

Survey Results: Quality of Life

Survey Info - This survey was sent on behalf of the City of College Station to the FlashVote community for College Station, TX.

These FlashVote results are shared with local officials

308

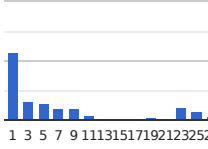
Total Participants

279 of 500 initially invited (56%)
29 others
Margin of error: ± 6%

Applied Filter:
Locals only

Participants for filter:
230

Response Time (hours)



Started:
Apr 11, 2023 11:10am CDT

Ended:
Apr 13, 2023 11:04am CDT

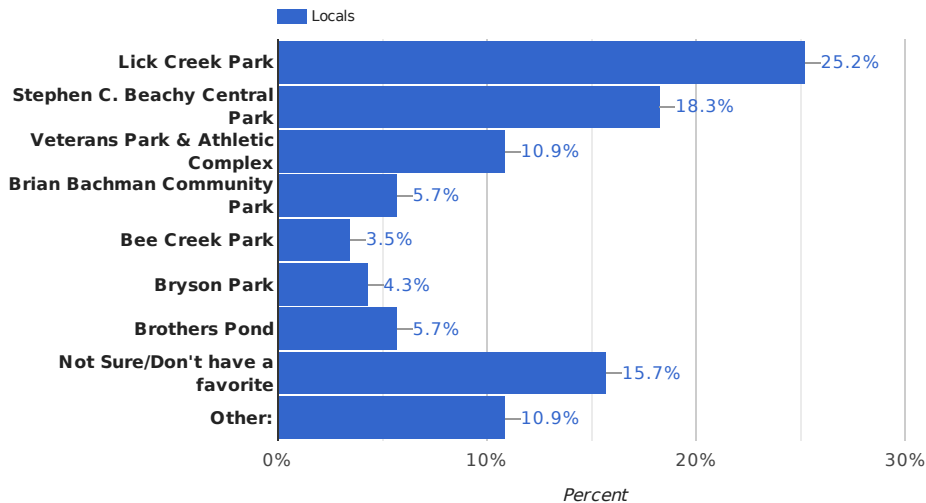
Target Participants:
All College Station

Q1 Welcome to the City of College Station’s first FlashVote survey. You’ll be invited to participate in more short surveys in the coming months. We genuinely value your input!

Which ONE is your favorite park in College Station?

(230 responses by)

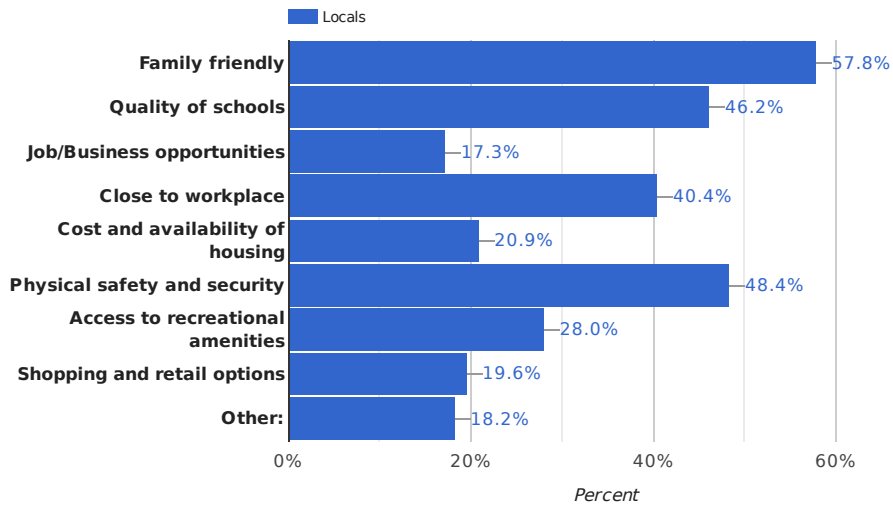
Options	Locals (230)
Lick Creek Park	25.2% (58)
Stephen C. Beachy Central Park	18.3% (42)
Veterans Park & Athletic Complex	10.9% (25)
Brian Bachman Community Park	5.7% (13)
Bee Creek Park	3.5% (8)
Bryson Park	4.3% (10)
Brothers Pond	5.7% (13)
Not Sure/Don't have a favorite	15.7% (36)
Other:	10.9% (25)



