



City of Longview

1525 Broadway
Longview, WA 98632
www.ci.longview.wa.us

Agenda

City Council

*Mayor Erik Halvorson
Mayor Pro Tem Keith Young
Council Member Chris Bryant
Council Member Mike Claxton
Council Member Ruth Kendall
Council Member Kalei LaFave
Council Member Wayne Nichols*

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

6:00 PM

2nd Floor, City Hall

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in accordance with RCW Chapter 42.30, that the City Council of the City of Longview, Washington, will conduct a special meeting/workshop in the Longview City Hall Training Room, 1525 Broadway, Longview, on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 p.m. The topics of discussion follow. Final disposition shall be taken on no other matter. The City Hall is accessible for persons with disabilities. Special equipment to assist the hearing impaired is also available. Please contact the City Executive Office at 360.442.5004 at least 48 hours in advance if you require special accommodations to attend the meeting.

If you are participating virtually, you may submit written comments to the City Clerk’s Office with the subject line “Public Comment for Disbursement to City Council.”

Virtual attendees may comment verbally during public hearings only and is only permitted for registered attendees. To participate, please contact the Clerk’s Office in advance. Use the “raise hand” feature during the hearing, and the Clerk will unmute participants in the order received. If calling in by phone, dial star - 9 to raise your hand.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82394132374>

Telephone options (dial any of the following numbers):

1-253-215-8782 or 1-346-248-7799 or 1-408-638-0968 or 1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 823 9413 2374

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. FLAG SALUTE
3. ROLL CALL
4. WORKSHOP
26-00483 2027-2028 BASELINE BUDGET & BUDGET STAGES
5. ADJOURNMENT

*** Any invocation that may be offered at the Council meeting shall be the voluntary offering of a private citizen, to and for the benefit of the Council. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Council, and the Council does not endorse the religious beliefs or views of this, or any other speaker.**

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS:

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES & BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS COMMUNITY INPUT REPORT

Guiding Development of the 2027-2028 Biennial Budget

PURPOSE

As the City begins development of the 2027-2028 Biennial Budget, the Longview City Council sought direct feedback from the community regarding priorities, challenges, and opportunities for the future. Over a fifteen-day period, 597 residents participated in the 2026 Community Budget & Investment Priorities Survey, sharing both quantitative rankings and hundreds of thoughtful written comments.

The purpose of this report is not simply to summarize survey results. Instead, it identifies the themes that consistently emerged across community responses and considers how those themes align with the Longview City Council's adopted goals for 2026. While individual opinions varied, the survey revealed remarkable consistency regarding the community's aspirations for Longview's future.

This report is intended to help inform Council's policy discussions and budget decisions as work begins on the 2027-2028 Biennial Budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The survey demonstrates that Longview residents largely share the same vision for their community. Residents consistently described a future that is safe, financially responsible, economically vibrant, well maintained, affordable, and welcoming. While there are differing perspectives regarding how best to achieve those outcomes, there is considerable alignment around what success looks like.

Five themes emerged repeatedly throughout both the multiple-choice questions and written comments:

- Maintaining and replacing aging infrastructure
- Supporting economic growth and expanding employment opportunities
- Keeping neighborhoods safe, clean, and well maintained
- Managing public resources responsibly while recognizing affordability challenges
- Continuing transparent communication and community engagement

Overall, these themes closely mirror the priorities established by the Longview City Council for 2026, providing confidence that Council's strategic direction reflects many of the values expressed by the community.

COUNCIL GOAL 1 - Strengthening Community Safety

What We Heard

Community safety emerged as one of the strongest and most consistent priorities throughout the survey, but residents defined "safety" much more broadly than police and fire services alone. While emergency response and crime prevention remain important, respondents frequently described safety as the overall experience of living in Longview. Comments referenced clean neighborhoods, well-maintained parks, visible City services, homelessness response, emergency preparedness, neighborhood pride, and public spaces where families feel comfortable gathering.

Many residents also connected safety with infrastructure. Working streetlights, maintained sidewalks, clean public spaces, responsive emergency services, and reduced visible disorder were all viewed as contributing to a greater sense of security. The survey suggests residents see community safety as the result of coordinated investments across multiple City departments rather than the responsibility of any single service.

The quantitative responses reinforce this theme, with public safety, neighborhood cleanliness, and emergency response consistently ranking among the community's highest priorities.

Why This Matters

Residents appear to view safety as a shared outcome created through investments in public safety, infrastructure, neighborhood maintenance, and community spaces. Budget decisions that strengthen these systems simultaneously may have the greatest impact on residents' overall sense of security.

From the Community

"A clean city with low crime, low transients, and well-kept streets and sidewalks. A city that has well cared for public spaces and neighborhoods. A city with economic growth, strong and stable business, and financial stability."

"We appreciate the cleanup of Camp Alabama and the efforts to clean up homeless camps throughout downtown. Downtown is starting to feel more safe again."

"The overall quality of our city. Too much drug use, homelessness, etc., making the city feel less safe and family friendly."

Budget Implications

- Continue investing in police, fire, and emergency preparedness.
- Maintain neighborhood cleanliness and public spaces.
- Recognize that infrastructure investments also contribute to public safety.
- Continue coordinated approaches to homelessness, neighborhood livability, and quality of life.

COUNCIL GOAL 2 - Ensuring Fiscal Responsibility & Long-Term Financial Stability

What We Heard

Residents demonstrated a practical understanding of the financial challenges facing local government. Many acknowledge that maintaining infrastructure, emergency services, and community amenities requires ongoing investment. At the same time, affordability emerged as one of the strongest themes throughout the survey.

Respondents repeatedly discussed utility rates, taxes, housing costs, and the cumulative financial pressure facing households. Interestingly, these concerns were often expressed alongside recognition that infrastructure cannot continue to be deferred indefinitely. Rather than rejecting investment altogether, many residents encouraged the City to prioritize spending carefully, improve efficiency where possible, communicate openly about financial decisions, and pursue economic growth that broadens the City's tax base.

Taken together, the responses suggest residents are seeking balance. They want responsible stewardship of public resources while remaining mindful of the financial realities facing Longview families.

Why This Matters

Community support for investment appears strongest when residents understand the long-term value of the investment and trust that resources are being managed responsibly. Transparency and financial stewardship remain essential to maintaining public confidence.

From the Community

"Understanding that while the City does need to make money to provide services and maintain, repair, and enhance infrastructure, increasing taxes and fees on people who are barely able to afford to live isn't a realistic solution. The problem is deeper, be willing to look deeper."

"Ensuring that our aging infrastructure is cared for and still functioning properly. Improving the basics as we continue to grow, even if that means charging more for these basics. Holding people and companies accountable for what they should be without playing political games where everyone loses. Not continuing to only be reactive when something fails, but having a plan in advance of failure for keeping up with our aging city and all that is in it (streets, sidewalks, trees, utilities, etc.)."

"A sustainable budget that doesn't create more problems in the future (deferred maintenance, for example). We want more people to live here. We want Longview to be that great place to live, work, and play, right?"

Budget Implications

- Continue long-range financial planning.
- Clearly communicate the purpose and benefits of major investments.
- Evaluate affordability impacts alongside service needs.
- Continue pursuing economic growth that strengthens the City's financial position over time.

COUNCIL GOAL 3 - Investing in Infrastructure

What We Heard

Whether residents were discussing today's challenges or describing their vision for Longview ten years from now, roads, sidewalks, utilities, traffic systems, public facilities, and maintenance repeatedly surfaced as foundational priorities.

Residents frequently described infrastructure not simply as a maintenance issue, but as an investment in Longview's future. Many expressed frustrations with deferred maintenance while recognizing that catching up will require sustained investment over multiple budget cycles. Others emphasized that reliable infrastructure is essential to attract businesses, supporting neighborhoods, protecting public safety, and maintaining quality of life.

Overall, the survey demonstrates broad support for maintaining existing assets while planning responsibly for future growth.

Why This Matters

Infrastructure investment supports nearly every Council goal. Reliable roads, utilities, sidewalks, and public facilities contribute to safety, economic development, quality of life, and long-term fiscal sustainability.

From the Community

"Roads and sidewalks need improvement; local infrastructure for future growth needs be invested in now."

"A successful Longview would be growing... Infrastructure should be on a reasonable maintenance schedule. No more 0% or less than cost of inflation rate increases that push projects out beyond the life expectancy of infrastructure."

"Where is the master deficiency list for our city and who is making sure things are being maintained? Treat this place like it's your home."

Budget Implications

- Continue reducing deferred maintenance.
- Prioritize preservation of existing assets.
- Coordinate infrastructure investments with future growth areas.
- Clearly communicate long-term infrastructure planning.

COUNCIL GOAL 4 - Advancing Economic Opportunity & Community Vitality

What We Heard

Economic development emerged as one of the community's strongest long-term priorities. Residents consistently viewed business growth as more than an economic objective; they saw it as the pathway to solving many of Longview's broader challenges.

Throughout the survey, respondents connected economic opportunity with stronger City finances, more family-wage jobs, housing availability, downtown revitalization, expanded shopping and dining opportunities, tourism, recreation, and an improved quality of life. Many expressed a desire to broaden the City's tax base through thoughtful growth rather than relying solely on existing residents to support increasing costs.

Residents also described a vision of Longview as a place where people choose to live, businesses choose to invest, and young families choose to stay.

Why This Matters

Economic development is viewed by many residents as an investment that benefits every aspect of the community. Strategic growth has the potential to improve financial sustainability while creating opportunities for current and future residents.

From the Community

"We need to bring people and business to the city and to do that we need to have goals, communicate that to the community, and have realistic checkpoints to achieve."

"The red tape around new and expanding business. The permitting and governmental requirements are time-consuming and cost prohibitive for a lot of people. It feels like we aren't welcoming to new, small businesses."

"The City can help encourage more small businesses and more cottage farming by removing barriers to entry or offering low-interest loans or other financial support and incentives to local small businesses."

Budget Implications

- Continue investing in economic development initiatives.
- Support infrastructure that enables future growth.
- Reduce barriers to business investment where appropriate.
- Continue planning for housing and workforce growth.

COUNCIL GOAL 5 - Strengthening Governance, Communication & Engagement

What We Heard

One of the survey's most encouraging findings was the number of residents who voluntarily commented on improved communication and public engagement. Many specifically mentioned newsletters, community meetings, public outreach, surveys, and increased transparency as positive changes over the past year.

Perhaps most significantly, numerous respondents simply expressed appreciation for being asked to share their opinions. Others encouraged the City to continue demonstrating how community feedback influences future decisions. While some residents continue to seek additional transparency, the overall tone suggests growing confidence in a government that communicates openly and actively engages its community.

The survey reinforces that trust is built not only through outcomes but also through consistent communication, transparency, and opportunities for residents to participate in shaping Longview's future.

Why This Matters

Strong communication helps residents understand difficult decisions, builds trust in local government, and creates opportunities for meaningful community partnerships. Continued engagement can strengthen public confidence throughout the budget process.

From the Community

"Putting effort into improving the city as a whole. This survey is an example of the effort."

"Asking the community for input. Just hope the City Council really uses the input..."

"Communication! Good job. Also, keeping the civic events going adds a great deal to our sense of community."

Budget Implications

- Continue investing in community engagement and communication.
- Demonstrate how public input influences decisions.
- Maintain transparency throughout the biennial budget process.
- Continue building trust through consistent outreach.

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

Affordability

Affordability was woven throughout nearly every topic discussed in the survey. Residents consistently expressed concern about utility rates, taxes, housing costs, and the overall cost of living. Rather than existing as a stand-alone issue, affordability influenced opinions about infrastructure, economic development, public safety, and financial planning. As Council develops the biennial budget, affordability will likely remain an important consideration across multiple policy decisions.

Parks, Recreation & Quality of Life

Parks, recreation programs, the Library, Lake Sacajawea, community events, and public spaces were among the City's most frequently praised assets. Residents consistently identified these

amenities as defining characteristics of Longview and important contributors to community identity, health, and quality of life. Maintaining these strengths while balancing other priorities will remain an important consideration.

WHAT WE HEARD

Across nearly 600 responses, the community shared a clear message about the future they want for Longview. While opinions differed on specific issues and funding approaches, residents consistently described many of the same priorities and aspirations.

The survey suggests broad agreement on several key themes:

- Residents want Longview to remain a safe, welcoming community where neighborhoods are clean, public spaces are well maintained, and families feel comfortable enjoying the community.
- Residents recognize that aging infrastructure requires continued investment and believe maintaining existing assets should remain a priority.
- Residents understand that quality City services require financial investment while also emphasizing the importance of affordability and responsible stewardship of public resources.
- Residents see economic development as one of the most important long-term strategies for creating jobs, supporting local businesses, expanding the tax base, and strengthening Longview's future.
- Residents value Longview's parks, recreation programs, Library, community events, and public spaces as defining characteristics of the community and important contributors to quality of life.
- Residents appreciate increased communication and opportunities for engagement and want to continue seeing how community input influences Council decisions.
- Residents want Longview to continue planning for the future rather than simply reacting to today's challenges.

Perhaps most importantly, residents demonstrated that they are invested in Longview's future. The comments reflected pride in the community, thoughtful ideas for improvement, and a shared desire to build a city that future generations will be proud to call home.

LOOKING AHEAD

Perhaps the most significant finding from this survey is not where residents disagree, but where they agree.

Across nearly 600 responses, residents consistently described a future Longview that is:

- Safe and welcoming
- Financially responsible
- Well maintained
- Economically vibrant
- Affordable
- Connected and engaged

These aspirations closely align with the Longview City Council's adopted goals for 2026, providing confidence that the community and Council share a common vision for Longview's future.

As Council begins development of the 2027-2028 Biennial Budget, this report provides more than survey results. It provides a framework for understanding the community's priorities and values. While budget decisions will always require balancing competing needs and limited resources, this feedback offers valuable insight into the investments residents believe will have the greatest long-term impact on Longview.

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES AND COUNCIL GOALS

Community Priority	Council Goal Alignment
Safe neighborhoods and emergency services	Strengthening Community Safety
Reliable roads, utilities, and public infrastructure	Investing in Infrastructure
Responsible stewardship and long-term planning	Fiscal Responsibility & Long-Term Financial Stability
Business growth, jobs, and housing	Advancing Economic Opportunity & Community Vitality
Transparent communication and community engagement	Strengthening Governance, Communication & Engagement

CLOSING THOUGHTS

The 2026 Community Budget & Investment Priorities Survey demonstrates that Longview residents are engaged, thoughtful, and invested in the future of their community. While

perspectives vary on specific priorities and funding approaches, the survey reveals a remarkable level of agreement about the outcomes residents hope to achieve.

The challenge before Council is not deciding whether to invest in Longview's future, but how to balance those investments in a way that reflects community values, maintains fiscal responsibility, and positions Longview for long-term success.

As Council begins developing the 2027-2028 Biennial Budget, this report serves as one important input among many. Together with financial forecasts, operational needs, strategic planning, and professional recommendations, the voices of nearly 600 residents provide meaningful guidance for the decisions ahead.

At its core, this survey reminds us that while residents may differ on the path forward, they share a common hope for Longview: a community that is safe, well cared for, financially responsible, economically vibrant, and positioned to thrive for generations to come. Budgets are ultimately more than numbers; they are a reflection of community values. This report provides Council with the opportunity to align future investments with the priorities and aspirations shared by the people of Longview.

Responses Overview Closed

Responses

597



Average Time

12:52



Duration

15 Days



More Details

1. Thinking about Longview today, how would you rate the City as a place to live?

[More details](#)



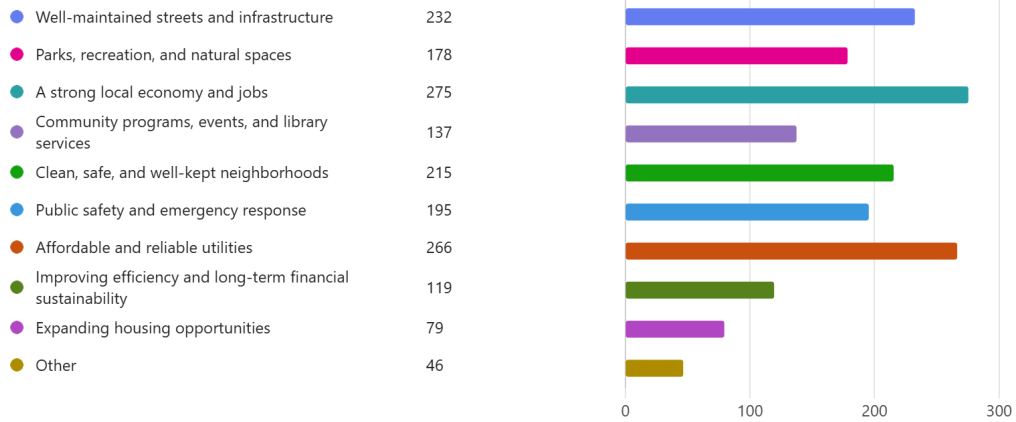
2. Thinking about the past year only, how would you rate the City of Longview's overall direction?

[More details](#)



3. When you think about the future of Longview, which of the following matter most to you? (Select up to 3)

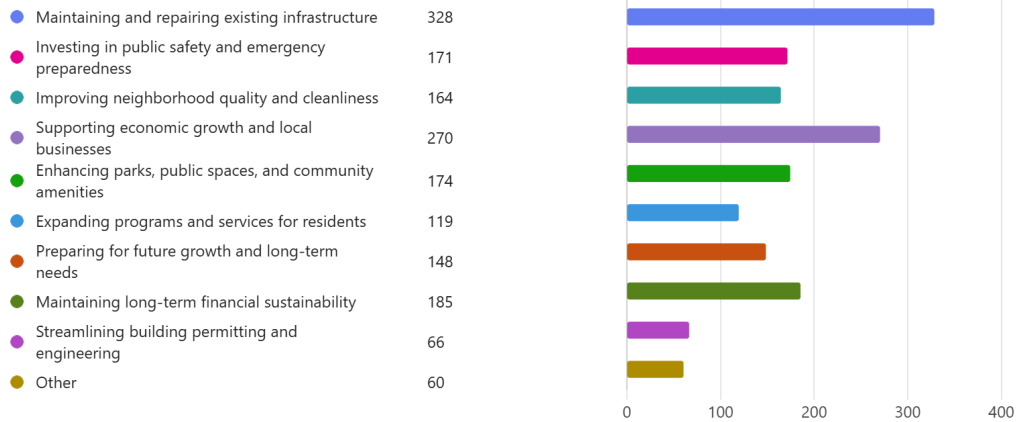
[More details](#)



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4. Where should the City focus its priorities over the next few years? (Select up to 3)

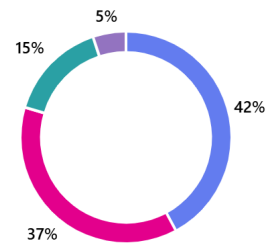
[More details](#)



5. When it comes to the City budget, which approach do you prefer most?

[More details](#)

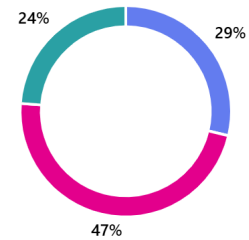
● Focus on maintaining core services at a consistent level	250
● Invest more now to improve services and infrastructure	222
● Reduce costs even if it means fewer services	91
● Not sure	30



6. If resources are limited, which approach should the City prioritize most?

[More details](#)

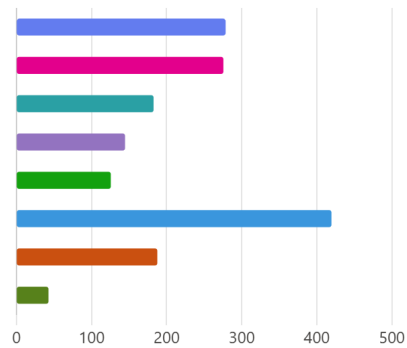
● Prioritize maintaining core City services and infrastructure	170
● Maintain core services while continuing investments that support overall quality of life	281
● Limit spending increases, even if some services or projects are delayed or eliminated	141



7. What has the biggest impact on your day-to-day quality of life in Longview? (Select up to 3)

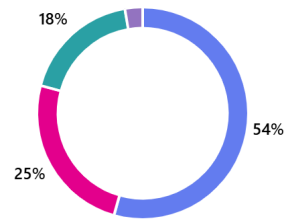
[More details](#)

● Feeling safe	278
● Condition of roads and sidewalks	275
● Cleanliness of public spaces	182
● Access to parks and recreation	144
● Community programs and activities	125
● Cost of living (utilities, taxes, etc.)	419
● Local job and business opportunities	187
● Other	42



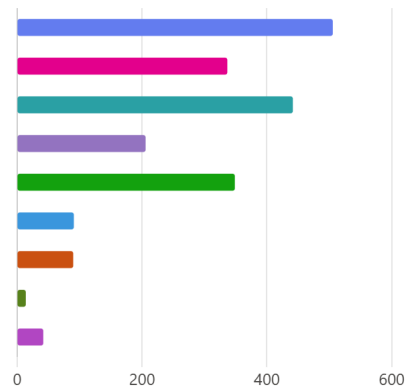
8. The City continually evaluates service levels, infrastructure needs, and costs over time. Which statement best reflects your view? [More details](#)

● I support reasonable increases to maintain and improve services	322
● I support increases only for critical needs	147
● I prefer to avoid increases, even if it limits services	107
● Not sure	16



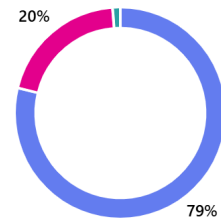
12. Which of the following City services do you personally use or interact with? (Click all that apply) [More details](#)

● Parks and outdoor spaces	505
● Library	336
● City streets, transportation, engineering	441
● Public safety services	205
● Community programs or events	348
● Community Development/Permitting	90
● In-person utility services	89
● None of the above / Not sure	13
● Other	41



13. Do you live: [More details](#)

● Inside Longview city limits	469
● Outside Longview city limits	119
● Not sure	7



What do you think the City of Longview is doing well today?

