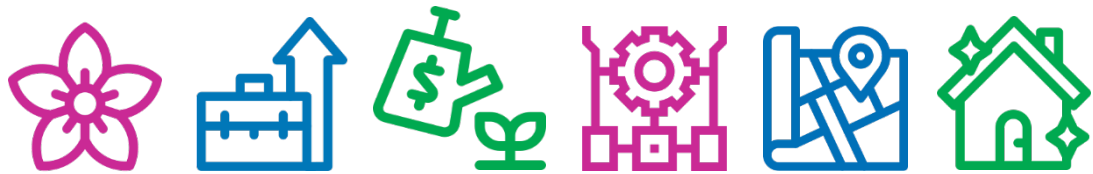


City of Shawnee

2024-2028 Strategic Plan



Gathered through four Citizen Engagement Sessions and a parallel online Survey, the following citizen feedback on the City of Shawnee 2024-2028 Strategic Plan was reviewed and integrated into the final Strategic Plan document.

The comments and feedback for each goal are extensive. Please refer to the following page numbers for direct access to specific goals:

- Page 1 – Improved Quality of Life
- Page 16 – Strategic Operational Growth
- Page 26 – Robust Economic Development
- Page 36 – Modernized Infrastructure
- Page 49 – Intentional City Growth
- Page 57 – Improved Housing Opportunities

GOAL - Improved Quality of Life

OBJECTIVE: Foster meaningful community dialogue

- Keep doing “update posts”.
- City Share Parks & Recs Page “collaborate posts”
- City PIO should do an “Ask Us” post on social media & pick from questions. Also updates from the Mayor and Commission.
- Would like more feedback during comment sessions at the commission meetings.
- Roll out of “Love Shawnee” hospitality training to front-line people.
- To change the quality of life, treat each person with the same respect you want. The City of Shawnee treats Dunbar Heights [Heights]BAD
- Utilize our local radio station to convey info [&] more City Forums

- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How can the City best provide information to you?***
 - Physical mail is the most effective for me, then probably Facebook, newspaper, or texting.
 - Fb, countywide newspaper,
 - I receive a lot of news and information through social media and email
 - Email, Facebook, maybe a city app?
 - Monthly flier with water bill
 - Direct communication via email updates, just as other commercial professional organizations provide information.
 - City's official website and Shawnee News Star
 - I get most of my info from the News Start. But I would read a weekly update if sent to my email address
 - Newspaper. Direct mail. email blasts.
 - Social media Facebook, mail
 - Answer questions at commission meetings.
 - [Mentioned 3 times] Facebook
 - email, social media, and water bill inserts.
 - [Mentioned 4 times] Social media Social media
 - Email or hard copy newsletter
 - EMAIL
 - Social media, water bill inserts
 - SOCIAL MEDIA, NEWS
 - Answer calls and open door customer service hours
 - Email or website
 - I think the city communicates well through different avenues.
 - Social media and email
 - Weekly digests aka subscription emails. Shawnee News Star provides information to people who pay for the services.
 - The City can provide information for residents who are 60 yrs old and below through Facebook/social media and email newsletters. Possibly a good way to provide information for seniors is through physical newsletters sent in the mail.
 - [Mentioned 2 times] Email
 - Next Door and email

- Facebook, mailers, Smart911, radio
- Not sure...most people do not read newspapers. Right now I get it from Facebook but it is sometimes late.
- Updated webpage and water bill inserts.
- Online
- **QUESTION POSED: What information is most important to you?**
 - Utility information, city events, major changes to city policies
 - Planning, permits, all info
 - Information from the city of Shawnee that I would value the most would be traffic information and other infrastructure services info such as waterline, streets and other city held responsibilities.
 - Things that involve the children. Parks, activities, events
 - Crime reports
 - Local elections, proposed ordinances that impact local regulations, proposed projects, significant events in the community.
 - City Commission actions, economic and community development
 - I want to know what we're doing with infrastructure, public safety, and economic growth
 - Changes and improvements in the City I need to know about to support.
 - Road overlays. Santa Fe Depot Restoration. More business friendly to small business. Relaxing codes when possible, working with people investing in the business community. The city's image is not friendly in this area.
 - Construction, crime
 - All things dealing with spending the community's money.
 - News, events
 - Current events, project information, revenue/ expenses, ways to get involved, and meeting information.
 - City employees and rebuilding trust with the employees that has been lost over the past several years. Have standards and ensure that all employees are held to the standard not just a few. The city dress code applies to all employees not everyone except for the city manager who is on most occasions not within the city dress code policy.
 - Current city initiatives and projects, important votes
 - WEATHER AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY
 - Upcoming events, city planning processes

- EVENTS, LAWS, NEW BUSINESSES
- Truth
- City updates
- Project updates
- Important events and social events
- Plans for the city as well as ANY changes that will impact the citizens.
- Activities
- Whatever inconvenience come to me and my neighborhood... also anything pertaining to my family's safety (shootings, arson, murders, robbery, gas leaks... etc)
- The information that is important for me to know is updates on what the city is doing to improve our community to include infrastructure, parks, community activities and events, results from commission meetings, safety issues, and how our tax dollars are being used. Having transparency in our local and state government is very important for me.
- ongoing project and public safety
- I like to know all the info
- Public safety, including animal control issues.
- Emergency notification
- Street closing for repairs. Events, surveys, elections
- The status of projects that are not 100% completed. People feel that too much time passes and it sometimes seems the city wants you to forget.
- updates on what happening in the city: construction, crime, updates, politics, etc.
- Nothing in particular
- Budget
- **QUESTION POSED: In what ways would you like to engage with City officials, staff, or fellow citizens?**
 - I wish feedback was more accessible. Meetings always seem to take place during work hours, and when surveys are available, you have to seek them out. They're not advertised. It's like city officials don't want feedback from your average city resident.
 - I already engage with fellow citizens. City officials and staff only as needed.
 - Via email, phone call or official city operated social media.

- Email or face to face or facebook
- Email, face to face, text
- City we page, email but not through social media
- I lead the OBU business school. If there are ways I can put my faculty and students to work for the community, I would be interested in exploring that.
- By email if necessary.
- Meetings
- Town hall meetings once a month to eliminate secrecy.
- Casually...at evenys
- department specific growth groups.
- Personal face to face contact. Get to know your employees personally, face to face. Don't just say you care show you care by showing up and being present to all employees even those who work shifts outside the normal time frames.
- [Mentioned 2 times] Email
- Online Q & A
- I DON'T ATTHIS TIME
- Non threatening, open, honest
- Email is typically the easiest but public meetings or events are nice as well to see people face to face.
- More community gatherings
- Create more events that are incorporative to all citizens.
- Stopping crime, fixing homeless
- User friendly page that pertains just to citizen questions
- I would like for the city to host community forums throughout the city (not at City Hall), after 6 pm and on a Saturday (once per month). This would make is more accessible for all residents to attend and be better informed on what the city is doing for them.
- meeting in person
- Email/text/phone call
- Forms, events

- I think since they did away with one meeting a month that they should allow the first date to be where questions can be asked or submitted and two weeks later at the actual city meeting these issues should be answered.
- to hear more from them outside of the city environment via consistent and timely updates
- Be more transparent in what is actually going on in the city for example a monthly press release would be nice.
- City hosted events

OBJECTIVE: Support revitalization and beautification of the community

- Repairing/replacing neighborhood sidewalks (damaged or dangerous) and preventing vehicles from parking on or blocking any part of the sidewalk.
- More Code Enforcement to include sofas, cars, tall grass, Junk in yard, and roads.
- [Engage] Various civic groups or student groups with the schools
- Revitalize the garden clubs (or others) used for public projects & renew those ties.
- Plant trees near I-40 and the tornado-damaged areas.
- Streetlights need to be replaced along sidewalks and new ones added, especially in older neighborhoods
- Add Staff/Generate more people. Code enforcement, not just citizen reporting.
- Have those who work on Main Street be given the lead on how to best revitalize the Downtown area.
- [Engage] Public schools + community art
- Ward-3 Sidewalks urgently needed
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Share your ideas for better volunteer engagement & creative solutions for public spaces?***
 - Facebook callouts on social media. Flyers or banners, maybe. Getting the word out would certainly help.
 - Listen to the people! Especially those who have lived here their entire lives. Not some yuppie from out of state that doesn't know our city.
 - "Let me see that people around kidpace Park are going to take pride in it and take care of the area, the same for woodland, boyscout and dean weigant.
 - I would like to re plant trees at wildwood Park that had to be cut down after the tornado, put a swinger or two back in and that's all that Park really needs."

- "Make volunteer projects where kids can help. Might end up with kids of all ages. Good way to help out but also make friends. Covid kinda set a bunch of people back on making friendships for those that moved here during that time or homeschool.
- Maybe give them a letter for volunteering for those doing college applications. Community volunteer projects look great for that!"
- Give viable options [options]
- Utilize a third party to create statistically valid polls of the population of Shawnee to engage in questions the City had for citizens input.
- Public art
- What happened to Safe Events for Families?
- Maybe provide voucher for local meal or some type of inexpensive incentive to volunteer
- Help facilitate groups for things that people already enjoy doing, and encourage the group to adopt a project, and a plan that would improve the ability for others to also join in. That plan could include raising money for their project and inviting similar groups to Shawnee to participate in the group/compete, as well as give them the ability to help make Shawnee a city they enjoy as well as others.
- Take care of your volunteers. You have an outstanding group of VIPS who provide several areas of support to the police department and the city saving well over \$100,000 in employee services to the city and the city manager refused to give the nine of them a complementary ham or turkey for the holidays which is offered to every other employee of the city. That is the type of leadership that shows expectations without appreciation. Not a single employee that I have spoken with in our city feels appreciated or valued and once again this is a failure in leadership.
- Feature volunteer groups which help promote their organization or businesses
- Accountability in public funds... Regional Park.
- Maybe a city volunteer group on social media or an email group.
- I am not sure at this time.
- Provide a safe environment
- Have a committee have open meetings with invitations put out on social media
- I would love to see more artwork and areas that encourage getting outside. This includes green spaces and sidewalks with lighting for safety.

- Put up an old school paper and pen suggestion box and a box for volunteer info.
 - Have regular Town Hall meetings. Have specific ways that people can volunteer advertised well in advance. Have different times of day for volunteer activities.
 - Food truck vendor day
 - Music events like at the new stage downtown
 - Have the city provide things like trash bags and debris pickup.
 - City hosted events.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What would you like to see on Main Street in Downtown Shawnee?***
 - A more welcoming attitude toward all people. Still heartbroken by the city commission's cruel decisions to criminalize the homeless. Now I don't see the homeless when I go downtown Shawnee -- or anyone else, for that matter. It's barren. It would be nice if there were REASON to go downtown. So many of the businesses close their doors at 4 p.m., so there's no reason for most working people to go downtown. A return of events like Trail Days might give some incentive to frequent downtown.
 - No vagrants/ homeless. No stray animals.
 - Anything that I don't have to pay 10 percent in taxes for...
 - "Kid activities
 - Less homeless causing issues. Them being there isn't the problem it's the way some are treating property of the city and businesses."
 - Bookstore
 - A recreational district for Shawnee. With I-40 on the north side of our community, it will never be the economic hub it once was in the early 1900's. We need a Main Street USA coordinator like Ponca City, Enid, and Ardmore have done to facilitate growth and consistency. We need to penalize the building owners who are not committed to economic development on Main Street and are using the buildings as storage units (I.e. if the buildings are not currently being operated as an active business with an open store front, or being marketed to sell at a reasonable price, then a steep penalty should be imposed.)
 - Management of challenges created by unhoused population. Outdoor events
 - More food, entertainment and specialty stores. Love what we have so far. More evening time activities/food.
 - More restaurants. Small grocery stores. Specialty stores.

- Reduce homelessness and drugs
- More shops. More events. Structurally safe buildings.
- Pop-up shopping (especially around the holidays), soapbox car races for kids (or other kids/family events, maintaining downtown as a BUSSINESS district and not a place for housing, and food truck Fridays etc.
- I would love to see the downtown area restored, businesses return and housing no longer be a part of the downtown area. Stop building additional housing that will be converted over to low in-come housing in the near future. Neither the homeless nor low in-come housing is going to help the downtown area thrive.
- LESS HOMELESS AND TRASH
- More businesses. More downtown events if possible
- NOT SURE
- No homeless
- Every building being utilized. More entertainment/restaurants/night life
- Thriving businesses and spaces to enjoy with friends and family. Walkability, but with places to go.
- More shops and attractions to be able to enjoy our city. Cleaning up of the area.
- More open shops no homeless people
- Eufala has a welcoming hometown feel to their downtown. Open inviting stores, music, and decorations
- I would love to see more restaurants and businesses that are open after 6 pm and on weekends in the downtown area. Shawnee should use Guthrie as an example of what the downtown area can be. It would be great to have a business incubator in the area as well as a farmer's market with live music and activities once per month. This would allow local farmers/ag to provide healthy options for local families and give the neighborhood a family friendly event to encourage community building.
- More traffic of potential customers who have expendable income. Our main st is spectacular and we need to really be proud of it.
- The park restored on Main and the Christmas decorations.
- New buildings/businesses
- More stores open
- Incentive for new businesses like what is given to the new businesses north of town. More shops and entertainment ideas.

