

RESOLUTION NO. 5826

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF BEMIDJI'S PERFORMANCE MEASURES RESULTS FOR 2012

WHEREAS, benefits to the City of Bemidji for participation in the Minnesota Council on Local Results and Innovation's comprehensive performance measurement program are outlined in MS 6.91 and include eligibility for a reimbursement as set by State statute; and

WHEREAS, any city participating in the comprehensive performance measurement program is also exempt from levy limits for taxes, if levy limits are in effect; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Bemidji has adopted and implemented at least 10 of the performance measures, as developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation, and a system to use this information to help plan, budget, manage and evaluate programs and processes for optimal future outcomes; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the City Council of Bemidji will continue to report the results of the performance measures to its citizenry by the end of the year through publication, direct mailing, posting on the city's website, or through a public hearing at which the budget and levy will be discussed and public input allowed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council of Bemidji will submit to the Office of the State Auditor the actual results of the performance measures adopted by the city.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Councilmember Johnson, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Thompson, was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Hellquist, Johnson, Olson, Erickson, Thompson
Nays: None
Absent: None

Passed: April 1, 2013

ATTEST:



Kay M. Murphy, City Clerk

APPROVED:



Rita S. Albrecht, Mayor

CITY OF BEMIDJI
PERFORMANCE MEASURES SUMMARY RESULTS
2012

Measure	Description	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
1	Overall Quality of Services	44%	44%	8%	3%
	2011	36%	46%	14%	4%
2	Percent Change in taxable property value	6.8% increase over last year			
3	Overall Appearance of City	27%	56%	15%	1%
	2011	34%	46%	18%	2%
4	Safety rating in community	26%	55%	15%	4%
	2011	24%	51%	19%	6%
5	Quality of Fire Services	65%	25%	5%	1%
	2011	53%	38%	4%	5%
6	Condition of City Streets	30%	55%	12%	3%
	2011	21%	58%	16%	5%
7	Quality/timeliness of snowplowing City streets	44%	39%	10%	4%
	2011	36%	44%	14%	6%
8	Dependability and Quality of Water Supply	51%	34%	7%	2%
	2011	46%	35%	8%	11%
	Operating cost per million gallons of water pumped		\$2,383		
9	Dependability and Quality of Sanitary Sewer	50%	34%	8%	2%
	2011	45%	39%	6%	10%
	Operating cost per million gallons of water pumped		\$4,427		
10	Quality of City recreational programs and facilities	68%	26%	5%	1%
	2011	59%	34%	6%	1%
11	Bond Rating	Moody's Investors Service Rating of Aa3 Standard and Poors Rating of A+			
12	Number of Library Visits per 1,000 population	2010	2011	2012	
		17,446	17,526	15,700	
13	Insurance industry rating of fire services	Ranges from 4 to 10 within service area			
14	Fire calls per 1,000 of population	198	171	164	
15	Part I and II Crime Clearance Rates	I	II	Total	
		39%	63%	54%	

City of Bemidji Resident Survey
















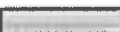



1. Check the circle that best represents your opinion:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Rating Average	Response Count			
How would you rate the City as a place to live?	13.6% (37)	30.4% (83)	35.9% (98)	8.4% (23)	9.2% (25)	1.8% (5)	0.7% (2)	2.78	273
How would you rate your neighborhood as a place to live?	21.6% (59)	24.2% (66)	32.2% (88)	10.6% (29)	7.7% (21)	3.3% (9)	0.4% (1)	2.70	273
How would you rate the City as a place to raise children?	12.7% (34)	29.9% (80)	29.9% (80)	12.7% (34)	11.6% (31)	3.4% (9)	0.0% (0)	2.91	268
How would you rate the City as a place to retire?	13.7% (37)	26.7% (72)	25.2% (68)	11.9% (32)	13.3% (36)	6.7% (18)	2.6% (7)	3.15	270
How would you rate the overall quality of life in the City?	9.6% (26)	34.1% (92)	31.1% (84)	12.2% (33)	8.5% (23)	3.0% (8)	1.5% (4)	2.91	270
answered question									273
skipped question									0

2. What do you like most about living in the City ? (Check up to three)

		Response Percent	Response Count
City water & sewer		11.2%	30
Community events		22.4%	60
Ethnic diversity		7.8%	21
Feel safe		14.2%	38
Good economy		2.6%	7
Good streets		8.2%	22
Job opportunities		2.2%	6
Lakes & trees		60.8%	163
Library		13.1%	35
My neighborhood		17.2%	46
Parks & Trails		40.3%	108
Peacefulness		12.7%	34
People		17.5%	47
Quality of life in general		26.9%	72
Schools		11.6%	31
Shopping		4.9%	13
Small town feel		25.7%	69
Weather/seasons		15.7%	42
answered question			268
skipped question			5

3. What do you feel are the most serious issues facing the City? (Check up to three)

		Response Percent	Response Count
Affordable housing		15.4%	42
Alcohol/substance abuse		23.1%	63
Annexation		12.1%	33
Attracting new business		36.6%	100
Condition of streets/infrastructure		4.8%	13
Crime		21.2%	58
Gang activity		11.7%	32
Lack of jobs		33.0%	90
Loss of state revenues		14.3%	39
Mortgage foreclosures		4.0%	11
Parking		8.8%	24
Poverty		32.2%	88
Property taxes		21.2%	58
Racial issues		19.0%	52
Schools		7.3%	20
Neighborhood Blight		10.6%	29
Empty Store Fronts		40.3%	110
answered question			273
skipped question			0

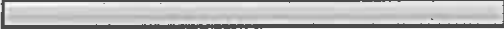
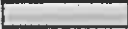
4. How would you rate the City as a place for:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Rating Average	Response Count			
Retired adults	12.9% (35)	22.5% (61)	36.2% (98)	10.3% (28)	11.1% (30)	5.5% (15)	1.5% (4)	3.07	271
Young families	9.6% (26)	22.8% (62)	37.1% (101)	11.0% (30)	14.3% (39)	2.9% (8)	2.2% (6)	3.15	272
Single adults	5.6% (15)	15.3% (41)	32.1% (86)	20.5% (55)	17.9% (48)	4.1% (11)	4.5% (12)	3.60	268
Children	6.7% (18)	26.7% (72)	39.3% (106)	9.6% (26)	11.1% (30)	5.2% (14)	1.5% (4)	3.13	270
Business	3.3% (9)	20.1% (54)	29.0% (78)	18.6% (50)	15.2% (41)	4.8% (13)	8.9% (24)	3.72	269
Entertainment	8.1% (22)	15.6% (42)	26.7% (72)	14.1% (38)	20.0% (54)	6.7% (18)	8.9% (24)	3.78	270
Recreation	24.3% (65)	32.5% (87)	25.0% (67)	7.1% (19)	6.0% (16)	2.2% (6)	3.0% (8)	2.57	268
answered question									273
skipped question									0




