

**In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

**OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES TO THE QUESTION:**  
***“In your opinion, what is the most important issue  
facing Ward 2 residents today?”***

*Note: This report organizes the responses to this question according to major themes. Some responses reflect more than one theme and are repeated under each. Responses have been edited to correct punctuation and spelling. Lengthy responses which gave more than one answer were separated and attributed to the appropriate theme accordingly.*

**In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

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## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

### **Alternative Energy**

*Rapidly instituting alternative energy. Preparing for a less populated UM. Becoming more self-sufficient in the global climate. The city needs to put its big money eggs into viable ROI like energy and resident survivability (global changes). Need a more comprehensive plan.*

### **Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS)**

*Funding for the AAPS schools is my highest concern at the moment, not sure if there is anything that the City can do about it - but the quality of area schools directly affect the viability of our community and standard of living. Assisting with transportation to schools is one way the City can help to alleviate the school funding crisis. Also getting pedestrians safely across Green Road, Nixon Rd and Huron Parkway to schools and bus stops is something that concerns me. I would like to see a round about at the Nixon/DhuVarren intersection - that intersection is dangerous and confusing.*

*Maintaining high quality schools.*

*Education, maintaining schools.*

*Unfortunately, my biggest concern is for the future of education in our area, and since the City of Ann Arbor and AAPS are independent, I'm not sure there's much you can do about it.*

### **AATA and Transportation**

*Consistent and expanded bus system.*

*Public transportation to get resident to and from downtown more quickly.*

*Try to return AATA Rte 14 to all day service, so we can ride rather than drive.*

*Regional transportation (don't need it).*

*The conditions at the AATA stops are woefully inadequate and non-maintained.*

*More frequent bus service.*

*Better AATA bus service (more frequent, & routes that are practical), pedestrian safety (no sidewalks on Arlington, Geddes, more crosswalks & bike paths), profitability & continuity of open space at Huron Hills Golf Course.*

*Improving public transportation to reduce congestion. The Fuller Road train station, support for WALLY, support for the commuter train to Detroit are important.*

*Public transportation.*

*The need to improve transit connections: rail, bus, etc.*

### **Communication**

*Lack of responsiveness to needs of citizens. Huge potholes, no helpful response, services do not match the high tax rate.*

*Better communications from the City. Help people learn more about being an involved and responsible citizen.*

*Not a Second Ward resident, but thank you for seeking input from residents!*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

### **Deer Population**

*I am overrun with deer!! They have destroyed my landscaping!*

*Will the City, University, and County address the deer overpopulation problem by selecting a methodology and moving ahead with a plan?*

### **Economic Development**

*Pay attention to what is developing on Washtenaw. How about a development plan for the area that includes the riverfront and has citizen input?*

*Development pressure along Washtenaw, and potential along the Huron River, unless the precedent of retaining parkland is maintained, so that it is not repurposed for train services or other non-park use.*

*Plan for handling traffic congestion that will arise when new shopping center opens across from Whole Foods.*

*Unightly development along Plymouth Road - we don't want Plymouth Road turned into another Washtenaw Avenue.*

*Economic revival of the Plymouth Road Corridor as North Campus Research Complex continues to grow.*

*Plymouth Road and Univ. of Michigan North Campus/NCRC development (standards, corridor impact, traffic....).*

*Dealing with the influx of commercialization along the Plymouth Rd. corridor. Ugly solar panels. Not well planned new commercial buildings. Planning well this NE entrance corridor of A2.*

*The people at and near the Plymouth corridor are slighted in quality planning.*

*The management of traffic and growth through the corridors of Plymouth and Nixon roads to downtown and the U of M hospital and campus.*

*Preserving parkland and working with development efforts to ensure that the University of Michigan is a good community partner promoting community engagement and economic opportunity for the city and its residents.*

*Making sure any future development on the northeast side of the city is well planned.*

*Commercial development in the area along the main streets. Don't want too many strip malls and empty store fronts. Don't want traffic congestion.*

