

Comments:

Too bad Elmhurst lost two good businesses *Serene Teaz and Pastries Plus*. If Red Dragon folds up - we have no compelling reason to shop downtown. Mr. Mayor - Choose which job you wish to have and do that ONE well.

I'm still absolutely disgusted with the city's irresponsibility regarding the flooding. My yard also floods now because our neighbor's new construction house completely built up their property & sidewalks are a mess. Despite it all I enjoy Elmhurst. Pete DiCianni is doing a great job and I really hope Frank Visconti is the next police chief.

1) City needs to improve traffic congestion, especially on St. Charles by 83, west of Spring Rd. West Avenue light & St. Charles Rd. is extremely dangerous. 2) Having employees double dip - i.e. Mike Kopp & DiCianni is wrong & shameful. 3) Snow removal needs to improve dramatically. It was unacceptable during the blizzard of 2011.

I would like to see the resurgence of community in the City Centre. I enjoyed the summer festival/carnival/music. I miss this. As well as the tree lighting in City Centre- was an annual evening event. Seems to have lost the magic of this quaint/quiet city. NOT enjoying the noise of medical emergency equipment (paramedic ambulance or police) sirens as I live near the new hospital. I am happy with the convenience of the location, NOT the traffic increase or noise of sirens. I picked my house for the quiet.

The biggest problem Elmhurst faces going forward is the behavior of Mayor DiCianni.

10.1: Would rate school district "poor" 10.8: Skunks are abundant! Shame on you for sending all this paper through the mail. Think GREEN: online or NOTHING. Send out postcards to remind residents to go online.

I think Elmhurst is a great place to raise children. I am not sure I can afford to live here now that I am retired.

I have concerns about the mayor holding two public offices. I am pleased that Mariano's is coming to town, but I have concerns that the announcement preceded a discussion of TIF funding. I am concerned that the City Council is not open to new thoughts or ideas from citizens.

12.3 Other: Outrageous school employee costs

People pay a LOT in taxes to live here yet the quality of the schools and infrastructure has DECLINED which bring down the value of our homes. Increase the rigor of the schools and get the flooding and streets repaired and people will flock here. Also get more businesses to move here and I do NOT mean more banks or hair salons. The old TCBY/Browns corner is atrocious! It has been vacant for years! An eye sore! The mayor needs to get in touch with the people NOT just his yes men! Lastly get the Bryan School PTA to have a beautify Bryan day where residents donate perennials and the students plant them around the school. It looks like a prison- NO flowers!

When residents use the city website to notify them of issues there is little to no follow up. City needs to address residential building code issues and enforce property maintenance violations. Also, something needs to be done about the skunk problem. Also, the vacant property on York and Vallette. TCBY, Church's Chicken, and Good Earth Market. Tax incentives need to be given out to bring in some business to those sites.

I live on Fay, I constantly see kids going into the forest to drink and do drugs. I call whenever I see them. Also, lack of storm water management is important to me. Every time there is any substantial rain all the water comes to my house which is the lowest point. I call (illegible) without any satisfaction

Excellent- Except Mayor!

Number one issue in this neighborhood is the streets, they are horrible. The city should find some sort of way to repair them in the near future.

Elmhurst needs stricter rental codes in regard to property maintenance & quality of tenants. City needs to come down harder on these owners who have no regard for neighbors or their property values, especially around Berneau Avenue, old hospital corridor into the city. Also, taxes continuing to climb will start to drive out families. MANY RENTAL PROPERTIES HAVE 20 PEOPLE LIVING IN THEM WHICH CONTINUALLY BRING DOWN THE QUALITY OF OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM. NEEDS TO BE BUILDER INCENTIVES.

Mayor should hold only 1 office. City departments do not respond to questions & requests efficiently. New houses are too big for lots - green space seems to be liberal for new houses.

I am sorry to see the complexion of our lovely neighborhoods change due to the tear downs & lack of plans that allow all garages be in front of the homes. We are becoming a new start up track type of suburb. I understand progress is a good thing but by not controlling the # of homes that look the same on each block we are losing interest & beauty of Elmhurst. To that I feel our building restrictions truly lack. We wouldn't see this in Lake Forest, Hinsdale or many of our North Suburban neighbors. When will responsibility of our plans begin?

We need to dispel the belief that Elmhurst has bad water issues

12.2 Other: Animal control 12.3 Other: animal control Anyone who lives near Salt Creek and has a pet should be mad about the elimination of wild animal control dept.

12.2 Other: Skunks. Elmhurst is too expensive as a community in which to retire. The exit ramps off 290 have too much trash tossed and not cleaned. Would like Historical Society to have more on Elmhurst history.

Section 8 rentals not helping the neighborhoods. Crime, property appearance and safe feeling definitely affecting area.

Our police force has no heart for writing a warning ticket. Live in Elmhurst 60 years, worst police force ever.

12.2 Other: Train traffic. Mayor should not hold another elected office. Pick one or the other.

12.1 Other: We love train noise (really!) 12.2 Other: Policy of plowing toward the center of the street which is stupid. City Centre sidewalk project is stupid. McMansions are ugly- traditional homes are just fine.

12.3 Other: Overcoming yuppie egos. Time to tighten the belt, combine some political jobs, remember that Elmhurst started as a railroad town (driving a BMW doesn't determine character- neither does the square footage of your house) and remember that those over 60 are on inflexible budgets. Also, floating thru stop signs is the norm here now and bikes don't seem to have to obey any traffic rules. And get drivers off the phone already.

Bring back Elmfest!

12.1 Other: Nothing

I've lived in Elmhurst most of my life. Over eighty years with but little strife. On a beautiful street in a lovely old town, one of the finest kept cities around.

Concerned about continuing budget challenges with the schools system. Funding, increase in class size are challenges in the future. Also schools have not been on the forefront of bringing technology into the classrooms. i.e. ipads, laptops on a wide scale basis.

12.2 Other: Library- I do not use library. I have found the staff to be unfriendly and the policies excessively restrictive.

12.1 Other: Not having sidewalks. Working in town and having people use store parking to go to show and not being ticketed. Signs state 3 hour parking. Long enough for show!

Too much of the character and quaintness is being lost to the ever overbuilding of newer homes without a vision to the future of what these properties are doing to the community - i.e. more storm water waste in the drainage system.

The refuse collection service is more expensive and you can throw away less than neighboring towns. I am sick of paying for bloated city pensions while my own private employment offers no such perks.

We really like Trader Joe's. In general LOVE Elmhurst. In general think our taxes are crazy high.

Overall, it's a nice place to live

My wife has lived in Elmhurst for 55 years and I have for 26 years. We love the city and our old house (99 yrs 5 mo) but now due to retirement, older ages & cost to live here (Taxes) we doubt we can stay more than 1 or 2 years more. - Problem - We have with snow also effect neighbors due to us being a corner house & plows cover sidewalk with up to 3' & 4' of snow. They do not have to do that per city supervisor I talked with but they do. I would like to talk to someone again about the plow problem if they are interested.

Can anything be done to North Avenue entrance to Elmhurst off 294. State funds? Is inmate

clean-up & planting an option?

Elmhurst is a great place to live and raise a family. I am not from the midwest & love being able to walk my kids to school!!

I have to say that the people at water billing are very, very, very nice and understandable. The Police, Firemen (&women) all are very nice. I had problems with my daughter's principal but I got that under control. I don't like that the residents on the North side of North Avenue pass 290 gets treated different. Please Call!!!!

