



2023 City of Independence Resident Survey Open-Ended Comments

Presented to the City of
Independence, Missouri

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Q40. If you have any recommendations or suggestions for other projects you would like the city to consider, please provide them below.

- 1. Build more single family homes in the 300-600 K price range and quit building apartments. Sure the apartments are nice when they're new. They eventually all become dumps. 2. Hire more police officers. We should aim for 350 sworn personnel. 3. Find a way to close and bulldoze the motels on Noland (Clarion Pointe, quality Inn, Countryside Suites, America's Best and Days Inn). These motels are hubs of crime. Getting rid of them would completely change Noland for the better! Remember American Inn? It was bulldozed now we have 2 thriving restaurants where it used to sit. The motels are destroying Noland and the entire community. 4. Bulldoze and develop Noland Fashion Square. By develop I don't mean apartments. 5. Lots of vacant properties on the east side, specifically Jackson Drive. Try and occupy those with quality businesses. 6. Develop 40 Hwy west of Sterling to be more attractive to people at ending the stadiums. Restaurants, bars, nice hotels and shopping. We are missing out on all the stadium traffic that could visit and bring money to our city. Instead it's dump motels and homeless that contribute nothing. Make it a destination area! 7. Save the Independence Center by any means necessary! 8. Continue to improve and develop Noland Road. Such a historic and iconic road. The Noland Road CID guys are doing great, but the city needs to help!
- 1. Get temporary tags off the street. 2. Crack down on vehicles/trailers/items parked on the street. 3. Make people take care of their homes, keep it clean and looking organized, so that others do not have to see your trash.
- 1. Revamp empty schools/ buildings into affordable living space. Owned by the city.
- 40 Hwy congestion relief between Pizza Ranch and Jiffy Lube
- A Council that listens and works for the average person.
- A grocery store is needed near I70 and Little Blue Pkwy.
- A program/project to support the houses with historical value such as the Hughes/Childers house on main.
- A solution to the homeless and begging at street intersections.
- Accept ways to lower city expenses. Like water meters should be radio read, not have many people walking the streets every month! Cut down the staff we are paying. Lower the usage of electricity by helping residents with attic insulation, energy saving windows, and solar panels.
- Accepting the recently revised city charter is critical to the city's future
- Accountability - open up and give choices
- Address homeless issues at street corners, and on 40 hwy, Noland Rd
- All roads and streets, more police presence
- Although there is an effort to re-invigorate the Independence Square, I hope this emphasis doesn't get lost in politics. I hope those involved listen carefully to the citizens of Independence and their ideas and wishes.
- Atherton Road in Fairview Heights has many potholes.
- Attract more businesses on the square get homeless under control.
- Better communication to citizens
- Better mental health care for the city's first responders. Encourage city employees to use their days off.

- Better parks. Go to Pekin, Illinois and check out their park. It's wonderful. These parks here are a sorry excuse for a park.
- Better places for people to wait for City busses. It is a disgrace that people have to stand in the weather and mud.
- Better senior center
- Better sidewalks, roads, education and opportunities for employment. Focus on its reality and present rather than past glory.
- Better walking access on the square
- Bridge replacement on Kentucky over little blue creek in Fairmount
- Brighter streetlights in NW Independence along with curbs and sidewalks.
- Bring in businesses that will support our city & schools.
- Bring nature back, knock down old buildings. plant trees.
- Build a 2nd power plant and DONT sell our valuable city owned utilities.
- Businesses need to be accountable for maintenance of their property and trash on and from it.
- Change the city charter and accept responsibility of repairing curbs. This should not be the responsibility of residents. It is too hard to get concrete companies to do curbs and it affects the accessibility of our neighborhood.
- Check corruption, counter homelessness and drug use. Monitor skyrocketing cost of taxes and utilities
- Check on vehicle parking in the street in residential areas. There is an old boat parked on our street with Texas license plate.
- Child play facilities for kids under 5.
- City's schools and recreational facilities are awful
- Clean litter from the streets.
- Clean the city up. Make the roads better. Drop the food tax. Cameras on our police officers.
- Clean up 24hiway both east and west very slumish looking .
- CLEAN UP HOMELESSNESS PERSONS AROUND CHRISMAN HIGH SCHOOL & 23RD & LEES SUMMIT RD
- Clean up the homeless camp.
- Clean up the neighborhoods, help the homeless.
- Cleanup of the city streets needs to be more involved, more people to be actively employed in cleaning areas around islands near street lights of numerous cigarette butts & gravel. Streets need to be swept
- COI Utility bills too high. Billing should be invoiced by mail to customers. Dates meters read in order to allow access to meter readers.
- Construct sidewalk on Hy 40 from Serling to Noland. Noise barrier on hwy north side from Chrysler to Noland.
- Creation of an ethnic issues commission. Long-term commitment to DEI issues. Master planning of mixed-use communities (residential, retail, office integrated into neighborhood planning). Long-term commitment to increasing development of industry involved in international trade. Expand trades and vocations of Innovation Center in partnership with MCC.
- Crime
- Curbs

- Curbs and sidewalks
- Deal with homelessness and criminal activity in our city.
- Deal with the homeless and blight blight blight!!
- Desperately need a YMCA or similar for kids and families to better help with health and fitness
- Do not put apartments where the old JC Penney Store. As you never put apartments by retail, they will get broken in and then those retail places will leave nor put apartments by nice parks they will be destroyed. Apartments should not be seen they need to be in residential areas not business areas. Those apartments by Hobby Lobby look horrible. I don't even want to go down there no more. I have no desire to look at apartments when I'm shopping. You destroyed the whole beauty of that place. You could put in a nice retail store like home goods. We need more retail stores and the car washes. Why? people on the next door app make fun of Independence and The ridiculous amount of fast food places. And you need to clean up the empty buildings. And I really don't care about the independence square. I don't go up there. There's nothing for me to buy up there. I prefer the Mall and stores on 39th street. Focus on that. That's where your money's going to come from.
- Do not sell IPL.
- Do something about people using and/or blocking handicap parking. Second would be to do something about all the falling down vacant houses.
- Do something to revamp independence center. Do something about the crime in independence.
- Dog park on the east side of town
- Economic development needs to be significantly stepped up, in order to attract and keep a talented and educated residential base and workforce. It is a crying shame that both Blue Springs and Lee's Summit have left Independence behind for decades, with respect to economic development. That the City's development budget is a mere fraction of those in Blue Springs and Lee's Summit is nothing less than shameful. Additionally, though an important part of the City's history and heritage, the influence that the Community of Christ Church has on development decisions is much greater than it should be. This outsized influence of the Church holds the City back, keeping it from attracting quality development for, perhaps, more than a century.
- Economic development to support residential growth that spurs retail and restaurant growth. Independence is clearly not the first choice for exciting retail and restaurant options.
- Effort in reduction of vacant retail spaces. Improvement in streets, curbs, sidewalks, and bridges. Maintenance of city own land -mow, trash pick up ,etc. More efficient recycling centers available to the public. Great concerns regarding the rising homelessness, panhandling , and loitering. Also, concerns of individuals on bridges over I-70 highway waving flags or signs at traffic which cause distractions to the drivers and can cause traffic accidents .
- Eliminate franchise tax.
- Enforce codes
- Enforce codes regarding number of animals in a home
- Enforce expired license temp tags; Provide more exercise classes; Enforce speed limits & red light violations
- EVERYBODY THAT LIVES IN HIDDEN VALLEY CLUB-A PRIVATE COMMUNITY FOR SENIORS- NEEDS HIDDEN VALLEY RD ALL THE WAY INCLUDING RD MIZE RESURFACED BADLY
- Expansion of the ARCH program and increase number of days/hours animal control is available to respond (more animal control officers)