*Stop wasting money on downtown development and train stations and focus on the neighborhood.*

*To participate in the zoning of OUR downtown buildings that are going up. It is a disgrace to see what happened on Huron. It is a disgrace who City Hall gave a project to the DDA re Williams street they are totally inadequate to lead. OUR downtown belongs to all of us and getting rid of DDA, pressuring zoning protection for set backs, enforcing green space in ANY new building project and stop giving away parking, or low cost housing in a project as trade for higher buildings! Let us get going on a VISION for an active downtown with destination sights... before giving away the store (our public land) to development so the DDA can get paid. I can't rank any of the above. They do not speak to my issues of how to improve tax dollar return on "pride"... pride of architecture, pride of set backs, pride of urban park space.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Stop the tea party mentality of Jane Lumm and Petersen. Get a vision of the city for a change. This could be another Austin, TX, but some of you want to run it like it's in a time warp of the 50s. Why are you afraid of high rises downtown? You need to attract new businesses and young people. There are empty nesters who want to live downtown. Get a vibrant downtown with more than just restaurants and everything else will fall in place. Oh, yeah, and get a mass transportation plan and a new train station. Set your sights a little higher and give people some vision for a change. Give us a reason to be excited about Ann Arbor other than a place to eat and have a University job.*

*Property taxes. I've come to view most of the hotly debated issues through this lens. e.g: downtown development; U. of M. expansion removing property from the tax rolls; the public art fund set-aside. I ask the question: Will I be stuck with the bill back here in Ward 2 to subsidize an interest group's grand vision that competes for resources for core services?*

*Revise zoning, if necessary, to avoid monstrosities like the proposed 413 E. Huron. Act more rapidly to demolish derelict houses.*

*Loopholes in zoning allowing many more "City Place" and hi rise developments scar our historic neighborhoods/city.*

*The DDA.*

*Economics. Disbanding the DDA. Pausing development.*

*For Ward 1: Preventing overdevelopment, density, huge houses in low-rise neighborhoods--zoning issues.*

*Monitoring development so it does not decrease safety.*

*Economic development by the private sector to increase city tax revenue.*

*Maintaining the feel and character of the area in a way that supports its residents.*

*Urban sprawl & associated negatives (including walkability and pedestrian safety).*

*NORC - naturally occurring retirement communities.*

*New business growth.*

*Keeping their jobs.*

## **Fiscal Responsibility**

*Fiscal stability is key, it pays for everything else. Most public services, except streets, are good. Violent crime is down, but property crimes seem to be increasing. The absolute least important issue is the bank of solar cells on Plymouth Road.*

*Making sure that the City can meet its long-term obligations in pensions and health care to its retirees.*

*Getting control over the pension and retiree costs funded by our tax dollars.*

*Anticipating a stagnate economy and planning accordingly.*

*Stop wasting money on downtown development and train stations and focus on the neighborhood.*

*Continued economic improvement of the city and subsequent fiscal stability of the city.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Balancing the need for public services with the financial constraints faced by both we residents and the city.*

*Too high taxes with too much spending.*

*Acquiring the Township islands properties for the tax rolls.*

*Most important for everyone is improving safety and public services and not spending money on fluff.*

*Better AATA bus service ( more frequent, & routes that are practical), pedestrian safety (no sidewalks on Arlington, Geddes, more crosswalks & bike paths), profitability & continuity of open space at Huron Hills Golf Course.*

*Getting fair share of city services and parks money, looking for new tax revenues (U of M, uncapping frats...etc.), to lower our property taxes, fiscal stability.*

*High level of taxation for minimal services: this is driving the middle class out of Ann Arbor and for those facing retirement/fixed income, will force individuals to sell their homes. Removing services (e.g. leaf pick-up) is essentially a tax increase. Poor spending choices (e.g. art) negatively impacts services and level of taxation.*

*Public safety, open and transparent government, financial management of city finances.*

*Frivolous spending priorities.*

## **Governance**

*Council representation that is humble, good at listening and open to working with fellow Council Members to build a better community.*

