



THE NCSTM
The National Citizen SurveyTM

Denver, CO

Open Ended Responses

2015



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The National Citizen Survey™
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The NCS™ is presented by NRC in collaboration with ICMA.

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Summary

The National Citizen Survey™ (The NCS™) is a collaborative effort between National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). The survey and its administration are standardized to assure high quality research methods and directly comparable results across The NCS communities. This report includes the verbatim responses to an open ended question included on The NCS 2015 survey for Denver. Additional reports and the technical appendices are available under separate cover.

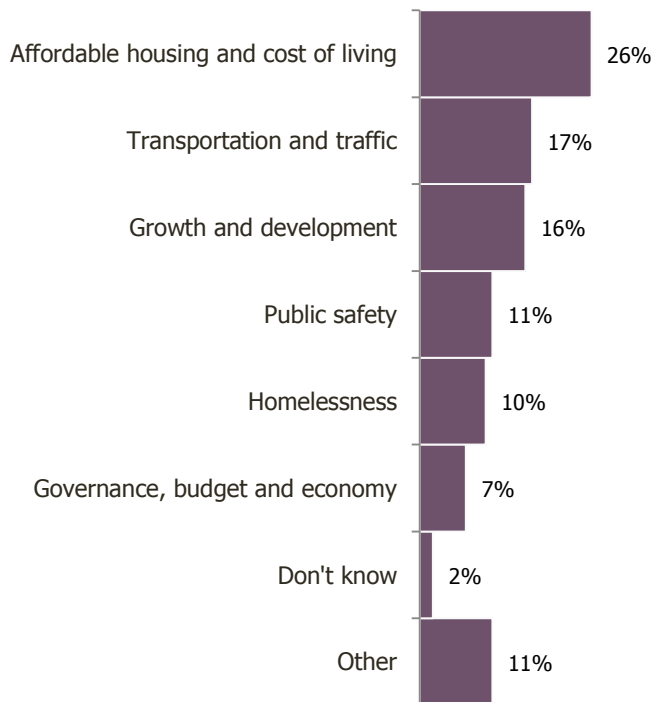
Respondents were asked to record their opinions about City issues and concerns in the following question:

- What do you think is the single most pressing issue facing the City and County of Denver today and why?

The verbatim responses were categorized by topic area and those topics are reported in the following chart with the percent of responses given in each category. Because some comments from residents covered more than a single topic, those verbatim responses are grouped by the first topic listed in each comment whenever a respondent mentioned more than a single topic.

Results from the open-ended question are best understood by reviewing the frequencies that summarize responses as well as the actual verbatim responses themselves. A total of 772 surveys were completed by Denver residents; of these, 643 respondents wrote in responses for the open-ended question. Of the respondents who answered the question, around 1 in 4 voiced concerns about affordable housing and cost of living. Fewer respondents raised issue about transportation and traffic as well as growth and development. Other areas of concern included public safety, homelessness and governance, budget and economy.

Figure 1: City issues and concerns
What do you think is the single most pressing issue facing the City and County of Denver today and why?



Verbatim Responses to Open Ended Question

The following pages contain the respondents' verbatim responses as written on the survey and have not been edited for spelling or grammar. Responses have been organized by coded topic areas.

What do you think is the single most pressing issue facing the City and County of Denver today and why?

Affordable housing and cost of living

- 1. Decent affordable housing for working folks that don't qualify and don't want/need subsidies 2. Grocery stores in neighborhoods- food desert! Walgreen's on Colorado & 38th is not the answer to groceries in Swansea/poor neighborhood.
- Addressing the lack of affordable housing.
- Affordability of housing, I'll probably never be able to buy a home here in a neighborhood that I would want to live.
- Affordability, becoming expensive to live here middle income families are moving out of Denver.
- Affordability, safety- need vocational/educational training to invest in more self reliant, independent citizens/communities.
- Affordable Housing
- Affordable Housing- There is a severe lack of affordable housing causing major issues for the residents of Denver including homelessness as well as some having to move out of the city because they can no longer afford to live here.
- Affordable housing & food deserts.
- Affordable housing & traffic- keeping up with growth.
- Affordable Housing (Rentals). We are becoming a city for the 1%
- Affordable Housing and the conduct of the DPD and Sheriff Department
- Affordable housing as a state employee I'll have no cost of living increase next year but my rent will probably increase 7-9% like it did this year. Nothing is being built except luxury apartments no one can afford. I don't have faith elected officials are doing anything about this.
- Affordable housing as more people move in and lower income families get displaced.
- Affordable housing because developers keep building luxury apartments with unnecessary, expensive amenities.
- Affordable housing- by this, I do not mean "low income". I'm referring to finding housing that's affordable for a family with a combined income of \$100,000 plus. A desired monthly rent/mortgage should be no more than 25% of net income.
- Affordable housing- exorbitant housing costs prevent working families from achieving economic stability, gentrification is ruining my neighborhood.
- Affordable housing for middle class families.
- Affordable housing for people who lived here prior to 2010 before Denver started exploding w/population.
- Affordable housing for purchase everything going up in the city is just for rent and still rents are ridiculously high- and nowhere for people who do rent to move to without millions.
- Affordable housing for rent or purchase gentrification.
- Affordable housing for the elderly, something they can afford on fixed income, in an area that they can access groceries, doctor, fitness places, yards/balcony but affordable not just elderly but for single parent & people making minimum wage.
- Affordable housing- I will not be able to live in or work in this city if rent and home values continue to rise as they have been.
- Affordable housing- it's expensive homeless- theirs a lot & they need help.
- Affordable housing- it's out of control (rent).
- Affordable housing prices are high. No one can afford to live here.
- Affordable housing- rent has sky rocketed in the past five years, far surpassing any tiny advancement of income that I've seen.

- Affordable housing- rent rates are insane!
- Affordable housing- salaries are not increasing but housing is. Can't afford to live in the city and I don't want to move to the suburbs.
- Affordable housing- stop scraping off affordable housing for McMansions that few can afford.
- Affordable housing teamed with hourly pay. Housing costs are ridiculous and I can see homelessness growing. It is scary! Enough reason to consider moving out of state.
- Affordable housing to buy/rent.
- Affordable housing- with so many people moving to Denver demand for housing is high, but many people cannot afford the fancy new condos and escalating cost of housing in the city.
- Affordable housing!
- Affordable housing!
- Affordable housing, cost of living is becoming very expensive very quickly. I am worried I will not be able to live in the city in a year or so.
- Affordable housing, fair wages, traffic, infrastructure.
- Affordable housing, lack of affordable housing development will be damaging to our growth as a city.
- Affordable housing, lower fares for public transportation better policing of Downtown.
- Affordable housing, thoughtful planning decisions.
- Affordable housing, Traffic (highways)
- Affordable housing, turning Denver into a city only for millionaires, destroying old modest neighborhoods and communities for modern luxury more transient homes.
- Affordable housing.
- Affordable housing.
- Affordable housing.
- Affordable housing.
- Affordable housing. Families are struggling & without safe, affordable housing it is impossible to access health, education, transportation services.
- Affordable housing. I need a one floor unit & cannot afford anything out there. So I continue to live in my townhouse with stairs that I can barely navigate due to arthritis.
- Affordable housing. Myself and many people I know are near having to leave because we can't afford to live here anymore. This is also affecting the parking. So many people are forced to share space that there are almost twice as many cars on my street now and nowhere to park.
- Affordable housing. The younger generation is being forced to move to other cities. Also, residents with lower incomes can't afford to stay in Denver. This reduces diversity in the city, once the younger leave, they may not return.
- Affordable housing. Transportation infrastructure.
- Affordable housing. Why? Simply because there isn't enough. On the state level there are issues that need to be addressed. The low income & poverty level guideline need to be addressed. Seniors & those living on a fixed income can't get services like Medicaid, food stamps & housing because the guidelines are off single or individual households don't qualify they may receive \$10-\$200 over the guidelines & are expected to survive from month to month. This is part of my homeless & poverty issues.
- Affordable housing; cleaning of highways & street, we are becoming a dirty city. Weeds, trash, etc.
- Affordable housing-having a decent job barely pays for rent and utilities, especially if you live alone. I shouldn't have to get roommates and sacrifice quality of life when the average 1 bedroom apartment is \$1000 a month. Not everyone can or wants to buy a home, either. For some, renting is the best option, but it costs so much!
- Affordable housing-raising minimum wage. Rents are increasing to levels that price workers out of the market. Without the income necessary to qualify for a mortgage (at a cheaper payment), the gap of Denver's "income equality" will continue to grow.
- Affordable living-the cost of housing & groceries is not sustainable.
- All socioeconomic classes able to afford housing (Aka build more good low-income houses, try to curb gentrification).
- Cost of living and increased cost of housing. High demand to live in a state that legalized marijuana.
- Cost of living- housing prices- great for sellers but only if you're planning to leave Denver. It's hard to sell and buy (esp. if you need a larger home) in Denver.

