

Overview

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The following is a summary of written comments provided by community group participants who attended the Budget Workshops. They were invited to provide comments on the “Comment Sheets...” portion of their exercise which could justify or supplement their choices.

When a comment did not belong under one of the thirty-six subcategories, it was captured under an “Other” subcategory within that Service Category.

When a comment did not belong under any of the seven Service Categories, it was captured under an “Other” Service Category.

Often these comments were captured directly from the comment sheets, to preserve the intended sentiment. In some cases, the comments may have been condensed or summarized, for brevity purposes.

Community Services

49 - Recreation Programs

- 26 "More youth/after school programs"
- 16 "More recreational programs"
- 06 "More sports programs"
- 01 "Re-vamp parks & rec classes"

33 - Social Services

- 08 "More social service programs"
- 07 "More senior services/activities"
- 02 "Need to improve community services"
- 05 "Good variety/quality of service"
- 01 "Social services are important"
- 01 "Social services for homeless, downtown"
- 01 "Homeless temporary housing"
- 01 "Improved communication between service providers & community"
- 01 "Insufficient facilities/housing for homeless"
- 01 "Multi-lingual health centers for low income individuals"
- 01 "No comment"
- 01 "City service providers need to reflect the city's ethnic & gender makeup"
- 01 "Some needs in the community"
- 01 "Community services should not compete with local small businesses"
- 01 "More HUD programs for housing upgrade"

23 - Education & Literacy

- 12 "More attention to education & literacy"
- 07 "More literacy programs"
- 02 "Schools need improvement"
- 01 "Education is very important"
- 01 "Increase security at schools"

41 - Arts & Cultural Activities

- 12 "More art activities/funding; attention to arts community"
- 09 "More cultural activities"
- 06 "More opportunities for musicians"
- 05 "Need for cultural center/museum"
- 02 "Need for music center"
- 02 "Support Glendale symphony"
- 01 "Support the theatre (Noise Within)"
- 01 "Need arts facility/meeting rooms in Western Glendale"
- 01 "Historical museum in Deukmejian Park"
- 01 "I'm interested in a vision statement for the Brand Studios"
- 01 "Make the annual Annie Awards an attraction at the Alex"

12 - Diversity

- 09 "More City sponsored programs to promote diversity"
- 02 "More diversity"
- 01 "Wonderful cultural diversity activities"

Economic Vitality

27 Business Retention

- 18 "Need to retain existing businesses"
- 05 "Retain/assist small businesses"
- 02 "Need a more business friendly environment"
- 01 "Business Retention"
- 01 "We do enough for business"

45 - Economic Growth

- 18 "Attract new business"
- 06 "Need economic growth"
- 04 "Need for an entertainment/economic hub"
- 04 "Economic growth is over-encouraged"
- 03 "Support economic improvements/incentives"
- 02 "More development"
- 01 "Capitalism will ensure economic growth"
- 01 "Need to be aware of the quality of stores on Brand, need a major hub store (not Target)"
- 01 "Brand Blvd is going downhill fast"
- 01 "City does a good job attracting businesses"
- 01 "Waiting to see Towne Center to be completed"
- 01 "Bring vitality to Brand Blvd – similar to Pasadena's Colorado Blvd"
- 01 "Keep Glendale competitive with Burbank & Pasadena"
- 01 "Large companies should pay to help economic growth"

28 - Jobs & Job Training

- 09 "Need more jobs"
- 06 "More youth employment"
- 05 "Jobs & job training"
- 04 "Youth job training"
- 01 "Entry level jobs"
- 01 "More training in medical fields"
- 01 "More job training for disabled"
- 01 "More variety of jobs"

12 - City Funds/Emergency Funds

- 05 "Maintain emergency funds"
- 04 "Maintain City funds/reserves"
- 02 "Increase city revenues"
- 01 "Economic vitality critical, but will not occur without fighting transportation, housing costs"

