

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

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- Tax Rates are too high, expenses need to be lowered. Many expenses are "automatically" approved by council with essentially no debate nor opposition. Budgets need to be zero based with responsible justifications. Budget increases based solely on inflation should no longer be allowed.
1, keeping the lid on taxes
1. Keeping taxes down.
1. Making the community safe for pedestrians and bicyclists - need more sidewalks and bike paths 2. Increasing presence of businesses that drives foot traffic in historic quarter. Too many salons and financial advisors - not enough diversity of businesses in that area to make it a vibrant area - Loveland stands in contrast.
1. Not overcrowd the city 2. Improve the Montgomery Road in downtown area
1. Obtaining more greenspace. We should have purchased the 9 acres of woodland that was for sale across from Forest Glen. Now, this land is Twin Lakes. The city whined that it had no money. Yet, we have plenty of money for the Quarter District and other commercial developments. Loveland is working on their Phillips Park and it turning it back to a woodland. All our parks are developed for playing fields, etc. We need some areas that are strictly preserves such as Johnson Preserve. 2. The sidewalk the city installed on Ross Ave several years ago is hideous. I was never notified that sidewalks were being installed so could give no input. Pavers or something similar would have been more in keeping with the history of Montgomery. The whine of city officials is that the pavers are too costly to maintain. The pavers on Zigzag were installed on the mid 1980's and hundreds of people walk that area on a daily bases. So, city official's premise is inaccurate. The pavers and resulting aesthetics draw people and create a beautiful environment. City officials created a monstrosity with the stark white concrete sidewalks on Ross Avenue and now, I, a resident of Montgomery for over 47 years have to see it on a daily basis. Please don't ever do that to any other part of Montgomery!!!
A seamless theme and not attention to only certain areas or haphazard development.
Ability to offer an inclusive community where diverse groups of people feel safe and belong
Absorbing the increased activity, traffic, residents and business brought by the completion and opening of the quarter.
access to childcare for kids ages 0-5
Accessibility
Addressing an overdose zealous police department...bringing back the community feel
Adding good restaurants and shopping to the downtown area and the area under development by the new roundabout
Addressing racial injustice - not just in Montgomery, but across the country
Addressing the impact of the Montgomery Quarter Project on the city, including impact to homes on Cooper Rd, potential increase in crime/problems from residents of the rental units, traffic impact, pedestrian impact at the roundabout (especially for Moeller students).
Affordable housing
Affordable housing
Affordable housing and traffic / congestion
Affordable housing for a variety of income sectors
Affordable housing for middle class families
Affordable housing for middle-class families - it's becoming very expensive to be a Montgomery resident.
Affordable housing for seniors
Affordable housing for those desiring to live in area.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Affordable housing if we want to move.
Affordable housing More entertainment venues More interesting Restaurants
Affordable housing, I have seen perfectly good homes torn down to make way for very high end homes. I understand Montgomery is a destination neighborhood and it claims to be open to diversity but how diverse can it be when it's becoming unaffordable for the average family.
Affordable housing.
Affordable housing. I completely understand the tear downs of ranch homes on Zig Zag, and in some other areas, but now builders are tearing down homes in Forestglen and parts of the Winds. With these homes going for over \$1 million, I have concerns that if this isn't given some kind of limit, new young families won't be able to move into the area. I just don't think every home is necessarily a tear down
affordable housing.....traffic.....
Affordable single family housing. With so many teardowns, 200,000 to 350,000 homes for young startup families are now \$900,000+ unaffordable for many. Equally important quality of education and curriculum.
aging population
Aging population / pricing out middle class families - I don't want my children surrounded by only rich families.
Aging population of the city
Allocation of funds received by business and individuals. I have heard from parents of school age children that they are not pleased with the proposal to build a new football field. These parents think the money would be better spent by increasing the pay of teachers. I feel too much is spent on computer programs that the school administration buys and then discards. They are not fiscally prudent with the funds they receive.
Allowing people to tear down perfectly good homes and build mega-mansions in the \$1 mln range may lift tax revenues but harms the environment and does not help the affordability of living in Montgomery. We are attracting people who do not participate in public life. This should be stopped.
An aging population that is not paying income taxes.
An increase in retail opportunities and restaurants.
Apartments [n the Gateway area
As more older/smaller houses are torn down for larger homes, and more people build additions onto their existing homes, there will be a wide array of construction related issues for the city and residents to address. There will be disputes over property lines, negative impacts of construction, significant water drainage, reduced trees, etc. I believe the city should be more proactive in helping home owners and builders to ensure construction does not negatively impact surrounding homes.
As new comers to the City of Montgomery, my husband and I still have limited knowledge about the neighborhood. That being said, an important issue that we believe the City of Montgomery will face in the next five years is the financial fallout following the pandemic. Many aspects of the economy have suffered due to the pandemic and we have yet to see the fallout that will occur once government support has been removed. Presently, many businesses have had to close and jobs have been lost. However, we have yet to see the impact of these issues due to stimulus checks, freezes on rent, and freezes on foreclosures on mortgages. The effect of these things will certainly have an impact on the City of Montgomery during the next five years, how can we support residents through this financial fallout?

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

As on older community member I believe that many of us on a fixed income are being forced to consider moving to a community with a more cost effective real estate tax structure. While tax levy are certainly important we currently have a great school system but we continue to find reasons to increase our real estate tax. Hopefully these taxes have hit a plateau.
As people are more able to work from home, our schools, "walkability" and local small businesses will be our main selling points to residents. It possible that people being "freed" from working downtown all the time will stretch out past Montgomery as a suburb location. We need to make sure our small restaurants and other businesses bounce back after Covid and we continue to improve the sidewalk access. I think increased property values should keep pace and even exceed projected need from public school building expenditures.
As we see new construction of residential communities in Montgomery we are concerned with the overpopulation and increased amounts of traffic and over-crowded schools in the area.
Assimilation of different ethnic groups
Attracting and maintaining business and retail establishments in the downtown area. Also keeping traffic under control along Montgomery road
Attracting and retaining a variety of restaurants and shops.
Attracting and retaining businesses and restaurants (with room for outdoor dining) in the downtown area, including the new Montgomery Quarter development. For example, there are already several vacant spaces such as Delicio downtown. Avoid Montgomery Road becoming a giant tract of car dealers.
Attracting and retaining businesses in the gateway project.
Attracting businesses back to the down town and surrounding areas of Montgomery to help with tax base. There are many empty commercial spaces, and many of the business that are in town, don't drive traffic through Montgomery.
Attracting employers
Attracting new businesses while keeping current businesses in Montgomery. There are quite a few vacant stores and we are building a whole new retail area in the quarter.
Attracting new restaurants and family friendly businesses in the downtown area.
attracting retail businesses to fill empty storefronts
Attracting retailers/businesses to fill and remain in downtown spaces
Avoiding becoming an exclusive community as more affordable housing is torn down and replaced with high end houses.
Avoiding loss of middle-income residents. E.g., I can't afford a \$600,000 home, but if I put a \$15,000 improvement into my ranch home, it increases my home's real value zero.
Avoiding vacant retail and office spaces that make it look like a ghost town. Hope the roundabout works 😊
Balanced development. Continue the mix of residential with commercial, essentially at the ratio it is today, and maintain or increase green space.
Balancing commercial and residential development
Balancing development while keeping small town residential charm.
Balancing growth while maintaining our small town feel. Also traffic.
Balancing sources of tax revenue. We need mix of residential, service, business and manufacturing business.
balancing the neighborhood feel with new business/housing options
Beautiful city,kept park very clean, snowy days always removed snow from inside street too.
Being a vibrant inclusive community, welcoming to all

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Being able to afford to live here with the costs in housing. Close to million dollar homes will keep people away.
Being over taxed.....real estate
Bethesda North Hospital Expansion
Bringing new businesses into the city.
Broader pick up of trash (include more items like yard waste, etc.. Keep tax increases at a very rare minimum.
Build out a multi purpose use area at end of Cross County expressway that is an extension of downtown and not seperated
Building a thriving downtown that attracts family activity
Building homes that are so expensive and driving taxes so high, those who cannot afford will have to leave. Is this your goal?
Building of/adjusting to the roundabout near Ronald Reagan highway and the expansion of the business district surrounding it.
Building the Gateway project and traffic around the area. We are excited about the new building but hope traffic won't become to big of an issue.
Business and housing growth
Business Development/ Retainment of Montgomery Businesses. Keeping growing downtown Montgomery to become a pillar of the community. I feel the downtown shops are in and out too quick. Also, another growing factor would be the health and wellness of our citizens and employees. Future plans for a recreation center for city employees and residents.
business growth
business recovery and opening back up the economy
can't think of anything
Changes in priorities for housing forcing people and wildlife to move. Smaller houses are all being scraped. Replacement homes are built as large as possible. All or nearly all trees are removed. Lawn becomes a postage stamp to surround the house and deck. Retirees and empty nesters are pushed out. Modest income families have no chance. Less and less diversity and connection to neighbors makes Montgomery a much less desirable place to live.
City infrastructure (keeping roads & sewers, etc all up to date) Continued business growth & attracting new businesses to the area
City Parks, City Recreation, City Roads
City-beautification and maintenance. Examples: maintaining streets and sidewalks (including eliminating stray grass in brick sidewalks), litter, flower beds along Montgomery Road ... things that make the City look like a first class city rather than a run-down city.
Climate change
Combat any further real estate taxes increase. The latest school tax increase was way overstated without much needed support. More off the cuff than reality. We should give less tax abatement for new development issues or at least much less in the future.
coming to grips with the ever increasing property taxes the recent fire levy was much more than what was required no reason fire trucks should not compete with police cars in the normal capital budget
Commercial development
Commercial economic development so we relay less on individual taxes and more on commerce
Community building and the success of the Gateway district is critical in the growth and success of Montgomery. Strong retail, business, and housing activity will be critical. As well as maintaining a walkable community for easy access to residents (a bike lane would be amazing).

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Community outreach and involvement - continuing to provide ample opportunity for community events and promoting those events in a way that reaches the most people in the city.
Competing with blue ash amenities (rec center)
Complete the Gateway Development!
Completing and occupying the Montgomery Quarter project.
Completing the project at Montgomery and Ronald Regan intersection. Boyh thr street roundabout and the retail,business area. Very excited to see that happen quickly.
Completing the Vintage Club and Gateway projects.
Completion and occupancy of the Gateway development
completion of building projects such as the Gateway area.
Completion of the roundabout and completion of the Gateway project.
Concern about taxes continuing to rise and all new homes being built approaching \$1million dollars to move to our great city. Need to balance where and how many tear downs are occurring in our neighborhoods.
Concern is with the pace of tearing down homes and replacing them with McMansions that price out of the market folks who would otherwise like to live in Montgomery. I think the diversity of the community suffers when housing costs discourage many buyers. We start to look one dimensional.
Concern related to property tax increases. They continue to climb and residents have concern that the property tax increases do not benefit the community members.
Concerned about over developing our green space & addition of crowded multi- housing units ... many high rise... changing the small town village feel of this area which we have loved.
Constant property tax increases.
constantly striving for greater inclusion and insuring that hate crimes and bigotry are not tolerated
Construction at new round about, south of town.
Construction in (a) school district and (b) roundabouts
Construction of replacement houses priced at a million dollars. Prices most people out of this market. Diversity will suffer.
Construction of the traffic circle at Montgomery and the Cross County Hwy Construction around the junior high school and high school Fewer people having school-aged children
continue growth in businesses and more home ownership
Continue to foster and create an inclusive community including not just residents but attracting minority owned businesses to the area.
Continued community growth and with that the general upkeep of infrastructure (i.e. roads, buildings, and schools.) Upgrades in technology across the community
Continued economic development to keep "downtown" Montgomery alive
Continued expansion of Twin Lakes and change in voter base from families with children to retirees.
Continued unnecessary building of new things while existing things are not fully occupied / used
Continuing services as usual given the likely long term economic fallout from covid.
continuing to attract young families to the area with reasonably priced housing, values relevant to younger people like walkability, sustainability
Continuing to be a welcoming community and providing support of citizens when needed.
Continuing to enhance offering to residents-activities, public services etc
Continuing to foster a strong environment for businesses with regulation and tax policy.
Continuing to have a financially diverse community that offers a variety of amenities to it's residents
Continuing to provide the outstanding services without an increase in taxes

