

A photograph of a water tower with the word "Johnston" written in a blue cursive font on its side. The tower is set against a clear blue sky. A large, light blue arrow graphic points from the top right towards the bottom left, partially overlapping the tower and the text.

Johnston

2022 City of Johnston Community Survey Open-Ended Comments

Presented to the City of Johnston,
Iowa
May 2022



ETC
INSTITUTE

Contents

Question 6: <i>“What additional services would you like to see offered from the Police and Fire Departments?”</i>	1
Question 12: <i>“What kinds of additional outdoor recreational opportunities are needed?”</i>	4
Question 13: <i>“What kinds of additional indoor recreational opportunities are needed?”</i>	11
Question 22-10 [Other]: <i>“Which TWO of the following benefits of economic development are MOST IMPORTANT to you?”</i>	16
Question 28-9 [Other]: <i>“Which ONE of the following is the primary reason you have chosen to live in Johnston?”</i>	17
Question 32-3 [Other]: <i>“Do you think the city should be taking steps to address climate change?”</i>	18
Question 33-4 [Other]: <i>“If you would like to reduce your carbon impact, what resources or information should the city provide to help achieve this?”</i>	19
Question 39: <i>“What do you like most about the City of Johnston?”</i>	21
Question 40: <i>“If you could change one thing about the City of Johnston, what would it be?”</i>	33
Question 41: <i>“Do you have any additional comments you would like to share?”</i>	45

Q6. What additional services would you like to see offered from the Police and Fire Departments?

- Add members who are experts in mental health
- Assist home owners with fire detectors.
- better control of noise and speed on NW 106th ST
- better enforcement of fireworks ban within city limits
- bike patrols, community presence at events
- Boys constantly trespassing. No response by police
- Changing out smoke detector batteries
- City should support both.
- community involvement
- community outreach program
- continue to be involved in schools
- continue with public awareness
- earn trust
- education
- Education programs for the public
- educational services-self defense
- emphasis on school safety and protection
- Enforce about the parking on streets on both sides.
- enforce ordinance about dogs running loose
- Even more interaction with the community and more promotion of the current programs.
- Expand advice on ways to protect our property
- Expand SRO, more- not less
- fire extinguisher disposal, ability to drop off
- FIRE PREVENTION. HOW TO SAFELY STOR FIREARMS. EDUCATION ON THE USE OF FIREARMS.
- fun events for kids
- Good job w/current systems
- good recruiting for police, fire and EMT
- Hire more police
- Historic Preservation Commission
- house checks during residents vacations
- I am glad I moved to Johnston, IA from Colorado. The city is beautiful, people are very friendly. Both the police and fire personnel are great to know they are always ready to be of service,
- I am satisfied with our Emergency response teams.
- I don't feel safe on the trails near Urbandale and Des Moines around terra lake and I35. I have seen homeless walk out of the woods near me and my kids. I don't like how they hang around right outside of city property aiming panhandling towards those entering our city. I quit walking near terra park with my kids because of fear of the homeless near there
- I would like to see the police and fire departments care and concern for the neighborhoods along NW Beaver and further out of the city be more evident. NW Beaver Dr is a madhouse with racing and such especially during the summer and theirs not a police car to be found out

here. I would like to see the next time a fire station is considered that it be located such that those in the NW Beaver area and further can be serviced more quickly.

- I'd love to see officers in the neighborhood more often.
- Impressed when fire dept came to our block party, kids loved the truck ! Thanks.
- Improve home vacation watch
- increased residential patrols when students are traveling to and from school
- Is there someone trained to help with mental health?
- K-9 Unit at high school help control the students.
- Like to see police presence back in the schools in light of the state legislature's current desire to have guns everywhere which makes me feel less safe in the community.
- Maintain crime prevention initiatives and practices.
- Monitor speeding/red lights along Merle Hay
- More and better communication on number of police calls and reports on home thefts and break ins etc. More information on what the police are doing to deter crime.
- more community engagement events
- More community events at the stations for children. They are present throughout our community which is amazing.
- more community events with officers
- More community involvement with everyone in our city
- more community outreach
- More frequent patrols
- More interaction with high school students
- MORE INTERACTION WITH YOUTH
- More officers patrolling areas with all the apartments
- More pancake breakfast
- More patrols of high school kids speeding after school.
- More presence in schools
- more public interaction in non-crises settings.
- More specialized training of the police force to handle atypical situations
- More ties to social workers to aid people in crisis
- more understanding of city codes
- more visibility
- More visible in the communities . Some educational events or sponsored fund raisers like dances and cookouts to support officer families or something like that.
- Near a siren near 100th and NW 54th, I have to go outside to barely hear them
- need for more, help to keep gangs out
- neighborhood watch guidelines and meetings
- Not additional services but continued/increased funding of "state of the art" training and equipment for both departments (e.g., professional certifications, latest robotic or drone equipment, ballistic body armor, etc.).
- Open house for both
- Open meetings for teens about safe driving

- Overall I believe the departments are doing a fine job. I hope the city is investing in proper training so Johnston will avoid the tragic police-minority situations that other cities have experienced. I believe there is value in proactive social programs so we aren't requiring our police officers to be social workers and mental health professionals.
- Perhaps police safety training - self defense, safety.
- plain clothes officers. When they are "armed to the teeth", less likely to call.
- Police and Fire Departments are doing good. Continue your good work. Catch more speeding in residential zone 25 speed limit areas
- police before and after school presence
- Positive reinforcement of the community by the police and fire departments. I think in the past metro area police departments, and maybe even Johnston, have pulled people over (or kids on bikes) for good behavior and offered a ticket for ice cream. Something like this, or the fire department showcasing a business that upgraded their sprinkler service, or officers acknowledging good Samaritans (people capturing lost dogs and calling the police, good driving, any citizen helping another) could help foster a greater sense of community.
- proactive engagement of police/fire/medical, outreach
- Programs for youth
- Public Firetruck/Police car Rides!
- Put SRO officers back in schools
- School programs
- self defense training, off leash dog area
- Smoke alarm checks.
- smoke alarm installation
- speed control, use of fireworks
- Stronger in schools to deter drugs.
- The national problem of bias should be police focus. Fire department needs more modern equipment
- they are awesome - just give them what they need to stay that way
- Trail patrols on bikes, especially Sycamore Trail. For a female, that trail can be very desolate during the middle of the day.
- Training police on mental illness
- updated equipment for Police, Fire and the K9 department
- volunteer service
- Want to make sure emergency responders are compensated appropriately to ensure we continue to have high quality employees.
- Would like to see more mental health training.

Q12. What kinds of additional outdoor recreational opportunities are needed?

- A bigger more central modern park for all ages
- a dog park
- A water park/theme park
- Access to swimming pool
- activities for 12 to 18.
- Additional on shore fishing spots. More outdoor dining.
- Additional pickleball courts, water pool/water park
- additional summer camps for children
- Adult league softball, sand volleyball, a suitable walking/running track (Summit track is horrible)
- Adult leagues for various sports
- Adult recreational team sports, leagues -- really, anything relating to adults. Everything in the pipeline is family oriented, but not everyone has school-aged kids.
- adult softball
- Adult softball leagues.
- Affordable rec offerings for kids
- Always like more trails perhaps highlight them and need benches to rest
- An additional basketball court in the Johnston Commons park area. The current court is always very busy and kids have to wait to play. I think a second court should be considered.
- Aquatic center
- Aquatic center
- Aquatic center
- Aquatic center
- aquatic center with lap pools
- archery/shooting range
- Benches along bike/ walking paths
- Better access for kids to play organized sports
- Bike club? Plant identification class? kids cooking?
- Bike paths improved in residential areas.
- Bike trails, upkeep on trails, fix bridges.
- Birdwatching, live music,
- Bocce Ball and Pickle Ball
- Build bridges on bike trails over creek
- city pool
- city pool
- city pool/park
- clean up after dogs on bike paths
- community center with playground
- community outdoor pool
- Community Picnics
- Community pool
- Community pool
- Community pool
- Community pool
- Community pool
- Community pool

- Community water park
- concerts
- concerts, exercises, art activities, food truck
- Connect Johnston to other trails!
- Connect trails to Urbandale trails, places to stop on trail
- connecting trails
- Continue to expand trail network and complete the Beaver Creek trail bridge
- continued development of trails bridges
- Cross country skiing and snow-shoeing
- Current opportunities are adequate
- Difficult to know where to access programs
- Disc golf
- Disc golf course, hockey, basketball, soccer fields
- dog park
- dog park
- dog park
- dog park
- dog park
- Dog park closer to 70th street Northglenn area. Lighting on trails. Things for older adults that are still working. We can't play pickleball at 10am.
- dog park, kayak access points
- easier way to get to trails
- enough is enough
- family aquatic
- family friendly, smaller groups
- Family pool, not just at the school
- Financial assistance
- Finish trail over river
- fireworks
- focus on trail development, include completion of planned segments
- for the younger ones.
- Frisbee golf
- Fully accessible park near child serve
- Gardening classes
- golf
- Greater variety of recreational sports for adults, more hiking, wooded trails, and organized nature hikes
- Guided walks for seniors
- Hiking, organized walks
- Horseshoes
- I would like a better variety of birding spots that is accessible by vehicle. I have a bad back and I'm unable to use walking trails.
- I would like to see exercise stations along a trail.
- I would love for the trail system to offer signs. We recently moved up here and this would really assist with getting to know and feeling comfortable on the trails/distance like other surrounding areas offer.