- Extend sewer service on Truman rd to our house. It is only one house away !
- Figure out why the electric and gas bills are so high.
- Find viable uses for all the vacant sites.
- Fine those who choose to block sidewalks with vehicles, especially on routes to schools children walk to.
- Finish the resurface of streets in Lack city Gardens.
- Fire that coal plant back up and sell the excess power to the grid. Owning our own electric company is our most valuable resource.
- First impressions make a difference.
- Fix Driveway/streets
- Fix residential streets and fix Little Blue Parkway.
- Fix streets potholes curbs are deteriorating too much disgusting trash junk poor rental ownership trashy houses and yards too damn many cars on property that don't run city workers talk on their phones stand around do nothing and take forever to do a half a** job
- FIX THE POTHOLES
- Fix the rental ready program! It is a joke.....no input from real honest to goodness landlords.....adding things to the requirements without notifying each and every landowner about them.....and most of all...make it a LEVEL playing field! Single family houses get inspected once a year and apartments get one apt inspection per building.....would not make it through even the most basic of court cases but the average landlord doesn't have the deep pockets to argue ! Just remember, fees from the city make the rents go up !
- Fix the roads and plow salt and sand them stop forgetting about everyone west of Noland and not in the rich neighborhoods
- Fix the streets on East side behind theater.
- Focus more around 24 & 291 (no sidewalks on Allen Rd). Culverts need replaced at cities expense. Homeless and drugs have taken over.
- Focus on affordable but nice single family dwellings and quit building unstable rental buildings.
- Fix the streets
- Free school lunch for all Independence students
- Fund redevelopment of Truman road west of Noland. Sidewalks- everywhere- no exceptions. Reduce electric rates. Maintain & improve parks that aren't waterfall park.
- Get a contract with AMR. Their response times and reliance on mutual aid are criminal.
- Get a Tanners or The Peanut - open in the Old Mustard Seed location
- Get Google Fiber. Try to lure popular businesses and restaurants to our city before they go to Lee's Summit or Blue Springs. Do something to save Noland Fashion Square and Independence Center.
- Get more large retail stores in Independence Center. Now have to go to Lee's Summit or Kansas to shop.
- Get those "car show" people out of our city. They bring crime, vandalism to our area and leave trash everywhere. Making them leave improves the look of our city and the safety of the residents and businesses.
- Grocery store or market be nice on corner of ERD Mize Rd and Jackson; also a gas station; and Trader Joes
- Has the city looked into modular reactors for power.

- Have health dept check senior housing without. Notice to management for poor conditions. Talk to renters not just management.
- Have it where the city council or government officials can not make money on what they do to "help" the City of Independence. They are only looking at their own pocketbooks and you can tell how the city has suffered because of it.
- Help poor people on fixed incomes clean and fix up their homes.
- Help stray animals. It is a bigger issue here than I have ever seen before.
- Help the homeless
- Hire a street department that will do the work and get rid of the cops posing as construction workers for ripping off the taxpayers with their high priced construction work. What imbecile decided to make the old trails museum their hobby RR site. Trails Museum will never get a new home.
- Historical church restoration on the square.
- Homeless and illegal migrant! I will move away if this is not fixed.
- Homelessness
- Homelessness needs to be addressed followed by codes enforcement in neighborhoods again.
- Housing and hot meals for homeless, especially for extreme weather conditions.
- I am not in favor of selling IPL, find good solutions and keep it.
- I didn't see anything in the questionnaire regarding the homeless problem in Independence. I think that should be dealt with immediately.
- I feel public safety at places like Independence Center and similar areas is a problem. I have also noticed a drastic increase in people speeding, running red lights and stop signs; especially in neighborhoods! I've seen an increase in accidents from people running lights. So I think public safety and street maintenance are my biggest issues.
- I feel that providing arts and theatre is very important to a community. It brings a sense of community. It also teaches so many and involves all ages young to old. I personally have worked for nearly 30 years in this field with the youth of our city and surrounding community. It is amazing to watch our future leaders grow. I appreciate the opportunity that Parks and Recreation provides for this program. We have dozens of volunteers every time we put on a show. It is amazing to watch that amount of dedication to our youth.
- I live in a house built in 1921. There have never been curbs or sidewalks in my neighborhood. We have open gutters for street drainage. There are A LOT of people who walk on my street. Most of them are walking to the bus line on 23rd Street. The speed limit is 25 but everyone speeds like crazy. The walkers dodge traffic. During heavy rains, our yards in this neighborhood flood. When police are called on the drug house across the street, they have stopped showing up. The guy across the street is confrontational and they are afraid of him. The other drug dealer who lives on the street behind me, sets off fireworks many times a year and also shoots a gun into the air. The police don't show up on those calls either. So, curbs, sidewalks, enclosed street drainage pipes, better water pressure, and a police presence that is willing to enforce the law. And since everyone's taxes jumped up substantially, get the money for these improvements from the county!
- I live in the southwest corner of Independence. There's no parks, no sidewalks. I have to walk in the streets with cars sailing by me. I'm 67 and I have to run across the street at 49th ter and Norfleet because people are so rude. I don't want to pay a bunch of property tax because there's no money spent in the southwest below 47th street. It's a dead zone in the city. I have to drive all

the way to the Sermon center to do yoga. Every time it rained in 2023 we lost electricity. It's ridiculous. There's so many homeless people by I 70 and blueridge/Sterling area I have to shop in Blue Springs. Once it gets dark I stay in my house.

- I PROPOSE PART TIME EMPLOYMENT FOR CITIZENS TO OPERATE STREET SWEEPING EQUIPMENT. ADDITIONALLY, LEAF PICK UP SERVICE
- I think the blight in Independence is at Noland Road and 40 Highway. It looks really bad. Also the Walmart near Sterling that we share with KCMO is awful in appearance and crime. All Independence children should attend Independence schools.
- I think the city is in pretty good shape but the one thing not mentioned in the survey is the homeless! The homeless are a real problem, and we must do something about it.
- I think the city should clean the streets with all the dirt and debris that goes into the storm drains can't be good. I also think the city should twice a year do residents bulk pick up for people who can bring stuff to the dump this would clean up neighborhood of large garbage around houses and make the community better. I also think there should be a garbage can for yard waste instead of those bags. Those things are a waste because they don't hold enough. You want people to clean up around there place but no help to get rid of the stuff.
- I watched your presentation for a GO bond and am in favor of a community center that will benefit our community and will also provide income through various programs. Something needs to be done with Noland Fashion Square, and across the street where Sam's used to be. I would like to see a grocery store at the Scottsdale Center on 40 Hwy or close by.
- I would like to know about the digital newsletter
- I would like to see a nice recycling center with convenient hours; also a place to recycle batteries. Update the animal shelter, hire more staff and an animal behaviorist. Need transportation for animals to Pet Smart and Animal Hospital.
- I would like to see a second location added to the IPD Closer to the mall.
- I would like to see at least a mini-bus route on streets like Chrysler, Sterling, Lee Summit Road. As well as a more frequent bus schedule. Possibly also a mini bus on Truman rd. And 23rd st., Independence Ave. . We as a city are lacking in public transportation. Yes we have busses on 23rd but not as frequent as maybe needed. I do not know about other streets. While not a bus rider yet, my time is coming. Elderly transport in this city is lacking and next to nonexistent. Non drivers need help.
- I would like to see the police station stay in the center of Independence.
- I'd like to see to see another code enforcement sweep of the northwest area of the city. Drive the side streets and just look from your car. It's appalling the city is ignoring this. It's vital to the preservation/continuance of this area that it's kept up to code. Better access to community trash (like furniture and appliance) disposal. Also fix or place sidewalks.
- Improve customer service. I tried to build a house, but the city was impossible to work with. Things kept changing.
- Improve sidewalks in Fair Monet. 24 hwy/Noland rd.
- Improve the bus system get more for it add more bus routes and more accessibility for more people to go on the bus for phone and get to there jobs easier.
- Improve the light company. Our city is known for being crooked. Improve accountability for our board members
- Improve the mall, lower rent to get more shops, improve safety there.

