City of Destin
Comprehensive Plan Update
Website Summary

To: Tina Deater, AICP, Community Development Director, City of Destin

From: Gabriela Castro, AICP, Project Manager

CC: Pat Tyjeski, AICP, Principal in Charge

Date: October 22, 2026

Reference: Website Summary

Introduction

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the online engagement activity conducted through the City of Destin's 2050 Comprehensive Plan website. The project website is the primary access point for the Comprehensive Plan update and provides residents with communication on the Comprehensive Plan process. In addition to communication, the project website also provided a survey for residents to get involved in the planning process. The following summary highlights key findings and trends identified in the survey.

Survey

The survey can be divided into two different sections based on question type. The first section asked respondents for details about themselves, while the second set of questions asked their opinions on topics related to the Comprehensive Plan. Questions about the respondents were designed to see if the respondents matched the demographics of the City and to identify potential selection bias in the respondent pool. The results of these questions can be compared to the City's demographic data to determine if the respondent pool is reflective of the City as a whole.

The second set of the questions asked respondents to identify the biggest planning concerns in Destin, what type of development they would like to see through 2050, and what should be prioritized in the update to the Comprehensive Plan. These questions allow residents of Destin to provide input and guidance for the Comprehensive Plan update process.

The survey was available online on the project website from June 28, 2026, through September 30, 2026. A summary of the questions and responses is included below and in **Appendix A-I**. Over the three-month period, there were 64 total responses.

About the Contributors

Question 1 – Zip Code

The first question of the survey asked respondents to provide the zip code of where they live. The City of Destin is located within the 32541zip code. This zip code represented 76.2% of all respondents. Other listed zip codes represent areas around the Choctawhatchee Bay, such as Fort Walton Beach, Niceville, and Santa Rosa Beach. Respondents from these zip codes may not live in Destin, but still have some association with the City, such as employment or recreation.

Table 1. Zip Code

Zip Code	Count	Percent
32541	48	76.2%
32435	1	1.6%
32459	2	3.2%
32547	4	6.3%
32548	4	6.3%
32569	1	1.6%
32578	1	1.6%
32579	1	1.6%
32580	1	1.6%
Total	**63**	**100%**

Question 2 – Connection to Destin

Question two asked respondents about their relationship with the City of Destin. Whether they live, work, or play in the City may impact how each respondent interacts with the City. The majority (59.38%) of respondents live in Destin, followed by those who only work in Destin. The other responses listed in **Appendix A** mostly fall within the living or working categories. These results reveal that most respondents are actively interacting with the City on a daily basis.

Table 2. What is your connection to the City of Destin?

Connection	Count	Percent
I am a permanent resident in Destin	38	59.4%
I am a seasonal resident in Destin	0	0%
I do not live in Destin, but work or own a business in Destin	21	32.8%
I do not live in Destin, but complete errands within Destin (medical appointments, grocery shopping, banking, etc.)	1	1.6%
I do not live in Destin, but attend regularly scheduled events and services within Destin (church, organizational meetings, etc.)	0	0%
I do not live in Destin, but attend special events within Destin (festivals, races, etc.)	0	0%
Other	4	6.3%
Total	**64**	**100%**

Question 3 – Tenure in Destin

Question three of the survey asked how long respondents have lived in the City, if they live in the City. The largest portion of respondents have lived in Destin for more than 20 years, implying that they have seen how the City has evolved since the previous Comprehensive Plan update. Approximately 38% of respondents stated that they do not live in the City, which is generally consistent with the response to question two.

Table 3. If you live in Destin, How long have you lived here? (permanent or seasonal residence)

Years	Count	Percent
Less than 1 year	3	4.7%
1-2 years	3	4.7%
3-5 years	1	1.6%
5-10 years	4	6.3%
More than 20 years	29	45.3%
I do not live in Destin	24	37.5%
Total	**64**	**100%**

Question 4 – Age

Question four asked respondents their age. Over 50% of the respondents are over the age of 55. The older age of respondents is consistent with the City's demographics, which historically has trended older.

Table 4. What is your age?

Age	Count	Percent
Under 18	0	0%
18 to 24	3	4.7%
25 to 34	12	18.8%
35 to 44	7	10.9%
45 to 54	9	14.1%
55 to 64	23	35.9%
65 and over	10	15.6%
Total	**64**	**100%**

Contributors' Wants

Question 5 – What Makes Destin Special?