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Controlling development and traffic to maintain the character of Montgomery.
controlling over-development
Controlling speeding traffic. It's important to make it safe for pedestrians crossing streets. Speeding is out of control, and my husband and I walk daily. We find that crossing Pfeiffer Road at Montgomery can be quite hazardous.
Controlling spending. Focusing on direct services - safety, public works, parks, etc. Not some green initiative or other social-political areas.
Controlling the budget to keep property taxes down.
Controlling traffic
Cost of housing is making this a rich families community. That narrows the diversity greatly. Council and staff need to figure out ways to create housing that allows middle class families to live here.
Cost of living
Cost of living
cost of living mixed with loss of identity : the mindset to get rid of older houses and to build new big ones very expensive on tiny lot is really a concern already ongoing and will be worst if the track stay as is .
Cost of living. The taxes in Montgomery are extremely high to point of being ridiculous. What is to stop me from moving to Blue Ash, into Summit Park specifically, where they are adding hundreds of options for housing to get out of Montgomery, but still have the school system?
Cost of property tax
Creating a Montgomery City center where residents will be drawn to come and businesses can thrive. Residences are not drawn downtown to hangout or walk by a Cadillac car dealership. Being more open on how and what out tax money will be used for.
Creating a thriving downtown Montgomery with successful businesses (ie restaurants, shops, etc).
Creating a welcoming and open culture, that embraces equality and inclusion, to attract and retain talented, professionals from across the region as well as nationally and globally. This will be challenging in the face of the increasingly conservative, inward looking, "rural midwestern", backward looking attitudes that seem to increasingly prevail in Ohio. To prevent a "brain drain" to coastal cities and to limit migration overseas of the most talented high achievers, communities like Montgomery will need to significantly step up efforts in the Equality & Inclusion space, for example by ensuring proper representation at City leadership levels.
Crime
Crime. With the riots around the country last summer, and all the additional retail space being built with the new development that will bring outside people into the city, I am most concerned about crime and security.
Crosswalk safety & traffic speeds
Curbside recycling is currently abysmal. The last community in which we lived collected plastic numbers 1-7 regardless of shape or size.
D I V E R S I T Y We cannot thrive and grow if we are not a happy and safe city for minorities and LGBTQ. We need more diverse people to move to our city and we need to attract more diverse business owners .
Dealing with congestion and increased traffic from expansion and growth, mostly Pfeiffer road and Montgomery Road near Cooper.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Dealing with diversity and progressive ideas. During a recent election a candidate was openly disparaged and campaigned against because he was Muslim. Another area is affordable housing. There are essentially no open lots in Montgomery and the city is going through urban renewal by tearing down affordable housing and replacing it with "McMansions" in the most desirable locations. This is very nice from an economic perspective, but the community is becoming a community if elites. This feeds back into the lack of diversity.
Dealing with increasing population density in the northern part of the city.
Decisions regarding development of business spaces and housing
Decrease property taxes.
Deforestation & destruction of the tiny pieces of natural ecosystem we have left (in order to build more McMansions and car dealerships)
Demographic shifts to fewer young people being able to afford our housing stock.
Desirability of the community, neighborhoods and amenities. It would be great to have a place like the Blue Ash Rec Center for Montgomery residents.
developing and maintaining businesses in Historic and Quarter Districts
Development - Balancing and maintaining community feel vs city feel
Development - Housing - teardowns - building of new housing that is not affordable to those who currently live in Montgomery - Business development - concerned about Montgomery Quarter - doesn't fit the neighborhood atmosphere of Montgomery - also we have alot of empty storefronts already that I feel the city does not support and now we are adding more - not happy with the fact that the Quarter housing has now been made into apartments - Also we are becoming car dealership city.
Development - Things are growing so fast (roads enlarging, businesses coming and going, homes going down and up), city employees are being pulled in every direction and Montgomery is losing the small town feel. Do not see city officials and employees unless at Montgomery event, in the Old Montgomery area or a park. Jesse Bundy used to drive around all the streets and talk with neighbors and ask how things are going.
Development and retention of new businesses.
Development at the City's southern gateway (ie., the new traffic round-about)
Development of downtown area; attract families and others to the downtown area to eat, shop, play, etc. Make it a destination.
development of downtown/gateway to attract and engage the Montgomery community
Development of Montgomery Quarter and bringing new businesses into the city.
Development of Montgomery quarter. And retaining businesses.
Development of small restaurants and retail stores
Development of the City south entry area.
development of the downtown district
Development of the Gateway District
Development, Making the downtown an area people want to come to. Senior living, making the senior housing more affordable for the seniors that are living in this community. Increasing ways for seniors to meet, have social interaction other than having to move into a facility. The housing market: We are seeing so many tear downs and McMansions being built. This makes it much harder for seniors to remain in this community. Yes I want to see the value of my house go up but I worry, can I afford to live here?
Development...please stop tearing down single family homes to put in giant houses
Development: Success of the Montgomery Quarter project and improving the Montgomery Rd. corridor.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Difficult to pinpoint ONE. Bringing in the right restaurants/shops to the Gateway is vital to future economy to the city. We need our locals and people from surrounding areas to have the desire to shop and dine here. If the right tenants aren't chosen....we'll lose the attraction. Another issue is losing the twenty-somethings to high priced homes and high rent/cost of the condominiums, and luxury, lifestyle apartments at the Gateway.
Direction taken w/the Montgomery Quarter to avoid chain stores/restaurants in order to retain the boutique atmosphere. A nice chain restaurant is fine but not fast food or other low quality food/atmosphere. For example, the addition of MPH Brewery and The Clarity House Bakery w/owners who respect the character of the city, are philanthropic and take pride in their city and its history. Attending to upkeep of historic buildings and landscape in Heritage District. Evidence of dilapidated frontage and poor maintenance of front beds by businesses. In summary, maintaining the quality of structures, sidewalks, etc that give Montgomery its historic charm.
Diversifying to offerings retail/restaurants/grocery to meet the changing community to reflect the world at large. Outdoor seating/dining
diversity
Diversity - socio-economic (e.g. housing prices), racial and cultural
Diversity and affordable housing.
Diversity and Inclusion- make people feel at home in Montgomery
Diversity and income inequality. Policy changes are needed to allow a more diverse community to develop. Investing in unnecessary building projects does not help those in our society who need help. We need affordable housing, reliable mass transit and support of our school system. We no longer need more projects for the wealthy to get more wealthy. We need to help Cincinnati and other nearby communities like Lincoln Heights and Lockland, where far too many people live at or near the poverty level.
Diversity and the city council needs to reflect the make up of the city
diversity, justice
Don't know
Don't know
Don't know
Downtown development.
Downtown Development. Bringing small businesses to downtown.
Downtown traffic flow, which includes street parking and gives drivers reason to avoid the circumstance by driving on residential streets which are not well maintained.
Downtown traffic with all the new construction down there.
Driving more retail, restaurants and entertainment to the city while lowering taxes.
Drugs
Due to lack of developable land, housing prices may continue to increase, leading to increased property taxes, which can negatively impact many current residents.
Early childhood education. I find it ridiculous that a district that prides itself in excellent schools doesn't offer preschool for all kids at no cost and has half day kindergarten. If I had known this, it would have affected my choice to move into the district. It's a blatant disregard for the well proven knowledge that early childhood education is vital to academic success.
Economic challenges Upholding our fine standards in services and our school district despite economic challenges
Economic development
Economic development
Economic development

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Economic development including retail/office vacancy rates and change in the character of existing neighborhoods
Economic downturn as a result of Democrat/liberal fiscal policy from the new administration
Economic growth.
Economic impact of Covid - filling empty storefronts and keeping downtown vibrant.
Economic stability. The high taxes are making it challenging for the elderly to maintain their homes or younger families to choose our township over competitive school districts with lower rates.
Economy
economy and traffic congestion - especially getting people on board and able to navigate downtown area
Education. Continuing to pay for a good education for all of the children who live in the District.
Effective management of tax revenues. With the city tax base growing (home values increasing, teardowns accelerating, etc), we believe managing these revenues well and in the best interest of the city residents will be the most important issue.
Elections, taxes
Embracing change in new cultures and ideas. You have people moving in because of the great community and schools and you have long time residents. Often these two groups can clash. I think finding some way to keep that from occurring will be key.
Embracing diversity (race and sexual orientation)
Employment loss and closure of retail
empty store fronts in business district - specifically having more family friendly food places
Encouraging more small business development -- we have enough car dealerships on Montgomery Road, and the historic downtown area has no real retail plan
Encouraging new businesses and venues to come to Montgomery to attract younger residents. It seems like most of the recent developments have been nursing homes, retirement homes, and car dealerships. It would be lovely to seek new breweries, bakeries, boutiques, recreation, etc. that will encourage younger people to come to and stay in Montgomery.
Enhancing the city's walk- and bikeability and investing in/encouraging small businesses to thrive here.
Ensure an inclusive & diverse housing market remains available for single family homes.
Ensure the safety of the community.
ensuring development of appropriate business and maintaining diversity of residents and businesses (not to turn into Madeira with a business area full of banks and a very homogenous population)
Ensuring it is a safe place for all residents regardless of race, creed or sexual orientation
Ensuring newly built homes cause no damage ,for example drainage issues, to existing homes
Ensuring that the commercial developments in our city start to ease the tax burden of our residents.
Ensuring that the historical small town charm is not overshadowed by the Montgomery Quarter development.
Ensuring that we continue to be a sought after place to open/maintain a business, raise a family, and live comfortably without being overtaxed or outdone in other areas. There is a high value to what the City brings and offers, but there are also many empty business spaces that don't seem to be filling up. In addition there are many residents who feel as if the tax price and increased costs may make things unsustainable for longevity in all of these areas. Comfort comes at a cost, but continual evaluation must be performed to ensure we are keeping it at a healthy or realistic level that maintains the diverse needs and expectations of our residents and guests.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Ensuring the success of the Montgomery Quarter as restaurants have left the city and the spaces have remained vacant
Evaluating the success of the new development at the beginning of downtown Montgomery where Ronald Reagan Hwy. intersects Montgomery Rd. Boom or Bust. Housing, retail....
Ever increasing taxes. The City of Montgomery is becoming very expensive to live in.
excessive over-development
Expansion without enough study as to implications of the same... Twin Towers, Montgomery Quarter and environs, the addition to the hospital, and the roundabout at Pfeiffer to name a few. All of these expansions will bring folk into our community and will have profound implications for residents regarding safety and mobility.
Extended existing foot paths and construct new foot paths in the neighborhoods.
Failure of the current Federal admin. to actually care about constituents and non constituents. Higher minimum wages, higher corporate taxes, higher gas and NG/electricity costs are all actions that impact the poor, lower middle & middle income and those on a fixed income, more than any other group. So much for Democrats caring about the poor... . Considering the current pace of "executive orders" and a lack of care by Congress, dark days ahead for the folks most effected by these policies. In 5 years at this rate, Montgomery will have no socio-economic diversity. It will just be an enclave of high income folks who have torn down the average single family homes and built mini mansions. As we use more of the available land on a parcel for non [porous surfaces, more storm run off will need to be accounted for- especially if global warming effects the cycles and intensity of rain and snow.
Fair policing practice that is non-biased, non-predatory, and that eliminates unfair targeting of some of our city's most vulnerable members and groups.
Federal encroachment on local police operations. No more Sycamore School district tax increases.
Filling all of the empty properties. We really need to liven up downtown Montgomery. Loveland and Milford are doing such a great job. I feel like we are moving backwards
Filling empty retail space with viable businesses (not big box or car dealerships) to create a vibrant downtown.
Filling the empty spaces left by businesses
Finance, schools
Finding tenants for are the vacant retail and business spaces
Finding the proper businesses for the not only the new Montgomery Quarter but current downtown Montgomery. More family friendly options (sports bar, brewery (and yes...MPH is great) and a couple of nightlife options. Montgomery's accessibility to not only the city, but many other suburban neighborhoods via Ronald Reagan makes Montgomery a convenient location for people to not only dine but also spend an eventful evening out. Of course this depends on if there are enough options to come back to.
Finishing the development project at Cross County and maintaining occupancy there
First, does the city have to play an active role in property development? I'd like to know how many taxpayer dollars have been spent on the Gateway project. My opinion, let the developers develop and the city should limit itself to public safety, etc. And regarding safety, it is disappointing to see Mont Police sitting on I-71 at 4 am presumably looking for speeders. If I must leave my wife and children at home at night (to work in a hospital) use tax dollars to ensure their safety by patrolling the neighborhoods. And lastly, how about revisiting curb side leaf pickup. The city examined the issue previously and concluded it was not possible. However, if Blue Ash can do it, I think we can.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

fixing the water flooding issues on Deerfield Rd and in The Winds. New large houses and driveways are dumping more water during major rain storms causing flooding. Please update status of the flood control project that was suppose to start in 2021. Thanks!
For me, in the older parts of the neighborhood, water drainage is the problem. Settlement of the homes is allowing water to "pool" around the foundation and causing water to come into the basement. I know this is a natural effect of nature, but it would be nice to see of the city can so some kind of "survey" that may come up with a possible inexpensive solution. Water pools on both sides and the back of my house. I'm sure I'm not alone.
Forward thinking development resulting in new business and suntanning established ones along with maintaining the family community feel.
Fully capitalizing on the new mixed use development in the historic district. I'm ever hopeful about occupancy, the traffic circle, and the mix of development (and how this might impact the existing business already here (Montgomery Square in particular).
funding for city services
Gateway traffic
Getting and/or keeping new businesses and tax revenue from them.
Getting downtown Montgomery back to the thriving location it once was
Getting homeowners in the vintage club
Getting our public schools back to a top rating in the state.
Getting the new project at cross county completed successfully and on time
getting the Quarter up and running that shows the life we expect it to have
Getting to the point where city council listens to the residents. They have a history of shutting out the voices of residents that propose ideas with which they disagree.
Getting younger folks into the neighborhood. I see us aging as a neighborhood with all the senior living being built and house prices are rising past affordability for many. Maybe this isn't a problem but I would like to see some more housing that caters to the young professional.
Global warming.
Goals and direction of residential and commercial development in Montgomery. This includes both functional and aesthetic elements such as housing density, commercial building height, and architecture.
Good infrastructure and traffic management
Green issues, renewable energy sources.
Growing and cultivating businesses in vacant tenant spaces.
Growing to fast and taking away from the small town fell. I don't understand the Gateway project with adding offices etc. when already, Montgomery has SO many empty buildings.
growth
GROWTH as it relates to traffic and overall population growth. Many new businesses coming to Montgomery drawing more people as well as older residents moving out and newer families tearing down old homes and building larger ones. With this larger tax base from both items above, our local taxes should not increase.
Growth in downtown, making it a draw for people While accommodating traffic growth, parking, and pedestrian traffic.
Growth in the community.
Growth of businesses - allowing quality, local businesses to continue and start in Montgomery. Provide incentives to start and keep businesses here that reflect our community. Higher quality shops, restaurants that set us apart from our neighbors.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Growth of retail establishments. It is lagging due to bad urban planning and lack of concentrated walking areas. Also, architecture requirements are very old fashioned in this city. Lacks modernity.
Growth with preservation of the City's small town feeling
Growth. Need to limit/reduce car dealerships. Need to promote and not tax into extinction small businesses. Need to limit/reduce destruction of historical or simply vintage buildings. Need to make smart development decisions which look into the future. An example of a wrong decision is building office space when clearly there will be a reduction in need for office space as companies have discovered that they can allow many employees to work from home.
Halting the economic inequality that the city management allows to invade our community. Every day we are becoming a more upper middle class homogeneous community where middle class or lower middle class families cannot afford to move into due to the pervasive tear downs and "Indian Hill light" houses that are being built.
Handling the commercial growth particularly as it relates to traffic and congestion.
Handling the on going growth and in flux of people in the new gateway project. Montgomery Quarter With the units all being rentals I can imagine that it will be a very transient part of the community requiring additional security and policing. I hope in anticipation of this that those concerns are being addressed sooner than later.
have no idea
Have the downtown area reflect the people of Montgomery. With the large number of apartments being developed in The Montgomery Quarter, it would be nice to have affordable shops which are in walking distance. Right now some of the shops in downtown area carry goods that are beyond the price range of the people within walking distance. Cater to the needs of residents by having family friendly businesses. Keep the number of parking spaces and spaces with electric hook ups. Let's make downtown a place for Montgomery families not for non-residence to come and drink.
Having a downtown that will attract people to it. Businesses that consumers want to shop at.
having a mix of affordable housing for people of all ages & providing a variety of community oriented activities for all people to feel a part of Montgomery
Having homes affordable for younger and older middle class income earners so they can be a part of and enjoy the Montgomery community
Having sufficient revenue to continue to support our public parks, schools and essential services.
help small business, need to boost regional economy
Helping businesses be profitable to maintain occupancy in available commercial real estate
Helping small businesses recover and thrive
Helping to ensure the small businesses within Montgomery can maintain public support to minimize turnover and vacancy
High cost of housing and property taxes that will make it impossible to attract a socio economic diverse class of people to move into Montgomery.
High property tax strain on residents and families. Taxes have increased dramatically and increasing county assessed valuations will further increase
High property taxes
High Property taxes and Earnings Taxes!
High taxes
High taxes
High Taxes
High taxes
High taxes
HIGH TAXES

