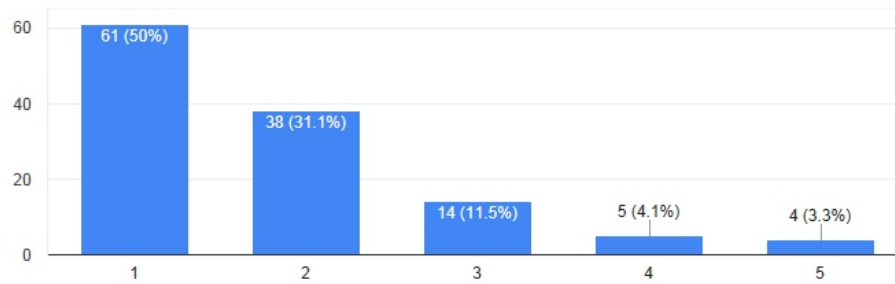




Village of
Bingham Farms
Community Survey 2017

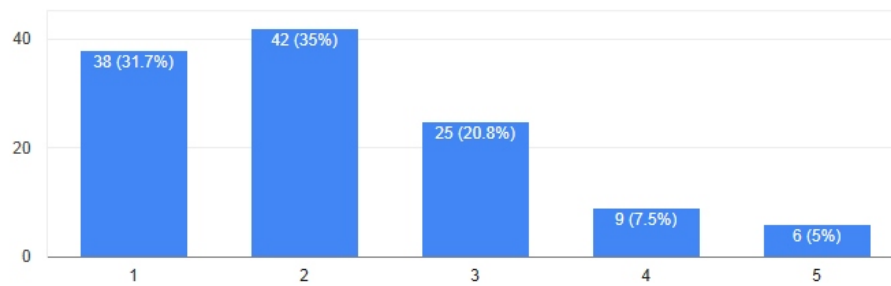
Bingham Farms provides good administrative services for residents.

122 responses



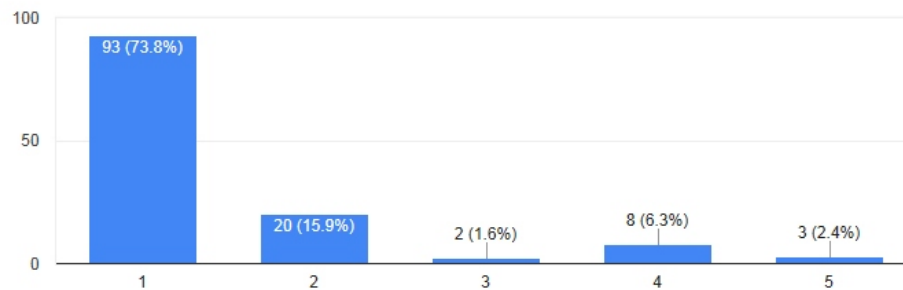
Village ordinances are clear, concise, and address relevant topics.

120 responses



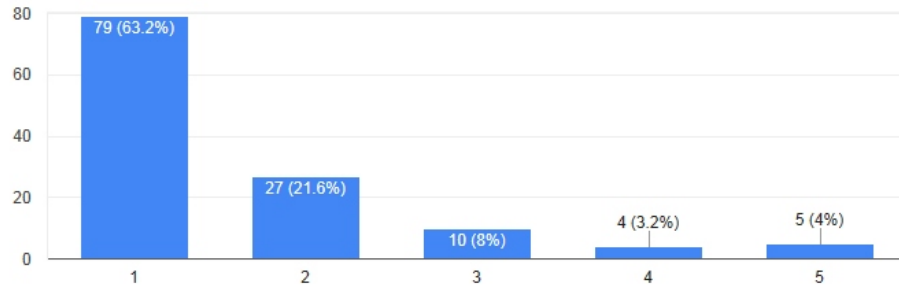
Bingham Farms provides a good trash collection service.

126 responses



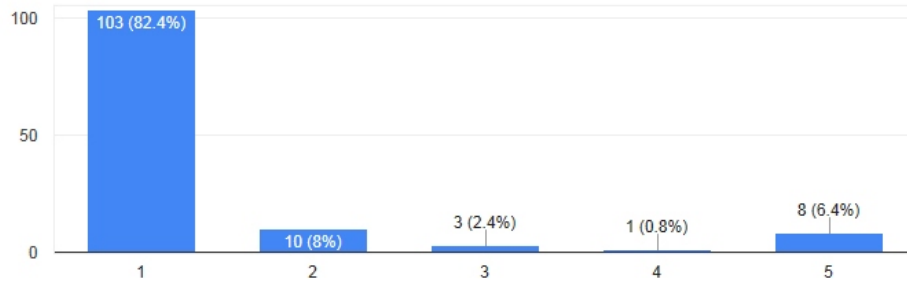
Bingham Farms provides a good recycling service.