- ice skate rentals
- Increased programs and times
- Johnston needs a Disc Golf course in the city limits. Walnut Ridge may technically be listed as Johnston but it is a long ways away. Any opportunities for the land by the river to the west of the new development area off of Merle Hay Road? Even Grimes is getting a course. Repeating some of the current opportunities to offer a greater amount of overall activities could work. More nature programs about wildlife or repeating the different trees event that occurred one summer would be examples. Snow shoe hike or ice fishing events during the winter might be interesting.
- Johnston needs a public pool
- Johnston needs a sports plex with basketball, baseball, softball, etc.
- Johnston Swimming Pool & Activity Pool. Like Ankeny Cascade Falls
- keep bathrooms unlocked
- Keep the trail system in top shape. Overall all good, but the trail washouts and temporary fixes along Beaver Creek need to be remedied quicker. And the bridge over Beaver Creek to get to the Des Moines side has taken way to long to rebuild.
- larger parks, many only have climbing sections. Hard for ages 2 to 5.
- Local adult rec sports leagues
- longer stretches of bike trails with no traffic crossings
- Looking forward to opening of the dog park and hope it is comparable to the Ankeny dog park
- Looking forward to safer kayaking on beaver creek and the addition of a landing near Merle Hay rd.
- Make a cleaner and safer detour for the trestle bridge outage. This is a major connection for Johnston cyclists biking south. Coordinate with other city/county entities to build and maintain a better detour path.
- Maybe more communication as it relates to activities being offered
- Mini golf
- Mini golf, reg golf, go carts,
- Mini pitch field at Johnston Commons.
- More access to Beaver Creek. boat/canoe
- More activities geared toward families with young children
- More bands at Terra Park and maybe food trucks again
- MORE BATHROOMS. Water
- More benches at parks along trails
- More benches on Beaver Creek trail to rest, relax and take in the area. Maybe even tables.
- more bike and walking trails
- more bike trails, great work on getting 70th, NW Beaver all connected to the river trails. Time to work on a trail with Grimes to the west that ultimately connects to the trail along hickman that would open up a route to the western trails
- more connective trails like Clive Greenbelt
- more evening activities for working adults
- More events like kites on the green
- More family events
- More fish stocking. The city ponds get deleted by the end of the summer.
- More for middle and high school kids
- more for youth and seniors

- More interactive nature trails
- More kids programs for teenagers 13-16 yrs. old
- more parks
- More parks and trails
- More parks with basketball hoops/courts
- more pickle ball courts, sports lessons for adults,
- more pickleball courts
- more pickleball courts
- More programs for kids
- More public tennis courts
- More publicity for programs. I am often not aware
- More safer trails
- More senior programs
- More splash pad, enclosed shelters for rental, bike rental
- More times offered for popular classes
- more trails
- More trails for bikes and running
- more trails, better sidewalk connections
- More trails, disc golf
- More trails/better connections to current trails
- More walking/biking trails (esp. alongside high traffic roads; connect trails that exist.
- more winter destinations
- more yoga
- Most of the outdoor programs are for kids or families. More for seniors and single adults would be appreciated.
- Move Green Day's back to Library
- Multi-purpose rec facility
- music creation, concerts
- Need a pool, place for kids to hang out with positive activities.
- Need more pickleball courts.
- Need the trail bridge completed so we can ride safely
- nothing for adults , most are now for youth
- Opportunities seem to be good, just need to continue communication of opportunities.
- Outdoor concerts beyond Greed Days, Pickle ball courts.
- OUTDOOR CONSERVATION RESOURCE TRAINING.
- Outdoor pool.
- Outdoor pool/aquatic
- Outdoor shooting
- Outdoor theatre space for shows and music
- outdoor yoga in the park
- park trail, fishing ponds, gardens
- Pickleball & lighted tennis courts, outdoor pool
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts

- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- pickleball courts, bike paths, fix the bridge on bike path
- Pickleball courts, more trails to access
- Pickleball courts, pool, dog park
- pickleball courts, reconnect bike trail to Des Moines
- pickleball, dog parks
- pickleball, golf
- pickleball, more trails
- pickleball, swimming pool
- pickleball, swimming pool
- Pickleball, tennis
- picnics, events for seniors
- pool
- pool
- pool
- pool
- pool, more parks/nature play areas
- pool. The fake ice rink did not work. nice to have a real one.
- Pool/aquatic center (indoor & outdoor)
- Public swimming pool
- public swimming pool
- Quick repair of bike trails
- reconnect the bridge, add trails
- Rental equipment at Terra Lake
- Restroom at new playground by library. Restroom facilities at all playgrounds
- restrooms, shade shelters at Johnston Commons
- rock climbing, kayak shuttle, white water kayak park
- running/bike trails
- Sand Volleyball League
- Save green space.
- Senior activities
- shooting range
- shooting range
- shuffleboard, sand volleyball, bocce ball
- skateboarding, kayak lessons, archery lesson
- some league sports for adults would be fun - softball, kickball, volleyball
- Sports complex, water park
- sports leagues for adults
- Stop wasting money on worthless areas and projects like Terra park.

- street hockey net, basketball nets
- Summer outdoor pool
- swimming in a pool outside and/or partnerships with neighboring communities, we have to go to Urbandale/WDM/Ankeny and pay non resident rates, get a swimming pool Johnston!!
- Swimming pool
- Swimming pool
- Swimming pool
- Swimming pool
- Swimming pool
- Swimming pool
- Swimming pool
- Swimming pool facilities with coach and appropriate fees for training. More slots to accommodate children's aspiring to learn swimming
- Swimming pool similar to Clive/Waukee
- swimming pool, off road vehicle trail
- swimming pool, snowshoe and cross country ski trails.
- Swimming pool, water park
- tennis courts/pickleball courts, volunteer opportunities, potlucks, trail walk for community
- tennis, skateboarding, basketball, pickleball
- The parks and trails are amazing. They are a HUGE part of why we love Johnston. We're really excited about the kayak access to Beaver Creek. I'm not sure if this is within the city's jurisdiction, but the bike trail over Beaver Creek (under I-80) has been out for longer than we would have liked considering it's the primary access to downtown via trail.
- Those for adults and seniors.
- trail access
- Trail completed from Merle Hay to Beaver along NE 62nd please
- trails, expansive parks
- walking club
- water access points
- Water park
- water park, Frisbee golf
- We live on the northern side of Johnston, past NW 70th and down NW 100th. There is absolutely no safe way to ride a bike on NW 100th to get up to NW 70th and join up with the rest of the bike trails or sidewalks in the city from this area. NW 100th has not been kept up as this part of town has grown; oftentimes, chunks of the road are repaired, taking the heavily traveled road down to one lane. There are two huge developments north of NW 70th, one two lane road to use to get directly to them. No sidewalks on this road, no safe bike trails. There are huge drop offs on the side of each lane. There are large construction trucks that use this road on a daily basis and the speed limit is 40 mph. So much emphasis has been placed on NW 86th St sidewalks and paths, but what about these other areas of the city that need this sooner than later. I understand it's in the plan for 2025, but these improvements are needed now, even though they are in a less visible part of the city.
- We would like to see an expansion of the beautiful existing trail system. More youth programming. We REALLY need an outdoor community pool. An expansion of youth and adult recreational outdoor activities.

- weekend activities for children 2 to 5
- Wider Sidewalks and sidewalks to all parks
- winter activities for seniors
- yoga
- yoga
- yoga for senior citizens

Q13. What kinds of additional indoor recreational opportunities are needed?

- a facility like Crown Point for the whole community. With tennis, billiards, etc.
- A YMCA facility with exercise, pool, track, courts
- additional gym space
- additional indoor basketball courts
- Adult basketball and volleyball league
- Adult volleyball leagues that are affordable and for fun, should be a leisure and competitive bracket. Would also like more activities for younger kids, prek+ like swimming lessons and basketball
- Affordable rec offerings for kids
- All-inclusive Community theatre
- another pool for community only
- Any with more shade
- aquatic center with lap pools
- Arcade, bowling/roller skating rink
- Art classes
- arts and crafts
- Awareness. I'm not aware of any
- basketball, bowling
- better space and time management for kids sport practices
- board games
- Bocce Ball and Pickle Ball
- Bowling alley
- Bowling alley
- Bowling alley in the old Dahl's/Price Chopper on 86th.
- city pool/indoor, more swimming lesson options. pool therapy
- Community basketball courts. Place to play a pick up game
- Community center where people can go and work out.
- community center with tot time/activities
- Community center, like a YMCA
- community center, pool, gym
- community rec center with lap swim lanes, steam room
- Craft projects for every age
- Curling
- Current opportunities are adequate
- dance lessons, pickleball
- decent meeting space for groups
- dog park
- Don't think we need anything
- entertainment
- Exercise classes for seniors at Crowne Point
- Exercise facility
- exercise programs for adults that are not extreme
- Exercise programs like yoga
- exercise/yoga