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

High taxes Slow traffic on MONTGOMERY Rd
Higher costs associated with ownership in Montgomery because of increased taxes and higher property values. I believe this will lead to lowering income residents being pushed out. I also think this will push out older residents and first time home buyers.
Home prices and property tax are high and there is no senior citizen center. Also, there are no recreation centers for preteens and teens. The Montgomery swimming pool is too small for the taxes we pay. Blue Ash, Sharonville, Evendale, and Mason have some of these amenities. Pick from these issues I think are important.
Honestly had a hard time with this. Traffic congestion on Montgomery road and cars going pretty fast on Weller seems to be the only things we can think of. Keep up the good work.
House lots that contained a 1950-1960s size house on half of the lot plus a yard changing to enormous 21st century size houses with no yard
House tear downs or Montgomery Quarter development
Housing affordability for young families (stop all of the tear downs) as well as older adults who wish to stay in Montgomery as empty nesters but can't afford the prices and the taxes.
Housing affordability to support a mix of incomes
Housing affordability(property taxes) for those on fixed incomes
Housing affordability.
Housing availability/affordability to accommodate aging population. For example, we are empty nesters in our 70's. We would like to downsize from our 3500 square foot house and stay in this community. We like the walkability of the area. We would also like to, at some point, get away from our stairs. Unfortunately, we don't have the resources to outbid the builders for the older ranch homes that need upgrading. These go quickly to developers and are razed within days. It also makes it difficult for younger families to afford entry level housing.
Housing cost
Housing costs
Housing costs are going higher and higher and along with it tax bills. There will soon be a lack of economic diversity in the area.
housing crash
Housing price escalation and tear downs driving lower housing accessibility for younger families.
How downtown will develop without destroying the charm and traffic situation.
How the city can live within its budget and not ask for more money.
How the development at Ronald Reagan and 22 will play out.
how the Ronald Reagan roundabout impacts businesses, traffic flow, pedestrian crossing to downtown Montgomery and back (especially for the Moeller students)
How to balance commercial and residential development/ growth while maintaining the city's small town charm. i.e. Will the new Montgomery Quarters development provide the empty nester housing options we will need for the future?
How to help police avoid unnecessary confrontations by utilizing knowledgeable mental health personnel on calls that may relate to mental health problems.
How we handle the increased demand on traffic and parking
Husband--transportation: I don't drive and want to see more sidewalks, bike lanes, easier to use crosswalks, plus public transportation options. Wife--teardowns of existing modest homes changing the character and affordability of neighborhoods
I am new to the area. I do not know the City's operating budget (expenses and revenues) but like many residents no matter where one lives, the rise in property taxes is always a concern. Traffic congestion is also expected due to growth.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

I am not sure - we are new to the city (just moved here 1 year ago).
I am very concerned with the rising taxes. It is not a matter of if we will leave Montgomery now, but when. Councils preoccupation with development and expansion, especially of businesses that do not pay taxes, is harmful to residents and home owners. The huge expansion at the corridor and roundabout will bring more traffic and decreased quality of life for nearby neighborhoods, while a larger number close by space is vacant. City Council needs to keep residents as their focus, particularly home owners, rather than development. Indian Hill doesn't decrease the quality of life of their residents like Montgomery does. Expansion, such as Twin Lakes, which to my understanding does not pay taxes, makes no sense to me. Why allow expansion, and the increased traffic and use, when there is no increased revenue? Meanwhile, their residents will certainly vote for more tax increases on homeowners, while they themselves do not pay them. Montgomery is lessening the life of their homeowners. We are most definitely moving out of Montgomery much sooner than we ever planned because of it.
I am very pleased with the City of Montgomery. We have live here for 43 years in September. Our choice of location then was Sycamore Schools. Since we live on the south side of the roundabout my personal hope is a speedy end to the construction. I look forward to the plans for our city expecting the best outcomes.
I appreciate the wonderful efforts the city has in giving voice to inclusion and tolerance. Unfortunately the previous White House administration divided the country and fostered outward expression of hate. Issues of closed mindedness and ignorance have come up in the past and were addressed, but obviously there were not enough. We are glad you have created the inclusion group. As important as this is, we do not see it as the single most important issue Montgomery will face in the next five years. The single issue most important issue will be environmental justice and climate change. With business as usual, changing weather resulting in food and drinkable water shortage will begin to surface by 2025. This will exasperate the issue of intolerance mention above. Montgomery needs to continue the farmers market and develop other programs that will help mitigate climate change, e.g. join Solarize Cincy to get a million homes in Ohio on solar, offer a green energy utility aggregation option, require all new construction include geothermal, solar and high energy efficiency homes, reduce storm water run off in residential areas - gutters to rain gardens, pervious surfaces, reduce sizes of lawn with more gardens for pollinators and educate people of the importance of living sustainably. Reward environmental actions by Montgomery residents thought recognition. People do things that they know their neighbors do, such as solar installations.
I believe the city has undertaken most important projects already. The old downtown area needs work but I do not have the experience to know how to undertake its modernization.
I cannot predict future issues
I don't think there is a single most important issue. Schools and elder care are at the top of the list. Traffic flow on Montgomery Road through Montgomery is awful. Single lanes on this major thoroughfare are unworkable. Montgomery government should have figured that out a long time ago and expanded the road. When there is an accident on 71 the alternates are either Montgomery Road or Kenwood Road. Neither one can accommodate a lot of traffic. The roundabout has only added to the problem. 25 mile an hour speed limit in front of Kroger is unrealistic.
I have been happy with the City of Montgomery.
I have only lived in Montgomery for a month and don't have an opinion yet.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>I think a lot of the homes are aging and for as nice of a community as Montgomery is, it doesn't look the part in many areas. I think there should be significant tax abatements or other incentives for homeowners to renovate their homes, particularly the exteriors. Sure, many homes are knocked down to make way for beautiful new homes but I think there is charm to having original homes. In order to have historic charm, there should be incentives for homeowners to upkeep and increase their property value by painting/adding exterior fixtures such as porticos. People won't do projects such as these as they don't feel it increases the value of their homes enough, so homes continue to age and often look dilapidated which is a shame for such a wonderful community as Montgomery.</p>
<p>I think controlling increasing traffic through the area and downtown will be challenging as the new project being built at Ronal Reagan begins to fill in with businesses and permanent residents.</p>
<p>I think it is so important that the new Montgomery Quarter project is carried out in a way that adds value to the city of Montgomery. It needs to uphold the charm and the same feel that downtown Montgomery currently has. As things are progressing, I am afraid that it is going to turn into a generic strip mall with a huge parking garage in front that is the first thing people will see as they approach Montgomery. This will be such a disappointment because we have been so excited about this project since it was first announced over 5 years ago. I think it is also important to bring more restaurants/cafes to the current downtown. It seems like when a business closes, the next thing brought in to take over the space is a bank or commercial space. This is not what attracts residents or people to make use of the downtown.</p>
<p>I think it's becoming increasingly harder for current homeowners to maintain and remain in their homes as taxes and prices continue to increase. Many current residents will no longer be able to continue to live in the city of Montgomery.</p>
<p>I think the most important issue for Montgomery will be how to continue to develop the community to make it attractive for families. While I love living here, the amenities (pool, lack of recreation center, limited kids and family programing) are bigger and better in neighboring communities. To continue to attract families, I think the city is going to need to enhance community offerings for families.</p>
<p>I think the property taxes increases and various levies in recent years have been out of control. The city is much more expensive now than at any other time in probably over 20 years. The city needs to do more with less. Otherwise, it would adversely impact property values and result in an exodus of residents to more affordable locations.</p>
<p>I think there is likely to be a surplus of office and retail space in Montgomery with the opening of the new buildings near Cross County and the space available in Blue Ash, coupled with the likely increase in remote work.</p>
<p>I worry that we don't attract enough small business because the rent is too high downtown.</p>
<p>I would like to see new home construction try to maintain the same sense of scale as the existing homes in the community. I'm seeing to many tear down / rebuilds that tower over their neighbors. It is terrible to see this continue without any input from the city. Upper Arlington in Columbus went through the same thing 20 years ago and put architectural restrictions in place to maintain the integrity of the neighborhood and restrict (within reason) the scale of the new development. By no means am I against tearing down functionally obsolescent homes but it can be done tastefully and respectful of the neighbors.</p>
<p>I would like to see the city offer a leaf vacuuming service. There are so many awesome trees in this community but it is a lot of work to rake and put them all in bags. Many other communities are able to rake to the curb and have them picked up.</p>
<p>I would like top see more green spaces, bike paths and walking areas.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

I wouldn't call it an issue, but I'm always jealous of the Blue Ash rec center and all the development work BA is doing, attracting new companies and younger professionals.
I'd have to say traffic. Seems like there is congestion in many highly used thoroughfares.
I'd love to have a leaf vacuum for our citizens
Identifying bike lanes.
If housing prices are currently inflated due to the unusual market conditions, balancing city services and amenities with smaller budgets.
if they would listen to the residents and stop the insane roundabouts etc and getting more restaurants back in the core area, that would be best. we dont need anymore car dealers, banks and other worthless business. people are leaving this city bc there is are no fun things to do as a family or even adults.
I'm not sure
Improve regulations for building new houses. Builders create too much dirt in the street and neighbors need to complain to the city for clean it up. Some of the new houses being built discharge the sump pump water into their terrain but it overflows to the neighboring houses. It appears to be a lack of regulation of these issues, causing the neighbors with the only recourse to complain to the City to get these issues resolved.
Improving NON-Residential Tax Base by recruiting small business owners to continue to re-vitalize the downtown area and Montgomery quarter. The vacant real estate makes the area seem unappealing. There continues to be loss of tenants that could affect overall community growth.
Improving small businesses. Less chains (like Dunkin Donuts), more coffee shops, restaurants, revitalizing business district
In a word, "Overbuilding". Concerned about the loss Montgomery's quaintness coupled with the amount of traffic and general congestion that will result.
In this post-pandemic world, I would like to spend more time eating and socializing outside, as much as possible in our climate. The downtown quarter will be critical to allowing residents and non-residents walk and enjoy great restaurants and shops. I love how walkabout our neighborhood is. I would love to see downtown Montgomery more walkable and conducive for walking and outdoor dining.
Inability for families to afford homes in the area
Increase diversity In the maintenance and labor division.
increase in people living/working in the area and the amount of added activity/congestion
INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES SENIORS CANNOT AFFORD
Increase in taxes and property values
increase in traffic
Increase the diversity of its population and working employees in the area
increased population and being an inclusive and welcoming community
Increased taxes
increased taxes & roundabouts
Increased taxes; how many more police, fire, school etc tax increases due to levies passed with no consideration for older couples who have lived in Montgomery for over 30 years. These levies are forcing us out.
Increased traffic and congestion in downtown Montgomery during and after the construction of the Montgomery Quarter
Increased traffic congestion and road noise along Montgomery Rd.
Increased traffic density due to the development at the east end of Ronald Reagan highway

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Increased traffic due to the new Gateway and roundabout. Property taxes go hand in hand.. too high!
Increases in taxes, smart growth of business to water down the string of car dealerships, increase sidewalk usage on east side of Montgomery Rd.
Increasing cost of living, property taxes very high to pay for schools. Need more entertainment and pubs/ restaurants for an evening out . Will need adequate parking for downtown.
Increasing property taxes
Increasing property taxes compared to services provided
increasing taxes
Increasingly less conservative government with expanding government involvement, more spending, higher taxes and less individual freedom.
Inflation and additional cost for services
Infrastructure and keeping up with services
Infrastructure changes - particularly downtown Montgomery area
Infrastructure maintenance
Issue: City Management and Oversight of development/redevelopment. I believe that at some point in the next five years we residents will learn of a serious case or cases of malfeasance/misfeasance involving the city and developers. 1. The city has taken responsibility for the Montgomery Quarter Project without the management system for such a major project. 2. The city has ignored its strategic plans to accommodate a developer.
issues related to aging population
It will be difficult to maintain housing that is affordable for middle-income families. Builders are purchasing ranches and smaller homes, tearing them down, and replacing them with huge, expensive homes. The city should try to put in place policies and practices that will encourage development for people of all incomes, not just the wealthiest. Otherwise, we risk becoming a boring, homogenous community.
Its hard to say. We are somewhat concerned about traffic due to the new gateway district. Maintaining the quaint character of the city is important, by not allowing too much signage along Montgomery Road.
It's sad, that for some reason, good businesses come and go, and I can't understand why many of them fold eventually. Too bad for the residents. What is the City doing to encourage tax base growth.
keep improving the city's diverse tax base. The Montgomery Quarter project is a good start
Keep improving to maintain the quality of life Montgomery is noted for and make us proud to say I live in Montgomery.
Keep parks up to par. Keep quality police force and fire dept.
Keep smaller homes in residential areas. Stop tear down's and then replace them with huge houses.
Keep the residents informed via social media. The city is doing a great job now.
Keep up with infrastructure advancements: better internet connection infrastructure, better water quality, clean energy, traffic control.
Keeping a community feel with our neighborhoods. Small town feel is nice.
Keeping a vibrant downtown and small businesses. For example, our very conveniently located yoga studio, Elemental Om, recently closed. We also miss the Pomodori restaurant that left a few years ago.
Keeping and expanding local businesses that service the interest of the residents of Montgomery.
Keeping businesses alive and thriving in downtown Montgomery

