



Community Values & Vision

Community Survey - Public Comments
Summer 2023

In May 2023, a community online engagement opportunity was open, to serve as an initial opportunity for community members to share ideas and thoughts about the City's adopted community values and vision statements. These shared values and vision shape the Comprehensive Plan, which provides policy direction for what Olympia will be like in 20 years.

The survey was announced at the Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off public meeting, an Enewsletter, and in an email update to everyone on the interested parties list. The survey was open from May 1-31, 2023.

The responses will be used to help shape updates to the Comprehensive Plan. The community will have additional opportunities to review and comment on any draft changes to the Community Values and Vision chapter – as well as all other chapters in the Plan.

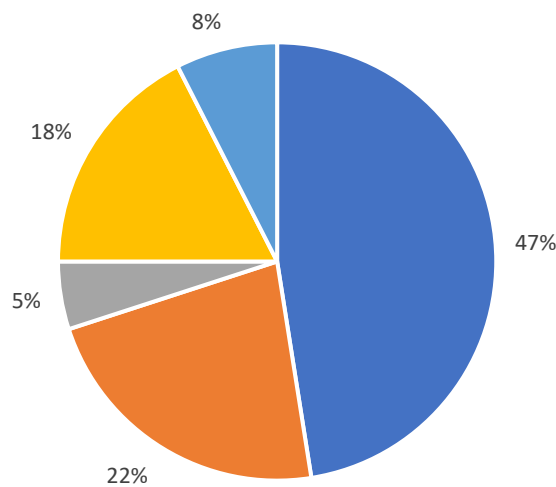


What Olympia values:

As evident through the City's Housing Needs Assessment, our community is becoming more diverse. This includes changes in racial demographics, an increase in the number of aging adults, and changes in average household size and income. Olympians value and respect the identities and lived experiences of our community members, including but not limited to, race, color, creed, national origin, immigration or refugee status, financial stability, class, gender, sexual orientation, age, or ability. We believe that embracing equity enhances the livability and vibrancy of our beautiful city for all residents.

Survey Question #1: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Equity in Olympia?

Equity Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #2: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Equity value statement?

1. No.
2. I would like to see the concept of justice in this statement.
3. Equity statements consistently leave out veteran status. Veterans (especially disabled veterans) are a protected class of citizen and should be mentioned.
4. The statement could include reference to accepting and honoring different ways of knowing, problem solving, and being in relationship including with the environment.

5. I just don't believe people in charge of policies in Olympia value or respect low income residents at all. The community at large might, but leadership continues to pretend to care while actively working against the working poor in order to enable wealthy developers and their ilk/cronies.
6. Add: We respect and honor our relationship with the environment.
7. The following statement is not the only evidence that we are becoming more diverse. Using the housing needs assessment aims the discussion at housing. The equity discussion should be broader and it should be addressed across the entire Comp Plan. It appears this is planned. "As evident through the City's Housing Needs Assessment, our community is becoming more diverse".
8. Olympia does not value dissenting voices and only values the people they agree with. Olympia picks and chooses who is special and who is not. 46% of white non college adults don't feel valued in Olympia but nothing is done to make everyone welcome.
9. I think it's one thing to embrace equity, but that lacks action to me. I would say we prioritize equity and are committed to reviewing all existing and new policies with an equity lens tool.
10. No.
11. So much attention and lip service is already given to our growing older adult population. While it is an important focus, I think that we should acknowledge that people of all ages live here and need more support than is currently offered. After all, discrimination based on age is the only fair housing violation enabled, encouraged, and subsidized by lower taxing for land uses.
12. I don't believe in "equity" I think it's woke, left winged nonsense.
13. Recognize equity in opportunities for all, with no expectation placed on outcomes. All people are different and have different desires, meaning outcome will be drastically different depending on the individual.
14. It does not need to be part of every section. Olympia cannot provide access to these resources: that is the role of individual effort, family help, national and state support programs for some people who need help, and charities. All those aspirational goals are not actually what a local city does. On the other hand, deleting health from Olympia city's goals is actually losing part of its actual job- to help the city be healthy, clean, welcoming and accessible to the whole community. Healthy means clean. Olympia City needs to address the whole community's needs to keep the area thriving. It is not thriving now. Many people avoid downtown now.
15. Needs another statement supporting the claim to what is evident. What Olympians value versus what is actually implemented and practiced remains words without actions.
16. Depends how homelessness is viewed as part of this equity definition. That certainly does not enhance the livability and vibrancy of our city. In fact, I'll start off by saying I'm so discouraged in our city that my family is seriously considering leaving...
17. I agree with the whole statement except the last sentence. It is unnecessary.
18. This is a marketing statement that is unrelated to realities in Olympia.
19. You pretty much covered it all!
20. I believe simplicity would be better here. There is a long list of characteristics, but almost inevitably one or more categories will emerge which are not included. By omission would people thus feel excluded?
21. A definition of "equity" is badly needed here.

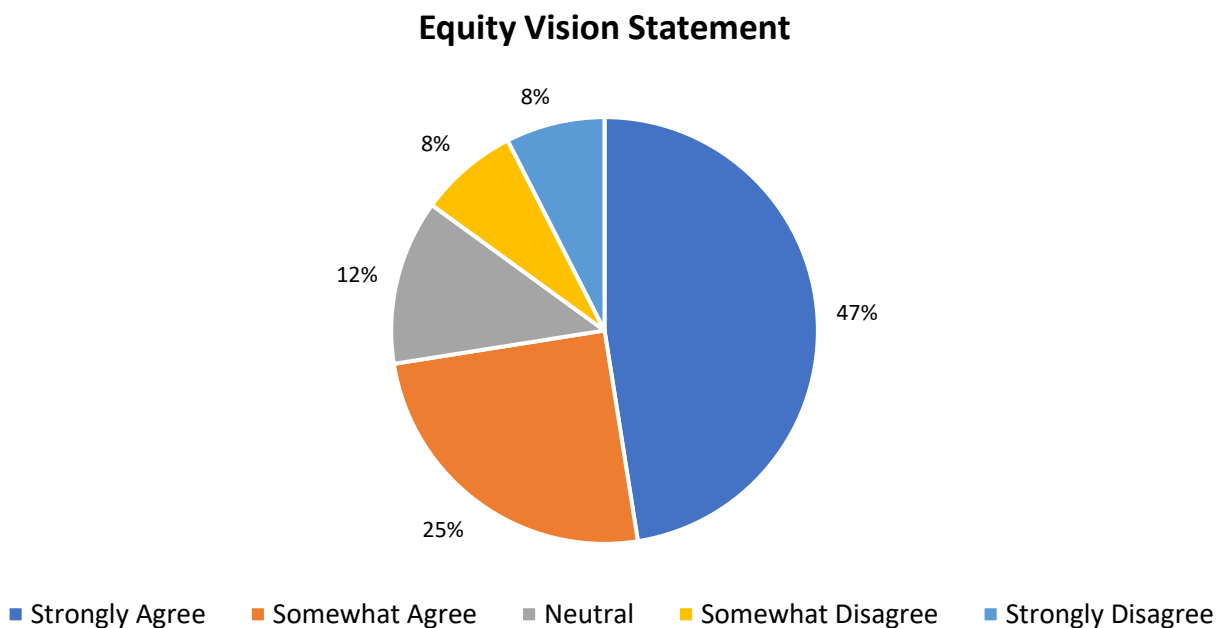
Our Vision for the Future:

We envision a future where Olympia has a diverse and inclusive community, a robust and resilient local economy, and a strong multicultural arts and heritage presence for all to enjoy.

To build a truly livable and vibrant city, we understand that we must provide equitable access to the necessities of life, including housing, mobility, food, services, education, and meaningful work. We must consider the diverse needs of our residents in planning the long-term growth and development of Olympia, considering both quantitative and qualitative data from our community to drive decision making. Giving everyone an opportunity to participate in the civic, economic, and cultural life of the city will lead to greater quality of life and sustainable local economy.

We recognize that equity is essential to all areas of the Comprehensive Plan and are committed to working to eliminate inequity in our community.

Survey Question #3: Based on the value statement for Equity, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?



Survey Question #4: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Equity vision statement?

1. To build a truly livable and vibrant city for all residents.
2. Perhaps it should be specified that "our residents" means current and future residents.
3. This reads as if everything is equal. Perhaps at this moment some needs deserve more attention than others - what takes priority. I suggest addressing past inequities could take priority when needs are in conflict.
4. It is a nice goal statement, but the idea of providing housing to all may not be economically viable.
5. It's a great vision, but leadership purposefully "others" poor people from this vision, it's all virtue signaling talk and no real work towards being inclusive to low/extremely low income residents, look at all the faux luxury unaffordable housing being fast tracked, never actually being made to be

inclusionary. The "fee" these greedy landlords are allowed to pay to keep the poor people out instead of being inclusionary then often is spent on housing not in truly mixed income areas and not very desirable (for example Martin Way Merritt Manor or the Drexel house or now also the new Interfaith place) why is any newer poor people housing shoved together in ugly unwalkable areas!?! Or like the Billy Frank building downtown that was originally supposed to be ON the waterfront, it's like you can walk around and point out what was built for the Richie's and what was built for the poor when it comes to construction over the last 15 years. This is not equality values being shown from so called leadership.

6. Equity recognizes that each demographic has different circumstances and allocates the exact resources and opportunities needed to reach an equal outcome. Addressing equity means prioritizing past inequities in a way that may not give equal attention to all problems, but gives additional resources to those areas that are most out of alignment. We recognize there is a history of overtly discriminatory practices (exclusionary zoning, urban renewal, restrictive covenants).
7. The statements that include 'economy' should say that the city will support a local sustainable economy, but not imply that the city can 'create' the economy. Good government services support the economy but the city government is not responsible for the economy.
8. I think that working with local indigenous tribes should be added to the statement.
9. Equality not equity. Stop treating people unequally. For example what do you do to help seniors and disabled? When do you ever talk about them?
10. No
11. Remove or replace the word growth. Our current economic guidance all point toward a utopian vision of infinite growth. However our resources are not infinite. We are running out of the raw materials and should instead focus on improving and optimizing what we have. Growth means sprawl, profit in the hands of the few at the expense of the quality of life for the many. We should make our city more efficient and better able to meet more of all residents needs without having to spread our tendrils further near and far. There are some things that shouldn't grow. Should we grow our CO2 ppm? Our population without housing? Our hunger? What about our shellfish toxins? All these things will grow if we focus on growth instead of fulfillment with what we have.
12. I don't believe hyper focusing on race or whatever differences in people brings people together- I think by separating people by their demographics you are actually participating in segregation.
13. Equity and equality are not the same thing. I do not support equity for all, but do support fair and equal opportunity/access for all. Results and equity will vary based on the individual.
14. See above. Pare it down to the role a city can actually address: equality of access, safety, cleanliness, pro-small businesses (which have been harmed in recent years) and a welcoming safe atmosphere. Aspiration phrases are not actually accomplishing much.
15. Equitable access should include nutritious/healthy food, healthcare also something about preventative care - not just "sick care".
16. The city body does not have a diverse representation regarding the issues of equity.
17. Including housing... Those that are choosing not to be housed and are disrupting our community (active drug use on streets, causing unsafe access for families in public restrooms/facilities, camping in unauthorized areas, etc.) need to be moved along.
18. I don't understand the denotation of "equity." What is it and why is this word necessary?
19. Who pays for the housing? Does it actually solve the issue at hand?
20. Maybe something like: Olympia will work to ensure that everyone counts in every election.
21. Add to the necessities about transportation through all modes especially public transit and walking.
22. You covered it all, I just wanted to say I absolutely love the inclusion of "meaningful work".
23. Societal inequality is due to forces that are greater than a medium sized city can change on its own, though of course there are some actions it can take. I would add a recognition in some fashion that

the city will advocate with the state and federal partners, the non-profit and for-profit sectors and neighborhood associations in coordinated efforts to address equity issues.

24. Definitions of "equity" and "equitable". These seem like vague buzzwords that are currently in vogue.

Themes in Equity Comments:

- Recognize a history of inequity: It is not enough to provide equal treatment to everyone regardless of their circumstances, but instead we must understand those circumstances and recognize existing inequities in order to provide fair treatment to everyone.
- Include specific marginalized groups: People want to see know that the needs of disabled veterans, low-income residents, non-college degree residents are being considered.
- Include specific action/issue areas: People want the equity analysis to be applied to all policies and specifically: preventative healthcare, food access, voting access, transportation access.
- Commitment to action: Equity needs to be prioritized with actions, not just words, including policy review with an equity tool, diverse representation within the City organization, and partnering with local organizations to advocate for state/federal actions.
- The term "equity" is not understood or valued by everyone: People asked for a definition, shared confusion, or outright opposition to using equity analysis in city work.

Staff Response:

A basic definition of equity is to treat people fairly based on their individual needs and circumstances. This includes recognizing a history of inequity and working to reverse current disparities. It is not the same thing as giving everyone equal treatment.

For example, if one neighborhood has lots of tree cover and another neighborhood is experiencing a heat island, providing equal treatment would mean planting an equal number of trees in both neighborhoods. However, providing equitable treatment would mean prioritizing new trees in heat island areas.

Equity analysis is commonly applied to look at disparate impacts to marginalized groups, including but not limited to communities and individuals who are Black, Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQ+, disabled, immigrants, non-college educated, or low-income. It can also be applied to any groups or individuals being impacted by a policy or program, such as the neighborhoods in the above example.

The City has developed an Equity Framework to help staff apply an equity lens to all new policies, programs, and projects that might go before City Council. This tool will also be used to incorporate an equity analysis to each chapter in the Comprehensive Plan. The goal is to make sure that every area that the City engages in will include an equity lens to ensure that the work the City does to benefit the community will support all people to have thriving and healthy lives. In this process, more actions backing up these equity principles will become visible.



