

Village of Bellaire Master Plan Survey Results Summary and Report

Prepared by Networks Northwest

Reviewed by Village of Bellaire Master Plan Committee – November 14, 2018

As part of developing a new Master Plan for the Village of Bellaire, the Bellaire Master Plan Committee developed and released an online and hard copy survey designed to help create a shared vision of what Bellaire could become in the future, and to identify priority actions for the community.

From August 10, 2018 to September 14, 2018, the survey questionnaire was distributed over the Internet and hard copies made available at various stores and offices in the Village. 210 survey responses were received.

In order to help the community prioritize future activities and direction, the following summary reviews survey results with an eye towards identifying strong consensus issues – that is, those with majorities indicating agreement or disagreement on a particular issue (for example, those with over 50% of responses stating that a strategy is “somewhat important” or “very important”).

Note: When reviewing survey results, it’s important to note that the questionnaire is **not a statistically valid survey**. Results must be balanced with additional data sources and dialogues, including committee discussion, focus groups, other forms of public input, and research and analysis. Survey results will help to point the way towards additional research, input opportunities, and discussion throughout the process.

Overview: High-Priority Issues

- **High quality, well-maintained parks and protected natural resources** remain the top characteristics in creating a desirable future for Bellaire. **Year-round tourism, small town character and easy access to recreation** are also important characteristics.
- Most respondents would like Bellaire to be **friendly small town community** with a **variety of shops and recreational opportunities** and be **a destination for visitors**.
- Improving the economy is important by having **good-paying, specialty jobs that meet local needs and interests, year-round tourism opportunities** and **more housing choices for families and/or the workforce**.
- Preferred development pattern is a **mix of residential and commercial (retail stores, offices) uses**.
- **A downtown community and events center and events/festivals** would help to enhance community engagement.
- **More amenities are needed for parks and public spaces**, including restrooms, picnic table, trails, etc.
- **Developing affordable, workforce housing** is a very important priority.

Responses

#1: How important are each of these characteristics in creating a desirable future for Bellaire?

Majority of respondents (88%) indicated that high quality, well-maintained parks and protected natural resources were the most important in creating a desirable future for Bellaire. Year-round economy/tourism, unique small town character, and easy access to recreation also ranked high. It should be noted that all characteristics received at least 58% or higher as “Very Important.”

- High quality, well-maintained parks (88%)
- Protected natural resources (88%)
- Year-round tourism opportunities (84%)
- Unique small town character (83%)
- Easy access to recreation (82%)

#2: How would you describe the type of community you'd like Bellaire to be?

This open ended question provided many responses. Top ten key words in responses included: *Small town, friendly, welcoming, community, shops, place, destination, recreational, village and visitors*. Complete responses are provided at the end of this report. A random sample of responses is as follows:

- *Small town community*
- *Open to change. More small retail. Welcoming to people.*
- *Friendly, with a good restaurant, diverse population, mixture of retail, attention to the beauty of the downtown and surrounding natural area, and preservation of historical buildings. Add a building code for downtown buildings that is aimed at creating an attractive and cohesive appearance. Encourage gardens with seating and walk-ways, like the one at the corner of M88 and Cayuga.*
- *A place that people enjoy visiting and living in. A place that welcomes diversity and provides opportunities to raise family - affordable housing, good schools, safe neighborhoods.*
- *People travel to Bellaire for its beauty, its lakes and recreation. One does not have to fill Bridge St. with just food/pubs but stores the 12 month a year people use too. A compliance should occur. We only hear one side of the story; one side is missing. Try not to spoil this town. Be careful.*
- *Unique, charming, active, and vibrant. It should be a great place to be; a place of interest for the local resident as well as the tourist.*
- *A fun place to explore and try new things, where everyone cares about the community and the people that live there as well as those that come to visit. We live in the best place on Earth.*
- *Maintain a local community atmosphere.*
- *Mixed community with a variety of downtown activities and shops*
- *A destination for outdoor recreation. Welcoming and accessible to young and old. Employment opportunities for young and old. Small town charm with progressive thinking in the areas or arts and economics*

#3: What would enhance Bellaire's economy?

