
RESPONSE STATISTICS

There were a total of 98 Surveys Returned. The number after each priority issue is the total number of individuals who responded the question.

PRIORITY ISSUE #1: Enhance Pedestrian and Automobile Routes

Most commonly chosen implementation tools to achieve priority issue.

Reduce the existing 30-MPH speed limit on residential streets to 20-MPH. 96

66 stated it was an Appropriate action – 69%

30 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 31%

Identify streets and sidewalks to be restored to brick to serve as a transition to the neighborhood and a means to enhance neighborhood character. 91

69 stated it was an Appropriate action – 76%

22 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 24%

Designate and sign a truck route to protect pedestrians and brick streets. 94

58 stated it was an Appropriate action – 87%

9 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 13%

Increase street and alley lighting to make neighborhood more pedestrian friendly. 91

49 stated it was an Appropriate action – 78%

17 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 22%

PRIORITY ISSUE #2: Support Neighborhood Institutions – Support Neighborhood Programs – Preserve/Retain/Improve Activity Centers

Most commonly chosen implementation tools to achieve priority issue.

Organize a group of volunteer workers and materials to help fix homes and yards of elderly and/or low-income homeowners. 95

64 stated it was an Appropriate action – 95%

5 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 5%

Expand public/private temporary shelter and other programs for the homeless. 84

42 stated it was an Appropriate tool – 68%

20 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 32%

PRIORITY ISSUE #3: Protect/Enhance Neighborhood Greenspace, Streetscapes and Other Physical Assets.

Most commonly chosen implementation tools to achieve priority issue.

Restore and maintain limestone curbs and hitching posts. 86

49 stated it was an Appropriate action – 76%

13 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 24%

Create small parks from vacant lots. (Note): There was some feeling that the interest in pocket parks stems from the mistrust of those who would develop houses on the lots to do it in a way that would enhance the neighborhood. Design guidelines may help this situation.) 88

47 stated it was an Appropriate action – 69%

17 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 31%

Designate wildlife areas on undeveloped land to maintain natural character. 91

51 stated it was an Appropriate action – 78%

14 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 22%

Develop one or more community gardens. 87

58 stated it was an Appropriate action – 87%

5 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 13%

Identify private and public funding sources and develop a schedule for restoring brick streets and sidewalks. 90

54 stated it was an Appropriate action – 82%

10 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 17%

Purchase the old Sale Barn lot and create a park connecting Hobbs Park with Brook Creek Park – This is the three acre parcel which is adjacent to Hobbs Park on 11th St. It is currently listed for sale as an industrial site. 90

58 stated it was an Appropriate action – 86%

8 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 13%

PRIORITY ISSUE #4: Develop Effective Code Enforcement – Land Use & Zoning –Housing Issues

Most commonly chosen implementation tools to achieve priority issue.

Identify problem property owners with multiple and repeat violations and require corrective action to be taken. 98

65 stated it was an Appropriate action – 90%

7 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 10%

Develop special zoning for older portions of East Lawrence Neighborhood that will respect the original smaller lots and historic architectural styles. 89

57 stated it was an Appropriate action – 89%

6 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 11%

Adopt a plan for affordable housing projects that requires remodeling and new construction to be compatible with existing housing in East Lawrence. 92

55 stated it was an Appropriate action – 83%

12 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 17%

Implement a city code for rental properties that requires regular inspections to insure that proper maintenance and living conditions are being provided. 95

54 stated it was an Appropriate action – 76%

14 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 24%

Pass measures to discourage demolition of historic buildings by neglect. 92

56 stated it was an Appropriate action – 82%

11 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 18%

Reward property owners for reducing multi-family units when restoring property to single-family use. 84

47 stated it was an Appropriate action – 82%

11 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 18%

PRIORITY ISSUE #5: Preserve & Conserve Existing Physical Neighborhood Landmarks

Most commonly chosen implementation tools to achieve priority issue.

