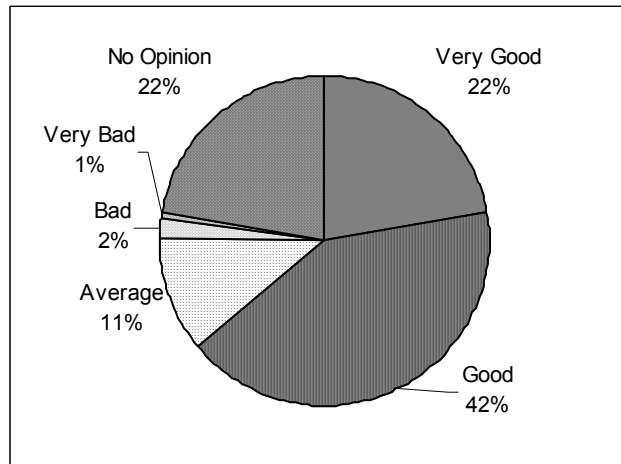
Figure A.18: Opinion of City Fire Protection



Likewise, 64 percent of the respondents were of the opinion that the County offered above average fire protection. Eleven percent thought they were average, while only 3 percent was dissatisfied with the system. Again, three written comments from respondents questioned the need for both city and county fire protection.

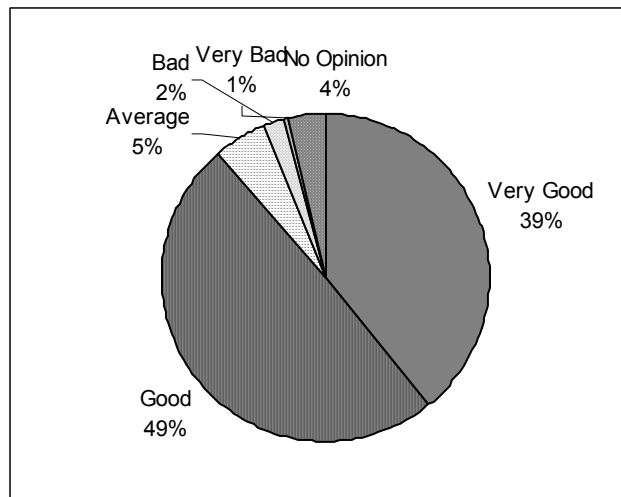


Figure A.19: Opinion of County Fire Protection



An overwhelming majority of respondents, 88 percent, were of the opinion that the City offered good refuse collection services. Five percent thought they were average, while only 3 percent were dissatisfied with the system. Four respondents asked for a recycling service in the written comment section.

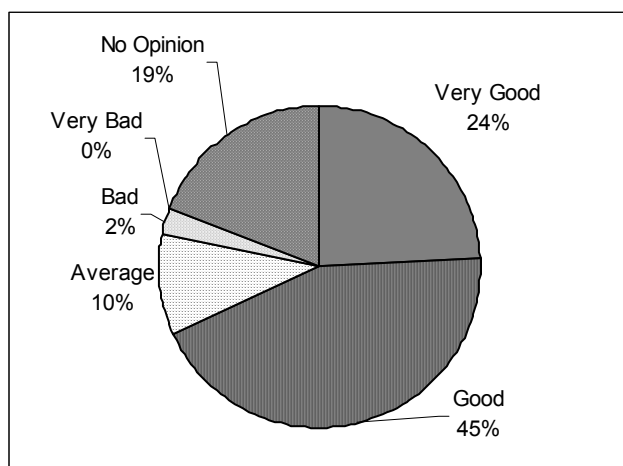
Figure A.20: Opinion of Refuse Collection



Sixty nine percent of respondents were of the opinion that the City offered good emergency services. Ten percent thought they were average, while only 2 percent were dissatisfied with the system. No respondents had comments regarding emergency services.

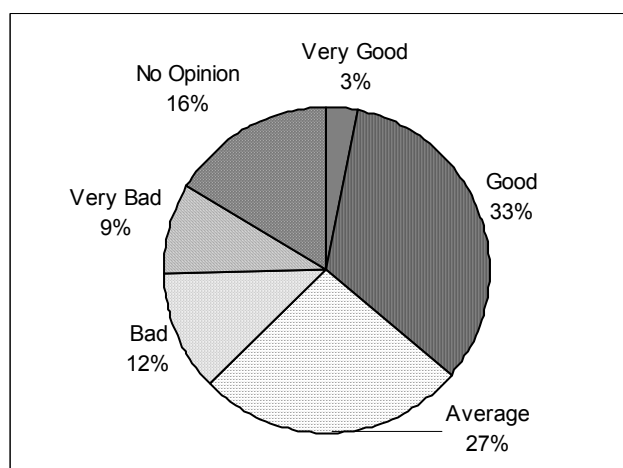


Figure A.21: Opinion of Emergency Services



Thirty six percent were of the opinion that the City offered above average water services. Twenty seven percent thought they were average, while 21 percent were dissatisfied with the system. Thirty one written comments indicated dissatisfaction, including extremely poor taste, smell and coloration. Several respondents indicated that they are frequently without service and are forced to purchase bottled water.