- In general the streets look trashy and buildings rundown. Independence is a bit tired and sad.
- Increase bus service throughout the entire city!!
- Increase investigation and prosecution of auto theft and other crimes. Provide mental health for homeless and work to reduce homelessness.
- Independence needs to clean up their appearance. We are not a city new families are looking to move to. Our city leaders need to drive to Lee's Summit and take a look around. We need to be growing a clean city with new outdoor recreation options for our families. We do not have enough outdoor options for families to have healthy fun together outside. The crime that is in our city also runs families and businesses away. We also need to preserve our neighborhoods. We let the cleanliness of neighborhoods go and our city looks dirty. Neighborhoods need to maintain clean and well maintained homes and yards.
- Innovative ways to lift families out of poverty or generational low income. Try something besides traditional education and government assistance. Try some well-known alternative uplifting , healing modalities. A quick web search of these criteria does not give many results. Perhaps it's a great opportunity to develop one.
- Invest in housing on the Square and replace city hall with a new city hall on the Square. Do not abandon downtown Independence
- Keep electrical local with solar/renewable sources. Expand recycling services.
- Keep on renters who have been abated by the city to evict them
- Keep vacant buildings under scrutiny - push owners to maintain their properties.
- Law and order; Clean water; Clean air; Clean sewer; Trash pick up
- Leave the square as it is with continued maintenance. don't "improve" like the mistakes of the 70s and the foolish spending on the city market.
- Left turn light at Sterling and Sheley. Sidewalk for all of 31st street up to elementary school.
- Little Blue Parkway needs serious attention on all fronts. I realized the contractor was probably the cheapest, but their attention detail is haunting all of us that have to drive it. Hidden Valley Road from RD Mize to 291 needs to be replaced or have it textured so people don't crash.
- Low income workers need better bus service to jobs. The risk of homelessness is high when bus service doesn't get them to jobs either when shifts start or even at all. People claim to be tired of seeing homeless people on the streets yet not much is done to help them maintain employment
- Lower electric rates.
- Lower our electric bill
- Lower taxes for seniors on fixed incomes.
- Lower utility cost (electricity, natural gas, and water)
- Make park improvements. Go to the park in Pekin-IL. The kids love it there.
- Make people work off fines pay minimum wage, clean up the city!
- Make the city more bikeable and walkable. There are few to no sidewalks for kids to walk/bike safely to school. The only "bike path" in the city goes to nowhere. The shared road routes throughout the city are dangerous and never used.
- Making sure the number of rental apartments in each unit is legal. Duplexes should not be turned into a 4 plex
- Many sidewalks are in disrepair. People cover them with junk, trash. Endless people have expired tags or expired temp tags.

- More activities for seniors
- More affordable housing; Better streets
- More bike lanes and safe ways to bike around Independence.
- More bike trails that connect the little blue trace to the independence square and Englewood arts district. A bike/walk study. Grocery store near little blue parkway and rd mize. Redeveloping Van Hook Park as a mountain bike park with a trail systems that can be used for hiking and mountain biking. Building a concrete pump track and flat walking trails. Playground and updating the restrooms. Example of this is places like Bentonville AK with the trail system in there downtown. Also looking into adding trails and George owns park too. Replacing busy and unsafe intersections with roundabouts. Gudgell and RD Mize, RD mize. and hidden valley.
- More complete sidewalks in the Susquehanna/ Bundschu Road neighborhoods.
- More free programs for single parents with kids.
- More homeless shelters/overnight warming shelters, teen community center. Get new leadership and honest police officers.
- More information on how to get these newsletters.
- More jobs for younger adults
- More late night non bar entertainment
- More litter control fine business who don't pick up trash around their property
- More police east independence 170 and little blue parkway area. Fix the creek coming from tapawingo flooding all the homes every year.
- More police officers, fix the roads.
- More police presence in neighborhood; trees over city streets
- More sidewalks on the way to the schools and businesses
- Multi family shouldn't just be rentals, there should be access to owning condos.
- Municipalization of trash services.
- My biggest concern for the area is what will happen when the mall area completely closes down. Even now it is a shell of what it was. Royals leaving will be another disappointment.
- Need a better homeless programs/better drug outreach
- Need a gas station near Truman and 23rd Street or near MCC
- Need curbs and streets fixed.
- Need more development West of Main, North of Truman.
- Need more things to do for 65 plus age group
- Need new sign at 24 hwy and Kentucky ave. You took down the old one. (Welcome sign).
- Need to consider lowering our property taxes.
- Need to have better location for school drop off/pick up.
- Need to lower rent prices on the empty businesses.
- neighborhood clean up program to make our city more beautiful and where we live look nice. So many code violations in Salisbury Hills Sub Division.
- Neighborhood sidewalks in western Independence need repaired; newer street lights; better traffic control on Truman Rd at Van Horn High School.
- New community center
- New splash park
- No city lights on my road.

- No more car wash, we have more than enough now. Deal with the homeless issues.
- No more trash. We need more focus on cleaning up the city.
- Parking on only one side of street!
- Pick up trash along streets; take care of vacant buildings; fix pot holes
- Pink Hill Road needs to be repaved BADLY and there needs to be a grocery store/drug store in the Little Blue Parkway area. Need more retail and restaurants to move into the shopping area on Little Blue Parkway!
- Place qualified personnel in management/chief spots on the police dept. Not making the least qualified at the top.
- Please do a better job with the power outage situation. Need more money added to the budget.
- Please do something about the old Noland Fashion Square and the seedy motels on Noland near I-70.
- Please figure out a way to make people repair and maintain sidewalks! Just sweeping them makes a huge difference. They make us look so bad. Sweep the streets regularly and clear the stuff that builds up along them. Clean things up in general.
- Please get rid of expired temp tags
- Please please fix the streets like pot holes, rough roads. I would like to see more facilities go up for all kids to have something to do to stay off the streets and for something to do. Put a Walmart at the other end of where the Kmart used to be on 24 hwy or put one where the old GEHA used to be.
- Please quit spending money. You have raised property taxes so much people have to sell their homes.
- Please stop approving car washes and coffee shops in our city. How many do we need? Can we please revitalize the 39th street area, and clean it up so people will actually want to come to Independence? Make better deals with the big businesses that you're trying to bring in so Independence can bring in some revenue! Stop giving it all away to Blue Springs!!
- Please stop building everything on the 39th street, Little Blue corridor that only continues to benefit Blue Springs. Lots of your residents live on 24 highway, Truman and 23rd St and are sick of seeing dental offices, car washes and Mexican restaurants as the only line of businesses being opened or repurposed in that area
- Police department is horrible. Needs much improvement.
- Police spend too much time in empty parking lots linking their cars together, chatting, while traffic crime, expired temp tags, and reckless driving goes unchecked.
- Potholes, code enforcement.
- Preserve and promote our rich history!! Work on the rental numbers, if people are part time residents they do not care for nor invest in the future of our City!! Mandate code inspections on each rental prior to a new renter taking occupancy. Charge landlords a fee for inspections and hold them to safety standards to thin the slum lords out!!
- Programs for seniors and disabled residents. Food /social gatherings.
- programs like O'Fallon where recycling is collected by city and processed to reduce utility cost. Expand solar energy. Keep city hall and police HQ at the Square. Leave original portion of Sermon Ctr intact, Keep IPL. Transparency to the citizens. Need more access to internet. Do not demolish anything on the square.

- Promote upkeep and renovation of blighted and vacant buildings for new businesses rather than build more.
- Prosecute criminals
- Put a limit on car washes and coffee retailers in the city. That is all that is being built! At some point, we are going to have a multitude of abandoned car washes!
- Public transportation
- Put in handicap accessible seating in Cable Dahmer Arena.
- Raise cigarette taxes to cover street sweeping the curbs for the butts . Install ash trays or make the area around the square, especially court house grounds non-smoking. It's no fun walking around seeing butts all over the streets and sidewalks. Install more dog waste stations at all the city parks. That's another place you see cigarette butts and broken alcohol bottles. #1 project should be get all the drug addicts & thieves out of this town! Let Police ENFORCE instead of expecting them to be everyone's buddy.
- Re-evaluate the speed limits of certain areas
- Repaint lanes on most streets. Repair pot holes, arrest paper out dated license.
- Repave my street not all the ones around me. Repave after utility replacement projects are completed. It is a waste of money to repave a street to have Spire dig holes in front of every house 1 months later. Just stupid waste of money because then have get pot holes. Keep utilities local and get prices down. Do not do this rate thing like every. Fix pot holes. We shouldn't have to keep calling them in. Get in a truck and drive down the street. Any street. All the streets. Codes should randomly recheck problem houses. I should not have to call on my scrapper neighbor every 3 to 4 months because they are trashy.
- Replace streets on west side residential streets. More attention is given to east side.
- Request city voters to be members of a city commission to provide guidance on the future of the city utility and have no previous connection to past city elected office or other board, new blood.
- Response to immigration issues. Currently we have hundreds of unvaccinated unvetted and cared for individuals preparing food in restaurants shopping in stores etc. This national issue cannot be ignored. While we cannot do anything about the state of the country we can do something about the state of our own community health. Persons who have walked 6,000 miles through jungles are exposed to and may have tuberculosis dengue parasitic diseases etc. This is not a prejudicial statement this is a medical fact. Children who are not vaccinated are going to school and the schools are a large cauldron of uncared for persons. Additionally my taxes are paying for students who get 20% less education and they were already poorly educated to start with. I despise living in this community. Systemic failure to police has created a cesspool.
- Ridding the city of the meth heads
- Satellite police stations; more police
- Save IPL
- Secure the Independence Mall. The shootings have made good people abandon the shopping area.
- Sermon Center updated with indoor swimming pool, lazy river, several courts, racquetball, weight lifting and track
- Services for the unhoused population...they walk along Noland Road because there's food and shelter, they need a specific place to stay and services to assist them.