Question five was the first open ended question. This question asked the respondents to describe what they thought made the City of Destin special. The full list of responses is included in **Appendix B.** Overall, responses focused on the natural amenities and sense of community in the City. Respondents described the emerald waters, sugar sand beaches, and abundant fishing as natural amenities that make Destin distinct and special. These amenities seem to be bolstered by the small town feel that allows residents to feel like they are part of a tight knit community.

Question 6 – Housing Types

Question six asked respondents to choose their preferred housing type to accommodate the City's growing population. Respondents were allowed to select as many choices as they desired. The preferred housing type for the respondents are single-family homes, followed by mixed use and townhome developments. The respondents who chose other generally expressed anti-growth sentiments, asking the City to focus on filling the existing housing stock rather than building more units. These responses are included in **Appendix C.**

Table 5. What Types of housing do you think should be developed to accommodate Destin's growing population?

Housing Type	Count	Percent
Single-family homes	40	63.5%
Duplexes and triplexes	8	12.7%
Townhomes	13	20.6%
Moderately-sized apartment buildings (5-50 units)	12	19.1%
Large apartment complexes (more than 50 units)	3	4.8%
Moderately-sized condominium buildings (5-50 units)	4	6.4%
Large condominium complexes (more than 50 units)	1	1.6%
Mixed use (i.e. residential located above retail/office spaces)	24	38.1%
Accessory dwelling units (mother-in-law suites)	12	19.1%
Other	10	15.9%

Question 7 – Future Growth Concerns

Question seven listed a series of potential concerns related to Destin's future growth. Respondents were asked to choose their top three concerns or provide a concern not listed. The respondents' top four concerns related to Destin's future growth are traffic congestion (73.4%), overtourism (60.9%), impact on the natural environment, and housing affordability (each with 54.7%). Other responses identified are included in **Appendix D.**

Table 6. What are the top concerns you have related to Destin's future growth?

Concern	Count	Percent
Housing availability	13	20.3%
Housing affordability	35	54.7%
Infrastructure adequacy (roadways, utilities, etc.)	26	40.6%
Traffic congestions	47	73.4%
Overtourism	39	60.9%
Impact on the natural environment	35	54.7%
Overcrowded school	3	4.7%
Crime	8	12.5%
Change in community character	16	25%
Pedestrian safety	17	26.6%
Loss of open space	17	26.6%
Coastal Resiliency	7	10.9%
Not enough commercial and office space	1	1.6%
Not enough jobs for area residents	8	12.5%
Non-residential uses located too close to residential	2	3.1%
Non-residential uses located too far to residential	1	1.6%
I do not think Destin will experience any of these issues	0	0%
Other	7	10.9%

Question 8 – Prioritized Initiatives

Question eight asked respondents to select their top five priority initiatives for the City of Destin over the next 25 years. The top three selections were environmental conservation, housing affordability, and walkable community initiatives. While these align with the concerns raised in question seven, their level of priority shifted. Whereas impacts on the natural environment was

ranked third among top concerns, preserve/conserve our natural environment and wildlife habitats was identified as the single highest priority initiative. Other responses are included in **Appendix E.**

Table 7. Which of the following initiatives should be prioritized by Destin over the next 25 years?

Initiative	Count	Percent
Support the development of walkable activity centers where you can live, work, and play	29	45.3%
Ensure residents of all income levels have safe and affordable housing options	29	45.3%
Upgrade the transportation system to better accommodate walking and biking	21	32.8%
Enhance/expand the transit system	19	29.7%
Focus on the revitalization and redevelopment of underutilized areas	12	18.8%
Expand our parks and recreation options	17	26.6%
Expand entertainment and destination options	6	9.4%
Preserve/conserve our natural environment and wildlife habitats	40	62.5%
Address stormwater drainage and flooding concerns	17	26.6%
Ensure an adequate water supply for existing and future residents	16	25.0%
Focus on resiliency, disaster preparedness, and recovery	9	14.1%
Improve access and better utilization of waterfront	14	21.9%
Expand opportunities for commercial development	2	3.1%
Increase public and private-sector employment opportunities	7	10.9%
Improve public safety and emergency service responses	9	14.1%
Other	5	7.8%

