

STILLWATER COMMUNITY 2025 SURVEY RESULTS

An annual publication on the needs and perspectives of the
Stillwater Community.

STILLWATER
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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A special thanks to the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce for their partnership on the development and outreach efforts for this survey.



THE STILLWATER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Stillwater Community Foundation is a 501c3 that helps support needs and projects in the community that may not be met through other nonprofits.

Our mission is to connect people, businesses, and nonprofits around the needs of the community, creating a better future for Stillwater.



MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS



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STILLWATER COMMUNITY ANNUAL SURVEY

The Stillwater Community Foundation saw an opportunity to provide a credible source of awareness and information on the needs and perspectives of our community and launched the first survey in 2025.

SURVEY TOPICS

We created a survey that provided customized responses based on respondent demographics. In addition, respondents had the opportunity to provide feedback on the following topics.

Specific questions for retirees, families, sole occupants, unemployed, etc.

General perspectives on Stillwater

Experiences with the wildfires this spring

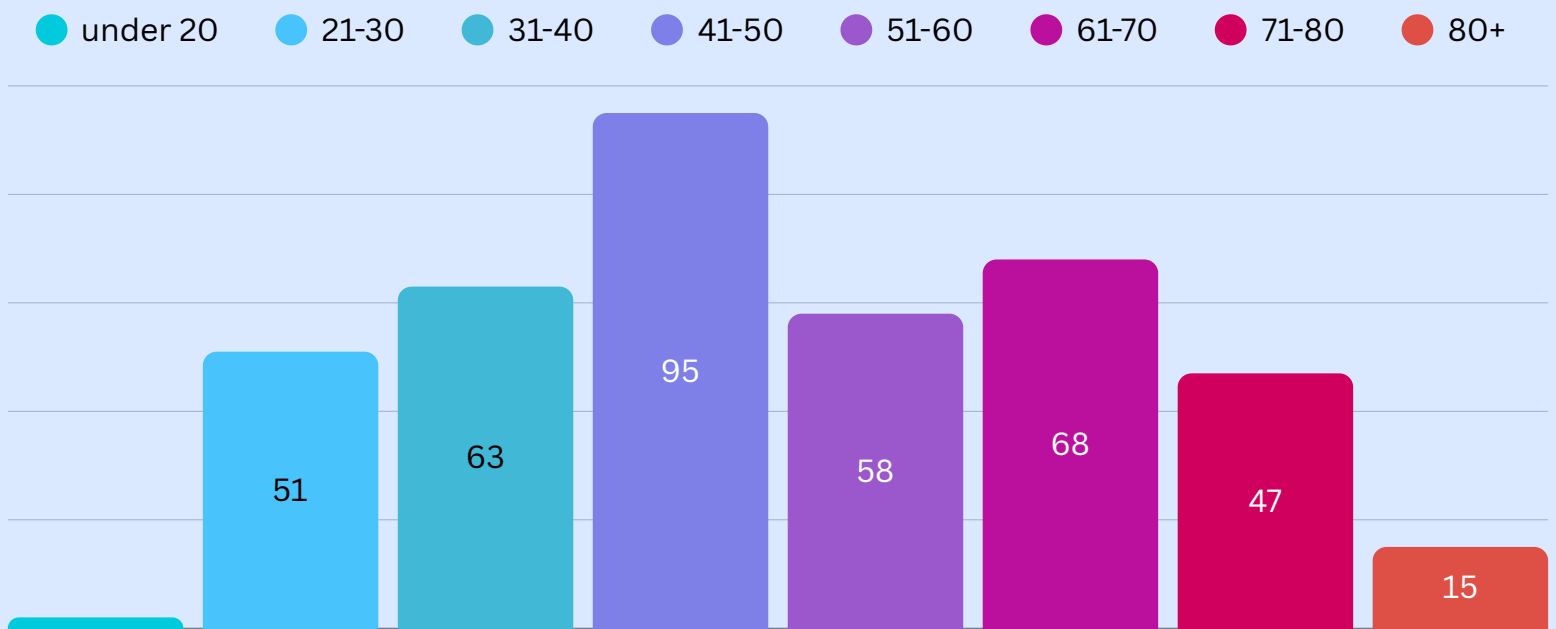
Parks, community centers, and transportation

Food, physical and mental health resources

RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Out of about 400 responses:

- 93% were permanent residents
- 87% white, 2% African America, 4% American Indian or Alaskan Native, 2% Asian, 5% other
- 66% were female
- Age was well distributed

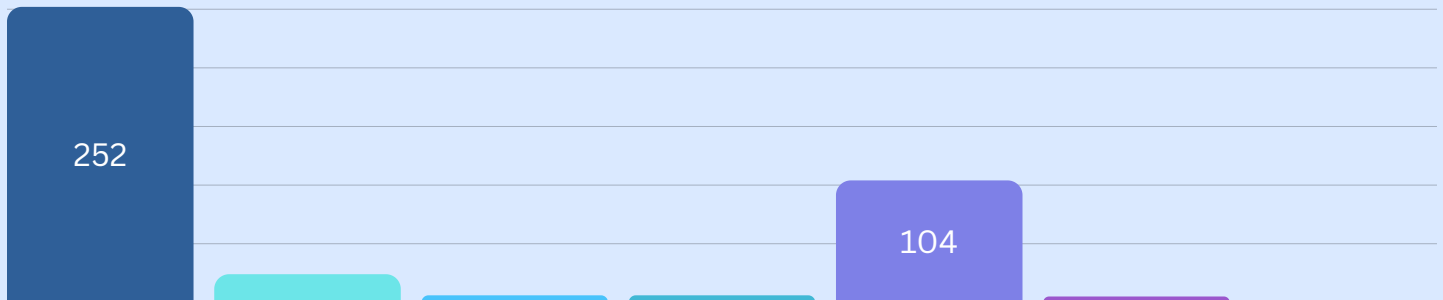


Out of about 400 responses:

- 73% were married, 14% never married, 8% divorced, 4% widowed, 1% separated
- 81% had attained a 4-year degree or higher (according to the U.S Census, 52% is the population statistic for Stillwater)
- 25 veterans, 12 military spouses and 2 reserves
- In June 2025 Stillwater's unemployment rate was 3.5%, slightly above the state average at 3.1%.

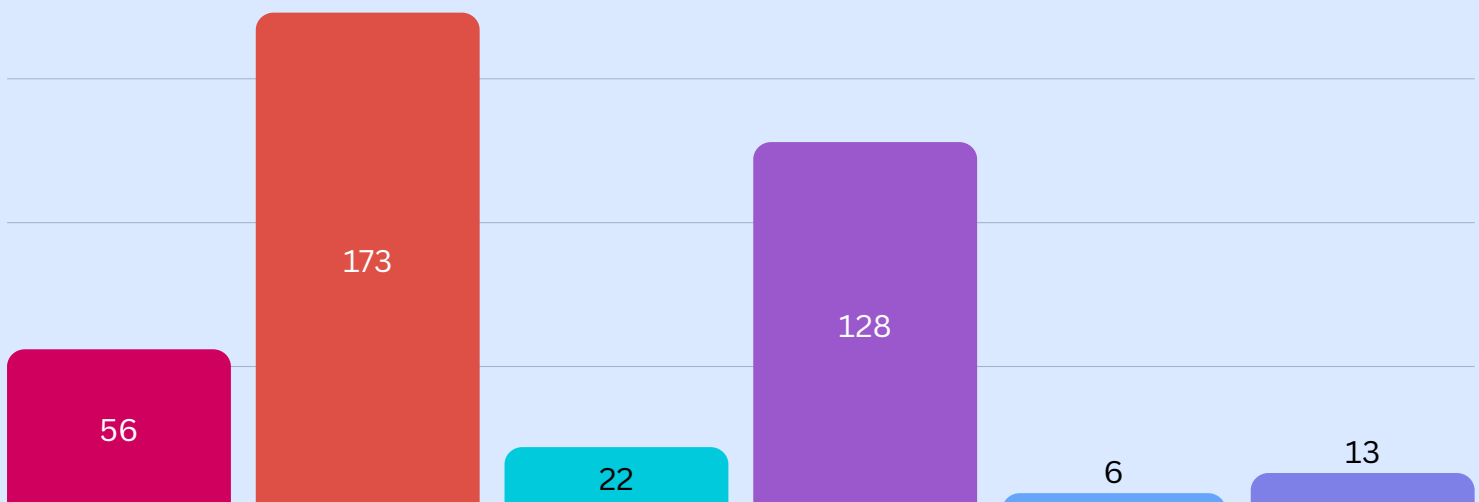
RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

● Full-time ● Part-time ● Unemployed looking ● Unemployed not looking
● Retired ● Student ● Disabled



HOUSEHOLD OCCUPANCY

● Sole occupant ● Spouse/partner ● Single parent/guardian + kids
● Couple + kids ● Roommate ● Family member



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We want to take an opportunity to thank everyone who took the time to complete this survey and share your perspectives about the Stillwater Community. We received over 400 quality responses along with many detailed comments and ideas about how to make our community stronger. Elected officials, city government, non-profits and business owners, we encourage you to take the time to read through the thoughtful comments that were provided in these survey responses. Many great ideas were shared and we hope many of them come to fruition. Several themes emerged throughout this survey:

With regards to the spring wildfires, respondents reported overwhelmingly that the city and community quickly offered support to those who were impacted. While immediate resources were offered, we cannot forget about the long-term impact the fires have had on families and the ongoing support that is still needed.

When it comes to our parks and public spaces, Stillwater has made a lot of great progress in this area. We need to ensure that our parks are maintained so that we can all continue to enjoy them.

Another theme that emerged relates to our youth. There are incredible initiatives on the horizon that we are excited about, and we also need to ensure that our teens are not overlooked. Ensuring that our teens have safe places to play and socialize is critical.

Please read on to learn more about what our community members have to say about how we can make Stillwater stronger, together.

Below outlines several recurring themes that were mentioned throughout the survey.

THE CITY AND
COMMUNITY
RESPONDED WELL
TO FAMILIES
IMPACTED BY
WILDFIRES

PARKS &
COMMUNITY SPACES
ARE REALLY
IMPORTANT, WE
NEED TO ENSURE
THEY ARE
MAINTAINED

NEED MORE SAFE
PLACES &
PROGRAMS FOR
OUR YOUTH

COMMENTS ON
STREETS & A
COMMUNITY
POOL ARE
RECURRING
THEMES

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?



Note: The above graph is a sentiment analysis based on the tone of the comments provided. It is natural for negatively worded questions like “what could make Stillwater better?” to have patterns of negative sentiment, while questions like “what do you love about Stillwater” will lead to more positive sentiment.

What you like to see offered in Stillwater that is not available?

Community pool	Family entertainment: mini golf, arcade, skating rink, etc.	Large sports complex
Target	Entertainment for older generations: dancing	Skilled nursing facilities
Upscale shopping	Rehab services	Pickle ball courts
More sit down restaurants	Summer events and concerts	More grocery stores & farmers market

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE IN STILLWATER?



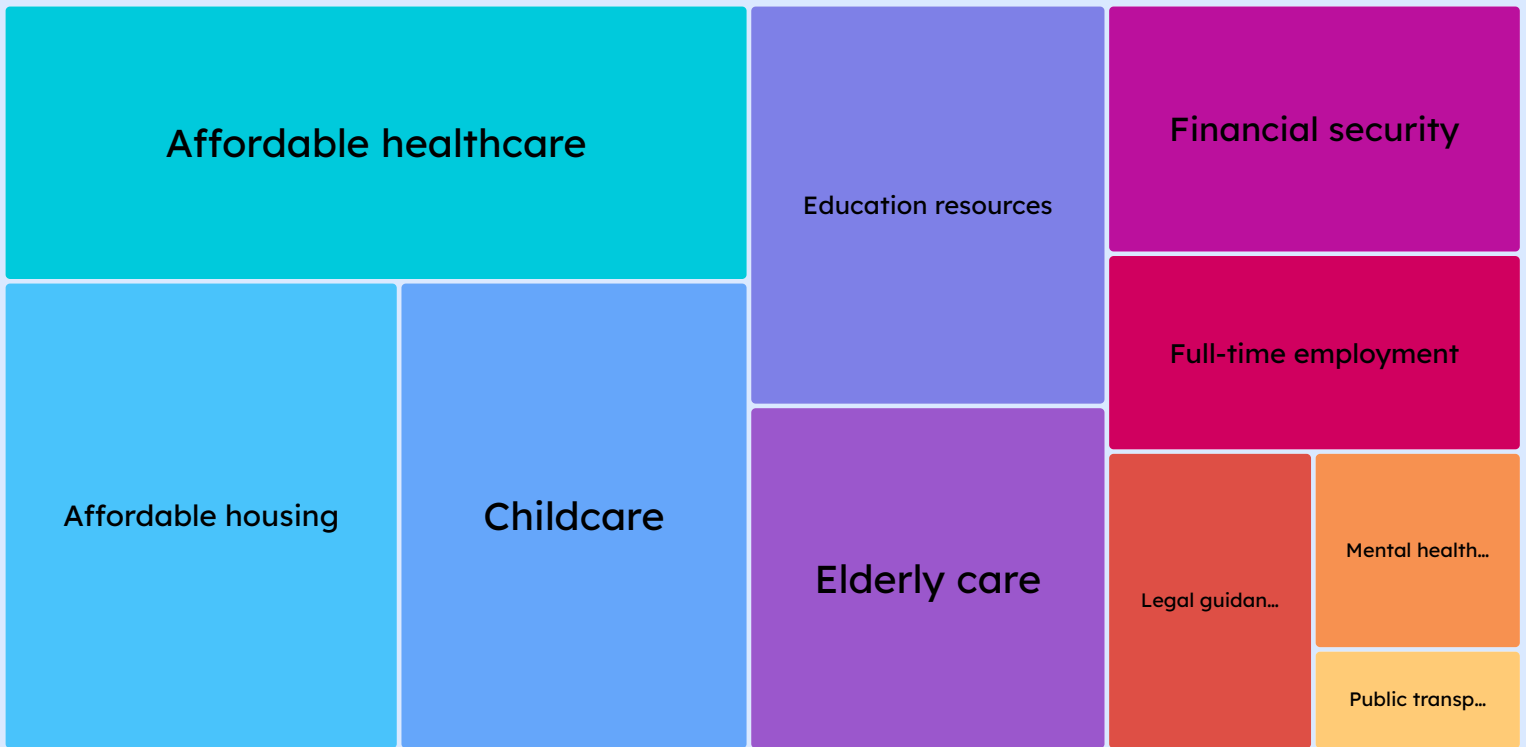
Note: Since comments address what is missing or what community members want to see more of, negative sentiment is expected.

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

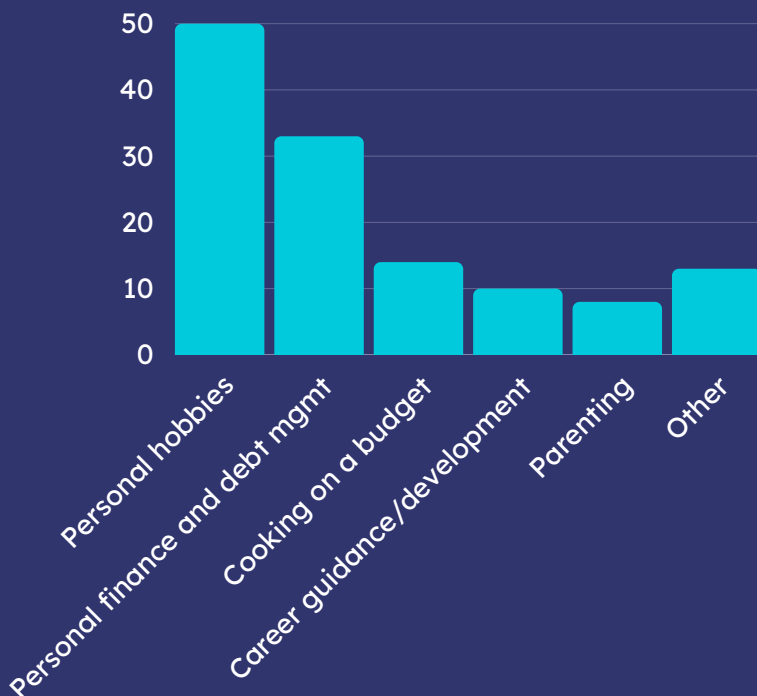
Homelessness	City Official presence at events	Communicate initiatives better
Sidewalks & Streets	Increasing tourism	Beautification efforts
Improving parks	Lower taxes	More affordable housing options
New businesses/ Industrial area	Supporting non-profits	Addressing drug & substance abuse

FAMILY PRIORITIES

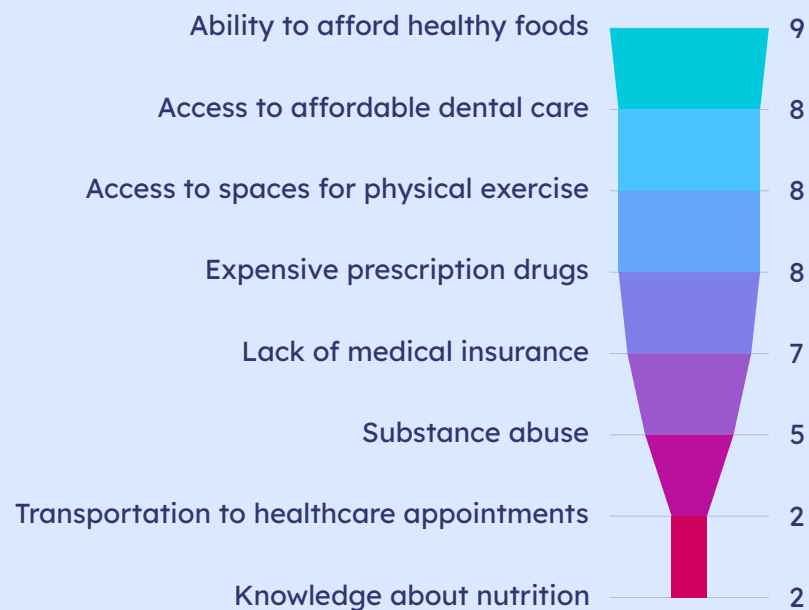
Below outlines what respondents rank as the most important to their household when it comes to basic needs. The bigger the box means respondents rated that category higher than others.



What types of adult educational opportunities would be beneficial to you?



Does your family face any of the below barriers to good health & wellbeing?



WHAT DOES STILLWATER DO WELL TO SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN?

SPS is a HUGE part of why we raise our kids in Stillwater. We want them to benefit from the public education system here. Not to mention their access to college athletics, experiencing the culture around being part of something as well as the opportunity for live music events.

Access to a variety of educational experiences and top medical professionals. Strong network of nonprofit organizations.

Offering Our Daily Bread, StillWonder pop ups, and the splash pads.

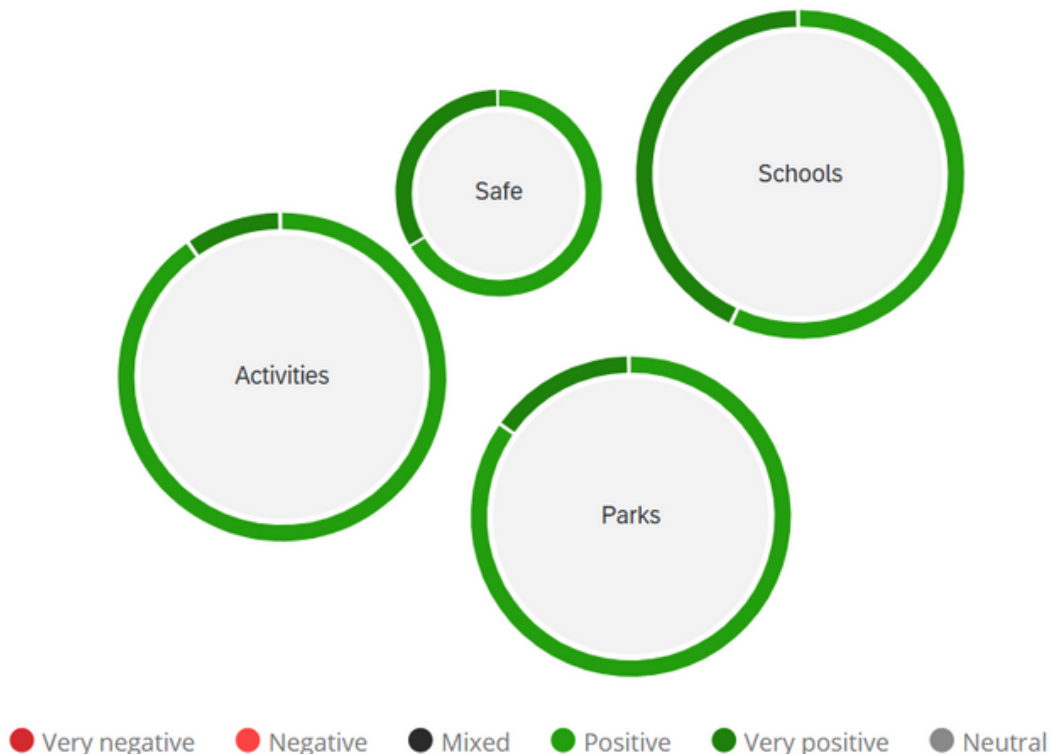
The school system is pretty good, parks are pretty good, splash pads are nice.

Downtown investments- Stonecloud has become a great community hub and downtown is somewhat walkable, which can give kids autonomy to walk around and check out downtown shops. It will only get better with Block 34. Downtown has become such a great community hub thats safe for kids- farmers market, flea market, arts festivals, etc.

Strong library programs, prairie arts center, Stillwater pediatrics, parks.

Free lunches during the summer.

Sentiment Analysis from Qualitative Comments



Note: Since comments address what Stillwater is doing well in this category, positive sentiment is expected.

WHAT COULD STILLWATER DO BETTER TO SUPPORT FAMILIES?

*Widen the streets and add turn lanes around the schools. Open more high quality early childhood centers.
Provide more summer and after school programs.*

Community events and activities for small children. A public pool with amenities would be awesome.

Encourage development of more affordable, family-sized housing outside campus zones.

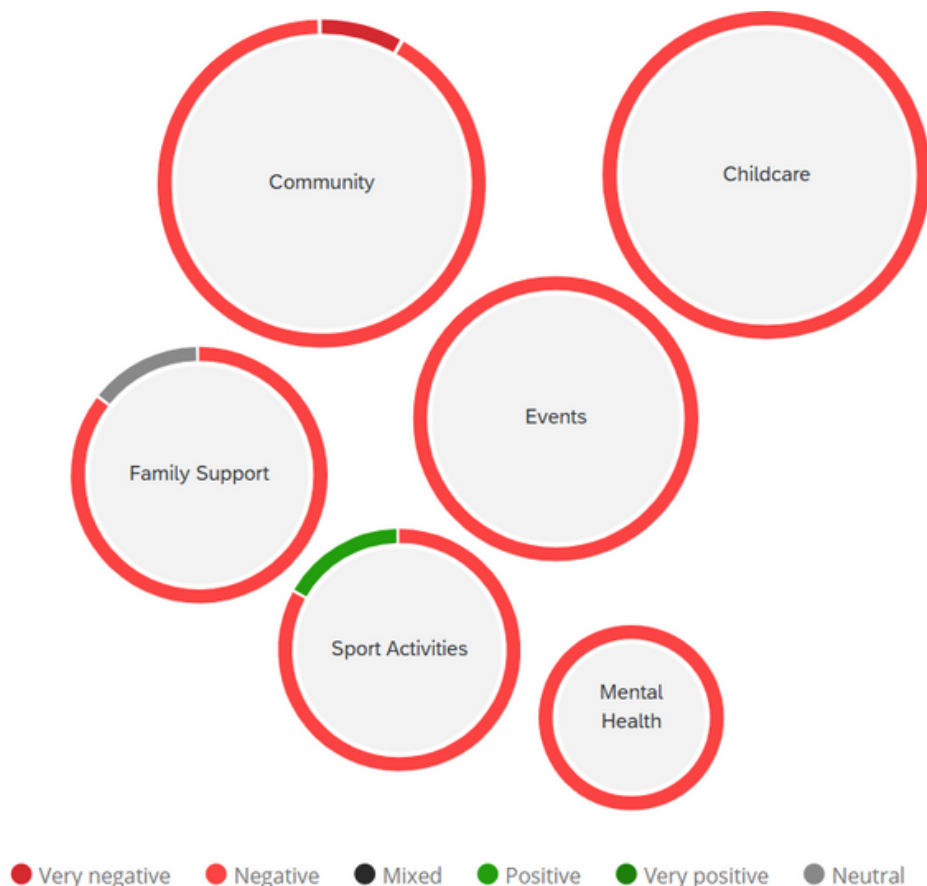
There is absolutely nothing in this town for kids/teenagers to do. Now the city pool has closed so there is even less.