- i'd like to see more of the community (aside from the homeless) out and about enjoying the environment while still feeling safe
- Restore the buildings the way they originally were and get some businesses booming in that area without the threat of being harassed by homeless people.
- More updating and renovations some of the buildings are unsightly.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Share your beautification ideas for the city in general and City parks specifically?***
 - Trash cans could be useful. I remember someone complaining about pizza boxes left at KidsSpace, but there was no trashcan big enough there to dispose of them. Disney has this down, with trash cans spaced so conveniently that people don't litter. More trees would also be great for providing shade. Midwest City has beautiful walking trails and parks that are so much cooler to walk around simply because they don't cut down all their trees.
 - GET RID OF THE HOMELESS! SEND THEM ELSEWHERE. Fix the infrastructure-waterlines, streets, traffic signals.
 - "I think that in the push to ""beautify"" Shawnee, we are going to be passed by some businesses that don't want to hassle with excessive landscape building code. I know I wouldn't want designated to me hiw many trees or shrubs I need around my storefront.
 - And parks, I believe that it's a mistake to take money from a non profit organization to construct anything on city owned property without peoples input aka vote. That has ensured that a minority of persons held the say as to what the citizenry of Shawnee got."
 - Getting weeds out of the cement and gardens. Maybe doing a kindness project with painted rocks?
 - Graffiti art projects
 - Continued emphasis on recreating our park spaces to modernize the park. Lower maintenance park spaces to allow for the park's department to adequately care for and maintain the City spaces.
 - Signage at city entry points improved appearance but landscaping around signs needs to be improved.
 - The parks are amazing! I'd like attention to be given to gateways to the city, especially 177 exit onto Kickapoo Spur.
 - Parks have been improved greatly. Beautify City entrances. Welcome signs and landscaping have been ignored. Downtown cleanup and landscaping.
 - More trails for walking or biking on the north side of Shawnee. Everything is far away from those of us who live north of i40

- You guys have done a great job at this. I would love to see new trees at the parks that don't have funding for full overhauls.
- Update to the lake amenities, such as new playgrounds, swimming area upgrade (sandy bottom with less rocks), better restrooms, well-lit nature trails with benches, and paddle boat, kayak, canoe, and life jacket rentals/area.
- Several beautification parts of the city are ruined by trash and debris spread by the homeless. I understand that we have a homeless population but something can be done about all the trash that is always thrown about especially in the downtown business district. How can the state of the downtown area be appealing to anyone who comes to visit or shop in the local shops.
- Would love more walking trails or nature paths
- More trees to replace those lost in tornado. Splash Pad in North side of town, in addition to Boy Scout getting fixed
- I HAVE NOT PERSONALLY BEEN IN ANY OF THE PARKS SO I DON'T HAVE MUCH INPUT BUT THEY ARE PRETTY FROM ROAD.
- Absent / non existent - disatisfied
- Would love to see more streetlights, sidewalks, trees. Parks have come a long way! It would be nice to have a big park on the north side of town, maybe with walking trails, more woodsy picnic areas.
- More native plants that help support wildlife
- Walking paths that are safe
- More of a old fashion small town decor... flags, lights, plants/flowers, holiday decorations
- Replace missing trash cans on east side of airport. They were lost during tornado last year, and have yet to be replaced. Instead, there is now a lot of trash along fence all the time, and I watched the City workers pick up not even a tenth of it when they were doing lawn. Also, please replace the two most used trash cans at Boy Scout Park parking lot. These were removed for no good reason, and now people just throw their trash from their vehicles in the parking lot. Also, there is only one trash can at Avedis Park walking trail by the middle school. PLEASE plan for less trash blowing around our City.
- It would be great to have more murals and public art throughout the city. Visit Shawnee could add art walks/tours to their activities in Shawnee. Beautification includes clean green spaces. I would love to see a city park with a pond or area to fish within the city (maybe in the open space behind Aldis on Kickapoo). This would provide kids in the city an opportunity to access fishing when they have limited transportation.

- We need better litter control. Either fine people for littering and/or empty the dumpsters better or hire a crew to pick up litter but there's trash all over the town often and it looks, well, trashy
- More trees and flowers
- Mini putt and splash pad just north of the mall
- We need a trail with trees and possibly water.
- Uniformsly [uniformly] issue notices to property owners about cleanup and actually enforce them. Bring back some community service to get trash picked up and debris hauled off.
- there's a need for volunteer groups to do regular maintenance such as: picking up trash, weeding, trimming shrubs, etc.
- Clean up the homeless problem in town.
- Stop with the small town ideology and bring in more restaurants and bars. Also keep slowly renovating the parks.

OBJECTIVE: Improve parks & recreation facilities and programs

- Community events & Kids programs with good exposure.
- More lake amenities and ziplines at parks
- Lions Club to be a private facility.
- Partner with CPN on baseball rebuild of the park.
- I would be interested in the general numbers of park visitors. This could help show the economic impact of the parks.
- More utilization of the Park and Beautification Committee
- Some sort of a fix-it for when parks need repair or upkeep-community service.
- Ward 3- Park with updated play equipment
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Do you know of a group that is willing to assist with these beautification efforts?***
 - I do not, but has the city ever considered having cleanup days to invite volunteers to help?
 - We used to have the flower and garden group to help. But I think they all died. Or got ran off.
 - "Check with Rainbow, 4H, FFA, FCCLA, FCA, Sport teams, Church Youth groups.
 - Get kids involved! They grow up loving this city. They will choose to stay here and raise their own families here! "
 - Make it an artist contest or high school art project
 - Beautification Committee

- When Downtown Shawnee was funded by the City, there was a beautification committee.
- Not sure. Maybe volunteers, churches, students
- You could have local businesses "adopt" an area and place a plaque with their name on it as a sponsor.
- I believe if the city publicizes a day a month for citizens to come out and assist with the clean up of the downtown area and if the city shows a genuine commitment to cleaning up the downtown area then citizens will also show up to help beautify the community.
- OBU has some volunteer opportunities through their Bison serve program and are always looking for organizations that need volunteer opportunities
- Maybe churches?
- Cox Communication
- No... boy scouts, or start a Shawnee beautification committee
- I think the City of Shawnee Parks staff should have enough time to pick up trash since they have enough time to talk on their phone and visit with each other while working.
- Lions Club
- Lions club, any church youth group should be willing to help
- Avedis
- JSL, Rose Garden club, school projects
- Inmates for the local jails.
- kids and college students need service hours or those who received community service through the court system
- I do not
- [Mentioned 9 times] No

OBJECTIVE: Align public safety with community needs and continued growth

- Assess and plan for continued adequate fire and life safety coverage.
- PD, FD, and EM need to be fully staffed & raises given to PD and FD to compete.
- The Police Department, Fire Department, and Emergency Management need to be fully staffed & paid competitive wages.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What specific needs do you know of related to public safety (Fire, Police, Emergency Management)?***
 - Vagrants who vandalize.

- Better communication of their needs
- More Mental health training
- They need more pay
- They need a raise!
- Give them the tools they need to do their job
- Understaffed fire dept. If Avedis is truly concerned about health and safety, they can put their money towards that. It's public grant money anyway.
- Fire Department needs more staffing. The citizens expect us to have a professional fire department then we need to staff it professionally and allow them to do their jobs the way the fire service is intended.
- Additional fire resources on the north side of the community. The farthest station north is MacArthur. The community is going to continue to grow towards I-40.
- "Fire: a central training area for the fire dept. to reduce response time
- More staffing for fire dept and additional station
- They're short handed.
- More stations and more of them.
- Good marks for police and fire dept. Need Downtown assigned police. Better street light maintenance.
- Leadership is a failure in our city. It needs to have a very through look at all leadership at all levels in our city. Improved training needs to be offered and followed up on. Failure to do so will limit our employees and their productivity until someone steps up and says enough is enough. "
- Improve moral of all the departments by improving the leadership in all departments. Provide great leadership training and have those leaders implement that training. There are several great leadership training programs out there and departments refuse to send employees to that training for some reason. The leadership throughout the city is far too often, I have the information and you don't need to know that information, the decisions being made and how they will affect you until the very last minute and you will just have to deal with it. Leadership, never takes and implements decisions of others. I know of several issues that have been presented to leaders in the city that have just been immediately shut down or ignored with not explanation or consideration.
- Better leadership and accountability for their department, transparency, and the ability/opportunity for the community to engage with the leadership of these departments to ask questions and raise concerns, as well as

become more active within their community and events. Updates from the police department and more press releases.

- Better police responses to vehicle and home burglaries. Better communication with the victims of said crimes. Actually following up with said victims and not ignoring phone calls and emails. Increased patrols in areas where these crimes are being reported. The citizens need to know they're safe and not have to live in constant fear that they might be next.
- The police department needs to be allowed to do their jobs to keep people from committing crimes and make our city safe again. Criminals need to be locked up.
- More patrols in residential areas.
- More patrol by city police and tickets issued to generate funds. I don't understand why I see more Oklahoma Highway Patrol ticketing and taking city funds for the state.
- Only issue I've had in the past is a neighbor that everyone on the street knows is selling drugs out of his home. Shawnee Police investigators were notified a few years back and it's still going on. So maybe we need a few more police investigators to handle things like that.
- Police: speeding and running red lights/stop signs have become really bad recently
- Security at parks and lakes
- Train police to help with animal control when animal control officers are off duty.
- Animal control in relation to stray dogs seems to be nonexistent
- We need better Animal Control response to vicious dogs running loose situations.
- This may not fit the question, but I would like to see better animal control. I've been trying to walk our trails and roads in Shawnee but nearly every week some dog comes after me. I wish our residents would keep their dogs in their homes or behind fences.
- Better information on what is or what went on at a specific incident pertaining to the safety of the community
- Provide more storm shelter areas for public
- "First, hire someone who knows emergency management. Our current EM failed miserably during the tornado of 2023. Responses to citizens and businesses were greatly delayed due to her lack of decision making. When asked what was needed and what needed to happen her response was very often, I don't know give me a minute. I heard those words directly from her mouth and she didn't make a decision for several hours until additional help and support arrived to tell her what to do.

- Emergency Management: it needs to be more organized with a clear path on ""what to do"" after a really bad storm, tornado, etc. "
- Public safety concerns at Lions Club Ballfields
- More access to services. Times are hard, and I worry about people out in the elements who have nowhere to go to get out of the elements.
- None
- I don't know of any public safety issues.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Focus on Universal Design
- More places to gather indoors for kids in the downtown area, like the game place. Also, more places open past 5 pm and on Sundays.
- Public transportation- Regular routes
- Ward 3 medical clinic Sr. activity center.
- No- referring to a strategy with Avedis

GOAL – Strategic Operational Growth

OBJECTIVE: Identify operational challenges and opportunities

- Find ways to bring in more revenue
- Every plan should be accompanied by an implementation plan with timelines and measures of success.
- Oper. [operational] challenge needs to be fully staffed.
- Proactive not reactive
- Growth is needed but not outbound infrastructure
- **SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What do you see as the City's greatest operational challenges?**
 - New ideas or program development

- The city has not held up contractual ends
- It seems like a lot was neglected for a long time, and now it will probably be difficult to decide what to prioritize as the city makes up for lost time.
- Besides Infrastructure (water, sewer, trash) management in general. There's controversy with the historical society and depot. The city should be deferring their plans to the historical society's plans and wishes. You're not preserving history if you're not following the guidelines of the historical society. There's controversy with the expo center. Again listen to those who have been here and been involved with it from the beginning. Quit bringing in outsiders who are supposed to be experts but don't know anything. That's a waste of money.
- Funding and demand from citizens of more government services with no additional funding.
- Attracting and retaining qualified staff
- Homeless population. I wish our city leaders would read Toxic Charity as they consider how to help this population and address the problem. A second area of concern is code enforcement (or perhaps the underlying codes themselves). It is difficult for businesses to do business because of code compliance. It is difficult for new businesses to start up because of code barriers.
- Dealing with difficult people
- Availability.
- Growing population
- Transparency
- Funding. Loud people who don't understand government.
- [Mentioned 2 times] Funding
- Operating solely off of sales tax makes it really hard for the City to ensure it has the funds needed to sustain itself and grow.
- Lack of true contact with staff and out of touch with their needs
- Lack of resources
- The current city manager
- DEALING WITH THE HOMELESS / CRIME
- Neglect for youth programs. Pushing all activities outside city limits. Promoting business success outside city limits.
- The cost of services