- family activity center
- Family center like a YMCA
- Gathering opportunities for neighbors.
- group board games / card game tournaments
- Groups for single adults
- gyms
- Help with financial assistance programs
- ice skating, firing range
- Increased options and times
- Indoor basketball for youth that is easily accessible, i.e. not in a school building
- indoor exercise programs for seniors
- indoor golf driving range
- indoor gym
- Indoor pickleball courts
- Indoor pickleball, make swimming more accessible at Summit
- indoor public pool
- Indoor soccer
- Indoor soccer
- Indoor soccer for kids
- Indoor sports facility
- Indoor sports facility
- Indoor swimming
- indoor swimming
- Indoor Swimming and Indoor sports complex for public with nominal fee
- indoor tennis, basketball courts
- indoor tennis, pickleball, golf simulator
- Indoor walking facility during winter
- indoor walking in winter
- Indoor walking trail
- indoor year round pool
- Indoor zip line
- It seems all programs for senior citizens are during the day. Many of us are still working full-time and would enjoy the opportunity to be involved and meet other people.
- Large indoor fitness center
- Local adult rec sports leagues
- Local pool/waterpark for the kids.
- More activities geared for younger children and toddlers
- More adult education classes
- More awareness of JPL offerings.
- more bike trails
- more drop in locations
- More food and activity business
- more for senior singles
- More in the winter when you cannot get out.
- More indoor and outdoor pickleball courts
- more open gym time

- More pickleball courts
- More pool space for swim teams, swimming lessons, and open lap swimming.
- More programs for adults.
- More programs for kids...like a YMCA
- more senior activities
- More swimming lessons offered
- More things for older adults that aren't during g work hours. Some of us still work.
- more time
- More time for adult pickleball
- movies, family games.
- Nice modern bowling alley
- older children volleyball lessons, Zumba
- open gym areas, community center
- Open gym time
- Outdoor and indoor pool for laps.
- Pickle Balls & Basketball Courts. Like Wes Des Moines Community Center. Use old Price Chopper or Dahls building on 86th PERFECT!!
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts
- pickleball courts indoor
- pickleball, badminton
- Pickleball, line dance
- pickleball, place to walk in cold months
- pickleball, table tennis
- Pickleball/tennis
- play areas for young kids
- Pool
- Pool
- Pool
- Pool
- Pool/aquatics
- Public access to basketball and Pickleball
- Public fitness center
- Public pool, more splash pads

- Public swimming pool that is kid friendly
- racquetball
- racquetball, tennis basketball, pickleball
- rec center for kids entertainment
- Recreational leagues, exercise classes at times when people who work downtown can attend.
- senior activity classes
- senior basketball
- senior center like Patterson Senior center in St Joseph Mo
- Senior programs
- senior social and exercise groups, traveling or with transport
- Seniors need more opportunities, like Urbandale Senior centers.
- shooting range
- shopping mall
- Smash park like facility
- Sports Complex
- Swimming
- swimming
- swimming lessons and swimming opportunities, this community doesn't have that. The school district is not providing sufficient opportunities.
- swimming pool
- swimming pool
- swimming pool
- swimming pool
- swimming pool, gym, place to walk and run
- Swimming pools for adults.
- TABLE TENNIS, POOL, VOLLEYBALL
- Teen age activities
- Tennis courts
- The library offers adult crafts once a month, could Crowne Point do something similar so this is every other week? Expanded crafts, or presentations/talks/guest speakers?
- Those for adults and seniors.
- Upscale walking facility
- Use of Crown point Community center
- walking trail
- We could really use an expansion to a community center, including a workout facility and indoor pool. This would be similar to a YMCA. Since we pay a VERY significant amount of money for property taxes every year, we feel the tax dollars could be utilized to expand services to bring the community together. We are appreciative of what you do, but feel the expansion of the community center should be focused on items that bring our community together, like a community pool, year-round recreation opportunities.
- We need a recreation center
- Woodworking sight for adults. I would pay to use.
- Would be nice to have a indoor family complex for working out as well as have indoor turf for kids to play on.
- year round swimming for seniors
- YMCA

- yoga
- yoga
- yoga for seniors
- yoga, in a reasonable location , not at 5 am.
- youth basketball and volleyball
- Zumba gold, Silver Sneakers

Q22-10. [Other] Which TWO of the following benefits of economic development are MOST IMPORTANT to you?

- better shopping
- decrease property tax
- Development or reuse of empty businesses along 86th street. Price Chopper and BK look terrible.
- Dining & shopping options
- environment
- high-density housing, etc., has contributed to safety issues in Johnston, especially along Merle Hay Rd.
- Inclusivity, equity, and belonging visible, supported, and demonstrated throughout the city programs and community as a priority
- Mass transit to get from the west side of the city to the east side where the library, city hall, town center are at. Retail shopping - clothing, shoes, etc. - not just services.
- More local businesses
- More racial, social and economic diversity in the population living in Johnston and more diversity training and education within local school system and businesses.
- restaurants
- no more apartments
- restaurants
- restaurants
- Restaurants and shopping
- retail
- support current businesses
- taxes too high
- Working with developers and businesses to make sure they are picking up trash that has blown into neighboring fields, drainage areas, fences, etc.

Q28-9. [Other] Which ONE of the following is the primary reason you have chosen to live in Johnston?

- affordability, safety, convenience, trail system.
- affordable 9 years ago
- affordable housing
- can't afford to move
- Child serve
- Close to work. Quiet
- Combination of work at Corteva, loved the neighborhood our home is in, excellent schools, and more stable community in terms of extreme growth. (Compared to Ankeny, the community we moved from.)
- Easy access to western Iowa & family. Easy access to I-80/35 for work, shopping, travel, etc.
- Ex-wife is from here.
- found a house we like
- found a lot to build on
- Found a townhome and close to where we used to live in Urbandale, so familiar with the area, like the area.
- found current home
- Good location for my needs
- got a lot to build on
- house
- Hyperion
- It's where my husband lived when we got married.
- Liked my house
- location
- location
- Location in relationship to work- didn't want to drive 235
- Location versus Ankeny or west of Des Moines and size of house.
- Moved here for the school system
- new townhome
- Proximity to Saylorville
- Proximity to the lake and quality of schools. However, due to the 2021 mask mandates imposed while Iowa had a law in place against them, the school's refusal to accommodate remote learning for our son, threatening disciplinary action against students who did not comply with face covering all day 5 days a week, we removed our student from Johnston schools. This has been a very frustrating experience for us since we chose Johnston based on our perceived quality of the schools and our son's desire to attend Johnston.
- Saylorville Lake
- Vintage cooperative of Johnston

Q32-3. [Other] Do you think the city should be taking steps to address climate change?

- Anything we can do that is low/no cost to residents we should do. Or if it is an investment that will generate a return on costs. But taking on significant costs or increasing taxes is not worth it unless there are additional reasons to do so. Something like planting trees in great, beautifies, shade, cools area in summer, and pulls carbon out of air.
- City should be aware of the issue and consider when making future decisions
- Climate change is a stupid idea created by liberals and it's worth anything in our Johnston community since we have little manufacturing here!!!
- depends on what the steps are
- Depends. And I would hope that if these plans are being considered that the city will make sure to include all partners and get input from a variety of stakeholders.
- Don't ignore but use common sense in decisions.
- fine having parks and trees
- I think we all should do what we can and the city can help to educate the community about options, but I don't think you need to buy all new electric cars.
- keep planting trees
- make things available but do not force
- research alternatives
- respond to change like storm water efforts
- Small steps at low expense
- too vague
- yes if it does not cost a ton.

Q33-4. [Other] If you would like to reduce your carbon impact, what resources or information should the city provide to help achieve this?

- Additional tax deductions or subsidies. I think many people would like to install solar and the like however inputs are exceptionally expensive with a long payback period.
- Began or vegetarian restaurant. CO is a bigger problem than CO2.
- city action
- city actions, charging stations
- City should stay out of the false margarine of climate change.
- city vehicles
- collect and use rain water
- community awareness
- composting
- create an app
- Define and set goals to reduce the city's environmental impacts.
- email newsletter
- Everything you can find! The rain barrel initiative is great - more things like that, that incentivize activities. How about grants for solar power? Many of our neighborhoods are well suited to solar!
- free car charging
- HOA should not be allowed to prevent owners having solar panels
- incentive to save energy
- Incentives
- Incentives
- Incentives
- Incentives
- incentives - like the rain water garden incentive.
- Integrate electric vehicles into city fleet
- mailing
- More charging stations. Expanded DART options. Expanding bike system. Rebates and refunds to home owners for improvements to home. Offering services locally so we shop close to home, and not spending resources on more strip malls and soap shops. Continues improvement to the water ways and encouraging outdoor activities. Yes, do climate change improvements, but be practical. A website saying that climate change is bad is not helpful. Cash back incentives to improve my carbon footprint are useful.
- more recycling
- more recycling events
- newsletter
- Plant trees, do a carbon study, make a carbon plan and goal, have E charge stations, change over city fleet, add solar, help the schools add solar and change fleet, stop clearing forests, utilize urban wood, have food waste recycling, add a vegan restaurant, and then plant more trees - the city should lead by example
- solar options
- Stronger codes and ordinances with incentives and enforcement. More trail information.
- TEACHING HOW AND WHAT RESULTS, DEMONSTRATIONS AND SUCCESS STORIES.
- use carbon concrete.

