

Most Pressing Issues Facing Milwaukie Today

Town Hall participants and survey respondents expressed a range of thoughts about the most pressing issues facing Milwaukie today. They are listed below.

- Lack of vitality. Closed businesses. Lack of walkability. Need for cleanliness, sidewalks. Make it family friendly all the time and keep our business here. Give our adults and youth a place to play.
- Rising cost of living, less diversity perspective, loss of "roots" and the story of this place.
- Affordable housing.
- Controlled growth. Transportation. Aging infrastructure.
- Pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure. Vibrant downtown and neighborhood hubs. Affordable housing. General livability concerns.
- Affordable housing. Access to social resources/services.
- Families. Youth.
- Keeping the city affordable.
- Concern of rent prices rising. More businesses to walk to for socializing. Neighborhood hubs.
- Finding a grocery store. Juggling desires of long-term residents with new residents.
- Safe pedestrian routes. Managing density and growth.
- Convenient grocery stores.
- We need a grocery store within walking distance of downtown.
- Control of the real estate prices, so that private homeownership can still be a reality and big time investors do not take the control of where this city is going.
- School children in poverty. Low percentage of sidewalks.
- Safer ways for people to walk and bike, especially east-west connections.
- Transportation. Safety. Bike-friendly. Good grocery stores.
- Housing for all economic levels. Hwy 224 runs through Milwaukie. Downtown Milwaukie is way over on one side. How do we unite all of Milwaukie to have a strong community feel.
- how to improve livability (walkability, access to stores and cafes in the neighborhoods) and increase affordable housing options without becoming overwhelmed, a la SE Division
- Urban Renewal. Sale of the parking lot , and raising the fees on citizens without a vote are all reason for thinking of leaving Milwaukie. Small town gone.
- Safe passage for pedestrians and bikes.
- Growth, development.
- Attract a mix of businesses to downtown to make it a vibrant town center. Grocery, hardware, restaurants, shops. Using space in the downtown wisely. Moving Dark Horse to a new area? Using farmers market lot wisely. Neighbors go to Woodstock or Sellwood area instead of Milwaukie. Or, even to Oregon City. Let's make a deal with McMenamins for a plot overlooking the river? Orange line right to downtown Portland.
- Attracting businesses to and retaining them in downtown Milwaukie and Milwaukie Marketplace. Adequate parking to use what is available.
- Smart growth; avoiding ugly sprawl; easy access to amenities like more grocery stores.
- Council that does not listen to the citizens that have been paying taxes for more than 15 years. All they want to talk to are 30 something's riding bikes.
- Economic vitality of downtown.
- Road maintenance/condition, lack of affordable housing (especially in central areas with the best access to public transit), lack of protection/awareness of creeks and natural areas.
- Pedestrian access and safety, sidewalks needed.
- Being consumed by Portland.

- No one has a reason to visit.
- Need a grocery store downtown.
- Keeping the community centered, to continue drawing everyone together.
- Slow development, slow population growth, dramatically. Change Milwaukie back to a more natural state through focus on native trees, less grass and more native plants, more walkable city, more vibrant down town - a place for the community to come together.
- I'm just guessing - affordable housing, teaching children that are poor that speak many different languages, the lack of public transportation if you're not in the downtown core.
- Lack of sidewalks and other safe routes for pedestrians. People dangerously disregarding traffic laws.
- Lack of new development to expand and revitalize commercial districts.
- General livability, a sense of community.
- Same as the rest of the world, growing inequity between the haves and have nots and Climate Change.
- Growth and increased density.
- Stagnation in downtown.
- Environment sustainability.
- Parking, and getting more business in Milwaukie.
- Loss of housing affordability.
- SAFE project, proactive development for population growth and environmental concerns
- Making downtown more accessible and a fun place to be and spill over growth from Portland
- Small business development (family-friendly restaurants/stores), high quality grocery options, increasing walkability, good schools, heterogeneous housing opportunities.
- Pollution in our creeks, air, and soil from Precision Castparts Corp! Parking in downtown for businesses and transit riders, revival and reinvestment in play equipment for parks, no event space to continue Milwaukie Festival Daze or a bigger Farmer's Market, we need a brewery or distillery to take over The Brew, and we have zero Dutch Bros (Oregon City has 3, not fair!)