*Honest Council Members willing to represent the priorities of the Ward rather than downtown development and politically motivated ordinances, such as the local crosswalk ordinance.*

*Minimizing the impediment of political bickering.*

*Public safety, open and transparent government, financial management of city finances.*

*Restoration of, in no order, AAFD, AAPD, and some confidence in city government.*

*A Council that has too many representatives pursuing impractical, ideologically satisfying project that lack common sense. This criticism does NOT apply to our two second ward representatives.*

*The City's lack of ordinances/code enforcement.*

*The inability of the City Council to do anything useful for the people of Ann Arbor.*

*Lowering taxes and stopping government social experiments and waste.*

*Trusting government.*

*Being railroaded and not listened to by the rest of City Council.*

*Arbitrary and ill-considered decisions and allocations by City Council.*

*Higher taxes with declining services. Ann Arbor city governance has repeatedly modified servicing charges so that they are effectively an additional tax (i.e. water & sewer; sidewalk maintenance).*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Stop creating new challenges and address those already there.*

*Those interest groups with vested interests coming up with expensive, gold-plated solutions for their own area of community improvement (e.g. downtown library, county-wide bus routes, etc.).*

*Making sure the Council and the Mayor continue to work together to govern the city and not get side tracked on personal and political issues like Lansing.*

*Stop the tea party mentality of Jane Lumm and Petersen. Get a vision of the city for a change. This could be another Austin, TX, but some of you want to run it like it's in a time warp of the 50s. Why are you afraid of high rises downtown? You need to attract new businesses and young people. There are empty nesters who want to live downtown. Get a vibrant downtown with more than just restaurants and everything else will fall in place. Oh, yeah, and get a mass transportation plan and a new train station. Set your sights a little higher and give people some vision for a change. Give us a reason to be excited about Ann Arbor other than a place to eat and have a University job.*

*We have it pretty good in Ward 2. I would want my Ward 2 reps to look out for the best interests of the entire community.*

*Perhaps regular meetings with our wonderful Council reps? Some during the day, some in the evening so a range of people can attend?*

*Integrity of City Council. I would like to know if citizens in other Wards support some of the ideas they are pushing, especially the Fuller Road transit center/high speed rail. I trust my Ward 2 representatives and was very bolstered by the election of Sumi.*

*I am a resident of Ward 1 where the City Council reps seem to respond solely to the squeaky wheels while keeping the rest of us in the dark. Can we trade them for you please?*

*With the exception of Jane Lumm, and possibly a few others, we have a largely left-wing City Council, which is more concerned about politics than responsible governance. The emperor (oops, I mean mayor) and his yes-men continue to arrogantly pursue their agenda, hoping to cement their elitist legacy.*

*Don't know don't live in Ward 2 but I think Sally is the right step to stop City corruption.*

*We have two excellent folks as our City Council representatives. Get the word out to the other wards to vote in similar ways...Ward 2 is a model; other wards need to follow suit and out with the old!*

## **Housing**

*Housing prices/rental inspections/terrible landlords.*

## **Infrastructure - Roads**

*Road maintenance, repairs, resurfacing. (11)*

*Lack of responsiveness to needs of citizens. Huge potholes, no helpful response, services do not match the high tax rate.*

*Pedestrian safety; sidewalks and crosswalks that are not maintained.*

*Repairing/resurfacing roads - they are terrible in many areas of the city.*

*Street and sidewalk repairs.*

*Maintain & improve aesthetic quality of our streets & public spaces.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Can the trucks come out more often to take care of Chalmers Road potholes, thank you:-)*

*Ann Arbor salts the streets way too much.*

*For the 36 years I have lived in Ann Arbor, the City has always done a poor job of snow plowing and a poor job of maintaining its streets. (I grew up in New York's snow belt. My dad never missed work due to snow.).*

