

## Comments for Monterey Community Survey 2007

### Street Conditions:

There is no street sweeping or maintenance in my neighborhood

Who is responsible for median on Hwy 1- Castroville to Monterey- it is disgusting- trash, trash, trash.

Also I would side walks on Lottie St. near Prescott. It is muddy in winter.

I would love roundabouts on Prescott and David like on Hannon. I like the way they look and the slowing down of speeds for cars in residential areas.

I reside on the 700 block of Franklin Street our curbs are broken with weeds growing between the cracks! Let's see some money spent on residential improvements Please! It's overdue.

Please fix the curb-ditch- water Franklin to Bonifacio west side of street

Better lighting needed at night in Bonifacio Court on the way to the parking garage.

Downtown potholes

Sidewalks and gutters on Alvarado need to be cleaned

There are several areas on Deer Flats Park streets where the asphalt has significant cracks and is sinking e.g. end of stag lane and blacktail cul-de-sac. All the streets need resurfacing-seal coat.

The planting area in front of park fence is in need of attention. There are many weeds and the entire area is in need of replanting.

Lack of sidewalks in Hilltop, particularly on Taylor and Prescott to city line.

Please fix the potholes in the street on English Avenue near Hwy 1 freeway at the entrance.

The landscape in medians is great. Can this be done on freeway ramps too?

Hwy 68 west from hospital to Morse- broken fences, broken trees etc.

Better lighting on secondary traffic streets.

Visible street identification and large reflective print. Keep signs clear of trees, shrubs, other obstacles.

Pet owners not picking up poops. More signage? Fines?

Thank you for the excellent street light maintenance in Oak Grove and throughout the city- especially wooded areas and low residential areas.

The Green Belt below Del Monte Center should be kept green. (reclaimed water?) Visitors and locals have this as a primary view on Munras-the dry hay field is not impressive, but is an eye sore.

Downtown sidewalks are a hazard to walk on.

City street paving/upkeep is poor; especially with tax base.

I live in an area that is close to the high school, library, police department, fire department, yet people think I live in an alley! I pay taxes and I like the location but our street leaves something to be desired. No one cares about us-yet if our yard is unkempt for some reason we get cited for it!

Alvarado sidewalk is filthy (steam pressure wash)

Need a left turn signal light at Pacific and Franklin

### **Traffic Violations:**

Although I think Monterey has an above average police department it bothers me to see so many patrol cars not stop at crosswalks, stop signs and not use their turn signals.

I drive the speed limit, yet cars go zooming by me, especially the area from Sloat to Seaside on Del Monte. I have never seen a police car around.

Speeding on San Bernabe.

Too many cars passing on the right on Hwy 68 and Pebble Beach Gate. Never monitored.

Speed control on Hwy 68

Speeders and parking issues improve when high school is on summer or other vacations, otherwise these are an ongoing concern.

Noticeable lack of police patrols and traffic enforcement. I have also witnessed that 75% of code enforcement appears to take place in Sharon Dwight's neighborhood, get her a van and move her around the city.

Vehicles drive too fast on English, maybe need a crosswalk at intersection of English and Grant.

There is a man who rides a mountain bike who harasses anyone who is on the path. He tries to clip folks because he claims that only cyclists are allowed to use the path proper. He is well known amongst those who use the path. I see him mid-morning on weekends.

Monitor intersections for people running red lights

The biggest problem with Monterey is the safety of pedestrians crossing the street. Whenever I walk to the post office, banks, or other places downtown I wonder if I'll get back alive. Pass an ordinance that no phones can be used when driving a vehicle. Almost every woman I see driving is talking on the phone and not paying attention to pedestrians. Other men and women complain about this too.

We have serious concerns about autos using Monte Vista Dr. to get through to Skyline/ Hwy 68 to PG. This has become overused as a main thoroughfare. These vehicles usually are speeding. I would like to walk my dog around the neighborhood but I do not feel safe because of traffic problems. We end up driving to Carmel to walk our dog. Also I think that the Hwy 1 portion in and around Monterey, Seaside and Carmel should have a lower speed limit. I believe it would be safer at 55mph again. The exits and merges are unsafe at 65mph because of traffic and congestion that occurs, elderly drivers, and tourists. Thank you.

There is a car which races down Larkin St. and up Scott St. at least once a day. This car goes really fast and it is a concern that he will hit a pedestrian or a parked car. It is a black compact car and a younger man drives it. The police have been contacted but nothing has been done as he has not caused an accident "yet".