- videos to educate
- We don't need to worry about anything climate related!

Q39. What do you like most about the City of Johnston?

- A substantial QoL improvement was bringing in Metronet as a fiber option. Otherwise I love that Johnston had a small town feel in the city. The number of big box stores are kept at a minimum.
- access to all I need
- Access to trails, location
- Accessibility, trails, safety
- Affordability
- affordable house
- Beautiful city, clean, safe, friendly , convenient location
- BEAUTY AND SAFETY
- Beaver Creek corridor
- Being close to what we need, still small enough
- Bike trails
- Bike trails
- bike trails, no traffic jams.
- calm, pace of life
- Central location
- Centralized location in the DSM metro
- City is clean and safe.
- clean
- clean and friendly
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe
- Clean and safe community.
- clean friendly
- clean simple
- Clean trails and streets
- clean, easy access to grocery, shopping and restaurants
- clean, friendly and grocery stores are close
- Clean, friendly, small town living
- Clean, moderate traffic and good schools.
- clean, nice hometown feel
- Clean, progressive city. Great place to retire.
- Clean, respected
- clean, safe environment, forward thinking
- Clean, safe, good quality of life.
- Clean, safe, good schools
- clean, safe, small city. Educational reputation
- Clean, safety, good schools
- clean, schools, upkeep

- clean, small town
- Cleanliness
- Cleanliness
- cleanliness, feeling safe, friendliness
- close to all
- Close to city amenities but not overcrowded (yet)
- close to DM, Ankeny and Grimes
- Close to everything
- close to highway
- close to many amenities
- close to my family
- close to shopping
- Close to work
- Close to work and shopping. Small town feel.
- comfort/safety
- Commitment to education
- Community
- Community
- Community feel , easy access
- Convenience
- convenient
- convenient
- Convenient access to Interstate, other local cities (Grimes, Urbandale, West Des Moines) for shopping, dining and yet Johnston is small and more residential.
- convenient location
- Convenient location, rural feel
- Diversity of properties
- ease of getting around
- Easy access to I-80/35.
- Easy access to interstates which also gives access to other suburbs while maintaining small town feel.
- Easy access to the interstate
- easy access, clean
- easy in and out
- easy to get around
- Easy to get around, location
- Easy to get around, people are nice
- Education .
- education, close to work, appearance of landscape
- El Marachi
- essential retail is near.
- Everything I need is close.
- Excellent quality of life, schools
- family is here
- Feel safe
- Feel safe

- feeling of smallness
- Feeling safe and the overall standard of living access to everything I need close by
- Feels like a small town. It is beautiful and a great education for my kids unless the school board ruins it.
- Formally was the quality of the schools
- Forward thinking community with good quality of life
- Fresh, progressive, can do attitude
- Friendliness
- Friendliness
- Friendliness
- friendly , small town feel
- friendly community
- friendly people and safety
- friendly people, small town feel , public service
- Friendly people.
- Friendly people.
- friendly postal workers
- friendly, safe
- Generally safe, not too much traffic.
- good neighbors, great schools, community feel
- Good place to live
- Good place to raise a family
- good quality of services, schools and parks
- good reputation for living
- Good school system
- Good school system
- Good schools and small town feel
- good schools, bike trails
- Good traffic flow, quiet and safe neighborhoods, plenty of places to walk
- Grass
- Great community, small town feel, easy access
- great neighborhoods
- Great opportunities in education and city growth
- Great people, schools, safe, beautiful
- Great place to live
- Great place to live
- Great place to live
- Great place to raise a family
- Great school, small town feel
- Great schools, we feel safe. We enjoy the bike trails.
- Great schools, well maintained, friendly suburb and great location to everything in the metro area
- Great trails, convenient to reach downtown or other suburbs, excellent schools, and good restaurants.
- Green areas, great schools.
- green grass and trees. clean

- Green space
- Green space
- Greenbelt
- grocery stores and parks, trails
- High quality of living, small town feel, great school system
- High standard of living and schools
- Higher standard of living, schools, pride in the city
- home town feeling
- home town feeling
- How safe it feels to raise a family.
- How the city manages everything
- Hyperion
- I did like the quiet.
- I like the bedroom community, quieter than other suburbs. We have a great quality of life in the wide open spaces and green spaces we enjoy.
- I like the location and the neighborhood.
- I like the sense of community.
- I like the small town feel.
- It is a clean town
- It is a community that is engaged with people.
- It is a Friendly vibrant community.
- It is a good place for a family.
- It is a nice, clean community to live in.
- It is a quiet community with easy access.
- It is a small city, but not too small.
- It is clean and helpful.
- It is clean, I feel safe here.
- It is safe for my children
- It's home
- It's quiet, safe
- It's centrally located to all the places we need to go for our activities- WDM for junior high orchestra, church, dance, scouts; Ankeny for other activities; DM for hospital, doctors, etc.
- It's clean.
- It's close to everything, but doesn't feel like a big city.
- It's higher quality of living, clean city, low on crime.
- It's not overcrowded.
- Kind and diverse people, neighborhoods, public education
- Kite on the Green
- landscape, trees, Beaver Creek, trails
- leadership, vision. Schools. Hometown feel
- library, parks, trails, splashpad, schools
- Living on a quiet street
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location

- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- Location
- location , safe, close to other cities
- Location and biking paths
- Location and pride
- location in the metro, my neighbors!
- location to my work
- Location, not large and crowded.
- location, safety, schools
- location, size of community.
- location, trails. trees, walking paths
- location. Small town feel.
- lots of young families
- lovely neighborhoods
- low crime, feel safe here
- low crime, safe
- Middle size city
- Minimal crime
- Moved here for the quality of the schools and the proximity of to my job in Des Moines plus the small-town atmosphere. That was 40 plus years ago. Now all that has changed and not for the better! As Johnston has grown all of the quality of the schools and city services have deteriorated.
- My home.
- My hometown
- My neighborhood
- My neighbors
- My neighbors and other residents I know
- My neighbors, bike trail
- Near to grocery, bank, etc.
- Neighborhoods, walkable, trails
- new development-sports complex and Merle Hay Rd
- New ice rink
- newer neighborhood
- Nic housing and neighbors
- Nice clean city
- nice community, close to work, affluent
- Nice place to live
- Nice place to live

- Nice place to live
- not a lot of thru traffic
- Not crowded, easy to get to where I want to go.
- Offer services to all
- orderly, peaceful
- Our neighborhood and the small town feel
- Outdoor amenities: parks, trails, beaver creek
- outdoor options
- outdoor recreation
- Outdoor recreation and our neighborhood
- Overall a comfortable, safe, friendly town that is healthy and growing
- Parks, trails, access to interstate
- parks, trails, small town feel
- peaceful
- Peaceful family friendly community
- people
- people and schools
- people and schools
- People are surface friendly. I'm finding it very difficult as a transplant to find any deep relationships here.
- people, community, trails
- privacy
- proximity to outside recreations
- Proximity to all amenities.
- proximity to Des Moines
- Proximity to Des Moines and interstates
- proximity to family and work
- Proximity to interstate and safety
- Proximity to other communities w YMCA
- Proximity to parks/countryside. Safety.
- Proximity to the lake and shopping / dining in Ankeny
- quality housing
- quality of amenities
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life
- Quality of life, quiet
- Quality of life, safe
- quality of life, size
- Quality of living

- Quality of living
- Quality of living
- Quality of living
- quality of living, not to crazy busy, feeling of small town close to the big city, access to large communities,
- quality of living, schools
- Quality of services and schools
- Quiet
- Quiet
- Quiet
- Quiet
- Quiet
- quiet and beautiful surroundings
- Quiet and safe
- Quiet and safe
- quiet community, friendly people
- quiet, clean
- Quiet, convenient
- Quiet, family friendly
- Quiet, great neighbors
- quiet, property values
- quiet, well maintained
- quiet, mature neighborhood
- recreational activities
- Recreational amenities
- Recreational opportunities.
- Relatively quiet neighborhoods that are well kept with easy access to the bike/walking trail system.
- residential area with light traffic, friendly people
- rivers and trails
- Roundabouts
- Safe
- Safe
- Safe
- Safe
- safe and quiet
- Safe and welcoming
- safe clean , easy access to I 80
- Safe clean town
- Safe community, not a lot of traffic
- Safe place to live
- Safe place to live
- Safe place to raise my family, good schools
- safe, bike trails
- safe, clean
- safe, clean, not busy

- safe, clean, trails, beauty
- safe, friendly , clean
- Safe, quiet, proximity to DSM.
- safe, schools
- safe, schools
- safe, small, most things I need are nearby
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- safety and cleanliness
- safety, concern for seniors
- safety, green spaces
- safety, neighborhood
- safety, new growth/development
- safety, schools.
- safety, small
- Safety, small town feel, close proximity to Amenities like shopping, dining, entertainment etc..
- safety, the library
- Saylorville
- School and community of people
- School district
- School district
- School district
- school district, clean, nice housing options
- School system
- School system
- school system, friendly people
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools
- Schools for our kids