Berens Park is very poorly designed. Everyone I talk to has the same opinion of it. It's ugly, has reckless drivers & dangerous street parking. Same with Wagner Comm Ctr. Having very little children playing soccer on the lawn (West&Crocket) is insane. Parents speed, disregard stop signs, park on the street sometimes & the coach is so loud. You can hear him bellowing for blocks. Those of us in nearby neighborhoods refer to those activities as "screaming kids days". It's Awful. Police are never around to ticket violators. Also, for the amount of taxes paid, there is no evidence of services provided. And we're all disgusted with your pension funds receiving increases every year. City employees are not worth it. Years ago, this town was almost ideal. Now, it's a rip-off. Congested, way too expensive & generally unfriendly, very sad.

Great place to live and sense of community. Need better management of finances and find ways to get business into Elmhurst to help with revenue. More incentives for residents to buy local

We need less government!

Section 10 -10.1 Additional comment -Except for Schools. 12.2 Scratched out "Quality" to leave the term "school" as the #2 spot of the three things you like least about living in Elmhurst.

12.2 Other: Home value going down Thanks to Phil who helped us get our neighbor to clean up their totally unacceptable house and yard. I think he was with Building Codes.

I like Elmhurst, it's been our home for over 50 years

Bicycle riders are not using safety precautions - not stopping at stop signs or lights - they need to be ticketed. Downtown sidewalks need to be power washed to remove food & gum. School budget needs to be managed better - buying building for admin. was a mistake.

Regarding vehicle stickers, I have a pickup truck with handicap plates, we do not have anything and I think \$90 is in poor taste for seniors. On the handicap plate there is no mention of truck

Elmhurst has improved a lot in recent years. I really applaud the various programs they have started. I feel the challenge now is communications and reaching all constituents and not just the small group that is always active in the City. Would also love if there was a plan for sidewalks east of York and North of 290! And safer bike paths on the streets

12.1 Additional choice (m.) Taxes are too high especially for seniors on fixed income. This will force them from living in the city/require them to move elsewhere because they can no longer afford to live here.

In bad storms, the management needs to be better. The sidewalks need to be fixed - our kids trip constantly - we do love the town. Wife went to college here and we bought due to location and schools.

Rental property owners seem to have special privileges in neglecting and not maintaining their property

Section 12.2 (s. Other) - Electricity goes off often

12.2 - (o.-Other) - Traffic on these streets. We moved to Elmhurst for location to work, quality of schools, quality of living surroundings, and handiness of facilities for living.

City must be able to balance expenses with revenues without raising taxes. Library amount of property taxes is too much - almost equal to city government's amount! Pension costs should be reduced. Butterfield Highland subdivision does not receive its' full share of city services.

The street I live on needs permit parking because of the day care. North Avenue is a very dangerous road that the speed limit should be enforced.

Our street is really falling apart.

In the area of public works I would like to see more services for removing hazardous waste (light bulbs, batteries, paint, etc.). I would also like to see a second "spring cleaning" refuse day added to help in removing large trash items. Thanks

Because of the size of my family and that I had to work most of my life, I really never got involved with the city politics, which was unfortunate. I answered the questions the best that I could.

My responses are colored by a medical condition that restricts my usage of many of the opportunities offered in this community.

Due to living on Butterfield Rd Elmhurst does not sweep the street so I do it myself. After the new sidewalks were put in when it rains we have 2 inches of water in front of our house. Elmhurst Public Works came out and said it is a County issue not the City. This stinks in my books.

12.2 Other: tear downs

Not happy with vehicle stickers- only one senior. Re building codes- allowing oversize home on smaller lots such as height, width and depth overshadowing neighboring properties.

Parkway restoration is poor. We get stones & no dirt & a few grass seeds. Tree trimming is out of hand. Trees are planted in parkways by people who have no knowledge of how to do it. Hole isn't large enough, no water put in hole, etc. Why can't we use 42 gal garbage cans instead of these 60 gal or 32 gal. Other cities use 42 gal. Please check.

12.2 Other: trains

Because of our location- edge of Elmhurst- police patrol is little at best. Elmhurst police avoid area even when called don't show up.

Thanks for the chance to respond

12.2 Other: Bad drivers not stopping at signs and speeding Wheaton changed their historical museum to volunteer workers, Elmhurst should also. We are wasting too much money on a program that did not exist several years ago and this is during an ongoing recession

It was better when we weren't walled in, we lack open space, not high rise building.

Elmhurst needs a mid-level non fast food restaurant such as Applebee's or Chili's. The perfect location would be the NW corner of 83 and St. Charles Rd. It would bring increased employment, tax revenue and tourism. Need bigger recycling containers! Has Elmhurst considered curbside vacuum style fall leaf pick up? How would cost compare for homeowners to yard waste bags and stickers?

Elmhurst is a beautiful city, and all of the government employees are to be admired for doing all within their power to keep it this way, even with the dreadful economy being what it is. Everyone must stay strong and not allow it to decline. I thank you for my 48 years of living here. Don't allow the schools for the children to decline, they need Elmhurst school systems. I am not a teacher, but a nurse who made sure her two daughters were educated in Elmhurst - One is now a lawyer & the other an engineer - thanks to Elmhurst Schools

Comments from 1.8 - Worse - More diverse people coming from different towns. 5.14 - We get a lot of things from Walmart 10.1 - Fair - Taxes are very high and the neighborhood is changing. Others are getting to enjoy the benefits we pay for and don't respect the town & neighbors. 11.3 - I grew up in Oak Brook, went to Elmhurst schools. My dad has been living in Elmhurst for over 10 years. My grandparents from the 70's 'til they passed away. 11.5 - Off Butterfield on Commonwealth by Eldridge Park 12.1 - It's a great neighborhood - I love it but don't want others to ruin it. We all have to stick together & keep it great! 12.3 - Double underlined "Population Increase" and "Demographics Change". COMMENTS: I've always joked complained about our Police being too much. But now I appreciate them because even with demographics changing I feel safe because they are everywhere.

One of the problems & have repeated in the past surveys remain unresolved. (1) Snow removal/cleaning streets on the north side of Elmhurst is pretty slow (2) Influx of renters that do not maintain neighborhood clean (3) Crime rate is on the rise.

My neighbor was recently vandalized. Their house was broken into too. I am concerned for the safety of our city. Also I am a recent widow and our taxes and cost of living in Elmhurst will unfortunately force me to leave my home soon.

The mayor should absolutely not be able to hold two elected positions, this is a travesty if it happens and the City should be more outraged and the mayor should be forced to address this situation in a public forum.

12.2 Other: train traffic

We need a mayor that will govern Elmhurst only and not be involved in too many political interests as this one is. He's very biased at City meetings and is not responsive to the General Public opinions. I wouldn't vote him in again.

Regarding Elmhurst Centre \$2 coupons, I went to 3 places that didn't take them...poor promotion

I'm a little worried that the labor relations / contract issues in District 205 (which the city does not control) will lead to an overall decline in the quality of teachers wanting to come here to teach.