125 responses



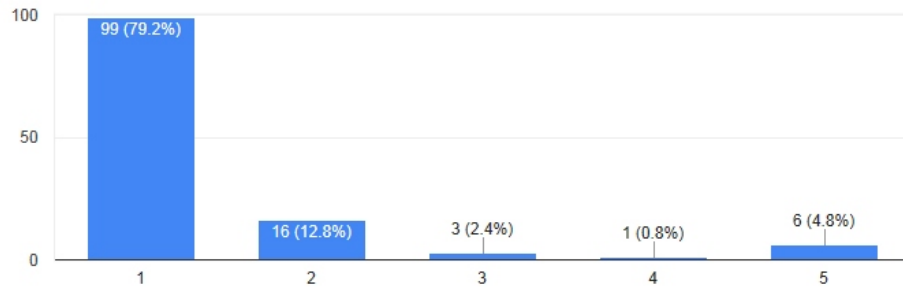
Bingham Farms provides good police services.

125 responses



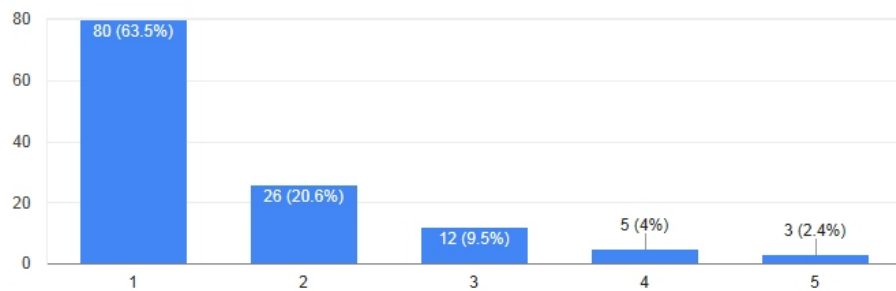
Bingham Farms provides good fire safety services.

125 responses



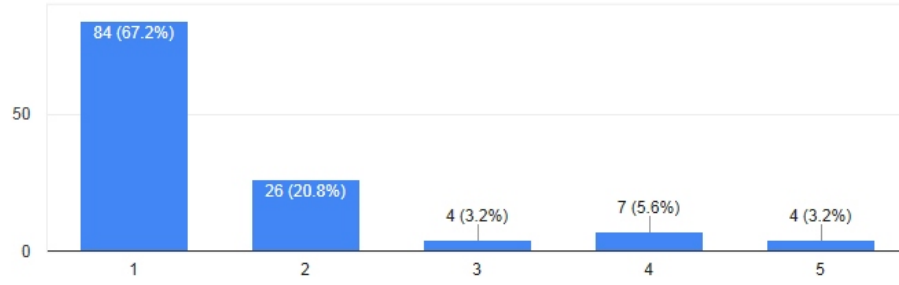
I feel safe living in Bingham Farms.

126 responses



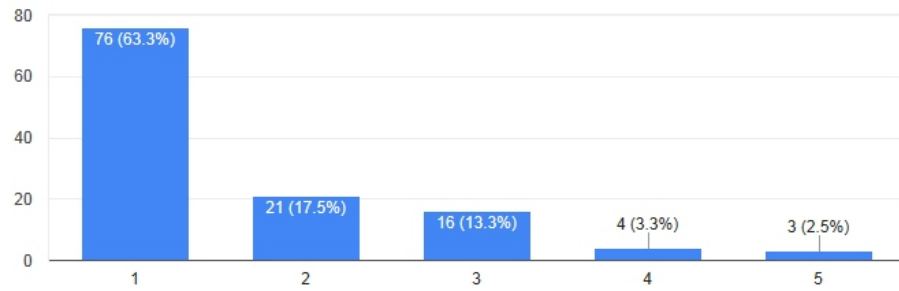
Bingham Farm is a great place to live.