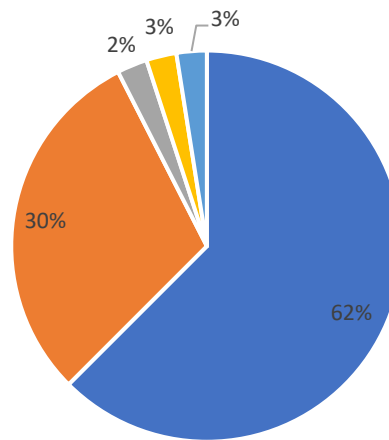
Public Participation & Partners

What Olympia Values:

Olympians value their right to participate in City government, and to engage in meaningful, open and respectful community dialogue regarding decisions that affect our community.

Survey Question #5: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Public Participation and Partners in Olympia?

Public Participation & Partners Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #6: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Public Participation and Partners value statement?

1. No.
2. I think we value more than just a "right to participate". I think we believe that decisions informed by diverse perspectives result in more effective collective solutions. We believe that a government that proactively engages with under-represented communities and makes changes based on the input received will develop in transformative and innovative ways.
3. N/A.
4. Space needs to be given to the softer voices that are not often heard.
5. Olympia politics has reached a toxic and divisive point where many feel intimidated into silence from the fringe elements on the left and right and the city's widespread tolerance for tactics that are meant to intimidate those with other viewpoints. Riots and protests on the front lawns of homes of public officials, hateful graffiti ("ACAB, burn the prisons and the kops..." etc.) seems to be tolerated

as long as it's from radical left. Olympia is not ideologically balanced and does not value a variety of views from the middle. This can be seen in OSD.

6. I believe y'all make it hard to participate on purpose. So called leadership only listens to the wealthy and virtue signaling to the poor.
7. We recognize that we must incorporate historically marginalized communities into the dialog with the City.
8. I might express or acknowledge that many members of our city-wide community have differing opinions, that are often unheard because of their busy lives, their newness in the community, or that they may not know what the city or local government does. It might be productive for the City to be more active in getting the voices of groups that are often disconnected from local government.
9. Olympia needs to make an effort to include marginalized people in this statement. Not everybody has the resources to participate as actively as older white folks.
10. Actually value different opinions don't just talk about it.
11. I don't disagree with the idea, but I think that public participation continues to be unevenly accessed across the community.
12. This sounds good however not always practiced by our City planners or counsel.
13. Well done as is.
14. Expressing disagreement politely is not hate speech.
15. Add something around our responsibility to elevate and center the voices of those who have been traditionally marginalized.
16. What is the City of Olympia's intention on actually holding 'in person' meetings, especially when the topics are as important as these 'value statements'?
17. We certainly value engagement, but whether dialogue leads to change is questionable... It seems like community decisions have been predetermined, and will be pushed through regardless of citizen concern.
18. I like the statement. It is short, to the point, and does not include jargon of the day.
19. Olympia officials invite public comment and then dismiss it in favor of the staff recommendation - which is typically the same proposal as submitted. Note that there is a standard question on the staff memo/recommendation that asks for something along the lines of "Neighborhood Interest" and there is never a substantive response - indicating quite clearly that the staff does not choose to pursue what is implied by the existence of the question: namely to investigate and report on the attitude or concerns of people in a given neighborhood or neighborhoods. I'd encourage you to pull a few memos and check out this statement (if you're actually interested...).
20. Add something about tapping the knowledge of community members, of whom we have many with stronger backgrounds than staff.

Our Vision for the Future:

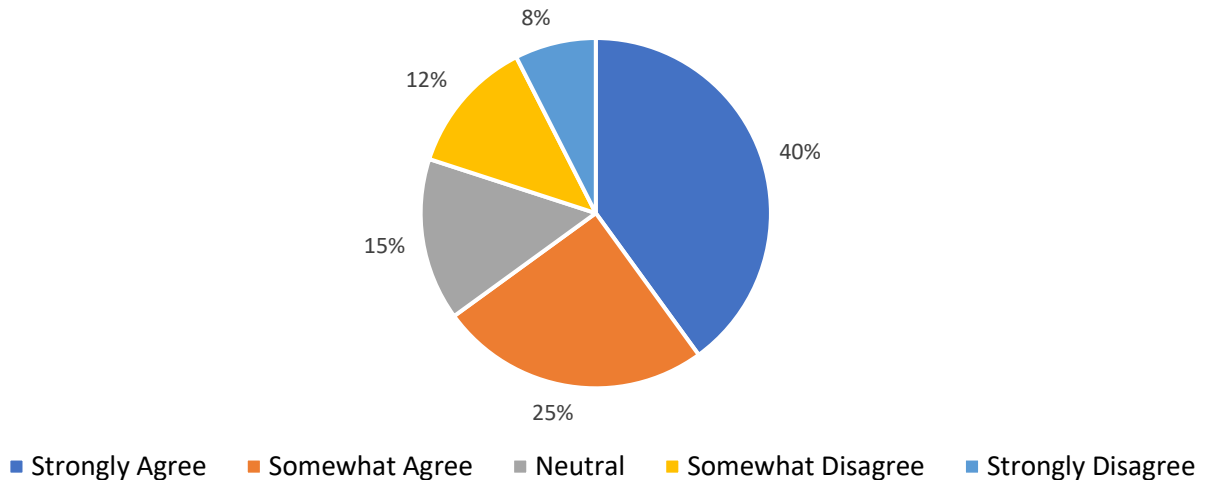
Through collaborative and open discussions, Olympians embrace a shared responsibility to make our community a better place.

The City of Olympia places a high priority on engaging community members early and often and regularly demonstrates how the voices of the community are heard. When issues come up, the City's healthy public participation process helps each segment of the community to understand the larger picture and the need to act in the best interest of the City as a whole. Olympia engages the public in major decisions through a variety of methods, including community conversations, public forums, and

interest-based negotiation, and makes sure these community members know how their input was used. Because of this, the City has built trust with the community.

Survey Question #7: Based on the value statement for Public Participation and Partners, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?

Public Participation and Partners Vision Statement



Survey Question #8: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Public Participation and Partners vision statement?

1. "Transparency", as in a commitment to.
2. N/A.
3. See lengthy answer to question 7.
4. I don't think the public has much trust in our leadership. Maybe your rich developer buddies trust you to keep letting them ruin our community but we don't trust you to do right by us. Always talking about building for the people who will move here (ends up being mostly white and mostly higher than local incomes) but absolutely FAIL the existing community, especially those with lower pay local service jobs. The number of people becoming homeless or remaining homeless for long periods is growing but I'm sure if you let developers "just build more" faux luxury unaffordable housing the market will start trickling down any time now (it won't. Studies have proven the market is not interested in low income people and will not provide the housing people need) Please stop trying to feed us poop and telling us it's chocolate pudding. We need housing that is affordable for service jobs income level NOW not more faux luxury for the imagined future of people moving here. All this overpriced faux luxury is causing people to become homeless and is really only chasing after a mostly white and wealthy transplant, not doing much for diversity or equality/equity.
5. I wish this vision statement was true. But it appears that the city is not engaging well at this point. While there may be many attempts or processes, community members are feeling disengaged and that they are not heard. This following statement is not true at this point. "Because of this, the City has built trust with the community." It should be changed to 'The City will make changes that are

needed to rebuild trust.' An example of reducing trust include the 2 minute limit at all meetings including committees and advisory committee meetings.

6. There should be a section about improving the involvement of marginalized people- young people, working class people, people of color. Having the opportunity to be a part of the discussions is great, but it needs to be accessible to all.
7. You hold listening sessions to check boxes but don't really listen or act on what is said. It's meaningless.
8. City will conduct annual survey on trust of residents of City of Olympia government.
9. I have concerns that Olympia's frequently lengthy public process creates opportunities for a small subset of the community to participate, but makes it harder for those who cannot follow and persistently give comments.
10. Not always are people listened to.
11. Walk the walk, please.
12. I don't think all voices should be weighed equally. In past community discussions it seems that folks with an abundance of time and resources have been able to take up more than a fair share of space at the expense of those who might be most affected. All voices are valuable, but I wish people who were most knowledgeable and most impacted had the loudest microphones.
13. I think the city of Olympia lets it left-winged bias effect all aspects of how the city is run so when presented with more conservative approaches you aren't always respected or listened too.
14. Consulting separate groups needs to be a preliminary stage. The majority of discussion and decisions need to be in open public settings.
15. If it's not somewhere else, I think this statement should be balanced with a statement around valuing experts and being data-driven with regard to decision-making.
16. When you listen to the public, do you in fact elevate and honor these differing points of view?
17. I don't think the city has built trust... Even having to "register" for surveys isn't the easiest of process. So what number of public participation from our overall population is deemed a "success?" - 1%, 5%, 10%, other?
18. I would exclude "interest-based negotiation". Implies a role for identity politics.
19. Regularly demonstrates how the voices of the community are heard. If the staff ever summarized* and published public comments, maybe this statement could be true. But since that is missing, it's not true. A recent instance is the handling of comments for the elimination of parking requirements. An earlier one was the comments for "short term rental" regulations. *Summarizing does not mean listing them: it requires thought and grouping comments according to a meaningful categorization.
20. See above -- reach out to members of the public to gain the benefit of their special expertise and experience.

Themes in Public Participation & Partners Comments:

- Consideration of diverse perspectives yields better decisions for the community.
- Need to hear from the “softer voices” – those that typically are not heard from. Could include those with little spare time due to work or other obligations, being new to the community, historically marginalized groups, etc.
- Evaluate input in a fair and equitable manner.
- Be cognizant of situations where a small number of individuals attempt to monopolize the discussion.
- It is important to summarize and publish public input so community can see that they were heard.

- Explain and show how actions are based on public input that was received.
- *From the Community Values & Vision chapter comments:* More inclusion needed for veterans, disabled veterans, homeless, and low income people.

Staff Response:

These comments, along with those under consideration from the Public Participation and Partners initial input survey that was recently conducted, will be used to inform how the chapter is updated. The City strives to offer opportunities for all members of the community to stay informed of and participate in planning processes. Reaching out to those with a wide variety of perspectives and opinions, and balancing the input received along with the policy direction in adopted plans and policies, continues to be of great value to the City.



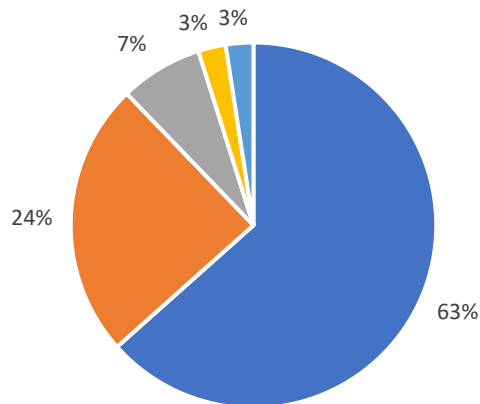
Our Natural Environment

What Olympia Values:

Olympians value our role as stewards of the water, air, land, vegetation, and animals around us, and believe it is our responsibility to our children and grandchildren to restore, protect, and enhance the exceptional natural environment that surrounds us.

Survey Question #9: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Our Natural Environment in Olympia?

Natural Environment Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #10: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Our Natural Environment value statement?

1. No.
2. Instead of enhancing the exceptional natural environment that surrounds us, I would say enhancing the "exceptional ecosystems that we are a part of".
3. It is sometimes impossible to "restore" natural environments. Adding "improve" to the statement would better encompass this work.
4. Let's consider a partnership with nature rather than stewardship which reflects people being apart from and dominant over nature.
5. We like parks and green spaces, but we are allowing these spaces to be destroyed by unsafe behavior and out-of-control encampments. I travel all over the country and this is NOT "happening everywhere" - it is mainly up and down the I-5 corridor.
6. Just want to point out that for people who depend on public transportation the majority of the best Natural Environment parks are effectively off limits as we don't have public transportation options

to get to them. We have beautiful state parks right in Thurston county, state parks! Of course they are an asset we should all value, but apparently they are only for those with the privilege of a car. It's shameful really. Not in line with equality/equity values at all.

7. We recognize that ecosystems and natural communities are not merely property that can be owned. Rather, they are entities that have an independent and inalienable right to exist and flourish. Recognizing the Rights of Nature changes the status of ecosystems and natural communities to being recognized as rights-bearing entities.
8. I would add how our individual and total effectiveness on the environment needs critical examination. For example, building sprawling suburbs because it is cost effective under the current market and regulations may be a benefit for the individual but a detriment to the environment.
9. At least you didn't mention equity.
10. We are not separate from nature, it is not around us. We are nature stewarding and protecting itself. Until we recognize this basic fact, we will continue to steal from our future generations. On that note, some of us care for those future generations without a desire to create them. Not all of us are willing or able to have children and grandchildren but a society that hopes for a better future for all it is capable of impacting is a better society.
11. I think you should stop changing parks names in order to be more inclusive. It's not and you're erasing history and religion which will only have negative effects as well.
12. The responsibility goes beyond our family to all of civilization.
13. Olympia needs to stop building real estate that is not producing local revenue or coming from local resources.
14. This statement needs to be flushed out some more. What is meant by "natural environment"? Does it include city parks (not natural), boulevards (not natural), street trees (not natural), and so on. Or, does it pertain to the Deschutes River, Budd Bay, and other "natural" environments?
15. I would amend the reference to "children and grandchildren" to "current and future generations." Not all Olympians have progeny, but we recognize that we have a responsibility to be "good ancestors" for those community members who come after us.
16. Stewardship is important but RESTORING and protecting nature is one of the greatest strategies for tackling climate change.
17. Most of the work to value the environment is done by non-profit organizations and volunteers -- the city and the staffs' focus is on development.
18. We could maybe specify that we are focusing on climate resilience.
19. As an aspirational value, it feels right. Yet, should there be some recognition that as an urban area, we advance the larger scale environmental concerns by densifying our development in order to take developmental pressure away from more environmentally significant areas in the rural and natural hinterlands?
20. Olympia is above-average in climate-friendliness, but improvements could be made. Urgent issues such as improving the health of the Deschutes River and its estuary should be top priority for the city.

