

Visioning 2026 Polling Questions

Thank you for your commitment and concern about the future of Norfolk and Madison County. This poll will help us to determine what issues/projects our communities should put time and energy into for a successful future. These questions will require some serious thought and consideration. Thank you for helping us to make the future brighter for Norfolk and Madison County. If you would like more information about the poll please visit our website at www.visioning2026.com.

Rating Section

Please rate individually each of the following items as to your perceived opinion of their impact on Norfolk and Madison County – Circle a five (5) for your high rating and a one (1) for your low rating. If you are unsure or don't know circle a zero (0). You can have more than one with the same ranking. If you are unsure of the question, please skip it and move on to the next one.

Example: Please rate the following coaches as to their importance to the Husker football program by circling the appropriate number:

	Don't Know	Low				High
Bill Jennings	0	(1)	2	3	4	5
Tom Osborne	(0)	1	2	3	4	(5)
Bill Callahan	(0)	1	2	3	4	5
Bob Devaney	0	(1)	2	3	4	(5)
Frank Solich	0	(1)	2	3	4	5

1. Please rate, in your opinion, the quality of education provided in Madison County in the following areas:

a. Elementary Ed (K-5)	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Middle School/Jr. High (6-8)	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. High School (9-12)	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Community College	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. 4 Year College	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. Continuing Education	0	1	2	3	4	5

2. Please rate how well Madison County is doing with the following economic development tools:

a. Adequate availability of professional facilities	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Adequate availability of building sites and facilities	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Adequate availability of water, sewer, and roads	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Supportive global business culture	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Adequate work force with appropriate skills	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. Recreation opportunities	0	1	2	3	4	5
g. World class learning environment	0	1	2	3	4	5
h. Other (specify) _____	0	1	2	3	4	5

3. Please rate the quality of healthcare provided in Madison County in each of the following areas:

a. Surgical procedures/care	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Addiction Prevention/ Treatment	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Mental Illness Prevention/ Treatment	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Outpatient Care Facilities	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Exercise Facilities/ Nutrition Programs	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. Free/reduced cost healthcare clinic	0	1	2	3	4	5
g. Community Awareness Programs	0	1	2	3	4	5
h. Specialist Treatment (heart, dialysis, cancer, etc.)	0	1	2	3	4	5
i. Hospice care	0	1	2	3	4	5
j. Inpatient care	0	1	2	3	4	5
k. Adequate number of family physicians	0	1	2	3	4	5

	0	1	2	3	4	5
	Don't Know	Low				High
I. Transportation (to and from appointments)						
4. Please rate the impact of the following educational programs in Madison County in 1 to 3 years:						
a. Nursing education	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Magnet schools (ie: math, science, arts)	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Curriculums emphasizing new types of critical thinking skills	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Ethanol technician training	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Secondary language education (foreign, ESL, sign)	0	1	2	3	4	5
5. Please rate the importance of the following interactive computer activities in your personal and professional life in the next 1 - 3 years:						
a. E-mail	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Blogs/vlogs/webcasts/podcasts	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Online entertainment (games, video, chat)	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. VoIP (Voice over IP - phone calls)	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Online (re)search or web-surfing	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. RSS or XML feeds or news aggregators	0	1	2	3	4	5
g. Virtual meetings, education, or distance learning	0	1	2	3	4	5
h. On-line purchasing, sales, marketing, or business	0	1	2	3	4	5
6. Please rate your concerns for the healthcare issues that are emerging in the next 10 years:						
a. Childhood obesity	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Mental illness and addictions	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Growth in Elder care	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Pandemic flu	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Medical record keeping/security	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. Bioterrorism	0	1	2	3	4	5
g. Adequate food/water quality	0	1	2	3	4	5
7. The U.S. will lose the skills and knowledge of 76 million retiring baby boomers in the next twenty years. In addition we have the "brain drain" of our young graduates traditionally, heading for "more exciting" and "better paying" urban areas to live and work. Rate the importance of these techniques to be used in the next 10 years to maintain sustainable employment and employees:						
a. Encourage employers to create cutting edge jobs	0	1	2	3	4	5
b. Flex-work (home-based; eg. medical transcriber)	0	1	2	3	4	5
c. Develop an "e-lance" center (global want ads)	0	1	2	3	4	5
d. Create internships, fellowships and scholarships for transition into 21 st Century economy skills	0	1	2	3	4	5
e. Web based global interactive communication	0	1	2	3	4	5
f. Incentives to attract 21 st Century entrepreneurs	0	1	2	3	4	5
g. Virtual reality tour of area facilities and services	0	1	2	3	4	5
h. Entrepreneurial incubator for global business opportunities	0	1	2	3	4	5
i. Recreation and entertainment opportunities	0	1	2	3	4	5

Ranking Section

The following section contains questions that will help us find areas of importance for citizens living in Madison County in the future. Please identify your the top three choices/options in each of the following questions. Give a one (1) to your first choice, a two (2) to your second choice and a three (3) to your third choice. If you are unsure of the question, please go on to the next one.