125 responses



Bingham Farms is a great place to raise a family.

120 responses



Additional comments regarding these questions:

1. With recent home invasions in the area, and with personal knowledge of a violent crime in Bloomfield, I am not sure I will ever feel completely "safe" regardless of the community. I do however appreciate being notified via email on particular threats to our community and would appreciate follow-up reports if suspects have been arrested. (2)

2. Love the fact the police check our home when we're out of town.

3. I don't have children but it seems like a good place for anyone of any age.

4. It would be nice to have more police patrols during the day and at night.

5. Would be a better environment for families if there were sidewalks. Most importantly on Bingham Road.

6. Don't really know about # 1 and 2,,, # 4 I hope they recycle what I put out. Don't have a family to raise here. This questionnaire should have been numbered.

7. We just sold our home on Coachlight Lane, but we lived in that house for 34 years and Bingham Farms was a wonderful place to live.

8. I would like updated lists as to what can be recycled.

9. Very concerned about recent break ins, otherwise feel safe.

10. The increasing number of burglaries is very concerning and makes us feel unsafe. We look forward to the new recycling system.

11. I feel our police do a fine job. Here in Bingham Farms, we are lucky enough to live in a wildlife area. Patrolling police cars keep people from driving like it's a freeway.

12. Great place to live!!

13. We need to improve the maintenance and appearance of the median on Telegraph which demarcates the Village limits.

14. We have an ongoing issue with the sidewalk maintenance and the Villages' insistence that they have no obligation or inclination to address the issue. The Village claims that the sidewalk from Bingham Farms Elementary to Telegraph on the north side of 13 Mile Rd. is a three season sidewalk. Our family uses that sidewalk extensively all year round and find it dangerous and impassable for a good part of the fall/winter/spring season. We also have a disabled family member who finds wheelchair access to the Telegraph and its businesses substantially restricted. Tax payer dollars in some form paid for the construction of this bridge and its beautiful brickwork and decorative design is becoming marred and is deteriorating by the accumulation of dirt, weeds and debris. The Village should be an extending environment for our residents with disabilities. Bingham Farms should explore the possibility of taking responsibly for the maintenance of that sidewalk, exploring the costs and legal ramifications. We should have year round pedestrian access to Telegraph Rd.

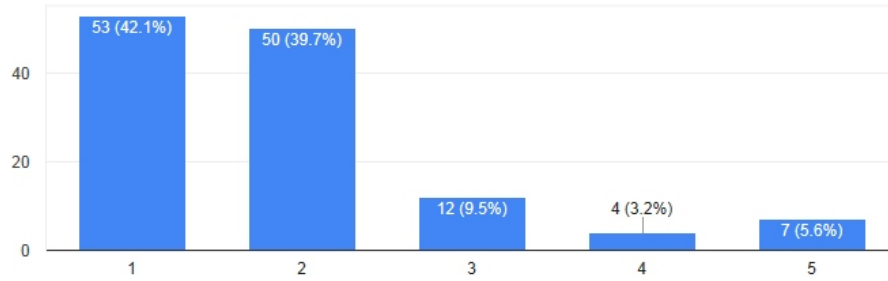
15. The overall quality of life living in Bingham Farms is exceptional!!

16. Regarding the last question, the problem is that we don't know many of our neighbors. A community gathering would be valuable.

