

2010 Thermopolis Planning Survey

Survey Purpose

The survey was intended to gather opinions of Thermopolis citizens about community development concerns in Thermopolis and about specific issues in the town. The results of the survey will be used in developing the town master plan.

Survey Methods

The survey was designed to achieve an accuracy level of 5%. This means that the results from a sample of voters have a 95% probability of being within 5% of the answers that all voters would give. For example, if 65% of the sample voters said "yes" as the answer to a question then it is highly probable (95 % chance) that between 60% and 70% (+ or - 5%) of all voters would also answer "yes".

In order to achieve this level of accuracy, two things needed to happen. First, we needed to receive at least 302 survey responses (this number is based on a statistical formula). As it turned out, we received 339 responses.

Secondly, we needed to receive a minimum of 50 percent of the surveys back and preferably 60% back. Response rates of 50% to 60% or better are considered the minimum response rates necessary to avoid a biased sample. The concern with smaller response rates is that of "self-selection bias" where only an unrepresentative group responds. When response rates are in the 50 to 60% range or better, self-selection bias can be ruled out.

The survey sample of 562 registered voters was drawn from the voter rolls for the Town of Thermopolis. The survey questionnaire was sent to the sample voters on Monday May 22, 2010. By Friday, April 9, 339 surveys were completed and returned. This equates to a response rate of 60.3%.

Survey Questions

The questions on the survey questionnaire were developed by the Town's planning consultant and the Town Planning Commission. The survey questions are listed with the survey results (on the following pages).

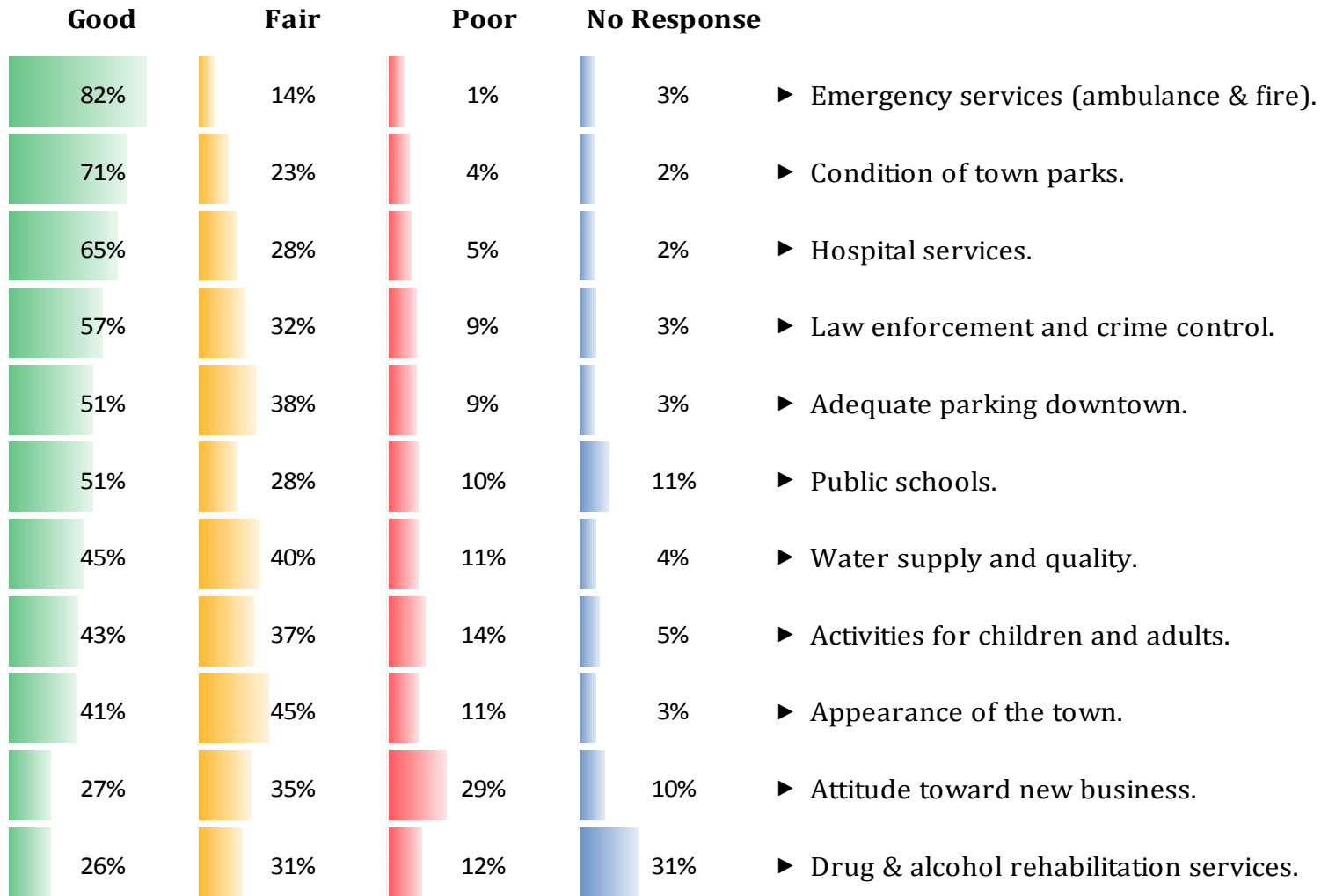
Survey Results

The survey results are presented on the following pages. The results show the actual responses as indicated on the 339 completed surveys. Results are given as percentages.

The survey allowed respondents to provide additional written comments. 132 respondents add written comments. Those comments follow the survey results tables.

