



City of St. Joseph, 75 Callaway St E, St. Joseph MN 56374

## **March 2023 City of St. Joseph Performance Measurement Program Survey Results**



**Tails on Trails Recreation Event**

**April 17, 2023**

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## **Introduction**

In 2010, the Minnesota Legislature created the Council on Local Results and Innovation (Council). The Council created a set of ten standard performance measures for cities and counties that could assist the governing body in determining the quality, efficiency and need for services provided. This program has become known as the Performance Measurement Program. Participants in the program would agree to survey their constituents using at least the ten standards established by the Council. The survey would allow residents the opportunity to provide input on the services provided.

To encourage participation in the voluntary program, the 2010 Legislature provided a financial incentive. Cities that opted to participate would be eligible for a reimbursement of \$0.14 per capita, not to exceed \$25,000 and would be exempt from levy limits under MS 275.70 to 275.74. For the City of St. Joseph, the reimbursement for participation is approximately \$1,000.

Additional information on the Council on Local Results and Innovation can be found the Minnesota Secretary of State Website: <http://www.auditor.state.mn.us>.

## **Methodology**

To assist Minnesota cities with the new Performance Measurement Program, the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) created a survey that would meet the requirements of the 2010 Legislation. Participating cities would have the opportunity to modify the question and they would administer the actual survey, providing the results to each city.

The City of St. Joseph utilized the services the League of Minnesota Cities who provided the survey through survey monkey. The City notified the residents that they had an opportunity to provide input on the services provided. Notification was placed in the following locations:

1. Published in the May Newsletter distributed to all utility bill customers. Residents were provided with the URL and requested to participate. The URL was listed as follows: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/St\\_Joseph2022](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/St_Joseph2022).
2. Posted on the City of St. Joseph cable channel and marque sign.
3. Published on the front page of the City Website. <http://cityofstjoseph.com>.

The survey was available on survey monkey from May 3<sup>rd</sup> through May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022. At the end of the survey period, the League of Minnesota Cities provided the results. The results indicated that 19 individuals responded to the survey.

City of St. Joseph  
Performance Measurement Survey Results - Charts  
May 27, 2022

How many years have you lived in this city?

Years in City	Total Respondents	Number of Years in City Individual Responses
00-05 years	6	2{1}, 3{4}, 5{1}
06-10 years	3	6{1}, 8{2}
11-15 years	4	12{2}, 13{2}
16-20 years	3	17{1}, 19{1}, 20{1}
21-30 years	2	27{1}, 29{1}
>30 years	1	41{1}

How would you rate the overall appearance of the city?

How would you rate the fiscal management and health of the city?

How would you describe your overall feeling of safety in the city?

2

How would you rate the overall quality of fire protection services in the city?

How would you rate the overall condition of city streets?

3

How would you rate the overall quality of snowplowing on city streets?

How would you rate the dependability and overall quality of city sanitary sewer service?

4

How would you rate the dependability and overall quality of the city water supply?

How would you rate the overall quality of city recreational programs and facilities (e.g. parks, trails, park facilities, etc.)?

5

How would you rate the overall quality of services provided by the city?

6

**19 respondents**

**City of St. Joseph**  
**Performance Measurement Survey Results - Comments**  
**May 27, 2022**

The following comments were received from survey respondents.

**Public Safety Comments:**

- \* I really wish we had a leash law for pets that was enforced. Multiple times on walks through my neighborhood or city parks am I confronted with a barking or running dog. This does not make me feel safe.

**Streets/Plowing Services Comments:**

- \* Streets need to be swept more often Snow plow takes forever to get to my house, sometimes days, not acceptable.
- \* Northland Drive is in terrible shape fix the southern half of it too. The sewer and water pipes in southern part of Northland Heights heaved the roads, if they get fixed maybe new houses could get built on those lots.
- \* The left-hand turn lane/light that is on 75 on the Casey's side of the street should be looked at. Several times I've sat through a series of THREE sequences of lights before the left-hand turn signal "kicks" in. A lot of people including me now turn left onto the frontage road by the hardware store/liquor store and then turn left onto Northland Drive at the stop sign by that intersection.

