



Notice: A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Village of Northfield is scheduled in the Boardroom at Village Hall, 361 Happ Road, Northfield, IL.

View the meeting live stream at www.youtube.com/@villageofnorthfield.

MEETING AGENDA

VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

1. Call to order / Roll Call
2. Public comment
3. Approval of Minutes – February 24, 2026 and March 10, 2026
4. Presentation of the Happ Road Committee Report (50 min.)
5. Discussion of the Lead Service Line Replacement Program (30 min.)
6. Adjourn

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD
TUESDAY, February 24, 2026**

The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Village President Tracey Mendrek on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

The Deputy Village Clerk called the roll as follows:

Committee Members Present:

Trustee Charlie Orth
Trustee Tom Whittaker
Trustee Todd Fowler
Trustee Matt Galin
Trustee Andrew Juedes
Trustee Ed Elfmann
President Tracey Mendrek

Absent:

None

Others Present:

Village Manager Patrick Brennan
Director of Administrative Services Melissa Jewett
Community Development Director Steve Guterrez
Fire-Rescue Chief Alan Berkowsky
Police Chief Mike Hutensky
Finance Director Kathleen Morley
Public Works Superintendent Matt Huebner
Deputy Fire Chief Tom Burke
Fleet Manager John Rikje
Deputy Clerk Holly Fabbri

Public Comment

Resident Chaya Rubenstein said she was speaking on behalf of the League of Women Voters Winnetka-Northfield-Kenilworth. She noted that early voting had started and recommended visiting their website at [LWV WNK](#) for voting news, candidate information, and upcoming events. She said they would be hosting a spring luncheon on April 30 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the North Shore Senior Center, Northfield, featuring Arne Duncan and Chicago CRED participants.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2026

Trustee Orth made a motion, seconded by Trustee Whittaker, to approve the Minutes from the January 27, 2026, meeting. Upon a unanimous voice vote, President Mendrek declared that the motion had passed.

Discussion of the Proposed FY27 Capital Plan

Village Manager Brennan utilized a PowerPoint presentation to outline how the Village staff plans for Capital purchases. He explained what qualifies as “capital” for Village budgeting. He said that staff annually projects the 10-year funding needs and balance but also reviews short and mid-term requirements. He explained that a 10-year plan is developed to monitor capital needs across three primary areas. He highlighted the first area, the Capital Improvement Plan, and outlined its FY27 components, which include water main replacements, road resurfacing, sewer lining, and building improvements. He said the second area was the Equipment Replacement Plan, and he expanded on its FY27 components, including police car cameras, security cameras, dump trucks, and a SCBA refilling station used to refill the breathing air tanks for firefighters. He said the third area was the Vehicle Replacement Plan, and he explained that for FY27, it includes a passenger vehicle used by the Police Department’s Public Safety Officer, as well as an administrative vehicle for Community Development needs. He stated the estimated costs were \$2,826,400 for water/sewer projects and \$2,373,880 for non-water projects, totaling \$5,200,280.

Village Manager Brennan stated that there are several anticipated future projects not currently in the FY27 budget, including the Library Expansion, Orchard Lane Parking Lot, Happ Road Improvement, and Skokie Valley Trail. He noted that the Board could amend the budget in the future, if needed, to include these projects once the anticipated expenditures were known.

The Board held a discussion and concurred with the FY27 Capital Plan as presented.

Discussion of a Recommendation to Dissolve an Intergovernmental Agreement for a Shared Ladder Truck

Fire Chief Berkowsky stated that in 2012, the Village entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Village of Glenview for the sharing of a ladder truck. He noted that staff had questioned the value of continuing the IGA, citing the ladder truck’s limited use as first-in equipment and its frequent, extended periods out of service for repairs. He explained that he was directed to evaluate whether a ladder truck should continue to be retained in the Village, so he met with the Fire-Rescue staff to gather their input and review the truck’s utilization.

Fire Chief Berkowsky concluded that continuing with the IGA was not in the Village’s best interest because the ladder truck’s availability was inconsistent, its use was infrequent, and the Village’s fleet manager was spending a significant amount of time on repairs. He also emphasized that a ladder truck is specialized equipment and not intended to serve as the first-in apparatus for an active fire, whereas Northfield’s fire engine is designed for this role. He stressed that the Village is also surrounded by larger fire departments with ladder trucks that respond under existing auto-aid agreements. He noted that the Village Managers and Fire Chiefs from Northfield and Glenview had met, and both parties agreed that the IGA could be terminated upon concurrence with the following four items:

1. Glenview would maintain ownership of the ladder trucks.
2. Glenview would waive any outstanding invoices under the IGA.

3. Both Villages would update their automatic aid agreements so that Glenview responds to Northfield with a ladder truck, and conversely Northfield responds to Glenview with a fire engine, as needed.
4. Northfield would continue to provide maintenance services for Glenview's ladder truck at an agreed-upon hourly rate, on an as-needed, as-available basis.

The Board held a discussion and agreed with the recommendation to terminate the intergovernmental agreement. The Board directed the Village Manager to proceed with the termination once auto-aid responsibilities were finalized.

Adjourn

Trustee Orth made a motion, seconded by Trustee Galin, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a unanimous voice vote, President Mendrek declared the motion passed. President Mendrek declared the meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD
March 10, 2026**

The Special Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order by Village President Tracey Mendrek on March 10, 2026, at 5:31 PM.

The Village Clerk called the roll as follows:

Committee Members Present:

Trustee Charlie Orth
Trustee Tom Whittaker
Trustee Todd Fowler
Trustee Matt Galin
Trustee Ed Elfmann
President Tracey Mendrek

Absent:

Trustee Andrew Juedes

Others Present:

Village Manager Patrick Brennan
Director of Administrative Services Melissa Jewett
Community Development Director Steve Guterrez
Fire-Rescue Chief Alan Berkowsky
Police Chief Mike Hutensky
Finance Director Kathleen Morley
Deputy Fire Chief Tom Burke

Public Comment

No members of the public expressed a desire to address the Committee.

Discussion Concerning the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget

Village Manager Brennan utilized a PowerPoint presentation to guide the presentation of the proposed fiscal year budget. He provided a short overview of the budgeting process for the current fiscal year projections. The current projection was for revenues to exceed the budget by over \$880,000. He stated that the overage was primarily in the sales tax and home rule sales tax categories. The projections were in contradiction to the anticipated \$350,000 reduction in the same categories. Staff determined that the positive results were likely due to healthy sales from several of the larger sales tax generators in the Village, and it appeared that the increase may continue into future years.

Expenditures for the current fiscal year have exceeded the budget by nearly \$400,000. This increase was attributed to new positions added during the budget year, as well as the related employment expenses such as pension obligations.

Brennan provided the group with an overview of his approach toward budget development. He explained the differences between elastic and inelastic revenues and his efforts to manage any

end of year surplus. Next, Brennan provided an overview of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget. Revenues were projected at a year over year increase of \$883,087 and \$71,871 from the projected FY26 year end. The sales tax, home rule sales tax, and building permit activity were projected to have continued strength. Expenditures were up \$867,074 year over year and \$469,426 from the projected fiscal year end. The increases were due to a combination of wage and employment expenses, of which \$296,045 was attributed to increased police pension expenses. The projected surplus was \$28,027 in the General Fund, with the fund balance near the bottom of the 55-70% target range.

Brennan explained the notable changes in the proposed budget for all the Village funds, and after completing his presentation, President Mendrek opened the floor to questions and comments from the Trustees. Trustee Fowler commented on the increased expenditures and resulting impact on property taxes. He expressed his support for the steps being taken, but wanted to ensure that the current and future Boards maintained an eye on expenditure growth. A question was raised about the dependability of projected revenue growth and the best way to monitor actual revenue versus the budget going forward. Brennan stated that data will be added to the monthly financial report that is distributed in the Village Board packet.

The Trustees discussed the proposed increase in the water and sewer rates of 2.2%. Brennan explained that it was a pass-through of the increase from the Village's water supplier, the Village of Winnetka. The group discussed a desire to trend the water/sewer rates with a benchmark such as the Consumer Price Index. A consensus was reached to increase the water and sewer rates by 3.0% for FY27. The urgency of painting fire hydrants was also discussed. The group asked Manager Brennan to consider pushing out the proposed work if staff determined that doing so would not deteriorate the hydrants.

The Trustees also discussed the list of items submitted by individual Trustees. As a result of the discussion, the group asked that a portable speed display trailer be included in the capital budget. Other items on the list were not supported with a consensus. Trustee Orth reiterated his support for the Village to begin live-streaming commission meetings. He also requested that further consideration be given to improving the crosswalk lighting on Happ Road in the areas of Orchard and Walnut. It was the consensus of the group to await the findings of the Happ Road Committee, which were expected to be presented on March 24th, prior to making any decisions.

There being no further business for the Committee, President Mendrek opened the floor to a motion to adjourn.

Adjourn

Trustee Elfmann made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fowler, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a unanimous voice vote, President Mendrek declared the motion passed. President Mendrek declared the meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM.

The Village of Northfield

HAPP ROAD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REIMAGINING HAPP ROAD – ITS NEXT 100 YEARS

MARCH 19, 2026



INTRODUCTION

On the cusp of its second century, Happ Road stands poised for a comprehensive reimagining that will reinforce its role within Northfield and the broader North Shore.

Happ Road is to Northfield what Michigan Avenue is to Chicago. It unites Northfield's downtown business district and establishes Northfield as a destination where people can experience the heart of our quaint, growing community – with its unique shops, award-winning restaurants, family-oriented neighborhoods, and miles of walking paths.

Special as it is, we have an opportunity to improve several aspects of Happ Road to strengthen its desirability as a destination – to support our residential base, inspire visitors and attract new business investments. Moving quickly to adopt these changes will have the further benefit to “reintroduce” our Village to the North Shore during our upcoming Centennial celebrations. This could be a pivotal moment for Northfield as we set our stage for the Village's next 100 years.

COMMITTEE

Northfield's Village President and Board of Trustees formed the Happ Road Improvement Committee (HRIC) in the fall of 2025 soon after discussions with Cook County ended regarding the prior Happ Road proposal. The HRIC was charged with “thinking big”: to create a visionary concept for Happ Road between Willow Road and Winnetka Road and to offer recommendations to the Village to revitalize this key stretch of road through our downtown area.

The committee aligned around the following objective:

Committee Objective: *Create a plan to establish Happ Road as a welcoming, accessible, and energetic community hub reflecting Northfield's uniqueness, while making Northfield a destination, supporting local businesses and attracting new ones.*

The HRIC includes 13 village residents from a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences, and professional skills. Seven committee meetings were held at Village Hall in partnership with the Village Manager. All meetings were announced in advance and attended by the public. The committee created two surveys, a residential survey that 893 residents completed (32% of the village contact list) and a business survey completed by 48 of the 202 known businesses in the village (24%).

The in-depth surveys enjoyed the greatest participation of any Northfield survey to date, and those results help inform this report.

Along with its public meetings and community survey, the HRIC considered the more than 1,200 pages from the previous Happ Road group, the Walkability Assessment (2006), the Northfield Village Center Design Study (2008), the Stormwater Management Plan (2009), the Branding Study (2015), the Northfield Road Corridor Plan (2016), the Village Plan 2040 (2020) and the Sidewalk Improvement Plan (2024). In addition, an in-person meeting with stakeholders representing Northfield's schools, parks and library was held.

SURVEY

The headline from the surveys is that our residents want an energized downtown area where people and families can gather and move about easily and safely, one that is aesthetically pleasing with trees, landscaping and benches. They want a safe, walkable downtown, a comfortable place to eat, shop, gather and linger. And they want to bike there too.

Key findings from the surveys indicate:

- 75% want the downtown area cleaned up and beautified with more landscaping
- 75% support closing off downtown roads for occasional street festivals
- 64% want to see building exteriors improved
- 58% support the Village gaining greater control of Happ Road in the downtown area from Cook County (20% want more information on this topic)
- 50% want more public gathering places
- 45% support the addition of a weight limit for trucks on Happ Road
- 39% support the creation of a public art program

The survey results demonstrate broad and measurable support for a more walkable, beautified and energized downtown corridor.



COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations represent our collective thoughts for the Village's consideration. Moving forward, the HRIC recommends this report be shared with the relevant Village commissions (Planning & Zoning, Architecture) and that it is considered and integrated into future Happ Road-adjacent planning.

The HRIC recommends that the Village initiate these near-term actions ("Phase I") within the next 12-24 months. These actions are practical, achievable and reflect the Village's increasing momentum.

PHASE I (12-24 MONTHS)

- Develop a plan with Public Works to *clear weeds and litter* daily from the downtown area, and to enhance landscaping efforts in the central business corridor.
- *Lower the speed limit* of Happ Road to 25mph. Install appropriate signage, especially on the west side near the library.
- *Create safer, ADA-compliant pedestrian crossings* at Orchard Lane, Mount Pleasant Street and Happ Road Park (south of Holder Lane).
- *Plan and unveil streetscape upgrades* as part of the centennial celebration, including enhancing Inspiration Park, (the triangle park south of Village Hall) and sprucing up the northeast corner of Orchard Lane and Happ Road (trim back overgrown trees and bushes, upgrade landscaping).
- *Pursue conversations with Cook County leaders* on ways the Village can exercise more control of Happ Road through its downtown business sector (Willow Road south to Mount Pleasant Street).
- *Enlist an urban/suburban planning economic development consultant/staff* to provide a coordinated vision for recommended Happ Road improvements, as well as the Mariano's/Town Center and Central Street corridor development opportunities.
- Close off Happ Road (from Willow Road to Mount Pleasant Street) to vehicle traffic and *host village celebrations* featuring our businesses, restaurants and community engagement activities.



QUOTES FROM SURVEY RESPONSES:

"It's really a mess that's long overdue to fix, we need to reduce speed and use speed slowing hardscape like pavers: using Happ as a cut through for those exiting the expressway needs to be discouraged in every way. Also we should work on a plan to gather control from the county."

"As a family that has someone who uses a wheelchair, it is very important for us that my son can travel through Northfield safely on sidewalks. We often go to Stormy's or to the restaurants in the commercial area. There are limited sidewalks, and he often has to use his wheelchair in the street. This is not safe."

"As we develop the area let's keep the appearance similar to our existing small- town look. No big chains. No tall buildings. Maximize green space. Dining options. And please let's get a grocery store back where Mariano's was. We need one!!!"

The following recommendations are identified as "Phase II" actions and are expected to be achievable within the next 24-48 months.

PHASE II (24-48 MONTHS)

- *Create a dedicated sidewalk on Orchard Lane* that extends from the Bosworth bridge to the library.
- *Install colorful walkway indicators and signage* connecting all parks to the nearby business district.
- Partner with landlords to *create safe, aesthetically pleasing walkways* running east-west through the parking lots along Happ Road.
- Create a Village program to *add additional seating, landscaping and lighting* on both sides of Happ Road from Willow Road to the Happ Road Park.
- Activate the signage committee's recommendation to install *"Welcome to downtown Northfield"* signs (four locations: Willow Road – east and west sides, Central Street to the north, Happ Road to the south). Erect a gateway into downtown that establishes the business district as a destination.
- *Add a colored bike lane* on the west side of Happ Road running from Willow Road to Winnetka Road. Position it to easily connect to the Skokie Valley Trail at a later date. Install bike and scooter racks near the library.
- *Create a privately funded public art program* that will install eye-catching pieces along Happ Road.
- *Institute a recycling program* along Happ Road as part of a Village commitment to maintaining the beauty of a downtown Northfield experience.



QUOTES FROM SURVEY RESPONSES:

“Signage, street banners and pedestrian and bike friendly walks/paths would be a great start.”

“Safer travel on foot and bike & places to pause and rest (benches) would encourage less driving around town, which would decrease traffic and pollution.”

“A safer place to walk and bike. Encourages people to come to the village. Places to gather for dining throughout the day. Beautification would enhance the experience of outsiders visiting. Additional retail stores, restaurants and ice cream shops that will bring in kids and adults. A boulevard creates a homey but active feel with potential street parking. People want to go where other people go!”

HAPP ROAD SOUTH OF THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Much focus has been given to the commercial segment of the Happ Road corridor. However, the corridor includes a significant residential segment. South of the commercial district to Winnetka Road, the corridor includes a park, condominium and townhome developments, and single-family homes. Anyone arriving to downtown Northfield from the south will pass through this residential stretch of road.

The HRIC makes the following recommendations for the residential portion of Happ Road. These recommendations are informed by survey responses and discussions with residents from south Happ Road:

- *Reduce the speed limit to 25mph* and use other traffic calming measures to discourage speeding.
- *Create a safe, ADA-compliant crossing at Holder Lane*, on the north end of Happ Road Park.
- *Improve aesthetics* by addressing unsightly utility boxes that dot the parkways.
- *Upgrade street lighting* throughout the full length of the road.
- Work with residents to upgrade *landscaping* through a cost matching program.
- *Install curbs* to improve drainage when the road is next resurfaced or rebuilt.
- Continue your work at the intersection of Winnetka Road and Happ Road: Temporary traffic signals have been in place for some time. The committee understands that plans are in place to install permanent traffic signals at this location. Additional study of the intersection is needed, particularly in light of the potential impacts from the planned renovation of the New Trier Athletic Field and the replacement of the Winnetka Road bridge that spans the Edens Expressway (Interstate 94).

QUOTES FROM SURVEY RESPONSES:

“Even though that area is not listed as part of the corridor, the “temporary” and poorly functional traffic signals at the Happ/Winnetka intersection need to finally be replaced by permanent structures. The committee and village board should press the Cook County Road Department to fix this long-standing problem.”

“At the very minimum the same lighting (light posts) that exist north of Willow on Happ should extend the length of the south side of Willow to the New Trier Campus. This is an easy fix/upgrade that would lighten up/dress up that stretch of Happ.”

“Lack of curb and gutter in the residential section makes pedestrian travel much less safe.”

Taken together, these recommended steps can transform Happ Road into the vibrant, visually appealing downtown our residents desire (as evidenced by our survey results and residents’ written suggestions).



FURTHER DISCUSSION

Supplementing the phased recommendations, the committee also offers the following suggestions. Some items may be a repetition of previous recommendations, but their importance warrants their inclusion in this section as well.

These recommendations are organized around two pillars:

Mobility (cars, pedestrians, bikes, etc.)

Aesthetics (look, feel, vibe)

MOBILITY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. Safer Road Crossings

The Committee believes slowing traffic and enhancing the visibility of key road crossings – for pedestrians, bike riders, and cars – will improve road safety and inspire residents and visitors to spend more time exploring the downtown. The main areas of concern are Orchard Lane, and the area near Happ Road Park (south of Holder Lane).

Consider:

- *Installing ADA compliant crossing tools* to ensure accessibility for all.
- *Reducing the speed limit* of Happ Road to 25mph. Install appropriate signage.
- *Adding a bike lane on the west side of Happ Road.* Providing dedicated space for bicyclists will accommodate residents' current demands for safe passage as well as protect pedestrians and drivers. (Note: timing for the extension of the Skokie Valley Trail through our Village is uncertain.)
- *Implementing recommendations from the 2024 Sidewalk Committee* that connect various sections of the downtown district with public services (i.e., Library).
- *Adopting a system of red flags* placed in buckets that pedestrians use to alert drivers of their intention to cross (as used on Sheridan Road in Evanston).
- *Installing solar-powered flashing yellow "caution" lights* in high-pedestrian/traffic areas.

2. Parking Lots

The Committee believes improving the visibility of parking locations throughout the downtown business district will ease concerns of our business community about parking capacity.

Consider:

- *Install signage* to help drivers navigate the downtown area better. Many lot locations are not known by the public therefore go unused. Providing direction may also relieve vehicle congestion on Happ Road during certain time slots and improve pedestrian/bike safety.
 - Simple “P” signs
 - Maps showing the lots and their proximity to shops/restaurants
- *Add sidewalks (and landscaping) to connect parking lots* to shopping/dining locations. While many of our parking lots are privately owned, the Village and building owners have a common interest in making these parking lots aesthetically pleasing and safer for pedestrians. The Village should consider creating an incentive fund to encourage landowners to add pathways and landscaping to the parking lot areas.

3. Happ Road Ownership and Long-term/ongoing Care

To accomplish its goals for the Happ Road Corridor, the committee recommends that the Village Board work with Cook County to explore taking control of the road so that it can function the way the Village wants and the way that Northfield needs. Northfield wants to slow down traffic through this area and encourage people to stop and enjoy what is here.

AESTHETICS ISSUES AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

1. Village Identity

- *Add signage* similar to that at the intersection at Willow and Waukegan Roads, to welcome traffic entering our community from the east.
- *Re-establish the Board’s 2023 Wayfinding Committee* and consider implementing its recommendations which deliver identity, traffic management, and community engagement-building benefits.
- Proactively work to *unleash the potential beauty of our downtown*. Remove eyesores and hold building owners to certain standards (trash, empty flowerpots, vacant buildings with papered windows, weeds, etc.).

2. Village Destination

- *Launch a public art campaign* as called for in the 2040 Strategic Plan to attract visitors and inspire downtown patrons to gather and explore. Consider reviving the Village's Foundation to privately fund art installations. Unveil the first piece at an upcoming Centennial event.
- *Create more areas for residents to gather in our community.* Northfield's motto is "the comfortable corner of the North Shore" yet there are few places for people to sit in the downtown area. Expanding public seating could make the corridor more inviting for residents and visitors. There might even be an opportunity to link this effort to a public art campaign and broader community engagement. For example, benches could be sponsored and artistically painted by area schools and community groups, similar to the well-known "Cows on Michigan Avenue" public art display. A bench on every corner might be a formidable goal, and could become a visible and meaningful community project.
- Establish a community engagement effort whereby *residents can "adopt" corners* within the community and take responsibility in their design, improvement and upkeep.
- *Lean into our Village of Trees status* by raising the bar on tree placements along Happ Road.
- Partner with the Centennial Committee to *create and install historical markers* along the corridor that highlight Northfield's history.

CONCLUSION

Happ Road has served Northfield for nearly a century as a transportation corridor. The next hundred years call for something more. The HRIC believes that this is a rare and defining opportunity to transform Happ Road from a pass-through into *a place* – a safe, beautiful, economically vibrant and welcoming center of village life. With thoughtful leadership and steady commitment, Northfield can develop a downtown that reflects who we are today and who we aspire to be.

We consider our recommendations to be consistent with the Village's 2040 Plan, which was recently reaffirmed by the Northfield Board of Trustees, and have confidence that they are grounded in extensive community input. We remain committed to working with Village leaders, community groups, stakeholders and residents to support the Village's efforts to advance this vision and deliver the downtown our village hungers for and so richly deserves.

We respectfully urge the Village Board to act boldly and begin the work of reimagining Happ Road for the next generation.

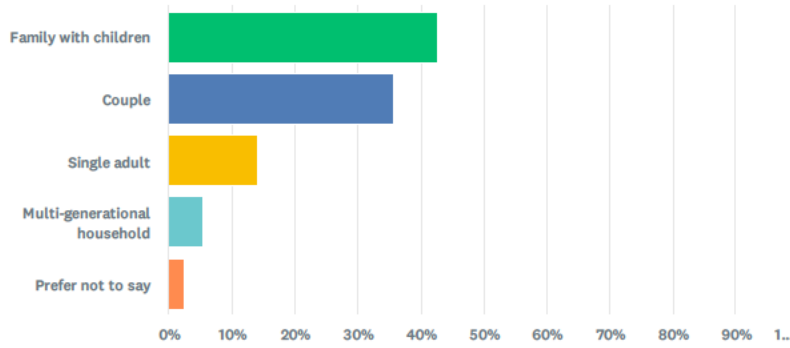
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY THE HAPP ROAD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE,

Co-chairs: Barnaby Dinges, Debbie Papas

Members: Alicia Bellar, Kelly Cheng, Ed Elfmann, Francisco Gonzalez Pulido, Maureen Huhs, Andrew Juedes, Sarah Muñoz, Pamela Papadatos, Asheesh Seth, Jennifer Sucher, Samantha Tideman

Q1 What best describes your household?

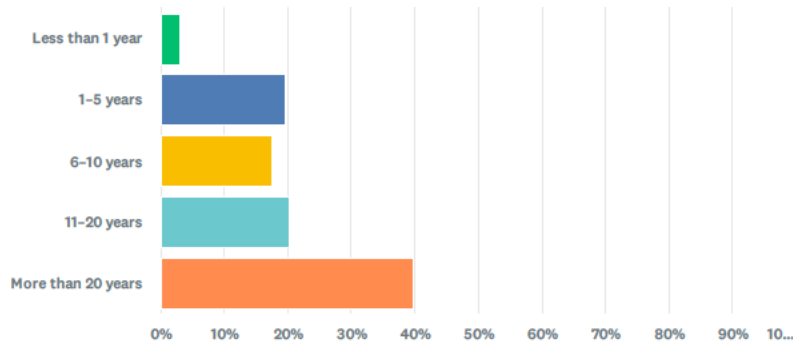
Answered: 893 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Family with children	42.67%	381
● Couple	35.61%	318
● Single adult	14.00%	125
● Multi-generational household	5.38%	48
● Prefer not to say	2.35%	21
Total		893

Q2 How long have you lived in Northfield?

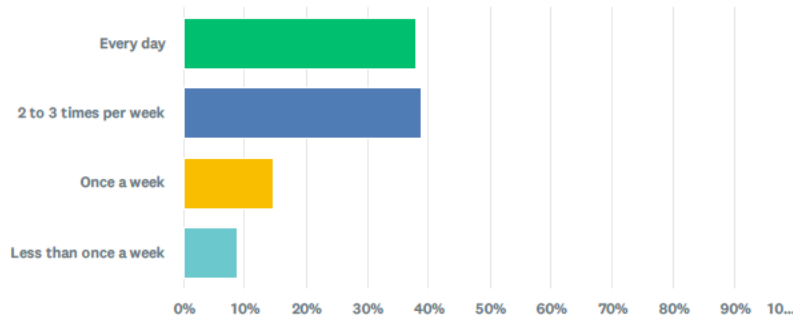
Answered: 893 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Less than 1 year	2.91%	26
● 1-5 years	19.60%	175
● 6-10 years	17.58%	157
● 11-20 years	20.16%	180
● More than 20 years	39.75%	355
Total		893

Q3 How frequently do you travel along the Happ Road corridor or access the buildings and businesses in the Happ Road commercial area?

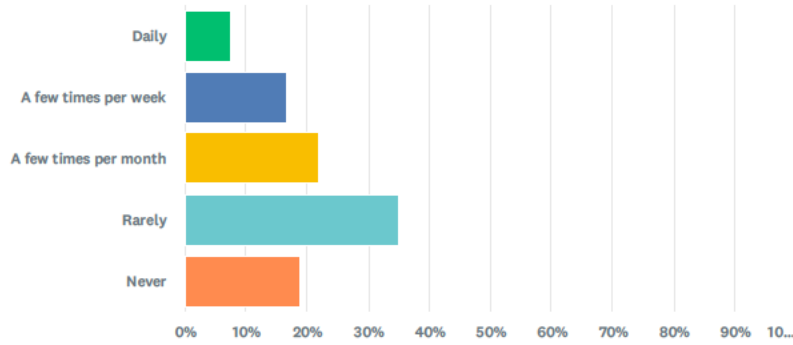
Answered: 893 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Every day	37.85%	338
● 2 to 3 times per week	38.75%	346
● Once a week	14.67%	131
● Less than once a week	8.73%	78
Total		893

Q4 How often do you walk or bike along any portion of the Happ Road corridor?

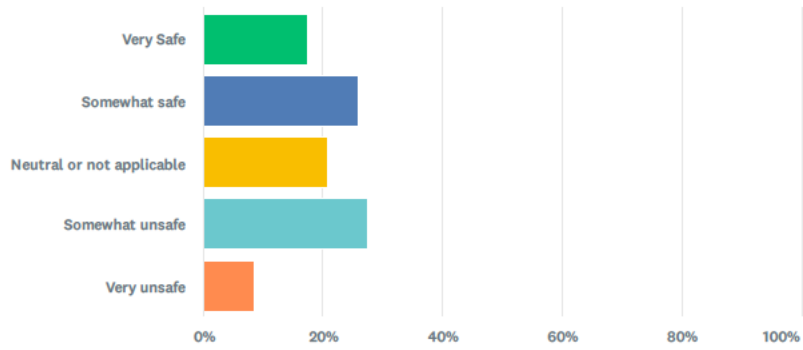
Answered: 755 Skipped: 138



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Daily	7.55%	57
● A few times per week	16.56%	125
● A few times per month	21.99%	166
● Rarely	34.97%	264
● Never	18.94%	143
Total		755

Q5 How safe do you feel crossing Happ Road in the commercial segment?

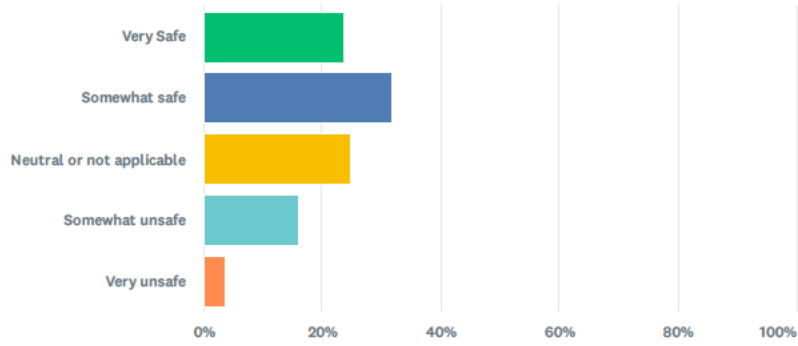
Answered: 751 Skipped: 142



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Very Safe	17.44%	131
● Somewhat safe	25.97%	195
● Neutral or not applicable	20.91%	157
● Somewhat unsafe	27.30%	205
● Very unsafe	8.39%	63
Total		751

Q6 How safe do you feel crossing Happ Road in the residential segment?

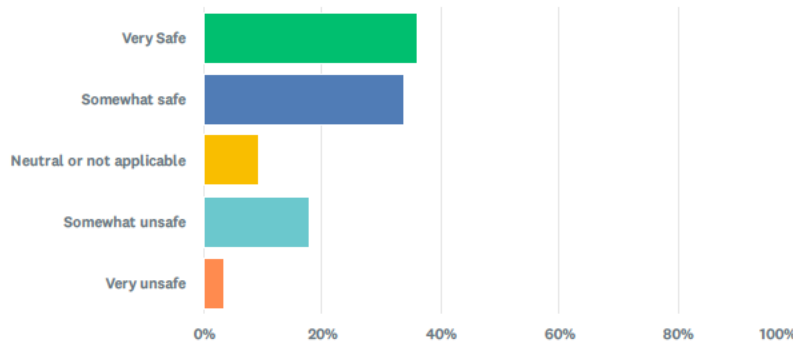
Answered: 753 Skipped: 140



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Very Safe	23.77%	179
● Somewhat safe	31.61%	238
● Neutral or not applicable	24.83%	187
● Somewhat unsafe	16.07%	121
● Very unsafe	3.72%	28
Total		753

Q7 Think about your experience as a driver. How safe do you feel driving on or crossing Happ Road in the commercial segment?

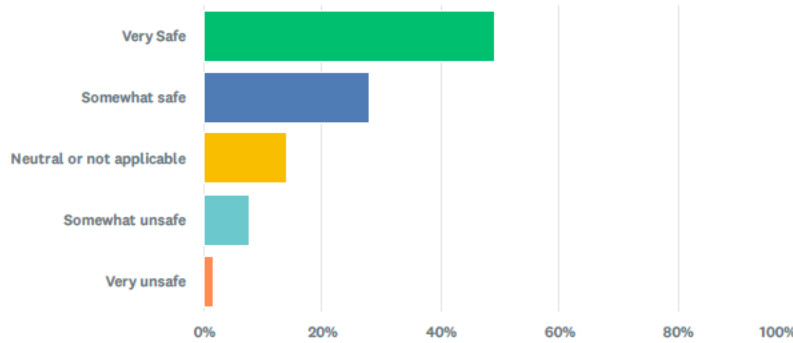
Answered: 752 Skipped: 141



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Very Safe	36.04%	271
● Somewhat safe	33.78%	254
● Neutral or not applicable	9.18%	69
● Somewhat unsafe	17.69%	133
● Very unsafe	3.32%	25
Total		752

Q8 Think about your experience as a driver. How safe do you feel driving on or crossing Happ Road in the residential segment?