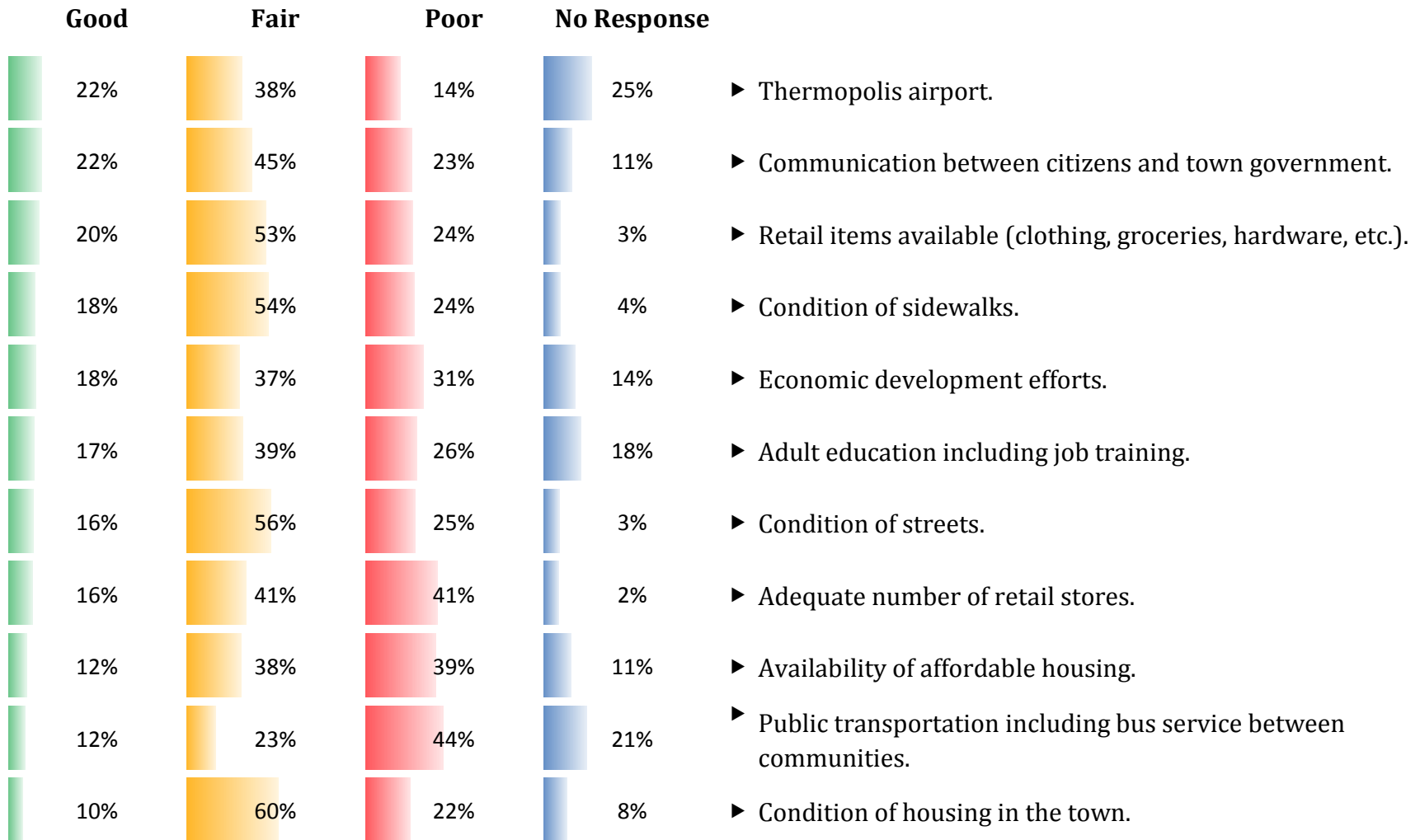
How do you rate Thermopolis on the following items?

(Please put one mark — good, fair, or poor — for each item or leave it blank if you don't know the answer or are undecided.)

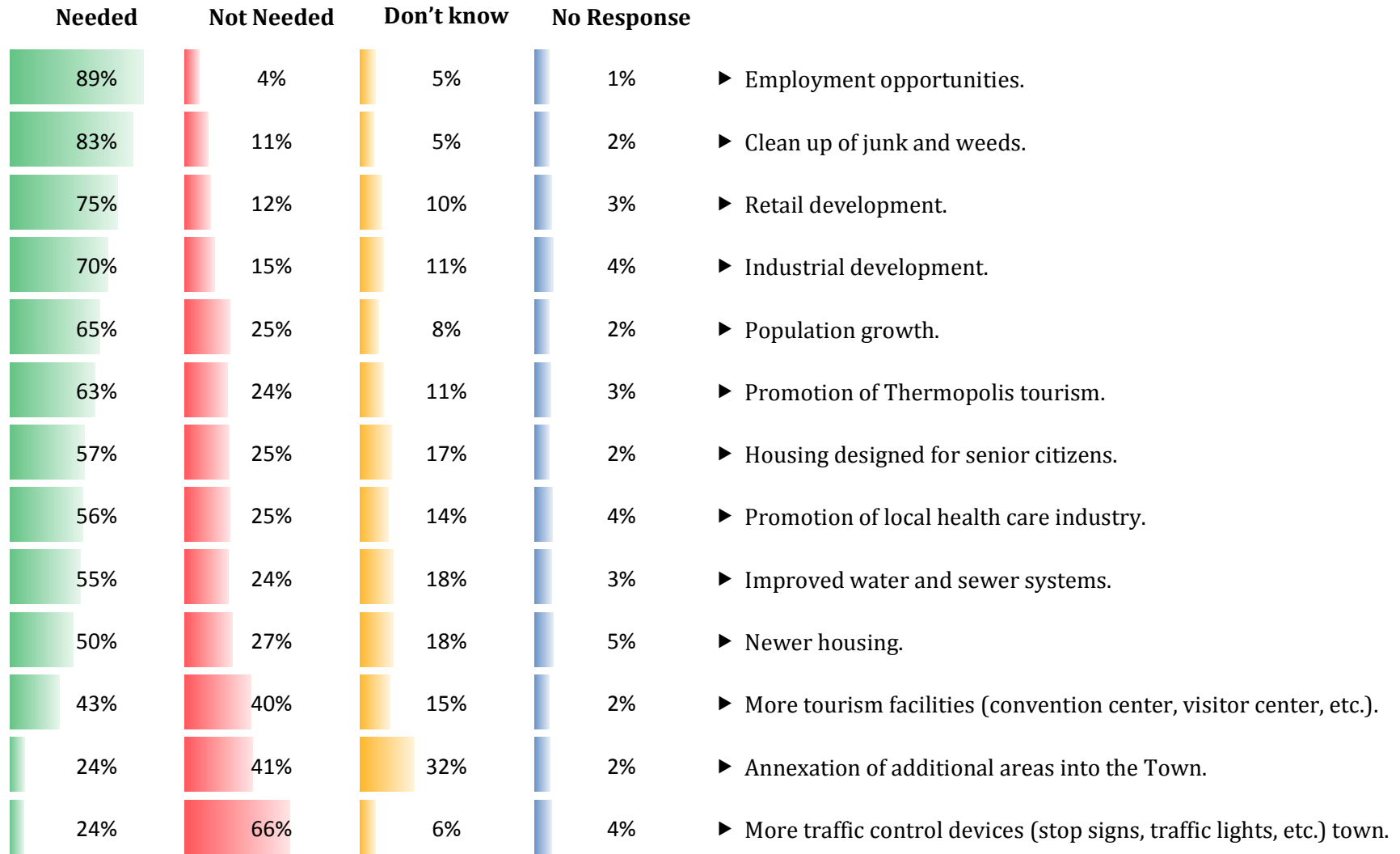


How do you rate Thermopolis on the following items?

