

The City of
HARDIN
Montana

2018

COMMUNITY NEEDS
ASSESSMENT

2018 Community Needs Assessment

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MAYOR
Joe Purcell



Dear Citizens of Hardin,

I would like to thank those of you who took the time to complete the Community Needs Assessment.

This information will help the City to plan and prioritize its current and future project needs. I especially appreciate the comments and thoughts that went into your responses and for the detailed concerns you expressed in your letters.

This Survey helped to validate that the people who live here want to stay here!

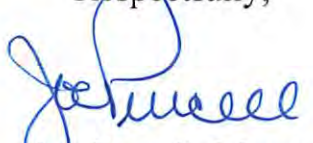
This small community remains home to our family and friends. Our local businesses provide quality services and products to help our community thrive. Maintaining and improving the quality of our City continues to be yours and the City's priority.

As in all communities there is the need for improvement. The survey results expressed the desire for some growth in the number of retail shops and grocery stores, and the need for increased job opportunities and industrial growth.

The survey also helped us at the City to validate the areas in need of improvement such as our aging sewer treatment plant, our city streets, law enforcement, and overall economic development.

This brief summary only touches a few of the areas listed on the survey. I invite you to read the entire survey and its results to see the opinions and concerns of the City of Hardin residents.

Respectfully,



Joe Purcell, Mayor

CITY of HARDIN COMMUNITY NEEDS SURVEY

1. How do you rate Hardin as a place to live?

Above Average	19
Good	61
Average	79
Poor	17
No Response	5

There were 4 responses that indicated below average

2. What do you like best about living in this area?

The responses were able to be categorized by the following:

People - family or friendly people or know everyone	52
Small Town, rural or country atmosphere	43
Services: library, schools, events, code enforcement, downtown or food, mosquito control, parks, church, city services(water, sewer, streets, garbage), post office, clinics, pharmacies, fairgrounds, museum, Shakespeare in the Parks, bowling alley, golf	23
Close to Billings, but still a small town or location	22
Activities: Hunting, boating, mountains, etc.	16
Economic: Cost of living, affordable housing, affordability, job, agriculture	12
History &/or scenery, location, climate	11
Easy to get around, not a lot of traffic, commute	11
Nothing or other negative comment	6
Quiet area, low crime/safe, community values	5
Our home	5
Good Community in the past	3
Do not live here	1
Trees	1
The sun comes up and the sun goes down. This makes me very happy.	1
No Response	31

3. How many years have you lived in this area?

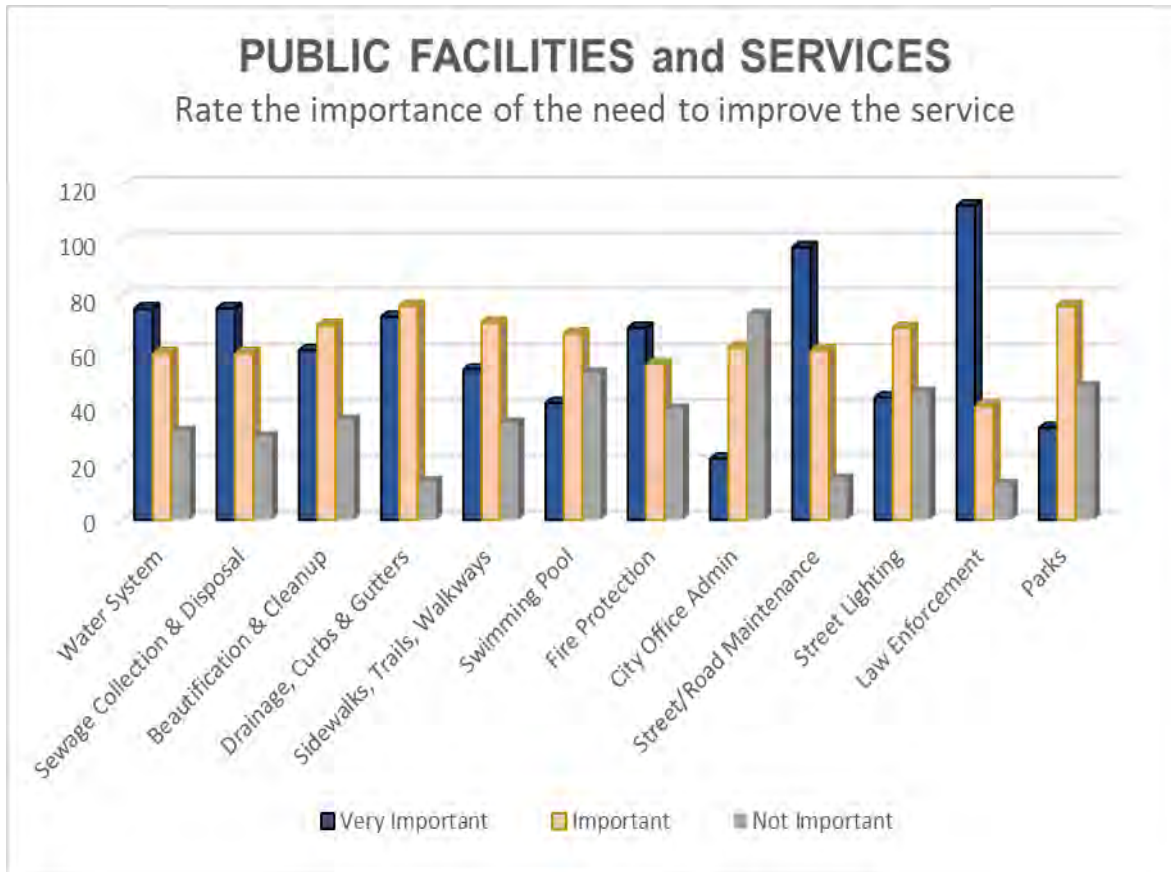
Less than 5 yrs.	8
5-10 yrs.	15
More than 10 yrs.	149
Business only	1
No Response	7

4. Age of Head of Household

18-29	3
30-39	11
40-49	13
50-65	61
Over 65	87
No Response	5

5. Number of people living at residence?

1 person	35
2 people	65
3 people	11
4 people	13
5 people	5
6 people	4
8 people	1
No Response	46



PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Please indicate how you rate the need to improve the following services.

Water System

1 - Very Important	76
2 - Important	60
3 - Not Important	32
4	1
No Response	11

Comments:

fluoridation
 good now
 I may be in the dark but as I have water when I turn on the tap. I'm happy
 In TIFD district I get no water
 Too expensive Bring down price
 works great for us

Sewage Collection & Disposal

1 - Very Important	76
2 - Important	60
3 - Not Important	30
No Response	14

Comments:

Backs up
good now
In TIFD district I have no sewage availability
Recycling
Trash in streets & alleys are a problem
Wastewater treatment?