- Not having enough staff to support our growing city.
 - Frankly, corruption in the City Management. City employees do not have a fair work life due to the corruption provided by City Management, i.e. higher pay raises while the workers that are served other work have no gotten raises. Once that changes, the city will become better and city workers will not be strained.
 - Crime and homeless
 - Not having a more interactive relationship with citizens to solve problems or beautify the city together
 - Funding for city services seems to be a significant challenge.
 - Lack of training for personnel
 - I have no opinion other than it would seem that paid positions of Mayor and Commissioners would generate better performance.
 - Replacing old infrastructure
 - Streets, water, trash
 - Accountability
 - high turnover rate with city employees
 - Paying the employees a fair wage for the work they perform to keep them from going to other places to work where they are paid more and treated better. The city ran much more smoothly when the employees were placed as a top priority by city leadership.
 - We need to expand on I-40 so we can bring in more businesses for more revenue and growth
 - I don't
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What do you see as the City's greatest operational challenges?***
 - I live and work here, so everything affects me - from the cost of water bills, to the state of the sidewalks, to how well employees are paid and trained to help keep the city running.
 - It affects everyone! The history, the makings of this city. Who we are. Where we've come from. We can't grow off we don't have that foundation.
 - Now the city has to go through possible litigation and in the end ensures that I would need to pay more toward the city because of foolish decisions made by city.
 - They do not.
 - Turnover

- I feel unsafe at times in Shawnee, especially downtown Shawnee because of the homeless population. We lost a School start up in downtown Shawnee because of code issues.
- I get tired of listening to difficult people.
- Contacting the city is sometime not user friendly.
- More people, more traffic
- Road repairs
- City growth, beautification, and traffic issues.
- I haven't been here too long but I would say the biggest impact has been on the recovery for the tornado.
- i am staff
- Delays needed updates
- MY SAFETY
- Future generation, present community youth.
- Raising utility bills, taxes, etc.
- The city is not kept up or maintenance regularly. It then causes a list of issues that can not be resolved due to lack of staff and support.
- As stated above.
- Safety
- Our family goes to other towns for festivals, outdoor activities and music, farmer's markets
- It impacts the timely services provided to the community, to include addressing water and infrastructure issues.
- lack of project completion
- This has cost me time and money unfortunately both things I can't get back.
- They raise my blood pressure when I hear of the overall lackluster performance in many areas.
- Lots of streets are full of holes, clean water for health issues, and lots of areas with trash everywhere
- When the goals set have no accountability or oversight things get left out.
- if the city employees are overworked and feel undervalued it becomes a domino effect for anything being worked on
- I work for the city and when the city employees stopped being a high priority it seemed like everything within the city started to crumble. Happy workers work harder and make the city run smoother.

- Well they limit the amount of money put back into the city because people go to the city for everything because there's not much to do here as far as entertainment or good restaurants. A Dave & Buster's or a topgolf or something like that should be provided because of the surrounding cities and counties go to the city when they could just stop in Shawnee and spend their money here.
- N/A

OBJECTIVE: Focus on revenue generation

- I would support a sales tax until tourism improves. Example: Anchorage Alaska's tourism supports the city.
- Sales tax would entirely depend on what "projects" are.
- Encourage and reward city budget savings with each department.
- Bring Economic Development to all sectors of City Tax Infusion.
- Balance Support for existing areas with investment in areas of sale[s] tax growth.
- Become transparent in justification of city fees, before hiking them.
- Show us how you plan to reduce taxes to citizens.
- Begin accruing funds to replace fire trucks and city vehicles etc.
- Not more taxes
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What new revenue sources or funding opportunities should the City explore?***
 - I'm afraid this isn't something I have a lot of knowledge about. I do like the use of sales tax and hotel tax for funding, because then you get some funding coming from visitors to the city.
 - Support what we have. The christmas parade- small entry fee to be in the parade so as to not exclude groups. Support and cooperate with county for the rodeo, the fair, and other events. Being back Santa fe days, crazy days (shopping) and other festivals.
 - Sources as free and clear of attachments as possible.
 - "Maybe a city festival? Bring in more people. Tourists
 - Walktober
 - Pay a fee to participate.
 - Participants get a shirt with something Shawnee related on it. (Literally walking sign to advertise for Shawnee.)
 - Have businesses donate prizes.

- Can do most Steps or most miles or youngest participant or oldest participant or make it where teams compete. Have the participants turn in their total steps at the end of the month. Maybe businesses compete in it.
- Use the profit for things the city needs.
- It gets people moving so promotes health and brings in some money for the city."
- Public transit, figure 8 path from firelake grocery to walmart
- The City has one of the highest sales taxes in the state in total tax (state, county, city). For local improvements of roads in neighborhoods, TIF districts should be explored.
- Foundation support of specific projects
- Federal grants
- Our sales tax is the highest in the area. Leave it alone. Perhaps bonds instead.
- Improve our infrastructure and roads
- You could charge to get into the lake once it has been updated, like Wes Watkins and Lake Thunderbird did/does, as well as set up a marina for boat fuel, bait, food, rentals, and permits specifically for the lake.
- cut the fat off the top
- Grants (which is challenging), adding revenue generating services
- Bring in more restaurants
- The \$1M sales taxes passed for Regional Park. Misappropriated.
- We could utilize and market the Expo more.
- Not sure
- Working with other communities
- County funding
- Try harder to attract new events to the Expo. Make the Expo Center once again be a venue that people want to stage big events at.
- Appraisal of property for accurate rent
- Grants from state or National
- Writing traffic tickets and property maintenance tickets.

- Bond issues is something that should be looked at as well as how the money is allocated to different budgets for example the hotel motel tax should be researched to see if it can be allocated to more important items that the city needs than parks.
- Adult entertainment such as Dave & Buster's or Main event. Topgolf. And some kind of pubs.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Would you support a dedicated Sales Tax or General Obligation Bond election or other revenue sources to fund critical projects?***
 - [Mentioned 21 times] Yes
 - [Mentioned 7 times] No
 - [Mentioned 9 times] Not sure

OBJECTIVE: Retain, develop, and grow staff

- New employ [employee] problems: Perceived fear of crime & online “keyboard” warriors causing trouble.
- For growth treat you [your] young people better [than] all of them
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What reasons or concerns have you heard that may have prevented new employees from coming to Shawnee?***
 - When it comes to competitive salaries, Shawnee has very limited options. A person is more likely to find work in the city. At the same time, housing in Shawnee is quite high, and the quality of housing in Shawnee -- with the exception of the most expensive options -- is very poor. Why would you want to take a job that pays less than jobs in other locations just to live in a bad neighborhood in a badly maintained rental unit that you can barely afford?
 - The city manager, the mayor, spending millions on a park that is too hot, no restrooms. Destroying trees in a park and not replacing them. Putting in an amphitheater that hasn't been used and probably won't be. There was one there previously that never got used and it was taken out. Permits (bldg) are too outrageous. Basically nobody wants to come here because of poor management.
 - Shawnee is a shithole and there are no businesses that pay well enough.
 - I haven't
 - Crime rate
 - Distance from OKC.
 - Problems created by unhoused population and many homes in disrepair

- crime rates, available housing, quality of k12 education
- Lack of variety of grocery stores, restaurants and shopping.
- N/a
- Not attractive to high level professionals. The city itself: heard the working environment is challenging.
- Crime Rate
- NOT ENOUGH PAY
- SPS is a poor school system
- LOW PAY, HIGH RENT, HOMELESS PEOPLE
- Neglect public safety safe opportunities for kids.
- Homelessness and safety
- Crime and homeless
- Theft happening not only at night, but out in broad daylight. Homeless crime. Overrun of stray dogs and cats.
- There is a general feeling that Shawnee isn't a safe place to live or raise a family and that the public schools are unsafe and don't have challenging academic standards. There is also a lack of community/fun events for people to attend.
- Lack of pay
- People think Shawnee is so far away, no one realizes how close we are to the metro. But we also don't have any cohesion as far as keeping dollars spent local so employees aren't enticed to work in the area because everyone goes to OKC.
- Crime rate.???
- Rumors from disgruntled citizens who never have anything nice to say
- Maybe their salary.
- Code enforcement is not uniform. New chain businesses get more tax insensitives [incentives] than mom and pop businesses.
- crime rate, housing prices/availability, there's also nothing to do here for the middle-aged adults
- The pay for the city as well as the insurance plans are not great this keeps people from coming to work for our city. If you pay them fairly and give them good benefits everything in the city will improve.
- Business is doing well in Shawnee there's just not much to do so they spend their money outside the city which the city really misses out on getting taxpayer money that way

- **SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: *If you own a business, what non-monetary incentives have you used to attract and retain staff?***
 - I do not own a business.
 - "Had businesses donate different things throughout the year like massage gift card, spa gift card, restaurant gift card. Local businesses are always looking for ways to get their name out there."
 - PTO incentives
 - Flexible work schedule
 - Employee discounts, contest awards, flexible scheduling, merit pay increases.
 - Intellectual Capital
 - Solid leadership and commitment to work/life balance
 - Encouragement
 - Don't own a business
 - Flexible Scheduling
 - Good benefits and working with them on their family life. Bonus incentives are good too.
 - Do not own a business.
 - I am my only staff.
 - "raises based off merit
 - appreciation gatherings
 - raffles
 - there are a lot in the community who support city staff - use them as a gateway "
 - Treat your people nicely and stop expecting more and more out of them for no more pay.
 - Better pay
 - [Mentioned 3 times] N/A

OBJECTIVE: Advertise Achievements

- Please publicly share operational headlines with the public. These are positive news efforts.
- **SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: *What “operational” headlines would you like to see about the City of Shawnee?***
 - The city [is] doing something to help with good, affordable housing. Improvements to things like sidewalks and infrastructure.

- Fix the infrastucture.
- Updates on things from the storms and where we are on getting things fixed. Some can't make it to the council meetings.
- Increased removal of dilapidated structures
- A place that everyone works together to make our community the best!
- More user friendly to the public. better accessibility of development personnel---code enforcement, fire code, ADA code assistance. The public relations of the city toward business and real estate is not favorable. Where does the buck stop?
- Don't know
- Updates posted, emailed, placed in the newspaper, and press releases from each department.
- New businesses coming to town
- Public Safety
- Anything worth mentioning
- That we have clean and safe streets.
- Come see the renewal
- status of current projects
- I would like a positive image.
- Current projects and upcoming projects
- More updated infrastructure news.
- city staff accomplishments, neighbors helping neighbors, things the citizens are excited about
- Opening up more property along I-40. That's where our focus should be for growth and financial stability
- ?

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- More Fairs and concerts at The Expo.
- This communication is fantastic. Knowledge is power (achievements). You've started this, keep it up!
- Does The Chaplin really need a car?

GOAL - Robust Economic Development

OBJECTIVE: Collaborate with Shawnee Forward and support local economic development strategies

- Economic Development is key to all other strategies. To have a thriving community, we must prioritize it.
- Monthly updates from Shawnee Forward on economic development and what's going on.
- Consider the use of differing TIF Districts
- Collaborate extensively with Tribes & County.
- Independent Think Tank Incubators. I.E North Tulsa's Sounding Board Bureaucratic red tape revisited.
- Micro-small business workshop in [a] bank for community member[s] with dreams- How to use a Bank, how to make a business plan.
- Small business living
- More variations of downtown shops would be enticing.
- More kid-focused businesses, transportation, and updates 4 times a year or more.
- More grocery store options
- High-speed broadband in Ward 3
- The Airport has untapped growth. Those jobs equal money.
- Identify all who are involved with the Airport's future and their interests. This is a major issue for the future.
- Educate citizens on sales tax impact vs OKC shopping.
- How do we help residents understand how the sales tax works?
- Sales Tax. Yes, the property belongs to the County.
- Social media campaign to include mailers in the water bill.
- Report on past projects that are now "dead" to gain insight into the efforts.
- Sell Expo and use the funds on I-40 Development.
- Christmas giveaways- involving local businesses (have winners announced on KGFF or KIRC)
- Christmas Church choir event downtown.
- Market Shawnee outside of Shawnee

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Have employees hire all people the same way.
- Reverse Parades
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What new businesses would you like to see in Shawnee?***
 - There are some businesses I like to visit when I am in OKC, like Panera Bread or Billy Sims, but honestly, my favorite businesses in Shawnee remain the locally owned restaurants. The food is fresh and the prices are so much better. Maybe a southern cooking type place would be nice? We have some great Mexican, Asian, and Italian options already, but there aren't actually many choices if you want to go somewhere for a good chicken fried steak or some fried okra. I would also love to see a Half Price Books in Shawnee, but that seems like a crazy ask.
 - Italian restaurants, target, entertainment (for kids)
 - New businesses, not major chain retailers
 - Texas Roadhouse, put put, trampoline park, go karts. More kid attractions.
 - Anything LGBTQIA+ friendly
 - Teenager friendly options
 - Additional sit down style restaurants.
 - Larger grocery tetail [retail]
 - With the airport and Gordon Cooper tech, the aerospace industry seems like a good place to focus our economic development efforts.
 - Restaurants with bars
 - Restaurants other than pizza, hamburger, or fast food. Charleston's. Cheddars, Louie's.
 - More food options: Mediterranean food
 - Book store, restaurants, airbnbs
 - I would like us to focus on retaining the current businesses we have and utilizing the buildings that are already available. Then I feel it would be appropriate to bring in new business.
 - Texas Roadhouse, Olive Garden, Outback Steakhouse. Target.
 - More activity/entertainment-oriented businesses. There isn't much to do besides eat and shop in Shawnee
 - industry and nightlife activities

- Olive Garden, Panera Bread
- RESTAURANTS, CLOTHING, SHOES
- Youth Sports Oversight Protection
- Would love to see some more grocery stores, retail, healthier food options, and more diversity in food options. Mo Bettahs was a great addition for that reason.
- A quality grocery store with more prepared food options, like a Kroger, Central Market, etc.
- More restaurants, target, Home Depot.
- Crest Foods; healthier alternatives to fast food
- Sams club, home depot, an appliance store,
- More businesses on north Harrison to alleviate the congestion on Kickapoo
- TARGET!!!
- I'd like to see locally owned restaurants and franchises owned by local individuals.
- Home Depot
- I really wish we would just support the businesses we have instead of bringing in new ones.
- A low-cost spay and neuter clinic.
- More restaurants, more event places, more technology businesses, more plant stores.
- Better grocery options. Better convenience stores that are actually open.
- A good sports store, Best Buy, and something other than fast food joints and nail salons.
- Dave & Buster's, Main Event, Top Golf, iMax, pubs.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How frequently should the City provide updates on economic development activities?***
 - As there's something to update, I suppose? It's nice to know what's coming, especially when you see construction started on a project. But I know some businesses like to keep things under wraps for a while.
 - As often as they arise.
 - Often. Anytime there's probable change.
 - Daily
 - Twice a week during heavy travel seasons, once every or every other week aside from those times.
 - Bi weekly
 - [Mentioned 6 times] Quarterly.