Develop a building permit fee schedule that charges lower fees for remodeling projects than for new building construction. 92

60 stated it was an Appropriate action – 88%

8 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 12%

Maximize financial incentives by combining them together to address the preservation, rehabilitation and conservation of the character of East Lawrence: 80

a. for rehabilitation of residential property

Examples: Property Tax Reduction or Abatement, Community Development Block Grant Funds, Revolving Loan Fund for Housing Code Compliance, Revolving Loan Fund for Rehabilitation and Sale of problem properties, Emergency Stabilization Loans, Design Assistance, State/Federal Housing and Tax Credit Programs

b. for rehabilitation of commercial properties

Examples: Tax increment financing, Rehabilitation Loan Corporation programs, Parking Benefit District, Commercial Façade Rebate Program, etc.

c. for rehabilitation of institutional buildings such as AME Church, Social Service League, etc. Example: Emergency Stabilization Loans, Federal Preservation Tax Credits, Federal Preservation Grant in Aid programs

54 stated it was an Appropriate action – 99%

0 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 1%

Aim Federal block grants toward projects that improve and maintain the character of the neighborhood. 96

64 stated it was an Appropriate action – 91%

6 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 9%

Revise appraisal policies for older properties in order to encourage rehabilitation (remodeling) and remove the incentive to neglect or demolish. 96

65 stated it was an Appropriate action – 91%

5 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 9%

Establish a “Bureau of Home Improvement” to serve as a clearinghouse for expertise and equipment for home improvement activities. 87

51 stated it was an Appropriate action – 78%

13 stated it was an Not an appropriate action – 22%

DESIGN GUIDELINES SURVEY RESPONSES.

80 individuals completed the Design Guidelines section of the survey.

- A. Design Guidelines should address one or more of the following:
- Paint colors. - 6
 - Landscaping. - 21
 - Ensure compatibility of additions or alterations to the proportion, scale and size of the existing building. - 44
 - Require when possible, repair rather than replacement of important architectural features. Replacement materials should match the original in composition, design, and texture. - 43
 - Prohibit if possible the removal or alteration of distinctive architectural features or materials. - 46
 - Respect changes that have taken place over time that are evidence of the development of the building structure and environment. - 34
 - Promote preservation of examples of skilled craftsmanship. -54
 - Ensure that new additions or alterations leave the essential form and integrity of the original building unimpaired. -38
- B. Regarding alterations and/or additions to buildings in East Lawrence over 50 years of age —
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- Design Guidelines should apply to all properties over 50 years in age. - 26
 - Design Guidelines should only apply to properties or areas which are listed on or determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. - 29
 - Design Guidelines should be advisory only. -23
 - Design Guidelines should be required for properties/property owners that receive incentives. - 25
 - Design Guidelines should be legally binding (i.e. designated by ordinance for properties listed as a landmark, historic district, or conservation district) and be reviewed by city preservation staff. - 34
 - Only if 50% of the property owners petition to have binding guidelines and review. - 9
 - Only if 60% of the property owners petition to have binding guidelines and review. - 6
 - Only if 75% of the property owners petition to have binding guidelines and review. - 13
 - Design Guidelines should be legally binding (i.e. designated by ordinance for properties listed as a landmark, historic district or conservation district) and require review by the Lawrence Historic Resources Commission. - 25
 - Only if 50% of the property owners petition to have binding guidelines and review. - 7
 - Only if 60% of the property owners petition to have binding guidelines and review. -4
 - Only if 75% of the property owners petition to have binding guidelines and review. - 11
 - Design guidelines should include city-owned property including structures and buildings, sidewalks, streets, landscape elements. - 35
- C. For new construction in East Lawrence design guidelines should address the:
- Appropriateness of materials to what exists in the neighborhood. - 49
 - Appropriateness of scale to adjacent buildings in the neighborhood. - 47
 - Appropriateness of size to adjacent buildings in the neighborhood. - 48
 - Appropriateness of height to adjacent buildings in the neighborhood. - 47
 - Appropriateness of placement and relationship on a lot to existing buildings/structures. - 47

