

Will Bruce Street ever be repaved. More than 20 years old.

We pay big money in taxes. We have no kids. The Town should take control around the train station area. The roads are horrible and the parking area is a disgrace to Littleton.

Explanations of what each does would help!

These are too many department. Why is Highway different than road maintenance?

Do not forget who we are & where we come from as a small town!

The town needs to realize that its residents/tax payers have not gotten raises in 4 years, so town employees, such as teachers, the school supt. and police should not either. There is a perception that the town mismanaged the high school construction. That is why voters refuse to fund a new middle school - the taxpayers do not believe the current town leaders can properly manage a project of that size.

During hard times departments should buy what is needed but not necessarily the top of the line - often a lesser product is just as effective for the job.

Police, School Spec Ed best in country - Library fabulous and dedicated employees.

I'd like to see Road at Light 110/119 smoothed out.

I live on Ayer Rd Rt 2A although a state road - can't something be done re the bumps - Trucks go over them at a 19 bank. Esp across from the white house @ the mobile home park @ 239 Ayer Rd.

Ms. June Williams  
239 Ayer Road Lot 101

I think the town is doing pretty well working through these unpredictable economic times. It is uncomfortable at times, but the checks and balances are working.

As someone who creates research surveys, This one has too much overlap & ambiguity

Our town is our schools. Add more money

Our children are now in private school

I consider this a duplicate entry. Highway and Road Maintenance

Board of Selectmen - I am not impressed with you. The Board of Selectmen are by far the very worst lot I have seen in 30 years in town. You have disgraced the town and are an embarrassment to us all.

Town services in general are good but could be improved. Library hours have been cut to the bare minimum--ditto fire & police staff. Schools eat up too much of the budget--Seniors get ignored

Many roads in Littleton, esp. Bruce Street, need to be repaired. Lots of potholes and bumps. Also, schools need to be a priority.

We need to up revenues even if that means more property taxes! Our schools need to be improved

As a single person and homeowner, I am not involved with the schools, but do see a mismanagement of spending i.e. new high school. In the Long Lake area the street lighting is poor at best on streets. The sidewalks and roads are in need of repair. These areas of need also add to the beauty and value of the town. The feeling I get is that only the schools is what our town selectmen think matters most. We need balance across the board.

Conservation Comm: Road block to development

A multiple of Real Estate people have stated that due to the cost of pupil transportation cost of sport participation, reduced classes & teachers has made Littleton less attractive a place for New People to come in.

Schools are important - but other services in town need to be supported also. Planning Board needs to fast track development - commercial - they put too many roadblocks etc. in the way - discourage commercial developers, as does conservation and Board of Health. I understand rules & regulations need to be followed, but not "knit pick" each and every item, goes a little too far.

It would be nice to develop a more town friendly center with sidewalk restaurants and more shops  
Interdepartmental Cooperation and Civil Communication

The failure of the Board of Selectmen to file annually for Littleton's share of the Federal CDBG funds. Through this fund, 20% of the fund can be used to hire a person to oversee the program; in addition, that person could go after other State and Federal grants that could help the town overall operational budget

We seem to need money for many things (especially to build new school) - Why can't we sell off some property (Apple orchard comes to mind) to raise some funds?

To me it is obvious that the roads and bridges should be replaced or repaired--every road in town is a disaster--We should be ashamed to let our necessities

Plan to use more this year

would like to see Board work better together. Stop with all these inflated Egos. Work for the betterment of the town. Money is tight all around Departments to stay within the budget. We all want things , but if you can't afford it you can't have it

Moved to town from Acton during Sept 04 and are very satisfied with level of service and tax rate. Keep up the good work.

We are Apple D'or residents, and pay our fair share in taxes, But still we don't get Road maintenance and school bus service. There should be a faster process to see that this is completed because us residents/taxpayer suffer, but we don't have ability for recourse.

Without "Town Offices" the money coming in stops for all the other choices - you figure out how to run the rest without income and we are all set.

The schools and public safety are the highest priority for spending. The Middle School is a disgrace. Let's go a year or 2 and not purchase any new trucks or tractors.

Overall, Littleton is Truly a Fine Town!

Highway & road maintenance - these seem very similar

Kids need places to go.

The town needs a hazardous waste day. It's been three years. What are we supposed to do with our stuff? We are willing to pay for this at the collection site like previous times. It is important to safely have a place & method to collect this stuff so people will be able to remove this stuff from their homes. Thank you

Health, safety or whatever affects the most people should be priorities, when possible.