- [Mentioned 3 times] Every quarter
 - Quarterly at least
 - Once a month or every quarter
 - [Mentioned 2 times] Monthly or at least quarterly.
 - At least quarterly, if not monthly
 - [Mentioned 5 times] Monthly
 - [Mentioned 3 times] Once a month
 - Once a month on a set day of the month every time
 - These projects take time. Every 6 months would be plenty.
 - Bi annually
 - 2x year
 - Every year
 - I feel this could be flexible but at a minimum annually.
 - As able, with an understanding that a lot of ED conversations are confidential until final stages.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What information would you like to see included in these updates?***
 - What businesses we're getting, where they're going to be located, and an estimated idea of when they might be opening.
 - Whatever there is.
 - All
 - Upcoming events, updates on storm damage and such, new businesses, grand opening dates
 - Project with timelines
 - How the City and Shawnee Forward are progressing in raising the median wages for the region. New jobs that are being created. Closures of businesses and how many jobs were removed. New proposed businesses that are locating to our region and how many jobs they are creating as well as their median wages.
 - New business opportunities
 - Sometimes more than what is happening, knowing what is not happening it's important. Squelch rumors.
 - All available information, including future projects and updates on current ones, any issues that have come up with them.

- Future progression and additions to the city, status of current updates and what is being done to sustain businesses which are already established
 - New businesses in the area and how to support them, what job opportunities they brought into the city.
 - new business and infrastructure fixes
 - Growth that is taking place
 - Regional Park
 - New business, businesses closing, updates on city owned property that generates income.
 - What the the plan for the future of Shawnee and when will it be completed.
 - How the city is doing economically
 - The good and the bad... transparency
 - I'd like to know about opportunities for women and minority entrepreneurs. I would like to know about any state or federal incentives for small business startups.
 - current status of revenue
 - What businesses, including manufacturing are coming in, what the overall status is of the economy of Shawnee
 - A basic overview of projects in the works and updates on progress.
 - Current projects and upcoming projects
 - List of businesses that are successful and which ones who need help
 - What's coming, what's leaving.
 - The big ticket items that are being tackled by city leadership and how long these will take to get completed.
 - Revenue brought in along with expenditures
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How do you define economic vitality and success – for yourself and the City?***
 - Businesses doing business, I suppose.
 - Things are running smoothly. The citizens, the commission and the management are working together for coming cause not a constant battle. They all have a common goal.
 - A relaxing yet Working state and not having new, new, new shoved in my face all the time. Constantly and quickly trying to raise buildings seems like a desperate surge from current officials and staff.
 - If the city is growing by not only businesses meaning local and franchise not just franchise along with residents numbers going up.

- Diversification of businesses and keeping up with the ever evolving world. This city is not LGBTQIA+ friendly, although many LGBTQIA+ people live here. Bringing in LGBTQIA+ friendly stores, restaurants, entertainment would garner more tourism and bring in higher revenue to the city as well as allowing encouraging people to be free to live their own lives in a safe and welcoming environment
- Scavenger Hunts in local businesses with dinner and movie tickets or other prizes
- The enhancement of wages and creation of increased disposable income for citizens. This enhancement turns into additional sales taxes to fund the city.
- A level of economic activity that would provide a tax base to support park and recreational opportunities that most cities half our size have
- Growing tax base and median household income.
- What can Shawnee offer that is different from everywhere else?
- People who shop locally and not drive to OKC or Norman.
- Continued business growth
- Maintaining current businesses, gaining new ones, and generate long lasting revenue to reinvest in our city.
- Being able to pay your employees a fair wage and when inflation and the cost of living increases pay employees at least that rate of increase. Don't say, well sorry. We would love to pay your but we are paying these non-profits gigantic amounts of money but we will not allow you to keep up with the cost of living and we expect you to just accept that and be happy with it.
- new life and new business. they bring families
- Making headway
- Sustainability, accountability, oversight
- Being able to keep people in Shawnee to spend their money in the community rather than in other cities or online.
- Better job opportunities, booming city economy
- When we don't have to go to okc for supplies
- Outsiders wanting to come here to get away similar to Medicine Park, Eufala, Sulphur, etc.
- Economic success, to me, is the ability to not only afford basic necessities such as food, mortgage, car, etc, but make enough to save and invest and take my family on a vacation once a year. Economic vitality for the city is having the

infrastructure, educational opportunities (public schools, vo-techs, and colleges), and amenities that attract employees and provide incentives for businesses to invest in our community.

- Growth of new not just maintain current
- Having some slow days is expected. But experiencing mostly slow days is crushing for any business. The general public defines success as the appearance of being busy and people talking about it.
- A place where citizens are not afraid to shop downtown, even in the daytime.
- There is a variety of stores and people working together.
- Retaining old businesses and attracting new ones.
- The city is not meant to make money it is meant to take care of its citizens and the way this is completed is by having good employees who are proud to work for the city. If they do this then people will want to work, live and visit the city. We need city leadership that is Shawnee oriented and not just looking at Shawnee as a stepping stone to a better city to work for.
- I think the city is really missing out on opportunities for more tax money. The surrounding cities and counties don't have much to offer so they come to Shawnee which Shawnee doesn't have much to offer either so most people go to OKC.

- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: In your opinion, how can the City more effectively promote "Shop Local" campaigns to benefit local businesses?***

- I feel like some local events could help with that. Where I come from, the city would do an event called Bazaar Days, where businesses all across town would participate and have special sales, especially around back to school time. Shops would set up merchandise inside and out, and there would be coupons and give aways and snacks and things. Having that coordinated effort between businesses really drew people out and got them shopping. I think Block Parties could also be a good way to get potential business, at least in small areas. If businesses on Main would cooperate, it would be fun to have a lot of shopping options during festivals and block parties.
- As previously stated, hold events such as "crazy days" or other special shopping event.
- They cant
- "Let us know when local businesses are doing huge sales, going to events, do they sponsor any of the kid events?, more information on the business

- I'm going to back a local business sponsoring or helping with the youth over any other business local or franchise. Helping/sponsoring the youth speaks volumes! "
- Allow and encourage LGBTQIA+ owned businesses to open shops/stores in the city, and punish those that commit hate crimes against them in accordance with city, state and federal law and do so without leniency.
- Same as previous answer
- Use Shawnee Forward to promote the local businesses and design seasonal campaigns to market the local businesses.
- A simple thing is to help let others know the hours and days places are open. Some of our smaller businesses are so inconsistent it's hard to shop with them.
- "Downtown used to have several seasonal sales combined with festival type events.
- Krazy Daze, Old Santa Fe Days, Jazz Festival. We are fragmented all over town now. Downtown Shawnee, originally a Main Street Program, won several state awards for festivals. There were reasons to come Downtown."
- More fairs
- Include all business, not just the Shawnee Forward businesses, as all businesses contribute to the city's revenue and growth and provide the opportunity for them to be "spot Lighted" and promoted at no cost so that we can retain local businesses.
- Re-establish the chamber of commerce and do away with Shawnee Forward.
- we need more local business to support. they are leaving due to the problems we have currently
- Online directory of local businesses which offer discounts
- NEWS SIGNS
- New City Manager & philosophy not for City to Compete with businesses.
- Include all Shawnee businesses, even those not a part of Shawnee Forward. Make it simple and easy for businesses to participate.
- Provide good variety of local store and give benefits to new openings businesses
- Get the word out of what we have here
- A user-friendly website that when a person enters what they want it directs them to a local business
- The city can provide more incentives to shop local and even an advertising campaign that helps promote local businesses, especially highlighting the economic impact when shopping local.

- We need a cohesive joint effort of the citizens and the city and our chamber to make this happen. Visit Shawnee does a great job but their target is tourists coming to town and that's a very different demographic and differently reached target than what a businesses bread and butter which is local repeat customers. There needs to be more networking and public info push about how we can help each other keep our business and customers here.
 - Bring back special events that attract people downtown. With safety and security efforts very visible.
 - School fundraisers with discounts and freebies
 - Communicate where we can find things faster than always choosing Amazon.
 - Actually help promote all brick and mortar stores so people know what's available.
 - clean up downtown and make it something the people are proud to show off
 - Get some better businesses and make those new and existing businesses take care of their land. When I drive around town not very many of the businesses are clean or the right of ways going to those businesses. The way the buildings and the property on and around the building are taken care of gives you a good idea of what the interior of the building will look like. Basically the city of Shawnee looks and acts like a very poor community it still looks like the tornado happened yesterday the land up around I40 and Kickapoo the grass is unkept and is not appealing to want to come eat at the restaurants or shop at the businesses. If you compare to how the business in the OKC area look it is more inviting to want to go shop at clean stores and land that doesn't smell.
 - Provide more desirable businesses, restaurants, and pubs
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Did you know that the City does not receive a share of the property taxes for the General Fund, and that the fund is highly dependent on sales tax?***
 - [Mentioned 28 times] Yes
 - [Mentioned 8 times] No
 - [Mentioned 3 times] Not sure
 - ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What would entice you to spend more of your hard-earned money in Shawnee?***
 - I spend most of my money in Shawnee. If I'm going elsewhere to shop, it's for a special excursion or a trip. I would be more enticed to spend money downtown if the city would repeal its homeless ordinances. I've been avoiding downtown businesses since those were passed. I do not want to support anyone who supports that sort of heartless law.

- Provide the shopping that people need. Anytime shawnee gets a new store it's not big enough to carry enough stock or merchandise to fulfill the local need. Therefore shopping is done elsewhere.
- That Shawnee not be a cesspool of degradation and human trafficking. To say the least. I'm tired of funding the people who scratch each other's backs while I work for it.
- We shop local unless we just can't find it local which is rare.
- Lower tax rates and the city not spending my money on useless projects like multimillion dollar parks.
- Lower Prices
- None.
- Better grocery options
- Convenience
- I shop locally as much as I can. Availability of products and comparable pricing.
- Majority of our shopping is already in shawnee
- I shop 99% locally
- I already spend it here.
- Bring in more family fun places, such as go-karts, incredible pizza, Jump zone, miniature golf, etc. Also, fill the mall with popular stores and restaurants.
- First give us fair about of hard earned money. Then better businesses so citizens don't have to go else were for better businesses.
- I try to shop local as much as I can, but if we are looking at a night out we generally go to OKC. More activities and restaurants locally would encourage us to stay here.
- knowing that my money was going to what it should be
- Local businesses offering discounts and specials
- RESTAURANTS,
- Accountability, transparency... Regional Park.
- More local restaurants, wider variety of grocers, more entertainment. The brewery downtown was a great addition, but we need more things like that.
- More local restaurants - quality dining options, not chains or fast food. And quality grocery.
- Having more options to shop and eat.

- Better service
- Better organized, better public info and family friendly recreational events
- lower sales tax. We are the highest in the area
- More variety of businesses to include restaurants, shopping, and entertainment options.
- There needs to be a branding campaign that brings locals together and makes them want to spend it here. No one will do it if everyone isn't doing it.
- Well, I generally do. I rarely drive all the way to OKC to shop. I used to frequently shop and dine on Main Street, until the Homeless Invasion.
- Products that are quality.
- I shop local 98%
- better food options
- Clean the city up the entire city looks like a homeless camp from the mall area all the way to the downtown area. Clean Shawnee up and get the street lights fixed.
- Having more entertainment. There's just simply nothing to do here. A cool pub like pub w or McConnell's would be successful so would a entertainment venue such as Top Golf.