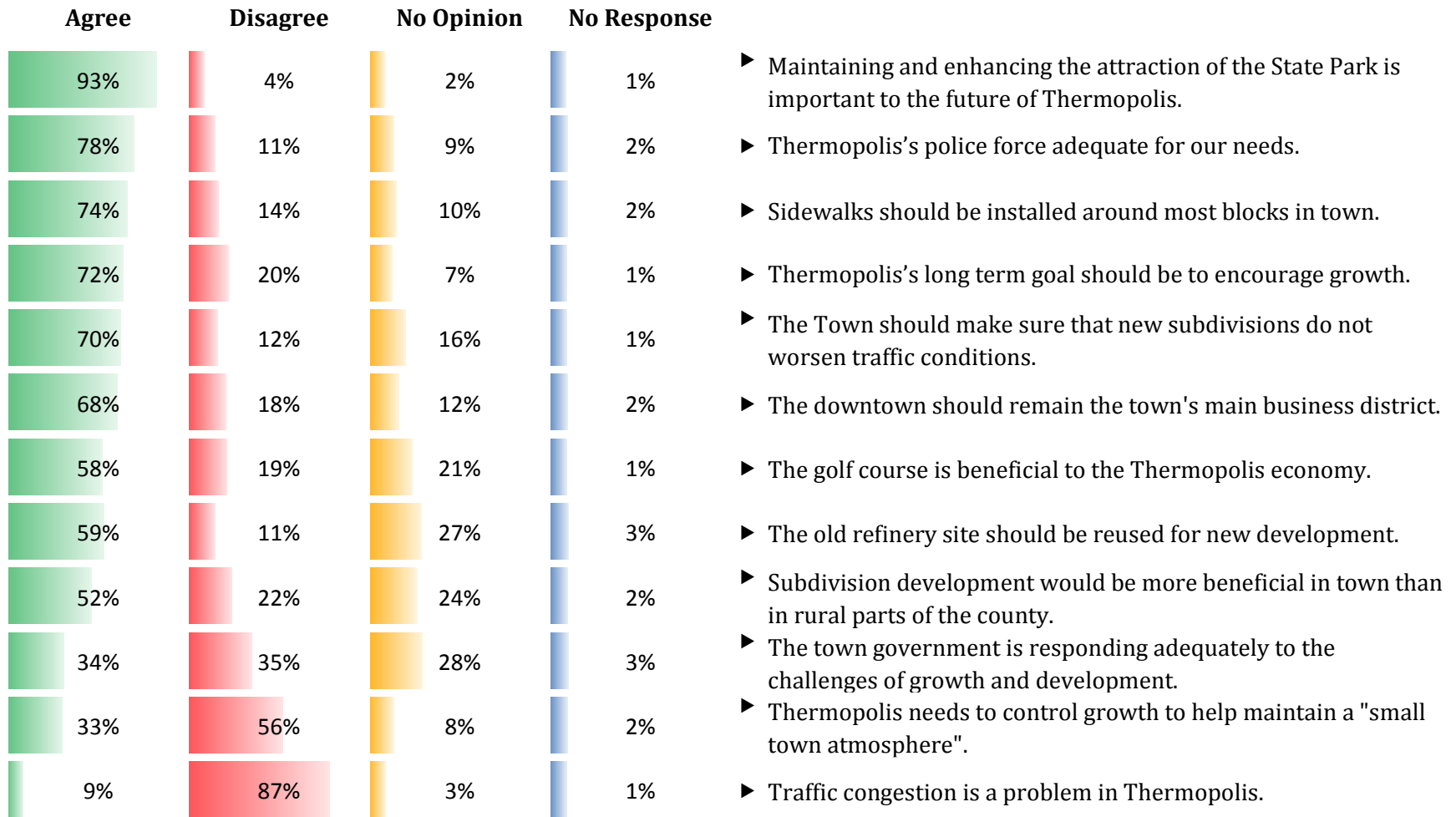
(Please put one mark — good, fair, or poor — for each item or leave it blank if you don't know the answer or are undecided.)



In your opinion, does Thermopolis need or not need more of the following?



Regarding the following statements about Thermopolis, do you agree, disagree or have no opinion?



Written Comments

Below are the written comments. The number before each comment is the survey number (each survey was numbered after it was received).

#1- Thermopolis is a very beautiful town! We enjoy the scenery very much!

#3- I feel one of the most important things to bring more higher income jobs to town is to work to bring medical occupation to town. Use the area South of town. There is so many industrial medical fields any more and should be pursued. With growth traffic control can be taken care of then.

#6- Does the Town need to spend so much money on Engineering Associates. Get Rid of Them.

#8- We need a rec center for adults and children and night activities. There is too much Booze activity. Our water system needs to be a priority. We need to plan for overhaul of the system, or replacement. Its far off in the future, but our hospital doesn't need to be in the flood zone. Traffic light on Amoretti and 6th would help.

#16- Thermopolis not large reason for lack of business people. Great place to live probably without a doubt. One of the best places in the state to retire in- cost of living here better than a lot of people think. Check around and see. I HAVE. Complete LACK of UNDERstanding by community, what it takes to operate a business in a small town. People need to be EDUCATED about where their tax dollars come from and by spending out of town we LOOSE and what SALES tax dollars do for us. Stores should maintain constant hooks if they want to do business. They should be THERE for the customers. Employers should encourage employees to learn about their community. Where visitors or customers can find places to visit or SERVICES. Car repair, hospital, ect. We have far too many RESTAURANTS taking a slice out of the pie that is available. Hard to maintain good places to eat. We have enough retail grocery outlets for the SIZE of the community. NEED a good clothing store and another pharmacy. Have always felt museum hours don't jive with tourist travel. Should be open LATER at night during tourist season instead of closing in the middle of the afternoon. Tourists look for something to do at night. Would be nice to see Police Officers walking the streets, besides the SHERIFF. Some kind of open house should be to enlighten the community who the Police Officers are to build friendships not disgust, wonder, fear. Thanks

#18- Town's waste water lagoon system should have been placed at the old refinery location. Town's infrastructure and maintenance of is vital to our existence. Fire service should be a priority to keep the cost of insurance rates at an affordable rate.