City Sponsored Beautification and Cleanup Campaign

1 - Very Important	61
2 - Important	70
3 - Not Important	36
4	1
-3	1
No Response	11

Comments:

garbage man could care less about how much garbage he leaves on the ground after dumping!
need to promote
No more slum lords or drunks hanging around town
owner/renter more important!
There is a constant trail of trash from the Town Pump to Wilson Park from intoxicated "street people."
there's lots of areas that need cleaned up
Trees that were planted need to be trimmed. Doesn't look like they have ever been trimmed

Drainage, Curbs & Gutters

1 - Very Important	73
2 - Important	77
3 - Not Important	14
No Response	16

Comments:

curbs need replacing

Drainage- some of the drainage systems were covered up?

not sure

on 9th & Custer fixald need the drain in the north parking of county health opened

Sometimes the H2) backs up because the drains are clogged

Sidewalks, Trails & Walkways

1 - Very Important	54
2 - Important	71
3 - Not Important	35
4	1
5	1
No Response	18

Comments:

most are decent

ok

sidewalk on streets who have only streets to walk on - dangerous this winter as pedestrians walked on streets with NO sidewalks - important for walks near all schools

Swimming Pool

1 - Very Important	42
2 - Important	67
3 - Not Important	53
0	1
6	1
No Response	16

Comments:

Georgia does a terrific job @ HCAC

I have read that our swimming pool is in need of repairs. We are so lucky to have such a beautiful pool - we need to maintain it.

need repair

needs to get fixed- (very nice for public use)

Fire Protection

1 - Very Important	69
--------------------	----

2 - Important	56
3 - Not Important	40
No Response	15

Comments:

(does a fine job)

 good

 Great

 We have an awesome fire service.

City Office Administration

1 - Very Important	22
2 - Important	62
3 - Not Important	74
6	1
-3	1
No Response	20

Comments:

?

 ok

Street/Road Maintenance

1 - Very Important	98
2 - Important	61
3 - Not Important	15
No Response	6

Comments:

Along Choteau Ave St falling apart along curbs

 !!!

 (always need some repairs)

 Alley pot holes & weeds

 alleys & streets need LOTS of work - gravel & blading in alleys & pot hole repair in sts.

 In the winter, could plows run all night during storms?

 In TIFD district I get no maintenance

 poor snow removal last winter

Potholes

Streets to the point of non repair

Street Lighting

1 - Very Important	44
2 - Important	69
3 - Not Important	46
0	1
5	1
No Response	19

Comments: none

Law Enforcement

1 - Very Important	113
2 - Important	41
3 - Not Important	13
0	1
-3	1
No Response	11

Comments:

!!!

(kind of slow to respond) they don't seem to want to get drunks out of park, or don't seem to think people driving cars to unload in park a big deal, or it's ok to block my driveway when picnicking in park)

cops here are not outgoing or friendly like when you see them they don't make eye contact - Jerks!

Do we need a stop light on corner by Intermediate school and 3rd & Mitchell?

equal enforcement for criminal activity

Intoxicated people should not be allowed to lay around the parks & town. I have watched law enforcement drop "street people" off at the park. Our park should be for families to enjoy.

Everyday I see someone urinate @ Wilson Park. It is so unsanitary.

When I've called for help from LE they have always come immediately

Parks

1 - Very Important	33
2 - Important	77
3 - Not Important	48
4	1
A+	1
0	1

No Response 19

Comments:

Already pretty good
 good
 Great Parks as is
 Just get rid of the needles and transients/drunks
 Love our parks
 Trim trees Remember bad branch in Billings Park that fell on somebody - not a good deal

Other comments:

and these street people
 Too many areas are overgrown with weed, etc. - Need to have them monitored & help clean. Cars & vehicles in yards & lots on street around homes. Need to be addressed

Would you support the City in seeking State or Federal assistance to correct any deficiencies or make improvements to any of the above public facilities?

Yes 168
 No 5
 Maybe 1
 No Response 6

Comments:

as long as it left my taxes alone
 But is shouldn't mean raising peoples taxes
 but not with increase in mill or taxes
 Grants only with no "strings" attached
 Maybe
 Property taxes - 50% of residents don't pay their taxes on a yearly basis unsightly rental or owned property should be double taxed, need an incentive to help beautify this city.
 with no debt

Would you favor construction for improvements to the City's sewer system?

Yes 143
 No 16
 Commented, but no "yes" or "no" 5
 No Response 16

Comments:

?

?

? Does it need it

Does it need it?

I would need to know why if is necessary
if necessary
if recommended

If there is federal Funding. We don't need any more city or county taxes levied!
only if they are going to bring it to my house

Only with adjustable Bids!!! As in pricing
somewhat

Storm
with no tax increases
don't know

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

1. What recreational facilities require improvements and/or development?

YES	NO	NO OPINION	
62	68	32	Playground & City Parks
25	88	44	Basketball/Tennis Courts
33	79	45	Sports Playing Fields
70	61	26	Picnic Areas and Public Restrooms
66	48	44	Recreational Trails
39	8	24	Other

Responses to "Other":

23 - Skateboard park

7 - Swimming pool

4 - Youth activities, community or civic center, Boys & Girls Club

2 - Splash or Spray Park

2 - Rifle Range/Heated indoor shooting range

Dog Park - Animal Control - So dogs & Owners don't have to dump in public

Great Job Awesome

Hardin has really great parks/fields/picnic areas-some of the best I have ever seen

Health Center & Skate Park

Koyamas Pond

Lighting

Lighting on walking trails

lots dead trees in town

Minimize transient population

need more public raquetball courts take ove the golf course

Parks Need to keep vagrants out & from loitering etc. / Too many homeless sleeping & worse in these areas - Need to have somewhere to take them & hopefully get help for them

We have enough Parks

We have nice parks

Yards

You have to have something here in town that brings people to move here

Several Categories also had comments:

Playground & City Parks Comments:

like to see parks w/gardens such as Asian or Japanese gardins

maintain

Maintenance only

need our park back or build a new one

skate park

Street People

Trees look terrible need a tree trimmer

trim trees in both parks

Basketball/Tennis Courts Comments:

Basketball

Basketball only

Maintenance only

Make one in the trailer court!

need to be covered & indoor options

Our courts are nice

Sports Playing Fields Comments:

Maintenance only

Track

Picnic Areas and Public Restrooms:

check the toilets
Maintenance only
maybe port-a-potty so they won't use the bathroom on the wall when door is locked
Restrooms to River
Street People

Recreational Trails Comments:

around Hardin would be nice
It would be nice to have more trails.
Maintenance only

2. Are the community’s existing recreational opportunities adequate for the following age groups?

YES	NO	NO OPINION	
97	36	47	Preschool/Toddlers
102	31	47	Elementary
71	63	46	High School
58	69	53	Young Adults
72	53	55	Middle Age
74	59	47	Senior Citizens

High School Comments:

No - Except School Activities
It would be great to have a skate boarding park.