- small town feel, neighbors are awesome
- Small town feel, quality schools
- Small town feel, safety
- small town feel, safety, neighborhoods, schools
- small town feel, school system
- small town feel. Great school system, Wonderful parks and trail
- Small town feeling, friendly people
- Small town Hy-Vee
- small town life
- small town reel, bike trails
- Small town, access to Des Moines
- small town, good schools, trails, parks
- small town, low traffic
- Smaller feel but easy access to other areas
- smaller size, friendliness
- Space, does not feel all crammed together
- Suburban, safe, close to DSM
- Terra Park
- That it is close to everything
- The “country” setting where we live - mature trees.
- The amount of undeveloped areas
- The community is very clean, friendly and peaceful.
- The family atmosphere
- The feel of the town
- The landscape. The natural topography of the area makes it very pretty.
- The library
- The library
- The local feel and the ability to feel safe
- The mature trees throughout neighborhoods
- The new development of the town center. We need more businesses to improve lifestyle.
- The overall quality and both public and private investments really make people have a sense of pride in our community. It is great to access our trail system and connect with nature. We also love the roundabouts to keep traffic flowing.
- The people
- The people are friendly
- The people, a positive community
- The quality of life and proximity to work. Safe, comfortable and accessible.
- The safety
- The schools
- The sense of community/neighbors. Slowly diminishing with the building of apartments.
- The size and location
- The small town feel, and my neighbors.
- The trail system and location.
- The trails, my house, most of my neighbors
- The walking trails, friendly people
- The welcoming feel

- trail system
- Trail system and convenience
- Trail system is safe and clean
- Trails
- Trails and parks
- Trails and parks
- Trails and parks
- trails, safety
- Trails, traffic is lights, schools.
- Used to like small conservative feel. Lately it has gotten very liberal and too inclusive. Used to like the high education and income levels Pioneer promoted for us.
- Van Dees
- Very little crime, nice place to live
- Very livable city with nice quality of life.
- Very nice and secure place to live.
- walkability, bike trails, handy to interstate
- walking trails
- We feel safe here
- We feel very safe here.
- We have lived here for almost 20 years; we moved here because of the school district and small town feel and people had a lot of pride in their city. Now, it does not feel like people have pride for the city, the schools are overly crowded and there are way too many apartments. Taxes are outrageous and I don't necessarily feel I am getting the value we thought we would.
- We were very lucky to find a great starter home here. The city is not too big or busy, but has great companies.
- Welcoming attitude, focus on green.
- Well run city with good services
- Where I live, it is very quiet.

Q40. If you could change one thing about the City of Johnston, what would it be?

- 54th st go thru to Merle Hay
- A Catholic Church
- A city is not a growth industry.
- a direct route
- A grocery store along the 86th st corridor
- A less dictational school board
- A more defined town center
- A much greater focus on green spaces. More parks, turn most sidewalks into multi use trails by widening them, plant more trees in medians/along roads, disc golf course
- A new city owned golf course
- A new Mayor. Fresh leadership
- A Pool like that we have festivals in the kite flying
- A retail center of town.
- A specific downtown with retail, restaurants and events
- able to have an outdoor swimming pool
- Add a community center
- Add a municipal swimming pool
- Add a pool/community center
- Add a public indoor pool. Using the school pool for fitness classes is difficult with swim team coordination. An affordable public gym option would be nice too
- Add a real senior center
- Add an aquatic center
- Add city pool. More restaurants
- Add more casual restaurants
- add more retail
- Add more townhomes communities and focus on the center of Johnston County.
- Add outdoor pool/water park
- add Swim pool. Lower property taxes
- Addition of a brewery or nice sports bar.
- additional recreation center
- Affordability (homes & businesses)
- AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR RENT AND PURCHASE.
- All good.
- All old trees being cut down for developments.
- Another east west street to connect MHR and 86th
- aquatic center with lap lanes
- Ban apartments
- Be greener; actively tackle climate change
- being zoned for closest school. Currently zoned for across the town
- Better bicycle trail detour around the trestle bridge outage
- better communication
- Better communication with residents
- Better connector trails
- Better development more focused on people and less focused on cars

- better dining and entertainment
- Better east/west access. I rarely drive over to merle hay road due to
- Better economic development
- Better enforcement of quiet hours by police
- better environmental stewardship
- Better Living Amenities Like Hospitals, more Restaurants, City maintained sport complex with indoor swimming
- better maintained bike trails, huge gaps
- better restaurants
- Better restaurants and more connected walking and biking paths
- Better roads
- better shopping locally
- Better side streets
- better sidewalk maintenance and fee limb pickup
- Better streets
- Better streets and restaurants
- Better system to clean up dog poo in public areas
- Better turnover in city council members
- Better youth facilities
- bigger tax base
- Bring in more business
- Build fewer apartments
- Cater more to retired people.
- Cease Building new apartments and townhomes.
- Centralized business district
- Change the way planning is done to incorporate the feel of old time .
- City center with a YMCA or similar. Having a heart of the community where health and well being are emphasized.
- City council and zoning
- Clean up Merle Hay Road. It's very rough looking especially north of the interstate.
- clean up old part of town
- clean up, enforce codes
- Community aquatic center
- Community pool, more dining
- concerned about Chapel Hill Apartments
- Connect the trails
- conservative politics
- Continue to expand the trail system
- Continue to work on Merle Hay and 86th entrances
- Coordinated traffic signals
- Cost of housing is too expensive.
- cost of rentals
- Crime from homeless in Des Moines and Urbandale
- Develop a vibrant "downtown" with restaurants and shopping
- Diversity
- Diversity

- diversity, esp. SEC
- Do not like roundabouts
- Do not ruin the small town feel
- Dog parks
- Don't plow into my driveway when it snows.
- Don't try to be a City for all people.
- Don't waste money
- easier and more direct access to bike trails to the north of old part of city
- Easier to walk/access for pedestrians
- Economic development
- economic growth. 86th st. looks like a ghost town.
- Eliminate section 8 housing by library
- Empty Price Chopper and Burger King on 86th
- encouraging pioneer to recapture their home.
- enforce code on dogs, pick up feces
- enhance trail system
- entertainment district
- Entertainment- restaurants, sports bars
- Expansion of sewer service
- Expensive projects funded by taxpayer
- Feel more like a small town.
- feeling of safety
- Fewer apartment complexes! Focus on individual family homes and stop cutting down all the trees
- Fewer apartments
- Fewer apartments
- Fewer apartments
- Fewer apartments
- Fewer walking/bike trails
- Fill or replace empty businesses on 86th street.
- Fill the empty businesses
- Fill the vacant Price Chopper on 86th St.
- Fix my street. Stonepointe Lane
- focus on bike trails and kayak trails
- Focus on single family housing.
- Fox 86th street re pave it WAY PAST TIME
- Get a rec center
- Get rid of all the apartments
- Get rid of bright green colors on the outside Of Dollar Tree, so tacky
- Get rid of the roundabouts
- grocery on west side of town
- Grocery store on 86th, Fast Food, Merle Hay and 86th
- Have a nice French restaurant
- Have dining options, breweries, pubs, local not chains
- Have more entertainment/restaurants/bar choices
- Have quality restaurants and entertainment options

- Have quality shopping and dining like Ankeny. Our Hy Vee is in desperate need of improvement and I often drive to Grimes or Ankeny to grocery shop.
- Having more retail locations to shop at.
- High property taxes
- High taxes
- Higher quality day care option, better staff
- I am on the edge of grimes, so tend to go there for all of my spending/shopping. I wish there was more opportunity to spend my \$ locally in my city.
- I understand that Johnston is a mostly younger people and families, but it would be nice if Johnston had more senior programs, like Urbandale, or maybe cooperation with other close cities and their senior programs.
- I wish the city would consider residents more.
- I wish we had a centralized “downtown”. The layout of Johnston feels very disjointed so you go into places but you don’t have that feeling of community that you get with a downtown area.
- I wish we had more shopping.
- I worry about all the new apartments getting run down.
- I would like to see less trash everywhere. Maybe it is from how the trash is collected, but there is litter everywhere
- I would like to see more medium-sized housing. The homes seem to be either fairly new and large or somewhat older and small.
- Ice cream business
- I'd like to see more entertainment options to keep residents from going elsewhere to spend their leisure time.
- If it had a pool like most of the other suburbs.
- Improve East/West traffic
- improve flow of traffic from east to west
- Improve Merle Hay Road condition
- Improve on vacancies in 86th corridor
- improve road upkeep and attention to roadway landscape and upkeep.
- Improve streets and traffic flow.
- Improve the quality of our school system by going back to teaching the basics: reading, writing, math. science and history! Way too much time and money are now spent on indoctrination of children in areas that detract from what schools should be teaching to prepare our children for the future. Too much political indoctrination such as CRT, gay rights, BLM etc.
- Improve the streets
- improved traffic flow
- In-City Cemetery
- inclusive, no one left out
- Increased diversity
- Indoor recreation center
- Johnston needs more entertainment/restaurants
- Keep more of the trees. Makes Johnston feel more country than city
- Keep politics out of school system
- Keep the potholes fixed
- less apartments
- less apartments

