

Council Goals SurveyMonkey Tally and Comments

There were a total of 76 responses. Below are the totals for each individual goal, followed by additional suggestions for goals and specific written comments made.

2018 Village Goals

Q1

Check the 2018 Village Council Goals that are a priority for you:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Provide an affordable community with a high quality of life that encourages a diverse resident base in terms of race, age, economic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, ability and religious affiliation.	68.92% 51
Execute a housing development model that encourages all types of housing, with intentional focus on affordability, accessibility, rental units, mixed income developments and accommodating local workforce and families, to maintain a vibrant, healthy and diverse community.	60.81% 45
Engage in continuous infrastructure development that promotes Dig Once, Complete Streets and other economical & strategic best practices to facilitate a more robust and resident/business friendly community.	40.54% 30
Embody a Village culture that is welcoming to all, anti-racist and proactive about maintaining a diverse community.	56.76% 42
Execute a Sustainable Economic Development Strategy to support existing businesses & entrepreneurs and attract new opportunities that support the values of the community.	48.65% 36
Establish a model Village Justice System that promotes anti-racism and respect as well as ensures sensitivity to individuals from all backgrounds.	50.00% 37
Develop a high quality integrated surface transportation infrastructure system that contributes to improved quality of life by promoting safety, recreation, environmental sustainability, health, equity/inclusion and economic development.	29.73% 22
Complete the protection of key properties in the Jacoby Greenbelt, protecting 1000 additional acres in sub watersheds, encouraging conservation practices	48.65% 36

that protect soil and water and preserving the integrity of the Yellow Springs community.

Total Respondents: 74

Q2

Please provide any comments about how these goals can be refined or achieved as well as what else you would like the Village to focus on that is not included.

Answered: 36

Skipped: 40

Prioritize attracting research and development and high tech office and lab space in village. High paying jobs that will put money into the community by taxes, shopping, and services that lead to a multitude of increased employment opportunities. The village needs a new high growth pool of revenue to be spread out through the village (beyond one marijuana farm). We have to market the villages has a piece of the west coast for those who are stuck having to work in the midwest.

3/8/2018 9:58 PM

Honor the Paris Resolution and reduce energy us and increase sustainable environmental solutions

3/8/2018 8:24 PM

Climate change is among the biggest challenges facing our world, our community, and future generations. A top priority for me is to see the village honor our commitment to continue to be a leader in addressing climate change. Please uphold the council's resolution to honor the Paris accord. Please continue your work to develop and implement a plan to reduce energy use and increase environmental sustainability in the village.

3/8/2018 2:11 PM

Remember the Paris Climate resolution that Village Council passed last June. Develop a plan to reduce energy use and increase environmental sustainability, and implement it. Nothing else will matter if we don't preserve our planet for future generations.

3/8/2018 2:09 PM

Please do not forget to include climate change as yearly priority. Despite the renewable nature of our electric portfolio, there is still much work to be done! Sustainability and addressing climate change are all important pieces of affordable housing, the businesses in our village, our sidewalks and roads, and the work we do to conserve green space. Villagers can step up to help meet the challenge of addressing climate change, but we need our village government to lead the way.

3/8/2018 1:00 PM

Stop trying to pocket profits or use them for pointless new things for the community and fix the community you already have. There's pot holes bigger than my backyard and the utilities are almost as much as my mortgage. Use the money smarter and think wholesome not new age. We don't need a new school. If the roof is leaking build a pitch on it or a better drainage system. Just be smart and stop being greedy and smug.

3/8/2018 1:00 PM

These goals are too full of buzz words and phrases. Please, please simplify them and exclude the impossible, like "provide an affordable community" as you cannot legislate these things. There are also too many broad, vague goals. Your main job is to maintain the infrastructure and keep costs down while doing so. If you must say all these things, how about having brief goals statements with supporting points listed for each one. It's easier to read them that way and I feel less like you're just cramming everything everybody says they want into the goals. For instance, "Create a housing development plan" is clear, brief, and simple. A nod to affordability and supporting different types of housing to flesh it out is all you need. This should not be an overly busy Power Point presentation. As part of the planning, I'd like to see statements of limitations on what can and cannot be done by the Village government. For instance, You cannot build houses but can offer reductions in tap in costs. It sounds like your plan is to build the whole housing development the way the goals are worded.

