

# The results are in!

**Find out what Dearborn residents believe should change to secure a better future for everyone.**

Change.org and Mayor Hammoud teamed up to start a conversation that crossed boundaries:

“What would **positive change** look like in Dearborn?”

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Get hundreds of people to share their ideas, and vote on the ideas of others.

Identify their **common interests**, despite differences on other issues.

Bring 100 people together for a conversation about those resonant issues.

Address the staggering amount of litter that panhandlers leave behind, particularly the easements up and down Michigan/Telegraph ramps where they perch

Bring driver training classes back to Dearborn Public Schools

Not sure if it's been mentioned, but adding a left turn signal at Michigan & Military would help. A lane was removed for businesses, making it unsafe.& there's a school there.

In Phase 1, we received **47,000 votes** on

**557 IDEAS**

from over **990 residents.**

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The city assessor and the Board of Review can be more transparent. The city website can describe the process. The Board of Review can give homeowners reasons for its decision

Include financial literacy in high schools. Students need to learn about: taxes, loans/debt, credit, investing, inflation, etc

Clean up private properties. Pick up the trash on your own front lawn

## Our analysis identified priorities with broad support across 3 opinion groups



■ **Public Investment Champions** **461**

Support proactive city intervention — police patrols, speed humps, mental health programs, and public investment in safety and services.

■ **Green Libertarians** **288**

Champion parks, biodiversity, and community investment while fiercely opposing surveillance cameras and punitive enforcement.

■ **Enforcement Traditionalists** **244**

Prioritize strict enforcement of existing rules and oppose housing flexibility, new taxes, and expanded spending programs.

# PUBLIC INVESTMENT CHAMPIONS

The largest group, they support proactive city intervention — police patrols, speed humps, translation body cameras, mental health programs in schools, and culturally sensitive public health campaigns. They want government to actively invest in safety and services, and are willing to back higher spending for teacher pay and community infrastructure.

## MAKE OR BREAK

**Make Dearborn a premiere place for teachers/educators! Raise pay, offer sign-on bonuses, perks & \$ support.**

This group: 100% approve

vs Others: 48% approve

52% gap

Active policing and traffic safety (speed humps, patrols, drag racing enforcement)

Public health and education investment (mental health in schools, teacher pay)

Culturally inclusive services (translation cameras, bilingual health campaigns)

Pro-spending stance — willing to invest in community infrastructure

Opposition to housing deregulation (Airbnb, ADUs, short-term rentals)

## SUPPORTS

Seniors still like and need to walk and have serene nature trails to walk on. Bikers are given priority over seniors and they should be treated the same. 100% approve

The loud drag-racing on Telegraph at all hours of the night has gotten completely out of control. Ordinances designed to ensure safe and quiet streets at night 100% approve

Please do something about the Loud Speeding Cars and Trash Issues! 100% approve

## OPPOSES

Allow people to rent their homes on Airbnb. 90% oppose

Allow garages to be Accessory Dwelling Units or “in-law suites” 83% oppose

Why are we sweeping streets twice a month? That is so strange and a waste of tax payer dollars. It's a street. Residents should be responsible for it. 79% oppose

# GREEN LIBERTARIANS

They champion parks, trails, biodiversity, and community beautification while fiercely opposing surveillance technology — license plate readers, Flock cameras, and automated enforcement. They support multigenerational housing and two-family homes but resist punitive code enforcement, preferring neighborhood investment over policing.

## MAKE OR BREAK

**Add cameras & patrols to catch, deter, ticket, & enforce laws re: litter, noise, fireworks, parking, handicap & church parking, trespassing, drag racing**

This group: 24% approve

vs Others: 83% approve

59% gap

Parks, trails, and urban greening (biodiversity, tree planting, beautification)

Strong anti-surveillance stance (oppose LPRs, Flock cameras, automated ticketing)

Multigenerational housing and family-friendly density (two-family homes)

Community infrastructure investment (cable removal, walkability, utilities)

Preference for neighborhood investment over punitive enforcement

## SUPPORTS

Have the cable companies take down all the unused lines across our yards. At their expense. 100% approve