The airplane noise is devastating to quality of life. It's hard to entertain and have the windows open because it's so bad. Can't even talk over it. This is easily the most disappointing thing about Elmhurst. Concerned about sending our kids to Churchville- not sure if we will move or go private. Disappointing to hear so many negative things. Awful locations, demographics are shaky. Let's build a new school! Charlie's, Bleeding Heart, Pints are great additions to Elmhurst. The 20-30 something young, successful families will flock to Elmhurst as these type of establishments come to town. Catering to the young City transplants is the surest way of ensuring a prosperous future for our community!

Elmhurst Should have the use of the old Memorial Hospital building for an "old soldiers" home. A residence for old or homeless veterans of all military branches. Elmhurst should have a central "no fee" bill payment office where residents can pay bills for all services - (utilities) electric, gas, telephone, water, cable TV, etc. P.S. In the 1920's and the 1930's we used to have "Old Soldier's Homes". We need them again in these modern times.

Stormwater management- should use more modern approaches that keeps water on the land

Too many expensive homes - not enough townhomes and condo units that are affordable with young family or fixed income family.

2.17 & 2.19 - Ticket was a parking ticket. Need to look at how parking tickets are given in downtown Elmhurst. Just to meet a quota??!! Contested citation - came down to police are always right! Section 6 - I see many violations - especially people parking boats, business vehicles.

Lower our taxes.

We've remained in Elmhurst for many years because of the quality of life we've experienced. Despite the few problems the City has, Elmhurst is a great place to live

Thanks for asking, now please act. Would be great if Elmhurst led on reform of public sector pensions/benefits. They are unsustainable.

The city government needs to take a hard stance on not allowing our current mayor to also be on the county board. One or the other, not both.

12.2 (s.) Other - City Council Fighting

12.2 2- (s.) Other - Skunk Control

Train noise has gotten markedly worse in the last five years. Live two doors from Union Pacific tracks and the horn blowing will drive you nuts during the warm weather months.

It seems that the majority of people treat stop signs as if they are yield signs. No one seems to obey them and are impatient with you if you do come to a complete stop.

12.2 2)other - Getting stuck at track by train

12.2 1. (s.) other Low-flying helicopters - at 4am!

Stormwater management is a real concern if businesses specifically restaurants feel its better due to flooding. The empty building lot on York Ave and 290 is an eyesore. Attracting a brewery there with or without a dining area might be a good idea. Looking into a way to add a composting service might be beneficial

This economy calls for "bringing it down a notch". There are more middle-class families, and less "elite". The new hospital is a prime example of how the city continues to try and convey it's image. There continues to be a vibe that Elmhurst is better than surrounding towns. We are not "all-that", plenty of average people in Elmhurst. 5.11 - C. Specialty items/Gifts -NO!!! 5.11 - G. A "regular", non-gourmet corner store, with snacks and Slurpee's - an arcade.

10.8 - Sidewalk Maintenance - Many places too easy to trip & fall - small cracks, elevation not level. 12.1 - O. Other - All the above & equally

1.8- Worse - Because of flooding

I have been in Elmhurst 33 years - a long time. It's home, if money was not so tight with tax and home mortgage & value so down. I can't do much with what's left after bills are paid - on my income!

ELM Fest - used to be great - not worth the time now. NO crafts - less fun - what happened??? Ladies night out has declined in the last 2 years. Maybe add crafts to cool cars night or maybe a food truck competition

Elmhurst is a great place to live. I would not change many things.

12.2 (s.) Cost of garbage pickup/garbage containers 12.3 - (n.) Amidst so many budget cuts (s.) Com Ed issues

Stop complaining about the airport.

While I love living in Elmhurst, I would like to see a more vibrant downtown area, similar to Naperville with more options for dining and entertainment.

My greatest concern is the annual increase of property taxes which continue to rise even as property values decline. This may cause me to have to leave Elmhurst and others I know share this concern. The tax cost is akin to a second mortgage and needs to be curtailed. Snow-ice removal in the winter is slow to begin when a storm occurs. Response and effectiveness of snow removal is severely lacking. Also concerned about increased airport/airplane noise- this could compromise quality of life

Traffic & code enforcement are abysmal. Mayor DiCianni's flirtation with double-dipping change for the better and Elmhurst will survive.

13.3 Other: Mayor DiCianni

The parking restrictions in downtown Elmhurst make it difficult to stay more than 3 hours without receiving a ticket.

5.11 (g.) Other - Ladies apparel for those of us who are over 50 (THINK HONEY GIRL)

12.2 - (1) Lack of diversity & interaction between groups (3) Not very bicycle or other non-car transport friendly [scooters, roller blades, etc.] 12.3 (s.) Other - Loss of state revenue and unwise aversion to taxation. Movement to privatize government services and assets - NOT SMART. Would like to see more "green"/sustainability initiatives such as composting program for restaurants, schools, college, and residents. The city should do a better job adhering to the sustainability policy.

I am looking forward to reading the results of this survey - Thank you!

This is an excessively long questionnaire!

Leaf removal in bags is a pain in this variable weather. I wish we had a system like in PA where you rake to the curb and a truck with a large vacuum system picked them up.

Elmhurst is a great place to live and raise a family. Great schools and parks - concerned politicians within city government - An overall feeling of a good quality of life - great community.

How is it possible that property taxes go up while property values go down? It is very difficult to contest anything!

Need to watch drivers on North Avenue - speeders, texting while driving, etc. I would like to see cameras at Field School underpass.

I've seen Elmhurst continually growing. I hope we don't get too big and lose the small town atmosphere. More good development in the North end of town. Not physically able to participate in many activities. Excellent cab programs & senior meetings for seniors.

12.2- (s) Too many wild animals; trees out of control. 12.3 Animals Wild - Eating garbage

I am temporarily handicapped and the parking downtown is terrible. A lack of handicapped

spaces. I also am tired of the McMansions replacing sometimes decent nice size homes & crowding people.

I hope the mayor's personal agenda is consistent with what is best for Elmhurst.

I love living in Elmhurst! I have been here for almost fifty years. The quality of life is excellent. It has been a great place in which to work and raise children. I praise Elmhurst where ever I go!

12.1 Other: Atmosphere-not a cookie cutter suburb. The problem with the air traffic is not only noise- we live directly under the flight path for landings and there is pollution from exhaust some of which seems to be a particulate that has affected our aluminum siding (I have had previous experience with this type of effect)

Elmhurst is letting the north side of town go down in appearance- rentals, streets- pawn shop! Vahalla Games! Empty car dealerships! Tired of south siders and their attitude- I pay taxes too! Economy has caused people to lose houses selling them at lower costs. Economy causing people not to be able to afford to live in Elmhurst so they rent out their houses to ANYONE!

I just retired and Elmhurst property taxes are a big % of fixed expenses. Love the Library!

We incorporated into Elmhurst 2 years ago for water and sewer. We do not have sidewalks or streetlights nor do we want them. We feel our taxes are much too high.

The Mayor needs ethics - He has none

The increase in City taxes hurts the local longtime residents on fixed incomes who will no longer be able to keep living in Elmhurst even though they've raised their children here. Property values decline and taxes go up in the City. Peter DiCianni doesn't understand the situation, obviously, by the hundreds of \$'s increase last year and before. He should concentrate on ONE JOB not two and keep seniors in the community. We did not need redo of the High School Library and the Wilder Mansion in such a short time period. SLOW DOWN in this economy and pay attention to south Elmhurst and the middle class who are the backbone of Elmhurst.