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

keeping businesses open within the community, most importantly independently owned businesses
Keeping control of growth and what that brings with it.
keeping expenses and taxes under control
keeping expenses down and not raising taxes
Keeping it nice, walkable, good dining- and some place that is worth the amount of property tax that we pay
Keeping Montgomery a safe place to live for elderly people
Keeping Montgomery affordable.
Keeping Montgomery the quality community it is while also balancing the tax burden on residents.
Keeping our community safe from the violence and crime that affect other areas of Cincinnati. One of the reasons we moved to Montgomery in 2003 was because of the emphasis it places on resident and community safety, a safety that is enforced by our brave Montgomery police force.
Keeping Property taxes from rising in both the city and the county.
Keeping property taxes low. And managing development. Montgomery road doesn't need any new car dealerships. The new development seems like the ugliest buildings are being built first. Need to keep the character of downtown Montgomery
Keeping property taxes reasonable.
Keeping real estate taxes reasonable especially for those that are on a fixed income. There are many families or couples that have lived in Montgomery for many years and the real estate taxes have gone up each year. We have lived in Montgomery for 43 years and are taxes have more that tripled.
Keeping small businesses in the community
keeping small businesses open
keeping small businesses strong
Keeping taxes low
Keeping taxes low for residents
Keeping taxes low while keeping great city services-
Keeping the charm and the youthfulness of the city is important. We have quite a few retirement facilities, which is wonderful and necessary; however, it's equally important to have liveliness. I would also hope the city doesn't cave to the woke faction and make us all feel guarded and divided. I love our city and all who reside here. Let's all work together without sanctimonious, holier than thou attitudes.
Keeping the city as a livable community. Specifically, not giving in to the fad of roundabouts at intersections. They are hard to navigate and dangerous to both drivers and pedestrians. Many people walk in this community and roundabouts are very dangerous for both walkers and bike riders.
Keeping the community relevant and up to date in these changing times, especially housing and schools.
KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE KEEPING THE TROUBLE MAKERS OUT.
Keeping the downtown area a destination with unique restaurants and shops that people want to frequent Maintaining a competitive school-district that attracts families. Offering family friendly activities for all age groups.
Keeping the downtown area relevant to help attract new residents to the area and continue to increase demand for residency in the Montgomery community
Keeping the high quality of our basic services that include police, fire, ambulance services, water, sanitation and schools available in the city is critical to the success of Montgomery.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Keeping the residents informed and safe
Keeping the schools as strong as they once were. The taxes are SO high, but we are willing to pay to know our schools are excellent. But, it seems recently that the school ratings have been slipping.
Keeping the small town feel amid all of the new housing and car dealerships coming in. Keeping small businesses available, keeping things walkable and easy for families to enjoy restaurants and shops.
Keeping up with efforts to encourage diversity and support BIPOC members of the community and encourage unity. Maintaining the small feel amidst growth and maintaining offerings for young families who move to the area.
Keeping up with rising taxes and paying for the schools
Keeping up with the growth
Lack of affordable housing and diversity of families. The amount of tear down/new construction in this area is out of control and housing prices are rising dramatically which limits the population able to afford to live here.
Lack of affordable housing for middle class families
Lack of affordable housing for your families
Lack of available housing
Lack of energy businesses, and restaurants in the downtown area. Does Gateway quarter improve or detract from that.
Lack of land for new single family homes . Taxes are pretty high. Not sure if that ti Montgomery or the Sycamore school district.
Lack of new businesses moving to the area resulting in increased property taxes of aging population. Montgomery is behind in the times and needs to consider maintaining relevancy with a younger generation. Look at surrounding cities (e.g., Blue Ash) which have business wanting to move there versus Montgomery. The City of Blue Ash has many outdoor areas and events; even a subsidized recreation facility.
Lack of parking downtown
Lack of try level affordable housing for young families and ever escalating real estate taxes
Leaf collection
Learning to use traffic circles.
Less auto dealerships, and choosing the "right commercial partners" i.e. restaurants and other spots for the residents.
level of property taxes - has to bring under control especially regarding school funding
Listening to the residents
Local businesses adjusting to the "new normal" coming out of the pandemic.
Local businesses thriving

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Looking out for the tax payers and not subsidizing big business or employing all the relatives of the present political parties. It would be a novel idea to follow the sates law as to highest and best use for any capital planning and budgeting expense instead of selling out, and having the tax payers paying for all the Visions of the few in charge that are acquiring huge amounts of debit the taxpayer will have to pay for years to come. It should be a crime to force out the resident's whom have been here for many years. By burdening them that now live on a fixed income with taxes they cannot afford, they must choose to either eat or pay the taxes that account for more than 50% of the average social security payment. Their only alternative is being forced to sell the home where they have raised their family and move out, so that those in charge can tare down and build new much larger homes to increase the city and county tax coffers and continue on with the tax and spend to fill some sort of a GREAT VISION, without any regards for the residents that paved the way for them.
Loss of older residents caused by tax increases
Loss of small businesses. Empty property in old Montgomery.
Lower property and personal income taxes
Lowering taxes (school bonds etc) Controlling the amount of tear downs and rebuilds of huge homes. Creating affordable housing for seniors that want to downsize.
Lowering taxes. Property values have risen immensely lately and raising taxes along with this can price people out of their own homes. Montgomery is an excellent place to live and if the new projects near the Ronald Raegan generate enough income, property taxes should be reduced.
Maintain a healthy residential community feel that keeps well-maintained older homes in the mix with new home construction and staying away from ANY massive apartment developments that would make our community less residential.
Maintain infrastructure.
Maintain the City's small town charm and continue fiscal conservatism
Maintaining a diverse city and investing in continuing to invest in the infra-structure in the city. Managing traffic as more residential and business properties are created.
Maintaining a safe environment with more commercial activity in the area.
Maintaining a safely walkable and bike able community as many decisions being made recently are increasing traffic in residential areas; ie Cooper Road
Maintaining a sense of small town. Still being an affordable location for young families.
Maintaining a vibrant downtown area
Maintaining affordable housing for seniors and first time homeowners
Maintaining businesses throughout the city
Maintaining businesses, roads and home rebuilding
Maintaining current quality of life in the area in the face of rising taxes and extended control of communities by the federal government.
Maintaining green space or park space and tree/flower landscaping. This applies to new development, where there should be green space incorporated into the planning -- rather than allowing buildings to extend to the street.
Maintaining high level neighborhoods
Maintaining high quality schools by focusing on the fundamentals of a good education
Maintaining high quality schools without raising taxes.
Maintaining historical character of the city.
Maintaining home property values; having a consistent identified city identity regarding retail/restaurant/business space
Maintaining it's historic character and charm as new businesses and homes come into the area.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Maintaining manageable traffic patterns
Maintaining Montgomery's charm as a small bedroom community as it continues to promote development and commercial growth. I recognize that this growth is important to revenue but I worry about the local character that is lost with commercial development, as well as the increase in traffic.
Maintaining necessary infrastructure to keep the community attractive. Things such as readily available high speed internet as more businesses allow workers to work from home/anywhere, eliminating troublesome traffic spots, having adaptable options for businesses, maintaining a variety of housing options for different phases of life (especially reasonably priced homes for the younger families that will prevent to community from stagnating).
Maintaining our zoning code and the current housing density within that code. Deer Park and Blue Ash have both opted for an increased housing density in several apartment developments.
maintaining parks and schools, making sure historic business district flourishes and is not overcome by the new development at the Ronald Reagan roundabout;
Maintaining property care standards for dwellings
Maintaining quality education at the public school system.
maintaining roads and parks keeping traffic under control with the new development at Reagan highway
maintaining school value, adding businesses to Montgomery, maintaining a safe, walkable community
maintaining schools funding and prestige (preventing drop in rankings), maintaining property values, safety (no low income housing or pain clinics etc)
Maintaining services to residence at reasonable cost.
Maintaining some affordable housing. Currently the older housing is being bought and "teardowns" continue. I like the idea of private enterprise, and at the same time, I am concerned that Montgomery could become a high income "enclave". I like the range of businesses and housing that we have here, and I want to make sure that we keep that variety and range.
maintaining standard of living, infrastructure, and property values
Maintaining the "village" quality of the community especially with extensive building in the Gateway area.
Maintaining the amenities such as brush pick up while keeping taxes from driving out your current residents. There was a lot of buzz on NextDoor about how the home appraisals have added to taxes and that the increases have many talking about 'how' can they continue to afford to live in Montgomery? Driving many of the current citizens out because of taxes runs the risk of becoming an elitist city and spoiling the culture of a 'working class' community.
Maintaining the city's infrastructure. Traffic keeps increasing Roads take a beating from in the increasing traffic.
Maintaining the condition of the roads and infrastructure.
Maintaining the current level of city services and sense of community.in a changing culture and economy.
Maintaining the current level of services by increasing the tax base from businesses along the Montgomery Road corridor without adding to traffic congestion.
Maintaining the current standard of our community and increasing relevance and appeal through diverse "entertainment", including but not limited to, enhancing parks and recreation, adding bars and restaurants that serve the broad spectrum of our community (singles, families, older adults), and creating safe and easy pathways (sidewalks, pedestrian only walkways, bike paths, etc.) to enjoy all entertainment and recreational areas.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Maintaining the desirability of Montgomery as a place to live, work, and play. Clearly Sycamore Schools plays a very large role in the decision of parents to move to Montgomery, but there are also many people without kids that love to live here. What makes it special? The parks, the walkability, the shops, the restaurants, the trees, etc. How does Montgomery maintain the appeal to a variety of people looking for a new place to call home, and how does it keep current residents happy in their current neighborhoods?
Maintaining the infrastructure streets, parks and quality of life
Maintaining the Montgomery heritage (conservative values, small-town feel, etc.) as we embrace economic progress.
Maintaining the quality of services in the city; police, fire, emergency services, trash collection, road and sidewalk repair, parks, and walking and bike paths.
Maintaining the quality of the city and services without have to raise taxes.
Maintaining the safety and security of the city through excellent police and fire department services. We moved here to escape the deterioration of city safety. We are pleased to be able to see families, children and teens being able to play and walk without fear for their safety. It is good to see laws enforced again.
Maintaining the small town feel and safe atmosphere with the expansion plans.
Maintaining the small town feel with economic housing options.
Maintaining the Small Town feel....with all the building going on, tear downs/rebuilds, big center as you enter the city, etc. keeping the uniqueness of Montgomery will be a challenge. One thing I have loved about Montgomery since moving here with my parents a child in 1973, was the feeling that this small city was not judge a suburb of a big city, but a city itself. My parents choose Montgomery because of it. We are able to walk to Kroger, get ice cream at Walker Bros, ride bikes, play in the parks, etc and have enjoy the 4th of July festivities, etc all related to being a small town. Let's keep it that way!
Maintaining the small town rural atmosphere while dealing with Montgomery road traffic
Maintaining the viability of practical small businesses (as opposed to high-end shops) in the historic area and not allowing new developments to overtake the historic district and spoil the charm of Montgomery.
Maintaining/building a safe and thriving downtown area. With all of the new construction and the movement of many of the businesses around the downtown area. It is important that we work to build an inclusive downtown district that is inviting and safe for people to come visit and for community members to use consistently.
Maintenance of the new facility being built east of the new cross county roundabout
Make the city of Montgomery more attractive and accessible to walk to nearby shops and restaurants
Making certain the Gateway project is an economic success and adds uniqueness to our community.
Making downtown Montgomery and the new gateway a destination to live, work, eat, play.
Making Montgomery Quarter a community destination place with multiple outdoor dining areas/gathering spaces, walkable.
Making Montgomery Quarter work and be viable
Making rent affordable for local retailers and resturants.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>Making sure family can still afford to live in Montgomery. Be smart about our school budgets. We need great teachers, small classroom sizes and education but stadiums should come from boosters and fundraisers and not at the expense of education or families no longer being able to afford the ever increasing demands on our wallets. Taxes are increasing at a faster rate than incomes.</p>
<p>Making sure local control remains a top priority. Example: there reports throughout the country that policies based on international directives such as 2030, smart cities, agenda 21 and the like, become controlling policies for local communities. These policies should not be substituted for well run, accountable, local government.</p>
<p>Making sure we continue to be an inclusive community.</p>
<p>Making the city PEOPLE focused. Although the residential areas are perfectly livable, the rest of the city primarily focuses on moving cars. The streets look like they should be walkable, but they are not. Despite the lovely paver stone paths, walking on many of these paths is an overall unpleasant experience. Cars are going by too fast (and are consequently too loud to allow people to carry on a conversation), there are too many curb cuts (which means people have to constantly look both ways for cars crossing their path) - both issues make walking and/or biking feel unsafe. The roads are designed for cars to move quickly and efficiently, not for people to move about comfortably. People don't interact with other people from their cars, people interact with other people when they have the opportunity to interact face to face. Furthermore, despite the number of businesses in Montgomery, there are relatively few businesses that residents find valuable on a regular basis. There are too many car dealerships, banks, wealth management firms, and real estate offices and not enough restaurants and shops that residents want to visit.</p>
<p>Making the historic downtown area more walkable and attractive to outside dining & entertainment. A destination to walk to during the day and evening for a variety of ages. Montgomery Road attracts considerable traffic and the sidewalks are very close to the street in the historical area. The road is much more friendly to shared cars, bikes, and walkers north of Montgomery Park to I-275. As a board member of the Montgomery Farmers Market, we hope to provide a morning destination attraction that increases the awareness of "brick & mortar" stores and dining options in the area.</p>
<p>Making the new Gateway development a success</p>
<p>management of property taxes</p>
<p>Management of redevelopment within the city</p>
<p>management of traffic on Montgomery road so that there is not continual gridlock while driving through.</p>
<p>Managing parking and the increase in traffic with new development in downtown.</p>
<p>Managing the city expenses and the develop district expansion within our current budget as inflation will likely been to creep up and hit our cost structure.</p>
<p>Managing the cost of government and schools so that the tax rates do not increase while maintaining the quality of living and services.</p>
<p>Managing the development of downtown to make it a place residents want to go to and hang out. Loveland has done a great job with this.</p>
<p>Managing the growth that is occurring and the tear downs of the older houses.</p>
<p>Managing the infrastructure required to support the anticipated growth in our city. Will storm sewers, roads, utilities, etc. keep pace with this growth?</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>Managing the safe flow of traffic in and around downtown Montgomery will be a major issue. Over the past year or so, several restaurants have folded because of business lost to Covid. Some of that space may resume business soon. Over the next 2 years many more businesses will open in a large area unused until now. That will more than restore traffic beyond its previous levels. As retiree over 80, I find the traffic on Montgomery Road to be difficult today. I time my drives to favor early morning or other light traffic times. When I can't do that, I will drive on side roads to reach a spot where I have a traffic light at Montgomery, to enable me to safely turn left.</p>
<p>Managing the yearly budget. I would hope the number of city employees will remain constant.</p>
<p>managing traffic flow as a result of new construction and roundabout</p>
<p>Managing zoning of tear downs to avoid overbuilding the city.</p>
<p>Many now working from home and starting new businesses from home. I would like the city to be open to home based businesses. Specifically agriculture based business.</p>
<p>Maximizing the cost to value. It is expensive to live in Montgomery. Housing is more expensive as it relates to the Sycamore school district and there is an income tax that many communities in this area don't have. If you live in Montgomery you are paying a premium and the benefits need to be better, easier and more convenient than the surrounding communities or people will start to look for other options. As part of that the city needs to make sure our Police and Fire department have everything they need while taking care of the the roads, parks and residential services. Doing it better than other communities. This has been the standard that we have come to expect as a Montgomery resident and that needs to continue.</p>
<p>Maybe not the single most important, but certainly important to our family is the number of houses that are being torn down to build larger homes. One of the reasons we moved here was due to the character and charm with different mature neighborhoods. People are building homes that don't fit the rest of the "feel" of the community. The impact to the environment is also very concerning.</p>
<p>Me: Growth. Ensuring that we maintain the charm of the city and support small businesses, not just car dealerships and chains. My husband: Inflation. Crazy housing prices driving people out.</p>
<p>meaningful and useful development of downtown. I don't want old downtown Montgomery to become an empty valley between the Quarter and the newer part down by Kroger and Stone Creek</p>
<p>Merging the new gateway development with the historic downtown.</p>
<p>Montgomery continues to have one of the highest property taxes in Cincinnati, especially compared to other suburbs with equal, if not better, public schools (e.g., Indian Hill and Mason). Families are increasingly reluctant to move to Montgomery because of these high property taxes, taking their wealth and diversity to neighboring suburbs with a lower tax rate.</p>
<p>Montgomery needs more business or industry to add to our tax base to help lower the resident's taxes. We love it in Montgomery, but being retired and on a fixed income, even with our house paid off, it will be the taxes that will chase us from this community. That same opinion has been expressed by some of our neighbors who are either retired or plan on retirement in the next 10 years.</p>
<p>Montgomery needs to control spending. With income tax, special property tax for city and sycamore school system levy(s) taxes and spending continue to rise.</p>
<p>Montgomery Quarter impact on old Montgomery.</p>
<p>montgomery road business district blight</p>
<p>Montgomery Road traffic</p>
<p>Montgomery surely needs a community center like Blue Ash does. Also, Montgomery needs to think about diversity especially in the downtown area. have faced discrimination in one of the pubs in downtown and don't even go there now. All the other places were ok except for this one.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

