

Q4 Please feel free to share any other thoughts you have about community needs in Melrose.

Answered: 252 Skipped: 319

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I imagine there are a lot of good things happening around Melrose every day. I realize I can go searching for them in public records and meeting minutes I would love to see Melrose toot its own horn on social media more often. Maybe each department can take a day of the month to talk about what they're working on. The more you publicize the more people understand what's happening and where the gaps are.	5/3/2022 10:26 AM
2	There are so many in our face issues that need address - this survey is another example of the lack of connect with the working class. Open your eyes "leaders"	5/2/2022 12:37 PM
3	Would like to see a plan for paving streets and work to clean them up. City looks like it is falling apart in areas with a focus turning onto voicemail messages and twitter.	4/27/2022 12:49 PM
4	We need to focus on local matters and basics. We cannot save world problems, like climate change, unless we have the entire world working with us. Social programs that the City wants to get involved with are handled by the State and by our places of worship and local non-profits, who do a great job. However, only the City can handle City issues - infrastructure, and limiting regulations which make starting a successful business here close to impossible.	4/25/2022 11:32 AM
5	Climate changes all the time. Fossil fuels are not the enemy. Lithium batteries made by slave labor in China are not our friend.	4/22/2022 9:45 AM
6	A NEW LIGHTED BASKETBALL COURT IN THE PINE BANKS DIRT PARKING LOT AREA. a 2 rim basketball court at Foss Park tennis courts at Hesseltine Park	4/22/2022 9:27 AM
7	Less focus is needed on dividing issues like those that have been brought forth by the Superintendent (she's mentioned she's unhappy with schools named after former Presidents, specifically "white men", which is absolutely not a need for the community from a cultural standpoint or an economic one as that is expensive). The City needs to focus on what is actually supposed to be provided by the City like safe roads, sidewalks (how can you refuse to offer buses for schools when many roads do not have sidewalks?), and public safety (specifically resources for police and fire). Until those needs are met, no other priorities should exist. Limiting property tax increases is also a major community need.	4/22/2022 8:29 AM
8	City government should focus first on basic services - education, public safety, trash removal, etc. then on capital improvements.	4/22/2022 7:34 AM
9	Many of the above mentioned social programs should not be reliant on public funds but on the good will and donations of those who are inclined to put their money where their mouth is without reliance on the taxation of the general public. Public funds should be utilized for concrete (pun intended) betterments which benefit all citizens of Melrose. Note: above survey is considered by this writer to be flawed as it requires ranking of social programs in order to be submitted. In this writer's opinion most of the programs (4-12) could be left blank and considered as subject to voluntary participation. Perhaps this is not a popular opinion however would encourage the increased community participation and investment in worthy causes which would build social cohesiveness and not just ambiguous dollar investment in nebulous social organizations (governmental, public and private) which lack accountability.	4/21/2022 9:24 PM
10	Give \$\$ back to taxpayers instead of using it for new programs	4/21/2022 6:20 PM
11	Stop wasting money on the schools. Nothing changes there. Public safety and infrastructure improvements should be first.	4/21/2022 5:48 PM
12	Reduce property tax, and remove trash fee	4/21/2022 5:08 PM
13	Facilities for youth softball need improvement to give young girls the same opportunity as baseball	4/13/2022 4:52 PM

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14	Make Melrose more affordable for seniors	4/12/2022 7:48 PM
15	Invest in soccer fields.	4/11/2022 3:16 PM
16	I love this city. We should always, always try to make it better!	4/10/2022 3:57 PM
17	Infrastructure improvements are the most important Hiring more department heads and assistants is the least important	4/10/2022 10:43 AM
18	Housing is too high	4/9/2022 2:29 PM
19	Main Street is really the crown jewel of Melrose. Put some additional resources into keeping it clean and well kept.	4/5/2022 9:56 AM
20	We spend 25% of our city budget on salaries, wages and benefits, a percentage that is only going to keep rising and crowd out every single other budget item. The services of our town do not match the cost of entry or staying here. It is a disaster, truly. And it's only gotten worse in the ten years I have lived here. Countless young families are quick to move in - and quick to leave, recognizing the sclerotic nature of our government that doesn't seem focused on community priorities. Cops in this town NEVER pull speeders over, yet we employ someone to walk the streets ticketing parked cars. It really shows an outdated mindset that lingers from decades of the same style of management and narrow priorities. We don't need community conversations on equity - we need safe and clean streets, cops who actually believe in community policing (blows my mind, for example, that our cops stand on closed side streets doing construction detail, yet seem unavailable to mind the intersection at the farmers market, once a week six months a year), and a shift in mindset to improve our infrastructure. Our public works tend to the baseball diamond like they are caring for a holy monument, yet mow over garbage in the park across the street, and seem to think sweeping our streets twice a year is enough. The value proposition of Melrose just isn't there when you look at the cost of entering and living in this town, and unfortunately, our quality of life seems to only be on a downward trend, mostly because we are not tackling the ever growing salaries, wages and benefits for city staff and services that seem to play to the lowest common denominator.	4/5/2022 9:23 AM
21	We need the downtown rents to be affordable for small businesses. I would love to do more local shopping; however, we need stores that sell gifts/jewelry/clothing/art work (we used to have HourGlass, Trade Winds). We could use new restaurants such as a family sports bar, Mediterranean food, Thai. Adding something like a bowling alley and/or movie theater would be nice (Caruso's perhaps?). We have too many of the same things (hair and nail salons, pizza parlors, banks, etc.)	4/4/2022 11:24 AM
22	Not a dime towards something that doesn't exist like climate change or BLM stuff !!!	4/2/2022 9:05 PM
23	Strong schools with academic rigor!	3/30/2022 12:02 PM
24	Old gas and water pipes need replacement. Improve traffic and parking enforcement - not just signs telling people to slow down.	3/29/2022 7:56 PM
25	I am in HUGE support of the Food Drive's initiative to rescue food from local businesses that would otherwise be thrown out and end up in a landfill, emitting greenhouse gases; and to bring it directly to people in our immediate area who need healthy meals! Their work is incredible and I really hope you invest more in this area.	3/29/2022 10:48 AM
26	I think that the schools really need more funding, and to stand behind the diversity statements that have been made and hire teachers of color. Also I would definitely love to see some more public/community garden spaces, I think it would be a really cool way to support locally grown foods, help with food insecurity, and bring the community together all at once	3/28/2022 6:52 PM
27	Many young families are moving from Boston area to Melrose and in need of the same things: more childcare options, better food options, and entertainment that we are missing. Melrose downtown has too many pizza shops and nail salons - it has been told to me a hundred times in the year we have lived here. The locals do not seem fond of the lack of options, and the new families are disappointed too. I also wish we had more walkable areas other than the main downtown - fill in Melrose Highlands and Cedar Park. Bike lanes would be helpful to help families stay active.	3/24/2022 9:00 PM
28	Community events. Festivals. Celebrations of resilience. Seasonal offerings. Community pride. Think: Star's Hollow from Gilmore Girls. Let's have small town pride and build back from COVID together.	3/24/2022 2:58 PM