- Cost of living! It's horrible for the remaining lower middle class.
- Cost of living. Housing costs are ridiculous for single family, apartments & homes.
- Cost of living. The housing prizes are extremely high as well as rents.
- Design & growth. Housing.
- Development, irresponsibly completed is destroying our neighborhoods dishonest city planners and sell outs at zoning meetings. City council needs to listen the community! We need affordable housing!
- Expensive to live here! Rent & cost of mortgage doesn't work with minimum wage. Either lower rent market or increase pay.
- High cost of housing in contrast to low wages (salaries). People spend a higher % of income on housing compared to other similar cities. More \$ could be spent at local businesses if salaries in Denver were in like with other large cities. Housing prices continue to climb, but wages are flat. This is not sustainable.
- High cost of housing. What I love about Denver is urban luring that is pricing out any but upper income levels.
- High housing cost, lack of affordable housing for lower income families
- High rent- I work for the city of Denver and can barely afford to live here.
- High rents in the city
- High rents.
- Housing & police.
- Housing & some type of rent stabilization. With the growth, it is becoming more & more difficult to find affordable & reasonable housing.
- Housing affordability & transportation.
- Housing affordability and the recent increase in population. Homeless people.
- Housing affordability at all economic levels.
- Housing affordability, both purchase and leasing/renting.
- Housing affordability. This is essential to maintaining a diverse city and tackling larger issues like global warming. But almost everyone I know is starting to have trouble affording their rents. My parents had to move out of the city when they retired, because they couldn't afford it.
- Housing and rental costs.
- Housing- because so many are on the street, with no where to stay.
- Housing cost & homelessness.
- Housing costs- because wages are stagnant even though rents and property values are skyrocketing. There needs to be a focus on building nice, entry level housing, with no added frills. No more "luxury" living that is unaffordable for the average income.
- Housing costs are way out of line- also cost of living and a lack of jobs- there are no opportunities for better jobs- especially for older people.
- Housing costs because the average cost of a one bedroom apartment in Denver is \$1,300 which prices out a lot of people. Especially people who work in Denver because they have a longer commute when trying to find affordable rent.
- Housing costs- it rents.
- housing costs- prices have gone up quickly which is pricing some people out of their neighborhoods.
- Housing costs, and increased population/traffic. The infrastructure is not growing fast enough to accommodate the growing population.
- Housing costs, rent, jobs.
- Housing costs.
- Housing for incoming people. Demand in making the available housing expensive and scarce.
- Housing is the most important issue facing the city & county of Denver.
- Housing of affordable of senior citizens. They don't have affordable housing for senior citizens, enough that is.
- Housing safety roads.
- Housing! (Affordable!!)
- Housing.
- Housing.
- Housing. The market is embarrassing & a clear portrayal of the average Denverite's sheer disregard for any impact to or implications for their neighbor, all I see is selfishness & greed behind every listing, rental property, new development, etc. A very, very close 2nd is transportation infrastructure (or complete lack

thereof). No more new road construction until progress (that is tangible) is made on at least a significant # of the god knows now many projects currently underway or aren't helpful!!

- Housing/rental prices- cost of living compared to wages is creating a gap in peoples lives.
- Housing-availability & pricing; police misconduct (or that perception).
- I think affordable housing & land lord regulation is key/essential. I have friends whose rents have been raised \$300 a month for no reason other than supply & demand. They didn't get raises to match the rent hike! Also, I'm going to buy a home in 2016 & it's not affordable!
- Income inequality and lack of access to affordable housing.
- Increasing amount of immigrants are squeezing the housing market.
- Keeping it affordable and enjoyable for the people who are already here.
- Keeping the cost of living stable while the population increased.
- Lack of affordable housing for low income residents not on section 8 (other issues: lengthy public transportation commutes, stagnating jobs, lack of jobs, police violence against people of color, homeless resources, rising bus costs).
- Lack of affordable housing to sustain middle class communities old time Denver residents are very resentful of new comers who they perceive to be driving up prices of homes & tearing apart the fabric of the neighborhood. This is creating tension in my community!!
- Lack of affordable housing!!! Low income, middle income, and single folks can barely afford to live in Denver anymore.
- lack of quality affordable housing - Denver already has a significant and visible homeless population, and it will not improve with the ridiculous rates for rentals and home purchases in the area, without more inventory of affordable housing options
- Managing housing costs. Not sure this is something the City or County have any control in though.
- More affordable housing, there simply isn't enough apartments to go around.
- Overall cost of living.
- Pay housing; hole in the street.
- Rapid increase in apartment rents. Do we really have that many people making that much money? Or is it all Airbnb business?
- Rapidly increasing rent prices
- Rent control. We moved to Denver instead of Chicago to be able to rent a home with a yard at an affordable price. Since we moved here in 2013, rent everywhere has gone up too much. I make \$80,000/year and I can't afford to buy a house near the city where I'd like to stay, can't afford to move because a similar house would be more \$/month.
- Rent prices. Their needs to be more restrictions on now high rent can be.
- Rental amounts/rates- subsidized/low income housing is not sufficient, tax credit/affordable housing is not sufficient, & market rate housing has become more difficult to afford for majority of us in the past 2 years. (Middle income range).
- Rental rates for fixed income/retired people are too high. I am having to look elsewhere to live out my life due not being able to afford my \$800 monthly rent, which will be increasing. I've lived here since 1978 and wanted to die here, but due to increasing rent, am being forced to find a place to live in another state.
- Responsible growth, affordable housing.
- Ridiculously it is becoming a city that only well to-do people can afford. (High) housing prices/rental prices have made me want to move.)
- Right now, affordable housing, as the price for rentals has gone up very fast and steep in the past year.
- Rising cost of living
- Smart development (buildings, new housing, etc) within our rapidly growing city. Affordable living, and affordable health care that provides easy access to receiving the care we need.
- The availability (or lack thereof) of affordable housing. Only much people can live here now.
- The cost of housing, followed by crime.
- The cost of housing/rentals is ridiculously high has made me seriously consider moving after 20 years here.
- The cost of housing/renting/leasing within the city and county of Denver is barely within the financial means of young professionals.
- The cost of living is getting out of control. I make \$ 60,000 a year w/no kids and its hard. I can't imagine what families are feeling.

- The lack of affordable housing is becoming a huge issue. Cuts in Denver are ridiculous. I hate the suburbs, but can't afford to stay in Denver much longer.
- The rising cost of housing and the growing number of pan handler's on the streets. Both affect safety in the community, and rent is too high, would like to have affordable housing outside of city.
- Too expensive to live in Denver, I am retired and on a fixed income, I can't afford to live here anymore street cleaning tickets are ridiculous, \$50.00 is way to much. Taxes are way to high. I can go on, but you don't have enough space to write.
- Too much tear down of existing affordable housing to rebuild expensive housing
- We need more affordable housing, not more luxury condos/apartments. Local government needs to listen to their constituents.
- With the boom in population, it is very difficult to find affordable homes.