Taxes are too high - get rid of that tacky carnival

12.2 - (s) Other Power outages too frequent

3.6 - Poor - We live on Bonnie Brae & car wash folks park in front of my house & the street cannot get cleaned & my mailbox is blocked at times.

12.2 - Lack of dining options south end of town

12.2 (s.) Other - Power Outage

Do love City of Elmhurst. Best place to raise family.

Please stop taking things away from our children! Start practicing what you preach- Character

Counts! That's not the message our future is receiving they are learning how to cut corners, skate by and take advantage of others! So disappointing!

Vehicle sticker enforcement is poor. There are many vehicles with old stickers or no stickers and from other municipalities. I know of 6 to 12 around my block 2. Vehicle sticker tax not fair to seniors with 2 vehicles and class rating of vehicles. 3. Up keep of property by "renters" the overall appearance of Elmhurst, the lack of vehicle sticker sales and school has caused this and other problems. Owners should be more responsible for property and tenants.

We need to step up patrol in downtown areas especially in the expressways accessibility- too much change lately and we need to maintain the safety of our community

We love Elmhurst- wonderful quality of life- City services- and Library, Park, cultural offerings- and location! My only concern is whether we'll be able to afford to retire here

Danger and hazard of bicyclists, especially on busy streets and heavily used side streets- family groups particularly a problem. Increasing number of electrical power outages Excessive tree trimming; no regard of aesthetic impact Paver sidewalks in City Centre are dangerous to older citizens and others. I know several who have tripped and fallen on them, also they appear to be high maintenance and repair

The role of Ass't City Manager is a joke. Cronyism at its highest, what a waste of taxpayer money, get rid of that position.

3.14 Refuse Collection - Love the one day during the year when you can put anything out on the parkway. 8.1 - I got a ticket for parking in downtown Elmhurst. I went on your website to ask questions & give ideas about improving the parking signs. I asked for a response, I NEVER received a reply; not sure if the email went to the Finance Dept. 8.5 (d.) Once - Police Dept. The only gripe I have with the City would be your "lack of response". Twice I have contacted the City. Once for a stormwater issue and the other was a question/suggestion for parking signs in the downtown (I had gotten a parking ticket). Relative to the stormwater issue, I was given the courtesy of a reply once and then after that there was no follow up. The other time I contacted the City was to rectify a parking ticket. I submitted my question/predicament online and asked for a reply. I never received a response. This certainly needs to change.

Wouldn't it be funny to see taxes go down?

I just moved to Elmhurst from Chicago. I love Elmhurst! It's quiet and there's a good sense of community. I would like more grocery store options but other than that I have no complaints

Feel the problem with the storm sewers has not been solved. Too much consulting, too little action.

We enjoy living in Elmhurst as Senior Citizens and appreciate the Town Hall meetings for seniors and other benefits for us.

12.3 Other: loss of local businesses

Good job Mayor Pete. Keep up the great work.

3.15 The last 3-4 weeks they don't come by on the correct day, if at all. 8.5.(c) not related to bill payment.

Husband wants more lights turned off at night in Library. Real happy about new lights at York H.S. & sound system.

You have the best mayor in the world.

3.1 Called my alderman. I rated streets poor because they are always being repaired/holes dug for whatever reason and never restored to an original smooth surface. Drive down any neighborhood street and it feels like an obstacle course for all the poorly patched repairs. The city & all private contractors should be required to properly fix what they damage.

12.2 Other: Noise in general. We love it here but as we age we like peace and quiet (no stress!) Thanks for the opportunity to vent

We have lived in Elmhurst for 39 years - Raised 2 sons - in good schools- now we will retire here, We love Elmhurst, it's been good to us.

2.24 Lots of vandals. 3.8. Too many. 5.7 N/A not here 5 yrs.12.2 (s) Lack of diversity. When we moved here, we were amazed by the amount of micromanaging this city partakes in - back flow tests for sewer/irrigation; warnings about vehicle stickers & deploying police w/in 15 days of moving from another state if we didn't pay our fee, all the zoning hassles of new build., taking down trees, etc. Not at all like our old beautiful neighborhood. They were much nicer there and not everyone was white & catholic. It was quite a culture shock to move here. Also, why all the work on sidewalks when the streets are in such poor shape?

1.8 - (Worse) Less Police visibility 5.7 - (B. About the same) Is this really relevant; other than to those who congregate there? 7.8 (b. no) I've been there once. It absolutely holds no interest to me. 9.13 (Fair) - In terms of what they want us to know. 12.2 (s. other) An archaic, bureaucratic, "boys club" government. Comments: See question 2.12 - A few years ago, one would see Police cars driving through the area. That is no longer the case. They are usually visible checking the parking collection boxes. We need more police, and less concern about the beautification of the City Centre!! My husband passed away June 2, 1990. The city was notified. However, all correspondences & bills from the City still come addressed to him.

Please try to get a Trader Joe's to come to Elmhurst!!! It would make a much better addition than another bank!

New to the area - we love it - keep up the good work!

12.2 (s. other) Yuppies, People who are snobs. Comments: City has too much management! Spends money on Assistant City Managers when only one did the job in the past.

Elmhurst is a City of Churches with a great emphasis on children's programs, parks and library (world class) first rate medical facilities- what's not to like?

5.6 This needs to be separate questions! Need to make it financially easier for people to improve their homes by not having so many permits which up homeowners taxes, they are already way too high! Lower taxes! Bring in a Trader Joe's or a Whole Foods! Have more bike paths! Charge a fee & make the companies who pass out fliers on homeowners doors to register w/the city (too many scams & individuals "scoping out" homes...)

12.2 Other: lack of bike lanes

2.7 (d) My sons visited the Fire Station & the firemen were wonderful to our family!

Should be some type of enforcement about people who do not maintain their homes. Now it appears all you can do is make them cut their grass.

Parking is a serious problem around City Centre - Length of time and places available need to be addressed, especially more than 3 hours to enjoy both shopping and eating in one evening/day. Thank you for the opportunity to participate!!

12.3 (k.) Restaurants

12.3 (s. other) Need to update electrical grid (frequent power outages) Comments: I would prefer the city refrain from using chemicals that are harmful to children and seniors such as mosquito spraying. There is also a need to diversify businesses - especially grocery stores. It's unfortunate that I have to travel to Wheaton to buy groceries at Whole Foods. I do enjoy the library and park district services and frequently utilize their programs.

I've lived in Elmhurst for 58 years - have seen many changes - some good - some not so good. I do not shop Elmhurst because of the parking. I do love all the city has to offer. Have enjoyed my years here in Emery Manor - God Bless & take care of Elmhurst

12.3 (2. i.) Too much section 8 housing

Please raise taxes on the (unincorporated) areas of Elmhurst south of Butterfield Rd. east of York Rd. They pay less than corporate Elmhurst have bigger lots, park more business trucks in driveways and street, have better maintenance and services. Section 6 - Should be Fired! 12.1 (o) #3 Mostly white.

12.2 Other: scarce police presence The grounds around Bryan Middle School and their storage of city vehicles in fenced areas are DEPLORABLE. It makes no sense that this huge eyesore remains the same. Very un Elmhurst like. And why are some properties not required to be kept up? The area due north and west of the Jewel on Butterfield. Looks as if 3 families live there.