Our Vision for the Future:

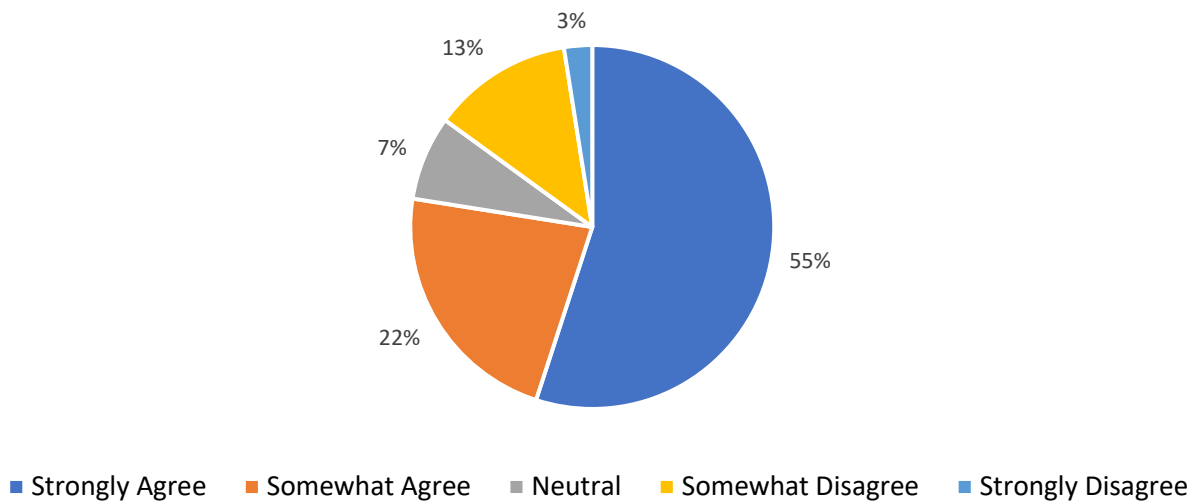
A beautiful, natural setting that is preserved and enhanced.

Olympia's unique natural setting will continue to make Washington State's capital city great. By working closely with surrounding governments we can successfully preserve, protect and restore the natural heritage we share.

As a result of this cooperative effort, Olympia will enjoy a dense tree canopy that will beautify our downtown and neighborhoods, and improve the health, environmental quality and economy of our city. Though our population will increase, our air and water will be cleaner and wildlife habitat will be preserved to maintain a biologically healthy diversity of species. Salmon will return and spawn in the streams where they were born. Seals, sea lions, orcas, and otters will roam the waters of southern Puget Sound.

Survey Question #11: Based on the value statement for Our Natural Environment, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?

Natural Environment Vision Statement



Survey Question #12: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Our Natural Environment vision statement?

1. No.
2. It would also be nice to add something about collaborating with other jurisdictions nearby and afar to implement innovative solutions that can serve as a model for others.
3. Again, add "improve."
4. The intro focus on esthetics - the beauty of the environment. That needs to be changed to reflect that we are tied more intimately than we may think to the environment. The vision needs to acknowledge that we have mucked up the environment for 170 years of settler life here and now have a challenge to fit our human existences into the natural world in a manner that fits with and restores natural systems.
5. Stop selling our water to bottling companies. Well 80 shouldn't be allowed to use our artesian well water either. Stop with all the playing favorites via selling out our natural resources to squeeze out some GDP.

6. The goal of conferring rights to nature is to secure the highest level of environmental protection under which an ecosystem can thrive and whose rights are not violated. These nature rights are very often associated with human rights, especially the right to a clean and healthy environment.
7. I agree with the statement but it lacks responsibility and direction. Who and how are we going to ensure these canopies are sustained.
8. It is very difficult to preserve wildlife habitat in a growing urban environment. Designated areas such as Watershed Park, Squaxin and LBA parks and other open spaces can achieve that. Also, the word 'dense' for tree canopy is not likely to be achieved. Density of buildings is a good thing, but it will inevitably mean fewer trees. I am okay with that as long as we don't enlarge the UGA and as long as the County preserves large areas of forest and farmland.
9. And include indigenous people in lang management and environmental restoration projects.
10. Again, we're assuming infinite growth. A vision should be based in reality. Maybe we say: "as our population changes, we recognize that our waste impacts the natural balance of our ecosystem and we continually seek new ways to turn our outputs into better inputs." Donut systems, not ponzi pyramids folks! Additionally, trees are neat, but there are SO MANY other native ecosystems that deserve honor and attention. The prairies that were managed by the original stewards of the land have been covered with spec built homes or allowed to degrade so that they are unable to feed us. Likewise, the shellfish tidelands and deeper estuary are covered, dredged, and flooded with our "treated" wastes while also being refused replenishment from armored shorelines. Many of the trees we're adding to our canopy are non-native and are added to agree with our infrastructure and aesthetic visions. The fish passage projects we build serve only to bring poisonous tire particles in contact with the salmon fry that return. Our population must balance with the populations of other life in our shared ecosystem that all individuals (human and other) help manage.
11. We cannot control this part about restoring salmon. Why is it here?
12. None of the new buildings in the Downtown core have incorporated these visions of the future.
13. Sure it's a nice vision, but drive anywhere around Olympia and this statement isn't true... Homeless encampment's for example are greatly affecting the natural environment and safety and concern of it's residents. Nice to see tents along Deschutes Parkway (thankfully cleaned up), Woodland Creek Park, Percival Creek, or any number of offramps, etc. and people defecating, drug using, bathing in/around salmon streams and parks... that's protection and beautifying our city?
14. What is "natural setting" mean? How does one distinguish between a community in a "natural setting" from one that is not in a natural setting?
15. I would like to see something added reflecting a commitment to ensuring equitable access to green space and our natural environments for the purposes of recreation and leisure, environmental education, and community wellbeing.
16. I'm sorry but I find it impossible to discern how these statements could ever be linked to the actual policies and practices followed by the City of Olympia, so I'm unable to "rate" them.
17. This can be accomplished by reducing our dependence on car-based infrastructure.
18. See above comment.

Themes in Our Natural Environment Comments:

- Human communities are a part of the natural ecosystem. As such, we have a responsibility to restore past damage caused by population growth and development wherever possible, and to minimize future harmful impacts. Doing so successfully will require being in better balance with nature, with an emphasis on what is good and healthy for the environment is also good and healthy for us.

Importantly, we must ensure that these benefits reach *all* our community members in a way that is equitable and without causing unintended burden or harm.

- Framing goals around aesthetic beauty misses the critical values of a healthy natural environment for public health and overall community well-being.
- Climate resilience and being proactive in our ability to adapt to both known and unforeseen challenges should be a priority.
- Some approaches to development are perceived to be in conflict with City goals aimed at protecting and improving environmental conditions. While some survey participants acknowledge the importance of density in urban growth areas for the protection of larger and more consequential natural areas outside of the city, others place a substantial emphasis on more sustainable development standards.
- Encampments in greenspaces and along streams are a concern for public health and safety (for both people living in or visiting these areas and the greater community) as well as the health of the surrounding ecosystems.

Staff Response:

It is very clear how important the natural environment is to people living, working, and visiting Olympia for a wide range of reasons.

We will work to reframe some of the language of this chapter to reflect the reciprocal nature of environmental stewardship and thriving human communities, in addition to clarifying what is included in the term “natural environment.” Similarly, we see an opportunity to adjust the focus on “children and grandchildren” to “future generations,” or something similar, which more accurately captures a long-sustained approach that is equitable and inclusive to more members of our community.

Goals and actions that relate to climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience will be woven through each of the chapters in the Olympia Comprehensive Plan and in a Climate chapter. Current City projects like the Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment, which is being driven by a team comprised of both City staff and members of the community, will inform new or updated goals and high-level policies. Many of these will likely be represented in the Environment Chapter as we continue to study climate trends and existing conditions as well as developing action plans to implement over the next 10-20 years in partnership with community and our neighboring jurisdictions.

City staff from across departments work together to enable development, particularly affordable housing, in a way that is sustainable and in compliance with state and federal law. The Comprehensive Plan is a great format for laying the groundwork to improve outcomes that move vulnerable populations into more secure housing while enhancing benefits we receive from a healthy natural environment. Through this comprehensive planning process we will be examining opportunities to better meet both of these needs simultaneously.



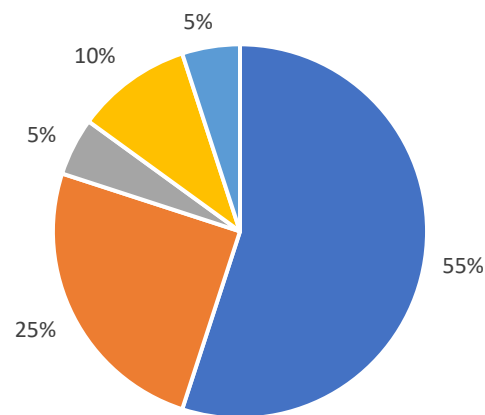
Land Use & Urban Design

What Olympia Values:

Olympians value neighborhoods with distinct identities; historic buildings and places; a walkable and comfortable downtown; increased urban green space; locally produced food; and public spaces for community members in neighborhoods, downtown, and along our shorelines.

Survey Question #13: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Land Use and Urban Design in Olympia?

Land Use & Urban Design Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #14: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Land Use and Urban Design value statement?

1. No.
2. Is there a way to make this statement say Olympia is also welcoming to new neighbors?
3. The terms "distinct identity" could mean the desire to keep the status quo. We can't afford to house everyone keeping the status quo. We can't afford to continue our reliance on the automobile for transportation. Everything past the first phrase is okay.
4. The condoning of antisocial, criminal, and unsafe behaviors and hard drug use in our city has driven many away from downtown. If a space is unsafe for elderly people, or women are not safe to jog on wooded trails, or take kids downtown means they might see a person freebasing meth or screaming at them- it is not sustainable.
5. We value having housing that's actually affordable. Not the ugly boxes of faux luxury currently being built and sitting empty. We also value NOT being able to point out places built for lower income people because they SHOULD not look so different from other new construction (but they do and I

say shame on you) we value using the inclusionary tool so new construction is mixed income, not allowing some rich developer pay a fee rather than let poor people live in their development. The benefit being placement. Poor people housing is almost never in the same desirable areas as the faux luxury development that SHOULD be mixed income if you are at all serious about equity/equality. No more diverting mixed income away from being included in any new development!!! We would value that 20% affordable housing in desirable areas as much or more than the developers don't want to provide it. Stop carrying their water for them and make them start working for the needs of the community rather than the wants of their greed!

6. Olympians recognize that our communities must change to accommodate housing density and move away from a car centric plan. We envision an environment that offers a safe way to transport people including transit, walking, and biking. People desire walkable green areas safe from car traffic. We will increase mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods.
7. I believe this is a reality statement but not one that inspires growth in tomorrow. Certainly we like these things but what about protected bicycle infrastructure, Neighborhood Centers (CBDs,) and other funding/logistical stalled projects.
8. "Increased urban green space" - is something we will need but also it needs to be well placed. This means we need to continue to acquire neighborhood park land and small green spaces near where people live. Having dense housing is good, but is also points towards a need for more green spaces.
9. There needs to be a huge emphasis on affordable housing as a priority as well as addressing the issue of homelessness. There should be a sentence like "Olympia understands that affordable housing is the bedrock of a strong community, and put special emphasis on affordable housing for all" .
10. I don't agree that historic buildings should be prioritized over people being sheltered and feel strongly we don't need to value them too highly. I also feel we should value reducing cars on the road, increasing bike infrastructure and creating pedestrian only streets in downtown Olympia.
11. I would like to see something that acknowledges that all parts of our community (not just downtown) benefit from planning that is centered around people and not cars.
12. Again, walk the walk, please.
13. Nope crushed it here.
14. Pedestrian focused neighborhoods are a basic start.
15. Yes, we "value" that... Do we feel safe in those areas described right now? No.
16. I agree with everything except the inclusion of "locally produced food". If you want to include something pertaining to this, then use "gardens" in a phrase, for example, "community gardens".
17. Our downtown must not only be "walkable and comfortable," it must be accessible to people of all abilities and mobilities. ("Walkable" is not equivalent "friendly to all pedestrian modalities.").
18. As noted, these are pollyanna-ish statements no one could disagree with because they're unrelated to reality -- they can be (and are) used to justify a myriad of contradictory policies driven by whoever are the most influential actors in the city -- typically developers and investors. Neighborhoods with distinct identities? Didn't the council just try to eliminate "neighborhood character" from the Comp Plan because it was in effect an excuse for racism?
19. I would like to say downtown should be a safe, comfortable, and interesting walking environment.
20. Yes, I think it should be specified that we want our entire city to be walkable, not just downtown. This is very important.
21. I'm really wondering about the city's commitment to truly being urban. Is locally produced food a city goal or more a Thurston County goal? I'm not sure what the value of "distinct" neighborhoods means, though it could be a basis for challenging , again, densification. This is a core challenge, of course, of the GMA. If we really want to accommodate growth without sprawl, what does that say about the existing integrity of urbanizing places? Tough choices.

22. Olympia does exceedingly well in these regards downtown, but in parts of westside and eastside Olympia, issues persist. As a frequent user of Olympia's bike infrastructure and transit, I often feel lost, frustrated, and unsafe navigating corridors such as Harrison Avenue, in which high volumes of high-speed traffic regularly threaten the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, as well as the punctuality of transit. Protecting bike lanes with solid bollards or cement barriers (considering flexiposts and paint buffers can still be easily penetrated by vehicles), lowering speed limits to not much more than 25 miles per hour, as well as converting outer lanes to bus / turn lanes would improve livability and commutability along the corridor, as well as others if similar ideas are implemented.

Our Vision for the Future:

A walkable, accessible, vibrant city.

We envision a capital city of pedestrian-oriented streetscapes, livable and affordable neighborhoods, safe and meaningful street life, and high-quality civic architecture. Through collaboration with other agencies and partners, our urban waterfront will be a priceless asset, eventually running along the Deschutes River from Tumwater's historic buildings, down past Marathon and Heritage parks to Percival Landing and the Port Peninsula.