#23- Signs and fines for dog poop in parks. Deer are taking over Thermopolis- they have more rights in town than we do! Fines for cats at large!

#27- Public should be better informed as to how the 1¢ sales tax is being used.

#30- Sewers are in very poor condition in the North part of town. Needs new sewer system and new lines.

#31- Thermopolis has a terrible reputation concerning the police force stopping tourists and giving out tickets to them. It has even been written up in the Highways Magazine. Tourism is mandatory in helping growth, but when stores are not open and restaurants close early, people get a sour taste and move on. We need to encourage opening stores on Broadway, Arapahoe, 5th Street, and yet we put money in GDC for a business park that stands empty. We need more community participation through out "Mayor" instead of being "poo poed" by the town council and never get anything acted upon. Some goes for the public schools. Amoretti and 6th needs a stop light badly.

#32- I was appalled by the amount of dog "doo" in Candy Jack Park the first time I went there. I have been back twice and found the same mess. I would never take a child there to play. If there were some way for us to get raw water for irrigation or if the cost of water was lower maybe the yards in town would be better cared for. There should be stop signs in the center of the intersection of 5th and Broadway and 4th and Broadway. The parking on Broadway in the center should be removed on the west end and a turn lane put into place at the light. These intersections are VERY dangerous, especially for tourists and new citizens.

#35- Water supply is good, water quality is poor.

#39- Candy Jack Park needs more maintenance for lawn, trees, and shrubs. Weeds not controlled, walks (ALL) need snow removal.

#40- 1) We need better rental properties. 2) Keep promoting growth and new industries. 3) Need to work on Recreation/Convention center. 4) We need our new airport- glad we are nearing that goal. 5) Keep promoting our excellent hospital, doctors, Gottsche Center- we are lucky for a small town to have such great medical care.

#42- I would like to see yield or stop signs on all corners in the city.

#43- We need to find grant money to completely replace our domestic water system, to include all water lines. Turning the existing water lines into a 'raw' water system. Making irrigation water more affordable to the town's people, which will stimulate desire to improve existing yards. Also, cutting down operation costs to the water plant by reducing the amount of chemical to treat water being used for irrigation. Thermopolis being the county seat is the only town within the county to not have an irrigation system available to its citizens. I think this should be a #1 priority of this towns government. Thank you!

#45- The quantity of the Thermopolis water is good but the quality is poor. The hot mineral water is somehow getting into the system. The industrial park was a waste of money. Business will follow the people. People will not follow the business. The airport should not be moved. Almost no one will use the new airport if it is moved that far out of town.

#47- Why is there East Thermopolis? 1 city, 1 government. More stop signs.

#49- We have lived here for 29 years. Really enjoy the Pools. Really enjoy the town= enjoy Thermopolis.

#50- The new airport on Owl Creek is a waste of money. The industrial park south of Thermopolis is a bad joke.

#53- Keep up the good work on the best city in the state of Wyo.

#54- The town should enforce The Ordnances. They have So we don't have all The items sitting in the street. Give out some Tickets, To everyone not complying with ordnances. Use the money for the Town parks. The Town should annex area South to have more tax revenue.

#58- Need to create jobs for locals first then invite growth of population. Retail does need to grow after population growth but until then we need to support what retail business is here already. Pay as you go! No Debt for Thermopolis! Local healthcare providers need to be able to care for us first and they are being stretched now with new clinics all over the Bighorn Basin. Marketing the local healthcare industry at this time might be a mistake. Need more providers first.

#63- Need new sewer line. Need traffic light at 6th and Amoretti.

#66- There are lot and yards that are either untended or have junk cars or other metallic debris. An ordinance should be passed to require prompt removal of such debris or clearing of weeds. If there is already such an ordinance it needs to be enforced.

#71- I think the old Elks building should be turned into a community center, since the town already owns it. It is a shame Thermopolis doesn't have a community building, when a town the size of Shoshoni has a new one. We have a fire station that only the five men & families can use, but our tax dollar pays for the upkeep, have new search and rescue building for the same men (fire dept.) but nothing for the average citizen.

#73- Cost of water is extremely high, but our town needs raw water to help make the yards and trees in our town mature. Our town parks should be as nice as the state park. People maintaining the lawns need to slow down and spray weeds! We do not need a new airport! Hanging flowers would improve the appearance of our downtown area. Economic Development effort- we don't need any. When we put the new highway in and took out the median, there was no communication of that happening. We need a second water line with raw water for lawns. There is one issue your planning committee forgot: Do you think deer should be in town? The town council will have a law suit someday because our deer in Thermopolis are going to hurt a child or an elderly person and the council will be to blame! No one should be feeding the deer in town.

#75- 1) Where is the old refinery? 2) Sidewalks are terrible- they are cracked, un-even, or non-existent. 3) The deer are a problem and an accident waiting to happen! There are numerous unreported incidents including people, pets, & deer. Park sidewalks are covered with deer droppings & there are times it is not safe to walk because of the deer. People who feed them should be fined. Thermopolis is a city not a game reserve! 4) More fine enforcement to people who do not clean up; maintain their property.

#77- 1) We find it necessary to filter our drinking water. 2) Snow removal on Amoretti between 14th and 11th is non-existent! 3) Heavy traffic and speed on Amoretti. 4) Poor road condition on Amoretti- just like cobblestone. 5) Enforce clean-up of property across from theater!! 6) Why have a mayor- The 'Assistant' seems to have all the answers?

#79- Thermopolis caters to the Senior Age group. What about the younger? They need places to live and things to do!

#81- Stores downtown should stay open later and on weekends, especially in the summer months. You never know when restaurants are going to be open. Thermopolis want to be a tourist town but doesn't want meet the needs of tourist. More cooperation between the city and county.

#82- We need more and better water pressure in some areas. Improving our water and water system should be a number one priority, absolutely needed if we add more homes!!!!

#83- Law enforcement and crime control is good. Not many/good clothing stores. Good fire and ambulance crews. Police department is good. Sidewalks need to be repaired. Many people walk around town and it's dangerous because of disrepair.

#85- The town of Thermopolis should discourage the building of subsidized housing. We don't need more low-income housing. I do think the town should have an architectural code for main street. New airport is a bad idea.