**Parks and Recreation Comments:**

- \* One glaring example of the city wasting a huge amount of money, would be the money spent researching a water park. All the community wanted was a splash pad. It's been over a decade, and there's still no splash pad.
- \* I do wish the community center was more easily accessible for things like boy Scout meetings, and that it was open for walking in the winter and other activities in the evening I find myself relying on CSB for some of that instead.
- \* Three suggestions:
  - 1) Enhance, expand & maintain paved off-road walking trails around the city to make St Joe pedestrian friendly. This is one of the best features of St Joe, & many folks use these walking trails year-round for walking, biking roller blading, etc. We walk several miles daily year-round & would appreciate if the trails were kept clear in the winter. Some are not which requires folks to walk in the road when sidewalks are not available or also not clear.
  - 2) Keep a large open city park adjacent to new community center when it is built. We live across from the current park, & it is used often each day by young & old to swing, play ball, run around, fly kites, walk pets, toss frisbees & footballs, etc. It would be a big loss to the community to lose this open space.
  - 3) Remove snow from city roads on weekends in the winter when needed & share what the city's policy is about this. This past winter it appeared like streets were not cleared on weekends like they were on weekdays which is a problem, because snow falls on weekends too.

**Other City Services Comments:**

- \* We would really like more recycling options available curbside. Our recyclables are always overflowing by the time they're collected. And we often put things in trash, instead of recyclables because of this. If we could even have compost options curbside, we would really like this as well.

**General Comments:**

- \* We also pay way too much in property taxes and various fees, especially for a city of our size.
- \* Things are very good in St. Joe. I am happy living here and when we moved years ago I wasn't sure I would like it because I tend to like bigger cities. Overall though, it is a nice town and I appreciate living here very much.
- \* We love all the new retail stores opening and for the events that are planned for residents.
- \* I am retired and living on a fixed income, and a tax paying citizen of this community, why am I being discriminated against? Since being annexed into the city, I have payed \$1305.50 in Property Taxes to St. Joseph. In the past 2 years I have had to pay a Compost Site Permit Fee equal to the Township fee. I expect this year to be no different. This is discriminatory especially since it is even more than for St. Cloud Residents. This policy of discrimination against annexed people needs to be changed. Please look into this. Dave Thomas
- \* In addition to question #13. City officials rarely make themselves available to residents. I left a simple message for three officials, none have returned my call. According to other residents, this is not uncommon.
- \* Way too many ATVs, golf carts, scooters and other unlicensed vehicles driving in our streets. The old gas station/automotive shop on Minnesota street that is falling down needs to have attention paid to it. It makes our city look like a dump. The city should get it cleaned up or fine the owner for having a dilapidated structure.

Also way too many people stand on Baker Street to smoke cigarettes around the 10th block by the apt building on south side of the road. Someday one of them is going be hit by a vehicle. They should smoke on the yard not standing in the street.

The city would benefit from developing the land between the Wobegon Trail head parking area and the apt building to the east. This area would make a wonderful dog park. I bet people would actually visit a dog park in this area, instead of the current dog park area that is significantly under-utilized.

Resolving the above issues will improve our city's public perception. Thanks for addressing these issues. Cheers, Brian





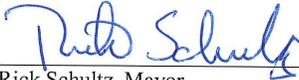
**Resolution 2022-028  
Accepting St. Joseph's  
Performance Measures Survey Results**

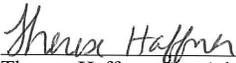
**Whereas**, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 6.91 the St. Joseph City Council has adopted performance and output measures recommended by the State of Minnesota's Council on Local Results and Innovation and desires to continue with recommended performance measure guidelines and practices.

**Now therefore be it resolved**, the St. Joseph City Council adopted the following performance measures initiatives:

1. That the City has adopted and implemented the minimum 10 performance measures developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation.
2. That the City has implemented a local performance measurement system as developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation.
3. That the City will report the results of the 10 adopted measures to its residents before the end of 2022 on the City's Website.
4. That the City has surveyed its residents on the services included in the performance benchmarks and intends to periodically (at least biennially) repeat the survey of its residents to gauge changes in the performance benchmarks.
5. That the City accepting the results of the performance measures survey conducted in May 2022.

Adopted this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

  
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Rick Schultz, Mayor

  
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Therese Haffner, City Administrator