

2017 Bismarck Livability Survey Results

Question	Answers	Skips			
17 Which land use changes should occur in Bismarck? (<i>Mandatory</i>)	1,238 100%	2 <1%			
	0%	8.5%	17%	COUNT	PERCENT
More public green spaces				518	17%
Reserving Main Street for primarily retail and restaurants				444	14%
Increased Walkability				418	13%
Better architectural quality and/or landscaping in commercial developments				396	13%
More opportunities for small professional offices and businesses				301	10%
More opportunities for new residential neighborhoods				246	8%
More housing opportunities downtown				234	8%
Increased commercial uses surrounding downtown				197	6%
Other Option				145	5%
Increased commercial or industrial uses				139	4%
More opportunities for manufactured housing subdivisions				68	2%

Other Option Responses

- Increased Walkability, More public greenspace
- More parking
- Quality of Parks facilities
- Get the homeless centers and sexual predators away from residential areas
- More reasonable housing for the single life
- Quality of life for all.
- Parking downtown
- Better maintenance of the Sibley Campground
- Affordable housing
- More opportunities for the hard working, honest and fair person to have the opportunities to begin a business. It depends on who you are rather than how capable you are for you to succeed in Bismarck.
- Increased public space/ community gardens/ free concerts/ things to bring our community together
- Work to relocate trailer parks.
- restaurants/fast food places
- Second events venue
- Better traffic flow
- Quit going against the voters wishes
- much improved public transportation
- More development on the outskirts of town.
- Civic center in north Bismarck
- Whatever people and businesses want. Government should stay out of the way.
- Nothing
- More parking availability downtown

It doesn't all need to be about downtown.
None of the above
Better parking downtown
Less focus on trying to force projects downtown
put main street back to what it was
NONE
Parking Downtown
more river front access for public use. would love to see a a boardwalk, public beach, shops
no changes
Good now.
Let the private sector decide this, not government
Continue to support Ren Zone and downtown programs.
Don't abandon the spread of Bismarck.
Parking access downtown, especially hospital area
Common space downtown
Fair support of all business besides the downtown
Less government control of private property.
Don't care
I don't see anything that stand out
More parking downtown
Bars
Increased mixed use (residential along or next to commercial within walking distance)
Development Outside of "downtown";
Curb the sprawl and make the donut hole fill with families and businesses again.
Less emphasis on downtown. Small group with too large a voice. Improve north/south traffic problems
Loaded question,
I'm satisfied.
better/more downtown parking options
see Below
Gateway and Kirkwood Mall
More state/federal land for off-road use.
Bigger indoor tennis court
City officials that actually listen to the citizens in regards to changes to the use of properties in and around downtown
NO MORE APARTMENT BUILDINGS!!!!
None of the above
More multi-use spaces
Cheaper options to build new homes
Better traffic flow throughout town.
Less restrictions and input from local government
Downtown Parking
Recreational
More and improved outdoor soccer facilities.
Revitalized downtown with a gathering/ outdoor place like Rapid City has.
Make Main Street back to 2 lanes
Indoor activities for small children in winter
None of the above agendas.
None above

build up not out
More softball field for fastpitch and more indoor ice facilities.
Is he looking at downtown only the more affordable housing and talking rent \$800 or less a month and I'm also talking condos or homes that are affordable such as \$120,000 or less right now the 400 \$500,000 Condos for Broadway Center I'm sorry mortgage costs for those are more than I make in a month that was ridiculous decision for Bismarck to allow that to happen
Better parking downtown. The lack of parking is a huge deterrent for going downtown.
Stop focusing everything downtown! All of Bismarck is moving north!
Downtown needs better and more parking if you're going to increase the businesses there
Motocross track and state of the arch fitness facility in north Bismarck with basketball/swimming
None
How about less of everything to lower taxes.
Idk
Build another event/concert center!!!!!!
Increase quality of current green spaces (White steamboat is in disrepair, baseball diamonds are looking unattractive, etc.)
Increased residential density
STEM, child development and recreation/entertainment venues; technology enablements - public Wifi
Encourage growth of rural Bismarck
expansion of services in South Bismarck
more resaturants and entertainment
Not sure, don't feel qualified to answer.
More entertainment availability for downtown (piano bar, etc.)
better planning for development
None of the above
Neighborhood schools, so that there is less vehicle traffic and more feelings of connection
Better north/south travel access
No changes
More parking!
Lower taxes
I would say to minimize "sprawl" as the city grows
More businesses south
Parking for any of the things mention above
Larger lots, more space for homes.
Less tax incentives
Preserve/procure roadway easements for fuure use
more parking downtown
historic preservation of the few remaining landmarks and buildings from the city's beginnings
More playgrounds for the kids.
Reduce the amount of commercial along US 83.
Maintaining existing tranquility of Bismarck
Redevelopment/revitalization of existing neighborhoods
Better parking throughout the city
Property tax management
Low rent housing
Continued development of recreational trails.
Stop wasting money on 5 South.
More neighborhood parks.
keep the country the country, stop expanding further

more affordable apartments
no preference
We need to further development along the river e.g. restaurants, hotels, parks. More entry level homes for new families instead of them living in Lincoln because the homes are cheaper.
More trees on residential boulevards
Less catering to the few young people who won't stay anyway.
Urban infill
redevelopment/renovation of existing stock, infill
see below
Increase parking availability downtown
More mixed use (residential/commercial) throughout the community
Developing a master plan for the city regarding development.
preserving older but beautiful buildings, such as was done with Cowan Drug building
None
find a better location for the post office
large park on the north side of town
return main street to what it was before the street diet.
stop the TIF program!
Move the trailer parks
Define what the absolute limit of city growth will be so those who don't want to be annexed can feel confident they won't be, and those who do can choose where to build with this in mind
With urban sprawl, it's very important to keep zoning practices in place. Avoid variances when possible.
Stop the urban sprawl!
Need to balance priorities between downtown and the residential areas.
Parking downtown is badly needed.
None are needed for my life to remain just fine.
an indoor turf athletic facility
1. more housing for low income residents 2. stopping urban sprawl 3. downtown can be developed but at the financial risk to the developer, not the people of Bismarck
parking spaces downtown
Better parking downtown
More affordable mid-large-sized family housing options
We need to have more parks in the neighborhoods. There doesn't seem to be anyone watching the developers to make sure they put in green space with playground equipment for our kids.
Make more historic neighborhoods
Comments
these are key to sustainability
We need more attainable housing options for persons who have limited income and can only afford 60%-80% market rate housing costs.
compared to other cities I see some of our commercial buildings do not have the landscaping and architecture other cities have. It's important to continue to grow residential communities in our community, and offer opportunities new and existing businesses

I love Bismarck and what is going on. But it is sad to see a huge chunk of downtown taken up by main level offices and businesses that seem to not fit. The thrift store has a beautiful location but I totally do not see it being a great main street addition. No need for main level architect, engineer or law offices. Adding more green spaces will totally increase walkability. Not because it isn't walkable now, but because it would be much more inviting to walk than the concrete jungle we have now. Bismarck is somewhat ugly. I know architectural design has its price but Bismarck needs a face lift. I have lived in Bozeman, MT and seeing that place gives me hope. I enjoy driving through town and looking around at the new buildings and architecture. Right now Bismarck has Beige industrial shop garages, lame show complexes, tons of black parking lots, and a few trees to spruce things up. Also the hospitals are great, but they eat up so much valuable space with acres of parking lots.