Transportation and traffic

- - I know that a DPS not city 2nd would be improving the quality of the street surfaces
- (1)Traffic and improving road conditions due to increase in population- horrible roads/traffic can ruin a city.
- (2)Rent \$ Downtown out of control.
- (1) Traffic (2) Homeless people.
- 1) Road conditions especially after the winters.2) Opportunities and programs for educated 55 plus professionals.
- 1. Snow removal immediately in all street in Denver to avoid accident. 2. Control selling of drugs Marijuana.
- 1. Overconstructing, no parking, traffic, pot marijuana.2.Security especially having refugees coming to our country. Isis
- Ability of street to handle high-volume traffic.
- Adequate transportation. Fix the streets!
- Alternative Transportation
- As the city grows, creating better & more reliable public transportation, as well as bike lanes.
- Better street repair service. Chuckholes were patched for the first time in nearly 4 years. There is a very poor job at that. They patch only half of the chuckholes. Then the ones that were not patched get larger. Then maybe it will be another 4 years for those.
- City traffic light (left turn) has very short timing & has to wait long. Instead, it should be focused on dynamic timing for all traffic light.
- Clean up the intersections and curbs along main roads. Fill potholes & repair roads. Intersections and along main roads overgrown with weeds & trash. The bicycles are a menace. They ride in the dark with no lights, don't obey lights. City doesn't seem to care.
- Control-ease of traffic fix the timing of traffic lights!! The surface terrible condition of streets!
- Creating awareness & incentive to use public transportation vs pov's reason being, the population spike, I live in Chaffee Park & its still more convenient for me to drive my car into the city. It shouldn't be.
- Developing a better transportation network. The city is growing at an exponential level, without better public transit, it is going to become more difficult to get around without delays. This will increase stress, worsen health makers, increase pollution levels, decrease economic activity and make the city a worse place to live.
- Development, and its impact on traffic and congestion.
- Ease of getting around the city.
- Ease traffic congestion-this city's infrastructure was designed for far fewer people- we need a traffic engineering miracle...soon.
- Funding road repairs & education.
- Getting traffic across the city; we really need a north/south route to get traffic off I-25 i.e. Sheridan or a combination Sheridan/Wadsworth from highway 36 to W 470.
- Good transportation management. As the population increases, effective & multiple methods of getting people & services around is a priority. Increasing public transport for the first & last mile would help with rush hour congestion. Relieving congestion relieves feelings of frustration in drivers & keeps neighborhoods safe.
- Growth of city & traffic problems due to repairs city engineers, better planning, to many streets in one area to fix up at one time. Accidents add to problem causing many delays.
- High traffic volume on major arteries because it makes it difficult to get around the city.
- I 70 & I 25.

- I think Denver needs to consider investing into infrastructure as the area grows- public transportation & road expansion especially. Traffic has gotten pretty bad as more & more people move here.
- Improving & maintaining road quality (especially neighborhood streets), improving traffic issues & improving bike friendliness.
- Improving infrastructure in order to alleviate constant traffic jams.
- Increase connectivity of shopping, commonly areas with RTC.
- Increase in traffic, low funding for schools (I realize those are two things, but equally (important)).
- Increased traffic (affects city dwellers).Homelessness & drug control (city image).
- Increasing traffic.
- Infrastructure and how transportation will be affected by the influx of people moving to Denver and how this will affect rent/home prices Ala San Fran and heart of city housing to move out for wealthy people.
- Lack of safe, clean and reliable transportation, as well as an increase in traffic related issues.
- Maintaining sidewalks and roads to reduce the likelihood of trips, falls and accidents especially for cyclists.
- Making this a pot city. You have destroyed this city state, and community (East side- 5 points area), now there is to many out of state homeless people that are trashing are area our streets and no city official cares- I can't even park in front of my home because people park their cars over 7 days. You have park management who don't do their job in this area
- Need a better light rail system; I live in Cherry Creek w/ no access. The highways are out of control- I-25 is a mess and getting to the mountains is even worse.
- Not certain what the most pressing issue is but my perspective is the roads and traffic bottlenecks.
- Over development has created severe traffic & parking issues. The economic development has to be managed and held to a reasonable level.
- Over development without focus on traffic patterns- i.e, Co, Blvd continue development while Co Blvd is as gridlock.
- Pedestrian bridge needed on S. Federal Blvd. between Louisiana and Mississippi! Safety of pedestrians.
- Post or road system- the drive to mountain towns horrible- construction for rail very slow- police department
- Providing clean energy and transportation services.
- Public transportation because current conditions are very poor.
- Public transportation not enough.
- Public transportation only goes to Union, hard to get any place else. Public transportation from the airport- 2 hours by bus to get to my neighborhood. Even with the train, still hard because train doesn't go into city neighborhoods.
- Public transportation, affordable housing.
- Public transportation. This city is growing so fast, for those of us who live on the limits, we need to be able to get around better without our cars. Traffic and parking are becoming increasingly more frustrating fixing the issue will truly make this city a boom town again.
- Road maintenance- potholes are horrendous!
- Road quality declining, while congestion is increasing.
- Roads in Denver are in need of repair cost of housing in Denver is too high!
- Roads.
- Safe, efficient transportation- connectivity between car, bike, walk & transit. As we grow, how we do this & lots of options are critical.
- Single answer is hard- but I would say traffic & ease getting around the city. Also very important property tax - I protested included 5 comps & got zero reduction from 2yrs from ago my property increased more than 150% percent! See lots of new expensive apts being built- very few affordable. NOT happy w/continuing tax forever that was to end. I don't want to pay for overpriced college- not the responsibility of the city- and the city paying for new program for city. Increased traffic on side streets like Dahlia where my house is.
- State of our roads- traffic & damage clearing derelict buildings. Affordable housing.
- Strategic zoning for development & traffic.
- Street congestion/too many cars on the road.
- Streets- potholes, traffic.
- Streets & highways to congested, and poor maintenance, conditions.
- The amount of traffic coming to Denver with people relocating. Up keep of streets etc & housing.

- The condition of the city streets, damage to vehicles, weaving down streets to try and miss dangerous potholes!
- The increase in population has made the traffic on I-25 bad at most times of the day. Increasing the # of light rails running helps, but there must be something done with the interchange at I-25 & Santa Fe. It is always bogged down.
- The increase of traffic due to the increasing population.
- There needs to be more stop signs because people are driving faster and more recklessly.
- Traffic- loss of productivity/is very significant quality of life.
- Traffic- after completions of all rail improvement traffic will change.
- traffic and irresponsible development in established neighborhoods. Development going far beyond recent zoning plan.
- Traffic and the supporting infrastructure- the more people move here the greater stress upon it.
- Traffic- awful Wages need to go up, cost of living is high relative to wages. Rent control instituted. Air quality poor.
- Traffic by ease/less time to get where you need to go by having a comprehensive plan for high population growth.
- Traffic congestion & the discourtesy of many bicycle riders- not enough parking availability in the Cherry Creek area.
- Traffic congestion is driving the city down. Need to find ways to deal with it without having to old lanes and traffic signals.
- Traffic congestion- public safety-public sidewalk replacement- look at tiff for this. This should not be on the homeowner- some older neighborhoods are in poor repair sidewalks/H-cap replacement.
- Traffic congestion!!
- Traffic congestion.
- Traffic congestion.
- Traffic congestion.
- Traffic congestion.
- Traffic congestion.
- Traffic congestion.
- Traffic congestion.
- Traffic flow on major thoroughfares.
- Traffic flow, parking, or right of way enforcement for streets and roads that were utilized less frequently in the past are now common, or main roads (Blake and Walnut streets).
- Traffic is getting out of control.
- Traffic is getting so heavy. So many people moving here.
- Traffic is too slow because of highway development need more! Road surface potholes!
- Traffic issues due to increased population shortage possibility of water.
- Traffic issues impacted by over building & lack of paths, bicycle lanes, wider & more attractive public spaces.
- Traffic- lack of infrastructure to hold new population economy- wage rate below national while housing and food have increased past national average.
- Traffic law enforcement. Speeding and running red lights is epidemic- esp. Speeding in school zones.
- Traffic light on Montview & Quebec for turning (left) onto Quebec. Needs a turn single!
- Traffic on I-70 going to the mountains. Traffic on I-25. Safety within neighborhoods-- there are so many car break ins and robberies in Platt Park. Nobody ever stops at the stop signs in Platt Park! It's scary w/2 young children!
- Traffic on major streets.
- Traffic problems and road conditions.
- Traffic to the mountains. Housing costs. Increased safety in some areas.
- Traffic- too many people too much construction.
- Traffic! I love Denver. I'm a 32 year old native and have always wanted to stay in Denver and build my life here. I'm honestly considering moving away because of the traffic. We need more/better public transportation and improvements to highways or main roads. Safety in North East Denver is also very essential. I feel safe in my neighborhood, but have friends in NE who are very concerned about gang violence.
- Traffic! People have long commutes.

