

CITY OF WILLISTON - COMMUNITY SURVEY



QUALITY OF LIFE

1. How would you rank your overall impression of the following?

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	NOT SURE	NO ANSWER
Quality of jobs	63	205	105	15	6	2
Neighborhood appearance	32	216	122	31	0	2
Quality of housing available	4	55	139	187	12	2
Gateway appearance	7	109	141	112	21	2
Preserving Downtown	18	130	143	98	4	2
Shopping opportunities	0	26	64	220	0	0
Dining opportunities	3	49	114	232	0	3
Personal safety	80	237	67	13	4	2

2. Please list what you think are the two best aspects of day-to-day life in Williston or the two most positive attributes of Williston.

See Attached comments

3. Please rank what you believe are major challenges facing Williston from 1-9 with 1 being a major challenge and 9 being a minor challenge.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NO ANSWER
Housing Availability	194	70	47	22	20	8	10	9	12	0
Housing Affordability	172	94	57	19	19	4	10	8	15	0
Jobs	25	14	24	28	53	38	34	52	111	0
Growth Concerns	56	53	50	61	62	30	28	21	18	0
Crime/Public Safety	18	18	32	29	50	51	65	62	53	2
Labor force availability	122	50	69	29	33	17	24	17	23	0
Economy	45	19	41	40	57	36	53	47	38	2
Recreation	45	28	31	36	46	33	36	43	78	2
Health Care	56	42	37	39	54	46	42	35	33	2

Other: **See Attached comments**

4. What would be your preference for the future of Williston?

Increased Growth at a fast pace	39
Steady Growth	305
No Major Changes	25
Decrease population/business remain the same	6
Other: Explain: See attached	22
No Answer	2

5. Have you noticed an increase in the pace of city growth over the past two years?

YES	362
NO	24
NOT SURE	18

6. What is the one improvement that would make living in Williston better for **you**?

[See Attached comments](#)



7. How would you describe the overall current condition of existing housing in Williston?

EXCELLENT	2
GOOD	80
FAIR	144
POOR	141
NOT SURE	13
NO ANSWER	19

8. Should the City of Williston provide incentives for building affordable housing?

YES	237
NO	135
NO ANSWER	20

9. What type of housing do you feel is most needed in the City? Please rank the top three.

	First	Second	Third
Single-family housing	216	50	38
Townhomes/condominiums	18	92	60
Mobile Home Parks	9	16	14
Apartments	81	119	76
Senior housing	17	29	25
Group homes	0	2	0
Assisted living facilities	4	10	17
Subsidized/income based public housing	23	21	53
Housing rehabilitation assistance programs	4	7	25
Other	6	3	7
No Answer	18	18	20

Other: **See Attached comments**



TRANSPORTATION

10. Please rank these areas of concern related to transportation in Williston. Rank all with 1 being most important.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA
Roadway maintenance/snow and ice removal	111	37	36	22	21	26	11	10	6	6	5	11	4
Roadway deficiencies	27	21	26	13	33	37	17	21	21	17	18	9	4
Speeds on roadways	48	19	28	25	22	25	14	17	25	18	17	14	4
Need for major improvements	56	31	25	23	26	17	24	10	25	16	9	12	4
Access to housing and employment	47	18	18	22	25	17	20	20	21	17	14	20	4
Adequate freight system	23	14	12	12	27	17	18	30	33	22	15	19	3
Need for sidewalk/trails	42	24	19	28	21	17	18	13	25	15	21	16	5
Trucks traveling through community	47	32	31	21	23	27	18	13	24	17	10	13	5
Congestion or unacceptable delays	33	18	16	22	27	24	18	16	24	30	16	20	4
Lack of roadway continuity across the community	16	15	15	14	22	27	29	18	26	34	16	21	5
Air service into Williston	57	33	29	30	23	20	13	14	19	9	13	20	4
Public Transportation availability	90	48	23	20	25	13	13	20	19	6	9	21	4

11. Please provide an explanation of why you chose the top transportation area of concern in question #10.

See Attached comments

12. If transit service becomes available, please describe the destinations and types of trips for which you would be most likely to use bus service (such as, work, shopping, health care and school).

See Attached comments

13. Is road maintenance (i.e., surface condition, snow/ice removal) within Williston acceptable in your opinion?

YES	258
NO	133
No Answer	3

If no, please explain. **See Attached comments**

14. Are more sidewalks needed within the City of Williston?

YES	104
NO	131
NOT SURE	158
No answer	5

If yes, please identify where these facilities are needed. **See Attached comments**

15. How many miles do you travel in one direction between your home and each of the following:

Downtown Williston	3.27 avg.
Grocery store	0.98 avg
Clothing store	19.80 avg
Gas station	1.27 avg
Movie theater	1.34 avg
School	1.75 avg

16. How many miles do you travel in a vehicle on an average day?

95 avg

17. Have you experienced any problems with accessing or crossing the Highway 2 West Bypass in a vehicle or as a pedestrian?