I love the downtown area, but I avoid it like the plague due to parking issues. As a woman, I hate the creepy parking ramps and street parking is limited. So I rarely visit

If we want to revitalize downtown, we need more forward thinkers and young people leading the way. The city needs to invest in spaces that are expensive to renovate.

I have seen time and time again from cities I've visited how much it hurts cities (both culturally and economically) to be sprawling while their downtown is full of unused buildings and brown space. And on the flip side being in cities that are focusing on density and infill are more friendly for walking, healthier and happier cities. Social interaction is better, economics are better, and I feel that public services are far superior in dense cities than those that sprawl. The biggest fear I have about staying in Bismarck and raising my family here is how negatively sprawling to the north is going to hurt any future economic growth and public services.

Consumer needs choices

Future residential developments should be focused on smaller footprints. We need to get away from 100' wide lots and wide streets. This is costing all tax payers and taxing our city services. Bismarck needs to smartly plan developments and focus on infill opportunities where utilities and infrastructure is already in place. Specials should be placed on the developer and included in the lot price, which would help lower monthly payments to homeowners and force developers to make smart decisions when planning the next development.

High quality infill development will serve an up to this point underserved segment of the housing/real estate market here is Bismarck.

I do not like that Bismarck has lowered the residential street widths. I hate visiting people in West Fargo and only being able to park on one side of the street because they are so narrow. It makes the neighborhood seem cheap.

Parks buildings seem like they are cobbled together. Dickinson, Williston, and Fargo have (much) better facilities. Our parks buildings feel cobbled together. Needs to be better marriage between Engineering (storm water management), Parks & Recreation (trails and recreational land use planning) and Privately funded subdivision developments. Large, linear parks along with trail systems should interconnect along drainage coulees. This could provide a much needed multimodal transportation and health/wellness component to Bismarck. We don't have big thinkers here. We need to compete with Sioux Falls, Fargo, Billings, Rapid City, Duluth, Rochester. Leaders are too small thinking. They are thinking about Mandan; dumb. There needs to be better collaboration between Mandan and Bismarck. More shared facilities.

As a solopreneur myself I'd love to be downtown more both for work and pleasure.

neighborhoods are plain and there is little to control the aesthetics - they all look the same.

Again as I said above we do not need walkability and pretty.

I really don't feel that any of these need changes.

Collect enough in fees for the campground but very little in maintenance and roads are long over due

Better downtown means better Bismarck

City planning should have been better thought out. Future planning needs to look at the availability of public projects; sewer, water, roads, etc and actually have the fortitude to stand up to land developers. Proper planning would eliminate the disjoint and non-congruous areas that exist in our city.

In the northeast corner of town there are no decent parks. Also Stop with all the downtown focus. What about the rest of Bismarck. Stop packing houses in, put more greenspace in between, we have the space!

Review the above comment.

Pretty straightforward here I feel. Make Main Street stores and restaurants, have more apartments for easy access to those businesses... and make the buildings as spectacular and beautiful as can be.

Availability to walking space, green space, and community togetherness would help improve our community

These items would help myself and other young professionals.

There should be more focus on the North end that is developing so fast. Who wants to drive downtown to restaurants etc. where there is no parking.

We enjoy having places to take our family for outdoor activities and we would like to see more areas that promote a healthier life style.

I think you are missing some big things. One of the big negative things about Bismarck is the large trailer courts in the center of the city. This concentration of poverty inhibits growth and makes the city look bad. I think the number one land use thing the city could do is to try to zone those parks out of their current locations and move them to the edge of town.

Housing prices almost doubled in the last 8 years. Starter families and single people have a harder time buying a decent home in today's local housing market.

Increased commercial uses surrounding downtown Better architectural quality and/or landscaping in commercial developments More opportunities for small professional offices and businesses

I like the idea of small, even cottage, businesses being mixed within residential neighborhoods. A bike repair shop or alteration service is a great fit for a neighborhood - very minimal traffic impact. As we get big enough where it takes 30+ minutes to cross town, mixed-use developments make a lot more sense - you have your corner gas station, and a park, and a school right there. I would also love for Rural Residential to be able to do more legit rural things - 3 female chickens per certain size of lot, like Madison has done (with great success).

Downtown Bismarck is great but there is very limited housing. Again, the potential is there we need to utilize parking lots and underused buildings.

Sick of being played a fool

The more changes that are made downtown make it more difficult to travel. Focus should be on the outskirts of town.

Downtown is a fun place now and I'd love for Main Street to be even more developed. Even as it is now, it seems like a cool place to live. Parks are always a great improvement to Bismarck, as we continue to grow I don't want them to be an afterthought or forgotten altogether.

Civic center up north!

I would like to see better options for interior winter places I can take my daughter.

More commercial and industrial development in conjunction with more residential developments indicate a vibrant, growing community.

More parks / more outside things to do for older kids.

I'd like to see more trails set away from streets and more local unique businesses and fewer franchises/ big box stores.

It was great that a new parking garage was built across from the Belle Mehus / World War Memorial Building, however it was crummy that it is mostly reserved for Sanford employees. There needs to be more parking availability for people who want to shop, do business and eat at the restaurants in the downtown area.

Government should stay out of being landlords

Would like to see a downtown Bismarck that rivals Fargo someday

Would of been nice for them to build the new and bigger civic center up north and quit shoving downtown down everyone's throat. If people come because of new development up north it will filter to the downtown as well.

Self Explanatory

Planning should reduce sprawl but allow for more affordable housing.

Bismarck does expand beyond downtown!

There now we have land available for building, now the banks and city need to recognize there's others of us out there who would like the opportunity to build a building or develop besides the sorts of Loren Galpin and Chuck Huber and Jim Christianson and other cronies up thw Mayors backside who only get the looks and TIF!!