17. Poor lighting, dangerous to walk on Bingham Road, Sidewalks are dirty and not maintained

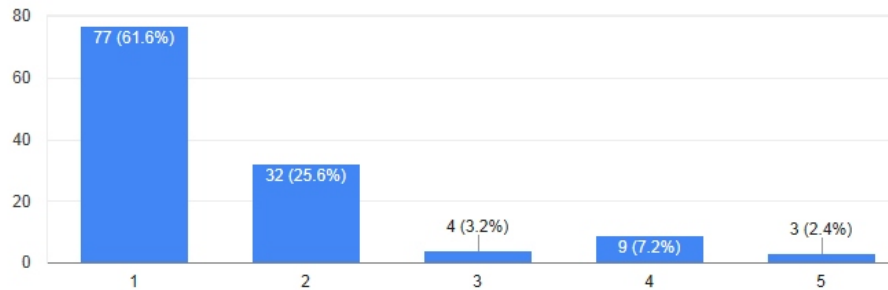
Overall appearance of Bingham Farms

126 responses



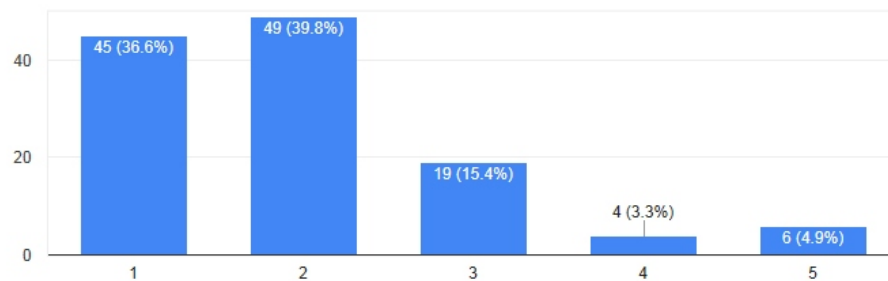
Village efforts to inform residents about important issues.

125 responses



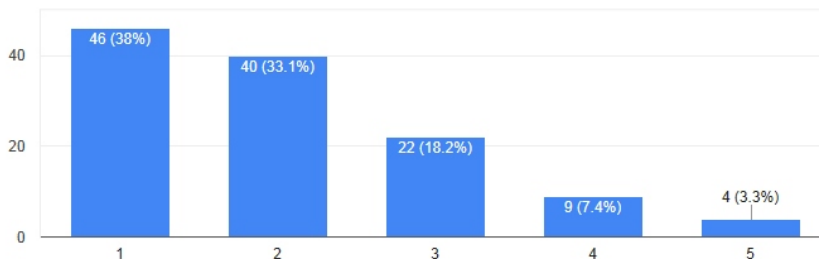
Village efforts to take residents' concerns into consideration when deciding on important issues.

123 responses



Opportunities to meet with Village officials and participate in discussion of issues that affect our community, my family, and me.

121 responses



Additional comments regarding these questions:

1. They don't care and do nothing to take care of problems. Just going through the motions. The ones that do care don't know enough to get things done. One board member only shows up for half the meetings each year because he goes away for the winter and still gets to sit on the board. It's really a joke! The residents would be better off if the Village Charter was dissolved and merged with a more sophisticate City/Village. The people in the Village who have the leadership skills necessary to serve on these committees don't have time so this is what we are left with.

2. I've heard that some of the Trustees propose costly measures that might not benefit the residents w/out taking the wishes of all residents into account. I would appreciate more cost-benefit consideration.

3. Need the median on telegraph to look better. It is full of weeds and overgrowth. Thats the first thing people see when they come to our village many times. We should have better upkeep of that area.

4. If you have rules, you need to enforce them.

5. Telegraph Road median needs weed control.

6. I am notified electronically about meetings, but am not aware that there are any other significant meeting points to talk to our officials outside of office hours.

7. # 3 on this page Hope so

8. Residents need to clean up their dead trees - Cutting and leaving to rot or not cleaning up fallen trees branches looks terrible - Bingham road looks terrible - disheveled old neighborhood

9. I have kept careful watch of the redevelopment of the Telegraph/1 3 Mile corner, and was glad to see the first plan discarded. It is the entrance to our neighborhood and should not smack of commercialism. It needs to be a quality design and use.

10. Bingham farms has terrible water drainage issues and should re-dig front yard water ditches... Also one yard on Bristol lane (house to the north of 30301) has terrible standing water in wntire front yard after rains- contributes to mosquitos etc

11. Medians between southbound and northbound Telegraph look terrible -- need better maintenance.

Additional comments continued:

12. I do feel safe in Bingham Farms, but I don't see it as a family community. There is not any neighborhood get-togethers on my street that our family enjoyed when we were in Franklin. I know my neighbors, but barely talk to them.

When the sidewalks were put in on 13 mile road I was very excited. It's a great way for families to take walks or ride bikes. I love to walk and have been trying to use the sidewalks often but turns out that there have been several times that the sidewalks were snowy or icy or just filled with huge water puddles. I called the village about this. The clerk was not helpful telling me it was a three season sidewalk and the village was not responsible for keeping it free from snow or for the upkeep. What? I've lived in St. Clair Shores and in Auburn Hills where there were sidewalks. People who owned the homes or the city took care of them all year round. I've never heard of such a thing as a three season sidewalk and do not understand it.