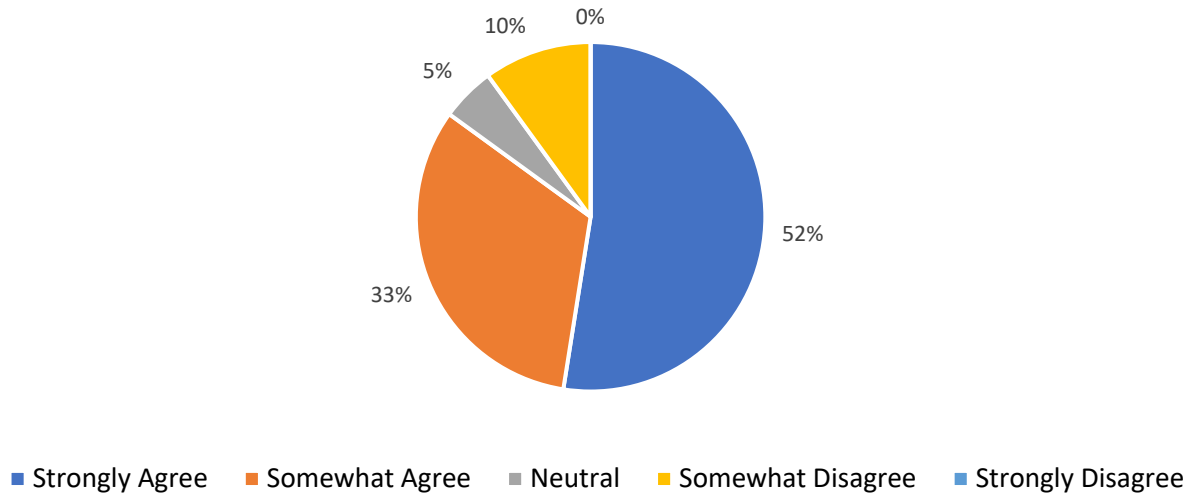
Capitol Way will be a busy and historic boulevard linking the waterfront and downtown to the Capitol Campus. By creating plazas, expanded sidewalks, and public art in public places, we will stimulate private investment in residential and commercial development, increasing downtown Olympia's retail and commercial vitality.

Olympia will work to create "urban nodes" of higher density and mixed-use development in specific locations along our urban corridor. We will encourage infill projects and remodeling of older structures; in turn we will begin to create a more walkable community, where historic buildings and neighborhoods are valued, preserved, and adapted to new uses.

Well-implemented neighborhood sub-area planning will help us determine unique neighborhood assets to protect and enhance; where and how to increase density and retain green space; and develop safe and convenient access to everything from grocery stores, to schools, neighborhood parks, community gardens and neighborhood gathering places.

Survey Question #15: Based on the value statement for Land Use and Urban Design, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?

Land Use & Urban Design Vision Statement



Survey Question #16: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Land Use and Urban Design vision statement?

1. No.
2. Would just consider how to include other areas outside of the downtown core in the plan.
3. This needs a complete rewrite to include a vision of more people fitting into the same spaces and keeping more of those spaces as green as possible. The first paragraph about the waterfront is not my front and center idea of where I live. It should show up later in the vision. What I see are the vistas to the water, to the mountains, to the forest that are to the west and north of the city.
4. Washington State is #47 out of 50 when it comes to crime. We are poised to be the second state in the nation to decriminalize hard drugs. I moved here years ago as a progressive, liberal Bernie Democrat- and if I can see that Olympia and WA are failing at public safety- anyone can. I was broken into in 2018 by a man with numerous felonies who was living in the woods- his name was Ezra West and he was killed earlier this year in a revenge shooting for his stalking and assault of women. I have a right to be safe in my home. So does my child. So do my neighbors. So do homeless girls sleeping rough. We MUST start prosecuting predatory people and take a more serious approach to crime.
5. I would agree, but if you are actually interested in affordable housing this needs to be addressed first otherwise the improvements will be only for the wealthy and probably mostly white. It will just make the faux luxury unaffordable places even more expensive and of course people barely hanging in there will be placed further behind as has been happening in our community at an accelerated rate for the past 15 or so years. Ending the practice of allowing developers to pay off rather than having inclusionary policy in ALL new construction would help keep affordable housing in ALL neighborhoods, as it should be. I don't trust our so called leadership on this one at all.
6. We will plant more street trees. In addition to contributing to auto safety, trees provide myriad public benefits, including natural cooling, reduced emissions and energy demand for air conditioning, and reduced stormwater pollution.
7. This vision will need a major shift in budget priorities to invest in the infrastructure to support safe movement by walking. "and develop safe and convenient access to everything from grocery stores" – The words '..safe and convenient WALKING AND CYCLING access ' need to be added.

8. Again, we need to address housing affordability and homelessness. There will be no strong economy if nobody can afford to live here. Olympia is a majority renter city, so there should be some statement about making rental housing affordable.
9. I'm sorry. I'm so cynical. I've watched Olympia be destroyed, the environment be trashed. I just don't trust you anymore to do these things. Sounds pretty on paper, who could disagree but you don't walk the talk. Example Percival Creek.
10. I don't think we should be prioritizing historic buildings. Unless it's a mixed use building. Mixed use buildings and high density housing should be the focus. I would also like to see a commitment to reducing parking lots. They have the greatest impact on poor water quality and reduced tree canopies than anything else.
11. While there is an emphasis on "walkability", there is no recognition that public transit is a critical factor and without it we fail.
12. The word walkable sucks for people who can't walk. The phrase "pedestrian-oriented" is a slight improvement but makes me think we're asking our traffic engineers to wedge people into spaces that still will be dominated by the noise, pollution, and violence created by folks operating private automobiles to the frustration of people inside and outside of all mobility modes. Sidewalks also sucks, stop implying that cars are the MAIN way to access our urban core. "Retail and commercial vitality" come on, cities are the places humans created to celebrate an excess of resources with a party. The focus on profit and commerce is a distraction from the exchange of goods, ideas, and great times. If you build a place where more exchanges will happen, you will generate more wealth for all. The end of that was neat though. I like the apparent contradiction of density and green spaces being recognized as a possible goal.
13. I think most of that sounds great, however be careful not to eliminate driving in and through the city. A lot of people travel into Olympia and don't live within walking distance so be sure to be accommodating to those commuters and drivers.
14. Mixed use streets, with bicycle lanes and buses.
15. Necessity and focus on partnerships with local business and nonprofits to create this vision.
16. People who insist upon Car accessibility are redundant and against the proper planning via urban design.
17. Someone needs to check the grammar in the last sentence.
18. Don't forget about bikes!
19. The city must not only be "walkable and comfortable," it must be accessible to people of all abilities and mobilities. ("Walkable" is not equivalent "friendly to all pedestrian modalities.") As the state capital, this mandate is especially pertinent--we want the seat of our representative democracy to be welcoming and accessible to all Washingtonians. I would like to see some elaboration as to how the land use and urban design vision intends to ensure access to people of limited physical mobility, to people who utilize wheelchairs and other mobility aids, to Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Blind people, to people who have sensory access needs, etc.
20. I agree with the statement but the practice seems to be supporting expensive downtown housing over affordable housing.
21. #15 Olympians value neighborhoods with distinct identities; historic buildings and places; and.....
#16 We will encourage infill projects and remodeling of older structures -- depending!
22. It's perfect! I love it!
23. Relevant to my earlier comments, the vision statement does an excellent job of directing growth and laying out an exciting future.

Themes in Land Use & Urban Design Comments:

- Affordable housing. People want housing options for all income levels across the city.
- Homelessness. More should be done to help people find housing solutions.
- Transportation. People want to be able to get around easily with or without a car. All modes, all abilities.
- Accessible to all (ages, abilities, etc.). Olympia is the Capital City. It should be open and accessible to all – regardless of any physical or mental disabilities.
- Crime & safety. We want our community to feel and be safe and comfortable for everyone.
- Balancing seemingly contradictory issues as we become a more urban city.
- The City is more than just the downtown.
- Value density as a manner to honor our other statements and climate commitments.

Staff Response:

Housing will be an area of focus in this updated plan. The City intends to create a new Housing chapter and will incorporate new requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA) specifically geared to look at the housing needs for all income levels. Olympia 2045 will incorporate the One Community Plan and the Housing Action Plan, as well as opportunities through the Home Fund. Efforts will be coordinated with the Regional Home Fund and other housing providers and support services.

The Land Use and Urban Design chapter will continue to be coordinated with the Transportation chapter. This is the first update to the Comprehensive Plan since the Transportation Master Plan was completed in 2021. Public transit agencies, primarily Intercity Transit, will be invited to participate and provide input to help ensure the long range plans of the City are consistent with transit plans.

The City will continue its work around diversity, equity and inclusion, which will influence the plan. Additionally, the 2021 Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Transition Plan will be integrated into the Plan and the Capital Facilities Plan.

The Land Use and Urban Design chapter update will consider recommendations from the community-led reimagine public safety process and consider opportunities to address crime prevention and safety. One example is the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) program, which includes ways to design the built environment in ways that promote safety.

Balancing issues that can be contradictory to each other will certainly be considered. For example, how can we continue to welcome additional residents and businesses to our community while we also encourage increasing urban tree canopy and photovoltaic solar energy systems.

While the Downtown is a truly important aspect of our community, the City is so much more than that. More could be done to describe other important parts of the City and Urban Growth Area, including the other two High Density Neighborhood Overlays (one on the east side of the City and one on the west). This update will also incorporate the findings in the Neighborhood Centers report currently underway and the types of land uses we would like to see in our community. While the Downtown still remains a significant part of our community, we can highlight more portions of our community.

Accommodating our population and employment growth within our existing boundaries is one of the most significant ways we can prevent sprawling into the rural and resource lands beyond our urban

growth boundary. It is also a significant strategy in our efforts to address climate change. By providing neighborhood centers and the goods and services we need within a contained area, we can more efficiently provide infrastructure and services. And people can more easily meet their daily mobility needs without the use of a car in more instances.



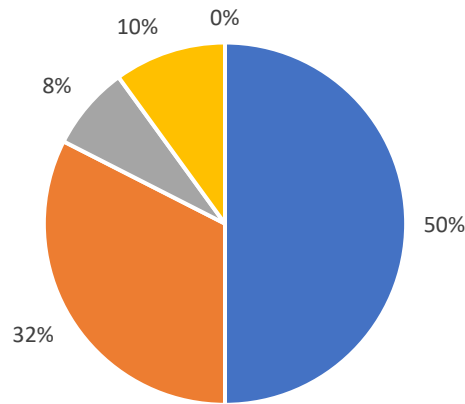
Transportation

What Olympia Values:

Olympians want a transportation system that can move people and goods through the community safely while conserving energy and with minimal environmental impacts. We want it to connect to our homes, businesses and gathering spaces and promote healthy neighborhoods.

Survey Question #17: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Transportation in Olympia?

Transportation Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #18: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Transportation value statement?

1. No.
2. This needs a reword to include a climate change sensitive transportation system. Bring in ideas from the TCMP.
3. Bike trails and city buses should be safe. I used to be able to ride my bike to work along the trail that runs alongside I-5. It is no longer safe to do this. When city buses resemble no-barrier homeless shelters with assaults, harassment, and drug use, I will not take the bus.
4. Our public transportation is ridden mostly by low income people and I'm guessing that's why it only goes to the places they have to go (shopping, work centers, bank) and never to where they might enjoy going (Tolmie State Park, Burfoot, Millersylvania, Pioneer park, etc..) going to some man made grass field or whatever isn't anything comparable to actually being with unplanned nature. But our busses refuse to go to these places. I believe it's due to classism. We aren't robots and we deserve access to these wild nature beach parks! It's yet another way of punishing people for being poor and

we should be finding ways to reward people for choosing public transportation not punishing them for it!

5. We will insure mobility options for all people. We will use an equity approach that helps better understand how transportation services and investments impact different communities and to ensure planning meets the transportation needs of historically marginalized and underserved communities. We will investment in equitable modes of transportation and equal spending throughout the City.
6. The word WALKING needs to be added into this statement. When people talk about their vision they want the community to be walkable. The ability to move around safely by walking means a change to our focus on the primary purpose of streets for cars. The Transportation Master Plan has clearly stated this.
7. We want our transportation system to connect our community with multi-modal access. Cars should never be the only practical way to move people or otherwise around and through our community.
8. Perfect, you didn't say CAR or reference money!
9. Public transportation is scary. It's ghetto.
10. Add: Our transit system will be safe for all members of our community to use.
11. Add that this will be a mixed use of options and opportunities including public transportation, sidewalks/bike lanes, etc.
12. Transportation is moot when there is not any affordable and low income housing option.
13. I would like to see the last sentence amended to, "We want it to connect our homes, businesses, gathering spaces, and essential services and promote healthy neighborhoods."
14. Maybe you could this statement out and then ask to what extent has Olympia in the past 8 years achieved progress on this - say, check the approval of an "urban village" with 400+ units and retail at West Bay Yards (also relating to a Budd Bay prolific with salmon) where the city's traffic study of a two-lane road determined that the road was sufficient for the development. Maybe that approach would be more meaningful than the approach you're using: "here's a description of an ideal -- do you like it or not?"
15. And removes our dependence on car-based infrastructure.
16. Yes, we should add that we want to ensure physical access (through transportation) to healthcare and healthcare facilities.
17. There is nothing about "efficiency" or speed of movement. I suppose conserving energy could be seen in one way as efficient. But, for example, if it takes me an hour to get from Capital Mall to the Lilly Road medical area versus 15 minutes, does that matter based on the value statement? Perhaps the statement needs to include some sense of efficiency for emergency services? Key nodes?

Our Vision for the Future:

Complete streets that move people, not just cars.

Biking & Walking: Olympians, both young and old, will be able to walk or bike to work, school, shopping, and recreation. Bike lanes and sidewalks will be safely integrated and often buffered from traffic along arterials and collectors throughout the city. Pedestrians and bicyclists will use trails and pathways built through open areas, between neighborhoods, and along shorelines. Sidewalks, both in compact, mixed-use neighborhoods and downtown, will encourage walkers to stop at shops and squares in lively centers near their homes. Trees and storefront awnings will line the streets.

Commuting: We envision a future in which nearly all residents will live within walking distance of a bus stop, and most people will commute by foot, bicycle, transit or carpool. Drivers will use small vehicles fueled by renewable resources. Electric buses will arrive every ten minutes at bus stops along all major arterials.