GOAL - Modernized Infrastructure

OBJECTIVE: Monitor and advance bridge and roadway pavement improvements

- Community talks about streets, lighting, and bridges.
- Please publicly share the good- it's so exciting.
- ^ Yes, with additional info. – 75/25 infra.[infrastructure]/ “fires” [with]oldest areas[being the] first “priority”
- Follow-thru with sched.[schedule] to complete street repairs. i.e. sewer repairs.
- **SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How would you like the City to communicate updates on infrastructure projects?**
 - This is when a city app would be awesome! Updates for this and events and everything you need to know about Shawnee in 1 place.

- Water bills are always a great way to get information out. I appreciate seeing the information there. Social media is alright, though the algorithm sometimes makes it unreliable - not everyone will see posts. News media is always a helpful source for more in-depth information.
- Fb, newspaper
- [Mentioned 4 times] Social media
- [Mentioned 2 times] Email
- Direct email.
- City website, News Star, regular email newsletter. Social media should always be in addition to other established communication channels, not as a primary source of information
- news media, internet newsletter blast,
- Town hall meetings
- Facebook
- Social media, emails, Newspapers, news media, and/ or water bill inserts
- Social media and monthly meetings
- Social media, water bill inserts
- SOCIAL MEDIA, CITY WEBSITE NEWS
- Transparency
- Email / website
- Not sure
- Social media planned at the same time weekly or monthly to make it easier to find
- The Shawnee News Star
- The city should provide multiple avenues of updating citizens on infrastructure projects and improvements, to include social media, radio ads, and newsletters published monthly.
- Emails and NextDoor
- Quarterly infomercials
- Not sure we have a good system.
- Webpage and waterbill inserts.
- more consistently through project updates. the website is a good resource

- Online
- To improve and update the roads in coordination with traffic flow and also get the street lights fixed

OBJECTIVE: Advance transportation system improvements for better traffic flow and safety

- Widen 45th street & I-40 Exit
- Invest in roads along I-40 to fuel growth.
- Extended Interstate Parkway to Harrison from Union
- Kickapoo projects?
- Sync stoplights
- Traffic congestion- north side of town, Kickapoo near Starbucks and other shopping.
- Aging infra [infrastructure]- dictates my travel/torte to minimize vehicle damage.
- Repairing older sidewalks, to make them usable for the residents
- Would like to see additional Active Transportation included in Planning.
- Public transpo [transpiration]diesel not electric & 24-hour service.
- Reliable, consistent public transportation from the south side to the north side of town. Partner with COCAA & CPN to expand services through the evening and on weekends.
- Predictable bus [buses], timely transportation that can be accessed through cash. NSEW after work [&] school hours.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What is your experience with traffic congestion? And specifically, where?***
 - I40 on ramp. Turning to go to Walmart. Those intersections are always backed up during the day and a mess to get through. Most wait till last minute to turn their turn signal on so those at the stop sign have to be extra cautious....
 - Kickapoo near I-40 gets very congested, though that's somewhat to be expected with so many businesses concentrated there. Some side roads could be very helpful, however! A side road or extra light might come in handy on Harrison in the Gordon Cooper/Taco Casa area with all of the new businesses there. I don't notice congestion most other places, unless you mean the "Shawnee drivers don't seem to understand four way stops" sort of congestion. :)
 - Kickapoo just south of I-40, and Harrison and shawnee mall drive
 - Kickapoo from 45th to I40. Left turns onto and off of Kickapoo should be illegal except at traffic signals
 - Kickapoo is the main pain point. But its all relative. It's not bad compared to larger cities.
 - I don't like driving in the Kickapoo corridor near I-40.

- Harrison and Kickapoo are treacherous during lunch hours and 3:30pm to 6:00pm Monday through Friday.
- Down by the highway on Kickapoo is rough. The lights at federal and Kickapoo are either too slow or non operational. The crosswalk at MacArthur and Kickapoo doesn't work.
- Traffic is congested more often than not on Kickapoo near 45th st. and I-40 and it makes it difficult to get in and out of the businesses in that area.
- Kickapoo north of 45th is the absolute worst. Also, the stop lights all across the city are ridiculous in the City. Sitting at a red light with 10-15 cars backed up at a red light with green light for no cross traffic at all is ridiculous
- kickapoo and harrison all along the north south corridor
- KICKAPOO AND HARRISON / 177 & HARDESTY, NEEDS A TURNING LIGHT FOR HARDESTY TRAFFIC
- Biggest congestion tends to be 45th and north on Kickapoo and Harrison, close to the interstate.
- Harrison and I40 and Kickapoo and I40 areas
- Kickapoo from 45th to MacArthur and the I40 access from Kickapoo and harrison
- N. Kickapoo
- North Kickapoo
- North part of town. Gordon cooper and the strip malls are all congested.
- North Kickapoo. Remove the Starbucks and Brickhouse entrance forcing traffic to use the lights
- I think down Kickapoo by the business it is very congested.
- Kickapoo, Harrison and MacArthur and excessive speed.
- The stop sign on the side street by highway exit
- It's really not that bad except at busy times (7:45-8:30AM and 4:30-5:15PM). And if you know the short cuts, it's not bad at all!
- Traffic congestion is minimal in Shawnee.
- Shawnee does not have significant traffic congestion compared to other communities. If this is believed, residents should visit Los Angeles or the DFW metroplex to gain more perspective.
- Limited functional stoplights replaced with stop signs, mismanagement, under insured.
- Many stop lights still not properly repaired since the tornado
- the traffic lights need to be on a timing system
- Kickapoo-traffic signals.

- Our traffic lights really make traffic very congested also some streets need to be widened to accommodate daytime traffic.
- Almost every street light in this town, but the worst is at Harrison and I-40 access road. I don't understand why we need dedicated turn lanes at all times, but no yellow flashing for when no one is coming from the other direction. This applies to north and south bound. When trying to turn left to access I-40 east bound, you are lucky if two or three cars at a time get to go and there are usually at least four or five waiting each time. When turning left to access I-40 westbound, several more cars could go with a yellow flashing turn light after oncoming traffic cleared the intersection. Also, why not have a green arrow when turning right to go south on Harrison when eastbound on service road and only the Northbound turn lane is going. A lot of other intersections in town don't really need a dedicated turn arrow as they could wait for ongoing traffic to clear the intersection could be cleared a lot faster instead of waiting for all of the changes for the turn lanes. And, please let the light at Federal and Kickapoo stay flashing red until they are repaired as this takes a lot less time to clear the intersection than when they change for all the turn lanes, etc.
- Anywhere there is not a specific left turn lane with a left turn signal.
- It is bad at certain times if the Bryan street project to I40 would be completed or another location that would alleviate some of the congestion in these areas. Typical Kickapoo, Harrison, to MacArthur are the worst.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What value do you assign to sidewalks? And specifically, why?***
 - I said before that I do not have mobility issues, so I can walk on broken overgrown sidewalks or grass with no issues. However, I do think there's a lot of value in working on fixing Shawnee's sidewalks. Folks in wheelchairs or who are older and at a fall risk really need good sidewalks. This is especially true because Shawnee has a large population of low income individuals, many of whom do not have cars or transportation. Many of my neighbors walk to their destinations. In fact, cities always seem to focus on sidewalks in well-to-do neighborhoods, but it might be better to focus on the poorer neighborhoods first, where walking is a necessity for the residents, many of whom are older and on fixed incomes.
 - Highly important! Schools are scattered through the city. Kids walking to and from school. These kids need safe space to walk where they don't have to worry about a car going around a curve and not seeing them!
 - High priority, my children can walk places safer

- Sidewalks have moderate value to the community. They are not significantly used, but do make the areas more attractive.
- Sidewalks are essential. We can't just keep adding cars
- Sidewalks are important for physical health (I walk for health reasons) and safety. They are also important for individuals who need to walk to work. I'm grateful for improvement in this area and hope to see continued expansion of sidewalks.
- Highly important. For safety, beauty, and transportation needs.
- High value. Sidewalks are awesome!
- 10 retirement generation / special needs accessibility
- Very much needed, especially along Harrison and along Federal. These are both main arteries that lack sidewalks.
- Very important. A lot of people utilize them for transportation. I think the main roads definitely need sidewalks. It would be nice to have sidewalks in neighborhoods but I don't see that being realistic for current neighborhoods. Maybe new ones.
- Safe transportation option for both quality of life and necessity. I think this is really valuable for our community and attracting new families to our area.
- Highly, we walk a lot and it helps keep us and our kids safe. Plus there is no transportation in Shawnee so we need safe walking areas
- Pedestrian Safety. Review Auto v. Pedestrian calls.
- High because we need exercise
- Sidewalks are necessary to help keep people out of the roadways and potentially getting hit.
- Safe sidewalks allow me to get out and exercise in my neighborhood. I like to walk my dog down Broadway but that's the only street in my area that has consistent sidewalks for a long stretch.
- Sidewalks are very important as they provide a safe way to navigate on foot when public transportation is not available.
- they are necessary. They keep foot and bike traffic out of the road and it improves safety
- We need sidewalks. The last thing we need is people walking in the street.
- Sidewalks are a sign of a city that cares. Too often I have seen disabled people driving motorized wheelchairs in the street.

- Looks good and helps people safely walk around
- I think sidewalks encourages safety and activity. I am for more of them.
- they're very important
- It helps those who walk. Connects our neighborhoods to schools and parks.
- New sidewalks as on Independence 10/10, neighborhood sidewalks as on Market, Park, Beard... not good
- Great value if people would use them.
- Not realistic for most people in busy intersections. If there is no park to walk to then why have them? Too hot for most people to walk all the way down Kickapoo in the summer. Majority of population drives. Small handful bike. For the money it is really not useful. Would be better off to invest in walking trail
- I only value sidewalks on main streets that are used to travel safely to and from businesses on busy roads, as well as safe sidewalks near the schools where kids would have to walk because the bus does not pick them up.
- Not a high priority
- Not much in most places. I don't walk in town.
- 0
- Not much seems like a waste of money when the rest of the city looks like a dump.
- I think the roads and traffic lights need to be properly updated and taken care of first.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What improvements do you believe are most urgently needed for our transportation system?***
 - Any sort of public transportation would be a huge help. I know there are a few options, but not many, and most require a lot of planning in advance. I have a car, but once needed to go across town while my car was in the shop, and I couldn't find a single transportation option (not even a paid service like an Uber) to get me there.
 - Traffic signals and road maintainance.
 - Fix the stoplights!
 - Fix the stop lights all across town.
 - New traffic lights!!!!!!
 - Fix the lights that are still broken.
 - Repair stop lights, repair main roads such as kickapoo
 - Functional signal lights, road / bridge lack of maintenance
 - Sidewalks, asking people to trim their stuff near curves and corners so people can see around it. Don't park on curves.

- Safer intersections on the north side of town.
- Sidewalks
- Sidewalk infrastructure and crosswalks are important to even move forward with any sort of bus infrastructure. We have to have a safe way for people to get to the bus stops for a bus system to be viable.
- The city should incorporate bike lanes on the heavy trafficked streets and roads, i.e. Harrison, Kickapoo, etc.
- More accessibility
- Road resurfacing and maintenance.
- Better street maintenance.
- Widening and traffic signals
- Widen streets and get more access to the I40 corridor especially if they widen I40 all the way to Harrison.
- 45th street, Kickapoo from 45th to I40
- Widening the roads such as 45th and independence. Along with getting the traffic lights fixed up all around town.
- A public transportation system that benefits everyone would be awesome. A north/south method of getting to brewery/bars downtown without depending on inconsistent ride shares would be icing on the cake. Let the frivolous users fund the necessary users.
- We need a bus route or a van system that anyone can use, travels throughout the day, and encompasses the main areas (Kickapoo, Ferral, Harrison, and the mall or 45th street.
- mass transit and road improvements
- We need public transportation. A bus route would be amazing
- Public transportation system with small busses
- We need public transportation that is accessible, affordable, and reliable in all areas of the city.
- Some type of shuttle bus that runs a couple times per day from downtown locations out to the Mall in a circular route. One direction on Kickapoo, the other on Harrison. Must stop at the Senior Center and Community Center before lunch M-F for seniors.
- Broadway used to be the smoothest and easily traveled north-south artery. Since the water lines have been repaired/replaced, the "re-paving" has made south of Independence on Broadway the roughest road in town. An overlay is urgently needed. For my car's safety I avoid Broadway as a north-south artery now.
- More effective pothole maintenance. They have to be done weekly now.

- We don't have a transportation system so I'm very confused why this question is being asked.
- Perhaps strategically placing dumpsters for people to use for free so they don't ditch dump. Making a punch card for using the city dump. If you can use it free once a month that allows 12 visits a year; why not let you use all 12 whether once a month or all at once. It's \$65 to take a load if you have more than one.