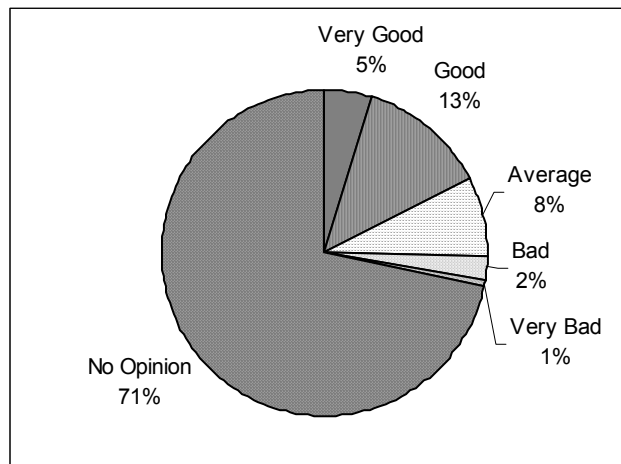
Figure A.22: Opinion of City Water Service



Seventy one percent held no opinion of Rural Water One services. Of the remaining respondents, which assumingly include Rural Water One users, 18 percent thought they were above average, while only 3 percent were dissatisfied with the system. The remaining 8 percent felt that the service was average. Many written comments referred simply to “the water”, making no distinction as to the provider.

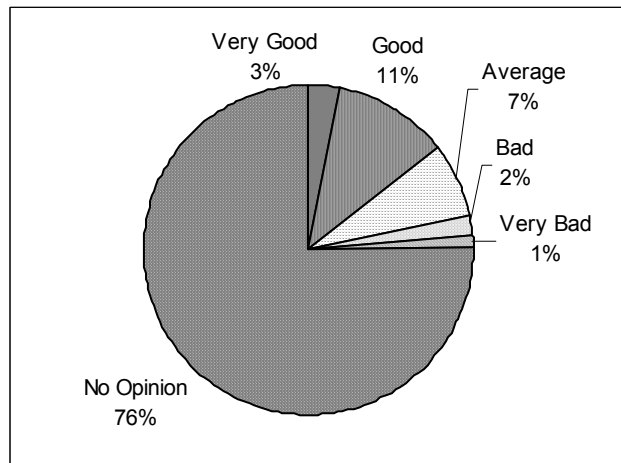


Figure A.23: Opinion of Rural Water One



Seventy six percent held no opinion of Rural Water Six services. Of the remaining respondents, which assumingly include Rural Water Six users, 14 percent thought they were above average, while only 3 percent were dissatisfied with the system. The remaining 7 percent felt that the service was average. Again, many written comments referred simply to “the water”, making no distinction as to the provider. One respondent noted a lack of pressure regulation.

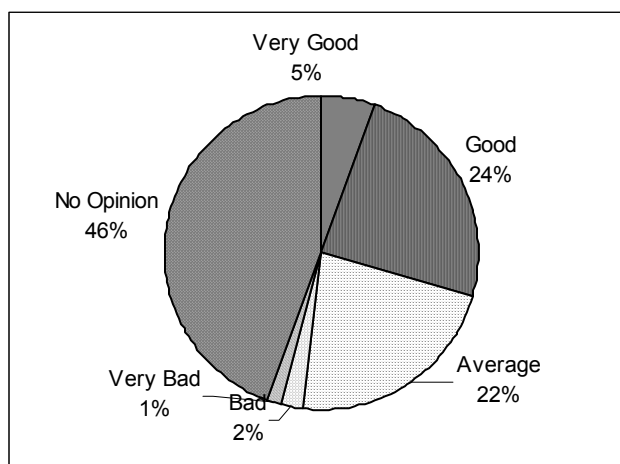
Figure A.24: Opinion of Rural Water Six



Forty six percent held no opinion of the septic sewer system. Twenty nine percent of respondents felt that they had above average septic sewer services. Twenty two percent thought they were average, while only 3 percent were dissatisfied with the system. One written comment indicated that odor is an issue.

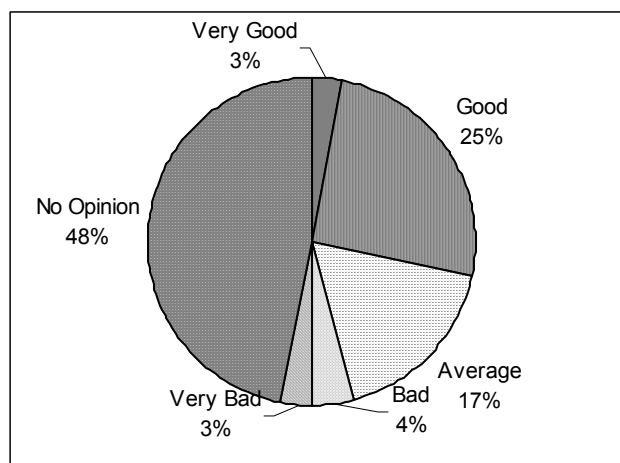


Figure A.25: Opinion of Sewer-Septic System



Forty eight percent held no opinion of the sanitary sewer system. Twenty eight percent of respondents felt that the City offered above average sanitary sewer services. Seventeen percent thought they were average, while 7 percent were dissatisfied with the system. Ten respondent’s written comments generally noted area deficiencies and limitations of older infrastructure and lack of service at the perimeter of the City.

