

### Q10 Are there any additional comments you would like to provide the City of its 2015-2023 Housing Element update?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 112

#	Responses	Date
1	Please remember ADA NEEDS.SIDEWALS, CURBS, PARKING. THE LACK OF THESE , AND THE CONDITION OF THE EXISTING FACILITIES IS DEPLORABLE	9/11/2015 10:43 AM
2	There are many examples of the City of Taft trying to expand its footprint and responsibilities, such as this project, but many more examples of the inability or mismanagement of the City of Taft to take care of what it already has. Just one example of this would be the street condition and drainage situation in much of the town. Particularly Taft Heights. There are many examples of personal property being damaged during the recent floods while very little, in some cases nothing, has been done to correct the issues. all the while, the Rails to Trails project continues to get new grass, sprinklers, paving, etc... This is wrong and must be corrected.	9/8/2015 4:02 PM
3	Stop trying to save the mama and pop shops in Taft and allow the new big businesses come to Taft. Taft will only grow if there is big well know businesses int he area. If you allow them to build people will come to live in Taft.	9/4/2015 8:57 PM
4	No housing on the trail.	9/4/2015 4:52 PM
5	In fill housing is also desperately needed to clean up the "look" of Taft	9/4/2015 3:23 PM
6	We need more affordable housing with 3 bedrooms or more.	9/4/2015 1:23 PM
7	Please control the number of vagrants it has grown immensely in the last few years our trash cans have become shopping bins.	9/4/2015 12:25 PM
8	Yes, please clean up the apartments in the victory square area. That area along with south taft is a major eye sore driving in to Taft, whether incorporated or unincorporated.	9/4/2015 12:01 PM
9	We need more updated commercial buildings. Renovate center street. If need be, purchase buildings from absentee owners and renovate and sell or rent to new businesses.	9/4/2015 10:15 AM
10	There are so many ugly, run down & abandoned houses & commercial buildings in Taft, as well as Ford City, South Taft & Taft heights. The first things people see when they come in on 119 is the "heron heights" apartments & the old run down "ghetto" houses in South Taft. We need some sort of program to get rid of abandoned eye sore properties & to help low income people do needed home improvements. Also we to have someone to keep all these slum lords in check with their properties being up to the letter of housing laws.	9/4/2015 10:08 AM
11	This survey is great. This is a good idea since I often feel like I have no say in things because I can't make meetings. Keep up the good work. We need to do something about the homeless population. I do not believe people are disposable, but each life precious. But with that said I don't like going to parks and having them sleeping in restrooms or on tables there and on the walk way. A survey on how the issue could be addressed would be nice. I'm not down on low income folks, I'm one of them. I just believe America is providing for the poor while middle class foots the bill. Those who work hard pay for to many who refuse to work. I pay taxes on every thing I earn. There are to many unlicensed folks doing business in Taft... gardeners, street venders, roofers, repairmen, child care, produce sell, concession stands etc. It makes it very hard for me to do business with competition who doesn't play by the rules. It makes some pay taxes, licenses, insurance for their business and others not. Who do you think people will do business with? Whoever product is cheaper. And those not paying taxes, insurance, business licenses etc. can be cheaper and draw business better. Not to mention our town needs folks to pay taxes etc. on their product too. Not to mention public safety from unlicensed businesses. I almost lost my house this year because I cannot compete.	9/4/2015 10:06 AM
12	we need better shopping centers. Also out of town property owners need to take care of the houses and commercial property they own	9/4/2015 9:34 AM

