



Senior Center Building Participant Survey

The Crawford County Commission on Aging & Senior Center is embarking on a strategic planning session to develop goals for its future. One of ongoing issues of discussion is our location and building. The Board and its Director would like to get your input on this subject which will be considered as we begin to plan. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

This Survey was distributed the week of 10/8/12 to participants at the Senior Center. Received 88 Survey Responses out of 135 Surveys distributed-65% return rate.

1. How often do you frequent the Senior Center?

14 Daily

39 Multiple Times per Week

22 Weekly

10 Several Times per Month

4 Monthly

2. How do you normally get to the Senior Center?

71 Private Car 4 Dial-A-Ride 17 Walk or Bike/Scooter 2 Other

Explain Other: **Live Here (2)**

I take Dial-A-Ride in icy winter

For now I drive

3. Do you feel the current facilities of the Senior Center meet the needs of its programs and services? **68 Yes** 16 No

Explain what improvements or changes would be helpful:

- More room in dining room
- A new facility
- Lack of parking & enough rooms prohibit concurrent activities
- Larger place
- Parking – room for dance
- More room – multiple areas for multiple activities
- Too small
- Room gets very noisy
- A large building that is better arranged, has more office space & more area for activities & programs
- I feel that they need more room, they have limited space
- More choices
- Larger kitchen & offices and more meeting rooms
- To be able to use all the doors to come in the building
- New, larger facilities to house needs of not only seniors, but those who will follow
- A bigger facility for sure. With all of our activities & programs, etc. we just don't have enough room plus this isn't our building to begin with
- Improvements are always good, whatever they may be
- More program space
- More parking spaces
- Need more room for dinners
- More room for pool table, more pool tables
- Open on evenings & weekends
- Adding the land between Lawndale & Fulton
- People with money or work for the center are treated different than others. We are told fundraisers are to be used for the programs offered.

We are asked to do some of the programs but nothing to work with. Often have to use money out of our own pockets most of us are barely making it.

- More space so that activities can be spread out and schedule better for more participation
- Wish you could have milk with salad bar
- Not big for us
- Pretty much
- More space for more activities, even though I am amazed at all that is worked into the scheduling now.

4. Would you be willing to move some services/programs offsite because of limited space at the current location? **42 Yes** 35 No

Why or Why Not?

- Need more room
- A new facility
- Lack of parking space
- Need someplace for the programs
- I drive – no problem
- Room is important but togetherness is also
- But I don't see a need at present
- Keeping everything in one area give more prominence to the COA & its services
- Because there is not room here
- Big enough
- We want to serve our seniors in this area
- Want to have all at same site
- I believe most seniors who participate here in the various scenarios would not be in favor of this
- Senior housing residents often do not have transportation
- If you have a meal, then have to go elsewhere for ser or pro, could be a handicap
- Parking
- Convenient here
- Better here
- More room
- If not too far
- If parking improved
- I don't care
- They need to be of close proximity? the present location
- Too far for me to walk
- Because they're doing good as they are
- Because some people could not attend if too far away
- I really enjoy the programs at the center. They are very convenient
- How far off site?
- We need more room
- Need new place
- Like it in one place
- If they are in a location near the center & with easy safe parking & bus drop off.

5. Do you feel the current **Parking** available is adequate for participants?
28 Yes **55 No**

Why or Why Not?

- Many times parking area is full
- Not enough
- It's obvious

- Activities around meal times and at meal times leave few parking spaces
- Not enough room (2)
- 1st come, 1st served
- Have not noticed traffic congestion
- Enough of it
- Adequate
- Not enough of it
- Need more handicap
- Not enough parking
- Need more close up parking
- There are too many times when the street parking is full & people have to park at Burger King
- Not enough room for all the vehicles when you come for instance-to dinner or lunch/activities
- Not enough
- Not enough spaces
- Not more than adequate
- Not enough space & safety
- The various activities and dinners draw more people coming in their vehicles than there is room to park them
- Sometimes it is hard to find a spot to park
- You need more parking facilities
- Not enough spaces
- There is a need for more parking close to the center. Many seniors have mobility issues
- When backing up, almost hit parked car
- Many have to park on street
- Ok for ambulatory
- Never had trouble
- Not enough room to park cars
- Special events
- Everytime you go, there is no room to park
- I have no problem
- Just adequate
- Sometimes more people show up than there are parking spaces
- When they have programs there are no places to park
- It's difficult to walk far and if there is a program for groups the parking is full & a walk is the alternative
- I live here and participants are continually parking in resident parking.
- When there are after hour activities and people park in resident parking we have to go out after dark to move our cars off the street
- There is not enough
- No where to park
- Often not enough parking spaces; backing into traffic is dangerous & often a guessing game as whether it is safe to go.

