
Comprehensive Plan Update Survey Results

CITY OF BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

February 24, 2023

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In 2022, the Department of Community Development published a survey to gain input from the public on the vision for the upcoming Comprehensive Plan update. The survey was open from November 2022 to February 2023. In addition to demographic data, respondents were asked to answer the following questions:

1. What is Bremerton's most attractive quality?
2. In the next 20 years, what is the most pressing issue for Bremerton?
3. The 2016 Comprehensive Plan Update included the vision statement: "Bremerton is a metropolitan city that provides for economic vitality and diverse lifestyles through a broad variety of jobs, housing, and strategically located commercial and recreational opportunities." On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the applicability of this vision statement to today?
4. If you could change one thing about Bremerton, what would it be?
5. If you had \$100 to spend on the topics below, how would you spend it?
6. Throughout the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update, the City of Bremerton will conduct many public meetings to engage the community, what is your preferred method of participating in this process?

This document reviews the answers to these questions and provides some demographic insight into the respondents of the survey.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY

Demographics of Respondents

Survey respondents mostly identify as White Millennials who are well-educated, and in high-income households. Most have lived in Bremerton more than 20 years and own their homes.

The survey received 95 responses.

The majority of participants are White (83%), followed by Other (12%), who largely didn't wish to identify or were Latino/Hispanic—which is an ethnicity that can be associated with any racial identity. Other responses were Asian (3%) and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (1%).

The respondents are generally well-educated with 40% having a bachelor's degree, 29% having a graduate degree, 22% having an associate's degree, and 10% having a high school diploma or GED.

Most of the respondents live in high-income households, earning more than \$100,000 (59%), while 27% earn between \$50,000 and \$99,999. An additional 8% earn between \$25,000 and \$49,000 and finally, 7% earn less than \$24,999.

Respondents are fairly equally split by age groups with 35% between 26 and 41 (Millennials), 32% between 58 and 76 (Boomers), and 27% between 42 and 57 (Gen X). The remainder are older than 77 (3%) or 18 to 25 years old (2%).

Most respondents have lived in Bremerton for more than 20 years (41%), followed by zero to five years (34%) and six to 10 years (15%).

Most respondents are homeowners (85%), while the rest (15%) rent their homes.

It's important to understand that the demographics of these respondents are not representative of Bremerton's Census profile and only represent the respondents, who self-selected to take this survey.

Charts for demographic information are included at the end of this document.

Please rank Bremerton's most attractive qualities

Bremerton's most attractive qualities are its parks, trails and outdoor recreation, access to Seattle, and enjoyment of the natural environment. Its least attractive qualities are its employment opportunities, sense of community and housing market.

Most respondents (22%) ranked Bremerton's employment opportunities low, at 2 on a scale of 1 to 6 followed very closely by very good (20%), excellent (19%) and very poor (18%).

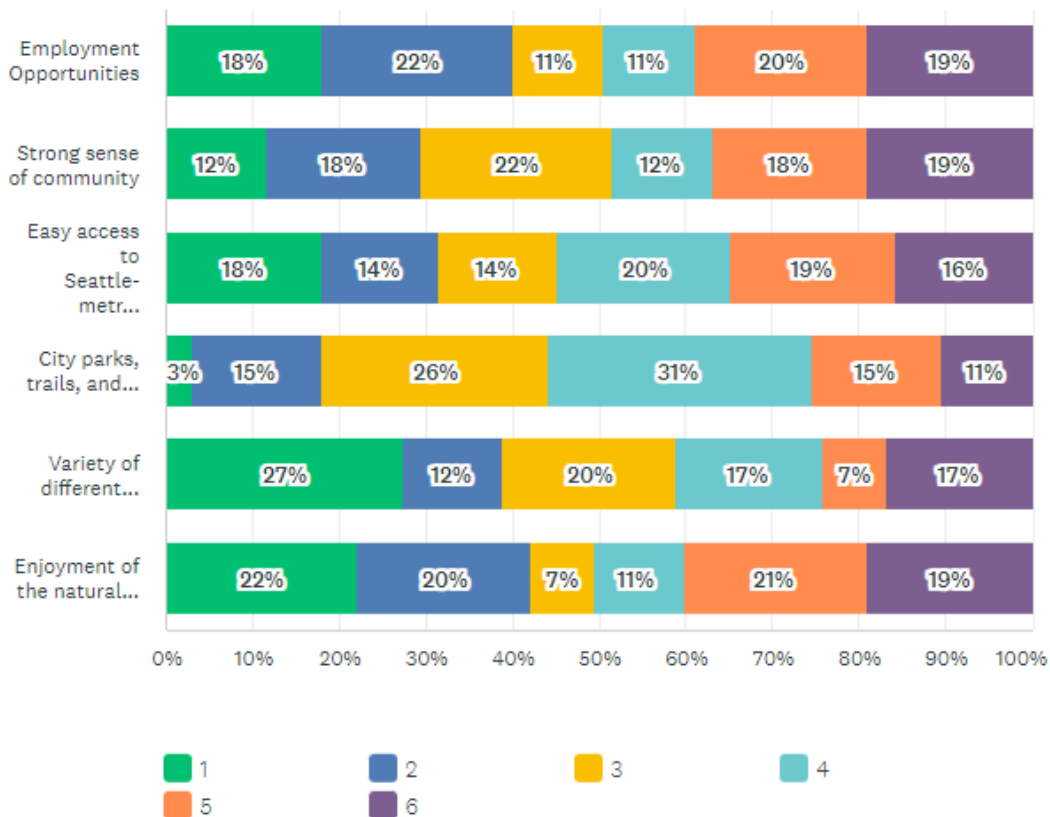
Most respondents (22%) ranked Bremerton's strong sense of community slightly better, at 3 on a scale of 1 to 6 and 19% ranked it as excellent, at 6.

Most respondents (20%) ranked Bremerton's easy access to Seattle-metro area as 4 on a scale of 1 to 6 while 19% ranked it very good, at 5.

Nearly a third of respondents (31%) ranked Bremerton's city parks, trails and other recreation as good, at 4 on a scale of 1 to 6 while 26% ranked this category at 3.