Figure A.26: Opinion of Sewer-Sanitary System



Finally, respondents were asked how often they currently shop in De Soto instead of driving elsewhere. The respondents were asked to respond with tendencies ranging from “almost always” to “almost never.” Because the public’s perception of the availability of these services it is also important that a “not available” option was provided. A “no opinion” option was provided as well.

Tendencies were questioned for the following shopping options:

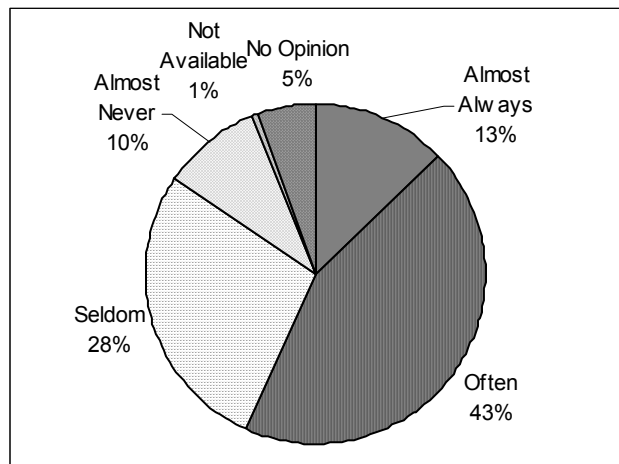
- convenience items (toiletries, etc.);
- groceries;



- restaurants;
- services (banks, day care, hair care, etc.);
- retail shops (clothing, specialty items, gifts, etc.);
- entertainment; and
- gasoline.

A majority of the survey respondents, 56 percent, indicated that they almost always or often shopped at De Soto stores for convenience goods. A large section of the respondents, 38 percent, however, indicated that they seldom or almost never shopped for convenience goods in De Soto. An additional 1 percent cited a lack of available goods as a reason for not shopping in De Soto. Seven written comments generally indicated that poor selection and high prices are the main reasons for dissatisfaction.

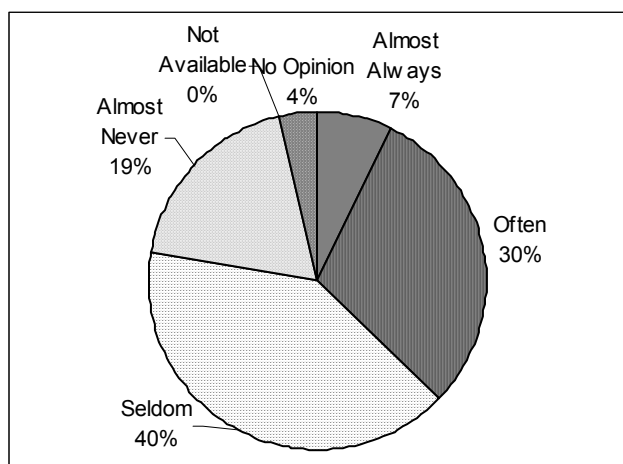
Figure A.27: Tendency for Convenience Purchases in De Soto



Thirty seven percent of the survey respondents indicated that they almost always or often shopped at De Soto stores for groceries. A large section of the respondents, 59 percent, however, indicated that they seldom or almost never shopped for groceries in De Soto. Forty six written comments from respondents indicated high prices and a lack of variety as their reason for not shopping locally.

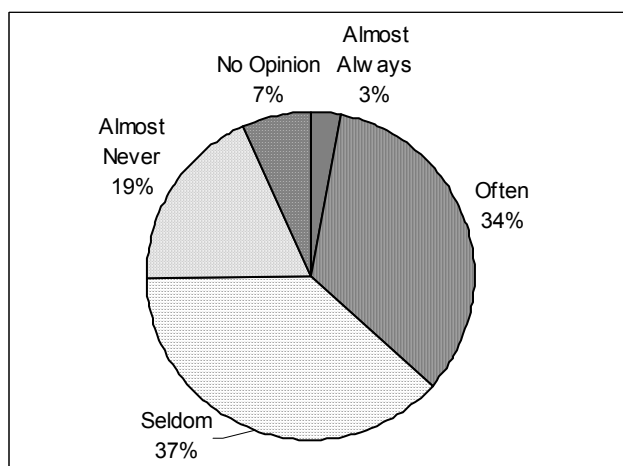


Figure A.28: Tendency for Grocery Purchases in De Soto



Thirty seven percent of the survey respondents indicated that they almost always or often dined at restaurants in De Soto. The majority of the respondents, 56 percent, however, indicated that they seldom or almost never dined at restaurants in De Soto. Twenty eight written comments from respondents indicated a general preference for additional dining options including family or upscale establishments.