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29	1. Runoff containment from the City Yard Salt Shed to prevent Ell Pond pollution. 2. An outdoor performance venue. 3. More public art like the new mural on the high school exterior.	3/21/2022 9:14 PM
30	Offer spaces for creative-makers to promote nightlife (beyond restaurants). - Music offerings are in need as an opportunity for communities economic development, for artists/musicians and to meet the needs that residents crave to culture to enrich our city. (repurpose spaces at Mount Hood Club House or add an outdoor venue in a non-golf course space on the property?). - Work with a developer or purchase the Caruso's Pizza block to transform into a creative hub - Building a large music/event shed on Common Park, Mount Hood, other?	3/21/2022 10:43 AM
31	I would like to see even more city and community support for the Food Drive. Since becoming involved with the organization, I have seen the direct impact that local, grassroots food rescue can have on individuals having trouble affording fresh, healthy food. Thanks.	3/21/2022 8:55 AM
32	Melrose is a great city with a lot of potential. More people should know about Melrose and come visit. We need to get together and do more events as a community	3/20/2022 10:39 PM
33	Improvements to environmental conditions of natural spaces - Conservation properties, Ell Pond	3/19/2022 6:44 PM
34	Outdoor squash courts. A stop sign at the intersection of West Emerson & Vinton. Fill-in potholes around Cedar Park neighborhood.	3/19/2022 7:55 AM
35	Please prioritize the fundamentals . The city is in no position to send money towards aspirational concepts.	3/18/2022 10:19 AM
36	We have a lot of work to do around diversity, equity, and inclusion – in the schools, business sector, arts, and City Hall. Beyond funding for the DEI audit itself, where is the budgeting for this work — budgeting that was promised by the Mayor?	3/16/2022 11:57 AM
37	More creative, innovative park spaces for the kids. Outdoor performance venue. I suspect we need pickleball courts (don't play myself, but know it's hugely and increasingly popular)	3/15/2022 10:32 PM
38	Be open to new ways of working, by utilizing arts and cultural strategies to deepen community engagement and organizing practices; strengthen the social fabric of our Melrose community; and achieve the key housing, education, health, economic development and neighborhood goals from questions one and two. See the arts as valuable investments in our community.	3/15/2022 11:42 AM
39	Cleaner parks (and dog parks) with less goose poop. More bicycle trails that link to other trails that are off the main road.	3/15/2022 8:43 AM
40	Funding specifically for the creation of adult sized fitness parks where people can exercise using park exercise equipment and hold public wellness/fitness seminars. There can also be space for farmer or holiday markets next to the park.	3/14/2022 8:40 PM
41	I feel strongly since the pandemic is closely linked to the ARPA, the first priority should be assessing and strengthening our Public Health Dept.	3/14/2022 2:32 PM
42	This is a selfish ask, but our road has been used as a cut-through for a long time and it is in terrible condition, so it would be nice to have it re-paved :) There should be a solar panel program like we had with the heat pump program, that was really helpful to update our home. Finally, better maintenance of the dog park - Wakefield recently re-did theirs and it never gets muddy.	3/14/2022 1:52 PM
43	it would be good to see the city invest more resources in supporting arts and culture	3/14/2022 12:50 PM
44	We continue to have a significant problem with communication from the city and the schools. Website correctness should be a priority. There should be a communications coordinator at MHS similar to the no longer maintained MHS PTO FB group. Communication on every level should not be a volunteer responsibility. It should also not be done through Twitter or texts. Websites should be portals for accurate info and it should be a city/school position to keep them accurate.	3/14/2022 11:54 AM
45	If this money needs to be used for issues related to COVID, I don't think anyone was more impacted than the children. They lost 2 years. This impacted their development and social skills as well as their mental health. A lot of this money needs to go to programs helping them. Childcare, enrichment, social skills groups, group mental health, individual mental health and supports targeting the families. Seniors citizens were also isolated and impacted and they need their services restored. We do not need more green spaces or traffic calming measures.	3/13/2022 11:33 PM

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Those are not related to COVID. Our first responders worked tirelessly through all of the uncertainty, often taking on overtimes. They exposed themselves and their families to COVID over and over while others worked from home. These are the areas that deserve to be funded most. Substance abuse saw an uptick and also needs to have more funding. The arts/cultural do not need COVID funding unless it's aimed at helping kids and seniors. Small businesses could apply for funding through COVID, families were able to have a rent moratorium and apply for assistance. The snap program increased what it provided to families. Even though these are areas of concern, there was help there through the pandemic. While I'm all for helping people with food and shelter the first e populations I listed are the most critical and deserving of consideration. Climate change and flooding has no business on this list of things that suffered due to COVID and I hope that if some of these things are funded with COVID money that we as a city are investigated for it.