- Traffic, adverse results from marijuana- driving while stoned stupid people bad reactions increased health care costs.
- Traffic, encourage less cars & resident parking permits/Congress park.
- Traffic, long left turn arrows and better timed lights would help.
- Traffic.
- Traffic.
- Traffic. It slows commerce.
- Traffic. Seems like apartments/condos are being built everywhere and street traffic is getting more & more congested.
- Traffic. Too much construction all at once. Space at the projects.
- Traffic/road congestion- neighborhood streets that were never supposed to be thru-ways for significant road travel are over-crowded. Rush hour back-ups are causing seniors accidents and injury. No obvious plan to fix this issue. City council keeps approving redevelopment of urban land into multiunit housing increasing density with no real traffic management plan.
- Traffic/stop light timing, no street lights in alleys or midblock to prevent crime, DPS schools are horrible. All our taxes go to a school nobody wants to send the kids too.
- Transportation - getting anywhere in or around the city is frequently a painful process
- Transportation & infrastructure traffic is becoming unmanageable.
- Transportation.
- Transportation/roads & highways are poor. Difficult to get to shopping areas. Not easy to do business with local stores due to traffic.
- Unconstrained development without consideration for traffic, parking, safety and overall negative impact on communities.
- Will the road and streets of Denver support the continued population growth?

Growth and development

- Overcrowded neighborhoods- whoever makes decisions to allow more than 1 family in an apartment should of 1st thought of; noise, crime, vehicles, trash, traffic people coming from an over walking through our neighborhoods not knowing who is outside our homes. Every call that is made to 311 these employees answering all give different answers. Your assigned officials for dog control-- they drive around but won't get out of their vehicles to find loose dogs running neighborhoods, pooping on homeowners property. These officials are lazy & get paid to do nothing.....
- (1) Ugly architecture of new apartment houses. (2) Too much density, not enough parking.
- 1) Controlling growth and expansion. 2) Highways- volume and condition.
- Affordable housing- own or don't friends had to move away because of it.
- Affordable housing.
- Affordable housing/construction defects (for condo development).
- Allowing too much new construction in old, established neighborhoods which remove native landscapes.
- Balancing rapid growth w/quality of life. (E.g. clean air & water, affordable housing, crime).
- Battling gentrification of Downtown and surrounding areas since lower-income families, are increasingly being pushed out by rising housing costs.
- Better planning and enforcement seems to be growing at such a fast pace transportation (roads) not able to handle the volume. As a family we used to enjoy events in Denver, but now don't feel safe at large venues due to crime.
- Built environment, transit, health, education- population growth needs affordable housing that considers low income families as well.
- City planning- it seems as though developers are running the hen house. More sustainable growth.
- City Streets and lighting. Overall beautification of the City. More policing of homeless is essential. We should not have a person begging on every street corner. Its an epidemic and not helping these people off the streets. **START POLICING** these people! It also looks horrible to visitors.
- Congestion- people don't use buses because the buses smell of pot; homeless people. Office candidates need to take an MMPI before training.
- Continuing to manage growth in a way that builds an environmentally sound, sustainable, and beautiful urban landscape. Save and improve Boettcher concert hall!

- Control growth.
- Controlled growth and affordable housing
- Controlling growth- we have to protect our water resources and our environment.
- Controlling growth and its attendant impacts on the quality of life of residents and those conducting business and/or working in Denver.
- Density & these stucco boxes being built everywhere- brick going to landfill where as it lasts stucco doesn't/road repair neglected- new construction team it up and isn't patched properly- bad streets are uncalled for. 2400 miles road trip to Midwest this last summer- no other city was as bad pothole wise as Denver- shameful.
- Development- too much power in the developers! Neighborhood quality is therefore deteriorating.
- Downtown access & parking, reduce high rise apartment complexes.
- Economic development, because it is the catalyst for growth. Also, proper planning for new development.
- Economic growth- smart but business friendly growth.
- Excessive development that is not consistent with blueprint Denver. City government is responsive only to developers. Citizen's concerns are ignored.
- Expansion & development & having the infrastructure and education to manage that appropriately.
- Extreme increase in population, reasonable housing, traffic, for these increases- keeping integrity.
- Gentrification- because it is displacing people of low-income and people of color from their homes.
- Growth & how to deal w/it. Fast growth can lead to an unplanned and horrible environment if not dealt with intent.
- Growth and home affordability.
- Growth is necessary but Denver's uncontrolled, unregulated growth will destroy this city. City government has no regard for citizen's concern & rights and it is spending money like a drunken sailor with a blank check. We will have problems (massive) with water, air, traffic, parking & infrastructure. The integrity of the city is being destroyed. Denver government needs to start using it's head before it's too late.
- Growth putting pressure on infrastructure - high cost of public transportation for the majority of those who depend on it
- Growth! Too much traffic, expensive housing.
- Growth, because it impacts all aspects of the city and the populous.
- Growth. Try not to grow like Seattle, which has become too congested & pricey.
- Handling everyone moving here.
- Handling growth, housing market prices, traffic/congestion on I-25 at rush hour.
- Housing that is affordable for all education. Quit giving away our tax money, that should go to public schools, not private charter & religious & online.
- Housing. Affordable for retired/elderly/disabled.
- I think continuing economic growth, also making sure to have inclusive communities with affordable housing, but also keeping patrols of police presence.
- In my opinion the city is expanding to fast it will lower the quality of life in the city.
- infrastructure because of our increasing population to support
- Infrastructure growing and getting crowded. Streets not well maintained & lights aren't synced well. Need space to live, play, and space to educate.
- Infrastructure keeping up with vs rate of growth.
- Infrastructure maintenance and building (roads, sidewalks, cleaning) especially in the central business dist.
- Infrastructure. We're growing quite rapidly, I'd like to see Denver city planners ensure we can keep up, e.g. Traffic congestion, the homeless population.
- Infrastructure. With so many new residents a city can become quickly overwhelmed by not paying attention to roadways, schools, housing, etc. that affect the quality of life of all citizens.
- Keeping the quality of life of a smaller city as Denver becomes a large city (traffic, congestion, etc.).
- Lack of planning for the population boom that is happening.
- Maintaining & improving infrastructure during the current population boom- I wouldn't want to see some areas fall into disrepair while others thrive. The city benefits most if all areas benefit from the strong economy.
- Maintaining cohesive design standards and attention to eco-friendly, sustainability.
- Maintaining natural/wildlife spaces in the face of increasing economic & population demands. Beauty & recreation make Denver special and that is threatened by development and greed.

- Making sure we're prepared for the future, both economically and in keeping with trends such as affordable housing & alternative transportation.
- Manage growth in a way that preserves quality of life demilitarize the police.
- Managing growth and population density and cost of living- affordable housing options.
- Managing growth.
- Managing new development/redevelopment/gentrification.
- Managing our current rapid growth to insure future quality of life in Denver.
- Managing rapid growth through everything from car travel to losing the feel of neighborhoods.
- Massive influx- dealing with housing high resources and lack of employment.
- Massively increasing population. It's not going to stop anytime soon. The city (and state) needs to be able to keep up.
- Neighborhood redevelopment destroying single family home atmosphere with high rise condos. It is adding to the already congested traffic, this is a western environment, people will not give up their cars.
- New residential buildings too close together. New commercial buildings too close to curbs.
- Over building new apartment complexes look at Cherry Creek- no lots, no light rail, and demographic doesn't take the bus!
- Over congestion of the city- lack of infrastructure to deal with overpopulation.
- Over crowded roads & streets.
- Over crowdedness.
- Over development- housing density too high, jeopardizing parks & open space, aggravating traffic conditions.
- Over development without necessary roads & parking.
- Over development.
- Over growth and under planned.
- Over population, improving infrastructure to support this growth, affordable housing & improving access to Denver suburbs.
- Overbuilding & no need to zoning populations; also, a general disregard for historical designations.
- Overbuilding and increasing population and vehicle density sacrificing neighborhoods and open space. People crammed together in buildings and in cars on streets are not happy people. Density does not foster an atmosphere of community. It lines the pockets of a minuscule minority at the expense of the vast majority.
- Overcrowding is becoming more of an issue, along w/petty crime. Ease of getting around and safety are important to me.
- Overcrowding.
- Overpopulation & the means to make a paycheck and have an affordable life, (rent, food, services).
- Parking Downtown- you keep building but not accommodating workers. We are being priced out a Downtown and have to wait months/yrs on waiting list for monthly parking. Soon many will move to other areas to work.
- People increasingly moving to the city and high/heavy traffic on main roads.
- Planning for the future growth of the city, to include bikeability, public transit, and keeping cost of living/housing low.
- Poor design quality. As the city is rapidly growing, we are building structures that represent our times. Developers are taking advantage of the zoning code & building uninspired & cheap buildings under the guise of "modernism".
- Population growth because the infrastructure isn't there and the cost of living will continue to sky rocket.
- Properly managing the influences the influx of people moving here is having on: traffic, housing availability, and violent crimes.
- Protecting character of neighborhoods through the gentrification process.
- Quality of growth- H2o- green energy
- Rapid growth in all areas of city, but not equitable distribution of increased funding, services, opportunities. NW Denver needs some love.
- Rapid influx of people moving here & increasing rental/home rates & more traffic.
- Repairing old neighborhoods, too many people moving in too many new buildings.
- Selling out the quality of neighborhoods by allowing high rises in areas where there were none before & ignoring concerns of residents. Pack them in thanks to our corrupt mayor.
- Smart growth congestion will lead to a city no one wants to live in including myself.