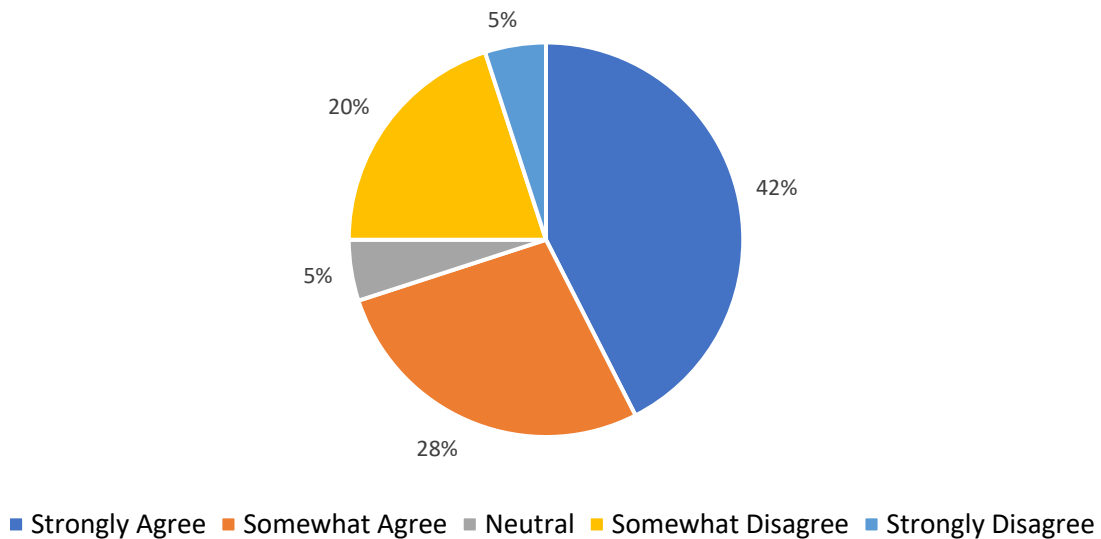
Parking: Parking lots for car commuters will be located on the edges of downtown, hidden from view by offices and storefronts. Variable pricing of street meters and off-street lots will ensure that parking is available for workers, shoppers and visitors. Short and long-term bike parking will be conveniently located. Throughout town, streets will provide room for both bike lanes and parking, and will be designed to slow traffic.

ADA Compliance: Our transportation system will be accessible to people of all abilities and aligned with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Safety: Because slower speeds will be encouraged, and crosswalks and intersections will be safer, deaths and injuries from collisions will be nearly eliminated.

Survey Question #19: Based on the value statement for Transportation, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?

Transportation Vision Statement



Survey Question #20: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Transportation vision statement?

1. No.
2. The intro tag line should not be on the STREETS but on the climate sensitive was for goods and people to move around. I recall the pleasure of a European city with a bike and walking area in the

middle of a long park that provided transportation away from cars from the city center to the waterfront area. I would like that concept built in here - ways to move our bodies without being next to or in cars from one area to another.

3. Parking lots hidden at the edges of downtown to subtly discourage driving will backfire. This vibrant urban utopia will never come as long as downtown feels/ is unsafe.
4. I just don't trust y'all to do anything that isn't punishing the poor and bending over for the delight and wants of the wealthy. Our public transportation SUCKS! Unless you only want to be a worker and a consumer, it does not take life enjoyment/play into consideration unless you want to go to only unwild/planned out parks. It's telling that I always see the people who work in admission for intercity transit driving their own cars or trucks. Even they know it sucks.
5. Olympia will install solar panels over parking lots and will build charging stations for electric vehicles. The covering for parking will reduce the heat generated from the parking lots and may generate income. Olympia will build clean, accessible restrooms near the public parking area on the edge of town. Olympia will inventory parking space to make it easier for the city to pursue public space improvements such as adding bike lanes or parklets. An inventory will help planners to understand when new developments actually need to provide parking spaces and when the available inventory is sufficient.
6. Parking for personal private vehicles should not be guaranteed like its is some human right. Housing is a human right and the more we dedicate to parking the less we can have in housing. The only members of Olympia that want more parking are members with homes they bought before I was born. This statement is better but still focused on the needs of older members of the community and not the future of the city.
7. We are still referring to streets as 'car' places and then referencing 'not just cars' for everything else. How about 'streets move people' without the 'not just cars' part. How about 'Move people safely' The 'commuting' language should be updated to include something about telecommuting since so many workers have made that shift. A vision should be for ZERO deaths - so change this statement "Because slower speeds will be encouraged, and crosswalks and intersections will be safer, deaths and injuries from collisions will be nearly eliminated." to delete the word 'nearly. That should be the vision. ZERO deaths.
8. To add to the accessibility of transportation, buses need to run past 9 pm. This is a huge issue for people attending Evergreen State College. They are not able to experience all that Olympia has to offer because they have no way to get home at night. If we want to revitalize downtown, we need to have a better bus schedule.
9. It really doesn't take into account an aging population w limited mobility.
10. Off-street parking lots should be confined to garages under mixed use buildings.
11. This vision for the future is exactly where I want to live.
12. This vision does not go along with the current plan for 0 parking in new development and all neighborhoods. This will greatly impact seniors, people with disabilities and EV parking . This vision is totally unrealistic. People will be driving and owning cars for many more years!
13. Under commuting, don't limit yourself to big cars (electric buses) as the default public transit option. We had streetcars once and could be cool enough to put them back! Also, 10 minutes is the max transit interval! If its under 8 I don't care if I get caught in a conversation and miss the bus. I'm VERY on board with small vehicles but I hope you're ready for the slings and arrows sent from selfish folks who want to park their mobile living room in front of the bar they go to twice a year so that they can drunkenly operate it back to their 5 acre estate that doesn't make any thing of value while polluting an insane amount. Under parking, recognize that folks are paying to store their giant hunk of private property IN the public right-of-way. This is an insane privilege and should be priced accordingly. Why is it cheaper to house my car downtown that it is to house my body? For bike parking add

"abundant" and "secure" to "conveniently located". That last sentence sucks. Maybe: "Throughout town, streets will prioritize the movement and exchange of people. First providing easy, comfortable, and safe movement for people alone, then people using small mobility devices like bikes, scooter, and micromobility, then larger vehicles carrying many people like transit and carpools, then freight (first micro freight then large vehicles like trucks), and last small, efficient private automobiles that have no emissions and pollute less than large, fuel burning vehicles that have no place in our urban cores and may be left at the city boundaries. Multiuse lanes will allow vehicles to move at a speed appropriate for their size." Change "aligned with" to "exceed the requirements of" the Americans with Disabilities Act. Maybe add: "will be a shining example of how access is increased when mobility is focused on people first" and "no person will be denied access to any space in our city based on their disability regardless of historic structures or being grandfathered in. For safety change "encouraged" to required by the laws of physics" "safer" to "not an issue" and change to "deaths are from traffic violence are unacceptable and will be eliminated and injuries from collisions will be nearly eliminated". Also add that negligent vehicle homicide will be prosecuted.

14. That is horrible and terrifying. I would never want to live in a community like that. That actually sounds like a horror movie. I'm a commuter - I wouldn't ever consider giving up my driving for living in a city like Olympia so I can use the metro and walk...not a chance. Terrible. Terrible. Terrible.
15. Commuting on public transit is a long-term goal. The immediate goal must be community comfort and safety using transit. That means hiring more police.
16. I think there should be something about walkable neighborhoods. Places where you can live, or drive to, and find a large variety of places to go within a 15 minute walk. There should be an emphasis on limited car or preferably car free pedestrian areas that have enough density to allow people to walk and enjoy the community without needing a car or at least with little need for a car.
17. Add accessibility regarding income add healthcare to the list of things that will be walkable add a section related to how this vision increases the overall health of the community - physically, mentally, environment.
18. This should have been part of the city planning process from the very beginning.
19. " most people will commute by foot, bicycle, transit or carpool. Drivers will use small vehicles fueled by renewable resources." This is social engineering and a total lack of appreciation/understanding of Olympia's natural environment. To believe that most people will want to commute by foot or bicycle, in particular, in our cold, windy, rainy environment five months out of the year seems to be naive. Also, I want to choose what kind of vehicle to use, not be told what to drive.
20. Some of these values are not aligned with each other. For example, disabled commuters need to have parking available that is *central*, not peripheral, to downtown offices and storefronts. The limited categorization of pedestrian mobility as "Biking & Walking" Others those visitors and residents who can do neither. Accessibility needs to be *built in* to all of these value statements, not separated into a pat reference to the ADA, which represents a floor rather than a ceiling to the City's access responsibilities. Our goal should be to go beyond the minimal requirements of the ADA toward an ethos of universal design.
21. Electric charging stations for cars will be needed.
22. Parking should be priced so that there is always a spot available on every block to avoid people circling while driving to find parking and reduce car trips in general. Bike lanes should be physically separated or with physical barriers.
23. This is very challenging. How do we transition to this very urban view of living? I'm mostly in agreement with that transition, but perhaps there needs to be recognition that the transition will be difficult and that the transit services, bike lanes, etc. will need to be advanced even ahead of the land use densification in order to encourage the transition.

24. The commuting section is unreasonable for a 20-year time frame. A transit system that would support this vision would be astronomically expensive and cannot possibly be funded.
25. Intercity Transit is, as it has been awarded in the past, an excellent transit provider, and not a week goes by in which I am not able to appreciate their service. However, Olympia's increasingly dense and lively downtown requires a more fixed, frequent, and high-capacity mode such as a streetcar. Downtown Olympia as well as important corridors should also be electrified with overhead wires for trolleybuses - a more efficient and safe iteration of an electric bus.

Themes in Transportation Comments:

Broadly, it seems that people would like to see a greater emphasis on a more walkable city. "Walkable" should specifically include people with disabilities. "Safety" should include personal safety in addition to safety from injury as a result of traffic collisions. There are also comments about wanting more transit service.

Comments about parking are more polarized. Some oppose the vision and values that relate to parking, while others want less public support for parking. As with other transportation topics, there is a request to specifically include language addressing the needs of people with disabilities with parking.

In general, the comments also seem to request a greater emphasis on the role that the transportation system plays in mitigating climate change.

Staff Response:

These comments are thoughtful and valuable feedback. Thanks to everyone who took the time to share them.

We will consider broadening the definitions of safety and walkability and further centering people rather than cars in the vision and values. We will look for ways to communicate our commitment to being inclusive of people with disabilities and consider other ways to share the vision of a more inclusive and equitable transportation system.

Since the last update, the City has focused a lot of work on our response to climate change. With the transportation sector being the second-largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Thurston County, the vision and values statement would benefit from including language that describes how we will decrease greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.

The City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee also weighed in on the transportation vision and values, and one suggestion that emerged from its discussion was to consider fewer specific details about parking in favor of a more high-level vision. We will consider that approach.

Finally, we note the broad support for the vision and values as written, which was communicated by the number of people who either "strongly agreed" or "somewhat agreed" with them. It seems like we are on the right track, with some fine-tuning needed.

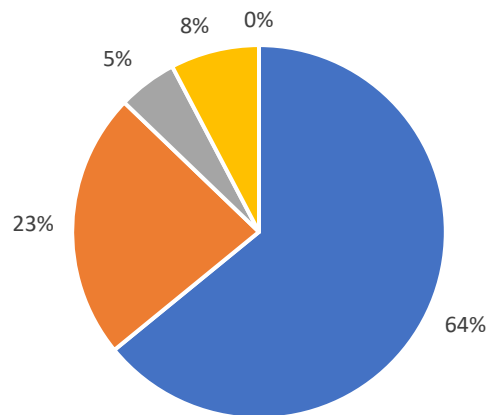


What Olympia Values:

Olympians value a drinking water supply that is owned and controlled by the City. We want wastewater and stormwater treated effectively before it is discharged into Puget Sound. We understand and value the role that 'reuse, reduction and recycling' plays in our effort to conserve energy and materials.

Survey Question #21: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Utilities in Olympia?

Utilities Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #22: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Utilities value statement?

1. No.
2. We should be reusing more of that water. Maybe Coke and Pepsi should use it instead of letting them use our drinking water.
3. "We want wastewater and stormwater treated effectively before it is discharged into Puget Sound" It is not just about discharged water, we value the health of Puget Sound and therefore we want to do all that we can to reduce the impact of our waste and stormwater. Include our upstream responsibility here instead of just the treatment part.
4. Recognize that waste has value. Recognize that "reduce, reuse, and then recycle" is an order of the way things should be done, not a multiple choice. Include messaging about alternate blackwater disposal such as composting and peecycling. <https://ricearthinstitute.org/>

5. I have never learned the benefit behind owning our water supply. Our water quality is decreasing. Explain to us why we want the status quo?
6. I'm not sure that it's critical that it's owned by the City - that said, this is not my area of expertise
7. Water is a requirement for living. There should be better transparency about our utilities.
8. Need to also consider the massive amount of unsewered areas of our city that are on septic. Non-point source discharges need to be handled more effectively...
9. What does "reuse, reduction and recycling" pertain to? What's the noun or subject. Does it refer to water use, or to some other utility such as garbage. Also, I'm not in favor of the city implementing "energy" policies, such as bans on natural gas installations and use. That should be left to state-wide policy.
10. "premium quality drinking water supply..."