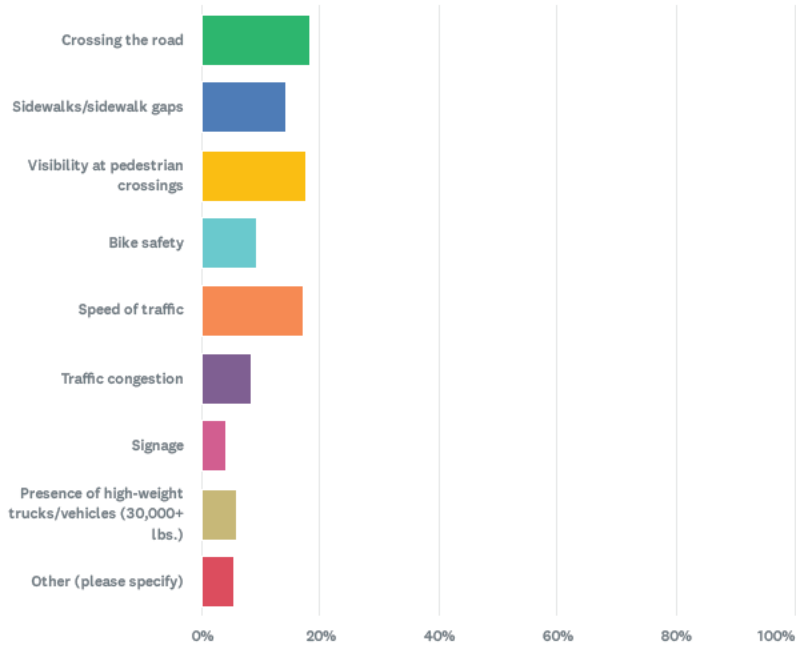
Answered: 750 Skipped: 143



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Very Safe	49.07%	368
● Somewhat safe	27.87%	209
● Neutral or not applicable	13.87%	104
● Somewhat unsafe	7.73%	58
● Very unsafe	1.47%	11
Total		750

Q9 What are your top concerns related to mobility within the Happ Road Corridor? (Select up to 3)

Answered: 723 Skipped: 170



^ Collapse

Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Crossing the road	18.26%	324
● Sidewalks/sidewalk gaps	14.21%	252
● Visibility at pedestrian crossings	17.53%	311
● Bike safety	9.24%	164
● Speed of traffic	17.19%	305
● Traffic congestion	8.34%	148
● Signage	4.17%	74
● Presence of high-weight trucks/vehicles (30,000+ lbs.)	5.69%	101
● Other (please specify) Show responses	5.36%	95
Total		1774

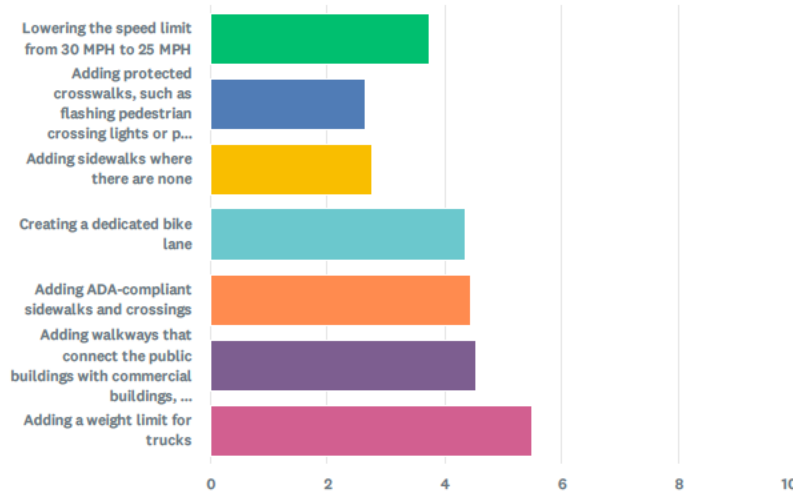
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	None	2/14/2026 11:01 AM
2	Pedestrian crossing while walking....speed of cars.	2/12/2026 11:16 AM
3	None, I have never experienced an issue.	2/12/2026 9:37 AM
4	no concerns	2/11/2026 6:11 PM
5	Maybe just something to block the sidewalk when you go around the bend on hap	2/10/2026 7:39 PM

6	No concerns	2/10/2026 1:12 PM
7	Lights should be coordinated along E/W Willow to lessen traffic at Happ & Willow	2/10/2026 12:14 PM
8	Darting across a lane or two in order to merge with traffic,	2/10/2026 11:23 AM
9	I do not have any concerns related to mobility.	2/10/2026 11:15 AM
10	None of the above.	2/10/2026 11:01 AM
11	none	2/10/2026 10:47 AM
12	I don't understand the ques	2/10/2026 6:31 AM
13	Visibility of other cars	2/9/2026 9:37 PM
14	That Northfield Government is going to change the small village culture of our town. I absolutely do not want a round-about in our community.	2/9/2026 9:23 PM
15	Would prefer if heavy trucks used willow and northfield roads	2/9/2026 4:17 PM
16	none - honestly I drive/walk at all times of day. there are really no issues	2/9/2026 4:05 PM
17	Winn and happ	2/9/2026 2:43 PM
18	Parking in and around Happ Inn and Three Tarts	2/9/2026 2:30 PM
19	none	2/9/2026 2:12 PM
20	Ma	2/9/2026 2:12 PM
21	Pedestrians using street west of library as a sidewalk.	2/9/2026 1:22 PM
22	Lack of curb and utter in the residential section makes pedestrian travel much less safe	2/9/2026 12:57 PM
23	So many entrances/exits to the businesses, restaurants, library, village hall, police station. Very difficult to make left hand turn onto Happ when leaving library/post office area. I used to be able to drive through the Mariano's parking lot and make a safe right hand turn but that's been blocked off for months.	2/9/2026 12:55 PM
24	No concerns	2/9/2026 12:30 PM
25	The condition of the road pavement and shoulders in some sections is not good	2/9/2026 12:23 PM
26	No concerns. Happ Rd. fine as is.	2/9/2026 12:21 PM
27	None	2/9/2026 12:10 PM
28	None	2/9/2026 12:00 PM
29	Driver confusion at library/town hall crossing	2/9/2026 11:58 AM
30	the intersection at happ/orchard walnut - happ traffic coming in doesnt have stop but orchard traffic isnt aware	2/9/2026 11:32 AM
31	I don't see many pedestrians crossing but very sensitive to this issue as I know a woman who was hit.	2/8/2026 7:45 PM
32	I walk the downtown area regularly. I never have a problem on the streets or sidewalks, but the parking lots are dangerous.	2/8/2026 7:20 PM
33	Parking congestion in the residential area creates potential for accidents	2/8/2026 4:15 PM
34	Corner of Happ and Winnetka is unsafe to make a turn	2/7/2026 8:53 AM
35	Concern about the dangers of roundabouts, as in the UK over very many years.	2/6/2026 6:32 PM
36	Drivers not obeying signs	2/6/2026 5:14 PM
37	Not concerned at all	2/5/2026 8:19 PM
38	My child is a wheel chair user and the lack of accessibility and handicap parking is hard	2/5/2026 7:33 PM
39	No concerns...no need to change anything	2/5/2026 1:09 PM
40	Flashing crosswalks	2/5/2026 12:35 PM
41	Nothing	2/5/2026 10:58 AM
42	None	2/4/2026 7:28 PM
43	trucks parked during the day and cars parked at night with parking lights off	2/4/2026 1:39 PM
44	Safety while walking with children and strollers.	2/4/2026 12:18 PM
45	None. No changes required	2/4/2026 6:10 AM
46	No concerns	2/3/2026 9:38 PM
47	Do not see any at this time.	2/3/2026 4:15 PM
48	Traffic from too many directions	2/3/2026 2:16 PM
49	Trucks should be moved to Northfield Rd., put a stop sign on Winnetka Ave . both east & west bound. The removal of trucks would help to make Happ Rd. safer.	2/3/2026 1:12 PM
50	No concerns, very lite traffic	2/3/2026 12:58 PM
51	No concerns	2/3/2026 11:05 AM
52	I have no concerns	2/3/2026 10:58 AM
53	multiple access points near police station/library/retail space	2/3/2026 7:36 AM
54	None	2/3/2026 7:29 AM
55	Multiple access points	2/2/2026 11:02 PM

56	Poorly maintained road surface and shoulders especially at the dog leg.	2/2/2026 11:02 PM
57	I wish you would have included a map with notations of the are you are speaking about.	2/2/2026 10:30 PM
58	Difficult to see coming from the library and crossing Happ because of the angle of the street.	2/2/2026 9:35 PM
59	none	2/2/2026 8:58 PM
60	None	2/2/2026 8:01 PM
61	I do not understand why we do not lower the speed limit and make adequate crosswalks to get from u dawg u to three tarts	2/2/2026 6:33 PM
62	No concerns	2/2/2026 6:23 PM
63	No big concerns	2/2/2026 5:35 PM
64	None	2/2/2026 5:33 PM
65	It's really a mess that's long overdue to fix, we need to reduce speed and use speed slowing hardscape like pavers: using Happ as a cut through for those exiting the xpressway needs to be discouraged in every way Also we should work a plan together control from the county	2/2/2026 5:07 PM
66	none	2/2/2026 5:03 PM
67	Safety for families and kids	2/2/2026 5:02 PM
68	I don't see any issue.	2/2/2026 5:00 PM
69	The residential area north of downtown needs to be illuminated at night for residents who like to walk after dark. Better lighting, please.	2/2/2026 4:48 PM
70	Speed on Willow. Should be enforced better	2/2/2026 4:42 PM
71	Poorly lit at night	2/2/2026 4:33 PM
72	I do not have concerns and do NOT want a round about !	2/2/2026 4:31 PM
73	None should not spend the money.	2/2/2026 4:24 PM
74	Don't really have any. Your determination to redo Happ Road is a solution in search of a problem. Leave it alone.	2/2/2026 4:15 PM
75	Intersection	2/2/2026 4:03 PM
76	Multiple entry points to traffic when entering Happ from Post Office	2/2/2026 3:47 PM
77	Having a downtown feel	2/2/2026 3:37 PM
78	Pot holes along the side of the road; limited shoulder	2/2/2026 3:35 PM
79	Nothing	2/2/2026 3:32 PM
80	None of the above	2/2/2026 3:30 PM
81	none. more concerned about the aesthetics and the downtown area improvements	2/2/2026 3:29 PM
82	Site lines in various areas	2/2/2026 3:29 PM
83	Narrow road with no shoulder in residential area	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
84	Condition of the road.	2/2/2026 3:22 PM
85	None	2/2/2026 3:22 PM
86	Elderly who walk slow	2/2/2026 3:21 PM
87	Puddles on the sidewalk	2/2/2026 3:19 PM
88	None	2/2/2026 3:16 PM
89	Mail, garbage and delivery trucks are extremely difficult to get around when they are double parked	2/2/2026 3:09 PM
90	I have no concerns and do not want a round about !	2/2/2026 3:06 PM
91	none	2/2/2026 3:06 PM
92	No concern	2/2/2026 3:05 PM
93	I have no concerns, I don't think there is an issue - has there been any traffic related accidents here?	2/2/2026 3:04 PM
94	None	2/2/2026 3:03 PM
95	I don't really concern myself with the signage or traffic safety. As a resident I'm sad the happ corridor doesn't have better stores to bring together the community. In my opinion a dog friendly brewery or more of a town square would be better than what's currently there. I have no reason to go down the happ commercial corridor	2/2/2026 3:03 PM

Q10 As related to the Happ Road Corridor, please rank the following improvements? (Rank each from 1 = least effective to 7 = most effective)

Answered: 736 Skipped: 157

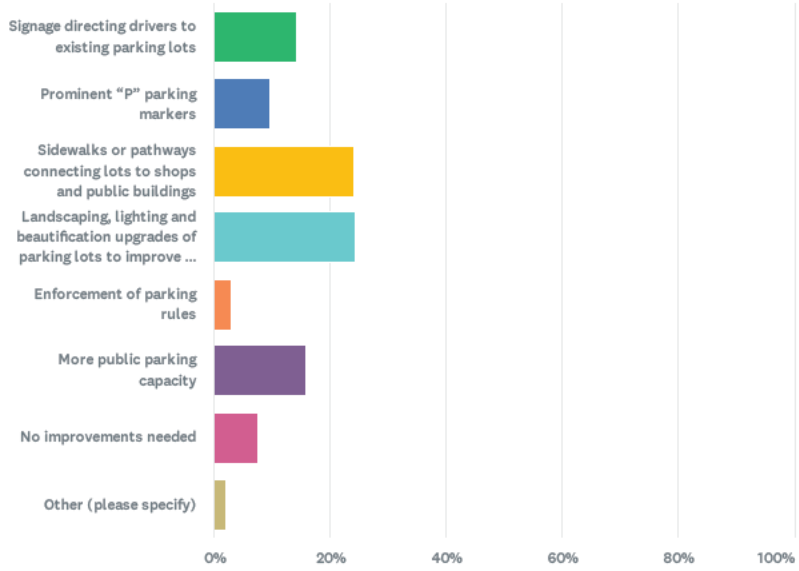


	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Lowering the speed limit from 30 MPH to 25 MPH	22.42% 165	13.45% 99	11.96% 88	12.50% 92	11.68% 86	16.03% 118	11.96% 88	736
Adding protected crosswalks, such as flashing pedestrian crossing lights or pedestrian flag systems	32.74% 241	25.14% 185	16.58% 122	9.92% 73	5.84% 43	4.89% 36	4.89% 36	736
Adding sidewalks where there are none	23.23% 171	28.40% 209	23.78% 175	9.65% 71	5.03% 37	6.11% 45	3.80% 28	736
Creating a dedicated bike lane	4.35% 32	8.56% 63	16.03% 118	25.82% 190	19.57% 144	14.27% 105	11.41% 84	736
Adding ADA-compliant sidewalks and crossings	3.13% 23	9.51% 70	12.50% 92	21.74% 160	29.48% 217	16.44% 121	7.20% 53	736

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Adding walkways that connect the public buildings with commercial buildings, on both sides of Happ Road	6.52%	9.65%	13.32%	13.59%	19.84%	24.86%	12.23%	736
	48	71	98	100	146	183	90	
Adding a weight limit for trucks	7.61%	5.30%	5.84%	6.79%	8.56%	17.39%	48.51%	736
	56	39	43	50	63	128	357	
								5152

Q11 Within the Happ Road Corridor, which public-parking improvements would provide the most benefit? (Select up to 3)

Answered: 713 Skipped: 180



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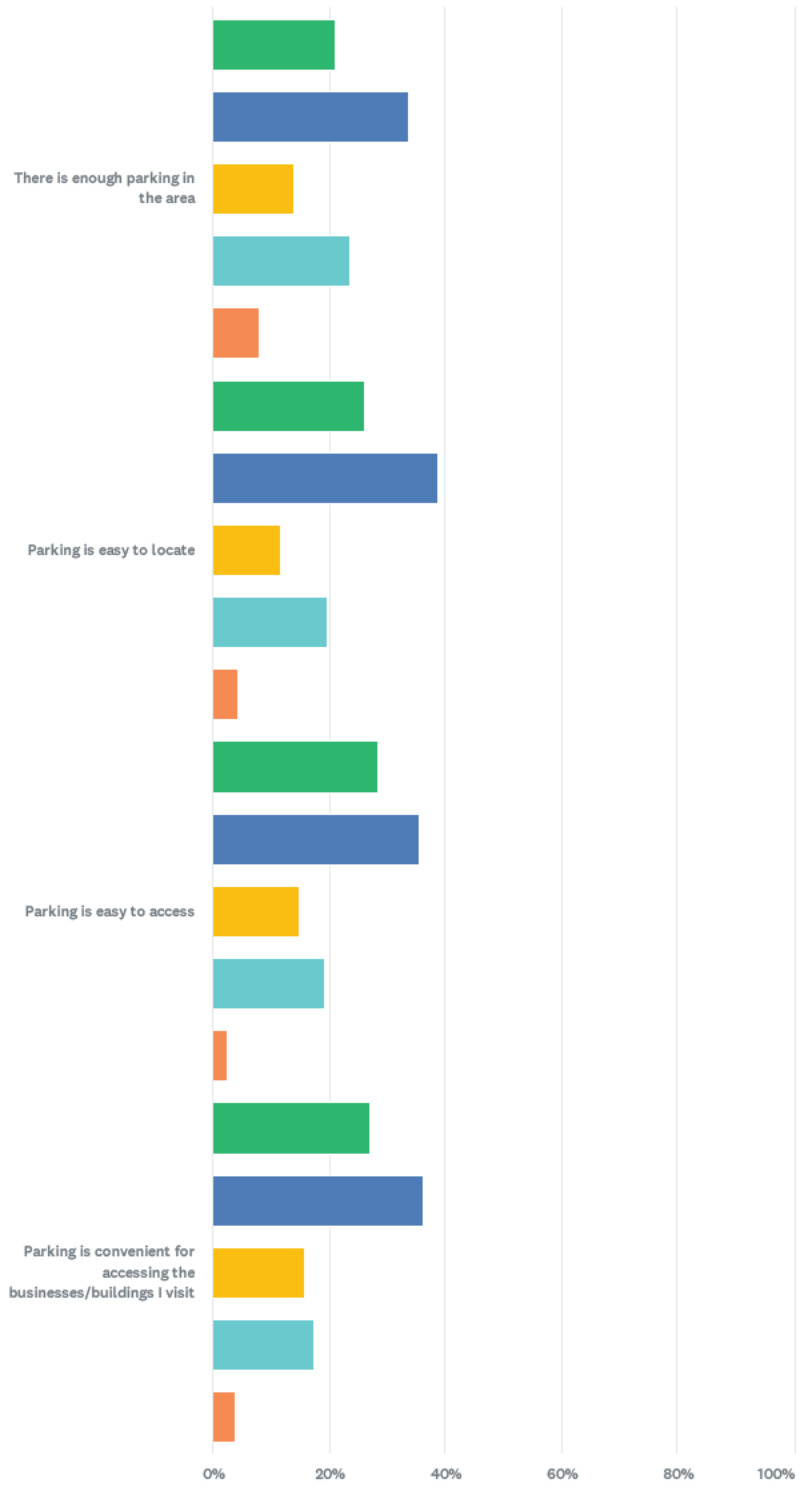
Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Signage directing drivers to existing parking lots	14.20%	225
● Prominent "P" parking markers	9.60%	152
● Sidewalks or pathways connecting lots to shops and public buildings	23.99%	380
● Landscaping, lighting and beautification upgrades of parking lots to improve safety/appearance	24.24%	384
● Enforcement of parking rules	2.78%	44
● More public parking capacity	15.72%	249
● No improvements needed	7.45%	118
● Other (please specify) Show responses	2.02%	32
Total		1584

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	The lot next to Mariano's needs to be time limited or parking passes that employees would need to register for	2/11/2026 6:22 PM
2	remove bushes that obstruct all street & sidewalk views	2/10/2026 11:21 AM
3	Making a left turn from Orchard onto Happ is very difficult and unsafe. This is the biggest problem. A traffic should be considered again.	2/9/2026 9:08 PM
4	have signage indicating parking which exists already to the east of the old Marionos store	2/9/2026 4:06 PM
5	Happy and winn intersection	2/9/2026 2:44 PM

6	Ensure all lots available	2/9/2026 2:23 PM
7	more restraunts, bars, shops, beautiful of downtown area	2/9/2026 12:57 PM
8	What are we planning here? Concert venue? New restaurants? I was in area numerous times Sat/Sun during holiday season and did not have trouble locating parking lots or parking in the lots.	2/8/2026 7:49 PM
9	It's the parking lot for the businesses that's the issue. A lot of the elderly people go the wrong way, park with their cars hanging out of spaces or just double park in front of stores.	2/8/2026 7:24 PM
10	The residential area causes issues as the road becomes a one lane when parking is present	2/8/2026 4:16 PM
11	Parking on the street in front of houses on Happ	2/7/2026 11:35 AM
12	play structures for children	2/5/2026 9:28 PM
13	Handicap parking	2/5/2026 7:34 PM
14	Moving parking to the rear of the buildings if possible, like Wilmette has	2/5/2026 9:32 AM
15	Landscape entire corridor similar to what was done on Willow (where appropriate)	2/5/2026 7:57 AM
16	like the suggestions by Francisco Gonzales Pulido in his video to make the area more a place than a corridor	2/4/2026 9:12 PM
17	safe way to get from the library to the overflow parking lot	2/4/2026 7:52 PM
18	Our downtown will never reach its potential if we remain overly focused on parking. Surrounding communities like Wilmette, Winnetka, and Glencoe have successful, vibrant downtowns because they prioritize walkability, local businesses, and welcoming public spaces. Families can stroll, gather, and spend time there. Excessive parking undermines that sense of place. Even Glenview and Northbrook offer more dynamic downtown experiences than Northfield. At the moment, our downtown lacks identity and energy.	2/4/2026 12:23 PM
19	Doubling down on more public parking capacity!	2/3/2026 3:57 PM
20	Enforce speed limit	2/3/2026 2:17 PM
21	More public parking to serve restaurants and shops on orchard lane	2/2/2026 11:08 PM
22	More parking east of Happ	2/2/2026 8:01 PM
23	Round about	2/2/2026 7:16 PM
24	Remove the bushes at the SE corner of the library...people are often walking in that street, and you can't see them until you turn the corner heading for Mariano's.	2/2/2026 5:27 PM
25	Allow parking in public lots only, not on the street.	2/2/2026 5:15 PM
26	Our public lot was used but workers bused in from Winnetka that we evidently approved. We should have resident only parking and make employees get stickers like Winnetka has done forever	2/2/2026 5:11 PM
27	Don't see parking as a major issue	2/2/2026 5:03 PM
28	stop signs	2/2/2026 4:51 PM
29	Speed reduction enforcement	2/2/2026 4:00 PM
30	rarely park in this area, no suggestions	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
31	Have discussions with Business Owners who do not have enough Parking for their Business.	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
32	stop signs at parking lot cross walk especially northfield village square	2/2/2026 3:18 PM

Q12 Indicate your agreement with each of the following statements about parking in Northfield's Happ Road business district. (Rate each from Do not agree to Strongly agree)

Answered: 719 Skipped: 174

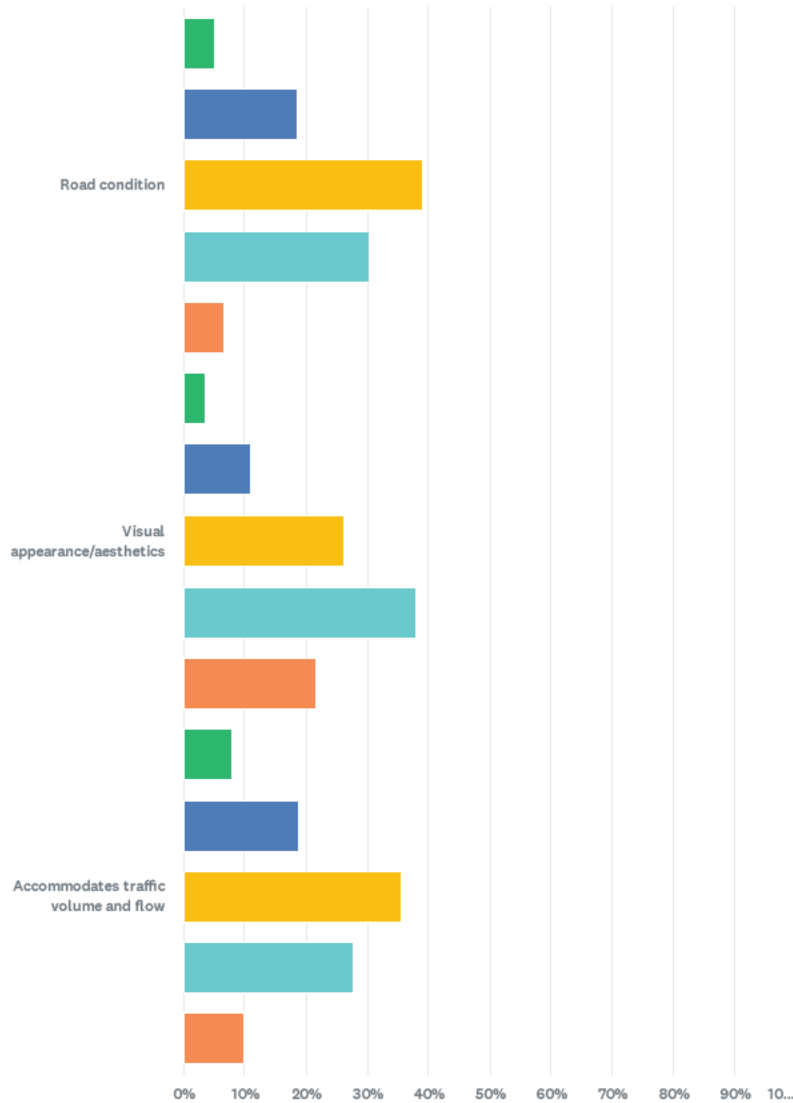


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	● Strongly Agree	● Somewhat Agree	● Neither Agree nor Disagree	● Somewhat Disagree	● Disagree
There is enough parking in the area	21.00% 151	33.52% 241	13.91% 100	23.64% 170	7.93% 57
Parking is easy to locate	25.92% 184	38.59% 274	11.55% 82	19.72% 140	4.23% 30
Parking is easy to access	28.31% 201	35.35% 251	14.79% 105	19.15% 136	2.39% 17
Parking is convenient for accessing the businesses/buildings I visit	27.02% 194	36.35% 261	15.74% 113	17.27% 124	3.62% 26

Q13 How would you rate the overall functionality and appearance of the Happ Road corridor today? (Rate each from excellent to poor)

Answered: 693 Skipped: 200

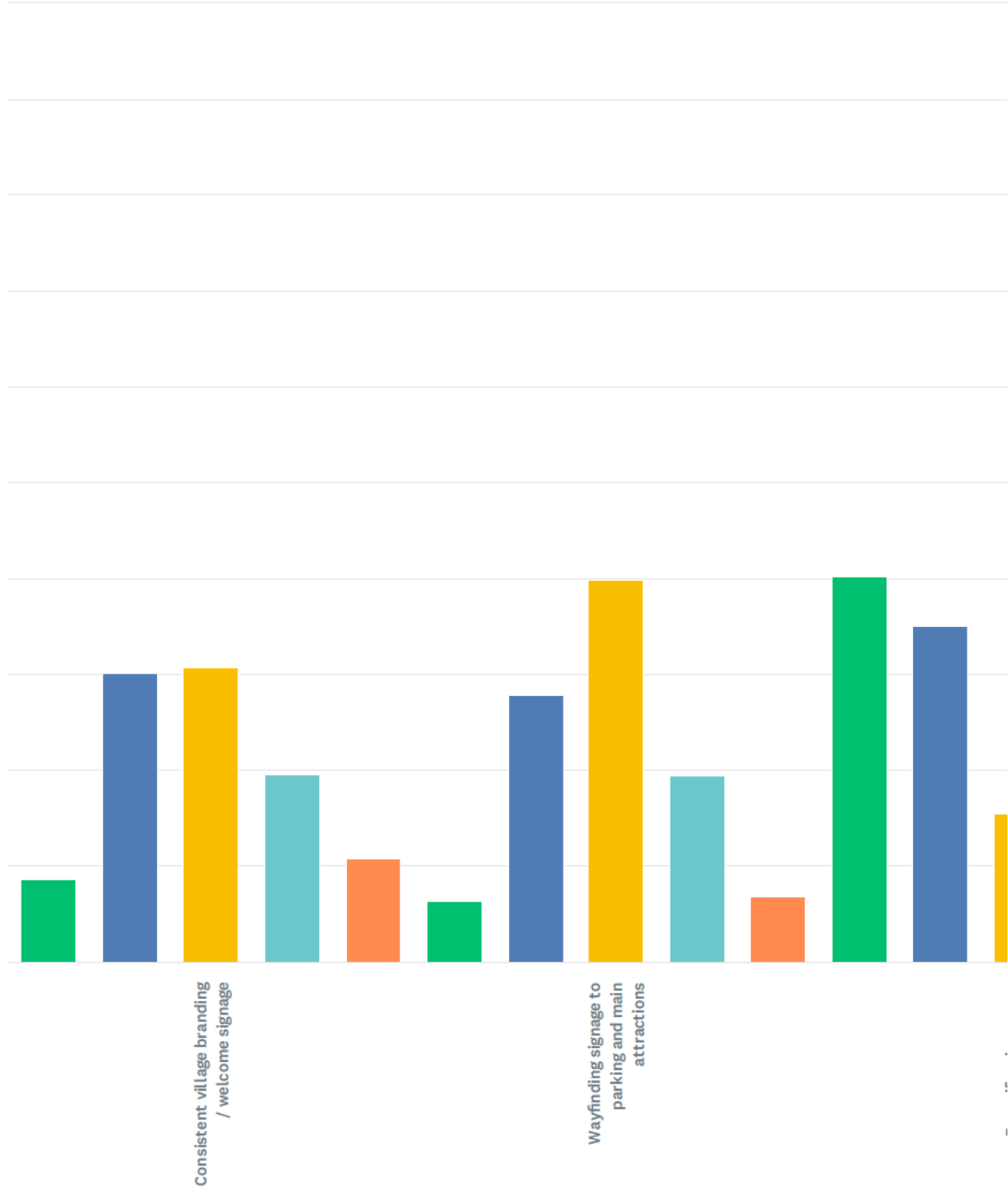


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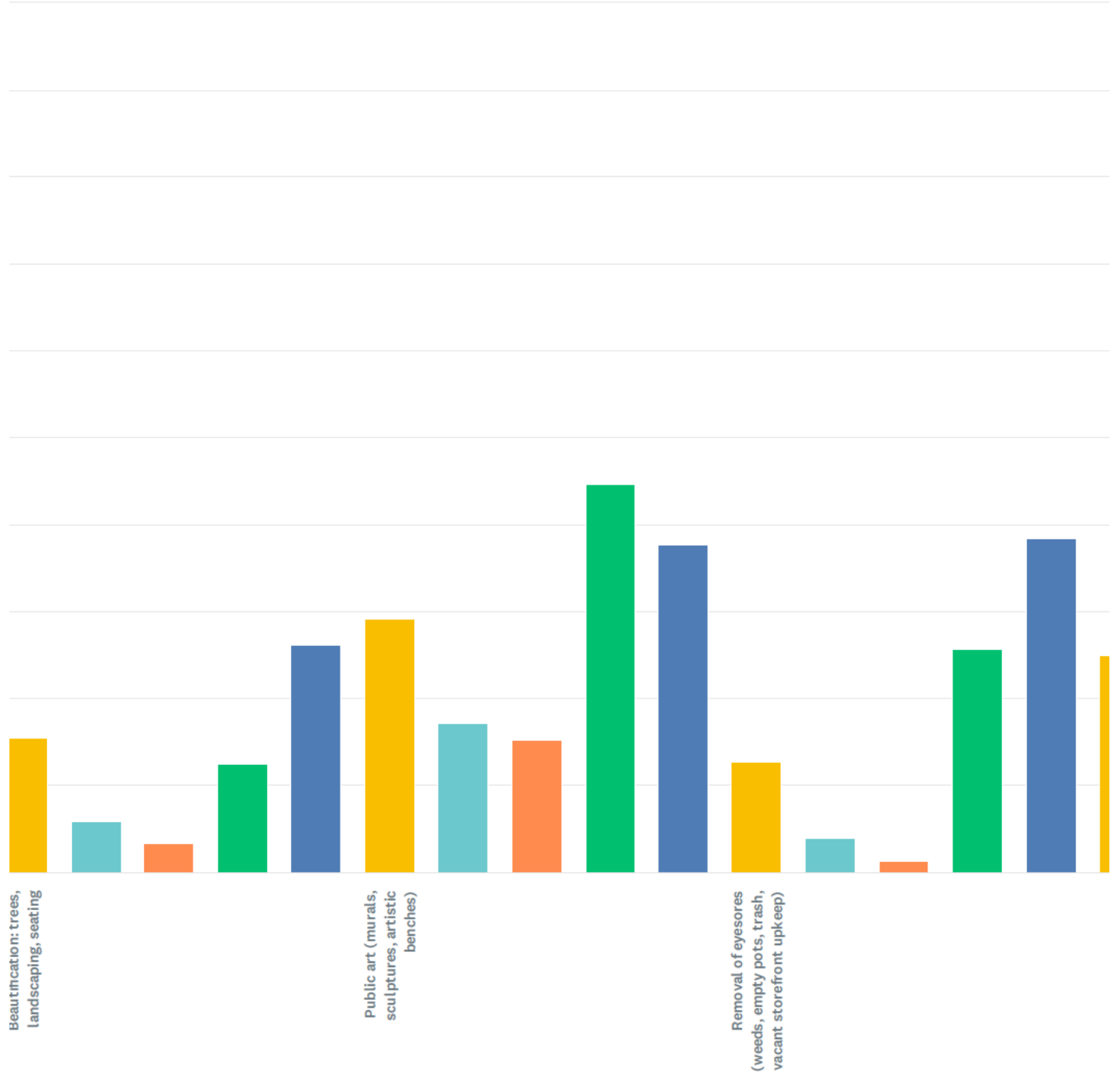
	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
Road condition	5.22% 36	18.58% 128	39.04% 269	30.48% 210	6.68% 46	689
Visual appearance/aesthetics	3.62% 25	10.87% 75	26.23% 181	37.83% 261	21.45% 148	690
Accommodates traffic volume and flow	7.80% 54	18.93% 131	35.55% 246	27.75% 192	9.97% 69	692
						2071