- Sorry but I need to list more than one: (1) Over development causing huge congestion, no parking, hideous buildings (e.g. 30 stories in country club? Development in N Cherry Creek) (2) Sanctuary city-- dangerous, illegal. Oh one more- how is it that we simply override federal law w/ legal pot? Now 16th St Mall is dump.
- Stop over-development. Don't develop open spaces/don't put multifamily housing (high density) where the street system can't handle the additional traffic.
- Stop the high density building projects. Listen to the residents & do what they want not the developers.
- Stresses of growth on infrastructure and society threaten to unravel community bonds and forever alter Denver's physical and social landscape in a negative manner.
- Sustainable growth; emphasis on expanding alternative transportation, improving air quality, and other green growth initiatives.
- Tearing down older historic buildings & houses to build new structures that do not fit in with the older structures in the neighborhood.
- The amount of people moving to Denver & the cities accommodations.
- The city's infrastructure must be brought rapidly & efficiently up to-date with its growing population
- The crazy increase in population and now that has affected transportation & increased traffic. And second, how this population increase has affected housing costs. I make \$60k and am qualified to buy a \$350k house and I can't find one before a pot shop snatches it up.
- The development boom, because it will shape our city for years to come in many ways- the looks of the built environment, the uses of those buildings and the people who live there, to name a few.
- The disregard for the existing people, cultures, and community of Denver areas. While at the same time, the planning, & zoning boards giving Carte Blanche permissions to developers and investors who simply care about profits. And not the once great queen city of the plains. Please, please consider the long standing residents of our home before approving the next bar, brewery or high rise.
- The gentrification- boring- lack of character creating and adding to lack of affordable housing- livable working wage.
- The increased building density (i.e. Cherry Creek). The traffic, keeping major corporations here.
- The influx of people moving here is driving up the cost of living to the point where affordable housing is very hard to come by.
- The negative impact or rapid growth/citizen safety.
- The over development & the traffic! Trying to navigate the streets is a nightmare!
- The overbuilding of apartments. There is an influx of people- more traffic, parking issues, etc.
- The same dilemma that Denver has faced for decades & not dealt with no direction. The roads are in shambles, the housing developments are unaffordable & traffic is a little nightmare. The problems are systemic & are beyond and band aid fixes but, without tax money from the populous & a commitment, nothing will be done which is why we are where we are now.
- Too many apartments are being built. The mayor needs to slow construction. Cherry Creek has been ruined by over building. The cost of living in Denver is rising too fast. Getting the police department "on track".
- Too many high rise buildings. Everything looks too crowded & cuts out views & light.
- Too many huge projects taking away the lovely feeling we have living in Denver- too dense!
- Too many people moving to Denver and it is creating horrific traffic issues.
- Too much development without holistic planning. Cherry Creek mall area is a disaster. Capital Hill is more of the same!
- Too much development.
- Unrestrained growth and neighborhood gentrification because the higher housing prices are pushing people out of their neighborhoods.
- Wages (minimum wage)/gun control. people can't live on their full time wages. Cities are becoming more vulnerable to mass shootings. crimes with guns.
- Water & population growth. We conserve so more people can come doesn't make sense.
- Water preservation it is only a matter of time until we run out.
- Way to many people moving here- need more affordable market rate housing- average of 350-400,000 too much.
- We are too big, it is getting more expensive than the people who live here can afford we do not make NYC or San Fran salaries, unlike all who are moving here. We are losing what makes Denver, Denver!
- What type/volume of people are relocating to Denver.

- With all the new people moving into Denver it bring out the problems that are already there. Housing, jobs for 15-18 year old, traffic. I see more angry people driving, however I have not been in any danger in all the ways I use to get from one place to another I really look out for myself.
- Zoning near Cherry Creek mall area. It is over built and give me the impression that the city council gives the developers anything they want. I can't imagine that there was any careful study of traffic patterns including all the developments. It's a shame that this area is sold to the highest bidder!

Public safety

- (1) Clean up the sheriffs department! (2) Reduce rental housing costs.
- 1) 16th Street Mall needs to be improved. (Scary, dangerous nothing but chain restaurants, "embarrassing").2) Road repair.3) Better schools.
- 1) Control of the sheriff's department because of the adverse publicity and civil suits. The department should be acting from the position of integrity and principle, with less (unnecessary) violence.2) Control of gang violence and finding productive alternatives.
- 16th St Mall: security; elimination of, panhandling, vagrants more plain clothes security personnel.
- Breaking. There has been lots of braking in my neighborhood & somebody broke into my car 2 years ago. Two of my neighbors got their homes broken into.
- Controlling excessive vs behavior of sheriff & police departments hiring more diverse groups for city street repairs. Break up the gang of Hispanic city workers. Speed up the immigration process 4 people who have legally applied. Stop letting Denver be a sanctuary city. Better control of released sex offenders. Increase training for education 4 groups other than illegals. Get control of excessive homeless population allow people who have served to vote.
- Crime- It's out of hand. More crime, shootings and accidents in the last 2 years. There needs to be prevention. Its hard to see people standing around cars, looking in the windows it looks as if they are going to steal the car but police won't come until the act happens. The intention should be stopped.
- Crime & vandalism-youth needs more parental supervision!
- Crime (car breaking, car theft, graffiti).
- Crime all the felonies, killings.
- Crime because there's been a lot of shootings lately.
- Crime in poor areas, overbuilding in Cherry Creek, traffic increase on all major streets.
- Crime. I live in 80206 and all of us worry about our homes and vehicles being burglarized which happens every day- even when we're home.
- Crime/that is the single most issue I hear or read.
- Dealing with police brutality sheriff brutality, paying out law suits, safety of our communities, vitality of our communities.
- Denver police are internationally known as "bad", plus multi-million settlement cost to the tax payer.
- Difficult to boil down to one, but I would say safety- 16th Street Mall, Lodo, etc.
- Do a better job/policemen/women.
- Downtown safety at night, several coworkers of mine have been attacked/robbed. 16th Street Mall is questionable even during the day. People should not be allowed to "beg" on street corners. Yellow lights are not long enough for vehicles to safely pass through intersections or stop in a timely manner.
- Drug problem.
- Eradicating crime; educating police to be able to identify the condition of offenders. Other pressing issues? Maintenance's of roads & bridges & dealing with needy, etc. How can one choose one?
- Feeling safe & secure while Downtown because of crimes that have happened.
- Fighting crime: home breaking- stolen cars.
- Focusing on core services such as quality police protection instead of non-essentials like public art, "diversity" initiatives, or corporate welfare in the name of "economic development".
- Gang activity- shootings.
- Gangs, drugs, speeders, homelessness, stricter codes for trash yards.
- Getting sheriff dept & police trained & excessive violence ended.
- Getting the gangs out of downtown- gets dark bad things happen.