Investing in trying to have nice things and bring community awareness. Having services to directly impact people struggling such as BHU.

Communicating across divisions/departments.

Educating and engaging with citizens

The positive direction of our departments working as a team instead of in silos. Creating a supportive environment where city staff feel valued and appreciated. Striving to have public spaces where individuals can enjoy the outdoors in a safe and clean environment.

Putting effort in to improve the city as a whole. This survey is an example of the effort.

Raising cost of living through taxes and utility payments. Every freaking year we get an increase! Lllseriously another what 40% increase this year and absolutely nothing to show for it

Most affordable housing in the area

I think with Jen now at the front she is starting to invest in the repairs of all the neglect from the previous city manager. I feel the city needs to invest in some kind of tourist attraction and improve downtown.

I'm not sure, I'm just mad about the wildlife (ducks, geese, squirrels) getting run over year after year after year, along with stray TNR's cats being run over.

Great parks.

Unsure

Informing everyone on what is going on.

The people in the City help create a community feel, especially after the Nippon incident. I'm not sure what the City government is doing well with to be completely honest.

Communication

Trying to communicate, that's a change

I feel the Longview City Council is working together much better than they have in the past. While I don't necessarily agree with every decision being made, it at least feels like their choices aren't being made out of spite or malice like they were last cycle.

The Library is one of the best parts of the City. The services and staff are great, and they deserve more budget allocation to recover lost full-time positions and lost services like Hoopla.

Nothing

Love the parks

They did a good job at adding bike lanes that nobody uses, and cleaning up sidewalk chalk with our tax dollars instead of making affordable utilities or keeping funding for our schools and early learning services.

Providing services for homeless thru organizations that aim to help not enable them

Listening to its citizens and prioritizing the cleanliness and safety of our parks.

Engaging programs for the community.

Communicating with the public. Providing events and social activities through the parks and recreation. Maintaining our parks. Staffing of fire and police departments

Spending money they don't really have.

I am not sure of what the city is doing well. I know there are things that need to be addressed, utility costs, new businesses and street and sidewalk maintenance to mention a few.

Great kids programs and parks have become very nice over the last decade

Nothing. Our city is dirty, crime is up, housing costs are through the roof. It takes at least \$6000 to move by the time you consider 1st, last, deposits. That's only if you have funds to do the screening first. There are few liveable waged jobs. And even a 2 income household struggles. I've rented my whole life because my spouse and I can't afford to buy

Great parks and rec department activities, good job supporting the college

Parks, city tree program, and golf course

Communicating with the people of Longview regarding what things are going on for people and how they can access services they find helpful.

New inclusive park!

Supporting library parks And rec

Maintenance of parks and recreation

Robust parks and community events

I'm not sure... But you do city activities really well.

Communication! Good job. Also, keeping the civic events going adds a great deal to our sense of community.

Not much.

Caring for public spaces like the lake and investing in projects for the community (the new park that is being built)

The parks, green spaces and emphasis on community education before decisions are made.

Providing excellent community programs, parks and recreation opportunities on minimal budgets.

We are currently doing well with cleanliness of public spaces and Lake Sacajawea is beautiful.

Seeing all the development happening around us (Kalama, Ridgefield, Castle Rock is so clean and tidy) - there's not much going on here in Longview compared to our neighbors that we're doing 'well'. You're consistently increasing my taxes without me seeing a benefit from that.

The City Manager is doing an excellent job.

Library

HA! Continuing to support a Good Ol' Boys Club within the City Council and Police Force.

Allowing government officials to operate quasi-official Facebook pages, even so far as disregarding case law to make determinations.

The City of Longview is good at burying it's head in the sand. (See Kalei's assaults during No Kings, Erik and Spencer's Mayoral "Unofficial" Facebook Pages.)

Longview is GREAT at enabling criminals and crime.

Taking care of the parks, the roads and critical infrastructure. Fantastic library!

The homeless have either moved out of the city or are much less visible as they once were. Either way, well done.

The current City Manager seems very competent.

We're really good at having weaselly, woefully unqualified, blowhard, douchebag mayors as of late. I think our parks are beautiful but possibly come at the cost of other critical services such as public safety, namely our fire department staffing and infrastructure which has been neglected for several decades, leading to the need of running a levy. I think the Broadway closure for the market was great and hope it comes back even bigger and better. I think the city was wise in finally figuring out how to approve permitting for the upcoming food cart and tap house, and allowing alcohol sales in a controlled manner at the concerts at the lake.

Maintenance of lake

I feel they have improved the homeless situation and taken good care of our parks and natural spaces.

Parks & Recreation

They have successfully implemented easier access to transparent information. Longview has been able to increase resources for our communities. Longview has done well updating roads and some infrastructure.

Parks and Rec is doing a pretty good job with a variety of running events and nice job on keeping costs down. Great job on making Lake Sacajawea maintained well and looking beautiful.

Communicating with the public

The city is doing a good job communicating with residents using the newsletter. From my personal experience, the city had also done a good job maintaining the infrastructure currently in place and improving upon it.

Increasing number of Police Officers

No, I think there is a huge disconnect between the city and its residents

Parks are beautiful and well maintained.

Lake Sacajawea Park looks nice.

nice parks & events, good communication

The city has a very capable and positive staff

I appreciate that the city is focusing on quality of life. We can't just have police and roads. That is only one piece of the puzzle. We need to invest just as much in the spaces and programs where people thrive and community is formed.

Policing and emergency response time

Supporting police and fire staffing, infrastructure maintenance

I love how often I see street sweepers drive down my street, how quickly I see any wind or rot damaged trees at Lake Sacajawea cleaned up, cut down, and/or replaced with new trees. I love the 4th of July fireworks, and the pride of ownership many homeowners have. I love the commitment to green areas, expanded tree planting along neighborhood streets, etc.

Has largely avoided most extremism in local government.

Library services, community classes.

Parks especially lake Sacajawea

Idiotic traffic flows

We have some beautiful parks.

They take care of the existing parks and streets pretty well

Harassing needy people, paying their own legal bills, and proclaiming themselves "Christian."

though it is slow going, the city is making headway on its tremendous backlog of deferred maintenance.

Maintaining parks such as Lake Sacajawea, Vandercook, Archie, etc.. As a family with young kids we strongly appreciate the clean park spaces. The renovation of Cloney Park is extremely exciting.

We appreciate the cleanup of Camp Alabama and the efforts to clean up homeless camps throughout downtown. Downtown is starting to feel more safe again.

The trees in our city are gorgeous and loved.

Clary Courts at John Null is an amazing community addition!

We love our city!

MUCH better communication with residents. Have focused on safety- fire and police, Jen Wills did an excellent job with parks. Hoping we can maintain these.

The parks are well maintained, the city streets are clean. There are civic activities

Asking to community input. Just hope the city council really uses the input and not just focus on the 'naysayers" who do not want increased taxes because they don't understand city infrastructure.

Making our business and roads more complicated and less efficient.

There is always room for improvement.

I think the parks department is doing an excellent job maintaining and improving our parks.

The parks are clean and accessible

Nothing.

Covering-up past, enabling present, and thereby ensuring future... unlawful behavior! 10/10!

Park spaces are well maintained, streets and power infrastructure are solid, lots of community activities.

Hiring the best people possible

Departments are working well together. The unhoused problem has been greatly reduced.

Sharing information has increased and it is showing in the community perspective. Longview came together with the recent Nippon incident and the community has rallied behind the families of the victims.

Emergency response

For 1 - your asking for input from the community, now let's see if we get some relief or we just get squeezed financially even more

I believe that the city manager does a great job communicating and engaging with the public. I believe we are better today because of her ability to bring people together, create bridges, and work together.

Wasting time, energy and tax payors dollars.

Reaching out to get public opinion

I think the city is doing well in trying to turn itself around and position itself for the future.

You 'do well' what 'you' think should be done . . We the People have little input where I am concerned. Proven with the new \$300.000.00 Bathroom at Vandercook Park. A homeless house - every single night and 1/2 the day. The Bathroom was built just about a year 'before' it should have been built - what's up with that? We had Petitioned.

Spending money, police services, parks and rec.

Parks and rec. Community events.

Parks and rec.

Maintaining our parks and creating opportunities for community connection.

The lake is nice.

Storyboard Delights on Commerce is amazing.

Unfortunately, those are only positives I can think of. I guess that is why we continue to look at other places to live—Olympia, Ridgefield, etc.

Utilities

I appreciate the increased level of engagement since Jen Wills became City Manager.

The effort over the last two years to control the camps in the parks has been appreciated. I want to feel safe bringing my son to parks and around town.

Recognizing we need to have good planning in place for the residents.

I love Longview. I love the friendliness, the cultural offerings, the sheer natural beauty, and the strength of a community that pulls together.

?

I think the public areas are maintained well and that those areas look clean overall.

keeping a clean city, focus on parks and beauty.

Maintaining city parks

Providing city activities and programs

Communication

Inclusion

The City Manager is doing well communicating with the public. I like the Newsletter. The parks, especially Lake Sacajawea are beautiful and appreciated.

Council seems to be more collegial but continued improvement needed

Often they listen but do not hear.

Spencer B did an amazing job at increasing the safety of our parks and the overall community

Keeping the diking mowed and maintained.

developing vision & values, communicating with the public, police response to crimes & mental health calls

Informing citizens

Communication, working towards civic engagement and understanding of city processes, the infrastructure and improvements to sidewalks, parks and public spaces

The unhoused issues have nearly gone away and that huge. Community looks better and people feel safer.

Public safety (police). Maintaining our "crown jewel" (Lake Sacajawea). Also, glad we stopped wasting taxpayer dollars on so-called 'low barrier' housing like Hope Village.

Seasonal events (SquirrelFest, Go Fourth, Christmas parade, etc)

Repairing items broke in the past with a small budget

get rid of bike lanes

City staff and line workers are top notch and responsive.

Lake Sacajawea park and programs.

The trees, bike lanes, places for kids and families.

The library is wonderful and its workers have put so much time and effort into creating better activities and services. The lake is also beautiful and well-kept. I'm so proud of the public spaces that we do have.

Community activities

I'm not sure.

Emergency response, park & road maintenance.

Community programs

Taking care of and expanding our public parks

I enjoy the community gatherings at the lake, farmer's markets, etc.

No idea.

Parks and REC does an excellent job.

Community communication

We have a tight knit community and a nice downtown area with beautiful parks.

This is in response to question 8:

Taxes continually increase, yet we the citizens do not see services improving. The sidewalks in my neighborhood are deadly. It's only a matter of time before an elderly person to trip and fracture a hip or a small child to trip and knock out teeth. I've lived here for 5 years. First time I called the city about the sidewalks was a year after living here, I was told at that time they were 5 years behind in fixing the sidewalks. When I called the city last year I was told they are up to 12 years behind in some areas. What the heck?? Our taxes go up and less gets done. 😞

Our public spaces and parks are fantastic! Thank you!

Garbage collection is consistent and reliable. Same for RiverCities Transit -- always on time and reliable.

Updated public restrooms with step-n-wash and a water bottle refill station in the Longview Public Library. Updated restrooms near Martin's Dock. Increased parking spaces at Lake Sacajawea. Increased and improved community events and services.

It's not filthy dirty

The way the city council conducts business is poor.

The ability of the community to support in tragedy is a breath of fresh air.

Maintaining infrastructure and parks with limited budget. Good community amenities like park events, library events, etc. Bringing in businesses that provide job opportunities.

I think they are trying to make people feel safer.

Not sure

Maintenance of Lake Sacajawea and the stunning trees surrounding it including the care of its wildlife such as the squirrels, etc. Sadly there's not much more than this hints why most drive to other cities such as Vancouver and Portland to spend our money. It is quite stunning here and it could be an incredibly lovely city if change and growth was embraced.

No, sad to say our mayor is an embarrassment. Sidewalk chalk shouldn't be a concern. We have women on council assalting citizens with Christ is king signs in full on Charlie Kirk attire.

The parks. And I'd say flood control was pretty good this year.

Parks are pretty good.

Driving business away

The City Manager has infused staff with optimism, hope for change, and pride in being a City of Longview Employee. The communication and engagement at the community level has substantially improved over the last year and has been a wonderful breath of air. Kudos to Jennifer Wills and Nick Little - yes there are many of you doing great things, these two have specifically stood out as positive additions.

Thinking creatively about how to say yes to ideas, and solve problems while increasing collaborative efforts with civic organizations.

Super nice parks.

Informing

Keeping the public informed.

I'm having a very difficult time thinking of something positive to say to be honest.

The looks of the parks look clean

The city seems to be trying to think better of itself and that's important. I appreciate the rebranding effort (although I agree that perhaps the logo image doesn't reflect us as well as it might). I've lived here 15 years and am continually impressed with the community spirit with not only things like Go Fourth and the fair, but with the generosity of the citizens. If we can be prouder of ourselves as a community, it will show and other things will improve along the way.

A lot, frankly. Seems like they're working hard and stretching dollars. You can tell the leadership team is emotionally invested in the community and wants to create a culture of extreme ownership among staff, which is excellent. It's easier to do great work when you care.

Accessible playground, Supporting increased Pride events,

Maintaining public parks and spaces. Visible law enforcement.

Keeping the lake maintained and free of drifters

working together

Communication from the City Manager is important. Hiring Jen was an example of giving a local qualified person the position

The City continues to do a great job with Lake Sacajawea. It remains one of our strongest community assets, and residents consistently express how much they value the lake, the surrounding trails, and the recreational opportunities it provides. It's a point of pride for Longview and a feature that truly sets us apart.

Seems like they need to get over the back biting/quarreling and run the city.

Lake Sacajawea is beautiful and a place that many residents love to gather to walk, play, be in nature, and attend events. This area of town needs to be maintained, as it stands to many people as a symbol of Longview. It is why we chose to move to this town.

Keeping the parks maintained and the history of the town

Seeking community input

The amount of homeless people at city hall civic circle and the lake are less than when it was really a problem several years ago. That's better. Our city funds are best spent back on safety cleanliness and making it livable for tax paying citizens.

Improved communications to citizens

Raising fees and costs.

Our parks are beautiful and our roads are clean.

Clean, some activities, communication (especially recently).

I appreciate the hard work that park services are doing to get ready for the 4th of July celebration. Maintaining the lake area is a tourist drawing factor and will help businesses and join the community together.

upgrading streets and sidewalks

Longview does a lot well. Maintaining the lake and parks year round, hydrant flushing regularly, and street sweeping leaves in the fall are a few. Also the newer lighted crosswalks.

Screwing things up

I appreciate the street cleaning, and maintenance of the park.

I am pleased to see Columbia Heights road improvements coming in 2027. The response about the May 26th tragedy was appropriate and immediate. The land set aside for homeless encampment appears to be working. I am very happy with the paramedics who have helped my father on several occasions. I also think the Port of LV is doing great things for the community. I believe there are many positive things, I can't list all if them here.

Financially nothing

Public parks are looking well maintained and pleasant to spend time in.

Community engagement and long term fiscal responsibility

Our public library, parks & rec

emergency responders

Library services

The parks we have are mostly in good shape. The homeless situation has been improving.

New parks

not sure

Trying to keep downtown clean and maintained, more events for locals

Prioritizing spending

Raising taxes! People can't afford to live

Communicating with citizens better

The decision to sell off the Hope Village pallet homes doesn't seem responsible.

Community oriented

Trying to keep growing core services and our parks.

Spending money

Fixed the Homeless problem!! Thank you!!

Communication with citizens and maintaining parks.

Not a whole lot. We are on a downward trend. Limited police service, deteriorating infrastructure, rampant homelessness and drug use.

Clean, well maintained appearances.

Communication.

Spending money

I am happy to see bike lanes being established to promote more people to use alternative modes of transportation. The Library and Parks & Rec has a fairly strong presence and we enjoy the activities they host.

Silencing creativity and opposing views while welcoming big business rather than focusing on small, local, businesses that best support the families that live and pay taxes here. Overall, the current trajectory is not good.

You got me

Parks and public spaces. Community events.

Parks are nice.

Maintains trees and parks at a good level.

Maintaining Lake Sacajawea

Events for kids and families. Concerts at the lake, etc.

Reaching out to the public for their input, to inform, for examples: this survey, Longview 101, FB, etc.

I think we're good at cute stuff (squirrel fest/bridges, farmers market, county fair)

Keeping the parks well maintained and amazing events all year round. The staff and city council are very friendly and approachable.

Lake Sacajawea is a gem. All the tree lined streets are amazing. I know a lot of work must go into that.

The library is great and has many useful events.

City Manager being active and visible.

I honestly don't sense much impact of leadership so it would be hard to answer that

Much better communication with citizens (Longview Lowdown, Longview 101, summary of council meetings)

Bringing people together

Setting up a plan for maintaining existing infrastructure

Longview's Parks and Rec programs are fantastic. Our family especially appreciates the Afterschool and Summer Camp programs. I don't know what we'd do without them! We have also appreciated the increased bike-friendly infrastructure.

Enhancing and maintaining residential neighborhoods.

Having a well-equipped and knowledgeable police force as well as first responders.

Providing the public with a lot of good family recreational options.

Building the cloney park

Keeping the homeless from camping out in public spaces.

PUD is amazing.

The Lake is beautiful.

The City of Longview is doing well at prioritizing the public safety initiative.

Parks and Rec Department programs and the parks are great.

I've noticed a lot of good changes, and we need to keep the moment going!

Keeping people informed

The parks are well maintained. The library is wonderful. Improvements to streets and prompt attention to fallen trees is helpful. Removing the parking limits at The Merk and other places has been a HUGE relief. Communication is excellent. The town has improved so much in the years since we moved here!

Cleaning up streets from drugs

Promoting family values by encouraging citizens to join activities ie
YMCA
Outdoor festivals
Saturday market

Maintenance parks.

Maintaining Parks.

Wasting taxpayer dollars to fund sexual assault coverups

Parks and recreation.,street maintenance

Communication has improved significantly since city manager Jenn Wills started. Thank you.

The city should be audited to review spending vs automatically increasing fees to the public.

Less homeless is good.

Police Department. Parks. Maintenance Department

Asking for public opinion

I will say the city maintenance crews and public works crews are a great group of people. We've had issues at the main sewer line and they've been more than attentive to the issue.

Please reevaluate your city limits and the rules that apply outside of those limits. Pretty shady to make unincorporated pay for your failures when we don't get a say anything. Longview failed its community with its corrupt government. What exactly was the mayor doing at a BG council meeting anyway? Yes, we know

Making Longview safer and cleaner. Working towards economic growth.

Sharing their vision and following through when resources become available to them

Supporting emergency services, police and fire

Police response is exceptional.

City parks are well maintained. Roads are improving. Leadership!

Increasing revenue to support LPD

Communication

Maintaining parks and common areas

Our parks and programs

Community events ie R2L 10K, Go Forth, car shows etc

upgrading neighborhood sidewalks, taking down diseased trees

Communicating with the public

If I had to pick one thing it would be the Longview 101

Parks are wonderful.

Asking public opinion

tree and park improvements

Communicating with citizens

I appreciate Spencer making the city safer by cleaning up the homeless and their camps.

Road repair

Educating residents through Longview 101

I love our parks. Especially Roy Morse

Overall Grade B (80%) Nipponwave Disaster!!

Maintaining and improving parks

The lake and the maintenance that goes into the gardens and trees is first rate.

The library is great, love the free programs that anyone can join.

Love how clean the parks are around Lake Sacajawea.

I appreciate the amount of clean up and revitalizing that has occurred this year in preparation for the city's centennial

Maintaining the parks

Maintaining parks

Events, Parks, Library

We've had a lot of hard hits with staff changes and council changes through the past few years. I feel that staff has regulated well through all of the changes.

Parks are well maintained and contribute mightily to quality of life in this town. Kudos for Lake Sacajawea, Willow Grove, and RA Long park, but could use more activities. Maintaining outdoor spaces and providing community engagement should be a priority.

Parks, community services, utilities, library, police/fire

Cleanliness of city and public spaces, offering community events/activities

Respectfully they create drama well.

Generally Parks and Rec do an admirable job keeping up with cleanliness and providing programs and activities. The Longview Public Library does A LOT with their limited budget.

Looking to what the future of Longview will be. Customer service is a priority

Keeping parks safe and nice areas to recreate. Trying to limit cost increases.

not much I am registering. I need better roads and sidewalks

I think the community gardens and farmer markets are well done.