3/8/2018 11:38 AM

Please do not alienate households in the middle who are affected financially every time YS gives away, land, utility hook ups etc, to households who then find they cannot afford to live here to begin with and expect the village to support them in perpetuity. The middle can not afford it.

3/6/2018 8:31 AM

Antioch College campus: too big for its student population, too costly for the institution. great potential for renovation/conversion /development of innovative flexible affordable housing

3/5/2018 11:20 PM

I would like to focus on lowering the costs of living her. It's so expensive! And utilities just keep going up and up!

3/5/2018 10:52 PM

No where in these points is food insecurity addressed as a specific. We have a 30% rate of students on free/reduced breakfast and lunch here. Also a recent statistic showed 25% of children at poverty levels. This must be addressed as a specific issue for quality of life not wrapped in something else.

3/5/2018 11:44 AM

I see Village government responsibility as public works, public safety (and justice), zoning/land use. Affordability and economic sustainability are good values to guide Village gov decisions, but the Village is not the best vehicle for economic action. Home, Inc and an autonomous community improvement corporation would be better suited for that. Having said that, I reject "attracting" business as a goal. Growing local businesses, nurturing local entrepreneurs, is the way to go.

3/5/2018 11:31 AM

Lower the cost of utilities

3/4/2018 8:31 AM

Abolish policing

3/4/2018 7:52 AM

Number 1 for me, by far, is to restore the public trust. The 400% increase on water bills that I and many others I know are experiencing has completely eroded public trust in Village Council and government. We must significantly reduce the water bills immediately. This was taxation without representation at its best.

3/4/2018 7:34 AM

While these are all vital goals, a more affordable, diverse housing mix and sound economic base will make several of the other goals easier to achieve. Also, several groups are already working cooperatively, with success, on the Green belt, and I believe the new mayor, 365 group, several churches, etc will do/are doing good work on racial justice. More can and should be done, but housing and economics are key to everything.

3/3/2018 2:51 PM

I find this offering of goals survey a reflection of the educated elite that has come to define the village of Yellow Springs. First of all, the language used in the survey may not be accessible to some residents who might not have a level of education necessary to decode it. It may read well to some, but, given the language, what does it really mean to the average person? My questions would be how these goals were formulated in the first place. What was the framework used to insure that all or most villagers were given an opportunity to define in their own words what they perceived the goals of the village should be. Where are the surveys/data, and the analysis of that data, that were used to formulate this list of goals? How were the surveys conducted so that they insured that diversity of ethnicity, income, and education of villagers was respected and not compromised by the language used in the surveys? Who participated in creating the framework for gathering the data needed to formulate these goals? How much time was involved in this whole process? Days, weeks, months? This survey, in my opinion, reads/sounds like it was put together by six people in a room in few days, without the important guidelines necessary to conduct a survey that is meaningful, useful, and reflects the needs and concerns of all of its residents.

3/3/2018 10:49 AM

i am not in favor of the pocket type development or densification. this would destroy the small town quality of the village and turn it into a town like you find in greece or other places, with the houses all right next to each other, all jammed together. that would not be Y.S.

3/3/2018 10:27 AM

Build 500 new dwellings. The how is too much to write out here but feel free to ask. It won't be easy and Council will need to have courage and be willing to face political backlash. Large scale is the only way to effect the kind of change people state is desired. Small standalone projects will do nothing on the affordability front.

3/3/2018 8:49 AM

This quite important that the housing plan be inclusive of all the housing needs of the village. Not to put so much emphasis on low income housing that the pendulum swings and in 20 more years we are trying to encourage middle and higher income families back into the village. The middle to higher income families have a role in our tax and commercial revenue that we need.

3/3/2018 8:19 AM

stop wasting money on Home inc. and worry about the crumbling infrastructure. The electric grid is hopeless. Why isn't this a priority?

3/2/2018 10:37 PM

Tighten the budget and do more for less. Audit tax dollar spending and consider reducing taxes to help in affordability. Ask the same of the schools.

3/2/2018 9:24 PM

The affordability question for Yllow Springs has now become laughable.

3/2/2018 8:39 PM

Establish a way to help people pay utility bills in an emergency that they could not avoid.