YES	197
NO	195
No answer	4

18. In your opinion, what can the City of Williston do to improve the present transportation system?

See Attached comments



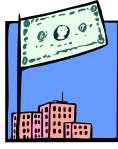
PUBLIC UTILITIES

19. How would you rank the quality of the following public utility services?

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	NOT SURE	No answer
Water:	122	210	42	13	9	4
Sewer:	103	232	40	9	11	5
Storm Sewer/ Drainage:	69	225	63	20	11	10
Electric:	78	185	37	7	3	0
Gas:	99	236	41	6	11	4
Telephone:	99	231	42	7	15	4
Cable:	56	154	53	18	21	0
Cell Phone Service:	67	196	70	30	21	4
Internet Service:	81	209	63	9	22	4

If rated fair or poor please describe problems with the utility or what would improve the service for you: **See Attached comments**

JOBS AND ECONOMY



20. What do you believe are the most common obstacles individuals encounter when seeking employment in Williston? (check top five choices)

Surplus of jobs; not enough workers to fill available positions	228
Wages are not adequate for cost-of-living	176
Child Care availability	131
Poor health benefits offered with jobs	128
Wages are low for profession/occupation	114
Poor retirement benefits offered with jobs	93
Lack of jobs matching education level	79
Wages do not match education/experience	76
Lack of professional jobs	68
Wages are too high for unskilled labor	56
Lack of jobs matching experience	49
There are no employment obstacles	41
Travel long distance for adequate work/pay	30
Surplus of jobs, not enough workers to fill available positions	17
Lack of employment opportunities in general	12
Other (See Attached comments)	

21. What do you believe are the most common obstacles encountered by business owners and employers when seeking employees in Williston? (check top three choices)

Shortage of workers in general	241
Competing jobs with higher wages	234
Shortage of workers willing to do particular jobs	192
Shortage of qualified workers	150
Unwillingness to work certain hours or days of the week	114

22. Which types of business or industry would you most like to see more of in Williston? (check top *three* choices.)

Retail businesses	229
Restaurants	212
Health care/medical	124
Manufacturing	112
Renewable energy/ value-added agriculture	79
Energy development	74
High technology	56
Agriculture	25
Tourism businesses	21
Commercial services	19
Government/public sector	13
Other (See Attached comments)	

23. In your opinion what businesses/services would be a pleasant addition to the community?

See Attached comments

24. Identify the **most** important roles you think the City should play in business and economic development? (check top *three* choices)

Assist existing businesses with retention/growth	149
Assist with new business start-up	141
Develop favorable land use regulations for business development	94
Educate the public on economic and business issues	85
Build relationships between businesses and government	66
Incentives (such as tax breaks) to business and industries	65
Not sure	45
Technical assistance for businesses	38
None of the above	28
Assist with new business start-up	18
Other (See Attached comments)	



PARKS AND RECREATION

25. Do you feel additional parks or park facilities are needed?

YES	87
NO	194
NOT SURE	52

If yes, what park facilities would add to the quality of life in Williston?

Playground equipment	81
Trails	77
Picnic Shelters	49
Additional Parks	30
Athletic Fields	16
Other (See Attached comments)	

26. If more city-wide walking and biking trails were developed, would you use them?

Frequently	123
Occasionally	122
Seldom	86
Never	62
No answer	9

27. Are all areas of the City well-served by existing parks facilities?

YES	178
NO	73
NOT SURE	136
No answer	7

If not, which areas of the city are not well-served? **See attached comments**

28. How would you rank the existing park facilities on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent?

1	37
2	63
3	160
4	79
5	34
No answer	10

29. Do you believe the following groups have sufficient recreational opportunities in Williston?

	YES	NO	NOT SURE	No answer
A. Children	234	113	33	7
B. Teens	138	192	45	8
C. Adults	191	155	28	7
D. Seniors	167	123	78	7
E. Families	132	171	63	9
F. Tourists	99	158	105	8

Please describe recreational needs as you perceive them: [See Attached comments](#)

30. Are more trails needed within the City of Williston?

YES	117
NO	151
NOT SURE	122
No answer	10

If yes, please identify where these facilities are needed. [See Attached comments](#)



SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

31. How would you rate the overall quality of the following educational services in Williston?

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	NOT SURE	No answer
Pre-school	52	189	43	12	86	12
Elementary	59	221	35	4	63	12
Middle School	61	187	51	9	74	13
High School	47	176	62	20	79	12
College/University	53	191	60	18	61	12
Technical Schools	21	98	43	50	142	15
Public School System	40	183	77	15	61	12