Example: Please rank the following coaches as to their impact of the success of the Husker football program:

_____ Bill Jennings
 1 Tom Osborne
 3 Bill Callahan
 2 Bob Devaney
_____ Frank Solich

8. Some feel that a progressive city should have – “something big”--that draws tourists, shoppers and potential residents to the area. For example, St. Louis has its Gateway Arch and Lincoln has its Haymarket. Please identify your top three choices:

- a. ___ Implement a Riverwalk development along the North Fork of the Elkhorn River between Benjamin and Norfolk Avenues that includes trails, pedestrian bridges, enhanced parks and connections to specialty shops, entertainment centers and businesses.
- b. ___ Construct a enclosed indoor entertainment and recreation complex including a virtual reality exploration center.
- c. ___ Create a hands-on science and industry center similar to Epcot Center including internship opportunities.
- d. ___ Establish a refueling station for “Jet Taxis” at the airport, including restaurant, shopping, entertainment and recreation, and lodging facilities.
- e. ___ Develop major tourist attraction, such as a regional amusement park.
- f. ___ Enhance existing parks and campgrounds.

9. Please identify your top three communication/connectivity options to attract progressive businesses in the next 10 years:

- a. ___ A subscription-based, community-wide wireless (Wi-Fi or Wi-Max) internet connection for mobile computing
- b. ___ A free, community-wide wireless mesh network for mobile computing
- c. ___ No wireless connectivity other than a few free hotspots (i.e. Downtown Coffee Company)
- d. ___ Tax incentives for businesses to develop or expand free wireless hotspots around the city
- e. ___ Real time and downloadable Real Simple Syndication (RSS) video/audio podcast feeds from local sources

10. Please identify your top three economic development options that should be developed over the next 10 years:

- a. ___ Encourage the expansion of higher broadband capabilities
- b. ___ Use public lands to help preserve and promote natural resources
- c. ___ Form global partnerships to facilitate the development of new employment opportunities
- d. ___ Identify a lobbyist in Washington, D.C., to obtain funding for projects that create economic opportunities
- e. ___ Provide access to venture capital, scholarships, and grants for innovative technology businesses.
- f. ___ Provide and increase entrepreneurial education and mentoring for citizens
- g. ___ Other (specify) _____

11. Trends indicate that the biggest increase in jobs will be in the health and technology sectors of the economy. Please rank the top three technologies and businesses opportunities that would create new economic opportunities in the next 10 years:

- a. ___ Health center destination for joint replacements and cardiovascular procedures
- b. ___ Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for the food, inventory management and transportation industries
- c. ___ Internet entrepreneurial opportunities
- d. ___ Training centers for increased skill building (i.e. nursing, teaching, technicians)

- e. ___ Recruit technology companies (medical nanotechnology manufacturing and research and development)
12. Please identify the top three education trends you would like to see in the area in the next 10 years:
- ___ Continuous education (lifelong learning)
 - ___ Virtual reality education
 - ___ Artesian based learning experience (technology apprenticeship)
 - ___ Interactive on demand/internet education
 - ___ Year round K-12 education
13. Please identify the top three options of transportation fuel technology that you believe will be present in 2026:
- ___ Gasoline and diesel - same as today
 - ___ E85 ethanol, bio-diesel, and e-diesel (e-diesel is ethanol/diesel blend fuel)
 - ___ Photovoltaic (solar) cells and electrical battery-powered hybrid vehicles
 - ___ Electric cars and hydrogen fuel cells
 - ___ Pedal power – bikes etc.
 - ___ Other (specify) _____
14. Please identify the top three topic areas on their impact for 2026.
- ___ Health care (new innovations, insurance, facilities, professionals, specialists, diseases)
 - ___ Economic development (incentives, Knowledge/Molecular Economy, entrepreneurial development)
 - ___ Technology (nanotech, connectivity, artificial intelligence, wireless, virtual reality)
 - ___ Recreation/tourism (theme park, wellness, facilities, down town upgrades)
 - ___ Education (continuous learning, entrepreneurial training, learning on demand, transformational learning)
 - ___ Workforce/demographics (aging, diverse, brain drain, open source, mobility, talent scarcity)
 - ___ Energy/Transportation (alternate energy, hydrogen economy, ethanol, global conflicts)
15. Please identify the top three electrical power generators that you believe will be supplying power in 2026:
- ___ Coal-fired power plants
 - ___ Hydro-electric power plants
 - ___ Nuclear power plants
 - ___ Solar cells and Wind farms
 - ___ Hydrogen fuel cell electrical generators
 - ___ Other (specify) _____

Knowledge of the Future Section

This section has questions about the future of Madison County in 2026 and how we will engage with that environment. In order to gauge interest in specific areas, please check all that apply for each question.