- Gun control. There needs to be a check on people who sell weapons to make sure they do not sell them to dangerous criminals or mentally ill people. Place liability on the person selling and it is less likely the dangerous people will get the weapons.
- Have police treat citizens fairly. Jessica Hernandez incident was regrettable. She died at about 20 years old because police didn't approach the stolen vehicle she and her friends were in in such a way that would ensure everyone would be safe.
- Have proper police perfecting when possible having less want in communication with city & country.
- House breaking and neighborhood safety.
- Image and practices (culture) of the sheriff's department; training and body cameras for police and sheriff's deputies, etc.
- Increase in stoned/drunk/delinquent people in the Downtown area. Makes a person want to avoid walking around, especially at night.
- More police officers. Citizens have waited for police respond for over an hour plus they pay taxes and they desire better service.
- More safety at night.
- Need more police protection.
- Neighborhood crime. Many daytime burglaries- no evidence of police patrols in our area.
- Not enough respect for our police. Morale is clearly a problem, and I know who's to blame!
- Not pursuing criminals who stole we gave police their plate from us and not bothering to get actual insurance from the group who crashed into my parked car.
- Out of town guests from my home state of NY found the 16th Street Mall area at night very dangerous.
- Personal safety. Ensuring that citizens who are simply going about their business are allowed to do so without being/feeling threatened.
- Petty crime, bring back dumpsters, allow police to do their jobs.
- Police & community relations. Lack of trust feelings of being targeted.
- Police accountability: need body cams and more outside evaluations.
- Police and Sheriff offices
- Police and sheriff who don't abuse its citizens, cheap public transportation, good schools.
- Police brutality homelessness, Denver's economy rising by more than 25% in the last 2 years and traffic is horrible place it use to take 20 minutes to get to, it now takes an hour. Denver is no longer an affordable city to live (and I'm a native). Because of the population growth in Denver, specifically the Montbello, Green Valley, Stapleton we need larger or more libraries and grocery stores.
- Police brutality is a major issue plaguing Denver. But most pressing is affordable housing. Rent is skyrocketing!!
- Police conduct, access to services, safety of residents, equal education for all. I don't think police view themselves as public servants any longer. My car was broken into and damaged and the officer acted like it was my fault. City is quick to give tickets, slow on some services.
- Police Corruption and Treatment of citizens. They are not courteous in general and have a lot of use of force issues.
- Police interaction with public. Fairness of judges & presiding over cases.
- Policing & education- the city has settled too many excessive force cases- there seems to be a lack of education & training for our jail staff in particular and not enough oversight or negative behavior etc.
- Professionalism & conduct of DPD & S.O.
- Public safety in some parts of the city.
- Punishment of police for wrong doing. Safety in neighborhoods & 16th St Mall. Too many homeless youth due to pot. Smell of pot everywhere, they smoke at public transportation stations out in open & on streets tickets them! Snow removal is horrible. I come from Chicago they are better.
- RTD needs to stay in contact when there is an accident contact police. And be willing to confess when they are wrong, be willing to pay for that person's accident and injuring like mine July 28, 2012. RTD never contacted police. I went to both police departments to check no turn in on the accident. I was not able to do so. Thanks Sandra Bluhm.
- Safety & gangs.
- Safety and k-12 education.

- Safety and security of visitors of Denver on the 16th Street Mall crime and pan handling on 16th Street Mall are both problems.
- Safety essential to tourism.
- Safety from crime.
- Safety in Denver because police need more training & less unfair treatment of people.
- Safety in the Montbello area. There are too many gang shootings & the police don't really seem to care.
- Safety on streets.
- Safety or traffic. City is growing very fast & safety/crime & traffic issues are growing quicker/more extensively.
- Safety- so all the special venues can be enjoyed without worry especially before 12 at midnight.
- Safety- these issues are what gets published/communicated.
- Safety- traffic management.
- Safety! Improving safety and reducing gun violence with less parking Downtown, public transit is essential.
- Safety! It seems that with the marijuana approval traffic, crime & respect for human life have changed.
- Safety.
- Safety. The mayor seems to be not supportive of our police. He allowed protesters to vandalize their monument to their fallen. He sends them on missions to protect protesters, and does not have their backs when they get injured or killed (i.e. the officer who was run over while protecting protesting high school students) I don't feel safe Downtown, we are kept in the dark about all the crime & stabbings. The Downtown is very dirty. Another safety issue: who decided Denver would be a sanctuary city? Not safe.
- Sense of trust by the public in Denver police department, and the Denver sheriff's office with the management of the Denver jail and Detention center.
- Several things. However, I would like to see more street lights in the neighborhoods for safety.
- Supporting the police department.
- Terrible police force & an unnecessary high rate of parking tickets that leads to a feeling of despair in a city that could otherwise be wonderful.
- The Denver police need to be more effective and stop flushing money down the toilet for a helicopter.
- The lack of police accountability is easily one of the biggest challenges the city of Denver is facing.
- The Vaughn Dam Road- no police presence; no police actual jurisdiction; no monitoring of speed or illegal overtaking. It's dangerous!! (Vehicular accidents) too many!
- To create a community that is safe and that respects all people. We should all value and feel safe in Denver.
- Too many cops employed doing nothing. I felt like I was in a police state when entering a Nuggets game last week! Rude cops doing nothing but shooting demands.
- We need more police officers!
- We need more police! With the influx of population, our city police department has not grown at the same rate. We need to enforce smoking Marijuana in public. It gives us a bad name for visitors to see that also, allow police to enforce the no camping ban in Downtown. It feels totally unsafe to walk Downtown/16th at night. With pot legalization came a huge influx of transient youth. It's a problem!

Homelessness

- (1)Helping to reduce the homeless and (2) less major construction.
- (1) Homelessness. (2) Minimum wage low enough to not allow a single parent to be at home parenting & feeding the family.
- 1- Vagrants & panhandlers especially in the Downtown area. Makes people less likely to visit Downtown & creates a terrible first impression for visitors. Denver needs to learn how to deal with this problem by looking at how other cities have dealt with it. I moved here from Philadelphia and was shocked to see how big of a problem this is here.2- Traffic & enforcement of pedestrian laws very unfriendly or pedestrians.
- Curbing the homeless issue. As a young woman in the city, I am walking alone quite often and I have felt threatened several times.
- Decriminalizing being homeless because they need help, not jail time, SLC built houses for their homeless and they're spending less than they did when jailing them- even providing them with food, mental health care access and helping them get jobs. Seriously you want to be shown up by a bunch of Mormons?
- Drug problems/homeless population. No matter what is done to make Denver safe/beautiful, it won't matter. Have found needles in Cheesman park frequently (and reported it), and areas in Downtown getting built up are going to struggle w/safety unless this is addressed.

- Healthy environment & encouraging people w/ health & homeless.
- Homeless because it cost so much to live here.
- Homeless in the Ballpark area. It has gone beyond homelessness, there are communities of people living on the streets along Park Ave and 21st, 22nd. It's a crisis at this point and something needs to be done.
- Homeless not enough shelters Housing- rent too high.
- Homeless on the streets, their camping, etc., and the unsanitary conditions they cause.
- Homeless people & teenagers Downtown on 16th Street Mall. Cost of housing for young people & middle income & poor. Housing & rental costs & availability are really, really terrible. 2 of my 3 sons have moved out of Colorado because of housing costs & rental costs.
- Homeless people, spreading disease.
- Homeless- the lack of shelters- the no camping ban with all the empty building- why are people living on the streets why do we not have a "tiny home" community? Why are there so many homeless vets in Civic Center park and when we question these things why are they just moved to another location and not helped?
- Homeless/transient population and their use of 'hard' drugs (heroin, meth). It creates desperation & crime.
- Homeless/vagrant density in urban Denver.
- Homelessness & vagrants. Although the marijuana business has been lucrative to the city, more people are moving here just to get it because it is legal.
- Homelessness- 10 years ago Denver had a plan to end homelessness & the problem has only gotten worse.
- Homelessness and panhandling- presents a poor image to visitors, invites crime and contributes to a feeling that Denver is a poor, unsafe urban area.
- Homelessness is out of control in Denver. We are planning to sell our home because the issue is getting worse. PLEASE CLEAN UP BROADWAY!
- Homelessness issue.
- Homelessness- need more options for finding shelter.
- Homelessness- providing affordable housing. These are signs of being a compassionate & caring city.
- Homelessness- rents are too high- more apt. buildings should be built to house sec-8 & low income residents.
- Homelessness- they bring down the comfort level of tourists & residents now being able to pan handle while on restaurant patios on 16th St. & all transportation is centered in Downtown but there's not enough places to have homeless go for help still w/12k people on sidewalks Downtown.
- Homelessness- too many people on the streets with not enough resources for help.
- Homelessness, & the shelters should be relocated to areas not as central to Downtown. Also, the prevalence of people panhandling.
- Homelessness, there is a growing (rapidly) number of homeless people in Denver due, in part, to the lack of affordable housing. Homelessness makes the city unattractive, dangerous, & drains resources.
- Homelessness. To many people on the streets need work & financial help.
- Homelessness/safety Downtown & Rino.
- Homelessness/vagrancy on 16th St Mall.
- I am disappointed to see many homeless not only Downtown but in my suburb as well; I would like to see resources to assist and help this situation.
- I believe we need to invest in our Downtown area and give people a reason to want visit it- especially 16th St Mall- it's embarrassing to bring visitors as you are constantly confronted by people begging for money or mentally ill causing a scene. Also, needs more/better retail.
- I think homeless help care is relevant as well as making parks in the cap hill area more pleasant for average residents. Also Colfax is really bumpy to drive on.
- Panhandlers/homeless people increasing presence Downtown and throughout the city- crime, drugs, overall safety going downhill. Pot legalized- terrible turn for society here in Denver.
- Panhandling must be disallowed homeless.
- Remove the ever increasing amounts of vagrants & the trash they leave in public places. This is one of the first things that people point out when visiting Denver.
- Residents & tourists instead of having a great time visiting the 16th St Mall or City Park are met with countless homeless and unsavory groups hanging out in certain corners and harassing them for money or smokes and many times even get hostile when they are turned down. This includes Civic Center Park across from the capital!
- Taking care of the homeless- they're people too!