Parks investments are great. Keep at it. Our families love the parks. More beautification of our parks. 98% approve

Seniors still like and need to walk and have serene nature trails to walk on. Bikers are given priority over seniors and they should be treated the same. 98% approve

## OPPOSES

Install Cameras at all traffic light controlled intersections and Keep doubling the fines! Change Driving licenses to 18 years old. 83% oppose

1. Do something about loud vehicles. 2. Enforce law against using garages as living spaces and not as a garage. 3 82% oppose

Add cameras & patrols to catch, deter, ticket, & enforce laws re: litter, noise, fireworks, parking, handicap & church parking, trespassing, drag racing 76% oppose

# ENFORCEMENT TRADITIONALISTS

They prioritize strict enforcement of existing rules — traffic laws, building codes, litter control, property maintenance — and oppose expanding housing flexibility through ADUs, Airbnb, or a city income tax. They resist new spending programs like homebuyer grants, childcare subsidies, and expanded recreation, preferring the city stick to core enforcement duties.

## MAKE OR BREAK

Launch an enhanced group prenatal care program for low-income mothers to combat the city's high rates of Medicaid-funded births and infant mortality.

This group: 13% approve

vs Others: 79% approve

66% gap

- Strict enforcement of traffic laws, building codes, and property standards
- Opposition to housing deregulation (ADUs, Airbnb, two-family homes, short-term rentals)
- Fiscal conservatism (oppose income tax, homebuyer grants, childcare subsidies)
- Litter control and property maintenance as top priorities
- Resistance to expanded recreation and community investment programs

## SUPPORTS

- The loud drag-racing on Telegraph at all hours of the night has gotten completely out of control. Ordinances designed to ensure safe and quiet streets at night 100% approve
- I think building codes should be uniform and enforced. Codes should require green space and not allow homes to take up entire properties. 100% approve
- Address the staggering amount of litter that panhandlers leave behind, particularly the easements up and down Michigan/Telegraph ramps where they perch. 100% approve

## OPPOSES

- Allow people to rent their homes on Airbnb. 98% oppose
- Pass an ordinance allowing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in residential backyards to organically increase affordable housing options. 97% oppose
- Launch a 1% city income tax to help pay for universal childcare for all families and make Dearborn a destination for families. 96% oppose

# Unifying Ideas

These are the ideas that were popular across all groups, regardless of other differences.\*

Bring driver training classes back to Dearborn Public Schools.  
**(96% SUPPORT)**

#1

\*Scores reflect the minimum support across the groups; rankings account for pass/rates.

\*\*Duplicates not included in this list.

2. The city assessor and the Board of Review can be more transparent. The city website can describe the process. The Board of Review can give homeowners reasons for its decision **(96%)**
3. Please make sure that all trees the City of Dearborn plants are native to Michigan. There are so many options suitable for any situation **(95%)**
4. Have the cable companies take down all the unused lines across our yards. At their expense **(95%)**
5. Clean up private properties. Pick up the trash on your own front lawn **(95%)**
6. Adding a left turn signal at Michigan & Military would help. A lane was removed for businesses, making it unsafe – and there's a school there **(94%)**
7. Update sewer infrastructure, specifically combined sewer overflows and removing lead pipes **(94%)**
8. How about basic service improvements like tree trimming and road repairs **(94%)**
9. Steep fines for littering. There is copious amounts of trash along Gully in the wooded area of the bridge over Rouge River. Make business owners keep their properties CLEAN **(94%)**
10. More speeding enforcement. Too many cars speeding down side streets and endangering our neighborhoods **(94%)**

# Resonant Issues: 1-3

The issues that were most important to all groups

01

41

BRIDGING IDEAS

## Neighborhood Standards

Property maintenance, inspection capacity, and accountability for problem rentals.