Community spaces/parks. Improving the walk/bicycle alternative transit options and related safety in building out infrastructure.

City manager, council and department heads working together with a future's perspective that is helping residents face the sometimes unfortunate economic realities.

keeping parks clean and beautiful, I feel fairly safe

Community affairs, library, parks are nice

Im concerned about some of the peeps on the city council

Keeping the lights on

Sending 7 workers to a job site to watch 2 work.

I've appreciated how the homelessness problem has been addressed.

Parks and recreation

Coming together for community

I love our parks! I also think that our utilities rates are fair.

The city does well at maintaining the lake park, path and landscaping

Fairly good.

beautiful parks, community events

Better communication than 3 years ago (when we moved here)

Discouraging street crime and public camping.

Sourcing funds

There seems to be little to none homeless camps in town.

They are doing a better job keeping public spaces clean and safe. The homeless population was beginning to take over public spaces and the city has done a good job of reversing that.

No

I appreciate Wayne, Ruth, Mike and Chris

Lake Sacajawea

Encouraging a sense of community and encouraging involvement

Parks and rec

Maintaining parks

Attractive parks with clean restrooms. Clean streets especially after fall leaf drop. Visible and helpful police force and firefighters. Garbage pick up and recycling pick up and waste control for other recycling. Go Fourth and Squirrel fest, the parades - Fourth of July and Christmas. Needle exchange program keeps my exposure to dirty needles to a minimum. I am a landscape volunteer at our church. Before the needle exchange program , it was common to encounter discarded needles and syringes in the landscape. Your tree pruning and maintenance are done well.

Repainting crosswalks

Not a whole lot. Bodies have been found in the lake, officers haven't followed through on calls, law adding citizens are looked at like second rate citizens while criminals walk free.

Oh, they're removing the bike lanes and fixing their water problems.

Multiple events and opportunities for homeless and low income.

Our parks are awesome

Maintaining public parks

Improving our policing and fire response, adding officers and, hopefully, getting another fire station

Parks and Rec

I can not see where the city is doing well at anything. Generally a disappointment

Sending annual property tax bills.

Not much.

Parks and Rec, Library, communication has gotten better, friendliness of City staff.

All departments are working towards becoming a team. Understanding each others jobs/duties so there is a better understanding of needs and priorities.

They maintain the roads very well.

Eliminating the homeless camp was a good thing.

Community events

Building a new park, added bike lanes

I was born and raised in this community. Moved away for 20 years and now I'm back. It's nice to see the city working hard to improve its image and quality of life for us residents. Seems like everything's on the right track. Keep in mind fiscal responsibility is one of the most important assets that a city should have

Maintaining the park

I think the Parks and Recreation Department and the Library are well run with the resources available to them.

The parks are the most VISIBLE evidence of the underlying optimism of the community. Maintaining the parks says, without words, that health, beauty and community collaboration are priorities here.

Honestly not much, I think the communication is bad, you've brought few economic opportunities to the area

Maintaining leaf program.

Living here only 2 years but a lifelong resident of Washington allowing panhandlers to be allowed on all major entries onto the store parking lots. I have watched many of the panhandlers wait for their spouses to pick them up and when they do, they are getting into brand new cars or trucks.

I think the positive energy Jennifer Willis. The City is doing a great job trying to have activities for all in the local community. While doing that many are all trying to make the city a better place to live and work.

Events

Parks

Parks and programs

Sanitation, mowing,

I'm not sure. I know the city workers work very hard with what they have. Some decisions seem short sighted.

Improving parks and recreational activities for families.

Maintenance of parks.

Lake Sacajawea, Clary courts.

Maintaining roads and public spaces.

maintenance of parks

Communicating with the townspeople! Caring for all those giant beautiful trees and planting new ones.

Parks and Library

Providing the number of services with a limited budget.

Raising taxes that about it. The water were not drinking because of the recent explosion

Not sure. I have not been happy with the directions of the City Council for some time. I am simply hoping this may change.

Nothing

Maintaining parks and roads.

Sense of community, maintaining public safety, improving public spaces and parks, having an actual downtown and "main street"

nothing

Public spaces

Roads, Public safety

Improving and maintaining our parks and public spaces

Having perverts and people who don't care about our children run our public schools

Our city on the outside looks beautiful. For the most part clean and presentable. Our parks and recreational.

Emergency services and services all do a wonderful job.

Maintaining Lake Sacajawea and the overall environment in general.

The people of Longview are supporting each other well in the wake of unimaginable tragedy.

Great parks, programming, roads. Physically beautiful town, well maintained.

excellent job in maintaining the quality of parks

Making sure our water is safe during this environmental and community travesty

committing to a plan and finding ways to move forward even with current resource constraints.

Keeping afloat

The city parks are looking pretty good most of the time - from what I have observed

Maintaining trees.

The biggest positive is the expansion of LCC's blue collar education program. Kudos! That is a piece of the puzzle for the future of our youth.

Understanding that quality of place is important for growth and development. Maintaining roads, sidewalks, neighborhoods, and public spaces is imperative. A vibrant downtown with shopping, restaurants, and activities are also an important part of quality of place. I have noticed a real effort to beef up these areas recently.

Supporting community events, maintaining parks and outdoor spaces, supporting the library,

I can't think of anything that's outstanding. It's just getting by. Things are average.

Not a lot.

Well maintained roads and tree care

Maintaining the parks

It's been heartening to see the establishment of bike lanes and the investment being put into Cloney Park.

Listen to it's people

What I think they are doing well is trying to keep a police presence to limit crime.

Over taxation of new businesses coming here

Raising Rates on crappy water. It's too bad that the water is the way it is. I know the City would change it if the funds were there.

Public events

Currently, I cannot think of anything. I'm dismayed at the council's approval to increase utility rates and sales tax at this time. Bike lanes are absolutely ridiculous and dangerous to navigate.

Seeking input, addressing the basics of quality city services

NA

I couldn't tell you because I don't have a say I'm in an unincorporated, but you sure expect me to pay those taxes? I have to pay all those city taxes. You guys have done a far overreach, and what's really frustrating for our community is. Cannabis stores are just as common as coffee stands and for the amount of tax that's collected 49 and a 1 percent to be exact. This city should be sitting pretty darn. Pretty, we won't even talk about the other part of that where the city revenues, all their nicotine tax firearm, tax and alcohol tax. Oh, and you might as well throw that fuel tax in there too. What else are you going to tax us on? We literally pay our taxes 2 or more times over. And you are not doing anything to help with that.

Community events

Supporting small businesses while bringing in larger business which provides jobs. Community events and programs to help people stay connected. Cleanliness shows care of where we live and is healthy.

Public parks

Lake Sacajawea is the highlight of the city. Police, Fire and Parks departments all are doing well to help improve the city.

Community events. My husband grew up here, we met and married in San Diego CA. After 15 years of marriage he got me to move here :). I love the community events, sports, and events the town host. That is something that we could not do in San Diego.

I'm concerned about the City Council. Several of them are dysfunctional, which impedes the higher quality of living here.

We have beautiful park spaces and activities for citizens.

Parks and Rec are well done. City is cleaner and homeless is less prevalent.

transparency

Maintaining the grounds at the Lake.

Lake Sacajawea is a beautiful park, the events there add to the community.

Parks and community services and events are great. And keeping basic services (eg streets and utilities) operating smoothly.

Over the past couple years I have noticed the decrease in homeless along major roadways and at public parks.
Not imploding despite efforts to keep us divided and fighting.

I like the improvements on our roads and expanding social services. The economy is poor, forcing residents to cut back on unnecessary and spur of the moment purchases. As a result more social services and opportunities are much needed and appreciated.

Police visibility and response is prompt, proactive and professional

Better city council and management. Parks and Rec - Urban tree program. Library.

Parks and natural areas are very good

I see city tree crews around my neighborhood a lot, which is nice. Lake Sacajawea Park and other parks look great. The water plant is well-operated. The cops are making their presence known. The city newsletters are informative. The library is wonderful and has significantly improved over what it was under Chris Skaugset. The repaved section of Nichols Blvd. by Ocean Beach Highway is smooth and good to drive on. Downtown looks good and has some interesting businesses.

Less homeless on the streets

The maintenance of our parks is excellent.

I believe the City of Longview fosters community through their events and the wonderful library. Additionally, the parks and recreation of Longview do a great job maintaining the landscaping around town.

Emergency response, communication, maintenance

Asking for more public input, improving transparency by sharing information regularly and in several formats.

The City has made some improvements in government transparency. The City is also making some good efforts to become better with technology and modernization.

What do you think the City of Longview can improve upon?

Continue to fund things that improve the community, while also maintaining and building upon having "nice things" to appeal to people moving to the area.

Focus on repairs and infrastructure, not "community outreach"

Understanding that while the City does need to make money to provide services and maintain/repair/enhance infrastructure, increasing taxes and fees on people who are barely able to afford to live isn't a realistic solution. The problem is deeper, be willing to look deeper.

Continue to work on reducing crime, drug use/dealers, and transients.

Putting words, ideas and suggestions into action.

Fix the abysmal condition of the roadways in and around town.

The water

The overall quality of our city. Too much drug use, homelessness, etc - making the city feel less safe and family friendly. Homeless drug addicts, Criminals and theft. I see cops worried about people shoplifting from walmart more then someones house getting broken into. I dont care if walmart loses 50 dollars worth of product but when i have something stolen its oh sorry theres nothing we can do.

Road maintenance

Downtown Commerce. Use the empty lots to build parking structures with solar attached and then put parking meters on Commerce. Free parking in the garage but if you want to be close you have to pay.

I'm just sick about closing Hope Village. And Longview sorely needs affordable housing and family wage jobs.

Reduce reliance on property tax increases for every city/school project

Trying to figure out why the cost of taxes or electricity goes up more than what the COLA numbers are.

The City can help encourage more small businesses and more cottage farming by removing barriers to entry or offering low-interest loans or other financial support and incentives to LOCAL small businesses.

Transparency

Stop increasing costs of living, we are stretched too thin. Wages aren't high enough to support the costs. If that's less growth then so be it.

I feel like the City's handling of our houseless population has been poor. It feels like certain councilmembers have a personal vendetta against them, refusing to allocate even a sliver of resources to helping support them. Whether they like it or not, these people are Longview residents too (and the misinformation that they're coming in droves from elsewhere is not only false but harmful).

I also think the Police budget feels bloated, especially in comparison to other important City services like Facilities, Library, Parks, and Recreation. Maybe focus on supporting these departments instead of allocating yet more money into an already massive Police budget.

Maintaining sidewalks. 8 year wait to have a sidewalk fixed is not acceptable. The hard water cleanliness is not acceptable.

Managing tax payers money better

Homeless people

Affordable utilities and housing crisis accountability, along with supporting our schools, especially at the early learning level.

Transparency

Traffic flow. It was ridiculous extending the sidewalk ramps into navigating a right hand turn. The bike lane from Oregon way to Pacific way is also the stupidest design ive ever encountered. The Traffic lights need to be synced better.

A goal for the city to encourage growth. We don't have an identity.

Better use of tax payers funds. Seems like there has been several increases lately to every department. PUD, Water, Taxes on property etc...

Putting the schools in a higher priority without costing the homeowners more money.

Spending. See where cuts can be made

Control utility costs. They are insanely expensive compared to everywhere that I've lived.

Everything stated above

Pedestrian and bicycle safety, helping local businesses stay afloat

Roads and sidewalks need improvement; local infrastructure for future growth needs be invested in now

Street and sidewalk safety issues in the Mint Valley neighborhood!

Cost of water.... It seems to be quite extreme.

Supporting businesses

1. Ignoring the over abundance of cats and dogs due to the high cost of neutering and spaying . Abuse and dumping of animals

2. Ignoring noise levels which includes vehicles that have been altered to increase noise, no formsl laws concerning increased noise outside of the 10:00pm to 7:00 am laws. Many people sleep early for jobs overnight or early in the morning. Increase the end of loud noise to 8:00pm to 8:00 am.

Ban fireworks due to the lack of conformity to the laws currently in effect.

Clean air, clean water, more waterfront access

Better quality water and reduced utilities costs

Emergency services(employ people who actually care and want to do their jobs)

Budget Transparency - report openly and frequently how our tax dollars are being used and why.

Keeping the parks, street, and diking area clean. It is having a negative effect on home sales in some areas.

Such pool attitudes by our elected leaders. Very poor public image.

Caring for lower income neighborhoods as much as the higher income neighborhoods are cared for. As an example, the nicer neighborhoods seem to receive street sweeping more often when they probably need it less.

The red tape around new and expanding business. The permitting and governmental requirements are time-consuming and cost prohibitive for a lot of people. It feels like we aren't welcoming to new, small businesses.

Improve street maintenance by refocusing priorities to road repairs. Sidewalks should be property owner responsibility.

Diversity

Economic opportunities (local, high paying jobs and small business support) and a general feeling of optimism and ownership in creating a pleasant and beautiful community. Community engagement and ownership are huge things that we struggle with in the US and I wish more people felt responsible to their communities and were more engaged.

Our sewage/water taxes are insane. INSANE. The lack of civic pride in our town.... There are literally weeds growing out of the crooked curbs all the way down Washington way. Potholes that damage vehicles. Where is the master deficiency list for our city and who is making sure things are being maintained? Or do they need to go buy a new \$80k truck to drive around town in? Live within your means as a municipality just like all of your residents have to do. Sell the shiny new truck and get used vehicles. Treat this place like it's your home. DO THIS: Set up quarterly civic pride days where the community can volunteer to clean up the city. Think like a non-profit and network with churches, charities, etc and build a movement to get our town back on track. 4 days a year with 10k volunteers can do a TON of good.

We need a safety campaign about good driving. Speeding, tailgating, people cutting off - it's getting worse. This comes up frequently as a topic of conversation around town.

Stop investing in industrial projects. Invest in technology and nature.

Accountability. There is an unlicensed food vendor that has been operating in town for months. I have spoken with the local Health Department, who said that they can't do anything because the vendors set up their booth after the Health Department's office hours.

This is a prime example of allowing things to go unchecked. "The vendor sets up his tent after 5pm, that's when we normally clock out, so there's nothing we can do." (Even though there are several salaried employees at the Dept of Health who could fluctuate their schedule to be able to investigate these illegal pop ups, they just refuse to, then continue to pass the buck.)

More investment into public spaces: we need more public toilets, more trash bins, and even more parks!

Fire is grossly behind the growth of the cities call volume. Their stations are outdated and their oldest in service apparatus is 28 years old. This is a problem. Remember the lessons learned from the LA fires?

There needs to be more medical providers.

The water utility costs need to be reformed.

Law enforcement needs to actually patrol and enforce traffic laws. Too many accidents for size of community.

Streamlining the permitting process for building projects, properly fund the fire department, improve some of the terrible roads, attract new businesses and make Longview a desirable in which to operate a business, partner with developers to develop waterfront property akin to what Kalama and Vancouver have done.

Safety. Homelessness and help for them.

Need to improve downtown. It could be much nicer.

Expansion of Recreation

The cost of utilities in this town is outrageous.

Housing opportunities taking into account the growth and location of our city [between 2 major cities know for colleges and careers]. Community communication advocates [digital marketing through community members that can provide resources or have used resources]. Reaches beyond the scope of your already robust newsletter.

Eliminate ALL 25 mph speed limits that are by all parks which seems like are everywhere. There is NO LOGIC to it! This was the absolute worst implementation city of Longview has ever done! If anything, 30 or 35 speed limits are much more reasonable.

Doing much better with cleaning up our public spaces from homeless, however there is definitely room for improvement.

Reduce homelessness and the consequences of their actions, ie garbage left all over, graffiti, feces, urine on the sidewalks and mow strips along the streets.

While not an issue with operational city staff, I would like to see council members focus on local issues and not national or pet politic endeavors that are a poor way to spend limited city resources, including time.

Utilities costs.

Prosecuting criminals.

Cost of utilities, cleanliness of the overall city and safety

Replacing outdated facilities and infrastructure.

Traffic lights. There are some streets that could really use timed traffic lights, and some intersections default to the wrong direction for a green light. Street maintenance is pretty bad in some areas. Some of the abandoned rail lines around the city are full of homeless camps and garbage.

traffic lights & timing. Mark morris intersection, washington way & 15th, 15th & ocean beach

Quality of streets and sidewalks

I wish the City Council would focus on what's best for the city as a whole, not their individual preferences or voting base. It takes real leadership to make hard decisions and see the bigger picture. The new Council is definitely headed in that direction, and I hope it continues.

Streets are terrible compared to how well the county maintains their roads

Stop paying Council members personal legal fees and use the money on city services to residents

911 response

Longview needs to eliminate tax dollars spent on services that attract drug addicts and homeless people to this city because of the support network that puts us in a vicious cycle of more free services leads to more homeless people taking away from things that those tax dollars should be for--the citizens that pay.

I would love to have more public walking access along the dikes around Longview. There are also a few popular concrete sidewalks people use to get to Lake Sacajawea that are a trip or fall hazard for anyone elderly, disabled, or for kids riding something like a kick scooter, because the concrete panels are pushed up in places. Also, I would like to see more tree variety planted along city streets. On my street for instance, there are about 15 of the same tree in a row. They are beautiful trees, but a single disease or similar event in the future could wipe them all out at once. If there were multiple varieties of city trees planted along my street that would be way less likely to happen. Nothing can be done about that now, but it would be nice if it was a rule that any tree that's removed by the city, always gets replaced with a variety that's different from the other trees near its' location so the biodiversity along each street and the city as a whole is improved over time.

Deny late stage capitalism/corporatism.

Better run facilities for the homeless. Social program to help those who truly want to be off the streets. Also increase tourism opportunities to bring more revenue into the area.

Encourage : facilitate citizen groups to address social problems and provide recreational and cultural opportunities but don't have the City acting as a social service agency

Traffic lights in the downtown area at night need to turn into 4-way stops, sidewalks need to be repaired all over the city, curbs are crumbling or missing all over the city, Columbia valley roads need to be leveled and repaved - those are all pitted, patched, grossly uneven and terrible to walk on since there are no sidewalks in those areas. More roundabouts need to be put in at major intersections to have better traffic flow, get rid of the ridiculous zigzagging roads that were painted in for "bike lanes" that nobody uses or uses incorrectly if at all. Fix the portion of OBH falling into the lake and dredge the lake.

Homeless services. Closing down the homeless village was a mistake.

updating some of the parks like Roy Morse would be great. The playground could use an updating

Kindness and human compassion. Stop targeting poor and homeless people and work on actually helping them achieve stability.

image. some politicians, like the mayor and kalei, are still divisive and incorrigable.

First and foremost, please do NOT put bike lanes on the left side of the road as was done a couple years ago on Beech! This is unsettling as a driver and as a biker (especially a family biking with kids as we do!!) biking on the inside of the road (left) is uncomfortable and dangerous. The Beech Street renovation is an absolute shame because of those bike lanes. Please please keep bike lanes on the right!

We would love to see the traffic lights fixed from a timer to motion sensor. The crosswalk buttons on Maple & 15th don't work.

Get Costco in Longview!

Not be jerked around by extreme positions of council members. They are representing US and need to listen more and talk less.

Cost of utilities, maintaining local noise ordinance after 10 pm

Helping the homeless and not make random and inappropriate decisions about the homeless. Those that are unhoused is a city decision. Not just the wishes of the 4 council members.

Holding homeless, drug users, thieves and illegals that are a burden on our city accountable.

There are too many cars with expired tabs and driving too fast for speed limit. You can't drive down OB without everyone passing you.

The City Council needs to work to be more transparent and collaborative. Also the members who voted to have the city pay for their legal fees should be required to pay those costs themselves. That vote should never have happened. It's unfair to the taxpayers.

Affordable housing

Encourage larger businesses to bring jobs here

Expand the courses at LCC

Leadership

Not continuing to increase cost on residents. We've had 3 or 4 in the last year

Supporting the laws of the State of Washington.

We need to invite more industry

Water and air quality, attracting more businesses that serve clientele outside of our region to bring more jobs and revenue in, increased / reworking housing footprint for greater density.

Better roads, better alleys

Streets and sidewalk issues. Easier to have companies come in and start business

There's still work to be done on Council showing respect to each other and the community.

City crews should have an outside job analysis. Some departments appear to be misguided in their workload and responsibilities. Clear expectations should be laid out for all employees and Councilmembers.

Homelessness, affordable housing, jobs that pay a living wage, safety and air quality

Stop charging base rates on utilities. It cost me (I live alone) an extra \$1200 a year because of base rates on PUD, water & sewer. Granted I don't live in the city limits but I'm only less than 3 blocks from it, & now you're tacking on additional 21.5% tax. This is crazy, I could use that extra \$100 a month for food. I don't know where this extra money you're getting goes, I just know I'm paying for utilities base charges I don't even use

I would like to see the city prioritize business growth and economic development while remaining committed to our fiscal responsibilities and budget goals. I urge the city council to remain open-minded to all constituents, ensuring that decisions are driven by the community's best interests rather than personal opinions or individual agendas.

Equality

Acceptance

Lower water rates

Better water

Remove the extra charges for paying utility bills online or via phone. Seriously.