Question 9 – Prioritized Areas

Question nine took a more general approach to prioritization by asking respondents to choose a broader area for improvement rather than a specific initiative. As opposed to the previous two questions, respondents were only allowed to select one priority for the City to focus on over the next 25 years. Housing diversity and affordability was selected as the top priority area by respondents, however, not by a significant amount. Priorities were almost evenly spread among five areas: transportation and concurrency, parks, recreation, and cultural amenities, environmental and resilience, housing diversity and affordability, and community character. In this case it may be more informative to highlight the lowest priority of economic development and job opportunities as an area the respondents do not feel needs as much attention from the City. Other responses are listed in **Appendix F.**

Table 8. If you could prioritize one area for the City to focus on over the next 25 years, what would it be?

Area	Count	Percent
Transportation and connectivity	11	17.7%
Parks, recreation, and cultural amenities	8	12.9%
Environmental and resilience	10	16.1%
Housing diversity and affordability	13	21.0%
Community character	12	19.4%
Economic development and job opportunities	3	4.8%
Other	5	8.1%
Total	**62**	**100%**

Question 10 – Mobility Improvements

Question ten asked respondents to select changes they thought would most improve mobility in Destin. The top three changes selected were traffic calming measures (62.5%), increased pedestrian and bike connectivity to Destin's parks, beaches, and recreational facilities (53.1%), and safer pedestrian crossings and enhanced transit options (each with 45.3%). The selected changes are more programmatic in nature as compared to infrastructure interventions and highlight the respondents' desires for mobility alternatives. Other responses are listed in **Appendix G.**

Table 9 What changes do you think would most improve mobility in Destin?

Mobility Improvement	Count	Percent
Safer pedestrian crossings	29	45.3%
Widened sidewalks	22	34.4%
Widened bike paths	19	29.7%
Increased pedestrian and bike connectivity to Destin's parks, beaches, and recreational facilities	34	53.1%
Enhanced transit options	29	45.3%
Traffic calming measures	40	62.5%
More parking options in key areas	18	28.1%
Other	8	12.5%

Question 11 – Resiliency Priorities

Destin's location between Choctawhatchee Bay and the Gulf of America increases the City's risk to natural disasters and other environmental related issues. Question eleven asked respondents to prioritize the resiliency actions for Destin over the next 25 years. The top three responses were: protecting trees and green space, coastal protection, and preparing for sea-level rise and coastal changes. In responses to question five (What Makes Destin Special?), respondents frequently mentioned the importance of the City's coastline and public spaces. The responses to question eleven echo these sentiments with priorities focused on protecting the elements that make Destin special. Other responses are listed in **Appendix H.**

Table 10. Which resiliency priorities are most important for Destin over the next 25 years?

Resiliency Priority	Count	Percent
Reducing flooding and drainage issues	42.9%	27
Protecting trees and green space	65.1%	41
Providing shade and cooling measures during hot weather	39.7%	25
Coastal protection	58.7%	37
Beach cleanups and improved waste management	41.3%	26
Infrastructure hardening (roads, utilities, buildings)	31.8%	20
Ensuring reliable, quality water supply	38.1%	24
Preparing for sea-level rise and coastal changes	44.4%	28
Public education about disaster preparedness	12.7%	8
Other	6.4%	4

Question 12 – Comprehensive Plan Considerations

Question twelve was the second open-ended question and the final question of the survey. This question asked respondents if there were any additional items they would want the City to consider as it drafts the 2050 Comprehensive Plan. The full list of responses is included in **Appendix I**. A variety of topics were mentioned by respondents for Comprehensive Plan consideration, the most frequent of which addressed tourism, transportation, and public space needs.

Key Takeaways

Survey respondents were primarily long-term Destin residents, age 55 and older. These respondents value the City's natural amenities and sense of community, and desire to see these elements of the City protected. As the City drafts its Comprehensive Plan, respondents are concerned about traffic congestion, overtourism, housing affordability, and the natural environment. Initiatives that address these concerns should be prioritized through 2050.

