

**Visioning Survey – Messages to City Council
Through October 31, 2017
Sorted by Age Group & Phases of Survey**

Under 20 Years Old - Messages to Council

Phase I

- None

Phase II

- Over the last few years Molalla has begun to get worse. Code enforcement has been horrible and crime has gone up.

20-40 Years Old - Messages to Council

Phase I

- I like the new banners on the poles on 211/213. I would like to see better sidewalks, ditches filled in, less homes built by sub-par contractors, and better follow through for example ~I thought the schools were going to use the modules for kids if the bond didn't pass...nope..looks like they are still in the "moldy, run down, death traps".
- "I would like Molalla to stay small, and not continue to build without knowing where we are going. We should only grow as much as the city residents are willing to support (\$\$\$ to back it up.)
- The school district & city need to be on the same page. We shouldn't build if we don't have the space to educate the children in these families.
- We need to bring our water/sewer system up to date before allowing more housing developments. Our services should be able to handle the people.
- Thank You for asking what we think as citizens!"
- The city has changed so much for the better in the past few years, with colorful murals, and new sidewalks the town is looking great!
- Keep up the good work guys and gals!!! Know that we are praying for you and the decisions you make to better our community. Thank you for all you do!!!! God Bless Molalla!
- Molalla needs more family friendly activities. I'd LOVE to be able to have swimming and gymnastics in town. Also concerts in the summer and more support of the arts. I think there is a disconnect between people who are "in town" and people who are in neighborhoods. Lots of people just "live" here and aren't super connected to the actual community. I think this group's biggest challenge will be to reach those commuters and bring them into the community.
- Maintain a feeling if safety is a priority.
- Glad to see the city stopping to ask, instead of just assuming.
- We moved out here for the small-town community and are considering moving if it gets much bigger. We love this town, please keep the awesome small-town charm.
- I am really hoping that Molalla will be able to become competitive in the near future when it comes to incoming business and growth. The Main Street project is looking amazing and I'm hoping that will continue to expand outward down 211 through town.

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- I love that you're doing this! Thanks for helping make Molalla a great place to live!!
- I'm really excited to see what this group is going to do. Big things are on the Horizon for Molalla, I can see that, and I'm really excited about it!
- "I appreciate all that the City members and committee members have done to improve Molalla. I recognize and appreciate all the effort that has been put into local projects and meetings/events.
- Thank You"
- "We HAVE to start the visioning process with identifying the values that resonate across the majority of our community. Our values are the ONLY way that we are going to be able to unite this town, or gain buy in. The town is too divided and we want too many different things to agree on anything other than our values. I do believe we have a shot at uniting people around our values, and once we have values settled making decisions becomes easier if we always make them according to our values. -Jon Knapp"

Phase II

- Clean up Molalla. Add trees and plants. Get the community out more like a park would get more people out. The current parks are infested with druggies
- i think the city has done a good job in their efforts to bridge the gap between old Molalla and new Molalla. it is a difficult task to develop with a growing population and preserve the small-town feel.
- Just don't turn into a big city. We moved out here because it was what we could afford at the time. We stay because we love the community. Donny do anything to change that.
- Don't sell out like Estacada, keep it small and home like. Many are moving to Molalla because of it
- The schools and city seem to think they are two separate entities. When the city grows and schools don't we fail our children. When the city offers nothing to our children and gives them nothing to do, where is the room for people to complain when they cause trouble? None
- More stuff for the children
- New or remolded schools, they are old, not safe and falling apart
- Please don't lose the small-town feel, I have never wanted to live in a big city like Canby or larger. I have lived here my whole life and love Molalla.
- Overall Molalla is a great little town. There are way too many vacant buildings and small business have a hard time. Something needs to be done to help small businesses and encourage property owners to maintain their buildings and work with renters
- "Keep our community small. No more apartments and low-cost living. There is value in small town relationships and values.
- If our town has to grow... mirror it in honor of Silverton or Sister's."
- I feel like Molalla is losing the small town vibe. People move here because its small quiet and rural. But when you have so much development you lose that. this city council seems only to care about growth and not about the impact it causes.
- I think if more homes and apartments are being built, the builders should be required to first invest in improvements to the town's roads and schools.