SECTION G – SURVEY II RESULTS

- D. For demolition of buildings in East Lawrence over 50 years of age:
- Guidelines should approve only demolition that has minimal impact on the historic, architectural, cultural, and/ or economic character of the neighborhood. - 33
 - Guidelines should allow demolition only when the cost of rehabilitation is documented to exceed the economic use of the property after rehabilitation, causing a significant hardship upon the owner. - 35
 - Guidelines should not allow “demolition by neglect” i.e. demolition when the property owner has allowed the property to deteriorate and/or failed to meet building maintenance codes. -39

INDIVIDUALS WHO RESPONDED TO THE SURVEY ALSO INDICATED THE FOLLOWING ACTION TOOLS SHOULD BE USED TO ACHIEVE THE PRIORITY ISSUE

PRIORITY ISSUE #1: Enhance Pedestrian and Automobile Routes

- A. Enact measures to slow and reduce through-traffic in East Lawrence
1. *Create a network of opposing one-way streets to discourage through-traffic.* - 2
 2. *Add stop signs along 13th Street to slow traffic.* -6
 3. *Create a 4-way stop at 10th Street and New Hampshire.* - 11
 5. *Expand school zone to include Connecticut.* - 6
 6. *Add signalized crosswalks near schools, Social Service League, and Salvation Army.* - 6
- B. Improve and maintain infrastructure to enhance character of neighborhood.
1. *Develop a neighborhood transportation plan that customizes street and sidewalk dimensions, curb radii, set back requirements and other physical conditions that complement the character of East Lawrence.* - 2
 2. *Require utilities to post bond when work impacts historic streets & sidewalks.* - 5
 3. *Trim trees and bushes to make sidewalks passable.* - 12
 5. *To maintain brick sidewalks, make surplus brick available to property owners.* - 9
 6. *Define pedestrian routes and bike lanes.* - 7

PRIORITY ISSUE #2: Support Neighborhood Institutions & Programs-Preserve/Retain/Improve Activity Centers

- A. Create & manage programs geared toward children, families, elders and other specific groups by identifying funding sources and partnerships in the community
1. *Maximize children’s programming at the East Lawrence Community Center.* - 11
 2. *Open school libraries for after school use.* - 10
 3. *Develop neighborhood-based day-care.* - 6
 4. *Create programs that teach parenting skills.* - 8
 5. *Create eldercare programs.* - 8
- B. Develop partnerships and programs that encourage neighborhood beautification.
1. *Hold semiannual alley/neighborhood clean-up days.* - 12
 2. *Encourage businesses and institutions to “adopt-a-block” for regular clean-ups.* - 9
 3. *Organize an annual “most improved house” contest to encourage renovation.* - 9
- C. Initiate activities that foster neighborhood connection.
1. *Hold annual block/alley parties.* - 13
 2. *Establish a neighborhood business subcommittee to the neighborhood association.* - 2
- D. Publish a neighborhood directory, including “who to call” for services at City Hall. - 9

SECTION G – SURVEY II RESULTS

PRIORITY ISSUE #3: Protect/Enhance Neighborhood Greenspace, Streetscapes and Other Physical Assets

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- A. Improve and maintain historic infrastructure to enhance character of neighborhood.
 - 1. *Preserve alleys and the historic outbuildings that front onto them.* - 5
 - 2. *Require that the materials of off-street parking areas match street material.* - 0
 - B. Initiate measures that encourage maintenance and enhancement of existing streetscapes, i.e. trees, limestone curbs, etc.
 - 1. *Establish a street-tree inspection and maintenance program that includes a schedule for annual tree-trimming and permitting system for tree removal.* - 9
 - 2. *Plant new street trees to replace those that die.* - 12
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- 3. *Offer tree-trimming services to low-income property owners.* - 13
 - 4. *Improve and maintain plantings (shrubs, perennials) in public easements and alleys.* -10
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- 5. *Encourage shared gardens and interior parks in backyards and along alleys.* - 5
 - 6. *Improve greenspace buffers between residential areas and commercial and industrial areas.* - 7
 - 7. *Provide dumpsters for semiannually disposal of yard waste/large household trash items.* - 8
 - 8. *Encourage yard maintenance by increasing fees for City clean-up and mowing of lots.* - 7
 - 9. *Designate qualified streetscapes as historic resources on the National, Kansas or Lawrence register of historic places.* - 9
 - 10. *Enact a "pooper-scooper" law to encourage clean-up after pets.* - 8
 - 11. *Eliminate on-street parking.* -4
- c. Enhance public and semi-public areas including greenspace.
 - 1. *Develop additional recreational facilities in public parks (such as tennis courts).* -1
 - 2. *Encourage a land set-aside program for new industrial development.* -3