Q14 Which of the following improvements would have the biggest positive impact on community identity and downtown character? (Rank each from most positive impact to least positive impact)

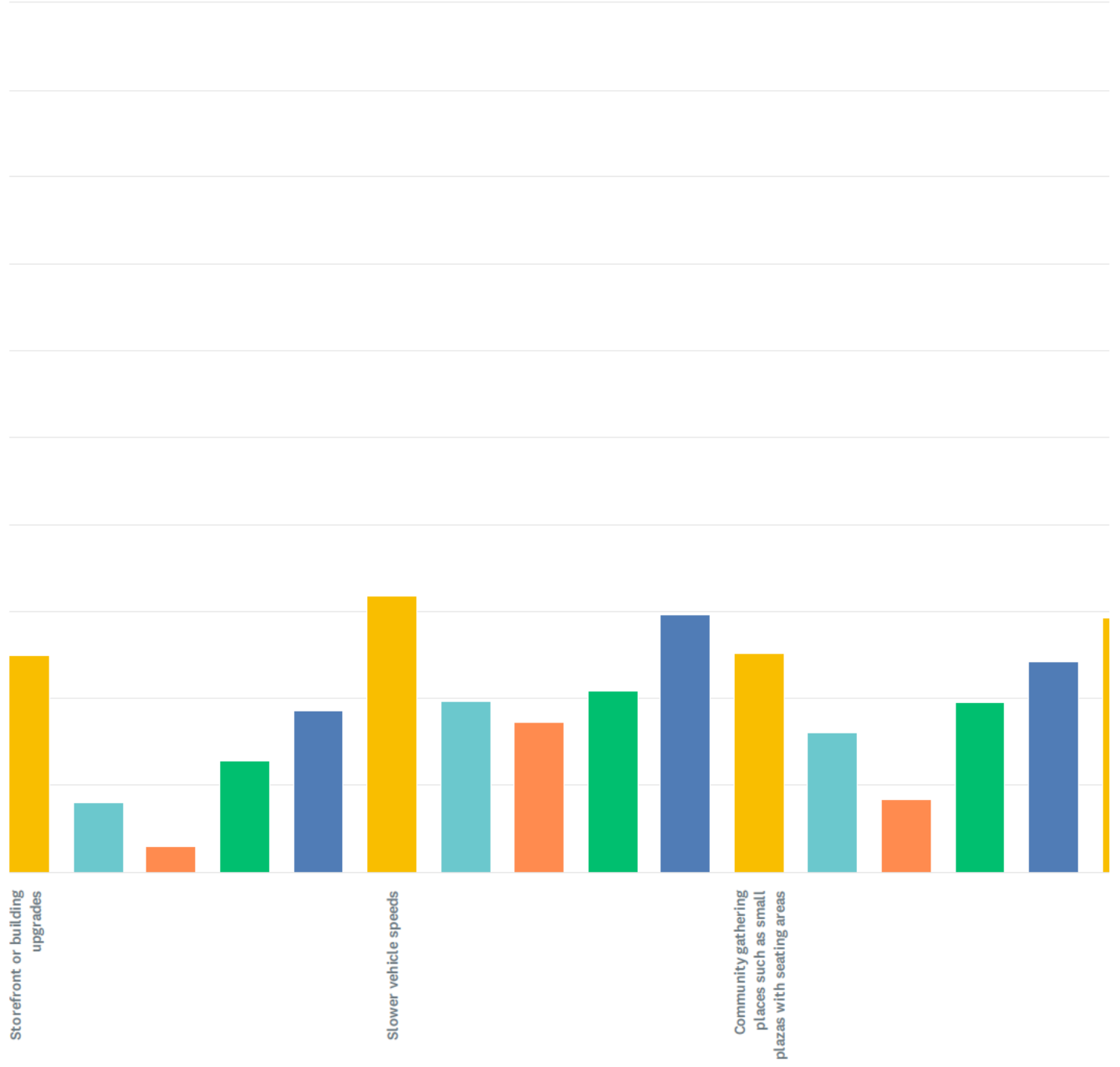
Answered: 689 Skipped: 204

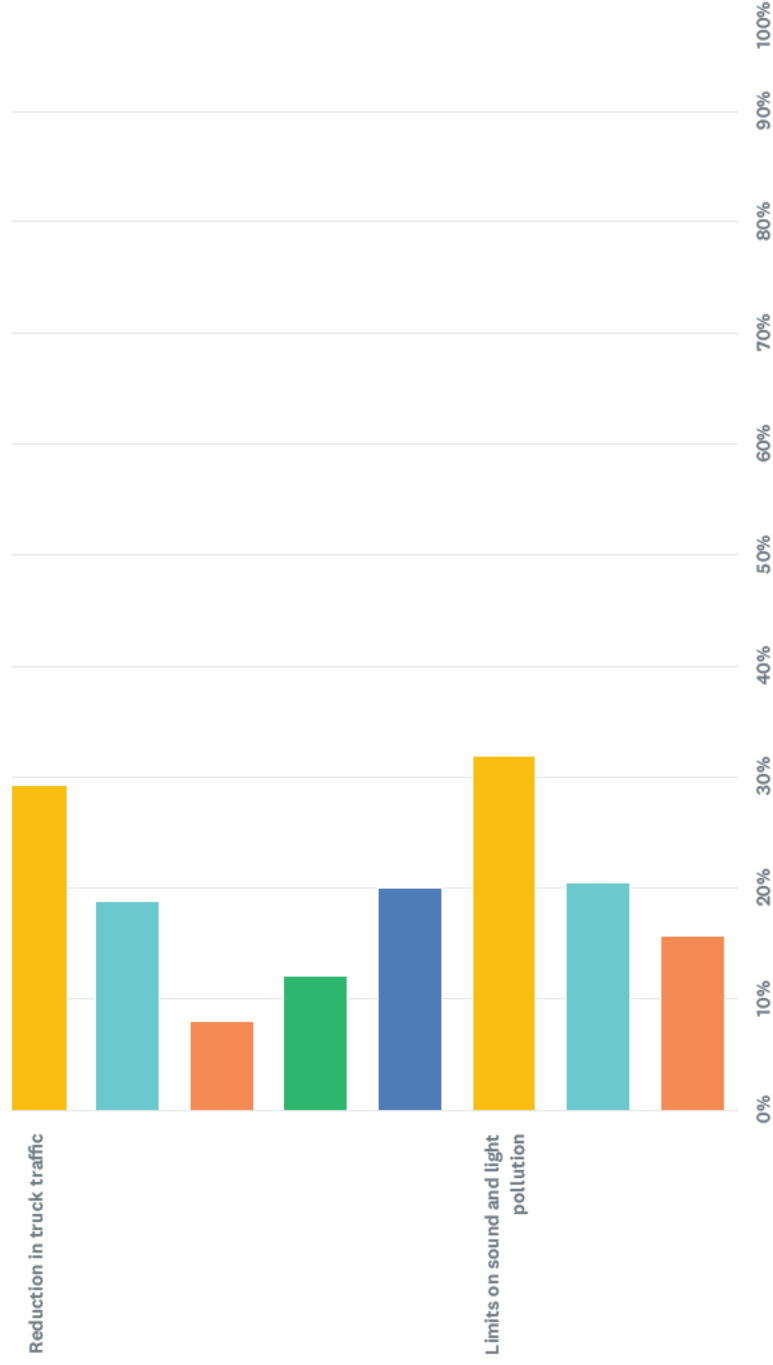


Happ Road Improvement Committee Northfield Resident Survey



Happ Road Improvement Committee Northfield Resident Survey





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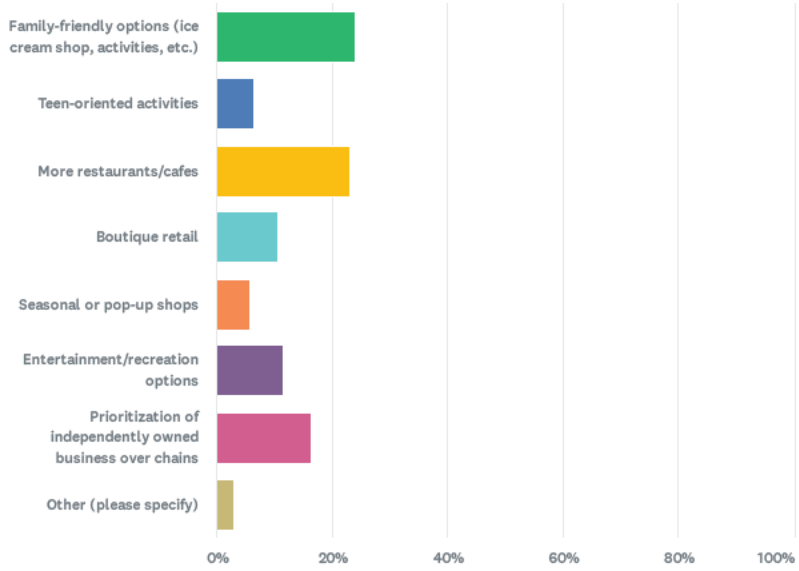
	Most Positive Impact	Strong Positive Impact	Moderate Impact	Slight Positive Impact	Least Positive Impact	Total
Consistent village branding / welcome signage	8.59% 58	30.22% 204	30.81% 208	19.56% 132	10.81% 73	675
						6755

	● Most Positive Impact	● Strong Positive Impact	● Moderate Impact	● Slight Positive Impact	● Least Positive Impact	Total
Wayfinding signage to parking and main attractions	6.30% 42	27.89% 186	39.73% 265	19.34% 129	6.75% 45	667
Beautification: trees, landscaping, seating	40.18% 274	35.04% 239	15.54% 106	5.87% 40	3.37% 23	682
Public art (murals, sculptures, artistic benches)	12.48% 84	26.15% 176	29.12% 196	17.09% 115	15.16% 102	673
Removal of eyesores (weeds, empty pots, trash, vacant storefront upkeep)	44.66% 305	37.63% 257	12.59% 86	3.81% 26	1.32% 9	683
Storefront or building upgrades	25.74% 174	38.31% 259	25.00% 169	7.99% 54	2.96% 20	676
Slower vehicle speeds	12.76% 86	18.55% 125	31.75% 214	19.73% 133	17.21% 116	674
Community gathering places such as small plazas with seating areas	20.77% 141	29.60% 201	25.18% 171	16.05% 109	8.39% 57	679
Reduction in truck traffic	19.61% 132	24.22% 163	29.27% 197	18.87% 127	8.02% 54	673
						6755

	● Most Positive Impact	● Strong Positive Impact	● Moderate Impact	● Slight Positive Impact	● Least Positive Impact	Total
Limits on sound and light pollution	12.04% 81	19.91% 134	31.95% 215	20.51% 138	15.60% 105	673
						6755

Q15 What types of new business or amenities do you feel would enhance the Happ Road Corridor? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 680 Skipped: 213



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Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Family-friendly options (ice cream shop, activities, etc.)	23.87%	518
● Teen-oriented activities	6.41%	139
● More restaurants/cafes	23.04%	500
● Boutique retail	10.51%	228
● Seasonal or pop-up shops	5.71%	124
● Entertainment/recreation options	11.38%	247
● Prioritization of independently owned business over chains	16.27%	353
● Other (please specify) Show responses	2.81%	61
Total		2170

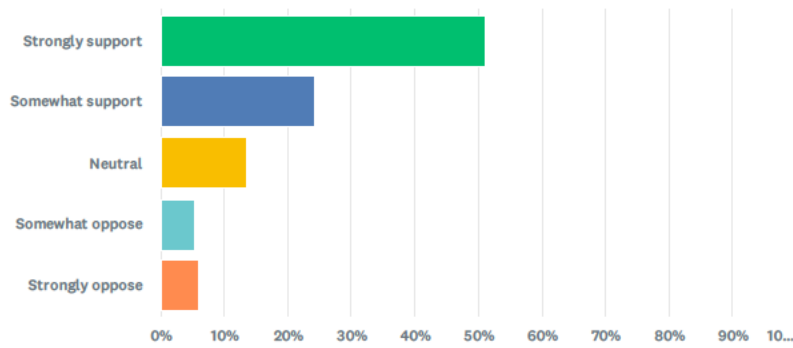
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Live theatre (space for small theatre companies to produce plays, such as Glenview has in the Oil Lamp Theatre); grocery store in vacated Mariano's--ASAP!!	2/16/2026 4:34 PM
2	Grocery!	2/14/2026 11:05 AM
3	grocery store	2/14/2026 9:57 AM
4	grocery store; farmers market	2/12/2026 11:21 AM
5	MARIANO'S IS A TOTAL EYE .WITH NOTHING N THAT HUGE SPACE....It looks terrible	2/12/2026 11:01 AM
6	Any are good options. Consider adding restaurants only after looking at other options since	2/11/2026 1:04 AM

	there are already several existing ones in this corridor.	
7	no more banks, dry cleaners, nails, gyms or salons. We need another casual community dining destination like Hometown or three tarts which are always packed. ice cream or sweet shop! salads and smoothies. give us somewhere to ride our bikes or walk to town to enjoy	2/10/2026 7:52 PM
8	Free, public entertainment	2/10/2026 7:14 PM
9	Food Store	2/10/2026 11:25 AM
10	Nothing leave it be	2/10/2026 6:35 AM
11	Grocery store needed. No stores similar to Binnys.	2/9/2026 4:40 PM
12	need grocery back in	2/9/2026 4:20 PM
13	HEALTH CLUB/INDOOR POOL	2/9/2026 3:19 PM
14	No preference. Let the market figure it out, not you.	2/9/2026 1:35 PM
15	Please NO BANKS or such businesses	2/9/2026 12:57 PM
16	Roller skating	2/9/2026 12:57 PM
17	IT IS UNACCEPTABLE THAT THERE IS NO GROCERY STORE IN NORTHFIELD	2/9/2026 12:21 PM
18	Allowing left turns from west bound Willow by Police Station would reduce traffic on Harms turning south	2/9/2026 12:21 PM
19	Grocery store	2/9/2026 11:58 AM
20	Grocery store	2/9/2026 11:05 AM
21	we need all of these things! northfield is quickly falling behind ALL the other north shore suburbs and it's very apparent. not only does it not look nice, there's not much to do	2/8/2026 5:30 PM
22	Northfield used to have a bowling alley - we could use that again for families and teens looking for places to visit	2/8/2026 4:07 PM
23	No bars, No Gambling anywhere, or stores to buy marijuana, no car wash	2/7/2026 1:26 PM
24	Grocery store	2/6/2026 2:49 PM
25	No chain stores!!!!	2/6/2026 8:43 AM
26	Grocery store	2/6/2026 7:50 AM
27	New businesses with successful track records	2/5/2026 10:59 PM
28	passive play areas for children	2/5/2026 9:30 PM
29	Government should stay clear of private enterprise	2/5/2026 8:25 PM
30	None	2/4/2026 7:31 PM
31	No opinion	2/4/2026 1:44 PM
32	Dance, exercise/fitness businesses	2/4/2026 9:06 AM
33	Chain fast food operations	2/3/2026 4:24 PM
34	Grocery store	2/3/2026 2:20 PM
35	No problem	2/3/2026 1:03 PM
36	Grocery Store - Really!!!!	2/3/2026 11:51 AM
37	Bike racks, ADA amenities, an organic farmer's market in the summer (there aren't any in the area), maybe bring back the art fair, also- the lighting for the shopping center parking lots/areas should be a warmer temperature and dimmer than it is now- it's very "loud" and feels more like a Walmart parking lot	2/3/2026 9:41 AM
38	Grocery store!!!	2/3/2026 7:34 AM
39	Grocery	2/3/2026 7:03 AM
40	Grocery store/Marianos	2/2/2026 10:35 PM
41	Grocery Store	2/2/2026 9:40 PM
42	Grocery Store (to replace the Mariano's that was closed)	2/2/2026 8:20 PM
43	grocery store	2/2/2026 7:41 PM
44	No franchise stores	2/2/2026 6:46 PM
45	keeping it small	2/2/2026 5:45 PM
46	Family friendly Italian restaurant	2/2/2026 5:29 PM
47	The issue is the very ugly inconsistent " architecture "of the buildings. The new bank on willow is pretty and should influence improvements Lustig Lodge is to me what we should recreate	2/2/2026 5:15 PM
48	Need to replace the grocery store!	2/2/2026 4:55 PM
49	Independent coffee shop	2/2/2026 4:40 PM
50	Better parking options	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
51	Grocery store	2/2/2026 3:37 PM
52	Talk to the existing Business Owner's	2/2/2026 3:32 PM
53	Grocery store	2/2/2026 3:29 PM
54	Privately owned coffee shop	2/2/2026 3:24 PM
55	a variety of the above that doesn't feel like walking in a parking lot. For example, parking lot	2/2/2026 3:23 PM

	that enters on frontage rd via curved Happ rd, replaces parking in front of Happ Inn w area connecting shops currently on both sides of Happ rd	
56	more restaurants & cafes, yoga studio, other boutique fitness class studios	2/2/2026 3:17 PM
57	I think that the entire Happ Commercial district needs to be tom down. Move police department. Tear down old Mariano's and existing retail. Convert to a livable downtown area with 2-3 story brick buildings like a small city. Walkable, sidewalks, street grid system, town square, et cetera	2/2/2026 3:14 PM
58	Dog friendly brewery! Hometown coffee and juice	2/2/2026 3:11 PM
59	New Grocery store.	2/2/2026 3:10 PM
60	Grocery store please!	2/2/2026 3:06 PM
61	Wine bar, brewery, book store	2/2/2026 10:29 AM

Q16 How supportive would you be of occasional street closures for community events (e.g., a festival on Happ Road) if parking access can be preserved?

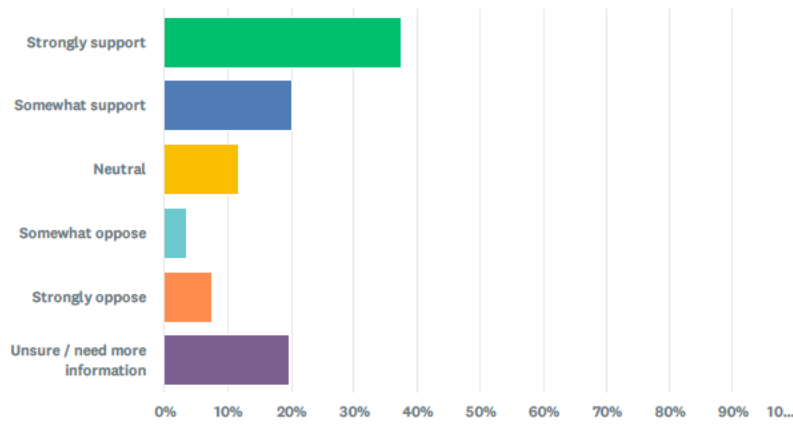
Answered: 694 Skipped: 199



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Strongly support	51.15%	355
● Somewhat support	24.06%	167
● Neutral	13.54%	94
● Somewhat oppose	5.33%	37
● Strongly oppose	5.91%	41
Total		694

Q17 In order to have the control to make significant changes on Happ Road, the village would need to take over ownership from Cook County. How supportive are you of this initiative?

Answered: 693 Skipped: 200



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Strongly support	37.52%	260
● Somewhat support	20.06%	139
● Neutral	11.69%	81
● Somewhat oppose	3.46%	24
● Strongly oppose	7.50%	52
● Unsure / need more information	19.77%	137
Total		693

Q18 What opportunities do you think Happ Road improvements could create for you or your neighborhood?

Answered: 275 Skipped: 618

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Improvements would bring more people/businesses to NF & benefit existing businesses. Surface improvements would improve driving safety (less stress on car tires!).	2/16/2026 4:41 PM
2	Make the downtown more beautiful	2/16/2026 4:40 PM
3	It is time to redevelop the Happ Road corridor, while keeping with Northfield's character. Our residents crave a place that they and their families can walk to safely, a place where they can support local businesses, where they can meet with neighbors, a place that they are proud to call home. Improvements in the road design and in landscaping, additions such as public art, outdoor gathering areas, historical markers and points of interest, will keep our residents here, supporting our local businesses. I also would like to see improvements that would appeal to all of our students, especially our NT students. The students should want to come to town after school - visit the library, patronize our businesses, hang out with friends. They should be able to do this safely - walking or biking.	2/16/2026 2:39 PM
4	More green space, pedestrian friendly restaurant/shopping corridors, and family friendly dining spots would bring families there in early evenings.	2/16/2026 9:17 AM
5	More places to eat/seek entertainment options	2/15/2026 11:45 PM
6	Safety	2/15/2026 10:01 AM
7	Safer driving. The road is a mess. Just a matter of time before crumbling edges in the residential section cause flat tires or accidents especially due to vehicles swerving to avoid. Road not properly maintained.	2/13/2026 11:34 AM
8	We like to walk to restaurants, PO, library (and grocery). So pedestrian safety is important: street lighting, flashing lights for crosswalk safety. We also patronize the small shops by car; parking is generally adequate.	2/12/2026 8:47 PM
9	Greater feeling of neighborhood feeling	2/12/2026 11:37 AM
10	Create community and safety	2/12/2026 11:24 AM
11	Improvement in the residential houses in the area.	2/12/2026 9:42 AM
12	A local place to gather and shop	2/12/2026 9:19 AM
13	Attraction of buyers to live here which directly affects our Property VALUES! Unlike the other New Trier feeder towns: We are not a lakefront Town We don't have a train We have high power lines A not appealing downtown We DO have a lovely country feel, large lots, unpretentious vibe! A carefully planned beautification of our downtown in keeping with our small town charm would payoff in values and in all our enjoyment and pride in Northfield	2/11/2026 6:33 PM
14	Improved Safety for pedestrians and traffic as well as increase easy community access for recreational activities	2/11/2026 12:04 PM
15	Jobs for young teens	2/11/2026 12:00 AM
16	a more vibrant and exciting space to hang out in	2/10/2026 11:26 PM
17	Improve downtown	2/10/2026 8:19 PM
18	northfield is an eye sore compared to it's neighbors- let's create a beautiful little downtown we can finally enjoy	2/10/2026 7:53 PM
19	Increased sense of pedestrian safety; enhanced image for a small community	2/10/2026 4:46 PM
20	More activity	2/10/2026 1:21 PM
21	Make it safer and more easily navigated at Happ & Willow Also south of Willow on Happ It is not pedestrian friendly at all and traffic exiting Frontage Rd in late afternoon/evening makes it treacherous.	2/10/2026 12:23 PM
22	Roundabout	2/10/2026 11:38 AM
23	Reduce the chances of an accident.	2/10/2026 11:27 AM
24	None	2/10/2026 11:21 AM
25	I had lived of of Happ rd for over 40 years. I grew up here. The new trier morning traffic is one issue, the lack of ability to safely cross as dog owner is highly concerning.	2/10/2026 10:19 AM
26	Adding beauty by planting trees, flower boxes, etc. Maintain existing landscape that belongs to the village.	2/10/2026 8:00 AM
27	Options for local dining and shopping instead of having to go to Winnetka, Glencoe or Wilmette. Options for kids and teens to have access to a "downtown" area instead of having to go to Winnetka, Wilmette, or Glencoe. Increased property values and enhanced community well-being. A feeling that Northfield has residents best interests at heart and is progressing in step with surrounding towns. Northfield feels stuck in the past and resistant to change while all the surrounding towns are actively progressing - beautifying their downtown spaces, bringing in elevated dining options and expanding access for kids and teens.	2/10/2026 7:10 AM
28	Nothings	2/10/2026 6:37 AM
29	Cafes with outdoor seating would be wonderful.	2/10/2026 6:03 AM
30	As a mother of 5 children who grew up in Northfield and attended New Trier. The biggest thing that needs to be improved is better sidewalk fro the kids connecting the east and west	2/9/2026 9:24 PM

	shopping. So they could easily go from U Dawg U to the Peachtree etc safely.	
31	More restaurants, stores, pedestrian areas. Look at other towns with downtown areas that are thriving like Willmette	2/9/2026 8:27 PM
32	Would be more likely to stay in town for restaurants and other activities instead of going to neighboring communities	2/9/2026 8:06 PM
33	This upgrades will make Northfield more visually attractive and will have their own residents stay in Northfield for meals and activities	2/9/2026 7:26 PM
34	I think improvements as noted would attract people to the area. It would be appealing to those who are considering moving to NF	2/9/2026 6:28 PM
35	A vibrant central business district which encourages entrepreneurial development and resident participation.	2/9/2026 5:13 PM
36	Depends on what is proposed and what the residents can vote on.	2/9/2026 4:45 PM
37	more traffic	2/9/2026 4:42 PM
38	Careful, if you take that road the county may make you take others as well	2/9/2026 4:22 PM
39	Increased property value	2/9/2026 4:18 PM
40	Better retail and more restaurant options (sandwiches, coffee, ice cream, upscale dining, bar) would be a draw	2/9/2026 3:21 PM
41	NO ROUNDABOUT AND NO FOUNTAIN	2/9/2026 3:21 PM
42	I truly believe that a thoughtful downtown revitalization would significantly improve the quality of life for Northfield residents. As it stands today, I find myself spending far more time in Winnetka, Glencoe, and Wilmette than in my own town. Northfield certainly has its limitations, but when I was growing up here, our downtown felt vibrant and welcoming. We had Willow Hill Pharmacy, TCBY, a fountain with picnic tables where people naturally gathered, and a variety of shops — clothing, shoes, sporting goods, and more. There was a sense of place and community that seems to be missing today. Currently, the layout and business mix along our main stretch feel mismatched with what residents actually want and need. We have two workout studios practically next to one another, a barber shop with inconsistent signage, a dry cleaner occupying prime frontage, and a meat shop that doesn't serve food — all in what should be our most engaging pedestrian corridor. It's hard to imagine what would draw a 12-year-old, a teen, or even a young family downtown today. Three Tarts closes before students can visit after school, Stormy's functions primarily as a bar, Starbucks sits on a challenging corner for foot traffic, we have no local grocery option, and somehow a kitchen design showroom ended up within walking distance of the park. These are puzzling planning choices that don't reflect everyday residential needs. All of this leaves me questioning whether our urban planning efforts are truly aligned with what Northfield families value. A more intentional, community-centered approach could make a meaningful difference — one that supports local families, encourages gathering, and fosters pride in the place we call home.	2/9/2026 3:07 PM
43	possibly more opportunity to shop in my own village	2/9/2026 2:37 PM
44	We could keep up with the other Northshore villages.	2/9/2026 2:34 PM
45	Feeling of community and place. More opportunities to support local businesses.	2/9/2026 2:17 PM
46	none	2/9/2026 2:15 PM
47	ease of getting around to support local businesses	2/9/2026 2:10 PM
48	Not a lot	2/9/2026 1:41 PM
49	increased business variety	2/9/2026 1:32 PM
50	Attract shoppers and elevate local tax revenue.	2/9/2026 1:31 PM
51	None	2/9/2026 1:27 PM
52	Improved access to businesses on Happ.	2/9/2026 1:17 PM
53	Safer more and more income coming to the village from better restrauents and more shopping options. Better pedestrian crossing and more parking	2/9/2026 1:14 PM
54	I would love to be able to stay closer to home for grocery shopping, I would love for places like Three Tarts (or another cafe) to be open later (dinner into evening), more restaurant options, ice cream shop, yoga studio. Or food truck events.	2/9/2026 1:07 PM
55	Better commercial district	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
56	nicer town helps all	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
57	I believe we don't need to waste money there	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
58	Improving house values	2/9/2026 1:00 PM
59	Could our downtown look more like Wilmette's?	2/9/2026 12:58 PM
60	Sinning and safer intersection signage	2/9/2026 12:56 PM
61	Creation of more of a sense of community, ice cream shop for sure!!!!	2/9/2026 12:46 PM
62	We need more restaurants and stores like what downtown Wilmette has evolved into. Wilmette's downtown used to be horrible, but now it is a place people want to be with lots of opportunities to congregate. Restaurants, bars, and stores.	2/9/2026 12:43 PM
63	ENHANCE OUR COMMUNITY BY CREAT NG A MORE VIBRANT DOWNTOWN - DOWNTOWN NORTHFIELD LACKS LIFE AND CHARACTER - HARDLY ANYTHING TO DO BUT DRIVE THROUGH TO GET SOMEWHERE ELSE	2/9/2026 12:30 PM
64	More local shopping	2/9/2026 12:24 PM
65	N/A	2/9/2026 12:16 PM
66	Better economic increase, more family friendly places to visit, making southeast Northfield	2/9/2026 12:13 PM