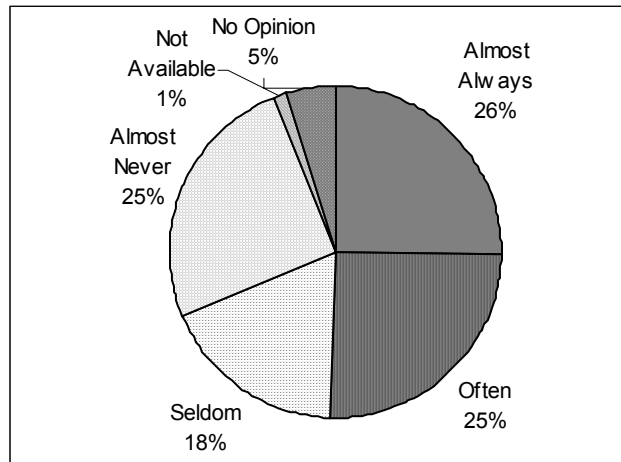
Figure A.29: Tendency for Restaurant Patronage in De Soto



A majority of the respondents, 51 percent, indicated that they often or almost always used local services such as banks, day care, hair care, etc. Forty three percent, however, indicated that they rarely or almost never shopped for services in De Soto. Twenty five written comments indicated a need for additional professional and basic services.

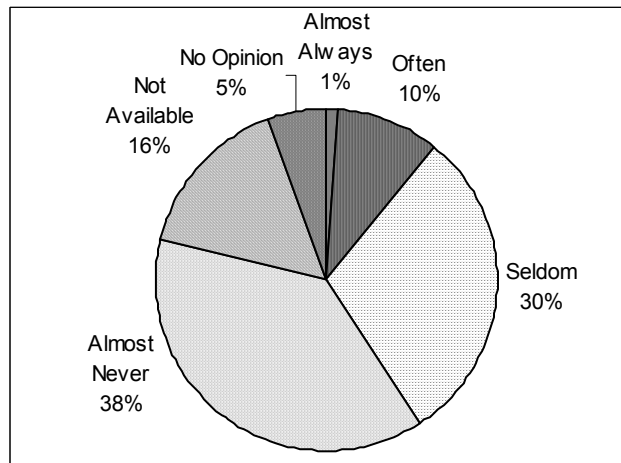


Figure A.30: Tendency for Use of Services in De Soto



A majority of the respondents, 68 percent, indicated that they seldom or almost never shopped for retail goods such as specialty items or gifts in De Soto. Only 11 percent indicated that they often or almost always shopped for retail goods in De Soto. Sixteen percent felt that these items were not available. Forty nine written comments cited a lack of retail services in De Soto as the reason for not shopping locally.

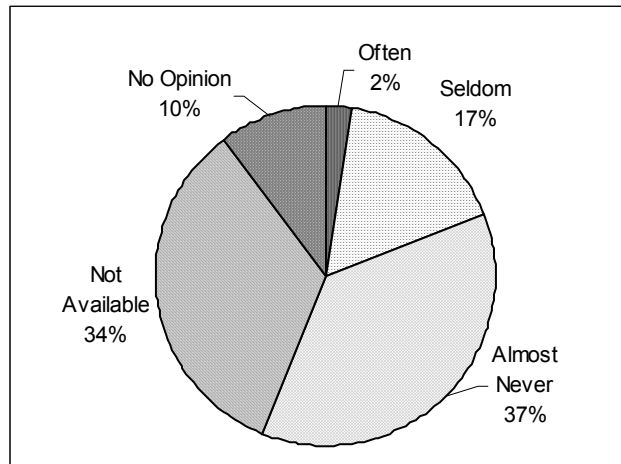
Figure A.31: Tendency for Retail Purchase in De Soto



An overwhelming majority of the respondents, 88 percent, indicated that they seldom or almost never sought entertainment in De Soto. Of that percentage, 34 percent cited a lack of entertainment options in De Soto as a reason for seeking such services elsewhere. Only 9 percent indicated that they often enjoyed entertainment venues in De Soto. Forty written comments clearly indicated a complete void of entertainment options.

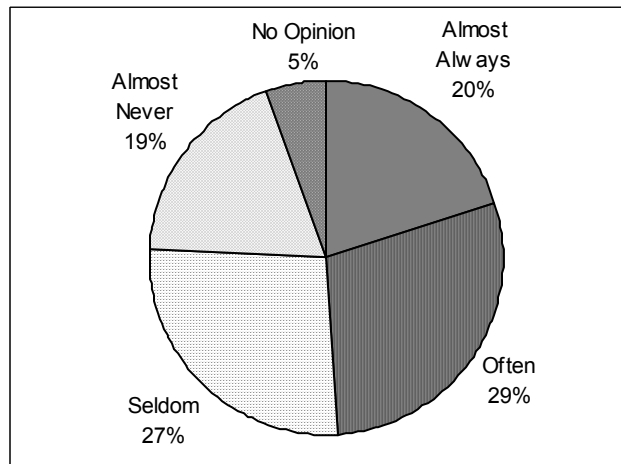


Figure A.32: Tendency for Entertainment Patronage in De Soto



Forty six percent of respondents indicated that they seldom or almost never purchased gasoline locally. Another 49 percent responded that they shopped for gasoline in De Soto often or almost always. Of 23 written comments, 13 indicated that they will no longer shop at one establishment in particular after inflated prices on 9/11/01. Thirty respondents commented that prices are normally higher than elsewhere.