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- Deregulate and make it tax friendly to do business here
- Molalla has become a place where people are afraid to let their kids walk through town because of the transients and drugs. It is very rare to go to a park without seeing and possibly being accosted by either homeless people or disrespectful teens.
- I travel to Silverton just for the downtown atmosphere. We travel there for the pool, food, theatre, gymnastics and church. Molalla has this potential. I would love to see the history and architecture preserved.
- The town is heading in the right direction. Would love to help it stay that way for my future children.
- Would love to see the school systems improve their buildings too!!
- The schools are very crowded and I feel no more homes should be built until there is a handle on the schools
- This was a great idea
- Like with most government, I wish the city would manage our monies better instead of reaching into tax payer's pockets. It seems like the city has been asking for more money a lot recently.
- There seems to be a lot of resistance from older, long-standing residents for any change to "Their town". Please remember, we've chosen to make Molalla our home too and only want what's best for our children and community.
- I don't live in big meadow, but I see more and more posts about crime there, which seems silly since it's Molalla's suburbs. We need to make sure our community is aware and involved in keeping it and ALL of Molalla safe!
- In the past two years, the number of patrons served by local food assistance has DOUBLED. This should indicate something. Maybe the population growth is unsustainable, there isn't adequate housing, there aren't enough local JOBS, transportation is too expensive, or Molalla is attracting impoverished people for some reason.
- Please take the youth into consideration. Trails, parks and recreation programs! Continuing to explore the idea of Rails to Trails with the old rail line- would make a wonderful running trail.

41-60-Year-Old Messages to Council

Phase I

- "I am excited for the future of Molalla. There is so much potential to make this town a great community again, where people want to and have the ability to gather, shop, eat, live and enjoy. Thank you for soliciting and considering the residents' input, for giving the people a voice in the future of their community. I support your efforts and would love to contribute when the time comes.
- Thank you."
- We cannot be afraid to grow in areas that will support current growth. For example, there are many houses being built, but is the current support system (fire, police, public works) able to support the residence.

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- Thank you for taking the time and effort to do this for the community! Molalla has changed so much in the 30 plus years I've lived here. I'm happy to see that the Council is making an effort to include us rural folks too!
- Need a vision that speaks to community needs and input, not the agenda of a select few. Revitalize downtown core with better transportation and bike/walking access. Facelift to the streetscape. Incentives to local businesses to upgrade or improve their areas.
- "Please, Please let's keep the money here in Molalla instead of all of us going elsewhere to shop
- it is a very boring town nothing to do here I hear from Lots of people that has the same issues
- it really is a big problem here and needs to be addressed but no one seems to do anything about being here for so many years it still stays the same TAKE CARE OF THIS VERY BIG PROBLEM ASAP
- Thank You !!"
- I think that this is a great idea and I appreciate the Mayor and City Council taking the time to seek input from the rest of the community.
- I feel that security needs to be our first priority. We are having way too many problems with brake-ins in the area and vandalization. I would like to be able to walk through Ivor Davies Park and not see needles on the ground or have transients harass my kids. I want Molalla to be known as a safe place.
- "Maintain focus - cannot ""boil the ocean""
- Use the 80/20 rule - cannot please everyone"
- I'm glad this is happening!
- Think about the children of the future please."
- I think it's a fantastic idea!
- Need to update and fill shops in the middle of town, bring foot traffic back to stores
- As a builder I implore you to avoid taking on the permitting process. The system to be efficient would need to mimic "Portland Incorporated", "Clackamas County P&Z" or "Lake Oswego P&Z". Molalla is not the size to support this cost effectively. I would be happy to go more into detail.
- "Is there a place to find out the goals of this visioning process?"
- Are there any plans for action on the results gathered?"
- Will we be able to see the results of this survey?"
- I hope Molalla can improve, but getting out the good old boy stuff and supporting business has proven impossible so far...
- Please be careful as to Not raise our taxes. I believe enough money is levied already. Sorry but I've come to the position - No new taxes - period! Thank you for putting this together
- To me, the biggest need in our community is to fill empty store fronts and give the downtown a friendly facelift. I have some ideas...
- We need to do something about all the abandoned houses. Would be great thing if we could use them to help solve the housing shortage as I've seen in other communities.
- "I appreciate the facelift on Molalla Ave (new streetlights, sidewalks, etc.)
- We need to do more to attract business into our down town. It is discouraging to see almost all the buildings at the 4 ways stop empty. Perhaps open dialogue with those building owners to offer reasonable rent to business, or perhaps tax incentives to new businesses. We need more

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shopping options for people so they don't have to go to Oregon City or even Canby to have more of a variety of stores, and fast food places to choose from."