Stop charging people living outside city limits 65% more for water. This is absolute bullshit and a monopoly. Especially with the new 21.5% tax that was recently added for everyone. Soon my water bill will be more than my mortgage. How are we expected to continue living in Longview with conditions & prices like this?!

Finally, the mayor. We the people of Longview should get to VOTE for mayor. They should not be appointed by a city council vote alone. This is absolutely ridiculous & needs to change.

Better Roads, There has been a small improvement, however they are so neglected it is going to take a lot more work to bring them to a standard that will attract positive growth.

Better and more transparent communication with the citizens.

Signal timing - not just an observation just fix them. Neighborhood lighting - not just old yellow lights here and there update the bulbs (so you can see) also at the Parks like Vandercook Park has an old yellow light in the middle of the park. Take out the 'extra' traffic control curbed spots with signals (not necessary) if "timed right" by Safeway on 15th is a good example.

Customer service, reduce waste of city employees time.

Revamp the whole school board. They don't make our kids safety priority.

Have less compartmentalization of information. I had a question on permitting and was told the person that was out for the day, come back.

Housing needs. I know y'all are working actively on this.

The city of Longview needs change all billing for WGS to be on monthly cycles not BiMonthly

Clean up roads, medians, sidewalks, etc.

The long weeds growing in the median and on sidewalks are eyesores and show a lack of care and community pride (along Washington Way, for example).

Offer more/varied activities through Parks and Rec. It's a slim selection of offerings, especially for adults with and without disabilities.

More senior programs,

Continue to look for ways to grow as a community even if it means we have to pay a little extra.

Look at Ridgefield and Camas - towns that have blossomed but still have a small town feel

Figure out how to reduce the costs of utilities. My water rates are insane for a family of two.

Attracting and diversifying businesses that will help the economy and provide job opportunities and employment competition. Further attracting businesses (not restaurants) to help economic growth and diversity for better stability.

It would be fabulous to have city council members who are both empathetic and pragmatic. The ridiculous and petty behaviors of some council members (often in the name of a God they clearly do not fully comprehend) are exhausting and reflect quite poorly on the overall reputation of this magnificent community. Lead with heart and not your small egos.

Improve streets and don't waste money on expensive things that don't matter much, like 10's of thousands of dollars on a gazebo. It may not seem like a lot of money to you and your big budget, but it probably affected some families.

Environmental stewardship. This is a mill town but big businesses need to operate safely and responsibly

Clean the lake!!! keep parks and town safe and clean for residents, especially children. Too many homeless and drug addicts roaming our town and neighborhoods.

Promote development of riverfront senior housing

Repairing neighborhood sidewalks so a person could safely walk around the block.

Cleanliness, streets

With the incident at Nippon, there have been numerous fundraisers that many gathered for, including myself. I loved feeling a sense of community with the event that I attended (Bobs). I'd like to see our downtown have more events with street vendors, artists, music, food options, etc the way Portland has Saturday market. Incorporate the Farmer's Market?

Listening and hearing to constituents especially those with experience and expertise in their area.

Listen to the city staff and leave council biases at the door. Value the differences.

Stop increasing taxes on water, sewer, garbage, and electric!!! it seems like all of our bills are just getting higher and higher.

Lower cost for water and sewer. We may have to move because of the high price of utilities.

maintaining and repairing infrastructure and planning for growth

Public Safety services

I think that there is an air of polarization and lack of compassion around certain issues like the unhoused community

We need more things for kids. Sports complex, Skate World etc. Activities to promote an active lifestyle.

Fix the lake. Fix the timing of the street lights.

Better allotment of financial support to public services, such as the library, bus routes, public schools, parks, and infrastructure. Considering making the area desirable for industries other than timber.

get rid of bike lanes, balance the budget, stop expanding services when you cant maintain what you already have. roads, parks and core services desperatly need maintanace. why is grass growing in the streets? reduce taxes being more progressive

More empathy to needs of unhoused population and social services available to meet these needs. Addiction assessment and treatment opportunities, too.

The city seems to be in decline - roads aren't as well maintained and and overall the city seems less kept up

Side walks need fixed, trees come at a cost! Taking care of all residents, from the poorest to the richest.

There should be more benches and places to sit and lay down around town. We have so many senior citizens and people with disabilities and it's very difficult to get out and be a part of the community when there isn't anywhere to rest. Stop putting so much of our money into controlling where homeless people can and can't sleep, and put it toward creating more access for everyone.

Overall safety, reducing drug usage and homelessness, and improving safety/reducing crime in the neighborhoods.

I'm not sure.

Improve business environment.

Get someone professional who knows how to organize events involved in planning & execution. It's amateur hour here.

Road repair

The city must make it an emergency priority to expand affordable housing options and services for unhoused folks in our community.

More events and activities for youth and families

Their attitude regarding people who are insheltered.

Cut costs of utilities!

I would like to see upgrades to roads, businesses, and overall city appearance. I want companies to seek out Longview like they now do with Ridgefield. I think this town could become one of the highest sought after place to live with increase curb appeal and the center piece being the lake.

Resources for seniors

The outskirts in parts of town are an eyesore and there are excessive transients and drug users in the area unfortunately, which really brings down the way people look at our community.

Sidewalks and roads

City government that supports the health and wellbeing of our community, not just based on economic opportunities (for example, Drax would have led to increased environmental and health impacts and risks. Our previous mayor said they supported Drax because it would create jobs. We can't just think about job creation when those jobs actually harm our community).

Our roads and sidewalks need repairs and improvements. Especially Oak Street between 30th and 38th and Virginia St in Columbia Heights. Also, please connect Yelton Dr. and Beacon Hill Dr or Niblett Way. This would make Three Rivers Christian School much more accessible for Longview residence!

The City of Longview lacks a sense of security. Recent Nippon Dynawave accident, Mark Morris sexual assault investigation, increased shootings, homicides and just the growing amount of sirens I hear on Ocean Beach Highway is extremely disturbing.

To secure Longview's future success, the city should champion evidence-based workforce, educational, and public infrastructure reforms to build a stronger, healthier community.

- **Workplace Modernization:** Incentivize a 32-hour work week alongside flexible hybrid and remote positions. This data-driven strategy directly improves employee retention and public health without compromising overall productivity.
- **Evidence-Based Curricula:** Transition local schools to guided, play-based learning models to foster superior cognitive growth and significantly reduce classroom behavioral disruptions.
- **Nature-Integrated Infrastructure:** Upgrade school playgrounds into nature-integrated learning landscapes featuring tactile and sensory installations to support early childhood development.
- **Student Nutrition Standards:** Extend school lunch periods to guarantee all students receive a minimum of 20 minutes of pure, seated eating time in compliance with CDC guidelines.
- **Trauma-Informed School Policies:** Eliminate punitive isolation and public shaming. Replace these practices with trauma-informed emotional safety frameworks and unrestricted, barrier-free restroom access.
- **Inclusive Public Facilities:** Upgrade municipal restrooms to better support families with young children by universally installing step-stools (e.g., Step-and-Wash) and wall-mounted toddler safety seats to promote safety and early autonomy. Extending park restroom operations through winterized, weather-insulated maintenance supports public health equity. This ensures that families and individuals with urological or chronic health conditions can safely access outdoor public spaces for active recreation and improved health year-round.

Have law enforcement start asking homeless people their names.
Stop enabling addiction.

City council needs to re-evaluate why they are on the council. What are the best interests for the community? What improvements are necessary? How to get it accomplished effectively and efficiently?

Education or outreach toward people on public infrastructure (ie people are concerned about the water and storm canals). Shifting budget less on public safety and more on public services like bringing back hope village.

We need more fire and police personnel.

Homelessness

Again, we need to improve the quality of the actual people who work reside here. We need to provide them with things that will benefit them specifically, such as positive employers and places to shop, and eat. In return many others will follow which will improve the overall living experience and Longview in general. The statistics clearly show as such.

New mayor, he's so creepy. I remember when my kid visited the mayors office and meet Mary Wallis, she was someone you didn't have to be embarrassed of. I'd excuse my child if they had meet the mayor day now.

ROAD REPAIR

Treating all neighborhoods as equal instead of focusing on only the wealthy while completely ignoring the rest. Maybe some actual traffic management for the residential neighborhoods where roads are treated as speed ways. There also remains this "we do it as it's always been done" and for many departments that means doing precious little. And for goodness sake a solution for the unhoused that is more than "run 'em out of town; make it illegal."

Handicap access to parks. Wheel chairs and walkers have trouble getting to the path across rough grass areas. Maintain or lower water/utilities bills. Mine has gone up \$50 a month over the last 18 month. That's a lot of my budget.

Keeping family around

We can't be a travel destination if we don't have ample Uber/Lyft options.

Also, it can be scary to walk around downtown with people sleeping on benches and the ground, and others on drugs or in a mental health crisis. We have some wonderful businesses, but people won't visit if it's sketchy.

Balancing initiative with strategy. Coordinate innovatively. Streamline processes between departments so that all essential departments have an understanding of what the other is doing and how its done. Example - in a recent city held community meeting it was discussed that there is a need for an information system to track details related to homelessness; the county has a Homeless Management Information System and it's pretty effective.

I think it just needs to continue improving in the direction it has been for the last year or so. Being willing to try out new things, just to see what sticks, Summer on Broadway for example, seems like a really great direction.

There are errors in the arrows painted on the streets and many controlled intersections make vehicles wait needlessly because the traffic sensors are either programmed wrong or they are simply broken and not working.

High cost of utilities - get rid of the overpaid driftwood that works for the city.

Hiring more police for citing the overwhelming number of aggressive drivers racing through this city. The police department is woefully under manned.

Transparency and holding council members accountable when they are acting disgracefully online on public forums. The mudslinging has made everyone look petty and like they do not actually care about public interest at all unless they can show up for clout. The public insulting and mockery of our towns most vulnerable people is disgusting and does not show any sign of care and compassion for the community.

The streets are terrible!

Ammons drive is the worst!!

Ruth Kendall used a word in the last council meeting that should be used more. Instead of just talking about our homeless issues, she said homelessness AND poverty. Poverty is bigger than just those without a roof over their heads and I think if we begin to think about that rather than only people on the streets, we might come up with a broader range of solutions.

Increasing staffing in Maintenance staff, increase library full-time staff by at least 1 position (absolutely necessary), increase maintenance of streets. Robbins Streets is and has been for at least 16 years has not been fully repaired. Curbs need redone in Robbins edition.

Probably getting working-age residents more engaged. The recent Longview 101 cohort, for example, was roughly just 25% working-age adults. I only learned about it by happenstance poking around the city's website one evening.

Housing for our unhoused neighbors, Not supporting ICE profiling brown neighbors,

Develop and or enhance relationships with the YMCA, library, college so that resources are shared.

Stop raising taxes, treat the city like your house hold and cuts costs if you do not have the money.

Budget like it is you money

attract more business

Un-housed, productivity of public works employees, (lots of standing around while some are actually working).

When you ask for an increase in things like water bills factor in the increase in sales tax to customers. My water bill has \$52 dollars of taxes charged to me, a single person in a small home. Staff reports a small average increase to residents but not the tax.

Outside of the lake, many of our amenities are aging, and several areas feel outdated, not as clean as they could be, or lack a sense of safety. In addition, sidewalks and streets throughout the city are in noticeable need of repair. These issues have a direct impact on the quality of life and how both residents and potential businesses perceive Longview. If

we want to attract new businesses, families, and workforce talent, we need to ensure our community looks and feels like a place people want to invest in and live in.

Better non-controversial decisions.

First, Longview needs to fix the mess with the water system. An investment needs to be made to provide healthy drinking water for the residents that is not as expensive as the current system. Longview's citizens are leaving due to the high cost of living and the lack of jobs. Secondly, Longview needs to focus on making sure it's residents have access to quality pre-K, K-12, and higher education. A highly educated populace is what major employers look for when they decide to come to an area. Longview absolutely needs to focus on attracting major employers to boost the economy, and major employers are not going to be attracted to Longview with the current level of education of most of the residents. Higher education leads people to improve their own lives as well as their community. Highly educated individuals are less likely to commit violent crime, have addictions, or suffer with homelessness. Attracting more businesses will mean more tax revenue for the City. More tax revenue means the city will have more money to invest in infrastructure, safety, and all of the other things listed in this survey. This would solve many problems and absolutely must be a priority. Longview needs better jobs, and this is the way to make that happen. Most people are really struggling, as most jobs in Longview do not pay enough to meet basic needs of housing including the high cost of Longview's Utilities. Longview City needs to focus on a balanced budget. I am always surprised at how little most people know about budgeting. The Budget must be balanced. I am confident it can be done. It must be done.

Preventing street racing through residential roads. Possibly adding speed bumps.

Being more future oriented in our goals

Please make us attractive to businesses and people who want to make it a better town more like ridgefield.

Support education K-12 and LCC

The lake quality

We need to bring people into this town. We need a sports center. Think turf soccer fields or indoor sports arena.

Less politics. The proposed street name change was out of line. It shows some members are not making decisions that factor in the needs and beliefs of the entire community.

Some of the roads repaired would be nice.

There are many stop signs and street signs in bad shape. Also need more public awareness for the bike lanes and who should use them. Are electric bikes able to or do they stay in the street? Who needs helmets? Are you allowed to ride bikes or scooters regular or electric on the sidewalks? Seen a few accidents. Drivers don't know where to look.

Remove silica from the drinking water.

Screwing things up

Our water facility is next to unsafe chemicals and not many people trust it. Our schools are also kind of a joke. Elementary kids were let outside after the chemical explosion before it was even known what chemical was released in the environment. A middle school teacher shot himself prior to being arrested for inappropriate behavior with children. Then there's the Mark Morris debacle. It's a wonder why the locals don't trust the people in charge around here..

There seems to be more low income housing in Kelso, compared to Longview. The block of housing run by the Salvation Army was closed, and I don't have the details, but I wonder if more low income housing can be made available.

I personally have trouble paying the water, sewer, garbage and storm drain bill every two months. I am a senior citizen. It would be nice to be able to apply for a discount based on what my income is now, not in the past.

Not spending more than they receive in revenue. Stop following Olympia and turn to more taxes for everything

Traffic flow could use some improvements, the timing on lights doesn't seem right and I think removing the light from Washington Way/20th was a mistake.

Lowering utility rates for individuals in "county" that are in the city in non rural areas. Its not right that I pay 60%+ for my utility rates than my neighbor who is 10 feet to the left. My property touches city boundary but somehow my water costs more than double?!?!?!?

The City of Longview is economically depressed. The historic downtown feels like a ghost town. Local businesses need to be incubated. There needs to be more focus on education and educational opportunities for the residents of Longview as well.

Social services, affordable housing

repairing roads and sidewalks

Traffic enforcement

Bring more high paying jobs into the area. Increase access to outdoor recreation, specifically the Columbia and Cowlitz River.

Infrastructure

Recognizing that it's been on the wrong track the past several years regarding spending and saving.

help for seniors

Bringing down cost of utilities, focusing on keeping parks clean

Traffic flow

Budgeting

A city council that is not biased politically

City government should work for all residents, not just members of a specific church or political affiliation. This small-mindedness is what keeps businesses from relocating to the area.

More industries/ economic development, Support/resources for the fire department

Continue to advocate for departments.

Public safety and reducing taxes, everyone is struggling in this economy

Public safety growth

Police service, homelessness. Why was the recently completed homeless area closed?

A more efficient cross-town traffic flow.

Less regulation, less restrictive codes.

Quit buying equipment if its not needed or wanted. Just because assistant city manager wants it. Get the finances fixed before making purchases. Fix the shitty water so it doesn't keep destroying home goods.

Road and sidewalk maintenance as well as establishing new sidewalks in existing neighborhoods.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion for all residents regardless of address or financial wellbeing

A lot.

Financial sustainability

Housing affordability and attracting sustainable businesses that keep downtown vibrant and interesting

Sidewalks in neighborhoods near Columbia Heights/Cascade Middle School

Safety

Making sidewalks safer, affordable housing for Seniors.

Maintain streets, encourage companies to come in with higher wage jobs, stop plea-bargaining criminals, and bring them to trial, put in walking paths.

The sidewalks in my neighborhood could use improvement. Not increasing our bill again.

Divisiveness in city council

Safety! Between shootings, public school issues and homelessness it feels like we're going backwards.

Bringing in more businesses. There are a lot of open store fronts all over town. We need to reimagine ourselves beyond a mill town and capitalize on the natural beauty and proximity to recreation. Get more hotels here so people can stay on their way to the beach or the mountains.

I can't stand the immaturity of several council members and the decisions they are making based on their own national party buzz words rather than making decisions based on actual resident experiences and thinking long term. Highly reactive policy decisions that are naive (like selling Hope Village)

Communication to citizens

I think the lake needs to be cleaned--it's looked very murky the last year and this is the centerpiece of our community. I worry about the prevalence of hard drugs, crime, and reckless driving that seem fairly prevalent for such a small town. I think it would help people feel reassured if our leadership was more visible, outspoken--maybe injected more into public events for visibility, spreading messages of positive change

We need council members who understand their job. Some should take the Longview 101 class. Many of them need to be replaced because they do not take their job seriously. It's more like high school popularity contest.

City growth similar to what is going on in Ridgefield

Seeing value in the services provided by the city

I'd love to see a community rec center or a large sports complex with turf fields.

Communicating with and working with the homeless population.

Enforcing good rules of conduct for the city representatives.

Lessening the divide between the well to do population and the low-income population.

Making it easier for businesses to be established and expand.

More housing for the homeless

Continue how to improve water water quality.

The City of Longview can improve on fiscal management and investing in infrastructure.

A smooth path all the way around Lake Sacajawea. I haven't been able to enjoy it for 10 yrs because I am disabled and use a walker that I can't push over the gravel. I was also in a wheelchair for two years and my caregivers couldn't push me. It's upsetting that I can't join my friends when they go out. I also can't enjoy the arts and crafts tents at the 4th of July celebrations.

We need more trails and advertising Longview's outdoor activities. A running trail to the top of Mt Solo with views of the Columbia and Mt St Helens would be very cool.

Monitoring the hate rallies and taking actions before destruction

There are some pretty rickety sidewalks in residential areas--a tough endeavor due to the gorgeous trees, but they are a tripping hazard.

Cleaning the streets and lowering utility costs

Sidewalks and city streets in Longview seem to have major problems. Catlin and Washington intersection while turning left to go to Ocean Beach Highway I almost ran into the median. Needed paint and it really is not user-friendly. The new curbs on 15th and Broadway are also a danger. Heading south on 15 turning left on Broadway you could wipe out your car if you didn't know those curbs are there. Sidewalks are uprooted. Just waiting for some shyster to head into town do some kind of Dick Van Dyke trip and end up suing the city for millions. Wake up!

Utility rates and services.

Encouraging well known restaurants businesses to open in Longview

Homelessness, re-examine my proposal.

See above

Water and taxes

Needs to support parents with getting the school board employees removed who voted Karen Cloniger in contract after knowing what took place at Mark Morris and failed to protect our children. You can't expect families to want to stay in the community if you don't listen to us.

Yes, technology & online services make work easier for City of Longview employees. However, we need to keep in mind that not all customers have computers, smart phones, internet service and/or the ability/skills to use them.

City employees need to be understanding/flexible when serving people who have limited resources, skills and/or knowledge.

I think the police station should be open 8-5 Monday-Friday, not 8-4 Monday-Thursday.

Clean our water - we have continuously had to purchase new appliances due to our water. Stop increasing water/sewer/garbage fees it has got out of hand. Improvement on wait times for the city to respond to fixing the streets. We have been on a waiting list for 8 years to fix our sidewalk and we live near the Lake where every year someone trips and falls during the 4th of July festivities. I've called every July and am told we're still on the list.

Maintaining streets and sidewalks. Stop wasting money.....on tearing out perfectly good sidewalks to replace with bump out sidewalks, turning perfectly good 2 lane streets into one lane with bike lane. Fix what's broken and synchronize the lights.

Bring back hope village.

Being more present in the community

I don't want to hurt your feelings

Transparency

Especially where our tax dollars are spent. The whole country is watching your next move after that explosion.

Remember the community rallied around those families, Longview didn't

Our drinking water. Keeping utilities and cost of living affordable.

Stop raising taxes fees and rates where it makes it difficult just to live in your home!

Need to make it more affordable to live here. Utility costs are high, taxes are high, stop enabling and throwing money at those who should be contributing to instead of using Longview's services for the less fortunate.

Take care of the damage they have done to my Mint Valley neighborhood

Removing problem trees and repairing sidewalks.

Timing of lights on main roads, road lighting needs attention as many are burned out or poorly lit (due to dimming of bulbs), homeless/drug problems city wide, city water (so much scale and iron, also water shouldn't reek of chlorine straight from the tap)

Reducing costs and living within its means, not increasing tax rates every time you turn around

Lowering Utility Rates and increasing efficiency.

Opportunity for change in local business ideas

Expanding/improving parks (although new park on Washington Way should be wonderful)

Investing in infrastructure, cleanliness of spaces, less chain businesses so local has a chance

Improve lodging for visitors

Free or low cost activities for kids too old for playgrounds. All the focus on playgrounds is great, but is missing the mark for kids that are too big and too old for swings and slides. Teenagers need areas too, otherwise they are bored and may cause mischief.