Most respondents (27%) ranked Bremerton's variety of different housing types, price or property sizes very poorly, at 1 on a scale of 1 to 6 while 17% ranked it as good at 4.

Respondents were nearly equally split ranking Bremerton's enjoyment of the natural environment: 1 (22%), 2 (20%), 5 (21%) and 6 (19%).



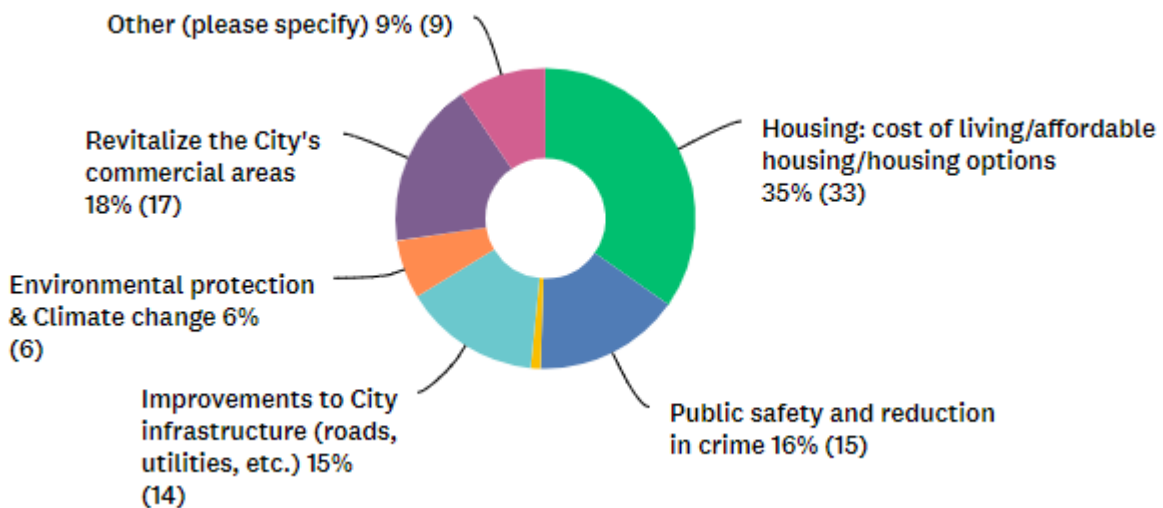
Respondents were given the opportunity to add qualities not included in the question. Below is a selection:

- The neighborhoods
- Diversity
- Walkability and transportation
- Commercial cores

In 2022, what is Bremerton's most important issue?

Respondents believe housing is Bremerton's most important issue, followed by revitalizing commercial areas.

According to respondents, Bremerton's most important issue is housing (35%) followed by revitalizing commercial areas (18%), public safety (16%) and infrastructure (15%). Only 6% of respondents felt environmental protection was Bremerton's most important issue.



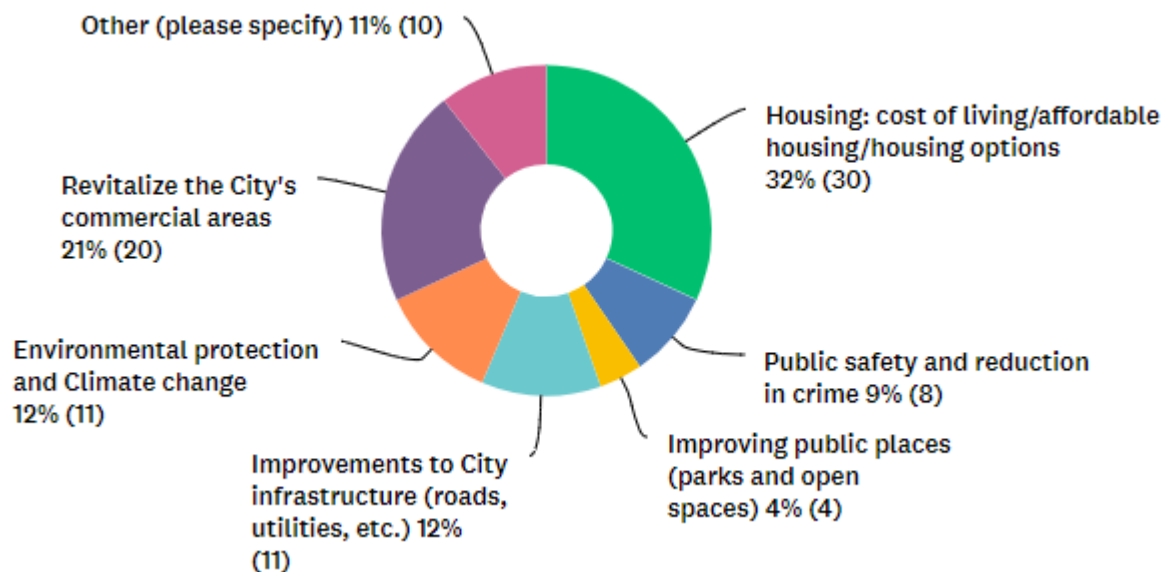
Given the opportunity to write in, respondents added:

- Eradicating longstanding racism and classism
- A lack of restaurants, shopping, grocery stores and parking
- Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and safety
- Crime
- Improving ferry service
- Homelessness

What should the City focus on improving during the next 20 years?

Most respondents think the City should focus on improving housing and revitalizing commercial areas.

In line with the responses to the previous question, respondents thought that the City should focus on improving housing (32%) followed by revitalizing commercial areas (21%). The next most important priorities were environmental protection (12%) and infrastructure (12%), followed by public safety (9%) and improving public places (4%).