Children's museum would be great, more play places, more childcare options.

Any additional resources for mental health or counseling are always needed for families. We also need to support our homeless shelter. More quality & affordable daycares are needed in our community, too.

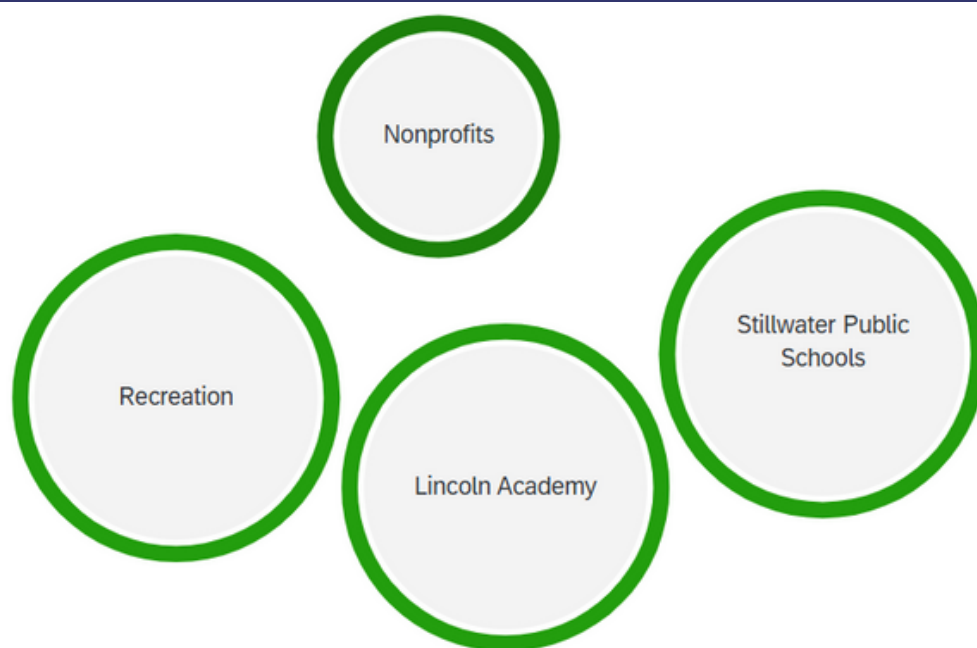
Invest in preventive family outreach, retain caseworkers, and support early-intervention programs (parenting classes, mental health checks).

Sentiment Analysis from Qualitative Comments



Note: Since comments address what could be done better in this category, negative sentiment is expected.

IN WHAT WAYS DO YOU FEEL OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTS AT-RISK YOUTH?



● Very negative ● Negative ● Mixed ● Positive ● Very positive ● Neutral

Note: Since comments address what is done well in this category, positive sentiment is expected.

WHAT IS STILLWATER MISSING TO BETTER SUPPORT OUR YOUTH?

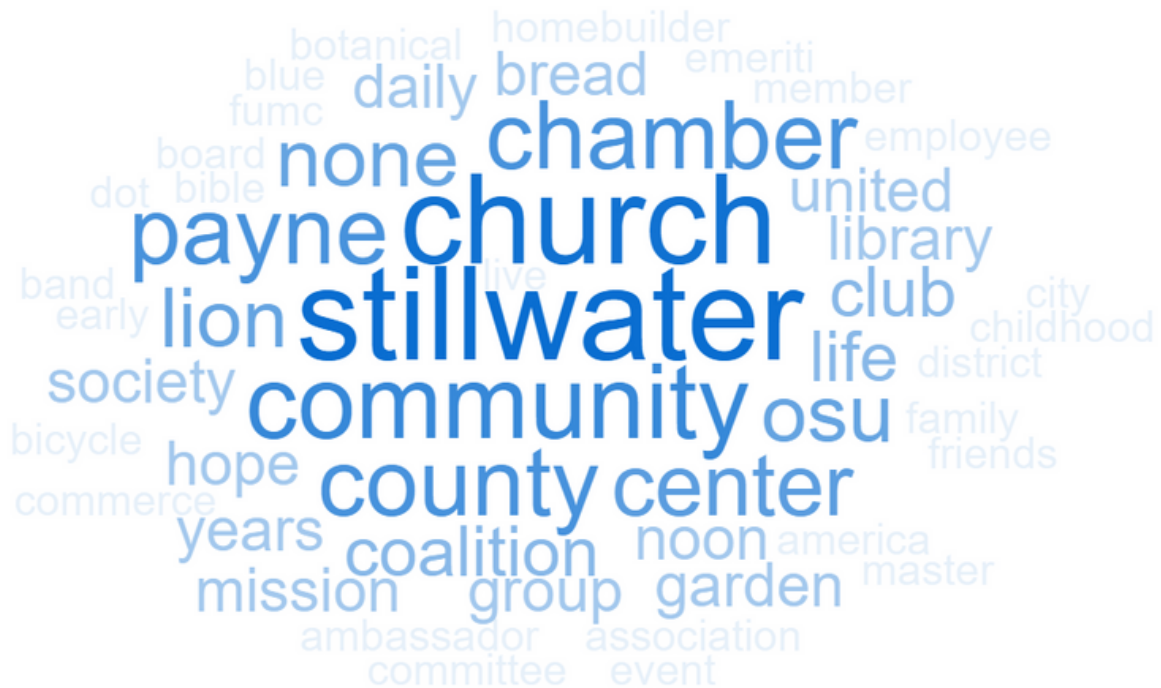


● Very negative ● Negative ● Mixed ● Positive ● Very positive ● Neutral

Note: Since comments address what is missing, negative sentiment is expected.

SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLE OCCUPANTS

What organizations do you participate with to network or help build a personal community?



What could Stillwater do to create more social opportunities?

Offer more opportunities to gather after work hours (9-5) and fill the huge gap in teen and upping adult engagement programs.

Encourage more diversity, offer opportunities for other cultures to share their culture

More free festivals/events- which Block 34 seems to promise! :-)

Put more information publicly what groups and clubs are out there.

More items catered for those in 20s-30s or those that don't have children or community events in general. I believe the opening of the new block will help with community events

Probably more activity for empty nesters that don't want to got sit and drink.

Increase activities, both social and educational, which are easily available and affordable to children whose opportunities to participate may be limited by family economics, lack of parental awareness, feelings of discrimination, etc.

RETIREEES

What city did you last work in before retiring?



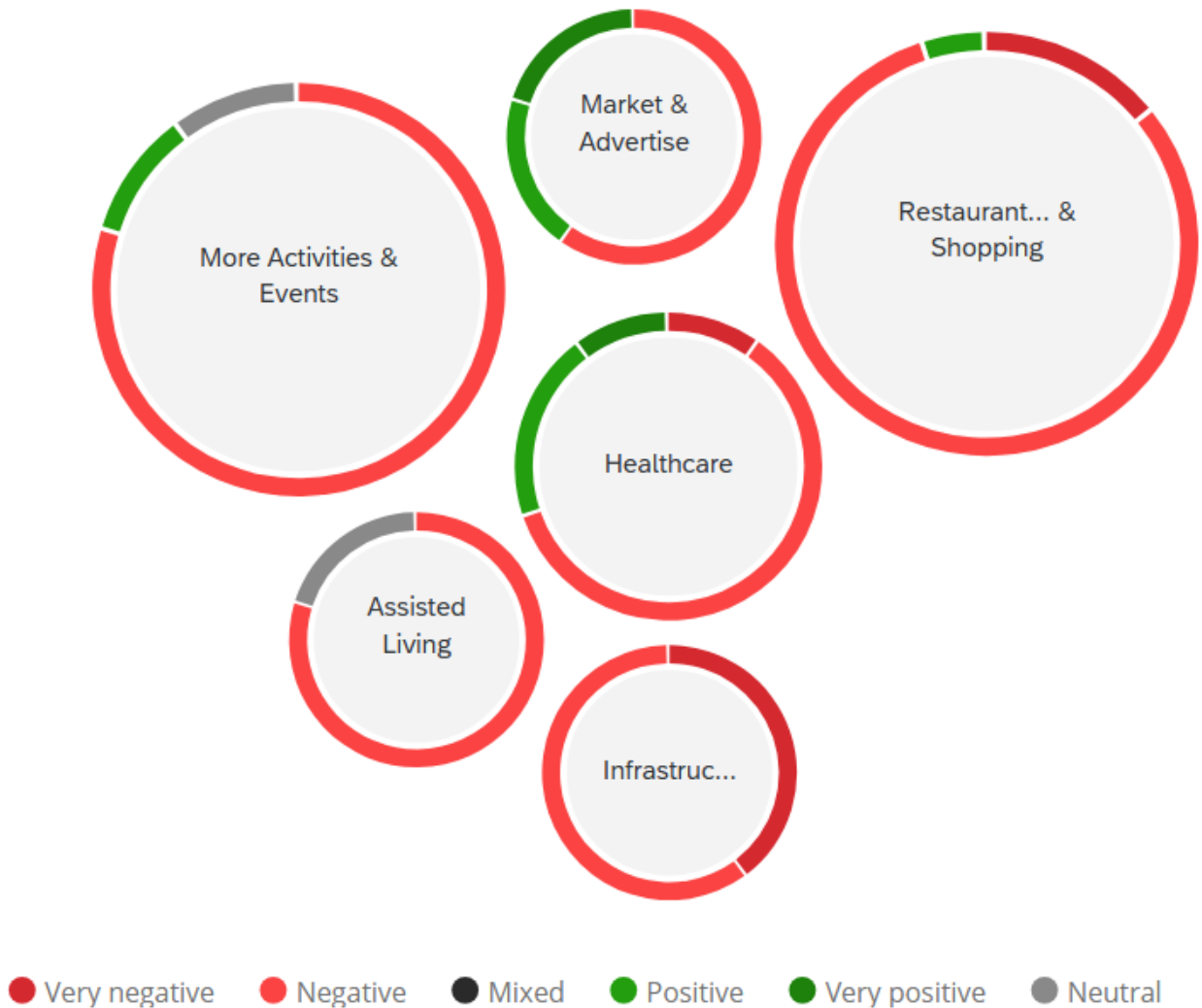
What makes Stillwater a great place to retire?



Note: Since comments address what is great in this category, positive sentiment is expected.

RETIREES

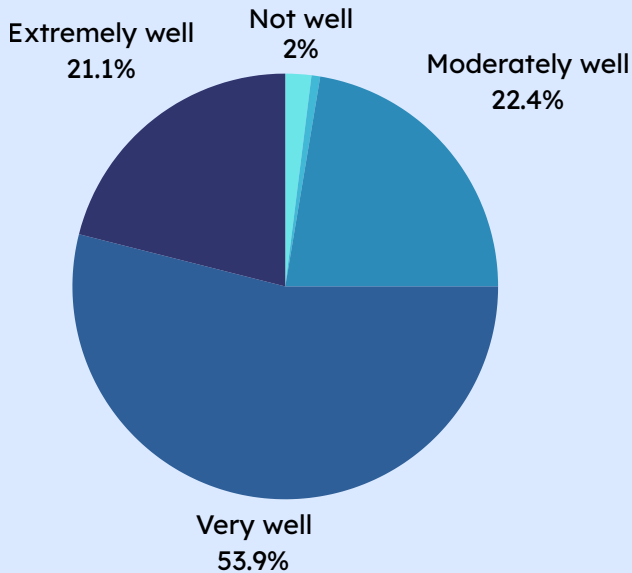
What could we do to make Stillwater a destination for retirees?



Note: It is important to note the combination of positive and negative sentiment indicating that Stillwater is making progress on this topic, but may still have areas to focus on.

WILDFIRE RESPONSE

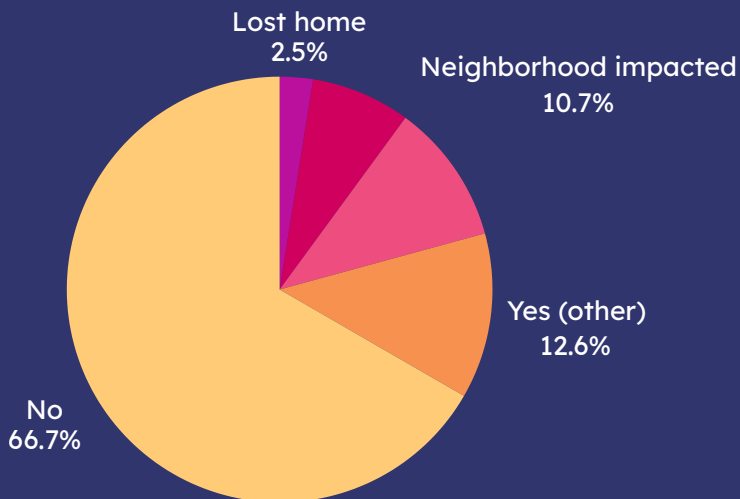
How well was the community able to meet the needs of those directly impacted in our community?



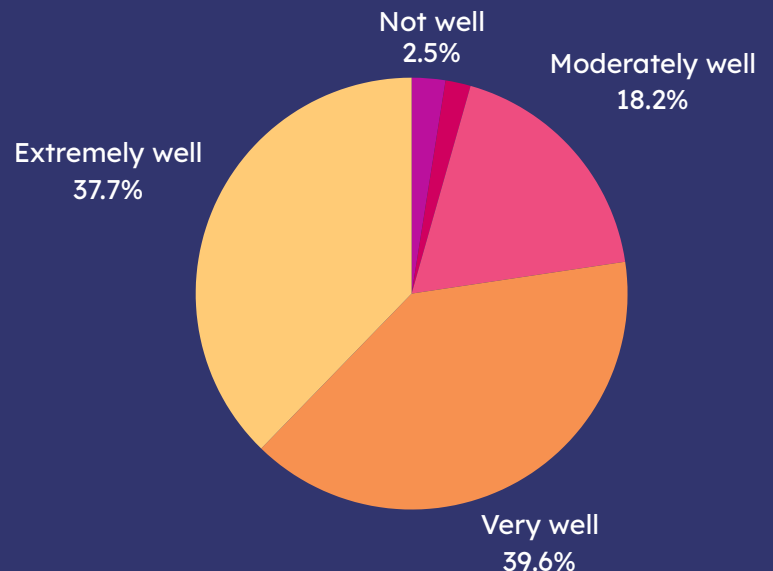
What needs of impacted individuals are still unmet?

Funds to help with high deductibles	Long-term housing options
Lists of excavation services, builders, contractors	Financial assistance and insurance navigation
Ongoing emotional and physical support for impacted families	Mental health services and support

Were you or your family impacted by the fires?



How well did our city and community respond to the impact of wildfires?



HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

Fire protection/landscaping education: “Offer tips on making buildings more fire resistant. Ex: keeping brush and other potential fire fuels away from the house.”

Cedar removal: “We need to look at cedar abatements and at controlled burns at certain times of the year.”

Communication/Alert Systems: “The communication available during the event was limited to constant Facebook page refreshing. A direct method for the city and county officials to communicate with citizens (most likely via text or a live website) is needed.”

“It was hard to get good information as the emergency was happening. I just kept refreshing Facebook to see what SEMA was posting.”

Fire department funding/volunteer support: “In an event of this magnitude, residents depend on the services of the fire dept. The fire dept needs to be a high priority in the budget of the city. This is an essential function of local government. They need to have more than enough equipment to service the area, including the rural areas that surround the city. While this was a very unusual event, and permanent staffing to provide the need protection is probably cost prohibited, properly trained citizens could make up the difference. Most small towns have a volunteer fire dept. Stillwater should look into having a hybrid system of paid staff and on call volunteers (an auxiliary).”

“Increased disaster awareness training. Maybe opportunities for designated trained volunteers in various parts of the city?”

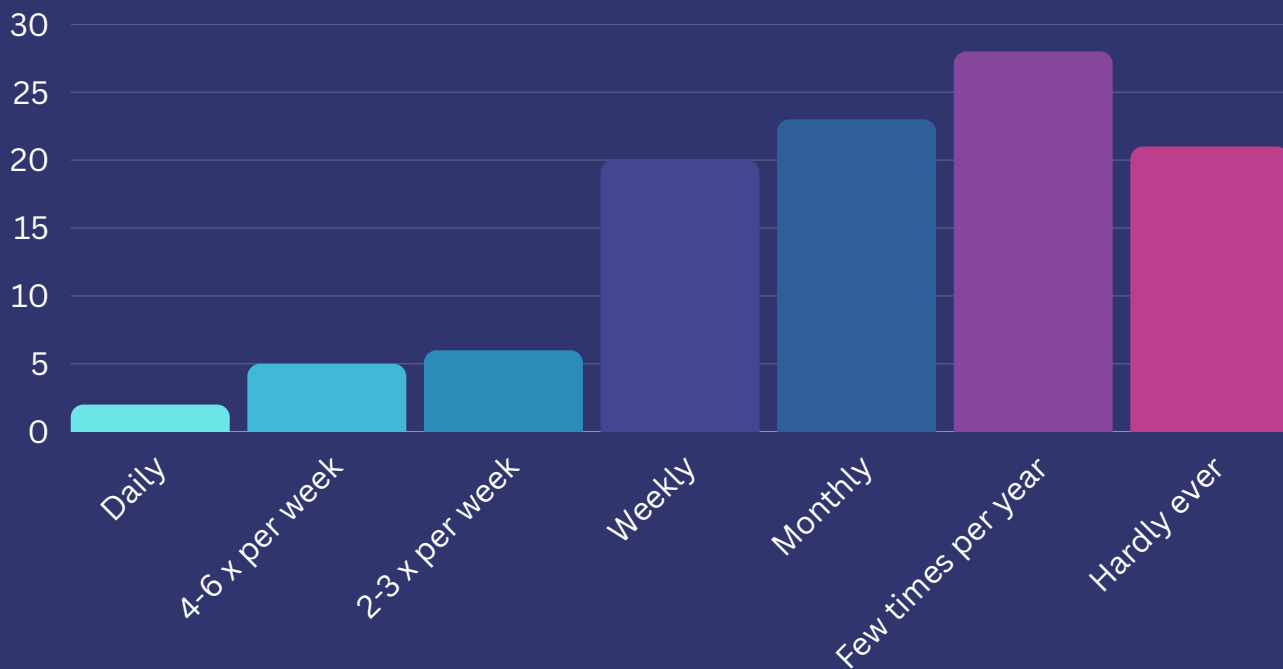
Safe evacuation/exit routes: “My husband was stuck on the Southwest side of town trying to get home from work for hours because the traffic was at a stand still. He was stuck in an area where the fires were encroaching toward and if it had kept moving, 6th street and the sangre road area would have been very dangerous for everyone in that traffic jam.”

Unknown/Can you prepare? “How do you prepare for such a unique mix of circumstances, that may never occur again?”

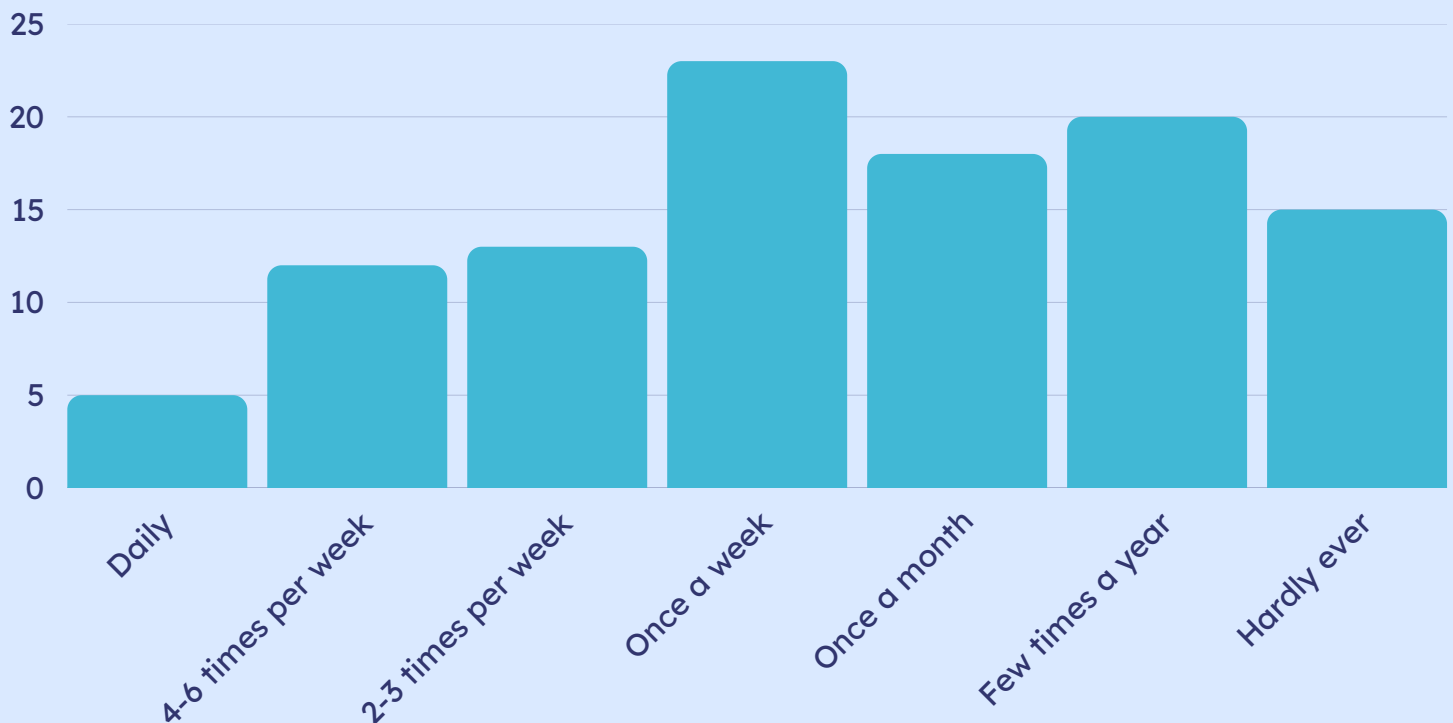
COMMUNITY SPACES



How often do you utilize public spaces or programming like the Stillwater Public Library or Community Center?



How often do you utilize the community parks in Stillwater?



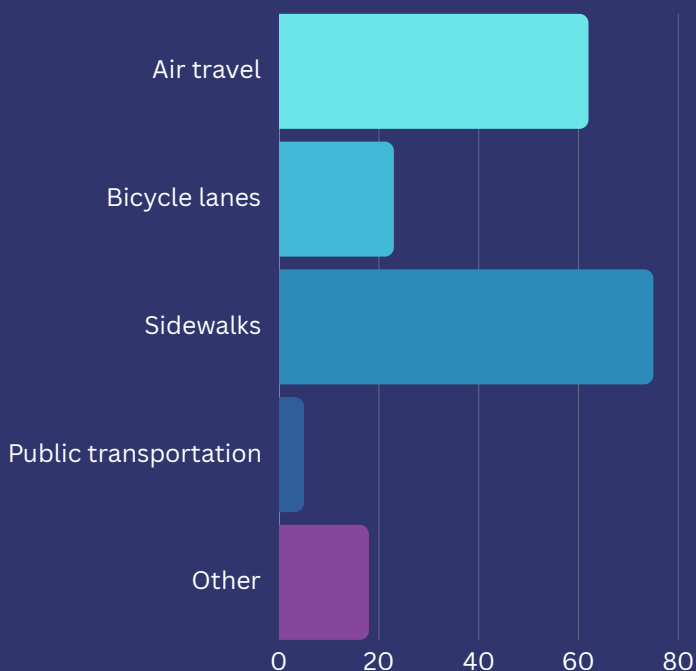
WHERE CAN OUR PARKS AND COMMUNITY SPACES IMPROVE?