Young Adults Comments:

?
It would be great to have a skate boarding park.

Other Comments:

every park has street people in them
I guess opportunities are adequate, but we really need to update our equipment @ our parks.
Need indoor activities in the winter
need more kids stuff - outdoor pool or an arcade? Skating rink? Water park?

HOUSING

1. Do you own or rent your residence?

Own	172
Rent	5
Business only	1
No Response	2

1 - rent

an can't wait to sell an move out from this 1 horse town

Business

have two small rental units

our business

2. What kind of housing do you think should be built in this area? Choose no more than two of the following:

36	Low Income Housing Complex	6	Mobile Home Parks
58	Single Family Houses	16	None
57	Middle Income Housing Complex	72	Senior Citizen Housing
27	Other		

Ideas for "Other"

7 - Fix housing we already have

4 - duplex, 4-plex, quality apartments, or condo

2 - A lot of homes for sale/vacant - no need to build more

2 - another Rest home

Higher Class of Mobile Park

Mobile Home Parks need to be addressed. The existing ones are deplorable

Nice tiny home parks

Senior only mobile home court - gated for safety

We need to purge old trailers from mobile home parks

away from rail - move rail, Noise.

Bring industry into the town to attract a tax paying base

Homeless Shelter

Income based Single Family Homes

Low income Housing Devalues the Whole Town

No more low income - Why attract rabble

rental - not low income

starter homes, small , energy efficient, cheap.

3. Please indicate if you believe the condition of housing in your neighborhood is above average, about average or below average for the Town.

26 Above average
 100 About average
 41 Below average
 14 No Response

Comments:

Below average - !!
 all of the above
 About average or below average -for small town America
 Most of hardin housing is substandard
 one neglected, overgrown rental drug inhabitants
 Below average - See apts on Crow Ave
 some is run down
 Below average - waaaaay

4. If low interest loans or grants were available to improve your household and you were eligible for these, would you apply for this assistance?

Yes, I would apply 61
 No, I would not 44
 No opinion 16
 Need more info 44
 No Response 17

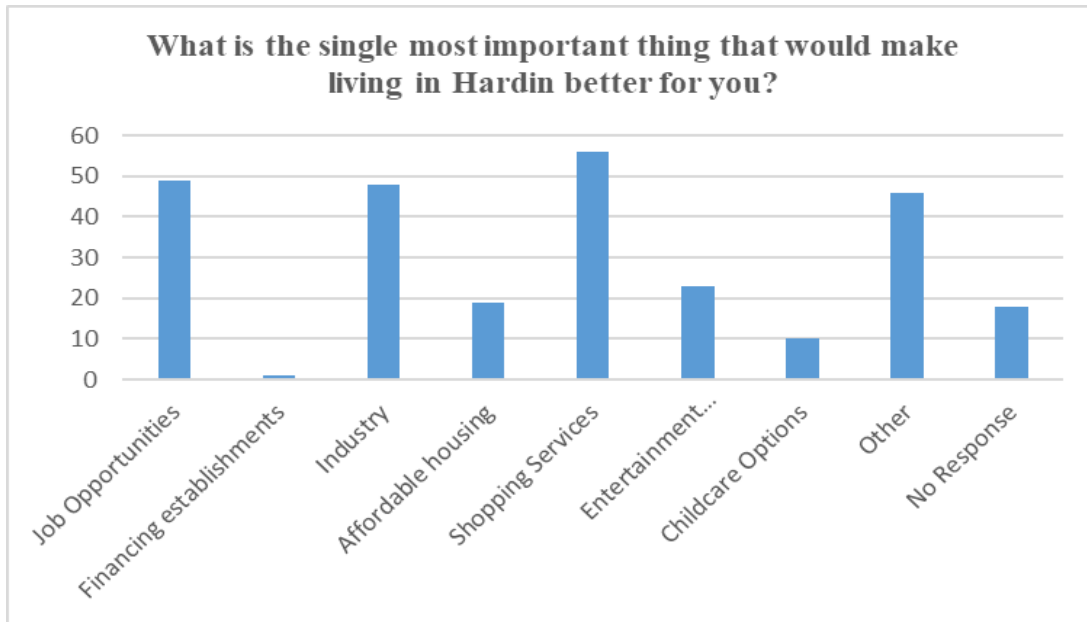
Comments:

But keep the community informed with the pros & cons get us on board!
 Probably -our basement is crumbling
 No-Wouldn't qualify

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. What is the single most important thing that would make living in Hardin better for you?

49	More job opportunities	56	More shopping services
1	More financing establishments	23	Entertainment establishments
48	Industry	10	More childcare options
19	More affordable housing	18	No Response
46	Other		



Ideas for Other:

1-Clean-up trailer courts:Sunset 2- The ability to be safe. 3-More places to shop. (Grocery store)

A different Mosquito Control Method. Spray is killing US! Not the mosquitos

A skateboard park

address the rundown mobile home parks. Having an ordinance and enforcing it to have people clean up their places

Affordable retirement Housing & sell my house

alternative transportation option (like Uber or a taxi service)

Another Grocery Store - Competable Prices Better Wages for Minimum Wage

Better Law Enforcement

better policing of vagrants, enforcement of city ordinances

better recreational centers w/ more hours

Boy's & Girl's Club

city water and sewer for all citizens who have been annexed in TIFD

Clean up existing properties

Clean up our town!!!! Slumlords suck!!!!

Cleaner Town

decent rentals - & get several slum lords to clean up the delapidated trailers in their parks

development of tourism possibilities due to Hardin's unique location- develop like Deadwood

Fewer street people! Safer area for children

Get rid of bums, street people, etc.

Get rid of transients and drug scum

Get Rid of Wino's, Better law enforcement

Getting rid of the bums more law enforcement

Getting Rid of the Street people (stop selling single cans of alcohol)

Job-maybe would bring people to hardin since most here have no desire to work to better themselves
Housing - housing is affordable, but you need people willing to work to improve their lives & jobs
that pay a decent wage.

Keeping intoxicated pedestrian & police patrolling all streets & alleys all night to cut down on crime

Large community center for weddings, meetings, dances, events

Less (walking) street traffic at all hours - (kind of scary walking at times in the day!) bouncing balls
skateboards littering

Less Section 8 Housing

less street people

Making it safer for our children. There is a growing problem w/vagrants on the streets in the allies, at
the parks - to where our children cannot even play at the park near our home.