Thomas park
Wolf Pen Creek
Gabbard Park
Thomas Park
Wolf Pen Creek Park
Mable Thomas Park
John Crompton Park
Lemon Tree Park - especially the walking trail
Gabbard Park
Woodcreek Park
Thomas Park
Thomas Park
Art and Myra Bright Park
Thomas
Wolf creek
Thomas Park
Reatta meadows
no favorite
Gabbard
Thomas Park
Sandstone Park
The Oaks
Thomas park
Thomas Park
Gabbard

Q2 What do you value most about living in College Station? (You can choose up to FOUR, if any)
 (225 responses by)

Options	Locals (225)
Family friendly	57.8% (130)
Quality of schools	46.2% (104)
Job/Business opportunities	17.3% (39)
Close to workplace	40.4% (91)
Cost and availability of housing	20.9% (47)
Physical safety and security	48.4% (109)
Access to recreational amenities	28.0% (63)
Shopping and retail options	19.6% (44)
Other:	18.2% (41)



I love Texas A&M University

Access to Texas A&M

People

Large number of retired residents and preservation of military history.

Being ahead of traffic needs with construction in advance of congestion

Cultural Food Options

As someone who grew up here, left for many years and now moved back, CS lacks in all of the above

That we are finally valuing baseball they way we do soccer/softball, though we need to do more

Close to doctors and hospitals

The accessibility of being able to run errands at multiple places around town in less than an hour

the cost, quality and availability of childcare (vs other big cities in the country)

Seeing people around town that we know - small-town feel even though College Station is growing.

The City is clean, for the most part

The students make me feel young

Still has a small town feel but close enough to large cities for big city amenities.

All the parks/green space - bike/walking trails

Nice size community. Not to big, not to small.

Texas A&M

The university.

Small town

Single family neighborhoods

Texas A&M

Birds

Quiet neighborhood

Texas A & M

Friends

Close all major cities 3 hours or less

Family lives here

Medical access

Activities associated with A&M

Close to Family

The beauty of the city of College Station

Proximity to Houston, Austin, and The Woodlands

Being close to extended family

Availability of Medical Care

Friendly community, beautiful surroundings.

Small Community

Lick Creek Greenway and bike trail

Community

Lots of cheap food and drink

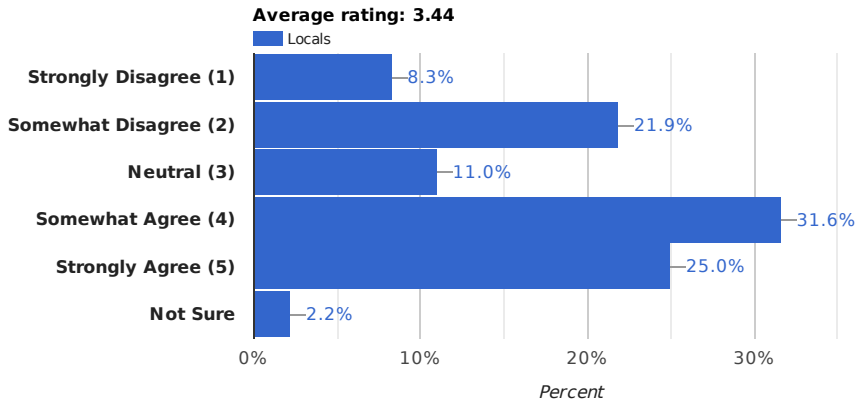
Medical Care

Q3 How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“Growth and development have contributed positively to College Station’s quality of life”

(228 responses by)