Downtown is fine the way it is. Go back to 4 lanes and give people in the rest of the city more services.

More restaurants and shopping

Give up on downtown. It's doing fine without gov't assistance.

Stop centering everything about "Downtown" I understand an area for young adults but it doesn't need to have everything center around it. The parking situation at the Bismarck Event Center. That needs to be a priority!

everything is getting geared towards big business and housing downtown so people can walk more places since the transit is trying to get rid of the Senior riders and concentrating on the colleges

I think the improvements in downtown since I love here 11 years ago have been wonderful. A vibrant downtown with attractive retail and restaurants and housing is crucial to a healthy city that is desirable to be in. Bismarck has made great strides in this arena and it should continue to invest in downtown. And new subdivisions should have a little more density. The sprawl is out of control. It seems like anything goes with new developments.

Landowners should decide how to use their land.

more public river front options, public beach, boardwalk with shops,

no changes

The downtown area has been greatly improved, but still needs work. Could use a little help visually.

Infill, infill, infill. Fewer boring steel buildings.

Please do not annex any more land into the city. Please do not promote or approve more sprawl. Please do not plan any more 80' wide residential streets. Please bring schools and retail/commercial opportunities to our inner-city neighborhoods.

lets move away from the same old area in down town Bismarck, you have residents all over the city. Closest park to us is the school, no walking paths, no green space. SPO & B opportunities not down town.

This is my top 3- same issue gets all 3 votes

So few parks for children in a "walkable" distance in the new developments.

Who thinks of some of these? Seminary?

Careful, strategic planning and growth are imperative in order to keep the historical quality and charm of downtown as well as creating a more interesting and desirable tourist attraction.

Let the downtown, urban development take care of itself. If it is profitable to build, remodel, or relocate downtown, people will do it. We have done plenty for our downtown. Don't abandon the outskirts of town.

A lot of older population goes to clinic or hospital, parking is very difficult

This is the only place that allows schools to be built on known heavy traffic areas as well as mixes residential and commercial areas in the same neighborhood. Schools ideally should be surrounded by walkable streets. Parks are not made as new neighborhoods are built which is also concerning.

no comments

We need to follow Fargo on being progress. Make this community attractive with diversity so the young people to want to live here.

I like the consultants' plan we were all a part of.

These are all good things and I'm confident that growth of Bismarck will improve livability. However, growth should keep a relatively compact form to keep taxes and utility rates as low as possible, and so that city residents can enjoy the countryside without having to drive through miles of subdivisions to get there. I didn't check manufactured housing, because I believe as we grow affordable housing will be more efficiently provided through multifamily dwellings.

We need development that plans neighborhoods and communities and not lots and streets. Our developers need to be better stewards for the community and be part of the solution and not wait for government to lead them.

The Downtown - er...uh... City Commission needs to stop focusing on the downtown area and represent the entire city.

We need to change our priorities. The downtown area isn't the only part of town that needs our focus. I live up north and I would like better access To more opportunities.

Every community needs more public green spaces. Every new bank in town has the exact same architectural plan, as do a number of businesses--a building that has a square cupola on top. Not very original. We should completely block off the downtown area and create a pedestrian only zone, much like in the bigger cities.

Parks are never a bad idea New residential neighborhoods would bring down the housing market, and thus attract more young families to the area

Self explanatory.

The bike trail is nice, but in places it doesn't connect and/or is unsafe to walk/ride with kids. I don't agree with any other options. Having more businesses on main Street only will highlight how little parking there is.

Need more parks up North.

Street lights need to be installed on all streets. A traffic light needs to be installed at Century High School.

Your downtown revamping area is a joke. Use your hometown people. Not outsiders.

Downtown is excellent but could use better green areas and even more paths.

Downtown is the heart of the city. I think there are more opportunities to breathe more vibrancy into this area.

Don't agree with the thought of many people living in a small space. If people want to own 2 acres, let them own 2 acres! Quit inciting your beliefs on everyone!!!

I find it interesting that many of these options revolve around downtown.

We are growing outside of Bismarck and we need to keep things closer to downtown not out of

Our downtown is improving, but easily parking and walking somewhere is still a bad experience. More/better things to do downtown combined with AFFORDABLE housing will make it a place younger people will flock to. And then storefronts need to look much better. Some have taken steps, but many are very bleh (looking at you KFYZ).

Two main housing buildings downtown are reserved for low-income and a halfway house. That's ridiculous.

I would limit development of new subdivisions and focus on infill. Require developers of new subdivisions to cover the cost of public infrastructure that would need to be built to support the development to limit sprawl. Focus on residential above commercial on major streets, with greater housing choice in commercial districts. I would create spaces for business development in repurposed industrial zones, to manufacture added value goods - and use the school's institutional purchasing power to accelerate local businesses that develop there.