46	Police and fire need new buildings and a plan put in place.	3/13/2022 11:11 PM
47	Mt. Hood has so much potential for more. Community space, youth camps, etc. There's a revenue opportunity as well.	3/13/2022 6:01 PM
48	please think about repaving roads and fixing potholes. Also trying to fill empty store spaces like the pizza shop across from the bank. any new restaurants consider a pub like place or Indian food. or asian anything different. after renovating memorial hall more varied cultural experiences. its such a great space. example : seeing Arlo Guthrie there was amazing.	3/13/2022 11:48 AM
49	Please see Harvard study on "Chelsea Eats" gift card program for more information on effectiveness of direct cash programs: https://www.hks.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/Taubman/Research/ChelseaEatsCardSpendingMay2021.pdf	3/12/2022 4:05 PM
50	Melrose used to be a beautiful city, now, it is a "has been". The condition of the roads is atrocious. For over \$6K in taxes annually, I should not drive through streets with big holes, ruts, gullies and the like	3/12/2022 2:17 PM
51	More walking trails	3/12/2022 1:16 PM
52	A dream would be to have a state of the art community center. Also funds to restore Memorial Hall	3/12/2022 10:05 AM
53	Please do something for the wonderful police and firefighters. They are working in dirty, unsafe, horrible conditions. Most people would not want to go to work on a daily basis in such poor conditions. They keep us safe and deserve better.	3/12/2022 9:13 AM
54	The FoodDrive is an amazing program that reduces food waste in land fills and simultaneously gets healthy food to those who need it. Please fund this program. Our sports fields need improvement. Melrose kids lose valuable practice and game time because fields (especially the Knoll) are unplayable. In a community with the wealth of Melrose, they deserve better. Please keep education top notch—otherwise, the whole city will go downhill. Please DO NOT lower the bar for all in the name of inclusion. Students at the top of the performance spectrum deserve to be challenged just as much as those at the bottom deserve to be supported. PLEASE! Where are the Melrose police? Who is monitoring drivers in this city? Every day I'm on the road I see people driving while texting. If I can see it, why can't our police? Our kids are in danger. It's only a matter of time until kids are killed by a driver not looking at the road. Our residential streets are used as cut-throughs to avoid lights on Main Street at Franklin. Please get this under control.	3/12/2022 7:04 AM
55	More investment in public safety	3/12/2022 6:02 AM
56	The lack of a plan for the ARPA funds to date is disappointing. These funds we meant to fund immediate needs and to stimulate the economy. We should be using these funds to meet the needs of the community now. I'm fine taking a survey, but the Mayor was elected to develop a plan and execute on it. It's been two years the community's patience is wearing thin.	3/11/2022 10:13 PM
57	Work on climate change and diversity with understanding of other groups than upper middle class and other cultures. Help for seniors, especially through Melrose Housing Authority	3/11/2022 7:28 PM
58	We cannot let the last two years deprive our children of what makes Melrose such a great city.	3/11/2022 3:53 PM
59	Please invest in physical infrastructure as a priority. This affects 100% of Melrose residents and the roads and sidewalks are currently in terrible condition in many parts of town.	3/11/2022 1:45 PM

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60	Again, fix the roads and keep them maintained.	3/11/2022 12:13 PM
61	Stop focusing on the ridiculous bike lanes and fix our infrastructure by paving the roads and support small businesses.	3/11/2022 12:09 PM
62	Field drainage issues (soccer and baseball fields) and more year-round playing surfaces	3/11/2022 11:52 AM
63	As we resume in-person life, post-COVID, I'd love to see the city support ways for people of all walks of life to connect in creative, healthy, and productive ways in Melrose's public spaces, organizations, and cultural institutions.	3/11/2022 11:22 AM
64	Sensitivity needs to be given to those who don't have the economic resources as the residents who are moving here & can afford the extremely high home prices. Consideration needs to be given for the disabled and the elderly. Not everyone can ride a bike. When changes are made, the impact on residents directly impacted needs priority. For example, the Slow Streets program affects the surrounding streets disproportionately and renewal of the same streets every year causes these problems for the surrounding streets every year. There should be a three or five-year rotating cycle of renewal. Even if an opinion is not popular, it still deserves to be heard. That is true inclusion.	3/11/2022 11:10 AM
65	The MSO concert a few years back brought this city together in a way I had never seen before. It was a bonding time we've never had in the 75 years I've lived here. I heard it was expensive, but people need this kind of event after 2 years of pandemic.	3/11/2022 10:10 AM
66	Better Police action Re: Speed limits and education programs to show people that "one Community Open To means all the time not just when it's convenient.	3/11/2022 10:09 AM
67	Beacon Place Melrose has 2 problems. 1. the road floods causing unsafe conditions. 2. a boarding house at 11 Beacon place and a level 3 sex offender at 9 Beacon, way to close to schools and daycare. FIX make Melrose better - PLEASE	3/11/2022 10:06 AM
68	We need to do a better job at providing support/services for caregivers of aging parents, particularly those with disabilities.	3/11/2022 9:52 AM
69	You can not keep ignoring the state of the Police and Fire facilities. They are a public hazard and a disgrace.	3/11/2022 9:40 AM
70	Public Safety buildings need to be replaced.	3/11/2022 9:23 AM
71	Fingers crossed for a continuous sidewalk on Fairview Ave and Farwell Ave for children to walk safely to schools in the area. Drivers frequently use Reading Hill-Fairview-Farwell as a cut through to avoid Franklin Sq. intersection during the morning commute...during the hours that children are walking to school and dog owners are walking dogs - super sketchy. Thanks for doing this assessment! Doug DiBrielle - 39 Reading Hill Ave	3/11/2022 9:15 AM
72	Improvement of green space, more community food gardening and support for urban gardening, identification and removal of invasive species and replanting with native plants.	3/11/2022 8:57 AM
73	Need better outdoor spots for community members to use	3/11/2022 8:54 AM
74	Franklin Field, the cabbage patch, East and West Knoll - all need drainage, maybe high quality turf & East Knoll needs lights. The need this so the youth teams can use them more often (lots of cancelled practices/games). More people in town can use them for pickup games or adult leagues. There are hardly any basketball courts in town. There should also be a schedule for all the fields posted on the city website - one that just notes if the field has been reserved for an organized sport/event or not. The biggest issue is the mental health (especially for kids). One to the best way to address that is through physical activity and personal interaction. This will help everyone.	3/11/2022 8:53 AM
75	1. Seniors are an underserved population. 2. Property taxes and utility fees as in water and sewage are outrageous, and forcing residents to make difficult and often painful decisions, to stay here where they lived all their lives or move. Melrose can and should do better for those most vulnerable. 3 We have plenty of outdoor spaces, sports programs, and well maintained green fields for children but little to no consideration for the elderly. For our youngest and oldest populations, inclusion and mental health measures should be a top priority. 4. Food and utilities are way too expensive, and increasingly difficult to afford viable and nutritional options for most. This is a problem across the country with taxes and inflation hitting the most vulnerable. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the survey!!!	3/11/2022 8:50 AM