5. In the last year, how many times have you visited a City park?

	Response Percent	Response Count
None <input type="checkbox"/>	5.1%	14
1 to 5 times <input type="checkbox"/>	37.1%	101
6 to 15 times <input type="checkbox"/>	27.2%	74
16 to 30 times <input type="checkbox"/>	14.0%	38
Over 30 times <input type="checkbox"/>	16.5%	45
answered question		272
skipped question		1

6. In the last year, have you had any contact with an employee of the City?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		80.2%	215
No (skip to question 8)		19.8%	53
		answered question	268
		skipped question	5

7. If so, how would you describe that experience?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Poor/confrontational		9.2%	20
Acceptable		34.6%	75
Helpful/courteous		56.2%	122
		answered question	217
		skipped question	56

8. How would you describe the following:

	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor	N/A	Rating Average	Respon
Overall appearance of the City	5.1% (14)	22.4% (61)	44.5% (121)	11.4% (31)	11.4% (31)	4.0% (11)	1.1% (3)	0.0% (0)	3.18	
Feeling of safety in the City	6.6% (18)	19.0% (52)	42.1% (115)	13.2% (36)	10.3% (28)	4.8% (13)	4.0% (11)	0.0% (0)	3.32	
Quality of fire protection services	29.0% (79)	35.7% (97)	20.6% (56)	4.4% (12)	3.7% (10)	1.5% (4)	0.7% (2)	4.4% (12)	2.22	
Condition of City streets	5.2% (14)	24.4% (66)	41.1% (111)	13.7% (37)	10.7% (29)	1.5% (4)	3.3% (9)	0.0% (0)	3.18	
Quality/timeliness of snowplowing on City streets	12.5% (34)	31.7% (86)	30.6% (83)	8.5% (23)	6.6% (18)	3.0% (8)	4.1% (11)	3.0% (8)	2.90	
Dependability/overall quality of sanitary sewer service	22.2% (60)	28.1% (76)	25.6% (69)	8.1% (22)	4.1% (11)	3.7% (10)	2.2% (6)	5.9% (16)	2.61	
Dependability/overall quality of water supply service	24.0% (65)	26.6% (72)	22.9% (62)	11.1% (30)	4.1% (11)	3.0% (8)	1.5% (4)	7.0% (19)	2.56	
Quality of City parks, trails, and recreational programs	30.4% (82)	37.8% (102)	20.7% (56)	5.2% (14)	4.4% (12)	0.4% (1)	0.7% (2)	0.4% (1)	2.19	
Overall quality of services provided by the City	11.7% (32)	32.2% (88)	30.4% (83)	14.3% (39)	4.4% (12)	4.0% (11)	2.6% (7)	0.4% (1)	2.90	
answered question										
skipped question										



9. Please rate the following categories of Bemidji City government performance:

	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor	Rating Average	Response Count
The value of services for the taxes paid to the City	4.1% (11)	19.6% (53)	30.4% (82)	16.7% (45)	14.8% (40)	6.3% (17)	8.1% (22)	3.70	270
The overall direction that the City is taking	2.6% (7)	15.8% (43)	32.0% (87)	13.2% (36)	18.8% (51)	9.2% (25)	8.5% (23)	3.91	270
How informed I am on major issues in the City	6.6% (18)	20.2% (55)	33.1% (90)	16.2% (44)	13.2% (36)	5.1% (14)	5.5% (15)	3.47	270
The job City government does in welcoming citizen involvement	1.5% (4)	14.1% (38)	31.5% (85)	19.6% (53)	15.9% (43)	6.3% (17)	11.1% (30)	3.98	270
The extent to which City employees and elected officials care what people like me think	2.9% (8)	11.4% (31)	32.0% (87)	15.1% (41)	14.7% (40)	11.8% (32)	12.1% (33)	4.11	270
Ease of identifying the right person to talk to when I have a concern with the City	3.7% (10)	19.6% (53)	30.4% (82)	18.9% (51)	13.0% (35)	8.5% (23)	5.9% (16)	3.67	270
answered question									270
skipped question									0





10. How would you rate the overall performance of Bemidji City government?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	4.0%	11
Good <input type="checkbox"/>	54.2%	148
Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	32.2%	88
Poor <input type="checkbox"/>	9.5%	26
answered question		273
skipped question		0

11. Have you visited the City website at www.ci.bemidji.mn.us?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		77.0%	208
No		23.0%	62
answered question			270
skipped question			3

12. If yes, how would you rate the site?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Excellent		11.3%	24
Good		64.3%	137
Fair		22.1%	47
Poor		2.3%	5
answered question			213
skipped question			60

13. What City ward do you live in?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	10.8%	29
Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.3%	17
Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	11.9%	32
Ward 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.3%	33
Ward 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	15.7%	42
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	29.1%	78
Not a City resident	<input type="checkbox"/>	13.8%	37
answered question			268
skipped question			5

14. Approximately how long have you lived in the Bemidji area?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.1%	22
2 to 5 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	11.5%	31
6 to 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.9%	24
More than 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	71.5%	193
answered question			270
skipped question			3