09 - Other

- 02 "Need business licenses to increase revenues"
- 01 "Need business licenses to track new business"
- 01 "No business license tax"
- 01 "Institute impact fees"
- 01 "Really important"
- 01 "Prop 13 is unfair; audit the tax base & confront the disparities"
- 01 "No fiscal accountability /appreciation of costs of payroll & benefits"
- 01 "Improve the farmer's market"

Housing

08 - Housing Downtown

- 04 "More housing downtown"
- 02 "More dense housing downtown"
- 02 "No more downtown housing"

12 - Transit-Oriented Development

- 12 "Transit-oriented development downtown"

37 - Variety of Housing

- 14 "Need more variety of housing (condos, town-homes, small homes, mixed-use, artists' lofts)"
- 09 "Need to preserve existing single family residences"
- 06 "More senior housing"
- 06 "Need more apartment to condominium conversions; easier process to convert"
- 01 "Multi-use is a good idea but not at the expense of community character"
- 01 "Exploration of options for housing service population for upcoming hotel/shopping district"

58 - Housing Affordability (58 mentions)

- 24 "Need more affordable housing"
- 18 "Need more affordable homes (to buy)"
- 04 "Need rent control"
- 04 "Affordable housing for City of Glendale employees"
- 02 "Increase Section 8"
- 02 "Affordable housing is a huge issue"
- 01 "No more Section 8 housing"
- 01 "Focus on quality of housing, let real estate adjust to the market rather than forcing low income"
- 01 "Housing is too expensive"
- 01 "No low cost housing in expensive developments (Americana); affordable housing should be off-site"

01 - Other

01 "Good"

Transportation & Mobility

64 - Public Transportation

- 18 "Increase public transportation"
- 12 "Expand Bee-Line service"
- 05 "Increase public transportation to downtown"
- 04 "Monorail"
- 03 "Faster public transportation"
- 03 "More affordable public transportation"
- 03 "Link Glendale to Red/Gold Line MTA"
- 02 "Increase access to public transportation on Foothill Blvd"
- 02 "More Dial-a-Van medical services"
- 02 "Need more public transportation that is not reliant on oil"
- 01 "Improve Bee-Line customer service"
- 01 "Increase Dial-A-Ride service"
- 01 "We need a hydrogen bus"
- 01 "Drop Bee-Line"
- 01 "Trolley needed on major streets"
- 01 "No trolley on Brand"
- 01 "Bee-Line is great"
- 01 "Buses to run on Kenneth Rd & Highland"
- 01 "Public Transportation"
- 01 "More access to Montrose shopping park"

76 - Traffic

- 34 "Traffic is a problem/improve traffic"
- 13 "Need to synchronize traffic signals/improve traffic flow"
- 09 "One-way streets"
- 05 "Traffic will be worse after Americana/large residential developments"
- 04 "More stop signs to reduce speed"
- 04 "More right-turn lanes/left-turn lanes/ wider streets"
- 01 "Widen downtown streets to meet (traffic) needs"
- 01 "Get the cars out of the city"
- 01 "Streets like San Fernando Rd are awful"
- 01 "Traffic calming needed at on Altura Ave, between Pennsylvania & Dunsmore"
- 01 "Consider parking only on one side of residential streets"
- 01 "Streets are over-capacity, consider staggered work hours, public transportation incentives & telecommuting"
- 01 "Should not be a Flower street at grade crossing due to safety issues"

60 - Parking

- 14 "Increase/improve parking"
- 12 "Parking is a problem/lack of parking"
- 12 "More parking lots (downtown & at GCC)"

- 09 "Fewer variances for reduced parking; developments should provide req'd parking"
- 04 "Larger parking spaces"
- 02 "Too many red curbs"
- 01 "Until parking is improved, high density construction downtown is a poor choice"
- 01 "Downtown (Brand) underground parking"
- 01 "Downtown diagonal parking"
- 01 "No overnight parking on residential streets"
- 01 "Parking in neighborhoods"
- 01 "More parking needed in high density areas"
- 01 "Vehicle parking code, 72 hour parking"