Train station: The parking at the train station is in dire need of improvement. It is a shame to have a train station in town that is not fully usable to residents because of the shortage of parking. Thanks.

Just moved to the town 6 months ago

The most pressing problem we have seen is the need for better financing of schools, even if it means raising taxes. (We are senior citizens)

Don't Tax us out of town!

When there is vision and proper longer term planning and accountability by the BOS, will the town be in less of a difficult place for willingness to support the more difficult and correct/necessary decisions.

Wonderful warm community

Fire, police, schools, roads and conservation are our priorities. Many of Littleton's roads are in poor condition and our taxes should be used for more repair work.

We own our trailer in Littleton - 239 Ayer Road - #85 and retired to Sun City West. We are happy to be able to live in Littleton lthe summer to cool off.

Signs --I would like to see a good sign bylaw. Moved recently from Bedford, ma. The roads were in good condition and plowing was excellent. There was also a strict sign bylaw which kept the town looking great.- Littleton has a beautiful common but unsightly signs and building in disrepair I'm a senior and high RE tax kills me (and others)- end plan to build CoA building. End police atation (new) sell land purchased for new building and put to schools - revisit station in 3-5 years. Do large fancy buildings for school really improve education? Fire Station needs larger truck area, updated.

If I wanted to live in Acton or Concord I would. I don't want to live there. They arer not always as nice on the inside as they appear to be.

We love Littleton. Services provided are generally good. We especially love the open space and conservation land. We've lived here a long time and are happy raising our family here.

We don't need a new middle school - but better maintenance of what we've got.

Hours, operation, thousands spent in services. Transfer station.

Maintaining the town infrastructure (roads, buildings) is the highest priority. Next would be attempting to preserve the rural character of the town, open space, planning board.

Schools should be #1 priority. Sidewalks should be a high priority. A bike path should be a high priority. Please do not destroy tennis courts to build Senior Center- a stupid move.

If the Middle school had been properly maintained, we wouldn't be in the mess we are in now; thus all buildings should be maintained so that we do not neet to build new. Crane Ave and Goldsmith Street are awful.

Budget levels are related - No one is above other re: priority.

Safety should be our towns #1 priority. The next priority is our schools. The middle school concerns me as far as safety. It is clear that we need a new school and now is the time.

Structural problems seem to be interfering with classrooms and learning (I.e. leaking roofs) In a few years I will have my own children attending the middle school and I do not want to deal with more structural issues if this is not taken care of. It is the towns (tax payers) responsibility to keep the children of Littleton safe and provide the appropriate environments in which to learn.

Leaking roofs and any other structure problems should not interfere with our childrens' education.

The tax payers need to step up to the plate and give the middle school aged children what they need. A new school. In regards to my satisfaction with the school system, I think the teachers & faculty are doing a good job. I've only had positive experiences at Shaker Lane & Russell Street schools. My rating of 3 has to do with building a new school and also the student to teacher ratio in the 1st grade classes.

Thanks

Keep tax rate affordable so seniors can stay in town and young adults don't have to leave

Conservation Commission 4 Level of service

Middle School poses a severe danger to students and staff

No Services for Alzheimer's day caser to transportations and from day care

Not taking care of buildings will cost more later, I strongly urge bussing fees be funded. I see children walking down 2A/119 - that's a tragedy waiting to happen - to say if you can't afford fees to speak to school department - what about the families who are too proud and don't want the town to know their personal finances. I support our seniors wanting a space to meet. I want a safe space for Middle School children.

Great idea. Stop letting others build when \$ is tight already. Thanks

I do think the planning board does not encourage growth in business. They are too restrictive for example--McLaughlins 100 parking spaces and Andrews for a convenience store crossing  
The town needs more restaurants. I have heard too often that they are denied for seemingly absurd reasons, (parking, etc.. My impression is the electric department has far too much money to spend. I would rather see their surplus go to other departments, such as schools.  
A community of 11,000 people at comparatively middle level incomes cannot afford "a cadillac in every category". We need to respect the limits of our taxpayers and how they vote - not plan beyond our ability to pay, not raise taxes (26% at our house) after the community votes "no override" and fail to understand that new properties (like a huge high school) will have huge maintenance costs, increasingly go down the years. Lack of planning, excessive appetites and fees and lack of controls and supervision on projects have created serious problems and divided the community. Now, we opt for a "questionnaire" to escape responsibility.