PRIORITY ISSUE #4: Develop Effective Code Enforcement – Land Use & Zoning - Housing Issues

- A. Tailor codes and zoning to recognize the unique character of East Lawrence.
 - 1. *Reevaluate property maintenance codes and develop enforcement guidelines specific to the neighborhood.* -4
 - 2. *Develop commercial and residential building and fire codes for East Lawrence buildings over fifty years of age based on models adopted in other communities.* - 4
 - 3. *Develop model zoning and building codes that allow multiple uses.* - 3
 - 4. *Tailor new subdivision regulations to mirror existing patterns in East Lawrence with regard to: required site improvements, minimum lot sizes, street width, provision of alleys.* - 3
 - 5. *Encourage sensitive development of vacant parcels of land.* - 5
 - 6. *Add historic restoration and rehabilitation to 804 Architectural Student Projects.* - 7
- B. Identify resources for assisting property owners with code compliance prior to implementing/revising regulations. - 3
- C. Offer low-income property owners grants and/or low-interest loans for minor home improvements in conjunction with inspections. - 10
- D. Develop neighborhood resources to assist in minor home repair/rehabilitation projects. - 12
- E. Offer a free paint program. - 6
- F. Provide additional time to correct code/maintenance problems.
 - 1. *Conduct a housing survey to document condition of properties in East Lawrence to provide information for targeting of incentive programs.* - 4
 - 2. *Provide for large-item pick-up on a seasonal basis.* - 6
 - 3. *Provide neighborhood trash cans and ensure they are emptied regularly.* - 3
- G. Routinely inspect railroad right-of-way during mowing season and regularly notify and enforce compliance with Property Maintenance Code. - 2
- H. Implement a "Community Code Enforcement" similar to Community Policing concept, particularly as it relates to enforcement personnel. - 1
- I. Create a Code Enforcement Task Force that could involve all or some of the following individuals, the Police Department, Prosecutor/Municipal Judge, Code Enforcement Officers, Social Service

SECTION G – SURVEY II RESULTS

Agencies, churches, and neighborhood representatives to review the current process for identification, citation and punishment of code violators; and to create a new process for increasing the number of contacts and compliance utilizing neighborhood resources to assist. - 1

J. Address neighborhood concerns about rental housing.

1. *Develop financing mechanisms that encourage single-family home ownership, especially by low to moderate-income families/individuals.* - 8
2. *Create a neighborhood preservation overlay to encourage the retention of single-family uses and limit the conversion of single-family homes into multi-family dwellings.* - 5
3. *Strictly enforce codes issues on rental properties.* - 4
4. *Develop a clear understanding of Section 8 guidelines and develop an inspection program.* - 2
5. *Implement a City Code for rental occupancy and provide regular inspections of rental property.* - 5

K. Develop measures that encourage the peaceful coexistence of different neighborhood uses (single-family, multi-family, institutional, commercial, and industrial).