Figure A.33: Tendency for Gasoline Purchase in De Soto



OPINIONS ON IMAGE AND CHARACTER

Respondents were asked their opinions about De Soto's existing character and image. This information helps identify which elements area residents see defining De Soto as it currently exists. Respondents were asked if the image of De Soto is positive as a means to helping to determine preferences for retaining these characteristics. Respondents were also asked why they chose to live in the De Soto area to help determine how important these characteristics are to locating in De Soto.



Figure A.34 shows the respondent’s opinions of which characteristics best define De Soto as it exists today. The options for defining De Soto’s character included:

- retirement community;
- bedroom community for metro Kansas City;
- rural/agricultural community;
- full-service community;
- limited-service community;
- other; and
- none of the above.

Forty one percent of respondents indicated with their first choice that De Soto is best defined as a bedroom community. Twenty nine percent indicated as their first choice De Soto’s image as a limited-service community, and sixteen percent cited De Soto’s rural and agricultural nature as it’s defining characteristic. When the three choices in total were taken into account, the limited-service community characteristic held favor with 25 percent of respondents, followed closely by De Soto as bedroom community with 24 percent and De Soto as rural/agricultural community with 23 percent.

Figure A.34: Characteristics that Best Define De Soto

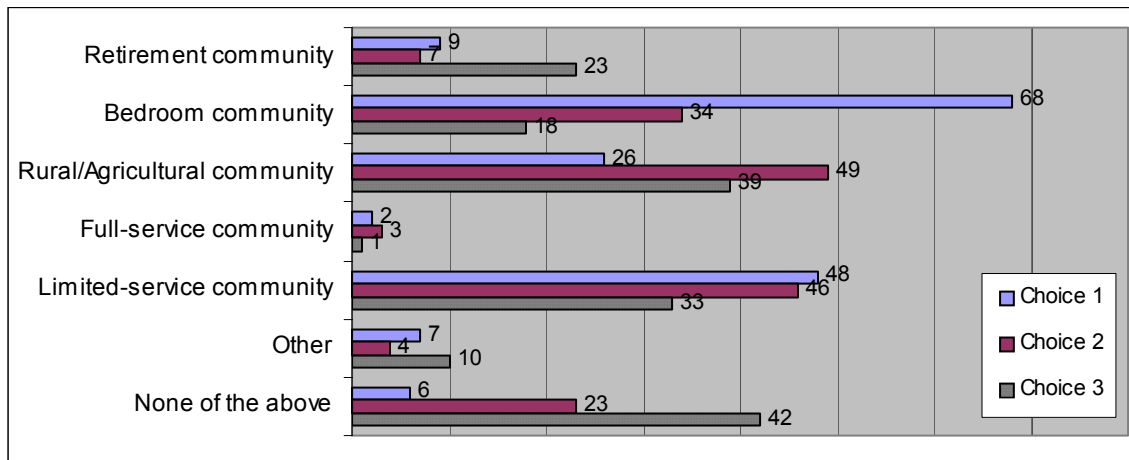


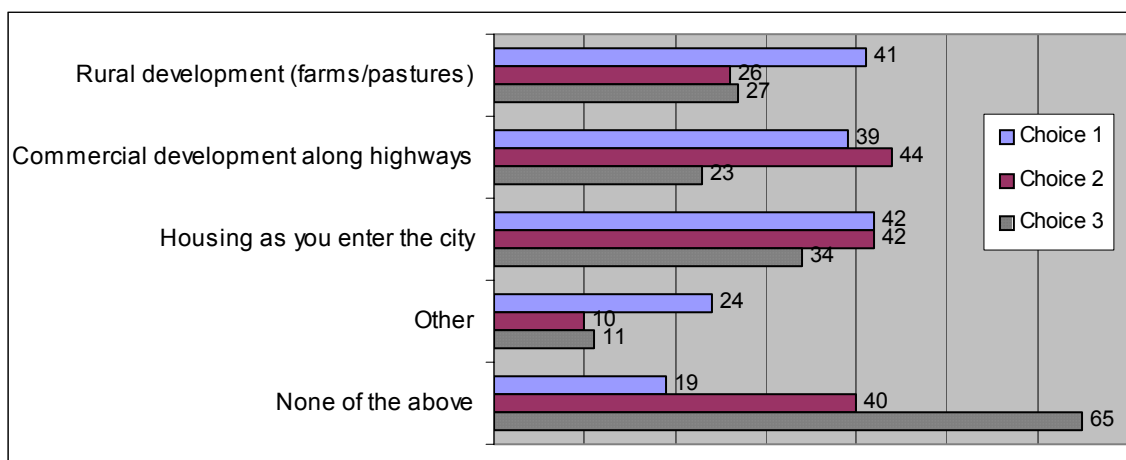
Figure A.35 illustrates respondents’ opinions of what creates a visitor’s first impression. Options for defining a visitor’s first impression of the De Soto area included:

- rural development (farms/orchards);
- commercial development along the highways;
- housing as you enter the City;
- other;
- none of the above.

Twenty six percent of respondents indicated with their first choice that they believe the first impression of De Soto is based upon the housing as you enter the City. Twenty five percent indicated as their first choice De Soto’s rural development, and twenty four percent cited commercial development along the highways. When the three choices in total were taken into account, the “none of the above” category received 25 percent, followed closely by housing as you enter the City with 24 percent and commercial development with 21 percent.