Respondents were able to make as many choices as they'd like. The top three priorities obtaining two-thirds or more of responses were as follows:

- Good-paying, specialty jobs that meet local needs and interests (71%)
- Year-round tourism opportunities (69%)
- More housing choices for families and/or the workforce (64%)

Other notable responses were *A variety of eating and drinking establishments* (62%) and *Farm to table: Growing, processing and marketing of local foods* (58%).

#4: What types of development would you like to see in Bellaire?

Respondents were able to make as many choices as they'd like. The only priorities receiving a majority response were as follows:

- Mix of residential and commercial (retail stores, offices) uses (71%)
- Mix of multi- and single family homes (51%)

#5: What would enhance community engagement in Bellaire?

The top three priorities receiving a majority response were as follows:

- Downtown community and events center (66%)
- Events/festivals (63%)
- Creating opportunities for public art events, activities, and displays (58%)

#6: What strategies do you think are important in addressing issues at Bellaire parks and public spaces?

The top three priorities that were identified as very important were as follows:

- Accessible public bathrooms downtown (73%)
- Additional amenities (restrooms, picnic tables, bike racks, etc) (61%)
- Recreation facilities (kayak launch, trails, etc.) (57%)

#7: What strategies do you think are important for improving the quality of life in Bellaire?

The top three priorities obtaining two-thirds or more of responses were as follows:

- Provide accessible public bathrooms downtown (66%)
- Increase affordable housing choices (65%)
- Increase job and career options for youth (63%)

#8: What strategies do you think are important in addressing housing needs in Bellaire?

There was good response to *develop affordable, workforce housing* with 58% saying it's *very important* and 85% saying it's *somewhat important* or *very important*. Responses were less strong for *allowing multi-family homes (apartments, condos, duplexes, fourplexes) in more areas* with only 42% stating it as *very important*.

#9: What strategies do you think are important in preserving and enhancing Bellaire's natural environment?

Large majority of respondents (91%) indicated that *Encourage best practices for managing stormwater (rain gardens, minimize impervious surfaces, swales, etc.)* is *somewhat important* or *very important*. While there is some support in *promoting a "Dark Skies" initiative*, it may be an issue that requires more community discussion.

#10: What are other thoughts and comments do you have about the future of Bellaire?

This open ended question provided many responses. Complete responses are provided at the end of this report. A random sample of responses is as follows:

- *The growth of downtown businesses has been a plus, and more cultural opportunities would enhance quality of life and tourism*
- *Keep small town feel. Do not become a Charlevoix or Traverse City or even Gaylord with all its' major brand stores. Work on parking for what we have.*
- *Work to attract more businesses to the area. Encourage more "new-comers" to participate in local governing boards, and appoint people other than "old-timers" in order to get more new ideas.*
- *There seems to be willingness for businesses to work together for the good of the village and area. Build on that, but there needs to be a vision, a picture of what Bellaire is and what we want for our future. Ideally, this survey will help. Are there codes or covenants for the Downtown look & feel. Doesn't seem to be. Very hodge-podge look.*
- *I grew up in Bellaire, and the town has a special place in my heart. Although I am happy that tourism has created economic stability, I am dismayed that Bellaire is not the mother practical or affordable place to start a life. As a young person, I had to move away to find better opportunities. Perhaps if Bellaire took action on some of the initiatives that are being proposed, Bellaire could be more than just a small-town tourist destination. It could be a place of affordable living and burgeoning opportunity.*
- *It's my opinion that Bellaire has plenty of drinking establishments (five within two blocks, and perhaps two more opening soon). Let's focus our energies on other activities. It's not all about food and drink.*
- *The area is filled with talented, inventive, artistic people that have a lot to offer Bellaire. I think of Interlochen Center for the Arts, which is a school, but something like that for crafters and artists that's affordable for people of all ages in Bellaire. I would also support the independent film event*

that is now a part of Traverse City and events for budding/would-be authors, too. Perhaps that could be held at the public school during the summer?