1. *Develop a model zoning ordinance and building codes that allow mixed uses.* - 4
2. *Define and preserve buffers around the residential areas of East Lawrence.* - 3
3. *Define areas suitable for new commercial uses in East Lawrence.* - 3
4. *Incorporate institutional and commercial development plans into the neighborhood plan.* - 3
5. *Develop incentives that make it attractive for artists to work and live in East Lawrence.* - 2
6. *Develop a code for home-based businesses concerning parking, noise and trash removal.* - 2

PRIORITY ISSUE #5: Preserve/Conserve Existing Physical Neighborhood Landmarks

A. Eliminate hindrances to rehabilitation.

1. *Develop incentives to encourage occupancy of older buildings, such as tax incentives for owners who occupy or businesses that lease space in older buildings.* - 7
2. *Develop a lower fee for building permits for rehabilitation than for new construction.* - 7
3. *Exempt owners of properties that follow design guidelines from building permit fees.* - 4
4. *Offer owners incentives for renovating buildings in conformance with design guidelines.* - 5
5. *Promote shared off-street parking.* - 5
6. *Develop or adapt a building and maintenance code for older buildings based on proven models in other communities.* - 4
7. *Publish a newsletter to market older and historic properties.* - 3

C. Ensure the protection of significant neighborhood landmarks such as the AME Church, New York School, etc.

1. *Pursue designation of significant neighborhood landmarks to the National, Kansas and/or Lawrence register of historic places.* - 9
2. *Develop reuse strategies for significant neighborhood landmarks that are not being utilized.* - 6

D. Establish support programs for residential, commercial and institutional property owners.

1. *Use the Main Street Model to assure commercial design is compatible with the historical character of the neighborhood.* - 6
2. *Assign a planning staff member to assist owners in developing financing strategies for rehabilitation and for codes compliance.* - 5
3. *Assemble a "tool kit" of existing federal, state and local funding and incentive programs that are applicable to East Lawrence; and provide funding for a neighborhood association coordinator with experience in developing financing strategies for rehabilitation and codes compliance using available incentives.* - 6

E. Encourage public agencies to occupy, rehabilitate and maintain historic buildings. - 5

F. Establish Design Guidelines to protect neighborhood character. -6

The following are comments were received from survey respondents.

Priority Issue # 1 Comments: Enhance Pedestrian and Automobile Routes.

- Reduce speed on selected residential streets. Leave Connecticut at 30 mph.
- A whole neighborhood transportation plan for streets seems necessary.
- See people drive more carefully.
- Don't put truck route down the smaller roads – Keep it on Connecticut, Haskell, 13th etc.
- Look at traffic calming ideas along Connecticut Street. This would be better than 4-way stops.
- Add stop signs to Connecticut Street.
- Need street-light at the corner of 10th and NJ near New York School.
- Sometimes wreckers and City trucks drive too fast.
- Trucks need access to businesses and to residences (eg. Trash trucks. Postal and delivery vans). Efforts to make streets unfriendly to vehicles are counter-productive and unnecessarily costly.
- Clearly mark truck routes.
- Truck routes need to be decided with neighborhood input.
- The large digital speed indicator helps to slow people down.
- I also think those accountable for impassible sidewalks should be held accountable.
- Brick sidewalks need repair work and maintenance.
- Repair sidewalks and ramps to make it easier to walk and push strollers.
- Use brick streets to slow down traffic.
- Repair and maintain existing alley ways
- Repair streets and potholes.
- Do not restore brick streets. (4)
- Improve concrete sidewalks. (3)
- Connect sidewalks that dead-end (like the NE corner of 15th and New York.)
- Repair gutters and curbs.
- Need better crosswalks and markings especially on Connecticut Street.
- Leave streets paved.
- No additional lighting. We like to see the stars and the sky.
- Build East Lawrence By-Pass. (2)
- Safety and security are much more important than brick streets. I do not want any of my money going to brick streets.
- Use traffic calming techniques.
- Alley lighting would encroach on my personal space.
- Fix brick streets for “speed control.”
- Fix houses to make neighbor's appearance look better.
- Remove weeds from existing brick sidewalks.

Priority Issue #2 Comments: Support Neighborhood Institutions & Programs – Reserve/Retain/Improve Activity Centers.