Appendices

A. Other responses to “What is your connection to the City of Destin?”

B. List of responses to “In 50 characters or less, what do you think is special and unique about Destin?”

C. Other responses to “What types of housing do you think should be developed to accommodate Destin’s growing population?”

D. Other responses to “What are the top concerns you have related to Destin’s future growth?”

E. Other responses to “Which of the following initiatives should be prioritized by Destin over the next 25 years?”

F. List of responses to “If you could prioritize one area for the City to focus on over the next 25 years, what would it be?”

G. Other responses to “What changes do you think would most improve mobility in Destin”

H. Other responses to “Which resiliency priorities are most important for Destin over the next 25 years?”

I. List of responses to “What other items would you like Destin to consider as it drafts the 2050 Comprehensive Plan?”

Appendices

Appendix A: Other responses to "What is your connection to the City of Destin?"

- Just moved from Crestview to live with daughter.
- We have a home in Destin and are going to move to Destin in two years.
- City Employee
- Work

Appendix B: List of responses to "In 50 characters or less, what do you think is special and unique about Destin?"

- The fishing fleet and the beaches.
- Very tight and small community with alot to do.
- the people and connection to fishing
- Small town feel but big city amenities.
- Turquoise water. White glacial quartz sand.
- People, the fishing culture, sense of community
- The beaches
- Still has a small town feel
- The beach & fishing
- Compact community, small town feel. Natural Beauty
- Tight knit community
- Fishing community
- Our beaches. Need more public beaches though.
- Our beautiful beaches and waterfront parks
- Natural beauty
- Great atmosphere and surrounded by many activities
- The emplacement of entrepreneurial spirit
- Destin is no longer special and unique
- Its a small beach town with big city vibes
- Natural resources.
- Great history, difficult to do business or grow
- Beautiful emerald waters and sugar sand beaches
- The people and the beaches
- used to be the beaches, but no longer
- Access to boating and beaching.
- small town in a beautiful location
- Beaches, diversity of activities, busy & calm time
- Geographical location, climate, natural resources.
- Clear water, sand, harbor and Crystal Beach.
- Supporting Destin through parks and recreation
- Our beautiful beaches and local waters
- The breathtaking water, beaches and fishing.
- The Beach.
- What's left of the view of the gulf
- Our friendliness and our love of our heritage.
- Small, but lively.

- Emerald Waters; Beaches; Fishing; STRs; Coastal
- Much of the workforce are commuters
- Beaches and Fishing
- rare ecosystems and people from all over the world
- The library
- The Community and Beaches
- The beautiful waters and sand
- Unique harbor district
- Small town fishing community
- Beaches
- Small pop., emerald waters, white sand, shopping
- Destin feels like you're on vacation.
- the beaches and harbor
- nothing
- The nature and environment.
- I admire the history of Destin.
- the sandy white beaches
- Access to our beautiful beaches & water parks
- The small town feel while welcoming visitors.
- Beach. Nature viewing. Harbor. Unique harborlife
- Low speed limits and sidewalks
- It has always felt more like a real community

Appendix C: Other responses to "What types of housing do you think should be developed to accommodate Destin's growing population?"

- I don't have any idea, and that is the same answer that you should be getting from most of your respondents. Housing is complex enough that it should be data-driven rather than based primarily on preferred building type. Destin should first assess current and projected housing needs by income level, household size, workforce demand, age, and tenure, then determine what housing types are appropriate based on infrastructure capacity, evacuation and traffic impacts, available land, and compatibility with surrounding neighborhoods. The goal should be to build the housing Destin actually needs, in the places where it can be responsibly accommodated.
- I don't think we need to build any more apartment complex. I wish there was a way to regulate the homes that sit empty
- None.
- I think we are full!
- You folks don't get it you need to stop developing you've done nothing to support the infrastructure of what's currently in place now!!!
- Available dwellings need to be occupied before additional housing is developed.
- I think there is enough housing for such a small town
- Affordable Living (Section 8)
- don't build anymore
- No More!

Appendix D: Other responses to "What are the top concerns you have related to Destin's future growth?"