	more popular especially since it's on the way to 94.	
67	Maybe it would be more like the slogan describes: "Comfortable Corner of the Northshore" Right now is lacks cohesion, curb appeal and functionality (getting around).	2/9/2026 12:06 PM
68	Enticing people to the area	2/9/2026 12:06 PM
69	More restaurants and boutiques	2/9/2026 12:05 PM
70	If more lively and family friendly shops can come into the commercial buildings here, the neighborhood will benefit from it.	2/9/2026 12:05 PM
71	Might upgrade the village appearance and welcome visitors better	2/9/2026 12:02 PM
72	We need a town! A place that the kids can walk to and around. Shops and restaurants. Northfield is a beautiful community but the one thing we are missing is a cute town!!!! We need a downtown like Winnetka, Glencoe highland park. Restaurants and shops.	2/9/2026 12:01 PM
73	I think residents would utilize Northfield more instead of going to neighboring communities.	2/9/2026 12:01 PM
74	Get more families to shop, eat and play in Northfield.	2/9/2026 12:00 PM
75	I would love to see our Happ Road corridor be a place the town residents enjoy going to. Better restaurants and spaces for kids/teens and families. No more workout facilities! Fill vacant storefronts by reducing rent burdens. Get rid of Happ Inn- doing terrible things for our town and an awful place that very few residents actually patron.	2/9/2026 11:56 AM
76	More walkable	2/9/2026 11:55 AM
77	A better destination. My family ventures to other communities for better dining and going out options.	2/9/2026 11:48 AM
78	Seeing more retail and a new grocery option gives the neighborhood a feel similar to other communities and will attract more shoppers and residents to the area.	2/9/2026 11:46 AM
79	safer & easier turning onto or off Happ to side streets and business/residences	2/9/2026 11:43 AM
80	Need a safe place for teenagers to gather and also make the neighborhood walkable	2/9/2026 11:39 AM
81	more investment in restaurants, cafe,	2/9/2026 11:36 AM
82	Unsure	2/9/2026 11:36 AM
83	Safer pedestrian/car shared spaces; more enticing for retail options	2/9/2026 11:35 AM
84	maintain state of repair.	2/8/2026 11:51 PM
85	Changes would make a big improvement!! The downtown area looks dumpy a lot of the plantings are not maintained. The Welcome to Northfield sign use to be nice, but the last few years it looks messy and unkept. The planting between the library and the post office is really bad.	2/8/2026 7:32 PM
86	it needs to be upgraded across the board - more beautiful, better retail and restaurants	2/8/2026 5:33 PM
87	Ease of access to the downtown area	2/8/2026 4:19 PM
88	I think the corridor of Happ Road is similar to Lincoln Avenue in Lincoln Square, which has a very community feel to it - lots of restaurants, variety of shops, small little square with benches, a music school. We could have something similar in that area.	2/8/2026 4:11 PM
89	New sidewalks, new pavement with bike lane, new permanent stoplights at Winnetka Rd/Happ Rd. All the above would make for a HUGE aesthetic improvement to beautiful Northfield. Right now, it looks like an alley.	2/7/2026 4:49 PM
90	More positive image of community and more inviting	2/7/2026 1:34 PM
91	Overall visual appearance of the corridor from Willow Rd. to Winnetka Ave. hopefully will convince home owners to maintain their properties in a better manner.	2/7/2026 12:24 PM
92	Parking in front of our houses. We would feel safer with a 25 mph road.	2/7/2026 11:40 AM
93	Comfortable with current situation	2/7/2026 9:38 AM
94	There needs to be more interconnectedness and safety in the commercial district. This requires a cohesive plan, with input from not just the community but also professionals that have experience executing these types of projects (traffic studies, civil engineers, landscape consultants etc).	2/7/2026 8:55 AM
95	Make imroad safer.	2/7/2026 7:58 AM
96	More fun restaurants and a family fun place to go	2/7/2026 1:02 AM
97	Houses along Happ Rd do not keep up appearances of their park ways and drive way aprons. There are big green cable or telephone boxes that are an eye sore on parkways. There are dangerous holes on some east side parkways. The sidewalks need to be replaced and raised to prevent water pooling.	2/6/2026 9:37 PM
98	As a family that has someone who uses a wheelchair, it is very important for us that my son can travel through Northfield safely on sidewalks. We often go to stormy's or to the restaurants in the commercial area. There are limited sidewalks, and he often has to use his wheelchair in the street. This is not safe.	2/6/2026 6:45 PM
99	Happ Rd IS my neighborhood, so all improvements are good.	2/6/2026 5:22 PM
100	Better beautification of the town center to help our community thrive. Consistent structures/architecture and signage.	2/6/2026 3:54 PM
101	We need more safety on happ road for pedestrians and home owners. Picking up mail and putting garbage to the curb. Traffic speed is out of control	2/6/2026 2:51 PM
102	Build out downtown Northfield where there's more restaurants, coffee shops, family activities, etc	2/6/2026 1:56 PM
103	I would like to prioritize our money on improving the schools in the Avoca district! That will	2/6/2026 12:16 PM

	have the biggest impact on our community especially it's next generation!	
104	Creating more areas for teens, friends and family to meet via non-chain but attractive restaurants/lunch spots-soda shops	2/6/2026 9:14 AM
105	Northfield business area lacks charm. Fresh artistic landscaping, gathering areas, and improved design for building fronts would create a space where people would enjoy shopping and gathering.	2/6/2026 9:00 AM
106	Make it more walkable and a destination with restaurants, shopping, music venues	2/6/2026 8:54 AM
107	Making the 2 commercial sides look consistent and updated	2/6/2026 8:10 AM
108	Slight improvement	2/5/2026 11:00 PM
109	More people would use the library and stick around to play if there were family-oriented activities nearby.	2/5/2026 9:32 PM
110	Minimal. This is all unnecessary.	2/5/2026 8:27 PM
111	I think adding a round-about would help the driving and walkability	2/5/2026 6:58 PM
112	More options to dining, entertainment would be more appealing	2/5/2026 6:34 PM
113	Shopping, park and walk, outdoor seating for eating establishments and entertainment pretty landscaping	2/5/2026 5:43 PM
114	none	2/5/2026 1:16 PM
115	A center turn lane to allow traffic flow. Curbs and sewers to manage storm water. Keep the curves to slow traffic speed. Perhaps a fixed/permanent speed camera as on Central	2/5/2026 12:46 PM
116	Improve safety and resident access	2/5/2026 11:21 AM
117	Safety	2/5/2026 10:49 AM
118	Parking signs and where things are signage	2/5/2026 10:35 AM
119	I would love for this area to develop a more family friendly, walkable feel that would encourage more foot traffic to the area from locals, supporting more new businesses and giving us residents more options for food, coffee and even bakery type choices.	2/5/2026 9:42 AM
120	More restaurants	2/5/2026 7:42 AM
121	create a welcoming and aesthetically pleasing area where the community likes to be	2/4/2026 9:16 PM
122	Safer place for kids to walk around to get from cafe to library and park	2/4/2026 7:56 PM
123	More visits to businesses with grandkids and just for ourselves	2/4/2026 7:52 PM
124	none	2/4/2026 2:53 PM
125	create a sense of community and gathering place that is upscale and reflective of the community	2/4/2026 2:38 PM
126	Ease of driving.	2/4/2026 10:40 AM
127	I don't think anything is needed from a road standpoint. Maybe just flashing cross walk lights	2/4/2026 10:03 AM
128	None	2/4/2026 9:53 AM
129	Beautification and support of local businesses.	2/4/2026 9:30 AM
130	Making the village even more walkable. (It's already pretty good, so I have no strong interest in major changes.)	2/4/2026 9:16 AM
131	Make it less necessary for me to go to other suburbs for food + fun. Also more walkable.	2/4/2026 9:13 AM
132	I would really love to be able to walk but it feels so unsafe and cars drive too fast and don't pay attention.	2/4/2026 9:08 AM
133	Real estate values	2/4/2026 7:53 AM
134	Lots of seniors in my neighborhood (my condo is on Happ Road) safer environment for walking. (Neighbor in condo killed walking on sidewalk on Happ Road) a few years ago	2/4/2026 6:43 AM
135	Safer walking will encourage our family to stay in Northfield vs going to other towns for food. Ice cream store would be ideal to encourage downtown visiting later in the day when three tarts is closed.	2/3/2026 9:26 PM
136	Enforce the speed limit at the curve.	2/3/2026 9:00 PM
137	It would just be nice to be able to cross from the library with out having to be super attentive.	2/3/2026 8:56 PM
138	We would love to spend more time and money in Northfield shops and restaurants, but there are not a lot that we want to visit. We love to walk over to the library, to Stormy's and Taco Nano. If we had something similar to Winnetka's downtown, that would be very cool!	2/3/2026 6:29 PM
139	More walk to town options to enjoy!	2/3/2026 6:09 PM
140	Independent businesses	2/3/2026 5:54 PM
141	Make it walkable and have a reason to want to walk , restaurants, open spaces	2/3/2026 5:21 PM
142	Would like more food choices. Have to drive to Glenview for fast food and National restaurant options. We need a grocery store!	2/3/2026 4:50 PM
143	Signs directing drivers from Willow road to the business district	2/3/2026 4:36 PM
144	I would feel like my kids are safe to be in that area.	2/3/2026 4:23 PM
145	The enjoyment of more small town social contact.	2/3/2026 4:08 PM
146	I think a "downtown" areas would greatly improve the appeal of Northfield.	2/3/2026 3:33 PM
147	Attract much needed new restaurants	2/3/2026 2:44 PM

148	None, as I live west of Sunset Ridge School	2/3/2026 2:18 PM
149	The removal of truck traffic on Happ Rd.	2/3/2026 1:20 PM
150	Not sure	2/3/2026 1:08 PM
151	Increased population density in the form of apartments/condos would create a stronger consumer base for restaurants and shopping. Example: 4-story building with retail on first floor. Create stronger sense of place. This is not a "downtown" today; it is a collection of strip-shops.	2/3/2026 1:07 PM
152	Improve the appeal and safety of the neighborhood	2/3/2026 12:05 PM
153	The road just need to be in good condition. The traffic flow and safety seem to be fine. We need our grocery back. Give the tax incentives for that. We don't need the expense of maintaining Happ road.	2/3/2026 11:54 AM
154	We have no options in Northfield to go out for dessert. It would be great to have an ice cream or frozen yogurt shop to take kids out to eat. A dessert shop would do quite well near U Dawg, North Shore Pizza, or Happ Inn. Following school or sporting events, people in other communities like Northbrook, Winnetka, and Glenview take their families to Graeter's, Baskin Robbin's, or Oberweiss. This is seriously lacking in our town. It would also be great to have more fast casual restaurant options.	2/3/2026 11:47 AM
155	Curbs	2/3/2026 11:39 AM
156	It would bring more business to the east side and tax revenue for Avoca schools.	2/3/2026 11:27 AM
157	Increase in things to do in town (not having to leave Northfield as much), beautification efforts would make me like where I live even more, more biz = more tax revenue, things for kids and teens to do has to have a positive impact on the community	2/3/2026 11:15 AM
158	I think many areas of the Happ Road corridor could use a lot of sprucing up and refreshing. I grew up in the area and while we have lots of great attractions, the corridor and many of the storefronts look the same as they did 20-30 years ago and appear tired and in need of updates. I am glad that the survey specifically asked about addressing eyesore areas of overgrowth, weeds, poorly maintained pavement, etc. The more we can address these things, the more new businesses would be enticed to come in and set up shop and it would be a positive step in creating a more cohesive neighborhood feel. We have too many areas (including the Willow West exit ramp, which I know is not Happ Road but adjacent) that look abandoned and unsightly. Starting with these small improvements will help create the look and feel of a vibrant downtown that many of our neighboring suburbs have (Wilmette, Winnetka, etc.) They have been able to attract top-flight restaurants and retail because of this, and it's had a positive snowball effect. I work with someone who moved to Glencoe from the city and said they liked Northfield, but ultimately chose elsewhere because "Northfield didn't have a downtown."	2/3/2026 11:11 AM
159	None	2/3/2026 11:09 AM
160	Stronger community and stronger sense of safety for kids moving about the village. We don't really have a downtown and if we can enhance and welcome business and leisure space to have people spend quality time in Northfield I'm all for it	2/3/2026 11:08 AM
161	Until Northfield eases the requirements for small businesses to open and thrive, infrastructure work will not lead to anything.	2/3/2026 10:56 AM
162	Attract more residents and visitors to the central business district for enjoyment and relaxation, not just running an errand.	2/3/2026 10:52 AM
163	More places to eat and hang out	2/3/2026 10:48 AM
164	Safer.	2/3/2026 10:45 AM
165	Creating a beautiful Happ Road would bring more people to the downtown area.	2/3/2026 10:37 AM
166	I'd like to be able to walk easily, safely, and comfortably from Riverside/Stockton to downtown.	2/3/2026 10:12 AM
167	Safe walk ability	2/3/2026 10:00 AM
168	Hopefully it will return Happ Rd to the quieter and safer road it used to be when I first moved here, decades ago. I also hope it will encourage people to walk/bike to downtown and spend time there and to make it an enjoyable place to do that, rather than being on a super busy road. Perhaps some additional areas with some benches to sit on would be nice.	2/3/2026 9:56 AM
169	A better looking area.	2/3/2026 9:13 AM
170	a aesthetically pleasing and safe downtown, I support the beautiful, safe and functional rendering of the corridor by francisco gonzalez pulido	2/3/2026 8:38 AM
171	A reason to spend money in northfield	2/3/2026 8:28 AM
172	None	2/3/2026 7:36 AM
173	Businesses would be more popular with parking and fixed roads	2/3/2026 7:17 AM
174	Connection to bike paths Opportunity for events Safety for pedestrians	2/3/2026 6:34 AM
175	Love the idea of a gathering place with benches and possibility of events/gatherings	2/3/2026 12:16 AM
176	More dining and shopping options could keep more tax revenue in Northfield and prevent the need to travel to Wilmette, Glencoe and Winnetka for these things	2/2/2026 10:56 PM
177	Create a safe way to cross the street to the south of village hall	2/2/2026 10:40 PM
178	I love this neighborhood. We have raised a family here and enjoyed it immensely.	2/2/2026 9:57 PM
179	Road needs repair. "Temporary " stop light at Winnetka Ave is an eyesore.	2/2/2026 9:56 PM
180	Less frequent trips outside the village for common activities.	2/2/2026 9:02 PM
181	Accessible and safe walkability throughout downtown	2/2/2026 8:51 PM
182	Need a neighborhood feel for families - like hubbard woods	2/2/2026 8:42 PM

183	More cafes or places to gather and sit with friends. We only have one bakery and seating is limited. Some outdoor seating would be great. Also better retail	2/2/2026 8:14 PM
184	More cautious traffic speeds through the commercial area.	2/2/2026 8:06 PM
185	None	2/2/2026 8:05 PM
186	I'd like the area to become more family friendly and serve as a place for people to gather.	2/2/2026 7:58 PM
187	this is not about my neighborhood, it's about quality of life in Northfield	2/2/2026 7:52 PM
188	make Northfield more desirable	2/2/2026 7:42 PM
189	Northfield needs to become more bike and pedestrian friendly! I want to be able to bike with my kids to Happ road!!	2/2/2026 7:29 PM
190	We need to make Northfield more modern, more attractive to new business and more walkable.	2/2/2026 7:22 PM
191	The downtown area is not walkable. Making it so would make it feel more like a downtown. More restaurants would be welcome.	2/2/2026 7:11 PM
192	Convenience	2/2/2026 6:50 PM
193	It could become harder to get through the Happ Road corridor if things are overdone. There needs to be balance.	2/2/2026 6:49 PM
194	The opportunity to shop local and support our businesses and still meet my needs.	2/2/2026 6:44 PM
195	We need to connect our town and we need to have a way to walk without fear of being hit. Bikes need to move about safely. Plantings should be well taken care of at each store or don't have any. So much looks unkept by July. Maybe plant things that require little care and work with the light it receives. Other communities have similar pots and plant beautiful healthy species of plants.	2/2/2026 6:42 PM
196	Safer travel on foot and bike & places to pause and rest (benches) would encourage less driving around town, which would decrease traffic and pollution	2/2/2026 6:41 PM
197	community togetherness in the way of a festival or street party in the summer	2/2/2026 6:37 PM
198	Truck traffic	2/2/2026 6:36 PM
199	more visits to downtown Northfield	2/2/2026 6:23 PM
200	Round about and better restaurant options also a grocery store	2/2/2026 6:17 PM
201	Potential improvement in desirability of Northfield / increased property values.	2/2/2026 6:14 PM
202	I have all the opportunities now, but cafes and restaurant seating without parked cars around would be most appealing. I think the parking lot in front of Happ Inn outdoor eating is an eyesore. And unhealthy.	2/2/2026 5:57 PM
203	I'm generally happy with the south of Willow mix of shops and Restaurants. On some occasions parking can be an issue for businesses on Orchard, I do walk to this location at times and I don't find it to be a major problem. Beautification and improved crosswalks would be nice, though.	2/2/2026 5:55 PM
204	Cuter downtown = more visitors	2/2/2026 5:52 PM
205	more shopping nearby, more attractive area to walk/bike	2/2/2026 5:51 PM
206	None	2/2/2026 5:51 PM
207	If the road was not as wide to connect the sides of the street it would be much nicer	2/2/2026 5:49 PM
208	Smoother flow of traffic (no roundabout). Easier access to parking.	2/2/2026 5:39 PM
209	Don't know that we need improvements. Just glad we don't have a round-about...every time I am on S. HappRd!	2/2/2026 5:33 PM
210	to interact with neighbors	2/2/2026 5:28 PM
211	You will increase Sunset Ridge Traffic. It is already very heavy traffic. Need to make sure people do not speed on the sunset Ridge Road. Please make sure you can reduce the heavy vehicle s and deduct the traffic and wild speed people drive.	2/2/2026 5:28 PM
212	Went to the program at New Trier Francisco presented, only a fool would not accept his amazing offer to beautify our/his town.	2/2/2026 5:21 PM
213	Just needed to enhance the experience and prestige of living here	2/2/2026 5:10 PM
214	Very little	2/2/2026 5:00 PM
215	better sense of community, improved shopping (groceries!!), convenience of walking to services/shops/restaurants	2/2/2026 4:56 PM
216	None	2/2/2026 4:55 PM
217	More ways to enjoy recreational eating out in town	2/2/2026 4:48 PM
218	Better walkability and improved retail offering that expands village tax base.	2/2/2026 4:42 PM
219	Opportunity to spend my time and money within the village instead of always going elsewhere	2/2/2026 4:40 PM
220	Creating a safe and vibrant community is essential. Happ Road has incrementally been allowed to deteriorate. Road condition has not been maintained. Speed enforcement is ignored. Opportunities avail themselves, when the community cares enough to weed, repair potholes and sidewalks, enforce posted speed limits, and engage with the concerns of its residents.	2/2/2026 4:38 PM
221	Fix potholes and the condition of the road. Put a more prominent crosswalk at the curve between Northfield Square and Colonial Lane residences.	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
222	It would keep me from driving to Winnetka or Wilmette to shop	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
223	As a homeowner, making our business district more appealing, and making Happ Rd less of a thoroughfare will translate to quality of life and home value. Previous plans to widen and create	2/2/2026 4:34 PM

	a center turn lane would have been detrimental to my experience and home value.	
224	Nothing really.	2/2/2026 4:29 PM
225	Safer access to pedestrians and more restaurants	2/2/2026 4:28 PM
226	More walkable/billable options for kids so they don't have to go to winnetka or west to Willow festival	2/2/2026 4:23 PM
227	Shopping / Dining	2/2/2026 4:22 PM
228	Safety and more people out walking and using the parks and storefronts	2/2/2026 4:22 PM
229	I would be more inclined to bring friends, family, and visitors there.	2/2/2026 4:21 PM
230	Safety and beauty	2/2/2026 4:20 PM
231	A few more stores in the commercial area would be nice.	2/2/2026 4:19 PM
232	Better traffic lights/lanes and pedestrian crossing at Happ & Winnetka (safety) Beautification = pride in the downtown and residential strip	2/2/2026 4:18 PM
233	visually appealing and improved walking opportunities	2/2/2026 4:17 PM
234	Better walkability scores. Tie the commercial center together. Right now it's somewhat fragmented.	2/2/2026 4:15 PM
235	positive impact on daily life	2/2/2026 4:04 PM
236	A safer walking experience.	2/2/2026 4:03 PM
237	A destination for families and friends.	2/2/2026 3:59 PM
238	Making Happ Rd into a pedestrian friendly retail venue would transform it into Northfield's main street	2/2/2026 3:59 PM
239	Make a city center more obvious	2/2/2026 3:56 PM
240	Make more inviting	2/2/2026 3:54 PM
241	None unless adding additional sidewalks. Otherwise it's fine as is.	2/2/2026 3:53 PM
242	None	2/2/2026 3:52 PM
243	Easy access	2/2/2026 3:51 PM
244	Since I have lived here right at 70 years I can tell you that improvement is needed all over Northfield.	2/2/2026 3:48 PM
245	It's our front door of the village and it is in shabby shape.	2/2/2026 3:43 PM
246	Having a safe place for my teenage children to frequent- navigating crossing willow/happ etc would be a real asset.	2/2/2026 3:42 PM
247	More parking & restaurants.	2/2/2026 3:39 PM
248	to go to the next level, Northfield downtown needs to be significantly improved with Restaurants, shops, beautification Both north and south of Willow Road the village need to do everything possible to attract to desirable restaurants, bars, and shops	2/2/2026 3:38 PM
249	Improved site lines for vehicle and pedestrian movements including signage and traffic control.	2/2/2026 3:35 PM
250	Not much	2/2/2026 3:34 PM
251	Grocery store	2/2/2026 3:29 PM
252	Road conditions, no pot holes, clear lines on road, signage, landscaping, trash on ground.	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
253	Other than the getting rid of trash and eyesores, I don't think you need anything. That last proposal was dreadfully awful.	2/2/2026 3:27 PM
254	Nicer walking environment. More welcoming atmosphere.	2/2/2026 3:26 PM
255	Maybe fewer accidents, but I do not know how frequent accidents happen	2/2/2026 3:25 PM
256	A safer place to walk and bike. Encourages people to come to the village. Places to gather for dining throughout the day. Beautification would enhance the experience of outsiders visiting. Additional retail stores, restaurants and ice cream shops that will bring in kids and adults. A boulevard creates a homey but active feel with potential street parking. People want to go where other people go!	2/2/2026 3:25 PM
257	Retail, food,	2/2/2026 3:23 PM
258	More reasons to walk to a dinner spot vs. drive to a neighboring town.	2/2/2026 3:22 PM
259	Create a true "downtown" feeling in Northfield like neighboring suburbs have; define identity of our village and make it a destination	2/2/2026 3:21 PM
260	pedestrian safety	2/2/2026 3:20 PM
261	bring more people to northfield, which brings more business to existing restaurant/shops. drives villagers to want to stay in the area, vs driving to neighboring villages for restaurants/things to do.	2/2/2026 3:20 PM
262	Increased property values, more dining options	2/2/2026 3:17 PM
263	Overall more shops and a walkable square would go a long way for the community and attract more young families	2/2/2026 3:17 PM
264	more parking, more restaurants, increased business and tax revenue for the city, more sense of community	2/2/2026 3:15 PM
265	More stores	2/2/2026 3:15 PM
266	none	2/2/2026 3:14 PM

267	safer for bus riding students	2/2/2026 3:14 PM
268	better access to the business district	2/2/2026 3:13 PM
269	More central downtown with a more attractive appearance - now it is just a pass-through Village.	2/2/2026 3:12 PM
270	Fine the way it is.	2/2/2026 3:12 PM
271	None	2/2/2026 3:09 PM
272	More attention to Northfield as a center of town	2/2/2026 3:08 PM
273	Better visual/aesthetic is important	2/2/2026 3:07 PM
274	Might be able to get seasonal shops to fill some vacancies	2/2/2026 3:06 PM
275	More walkable, a hangout; make it "the comfortable corner."	2/2/2026 10:32 AM

Q19 What are your biggest concerns about the Happ Road Corridor?

Answered: 345 Skipped: 548

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Widening for truck travel. Trucks are the greatest threat to road safety/grading. No reason for large trucks to be traveling on Happ. (For future grocery business, deliveries had been made via Northfield Road.) Also, for Happ Road residents--little to no property cutback/tree removal. Finally, I agree with the improvements proposed in the video by our resident Northfield architect--beautiful!	2/16/2026 4:41 PM
2	Safety, visual appeal	2/16/2026 4:40 PM
3	My biggest concern about the corridor is that it is aesthetically unappealing and can be unsafe. As much as I try to patronize our local business, I know I would do so more often if there was a nice, safe, inviting walking or biking path taking me there.	2/16/2026 2:39 PM
4	No roundabout	2/16/2026 1:03 PM
5	It would be nice to have more cohesion between buildings and between the east and west sides of Happ.	2/16/2026 9:17 AM
6	I don't think it is terrible now but anything that will improve traffic flow and invite more businesses that are value ads would be great. We really need another Grocery Store in Mariano's old spot!	2/15/2026 11:45 PM
7	It doesn't feel or function like the heart of the community as it should.	2/15/2026 4:25 PM
8	Consistent look, realistic budget, zero control over building owners to improve	2/15/2026 10:01 AM
9	Road upkeep, speed enforcement, replacement of old water pipes	2/13/2026 11:34 AM
10	Sidewalks (on Willow) are often too close to the road, can be unnerving with traffic. Or sidewalks are not consistent getting from one place to another, crossing parking areas	2/12/2026 8:47 PM
11	Walking and biking safety	2/12/2026 11:37 AM
12	Timing of transfer of road ownership to the village; post-infrastructure improvements would reduce costs. Higher consideration of the local architect's plan (as previously presented by the save Happ Rd Group).	2/12/2026 11:24 AM
13	That it looks a little frumpy	2/12/2026 9:19 AM
14	That the board is not going to do ANYTHING! That Patrick really sees it as more work for him and will do everything to slow walk, advise against using road blocks as county funds, tax base ect	2/11/2026 6:33 PM
15	investing a lot of money with minimal return	2/11/2026 6:14 PM
16	Pedestrian and vehicle safety	2/11/2026 12:04 PM
17	Traffic flow through with stop lights at either end or upcoming bridge construction near the high school.	2/11/2026 8:29 AM
18	The amount of time it will take to do construction	2/11/2026 12:00 AM
19	trucks racing down the residential corridor that would make pedestrian crossings difficult	2/10/2026 11:26 PM
20	Safety for kids on bikes	2/10/2026 8:19 PM
21	Drivers barreling into Happ Road from sides streets, ignoring stop signs.	2/10/2026 4:46 PM
22	No roundabouts	2/10/2026 1:30 PM
23	currently not enough parking spaces at nights on weekends	2/10/2026 1:21 PM
24	Safety	2/10/2026 12:23 PM
25	Cook County wanted to ease the Curve, repair road, put in roundabout, slow traffic, wider sidewalks, better biking, better walking, more parking ... But No, Northfield voted No .. Northfield has no imagination, just wants to continue doing as always done before.	2/10/2026 11:38 AM
26	I do not have any concerns.	2/10/2026 11:21 AM
27	none	2/10/2026 11:04 AM
28	Speed. Lack of brightly lit crossing. The intersection at Winnetka and Happ is so dark at night while walking.	2/10/2026 10:19 AM
29	Speed of drivers. Lighting.	2/10/2026 8:00 AM
30	Because so few improvement have been made to Happ Road Corridor, it's not well laid out for either vehicle or pedestrian traffic. It feels disconnected, is difficult to access, and frankly is just unattractive. It looks more like a pass through than a destination or "town center", which Northfield is sorely lacking. There seems to be a lot of wasted space and room for growth/beautification while keeping with the character of our village. We need only to look at surrounding towns to see the type of businesses we could attract with a little planning and care (and a little less resistance to change).	2/10/2026 7:10 AM
31	Tax going up	2/10/2026 6:37 AM
32	Don't want excessive traffic from improvements.	2/10/2026 6:03 AM
33	I just do not want a round-about.	2/9/2026 9:27 PM
34	A permanent stop light NEEDs to go in at Happ and Winnetka. The traffic is not a concern and moves really well considering the 2 high schools. It's been over 10 years! CRAZY	2/9/2026 9:24 PM

35	Turning left from Orchard to Happ.	2/9/2026 9:11 PM
36	Regarding event closures, is the ability to access existing retail operations during the events.	2/9/2026 9:09 PM
37	Not losing parking for existing enterprises.	2/9/2026 8:13 PM
38	Reducing speed of traffic and improved safety	2/9/2026 8:10 PM
39	The left turn onto Willow road from Happ road. Needs to be redone to more clearly delineate left turn from Southbound left turn lane. Add the roundabout at Orchard lane and Happ for pedestrian and vehicle safety.	2/9/2026 8:06 PM
40	It is ugly	2/9/2026 7:26 PM
41	I think parking and traffic. The Happ Inn takes up most of the parking mid-day and in the early evening, thus leaving others looking for a space to park in order to go to other. locations in the area	2/9/2026 6:28 PM
42	the Edens traffic during rush hour exiting at Tower and traveling Happ to Lake over crowding the neighborhood.	2/9/2026 5:13 PM
43	Depends on what is proposed.	2/9/2026 4:45 PM
44	no curbs continue to be a problem	2/9/2026 4:42 PM
45	Its currently played out to help existing business, but those will not here here in 5 years...need a new village plan	2/9/2026 4:22 PM
46	Making a left (north) turn from the library onto Happ is a little tough. Same issue heading west and turning right from the police dept.	2/9/2026 4:18 PM
47	How wide the road is and how hard it is to cross	2/9/2026 3:36 PM
48	Spending money wastefully	2/9/2026 3:21 PM
49	NO ROUNDABOUT AND NO FOUNTAIN	2/9/2026 3:21 PM
50	Safety of travel and vehicles, especially coming off highway and not familiar with our community	2/9/2026 3:09 PM
51	My biggest concern is the apparent lack of an overarching strategy for Northfield's downtown. On the south end, we have homes with mismatched and unattractive design elements, gravel parking lanes, and what appears to be a cluster of poorly maintained rental properties. The area functions more as a pass-through than a destination, and it detracts from the charm that so many Northfield residents value. On the north end, we're left with an empty lot along defunct train tracks and a large parking lot sitting behind a mini-mall that bears no architectural resemblance to the rest of the village. It feels disconnected — both visually and functionally — from the community around it. What worries me most is that there seems to be little drive or vision for meaningful development. And understandably so: the types of businesses we attract aren't ones that naturally foster community gathering. They are destination-only businesses — places you visit for an appointment and leave, such as a barber, dry cleaner, needlepoint shop, ballroom dance studio, or specialized eyecare provider. These don't encourage people to linger, interact, or build a sense of shared space. If we want a vibrant, engaging downtown that reflects the needs and pride of Northfield residents, we need a more intentional plan — one that prioritizes gathering spaces, cohesive design, and businesses that invite families, kids, and neighbors to spend time in the town they call home.	2/9/2026 3:07 PM
52	Street closings for festivals.	2/9/2026 2:34 PM
53	Beauty. Safety. Inviting.	2/9/2026 2:17 PM
54	none	2/9/2026 2:15 PM
55	crossing Happ Road cost - please be reasonable with improvements and maintenance of improvements.	2/9/2026 2:10 PM
56	Speeding between Winnetka Rd and Willow Rd; Feeling unsafe walking on sidewalks due to close proximity to speeding traffic; difficulty crossing the street as a pedestrian	2/9/2026 2:08 PM
57	not enough parking	2/9/2026 1:41 PM
58	crowded/small parking	2/9/2026 1:32 PM
59	Not enough eating places at the area.	2/9/2026 1:31 PM
60	None	2/9/2026 1:27 PM
61	Expense outweighing the benefits	2/9/2026 1:20 PM
62	Pedestrian, bike and car safety!	2/9/2026 1:17 PM
63	Cost to residents, taxes are already too high and unaffordable	2/9/2026 1:14 PM
64	New Trier still needs to be easy to access from Happ	2/9/2026 1:07 PM
65	Naysayers	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
66	weak downtown area as compared to neighboring towns	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
67	No concern	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
68	Danger for pedestrians	2/9/2026 1:00 PM
69	Increased congestion	2/9/2026 12:58 PM
70	Safwty	2/9/2026 12:56 PM
71	Traffic and speed of vehicles traveling through Northfield	2/9/2026 12:48 PM
72	Cost and construction disruption	2/9/2026 12:46 PM
73	Don't put a roundabout in. Make it look like a destination people want to travel to.	2/9/2026 12:43 PM
74	NOT ENOUGH STORE FRONTS NOT ENOUGH SHOPPING NO INCENTIVE FOR NON RESIDENTS (OR RESIDENTS!) TO VISIT NORTHFIELD	2/9/2026 12:30 PM

