

**• What are the top issues currently facing Berwyn Heights residents and businesses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?**

- \*Information about vaccines& healthcare
- \*educational setbacks
- \* childcare
- \*Make it easier to get outside
- \*Distribute as need-based aid to residents affected by job/income loss, childcare needs, etc.
- \*Childcare and health
- \*Child Care and Childhood development/education (pre-K/early) Mental Health Resources (loneliness/isolation)
- \*Risks to children from unvaccinated adults
- \*Loss of pass-through traffic
- \*Not enough supplies to combat the virus
- \*Covid vaccine outreach esp. to immigrants regardless of status, small business recovery, mortgage/rental payments
- \*Job losses, renters not making payments, high costs of goods, groceries, and lumber
- \*Bankruptcy
- \*Lack of dog park for all the pandemic dogs that were adopted
- \*Quality and safe schools
- \*Unemployment due to COVID some are unable to work because they've been infected with the virus and don't have the capabilities to work some have been found positive with the virus and have been sent home. All these making it hard for residence of Berwyn heights to amount to mortgage and other house costs
- \*Safety
- \*Encouraging getting the vaccine/enforcing mask mandate
- \*Berwyn Heights Elementary school & Rec-center
- \*Vaccine-less people spreading the virus
- \*Small business Trying to keep afloat so that way we don't lose the mom and pops small touches in our small town along with maybe buying golf carts for the code enforcement to drive around in so that way we keep our town in tiptop shape and that would be something to purchase as well so that way people can see and be seeing that code is active and doing stuff has a presence
- \*Providing safe opportunities for social engagement including children's sports, recreational space, support for families with children especially when schools are closed for in person learning
- \*Housing insecurity
- \*No in town location for covid 19 shots.
- \*Social isolation, harm to environment (due to overuse of plastic, non-reusable items, economic hardship
- \*Lack educational and social support events and program for young children
- \*Communication to citizens
- \*Not being able to meet inside, unemployment

- \*Commutation [sic] from Town Gov. We could have had County here giving shots upstairs in Senior Center, but it has not been cleaned yet.
- \*Support for people impacted socially and economically, specifically the senior population
- \*Enjoyed lower emissions and traffic during the pandemic
- \*General safety in buildings
- \*Job Loss
- \*I guess funding for sports
- \*I think some of the small business need help. From my understanding many owners lost revenue.
- \*Small business and tenant financial insecurity
- \*Adverse reactions to the vaccine. Since produced under and emergency order there is no protection for those who are hurt by the vaccine. Even if it is one person (shouldn't it be easier to help if it's just a few) we should still help.

**• What strategies and/or actions would be most effective in meeting the needs of residents and businesses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?**

- \*I'd like to see educational supplements offered for students during the next few years to offset the ill effects of home learning for the first year of the pandemic, summer education or tutoring for a few years.
- \*I'm not sure because I have not been affected as severely as other residents
- \*Helping residents stay healthy
- \*Add more sidewalks to make town more walkable especially to the parks
- \*Covid Safe outdoor activities, covid safe community building improved outreach/inclusivity for Latinx residents
- \*Vaccine mandates for town staff and residents
- \*Outside recreation facilities like a dog park
- \* More adequate communication
- \*Invest in local small businesses, provide mortgage and rental assistance program, assistance program to help those neighbors in need of home visits, grocery assistance etc.
- \*Rental relief (for landlords), incentivizing community agriculture, setting up community thrift store, providing some hours of free or subsidized child care, maybe starting a volunteer babysitting network for people who need to go in for a job interview.
- \*Increase equity of the area
- \*Hosting Social information sessions
- \*Community building resources
- \*Clinics, testing stations
- \*Mask and vaccine mandates
- \*Posting signs that are clear and large lettered to communicate expectations of following CDC guidelines to all who enter
- \*Vaccine availability & education
- \*Vaccine and mask mandates

- \*Have small businesses take clients and then you know where the timesheet on the webpage or even just outside the store baby son umbrellas or you know so the rain and snow or heat fans so that way people just mask up slow and steady everyone be patient day care support and after school programs for families with children.
- \*Funding legal aid and eviction prevention
- \*Free shots once a week at the town office
- grants offered to professionals, businesses, educators, healthcare workers, childcare workers, those in economic hardships
- \*Looking for educational gap and child support
- \*Buy some window signs that NW/EP tried to get after State Pandemic that Town took part of about 10 years ago
- \*Ask groups around Town to deliver flyers or other things to each house keeping residents up to date. Ask CERT group to help as they had a pandemic exercise with State in Town and also a training class on pandemic in Senior Center upstairs.
- \*I am not well-versed enough to know the needs of residents, but perhaps barriers or air cleansing systems to upgrade the senior center?
- \*Vaccine incentives, town employee mask mandate
- \*Offer residence a chance to meet food, housing, or utility assistance needs
- \*What about grant funding for young people's transportation needs (like summer jobs or internships)
- \*Meetings talking about these specific topics
- \*Offer low interest loans or affordable payment plans with low or no late fees.
- \*Relieving stress on family's or individuals who were negatively impacted by the vaccine. It may be a small percentage but most of these people have no other hope.