OBJECTIVE: Advance drinking water system improvements to reduce water loss and improve distribution

- How do we plan on "improving" water systems and what are we improving?
- Twin Lakes Dam needs to be understood & action taken.
- #1 concern Shawnee's water system and wastewater system is [are] way overdue for replacement. Most important.
- Clarity RWDs vs City ones for growth and investments.
- Address the aged water system
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What improvements do you believe are most urgently needed for our water system?***
 - Just being updated in general would be amazing. I know those pipes are aging, and it causes a lot of issues.
 - Discourage watering lawns in the middle of afternoon since it is basically doing nothing but evaporating
 - Replacing the old water pipes with HDPE to reduce maintenance.
 - Lake 1dam
 - Fix the Dam.
 - Fix water pipes which break a lot
 - Replacement, daily breaks with lack of preventive maintenance program.
 - Hard to say without seeing the issues every day but water main breaks seem to happen fairly often.
 - More advanced filtration system, newer piping. Try to eliminate the harsher chemicals so that the tap water can be used for consumption and not get people or animals sick.
 - Clean and enough
 - Keep up safety testing.
 - Need to start replacing the water mains in the older parts of town.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What improvements do you believe are most urgently needed for our water and sewer systems?***
 - Continue upgrades

- New pipes
- aging systems updated and improved
- We need to update the lines for few water main breaks and sewer back ups.
- Both sysytem [systems] have had major upgrades
- We need to work on the sink holes in several areas around Shawnee. There's water leaking in places that will cause major damages and currently they often fill holes and don't fix the problem because they collapse again.
- Increase capacity for future growth.
- Fix problems instead of patching them.
- need to know what's going on with both categories. the quality of water isn't the best because the pipes are so old
- Just updating the line so we don't have water main breaks and sewer problems.
- I don't have any issues although I really wish we had a choice or vote on a trash company. There are so many issues with central disposal.
- Based on my daily life I don't observe any but I've been told important improvements are needed.
- N/a

OBJECTIVE: Advance wastewater and stormwater system improvements

- No more dumping of sewage or gray water in neighborhood manholes.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What improvements do you believe are most urgently needed for our sewer system?***
 - I don't recieve water or sewer from the city.
 - Cleaning out street side sewer drainage preventing backing up in neighborhoods
 - We need better drainage for storm runoff, especially with the increased instances of storm events that result in flooding.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How important is it to you to invest in sustainable and resilient infrastructure to mitigate environmental impacts (water and sewer line breakages, stormwater, flooding, etc.)?***
 - I'm all for sustainable solutions if there's a way to make it happen. Sometimes spending a little more at the outset saves you a great deal in the long run.
 - Previously stated- needs to be priority over the frufru stuff (million dollar parks).

- All of these are important. There should be clean water and safe driving for all areas not just where wealthier people live.
- Fix the Dam
- Hugely important.
- Vital!
- Essential
- High importance
- [Mentioned 2 times] High
- Water is clearly an important infrastructure element for families and businesses. This is a high priority item.
- Very. Without good infrastructure, how are we going to grow?
- [Mentioned 3 times] Very
- Very important. This is a problem throughout the state. Be progressive. Let Shawnee be a roll model and example. Be ahead of the game to other places.
- [Mentioned 4 times] Very important
- Must be done. Not an option
- It is much cheaper to invest in prevention than have to pay the cost of neglect.
- 7/10
- It's pretty important
- Fairly important
- Delivery of services is a higher priority than environmental to me.
- Environment is important but not at expense of normal living
- Other more pressing issues that need to be taken care of first.
- I think that if we focus on bringing in more desirable businesses and entertainment will bring in more revenue to improve those next.
- Not sure

OBJECTIVE: Maintain and implement a consolidated Capital Improvement Plan

- We can't grow on a foundation of quicksand. Infrastructure aging or otherwise is the hi [high] priority.

- How much of an infrastructure impact fee? (In reference to the above statement.
- No dedicated taxes until questions about tax dollars are made more clear
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How has aging infrastructure in our community affected your daily life?***
 - I'm fortunate in that I don't have mobility issues, otherwise, the sidewalk situation throughout town would make it difficult to get around. As it is, I've noticed most people in Shawnee walk in the roads because of the lack of sidewalks. The water pipes lead to a lot of main breaks, which sometimes causes road closures and rerouting my drives from one place to another.
 - Damaged vehicles (potholes), detours,
 - "The roads are a bit rough especially if walking with a stroller. Over on Northridge across from 29 Northridge there is a pot hole that is decent size and getting bigger. The stop signs in the curvy neighborhoods like Northridge editions aren't utilized. Also speed limit through the neighborhoods? There isn't any signs through alot of neighborhoods. We are getting ready to have a bunch of people walking to and from school....
 - Trying to walk and avoid cars on the curves in Northridge when people park on the curves make alot of close calls. "
 - Mildly
 - Occasional low water pressure, does not significantly impact residents daily.
 - Water main breaks
 - water line breaks occasionally impact us.
 - The water line near my house is often broken.
 - Many roads have a lot of potholes to dodge (Kickapoo)
 - Mainly water shutoffs- specifically at my place of employment. Road closures.
 - Commute to & from work and shopping, due to traffic lights not being synced and road conditions.
 - It doesn't affect mine other than having to respond to that aging infrastructure while performing my duty as an employee.
 - slowing growth
 - BUMPY roads!!
 - Drastically, electrical outages daily
 - Most noticeable are roads and water main breaks
 - No growth. No room for improvements in all of the city.

- By poor population hanging out in these areas
 - Safety and image of the city
 - City shut off water with no warning during lunch rush at our business on a Monday with no idea when they would turn back on. I took until after 8:00 PM, so we lost sales for pretty much the whole day. This is an example about why the City of Shawnee is NOT business friendly.
 - Aging infrastructure and lack of drains for storm water runoff has caused flooded streets.
 - Just overall concern. I currently have a water leak on the city side of the meter and it hasn't been fixed for over a week and it's progressively getting worse.
 - When water mains break. And driving around potholes.
 - Poor streets effect our cars and efficiency.
 - Too many things not done correctly that cause water outages and street closures.
 - Not a lot
 - None. It's just not appealing.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Share your ideas on how community input could help prioritize infrastructure?***
 - Community input could give you some idea of how people are affected and things you might not be aware of. I'm sure the city has very good record of where crews have gone to fix main breaks and that sort of thing, but the tip line is a great resource for folks to be able to report things like pot holes that have gone unfixed in their neighborhoods.
 - Listen to the people! Have suggestion/help/info/report line or fb/website/internet place for people to report needs (potholes, damaged city property etc). Okc had a pothole hotline.
 - Maybe a rebate for it?
 - Place more city projects in local newspaper
 - Parks and public spaces
 - This is hard. Most community members, including me, have little experience in this area to know what is really needed. Looking good to outsiders is a plus.
 - Since open forum at City Commission meeting has been essentially terminated, perhaps a once every month or two infrastructure citizen input session might help. But someone needs to listen to what people are saying. Ground rules would have to be respected.
 - [Mentioned 2 times] Surveys

- This survey
- find out where the issues are most impactful
- Answer the mail, calls, voicemails. Don't hide from public
- Could determine where things are needed most.
- By supplying you with ideas and experts
- We need citizens reporting problems that can be addressed.
- By pinpointing areas of town where the needs are most urgent.
- Listen to people in specific problem areas where problems have been ongoing for years.
- It won't if the city leadership doesn't select a plan and start executing those plans seems like the city is always planning but never completing any projects.
- I think if you put more money into the community to wear more money is spent and you get tax revenue obviously you get more money to work on the infrastructure but you can't really do both at the same time.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Would you support an infrastructure impact fee if a new development created a significant impact?***
 - [Mentioned 21 times] Yes
 - [Mentioned 3 times] No
 - [Mentioned 10 times] Not sure

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Lighting in Ward 3
- Proactive not Reactive
- Maintenance of community assets. Kid space, Woodland, Boy scout

GOAL - Intentional City Growth

OBJECTIVE: Identify growth areas and opportunities to attract new residential and commercial development

- We need a downtown plan for businesses that can't afford a full remodel but want to bring business there.

- I would like to see downtown maintain its charm & character while being rebuilt. I would also like to see the Farmer's Market brought back downtown.
- City & partners development incentive package for recruitment.
- Copy best practices from other communities in Oklahoma, including overlay plans in certain areas or districts.
- Advertise our lake restaurant out there.
- I love the idea of preserving the older parts of the city, including the older homes. Protect the older homes.
- Develop "play" and commerce around the lake & co-sign.
- Fill empty lots
- What is the process after buildings are torn down?
- What is "Small Business Living"?
- If we ruin the lake, then we have nothing to drink.
- Additional streetlights in neighborhoods with an increased feeling of safety. Many are out & new ones should be installed.
- Code enforcement & action.
- Agreement with CPN on RWD3 vs City water infrastructure.
- Invest along I-40 to capture out-of-town sales tax.
- Want to know more about development.
- Find ways to showcase the good things we have going on.
- Public land clearing
- Medical Clinic [&] restaurants
- Re-imagine codes that meet individual housing needs on a smaller "tiny" med-for low-income individuals. Use of empty lots.
- Protect trees [&] natural water ways
- Remove the sucker trees like cedars
- Highlight land on Harrison N. of MacArthur
- Marketing Shawnee outside to others.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How do you feel about the City's plans for future growth and its impact on local resources?***
 - I think growth can be a positive thing if it's done responsibly.
 - Very excited! We need to have more options in the city
 - Great

- Would love to see some growth.
- Growth is good
- Good ideas, my advice would be do not spread yourself too thin with too many projects at once
- Good
- Fine
- If it's needed then that's what needs to happen.
- I think that we will need to expand all city resources as the city grows as well as Fire and Police
- need to fix the infrastructure before the city can grow
- The city should focus on rehabilitating older areas of the city to provide opportunities for growth. It would improve the health and vitality of the city as well as it's image.
- I am concerned we haven [haven't] researched enough what growth can be handled with our current or even future infrastructure.
- Okay, if they do what they say
- Everything seems to grow except public service the fire department has grown with the growing demand of how busy the city has become. The same could be said
- City's plan should be about how to enhance and improve private sector activities
- Need to hold up on expanding until you can take care of what you've got.
- I feel the current plan is just sit around and not do much. Be active. Have someone realistically go out and recruit businesses not just take expensive trips and stay in expensive motels with no results.
- we need to look ahead several years for sustainability
- More info needed.
- Undecided
- Unknown
- I am not sure.
- I am not sure if this means new housing?
- The city hasn't grown in 10 years and I've been a part of it. I really do think it's because they try to stay in a small town mentality if you will whenever we need to expand along I-40 if we're able to do so if not we need to purchase land to continue to grow along I-40 to bring in more businesses and population.
- What plans?

- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What do you believe are the most important factors the City should consider when developing a plan for intentional growth?***
 - Who it impacts, how it impacts them, and how it impacts the environment.
 - Take care of what's already here.
 - "Let us have a choice where our utilities come from! I would much rather have CVEC over OG&E any day!! Member owned, great response time, family orientated, communicates vs out till who knows when, profit based, high and higher prices....
 - Listen to the citizens directly affected by that growth.
 - Cooperative is just better...."
 - More affordable housing. Utilizing upper level at main street businesses
 - The City needs to focus its attention on expanding the I-40 corridor to enhance sales tax revenues. Creative additional frontage along I-40 and utilize a partnership with the CLO.
 - Private sector
 - What is attractive to young families.
 - Traffic flow. streets, gutters, sidewalks, street lighting.
 - Provide incentives for more businesses to open. Pave roads for new housing and attract more homeowners who will spend money in shawnee
 - Infrastructure longevity
 - The plan over all is great, however I believe that the city should not be involved in promoting private entities/groups that will profit from the housing plan such as the one downtown. I agree that the issue is important, however if the city is not directly overseeing the plan we should not be involved to any degree. In addition, I believe the city should encourage other business in that area and not housing.
 - Pay your employees
 - Connecting downtown to rest of citycontinual growth along the corridors to downtown, not just on the north side
 - Youth Sports Program
 - Making sure we have solid infrastructure and funding to support.
 - Traffic, stormwater control, public safety needs to keep up with growth, aesthetics of commercial corridors, walkability and connection, lanes or trails for safe biking

- Infrastructure
- Revamp the Inspection Process to be more pro-business. Even when we were trying to replace our driveway at home, we were told on Monday that they would not be available to inspect the drive approach section until Friday that week so we planned accordingly. When we called Friday morning for the inspection allowing us to pour that last remaining section for access to our home, we were told he decided to take off this day. And, the assistant inspector also took off as well so we would have to wait until the following week when he returned. If you tell you customer when you will be available, you should honor that and not change your plans. We experienced similar problems when we were constructing business as well in the past. No sense in trying to plan for intentional growth if your staff is unwilling to work.
- Ensure that it is sustainable and helps all residents, especially in poorer neighborhoods.
- Water/sewer/trash
- "To make sure growth is proactively matched by increased infrastructure"
- Safety and streets
- fixing the infrastructure and what's already in place
- If the city is going to grow then the departments in within the city need to grow with it if you do not plan and make this happen at the same time it will create big problems for the city be proactive and not reactive.
- Connect I-40 through Bryan, Acme, or Leo. Our focus should not be down Way South because that part of town is not going to bring as much revenue as everything around I-40.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Share your ideas on how the City can better engage and inform residents about development plans?***
 - Again if the city had an app that would be great information to put on it... otherwise facebook and email
 - Direct email.
 - A regular email newsletter
 - Webpage and water bill inserts.
 - needs to be more consistent
 - Mail, social media, and using the local news media to get the word out.
 - Fb newspaper website flyers letters
 - Facebook updates are pretty good and that's mainly what people use anyways.
 - written plans shared in social media
 - Social media is more affective