6. Do you feel the Senior Center has the potential to meet future needs?

47 Yes

32 No

Why or Why Not?

- Need to accommodate more people
- Too small – Bathrooms!
- Not where located
- Have not heard otherwise
- Meets my needs
- Lack of room & facilities
- People are living longer and more seniors will be using the center
- More seniors in area

- Not in it's present facility. The present space is pretty much at full capacity.
- Lack of space
- It feeds me
- Not aware of our future needs
- Space
- Baby boomers are due
- At the current pace I believe it can
- Not sure
- I think things are just fine
- Need more room
- With people
- I don't think so
- Will finally run out of space at some point!
- It's a good facility and people enjoy themselves
- You have good leadership & attitude
- Meals – better
- Who knows
- Let center draw people in town
- Might be no room for additional programs
- There needs to be lots of changes to try to work things out for everyone not just a few
- There are many qualified persons in the center & community that add interesting programs.
- Not enough space
- Too small
- Not no space
- Not sure
- Problems still exist discussed in #3 and #5. More senior population will need more space & diversity.

*****If you answered “YES” to questions #3, #4, #5, and #6, you can stop here.**

7. If you answered “No” to any of the previous questions, would you support the Commission on Aging & Senior Center moving to another location?

44 Yes **15 No**

Why or Why Not?

- Depends on where
- It's what we need
- No place to go everyday
- To far to go
- Need space
- If it was appropriate
- If it is needed I would go
- If locate is so it benefits everyone-not just a few
- But only if easily reached
- I don't think there is a need
- Still in Grayling
- Have enough room
- If in town
- People have no way to get there
- I would want to know where
- This location meets needs-new location will cost too much money and then we'll be in trouble
- Room, services, parking
- I'm always willing to do what is needed
- More room – for act.
- But would also consider expansion on site

- It may get more seniors to participate
- We need our own building with more room to be self sufficient and not dependent on the government
- Needs are great
- We desire to serve seniors in this area
- Need more room
- The present locations is too small & has inadequate parking
- But I don't see a need at present
- Room
- Need more room
- More parking

8. If you answered "Yes" to question #7, where do you think we should move?

15 Somewhere in downtown Grayling

14 Somewhere along a major street (I-75 Bus. Loop, M-72 E or West)

8 Residential area off the major streets

Other:

- Local
- I don't know where but if people have to spend too much money even though .50 or \$1.00 isn't much it is if you are fighting to make every penny count
- Doesn't matter to me
- To an accessible location
- Any place is good with me
- Easy place for senior to walk
- Somewhere near
- 1 Lots avail – Doorways
- Lumberyard behind Walgreens would be ideal
- Any of the above
- It needs to be as centrally located as possible
- The old hotel
- Any place larger
- \$\$ determines
- As long it's a larger facility
- Not in downtown Grayling

9. What type of building would you prefer?

14 Build a New Building

26 Remodel an Existing, Vacant Building in Grayling

Other:

- Doesn't matter to me
- Either
- If you move it some people who eat here daily would nto be able to do so unless you are willing to furnish free rides many have a difficult time paying for even meals
- Doesn't matter to me
- Whatever you can get
- Best deal
- Anywhere that isn't expensive in or near town
- If one is available that is the right size & is in good condition
- Don't care as long as it works for programs
- Money determines
- \$\$ determines
- Which has the best potential a committee suggestions would help!

10. How would you support paying for the new location?

**24 Additional Millage on Property Taxes
(in addition to our existing operational millage)
24 Long Term Capital Campaign to Enhance Building Fund
(fundraising)**

7 User Fees/Membership Fees

Other:

- If that's what it will be used for and not something else
- I really can't afford anything
- Memorials & gifts & proceeds from wills
- Organizations donate to Senior needs and they are out there
- Not for more taxes
- Sell off the portion being vacated
- Any/all of the above as long as people can afford it!
- All above
- All of the above
- All of the above
- No user fees/membership fees

11. If the Commission on Aging & Senior Center decides to move forward with a new location, would you be willing to actively support our efforts?

42 Yes

11 No

If yes, how?

14 Fundraising

6 Talking to Community Groups

18 Distributing Flyers/Putting up Signs

4 Writing Letters

1 All of the above

If no, why?

- There again it would depend on project where when and type of funding
- Not unless I see big changes that show how the money is really being used
- Don't know at this point
- What ever it takes
- Age?
- Don't need to move
- Decrepit
- No time
- Believe we are located well to meet our seniors need.
- Too busy
- Old

12. What is most important to you in utilizing the Senior Center?

9 Location

16 Services Offered

5 Accessibility

41 All of the Above

Other:

Friendly location

Optional Information – Please complete if you would be interested in participating in future discussions regarding Senior Center building project.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

**** 29 People responded with contact information – 33% of respondents**