

POLICE

- Outsourcing city garage functions for police and fire could save the city a ton of money. Look at what we are spending our money on and how it can better be used.
- Enforce loitering of homeless on 40 Hwy Noland Rd and 24 Hwy
- Traffic law enforcement (ie. cars running red lights, cell phone use while driving)
- Speed limit in neighborhoods need to be strictly enforced, noise from motorcycles racing needs to be addressed.
- Policing of residential streets for speeders.
- The number of people living on the street, using drugs, and stealing is very concerning.
- Get back to basics: Police, Streets and Public Health.
- Gun fire and criminal violence is the most concerning
- New police building
- Reduce crime and the meth heads walking around with back packs causing hate and dismay to feed their addictions
- Frequent gunshots in my neighborhood and fireworks in the middle of the night. Would adding police solve this, or is it a procedural issue that isn't addressed by adding patrolmen?
- Homeless has gotten out of hand in independence. Children shouldn't have to see drug induced people wondering daily in their neighborhoods. People need held accountable for drug use and crime.
- If we reinvest in our community and the people, we will not need more police officers. We need more social workers and such to help people make better decisions with better resources.
- panhandling
- More funding for support services for police to deal with domestic abuse, mental health calls, etc.
- Police need to establish "no chase policy"
- Enforce current laws of unlicensed vehicles on public streets.
- Fix the homeless problem.
- Homeless facilities.
- Crime! Crime! Crime!
- Enforcement of the homeless trashing and utilizing the outside as a toilet. I don't want to help those who do not want help or accept help. They need to be arrested and jailed!
- If you want to diminish crime, focus on poverty and mental health.
- Increase police activities in NW Independence. Coordinate public services with KC in Northwest Independence.
- Develop a "Report Littering" program to fine people caught in the act.

FIRE

- FD staffing increase even prior to additional stations being constructed
- Firefighters need more money
- Fire Department staff & equipment (not new fire stations)
- Community Safety, i.e. Fire Equipment and Station rebuilds and upgrades

UTILITIES

- Replacing IPL's Aging Generation Resources with new, efficient, cost-effective resources for the next 30 years
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- Reorganize and restructure IPL so that they can effectively and efficiently and ACCURATELY bill customers. Look at ways to REDUCE cost of service and/by streamline billing processes and websites. (i.e. Spend some time to get their shit straight)
- Get our electrical services/billing under control.
- Improve sustainability. Renewable energy. Restore and improve natural landscapes with native plants. Improved social services.
- Renewable energy for single houses, plan for empty commercial properties
- Keep ability to produce some electricity
- Fix the customer service issues at Independence Power
- Bring back online our power plant and be independent for power, not dependent.
- Independence utilities need scrutiny, mainly electric. If they will continue to provide service to the community, they must be more competitive. Also, it's embarrassing to say I live in Independence since it has such an overall bad reputation.
- improving water pressure
- Increase investment in wireless broadcasting for electrical and water meters to keep meter readers out of my yard
- Build a NEW POWER PLANT
- Sell off Independence Light and Power. I'm so tired of paying too much for unreliable power.
- Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
- Address Independence Power and Light excessive bills they are charging on sewer services!
- Put our independent electrical power back online and get off of this ambiguous dependency on some other big electrical company we have no power over.
- Fix the utility services!!

HEALTH & ANIMAL SERVICES

- Better animal control services and spay/neuter
- Many stray animals, animal services do not respond
- Support should be given to the health department and fire department for more community health services.
- Why you established a health department when Jackson County already provides that service is mind boggling. Do you have a budget crisis or not?
- Increased funding toward the animal shelter
- food inspection
- Investing in pediatric mental health services would be a tremendous use of City resources, for our community today and in the future!
- Continuing Education Programs for Seniors
- Need a strong preventive public health department like we use to have
- Get new public health leadership