15. Comments/recommendations:

**Response
Count**

126

answered question

126

skipped question

147

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

1	Don't need to spend anymore on parks.	Nov 20, 2012 2:12 PM
2	See attached.	Nov 20, 2012 2:10 PM
3	I would recommend getting rid of Venu Works as the management firm of Sanford Center, hard to believe they keep trying to pass on costs when level of service has declined. In the business world when level of service goes down so does the cost to the customer at least in the private sector. Can't believe you let them get away with what they do! As far as I am concerned they have breached their contract and should be shown the door!!	Nov 19, 2012 6:57 AM
4	It seems that city officials are placing a higher emphasis on the status of the city, more than the people of Bemidji. From a distance Bemidji may look like a shining star of the north, but we the people know better. The city has taken great strides to improve itself, at the expense of its people.	Nov 19, 2012 6:50 AM
5	Love the Sanford Center! I think our parks and trails are some of the best in the country. I am impressed with the new expanded airport. Bemidji has made some great improvements over the past 12 years... keep up the good work!	Nov 18, 2012 9:09 PM
6	why so many lights burned out and not replaced along Paul Bunyan Drive going south to Nymore. Public safety should be thought of.	Nov 18, 2012 6:33 PM
7	We live near Northern Park and would like to see it improved. There is always a lot of trash and the benches and tables are broken.	Nov 18, 2012 2:47 PM
8	Have people pay a fee for handicapped parking tags. I think some people are abusing the system. Some folks walk pretty darned good for being "handicapped". And, the exercise wouldn't hurt them a bit. Doesn't have to be a large fee.	Nov 18, 2012 7:56 AM
9	there needs to be options/choices for payments for garbage pickup: example, 1 x/month or 2x/mo., or lower price for low-income. The city gov. and chamber need to provide efforts at positive race relations. City needs to spend more on assisting homeless and hungry and less on commercialism and advertising. The north side of town needs a tornado/emergency siren: maybe by the hospital or northeast area? From quest #3: POVERTY is the #1 prob. in the city, it contributes to all the rest, so DUH: assist the low-income population and the rest will get better. Quest #4: the elderly face issues such as housing, health care, and insurance, self-care, loneliness, and especially a need for cheap transportation. please fix the bus service. Young families need QUALITY childcare and early ed, housing, and jobs, singles need activities besides the bars and bowling and church. Kids and teens have what, movies or the mall? Not all kids are in sports. the city parks get mowed a lot, but need more of a police presence and the no cigarette policy needs to actually be enforced. they are COVERED IN CIGARETTE BUTTS. It would also be nice if people were forced to pick up dog poop after their dogs. and if anyone at city hall actually listens to any of this I will truly be surprised. they really don't listen to the little people/people who don't own a business or bring in money. by the way, more handicap accessibility around town would also be nice. actually giving out tickets for people who park illegally in handicap spots would make me fall over in a dead faint. actually stopping home breeders from pawning off their illegal pet bred cats/dogs in parking lots would be nice too.	Nov 17, 2012 8:51 PM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

10	FYI - My home in Bemidji is a second home and I'm not there as often as I like or involved in much to do with the city.	Nov 17, 2012 2:44 PM
11	We don't always understand the way the planning committee does things. It seems like they make it really hard for people to improve things on their homes. People are trying to make things better, and there's so many rules and regulations, that people don't even want to try, as they just keep getting put down. I understand that there has to be guidelines, but some of it just gets so crazy. I also feel that the city should be stricter on making people keep their yards neater, and keeping their lawns mowed.Thank you	Nov 17, 2012 2:25 PM
12	As a northern township resident and business owner in Bemidji, I don't feel that I have good representation in elections that affect my business. Building the event center is a great example.	Nov 16, 2012 2:59 PM
13	It really bothers me that in every entrance into Bemidji there is no "welcome to Bemidji" sign anywhere. I'm proud to live here and there should be signs showing what we have to offer. We have a lot of local artists that could submit designs to represent our town.	Nov 16, 2012 2:10 PM
14	I have not appreciated how some things have been handled, like annexation, parking, landlord-tenants, the poor bookings at the Sanford (we paid all that money and haven't had any big name acts) and especially spending money for those park planners that had the big stupid idea of tearing down the old library. Which city council seems determined to back in spite of the fact most constituents are totally against it. Remember, we elect them to represent us, not themselves.	Nov 16, 2012 5:14 AM
15	OVER ALL BEMIDI IS A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE AND I AM PROUD OF MY CITY	Nov 15, 2012 7:04 PM
16	affiliated with a non-profit business in Bemidji. Volunteer full time. Appreciate the city services and the safety of the area.	Nov 15, 2012 5:54 PM
17	I could go on forever. I don't live in the City, but have had a business within the city for nearly 30 years. I am taxed to death as a business in this town. Property values go down, and the taxes go up. I have NO VOTE regarding city issues, but students at BSU and others that don't own real estate can vote on city issues, then leave Bemidji forever when they graduate. I am assessed over \$150 a month for services I don't want, don't need, and don't use. That seems to be an unethical practice at best, even though you say it is legal to do so. I am met with a dilemma, as I can not vote on any city issues, but they certainly impact me directly. I pay more in real estate taxes by far than the exact same businesses throughout MN. They have much larger bldgs, much newer properties, and pay far far less in real estate taxes. Another issue: many times over the past several years, I see this scenario: snow plow #1 spreads sand and salt down. Snowplow #2 is about 200 feet behind snowplow #1, and plowing off what has just been put down. How dumb is that? Their roles are backwards?! Too many free-loaders on the government dole spells greater and greater tax burdens on me to pay for their lack of work. Two kinds of people in this world: those that work, and those that are willing to let them. Sad commentary on the welfare state of MN, and Beltrami County. At some point, it must implode, as there will be fewer and fewer worker bees, and more and more egg suckers. As Margarett Thatcher once	Nov 15, 2012 9:11 AM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

said, "the problem with socialism is, that eventually you run out of other people's money to spend". When will our city, county and state run out of my money to spend?