- *Promote more shopping in the downtown area. Bellaire Downtown days?*
- *Can't stress how important it is to get a Youth Center in Bellaire!!!*
- *Bellaire's future will be bright if we can: 1. Create sustainable jobs, 2. Control growth, 3. Protect our environment, 4. Invest in technology and infrastructure, 5. Partner with Cherry Capitol Airport to make the commute between hassle free— this would encourage remote employment opportunities.*
- *We need to be forward thinking about our community and find ways to attract businesses, but the first step is to provide affordable housing options for existing and future workers*

Profile of Respondents

#11: What is your residential status in Bellaire?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| • Year-round Village resident | 33% |
| • Part-time Village resident | 4% |
| • Year-round Antrim County resident (Outside of Village) | 45% |
| • Part-time Antrim County resident (Outside of Village) | 6% |
| • Regular visitor | 10% |
| • Other non-resident | 2% |

#12. If you're interested in participating in volunteer opportunities at the Village, please provide your contact information and information on what activities you'd be interested in.

This open ended question provided many responses. Complete responses are provided at the end of this report.

	QUESTION 2
	How would you describe the type of community you'd like Bellaire to be?
1	A destination for both area residents and tourists, with expanded arts and cultural offerings.
2	People friendly to locals & tourists
3	Small town community
4	Open to change. More small retail. Welcoming to people.
5	Like Boyne City.
6	A quaint village with small shops. Store fronts that blend into a small town atmospheres.
7	Remain small town character.
8	Quaint, friendly businesses. It's more than a beer and alcohol town/culture.
9	Maintain small town character. Don't need to become a Charlevoix with its' traffic/parking problems. Like small town feel. Don't want another Charlevoix. Need more shops. Think Bellaire is or has become
10	Alcohol Capitol of Michigan. Friendly, with a good restaurant, diverse population, mixture of retail, attention to the beauty of the downtown and surrounding natural area, and preservation of historical buildings. Add a building code for downtown buildings that is aimed at creating an attractive and cohesive appearance. Encourage
11	gardens with seating and walk-ways, like the one at the corner of M88 and Cayuga. A place that people enjoy visiting and living in. A place that welcomes diversity and provides
12	opportunities to raise family - affordable housing, good schools, safe neighborhoods.
13	A friendly, welcoming, small town atmosphere with interesting shopping opportunities. Clean & Safe People travel to Bellaire for its beauty, its lakes and recreation. One does not have to fill Bridge St. with just food/pubs but stores the 12 month a year people use too. A compliance should occur. We only hear
14	one side of the story; one side is missing. Try not to spoil this town. Be careful. Friendlier "lifetime" residence, eliminate the "good old" boy/girl concept, nepotism, & the "your not
15	from here" phase.
16	1) More friendly, less clanish. 2) Some what like Alden or Elk Rapids.
17	park.
18	KEEP THE "QUAINT" ATMOSPHERE
19	small thriving community with enough variety of businesses to support the community, interesting enough to attract tourism to support the small businesses.
20	Unique, charming, active, and vibrant. It should be a great place to be; a place of interest for the local resident as well as the tourist.
21	Alive and active, but peaceful for all ages. A fun place to explore and try new things, where everyone cares about the community and the people
22	that live there as well as those that come to visit. We live in the best place on Earth.
23	Agricultural tourism
24	A viable alternative to going to Traverse for good food, necessities, fun and thing to do.
25	Progressive with a "can do" attitude. Holistic.
26	A friendly, safe small-town that locals and visitors enjoy being in.
27	Welcoming, diverse
28	Strong, helping and an example to follow
29	An all seasons destination for visitors that offers a high quality of life for residents.
30	Comfortable, and picturesque
31	Sustainable eco-tourism community
32	I would like to see Bellaire lead the country in arts and ecology -- wellness and use of the natural areas I would like it to be like a small English-style village. I would like to see residents helping each other in
33	times of need, for instance, pitching in to harvest crops when local farmers are short-handed.
34	A destination village that offers interest for families.
35	Maintain a local community atmosphere.