*Long term infrastructure planning. Fixing 14 roads per year isn't going to get it done. Focus on fixing or replacing the roads and pipes and then build the dream systems i.e. bike lanes, ped crossings, train stations.*

*Road repair and sidewalk maintenance. I am a cyclist and the roads are in horrible condition.*

*Road condition, lighting, plowing, etc.*

*I think infrastructure concerns, such as roads, water mains, etc., although I don't know exactly what state everything is in....I just hear in general that the city infrastructure should be better than it is. It would actually be nice to get some facts as to the condition the infrastructure is in for Ward 2.*

*Basic public services; fire stations, police foot and bike patrols, road repairs, snow removal, leaf collection. An example is, stop funding public art, encourage it's private funding and restore basic services.*

*Bad roads and no snow removal in subdivision.*

*Roads, safety, fire protection.*

*Parks and roads.*

*Road resurfacing needs to be durable. Catching up after years of neglect is certainly happening but will the paving last and will the resurfacing be completed around the City?*

*Maintenance of aging infrastructure.*

*Provision of basic services: public safety, roads, public health.*

## **Non-Motorized Transportation**

*Walkability/Bike-ability (shared pathways) of major streets and safe access to major streets (Washtenaw Avenue, Huron Parkway, Plymouth Road).*

*Having a vision for improving the non-motorized and public transportation options for a growing city.*

*Non-motorized transportation.*

*Road repair and sidewalk maintenance. I am a cyclist and the roads are in horrible condition.*

*Better alternative transportation (walking, biking, transit, rail/RTA).*



## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

### **Parks**

*Making sure Huron Hills is not used for commercial development.*

*Protecting Huron Hills from efforts to sell, lease, commercialize one of the best green belts in the city.*

*Also to maintain Huron Hills as open space and a City owned golf course.*

*Keeping green space (Huron Hills).*

*The feasibility of the Huron Hills golf course to remain a city property, etc.*

*Future of Huron Hills Golf Course.*

*Please do not sell Huron Hills land.*

*Safety; maintaining the parks, re: Huron Hills.*

*Better AATA bus service ( more frequent, & routes that are practical), pedestrian safety (no sidewalks on Arlington, Geddes, more crosswalks & bike paths), profitability & continuity of open space at Huron Hills Golf Course.*

*Protection of HH and Fuller Park.*

*Golf course outcome is the only unique issue for Ward 2.*

*From a selfish standpoint, I'd like leaf pickup resumed and Gallup Park maintained much, much better including re-doing the "trail".*

*Numerous years for a tennis court at Windermere Park but left it broken for more than a couple of years.*

*Windemere Park tennis courts.*

*Development pressure along Washtenaw, and potential along the Huron River, unless the precedent of retaining parkland is maintained, so that it is not repurposed for train services or other non-park use.*

*Skate park residents not adequately informed in planning stages. Though it's not in Ward 2, it will be a drag on the park maintenance budget and doesn't seem well planned for sustainability.*

*Keep our parks as parks. Don't use park space for the train station or UM parking/transit, or long-term lease for business/UM.*

*Better snow removal and park maintenance would help.*

*Preserving parkland and working with development efforts to ensure that the University of Michigan is a good community partner promoting community engagement and economic opportunity for the city and its residents.*

*Better use of tax dollars to provide necessary services (police, fire, trash pickup) as well as fixing streets and improving parks. Parks in our area appear worn.*

*Parks and roads.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

### **Pedestrian Safety**

*Pedestrian safety; sidewalks and crosswalks that are not maintained.*

*Also getting pedestrians safely across Green Road, Nixon Rd and Huron Parkway to schools and bus stops is something that concerns me. I would like to see a round about at the Nixon/DhuVarren intersection - that intersection is dangerous and confusing.*

*Cross walk at Glazier Way for Elementary students.*

*Safe pedestrian/biking.*

*Pedestrians on cell phones walking into traffic on Washtenaw, Geddes, etc. and generally everywhere around the city. Drivers must screech to a halt, risking accidents and ruined tires and brakes, to accommodate careless pedestrians under city law. The city MUST revise its irresponsible policies on pedestrian rights OR install appropriate devices such as HAWK systems. The pedestrian flashing lights on Plymouth Road are imprecise and confusing to drivers. This is absolutely a critical issue, not just for Ward 2, but for the entire city.*