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------------------|
| 18 | Next time we need to vote on a multi-million dollar pet project such as an event center, hold a special election in the summer to maximize the ratio of permanent citizens to temporary college residents. This would give a true representation of the residents who are paying for said structure. Or have the college students pay for what they voted for. | Nov 14, 2012 7:05 PM |
| 19 | Business wont come where there is too much regulation, and Bemidji has them! I guess you forgot to include naming rights in the new bridge agreement. When you sell your soul isnt it amazing what goes with it!! | Nov 14, 2012 6:41 PM |
| 20 | Let's get this city more sustainable, like zero waste!!! Some want the weeds out of the sidewalk cracks, that's great, too. Maybe we could identify neighborhoods with more signs...but when we say Nymore we mean what? Lavinia? Irvingboro? Even if no one comes initially, I think City councilors should meet their ward citizens more than at election door knocking time. Jim Heltzer, not an internet genius paid for his own paper copy newsletter and then switched to email. I'd like emails from my councilor on city issues. I'd Really like the 'cat houses' gone. the nightly lit homes for feral cats and I'd like the cat leash ordinance enforced. We have too many feral cats in Ward 5 for our health. Let's get going on Green Steps!!! encouraged by new housing being built inside city limits!!! do more of it. | Nov 14, 2012 11:39 AM |
| 21 | We have a noise ordinance re: automobile exhaust noise and automobile general noise, which I assume includes booming bass. Why is it that I must continually call law enforcement and ask for enforcement of law in my neighborhood? | Nov 13, 2012 2:38 PM |
| 22 | We are thankful the old Carnegie Library is still standing. Progress can be ugly when it takes down a beautiful old building. The renovation on the old bank building is a good direction. | Nov 13, 2012 12:49 PM |
| 23 | Better bus service. The City did not care how many citizens did not want the event center. They rammed it down our throats anyway! | Nov 13, 2012 12:47 PM |
| 24 | Lived in Northern Township for 30 years, now city resident - am not aware of some of these issues in question. | Nov 13, 2012 12:45 PM |
| 25 | The tax rates on real estate are too high. | Nov 12, 2012 2:47 PM |
| 26 | Bring back curbside recycling pick-up. The city should also be vigorous promote trash/garbage reduction and make an effort to be a "green" city. | Nov 12, 2012 1:42 PM |
| 27 | would like to see the city begin planting new trees that we have lost | Nov 12, 2012 12:29 PM |
| 28 | Try promoting business and renewing the area instead of trying to stifle business with over regulation. | Nov 12, 2012 6:17 AM |
| 29 | The only real safety concern we have is walking across the bridge over the Mississippi on the trail- there are often drunks hanging out under the bridge. | Nov 11, 2012 6:56 PM |

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

30	<p>I don't even know where to start. There are NO jobs in Bemidji and the job market here stinks! People want to work but there is nothing so poverty is huge. People on food stamps and assistance is very high. There is a fair amount of the population that is wealthy and the rest poor. Not much middle class here. There are lots of cool events the city puts on but they always charge too much. I cannot afford to bring my family to anything but the free movie night at the lake. That is one thing we really enjoy. There is my husband, myself and our 3 kids and if they charge so much per person, most events are out of our budget. It is sad I know things cost money to put on but the rich kids are the ones at these events and the poor kids are out raising hell in town. So sad. Bemidji is not welcoming in general. Also I have lived here since 2007 and I have only been to a couple of restaurants in town because I cannot afford to go out. There are so many places I have never tried. Kraus Anderson has also ruined the downtown and Bemidji in general. There are so many businesses that cannot afford their high rent so they close. Kraus Anderson can then use it as a write off and they win either way. Bemidji loses, we all lose Now we lost KMART and Play it Again. Downtown is beginning to look like a ghost town. Another thing, affordable housing in Bemidji doesn't exist. I have to rent and the landlords are terrible and run slums and charge 3 times too much for rent. A single family like mine is out of luck! BiCap will not help us because we are married and all our kids are our own. They will only help you if you aren't trying. I give up! The only place I could find to rent is so far out of town and with gas so high, I can hardly afford to go into work. I am not sure anyone will even read this but I need to say these things. So we have a new mayor. BIG DEAL she won't do anything for anyone either. Government workers are usually rude and only worried about helping themselves not others. There needs to be some serious programs out there for kids in the summer. Only the rich kids can be in all these community ed activities. It is not right. I wish I would have never moved here in 2007. We did because of my husband's job and then he got laid off a year later. What a jokel</p>	Nov 11, 2012 3:22 PM
31	<p>Street lighting in residential areas could be alot better.</p>	Nov 11, 2012 11:39 AM
32	<p>I recently moved to Bemidji and was SHOCKED that there is no curbside recycling. It made me wonder where I had moved. It is hard to imagine a community of this size in the 21st century neglecting recycling. Yes, people can take to a recycling drop off - how many do?</p>	Nov 11, 2012 8:25 AM
33	<p>I am under hospice care right now so some things don't apply as they used to</p>	Nov 10, 2012 3:27 PM
34	<p>City manager doesn't know what the downstairs staff are doing.</p>	Nov 9, 2012 6:43 PM
35	<p>If a city worker breaks something the city should PAY FOR IT!!</p>	Nov 9, 2012 10:41 AM
36	<p>I think Bemidji would benefit greatly from a community rec center. Having a complex like a YMCA would really be a nice way to improve activity leveis for folks and have a place where families can go together for fun. Ruttgers' pool doesn't cut it; boys and girls club doesn't cut it, I think a community center would be an incredibly positive addition to our city's amenities.</p>	Nov 9, 2012 10:01 AM
37	<p>It seems like whenever we drive around town half the street lights are not working. Could you guys replace bulbs or work on them or something? It gets really dark some places. One year I injured myself on one of your sidewalks in library park because of lights that weren't working, it's just not a safe practice to</p>	Nov 8, 2012 6:27 PM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