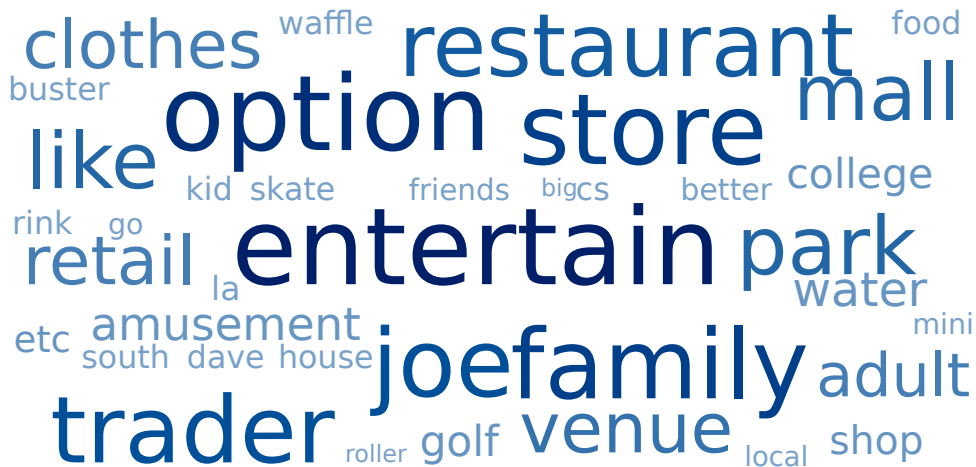
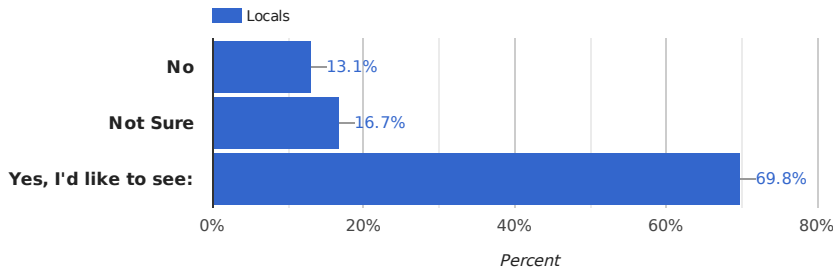
Options	Locals (228)
Strongly Disagree (1)	8.3% (19)
Somewhat Disagree (2)	21.9% (50)
Neutral (3)	11.0% (25)
Somewhat Agree (4)	31.6% (72)
Strongly Agree (5)	25.0% (57)
Not Sure	2.2% (5)



Q4 Would you like to see any new retail stores, restaurants, entertainment, or amusement options here?

(222 responses by)

Options	Locals (222)
No	13.1% (29)
Not Sure	16.7% (37)
Yes, I'd like to see:	69.8% (155)



Another Dunkin (on the other side of town)

Pappadeux's Seafood

Chicago-style hot dogs and pizza, municipal golf course, a small golf store with repair services

WAFFLE HOUSE, IN N OUT

Trader Joes

la Madeleine Restuarant, some kind of family fun place like Horshoe Junction in Brenham

Local, unique restaurants and more outdoor spaces.

Skate rink, real pickleball courts instead of painted lines and bring your own net.

perry's, le madeleine

Emphasis on attracting more high end retail and restaurants. Redevelopment of mall, outside access

Waffle house

More social events like performances, fine arts, exebitions, fairs, etc. And not just county fairs

Things to do for kids and young adults. Water park. Miniature golf

Trader Joe's or any grocery store in North CS

Large Scale Amusement Centers

Independent restaurants, arts venues

gokart track

Pappadeaux.

More entertainment for post college young adults

something in the old Academy

More female-centric boutiques that cater to older women, not college girls.

Container Store, Whole Foods

Mini golf, concert/comedy venues

Papasito's

new forms of entertainment (not directed towards college-aged kids) would be nice!

Waffle House

Roller skating, better children's library, toddler friendly activities

Century Square -like developments that are walkable with central green.

Family/couple entertainment options that are open past 8pm

Trader Joe's

More things for kids & families to do

replacement for mall. More like Century Square but with more stores and more affordable options.

more baseball fields and the bachmann park fields open year round rather than closed for 1/4 year

Family Water Park and other things that cater to the community, NOT the students

More retail for non athletic shoes and clothes

La Madeleine, women's clothing retailers, more kid-friendly entertainment options, including nature

Local business!!!

Retail stores that are NOT college-student focused.

Remove the medians that are causing so much trouble!!!

Anything for families. We have movies and a bowling alley. We need more family activities.

