

Take this short survey to tell us what you think!

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

30 July 2020 - 05 January 2021

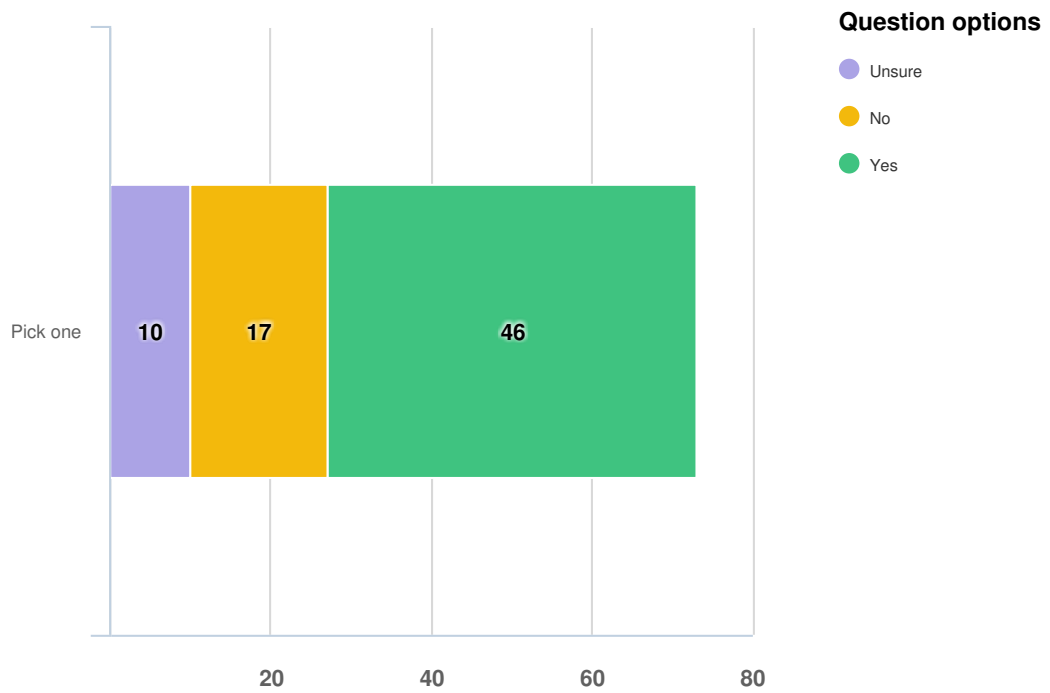
PROJECT NAME:

Family Definition: Accommodating Today's Families



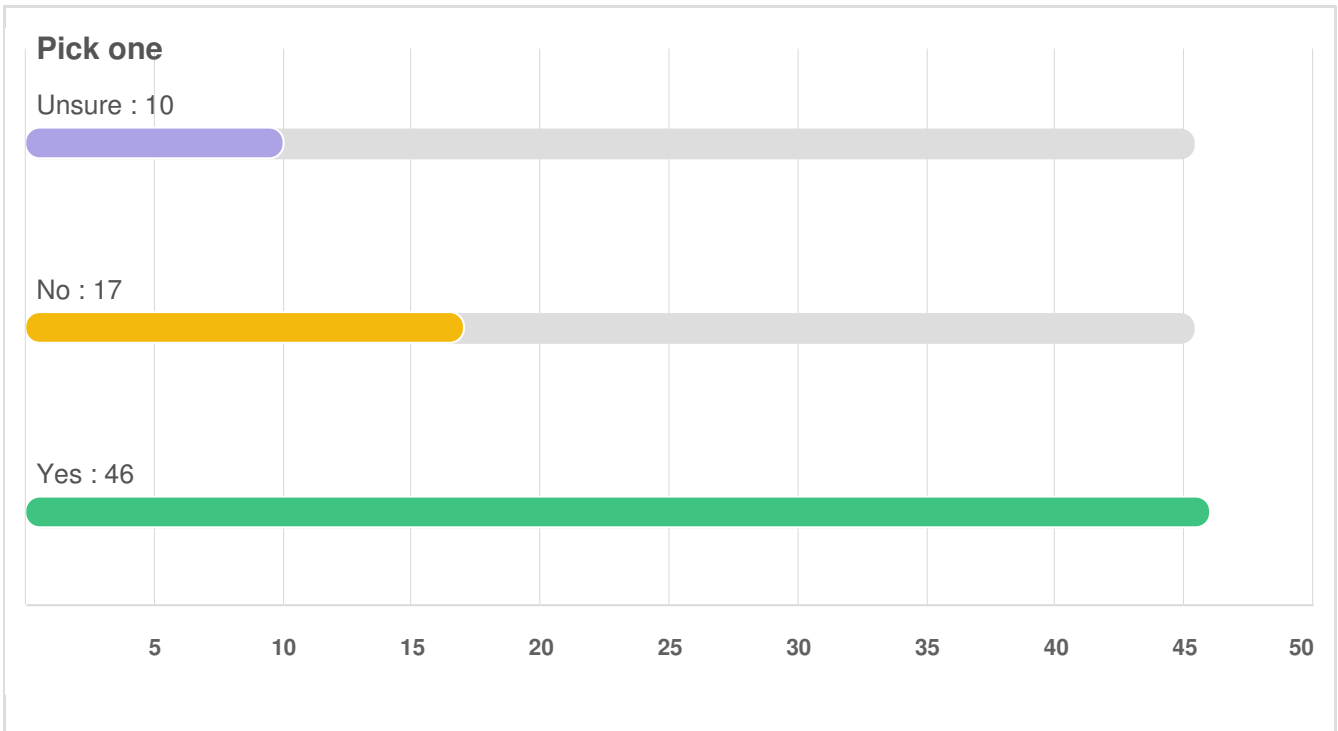
SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 | Should the City's Family definition be revised to remove the limitation on the number of unrelated people who may live toge...