More parks and outdoor spaces. Waterpark. All building construction should be reviewed. We have enough businesses that look/feel like a steel shop. Would be great if the city started branding itself in signage as well as structurally.
To be blunt, not that many people give a crap about the downtown area. Hate to see a lot of resources spent on that. Need new construction housing for lower to middle class that's not 3 acres big. More working class "neighborhoods".
Refer to above
People need places to just go and relax, so public green spaces would help. Walking paths help to keep us healthy, and housing downtown would help us get around easier.
I live downtown and I hate malls.
Currently my business is located on Main Ave. I have been disappointed this winter with snow removal. I realize we've had an extreme amount of snowfall in short periods of time. However, downtown doesn't deserve to be last on the list. I feel like removing snow on the Far East side of Main before downtown is poor decision making. The businesses on that end have parking lots and are not counting on street parking for customers. I also wish that 90 minute parking applied to contractors and service workers. I understand they may need more time but a recent remodel of a tenant on our block has consumed all parking for three months which greatly affects business. Overall I have hope that our downtown can grow and become a destination like downtown/uptown Minneapolis
No opinion
This is an area I feel I can't answer. None of these have affected me and I don't know enough about the issues. I just picked three, but I'm not "set" on those.
More green space
Why do you only focus on down town?
Look at developing more areas out side of downtown. No place to park down town and only home less people stick around in that area. We should work on developing areas on the outer parts of town.
Better parking downtown it's impossible to park with out blocking traffic, there are the main good restaurants and shopping but during the winter I avoid it because you struggle to find parking and when you do you have to walk multiple blocks to get to where you are going. You can't see around corners this winter downtown and to try and get out of a parking spot is almost impossible at times.
Why is there SO much emphasis on downtown? This town has already developed areas that do not have the same opportunities downtown has. Instead of putting focus on one area (to only build bars and restaurants), let's focus on growing our whole community.
no comment....none really leap out at me.
The one thing I liked the most about colorado was the fact that in every subdivision they're was a park, they were required and a lot of subdivisions I've gone through don't have one
No need to keep spreading out with empty buildings and apartments. Find a way to rebuild in the center. Plan for public green spaces in new developments , better city planning to fix the lack of good north south routes. Another exit on Washington or 4th street or 19th and I-94.
Need more retail
Need more indoor ice and large recreational facility for the community. All current locations are in residential areas with limited to poor parking. Difficult to attract large hockey tournaments, skating competitions. 3-4 teams are sharing ice at the same time. You should see the arenas in Dickinson, Fargo and Grand Forks. Makes us look like a joke. Our kids deserve better.
I would really like to see more trees in large commercial parking lots.
Downtown needs to be revitalized
These would help to improve the health of Bismarck residents.
It would be nice to have more public parks
shove your renaissance up your asses. It worked good to start but it has got corrupt and abused.
Both Gateway and Kirkwood malls need to have a larger variety of stores to shop from. Kirkwood mall should get a nice food court like Fargo's West Acres Mall.
There is no need for the south 5th project. Money could be used elsewhere to support the community.
My family really enjoys spending an evening in Downtown Bismarck walking from one establishment to another. Both with kids shopping and in the evening with just the adults. The downtown is a major asset to Bismarck. Small professional office spaces to encourage more small businesses in a walkable area is great. I see many small offices in far off areas and that can make those business suffer
More public green spaces IN neighborhoods, rather than packing in as many houses as possible.
More restaurants in North part of town. Convert offices downtown to restaurants/shopping.
Stop building banks and churches!
Less Government meddling! Less taxing! Less spending!

There is much that is lacking in restaurant and weekend get-together options. Architecturally speaking, the new builds are ugly and cheap. Should focus on restoration with high quality finishes that fit the era of the space. New builds should fit as well - similar to the Broadway Center.

Would love to see downtown left as historical as possible

If we are to attract young professionals we will need to give them the things that they want. To walk to their jobs, to walk to the local coffee shop and cafe. We will need more green space as the young professional tends to live in more confined spaces so on days off they will need places to play and relax.

Housing has gotten unaffordable for many and getting worse.

Please do not use my taxes to support the downtown businesses. We also own our own business. We would never expect anyone to fund us.

By green spaces I mean camping areas. The green spaces we have now are all just playgrounds, picnic areas and walking paths. Sibley park is awesome but hard to get into because they are always full. Manufactured housing can be cheaper than traditional housing, enabling lower incomes to have a chance to own. Multi use spaces - why do we not use our fairgrounds for anything?? We need outdoor concerts, etc

Don't pursue narrower streets - this winter has highlighted the folly of that. Also, exercise restraint in extraterritorial zoning and seek input from residents in affected areas.

New home building is very expensive with the specials balances most new homes have.

We do not need another bank downtown. We need mixed use buildings. We need a liveable and walkable downtown with more public spaces and life. The Main Street diet was great. Now let's widen the sidewalks and turn Main into more of a leisurely place to meet, socialize, walk about and feel a sense of community.

Downtown does NOT need housing- this is one of the mistakes Minneapolis made. We need more small, unique, locally owned businesses downtown to continue to rejuvenate what used to be dreary and drab. We need to revitalize the heart of our city and make it more attractive to tourists. We need to reflect the many cultures in our state all over our capital city.

I think it's wonderful to see the growth of downtown Bismarck and I believe we should continue improving. Give small retail businesses and opportunity to be visible.

Stop focusing on downtown and work on other parts of the city

Downtown changes have been good but it is disjointed.

This place needs more jobs and affordable housing. I will leave the state if I continue to find neither.

More updated, parking on Main Street is hard

Downtown is already a pretty nice area. If we had more FREE parking (like a free parking ramp, similar to the one in Grand Forks), downtown would develop even more.

i would like to see a larger concentration of ppl living downtown. I would also like to see a more architecturally progressive community. i would also like to see more small businesses able to be fostered with in the community

I think more people could afford manufactured homes than the present homes on the market which are high.

Bismarck needs more recreational areas for offroad riding.

Make sure to keep the downtown vibrant so that businesses can grow and people will continue to go downtown. You should also have more housing available and make sure it's affordable for people to live downtown.

Bismarck is lacking in quality soccer facilities. The current fields are not maintained to proper soccer specs and there is no lighted facilities open to the public. Soccer is the only sport not afforded lighted facilities.

Co-housing neighborhoods would be awesome! But they have to cater to a mix of incomes.

Center downtown should be business only with areas surrounding that area for housing. Need a better patrolling presence in downtown for traffic/pedestrian safety. I've heard complaints from people that actually do live downtown having drunks trying to get into the locked doors to their upstairs apartments.

With limited parking options, having businesses grouped together makes waddling from business to business easier. There's always room for visually appealing aesthetics. You can never have too many indoor places to take small children to burn energy during the sub-zero winter days.

There is a great need for affordable housing downtown, especially with our millennial population. With this, I feel that we need to make the area more walkable and figure out our parking situation with either more ramps, etc. I do not feel that rental units, accepting sex-offenders and felons is a positive thing for our downtown residents.

Designated walking areas. Instead of putting up a new bank or condos because you want to make \$\$ leave green spaces. Trees.. Bench..Grass..Water feature. Sure you have some of these places..Like the park down by BAGA but seriously..It looks nice but kinda of empty.

How about more commercial space free of ridiculous constrictive easement, water retention, set back, building code and parking code requirements! For everyone. Not just some. Equity! Picking winners and losers. THAT is the problem. Right there.

I really believe the heart of the city is its appeal to residents. If there is no reason to visit the downtown area, the city becomes dead from the inside out.