- [Mentioned 2 times] Social media
 - Town hall meetings with Q&A
 - I think you're doing a great job.
 - I really like the surveys; I think it makes it easy for everyone to be involved and be heard.
 - Updated website
 - Maybe video updates posted on YouTube / social media
 - The city offers a lot of public forums around plans and development of plans.
 - Email and PIO
 - Again, NextDoor and emails.
 - NA
 - Not sure
 - ??
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What are your thoughts on preserving the character and identity of our community amidst potential growth?***
 - None of Shawnee's new growth has done anything to tell the story of its character or identity. I feel like preservation of some of Shawnee's historical buildings, especially downtown, would really help with that. I love going to towns like Guthrie, where the downtown is well preserved and thriving and a vital part of the city's identity. They've made great use of that resource! On the other hand, it makes me really sad to go to towns with beautiful old buildings that are just crumbling and disused. Incentives to preserve downtown buildings and to USE them would be awesome.
 - Need to preserve history upmost. Can't go forward if you don't know where you've been.
 - To cherish and maintain our historic buildings. It was SHAMEFUL that it took so long to start working on the Santa Fe Depot repairs!!!
 - Preserve our history by town, county and state. Support our historical society.
 - We need more art and photos around town that depicts where we came from.
 - I love history and like it to be preserved when possible.
 - It's so important!
 - Important
 - Get the new people and new businesses involved in events and things that make us Shawnee

- By keeping everyone informed
 - Utilize a Main Street USA program downtown. They specialize in historic buildings and maintaining the character in downtown districts.
 - Develop and conduct Shawnee specific festivals and events. This would build community pride and help highlight our past while building on our future.
 - I guess this could be connected with more art and festivals.
 - It should be done especially in the downtown area the area north up around I40 not so much since its not really part of the historical significance of the city
 - Population is going to grow one way or the other. Missing out on getting new businesses residential areas and whatnot because we want to keep it a certain size really limits us as a city to where we'll be behind everybody else whenever we should be on population growth and tax revenue.
 - Growth will enhance our community character
 - I'm pro growth.
 - I think it's good but probably time to let some things go.
 - Urban Renewal destroyed historical aspects in the 1900's. Preserve and protect what remains in Shawnee. The Santa Fe Depot and Museum could be a first-class tourist attraction generating foot traffic Downtown and nearby restaurants.
 - Reestablish horses around Shawnee and other historical monuments. Character can be built into projects through culture and history
 - We can keep the pillars that we are known for and maintain them, and build new attractions.
 - The character and identity of the community is defined by all the homeless everywhere.
 - New leadership
 - ??
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How important is it to you that the city preserves natural resource lands and critical areas during expansion?***
 - That's important to me. Not only do I think it's our responsibility to be kind to natural resources, but I think it's a benefit to us. If you to go the Shawnee Airport Walking Trail, where there is not a lick of shade, and then go to the walking trail off Reno in Midwest City on the same day, you'll notice a world of difference in comfort because the trees

and natural resources of the latter make it so much cooler and shadier. (I understand that the airport trail being near the runway probably limits what can be done with trees, but truly, the trees make a HUGE difference.) The same is true of any space, from business parking lots to parks.

- Trees and green space are very important to the health of the city and residents.
- Very important not to disrupt natural habitats and valuable land. Best to keep Shawnee where it is and leave countryside alone
- Very. Destroying trees in a park to make a playground was very detrimental to the city.
- It is very important to preserve the wildlife and plants. People do not want to move to a place that is broken.
- [Mentioned 3 times] Very important.
- [Mentioned 2 times] Very
- Highly
- [Mentioned 3 times] High
- What natural resource lands are in the corporate city limits?
- Public green space is important. Widening roads won't help
- [Mentioned 2 times] Important
- It is important
- Important.
- Seems important to preserve those.
- Definitely something to be mindful of
- They should be considered but not a deterrent [deterrent].
- Somewhat
- Low importance
- Not that important

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Lighting in Ward 3

GOAL - Improved Housing Opportunities

OBJECTIVE: Reactivate vacant residential lots

- Absentee owners and landlords should be held accountable.
- Partner with [the] County to hold Absentee owners to acquire domain of vacant buildings.
- Options for creative empty lot uses
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What improvements would you suggest?***
 - There are way too many derelict buildings. They are not only eyesore, they present safety hazards, and fire hazards and crime hazards (as places for squatters)
 - More fines or consequences for property owners (especially out of town/state owners) that don't take care of their property
 - ordinances need to be enforced more
 - More demolition
 - Tear down more abandoned homes. Utilize those and other empty lots for Habitat for Humanity or HUD homes
 - Tear down abandoned houses and put up new du/triplexes
 - Continue to demo dilapidated houses and hire more police officers to be able to patrol the neighborhoods more.
 - Need to do something with vacant and debilitating properties. Otherwise leave the neighbors alone. Not everyone wants to be in an hoa type neighborhood.
 - Neighborhoods in the center of town need major overhaul. Get rid of the blight. Make ways for new construction in Shawnee proper. Provide incentives for developers to refurbish/improve our older neighborhoods.

OBJECTIVE: Encourage neighborhood revitalization

- Old neighborhoods from Ind.[Independence] to Main need [needs]revitalization, policing, and help with feeling safe.
- I like the reno [renovations] of the downtown office buildings to condos. Surly there are more buildings to rehab for affordable housing opps [opportunities] FNB & Masonic Building.
- Helping people take care of property
- Downtown needs help w/o taxing those businesses extra

- Provide locations of prospective lots (esp. for DT between Broadway to Harrison)
- Building code issues downtown
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How satisfied are you with the current state of Shawnee neighborhoods?***
 - If you're in a nice part of town, Shawnee neighborhoods are great. They're beautiful and well maintained. The poorer parts of town, however, have crumbling houses, rental houses that are vacant or not maintained, crumbling sidewalks, crumbling infrastructure. There are so many houses on my block alone that are just sitting vacant.
 - Several neighborhoods are substandard. Most should have a park of some kind
 - Some are better than others.
 - Some are good, others are not. Would love to have better lighting throughout neighborhoods in the city.
 - It's very hit or miss in Shawnee with nice houses interspersed with dilapidated ones. I don't know the solution to that but if there was a way to give grants or rents to update like they did in OKC that would be amazing.
 - Some older neighborhoods have homes that have been restored, maintained. Right next door is a home with tall grass, debris in the yard and unsightly maintenance. That's where code enforcement needs to step in.
 - Some of the neighborhoods could use better streets and beautification.
 - The neighborhoods are fine comparatively speaking as long as you are north of Independence.
 - I'd like to see the south side of town cleaned up.
 - Most of the neighborhoods especially south are in severe disarray.
 - Most neighborhoods in Shawnee suffer from neglect with many houses in disrepair.
 - Dissatisfied. Suggested improvements would be better lighting for city streets and roadways, and increased police patrols at night to deter and stop crimes from happening. As a victim of a vehicle breaking and entering, local police did nothing. The city spends more time issuing traffic citations for minor moving violations than it does investigating crimes committed in neighborhoods.
 - Many areas are in disrepair
 - Not satisfied
 - Not satisfied at all, anything would help neglected roads.
 - Very poor, clean up
 - More police patrols

- I mean they can only do so much but code enforcement could be changed to where houses have to stay up to a certain code.
 - Road improvements and better drainage systems. It seems almost all of the older neighborhoods in Shawnee have bar ditches instead of drainage systems.
 - Lack of affordable housing for first time homebuyers. Most are bought by landlords with cash. There is a housing shortage.
 - I would argue that the City does not take care of City property. For example, the alleyways have been loophole"d" for the residents to care for. However, most utility companies need access to the alley ways therefore needs to be the cities responsibility. Also, take into account that the majority of the cities population is on poverty line or below it, not many people have the luxury of lawn care equipment.
 - Love the block [Love Your block] would be a great thing to do or block parties
 - Somewhat satisfied, but some areas are exceptionally trashy. Some residential streets are impassable.
 - Overall satisfied
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: In your opinion, are there any specific areas that you feel are in dire need of revitalization?***
 - I'm sure most of south Shawnee would benefit from that.
 - The trash slum by the rr tracks and river (homeless and vagrant camps) clean then up.
 - It's sporadic through the city but downtown does but that's because the homeless (some) are leaving trash everywhere.
 - Main street
 - Central Shawnee.
 - Area with poorly maintained buildings
 - As you get closer to downtown, there is significant need for improvement. Housing around OBU is also in poor condition.
 - Central/southern Shawnee
 - Union, Kickapoo, and streets surrounding Woodland Park downtown.
 - South side of Shawnee is pretty rough
 - South of Independence
 - From Independence to downtown.
 - The Central area between Independence and Farrell
 - Prince Hall

- south side and downtown
 - Some of the downtown empty business buildings
 - Public safety lions club ballfields
 - South side of town
 - Yes, most of the down town area and the area affected by the tornado in April.
 - South side
 - Downtown.. 7th to Wallace/Kickapoo to Harrison
 - The neighborhoods in the southeast and central part of the city, the neighborhood near OBU, and Smoking Oaks
 - Some of the Main Street buildings and there are several dilapidated homes that need help.
 - The south side in general.
 - Downtown. Several businesses are not even own by locals and they are just holding the property instead of making it into something.
 - Residential streets south of Independence to Wallace. Kickapoo north of MacArthur. Federal east of Harrison. Harrison and Highland intersection. Independence the entire length.
 - All of the areas south of Independence pretty much.
 - Everything south of Wallace
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What role do you think green spaces and parks should play in neighborhood revitalization plans?***
 - I may be old fashioned, but I love green spaces. Rose Garden park is such a lovely little neighborhood green space, for example. Even without playground equipment, just having a space where folks could picnic or plant a little neighborhood garden would be beneficial, I think.
 - Would be nice but there are decent sized parks in town also.
 - Very big one. Important for families.
 - Great idea. I believe it depends on the neighborhood. Would be nice to have parks or walking area near i40 or north of it
 - Safe and beautiful spaces to gather are valuable for creating community. College campuses are a great example of what creating central green spaces is like for building community.
 - Each neighborhood should have a park and green space that is handicap accessible and easy for the residents to utilize.

- Parks are essential to quality of life. Go look at the huge and wonderful tree-filled park in Choctaw as an example. It is well-utilized by families, elderly, couples, dog-walkers, etc.
- I think there should be a minimum of a single park in every neighborhood
- Essential
- Huge role
- Highly
- Moderately high importance
- This is very important. I love going to kid space and downtown. More can be done.
- [Mentioned 2 times] Very important
- Important
- I think they're important. They give a place where local communities can celebrate their neighborhood
- Strong neighborhoods have parks near them so it's important to keep our parks clean and vandal free.
- Preserving what we have and not destroying anymore trees is a good start.
- Should be at the expense of the developer and usually required for permitting.
- It should be included.
- Important to provide a nice city to live in
- I would love to see more neighborhood parks, but I think the Lake parks should be focused on first because it will promote more tourism and in turn revenue.
- Let each neighborhood be the decision makers of that.
- Better decorated landscaping
- They play a bigger roll in ecological restoration.
- Not as high as infrastructure and public safety
- They should come after necessary infrastructure.
- Don't build parks unless the city can maintain them properly.
- That isn't a huge concern we need to start with getting the city going in the right direction and clean it up first then after that is completed worry about parks and things like that. Right now not many people are willing to take their kids to the park since it is a homeless hangout at the moment.

OBJECTIVE: Promote housing production and diverse housing options

- Down payment assistance for home buyers.
- Allow more ADUS for rentals & encourage HHI rental units.
- Small business living
- Publicly promote infill housing opportunity.
- Rental inspections to reduce slum lord rentals.
- Afford[able] housing- crack down on slum lord property owner[s]
- Business-supported gap housing for employees in crisis
- New housing policy – bring [brought] up to date.
- Infill pallet homes for first-time home buyers all or at least 90%
- Insure [Ensure] home or business construction is completed in 2 years.
- Provide ways to refurbish current housing No FDT No Do (CBD)
- Work with Habitat for Humanity
- More affordable housing for low-income families.
- Dwellings for specific people groups (elderly, etc.)
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What challenges have you faced or heard about when it comes to finding housing that is affordable?***
 - I was lucky and bought my house in 2020, when interest rates were low and right before home prices sky rocketed. If I hadn't, I don't know what I would do now. I'd been in the same rental for 12 years, and my rent had only gone up \$25 in that time. I made significantly more than minimum wage, but if I hadn't had the credit to buy a house or hadn't been able to afford to buy one, the only rentals I could afford (which were still more expensive than the place I was in) were shoddy, one-bedroom studio apartments in really bad neighborhoods. (My house payment was cheaper than even the cheapest rentals available.) The situation has only gotten worse since then. I have switched jobs since then and make significantly more money, but I still couldn't afford to rent even a one-bedroom apartment in Shawnee. I actually have a family living with me right now because they lost their rental after the tornado, and they haven't been able to find anything to rent yet. Rentals are either too expensive for their family's income, don't allow pets, or both. A lot of companies that do allow pets will forbid certain types (dogs are OK, but no cats, or they don't want "aggressive"

dog breeds, which is hilarious because I doubt they mean chihuahuas). A lot of companies want proof a person makes three times the cost of rent. Most folks in Shawnee probably aren't making that.