- less apartments
- less apartments
- less apartments
- less apartments
- Less apartments and big development like the stupid golf thing that tore down so many trees
- Less apartments going up
- Less city involvement in our lives
- Less crazy new school board members
- less diversity
- less low income apartments
- less multi family housing
- less reliance on a car to get around
- Less roundabouts
- less traffic
- less traffic on Merle Hay Rd
- Library is ugly.
- Looking forward to the City's continued investment in Lew Clarkson Park.
- love it here
- Lower property tax
- Lower property tax
- Lower property tax
- Lower property tax
- Lower property tax
- Lower property taxes and prices on houses right now.
- Lower Property taxes for Senior citizens
- lower real estate tax for seniors and reverse decisions that have contributed to increased safety concerns
- lower taxes
- lower taxes
- lower taxes
- lower taxes
- lower taxes
- lower taxes
- lower taxes
- lower taxes
- lower taxes, more friendly bike trails
- Maintain better streets, roads
- Maintain the streets and grassy areas better. Grass on 54th Ave is awful.
- Make improvements to business and road on Merle hay
- Make the flumes on our Green Meadows green belt tidier
- Make the population more diverse
- make the water cheaper
- mayor
- Mini pitch.
- Monitor street parking.
- more access to other trails

- More access to regional trails
- More adult and family friendly entertainment, social options
- More adult senior activities
- more affordable
- more affordable and diverse housing
- More amenities
- more attractions
- More bar/grill type food options
- more bathroom on trails
- More benches, accessible sidewalks in winter, less lighting
- More bus drivers for the school. The stress of schooling insecurities and schedules has me considering moving
- More business, live local food option
- More businesses
- More businesses
- More businesses
- More businesses to expand the tax base and reduce taxes on residential property owners.
- More casual and fine dining options, more specialty shops, more recreational options
- More casual dining options
- More casual restaurants
- more casual/fine dining
- More commitment to reducing externalized environmental costs.
- More convenient restaurants and outdoor recreation options
- More decision from residents
- More dining and music opportunities
- more dining options, not fast food
- More diversity
- More diversity
- More diversity
- More diversity
- More diversity of individuals, lifestyle preferences and understanding of others differences.
- More diversity of people in the community
- More diversity so my child grows up with more diverse people
- More downtown shopping, create a downtown that is not a hotel or carwash
- More entertainment and shopping
- More entertainment/dining opportunities
- More fast food restaurants, more dining in restaurants, more retail stores
- More fine dining restaurants
- More food options
- More food selections on Merle Hay. Bring TASTY TACOS & Runza to Johnston
- More for public works for upkeep on streets, high quality of service
- more gluten free restaurants
- more housing options, less apartments
- More indoor / outdoor play areas for kids/family
- More locally owned restaurants
- More mom and pop businesses

- more restaurants, enclosed shelters for rent
- More restaurants, entertainment and shopping
- More restaurants, entertainment options
- More restaurants, less apartments
- more Restaurants, variety
- More restaurants. More of town center feel somewhere
- More retail
- More retail
- More retail
- More retail
- More retail, restaurants/entertainment
- More retail, swimming pool, dog park
- More senior living & housing options.
- More services/amenities for our tax dollars
- More shopping
- More shopping
- More shopping and entertainment options
- More shopping in Johnston
- More sit down restaurants, grocer store at old Price Chopper location
- More small businesses and diversity of services
- More snow removal at night
- More socio-economic diversity.
- More things to do
- More trails
- More trails
- More trails
- More trails
- More trails
- more variety of restaurants
- More ways to cross from east to west. Living on the east side its slow to get to Lew Clarkson and that part of town
- more west/south and east/west streets
- Most retail and fast food are right out of Johnston city limits. Would be good to get some of those establishments in city limits.
- Move Green Days Celebration away from Terra Park
- Need an obelisk clock tower in town square. No more apartments. July 4th Fireworks show !
- Need more entertainment options
- Need more retail, improve current retail.
- Need more senior activities
- Need to implement a sidewalk inspection program
- Need to revie 86th street corridor. need good restaurants, grocery
- New businesses and restaurants.
- Nice restaurants
- No more apartments
- No more apartments or low cost housing , and shopping
- No more expansion.
- no more Mexican restaurants

- No more Mexican restaurants, need more variety
- No section 8 housing
- More fine dining, retail stores
- Northbound Merle hay rd. Right lane is way too rough for a brand new street from 62nd to the lions club corner. Can't believe this work was accepted from the contractor.
- Not so many apartments
- Not sure, not a real community square.
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing on a large scale
- NW 106th is too loud and cars are too fast.
- Pay less taxes
- People-I wish they would be more inclusive
- Piling of snow in the driveways of elderly and handicapped citizens.
- plans for growth - more things that make me want to spend leisure time here
- Plant trees , landscape the miles of concrete
- Please stop building large apartment complexes.
- pool area for kids and families
- Property tax reduction
- Property taxes
- Property taxes
- Property taxes are too high
- Protect more green space
- Public pool
- Put something in the closed Price Chopper building on 86th
- Quit building apartments
- Quit putting importance of bike trails over roadways that need maintained
- Really need a dog park or two.
- Receive communication from the city via email.
- recycling every week
- Reduce amount of traffic on Nerle Hay
- reduce apartment and low income housing
- Reduce property taxes
- Reduce property taxes
- reduce the number of apartments
- Reduce the number of multi family rental housing and move back to single family homes to foster ownership in the community
- Remove 3/4 of the apartments
- remove low income housing
- Repair 86th street from Interstate to 70th - there are too-many patched potholes and the road is way too bumpy.
- Repair sidewalks and remove the snow for walkers.
- replace all the trees lost to developers
- restaurant selection
- restaurants, shopping and entertainment

- Restrooms at all the parks
- Return to civility - Johnston used to be a friendly, accepting place, but not all anyone wants to do is be mean to you if you don't agree with them. (I sound like I'm a cranky, 80-year-old grandpa - I swear, I'm not!)
- Reward teachers. Personnel limit parents complaints about education.
- road projects done quickly, too many apartments
- roads for future development
- Roundabouts are annoying, Plant native pollinators in green spaces.
- safe and quality living environment
- school board
- school board is going too far in several issues
- school district
- school district is no longer what it used to be. Planning on moving
- School improvements have fallen off lately
- Schools have grown too much.
- Schools need to be responsive to parents and not following national programs that are not approved by parents
- Schools seem to be going down hill. Too much harassment and bullying allowed among students esp. in the Middle School
- shopping
- shorty pages, way toooooo many
- Should have a recreational water pool/water park.
- Slow down housing development and save open spaces
- Slow down on building apartments
- Slow progress on Town Center
- Smooth out these bumpy streets(Merle Hay Rd and Pioneer)
- snow removal
- So many roundabouts....
- Stop being concerned about climate change.
- Stop build apartments. Destroying the idea of why I like Johnston.
- stop building apartment complexes
- Stop building apartments
- Stop building apartments
- Stop cutting trees to put in trails.
- Stop destroying land, reuse old buildings
- Stop destruction of green space
- Stop putting in apartments and condos;
- stop tearing up Merle Hay Road
- Stop trying to be like a fast growing city. Stay unique.
- Stop trying to develop the last of the farmland the last of the farmland!!!
- Street improvement
- Street quality
- street repairs
- Streets and sewers in old Johnston
- Superintendent of Johnston Schools
- Sync the lights on Merle Hay

- tax rates
- taxes
- taxes
- Taxes too high
- Tech - we need more tech education, tech companies, and tech jobs. Housing, especially starter homes and townhomes to attract young professionals. Also, some apartment complexes are not clean or even very safe. People in these communities need a combination of community, church, and government services to help secure good jobs and make sure the kids there get the education to find a good path for themselves.
- That commercial buildings seem to sit empty for so long.
- the lost businesses
- The number of apartments and townhouses is out of control. Increasing the tax base should be measured with long term city atmosphere. Whoever approved the apartments up along the street north of Walgreens should be fired.
- The politics are becoming more divisive.
- The reputation of our community (and behavior of some) that we are better than others. People tend to "look down their nose" at others.
- The reputation that has changed for the school board.
- The school board leadership
- The speeding on NW 106th St.
- The superintendent
- The traffic congestion
- The trails
- Thoughtful development.
- timing on traffic lights
- too high on taxes. School is too big.
- Too many apartments
- Too much growth!
- too much low income housing
- Trade Joes on 86th st
- Traffic flow
- Traffic light pattern
- Traffic lights on Merle Hay. Cost of property tax
- traffic lights timed better
- traffic on Merle Hay
- traffic on Merle Hay and 80th
- traffic on merle Hay, more restaurants.
- traffic, add exit on Beaver
- Traffic/speed along Merle Hay Rd
- Trail access to other regional trails
- Treat neighborhood east of NJR the same as west side.
- try to keep homeless away from bike paths
- updates to business on Merle Hay rd
- upgrade the boathouse, turn into a brewery
- Water.

- We are a humble community and we need to do more to promote ourselves. It also would be nice to have access to drinking fountains at key locations throughout our trail system.
- We are losing a bit of the beauty of Johnston. Would love more flowers and grassy areas
- We need more restaurants
- When grade school/middle school gets out , traffic is a mess.
- When you take bids for concrete on streets, don't choose the cheapest necessarily.
- Widen Johnston Drive
- Worthless spending
- Would be nice to feel part of a community.
- would like a few more dining options

Q41. Do you have any additional comments you would like to share?

