



COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

In Yarrow Point's own words

The multiple choice and ranked-answer survey concluded with a space for residents to provide additional comments. The responses offered a broader view of issues residents care about, both within and outside the scope of the comprehensive plan.

These featured quotes were pulled from the total responses as representative of multiple comments with which contain similar sentiment to other responses. The full comments are available in the published survey report. The Town of Yarrow Point thanks each participant for taking the time to respond to this survey.

Overall Themes

1. Community Safety and Security

Residents highly value the safety and security of Yarrow Point and have expressed concerns over increasing crime rates.

2. Infrastructure and Maintenance

Many comments highlight the need for improved infrastructure and maintenance across the town. Residents call for repairing and adding sidewalks, better street lighting, resurfacing streets, improvements to Sally's Alley, and repairs along points drive south of 520. Making the town more accessible, including golf cart-friendly adaptations and adding amenities like additional pickleball courts, is also suggested.

3. Environmental Preservation and Aesthetics

Environmental preservation, particularly the protection of trees, was a common concern. Respondents voiced concerns about the Town's tree canopy loss as a result of tree removal by developers. Many responses called for stronger tree ordinances to protect significant trees. Respondents call on the Town to address climate change risks, promote clean energy, and improve the town's aesthetics with approaches such as undergrounding of utility lines and improvements to the Town's entrance landscaping.

4. Governance, Regulations, and Property Maintenance

Residents express various opinions on governance and regulations, with some appreciating the town government's approach and others advocating for less intervention. Residents raised concerns about high property taxes, inconsistent codes, and neighbors not meeting property maintenance standards.

Housing and Maintenance

"Not afraid of an increase in housing density. It would be nice if a centrally located single lot of food retail of sorts accompanied it, similar to Medina next to the post office."

"I feel YP could benefit from a design quality board as difficult and disliked as that would be from the start."

"I feel information to a homeowner to be lacking. For example, is there an update on the hedges? Was there a vote? The lack of thorough minutes means a lack of transparency and knowledge."

"Increasing home values increase taxes and potentially force retired people to move."

"I have concerns about rental properties and the owner's commitment to maintaining the property. There should be some basic standards."

"Perfect place to live. No change needed. The number one problem is the increase in real estate taxes."

"Tree code, hedge code, short term rental code are now infringing on residents rights to use their property as they see fit and have no significant impact on the community resources."

"ADU can be a good thing AS LONG AS PARKING IS PROVIDED."

Public Amenities, Walkability, and Utilities

"Being able to use the King County Library would be nice"

"Parks, playgrounds, water access all need improving. Pool/tennis/library access lacking."

"Biggest concerns: Electric/Utilities should all be underground, not just on 92nd. Sidewalks, especially near fountain and on 40th, are critical to walkers/bikers' safety and should be a priority."

"I would like the town to be more proactive in under grounding power and utility wires"

"Challenge for YP drivers, pedestrians and bikers at the circle - needs to be improved for safety for all. Also, want to highly support efforts by the city to create and maintain a beautiful Sally's Alley path and greenspace. Also funding to maintain Wetherill. Internet is the utility that can be really poor."

Tree Canopy and Environmental

"There have been numerous trees that have been removed from the town's right of way over the last 5 years for valid reasons, but the town has not replanted a single tree to replace any of the lost trees."

"We are losing our canopy. We should have stronger rules for developers. If people want to live here instead of the concrete jungle of Bellevue, then value the natural aspects of protecting the environment"

"Would like Yarrow Point township to operate with ecologically sound decisions and benchmarks."

"City should adopt and encourage clean energy and be resilient to being cut off from the rest of Bellevue/Kirkland for fire and public safety. the city should consider a tree inventory and planting more climate change resistant plants."

"We are deeply disappointed with the lack of a Tree Ordinance to protect the ancient trees of Yarrow Point."

Community

"It's nice living in a small community, but I think there's an opportunity to create a closer-knit community with more community events."

"Yarrow Point is a great community and a major part of that is a sense of knowing your neighbors and community events. In the past 10 years, there's been large turnover of residents and it's lost a little of the community spirit which we need to reclaim."

"Town just fine the way it is. No need to create a whole city out of a quaint small town."

"It's been a wonderful life for us on Yarrow Point, but we can see changes coming around the corner!"

"Yarrow Point is a very special place. We moved here for its safety and community feel. We love walking the neighborhood as a family and our child with a disability feels welcome, independent, and safe. "

Crime and Safety

"If crime statistics increase, or we can no longer leave our home unattended for vacations, then we will need to move."

"The biggest impact or change in Yarrow Point in the last 10-20 years is crime. We used to have none of it. Now, it seems pretty consistent with no plans to mitigate. We also have empty homes with owners that are not required to maintain their landscape or properties, which de-values other homes."

"Keep it clean. Keep it safe. Protect our family-oriented character."