

Intergovernmental Issues in Indiana 2012



A Survey
Administered by
the Indiana Advisory
Commission on
Intergovernmental
Relations



This survey is administered by the Indiana Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (IACIR) on a periodic basis to gather information on current issues affecting the relationships between governments in the state. The IACIR seeks your opinions on the issues presented in the survey for use by state elected officials and for policy research. The survey must be completed by a person holding elective office with the exception of appointed school board members. Please feel free to consult others within your local government if you are unsure about the correct response to a particular question.

Completion of the questionnaire is voluntary. Respondents have the option to complete the survey online at www.iacir.spea.iupui.edu or to return the printed questionnaire in the enclosed postage paid envelope. Online participants will need the identification number printed on the cover letter or on the back of the questionnaire in the lower right-hand corner.

1 What elected office do you hold?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> County council member | <input type="checkbox"/> Township trustee or trustee-assessor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County commissioner | <input type="checkbox"/> School board member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>specify</i>) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town council member | |

2 What local government do you represent?

3 In which county(ies) is your local government located?

4 How do you feel about the general direction in which your community is heading?

- Very optimistic
- Mildly optimistic
- Neither optimistic nor pessimistic
- Mildly pessimistic
- Very pessimistic

5

For the following conditions, please indicate (A) the extent to which each is currently a problem in your community, if at all; and (B) how each of the following conditions has changed in your community during the last 12 months. *Circle the appropriate number.*

| | (A) CURRENT STATUS OF CONDITION | | | (B) CHANGE IN CONDITION OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS | | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---|----------|-----------|
| | Major Problem | Moderate Problem | Minor or No Problem | Improved | Worsened | No Change |
| HEALTH | | | | | | |
| a1. Availability of health services | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a2. Cost of health services | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a3. Availability of health insurance | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a4. Cost of health insurance | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a5. Availability and cost of dental health services | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a6. Availability and cost of mental health services | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a7. Availability and cost of services for people with disabilities | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a8. Care for the elderly | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a9. Drug and alcohol abuse | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a10. Smoking | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a11. Obesity | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| a12. Chronic disease (heart disease, diabetes, etc.) | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| ECONOMICS | | | | | | |
| b1. Overall economic conditions | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| b2. Job loss/unemployment | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| b3. Job quality | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| b4. Workforce training and retraining | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| b5. Business attraction and retention | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| b6. International trade | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| b7. Shovel-ready properties | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| PUBLIC SAFETY | | | | | | |
| c1. Police/sheriff services | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c2. Police-community relations | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c3. Fire services | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c4. Emergency medical services | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c5. Emergency dispatch | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c6. Violent crime | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c7. Drug crime | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c8. Youth crime | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c9. Family/domestic violence | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c10. Homeland security | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c11. Jail facilities | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c12. Youth detention facilities | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c13. Disaster response | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| c14. Emergency warning sirens | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

| | (A) CURRENT STATUS OF CONDITION | | | (B) CHANGE IN CONDITION OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS | | |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---|----------|-----------|
| | Major Problem | Moderate Problem | Minor or No Problem | Improved | Worsened | No Change |
| LOCAL SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE | | | | | | |
| d1. K-12 education | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d2. Drinking water | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d3. Sanitary sewers | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d4. Storm sewers | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d5. Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d6. Local roads, streets, and highways | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d7. Sidewalks | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d8. Bridges | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d9. Public transit | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d10. Parks and recreation | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d11. Solid waste management | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d12. Telephone | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d13. Cellular telephone | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d14. Cable TV | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d15. Electric service | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d16. Natural gas service | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| d17. Lack of high-speed internet/broadband | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| LAND USE | | | | | | |
| e1. Quality of development | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e2. Increased amount of development | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e3. Lack of development | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e4. Quality affordable housing | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e5. Balanced mix of housing types and prices | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e6. Balanced mix of residential and non-residential development | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e7. Code enforcement | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e8. Private property maintenance | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e9. Foreclosures | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e10. Abandoned properties | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e11. Open space/green space | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e12. Farmland conversion and loss | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| e13. Brownfields | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| COMMUNITY QUALITY OF LIFE | | | | | | |
| f1. Air quality | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f2. Water quality | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f3. Traffic congestion | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f4. Poverty | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f5. Vitality of neighborhoods | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f6. Vitality of downtown | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f7. Arts and cultural resources | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f8. Community involvement | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f9. Race-ethnic relations | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f10. Immigration | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f11. Childcare | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| f12. Truancy and other school behavior problems | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