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76	Melrose needs a great community center where public functions can take place with plenty of outdoor space for major celebrations like 4th of July etc.	3/11/2022 8:48 AM
77	Taxing "vacant" properties at a higher rate (as a safety issue) so owners will rent, lease, repair, or sell, over a certain amount of time.	3/11/2022 8:45 AM
78	Melrose really needs to step up their game. We have seen too many mistakes made by this administration, which could have easily been avoided by thinking things through before acting. The City also needs to be more progressive in changing antiquated laws and bringing in more viable and profitable business to better support the city and infrastructure. It's 2022 - step it up.	3/11/2022 8:41 AM
79	Fire police and DPW buildings look terrible. Embarrassing	3/11/2022 8:40 AM
80	Completing the already researched changes to update fields and tennis courts on Lynn Fells/Crystal Street setting up all tennis and pickle courts with lights to encourage more activity of Melrosians	3/11/2022 8:39 AM
81	Roadways are in complete disrepair Playgrounds and parks are not up to par based on surround communities. No water features and general play structures are well below average Schools need significant repair and plans should start to evaluate potential new high school	3/11/2022 8:33 AM
82	The fields in Melrose, especially both sides of the Knoll need to be replaced with synthetic surfaces. Ideally the Cabbage Patch is included on this as well. The athletes at MHS are often forced to travel to Pine Banks, which although is not that far away, making it a hassle for athletes and parents alike to ensure safe passage. I would like to see more money spent on athletics and extracurricular activities for our MHS students. After suffering through the pandemic our students are some of our most at risk individuals and they need outlets to help alleviate the stress and anxiety brought on by the pandemic. An investment in providing playing surfaces that are open year round and not closed down because of rain would show our student-athletes that we are behind them and support them and their programs.	3/11/2022 8:32 AM
83	Eliminate CRT Keep voting at area schools for elderly convenience and parking. Keep Red Raider name just change logo. Do not weigh children in hallways!!!	3/11/2022 8:30 AM
84	Look at Cary NC. Town noted for excellent parks/ rec , beautiful greenways, schools, very affordable taxes.	3/11/2022 8:26 AM
85	More investment in creating and preserving open space and passive recreation areas like Flagg Acres.	3/11/2022 8:17 AM
86	Melrose feels the most welcoming and lively when we create spaces where people can gather. Even during the pandemic, the parklets helped to create that space. Any efforts that can be made to reduce parking/traffic and prioritize pedestrians (perhaps through better public transportation options) would be a boon for the city and have the potential to address multiple concerns listed on this form. Thank you!!	3/11/2022 7:51 AM
87	Property taxes are going through the roof. seniors are going to be forced from their homes. Having been born and raised in Melrose and living in the same house for 55 years I am afraid of loosing my house . Maybe there should be a child tax for residents that is the school system. Also the roads are terrible	3/11/2022 7:47 AM
88	Roads really need to be repaved. That is extremely important to me.	3/11/2022 7:13 AM
89	I think support for youth struggling in schools with social issues needs immediate attention.	3/11/2022 7:11 AM
90	I do NOT want to cut funding for departments like Police and DPW, but I would like to see those agencies (and others) become more responsive and "in touch" with the changing nature of the Melrose community. There is still a "squeaky wheel gets attention" feel to the way city agencies prioritize their work, and that needs to change.	3/11/2022 7:08 AM
91	Team up with private entity to develop winter recreation activities at Mt. Hood. Create a business venture that will perpetuate a long term community / regional destination.	3/11/2022 6:59 AM
92	Different opinions does not make one an enemy.	3/11/2022 6:46 AM
93	Melrose may have some of the worst roads in Massachusetts. We need to fix them and have proper drainage. Also more bike lanes and sidewalks so there are other options besides driving.	3/11/2022 6:41 AM

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94	New sidewalks are great, but when homeowners aren't on board and absolutely refuse to clear leaves and shovel snow, its wasted money. The homeowners on Echo St leading to Hoover ensure to shovel their driveways and refuse to touch the sidewalks making a dangerous situation for those of us who walk. We've reached out to the city and yet nothing makes these homeowners take action.	3/11/2022 6:38 AM
95	It is becoming very expensive to live in Melrose.	3/11/2022 6:32 AM
96	I'd like to see more funding for the business areas around the commuter rail stops. Densifying development in these area would provide affordable housing and allow for more updated business opportunities at the street levels.	3/10/2022 2:10 PM
97	Pickleball courts - indoor access too. Bike lane support (I know you guys have been working hard on safer biking options)	3/10/2022 8:08 AM
98	We need to encourage tree planting because our wonderful mature trees won't last forever! Thank you for the opportunity to give input on this survey!	3/10/2022 7:47 AM
99	What about a new fire/police station?	3/10/2022 7:46 AM
100	Let's focus on things that deliver value today and do not create new future liabilities.	3/10/2022 7:46 AM
101	Climate change? DEI? Let's stop wasting time and money on these "feel good" topics. With todays economy, now is not the time to do this. How about divert funds to useful things like improving the infrastructure and let's start reducing the tax burden. Seems like reducing the tax burden solves half of the topics listed in the survey(food insecurity, home insecurity, money to spend at small businesses, affording healthcare, etc). I'm not against taxes but they should be reasonable and for services that make an impact vs increase your "likes" on your social media platform of choice.	3/10/2022 6:26 AM
102	There is no need for a new library, that is a big waste of money. Fix the roads and sidewalks. Lower the taxes and water bill. Subcontract the personnel to run the city. Run the city like a business. Learn how to budget. Vote for a Mayor that knows what they are doing!	3/9/2022 9:41 PM
103	Retain the Red Raider community nickname and put the circle back around the M. Better yet, get a logo image rather than a letter.	3/9/2022 4:44 PM
104	Food insecurity and access to healthy food has increased due to Covid-19, and the City of Melrose's ARPA Covid-19 relief funding should directly address this issue...specifically by funding the work of food rescue nonprofit The Food Drive.	3/9/2022 2:54 PM
105	More outdoor community spaces that provide ability to work and socialize with our neighbors. There is a lot of continued work from home and places to work/socialize (inside and out) builds community and ownership which both support mental health.	3/9/2022 2:25 PM
106	Note: ARPA funds are allocated for Covid-19 relief, not infrastructure.	3/9/2022 2:02 PM
107	Somehow make a walking trail around Ell Pond.	3/9/2022 7:30 AM
108	fitness courses, walking trails	3/9/2022 5:57 AM
109	Drainage for water table RECHARGING not removal	3/7/2022 9:59 PM
110	A year round community center for all ages that includes games and sports from basketball for youth to pickle ball courts for seniors.	3/7/2022 8:24 PM
111	It would be great to have a connected path around Ell pond for recreation. Also we need traffic calming like the slow streets program but more permanent solutions.	3/7/2022 7:39 PM
112	Our roads are not good so work is required to repair throughout the whole city. Work on Memorial Hall to create better acoustics and update it to a more modern vibe.	3/7/2022 3:10 PM
113	Not enough public transportation. Cut the 131 and 106 bus lines schedules. Also snow removal is lousy in Melrose, streets are not that clear and no one shovels sidewalks	3/7/2022 2:35 PM
114	Implementation of the Ell Pond Improvement Plan. Addressing the actions in the City's Master Plan.	3/7/2022 1:17 PM
115	Would love to see more go into sprucing up parks and playgrounds that need it.	3/7/2022 9:38 AM
116	fast track the ELL Pond project to create better access. fix the issues with sports fields. Use	3/6/2022 10:20 PM