Optional question (73 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Likert Question

Q1 | Should the City's Family definition be revised to remove the limitation on the number of unrelated people who may live toge...



Q2 | Alternate approaches to the "rule of three" generally fall within one of these three categories - Character, Privacy or Den...

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Density - Focus on limiting the number of people who may live in a dwelling unit and/or require a minimum amount of living space per person	1.84
Privacy - Focus on the privacy of occupants by not requiring a permit or registration for diverse families and living situations	1.86
Character - Focus on residential building design to address neighborhood character issues	2.23

*Optional question (72 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Ranking Question*

Q3 Please provide any additional comments.

David

7/31/2020 01:06 PM

The current policy can sometimes cause racist outcomes, when you look at barriers to white versus non-white people. It is *not* needed to enforce noise/garbage/parking ordinances, as has been used by the anti-college-housing folks. Antiracism is critical

Donni

7/31/2020 03:17 PM

How the people in a home are or aren't related really isn't the city's business, or the neighbors' business. Limiting density is more equitable, but needs to be reasonably defined & enforced, given limited housing options in Bellingham.

Steve

7/31/2020 04:16 PM

I fear that without regulation, single family neighborhoods become de facto multi-family neighborhoods lacking infrastructure to handle the density. Those seeking single family housing will seek it elsewhere. A city of renters only is not very diverse.

aaronbooker

7/31/2020 05:38 PM

It's about time. This rule has been flouted since before it was created and has only been more widely flouted ever since. Because it doesn't make sense/cents... What it does do is give ammunition to nut jobs who file complaints.

Hugo

7/31/2020 07:14 PM

Bellingham needs fewer peoply

Ajmill64

7/31/2020 11:02 PM

The city has no business telling who can live with who unless its a legal issue of some sort..families are not all blood related...and its no one else's business

Clean Air in Bellingham NOW!

8/01/2020 09:09 AM

More people are living with non family members in smaller spaces because less people have money and/or family

Gail123

8/01/2020 02:37 PM

My street has inadequate parking, we have an air BNB and multiple people rent their upstairs and basements to non-related people. We have no parking and crowded. Don't know who really lives here.

Surelyitmatters

8/01/2020 11:50 PM

The parameters for occupancy should be based on safety. The parameters and limits for adults should be defined as a limitation on vehicles. Parking and road congestion is the key problem in this college town.

Rosey

8/02/2020 03:11 PM

Our neighborhoods are getting overcrowded and more car accidents too many cars parked on the road makes it dangerous to see past them on a bike or in a car. Apt on N. Forest 350 units took a whole lane of parking we lost a whole road to parked cars.