Baby swings at parks, more accessible playground equipment	Better baseball & football facilities with accessible parking	Better maintenance of current parks: poison ivy removal, weeds, mowing, bathrooms, etc.	Communication of available programs to non-English speaking residents
Reinstate parks & rec sports to benefit low income families	Public/community pool	More tennis and pickle ball courts	Organized outdoor events
More winter month activities	More walking trails & bike routes	More options for teens... but ask them what they want	Adult sports programming

TRANSPORTATION



Which of the following transportation methods do you use in Stillwater?



How can we improve transportation options & accessibility?

More flights and destination options

Better bike lanes & infrastructure

Funding for maintenance

More safety precautions to slow down traffic for pedestrians and cyclists

Sidewalk additions and improvement/maintenance of current

Road repair

More public bus stops

WHAT WE WILL DO DIFFERENTLY NEXT TIME

Thank you for taking the time to review the insights gained from this annual survey. In the pages that follow, you will find a complete list of all qualitative comments that were provided by respondents. These comments have not been edited, including spelling or grammar, so please excuse the typos in advance.

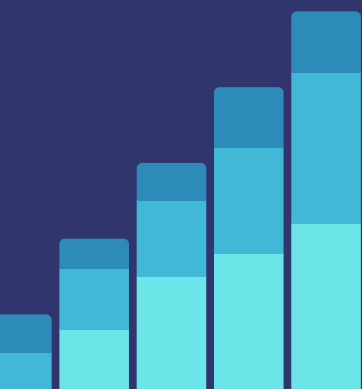
How do we want to improve this survey in 2026?

We need to ensure that this survey is a representation of all voices in Stillwater. We are proud of the 400 quality responses we received, but we can do better next time to:

- Ensure a stronger diversity of race and economic status, we will do this by offering translated versions of the survey and partnering with local non-profits
- Capture the voices of college students by publishing the survey during the spring semester
- Work to gain input and feedback from our youth on what they would like to see from the community
- Have more ideas? Tell us about them! You can visit us at <https://www.stillwatercommunityfoundation.org/>

PARTICIPATE NEXT YEAR!

We are already working on ideas for next year's survey which will launch in Spring 2026. If you or your organization would like to partner on the effort, please let us know.



Thank you for your support and participation of our efforts to make Stillwater Stronger, Together.

APPENDIX: FULL COMMENT RESPONSES

The comments included in the appendix are reported just as they were provided by respondents so please excuse any typos or grammatical errors. We did not edit any responses to ensure we represented responses exactly as they were given.

Three responses were excluded from this report due to possible discriminatory or insensitive statements towards specific populations or directly naming individuals in the community.

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

Work with the veterans organizations to help enhance patriotism within the community. Celebrate our country and those who have served to ensure our freedom and liberty.

We need to have a community spirit that strives to improve the City, like the new YMCA, better streets, etc

We need more shopping options. I am embarrassed about the public roads. As we did the walk around this year you could tell the difference between campus roads and city!! On certain roads there are just big holes and cracks. Someone made the comment the other day that everything is on Perkins road.

We need to develop the downtown more.

We must maintain and improve neighborhood parks that are being ignored. Not all kids can get to the larger parks. We MUST have a barrier around the wildlife area around Boomer Lake and north of Boomer Lake along the creek to protect the wildlife and neighborhoods that pre-date industry. We cannot sell out to every industry that wants to come by,

We have a lot of momentum. Do not become complacent.

We could use more places for people of different perspectives to interact. This era tends to separate people by perspective too often, which makes it easy for one political or religious (fill in the blank for more options) group to demonize another. Stillwater does a much better job of this than most communities, but we can always look at creative ways to do more.

Unsure

Treat everyone with respect and care.

Transit options to OKC. It probably would have to be through OSU and OSU-OKC like the BOB bus.

The University

The city parks need upkeep. Children's sports could be more accessible

Take care of poor people.

Stronger community outreach from OSU

stop putting so much focus on the temporary population of this town (college students) and focus more on the families raising children in this community

Stillwater would be a much stronger community if we broadened our focus beyond just Oklahoma State University. While the university is an important part of the town, it shouldn't be the only priority.

We need to invest in the families, youth, and long-term residents who live here year-round. That means improving infrastructure like sidewalks, turn lanes, and bike paths, offering more early childhood education options, expanding youth programs and community events, and creating spaces where all residents—not just students—can feel seen, supported, and connected. A stronger Stillwater is one where everyone, regardless of age or affiliation, can thrive.

Stillwater could encourage more collaboration between residents, local businesses, schools, and Oklahoma State University. Hosting regular neighborhood events, multicultural festivals, volunteer days, or block parties would build trust and pride across different age groups and backgrounds.

Creating more opportunities for civic engagement—like town halls, community surveys, or citizen advisory boards—would also give residents a voice in shaping their city's future.

Sponsor events like the weekend of the bands. Also do activities in smaller groups.

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

Something to unite around.

Something other than bars for people to do.

something for families to do. The HUB will help.

Livability needs to improve. Parks and sidewalks need to be improved.

Shopping that keeps residents here spending money. Too many businesses have closed and choices are fewer. Better restaurant choices and more on the west side of town. Paying attention to needs and desires of all and not just the city council. Taking care of funding for rainy day (biggest example is the water pipe issue that may or may not now have the funding of FEMA. There should have been money set aside for that especially with the Data Center's need for huge amounts of water.

Roads could be nicer in some areas

Rehab

Reach out more to diverse citizens to serve/volunteer on city boards and committee's.

Promote inclusiveness and diversity as our super-power. Disavow hate in all forms.

Perhaps a little better communication about our local government.

Our roads are terrible.

Not exactly sure where to put it but frequently questions decisions made by city staff. Clean up after the ice storms that brought down so many trees comes to mind. I believe it was October 2020. It took months for the city to come by and pick up tree limbs because the crews only worked my neighborhood on the day my trash and recycling was picked, Dodging trash trucks was not ideal and if they didn't get done by about 2:30PM, they didn't return for at least another week. I was less than impressed by the city crews during that event. Very very poor decision making.

Not be so student dependent

No be so segregated. I am from here born and raised, being a african american woman, stillwater tends to separate blacks in white in activities and area.

More ways to connect professionally - not just for the elite professionals, but workers from all segments. More classes or events for personal and professional growth. More events, especially events that attract different interests.

More volunteer opportunities

More transparency with city government via a newspaper that seriously covers what is happening with the council.

More sustainable, good paying jobs.

More support for locally owned businesses

More support for local businesses.

More social activities.

More restaurants(not fast food), good grocery store and retail stores.

More restaurant, retail, and recreational opportunities

More resources for homeless and low income communities.

More places for people to spend leisure time that's not a restaurant or shopping.

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

Continuing Infrastructure to support those in our community experiencing homelessness and mental illness leading to homelessness.

More pedestrian-centric infrastructure. When we get to see each other, even if just to pass by one another, we feel a sense of belonging, and also respect. The only bad interactions I have had with people are when they are in their cars, feeling anonymous, and in a rush. When infrastructure supports fast driving in neighborhoods and busy community spaces, it makes for a disconnected and dangerous community. More stop signs in neighborhoods, maintained and wide sidewalks, protected bike lanes please!

MORE PARTICIPATION FROM CITIZENS

more parks and better facilities at parks, community pool,

More opportunities to engage with community members in public spaces. Opportunities to interact with people who are different than oneself.

More opportunities for new college grads. Maybe our city council does office hours around town? More opportunities for community fellowship beyond organized religion. More and more people are disconnected, mechanically going to work, siloed in their own bubbles. We are losing the interpersonal connections that make a small town cohesive and resilient.

More of an emphasis on young and growing families and their needs. Retirees have lots to do but to grow we need to be more aware of the amenities young families are looking for.

More moderate cost housing

More local restaurants vs chains. The city planning commission has a reputation of being difficult to work with which limits expansion and many builders don't want to battle the red tape.

More inter generational opportunities

More inclusive environment.

More home-ownership in existing housing; stop all the new building on the SW side; less wal-mart domination; lean into holiday traditions and decor; expanded bus routes; increase safety

More funding for programs that support everyday family needs, such as tutoring, access to job skills or training, and areas such as a community garden where people can come together for a common cause to help each other.

More focus / money spent on areas like downtown, west/southwest of town (near walmart, starbucks, etc.)

More events to bring people out and together.

More events and to entice 22-35 year old age range to stay within the community

More entertainment options beyond eating and drinking.

More entertainment centers family oriented

More engagement

More employment opportunities.

More community-wide events/festivals with opportunities for people to interact in public spaces

More community-involved diverse events

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

More cohesiveness between the city, community and university

More businesses and employment opportunities. More businesses keep closing, especially in the downtown area.

More bike trails

More bicycle sidewalks.

More awareness of and care for the diverse groups in our community.

More and better communication with the citizens

More amenities for all residents not just related to the university. Better parks, public pool, public pickleball courts, more baseball and softball fields.

More affordable housing.

More affordable housing, finding more ways to get young people (especially 18-20s) civically engaged

More activities geared towards the retirees.

More activities for those 18 and under

More activities for adults

Mid south, festivals, homecoming help bring unity. Hopefully block 34 with help with that. Music series with activities.

Maybe figure out a way to involve OSU and the larger businesses to be more active??

Many side roads are difficult to drive upon. A general beautifying effort with more attendance to mowing and at least minimal landscaping in public areas.

Make sure employers emphasize a Stillwater Market Area residence for their employees. Too many high paid employees live in the OKC and Tulsa metro areas. Our salary dollar resources are precious and we need to stem the flow to other market areas.

Lower taxes

Low barrier homeless shelter, more affordable housing, better roads.

Less weed shops

Less regulation and no involvement in corporate welfare. If a business want to locate to the region they should do so because we have a business climate that is not overly intrusive and costly. In the past the city has provided funds to business that come in and compete directly with existing business. We use the tax funds provided by existing business to lure business that will directly compete against them.

Less division between those associated with the university and those not

Keep doing community wide events and awareness activities. Provide resources for those that are most vulnerable, such as better homeless shelters, mental health facilities, and special need professionals. Provide a centralized, ongoing list of community volunteer opportunities throughout the year. And, apparently, it's tough to find good dating options for those that are single, aged 25-35. It would be great if Stillwater could try to promote saving/restoring the neighborhoods in the core part of town.

It seems to be a strong community

It is important to continue to have opportunities for people to connect in person.

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

Investment in our neighborhoods.

Investment in infrastructure and local businesses

Investing in young children by enhancing early childhood care

Invest more in the community, sponsored events like family movie nights, a great community pool, better parks with ample shade and seating, more stores like Target, grocery stores that aren't Walmart

Invest in parks, green spaces, and recreational areas.

Increased healthy food access, increased access to mental health resources.

Improve well being of the early child in Stillwater currently 24% poverty rate among children

Improve the infrastructure.

improve roads, insure long term water and energy supplies, etc.

Improve city parks, roads, and better restaurants

If you are going the posted speed limit, the traffic lights should be timed so that drivers don't have to stop at every light; more than one hospital option so that SMC is not the only game in town (competition is always a good thing); working downtown and dealing with the parking issues is very challenging, the City of Stillwater desperately needs to work on that, like freeing up 4 spots that a private business was allowed to build an outside space in; when District Bicycle has their annual race, move the course so that their route doesn't negatively affect the other businesses in the immediate area...there are other options for the route to take so that the surrounding businesses don't have to close for a couple of days because of streets being blocked off and parking not being accessible for our customers; making all downtown parking either timed or not timed, instead of City employees at City Hall not having to be concerned about timed parking spots just because they work for the City; taking as much red tape out of local government as possible; when road repairs need to be done, do them in a quick and efficient manner instead of it taking weeks to months, depending on the repair.

If we would all get involved

If OSU was involved with the community as much as the community is involved with OSU.

If it were a more walkable/bikeable community, including additional sidewalks and multi-use paths and fixing the existing sidewalks.

I think we need a swimming pool for the public, more youth activities, and more attention to the mowing in the entire community. We need to present a better aesthetic to visitors

I think Stillwater would benefit from more diversity

I think Stillwater needs to support small, local up and coming businesses more. Help promote them, advertise them, share their posts and shop there. There's a lot of talk about supporting small businesses, but little action.

I think if we could rally more around the youth and their schools instead of just osu activities that would really help! I often feel really out of place with osu events since I did not graduate from this school and am not really a college sports fan.

I think I sort of already covered that. Make sure people know that they are supported. Make sure the police and fire department are funded well.

A community pool is needed. More attention to the homeless/drug addicted is also needed.

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

I really love the community so it's hard to think of things to make it stronger
I know we have problems and I'd like to know more of how we could help with those needs where appropriate.

I know that Covid changed many things but I wish that the local shopping were better. I hate to see stores closing and being replaced with cheaper stores. Retail clothing is pretty bad so I have to shop Edmond and OKC.

I forget sometimes that our downtown is as active as it is. I think the one thing that would punch up downtown, is if there were more people living downtown. If I was a young(er) person living downtown would be really cool. And people would walk to the taverns and the restaurants and spend their money where they lived. Maybe the TIF could offer incentives that would make converting empty space above buildings into apartments. And if parking is the issue, then figure out parking. But the goal would be to make downtown a place where people wanted to live.

I don't know- too much hatred when you are different or look different

I disagree with the push to make Stillwater bigger. I don't like seeing the green spaces disappear and new buildings go up, only to be deserted and overgrown a year later. Focus on quality not quantity of people or students!

I believe that Stillwater is a strong community already. The way everyone comes together in the face of hardship or tragedy is awesome to witness and experience. I think as long as Stillwater continues to foster that type of culture, we will remain strong!

I believe that a better stronger local business culture would benefit Stillwater. We have a very entrepreneurial community and having more events and opportunities for new businesses to establish themselves by participating in something like a market could significantly increase Stillwater's GDP and also keep money circulating in the community that is currently being sent out. This is particularly the case for farmers. We sent a lot of money out of Stillwater instead of supporting local farmers that could easily scale their operations given the opportunity.

Helping individuals who wish to volunteer an easy connector to introducing them to charitable or non-profit activities and events.

Help protect families.

Having OSU share the O'Colly and other media announcements about campus activities with the wider Stillwater community. Having the Newspress provide more info about civic activities especially BEFORE the events occur so that more people can join in! Safer roads for bicycles!

Having more resident support that is separate from OSU

Greatest need is a better transportation system for lower income residents
great question...

Get rid of slum housing

Get more people involved in events

Get a rid of the wacko people that try to create problems where there are none. Get a Governor that actually cares about the people.

Fix the traffic lights. Remove the data center that has raised our water rates.

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

Find a community bond that's not about college. But about family
Fewer Homeless, More Stores Staying in Business, longer parking times in town,
Facilities to attract more experiences.

Establish a sense of community identity separate from the university.

Equal opportunity for all
entertainment so you do not have to drive to OKC or Tulsa
economic growth other stores like target, marshalls, or bigger stores
downplaying the crazies on the community page
don't let it become too big.

Don't worry so much about pleasing/partnering with OSU.

Cost of living is too high compared to the average income

Continuing to unify efforts to make the community stronger, more fun

Continued emphasis on public educations, OSU remaining vibrant.

Continued education for adults who may not have gone to college or picked up a trade. Specifically,
civic education and how to engage local leaders.

Continue to work on homeless issues. Housing seems to be not affordable for many, but these issues
are not unique to Stillwater.

Block 34 will be great for Stillwater residents.

Constantly good schools. I like Westwood. But others worry me. We need more new people moving in.

Some of the parks could use some attention. There are sections of the older downtown
neighborhoods that probably should just go away. We could use a city forester, and someone
enforcing some kind of code about how front yards are maintained.

Community support

Closing the wealth gap. We have a lot of extremes in poverty and in wealth. It would be great to see
programs that lift more lower to middle class families.

casino

Care more for permanent residents

Building on the current momentum in economic development makes us stronger: a better variety of
career opportunities helps us retain young talent and young families. Continuing to support targeted
growth gives us increased opportunity to support critical services and expand quality of life offerings
- a win for us all as residents (even if those who stand to benefit disagree with the projects).

Bridge the gap between temporary college students and make them permanent Stillwater residents

Better use of tax dollars. Less emphasis on demanding sports programs.

Better roads, more dining and entertainment options.

better roads, more activities for families, teens, over 40 populations. More affordable entertainment
venues not centered around ODU athletics and drinking alcohol. do something about tge drug culture.

Better roads, ease of access, keeping house prices low.

Better roads and infrastructure, and more youth sports complexes

A coalition of community partners talking about sustainability and resilience.

WHAT COULD MAKE STILLWATER A STRONGER COMMUNITY?

Better roads

Better restaurants

Better restaurant scene, but focused on students.

A better YMCA for children's events.

Better quality of available workforce

Better publicity on community events

Better manages parks and recreation systems.

Better leadership.

Better jobs so people have the means to stay in town.

Better cooperation between the University and the City.

Better alternative transportation infrastructure, civic education, addressing poverty, improved roads in neighborhoods near university

Being more inclusive, welcoming and supportive of single parents and the challenges they face in trying to provide opportunities for their children. Offering ways for these parents to be able to break away and have a moment without children or home/employment help.

Becoming more aware of the needs of many of our people; homeless, immigrant, children in dysfunctional families, elderly with little family support

Be governed by residents, not a bunch of staff that don't live here.

Require first responders to live in Stillwater and be part of the community. What do you think the weaknesses are? No Target, not going to happen.

As much as I love the university, I feel that the city of Stillwater cares more about OSU, than the city itself. I moved here from south Texas, and am appalled by lack of activities for kids. The fact that it isn't more important for kids to have playgrounds vs a data center, is just so sad. We had a park off of 9th that was great, but then got torn down and still hadn't been rebuilt. Where I lived in Texas, there were multiple parks, public pools, and fields for kids to get out and play. We have not put enough money or thought into our future generation here at Stillwater, and it is really concerning. I work in pediatrics and have first hand knowledge of how that makes a difference in kids lives. I feel that Stillwater needs to stop investing into data centers, AI, and OSU and turn focus to our public schools and our future generation in Stillwater.

As an older person I suppose I would wish for more committed physicians. It seems that many choose to practice here but are not really interested in being up on cutting edge medical care.

Always seeking the ways and means to grow the community and provide all things that improve our quality of life.

Affordable Quality Accessible Childcare

Abolish the clicks

a plan created and acted upon for more walkable and bicycling aware streets and byways; newspaper that engages in community events and committee work.

A less bureaucratic City Hall, make rules and then follow them. We don't need changes based upon staff member of the week. Do business with local businesses thereby allowing them to grow and hire more folks who will support the local economy.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT STILLATER?

youthful atmosphere

Yard waste and recycling place at 7th and Perkins is one.

With the University being present, we have a more diverse mix of cultures and personal capabilities than much of Oklahoma.

We are from a small town, and Stillwater is big enough that there are things to do, and good services, but not so big that it is maddening to drive around, like OKC.

very SAFE

University town with sports, volunteer opportunities and education programs

University town

University events

McKnight Center

There is a great sense of community...we've experienced it time and time again: when tragedy strikes, or coming together to celebrate special people (100 yr parade, lights and sirens at hospital during COVID, etc.)

The youth

The way we celebrate diversity, the opportunities for the arts (at public school and university) in addition to athletics and more.

The University affords us resources and entertainment other towns our size don't have.

The University

The town itself with and without students

The town is the perfect size and it makes it feel more homey and attainable to be actively supporting your community

The time it takes to get from one side of the community to the other from our home.

The things I love the most is the people!

the smallness of it, the cost of living, the convenience to large cities, the people, the academic opportunities

The small town setting with access to everything, but also space to enjoy outdoors

The small town feel, the University and the diversity.

The small town feel but the amenities of a larger community.

The small town feel

The small town feel

The size, the university, family and friends

The size, the people, how family-friendly many things are.

The size of the town; all the sporting options at OSU; restaurant and shopping options; dealing with truly local businesses like Tiger Drug that are wonderful and get to know their customers; the overall safety aspect of living here. Stillwater is my hometown and I love living here.

the size

"Small town" feel of a college town! All of the events, the energy that students attending OSU bring, and the size of it.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT STILLATER?

the safety, and school. Not lot of crime makes me feel safe.

The quaint downtown, sporting events, caring people
the safety, and school. Not lot of crime makes me feel safe.

The quaint downtown, sporting events, caring people

The people/community

The people. Smaller community with big city vibe.

The people.

The people.

The people

Downtown

SPS

Meridian

McKnight

OSU sports and activities

Assistance available to people who need it

The people are welcoming, the music, downtown, the newspaper, the library

The people are so wonderful. The place is beautiful. People who live here care to make it a better
place, even if we don't all agree on how to do it!

The people and college town atmosphere. You can drive from one side to the other in 10-11 minutes.

The people

the people

The people

The people

The loving and welcoming community!

The kind and friendly people, safe atmosphere, sense of community

The friendly people, the beautiful OSU campus, the safety.

The ease to get around and the friendliness of everyone

The diversity of the population both ethnic and age.

The community. Whether I was a college student or a young, single mom, I have always felt safe here.

People are kind and welcoming and motivated to help each other.

The community. The generosity and spirit of the people here. I love the "melting pot" of different
cultures created by the University being here.

The community support. I appreciate that it has a smaller town feel.

The community and its support for local, small businesses, community events and programs.

The amenities we have because of the university even though we feel like a small town still.

Strong community. Lots of food options for a small town.

Stillwater is feels genuine.

So many options for social engagement

Small-town feel; downtown; local Businesses; strong non-profit community; good schools; university
resources; couch park; the community center

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT STILLATER?

Mostly a small town feel with lots of business that give it the advantages of a bigger town.

More open minded than most of Oklahoma

Midsize town with a small town feel. The growth I have seen living here for 27 years. Building relationships within the community and community members who care. Allowing community members to have a voice (lots of surveys and seeing action from them).

Many activities via the university available to townspeople. A large population of people who value education and the arts.

Low crime, family friendly, great people

Low crime and fairly good dining

Love the way everyone steps up to support the community

Love having the University and the different opportunities it brings, the size of the town, the proximity to larger cities, and the new travel opportunities with the airport/American Airlines. I also love the revitalization of the downtown area.

Lots of opportunities to be active and involved

Lots of nice people here. People are usually very nice.

Lots of activity selection

Lots of activities for all ages. Very friendly and open community. Health care seems to be available and very good.

Large town but a small town feel.

Kindness of the citizens

Kind and caring people

Its not as regressive as other cities in Oklahoma of similar size

Its just big enough yet small town feel enough to be great both ways. Its a fun college town but pretty amazing during summer when college kids are gone.

It's getting harder and harder to remember

It's a small diverse educated community with a small town feel.

It's a lively, fun community that feels small but offers so much. Of course having a major university in town is part of that. I love how the town rallies around OSU and SPS.

It's a larger city but still has a small town feel.

It's a "big" small town. Wherever I go, I'll likely see friends and people I know. It has a great community vibe.

It's safe and clean. For a small city it offers a lot to do.

It is where most of my friends live.

It is progressive, dedicated to good education from Pre-K and up. It isn't crowded/hard to navigate, There is a lot to do here: sports, music, theater , volunteer, OLLI, classes at vo-tech. And there's a lot to watch here:sports, music, theater, different festivals.

It has lots of things to do for a relatively small town.

It has a small town feel, with many urban amenities.

It has a small town feel even with all the growth.

It has a sense of community with a smaller insulated vibe

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT STILLATER?

I love the town it's peaceful

I love the small-town, college-friendly feeling, while having access to amenities, such as shopping, sports activities, restaurants, McKnight theatre, live music, etc. We also feel safe living in our neighborhood, surrounded by other families and college students. I love that our community has many options for worship and opportunities for getting involved in helping others, like volunteering at Our Daily Bread or other non-profits that serve others. I also love that property taxes are limited to 3% increase and that our city brings meaningful changes to be voted on by the public.