I've taken many pictures of our sidewalks during this past year that show them being unusable more than just one season out of the year. The drainage system in a few spot is awful, especially in front of Bingham Farms Elementary School. (The village clerk told me that the school is responsible for fixing that problem. I left messages at the school about it but never received a response.) I've fallen on the ice and got my feet plenty wet in the puddles and/or had to go into the street to get by them. I have pictures of many foot prints when there is snow on the bridge and even biking prints. It appears to me that there are plenty of people who want to use the sidewalk all year round. Additionally, there are people in the community with disabilities that can benefit from the freedom to get to Telegraph with this sidewalk. If it is not kept up, it could be dangerous.

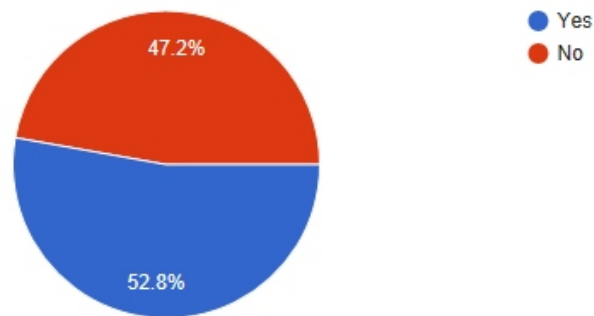
I was also told by the clerk that it was not Bingham Farms that put in this sidewalk. To me that means all the more we should invest in the upkeep since we did not as a village foot the bill to put the sidewalks in. The walk along 13 mile and across the bridge is lovely, especially with all the nice design of the bridge. It's a shame that people can't use it all year round and that the bridge is already starting to look shabby because the drainage is so bad.

It is not right that people who want to use this wonderful sidewalk are kept from using it when the weather is snowy or rainy, which is over 50% of the year.

13. Regarding the last question, the Village administration does a great job and this survey may suggest opportunities to make the Village a more desirable place for the entire family. We live here as seniors who don't have kids, which is why I suspect we know few local people...but we should and look for opportunities to do so,

14. Several administrators have been around too long, they are not held accountable as there is no one to replace them, village officials have lower expectations of themselves than they do for residents, should be the other way around, they should set the example, i.e. village common areas a poorly maintained, grow weeds and call them grow zones, no other community at our price point does this, quite frankly its embarrassing,

In the past year, have you had personal contact with any Village employee or official to complete a transaction, ask a question, submit a comment or for any other reason?



Was your experience positive or negative? Please explain:

1. Positive (8)
2. positive (3)
3. Positive (3)
4. Very positive (2)
5. Positive - Staff was most helpful.
6. Positive!
7. They are just going through the motions. Typical response is we don't have any money to do that. Example: Tree falls across Bingham Rd. Village clears road and just keeps the fallen tree off to the side. Village gets grant to rebuild 1.3 mile bridge and has no money to keep sidewalks plowed in winter, clean sidewalks of debris in summer or even replace railing, which by the way is a hazard! It has been over a month now and it is still not fixed. People intentionally violate ordinances and Village looks the other way until residents complain.
8. Very positive. Friendly and efficient
9. Positive except i feel that too many people want to exert their ideas or opinions about some elses project including their personal tastes on design or style. This is very true with the design review board.
10. It was very good, very helpful and understanding.
11. Positive interaction with the police.
12. Positive. I recieved a thorough and satisfactory answer to my question.
13. Police are awesom
14. Very positive.
15. very positive
16. Office personnel is always helpful.
17. paid taxes... no problem
18. Positive, helpful and friendly.
19. Friendly and helpful.
20. Negative, I Don't care to share why since it really won't make a difference in changing the minds of top seated council members. That message has been sent to the community loud and clear numerous times in the past year.
21. exceeded expectations
22. Positive. Visited Village office for tax payment.
23. Positive.
24. positive. had vacation police protection
25. Positive. Very helpful answering my question.
26. Positive. My question was answered and additional help was offered.
27. No contact
28. It was positive.
29. postitive
30. Positive-- Discussion of an ordinance question was clarified to me

Responses continued:

31. +

32. Positive. My questions were most adequately answered.

33. POSITIVE I FELL IN DRIVEWAY POLICE RESPONDE TO ASSIST WAS QUICK,,

34. For sure. Our police are real pros.

35. Very positive. Kathy H is great and has a wealth of knowledge about the Village and its history.

36. yes

37. Negative, related to requesting approval from the Design Review Board for a home improvement project. The personal opinions and preferences of board members have minimal relevance when homeowners are striving to make improvements to their private homes and property. Unless people are proposing projects that would be extremely inconsistent with other homes in the village or would be glaring eye sores, board members should keep their opinions to themselves.