36	Welcoming, walkable, bikeable, green
37	The demographic in Bellaire is, and will be, changing—more young folks are wanting to live and work here. From small farms to entrepreneurs, this community needs to ensure we meet the needs of the future! The environmental-mindedness of the residents is increasing—protecting our natural resources, promoting small/hobby farms, and creating a sustainable future should be our top priority!
38	Sustainable Community
39	Small and intimate for people living here but welcoming to visitors
40	It's pretty perfect...
41	jail and Sheriif's offices that we locate them close but not downtown but on other county property nearby.
42	rural, self-reliant, welcoming
43	Self Sufficient
44	Sustainable Economy
45	Family friendly, welcoming, restaurants, shopping
46	recreational
47	destination location, A day trip choice
48	Small town feel. Quaint
49	Mixed community with a variety of downtown activities and shops
50	Fun, diverse, up north feel
51	Flourishing
52	Friendly,active,art shows,art street activities,chalk boards,draw dream street!etc
53	Friendly,active,art shows,art street activities,chalk boards,draw dream street!etc
54	friendly, open to all, environmentally concerned, safe
55	opportunities for young and old. Small town charm with progressive thinking in the areas or arts and economics
56	Walkable indoor outdoor cafe like dining and seasonal events orientated
57	Have the things that you find in communities an hour away
58	Provide necessary services so that basic needs are met locally. Don't try to compete with TC or Gaylord as regional center.
59	I would like to see Bellaire be more than a tourist stop for a pint of beer and to expand to be a community where 'locals' also want to spend time hanging out, shopping, etc.
60	I would like Bellaire to be a small town with a sustainable economy. A place that welcomes diverse populations and people with varied interests: a place of culture.
61	A small town feel. Outdoor activities more than alcohol related town
62	A small community that offers big opportunities. A place where you can live and work and still make a good living. A one stop destination where tourists and locals can coexist with room to breathe.
63	Progressive, Welcoming, Culturally Advanced, Focused on Recreation.
64	Quaint, old-town, small town feel. Don't let it become too big, too gentrified.
65	An eclectic small town with something for everyone.
66	maintain it's natural beauty
67	A great place to visit
68	Vibrant small village with alot to offer
69	Friendly to all
70	Friendly small town
71	I like the small town community feel
72	More diversified. We cannot make our name only about drinking
73	Hospitable and welcoming
74	Up to date amenities with small town character preserved.

	People friendly, variety of shopping and eating experiences, properly maintained recreational areas,
75	bus options from the resorts, locals getting discounts on food and beverage
76	Small town charm, open and accepting to all visitors.
77	I see Bellaire as vibrant community with arts, culture, agriculture and recreation at its core.
78	Clean and friendly
79	Access to more dining and retail stores
80	Family friendly
81	More family oriented instead of alcohol oriented
82	Quaint with growth a small charlevoix
83	planned vibrant downtown & separate industrial areas with access to recreational resources
84	Friendly, welcoming, diverse
85	Safe and inviting.
86	Welcoming and friendly
87	Welcoming
88	I would like it focused on the needs of the people living in the Village and paying Village taxes.
89	I think we have a great community. Just giving more people the option and opportunity to live and work here.
90	Family friendly
91	hidden treasure of the north without commercial development
92	We are a village let's keep it that way. I do not think people come here for a downstate experience . Stop trying to be TC !
93	Small town big options
94	lots of open air walking venues for people to interact as passersby
95	Energetic unique
96	I would like to see Bellaire be more family friendly, we have our bars and brewery, but we lack in affordable dining for younger or low income families in the area.
97	It needs to cater to the full time residents not just tourists.
98	Clean fun welcoming pretty
99	a close knit community that looks nice
100	A good well run friendly community with out empty store. Oh yea and a grocery that is run as well as the Village or East port market
101	Warm welcoming
102	Unique and diverse, attractive downtown
103	Small and simple.
104	I would like to see the maintenance of the small town type feeling but recognize that tourism is vital to the success of our businesses
105	Small town friendliness and charm, with modern schools and amenities that make young families want to visit and live here.
106	small and quaint
107	A great place for our kids to grow up in
108	quaint but diverse. Variety of shops. Not dominated by one entity (alcohol).
109	Progressive, welcoming, clean, safe
110	Exciting, active, cozy, welcoming, and safe
111	Small, clean friendly
112	affordable for year round residents and visitors alike
113	Dedicated and friendly.
114	I'd like to see all of the small businesses, downtown and otherwise get the same attention. We have a lot of amazing shops outside of the downtown area.
115	Clean and friendly