- i assume that there will be several competing ideas for how to proceed, it would be nice to see more of the process of how those ideas are generated, modified and winnowed down instead of just the results
- I think we should convert the old railroad into a fitness trail. Molalla Running Club and professional certified personal trainers from our local gyms can help design the exercises and recruit volunteers for the process. Or it can be a walking/running/biking trail, like Ivor Davies trail.
- Great community with a lot of pride, but for some reason it is strong divided pride that is not letting the community improve. You are either growing positively or negatively, but there is not standing still. I hope that we are starting to see positive growth soon for it appears a few things are leading towards that. Also, I have heard to revive a town it takes culture or the arts. Look around at Canby and Silverton for they appear to have good positive growth communities. Appears Molalla needs some of that.
- Thank you. We have a strong foundation of excellent, forward-minded people who want to make positive improvements to our town. There are an endless number of ways we can do so, and this grass-roots (or pyramid scheme) way of networking is awesome. Nice job.
- I am excited for the potential of change and growth in our community. Let's unite and make Molalla better than it's ever been.
- Thank you for your work on this project. Molalla holds tremendous potential. Excited to see where this leads us!
- I love that you are taking the time to do this as our city is growing fast and it is critical that we have a direction that is based on the wants of the citizens.

Phase II

- Molalla has a lot of potential. I've been in discussions with many people, mostly online, about ideas for Molalla's future. Most are resistant to change. My view is to promote improvement and not push change because we can work to improve the existing foundation and gain great results.
- Continue to support Community events
- I really appreciate all of the work that went into revitalizing the downtown street and sidewalks. I was very happy to see trees planted and water stations. It seems that a more active approach to community planning is being taken address the changing needs of a growing community.
- Think sisters Oregon, or even Waco Texas and what they've done there on a smaller scale of course but dream big:)
- The sidewalk and lighting project in down town looks great! Now if we can get the building fronts improved and viable small business' in the area. Perhaps incentives to the building owners? Sidewalks along Highway 211 need to be a priority for safety and access to Safeway.
- If Silverton can make it work, then so can Molalla. If property owners are not willing, encourage them to sell and get new blood--when you die you can't take it with you. What will be your legacy as a property owner when you are gone? As a slum lord????

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- Have to focus on growing and bringing modern up to date things to the area. Find a balance to keep Molalla what it has been and the history. Families move out of necessity to area, find a way to have them become part of the community, not just live here
- Get new stores
- The city council being responsible to the citizens should always be accessible, open and honest while spending tax payer's money. Don't rely just on surveys. The city council members should be out and about talking to the citizens of Molalla to get their thoughts on public works, law enforcement etc.
- Look at other towns such as Silverton. It's a cute town and inviting and also Sisters or Joseph. You want to visit those towns. Stop letting one person own all the buildings and raising rent, so we can't get anybody in the spaces. All you see is vacant stores
- Be careful with those that have grandiose ideas to take care of the homeless. I work in downtown Portland every day. Our previous city leaderships view towards charity for the homeless has only caused an epidemic as the homeless now flock to Portland and overwhelm the resources and emergency faculty.
- Keep chasing Silverton or at least try...
- More projects to update the look and appearance of the city, similar to the downtown project.
- We need more family-oriented entertainments and to clean up our parks and streets from the homeless and criminal elements so that families can enjoy our beautiful town and its people with fear or discomfort.
- Molalla and Main intersection needs review. Getting busier.
- The town really needs a finished face lift. The improvements made last year are great but more needs to be done on 211. The ditches need to go and it would be great to try to entice businesses into downtown. I wish I knew how!
- You can have all the vision you want but you have to have follow through.
- Get the Indians back in Molalla. Be proud to have Molalla Indians as our town mascot. Quit trying to be "politically correct". That's a phrase designed to insult people and try to get away with it.
- Happy to see this

61+ Messages to Councilors

Phase I

- Place a limit on residential construction (homes/apartments) in the Molalla Area.
- Definitions of terms such as 'community', 'vision', 'goals' should be clearly defined for those involved. How is the city of Molalla partnering with groups in the unincorporated surrounding areas and what impact do they want to achieve?
- Visioning is good only if there is honest follow-through and real action taken on the visions. Bring the visions into reality.
- Sorry this survey is so late... I am very much interested in this project & would be interested in attending a couple meetings. CharLee Rutheford, 503-913-4273.