- Sidewalks are in poor condition. Need more walking trails and parks. Less lower price housing, start bringing up the value of the housing- Independence will draw a different clientele.
- Sidewalks are needed from 38th and Blue Ridge to the new bridge, and over the bridge to KC city line
- Small homes for veterans. Better mental health care. Help for addicts to recover.
- Speed hump or stop sign at 19th and Norwood. Sidewalk on South side of 19th Street between Sterling and Scot.
- Speeding on my street.
- Stop and ticket and impound vehicles with outdated temporary tags and now I'm seeing more outdated license plates. I'm tired of seeing so many outdated tags.
- Stop fixing street signs.
- Stop homeless from wondering the neighborhoods stealing and breaking in places and then trashing them...
- Stop the crime by prosecuting/enforcement of laws. End the homeless camps and panhandling.
- Stop with the car washes and coffee shops. More place to eat out.
- Storm sewers especially north of Truman along Lee's Summit Road. Fix the potholes and clean up the police department.
- Storm water issues are becoming very serious for me as neighbors uphill decide to close their ditches leaving the water to rage down the street flooding me.
- Storms water control. Our park is washing away.
- Stray cats are a huge problem. No less than 25 on my block alone. Create and expand a project to trap, fix, and relocate them.
- Street maintenance
- Street repairs...i.e.....STREETS
- Street sweeping. Sidewalks.
- Stronger police presence, better maintenance of parks (especially tennis courts), more patrol at Santa Fe park (tennis courts are scary as there are always a number of homeless or people on drugs loitering), and please patrol the stoplight at 35th and Noland (by Sonic) as I have been in two accidents at that stoplight as people always run the light turning left onto 35th from Noland.
- Take care of the homeless
- Teach the police how to drive without hitting a vehicle. Train them on how to go through intersections with resident safety in mind. They're dangerous. Also, teach them to take responsibility for their actions. Get a third party involved for wrecks.
- The bridge on Kentucky that has been closed for repairs for 4 years now. With all the trains and the bridge being out it makes it hard to access our neighborhood. Fairmount area needs help and everyone just looks the other way. No one cares about us back here. Taking away the sermon center is just wrong. All the theaters that perform there are great cheap entertainment as well as keeping kids busy and having fun. Also our yard is a swamp in rain the city said they were working on a fix for 20 years now. It's worse since the house was built on the corner of our block. The water department just keeps ignoring us.
- The bus system needs to be better running later and earlier on Saturday. Businesses should not be allowed to keep a bus stop off their property like HyVee at 40 Hwy just did as well as Walmart on

40 Hwy. Bus riders now cannot access those places without using Uber or crossing dangerous traffic.

- The city needs to do better with houses that are trashy and need cleaned up. Home values go down.
- The curb and storm drain on my street where my home is needs improvement. The drainage is bad and the curb is basically not a curb. Water stands along the driveways and does not drain well. My street is 33rd street and Willis Ave. It's a cul-de-sac.
- The curbs within the Britany Ridge neighborhood are ALL disintegrating. When snowplows come by they make the issue even worse. We need some attention please.
- The few businesses we have are leaving because of code enforcement. Leave folk alone. If they aren't hurting anything.
- The intersection of Osage and Noland is horrible
- The Northwest area needs restaurants like the Southeast has.
- The police are crooked, needs cleaning up.
- The street on my block slopes downward right into my driveway. Rainwater fills my drive. We need sidewalks and better street landscaping,
- The tourism department should never have been disbanded and folded into parks. The parks department does not know how to run tourism! The city wasted the huge tourism fund it had and now cannot fund anything...hence the closing of the National Frontier Trails Museum. It is a disgrace what has happened.
- The water pipes they are all too old and keep breaking. They need to work on not having so many car washes, Mexican restaurants, city planners need to put a limit on how many repetitive types of businesses they allow
- There is only one valid trash service and that is Teds. Need more options. If a service is on the city website, it should be a high quality service.
- to fix the rain off water next to my house. It floods my yard and it is run off from the whole neighborhood.
- To try to keep the appearance of the city comparable to other cities, like Lee Summit, Blue Springs.
- Too many empty buildings
- Too many retail, industrial businesses are being built instead of reusing abandoned buildings
- Transparency in all that you do and more police officers
- Trash is one of the biggest problems the city faces along with houseless persons.
- Unlawful acts due to lack of police presence. City code violations not being enforced unless someone calls.
- Use blinking red arrows for turns.
- Water main breaks are a problem and they don't get fully and totally repaired or repaired fast enough leaving yards and streets a disaster
- We want the potholes fixed. And our streets maintained
- We all know Independence has a large houseless population. While it is great that we have locations to feed and warm/cool them, what are we doing to help them move from being houseless to being safe in a home?
- We are building our retirement home off Truman and VanDyke and the process of getting the building permit has been difficult to say the least. Simplification of this process would benefit

everyone. Even with federal and state funding/programs that are available to the city to ensure that everyone has access to high speed internet/cable, there are many areas of the city that do not provide internet/cable. These are rural areas where these programs were developed to cover and yet nothing has been done. We will also be required to pay the same taxes as others in the city while not receiving the services that they are providing. No sewer, no gas, no city water. Please help out the citizens of Independence that live in the more rural areas of the city!

- We need a grocery store that doesn't sell expired food (Apple Market on 24hwy, save-a-lot on Truman) and isn't a dollar general in northwest region. River and 24hwy has that stipmall that is almost totally empty, why not try to get a price chopper/hyvee in that space. It could service independence and Sugar Creek residents. I currently drive 20 min across town to just go to the grocery store once a week, it's out of the way and inconvenient.
- We need a Sprouts grocery store. Do something with the Noland Fashion Square on Highway 40.
- We need more police officers and new fire stations built.
- We need more restaurants, stores and businesses here and jobs. We have too many empty storefronts you are bringing the Ghet o to Independence and no one wants to do business here now. You have turned the Independence Center into the Bannister mall, normal people and families can't go there now. Too many out of town people buying up the homes and turning them into rentals that needs to stop, they need to be local. We have 20 Mexicans living in one home and parking all over the street and grass trashing up the neighborhood not taking care of the homes. Homeless people living all over the city begging on the street corners and leaving trash everywhere. They are going thru our neighborhoods at night and stealing stuff and not enough police presence. The Obama street lights don't have enough lights to monitor anything. Independence. is starting to be a sad place to live and we have lived her 62 years.
- We need sidewalks in the areas west of Noland Rd for our children at the bus stops.
- We need to concentrate more on western Independence and areas that support our school district instead of Blue Springs school district
- We should be working to expand public transportation into downtown. This includes working with the streetcar to expand it back around the square. We also should have public transportation being built out wherever we are building new businesses. This includes the Litle Blue Valley warehouse complex. We should also be marketing the west side of Independence as a great alternative to living in KC for professionals. But we will need to make the neighborhoods appealing meaning restaurants and business these people need to be in the neighborhood. Walkability to business is what I would really like on the west side.
- Where can we put the new royals stadium in Independence!!!!
- Widen 39th St between Chrysler and Blue Ridge. Lots of pedestrians have to walk on the street.
- Work on homeless shelter in the vacant buildings. We have a large grocery store on crystler that could be used that way. Also incentives for using a building that is just setting. No new car washes Mexican restaurants. Get a trader joes.
- Work with private developers to clean up property. Also do something about Independence Mall maybe affordable housing or repurpose it like other communities into something at ractive and fun-work with KCMO on getting mass transit - improve our schools- May need a homeless shelter and work with churches on that
- Would like to get a copy of my light bill from city hall.
- Would love fenced in areas in parks for my dog- off leash.

- Would you consider placing a traffic light at the intersection of S Northern Blvd and 23rd street. It's such a pain to turn there or go straight like so many people do.
- Year round amusement park
- Yes take out all of the concrete barriers that prevent you from going into businesses at intersections. Just totally STUPID!
- You did not ask about homeless issues, trash, and begging in the streets. All of these are issues I hear discussed by everyone. My children encourage me to move out of Independence. I think the issue of poverty directly impacts the issues I have mentioned. How the city looks and makes a negative impression on visitors.