116	A thriving downtown maximizing business and residential development, maintaining a growing tax base to support and provide the services our residents and visitors need.
117	Neat clean friendly prosperous
118	Small town caring for year round residents
119	A great year round destination place!
120	Diverse and inviting
121	More shops and food options. Otherwise, love it.
122	I would not want is to lose our small town charm.
123	Modern, intimate, bedroom community of Traverse
124	Small town friendly place to live with cultural events.
125	Community active & not loose it's small town appeal
126	Flourishing
127	Welcoming & desirable go to
128	Not known for alcohol alley and a huge jail!
129	Welcoming and healthy
130	Less booze more family friendly locations
131	A vibrant year round community with housing options for workers.
132	A vacation and weekend destination that is equally as good as a full-time home.
133	A Year-around Destination Community
134	Inviting
135	Small town personality offering a big town feel
136	Small town feel,
137	comparable to an Elk Rapids. 2 or 3 story buildings.
138	a charming small town that thrives with the resorts of up North
139	Small town charm and feel with most conveniences of a big city
140	I would like to be able to walk down the street and run into someone I know who will smile and say hi. I would like to walk into the local establishments and be treated like they're glad to see me. I would like to see community projects of all types.
141	A small inviting clean town
142	Vibrant area with more shops and activities
143	Bellaire's resource has been to promote business over its citizens that live here. Bellair's future is it's kids and not enough is being done for playing and entertainment.
144	A little town with modern charm
145	Foodie destination
146	Bellaire needs to build off the success of Shorts Brewery and encourage more unique hip shops, boutiques and restaurants to move in downtown. Empty and ugly stores need to be addressed. For example, the Auto Parts store is incredibly outdated, ugly and badly situated and doesn't belong downtown.
147	Friendly, open minded, welcoming
148	Quaint up North town with more dining options
149	Love it now ...more shops to keep people to stay longer visiting
150	Small town with lots of charm, 4 season economy, a place for families to move and raise children
151	A unique small town with a diverse mix of businesses (retail, restaurants/breweries, municipal buildings, recreational buildings), so no one industry dominates the business district.
152	Kind
153	Small town Northern Michigan with a little bit of everything.

