

2016 Beach City Citizens Survey

Results

1) In the event of an emergency evacuation do you need special assistance? If so, please clearly print your name, address and phone # in the comment section.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
5 (2%)	209 (98%)

Name, address, phone number:

1. 8724 Ocean Drive resident (no name or phone number)
2. Durwood Whiddon, 5519 Cedar Point RD., 281-573-2347
3. Beverly Badgley, 9082 NorthPoint Dr., 832-622-4463
4. Richard and Margaret Starrett, 14811 Stablebrook Dr., 713-298-5094
5. F. G. Davila, 12324 FM 2354, Fgdfm2354@hotmail.com

2) Do you have a personal emergency plan in the event of a hurricane or other emergency?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
188 (89%)	25 (12%)

3) Do you feel the City should provide information and/or workshops for emergency preparedness and response?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know/No Opinion</u>
92 (44%)	59 (29%)	58 (28%)

Comments:

- This is found other places: radio, newspapers (x 3)
- Yes, info for newcomers and coast dwellers (x 4)
- Mayor does a great job informing citizens when a safety issue arises
- Need explanation of what the City will provide not just general preparedness
- Yes, if the people will come to workshop

4) Would you be interested in participating in a neighborhood watch program?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
75 (38%)	74 (37%)	52 (26%)

Comments:

- Neighbors watch out for each other (x 3)
- Don't have the time
- Away often and only home half of the time
- Most people on Pt. Barrow watch out for each other

5) Do you feel the Chamber's County Sheriff's Office is providing adequate police protection in Beach City?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know/No Opinion</u>
147 (70%)	23 (11%)	42 (20%)

Comments:

Need substation closer to Beach City maybe in Fire House
When I reported a scam, officer did not file a report on same to make others aware
Appreciate drive bys of areas
They come when called
Seldom see them in Beach City (x 4)
Sometimes the response time is very long (x 2)
Not adequate, it gets back to taxes
Would be nice to have a full time Beach City Police officer
More police patrols (x 2)

6) Are you on the Mayor's email list?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
101 (53%)	90 (48%)

7) Are you aware that under the City's subdivision regulations you may be required to file a subdivision plat if you sell a portion of your property?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
74 (36%)	132 (64%)

Comments:

Technically we live on the Baytown side (west of FM 2354) and unfortunately not in Beach City
Aware most cities do
How about rental space on property for trailers! Is that permitted?
Stay out of my business!!
City needs to communicate this info to citizens
Not happy about that
Does not apply

8) Do you feel the City should adopt zoning laws?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know/No Opinion</u>
57 (27%)	105 (50%)	49 (24%)

Comments:

NO!!
It is almost too late, start zoning asap! (x 3)
Like property restrictions? Then yes.
Would not like to see any bars or industry on McCollum Park Road
Most of us love feeling of freedom from regulation, but we like things nice too
Sounds restrictive. Haven't needed so far. Debate pros and cons.
Yes, but within reason
Zoning helps keep property values up and protects home environment
Yes to keep out unwanted businesses
As population increases, it may be necessary
No trailer parks please
Don't need apartments here

No more businesses and put limit on industrial parks
 Yes to get noise-polluting businesses out of residential neighborhoods

9) Would you support Beach City assessing a Property Tax in order to provide new City services? If you answered yes, please list the services you feel are worth a property tax.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
32 (15%)	156 (74%)	24 (12%)

Comments:

Yes, more ambulance, sheriff support facilities and fire department services (x 3)
 Invest in most up-to-date technology, weapons, tools, and gear to protect our policemen and fire fighters
 Yes, full-time paid fire department
 Yes, for animal control (x 2)
 Yes, for pet shelter (no kill)
 A retirement community for 65+ with walking trails, golf course near McCollum Park Rd would be successful
 Yes, would love water, sewer and gas from city (x 7)
 Yes, would like City to provide safe water (x 6)
 Provide gas service
 City trash pickup (x 3)
 Would like reliable internet (x 2)
 Better street lighting (x 2)
 More street signs
 Ocean Drive in Bay Ridge is in bad shape
 NO!!! (x 2)
 HELL NO!!!
 NEVER!!
 No, our property and school taxes are over \$12,000 already
 Less is best!!
 No, that's why we live here

10) Are you aware that the City's regulations require a permit for a home expansion, swimming pool, building, OSSF installation or repair, etc.?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>N/A</u>
112 (57%)	69 (35%)	16 (9%)

Comments:

I am aware but others ignore
 Not everybody gets a permit and one owner did not have to tear down
 What is "OSSF"? (x 3)
 Not sure why?
 This info needs to be communicated to citizens
 All City regulations should be listed on website
 What is considered a "repair"?
 Please publish a link to those regulations (ok saw below)

11) Do you feel the city should stay as it is, as much as possible and for as long as possible?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
156 (80%)	21 (11%)	20 (10%)

Comments:

I would like to see more retail business and wider streets.
 Wake up ..growth is happening. No need to stay stagnate.