#88- Water from TEN SLEEP. Fix Arapahoe St. and speed limit. Lower (?) in front of Catholic Church.

#98- Clean up is needed badly!! Do we need a convention center? We have the Day's Inn. Plenty of motels which could accommodate Big crowds. Most sidewalks are good. How much would this cost the city?

#102- We have a new Industrial Park but what has EDC done to let the taxpayers know what is happening? Why the secrecy? The government does not belong in the housing market. Let private businesses handle housing. Clean up the junkyard North of town. Encourage more use of the Auditorium and rodeo fair grounds. Add 9 holes to the golf course. More tourist events- Rodeos, car shows, fishing derbys, golf tournaments, 2 demo derbys a year, airplane fly-ins, tractor pulls, shotgun trap school. Promote conventions and meetings in Thermopolis.

#108- The deer population in Thermopolis needs to be addressed. This could become a health problem.

#109- Pamida is good. We live on 14th St. and with all the Cody, Casper, Riverton cars and trucks going on it, the streets are a mess! I've heard there are leakage problems at the refinery.

#111- I think a planning commission who hires people from other areas have collectively lost their minds. With the economy the way it is, with budgets being cut- the money paid to outsiders could be put to better rise.

#115- The town needs to address the deer population in town.

#119- 1) A town that does not grow dies. 2) The mayor promised to clean up trashed yards and it didn't happen. 3) Industrial development is critical for town survival. 4) Thermop is very unwelcoming to new residents.

#122- Sidewalks around every block would look nice, provide temporary jobs, and raise the value of are (our) real estate. Are (Our) police force would be better if we had more honest police who didn't enter people's homes without knocking or gothnew peoples and cooler while they are at the demo derby, or chase are (our) teenage daughter up and down main street harassing and pulling them over for no reason.

#126- We have a Days Inn. Support it, promote it.

#135- Fill up the new industrial park south of town before starting a new development project i.e. the old refinery site.

#140- I think the one stop light is part of the charm of Thermopolis. I believe the housing should be priced around the town's average price- not everyone owns a business, nor is a doctor- someone's needs to work at the (illegible) department and they pay minimum wage but these people deserve to live in a house that is NOT FALLING DOWN. So affordable housing for everyone. I believe that Thermopolis should be a Retirement Community that's the path to follow. I also believe that locals should get discounts when it comes to tourist area or visiting the pools.

#141- Need traffic light- slow down 18 wheeler coming through town. Clean this town up- junk yards in every neighborhood. Clean up downtown- The Old Mac's Bar look bad. Do something about the Deer.

#145- Thermopolis should not grow! The hot water source is declining and that is what keeps us going.

#148- There should be an effort to install more sidewalks around town to encourage walking. Also needed is an enforcement of people cleaning up their houses/ lots. This should include broken down cars, weeds, and junk.

#148- I feel we should hire police officers with better personalities. Our cops are rude to everyone and I, personally, would rather deal with whatever situation I am in than call our police. I feel they cannot be trusted.

#152- Thermopolis Tourism- based on available funding. I feel they are doing a great job. The entrance of the State Park NEEDS work it is terrible.

#153- The state park has the most users each year (over a million) but tourism income seems stagnant because, from what I am told by several store owners, there is no one to hire. I feel we need a concerted effort to supply affordable housing for service people to allow stores to stay open longer each day

during the tourist season, sport season, holiday season, ect. With more tax money, perhaps other wants and needs can be addressed.

#155- Rental houses not being kept up. Junk yard vehicles, wrecked, unlicensed parked on city property. Both properties across from Ritz and a lot more.

#158- We need more job opportunities which requires growth, as in population and businesses. I like the small town atmosphere but our population is getting younger, therefore we need to be less a retirement oriented community. Also I think we could still be and have a lot of options for retired people, like the new subdivisions could be a retirement neighborhood. We need more businesses to accommodate everyone. The streets and some sidewalks need to be redone. I think we have plenty of tourist attraction, but we need to utilize the fairgrounds a lot more by having more events also to bring in more tourism and money for all the businesses around town. We are lacking in new housing and industrial growth tremendously. To solve most of these problems we are going to have to grow and lure bigger companies and franchises in.

#159- With all the new federal and state regulations the town's most important asset is the professional (certified and licensed) employee. This is sometimes forgotten when development of the town is discuss.

#162- Junk yards on the outskirts and junky residential lots are an eyesore. We should not allow body shops and storage facilities to be built on the main thoroughfare through town. Anyone complaining of traffic congestion needs to spend a week in a town with traffic congestion. Main thing we need is developed land to build housing on. Private investors can't make money on development with the high cost of good land and cost of infrastructure.

#166- We need our County Hospital, Community Home Health Services and Hospice in Our Town. When speaking of progress and development, Careful Consideration of these meaning should be taken. Following the plans and standards of large cities and progressive states such as California and Massachusetts, lead to Disastrous Results. We don't want this for Our Town!

#168- Peoples person property should not be allowed to become trash collectors. We need to enforce the cleaning up of personal property.

#175- It is really a shame that so much money was wasted on the "Business Park". I would say it is like the "Thermopolis Bridge to No Where". I do not believe that tax payers' money should go to the golf course- let the golfers pay for golf if they want too. Thanks.

#176- Town does a go job taking care of its infrastructure considering the resources it has to waste with this. I don't know for sure, but water sure seems more expensive in Thermop than other WY towns/cities. Having a raw water dist. System would be great and would help with the town's appearance in the Spring and Summer months. It was too bad we couldn't have at least started this when Broadway was torn up from end to end a few years ago. I am also a bit biases, but I do believe it is in the Towns best interest to support the local golf course. If it is well maintained people will come from around the state to play golf and take in some other activities while here. Thanks.

#177- While I would like to see growth in the community, one reason I moved back to Thermopolis is the small town atmosphere. I think the majority of our public entities do a great job with what they have to work with. Our elected officials also do a good job of trying to take care of the majority. From personal experience, I would like to see a focus on the infrastructure on the town. (sidewalks, water, sewer, ect.)

#183- I came to Thermopolis to escape the hub-bub of large places. I realize that better shopping requires a larger population, but let's keep this town Walmart free!

#184- We don't need a new airport with Worland airport 30 miles away. In my opinion, the soil where they have proposed to build the runway don't look good to me on owl creek road.

#187- I think the police should watch for young drivers in hopped-up cars and noise makers. They (illegible) where they are but they find it easier to watch cars leaving bars and clubs and give them fines as if they were real criminals.