More local will be coming & going with more expenses as they pass through
More medium scale restaurants.
more things for senior residents to do in the area including restaurants and activities
Moving away from a pure economic development model to a more "green", and sustainable approach that will the city and planet offset future environmental issues. This may involve (1) buying up any remaining undeveloped areas for use for parks or nature preserves, (2) Re-designing some parks which have large underutilized athletic fields into more natural areas, and (3) ensuring that new developments incorporate green areas to help offset the negative impact. Less development may mean less tax dollars so they may want to set up a special fund or an added tax to help pay for it.
My family moved to Montgomery in November of 2020. We are really enjoying it so far! I think the only thing at this point I can think of is more choices of places for every day families (shops and bars/restaurants).
My impression is that the school system focuses too much financial resources on school buildings which only contribute approx. 20% to a students learning experience and too little focus on the educational delivery system which contributes approx. 80% to a students learning experience.
My wife and I are recent residents of Montgomery. The main reason we picked Montgomery because it was in the Sycamore School District. Overall we are very pleased. For us, the biggest issue would be the continued excellence of the school district.
n/a
Need for housing, but lack of space to develop
Need for more small business shops downtown, especially restaurants, coffee shops, cafes, boutiques.
New buildings the City of Montgomery that contribute to the aesthetic. We don't want Montgomery to look like strip malls in Mason. The new development by Ronald Regan Highway needs to look nice with the traditional Montgomery architecture and have good retail and dining options. Also, Montgomery needs some kind of rec center. We pay a lot in taxes, why don't we have a center like Blue Ash or other small towns? Montgomery lacks some of the amenities like leaf pick up, better recycling, etc.
New Business
New business in montgomery
New construction both homes and businesses
New construction of single family homes. Loss of trees, increase in need for drainage due to increased run-off throughout our neighborhoods.
New construction. The land is being ruined.
New construction: Have respect for the older homes and older neighborhoods. The large homes often do not blend with the neighborhoods. Hold the builders accountable for maintaining the empty lots. Keep green space.
No new taxes. Montgomery city has very adequate income and should not call upon the residents to fund any major projects. A revised property tax every 2 years, two school levy's, (which is 50% of our property tax) and the fireman's levy all raising taxes that some should have been the Montgomery city's responsibility.
No response.
No sidewalks in Jones Farm neighborhood. Cars drive too fast through some neighborhoods creating a risk to kids playing
None
None

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Not allowing tear downs and rebuilding with homes that don't fit the neighborhood!!!
Not driving residents out with increasing property taxes
Not enough walkable restaurants and shops to few quaint
NOT RAISING PROPERTY TAXES
Not raising taxes.
Not sure
not sure
Not sure at this moment.
Not sure.
Offering more (better) commercial development areas. Many of the current properties are dated, poorly situated and designed.
open spaces, leaf collection
operating within the budget
out of control property taxes
Out pricing the first time homebuyers. Teardowns.
Outdoor space for dining and relaxing
Outrageous property taxes forcing out older/aging long-term residents
Over aggressive expansion changing the character of Montgomery.
Over crowding due to all the condos being currently built in downtown Montgomery. This will add to traffic flow (traffic circle) and congestion. Personally, I now avoid downtown area as much as possible. Traffic flow on Pfeiffer Rd is also very crowded and hearing rumors of another traffic circle/roundabout. The tear down of perfectly good homes being replaced with mansions and the heavy trucks coming in and making our streets crumble and all that is done is black top poured into the cracks every few years, streets are not even being resurfaced in my neighborhood and we have to put up with mud, porta potties, workman yelling and ongoing messiness. Does not make life in Montgomery enjoyable.
Over crowding, Too much commercialization, Lack of services for seniors
Over development / loss of green space
Over development of green spaces Retaining good business
Over development of housings apartments,losing its small town feelings.
Over development. Issues are the roundabout at Ronald Reagan highway (should not have been done); Gateway development (too close to Montgomery Road, if you want to downsize, you cannot do it in Montgomery.
over population leading to inadequate road size
over taxation
Over the next 5 years, the most important issue facing the City of Montgomery is the responsible use of tax payers funds.
Overbuilding of very expensive homes.
Overbuilding. What makes Montgomery unique is it's park like setting. The new construction has no respect for the trees and vegetation that exist on the properties. They simply tear it all down. Pretty soon the park like neighborhoods will be treeless.
Overbuilding: Elimination of green space; Heavier traffic, especially on Montgomery Rd.
Overcrowded roads due to the Cross County Highway Gateway Project which many are upset with. Possibly drunk driving if bars are located in the new project.
Overcrowding due to all of the proposed construction projects.
overcrowding of the schools

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Overdevelopment and loss/shrinking of green space in the form of shrinking yard size and development of previously green areas.
Overextension of growth, both commercial and residential.
Overpriced housing market, tear-downs and extreme development of grandiose homes.
parking and traffic in Downtown
Pedestrian and bicycle safety. Increased traffic. More walkers and cyclists. An emphasis on pedestrian safety, and cycle lanes will raise the overall quality of our city.
Pedestrian walkways and bike paths.
Perhaps budget/money
Planning - once the big project at Cross County is finished how will the City plan to keep residents in them?
planning appropriately for business, restaurants and families- driving down Montgomery Road- banks, car lots, more banks, hair salons, more banks lack of interesting restaurants, family friendly business, empty store fronts
Planning for zoning/building expansion / economic growth. I continue to see new construction, especially along Montgomery Rd. I would like to know more about how exactly that land is decided to be zoned, for what purposes, to what ends, by whom.
Planning new development
planning that allows housing possibilities for a wider range of incomes
Plans for the Montgomery Quarter will be impacted by the Coronavirus that originated in China. Hotels, Meeting Event Centers, Office Space, Restaurants and Retail will all be impacted for a long time because our government policies to try to control the spread of a virus. Plans will likely change just like they did at Vintage Walk when the recession hit. More residential and less business development.
Police and fire protection
Police dept is over sized for community...not friendly. Need new personalities.
Population growing VERY OLD
Population, it's too crowded.
Preserving historic value, maintaining parks & green space. Maintaining infrastructure.
Prioritizing character and the needs of residents over development
Probably better to have a multiple choice with an option for other for this question.
Promoting small businesses.
Properly managing the growth of the downtown area.
Property and Income Tax burden
Property Maintenance. There is very little done to existing homes and nothing when builders do teardowns. People should be held responsible to maintain property. When we bring up issues, very little gets done. Example. Cars/trucks with flat tires that never move. Appliances left outside. Weeds and overgrown landscaping. How about a committee to drive around the city and note issues? We see issues everyday driving and walking through neighborhoods.
property tax
Property Tax going up
Property tax increases
Property taxes
property taxes
Property taxes