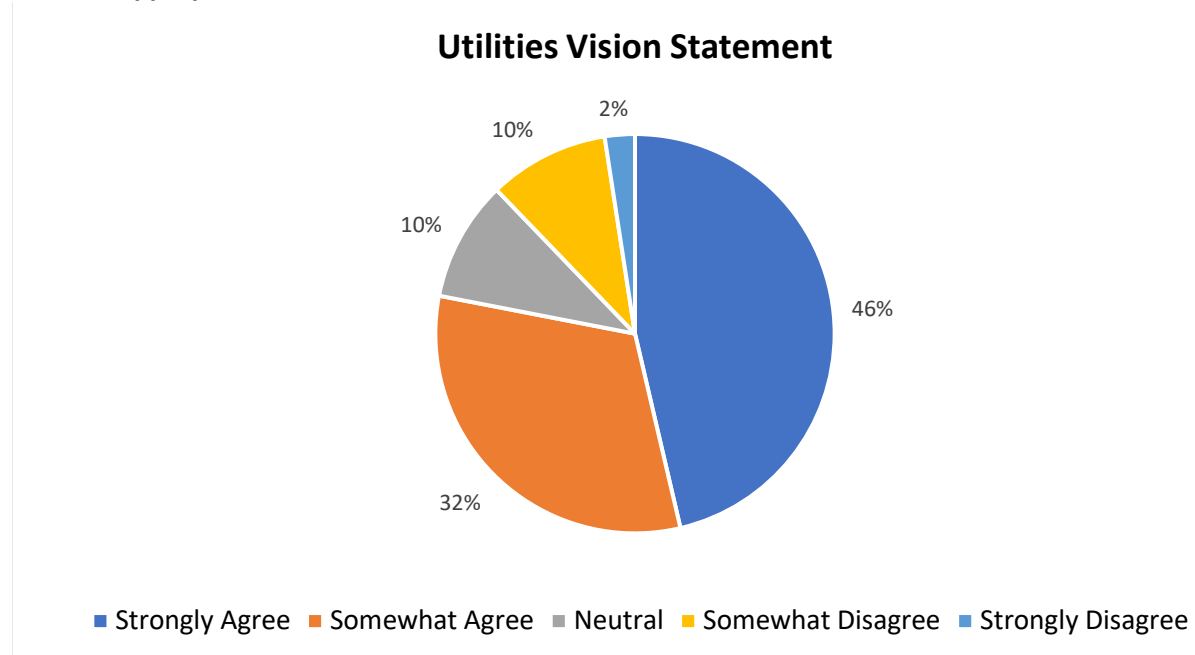
Our Vision for the Future:

Clean, plentiful water and significant reduction of waste.

Through careful planning, improved efficiency of our drinking water use and rates that encourage conservation, Olympia will be able to meet the water needs of its future population. Our improved water treatment and reduced wastewater and storm water discharge will support abundant aquatic life in Budd Inlet and our local streams.

We will place less pressure on our local landfills, thanks to state and national packaging standards, local solid waste incentives, and the voluntary actions of our community members. A majority of Olympia households will be using urban organic compost on their landscapes. Artificial fertilizers no longer contaminate local water bodies.

Survey Question #23: Based on the value statement for Utilities, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?



Survey Question #24: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Utilities vision statement?

1. Not sure, how do we get back to accessing the artesian well? Free water, flowing freely.
2. Add that landowners are experts at full cycle use of vegetation materials - that is the compost and chip on their own property, reducing the need to purchase inputs for their landscape, or they can participate in well designed neighborhood composting and chipping.
3. How will you mandate composting?
4. A city compost program would be amazing.
5. "Our improved water treatment and reduced wastewater and storm water discharge will support abundant aquatic life in Budd Inlet and our local streams." Abundant life could be an algae bloom. Be more specific about health ecosystem of Budd Inlet and local streams. "A majority of Olympia households will be using urban organic compost on their landscapes." This assumes people have a yard/garden. With increasing numbers of multi family housing residents, the 'majority' of households are not doing their own landscaping. So, how can this be stated so that it does not imply that the majority of households have a garden/yard to tend?
6. Last sentence should end with "because their use is as a crime". Additionally, I see no mention of energy or communication (food, electricity, fuels, broadband internet, voice communication, and utilities yet to be imagined). We need to re-establish public supply of these vital utilities while banning the sale of fossil fuels and price gouging of consumers for poor quality service. We need to own these things and ensure that they are resilient against the natural and anthropogenic disasters that will be more abundant moving forward.
7. Rates encouraging conservation means that poorer people are paying more than they can afford. We need to keep utility costs low, and improve water quality.
8. First paragraph is fine... Not sure I understand the landfill paragraph within the context of clean water? These are separate topics. If we are talking fertilizers and organics, then you should also address pesticides, and other agricultural farming impacts. Hobby farms versus cattle or other ag need to be reviewed.
9. "Artificial fertilizers no longer contaminate local water bodies". Is this an aspirational statement, or does it imply that use of artificial fertilizers will be regulated? If aspirational, then I agree. If the latter, then I disagree with the statement. Again, putting a limit on responsible, personal choice of alternatives.
10. There are problems with how Olympia sets water utility (drinking water, storm water, sewer) rates.
11. I think we could specifically add that we seek to keep our water supply from being contaminated with PFAS, which is slowly poisoning the planet and is this generation's lead paint/leaded gasoline.
12. "abundant" is not quite the right word by itself. There can be an abundance of invasive species.
13. The urban organic compost sentence seems unreasonable.

Themes in Utilities Comments:

From a high-level perspective, commenters are interested in preventing environmental contamination in both the water we drink and that enters Puget Sound and reusing more of our water and consumer products.

Comments about the use of artificial fertilizers are more polarized, with one commenter suggesting their use should be illegal while another commenter supports personal responsibility.

Comments also question the importance (or value) of owning our water supply while another commenter suggested public ownership of additional utilities as important.

Staff Response:

Utilities staff are working with the Utilities Advisory Committee to obtain input on the Utilities Chapter, including the vision and value statements. The comments provided through the survey are valuable input that will be provided to the Utilities Advisory Committee. As part of the review by the Utilities Advisory Committee, comments suggesting rewording recommendations and those questioning terms will be particularly useful.

Rather than limiting our value statement to a publicly owned Drinking Water Utility, broadening the statement to address valuing all our publicly owned wastewater, storm and surface water and waste resources (garbage) utilities should be considered.

Additionally, we note the broad support for the vision and values as written, which was communicated by the number of people who either “strongly agreed” (46 percent) or “somewhat agreed” (32 percent) with them.

Finally, some of the comments provided about the Utilities vision statement (ie “a city compost program would be amazing”) will be considered as the Utilities Chapter goals and policies are reviewed.



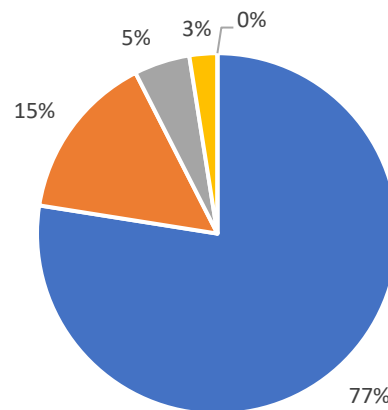
Public Health, Parks, Arts & Recreation

What Olympia Values:

Olympians value the role parks, open space, recreation and art play in our lives; as these contribute to our sense of community, and to our physical, spiritual and emotional well-being.

Survey Question #25: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Parks, Arts and Recreation in Olympia?

Parks, Arts, and Recreation Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #26: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Parks, Arts and Recreation value statement?

1. No.
2. The spaces could be ways to connect with nature - the parks need to be designed to be more northwestern. Some are imported ideas from British gardening concepts which might not harmonize with nature at all.
3. SAFE parks, and accessibility.
4. We value art, but I don't trust y'all to interpret it any other way than to bring gentrification to art in Oly. It used to be spontaneous and largely free but not anymore. We still have some free art but it's being captured too, and the spontaneity is basically gone. Everything is a plan and a fee and a license and more fees and it really takes a lot out rather than adding any value beyond money for y'all. I personally like unplanned art experiences like busking, and I think shame on you it's not as common anymore because this town has become almost hostile to (usually not rich) artists, when it used to be very welcoming.
5. "Olympians value the role parks, open space, recreation and art play in our lives; as these contribute to our sense of community, and to our physical, spiritual, ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL and

emotional well-being." Add the word economic. Businesses will invest in a community with great quality of life including parks, arts, recreation. They see this as an asset for their employees and customers. We need to acknowledge that quality of life supports the economy. Also, adding the word 'environmental' acknowledges the climate/environmental value of the green/open spaces that are preserved such as LBA, Squaxin, Grass Lake, Watershed areas, etc.

6. Parks, Arts, and Recreation also help us learn more about ourselves and others.
7. No notes, keep being [expletives].
8. Stop changing park names in order to seem more diverse or inclusive. It's not. That's cheap. Tradition and history should hold value to the city of Olympia as well.
9. Apparently a significant minority of Olympians agree with this statement as they voted for an additional sales tax to collect \$2 million annually for the "arts".

Our Vision for the Future:

A healthy, fun and enriching place to live.

Places where we can move: The many parks and open spaces throughout our community will be key to maintaining the health of our children, and all Olympians. The Olympia School District will work with the City to allow maximum feasible public use of School District gyms and playgrounds.

Programs that support health: The City's work with school districts and local and state health agencies will foster programs that encourage good nutrition and exercise. These programs will complement other City regulations that are encouraging both urban agriculture and markets for sale of local and regional produce.

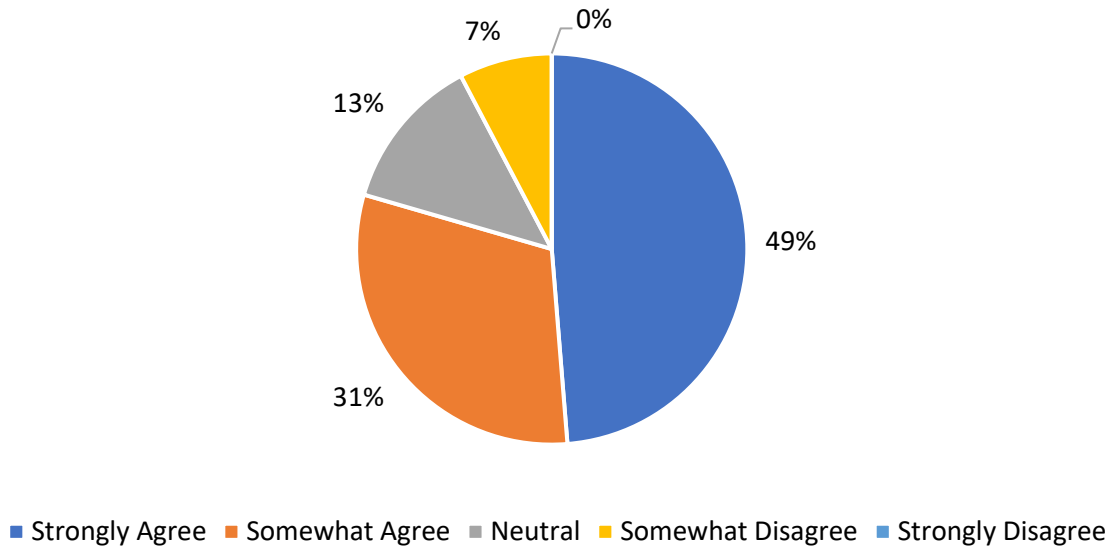
A biking city: Olympia will be continually expanding and upgrading its bicycle facility network and will see major increases in bike use, for both commuting and recreation. In selected areas where cyclists tend to concentrate, the City will provide separated bike facilities.

Olympians walk – everywhere: We envision a city in which all neighborhoods have sidewalks on at least one side of major collector streets. This, along with more pedestrian crossing improvements and neighborhood pathways, traffic calming devices, and enforcement of traffic laws, will contribute to a dramatic increase of walking in Olympia.

An arts magnet: The City will continue to sponsor and support music and art events and festivals, which attract residents and visitors from throughout the area. The City will take advantage of provisions in state law to fund art throughout Olympia.

Survey Question #27: Based on the value statement for Parks, Arts and Recreation, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?

Parks, Arts, and Recreation Vision Statement



Survey Question #28: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Parks, Arts and Recreation vision statement?

1. No.
2. These are too many diverse ideas crammed together so the focus is lost. Needs a re-visioning effort. Please add how these publicly supported spaces and events can uplift communities within the larger community that are often invisible. Perhaps that is a near term priority for this area?
3. Allowing max public use of school facilities is not always a good thing when it interferes with student use and safety. My daughter's PE teacher found a dead body (an adult victim of a fent. OD) in a portopotty at Capital High School while school was in session a few months back. Encampments are tucked away in the school woods where kids walk to get to school. We have members in this community that have engaged in unsafe and antisocial abuse of our parks. This should not extend to school grounds.
4. Everything I read sounds like it will just make Oly future for future wealthy transplants but make it less affordable for a great many of us even more than the damage y'all have already done so even if it sounds good I don't trust you to make it inclusive to low income people so I'd be skeptical. Fix what you already broke for low income people before continuing to make it into something only for wealthy transplants of the future.
5. We value the natural PNW landscape and native plants.
6. The vision statement seems a bit 'thin' this part of the city responsibility is very important and reaches across a wide swath of impact. I don't have a specific suggestion for additions at this point but this needs a broader reach to show importance of all that these areas support in our community.
7. There needs to be a city-owned aquatics facility. The fact that we don't have a public pool shows that we have not moved past racist Jim Crow policies.
8. I feel the walk everywhere commitment should include the creation of pedestrian only streets. Especially in the downtown core and along the waterfront.
9. Parking will be needed for events.

10. Add prioritizing bike transportation infrastructure over private car infrastructure. Remove "In selected areas where cyclists tend to concentrate," replace "separated" with "safe and comfortable for all" end that sentence with "everywhere".
11. Add: We will hire more police officers to enforce speed limits on side streets and avenues where speeding is a problem to protect cyclists and pedestrians.
12. Add the role of partners in creating accessible recreation space When I think of parks and houselessness, I understand that accessing parks is a very privileged position. I'm not sure how to acknowledge this, but I do think something should be said here.
13. Again, too many things lumped together. I agree with the focus on children and the City/District collaboration efforts. For biking/commuting, that's more in tune with adults utilizing commuting networks, versus separated areas like rails/trails that wouldn't have bike/vehicle impacts. Walking everywhere is great, again we need a lot more sidewalks near our schools so that people can more readily access our schools safely. Arts? Seems lumped in here - sure that's great, but all these are different focuses.
14. "The Olympia School District will work with the City". This is backwards. Should be the City will work with the OSD. "programs will complement other City regulations that are encouraging both urban agriculture and markets for sale of local and regional produce." --- should not need regulations. If this is not done by the community voluntarily, then there is a problem with the regulations/incentives/restrictions/...
15. Bike parks with more introductory/family friendly access like Kaiser woods and the Lacey pump track should be a high priority as they are major economic drivers.
16. Again, I would like to see pedestrian mobilities other than/in addition to biking and walking reflected in these value statements. How is accessibility built in, rather than an afterthought? I would like to see the City commit to universal design principles for its parks, arts, and recreational spaces, events, and activities.
17. Overall quite nice. I'm not a fan of urban agriculture being a big goal. Not particularly consistent with the GMA; though pea-patch programs are great, so perhaps I just don't understand the term urban ag.