I love the people and the community engagement. However, it does mostly center around OSU it seems. I wish I knew more about the non-osu events that were happening!

I love the energy of a college town. I love the diversity of thought. I love the community feeling. I love the proximity to OKC and Tulsa. I love having such easy access to our airport. I love the availability of the arts. I love the library. I love the coordination between the non-profits and businesses.

I love the community. I love that it's not too big.

I love the community. I know if I break down on the side of the road, I will have multiple people stop and help. I love that we have the college here, which provides lots of opportunities.

I love the community of Stillwater I grew up here and retired from the military to come back here. I love the community but wish there was more to do.

I love that when you live in Stillwater, you are actually part of a community. People care about each other and the world around them. I've never lived in a community that actually feels like "we're all in this together"

I love that we have so many community investors working to make Stillwater more unique and increase our community offerings while maintaining the small-town feel and values.

I love that Stillwater is home to my friends and family—it's where my roots are. It has a sense of familiarity and connection that makes it feel like home. It's also relatively safe, and the cost of living is more manageable compared to many other places, which helps make everyday life a little less stressful.

I love that Stillwater has all of the activities and entertainment needed for me to feel fulfilled, while also offering that small town charm and feel.

I love that our community is both big and small. It feels very connected and welcoming, yet there is always something new to try or experience.

I love that it feel small enough to not have crazy traffic, but big enough that not everyone know everything about you. I also enjoy the collaboration between the school system and OSU.

I love living in a college town. I enjoy going to college athletic events. I also how the town is small enough where I don't have to drive on highways or take lots of time to get across town, but it still offers all the amenities I need and not feel like a tiny town.

I love how Stillwater has preserved its history, downtown/main i love the older shops that have stayed, its beautifully quiet in the summers

I like the size, the people are somewhat progressive and educated. I like that it is a college town.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT STILLATER?

Great people. Peaceful and low crime
Good safe town that has almost everything you need
Good people
Good family town and added events to participate in with the college. Also, Stillwater has a very good culture of supporting charitable organizations in our community.
Generous, supportive, welcoming people; Strong public school, city government
Friends, Community Support for Quality of Life (YMCA, Seville, Wings of Hope, Youth Sports, ...)
Friendly, know everyone, good event choices.
Friendly, active
Friendly residents, generous and caring people, OSU sports
Friendly people, lots to do for all ages. Oklahoma State University. Good mayor and city officials that care about the city.
Friendly people and ISU
Friendly
friendliness of the community, the strong bonds of unity that pull all together in times of turmoil or need
Friendliness
Extremely friendly, Oklahoma State University, slower pace of living.
Everything.
Everything
Even though we are a 50k+ community, we function as a small town. We support each other, we know each other, and we care about the forward movement for all of us.
Entertainment, home town feel.
Ease of being involved and friendships developed
Earlier stated activities and low crime rate. Except for game days and certain college activities, minimal traffic congestion.
Community engagement
college town providing more diversity and intellectual stimulation; preserved nature pockets; an effort to offer public art
Close relationships. Found a good church. OSU provides good options and infrastructure. Have grown to like the airport proximity.
Big enough while still small enough. We love OSU.
Assisting the homelessness, Abundance of resources when in need, fellowship, and of course country living.
All the ways to engage with various entities.
All my family is from here
All I need without the problems of a big city.
Aldi's
Access to the arts, sports, nationally significant events. Excellent schools and community activities as well as the opportunities provided by the university.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT STILLATER?

Slow pace of life, smart people keep it from devolving into one of the extremist towns of the 580.

Size, the University, Rob driving around when the weather is bad and giving updates on the roads (incredibly helpful), how the community comes together in times of tragedy, the summer Community Band concerts.

Size, pretty easy to get around town.

Size, location, the college town atmosphere

Size to benefit ratio. Very low commute time, but a good amount of cultural activities available.

Reasonable cost of living. Proximity to OSU.

Short commute times. OSU sports and arts.

See all the answers above. Community, SMC, OSU, Career Tech, churches,

Schools, 15 minutes to anywhere, personal feel

Safe

Relative safety, tradition, educational emphasis, giving. parks, lakes, inclusive.

Pride for OSU, pride for town

People

Our church and friends there. My home.

Our church

Our celebration of diversity, our friendliness, the ways we show up when there's a need

OSU, the Wheel on Wednesday Nights at Joe's

OSU, sporting events, friendly

OSU, not too big, not too small. Centrally located for travel to OKC or Tulsa. Traffic not awful.

OSU, great public schools.

OSU Covin center

OSU activities in a small town

Osness to big towns

Opportunity to volunteer to help others

Nothing really- my experience hasnt been the best here. I come from South Florida and wow the culture shock has been real.

Not to big Not to small

not the poor quality of residential streets

Nice people

Neighbors that talk to each other. Plenty of parks!!! Good schools. OSU. Boomer Lake scenery, Boomer walk/bike trail, 4th of July at Boomer. Couch Park walk/bike trail and scenery.

My home and accessibility to my grown children.

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I like that it's a fairly liberal town compared to the majority of Oklahoma and that it is where my family is.

I like it's size - not too big, not too small. I love living in a university community. For a gardener, the growing season is a plus.

I enjoy having a variety of restaurants and shopping opportunities. There's a good veteran community here that could use some help with upgrading facilities to better allow them to serve veterans needs.

Homes with acreages are available

High level of sense of community

Great people. Peaceful and low crime

Good safe town that has almost everything you need

Good people

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Everything.

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All the ways to engage with various entities.

All my family is from here

All I need without the problems of a big city.

Access to music and arts, Stillwater has everything you need! The way local businesses work together .

The library!

Access to big city amenities with small city vibes. After being here for several years, it's nice to know quite a few folks around town which makes it feel more like a hometown, not just where we live.

a safe community

“Small town” feel of a college town! All of the events, the energy that students attending OSU bring, and the size of it.

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High level of sense of community

I was raised here. I don't like large cities.

I think Stillwater has it all. An education-forward community with welcoming charm. It can feel like a quiet small town or a bustling entertainment district all in the same season.

I love walking at Couch Park. I appreciate the friendly retailers, including restaurant workers. I appreciate the friendly and helpful people.

Small town/college town vibe with modern city conveniences.

Small town with plenty going on

Small town where we know our neighbors. Great schools, lots of stuff to do. Good medical services

Small town feeling but lots going on

Small town feel. Easy to get around most of the time.

Small town feel.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT STILLATER?

Small town feel, with many conveniences and a university.

Small town feel, but access to big city amenities.

The partnership between Stillwater and OSU.

Small town feel with some big city amenities

Small town feel with many opportunities

Small town feel with large city amenities.

Small town feel with a lot to offer if you seek it out.

small town feel especially in the summer

Small town feel

Small town feel

Small town feel

Small town feel

Small town feel

small town feel

small town close knit will do anything for community.

Small town atmosphere. Nice people and churches. Easy to get around. No expressways!

Small town atmosphere with good amenities (McKnight Center, OSU sporting, Town and Gown Theater). Usually easy to get around, not too much traffic.

Small town

Small town

Small size

Proximity to osu

Small neighborhood feel to the town. I love that all of social circles overlap; work, church and family.

Small college town with cultural opportunities

Small and safe

Slow pace of living

Slow pace of life, smart people keep it from devolving into one of the extremist towns of the 580.

Size, the University, Rob driving around when the weather is bad and giving updates on the roads (incredibly helpful), how the community comes together in times of tragedy, the summer Community

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My home and accessibility to my grown children.

Smaller town with a larger town feel. I love the diversity in the community.

Smaller businesses.

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WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OFFERED IN STILLWATER THAT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE?

Would love to see better sidewalks and maybe golf cart access around town.

Wildlife protections

General activities not tied to schools, osu or faith-based organizations o

Whatever will offer adults the ability to engage the community in the evening/during the weekend.

We need more grocery options. When students are here, supplies dwindle. Could use a Sam's or Costco, although I hate big box stores!

We need more daycare facilities. Having enough high-quality childcare will help our community as a whole.

We could use more retail, especially women's work wear types of places or something for when kids need something dressy on the fly -- not that my family has ever found ourselves in that spot! :)

We are short on retail but really, likely about right for our size. Since the pandemic there is more online shopping and we have many less trips to OKC or Tulsa.

Water park, skilled nursing facility, quality nursing homes, more activities for families

Water park!!!

Wal Mart competition

Waiting for The Hub to open. A nice movie theatre.

Trails to walk and run.

Things for young families and sit down restaurants not fast food. Stillwater offers very little for our youth to help keep them out of trouble

There aren't a lot of restaurants or bars that aren't fast food.

Thanksgiving day turkey trot 5k fundraiser for our daily bread.

Teens and young adults need more engaging activities. Many don't play sports and would love more opportunities in STEM, BMX, or motorbike.

Teen spots to hang out, more theater options

Target. :) a Central Park kind of environment.

TARGET.TARGET. GET A TARGET. And a good grocery store like crest.

Target, Putt Putt,

Target, nice restaurant, better upkeep of parks and gateways, pool

Target store

Summertime activities like plays, concerts etc

Summer events that truly help retail and hospitality services survive hot summers when students are gone and families take vacations. Hopefully, Block 34 will be the venue that helps.

Stillwater is a tough place for young professionals who are beyond college but not yet married with kids to find people to date and find things to do.

Sports programs that aren't necessarily super competitive for children.

Sports facilities for youth sports. We need more softball and baseball fields as well as an indoor facility for weather.

Social activities for families.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OFFERED IN STILLWATER THAT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE?

So, I know this would be something that OSU would probably have to fund, and I am not sure that is a top priority anymore with recent events, but regardless of the status of the Innovation Foundation (or lack of), I LOVED the idea of the Innovation Park, which would essentially bring an Agrotourism type feel/experience to visitors or individuals who live in the main more urban parts of Stillwater and might be unfamiliar with the rural/agricultural side of the community and OSU. Being a hobby farmer myself, I could see that type of experience being very unique and enjoyable for many individuals, including myself.

SIDEWALKS

Shopping options

SHOPPING FOR OLDER CITIZENS IN A COLLEGE TOWN

Senior activities outside of churches. Secular social gatherings.

See greatest need above

see answer to the question what could make Stillwater stronger

Sam's Club or Costco. A better school system for K-12.

Salad and Go! :)

Retail stores. There is a lack of shopping options other than Wal-Mart. One has to largely purchase online which does not aide the community's job availability. There is also a high level of duplication of efforts.

Rehad services.

Rehab

Recycling college student wastes - like couch, bed, etc. , sense of community, places/events to make friends

Quality non-chain restaurants. We do not eat out in Stillwater because of the quality of restaurants.

Quality affordable early education and care (childcare)

Public pool

Public facilities such as pickleball. Nice ones maintained by the city. Public swimming pool.

Pickle Ball courts

PATIOS at restaurants, not enough places have patios to enjoy.

Parks and greenways that are walkable. A sidewalk down Sangre that connects to the Botanic Gardens.

Park for outside tournaments

Oxford, MS is one of the neatest communities that is similar in size and proximity to larger cities and has a large university. They have mastered an incredible mix of retail, eating establishments and nightlife in their town - I would love us to emulate that!

Outdoor public pool with reasonable family memberships.

OSU integration into our community - student volunteers, more services offered to the community, etc.

Offer more places for teenagers to interact with older individuals. Like basketball. horseshoes, etc.

Kids need to get rid of energy and have a real need for connection.

nothing is is all here if you want it

Nightlife that is not a bar.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OFFERED IN STILLWATER THAT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE?

One key area Stillwater could focus on to help poor families is expanding affordable, high-quality childcare and early learning programs. Many low-income families struggle to find reliable childcare that fits their budget, which can limit parents' ability to work or attend school. By increasing access to subsidized childcare centers, sliding-scale preschool programs, and support services like transportation to childcare, Stillwater could relieve a major burden for families, improve children's early development, and strengthen the community's economic stability.

Nice restaurants in the Southwest side of town.

Nice restaurants

New YMCA

My wife says "a Target".

More walking/biking trails

More walkable trails, bike paths

More variety of restaurants and better shopping

More upscale shops

More things for single, young adults to do things. It's either catering to college aged or 40+

More tennis courts and pickleball courts.

More shopping for older generation

More safe and wholesome activities for teens and pre-teens.

More retail

More restaurants and businesses.

More reliable air service. Current AA affiliate is not dependable and if current trend continues folks will go back to booking flights in OKC or Tulsa

More playgrounds for kids, a public pool that has is more than just one pool. Such as a kiddie pool with a kid slide so more ages can get outside. Children's museum.

More organizations, more ways to engage community involvement

More local businesses, such as grocery stores, movie theaters, etc. It also feels like we are missing a strong holiday tradition. We've tried a lot of things like ice rink, polar express, and a community Christmas tree lighting, but nothing has lasted.

More live music

More info about voting. Voting here is difficult.

more help for the homeless population that has grown significantly in our community. Mission of hope cannot support the need.

More free pickle ball courts, bring back wondertorium , swimming pool fixed.

More food options- tired of fast food, same restaurants offering the same food. Shopping centers, things to do, arcades.

More focus on car alternative modes of transportation. (Sidewalks, bike paths, bus stops)

More fine dining.

More family friendly places to hang out, watch sports, etc.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OFFERED IN STILLWATER THAT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE?

More diverse retail options. Traditional Christmas decorations, like the lights across/over Main Street with the tree(s) suspended over the main intersections. The high-tech displays are sterile and lack warmth.

More diverse restaurants. When we lose a store like Murphys, I worry about what will replace it. I prefer small independent stores.

More Diverse Dining Options

– International cuisines (ex. Asian)

– Late-night food spots

More dining and entertainment

More clothing stores

More clothing and book stores.

More biking trails

More adult live music and entertainment venues. (Like Zannotti's)

More "third spaces" for families that don't require entry fees or purchases. We have a lot of coffee shops for the students, but the only family/kids areas are outdoors.

Make more resources available for those in need

Low/no cost children's activities.

Larger holiday festival to bring in more people and sales tax dollars,

Large multipurpose sports facility.

Innovation and inclusiveness

Indoor shooting range, hardware store, skydiving club, community pool

Increase in affordable entertainment and politically enlightening events.

I'm excited about block 34; we continue to need more spaces for grown ups to gather in addition to Zannotti's. I'd love to see something like the galleries that are open late on weekends like in Bentonville though I know we are smaller but even one space that was open more often on Friday or Saturday evenings once/month would be a start.

If you don't have a reliable car, Stillwater is hard to navigate. Safer, more intentional bike lanes would help, because we are not a big town.

If I win the next Powerball, I would like to provide seed money to start our own Gathering Place.

I wish Stillwater had a public pool, a convention center, and a multisports complex. I feel like this would really improve quality of life and help recruit people with young kids. We also lack good event spaces to hold major events. Stillwater is perfectly located to host conventions as we are between Tulsa and OKC.

I think adding the Hub will help families, that seems to be the one thing I hear folks with kids talk about - also more parks or a multiplex for baseball/soccer tournaments.

I think a large sports complex would go over well. A large building with several basketball courts. This would bring in people to spend money on the weekends in our community. Titan Sports Complex in Tulsa is an example. It has volleyball, basketball, and I believe soccer. There are always tons of people there for tournaments. I think people would travel to Stillwater for tournaments.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OFFERED IN STILLWATER THAT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE?

I don't like that the Papa Murphy's closed down, but that isn't really a government thing.

I bring skills in organizational transformation, community engagement, and inclusive design. I'm passionate about listening to underserved voices, especially families, people with disabilities, and youth, and translating their needs into meaningful change. I would be happy to contribute to any efforts focused on improving family and youth support systems in Stillwater.

home depot, more walking trails, both out in nature and in town, connecting areas with bike/pedestrian trails. community pool. better food/drink options, especially gluten free and non-fast-food

Higher paying jobs. Career fields. OSU doesn't pay well and not everyone can work at the hospital.

Grocery store that has local food- like a farmers market open regular store hours. City-wide composting/food waste composting.

Good roads.

Good restaurants

golf driving range/mini golf

Going to a Target or Barnes and Noble

Fun activities and places for families

Free public events

Family activity. Dave and busters, a target, mini golf, anything that isn't a bar, carwash, chicken place, or not real Mexican restaurant.

Fair and just court proceedings.

Entertainment. Things for kids. Fun things to do on date night.

Education programs

Dancing for seniors. We need a ballroom dance club

Convention center.

Continue to support existing and incoming small businesses.

Community Pool

Community pool

Clubs/community centers that are not church affiliated

City wide composting of kitchen scraps

City supported Soccer complex

City pool

Dillard's

Reasonably priced homes

City pool

Children's museum, bigger airport

childrens museum

Children's museum

casino

Can't wait for block 34 to be finished. I am ready for outdoor entertainment

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OFFERED IN STILLWATER THAT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE?

Biking/walking trails alternatives to get around town without getting run over

Bike rental service for riding around town. Once a quarter big trash pick up day citywide

Big name businesses have r other fun nightlife family activities. (Putt putt, go kart racing, pickleball courts)

Better variety of restaurants

Better restaurants. Need some fine dining white table cloth restaurants.

Better restaurants. Better shopping. Literally have to go to OKC to shop. Now that Elizabeth's has closed no decent upscale clothes.

Better restaurants, for people to go socialize, where you can get a lunch options, appetizers and drinks and a variety of options for dinner. It would be nice to have more than 1 nice restaurant, you can go to work company or for special events, but you could also get a lighter less expensive lunch or dinner. Better local shopping that isn't just targeted at college students or the same thing in every store.

Better recreational facilities (nicer YMCA, city gym, etc.) - Colvin is great but naturally full of students.

I know this is in the works, but better paths and more walkable.

Continue to build out downtown as a gathering place - such improvement over the past decade-20 years, but still room to build community spaces. Look to other college communities of under 100K, especially Manhattan and Lawrence, KS, Ames, IA.

Better movies; more restaurants.

Better bike trails and education of the public on how to drive with bike lanes, etc.

Better bike trails

Better and more facilities/activities for children and teens

Better airport service. I have had a lot of problems with American Airlines. Also, an upscale restaurant.

As before, good restaurants.

Appreciation of green spaces, safe water and the environment.

Answering from my work perspective, a large venue for conferences and events. Wes Watkins Exhibit Hall is the largest space in Stillwater and comes with limitations since it's on campus.

An indoor walking trail

Already addressed

Again more activities for tweens and teens

Affordable Quality childcare particularly infant or 0-12 most. slots and subsidy childcare slots
Affordable housing; homeless shelter with no barriers to residents (currently a police record bars you from staying there--they've done things differently in OKC with good success)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING, not letting rental owners price gouge everyone just because they can. They take advantage of the college students and that has trickled down to residents overpaying for rent. activitys for students, and more activitys by southen woods park

Activities like the skating rink that use to be here for young kids so parents do not have to travel to the city

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OFFERED IN STILLWATER THAT IS NOT NOW AVAILABLE?

A thriving farmer's market.

A sustainability coordinator.

A space for a "Maker" community that welcomes all kinds of creative crafting.

a real buffet, we haven't had one in a while since New china, Hunans, Sirloin Stockade closed down.

Also more food places SW of town. I live around Sangre and 44th and for myself and a lot of people I know who live around the area, the selection of places to get food from this way is definitely lacking.

A place similar to the Gathering Place in Tulsa.

A method of communicating community and emergency events/information that is not entirely driven by social media. There is a TON of good information on social media, but for STW residents who do not utilize those avenues, it's very difficult for them to find a lot of the information. I realise something like an email or a digital newsletter takes time, but even if it's a page of the city website that also includes the graphics and information shared on social media, that could be a good place for residents to look for info. Both for community events and for emergency situations such as the wildfires in March (simply copy/paste those graphics onto a specific website page so that non-social media users could also see the evac information, etc)

A legit Christmas celebration

A geriatric park with exercises! I used to live in CA and this was quite popular!

A few 4-star restaurants, hotels and clothing stores. Wider streets and more sidewalks for walking and for biking.

A Farmer's Market like what Fayetteville or Bentonville has. The one we have now is like a cartel.

A cool water park, and a nice convention center that can hold big conferences, fundraising events, live concerts, etc. We also need several pickleball courts around town that are open to the public or create a big Pickleball Park. A dedicated, interactive children's museum or play center.

A convention center.

A convention center!! and downtown parking

A community pool. Not the indoor Y pool.

A children's museum like StillWonder.

A better selection of restaurants on the west side of town

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

With the restaurant at Karsten Creek going private after renovations, a restaurant in town with a similar menu would be great. A restaurant that uses all fresh ingredients and offers gluten and dairy free options as well as non-GMO. We do not need anymore fast food chicken or burgers. I miss JCPenney, Belk (not outlet), Tuesday Morning. I know those cannot come back but stores along those lines. I end up shopping in the OKC area more as a result. Or ordering online which I hate if I have to return.

We need more family style restaurants. Would love a buffet like Golden Corral. Needs to be in a location that can accommodate school buses.

We need more diversity in our fast food/lower cost restaurants. Another supermarket would also help provide more variety in what we have access to and can cook. I've said for years we need a single target instead of 3 walmarts!

We need more civic options that are accessible to younger people and people whose schedules are not as flexible. The Chamber and our many civic orgs are amazing but most events are during the day and, depending on folks' work schedule, may be inaccessible to a big segment of the population. We could use more restaurants (not fast food)...with so many having closed around the time of covid, we need more options for a date night or family meal that isn't a burger or chicken strips -- hopefully would keep people in town to spend their \$ on weekends more. Even a fast food place that has lots of veggies would be a huge help (Cava, e.g.).

We need a good Irish restaurant and a couple more options for steak.

We have so many places to eat and drink. We need stuff to do
we already have more than we need

Vietnamese

Vegetarian restaurant. Yarn shop. Independent movie theatre closer to downtown. Cory Williams boutique hotel.

Trader Joes, Target, NO MORE CHICKEN RESTAURANTS!! Seriously. We have enough.

Trader Joe's, Target, and in-N-Out Burger

Trader Joe's, Target

There are no middle level clothing stores!

The west side (i.e. west 6th/Hwy 51) is a restaurant and retail desert given the demographics on that side of town

The internet has killed so many enterprises, but a really nice department store, ala dillards, would be nice

That's not the problem

Thai or Indian restaurant

Target, the claw factory, any restaurant that is not bbq, Mexican, fast food.

Target, Steakhouse, American chain-Applebees, Dunkin' Donuts, outback Steak, etc

Target, seafood restaurant,

Target, Sam's Club, Nissan dealer, more grocery options, outlet mall, vegan/vegetarian restaurant options

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

Target, salad place, healthier options and less fried chicken and pizza

Target, more restaurants on the west side of town.

Target, large department store, higher end restaurants

Target, Kroger, any restaurant that has a full salad bar.

Target, Fine dining like you see in Bricktown OKC or downtown Tulsa

Target, farm to table dining, dedicated farmers market area.

Target, dining from OKC- and Tulsa-based restaurateurs.

Target, Applebees, All you can eat restaurant

Target!;)

Target

Home Depot

Outback restaurant

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Stillwater is missing truly family-friendly places where parents and kids can spend time together year-round. There's a lack of indoor play spaces or children's museums where kids can explore while parents relax, as well as casual restaurants with built-in play areas or outdoor green space that make families feel welcome. We don't have walkable food halls or markets with diverse, affordable dining options that work for all ages. Evenings and weekends leave families with few places to go—there's a real need for creative, inclusive spaces like board game cafés, family maker studios, or drop-in learning hubs. Adding even one of these options would not only give families more to do, but also show that the community values the people who live here full time, not just those who attend the university.

Stillwater could use more restaurants that are family friendly (buffets)

Target, consignment stores, container store, Home Depot

steak house with good beef

Steak and seafood

Something like TS Forks or Target

Something like The Lokal that is in Yukon. AC catfish restaurant like Bill's that used to be here.

So giving tax breaks to big companies and bring in a target or Kroger

Shopping other than young clothing.