Dave & Busters

Trader Joe's, Central Market or Whole Foods, more places to entertain children (Magic House, St. Lo

More recreational activities that don't cost an arm and a leg. You know what I'd love? A pool.

Would like whole food plant based restaurants and grocery stores

Anything new to our market really just to expand options. Entertainment focus would be ideal

All of those things

Healthy whole food plant Based restaurants and healthy grocery store options like whole foods.

Waffle house, better malls

more big brand stores in the mall

All of the above

Untuckit Retail, Pappasita's and Pappadeaux's

Northgate "entertainment" District encourages drunkenness and sexual assault. Redevelop that area.

More options for young families with young children

More options for family entertainment. Better quality restaurants.

More amusement options. Plenty of growing families and not enough to keep them all entertained.

Hard Rock Aggieland, an amusement park, a water park, Bass Pro Shop

Trader Joes

So many.

More indoor entertainment & amusement

another area like Century Square. Century Sq seems to have a range of price points etc... SoCo

REI, P.F. Chang's, a quality men's clothing store

upscale shopping/clothing stores

Go cart tracks

Amusement/entertainment options - have to travel to Bryan for stuff: Big Shots, etc.

Restaurants, entertainment/amusement

Shopping- Clothing, Furniture, Technology, Artwork, etc

Movie theater in South CS, Target or similar store in South CS

More entertainment/amusement options, we have plenty of restaurants. Specialty retail lacking

More meeting space options. Concert venues.

Family friendly entertainment venues.

Pappacitas, more restaurants in south cs

Amusement ans retail. The mall needs to be better.

All of the above mentioned, especially retail and entertainment

Frys,

Dave & Buster's

Trader joe's

Better variety. We don't need more chicken strips or car washes.

More locally owned and operated small businesses

Post Oak Mall needs to be torn down and a new outdoor retail destination built.

la Madeline restaurant, family fun center like Horseshoe Junction in Brenham

A huge indoor park, Papadaux, more family stuff less college oriented.

more family entertainment options

More family venues like Big Shots, Legends, etc in Bryan. Way less banks and storage facilities.

Retail, food, and family entertainment options.

Something to rival Grand Station. Also Pappacitos. .

Adult arcade + anything that will increase our tax base. Massive win would be Disneyland Texas.

In n Out, more thrift stores, dad's discounts, Fiesta

Clothing stores (Soft Surroundings, Sundance, etc.), Dick's Sporting Goods, Lexus or Genesis (auto)

Pappas

Skating rink, water park, update mall, C&W dancehall, concert venue

Electronics store - Altex

Mini golf

retail in the mall, roller skating, more usable tennis courts, pickle ball courts

I'd like to see more locally owned restaurants and businesses.

Different restaurants

Incredible Pizza Co., Aquarium, Big Event, Joes Crabshack

Convert Post Oak Mall to outlet stores

Trader Joe's, vegan options at restaurants,

Trader Joe, Sprouts

Trader Joe's, Sweetgreen

YMCA in south College Station. An authentic Mexican restaurant. Trader Joes.

Family (not student) entertainment

Main Event

Roller skating rink

More variety in restaurants, more festivals, activities not so geared to college students,

Cheesecake Factory, Buc-ee's

Amusement

Trader Joe's; a bagel shop

More entertainment options

Roller skating rink,

Fewer chains, more live music venues

Waffle House and Burlington Coats

Trader Joe's, Men's Warehouse, Target in South CS, Sonic in South CS

Retail store

More family entertainment options like miniature golf, go-karts, and playground options.

Comic-Con, or tabletop gaming options

Amusement options only if my business, Kona Ice, is not forbidden like it is in all large parks.

I would like to see a six flags type of amusement park and more industrial manufacturing plants

Revamp the mall.

Less chains, and more small businesses. Also, more entertainment options, especially live music

Pappadeaux, LA Madeline, roller skating rink, water park

YMCA, better stores in the mall, Trader Joe's, inexpensive entertainment for tweens/teens

entertainment opportunities: go karts, mini-golf (not the cheesy one at Big Shots, etc...