Services here are excellent BUT taxes are killing us Seniors. HELP. It's taking 1/10 of my income.

What about implementing community preservation act to finance open space?

Very happy living in Littleton--Seems to me town losing money sending property tax bills in Dec. in lieu of Oct. That's a lot of interest lost--Taxes should be paid in May and Nov.

Taxes have doubled with no explanation.

Entertain more cost effective ways of disposal. Cost per bag? Or private pick up (Transfer Station)

So what will you do when the \$1M high school debt service hits the operating budget? Hope the BOS will break precedent and be accountable. A largely useless survey. I'm highly dissatisfied with the BOS and its lack of vision and leadership and how it detracts from every aspect of the positive aspects and potential for Littleton.

The Middle School must be a priority

Without good schools, the town can't prosper. How do towns like Acton, Westford, and Groton manage? Let's copy their blueprint.

Board of Selectment

It is time for 2 1/2 override. Let's be realistic.

It is difficult to comment on sidewalks, because in much of the town there are none- where there should be. I would support looking into improving and adding sidewalks in many areas.

We need more tax revenue from local businesses. However, we will never get it if the planning board continues to preserve every open space in the town.

Despite the fact that I've indicated a high priority for schools, supervision should be zealously excersized on "nice to have" rather than money spend for the benefit of education.

I am new to Littleton as of Sept 04. I have been delighted w the library, the wonderful maintained trails for walking, the plowing of a lot of snow in my area. What I have not rated has not yet applied to my experience. Very friendly community.

New to the area

Budgeting process unfair to Town's children. Old people are greedy. Some people short sighted. Selectmen harmful to best interest of town and protect their departments at expense pf children. Life insurance should be provided to volunteers for on duty death. Maybe health insurance to improve recuitment and rebuild communication. More use of volunteers. RAISE TAXES

The road work performed on King Street last fall was not finished very satisfactory. There are large bumps and dips in the road now, which shake the houses when trucks go by. Very poor patch work. The street should be re-paved entirely.

Overall I'm satisfied with the services. My big complaint is when are they going to do something about the abandoned Motels on Rte 110. What an eyesore this is.

Dahlia Dr. is very busy. We could use some speed limit signs. People speed down it from all over the lake area.

Having a new high school is great but losing programs & teachers is NOT great! Also the middle school is in dire need of repair & renovation

Light and Water Dept 1+ should be included. A fine department.

Good education is important - good schools are essential

We need that 3% tax on real estate sales.

Town manages it's finances well. Need to jump start some commercial growth and replace all members of the Planning Board. School committee get real.

We need a new Middle School

Janet Lavigne's comment that she "doesn't want anything to change" in the newspaper is typical. A diverse & vibrant commercial strip providing for better shopping experience, in town entertainment & more small restaurants would be very welcome in my opinion. We do most of our shopping in Westford, Leominster & Nashua. Imagine the tax revenue & job loss to Littleton if most people in town are doing this. Members should change name to "stagnation board" or join Historical Society. Older people are being taxed out of town. Rip down the middle school and don't rebuild it. Divide classes with Russell Street & new High school plus additions.

The condition of the middle school and resolving the issue needs to be a priority. The Selectman need to present the problem in a manner that convinces the parties that have an opposing view to resolving the issue to change their attitudes. The individuals that vote against the new school have a limited view of the larger picture.

We need to address the issues with the schools ASAP

As a new resident I thing access to information should be made easier - schools such as an information packet especially concerning services and trash collection, etc.

We need a new middle school--I would be appalled if I had children going there!! Very disapointed selectmen would encourage us citizens to vote it down last year--Then switch sides that year.-- What is their problem? Very disappointed in their cost us

Bad move selectmen made making Chief leave Shame on you

Raise taxes to pay for improvements.

If we cannot increase revenue by allowing businesses to come in then we need to increase taxes or do an override for the schools and a reasonable town budget. We have done a poor job on building maiintence .

Board of Selectmen - F

School committee - A+

finance committee - b+

I realize each and every dept in Town needs funds badly. However there is just so much money in our Town's citizen pocket books, and you can't squeeze blood out of a stone. The threats and horror stories connected with "If you don't give us money for our budget" just don't work when people feel that they have given all they can, and there is no more left. It seems unimportant that people need their own private money first. Charity begins at home.