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Property taxes are incredibly high, making housing unaffordable for all but the upper middle class. Of course this means the population will likely have little diversity, which may be desirable for some, but not me.
Property Taxes out of control
property taxes rising too quickly, pension costs for city workers too high
Property taxes skyrocketing will force seniors to move out - as housing becomes unaffordable.
Property taxes too high for low to mid earners and retirees in the community
Property taxes! We have considered moving to Warren County. But we do like it here and hope that taxes don't force our hand.
Property taxes. Residents move here (many for the school district) and upgrade their homes. Taxes are so high, after their children graduate, or before, they move out because the taxes are too high. Unless you moved here years ago and have an old home without any upgrades, you could never afford to live here in retirement. That sort of mentality is not good for a sense of community. It is short sighted. The county of Hamilton is included in this. Those who are property owners bare the burden. I typically vote for many of the issues that support taxes (schools, library etc...) but when the entire population votes for a group of property owners to pay for everything, it does not make sense. Increasing the sales tax to spread the income would make better sense.
Property taxes. I is difficult to see elderly neighbors complain online that property taxes are forcing them to leave. Can't we have a city income tax instead of property taxes so that elderly who have stopped earning a salary don't get priced out? Then again, there are some early retired people and they can afford to pay. I can see that this is difficult to juggle.
Property value/affordable housing. Given the current real estate market and trends it seems like there is not much affordable housing in Montgomery.
Property Values have not gone up over last 14 years & Property Taxes are very high (percentage of value of home is too high). We bought our home about 15 years ago & it has depreciated, while we have been paying extraordinarily high taxes. The ridiculous taxes prevent people from buying in Montgomery (Blue Ash shares schools, offers more amenities & has lower taxes; Indian Hill taxes are much lower, etc).
Protect existing neighborhood from excessive development
Provide a downtown district that you can walk to and have clear areas for cars, bikes and people. The new development is excellent, but the ability for walking traffic and cars to interact without the fear of danger is paramount to the success. Encourage living spaces "within walking distance to downtown". Montgomery is not a place where "young professionals" locate. Offering a mix of housing young professionals is important.
Provide citizens with an environment that provides health care, housing, and pleasant, a range of supporting services that encourages diversity.
Providing affordable, practical life style housing for seniors and older adults who want to stay in Montgomery but downsize to one floor living options. We have been a mainstay in this community for years but as we age in place, it is harder and harder to remain in our homes. (i.e., basement, main floor, bedrooms upstairs) Hoping Montgomery will figure out a way to provide practical, affordable housing for people who have been here for decades. Otherwise, you will lose this segment of the population.
Providing services that match the status of our community. Neighboring communities have services such as a Recreation Center, cutting edge parks (like Summit park), or a Curbside bulk leaf collection service (not requiring bagging). Montgomery has not kept pace with those nearby communities.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Providing substantial value for high tax dollars. Montgomery is a very expensive city to live in when there are comparable communities, costing far less, around the corner. Many established families and retirees are moving out of Montgomery due to untenable tax base.
Real Estate taxes- technically Sycamore, not City of Montgomery, but the taxes are VERY high. Mine are over \$10,000!
Really stupid traffic problems as a result of the development at the circle. Traffic already goes from 4 lanes to 2 lanes to 4 lanes and back to 2 lanes from the circle to Pfeiffer. Main street and Montgomery should have been made one way long before the circle development. By the time you finish the circle development, you are likely to have so much traffic downtown that the shops are going to go begging.
recovering from business losses due to Covid...lost restaurants, retail spots
Redevelopment (particularly of the area surrounding the new roundabout downtown)
Reduce property tax. Our property tax has incredibly increased over 40% in last two years. This is ridiculous. Now living in Montgomery is even more expensive than living in the surrounding towns, such as Blue Ash, although we are in the same school district. We are considering to leave Montgomery. The city does not have good service as compared with Blue Ash while collecting more from its residents.
Reduce the number of teardowns.
REDUCING THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF THE CITY AND ITS RESIDENTS
Reducing the growing tax burden on residents. With the recent levies (Sycamore, Fire) our taxes skyrocketed - even our mortgage lender commented! We need more corporations to offset this.
Reducing the population of coyotes.
Reinvigorating downtown
Remaining relevant and attracting families to the area while also keeping the price of housing accessible for the middle class
Renovations and upkeep of Sycamore Schools
Renovations to Sycamore schools, revitalizing stores and small business in downtown Montgomery post-COVID
Replacing the current leaf collection program with a leaf vacuuming service.
Residential new construction. As the older generations move away from the city, older homes are becoming more available, and with the limitation of available open lots these homes will subsequently be torn down and new builds erected on the property. I think it is important that we as a community maintain our integrity and charm of the City of Montgomery.
Responsibly managing new development and population growth.
Restaurant and retail development. There are many businesses real estate and auto which are not necessarily active and engaging to the community.
Retail and restaurant space going unused and remaining empty. The restaurant Delicio's vacated a property years ago and was never refilled. Now there is a lot more construction right across the street that will need to be filled or will remain empty.
Retail crash. Too many things like Montgomery Quarter going up and the increase of traffic in short term and empty storefronts.
Retail sustainability I'm hopeful the new development near Ronald Reagan highway is successful. I'm also concerned about increased traffic
Retaining businesses that are in the retail and food industry
Return of local businesses and return of residents to indoor/outdoor activities
Revitalization of downtown. There seems to be a growing number of vacant storefronts, which was happening before COVID919.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>Revitalizing the numerous closed businesses in Montgomery. There are way too many "available" signs on our streets. No one seems to be recruiting and supporting businesses to take over these spots. Instead funds are being allocated for new construction and "beautification" that doesn't impact the financial stability, the vitality and the continuum of Montgomery being a village. Banks, salons and car dealerships do not make for a hometown feel. Create initiatives for independent owners, create a mentorship for those wanting to strike out on their own. Develop a master plan for businesses to thrive in our town.</p>
<p>Rise in property taxes that seem to have no end. This is particularly a hardship for those of us that are retired but don't want to leave the city.</p>
<p>Rising cost of living the the community. You are forcing many people out of the community. One of the worst things that has happened is a FAITH based senior community. It's wrong on so many levels. That was a political move to make an employee happy. Bad policy. Now you want to bring individuals from outside the community to sit on Council. Even Cincinnati doesn't do that. If you want qualified people to sit on Council put it in the multiple publications you send out every month. So the most important issue you face is proper leadership to make intelligent decisions.</p>
<p>Rising local taxes</p>
<p>Rising property taxes</p>
<p>rising property taxes</p>
<p>Rising property taxes for Seniors, living here for years and being priced out of their homes.</p>
<p>Rising property taxes forcing older residents from their homes</p>
<p>Rising property taxes!</p>
<p>Rising property values (affordable housing), increasing taxes/levies, and inflation. Our experience has been this the last 6+ years we've lived in Montgomery. Everyday things are becoming more expensive across the board, new taxes levied while property values have increased. For a family trying to grow their family, and incomes not matching the pace of household expenses, we feel the squeeze at times and witness others as well. I believe this impacts the city too as continuing to attract a diverse population is important, not just those with higher income.</p>
<p>Rising property values, pricing young families out of the market.</p>
<p>Rising property values, while beneficial for current homeowners, will make it harder and harder for young families to afford to live in Montgomery. I fear there will be even more cases of older homes being bought up, razed, and rebuilt as significantly more expensive properties that both don't fit with their surrounding neighborhoods and price more people out of the market of being able to live here.</p>
<p>Rising taxes</p>
<p>Rising taxes pricing people out of the community. We have no desire to become Indian Hill.</p>
<p>Road repair</p>
<p>Road repairs and small businesses survival</p>
<p>Road, sidewalk and park maintenance</p>
<p>Safety</p>
<p>Safety and property values</p>
<p>Safety in the new roundabout, also filling the empty office space , retail stores with good and dependable vendors.Taking care of our parks, and roads. Taking care of our seniors with community offerings of classes and volunteer efforts.</p>
<p>safety of all residents</p>
<p>Safety of homeowners. Traffic issues with upcoming new circle and how it might affect local business</p>
<p>Safety, neighborhoods surrounding Montgomery have had increased break in and violence.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Safety, police and fire
School safety and support for mental health for students
School Taxes
Schooling that is directed towards those who have trouble with traditional teaching methods--we need more hands-on, interest-based learning for those kids who would thrive in that type of environment. Also--more affordable single family housing.
Schools and the Community
schools, streets, parks, community pool & other infrastructure construction/maintenance
Significant increase in population and new residential/commercial construction, which will make existing infrastructure insufficient.
Since moving here we have watched family friendly restaurants, mid range sports bars get gobbled up by car dealerships. Even without approving any more expansion of car dealerships the core of the town is half car dealerships. Have to go to Blue Ash to find a mid range restaurant. With the Gateway project, your great challenge will be filling out the tenants with viable businesses. We think in five years, regardless of who you put in there, most will not survive. The city must be prepared to aggressively keep that area 80% leased. Or it will just become a new Market Place of Montgomery.
Sincere listening to all resident's concerns even if they are not in the mainstream median group of most Montgomery residents. EX: Montgomery pedestrians esp. in winter: safety and continued access to roads. (Proposed Pfeiffer Rd. Rotary).
Skyrocketing property taxes.
Small business closures
Small business vacancies in downtown Montgomery shopping district.
Small house teardowns to build bigger houses
Smart Growth & Development: Maintaining businesses post pandemic, completion of existing and planned projects (e.g Gateway Development) and potential resulting issues (e.g. traffic).
Speeding in residential area
Stay small. Avoid big city traffic. The charm of Montgomery is its small but elegant character.
Staying relevant is the biggest issue. Not sure what attracts people to Montgomery right now since there really isn't any downtown interests. Montgomery is walkable but nothing to walk to unless you're interested in buying jewelry, cars, or visiting an ever growing hospital and overpriced senior living center. Montgomery needs diversity when it comes to its business district....and I don't mean it needs ethnic or women owners.....it needs businesses that will draw people to the area and draw people to walk there as well.....ie Franklin, TN Montgomery has overpriced housing and not much more. The parks are the one positive thing. So when I say it needs to stay relevant I mean it's losing any charm it once had and I don't see it ever coming back.
Stop building McMansions after tearing down perfectly good small homes. Reel in the permits given to developers.
Stop tearing down all of the trees and woods in Montgomery. They are destroying nature without replacement and displacing many animals.
Stopping levy after levy...it's too much. Use taxes.
Stopping tear down houses
Storm water management... the storm water from the roadside directly travels to the neighboring households & then drops to the lowest ground, without any drainage pipes... the houses on the lowest ground get flooded more often, thus creating trouble in their backyard throughout the year & their basement being flooded... this will be issues the city will have to be responsible rather than making citizens being responsible.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Sub par utilities, eg slow internet, power outages are frequent.
Success of the Gateway Redevelopment Area. If not successful the city has spent lot of money for nothing. I'm not sure the roundabout will help traffic (at least for us living closest to the roundabout) and I don't know of any business have signed up for proper in the Montgomery Quarter. Hopefully "if you build it they will come".
Success of the Montgomery Quarter. The most crucial aspect is whether Montgomery can attract businesses to use the EXTENSIVE office space we're creating, as this is core to the vibrancy and tax revenue for the project. If all goes well, this is a breakthrough addition to Montgomery. Second is the success of the housing (apartments and condos) as this also is key to delivering on Montgomery's strategic plan. Third is traffic management, as we can expect a LOT of complaints at first on the roundabout, which with good education and a few months will turn into accolades.
Support and maintenance of diversity in the community (resident and businesses)
Supporting retailing commercial development within city limits.
Supporting small, local businesses.
sustainable small businesses- keeping a variety of small businesses in the area
Sustaining business community/tax base.
Sycamore Schools loss of prestige
taaxes and cost of housing
tax burden on homeowners
Tax burden on residents (Sycamore School levies are killing is us and the 1% income tax on top of that is a lot).
Tax Concerns/Hikes - This may be an issue for young buyers. Give tax incentives to move into city.
tax issues, particularly as they may relate to school funding changes from the state.
Tax rates and school levies.
Taxation: 1% on top of a high OH state income tax is driving high earners away
Taxes
Taxes
Taxes
Taxes
Taxes - specifically property tax escalation. I love the amenities Montgomery has to offer, but we need strong fiscal oversight to ensure our property taxes don't experience continued inflation.
Taxes Volume and speed of traffic on residential streets such as Cooper and Mitchell Farm
Taxes - Where are tax dollars spent and what takes priority? Education, Infrastructure, Retail/Business Development. School systems specifically come to mind are we putting money in the right places towards teachers payroll and technology instead of focusing on the AP level kids and driving their success or focusing on all students?
Taxes and too many car dealerships on Montgomery road.
Taxes are extremely high.
Taxes are getting too high to allow existing, older residents to stay in the City.
taxes are too high
Taxes are too high in this city. The most important issue is for the city to rein in it's spending and to actually reduce property taxes.
Taxes are too high!
Taxes increasing to the point that older, long time residents on fixed incomes can no longer afford to live in Montgomery.
Taxes too high due to the school system
Taxes too high. I see little in return for the amount I'm taxed

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Taxes too high; every time we vote, Sycamore asks for more money; they need to manage a budget better. Have some concerns about the roundabouts and how much they will actually reduce accidents; how will the home values be impacted.
Taxes. My real estate taxes to live here, while retired and on a fixed income, have increased from \$4,036 in 2014 to \$8,232 in 2020, a doubling in just 7 years!
Taxes. I'm retired and the income is somewhat fixed making it increasingly more difficult to manage the taxes on the home. This is likely more of an issue with the schools. As good as they are living in the community has become quite expensive.
Taxes/home costs; it's increasingly cost-prohibitive for young families to afford a home in Montgomery.
tear down houses/construction
Tear down properties impacting aesthetics and property value.
Tear downs of perfectly good homes to build huge mansions.
Tear downs with compliance & road repairs
teardown into mini mansions. good to have a mix of income and affordable houses
Teardowns
The ability of both the Police and Fire departments to maintain or increase the level of service given the limited size of the departments.
The ability to attract and retain successful businesses in the Montgomery Quarter, and to make it a successful destination for shopping and dining while not cannibalising the Heritage district or other businesses (e.g. Stone Creek) in Montgomery.
The Aging of the Community, especially with all the Assisted Living places being built
The amount of City taxes that are going to drive people away from the city as well as no Recreation center like in Blue Ash.
The businesses moving into the space near the roundabout. The specific businesses going into that area have the potential of changing the dynamic of Montgomery. For example, chain restaurants/stores versus independently owned businesses could turn Montgomery into the next Kenwood. It could increase traffic and could change the city's vibe. I want a feel of independent stores, unique restaurants, bars, and activities. I don't want an olive garden or a starbucks.
The car dealerships along Montgomery Road. Now that Steak and Shake is gone it is very unsightly seeing cars parked in the empty parking lot.
The changing complexion of neighborhoods as older homes are demolished and replaced with newer larger homes.
The City Council doing what the residents want. I don't feel that they represent sensible decisions. Why are we building a giant gateway when we have so many empty businesses. Perfect example of council deciding they know best...for years and years....An overwhelming 85% of residents want a leaf vacuum, but the city has consistently refused to do it. Extensive effort has been put into showing that its more cost effective than the current money spent on Rumpke AND residents want it AND over 26 nearby communities have it. It doesn't even matter what the reason is that the city has refused to implement it...the residents want it.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>The city has clearly shown it's interest in economic development. I feel that the city needs to also give some serious consideration to economic and age diversity. The city is quite proud of it's efforts with racial diversity, as well it should be. I think that the city may be paying less attention to including all levels of incomes and ages. Specifically, there is rarely a neighborhood in the city where small, more affordable homes are being torn down and replaced by much higher end homes. Often these smaller homes are being bought by developers without ever being put up for sale. These smaller homes could be used by lower income buyers if they were given a chance. Most of these homes are also being vacated by older folks. Younger seniors may also like an opportunity to purchase these smaller homes. It would be easy for the children of Montgomery to think that all old folks in the city belong in Twin Lakes. I'm aware the this is probably not even a concern for the city at this time, but I think this is an issue worth talking about.</p>
<p>The city is turning into an automall. People want to walk to restaurants and entertainment. It's a quality of life issue</p>
<p>The city needs to be more concerned with economic diversity! There should be a commitment to provide for the development of affordable housing for both young families and senior citizens. We are becoming more ethnically diverse, but not economically so. This could be an area which the diversity committee could become involved in, working with developers to provide AFFORDABLE housing for both young families and senior citizens. Twin Lakes is not affordable senior citizen housing!!</p>
<p>the constant change of our housing and commercial development</p>
<p>The construction of the roundabout and and the resulting surge in traffic.</p>
<p>The continued development of the Montgomery Quarter & downtown Montgomery. I'm 39 and feel like there isn't much that excites me about downtown. Is it charming? Yes!! But it is not a destination for most my age.</p>
<p>The continued increase in property taxes. Taxes on our home have nearly doubled in the past 5 years. Becomes cost prohibitive when taxes increase and salaries don't, particularly challenging for retirees.</p>
<p>The continuing reduction of affordable housing. Tear downs replace a smaller ranch style homes (seniors love these) with large homes with several kids. The additional taxes do not offset the cost of education. Need to create a tax abatement opportunity to upgrade these homes affordably.</p>
<p>the current change of Montgomery to much more expensive homes is getting away from the what Montgomery stood for in the past - some where that you moved to raise children and where you stayed into your retirement years because of the homey feel. Now seems to want to be a Blue Ash follower - really sad.</p>
<p>The current city council focused more on businesses and nursing homes instead of the residents. The ever increasing tax rate is of great alarm.</p>
<p>The danger of imposing a liberal, anti-American, anti-conservative, and anti-Christian agenda in the Sycamore School district. If you poison the children, you poison the community.</p>
<p>The development of Montgomery Quarter. Making a family friendly and business successful area</p>
<p>The development on Montgomery Rd. and the turnabout is an important issue. Managing the traffic and construction is important to life in Montgomery.</p>
<p>The divisiveness of this country, both politically and socially.</p>
<p>the enjoyability of downtown Montgomery for families</p>
<p>The fact people need more then one generation to live together in household. The fact Montgomery does not allow small additional houses built on person land. Many of the older house have large lots but the City of Montgomery will not allow in- law suite built but a person can build large garages.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