18 - Long-Term Regional Transportation Plan

- 16 "Create a Long-Term Regional Transportation Plan (in coordination w/ other Cities)"
- 01 "Need more freeways"
- 01 "Glendale freeway should connect with the 14 freeway, for affordable housing alternatives within reasonable commuting distance"

25 - Bike Lanes & Pedestrian Walkways

- 14 "Need more bike lanes"
- 05 "More walkways"
- 03 "Develop a pedestrian precinct (downtown)"
- 01 "Maintain sidewalks for people exiting their cars"
- 01 "Pedestrian lights are not visible during the day, but excellent at night"
- 01 "Need to complete pedestrian walkways and access ramps (Bel Aire, north side)"

05 - Other

- 02 "Bus benches need shelter"
- 02 "Transportation has been fine/very good, never had a problem"
- 01 "Critical"

Community Facilities

63 - Developed Parks

- 16 "More playgrounds/parks"
- 09 "Need for an aquatic center/community pool"
- 07 "Maintain/improve existing parks"
- 06 "Need for a sports complex"
- 06 "More parks in South Glendale"
- 04 "More mini-parks"
- 03 "Need for a dog park"
- 02 "Restrooms in mini-parks"
- 02 "Jogging paths in parks"
- 01 "Four stars for Deukmejian Wilderness Park"
- 01 "Upgrade trails at Brand Park"
- 01 "Need Riverwalk Park with a public horse arena adjacent to trailhead facility"
- 01 "More coordination between LA parks & Glendale parks"

- 01 "More lights in the parks"
- 01 "Larger parks, not mini-parks"
- 01 "Windsor Manor Park needs improvement"
- 01 "Plan for a park in Adams Square is a bad location. Too small, intersection is a safety hazard"

32 - Undeveloped Open Space

- 09 "Need more open space"
- 09 "Need to preserve mountains/open space"
- 05 "More money for open space"
- 03 "Keep undeveloped open space"
- 02 "Increased use of open space"
- 01 "Limited use of open space"
- 01 "Leave the open space on Wilson between Brand & Central"
- 01 "Broad plan for Oakmont nature center, trails, parking"
- 01 "The city is doing much better preserving undeveloped hillsides"

38 - Community Centers

- 15 "More community centers"
- 05 "ADA"
- 04 "Improve existing facilities"
- 03 "Need for gyms"
- 02 "Need for senior centers– not community centers"
- 01 "Decrease rates for renting community center rooms"
- 01 "Crescenta Highlands needs a community center"
- 01 "Sparr Heights Community Center should be utilized for youth classes/activities"
- 01 "Franklin School needs a multi-use park facility"
- 01 "Community building in Pelanconi park needed"
- 01 "This is an area I'm not familiar with"
- 01 "Parks, libraries & community centers could be united"
- 01 "Have focus on what facilities are being developed for towards a distinct city identity"
- 01 "They are good"

10 - Technologies for Public Access

- 10 "Need for public technological/wireless access (WIFI) downtown"

34 - Libraries

- 09 "Increase library services"
- 04 "Update library equipment"
- 03 "Increase library hours"
- 03 "Need a library in South Glendale"
- 03 "More libraries"
- 03 "Retain libraries"
- 01 "More arts books"
- 01 "Libraries will disappear in 10-15 years"
- 01 "More library security needed"

- 01 "Improve libraries"
- 01 "The library needs a digital branch"
- 01 "Expand Montrose library"
- 01 "Libraries"
- 01 "Keep Casa Verdugo Library"
- 01 "Libraries more accessible to schools is a terrific trend"

29 - Streets

- 09 "Streets need paving/maintaining"
- 07 "Keep streets clean"
- 03 "Need more street lights"
- 02 "Piedmont Ave, between La Crescenta & Ramsdale needs paving"
- 01 "Weekly street sweeping is needed"
- 01 "Educate public about bulky item pick up rules"
- 01 "Brand Blvd street repairs poorly planned, however Beaudry Terrace repairs done well & fast"
- 01 "Street repairs needed in N. Glendale"
- 01 "Parking signs on streets not clearly posted"
- 01 "Streets"
- 01 "Use concrete on high traffic main streets, like Burbank"
- 01 "Either cut street sweepers or make them more efficient"