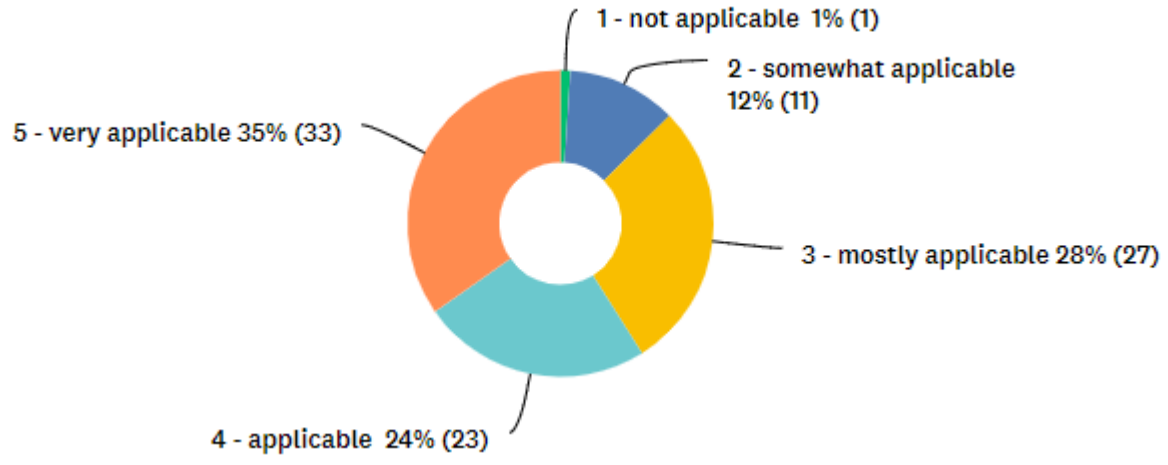
Given the opportunity to write in, respondents added:

- Welcoming all cultures
- Increasing staff in the Department of Community Development
- Limiting growth

The City's current comprehensive plan has a vision statement that emphasizes economic vitality, jobs, housing, recreational activity, and diversity of lifestyles. Is this a vision that still has applicability and should be carried forwards?

Most respondents think that this is still an applicable vision.

Most respondents thought the existing vision was either very applicable (35% or mostly applicable (28%). The rest thought it was applicable (24%) or somewhat applicable (12%).



Given the opportunity to add to the vision, they included:

- Multi-modal transportation
- Public safety
- Infrastructure
- Equity
- Sustainability (environmental and economic)
- Revitalize downtown

If you had \$100 to spend on the topics below, how would you spend it? Please ensure total adds up to \$100.

The top three priorities are affordable housing, improving transportation and improving police services.

This question was not universally understood by respondents, leading to outcomes that may not be as useful. In many cases, respondents spent more than \$100. The question was meant to be an exercise in ranking priorities. Even though not all submissions totaled to \$100, we can extrapolate some prioritization accordingly:

Affordable Housing: \$2,545

Improving Transportation: \$1,735

Improving Police Services: \$1,595

Improving Parks and Open Spaces: \$1,505

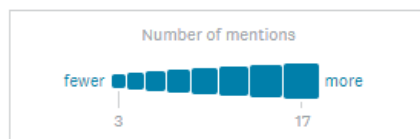
Environmental Protection: \$1,320

Other: \$680 (revitalization, infrastructure, economic development, education, homelessness)



If you could change one thing about Bremerton, what would it be?
Respondents would change downtown, housing, parking and safety.

downtown area keeps safety working Make New Bremerton safer
businesses one housing grocery stores city parking lots
downtown car better near people homeless areas
staffing needs service parking traffic improve Make city



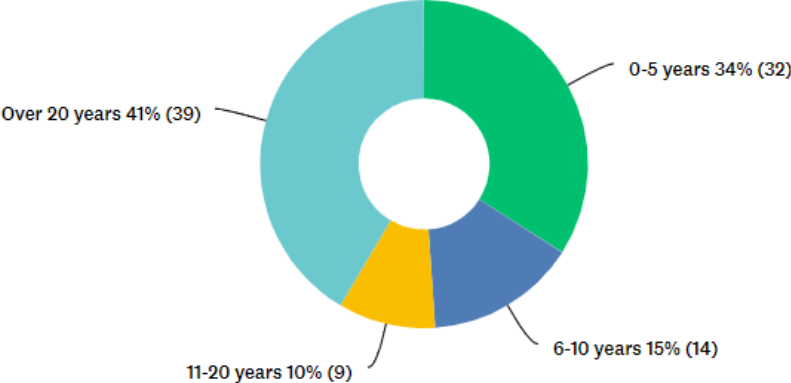
Respondents were given the opportunity to write in responses. The word cloud above reviews all words used, including words that make full sentences. The software then tallies up the word counts and displays the most frequently used words in larger font. The result is that some words get counted multiple times as compound words (e.g., downtown and downtown area). Generally, though, it looks like people would change downtown, housing, parking and safety.

Compelling responses include:

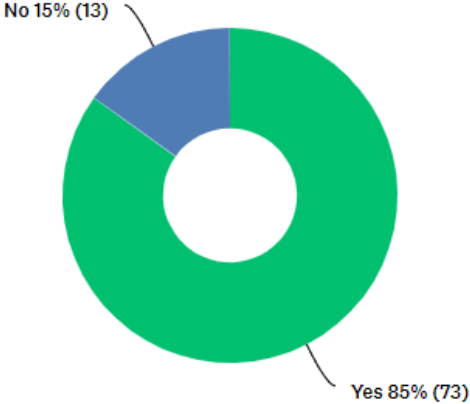
- Vehicle congestion
- Increase diversity of employment opportunities
- How zoning keeps people far away from goods and services. It should be ok for there to be a café, pub, barber or small grocery in neighborhoods, within walking distance from residents.
- An organized approach to rehabbing or replacing blighted or abandoned properties
- More community events
- Improve walkability by adding sidewalks and restructuring Warren Avenue Bridge to make it more pedestrian friendly and slow traffic
- Solutions for the homeless and mental health issues facing the community

Demographic Charts

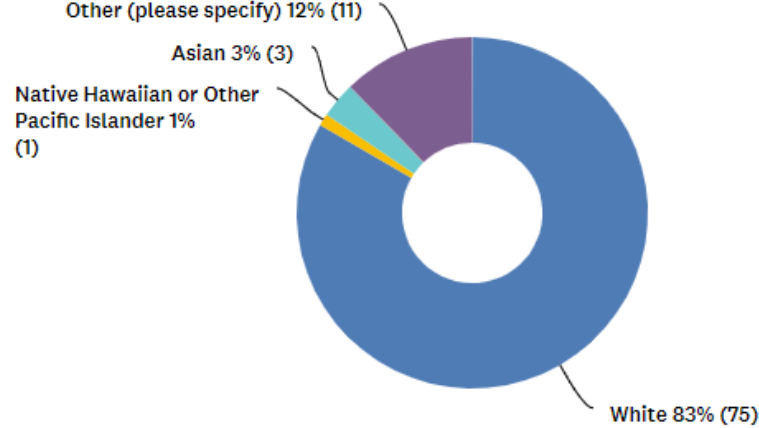
How long have you lived and/or worked in Bremerton?



