

Community Values Questions – Common Themes

The Newberg 2030 Citizen Planning Committee and Technical Advisory Committee created a list of 10 questions aimed at getting feedback around community values. The approach has been to ask one question per week, both in physical form on posters at five locations around town where citizens can write directly on the posters, and electronically on social media platforms. We received a lot of great citizen input, both online and on the posters, which is summarized below.

Overall Themes

- Newberg has a great community “feel”, community events, and spirit of friendliness and volunteerism; people like the size and location of Newberg
- Need for better bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, including multi-use paths and off-street trails
- Need better public transportation, as well as better bus stops
- Need to fix the roads and sidewalks throughout town
- Lacking family friendly entertainment options (bowling alley was requested many times in the comments)
- Perception that water bills & fees are too high; lack of affordable housing options
- Citizens would like to see a thriving, pedestrian friendly downtown and development of the riverfront area

Key themes per question

Question #1: What makes Newberg a great place to live?

- Community – small town feel, community values/spirit, friendly people, community events
- Size
- Location

Question #2: What is Newberg missing that would make it a really great place to live?

- Family friendly entertainment options – bowling alley, dancing, skating rink, art events
- Community hub/public space
- Walking/biking paths/trails
- More shopping opportunities
- More restaurants
- Affordable housing

Question #3: What sort of things should the city be working on to make Newberg a great place to live?

- Improve the roads
- Improve sidewalks throughout town
- Be more bike/ped friendly – better roads & sidewalks, bike lanes, multi-use paths, pedestrian indicators

Question #4: What are your favorite elements of your favorite cities/towns?

- Ambiance of community
- Walkable community
- Public art
- Bike/ped trails
- Public spaces – with art, fountains, trees, flowers

Question #5: What are Newberg's best opportunities for the future?

- Development along the river
- Family friendly entertainment options
- Maintain the community feel – events, arts

Question #6: What are the weaknesses of the Newberg community?

- High water bills & extra fees on the water bills
- Lack of affordable housing
- Poor roads and sidewalks
- Lack of public transportation & adequate bus shelters

Question #7: What are the strengths of the Newberg community?

- The citizens – people care, citizen involvement and volunteerism, friendly people
- Schools, churches, library
- The arts

Question #8: The city can best prepare for future growth by...

- Providing affordable housing
- Better bike/ped facilities
- Fix the roads and sidewalks
- More parks
- Provide amenities such as family friendly entertainment and larger businesses

Question #9: Why do you leave Newberg and go to other cities?

- Work
- Shopping
- Restaurants
- Outdoor activities, such as biking and hiking

Question #10: In 10 years, Newberg should have the following changes...

- Bike/ped trails
- Downtown – pedestrian friendly, thriving businesses
- Lower water bills
- More family friendly entertainment
- More affordable housing
- Improved roads
- Better public transportation & bus stops
- Riverfront development