18 - Utilities

- 07 "Underground utilities"
- 06 "The City should not reconstruct the New York electric substation"
- 03 "Poor water quality"
- 01 "Use recycled water for irrigation"
- 01 "Keep local public utilities strong (a key to financial health)"

Community Safety, Health & Wellness

66 - Police

- 14 "Need to improve enforcement of traffic safety rules, speeding"
- 09 "Police are doing a good job"
- 08 "Increase safety/keep community safe"
- 07 "Increase (police) staff"
- 04 "More police community outreach"
- 03 "Increase police patrol in mountain areas & neighborhoods"
- 02 "Better deal with auto theft/burglary problem"
- 02 "Educate public about pedestrian rules"
- 02 "Fund police departments"
- 01 "Improve police response time"
- 01 "Address organized crime"
- 01 "Better traffic education"
- 01 "Traffic safety concerns about 400-1000 block of Windsor Rd"
- 01 "Invest in red-light cameras to assist with traffic issues"

- 01 "More traffic enforcement in Adams Hill"
- 01 "More traffic enforcement in Brand Park"
- 01 "Crescenta Highlands needs a Police sub-station"
- 01 "New downtown substation & more substations for police"
- 01 "Police is being increased without justification while the crime rate drops"
- 01 "Use more civilian personnel in lieu of sworn officers"
- 01 "Police should meet 21st century needs (new crimes)"
- 01 "Police should reflect the city's ethnic & gender makeup"
- 01 "There is a growing drug problem that needs to be addressed"
- 01 "A police substation on Colorado with Armenian speaking officers"

23 - Fire

- 08 "Improve fire services"
- 07 "Fire is doing a good job"
- 03 "Increase staff"
- 01 "Improve enforcement of fire rules"
- 01 "Improve fire stations"
- 01 "New fire station in Montrose"
- 01 "Use more civilian personnel"
- 01 "Fire should reflect the city's ethnic & gender makeup"

14 - Building Safety

- 05 "Stream-line the Permit process"
- 03 "Minimize variance approvals"
- 03 "Increase quality of new construction"
- 01 "Make the use & occupancy permit simple & streamline the process"
- 01 "Building & Safety requirements should be more aligned with LA City"
- 01 "Building permits (need to be issued) with no favoritism"

30 - Code Compliance

- 14 "Increase code enforcement efforts/property maintenance"
- 04 "Increase graffiti removal program"
- 03 "Code enforcement is critical to the quality of life for residents"
- 02 "Decrease litter"
- 01 "We have a problem in our neighborhood with gang graffiti"
- 01 "Eliminate format letters for minor violations"
- 01 "Code enforcement"
- 01 "Pro-active enforcement regarding air, noise, light pollution, vibration – impacts on residents"
- 01 "Increase quality of housing stock"
- 01 "Litter a problem around GCC"
- 01 "Graffiti Clean-Up Day rocks"

31 - Disaster Preparedness

- 13 "Increase disaster preparedness"
- 11 "The City must be prepared"

- 02 "Disaster awareness drill for residents"
- 02 "What disaster plan?"
- 01 "Provide emergency notification by a variety of media (in case of power-outage)"
- 01 "Emergency preparedness involving residents is non-existent"
- 01 "Have a mobile (medical emergency) bus with doctors for each grid"

16 - Health & Wellness

- 05 "Educate the community about health issues"
- 03 "More CPR classes"
- 03 "Inadequate/aging sound walls"
- 01 "Better wellness programs for seniors"
- 01 "Better medical assistance, medical facilities"
- 01 "Plan for upcoming issues driven by aging population & uninsured"
- 01 "Healthy children program should focus on dental health of elementary kids"
- 01 "Sound walls along 210 freeway between Pennsylvania & Lowell"