Current crop of selectmen are an embarrassment to Littleton, You're supposed to work for us in an open and honest manner, remember?

As a senior who is having difficulty keeping up with my RE tax payments, I do not want my taxes increased to support a new senior center. I feel it will serve a small group. Also as a town, we do not have the money to not only build but also furnish

Take better care of town schools, children need smaller class sizes and safe buildings.

This is reactive gout. Why can't we be more proactive. Prop 2 1/2 is law-overrides are for emergencies-not for poor (or no) planning. Fin com needs to aggressively hold the 2 1/2 line. The school system is important, but the current administration is abysmal.

Livingston has privately been offensive to every group in town. He blames everyone else for his problems. He controls people. People stopped helping the schools because of him. No one respects him. He is a gossip without checking his facts. Survey parents about their experiences. Privately ask, as they fear him. No one speaks up cause they shoot the messenger instead of hear the message. Everyone has gone to Roland and he does nothing - in denial. They claim the stories are made up. They didn't get the Town Meeting message "BOO" leave. They don't even see the red flag, they blame the citizens for being stupid about the condition of the middle school. Livingston controlled the info and lets you know privately "don't say anything you're not in charge I am". Survey the teachers now. He has prevented it. Why did Chan quit!! Ask.

Why nothing about other Boards? Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee etc?  
#598 - Does this make the survey not anonymous?

I am very dissatisfied with the "leadership" from the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager. I realize busing comes under school. But it should be funded more heavily and treat their workers with more respect. It's a very important job and a very hard job! Use common sense. Stay humble. Be proud of what we are and have here in Littleton.

Russell Street School needs renovating  
Do not want fire & police chief combined

I think the level of services in Littleton in all departments is very good. Many of their services I have not used, although I have lived in the same home for 58 years.

Would like Health Dept to make my neighbor clear the trash and debris from yard and get rid of 2 dozen feral cats on King (between Lake & Beach)

The layoffs have affected bldg. Maintenance- I believe

I understand times are tight-in our house perhaps more so than in many others at least that is what I observe driving around town. However, our tax rate, relatively speaking to other towns is amazingly low! I think everything mentioned above is very important and if other citizens would just realize that it shouldn't be schools vs everyone else-that every single citizen benefits from all the services above-either directly or indirectly-perhaps if this were the consensus instead of always blaming our schools-then this would be an even better place to live! Thanks so much for doing this survey!

Level fund including (all) salaries.

I am willing to increase reserve to fund (level) salaries (+to avoid layoffs)

BOS & School Committee are dysfunctional. The town finances are a mess as a result. NO Accountability = higher taxes and low property valuations.

NO OVERRIDE

Planning Board is keeping business from coming to Littleton. They make decisions based on personal opinions rather on what's good for the town.

\*Commission on Disability not important enough to list??? This committee should work hand in hand with Council on Aging. Maybe you should consider merging the two.

Thanks!

Have enjoyed and appreciated the School Committee efforts to speak directly to the community. Would like to have more information available on voting issues before election day and town meeting.

Let's start maintaining what we have - (schools-old highway building Town offices). It's far too costly to replace with new maintenance is much cheaper.

(a) It would have helped to know the relative weight of each budget as a % of the total budget!

Give our kids safe schools+good education

Roads are in terrible shape. Need to prohibit heavy trucks from roads such as Residential Harwood Ave where people try to walk. Trucks are costing us too much in resurfacing as the unnecessary heavy traffic is chewing up the roads.

Great town to live in!!

People drive way too fast in Littleton and people don't respect crosswalks at all. Just because we are next to a highway doesn't mean that people who enter this town shouldn't respect our laws! And Our people!

I very much support initiatives to increase revenue by encouraging new and expanding businesses  
Twice while walking my baby and crossing two different crosswalks in town people almost ran me over because they are all jazzed from getting off of the highway. I say ticket them like crazy and put the money towards a new middle school.

Just because one hasn't used a service doesn't mean one ought not be able to comment on its priority 'n budget, e.g., I haven't used fire services, but it's a priority.

I prefer the option of increasing revenue to improve services, not just maintain or even decrease services.

Great Town, resource ready available. Drive up post office (great idea). Roads well maintained.

We are in the middle of the blizzard and the road is clear! Many thanks to the Highway Dept.