75	That any major improvements/enhancements will increase our already too-high property taxes	2/9/2026 12:29 PM
76	Poor pavement, eyesore old buildings north of Willow, no uniformity of design or uniqueness.	2/9/2026 12:27 PM
77	Hoping for grocery store at old Mariano's site	2/9/2026 12:24 PM
78	No concerns other than I don't want to pay higher taxes to make the corridor look better.	2/9/2026 12:16 PM
79	It's kind of hidden and dated, no signage and lackluster in appearance.	2/9/2026 12:13 PM
80	That nothing at all will be attempted - again	2/9/2026 12:06 PM
81	Orchard lane and Happ needs a round about nothing fancy	2/9/2026 12:06 PM
82	Traffic and unsightliness	2/9/2026 12:05 PM
83	The intersection (Willow Rd and Happ Rd) is my biggest concern. There are many traffic and the left turn is always not easy due to visibility issue and heavy traffic.	2/9/2026 12:05 PM
84	None really. I'm all for making things nicer, but it depends on the cost and what we're getting.	2/9/2026 12:04 PM
85	Don't really have concerns--not really broken so does not need alot of fixing	2/9/2026 12:02 PM
86	There really is not much available that attracts me to shop or eat in Northfield. Parking is a huge concern especially during the holidays.	2/9/2026 12:01 PM
87	Safety	2/9/2026 12:00 PM
88	Lack of cohesive downtown that attracts residents.	2/9/2026 11:56 AM
89	Traffic	2/9/2026 11:55 AM
90	People do not abide by traffic signs like stop signs/lights in this area.	2/9/2026 11:52 AM
91	Just not inviting. Nothing good about Al Fresco dining in a parking lot.	2/9/2026 11:48 AM
92	safety is top priority road is falling apart	2/9/2026 11:47 AM
93	I would like to see less of a strip mall feel and more of a downtown feel for the corridor.	2/9/2026 11:46 AM
94	terrible traffic congestion/speed/lack of restrictions in area of library, village hall, shopping south of library	2/9/2026 11:43 AM
95	I recall conversation about a traffic circle ... people are idiot drivers already as it is ... I feel like the majority go mentally numb when faced with a roundabout - would not recommend.	2/9/2026 11:40 AM
96	Crossing Happ Road by the Library	2/9/2026 11:37 AM
97	the intersection of happ/orchard/walnut	2/9/2026 11:36 AM
98	Unsure	2/9/2026 11:36 AM
99	Traffic, safety, ability to draw retailers	2/9/2026 11:35 AM
100	No traffic enforcement!	2/9/2026 11:35 AM
101	Speed of commuter traffic doing 45-55 on Willow approaching the corridor from East and West	2/9/2026 11:35 AM
102	The County's plan to expand Happ Road and buying up land from current homes.	2/8/2026 11:51 PM
103	Willow is so attractive during the holidays with the lights and the park are very festive. And the bridges either the light and evergreen branches!! It would be nice on Happ too.	2/8/2026 8:42 PM
104	Cosmetic changes without real impact	2/8/2026 4:19 PM
105	I think one of our biggest problems is that parking is in front of stores, not behind them. It's awkward to have the parking lot in front of Happ Inn, etc., and not behind it. Same with the other side. The whole site is unpleasing. It's a haphazard layout.	2/8/2026 4:11 PM
106	Walking and bike paths are not functional as they should be.	2/8/2026 11:12 AM
107	Need permanent traffic lights at Happ&Winnetka Rds Talk about eyesore! The temporary stoplights have been in place too long.	2/7/2026 4 49 PM
108	I was in favor of the roundabout. I am in my 30s and an experienced driver. I have two small kids in car seats and I get so anxious when I have to drive cross from village hall to library. And I choose to drive because I feel safer doing that then walking with my kids.	2/7/2026 3:01 PM
109	Failure to maintain roads and property to enhance community. Out sourcing work and repairs rather than using Public Works.	2/7/2026 1:34 PM
110	Residential corridor over the years has not been maintained well by property owners(Lawn cutting, weed control,driveway seal coating). 95% of driveway aprons have not been maintained by property owners. There are many green phone/cable boxes on the parkways all along the corridor in terrible conditions.	2/7/2026 12:24 PM
111	Speed limit, turning half road into having parking on the street.	2/7/2026 11:40 AM
112	Village interfering with a good situation	2/7/2026 9:38 AM
113	That the project will be done incorrectly, which will have lasting effects on our village.	2/7/2026 8:55 AM
114	Road pavement is terrible, a real eyesore. Speed of traffic on Happ. Crosswalk at Mt. Pleasant would be helpful.	2/7/2026 7:58 AM
115	Getting a grocery store in place of marianos	2/7/2026 1:02 AM
116	Cost to home owners access to parking and signage for people who don't know the area Happ and Winnetka Rd. intersection stop lights do not line up	2/6/2026 9:37 PM
117	Accessibility and sidewalks to promote walk ability for families and kids. The bridge opens up to the commercial side, but the accessibility does not connect through.	2/6/2026 6:45 PM
118	Village expenditure.	2/6/2026 6:37 PM
119	Protecting property rights for Happ owners (County plan to exercise rt. of eminent domain);	2/6/2026 5:22 PM

	appearance of Winn/Happ intersection; navigation at n. end.	
120	Speed and traffic	2/6/2026 2:51 PM
121	Need to make better decisions on what goes into the vacancies	2/6/2026 2:51 PM
122	Walkable safety	2/6/2026 1:56 PM
123	Cost	2/6/2026 12:16 PM
124	Safety for pedestrians and bikers limit the use	2/6/2026 11:22 AM
125	It could become too industrialized and not keep and cultivate charm. If it is easier to access by foot, vehicle or bike with attractive shops and restaurants that are not chains, it could attract people from local neighborhoods as well as provide a wonderful place for Northfield families and teens to gather	2/6/2026 9:14 AM
126	Biggest safety concern is crossing Happ Rd at intersection from library to Metamorphosis.	2/6/2026 9:00 AM
127	It's unattractive and lacking in stores and restaurants.	2/6/2026 8:54 AM
128	No consistency in the town's commercial aesthetics	2/6/2026 8:10 AM
129	Pedestrian crossing	2/5/2026 11:00 PM
130	NO ROUNDABOUT!!!	2/5/2026 10:12 PM
131	I would like to see incentives some of the vacant office spaces torn down or repurposed into higher density housing. It would be good for Northfield.	2/5/2026 9:32 PM
132	In	2/5/2026 9:02 PM
133	It's fine as is.	2/5/2026 8:27 PM
134	That no improvements are made to the intersection that has so many access points	2/5/2026 6:58 PM
135	It is NOT broken so don't mess with it !!!	2/5/2026 1:16 PM
136	Losing the neighborhood feel of closeness and familiarity with residents.	2/5/2026 12:46 PM
137	Lack of consistent sidewalks and vehicular and pedestrian crossing	2/5/2026 11:21 AM
138	Safety	2/5/2026 10:49 AM
139	Pot holes	2/5/2026 10:35 AM
140	It just doesn't have that purposeful feel of a dedicated walkable downtown area. It feels crammed into the space, the parking isn't great and we would never walk there as it seems to feel like we'd be walking past a too busy street, with inconsistent sidewalks, not much tree cover (uncomfortable in the sun in the summer)	2/5/2026 9:42 AM
141	There is nothing interesting to go there just to go	2/5/2026 7:42 AM
142	congestion, safety	2/4/2026 9:16 PM
143	The expense of a project on the tax payers and the need to slow the speed limit being an issue with all of the road restrictions and ownership rights.	2/4/2026 7:56 PM
144	speed of traffic around curve	2/4/2026 7:52 PM
145	spending needless money for changes that aren't necessary	2/4/2026 2:53 PM
146	My biggest concern about the Happ Road Corridor is that it feels uninviting and lacks a sense of place. Despite its potential, driving through the area feels empty and forgettable rather than active or welcoming. The corridor could support restaurants, local shops, and family-friendly spaces that encourage people to spend time there, not just pass through. Thoughtful design elements such as distinctive streetscaping or pedestrian-focused features similar to Elm Street in Winnetka could help create a more "homey" atmosphere. Nearby communities like Wilmette demonstrate how activity, walkability, and local dining can transform a corridor into a vibrant destination where families feel comfortable biking, gathering, and eating together.	2/4/2026 12:30 PM
147	That we will spend money just to spend it	2/4/2026 10:03 AM
148	That you would put a turnabout in. Not needed or good idea.	2/4/2026 9:53 AM
149	Overspending making unnecessary changes. We are still a small village and we need to preserve that character.	2/4/2026 9:30 AM
150	I'm concerned that the "development and beautification" will price the current small independent businesses out of the market. They are a key ingredient that gives the Village its sense of community. To name a few: the Northfield Restaurant, Three Tarts, Stormy's, U Dawg U . . . From a residential standpoint, it will accelerate tear downs and "gentrification" of the neighborhood that will ultimately result in a loss of diversity - which is another key ingredient in the character of the town. . . Having the people who work here able to live here.	2/4/2026 9:16 AM
151	Needs more crosswalks.	2/4/2026 9:13 AM
152	The volume of traffic - it's horrendous from 3pm-6pm. Much too busy for a small village.	2/4/2026 9:08 AM
153	Congestion	2/4/2026 7:53 AM
154	Cost now and future cost since we are taking an ownership of the road	2/3/2026 9:44 PM
155	Currently it doesn't feel safe to walk around in and is not visually attractive. There is also so much parking taking up retail space - is there another way to utilize all that space on happ and behind the old Mariano's lot? What is the status of the new tenant there? Would love to see the businesses across from the library redone - not visually appealing and doesn't seem to maximize space in that area.	2/3/2026 9:26 PM
156	Lack of stop signs. There are none between Willow Road and Winnetka Ave. There should be one at the intersection of Happ and Walnut and at the curve.	2/3/2026 9:00 PM
157	I don't want a roundabout.	2/3/2026 8:56 PM
158	The choices we have in restaurants and shops are not great. There are much better options in	2/3/2026 6:29 PM

	Glenview, Northbrook, Winnetka, and Wilmette, so we usually go to those towns.	
159	Lack of quality, restaurants, and retail.	2/3/2026 6:09 PM
160	Creating more traffic and noise.	2/3/2026 5:54 PM
161	Cost to tax payers. However look at Wilmette, very successful restaurant area. Glenview is giving tax incentives for restaurants	2/3/2026 5:21 PM
162	Main concern is to NOT to install a traffic circle. Leave the roadways as they exist. Don't plant and trees to block vision upon vehicle entrance to the roadway. There is plenty of free public parking south of the library and Post Office. Don't screw that up!!!!	2/3/2026 4:50 PM
163	The strip malls with parking in front is not aesthetically pleasing	2/3/2026 4:47 PM
164	Road condition	2/3/2026 4:36 PM
165	Safety, its not very neighborhood friendly like neighboring towns (winnetka, glencoe, Wilmette)	2/3/2026 4:23 PM
166	Parking and traffic	2/3/2026 4:08 PM
167	Jump in taxes if taken from Cook County.	2/3/2026 3:33 PM
168	In its current state- new businesses aren't interested and Northfield lags behind our peer communities	2/3/2026 2:44 PM
169	Very confusing intersection at Orchard and Happ, traffic speeding off Willow, going south on Happ	2/3/2026 2:23 PM
170	safety and appearance	2/3/2026 2:18 PM
171	Length of construction project and disturbance to traffic follow during the project	2/3/2026 1:25 PM
172	Lack of lighting & truck traffic.	2/3/2026 1:20 PM
173	lack of identity	2/3/2026 1:11 PM
174	Vehicles not stopping at stop sign on old orchard by the police station	2/3/2026 1:08 PM
175	NIMBY opposition to progress is a serious problem. I thought the roundabout plan was generally well conceived and enhanced safety. Meanwhile, New Trier was allowed to expand lighted playfields without series efforts to allow public input to mitigate impact on neighbors. Use the opportunity to create a better sense of place and a downtown feel.	2/3/2026 1:07 PM
176	IT needs to be dressed up at a minimum, the buildings/shops in the are have done a nice job of upgrading and the county has not kept up. Take it form them and do what needs to be done.	2/3/2026 1:04 PM
177	Eliminating congestion and improving visibility at the intersection Happ Road and Winnetka Road by widening the roads in that segment. Left turn signals.	2/3/2026 12:05 PM
178	I have no concerns. It seems that the village is on a "make work" mission.	2/3/2026 11:54 AM
179	Our downtown area is underutilized. Clarkson Park is fantastic, but our downtown leaves much to be desired. We need more restaurants, shops, and a dessert place. Too many empty storefronts and unfrequented businesses.	2/3/2026 11:47 AM
180	Lighting	2/3/2026 11:39 AM
181	Taking away the feel of a small community	2/3/2026 11:27 AM
182	Current layout is clunky and the visuals are not commensurate with the high quality community that Northfield is. Glencoe, Winnetka, and Kenilworth have done well with keeping their towns beautiful.	2/3/2026 11:15 AM
183	I do think flashing crosswalks would be an improvement for safety, particularly after the tragic death of the woman walking her dog by the Village Square. Many drivers are distracted and the fact that there are not a ton of pedestrians as is makes the ones that are walking even more vulnerable, because drivers aren't used to seeing many pedestrians and having to account for that. More organized and improved parking areas would be helpful. Winding through the lot behind Stormy's (which could really use repaving) is tricky and probably not the safest. Generally speaking, I find that lunchtime is the hardest time to find a spot.	2/3/2026 11:11 AM
184	None	2/3/2026 11:09 AM
185	Ugly and through fare for high school and traffic not stopping in our village for commerce	2/3/2026 11:08 AM
186	Nothing, I think it's a great pathway to some of the best Northfield has to offer. Relocating public buildings to Northfield Road or next to the fire station on Winnetka road could open up valuable commerical locations.	2/3/2026 10:56 AM
187	The cost for taxpayers	2/3/2026 10:53 AM
188	Business district is too disjointed. Parking lot is in the center of town which creates islands of retail and restaurants.	2/3/2026 10:52 AM
189	Old tired businesses and no convenient walking corridor	2/3/2026 10:48 AM
190	Safety.	2/3/2026 10:45 AM
191	No Roundabout	2/3/2026 10:37 AM
192	It isn't walkable. It's very unpleasant to navigate through the commercial corridor on foot - unclear where the crosswalks are, feeling unsafe/rushed at crosswalks	2/3/2026 10:12 AM
193	If Northfield takes over Happ Road from Cook County, I would want Northfield to commit to upkeep of the road (surfacing, plowing, etc).	2/3/2026 10:09 AM
194	Cost and who is covering the cost?	2/3/2026 10:00 AM
195	It, along with Frontage Rd, have been turned into alternates to the Edens. Traffic flies through the corridor. The light at Winnetka Rd was always a bad idea, it was safer when everyone had to stop at the intersection.	2/3/2026 9:56 AM
196	Cost overruns that may impact taxes. Appearance changes that may be achieved through	2/3/2026 9:13 AM

	lower cost means such as lighting and signage.	
197	I loved the round-a-bout idea. Great way to make traffic, auto and pedestrian, flow. It's a shame most of the residents didn't see the benefit.	2/3/2026 8:51 AM
198	Not attractive for the NF downtown so not as much incentive to visit and support business than there is in neighboring towns. We find ourselves going to Winnetka a lot.	2/3/2026 8:42 AM
199	speed, parking, aesthetics	2/3/2026 8:38 AM
200	Safety of kids	2/3/2026 8:28 AM
201	The threatened round about	2/3/2026 8:22 AM
202	None	2/3/2026 7:36 AM
203	Safety	2/3/2026 7:28 AM
204	There is no safe pedestrian crossing from the library side to the police station side. We need a flashing light that stops traffic. Potholes are concerning overall road quality is bad.	2/3/2026 7:17 AM
205	Safety for pedestrians Visibility around curves Speed limit Walk ability in winter months with snow and ice	2/3/2026 6:34 AM
206	Traffic	2/3/2026 6:19 AM
207	Too many multi-family units being built, traffic congestion.	2/3/2026 6:13 AM
208	Get the bike trail built 1st bring more people to downtown and the Happ project needs will fall into place	2/3/2026 5:59 AM
209	Walkability. Parking. Lighting.	2/3/2026 12:16 AM
210	Protecting the value of residences along Happ Road. Not allowing diminished front yards.	2/2/2026 11:17 PM
211	The prior proposed "improvements" are based on unqualified data and decision makers.	2/2/2026 11:15 PM
212	Heard rumor that Sunst Foods deal was not happening. Need to have a local grocery store to anchor the neighborhood and allow the possibility of conducting all transactions in town. It would also be nice to have the farmers market return to Saturday mornings. Wednesdays at Clarkson are all about the bands/entertainment, and it is too hard to shop during business hours on Wednesday afternoon, so I have never attended these events while the farmers market was still open.	2/2/2026 10:56 PM
213	Safety and improving the look.	2/2/2026 10:40 PM
214	I don't think a roundabout is necessary or helpful.	2/2/2026 9:57 PM
215	Sorry about the residents that will lose some of their front yard. But, it needs to be done.	2/2/2026 9:56 PM
216	Massive change (e.g. roundabout or over engineered driver centric changes) turning the area into congestion from non-residents making use by residents more challenging. Or worse, cash grab from forcing in a dispensary to drive village revenue over value to community.	2/2/2026 9:02 PM
217	That people still do not understand that we are NOT talking about a Roundabout! Why are people still obsessed.	2/2/2026 8:51 PM
218	Safety - especially for pedestrians	2/2/2026 8:48 PM
219	Lack of attractions and/or family friendly places to eat	2/2/2026 8:42 PM
220	noise of the vehicle travel by	2/2/2026 8:21 PM
221	none	2/2/2026 8:14 PM
222	Need more residential to support more retail	2/2/2026 8:11 PM
223	Those who do not obey the current speed, parking, and right way per Illinois law.	2/2/2026 8:06 PM
224	Cost	2/2/2026 8:05 PM
225	We live on Colonial Lane and cars often speed down Happ Road and it's impossible to see them because of how the road curves. There should be a sign that shows the car's speed to remind people to slow down.	2/2/2026 7:58 PM
226	traffic flows and parking along with better/more dining options	2/2/2026 7:52 PM
227	do not want roundabout!!!	2/2/2026 7:42 PM
228	See above.	2/2/2026 7:22 PM
229	COST. Nothing is needed if it raises our taxes even by a dollar. Spending is out of control already.	2/2/2026 7:16 PM
230	Visibility of pedestrians to drivers.	2/2/2026 7:11 PM
231	Safety of pedestrians and traffic	2/2/2026 6:59 PM
232	Tax burden if village took over	2/2/2026 6:50 PM
233	The corridor looks outdated and doesn't feel like a downtown. It feels like an afterthought.	2/2/2026 6:49 PM
234	It does not look like a place that I want to visit. Too limited.	2/2/2026 6:44 PM
235	Safe and ability to move within our town and enjoy it with my family.	2/2/2026 6:42 PM
236	That there will never be consensus in our community about how to go about improving this area. Right now it's unsafe and after years of discussion we are no closer to making it better.	2/2/2026 6:41 PM
237	Creating more traffic backups at the Willow and Happ intersection.	2/2/2026 6:37 PM
238	Keeping it charming, please don't overbuild it but improve parking if possible	2/2/2026 6:37 PM
239	No roundabouts, no trucks	2/2/2026 6:36 PM
240	stores closing	2/2/2026 6:23 PM

241	Spending for no real benefit	2/2/2026 6:22 PM
242	Unsafe walking and driving condition	2/2/2026 6:17 PM
243	Bicycles (there have been a few times I didn't know one was behind me until it was upon me) and e-bikes (it scares me to see them in the street at night-I'm afraid an auto will hit one). I do love the "small town" vibe of Northfield, and I would hate to see it become more commercial.	2/2/2026 6:15 PM
244	Expense of unnecessary work (traffic circle, extensive/expensive landscaping)	2/2/2026 6:14 PM
245	Speed of traffic and trucks	2/2/2026 5:57 PM
246	North of Willow could use a major redevelopment.	2/2/2026 5:55 PM
247	not turning it into something not useful or appropriate - like the roundabout idea	2/2/2026 5:51 PM
248	None	2/2/2026 5:51 PM
249	Need to drive to access both sides of the shopping and the buildings are not very attractive on the west side.	2/2/2026 5:49 PM
250	That developers are going to destroy the uniqueness of the Village, making it anywhere USA. The threat to tear down long-existing businesses, such as Bess Hardware, make me nervous. The idea of adding a hotel at the corner of Willow and Central is ridiculous.	2/2/2026 5:39 PM
251	Need a little more parking for the Happ Inn, Three Tarts, Stormy's, Metamorphosis and Taco Nano.	2/2/2026 5:33 PM
252	safety, the willow road intersection at Village Hall is dangerous with its N-S offset	2/2/2026 5:28 PM
253	Use to reduce the traffic on Sunset Ridge Road	2/2/2026 5:28 PM
254	It's ugly and dangerous ...	2/2/2026 5:21 PM
255	Ugliness and no cohesive design elements	2/2/2026 5:10 PM
256	Intersection at Happ and Orchard is very awkward, especially for bicycles. I now avoid it and travel south to Winnetka Rd and cross at Happ there, feels safer.	2/2/2026 5:08 PM
257	people not paying attention to the speed limit. Thats why lowering the speed limit would not matter	2/2/2026 5:06 PM
258	Need to avoid wasting tax payers money	2/2/2026 5:00 PM
259	cost of improvements	2/2/2026 4:57 PM
260	Grocery store replacement!	2/2/2026 4:56 PM
261	do not want to hinder or compromise existing businesses. they should be a priority	2/2/2026 4:56 PM
262	intersection from the post office, Village Hall, and shopping strip where the Happ Inn is located	2/2/2026 4:55 PM
263	None	2/2/2026 4:48 PM
264	the sidewalk is too close to the road on the curve. Remove the box of wires that is tipped over. Fill it pot holes along sides of road	2/2/2026 4:46 PM
265	Status quo does not invite new investment	2/2/2026 4:42 PM
266	Water main upgrade and safer raising options	2/2/2026 4:40 PM
267	There's no consistency of style that identifies the corridor.	2/2/2026 4:40 PM
268	NO traffic circle, no fountain. Need to improve road maintenance, line of sight and multiple intersecting streets near Village Hall and shops. As long as Happ road is a thoroughfare for NT west, traffic will always be an issue at certain times of the day however in order to keep Happ Road from becoming another Willow Road, consideration needs to be taken to improve safety without losing the small town qualities that make Northfield special	2/2/2026 4:39 PM
269	Truth and transparency. Appearance versus reality of the situation. The historical agreements that have already been signed and the lack of transparency that has created the current situation remains my biggest concern regarding the Happ Road Corridor. Suffice to say, the speeds of vehicles, the weight, and contents of loads (including HAZMAT and vehicle transports) being pulled through our Village has changed significantly over the past decade.	2/2/2026 4:38 PM
270	Do NOT put a round-about on Happ Road.	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
271	Currently disjointed. A few successes like taco nano, peach tree, 3 tarts, U-dog Metamorphosis, but otherwise a bit random. Not walkable like Hubbard Woods or Winnetka shopping	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
272	Safety first and the creating a space where people want to congregate. Look to The Glen for ideas.	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
273	Safety at the Happ Rd/Orchard Lane intersection. Not building the roundabout was the popular opinion but probably wrong one from a civil engineering perspective.	2/2/2026 4:34 PM
274	Overdevelopment on Central generating more traffic on Happ, resulting in a thoroughfare in the future. There seems to be little vision or initiative on the part of the village to attract businesses that reflect Northfield's character and needs. For example, how many fitness facilities that serve relatively few residents should we really have in such a concentrated area?	2/2/2026 4:34 PM
275	No roundabout	2/2/2026 4:32 PM
276	Needs to look nicer.	2/2/2026 4:29 PM
277	Safety for pedestrian crossing	2/2/2026 4:28 PM
278	Traffic safety	2/2/2026 4:28 PM
279	The dangerous corner at Happ Road and the Library. Seen two accidents and pedestrian nearly hit by a car. The crosswalks are too wide / far to the other side.	2/2/2026 4:22 PM
280	Speeding, noise, safety	2/2/2026 4:22 PM

281	Pedestrian street crossing	2/2/2026 4:21 PM
282	It's on attractive doesn't have many attractive venues, not enough restaurants, not very interesting.	2/2/2026 4:21 PM
283	Congestion and appearance	2/2/2026 4:20 PM
284	That you keep trying to remake the road itself when it's really just fine as it is.	2/2/2026 4:19 PM
285	Not to widen it to accommodate more traffic	2/2/2026 4:18 PM
286	none	2/2/2026 4:17 PM
287	Trying to meet too many people's needs and then not adding value to the community.	2/2/2026 4:15 PM
288	I'm not sure I have any concerns. I think any enhancement will benefit Northfield.	2/2/2026 4:14 PM
289	intersection by police station/spa and happ is dangerous. Lots of accidents or possible accidents	2/2/2026 4:09 PM
290	safety	2/2/2026 4:04 PM
291	safety of my family when accessing from nearby residential	2/2/2026 4:03 PM
292	The cost.	2/2/2026 4:03 PM
293	It's not enticing to visit.	2/2/2026 3:59 PM
294	Pedestrian and vehicular safety	2/2/2026 3:59 PM
295	Safety	2/2/2026 3:56 PM
296	Intersection of Happ Rd & Winnetka Ave needs to be addressed-permanent traffic standards, not lights dangling from lines	2/2/2026 3:54 PM
297	I was happy with the Cook County proposal for the roundabout, but felt the conversation was totally taken over by unhappy homeowners on Happ Road who would have been impacted, and spread a lot of fear and panic. I want to be clear about what our Village will now owe the state/Cook County for the time spent and expense incurred in their efforts to implement that plan; and what is Northfield's financial responsibility if we take over that road?	2/2/2026 3:54 PM
298	None. It's fine as is.	2/2/2026 3:53 PM
299	No roundabout!	2/2/2026 3:52 PM
300	Condition of roadway-potholes	2/2/2026 3:51 PM
301	Parking, Parking & more Parking	2/2/2026 3:48 PM
302	It needs the kind of mixed use improvement currently underway North of Willow on Central.	2/2/2026 3:43 PM
303	Negative impact on property values along Happ	2/2/2026 3:43 PM
304	Safety.	2/2/2026 3:42 PM
305	Creating a community like downtown feel.	2/2/2026 3:41 PM
306	Personally I liked the roundabout - it addressed safety and mobility concerns - it should be reconsidered now that east side parking is available for the disgruntled business owners	2/2/2026 3:40 PM
307	Northfield would be getting "too big" and commercialized. Keep it small, quiet & private.	2/2/2026 3:39 PM
308	It's taking too long to enhance the downtown area on Happ Road, not enough Qualitydining options, and shops	2/2/2026 3:38 PM
309	Pedestrian safety	2/2/2026 3:35 PM
310	Sidewalks and inconsistencies Willow rd left turn heading north specifically but both ways - very dangerous and confusing heading north Turn lanes and lack of turn lanes Orchard/Happ intersection	2/2/2026 3:35 PM
311	Safety	2/2/2026 3:34 PM
312	Given Willow Road as an interstate exit, Happ Road breaks up what could be 'small town area' for the community; an area that links the park west	2/2/2026 3:33 PM
313	Increased commercial and commuter traffic	2/2/2026 3:30 PM
314	There is a need for a standard stoplight with left turn signal at Winnetka Ave. and Happ Road.	2/2/2026 3:29 PM
315	See above	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
316	Speed reduction. I think the current speed it fine.	2/2/2026 3:27 PM
317	Bad design is worse than no changes.	2/2/2026 3:26 PM
318	No round about.	2/2/2026 3:25 PM
319	Safety	2/2/2026 3:25 PM
320	Safety at the five point intersection while driving, walking and biking through that area. Too many people driving fast.	2/2/2026 3:25 PM
321	if village takes over ,do you have money to repave road every 7 to 10 years	2/2/2026 3:23 PM
322	Costs / Budget / Impact on Taxes.	2/2/2026 3:22 PM
323	Our village should be very walkable, and that's a selling point, but the safety on Happ is an issue (my husband and I do walk to Happ, but crossing Happ is dangerous). We'd also like to see more dine-in restaurants to make it a real option.	2/2/2026 3:21 PM
324	pedestrian safety	2/2/2026 3:20 PM
325	NO Roundabout.	2/2/2026 3:20 PM
326	none	2/2/2026 3:20 PM

327	Failure to make improvements, not having a supermarket to replace Mariano's.	2/2/2026 3:17 PM
328	Would love a walking-friendly town square area protected from the busy willow intersections	2/2/2026 3:17 PM
329	The whole area is an eyesore. From Willow Road South for about a 1/4 mile on both the East & West Sides. Buy up all the property. Tear is all down. Build something that looks like the Glenn, but maybe with not so wide of streets. Condos on top of retail such as 2-3-4 flats. Small town square. Biggest hurdle would probably be funding a parking garage to accomodate.	2/2/2026 3:16 PM
330	Vehicle speed	2/2/2026 3:16 PM
331	hoping for more restaurants / businesses with appropriate parking and safety	2/2/2026 3:15 PM
332	Don't have major issues	2/2/2026 3:15 PM
333	none	2/2/2026 3:14 PM
334	maintain the existing parking for businesses	2/2/2026 3:14 PM
335	lengthy construction	2/2/2026 3:14 PM
336	not safe for pedestrians	2/2/2026 3:13 PM
337	Lowering speed limit is only relevant if it is enforced. There is no speed limit enforcement on Willow between Happ and Waukegan...not even a mannequin in a parked police vehicle. If a truck weight limit is imposed and enforced, where will the trucks go..into clearly residential areas instead (i.e., Wagner, Sunset Ridge, Winnetka). Please do not spend tax dollars on beautification projects that will not be used by anyone.	2/2/2026 3:13 PM
338	Speed of vehicles and pedestrian safety.	2/2/2026 3:12 PM
339	none, just do gooders needing something to complain about.	2/2/2026 3:12 PM
340	ROI	2/2/2026 3:10 PM
341	None	2/2/2026 3:09 PM
342	Costs to taxpayers	2/2/2026 3:08 PM
343	Safety	2/2/2026 3:07 PM
344	Traffic	2/2/2026 3:06 PM
345	Too much pass through traffic, dangerous crossings	2/2/2026 10:32 AM

Q20 Do you have any other ideas, suggestions or concerns that you would like the Committee to consider?