only be using half of them

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------------|
| 38 | City council members need to be involved with businesses in their ward, and show they care about the people. Knocking on my door to ask for my vote shouldn't be the only time I see them, at least act like you care. | Nov 8, 2012 1:39 PM |
| 39 | I would've rated the quality of city living higher if public transportation was more robust. This is the weaknesses in many of our small towns. | Nov 8, 2012 11:19 AM |
| 40 | I would like to see further control placed on home-apartments to move towards apartment complexes in zoned areas instead of homes within the city being used as apartments. I feel this would increase the civic involvement with the city as it would bring in more individuals who are connected to the community, would boost BSU's budget by increasing dorm room use, and would decrease the amount of transient population we have living in homes which would allow for more personal care of the bemidji city area. | Nov 8, 2012 4:07 AM |
| 41 | Property taxes for commercial properties are disproportionately high compared to surrounding township commercial property taxes. You are discouraging employment and commercial ventures within the city limits. | Nov 7, 2012 12:03 PM |
| 42 | not a city resident but have a business in the city limits | Nov 7, 2012 7:16 AM |
| 43 | We need to clean up the city, both of physical/housing problems and of crime/gang activity/poverty-related issues. We need to take ownership and pride in our community and heritage. Unfortunately, I feel much of the problem is race-related, and restricted by tribal government and their unwillingness to also embrace the problems. | Nov 6, 2012 6:02 PM |
| 44 | I own property in the city, however, I cannot vote in the city. Many other folks are in the same condition... paying taxes without representation. That situation needs to be recognized by the mayor and the council. | Nov 6, 2012 2:28 PM |
| 45 | Art and cultural events are economic drivers (shown in reasearch available from Explore MN and Minnesotans for the Arts) yet the City does not openly endorse arts and arts organisations like they do other "businesses". Why not? Can that be changed? Full-time good paying jobs are difficult to find and if you are not related to someone already on staff forget getting an interview. Not a good way to run government. | Nov 6, 2012 12:15 PM |
| 46 | Questions 2 and 3 are a bit general. If I say parking is an issue.. what will that be interpreted as? ex. I have plenty of parking but I am angry that guests are ticketed at 12.01 when we are out enjoying the town. I feel that this town is very unfriendly to late night business and entertainment. I feel that this is the city of "no". We are not: pro earth, pro diverity, pro development, pro fun, pro anything except hunting and fishing. I would leave if I could because I'm so frustrated with the old school thought, false Minnesota Nice, and the constant sense of restraint. Instead of progressive, the city administration is stuck in 1975 and unfriendly to change, growth, and progressive thought. | Nov 6, 2012 11:31 AM |
| 47 | You've redesigned park after park in Bemidji so they are useable only by boaters, fishermen, or people with little kids! Many of us used to enjoy sitting in our cars to eat lunch and watch the lake and wildlife there. Now there's nowhere | Nov 6, 2012 9:28 AM |

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

to park unless you've got a boat or want your kids to play on the equipment or swim. Any car parking is so far away from the shore & aimed the wrong way that it's useless. Add the fact that you've destroyed wildlife habitat along the shores so there are fewer ducks, geese, etc. and even killed the seagulls!

48	Miss Andy Mack and the engineer that retired	Nov 6, 2012 8:54 AM
49	Even though we only spend five months in Bemidji (surprise, not the winter months), we still proudly call Bemidji home. The new parks and recreation facilities, the Sanford Center, Bemidji State University and excellent city services make Bemidji a wonderful home. Please do what you can to preserve our neighborhoods ... More homeowners and less rentals. More good jobs for young people would be a big plus!!!!	Nov 5, 2012 7:18 PM
50	41 years and counting, great place to live	Nov 5, 2012 4:37 PM
51	more things for young adults/teenagers to do please.....Sanford Center does not have activities for this age group nor parks	Nov 5, 2012 4:24 PM
52	We feel that Bemidji needs to utilize the Sanford Center to bring in more large scale entertainment. This would in turn help our Bemidji economy.	Nov 5, 2012 3:39 PM
53	I like the upgrading and care given the city parks and recreation areas; ditto the desire to make our streets and homes more safe and residents aware of standards of safety. Thank you for caring about our opinion of our city and our community spirit.	Nov 5, 2012 1:35 PM
54	The reason I rated the Streets and Sanitation poorly is because it really is the ONLY area I have had issues with. I have logged at least a dozen calls to that department asking for their services at our address: 1305 South Lake Irving Drive SW (city limits). I have seen a street cleaner down here (we are at a dead end) ONCE IN OUR nearly 6 yrs. !!! With us being at the end of the street and bottom of a hill we DESPARATELY need the cleaning of the excessive sand, salt and leaves! Our neighbors have made repeated requests as well! I would like to make one additional request. This has been brought up with Mayor Larson: a possible large container placed at the SUPERB recycling center for grass clippings and another for other yard debris. This is offered in Grand Forks, ND (our other home) with GREAT SUCCESS! We used to buy the biodegradable bags from City Hall with curbside pickup weekly. This has stopped this year. We would have gladly continued that service. Why did it stop? After 2 flat tires bringing our yard waste to the landfill, where you drive the same road as the construction debris trucks, we stopped! PLEASE, put containers at the Transfer Station! This should offer a much needed service at little to no expense to the city. Residents tend to throw their waste in ditches that smell rotten and eventually end up in our lakes causing weed problems! I can't believe city officials turn a blind eye this continual behavior! We ALL pay the consequences for this behavior. I would be glad to be contacted on either of these issues! Thank you, Karen Lander 701-739-4544	Nov 5, 2012 11:20 AM
55	Our family moved to Bemidji in 1991. We have grown to love the place more and more so that upon my retirement in 2004, we decided to remain here for the rest of our lives! Bemidji offers a "small town feel" with other amenities of larger cities. Public theatre, offerings from Bemidji State University and quality	Nov 5, 2012 11:13 AM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

programs from our schools and are excellent. Not to mention the outdoor recreational opportunities, plus all that Lake Bemidji offers in fishing, recreation and beauty. As far as I'm concerned, it doesn't get any better.