Modern, Competent, first class medical & health care facilities/professionals

More City Govt. Sponsored Groups/Activities cleanup, Improvement, Help Out

More food/restraunt options

more people willing to work

more police or help for street people Less street people around the town pump area.

More Police Presence & enforcement

More police present

More Senior Citizens housing

Need a Skate Board Park to Keep Boys off the roads

no street people in parks or yards

Programs for alcohol & drug addiction

removal of low income housing

Removal of street people

Removal of Street people/ public intoxication

Ridding the parks & playgrounds of street people

Tearing down shabby bldgs & replacing with nicer homes.

Theres plenty of jobs. Plenty of affordable homes, and exceptional child care options
to have chickens

Job opportunities & Industry - with the above two, other things will happen

Financing Comment:

I think 2 for this town is plenty

Industry Comment:

to get new people to buy houses here

Shopping Comment:

Groceries

IGA need's competition so it will lower price's

need a Walmart by the freeway - Shopko is way too small Doesn't carry much!

Walmart & Grocery

2. Are people in your household looking for work in the area?

26 Yes 132 No 23 No Response

Comments:

3 - looking for work
 both already working
 Currently employed but possibly only til June/July
 Retired
 there are little/no jobs
 transportation to Billings Dr. Senior Bus and Heritage will not take you
 we both work in our area.
 We have jobs

CITY ADMINISTRATION

Please indicate how you rate your overall satisfaction with the performance of elected officials.

City Council

1 - Very Good	18
2 - Good	84
3 - Needs Improvement	51
No Response	27

Mayor

1 - Very Good	37
2 - Good	87
3 - Needs Improvement	25
No Response	31

Comments:

1/1 (Jack) New Mayor has yet to prove self.

 2/2 (Mayor hasn't been in very long to judge. - Need law for blocking people's driveways & enforce it

 3/1 (No comment on council)

 3/3 All you want to is never agree on anything, and put everything off till the next meeting. An do it all over again next month.

 3/3 Always Room for Improvement

 3/3 Being Fair to all residents property owners

 3/2 city council either needs to be more informed generally or rely on the opinions of experts. Rather than making poorly informed decisions on their own

3/-- City Council needs new ideas - do anyway with good old boys syndrome, stop bickering about everything

3/3 Code Enforcement and animal control is terrible- much room for improvement

2/2 good job

--/-- I don't get involved - so okay I guess

--/-- I don't know them or what they do

2/1 I think the decision to stop fluoridating the water should have been made after seeking public opinion over 4 wks.

3/2 I want to give our new mayor a chance

1/1 Joe Keep it up your great

1/-- mayor - not been in office long enough to be rated

2/3 Mayor is to new to rate - Past mayor was very poor

3/2 mayor- new-time will tell

3/-- Mayor to early to tell

3/3 money ill spent, bad decisions by mayor & council members. One wonders

2/2 More Communication to inform residents of initiatives

3/2 Need for transparency

2/1 Need leadership to Improve Town (Atmosphere). Not just sit in chairs

--/-- no comment

--/-- No opinion

2/2 none

2/2 not much knowledge of city issues

--/--

2/2 Now

2/2 Possibly needs improvement

3/3 Seniors & Bad Health need a break with snow removal

3/3 Some council decisions don't reflect what residents want. Such as the skating rink give away!

2/1 The Council and Mayor are doing a good job

2/2 There's always room for improvement

3/3 They need to improve the town more

3/3 to much bickering

3/-- To new to rate. Last Mayor was a Joke (3)

3/? Too early to tell

?/? too recently in office to evaluate

2/1 We Hope

--/-- We would like to know what they do. Transparency??

2. What do you see as important challenges facing elected officials?

Duplicate Comments	Response
Keeping taxes from raising, Matching taxes to income, budgets or finances	16

Economic development	14
Clean up town (community decay), address infrastructure	12
Lack of Funds/ enough funds to do improvements, getting grants & funding	10
Vagrancy/ panhandlers/ or transients	9
Good communication, working together, Listen to Public Comments	9
Drugs/meth	8
Crime or enforcing city ordinances (dog, cats), Community Service for fines	6
I don't care, I don't know, apathy	5
Housing, affordable housing	5
Prison, Power plant	5
Law Enforcement	4
City, County, & Tribe working together for the citizens	3
Doing what is right for our town	3
Doing the best they can with limited resources	2
More input & attending Council meetings from citizens	2
Community support	2
Racism	2
Too many low income	2

Here are the responses in their entirety:

- keeping major taxes at bay & keep things affordable
- I don't care
- cleaning up this town - try to get the begging drunks off this Street
- They do nothing to help this small town. Out of there people here in town look at how many houses are for sale. People don't like it here.
- I think they're doing the best they can w/ limited resources
- Housing, Less drunks on our streets (Roving city council) panhandlers.
- City & County officials working together for the benefit of the citizens
- More Input and attending council meetings from citizens
- What to do with street people
- paying more attention to the opinions of their constituents and getting to know them
- Good communications appear to be the biggest challenge
- grumpy citizens that want everything to be cheap but want best quality available
- Cleaning up the City. Make property owners clean up their properties and Landlords fix and repair rentals.
- listening to complaints from general public
- matching the taxes to the income and keeping the city operating at a satisfactory condition
- affordable housing
- lots of different issues

bring some businesses into the city. Hardin is a decaying town, streets & sidewalk are in such bad shape they will have to be stripped to base & housing is decaying from no repair by homeowners, trash & garbage in yards ill kept

prison

Law Enforcement and street/road repairs

The vagrant/homeless/street people problem. Keeping kids in school. The drug (meth) problem.

Making changes to encourage higher income families and businesses to come to this community.

Pressure to allow too many low-income and trailer housing areas and making tough decisions on city policy regarding transients and drug use

All the Drunks

panhandlers & street drainage (heavy rains street & houses floods

Crime and cleaning up city.

don't know

lack of funds

Dealing with riff-raff on the street, drugs; apathy and lack of interest perhaps. Safety from crime

Make people cooperate with rules and laws with minimal warnings - i.e. loose dogs/homecare & appearance/garbage pick up/too many people living in rentals abusing property/drug abuse/crime & theft

Drugs

crime - drugs

getting along to work together to better our town - more forward thinking

cleaning up previous official messes

fixing streets and sewer lines for better drainage during winter and wet months

telling the truth and doing what is right for our town.

keeping taxes from raising

loudmouth a-holes speaking over the desires of the rest of Hardin's residents

Law enforcement and the Prison

bringing industry to town. To be seen in the community

satisfying everyone

economic development

Getting enough funds to do the improvements - Support from community to do these things

doing the things that affect all the population

Motivation and leadership to solve atmosphere Issues! Motivate the public to partakes and assist in obtaining results. There are ways to better spend moneys and get results!