	QUESTION 10
	What are other thoughts and comments do you have about the future of Bellaire?
1	The growth of downtown businesses has been a plus, and more cultural opportunities would enhance quality of life and tourism
2	Move the Chamber of Commerce to a building that is easy to SEE and BETTER signage. Bring in nicer restaurant (with a better range of a menu). Pizza & mac&cheese. We have ENOUGH of those places!!!
3	More activities like Elk Rapids on Wed. or T.C. & Alden Days
4	Repair village streets. i.e. the entrance to South Genesee St. off Cayuga.
5	Maintain small town character
6	Keep small town feel. Do not become a Charlevoix or Traverse City or even Gaylord with all its' major brand stores. Work on parking for what we have.
7	Work to attract more businesses to the area. Encourage more "new-comers" to participate in local governing boards, and appoint people other than "old-timers" in order to get more new ideas.
8	Bellaire has a bright future ahead
9	There seems to be a willingness for businesses to work together for the good of the village and area. Build on that, but there needs to be a vision, a picture of what Bellaire is and what we want for our future. Ideally, this survey will help. Are there codes or covenants for the Downtown look & feel.
10	Doesn't seem to be. Very hodge-podge look.
11	Need to have modern, above ground restroom facilities open (7) days a week. Very least, update bathroom facilities in Village Hall.
12	Labor Day weekend we had a visitor to our home, someone who had lived in and loved Bellaire. She & her 16 daughter walked the streets hopeful to find shops of interest. Just one Uniquely North. Her response "I won't be back, there is nothing here now unless one is interested in food & a brew pub. "No one is against "pubs" but we have way too many- (7) Places on Bridge. Enough is enough.
13	Get rid of the boards & committees with members whom have been there for decades. They become non-productive & non-progressive, & when asked questions can only answer with: 1) We can't do that, 2) We don't know, or 3) If you don't like it ~ move
14	The launch behind the Bellaire Bus needs no parking signs or to be metered, so when people boat from out of town and park there to go eat they have to pay to help maintain it. There are village residence who pay taxes to use that launch who cannot use it when people park there. I have been on a residence boat while trying to launch there, and four pontoons were moored up with no people, so we had to idle there while the truck and trailer were parked and the driver had to walk across someones docked boat to go on ours!
15	Lower Taxes - Give more to the over 65 crowd - (Discounts in stores, etc.)
16	Make Bellaire a town that people could be proud of. -
17	We need more parking spaces. Include the Historical Museum in more Bellaire activities.
18	More interest - for tax payers - sidewalks repaired & revived so we don't have to walk on so many streets - Where neighbors know their neighbor less liquor & more stores for groceries & needs of the people who live here year around.
	KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.
	Expand the downtown for more eating, shopping and entertainment. More affordable housing.

19	I grew up in Bellaire, and the town has a special place in my heart. Although I am happy that tourism has created economic stability, I am dismayed that Belliare is not the mother practical or affordable place to start a life. As a young person, I had to move away to find better opportunities. Perhaps if Bellare took action on some of the initiatives that are being proposed, Bellaire could be more than just a small-town tourist destination. It could be a place of affordable living and burgeoning opportunity.
20	Our community really needs to listen to one another's wants and needs and work together to see what we can make happen
21	We have too many alcohol establishments. We need more family businesses, another good restaurant, and better parks. We could develop river shore for people to use.
22	I believe managing the message of how we want to curate our development as a community is critical to attracting young progressives. That said, having progressive leadership with a "can do attitude" who aren't afraid to think outside of the box and execute on challenges that embrace a long term holistic vision. "Vision without action is daydreaming and action without vision is a nightmare."
23	It's my opinion that Bellaire has plenty of drinking establishments (five within two blocks, and perhaps two more opening soon). Let's focus our energies on other activities. It's not all about food and drink.
24	increasing access of healthy fruits and vegetables from area growers to all is very important
25	Protect the beautiful environment, please
26	The area is filled with talented, inventive, artistic people that have a lot to offer Bellaire. I think of Interlochen Center for the Arts, which is a school, but something like that for crafters and artists that's affordable for people of all ages in Bellaire. I would also support the independent film event that is now a part of Traverse City and events for budding/would-be authors, too. Perhaps that could be held at the public school during the summer?
27	You cannot ignore the fact that the COMMUNITY of Bellaire recognizes the need for change. It must focus on the younger workforce, tourism, and promoting the arts and ecology/agriculture. We have the perfect opportunity here to create the type of destination town people will flock to for working and playing. Increasing the number of year-round residents should be a huge goal!
28	I hope we can avoid sprawl and have nice unique stores.
29	KEEP COMMUNICATION OPEN BETWEEN VILLAGE, COUNTY & CITIZENS !
30	Promote more shopping in the downtown area. Bellaire Downtown days?
31	Get more businesses in downtown. Lulu's and Mrs. B's could be developed. Move Verizon switching building out of town.
32	The opportunity is right in front of you, this survey is very timely! Check out "Dunedin, FL" and look at what they have done as a small community, amazing!! We own a retail business in Dunedin, FL and would like to open one in Bellaire however we are concerned about the ability of the community to support it.
33	Can't stress how important it is to get a Youth Center in Bellaire!!!
34	There needs to be a push for a variety of establishments for the community to work in/at and be customers to. Activities such as Elk Rapids Nights of River Street would also be beneficial to the community.
35	Could be a viable attraction destination for many people if added more options besides shorts brewery
36	Parking is an issue downtown. We also need more open space for events. My suggestion is move county building, jail, and court. Make that parking and an open field. For a place to host events.
37	Faith, hope, dare to get out of the box!!live spur of the moment.sell flowers on a corner, guys go home smiling,happy women!