Rebecca

8/03/2020 08:56 AM

Allowing empty-nesters to rent a spare bedroom to a college students or low income adults should be kept very simple. Ultimately it allows the homeowner to age in place, which may include a resident caretaker.

Kat Willis

The question does not specify where the "rule of three" is required.

8/03/2020 10:10 AM

Obviously, this is not a rule in college residence halls or in any housing connected with students. Single family zoned areas need restrictions.

Ed_W

8/03/2020 10:14 AM

The current family definition negatively impacts many looking to live affordably and communally together in a house. It also causes non-traditional families to be fearful of losing their housing (and not gaining housing) due to being technically illegal.

Julia B

8/04/2020 02:58 PM

The definition of neighborhood character should be better defined and clear about what we are hoping to maintain. Is it tree-lined streets, yards, street parking and/or historic homes? Then maybe we can figure out what way to best address it

jkbright

8/07/2020 03:37 PM

The focus should be on the number of people who can occupy a space safely and number of cars added to the streets. Safety of both dwellers and the neighbors should be the determining factor. Streets blocked by too many cars happen.

Michael Chiavario

8/08/2020 10:59 AM

The term 'family' should be entirely eliminated from future zoning ordinances. The term 'group' might be suitable replacement. Eliminate the rule of 3. We are all related to one another.

Gavin

8/12/2020 12:00 PM

As landlords who also dwell in an apartment unit, and whose apartments stand alone in residential zones, we pretty much see all angles. It's time to remove the rule of 3.

lizstuart22

8/12/2020 01:08 PM

There are larger families who need housing too-- I would like to see more density in our centralized neighborhoods, to prevent sprawl

RobK

8/12/2020 02:20 PM

I don't really mind how many people live in a building but there should be some max density. It becomes problem when there isn't adequate parking or creative outdoor living areas are built.

KateBart

8/13/2020 11:38 AM

This is a violation of Federal Fair Housing Law. Landlords, Real estate agents, and lenders are not allowed to discriminate against familial or marital status.

Whatcom County REALTORS®

8/13/2020 02:20 PM

With the Ranking System above, it is important to note that, regarding housing, form should follow function; build a livable space meeting the needs of the occupants and then worry about the "character" of that structure.

Mediosol

8/14/2020 10:41 AM

Density is my main concern. For years the COB has ignored the "rule of three" resulting in single family homes being rented out beyond intended capacity to students or those struggling with rental cost. People are living in over crowded situations, park

KathyHasenj

8/17/2020 04:15 PM

Water/sewer capacity should be considered as well as number of vehicles registered to property address.

wmbloke

8/20/2020 11:21 AM

The use of the term non-traditional is problematic due to the fact that the status quo was formed without acknowledging the existence of individuals outside the dominate culture. Additional language would be helpful and

	honoring of our diversity
Luke_Holtgeerts 8/21/2020 07:12 AM	It's an accessibility thing, housing prices in Bellingham are becoming unrealistic for an everyday working class person.
PKSchissler 9/03/2020 12:26 PM	(1) Tenants and landlords can learn to be closer to exemplary. COB can use Rental Registration revenues to pay for public learning efforts that raise the bar on civics, what it means to be neighborly, how to help others after a natural disaster, etc.
Cap n andy 9/10/2020 03:21 PM	It's a college town duh
KLRismondo 9/16/2020 08:39 PM	The rule was created to address density on paper, but in practice causes harmful, discriminatory, and insecure situations for renters and leaves bedrooms vacant during a housing crisis. Address density via other methods and stop policing household makeup!
JotC 9/21/2020 02:41 PM	I'd like the city to do what it can to encourage communal living situations for a more resilient city. I'm thinking of co-housing models that allow for sharing resources for higher quality of life for those you do not fit the nuclear family model.
Mag Lallas 10/13/2020 07:07 PM	Families consist of numerous people. They should be allowed to build a home that can handle their family.
Nancy Grayum-Riddell 12/14/2020 11:15 AM	This key statement in your principles: responsive to the new reality of family. Given a new unknown economy, we need to accommodate more widely now.
Azgirl 12/21/2020 10:39 PM	Space per a person is based on a 2 per a room rule. 2 people per a room is based on family composition

Optional question (32 response(s), 41 skipped)

Question type: Single Line Question