56	I find the level of poverty disproportionately experienced by people of color in this city to be embarrassing. We need to focus on helping Bemidji's non-white communities through more city employment and educational programs. Also, the police in this city are overly aggressive. I just moved here from Wisconsin while I work on my PhD and I am in shock over the racial politics and aggressive police presence in this city. I am completely disappointed in this city's race politics and the police officers' abuse of native youths (stopping them on the streets, etc.).	Nov 5, 2012 9:02 AM
57	Crime and gang activity is increasing, feeling of public safety is decreasing, stores that have been here for many years are going out of business, and the city continues to try to put in improvements that people don't want or need, and can't afford, such as city utilities. How much time and expense is being exhausted to argue over things that people don't want? The City of Bemidji needs to refocus on helping it's residents, and not spending all their time trying to attract new business. We are a small town, most people can't even afford a ticket to see a show at the Sanford Center, let alone pay more taxes to have it maintained.	Nov 5, 2012 8:50 AM
58	COULD DO A LOT MORE FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN SUMMER ACTIVITES THAT ARE ALREADY ON GOING AND NOT CITY RUN, LIKE SOCCER, SOFTBALL, BASEBALL, ETC.	Nov 5, 2012 8:29 AM
59	We do get some information regarding city decisions in the Bemidji Pioneer, but overall, I do feel that as residents, we don't have much input on city decisions.	Nov 5, 2012 8:19 AM
60		Nov 5, 2012 7:40 AM
61	The South Shore Center and the Marina need to be a higher priority. The city manager needs to retire so another city manager can begin to move the project forward. Our city charter needs to be changed to get more power back to the city council the elected officials and away from our city managers.	Nov 5, 2012 6:23 AM
62	I am a student at Bemidji State University. My place of residency is not in Bemidji, except during the school year. I don't know that my submission of this survey should apply to the overall results.	Nov 4, 2012 11:25 PM
63	Could make some of the rules for landlords and other city members easier to decipher also ask for members opinion before deciding to change rules and regulations.	Nov 4, 2012 7:52 PM
64	you need to check on the integrity of the city police-internal contests on arrests and property confiscation	Nov 4, 2012 6:53 PM
65	Street snow plowing is done in a timely manner, however, the city sidewalks esp. on Paul Bunyan Avenue are horrible. I'm am very concerned for our citizens that may be wheelchair bound and their inability to navigate these sidewalks.	Nov 4, 2012 10:25 AM
66	The city needs to prioritize people over business, increase tolerance, and focus on making services delivery meet residents needs. Greatest success was	Nov 4, 2012 8:54 AM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

pickup of wood from boulevards after storm last Summer. Needs to focus more on how residents want services to be provided and less on making routines. Restore Spring brush and building materials pick-ups.

67	remove the retarded 2 hr parking law in front of downtown stores, very hard to do any shopping and eat when you have to move atuto every two hours	Nov 3, 2012 8:33 PM
68	Need for a reasonably priced loaf of bread in downtown Bemidji.	Nov 3, 2012 8:30 PM
69	The City is not encouraging to building issues. Rather than find a way to allow a building or remodeling, some employees are looking to the regs for a way to waylay the plans. The City needs to be more building friendly.	Nov 3, 2012 5:46 PM
70	Limit development of new "strip malls". Emphasize boulevard enhancement. Develop an active, well funded urban forestry program. Manage and be aware of impacts of increasing the footprint of impermeable surfaces and storm water run-off. There are neighborhoods with run-down, ill-kempt rental properties which detract from the appearance and image of the city. This is a reflection of the grim demographic and economic realities of the population. The distinction between the "haves" and "have nots" is clearly evident by a stroll down the city streets compared to a drive around the lake.	Nov 3, 2012 5:24 AM
71	I have concerns with city blight. I grew up here in Bemidji and recently returned. I remember Birchmont Drive being the elite drive but closer to the university...not so much anymore. Overall, the City does a very good job taking care of the city. Emergency rescue; Fire and Police are on the spot when needed. I feel safe in the City of Bemidji. Our Mayor is out there meeting visitors and residents. Our City Council is very active and cares about the issues. I love going into the Licensing Dept, they are fast, efficient and friendly. I have never had a bad experience in the Administration Building or the Police Station if I have had an issue to resolve or a question that needed answering. I am concerned about empty store fronts and bringing new businesses in. I would LOVE to see the Headwaters Science Center get the old Pamida Building, that would really spruce up that area on the river. The old Wright gas station needs to be acquired and fixed up to spruce up that corner, a popular walk down to the History Center. It is too bad 3rd Street has so many bars right down by the water; one area that can be considered "not safe" especially on a weekend night. The smell of urine has increased in that area; really unattractive for visitors coming up the street from the Chamber. All-in-all I am glad I returned to Bemidji after retiring from the service and I have settled myself in and gotten involved in the community. I feel we are well informed of issues through our extensive media in town. Thanks for all you (collectively) do for the First City.	Nov 3, 2012 3:42 AM
72	Need to deal with the rental problems and parking around BSU and NTC.	Nov 2, 2012 4:00 PM
73	Too many banks, not enough activities or recreational places to keep kids and teens occupied.	Nov 2, 2012 8:35 AM
74	alleys are used as sidewalks late at night need more police in our areas seems to be a lot of slum landlords who dont care who they rent to---seems to be an issue with property crimes and drug house in our area on Mississipi and Park---dumb idea about cats on lease ordinance stupid idea	Nov 2, 2012 8:26 AM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

75	The stench by the sewer plant is horrible! I wouldn't want to be the business owner of Sparking Waters; it would be difficult to enjoy a dinner on the patio with the sewer smell in the air.	Nov 2, 2012 7:24 AM
76	People need to start cracking down on the downtown bar activity. 3 people going missing & showing up dead, badly injured or still missing is a HORRENDOUS thing to be going with such little care!!!!	Nov 2, 2012 7:18 AM
77	None	Nov 2, 2012 7:13 AM
78	Do something about the neighborhood blight and crowded conditions around the college.	Nov 2, 2012 5:17 AM
79	The workers in City Hall could be more polite and understanding. And answer the phone once in awhile instead of always letting it go to the answering machine.	Nov 2, 2012 3:31 AM
80	We like Bemidji and Beltrami County and intend to spend the rest of our years here.	Nov 1, 2012 2:47 PM
81	get rid of mr jon chattin-he is not worth his salary-in fact he is not worth much of anything-also get rid of greg negaard- a guy with speeding and dui convictions should not be involved ith public transit	Nov 1, 2012 1:52 PM
82	When you talk to a city employee, there should be follow through. There isn't. When you talk to the streets department about the snow plow not coming within 20 feet of your mailbox for 5 years in a row something should happen with that. Believe me when I tell you, that is repeately bringing that to the cities attention.	Nov 1, 2012 1:30 PM
83	Better enforcement of shape of homes and yards. ie Nymore areal	Nov 1, 2012 1:14 PM
84	I believe Bemidji is poorly run and ignores the wishes of the residents and patrons of city services.	Nov 1, 2012 12:50 PM
85	Changing the appearance of the city is costly and would be better spent on people who are in need.	Nov 1, 2012 11:31 AM
86	The city efforts in clean up following the July 2 storm were exceptional.	Nov 1, 2012 10:04 AM
87	Street lights out on Midway Dr. coming into downtown Bemidji, and leaving So. on Midway Dr. More active on property upkeep and appearance of homes etc. Is there a safety and/or building supervisor on staff?	Nov 1, 2012 9:53 AM
88	Please bring back home-recycling service.	Oct 31, 2012 9:00 PM
89	The CITY Sewer plant on the South Side needs to be relocated at least 10miles away from City Limits,urgently .The first greeting for Bemidji guests is often the stink of the Sewer Plant.!!	Oct 28, 2012 2:01 PM
90	Bemidji seems to have a reputation of being a good town / good place to vacation, but not a good place to live - people can't afford to live within city limits. Taxes are just too high, the City needs to quit spending like it has a blank check, people just can not afford it right now - whether it's taxes or franchise fees or whatever. If only (approx) 45% of the city properties are taxable, quit spending	Oct 26, 2012 3:30 PM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