Schools are high priority, but spending more money is not always the best option. I think a survey for priorities of funding for the schools would be advantageous and a learning experience for all.

Senior citizen-Keep the taxes DOWN. I am not making end meet now. What ever you can do.  
HELP

New to Town

School Dept should live within their budget. They could exercise the use of volunteers which they did years ago. We don't want higher taxes or overrides. Once an override is not approved, it should NOT keep being put on the ballot.

Landfill - Hours need to be extended - one day during week, it should offer option for disposal from 6:30a.m. to whatever to allow going to landfill before work - often times can't get home in time to meet landfill closing hour.

Schools and maintenance of buildings (esp.) schools - most important - no rook leaks

Good Luck, I really hope everyone can be satisfied to some extent.

Realize the main P.O. is not the town's expense. However, can't PRESSURE be put on whatever gov. agency/politicians, who have the authority, to help us get a new P.O. w/adequate parking?!  
Irks me to see new P.O.'s in smaller towns (i.e., Harvard, Carlisle, etc.) where there's almost no industry!(& lower population)

We wish the school department would spend less on administration and more on the teachers/children.

We don't need to waste tax payers money on a new Middle School-add on to new High School or use an empty business in town! And we need selectman in town, they have been in office to long and only go for their agenda-thing need to change.

Town needs better oversight of Board of Selectman, so that they don't get rid of things that work and implement things that are ineffective and wast money!

We have not actually needed the Fire or Police, which we think is very satisfying.

School Department needs to be more open . Remember students are first priority.

We must keep the library in the consortium. We may need to increase taxes to meet town needs, but long term, fixed income seniors need a tax break. Let's keep this a quality town. This survey will not likely provide useable results. It is confusing. Shouldn't I be able to give a budget priority even if I haven't used the service?

Survey is a really good idea!! This survey is poorly thought out+designed.

If we paid someone/a firm to do this form-we should get our money back!!!

This form appears to have been put together by those who did not want a survey. By its design-it will yield poor/limited results > a selffulfilling prophecy.

If you are going to do it it's worth doing well.

Economic situation of the tax payers ( Lay-offs, No Pay increases etc) is not reflected in the town management, e.g. School system, increasing payroll. The town is spending more than we can support.

Town has focused and overfunded schools - bad contracts and bad management.

Town has ignored Senior Citizens - need to reduce School budget to improve other services.

Time to recognize all of our citizens.

I wish tht less trees/wooded areas/ fields were being knocked down to become housing.

Thank you for doing the survey. A lot of good people put up quietly with the rancorous tone of this town's meetings, hoping for a return to a more civil level of discourse.

Too much on schools with no exceptional returns.

Out future is with our children!!

Try this for new public safety complex:

Put the police department in old town office- move fire department offices to current PD building and pump sewer to force main to high school treatment plant! Save 3 million!

Make all same side sidewalks, especially group home and to high school

1 child has started at Shaker Lane - happy so far. Worried about perception of towns inhabitants and leaders not supporting a truly excellent educational system here. Will be monitoring upcoming middle school vote. Would not mind some increase in taxes for more inventing in schools. Police deserve a new station.

For the 3 months I have lived here this seems like a very pleasant place to live

Would support override for Schools, Library in general. Would support override to increase Fire department staffing levels. Would not support override for land acquisition/open space. Would prefer narrow roads, don't widen any, lower speed limits if necessary.

Need excellent schools, fire and police to keep up value of homes

Set term limits for elected offices to 2 terms. Increase our commercial business to increase tax revenue. Make more services available to all citizens. A lot of people are spending their \$'s at retailers in Westford, Chelmsford and Acton.

highway Department has really kept up with plowing this winter! Bravo. Fire department has been helpful. I have been contacted by and contributed to local Fire and Police departments.

Sidewalks important for school children ~ especially in winter. (I'm new in town).

School zones should be posted by now. Cooperate with the State before a serious accident occurs here! Where are the signs and lights!

History of overspending by the schools has us in a real bind now.

Littleton has many vacant office park buildings, but still is issuing permist to biuild more. There is no need to build more.

Town vehicles (LELD) should not be used to plow town employees driveways

I have a young child and view schools as a top priority. If budget and negative attitude toward schools continue we will leave town. This is too bad b/c Littleton is a nice community, but too divided on social support issues. Supporting schools is a win-win. It improves opportunities for young people, increases home values & encourages community building.