Q41. If you have any other comments you would like to make, please provide them below.

- 1) Selling IPL would be the greatest mistake this City would ever make. It will devastate the General Fund when a private electrical company charged us for street lighting and remove the Municipal electric rate. Then the ratepayers (customers) will fall under the MO PSC control and their TOU mandate will hurt people on fixed incomes. 2) The proposed revamping of the PUAB where Council Members can't use IPL funding for their political pet projects would best benefit the IPL ratepayers. 3) The City needs to make better efforts to educate the citizens. Getting rid of Meg Lewis was a great first step. More meetings should be held in neighborhoods utilizing the neighborhood school building for convenience so people will actually attend. Record those meetings for those that can't make the in-person meetings. 4) Something radical has to be done with our Animal Control. That needs to be put out for bid and let a 501(3)(c) take it over so we can have a better run AC. Include funding for a huge spay/neuter program to reduce unwanted litters. 5) Quit building luxury apartments and build more affordable housing to get the homeless problem resolved. 6) Increase IPD's budget and hire more Police Officers for a stronger police presence.
- 1. Get rid of the McClain's. No one can afford the price they want for Noland road land. 2. Figure out what to do with the homeless. They are causing unsafe neighborhoods. Theft is rampant. 3. Make all home owners clean up their properties. The city is looking old, trashy and dirty.
- A lot of gunshots at night. Worrisome.
- A recreation center with activities for all ages is needed
- Abandoned houses, bad roads, lazy cops; plow snow on residential streets better
- Address the vacant house problem. There's a house that's been vacant and boarded up for the 10 years we've been in our house. It's across from Bryant school. There are many others, some with historical significance.
- Affordable housing. home owner accountability.
- All neighborhoods receive equal repairs and maintenance, and equal benefits from police public services. Everyone pays taxes.
- All taxes generated within Independence city limits should stay there and benefit those citizens. Also, the only time we hear from council members, or even the mayor is re-election time. How about some actual community outreach to your community that is struggling right now? There appear to be no sustainable jobs other than retail and food service in the city, which is why most jobs are lost to the Kansas side of the state line. You have police breaking their back to keep the town to a slow boil but no backup from. City leaders or anyone in power to prosecute or hand out feasible sentences, which allow repeat offenders to continue to troll the streets. This and many other reasons why make Independence look like a not great place to live. I have been here all my life and care very much for my city, but when your hard working, tax paying constituents feel abandoned, that is what happens.
- Although the litter problem has improved, there are many houses that are poorly maintained.
- Amount of homeless and junkies on 40 Hwy and Sterling is horrible.
- An online police website
- Another thing I don't like is all the single family houses that are being bought and turned into rentals. Neighborhoods become transient. You can't trust anyone.
- Appreciate the response to police; and AMR electrical lines need to be buried and every street with sidewalks.
- As always I also hope that those individuals who are duly elected to serve on the Independence City Council listen carefully to their constituents and take their concerns as serious notions.

- AS FAR AS CURBS AND ROADS AND SNOW REMOVAL GO, WE HAVE TO PAY AND HAVE OURS DONE OURSELVES.
- Bad customer service with JACO tax, code enforcement harassment by city , the homeless problem.
- Better neighborhood watch area.
- Bring a Chic-fil-a to Noland Rd. we need another one the one at the Center is always too crowded. Do something about that crook Frank White and Beaty Smith they are stealing our City blind and we are not paying for these rich ball players to have new stadiums we can not even pay for our groceries let alone a stadium for them. People are hurting and you are raising our utilities and taxes thru the roof. Crime and trash everywhere. You guys need to keep the grass mowed on the highways and pick up the trash. No one is taking care of our City just spending all our money.
- Bring back better training of police.
- Bring new business to the West side of Independence. Tired of car washes and coffee places. Bring new business to 23rd Street West of Lee's Summit Road.
- Business should respond to telephone as well as online.
- Cheers.
- City council should not think they are better than people.
- City curbs need a lot of repair - Lee's Summit Rd and 43rd
- City has greatly declined.
- City has no sense of direction.
- Clean up the city. Put in a diverging diamond intersection at Noland Rd and 70.
- clean up the city. Too many run down homes. Too many homeless, too much crime.
- Clean up the town and make it safe again.
- Cleanup of abandoned properties, trash, etc. Caution lights at 24 hwy and Kentucky Ave- bad corner.
- Cleanup streets, curbs sidewalks. Talk to building owners to clean up their properties especially on 23rd st and Truman Rd.
- Codes compliance must remain a priority
- Concerned about both the homeless population and the new truck stop going in at 120 & Noland - will it invite trafficking?
- Council, Mayor and City Manager need to be transparent with the citizens of Independence.
- Crime safety housing business choice all fast food.
- Dayforce is a joke and a complete waste of money. The city needs to get rid of it.
- Delay on getting Google Fiber. We need it , not just Comcast, Infinity and ATT. Too expensive
- Despite its challenges, we love living in Independence. We wish to support our community.
- Do away with property taxes on our vehicles.
- do not buy GEHA
- Do not privatize electric utility
- Do we have Police? They never ever show up.
- Don't mess up the square. Changing it to a pedestrian mall is a huge mistake. What we need are shops, not social space. It will destroy the historic value of the area.
- Don't throw good money after bad in areas like the perpetually failed 40 highway corridor. Don't use my tax money to build a facility for a business that is fully capable of self support.
- Downtown Independence has great potential, but it seems that one family owns too much of it Drop off depot is too expensive now
- Due to the property tax problems, we will be moving in the next two years.

- Eliminate the ridiculous concrete island at 23rd and 291 that impedes left hand turn from 291 S to 23rd St Westbound. Stop swindling money from the city for buddy projects. Fire up the power plant again. Don't cater to the homeless, they don't want help. They want to live on the outside of the confines of societal rules. Why would I have confidence in the EOC that couldn't even initiate the tornado siren when it was needed? This city divested the Health Department right before a pandemic, W.T.H? IPD did not even charge the drunk driver that hit me and my son head on at 80 to 100 mph on 24 hwy, thanks for having my back. We're lucky to even be alive. The streets are battle ground. Bottom line, I'm moving my family out of this town before the next school year. This city simply isn't safe for families.
- Enforce animal control.
- Enforcing business to maintain landscaping and in residential neighborhoods making sure homeowners keep the curb free of leaves and debris so water can run freely to the storm drain. (E 31st Terrace Dr S between Hidden Valley rd & S Cochise Ave, as example)
- Enjoy the Senior center, and the sense of community around the Square.
- Enjoyed living here for 61 years !
- Extremely disappointed in attitude of police or response, not friendly.
- Extremely worried about crime. Also, the homeless people. Not safe.
- Feel free to call me at (816) 215-2323. I will gladly provide additional information and reasonable explanation for my answers.
- Fight for our home/business owners personal property tax. Jackson County is making life difficult. Be our voice and fight for us.
- Fix bridge on 9700 block of Overton.
- Fix the bridge, my water problems, and leave the community theater
- Fix the potholes. Fix the Independence utilities
- Fix the potholes and expedite opening the ramp from 40Hwy to I-70E.
- Fix the traffic lights to allow smooth traffic flow with out stopping at every light
- Focus on quality of living for the residents that pay the taxes. Enforce license plates.
- Free music, dance, sports classes for single parents with kids.
- Fund the police department, prosecute crimes committed in the city. Don't let this place become a dump.
- Get a city manager with integrity.
- Get meters installed for solar projects. Incentive to install solar, rebate from IPL.
- Get the city on local news stations.
- Have been unable to get assistance from City regarding abandoned house next door.
- Have never seen a street sweeper in my neighborhood in over 5 years.
- Have the police dept. crack down on people with expired license plates. It is annoying.
- Highly concerned about the pedestrian traffic throughout the city, 23rd Street in particular is very dangerous.
- Historic Preservation. I want the city to care more about Historic Preservation and putting money into it. We get a lot of tourism draw for the Truman sites but we have more here to keep people visiting. The city currently doesn't funnel any or near enough tourism money towards it to help preserve/improve/maintain. The "groups" associated with each location (Vaile/Bingham Waggoner/Chicago and Alton/Trails) are all the older generation and can't do the projects physically or take years to put on enough fundraisers for one single fix (which by that time more things need attention). Police. The discussion of the police moving I don't like. I admit living in the northwest part of independence was my choice when I bought my home but the amount of sirens I hear at night means the police need to stay closer here than move farther away. I grew up in the