**• How can the Town of Berwyn Heights address the harm caused by the pandemic?**

- \*May not come under ARPA funding; however, many residents have come to me requesting that I inform you of how upset they are with the current state of affairs.
- \*I wish we could use the funds for more sidewalks, even though it's listed as the on of the things we can't use it for. Now spending nearly all our family time at home in town, the sidewalks have provided us a way to be outside safely.
- \*Provide financial assistance to support housing, utilities, childcare, medical needs, tuition, and related needs.
- \*Help neighbors interact safely. And check on the elderly.
- \*Help landlords who have not received rent for over a year and depend on the income for maintenance and mortgages
- \*Provide more green space for residents including a dog park
- \*Education and business support
- \*Boosting help to local and small biz
- \*Invest in education for all ages: programs on health, emotional intelligence, civics, debate & public speaking. Play catch up with climate change initiatives. Subsidize investing in local

businesses for larger investments in existing housing, supporting the small businesses in Beltway Plaza.

\*BH needs to get itself ready for the next pandemic or emergency. We need to find ways to feed our residents and create a local economy by such as by incentivizing community agriculture and setting up a community thrift store.

\*Build more infrastructures

\*Build a dog park

\*Provide support for families in need

\*With posters, flyers

\*Increase assistance to lower income residents

\*A report of this each month in each newsletter

\*Evictions, jobs & wage loss

\*Not sure the town can do much, frankly

\*Erwin [sic] Heights needs to realize that some families have had to move away because of taxes due to the pandemic which was not try to find a collective way to make sure we can help our neighbor what does that be help me with the yard do the trimming here and there get a hold of it out of the water company and make sure water problems are taken care of on a federal and since that would be nice make sure that we could have like maybe some Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts come do some projects in the neighborhood for free provide support for family home ownership in the expensive housing market

\*Funding eviction prevention efforts, such as rental assistance, legal aid, housing navigators, and case managers.

\*Grief counselling [sic] for victims families

continue to encourage everyone to follow safety guidelines, offer mental health support and opportunities to safely socialize for elders and people living alone, etc.

\*Job training scholarship

\*Have people use the window signs that Town did not buy. Have town groups hand out brochures to homes and businesses.

\*What did you all do for PD and PW. Again groups could have gone around Town providing PPE

\*Improve communications between community. Perhaps community electronic signs to keeps residents aware of events

\*After school care funding assistance for families

\*In a Town Meeting or in social events

\*Organize Town events to try and rebuild culture and interactions

Housing Assistance	30 responses or 41%
Food/Nutrition	22 responses or 30.1%
Small Business Assistance	13 responses or 17.8 %
Health or Mental Health Assistance	30 responses or 41%
Utility Assistance	17 responses or 23.3%
Access to the Internet/Broadband	23 responses or 31.5%
Stormwater/Drainage	34 responses or 46.5%
Hazardous Duty Pay to Eligible Town Employees	30 responses of 41%
Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change	28 responses or 38.4%
Other	<p>*Build new PD, *Dog park *youth or Young Adult Center *financial support for those facing adverse reactions to the vaccine *Tree Trimming *Education *lack of accountability of TC/TManager, TAdmin staff and not following the proper legal guidelines of Town Charter&amp; Town Ordinances. *Meals on wheels, College Park *Noise. One thing we did notice a lot during the lockdowns and during the height of the pandemic was the excessive noise the town is subjected to, especially from “turner” automobiles and motorcycles. The noise was often enough to obliterate conversation on our backyard deck on Edmonston. As noise pollution is an environmental issue and not necessarily infrastructure, I am wondering if there are any noise abatement projects the town could engage in or apply for that might help mitigate the tumult on Greenbelt Road and Kenilworth? Anecdotally, I am aware of other residents who share this concern *Sidewalks. *Updating the schools/building new ones. *Lack of environmental stewardship due to abundance of use of nonreusable plastics. *Communications and support for seniors, be it logistical or social support. *More green space and a dog park. *Recreation facilities. Dog Park. *Use a survey system that allows multiple answers.</p>

Additional comments written on surveys:

TM Allen stated in Senior meeting of Tues, Sept 26<sup>th</sup>- No deadline for surveys. No one seems to be on the same page, another example of lack of Town Governments' acct and continuity.

\*laptops and training for seniors, Latinos (ESOL)

\*Hazardous Duty pay only for Public Works and Police. These are our frontline workers- we deserve special compensation and retro hazard pay. Luis Cardenas stepped up and ensured that PWKs continued to run. As has Chief Antolik, Mercy Muralles, and the BHPD. I have not seen any such comparable level of commitment or willingness from any other departments, Town staff or even Town Councilmembers. Everyone else has taken a duck and cover-lockdown approach towards our Town. As such, no one else DESERVES "Hazard Pay" or any type of special compensation. Frankly, accountability, or "lack there of" I should say, of the Administration, Code Dept, and Town Council needs to STOP.

\*Frequent Storms are making this issue more urgent. Assistance to homeowners needed (referencing hazardous tree removal).

\*Comments re: hazardous duty pay: Public works and Police Department, Luis Cardenas and Mercy Muralles plus police, Public Works only, Louis Carderno [sic] and Police Department, Luis Cardenas, Mercy Muralles Police, Louis [sic]