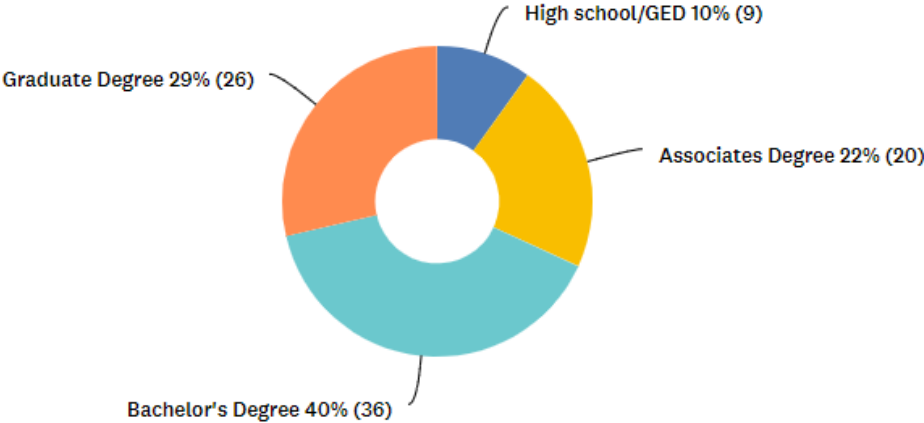
If you live in Bremerton, do you own you home?



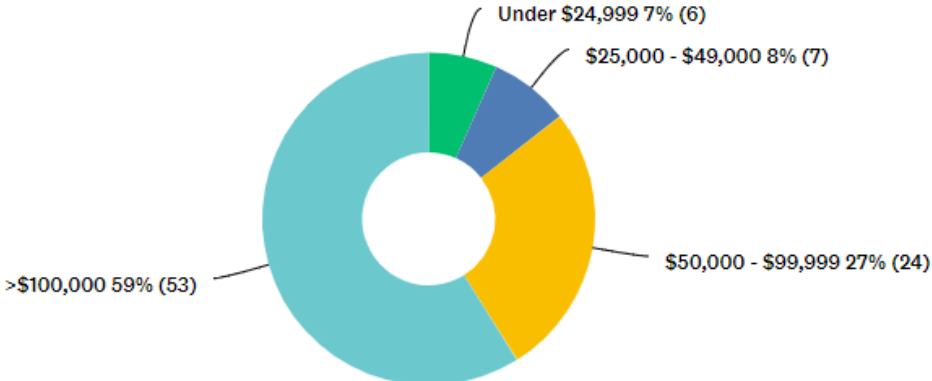
What is your race?



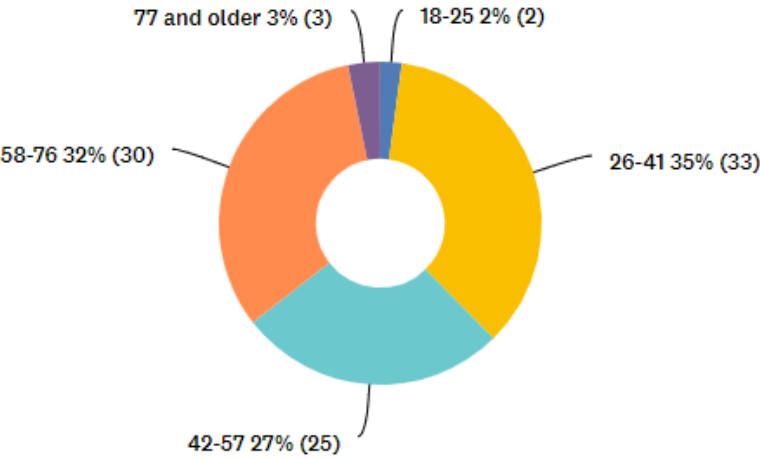
What is the highest level of education you have completed?



What is your household income?



What is your age range?



Attachment

If a quality was not listed in Question 1, please describe:

Response: the neighborhoods, such as the development of callow avenue into a thriving community / hub of recreation / commerce

Response: These were tough to rank. They are all about equal, except maybe Employment Opportunities.

Response: Diversity. I was born and raised in Bremerton and recently moved back after a ten year absence. I'm really pleased with the diversity that has flourished while I've been gone. I hope we continue down this path.

Response: Walkability, public transport

Response: Area beautification. Encourage property owners to maintain their property. I support a n additional tax to fund city/private property clean up.

Response: Unified events within the downtown core

Response: Transportation

Response: Historical City Center

Response: Small town living with the conveniences of a large nearby city

Response: Honoring military & foundations

Response: City made poor choices on shoreline development, so access is very limited based on population.

Response: Diversity

Response: Having a strong culture of inclusion for all types of people and cultures.

Response: Note the ferry system does not supply easy access to Seattle and the city is not a great, safe place to visit

In 2022 what is Bremerton's most important issue?

Response: all of the above

Response: Downtown Bremerton or Manette needs a full scale grocery store.

Response: inclusive spaces that help eradicate longstanding racism and classism in our city.

Response: Lack of Restaurants, Shopping Grocery Stores and Parking

Response: Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and safety

Response: All of the above. Reduce crime, drug use, consider demolition of old buildings to bring a facelift to the city.

Response: Improving ferry (WSF) service

Response: Thinking about these categories in isolation rather than how they interconnect. Coming up with a shared vision and what inputs lead to improvements in multiple categories rather than ranking and starting at the top.

Response: Homelessness and crime

What should the City focus on improving during the next 20 years?

Response: welcoming all cultures without requiring assimilation

Response: The City needs help on the sixth floor. Building and Planning is under stress and needs more staff to grow and take care of Bremerton. People want to work with the City and see a big stop sign by BP as they try and work with local Government.