like there is 90% taxable property. That, combined with less LGA from the State, means the City should do what everyone else has had to do in this economy - concentrate on the basics and not do things that we simply can not afford right now. Everyone has had to cut back, or put off a project because they can't afford it right now. Also, it is critical that Bemidji has jobs that pay better wages. Bemidji has wonderful school system and great opportunities for children's activities, but it's very hard for a family with young children to live around here. Even for college educated parents, low wages, poor benefits and a high cost of living (for just basic expenses, no "extras") make multiple jobs a necessity.

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|----|---|-----------------------|
| 91 | We live out of town..north..10 miles and I am concerned about how far away a fire station is to our property. The house will burn before the trucks get here. Our insurance is higher because of it, | Oct 26, 2012 8:32 AM |
| 92 | I would like to be involved in city gvernment, but I don't see any place to say what I really feel would be benficail to the citizens. | Oct 22, 2012 8:48 PM |
| 93 | Funding for schools and the library. | Oct 21, 2012 10:50 AM |
| 94 | Need more green space, less big box development. Traffic calming and pedestrian safety need more emphasis. | Oct 21, 2012 4:51 AM |
| 95 | Snow removal should be done any other time than at 8AM when everyone is trying to get to work/school. It's make it difficult to maneuver around the city with big banks blocking road ways. The city needs to wake up and realize there is a HUGE drug problem instead of sweeping it under the rug and chasing out those that are trying to break the cycle. This only masks the problem for a little while and crime rates go up because those that are under the rug are stealing from other folks to cure the next fix. Let's FIX the problem, not cover it up! Frankly prescription drug abuse is on the rise and Bemidji is no exception. I enjoy the city, parks and the outdoor feel of Bemidji, but also sick of the city dictating what they are going to allow into the city in desperate attempt to keep it a "small town feel." Let's be real, Pamida closed, Kmart closed, Fashion Bug closed... these are just the ones that I can think of off the top of my head. Look at all the empty buildings? We NEED to do something about this and why not try to bring some jobs into this town. I am a transplant and finding a job here is ridiculous, well let me rephrase, finding a GOOD job here is difficult. I moved up here several years ago and quickly found out to get a good job through the city, county, BSU/Tech or any other good paying job with decent benefits you must know someone who is working there already, have the "right" last name or have a very specific degree/education that they are looking for. Lastly, it would be nice to have schools that offered second languages early on and also offered more whole food/organic options. | Oct 20, 2012 10:03 AM |
| 96 | Why is it that some businesses downtown are exempt from removing snow from sidewalks...also it seems one of the last sidewalks to be plowed after a major snowstorm is the Irvine Ave bridge... | Oct 20, 2012 8:57 AM |
| 97 | The fortune spent on the Ice Arena and the pay back has not been great. Need someone that is more motivated to making the Ice Arena more available to businesses to promote there products etc. in North Central MN. Right in the heart of the north woods! | Oct 20, 2012 6:20 AM |

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

98	I believe the decision to build the Sanford Center was a major mistake and one we (taxpayer) will be paying for, probably forever. City government did NOT listen to the public on this and now look where we are at? Like all other communities, this event center is draining city funds.	Oct 20, 2012 5:24 AM
99	I'd like to see better traffic enforcement. I live on the southside of Bemidji, and the Old Midway Drive has become a racetrack for some drivers, with the majority driving only in the left lane. I see many drivers exceeding 40 mph routinely, zigzagging through traffic. I don't know how you can teach manners to some of these people, but increased enforcement might help.	Oct 20, 2012 4:34 AM
100	Creating jobs with livable wages is creating jobs. Creating jobs that are low hours and minimum wage creates employed poverty. Overspending had forced annexation. It looks desparate. I have been recently annexed but where are the services. No cop ride throughs not a thing added to my nieghborhood but the taxes. Desparate.....	Oct 20, 2012 3:49 AM
101	Business owner in Bemidji	Oct 19, 2012 8:15 PM
102	They are too worried about padding the checkbook with tax money to care how it affects the citizens	Oct 19, 2012 7:53 PM
103	The City Council should think about finding a new City Manager.	Oct 19, 2012 5:03 PM
104	Horrible! You need to redirect your attention to the major issues effecting this town- no jobs, businesses closing, no industry, etc....Instead of worrying about the ugly bike bridge (which, by the way, I have NEVER seen one person on since it opened and I live over there), the parks, and all the "festivals" in this town. You need to open your eyes and take a good look at what people really need! JOBS!	Oct 19, 2012 4:34 PM
105	Not at all happy with all of the development on the west side, will not attend events at the event center because we didn't support it in the first place. The city has the wrong priorities. They are only interested in making big money, not in improving the lives of it's residents.	Oct 19, 2012 3:15 PM
106	need a dog park, more sidewalks, running trails, better restaurants, better clothing stores/department stores	Oct 19, 2012 2:58 PM
107	We wish the city would bring back the leaf pick up(fall and spring) and the curb pick up for appliances and items once a year.	Oct 19, 2012 2:43 PM
108	We would love a city operated water park. Not everyone likes swimming in the lakes. Visit Apple Valley's water park website for ideas! Wonderful place for families and it brings in city revenue! http://www.ci.apple-valley.mn.us/Facilities.aspx?Page=detail&RID=37	Oct 19, 2012 2:35 PM
109	Crime is a major problem. We have been broken into 5 different times at 3 different residences that we have lived. I also feel that the city is not doing enough to help current businesses. The taxes are too high and there are too many regulations, the city needs to try to keep current businesses. I love the parks but I think it is silly that the different events the City holds, (World Day of Play and exercising on the beach and kids activities, etc.) I would rather not have	Oct 19, 2012 5:18 AM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

the tax dollars wasted on these.