Example: The best head coach for Nebraska football:

Bob Devaney; ___ Bill Jennings; Tom Osborne; ___ Bill Callahan; ___ Frank Solich

16. As our preschool children enter the labor market, they will find that 60% of available jobs have not yet been created. Please put a check by the following new job titles that you believe we will need to prepare for in 2026:
- ___ Nano-robot remote operator -- directing nano-robots to traverse the human body to perform specific functions
 - ___ Video Inventory technician -- researches video recordings based on keywords spoken in the recording
 - ___ Bio-medical forensic engineer -- evaluates the performance of nano-manufactured materials in plants and animals
 - ___ Solar panel/device installation and maintenance technician
 - ___ Synthetic protein quality assurance engineer -- verifies the biomedical manufacturing processes are operating within normal limits
 - ___ Precision metals recovery technician -- analyzes mapping reports using remote sensing technologies to extract metals from landfills

17. Nanotechnology is technology that is smaller than microchip technology; it is cellular technology at near atomic level. Nanotechnology is being developed in our universities and government laboratories. Please put a check by the technologies you would like learn about.

- a. ___ Life extending technologies to repair damaged cells in our bodies
- b. ___ Life repairing technologies to prevent cancers
- c. ___ Fuel cell technologies for house and auto operations
- d. ___ Remote monitoring and sensing technologies for health services
- e. ___ Virtual gaming operations with nano-robot sensors in our clothing

18. Nanotechnology and synthetic proteins will change what we eat, wear, and use for repairs and manufacturing. Please put a check by the following hands on science and industry center exhibits that you would visit:

- a. ___ Virtual reality game that is plugged into your clothing
- b. ___ Manufacturing of nano-robots by overprinting layers of material
- c. ___ Remotely piloted vehicles with sensors that move through your body
- d. ___ Interactive video conferencing to participate in worldwide exploration
- e. ___ Remote controlled vehicles that sense dangerous situations

Demographic Section: The next section will help us to determine what segments of the community were represented by the poll. Check the appropriate blanks

19. Gender: a. ___ M b. ___ F

20. Age: a. ___ < 18, b. ___ 18-24, c. ___ 25-34, d. ___ 35-54, e. ___ 55-64,
f. ___ 65-74, g. ___ 75+

21. Education Level: a. ___ less than High School, b. ___ High School or Equivalent, c. ___ 2-Year,
d. ___ 4-Year, e. ___ 4 Plus Years, f. ___ other (list) _____

22. Employment (check all that apply): a. ___ Student, b. ___ Self employed c. ___ Full Time, Employed
d. ___ Self-employed, e. ___ Retired, f. ___ other (list) _____

23. Household Income: a. ___ < \$10,000, b. ___ \$10,000 - 24,999 c. ___ \$25,000 – 44,999,
d. ___ \$45,000 – 64,999, e. ___ \$65,000 – 84,999, f. ___ \$85,000+

24. Lived inside Norfolk/Madison County, years: a. ___ 0, b. ___ 1-2, c. ___ 3-5, d. ___ 6-15,
e. ___ 16+ f. ___ All my life

25. Taken a continuing education course through community education, distance learning, or business services: a. ___ none in the last 3 years, b. ___ at least 1 in the last 3 years,
c. ___ 2-5 in the last 3 years, d. ___ 6 or more in the last 3 years

26. Please check the home internet connection you use:

a. ___ none, b. ___ dialup, c. ___ DSL, d. ___ cable, e. ___ wireless, f. ___ satellite

27. When purchasing new technology, what influences you the most (check one):

- a. ___ It's new; I want it;
- b. ___ Keep competitive edge;
- c. ___ Scheduled/routine updates as budgeted;
- d. ___ Current technology product is obsolete;
- e. ___ Repair is too costly or unavailable
- f. ___ Don't buy, I am satisfied with older/no technology

28. Please check on average how many hours you spend on the internet per week:

a. ___ 0-5, b. ___ 6-20, c. ___ 21-60, d. ___ 60-100, e. ___ over 100

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration during this poll. Please return the poll to Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 386, Norfolk, NE 68702-0386, no later than Monday, May 14, 2007. Please call (402) 371-4862 with questions, or e-mail nacc@norfolk.ne.us.