Response: All of the above: the economic depression due to expanding Silverdale has left much of the city in disrepair. Become tougher on crime and drugs.

Response: Maintaining the regions openness by no further changes to residential construction density, preserving Kitsaps feel of spaciousness by limiting high rise building to 7 stories, spreading commercial growth out around the county to avoid the look and feel of large cities like Seattle. The beauty of Kitsap is our homesome residential feel intermixed with natural vegetation. Let force the county to do more commercial districts besides Bremerton. The current construction space in Bremerton is fast becoming over populated and our roads to congested.

Response: Improve downtown w/stores & restaurants

Response: Both improvements to city infrastructure and improving public places - equally important.

Response: Becoming a thoughtful, sustainable, affordable, pleasant place to live with original thriving small-mid size businesses engaged in the community while minimizing env impact. A place where residents don't need to be car dependent because there are safe bicycle and public transit options available.

Response: All of the above

Response: Housing in all price ranges and revitalize commercial areas

Response: Homelessness and trash being everywhere

Please describe your reason for the answer selected in Question 4

Response: Revitalization of the homes in Bremerton is a must, so many run down and abandoned homes, very concerning

Response: Housing and access to transit are key to our city's future. Making Bremerton a green city with transit / bike paths, along with affordable housing should be primary goals.

Response: I do think public safety is a major issue, as it is across the region and country. But I also think robustly addressing all the items in the vision statement can ultimately play a huge role in reducing crime and improving safety.

Response: All of the points: economic vitality, jobs, housing, recreational opportunities, and diversity of lifestyles are interconnected. Every point will diminish or enhance the other points so they really all have to be addressed together with a holistic vision.

Response: Missing components: helping low-income residents move up the economic/educational/job/housing ladder; supporting cultural/artistic groups, opportunities and development

Response: Without infrastructure you cannot support the other important items listed.

Response: The current plan has a good vision statement but the next plan needs to implement these visions.

Response: It is a good mixture.

Response: A diversity of lifestyles would be so welcome to many of us living here. Currently, we have several tennis courts but nowhere to rollerskate in a covered space or on safe trails or play basketball

(the courts are in need of repair). Affordable housing is not available. We only have new buildings being built with incredibly high rents while jobs have average to lower pay. Many people cannot afford \$1500+ for rent. While thinking of jobs for people living here, please consider the changing face of our city when adding chain businesses. Small businesses face many roadblocks but add wonderful culture to our area while chain businesses create a homogenized vision without increasing wages or tax payments.

Response: The plan is applicable and there is always room for improvement.

Response: overall covers most priorities

Response: It sounds good, but it should be environmentally responsible and prioritize a clean energy transition.

Response: Because economic vitality, jobs, and housing are crucial to the well being of the community.

Response: Affordable, secure housing (meaning it's structurally safe and the rent isn't subject to arbitrary extreme changes) has to be THE priority. If people are displaced from housing due to unaffordability we're not a community but rather an exclusive club. Exclusivity and diversity do not go together.

Response: Housing costs are getting out of control and are being manipulated by local builders such as LENNAR.

Response: Missing pedestrian and non-motorized transportation support. Otherwise, good goals.

Response: These are all worthy goals and priorities.

Response: All of those issues are applicable. The comprehensive plan should be looking at Transportation, incentive to help with housing the people that come to Bremerton, take care of our lake, a look at resources we can build towards our young people, help for small business is VERY IMPORTANT. Most important, SUPPORT FOR OUR POLICE WHO NEED IT IN A BIG WAY

Response: Jobs are abundant. Quit favoring large development and concentrate on helping existing residents remodel, rebuild and invest

Response: These are all essential aspects to a thriving community.

Response: I don't understand what diversity of lifestyles means. Any metric should be measured so what is the measurement for success? If it can't be measured then it is just a money suck with no tangible outcomes.

Response: It's basic human rights

Response: Does not include environmental issues

Response: This vision statement will help Bremerton become a better place for everyone, hence my answer.

Response: I think most of this is applicable that we should focus on the economy, jobs, recreation in the area. However I believe a large part of the housing issues is due to landlords raising prices partially to exclude a class that has been known to not pay rent, abuse the property, and fails to respect the landlord tenant agreements. This has caused a huge disparity in housing, there are either lower cost housing "slum" areas or those that have raised rent ridiculously in order to only be affordable by a select group. Fix the "slums" support landlords and start holding renters and homeowners accountable for the homes they keep.

Response: The city needs jobs beyond the shipyard and retail. Higher paying jobs will help lift many out of poverty. Our family is working professionals that commute to Seattle and we are considering moving due to Bremerton's poorly rated schools.

Response: why would I say no to the statement in question 4?

Response: Those are all no brainer things to have as a vision statement

Response: Until the crime issue is addressed nine of the others will be sustainable

Response: Public Safety

Often times the vision has little effect on actual policies.

Response: It's a good balance of goals

Response: We are in such a housing crisis that over the next 10 years focus needs to be on Economic Vitality, Housing and infrastructure.

Response: It stands true today. However, we've been stagnant. Downtown is opening new shops slowly, but there's still a lot of vacancy and has been for years.

Response: Diversity of lifestyles is important, and recreational opportunities so people don't have to leave Bremerton for entertainment.

Response: Good plan!

Response: I think all of those things are very important

Response: While those are all good goals, I think government processes are generally ineffective at creating jobs and "economic vitality." By contrast, government is relatively good at maintaining public spaces and infrastructure and should thus emphasize those goals.

Response: Revitalization of the downtown core as well as improvement to schools.

Response: The appearance and functioning of the City is vital to maintaining a desirable and attractive community where people will choose to live

Response: These are all still relevant to Bremerton!

Response: it includes all of the important things that people need (housing, jobs) and things people want/like

Response: I think the vision statement is a recitation of goals for a vibrant city.

Response: I get our need for economic growth for infrastructure and roads, but the more emphasis on density, population growth and commercial ventures will reduce available space for recreation and communities rural feel and family friendly living.

Response: seems okay to me

Response: With Bremerton being the spill over for Seattle, we need to be more than just a Ship Yard / Navy town. We need to appeal to those standards while also being affordable to do business and live (so that more spill over will be a good thing for the current Bremertonians.)