neighborhoods by Blackburn where you are looking to move it to and would rarely hear sirens at any point in the day. Moving them across town I feel is a mistake to pull them this far away from the part that needs it the most. That being said I live on West Waldo and have seen cops drive down my road 3 times in 3 years, I feel safe in my neighborhood but don't feel like it's from a police presence. Also moving the police to building to that area is almost all residential and a few blocks from an elementary school. Have you asked if these neighborhoods if they would want that? In it's current location it isn't directly in a residential area and fits nicely being by the bus stop not directly in a neighborhood. Communication. I would like to see better communication from the city. I currently follow 5 different pages/ groups online to stay informed about what is happening or going on in independence (why do the residents need to work so hard to know what the city is doing or planning). I would like to see the city scenes put back in the utility bills each month, I read them every month. I think having the open discussions and forums are nice to get community involvement on what the city is planning or looking into. Sermon Center I would like to see the building stay, it has history to independence (again embrace it don't tear it down to build new). Add a new building to it and connect them, do updates to it to bring it forward. If the city doesn't care about history then don't advertise that we have history to come see. IPL. WE NEED TO KEEP IT AND THE WATER. One of the most proud things I love to tell people about is how I have the best water and power company. We are never affected by brown outs in the summer, our time without during storms is considerably less that others if we even have any. Evergy recently put in place different rates for usage, what a nightmare to have to worry about what appliances to use based off the time of day. That doesn't work for everyone and puts an added cost/strain on those households to just live in their own home. If City Hall moves the police could use that building and renovate the current to have more space as needed. City Hall. I don't think moving the city hall to the old GEHA building is good. Honestly it's closer to Blue Springs than the majority of your residents. Maybe combine/ build with the utilities at their current location of 23rd and 291. The empty lot at that location is big enough for a building and parking. It looks to be pretty costly to make all these moves, when the tax dollars could be spent to renovate and invest in what we have. City Utilities Building. I don't think moving it farther away is a good idea for your residents. Almost all who come to pay in person are older, why make your citizens drive farther away and through more traffic to pay their bills when you have a building you have renovated within the last decade. Transparency. Did you know that if you put the word "lease" in front of purchase it doesn't have to go to vote for the citizens voice to be heard? I do know that so that and it seems thar the city didn't want our opinions on the moves and what to do with millions of our tax payer dollars. If you are transparent with what your actual intentions are then it didn't seem like the city ignores us as citizens and does whatever they want. Why give the impression that you are sneaking around just be upfront and honest. The impression is that you are asking what we want but don't actually care what we say. I hope that you truly read what the citizens write and take that into consideration going forward.

- Homeless encampments are increasingly becoming an issue for businesses and neighborhoods.
- Homeless people loitering and begging for handouts on 40 and Lee's summit road is embarrassing for the city. Why is it allowed? They set up camp every day during the summer. The more homeless you have, the more crime.
- Homeless problem is a major issue that needs to be addressed; also mental health services need to be prioritized.
- Homelessness has gotten much worse especially along 40 highway. Crime is skyrocketing. I believe this is due to lack of willingness to prosecute criminals. They can steal a car and there is literally nothing that happens to them. The police are just as frustrated with their hands being tied. City council needs to vote to fix curbs!

- How about city councilmen communicate by mail or meet with residents. Let us know why our bills are so high. Make Santi Cali Gon safe and promote what you are doing about it- Combat negativity and let's hear from a Chamber of Commerce
- I am not happy with what's happened to my former neighborhood near the three trails school. City code is definitely being enforced. Leaving KCMO to Independence on 40 is very embarrassing for people going to the stadium. Going to Englewood is very sad. Keep going east on 40 to Walmart is dirty. Northeast is dirty and scary. Why does Independence have so much Section 8 residences? Police need to come up with a solution for crime around Independence Center. City Planning needs to do a better job, e.g., another car wash at 40 & Lee's Summit, and squeezing in Dutch Bros & Taco Bell in that same area. People turning north from west 40 onto Lee's Summit Road can be hit from people exiting these two places.
- I do not think residents should be responsible for sidewalks, some are forced to spend thousands due to a single complaint. Sidewalks in general are a mess.
- I hate we have vote a Truman High School. We are senior people.
- I have a Blue Springs address and all kids, grandkids attend/attended BS schools. I feel more connected and involved in Blue Springs than Independence.
- I have had very little contact with fire or police, so I think everything is OK. I feel very safe at home and out on the street. I live in Fairmount, and feel safe in all the parks, except possibly Fairmount Park, and that is only because it is SO isolated. Obviously, nothing can be done about that. There is a sewer drain next to my house, and it seems that the water stands in front of my house. This causes the pavement to break down a bit. I complained once and the city sent someone almost immediately to repair it! But it is kind of a mess again. I hate to complain and am not sure if there is anything I can do. On the other hand, I am 70 years old, and mostly just ant to be left alone!
- I have to write a check to pay my electricity bill, because they are charging 5 or 6 bucks to process a card online. This is a ridiculous amount it costs a few cents in the rest of the world.
- I like living in Independence
- I like to receive news in the mail, rather than digitally
- I live near the Sonic on Jackson. I turned in several times 4 to 6 months ago on the Independence Now site about the street sign at Jackson and 39th Pl. It is turned the wrong way. I don't live on Jackson, I live on 39th Pl. S. I also turned in about all the over growth of weeds on the sidewalks in the area. They never got mowed all summer and couldn't be used. The 3 commercial lots only got mowed once all summer. Thank You
- I rent and recently went to court over debris between shed and garage. The judge wouldn't listen as I tried to explain. I paid \$189 to have it cleaned up. I should not have been held liable as I am renting in the first place. The Independence community neighborhood people and the judges need to do a better job.
- I wish Independence City news was on ATT DIRECTV. I don't have Comcast. I'd prefer to watch it on a regular channel on my TV (streaming) and not from a social media sight or on my iPad or iPhone. I spent some time trying to find out how to register for news letters for the city on the webpage and could not find out how to do it. I found several newsletters, but not how to sign up for them. It would be nice to just get news letters to my email. We used to get the City Scene with our utility bill, but don't get that any longer.
- I worked for the city, the leadership is biased, closed minded, and patriarchal. I have lived here my entire life, it's just gone downhill since 1975.
- I would like my driveway restored after the gas company tore it up. 6 months ago.
- I would like the city to consider having the drop off depot more frequently. It is important to continue to grow the number of and types of outdoor activities, such as Art festivals, Ethnic food

and dance festivals, in and around our city's historic locations, parks, and growing communities as we look for more ways to attract tourist and tourism dollars into our city.

- I would like the Truman high school tennis courts opened to the public, as our tax money built them.
- I would like to see dumpy areas cleaned up. Independence did not use to let this happen and now you see homes that look so trashed in nice neighborhoods and even if the city comes out within a week it's all trashed like a junkyard again. And has been going on for at least 5 years.
- I would like to see the Electric become part of Every I think they can manage it better, also East 24 out to Buckner and a long Blue Ridge Pkwy needs another Grocery store like a Walmart Market, more Variety of restaurants, a definitely more Single family Ranch homes with basements older folks don't want these 2:story homes, many of us want to upgrade to new homes but none are available. Everything is old.
- I'm appalled at how you the city council and the police department treat the homeless!! They are human just like us!! Try helping them not just pushing them out!!
- Improve the homeless work program.
- Inclusiveness is necessary; more police presence/patrol in residential neighborhoods.
- Independence Adopt-a- Street program did not put up my signs as agreed. Cancelled. AMR abuses their emergency lights to beat traffic.
- Independence can be a great place to live, but seeing businesses close is worrisome. The rise in crime at the mall is bothersome as well.
- Independence has an image problem. Too many blighted commercial properties that do not maintain their grass, shrubbery, and trees. Closed businesses in particular. Too many street medians that aren't maintained. Too much trash and litter on city streets. Daily or weekly street sweeping needed in major retail areas. Elimination of single use plastic bags would be a big step. Lack of recycling options.
- Independence is an empty suburb with sub par district. Many are leaving
- Independence is an ok place to live. It's not the greatest in terms of homelessness, and areas not kept up to look nice. The roads need improvement in areas.
- Independence is unsafe and corrupt. Planning on moving away.
- Independence school district needs to be 5 days a week. Do not increase real estate taxes.
- Independence's infrastructure is deteriorating, as well as crime is going up. The city is starting to look dilapidated and tired, except for the higher income areas.
- Individuals who are homeless/houseless have become a problem in our neighborhood. Specifically, the camps at 40 Highway and Lee Summit Rd. It is unfortunate that these individuals decline services that are offered to them. The area has become unhealthy, unsanitary and unsafe. I have witnessed a homeless person laying unresponsive on the street. Several are loitering on or near the sidewalks. Many times, a homeless person swinging a broom approaches vehicles while at the stop light. It is an extremely fearful and uneasy situation for 11 months out of the year. There has been resolution of this problem.
- Inform the public of all elections and clearly stating what's on the ballots.
- It is important to enact laws that's do not allow dogs being chained.
- It seems to me that there is entirely too much focus on the Independence Square and historical sites in comparison to the rest of the city.
- I've lived her for a while now, how might I have heard about ANY communication from the City?
- Lack of permits for building onto homes. This needs addressed. And parking in yards creating a mud hole. Not what you want to see at your neighborhood.