Shopping is fine. Restaurants are pretty good.

Seafood restaurant.

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

Salad and Go! More healthy food options.

Salad and Go! Lol

Running specific store

Retail: boutiques for a more middle-aged male/female, home decor that focuses on ethical production and supporting small businesses.

Restaurants: fresher and healthier with a variety of food that is not traditional American style food and not Mexican or burgers or pizza. (Example, Maple Ridge Grocer - Tulsa). Chef owned restaurants.

Red Robin and a nice seafood place

Red lobster ..buffets..target

Real authentic latin food, or caribbean cuisine.

Rather than recruit specific restaurants or retail, I suggest working to improve infrastructure first, and they will come.

Quite adult dining

QuikTrip

Quiet restaurant to have an elegant dinner

Quality restaurants. The only higher end restaurant is the Ranchers Club and that menu is too limited and priced too high.

Quality Men's clothing store, bigger books store

Possibly a seafood restaurant.

Plus-size/Big and Tall for men and women. There is a great need for both general clothing and professionally appropriate options.

Out door cooling in summer time.

One of two like Fish city grill, charlestons, or known mid to upscale options; but most especially a local foodie scene that is not just a chain or repeat of something we already have 5 of. We need unique, but consistent quality for with more than 1 specialty. Things for professionals, guests, and families that aren 't chains. Restaurants should maximize their rent and be open for more than just breakfast, just lunch, it just dinner. Offer a few lighter options during lunch and more variety at dinner.

Have nice small plate and shareable options with nice bar options for after work or socializing...

Older women have no place to shop for clothes. There are a lot of cute things for young women! And

Target. Always Target.

Non-Western clothing stores that carry Men's clothes

None, if it is a good business they will come, we should not have to have incentives for retail and restaurants to keep the playing field level for the companies that are here today and trying to make it on their own

None in particular

Non chain/franchise restaurants!

No chains would be nice. No fast food

Nicer outdoor/hybrid seating dining options.

Nice women's and men's clothing

Clothing for adults

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

Nice restaurants with elegant surroundings.

Nice restaurants (as opposed to fast foods) and retail stores/shopping mall.

Nice but not too expensive restaurant like Saltgrass or Whiskey Cake etc

Native american business, malls

My wife would like any place that serves oysters. Cooked, raw, grilled, any way. I wish we had a men's clothing store that doesn't try to be everything else at the same time.

Murphy's will be missed --would like an Indian restaurant

Multi-purpose retail first floor/ housing above around boomer lake. Outdoor focused seating at restaurants

More variety of food options.

Department store

More variety -- we have plenty of hamburgers, chicken, and Mexican food. A place like Cheddar's or Charleston's: good food, and doesn't have to have the music so loud to make up for whatever might be missing. It would be good to get a steak without it sounding like a honky tonk. Big + Tall clothing would be great (DXL)

More traditional sports bar and grill. More places with outdoor seating. Higher quality of food options.

More small local businesses! More incentives for more of these folks to open up shop. We have everything we need here- farmers, ranchers, creative people, cooks & chefs, bakers, brewers, etc. we should support them all we can :-)

More sit-down restaurants that are nice enough for a date night but can also be a nice family night out (Zannotti's is great but we need some more semi-upscale options that aren't too fancy but are nicer).

Too often people leave town because we need more restaurants; then they stay out of town for the day after traveling an hour or so to get to a nicer restaurant. Also, for our fast food, more veggies please please. A Cava or something like that would be amazing.

more restaurants.

More quality seafood restaurants

More plant based food options. It makes me mad to have to special order an item at a restaurant and be charged for ingredients I've requested not be included in my meal, like cheese.

More outdoor/patio seating options, please. Additional finer dining options would be fun too, but with Monarch and others, we have solid options.

more nice restaurants. Now we have Golden Dragon, Miso, and Olive Garden. I don't like to see people eating with their cowboy hats on. I don't like Texas Roadhouse because it's just fast food. We have plenty of fast-food, chicken and barbeque restaurants.

More mid to upper dining (Miso, The State Room).

More local, non chain restaurants and shops. A pie restaurant that's open late, after McKnight is performances! A soup and salad restaurant.

More healthy food restaurant options like Flower Child, True Food Kitchen or First Watch. Dreaming big: put a Buc'ees in at Highway 51 and I-35.

More ethnic restaurants

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

More community spaces such as the ones created by Zannottis patio, Empire Pizza, and Stonecloud have created. Very much looking forward to the opening of Block 34.

I think we have a solid mix of big chain stores and mom & pop shops.

Less Walmart, more Sprouts and Aldi!

Can't complete a Stillwater "needs" survey, though, without mentioning Target, right? I do hope that sometime in the near future we hear how many times it is mentioned.

Men's clothing, especially on the nicer end. Losing Everyman was a huge loss. Like what they or Bates Brothers provided.

Men's clothing (since Every Man closed)

Mens clothing

men's and women's clothing stores

Mens and women's clothing

Main event, Family based fun

Lower, high-end restaurant

Low cost family friendly entertainment.

Longhorn Steakhouse or Saltgrass or one that is comparable.

Locally owned deli and perhaps a mid-priced dinner/steakhouse.

Local places. We have plenty of chains, I want more local joints. Unfortunately, it's hard to find a reasonable priced place to rent. Some costs are the same as OKC spots but we don't get the foot traffic like OKC and most businesses can't make it. Events come to town but there's no promotion of small local businesses. Everyone goes to joes, hideaway or one of the other hundreds of chains.

Less fast food, more restaurants on the west side

Largest variety of resteraunts

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts and Target

Korean food, 24/7 donut/breakfast place

Kohl's. A restaurant like Charlie's Chicken used to be where you could get a roast beef and vegetables dinner rather than fast food.

Keep items local. Please no more fast food.

just want to see locally started business last, especially downtown

J. C. Penney, Dillards, Sam's Club, Costco

I'm all for a Cajun restaurant to open.

If you could convince some of the women's boutiques to offer clothes that aren't for 21 year olds, that would be great ;) Otherwise, I am fairly pleased with our retail options.

I'd love a Target. And I'd love to see more diverse restaurants come in.

I'd like to see a locally-owned grocery store. I know I'd shop there faithfully.

I would love to see JCPenney return! I would also like to see another fine dining option outside of The Ranchers Club. Both things will probably not return, because of the changes to JCPenney's business model and because college student's typically can't afford fine dining options....but a girl can dream.

I wish Red Lobster would come back.

I love Stillwater! I think we have a lot of new restaurants. We need more retail stores. Page 55

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

I like Papa Murphy's as I said, and Quick Trip. Best iced tea out of a gas station. Again, not really a government thing.

I know that there have been several higher end restaurants in town in the past but it would be nice to have something a little nicer.

I constantly hear people running to the city to shop. I would love to keep residents shopping and spending money in our community.

I believe we have great retail and restaurant options so there truly isn't anything that I feel like we are missing.

I am not sure what to add but in this size town we have like 5 chicken places. something interesting home depot, whole foods, diverse and healthy restaurants, cocktail bars

Hobby electronics and Maker store. Like Radio Shack *should* have evolved into.

higher end sit down something other than mexican and chicken

Higher end department stores, artesian stores, adult-oriented restaurants.

High quality dinner restaurant.

Ha! Target. Home Depot. A Hal Smith restaurant in addition to Louie's.

Greater variety of restaurants downtown. Growth in retail business downtown has been nice. Again, look to Lawrence and Manhattan KS, and Ames, IA as regional examples.

Golden Corral,

Food truck area that could be permanent place for food trucks and socializing.

Finer dining

Men's wear

Fine dining.

Better shopping besides Walmart.

fewer chains, more international foods

Family recreation.

Family oriented businesses.

Dillard's, Victoria's secret, P.f. Chang's in the Joseppi's Building.

Department store. We've missed JC Penney Katz and belk.

Department store

Dairy Queen and Dunkin' Donuts!

CostcoTrader Joes

Costco

Community workshop for hobbies. Driving range or par 3 course.

Clothing stores for older women

CLOTHING STORES FOR OLDER CITIZENS

Clothing for people older than college age. Penney's, Katz, Bates Brothers...all gone. Hobby themed stores. Quality movie options. Electronics and audio. Restaurants: Seafood, both fast and upscale.

Buffets - Asian, steak, breakfast.

Clothing and book stores

Chuy's, Sam's Club, Target

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

Chinese buffet

Childrens museum.

Charleston's or other steak house options

Charleston's and more upscale restaurants like that.

Charleston type name brand restaurants and Clothing quality name brand retail clothing stores

Bring Pie 5 back! And Fazzoli's. Home Goods. Bed Bath and beyond.

Bring back JC Penneys or a similar store.

Better shopping places that are not targeting sororities. As a resident it feels incredibly limiting when it comes to shopping. Most of the boutiques and clothing stores are geared for young college students and their prices are ridiculously high. Other than Old Navy and TJ Maxx it feels like there is

no where else to shop

Better catfish

Barnes and Noble and Target

Asian stores

Anything with a great patio

Anything really. All of the in person stores are folding. I am more concerned about jobs being available to townspeople rather than my particular shopping needs.

Anything besides another Wal-Mart.....

An upscale restaurant. Something similar to the former Stillwater Bay.

Already addressed

Again, this is not a valid function of government concern or influence. Business will naturally locate here when they see a need for their service and an opportunity for profit.

Again, Target and wish Applebee's would come back.

Adult restaurants (too much cheap fast food), Kohl's, Target, Costco...

A target would be nice.

A sit down restaurant on the west side of town.

A seafood place similar to the old Stillwater Bay.

A sandwich shop or more restaurant choices.

A real bakery that is affordable. A Target would be nice.

a local grocery store

A good upscale steak house, a good cocktail bar, something like Charlestons. You desperately need clothing stores for the mature resident - anyone over 35 has no options here. You keep losing stores .

A good French restaurant

A clothing shop that sells professional/business appropriate clothing for females/femmes who want something other than the sorority girl wardrobe. I don't mean suits, I just mean nice slacks, blouses, tops, etc that are good quality and fit all manner of bodies. There is currently nothing here that fits that except occasional finds at the thrift stores.

a cava would be cool

WHAT TYPE OF RETAIL OR RESTAURANT BUSINESSES ARE MISSING THAT YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE?

24hr supermarket, PLACES OPEN ON SUNDAY PLEASE (its so abnormal to me even after 8 years living here)

Non-chain restaurants. No more fast food restaurants. We need several small restaurants that feel like neighborhood restaurants.

More family-friendly restaurants in Stillwater that offer diverse, healthy, and affordable menu options—places where kids feel welcome and parents can relax. Additionally, specialty local retail shops like bookstores, craft stores, or boutiques featuring handmade goods and local artists could bring more charm and community spirit to downtown. It would also be great to have more ethnic or international cuisine options, such as authentic Mexican, Asian, or Mediterranean eateries, to add variety and celebrate cultural diversity.

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

We need to address the drug situation within our most poverty ridden areas. Not with raids or by just sending people to prison, but a true rehabilitation of our town. It's so sad and unfortunately sending people to prison just makes things worse in the long run. Drug court doesn't work either because it's so easily manipulated. We need programs that start with the kids, because that is where the problem truly begins.

Water park

Update the law to allow golf carts in our community (with criteria)!

This one is tough - roads (widening, repairing, etc) are what come to mind. I think our city government already listens to us well.

The zoning committee gives an excessive amount of leeway and power to the Westwood Neighborhood Association. They are not the only ones in that area that should be able to get some things accomplished.

The streets. Fix pot holes not just put a cover on them. Handicap places to get onto sidewalks down town is almost impossible.

The streets need attention. Badly. The lights downtown are ok if kept reasonably short. Four-way stops are NOT. Roundabouts are good, but need to be bigger.

The main thing I think is the mowing. There are several areas in town that you can't see at intersections as well as unsightly

That's I can't tell as I'm a new resident here in STW.

Tell their story. They do a pretty good job with limited resources.

Take action for the good of Stillwater irregardless of smaller interests groups. Example: pro-development zoning approvals despite small neighborhood opposition.

Support the New YMCA so they can build a childcare to meet the childcare shortage specifically infants and children on DHS subsidy

Strive to lure in new businesses. Ideally, in the industrial area.

Streets

Street upgrades

streamline the building process, eliminate red tape and delays in approval for new projects etc

Stoplight at 32nd and Perkins Road

Stop prioritizing Oklahoma State University above all else and start investing in the people who live here full-time. Create a community plan that centers families and youth, including safe walkability, early learning access, inclusive programming, and better infrastructure in residential neighborhoods—not just around campus.

Roads. Better roads, more parking.

Roads - the side roads are not good and we seem to only redo the same ones over and over while others just get patched. More sidewalks in some areas as well, would also help make Stillwater more walkable.

Road improvements and sidewalks/walking trails

Reviving the Boomer Station re-development plan.

Repair rough neighborhood streets near university

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

Stop giving money to ridiculous ideas that we probably won't see any gain soon if ever, that could actually end up costing us a healthy town. Stop investing in things that taps into Stillwater's own community electricity, water, and land. Do any of the people that own the data center live here in town? No. Will they be affected if the electricity goes down due to winter and they get first preference over Stillwater residents? No. Will they be affected if our water supply is tainted and causes us to have low supply? NO. I want to know why it's more important to invest in bull crap, than our community. We can be a great town, but we have to be careful before we do damage that can never be undone.

Stick to the basics and do them well

Stand for what is right. Instead of what looks good.

Sidewalks. More of them, everywhere, and maintaining the ones we have.

SIDEWALKS and lights that are timed correctly so that you don't have to stop at every single one!

Save the old library!

Safeguard our water supply with a backup to the Kaw pipeline.

Remove the data center.

Reduce cost of utilities -electric, water, etc

Recruit resources to join the community.

Recruit businesses to locate in Stillwater

Quit working on the streets all the time

Public pool- aquatics center for kids.

Provide city wide WiFi like Ponca City and/or implement Eduroam internet through the city buildings, hospital, and encourage Meridian to participate. Providing digital connectivity to SPS students in areas where free wifi is hard to find could be instrumental to lifting motivated kids out of poverty by giving them access to curriculum and educational tools at home.

Provide a means for funding StillWonder.

Pledge to improve the Human Rights Campaign Municipal Equality Index.

The MEI examines how inclusive municipal laws, policies, and services are of LGBTQ+ people who live and work there. Cities are rated based on non-discrimination laws, the municipality as an employer, municipal services, law enforcement and leadership on LGBTQ+ equality.

<https://www.hrc.org/resources/municipal-equality-index>

Pay attention to little things that are becoming big things (severe potholes, lane lines that are faded or hard to see when the streets are wet, drivers suddenly going faster than the speed limit especially on 51, drivers running red lights at an increased rate--police used to be around and visible alot and now I don't see them as much where all the speeding and red light running is happening, save for "rainy days", get involved with stopping the businesses that are wanting to install wind turbines that will ruin farm land (please see S.O.S on facebook for history and information and what is going on around us)

Allow more businesses to open. Invest in an affordable community center.

air samples on a regular basis checking for pollutants

Affordable housing. I volunteer at my church, and the calls we get are for help with gas (for cars), rent, and utilities.

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

One single action the city government could take to improve Stillwater is to establish a dedicated Family and Youth Services Office that coordinates and expands affordable childcare, youth programs, mental health resources, and family support services. This centralized office would streamline access to critical resources, ensure better communication between agencies, and prioritize funding for initiatives that directly benefit families and children—making Stillwater more inclusive, supportive, and resilient.

Offer direct grants to small business owners to aid in the barriers to entry. More downtown parking.

Create a short-term facility with low operation costs for small businesses to launch in.

Offer an unconditional basic income to all residents. The best way to fight homelessness, hunger and solve the housing shortage.

Not that simple. Get rid of the roundabout. Do a better job monitoring the timing on the stoplights.

Not sure this is specifically city government and not law enforcement, but the running of red lights and pulling up through crosswalks at lights. As someone who walks a good deal in this city, I'm never entirely comfortable crossing major streets because I don't trust that drivers are actually paying attention to who is in the crosswalk.

no/low-cost access to fun for families, such as the splash pads and parks.

New sidewalks in certain areas. for example, If you could walk from starbucks on 6th, to the botanical gardens and/or the lake by meridian, and even to walmart. Or for younger people to get ice cream at braum's and be able to scooter to the botanical gardens/the lake to watch the sunset, I think more people would spend time in the area rather than pretty much everything just being a drive thru.

More recruitment of business and industry.

More green space and youth recreation.

More for youth

More adult restaurants on West side of town

Master planning rather than everyone trying to do their own thing.

Making me mayor? Not sure. There are some dirt roads that are kind of awful, but I don't think they're even in city limits and I have to imagine if paving them were practical, they'd be paved.

make fixing streets the highest priority. I hate that we have sidewalks that start and stop. I live east of town, and there are two large mobile home parks which require people, who don't drive, to walk along the road because the sidewalk ends. I think great strides were made several years in improving sidewalks along south Perkins Rd.

lower sales tax

Lower property taxes and sales taxes

Lower property taxes

Lower property tax

Be more intentional. We cannot chase all the opportunity without a cohesive plan.

Be more inclusive to all

Be more consistent and decisive.

Be consistent

Addressing homelessness

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

Lower our water prices. Just a few years ago we paid more for water than any other city of similar size in our state. Can't water my yard as much as I like due to water prices. Also a Beck Study was done many years ago and it encouraged our city to raise our water rates over about a 3 year period, put that money in a reserve fund available when we do have to replace the water line to Kaw Reservoir. My bet is that money is not being held in a reserve but is being spent on more city employees, bonuses, and salaries higher than they should be.

Lower electric prices.

Low cost spay and neuter clinic for animals to help keep the pet overpopulation down.

Enforcement of animal cruelty and an ordinance against chaining.

More green spaces

Look at the budget. There sure are a lot of policemen around! The library staff are not well compensated. So - review the city budget.

Listen to the voters the citizens -

Listen to concerns as they come up

Lesson TIF availability or restrict it to its original intent. Follow the rules of the program law and code enforcement. Too many shabby unkempt properties and the Vagrant population is becoming conspicuous.

Invest more time, money and resources in getting tourism to Stillwater. What happened to the convention center? I keep hearing we don't have money because of the ad valorem tax thing, so if we can bring in tourists to generate more tax dollars maybe that will make other decisions, relationships, and growth easier. But if we keep doing what we've always done, it's just going to stay the same. Yes, Oklahoma State University athletic events bring in a significant number of people, but that's always going to happen. What else can we do? How else can we think outside the box? And what can we do to encourage people to spend more while they're here? I know there are efforts going, but have we tried everything?

Invest in science-based, proven pedestrian infrastructure.

Invest in a non-profit center to help non-profits encourage non-profits to share space and resources to reduce cost; improve access to multiple services; networking, data analysis and training. A center can help non-profits more efficiently identify needs, secure resources, and deliver services to improve lives of those they serve.

Introduce representative government, meaning that council members are elected by wards in each part of the city instead of at-large. Council members really don't answer to a set of constituents. Plus there aren't a sufficient number of council members for a city this size.

Integrate all races

Integration

Infrastructure. It would bring in more employers, expand tax base, etc.

Infrastructure improvements: roads, drainage, sidewalks, upkeep of rentals in summer, fire protection

Infrastructure improvements - street repairs, traffic light adjustments with traffic flow.

Increase support for unhoused

Increase budget for city parks

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

Incentivize the building of more affordable housing options, both for rent and for purchase
Incentivize builders to construct more small single family and duplex options that could be more affordable for families; there are lots of great recs in the book Just Action:

<https://www.justactionbook.org/>

Improvement of roads/drainage. Creating a dedicated walk/bike bridge over boomer parallel with lakeview

Improve trash pick up. It feels impossible to get rid of extra things, increase funding for help with seasonal weather conditions. Response after big storm is ridiculously slow and inefficient.

Improve the streets.

Improve the streets.

Improve the roads

Improve the parks

Improve the maintenance of city property and city parks, through more effort to mow and tree trimming.

Improve the infrastructure.

Improve streets.

Improve school

Improve road

Improve roads

Improve roads

Improve infrastructure / roads

Improve infrastructure

Improve and care for the parks. Affordable city pool

I wish I knew the answers...

I think the city government does a great job, I think there is a missing link between the work they put in, and the perception of the community at large. I don't know a solution, but building more community connection would go a long way I would hope.

I feel like Stillwater's city government does a great job with the funding they have. I look forward to seeing what is next on the horizon.

I feel like I've seen plans for new construction (larger style--like apartment complex, etc.) that included funds for fixing residential streets after they're done. We have a lot of residential streets that could use some repair--maybe rest some of that expense on the ones driving heavy equipment on the streets...I don't know if that type of street agreement is common, but maybe it should be.

I don't know if there is any one thing...

I believe there should be a Sustainability Coordinator position within City government. That person could organize the coalition mentioned above.

Hosting more festivals.

Hire a sustainability coordinator.

Hire a better construction company for the roadwork

High presence within the community. Attend events, introduce yourself?

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

Help with putting in energy efficiency systems thru better rates for Ground Source Heat Pumps and make solar easy to connect.

Help the Mission of Hope

Help lower taxes would be a great start

Get up to date on most recent evidence-based best practices for urban planning (e.g., put trees between the road and sidewalks to slow cars down and make walkers feel safer.) I drive 6th street all the time and it's actually not bad at all - don't ruin it!

Get rid of worthless Planning Commission and City Council and get real leadership that will protect the neighborhoods. All members of these committees are self-serving.

Follow through on code enforcement

Fog for flies, mosquitoes

Focus on beautification. Many of our parks are overgrown already as of early May and they will only become more so. One major example, there are LARGE patches of poison ivy growing onto the sidewalks/paths around Boomer Lake. Lots of potential hazards for pets and families to be affected negatively due to neglectful property management.

Focus more on children and less on the college age range

Fixing roads

Fix the stupid traffic signal at McElroy and Main

Fix the sloppy roads/roadways. Primarily on the periphery around campus.

Fix the roads!!!! They are horrible!

Fix the roads

Fix the pool so kids have something to do. Many of us have pools but so many families in the community can't afford their own pool. That would give kids something to do to keep them out of trouble.

Fix the horrible streets

Fix some of the terrible roads.

fix some of the roads around campus, like by Qdoba

Fix roads

Fix roads

Find solutions for housing. Rent is too high for houses trashed by college students. The apartments also prioritize students.

FIND MONEY TO IMPROVE THE STREETS

Find a way to fix the roads.

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

Encourage zoning development which would entice business and residential options between OSU campus and downtown.

Encourage establishing good restaurants like La Baguette in OKC. I know people who chose not to stay in Stilkwater because of the lack of good restaurants

Drastically adjust property taxes down

Down town parking

Don't make non-pet-owners pay increased property tax to pay for the problems that irresponsible pet owners have created.

Dedicate more to parks and rec

Create a walking corridor between campus and downtown. Make a link with retail, restaurants and small businesses with nice walkway with lampposts, flowers, benches, etc.

continuing to be involved with the public; monitor housing/residential ordinances and compliance

Continue working to humanize the city-it matters that our community members know the people behind the entity.

Continue to systematically improve roads.

Continue to address street and road conditions.

Continue a growth mentality

Consider "progress" to be caretaking of the environment rather than does it make money. We won't be able to buy clean, safe water, air, land and wildlife once we have paved it over.

Commitment to long term planning goals

Cleaning up the city. Enforce mowing

Check the water quality in our pond, lakes, and streams

Care

Build more affordable housing for middle to low income families instead of allowing trailer parks to exist all over town.

Build a rehab

Build a great community owned pool with a lazy river, great children's play area, water slides, etc

Bring back parks & rec as a real department

Better streets in the business core particularly.

Better streets

BETTER BIKE INFRASTRUCTURE

Be more welcoming to small developments. Not all developers are evil.

Be more transparent in the transition of city officials. The City Manager situation was weird and unsettling.

be more transparent

Affordable housing for the people that work in the lower income jobs like fast food etc.

WHAT IS ONE SINGLE ACTION OUR CITY GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE TO IMPROVE STILLWATER?