Response: Vision statement lacks substance. City makes many decisions in a silo - without really working to get citizen input. Council Members do not communicate, for the most part, with their constituents making their efforts singular and not representative of their district's collective voice. It's discouraging.

Response: all good goals

Response: Affordable housing/variety of housing types most important.

Response: There is a lot of room for interpretation in that mission. Some interpretations I would say are applicable, but not all.

Response: Important to revitalize downtown and make parking easier, while controlling safety and reducing crime and homelessness

Response: affordable housing is the springboard for launching healthy kids, protecting seniors and, well, stability for all

Response: These priorities remain important, and cover a range of what is needed for focus. Racial equity needs to be a thread throughout all of these.

Response: Mass transit for environmental and cost of living concerns must be addressed

Response: Apple Pie

Response: If we don't have a viable environment to live in jobs won't matter. We need to invest more in walkability, biking, mass transit, and fixing our roads that block ancient salmon routes. More green and blue spaces and keeping the green and blue spaces open for the future generations. Cleaning up and remediation of soiled areas and water.

Response: Inadequate coverage of air quality: in particular, particulates pollution levels and trends, especially PM2.5, and acknowledgement of their substantial adverse health effects.

Response: This area already lends itself to recreational opportunities naturally. This does not seem to be something the city needs to "do" anything about.

Response: I love it

Response: We have a wide range of recreational opportunities. I am not sure what the comprehensive plan would do on the diversity of lifestyles. Without a range of housing, you will have vacant storefronts. All plans should include improvement of retail areas not just downtown.

Response: I think crime should be included on this list, the rise in crime has been very evident and I do not feel as safe here as I once did. Would love spaces such as community parks and trails to feel clean and safe.

Response: we need all these to make a living city for all

Response: Revitalizing Downtown Bremerton and improving infrastructure like bike paths and sidewalks fits into these categories.

Response: Many of the efforts to provide housing involve taxing of citizens to pay for low-income housing. This is robbing Peter to pay Paul. It doesn't work. We need to focus instead on allowing dense housing (apartments, condos, etc.) to be built close to transit centers and large employers.

Response: Bremerton needs to realize that increasing housing without addressing transportation will only result in more cars with nowhere to park and a general inability to responsibly commute. In addition, food availability will be stressed because grocery stores already seem to have issues adequately stocking shelves, especially if the pandemic remains a part of life.

Response: This vision is something that needs to be carried out continuing forward.

Is there anything missing from this vision?

Response: Security and safety from crime

Response: Yes.. enforcement of the parking violations and crime

Response: Bikeways, transit expansion, and a focus on walkable mixed-use neighborhoods that allow for neighborhood resilience and community development.

Response: We as a species are at a tipping point in regard to climate change and all its implications for future generations. Environmental protection and climate have to be the first and foremost considerations as we go forward into the future. Economic vitality is dependent on natural resources. There must be natural resource protections to offset and sustainably manage the demands on the environment, on so on. We are only as good as our planet and we depend on it for every aspect of our lives. We have to make it a priority.

Response: I don't know how to quantify or describe this aspect but I want Bremerton to maintain its slightly gritty, hometown atmosphere and not morph into a sleek, gleaming Bellevue clone.

Response: We need to encourage acceptance of other cultures and ethnicities. Manette neighborhood, in particular, is very unwelcoming to minorities. We also need to pay more attention to the indigenous tribes in our area. Please include the tribes in our vision.

Response: Plan to attract businesses to open restaurants, shopping and grocery stores and add parking lots. Additionally, what is being done with the vacant Bremerton Hospital? This is prime real estate with a view of the Puget Sound, Dyes Inlet, and could be developed into more housing , retirement community, shopping, etc?

Response: protecting our natural environment/resources

Response: A clean energy transition!

Response: Value of humanity. Prioritizing recreation over meeting basic human needs is violence. We do NOT need another golf course. We need more housing affordable for those on fixed incomes.

Response: We need regulation on the number of homes being built in my opinion. Supply and demand are being manipulated by builders.

Response: Pedestrian and non-motorized transportation support. Planning for climate change by promoting more trees and green buffers.

Response: Substance abuse and mental health for our citizens

Response: Keep the cost of living within our means. Tagging on new Regulations and ordinances and taxes will only help those that have either a job or means to support this lifestyle for. You will kill it (the beauty of a small community) or turn your back on the people who live and work here as EVERYDAY citizen.

Response: Real transit, not just shipyard workers and Seattle commuters

Response: Kids and families. We, and I'm speaking for many households all have kids. They are in our schools and all sorts of programs. We all use Macaroni kids.com to find stuff to do. This is a perfect time of year for me to use MK to find Christmas activities. If you look at the site Poulsbo and Bainbridge have tons of family activities, with Bremerton not even showing up. Just monitor it and you will see how lacking Bremerton is with Family/community centered activities.

Response: Reparations and land back to tribal and displaced families from Loxie Eagens.

Response: I'm sure there is but honestly Bremerton is such a mess it's hard to know where to begin

Response: Fund city clean up. The city looks run down.

Response: Affordable housing and infrastructure

Response: Safety

Response: Safety

Response: Infrastructure

Response: Community through a variety of avenues like events, organizations, and volunteering

Response: Attracting jobs means good housing and activities to bring people in.

Response: The vision makes no direct reference to infrastructure.

Response: Strong Schools is key to a strong united community. The downtown area needs more services focused on encouraging new business.

Response: N/A

Response: I would love to see Olympic College become a 4-year institution on its own (not via WWU or CWU, etc.)

Response: THERE NO REAL MENTION OF HOW THE CITY PLANS TO MANAGE LOCAL TRANSPORTION (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE) GIVEN THE CURRENT PACE OF GROWTH. ALSO, WITH SUCH A STRONG AND VITAL ECONOMIC PRESENCE BROUGHT IN BY THE MILITARY, HOW DOES THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTE FOR OUR GROWTH? Lastly, there are a lot of run down vacant properties around town. What emphasis can be placed on property owners to clean up and maintain or tear down the structures. These properties present safety concerns, are places for homeless to camp, attracts vandalism, and is just unsightly. I

believe there are some type of incentives (positive and negative) that would entice the propeties owners to care about our community.