- Lack of property maintenance, abandoned vehicles on private property and city streets. Lowers class and value of neighborhoods - harbors/starts crimes.
- Leaves in roadways and storm drains
- less government
- Lower electric bill and get more restaurants and shopping on 24 east of 291
- More bus routes and longer hours.
- More options for restaurants at the independence square and need more housing any kind
- More police presence on west side Independence
- More police equals less crime. All we want is a safe and attractive place to live and work.
- More police needed
- More retail stores similar to what was lost - JC Penney, Macy's, Barnes and Noble, toy store, etc. Discount furniture store and boutiques would also be nice.
- Move attention to all break in/thefts in vehicles in driveways
- Moved here entirely out of necessity. Will be leaving as soon as possible. Taxes are outrageous. Town is old, bad reputation, don't like it here.
- Mow city property more often. More roadside maintenance.
- My biggest concern is the homeless community. Begging, sleeping on the street, stealing, walking out into traffic, and general safety.
- My marks for police were lower because of issues with calling 911 for shots fired on celebrations of our Chiefs winning & people firing off their guns. I believe people should have the right to bear arms, but not to point where someone could be injured or someone's home being hit from a stray bullet. Also, not to argue when I call about what I have heard.
- My neighborhood protects itself because the police cannot or will not solve a single crime even when we give them pictures, even when we offer them video, and if they did the Jackson county prosecutor wouldn't prosecute anyway so unless there's federal dollars involved for the police they are not going to do anything. We live in fear in persons who live in fear eventually find a way to get out leaving behind property for yet another investor.
- Need a Cains Restaurant in the area. Have to go to Blue Springs no others around.
- Need better police monitoring in our neighborhoods. My kids can't ride their bikes or play in the backyard by themselves. Poor school district.
- Need more police officers & their salaries need to be increased
- Need more sit down restaurants.
- Need more transparency from our council members and city manager
- Need stricter laws against theft. Becoming a MAJOR PROBLEM!!!!
- Need to fix the vagrancy issues. Fix the crime problems. City needs to pursue city ordinances in property upkeep!
- Need to have police monitor traffic speeds 39th St. Between Chrysler and Blue Ridge. Would like to see sidewalks in this same area
- No more car washes, coffee shops, dentist offices, Mexican restaurants
- No more coffee shops, car washes or warehouses
- Northeast Indy is a bunch of hoods and druggies. Never see a cop unless they are giving a traffic ticket.
- Parks and Rec need to mow the grass more often.
- Parks in area not sure of other than. Sermon center. My water is from Raytown, electric independence,
- Patrol borderline between Independence and Raytown race track.

- Pave the roads in cemetery
- Pay more attention to what residents want instead of what just the Mayor or council may want. The residents pay the taxes and need to be heard.
- Paying a utility bill is ridiculous with added fees unless you pay by a personal check or cash. Totally inconvenient
- People are going 60 in a 25 mph zone.
- People drive crazy and it seems the police ignore it.
- Please call me for more idea. s
- Please enforce 25 mph zones on Cogan Dr.
- Please enforce the city codes for commercial property. Please enforce the noise codes for vehicles driving around our city booming amplified “music”. It is a distraction to other drivers and dangerous and has become a big disturbance in my neighborhood and on Noland road.
- Please get homeless/criminals off the streets. Bring back operation Legend.
- Please Keep the Royals at the current Stadium. Moving downtown would be atrocious
- Please keep utilities. It is much cheaper
- Please start collecting unpaid vehicle registration \$ and use those \$ toward projects
- Please stop expanding/annexing beyond the current city limits. There is no need for it. Please trim weeds from curbs and sidewalks and sweep the streets regularly. Most weeds are growing in sediment along curbs that could be swept away. Please plow sidewalks and enforce residential and commercial plowing. There are so many people walking to work, stores and bus stops. Please make sure all bus stops are appropriate. The bus stop on 40 hwy near Sterling is dangerous and ridiculous.
- Police department needs to be more concerned about crime than speeders!
- Police response time needs to improve. I live on the far east end and wish Blue Springs annex us.
- Privatizing IPL would be the worst decision that could ever be made! Invest in the utility, be on the forefront of technology and position our utility for the future. Be proactive in having a modern, independent, self sufficient utility that will position the citizens well for the future.
- Program for the homeless. That population is growing.
- Read what I wrote above, Then read it again. These issues are serious.
- Really would like to have a Walmart out somewhere on the north side of town on the side of 24 hwy.
- Red light runners need to be ticketed. It is dangerous. The light at 291 and Hidden Valley- the no turn on right. is always disobeyed
- Reinstate the Neighborhood Code Compliance program. Neighborhoods looked so much better when that was enforced. Happy to see the roads at Woodlawn Cemetery re-surfaced. Would like to see the Independence Square open the old Jones Stare (sp?) building stocked with misc. items, clothing, household items, craft items, shoes, theatre, etc.
- Remember the area west of Brookside is part of independence.
- Remind residents that the streets are for driving on, not parking your vehicles on and leaving them there for weeks, I pay for these city streets to, I should not be subject to someone else items on the street.
- Repair independence square sidewalks...it shouldn't be up to the business owners, the square needs to upgrade to bring in business
- Resurface 23rd St
- Save IPL
- See above. Homelessness, begging and trash are the most important issues that need to be addressed.

- See too many cars with overdue temporary tags! Would like to see the City keep utilities. City should respond to some of the negative comments it receives from sites like Independence Community Awareness, etc.
- Sharp increase in crime in Brittany Ridge Subdivision and not enough police presence.
- Sidewalks need repaired, curbs at homes need repaired.
- Snow removal in the older neighborhoods
- Spend tax dollars wisely. Too many apartments around center that is a problem.
- Sports complex for kids
- Stop harassing law abiding drivers and enforce the expired tags
- Stop letting the guy who owns the square to make all of the decisions. Make santacaligone family friendly again. Don't make small businesses pay for a license every year make it cheaper. Make chamber of commerce cheaper to be apart of.
- Stop making bad land deals . Stop allowing single purchasers to buy so much on the Square . Add benches on the Square or more benches .Semi enclosed shelter at bus stop areas like those at the MCI airport parking lots . Put back or increase parking near the City Market . Those apartment where the old city market was have ruined the look of the Square and are an eye sore . The Santa CaliGon celebration. Needs new and different guidance than what is now. The chamber of commerce has ruined what once was a great festival. They have driven off venders and have placed too large of a price on the spaces , even charitable ventures are leaving or left .
- Stop putting lives in danger from police chases.
- Stop spending city tax dollars on state roads (23rd, 24hwy, 7hwy, Truman) whether that is mowing and tree trimming or street, curb, and sidewalk maintenance. All of that should be the modots responsibility not the responsibility of the city because modot cant keep up with it. These are major roads in a very busy area, make modot take care of the things they are supposed to be taking care of.
- Stop the panhandlers at the intersections
- Stop wasting tax payer money on studies. What happened to the service where we could set stuff by the road and the city would pick it up.
- Street repair money was voted in several years ago, now no street are being repaired.
- Streets are horrible. Family members have had to replace tires/rims from the highway.
- Sue KCPD for transporting the druggies here.
- Thank you for all the hard work!
- Thank you for this opportunity
- Thank you!
- The 3 cities that connect to the creek blue springs, tapawingo, Independence need to work together to stop the flooding of that creek going to little blue!!! We pay blue springs taxes as we show blue springs address but have independence police and utilities so half of our neighborhood is blur springs. Which makes this very weird.
- The affordable housing in Independence is so woefully inadequate that it is nearly impossible to even get on a waitlist let alone have a prayer of getting housing. I personally know so many people in need and help is NOT there.
- The city did a terrible job repaving our street two years ago and it needs to be redone.
- The City Leadership listen to the residents when they speak against issues at the City Council Meetings. The leadership needs to tell the truth. The latest issue and the reasons for purchasing the GEHA Building were not truthful. In major purchases like the GEHA should have went to the residents for a vote.
- The city needs to do better for the homeless and unemployed. They need jobs and homes.