Figure A.35: Visitors First Impression of De Soto



To further analyze this information a follow-up question regarding whether the first impression of De Soto was viewed to be positive or negative was asked. Of those that responded and had an opinion, 53 percent thought a visitor’s first impression of De Soto was negative, while 47 percent thought the impression was positive, as illustrated by **Figure A.36**:

Figure A.36: Is this a positive impression?

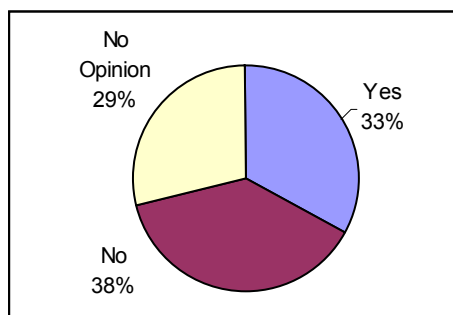


Figure A.37 shows the respondents top reasons for choosing to live in the De Soto area. Options for identifying why the respondents chose to live in the De Soto area included:

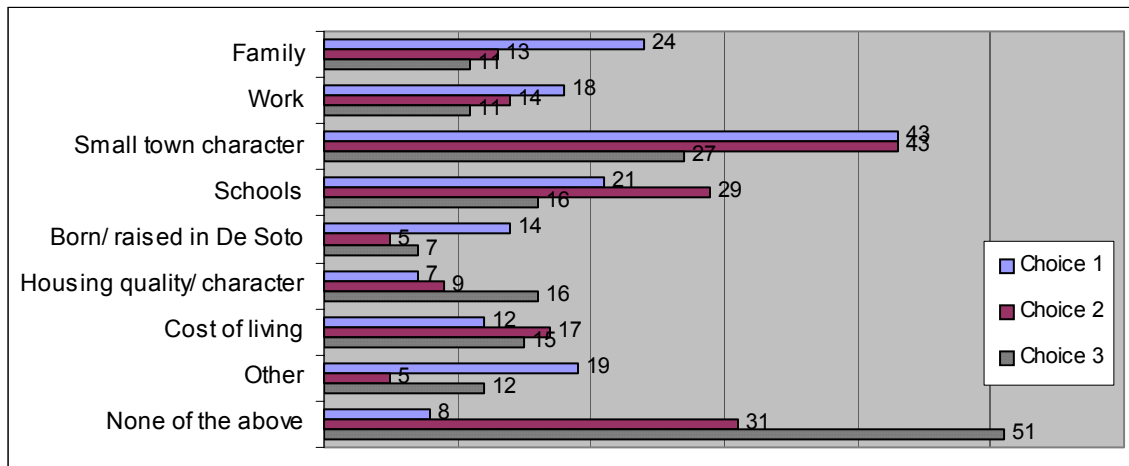
- family;
- work;
- small town character;
- schools;
- born/raised in De Soto;
- housing quality/character;
- cost of living;
- other; and
- none of the above.

A large portion of the respondents, 26 percent, indicated with their first choice that they chose De Soto for it’s small town character. The second and third most highly rated categories for first



choices, respectfully, were family with 15 percent and the school system with 13 percent. When the three choices in total were taken into account, the results were much the same. Small town character received 23 percent, followed by schools with 14 percent and family with 10 percent.

Figure A.37: Reason for Locating in De Soto



Opinions on De Soto’s Future

Respondents were asked their preference for De Soto’s future, the top issues facing De Soto in the future and whether or not development was needed. This information helps identify preferences for the future of De Soto and potential support for planning and land use policies.

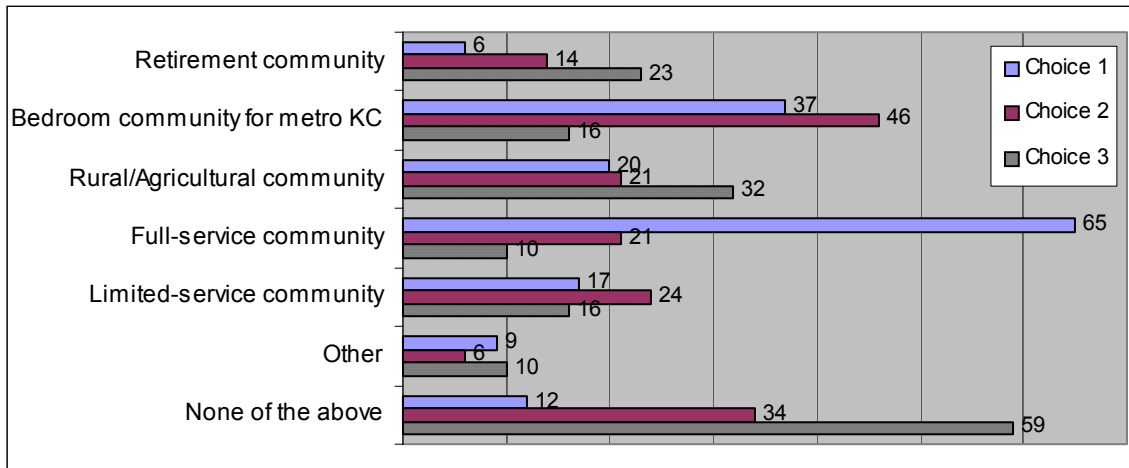
Figure A.38 shows respondent’s top choices for defining De Soto in the future. Options for defining De Soto in the future included:

- retirement community;
- bedroom community for metro Kansas City;
- rural/agricultural community;
- full-service community;
- limited-service community;
- other; and
- none of the above.