Traffic safety, driving and walking

As Longview as a whole, we need more services for our community, better third spaces and supporting local business here in town. As for the council members, actually listening to your constituents and not abusing your position for personal gain. I feel very discouraged by our council members, I feel like they don't listen and just do whatever they feel like, I feel lied to every time they speak.

Use resources wisely and streamline permitting processes.

roads, sidewalks, and infrastructure

Stabilizing costs and repairing infrastructure that's important for citizens quality of life

Figure out how to cut costs, reduce taxes, improve the water, reduce utility costs, and improve safety for all citizens.

Let the police police. Stop the open air drug market. Increase fines and penalties for drug users.

A better-educated City Council. The Boudrea-LaFave fiasco is an embarrassment.

More disc golf holes at Roy Morse

Emergency Response! Industrial SAFETY INSPECTIONS!!

Repairing public streets and sidewalks

#1 Utilities infrastructure. #2 The recent disaster at Nippon has made it clear that the City could benefit from a dedicated Emergency Management position like other cities of our size employ.

Stop paying for the city council's lawsuits. They should have to pay for all of their legal issues themselves just like all citizens have to do.

Get a security guard at the library so drug dealers aren't trying to pick up kids and teens, and the elderly will feel safer going to the building.

Elect people without a radical far right agenda who prioritize good governance over personal vendettas and viewpoints.

Repairing sidewalks and roads. Also, there is nothing for kids to do. Catlin pool was filled in and made into a stupid sprinkler park that is only good for little kids. Bored teenagers lead to thefts, vandalism, gang activity, etc. Also tree maintenance. We have dead limbs on trees on our street. I called the City but nothing was done.

Keeping utilities and taxes reasonable

Less unnecessary city council drama

Containing sharing the story to the public of how we do things.

Approach to services for the homeless population. Very upset at the prospect of simply selling off the resources that the city invested in. Short sighted. Very upset at the arbitrary criteria used for opening the shelter during inclement weather. Should be more accessible during ALL weather events. I don't want to see the "culture war" issues exploited for political gain or attention by any council members, especially the mayor, who it seems recently attended and recorded the Battle Ground city council meeting. Leave the religiosity out of the official duties of council.

Water

Permitting, infrastructure maintenance

Firework safety/regulation, emergency preparedness, elderly services and community care, planting more trees and native plants

Clarity from council members on how taxpayer dollars are being spent and how they will be spent. More accountability from council members with upholding the responsibilities of their positions.

Reducing costs.

The decision to sell the pallet homes may bite us in the butt- there is still a large unhoused population and crime surrounding drug use/those with mental health issues.

This is beginning to resolve itself, but the contentiousness amongst council members and money spent to defend the poor decisions of a few of them is ridiculous. This is ultimately the fault of ill informed voters. Not sure how to fix this



Looking for grants ??? To help improve sidewalk safety and road repairs. The Washington Way project is a prime example of this working well ... btw, I like the bike lanes.

Finally I had a very distressing interaction with City Utilities Dept. The other day. Your new manager of that area did a reasonable job of smoothing things over but your cashiers (yes this has happened to me and others) lack training and empathy. Additionally , the “take a number outside the window” system certainly feels like “we really don’t want you here”. Plus the dumb number generator barely works - yep I’m still burning a little over this 😊

Streamline processes with fewer internal programs to use. Educate on products and technology we are asked to use. While a conscious effort is being made, de-siloing is important for any system to function at its most optimal performance level(s).

Conditions of roadways, additional housing assistance (homeless, low-income), overall city cleanliness

Public safety

I would like to see improvements in accessibility for wheelchair users including sidewalk maintenance and building access throughout the town. Also, increased recreational community event organizing.

Speeding on residential streets. Always hearing on the weekly about somebody’s car getting hit or people going 40 down a residential road.

All leadership positions from the Manager, Mayor, Council and Departments need to have an attitude that demonstrates their belief that residents are able to find a way to meet individual and collective challenges.

I understand that water and electricity rates occasionally have to be raised, but it seems they have really gone up a lot this year. It makes things difficult. And, the water tastes so bad (just a side note)

Better and safer dog parks and city parks; reduce speeding traffic - difficult to live on and even cross a street. Zoning improvements - allowing 4' high fences too on sides of yards - hiring a neighborhood liaison in several area to talk to those specific neighborhoods. There are still drug deals going on in alleys and at certain houses and at the dog park areas.

Integrity of city council

We need more opportunities for local businesses and local entrepreneurship. Prioritize opportunities for local businesses above big corporate behemoths. Let’s try to keep our money local as much as possible.

Infrastructure and our water!!!

Lowering costs before raising utilities, and the city entrance from Oregon is embarrassing.

Avoiding sudden increases in property taxes. My property taxes went from 496.31 for 2025 to 3159.31 for 2026. 536.56% increase a ridiculous difference!

Cleanliness and pot holes

We need to bring in more family wage jobs, and our downtown needs help.

In my experience, the employees of the city who work in the water department all seem unhappy doing their jobs. I don’t think the city should charge a fee for people to pay when a card for services.

Spend wisely.

permits and bringing in new businesses, affordable housing, healthcare accessibility

1) Zoning. Standards for junk in yards. Clear delineation between residential and industrial zones. 2) Better sidewalks - I fell and broke my wrist last year on street on west side of Lake Sacajawea. 3) better street lighting near intersections
Keep engaging residents with surveys like this, public workshops etc.

Communicating infrastructure degradation and how investing now will benefit us longterm

Putting our roads back to the way they were before the bike lane and our water is trash, go back to the cowlitz.

The roads and sidewalks are in need to repair. Some have massive potholes and the sidewalks are not all clear and accessible.

Look at high cost of base rates and use why we get charge both

Get rid of the people costing us 150k plus in legal fees and stupidity on a regular basis. Halverson, Kalei, Milton, Keith Spencer and whoever else are all turning this town into a maga joke and we the people are paying for it

Run down rental properties in the highlands

Supporting local businesses- empty store fronts and vacant buildings discourage commerce

City council Stop the stupid ideas and fighting with everyone.

Raise revenue to support improvements

stop planting so many trees along roads that we watch many die - get insects and disease, they make fall horrible, break up sidewalks, I say plant a tree on peoples properties, whatever kind they want, where they want, that is away from the structures and all sidewalks and streets instead. they then get the clean up. Trees around the lake are great. We have enough trees now

very disappointed city pushed local car club out of fairgrounds august event and car cruise, shame on you.

Spending money on essential services and infrastructure. Reduce programs and do fewer things well instead of a lot of things poorly.

Keep fluoride in our water. Even bringing up the issue of removing the fluoride was a black eye to the overall health of our people. I lost trust in several of our city council members. who wanted to take out fluoride. The silica in our water supply though fine to drink, adds much maintenance for our household. I also worry that after the most recent mill explosion that our water supply is not int he safest location if there are repeat mill problems. I would be willing to pay a tax increase or more for our water, to create a water supply site without silica and away from the mills. The downtown has landscaping that was designed into the street corners that were upgraded for handicap accessibility. That landscape needs to be better maintained as far as weeding. The center parking strip in the middle of Broadway needs weeding more often. The street speed limit of 25 mph on Nichols and on Pacific Way leads to much tailgate problems. For me this decrease in speed limit has made me feel less safe. Has there been any decrease in serious accidents with this speed limit decrease?

The amount of homeless people out that are clearly high and not arrested

Get better trained officers that allow them to actually make arrests on issues that are real, crack down on the drugs in this town.

Paying more attention to the tax paying citizens.

Fixing sidewalks,

Downtown!

Safety and getting homeless off the streets

Waste. Stop paying legal fees for the MAGAs that can't follow the rules

Road improvement. Lots of potholes and uneven roads, speed bumps infront of all schools.

Preparing for potential growth due to the fact that we are one of the most affordable places to live in the I-corridor.

Stop already with tax and utility hikes. We're getting squeezed from every direction.

Cut taxes and stop over spending.

Stop spending money on dumb stuff and then asking for more money to spend on the important stuff. It should be the other way around. Pay for the things that matter first (education, infrastructure, etc.) then, if there is money left, use it on other things. We need to get cost of living under control and taking steps to reduce the money coming out of our pockets should be the priority.

mindfulness of current economic conditions and the ask.

We are behind the ball on infrastructure and staffing levels in most departments form doing more with less. Trying to plan for catching up or working towards that is important.

Lowering utilities, I have lived here for over 50 years and the taxes make it impossible for the seniors to keep there head above water while trying to enjoy there elder years

The city of Longview can improve upon their cost for essential services such as water, sewer, garbage. The amount that is paid for sewer and runoff is ridiculous.

Water billing is terrible. The interface is worse than it was before they updated it. Service used to be a reasonable cost and it's gone up outrageously.

Including public feedback before spending

Extreme crackdown on vagrancy, begging, and homelessness -send that up the road to Tacoma is they shoose to coddle them.

The drug problem. There needs to be a clearly communicated message that drug use is not welcome here. For far too long, drugs have been what Longview is known for. This has not gotten better over time (except when parks were finally cleaned up and a camping ban was put in place). No homeless camps, no free needles etc. those programs only make the problem worse. Look at communities who have focused on giving out supplies, it always increases the problem. LICENSED clinical mental health workers need to be incentivized. Not peer or SUD counseling trainees but fully licensed, fully educated professionals.

Providing more public safety resources, getting some more new city council members, variety of programs and events, not just the same old thing, as most events seem the same with a different name. Minimize the amount of AI generated posts and flyers that are used to promote the city activities.

Fun places for kids to enjoy outside . This is the most boring place for kids

Enhance the lake as an asset for others to come visit and partake in. Focus on business success for all types in the downtown corridor with limited taxes and utility cost

The economy and welcoming new business and expanding

I think the parks and recreation department and library are two of Longview's jewels. Cutting those programs is not a good strategy.

Educating Council member Halvorson about the appeal that community collaboration creates for potential residents and businesses. He can "believe" all he wants, but if the data doesn't support his opinion on what succeeds in community growth, then he needs to admit his behavior is aiming to brow-beat folks who don't "think" like he does and his actions are reckless and selfish.

How can a city like ridgefield a fraction of our size be booming with costic, in and out and we've brought no opportunities the people are suffering here

General condition of roads. Streets should have more than cement barriers.

Paving Pacific Way from Sunset Way to Ocean Beach.

Outside Fiscal audit of all departments. The overall feeling after living here for over 30 years is that there are way to many relatives working in all departments. With that it is not easy to make tough decisions when you have an

emotional connection to your Cousin etc. The city needs to fund the police department with more officers. Someone already employed by the city needs to step up and bring high paying jobs to the area, with that the companies will invest in Longview. It was sad to see JH Kelly build a pole building and not a high rise in downtown Longview. JH Kelly has supported Longview for many years, sad they didn't want to do a building in the downtown area blocks.

Encourage business growth and jobs

Fix the sidewalks. They are unsafe.

Making it easier and more appealing for new businesses to open here, easier permit process for new construction and building process and zero tolerance for homeless in parks and public places

Please figure out bathrooms when your elderly or have young children an unlocked bathroom is the difference between staying home or going to parks or lake. with the housing crisis do something with abandoned and boarded up properties. And remove untagged vehicles from city streets

The City Council could be honest and not cost the city ridiculous amounts of money to fight their legal battles over stupid, dishonest decisions that they've made. Yes, I'm still bitter over it!

Traffic flow. Service costs, permits, utility costs. Managing their money.

Bringing more sustainable jobs.

Supporting law enforcement needs and eliminating narcotics.

Utilities fair cost not single person paying same as a family of 5 for base price.

Better parks for older children; skatepark, more free or low cost education/nature resources or classes. Invest into the kids museum. A co-op grocery store.

Better maintenance of Lake Sacajawea. The park still looks great but the water quality has degraded since the City stopped pumping fresh water into the lake. Improved services addressing homelessness.

Road repair maintenance

Incentives for keeping water on property (for aquifers) and more benefit for conserving water (base charges should be reduced based on consumption).

Infrastructure in general and a caring need for the homeless. Since the elimination of Hope Village, we are again seeing people sleeping in vehicles in our neighborhood. Large and old City trees hanging over houses is a major concern. Improved fire ratings.

Less emphasis on on law enforcement and more at caring for the disadvantaged.

Get rid of of Mayor and his minions

Don't let the state push Longview and Cowlitz County into raising taxes because of Olympia's agenda and lack of common sense budgeting.

Attracting good paying jobs, maintaining and improving roads, shaking the perception that Longview is an impoverished and sketchy place

quit giving percentage raises which increases inequality, cap wages of top earners, and don't say you have to pay big wages to get good people. there are lots of good people who will work for the people and not to line their pockets.

Noise. Car noise is ridiculous in town. Modified mufflers, racing, etc.

Not Sure

We need more nature, more trees and plants. None of our parks have any "outdoor/nature" feel

Traffic is getting heavy and long term planning and updating may need to be done.

Pushing public schools to not spend every penny on the sports activities and spend some on the music departments

I have lived here for around 28 years. I love this town this community. This is my home. More and more I feel as if I'm being pushed out because of the costs the water prices along is the highest in all of Washington state. Why is this happening. Does Longview really want to keep losing residents that work pay taxes pay city fees and city taxes pay property taxes and mortgages. Longview can do better!

Control crazy drivers and extremely loud vehicles, particularly the one that go out of their way to make noise.

Utility costs are outrageous.

Safety, boosting local economy and job opportunities, improve new business process for companies. We should prioritize river front recreation and tourism. Longview is a very unique city, it's a historic city, we need to market and capitalize on that. We also need better hotels for people to stay in so they will want to stay away.

Many of the streets and sidewalks are badly in need of repair/improvement. The 15th avenue corridor and Washington Way between 15th avenue and Ocean Beach Hwy could use a real facelift to improve the visual impression of the city. Commerce Ave and Tennant Way are examples of improvements that these other areas could use.

keeping our utilities affordable, maintaining a location for our homeless population

Weeding out the "wants" from the needs and prioritizing the needs over the "wants". this is not just about programs and services. this is largely about infrastructure.

Think of things that would help the community as a whole the bike lanes was a terrible idea. Don't get money for dumb ideas that do not help the city and are a nuisance

homeless issues

Sidewalk safety - neighborhood sidewalks are treacherous and threatening to life and limbs

More funding for complete streets for more options to bike.

Have a plan to make the city a better place - safe (crime, homelessness); revitalize downtown (look at other cities that do not have a main street of thrift shops); opportunities for young people to entice them to stay and grow their families here.

Would love to see some development at the Lake. I will support the efforts by the Rotary to expand Martin's Dock. We need a wider lens to look at what can be accomplished to make our area a place to be proud to live and work in.

I would like to see some action re: slum lords. It would be great if rental property owners were required to keep the property in good condition, as well as the yards mowed etc.

The entrance to the city could be more inviting. if people are coming off I-5 and turning off to go to Oregon, they get a very different (and somewhat depressing) view of Longview.

Planning for and attracting businesses that can are ethical, community oriented and provide living wages

More police. More emergency preparedness. Less political drama.

Spending finances wisely.

Promotion of local businesses - I would love a summer night market downtown

Maintenance of city buildings and streets

Lots of areas in the older neighborhoods with massive side walk tripping hazards and aging population.

Code enforcement, especially with respect to vehicles being parked on lawns or blocking the sidewalk. Banning the sale and use of fireworks in the city would be a huge step forward as well, especially with the sheer lack of restraint and regard for the wellbeing of others that is consistently displayed in their use.

Get addicts and thieves off the streets

I think they can improve but not using tax payer money to give to homeless and those who choose to live off the system instead of helping themselves.

Streets, handicap corners, improving traffic signals especially at Douglas and 15th. Improving flow of traffic it sucks. More cops

Where there's people there's politics but politics shouldn't get in the way of doing business.

Stop focusing on Parks. We have enough places for kids to swing. Focus on the terrible water. Please.

Residential street repair

Stop increasing utility rates and taxes; especially during our current economic crisis.

economic expansion beyond industrial sector

Water quality. This is critical and will eventually be a risk/liability to the city. Planning and investing. They say the least expensive bridge is the one you build today. Quit kicking the can down the road. Infrastructure doesn't heal itself.

Entertainment activities for our teenage youth. Bring back skate world or something similar to it to keep our youth engaged in a positive way.

If you can't read above and figure out what I told you you can improve upon, then you weren't listening. Continually, raising the costs for the residents and the community of longview is not going to make it better!.It's a spending problem, not a budget problem

Taxes

Reducing the costs of services and holding the line on increasing or adding new tax rates

Look towards future generations and bringing in forward ideas and needs to keep up with what people need, instead of old ways or same old behaviors and beliefs.

Support growth of the city for the long term of a larger population

Better involve citizens - adopt participatory budgeting model for use in all city decisions.

We need to bring in better paying jobs, more business and more recreation opportunities. Public access to the waterfront is the single greatest thing we could do to improve the city.

Cleanliness/ homelessness/ crime (drug use in public). While the lake is so charming, when we were house hunting I was in shock at how run down most of the town was. I was also shocked at the house prices compared to the job market here.

Have more mature people on the Council, so that they could meet higher expectations.

Making sure the city officials lead from a philosophy of what's best for all/majority of citizens and not come across as carrying out personal vendettas. Sometimes they look immature.

Update infrastructure.

jobs

Allow tiny homes to be built/ utilize the buildings at the Hope facility.

Help small businesses to thrive. Clean up sidewalks and along roads.

The overall cost of living needs to improve and needs to start with utility rates. Although the amount of visual homeless has decreased, there is still a need to address this matter. The city needs to quit enabling people and make them take responsibility for their choices and situations.

Get better City Council advisors who have proven experience on post-covid community development in demographically diverse regions.

tree trimming, leaf cleanup in fall

Repairing sidewalks which heave due to tree roots and pose a hazard. I'd prefer those repairs to the upgrades to street corner sidewalks when the current ones aren't a danger.

Make the stoplights at Douglas & Commerce traffic sensitive. Most of the day Commerce has little or no traffic but Douglas can face long waits.

Encouraging the development of more housing. I do not know much about grants or building permits.

Financial transparency, and accountability. Also reduction of special favors or skirting policy to accommodate "good ole boy" or those with a local family name. It's not obvious, but my hunch is it happens more than it should.

Monthly billing of the city utilities. Smoothing streets on the old west side.

we need more police and fire

The roads in the Robbins Addition are a broken mess even though multiple panels of concrete have been replaced in the last two years. Much work remains. My beef is with the city councilors who fired the city manager. City councilors should not be allowed to be involved romantically with city staff.

Streets and sidewalks. Synchronized the lights

Homeless services and job opportunities

Increasing police in our city so that they are able to protect and serve our city and to be able to do their job effectively and efficiently.

There are some neighborhoods in Longview that need assistance and create unsafe pockets in the city due to a lack of assistance. The City of Longview needs to have some kind of infrastructure in place for it's homeless population and needs to renew their contract with Humane Society to support the stray dogs and cats in the city.

Rampant homelessness and crime prevention

Maintain streets, sidewalks, attention to trees that present possible risk

I would like the city to show residents how/what are tax dollars are being used for and what is being done to save money. Share examples of cost-saving changes, grants, or other efforts to reduce resident burden without lowering services. Efficiency would go a long way to build trust.

Stop focusing on criminalizing homelessness and sweeping it under the rug. Stop stigmatizing homelessness and drug addiction. Prioritize preventing homeless, and addressing the problems that lead to drug addiction.

Looking ahead 5–10 years, what would a successful future for Longview look like to you?

Trying to bring appealing business to the community.

Better roads, signals and sidewalks.

Housing prices and a rental market that is actually affordable for what jobs actually pay here, a City that is financially solvent and forward thinking without taxing its base into the ground, a flourishing variety of the types of community events, small businesses, parks/sports facilities, public art, etc that make Longview somewhere where people actually want to spend their time when they aren't working.

A clean city with low crime, low transients, and well kept streets/sidewalks. A city that has well cared for public spaces and neighborhoods. A city with economic growth, strong and stable business, and financial stability.

Ensuring that our aging infrastructure is cared for and still functioning properly. Improving the basics as we continue to grow, even if that means charging more for these basics. Holding people and companies accountable for what they should be without playing political games where everyone loses. Not continuing to only be reactive when something fails, but having a plan in advance of failure for keeping up with our aging city and all that is in it (streets, sidewalks, trees, utilities, etc.)

New water build up the downtown

Cleaning up neighborhoods and requiring tenants and owners to keep them up. Stop accommodating homelessness and drug use. Make this feel like a safe place to raise a family.

Leveling off or lowering utility rates if you have to increase every single year there is something wrong!

Improved roadways, sidewalks, better food options

Better roads and tourist attractions. I council that does what is best for the city and not their friends.

Expand manufacturing. Increase affordable housing. Downtown area revitalized.

Building an affordable community

Get more volunteers to help the law enforcement and community to be more safe.

Resilient local food supply chains, resilient local and small businesses that support the needs of the community, and strong but fair community servants.

Business growth and affordable living

Smaller town, clean, roads fixed and we can afford to support our families.