- The ever increasing homeless population is making it unappealing to live here and looks bad on Denver as a whole. We live downtown, and have gone down to our cars to see piles of human feces next to them. I commend the City of Denver for taking steps, like making Skyline Park a place for kids to play and a dog park, because I always avoided walking down that way due to the large amount of homeless people there. Now, however, the park being closed has pushed the homeless people onto the sidewalk next to our building.
- The growing number of homeless- and panhandling.
- The high number of vagrants, beggars, gypsies and homeless (some able bodied) persons is out of control. They increase the level of harassment and the overall feeling of safety has declined and is getting worse.
- The homeless
- The homeless and vagrant situation Downtown (16th street, Skyline park, etc.). There seems to be a group of young people that takes advantage of our city's leniency towards vagrants, loitering and marijuana. The situation is unacceptable and discourages me from raising my young family close to Downtown Denver.
- The homeless situation Downtown. Significantly changes the character of the city. Has a very negative impact on tourism.
- The homeless who interfere with citizens by their begging and their presence in residential neighborhoods
- The homeless: need more/better services to help them find jobs, permanent housing, healthcare, and to remove negative stigma. Overall need community awareness, involvement, and contribution specifically from millennials.
- The increased homeless population is affecting our quality of life: safety, traffic, cleanliness, property value- and now with panhandling restrictions being lifted in the city, apparently we may be harassed at any time. Bike paths also much less usable and safe now that those areas are a gathering place for these populations. With the booming local economy there is no reason for this.
- The way homeless people take 16th St Mall, city parks, open areas and the area around my apartment bldg, (Park Ave W & Curtis).
- There are too many homeless people. Provide more shelters and resolutions for them.
- Too many homeless people- its sad & w/all this pot money lets help out instead of closing more down.
- transient population
- Way too many homeless on the street corners. Could you not recruit those w/out mental problems to work for the city as one big cleanup crew. It would be cheaper than the current pace. Any questions call me at 3032290085 & ask for Larry Jr.
- You have to clean up Downtown- the homeless problem is dangerous & off putting to business people & tourists. Its a terrible showing for Downtown Denver dirty, dangerous, gross.

Governance, budget and economy

- (1) City workers are not taking their jobs serious, they sit there either in their vehicles & never get out to investigate calls or they give wrong information. You never know what to believe as each call and interaction either by phone or in person they all have a different answer! (2) Over populated in areas where apartment buildings reside in residential areas. And no one wants to do anything about because they might have to work.
- (Not the most pressing, but irritating): Years ago, the city took away 2 garbage dumpsters serving 8 families from the alley between the 1300 S. Lafayette block and S. Humboldt St. block and never replaced them. I phoned the past and present city council persons, but the city never has provided garbage pick-up for these 8 families since.
- 1. I don't trust the public input process- usually appears decisions are predetermined and public input is strictly out of requirement. 2. Need better intra-neighborhood public transportation (to & from light rail stations). 3. My street is CRAP & was postponed for repavement.
- A lot of thing. Budget- no people.
- Access to high quality health services for all of our residents. Everything stems from a healthy population: .healthy people can work & support their families .healthy kids come to school ready to learn .healthy families contribute to our communities overall economics & social health.
- Availability of affordable health care options- especially psych. poor road maintenance.
- Balanced budget
- Being able to trust city government.
- Better tax flow information, some people do not understand that our taxes pay for street lights, streets fireman, police etc.

- City and state governments are too quick to please minority dissidents regardless what the topic or the disagreements may be. Good example. Those brave police officers who risk their lives every day and to even think that they can't use their weapons to apprehend any and all fleeing regardless of age to accept a position as a police officer now days is nuts!!
- City council corruption re"development"-driving young artists & middle- class out, disrupting neighborhoods, esp. minority neighborhoods- localized too high density (like Cherry Creek, for instance),- indifference to neighborhood parks and micro-cultures. Always favoring \$\$ developers.
- Compromising of the park system by the mayor and the city. The mayor has a reputation for not listening or caring to listen to local neighborhoods, particularly in regard to preserving the city's parks. The police department prevents Denver from becoming the great city it could be. This has been the case for 40 years.
- Continued financial stimulus- we are growing fast- don't want a repeat of 80's.
- Control spending.
- Courtesy of employees. Typically they are very unfriendly.
- Diversity in city employees to represent the city of Denver residents. It creates an overall sense of industriousness.
- DMV services.
- Economic development. Important that Denver remains competitive & jobs are maintained/created.
- Economic growth to grow tax revenue.
- Economy that doesn't rely on Marijuana!
- Economy. I run a small business & live in Denver but can hardly survive. All your fees/taxes kill my business. My costs are all skyrocketing & my pay is decreasing. I may be forced to leave soon.
- Employment (Denver still needs more jobs availability).
- Employment aid to people needing medicaid- expansion of Marijuana stores is offensive.
- Expert information, community education polices are educational psychology in public relation.
- Giving illegals free services such as WolfWare they are breaking the law, they should not get any services.
- Health care!!
- I am sure their is a lot on the agenda jest stick with the priorities and do not procrastinate (progression).
- Integrity across the board.
- It is apparent that the current Mayor and City Council DO NOT represent their constituents to the extent that urban planning (zoning, parks & rec, density decisions) are being put in the hands of real estate developers. This short sighted and destructive movement being imposed by the current politicians in power will only lead to a decline in the quality of life Denverites want. Abandoning park development and championing density (for the sake of density) without regard for corresponding infrastructure is both short sighted and criminal. This is not the kind of legacy civic leaders with any sense of public purpose and pride should aspire to!
- Jobs.
- Keep on innovating.
- Knowledgeable persons on phone to get questions answered, adequately.
- Lack of responsiveness to the average person in local neighborhood- it appears that the mayor and government is not concerned with problems and issues of the average person- when we speak up and attend meetings and hearings we are ignored.
- Learning to use resources available to best of ability- more money is not the answer to everything.
- Make the Downtown safer get rid of the black gangs.
- Mental health services need to be enhanced and made available and accessible.
- Move toward a web based system of government functions such as filing a permit, DMV change of vehicle address etc. There is no reason that many of these functions cannot be done online.
- Need a wider variety of experience of personnel- not just friends and relatives of current administration.
- Overall Denver is a great city. I just hope they continue to support small business so we don't become L.A. or Phoenix.
- Paramedic level service not being provided by the fire department. Denver (fire) is only agency in the metro area that doesn't provide advanced life support to the community.
- Revitalizing poorer neighborhoods.
- Spending too much money on building new apartments and roads, the light rail lines, and making tax payers pay for it! Bring new restaurants.

- Stop wasting taxpayers money on useless initiatives and measures and focus on infrastructure and improving quality of life for all citizens. Stop with the street sweeping & parking tickets it's a waste of time and money.
- Strong economy- more jobs.
- Sustainable Economic Growth
- The mayor and city council being in the pocket of big developers and ignoring the wishes & good of it's citizens.
- The mayor is corrupt. The way he uses his authority to forward a personal agenda is frightening. Most recently, I'm unimpressed with his appointment of Happy Haynes to the parks dept., but the list of disappointment is larger than we have room for here.
- The most pressing issue today is communication with residents about what's going on around Denver because we need to focus on community society.
- The police mayor's desire to build anywhere at any cost. Thank you for putting this questionnaire together.
- To many unnecessary taxes, greed amazing executive branches, not really caring for the poor/disabled/elderly to freely have enough money to even buy a ham burger and seeing city officials as yourself having unlimited city credit cards to enjoy for themselves and friends for lunch/dinner/parties. Everything built is concrete gray, "colorful glo" is taken away. Cities like Taos N.M has very nice color and 1 theme.
- Why the mayor is overreaching and raising taxes too high- not fiscally responsible.
- Without question, the public schools in Denver are the biggest concern. Things are way worse than anyone cares to admit.