PLEASE CONTINUE 

6 Of the conditions listed in question 5, which three have improved most in your community during the PAST YEAR? *Please fill in the complete phrase or the corresponding letter/number from Question 5.*

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

7 Of the conditions listed in question 5, which three have deteriorated most in your community during the PAST YEAR? *Please fill in the complete phrase or the corresponding letter/number from Question 5.*

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

8 Of the conditions listed in question 5, which three are the most important to address during the NEXT TWO YEARS? *Please fill in the complete phrase or the corresponding letter/number from Question 5.*

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

9 **MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY OFFICIALS ONLY:** Over the last few years, the Indiana General Assembly has made significant changes to the way local government is funded, including the adoption of property tax caps. Please indicate below whether your local government has used tax increment financing or tax abatement in the last four years.

| | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> | <u>2012</u> | My local government did not use <u>2009-2012</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Tax increment financing | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tax abatement | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

10 **COUNTY OFFICIALS ONLY:** Has your local government received a judicial mandate to restore county court funding in the last two years?

- Yes
- No

11

Local governments are making hard choices to address declining revenues from property taxes, local income taxes, and gas taxes, and rising costs for employee health insurance, fuel, and other supplies. Please indicate if your local government made any of the following changes in the last four years.

| | 2008-2009 | | 2010-2011 | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| My local government or county has passed a new or additional local option income tax. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has increased fees and charges for local services. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government laid off employees. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has stopped hiring. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has frozen or reduced employee wages/salaries. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced employee benefits and/or raised employee contributions. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has cut or reduced spending on training and travel. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government increased its reliance on volunteers to assist in providing local services. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has made internal operational changes (e.g., mowing less frequently). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has cut or reduced services (e.g., reduced hours for swimming pool, fewer parks programs). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has cut or delayed capital expenditures. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced spending on parks and recreation. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced spending on sheriff/police. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced spending on fire services. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced spending on roads and streets. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced spending on sanitary sewers, storm sewers, and drinking water. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced spending on solid waste management. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has reduced spending on _____ (please identify). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has adjusted the terms for contracted services. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has privatized capital assets or local government functions. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has established alternate service arrangements with local nonprofit organizations. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has implemented cooperative service arrangements, such as interlocal agreements, with other local governments. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has engaged in joint purchasing with other local governments. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| My local government has pursued consolidation with another unit of government. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

PLEASE CONTINUE 

12

Government and nonprofit organizations that own property are exempt from paying property taxes. Local services (e.g., fire suppression, police protection, and other services) are provided to these properties.

Would you be in favor of **REQUIRING** any of the following types of organizations in your community that own real property to (A) make annual payments in lieu of property taxes and/or (B) provide services below cost to local government in lieu of property taxes?

| | (A) Do you favor requiring payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) for: | | (B) Do you favor requiring the provision of reduced cost services in lieu of taxes (SILOT) for: | |
|--|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Units of federal government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Units of state government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Units of other local government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nonprofit hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Private university or school | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Church or other religious nonprofits | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other nonprofits (please identify _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

13

Please indicate (A) which types of tax-exempt entities own property within the boundaries of your local government and whether your local government receives (B) payment in lieu of taxes or (C) services in lieu of taxes from any of these types of entities?

| | (A) These entities own property within my local government boundaries | | (B) My local government receives payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) from: | | (C) My local government receives services at a reduced cost (SILOT) from: | |
|--|---|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Unit of federal government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unit of state government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unit of local government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Nonprofit hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Private university or school | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Church or other religious nonprofit | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other nonprofits (please identify _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

14

Does your local government use unpaid volunteers?