Don't be locked in the past...times are "a changing" (x 3)
Please keep our city small and country for the wildlife
Please stay as is!!!
Like to see reliable and reasonable internet

12) Do you feel the city should keep its hand out of your pockets and its nose out of your business?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
144 (75%)	17 (9%)	32 (17%)

Comments:

YES!!!! (x 3)
No. Once again we must look ahead and get our heads out of the sand
I am fine paying taxes if it means better streets, traffic flow and lighting (x 2)
Important we try to maintain some level of integrity
Don't understand the question
What does this mean? No government body does that.
You're looking for trouble
Good not to have interference but my concern is with future growth

13) Have you ever visited the City's website at: www.beachcitytx.us? If so, and there is a feature that you would like to see added to the website, list it under comments.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
92 (47%)	106 (54%)

Comments:

Now know that it exists (x 2)
Lost and found animals
Ordinance Codes (x 2)
Crime reports and traffic flow counts
Website looks great
Website needs to stay updated with Council minutes and current info (x 2)

14) Would you like to see the City sponsor some type of event each year for our citizens? The event could be similar to other cities "FOUNDERS DAY".

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
68 (35%)	48 (25%)	78 (41%)

Comments:

City garage sale
Maybe something every two years
Hell No !!!
Santa on the Bay is nice and adequate
Toxic waste collection day
Loved the VFD crawfish boils in the past
Many events may be self-serving and could be a good thing
Previous events, 50th Anniversary, and Santa have been nice, but we know it's a lot of work
Instead of spending money on an annual event, give it to the Fire Department

15) Do you feel the Beach City Volunteer Fire Department (BCVFD) provides you with adequate protection?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know/No Opinion</u>
140 (67%)	12 (6%)	57 (28%)

Comments:

Never had to use them, but glad they are here (x 2)
 I think they do the best they can with what they have
 Excellent service!
 They are AWESOME having been to our house twice
 They are heroes
 No, because it is volunteer and firemen not on duty at all times
 Need full time staff/skeleton crew at least
 Not sure if adequate considering amount of volunteers and ISO rating
 Would like to see more young residents volunteer
 They drive too fast and run stop signs

16) Would you consider volunteering for the BCVFD? If yes, please provide your name and phone #.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Need more info</u>
6 (4%)	170 (89%)	16 (9%)

Comments:

(Six names and info sent to BCVFD)

Too old (x 22)
 Would volunteer if could only handle paperwork, but not fight fires. I am 70 years old.
 Would volunteer if I was here more
 Need a PAID county fire department

17) Trinity Bay Ambulance Service currently provides Beach City with EMS and Ambulance Service. Do you feel they are adequate for your protection?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't Know / No Opinion</u>
141 (71%)	3 (2%)	55 (28%)

Comments:

Have not had to use them but glad they are here (x 2)
 Very good ambulance service (x 5)
 These people are pros and know their stuff
 They only transport to San Jacinto Methodist. Since we are paying, should have option as where to go (x 2)

18) If Cable TV/Internet were to become available, would you be interested?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Already have it</u>
128 (66%)	26 (14%)	42 (22%)

Comments:

Frontier is terrible and the only provider (x 6)
 Rise Broadband is horrible
 I work from home and this is extremely important!!! Currently not very reliable and very expensive.
 Need 10 mbs for real time high speed (x 4)
 Would like Comcast south of Cedar Gully

Internet speed is half of what was promised
ABSOLUTELY YES!!! (x 5)
Might be interested if cost was right
None on south side of McCollum Park Road
Nat Gas!!
This is our biggest issue. Large cost savings via Comcast

19) Do you use the County's trash collection and recycle center in Beach City?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know about it</u>
155 (76%)	38 (19%)	11 (6%)

Comments:

Yes, but also use private service for weekly pickup (x 3)
Love it!!
The dump employees could use magnets to pick up the nails that fall on the car/truck ramps
Trash pickup by city would be helpful
Unaware of location in Beach City. We use Mont Belvieu location on Eagle Drive.
Unaware of trash collection site and use a private company
Excellent use of tax dollars