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Something needs to be done with the areas that are cleared off with no or empty buildings. This is lost tax revenue for the city, perhaps penalize owners of the property for leaving it vacant.
- Beyond mere maintenance of existing infrastructure is a need to improve and add sidewalks in major use areas
- Before new buildings can be built, please do something with the vacant ones
- City desperately needs to enforce the city codes. Our neighborhoods are a disgrace, while attention is focused on areas south of 23rd street.
- Yes, there is - my concern is when the City tags a house where individuals don't be in their house - nobody cares to take achievement on getting someone to stake out the house & catch them at their house like Code Enforcement - it has been a sore in my neighborhood & plus work on getting an area for Homeless like empty buildings like over on 40 Hwy or Truman & Forest area
- You all worry about shopping carts as a blight, while our city is stagnant with no growth from home builders for years, vehicles being stolen at businesses and out of driveways. Now you want businesses to police their carts, while most struggle to get help these days.
- Tear down the Vacant trashed homes
- Hold at least four (one per district) cleanup events with proactive code enforcement and rechecks for compliance after the events, like we did about 10 years ago

STREET MAINTENANCE

- Regular removal of road debris
- Replacing burned out streetlights
- More bike lanes. Protected bike lanes from the square to the rock island trail at arrowhead
- The basic service of street maintenance should be first. Secondly, code enforcement, and thirdly Parks.
- Improved transportation efficiency. One cannot travel major arteries/roads without hitting every stop light. There appears to be the desire of city officials to establish new city buildings, hospitals, services in eastern Independence and abandon western Independence, the Uptown area, Truman Historic District, and older established neighborhoods. stop light. There appears to be the desire
- Street repair and pothole abatement in residential areas
- Instead of paving roads the 1 month later tore them up again and have to replace them
- Street repairs done properly
- Bike infrastructure
- Proactive City of Indy advocacy for highway and street maintenance when intersecting/adjoining roads either are the responsibility of the county or to MODot. Affordable/available recycling and other ESG-focused services/operations closer to my neighborhood; increase the fines for unsecured loads and illegal dumping; animal control services - defined and responsive for my neighborhood vs. 'pass the buck.'
- Need street sweepers
- Bike lanes on the streets kept safe and monitored by police.
- Identify and correct traffic control inefficiencies on main roads in Independence. Too many bottlenecks have led to inefficiencies in roadways and a hindering of emergency vehicles to respond accordingly. Noland Rd. from 23rd St. to 40 Hwy. is a good example.
- Revitalization of 24 Hwy corridor between Sterling & Noland
- Improving streets, installing sidewalks, curbing, etc in older (but not deemed "historic") neighborhoods. I.e. Western Indep
- More sidewalks to help families get to grocery stores and other shopping areas. I see individuals and families walking to the Price Chopper off Noland and having to walk in the street.
- Improve walkability of city especially around and near elementary schools and libraries. Add shelters and seating at bus stops to encourage use of mass transit. Return recycling to city services, use recycled items to improve areas in the city, shredded tires for playgrounds etc. Invest in making Independence a GREEN City and emphasize historical value of our city to increase tourism. Advertising to encourage
- Public transit within and beyond city limits.
- REPAIR KENTUCKY RD BRIDGE.
- potholes and street repair.

FINANCE

- ARRA funds should not be used to plug budget gaps or one-time frills. Consider using these funds to set up an educational endowment so that residents of Independence can receive training and education which allows them to advance in their careers. A better trained, highly-skilled workforce will attract employers needing these. Win-win for the citizens and the tax collectors.
- Overall funding levels are inadequate. Look to impose a personal property tax to support existing services and capital needs.
- Manage city expenses to live within its means.
- SAVE, CONSERVE like crazy! STOP SPENDING! CUT SPENDING! LOWER TAXES! We are in a PANDEMIC!
- Focus should be on reducing spending and the tax burden
- Accurate financial reporting that is easily accessible by the general public
- Instead of spending money “for studies” because city council doesn’t understand...listen to the people you have hired to explain things to you - or hire another “qualified professional “ so they can split duties and concentrate on their own areas of expertise
- More Transparency for tax payers
- Would like to see an audit of every department in the city. Want to see transparency of where are money is going online for everyone to see
- Raise Taxes as needed

PARKS, REC & TOURISM

- Bus routes gaps all over the city
- Parks and recreation for all
- Upkeep and repair of the cemetery
- Historic Tourism promoting all facets of the city's unique history, national, and international relationships.
- Upkeep and repair of Woodlawn Cemetery
- We cannot ignore our historic sites. They are a source of revenue, if properly maintained and events effectively publicized outside of years impacted by a pandemic.