06 - Other

- 01 "We do okay"
- 01 "Need to get neighborhoods together to help each other"
- 01 "Too many stray animals, need stronger animal control"
- 01 "Very good now"
- 01 "Mountain lion in Chevy Chase Canyon, too many deer"
- 01 "Others care more about this category than I do"

Planning & Community Character

02 - Public Art

- 02 "Need more public art"

148 - Neighborhood Character/Community Planning

- 40 "Overdeveloped/housing density is too high/down-zone"
- 19 "Preserve neighborhood character"
- 15 "Stop mansionization"
- 09 "High density development is detrimental to neighborhoods"
- 07 "Slow growth"
- 06 "The city lacks a master plan/unified feel"
- 06 "Need more housing/more density"
- 05 "Need future planning"
- 04 "Improve DRB standards"
- 03 "Promote neighborhood centers"
- 02 "Require setback landscaping for new developments"
- 02 "More improvement in South Glendale"
- 02 "Need quality development in La Crescenta"
- 02 "To control traffic & parking problems, minimize density"
- 02 "Pedestrian precinct needed downtown (access to public transportation, escalators, moving walkways)"

- 01 "If building has to be increased, look to Pasadena for style"
- 01 "Children residing in large developments have no play areas; higher density contributes to parking & traffic problems"
- 01 "Allow hillside development"
- 01 "Maintain high quality to keep Glendale desirable"
- 01 "Transportation & mobility are negatively impacted by uncontrolled development"
- 01 "Condominium/apartment developments do not provide sufficient visitor parking"
- 01 "There is a need for negative space (undeveloped open space) to balance high-density city"
- 01 "The community becomes more unsafe due to overpopulation"
- 01 "Need an unofficial group to advise council & staff on community character"
- 01 "Planning like Pasadena & Burbank, a destination (city) like Melbourne, Australia"
- 01 "Encourage interesting design while keeping historical (community) character, no box construction"
- 01 "Planning is not taking into account the cyclical fluctuation of large economies"
- 01 "Smart planning, design, design, design"
- 01 "Planning Dept needs to do a better job"
- 01 "Too many variances are granted"
- 01 "Glendale has a wonderful, well-defined character"
- 01 "The plan for downtown Glendale is already out-dated"
- 01 "Without active effort, Glendale's character will be defined by default"
- 01 "Higher density impacts congestion & housing"
- 01 "A park was planned for 4201 Pennsylvania, instead we get 23 more condos"
- 01 "Removing Hauter Ford, then repaving a waste of City money. For that amount of space, not enough use"
- 01 "Get rid of the street palm trees"
- 01 "A high rate of rental housing results in a less stable population"
- 01 "Important"

21 - Historic Preservation

- 19 "Need for historic preservation/districting"
- 02 "Need for community outreach to promote historic preservation"

28 - Public Participation

- 18 "Need to increase public participation"
- 05 "Increase public participation/notice regarding new development/zoning changes"
- 01 "Problems are addressed at the tail end. Social problems are ignored until they become a police issue. Identify the problem, present it to the public, create policies & measure effectiveness."
- 01 "Grow City website with info/activities. Some departments are more complete & up to date than others"
- 01 "A need to build good citizenship among Glendale residents, build a sense of ownership & community belonging"
- 01 "This format for community involvement is brilliant; should be on a yearly basis"
- 01 "Why no run-off election? Council members winning with less than 2000 votes does not foster participatory democracy"

21 Environment & Conservation

- 06 "Use of alternative energy should be encouraged"
- 04 "Educate the community about the environment/recycling"
- 03 "Recycle/conserve"
- 03 "Clean air"
- 01 "Enforce AQMD requirements"
- 01 "Conserve trees"
- 01 "Growing the economy destroys the environment"
- 01 "More recycling"
- 01 "Need more trash cans for recycling"

Other Comments

43 other comments, unrelated to the Service Categories