- 86th st needs to be fixed
- 86th Street is deteriorating quickly. Sync traffic lights on all major streets.
- Access to RRVT would be nice. Right now I have to travel to Wanhee to get on safely.
- Address the traffic flow by schools, it is dangerous
- All those apartments stress our systems.
- Aquatic center
- As we are on the edge , I don't feel as connected.
- Aspire to be spectacular- the Metro leader.
- Avoid Johnston getting so big it is difficult to get around.
- Beautify the city. Make us Proud.
- Beaver Creek bike trail near Merle Hay needs to be maintained better. It has taken way too long to fix bridge
- Better snow removal please, put the plow blade down to the road
- Better storm sewer capacity. My backyard floods during heavy rain.
- Can we do anything to encourage bicyclists to use the bike path on NW Beaver instead of road. Pretty dangerous for all concerned!
- Carbon footprint and climate change discussions have no place using money not your own, and tax money is not your money. Don't even think about such waste. You literally cannot make a difference.
- City does a great job, keep adding high end amenities...Johnston is an affluent community that wants nice dining and recreation facilities, more parks and green space, high end homes and general beautification (i.e. the crabapple trees at the corner of 86th/62nd). We don't need more apartments. I spend a lot of time for work in the Carmel, Indiana area. WOW, that is quite a nice city with unbelievable amenities and high end feel. If you want some ideas on how to build a nice high end city that draws in a lot of wealth, jobs and amenities it would be worth a field trip there and meet with their city planners.
- City services does a great job.
- City should address climate change , to fight racism and to advocate for local control.
- City should clean culverts.
- Concerned about the direction our schools are headed. Too much politics
- consider adding lighting to trails
- Covid has effect on activities
- Crown point update on window sills.
- Develop Merle Hay by filling in and/or cleaning up the empty lots with retail businesses. A program or process to clean up the ditch and field trash.
- Discontinued use of fireworks in city limits.
- Diversity and inclusion
- Diversity of housing in regards to income and single family residences. Johnston needs single family residence opportunities for families starting out earning entry level salaries
- do not cave in to racist business owners that have offensive signs.
- Do something with old Burger King on 86ths. eyesore as people enter the city
- Don't try to be like Ankeny. Keep the city more of a country feel rather than city. Respond to emails sent to city officials. Don't be lead by social media. It provides false direction. Don't make questionable hires because of it. Invest more in the police and emergency services

- Donation food box at library.
- Don't let the new town center become the next Village square mall.
- Effort to get businesses have bike racks to secure our bikes while we shop.
- Encourage EV vehicles by having charging stations
- Environmental leadership, education is really important
- Excessive new city buildings, vehicles. Street repairs are very inefficient and ineffective.
- exercise control on the external appearance of business building.
- Fix the roads BEFORE the bike paths come on
- Friendly, safe, schools are great. Love it here.
- Get new business in town.
- great city government
- Great city.
- Greater traffic control on 86th, help crossing the street safely . Help school , keep bus drivers and pay for full time sub.
- Grocery store, better dining
- Happy to be here.
- Have enjoyed our 30 years in Johnston. Sorry to see negative impact of changes along Merle Hay Rd. May have to move from Iowa due to high real estate tax (it is our largest expense in retirement).
- high school standards, very irregular
- Hoping the city center development brings life to the community with rooftop bar/restaurant and the dog park is close to the quality of the one in Ankeny,
- How do you spend millions of taxpayer money and not put it to a vote?
- I do not like that I have to drive to Ankeny for cheaper gas.
- I do not like the fact that our neighborhoods are becoming junked up with cars, boats and trailers parked everywhere. Also, I think we are building way too many apartments in the city.
- I don't think we should have fairs and entertainment that brings in traffic and crime from neighboring cities. Instead have High shopping and dining. Make use of the lake for tourism
- I enjoy living here but mostly because of my neighbors. I really don't know anyone else since moving here over six years ago. I don't know how to find those people and trying to get involved in things feels very insular. Because I don't have children in school it's very hard to learn about things that are happening until after they happen through the schools. And again, the things offered for Seniors are in the daytime so I have no opportunity to meet younger seniors or people who also live on their own. The divisiveness that has been exhibited recently is a cause for great concern. I moved here thinking that this was a cutting edge, inclusive, forward thinking place. I now have to rethink that. For me, it's actually a very lonely and disappointing atmosphere.
- I have called city hall about traffic count on NW62nd and have yet to receive a return call.
- I have concerns about school getting funding going forward. Keep strong police
- I like that we Have kites on the green baby anytime all citizens can gather and get together
- I moved from Urbandale in 2019 to a townhome here, and our water bill went up significantly, but the usage was the same. I noticed today that 86th Street is in bad shape. Needs repaving. It is one of only 2 main accesses to the city from the Interstate, so should be in better condition. Maybe it's just post-winter problems and there are already plans to work on it?
- I requested a repair to the curbing in from of our house initially 3 years ago and have followed up twice. It has still not been repaired and it causes the top soil to go into the street. It is not a

horrible problem, but is annoying. I am also not a fan of all of the round-abouts. I would love to see an indoor/outdoor public pool.

- I worry about class divides as SES varies greatly,
- I would like an exception for seniors for part of property tax for schools
- I would like recycling picked up every week.
- I would like to highlight the disrespect many teachers suffer from students.
- I would like to see an additional stop light installed near vegetation next/ faraway. Traffic can be exceptionally challenging in the morning and afternoon.
- I would love to see the city of Johnston be a city of sustainability. This means planting more trees, setting carbon goals, reducing the amount of street lights, slower growth, less clearing of forests and more forward thinking.
- I'm excited with the City Square concept being built. I'm not as excited by the lack of beauty along Merle Hay.
- I'm looking forward to the new golf and rec center experiences. Green Days was awesome last year especially with the Faculty Lounge band. The Johnston Town Center is a great start to bringing more businesses to Johnston. However, Merle Hay Road still looks rough in some areas. It would be nice if Merle Hay Rd was more walkable with better sidewalks and some of the crosswalks take forever to activate. I also wish the power/telephone lines were put underground on Merle Hay Rd to improve the look. I also wish there were more sidewalks in the older parts of Johnston near Dewey Park.
- Improve intersection of NW beaver, Merle Hay and NW 58th ST
- increase community activities
- Install an emergency phone or camera on Beaver creek trail.
- Invest in going green, climate change. Also need to keep a high standard for our schools
- It is sad to see the attacks made on public education.
- It shocks me to see our neighboring city of Grimes far out matching our snow removal efforts during bad weather. It's pretty evident every time we have snow and you leave the city to the west all roads are clear in some cases days before Johnston. Also there needs to be enforcement of street parking around several apartment complexes.
- It would be good to see something in the vacant stores.
- Johnston would be a great town but we have brought in too many transient residents with the excess amount of apartments. Also, unfortunately our school district is rapidly declining. These two factors will become a major drag on my housing value going forward.
- Just want to reiterate comments on tech education. Iowa's economy is going to fall behind if we don't get a lot more serious about tech education from a young age. Johnston can lead in this.
- Keep all areas clean and inviting
- Keep Johnston a great place to live and work.
- keep promoting the city
- Last couple of years, the road conditions have deteriorated. Traffic has increased but still better than neighboring towns. Will like to have city take feedback before developing new areas. Feel like city is more focused on increasing population density and is adding more apartments than single family homes.
- Last summer we had several interactions with city employees. From some mowing, a few working on drainage ditches, one checking out our grinder pump. Without fail every employee we interacted with was professional, cheerful, and personable.
- Limit the number of apartments

- Lots of business change over or lost business on 86th street entrance to the city... why? How can that be improved
- Love of the city of Johnston. Really only have a few small complaints.
 - bike trail bridge over Beaver Creek needs to be constructed
 - sidewalks in our neighborhood (Green Meadows) are heaved in many places due to tree roots (I believe this is the homeowners' responsibility).
 - the drainage canals in Green Meadows don't drain well and are usually full of debris
 - more swimming pool options
 - tell mother nature to put more water in Beaver Creek... :)
- Love our new neighborhood
- Love the upgraded area at 62nd and Merle Hay
- Love what we are doing on Merle Hay.
- Lower property taxes.
- lower taxes
- Make school administration less political.
- Merle Hay corridor still junky looking
- More affordable programs for toddlers in parks and rec.
- More emphasis on side streets.
- More help with teaching English and American laws to people from other countries.
- More officers patrolling apartments
- More police at schools
- more restaurants, bars, sports bars, entertainment
- More restaurants/entertainment. Some lower rent areas are becoming filled with trash.
- More shopping/restaurants
- More trails.
- My yard floods with every rainfall. NW 50th st
- Need a volunteer program to drive seniors to appointments, grocery.
- Need city wide fiber optics.
- Need more attractions
- Need more single family homes
- Need new food options.
- Need to bring in businesses on 86th ST, in particular the old Dahl's/Price Chopper and the old Burger King. We need a Chick-Fil-A
- no more apartments
- no more apartments
- No more apartments and no more low income housing. Fill the current open strip mall's with shop's, entertainment, and restaurants.
- No more stop lights.
- No speed bumps at high school
- Noise abatement efforts must be reviewed to have acceptable levels
- Opportunity for home business
- Our property taxes are out of control. the NW Beaver area prices for new homes have skyrocketed and taken the rest of us along with it with little regard for if we could actually sell our house for the assessed value. There are many very large homes in Johnston that don't have their taxes increased every year. What can be done to make this more equitable? Ours have

doubled making the likelihood that we can afford to live here in retirement questionable. It's a shame after living here for over 30 years that we will be forced to leave because of this.