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	open space to grow food, plant native species, remove invasive species in our open spaces	
117	We should really focus on the immediate needs. The roads need lots of work and the whole community benefits from parks and similar.	3/6/2022 7:36 PM
118	more community garden spaces	3/5/2022 11:03 PM
119	More all-inclusive programs for teens. Summer parks at the school playgrounds with activities for all ages.	3/5/2022 7:03 PM
120	Thank you for this opportunity to give input! Many of us are very fortunate to be in a community as great as Melrose, which already provides a safe place to live with a strong school district. In our household, we feel that supporting businesses (both existing small businesses and perhaps attracting a broader range of employers, for the tax base and other purposes) is critical, as are aesthetics of the community. Main Street downtown is great, but community pride is often also the result of some of the basics of beautification, like staying up on road repair/repaving, sidewalks, tree planting or even underground utility burial. Thank you!	3/5/2022 4:44 PM
121	Pot hole repair; sewer maintenance; dedicated bike pathway not road sharing. Affordable housing	3/5/2022 3:23 PM
122	Would like the city to further commit to dedicated right of way bike paths. Also Sewall Woods Road is in serious need of repair for years now.	3/5/2022 11:50 AM
123	Buy up more open space to prevent future Swain's Pond disasters. Remove building height limits for housing. Stop wasting time on "woke" issues and make some tangible improvements.	3/5/2022 11:00 AM
124	Repair of roads with potholes. Mental health support and awareness. Support for schools. Support for seniors on fixed incomes. Thank you!	3/5/2022 7:47 AM
125	We need mental health hospital beds. Do not encourage school programs of inaccurate theory.	3/4/2022 8:20 PM
126	public benches on Main Street	3/4/2022 4:45 PM
127	Again, we need more diversity in our population of educators. A vanilla population of adults in our schools does not even come close to understanding the issues of diverse students, even though they would like to think they do. Big problem.	3/4/2022 3:06 PM
128	ALLOW USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES TO NON PROFITS FOR MINIMAL COST	3/4/2022 2:57 PM
129	Great town with great people. And these are just the types of places to lead the fight against climate change.	3/4/2022 7:45 AM
130	Please, no more turf fields	3/3/2022 10:43 PM
131	The astronomical housing market has priced middle income home buyers from being able to purchase in Melrose. Also, lot's of aggressive drivers, and many pet owners leaving behind their pets' waste (bagged and unbagged).	3/3/2022 2:32 PM
132	Wd like to see the various conservation areas made more accessible. Seems to me, we have plenty of playgrounds & spots for sports, but we cd be making better use of natural areas such as the conservation land off Swains Pond Avenue & Lebanon Street that have become less accessible & degraded. At the very time many of us need these areas more than ever to decompress, they've become hard to walk thru--many fallen trees, accumulation of debris, bottles & cans, folks leaving bags of dog poop--or worse!. TU.	3/3/2022 10:16 AM
133	Melrose is increasingly unaffordable to those who want to live here and stay here. The City needs to increase its commercial tax base to help pay for services and to help keep homeownership affordable. Create new housing options, rental or ownership, so that people can age in this community and stay here as they grow older.	3/3/2022 10:05 AM
134	We desperately need more social emotional support in our schools. It's getting dangerous and kids are getting hurt. We also need more open, transparent, timely communication with ample time to discuss issues as a community well before decisions are made.	3/3/2022 9:31 AM
135	The sidewalks on the routes of elementary schools have been covered in sheets of ice over the winter weeks. There have been numerous incidents of adults and children falling. Given that Melrose is school bus-free we should provide safer walking conditions to our students and families (e.g. ensure the sidewalks are treated when icy)	3/3/2022 8:53 AM

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136	affordable housing	3/2/2022 6:01 PM
137	I would like to see more walking trails/paths that are groomed and safe.	3/2/2022 11:28 AM
138	I think anything we can do to cut down on waste is very important like supporting the Food Drive and providing recycling services to businesses	3/2/2022 9:12 AM
139	Accessibility issues for disabled folks	3/1/2022 9:31 PM
140	Building and improving the areas around Ell pond should be a priority, I think. This is already a highly utilized area, For example, there is a lot on Crystal street where a house was recently demolished. The city should purchase/take it by imminent domain and create recreational opportunities there, perhaps pickle ball courts which don't require much space. There used to be lights on tennis courts which is where we should want kids or adults after dark. It seems like we could add lights to the Tremont st courts.	3/1/2022 8:36 PM
141	Issue with the survey - question 1 talks about DEI, but then DEI isn't mentioned in # 2 or 3. #1 doesn't mention sidewalks and road improvements, but #2 and #3 does.	3/1/2022 7:33 PM
142	I would love to see city explore ways that our community can connect with each other in safe ways. Outdoor green spaces come to mind	3/1/2022 7:24 PM
143	outdoor recreational opportunities that are NOT sports related - arts and cultural outdoor facilities	3/1/2022 1:28 PM
144	We need fresher holiday wreaths at Christmas.	3/1/2022 7:39 AM
145	Would like to see the DCR pool in town open for lap swim in the mornings	2/28/2022 6:32 PM
146	The proposal from The Food Drive needs our support. Access to healthy food and reduction of waste are handled at the hyper local level. This work must be sustained for us to make Melrose one community for all.	2/28/2022 6:09 PM
147	Walking/biking paths, clearing of walking paths in the conservation land area, speed mitigation in family dense areas	2/28/2022 4:38 PM
148	would love to see more events downtown like the summer stroll!	2/28/2022 4:07 PM
149	Get back to basics - infrastructure, building maintenance, age of fleet	2/28/2022 3:33 PM
150	We need better roads	2/28/2022 3:33 PM
151	Hire a Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion for the City of Melrose	2/28/2022 3:26 PM
152	More native plantings in public spaces resist drought and pest infestation and they are better for the environment. I would also like to see more awareness of the Native Americans who lived in this area before the European colonists arrived, for example through signage at Ell Pond and Spot Pond Brook, art exhibits, public presentations, or articles on a public forum.	2/28/2022 3:03 PM
153	The upgrades to the Knoll fields should be funded.	2/28/2022 2:51 PM
154	Shaded outdoor recreation space suitable for all ages not just ball fields. Ex walking paths with seating along the way	2/28/2022 2:46 PM
155	Fix intersection of Main and Melrose St. Traffic calming on Franklin eastbound from Stoneham (how about rumble strips across lane with the word "SLOW" -- I've seen them in Ireland as you approach a village.) Improve amenities near Ell Pond/Knoll like walking trails, maybe a dock/platform extending unto the pond	2/28/2022 11:12 AM
156	There is a lack of affordable housing/rent in the Melrose is unfortunate. The streets are in deplorable shape and continued to be patched instead of paved, it's always a bandaid and not a fix.	2/28/2022 10:29 AM
157	Traffic calming and enforcement is my number one concern. Drivers go too fast and routinely run stop signs or red lights, even next to the police station. Improved playgrounds and walking paths, adult exercise area (like near Flynn rink) would be wonderful. A splash pad would be used very heavily, too.	2/28/2022 10:24 AM
158	Outdoor space(s) with lots of variety of eating/seating options and critically shade options (from trees to awnings, etc) that are available all year round (extend seasonal activities, rentals for pop-up ice skating/curling in winter?), variety of play structures for all ages (kids to	2/28/2022 10:20 AM

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teens/adults even), a place where food trucks can come, can have public movie nights (or other art/performance events), public wi-fi?