110	There are hardly any affordable entertainment options in this city. It would do the residents a favor if the city offered more activity/family nights	Oct 18, 2012 5:41 PM
111	regional shopping center is not what will support the local economy. of course you know that manufacturing isn't attracted here because of the location with no major support highway.	Oct 18, 2012 6:13 AM
112	Thank you for your hard work after the July storm. I see the sticks in Diamond Point where the new trees will go. Yay! I assume the decrease in LGA has stressed city employees. Thanks for hanging in there through difficult times. I wish the city council would rethink their moratorium on the judicious support of non-profits. High fives to the street plow people. I don't always agree with everything the city does, but I sure appreciate the folks who put themselves out there making the decisions and doing the work.	Oct 18, 2012 5:18 AM
113	We need lower taxes and less regulations so businesses can prosper. We need less low income housing so low income people will not move here.	Oct 16, 2012 2:12 PM
114	The rentals and other neighborhoods in the city need to be cleaned up. This is what people entering the downtown area see and it is not pretty. I have had comments from out of town guests about this. Also we need to have some gift shop/tourist stores in the downtown area to attract visitors ei: Park Rapids and Walker. Not more stores along Paul Bunyan Dr. I would like keep the small town that makes Bemidji great.	Oct 13, 2012 8:51 AM
115	Biggest issue that I see that is easy to fix and needs immediate attention is the sidewalks in the winter HAVE to be maintained and cleared the full width of the sidewalk for children, elderly and handicapped and general publics safety. The lack of that made alot of my answers above a lower point. as there is no excuse for the poor quality of sidewalks.	Oct 13, 2012 8:03 AM
116	Need to be more assertive regarding fundraising for the dog park - this is something that is needed for those with dogs considering the need to leash within the city. A safe place to exercise a dog is needed.	Oct 11, 2012 7:57 AM
117	Would love to see some city incentives to help revitalize downtown. Both to bring business in and help businesses keep up their buildings.	Oct 8, 2012 10:55 AM
118	The City needs to place an emphasis on the basic needs, such as police, fire and streets.	Oct 8, 2012 8:53 AM
119	Too much tax money goes to the event center. Too much crime.	Oct 8, 2012 5:41 AM
120	there should be more connections with Lake Bemidji and the Mississippi River for intentional recreational, educational, and business purposes	Oct 7, 2012 11:23 AM
121	1-Use of "Handicaped" parking spaces by those without stickers is out of control !! A 'crackdown' by the police department and payment of fines posted would benefit both the citizen and the department. With winter coming this is a concern once again. PLEASE institute enforcement of this !! 2)_Absentee landlords not tending to property in a manner suitable to a neighborhood. Example: 1201	Oct 5, 2012 6:09 AM

Q15. Comments/recommendations:

Beltrami....Lovely home for many years..Now looks like a 'dump' !!! Front steps falling apart,weeds growing in front yard,junkie looking all around. Shameful..Take a look..... 3)All in all the city is a great place to live, but there are long standing problems, such as these, that may not be of the greatest importance but it affects MANY people. Thank you.

122	The City Council needs to start looking for a new City Manager. This one has been here long enough. The City needs to finish projects (North Side Park) before starting another project (Waterfront).	Oct 4, 2012 12:54 PM
123	Water quality rating was related to study published on poor quality of water.	Oct 4, 2012 11:53 AM
124	Save the Carnegie!	Oct 4, 2012 10:31 AM
125	I love the Sustainability Focus the City has taken on! More of that!	Oct 4, 2012 10:29 AM
126	Better lighting on the streets at night; it's very dark and nerv racking to be walking outside with no street lamps.	Oct 3, 2012 3:57 PM

11/19/12

As the inner areas of the City of Bemidji, particularly in Wards 1 and 3, become more and more characterized by rental units, neighborhood blight becomes ever so apparent. Absentee landlords exercise little or no control over the condition of their properties, contrary to their self-serving public comments. Uncut lawns, vehicles parked on unpaved areas of such lawns, broken doors and windows hanging askew, garbage bags not in appropriate collection carts, indoor furniture left outside in all types of weather including Winter snows, etc., being very much in evidence.

I understand rental ownership, as I have owned such properties in the past. However, I kept much better control of the condition of such properties. Renters, no matter who they are, just do not have a sense of the manner in which properties should be maintained.

In the areas surrounding the Bemidji State University campus rental units without resident owners have come to dominate, with some entire blocks having no real residential ownership. This is typical of such campus areas, as can be observed in Mankato, St. Cloud, and Minneapolis, among others. Because Bemidji State University is one of the smaller of such schools, rental properties in the past were limited. This has now evidently changed. The term "academic slum" comes to mind, as rental owners seem only interested in the profit to be made from such investments. These absentee owners are not good neighbors.

Within the past ten years three properties along the lakeshore between Diamond Point Park and Cameron Park have become collective rental units. This is my neighborhood, and it pains me most directly to see the present conditions of these properties. It is only a matter of time before the value of my own property declines because of the condition of these rental properties.

Although there was a move recently to limit the number of rental properties in a given area, such was not established and enforced. Having been present at a number of public hearings on this situation I was affronted by the threatening voices and attitudes of some of the absentee landlords present as well as the weak response of the members of the City Council. All of the other dimensions considered in the enclosed resident survey fade in importance next to this issue of developing neighborhood blight, as such blight informs all of the other issues.

As practical proposals, I suggest the following:

- 1) Bemidji State University reestablish an office of off-campus student housing as it once had within the Office of Student Affairs. Students would be allowed to reside only in housing approved by this office.
- 2) Bemidji State University should prepare its students in terms of "good citizenship" living off campus within the larger Bemidji community, including matters of noise, proper parking, tossing of garbage, and smoking on private property across from the campus.
- 3) What ever-codes and/or regulations exist for rental housing should be enforced by law enforcement officers without complaints from citizens being first lodged. Driving through neighborhoods such officers should be on the lookout for such.

What was once a series of neat and clean neighborhoods, with properties owned by those who lived in them, have now become what can only be termed "slums." There is still time to correct these conditions through code and control, but the time grows ever late.

Thank you!