Community Development

- Read StrongTowns: <https://www.strongtowns.org/> Aggressively prioritize pedestrian infrastructure, neo-urbanist development, and affordable housing.
- Yes get more retail business in here quit dealing with the Independence Square I don't even go up there there's no stores I went to shopping and make business owners either sell their business or put something in it Independence looks really bad I'm embarrassed to live here and the homelessness in the crime this is not a good place to live anymore it's being ruined fix it please
- Our stores are old, small, and carry less inventory. That's why tax \$ are going to other cities. Time to improve the layout of the city to make people want to come here. If the crime doesn't stop people will move out!
- bring good paying JOBS to independence
- Economic Development - retain & create jobs through effective policies and services, market the city as a place to locate a business that pays living wages with benefits
- Entice new businesses to increase tax revenue and occupy empty buildings
- Vacant storefronts and shopping areas
- Quit ignoring the West and North ends of the city. Bring businesses back to the "less wealthy" sections of the city. Just because we don't own McMansions doesn't mean that we should be ignored.
- Get more business to return to Independence a whole mall area on 40hwy is empty with a population of 500 to 600 thousands people to support business.
- Economic Development to increase revenue
- Return access to healthy food in stores and restaurants to the west side of town.
- Central planning fails every time. Create a friendly business and transportation environment and revenues will increase.
- I feel our city leaders should use common sense when spending our money, last year the city did a "community improvement" at Noland and Fair St. Why not take that money and fix the dilapidated bridge that is right by the little patch of grass and concrete where you stuck a Santa for the holidays? Or better yet SAVE the money mow the grass and next year put in sidewalks to make that neighborhood better??? the stupidity of the spending in this city is ridiculous. if you take a little drive out to Eastern Independence beautiful sidewalks and not a soul lives out there to enjoy them, but in the western side of Independence NOPE no nice sidewalks no nice anything just old and forgotten.
- Correct the situation with the solar field on the old golf course that has turned out to be a ridiculous idea with regard to the manner in which it was handled. That solar field should never have been placed in that location. Someone or someone's made some money off that crooked deal and it wasn't the City of Independence or its citizens.
- Attracting and maintaining larger scale employers should be a key budgetary focus.
- Appropriate funds to bring in new viable business's more shopping and eating. To keep money in independence instead of it going to liberty, Lee's summit and blue springs.
- Help for small businesses that were shut down for COVID. Kansas City Mo offered \$25,000 in grants for bars/restaurants from their federal money - independence offered zero
- low-income housing
- Having public transportation and longer hours of operation to other parts of independence would increase more opportunities for people that want to work that would possible help with the homeless population and being able to get into a place easier right now its ridiculous trying

to get a place to live so you have to go to the streets I have a job work 6 days a week and if I didn't stay with someone I be homeless with a job

- The look of the city as well as the people in it needs to be improved in order to keep residents here and keep people spending here. Surrounding areas are doing well and if we don't keep up we will earn a reputation as a less desirable suburb. We must become a great place to live. Also, we should leverage the square to attract the late-night crowd. Many people drive far to find late night activities, they would prefer to flock to the square if there were attractive options. This could also increase revenue.
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Misc

- How someone can volunteer to try and help and to strategize, please : cdgy16@gmail.com
- Do the things you're supposed to and not the things you're not. If you don't actually know what these are...step down and let others take over.
- Gun control
- Mask mandates in times of heavy COVID outbreaks, and requirement that only fully vaccinated people can attend sporting events at Cable Dahmer Arena.
- Increase current teacher pay.
- Just be honest with the citizens of Independence!!, so Harry would be proud of us!!
- Follow the needs of our community, do not base decisions on what KC or Jackson County are doing
- Employees need a decent raise not just 1 percent. The employees are the backbone of the city.
- Decrease the influence of the McClain family.
- Improve the efficiency of the internal operations of city departments.
- Addressing pay scales to retain employees.
- Better management is needed
- Human Resource Consistency
- Use lean six sigma to maintain goals and completion of goals in each department
- City is over bloated with too many departments and/or committees. Get rid of departments that are not needed.
- Most links don't work: <http://www.ci.independence.mo.us/BoardsCom>