12.2 Other: 1) Lack of diversity 2) lack of quality restaurants 3) lack of quality/organic local groceries 12.3 Other: need to bury electric lines I have 2 kids ages 3 and 6 and we love the parks. Though many of us see too much money spent on rebuilding the parks that seem in good shape already. We'd rather put money toward burying the electrical wires/improving stormwater management

Would appreciate better/more frequent maintenance of public alleys. I am responsible for 100% of the care (grass cutting, tree trimming) for the alley behind my house and was surprised

that the City would not collect the waste.

12.2 Other 1) Wild animals 2) power outages We love living in Elmhurst and are proud to be residents here and raising our 3 children here. Like any town there are things to improve upon but overwhelmingly we believe Elmhurst is a terrific place to live!

It seems the City could require more landscaping at new developments. St. Charles and 83 is so stark and unattractive with those garish red, black, white buildings. Why weren't trees replaced by the water tower? Also, stop paying to put paver sidewalks the color of ---cement! Silly--go to Hinsdale to see it done well, it should contrast not blend with the curb.

Tax dollars going to library needs to be reduced (basically the same dollar amount as the City tax) due to computer age the library is no longer needed to the degree it once was. Start to work towards eliminating all gov pensions. Run it like a business 401ks

Overall I am very happy with Elmhurst since I moved here in 2001. My main pain in South Elmhurst is the Power Outages are at least 1-2 times per year and Bryan Street needs to have stop signs put in at every intersection. It's well known that Bryan Street is used as a Bi-Pass from York Road traffic and it put's children's lives in jeopardy with the speed level from Van Buren to Adams and then from Madison to Vallette.

Why did seniors car stickers double in cost and everyone else stayed the same. I'm on a fixed income, ouch! Constant noise created by landscape services eg heavy duty lawn mowers, edgers, blowers, etc. (loud industrial types) almost all day long on most of the properties in the neighborhood. Peace and quiet no longer in suburbia!

Less parking tickets, parking tickets prevents local business support. City taxes on gas prevents local support of Elmhurst gas stations. Senior discounts for all auto stickers (antique cars). Reduction of public works pensions.

7.22 - Just moved to Elmhurst. Still visiting attractions, restaurants, etc. 10.4 - Too new still
Comments: We are new to the area, but very concerned about how much our property value declined in just one year and also what O'Hare expansion could do to noise levels & resale.

12.2 (r.) Whistle at night!! We thought when they came out with the loud speaker "another train is coming" they would not blow the loud whistle in the middle of the night!!!

I believe a study should be made regarding traffic flow down York in the City Centre area. I believe traffic would flow smoother if York was one way south bound in the downtown area since more vehicles approach from the North (off of Worth Avenue x-way)

Elmhurst is great - a beautiful city but taxes are way too high. My husband is no longer living so I did the survey.

I am tired of street closings in the morning on this side of town while trying to get to 83.

2.12- 2.13 - I never see the Police - they don't seem to be out very much at night. The Park district needs to understand that when you plant a tree IT NEEDS WATER. So many trees are planted and die within a few years because the Park District plants a tree and forgets about it. That is a lot of wasted \$\$\$\$. Nothing in here about York High School. That place is deteriorating

and no one is doing anything about it! There is a SERIOUS DRUG PROBLEM at the high school and the school board and the police are ignoring it.

12.3 (s. other) Affordability

7.23 - Near total lack of multicultural 12.2 - Not very ethnically diverse

12.2 Other: snow removal is worst in DuPage. Need a place where middle school/teenagers can go. Sports center?

9.14 (j) Elmhurst residents can register and get automatic important updates regarding city news just like Chicago Tribune. Great place to live! The number of burglaries since I have moved back here seems to be on the rise with few success stories I am aware of. If the police department is having more success stories catching the bad guys, it is not well advertised. If not, I would like to know the game plan moving forward.

12.2 Other: variety of restaurants. We moved from Chicago nearly 3 years ago. Elmhurst has been a great place to grow our family

Too many library lights on after hours. Redone City Center unnecessary brick sidewalks overdone. Sears essential a plus for Elmhurst. Need Trader Joe's

Please follow up on the comments provided and make change that is needed. Traffic speed is abused on our street and we have many kids on the block. Taxes are increasing with home values decreasing. Keep the schools and teachers well-staffed w/ continued extracurricular activities

5.14 Books-Are you kidding?? Where? Mayor "Pete" is too eager to raise fees & taxes. Some streets, es. downtown south of tracks, are embarrassing. Police Dept. is good but needs to be more visible in the neighborhoods. Street cleaning is poor. Schools are great.

Would like much larger bins for recycling like the ones used for trash. More focus needs to be placed on illegal drug enforcement. At least 2 houses near me known for drug activities

12.2 Other: diversity of restaurants (too much Italian) Even school buses drive 55 mph on Poplar. Never seen a police car during rush hours

12.3 also i. - Population increase/demographics change

Overall, city government is great, except Mayor DiCianni should not be allowed to hold two public offices.

I'm 85 years old so it's difficult for me to give you true evaluations of services because I don't use them. I only used the police once in 55 years & they were great. Someone was ringing my door bell at 11:45 a.m.

This past year we did not receive our renewal for our vehicle stickers in the mail. There were no signs posted in South Elmhurst to remind us. We received two tickets (2 days in a row for the

same car parked at York). When I complained at city hall, the lady said I should have remembered because I lived here for a long time.

Add no parking signs on side streets for snow removal and street sweeping

12.2 Other: no electricity after storms Conditions of streets: very poor for bike riders. Aesthetics of pavement very unbecoming. On an HGTV program in June 2012 an Elmhurst home was featured and I was mortified at the condition of the streets- representative of what I find on my street- McKinley and Parkside. Very bad patch jobs. Yard waste stickers too expensive. No electricity again- bad tree maintenance adds to problem.

12.1 Other: neighbors City government has become dysfunctional! Too many police doing nothing. Too many taxes (gas, city stickers, retail, food...) I shop out of Elmhurst as much as possible and stopped buying gas in town over 1 year ago.

12.1 (o. other) -proximity to downtown Chicago & freeway tollways

The new brick sidewalks are beautiful but are "bumpy" for a person in a wheelchair. I wonder if it is also difficult for seniors using a walker?

12.2 Other: skunks

12.2 Other: tax The property tax disbursement to Villa Park which forces Elmhurst residents to attend Dist 48 schools. If police and fire services are needed the respondents are Elmhurst and City utilities are paid to Elmhurst. Municipal departments, i.e. police and fire are losing funds due to this structure

5.11 - (g.) High end thrift; Bring retail shops like Old Navy, Trader Joe's, if there is adequate room. 5.12 (e.) other - Elmhurst Crossing Shopping Center 12.2 (s. other) Need more sources of tax revenue other than property tax or sales tax. 12.3 (s. other) Finances to pay for above areas [B,F,L, M, N, O) Pawn shops and Union Waverly bringing in undesirable activity! It would be nice to see more restaurant outdoor seating. Encourage more people to "get off the Metra to eat & shop". Both pools extremely busy. Consider third pool. More quality live music on Friday nights at Wilder Park. Check out other cities like Geneva or Highland Park, Park Ridge. Afraid that more section 8 housing will come to Elmhurst. We moved to Elmhurst for schools, downtown, property value, safety.

12.2 (s. other) - High Tax Rate will drive seniors out

12.2 (s. other) - Electric Problems

3.2 - 3.3 - 3.-4: Request for tree trimming - don't think it occurred at all. 10.4 - Hard to judge

1.8 - Haven't lived here that long

Property taxes are way too high! Thinking about moving to Oak Brook.