Themes in Public Health, Arts, Parks and Recreation Comments:

Improving equitable access to parks, park amenities, recreation and arts seem to be a common thread throughout the comments. Several comments mention the importance of the natural environment. A couple of comments mention the need for improved safety.

Staff Response:

Equitable access to parks, park amenities, recreation and arts is a high priority for the City. The Parks, Arts and Recreation Department has an ADA Transition Plan and budgets \$200,000 annually to address existing physical barriers in parks and facilities that will make them accessible and bring them up to the ADA standards. The department also has developed equity, inclusion and belonging (EIB) focused goals and policies which are in the 2018 update of the Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan. In 2022 the department hired a position focused on developing a cultural events program and furthering the EIB work internally. Staff are committed to evolving the culture to one that is a culture of belonging which will help us to serve our community in an equitable way. These efforts are ongoing and the department continues to invest resources in equity, inclusion and belonging.

In 2014 the Parks, Arts and Recreation Department started a “Safe and Secure Park Initiative” where staff focused on incremental changes to proactively increase safety in our parks, programs and facilities. The committee worked on making changes to policies and procedures, operations and resource allocations. When the metropolitan parks district funding passed, the City dedicated resources to launch fulltime Park Rangers. Currently there are 3 fulltime Park Rangers who patrol the parks 7 days a week. They address low level illicit and nuisance activity and coordinate with police on higher profile situations. The Park Rangers coordinate with housing and crisis response staff to offer services to those experiencing homelessness and/or mental illness.

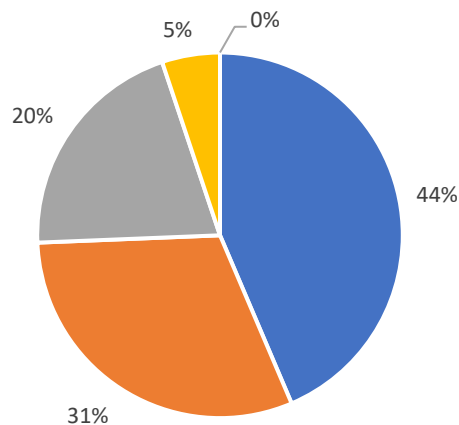


What Olympia Values:

Olympians recognize the importance of our quality of life to a healthy economy. We value our status as Washington State's capital, as well as our community businesses as a source of family wage jobs, goods and services, and various other contributions that help us meet community goals.

Survey Question #29: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Economy in Olympia?

Economy Values Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #30: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Economy value statement?

1. No.
2. Given the level of poverty and ALICE (just above poverty but poor) we are missing a healthy economy FOR ALL. We thus need an addition of a social service part of the economy - reasonably paid workers related to mental health, financial planning for people with little money, more services for seniors and those who feel isolated. Make it clear that the best businesses are those that help with the challenges of climate change, not those that ignore that challenge.
3. Small local businesses have suffered the impacts of this city's tacit agreement with criminal behavior and rampant theft. We cannot say that we value our local economy while harming it through failing policies.
4. I think we value these things but I also don't think YOU in so called leadership value the people. If a person makes under a certain amount of money in our community you have proven over and over

again they have little to no value to you and their NEEDS are deferred for the WANTS of the wealthy. Shame on you!

5. We share the view that we need an economic system that prioritizes human well-being and ecological sustainability over growth.
6. This looks generally good. This does not imply that the city drives the economy and it should remain that way.
7. Affordability needs to be addressed. Olympia is not a welcoming place to young small business owners.
8. I don't really think you prioritize business and jobs.
9. Switch "quality of life" and "healthy economy". Replace "community businesses" with "the product of our workers' toil". Replace "family wage" with "life fulfilling share of profit" (fair housing? what about single people or other groups?"
10. Add: we will assist small businesses in our city by enforcing safety and health measures in downtown so stores can return.
11. Add nonprofit partners.
12. Need to do a better job of attracting larger employers here to off-set the majority of state workers..., and if state workers aren't actively coming to work in their respective offices downtown, the businesses that rely on those people suffer.
13. I don't really understand the first statement.
14. The problem with all these statements is that they aren't true: 50% of the jobs in Olympia are in hospitality and retail and they pay less than a living wage.
15. The first sentence is so general as to be less meaningful. I would hope that their could be references to the value of access to vital business services and products like nearby groceries, hardware, and health care.
16. The first sentence is a one-way statement, when actually this is a two-way thing -- quality of life and a healthy economy are mutually interdependent.

Our Vision for the Future:

Olympia's economy is healthy due to a diverse mix of new and existing employment sectors, in addition to being the center of state government.

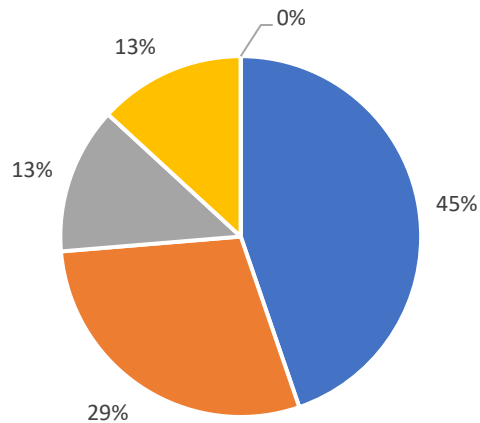
Because of our careful planning the Olympia economy will remain stable, especially when compared to similar cities throughout the state and region. The City's investment in the downtown will encourage market-rate housing, many new specialty stores and boutiques, and attract visitors to places such as Percival Landing, the Hands on Children's Museum, and our many theatre and art venues. Its work to strengthen regional shopping nodes, such as the area around Capital Mall, will provide high-density housing, transit, pedestrian and bicycle access, making our state capital a popular destination to live, work, play and study.

Entrepreneurs, attracted to an urban environment with an open and accepting culture, will create new start-ups in Olympia that diversify our job market and economy, making it less vulnerable to downturns in state government.

Meanwhile, on the city's outskirts, small farms will continue to expand. Local food producers will further diversify local employment opportunities and help local residents and businesses be less vulnerable to the rising cost of imported food.

Survey Question #31: Based on the value statement for Economy, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?

Economy Vision Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #32: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Economy vision statement?

1. More work needed in the downtown corridor.
2. Please also consider social infrastructure, not just hard infrastructure. For instance, how do we connect and leverage Olympia's growing "work-at-home" population. How could the city help to catalyze interesting collaborations and public-private partnerships for the common good? Strategically serving as a connector, facilitator, or node in Olympia's social networks could help to spur economic development.
3. Missing reference to the value add in our economy of the strengthening economy of three nearby tribal reservations and their enterprises - including some enterprises that are in Olympia. It seems to me the regions economy is State Gov, hospitals, Tribal enterprises and then the rest. The platitude about expanding local farms forgets that the county is losing farms at a faster rate than other counties around here and the cities failure to make TDR work is part of the reason why. Mention the value of farms in Olympia and the UGA (these are healthy businesses in multiple ways). Current growth plans will necessitate eliminating the urban farms in Olympia and the UGA.
4. It's idealistic to envision the vibrant downtown where people want to frequent family attractions unless we first improve public safety.
5. Just stop with the market rate [expletive]! The people need housing they can afford on service incomes, and boutiques are just names for overpriced stores like that one Selby had or whatever when she first moved here to help ruin our town. We don't need bougie bourgeoisie faux luxury unaffordable crap taking the place of our weird and funky community. Fix what you have already allowed to be broken! WJ and his ilk need to start including affordable units in ALL new construction

and that includes anything new in the downtown area. Low income people are just as deserving to live in the most walkable and desirable neighborhoods as anyone else. In it's most thriving years most of downtown was below market rate. We don't need more neoliberal trickle down lies. We need housing people can afford in places they want to be. I don't trust you at all to be fair because you all seem so tone-deaf and classist you can't seem to get your head out of greedy developers [expletive!] long enough to see what is actually needed and instead keep telling the lie that the market will sort it out, while plenty of studies have come out proving that isn't the case for the bottom 60% or so of incomes. I guess if you just keep giving yourselves raises to "keep up" then it doesn't matter to you what happens to the rest of us?!??

6. Our prime economy drivers are State Government, Healthcare and Tribal enterprises.
7. Local, Local, Local.
8. "Because of our careful planning the Olympia economy will remain stable, especially when compared to similar cities throughout the state and region." I do not think the city is responsible to 'plan' the economy' although providing government services supports a stable economy. These are two different things. I do not see it as a role of the city government to 'plan' our local economy. Support a great place to live with fire, police, parks, transportation, utilities, and that will help the economy.
9. There needs to be a section about affordable housing and affordable commercial rents. The rent is too high in downtown Olympia for local small businesses to take that step. There are so many vacant storefronts in Olympia because nobody can afford it. Artists are being forced to move out of the city because there are not enough art galleries or museums. Affordable (not just market rate, but below market rate) housing needs to be a key component.
10. We don't need more housing priced at the whim of the markets. Replace "encourage market-rate housing" with "supply abundant housing that is priced trivially compared to the resources available to those who occupy it so that we increase the dignity of ALL of our residents" Replace "Entrepreneurs" with "New citizens", replace "new start-ups" with "new opportunities", eliminate "job market". Change "to downturns in state government" to "to inevitable failures of our existing hierarchical governmental structures". Do we really all have to be capitalists to live here or can we provide opportunity regardless of profit and hierarchy? Change "local employment opportunities" to "local opportunities". Eliminate "businesses" from the language. As a highly successful local business owner myself, please don't insult my humanity by choosing to ascribe the same rights, responsibilities, and agency to businesses that we do people.
11. We recognize the essential contribution of law enforcement to provide stability for our good economic future.
12. I would like this to be more people focused. How are we centering people traditionally left out of the economy? Education should be interwoven throughout economic opportunities. Access to childcare should be added.
13. "Meanwhile, on the city's outskirts" -- stepping on county jurisdiction? Seems like a lot of references in the various visions above to local food production.
14. I would like to see something in this statement reflecting a commitment toward balancing economic sustainability with environmental and social sustainability.
15. Again, the emphasis on urban ag just does not make economic sense. I love shopping at the farmers market, but it's not because it makes us "less vulnerable to the rising cost of imported food." The reality is quite the opposite.
16. The first sentence gives too much credit to planning. Economies are largely outside anyone's control. The second paragraph has the risk of economic instability backwards -- state government is the most stable part of our economy. The third paragraph is just wrong. Food produced locally is

always going to be more expensive than imported food. I suggest the economy section be eliminated. It is not required. And we have extremely little control over the economy.

Themes in Economy Comments:

- Affordable and stable housing is necessary in order to have a strong economy.
- Public safety and cleanliness are vital to the Downtown and across our community.
- Local and small businesses are of great importance to our economy and character.
- Economic policy should be people-focused.
- Education, opportunity, childcare, and access to all of those things should be available to everyone.
- Social infrastructure should be highlighted throughout the economy chapter.
- Quality of life and a strong economy are inextricably linked.
- Balance a strong economy with environmental sustainability.

Staff Response:

Olympia has many strengths. Among them, an overall stable economy, top-rated schools, vibrant economic centers, and people and organizations who genuinely care and work together to make a positive difference. We also face challenges which disrupt our economic system such a housing crisis, climate change, and workforce and supply shortages.

These comments will be used to help staff develop an updated Economy Chapter that builds on what we've learned through the pandemic. It will help us build on themes of equity and access for people of all backgrounds and abilities to overcome economic hardships and reach financial stability. It will also be important to continue efforts to address the housing crisis, issues of public safety, and to work with our community partners.



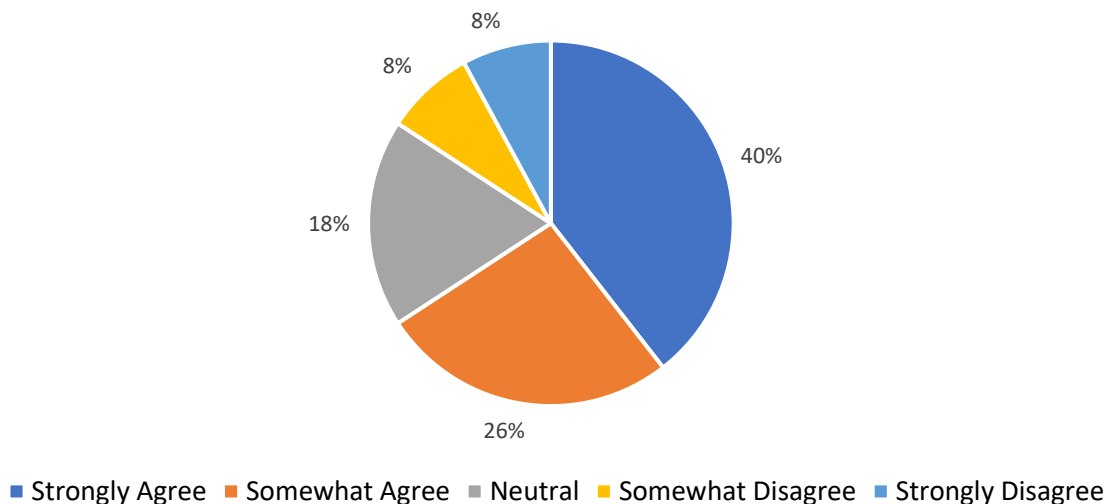
Public Services

What Olympia Values:

Olympia residents value the protection our police, fire, and emergency medical services provide. They also support codes that enforce the City’s efforts to maintain neighborhood quality, adequate and affordable housing for all residents, community gathering places, and recreational centers.

Survey Question #33: Do you believe the value statement above reflects how you feel about Public Services in Olympia?

Public Services Values Statement



Survey Question #34: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Public Services value statement?