Answered: 236 Skipped: 657

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	While not right on the corridor, the empty Marianos property is an eyesore and needs to be addressed. Incorporating that property in any changes to the corridor would be great.	2/16/2026 2:39 PM
2	Depending on what happens with the old Mariano's site, it seems like there may be an opportunity to do some kind of pedestrian friendly redevelopment with that site and its parking and the adjacent parking lot across the old tracks and that nearby commercial building, especially if a bike trail is developed through there on the old tracks (which I think it's supposed to be at some point)? It would be nice to have that be a walkable area full of restaurants with outside space and shops too.	2/16/2026 9:17 AM
3	For the love of God, no more bond-dependent initiatives.	2/15/2026 2:27 PM
4	Full time crossing guards at Wagner and Willow on both sides of Willow.	2/15/2026 10:01 AM
5	Sorry that the roundabout did not get approved	2/13/2026 5:23 PM
6	Get ahead of the coming water issues. Demand better maintenance	2/13/2026 11:34 AM
7	For the question regarding taking ownership of the Happ Rd corridor, I would want any infrastructure improvements to be completed prior to Northfield taking ownership	2/12/2026 11:37 AM
8	Thanks to each of you on the committee! Lengthen the crosswalk time at Willow & Happ.	2/12/2026 11:24 AM
9	Just make everything pretty & light & inviting	2/12/2026 11:02 AM
10	I like the idea of another restaurant or a cafe	2/12/2026 9:19 AM
11	That you meet with the county and see what funds are available and how they can participate.. we do find the county they work for us	2/11/2026 6:33 PM
12	Visibility making sure car drivers don't have their vision blocked by landscaping. Clear road markings.	2/11/2026 8:29 AM
13	Turning onto Happ Road coming out of the colonial Lane condos is actually extremely dangerous. The cars coming around the bend do not see the driveway easily and I've seen numerous accidents almost happened.	2/11/2026 12:00 AM
14	n/a	2/10/2026 1:21 PM
15	A flashing light that allows those who park on the west side of Happ Rd to cross safely.	2/10/2026 12:23 PM
16	I do not expect the Committee to make any good suggestions. No imaginations. No changes. The Roundabout would have proven me wrong. I have found that most people want to be told what to do, not come up with ideas and use their brains.	2/10/2026 11:38 AM
17	I still like the idea of a round-about.	2/10/2026 11:27 AM
18	Destroying lawns after snow plowing.	2/10/2026 8:00 AM
19	Northfield would benefit from an elevated/niche mix of small businesses that would fill dining and retail gaps and work well with other existing Northfield establishments like Happ Inn and Stormy's. Valley Lodge didn't close in Wilmette when Sophia Steak and Pit & Tap opened across the street. Elevated and local can and do work together. We live on Steeple Chase Lane and it's a common joke among people on the streets off of Sunset Ridge that when our kids have friends over from other towns their big activity is "walking to the gas station". Even our Starbucks is notoriously difficult for kids to access (village lore says it was given that location so it wouldn't compete with other small businesses in Happ Corridor). Most residents I talk to want a place to grab a glass of wine with a friend or to sit outside on a summer night or where their kids can ride their bikes with friends. We should look at the surrounding towns and apply that model through a Northfield lens so we don't lose the brand identity of our village. We don't need a strip mall feel or low budget chains filling the corridor and it could be incredibly detrimental if we went that route while all the surrounding towns are going in the opposite direction.	2/10/2026 7:10 AM
20	No	2/10/2026 6:37 AM
21	Rent for small businesses should be reduced for Northfield residents. We would like to contribute to the community, but not at such high costs.	2/10/2026 6:03 AM
22	Fix the potholes and better curb appeal but protect the homeowners on Happ Rd	2/9/2026 9:24 PM
23	Traffic Circle	2/9/2026 9:11 PM
24	NO ROUNDABOUT	2/9/2026 9:09 PM
25	There is a great opportunity to create a more vibrant, walkable Happ Road corridor. It would help create a greater sense of community as we currently lack a traditional downtown compared to surrounding towns. It would also attract more business to the area.	2/9/2026 8:20 PM
26	Site lines at Happ and Winnetka roads. Cars speed down Winnetka road and often run red lights.	2/9/2026 8:06 PM
27	Can they place the parking lots behind the buildings instead of on Happ	2/9/2026 7:26 PM
28	Not at the moment.	2/9/2026 6:28 PM
29	I'd like to see more restaurant options to make Northfield a destination. Also, need a grocery store. Why should we travel to other communities to do this - we do NOT need a Binnys or similar. We need options for our community.	2/9/2026 4:45 PM

30	no sweeping changes. don't screw up Happ Rd. like Winnetka did with their downtown	2/9/2026 4:42 PM
31	yes, move city hall and the police department to public works site! creating a new footprint for the downtown	2/9/2026 4:22 PM
32	I think the village will appreciate anything the board does to improve the corridor, as it has a lot of potential, but it's current condition is sad.	2/9/2026 4:18 PM
33	NO ROUNDABOUT AND NO FOUNTAIN	2/9/2026 3:21 PM
34	When you drive through downtown Winnetka or Glencoe, you immediately notice the intentional investment in seasonal florals, small parks, and inviting green spaces designed for people to gather. Both communities encourage walking—just like Northfield—but unlike here, people actually do walk. Their downtowns feel vibrant, connected, and alive. Ours, by contrast, has several areas that feel neglected or forgotten. A consistent design vision and a real commitment to beautification would make an enormous difference. I'm certain you see the same empty or underutilized spaces and visual "gaps" that I do as you drive through town. There are so many small, achievable steps that could transform these areas into places residents would genuinely enjoy: - Fill the windows of the old bank next to Metamorphosis with local art or community displays. - Clean up and beautify the area around PNS. - Activate the green space east of the police department—add a fence, host food trucks in the summer, set up picnic tables, or create a rotating food-truck calendar. - Add twinkle lights, seating areas, bike racks, and outdoor music near the fountain to make it a true gathering place. Northfield has the raw space—and the potential—to create the same sense of charm and community that surrounding towns already offer. What's missing is a cohesive vision and a commitment to bringing people together in the spaces we already have.	2/9/2026 3:07 PM
35	It would be nice to have a cohesive feel to the Happ Corridor.	2/9/2026 2:37 PM
36	No thank you.	2/9/2026 2:34 PM
37	Seems like is answer searching for a problem	2/9/2026 2:15 PM
38	maybe Orchard Road should be ONE WAY in as you head north - and NO LEFT TURN on to Orchard from Happ? There are too many places on Happ where you have drivers coming from all directions. The in/out for the plaza with Zengelers, for example, faces the in/out for the plaza with Peachtree & 3 Tarts. There are ways to improve parking flow with one way in and one way out. Function matters most, and it is a bonus if it looks nice.	2/9/2026 2:10 PM
39	I supported the roundabout and was saddened the community did not vote positively in favor of this neighborhood enhancement.	2/9/2026 2:08 PM
40	Rather than lower the speed limit to 25mph, enforce the 30mph limit we have now.	2/9/2026 1:37 PM
41	improve visibility of the community events board at the corner of willow and happ	2/9/2026 1:32 PM
42	Support the Northfield library branch. Feel the empty former Marianos store space with another grocery store.	2/9/2026 1:31 PM
43	What are the pros and cons of taking ownership away from the state?	2/9/2026 1:18 PM
44	It would be better if there was a way to remake the downtown along the lines of Winnetka or Glencoe where the businesses and village entities are together and there isn't a main, high-traffic, high speed thoroughfare running through it. Don't know how it could be done.	2/9/2026 1:17 PM
45	Northfield needs many more effective means for pedestrians to cross safely	2/9/2026 1:14 PM
46	Do everything possible to bring in businesses, restaurants, bars, cafes, shops, and beautify the area	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
47	There are restrictions on home improvement, city is not comfortable to adding or improving homes! This is my experience, lets let the people improve their place first living beautiful and it will make city beautiful I have never seen city is checking storm drains , Suggesting: send a pepper survey for every	2/9/2026 1:01 PM
48	Public garden for growing vegetables and fruits like in Glencoe	2/9/2026 1:00 PM
49	I would love a walkable downtown area.	2/9/2026 12:58 PM
50	THE VILLAGE HAS FAILED TO PROVIDE OUR COMMUNITY THE ESSENTIAL BASICS - THERE IS NO FRESH FOOD TO PURCHASE IN NORTHFIELD OTHER THAN HOFFHER MEATS	2/9/2026 12:30 PM
51	LISTEN TO THE NO ROUNDABOUT DECISION	2/9/2026 12:27 PM
52	See previous comment on left turn by police station.	2/9/2026 12:24 PM
53	I think you should consider sourcing a really great team of diverse artists to come and revamp the space with both classic traditional elements, and new inclusive bright themes.	2/9/2026 12:13 PM
54	Signage, street banners and pedestrian and bike friendly walks/paths would be a great start	2/9/2026 12:06 PM
55	Round about at Happ and Winnetka Round about at Happ and W. Frontage Rd. Traffic would flow easier a lot of people drive through the stop sign without. Of course people are resistant to round abouts, they don't understand how to use them.	2/9/2026 12:06 PM
56	Thanks for asking!	2/9/2026 12:02 PM
57	The police station, library and post office could be so much better looking and go with the look of Northfield. More shops and restaurants are a must! We don't want to just live here we want to enjoy our town so we need an actual town. Ice cream or candy shop for the kids.	2/9/2026 12:01 PM
58	Several communities keep their trees lit year round in the shopping and restaurant areas. I find that charming and inviting. If we were to consider more landscaping, I think lighting trees would be nice.	2/9/2026 12:01 PM
59	Na	2/9/2026 12:00 PM
60	Please get a grocery store!	2/9/2026 11:55 AM
61	The roundabout vote failed. I voted for it because it's a nightmare to cross that intersection as a pedestrian. It's too big. I've been stuck at that intersection for minutes before because there	2/9/2026 11:48 AM

is just a slow, steady flow of traffic. Part of that, again, is because the intersection is so big. I also think it can intimidate drivers as well.

62	The road needs some repairs and upgrades including more obvious cross walks.	2/9/2026 11:46 AM
63	do a multi governmental agreement and build the roundabout that has been reviewed for years; Northfield taking over Happ is a terrible idea as the cost of maintenance and rebuilding would be an immense burden on the Village, unless the County would reconstruct it first, which is highly unlikely.	2/9/2026 11:43 AM
64	more investment in restaurants, cafe, and shops. see Glenview for example for their increase in new places.	2/9/2026 11:36 AM
65	no	2/9/2026 11:36 AM
66	the proper transparency when people have an opportunity to participate.	2/8/2026 11:51 PM
67	the town is really looking dated, under cared for and not many options. blowfish, happ inn and taco nano are all great. peachtree and three tarts are awesome but we're in desperate need of more	2/8/2026 5:33 PM
68	Creating a pedestrian area in the downtown to focus parking and provide ease of access to shops	2/8/2026 4:19 PM
69	Please just bring in more restaurants, more stores people want to come to. I grew up in Wilmette and cannot get over how the downtown and Plaza del Lago has exploded with opportunities. I wish we had the same.	2/8/2026 4:11 PM
70	The round-about and bike path/walking path ideas were fantastic. Please continue to push for these projects and don't let a small number of voices outweigh progress.	2/8/2026 11:12 AM
71	Bring more outside professionals into the decision making rather than hiring friends to be on committees or doing the designing. Get rid of the idea that Northfield is like living in Mayberry. Bring it into the 21st Century.	2/7/2026 1:34 PM
72	The intersection at Winnetka and Happ needs to be improved like the county proposed to match the road lanes from north and south. The stop lights need to be made permanent with left turn arrows in all 4 directions. Also, the Winnetka Park District park on Happ Rd. by Northfield Square is lame. There aren't enough "normal swings", slide etc. kids over 4 have very few options of recreation to play on.	2/7/2026 12:24 PM
73	You may not know this, but many residents own half of Happ Road. At some point, there was some kind of easement, but the ownership still resides with all the residents on the Eastern side of the road. It would be a good idea for the village to buy this land from them.	2/7/2026 11:40 AM
74	Maintain lighting and roadway on a continuing basis	2/7/2026 9:38 AM
75	I'll reiterate the need to work with not just the community, but with experienced professionals who have executed these types of projects successfully.	2/7/2026 8:55 AM
76	No	2/7/2026 7:58 AM
77	we should definitely support our small businesses in town	2/6/2026 9:37 PM
78	Please add sidewalks so that residents can walk to the restaurants and stores easily	2/6/2026 6:45 PM
79	Don't revive the mind-bogglingly stupid roundabout idea.	2/6/2026 6:37 PM
80	Theoretically I'm in favor of Nfld's taking Happ away from Cook County, but what would tax and shared funding consequences be?	2/6/2026 5:22 PM
81	I would like to prioritize our money on improving the schools in the Avoca district! That will have the biggest impact on our community especially it's next generation!	2/6/2026 12:16 PM
82	Northfield struggles with its proximity to the highway and all of the traffic on Willow Rd which makes it less appealing than its quieter Winnetka neighbor. Efforts to improve Happ Road as a charming, beautiful and safe village center could help mitigate the sense of being off the highway.	2/6/2026 9:14 AM
83	Absolutely need more coffee shops, restaurants, bars, shops. Look at winnetka, look at wilmette and glencoe	2/6/2026 9:08 AM
84	Quickly settle usage of space where old Marianos stands. Don't let it be an eyesore for years to come	2/6/2026 9:00 AM
85	Connect the strip malls in a more attractive fashion and make them a place for dinner and an evening stroll. Add a decent family restaurant.	2/6/2026 8:54 AM
86	DONT do a rotary - drivers aren't use to these and they will likely cause accidents.	2/6/2026 8:10 AM
87	Signage about the history of Northfield would be nice along the corridor.	2/5/2026 9:32 PM
88	Stop wasting taxpayer dollars on foolish undertakings.	2/5/2026 8:27 PM
89	Round-about with a fountain in the summer. Converted to a winter atrium in the cold season	2/5/2026 6:58 PM
90	no	2/5/2026 1:16 PM
91	Have Cook County improve the road to 3 lanes, keep the curves, drop the roundabout idea. Install curbs and sewers. No bike lane if street is widened. Keep sidewalks do pedestrians. Thank you	2/5/2026 12:46 PM
92	My spouse grew up in Wilmette and I see how so much of the parking is behind the shops there, the layout is different and I'm sure that's a huge change or one that's not even possible perhaps, but would be great to make parking look less like large lots and have more green spaces but not lose the parking space count. And make pulling into and out of lots easier and even safer to see out of when you're turning out of those areas to get onto Happ northbound or southbound. This is a really big project and thank you all for being so deliberate with your design and communications to date on this.	2/5/2026 9:42 AM
93	It is old and unattractive	2/5/2026 7:42 AM
94	encourage more restaurants and family friendly businesses	2/4/2026 9:16 PM

95	I think that there is an opportunity to really make this area a nice looking space with a unique plaza with lights (think downtown Wilmette). We need to create the space so that businesses want to grow their community in ours.	2/4/2026 7:56 PM
96	more small food outlets – take out or sit down restaurants	2/4/2026 7:52 PM
97	Walnut Street creates the problem. Maybe re-locate the police station entrance? and close Walnut. Use that for parking.	2/4/2026 2:53 PM
98	Reach out to ballyhoo hospitality. Their restaurants alone transform all our surrounding towns. Put more focus on all the young families that have recently moved to Northfield.	2/4/2026 12:30 PM
99	Put the money to better use like the park projects. Get the building owners to upgrade the outside of buildings maybe.	2/4/2026 10:03 AM
100	Only no turnabout	2/4/2026 9:53 AM
101	I'm very concerned about unnecessary buildouts at the expense of the taxpayers.	2/4/2026 9:30 AM
102	(see #19)	2/4/2026 9:16 AM
103	Better road quality	2/4/2026 9:13 AM
104	pedestrian bridge	2/4/2026 9:08 AM
105	I don't think I've ever seen "traffic" there. I've just had to wait a bit to cross because cars are coming from both directions. The traffic is flowing too good.	2/3/2026 8:56 PM
106	Our teens does not have anything to do around here. No food, no place to go	2/3/2026 8:19 PM
107	A pizza/brewery would be so fun. Also a deli would be neat. Ice cream would be fantastic.	2/3/2026 6:29 PM
108	More high-quality restaurants and retail.	2/3/2026 6:09 PM
109	Do make a construction of a round about or any parking extension that would create more traffic. Support local businesses	2/3/2026 5:54 PM
110	Don't take over property and/or roadways that Cook County is presently responsible for in the Village. Taking over North Happ Road was a BIG mistake - learn from it! Note how well the county is maintaining Sunset Ridge Road on county money, while the Village is spending a lot of money to poorly maintain North Happ Road. Just because the Village may find it difficult to reduce the speed limit in the Happ corridor, is no reason to screw it up!!!! Recently there was a question on the ballot to install a traffic circle on Happ. What a crazy idea. Can't believe anyone would want such a thing. Just leave the intersection alone. Traffic is not an issue as noted in this questionnaire regarding heavy trucks. I frequently visit the South Happ Road area and cannot remember the last time I saw a big truck or traffic issue.	2/3/2026 4:50 PM
111	Even though that area is not listed as part of the corridor, the "temporary" and poorly functional traffic signals at the Happ/ Winnetka intersection need to finally be replaced by permanent structures. The committee and village board should press the Cook County Road Department to fix this long standing problem.	2/3/2026 4:08 PM
112	Pedestrian only corridor area in the old Mariano's area.	2/3/2026 3:33 PM
113	The South side of Willow Rd between Waukegan and Sunset Ridge Road is in bad shape!! There is no drainage, so all summer long it contains water that breeds mosquitos, and it is always full of trash from cars, bikers and walkers!!	2/3/2026 2:18 PM
114	The business directly south of the Northfield Library should have lights that function to light up their parking lot. They haven't worked for years.	2/3/2026 1:20 PM
115	No	2/3/2026 1:08 PM
116	Beautification such as a water feature, pedestrian friendly walkways and crossings, could be added in a way that strengthened the area's sense of place.	2/3/2026 1:07 PM
117	At the very minimum the same lighting (lightposts) that exist north of Willow on Happ should extend the length of the south side of Willow to the New Trier Campus. This is an even fix/upgrade that would lighten up/dress up that stretch of Happ.	2/3/2026 1:04 PM
118	Create a road that has well defined biking and sidewalk areas	2/3/2026 12:05 PM
119	See above.	2/3/2026 11:54 AM
120	Ice cream or frozen yogurt shop please!!! We are the ONLY town that does not have one. In such a small town, kids ride their bikes everywhere. This would be a safe, fun place for them to go with friends and stay out of trouble.	2/3/2026 11:47 AM
121	None	2/3/2026 11:39 AM
122	Businesses should partner more with the high school and both elementary districts. Utilize our library!	2/3/2026 11:27 AM
123	I am so grateful to Francisco Gonzales Pulido for offering his ideas and service to the community. I think it is a huge benefit to have Northfielders who care about their community as he does. I am hopeful that the city will strongly consider his vision.	2/3/2026 11:15 AM
124	While I realize the Village has limited control over what kinds of businesses take over vacant spaces as it's ultimately up to the landlord, it would be nice to see some more variety with incoming businesses. For example, we have three gyms/fitness businesses in a one block span (Shred, Sweatshack, Bar Method). I patronize one of them and appreciate fitness as much as the next person, but having some more variety for residents would be great so that we aren't just a destination for residents of neighboring suburbs. Northfield, particularly in the post-Covid era, has TONS of families with young kids (mine included). I would love to see more family-friendly dining options in town and think something like that would be hugely popular. I would always prefer to support Northfield businesses, but options are limited for young kids.	2/3/2026 11:11 AM
125	None	2/3/2026 11:09 AM
126	Give more people more reasons to come and spend time and money in our village by making a true downtown through HAPP road corridor improvements!	2/3/2026 11:08 AM

127	Give family owned businesses and small businesses a reason to open up shop in Northfield. More incentives. Make it easier to open. Roll out the red carpet. The grocery store location is a prime example. Northfield now looks like Flint, MI with that huge empty space.	2/3/2026 10:56 AM
128	Job #1, find a tenant for the vacant grocery store building or tear it down and reimagine the development and use of that huge piece of property. Especially as it relates to a downtown village makeover.	2/3/2026 10:52 AM
129	Restaurants, bars, shops	2/3/2026 10:48 AM
130	Either make Happ from Willow to Winnetka a obe way or close it off with a cul de sac where there residential is. Also, shoulders would make the road safer. No bikes.	2/3/2026 10:45 AM
131	Northfield's village center would feel more like a real town if the parking wasn't in front of the buildings on the road. Looking at Winnetka, Wilmette, Glencoe, etc. the parking lots are not in front of the businesses - sidewalks are. It makes for a more welcoming feel and much more active downtown area.	2/3/2026 10:12 AM
132	Survey should have been started months ago / committee already booked to present their ideas to Village Board in March. Aren't sidewalks already ADA? What average person knows what a high weight truck is? If there are vehicles speeding and limit isn't enforced, what good is it to lower the limit?	2/3/2026 10:00 AM
133	I think Central Rd (north of Willow) should have a reduction in the speed limit in the area south of the curve to Frontage Rd. It is too fast for a small business district/area - it is another "fly-through" area and makes it risky to try to cross the road there. The focus should be on people actually stopping at those businesses- not flying by while avoiding the Edens. I think in general the Village needs to consider a focus on accessibility, livability, and sustainability. The 2040 plan should be reassessed and all of the massive development should be swapped for a focus on resiliency (we live in a flood plain), and on livability. I also think the Village should put an emphasis on accessibility for pedestrian and regular bicycle traffic (not "cyclists" that race through), and ADA accessibility. How great would it be for the park district to put in an "ability park"? Let's be a welcoming community with a focus on community and small neighborhood businesses- not massive development. Thanks.	2/3/2026 9:56 AM
134	Stage development to test effectiveness of lower cost options first before major work.	2/3/2026 9:13 AM
135	Another restaurant/cafe in the building with PNS would be nice.	2/3/2026 8:42 AM
136	just a repeat... accept the help of francisco gonzalez pulido, include his expertise in any plans for the corridor. He is far and away the most experienced architect this village has ever had in designing any area within the village limits.	2/3/2026 8:38 AM
137	Na	2/3/2026 8:28 AM
138	Put the desires of the community above seeing how much business "development" can be achieved.	2/3/2026 8:22 AM
139	None. I'm happy with our village except for no longer having a grocery store	2/3/2026 7:36 AM
140	Consider a pedestrian crossing from the police station to the library similar to the one from Clarkson park to the fields and path behind Middlefork.	2/3/2026 7:17 AM
141	Please clear ice off sidewalks for walk ability Please clear snow off street parking	2/3/2026 6:34 AM
142	Parking lots for the shopping centers south of Willow need to be enhanced with landscaping.	2/3/2026 6:19 AM
143	The main key to our downtown is Happ rd and conjunction with a bike trail continuing through our downtown . Just thinking about Happ is part of making downtown vibrant	2/3/2026 5:59 AM
144	As we develop the area let's keep the appearance similar to our existing small town look. No big chains. No tall buildings. Maximize green space. Dining options. And please let's get a grocery store back where Mariano's was. We need one!!!	2/3/2026 12:16 AM
145	Building driveway access to the large parking lot to the west of Happ road	2/2/2026 11:17 PM
146	Clean up and maintain the road bed and shoulders. Provide more closely spaced and therefore better area illumination, particularly at vehicle/pedestrian risk points. Provide advance advice of availability public parking. Identify public parking areas in a bold and perhaps festive fashion. Not just a "P".	2/2/2026 11:15 PM
147	It would be nice to see the main business district reimaged, to offer more dinning options, and an excuse to walk around downtown Northfield's business district on mice spring/summer, and fall evenings.	2/2/2026 10:56 PM
148	I think going south of Willow rd gives the village the best chance to "create" a downtown feel. Influx of investors and businesses that bring people, young and old, are needed.	2/2/2026 10:40 PM
149	No round about	2/2/2026 9:56 PM
150	I think we need the traffic circle. The 5 way intersection is quite dangerous. Less so with the grocery store gone but when that get's replaced and potentially out lots added it will be a significant issue.	2/2/2026 9:40 PM
151	Focus on core day to day value (grocery store) over niche purpose or small business turnover. Dance school, private workout facilities, boutique candy are all far less useful than convenience store, restaurants, grocery stores, better hardware store, etc. With limited space the goal should be maximum value to the broadest audience.	2/2/2026 9:02 PM
152	Need a few anchor stores and restaurants	2/2/2026 8:42 PM
153	increase the trees along the way	2/2/2026 8:21 PM
154	I love the idea of outdoor seating and gathering spaces where you can walk and grab a coffee , ice cream, and window shopping.	2/2/2026 8:14 PM
155	Study updates from surrounding communities	2/2/2026 8:11 PM
156	I have no concerns given the Happ Road area business area if those who are driving, obey the law. We could use more spaces in the Happ Inn lot. But the challenges in parking only occur one or two days a week	2/2/2026 8:06 PM

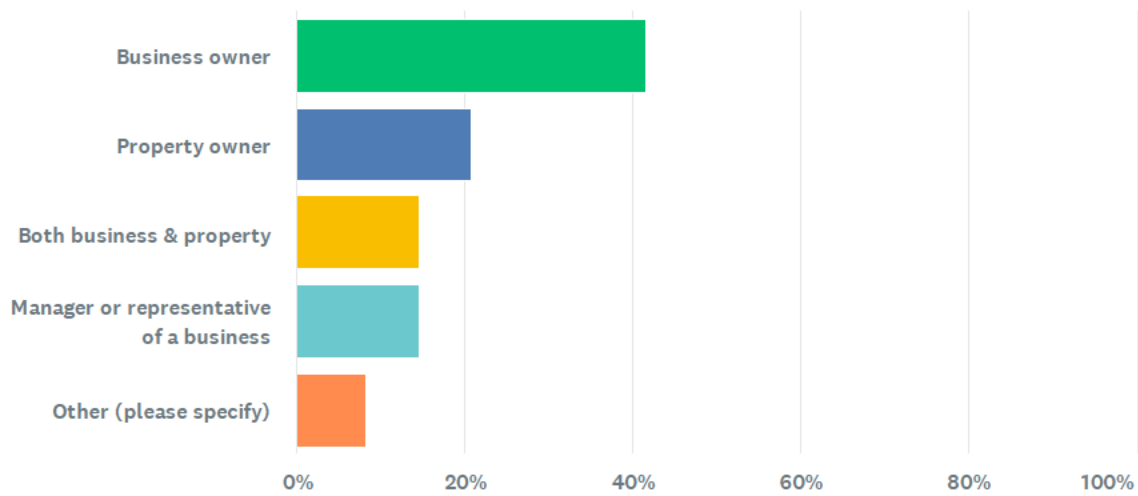
157	No	2/2/2026 8:05 PM
158	I would like a crosswalk on Happ Road by the small Winnetka park. It's strange that you can only safely cross the street by the "downtown" area or the light on Winnetka road.	2/2/2026 7:58 PM
159	pay attention to the retailers' needs	2/2/2026 7:52 PM
160	Make it harder to drive and park and incentivize walking/biking - it's a win for everyone!	2/2/2026 7:29 PM
161	I don't think a survey is going to get a very global view of what the community really wants.	2/2/2026 7:22 PM
162	Do not raise property taxes to fund	2/2/2026 7:18 PM
163	Has committee considered abandoning Happ Road between Willow and Orchard to create a public campus. Connect the ROW adjacent to post office (current dead end parking lot) to Willow Road intersection.	2/2/2026 7:04 PM
164	An anchor grocery store	2/2/2026 6:50 PM
165	Boutique venues to create a destination that others want to visit. More formal delineation of village-wide walking paths	2/2/2026 6:44 PM
166	You need family friendly places that are well appointed or updated. Spaces need to look nice so you want to gather and spend time we do not have this we have strip malls.	2/2/2026 6:42 PM
167	Keep the small town feel of Northfield, please. I don't know if we want an explosion of restaurants and shops. Growth in moderation is preferred.	2/2/2026 6:41 PM
168	Improve the library and post office buildings, add trees or quaint street lights or benches that maintain charm.	2/2/2026 6:37 PM
169	Landlords need to not charge excessive rents so more small businesses can be attracted	2/2/2026 6:36 PM
170	roundabouts are not pedestrian friendly	2/2/2026 6:23 PM
171	Bring back roundabout idea	2/2/2026 6:17 PM
172	I miss the Art Show/Sidewalk Days we had when we first moved in. I REALLY miss the Farmer's Market. (The one in Wilmette is too crowded.)	2/2/2026 6:15 PM
173	Add more focus on bringing in more business that drives revenue, to support investment.	2/2/2026 6:14 PM
174	Although we have always been known as a tree village, we are cutting down mature Willows and not replacing. In my 38 years living here, this corridor is beginning to look disheveled. Snow plows knock down mailboxes. Sidewalk snow plows tear up lawns. Utility companies leave wires dangling, open boxes. None of this is safe. The village does nothing. I've said enough.	2/2/2026 5:57 PM
175	While Mariano's is not part of this project, it needs to be a top Village priority to get resolved.	2/2/2026 5:55 PM
176	improve the look with landscaping/business front improvements/art and make improvements that attract better and more businesses with access to them for foot and car traffic	2/2/2026 5:51 PM
177	I have seen many accidents and near accidents at roundabouts Never have had to walk from the commercial area across Happ to the library for instance, but if that is an issue for some, building out corners to expand sidewalks makes more sense here.	2/2/2026 5:51 PM
178	Consider finding a way to connect both sides of the street	2/2/2026 5:49 PM
179	My priority is to see the Village maintain its reputation as a village in the city and not grow too urban and too crowded. It's open spaces have always attracted residents, especially families. There has to be a balance.	2/2/2026 5:39 PM
180	A Fix-it shop?	2/2/2026 5:33 PM
181	Forever close the entrance to the south bound Edens at Willow.	2/2/2026 5:28 PM
182	As I mentioned please try to reduce the traffic and heavy trucks on the sunset Ridge Road.	2/2/2026 5:28 PM
183	We hear the committee doesn't even have a budget to send out a postcard it leads one to believe this is not being taken seriously. I've received a landslide of postcards and marketing from the PDA d schools yet the village cant send out one postcard..?	2/2/2026 5:21 PM
184	Street front cafes/restaurants, nice street lighting, more hard and softscape	2/2/2026 5:10 PM
185	Put a four way stop sign at Happ and Orchard Lane	2/2/2026 5:00 PM
186	need to slow down traffic. a stop sign at the first intersection after willow would help.	2/2/2026 4:56 PM
187	The charm of Northfield is the small shopping area, a grocery store and an additional restaurant.	2/2/2026 4:55 PM
188	Support rezoning efforts, when necessary, to invite third party investment into the corridor.	2/2/2026 4:42 PM
189	Better lighting	2/2/2026 4:40 PM
190	Develop a common area for the community to come together for festivals/entertainment/shopping, etc.	2/2/2026 4:40 PM
191	see 19	2/2/2026 4:39 PM
192	I greatly appreciate the Happ Road Committee's time and commitment to helping to present an overarching vision for the proposed Happ Road Improvements. I remain concerned with the limited exposure that the Committee may have had to the agreements that have already been made, the unnecessary dollars that have already been spent, the time that has already been wasted, and the plans that have already been created for the Happ Road Corridor. My only concern remains as to why weren't the questions and discussions, currently being held, not presented in the initial phases of the proposed Happ Road Improvement project. My only suggestion would be, please, do your due diligence and understand that Happ Road is also a neighborhood, filled with active children, growing families, and active aging adults — not just a major conduit to an entertainment destination, a hub for shallow financial gain, or a planned highway bypass. For some of us, we have engaged with the Village of Northfield since the beginning discussions of the proposed Happ Road Improvement project. Happ Road is home to	2/2/2026 4:38 PM

	us and we would like to see some care and consideration taken in the whatever changes take place.	
193	My biggest concern is actually on Willow Road. The section of the road between the road Walgreens is on and the intersection of Happ and Willow is AWFUL. The timing of the lights is terrible and the traffic gets backed up so turning onto Willow Road from Old Willow Road (adjacent to Walgreens) MUST be fixed so the intersections do not get locked up.	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
194	It would be great to factor the dead Marianos into the planning. I think the idea of a bike path is misguided. There is a great bike path but unfortunately residents need to risk their life crossing the Edens ramps to access it. I would take my kids riding to the lake and that crossing was the worst part of the trip.	2/2/2026 4:37 PM
195	Invest in Northfield. Be in the driver's seat, rather than passively letting developers have the control. Go out with intention and attract the kinds of businesses, development that best serves the residents.	2/2/2026 4:34 PM
196	We need an ice cream shop and grocery store	2/2/2026 4:23 PM
197	I thought the roundabout was a great idea.	2/2/2026 4:22 PM
198	None in addition to the ones you raised.	2/2/2026 4:21 PM
199	Find something else to focus on -- like the lack of a proper sewer on Winnetka Road and the resulting flooding that occurs nearby.	2/2/2026 4:19 PM
200	I continue to favor the roundabout idea	2/2/2026 4:17 PM
201	Have seen stores and shops close. Why do we think new ones will come in? What do store owners and restaurant owners want?	2/2/2026 4:15 PM
202	Put a Fresh Market where the old Mariano's was. We need an upscale grocery store. It's the perfect place	2/2/2026 4:14 PM
203	find a way with TIF funds or the like to encourage the redevelopment of the former Mariano's into a mixed use north shore destination with ground floor retail/restaurant space/and residential above.	2/2/2026 4:03 PM
204	The cost. Where is the money coming from? Who will maintain landscaping? The Village does not do a good job currently of Village Hall and library. Happ Inn and Penny Noodles' properties are eye sores. Signage and trees are not cared for and railroad ties are unsightly for downtown.	2/2/2026 4:03 PM
205	A grocery store and Mc Donald's	2/2/2026 4:00 PM
206	Well put together survey!	2/2/2026 3:59 PM
207	Keep existing small businesses	2/2/2026 3:56 PM
208	How far is the Village willing to go?? Transparency on the budget they have	2/2/2026 3:54 PM
209	Please be very clear about what this "Plan B" for the corridor could potentially cost us. I trust the expertise of the state and county in maintaining and planning for our roads. I do not think the disgruntled Northfielders who have been so vocal about this are experts; and I wonder if this is even an appropriate project for our Village to be taking on? Do we really have the expertise? And if we need to seek out experts to contribute the critical knowledge/expertise we don't have, can we as a Village afford that? I know at this stage, with this survey, we are creating a "wish list." But there will be a price tag for taking this over from the county, and we are not experts!	2/2/2026 3:54 PM
210	No need to spend funds that we don't have. It won't bring much impact, but will cost a lot.	2/2/2026 3:53 PM
211	No	2/2/2026 3:52 PM
212	Bring more restaurant choices, NO round about.	2/2/2026 3:51 PM
213	Talk to the Business Owners about their issues. I used to own U Dawg U so I speak from experience.	2/2/2026 3:48 PM
214	Control willow road speeding!!	2/2/2026 3:47 PM
215	How in the world would we pay for buying a road from the County and then maintaining it?	2/2/2026 3:43 PM
216	I would like to understand these decisions in the context of the long-term plan for Northfield. The area North of Willow is ripe for reconsideration, so looking at Happ Road corridor could be considered within that context.	2/2/2026 3:42 PM
217	Please don't forget to address the intersection at Happ and Winnetka - this is extremely dangerous for kids and motorists - terribly outdated and an eyesore	2/2/2026 3:40 PM
218	Please don't make us into Old Orchard Shopping Center.	2/2/2026 3:39 PM
219	The village should do everything possible to significantly enhance the downtown Northfield area on happ Road both north and south of Willow. The cozy corner of the North Shore needs to be "cozier" with more to do And more places to eat and gather.	2/2/2026 3:38 PM
220	Completely reconfigure Happ Road, Frontage rd and Northfield Rd to create a 'downtown Northfield' instead of a series of thoroughfares. Consider one way street options for Happ Rd (tied into Frontage) and Northfield Rd to connect traffic, control traffic, and 'circle' a downtown.	2/2/2026 3:33 PM
221	Please don't lose the "small town charm" that attracted my wife and I in the first page	2/2/2026 3:30 PM
222	People from local communities love our restaurants and places to gather with friends. We need a couple more locations for the evenings.	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
223	Anything you do must not take away parking. There is not enough already.	2/2/2026 3:27 PM
224	All the villages around us are bustling with new dining options and retail and yet NF can't grab one. I'm disappointed that other villages capture all the new business. I feel we aren't aggressive in seeking out opportunities. Or maybe just disinterested. We need to move forward like our neighbors do. In another current study, residents are asked what they leave NF to do because other villages offer it. It's basically everything. Restaurants, places to gather, shops, swimming pools, ice cream shops, etc.. We need to capture those business dollars. I believe we need new blood in community development	2/2/2026 3:25 PM

225	no	2/2/2026 3:23 PM
226	The aesthetics of the buildings along the corridor are very dated and don't look welcoming at all.	2/2/2026 3:21 PM
227	i mentioned before, but yoga studio/boutique fitness studios. restaurants (like denuccis), cafes (like hometown). draw ideas from downtown winnetka/northbrook/glenview	2/2/2026 3:20 PM
228	Planting shrubs and trees on east side of west Frontage Rd. From Stomy's to Winnetka ave.	2/2/2026 3:17 PM
229	Making a walkable downtown / town square would be better for the current/future state of northfield	2/2/2026 3:17 PM
230	Cost to taxpayers	2/2/2026 3:15 PM
231	no	2/2/2026 3:14 PM
232	no	2/2/2026 3:14 PM
233	Remember the referendum in the traffic circle.	2/2/2026 3:13 PM
234	Fast track new grocery store to replace closed Mariano's location	2/2/2026 3:08 PM
235	New grocery store as an anchor to bring people to the town	2/2/2026 3:07 PM
236	Make Happ Road business district destination	2/2/2026 10:32 AM

Q1 What best describes your role?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 0

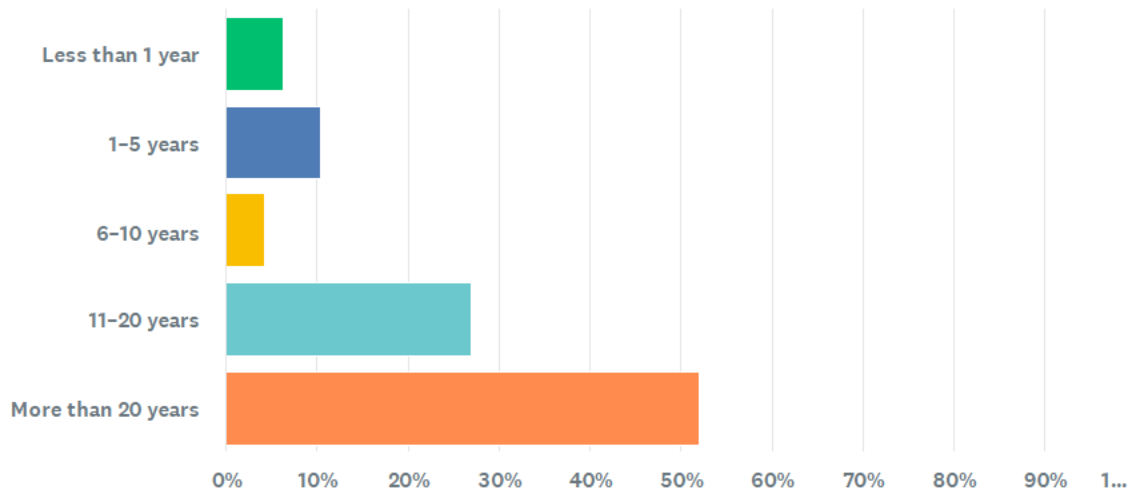


Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Business owner	41.67%	20
● Property owner	20.83%	10
● Both business & property	14.58%	7
● Manager or representative of a business	14.58%	7
● Other (please specify) Show responses	8.33%	4
Total		48

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Resident nearby	2/9/2026 2:37 PM
2	Chamber of Commerce	2/6/2026 11:35 AM
3	Employed in the corridor	2/4/2026 8:45 AM
4	Property owner bordering on the corridor	2/2/2026 3:01 PM

Q2 How long has your business or property been located on Happ Road?