- The city needs to do something about all the retail businesses and restaurants we are losing. They have started leaving at record rates
- The city operates as if they don't have 100k people living in the city. We should be worrying about the original core of Independence. Noland road west and 23rd street North should be the heart of the city and should be dense housing and businesses.
- The city should advertise the history of our city more. Add more signage to direct the tourist.
- The City should carefully consider where tax payer money goes. In my opinion, money has been wasted on several projects - i.e. farmer's market place.
- The constant speeding on my road is out of control. Just had a hit and run last month and no police could come out due to a shooting. There is a school near by and children that walk to and from that school. Someone will end up injured or worse if the careless driving continues. Also the amount of transients or homeless just randomly walking through yards or destroying personal property has been ridiculous. I have made reports on the city site on the speeding and each have been closed stating traffic officer was out and didn't see a need for their services. Which is a lie because I work from home and see and hear the speeders everyday all day and night
- The fire hydrant was replaced outside my house several years ago. The soil underneath the sidewalk that was repoured has sunk and the sidewalk is uneven.
- The huge transfer terminal is terrible idea. Little blue is too winding, narrow, terrible curbs, traffic between facility and I 70 is bad. 39th street is scary.
- The lack of a strategic plan for tourism and no accountability for bed taxes and how they are spent have put Independence in a negative situation. Bus tours are down, hotel occupancy is lower, and its impacting our economy from fewer visitors who spend money in our community. Considering the financial resources which are available, Independence has dropped the ball when it comes to tourism and as a result the entire community suffers.
- The Major and city officials need to WALK down Noland Road to see the desperate need for improvement
- The mayor doesn't demonstrate leadership that would cause me to support a tax increase. He has not improved our city but has removed programs like arts and branding that bring the community pride and a positive image.
- The online request portal needs to managed better. The request sit for a long time and then get closed without any action being taken or reasoning given.
- The open house regarding the Independence Square was very informative. I'm excited to see the new and improved Independence Square. Grateful for the family activities that the ISA does.
- The police drive like maniacs with their lights on - especially on 39th Street.
- The reputation of Independence in the larger Kansas City metropolitan area is one of poor, redneck, low-class neighborhoods with a regressive attitude regarding business. This is not fair. But turning those perceptions around, while challenging, is essential to the success of future development. The same is valid with the Independence school district. Recent actions of the school board and the lack of transparency of the school administration have given the district an unfavorable reputation. The last entity negatively affecting the perception of the city as an unfavorable place to live is the Independence Police Department. Words often associated with IPD are violent, undisciplined, corrupt, aggressive, and prejudiced. Please understand, as a long-time resident of Independence. while I may have concerns from time to time, I do not agree with these perceptions. But in today's climate of misinformation and disinformation and the proclivity to accept fiction as fact, I believe we cannot ignore such perceptions and must work to present our city in a more favorable light.

- The Rotary park trail is one I walk on regularly and would love the bridge to be fixed. It's been down for a year now. It's my favorite trail to walk because it so close to my house!
- The snowplow plowed our parkway up, all the sod and grass on the sidewalk now. Needs repair. pothole on 38th st.
- The trash pick up as second chance employer is a huge perk and I have noticed a positive impact.
- The trash pickup program is brilliant and should be expanded
- There is no city park within 20 minutes- drive of my house.
- There needs to be more clarity on the blue valley development, we have seen pie in the sky assessments about how many good paying jobs the warehouse development will have and I do not believe the assessments are factual. If this area were to be residential it would increase tax collection, increase home ownership and provide increased opportunity for more stable community's.
- There seems to be little to no focus on quality of life. The priorities of the city seem outdated. Just like when the housing bubble hit, we are going to hit a warehouse bubble and get stuck with millions of empty warehouse square footage.
- There's a TONN of car thefts and people lingering around neighborhoods at night breaking into or stealing cars and some of us aren't able to get an entire camera/alarm setup so police should be patrolling neighborhoods at night and maybe they should even monitor the next door app because that's where I see all the crime
- Third party investigation into corruption of city officials. Encourage citizens to share their own experiences regarding perceived corruption in order to change public opinion of city officials.
- to take more radar on my street Parker ave. we get to many people speeding down the street. The city has done a bad job with the snow removal on the side streets this year and I have lived for 16 years and this was the worst with snow removal.
- Too many homeless, speeding, drugs.
- Upkeep of streets in and around historical areas
- Very disappointed in the city with al the crime and homeless people; very trashy
- We are both in our 80s, fixed income, and we have a very hard time paying our taxes and utilities. They keep going up, but our income is not enough to cover them, so we have to borrow money to pay our bills. You should do more to help us seniors. We've paid our share many times over.
- We are only informed is at the city council meetings. Newspapers have become too expensive.
- We have a speeding issue with neighborhood cars 39th and Blue Ridge. Have seen races through here, people doing donuts at the intersection. Decreased of course when bridge was closed, but expect all that to return when the weather is nicer.
- We have been seeing a big increase in vehicle thefts in our area around 23rd and Sterling.
- We have contacted public works for years about need for curbs and drainage on S Delaware
- We need more people of color teaching and leading in schools and in city government.
- We need to get the city government back to the people and away from the "good ole boys".
- We've called several times about two dogs across the street and they never come out. They said they'd never had any calls at their house. The 13years I've lived here they've had several dogs always running loose people try to walk their dogs and they have to turn and go the other way. They will have a dog for a while and get bored with it and just let it run hoping it would run away. This is happened three different times. Now they have a boy and girl and they're constantly having babies and they start running loose.
- What has the City done with the sales tax revenue approved in the past by voters for use on streets, tourism, police, and parks? Please do not rely so much on solar and wind energy for power generation. It cannot support the power needs of the community. Why was the

communications department eliminated? The city should not outsource its communications. A pack of communications gives citizens the impression that the city is hiding things from residents.

- When contacting city offices the phones should always be answered. If not and message is left, they need to get back with citizens.
- When I tell people where I live , they always say it has gotten bad here with crime.
- WHENEVER WE HAVE CONTACTED THE CITY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS-RESOLUTION WAS VERY TIMELY
- Why raise electric rates right before winter? It is insane.
- Would like to learn more about the city thru flyers sent in the mail.
- Would like to see crack down on vehicles with expired temp or plate tags. Or even have seen vehicles with no tags.
- Would love to see Coty sponsored cleanup days around the city, maybe one weekend a month we get volunteers to help cleanup an area, trash, debris, overgrowth, graffiti etc.! If you get the logistics setup, we will show up!!
- Would love to see more focus on older, western independence. Instead of constantly expanding east. Stop worrying about expanding multifamily complexes for population, and worry about taking care of the ones already here. If city services, infrastructure, and low crime are top notch, then populations will flock to the city. And that demand would push developers to build more residential without the city having to offer tax breaks to them.
- Would make a recommendation but you won't listen anyway
- Yes absolutely do not put apartments by retail stores. And where's the mayor where is he out? Promoting all of this stuff who is allowing all of these car washes. When the car washes start to go bust. You're going to have more empty buildings. Somebody is not paying attention to independence. You need to go study lee summit, zona rosa, the plaza and liberty. And please do something with expired tags, homeless people, druggies running around and crime, An empty buildings. A lot of people do not like living here anymore. And I'm embarrassed to have my family from North of the river. Come over and visit me There's no entertainment there's nowhere to go hang out They don't wanna come over here because there's nothing to do.
- You need to drive on Noland road and lees summit Rd. You could loose a car in one of those pot holes. And putting a little black top in doesn't fix the problem. You have some spots that are turning into sink holes. Law suit time.