

**Resident Satisfaction Survey 2007**

In the 2007 Resident Satisfaction Survey, the City included a question about property maintenance standards. The question provided very limited information about the concept of a property maintenance code and nothing about its enforcement. Yet, with minimal input or an opportunity to ask questions, the 333 people who responded overwhelmingly supported some type of property maintenance standard. This survey data is considered to be accurate at a 95% confidence interval with a margin of error of +/-5%.

From the 2007 Resident Satisfaction Survey:

**Q. Some cities have implemented minimum property standards for residential property (both rental properties and owner-occupied). These standards address the home’s exterior maintenance and upkeep of the surrounding yard. How do you feel about the City of Ames enacting a residential property maintenance law?**

- 1. I favor residential property standards →
- 2. I oppose residential property standards
- 3. Undecided

**Q1. If you favor standards, what items should be considered? (Circle ALL that apply)**

- 1. Overgrown lawns
- 2. Broken windows
- 3. Brush/debris on lawn creating habitat for wildlife
- 4. Peeling paint/deteriorating exterior
- 5. Roofs, gutters, downspouts in disrepair
- 6. Junk collecting in front/back yard
- 7. Junk cars on property
- 8. Other (\_\_\_\_\_)

The table below shows the percentage response to Question Q from the 2007 Resident Satisfaction Survey.

**Favor or oppose minimum property standards for residential property**

	Oppose	Favor	Undecided
	<i>In percentages</i>		
Do you favor or oppose residential property maintenance standards for both rental and owner-occupied homes that address a home’s exterior and yard? (n= 333)	13%	68%	19%

Those who said they favor standards were asked to select from a list of possible items to include. That list is represented in the following chart. A popular choice

– selected by more than 90% of respondents who favor minimum property standards – was junk cars on property. Another item favored by nine out of 10 respondents was addressing junk collecting in front or back yards. Just slightly over half of those who responded felt minimum property standards should address peeling paint or broken siding (51%) or roofs, gutter, and downspouts in disrepair (53%). Ten percent of the respondents wrote in a suggestion in the “other” category.

**Preference of items included in minimum property standards**