159	We are blessed with commuter rail, bus lines, the orange line and a growing system of bike routes. Let's build on this, adding more affordable housing and encouraging people to use these resources!	2/28/2022 9:27 AM
160	better management and rule enforcement in the Melrose section of the Middlesex Fells (even if this is only through support of the Friends of the Fells)	2/28/2022 8:25 AM
161	Allow ADUs in the zoning laws to ease housing crunch.	2/27/2022 7:35 PM
162	Updates to playgrounds; adding outdoor fitness stations around the city for public use; free outdoor fitness classes for youth (like yoga or boot camp type classes to promote fitness and mental health); public outdoor ice rink for all residents.	2/27/2022 1:50 PM
163	Roads need to be turn out and paved. Small businesses, schools, public safety and DPW need money.	2/27/2022 1:38 PM
164	A more engaging and interesting senior citizen program Offerings in Winchester and Hingham are good examples.	2/27/2022 12:11 PM
165	I recommend focusing on streets, sidewalks, trees, and parks. The money should be biased towards projects which improve the quality of life for as many people as possible. Money for safer streets should go towards the neighborhoods that have the most people, and the most foot traffic, and the most different options for transportation, and the lens should be: make these places safer and more pleasant for seniors with their walkers, slow-moving cyclists, wheelchair users, families with baby strollers, etc. Climate resiliency should also be a focus (improve drainage, and create more shade/fewer heat islands), as should affordable housing IF the city has specific opportunities to spend that money in ways that will directly produce those opportunities.	2/27/2022 9:46 AM
166	Additional turf soccer fields	2/27/2022 8:56 AM
167	Make Melrose more walkable and bike-able for all ages and abilities. Street tree assessment and update with native, diverse species taking climate change into account. Call local firm, Offshoots for assistance.	2/27/2022 8:38 AM
168	Such a beautiful town but the roads in many areas still need fixing. Also the intersection at Vinton Street and West Emerson is atrocious. Unsafe.	2/27/2022 7:58 AM
169	More community events would be great to bring outside together!	2/27/2022 6:39 AM
170	Masks off school kids. Snow off sidewalks.	2/27/2022 4:59 AM
171	More play equipment options for older children. More early childhood care support/options for working parents.	2/26/2022 10:56 PM
172	The snow plowing done by city contractors on side streets like mine has been abysmal. A FedEx truck got stuck on my street today trying to make deliveries, a full 24 hours after the snow had stopped, because the plows did such a bad job. I've lived here for decades, and I've never seen it this bad. The city needs to reevaluate the performance of the private contractors hired for snow removal; try driving around ward 7 side streets after a storm and judge for yourselves.	2/26/2022 10:48 PM
173	Library of Things which is collection of objects. Objects often include kitchen appliances, tools, gardening equipment and seeds, electronics, toys and games, art, science kits, craft supplies, musical instruments, and recreational equipment	2/26/2022 10:43 PM
174	Use tax money wisely Roads clean up conservation land cut taxes so it will help with affordable housing	2/26/2022 9:55 PM
175	Let's train businesses - big and small - on how to recruit, hire, train, support, and retain people with disabilities. People with disabilities need more meaningful job opportunities with employers who understand how to provide accommodations. Imagine the inclusion and true integration in our community if more people with disabilities were working in our city! :)	2/26/2022 9:38 PM
176	Stop wasting taxpayer money on your liberal policies. Be the mayor for ALL the people not just the ones supporting your agenda	2/26/2022 9:16 PM

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177	More trash receptacles in playground and fields around town. Better drainage for fields. Water fountains at all playgrounds and fields. Lights at the Common fields and skateboard park. More outdoor recreation (basketball courts)	2/26/2022 7:00 PM
178	Better integrated playgrounds with all-abilities accessibility, sprinkler features, modern and out-of-the-box structures, shaded areas, covered areas, etc.	2/26/2022 6:43 PM
179	Walking/biking path around ell pond and the knoll. Outdoor stage at the knoll - permanent and built in to landscape. Playground at the knoll. Free use of indoor performance space for melrose youth serving organizations, just like field use is free for melrose youth sports leagues. In the ranking question, there was nothing about education. Please make classes smaller at elementary school and more schedule availability at middle and high school. All of these are pandemic recovery related as we create a vibrant community that supports health and wellness of all stakeholders.	2/26/2022 4:50 PM
180	Knoll and Cabbage patch projects	2/26/2022 4:10 PM
181	DIVERSITY IN POLICE FORCE!!!!	2/26/2022 4:01 PM
182	Expansion of the Melrose Community Garden	2/26/2022 3:36 PM
183	It is not a municipal obligation to provide socio/psych/medcal/welfare services. Like many "surveys" this sets a set of choices that predict the direction of results--another bag job. Plow the roads, clear the shopping/school areas, fill the potholes, have police enforce the traffic regulations that are ignored, pay the teachers. Do the basics, then we can see if there is any money for taking on new obligations. Question 2 is very problematic, poor range of choices.	2/26/2022 3:08 PM
184	Pickle ball courts, cross walk with signaling around Charles Street on the Lynn Fells Parkway Thank you for providing the opportunity to give input!	2/26/2022 2:50 PM
185	Evaluate function of current equipment at playgrounds and make improvements as needed. Warren St park needs serious help.	2/26/2022 1:07 PM
186	More transparency into how funding will be used from Override in 2020 and increased tax revenue from city-wide assessment increase.	2/26/2022 12:37 PM
187	We need more big businesses here to generate income to fund these projects more regularly than waiting years for money to come by...I've already mentioned this before but many of the parks need updating including school playgrounds and local pool - it would be awesome if we could get a sprinkler park	2/26/2022 10:29 AM
188	Melrose really needs to bring its per pupil expenditure up to the state average. It's really appalling how underperforming the schools are in a community where houses routinely sell over 7 figures. Given what are tax rate is compared to comparable communities we could be doing better. Particularly if we want to pretend to care about DEI. Do you know what improves equity? Top quality education. We are a latino family and believe we need to be saving for private high school based on the current public school performance rates. That is your equity issue right there. Additionally, flooding and drainage issues throughout the community are clearly significant. Walk down Maple St. after a storm and it is clear that many houses there sit on illegally filled wetlands and drain a ton of stormwater into the street. Clearly, work could be done. The intersection of West Emerson and Vinton needs a four way stop sign, the sight distances warrant it and if the City's traffic dept. doesn't believe so, clearly we need to be working with folks at VHB or another firm with a bit more expertise. I've nearly been run over as a pedestrian enough times there now. The sidewalks as you turn the corner from West Emerson to Lynn Fells Pwy need to be repaired as they are all significantly deteriorated. We also don't seem to have nearly as much in the way of community celebrations as other towns, no fireworks, no real parades, no fairs (stores selling stuff on the street downtown doesn't count), clearly the parks and rec department needs an influx of funds to bolster programming. A really good public indoor lap pool would be excellent. Swimming lessons are a critical life skill and drowning is the number one cause of childhood death, particularly among minority children, so again, if we want to pretend to care about DEI, instead of pissing away money on a consultant to lead a "conversation", make investments that actually benefit the community like other towns do! This is not hard, many other communities have accomplished this, a simple review of the state cherry sheets will show you this.	2/26/2022 10:08 AM
189	Re: outdoor facilities: more trees planted for shade in/on playgrounds (like Beebe School); overhaul of Beebe school playground for multi-age use, better/more trash/recycling options at recreational facilities. For example, The phone charging & trash/recycling options at the	2/26/2022 9:58 AM