A sustainable budget that doesn't create more problems in the future (deferred maintenance, for example). We want more people to live here. We want Longview to be that great place to live, work, and play, right? I'd like to see more options for entertainment, like a small concert venue. A more diverse population. More invested into the Library, Parks, and Recreation to create a better sense of place. Better job retention for City employees. A growing economy and more local jobs that pay living wages.

Encouraging businesses to flourish here by not increasing tax/fees. That will, in turn, create financial stability for the city.

Na

Well maintained infrastructure, neighborhoods safe from crime, clean green spaces

Focusing on our schools and our children, as well as making it financially stable for families. A full-time minimum wage job won't support a one bedroom apartment in this economy.

No unnecessary tax that increases basic cost of living. Continued support of our own indigent population and the support of their healthier living. Continued economic growth and less infighting between the two sides

A strong foundational identity that gives our city a north-star goal. We need to bring people and business to the city and to do that we need to have goals, communicate that to community, and have realistic checkpoints to achieve.

The homeless population is controlled with reduced housing opportunities. Mental health issues are addressed that lead to less crime and homelessness.

Looking ahead not sure, Currently I see more of the city dying. More smaller affordable housing would also be a help. My children can't afford to go out on their own.

growth in new businesses and more housing

Clean and well maintained infrastructure, affordable for lower middle class families.

Our taxes and utilities have increased substantially and have become harder for people on fixed incomes. When you have a two income house vs retired people even \$10 a month can be a lot.

More public activities for families and local job opportunity for families

More affordable housing. More funding for programs that can assist people find housing and stay housed

Growth in population, businesses that have stayed longer than a couple years, a thriving commerce ave and lake activities, improved road infrastructure and pedestrian/bicycle safety

Safe walkable neighborhoods with great roads and infrastructure to accommodate the growth of the population and more varied local businesses

Job growth that attracts more of the most talented people who graduate from high school here and then add to the strengths that benefit all of us.

We need safe places for teens to do things and go places. Triangle Mall is great, we need more places like that! I wish downtown was more teen friendly.

Updating structures, supporting business. Clean streets

More jobs which would bring more stores and companies into Longview.

Lower water bills

More rules for noise and crime so more police in the parks and actually driving around. A better system for animals to get neutered and spaying.

Teen training programs to get experience to work. Jobs available for trained teens.

Clean air, clean water, enhancing tourist infrastructure, more waterfront access.

More things for children to do, feels safe in neighborhoods, more events for citizens to take part in and enjoy.

A robust, attractive downtown area. More name-brand retail and groceries so we can shop quality goods locally. Services for our underserved population, provided with care and compassion.

Having cleanliness, honesty, and non-partisan government.

We would be positive, vibrant, growing and investing in our community.

Ample jobs, beautiful community spaces that feel safe, and well maintained infrastructure.

A community where there is always a new, interesting thing to check out (a festival, a street fair, a new restaurant, a new business, a new piece of artwork, a new community service partner, etc.) Right now, there are a lot of new empty storefronts.

Successfully provide community amenities and reliable infrastructure without relying on continued utility rate and sales tax increases. Enforce b&o taxes across all corporations.

A place i would want to stay in.

A clean, beautiful, well-maintained and economically prosperous place to raise a family.

Develop a waterfront retail/park space. Look at Kalama, look at Vancouver.... Create a portion of waterfront that can be a destination for quality dining and businesses to be. Along west side highway? Convert the abandoned railroad tracks into a greenbelt connecting the community?

Recreation by the river, maintained walking and hiking trails close to the city, pooling the resources of Castle Rock, Kelso and Longview Library to make one library with branches.

Local Leaders who care about the WHOLE community, not just the ones who attend the same church.

Competent, transparent and active leadership at a local level.

The Cowlitz Good Ol' Boys Club being dismantled.

Trees, trees, parks, and shade

Continue to reduce the homeless population by not by providing expensive "services" that do nothing to fix the problem but by continuing to make it inconvenient to be homeless within the city. Public safety funding, roads and infrastructure. If the basic responsibilities of local government are met with flying colors then if there is a surplus we can consider social services.

Stable economy, budget balanced, good paying jobs, safe.

Some economic growth for crying out loud, new businesses and things for young adults to do, a fully funded and supported fire department, riverfront development aside from mills/industry, improved roads and infrastructure, at least one decent hotel you'd recommend to friends/family.

Growth. Housing population. Services.

It would attract more businesses and jobs. Have a nicer downtown, better restaurants.

Expansion of Recreation

Roads that flow in a more natural way, decreasing driver confusion from other places or newly licensed. Not having bike lanes switch sides in the middle of the street abruptly. Perhaps building stronger relationships with the businesses within Longview. Allowing connection to updated relevant information for the citizens.

Remove 25 mph speed limit near parks implemented now. Keeping costs down with utilities, property taxes, and PUD. The continued increase of cost every year is overwhelming

a citizenry that is not so angry, streets that are clean, commercial building in areas and residential neighborhoods that are clean and show pride of ownership. Homelessness eliminated or at least not in your face.

Continuing on a path to provide essential services as well as a high level of quality of life resources like parks and supporting community activities. In my time here, my perception is Longview has an engaged and motivated community that provides a lot for fellow citizens. Much of this is not government related, but the city should do what it can to foster and support the community, as this is what will truly make a city successful.

Less homeless and open-air drug usage.

Adorable living, clean safe

Maintain all City parks at current levels, improve street paving (concrete streets are rough rides).

Downtown could be nice, but there are so many vacant storefronts. Would love to see these full of businesses.

heavy industry along industrial way

Low unemployment, quality restaurants and plentiful recreation and art opportunities

A budget that continues to grow and invest in Longview. Staying status quo never works, we'll only go backwards. We need to keep moving forward. Hold on to what's working well, and help to continue the growth and development in areas that have space for that.

Less drugs, more family oriented businesses

Everyone living in Longview has safe housing, is able to meet their basic needs, has affordable healthcare and other services. Our community and all its residents care for and support all our neighbors - compassion, empathy and tangible behaviors that improve our community is the responsibility of each of us.

Happy Healthy residents

Well maintained civil engineering/transportation infrastructure, strong economy through a well supported local job market.

Continued community and outdoor focus. Lake Sacajawea remains well-maintained and there is an overall increase in the number of trees planted throughout the city. I still love visiting the library. It would be nice to see more focus placed on revitalizing and/or getting new businesses into the existing downtown area instead of mainly just pushing west with new construction. Anything done to make the city more walkable is greatly appreciated.

Stabilized infrastructure (especially including mills and other industries) and a balanced budget that hasn't outstepped local income opportunities.

More businesses, more employment, homeless issue managed in a manner safe for all.

Robust economy, civic pride, city expenditures reigned in, competent and humble city council

Smooth roads, maintained sidewalks and curbs, a continuing of beauty at the lake with no risk of road falling in, a continuation of park events, more businesses moving in and providing jobs that aren't just retail minimum wage jobs,

More/Better employment opportunities that are not related to the mills.

A really clean, updated, and welcoming city. Figuring out the homeless problem would help this.

clean maintained parks. functioning buildings with modern amenities. feeling safe being out after dark and in our homes at all times. community togetherness.

More bike lanes (ON THE RIGHT), fixed traffic lights, no homeless camps, and a Costco. :)

No homeless persons, nicer restaurants, clean streets and neighborhoods. Enough jobs that match our citizens' skills.

Better schools, clean streets, and roads.

More job opportunities, More visible police presence, expanded fire services, affordable utilities

Long term financial planning and investments and support of city staff and their knowledge and experience.

Stop lights that are timed correctly, roads that aren't neck breaking, more business friendly, less homeless.

More jobs and lowering the cost of housing for the ones who are trying to buy their first house, and the cost of renting.

Affordable housing, Hope Village running successfully, a thriving downtown area.

Less unemployment & businesses paying a living wage

Infrastructure updates

Affordable utilities and parks all children can play at.

Longview should have a city government that treats its most vulnerable citizens with at least as much care and consideration as it gives to its golf course. It must also have a City Hall that zealously adheres to the OPMA and PRA in the name of true transparency and accountability to the public.

More jobs and more housing

Longview should have several new large office parks, dozens of new employers, and an additional 20-30k people to fill them.

Our focus on parks, recreation, nature, and a clean community should become even more pronounced.

Better jobs, fill the Mint farm by bringing in businesses, better schools

A thriving downtown area. Many new jobs in mint farm area. Larger tax base from more people building and living here

A successful Longview would be growing. Annexations should be moving forward. Housing opportunities should be improving. Services should be looking at areas of growth. Infrastructure should be on a reasonable maintenance schedule. No more 0% or less than cost of inflation rate increases that push the projects out beyond the life expectancy of infrastructure.

Improved air quality, affordable housing and affordable senior housing so people aren't digging through dumpsters on a daily basis and begging for money on the corner, lower cost of living and better paying job opportunities

I'm not sure because it seems as though the cost of living here is far above the majority of incomes. The Longview City council members make over 6 figures a year so they don't seem to feel the effects as much as us getting kicked in the teeth every year sometimes 3 times a year because of the utility increases and the property taxes are out of control. The goal is for people to say, "I want to live in Longview". Growth and support of LCC.

Affordable housing for EVERYONE! Home buyers, renters, everyone!

Less taxes on city utilities (including PUD even though they are their own entity)

Job growth. More jobs that pay a living wage and provide affordable benefits

Clean & safe water!

A mayor that is elected by all the citizens! Even those outside of city limits that still have a Longview address. We live here too.

A community that has a little something for everyone! Our parks are beautiful and have an attraction factor. But a community needs more than beautiful parks, Starbucks, and Walmart to attract a wide variety of people and businesses.

Police and fire fully staffed. Station 83 built and the Cowlitz2 station out by Baker's is annexed into the city. I also think the mills should be annexed into the city. We also need to find more power that is needed to bring new industry to town. Better traffic flow, better lighting in neighborhoods and parks. Fixed sidewalks in neighborhoods. Trees planted where old trees were removed.

Better shopping, safe streets, less drugs and more jobs.

Growth, safety, transparency, parks and rec. Community improvement.

Quit raising utilities and junk fees. Make it business friendly to do a start up.

More people who work in Longview choosing to live in Longview longterm as opposed to the surrounding area. and families/people being able to enjoy the outdoor spaces and parks safely. Also a good pipeline between LCC providing high level/excellent training and meaningful job placement (e.g. teachers, nurses, and the new vocational training building going in!).

Honestly, and sadly, I hope not to be living in Longview by then.

We need diversity embraced, beautiful public spaces (beyond the lake), a vibrant library, a city council that listens to ALL constituents, well trained city staff (who don't send out en mass overdue water/sewer/garbage bills "by mistake" and do nothing to notify recipients about "the mistake."

Having access to a nice beach, picnic area

A city with growing family jobs and increased levels of access to affordable housing.

More like Ridgefield and Camas

Clean, no open drugs or camping, a bustling downtown, beautiful parks, and inexpensive living expenses.

1-2 community centers for the kids to have something to do. Swimming, activities, sports programs. Cities within the near by region have them, Longview has a need.

A place where everyone has their basic needs met (see Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs), where everyone is a valued and contributing member of this community, and where civil and intellectual discourse is the norm.

Happy people. Folks working and volunteering in the community. Raising family with lots of healthy activities to do. Mills that operate responsibly and don't constantly make our air smoggy and smelly and no deaths! Cleaner rivers and an environment forward job economy

A clean and beautiful lake that we can swim in and really enjoy. Clean and safe town and neighborhoods. Thriving downtown and community activities.

Support development of more medical groups and facilities

Hopefully more industry for employment opportunities.

Safe and welcoming community

More restaurant options (not fast food).

Prospering businesses, beauty of the area enhanced/maintained with good infrastructure in all facilities and utilities and forward thinking community

A city of yes

I would like to see more covered areas at the lake, as well as lowering our utility bills.

Less addicts on street corners, lower price utilities, speed limit checks on OBH and keeping the slough clean and mowed. clean neighborhoods, smooth roads, city buildings clean/repared, less crime, more community events, economic base that supports needed infrastructure improvements to streets/facilities and provides living wage jobs for community, increase in housing, vibrant downtown with good restaurants and shopping, year round market with healthy food/flowers, amphitheater for live music at the Lake.

Better infrastructure and new businesses

We need to bring in more businesses. Large scale, good paying jobs for the community.

If Longview feels like a more welcoming place for responsible caring citizens, and feels less welcoming to those who perpetually live off the public dole or are callous towards our community (littering, leaving shopping carts stranded in parking lots, graffiti, etc), I would consider that success.

Expanded public transportation, a pivot to industries other than timber to form a more robust local economy for the future, protection, care and maintenance of nature spaces.

Good paying jobs. Safe environment. Nice roads.

Balanced budget and upkeep of community areas
more community oriented, pretty parks and public spaces

A city council more attuned to fulfilling needs with grace and empathy. Our current council majority want to restrict access rather than embrace the less fortunate.

Good jobs from various sectors in the economy, safe and beautiful place to live, well attended community events, decent cost of living.

Jobs, schools, infrastructure not necessarily in that order.

I would love to see working people have more safety in their workplaces, better hours, and a better safety net when things go wrong. Workplace accidents like the Nippon chemical incident are always, always preventable. They also show us that the community WANTS to take care of its people. In 5-10 years, if we have a robust community full of people who know that theyll have safe places to work, safe places to sleep, and enough food to eat, I will call that successful.

Reduced costs across the board, reduced homelessness and drug users, and lack of thefts

Higher paying wages and a better variety of nice restaurants

Become the preferred bedroom community for the growing PDX/Vancouver metropolitan area. Decrease reliance on heavy industry. Bring in knowledge workers and reduce pollution.

Better roads keeping infrastructure in good working order

Affordable housing for all, easy access to well-kept public parks, a thriving public library and thriving small businesses.

Eliminating homelessness and have more jobs that can support families.

Hope Village would be open for it's intended purpose with case managers and housing specialists to support these clients in obtaining long-term, stable housing.

Reduce auto reliance. Reduce cost of living here - especially for us Seniors.

Newer infrastructure, increase in quality of life (newer businesses and complexes), and maintaining the parks.

Job opportunity, safe streets, available community resources.

A serious crackdown on transients and crime in the area, continued employment growth and more beautifying of the town.

Transparent city government that actively works toward building a healthy and supported community, and that thinks strategically about future issues. Selling hope village as we brace for a recession was incredibly short sighted. This type of thing happens a lot in our city, and it hurts us in the long run. More support for small businesses, and leadership within the city to build connections and help businesses thrive

More family wage jobs and industry in our city with repaired or improved infrastructure.

Increase the routes and days that buses operate.

In 10 years, implementing these changes will transform Longview into a premier, highly desirable model for a modern, family-centric community.

- Economically, the city will become a regional magnet for top-tier talent. Embracing a 32-hour work week and flexible hybrid models will drastically reduce corporate burnout, lower employee turnover, and boost the local economy by providing families with more time and financial stability.

- Academic and Physical Excellence: Build a high-achieving school system where early guided, play-based learning accelerates literacy and cognitive skills, sustained by nature-integrated playgrounds and extended lunch breaks that optimize childhood nutrition and development.

- Trauma-Informed, High-Trust Culture: Cultivate a safe and supportive learning atmosphere by completely replacing punitive isolation with trauma-informed emotional safety frameworks and unrestricted restroom access, graduating emotionally resilient, empathetic, and community-minded citizens.

- Inclusive Public Infrastructures: Family-friendly, open-year-round, accessible public restrooms will make navigating our city seamless, stress-free, and safer for families with young children and individuals with chronic health issues.

Ultimately, Longview will grow into a healthier, cohesive, and productive community where businesses and families thrive.

Clean, safe, more local jobs, more businesses—where you can buy merchandise that is needed, like clothing and shoes.

The return of Youth programs (Caitlin hall weds nights, nights at the YMCA) and places where the community can support each other.

Maintaining the same community spirit and events while providing for community oriented growth and supporting current residents with services that improve quality of life.

I don't know

Living wage union jobs and an end to homelessness

I see Longview's long term success being if we focus first on improving quality of life for the people who live and work here. The focus needs be on improving the lives of the community, and that begins with ensuring that EVERYONE earns a living wage. How that occurs is when the city supports only businesses that provide a living wage, by today's standards, to all its employees. That means attracting and supporting them at every level. Types of businesses that residents want

and use naturally in their every day lives, such as Costco. By investing in our current residents and workforce, we make Longview a more desirable place to live, work, and raise a family. Everything else follows naturally from that foundation.

No weirdo Christian nationalist trying run the show. Less homeless people making out library feel unsafe.

A more equitable town where all felt welcome and validated regardless of income or belief. A downtown revitalized with shops etc that aren't 90% thrift stores, pawn shops, and empty buildings. A park space on the Columbia in town not just out at Willow Grove. Actual traffic management in the neighborhoods. And somehow, even more of the wonderful and helpful people you find living and working across town.

Safer streets/community. Street repair. Better tasting water without silica in it.

Not really sure

Safe, clean streets and sidewalks.

Financially secure.

A city council free from scandal and lawsuits.

A culture of growth and accountability.

I'd like to see the city invest in our youth. Not just by funding a program or sponsoring an event. If we want good leadership to continue, then we need good leaders to lead our youth. Consider 6 month apprenticeships/training programs to high school seniors, or even the unaccompanied youth that need direction.

A vibrant downtown with healthy, small businesses and higher foot traffic, great parks, an identity/brand that sets it apart from other towns, our size along the I5 corridor.

Much like today. I moved to Longview in 1959 and think it is nicer today than it was back then.

Safe and economical

Economically viable while maintaining a small city atmosphere.

We would have Hope Village back and we would be helping the unhoused and mentally ill population find solutions. Ideally, there would also be less sexual assault being hidden at schools and less covering up to save face. I hope people are held accountable for saying they care about our community members and children, but their actions speak very differently.

Staying out of debit

Jobs. Jobs would mostly solve almost every issue that faces almost every city in our country. I worry about AI taking a lot of them and there probably isn't anything a city can do about that. Jobs and pride in community would make for a great future. I love this place just as it is - it's the only place I've ever felt was truly home to me - but nothing is perfect.

A successful City of Longview would pay attention to their employees and the critical services they provide. The city would not lay off employees only to turn around and give salary increases to high management and City Council members. The City of Longview management will look beyond a simplistic view of employee positions and recognize what positions are absolutely necessary to the functioning of their city departments, when or if cuts are needed. In dire circumstances cuts should be made at the top levels as well as all other departments. Eliminate any extra upper management not necessary to the function of Longview. The City will recognize the key roles of all departments, including library services, Parks and Rec., and Maintenance, and Streets. In the future these departments will receive equitable funds, as they are key to the community. The Golf course will be privately funded. We as a city should prioritize education, housing, living wages, and public health. Improving the living situations for the mid to lower income brackets, in the hope that quality of life would drive down criminal activity. Future Longview would commit to repairing, bring up to code all city buildings. Complete all delayed or unfinished projects throughout the city, including city buildings. The City of Longview would facilitate keeping the businesses that we do have, promote and negotiate to bring new family wage businesses into our area. The city would bring in more merchants, shopping and e new restaurants, such as Olive Garden, Black Bear for example. Improved street lighting on all city streets, including Ocean Beach Highway to the end of West Longview. Future Longview would insist that Lower Columbia College build their own parking garage to accommodate their ongoing growth. Future Longview would make sure that the flow of their streets easily accommodate vehicles in ways that make sense. Bike lanes should not jump suddenly from one side of the street to the other. Future Longview will weigh the real value or necessity of changes before making decisions that affect the majority

of city residents even when state funds are available. Longview will insist that all streets with two-way traffic can travel safely, particularly while vehicles, large and small are parked on the sides of the street.

Rising incomes from a strong local economy.

A downtown that is beautiful, fun, and safe to walk around.

Stable infrastructure as a result of intelligent investments in maintenance and repairs.

Keeping homelessness under control without stripping those individuals of their dignity.

A housing and business growth strategy that is cohesive and intentional.

Rising home values, but only because the city is thriving and becoming an increasingly more desirable place to live.

Afford to live here

Everyone is housed, has access to healthcare and food and green space. Public transportation is more available for folks to get around in the evenings as well.

Creating an environment that attracts young people and families as well as retirees.

Fictional Mayberry North Carolina featured on the Andy Griffith show.

a thriving business community, move away from industrial base to become a recreational hub

I've lived here almost 40 years and I don't see much change. I expect things to stay much the same.

A successful future for Longview would mean having safe, clean, and modern amenities throughout the city, not just around the lake. Well-maintained sidewalks, improved streets, updated parks and recreation facilities, and inviting public spaces would help create a stronger sense of community pride. Ideally, Longview would become a place where people choose to live first and not commute from neighboring cities because they have better amenities or overall quality of life. We have the potential, and with intentional investment, Longview can become a more attractive and vibrant place to live, work, and do business.

The way our society is going, I am not sure any of us will be here to care.