Motorcycle officers are needed to enforce speeding laws in all neighborhoods. There is a real need.

Since traffic changes two years ago in the Del Monte Grove area, our street, English Ave., has become the main thoroughfare to Fremont or Del Monte and cars fly down the street. I even witnessed people actually passing others on our little residential street. Because of the large trees it is very hard to see and difficult to safely get out of our driveway and into our driveway because of speeders nipping at your rear end. They just don't slow down.

There is too much fast traffic on our street, Montecito Ave. that is trying to bypass Fremont; it would be nice to counter this.

### **Traffic Conditions:**

First the traffic on Lighthouse Ave. So dangerous- in an emergency no one could get through.

Light at Community Hospital backs up traffic from Hwy 1.

Traffic at Lighthouse needs to be addressed.

Far too much traffic on Skyline Dr.

Traffic and double parking needs to be monitored.

Traffic is the biggest concern I have in New Monterey. I realize the difficulty of the Presidio separating Old and New Monterey poses for traffic flow. Is it possible at some point to open up some of the streets to flow through the city or are all of these areas

permanently closed to the public access? Is it possible to build a tunnel from Hwy 68 through to Old Monterey? It seems like the traffic will only get worse.

Tourist traffic and events are creating serious traffic jams. I know we need tourists but we live here too.

Please do something about traffic at Prescott and Lighthouse.

The biggest problem in Monterey is traffic. Even on regular non tourist work days, Lighthouse and Del Monte are impacted.

### **Community Services:**

More children's programs! We need a community space in Old Town. More money to library.

How about publishing a schedule of the street sweeper so cars can move accordingly (residential streets)?

The city shows a true inequality of services in and improvements in New Monterey.

Please remove the blackberry bushes and dead pine trees along the bike trail across from Roberts Lake.

Need commuter express service from Monterey to Salinas.

Cigarette butts are being put out in dry pine needles at the bus stop and bench on Skyline.

All parks and beaches should be dog friendly like Carmel.

I think the Monterey library is terrific –great services, good selection of resources etc. Just wish it were open more hours... Monday mornings or weekend mornings (Saturday).

The Monterey Sports Center is a wonderful facility- many, many programs and very clean. Locker rooms could use some updating though.

Easier opportunity to sell cans for recycling (there was onetime a collection set up at Monte Mart/ Ralphs)

The cities most significant shortcomings are opportunities for teens 13-18. Places to go. Community center with age appropriate (not to little kiddie) activities.

Need more trash pickups and more trash containers on the streets.

Trash containers along the Wharf need to be emptied and containers deodorized more often. All of Monterey including the Wharf businesses need to recycle. Move parking lot out of "window on the bay".

I do not have cable. How can I receive the Monterey Channel by air?

Please use native plants.

Many pine trees in Skyline forest have pitch canker. They need to be cut or otherwise cared for.

Some NIP reps have been there too long. They become too confrontational and keep business from being done. Snitty fits, tantrums, lectures.

Contrary to the newspaper article the new COPPs program is a joke. The concept is good but our officers are expected to volunteer extra hours on top of their already long shifts. Inquiry calls are not addressed-that has been this household's experience. Maybe the new chief can make the program work. The former chief just paid it lip service.

There is a great need for more officers on motorcycles visible on the streets in the neighborhoods. Beat officers needed.

Some NIP Representatives have been on the committee too long. Their interest is just for their particular neighborhood, not all neighborhoods! A lot of time is wasted by their personal pontificating to others! This all leads to waste of precious time. We do need more police on foot patrol not only in downtown and the Rec Trail but also in neighborhoods.

More police in the neighborhoods-visibility of motorcycle officers.

Tennis courts at Hilltop Center are not really usable because contractor never leveled the courts-fix slope or discontinue investment. That's why no one uses these courts. In week one, attendant cleans tennis court at Cypress Park with air blower (good). In week two attendant weed whacks Cypress Park and completely litters the tennis court with rocks and debris (dumb!). Please get the right hand working with the left. Thank you.

Televising city council meetings is much appreciated.

My request for the Sports Center would be to have the same hours on the weekends as you do on weekdays.

Seemingly over-concentration of city efforts regarding fire in down town at the expense of the rest of the city.