*Urban sprawl & associated negatives (including walkability and pedestrian safety).*

*Poor pedestrian access to HS, park etc.*

*As for pedestrian safety... the most important thing is to RE TEACH pedestrians to look both way BEFORE stepping out on a cross walk with ears plugged. It's crazy.*

*Safety - street lighting and adequate policing.*

*Better AATA bus service ( more frequent, & routes that are practical), pedestrian safety (no sidewalks on Arlington, Geddes, more crosswalks & bike paths), profitability & continuity of open space at Huron Hills Golf Course.*

*Public safety is the most important issue for EVERY Ward. It includes safe streets, pedestrian crossings and sidewalks as well as police and fire issues.*

*Safety of students crossing Washtenaw going to Tappan.*

*Repair of our roads while maintaining pedestrian safety.*

*Get RID of the stupid pedestrian ordinance.*

*City Council caused a major problem with pedestrian crossings (dangerous for cars and walkers) and you CAN fix the problem you caused.*

*It's not the most important issue but I think there is a quick and easy improvement for pedestrian safety issue namely, require traffic control signals (regular street signals or a HAWK light) for crosswalks that are on wide streets (more than 2 lanes) or fast streets (more than 30 MPH).*

*Lack of sidewalks in our Ward -- not good for child safety. Streets in the ward are poorly lit as well. There is not a functioning streetlight on all of Day St.*

*Slowing down the super aggressive driving in this town. After living here 3 years, I am still amazed at the amount of pedestrian accidents and people speeding thru neighborhoods.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

### **Public Art**

*Using our tax dollars to improve our city services and not trying to please everyone, just give us good services and forget things like a new train station and public art.*

*Resolve public art issue and move on.*

*Quit wasting money on "public art" and the greenbelt.*

*How the tax revenues are used. Percent for art is likely not legal. Return the money to the source - water, roads, etc.*

*Basic public services; fire stations, police foot and bike patrols, road repairs, snow removal, leaf collection. An example is, stop funding public art, encourage it's private funding and restore basic services.*

*High level of taxation for minimal services: this is driving the middle class out of Ann Arbor and for those facing retirement/fixed income, will force individuals to sell their homes. Removing services (e.g. leaf pick-up) is essentially a tax increase. Poor spending choices (e.g. art) negatively impacts services and level of taxation.*

*Property taxes. I've come to view most of the hotly debated issues through this lens. e.g: downtown development; U. of M. expansion removing property from the tax rolls; the public art fund set-aside. I ask the question: Will I be stuck with the bill back here in Ward 2 to subsidize an interest group's grand vision that competes for resources for core services?*

### **Public Safety**

*Public safety. (3)*

*Public safety (on the roads, homes, sidewalks, etc.).*

*Most important for everyone is improving safety and public services and not spending money on fluff.*

*Public safety is the most important issue for EVERY Ward. It includes safe streets, pedestrian crossings and sidewalks as well as police and fire issues.*

*Public safety, open and transparent government, financial management of city finances.*

*Safety; maintaining the parks, re: Huron Hills.*

*Provision of basic services: public safety, roads, public health.*

*Safety and services.*

*Revising city priorities to emphasize public safety and other necessary city services.  
Services and public safety*

*Safety - street lighting and adequate policing.*

*Monitoring development so it does not decrease safety.*

*Public Safety. Our public safety employees want to do their best, and they try. The issue is the City not giving them the man power.*

*Less tickets and more patrol cars.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Reduced police staffing means I don't see police cars patrolling the neighborhood any more.*

*High taxes with out commensurate city services. Better snow plow. Better police response. I waited 3 hours in 5 degree temps for the cops to respond to a car accident. When they got there they were rude. Lower taxes and better services. More emphasis on providing better service for less cost. Less attention to social causes.*