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Common are great! Please consider installing similar ones at other parks. Are there any options to explore connecting Melrose to existing regional bike paths?? Thank you for your consideration!

190	Overdevelopment without parking is going to ruin melrose. I challenge anyone to find 40 parking spots in Melrose Highlands today	2/26/2022 9:42 AM
191	Clearing sidewalks for children to get to school safely should be a priority. After the last storm the sidewalk around Bowdoin park wasn't cleared for three days. Many kids walk that way to get to the middle and high schools but the Milano Center Parking lot was plowed and it's not even open right now due to Covid.	2/26/2022 9:41 AM
192	Create gathering venues for people to meet and know each other. I know in the time of Covid it is a challenge but we need to create a sense of closeness. winter does enough to isolate us from each other. Let Melrose be a true village.	2/26/2022 9:03 AM
193	We need more low income housing and more high rise apartment buildings especially near public transport and less focus on parking and cars. More trees and plantings using native plants and trees for outdoor areas (#3 above) Thanks!	2/26/2022 8:46 AM
194	Roads and city services are horrible. Potholes everywhere. Poor response to snow removal. (have to call every storm to remind them remove snow from street. Pay our teachers more!!!!	2/26/2022 8:17 AM
195	I'd love to see more conversation and a faster commitment to reaching net zero. One of the easiest ways - add composting onto the waste pick up! Most of us that use a service use black earth and after being a customer of many of the local companies - I can say hands down they are the best to work with.	2/26/2022 7:16 AM
196	I would like Melrose to deal with keeping the city clean and keeping the city operating very well without all these ridiculous programs that the federal government should control not the city	2/26/2022 7:09 AM
197	I am basing my answers on things that I think we need MORE focus on, since I think we already do many of these things pretty well. I think education should have been a choice in question 2. Thanks	2/26/2022 6:39 AM
198	Ease taxes!	2/26/2022 3:11 AM
199	Retirees need to be able to stay in their homes.	2/26/2022 12:13 AM
200	The road is so bad, the road in front of my house has been broken for several years, full of big holes, kids often fall down	2/25/2022 11:54 PM
201	Rodent management Building inspection oversight New police station	2/25/2022 10:53 PM
202	Outdoor recreation needs to be inclusive of all Melrosians, with less emphasis on team sports facilities. Many different types of people use out outdoor spaces. Many of the outdoor spaces are in sad condition.	2/25/2022 10:46 PM
203	Tennis court improvement pickle ball courts adult rec classes	2/25/2022 10:40 PM
204	It would be nice if there was a splash pad for young children in the community.	2/25/2022 9:55 PM
205	The mayor is an idiot	2/25/2022 9:31 PM
206	Melrose could benefit from real grass fields for safe and healthy play. Efforts to maintain natural spaces, including controlling invasive species, will help community beauty and mental health. Affordable housing, bike lanes, and reliable transportation will help economic stability and DEI in our city. We also need to look ahead and help residents economically and infrastructural-ly prepare for a world where gas fuel has gone the way of the dinosaur. Thank you for the opportunity to comment!	2/25/2022 9:15 PM
207	As a part of this survey the city should define a framework on what it's core values are and have that framework drive future projects. For example, if the city is serious about mitigating heat islands then it would not consider turf training fields. If the city wants to reduce our carbon footprint we should move to ban / incentivize all-electric buildings.	2/25/2022 9:13 PM
208	Make sure the Public Library is rebuilt in a sustainable fashion and includes solar panels to reduce the use of fossil fuels and help the city reach our sustainability goals.	2/25/2022 8:57 PM
209	Melrose needs to focus on MELROSE - and spending taxpayers money and any other funds more judiciously. The choices on this survey are a joke. Fix the roads, fix the schools and let	2/25/2022 7:23 PM

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the federal government worry about the larger issues (such as climate change.) Focus on your constituents!!!