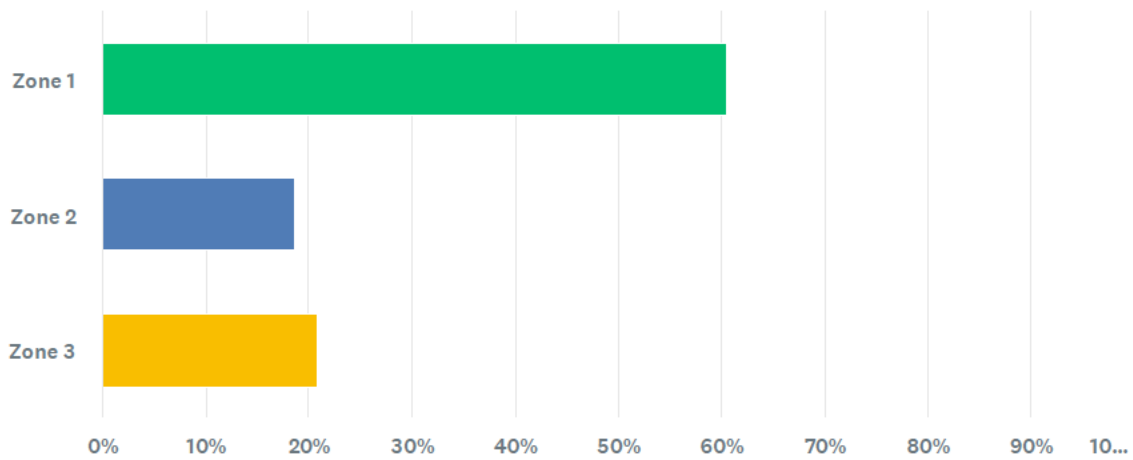
Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Less than 1 year	6.25%	3
● 1-5 years	10.42%	5
● 6-10 years	4.17%	2
● 11-20 years	27.08%	13
● More than 20 years	52.08%	25
Total		48

Q3 Where in Northfield is your business/property located?

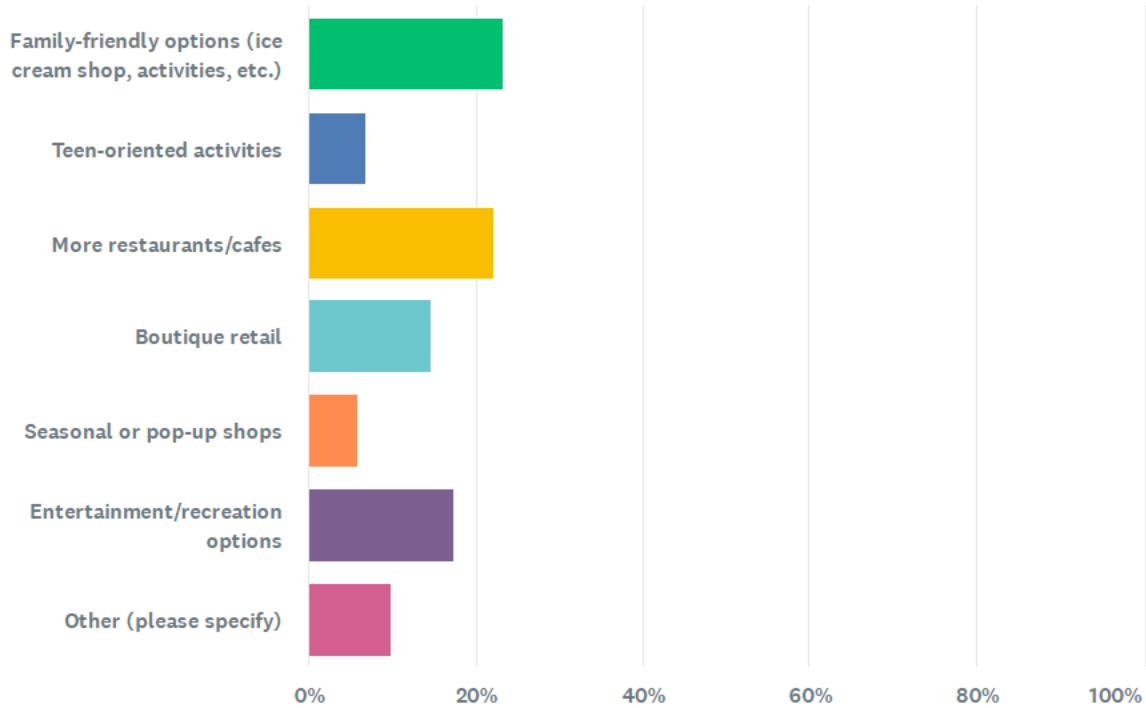
Answered: 48 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Zone 1	60.42%	29
● Zone 2	18.75%	9
● Zone 3	20.83%	10
Total		48

Q4 What types of new businesses or amenities do you feel would complement your business? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 41 Skipped: 7

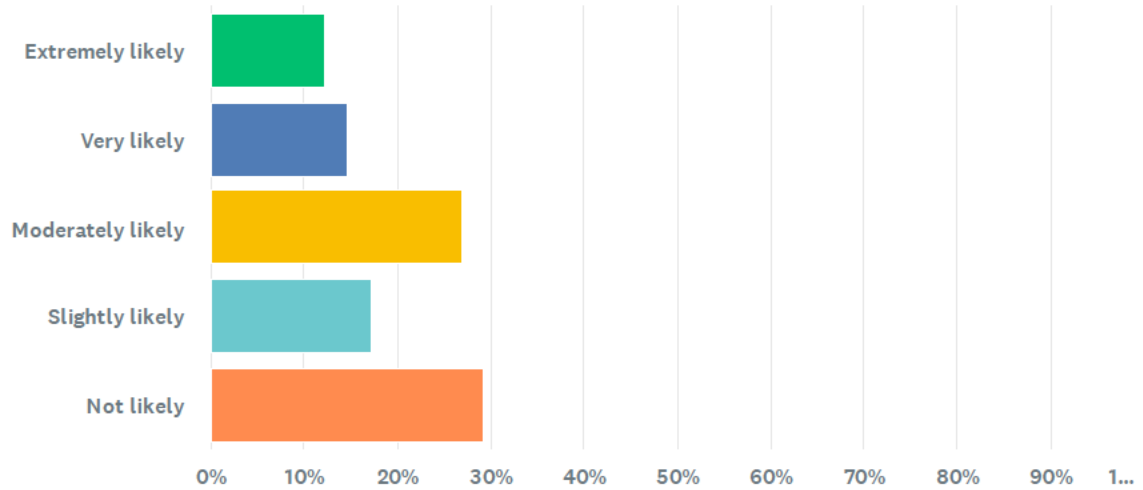


Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Family-friendly options (ice cream shop, activities, etc.)	23.30%	24
● Teen-oriented activities	6.80%	7
● More restaurants/cafes	22.33%	23
● Boutique retail	14.56%	15
● Seasonal or pop-up shops	5.83%	6
● Entertainment/recreation options	17.48%	18
● Other (please specify) Show responses	9.71%	10
Total		103

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Country club	2/9/2026 3:56 PM
2	Permanent stoplight at Winnetka Rd & Happ Rd	2/7/2026 4:53 PM
3	Any business or activity that brings foot traffic into the central business district is valuable to the surrounding businesses	2/6/2026 11:37 AM
4	Grocery store	2/4/2026 8:46 AM
5	Health and wellness	2/4/2026 5:58 AM
6	Nothing- I own a psychotherapy practice, so I don't think it makes a difference	2/2/2026 8:50 PM
7	Grocery food store	2/2/2026 3:45 PM
8	grocery	2/2/2026 3:26 PM
9	Grocery store	2/2/2026 3:05 PM
10	commercial and/or professional	2/2/2026 3:03 PM

Q5 How likely is it that improvements to Happ Road would increase your business activity or property value?

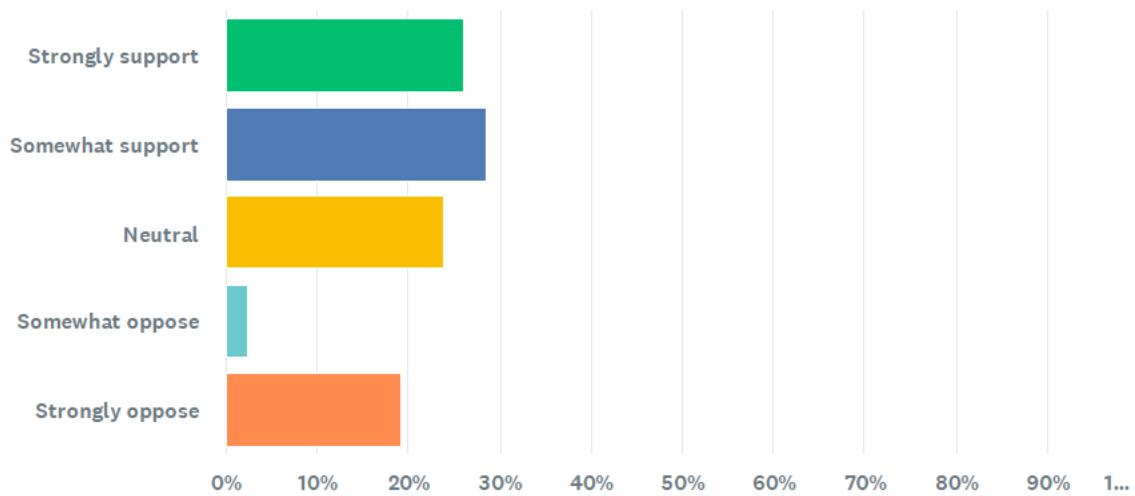
Answered: 41 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Extremely likely	12.20%	5
● Very likely	14.63%	6
● Moderately likely	26.83%	11
● Slightly likely	17.07%	7
● Not likely	29.27%	12
Total		41

Q6 How supportive would you be of occasional street closures for community events (e.g., a festival on Happ Road) if parking access can be preserved?

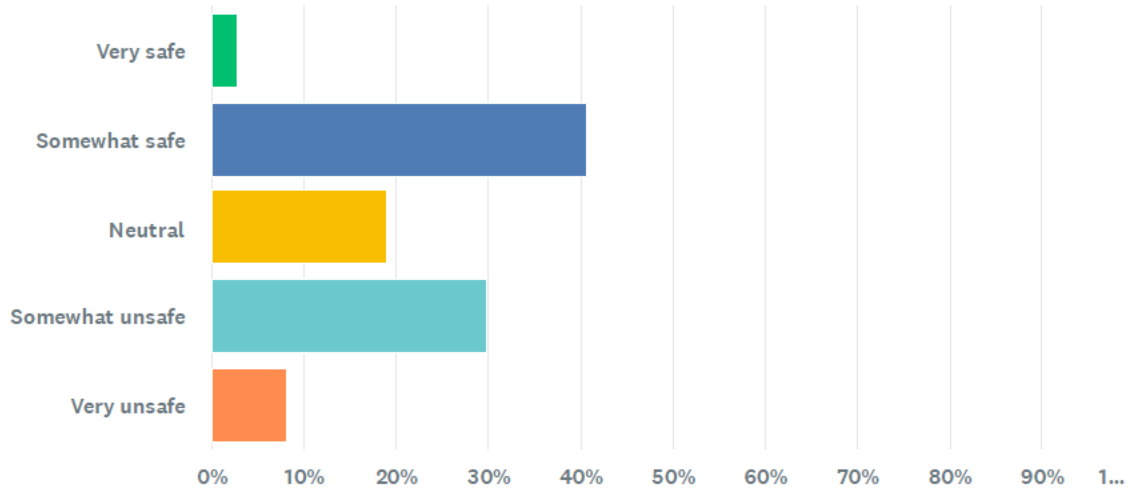
Answered: 42 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Strongly support	26.19%	11
● Somewhat support	28.57%	12
● Neutral	23.81%	10
● Somewhat oppose	2.38%	1
● Strongly oppose	19.05%	8
Total		42

Q7 How would you rate the overall safety of pedestrian crossings along the Happ Road Corridor?

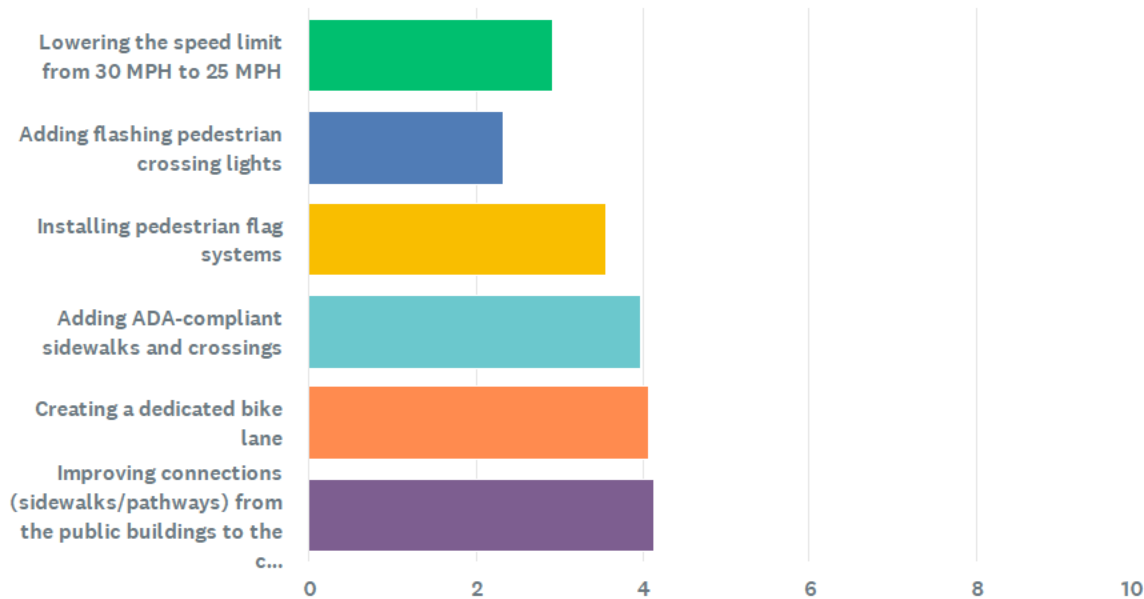
Answered: 37 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Very safe	2.70%	1
● Somewhat safe	40.54%	15
● Neutral	18.92%	7
● Somewhat unsafe	29.73%	11
● Very unsafe	8.11%	3
Total		37

Q8 As related to the Happ Road Corridor, how important are the following mobility improvements to your business, tenants or customers? Rank each from 1 = Not Important to 6 = Very Important:

Answered: 39 Skipped: 9



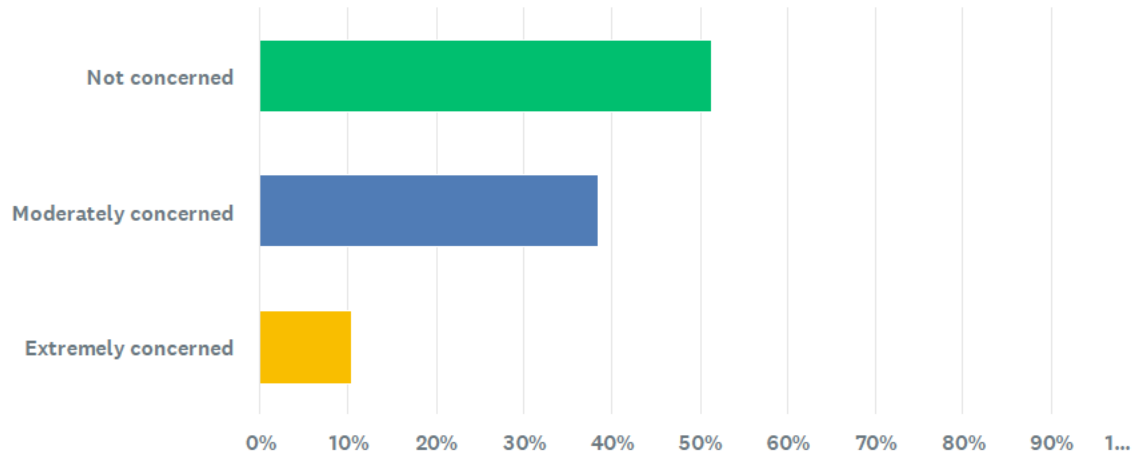
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Lowering the speed limit from 30 MPH to 25 MPH	30.77% 12	17.95% 7	17.95% 7	10.26% 4	7.69% 3	15.38% 6	39
Adding flashing pedestrian crossing lights	38.46% 15	23.08% 9	12.82% 5	17.95% 7	7.69% 3	0% 0	39
Installing pedestrian flag systems	5.13% 2	17.95% 7	35.90% 14	5.13% 2	28.21% 11	7.69% 3	39
Adding ADA-compliant sidewalks and crossings	10.26% 4	7.69% 3	10.26% 4	38.46% 15	12.82% 5	20.51% 8	39

234

	● 1	● 2	● 3	● 4	● 5	● 6	Total
Creating a dedicated bike lane	12.82% 5	12.82% 5	10.26% 4	10.26% 4	25.64% 10	28.21% 11	39
Improving connections (sidewalks/pathways) from the public buildings to the commercial buildings	2.56% 1	20.51% 8	12.82% 5	17.95% 7	17.95% 7	28.21% 11	39
							234

Q9 How concerned are you about traffic flow and congestion within the Happ Road Corridor today?

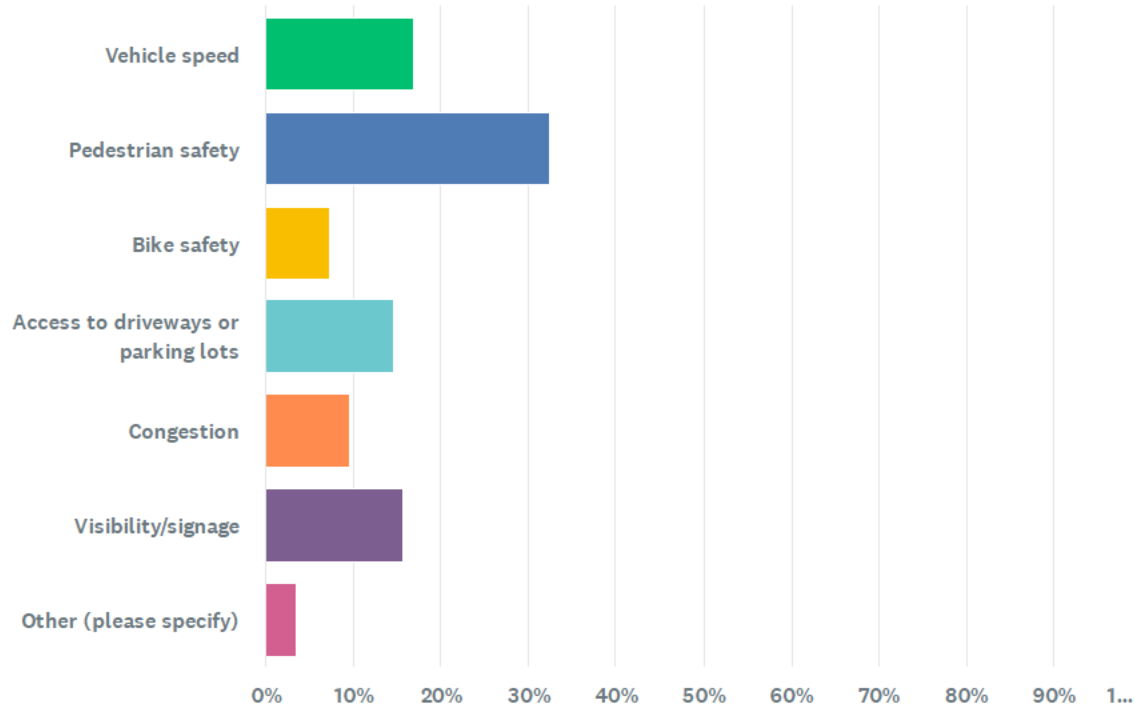
Answered: 39 Skipped: 9



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Not concerned	51.28%	20
● Moderately concerned	38.46%	15
● Extremely concerned	10.26%	4
Total		39

Q10 What are your top concerns related to mobility within the Happ Road Corridor? (Select up to 3)

Answered: 38 Skipped: 10

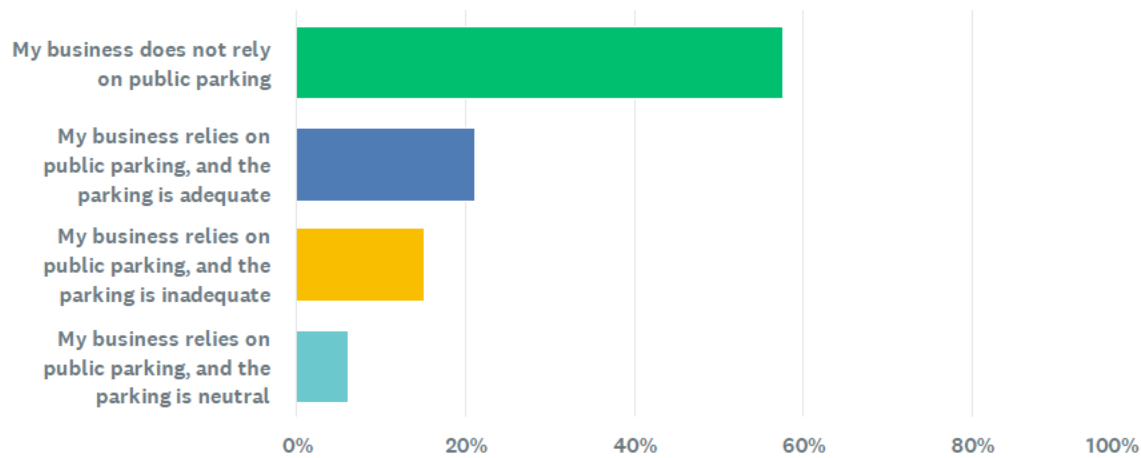


Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Vehicle speed	16.87%	14
● Pedestrian safety	32.53%	27
● Bike safety	7.23%	6
● Access to driveways or parking lots	14.46%	12
● Congestion	9.64%	8
● Visibility/signage	15.66%	13
● Other (please specify) Show responses	3.61%	3
Total		83

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Champion your legacy small businesses	2/9/2026 9:13 PM
2	Permanent stoplights at Winnetka & HappRds	2/7/2026 4:55 PM
3	NO BUSHES by driveways next to wider sidewalks	2/2/2026 3:46 PM

Q11 Within the Happ Rd Corridor, is your business reliant on public parking? If so, how would you describe the current public parking situation?

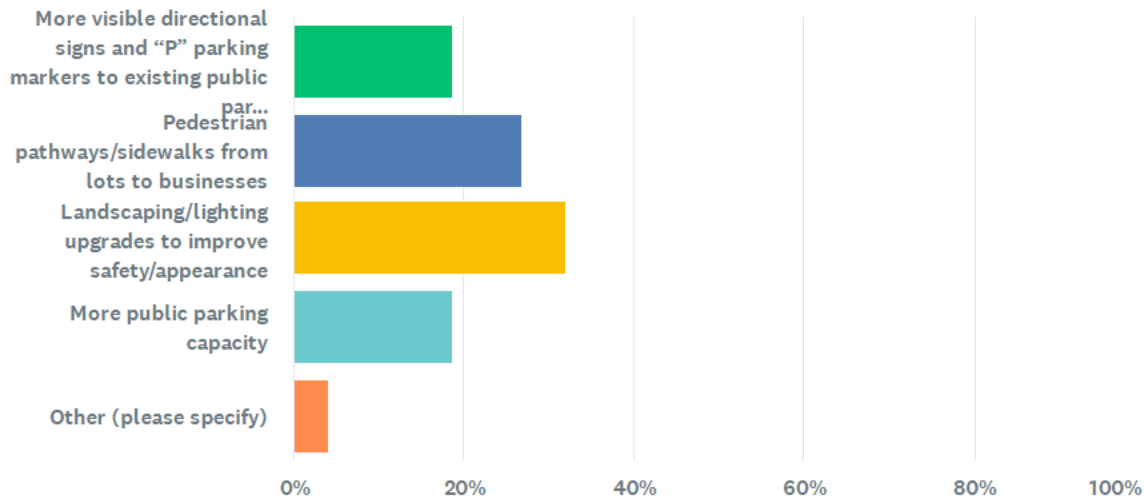
Answered: 33 Skipped: 15



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● My business does not rely on public parking	57.58%	19
● My business relies on public parking, and the parking is adequate	21.21%	7
● My business relies on public parking, and the parking is inadequate	15.15%	5
● My business relies on public parking, and the parking is neutral	6.06%	2
Total		33

Q12 Within the Happ Road Corridor, which public parking-related improvements would provide the most benefit? (Select up to three)

Answered: 36 Skipped: 12

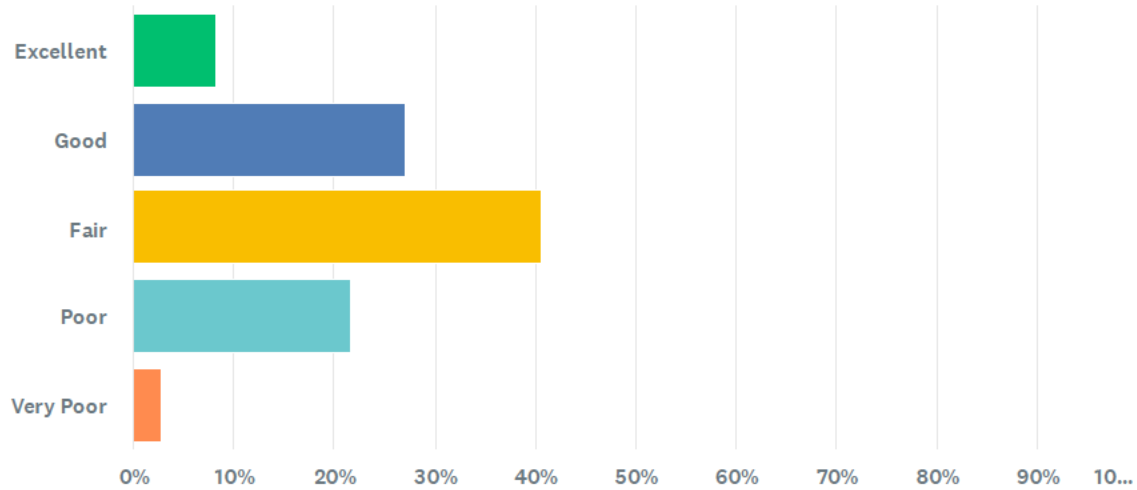


Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● More visible directional signs and "P" parking markers to existing public parking lots	18.67%	14
● Pedestrian pathways/sidewalks from lots to businesses	26.67%	20
● Landscaping/lighting upgrades to improve safety/appearance	32.00%	24
● More public parking capacity	18.67%	14
● Other (please specify) Show responses	4.00%	3
Total		75

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Hold landlords accountable for maintenance, especially those that affect curb appeal	2/9/2026 9:15 PM
2	Parking behind stores such as STORMY'S = IDOT owns land = obtain it.	2/2/2026 3:49 PM
3	ok as is	2/2/2026 3:06 PM

Q13 How would you rate the overall aesthetics and “village identity” of the Happ Road Commercial Corridor?