1, community decay 2, lack of enforcement of city ordinances (dogs, cats, drunks curfew) 3, holding landlords responsible for upkeep of their property

Budgets - Supplying, Services that are essential. Get rid of the squeaky wheels that are taking over council meetings - stay on track w/o raising taxes

getting the prison up & running & addressing the power plant & their tax bill

Finances

economic development

Obtaining grants & funding for our city

funding - closed minded "old" city council members

Money to do all the things that need to be done

Limited budget because of too many homes tax exempt

increased services required & decreased tax income

increased services required and decreased tax income

keeping promises made by former city officials specially to TIFD occupants

our police department - community support

Figure out a way people can pay off their fines by doing jobs that improve our city. Example - city workers could either trim the trees or h???? it down. People could pay off their fine by loading the leaves & cleaning up the area & improve the entrance to the city.

We need open public meetings - HEAR the people let us speak we don't go to city council meetings to be told to "sit down" "your not on the agenda" or "decision will be made during an executive session"

To look in to info before they vote on issues

keep the town going as best as it can

very difficult to please everyone. Groups need to work together & communicate with each other to make sure the improvements aren't being duplicated by someone else.

Growth to fund costs! The number living here cannot continue to fund operating costs, we need growth! In particular economic and housing growths to create jobs, and housing to attract those looking for jobs

economic development

Dealing with Native American moving into Hardin

No one new has opinion or say

Improving the infrastructure of city streets & sewer system

The ongoing relations & rapport with neighboring tribal entities & also upgrading infrastructure Finally - Economy & bringing jobs to the city (family wage) earning jobs

natives complaining about "white" rules

Transparency - city admin is sometimes unnecessarily a barrier to the public's right to know.

Prison - Power Plant - Swimming pool - Jail To many drunks laying around every when people do not want to stop when there are people bothering

Quit bickering & get along!! Work together!! Use common sense

lack of funding for projects

Budge

Getting any 2 People To Work Together

To work as a team - stop favoritism "good ol boys club"

Something done about vacant prison

JOBS JOBS!

Same old reoccurring complaint's from the same individuals

Limited funding from coal monies or grants

#1 Prison #2 enforcing owner responsibility in maintaining homes/yards!

Everything

Getting finances

Dealing with socio-economic issues within community

Lowering Taxes

Money for projects

convincing the county that our tax dollars already pay for law enforcement & that they need to utilize the detention facility, and stop spreading the lie that it doesn't meet standards. We do not want to build another county jail

addressing the diverse needs & wants of many different social and economic groups
struggling economy

Upgrading/improving public facilities dealing with urban decay - i.e.: trailer courts substandard housing - slum lords

economic, racial

fair access to housing

dealing with public

Priorities in financial management.

doing what's good for community, not just themselves

The jail that was built as a prison, economic development. Attracting people to this area, vs. keeping street people!

The town is in transition - Lots of seniors - we are too old to do the work & the younger generation is moving away to better jobs. & more opportunities. - Even most or many of the school employees live in Billings & commute - Houses for sale & nothing to rent. - I'm afraid Hardin will look like Lodge Grass in 20 years. People moving out - no one moving in.

Economic Development - Sail

Find a sewer disposal system that does not breed mosquitos

They should help the Seniors that voted for them. A little extra help goes a long way

N/A

I would like to see them clamp down on the slum lords In this town. They are degrading the properties of those of us who care to keep our properties clean and in good repair

Bringing in new jobs

Being provided the correct information before making a decision

Pay more attention to the concerns of people - Like enforcing curfew

don't know

money

Law Enforcement - We the citizens need to know that this is not free from the county and the city should pay its fair share

Seeing both sides of a situation and remembering some people work hard for their money... use it wisely

Development

Funding for improvements/maintenance of current projects, etc.

Controlling the cost of doing business with other entities such as Construction Costs/equipment purchases, etc.!

Operating the City, Without Raising Taxes and Utilities I feel the City is spending To much on Administrative Personal

Only a few constituents are vocal about their opinions & needs. Finding out what your residents need to improve their lives in Hardin is the biggest challenge

how do you clean up the town (Not trash or rubbish) but street people, thieves, bums, drugs, none working, none contributing people who only drain the whole community!

Economy and people who don't want change. It would be nice if we could help improve the appearance and reputation of our town

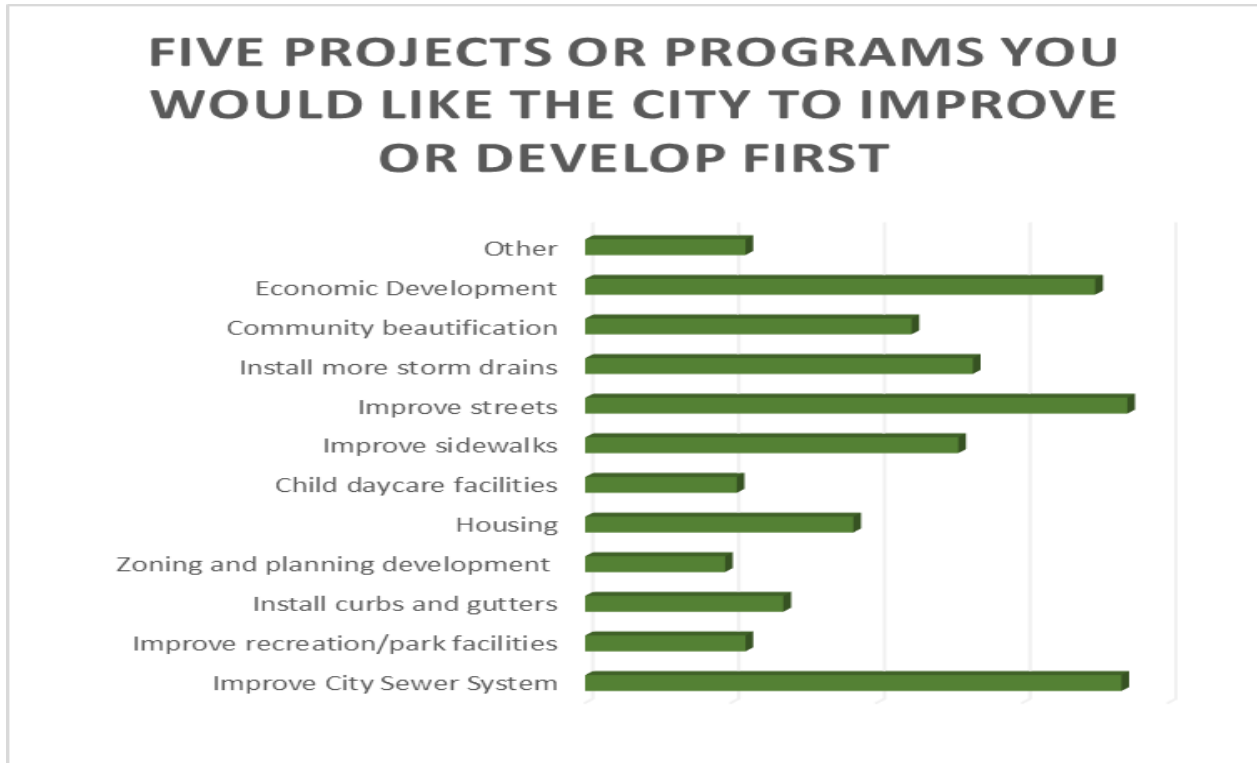
Law Enforcement

Working together

The town of hardin is not youth friendly, not enough safe social places for them to hang out - too many drinking, using drugs