12.1 Other: our mayor I think we have the best mayor and Elmhurst is a wonderful city to raise

a family!

Stop spraying for mosquito control. All research shows it is not effective. Maintaining Elmhurst's character is important. No tall buildings in downtown.

As tax rates go up and housing prices have come down, the paid taxes now have single digit upward migration. When the economy picks up, the taxes will escalate with housing prices and there will be strong push back from citizens. The big issue then will be finding additional revenue streams for the community so as to avoid hurting schools, infrastructure, etc. You will need now to find ways of attracting light manufacturing, tech companies, etc. (new business incubator or research park?) to increase the tax base. Sales tax on local retail stores will be insufficient.

Stormwater management/flooding and unreliable electricity service are the two biggest problems in Elmhurst. Additionally, the police department is not friendly toward residents, and was not forthcoming with information to residents following the rash of burglaries in Elmhurst.

We need to enforce stricter rules for the builders we have in our area. They are noisy, messy-leave debris, argue with neighbors over property lines. One such builder built on Parkview recently for almost two years!

We moved to Elmhurst 56 years ago. We raised our 5 children through the school and also the college. We have 15 grandchildren and most of them live in Elmhurst. We have 21 great grandchildren and most of them live in Elmhurst. We moved to our present home 10 years ago because of aging and downsizing. At the time the landscaping on the RR property was like a park. Now it is kept up very badly- trees have died and were not replaced and the landscaping does a poor job.

Street: at the intersection of East Adams, Cedar to Butterfield Rd is in bad condition and should be replaced. "Some work" gets done, after a few weeks it's worse...877 proves it. Sidewalk: On November 30th 2009 as I was raking the leaves from the parkway tree I tripped on the uneven sidewalk. The next day it was fixed by the City. I put a claim to the City, but my claim was refused.

As new residents move in they are not informed of various ordinances for pets and trash pickup. Often times people do not pick up after their pets and leave trash out before and after allowed pick up times without reprisal. Also street lights will be out for months before they are repaired. And they only get repaired if a resident calls to advise you- can't police work with streets to tell them about lights out? It's still a safety issue as well.

12.2 Other: no sidewalks in N. Elmhurst.

We love the parks, library and general satisfaction with the schools. Downtown Elmhurst is very nice but it is lacking compared to benchmark communities such as Wheaton, Glen Ellyn, Hinsdale, and Naperville. We fear the flooding issue will result in depressed property values if unaddressed. Elmhurst must be vigilant about controlling cost for City employees. Overall, we really enjoy living in Elmhurst.

12.1 Other: Hospital, churches, College, York Theater 12.2 Other: Chicago style politics 12.3

Other: Chicago style politics The City of Elmhurst continues to be the best place to grow your business, raise your family and walk your dog!

Living here for over 25 years it has been exciting to see the development of a lovely, vibrant downtown! Our guests always comment on how great downtown Elmhurst is. All in all Elmhurst has been a great place to put down roots and raise children. Please no more banks!

Lock it or lose it is stupid- it shows that police cannot protect citizens in our homes.

It alarms me the number of cars that come down my one way street and turn around and go the wrong way, and also the rate of speed some cars go down my streets.

12.2 - (s.) Lack of restaurants Comments: We always lose electricity no matter the size of the storm. It gets very annoying. It has happened ever since we moved here and would like this problem addressed.

12.1 (o.) Hospital and Medical care 12.3 (s.) Train/Freight Traffic

At my age (85yrs) I don't do much in the city. I rely on family and neighbors. I've lived in the same house for 54 years and my children and grandchildren went through the school system. I have enjoyed living here - except for flooding.

1.7 - Ugly new buildings too close to street. 3.6 - Live on Butterfield Rd - Don't get any 5.10 - Not for me - poor shop selection - too many 10.3 - Hidden - not shown or told 10.8 Need five choices - Bad survey Suck to serve all of the other towns here Animal control - does not exist. 12.2 - (s.) Hospital & service to all other communities 12.3 (s.) Hospital problem; no answers to residents on Butterfield. We don't live on autobahn - can't afford to sell???????? Too many other towns use this hospital. Stop problem, fix light on York Td. - no need ??? flow @ hospital. wrong way - why a new ??? If I could ??? I'd be gone yesterday

I think the city should revisit tax breaks for "rehab" construction where only the foundation or on existing wall is kept in place and for all practical purposes and appearances, a brand new house has been built. It's unfair to allow a new 5,000 square foot home to be grandfathered into 5 years of taxes on the pre-existing structure when nothing was done to keep the architectural integrity of the existing structure and a family of 5 or more is now living where a single person or an elderly couple previously resided. These families are utilizing the same school and infrastructure resources as a new construction home and should pay taxes accordingly.

We love living in Elmhurst, keep up the great work!

Police cars should have a first aid kit. Pedestrian in need of a Band-Aid after a fall stopped a police car & was told he did not have a first-aid kit.

12.2 - (s.) Other - Power Outages

12.2 (r.) Train noise, blowing horn in the middle of the night. Good City to live in.

12.2 (s.) Police enforcement too strict

See Attached Sheet: (below) CONCERNS ABOUT THE CITY Too many vacant storefronts downtown. Our city is known for its museums and liberal arts college, yet we have no art galleries, bookstores, or antique stores. No Chamber of Commerce or city planners looking out for the public image of our city. Too many eyesores, such as the abandoned gas station at the corner of Park & Cottage Hill. That corner is the gateway to our museum campus, for visitors arriving on Metra, and it is embarrassing to think that it constitutes their first impression of Elmhurst. Another eyesore is the abandoned ice cream shop at York & South. Tear it down or rent it out. Can't as much effort be put into beautifying the north end of York as has been put into beautifying the south end? Why can't the north end (north of I-290 & Lake Street) have attractive lighting (instead of utilitarian light poles) & trees & other plantings? There are too many empty storefronts and ugly strip malls. It looks like a gritty factory town - like an area nobody really cares about. St. Charles, east of Poplar, deserves as much attention as the stretch west of Poplar. Why doesn't that small segment have attractive lighting, and parkway trees? It is the gateway to Elmhurst for those driving west on St. Charles. The new strip mall on North Avenue at Route 83 is ugly. Why was it built with its back facing the street? Why weren't shrubs and trees included in its over-all layout, especially on the North Avenue side? Even uglier are the red "boxes" on St. Charles at Route 83. Who on earth approved something so embarrassingly ugly? A word about McMansion: When they go in , the established trees and shrubs go out. Some of the lost plantings were 50 or 60 years old. More often than not, few plantings go in as replacements. Perhaps, after spending a lot of money on a mansion, the new owners are too poor to be bothered with landscaping. I think that an ordinance should be passed similar to Chicago's percentage-for-art program, but it would mandate a percentage-for-landscaping. We need a Trader Joe's or Whole Foods in Elmhurst. Why can't something like that go in the abandoned Steven's restaurant, which is another eyesore? Elmhurst removes trees, but seldom are they replaced. Our police department is good. Twice in the last few years a patrolman has rung our doorbell in the middle of the night to let us know that our garage door was open. My husband took the 12 week Citizens' Police Academy course, and conceived a very high opinion of the department.

12.2 (s) The police are too aggressive with residents.