A successful Longview would have viable housing for the homeless with work rehabilitation programs for those who are able. It would have more domestic violence survivor housing to help individuals get back on their feet after leaving a horrible situation. Domestic violence is far too prevalent in this city, which is also indicative of a lower educated populace. A successful Longview would have healthy roads and sidewalks. It would have parks and walking trails. It would have amazing schools that care about the children of Longview. It would have access to higher education to improve the lives of its residents. It would have events and fairs that bring the community together. It would have many employment opportunities for its citizens which actually pay enough for individuals to provide food, medical care, and housing for their families. It would have fixed the water issues causing Longview to have extremely inflated water bills. It would have quality medical care available locally to its residents without having to drive to Portland. A successful Longview will show that it truly cares about its residents by reinvesting in its residents. Our tax dollars need to be used to improve the lives of the people who live here. Please use them accordingly.

Maintaining the parks and historic nature of this town.

Good jobs, public spaces that enrich our lives

It would be nice to be driving around neighborhood streets and Washington way and triangle mall and Broadway and Hudson and 11th and Vandercook and NOT feeling like we are on the brink of being unsafe like downtown Portland - instead if successful - it would feel like driving around ridgefield or camas. Feels like right now is a critical time and the town could go either way. Please take us to prosperity. Don't take us the direction that attracts more and more drug impacted homeless individuals. Please. Bring in businesses and improve neighborhoods. Sometimes I just don't want to shop in our town. I choose to drive down I 5. And go to a Petco a Marshall's a Safeway or Winco in a nicer town. That's how bad it's getting here. It makes me feel a sense of loss for what I thought I was getting when I chose to move here 10 years ago. I'm regretting I didn't choose differently like ridgefield or camas. But the town and park are so pretty. It could be so nice again here. Please. Help Longview grow and prosper. I don't want to have to move.

Expanded businesses along with increased and secure employment opportunities

Our town is beautiful, let's capitalize on the beauty around us and add more for kids and families. We need more playgrounds, splash pads, parks like the one they build in Kalama's Haydu park etc. We want good people to move here with their families.

Helping others helps everyone. Help create opportunities to join together at concerts or whatever events everyone can get behind.

Businesses flourishing, growth in incoming businesses. Continued community programs and park maintenance.

Clean, safe parks and lake. Good jobs. Affordable housing and utilities.

A thriving downtown retail core. Clean and safe streets with no homeless issues.

Definitely a better local economy and lots of bright NEW faces in city services.

Even if it cost more, I would like the water facility moved. The current facility ruins our appliances and plumbing fixtures. I would like to see improvements to our entire school district. It would also be nice if we could have less sex offenders, drug addicts, and homeless people wandering around town.

The public services are maintained and funded without cuts to other services. The schools have better resources and plenty of teachers. I see that most of the property taxes are for schools, but your lists don't include that subject. The crime rate had decreased over time. There would be less empty buildings sitting for months waiting to be leased. I think a successful city would not have to have an increase in population, but enough infrastructure, business and services to accommodate a steady population.

Low taxes, low cost of living, good jobs, responsible budgets, and clean save roads.

Much like now with better traffic flow, a few more shops and cafes downtown.

making it sustainable for me to afford to live here. i have considered moving out of area for several years because every time i turn around there is a new tax, or a new utility increase, or a new garbage rate increase, or property tax increase etc.... my paycheck does not grow equally to the cost of living here.

Longview has a thriving small business district. Longview has a mature tree canopy downtown instead of just on the historic west side. The green spaces in Longview have made the city more resilient to the increasing extreme heat days in the region.

Affordable living, community services, solid infrastructure

More housing options, well funded public services, job opportunities, clean and maintained public spaces

Ultimately, if Longview could create a waterfront area, similar to what had been done in Kalama and Vancouver, this area would be much more desirable. Also, a trail system in the surrounding forest would be a huge improvement to the area. It is a shame that we are surrounded by nature but have very limited access.

Economic growth and infrastructure repair

That the citizens won't be paying council members' legal fees. That there is less discord. That it stays livable in terms of expense and quality of life.

more business

Less taxes on utilities, cleaner parks and city, more family events

Being able to drive across town in a reasonable amount of time

Safe neighborhoods, parks and roads. Less litter. Less homelessness on our streets

Growth planning and affordable housing

Continuing development, commitment to high level of support for the Library, more retail choices, and a commitment to keeping original 100 year plus old buildings in excellent shape

Well-maintained parks, a lake that isn't a deathtrap, bike lanes, library programming.

Safe, vibrant downtown and neighborhoods

More businesses and industry.

Balanced budget while maintaining core and basic amenities

Adding a 3rd fire station to decrease response time to my home, if needed.

Community services, recreational opportunities for both kids and adults! Police, drugs, homelessness.

A wide range of thriving businesses, which in turn provide jobs for many.

More diversity in any number of areas - of business and economic opportunity, of who we feel belongs and has a voice. At large city council seats is a nice way for every elected member to come from only certain neighborhoods. It's undemocratic.

Low cost utilities. Smooth streets. bring in new businesses.

One where the streets, sidewalks, and public areas are kept clean and the community can enjoy them thoroughly. As well as a strong downtown area that is filled with local businesses and the economy stays in the area instead of leaving the city and lining the pockets of major corporations.

A community that supports every member with community services, green spaces, and opportunities for families.

Less homeless, drugs and better damn roads.

Safe parks, sustainable jobs and economy

More local businesses, more dining options of high quality, more diverse and more affordable.

Small businesses thriving and a more affordable living

A place where people feel safe and accepted. That is not the case now. The LGBTQ community feels unsafe.

To have the streets, sidewalks and utilities maintained with surplus \$\$\$ in each city dept for those unexpected expenses and downturn in economy. 5 to 10% each year should go to a contingency fund. Once said departments contingency fund reaches the maximum preset amount they no longer have to set that \$\$\$\$ aside. As they use funds they then start paying back themselves until Max is hit again. Hope this makes sense.

Maintain streets, encourage companies to come in with higher wage jobs, stop plea-bargain criminals, and bring them to trial, put in walking pass

A safe, welcoming community for ALL people, races, genders.

Safe, clean, all people housed, with jobs. Increasing industry, population

I think we should consider growth carefully. Growth increases revenue but it also increases the influx of newcomers to our area. I don't want to be Vancouver, or even Ridgefield. Please don't get greedy and prioritize growth above all else.

A place where families want to raise their kids.

A council that puts their ego and national party priorities aside to focus on real world issues that impact our community.

Healthy, wealthy, and wise.

It's really the dream for all communities: affordable cost of living (electricity, utilities, but also housing, necessities, etc.), sufficient jobs with livable wages, low crime. I'd say start with making leadership visible with the message of which direction he/she plans to take this city as that helps the citizens rally behind that message, supporting the city on these endeavors, and feel like the city is headed in a good direction rather than floundering. Also: publicize the same message! Include it in city communications but not just as a tagline--don't let the message become trite or it will get ignored. Tighten up the budget; get rid of the garbage. If the community can help on some goals, enlist their help! Once they're onboard with the message you can rally for volunteers for things like cleaning the lake and make it into a fun event, which also helps bring the community closer together and help community members spread a positive message to others. A good sense of pride will also help with crime, defamation, and positivity.

More tourism, well known businesses, generate B&O tax revenue so citizens do not have to carry the tax burden.

Develop the Port of Longview. Get some money flowing into town.

Less drug troubles

A commitment to infrastructure through action, not just words

I would like to see a broader mix of industries in our community. Supporting existing employers while attracting new, lower-risk industries will create a safer, more resilient economy and expand opportunities for future generations. This could help bring in more tax money to help fund projects that provide community enrichment.

Well maintained roads and neighborhoods.

More affordable housing options for people of all walks of life.

Transparency, fairness, and enforcement of laws and regulations.

Seeing people speak about this town as one this is unified and seeks to make all voices heard and valued

A plaza near Commerce for fun events

Cleaner drinking water.

Better water circulation of the Lake.

Better incentives for local businesses.

The City of Longview delivers value by protecting the public safety, ensuring sound fiscal management, investing in infrastructure, and more.

Larger well paying employers close by to invest in our community. Add more businesses downtown other than resale shops. Some towns, like Corvallis, Oregon for example, are very walkable and have a multitude of good restaurants and places to go on dates and places to park your car and walk around town and enjoy shopping, and to enjoy the waterfront. We have the structure for that, but not the industry to support better paying jobs. It would give the young people around here something to strive for and hope for.

Community events that bring people from outside of Longview in to experience the resources we have. Surrounded by rivers and outdoor activities, the lake, downtown.

Homeless off the streets, mental wellness for anyone and a feeling of being safe

Jobs to draw more professionals, affordable housing, safe, beautiful parks and green spaces

More businesses to shop

Better tree choices for the common spaces that are in front of people's homes near the downtown area. I'm not impressed how they treated my property when they were putting in a new tree in front of my house. They took out the big tree on the corner of Hudson and seventh years ago. Hopefully there's no car wreck in the intersection that sends a car flying and crashing into my house. When I wasn't home they had put a new tree in the common space. Then someone decided to come by one night and snap it in half. I called and reported it. They put in another tree. I wasn't home when they put in the tree. They left track ruts on my common space. Now it seems the two trees they put in the common space that I share with an apartment. Building next to me. will grow to a tremendous size. Not looking forward to raking leaves in later years to come. If Longview is considered the city of trees, I'm really confused about what planning goes into the decision of where the trees should go. I talked to a young person in our community about it and she had a very optimistic outlook. She had told me that when the tree grows they chop it down and utilize it. It would be a fun. Learning experience if you could incorporate the studies of these trees into the school systems. The great school near the college in the library. Have a wonderful program that teaches kids about growing food. Hopefully programs, such as that can continue in the city.

Parks with public pool water fun. Beautiful maintained trees streets

More Churches, less crime.

City government officials resigning their useless positions to save taxpayers money and put that to infrastructure. The city public utilities and road department managers will do fine.

Employees multi-tasking and understanding the full scope of city permits and business license.

Investing in the schools/ family oriented programs and events for a family friendly community

Longview would have clean, safe neighborhoods and business areas, a thriving economy and everyone would feel welcome.

City Council members would be individuals who always put first what is best for community members rather than what serves their political agendas.

City Council members would conduct themselves in a professional manner during official meetings and in other settings.

City Council members would strive to act as a team.

Clean, safe streets. Back to conservative values in our schools along with transparency in all areas of city government.

No more backlogged on city improvements.

Less taxes and live within your means.

A welcoming community that takes good care of the elderly

And entirely new city government? And I'm not talking politicians, I'm talking, we, the people

Affordable housing and utilities. Diverse employment and business opportunities. Clean and safe neighborhoods with smooth roads. Taxes going to community programs for those that pays said taxes not programs that enables non tax payers. Water that doesn't ruin appliances like dishwashers, coffee pots, ice makers and refrigerators, and won't leave white crusty build up on pipes and everything it contacts. City leaders that listen to each other and the community and work together for the better good of the whole community.

New retail stores, utilities that have not increased, safe streets and a old town feel.

Less homelessness, cleaner streets, affordability (utilities)

Drinkable water, well lit roads, continued good leadership, Maintained emergency services

Living within its established budget

Kalama ideas of growth

Vibrant downtown with sustainable businesses. A town with beautiful parks that the community can enjoy.

Local economy is strong and businesses that open are able to stay ooen

Maintaining community events and encouraging more business opportunities

I'd like to see more creative small businesses in the downtown area. It's my opinion that too many building owners want premium prices that discourage new or small business, or would rather them sit empty for low interest in making repairs or perhaps some tax advantage. It discourages downtown shopping. What about tax advantages for owners that support low starting rents, that progressively increase as time passes or the businesses sees more success.

More businesses

I would like to see more third spaces that don't require you to spend money, more native gardens, more of our tax dollars going towards services for our community, local co-op grocery stores, hardware stores and shops. More workshops ex: wood working, gardens, support, learning more about what our community is in need of.

Attractive to incoming business, no data centers, enough housing for low-income folks.

Clean safe neighborhoods; limit utility increases; create welcoming policies for business growth... make it easier for business development and success. Eliminate ridiculous taxes such as the tangible personal property tax for business.

safe and healthy trees, smooth roads, and a well-maintained utility infrastructure to curb future costs

More affordable housing (not homeless shelters) and improving infrastructure (water, roads, etc)

More industry and jobs. Attract higher quality restaurants and stores like Grants, Whole Foods, and Costco. Tell the library to stop throwing away books. It's become empty and useless.

Less homeless. Make it a crime and get them clean. If they don't pass a drug test they don't get handouts.

All of the developed spaces are filled with jobs that are able to support families.

City wide growth. The abandon buildings sold for new business. Other new business' moving to Longview

Improved streets and utilities, more police, less crime, no homelessness, services for mentally ill, more affordable single family homes and fewer apartments.

Reliable, moder infrastructure, safe, clean streets and parks, dedicated emergency Manager to deal with the inevitability of a future flood, earthquake, environmental disaster, and weather events.

A city that enhances and promotes diversity, is welcoming to entrepreneurs and small business, strives to lower the cost of services and living for its residents. A functional health care system that is available to, and provides service to all residents.

Roads and sidewalks repaired and trees maintained. Engaged youth and happy senior citizens. Good local economy with successful businesses. Job growth and attracting new businesses

Plenty of services for homeless persons. Affordable housing and support for local businesses.

Stable Economy and reasonable housing

Having another large business move into the area would help with a better tax base to keep costs down. How can we draw in more businesses like Divert to make this a healthy community where people want to play, work and stay?

A more vibrant downtown core with activities for youth. An expanded farmer's market. Timely response by emergency services throughout city limits. Roads maintained. More rental properties for lower and lower middle class renters.

Robust mental health and crisis response services with decreased homeless population caused by moving people into housing or treatment.

More things to do around here

Maintain services at current levels, invest in infrastructure which allows growth

Maintaining parks and nature spaces, not overcrowding with new complexes or big box stores, thriving local businesses and increased firework regulations perhaps banning entirely

Significantly less drama being played out in local media between council members/staff with the public/constituents. Less focus on the personal lives and interpersonal relationships of council members/staff. More focus on actual city business.

Reductions in costs, larger population.

A more robust downtown, vibrancy directed by youth rather than us old folks!

Goals and objects met or in the process of being met. Financial stability to ensure the services and workforce levels remain at current of most optimal performance levels needed per any studies or surveys that are or have been done.

One with strong community engagement, in our beautiful outdoor spaces, with improved roadways for all forms of transportation, supported by thriving local businesses

Improved public schools with accountability, more invested into public safety

Better cost of living and improved infrastructure. Also harsher regulation on safety oversights in industry.

A vibrant city that has attracted new residents who join current residents who believe that Longview can be known for positive contributions, who are open to change and willing to work for it. Residents need to represent all professions and walks of life. Professional fields- health care, schools, and services will see a resurgence in access and performance. Young, educated people will find Longview attractive and will be instrumental in this development.

Keeping the city affordable for those that live here, while being able to maintain the beauty we are lucky to live around

I won't be here.

Filling the vacant buildings with businesses

A place with interesting places to go and interesting things to see, all run by people who live here.

Lean water and repaired streets and sidewalks

More job opportunities that aren't retail, lower housing costs

Attract more business like Costco.

Clean parks, library funding

Continuing to maintain our parks and beautiful neighborhoods. Brining in jobs and commerce so people can shop and eat locally. Affordable utilities.

Expanded parks and recreation classes. A new larger recreation facility. Public restrooms available to downtown (Commerce Avenue) shoppers and parade watchers.

3 out of 5

Better maintained roads and traffic flow. Better investment in public transportation.

Strong economy, clean businesses, affordable housing, help for the homeless, more healthcare, a strong sense of community, multicultural, opportunity and justice for all.

I feel Longview has potential for visitors, with draws being all the street art, arboretum of Lake Sacajawea, antique shopping, downtown buildings from earlier eras. Need some more restaurants downtown to support this. Promote what we have now - Christmas parade & tree lighting.

Proactive maintenance and modest improvements to core services, with less reliance on property values as a tax base. Maybe use construction density instead, as a proxy for population.

Increased outdoor access / communal spaces, economic diversity, upgraded / invested infrastructure

Less wasted tax dollars on things we should have voted on, like hope village and bike lanes

I think we are headed in the right direction in not allowing a specific population to take over. I feel it is important to remember that public spaces are for all of the public and that small groups with loud voices should not get to overtake. Everyone is important! Investing in local business will build the economy. Over taxing a few businesses will drive the economy down and drive business away.... offer incentives to bring in more local business and tax the larger pool at little. This will drive the economy and still support local services. Balance is key.

Affordable

New mayor, new admin at mark Morris or maybe only one high school. There's many things this town could improve on if you'd start listening to some of us born after 1980.

Thriving downtown

Continued support of arts and cultural programs

Support for disadvantaged communities such as homeless and extremely low income people

Financial stability. No homeless

Clean and viable

An attractive location for outsiders to consider for retirement

promote traditional events like the car cruise.

Safe environment with reasonable utilities while maintaining critical services.

Well run schools with high graduations rates and test scores that compete with larger cities. A hospital with enough physicians that we don't have to go to Vancouver for health care. Attractive downtown with parking to go shopping and

restaurants. Well maintained roads, and parks. Reliable shopping like Fred Meyer. A Costco would be great. Well paid police and firefighters. Streets that are well paved and not just patched. The Nichols Street that was redone along the Lake is so nice to drive on. Improve the Mark Morris School campus appearance as it is unattractive especially with the poorly maintained housing that fronts the school along 15th Ave. Thank you for asking for my opinion.

Strong economic base industries that lead to exports, so new dollars and come into the city. For an economy to be strong it must export a good or service to some other place and bring new dollars in. When those types of jobs are created it has a multiplier affect on other industries that actually multiplies more jobs.

More jobs that support different career paths. For example, writing and marketing jobs locally.

Kids able to play safely and not have to worry about pedophiles, kidnapers, and junkies.

No homeless hanging out, sidewalks and streets repaired and fewer liberals on the board.

Safe , well-maintained place to live

Full storefronts, bustling economy, happy residents.

A cleaner and more vibrant community in the downtown area.

Continuing the community events, expanding green walkable spaces as much as possible

Due to the rapid growth, better road management for side streets, speed bumps in front of all schools. Affordable housing and utilities.

Having one unified high school with opportunities for job growth and homeownership

Balanced budget, safe streets

Low crime rates, less city council members making a living with our taxes

About the same, but more congested (traffic).

Close the cost of living gap to be closer to the national average (gas, groceries, and housing costs are out of control).

Growth in business, growth in population, additional opportunity, better reputation

Bolster emergency services and critical departments. Increase opportunities for the city to grow, ie. housing and new businesses.

Making longview livable for the elderly and the people who are raising children here

Take control of the junkie/crackhead situation. So it is safe for the general public to walk around freely, and not have to worry about our things being stolen and the craziness of the addict themselves. You can't even go into the Safeway without bypassing people doing crazy things.

Cheaper to live here. LOWER TAXES! Reign in the Gregg County Appraisal District from going up 40% every single year on our property values, even though they actually went DOWN.

No homeless - less drugs. Good jobs. Good economy. Nice parks

Less (or no) drug addicts and those struggling with severe mental health problems roaming the streets.

City council is less self-serving and more focused on the greater good of all people. Expanded programs for all ages/demographics.

Full stores in malls. Lots of people shopping

Safe Streets low crime overall sense of well-being for its residents

Increase in businesses like ridgefield

Reduce the number of police doing the counties job. Get realistic about getting industry in the area.

I'd like to see affordable housing and innovative tactics that have succeeded in dramatically reducing unhoused residents. I'd like us to be perceived as a leading WA RIVER RE-DEVELOPER in future-based, clean energy industries through which we're attracting MORE new, proven industries. I want us to stop applying make-up to the pig and instead turn and revise the vision of the whole farm by converting civic leaders to set aside their individual goals and instead honor the oath to support ALL of the city.

Liveability

Success would look like be a city that attracts businesses, incentivizing them to come here, creating more jobs. Also, keeping up on maintenance and keeping things clean.

A revived downtown. Programs for kids, especially those at high risk.

I won't be alive in 10 years.

Recruit companies that are wanting to move out of Seattle, Portland area that are looking for cheaper taxes and the proximity to I-5 and the Columbia River. Have said companies over time commit to revitalizing downtown Longview. As that happens the economy will grow. Expand Lower Columbia College to a four year state (University of Washington Longview Campus) Combine RA Long and Mark Morris into one High School. The Longview Council, planning committee need to step. A survey is defined as a gathering of information. The city held meetings last year gathering information from citizens and business owners. The city is not exhibiting leadership. Survey after survey. The basics for a City the size of Longview is: Controlled spending(spend below your means), updating infrastructure, community development, safety, education and entertainment. Keep it simple.

More housing and public transportation

Spruce up the downtown area

Thriving economy with more livable wage jobs and more businesss. Less homeless

No homeless no drugs affordability public transportation even if it cost for christmas lights pumpkin patch ect not everyone has car or means to get there.

Financial Stability, honest council members, trust in the council.

smoother transition from Oregon to Washington traffic wise. A new bridge or additional bridge would help.

More educational and job opportunities, parks and natural areas prioritized. Safety remains priority, and more community unity.

A city that keeps a thriving downtown and attracts visitors.

Keep it beautiful and affordable and safe.

Less corporate stores.

Continued maintenance of infrastructure, a wider variety of job opportunities.

To put legal American's first, to send home illegals...lawbreakers. Reducing government red tape in people trying to start a business. Super important and not to forget.... plant more trees! Trees make the town look inviting and just beautiful.