Drugs

SUMMARY QUESTIONS



1. Mark up to *five (5)* future projects or programs you would like the City to improve or develop first (1 being first and 5 being last) (listing of responses)

Improve city sewer system

#1 Priority	41
#2 Priority	6
#3 Priority	9
#4 Priority	9
#5 Priority	8
X	17
Not ranked	90

Improve recreation/park facilities

#1 Priority	5
#2 Priority	3
#3 Priority	4
#4 Priority	7
#5 Priority	12
X	7
Not ranked	142

Install curbs and gutters

#1 Priority	2
#2 Priority	7
#3 Priority	3
#4 Priority	11
#5 Priority	10
X	14
Not ranked	133

Zoning and planning development

#1 Priority	2
#2 Priority	3
#3 Priority	6
#4 Priority	9
#5 Priority	5
X	7
Not ranked	148

Housing

#1 Priority	8
#2 Priority	9
#3 Priority	8
#4 Priority	5
#5 Priority	7
X	16
Not ranked	127

Child daycare facilities

#1 Priority	4
#2 Priority	5
#3 Priority	4
#4 Priority	6
#5 Priority	5
X	8
Not ranked	148

Improve sidewalks

#1 Priority	6
#2 Priority	13
#3 Priority	14
#4 Priority	13
#5 Priority	6
X	25
Not ranked	103

Improve streets

#1 Priority	16
#2 Priority	21
#3 Priority	20
#4 Priority	8
#5 Priority	7
X	28
Not ranked	72

Install more storm drains

#1 Priority	15
#2 Priority	11
#3 Priority	13
#4 Priority	8
#5 Priority	5
X	20
Not ranked	108

Community beautification

#1 Priority	6
#2 Priority	10
#3 Priority	11
#4 Priority	8
#5 Priority	11
X	24
Not ranked	110

Economic Development

#1 Priority	21
#2 Priority	15
#3 Priority	10
#4 Priority	8
#5 Priority	9
X	32
Not ranked	85

Other

* out of 1,2,3 whichever one is most imp in preventing flood of peoples basements

1) Get rid of street people, 2) Pool Fix-up

x A place for kids to play supervised

x better alley maintenance

Better Snow Removal

Boys & Girls Club of America

- 1 Boys & Girls Club something for the youth
- Clean up condemned buildings
- 5 Cleanup the street people problem.
- 1 Community Center
- 1 Community Center like a lot of other towns our size have
- 3 cut expenses & property taxes
- 4 designated dog walk area
- 2 Do something to get Two Rivers Detention Center up and running
- 1 enforce community decay ordinance. Clean up trailer parks & junkyards
- get rid of drug people
- 3 Get Rid of TRA and The Prison
- 2 Give the kids something to do other than criminal activities
- I don't feel qualified
- 1 Instigate, Organize the Public to Accomplish Goals
- 1 keep intoxicated people off the streets and out of our parks.
- x keep streets safe - no more street people
- 4 keep the nice swimming pool maintained
- 4 law enforcement
- 2 less toxic mosquito control loose the lagoon
- Need another Heritage Acres Facility
- None of the above - City cannot afford more costs!!
- x only water & sewage to TIFD
- Police Force
- Pot holes
- quit selling our parks! -sorry - giving it away!
- Repainting of road turn signals
- 5 skate board park
- 1 Skate Board Park
- x skate park
- snow removal
- x street people so library can be open at least one evening a week
- 5 Water System
- 1 water treatment
- 1 We need another Grocery store, IGA is to expensive
- x weed control along street edges & sidewalks

Park comment:

We have great parks

Housing comment:

Lofts over downtown shopfront?!

Improve streets comments:

& alleys
pot holes
especially by the high school

Install more storm drains comments:

flooding is a problem
Not so worried about more drains – But a kind that the debris can go through or around

2. What do you consider the most important improvements in the community in the past five years?

- A better sheriff - even though its county
- Beautification of Center & Trees
- Benches & flowers - get rid of the street people by down town
- Better Law Enforcement
- BHC Museum, Industrial Park
- Bringing in Loves Trucking and Hardees was a nice improvement. Roads have been maintained, for the-most-part.
- Bringing in new businesses like Love's, Dollar Store, and the expanded Shopko
- City fire Hall (nice)
- City Parks & bathrooms
- Cleaning of Storm Ditches and Drains - Side Benefit cut down on Mosquito's
- Continued attention & maintaining of History Museum & medical & health facilities
- Dead tree removal
- Fire Department
- Fire Department Equipment
- Great job with up keep and updates at Parks.
- hiking path at fairgrounds
- Honestly, things seem to be getting worse- code enforcement/ loose dogs. Crime/drugs/city beautification * seemed better about 4 yrs. ago
- Hospital
- Housing
- I appreciate the street sweeper! Awesome Job! And the park guys - and the garbage collectors.
- I feel the parks have been very well maintained - mowed & watered - they always look great

Improvement of the fairground

Kokomo Rd.

less trashy then 5 yrs ago

love the fairgrounds!! Wish pool had better hours esp. for swim lessons as a lot of people work. During day

Love's Truck Stop, Big Horn Valley Health Center and pharmacy, Shopko & pharmacy, Heimat Park restrooms, street & park improvements

main street

Moving closer to I-90

Moving the Airport out of town. Additions to the Big Horn County Museum. The new Shopko, and Love's Truck Stop.

museum, industrial park

new airport. Closure of old airport allows for a nearby and safe place to walk dogs, especially evenings and weekends.

new businesses

old airport walking track & dog area.

on going street improvements

Our Parks - lighting system - keeping our town clean. So nice

Parks - garbage pickup - new airport - fairground improvements

Parks & cleaning up both trailer park

parks & schools

parks and recreation facilities

Parks are great, Schools

Patch Streets/ Alley holes 2nd St. Choteau Ave Pot holes all over town

paved street

purchase of chip sealer

removing the slum trailer court on 4th St Bravo!