Figure out how to partner more on road improvements around campus. The wear and tear of buses, moving trucks, construction vehicles, and student transportation/parking puts an extreme amount of stress on city streets and then it appears the city is left to manage with limited tax structure to repair.

Establish a municipal trail system (check out the one Flagstaff has - it's awesome).

Address the chronic problem of homelessness. Surely we could build overnight shelters to get people off the streets into safe and reasonably climate controlled shelters. They could be sleeping pods all the way up to controlled rooming houses.

Addressing the roads

WHAT DOES STILLWATER DO WELL TO SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN?

YMCA, parks, Pre-K, Boomer lake running path.

We have some great agencies that provide amazing services for children.

Very little.

Very little actually. As parents of school age children, it's even difficult to navigate the city infrastructure to take our kids to school.

Variety of activities and events at different locations.

"They have outdoor parks and offer options for summer splash pads. The schools offer options of free meals and access to book through the book bus and library summer reading programs. "

There are write a few activities to do around Stillwater for families

There are lots of activities: softball, soccer, library programs, art

There are a lot of non-profits who provide essential services to lower income families and families in distress.

There are a lot of activities available.

There are a lot of active non-profit organizations that are doing the best they can given the limited funding available.

There are a few programs to help families and a few community events

Their are nice outdoor playgrounds.

The school system provides great support through their community partnerships, the free and reduced lunch/summer meals programs, and all the activities available through extra curricular. The library always has great programming and I feel they do a great job marketing community events. I am very pleased with the quality of life and the opportunities available for my children here in Stillwater.

The school system is pretty good, parks are pretty good, splash pads are nice.

The school system is fantastic and there are significant options for extracurricular activities both in and outside of Stillwater Public Schools (e.g., dance/gymnastics, sports, theater, etc.).

"The new downtown park will be a wonderful addition.

The city library City parks "

The library is great. Sports and parks are great.

Supporting our school district and the special needs community is so important, and we need to continue to provide those resources.

Strong schools, good youth sports leagues and other extracurricular activities.

Strong library programs, prairie arts center, Stillwater pediatrics, parks.

Stillwater Public Schools was an amazing source of support and opportunity for our children. Local parks and water parks are much appreciated.

Stillwater offers youth programs, summer camps, library events, and after-school activities that support learning and social development. Stillwater fosters a safe, welcoming environment with strong community policing and family-friendly events like festivals and farmers' markets.

"Stillwater has a strong sense of community and small-town connection (for some, not all), but when it comes to direct support for families with children, much more is needed. There are significant gaps in access to affordable childcare, family-friendly infrastructure, and public programming."

Stillwater always feels very safe! The police presence is appreciated

WHAT DOES STILLWATER DO WELL TO SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN?

SPS is a HUGE part of why we raise our kids in Stillwater. We want them to benefit from the public education system here. Not to mention their access to college athletics, experiencing the culture around being part of something as well as the opportunity for live music events.

Sports for kids, keep parks clean

Splash pads, events with children areas like the Botanical garden festivals/ downtown Halloween etc

Splash pads and parks that are accessible; healthy start programs through pediatrician offices; excellent public schools; summer reading program through the public library and other library offerings.

Splash pads

Splash pad/some parks

Section 8/Housing

Schools, parks, library

schools, extra curricular opportunities, events

Schools are good

SASA, SPS

Safe. Decent schools. Activities for children.

Public Library activities are great, but need more

Provide a safe environment to grow up with options for activities

Pretty safe and quiet.

Parks, YMCA, summer activities

Parks, SASA opportunities, great public schools

Parks, events, excellent school system.

Parks and recreation. Different classes such as art, defense, karate, bullying defense.

Parks and activities

Outdoor spaces like splash pads. Botanical gardens.

Our schools are wonderful

Offering Our Daily Bread, StillWonder pop ups, and the splash pads.

Nothing- there is nothing for the youth out here. I dont even know how college kids find entertainment in this town. It is so boring.

Nothing

Not much. There are hardly any activities for kids across varying age groups

Not a lot

Nice parks.

Nice parks and local facilities.

Love the parks here in town

Lots of playgrounds and splash pads.

lots of opportunity for activities both indoor and outdoor.

lots of opportunity

Local food banks, youth groups and Shelters if needed.

Keep crime low.

WHAT DOES STILLWATER DO WELL TO SUPPORT FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN?

It does offer a fair amount of activities

I think our highlights are in education, athletics, STEM, and the arts.

I met with a Stillwater officer the other day, because my autistic kid wanted to play with his friends and he didn't realize you need to knock on a door instead of just going in. I did catch the officer in a little white lie, but aside from that he was polite. The trash service is fast and efficient. The utilities are fair, and the city is clean.

I love the school systems here, they are very helpful

I live just outside of city limits which does make it hard to get some support. I have used daily bread before and that was a life saver!

Great public schools

Great library.

Great healthcare and activities through OSU

Good schools

Good school system

Free lunches during the summer.

Free activities and events for families.

Family oriented events downtown; parades

family fun activities like Kaleidoscope

Downtown investments- Stonecloud has become a great community hub and downtown is somewhat walkable, which can give kids autonomy to walk around and check out downtown shops. It will only get better with Block 34. Downtown has become such a great community hub that's safe for kids- farmers market, flea market, arts festivals, etc.

Community events

Accessible outdoor spaces, events for families like pop-ups, Lemonade Day, Summer on the Plaza

"Access to great healthcare with a wide range of available services and quality care for all ages.

A growing amount of available activities for families, especially with young children. Our favorite of ours is the new(ish) playground at Strickland Park. "

Access to a variety of educational experiences and top medical professionals. Strong network of nonprofit organizations.

A lot of offerings of family friendly environments and activities to partake in.

WHAT IS STILLWATER MISSING TO BETTER SUPPORT OUR YOUTH?

Youth center

Sports complexes

More robust and affordable youth sports programs (SASA is great but make it bigger? Maybe paid coaching positions for better consistency and structure)

You are missing the importance of all the families within the community are what actually make this a community. So much attention and funds go to OSU-related efforts at the cost of the people who actually live here.

We need a better sport complex to compete with other cities. We NEED a public pool!

Unsure. I feel privileged to have what we have for our kids.

Things to do. lack of clubs outside the library. Places to hang out.

The school should be in sync with the university and community to supply a pipeline of future workers to the schools, businesses, and hospital. Creating and guaranteeing those opportunities will better enable families to grow and remain in Stillwater. On a unit basis very few of the nurses and staff at the hospital for example actually live in Stillwater. That's a stupid problem to have when you have to import workers from other cities at a premium who have no vested interest in your organization or city.

teen activities

Support active transportation efforts in Stillwater. Build kids safe routes to get to each other and to safe third spaces like parks.

Stillwater lacks structured, ongoing opportunities for youth engagement and development. The city needs a dedicated youth center, expanded teen programming, and leadership or mentorship initiatives that involve youth in shaping the community. There are also very few inclusive, safe gathering places or events designed with youth in mind. Walkability is another major issue—many neighborhoods don't have continuous sidewalks or bike paths, which limits access to school, parks, or jobs. Finally, Stillwater could benefit from offering more accessible transportation options and food access for underserved youth.

Stillwater has lots of opportunities for families that can afford them, but fewer opportunities for kids that are free or low cost, especially in elementary/middle school, before kids are able to participate in high school sports/extracurriculars. Youth sports should be subsidized (like as a United Way organization) so that ALL kids can participate at low or no cost.

STEM activities with real learning.

Sports facilities, swimming pool, play facilities,

Sports complex!!

Sports complex

Roller rink

Outdoor theater

Arcade

Go carts

Paint ball

Laser tag

Sports accessible for AI not just the privilege. Improve education to provide more opportunities.

This is done by getting experienced qualified teachers. It does not appear the state will be helping with that

WHAT IS STILLWATER MISSING TO BETTER SUPPORT OUR YOUTH?

Softball fields!! There is only 1 regulation size softball field in Stillwater and that is the high schools.

We have tons of baseball fields. Softball tournaments would bring alot of money for Stillwater.

Softball fields that can hold tournaments so we aren't having to travel to other cities and giving them the money that we could spend in our own town!!!!

Sidewalks, walking trails, common areas.

sidewalks and better streets to get to all the opportunities

Resources

readily available programming that is consistent and focused on child well-being

Public transit, easy ways to walk/bike around town.

Programs (not church related, not everyone is religious), more locations to shop, entertainment, food, parks, basketball courts, a mall

Pool, places and things for junior high/middle school age children to do. No where for them to hang out.

Places for youth to do things that are not centered around religion.

Outdoor activities like high quality parks and sports facilities. Employment opportunities.

Options for low-cost activities

On-demand, youth-specific mental health care—especially for middle and high schoolers dealing with anxiety, depression, bullying, and trauma. Consistent, structured after-school programs, especially for teens—not just sports, but leadership, creative arts, trades, or STEM. Programs that teach real-life skills like budgeting, resume writing, trade exposure, interview prep, and job shadowing. Free or low-cost transportation options for teens to get to school, jobs, events, or programs outside their immediate area. Services for homeless, runaway, or housing-insecure teens (e.g., shelters, transitional housing, mobile outreach). Youth-designed hangout spots that are safe, inclusive, and empowering—not just commercial spaces (malls, fast food) or school grounds.

Need a children's museum

My child is still too young to really know what is needed to support the youth.

Municiple pool

More youth activities. Maybe a mini golf or arcade. We need a water park or public pool.

More summer camps for middle grade kids would be good - most things are still geared toward elementary or high school. Camps focused on theater, science, art, etc. would be great!

More STEM engagement activities for kids in the community.

More STEAM opportunities.

More sports, new baseball fields something similar to Perry. More large parks like the Gathering Place

More positive places for them to go to have fun, ie roller skating, game rooms like main event, things to keep them busy and engaging in the community.

More free or low cost options for child care especially in the summer, or youth programs would be great! or at least letting us know. I don't have facebook, and I feel that is where most things are shared. Can we follow an email instead or have an instagram that would let us know of different opportunities?

More activities for teens outside of school and sports.

WHAT IS STILLWATER MISSING TO BETTER SUPPORT OUR YOUTH?

More access to spaces and activities that encourage physical activity and healthy positive interaction, such as basketball courts, rock climbing, volleyball ball, and swimming.

Looking forward to the new outdoor venue downtown and how we can do more community-building activities to get kids outside and developing relationships with other people in town.

Kids autonomy is essential for a great childhood and for development- so much gets stunted when kids aren't able to move freely due to the risk of cars. Downtown is off to a good start, but central and north Stillwater could use a lot of help to have shady, maintained sidewalks, marked crosswalks, and 4-way stops to slow traffic/direct traffic to busier streets. Human-scale infrastructure makes for safe, independent kids.

Integrity in the court systems.

Inexpensive and non competitive sports so kids can try all sports without being over committed.

Indoor activities

Improving parks, building the new YMCA, community swimming pool, - many things are in the works that will eventually make a great improvement.

I'm not sure there's much for teens to do.

I wish there would be more intermingling in city sports leagues and activities. Teams are very "clicky" and kids often get excluded or thrown together.

I think parental support classes and resources to help families with issues like digital safety, character development, financial education. These are things that parents need to be responsible for, but many do not know where to begin.

I have a 5yo, so I haven't really given this question much thought.

I don't have much experience here

Higher pay employment for parents.

Having more activities for them to do, and the cost when things go on stillwater wants to charge so much and some parents can't pay that

Group activities to meet like-minded youth or youth with similar interests.

Gathering places for older kids and young adults. We have tons of options for young children and college students, but very little for kids that are 12-18.

Fun things to do. Pickleball (free courts), batting cages, go carts, etc.

Food truck social areas.

Entertainment (free and paid)

Easily accessible and affordable mental health support for children and adults.

Community Pool or make it a water park like Cushing did. More music-related camps and educational opportunities. More access to pickleball courts!! Entertainment centers that have family activities like put-put and go-carts. The White Barn is no good, unfortunately. I know we're getting the Hub, but we could use additional theme-park-type activities (like they have in Branson). Interactive space for small children, like Still Wonder. We also need a Target and shopping geared towards teenagers and young adults.

children's museum, waiting on the updated YMCA

Children's museum, more child care options

Children's museum would be great, more play places, more childcare options.

Better facilities for sports. More basketball courts available to practice.

WHAT IS STILLWATER MISSING TO BETTER SUPPORT OUR YOUTH?

Are there food pantries and such? Can we encourage that sort of thing? Soup kitchens with free wifi? Where kids can come get something to eat and do their homework? Maybe hire some kind of tutor if they need help?

Anything for kids to do! There is NO community pool and no park centrally located with activities for kids. More free events such as: family movie nights, a pool worth going to, mini golf or other fun outdoor activities with shade, etc

After school programs

Education reinforcement

Add more tennis and pickle ball courts because they need exercise

Actually caring

Activities. Something for kids to do since there isn't a pool and kids out of middle school don't want to go to the splash pad.

Activities to do that aren't expensive

activities generated to teens

Access to QUALITY mental health services

A replacement for the Wondertorium would be great. StillWONDER is on a great track, if Stillwater could better support their founding and growth, that would be excellent. Activities for youth in that style are really fun for the kids and provide an avenue to engage with the community outside of youth sports leagues (although they're also necessary and a great asset to the community).

A community pool would be nice.

A city pool or aquatics center.

A better variety of activities for teens and teens. Not all kids are into sports. More stem activities and clubs would be great

"play". Much of Stillwater is tied to organized athletics. Kids could use more time/spaces to simply play. The Hub will greatly impact this!

SOLE OCCUPANT: WHAT ORGANIZATIONS DO YOU PARTICIPATE WITH TO NETWORK OR HELP BUILD A PERSONAL COMMUNITY?

Young Professionals of Stillwater, the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce and a board member of Cowboy Wrestling Club.

Young Professionals of Stillwater

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Alumni

Cornhole

True power martial arts academy, our daily bread

The Chamber, OSU Sports

Stillwonder; early childhood coalition; library;

Stillwater Public Library board

Modella Gallery board

Botanic Garden Ambassador

Member - Payne County Master Gardeners

Stillwater Noon Lions, Our Daily Bread

Stillwater Noon Lions

Church

Stillwater Community Band

SPEF

Night to Shine

First Presbyterian community Sat. Lunch

Mobile Meals

Payne County Youth Services

UWPC

FCC

Payne County Master Gardeners, District Bicycles

Payne County LiveWell Coalition, Chamber, OSU, District Bicycles, Bicycle and Pedestrian Ad-Hoc Committee (BPAC), city hosted events

Payne County Jail ministry, and employee at the Mission Of Hope.

Payne County Audubon Society, Town & Gown Theatre, OSU Symphony Orchestra, Stillwater Community Rowing Club, OKState Rowing Club.

Our Daily Bread, CASA, Saville Center

OSU

Oklahoma State University, The Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, Meridian Technology Center and Visit Stillwater.

Noon Lions

Mission of Hope, stillwater community band

Many churches, fellow employees and political parties

Lions Club, LWV of Stillwater, Life Center, Emeriti Association, FUMC, Stillwater History Museum

Lions club for over 50 years. Habitat for humanity for about 25 years

SOLE OCCUPANT: WHAT ORGANIZATIONS DO YOU PARTICIPATE WITH TO NETWORK OR HELP BUILD A PERSONAL COMMUNITY?

LinkedIn, Professors, my current job, friends and family

Islamic society of Stillwater

I work with the Mission of Hope, the United Way and the Salvation Army

I am a student at Oklahoma State University and lived in stillwater my entire life! (20 years)

Greek Life

FUMC, Chamber, Homebuilders, Rotary

Friends of the Library, Rotary, Stillwater Cares, First United Methodist Church⁰l Pp0

First United Methodist Church

Early childhood coalition, healthy children healthy community, relay for life,

Doctoral student, Student Worker

CREC Ambassador.

Church, work

Church, sorority group, various game groups (pickleball, majong), different friend groups developed over the years - have lived here over 30 years.

Church, FB groups

Church, community coalitions

church,Payne County Democrats, senior citizen center, Stillwater Blue Dot Community, Bible study

Church- Stillwater Bible

Humane Society, Cimarron Valley Humane Society

Colvin Center- Zumba

Line Dancing with Pepper

Botanic Gardens

Athletic events

Church & Sunday School, Total Health & Fitness, OSU Emeriti Association, FPC Men's Group, FPC

Saturday Brunch, McKnight Center

Church

Church

Chamber, church, homebuilders, City Hall committees nonprofit

chamber

Blue Dots Community

American Legion, VFW

AMA, BBBS, YMCA

Aging Advocates

SOLE OCCUPANT: WHAT COULD STILLWATER DO TO CREATE MORE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES?

Utilize the McKnight Center and large capacity seating facilities for Christian Concerts. This is not a real function of government and tax money should not be directed toward this effort. These opportunities will happen naturally and without government involvement.

Target additional to OSU, public school, church or need based groups.

Stuff for the under college and those over 40. We are left out of this college town Stillwater has places to plug in, people just have to take personal responsibility to get involved in area of interest.

Young Professionals group was good, but there is nothing after it! Many people still need a social group so they don't have to go to things alone. Chamber could possibly organize group tickets to athletic events here, Thunder games, McKnight Center events, Botanic Garden concerts, service projects, etc. All would help people find a sense of community and take some of the difficulty out of building it on your own completely.

Security for events; gun-free zones;

Put more information publicly what groups and clubs are out there.

Probably more activity for empty nesters that don't want to go sit and drink.

Our young professionals need a catalyst to help them engage in a more intentional and impactful way. They have had a hard time finding their purpose and building momentum since COVID.

Organize a run club or walking club

Offer more opportunities to gather after work hours (9-5) and fill the huge gap in teen and upping adult engagement programs.

Music in the parks (Concerts, DJs etc), city sponsored car show or other activities with businesses in Stillwater

More things for young professionals to do that are not in college but also do not have a family.

More social activities for adults that are not food or alcohol centric.

Have food allergy friendly food options at community events. Such as, reach out to places like Good Little Eater about providing gluten free options at local events (Halloween downtown, Light Parade in Dec, County Fair?), and then specifically advertise these new options so members of the community know they will be available.

More opportunities for residents, that is not focused on students. I am in that age group where I do not identify as a student, but I am still the age of the student population so I feel very isolated when it comes to events to attend that include people my age. Stillwater also can be very clicky when it comes to specific organizations and events.

More leisure activities

More items catered for those in 20s-30s or those that don't have children or community events in general. I believe the opening of the new block will help with community events.

SOLE OCCUPANT: WHAT COULD STILLWATER DO TO CREATE MORE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES?

More events at Stillwater Community Center. Downtown Friday night festival events.
More community events for teens and young adults that do not drink. Night life is very active in the community, but I want to do things during the day that are shopping or restaurants. Bookstores, like Hastings were my favorite places to go in elementary/middle school.

more clubs for all walks of life

More activities outside of OSU, schools and church.

More accessibility for low income families. Such as such as free events because low income families have no money to attend.

Make it easier for small business to open up downtown to create more variety of things to do, especially when the new concert spot opens up. Also more places downtown that stay open late. I've always thought the area down S Main (S of the roundabout) is kinda a missed opportunity to kinda extend the "downtown" area.

Lower the drinking age to 18

Less about OSU and more about Stillwater itself.

Increase activities, both social and educational, which are easily available and affordable to children whose opportunities to participate may be limited by family economics, lack of parental awareness, feelings of discrimination, etc.

I'm excited about the new Block 34, would love to see more concerts at Boone Pickens and also excited about the new Chickasaw entertainment venue being built.

I haven't bought anything about this

Have more live music spots

Gathering downtown- new block 34 gatherings

Fully use Block 34 when it is completed

Somehow (I'm not sure how) develop more social connection between university students and Stillwater community.

- more sidewalk dining. It's happening but more would be great.

- expand farmers market - coffee truck, music, place to eat

From my personal experience and in my opinion, I am satisfied with the number of social opportunities that are offered and communicated through the networks that I interact with.

Free community events

Festivals and events that are not focused on alcohol.

Encourage more diversity, offer opportunities for other cultures to share their culture
Do we really need more? Folks need to get up and get out, there is plenty to do in Stillwater
Community picnics in the Park, encourage community involvement in activities in Stillwater
Community activities (band concerts, Stillwater singers, teen activities etc)

SOLE OCCUPANT: WHAT COULD STILLWATER DO TO CREATE MORE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES?

Communal centers for clubs/non-religious

by establishing a dedicated youth and family community center that offers after-school hangouts, teen-led clubs, and regular events like movie nights and art activities. Hosting monthly free or low-cost events—such as open mic nights, glow dances, trivia games, and youth markets—would give young people consistent, fun alternatives to boredom or risky behaviors. Creating a Youth Advisory Council or launching a “Teen Mayor” program would empower teens to take ownership of community events and help shape programs that reflect their interests. Improving transportation by extending public transit hours or offering shuttles to events would ensure that all youth, regardless of income or access to a vehicle, can participate.

Stillwater could also strengthen partnerships with Oklahoma State University by involving college students in intergenerational events, such as STEM activity days, cooking classes, or career mentorship nights. Finally, activating public spaces—like Boomer Lake, the library lawn, or downtown—with pop-up social zones that include food trucks, games, and music would create lively, inclusive gathering spots that naturally bring people together. These efforts would help foster a stronger, more connected community for families and youth.

better social media, communication to citizens about events, clubs, orgs, etc

Better communication

Advertise more events to college students/recent grads to meet one another

A city pool would be great!

More free kid friendly activities

More free festivals/events- which Block 34 seems to promise! :-)

More family fun business. For all ages

More events, visit all businesses around the area so others could get to know them all better. Kids concerts for teen based

WHAT MAKES STILLWATER A GOOD PLACE TO RETIRE?

Well run city government, opportunities to give back, many seniors we can relate to, lots to do in the way of sports and concerts, and the McKnight Center, charm of downtown.

We live in this community

VA outpatient clinic

University town

University and smc

Traffic is mostly light

There are many activities to participate in- sports, McKnight center, volunteering. The university culture, sports, theater, education level, volunteer opportunities and the medical center,

The university and the town. Something to do every day.

The university activities, athletics, arts, entertainment, culture.

The University

The University

The people

Stimulating and engaging populace, lots of opportunities for entertainment, better infrastructure and services than you'd expect in a town this size

Small town, safe, good schools, lots of sports and musical opportunities

Small town, OSU, good schools

Small city. Light traffic. Close to OKC

Small city atmosphere with large city amenities and assets.

Small Businesses, easy to get around in most of the time. Friendly, OSU students are encouraged to volunteer and a variety of things to attend.

Safe, lots to do with college sports

Safe environment. Variety of educational and cultural activities available.

Rural small town feel with quality of life of a larger town.

Plenty of options for entertainment. However some lacking in providing things like biking trails for safe biking around community for enjoyment or exercise.

Plenty of activities to do.

Perfect size and many activities and opportunities

People, Health Care, Public Schools, Recreation Parks, Organizations (Newcomers, etc.),

Seasons, Enough Rain to be Green, Topography, OSU events, ...

OSU sports, medical doctors (hospital and clinics), police department

OSU sporting events

OSU Athletic events, McKnight Center events and a smallish city with low crime, minor congestion make Stillwater a great place to retire.

OSU and Medical Facilities

OSU

osu

WHAT MAKES STILLWATER A GOOD PLACE TO RETIRE?

Options offered by OSU. Safety. Good public schools attract young families.

Opportunity to volunteer to help young children who live in poverty

Not a large city

Nice quality of life. It's got a smaller town feel, but the college adds more opportunities for events to attend. We have a good amount of community involvement, and usually civil and not highly charged. The location is perfect for getting to OKC or Tulsa for other activities.

My wife is currently working at a business in Stillwater

My daughter and her family live here. (Grandchildren). OSU athletics, Stillwater Public Library

McKnight Center, good medical care, light traffic, adequate restaurants

Many types of opportunities

Many activities through OSU to choose from.

low crime rate, opportunities to volunteer.

Love the small town feel and the athletic events for entertainment

Lots to do and many other retirees

Lots of things to do and stable housing prices. Close to urban centers that provide big city attractions

Lots of activities

Limited traffic, the people

Laid back environment, golf, close to Tulsa and OKC. Have an active airport.