7.17 - I didn't know there was a Historical Museum 10.8 (Parking enforcement) - I believe that aggressive ticketing of visitors to the Wednesday car show uptown that fail to understand the 6:00 to 9:00 no parking below the regular sign is costing businesses because these folks will not return next week. Living in Elmhurst requires owning a generator. In the last 3 years my generator has run more hours than my car. When is Elmhurst going to fix the power grid? Or trim the trees that take it down whenever there is a storm? When I read the Police reports in the Press I wonder why the Police aren't fighting crime rather than writing parking tickets.

12.1 (o.) Other - Near my son

12.2 (s) 12.2 (s) Cost of recreation/leisure for residents. The parks near downtown Elmhurst are great, clean. But Crestview Park can use more maintenance. It gets a bit dirty overall and the sand pit could use refreshing.

3.13 Too much! 12.2 (g) Leisure opportunities for teens. 12.3 (s) Amount of rental houses vs. single family homes.

City Council should continue to maintain the quality of life in Elmhurst.

I am concerned w/the number of section 8 homes in the area, also the smaller homes for rent. ALSO Why is north of North Ave in another Township? And, why isn't the North boundary for schools at Grand Ave. I think this is hurting our school system.

Elmhurst has been a fine community for our family for 4+ years. I do worry about crime, the loss of electricity for long periods after storms, and the steady of increase in property taxes in the face of a declining real estate market.

9.1 The Doings went out of business about a year ago. Didn't even know about AT&T-99. Mayor- Greedy for wanting two pensions. Glad you finally said you'd step down as Mayor if elected to County position.

Great place to live. We are fortunate.

12.1 - (o.) Our uptown area 12.2 - (n.) Property

I obviously don't know much about city management! - but I enjoy living in Elmhurst (since 1947!).

1. Elmhurst should have an ordinance to protect trees on private property - they shouldn't be cut down without a good reason. 2. A detailed aesthetic addition to building codes is also needed; e.g. buildings should face the street, NOT LIKE NORTH/RT 83 AREA. 3. Downspouts should not be allowed to feed directly into storm sewers

12.3 (s.) Loss of Historic Homes and Buildings

5.11 - Who cares as long as they offer quality products at reasonable prices. Interesting, I will await the results and follow-up.

12.2 (s.) Power Failures

Please! Stop spending. Our "Real Estate" taxes are more than we can afford. This town needs affordable housing for seniors.

No sidewalks, power lines (overhead), storm time more trees falling & power lines fall, then no power, more floods.

Reinstate pest control - skunks have been in neighborhood since we moved in. Remove the unused employee parking spaces in Adelaide Street parking structure. Commuters need the spots that are never used. Without commuters no one will actually go to the restaurants in town or the stores. The Metra/Commuter parking is unacceptably low! Very disappointing since we moved to Elmhurst-very resident unfriendly.

1.8 Except your property on River Glen. 2.5 They cannot get down our street because it is too narrow and the people fight because of Todd Benson. Open for an alternative way out of North Graue Woods. 3.16 The waste company never comes down the street to pick up yard waste. 5

neighbors still have bags outside. 4.9 Drive too fast and always no consideration for the other drivers/car. 5.7 The streets got washed in early morning. 5.9 You have nothing in town to shop at that is known well. 5.10 (d) Other - Need better companies in town like Wheaton, Naperville, Glen Ellyn in their downtown area. 5.12 (c) Card shop - I have to go all the way there which is also close to Oak Brook. Need central card/gift shop Hallmark! Section 6 - Old empty unlive in house on street. Needs to be condemned, has been like that for years? 7.15. (a) So kids will go to see & learn. 8.7 But I don't want to do it via computer. 8.8 At least 3 times this year that Mayor increased the bill. Stop it! 10.1 Too expensive! 12.2 Need more and better restaurants. 12.3 Problem with teenagers in Elmhurst 90%+ smoke pot!

4.13 Retired. 4.15 No bike.

2.24 We have had a lot of break-ins in our neighborhood over the last couple years during the day. 3.12 Still wonder why certain parts of blocks still don't have sidewalks. 3.10 Would like to see more maintenance on parkway trees. Trimming them away from house in a preventative matter. 4. Addison & tracks really needs a redo. 4.9 Corner of Myrtle & 2nd. We see a lot stop sign fly byes. 5.14 Electronics-Where in Elmhurst? Sporting Goods - Where in Elmhurst? Fabrics/Home Goods - where? 8.8 Would like the ability to pay directly from my checking account without having to set some else up. Neighborhood break-ins during the day has neighbors on edge. I feel we have had an overabundance of them. Speed of cars going down street especially being on a corner of a bus stop, plus cars going through stop sign without properly stopping to make light or miss train. City Centre and area has too many nail & hair salons. Need more variety. Also no more resale shops. Stores: Sporting Goods, Flower Shops, Art Supplies, Gardening Supplies. Restaurants: Better Mexican Restaurant, Thai, Spanish, German, baked goods cakes & Pies Kitchen Supplies, shoes for kids, electronics, Tennesholt store/baseball/football or Lacrosse, better bakery, better cupcakes. What we don't need any more, unless we are getting a cut of the money-laundering-banks, hair salons, nail salons, tanning area, coffee shops. My overall opinion is the when a new shop or restaurant comes into Elmhurst they have no idea who their clientele is or who they want it to be. That should be the City's first couple questions. We should be looking for specific things or reaching out to specific companies or chains to bring them into Elmhurst. What is up the gas station on 2nd and Addison-How about a face-lift or push them out? What are we in the Ghetto? Or the gas station off York Street between North and 3rd Street the Marathon. What type of image are we projecting? What is going on with the store front shops between North and 2nd Street off York on both the East and West side? Is the rent too high for a start up? Are the shop sizes too small? Has anyone from the city planning gone over to look at the empty spaces to figure out what is going on. Sidewalks-Why is it that certain areas don't have sidewalks? Isn't this the incorporated area? Don't we have to have or provide sidewalks for handicap people? Myrtle between North and 3rd West Avenue side of the street. Off 3rd Street between Wells and Myrtle South side of the street. Jewel Osco parking lot - if I am in a wheel chair or pushing a stroller; how do I get into the store without having to walk in the parking lot? There are three sides to the parking lot surrounded by sidewalks, but none of them have access to the store entrance without having to go into the parking lot. Someone tell me how this is safe? Two sides of the parking lot does not even have a sidewalk to the front door. Intersections-Addison and the Tracks. Street is cracked. Cross walks for train traffic. Restaurants- We need restaurants with themes that would draw in the Elmhurst residents. Thai, Spanish (Tapas), French, German, or BBQ (Smokehouse). Take a look at the Lettuce Entertain You list of restaurants. As an example of what we need in Elmhurst as a basis of criteria. Cafe like style with outside seating. Eating alfresco style. German beer garden, BBQ'ing or Smoking outside, Pints and Charlies with a little bit like Fitz's Pub, Spanish Tapas restaurant with a Spanish flare, Thai with an Asian influence decor. Parking for restaurants. Example-The shops and restaurants along St. Charles and I-83 suck! If you have a micro size car you fit, but an Elmhurst minivan or SUV-No way. Also