- Yes
- No

15

Has your local government used unpaid volunteer assistance in any of the following service areas?

| | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| General reception/clerical | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Technology (websites, computers, phone systems) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Police/sheriff | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Courts | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fire | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Parks | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Roads | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health services | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Youth and family services | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Senior services | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Environmental protection | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Planning and code enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| General beautification (cleanup, planting) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Animal services | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Emergency management and shelters | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Elections | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

PLEASE CONTINUE 

16

Please indicate the arrangement currently used to provide each type of service. *Circle the number corresponding to only one option for each service. Answer only for the local government you represent as an elected (or appointed) official.*

| | My local government provides this service with internal resources | My local government provides this service through an agreement or contract with another local government | My local government provides this service through a contract with a private for-profit firm | My local government provides this service through a contract with a nonprofit organization | My local government does not provide this service |
|----------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| Jail | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Juvenile detention | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Roads and streets | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Parks and recreation | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Drinking water utility | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Solid waste services | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Sewer utility | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Police services | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Fire services | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Emergency medical services | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Emergency dispatch | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Planning/plan commission | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Economic development | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Vocational education | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Special education | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Property assessment | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Other (specify)_____ | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

17

Joint purchasing is one type of cooperative arrangement that can be accomplished using a number of mechanisms including the interlocal agreement statute, State of Indiana Quantity Purchasing Agreements (QPA), and U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Cooperative (www.uscommunities.org). Has your local government purchased goods cooperatively in the LAST YEAR?

- Yes
- No

18

Many communities engage in cooperative efforts through a variety of formal and informal mechanisms, including regional organizations, memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interlocal agreements, cooperatives, task forces, joint meetings, resource sharing, etc. How has the amount of cooperative activity between your local government and other organizations changed over the last 2 years?

- Increased
- Decreased
- Stayed about the same

19

How would you characterize the current working relationship between your local government and other governments and service provider organizations?

| | Very positive | Somewhat positive | Neither positive nor negative | Somewhat negative | Very negative | No relationship | Not applicable |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Federal government | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| State government | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| County government(s) | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| City governments | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Town governments | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Township governments | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| School districts | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Library districts | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Other special districts | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Local businesses | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |
| Local charities and other nonprofits | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 9 |

20

How often do you trust the following types of organizations to do the right thing?

| | Almost always | Most of the time | Some of the time | Almost never |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Federal government | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| State government | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Local government | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Local businesses | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Local charities and other nonprofits | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |

PLEASE CONTINUE 

21

Does your local government currently provide pensions or retirement contributions for elected officials, full-time employees, and/or part-time employees?

| | Yes, my local government provides pension or retirement benefits to: | No, my local government does not provide pension or retirement benefits to: |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Elected officials | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Full-time employees | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Part-time employees | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

22

Does your local government provide health insurance for elected officials, full-time employees, and/or part-time employees?

| | Yes, my local government provides health insurance benefits to: | No, my local government does not provide health insurance benefits to: |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Elected officials | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Full-time employees | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Part-time employees | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

23

Have health insurance costs increased for your local government over the LAST TWO YEARS?

- Yes
- No → SKIP TO QUESTION 25
- My local government doesn't provide health insurance → SKIP TO QUESTION 25

24

What actions, if any, has your local government taken over the LAST TWO YEARS to combat the rising cost of providing health insurance to elected officials and employees? *Check all that apply.*

| | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Increased elected official and employee health insurance contributions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reduced health insurance coverage | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reduced health insurance eligibility for officials and employees | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reduced health insurance costs through a cooperative purchasing arrangement with the state of Indiana or another local government | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reduced health insurance costs by changing vendors | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reduced non-insurance expenditures | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No actions taken | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

25

Do you think your community, through public or private sources, over invests, adequately invests, or under invests in the types of infrastructure listed below?

| | Too much investment | Adequate investment | Not enough investment |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Highways | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Local roads and streets | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bridges | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Parks | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public school classroom and other instruction facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public school performance and athletic facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public library facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Drinking water | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sanitary sewers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Storm sewers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Telephone | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cellular phone | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| High-speed internet | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Electricity | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Natural gas | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (Please specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

26

Federal and state gasoline taxes are primary sources of revenue used to fund roads. Tax collections have declined over time as a result of a decline in vehicle miles travelled and increase in the fuel efficiency of the current fleet. Federal and state officials across the country are considering ways to combat reduced revenues available to fund road maintenance and construction. Please indicate your support or opposition to the adoption of the following options for increasing the funding available for the construction and maintenance of Indiana’s state and local road infrastructure. *Circle the appropriate number.*

| | Strongly Support | Support | Neither support nor oppose | Oppose | Strongly oppose |
|--|------------------|---------|----------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| a. Increase state fuel taxes | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| b. Replace fuel taxes with mileage-based user fees | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| c. Expand the use of public-private partnerships | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| d. Adopt tolls on additional public roads | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| e. Increase vehicle excise taxes and dedicate to road infrastructure | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| f. Remove Indiana State Police and Bureau of Motor Vehicles funding from the Motor Vehicle Highway Account | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| g. Earmark state sales tax revenue from motor fuel purchases for road infrastructure | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| h. Expand local funding options | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

