

Appendix F

Visual Preference Survey



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Visual Preference Survey

Sumner County and its municipalities have worked with the Cumberland River Compact and its regional partners to strategically identify growth practices that can be implemented on the local level. Over the course of one year the Cumberland River Compact has helped multiple levels of community leaders select smart growth practices, low impact design practices, and policy changes that promote a coherent strategy for managing growth.

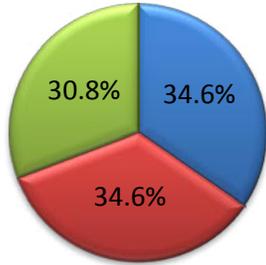
In the summer of 2008, the Sumner County Stormwater Managers Group gathered county wide MS4s to gauge current best management practices and the potential for change region-wide. The communities created a series of progressive development rules. The group prioritized ten changes that will greatly improve water resources and growth for the county and challenged the municipal and county planners to complete a similar process. The planners prioritized a similar list, and these two groups' projects were combined and presented at a training event for local elected and appointed officials in September of 2008. The training was called "Implementing Green Best Practices & Policies" conducted by Vena Jones with the Compact. As part of that effort, participants responded to a community character preference survey or visual preference survey that included examples of these best practices. Below are images that were presented to them and a brief summary of their favorability ratings. These pictures were part of a series of images about transportation, housing, commercial services, and open space as ideas for future community development. Participants were asked to gauge their favorability of the environments displayed on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being least favorable and 5 being highly favorable.

 <p style="text-align: center;">Bioswale & pervious parking 78% - favorable</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Rain garden 94% - favorable</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Improved bioswale w/ check dams 59% - favorable</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">Rooftop garden 91% - favorable; no unfavorable votes</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Driveway pavers 94% - favorable; highest favorability score</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Pervious parking filtration system 91% - favorable; no unfavorable votes</p>

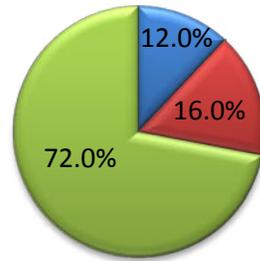
The community character preference survey shows an overall visual interest in practices that improve water resources such as rain gardens, pervious pavement, and bioswales.

Attendees also responded to a follow-up survey. Respondents indicate some uncertainty on the quality of existing water resource regulations, and most respondents expressed a desire to evaluate current regulations or modify them. The results of these surveys indicate that decision makers in Sumner County are interested in these best practices, but they may be unsure if they are implementing them correctly and in a coordinated manner.

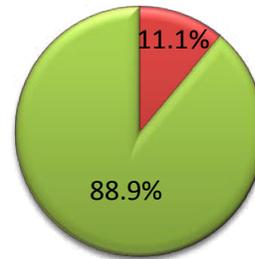
Question 1: Do you feel your jurisdiction has water resource protective ordinances and practices in place?



Question 2: Would you like to work on a process to modify them?



Question 3: Would your community work with the stormwater department (if applicable) to establish a common language in both sets of ordinances?



Maybe No Yes