20) Have you had trouble receiving your mail from the United States Postal Service?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
110 (57%)	84 (44%)

Comments:

Get neighbors mail on occasion (x 27)
Some days we don't receive it and some days arrives after 7:00 PM (x 14)
Trouble receiving mail only when regular carrier is off (x 2)
Packages left in driveway or walkway instead of the porch
Need more mail carriers so mail arrives before 9:00 PM
Lots of lost mail (x 2)
Especially bad with "certified mail"
Packages with tracking have been delivered to wrong address
Post Office needs to buy carriers glasses or hire more intelligent carriers

21) Have you called or filed a complaint with the Postmaster General while living in Beach City?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
39 (20%)	165 (81%)

Comments:

No, but close (x 2)
I will now
Called but could not reach anybody
Yes and issue quickly resolved

22) Do you feel traffic safety issues on FM 3180, FM 2354, FM 1405 and Fisher RD. have improved?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
90 (48%)	78 (42%)	21 (12%)

Comments:

Not until work is complete (x 5)
 Is worse (x 2)
 Too much construction without enough accurate signs
 Speeding vehicles x 3
 No one uses toll road because of toll
 Railroad traffic is main concern
 McCollum Park Road too narrow for heavy traffic
 FM 2354 too narrow
 Fisher Road needs widening and lighting especially at corner near 99 (x 9). Very dangerous, almost hit..
 Dump trucks still an issue (x 13)
 Can trucks be forced to use 99 instead of FM 2354, FM3180, and Fisher Road?
 County should apply a commercial load tax on dirt haulers for the damage they contribute to our roads
 Need new street with no trucks allowed from 99 to FM 2354 somewhere between Fisher Rd. and FM 1405
 FM1405 should be 4 lanes. Truck traffic is horrible.
 Need new street with no trucks allowed from 99 to FM 2354 somewhere between Fisher Rd. and FM 1405
 Increase speed limit to 60MPH. Dump trucks are the real danger.
 Turn lane has helped. FM 565 at racetrack and railroad crossing suck, but that's not in Beach City
 Would like more road with turning lane (x 3)
 Need dedicated turn lane or traffic light at Lawrence Road (dump road)
 Turn lane onto Kendall Road is dangerous going south as dump trucks and cars going north jump into shared lane too early
 Need to be proactive. It was not until multiple fatalities that changes started all the while this area was growing
 North of FM 2354/3180 split - yes. South - NO - around 5-6pm you can hardly get out of NorthPoint due to constant traffic coming off Fisher RD. If turning in they go around you, unsafe! Still do not go Speed limit in this area. Really need turn lane all the way to Fisher RD. on FM 2354.

23) How would you rate the street lighting in Beach City?

<u>Adequate</u>	<u>Needs some improvement</u>	<u>Needs significant improvement</u>
78 (42%)	62 (33%)	48 (26%)

Comments:

New LED lights are excellent
 Street lighting is FAIR
 TERRIBLE street lighting
 Need more street lights everywhere (x 3)
 Wrote letter to Com. Senac about lights and did not receive a reply
 Especially helpful to us down FM 1405 if had more lights
 Need lighting down Cedar Gully Road
 Need better lighting FM 2354 and McCollum Park Road
 Need improved lighting on FM 2354
 Need Improved lighting on Fisher Road x 2
 Too many lights at RWJ Air Park will disorient the pilots
 Need street lights on Skylane Dr. in RWJ Air Park. Street is over 1 mile in length and no street lights.
 Very dark past Fisher Road going south on FM 2354 X 2)
 Very dark along north FM 2354
 Don't want any more sky contamination with street lights (x 4)
 This is rural America and don't need many lights

24) Are you satisfied with the reliability of your electrical service?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
180 (92%)	16 (9%)

Comments:

Kind of satisfied...it blips ever now and then
Too many blackouts and brownouts during the day (x 6)
Hard on household electrical equipment
We put in a home generator. Before that it was terrible. (X 2)
CenterPoint Energy guys don't get the credit they deserve
They work really hard and need to be recognized
When power goes out, Bay Ridge seems to be last for repairs

25) Are stray animals a problem in your area?

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>
37 (19%)	105 (53%)	58 (29%)

Comments:

Not particularly strays, but neighbor dogs allowed to roam freely (x 5)
Need a dog ordinance to help control stray dogs (x 3)
Cats and dogs roaming freely (x 4)
Coyotes are a problem x 2
Barking dogs
Residents move and leave animals behind
Armadillo problems

26) In your opinion what are the things you like the most about Beach City?