38	Faith, hope, dare to get out of the box!live spur of the moment.sell flowers on a corner, guys go home smiling,happy women!
39	No enlarged jail in the downtown area. PLEASE!!!
40	Many of these questions have been repeated multiple times; the survey could have been much shorter had the question only been asked one time
41	Bellaire’s future will be bright if we can: 1. Create sustainable jobs, 2. Control growth, 3. Protect our environment, 4. Invest in technology and infrastructure, 5. Partner with Cherry Capitol Airport to make the commute between hassle free— this would encourage remote employment opportunities.
42	We are focused on bringing tourists to downtown and we have so many there isn’t enough parking. The residents of Bellaire do not go downtown or really can’t in the summer Dad we can’t wnjoy our own town anymore
43	Keep the downtown area for cultural activities, retail, restaurants, and housing. Move the jail out of downtown.
44	It is the County seat and should embrace that responsibility and set the example for surrounding areas.
45	There are a couple of vacant buildings that maybe should be torn down and the land used for apartments/multi-plex residents. I'm wondering if grants could be obtained for this.
46	The jail should be moved out of town
47	Sidewalk to school. Kids need to exercise.
48	Less alcohol and the stores and shops should be open later in the evening
49	Try to attract significant industrial/professional base to increase resources to stabilize area economy. Focus on/continue making downtown Bellaire a vibrant destination.
50	I hope from here it only goes up. Love it now but could love it way more with more things for the youth
51	As I consider paying my village taxes in a few weeks, I wonder when my Street is going to be re-paved if ever. To some extent the market will dictate uses of space. I am a big fan of mixed use and I hope we don't get so carried away with the resurgence of our downtown that we reject less "sexy" uses like Courts and County Offices.
52	Tobacco free parks and beaches
53	Must open trailheads for orv's to connect with larger trails and allow ORV's to ride on roads in order to boost tourism
54	Avoid sprawl and make the village more walkable and bikeable (there is no way for kids to bike to the elementary school with any degree of safety)
55	Keep us growing. The visitors experience could be improved. Change the two and two thru stop at the Bellaire highway and main through fair. This confuses out side visitors. Also the interchange at the vets office.
56	Bellaire needs to support the schools and make things more kid friendly
57	Like to see us not be known as booze town
58	Keep it small. The charm is what makes it beautiful. Expand too much and the charm will be gone!
59	It is vital to embrace year-round tourism as the impact is extremely beneficial to business in (and around) the village.
60	My main concern is that Bellaire be planned rather than let businesses dictate what happens. I'm not against the progress Bellaire has already experienced but I think it should be more intentional.
61	Bringing tourists is important, but don’t forget about the locals’ needs and the infrastructure.
62	Sidewalks are terrible and not handicap friendly. I believe the crosswalks should be emphasized, better marked and enforced.
63	Bellaire needs to stop catering to just the tourist trade and make our residents top priority, if you live and work here you can't afford to shop here.