Some waterfront access/restaurant on the cowlitz and possibly the industrial area on the columbia. A revitalized commerce ave. Making Longview attractive to high value start ups and established companies (that aren't heavy industrial).

A community who cares about all people and works to provide opportunities for social gathering places much like the City of Vancouver has in the development of their waterfront.

Moving away for me

More affordable housing, specifically low income.

A better city council who put everyone in our community first INCLUDING THE HOMELESS!

Wish I could say.....if I can afford it, I'm fixing up my house and putting it up for sale and leaving the state asap. Washington is beautiful but on a retired income is becoming and will be unaffordable for my wife and I to live in. New industrial and commercial companies offering jobs at a good wage (\$25 an hour minimum), even more community events, increased single family housing at affordable prices, schools ranked higher compared to the rest of the state.

good infrastructure, a city with good programs for community members, not kissing the ass of corporations. quality of life for everyone. affordable housing, healthcare for all.

Low taxes, public safety, nice parks.

Not sure

Safe, welcoming, a town that looks like it cares about how it looks. People do better when their environment is better.

Having officials that actually care about the people and city and not their status and titles

Better balance needs to happen now. Not 5 or 10 years from now or this town is going to be a ghost town.

If it looks pretty much the same, that would be successful.

Vehicle registration taxes and fees should actually go to road maintenance - not paint for unused bike lanes (Beech St. Really????)

Increased jobs, more homes available, improved safety and cleanliness around town.

A city where the core business areas identified in #10 don't look grubby and run down.

Increased events that draw community, thriving local businesses that provide community space for all to gather and have connections. Our population has expanded and more buildings are above 6 floors and we offer wrap around services to all constituents, we have reduced cost energy from the wind farms and affordable housing areas.

A city much like we currently live in, with a strong and diverse economic structure, a well-maintained infrastructure and using our resources and connections with other municipalities, counties, and other government entities to balance the burden and help each other grow in opportunity.

Out of debt. Longview is Stable with Finances. Things are more affordable.

Safe and reliable housing for everyone, well maintained infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, parks), thriving economy with plenty of job opportunities. Streets and sidewalks safe for walking/riding even after dark.

Like Bend, Oregon.

Safe, clean, fun shops to browse, quality entertainment at the Lake venue, some quality restaurants. Of course, along with those pieces the city would have to attract businesses that would employ both skilled and unskilled workers.

Affordable housing, higher minimum wage, more college graduates and trade schools. Increased walkability and bike lanes. A more positive profile that can be used to attract new businesses and residents.

A successful Longview should be a welcoming and diverse small city that has a variety of businesses that provide the city with a stable tax base and people with job opportunities and a living wage, affordable and varied housing options, adequate medical and mental health services and a hospital, a healthy library, good educational opportunities for all ages, well maintained sidewalks, streets and parks, well funded police and fire services, and community minded citizens who live, work and recreate here.

No homeless. No increased taxes. No more stupid bike lanes.

Bringing in more businesses to create a better economy. Lowering utility rates instead of increasing them.

I see a lot of growth happening, it would be amazing if Longview could keep up with current services while expansion happens. I want to see local businesses succeed. We don't need more fast food chains, we need local businesses. Also - we need a place for indoor sports in the winter.

It would be nice to see Longview take some serious steps forward to create a great level of equity with respect to livability/quality of life. I look at the disparity in the shade provided by tree lined streets on the Old West Side as compared to large swaths of the areas. Trees not only add immensely to the visual appeal, but also in improving livability in these ever hotter summers.

SAFE clean neighborhoods and upkeep parks.

Successful future would be to advocate for the middle class that pays for lower income classes, when we can hardly afford to live ourselves.

Same as #10

Longview will be in the same position as it is right now. Striving for more housing, more manufacturing businesses and a limit on power.

More businesses which will bring in more tax revenue

a common feeling locally that we live in a great place

Improved water quality, drivable roads, citizens that are outwardly proud to live in Longview. Showcase and support local and small businesses. I have only been here three years and still stumble on something new and cool every week. Quality standards for businesses (curb appeal) - People driving through Longview, unless coming of Tennant way don't get to see the beauty of the lake and our history. Nothing pushes people downtown. OBH doesn't not show well, nor most of the strip malls. The pride we have should emit through the businesses that line the streets.

Helping guide and better our youth out reach.

We want term limits, and you need to redraw the lines. I'm fine being an incorporated. Actually I love it. But if you're gonna make me pay city taxes, then I should get a say on the city government. And I would actually get more involved because I don't believe in treating people the way that you have. Everybody's in agreement that we're okay. Paying our fair share of taxes. But this is not what you've done. And what's even more frustrating is that you treat the american people who give you a job like they're beneath you. And like they're stupid, and that's just intolerable.

More businesses and fixed roads in neighborhoods

A Longview that can operate within its budget. Reduce the inventory of old trees that amount to a public hazard. Our tree inventory was planted too close together and over the years has not been maintained. Drive around any neighborhood and you will see that Longview is not operating under the guidelines set up in its municipal code.

A clean safe diversified city that serves its people by managing meaningful and supportive services while keeping costs reasonable.

Add a Costco, redo roads that are used on a regular basis, give priority to businesses that pay a living wage to the people who live here not just their upper management

Livable community where citizens are active in participatory democracy. Improved infrastructure and safety net services Higher paying jobs, more diversity in employment opportunities are needed. Reducing the pollution and odors from surrounding industries would make a huge improvement. Public access to the surrounding rivers and forests. Get control of the homeless, drug and crime issues in the area.

affordable housing , more jobs, more healthcare options, clean parks , less "scary" down town

I truly believe there will be growth in the I-5 corridor and trust Longview will work toward that effort. The CostCo warehouse will be helpful in that regard. I certainly hope more businesses will utilize the Mint Valley industrial area.

Less empty buildings downtown, more care for the homeless, continued projects increasing the quality of life for everyone.

Clean and safe. Support industry. Living wage jobs will allow Lv. to continue as viable, vibrant community.

families, good jobs, Bruno's Pizza

Bringing in Tech manufacturing companies. Utilize the Columbia

Riverfront for bringing in Restaurants, shops, similar to what the Vancouver riverfront has done. It will also attract businesses and county growth, and increase tax base for Longview.

Continuing current standard of living for residents.

A cleaner, more affordable area to live in. Quit letting criminals get away with crime by slapping them on the hand. Longview needs to concentrate on the businesses and infrastructure over affordable housing and enabling people.

A more richly developed river front economy that supports future-focused industries; elected officials who realize that coming to a consensus is the key to success in this century: leaders with humility who can suspend their stubborn opinions in favor of data-supported facts.

Safe, clean, financially stable.

Sacajawea Park old unhealthy or dangerous trees removed and replaced.

Attracting more young entrepreneurs into our city.

Good infrastructure. Also funding whatever is missing to draw in businesses to the vacant business parks. Even if it just provides some income from business taxes and not necessarily local jobs.

More industries for family wage jobs.

vibrant downtown, housing availability, routine street maintained

It has places to go dancing, like it used to. There are more community gathering spots with benches where people could hang out and visit. The recreation class offerings have expanded. There are more clubs in town to meet people with similar interests and hobbies. There are more housing choices, and newer housing, some of which replaces ramshackle, unmaintained buildings and homes. There are more indoor spaces available for groups to meet for free. There are actual OK there are more clubs in the recreation class offerings have. There are public hiking trails in the hills that surround the city so we don't have to drive an hour to walk uphill for exercise.

Instead of spending money on (things that are not broke) bike lanes, bumpout sidewalks, changing two lanes into one. Fix the things that are! Stop taxing citizens because the city cannot stay within a budget.

Living wage jobs and affordable housing

A successful future for Longview will prioritize community and safety, ample housing and work opportunities within the city, a strong school board with a honest superintendent and employees, and additional funding for our library and public schools.

Less progressive policies, investing more in roads(not bike lanes)

Clean, safe, thriving businesses

I want to see regular community events that bring people together and show off our parks, businesses, and neighborhoods. I want to have safe, clean streets that are easy to walk on in all parts of town. Every part of the city has parks, gathering spaces, and amenities that encourage people to connect. There are activities for all ages, including arts, sports, and special interest programs. Housing is affordable for renters and buyers. We have strong, supported schools and reliable public transportation.

Every person can afford a safe place to live. The housing safety net can effectively and quickly help people experiencing homelessness. No person dies alone on the street.

BUDGET KICKOFF 2027 - 2028

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP 7.07.2026

LONGVIEW | **W**
A

IT STARTS WITH STEWARDSHIP

"One of Council's most important responsibilities is serving as a steward of the public's resources. Every dollar we spend belongs to our community. Our responsibility is to ensure those dollars are invested wisely, transparently, and in ways that reflect the priorities of the people we serve."

What the budget is:

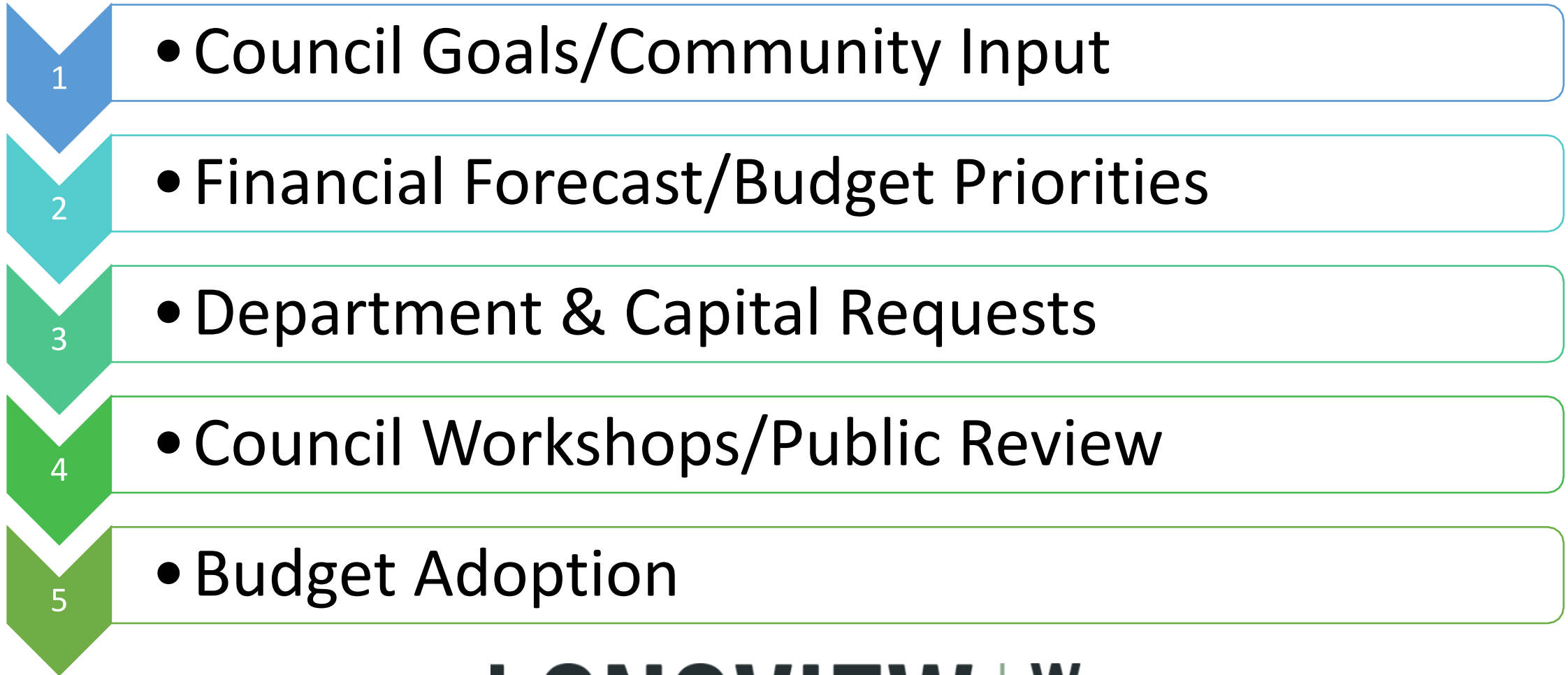


- ✓ A financial plan
- ✓ A policy document
- ✓ Council's legal authority to spend public funds
- ✓ A reflection of our city priorities
- ✓ A roadmap for the next 2 years

Community Budget Survey

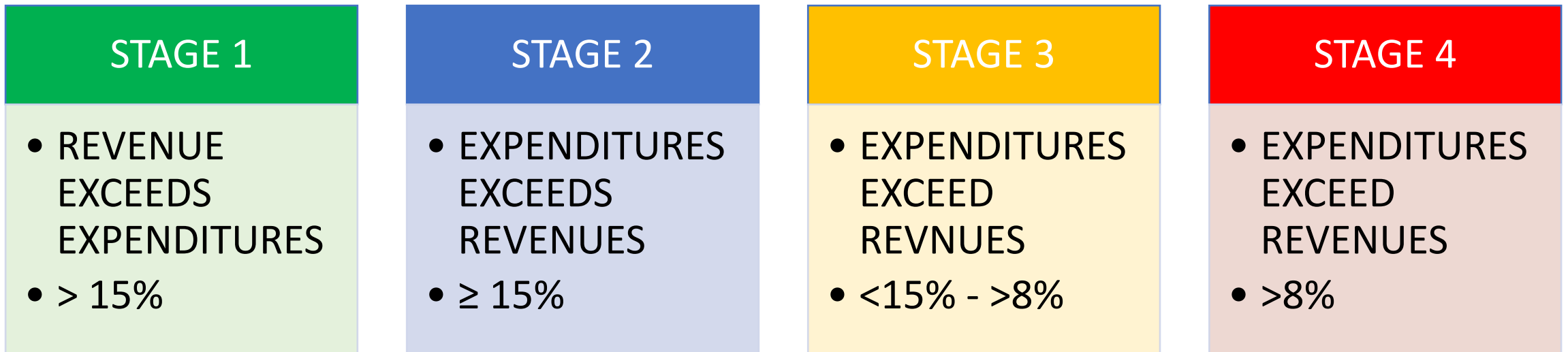
- 597 Respondents (469 Residents)
- Vision: Safe, Financially Responsible, Economically Vibrant, Well Maintained, Affordable, and Connected/Engaged.
- Themes the Same as Council Goals
- Cross Themes Affordability & Quality of Life

How We Build the Budget



HISTORIC BUDGET STAGES - 2005

A Snapshot with a Forecast



STAGE 1 – Invest

Revenues are greater than expenditures, with a projected ending fund balance is greater than 15% of General Fund expenditures. In this scenario, surplus revenues are distributed to appropriate reserve funds and new programs may be considered that are in line with the Council's vision for the community.

STAGE 2 - Maintain

Expenditures exceed revenues and ending fund balance is projected to be **greater than or equal to 15%**. This scenario is a basic status quo budget where all core services and non-mandated programs are maintained through existing revenues and the use of minimal reserves.

STAGE 3

Expenditures exceed revenues and projected ending fund balance is **greater than 8% but less than 15%**. The adopted budget provides for all core services with reductions in non-mandated program as approved by the City Council. At this stage, Council considers revenue enhancement proposals (i.e., bond levies, tax increases, and new revenues)

STAGE 4

Expenditures exceed revenues and projected ending fund balance is **less than 8%**. Further reductions in non-mandated programs are necessary. Possible core service reductions may be called for. Council will consider revenue enhancement proposals (i.e., bond levies, tax increases, and new revenues).

Should These Stages Still Guide Us?

- Do these financial thresholds still reflect Council's philosophy?
- Should the reserve targets be revisited?
- Do these stages provide enough flexibility?
- Are there additional financial indicators we should consider?

General Fund Overview

General Fund Expenditures—Figure 1



- 57¢ Public Safety (police, judicial, fire services)
- 13¢ Culture and Recreation (library, parks, and recreation)
- 11¢ Transportation (traffic, street maintenance, and engineering)
- 10¢ General Government (legislative/City Council, executive, legal, finance, human resources, and information technology)
- 6¢ Non-departmental (maintenance costs on the City's general governmental buildings; interlocal service agreements with Cowlitz County, Humane Society, Clean Air Agency, Council of Governments, and Chamber of Commerce)
- 3¢ Community and Economic Development (planning/zoning, plan reviews, building inspections, code enforcement, housing, permitting, and historic preservation)

The General Fund is the City's primary operating fund. It pays for the essential services that don't have a dedicated funding source and gives Council the greatest flexibility in setting community priorities.

General Fund Overview

General Fund Revenues—Figure 2



- 78¢ Taxes (property retail sales, and business and occupation taxes)
- 8¢ Intergovernmental (federal grants; motor vehicle fuel and liquor excise taxes; together with liquor board profits, accounts for the majority of state-shared revenues distributed to cities)
- 8¢ Charges for Services (outside fire service contracts provided to the City's neighboring industries; recreation activity fees; engineering services charged to the City's capital projects)
- 3¢ Licenses and Permits (business licenses; building, plumbing, and electrical construction permits)
- 2¢ Miscellaneous (investment interest, space and facility rents, and charitable contributions)
- 1¢ Fines and Forfeits (traffic violations, overdue library books)

Nearly 78¢ of every General Fund dollar comes from taxes, making the City's financial health closely tied to the strength of our local economy and the vitality of our community.

General Fund Expenditures

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	2025	2026	2027	2028
Salaries/Wages	24,077,605.00	25,409,568.00	28,527,774.21	30,208,816.92
Benefits	8,761,744.00	9,290,351.00	11,031,898.39	11,832,277.54
Supplies	1,407,021.00	1,465,774.00	1,528,320.67	1,574,170.36
Other Services & Charges	12,714,833.00	13,978,793.00	15,193,873.99	15,496,404.25
Intergovernmental	2,123,218.00	2,220,315.00	2,286,924.45	2,355,532.19
Capital Outlay	100,515.00	102,515.00	105,590.45	108,758.16
Debt Service	325,911.00	334,095.00	344,117.85	354,441.39
Interfund Transfers	1,571,337.00	1,605,599.00	1,653,766.97	1,703,380.00
Total Expenditures	51,082,184.00	54,407,010.00	60,672,266.98	63,633,780.81

General Fund Revenues

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	2025	2026	2027	2028
Taxes	39,103,420.00	41,008,600.00	46,346,233.27	46,972,697.87
Licenses & Permits	1,093,100.00	1,093,100.00	1,093,100.00	1,093,100.00
Intergovernmental	4,120,800.00	3,412,800.00	3,412,800.00	3,412,800.00
Charges for Services	3,838,829.00	3,889,716.00	4,349,716.00	4,349,716.00
Fines & Forfeits	290,600.00	290,600.00	290,600.00	290,600.00
Miscellaneous	804,150.00	804,170.00	1,034,170.00	1,034,170.00
Non-Revenues	-	-	-	-
Other Financing Sources	571,500.00	591,500.00	798,873.52	832,128.61
Total Revenue	49,822,399.00	51,090,486.00	57,325,492.79	57,985,212.48
Beg Resources Req to Balance	1,259,782.00	3,316,522.00	3,346,774.19	5,648,568.33
Total Revenue	51,082,181.00	54,407,008.00	60,672,266.98	63,633,780.81

What Stage Are We In?

General Fund	2025	2026	2027	2028
Total Expenditures	\$51,082,184.00	\$54,407,010.00	\$60,672,266.98	\$63,633,780.81
Ending Fund Balance	\$23,879,754.00	\$20,563,232.00	\$17,216,457.81	\$11,567,889.48
Percentage	47%	38%	28%	18%

What Stage Are We In?

General Fund	2025	2026	2027	2028
Percentage	47%	38%	28%	18%
	Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 1

Council Direction

Before Staff Builds the Rest of the Budget...

Does Council have any direction on the assumptions used to develop the baseline budget?

Discussion Topics

RESERVE TARGET: Does Council support continuing to target a minimum General Fund reserve of 15%, or should we revisit that philosophy?

REVENUE FORECASTS: Are there assumptions or economic conditions Council would like staff to evaluate further?

INFLATION: We used broad inflationary assumptions for supplies, services, and operating costs. Are there areas Council would like us to review more closely?

PERSONNEL COSTS: The baseline includes known contractual obligations, benefits, and projected cost increases. Is there additional information Council would like as we move into enhancement requests?

FINANCIAL INDICATORS: Beyond ending fund balance, are there additional metrics Council would like to see throughout the budget process?

OTHER INFORMATION: Is there any additional financial information that would help Council as we prepare the recommended budget?

Budget Calendar

Timeframe	Council Focus
July	Baseline Budget, General Fund, Financial Outlook
August	Enhancement Requests, Capital Projects, Enterprise & Other Funds
September	Council Prioritization, Budget Direction, Recommended Budget Development
October	City Manager's Recommended Budget, Council Review, Public Input
November	Public Hearing & Budget Adoption

Help Us Build the Process:

Meeting Format

- During regular Council meetings
- Before Council meetings
- Dedicated workshop evenings
- Hybrid approach

Workshop Length

- Shorter, more frequent discussions
- Longer, comprehensive workshops

Workshop Sequence

- General Fund Enhancements
- Capital Improvement Program
- Enterprise & Other Funds
- Budget Prioritization
- Recommended Budget

QUESTIONS