*Roads, safety, fire protection.*

*Fire Department enhancements.*

*Allocating the appropriate resources to public safety. Funds should not be siphoned away from the police or fire departments. They are critical community needs and should be treated as such.*

*The continuous cut-backs in the Fire and Police Departments. Too many homes in Ann Arbor go up in flames.*

*Basic public services; fire stations, police foot and bike patrols, road repairs, snow removal, leaf collection. An example is, stop funding public art, encourage it's private funding and restore basic services.*

*Thank you for this survey. I am a registered voter in Ward 4 (which provides nothing close to this level of awareness for constituents) I am free-riding and grateful for the opportunity (I vote at Dicken). Above, when I ranked the police and fire low, it is not because of those departments, but because of CUTBACKS to those departments. I think very highly of our police and fire, and the biggest disappointment about Ann Arbor are the constant cutbacks and budget pressures on these two departments. Work with the union and pay them living wages and benefits (note - I am not in public service or related to or even know any police or fire personnel - this is what I think from living in a neighborhood that experienced a fire and loss of life). And my interaction with the police - an officer pulled over while I was walking my dog in my neighborhood and told me I have a beautiful dog. I was 1) happy to see police in the neighborhood and 2) thought he was professional and friendly!*

*Fire and police dept. staffing.*

*Increase fire and police staffing to meet or even exceed state and national standards.*

*Adequate police and fire protection. We are grossly understaffed, which is the ONLY reason the police and fire departments are not rated stellar above. Those providing services do so in a stellar manner.*

*Restoration of, in no order, AAFD, AAPD, and some confidence in city government.*

*Better use of tax dollars to provide necessary services (police, fire, trash pickup) as well as fixing streets and improving parks. Parks in our area appear worn.*

*Though crime is relatively low, it has increased in the past two years with many breaking and entering events in our neighborhoods.*

*Increased crime within the 2nd ward; lack of neighborhood police patrols.*

*Fiscal stability is key, it pays for everything else. Most public services, except streets, are good. Violent crime is down, but property crimes seem to be increasing. The absolute least important issue is the bank of solar cells on Plymouth Road.*

*Numerous break-ins.*

*Speeding cars on Earhart Drive and other residential streets.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

### **Public Services: Snow Removal, Leaf & Garbage Pick-up, Recycling, Water**

*Public services (2).*

*Public service. The first priority for any city is public services.*

*Keeping up services across the board within available money.*

*Revising city priorities to emphasize public safety and other necessary city services.*

*Getting fair share of city services and parks money, looking for new tax revenues (U of M, uncapping frats...etc.), to lower our property taxes, fiscal stability.*

*Preserving services in the face of state cuts.*

*Provision of basic services: public safety, roads, public health.*

*Safety and services.*

*Maintaining the current level of services and keeping Ann Arbor such a wonderful place to live.*

*Ensuring that our city services are improved and given priority.*

*We're mostly a privileged bunch. Would love to see leaf collection again.*

*High level of taxation for minimal services: this is driving the middle class out of Ann Arbor and for those facing retirement/fixed income, will force individuals to sell their homes. Removing services (e.g. leaf pick-up) is essentially a tax increase. Poor spending choices (e.g. art) negatively impacts services and level of taxation.*

*Continuing good garbage and recycling pick up. Need leaf pick up!*

*From a selfish standpoint, I'd like leaf pickup resumed and Gallup Park maintained much, much better including re-doing the "trail".*

*Basic public services; fire stations, police foot and bike patrols, road repairs, snow removal, leaf collection. An example is, stop funding public art, encourage it's private funding and restore basic services.*

