

# Soap Lake Community Values Survey Oct/Nov 2023

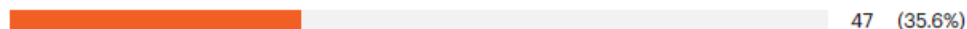
Question 1 has 132 answers (Checkboxes)

“Please choose your top 3 primary community values.”

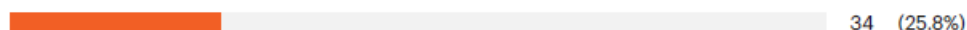
Environment & sustainability - health of the lake, protecting the natural landscape, accessible spaces.

 80 (60.6%)

Inclusion - being good neighbors, welcoming to community members and visitors of all races and ethnic groups, respecting each other.

 47 (35.6%)

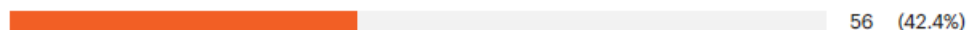
Collaboration - community service, volunteerism, participating in community events, supporting local business.

 34 (25.8%)

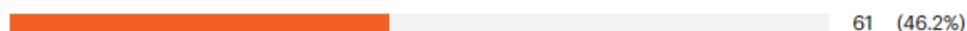
Public safety - reducing crime, maintaining a clean & safe environment, reducing drug use and homelessness.

 74 (56.1%)

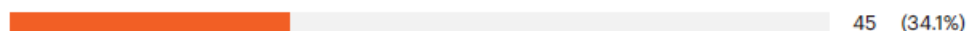
Culture and identity - preserving/honoring the history of Soap Lake as a “healing” destination, recognizing the importance of this place to Native Americans and the contributions of immigrants.

 56 (42.4%)

Developing the creative economy - find ways to help existing businesses succeed, help entrepreneurs get started and access needed resources.

 61 (46.2%)

Positive youth development - working with families, local schools, and youth-centered organizations in a way that engages youth as equal and productive members of the community

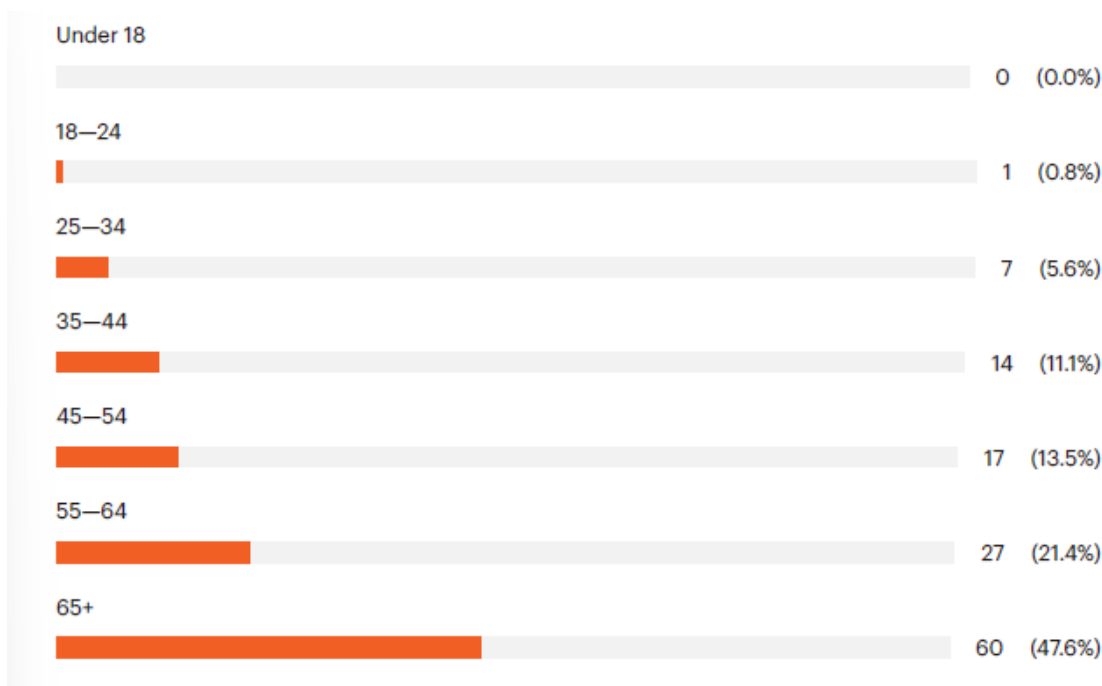
 45 (34.1%)