*“Clean up private properties. Pick up the trash on your own front lawn.”*

✓ 95%  
bridge

*“Three years ago I put in a complaint about a crumbling garage that borders my property. Two years ago I added a picture. Last year I gave up. Please enforce property ordinances.”*

✓ 93%  
bridge

*“Educate the community on property maintenance — piles of wood don’t belong on the ground. That’s a good way to attract rats and other pests.”*

✓ 88%  
bridge

02

26

BRIDGING IDEAS

## Streets & Transportation Safety

Increase city road repairs and add traffic-calming and signals on residential and school streets.

*“Adding a left turn signal at Michigan & Military would help. A lane was removed for businesses, making it unsafe — and there’s a school there.”*

✓ 94%  
bridge

*“Fix all the bad roads without raising our taxes.”*

✓ 88%  
bridge

*“We are in desperate need of a speed bump on the corner of Marshall and Silvery Lane. Cars ignore the stop sign and drive at high speeds. We have many children on this street.”*

✓ 75%  
bridge

03

22

BRIDGING IDEAS

## Environment & Public Works

Limit light pollution, restore the tree canopy, and hold cable and utility companies accountable for unused overhead lines.

*“Have the cable companies take down all the unused lines across our yards. At their expense.”*

✓ 97%  
bridge

*“Plant trees on Telegraph Ave, Ford Rd, and everywhere else they’re needed — especially the neighborhoods. Trees are essential for our future.”*

✓ 83%  
bridge

*“Please stop the excessively bright lights in residential neighborhoods. After a certain hour they should turn off. Use more motion sensors for security lighting.”*

✓ 82%  
bridge

✓ % shows cross-group bridging score

# Resonant Issues: 4-6

The issues that were most important to all groups

04

**19**  
BRIDGING IDEAS

## Sanitation

Improve cleanup, drains, and sewer infrastructure across the city.

*“Like many inner-ring suburbs, Dearborn has a lot of litter laying everywhere — businesses included. Visitors judge us on this. Enforce standards.”*

✓ 95%  
bridge

*“Clean the street and alley drains more regularly to remove trash, debris, and leaves before they cause clogging and water buildup.”*

✓ 95%  
bridge

*“Provide updated trash cans free of charge when they break, instead of charging \$60 for replacement. It's not the resident's fault if a can is over 5 years old.”*

✓ 93%  
bridge

05

**18**  
BRIDGING IDEAS

## Main Street

Activate vacant properties and diversify storefronts on commercial corridors.

*“Figure out a way to knock down the eyesore at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Outer Drive and build something sustainable.”*

✓ 94%  
bridge

*“Bring in boutiques, clothing stores, and gift shops. I'd rather go to a local area instead of big malls.”*

✓ 92%  
bridge

*“Get a Trader Joe's in one of the many empty stores.”*

✓ 79%  
bridge

06

**18**  
BRIDGING IDEAS

## Traffic

Speeding enforcement, reckless driving, and driver training on neighborhood streets.

*“More speeding enforcement. Too many cars speeding down the side streets are endangering our neighborhoods.”*

✓ 96%  
bridge

*“Monitor Gully Road traffic speed. Trim trees hanging in the street.”*

✓ 93%  
bridge

*“Generate revenue through traffic violations from reckless, speeding drivers in loud cars and motorcycles. Telegraph between Ford and Cherry Hill is ridiculous on nights and weekends.”*

✓ 93%  
bridge

✓ % shows cross-group bridging score

Of everything we heard,

# Neighborhood Standards

emerged as the topic to talk about next.

- **RELEVANT**

All three groups consistently engaged with this topic and was an issue that resonated strongly across all three opinion groups – making it a clear point of shared interest.

- **ACTIONABLE**

Property maintenance, rental inspections, ordinance enforcement, and zoning are core municipal activities the city can take action on.

- **COMPLEX**

Real tradeoffs exist between enforcement and support. Residents broadly agree that standards should be enforced – but disagree about how aggressively, who should bear the costs, and what role the city should play versus residents themselves.

**NEXT UP:**

# **Dearborn Civic Dialogue**

**We'll gather a sample of residents from all over the city to talk about the chosen topic, [Neighborhood Standards in Dearborn](#).**

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If you are interested in participating in the live dialogue, sign up at [ideasforchange.org/dearborn](https://ideasforchange.org/dearborn).