Pappadeaux's Restaurant, In and Out Burger, The Original Pancake House (Dallas)

Quality clothing and furniture stores would be great. It's very hard to find anything stylish & new

Something more for the 45-55 age group.

more preservation of green space for enjoyment and access to nature

More family friendly spots where adults can visit with one another (eat, drink, whatever)

Dave and Busters, In and Out Burger

A water park

Pickleball,

Entertainment, live bands

Fewer strip centers.

Water Park

Quality mall, big Restaurants

Pappadeax Restaurant

get Red Lobster back again

More retail stores

Roller skating rink, water park, indoor pool, scholarships for low-income children to go to camps/

Trader Joe's. Please, please, please.

Locally owned, music friendly venues for older folks. Gathering places for young seniors.

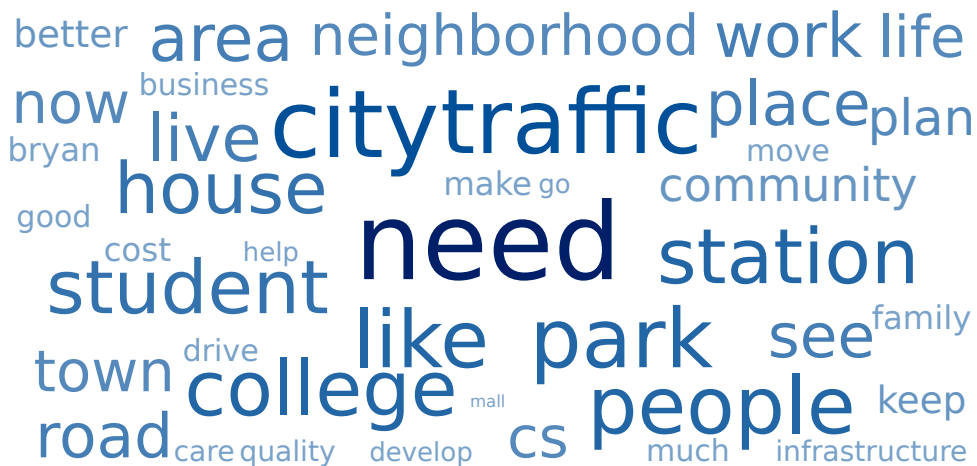
More safe spaces for teens

Dave & Busters, Six Flags of Aggieland, Water Park

Larger retail clothing stores (ex: Macy's) that offer clothing styles for older adults

Q5 Any other comments or suggestions about quality of life in College Station?

(62 responses by)



Great place to live and work!

Single family neighborhoods need to be protected from rentals

Please take care of families. A huge indoor park with playgrounds for children of all abilities would be great. Maybe even with cheap food places. More family friendly stuff.

We completely understand that CS was initially built due to Texas A&M. However, the city has drawn people here that may have little to do with the university. Most activities in town revolve around A&M - particularly A&M sports. Citizens need more recreational activities that do not revolve around A&M. Bryan has a great head start with Big Shots and Midtown Park. But once you have seen the Bush Library, attended an A&M sporting event, go to Aggieland Safari, there really is not much to do here - especially if you have guests in town. A&M will continue to grow but I am not sure CS is growing fast enough to accommodate this growth in students - particularly with traffic and housing. The intersection of Wellborn and George Bush should have been fixed years ago. When someone says they are going shopping, they mean they are going to either The Woodlands to shop or to the outlet malls in Cypress. BCS is missing out in the retail department and tax revenue.

Housing is getting too expensive for normal folks to live here

I truly enjoy my retired life here. Since I am disabled and do not drive, it's rare that I get to be out in the community. However, I am so glad that this community is most respectful of our veterans and supports Veterans Park and the Museum of the American GI.

I am concerned that CS has become so concerned about "quality of life" and the meaning of that phrase that the city will only concentrate on the "pretty things" without being mindful that the real purpose of the city is to provide excellent safety and excellent infrastructure. These two things are the foundation and backbone that we need. The "pretty things" require ongoing maintenance cost that should be left to private enterprise. If the city cannot properly maintain the first city park, why should we believe that it can maintain any of the other "pretty things"? I believe that the current city hall is a monument to ego and that the original city park behind it is a monument to the city moving on to the the next shiny new thing without taking care of what it has.

City needs to protect single family neighborhoods and their integrity much much more.

I love College Station and Texas A&M.