210	the sidewalks and conditions of our roads is poor. It's a major downside to this great city.	2/25/2022 7:19 PM
211	Melrose is a great city! We need to invest in our young people from early childhood through high school. This city needs to be engaging and safe for all of them, with careful to their mental health no matter what their differences may be.	2/25/2022 7:15 PM
212	1. I liked the outdoor dining parklets - I hope we keep them. 2. Development is taking too much open space - especially in already developed areas. Swains pond isn't the only area of the city that should be preserved. An open, undeveloped lot with a few trees on in a heavily developed area helps break things up. 3. It would be great if we could attract businesses that sell durable goods to the downtown- I really miss the hardware store- but in the age of big box stores and internet, understand a huge challenge. 5. I am concerned about relying on alcohol sales to spur economic development- seems very counterproductive- especially in light of the increased emphasis now being given by city government on substance abuse and mental health. 5. Appreciate all efforts by City Government in facing the challenges of the pandemic.	2/25/2022 6:26 PM
213	The trash barrel thing is a hot mess. This is forcing many of us to pay for something that is not needed because of a "solution" that is unfounded. We already pay a trash fee. Now I have to buy a barrel and probably deal with replacing it routinely. Our taxes are too high for the services I feel I'm getting. Everything is another fee on top of those taxes and it's time to move out of Melrose.	2/25/2022 6:19 PM
214	We need a new fire station and police station ASAP!!!!!!	2/25/2022 6:08 PM
215	Alternate housing for empty nesters & seniors looking to downsize in Melrose, not necessarily affordable. Cottage community style, 55+, etc.	2/25/2022 5:38 PM
216	The parklets are great! Also outdoor spaces for performance and general gathering (not sports related). Priority- traffic monitoring - active policing and ticketing for speeding.	2/25/2022 5:21 PM
217	Playing fields frequently flooding	2/25/2022 4:35 PM
218	High speed Internet (free access) Mental/behavior help in elementary and middle schools And supports for food insecure	2/25/2022 4:35 PM
219	Update playground structures and redesign parks(ex. adding splash pads)	2/25/2022 4:23 PM
220	Utility infrastructure (water/sewer & goosenecks) improvements are expensive. The city should take advantage of the funding for some of the projects that don't typically see large grants awarded.	2/25/2022 3:56 PM
221	Anything that can get Melrose up to par with the amount of affordable housing available in the community would be a good place to start. Improving public transportation, pedestrian, and bicycle safety could help reduce the over-reliance on cars and the unsustainable parking requirements they generate.	2/25/2022 3:42 PM
222	Outdoor areas for children to play.	2/25/2022 3:39 PM
223	Question #2 does not allow proper response and you should know better. What you put in for responses is limited and makes this survey questionable! Stop wasting money on all the touchy feely stuff and improve the infrastructure of this old city. Back to Basics and respect our Police so they can do their job and keep the riff raft out. Use some common sense. Focus on keeping the community a place where people want to bring their families and spend money. School infrastructure, roads, keeping drugs/drugdealers, rats out of the city.	2/25/2022 3:30 PM
224	Roads and sidewalk conditions are poor. Also not enough trash bins especially near parks (Melrose common example)	2/25/2022 3:29 PM
225	I am a small business owner in Melrose, Fitness Together on Franklin Street, we could use help getting our business name out to the community, as well as financial help from the hardship of COVID.	2/25/2022 3:28 PM
226	The roads are awful. Fix them.	2/25/2022 3:20 PM
227	Would like to see more robust tree planting and increasing green space. Facade guidelines for big developers, no ugly plastic box condos. More fun community events.	2/25/2022 3:11 PM

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228	Please fix Carlida road it's a menace and makes it hard to embrace an eco-friendly bike first existence	2/25/2022 3:07 PM
229	Paved roads, update sidewalks, update parks and playgrounds, renovate and add schools, attract new businesses that are not duplicates of existing businesses (even if chains)	2/25/2022 3:05 PM
230	Continued investment in educational needs in Melrose. Improving the sports fields (knoll/monk/morelli) for drainage issues. Make knoll turf.	2/25/2022 3:00 PM
231	Fix the roads.	2/25/2022 2:55 PM
232	More has to be done regarding high speed driving in Melrose. Drivers are running stop signs, red lights, speeding, and driving aggressively. It is too much.	2/25/2022 2:50 PM
233	I would love to see the pond better utilized. Any chance it could be a swimming hole with a beach? Right now, it seems like such a missed opportunity for an enjoyable outdoor space. Don't take my ranking of Q2 very seriously--I don't have enough information about city needs. For example, how many people in this relatively affluent community are about to be homeless or don't have food to eat? There might be a few, but it's not a top community issue, but maybe it is. I don't know.	2/25/2022 2:42 PM
234	Bringing more small businesses back to Main Street. So many have closed since Covid and earlier. It's not the same as when I moved here.	2/25/2022 2:41 PM
235	Thank you for doing this.	2/25/2022 2:41 PM
236	Parklets in areas where you can enjoy the view of Ell Pond	2/25/2022 2:36 PM
237	Would love to see improvements to playgrounds and would love to see more social outdoor entertainment spaces for arts and culture activities. Would also love to see a brewery and gathering place for socializing. More family friendly spaces that also appeal to adults like a food truck park or large outgame space (console, connect four, life-size chess, etc)	2/25/2022 2:36 PM
238	Public safety has been ignored for too long. The police & fire buildings are archaic and a liability time bomb. Please help	2/25/2022 2:32 PM
239	I'd like to see the money go to the schools and/or city infrastructure like sidewalk improvements & park improvements. Investment in attracting businesses to Melrose would be good too	2/25/2022 2:32 PM
240	Playground facilities/structures are not uniformly "nice" across the city (eg, the common vs the playground on Lebanon) Would be great to see support to encourage local shopkeepers/restaurateurs, particularly of types not already in the city (ie, no more pizza by the slice places!)	2/25/2022 2:25 PM
241	We need more hiking trails	2/25/2022 2:22 PM
242	Tween/teen hangout center, splash pad for summer, enclosed area to ride bikes to avoid traffic (we used to use the track at Pine Banks which is now banned)	2/25/2022 2:21 PM
243	Traffic control and citations to violators.	2/25/2022 2:17 PM
244	make the city walkable by clearing sidewalks and CROSSWALKS around downtown and parks after snow.	2/25/2022 2:15 PM
245	We need more housing, first and foremost. Prices are absurd because there isn't enough supply. Next we need more pedestrian and bike focused infrastructure. That includes spaces that exclude car hazards. For transit, we need bike and train infrastructure to get into Somerville/Cambridge to access job opportunities there. There is basically no way to get South of the mystic river on a bike. There is also not enough childcare. Daycares just don't have enough slots at it costs more than my mortgage to send 2 kids to daycare. But that could be solved by making housing cheaper so teachers wouldn't feel so squeezed at prevailing rates. My modest house cost over half a million dollars. How much will my kids need to pay to live here?	2/25/2022 2:02 PM
246	Creating a baseball/softball centralized area with 2-4 fields and the addition of lights for the local little leagues	2/25/2022 2:00 PM
247	New elementary school; Library renovation to include after school club program for middle/high school students; new public safety building.	2/25/2022 2:00 PM

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248	Extend the orange line to Wyoming!	2/25/2022 1:58 PM
249	Separated bike lanes from Oak Grove (Malden border) to Wakefield border, and from Stoneham to Saugus. Continuous sidewalks with safe crossings throughout Melrose.	2/25/2022 1:55 PM
250	The pandemic highlighted the importance of and our wonderful access to Melrose parks, playgrounds, etc. Many are in need of a refresh (including meeting access needs). Traffic calming to keep the city safe and walkable is related.	2/25/2022 1:55 PM
251	Playgrounds, green spaces, parks, bike/rail trail innovation	2/25/2022 1:49 PM
252	Please fix the roads and sidewalks. And fine those that allow shrubs to grow over sidewalks.	2/25/2022 1:47 PM