The fact that property taxes continue to rise.
The funding of the overall city budget as state funds continue to shrink This puts the city in a bind - forcing property taxes to be raised like the fire service levy This also promotes the insidious encroachment of tear downs - reducing relatively affordable housing so that Montgomery is losing its middle class character
The health and vibrancy of the heritage district. There are many storefronts empty that have had for rent signs in the window for months. Some older stores are moving out due to retirement, and the corner by Napa kitchen is also up for rent. Is there anything that the City can do to revitalize this area?
The increase in real estate taxes
The influx of pretentious assholes. The community has went from a bedroom community where you know your neighbors to one where you are marginalized if you don't live a new construction or drive a luxury car. This is why I am moving OUT of Montgomery. They don't call it "Keeping Up with Jones Farm" neighborhood for nothing. Furthermore, we pay these taxes, a significant portion of which go to Sycamore Community Schools for zero, ZERO community center and an underwhelming pool. A former municipal garage turned Jazzercise studio is ridiculous. Good thing Blue Ash has it together.
The knocking down of current houses and building of much larger ones. Makes the nieghborhoods look weird and also causes lot of flooding as the new houses are built higher. Also many other problems as million dollar homes replace the 350-450 homes.
The mess at the new Round-About construction along with the heavy traffic at the new development site at the Ford/Chevy site. And this "DORA" signage all around the UC Med Office Bldg site. Is the lot going to be used for gatherings to drink and party? Have NEVER READ ANYTHING or NOTICE these signs were going up!
The misspending of money for unnecessary projects. For example, the City of Montgomery is about to replace four-way stop intersection at Pfeiffer and Deerfield Roads with a roundabout. The city plucked some accident figures from a hand-picked period of time, along with pollution numbers to try to justify this folly. I have lived here 41 years nd have entered that intersection thousands of times. I have never seen an accident of the remnants of one during that time. As for pollution, I say the City of Montgomery should wait until China, India, and our Pollution Czar in his Gulfstream jet should do their parts to curb pollution before falling into line. I BACKTRACKED SINCE THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE TO SUBMIT AN OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE. I HAVE A SON WHO LIVED IN MASON BEFORE RECENTLY MOVING BACK WITH ME. IN 2020, TO HELP STIMULATE ITS LOCAL ECONOMY, THE CITY OF MASON, FROM ITS GENERAL FUND, SENT EVERY HOUSEHOLD A 50-DOLLAR GIFT CARD REDEEMBLE AT SMALL BUSINESSES, MOSTLY RESTAURANTS. GUESS WHAT? THE CITY OF MASON DID IT A SECOND TIME! WHAT'S MORE, THE CITY OF MASON ALSO PAID THE WATER AND SEWER BILL FOR EVERY HOUSEHOLD FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2020. IN ALL THE YEARS I HAVE LIVED HERE, THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, BEYOND PROVIDING BASIC SERVICES, HAS NEVER DONE ANYTHING TO DIRECTLY BENEFIT ME. THE CITY FATHERS AND MOTHERS SEEM TO BE WRAPPED UP IN THEIR OWN HOITY-TOITYNESS
The Montgomery property tax has been increased rapidly since five years ago.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>The Montgomery Quarter and the Heritage District. Will the new development take away all retail/restaurants from the Heritage District? Will the Montgomery Quarter be so expensive stores and restaurants cannot afford to do business there? Will the look and feel of the new development clash with the rest of Montgomery? How will the traffic be in that area? Will this cause additional traffic on Montgomery Road? How will the Montgomery Farmers' Market fit in this new development? There are lots of unanswered questions that worry citizens of Montgomery.</p>
<p>The Montgomery Quarter to meet the needs of all Montgomery Citizens. My wife and I are in our early 40s and have 4 young kids. We would like to see restaurants and shops more geared towards young families. Restaurants that are more affordable for a family of 6, we have to leave Montgomery to go out to eat. Restaurants that are trending now, casual food with breweries mixed in.</p>
<p>The most important issue for our family is safety. Montgomery already feels very safe (from violent crimes, property crimes, hate crimes, road accidents, etc.), and we hope that there is a continued focus on safety moving forward.</p>
<p>The most important issue is the harm being done by the Diversity & Inclusion Committee. This committee is making matters WORSE than better, and if it continues, will no doubt keep good people AWAY from Montgomery, or like us, seriously consider moving away after living here happily for over 50 years. This is a liberal initiative that is a waste of money that can be used for something useful, and it's making the city and beautiful neighborhoods ugly with the colored-hands sign, which has now generated the need for too many residents to post other "preachy" signs. Yard signs were essentially non-existent prior to this committee. It should be noted that during the last election I counted 26 rainbow signs at homes also posting for liberal candidates, while there were only 2 rainbow signs at homes supporting conservative candidates. On our cul-de-sac, we have a Hindu, a conservative Jew, a liberal Jew, an unidentified family, and we are Roman Catholic. We all get along fine, have mutual respect for each other and our needs, even though we all have our own religious and political views. None of us post rainbow signs to get along. I would like this committee to disband immediately, stop promoting debris on front lawns, and just go about being a good neighbor. We don't need liberal agendas, that have never improved matters, constantly pounded down our throat. I vote that ALL signs be outlawed in our community and allow our priests, deacons, rabbis, and other moral leaders to do their job.</p>
<p>The necessity of increasing taxes</p>
<p>The need to increase a more diverse economy that is friendly family. There's a large footprint of car dealerships and retirement community, but not as many family friendly places to draw families to downtown. Also I can't help but mention the increase of taxes which are already very high.</p>
<p>the new complex going up at Montgomery road and Ronald Reagan Hwy</p>
<p>The outpaced property tax increase limiting affordability of residential living coupled with the decline of business operations and decline in school efficiencies within the city.</p>
<p>The property taxes are much too high with respect to the level of city services Montgomery provides. We keep adding more homes, but these do not generate significant tax revenue. The city council does not have a long term development plan that will bring more business tax revenues and lessen the burden on residents.</p>
<p>the property taxes are too high and keep increasing every year, most of this money goes to the school district</p>
<p>The property taxes have been skyrocketing. It makes us wonder whether we will stay here. Particularly as we are retired and have long not had children in public school.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>The quality of our life after work is very important to everyone, like enjoying side walking, or walking trails The neighborhood of Hightower Ct where we stay around there is no sidewalks at all since we move into city of Montgomery for last 10 year. This cause very unsafe issue walking around our neighborhood, specially for the children; we have to drive to the parks which is very inconvenience for our neighbors residents; I am aware that there were built in side walks along East Kemper Road a fewer years ago, but it was stopped on the Hightower Ct. thank you and appreciate the opportunity to allow us to express our thoughts Linda Zhou</p>
<p>The removal of all of the green space all the commercial buildings. We are losing our charm as a city.</p>
<p>The replacement of smaller and popular businesses by the expansion of car dealerships along the main strip in Montgomery. I sincerely hope we don't lose other eating and shopping opportunities as these expansions continue. In addition Twin Lakes Retirement Community has also expanded and taken over much land along Montgomery Road. These changes are not desirable for those who are long time residents of Montgomery and miss the businesses that have been displaced. And even in the face of this business tax base the taxes for residents continues to rise. There is also concern that laws now being pursued to build low cost housing in areas outside the city limits will affect current property values and quality of life if this happens. Montgomery is still one of the nicest suburbs in the Cincinnati area. Thanks for the opportunity for expressing concerns.</p>
<p>The rising housing prices. The high price of housing to accommodate young families who are interested in moving to Montgomery.</p>
<p>The rising number of million dollar houses and the impact they have on the rest of the neighborhood.</p>
<p>The rising taxes and combined with rising rent forcing many current residents out. Although this could provide for an expanded upper class neighborhood, those who would be on a fixed income or retiring will need to relocate to sustain their livelihood. Additionally, the businesses in the downtown area will not be sustainable due to tax increases.</p>
<p>The risk of the local tax burden (including property tax) being too great for many of our citizens to afford.</p>
<p>The round about planned for Pfeiffer and Deerfield Roads. Not needed.</p>
<p>The roundabout and corridor in Downtown Montgomery and with it the extra traffic as well as attracting and keeping businesses there. In addition, the new addition of new buildings and facilities for Sycamore Schools driving more families to the district which in turn has more people looking for housing and wanting facilities (recreational, etc).</p>
<p>The roundabout that is being constructed on Pfeiffer Rd and Deerfield. I am very concerned about the safety of the pedestrians--walkers, runners, bikers, parents with strollers, etc.</p>
<p>The service provided to the households such as neighbor security surveillance by police, parks, road maintenance, snow remove, and community activities.</p>
<p>The single biggest issue we will face as a community is affordable housing. We want and need young families with children to move into our community, as we have committed to a substantial investment to improve our schools. However, the knockdown epidemic results in houses that only few can afford. We could not afford buy in Montgomery if we were looking today. A second part of that affordable housing piece is traffic. Given all the new development -- not priced in affordable housing range -- in Indian Hill, the traffic on Montgomery Road is going to get worse. We will begin to see a greater increase in the number of people cutting through the neighborhoods to avoid that traffic.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>The single most important issue facing Montgomery is being subordinate to undemocratic and masfeasant information and forces at the Ohio and Federal levels. This impacts our community's quality of life through climate change, pollution, health care, social and economic equity, education, and the City of Montgomery's options to support the services it provides. The city needs state and federal partners that share a lasting and coherent vision and direction. As a society we are struggling to form a lasting and coherent vision and direction. Perhaps the city needs to plan how to function through various scenarios of these disruptive forces. How do we enable meaningful education and information for children and adults to understand what reality might actually be?</p>
<p>The single most important issue facing Montgomery during the next five years is that the Montgomery Road corridor, between Schoolhouse Lane and Ronald Reagan Highway, continues to be, and becomes even more so, of a thriving, vibrant corridor full of destinations that draw people. We must be wary that the launch of the awesome Montgomery Quarter at Reagan Highway doesn't suck the life out of the historic district and the commercial district to the north up to Schoolhouse. Examples of what I mean: - Positive examples: Businesses that draw me and others to the area: e.g. MPH, the new bakery, Napa, Stone Creek, Walker's Ice Cream, Bones Burgers, and so forth. - Negative examples: The loss of businesses that drew me and others to the area: e.g.the loss of European Cafe and the loss of Starbucks and the loss of Delicio Pizza. And let's also avoid adding any further medical buildings to this area, like the faceless, nameless red brick buildings that are across the street from Montgomery Quarter. Ideally this corridor would feature more small businesses and fewer national franchises. Thanks for asking my opinion!</p>
<p>The success of the new downtown area -- how lively it will be and the success of the businesses</p>
<p>The tension between the gentrification of various neighborhoods and the differences such create with other less affluent neighborhoods/residents. While Montgomery has a history of being rather White, it used to support a significantly greater degree of economic diversity among its residents. This is disappearing and a bifurcation between the haves and have nots is taking its place.</p>
<p>The top three are the financial stability due to the risk generated by the Montgomery Quarter project, the declining appearance of our city and a lack of transparent leadership.</p>
<p>The traffic , particularly on Montgomery Road during rush hour.</p>
<p>The traffic congestion created by the round about</p>
<p>The transition from a "homestead" community to a community that will draw in more outside traffic due to the roundabout/expansion projects. As example, traffic control -more visitors more violations. I see it today with all the home construction projects - more traffic on roads like Zig Zag with little to no enforcement. As another example of "managing the transition" - how will the community help enable business to come and stay. That has been a challenge for the community to date.</p>
<p>The unknown return to work of Montgomery's top employers and what impact this will have on the financial help of the City. In addition - the unknown outcome of the State of Ohio legislation related to income tax collection.</p>
<p>There are 4 persistent issues: - keeping residents safe - encouraging growth - developing and maintaining infrastructure - serving the population while keeping our taxes as low as possible</p>
<p>There seems to be a lot of excess spending in Montgomery, which relates to the fact that taxes are too high. As an example, the flower changes throughout the year at many places in the city are a waste of money. The flowers require watering, which requires a crew of trucks and personnel to complete that watering.</p>
<p>They keep building buildings but there are so many empty buildings already.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