The businesses downtown don't take care of this base as they already currently have.
More crosswalks and traffic lights would be nice. I live on Calgary and can never cross the street because there is always too much traffic and no crosswalk or lights.
It's a shame that one of the coolest building is reserved as an old person's living area. The Patterson building could be a fantastic apartment building for young adults (single or married). Too many business offices downtown, more restaurants, more variety, better hours from businesses.
The ones least likely to be used against the mayor.
I think Bismarck has improved in this area but having nice landscape around commercial areas improves the overall attraction of new residents and visitors to our city. Main Street needs some help with this and some other commercial areas too.
Just let the market dictate these things!
Lower rents for private businesses so the overhead doesn't stop them from succeeding. Keep main street alive. The green spaces for gatherings and events.
Bismarck needs more affordable housing. There is no way for families making \$10 -\$15 to afford a apartment let alone a home. Most homes are going for 250K and above. If you do the math, there is not much money left for clothes food and necessities. The apartments for rent here are the same way.
Love downtown shopping, wish as before they would be open Monday nights.
DO NOT ADD ANYMORE MOBILE HOME PARKS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS. DO AWAY WITH THE OLD DECREPIT ONES THAT EXIST AND REDEVELOP EXISTING RUN DOWN PARKS INTO HIGHER QUALITY RESIDENTIAL/AREAS PRODUCING MORE TAX REVENUE.
No more manufactured housing!
I think there are good ideas on how to improve downtown Bismarck. I think adding new retail and restaurants is big. I always think how it could be expanded with housing. I think that the Patterson building could be converted and renovated for the general public of Bismarck to buy. Also, some older buildings could be renovated but at the same time keep the vintage vibe for character
More sidewalks maintained by the city rather than homeowners and more retail downtown
Get rid of the "big business" downtown owners. They're taking over and doing what they think it should be but it's not that attractive to the rest of us.
I think it's time our city had a certified local government to help guide development and stewardship of our historic core. Newer neighborhoods are almost completely devoid of green space, it is staggering. NW development with promontory and eagles crest with no park planned.
More neighborhoods for the middle class
I don't agree with downtown being housing opportunities. I think that should be reserved for retail and restaurants. People want to have the biggest bang for their buck as far as retail and eating- they do not want to drive everywhere. Downtown is the ONLY place in Bismarck that can offer that.
Comment for my feelings Bismarck is really catering to people who are rich basically and can afford mortgages of 2-3 \$4,000 a month or rents of 12 \$1,500 a month
As mentioned above, I support small businesses as I feel you are getting not only quality products but thee best customer service.
After living in downtown Fargo I would love for bismarck to bring that "let's go downtown" vibe to the area. When I want to go out on the weekend in bismarck it seems all my friends are so spread out. Would like to see a much more central area for night life and young business during the day.
Would love to live downtown but only trashy apartments are available, or way to expensive no middle ground.
Stop building bad developments. We don't need MORE housing we need BETTER housing. We need to have practical, and well built places to house our public. Not these cookie cutter houses that will fall apart in 15 years. The Patterson needs to be renovated to attract the Young professionals and student communities. Because they are the ones who will put money into the local businesses and drive the undercurrent of progress. Lastly, Down town is for the people. Break apart these monopolies on real estate and allow other business to come in and compete with our current establishments. People go downtown to be with other people. Let's help them accomplish this goal.
New housing costs are too high for young families to buy. We need more affordable housing, not 500k housing. Builders are ignoring that group that can't afford top of the line everything
I think the best parts of our town are ones that have been newly renovated and have green spaces or landscaped boulevards. Makes our place look and feel more homey and clean.
walkability is good down town, but up by 43rd is not so good.
Would be nice to keep the city 'green' as it expands instead of turning into a mini concrete jungle.
In my opinion walkability is simply a non-issue in ND. With cold weather finding a close place to park my car for the 5-months of brutal winters is TOP priority. During the winter I choose what places I go to based on how much/little walking is involved, and downtown Bismarck looses every time.

We need a real downtown area. It's getting better slowly

Which land use changes should occur in Bismarck? If people don't want to live downtown (which many North Dakotans unfortunately don't really want to do, especially in Bismarck due to lack of a college) at least provide them with more opportunities for their neighborhoods. For example, I believe my neighborhood doesn't need a sidewalk on both sides of the street, nor does the street need to be so wide. I live in an older neighborhood made in the 60's, it needs to be modernized. These changes, among others have the potential to save money, increase livability and bring communities closer.

This town is getting extremely crowded!! Downtown is too busy to be adding more to it!

Main street is getting too clogged. Downtown has had enough renovations and money poured into it, it's time to expand and utilize other areas for concert facilities etc. The civic center is a freaking joke and no more money should be put into it. We voted against putting money into it and evidently the City Commission didn't listen!!! Expand the City and utilize the land available. We can't all go downtown for every event, there isn't enough room or parking. I hate attending events at the civic center, it is too cramped and horribly laid out!

Focus on bringing the dilapidated areas up to snuff, to include scummy housing developments/trailer parks, parks and commercial buildings. Please allow for commercial vehicle (that parks) traffic alongside vehicle traffic (that moves) on Main St - we are in dire need of better flowing traffic on Main St.

There is limited mid-grade office space. Not everyone wants to pay for top tier office space. Residential, and commercial, development should be more condensed. We continue to build sprawling housing developments and far north as 57th ave yet the city as extremely poor north/south routes. See Washington St.

Young families and young adults are where more vibrancy, ideas, entrepreneurship and growth will stem. A family and young person attractiveness are key.

Many that move to Bismarck come here from rural areas and therefore desire rural living. This segment of the population is growing much faster than the "downtowners" and those that desire mobile workspace/coffee shops/etc. Bismarck is trying to build on attracting the downtown millennial type, but those that wish to buy a house and raise a family long term aren't the ones wanting that.

Downtown could use some work - not quite enough of a draw to come to certain locations purely because of parking.

It's unfortunate to see this question focused primarily on downtown opportunities for growth. South Bismarck is in need of additional retail/restaurants/amenities.

I don't find Bismarck to be very easy to navigate. Streets change names, businesses are difficult to get to (US Bank off of State Street/Highway 83 is a nightmare to get into and out of even without the snow) I realize I am still learning my way around and have found some shortcuts like 19th Street when I want to go to church at 8:00 AM on a weekday and State Street is bumper to bumper even before the legislature convened. Google Maps helps but I had a heck of a time finding the dentist's office.

Keep some green spaces about town so we are not just packed tight with houses, condos and apartments. It's beneficial for everyone to be able to access nature. Can we do more in our industrial areas, grow them, and grow jobs as well?

No comment

Architecture gives interest to a city. Cities are often known for their skyline. Bismarck does not have one other than the capital. Downtown is very difficult to navigate and do business, or even find parking. Reserving that for smaller retail and restaurants would allow freedom to park and stroll or even stop in for food/drink. It seems like there are some restaurants, banks, and women's clothing stores with limited hours of operation. Increasing the type of businesses there would draw in more types of people who may stay and pop in for something to eat/drink.

Increased green space! Places for us to go outside that is out in the community, and also places for us to go inside during the long winter months. A large, indoor play area, with a coffee and snack shop would be awesome and utilized by so many people. Sky zone is too expensive. Something cheaper and geared more towards younger families.