Don't know

- Do not know.
- Do not know.
- Don't know.
- I don't know.
- N/A.
- N/A.
- N/A??
- No.
- Not sure
- Not sure.
- There is no "single most pressing issue" as there are many cannot answer the question. I have no answer.

Other

- "Recycle" because city of Denver has no interest on it.
- (1) Fracking within city limits is too dangerous for/to our water system.(2) Affordable housing.
- 1) Most get pride of the smoke & grow locations. These are a black eye to own community. 2) Frivolous overzealous traffic code enforcement in residential areas.
- Accepting Syrian refugees/don't want them no sanctuary city!
- Affordable education of all young residents, because education will take care of many other issues, e.g. crime, homelessness.
- Children having children because their parents are either dead, have left or are in prison.
- Continuing to make Denver a "livable community" w/ transit, green space and sense of community.
- Denver being a sanctuary city. Politics & political correctness above the needs/safety of its legal citizens. This causes a drain on city services, funds, and manpower. Increased crime and decline in Denver's quality of life.
- Discrimination on the white guy. To many illegals car stereo noise. Housing & jobs.
- Education (k-12) and secondary.
- Education for the youth in Denver, as I've recently learned that high school drop out rates in Denver are extraordinarily high.
- Education- schools are not doing a great job educating our neediest citizens. This is the bedrock to a strong community.
- Education, it's the future which is important.
- Education. Good public schools attract people, also, children are our future.

- Education. Many families leave Denver in order to get a better education for their kids.
- Get rid of the P.C. movement.
- How we can protect people from terrorists and the voting situations, very stuff to get an attorney for a case like my husband problems he ended up with a stroke Nov. 2012 and a heart attack July 19, 2015 I think their should be more help out here with cases like my husband. I'm not getting anywhere. Yes I have been upset
- I believe it is education & the current state of our public schools; because veteran teachers have been pushed out the children are being tested at a ridiculous rate & it seems schools have become the new cubicle. Education is not the same as corporate America but is being treated as such rather than a place to foster academia.
- I like the mayor. He is doing a good job.
- I live in 10 Mariposa see Downtown.
- I would like to see more opportunities for gifted children-with no child left behind, the really smart kids special educational needs take a back burner.
- Illegal immigration-should have been addressed in your other questions. This population received benefits funded by our tax dollars but they are here illegally. Their numbers continue to grow, impacting traffic congestion and crime burdening city services and assistance programs. They are breaking the law.
- Important issues- strong public schools (for sales of rent) generation and democracy and maintenance of infrastructure so as to cherish the public investments already made & strengthen the conditions in which businesses thrive and lives are lived.
- Improving education. Better educated citizens always make smarter decisions.
- Improving k-12 quality of education.
- Improving quality of "stem" K-12 education as this is our future! (And I have grandchildren).
- Integration- it is very important to me to have all people integrated into society.
- Keep Denver as a "significant" city in the US (i.e. up there w/Chicago, Dallas, Atlanta, San Francisco etc.).
- Lack of recycling mandates and composting options, especially within bars & restaurants!!!
- Legal marijuana. It will destroy our city. The crime in Denver has increased and rises daily. It drives a wedge between us and god. We don't know enough about this horrible drug. It is extremely dangerous to mental health. Our young people will rationalize away the dangers of this drug because the law protects it. Note: It will be outlawed again one day!!! We will learn.
- Legal use of drug marijuana.
- Legalization of Marijuana done poorly and without thought to ramifications. More crime, more violence, more transients, using city services with more strain on normal working folks once again footing the bill.
- Marijuana issue, with the crime, abuse, management of it.
- Marijuana- get rid of it!
- Marijuana- I see a lot of violence and assaults in TV news.
- Marijuana is the most pressing issue because my household doesn't like it. We can't ever open our window because the smell comes into our house. People that use it should smoke inside their own homes.
- Marijuana laws.
- Marijuana related legislation, & regulation, and enforcement.
- Mental health and the Jesus Saves bldg on Park Ave. This outdoor mess needs serious attention. The amount of public defecation by our home in Rino is out of control. Also public drug use & intoxication from the homeless population needs addressing.
- More flights & airline services at dia.
- Need to have competing cable services, not just Comcast to bring down cost.
- Not letting a small minority of RNOS-CPFAN drive Denver park's policy.
- Not pressing- but to dog owners, many more dog parks needed; homeless issues.
- Opportunities for adult education and enrichment because I enjoy learning new things but spending so much on student bars that I can't afford educational opportunities.
- Passing SCFD; culture will make Denver a better place.
- Pot sales are out of control: It's an embarrassment poor education & supplies for elementary school. Rent too high- too much greed.
- Preparing for drought in US not just Denver.
- Public school quality- considering moving only because of k-12 education quality. Recycling service-- bimonthly pickups are not enough, more recycling pickups please! Weekly would be great!

- Quality ECE-12 education. School in low-income, mixed-income neighborhoods are often segregated and low-performing. Families who can transport children to other neighborhood schools do, those who can't don't.
- Quality education.
- Reducing the number of dogs in the city. They are contaminating school grounds (even though they are not supposed to be on them), parks, and yards with their waste. Their barking is ruining neighborhoods and the city has an awful policy that puts the burden of proof or mitigation on those citizens who do not want to hear dog barking at all times of the day and night. Fresh laws are not consistently obeyed either by dog owners.
- Removal of Josephine dog park with no local replacement.
- Renewable energy, for reasons across the board starting w/health & economic positive impacts. We are a leader in many/sectors/measures, this is an opportunity to lead in a coming shift that's here and growing anyhow.
- Responsible use of marijuana tax, people are willing to pay tax to have access to recreational marijuana so we should use this to better community needs like education.
- Sanctuary city- it is causing many problems.
- Schools and poor education offered in many schools. The children are not getting a good enough education for them to move on to college. Vocational education needs to be available.
- Sense of community for all.
- Staying on a best.
- Supporting people who are not U.S. citizens. Do not give them rights (drivers license, food stamps, health care, etc) just because they have a baby here not a citizen. If a cat had kittens in the oven, would you call them biscuits?
- Sustainability- natural spaces conserves- trees grown, more nature & parks.
- Taking the garbage out the alley on snow days. Let the people take their garbage out front for a pick up like people do without an alley the big carts are a pain for people with disabilities.
- The "governor's" decision to accept Syrian refugees of "Muslim persuasion" is insane & insane & the governor's sanctuary policies make Denver & the state an unsafe place to live!
- The most pressing issue in Denver is pollution, because the city looks dirty.
- The Nuggets being terrible, and the cost of the living.
- The problem of the brown cloud.
- The vitality of the 16th St mall
- To much focus on national policy influencing local decisions. Healthcare/Obamacare programs.
- Underfunding of k-12 & higher ed by state legislature.
- Undocumented construction workers that don't understand codes or English. The overall construction & building industry is bereft of quality. There are numerous lawsuits in progress in the Denver area. There is sufficient evidence that lack of supervision and the inability to read the English language are two of the main causes of the lack of quality in new construction.
- Way too many pot shops. The poisoning and unlimited access of children and those under 21 is staggering. Research on THC exposure and the developing brain (up to age 16) is clear: Permanent cognitive damage. The city needs to respond with focus and precision immediately.
- Where & why taxes from marijuana sales go. To schools, but what about Denver's infrastructure? Denver is falling apart (roads, sidewalks, bridges, trashy streets, dead trees, etc. We don't need more schools. We need the city to look like a place you want to live not hide. And our old schools need air conditioner for hotter days not fans & new windows.
- Zoning out marijuana grows and using warehouse space for more live/work areas-conducive to attract entrepreneurial startups. Pot tax \$ is great but the quality of industry makers is uneducated and not able to expand themselves beyond pot biz. Rec stores are fine. Grow space is waste of space.