not enough parking. Think people; who is going to be your biggest customer? Or who do you want to your customer? Restaurants need proper sizing to sit customers outside and maybe even grill outside during the summer. Child friendly-What does this mean? Nothing says I don't want children like: High-top tables, Lack of high-chairs, Broken high-chairs, Dirty high-chairs. Lack of proper child size portions, Lack of nutritional meals, Lack of proper child safe plates, cups, or silverware (based on portion sizes), Room to move around where tables are not on top of one another, Pricing of children's meals are within context of the portion or type of food. Relaxing for parents? Where can I go to eat with or without my children. More options for Spanish-The one off York by the tracks is good, but lacks outdoor seating, Food is marginal, Drinks are far from good, I would rather drive out of town, Chipotle is the only real choice for me. Sandwich and Salads- Old school deli, I know these come and go all the time, It all starts with great bread, Portions needs to be child friendly, my daughter or son is not going to eat a sandwich that you have to open your mouth 3 inches to take a bite, Deli like Alpine in Elmwood, IL off North Avenue. That place is busy all day. They get it. Or Mike's butcher shop in Villa Park. Salads need an option that can put together a good salad for the right price and the right size without all the fluff like just lettuce. If that is what I wanted I would go to the grocery store and pour salad dressing on a head of lettuce. Shops-Shoes-Women, Men, Children Dressing, Casual, Tennis Shoes, Running Shoes, Hiking. Like Alamo Shoes in Andersonville in Chicago, IL. Arts and Crafts supply store for school and college project-Office Supply Store-The one we have off York between 2nd Street and 3rd Street is fine if they were every open after 5PM or actual acceptable hours on the weekends. Who do they know that is preventing a legitimate competitor from coming into the city what about a mini-OfficeMax or satellite type store? They have them in downtown Chicago. We don't need anything big. Just something a resident or college student can buy a print cartridge after 5PM until at least 10PM and reasonable weekend hours. Sporting goods Store-Embroidery for the local schools and surrounding schools in the area. Sporting Goods and Clothing - I am getting tired of having to drive to Dick's Sporting Goods or Sport Authority. Example of a store in Hinsdale, IL - King Keyser Sporting Goods. List of sporting goods-Baseball, Softball, Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Tennis, Golf. We already have hockey "Total Hockey". Women Clothing stores-Pregnant women-maternity clothing, Women athletic clothing stores like Title Nine and ATHLETA. Undergarment clothing stores for women-T-shirts, Bras, and Underwear, The basics to Victoria Secrets, but no over the top like Fredricks of Hollywood, Somewhere where moms could shop for her daughter or let her daughter shop at alone.

We have generally been happy living in Elmhurst. The cost of the taxes has had a significant effect on our family. Elmhurst is diverse economically. You have white collar and working class living in the same neighborhood. Government needs to understand that a family that owns an older, smaller home may not be able to afford the tax increases imposed. We have supported the community financially in the past (i.e. library, schools), but as more and more expenses are shifted to the community, it will make it difficult for us to support certain types of spending. The schools and government should consider spending their money wisely. Beautification is great, but the people in the community also need some financial breaks. When my children are not in Elmhurst schools, I don't foresee us living in Elmhurst because of the cost.

12.2 - (s.) - High cost of yard waste collection and water Comments: Overall concern for safety due to reports of burglary (car & home) during weekdays.

2.2 (d.) Non-Emergency phone calls to 911 make "no sense" at all when 911 system is for a true emergency. 2.18 (9b. written citation) - Too bad the Police officers of the city cannot read street signs nor know there area. Comments: It would be nice if we would really go the True Value of are Public Safety departments for what we pay in taxes. 1. The Fire dept. is understaffed on a daily basis, the engine and truck companies should have a minimum of four

persons on each company daily under NFPA standard not three person on an Engine and two person on a truck. 2. More than just four patrol cars for each shift.

2.2 (d.) Abandoned bike on hospital property behind my garage. 2.20 (3)- Not a fan of the abandoned old hospital parking garage-hang out at times for kids. 12.2 (r. train noise) - Too many train whistles, especially late at night & too continuous. Comments: I continue to feel that traffic congestion is a big issue for the city. Parking is also a huge issue at the new complex of Food places at St. Charles & 83. It's too small of a lot & the whole area is too congested. Route 83, North Avenue & York Rd. Continue to be issues at rush hour.

9.1 Elmhurst patch.com. Much is done right in Elmhurst. We need to continue to build consensus in City Council. I would like to see cameras at North & West Ave. to alleviate rush hour congestion.

12.2 (s.) - Electric going out frequent 12.3 (s.) - Power outages

Improvement of library parking lot.

Recently took my kids to Pioneer Park and the porta-potty was unusable...very disappointing.

11.4 - I'm sorry we have to move now. It was a wonderful experience here with our family and parents. Came as teenagers worked in Chicago, now we are early senior citizens. 12.2 - Pollution in air 12.3 - Pollution in air Comments: Also care for water quality - checking for dioxin, chlorine and PCB - antibiotics levels in city drinking water - public works. Notify residents of water filters. Enforce ban on watering, during drought and enforce fire cracker ban during dry periods.

Overall, I wouldn't move from Elmhurst but Government/City process needs improvement. Too slow, who-you-know/corrupt mentality. Difficult to attract new business when too many constraints/costs applied. Perfect example - Elm Fest...my family really loved those events but the City kept increasing the cost to the point that we no longer have it.

10.8 Animal control-skunks 10.8. Stormwater management & Private property stormwater - Poor! Waiting 2 yrs. Flooding: The city continues to support building large homes on small lots and is in denial as to the cause of flooding. This will ultimately cost us millions of dollars. Short term thinking is what got us here. Your committees are a joke, eliminate overbuilding now! The city's failure to charge adequate impact fees and to use the funds to improve the stormwater system on an ongoing basis is unconscionable.

12.1 (o) Hospital

I find the police to be very impersonal when encountered with on the street or in the car. No smile, no hello. Making it a community that more and more cannot afford after living there pretty much their whole life.

Too many parking tickets while shopping and doing business in Elmhurst. We go to the mall instead.

12.1 - additional response - The quality of life is because of all the great offerings of all the other items! COMMENTS: I moved here 25 years ago as a single parent because of great

schools (which have severely declined), safety and proximity to the City, public transportation, and close to expressways. I am so tired of power outages! Europe has underground lines. What is wrong with us? I work from my home and my computer is critical to my business success!

1) City stickers for seniors "double" in price. Why? 2) There should be another alternative for garbage pickup for seniors. Why not a refuse sticker vs flat fee whether you fill can or even use it? 3) Why plant a tree in the parkway in June and then expect a 97 year old to water it twice a week? 4) My taxes have gone up near \$800 in the last 2 years. Why When assessed value has decreased.

Water rates are too high! Make the DuPage Water Commission pay for their mishandling of funds not the homeowners.

Need more police around high school. The loss of all the elm trees is disturbing- need to be more aggressive in saving them! Great garbage men! Great EPD programs

12.2 Other: too many freight trains.

Best town to live but the taxes are a little high. Hard for a retiree to afford!

12.2 (s.) - Not enough restaurants Comments: Need to replace parkway trees! Dead!

Make yardwaste stickers cheaper! Website is a little hard to navigate - the top folders are too broad - never know where to look for something, things seem buried. We are concerned with the new motorcycle place opening up across from the public house. We are worried that it will be excessively noisy and we will have motorcycles speeding down our streets. Any plan for increased police presence?

12.2 Other: Section 8 rentals

I have lived here for 11 years and I love it!

Taxes are out of control while spending to excess is plainly visible. The park district is out of control with marginal oversight.