I would like to see a community for tiny housing., that would not turn into a slum.

I feel as though Bismarck is doing a great job of making the downtown scene unique, but I think more could be brought in. Especially locally owned businesses and opportunities for people to start their own businesses. I think housing right now is limited. Something more affordable that is not income based would be nice.

I love cities that you can walk to most places of interest - restaurants, bars, homes, apartments, other things to do.

The City Commission should provide essential services, not plan developments and infrastructure. Let entrepreneurs handle what they want to develop.

Continue to provide green spaces--especially those areas away from downtown.

For those not living downtown, it's nice to have a coffee shop or small restaurant that's walkable. More neighborhood establishments would really enhance Bismarck.

There's nowhere to live in the downtown core. Bismarck is a beautiful city, the infrastructure and architecture should reflect and improve upon that.

The downtown needs to have more entertainment that is one major reason Bismarck will not be competitive as much as other cities.

Would like to see people choose quality over price... But I also believe in the free market. I didn't want to check many boxes, because it puts more restrictions on people and businesses.

Planning of mixed use areas so that more walking and biking trips can happen, supported by better public transportation

I think downtown is the heart of the city and people want to be there. Increasing housing in the downtown district will help increase the viability of locally owned restaurants and businesses in the Main Street district.

I think Bismarck does a great job with its public green spaces. I don't think it should spread out further. I think the downtown area is wonderful. I wish there were more "mom and pop" neighborhood groceries/services throughout the city.

This city has done a poor job of providing ample parking. Downtown is a pain, which is unfortunate because there are such unique restaurants and shops. New shopping centers and restaurants are no better. Even new shopping centers are over developed for the amount of parking available. The parking lot of a business should mirror how busy it is inside. When a person pulls into a parking lot and can't find parking but can walk in and get seated right away something is wrong. You don't experience that in larger population centers, or even the suburbs of larger population centers. I had never encountered that before moving here.

I can't believe that Mr. Zimmerman (from Peacock Alley) was allowed to put Fiesta out of business! We loved Fiesta - it was a landmark of Bismarck and we loved going there - and we know of incidences where Mr. Zimmerman contributed to the demise of Fiesta. Personally we will never frequent any places he owns due to this. Therefore, we will not support any ideas forwarded by Mr. Zimmerman!

It is kind of a lame list. Seems like city government is considering a lot of big government ideas. I am in favor of letting the market place operate more.

A revitalization of downtown areas have proven to be effective to make a community more vibrant and welcoming. We have seen some beautiful developments in recent years, which really highlights a community that takes pride in their growth - Proxima, Horizon Bank, hotels, etc... I think useable green space would be well received, primarily in downtown.

Many of the newer single-family developments are way too disconnected from daily basic needs such as grocery, gas, pharmacy, child care and school.

People need to be able to live, work, and play downtown.

Better-designed bldgs!!! and more pedestrian-friendly. This is an ugly city. Retail 1st floor, businesses 2nd floor, living 3 floor and above. If new residential areas are to be build they MUST have a shopping /retail center included....so you can walk to get a gallon of milk.....and not one facing State Street....a walkable, bikeable, small parking lot, shop fronts on street with hidden parking behind, walkable sidewalk, tree-lined, personable neighborhood. Make parking lots illegal on street fronts. Build the mall around the parking lot.

I would love to be able to live, work, and play in a capacity where I only have to drive for one of those things if any.

We need to put the brakes on the sprawl. It is ridiculous. No one needs that much space within city limits. It has destroyed the idea of community and neighborliness. Again, we need to be able to walk to have a vibrant and healthy community. Downtown has been experiencing a very exciting transformation, but it needs more!

Green space would help the town breath and become more walkable especially in new developments and downtown. The walkability would give local businesses better opportunity to make sales and flourish. And more housing for young professionals should occur downtown. The housing downtown is for a population that doesn't utilize the nightlife downtown.

I feel like we are lacking in dog parks - a safe place to take your dog to socialize and exercise. I think more walking paths could be implemented in and around the city. I would rather see less on the outskirts of town and more use of space with what we have downtown.

Would like to see less sprawl and less automobile-centric development. I don't know how you change land use to arrive at that.

More play grounds for the kids to keep them busy. More picnic areas. More housing for certain people trying to start over.

Granted winter is too long in North Dakota, having more green spaces that we can walk to would be wonderful. I would love to see more businesses come because that would create more jobs and help sustain our growth. I am sad to have seen Reza's Pitch get purchased by a bank rather than being replaced by another restaurant. My wife and I are also a fan of Laughing Sun and wish Bismarck would allow childre, even if it is only allowed to 7pm. We like to go on microwbrewery tours and like states that are "more" family friendly. We are by no means alcoholics and we want our son to grow up knowing that alcohol is not sinful but life is about moderation and good conversations among friends and family.

More housing is needed in and around downtown to support business there. The US 83 corridor is planned for a HUGE overload of commercial. This will only take away from the vitality of downtown in the future and clog US 83. Manufactured housing CAN be designed in a more attractive way and still be affordable.

Downtown landscaping.... I grew up with a family that owns a greenhouse. Every time I walk downtown in the summer I see the chosen flowers and where they are planted and I cringe. They don't fill out very nice and it looks sad

I like the idea of the South 5 or continue building an area downtown that will attract locals and visitors and provide the ability easily walk from place to place.

None of the above are of any interest to the elderly for change to the existing city. requiring only the presented choices biases this survey and makes it meaningless.

More greenspace in the new areas being developed. Young families enjoy having a park close by that they can walk to with their children to encourage outdoor activities.

As new residential neighborhoods are developed I want to see better walkability and green spaces for improved physical activity. I am also concerned about the wide geographic spread that requires new and improved infrastructure that leads to increased cost.

I like the idea of main street being reserved for retail and restaurants. It's very trendy to be able to come down town and walk main street for shopping and retail and entertainment. A trendy down town area always attracts residents to the area. Housing over retail is another trendy and upcoming idea. This again will build up the area and make it feel like a true downtown area. Small professional businesses should be the main stream of the down town area. These are unique and residents travel for uniqueness.

We need more industry and open opportunities for large commercial businesses that can bring in more jobs and stability for our blue collar workers in Bismarck

To attract industrial, must have the land and sites available now. Downtown should be the cultural and economic center of the community along with affordable housing in the downtown area.

I love that Main Street has a large focus on retail and restaurants. It's a great location to visit!

Quit pricing downtown out of the yp generation. Control property taxes as the schools keep needing assistance as do our roads. There has to be a better way to manage a financing package.