PLEASE CONTINUE 

27

FOR COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS ONLY: Please estimate the change in your annual road maintenance and construction expenditures over the PAST TWO YEARS.

- Increased 20% or more
- Increased 1% to 20%
- No change
- Decreased 1% to 20%
- Decreased 20% or more

28

FOR COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS ONLY: Please estimate how much additional funding is needed annually to (A) maintain your community’s existing road system, (B) maintain existing bridges, and (C) construct new roads. Please consult with other local officials as necessary. Check only one option per column.

| | (A) Additional funding needed annually for local road maintenance | (B) Additional funding needed annually for local bridge maintenance | (C) Additional funding needed annually for new local road construction |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| \$10,000,000 or more | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$7,000,000 - \$9,999,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$4,000,000 - \$6,999,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1,000,000 - \$3,999,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$500,000 - \$999,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$499,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1 - \$99,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No additional funding needed | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

29

FOR COUNTY OFFICIALS ONLY: 2012 SEA 98 allows counties to use property taxes and miscellaneous revenue deposited in the general fund to fund road maintenance. How likely is it that your county will use property tax revenues to fund additional road maintenance in the next few years?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

30

Does your local government have a website that is used to communicate with residents?

- Yes
- No

31

Does your local government have formal policies and procedures that govern communications on your local government website?

- Yes
- No

32

Do your local government or local government departments use social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) to communicate with residents?

- Yes
- No

33

Does your local government have formal policies and procedures that govern communications via social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

34

How often are your residents well informed about the following elements of local government?

| | Almost always | Most of the time | Some of the time | Almost never |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Local government structure | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Local government services | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Local government funding | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

35

What is the biggest misconception that residents have about how your local government operates? *Fill in the blank.*

36

Do you think that local schools (K-12) are teaching enough about government and civics?

- Yes
- No

37

In the first year you held your current office, did you attend training specifically to learn about your duties as an elected official?

- Yes
- No

38

As a local elected official, have you received adequate training on issues facing your local government in the last 12 months?

- I received adequate training.
- I received some training, but would like to participate in additional opportunities.
- I have not received any training.

39

Which of the following information sources do you consult typically when considering the implementation of management practices or programs?

| | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| State agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| University departments and centers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| National trade associations (NACO, NLC, ICMA, NAT&T, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| State trade associations (AIC, IACT, ITA, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regional institutions (MPO, COG, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Private consultants | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Local government peers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

40

Please indicate whether you are, or have been, actively involved with any of the following kinds of organizations as a member or in a leadership position (e.g., as board member or executive director). Also, estimate the number of hours per month you currently spend with each type of organization. *Check all that apply.*

| Type of nonprofit or charity organization | MEMBERSHIP | | LEADERSHIP | | Current Hours per Month (fill in number) |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | Active Now | Active in the Past | Active Now | Active in the Past | |
| a. Culture and arts | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| b. Sports, recreation, and social activities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| c. Education and research | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| d. Health | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| e. Social Services (including emergency relief) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| f. Environment and animal protection | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| g. Economic & community development, housing, employment & training | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| h. Law, advocacy, and politics | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| i. Philanthropic institutions and promotion of voluntarism | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| j. International | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| k. Business and professional associations, unions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| l. Other (please specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

41

If you are currently involved with any such groups, how important is your involvement for your work as a local government official?

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Neither important nor unimportant
- Somewhat unimportant
- Not applicable

Please use this space or attach additional pages to make any other comments about the issues affecting your local government and intergovernmental relations in Indiana.

Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated.
If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

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Indiana Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations
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Indianapolis, IN 46204-1708
317/261-3046
317/261-3050 (fax)
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Please complete the questionnaire online at www.iacir.spea.iupui.edu or return the completed questionnaire in the enclosed postage paid envelope.