38. Village employees have been very friendly and competent.

39. police dept. friendly, house checks done, drug drop off

40. very positive

41. postive

42. I have talked to the city clerk about the sidewalk as I already mentioned. I did not get a favorable response.

43. No real support provided.

44. We felt as if our contractor was just "blown off" during the process of installing a pad generator. We ultimate cancelled plans to put the generator in because no one from the Village was even willing to come out to our property to discuss our options. Obviously the generator would be helpful for us and neighbors in the event of a power outage as well as increase the resale value of our home. It was extremely dissappointing that with the high amount of taxes we pay, someone from the planning committee couldn't take 30 mins of their time to come to our home and talk about potential options.

45. Negative, will just leave it at that, people who have been there other 10 years need to be replaced,

46. Positive.

In your opinion, what could the village do to make Bingham Farms a better place to live?

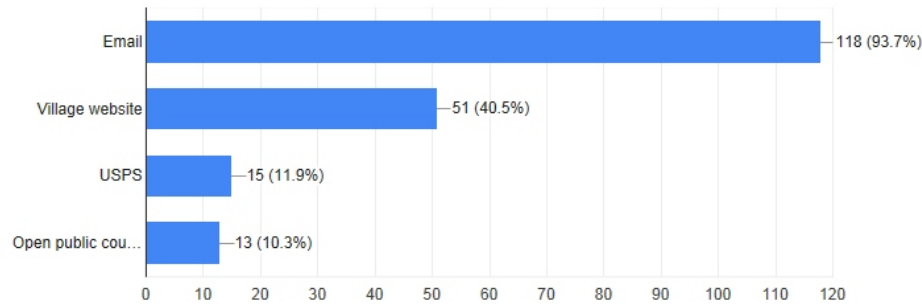
1. Without public owned spaces, there's not much that can be done.
2. It's a perfect location for all my needs
3. Landscaping around common areas and roads both need improvement
4. I would love an brush collection day similar to big items day. I hate having to cut up all the brush and put it in the big brown bags. There's a LOT of brush.
5. Just keep up what you're doing.
6. Improve signage on Telegraph; reduce "For Lease" signage on Telegraph
7. Telegraph medians are deplorable, entrances are poorly landscaped. Sidewalk to Bridge is not kept up. Bridge railings are in constant disrepair. President is clueless and Clerk is equally bad. Need new leadership!
8. Enforce village violations re building alterations more effectively
9. Hire a good engineer and contractor to fix 13 mile the way Beverly Hills has done. Your last fix was a total waste of money.
10. Maintain / lower 8.4 mills tax rate
11. Better care of the median on telegraph. Development of a park or sanctuary for the village inhabitants to use.
12. Clean up the down trees on people's property!
13. I can't think of anything
14. Sidewalks
15. Camera for security
16. Needs a better welcome. i.e. village sign welcoming people to Bingham Farms. We are this lost little village that no one knows where we are. Also, better 'curb appeal'.... remove dead trees and plant bushes, flowers along entry into the village and along 13 mile rd.
17. We strongly feel that we should be able to use the Bloomfield Township Library, as we could in the past. I realize there are issues of some kind between Bloomfield and the Birmingham Library, but these need to be worked out. The Bloomfield Library is so much more convenient and a much better facility. Please see if there is anything that can be done to allow Bingham Farms residents to take books out from Bloomfield. I don't even go to the Birmingham library any more - too crowded, parking is obnoxious, staff is overworked (and grumpy). I realize there are 'improvements' there, but it won't compare to the Bloomfield library,.
18. Patrol some resident who have just a trashy yard with cars engines in drivewayif you can't have a r.v in your drive for extended time.... are deralec cars better?
19. limit developers
20. There are many pet owners in Bingham Woods division. There should be a dog park for just the resident and dog poop dispensers
21. Traffic light and pavement at entrance to Bingham Lane from 14 mile road.
22. Continue to maintain the unique village atmosphere.
23. The Village is doing a darn good job of making this a great place to live.
24. improve roads
25. It'll never happen but it would be better if the roads were a couple feet wider. Service vehicles parked on the streets are a safety hazard for drivers and pedestrians.
26. Relax with regard to things residents want to do with their property that they are paying taxes on. The council should oversee not dictate.
27. Our village is not kept up like it should be, As far as appearance the village is really kept in poor condition over all. A few examples of this would be Railings along the 13 mile walkway that are left for months with no repairs.If this were a residents property they would have received a notice to repair immediately.Trash is also a big problem, Most of the roads in and around our community are littered with trash. the median areas on Telegraph look horrible compared to other communities. There again if this were a residents property I'm sure they would have received a letter. The village seems to hold its residents to a higher level of expectation than themselves.
28. Perhaps having the board more approachable during council meetings.