#190- Think about expanding bike trails/running/walking paths to enjoy more of town's beauty safely. Recycling- something should be done or join forces with Worland.

#191- For a town that has catered to the disabled, the sidewalks are in poor condition and don't exist in certain areas. The state park is vital to the future of Thermop. Anything we can do to enhance that partnership would be good. Homeowners should be required to keep their properties in good condition: kept well, weed free, and animals under control. I am impressed with our health care facilities. We don't need more development or expansion until we have done our very best to take care of what we have at present.

#193- 1) Water supply and quality are 2 (two) different questions- supply is good, quality is terrible. 2) Town parks should have dog clean up bags available. 3) Deer herd needs culled! 4) Sidewalks, junk removal, and weed control would make town much nicer in appearance. 5) Houses are much too close together! New zoning should give more room between residences. You can literally spit on the house next door. Even in new subdivisions like Broadway and 10th St. looks bad and stops people from wanting to live in Thermop.

#195- Section 3- Re: Sidewalks- I feel sidewalks should be around most to all blocks But not to cost for landowners! Section 1- Re: Condition of streets- The streets are in extremely HORRIBLE condition! Not only is Broadway in bad shape, but most of the side streets which I feel get the short end of the deal because they are not on the thoroughfare that tourists see, but the residents are tired of the shoddy side streets. Section 2- junk yard and weed problems- what can be done about these ugly sites? I know for a fact that landowners receive letters, but nothing is done after that. Do you have and punishment or fines that can be imposed? I thought there was a fine to be imposed? So where are the "weed police". Stop threatening these people- do something! If you want to say 'Thermopolis the Beautiful'.

#196- A bicycle path along the river would be nice. Also, housing prices are higher in Thermop than in Cody, which is a mystery to me. For the most part, Thermopolis is a great place to live.

198- A part of town beauty is residence who plant flowers and shrubs that make their property attractive. But here in Thermopolis why bother? The deer destroy everything. No other town has this problem- why?? Does a child have to die before something is done? Many small animals have and still their numbers grow. Relocate, kill, do anything- It is stupid to let these animals go on in the way they have.

#199- I feel that the Town of Thermopolis should shift it's priority away from tourism to light industry. Tourism predominately brings in minimum wage jobs. Thermopolis needs to increase the number of jobs that will allow residents to support their families and turn the local economy.

#200- The people that own the junk mess across from the VFW should be made to remove it. Also around the Bible Book Store. It is a disgrace to the town.

#202- No more stoplights, but stop signs for safety. We need to keep good people here ie: more good paying jobs. There is a need for law enforcement to have the manpower to crack down on the drug problems.

#203- Kudos to the water treatment plant. The water has greatly improved over the past three years. Housing in Thermopolis is expensive. Most of the old shacks for sale are grossly overpriced. Nothing should be done as the market will correct itself over time. I feel we have rules on the books regarding keeping properties up and they should be adhered to. Sidewalks would be nice all around town, but at what cost?? Shoshoni has new ones and I am lucky to see anybody walking on them. It looks like a waste of money to me. My advice to the town is simple: stick to what has worked in the past, lets not get sucked into a "growth" plan modeled after East Coast ideas. I hear how those municipalities are broke.

#204- Old refinery property would be an environmental nightmare to reclaim for new development.

#210- The deer are now a huge problem. It is unsanitary and frustrating to have them in town. They kill flowers, trees, and jump out in front of cars. This problem needs to be taken care of NOW before a child or senior citizen gets hurt. They are wild animals meant to be in the wild, not in town. If I was looking at Thermop as a potential home, the deer problem would affect my decision to settle here.

#211- Thermopolis is a good town and needs to advertise that fact. New housing shouldn't be built with public money unless there's a definite need for that. The schools are on a par with the rest of the nation so they surely need to improve. We can do that much better for our kids. Thank you for letting me speak my piece.

#214- Old refinery site should be reused for new development only if any contamination is cleaned up.

#220- Now is the time to take advantage of any and all incentives for growth and improvement. Money spent on infrastructure, ie. new sewers and water lines will help in attracting more business/ people. Lower costs for workers and materials because of the stalled economy. Interest rates are low, ect. Also, any encouragement in green industry/recycling will help attract more young people. Tourism tied to ecology and environmental should be explored. Thanks.

#222- The ambulance service right now is to slow/ not trained enough. I believe we need growth in Thermopolis, by increasing jobs to attract a younger generation. We need new industry that will create good jobs to which will in turn help support retail stores. Our population now can only support so much taxes and spending in our community. Once we grow, then new houses and new stores would follow. We do need decent rentals in this town. People do not make much money here in this town. It would be nice if we could upgrade our airport, but that would come with better job opportunity. People need to help promote industry. I believe this is where the town should push to bring in new industry before spending foolishly on other projects. Especially during this time in our economy.

#213- Infrastructure, Infrastructure, Infrastructure!

#227- 1) Implementation of a recycling program for HSC. 2) Repair of existing sidewalks throughout the town and installation of sidewalks where they are not currently. 3) A community center. 4) Development of lower aspect of King- Spiller Refuge property.

#232- Establish a deer control policy to lower the deer population in town. Deer are causing too much damage to personal property and parks. Build a Rec. Center/ Convention Center- cold water pool. Clean-up branches, deer poop, and trash in parks. Pave streets and fill-in potholes. New and updated X-mas lights along main streets. Open library on Saturdays.

#234- 1) Need an apartment complex. 2) Don't need convention center. Use Days Inn. 3) Need Rec Center. 4) Add to trail system.

#236- There are a lot of Junk unplated vehicles such as in the alley behind Little Wrangler Café. People dining in our town do not want to see this. No do I being a neighbor to tarps over unplated vehicles. Unsightly yard need to be cleaned up. Thermopolis has grown and we as homeowners need to take pride in our town. Washakie Street needs worked on. But I love my town regardless.

#240- Enforcement of existing ordinances and building codes. I have new construction across from me that if it had been done by a licensed contractor it would have failed. Violation of set back easements ___ power line easement are two factors not to mention the electric meter to the house is next to the sidewalk. In town, code requires the electric meter to be on the house. The whole project is turning into a junkyard. Not to mention, this person can park his vehicles on the street pointed in the wrong direction. I guess that's because his wife works as a dispatcher for the police department. In other words the town officials have allowed Cedar Ridge to become just another dumpy Thermopolis neighborhood. Take a ride around town sometime and open your eyes. Maybe if you continue to ignore what you see, perhaps the whole town will turn into one big salvage yard. Bob Wilson Residence 126 Mt. View Drive 864-9498.