- Please add recreation options to the west side.
- Please ask the North Point Community Church to turn off their parking lot lights at night.
- Please inspect the city sidewalks -- the uneven concrete and protruding water main valves are huge tripping hazards for us walkers and runners, especially in the evening. You can't leave that up to homeowners to ever get it done. Having the junk collection day after Easter and so early in the spring is silly. The weather barely allows us to be in our yards and garages to clean out junk this early in the spring. Why is the final yard waste collection the Monday/Tuesday before Thanksgiving? The weekend AFTER Thanksgiving is when MANY of us are doing the final clean-up before winter. Johnston does not need more fast food and nail salons. We need more businesses of substance to spend our dollars in Johnston. I'm jealous of Grimes, but thankful it is close. Who plans the streets and streetscapes? As soon as a project is done, seems like there is a new reason to rip up what was done. Be more like Urbandale and make street projects more comprehensive -- put left and right turn lanes before the businesses arrive. Why do Johnston street projects take so long? Is there no incentive in the contracts to finish quickly? I thought 54th St. would never get done, and the street scaping is still not done.
- Please make a plan to connect trails.
- Please mow and trim the weeds in the medians.
- Please provide more services for seniors such as those provided by Urbandale Senior Rec Center
- Please put speed bumps on NW 106th. Also, the egg hunt was a disaster.
- Please slow the traffic down on Green Dale Road
- Police are awesome and ready to help.
- pool! need to attract young families.
- PROMOTE AND WELCOME DIVERSITY (CULTURE, VIEWS AND PEOPLE) IN JOHNSTON.
- property tax is too high
- property tax must be reduced, especially for seniors.
- put codes into place on non-working vehicles, boats.
- Put traffic signs on NW 70th saying stay right except to pass. Have bikes on the trails stop before crossing streets.
- Re: apartments, it seems like city might be over responding to less diverse housing options in previous years. Too many apartments burden schools and decrease community quality of life. Would rather see more moderate housing developments as owners have vested interest.
- Recycling pickup should be weekly
- Residential road repairs
- Roundabouts are ok but some have strange curves
- sidewalks are dangerous here
- Some sidewalks are dangerous, trip hazards
- Some streets, sidewalks need some TLC.
- Something needs to be done about the speeding on NW 106th St. especially during the commute to the high school and after the dismissal. There are many small children living off of this street.
- Spend money on youth sports
- Sports complex
- Stop building apartments
- Stop building apartments, you can literally link test score decline in Johnston schools to the pint of apartments you are building

- Stop one lane in some areas. Fix round about signage to prevent accidents at Ashton Dr. Add some arrows
- Stop raising property taxes.
- Stop tearing up all the trees and grass.
- Stop thinking the city needs to grow. I live in Johnston... not Des Moines. I don't need new shopping centers, I don't want apartments/ low income housing, and the increase in traffic on main roads is horrible. I live in Johnston for a standard or living.
- Stop with the roundabouts.
- Stormwater in Green Meadows needs work, open concrete stream turns to a river.
- Strongly and effectively communicate to the residents of Johnston owning dogs - requesting them to collect Dog poops and handle the Dogs with leash while walking in the trial. 25% of dog owners do not bother to collect dog poops in the neighborhood yard.
- Supervise the roundabouts better. Let's educate drivers before putting them everywhere
- SUPPORT THE POLICE!! INVEST MORE INTO THE PD!! ENCOURAGE THE PD!!
- taxes are too high
- taxes are very high
- Terra Park shelter needs a board with events and reservation notices. Need more restaurants
- Thank you for making the parks so nice. We enjoy them.
- Thank you for revitalizing the Merle Hay corridor!
- Thank you.
- Thankful for Mayor Dierenfeld and her common sense approach. We need to continue to support our police and troops and as a military community, be proud of our country, despite our past mistakes. We need to support all people who live in Johnston and not show favoritism or give special privileges to anyone—whether conservative or liberal, Christian or another religion or groups that make lots of noise to get attention but aren't in line with the values of the majority of people who live in our community. Thankful for the change in our school board and hope that's a sign of better things to come for our school district.
- Thanks for all efforts to improve our city! Johnston is a great place to live.
- The apartments have increased our per capita. Cost of living is already hard.
- The bike bridge has been too long!! Traffic on Merle Hay.
- The city needs a dog park.
- The city needs a pool/aquatic center accessible for ALL not just those who can drive to other communities or are members of expensive "clubs"
- The city should be very concerned about what is happening to school district. Racialized activists who are discriminating based on color of skin.
- The city staff is wonderful.
- The city used to be unique with numerous trees.
- The decision years ok to stop allowing planting of trees has ruined beauty.
- The east side needs more sidewalks near lawson and Dewey park and a cross walk across 62nd at 49th so kids can cross safely.
- The fireworks law is ridiculous. You need to provide a legal window of time for lawful use.
- The library is AWESOME! We need a swimming pool instead of Hyperion having the only swimming scene-it's too exclusive. We need less bar food eating establishments but good west coast food.
- The light post by the high school that got damaged on the big wind storm that took down the student learning center is still bent over and hasn't been fixed. I live south of the HS on Catalina

Drive across from the park. There is sooo much trash that flies around here I'm constantly picking it up within my yard. Maybe additional trash cans at that park for convenience of the High Schoolers to potentially throw things away would be helpful.

- The maintenance of city streets especially in the area of dealing with potholes needs to improve. Over the years we have been very satisfied with snow removal.
- The quality of the school system is what brought us here 29 years ago and the quality of life and forward thinking leadership with transparency of communication is what keeps us here.
- The roundabouts have become very dangerous. Cars are not watching speeding and do not yield.
- Too many apartments built too close to Merle Hay
- Too many apartments.
- Too many car washes
- Too many vacant buildings
- Trail/Park creation & maintenance within the city of Johnston is exceptional.
- trespassing, not addressed by police
- Vandalism . Time to address this issue
- Very nice community with responsive city gov't and leadership. More permanent repairs on roads.
- Vote on the clock tower
- water payment box moved to drive by
- We appreciate you listening to our feedback. Johnston is a great place to live. Since taxes are so high, we would expect even more services. But, overall we are fairly satisfied.
- We have a great library
- We have lived here since 1999, originally because of the quality of the school system. But I believe it has been negatively affected by certain focus groups, particularly new/current members of the school board. If we were looking to move to an area with quality schools today, Johnston would not be our first choice
- We lack restaurants, bars, music places.
- We love living in Johnston!
- We love the library!
- We moved to Johnston last year and chose this house because it was close to the job. The market is/was a frenzy so we are grateful we have a home, however Johnston does not offer anything that meets our families needs- orchestra, Catholic church, outdoor swimming, indoor swimming either (I'd love to lap swim but the availability at the middle school is a joke) and my kids could benefit from swim lessons but they are either on Sunday only, full, or not offered...
- We need a pool or YMCA.
- We need indoor recreation and restaurants
- We need lighting along the trails on Beaver, emergency call boxes, and garbage cans. Glow in the dark street paint WOULD be the most/best use of money that is allocated for safety.
- We pay a lot of taxes. The city wiped out many trees in our area.
- We really need a brewery or some place low-key to go and spend leisure time, especially indoors for winter-time. I feel like Johnston is great for residents, safe and great for living, but you have to leave to shop, eat, enjoy yourself.
- We were upset after we moved in last year they started digging up our yard for metronet and we weren't informed before they showed up to dig
- What is the deal with the sidewalk drains? Hazard for all. Would also love a weekly recycling pickup option.

- When I graduated Johnston was the fastest growing suburb. It seems we've grown stagnant. We have almost no business development but keep putting up apartments. No nice restaurants since Greenbrier, what 30 years ago?! Grimes and Waukee have lapped us. And we are not even in the same ballpark as Ankeny. Merle Hay Road once our Main Street now looks like a dump with the Dollar stores and the run down buildings, etc. The Hy-Vee is old and poorly stocked, I go to Urbandale or now Grimes to grocery shop. We don't even have a Starbucks. Feel like the city planners were asleep at the wheel the last 10 years. We are finally building a sports complex but only a "me too" development after Grimes started theirs.
- When the city hires contractor and they mess up your property, the city should make them fix it.
- why are our taxes going to Broadlawns Hospital? Should be Des Moines residents.
- Why we need all new buildings?
- work on some of the streets
- Would like better access to get on trails and connect what exists in our neighborhood. Would like better spring cleanup for trash that is blown around. Improving neighborhood sidewalks and roads in our neighborhood; would like neighborhood communication and improvements on common/sign areas. Would like to do more shopping locally instead of running across town.
- Would like something to go into the price chopper.
- Would love a grocery store in the old Price Chopper building on 86th