Response: improve ferry service, more restaurants & shops downtown

Response: Not really. I already love the updates to the roads (bike lanes, etc.) and I'm excited for the plans for the downtown area near the Roxy Theater. And possibly on Navel Ave leading to the Navy Gate. These are the updates we need in Bremerton! I think one area of major concern is the Merging area of S Charleston Blvd and 3 South. That place is a nightmare traffic block. There's got to be a way to alleviate that?

Response: safety

Response: improve public safety: sidewalks, bike paths/lanes, crime prevention, arrest of criminals

Response: environmental sustainability

Response: Important to embrace the value of waterfront location

Response: climate change! housing density and mass transit protect the environment and resist climate change

Response: Explicit focus on race equity, like the task force that has been created but given no real power or mandate.

Response: Mass transit

Response: A boardwalk that connects Port Orchard and Bremerton and Poulsbo.

Response: credible commitment to sustaining and enhancing air quality (critical for population wellbeing) by establishing an ongoing monitoring program and driving substantive reductions in airborne toxins and particulates.

Response: More focus on sustainability/commitment to environmental protection. The city has been struggling with this recently (sewage spills).

Response: Looks good

Response: Higher density of housing in most areas of Bremerton. Examples like Kent/ Auburn/ Everett show what good housing looks like

Response: Crime and safety

Response: While applicable some more pressing issue such as environmental protection should be added

Response: Revitalizing the Harrison Hospital area.

Response: Quality healthcare and emergency planning that is accessible, not in Silverdale.

If you had \$100 to spend on the topics below, how would you spend it?

Response: quality medical access

Response: Improve parking, invest in improving retail cores such as Charleston, Eastpark, the area at the start of Callow, 6th. street, Evergreen park area.

Response: Bathrooms for homeless

Response: improving the downtown core

Response: Payments from the military towards environmental justice

Response: I would do more research first about who is at the helm of each because money ear tagged for a purpose doesn't always impact to reach a desired outcome. After research, I'd allocate it to those that would achieve the positive community impact beyond PR.

Response: facilities and services which address homelessness and mental health.

Response: I don't have sufficient info about the needs and budgets for the categories to answer this question.

Response: Schools and Downtown core revitalization

Response: Improve sidewalks and roads, encourage PSNS to build parking structures so that residents and visitors can actually park in the city and shop

Response: infrastructure

Response: Economic Development

Response: Improvements to education

Response: A third fast ferry boat. Once the condos open near the ferry I suspect the current ferry's will become over crowded.

Response: Revitalizing Callow

Response: Public transportation, not roads

Response: The police do not need a bigger budget. They need a complete restructure of values and attitudes.

Response: Building clean energy infrastructure (green energy power station(s), upgrades to our power grid, EV chargers, electric busses, etc)

Response: Improving cultural and ethnic relations.

Response: Developing commercial services (businesses/employment) to support density

Response: Public works, roads, sidewalks, etc.

Response: Revitalizing the Charleston District and other commercial districts

Response: More transportation is always a good thing, but I think Bremerton, in large part thanks to Kitsap Transit and ongoing road improvement projects, is in pretty good shape. Keep up the great work!

Response: Additional investment in commercial revitalization

If you could change one thing about Bremerton, what would it be?

Response: More views of the water. Less construction coming in blocking the views. Make Bremerton a destination for visitors and help the downtown small businesses.

Response: Zoning and traffic issues. We live on Halverson Avenue and experience high traffic volume as a cut through road. The problem will escalate with the enormous apartment complex on Riddell and Almira. This congestion and high speeds for a small road is unsafe and unacceptable. To this problem, the additional issue with our zoning change to moderate density. It should revert back to low density. You are creating problems where there shouldn't be.

Response: Increase diversity of employment opportunities and industrial sectors

Response: Incentives for people to improve their homes... and the curtailing of corporations buying up homes in disrepair and turning them into rentals.

Response: How zoning keeps people far away from goods and services. It should be OK for there to be a cafe, pub, barber, or small grocery in neighborhoods, within walking distance from residents.

Response: The Public Works and Parks teams do a fantastic job, but I worry about the fact that their staffing levels haven't kept up with the city's growth, increase in facilities, and aging infrastructure. I would gladly pay more taxes to increase the staffing and resource levels of these teams.

Response: More vibrant downtown.

Response: I would slow the onslaught of growth and change that is occurring as the county develops and grows but that it is not possible.

Response: Upgrade the existing housing supply with a combination of code enforcement, improvement/health/safety grants, collaboration with existing private services (Waste Management, Comcast, Puget Energy, etc.) and non-profit organizations (Kitsap Community Resources, etc.)

Response: That the City and County involve to long time residents in conversation regarding growth. And that growth and money would not be the focus going forward, instead renew older areas that have become run down.

Response: I would reduce crime, including drug use and blight.

Response: Currently in 2022, I'd change the service level and reliability of both state and county ferries to Seattle. This was a great appeal to us when we moved here in 2019 and sadly it's not easy to go to Seattle for social activities (concerts, sporting, etc) right now. Beyond that selfish point, Bremerton needs a more diverse housing stock. Too many undermaintained single family homes that are expensive to purchase or rent have made it unaffordable for many. New housing of all types, single family, multi family, and the missing middle of smaller tri-plexes, four-plexes and townhome developments are needed.

Response: Downtown should have fewer parking garages and more businesses.

Response: The passive aggressive nature of systemic racism I have experienced here for over 30 years. The snide comments, the neighborhood coalitions taking pictures of non-Caucasian people claiming they look suspicious, the jokes.

Response: Attract businesses to open restaurants, shopping and grocery stores and add parking lots.

Response: I would improve the Wheaton Way/303 corridor where it's kind of run down

Response: I would try to increase the supply of affordable housing.

Response: Improve walkability by adding sidewalks and restructuring Warren Avenue Bridge to make it more pedestrian friendly and slow traffic.

Response: You can't revitalize commercial in a whole city without first addressing our infrastructure and housing. Otherwise cost of living will continue to rise.

Response: More recognition of the people who lived here before Europeans emigrated to the area.