If you want quality of life in College Station ... move to Bryan. It's not a giant dorm.

Enough with the city's war on left turns

Parks has too much money/waste. Need to spend more money on public safety.

People drive like maniacs here. I've lived in and visited a LOT of places. I've never seen so many accidents, evidence of accidents and red light runners. It seems we need much more police monitoring the traffic. But they're doing a good job and are much appreciated.

There's a lack of festivals where they shut down the streets for a good time like in Bryan. There's no awesome conference center like Bryan. All the parking for local kids sports is bad. There's a huge divide between south College Station and northern. College station really missed the mark with long term planning for a north south east west rail system that could connect A&M to outlying communities. Instead we get medians. As soon as my kids are done with school, we are moving to Bryan.

I'd like to see a City Council and Mayor that cares more for the people who live here. Traffic islands? REALLY? How is that good for retail? Killing Home Goods and Kohl's, for example, is a huge negative. No left turns for safety, BUT forcing u-turns in their place? What a dumb idea. Did the elected officials question this, or just take the word of city staff that it's a good idea, when in reality they are hated by the citizenry? Buying the Macy's building at an inflated price, when malls are dead? What a waste of money. The fake appraisal is an insult to us all. Yes, you may have part of it leased to A&M, but ask yourselves: WHY does A&M need us, except for us to take a risk they are unwilling to accept? I could go on....

Please plan out infrastructure and improve roads before areas are built out. I.e once plans are approved (example is Greens Prairie should have been rebuilt as soon as Castlegate II and Creek Meadows were approved.

Keep making roads bike friendly

This question is actually funny! The City is diminishing the quality of life by allowing residential areas to become inundated with Aggie-shacks and students. The streets are cramped from all the cars and a firetruck would be hard pressed to get to a burning house....or an ambulance. Law suit in the waiting room, if you ask me. I have called multiple times reporting loud parties, drunks, and yelling. I've called on the same house consistently. While the police eventually show up, it's usually an hour or so later and no tickets are issued....if they had been given a hefty fine they wouldn't be repeat offenders. So, what is the city actually doing with this information? As I see it, you are ignoring the locals and their cries for help. I grew up here, graduated from consolidated, graduated from A&M, and retired from CSISD. I don't see how the city has made CS a better place.

Drainage project on 2818 near Southwood was poorly done - water stands in that ditch for way too long after it rains! You let someone put in handicap access on sidewalks on Southwood and they ruined what was a drainage area that worked. It hold water now, and no one seems to care! Way to create a "hood" mental for what has been a lovely middle-class neighborhood for years. Boo!!

The alarming number of red light runners in College Station makes me feel unsafe. I would like to see more aggressive enforcement of red light laws.

I enjoy the bike lanes and trails. Hwy 6 needed widening years ago. The highway entrance/exit ramp project a few years ago was a flop and waste of our tax payer money!

Planning for nature preservation areas before continued development seems urgently needed.

More community project opportunities for people to join together and support one another.

More community events such as concerts, festivals, art fairs

Take care of traffic before it becomes a crisis, not after development

Until you get a handle on traffic, little else matters. Please catch up on police, fire and EMS - they are stretched too thin.

I think we are growing quicker than our infrastructure will allow. Our traffic is horrible. Until we get some relief from that problem, life here is going to be a little difficult.

It's great! Now please don't connect Pebble Creek with a road to any other neighborhoods in south College Station! Will cause many of us to want to move out with increased traffic.

The lack of neighborhood preservation is very disappointing, especially in the older areas. It furthers the feeling of being in a transient place where the importance of students outweighs the local taxpayers satisfaction.

N/a for now

Have City planners take traffic into consideration before approving addition apartments/subdivisions. Housing is added with minimal consideration for increased traffic

Awareness of climate change, tree planting, improving community transport, support of low cost neuter/ spay program for animals.

Leave some open space. We do not need to develop every square inch of the city. The open spaces don't have to be improved into parks. Just leave some areas mostly wild. Cut in some trails. Let people run their dogs in sight under voice control if you must, but give city dwellers a place in the interior of the city to be in nature. Everybody will benefit. Some areas behind Windwood Drive and across from Veteran's Park, or the area next to Crystal Plaza are good candidates. Once it's covered with concrete it's gone forever.