The Monterey city disposal garbage collection contract and franchise with the city of Monterey must be immediately cancelled. Garbage collection must include batteries and electronics along with regular garbage, recyclables, and garden waste. A new garbage disposal company serving the city of Monterey should be able to handle and dispose of hazardous materials waste from residents and businesses in a professional, environmentally-sensitive manner.

City has almost too many services (taking away from roads)

Police and streets should be priority not so many costly parks and recreation programs.

Neighborhood policing meeting was a good idea. Should continue.

**Housing:**

Affordable workforce housing is needed. City should collaborate vigorously with other government agencies to assure continued implementation. School districts all have properties that could be used.

I would like to see the city stop cookie cutter housing development. Make lots available to moderate income folks to build eco-friendly green houses on. Parts of Carmel/PG's charm are the custom houses. Let's have Monterey be the mother of the eco-housing movement.

**Thanks and Praise:**

I want to thank all of you for the great effort you are doing for our city Monterey.

We love Monterey!

Keep up the good work.

Thank you for the opportunity for comments and we appreciate the work of city employees.

Thank you for this survey

Thank you for the opportunity to fill out this survey.

Thank you for caring! We appreciate Monterey.

This is the most beautiful city in the United States. Well Done!

**Other:**

MIIS students need services- what are those plans?

I sent a question regarding neighborhood parking regulations through the web site and never received a response. If no one is available to respond to questions don't make the capability available on the website.

In my opinion the 2 street sweepers should not be parked on the street in that location. Isn't there a city lot where they could be parked when not in use.

Vagrant issues are a problem in lower New Monterey.

Do everything possible to keep cost of city government down.

Matinees at the State Theater.

Proliferation of illegal signs posted by businesses both in downtown Monterey and north Fremont.

Enjoy living near little league ball park.

Stop spraying round-up.

Stay out of desalination business for private developers.

Emphasize residents over tourists.

Want pedestrian bridge connecting wharves to downtown on Del Monte soon.

Never see or hear from new mayor. Is he alive?

Don't let Clyde Roberson's experience and skills get away from our city-he still has a lot to offer.

Many gangs and drugs in our neighborhood in New Monterey. Open houses conducting business drinking and drug sales in New Monterey.

Curfew not enforced. School kids out drinking and cussing at adults.

Immediate underground telephone and cable wires on Del Monte.

### **Business in the Area:**

When the former mayor asked Safeway why was it necessary to knock down Safeway- they said to do a good job! Why did Trader Joe's (who didn't feel it was necessary) do it? We have no Safeway, no Hardware, Plumber or Dollar Stores. All the doctors from City are going to Ryan Ranch. Thank you!

Businesses need to be changed. We need sidewalk cafes, more little shops and less martial arts studios. Revitalize this district please.

We feel the Safeway problem was poorly handled. If the rent had been raised with inflation, and the city had pressed them to make improvements on a regular basis, the whole problem could have been avoided. We hope in the future other such situations can be avoided.

### **About Survey:**

I wish you had used a different range "happy to poor"- what is average? It invites comparisons to other places. Hard to do.

You didn't ask anything about the Sports Center.

The night safety question should differentiate between going out alone or with others

What time does night mean exactly?

**Parking:**

Make street parking free with no time limits

Please beef up parking and traffic control around the fair grounds during community events.

More parking in Trader Joe's. The set-up is the same or worse than Pacific Grove-hence two trips per year on average

Need parking lot shuttle service to cars at the Del Monte Shopping Center. This would encourage more night time shopping.

Parking on Washington next to the Sports Center and on Franklin between Washington and Tyler should be increased from 60 minutes to 90 minutes.

Reduce the size of parking patrol and department offset lost revenue from free street parking.

Parking Police do not patrol the 24-hour neighborhood parking. We have vehicles with out parking stickers parking all weekend without receiving a ticket, thus our street has become a parking lot for downtown (Van Buren and Seeno).

**Safety Issues**

Too many homeless.

Bike path by volley ball courts.

Some areas of parking lots.

Not safe anywhere at night

**#1 Other Answers Given (Safety concerns):**

St. Peter's Gate

Del Rey Oaks

Forest Glen (Crandell Rd.)

Dela Vina Ave.

Monte Regio

**#2 Other Answers Given (Neighborhood):**

Abrego and Tyler St area.

Old Monterey Book Co.

Fremont Street.

Old Monterey.

North Fremont.