## Question 2 has 132 answers (Checkboxes)

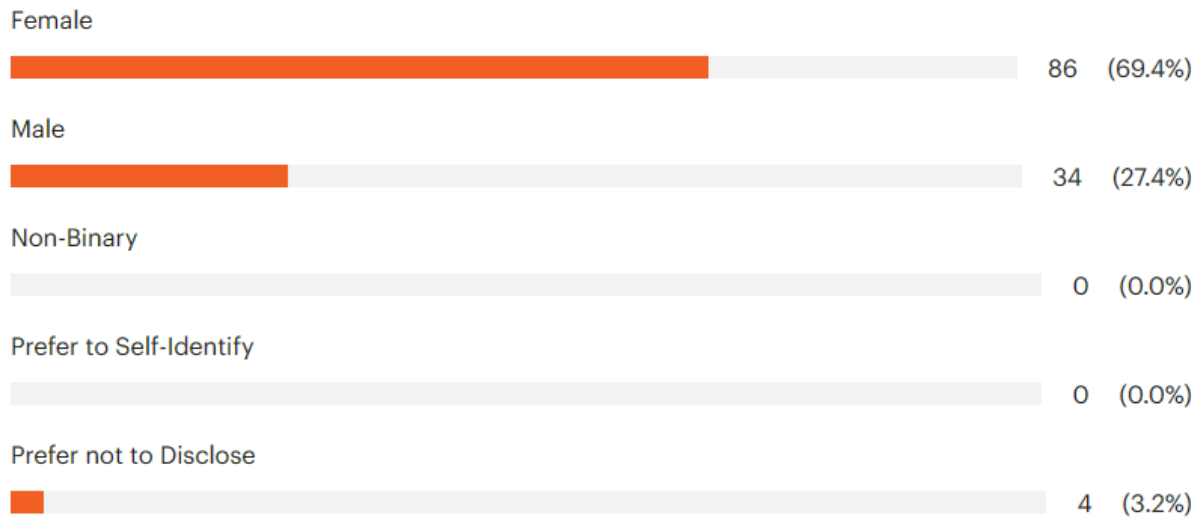
### “Please choose your top 3 secondary community values.”



## Age Demographics



# Gender



# Comments

"Ohhh... with your list that you already got, make a word cloud and use it in your promotions!  
Reinforcement of values!

"Supporting citizens and driving to meet the needs of the citizens "

"We have a great Fire Department!"

"Mineral baths"

"Drum circle. A mayor that cares about all of this like Michelle A."

"I'd like to see a coop for artists - a place where artists can rent a space to work on their particular media."

"Soap Lake is fabulous"

"more public creative events & gatherings for the community; art walks, local kids create an artwork w/a description then pair up with an adult local artist for them to create a response piece of art.

Artworks are displayed side by side in an exhibition."

"More cohesion between clubs and groups"

"Need mineral baths especially in the winter  
"Please Please Please""

"Safety for ALL residents."

"Developing the creative economy" I see as a pathway, an action, and will be easier and have an increased likelihood of success, in my opinion, if the values I've checked above are included, consciously, as a basis for the actions...which seems likely as it is included here with the values! good job and thank you..."

"Public restrooms on East Main WILL bring added business; Acknowledging the farmers in this agricultural boon that totally is what this entire Grant County represents; acknowledge the farmer; the industry of agriculture; the FFA activities in the Soap Lake School District. Only a few benefit from

tourism; and the residents of this area are ignored.  
Acknowledge the LOCALS"

Community yard sales, community service projects/programs, holiday weekend events, music festivals."

