

# City of Tenino, Community Survey

Survey still open, this synopsis includes all responses as of **5/14/2025**

## Survey Participation

- **Total responses:** 83 (52 complete, 31 partial)

## Top Community Priorities (Next 20 Years)

Respondents identified the following as the most important:

1. **Maintaining a safe community** – 57.8%
2. **Improving streets and intersections** – 53.0%
3. **Supporting a vibrant, commercial downtown** – 47.0%
4. **Preserving historic buildings and promoting historic character** – 41.0%
5. **Improving infrastructure and services** (utilities, broadband, emergency services) – 39.8%

## Barriers to Progress

The dominant concern was **lack of funding**, followed by:

- Poor leadership or planning
- Community resistance to change
- Lack of vision and staff capacity
- Poor infrastructure and high utility costs

## Community Vision for 2045

- 56% of respondents rated the draft vision statement (celebrating history, walkability, local business, inclusivity) as a **4 or 5** on a 5-point scale.

## Tenino's Current Strengths

Residents appreciate:

- **Community feel and small-town charm**
- **Historical identity**
- **Parks and nature**
- **Safety and low crime**

## What Would Make Tenino Better?

Suggestions include:

- More **affordable housing** and housing diversity
- **Better roads, sidewalks, and crosswalks**
- More **restaurants, shops, and family activities**
- **Downtown revitalization** and tourism promotion
- Improved **public transit**, especially to Olympia
- **Stronger local economy and job opportunities**

## Housing Preferences and Concerns

- Most preferred: **Single-family homes** (83.8%) and **cottage housing** (50%)
- Concerns: **Strain on infrastructure** (61.8%), **rising property taxes**, traffic, and environmental impact

## Infrastructure and Transportation

- Main issues: **Potholes, lack of sidewalks**, poor connectivity, and unsafe intersections
- Suggestions: **Traffic lights, roundabouts**, better public transit access, **safer pedestrian routes**

## Access to Services

- 40% feel they can access everything they need
- Gaps include: **public restrooms, senior/youth services, medical care, and internet/cell service**

## Climate Concerns

- Top risks: **Extreme weather events** (44.1%), **flooding**, and **drought**
- 44% are **somewhat to extremely concerned** about climate impacts
- Residents want to protect: **historic buildings, parks, green spaces, and infrastructure**

## Demographics

- Most respondents: **35–54 years old**
- 83% **live in Tenino**, 71% **shop or use services** there
- 53% have lived in Tenino for **over 10 years**
- Many plan to stay **long-term or for life**, depending on **taxes, affordability, and growth impacts**