Comments:

Quiet and peaceful (x 87)
Safe (x 26)
Remoteness (x 46)
Clean air (x 2)
Near or on water (x 17)
Large home lots (x 3)
Set back lines on most bay properties
Nice neighbors and residents (x 42)
Clean area (x 5)
Simple life (x16)
Non-commercialized (x 7)
No major traffic like Baytown and Houston (x 4)
No or low property tax (x 16)
People do not know about Beach City!!!!
Just a great area (x 9)
Love my well water
Living south of Fisher Road remains country living without the heavy traffic
Remaining forested areas/undeveloped fields (x 4)
Like McCollum Park (x 4)
Beach City spirit is alive and well
Can see the stars without too many street lights
Able to have livestock and fireworks
Bird watching is good!
Close proximity to fishing, racetrack, and Houston
Close to 99 and I-10 and can get to Houston and Fairmont Parkway quickly
Close to more eating establishments now

Living on land that once belonged to my ancestors
Near good schools (x 6)
Love the VFD Christmas parade! (x 4)
Like having no billboards
I love my subdivision (BayPlace)
We have a great Mayor!
Appreciate email communication from Mayor
Mayor and City Council are truly part of the community and share many of the same values (x 5)
Independence of interference of city (x 8)
Best thing about Beach City is the city government is very small (x 2)
Like it to stay as is and out of people's business (x 3)
Volunteerism: City Council and VFD (x 4)
Good county services especially excellent mosquito control in 2016.
Small community w/o a bunch of city government regulations!

27) In your opinion what are the most important problems in Beach City?

COMMENTS LISTED IN CATEGORIES

All is OK in Beach City

No problems in Beach City at this time (x 3)
No need to send surveys like this out. Ain't nothing wrong. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Internet, Cable, Cell Service, Telephone

Internet (x 13) and made affordable
Cable (x 5)
Telephone (x 3)
Cell service other than Verizon is inadequate

Dump Trucks and Dirt Haulers

Dump trucks and 18-wheeler traffic. Should go down 99 instead of FM 2354 and Fm 3180
Too many speeding trucks and pulling out in front of cars (x 3)
Trucks leaving dirt on road (x 3)
Dirt haulers ruining roads and causing needed repairs
Trucks and car traffic (x 6)
Large trucks destroying our roads
Need to write tickets for speeding dump trucks

Too Much Traffic/Speed Limit

Too much traffic especially north of Fisher Road (x 10)
Inadequate roads for amount of traffic traveling at 65 mph or greater
Need a third lane for passing, turning, etc. (x 4)
Speed limit too slow on southern part of FM 2354
FEDEX drivers too damn fast. I have talked to them to no avail!!!
Cars driving at excessive speeds at times (x2)
Traffic off of FM 3180 (x 7)
Increased traffic in early morning and late afternoon
Car and truck drivers need to be better policed
Lots of traffic on Lawrence Road and need a stop sign on Lawrence at intersection of Lakeview Dr.
Traffic goes too fast on Lawrence Road going to dump and leaving dump

Road Repairs

McCollum Park Road needs a center stripe
Turn lane at Lawrence Road needed urgently before someone is killed
FM 2354 is rough and seems of low concern and very cheap fix. TXDOT does not care about our end of the county (x 2)
Roads are horrible and hiring incompetent road workers to keep repairing. Hiring lowest bidder is waste of taxpayer money
Infrastructure needs to keep pace (roads, schools, drainage, etc.)
Need access road from 99 to FM 2354. Also access road needed between Madison Avenue and Beach Haven south of HL&P canal
Repair edges of Fisher Road
Bridge on Point Barrow Road is eroding away on south side and needs repair
Center lane needs to be extended down FM 2354 (x 3)
FISHER ROAD! Needs widening before people are hurt
Pot-holed roads in Bayridge subdivision need repairs
Would like the big dip about half way down Cedar Gully Road fixed

Industrial Growth

Too much industrial growth in residential areas (x 3)
Industrial traffic and possible future Cedar Port development along FM 2354 (x 2)
Noise from industrial areas next to residential areas (x 3)
Future problem with Baytown Planning and Zoning encroaching next to Beach City and Beach City has no say in the matter

Street Lights

No lighting in quite a few areas, stress need for street lights (x 6)
Don't like neighbors putting up bright lights at night as we like to look at the stars, moon, and lights of Galveston

Increasing Population

Increasing population, TOO many people (x 7)
Growth will cause traffic problems. City must be proactive, not reactive on all issues relating to the growth