Response: More kid's friendly fun downtown and around our parks.

Response: The staff working at the City. This community supports the City and the Government who must run it for now and the future. The more the staff can do to show better Government, the better we will all be in the future. I think the people in Bremerton want a strong and close City. They are frustrated the same as the Government running Bremerton. I think this survey is a good example of how we can get things done. With public input, each idea is a wrench in the tool box. Who ever thought this up, should be proud. They did a good job.

Response: Respect for existing residents

Response: I would get rid of the fish catching a fisherman sculpture and replace it with something by a local artist.

Response: Solutions for the homeless and mental health issues facing the community.

Response: Safer sidewalks and outdoor areas for young people not centered around alcohol areas- which are safe consumption sites. So let's get those for other life ending substances too.

Response: Better walking amenities and bike lanes

Response: Make the city look more appealing. Whenever I pass through, I see lots of graffiti and vacant buildings.

Response: Cost of living

Response: I do not feel safe as a woman to even walk my dog around my neighborhood at night. There is a homeless encampment in the woods down the road, there are homeless people who sleep at the

church down the way, the police are unable to do anything regarding this. Rundown houses that don't seem like they should be habitable. The grocery stores constantly have issues with theft there is always transients outside the stores. The drug and mental health issues are skyrocketing with people constantly being found passed out in vehicles from overdoses. It's just not a pleasant place to be. Whenever family or friends want to do anything I always travel to go to their city (Tacoma, university place, Allyn, etc) because I don't feel comfortable going to do things here especially at night.

Response: Demolish as much of central downtown as possible and rebuild. The city feels similar to downtown Seattle where the water front is nice and three blocks away is the homeless, run down houses, and heavy crime.

Response: There are many areas that would be good options for condos etc. Lots of blighted and abandoned properties. I would love to see more higher density housing in Charleston and along Wheaton Way

Response: Revival and expansion of downtown

Response: Focus on the residents rather than places like the convention center

Response: Mayor

Response: Make it safer

Response: Improving safety so we can walk about downtown at night.

Response: Creative housing opportunities. Greater variety of types and pricing of housing. Reduction of cost and timeline for permits

Response: Reduce regulations for housing development.

Response: Available parking near downtown shopping, you can't bring some purchases on a bus.

Response: I know the city is working on this issue but Gorst needs to be addressed sooner than later.

Response: Better transportation and better parking (Sorry, that's two)

Response: Public bathrooms in Downtown core. Maintained by city and checked hourly for cleanliness and usage, can have regular hours of operation (ie 8am-8pm)

Response: Stop lights timing together! Sidewalks on National Ave coming!

Response: New grocery store downtown (near ferries)

Response: One or two pedestrian overpasses on Warren Ave, so that pedestrians are safer and car traffic is less impeded by crossings.

Response: Improvement to the schools!

Response: Modify bus schedules so they synchronize with ferry arrivals and departures

Response: I would make it easier to get around without needing a car

Response: expand city limits

Response: combine the various commercial hubs into one Bremerton Business District, plan what businesses make sense to locate in different locations, and provide incentives to get businesses to locate in areas that make sense

Response: A down town strip tp attract more visitors. We have a good start but we can do more.

Response: Make people paint their houses and trim their yards. Improve ferry service.

Response: Sense of Community. I wish there was more downtown events - for example, when I lived in Pensacola, FL they would close down the main downtown road and have a monthly Gallery Night. Which included local businesses and vendors and musicians. And most of the businesses would do a bar hop check list or during holidays (like Halloween) the restaurants chose a theme and designed their menu around it for that night. It was a huge success and really brought the town together each month. Brining in a lot of business for the local downtown area too!

Response: safety and homeless

Response: more employment opportunities.

Response: Change the City's interaction/communication with their citizens by mandating council interaction with their constituents, update the unfriendly city website, and direct mailing to property owners when proposed zoning changes affect their property(ites).

Response: Eliminate wasteful projects, which may use federal grant funding, but which are, nevertheless of very limited benefit to residents.

Response: More shelter and housing options for unhoused folks suffering from mental health crisis, drug addiction.

Response: better network of bike lanes and more small businesses

Response: Change the narrative and make the city welcoming and inviting to bring areas of the UGA into the city.

Response: Make downtown attractive to locals and visitors while keeping waters clean of sewage and derelict boats

Response: Traffic flow

Response: Fewer cars and parking lots! More bike lanes and sidewalks. Better public transit!

Response: Turn the downtown corridor into a mixed use area. Condominiums and apartments as well as commercial businesses.

Response: Less dependence on military sector as dominant employment/culture

Response: stop cutting down all the trees

Response: Sidewalks

Response: Convince me to go to Bremerton.

Response: improve charleston and downtown areas.

Response: Less parking lots.

Response: An extensive boardwalk like the Burke Gilman trail in Seattle and open up our salmon streams again.

Response: kill the planned biodiesel plant that's slated for proximity to 2 new developments

Response: More Affordable housing

Response: Services for homeless individuals need to be ramped up. More cleaning services, such as bathrooms and clothes washing services. Transportation etc

Response: Require all residences and businesses to have clutter and trash free properties

Response: Safety

Response: Revitalization of downtown (Thank you for Quincy jones square) and Weaton way (not just new bremerton station, areas such as current Sheridan corner [weaton and perry aves], grocery outlet strip mall, etc). NEED MORE THAN ONE GROCERY STORE IN DOWNTOWN AREA PROPER

Response: clean up the trash. Take a walk down any road with a trash bag and it would not take long to fill it up!

Response: Revitalizing Downtown.

Response: Have the city embrace the fact that people are going to move here whether they like it or not. Bremerton will never be what it was 10,20 or 50 years ago. We need to adapt and allow high density housing to be built near our military bases and ferries.

Response: Need better leadership and participation by the public in making the city a better place to live and do business

Response: Bring back a hospital system that can be easily accessed. When neighbors were severely beaten by a schizophrenic in their own home, one was taken to Tacoma and the other to Seattle. In true emergency situations, people will die without speedy local access to ER care.

Response: The amount of homelessness and trash everywhere. It is disgusting driving through the streets of Bremerton seeing tents and garbage everywhere.