*Basic services like snow removal and leaf pick up.*

*Slowness in plowing neighborhood streets after snow fall.*

*Prompter snow plowing.*

*Snow removal.*

*Better snow removal and park maintenance would help.*

*Bad roads and no snow removal in subdivision.*

*Road condition, lighting, plowing, etc.*

*Snow removal of local streets is almost non existent and when and if the streets are finally plowed it is too late to do any good.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Insufficient, inadequate snow removal. Weather forecasts are quite accurate yet the city is not proactive when it comes to snow removal. They wait till it stops snowing to start plowing, salting, dirting, etc. I lived in Massachusetts for 10 yrs, small town 18,000 and there was NEVER snow on the roads at 7am. They started clearing when there was less than 1 inch on the ground. It is a safety hazard to drive in Ann Arbor when it snows. And ices!!!*

*Just a recommendation; - all vehicles should not be allowed to park on a city street between the hours of 10PM to 8AM. This allows for proper and efficient snow removal during the winter months. In most cities this is in effect from November 15 to March 30. Seeing our street after an attempted plowing is truly frustrating as those vehicles left on the street are surrounded by plowed banks, and once the car has driven away, dreadful mounds and ruts remain. Please do as practically every other city does and impose a winter parking restriction. Thank you.*

*For the 36 years I have lived in Ann Arbor, the City has always done a poor job of snow plowing and a poor job of maintaining its streets. (I grew up in New York's snow belt. My dad never missed work due to snow.).*

*We shouldn't have to pay for services not received (not plowing/maintaining roads in winter, streetlights, etc. not maintained in all areas).*

*High taxes with out commensurate city services. Better snow plow. Better police response. I waited 3 hours in 5 degree temps for the cops to respond to a car accident. When they got there they were rude. Lower taxes and better services. More emphasis on providing better service for less cost. Less attention to social causes.*

*Keep recycle weekly; garbage pick-up bi-weekly.*

*Make recycling easier through 1-2 comprehensive substations open more days and without charges that inhibit use.*

*Better use of tax dollars to provide necessary services (police, fire, trash pickup) as well as fixing streets and improving parks. Parks in our area appear worn.*

*Aging water supply, storm/sewage systems (which includes street and curb repairs.)*

*Garbage /sewer/water.*

*Water main breaks.*

## **Storm Water Management**

*Storm water management, discontinue footing drain disconnect or, if possible, re-design sump pump designs to eliminate the need for back up systems. This can be done by allowing footings to drain into the sanitary system IF the sump pump fails. This is a good solution that the City does not seem to be interesting in pursuing.*

## **Taxes**

*High property taxes. (2)*

*Property taxes. (2)*

*Lack of responsiveness to needs of citizens. Huge potholes, no helpful response, services do not match the high tax rate.*

*High property taxes & U of M paying no property tax or donation back to the city.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Using our tax dollars to improve our city services and not trying to please everyone, just give us good services and forget things like a new train station and public art.*

*Confiscatory level of property taxes.*

*Find a balance between services and city income from taxes. We may need to live with less if we don't have the tax dollars to afford; then it's a matter of priorities.*

*Balancing the need for public services with the financial constraints faced by both we residents and the city.*

*Too high taxes with too much spending.*

*Devising a plan to replace lost tax revenues by the UM purchase of the Pfizer campus, without commercializing all available green space.*

*Acquiring the Township islands properties for the tax rolls.*

*Economic development by the private sector to increase city tax revenue.*

*Lack of a reliable tax basis. An income tax tied in with less reliance on property tax should be seriously developed.*

*Lowering taxes and stopping government social experiments and waste.*

*Higher taxes with declining services. Ann Arbor city governance has repeatedly modified servicing charges so that they are effectively an additional tax (i.e. water & sewer; sidewalk maintenance).*

*Better use of tax dollars to provide necessary services (police, fire, trash pickup) as well as fixing streets and improving parks. Parks in our area appear worn.*

*High taxes with out commensurate city services. Better snow plow. Better police response. I waited 3 hours in 5 degree temps for the cops to respond to a car accident. When they got there they were rude. Lower taxes and better services. More emphasis on providing better service for less cost. Less attention to social causes.*

*How the tax revenues are used. Percent for art is likely not legal. Return the money to the source - water, roads, etc.*