Replacing Sewer Drainage Pipes Removing run down trailer houses. Clean them up

school improvements - downtown business added to main st.

School Improvements. Lots of good being done but going un-noticed probably. We as a lot are good at complaining & not so good at complimenting. My Kudos to the city.

Schools

seems to be status quo at present time

sewer lines

Shopko

sidewalk improvements with handicap accessibility

Sidewalks & handicap access on streets

spraying for bugs (great)

Street , Light

Street Improvements

Street removal of snow last winter.

Streets

Streets & Sidewalks

The advent and growth of BigHorn Valley Health Center and their desire & ability to make a real, significant change in community health.

The apts on Crawford Ave. The plants downtown. Big Horn Valley Health & Pharmacy Election of Mayor that will do something

The bike and walking paths. School Improvements

The city improvement has been a joke the last five years. Any improvements made out have been poorly planned and did not address the whole issues. Look at the SID in the Crogan Addition. New streets and improvement were put in on part of the area but you have to drive thru unimproved streets to get to them. that is totally unacceptable and inexcusable from your city fathers.

The city parks look nice, the street people enjoy the sprinkler system, green grass and shade trees. Too bad the kids can't use those parks, their not safe for our children to play in. L

the farmer's market

the improvement to the Fairgrounds has been great

The sidewalks & curbs

The sidewalks that make it easier for people in wheel chairs, some sidewalks have cracks.

The Streets need help, I live in town, North Crook St. All the City does is keep filling up the same pot holes, and it is so ruff. You know winter time comes, you always let the people pack the snow & what does the City do about it. You prolong everything. In winter time City does nothing

The walking path & fairgrounds

The walking trails/paths; bringing in more businesses

walking trail & old airport - County Fairground upgrade - County New Fire Hall

walking trails & downtown open blocks with grass

Water & Sewer Updates

We have a Mayor that works well with the Public finally! The Council talks & communicates much better & with the Public! Parks look great

Welcome to Hardin Signs

Work on the sewer and drainage problems caused by heavy rains

you all have done a wonderful job on our streets and keeping crime relatively low Thank you! Snow removal has been great also!

26 - Responses indicated that there were not any important improvements or they were not aware of any.

71 - Did not Respond

3. Would you participate in an income survey if the results of the survey enabled the City to qualify for more grant funding for infrastructure and housing projects?

Yes, I would participate	63
No, I would not participate	27
Maybe, but I would need more information.	81
No Response	10

Comments:

Maybe the City could get more done if the works were not holding a shovel up every time I see them

Need to lower alleys (So Mud & water doesn't run in yards

I had to call the city this year B/C when they did scrape the rds. The pile up I could not get out of my drive way. We had a lot of snow this winter. Rail Rd St needs help. Year after year City does nothing you have a bunch people on City Council I know most of them, All they do is fuss. Get Nothing done.

Thanks for sending this out and giving the community an opportunity to have their voices heard. Hope this leads to positive change w/o our taxes having to be raised!

The City of Hardin needs to do more in the area of drug enforcement and curfew enforcement! There is no need for new city ordinances if the ones you have are never enforced.

need more drains on our streets need more animal control do something about street people wandin the alleys

Curfew enforcement and better control of "street people" would improve our quality of life. Maybe the City would be better off if it prohibited alcohol and stepped up drug enforcement activities with the county. The City should also press the County to restore cuts to the ambulance service.

I believe Hardin would benefit from trying to improve the recreational/tourism that the Big Horn river/ Yellowtail dam/ Custer Battlefield have to offer.

nothing has been done to improve the city. From what I understand the city has an ordinance that makes the property owner liable to all repairs to the middle of the street. That's wrong the city should be liable for all repairs from the water shut off to the streets and everything under the street. I believe through bad management by the city council. bad decisions the city is broke. The people running this city & county have been in office to long and are incompetent. Time for new blood. My wife was born a raised here. The only reason I am here. This is her home. Its time the people running this town & county get serious. about. saving Hardin before it become Lodge Grass.

we need to clean our town up junk every day in streets that I pickup Cars parked on right side of streets didn't know which way your to drive. Make people clean there places up paint houses & pick up there junk

Hardin is the best Lil Town to live in and we want to keep it that way

There are several derelict buildings in town that need improved or condemned and burned to prevent vagrants from using them. The vagrant problem needs addressed.

We are very concerned about the safety of parts of our community, and the water drainage or lack thereof. We need less programs for low-income, and to focus more on the strength of families and earning income, so people can better support themselves.

Do something with the empty buildings we have in town now, Do something about the panhandlers & street walker we have, it is getting worst. They are rude & mean, take care of this problem and it will improve e the beauty of our town.

The kids need a place like a skateboard park, gets them off the streets. The one in Billings is very busy. Hardin owns a lot of empty lots. Lets put them to use and give the kids a place to recreate safely.

1. I would like to see a year-round public restroom downtown, It would have to be supervised.
2. Our indigents need a safe harbor... Someplace to go when it is too cold to be on the streets. Just waking them up and telling them to move on is not enough. We need a humane way to handle this problem- Maybe we need to look at what other towns have done

Keeping school aged children off the streets late at night into the morning hours

Just a plea to please re-pave the street in front of the high school & N 7th street from the school to N Choteau Ave.

Hardin has the potential to be a unique, beautiful place but laws are not being followed. (by residents and elected officials) and it is causing an increase in people moving, too many homes for sale, drugs, violence and some unsafe areas to live. People also need to take pride in making their homes and town a beautiful place to live.

* Code enforcement needs some serious help. Seems to fine people he may have a grudge against and others who don't follow code (mow lawn /snow removal) get away with it or he just chooses to ignore the real problems.

Winter snow removal is important especially for seniors. If streets are clogged they can't get to appointments, etc.

Native park for natives to meet

I don't have an answer but the group hanging out in Wilson Park. Mormon Church area need to be gone!

How can City charge you to mow overgrown yards without proper notice But can't plow your street during winter time?!! Not all folks get the brief or the paper. This needs to be corrected. I couldn't get off of my street for 2 weeks as they piled up snow across the street from my residence!!

The town drunks need to be dealt with, the first impression of our town to our visiting tourist are what they are greeted with off I-90 coming to our eating establishments. Very shameful.