1. No.
2. Housing for all means housing at every level of family income – lets be more specific about that and about how big this challenge is now and will be in the coming 20 years.
3. Many in our local government do not value police services. They are vilified and treated as the major threat to public safety in our community while we remain largely silent on the major causes of crime- fentanyl, domestic violence, and street drug culture. We allow our fire services to be put in harm's way repeatedly by having to respond to OD's, fires, and medical emergencies caused by a flourishing and unchecked encampment culture.
4. We value affordable housing but we sure as hell don't get any real help from you in getting it. This question and most on here are weird to me and I'm afraid you are planning on trying to use it as a manufactured consent tactical against low income people. I don't trust our so called leadership one

iota. Y'all are to mean to poor people and too accommodating to the wealthy for me to believe you care. Shame on you!

5. The big change for us now and in the future, will be to provide housing for all income levels.
6. It appears that housing piece will be separated out. Once that is gone. It could read like this: "They also support codes that enforce the City's efforts to maintain neighborhood quality." (leaving off the housing and other words ending this statement.)
7. I don't see this being done in practice. It's just words.
8. Don't identify each service by name. This limits the flexibility of better futures. (aka: ACAB, the fire department didn't set off teargas in my front yard while violating 1st amendment rights). Replace "codes that enforce the City's efforts" with "guidance" Laws are threats made by the dominant socioeconomic-ethnic group in a given nation. It's just the promise of violence that's enacted and the police are basically an occupying army. I'd rather have guidance that replaces that violence with support of my humanity. For instance, if I really tie one on at one of our brewpubs and I murder someone with my motorized living room because the buses stop before the bar closes, I'd hope that my society helps me make amends through acts of community service instead of just punishing me with less mobility. I'd also hope they choose to run the buses later.
9. Add: we will regularly review existing regulations to update them in light of changes in post-Covid life, so that appropriate simplifications in processes can be made. We will avoid growth in staff or creating additional agencies unless the citizens express support for the ideas.
10. More emphasis on non-emergency services would be nice.
11. Not sure what is meant by "codes that enforce the City's efforts to maintain neighborhood quality". This language is vague and may lead to perpetuating racial and socioeconomic discrimination.
12. Agree, however the code change allowing fires in city limits is a step in the wrong direction...
13. I'd like to see a statement that embraces transparency and accountability to the public added.
14. I do not value the "protection" of Olympia police. I am an abolitionist. I would like to see the City move toward a public service model that transcends the limitations and oppressions of the carceral state, which disproportionately penalize our unhoused, Mad & disabled, and BIPOC neighbors.
15. Maybe combine some of these statements in light of the goal of coordination and minimizing the opportunities to build in contradictions between one aspirational statement and another.
16. Yes, we should emphasize our commitment to new forms of public safety that are less police-heavy, such as our crisis response team.
17. Every statement is fine, but it seems a bit broad and ill-defined just what is meant by public services, distinct from all the other categories we have been discussing.
18. The statement is far too narrow to cover public services generally.

Our Vision for the Future:

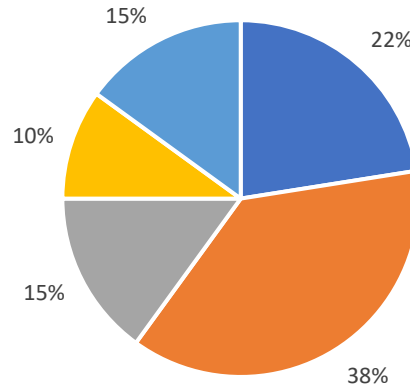
Responsive services and affordable housing for all.

By adopting "affordable" housing program criteria, the City will help assure all residents can meet their basic housing needs. We believe this will contribute to a regional goal to end homelessness in our community. In turn, this would contribute to reducing the cost of City police and social services and make the downtown more attractive for businesses and visitors.

The strong code enforcement programs that will emerge from community involvement in every neighborhood will help protect the safety and distinct identity of all Olympia neighborhoods.

Survey Question #35: Based on the value statement for Public Services, do you believe this vision for the future is appropriate?

Public Services Vision Statement



■ Strongly Agree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Neutral ■ Somewhat Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Survey Question #36: Do you believe something should be added or removed from the Public Services vision statement?

1. Need to speak to how protection services will be delivered--the least restrictive to personal freedom and ensure the maximum independence of individuals served.
2. I worry about the possible racism underlying words like distinct identity of neighborhoods. I want to live in a neighborhood with more diversity than now and with a bit more dynamism from a have that diversity.
3. We do not have the capacity to house all. If we try- while remaining lenient on crime- more will come and overwhelm city resources. This is already happening.
4. Strong code enforcement/ neighborhood character sounds like code for don't worry we'll still be able to keep the poor people out of the best neighborhoods. Shame! I don't believe you try half as much to bring affordable housing to the people as you do to bend over backwards to make it easy for wealthy developers to opt out of affordable units. Shame on you!
5. Remove: 'distinct identity of all Olympia neighborhoods'. Keeping a neighborhood identity has been used to put up racial barriers.
6. This is a mishmash that need to be made more distinct for services. Once the housing statements are removed, new services statements will be easier to create. Moving housing to another group of statements will help this.
7. The city needs to look into investing in social housing or rent control. Code enforcement hasn't cut it these past 10 years.
8. Housing is a right, not a commodity. A just city guarantees housing to everyone who is willing to live there regardless of their access to resources. Police and enforcement should even be a consideration when we talk about the violence of house hording. The city must provide basic, permanent shelter that is free at point of service while choosing not to punish people struggling

with the effects of the violence of living unsheltered. Once we offer housing to everyone that doesn't have it, then we can start talking about what is "affordable" Seek help for your deeply unsympathetic beliefs here: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-housing/human-rightadequate-housing>.

9. Delete the affordable housing means reducing need for police until some budget report shows a correlation. Olympia can deliver safe enforcement of laws by police, fire and efficient municipal court. Olympia can provide for code enforcement of laws, regulations for health and safety of community. Add: a statement that you will do this.
10. There is no animal control personnel.
11. Please define what affordable means; those quotation marks are incredibly suss.
12. While I agree that housing is critical, I think this section needs to talk about how the community wants to be policed. Please add statements around equity in policing, training, etc.
13. "residents can meet their basic housing needs". I agree with this statement, but I think there needs to be references to "local citizens/residents". We can't meet the housing needs of the entire county, the state, or the country. "Just come and we will find a home for you" is unreasonable goal. I don't know how you express this, but I think it's important. We can't be all things to all people without the support of the county, state, and federal government.
14. Our vision should place the onus on meeting residents' basic housing needs on the community, not on the individual residents themselves. The desired outcomes of doing so should emphasize the benefits to the residents and community, not to the City's budgets and businesses, which should be secondary considerations. The last paragraph of the statement could be construed as coded white supremacist gatekeeping, as code enforcement works to enshrine the "distinct identity" of historical redlining and segregation in our community.
15. "Affordable" is not a synonym for "moderate income housing" so "affordable housing criteria" just means that no more than 30% of household income goes to rent, and using 80% of A-- and doesn't speak to the fact that the city uses 80% of AMI to determine the "affordable" level for housing. So far, most of the city's housing subsidies go to developers and don't contribute to reduce rents below market rate.
16. If this is a housing section, then call it that. Again, unclear the definition of public services.
17. Way too narrow for the general topic of public services.
18. Public services should include an emphasis on affordable climate-friendly housing and things like community policing and OFD cares.

Themes in Public Services Comments:

- The availability of affordable housing is a primary issue for our community. There should be housing opportunities for everyone across the entire income spectrum.
- Reducing crime and increasing safety are vitally important to our community. This includes policing, firefighting, and emergency medical services. There is concern about deteriorating safety within the community (fires, drug use and overdoses, crime).
- This work should include non-emergency public services as well.
- This City should strive for transparency and public trust.
- Personal freedoms should be considered and balanced with community protection measures.
- Addressing systemic racism and increasing diversity throughout our community are important.

Staff Response:

In Olympia 2045, the Public Services Chapter will include police, fire and emergency medical services, and code enforcement issues. Housing, social services, schools, and neighborhoods will be addressed in other chapters. These changes are substantial and require that our Public Services Chapter's Values and Vision be adjusted to reflect these changes.

These comments will be used by staff to develop an updated Public Safety Chapter that builds on what we heard from the community during the development of the One Community Plan that the City Council accepted in February 2020, and the Reimagining Public Safety recommendations that the City Council accepted in December 2022. They will help us look at our public safety system holistically and take into account all the different kinds of City public safety responders. They will help us incorporate community priorities for enhancing transparency, being responsive to emergencies, preventing and reducing crime, addressing systemic inequities, and moving community members towards wellness.



Final Survey Question

Survey Question: Do you think any other topics should be added to the Community Values and Vision chapter?

1. No.
2. Thank you for the opportunity.
3. Addressing climate mitigation and resilience.
4. More on safety. We need to restore balance to our lofty goals.
5. Just stop with the gentrification and virtue signaling and do something to actually help the blue collar working class that can't afford housing. Stop allowing people who grew up here to get gentrified out. I think it's time for right to root housing. The city made plenty of money over the years for the fact that people grew up here, time to give back!
6. Address climate mitigation and resilience.
7. In the community involvement area - - something like this - "Our community has a rich resource of expertise, experience and knowledge in our residents. We value their wisdom and welcome them into our public processes. " There is an underlying assumption that the only experts are the staff of the city, or consultants. We have local experts who work in specific topic areas where they have the knowledge and expertise to help the city. We should welcome their participation and respect that knowledge.
8. I cannot stress the importance of affordable housing enough. Not market rate housing- actually affordable housing. We must address housing as a priority. It is the bedrock of communities. Olympia should invest in public housing, adaptive reuse projects, and should consider rent control. Olympia is losing the next generation of artists and business owners because they can't find places to live. Even The Evergreen State College is having trouble housing their students, with some students deciding not to come to Olympia because the housing market is so volatile. We need to get rid of some of the bureaucratic red tape around missing middle housing. Olympia cannot just partner with private developers who only seek to build luxury apartments. The only affordable housing in the city is for seniors, Olympia needs to now focus on affordable housing for the rest of the population. Olympia should donate all of it's unused buildings to organizations seeking to build affordable housing, or to groups like housing cooperatives or the Thurston Housing Land Trust. Olympia has the chance to be a national leader for innovative housing solutions, but they need to not cater to the rich people in town and only build luxury apartments. Affordable housing is key.
9. Freedom of speech, association and respect for different points of view.
10. I appreciate the chance to give feedback. I still would like us as a city to give all community members a chance to not only to participate but be heard. Zero parking in our city for new development in established neighborhoods is absolutely detrimental to so many people and to these values.
11. I've added some throughout, but cities are where we party because we have enough. Our society has more than it needs. Some people just hoard their unfair shares and our police, military, and regressive vigilantes promise violence to those who step out of line. A just society meets everyone's needs sustainably and demands no input from each citizen while demonstrating why that input is vital, honored, and worthwhile. I wake up each day having dreamt of a better world and our built environment does its best to bludgeon those notions out of my head. On good days, I have the energy to go to sleep happy, believing a better world is possible. On bad days, the cops or the mayor

make that harder with their words, intimidation, and chemical weapons. Its a beautiful day in the neighborhood to build ecosystems of justice, don't do violence, and be a good neighbor!

12. Olympia is beautiful - I don't want to see it ruined with left-winged polices that further divide people. I want to feel safe downtown. The homelessness is terrible downtown it needs to be fixed - we need to stop encouraging drug use by offering them needles or whatever else. I wouldn't ever visit Olympia again if it become an only walkable or bike riding city- that's absurd to me so make sure you aren't excluding your drivers and commuters. Cost of living needs to be improved greatly - WA state is far too expensive to live comfortably. We do not need to increase minimum wage, we need cheaper homes and food. Good luck city of Oly - this is a hopeful starting point for the next 10-20 years.
13. Add: We will improve educational opportunities, and plan to sponsor afterschool tutoring in local schools, agencies, YMCA etc to break the cycle of poor educational preparation leading to poor opportunities for adults.
14. I would like to see: - additional focus on partnership - specifically with non-profits in order to meet these lofty visions. - more reference to how each of these priorities and visions intersect with one another. - how are these priorities ranked with regard to decision making? For example if two priorities are in conflict, how are decisions made?
15. Resume 'in-person' meetings. address the racist kkkops on payroll.
16. I'm not sure I saw anything pertaining to working with the county, state, and other local jurisdictions for meeting the goals/objectives of the visions above.
17. How is the City engaging with the Squaxin Island tribe, whose land Olympia's white settler progenitors dispossessed, beyond a land acknowledgment?
18. Access to healthcare. Also I just wanted to add that the Values and Vision statements are very well written. It's great to live in a community that truly values these important things, and it's also great to see that the people involved in making that happen are so articulate, smart, and open to community feedback. Thank you for your work.
19. How about something specific about our roles, responsibilities and opportunities as a capital city?
20. Some wording about adding some integrity in our city government. Some respect for residents. And transparency. The city's low rating should be a wake-up call.

Themes in Final Survey Question Comments:

- Climate change and resiliency need to be included in the updated Plan.
- Local expertise exists and should be sought out.
- Housing affordability and stability are vitally important.
- Balancing goals is challenging but necessary.
- Balancing opinions and public input is challenging but necessary.
- Safety, drug use, and homelessness must be addressed.
- Educational opportunities need to be accessible to everyone.
- Partnerships and regional cooperation are key to addressing issues that are important to us.
- Tribal participation and coordination is needed.
- Access to healthcare is needed.
- Olympia is unique because we are Washington State's Capital City. Explore how the roles, responsibilities, and opportunities can be incorporated into our Comprehensive Plan.
- Good governance (integrity, respect for residents, transparency) is expected.

Staff Response:

The updated plan will include a new Climate Change and Resiliency chapter and a new Housing chapter.

These comments will be shared broadly with the community and with Elected Officials, Advisory Boards and Committees, the City staff's Comprehensive Plan update team, and others to help shape all aspects of the Olympia 2045 plan.

Notes:

1. Minor spelling errors and typos were corrected. Content of messages were not changed.
2. In an attempt to both retain the authenticity of the direct comments received and avoid offending the broader community, we have replaced "obscene" or "swear" words and phrases with the term "expletive" inside brackets, [expletive].
3. Respondents were allowed to skip any questions.