Water

Need safe drinking water at reasonable cost (x 5)
Lack of support and involvement in Bayridge and Oaks at Houston Point water issue. Can we annex Cove (x 2)?
Water well in Bayridge Subdivision

Gas

Would like natural gas in all of RWJ AirPark
Extend natural gas lines throughout the city

City

Having neighbors next door with boats and trailers looking like a salvage yard rather than a home. It is an eyesore (x 2)
Keep Beach City beautiful and ensure homeowners stay compliant with City Ordinances
People who move to the rural areas and expect to have all the same services as large cities
City allowing 400-foot tower to be erected without informing citizens
Need zoning to prevent redneck resort properties (x 2)
Trash pickup needed
Security and property protection

Increase in non-compliance to City ordinances (x 2)
Need to communicate with citizens better

Animals

Stray dogs (x 4)
Barking dogs...need law
Kennel across from Bay Place is noisy and owner burns dog mess with grass and smells bad
Law requiring dogs and cats vaccinated, heart worm treated, flea treatment
Laws requiring a lease
Fines for dropping off animals and fine for not obeying vaccination laws

Trains

Concerned with railroad signal on FM 565 heading westbound near FM 2354. Should be moved further west so cars traveling north on FM 2354 short cut can see sign
Train delays on FM 565 (x 2)

Drainage

Need ditch cleaned out on Point Barrow Road
Ditches don't drain well (x 2)
Drainage in Barrow Ranch

Fire Department

Time it takes to respond to a fire (x 2)
Concern with fire department

Amenities

Distance to any grocery store/department store (x 7)
No fast food or restaurants in Beach City
Need a post office to buy stamps and other needs (x 2)
No fuel/gas stations
Invasion of truck stops

Miscellaneous

Smoke from open burning trash. I believe burning toxic stuff. Smells horrible (x 2)
Keep rentals (houses and apartments) to a minimum
People setting off fireworks and being loud late into the night
Increase in crime
Neighbors overgrowth of poison ivy and weeds killed my tree and prevents me from having a garden. Want the city to spray for me.
Unruly motorcycles and 4-wheelers not considerate of other people's property or common areas
Bad mail service
Hear lots of shooting of guns in our neighborhood. Scary!
Mosquitoes are a problem

28) Final Comments:

Thanks for survey (x 4)
This survey is confidential, right?! Thanks for your service
Great job City Council!! (x 2)
Friendly and helpful office staff
I love Beach City (x 9)
Commissioner did great job getting Chambers Road and Bridge to clean out ditch on McCollum Park Road
Keep Beach City quiet and small (x 4)
Don't need big box stores or any retail here
Help make the HEB store happen in Mont Belvieu
Even though not residents of Beach City (live in ETJ), we feel a part and interested in helping when asked
Like living here and enjoy country feel while realizing the services may suffer for lack of resources
Great little city, but is growing and we need to think ahead. Must spend money to make money.
Thanks for improving McCollum Park. A toddler park or something for a little younger group would be nice.
I believe neighborhoods have grown in area to support a consolidated fire/ambulance/sheriff with other nearby growing communities (Cove, Mont Belvieu, etc.)
Things City should consider which may need a property tax to pay for: golf cart community, hike and bike lanes or trails, boat ramp for residents, many improvements to or build a new park for all ages (x 2).
While traveling across the USA this summer, we saw a lot of small towns with welcome signs. This would be nice for Beach City to have.
I believe we will never keep our young people in Beach City until we have clean places for them to go for entertainment. Beach City is sitting still and letting our young people leave to other places. We cannot grow unless we do a lot of changing. This would mean a raise in taxes.
Concerned TXDOT will increase road elevation when resurface FM 2354. Drainage is my concern for flooding on west side of FM 2354.
The Mayor and Commissioner Senac have had a meeting with us about the noise from the compressor but has not been fixed.
EMS does a great job.
Would like Oaks at Houston Point to be in Barbers Hill Independent School District
Beach City to ensure reasonable traffic flow as transitioning to Spur 99 bridge
Please get more reliable internet from Comcast
Look to the future, not the past!
Please no apartments.
We believe Cedar Point Industrial Park is sneaking up on us and county and city representatives not giving us information because it will benefit their budget to get the taxes.
Relocate the county trash collection site (dump) from end of Lawrence Road. Usage has outgrown site.
Large alligator in pond behind our house on Stablebrook. Sheriff needs to come out again before summer in case kids go swimming.
Who do we contact about fixing street lights on Parkview Court?
Please don't bulldoze any more trees.