13	Taft needs more housing, and definitely more diverse businesses. I love mexican food, however Taft does not need three new Mexican food restaurants opening up all in the same month. That is ridiculous! Albertsons monopolizes the food shopping, just as Kmart is the only real large store to shop at. I grew up in Taft, and sadly, since 1977 when I left this town, Taft has not changed much. It's sad to see. Its sad when I see other small towns, such as Shafter, Arvin, Delano, and Wasco thriving, and sadly Taft not progressing. Very sad. I raised my child here so he could get a great education. I'm thankful for that. As far as staying here, I'm not sure. Taft is losing a lot of long time residents because it refuses to grow. There is failure to thrive in this city. There are rich and there are poor. And I won't even elaborate on all the drug and alcohol abuse here. It's awful. Many of our children leave for college and refuse to come back to this city because there is nothing here. My son, who was an honor student at TUHS, left at 19. He refuses to come back. So many of the great kids have gone off somewhere else to be great adults. The kids are leaving to see the world, and all it had to offer. All I can say is, "Get with the times Taft, it's not 1970 anymore". Build, build, build! I sure hope this input helps.	9/4/2015 9:28 AM
14	They need to repave the streets in the airport edition neighborhood. They are awful.	9/4/2015 9:25 AM
15	Rare down abandon homes and sidewalks in ford city Sewer system south taft	9/4/2015 9:21 AM
16	We need more apartments and new homes	9/3/2015 6:14 PM
17	When is the City going to find a developer to build new apartments for all levels of income tenants? All types of new apartments are needed; senior, affordable and market rate. Most apartments in town are disgusting, old and full.	9/3/2015 3:17 PM
18	We need to clean up the homes that are here before building too many new ones. Some people need help and guidance in caring for their home. And some encouragement to take care of their neighborhoods to make them clean and safe.	9/2/2015 4:13 PM
19	Low cost home improvement loans for people outside of Taft city limits.	9/2/2015 10:12 AM
20	Clean-up of blighted areas. Rehabilitation of historic buildings. Curbs and sidewalks in SouthTaft and Ford City. Better police protection.	9/1/2015 8:39 PM
21	One of us drives the 40 miles to work the other drives about 7 miles to work	9/1/2015 7:55 PM
22	There needs to be a higher focus on street repair and encouragement of those persons employed by the city and other local entities to live in Taft and the surrounding communities.	9/1/2015 6:15 PM
23	Condo's would be okay, apartments, not so much.	9/1/2015 5:25 PM
24	See my earlier response.	9/1/2015 2:51 PM
25	Repair the existing streets--that would be a great start! Get people who own houses in the county portions to clean and repair property.	9/1/2015 2:45 PM
26	I would like to see curbside recycling available to residents. This may hinder the vagrants that dig through the trash in the alley, make a mess and cause a disturbance.	9/1/2015 2:01 PM
27	Before new housing is planned, old housing in surrounding areas; Ford City, South Taft need to be addressed. Streets need to be maintained and not ignored.	9/1/2015 1:26 PM
28	slum landlords should be fined somehow, many just take the rent, make no improvements	9/1/2015 11:46 AM
29	House prices are out of hand in Taft. I've been looking in to buying a house for almost a year now and the prices are unrealistic. Nothing is going for near what it's actually worth. And this new housing development, who's that aimed at? Starting prices of \$250k are you kidding me? No one who's not "Top Brass" in the Oil industry (which is dying) is capable of owning a house there. Don't bother trying to get people interested in the housing development when it's aimed squarely at people who wouldn't otherwise bother living in Taft. Bringing in a bunch of rich people doesn't enrich my life, so I honestly don't give a shit.	9/1/2015 11:13 AM
30	People of high income can't move her because housing in good repair and in good neighborhoods is not available. Schools also need to be built to allow increased growth. Focus on middle income development.	9/1/2015 11:11 AM
31	Let's keep, and dare I say attract, career minded working families in Taft. And Let's give our seniors the ability to live in safe, healthy and affordable housing!	9/1/2015 10:50 AM
32	Taft is in severe need of affordable work-force housing and I would like to see this as a priority listed in the element.	9/1/2015 10:16 AM
33	You just need more affordable housing for Seniors. No one thinks about us anymore since we have gotten older and on a fixed income.	8/28/2015 3:22 PM
34	More options for low income housing...	8/28/2015 12:32 PM

35	The City of Taft needs to establish standards for Business facades and building colors. We should develop a theme of colors and common features to choose from. Grant monies should be made available from the CDBG or other projects to help.	8/28/2015 11:22 AM
36	Lets not forget about the parking.	8/28/2015 7:05 AM
37	Live on \$900 a month. Mobil Home park raising rent to over \$600 next time and there is no consideration for age or income. My son lives in a better park in Bakersfield and pays \$350 a month.	8/28/2015 5:15 AM
38	Group homes or "rehab homes" would be nice for those looking to get off drugs and get clean.	8/27/2015 5:47 PM
39	Taft needs a dog park.	8/27/2015 4:56 PM
40	So many homes in the city (and county) need to be demolished. Maybe the city can provide an incentive for property owners to do that and then help them to either sell the property or develop a plan for re-building.	8/27/2015 4:35 PM
41	We need AFFORDABLE housing for our low income population.... I hope we can promote the first time homebuyers program and maybe even have a community meeting to discuss challenges to qualifying - such as credit scores....	8/27/2015 3:38 PM
42	The hardest thing about living here is that most of the homes that low income people can afford are old and falling apart. It would be much appreciated to those of us who just don't make much to have options other than bedbug filled apartment complexes and houses built in the 20's with unsafe floor heaters and no insulation.	8/27/2015 3:06 PM
43	Affordable housing! 150k - 200k Tear down the crappy ones you already have and build new ones on same sites. Slum land lords need to go	8/27/2015 3:05 PM
44	Relief from burdensome regulations NOT required by County or State regulations.	8/27/2015 3:02 PM
45	We need all kinds of housing but no section 8!	8/27/2015 2:39 PM
46	I personally would like to see more youth involvement in the growth of our community such as weekend clean up of elderly homes. It will help beautify the city and teach our young people the feeling of doing something for others and the positive feeling it will reflect on everyone involved.	8/27/2015 2:21 PM
47	Please look at the need for working with the school district on extra space at the schools as the city grows.	8/27/2015 2:17 PM
48	No	8/27/2015 2:15 PM
49	Downtown lofts for young adults to live in downtown Taft.	8/26/2015 10:53 AM
50	Retired now, but have spent years designing and working on mixed use developments. They are the wave of the future, both here and abroad. They provide for better use of transportation, lower pollution, allow for "pride of ownership" and form neighborhoods.	8/21/2015 8:54 PM
51	Let's keep pushing for quality homes in Taft at affordable costs relative to value received. Don't want too many cheap houses or they'll be purchased by slum lords / deadbeat ownera. If they're too expensive, they'll sit vacant. We can not afford to not have housing quantity increase if we desire folks to call Taft home!	8/21/2015 4:36 PM