#245- 1) Refinery – Nothing should be done at that location. That is why the sewer lagoons, were built where they are. (It is a Super Fund site.) 2) Water quality – old water facility – needs constant maintenance, with that it will last many more years. Water infrastructure in streets and tanks where money should be spent. Don't contemplate hook-up for Owl Creek!!! 3) 300,000 per block for real infrastructure repair water, sewer, get below surface with concrete – (grey gold) also blacktop – black gold, is where your grants tax's and money should be spent, instead of 90% of what you have listed on the reverse. Town resident

#246- I am proud of my town our city government and employees do a good job. Thank you for asking. Mildred (Mickey) Hayter

#247- I will leave the planning on someone else that you are paying. But the appearance of this town is awful. And mostly because of the deer. No one can have anything on their lawn anymore. The deer eat all the trees, lilacs, flowers, and people just give up. And the mess of all the deer droppings is terrible and do they stink. Get rid of the deer before you plan anything else.

#250- 1) I would rate the downtown sidewalks as good but residential area sidewalks as poor. 2) I would rate how the airport is being run as good but the condition of the airport as poor.

#255- Our main focus should be getting higher paying jobs. Then set a goal of increasing our higher paying jobs at 1% of our population per year. When this happens the rest will start to fall into place. For Example new houses will start to be built. With increase in income and demand more small businesses will start up creating more jobs with more spending and property purchases. More taxes will be collected creating more reserve for infrastructure to continue the process.

#257- Promote "assisted living" facility to provide a bridge from Pioneer Home to Thermopolis Manor. The town should take more control of their golf course. Volunteer Boards members are more difficult to find as most citizens have "been there"- need better communication between outgoing board members and new board members.

#259- Something should be done about the deer. It is like living in the middle of a deer herd. They destroy the vegetation and crap all over your yard. Maybe the town or fish and game would like to supply fencing for peoples yards?

#260- The side of the big hill on Broadway really needs to be landscaped, it looks terrible.

#261- Please explain, publically, the complete costs, the need for, and what, if any, use, of the cemetery electronic directories. Who dreamed that one up? As I currently understand it, each unit cost tax payers very close to \$100,000, each (unit?). That supposedly includes ground work electronics, the unit itself, + + +, and How many times have they actually been used? What repair and up keep has been registered since installed? This is a SLAP in Taxpayers Face! What a waste of our money! This money could have created a job for 20 yrs- or- taught cemetery workers to care for the grounds properly! Don't waste our money like this!!

#264- Retail, industrial and housing development should be addressed by private companies or individuals, not with tax payer's money (and this includes grant money that comes from tax payers) We don't need any more government jobs- Jobs from the private sector- YES. The government's role should be to get out of the way of those who want to start or expand businesses by not imposing more

expensive and time consuming regulations, licensing procedures or taxes. . . .(unfunded mandates)
Excessively high building permits don't help either.

#272- When first came to Thermopolis in the mid 70's the population posted at the edge of town was at least 1000 more than today. Where did those people live if the rental market is adequate without adding low income housing.

#276- Too many policemen for the population. Streets need repairing. Thermopolis is a neat town- lets clean it up be proud. And most of all we need for the underpass rebuilt due to the state park- tourist attraction.

#279- The town police are out of control. The abuse their positions and harass citizens.

#280- Thermopolis is missing the mark on it's destiny. It is and should be promoted as a place of tourism, rest, and relaxation, appreciation at what IS here (i.e. the Museum, State Park, pools, Canyon, River, Dinosaur Center, Rehabilitation, and other health care). We have wasted efforts and money to bring other business here when we are not on the transportation mainstream. Let's promote and grow what we have and enrich what we are- let's bring shops, art, restaurants, into beautifying the downtown and get the people here! Let's clean up the trashy neighborhoods and bring home some new and affordable housing. Can't we look at other resort towns and learn something from them?

#282- The town need to welcome new businesses and worry less about preventing competition with existing businesses.

#293- I DO NOT want low income housing behind my home! I am having enough trouble with children and young adults in my yard and teasing my dogs. My yard is fenced in! It takes to long for a police officer to resond.

#296- Population Growth- Status Quo is OK! Always hear about need for growth. Believe if people were honest most would like to keep small town flavor we currently enjoy.

#297- Complaints to the city council and Mayor are not resolved. Partiality shows to the “Elite” in town. The mayor’s method of addressing problems is to refuse to acknowledge that a problem exists. Parking is a major problem in some areas. Employees park in front of retail businesses and when asked to be considerate of shopping customers, they become more aggressive in their behavior. Talk is cheap, actions speak much louder. Politics play a major role in the town of Thermopolis. The survey will be interpreted to the benefit of the politicians, not to address real problems.

#301- We are fortunate in Thermopolis to “have it all” but we are too lax on junk in the county and some town properties. Shouldn’t a junkyard be required to maintain a permit? They are all over south of town- towards our beautiful canyon. Just try to build or develop south of town and you will run smack into a huge junkyard. If needed the junk yards should be contained behind fence and tree barriers. I love Thermop and the feeling of Wyoming. . . . Things are going good but we can do better in many areas.

#303- Thermopolis is a nice, little, town that is a great place to raise kids and retire. I believe, however, that for Thermopolis to continue to thrive, we need to continue to actively recruit businesses to locate here. More businesses will bring more people and more economic stability (and jobs) to town. A convention center where large conferences could be held would also benefit the town in this way. Conferences would bring people and their families to Thermopolis to stay a few days, swim, shop, and eat in our restaurants. We probably have enough motel rooms to accommodate a large number of people, but there is no meeting place that is large enough to handle a convention of 200 people or more. The center needs a large, meeting room and 6-10 simple meeting rooms. Catering facilities should also be included.

#304- We need to do something about the deer!!

#305- What about the deer? The town should take control of the problem or they should pay to fence out the deer. There is a problem and it needs to be taken care of!! I do agree most blocks need sidewalks, but the problem is who should pay for them. The landowners don’t actually own the land the town has setbacks from the curb that do not allow people to build or do anything with the land. I think that the town should pay for the sidewalks and maintain them in the summer and winter.

#308- Re: sidewalks- depends on which part of town-some are brand new and others need replacing. Appearance of town- the Broadway Boulevard on the north side was renovated with the street, but many places now have just let the decorative rock become a weed patch. Makes for a poor first impression to our town. Low cost housing- a need is present for new, low cost, quality housing.