3/2/2018 7:14 PM

I would love to see the Village focus on growing and attracting businesses in YS. Additional tax revenue would go a long way offset the costs of building schools and other infrastructure improvements. Having more local jobs that would allow villagers to live, work, eat, and play here in YS. I would be happy to volunteer time if there's an opportunity to create a business incubator that can help grow local businesses with talent, resources, and capital.

3/2/2018 6:30 PM

Internet needs to be in this somewhere

3/2/2018 6:03 PM

Please keep in mind the overall cost to living in YS. I am happy to pay more than other communities to live here but it seems to be getting out of control. Utilities and taxes are already high and it seems they are just going to keep skyrocketing with new schools, new fire station, new water plant, etc.

3/2/2018 5:17 PM

I'd love to see you revisit the community high speed fiber proposal.

3/2/2018 4:13 PM

We really, really need to work on affordability. I have a few thoughts about things Council might be able to do to help with this: I think that the Utility Office needs an audit and that ALL electric and water meters in town need to be checked to make sure that they are working properly and that all meters in locations with multiple units (such as downtown) are being billed to the correct unit. I want to emphasize that I think this is really important, as a lot of people have been receiving astronomically high utility bills that are listing impossible amounts of electric usage. Many of us, myself included, are seriously considering what our course of action would be if we have to move away from YS because we simply cannot afford the cost of living. I think we need to consider some sort of rent control legislation as some other communities have, and maybe some sort of legislation that prevents substantial raises in rent pricing without proof of substantial improvements being made to the property, and other tenant protections. I also think the Village should work more on supporting affordable housing development, and especially supporting organizations like Home, Inc., and maybe even Greene County to create more subsidized housing in the YS area. This is going to be incredibly unpopular, but I have heard of some municipalities banning Airbnbs altogether. We should at least consider only allowing owner-occupied airbnbs, similarly to how the county only allows B&Bs that are owner-occupied. Airbnbs are taking up a lot of space that could be affordable housing for people in this town who really need it, and are displacing local residents in municipalities all over the US. I would personally consider them a "problem" that shouldn't be encouraged.

3/2/2018 3:21 PM

Not that the other items aren't important, but I feel infrastructure is always the "unsexy" yet important item that gets mostly ignored by many local governments.

3/2/2018 3:17 PM

You don't need to encourage high-end housing builds. There's glut of them. Get going on attracting huge apartment/condo complexes that are moderately priced. Studio, 1 and 2 BR places so young people, single parents and seniors can afford to live here. Also, lower utility rates. After seeing the enormous surpluses in utilities, it appears you've overshot and the rentals in this town are mostly electric and have very high heating costs in winter.

3/2/2018 3:15 PM

Make this town affordable to all.

3/2/2018 3:08 PM

Municipal broadband. Free wireless downtown.

3/1/2018 9:26 PM

Thank you for including the Jacoby Greenbelt in these goals. In addition to its importance for the environment, water quality etc., the green, open space in the area is one of the chief reasons our household chose to move to YS in 2014. I have appreciated Council's efforts at hiring a police chief who has really made a positive impact after the New Year's event and studying issues surrounding our policing and how our citizens of color feel. I am a supporter of a Village fiber network if it can indeed be cheaper and faster than our current options. I enjoyed reading about the Village housing study data and I would like to see the Village become a bit more proactive, if possible, in helping to turn the empty lots/spaces within the Village into new housing. For example, there is a large space of land at West South College and South High - I learned it used to be land with greenhouses, which you can see evidence of in the old rubble. Maybe there are incentives for a landowner to turn land like this over quicker to be used for mixed housing. I say quicker because I know the tension is high in the Village over rising property taxes and school levies, and more housing will help. I like that Council is also thinking about transportation and infrastructure equally as we work on adding more housing and also accommodate an aging population. I appreciate the work of the Environmental Commission and it's great the Village is switching over to organic landscape practices. I encourage recycling and reducing opportunities and love the idea of a compost pickup service in the Village.

2/28/2018 8:17 PM

I also support the affordable community And welcoming community, but decided to select goals that were more concrete as the broad vague goals seems harder to execute.

2/28/2018 9:52 AM

Thanks for all the great work that you do!

2/28/2018 7:00 AM