64	I want a skatepark and a clean canal on Harbor St. Another movie store would be nice. And a video game rental store such as Gamestop.
65	It's going to be great
66	Harmony in county seat development planning.
67	Keep small clean friendly
68	Focus on using existing buildings before building new. The east side near the DNR building, Amerigas, captains choice, etc. needs attention. The outdoor storage could be improved on.
69	It would be great to have more tourist type of stores downtown for all ages. Candy and popcorn store for example. Let's not make this just a bar town please!!!!
70	The Village should partner with Kearney and Forest Home Townships to improve road shoulders or create walking and biking trails that connect more populated areas of the countryside with the Village and Downtown. For example, making Eddy School Rd and Derenzy Rd safe to bike would enable dozens of families to come downtown without bringing a vehicle to an already overcrowded area with little to no available parking.
71	You as a village cannot have an initiative to draw in more businesses, yet have no where for the needed workforce to live. Especially if you want said workforce to support Bellaire initiatives and activities. Even if they work in Bellaire, if they live in C.L, Mancy, E.J., etc., THAT'S where they will spend their time and money. NOT in BELLAIRE.
72	Love Bellaire but it needs to be more attractive. I do see signs of that taking place.
73	Bellaire needs to be a more welcoming place for the hardworking year-round residents who keep Bellaire on the map. Developing quality, affordable housing options would go a long way in making workforce families feel as important to Bellaire as the tourists are made to feel. Affordable housing shouldn't be so impossible to find.
74	No new jail will not enhance downtown and bring people to Bellaire!
75	No to the jail proposal. No more brewery, liquor places. We are now know as alcohol alley. Get back to the small town feel. Get the water bill down and get all the charges on the bill. If it's not a charge listed I don't legally have to pay it. It's 1.19 a month but when the bill is already 60-70 a month that is ridiculous already.
76	Please please please maintain the Forrest home cemetery better. My mother is there and soon my father. It's overgrown and full of weeds. It makes us so sad
77	We need to be forward thinking about our community and find ways to attract businesses, but the first step is to provide affordable housing options for existing and future workers
78	Be open minded, be positive in all future plans. Get Frontier to put up some sort of facade to hide the ugly building
79	We are here six months out of the year currently and likely will be here year-round in the years to come. I want Bellaire to be a little more pedestrian friendly, I enjoy being able to walk places, but additional side walk crossings and even sidewalks to get out to Family Fare would be nice.
80	Keep it small town!
81	trail signs for business, like the hotel and resturant that sit off from the curve when driving by, i think more social media around bellaire and whats there...smoked food, boat rentals, resorts, brewery, movies, retail, nature trails...
82	We should not build a large jail in town. It is unsightly.
83	It is very important to look at the overall picture for the growth of the city into the future. Parking is becoming an issue.
84	I feel we need better signage in downtown directing crosswalks, where traffic can and can't go. We have a great community but as a year round resident these are things that really impact us daily that need to be addressed.
85	Promote kids coming back to raise their family here.
86	See above :)

87	<p>Bellaire has SUCH potential to be the next hip hotspot in Northern Michigan. We have already seen some amazing additions in the way of Shorts and RuthAnns and Mammoth etc but there are other aspects of the town that are dragging it down. Mainly the lack of maintenance (no street guttering, bad sidewalks, dead trees etc), empty stores and stores that just don't belong in a downtown setting (eg: an Auto Parts store). The town just needs an aesthetic refresh. We also need to encourage more small quaint stores where all that trade from Shorts can spend their money and boost Bellaire's economy. Signage is also completely lacking. We're stopped ALL the time and asked directions to the lake (which has terrible public access btw and also needs to be addressed) or how to get to the golf course etc. Maybe some signage would encourage people to explore other aspects of Bellaire than just eating and drinking at Short's and then leaving.</p>
88	<p>I see Village workers show poor work ethics, poor quality of work being done, roads are horrible here. Village workers are not pleasant.</p>
89	<p>Plan wisely.. look at growth opportunities for year round high paying jobs. Workforce housing. Still making it a tourist friendly town.</p>
90	<p>I would like to see more diversity in the businesses in downtown Bellaire, specifically, on Bridge and Cayuga streets. Expand businesses to the M-88 area by Family Fare, and retain single-family affordable housing on Cayuga that currently exists. No one type of business/industry should dominate the downtown district, so limits on municipal facilities and alcohol establishments (breweries, wineries, meaderies, etc.) must be devised. Space in existing municipal buildings should be remodeled to meet current and future needs of all departments.</p>
91	<p>Better schools! Many families choose to use other districts. Why? What happen to the pep band at games?</p>