A wide margin of the respondents, 40 percent, indicated with their first choice they would prefer De Soto to evolve into a full-service community. Twenty three percent of respondents indicated with their first choice that De Soto should become a bedroom community and 12 percent felt that De Soto should retain it’s rural/agricultural community feel. When the three choices in total were taken into account, the “none of the above” category contained 21 percent, followed closely by bedroom and full-service community, each with 20 percent.



Figure A.38: Preference for Future Character



Twenty one percent of the respondents indicated that the most pressing issue facing De Soto's future is improving the image of the City. Fourteen percent of respondents felt that infrastructure issues were most important, while both quality schools and the future of the Sunflower Army Ammunition plant drew 13 percent of respondents concern. When the three choices in total were taken into account, the results were much the same. Improving De Soto's image, infrastructure needs and the future of the Sunflower plant with 16, slightly more than 14 and 14 percent of the respondents, respectively, selecting these issues as the most important facing De Soto.

Figure A.39: Most Important Issues Facing De Soto

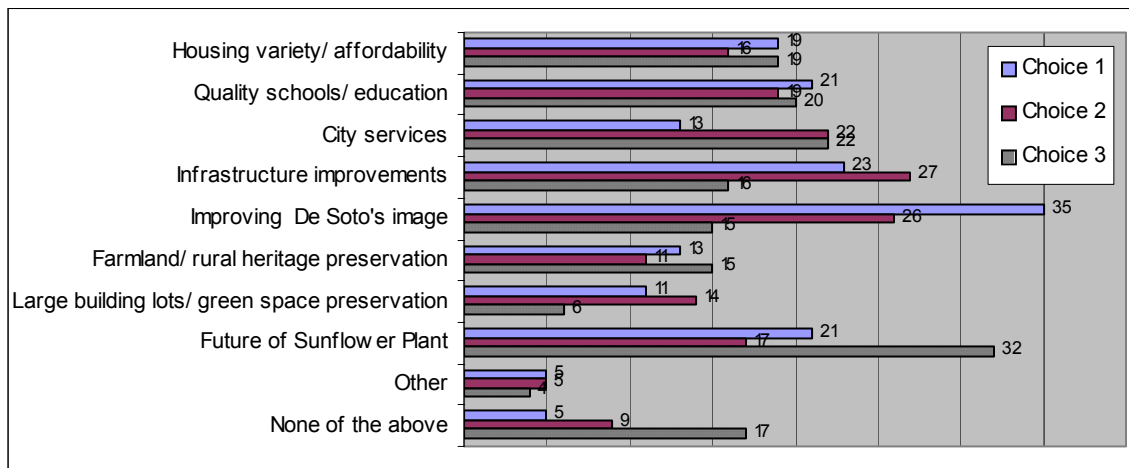


Figure A.40 shows the opinion of respondents in regard to future residential development. Respondents were asked to indicate whether residential development was needed in De Soto. A majority of the respondents, 52 percent, felt that residential development was needed in De Soto. Thirty two percent were of the opinion that residential development was not needed.



Figure A.40: Opinion on Need for Residential Development

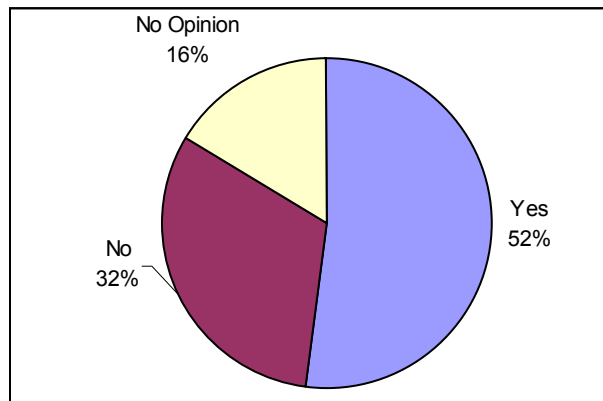
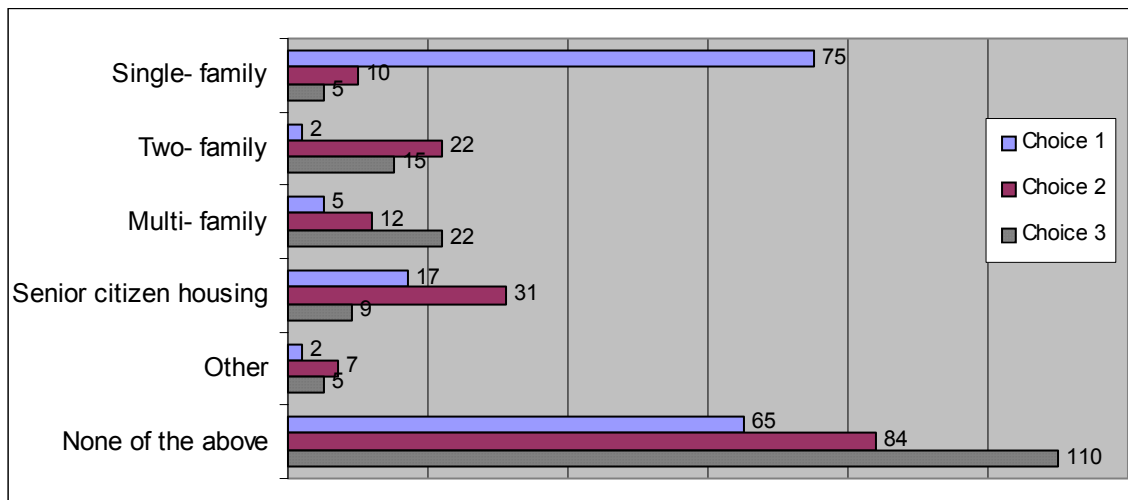