Lack of side walks makes some of the city inaccessible to navigate and get to these retail stores, restaurants, etc

We desperately need to deal with occupancy limits. We also need to do a better job of parks maintenance.... older parks in particular, and not just ball field maintenance. Mowing, parking lot maintenance in particular.

Traffic is terrible

More thorough drinking water quality reports.

The movement of students into residential areas has degraded the quality of life. It is the numbers that has done that. 60 years ago there were not many students in neighborhoods and most of them were married students. Now there are a lot of unmarried students with many Aggieshacks and the noise, trash and parking problems that go with them.

Bike paths would help with older kids (e.g., 10-15) being able to move around without cars better.

We need more affordable housing. And keep investing in bike infrastructure!

N/A

Mass transit. More family community stuff please. Exercise programming through the rec centers that's accessible for people who are not seniors but still need adaptations. I would love a spin class or modified weight lifting.

housing cost is over inflated inside the city limits. this makes renting and owning very difficult for many people who then must look to live else where. For example the same house in Bryan or sounding cities built by the same builder is significantly more expensive in College Station.

More family friendly activities both indoor (to help with heat in the summer) and outside activities, such as a water park which would bring more people to our town.

Medians have just forced u-turns and extra neighborhood traffic-- don't know what the answer is for that. Hope schools & libraries stand up to the book ban nuts. We need a YMCA. It would be nice if it was located centrally-- all the neighborhoods in south CS have pools & many have a private pool on top of the neighborhood pool-- something for the people who work to keep the professors, coaches and college students here.

We need more retail opportunities and restaurants that aren't Tex Mex or Mexican. Would be nice if walking/running trails were policed now and again to stop people from letting dogs roam freely without being on a leash.

Small businesses struggle in CS. I own Kona Ice and am unable to sell at sports events because of concession policies. Ice cream trucks sell when concessions are open & closed. We sell when we are invited but that is less than 1% of events. We have given over \$70K to schools but can't giveback to youth sports because we are prohibited to sell at parks. People complain that we are not at their kid's sports. Tournament coordinators' complain that CS is hard to work with. Most of the events that are offered to food trucks do not cover costs because of low sales and crowds. I would like to see CS offer review the policies and offer more leniency toward food trucks. I would like to see CS think about the people that drive long distances and stay all day at these hot sports events. They deserve to be catered to as well. Finally, please consider the people walking in the parks, fishing, visiting the splash pad & playing soccer games without refreshments because concessions are closed.

I think the city does a great job overall. One infrastructure decision I disagree with is the numerous, long and disruptive medians going in all over town; they make ingress and egress from businesses very difficult in some cases and don't seem to solve any real problem. However all of the other new infrastructure projects, 2818 in particular, are great. Would love to see some more big entertainment venues in College Station... Big Shots going into the super park in Bryan was a huge win, they're doing a great job over there. I am happy we are keeping College Station the way it is and growing smartly. I will never go back to Austin!

Growing too much is also a problem, especially with a city council who has no idea what happens in the real world. These folks are clueless.

Making safe streets for walking and bicycling, particularly for errands, would improve life. I suggest that we do more building "up," so that we stop bulldozing our mature trees and green spaces--particularly since we have such a large college student population.

We love it here but see so many new things being built that the planning could have been sooo much better.

Stop raising property values...

Better traffic flow! It's terrible during the morning and afternoon commute.

Would like to see more businesses providing high paying jobs

Too many strip centers with unoccupied space, too many trees being destroyed,

We need more walkable areas since there is no downtown.

CS needs more affordable housing- not be so focused on student housing- it has taken over neighborhoods that have been here for decades and now there is NO semblance of those neighborhoods. The people who grew up there. and even afford to live on those streets or in the neighborhoods- sad-

Keep the parks and recreation activities well funded for use by all folks.

Developer Impact fees needed to cover cost of new roads and utilities that are needed with growth

More eyes on potential shooters and more opportunities to engage their time.

I moved from Houston, TX, but I like it better here in College Station. Everything is close enough to be readily accessible, yet there are some similar amenities of bigger cities. A YMCA would be helpful for families though.

Less emphasis on students and athletics