Opinions continued:

29. Services should include Doing something about speeders on side streets. Snow plowing all sidewalks Replacing sidewalks as they crumble. Make them wider and concrete. Removing dead trees in a more aggressive manner and getting Birm Schools to take care of the Nature area.(I believe they just paid to install copper gutters on the school so money does not seem to be a problem. Same for Rouge River where it meets the bridge. Improving the look of Telegraph Road by applying WEED and Feed, trimming, getting rid of dead trees and generally trying to make our area match the look of our neighbors to the north and south. Installing nicer signs at entry way to BF. Expanding communication by speaking to and forming relationships with the school, giving talks to the PTA, expanding the list of those who receive the newsletter and buttressing our relationship with business on Telegraph. Checking for water which is coming over sidewalks. Please know that I am willing to pay my fair share for improvements.
30. I would like to see the median on telegraph landscaped nicer and perhaps a nice entrance sign(?)
31. It is already a nice place to live.
32. All good.
33. Nothing
34. Community events encouraging neighborhood clean up
35. have a 'brush pickup' day. it's such a hassle to have to jam so much brush into the big paper bags.
36. Remove dead trees from road side which may not be in budget. Eyesore.
37. I think that you have done all you can to make the area as a desirable place to live
38. Allow fences and walls in buildable area but path from street to front door cannot be blocked..
39. Try to keep the small stretch of 13 mile In better condition.
40. Cull the deer population.
41. TRAIL OR PATH ALONG THE ROADWAY (TO KEEP WALKERS OFF THE ROAD BINGHAM ROAD), REMIND DOG OWNERS TO PICK UP.
42. Safety is most important. Therefore, continue to put high attention on this.
43. Signs reminding people to keep speed down.
44. Stay consistent to what you do today. Address future issues now than later.
45. A small village center
46. Southeast corner of 13 Mile and Telegraph looks kind of shabby since they tore down building. Maybe there are plans to build something. The corner is right at entrance to Bingham Farms and has had empty building and looked bad for years.
47. See detailed previous comments
48. Get serious about addressing the deer population before disease does.
49. Lower Taxes. Restrict development.
50. Upkeep the sidewalks and encourage community activities.
51. Publish a prioritized list of projects to improve the appearance of the Village.
52. Opportunities to meet others in the Village.
53. Start by getting rid of people on boards who have been there over 10 years, term limits, take care of common areas, follow ordinances, signage so people know when they are entering the Village, clean up garbage, clean up fallen trees on Bingham Road, cut up trees are just thrown off to the side
54. Signage for the Village, maintenance of Telegraph median, clean up dead bushes and trees, just generally, clean the Village up.

How do you prefer to receive information about Village government and community news? Check all that apply.

126 responses



Additional Comments:

1. Community is a strong positive draw to attract new owners.
2. I would like to see something more done with the HEAVY traffic on Bingham Road between 13 and 14 Mile Roads. Since Telegraph was closed several times, drivers have discovered Bingham Road. It has become nearly expressway-like during rush hour, and a large percentage of drivers completely ignore the stop signs.
3. Trustees need to focus on what is important to all residents and rather than making proposals to benefit just a few at a cost to all.
4. Keep up the good work. Anything you can do to lower taxes while maintaining or improving services is great with us. School tax is a big burden on everyone. It seems they could be operated at a much lower cost.
5. There are many good things about living in Bingham Farms. It is a quiet, safe and pleasant place. I appreciate the services that are available and the work that people do to make sure it is.
6. Publish agendas of council meetings before the meetings.
7. We just returned from a two week vacation. So I'm glad to be able to respond by May 29.