- The biggest problem Destin is dealing with is that decision making has been opinion-based rather than information based. Lack of a clear, data-driven growth and decision-making strategy that defines how much growth Destin can reasonably absorb, what kind of growth we want to encourage, and how development decisions should align with infrastructure capacity, community character, economic diversification, and long-term quality of life.
- Flooding at residential homes caused by construction and/or building
- Grow costs to operate the city vs lack of growth will create growing need for higher taxation. This is further exasperated by the city's push to curtail growth through height, density, and other regulatory limitations.
- Hoa's are bad. I meant to put last question but can't go back.
- all of above
- Most homes being converted to short term rentals
- Business owners housing 10 plus employees in residential single family homes. Foreign individuals terrorizing our streets on electric motorcycles.

Appendix E: Other responses to "Which of the following initiatives should be prioritized by Destin over the next 25 years?"

- Storm resilience and economic diversification should be two primary planks in any strategic plan for Destin because we are one major storm away from economic devastation that would last a decade, not a season.
- Allow easier access to beaches for locals paying taxes
- Keep up the good work on public beach access.
- all of above
- Creating shade along pedestrian routes and in recreational areas

Appendix F: List of responses to "If you could prioritize one area for the City to focus on over the next 25 years, what would it be?"

- The most important priority is developing and consistently following a clear strategic vision for Destin. Without that framework, decisions about growth, infrastructure, resilience, parks, community character, and public investment risk remaining fragmented and reactive. A critical tactic within that larger priority is finally completing the years-long Land Development Code rewrite. The LDC is one of the City's primary tools for translating its vision into actual development patterns, so it should clearly reflect the community we want Destin to become rather than continuing to rely on an outdated or piecemeal regulatory framework. The longer we delay that work, the greater the risk that the City will be forced to evaluate and potentially approve another hotel or other development that may be legally permissible under the existing code but inconsistent with the community's long-term vision. If this Council chooses to accept a delay in moving the LDC rewrite forward, then this Council must accept the responsibility for putting the City in the position of approving undesirable developments like the new Drury Hotel.

- Remove the center medium from Destin Bridge all the way to Sacred Heart Hospital and make that a center turn lane which would allow emergency vehicles to be able to respond better during traffic gridlocks locals and tourist don't want to see bushes in the median. I think they would rather know that emergency vehicles can get to them without delay.
- Beaches for locals only
- I know it sounds crazy, but I think we need to manage tourism better. I don't know how, but we need to determine our preferred market that best compliments our city.ma
- all of above

Appendix G: Other responses to "What changes do you think would most improve mobility in Destin?"

- Implement the recommendations of qualified transportation engineers and mobility consultants. Destin has already invested in professional studies and technical expertise, but too often evidence-based recommendations are set aside because individual decision-makers dislike a particular solution. Mobility and traffic safety are technical issues, and City decisions should be guided by data, engineering standards, and demonstrated best practices rather than opinions. I'm a pretty good cook, but I don't have any idea of how to run a restaurant, and I really hope our Council members and staff understand that just because someone drives in traffic, it doesn't qualify them to overrule the advice and guidance of qualified experts. .
- Pedestrian walkovers & trolley system traversing 98 w/complimenting parking garages to maximize small space and host more vehicles
- Increase through-flow traffic on Highway 98 by adding lanes because "most" traffic on Highway 98 is passing through Destin. Allowing that traffic better access through town will help traffic concerns for those in-town travelers.
- Please build sidewalks on BOTH sides of the road for ALL roads in Destin
- Natural traffic calming devices, not speed bumps and stop signs
- remove electric bikes from roadways
- Get 30-40mph motorbikes off sidewalks!
- Preserving old Destin's family friendly environment.

Appendix H: Other responses to "Which resiliency priorities are most important for Destin over the next 25 years?"

- Resilience is more holistic than this list of options. Resiliency should also include the community systems Destin will depend on before, during, and after a major disaster: adequate healthcare capacity, emergency medical services, economic diversification, continuity of essential businesses and services, and the ability of residents and the local workforce to remain in or return to the community after a major storm. Destin should be planning not only for how we protect physical assets, but for how the community itself continues to function and recover.
- all of above
- There IS No Sea Level Rise

- Removing tolls for local residents allowing them to commute safely to higher paying jobs.

Appendix I: List of responses to "What other items would you like Destin to consider as it drafts the 2050 Comprehensive Plan?"