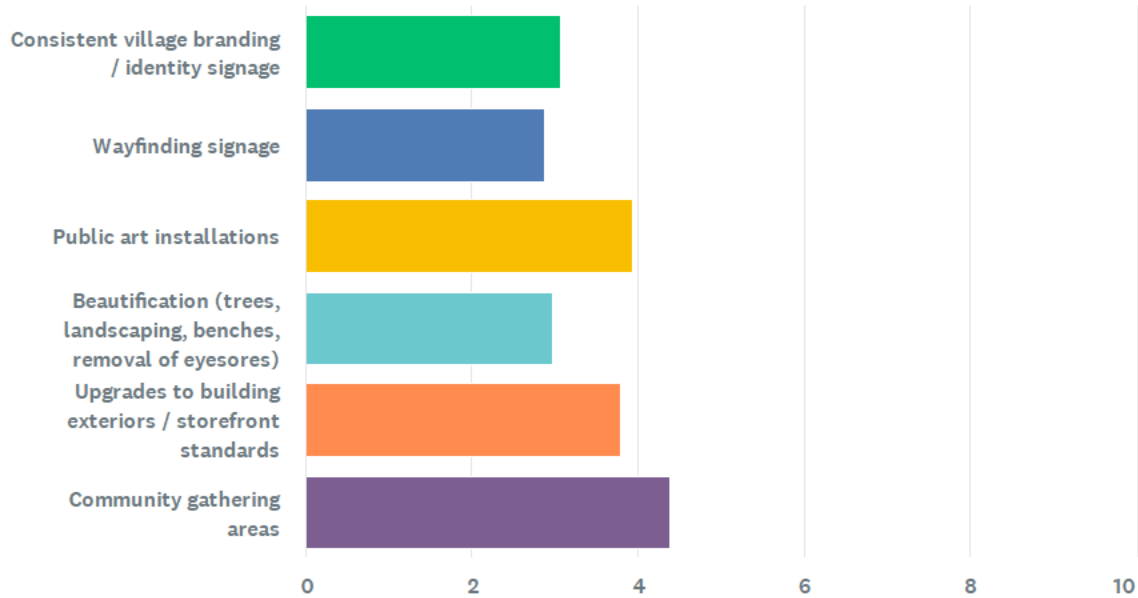
Answered: 37 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Excellent	8.11%	3
● Good	27.03%	10
● Fair	40.54%	15
● Poor	21.62%	8
● Very Poor	2.70%	1
Total		37

Q14 How important are the following possible aesthetic improvements? Rank each from 1 = Not Important to 6 = Very Important:

Answered: 38 Skipped: 10



	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Consistent village branding / identity signage	34.21%	10.53%	18.42%	10.53%	2.63%	23.68%	38
Wayfinding signage	15.79%	36.84%	15.79%	13.16%	13.16%	5.26%	38

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Public art installations	7.89% 3	7.89% 3	21.05% 8	26.32% 10	21.05% 8	15.79% 6	38
Beautification (trees, landscaping, benches, removal of eyesores)	23.68% 9	15.79% 6	23.68% 9	18.42% 7	15.79% 6	2.63% 1	38
Upgrades to building exteriors / storefront standards	7.89% 3	21.05% 8	10.53% 4	15.79% 6	34.21% 13	10.53% 4	38
Community gathering areas	10.53% 4	7.89% 3	10.53% 4	15.79% 6	13.16% 5	42.11% 16	38
							228

Q15 What are your biggest concerns about the Happ Road Corridor?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 25

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Roundabout	2/16/2026 1:53 PM
2	It is not pedestrian friendly enough for casual strolling/ shopping or taking other means of transportation beside car.	2/11/2026 12:48 PM
3	What motivates you?	2/9/2026 9:22 PM
4	AUTOMOBILE SPEED	2/9/2026 6:43 PM
5	Easy Flow of traffic	2/9/2026 4:38 PM
6	I love the way everything is. I don't know why changes are needed.	2/9/2026 2:24 PM
7	Over engineering new roads (the roundabout) and pass throughs like the one in front of the empty Marianos	2/9/2026 2:12 PM
8	That changes would not help my business and that construction would cause traffic difficulties and hurt my business	2/9/2026 12:53 PM
9	The roundabout will create more of an issue than there is now	2/9/2026 12:02 PM
10	Accidents	2/9/2026 11:55 AM
11	We need permanent stoplights at Winnetka & Happ intersection. Need better sidewalks & new paving. Bike lane would be a plus.	2/7/2026 4:59 PM
12	I am sure that you are aware of the struggle the businesses that are in this corridor will be adversely affected. I am always worried about the businesses during road construction, especially due to unforeseen consequences. Communication to the businesses and to the residents during construction are vital to help the businesses survive. A timeline that is adhered to will be important to all businesses that will be impacted. Be organized and as prepared as possible. These are businesses that are struggling anyway due to increased taxes, rent, and the economy. Be sensitive to their real needs.	2/6/2026 11:57 AM
13	Congestion on Willow & Happ and Willow & Northfield. Whole area is difficult to access	2/3/2026 6:39 PM
14	That the safety and parking are improved.	2/3/2026 11:35 AM
15	When I walk across Happ/Central or Willow Rd at that intersection, I do not feel safe even when the walk signal is on. It often feels safer to jaywalk away from the intersection, which is not good! It's important to me that I'm able to take a walk during my break, and oftentimes this includes me walking to Starbucks, the post office, Walgreens, etc. and there are definitely areas that are unsafe for pedestrians.	2/2/2026 9:02 PM
16	Most cars do not stop at Orchard LN and Walnut St stop sign.	2/2/2026 7:59 PM
17	Careless driving	2/2/2026 4:38 PM
18	When driving on Willow Rd, my question always is "Where is the town of Northfield. I removed Buckthorn from the IDOT property behind Stormy's for three years. Now you could see the stores. IDOT stopped me. Weeds have grown, where are stores now? Make property a parking lot, paint back of stores a cream color and put up store name signage. Same with stores on Happ Road = better store signage.	2/2/2026 4:13 PM
19	Marianos is gone and that you will tear down office space	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
20	Traffic and pedestrian safety.	2/2/2026 3:10 PM
21	Flow of traffic and safety	2/2/2026 3:09 PM
22	pedestrian safety	2/2/2026 3:07 PM

23 Not enough restaurant, choices, and places to shop, no public places to linger and enjoy the downtown

2/2/2026 10:39 AM

Q16 What opportunities do you believe Happ Road improvements could create for your business or the commercial district as a whole?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 32

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Use this an an opportunity to improve appearances	2/16/2026 1:53 PM
2	Easier pedestrian access	2/11/2026 12:48 PM
3	If it ain't broke, don't break it....but repair what needs fixing	2/9/2026 9:22 PM
4	Carry over some of the ideas that Wilmette has in their downtown area to Northfield. Their downtown area has a lot of energy. The new Sushi Restaurant was a good start!!	2/9/2026 4:38 PM
5	N/a	2/9/2026 2:24 PM
6	It could improve the look of the district but we're doubtful it could improve business there.	2/9/2026 12:53 PM
7	Meadowlake condominiums would be greatly enhanced by road improvements.	2/7/2026 4:59 PM
8	I honestly believe that the improvements to the corridor will bring vitality to the businesses that are able to survive. I have seen this in Glencoe and in Winnetka. But.....it is a huge financial pain point during the process. Remember that and be sensitive to the businesses. We have fantastic businesses in Northfield and we want to keep them.	2/6/2026 11:57 AM
9	Hard to say at this time	2/3/2026 9:52 PM
10	More foot traffic, increased business - especially at high congestion times when people avoid the area. Speed up the grocery store!	2/3/2026 6:39 PM
11	More parking results in more customers for our business and for the village	2/3/2026 11:35 AM
12	I don't necessarily think it would create opportunities for my business, but I would enjoy keeping my business in Northfield.	2/2/2026 9:02 PM
13	Make Northfield more visual, the stores need the customers, more tax money for the village.	2/2/2026 4:13 PM
14	worried you will make my office residential	2/2/2026 3:28 PM
15	more business in Northfield; we need to expand the tax base as the residents are tapped out	2/2/2026 3:07 PM
16	Need a potbellies or similar sandwich shop to serve teenagers and others. He could also provide food for Medline, which currently orders from Northbrook.	2/2/2026 10:39 AM

Q17 Do you have any other ideas, suggestions or concerns that you would like the Committee to consider?

Answered: 17 Skipped: 31

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Keep as many trees as possible	2/16/2026 1:53 PM
2	No	2/11/2026 12:48 PM
3	ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY ARE PARAMOUNT	2/9/2026 9:22 PM
4	Create curbs along Happ Road. Sidewalk Safety Reinforce speed limits. Willow Rd. to Winnetka Avenue 3-4more safe pedestrian crossings from Mount Pleasant to Winnetka Ave	2/9/2026 6:43 PM
5	Make the permitting process a bit more user friendly when attracting new businesses to Northfield. Th process can be rather daunting to a new business. We walk tenants through the process, but it take a lot of work .	2/9/2026 4:38 PM
6	NO ROUNDABOUT	2/9/2026 2:24 PM
7	Be aware of the current businesses in the area. Parking is already hard so reducing parking is going to create a hardship.	2/9/2026 2:12 PM
8	Parking spaces are at a premium during certain lunchtime hours. We are a Drive-to destination attracting customers from all directions in the Northshore so any construction that deletes parking spaces would have a negative impact on our business.	2/9/2026 12:53 PM
9	Communication, communication, communication. Keep inviting the businesses to meetings and keep them engaged. If they do not show up, send someone to the business to have the conversations that are necessary and important to let them know the village stands behind them.	2/6/2026 11:57 AM
10	Not as of yet	2/3/2026 9:52 PM
11	Willow Road light timing between Northfield - Happ - 94	2/3/2026 6:39 PM
12	Leave well enough alone. Enforce traffic rule and update bike safety but that is all I believe is needed	2/3/2026 10:17 AM
13	Find a safer way for pedestrians to cross Willow Rd and Central/Happ Rd.	2/2/2026 9:02 PM
14	I would have definitely put in the Roundabout. The Roundabout would have given Northfield much needed visual-ability. I live here but never have felt it visual, poor store signage, poor sidewalks etc. Love new wide sidewalks next to Willow Rd but BUSHES that obstruct visual should go.	2/2/2026 4:13 PM
15	Google Maps list Happ Road as "North Happ Road ". I was always lead to believe we are on South Happ Road	2/2/2026 3:10 PM
16	opportunities on Northfield Road also (mostly east of the buildings) ; the area north of Willow has a ton of opportunity;	2/2/2026 3:07 PM
17	Make sure the board makes commitment of at least five years to improve Happ Road in a commitment of \$1 million or more. This is similar to other investments. The Village has been willing to make in and around Happ Road in recent years.	2/2/2026 10:39 AM

The Village of Northfield

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Agenda Item No: 05

Meeting Date: March 24, 2026

Staff Contact: Patrick Brennan, Administration

Subject: Discussion of the Lead Service Line Replacement Program

Discussion Only:

Consider for Approval:

Summary: The state requires that all lead service lines be removed from the water system by 2039, and the Village created the Lead Service Line Replacement Program in response. Additionally, the Village is required to implement a plan to ensure at least 7% of the lead lines are removed annually. The program is not achieving the intended goals, and a review is recommended.

Background: In January of 2024, the Village created and adopted a Lead Service Line Replacement Program. The program was developed in response to Public Act 102-0613, which required public water suppliers to take steps to remove all lead water service lines (LSLs) from the system. As part of the requirement, communities were required to complete an inventory of the water service lines and file annual reports to the state. As a community with fewer than 1,200 known lead service lines, the deadline for complete removal of LSLs is April 15, 2039. Therefore, the Village program was designed to encourage the replacement of lead service lines at a rate of 12.5% per year.

The Village Lead Service Line Replacement Program was created to help residents reduce the financial hurdle of replacing their LSLs and incentivize replacement. The barrier to replacing lead water service lines is often the expense. The cost of replacing the water service line can vary greatly based upon the size of the service line, proximity to the Village water main, and site conditions. A middle of the road estimate would be \$15,750. The Village program offers homeowners a grant of 50% of the LSL replacement cost up to a maximum of \$10,000. Since the grant program has been in effect, six homeowners have participated with the average grant amount being \$7,888 and highest at \$9,712 (\$19,424 project cost). The pace of replacements is less than expected.

The Village LSL inventory shows 87 lead service lines and unknown material service lines in the Village. The target replacement rate reported to the state was set at 12.5% per year in 2024 and the Village is not making substantial progress toward that goal. At the current rate of LSL replacement, the Village will not meet the 2039 deadline established by the state. Therefore, a review of the Lead Service Line Replacement Project was conducted in an effort to determine if a more effective approach could be implemented.

Attached is a draft of an updated lead service line replacement program for consideration. The program is recommended to be rebranded as LEAP – Lead Elimination Assistance Program. While the 50/50 grant with a cap of \$10,000 remains, a number of changes to the program are recommended and outlined as follows:

- General text changes throughout to better align with the Act
- Text updated to reflect the tasks that have been completed

- Prior goal of 12.5% per year has been modified to 10% (approximately 9 homes annually). The state minimum is 7% per year
- Listed the goal of providing residents with at least six months' notice prior to undertaking a scheduled program that would initiate the need to replace their service line.
- Listed the intent of helping coordinate the joint selection of a contractor for resident LSL work when homeowner interest exists
- Provide funding priority to homeowners in the following order:
 - o Homeowners within a water main replacement project area
 - o Homeowners encountering an emergency repair. (e.g. broken lead service line)
 - o Those who have a water lead sample exceeding the EPA Action Level (currently 10 parts per billion of lead)
 - o Remaining funds based upon date of completed LEAP application.
- Requirement to pass final inspection within 180 days of project completion, Village may terminate the LEAP eligibility and not provide reimbursement. (This provision ensures that final inspections are completed.)
- Clarification that only homeowners who receive drinking water from the Village are eligible. (no commercial buildings or residents who receive water from a different source)

It is requested that the Committee review the recommended updates to the lead service line replacement program. If a concurrence is reached, staff will present the updated program at a future Village Board meeting for adoption.

Neighborhood Lead Replacement Plan – Recommended Future Approach to Achieving Compliance with Public Act

The Lead Service Line Replacement Program has not spurred LSL replacements at a pace that complies with the state minimum of 7% per year. Therefore, it is recommended that the Village take additional steps to achieve compliance. There are a number of options available to the Village to address the requirement to replace the lead service lines. The 50/50 program was a good start at lowering the financial hurdle of replacement for residents. However, a financial hurdle remains for residents, many of whom do not perceive the danger of lead in their water or the need to replace an expensive component of their home that has not failed.

As the provider of potable water to residents, the General Assembly has placed the Village in the role of enforcing the replacement of all residential lead service lines. There are a number of options to consider for approaching the requirement. They include:

1. Village Pays 100% - The Village could decide to fully fund LSL replacements, select homes and schedule the work. The downside of this approach is that all homes in the Village, some of which fully funded their own LSL replacement, are paying for homeowners who have not maintained their homes. The estimated cost to the Village in 2026 would be \$1,370,000. This estimate is based upon the average LSL service line cost of the six homeowners participating in the 50/50 program. The upside to the approach is that the financial hurdle would be removed for homeowners who have not yet replaced their LSL.

2. Resident Pays 100% (or 50% if in LEAP) - The Village could set deadlines for homeowners to replace their LSL. If a deadline is not achieved after multiple efforts, the Village may have the option of scheduling the work and placing a lien on the home to recapture the expenditure. The downside is that the Village would be placed in the situation of funding the replacement and then working to recapture that cost if homeowners are not willing or able to comply with the Village timeline. This option has not been discussed with the Village Attorney.
3. Increased LEAP Share - The Village could consider increasing the 50/50 cost share percentage offered under the LEAP program in hope that more residents voluntarily replaced their water service lines. If after X years progress was not realized, an alternate approach could be discussed at that time.
4. Delay Action - The Village could not take any action and allow replacements to occur as homes are remodeled or water mains are replaced. This option would likely result in increased scrutiny from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. It is not known what degree of enforcement authority exists or what level of non-compliance would trigger action.

The Village's 50/50 program is currently in the middle of the first two options. It shares the cost of the LSL replacement without putting the full financial burden on either the Village (Option 1) or the homeowner (Option 2). The program described below takes another step toward the middle of the two options and is expected to result in achieving the minimum of 7% replacement per year goal established by the state.

Neighborhood Lead Replacement Plan - Concept

There are approximately 87 homes in Northfield that receive their drinking water through a lead water service line or a line where the material has yet to be verified. As noted, the pace of lead service line replacements has not achieved the Village's goal of 12.5% per year nor the state minimum of 7% per year. Due to both the proven health effects of children consuming lead and the requirements of the Public Act, it is recommended that additional steps are taken to increase the pace of LSL (lead service line) replacements. For the upcoming fiscal year (May 1, 2026 – April 30, 2027), the Village is planning a water main replacement project for portions of Happ Road and the 1600-1700 blocks of Harding. The Village water main project will require the 10 homeowners within that project area to replace their LSL prior to connecting to the new water main. This exceeds the state goal of replacing 7% of LSLs annually and meets the Village goal of 10% (9 homes) for fiscal year 2027.

The Village is unable to sustain a full water main replacement program annually in each area where there are currently lead service lines. Therefore, starting in fiscal year 2028 (May 1, 2027), it is recommended that the Village initiate a Neighborhood Lead Replacement Plan. Under this plan, 10 homes in close proximity to each other will be selected for the program. During that fiscal year, the Village will budget for and engage a contractor to install new copper service lines from the Village water main to the curb stop (commonly called buffalo box or b-box) located in the parkway. At that time, the resident will be required to fund the replacement of the remaining portion of the water service line. The resident will also be eligible to participate in the LEAP program to cover 50% of their costs up to the \$10,000 cap. As part of this program, the Village will also endeavor to seek pricing from the selected contractor to install the resident portion of the service line. The

resident will not be required to use the Village contractor, but may use the bid cost to compare against any contractor pricing that they obtain.

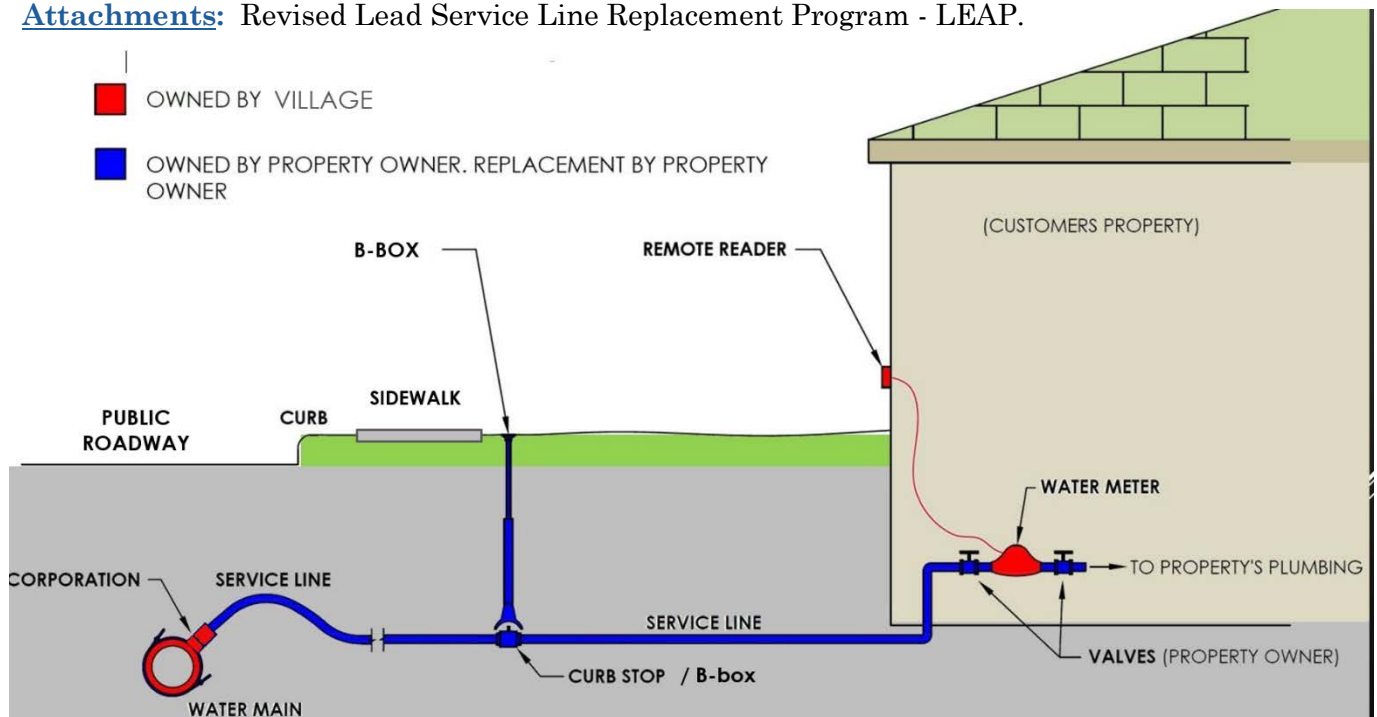
The area selected for the Neighborhood Lead Replacement Plan will be made by considering the following factors:

- Proximity of the homes to each other. Close proximity will provide contractor efficiency and therefore result in lower costs for both the Village and resident.
- Likelihood of water main replacement project. If a water main is anticipated to be replaced within the next nine years, that grouping of homes will be scheduled to be included in the water main project.
- Likelihood of a road project in the neighborhood. Ideally, the Neighborhood Lead Replacement Plan will occur prior to a road resurfacing project. This will result in both an improved road condition as well as minimize the likelihood of digging within a new road surface.
- Homes that have lead levels reaching the EPA Action Level. That level is 10 parts of lead per billion in 2026. Two or more homes in proximity with high lead levels will enhance the neighborhood's standing for the Neighborhood Lead Replacement Plan.

With the Happ/Harding water main project scheduled in FY27, the proposed program would not commence until June 1, 2027 (fiscal year 2028) at the earliest. To provide residents with adequate time to prepare for the expense of replacing their lead service line, it is recommended that notification letters be distributed no less than 10 months prior to the proposed project. Committee feedback on the proposed concept is requested.

Recommendation: The Village Manager recommends that the Committee reach a consensus on the revised 50/50 assistance program and direct the updated program to be considered for approval at the April Village Board meeting. Further, the Committee is asked to provide feedback on the proposed Neighborhood Lead Replacement Plan to commence in the fall of 2027.

Attachments: Revised Lead Service Line Replacement Program - LEAP.



Lead Elimination Assistance Program (LEAP) PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Lead Service Line (LSL) Replacement and Notification Act (the “Act”) became law in Illinois as Public Act 102-0613 on January 1, 2022. As stated in the Act, the Illinois General Assembly determined that there is no safe exposure to heavy metal lead, that there are over 680,000 lead-based service lines in Illinois and that for the health and safety of the citizens of Illinois, all lead service lines should be disconnected from the drinking water supply.

Under provisions of the Act, as of January 1, 2022, operators of community water supplies are required, among other things, to:

- Complete a WATER SERVICE LINE MATERIAL INVENTORY. By April 15, 2022, municipalities are required by the Act to create an initial material inventory containing the total number of service lines located within the municipality and the material of each line. (Complete)
This inventory is required to be updated and initially submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) by April 15, 2023, and a final inventory is required to be completed and submitted to IEPA by April 15, 2024. (Complete)
- Develop a LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PLAN. A lead service line replacement plan is required to be drafted by any municipality with known or suspected lead service lines in the distribution system at a replacement rate of no less than 7% per year. The initial phase of the replacement plan is required to be submitted by April 15, 2024, and updated each subsequent year, with the final version due April 15, 2027. The deadline for Northfield, based upon the number of known lead service lines, is April 15, 2039. The Village has identified a target replacement rate of 10% per year in an effort to meet the required 2039 deadline.
- Provide NOTIFICATION OF LEAD SERVICE LINE notification. The Act requires the distribution of annual notification letters to those within buildings served by a known lead water service line. Notification is also required when the Village is conducting work in close proximity to the known lead service line.

As of January 1, 2022, the Act expressly prohibits the partial replacement of lead water service lines. Further, the Act requires that lead service lines be replaced when the Village replaces a water main. Therefore, the Village has determined that it is in the best interest of its residents to provide at least 6-months’ notice to homes with known lead water service lines prior to commencing a planned water main replacement project. The notice is intended to provide the property owner with adequate time to solicit contractors and prepare for the expense related to the required lead service line replacement. The Village will also work with residents who are interested in coordinating with their neighbors to jointly hire a single contractor for the lead service line replacement in an effort to lower the cost of the work.

Updated: 03/17/26



Grant Assistance Program – LEAP

The Lead Elimination Assistance Program (LEAP) is a reimbursement grant for the owners of residential property in the Village who have a lead water service line. The water service line is the responsibility of the homeowner. The Village owns the water main within the public right-of-way and the property/homeowner owns the pipe which transports drinking water from the water main to the home. The pipe is commonly called a water service line. Although the water service line is the responsibility of the property owner, the Village has developed an grant assistance program to help offset the impact of the state requirements and encourage replacement of the lead service lines.

Under this assistance program, the Village will reimburse eligible homeowners 50% of the cost of eligible costs for replacing a lead water service line, up to \$10,000. The LEAP budget is determined annually by the Village Board and \$100,000 was budgeted in Fiscal Year 2027. LEAP funds will be distributed in the following order of priority:

1. Residents in a water main replacement project area.
2. Resident who encounter an emergency repair (either Village water main or broken water service line).
3. Those who have received a lead water test which exceeds the EPA Action Level which was 10 parts per billion in 2026. And
4. Remaining funds based upon the date of receipt of a complete application for LEAP funding.

The amount of LEAP funding will be based on the lowest proposed cost of the three cost estimates obtained by the homeowner from licensed plumbers. To be eligible, the scope of work must include the full replacement of the lead service line (from the tap to the home), and if necessary, the installation of a new Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) meter, as specified and provided by the Village.

Waivers:

Under certain circumstances, the Act allows homeowners to refuse to replace their lead water service line. Owners must sign waivers indicting that they understand the risks of a lead water service line and still refuse to replace their lead water service line. Homeowners who instead of replacing their lead service line choose to sign the waivers accepting all risks shall no longer be eligible for LEAP funding. If after a waiver is signed the homeowner subsequently chooses to sell their property, they must disclose the presence of the lead water service line.

Eligible Owners/Homes:

The LEAP program is open to the owners of residential property within the Village, who are served by the Village water distribution network, and who have not previously signed a Waiver as described in the section above. Homes that are undergoing a remodeling project and/or demolition and replacement are not eligible for LEAP funding.

Updated: 03/17/26



Eligible Project Costs:

- All material and labor costs for the replacement of a lead water service line with a similarly-sized copper water service line. Should the homeowner decide to increase the size of their water service line, the LEAP program will only cover the cost of a like sized replacement (e.g., 1 ½" lead replaced by 1 ½" copper).
- The replacement of galvanized services connected between a lead water service line and the water meter is an eligible cost. The downstream galvanized replacement is required under the ACT.
- All labor costs associated with connecting the water meter.
- Repairs to topsoil, sod, curb, gutter, and roadways caused by the service line replacement.
- The Village permit fees associated with the line replacement will be waived.
- Other direct costs related to the removal of the lead service line and installation of a new copper service line as approved by the Village Manager.

In the event that the Village undertakes a water main replacement project, the Village will replace the lead service line section, from the water main up to and including the curb stop (buffalo-box), as part of the water main project cost. The homeowner shall be responsible for the cost of the water service line replacement from the b-box to the water meter or home.

Ineligible Project Costs:

- Architectural, engineering, or other professional fees
- Incidental costs such as interior repairs including drywall, paint, carpet, and flooring
- Decorative exterior plantings (bushes, trees, plants, etc.) and hardscape (retaining walls, pavers)
- Temporary water facilities.
- Private electrical (post light, landscape lighting, etc.)
- Any costs not in the original quote and/or costs that exceed the maximum reimbursement of \$10,000.
- Deposits and/or escrows.
- The Village required standard street and/or parkway opening bonds will not be waived. However, those deposits/escrows will be returned so long as the work is completed satisfactorily.
- Any work completed without a previously issued permit from the Village.

LEAP Reimbursement Calculation:

The maximum reimbursement is \$10,000. The Village reserves the right to determine eligibility of reimbursable costs listed on an itemized invoice.

The LEAP reimbursement will be calculated as follows:



The Village of Northfield

(Lowest Proposal Cost of the three quotes - Itemized Exceptions) x 50% = LEAP Reimbursement up to the \$10,000 cap.

Process:

1. Resident to obtain three detailed written estimates from licensed plumbing contractors to install the new water service line including connection into the Village's water main.
2. The homeowner may contract with any of the three contractors for the work. However, the Village reimbursement amount will be based upon the lowest proposed price, regardless of the selected contractor.
3. Resident or their contractor to submit a completed Application with all required signatures and the following attachments:
 - a. Copies of the three detailed cost estimates
 - b. Contractor Checklist completed by the chosen contractor
 - c. Completed plumbing permit application
 - d. Three copies of construction plans and details
4. Once permits are approved the contractor may begin work. For the work to be eligible for reimbursement, the homeowner must ensure that all inspections required by the Village are performed. Work must be completed and inspected within 90 days of the Village's approval being granted.
5. Upon completion of the work and passing final inspection, the homeowner shall submit to the Village the following:
 - a. Completed Reimbursement Request form
 - b. Proof of payment
6. If the work does not pass final inspection, or a final inspection is not completed within 180 days of substantial project completion, the Village retains the right to terminate the LEAP eligibility and not reimburse homeowner expenses.

The program is voluntary and shall not be construed as the Village's assumption of responsibility or legal liability arising from the design, installation, operation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of any private water line or any damage or injuries arising from the failure or malfunction of such a system.

Upon conclusion of the lead water service line replacement project and LEAP grant funding, the homeowner shall continue to own and be responsible for the entirety of the water service line between the Village water main and the water meter.

Questions can be directed to the Public Works Department (Water Foreman) at (847) 441-3810 or the Building Department at (847) 784-3551.



Lead Elimination Assistance Program (LEAP) APPLICATION

Homeowner Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Year house was constructed: _____

Submittal Checklist:

1. Completed Application
2. Copies of three detailed estimates from licensed contractors to install the new water line.
3. Contractor Checklist completed by the chosen contractor
4. Completed plumbing permit applications
5. Three copies of construction plans and details
6. Briefly describe main work required:

If approved and I receive Village reimbursement monies for my lead service line replacement, I understand that all work must be constructed and maintained in accordance with the Village's Ordinances; that work must be completed within 90 days of receipt of Village permits. I understand that the Village maintains the right to inspect at any time to ensure the water line and water meter are properly installed.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Village, and all of its agents, board of trustees, officers, administrators, agents, and employees from and against all claims, damages, actions, disabilities, losses (including economic losses), injuries, lawsuits, costs, expenses, and liens, including but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, relating to my participation in the program. Any costs or expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred by indemnified parties to enforce the indemnification obligations hereunder shall be borne by me.

Homeowner Signature

Date



Lead Elimination Assistance Program (LEAP) CONTRACTOR CHECKLIST

Property Address: _____

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|----|
| 1. Property was built before 1980 | Yes | No |
| 2. Lead service line present | Yes | No |
| 3. B-Box is functioning properly | Yes | No |
| 4. AMI meter in place | Yes | No |

Include:

- Three printed sets of plans for work including all Village requirements and items as itemized above
- Cost estimate including breakdown of all major items by a licensed plumbing contractor

I hereby certify that all the above information is a true and accurate evaluation of the property and that the proposed work shall be undertaken in accordance with Village requirements and the Illinois Plumbing Code.

Plumber Name: _____ IL Plumbers License No: _____

Company: _____ Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Lead Elimination Assistance Program (LEAP) REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

Homeowner Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Homeowner E-mail: _____

Property Address: _____

Contractor: _____

Date of permit receipt: _____

Date of final inspection: _____

Submittal Checklist:

1. Completed Reimbursement Request form
2. Proof of payment

I agree to accept the grant from the Village and understand that I continue to have ownership and responsibility for my water service line which supplies drinking water from the Village-owned water main to my home.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I hereby agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Village, and all of its agents, board of trustees, officers, administrators, agents, and employees from and against all claims, damages, actions, disabilities, losses (including economic losses), injuries, lawsuits, costs, expenses, and liens, including but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, relating to my participation in the program. Any costs or expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred by indemnified parties to enforce the indemnification obligations hereunder shall be borne by me.

Homeowner Signature

Date