This is what had happened in recent years and needs to be addressed - Property Taxes have increased due to increasing School and City of Montgomery Levy's i.e. Fire/Medical passed in off voting elections are becoming a major issue in the city of Montgomery and placing too much burden on the residents financially.
Thriving downtown
To be honest, it's hard to think of anything that's in dire need of attention. Having said that, I'd say general improvements to infrastructure may be an area to look at. Like burying utility lines, adding charging stations for electric cars, etc.
To continue the momentum we have started in creating quality development and businesses entering into our city and tax base.
To continue to provide current level of services with no added cost to citizens and no additional tax levies. Examples: waste pickup services, street and facility maintenance, police & fire.
To develop robust relationships and secure solid businesses to fill the vacant storefronts in the city so the residential taxes are mitigated and ordinary peoples can afford to live here
To much emphasis on "diversity"
To provide a differentiated, high value, safe and open community for its residents (and aspiring residents)...
Too many car dealerships - not paying these high taxes for Montgomery Rd. to look like Beechmont Ave etc. Taxes - very high, you are forcing out the elderly. I'm all for paying it forward with schools etc. but there is a limit.
Too many car dealerships on Montgomery Rd in City of Montgomery. Too high property taxes. Too many tax abatement given out. Too slow to fill vacant buildings, lots, and replace businesses.
Too many house tear downs and rebuilds
Too many tear downs and huge house replacements. Makes the community less livable for all types of people. It is becoming very exclusive.
Too much development that will result in increased traffic through the Historic Downtown area and north on Montgomery Road. The changes to the building codes that will result in detracting from the charm of downtown Montgomery. a Although, these changes will be very evident a lot sooner than in 5 years. The current council is destroying the charm of Montgomery
Too much development; traffic problems
Too much growth that seems to me to be destroying city trees and green space. Large homes on land that is 1/4 acre seems to be changing our landscape.
Too much large commercial growth.
Too much traffic
Too much traffic
Tough one. There are never enough human/economic resources to fill all of the diverse needs of a increasingly diverse group of residents. That is the single most important issue facing all levels of government. Sub-issues: As always, schools are critical, as that is an important reason younger families choose to live here. Better commuter access to highways and houses will be needed as people decide where to live. Green spaces. Sorry, I couldn't restrain my typing fingers without mentioning sub-issues.
traffic
traffic
traffic
Traffic
traffic
Traffic

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Traffic Parking; Increase in Garbage; Potential increase in crime
Traffic - Pfeffer; the new development at RR Highway and Montgomery Road; I-275 south to Bethesda North and north to Kemper.
TRAFFIC along the montgomery corridor. I'd like to see leaf pickup at the curb likely most of the communities around us provide for their residents.
traffic and community involvement, communication and coordination with the Sycamore Schools
Traffic and ease of getting around the city
Traffic and parking associated with new roundabout and retail. We need more local restaurants, retail. Concerned about tax raises.
Traffic caused by new mixed use development at the roundabout, and addition of Peterloon housing development on Schoolhouse Road extension.
Traffic congestion & control
Traffic congestion from commercial expansion
Traffic congestion in the downtown and central Montgomery on Montgomery road, with the expansion of the retirement center Twin lakes, Montgomery road should be 2 lanes all the way to 275
Traffic congestion in the downtown area during morning and evening rush hours
Traffic congestion on Montgomery Av.
Traffic congestion on Montgomery Road, given the new Gateway district. Also attracting independent retail to the downtown district.
Traffic Congestion: Montgomery Road in the downtown area is a prime example. Although many improvements have been made in the past, the road was initially built to handle a specific, daily traffic capacity, which was exceeded years ago. Economic growth in Montgomery and surrounding areas will continue to increase traffic volume as a function of time.
Traffic Control
Traffic control
Traffic control - the new of homes in Indian Hill/Peterloon properties and the expansion on Bethesda, the number of cars coming through our town will be increasing
Traffic control with new development
Traffic delays/congestion due to construction and speed limit
Traffic due to roundabout construction. Don't like roundabouts anyway, and am not looking forward to the traffic problems that will ensue due to their construction.
Traffic during rush hour times especially on East Kemper Rd at the intersections of Weller and Terwilliger.
Traffic flow
Traffic flow
traffic flow - the "islands" on Montgomery Rd create 2 lane traffic instead of the needed 4 lane
Traffic flow (car/walk/bike) - both as congestion (more roundabouts, please!), but also traffic flow into and out of businesses and downtown to make it easier to pop out in the car, by bike (safely) or on foot (more sidewalks and crossings).
Traffic flow and high consumer volume as the city continues to develop its retail / dining businesses. Managing specialty retail business development to account for niche product opportunities and economic diversity.
traffic flow as downtown expands, as well as Bethesda North and Twin Lakes are expanding

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Traffic flow through the city, especially the bottle necks when 2 lanes go to one. IE after Moeller and before hopewell. Need more training for snowplow drivers because they constantly dig up my yard with the plow blade. Too many car dealerships on Montgomery road, it looks tacky and hillbillyish . City wide internet WiFi for residents would be nice.
Traffic in the downtown area. The traffic gets backed up regularly, and the addition of new businesses and residences risk making it significantly worse.
Traffic issues - 2 new traffic circles plus the Indian Hill Subdivision on the extension of Schoolhouse Rd. The Indian Hill Meadows at Peterloon subdivision traffic will create a real issue at the Montgomery Rd /Schoolhouse intersection since that will be the only way in and out of that subdivision.
Traffic issues on Cooper and Montgomery Roads due to the coming developments.
Traffic jams especially at the south end of the village. Eliminating ranch homes and building 800,000 to a million dollar homes. Major hike in taxes is causing people to leave the area.
Traffic management on Montgomery Rd and particularly at the roundabout
Traffic management with new commercial properties being built. How do we stay a quaint town?
Traffic on Montgomery or Pfeiffer road
traffic on Montgomery rd
Traffic on Montgomery Road
Traffic on Montgomery Road when I-71 is slow.
Traffic on Montgomery road, specifically the development at the circle
Traffic patterns in neighborhoods (disagree with roundabout on Pfeiffer).
Traffic related to new development and how that will affect the success of the downtown businesses.
Traffic through the Montgomery Rd corridor from Ronald Reagan to Harpers Point. I'm very supportive of the new mixed use developments on both ends, but when completed if traffic becomes more problematic on Montgomery Road we will lose the true feel of Montgomery. Think about Colerain Avenue or Beechmont.
Traffic volume
Traffic! Especially along Pfeiffer headed east towards Deerfield and also along Montgomery road. A separate issue I believe is the possibility of pricing out new young families to be able to move into the city with all of the house teardowns. Feels like developers are taking over.
Traffic, and the need to make our city more accessible to pedestrians and bikes.
Traffic, continued high taxes
Traffic, downtown Montgomery updating, too many auto dealerships
Traffic, especially the roundabout, because of the amount of traffic that comes off of Ronald Reagan.
Traffic, is the most significant problem. Traffic lights specifically, they need to be timed for the residents, not for people using Montgomery road as a means to get through to other places. If traffic backs up on Montgomery road they will quit using it as a thruway. The other thing is the safety center, if they would change the exit for the fire and rescue to Montgomery road instead of Hopewell road it would be quieter for the neighborhood around the safety center. The noise from the sirens is terrible, for us living here. I'm sure there is a law saying they have to use their sirens as soon as they leave the fire house, but they've got a hundred yards before Hopewell road that they don't need to be using their sirens.
Traffic, near Ronald Reagan and along Pfeiffer
Traffic, parking and building at the new construction site

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

Traffic, parking and getting stores and restaurants to stay in the area. Why are \ Montgomery Road businesses always going out of business? Nothing can stay open at the corner of Montgomery and Cooper and there are many other vacancies. What to do about that terrible building that used to be a carpet store? All the old, outdated buildings with stores, such as where Bones Burgers is. That strip mall is terrible, as is the one with Montgomery Kroger. Montgomery Kroger is another problem but not sure what the city can do about it???
Traffic, particularly around the new Gateway area
Traffic. Montgomery Rd. As the north/south corridor sometimes is a parking lot.
Traffic. The hospital north and the new multiple housing units south may bring a challenge.
Traffic. Montgomery Rd. is goibg to get quite crowded
Traffic/ road congestion
Traffic/transportation infrastructure
Traffic--During the pandemic, we've had some relief and have been able to exit our drive in a reasonable amount of time. When life is normal, Montgomery road traffic is fast and heavy and requires an inordinate amount of time to safely enter the flow of traffic, when a traffic light is not available. With the new construction, it seems inevitable that traffic flow is going to increase and so will our frustration levels when pulling out of our drive.
Traffic—safe roads
transition of Montgomery residents, from older to younger, impacting parks, schools, traffic, healthcare, public service etc.
Travel / traffic along Montgomery Road
Trying to keep its charm while moving it into the future. Keeping it a quaint community for both the younger, midlifers and older.
Trying to limit the amount of business expansion in the city while still keeping the identity.
Unknown
Unlike in neighboring Blue Ash, Montgomery has almost nothing. They have a recreational center, swimming pool, YMCA, many other business ventures, which give Blue Ash residents a discounted rates for their use. Mongomery's swimming pool is not great at all and expensive. We gave up using it. With high tax rates and no facilities.

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>Unnecessary expansion of vacant lands that City owns or controls and other properties that border the I.H. Greenbelt. We have too many developers on Council and in the Mayor position, & real estate agents that only think about developing the City. What has happened to the Historic District? Where is the charming character of the National Historic Register 1803 Village that was the reason to settle in this 'Green' Sustainable Historic Community. Sycamore schools are a disgrace with only 20 & 22 National Scholarship Finalists the last 2 years. Madeira Schools continues to lead. When I graduated from Madeira in 1964 we had 34 NSFs & the top 8 students in the Nation. Sycamore High School was designed in 1970 by a super forward thinking sustainable 'green' architect, Jim Donnelly, a Montgomery resident for 57 years. What does it mean to be awarded the best Treed Community in Ohio? I have an old Blue Ash tree in my front yard that replaced the Silver Maple that split in 2 during and ice storm. And then a week later the back yard 150 year-old Red Oak tree that the arborist said was "fine" after that same ice storm split in 2 and came crashing down on my architecturally designed cedar garage splitting it in two. Then the remainder of the Red Oak tree crashed upon my neighbors house and went through my Solarium, Dining Room, and Living Room. We need to do something about all these old trees in this Treed Community. Terry Willenbrink will not listen to me. My neighbor then cut down all her trees and now her black roofed haus is super hot all summer. She's the one who created the largest cut-lumber bon-fire in her back yard and the ex-Mayor Tuten had to call the fire dept on her. Montgomery is still the best place to live in southwest Ohio, except maybe some parts of Indian Hill and I'm not leaving, to go south, yet.</p>
<p>Unsure</p>
<p>Unsure exactly as we have recently moved here</p>
<p>Unsustainable costs of municipal services, especially fire and police salaries and benefits. We pay way too much for too little. Overstaffed. Too many contract giveaways. Downsize the PD and merge the FD with another fire company.</p>
<p>Upkeep in city services especially snow removal and access to roads. Types of businesses allowed into the city and the continued updating of school buildings and services.</p>
<p>Vacant commercial real-estate. There is a surplus and we are making more.</p>
<p>Vacant retail locations</p>
<p>Walkability. We need more sidewalks, so we can use the park system more frequently.</p>
<p>We are about to hit retirement in just a couple of years, and the high taxes on the house are of a concern. There aren't enough ranches or smaller homes and we are disappointed to stand by and watch developers tear down the more affordable housing and building homes that are highly profitable and high priced. This is not good for diversity in Montgomery, and not good for older folks looking to downsize but can't find that housing right here! Also, when developers tear down these smaller homes, I see no containment of lead and other contaminants that go into the air and the ground around the new construction. These older homes have lead in them, asbestos most likely, too, in the under layers of flooring. Studies show that contaminants spread out and fall down within a two-block area of the construction site. I think the City government should make a conscious decision to put a moratorium on the tear down activity.</p>
<p>We are concerned with over development in Old Montgomery area (new roundabout area) when there are many existing vacant office spaces and buildings. We are also concerned with the traffic and congestion this will garner.</p>
<p>We are worried about maintaining local businesses, small retail businesses. This is not a unique Montgomery issue.</p>
<p>We cannot think of anything.</p>

(Not Including Covid-19) What do you think will be the single most important facing the City of Montgomery during the next five years?

<p>We do not grown and meet the needs/demands of the changing face of our community. There can be greater ethnic community of stores as well as cultural celebrations acknowledging the community at large. Traffic patterns on Montgomery Road from the turnabout to Pfieffer Road.</p>
<p>We need businesses that draw foot traffic. Taxes have been raised exponentially with very little benefit. We could use a revamp on our only party {BASTILLE DAY}. Bastille day was not Independence day in FRANCE. In the end it was a complete failure and didn't lead to freedom. How about something related to our country. eg. JULY INDEPENDENCE PARTY.</p>
<p>We need to keep other with the other neighborhoods that have a nice little downtown. Stay updated. We need services even if the city has to help with rent to get businesses to stay. We need updated food and retail. A real coffee shop, a healthy deli place, a juicery. We have people that own businesses and live in Montgomery but open in blue ash and Madeira/mariemont because it is price prohibitive to open in downtown Montgomery. This has got to change. We also need to get rid of the outside electric especially on main roads like cooper, Remington etc. And we need standards for new homes and remodels. I love that everyone is updating. But we need a Montgomery look - quality standards!!!</p>
<p>We need to move towards clean energy.. including promoting usage of electric vehicle and incentives for solar roof etc.</p>
<p>Welcoming all to our community regardless of ethnicity, gender, straight/GLBTQ, etc</p>
<p>with out a doubt the new development at the Ronald Reagan/Montgomery interchange</p>
<p>With the development going on downtown, I wonder about heightened traffic congestion, and whether the roundabout now under construction is the right "fix" for this potential problem.</p>
<p>With the new developments going up on Montgomery Road near downtown - building up the older downtown section - giving people and business reasons to go there</p>
<p>Would NOT LIKE more car lots in our downtown area.</p>

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