#310- downtown needs to improve storefronts/window displays. Pumpernicks needs serious cleaning & updating! The WOW store sign is ridiculous – totally an eye sore. If we want the “western theme” – every merchant needs to make a solid effort to adhere to whatever that theme is. Checkout Sisters, Oregon also Red Lodge. Their planning committees knew what they were doing! Our utilities (old pipes) etc. need replacing or updating to support growth. If we don’t grow – we get stale and die as a town. We can’t afford that. We need an atmosphere where young families are attracted to our area #1 JOBS #2 opportunities #3 living cost #4 growth. We could use a Target store – nearest one – Casper or Billings. We’d draw \$ from the surrounding areas, into our town, instead of out of town shopping. Pamida, Thermop Hardware area plus – we need 1 large draw. Target could accomplish this. We need more activities for our teens & 20’s. Add to the skate park lights. Downtown needs water fountains in the summer. Get people out of their cars!

#311- I have seen rental properties that should be demolished as being unfit for human habitation. Side walk emplacement depends on actual traffic. Present walks need to be maintained in better condition. The employment scene can not be addressed before Thermopolis gets away from it’s reclusive nature which I had observed for the last 25 years.

#319- Its hard to know if Thermop wants more growth and the headaches that with it or not- personally I like it the way we are. The one thing I would be concerned about is the growth in the County and how all of the subdivisions are on the main road- undoubtedly for easement purposes- but the overall effect is encroachment. It’s like the highway between Cody and Powell- lots of people right on the highway- lots of problems down the road with traffic, etc. Overall I’ve lived here since 1972 and totally love Thermopolis.

#321- 1) Quality of water is poor. 2) Need for recycling. 3) No new airport. 4) Save tax dollars.

#323- DC- reevaluate your direction get in lite industry that keep their promises VAST- BIG joke!! “Slum loads” can do all the cosmetic surgery they want But once a dump- always a dump! In this economy- jobless market its very hard to come up with 1 month reut let alone 1st/last/deposit! Typical ad “no pets/no smokers/no children= NO BREATHING!! They need to get real if they’re going to have rentals! Drive into town from all direction and write down pros/cons from TOURIST viewpoint. Way more Cons!! Property owners ou those main streets should clean up or be fined!

#324- This is at least the fourth time this survey has been done in the last 30 years. I suggest that instead of doing surveys , you act on the results. Stop allowing “good old boys” to limit growth. Promote one or all of these three areas to help Thermop grow: 1) Tourism based on hot water, river activities, hunting and fishing, scenic vistas, hiking, and camping. Make Thermop a distinction tourist shop instead of a nice place to stop on the way to Yellowstone. 2) Healthcare center of excellence based on holistic healing. Gottsche used to have an international reputation for artificial limbs. There is no reason that can’t be rebuilt sing hot water as the basis for holistic healing and senior care. 3) High end retirement community based on snowbird and/or full-time well-off retirees that will improve the tax base. DO NOT focus on low-end housing which will increase the tax burden and hurt us.

#325- This is a faulty survey designed to encourage growth of the government sector. 1) Economic development has been a huge waste of funds. Town council has been a hindrance to real development.- see IGA, Blairs, and Nature’s Corner. 2) Population growth is beyond the control of any government, but the population growth will be hindered by over-active government- again, see what the town did private efforts at improvement.

#326- Traffic congestion is a big problem from about May 1 thru September 30. There is so much traffic on Hwy 20 (Shoshoni) that it is just about impossible to cross from 5th St. to 7th or vice versa unless you drive to the traffic light and wait to turn. Traffic coming from the Canyon does not allow you to cross either direction because it comes though just as traffic flowing from the Hwy 20 North goes by. Also, it is difficult for pedestrians to get across the Hwy without crosswalks. I’m disappointed in some of our younger police officers. Some of them are quite “cocky” and a couple of them have an air of self-importance. I know we can’t compete financially to recruit a better level of candidates and it is a shame. I really don’t have a lot of confidence in many of them. I see it happening all across the state.

#330- Pot holes in streets need fixed. Could use new stop light on 6th and Amoretti St.

#331- There are a lot of sidewalks that need repairs. Need stop lights to control traffic. Don't understand all the money spent on the development south of town and expense to keep light on at night. Would like to see the residents of the community listened to more.

#333- Sorry so late: Discovered this between the car seat!

#334- 1) Plant trees 2) Water the same, downtown retail signs should be pleasing to the eye (downtown) 1) Trees on city property should be maintained by the city! 2) Curbs and walks and gutters are rotting away on Arapahoe. Please care for them. Take care of the old- Before starting more new projects. 3) Quit cutting down the old trees here 😊 Thanks 😊

#335- 1) Water has a very bad taste! 2) Town government does not listen to citizens. 3) I do not get the feeling our police department is here to SERVE and PROTECT. I am AFRAID of some of the officers! 4) New airport not needed at this time. You are wasting money with surveys ect.

#336- Need a law to remove junk vehicles ect. Don't put up messy or broken X-mas decorations take them down shortly after the holidays. Town needs to make up plan with railroad to fix underpass and clean up through town- this effects everyone and everything in Thermopolis. Thank you.

#340 - The cops-legal system is the most corrupt in the state of Wyoming. Get rid of the Hope agency.

#341 - Golf course good but not at taxpayers expense. Infrastructure above all - most important.

#342 - Overall nice town. When we moved here had a very hard time finding residence to buy or rent. Very inadequate. Most places were not maintained well for a family. Not a very lively or colorful town. With as beautiful as an area as Thermopolis--town could be so much more.

There area some great and dedicated staff that work at the schools, but overall very political and doesn't always have the students best interests in mind. School can be very inhumane. Need more preventative measures and new administration.

#343 - A combination senior and community center is needed.

#344 - Old refinery site should be cleaned up/reclaimed/detoxified before being reused. (Superfund money available?)

Law enforcement is good but it's underfunded and understaffed. Support our teachers -- they are good at their jobs and love what they do!

Our schools and teachers are excellent, though the elementary school did need more room when it was added on to (5th grad had to be moved to the middle school). "No Child Left Behind" should be left behind. That and Fed testing should be consistent and test children's ability to think and comprehend not just how fast they can read words. Teachers should be allowed to spend more time on teaching and less on preparing for and doing testing. Law requires us to hire more "specialists" who work only with a few of (even one) children, making less money available to provide "specialists" who could work with a larger number / wider range of kids who need help to thrive but aren't as severely handicapped)