Kindness of the citizens

kids

I've spent more than 20 years putting down roots here, and it's where I want to stay. It took YEARS to develop/find a community of like-minded individuals. The community is what keeps me here.

I've lived here all my life. But 2 years. In the past it was more family oriented

It's a perfect size.

It is where our son and family live.

I lived here before and know it well.

I already lived here. This is where my friends and most family are at.

Healthcare, entertainment, focus on education, friends.

Great small town atmosphere with reasonable traffic. Lots of entertainment through the university. Great choices of churches.

Good sized town, lots of activities available, college towns are great

Good size, not too big or too small, friends live here. Raised teens here

Good people, strong public schools, decent size, LOTS of community minded residents

Good infrastructure

Good health care. OSU & SPS events. Relatively easy to get around town.

Friendly, lots of options for activity and community. OSU activities.

Friendly hospitable community with Big 12 sports

WHAT MAKES STILLWATER A GOOD PLACE TO RETIRE?

Friendly community
Friendly and lots of things to do.
Family, university, churches, helping agencies
Family here
University sports and shows
Family connections. It's walkable, although we all know the sidewalks are shocking!!! It's affordable.
Family - Friends - Size
Excellent opportunities for cultural, sporting, education, volunteering, and political.
Established friends, University and all its activities, small town feel but near two cities.
Educational community
Educational and cultural activities (McKnight Center, Town and Gown, Olli classes, sports events (football, baseball , tennis , etc) parks, safety
Economical housing, wonderful music and arts available, good medical services
Easy access to essential services with only moderate traffic. The presence of the University for educational/cultural activities.
Ease of access and small town feel
Cost of living, university town, golf
Cost of living, people
Cost of living
Community involvement
College town
Bus service, stores
All of the OSU athletics
Access to many activities- OSU and other community related events and activities. Great faith community with the church we attend.
Access to higher education, wholesome place to raise a family, safe,
Access to culture, education, medical, family and friends.
Small enough to be interesting with so many university and community events.

WHY DID YOU RETIRE HERE?

Worked here, own home & land

We own a house in Stillwater and my wife currently works full time at a business in Stillwater
We love OSU Sports and our two sons graduated from OSU and like coming back often. One lives in Texas and one in South Carolina, so not really and "in between" but this works for us. At first 2002 we were sort of between my wife's parents (Tulsa) and my father in southwest Oklahoma.

We have lived in Stillwater our whole lives

We have lived here 51 years

We have been here for 40 years and love living here. We lived in large cities before we moved here and we didn't know if we would like living in a small town. We love it. We go to Total Health and do some volunteer work and belong to some clubs like Newcomers and Rotary.

We are permanent residents.

We already lived here

Was already living here while working hybrid for my last ten years.

To be near grandchildren

To be near family

To be closer to family when they were still living
Stillwater has been my home for the past 24 years.

I have many friend who I consider family

Sporting and cultural events. Our friends live here.

Son requested us to come

Small town, OSU, good leaders

Same as above. Plus being an OSU grad.

Retired from osU

Reasons listed above

Raised my family here

Raised a family here. It's home.

Purchased lot on an airfield

Permanent resident

owned my own home

Owned house

Owned home here, family here, grew up here.

Own our home that we love; midway between our children.

OSU connection

OSU and Medical Facilities

OSU

osu

WHY DID YOU RETIRE HERE?

My home was here
My daughter and her family live here.
Most of my family and friends are here.
Made lots of friends in 28 years
Love Stillwater and It's wonderful people.
Lived here most of 40 years and have a lot of friends here.
Lived here for 40 years
Lived here all of my life
Liked the community and still do
kids

I've lived in this area since college.
I've lived here many years and I like it. I didn't move here to retire.
I've lived here 30 years and after living in larger cities like Austin, TX and Tulsa, I decided this is
the best place for me. Less traffic, crime, etc. other negative large city detractors.

It's where I was
It's where I already lived since 1995.
It is my permanent home.

I've lived in Stillwater since 1971 when my husband and I attended OSU. Have not considered
living elsewhere

I've lived here since 1977. Have kids and grandkids here
I've lived here most of my life.

I was already here.

I retired from OSU. Stayed because we enjoy the house and location, many friends, and now
have school-age grandchildren in Stillwater that we help raise.

I lived here when I retired. It is a certified retirement community
I lived here when I retired and enjoy Stillwater.

I have lived here 46 years.

I came back to Stillwater after I retired from the Army to finish my Degree and get my Masters.

I came back over thirty years ago and I'm still here.

Have lived here almost 40 years.

Have investment property and kids here

Have been here for 50 years- why go someplace else. I have good doctors here, I can reach
them 24/7 plus we have a great hospital.

Got my undergrad degree here and it is close to my family.

Got married after retirement--married a retired fellow.

Good public schools. Relationships with close friends..

Friends and university

Friends and the OSU activities

Friends and history. Oklahoma has low property taxes

WHY DID YOU RETIRE HERE?

Friendly, professional

Family is here.

Family

Family

family

Established with friends in an excellent church. Stillwater is somewhat midway between our children.

Did not come here to retire, just to live.

Could not find anywhere better

Continuation of friends, health care professionals, organizations, church, residential neighborhood con

Closer to family and OSU events and activities.

Born here

Been here all my life and saw no reason to leave

Because this is where I have lived for 55 years and my kids/grandkids live here

Because I own a home here.

Attended college here in the 1980s and worked here for 32 years (after working 4 years combined in Tulsa and Austin, TX).

Always have lived here.

Already own a home here, have a church family here, etc.

Already lived here

Already here.

All the above

Age/years

Age. I was raised here.

After my job here

WHAT COULD WE DO TO MAKE STILLWATER A DESTINATION FOR RETIREES?

We're walking trails activities for seniors

We already have a lot of things for retirees. Sports, OSU, cultural, academic, Ollie, artistic, newcomers club, bus system.

We already have a great hospital so all we need to do is continue to support it.

The same things that would attract anyone - lively downtown, cultural amenities, affordable housing, outdoor activities, good health care, good schools.

The choice seats at OSU games are locked up but often not used. Access to better seating that's empty but not available would make going to games for seniors (who can't manage heat/cold/bench seats) more appealing.

Stop the woke agenda, replace the spaceship at 6th and Western with horses, cowboys, or Pistol Pete (something historic). Keep taxes low (sales /and property.

Some good restaurants like La Baguette in OKC

Sam's Club or Costco. Much Better Nursing homes would be a plus. Bigger variety of quality restaurants.

Revise the housing codes at the City to allow condos and ADUs. Figure out how to get lots on the market that are affordable for smaller but high quality homes.

Provide childcare that is affordable and quality available to their grandchildren

Programs to get retirees involved.

Potentially promote it better. Find ways to connect via university activities.

Perhaps more events for retirees

Not sure. It is already much more of a retiree destination than we were expecting when we move here.

Not sure. I am wanting for nothing. Lots of ways to volunteer and be involved.

Not for retirees but for families of all ages. We need a more wholesome lifestyle that doesn't include drinking. Back to basics living

Nice restaurants

Needs a quality skilled nursing unit and quality nursing homes. Assisted living facilities are good quality. Nursing homes are poor.

My wife's only wish is a Target.

more walking trails and senior activities

More upscale shopping

More retirement communities

More retirees activities

More restaurants, movies, and entertainment.

More restaurants geared for professional working and retired people.

More restaurants and shopping, more artists and shops, festivals, more parks (like the Botanic Garden). A loop around the city. Less road construction!

Better restaurants. Better roads.

A nice indoor walking trail. Pickleball courts.

WHAT COULD WE DO TO MAKE STILLWATER A DESTINATION FOR RETIREES?

More restaurants

More outdoor activities. We don't take advantage of some of the free or low cost events but continue with those things. Keep up with good golf courses and places to volunteer. Inform people where to go to find places needing volunteers.

More living options

More finer dining options More quality men's wear locations more mature entertainment options

More fine dining options. Improve streets. More affordable housing.

More entertainment options, better clothing store options (since Belk changed to an outlet) there's not much choice for people older than 20)

More clothing stores for older women, everything here is aimed at college age

More activities, cheaper housing

More activities for seniors. More senior care.

Market it as such. It already has great qualities. Push the cultural opportunities. What city this size has a performing arts center like the McKnight? Very few.

Maintain current partnership environment with University

Lower property tax for veterans and retirees would be a great start.

Keep the medical center and the university here. Finish Block 34 and keep it busy with entertainment of all types.

Keep the McKnight center at current levels and bring in quality act at the block 34 site. And add another carrier at SWO.

Keep all ages intermingled with each other in different ways. Keep community and college engaged with one another. And no matter what an individual comes here for please fix the streets and highway. There are really some bad places and has been for a long time.

It's fine now. A little more renewable energy would help.

It is a great place to retire, with activities mentioned and good retirement homes, such as Legacy Village, Primrose, Golden Oaks and assisted living. Perhaps more transit for seniors

Insurance options are limited.

Improve the well being of young children and their parents

Improve roads, shuttles to okc to airport or shopping areas and medical facilities

Improve roads

I'm not sure whether more benefits are important or making the ones we have more known.

I think you're doing a good job. Block 34 will be fun. We enjoy downtown too

I think the community and university do a fine job of promoting in STATE Magazine and through various community events. Make sure these same folks in other cities understand what Block 34 will mean to our community.

I think that, although not for me, concerts like the Red Dirt Woodstock we had last spring, might spur people to think about retiring here. If there were events like that, I think there is a segment of the retiring population who would like that.

WHAT COULD WE DO TO MAKE STILLWATER A DESTINATION FOR RETIREES?

I found it difficult to find a PCP when I got older. Only one physician was taking new patients.
Good health care, roads and entertainment.
From the people I have talked to that have moved here, many of the reasons were family, OSU graduate, or so many activities. The other factor is lower cost of living from where they moved from.
Entertainment targeted towards older folks and lower priced retirement living.
Easy transportation-- as Stillwater grows the roads are sometimes crowded.
Insure health care continues to be excellent.
Don't screw up what is already special about this place.
Stay on top of necessary upkeep to facilities and infrastructure.
Preserve synergy between town and gown - it hasn't always been this good.
DEVELOP restaurants!!!!!!!!!! Develop downtown, it is embarrassing !!!!!!! Improve the appearance around, cut row trash and weeds and FIX streets !!!!!!!!!!!
Continue the excellent marketing of Stillwater.
continue focus on SMC. Planned neighborhoods within City limits designed for Adults.
Continue being a progressive, welcoming, supportive community
casino
Better streets
Better roads, Trader Joe's, Target
Better health care.
Better restaurants. The food is fine for college kids. If I want a good steak I drive to Morrison to Vintage or to Pawnee to Clicks. Also no really nice places to get an adult beverage other than Monarch.
Better restaurants. Really the current choice of restaurants is abominable. We generally go out of town if we want to eat out.
Better restaurants
Better health care- it might be too expensive here. The patient portal is not easy to use. I do not know about the care in nursing homes
Better dining and socializing opportunities that aren't fast food. The block 34 development will hopefully bring some fun events and activities.
Better access to public transportation. Better medical care (I go to OKC). Better roads.
Allow ADUs for single family homes, get off the kick that every lot has to be 5000SF or larger, some folks don't want to mow grass. Give more options for housing that is affordable for retirees
Affordable retirement communities. Affordable for retired public school teachers that is. (Not the same as retired professors, doctors, lawyers...)
Affordable adult restaurants. Something other than fast foods
Advertise results of this survey
Advertise
Adjust property tax downward significantly

WILFIRE RESPONSE: WHAT NEEDS OF IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS ARE STILL UNMET?

What is being done to reduce the red cedar population around Stillwater. I hear some experts say this was predictable based on the volume of Red Cedar's west of Stillwater.

We need more quality builders for reconstruction. We were fortunate that the areas affected were higher income so that people most likely had insurance to help in their recovery.

We know people who lost homes and haven't received any funds. We have a high deductible and could use help with that.

We are 3 1/2 months in. Unless you were impacted, everyone else has pretty much moved on.

Meanwhile, we are still dealing with long term effects, ptsd, trying to rebuild, dealing with insurance and just trying to move forward while everyone else just moves on with their lives and sees it as an event of the past.

Varies by the individual families and what their insurance covered unknown. It sounds like insurance companies could make reimbursement slow.

Unknown but have heard of none and suspect I would.

The city could provide a list of dumpster services, excavation crews, etc. also a potential list of actions or a roadmap would have been nice. I surely did not expect this though

Some families I know are still dealing with insurance issues, but nothing when it comes to the City of Stillwater as far as I know.

Reputable builders and contractors

Replacement of some items

Perhaps not a direct need but I'm sure there is a conversation happening about proper land management and the very bad situation we're in regarding the invasive cedar trees.

Overall, it hit a wealthier part of Stillwater, so the needs might be different for this specific group of residents. Ongoing support for connections and resources for questions or situations they might encounter through the rebuilding process.

Not sure, but insurance questions are probably a mess. The people I know who lost homes seem to be taken care of in terms of housing and basic needs.

Not in touch with many of them. City should do some one on one with those individuals.

Needs that are there well after the initial event
mental health

I believe we do not have a sufficient number of quality home construction companies for an adequate rate of reconstruction

I am unaware of the answer to this.

I am not aware of any, but curious how the previously mentioned reputation issues in working with the city are potentially going to slow down the rebuilding.

Housing is a forever challenge in any college town; this has inevitably made it more so, though the way entities have stepped up with short term rentals and that sort of thing is encouraging.

Housing availability

Housing

Housing

WILFIRE RESPONSE: WHAT NEEDS OF IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS ARE STILL UNMET?

Many needs remain unmet for individuals and families impacted by the recent wildfires in Stillwater. While emergency shelters and triage services were provided initially, families are still in urgent need of secure, long-term housing—especially multi-bedroom options for those with children. Mental health and emotional support are also critical, as the trauma of evacuation and loss has taken a lasting toll. Cleanup and rebuilding efforts are ongoing, but many residents lack the resources to safely remove debris or begin reconstruction. Access to daily essentials like toiletries, food, and pet supplies remains inconsistent, particularly for those facing transportation or mobility challenges. In addition, there is a continued need for clear communication around financial assistance, insurance navigation, environmental safety, and utility restoration. To fully recover, impacted individuals must be supported not just in the immediate aftermath, but throughout the long-term rebuilding process.

Long term support- not sure what our plan is for that.

Lack of housing designers and homebuilders
insurance related issues

Insurance company assistance, landscaping to prevent erosion, replacement of watering systems

Individuals with no insurance who lost their homes are in a difficult spot.

Sadly, FEMA is not available to help and this is a federal shortcoming.

Immediate needs were met for the first part after, but not as much was done after to help with more long term needs and struggles.

I'm sure there are some but the people I know are having needs met, sometimes at a slower pace than they would like. That is the nature of working with gov't. agencies such as FEMA and insurance companies.

I'm not aware.

I'm guessing there are likely still impacted residents who are waiting for new homes to be built and living in temporary lodgings, but overall I think the majority of needs that can be met by the city have been met. The SBA/FEMA folks being at the community center this week are a good reminder that needs are ongoing and this work moves slowly.

I'm unaware of the needs of impacted individuals

I really don't know.

I know some dealing with insurance issues

I know many who had to leave their homes due to smoke damage or fire damage have had to bounce around airbnbs and continue to deal with insurance issues.

I hope they all found housing

I haven't talked to any of them, so I'm unsure.

I have no idea of what has been done for the fire victims nor am I aware of their unmet needs I have heard frustration in dealing with some insurance companies. Also, I think it will take a long time to rebuild houses, longer than many would like. But I don't think the city can do anything about these problems.

WILFIRE RESPONSE: WHAT NEEDS OF IMPACTED INDIVIDUALS ARE STILL UNMET?

I don't know for certain, but I'm going to guess some short-term housing for lower-income individuals might have been an issue.

Has all the money collected been spent?

Downed Fireline's were sighted as reason for not being able to provide FIMA coverage to those impacted by the wildfires, when it was the Wind that blew the electrical lines that "in part" caused some of the fires. Why did our state not fight this battle with the Feds?

Done insurance companies are not cooperating

Continued support of household and personal items.

Continued support

Cleaning

Allow volunteers and home owners to stay and protect their own homes. It would have been different if fire crews were available to come in and help. When there are not enough fire crews citizens should be able to stay and fight the fires.

Affordable housing for families.

WILFIRE RESPONSE: HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

We were so impressed by the officers who went door to door in our neighborhood. I can't say enough good things about them. Also the firefighters who worked tirelessly to stop the spread of the fire.

We need to look at cedar abatements and at controlled burns at certain times of the year.

We need an initiative to eliminate sources of fuel for future fires, particularly cedars.

Very little. This was a once in a lifetime confluence of unique weather conditions

Updated communication efforts

Unknown. How do you prepare for such a unique mix of circumstances, that may never occur again?

Unfortunately, there is little that can be done in a scenario similar to what Stillwater faced that day. Extreme winds and extremely low humidity made it all but impossible to stop. The City could explore ways to fund cedar tree removal within city limits on publicly owned land and partner with private land owners to incentivize removal. Eradicating cedar trees wouldn't have stopped those fires from being catastrophic, but it may have helped save a few houses.

Training of wildfire fighting

To have emergency response plan and protocol

This condition generally happens each year. Tabletop exercises for better preparedness.

Prescribed burning in January and February. Get rid of the cedar trees!!! Develop a way to use cedar trees for mulch. Zoning laws should include removal of tall grass, weeds, cedar trees, etc.

The only suggestion I have is that it was hard to get good information as the emergency was happening. I just kept refreshing Facebook to see what SEMA was posting.

The fire was a tragic accident and all we could do is have insurance and keep Red Cross funded.

The communication during the fires was not very good. We relied heavily on communication from friends and neighbors to determine the size and direction of the fire.

The communication available during the event was limited to constant Facebook page refreshing. A direct method for the city and county officials to communicate with citizens (most likely via text or a live website) is needed.

That seems an impossible task. Who is ever prepared for these types of tragedies.

Text-message alert system, tv/news station alert system available on streaming services (we don't have cable)

Support all people equally instead of focusing resources on buddies.

Specifically for fires, doing some education around how to keep the exterior of your home as safe as possible/be proactive about trimming shrubs, etc, would be good. There was a little flurry of that directly after the fires, but it's died off now. And it's never a bad time to think about exterior fire prevention, just like interior fire prevention.

I hear there are still some issues with SOME insurance companies. Now that we have had the wildfire it may be a great time to conduct some community meetings to discuss fire protection, insurance, how to respond, etc.

WILFIRE RESPONSE: HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

Stillwater can better prepare residents for events like this by creating a more coordinated, community-wide emergency preparedness system. This should include clearer communication protocols before and during emergencies, such as mass text alerts, neighborhood-level evacuation plans, and centralized information hubs. The city should also invest in community education efforts—like preparedness workshops, school-based safety training, and resource guides in multiple languages—to ensure all residents know what to do in a crisis. Expanding access to emergency shelters, including pet-friendly and accessible options, would also make a difference. Finally, building stronger neighborhood networks and partnerships with local nonprofits can help create a safety net that activates quickly when disaster strikes, ensuring no one is left behind.

Signed evacuation routes would be helpful.

Safe exit routes. My husband was stuck on the Southwest side of town trying to get home from work for hours because the traffic was at a stand still. He was stuck in an area where the fires were encroaching toward and if it had kept moving, 6th street and the sangre road area would have been very dangerous for everyone in that traffic jam.

Rid the City of large masses of red cedar

Require land owners to clear cedars or be fined

Refer to streets and areas when evacuating, not names of unknown housing additions

Proactive action with city, county, and state to eliminate the red cedar problem.

Preparedness training with residents, and advanced education about how emergency messaging can be received.

Possibly a better communication strategy. I was helping at the Community Center when the nursing homes began evacuating their residents there. As I was talking to an older gentleman, he received the emergency message asking people to evacuate to the area we were in. I had received the same message almost 40 minutes beforehand. Thankfully, we had no fatalities but inconsistency and delays like this could have led to some if people didn't receive communication in time. I don't know how much the City has control over that but it would be worth looking into.

Outlaw red cedars in the city limits

Offer tips on making buildings more fire resistant. Ex: keeping brush and other potential fire fuels away from the house.

Not sure we could do any more. The TV coverage and city emergency website were pretty good.

not sure

Not being so particular on disposal of fire debris

Natural disasters are very hard to fully prepare for. I think the more important thing to talk about is how we as a Community reacted.

WILFIRE RESPONSE: HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

Make all aware of a Facebook page that would keep us apprised of current situation in one place.

Make a series of videos on how to prepare for a wildfire in our area.

Local/love coverage other than facebook.

Literature about how to prepare.

Just more awareness for how to be prepared. For example, not keeping your firewood against your house, spraying your yard/house down with a hose when fires are in the area (that's what we did for 2 days straight and we were spared by a few hundred feet). Other than that I think the response from the city was perfect, from what I've heard it was more a statewide issue of not having enough brush trucks sent, etc.

It was so difficult to know where to get information and where to get updates. We ended up finding the watch duty app and had to rely on that to centralize the information and clearly communicate actions we needed to take. Maybe there could be a city-wide opt-in text message service for emergency info.

It was an unprecedented event, but so proud of how the community responded.

It took far too long to inform residents that there was a problem. I was following residents' first hand accounts because the city was silent.

It seems with every disaster the community asks about places to seek shelter

It is a cost-benefit issue. We could invest tons of \$ for preparation for something that we'll never need again! Use the likelihood of fires to justify prevention. Not just more fire equipment, but fire breaks in the woods, and elimination of cedar trees.

Informing/notifying residents should have a system that sends text message or an app that notifies will be helpful for people not in facebook to follow the event updates

Inform the affected citizens of resources available to them

Increased disaster awareness training. Maybe opportunities for designated trained volunteers in various parts of the city?

Increased communication other than social media

In an event of this magnitude, residents depend on the services of the fire dept. The fire dept needs to be a high priority in the budget of the city. This is an essential function of local government. They need to have more than enough equipment to service the area, including the rural areas that surround the city. While this was a very unusual event, and permanent staffing to provide the needed protection is probably cost prohibitive, properly trained citizens could make up the difference. Most small towns have a volunteer fire dept. Stillwater should look into having a hybrid system of paid staff and on call volunteers (an auxiliary).

I'm not sure you can prepare for events like this

I wish there would have been something streaming on tv 31 or somewhere with more information. Most of the information I got was from Val and Amy Castors Facebook page.

WILFIRE RESPONSE: HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

I have understood that the community support has been amazing for those directly affected. It would be helpful for there to be an established, documented process for where/how to help with donations and volunteer activities and a distribution process for monetary donations. These things happened but I don't think that a week before people would have been aware of the process. Reactions may have been a little quicker.

I guess review and include things that need improvement

I feel that there is a good deal of planning within the city entities: the City, hospital, etc. I think you can only be so prepared...then you just have to put out the call. Stillwater will answer.

I don't think you can prepare for a disaster like that

I don't think there is much that can be done with the extremely dry conditions we had then.

Perhaps there could be green breaks outside housing areas

I don't know

I am not sure you can prepare for this type of emergency

I am impressed by the way it was handled and grateful for first responders, nonprofits, and a generous community in response. The promotion of the emergency alert system for folks to receive notifications is helpful too.

I am glad to see our local warning system better promoted, though everyone did an amazing job. First responders, the city, our rep., nonprofits, business community, etc. -- amazing.

Honestly not sure at this moment. In general, people should always be prepared for disasters by having important papers together that could be grabbed at a moment's notice. Just like having a tornado plan. Some naturally do this better than others.

Have adequate staff and equipment to handle the challenge

Have a website that would give "accurate" updates on what was going on during the time. We saw some evacuation maps but mostly just Facebook and other posts, that sometimes weren't accurate. We went to one of the City recommended shelters hoping someone there would know more than we were seeing on our phone, but they knew less than we did.

Have a centralized system that shares information. We had to use Facebook to find out where the fires were. For example, have a call/text/email system for everyone who uses the city for utilities or any services

Have a better communication system. We are signed up for emergency notifications yet received nothing. Someone saw it on facebook and let me know it was near my house. I was at work and my son was home alone and knew nothing.