*Getting fair share of city services and parks money, looking for new tax revenues (U of M, uncapping frats...etc.), to lower our property taxes, fiscal stability.*

*High level of taxation for minimal services: this is driving the middle class out of Ann Arbor and for those facing retirement/fixed income, will force individuals to sell their homes. Removing services (e.g. leaf pick-up) is essentially a tax increase. Poor spending choices (e.g. art) negatively impacts services and level of taxation.*

*Property taxes. I've come to view most of the hotly debated issues through this lens. E.g: downtown development; U. of M. expansion removing property from the tax rolls; the public art fund set-aside. I ask the question: Will I be stuck with the bill back here in Ward 2 to subsidize an interest group's grand vision that competes for resources for core services?*

## **Technology**

*As a citizen I support the use of technology at City Hall to improve services to us by all departments. Just adding more human bodies is not going to do stand the test of time. We need to have a balanced approach.*

## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

### **Traffic**

*I'm concerned about the traffic on Washtenaw between Arlington and US 23.*

*The management of traffic and growth through the corridors of Plymouth and Nixon roads to downtown and the U of M hospital and campus.*

### **Train Station**

*Stop wasting money on downtown development and train stations and focus on the neighborhood.*

*Using our tax dollars to improve our city services and not trying to please everyone, just give us good services and forget things like a new train station and public art.*

*Development pressure along Washtenaw, and potential along the Huron River, unless the precedent of retaining parkland is maintained, so that it is not repurposed for train services or other non-park use.*

*Keep our parks as parks. Don't use park space for the train station or UM parking/transit, or long-term lease for business/UM.*

*Train station location.*

*Integrity of City Council. I would like to know if citizens in other Wards support some of the ideas they are pushing, especially the Fuller Road transit center/high speed rail. I trust my Ward 2 representatives and was very bolstered by the election of Sumi.*

*Improving public transportation to reduce congestion. The Fuller Road train station, support for WALLY, support for the commuter train to Detroit are important.*

### **University of Michigan**

*High property taxes & U of M paying no property tax or donation back to the city.*

*Creeping University of Michigan.*

*The issues relating to the fraternities and sororities - noise and extreme filth; deplorable conditions in front of the houses.*

*Making sure that there is a secure buffer zone between our ward and the University and the big apartments which are being built on South University.*

*Relationship with UMich.*

*Devising a plan to replace lost tax revenues by the UM purchase of the Pfizer campus, without commercializing all available green space.*

*Plymouth Road and Univ. of Michigan North Campus/NCRC development (standards, corridor impact, traffic....)*

*Communication with the University regarding their plans.*

*Preserving parkland and working with development efforts to ensure that the University of Michigan is a good community partner promoting community engagement and economic opportunity for the city and its residents.*

*Getting U of M to act like a good community citizen (concern for impact on residents, paying for services, etc.).*



## **In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Ward 2 residents today?**

*Getting fair share of city services and parks money, looking for new tax revenues (U of M, uncapping frats...etc.), to lower our property taxes, fiscal stability.*

*Fiscal stability is key, it pays for everything else. Most public services, except streets, are good. Violent crime is down, but property crimes seem to be increasing. The absolute least important issue is the bank of solar cells on Plymouth Road.*

*Property taxes. I've come to view most of the hotly debated issues through this lens. e.g: downtown development; U. of M. expansion removing property from the tax rolls; the public art fund set-aside. I ask the question: Will I be stuck with the bill back here in Ward 2 to subsidize an interest group's grand vision that competes for resources for core services?*

*Pressure on U of M to HIDE the solar panels on Plymouth Road (IMO a terrible eye sore). Thank you Sally for calling U of M to task for not partnering with their neighbors.*

*The integration of increasing student housing, North Campus Research, and yes, parking for the few stores that we have.*

### **General**

*Winter.*

*There are no \*unique\* issues facing Ward 2 residents - these issues are faced by all AA residents.*

*Continue making A2 a great place to live.*