

2026 Community Survey Results



Participation Overview

The 2026 Community Survey received 689 responses from residents and non-residents.

Respondents were asked about:

- Issues that matter most.
- Satisfaction with City services.
- Whether Decatur is moving in the right direction.
- Where the City should focus over the next one to three years.

Overall Satisfaction

When asked to rate City services:

- 51.9 percent reported being satisfied or very satisfied.
- 33.5 percent selected neutral.
- 14.5 percent reported dissatisfaction.

When asked whether Decatur is moving in the right direction:

- 34.1 percent said yes.
- 38.2 percent said they were unsure.
- 27.7 percent said no.

The results indicate that many respondents are monitoring continued progress and want to see visible improvements in priority areas.

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Top Issues Identified

Respondents selected up to three issues that matter most right now. The most frequently selected priorities were:

1. Public safety — 37.7 percent
2. Traffic and congestion — 36.4 percent
3. Jobs and economic growth — 32.2 percent
4. Quality of life and events — 27.7 percent
5. Streets and sidewalks — 24.8 percent

Infrastructure concerns were consistent across responses.

Where Respondents Want Focus Next

When asked where the City should focus over the next one to three years, they most often selected:

- Improving infrastructure — 47.6 percent
- Planning for future growth — 32.1 percent
- Growing jobs and business — 30.9 percent
- Maintaining what we have — 22.2 percent

The findings show strong alignment around visible infrastructure improvements paired with responsible growth.

Methodology

The 2026 Community Survey received 689 responses.

Participation was voluntary and included multiple-choice and open-ended questions designed to identify priorities, satisfaction levels, and future focus areas.

Responses were received primarily from Decatur residents, with additional participation from individuals connected to the community.

Some survey questions allowed participants to select multiple responses. As a result, percentages in certain sections may not total 100 percent.

All open-ended comments were reviewed and grouped into recurring themes to reflect overall trends.

If this survey had been conducted as a fully random sample, results would carry an estimated margin of error of approximately plus or minus four percentage points at a 95 percent confidence level.

Because participation was voluntary and not randomly selected, findings should be viewed as a strong directional indicator of community priorities.