Figure A.41 illustrates respondent opinions of the type of residential development most needed. Forty six percent of the respondents indicated with their first choice that single-family residences were most needed. It is of interest that the only other category to receive a substantial percentage was “none of the above”. When the three choices in total were taken into account, 52 percent of respondents chose “none of the above”, as compared to only 18 percent selecting single-family. This further evidences the general consensus of either single-family residential development, or none at all.

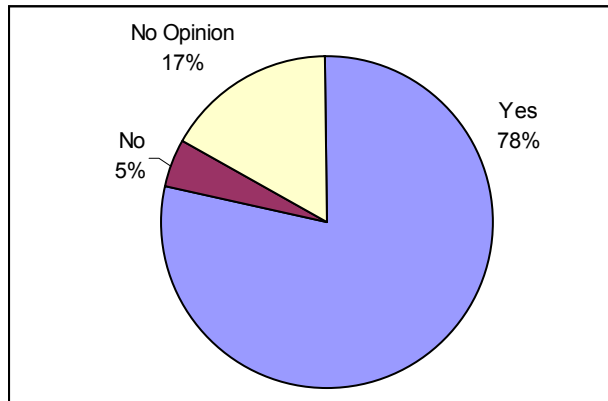
Figure A.41: Opinion on Needed Residential Development (Most Needed)



Finally respondents were asked their opinion on the need for non-residential development. Again, and overwhelming percentage of respondents, 78 percent, felt non-residential development was needed. Only 5 percent of the total respondents felt that the existing non-residential development was adequate.

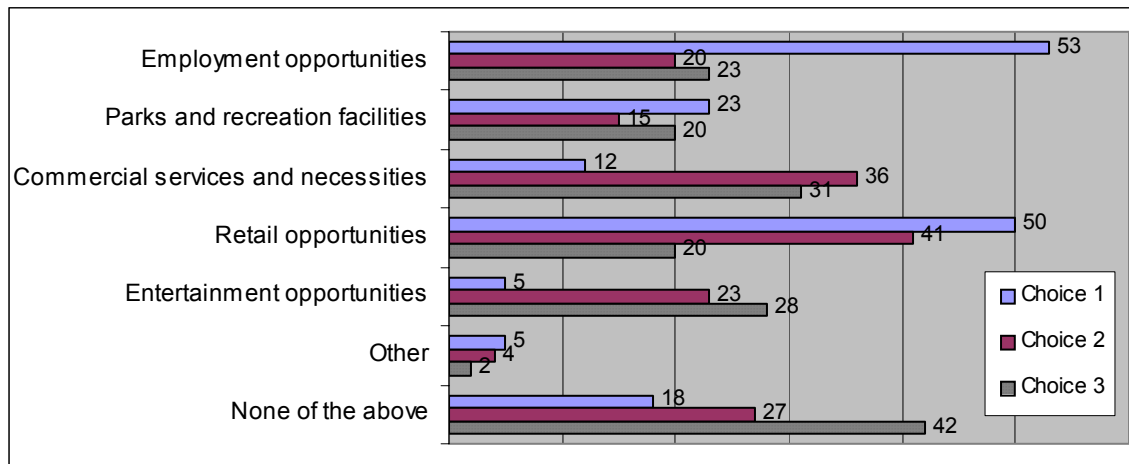


Figure A.42: Opinion on Need for Non-Residential Development



Of those that expressed an opinion that additional non-residential development was most needed, 32 percent felt that development that provided employment opportunities was needed. Thirty one percent felt that retail opportunities were necessary. Fourteen percent felt that park and recreational facilities were most needed. Only a combined 11 percent of the respondents felt that entertainment opportunities and commercial services were most needed. Upon taking the three choices in total into account, 23 percent of respondents chose retail opportunities, 20 percent chose employment opportunities and 18 percent chose “none of the above”. It appears that responses to this question are in keeping with those regarding local shopping preferences, as illustrated in Figure A.31.

Figure A.43: Opinion on Needed Non-Residential Development (Most Needed)



Following are the comment section responses verbatim. They have been categorized by service, condition, characterization and so on. The comment section responses were included in the hopes of further raising awareness of the needs and opinions of the citizens of De Soto.



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