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- City and school district work together because a school can be the center of the community and activities. Sure would like another grocery store so don't have to drive to Canby. (You knew that was coming!) And on my dream list would be a Dairy Queen!
- Please keep in mind that Molalla is the center of a rural community and not Lake Oswego or Hillsboro when you're planning what the city needs. We need to be open to new business by making things easy to do to get them here and not chase them away by making it difficult and expensive to locate here.
- Council needs to do their homework and not just "go with the flow". People who have businesses in Molalla but live outside of the city get dinged for taxes and fees, when they don't get to vote on City issues. The City needs more transparency and to put jobs out for people to apply and not rely on nepotism and cronyism to fill city jobs. I have NEVER seen a "we are hiring" notice ANYWHERE in the City, yet jobs get filled by brothers, sons, wives, etc. of current employees.
- Build up downtown where so many businesses are located.
- Be sure that your committee has a diversity of age groups, education level and viewpoints. During discussions, be clear about the purpose of the committee and the resources available in the city to make changes/suggestions available. Think long term first and then short term.
- "Repair upgrade and enhance what we have before enlarging boundaries.
- Keep the city clean at all times."
- A better planning dept., that plans for the town people that are the city limits know and not so much making a buck from a housing developer.
- I'm hoping the new City Council will be able to take care of the issues this city has to deal with every day.
- Please listen to the input and not use only your own opinions.
- I think my number one concern at this time is having proper water and sewage conditions to provide for the families that live here now. No more additions until we improve on this to make everyone feel safe. They don't know.... People are living longer, and are healthier than ever, and they want to stay that way. After visiting in California, you can see how important WATER is to everyone. Most of them drink water from bottles, and there are drainage ditches all over for water to run down hills because the land is so dry.
- "I love Molalla & the people! Glad we raised our son here.
- I am just tired of so many voting down, school bonds, police & fire budgets.
- We need these things...
- We r on fixed income so it costs us but we must keep these services"
- Appreciate the forward thinking. I try to talk it up whenever the opportunity arises, especially when I run into one of those critical, negative citizens.
- This visioning process should have probably included everyone who either lives in Molalla or has a business in Molalla.
- Affordable housing is a big issue for seniors. Add a Kmart or Fred Meyer.
- "I like the flags, new sidewalks & curbs, benches and bike park that you've done recently.

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- Would like more housing for low income/homeless folks. I hear of this need weekly. Thank you for your time and effort to help Molalla be all that it can be for the residents. We do have some streets that need new paving."
- Thank you for doing this. I am curious to see what comes of it.

Phase II

- Transparency, legal
- We moved here to be closer to our children and grandchildren. We are getting older and the more resources we have here will make it so we don't have to leave town for things that need to be done. Bringing in more business will also create more jobs.
- Stop the private space parking.
- The city is a small town and that is best quality. Let the horse owners ride their horses through town. What does it hurt? Beautification of city is nice and we could do more if the city had not so foolishly wasted our tax dollars on some law suit.
- We really need another store out here. I shop Winco, Trader Joes and Costco because Safeway is always understaffed and overpriced. Maybe a lower priced store would keep people local for shopping!
- "I hope City Council continues to ask for input from the community during this process.
- I'm stuck here so I hope Molalla improves."
- you need to consider the strain all your building has put on the roads and schools. NO MORE NEW HOUSNG! Molalla has lost the small town feel
- Just need to be careful about businesses coming in. Big burger has been there for years, we don't want to put them out of business. Molalla needs to try to keep our local owned/operated businesses. down town needs to be revived, buildings need to be filled
- don't know what you're hoping for in this survey, but I for one would like to see a lot more jobs and things for the family to do. besides leaving town to do them.
- Kudos for willingness to engage the community in planning efforts.
- Please start to work on economic development other than houses and apartments. Molalla needs living wage jobs to help rebuild the downtown core. Our entry sign says "BUSINESS READY-FAMILY FRIENDLY". It is time to become BUSINESS READY and encourage businesses to come to our town. Time is running out.
- This is exciting! Thank you for taking the time to put this together.
- Offer rent subsidies for the downtown properties that are empty. In the past people have not visited them enough for the store owners to make it but if an incentive was offered for a year to help them get established it might change that. many new families will help that.