When people don't follow rules they should pay the price. Lets not let the public out smart the council. When somebody parks the wrong way on a street give them citation. Same for having cars parked that are not licensed or driven. Get them off the street. Set an example! Who runs this community anyway. Don't like being negative but there are vehicles that have been parked in the same place for months. and on wrong side of street. also the drinking of alcohol in parks sleeping overnight in parks. What's the best solution. Parks, close at dark. inforce it. City park police. County won't do anything

*Garbage in the alleys after garbage has been picked up * Street people in alleys * Cleaner Alleys

Thanks for the proactive approach

Mayor & Council need to Brainstorm & solicit Ideas of how town & public can accomplish Goals & Improve the General Atmosphere. Regulations be Damned; use the old Barn Raising Mentality and Organize things to get done! Start w/clean up, painting, etc.; then move on to competitions for Most improved Yard, most creative yard. Discretionary funds for helping works do get done! Add Agenda Item! - Brainstorm Period for Community Improvements & Ways to Accomplish. Not: hire engineer, Not: Just tell Employees to do. Motivate the Public. Solicit People to show up & give Ideas!

I would love to see more lighting on the track by swimming pool. Maybe then every street person wouldn't want to sleep, drink or have sex on the picnic tables & we could actually use them for family events.

Reduce property taxes

This survey is to broad and open ended. I feel many yes answers could apply to things that are not necessary and that the town cannot afford. Grants that require partial payment still may not be as helpful as predicted. The remaining funds still aren't available in the city.

I would like to see our alleys cleared of weed. Abandon vehicle removed I am guilty of this also, but more involvement alley clean up every month.

I would like something to be done with the panhandlers around McDonald. The street people need to be addressed for they are one of our biggest problems along with the young people wandering the streets at night

I would like to see the alley where I live fixed haul in gravel or something like that

I'm tired of paying for services and improvements with my property taxes while others reap the benefits.

Tell Mayor Joe and Rock. Thanks for doing a great job

What about the Detention Center & the Power Plant? Both doing Zero. That would take care of some of unemployed, Hopefully

sell the prison to Amazon or turn it into a tennis/racquetball/exercise club.

There you have it. Now get to work!

not low income housing

The City needs to develop, publicize & adopt a snow plans so if we have heavy snows, there is a plan for what gets dealt with 1st & we get these unmoving vehicles & trailers off the streets as the become obstacles & made the streets unsafe

We live over by the Mormon Church Need I say more. Very unfair that the police remove drunks from other locations and drop them off at Wilson park. We don't want to Look at all of the filth and garbage

There needs to be yearly inspections of "Rentals" and force "upgrades". Also "Health" inspections of "Rentals". If no compliance in a years time, a fine should be issued daily until in "Complete" compliance.

Need to remove office manager she is over paid

We desperately need a community center for large get together - Most towns our size have one - We have nothing

We need a community center - a lot o towns our size have one - We have no place for large receptions or whatever

Change LBH date's so I don't collide with Crow Native Day's Get People Interested in this town again...

it would seem that a qualified public works director could be found on our present work force. Bringing in outsiders have a learning curve that needs done away with. They depart before they learn the cities needs

City does a nice job with the parks

The community needs to be cleaned up, curbs, gutters, streets have to be improved in places. Rental properties are in disrepair, Diseased, old trees need to be replaced on Center & in parks,. We need directional signs at the entrances to Hardin.

Look at the store fronts. Half or more are EMPTY! That is NOT economic development. That is a disgrace to this town. Even the Little Big Horn Days events have been moved out of Hardin. What do tourists have to visit HERE?

The need to control vagrancy needs to be addressed. Maybe, through Federally funded treatment or church/community involvement. Law enforcement is in need of help in this area

The "street people" are a problem. Perhaps fining them for sleeping in parks, driveways & curbs help. I can't walk outside anymore as they are frightening & everywhere.

I'm worried about "income ventures". We have an empty prison, we have a non-working electric plant - Loves Truck Stop is a Plus - The fast food places have difficulty finding & keeping employees

Several of our friends get ill from the mosquito spray. One has just moved away it got so bad. If you go to LameDeer there are a lot of dragon flies. They eat 1000 times their weight daily in mosquitos. But the spray kills dragon flies. We need to rethink this problem. Do research. Perhaps a different sewer treatment w/o a lagoon.

We need a clothing store, a good family restaurant, a good Wendy's or Burger King. A grocery store - like Albertson's

Every Council member drive your alleys & check them some look like the dumps

There are a number of disabled vehicles that have been sitting on the streets for months. Is there anyway to get them removed?

Rental owners should be responsible to haul off evicted peoples garbage to Dumps or do something else rather than piling them their trash by canististers in alley & goes ignored for several wks. til we finally give in & haul off to dump ourselves at our expense

The tribal influence seems to be more negative and the slum loads are supplying more substandard housing which attracts more questionable types of renters

Hardin needs more housing. When low income people can live & afford the rent

Grant funding is very necessary this day & age

I think skateboard park would be wonderful for the kids and teens

City needs to clean up drains after a large rain City needs to cut bushes on 10th & Custer - Can't see if any cars are coming at stop sign. Make people keep up yards that need mowing Have landlords keep up there rentals

I think our city has beautiful parks, sidewalks, and streets. I would like to see a large community center built for events with large crowds (400-500 people). Doesn't have to be fancy, just a simple building that could be decorated. Especially for weddings.

none

I think you are doing a great, the job the City and County shoveled snow was awesome. Thank you! I would like to see a Ice Skating Pond. Also skate Boards ramp.

Income Surveys will only reveal incomes to charge for more taxes, Road Maintenance, etc.!! Using it for grant qualifications is always a scam!

Do a better Job of enforcing Parking Codes and Enforce Property owner to Clean up there Yards and Alleys

I love to see the community come together downtown for events. I would support any projects that would help make our downtown more vibrant. Maybe a coffee shop that is open till 8P or 8:30P? Downtown?

Removing the vagrancy bums & street people would go a long way to city clean up and beautification. That would also help preserve our existing recreation/park facilities, and improve city economics as the existing residents might feel they can once again use these facilities!

Streets are not maintained. Because income many properties are in disrepair and full of junk vehicles-even in the streets. City statutes and laws need to be observed and enforced

I think law enforcement really need to keep intoxicated "street people" out of the parks and away from the Mormon Church. Intoxicated people just need to be kept off the streets. I grew up near an Indian Reservation, and intoxicated people were never allowed on the streets or in the parks, so it can be done. The city must start timing watering in the parks to keep "street people" and crime out of parks at night, as is done in all other cities that I know of. Start enforcing 9:00 curfew, or there is no point in having a curfew.

The city does not adhere to some of the city ordinances. There are yards that are in deplorable condition and the city doesn't do a thing about it, someone has to own these properties - Hardin used to be a clean city - sure needs help in that area now. Weeds at Old Boy & Girls Club. Weeds in front of drop off mail boxes by Post office. Vehicles that don't run left on streets.

We need more qualified people to make decisions about streets and road improvements

CITY of HARDIN
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