Overall, I'm against sprawl, so making the most of what we have within city limits would be best, in my opinion.

the city seems to spend all of it's energy on downtown, there is more t Bismarck then downtown. since the realignment on main street I just avoid downtown all together. We also don't need more bike lanes spend that money to improve the roadways

We need more affordable housing

Regarding "better architectural quality," see my previous comment about the integration of public art/beautification to build a community's personality/character. Regarding opportunities for small offices, I've heard anecdotally that it's hard to find space. I don't have personal experience with this one.

A vibrant downtown area is very important. This area should have easy access and a variety of business options. While Bismarck has a very solid recreational trail network, upkeep and expansion should always be a goal.

Green spaces attract people and events.

Bismarck is in need of a face-lift as it feels like you have this historic hip-feeling downtown area that is surrounded by box stores. More green spaces and floral displays will help perk things up as well. As someone who would like to bike more i would appreciate more paths. If the rest of Bismarck could look and feel like downtown and the cathedral district I think it would feel more cohesive.

Make downtown livable and attractive

increased walkability - there are great multi-use paths that run north-south through town, but not too many that run east-west.

Many people hate strip malls, but I love them. That's where entrepreneurs try out new business ideas in cheaper spaces. Downtown is becoming a fun place to hang out & would be better with more people living there. I think it's really cool that the folks in the Patterson can walk around the block, get pleasant recognition & don't feel isolated.

Downtown needs to stay commercial with limited housing.

The heart of every city is their downtown area. We need to beautify this area. We have too many offices in the downtown area and need more retail space that is "affordable".

I would love to see more small businesses in the form of restaurants and bars and retail shops continue to pop up downtown, which would help increase walkability if there is more than one thing to do in a particular area. I think it is also very important for businesses/building owners to keep up the exterior of their spaces to increase curb appeal and overall aesthetic value to the "look" of downtown Bismarck.

green space and affordable housing are important for many age groups; a vibrant Main Street/Event Center are key to sustaining downtown.

We have a ton if manufactured home development and do not need more. Downtown is becoming the place to be and a great place for small businesses. Finding good clean usable green spaces around the river can be challenging at times. Houses that were once 5 miles out of town are now turning into being part of town. North Dakota is known for being a country state, keep it that way.

Decrease urban sprawl.

because apartments in this town are ridiculously priced unless you want to live in a run down and even those are extremely high and there are really no business in town that pay what a big city pays.

It would be great to have a public green space downtown, could definitely attract more people downtown

YES! Reserving Main St. for primarily retail and restaurants-great idea.
PLEASE HELP DOWNTOWN FLOURISH!!there were so many options I want. All which have to do with continuing the revitaliation of downtown. Downtown housing, public transportation, walkability, more green spaces.
Downtown is the heart of the city. A vibrant downtown will attract people. Big box stores and parking lots won't attract people to Bismarck. Architecture matters. Building echo the soul of the city and represent the people and businesses that occupy them.
Housing is expensive. Within the city limits, new housing seems to be only available through builders.
Entry level homes are still very expensive in Bismarck. New families with little ones already have the cost of daycare and so owning a home is unattainable in Bismarck. We have some cool old buildings downtown and I live to see those preserved with some added green space.
Better use of the green spaces we have! The city of Bozeman, Montana is a great example. The use their watershed/unusable green spaces to connect streets with nature path trails for bicycles and walkers. Also, more art/sculpture projects! The art alley is a great first step. It's amazing how much buzz and attention that has got. People are coming to that area of downtown, spending money and time and finding cultural value in it!
Downtown needs a more cohesive approach and green space.
Bismarck need to learn from Fargo's mistakes. We should build from within and make our downtown amazing.
Mixed-use is much more humane that separating our lives out everywhere. I especially urge the city to change to law on household chickens (no roosters) so as to make it easier to support oneself and live a healthy, green lifestyle within the city.
We need more neighborhoods with affordable housing - \$150,000 to \$250,000 - smaller homes on smaller lots, attractive row homes and condos. More commercial development around downtown to diversify and solidify the economic viability of Bismarcks core. Downtown is redeveloping nicely but it needs more housing opportunities for sustainable development.
More public green spaces is my top recommendation. Bismarck has some beautiful natural landscape, this should be preserved and protected. Downtown needs a good balance of housing and businesses. It needs to also look nice so that people will want to live and shop downtown.
Bismarck needs more parks and green spaces and walkability within the community would compliment this. Establishing bike lanes is a good start but we can do better.
Need to keep the south side of Bismarck growing as well as te Northside. You need to focus on growth in both areas not just the Northside. More housing opportunities, newer schools, and shopping, ect. All the money and growth is going North and I worry the south side will suffer.
Allows for more things to do in the community.
Rather than incentivizing green field development, we should be incentivizing urban infill development. Bismarck is starting to sprawl like Fargo.
Sidewalks, bike routes need more continuity.
We don't need more sprawl. The city is already unable to properly maintain the streets we now have.
Urban sprawl is ultimately too expensive for the developer, property owners and/or City. The homes become too expensive for the developer to make the profit they desire, costs are pushed to the owner's so the developer is able to make the profit needed and are now too expensive or the City supplements the developer and/or homeowner in some way to make the homes actually affordable and profitable.
I really don't have an opinion one way or the other more of an observation that neighborhoods can be comprised of single family housing, multi-family housing, apartment buildings, and commercial buildings all in a 2 block radius. Are there no zoning requirements? Very chaotic, like building was done just randomly with no thought of later growth and expansion and still being done in that matter.
I'd like to see the downtown area continue to thrive with new businesses (retail, restaurants, entertainment venues). This would create a need for more/better parking options downtown. Housing options in the first time home buyer to \$250k range are almost nonexistent. It would be great to develop new areas that provide quality houses in that price.
Please, no more manufactured housing parks! Yuk. Focus on infill and renovation in older residential areas to keep them from digressing.
From the Capital south to Main Avenue, there needs to be more multifamily housing development. Construction of brick/mortar type apartments/condos, not the cheap and easy apartments that seems to spring up overnight on the edge of town.
Bismarck needs to expand out and develop land it has instead of wasting it downtown.

I currently feel very strongly that the proposed changes downtown are money-grabbing strategies. There are several businesses downtown that are seriously hurting already, and no "green space" in the middle of it is going to fix that. Stop alienating the business owners that actually care about the community in favor of big commercial opportunities. Our downtown is unique, and trying to make it look like downtown Minneapolis isn't going to draw in more young people if we can't afford to live here anyway. Bismarck is full of established, aging folks that really value the "old school" charm of North Dakota. Eliminate those consumers and downtown will die. Our downtown can't thrive completely off of bar business like Grand Forks can. We're not a college town. And some of us that are "bar age" like to have things to do at night other than drink ourselves to death.

