

Cannon Township Business Survey

As a business owner in Cannon Township, your continued success is important to us. Please take a few moments to fill out this survey and share your thoughts regarding doing business in the Township.

65 sent, 20 responses (31%)

1. **How long have you operated your current business in Cannon Township (in years)?**
 - a. Less than 2 **2**
 - b. 2-5 **3**
 - c. 6 – 10 **2**
 - d. 10+ **12 (63%)**

2. **Which of the following best describes why you chose Cannon Township as the location for your business?**
 - a. Close to my home **13 (68%)**
 - b. Bought an existing business **3**
 - c. Traffic volumes along Belding Road **1**
 - d. Low rent **2**
 - e. Close to my customer base **3**
 - f. Low taxes
 - g. Other [Please explain]: **bought bldg. w/room to expand; attractive destination; purchased vacant C-1 parcel**

3. **Which of the following best describes your business?**
 - a. Retail **5**
 - b. Restaurant **5**
 - c. Auto service **4**
 - d. Personal service **1**
 - e. Office **3**
 - f. Storage **3**
 - g. Contractor **4**
 - h. Industrial
 - i. Other (specify): **Consulting; snow mobile/watercraft service**

4. **In the past three years, have you appeared before or sought assistance from any of the following in Cannon Township? [circle all that apply]**
 - a. Township Board **6**
 - b. Planning Commission **3**
 - c. Zoning Board of Appeals **2**
 - d. Property Tax Review Board **3**
 - e. Township staff **10**
 - f. Fire department **2**
 - g. Other [specify]: **Individual meetings w/various staff and supervisor**

5. If you had contact with any Township board, department or person as indicated in #5, please rate the following statements based on your experience: *Fewer responses due to some businesses not receiving this page of the survey. Very mixed reviews from those who did respond.*

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I was treated with respect	3	1		1	1
My concerns were not addressed	1	1		1	2
I received the help I needed		3			2
The results were less than hoped for; but I was treated fairly		1			3
I was listened to	1	2	1		1
I didn't find it helpful	2				1
The matter was handled in a timely manner	3	1			2
My request was fully addressed	1	2			2
I was ignored	1			1	3

Note one comment: staff-very positive, board-mostly positive, planning commission-very poor

6. To what extent do you think the following additional businesses are needed in Cannon Township?

	Strong Need	Some Need	Unsure	No Need	Not Wanted	No Opinion
Convenience store	1			4	1	
High quality sit-down restaurant	2			3	1	
Pharmacy	1	2		3		
Hardware store	1	2		2	1	
Barber shop/hair salon	1			3	1	
Doctor's office				3	1	
Bank				3	1	
Veterinary clinic	1			2	1	1
Casual dining chain restaurant				3	2	
Big box retailer				1	3	
Gas station				4	1	
Car wash	2	1			1	
Clothing store		1	1	3		
Sporting goods		2		3		
Light industry	1	1		2	1	
Professional offices		1		3	1	
Fast-food restaurant	1			2	1	
Automotive repair		1		3	1	
Coffee shop		2		2	1	
Fitness club		1		3	1	
Other (specify):						

Doesn't appear to be a desire for more businesses in the township, with a few individuals expressing a need.

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the business environment in Cannon Township? *Note that the third page of the survey began with "Cannon Township is a good place..." so everyone responded from that point forward. However, not all had the*

heading on the table. Strongest agreement was expressed for the township being a good place for business; image of Belding Road; need for better property maintenance; restrictive regulations; and needed road improvements. Not much desire for more industry.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
Cannon residents support my business	3	1				
More commercial growth is needed		1	1	1	2	1
Cannon Township is a good place to do business	2	8	3	1	2	
The image along Belding Rd. should be improved	5	6	2	3		
More industrial growth is needed		2	2	5	4	1
Some businesses should do a better job of maintaining their property	8	4		4		
Township regulations are too restrictive	5	2	4	1	2	
Road improvements are needed to Belding Rd.	3	5	2	3	2	1
Other (specify): Twp. is good ol' boy approach; some cumbersome and costly procedures (escrow policy open-ended)						

8. **How could Cannon Township government help your business be more successful?** *Mostly individual comments, though improved sign regulations was cited by four respondents. They may be unaware of the recent changes.*

Better sign ordinance (4); help get driveway approval on Belding from KCRC; tax incentives to business owners; encourage complementary businesses (restaurants, hardware, etc.); good planning; stop letting others do what we're not allowed; so far, very supportive; boards sometimes let personal opinion override facts; zoning enforcement must be consistent; lower taxes and incentives to long-term businesses

9. **Do you have any other comments?** *Again, mostly individual comments. Some positive comments about staff and township in general. V-PUD comment came about a month too soon.*

Traffic signal @ Belding/Ramsdell (2); township staff is courteous and helpful; township has always been helpful (2); residential property along Belding should be zoned Residential if used as such; regulations are too restrictive; need to be pro-growth and pro-business; develop the V-PUD; Belding/Northland intersection has been closed too long; want to hear Twp ideas/plans for the future; stop water runoff on our property; I love being here; Bostwick Lake area is a mess, junk everywhere

Thank you for participating in this survey. Results will be posted on the Township website at www.cannontwp.org.