- Neighborhoods in Shawnee are either multimillion dollar homes with outrageous housing costs, or extremely low income areas that are riddled with rampant drug use and crime. When an affordable home is found, the area has animal breed restrictions that will not allow me to have my service animal.
- Housing is very hard to find in our community. Most of the rental in our town is low income, increasing prices in the rental market, making it harder for middle class to find rental if needed. Affordable houses for purchase are few and far between that do not require a lot of additional work. There's also a shortage of "next step" housing which keeps starter homes occupied longer and unavailable for young families or professionals starting out, etc.
- Landlords buy properties for rentals making it increasingly challenging for first time home buyers. Increased supply of housing would help. Incentivize builders to build homes.
- The housing market is not good right now anyways so houses are expensive everywhere.
- Shawnee has an abundance of low income housing. We don't have hardly any middle income living. So people who don't qualify for section 8 or government funding have a hard time finding a place that isn't a dump but that is within a reasonable price range.
- There is a housing crisis all over the nation. However, the only affordable housing that is available are places that are run down, borderline condemned.
- There are very few affordable housing units in Shawnee. Many landlords are slumlords and own dilapidated housing that they neglect.
- There are slumlords here who rent out unsafe and unhealthy dumps to desperate people.
- HIGH RENT IN HORRIBLE LOCATIONS
- Rundown housing tornado and lack of attention to city grounds. Residents pay fines for worse than they facilitate.
- Housing prices are high.
- The rent is too high. People need spaces for there large family. If there is funds to help them they do not know how to access them.
- it isn't affordable
- High challenge
- Lack of affordable houses with yards.
- Not enough of it that is affordable.

- location and safety
 - Difficult
 - Difficult to get into for some
 - Not enough affordable housing
 - [Mentioned 2 times] None.
 - None personally.
 - I haven't
 - NA
 - Cost of living is high, interest rates are high, rent is high. But prices in Shawnee are considerably lower compared to our bigger neighboring cities.
 - I have found housing prices to be competitive with other places, and I think that the national economy is bad for everyone which drives up housing prices for everyone.
 - Very affordable in Shawnee.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Do you think there should be more programs to assist low-income households in accessing housing resources? What kind of support do you believe would be most effective?***
 - I think programs to assist low income households are amazing, and I know there are some through the federal government or through local tribes. However, I think a demographic that often gets overlooked is folks who make too much to qualify as low income but still can't afford rentals in Shawnee. I've known people making around \$13-16 per hour, which puts them in too high an income level to qualify for assistance, but they make too little to afford any sort of decent housing. Every time Shawnee does a survey on housing needs, I see people saying the same thing. We have low income housing. We have senior housing. We have upper income housing. We lack affordable housing for those in the gap between low income and higher salaries.
 - Yes, there should be more resources for affordable housing for low-income households. These could be multi-family rental units and apartment complexes that include parks and community centers.
 - It seems like our population is made up of a lot of lower income families so support would be good. Helping families get into and stay in affordable housing. Maybe rent to own options.
 - Yes because Shawnee draws low income people because it is cheap

- Yes. Reduced housing cost / rental fees. Raise the income cap on low income housing to a reasonable rate. At one point in time, I could not qualify for low income housing because I made too much money at sixteen dollars per hour, but I could not afford a rental home because I did not make enough money.
- We need to help people with their utility costs. Educate them on how to save money on those costs. If we had a volunteer crew that went and just caulked people's windows or helped educate them on the cost savings of doing a proper HVAC instead of a window unit and then had funding help to achieve that, that's what we need. Actually help people get out of poverty in ways that are long term beneficial by teaching them ways to save long term.
- More Section 8 housing, I guess. Maybe Tiny Home communities.
- Yes, job training, financial education and home owner classes. Votech scholarships
- Yes. Especially programs for those who are recent homeless to get back off the streets
- Yes. Incentives for housing providers.
- Single parents and elderly should have first choice.
- Encourage private development of moderately priced housing and work with Native Americans
- Maybe some tiny houses for homeless.
- Some. Not sure
- Not sure. Better to assist low income households with job skills to increase income rather than enable low income to remain.
- I don't
- N/A
- IDK
- No
- The state has resources via the federal government. The city does not have the resources to commit to housing for low income.
- I don't think this should be a city/tax taxpayer issue, but rather The Housing Authority, or private interest groups and non-profits.
- No there is plenty of that right now the more low income spaces and housing the more problems will be brought on the cities infrastructure and services that are provided by the city.
- Absolutely not. Bringing in low income housing brings in more crime.

OBJECTIVE: Support homelessness prevention and mitigation

- Ensure that all efforts to protect vulnerable/at risk for homelessness community members' homes to keep and correct any infractions. What support?
- Rental and Utility deposit assistance.
- Not aware of the homeless initiative and I have seen improvement.
- Enforce “No Sit No Lie”
- City-wide vote for or against a homeless shelter.
- Homeless downtown-what is the specific strategy?
- Why are people evicted when their electric [electricity], [and] water, [are] turned off? Eviction prevention
- Build a campaign that promotes compassion for all our community members. Positive helps [help] “Look 4 the helpers”
- Synchronize homeless/DHS/COCA to build universal training procedures. Who, what, when, where? Identify strengths and weaknesses among comm. [commission] members for further training treatment development.
- Address shelters for homeless
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: How aware are you of local initiatives aimed at reducing homelessness? Do you think they are widely known and supported?***
 - Somewhat aware. I haven't heard any updates since the last coordinator left. I know Lauren and then Erica were trying to do some really great work, with some help from churches like C3. I think there's a very vocal group of people who do not support those initiatives (they think it encourages homelessness), but I like to think it's just a very vocal minority and not a lot of people. Most people I know do support trying to help people. I'd love more updates on what's happening currently, who is running the program, and information about volunteer opportunities.
 - Seems like they are starting to do some good but only after it was let out of control any time you let people sleep on sidewalks and harass your citizens you have a real problem on your hands. There is not a humane answer to a very real and serious problem of homelessness. With that being said the city can not foot the bill for this problem especially when a great deal of the homeless population in Shawnee is not from Shawnee.
 - People who pay attention are aware and support initiatives. But there tends to be more negativity towards it than positivity. And from people who are not aware of the progress.
 - I am aware. However, to the public it is not as widely known as it may be versus to employees of the city.
 - Yes widely know that why so many show up here

- Somewhat. No, they are not widely known. The efforts toward battling homelessness in our community are often misinterpreted or people are ignorant of the work being done.
- Some well-known. Some half-heartedly supported.
- Somewhat knowledgeable. I think there is too much false information floating around.
- Mixed bag. Some think they are informed simply because they read social media which really isn't what is truly going on.
- Only thing I have heard was a law to penalize people who hand out food to homeless.
- Not too aware. Probably not widely known.
- I don't know of any local initiatives but would like to
- They are not widely known at all. You have to go out of your way to look for it.
- They are not widely known.
- Not widely known and stop allowing these homeless camps to stay on private property in the city limits.
- I am not familiar with all the services.
- Unknown
- Not aware of any.
- No
- Not known at all
- No... never hear anything about the homeless problem
- Know of none since there's an overabundance of homeless.
- I do not believe they are supported. It seems homelessness has increased visably in the past 4 years.
- I mentioned this earlier, but I think everyone should read Toxic Charity and/or When Helping Hurts. I think many of our current programs are not helping the homeless or serving our goal of reducing homelessness.
- Publish a these [thesis] of these businesses with their scope of work
- I don't believe that this is a city/taxpayer issue either. This should be left to non-profits, and other community groups. City resources should be used for things that benefit everyone in the community, and not just specific people, groups, or organizations.
- I think the previous homeless coordinator had them bussed in for job security and now she is gone and we are stuck with them

- It's a city scam. The grant provides the backdoor reason & vote
 - I disagree with just moving them around as they have in the past. I think there should be more support for the homeless instead of ignoring them for others personal gain.
 - I know of the CIT. As far as whether they've reduced homelessness I can't answer. I'm aware that the percentage of homeless that accept their offer of help with mental health, substance abuse, and housing only 30ish% are willing. The rest refuse the help.
 - There should be a place for them to go if not provide a bus ticket for them to go elsewhere.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: What do you think are the most critical challenges facing homeless individuals and specifically unhoused veterans, youth, and families?***
 - Resources. Housing. I know mental health resources, rehab opportunities, and shelters are always important things, but I think it's also important to focus on just making Shawnee a place people CAN live. I feel like there's this stigma that homeless people are all mentally unstable or lazy or on drugs, and that's not always the case. Sometimes, a person is homeless and you may not even realize it because they're not sleeping in a tent or pushing a cart around -- they're couch surfing with friends or relatives. Like I said, I have a family staying with me right now. Everything they have, other than some clothes, is in storage. They're sleeping on my couch and guest bed. You wouldn't see them and think "homeless" because they're not on the streets. They're clean. They're gainfully employed. They're well-adjusted people. But despite all that, they can't find an affordable place to live. I think it's more common than people realize.
 - Lack of community / homeless outreach programs and homeless shelters. OKC utilizes a "Hand up not handout" program that incentivises homeless persons to work and keep the money they earn. A similar program can be utilized in Shawnee in conjunction with low income housing. They can be given the opportunity to work for the property manager in exchange for reduced housing costs. Many homeless persons have valuable skills such as construction, electrical, plumbing, etc., many trades that are valuable in the upkeep of housing and property management. Stipulations to maintain housing could be simple things like staying drug free (with exception to state recognized medicinal substances like marijuana, provided that have an up to date card)
 - Working resources. Hand up, not hand out. In our community specifically, there are not sufficient shelters. And the challenge all communities face is, some people just don't want the help.
 - There is no place for them to go and no real programs to help.
 - Not sending them to where they can get help. Obviously our city is not capable.

- Lack of hygiene places for restrooms and showers.
- Drug addiction and possibly criminal record.
- their drug and alcohol problem
- Addiction and desire to not change from the homeless lifestyle. Very few seem to be a product of circumstance and want help.
- A lack of mental health and drug treatment resources and affordable housing
- [Mentioned 2 times] Mental Health
- Mental health issues
- Desire to be helped, mental health.
- Lack of mental health care/medication and vocational rehab.
- Mental health, job opportunities, affordable housing
- Safety from the criminal group of the homeless
- Staying alive! Staying healthy. Staying clean. Staying sane.
- Having upfront funds for deposits, etc make it so hard for many to get ahead enough to secure housing.
- Lack of financial resources
- Employment
- Education, community support, rehabilitation
- "Maybe we need day labor places? Places easier to get hired?"
- Lack of housing m. People who actually help themselves deserve a break. People connections. Most are afraid of them or judgmental.
- Lack of motivation for them to reestablish their place in society because everything is given to them with no sense of earning anything.
- The most critical challenges facing homeless individuals is that they do not want the help. You cannot help the people that do not want the help.
- The largest problem is no doubt drug abuse. Until these people want help there is no amount of handouts that will help them if they do not treat the underlying issue. Look at LA they have totally caved to their homeless population and now that city is not a great place to visit or live like it once was. Homeless problems put a strain on emergency services example more fires more crime and less people who are willing to come to your city and spend their money.

People would rather drive farther to go to Midwest City to not have to deal with the people that harass them when they do go to our businesses.

- City manager facilitating sanctuary city not documented.
 - Their mistreatment by the City
 - There's too many resources for them here and they have it too good. So of course they'll never leave or try to change your situation.
- ***SPECIFIC QUESTION POSED: Do you know of a group or organization that is not currently involved in homeless mitigation efforts but could or should be?***
 - We need a solid, effective, hard-working Ministerial Alliance to focus church leaders on cooperating on problems.
 - I do not, but I wonder if there are more churches that might assist if given the chance.
 - Maybe churches? Avedis?
 - The state and local government is not involved in reducing homelessness, but should be.
 - Shawnee police dept
 - Businesses in general should be more involved.
 - No we already have too much help for them.
 - [Mentioned 5 times] No
 - I don't
 - Don't know

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- 43% Rental, 20.2% Poverty, \$239k 2024 list price-owner (up 8.9%)
- On Union between Highland and Wallace.
- Lighting in Ward 3

GENERAL COMMENTS

- There's nothing new. How are results different from [the] last survey?
- No specific measurable goals. How do you put meat on the bones?