GOVERNMENT/PUBLIC SERVICES

(City and county government, social services, non-profits, other)

32. Do you think the following services are adequately provided in the community?

	YES	NO	NOT SURE	No answer
Cultural activities	158	136	79	10
Library	358	21	11	8
Police	317	53	19	9
Fire	366	10	16	8
Ambulance	353	17	16	10
Healthcare	174	174	38	9
Childcare availability	61	193	119	9
Assistance for: Disabled	120	83	157	9
Low income	125	102	144	8
Elderly	144	92	136	8
Minority	99	45	209	9

33. Are there any programs, services or resources that are not located in the community now that would be beneficial? Please list: **See Attached comments**

34. Do you feel you are informed about City Commission decisions?

YES	156
NO	164
NOT SURE	70
No answer	8

35. How can the City provide better opportunities for input and participation?

No changes needed; they do a good job presently.	51
Public access TV	141
Open houses	90
Post information on city website	150
Other: See Attached comments	

36. Is local government responsive to your questions and concerns?

YES	104
NO	82
NOT SURE	190
No answer	11

If not, please explain: **See Attached comments**

37. Are local government services provided equitably?

YES	116
NO	49
NOT SURE	210
No answer	10

If not, please explain. [See Attached comments](#)

38. In your opinion, how well is Williston facilitating ethnic and racial diversity?

EXCELLENT	28
GOOD	115
FAIR	73
POOR	38
NOT SURE	123
No answer	10

Other comments/suggestions: [See Attached comments](#)



LAND USE - LOCAL CONTROLS

39. It is the basic premise of the community planning process and land use control, that these tools be utilized to achieve orderly growth and protect adjacent private property owners. Understanding this, should the City enact **stronger**:

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	No answer
Zoning Ordinances:	138	84	146	13
Landscaping requirements for multiple family and commercial/industrial sites:	201	72	96	11
Weed controls:	286	43	51	12
Parking lot pavement requirements:	210	68	90	12
Park & open space dedication rules for new housing developments:	206	47	115	11
Housing & Rental Maintenance codes:	245	45	81	12
Historic Preservation guidelines:	183	65	119	14
Environmental controls:	210	56	101	12
Community aesthetics:	214	54	94	13
Building removal requirements:	298	20	52	11
Other (specify): See Attached comments				

40. Do you feel it is important to protect existing undeveloped open space within the City of Williston?

YES	181
NO	103
NOT SURE	83
No answer	11

OTHER INFORMATION

41. What are the most important reasons you choose to live in Williston (please rank reasons, 1 being most important, and 9 being least important)?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	NA
Family	223	43	28	6	11	3	6	5	17	10
Employment opportunity	107	58	33	40	27	17	10	14	11	10
Education	26	25	29	40	45	50	27	24	24	11
Parks and Recreation	12	7	13	20	27	46	77	45	28	14
Cost of housing	30	18	27	23	65	33	27	39	27	12
Hometown Character	56	48	63	47	38	18	10	18	11	11
Safe environment	75	93	69	46	30	6	0	4	5	10
Social opportunities	12	8	15	32	37	39	48	60	29	12

Other: [See attached comments](#)

42. Gender:

Male	148
Female	240
No answer	10

43. Into which age group do you fall?

Under 18	0
18-24	10
25-34	60
35-44	54
45-54	93
55-64	81
65+	94
No answer	10

44. Number of people in your household?

1	74
2	179
3	54
4	52
5	27
6	4
7	2
No answer	11

45. Employment Status:

Full	187
Full-time plus part-time	20
Part-time	24
Two or more Part-time jobs	10
Self-employed	33
Un-employed	4
Homemaker	23
Retired and not employed	47
Retired but employed at least part time	34
No answer	10

46. Are you a student?

YES	9
NO	376
No answer	10

47. Do you have children in the Williston Public Schools?

YES	103
NO	280
No answer	10

48. Level of education:

Less than High School	10
High School Graduate or GED	54
Some College or Technical Schooling	116
Associates Degree	54
Bachelors Degree	95
Graduate Degree	30
Doctoral Degree	10
Other	8
No Answer	15

49. What is your annual household income?

Less than \$20,000	34
\$21,000-\$39,000	69
\$40,000-\$65,000	74
\$66,000-\$90,000	84
\$ 91-\$150,000	59
\$151,000+	26
No answer	14

50. Approximately how many years have you lived in Williston?

0-5	51
6-10	40
11-20	55
21+	242
No answer	10

51. In regard to your primary residence, do you:

Own	334
Rent	48
Temporary Housing	0
Other	4
No answer	11

52. Please provide any other comments that would help the Williston Community.

See Attached comments