- Sponsor neighborhood garage sale.
- Would like to see an activity center for neighborhood children.
- Daytime programs and areas for preschool aged children at Recreation Center or other locations.
- Get a city-wide curbside recycling program.
- No one in town should be homeless. Anyone can get a job and low income housing.
- We own our houses so if they are dangerous that is not anyone's concern but ours.
- Keep schools open longer and use for other activities. (3)

- Employ homeless in implementing tools for advancing specific priority issues.
- Employ homeless in implementing tools for advancing specific priority issues.
- I would like to concentrate energies on other issues (other than expanding public/private temporary shelter programs for the homeless). This should be a city issue.
- Although homelessness may need to be addressed – I don't think this the appropriate forum. I would rather see the promotion of youth activities after school, block parties, etc.
- Do not close local schools – invest in improving schools to the same level as newer Lawrence Schools.
- ELIA should work with community to encourage social services all over town.]
- Find a way to inspire and encourage residents to take pride in their yards and make necessary improvements.

Priority Issue #3 Comments: Protect/Enhance Neighborhood Greenspace, Streetscapes and other Physical Assets.

- Lots of green- nature is always good.
- More Greenspace.
- Yes: more open space, gardens, parks, natural areas.
- Greenspace needs to be preserved.
- Encourage landscaping and planting both along streets and alleys.
- Parks in this part of town are nice. Maybe more landscaping could be done.
- Neighborhood youth groups could utilize empty lots for gardening projects – they could raise plants/produce for sale or home use. My maintaining a garden plot the youth would learn life skills as well as a sense of pride of ownership in the neighborhood.
- Promote the exchange of flowering plants and shrubs throughout neighborhood where excess plants occur through regular gardening maintenance. ie. Thinning of bushes and bulbs.
- Offer gardening/landscaping workshops.
- Believe we should have individuals/groups to take care of some of the green space areas and create blooming areas such as an All American Rose Garden.
- Yes: single-family housing, preserve historic architecture.
- Stop Tree Cutting.
- Do not eliminate on-street parking.

Priority Issue #4 Comments: Develop Effective Code Enforcement – Land Use & Zoning Housing Issues.

- I believe that implementing a code for rental properties would reduce the availability of low-cost housing.
- Enforcement of signage needs improvement.
- Rental properties definitely need to be addressed through inspections, or fines. Many houses are in terrible condition.
- Stronger enforcement of littering would improve appearances.
- Too many laws will harm your freedom to do and live as you wish.
- Have someone who is designated to be the person you can call to make a complaint (anonymous) about a neighbor's living that is disturbing you. Designated complaint caller: DCC)
- Actions listed under Issue #4 are aimed at punishing landlords and in some cases homeowners. The last item suggest a reward yet by reducing multi-family to single the reward will be less return. One possible incentive would be to have a property tax frozen for say 5 years, not reduced but fixed, for property improvements that comply with design guidelines.
- Please try not to be too heavy handed regarding code enforcement.
- Remove unsightly signage.

- We also need better enforcement of existing laws.
- We need to request enforcement of the Noise Ordinance.
- Noisy neighbors force families to move and lead to neglect.
- Better inform residents of housing maintenance and improvement programs available – May require door to door/ person to person contact.
- I oppose any new codes specific to East Lawrence.
- Most critical is to encourage return of properties to owner-occupancy.
- Add historic restoration and rehabilitation to 804 Architecture Design Studio projects.
- New yellow/orange house should not have been built. It does not fit in with the rest of the neighborhood. It is an eyesore.
- No more regulations or intrusions upon property owners. Please encourage, advise, or assist with volunteers.

Priority Issue #5 Comments: Preserve & Conserve Existing Physical Neighborhood.

- “Bureau of Home Improvement” would need to know more on this, who is involved not just another job assigned to overworked neighborhood association.
- License landlords and enforce ordinance.

Miscellaneous Comments:

- Have a space in the newsletter where people can write about improvements they have made to their house.
- Don't move house in 900 block of Pennsylvania to Hobbs Park.
- No design guidelines. (2)
- Why should there be a fee for remodeling?
- Property owners should not be penalized by taxation for improving their properties.
- Appreciate all of your work.