Hard to prepare for 1 in a hundred year event

Get the cedar trees removed in undeveloped lots

Get rid of brush and cedars in areas close to homes.

Funding for cedar tree removal

Faster response

WILFIRE RESPONSE: HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

Discussing and education on fire resistance in yards and a fire break around our community.

Please talk to our local fire and rangeland researchers at OSU

Disaster preparedness education.

Focus on landscape modifications and other possible actions to directly reduce wild fire impacts.

Did the sirens ever go off? Or is there a better way to evacuate than the police going door to door? Texting? Also, have more dumpsters available.

Create adequate buffers between the urban-wildland interface

Continued communication

Community Awareness & Education

Emergency Alerts & Notifications: Strengthen communication channels like text alerts, apps, and sirens to quickly inform residents about fire risks and evacuation orders.

Wildfire Preparedness Workshops: Host regular community meetings and training sessions on fire safety, evacuation plans, and emergency response.

Fire-Resistant Landscaping Education: Teach homeowners how to maintain defensible spaces around their properties, using fire-resistant plants and proper debris removal.

Infrastructure & Land Management

Controlled Burns & Vegetation Management: Work with forestry services to reduce dry brush and fuel sources through prescribed burns and land clearing.

Fire-Resistant Building Codes: Encourage or mandate fire-resistant materials for homes and community buildings, such as metal roofing and ember-resistant vents.

Improved Water Access: Ensure fire hydrants and water sources are well-placed and accessible for firefighting efforts.

Community Preparedness & Emergency Response

Evacuation Planning: Establish clear routes and shelters, ensuring residents know their options in case of a wildfire.

Neighborhood Fire Safety Groups: Organize local volunteer teams trained in wildfire prevention and emergency response.

Grants & Funding: Secure resources to help residents make fire-resistant upgrades to homes and properties.

Communication. At the beginning, there was limited communication with residents on where actual fires were

Maybe utilise the tornado sirens with a different siren tone/length to warn of fires? Or some other sort of early auditory warning system? Honestly, as someone who has lived all over, including abroad, I think the SEMA folks did a really fantastic job of getting information out quickly and effectively (although I do think that having the same info that was on FB/IG stuck onto a page of the city's website would be extremely helpful for residents who don't use social media. Not even nice formatting, just copy/paste of info). And it could be publicised that social media and the website are the places to go if you aren't sure about what's happening and you'll find current info there.

WILFIRE RESPONSE: HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

clean up underbrush

Cedar tree clearing

Cedar removal

Can you truly be prepared

Better warning system, use tornado sirens, crack down on cedar management, disseminate info about firewise landscaping

Better information on the locations of the fires.

Better fire fighting infrastructure.

Better communication. Utilize ALL forms of communication rather than relying on social media.

Better communication. Use the TV Channel that you own. We had no idea where the fires were or which direction they were coming. Thank God for Channel 9 or we wouldn't have known anything. Communication was horrible!

An ongoing group that continues to offer support.

A report shared this week indicates on the day of the wildfires City of Stillwater had 5 million views on Facebook with 41,754 interactions. This shows a significant amount of engagement for our city and from Facebook.

/Encourage tree and weed control. I see both in places that seems no one owns. When clean up starts others will follow. Stress that we want to be inviting and safe.

Brush clearing, mobile alerts

Events like this are truly unexpected. No way to ever fully be prepared.

Even though I received information on the extreme wind threat and uniqueness of that day from our statewide news stations, I did not receive local alerts until much later in the day when the fire had already began. Maybe more local warnings through online messaging or text alerts to remind the community of being mindful of what not to do during weather events like that, or if being evacuated, local messaging on where you are recommended to evacuate to, as I did not know that the Payne County Expo Center had been opened as an evacuation site until much later into the evening on that day.

Eradicate large groves of red cedars.

Engage with the fire department educating the public.

ENCOURAGE BETTER LAND MANAGEMENT

Emergency preparedness so they know how to prepare

Emergency preparedness classes; could be organized for the larger neighborhoods

Emergency management should have sent out texts/broadcasts to those in our county.

Education and/or action to remove cedar trees and brush near homes

Educate on increasing likelihood of extreme weather events. Partner with local meteorologists/ professors of OSU at community forums to educate.

educate on fire mitigation strategies. Maybe basic knowledge for some but could help save more properties in future events.

WILFIRE RESPONSE: HOW COULD STILLWATER BETTER PREPARE RESIDENTS FOR EVENTS LIKE THIS?

I thought it was well communicated what was possible to happen. The SFD was outmanned by the high winds and raging fires. They probably couldn't have fared much better with another 50-100 fire trucks and double the personnel.

I think we learned from this first time residential event to be personally ready for evacuation (what to take and a plan for where to go). Tornadoes are no longer our only threat.

I think the warnings, preparation and response was top-notch

I think the documentary film District will show should be used as a jumping off place for conversations about just that topic.

I think the city did a great job

I think the city did a good job

I think our firefighters and policemen did a great job!!

The Swat Squad even came out and helped take away the fence and cut down burnt trees.

I think first responders handled it perfect

I think an annual emergency preparedness event - whether a luncheon or social media briefing?

Not sure. Rob does such an amazing job communicating when we have severe weather, I'm wondering if his social media can be leveraged to include live events/ messages on little things people can do to better prepare.

I personally think the evacuations were well planned, executed, and communicated. I saw a need for a specific plan for relief efforts. Exact items needed, where to bring them, how they will be distributed, etc. The plan was developed on the fly, which was impressive, but now is the time to learn and plan more clearly for future events.

My wife's dad was a fire fighter. California suffers from fires because of mismanagement. Brush and dead trees need to be cleared. A live tree is very much harder to set fire to. In California, they used to have the CCC. California Conservation Core. They were usually young men who didn't have a place, or direction in their lives. For working for the state, they'd be given clothes, shelter, food. They would do things like clear brush, clean up parks, clean up trash. Maybe we ought to have a program like that.

more warning, both day of and leading up to. encourage people to destroy cedars, and clean up lead piles and other fire hazards near homes

More shelters

More information beforehand about steps to take. Should sprinklers be turned on? What items are necessary to take with you? Etc...

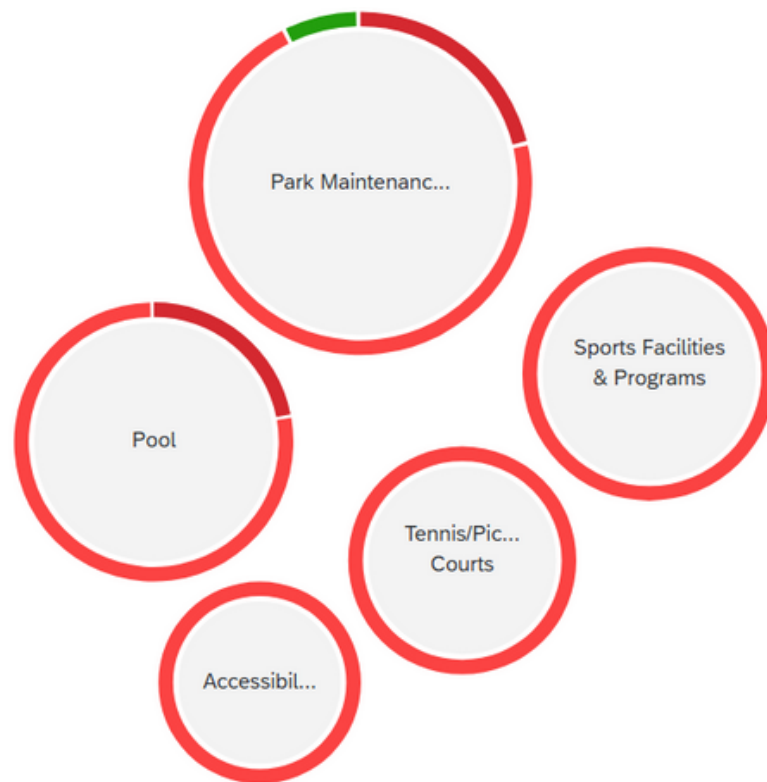
More firefighters

more fire protection vehicles

More accurate fire tracking, use of firetrucks to fight rural fires, security for evacuated neighborhoods.

doubtful we can do much more to prepare for catastrophic events such as the fire

WHICH PROGRAMS DO YOU FEEL NEED IMPROVEMENT, IN WHAT WAYS?



● Very negative ● Negative ● Mixed ● Positive ● Very positive ● Neutral

Would like to see at least one "baby" swing at any park with swings.

We need to take better care of our parks. We need a public pool for families

We need to reinstate parks and rec sports so lower income children learn the skills. The sports available before high school currently require a high financial investment leaving so many children out.

We need to bring back parks and rec sports. It saddens me that low income children are left out because club sports are so expensive.

We need more free options of things to do. Especially in the winter months, there aren't a lot of options.

We need better baseball and football facilities. My grandparents love to come watch my kids play, but the parking/walkways at Wittenburg and Strickland are too far away for them to access the fields. Close handicap parking with even paths to the fields is needed.

We need a swimming center/pool. There are no options unless you can afford a Colvin or Country club membership.

Walking trails

Trees and grass better maintained.

there is no transportation or sidewalks to get from one place to another.

There is a major issue with poison ivy overgrowth at Boomer Lake. It needs to be taken care of before many are affected. Even after removal, the oils can remain present on the ground for months.

The whole children's library area and program could be vastly improved.

the City needs to more adequately provide and maintain softball fields, more basketball courts are needed; the lack of an adequate swimming pool/water park is an embarrassment

WHICH PROGRAMS DO YOU FEEL NEED IMPROVEMENT, IN WHAT WAYS?

Stillwater's Parks & Recreation programs need significant improvement to meet the needs of local families, youth, and underserved neighborhoods. One of the most urgent gaps is in aquatics—our only municipal pool has been unreliable due to frequent closures, and most residents are left relying on the aging YMCA facility, which is expensive and often overcrowded. We need investment in new aquatic facilities that are affordable, open year-round, and accessible to all. Beyond that, there are very few free or low-cost recreational programs for youth and families. Teens, especially, lack safe, inclusive spaces to gather, play, or learn outside of school hours. Smaller neighborhood parks across Stillwater have aging or unsafe equipment, and many are missing basic amenities like restrooms, shaded areas, or inclusive play structures. Our trail system is another area in need of improvement—sidewalks and bike paths are inconsistent, leaving many residents without safe routes to walk or ride to local parks. Communication about available programs, scholarships, or community input opportunities is also limited, especially for lower-income or non-English-speaking families. By expanding low-cost programming, upgrading neighborhood parks, investing in aquatics, and improving trail connectivity and outreach, Stillwater could build a parks system that serves every resident—not just those who live near

Boomer Lake or can afford a YMCA membership.

Sports

Sidewalks and walking trails

replace missing park benches at boomer lake

Pickle Ball courts

Parks and recreation. Better facilities. The wealthy or connected to Osu have private facilities and the public has very little. The lack of amenities is obvious compared to other cities this size. No pool, no pickleball.

Park maintenance and landscaping. More outdoor workshops, events

Often broken

Not sure why the city isn't keeping up all its parks. It seems to not want to spend money in this area.

not sure

Need more extensive outdoor programming (hoping for this at Block 34).

Need better sports programs for youth

My experiences with SASA have not been good

The tennis courts by sprouts could really use some love

Mowing ragweed in Myers Park

Mowing at public parks - stop regular mowing of large areas. Just mow parts that are trafficked, like right next to a paved path. Open areas should be mowed infrequently (twice a year), promoting soil health, water retention, birds, and insects.

The Stillwater Public Library is a gem, providing great resources and interesting, engaging programming for everyone. As Federal support is cut, it is imperative to find ways to keep the Library as a strong community hub.

More organized events outdoor spaces - walk and learn, forest bathing, quiet hiking, group hikes, kite flying...etc

More opportunities for the youth, but you have to ask them what they want.

More classes, camps, events for children. Opportunity for recreational teams for those that enjoy the sport, but aren't going to make it professionally

Maintenance of the Kameoka Trail struggles to be consistent, which is understandable - it's off the beaten path for most residents. However, a public-private partnership might provide the opportunity to improve maintenance and upkeep, reducing the amount of time needed by City staff and improving the experience of trail-goers.

Keeping varied green spaces

IDK

WHICH PROGRAMS DO YOU FEEL NEED IMPROVEMENT, IN WHAT WAYS?

I would love to see the community get involved in more adult sports programming. I don't feel like the offerings are advertised very well, and participation in adult sports seems to be pretty low. I would love to see better advertising on adult community sports. For me to find out the offerings, I had to know someone who knew someone who was involved in an adult sport being hosted through SASA.

I know it sounds crazy but a couple more parks wouldn't be bad

I feel like our parks need a huge improvement. We could have more and keeping them in good shape. We had one off of 9th, that was demolished, and still have no rebuilt. I know there are rumors that Stillwater wants to do away with a lot of the parks, and that makes me sick to my stomach. There are a lot of families that can not afford to buy a play set (which are always over \$500 if not close to \$1000 for one with slides and swing sets), and rely on public parks for their kids. We have to focus on our future.

I am sad we don't have a community pool or water park similar to Cushing. The splash pad is a fun addition, but I would love to see that expanded. Youth sports facilities are extremely important to me as well.

I am always a little leary of the bathrooms at the parks- the homeless population uses them (and I don't fault them for that, really) I just never know if it's safe to send my son into the men's room anymore.

Handicap changing stations for non - infants.

Easy access

Continue to provide upgrade to Boomer Lake area and McMurtry.

City pool, YMCA

City pool - more fun features such as slides, lazy river, etc.

Build the playground at Myer! It was supposed to be starting in June

Boomer Lake- needs more patrolling to feel safe. That has changed in recent years to where I'm always on guard. People chase the geese, litter, deface property with graffiti and it's sad. Also, I feel like they are aggressive in clearing out some of the areas close to the water where animals need places to hide.

Bike routes

Better walking and rolling infrastructure. Stillwater has a plethora of people who walk or roll and it is so hard to get to where you need to when there is no sidewalk, no curb cuts (not ADA compliant), walk signs do not stay on long enough, when crosswalks are so faded you can barely see them, the side walk is broken, there are no protected bike lanes, bike lanes are not maintained, etc.

Available public swimming and water activity

Availability and affordability of child care.

Almost all but Strickland need some love. New equipment, better maintenance.

Acoustics in the Community Center are horrible in the auditorium. I refuse to use it for any events because you can't hear or carry on a conversation in there.

Red more parks like ouch scattered across the city. Parks need to be more than swing sets. Concessions open regularly.

It would be nice if they had more kids events at the botanical garden

The city dog park is a mat of weeds that desperately needs a makeover

Tennis courts—we need more of them, and free public pickleball courts that are separate from the tennis courts.

Tennis courts or pickleball courts. It would be nice to have more than just the couch park courts and some courts for just pickleball.

Teens don't have a lot of options. It would be great to see a focus on the 10-18 age range that isn't sports or school related.

Summer sports

WHAT NEW ADDITIONS ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SEEING?

Would like to see assessable playground equipment and shade structures added as parks get updated.
Water park, skating rinks, facilities for activities like volleyball, badminton, croquet, with associated equipment checkout. Things for adults, not just kids. These need to be scattered around town, Not just in one place that requires a crosstown trip

The rails-to-trails project is exciting. Continuing the work to connect Boomer to Couch Park would be great.

Tennis and pickleball courts
swimming beach boomer lake

Stillwater needs a modern, affordable community recreation center with indoor space for sports, fitness, and year-round programming. A new aquatic facility is long overdue—something accessible to all residents, with swim lessons, family swim time, and open hours that work for working families. I'd also love to see more inclusive and interactive public spaces like a children's museum, play cafés, or a community food hall with outdoor seating and safe play areas. In our neighborhoods, I'd like to see safer and more connected sidewalks and bike paths, along with updated playgrounds and shaded areas in local parks. Finally, I'm interested in seeing more consistent and affordable community events—things like seasonal festivals, teen nights, and weekend programs that create connection and belonging for everyone who calls Stillwater home.

Something for the youth.

Safety Town

Renovation of dog park, addition of second dog park near boomer lake trail for NE portion of town

Rail to trails

Public pool, pickleball.

Public pool and water activity

Pool

Pickleball courts and public pool

Pickleball courts

Pickle Ball courts

Parks that are immersive with nature - less cleared out and landscaped, more natural and build with the environment surrounding them.

Parks

Not specifically Parks & Rec, but improved library spaces. I know we have new soccer facilities on 12th St. but improving parking and fields at Babcock would be great and allow for more tournaments in town

New swimming pool and pickleball courts

Need better sports facilities for youth

More walking trails

more walkable bike riding opportunities

More walkability throughout town. Excited to see Block 34 emerge and how we use that as a common gathering place.

More trees

More side walks

More paved walking trails.

More parks being taken care of.

More parks and a big public pool.

WHAT NEW ADDITIONS ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SEEING?

More natural habitat. The Gardens do a beautiful job of maintaining the natural beauty!
More events with music, food trucks, activities for families of all types - those with and without children.

More benches at Boomer facing the water. I can show you where. Finish Kameoka Trail!
If we could have more equipment at Couch Park or another park in general, this would be great!
I'd love our little park, Myers Park, to get new equipment. It's only a few blocks from our house and while we use the swings frequently, the playground equipment was damaged and removed earlier this year. A friend who is on city council told me that park is slated for new equipment at some point, but right now it's a mulch plot.

I'm very excited for Block 34.

I would love a new/renovated outdoor basketball court somewhere
I don't know if it will be considered a park....but I am interested in seeing Block 34 and all it has to offer once it is completed. :)

I can't wait to see Block 34 utilized - it looks amazing. Programming will be key!

Dedicated bike/walking trails (gravel is fine)
community ball field space to hold tournaments that bring in outside tax dollars
City pool or water park, quality YMCA

City of Stillwater owned pool!!!

Block 34, Kameoka Trail rail-to-trail project – which the SCF should totally fund some shaded sitting structures or water fountains.

Block 34

Bike rentals around the area

Better sidewalks

As above.

Aquatics Center, Walking trails/greenway, a way to access the botanic gardens by bike or foot safely.

Airport expansion

A new city pool.

A multiuse community center with a pool and gym. Not the Y or OSU both are limited and some of the activities are way too expensive or crowded.

A legit municipal pool/water park.

A beer garden would be awesome!

HOW CAN WE IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS & ACCESSIBILITY?

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have more flights daily from our airport

We need better bike lanes

We are not doing too bad but we don't have the funding to maintain what we have.

Transportation has been a topic ever since I moved here nearly 30 years ago. There have been great improvements. Keep bringing those that need together to discuss their needs. It's expensive but communities need public, accessible transportation. Providing safe, walkable/bikeable ways could alleviate some of the need.

The Bus doesn't come close enough to me (SW Stillwater) to be of use.

Support Stillwater BPAC efforts to encourage the city to connect our current bicycle network by focusing on key connections that will create the beginnings of a usable connected network.

Support current efforts to increase funding for sidewalks and pedestrian/bicycle infrastructure.

Stillwater needs to improve sidewalk and bike path connectivity across the entire city—not just around campus or major parks. Many neighborhoods have incomplete or unsafe sidewalks, making it difficult for kids to walk to school, families to access parks, or residents to get to stores without a car. We also need protected bike lanes that actually connect people to useful destinations, not just a few painted lines that start and stop randomly. Public transportation should be expanded and better advertised, with more frequent and predictable routes that serve working families, students, and seniors. Finally, we need to prioritize ADA-compliant crossings, ramps, and transit access so everyone—regardless of ability—can get around town safely and independently.

Stillwater needs better connections through public transportation for our residents who don't have other options. The current system is focused on OSU students and nominally serves the community but does not do it well or on a comprehensive schedule.

Spread the word about cycling laws and are humans.

Some roads get redone while side roads just get patched and they continue to get worse in some areas.

Slow down traffic in pedestrian-centric areas and neighborhoods using science-based and proven methods (of course, not to prohibit handicap parking !!) Even closing off some downtown streets to pedestrian-only (maybe even only after certain times of day when pedestrians are out and about more). So many people walk and bike only in Stillwater, especially on the bridge on Main St. heading south right after you pass the animal shelter- that bridge is so narrow and sooo many pedestrians use it. Wider sidewalks, more sidewalks, maintaining sidewalks.

Sideways. especially down 51 and Sangre.

Sidewalks!!!

Sidewalks in our neighborhoods. It stinks to not be able to take our kids on walks around our neighborhood or hood safely

Sidewalks

Routinely use the direct DFW flight and hope for an addition to Chicago

ROADS! Our roads are in horrible shape. Rework roads along with the adjacent sidewalks.

Require new neighborhoods to build sidewalks.

Repair roadways! There are many roads that need resurfaced.

remove american airlines

Provide public transportation on the weekends. BIKE LANES, PLEASE ADD PROTECTED, PAINTED BIKE LANES. Do not continue to design and build Stillwater with a car-centric mindset

HOW CAN WE IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS & ACCESSIBILITY?

Pave sidewalks where neighborhoods do not reach major sidewalk infrastructure already in existence.
I.e., 19th street from neighborhoods to the north and along Range Road.

Pave airport parking area

New airport terminals will be nice

Need connections to Kansas City or Chicago

Need more public transport stops throughout town

My children and I would ride bikes all around town if there were proper sidewalks/easements for us to use. We can't bike down/across 51, so we can't get to the Botanic gardens or easily get to campus, but we would if there was a safe way.

More sidewalks! Better bike lanes and protection for cyclists

more sidewalks and wide paths around the city

More public and handicapped access transportation

More multi-use paths and repairing damaged sidewalks. I have friends and family who use wheelchairs and walkers, and many of the sidewalks are nearly unnavigable in their current state.

More FREE parking.

More connecting sidewalks

More airlines or destinations

Make gravel bike/walking trails alongside major roads like 51

It is really either too hot or cold for people to wait for busses much of the year here and it seems that the buses are mostly empty. Would it work to have mini-busses, weather shelters at stops and a wider coverage area?

It is being worked on but staff is taking too long to get projects designed and under contract

Improve traffic flow through the town. Less stop lights .

Improve the streets

Improve the connectivity of bicycle trails in the City

Improve streets, widen when necessary

Improve sidewalks especially in the center of town. Many need repairs due to buckling.

Ideally, walking routes (sidewalks) should not be right along roads where cars are driving 40-45mph (12th Street, Country Club). It's best to have separate pedestrian walking routes, or have a barrier (trees, etc.) or at the very least, set the sidewalk back from the road.

I would absolutely love to use public transportation, but the nearest stop is a mile from my house.

I think we are ready for cab service, and some for handicap individuals. Also have someone available to help with packages etc.

I personally don't use public transportation, but I know it is not sufficient to help people that rely on it to get to work and around town. I appreciate OSU but we need to enhance routes and schedules to have year round services that assist people to get to work especially with new companies coming to town on the north end of Stillwater.

I love that we have the airport now, and excited to see as it expands

I don't use them very often because I am scared too, but I wish there was some way to improve the bicycle lanes. There is so much traffic in this town during certain times of the year and I fear getting ran over! I love the bicycle trails that stem from Boomer Lake.

HOW CAN WE IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS & ACCESSIBILITY?

I am very pleased with the transportation options in Stillwater! I don't use them often, but I am glad they are there for others!

Get United to come in with a flight to Denver.

Establish a dedicated trails system!

Connect the schools with sidewalks

Biking could be safer and easier. Improve bike infrastructure within the area bordered by Lakeview, 12th street, Perkins Road and Western.

Bike paths

better walking and biking paths, without using public streets

Better sidewalks. They need more consistency and up keep. Some are either grown over by weeds, cracked or simply not connected and they just end.

better bus schedule that goes to outer edges of stillwater

again the streets are a mess. Water lines are always broken and street torn up or just the overall condition of the streets are not suitable.

Adult changing stations around the community

Add more sidewalks near

Actually have bike lanes that are continuous. It's dangerous to ride in this town due to inconsistent bike lanes and poor driving behavior of other members of community

More left turn lanes on busy streets