"- cleanliness  
- a good library  
- well-maintained parks"

"Residents to be kept informed of any and all city ordinances that pose significant health threats to themselves, their children, pets and wildlife, before it's installation."

"Soap Lake sun dial is amazing "

"I think public safety is important too, but I would like to know if the proposed "solutions" would actually address the causes of the issues and use humane, sustainable interventions to actually help or just be punitive and shaming."

"Make Soap Lake affordable again. Take care of our residents, our streets and beautify our yards affordably"

"Thank you!"

"More family friendly events"

"Get rid if the cameras"

"Soap Lake is smart to develop the creative economy. But the main economy independent of the creative is commercial. Without an industrial zone, and honestly a limited commercial aspect, the long-term growth and development of Soap Lake will always suffer. Strong communities have steady income from commercial/industrial sales. Soap Lake depends mostly on income from hotel/motel tax income and limited commercial sales. I believe that the town must reorganize its zoning ordinance and comp plan and perform a real study to encourage commercial growth. I also believe that there needs to be a limit on unlimited

and perpetual land speculation by the single largest landowner, the Samis group, to break the stranglehold on commercial growth of that sector. As an aside, I believe that air B&Bs should be licensed and taxed like the hotels they are competing with. Also, it is time for partnering with regional and county planning to improve a comprehensive overview of the role of Soap Lake in the area, especially through tourism."

"My true number one is improving and creating more recreational activities in the town. Improvement of the parks, adding recreational venues (pickleball/tennis courts, splash zone, etc.)"

"My answers might seem unkind, might have been nicer to put neighbors and homelessness first, but I think we all have our own focus. Creative Arts is not my first thought when I think about homelessness."

"Volunteers in schools"

Would like to see traditional values respected as well as inclusion, also 40 year resident"

"Maintaining our infrastructure  
Developing a good recycle system  
Protection against fires.  
Instilling pride in our community.  
Community reach out  
Reaching out to seniors"

"The roads and sidewalks need to be addressed and so does the city government. "

"Maintaining all of the streets and sidewalks in town. The original Gray and Osbourn began the study to include the entire town in the development of streets and sidewalks. In 1952 the first area to get streets and sidewalks was Main Street and the area between Division and Daisy; then the East and West sides; now Gray and Osbourn labels the East and central part of town new development at all development goes to the West side first.

"Preserving tree's, open restrooms, protecting the boyscout beach/trail, and maybe a nature trail in town instead of a god awful chain link fence!"

"There are obvious conflicts of interests within city council that are obstructing the above goals. Limiting shoreline development to 18' tall houses significantly reduces much needed taxable revenue for the city. Even 20' or 25' would be less restrictive. And most houses along the shoreline are already way over 18'.

"Preserving historic buildings, limiting light pollution and building design to enhance the town."  
"

"Speed limit enforcement, crosswalk blinking lights on Daisy Street, dog leash enforcement, dog "clean up" stations around park, inclusion of Daisy Street businesses in Christmas lighting, more enforcement in general. Speeding is terrible on Daisy and cars don't stop for pedestrians."

"Yes create a self sustaining town with breaking boundaries where possible. Creating more roads across the railway track will allow for more space to grow. Otherwise soap lake will remain an appendage to other larger towns"

"Animal Welfare & Animal Rescue throughout our community"

"The native Americans didn't stay in the area ... they used the lake but only in passing their were no fish and before irrigation no way to grow crops do your homework."

"Soap Lake as a whole is cleaning up and coming together. But there are too many disagreements over everything. When trying to resolve these issues anywhere, mostly meetings(town) your jumped on unless you are one of the few privileged people. I have seen this first hand and it's disappointing. There should be a few times a year where all can speak. Not be on the calendar or schedule. An open format would be great."

# What are the kids saying?

During Family Night at Soap Lake Elementary committee volunteers asked students what types of activities they want in our community. They expressed their ideas by writing them in on this painting of a tree.

Positive youth development is a priority of this community. Knowing this will help with developing our creative district plans.