Almost no new neighborhoods in North Bismarck have neighborhood parks. These neighborhoods are also many not within walking distance to a school park. No green space was mapped out in these new neighborhoods.

How developers have been give the green light to do as they see fit has created undesirable new developments with the combination of apartment complexes mixed with multi-family as well as single family residential units. The existing infrastructure was never intended to handle the increased volume. The new commercial developments have been created as stand on their own with little concern given to surrounding area. Where is the public green space in the downtown area that is so near and dear to current city commission?

Not the crappy Five whatever it is downtown project.

We should provide zone small commercial corners in residential neighborhoods to allow for neighborhood destinations. This would increase walkability. Downtown needs more housing options, it is getting there though is 5 South happens.

I go to the post office in Mandan because of the poor and dangerous parking situation at the current Bismarck post office location.

Build for goal of creating areas that will still attract attention 50-100 years from now.

Emphasis on Downtown

Walking = healthy vibrant communities. Main Street = keep working on reinventing main street to keep our downtown alive and vibrant! Work to make it a place that people look forward to going to. Open Spaces - be sure that in all parts of town, new and old, that there is adequate public open space. Consider creating more multi-use public open spaces - include things like soccer fields and baseball diamonds in neighborhood open space too.

I would love to see the downtown area add the ice skating rink during the winter with some hot coffee/cocoa stands and during the summer some farmers markets/outdoor with beer gardens.

Build it!

Quit using taxpayers to fund downtown develop! I hate paying higher taxes to help my competitors that want to be located downtown!!!!!!

Would LOVE to see more public green space in Downtown, as someone who works Downtown, being able to eat lunch and take breaks outdoors in a park setting would boost morale immensely.

The quality of life in Bismarck is diminished by its lack of quality commercial and residential design. Creating walk-able/ bike-able neighborhoods that connect to the city center would be a great start. Design matters when it comes to development of commercial and residential areas. Buildings should be thoughtful and attractive.

I think the downtown area has the ability to become the cultural center of the city. In order to support this, however, we need more people that live downtown, support the businesses, and are invested in downtown.

Revitalizing downtown appears to be the most affordable for the city.

More housing opportunities for young professionals downtown is important to forward progress, not more senior housing. Moving low income housing/offenders from downtown is also important, I am in full support of housing for offenders but location can put a damper on businesses and comfort level when downtown.

I'm Really tired of talking about downtown!!! The new main street is state street.....We need to see the bigger picture. I continually hear about affordable housing. It would seem that increased manufactured sub divisions would address this issue. North Dakota people young and old want to have their own home. This means that by our very heritage we want space, but at the same time we enjoy exposure to other more artistic items. Why is walkability a part of every question? Who developed this survey?

More mixed use. Form based code and less suburban style land development. We need to consider better access to walkable urban neighborhoods that offer lifestyle centers that and pockets of commercial throughout the city instead of along high traffic corridors.

I have a concern that downtown development for millenials will over shadow neighborhood quality of life in all of the other parts of Bismarck.

Green space increases value - there are many studies to support this, but new green space development and contemporary city planning do not seem to be important. Bismarck is competing with many other cities for employees. The city needs to be attractive to more people outside of ND to be competitive.

None of the above. It is fine as it is.

In order to bring people here for events and such, we need a vibrant downtown to be able to attract events which brings income to all types of local businesses. Walkability is important and having a venue for events and lodging/shopping/etc. within walking distance will make Bismarck a place people want to come to.

More housing opportunities downtown with underground parking would be amazing! Because with that would come more small business and help for the increased activity in the area.

Decrease urban sprawl and increase what we already have; polish up the downtown area and take advantage of the unique architectural themes currently in place.

Utilizing Main Street for retail and restaurants is only a usable idea if there is better parking or public transportation available. Bismarck sprawls too much as it is, and is in danger of, at some point, needing to grow up, versus out.

Let's keep livening up historic downtown Bismarck w restaurants and shops that carry forward a night life.

Too many housing places in downtown and not enough close parking for restaurants

A thriving downtown will boost the entire area. Even though the retail has been greatly improving, there are currently very few attractive housing options downtown. Establishing a better living environment downtown will also encourage further business investment in the area and build a better community environment.

Winter recreation is a major issue here, and with the number of young families it will continue to be a problem. It would be great to have a fieldhouse type facility with a full sized football field with turf for all kinds of sporting organizations to use.

Land use needs to be planned to attract and retain people who take pride in their city. It should attract non-residents to the city as well. Planning needs to incorporate families with young children, teenage children, pets, and of course mom and dad. People do not just want to work or relax, they want to engulf themselves in a culture and feel like they are experiencing a tradition. It is why going to Italy is so much cooler than eating out at the Olive Garden. The best cities to live and travel are those that embrace their heritage and center their planning around their core ideals.

Quit playing downtown over all other areas of Bismarck.

Its important to redevelopment within current footprint rather than expanding outward.

I don't know much about business locations within the city; but I think that it would be a great benefit to increase the attractiveness of walking and shopping downtown to both tourists and locals. Downtown has come a long way, but there are some areas that still need improvement. Newer parts of the city could use some TLC and beautification to increase pride-of-place and take away the mass-produced feel.

Housing brings more people downtown which supports our downtown economy and will naturally bring more downtown growth. I appreciate public green spaces and would like to see more. I want to be able to visit a coffee shop or restaurant downtown and then sit with my kids outside while we are downtown. The more places I can walk to the better.

I think we are doing pretty well.

I think cities like Portland and Boise have show that having a vibrant downtown keeps a city alive and well.

I don't feel strongly about any of these

The commercial areas look a little grungy, and there is a lack of sidewalks away from the downtown area. The "free after 5" parking garage would be a lot better if it wasn't across the street from sex offender housing.

We need commercial businesses to come out to the neighborhoods, so we can all walk to the store to buy groceries or to eat a meal. I noted above about the absence of green space with playground equipment in the new neighborhoods. In Burleigh county sub-divisions there are no parks for the kids- isn't there already a requirement for the developers to make green space parks? Also, because so many of our employees are in the service industry and do not make enough income to pay the high rents or purchase a house for \$200K +, we need more affordable housing. Usually manufactured housing is less expensive.

Better architecture creates a sense of quality and enhances the development. I think that will bring in more businesses and keep a development popular over the years. More high quality housing in downtown would entice more young professionals to live there, creating a positive and exciting atmosphere.