- Multi-modal connectivity pathways to connect Crystal Beach to the Library, and city hall to the Harbor and Holiday Isle.
- More public transportation
- City Center! it is confusing having all city buildings in different places
- "The 2050 Comprehensive Plan should take a more holistic view of what makes Destin a resilient, livable community. The survey focuses heavily on land use, transportation, and physical infrastructure, but gives little attention to other foundational issues such as economic diversification, healthcare access and capacity, education, workforce stability, and the needs of vulnerable populations.
- These issues are interconnected. A community is not truly resilient if it can withstand a storm physically but lacks sufficient healthcare capacity, has an economy overwhelmingly dependent on tourism, cannot retain its workforce, or does not adequately plan for seniors, lower-income residents, children, and others who may be disproportionately affected by emergencies or rising costs.
- Most importantly, a comprehensive planning process should help us prioritize and sequence these needs. Not every worthwhile initiative can or should happen at once. Destin needs a framework for identifying which needs are foundational, which investments must come first, and which priorities can build upon them over time. That framework should then guide land-use decisions, infrastructure investments, economic development, public services, and City budgets.
- One additional opportunity that deserves more attention is Destin's military-affiliated community, including active-duty service members, veterans, military families, and Gold Star families. We are located within a region with an extraordinarily large military presence, yet that community is rarely treated as a strategic asset in Destin's planning or problem-solving. That is a missed opportunity. A more intentional effort to welcome and engage military-affiliated families could strengthen our year-round population, broaden the community's talent base, and help attract more full-time residents with stable employment, leadership experience, and a strong culture of community service and problem-solving.
- Ultimately, the Comprehensive Plan should define what a healthy, functioning Destin looks like in 2050 and provide a clear roadmap for getting there, rather than treating housing, transportation, resilience, economic development, healthcare, education, and quality of life as separate planning exercises."
- more space and better parking to hopefully bring more community events such as concerts and festivals, bringing other things for locals and tourists to do, while beaches and parking lots are overcrowded during the Summers
- Get rid of the pay to park
- Cover parking areas with Solar panels that produce energy and provide for shaded parking
- No more beach vendors. No more chairs lined up across the beach. Not

enough code enforcement in the older parts of Destin

- Please consider traffic and infrastructure issues with our increased tourism and over development of Multi family/apartments.
- Prioritize residents quality of environment over tourist.
- Put a cap on development. The only developments we should have now are parks and recreation. We have plenty of businesses and residences. If people can't find what they need here, they can go somewhere else. Thank you for the survey.
- "End the height restriction on buildings
- Improve the permitting process so a permit can be issued in 30 days on projects that meeting zoning requirements
- Reduce permitting fees and impact fees."
- I'm 65 years old I was born and raised here. I understand that we have to accommodate growth but sooner or later you have to make a choice. How do you balance the legacy of Destin to the locals and the tourist? I get it hard choices but it seems like more effort and support is going towards the tourist and development not the existing locals
- Our own police force
- Fostering Respectful and cooperative relationships between commercial owners and residential owners especially when they abut one another or are very near to one another. (Garbage, noise, rodents, air quality...)
- Focus on growth of businesses which address tourism and local needs which will add needed tax base without impacting schools or other costly city programs. This needs to include reductions in cost of doing business in Destin (permit costs, fees, and erroneous taxes) and improved means to have projects reviewed and approved.
- Get rid of online reservations for Henderson Beach for locals who have a sticker pass on their vehicle
- it seems to me that our local government is making decisions based on personal benefit as apposed to community benefit
- Without sounding arrogant, I don't believe it's realistic to say that everyone is entitled to live here at this stage of their life. In many communities, frontline and essential workers commute from surrounding areas because housing near their workplace is unaffordable. Rather than continuing to increase housing density in an already limited space, perhaps we should explore ways to help offset commuting expenses, such as gas and bridge tolls. Expanding upward in a confined area is likely to increase congestion and overcrowding rather than solve the underlying problem. I understand not affording to live here and I don't mean this disrespectfully.
- Please include more green space. Not every single inch of Destin needs to be filled in with a building.
- Make redevelopment of older parts to multi use easier for developers to consider. Offer credits/incentives
- We have many more tourist than we can handle due to our geographical characteristics. That being said we should focus on quality and not the quantity of our tourist. We have enough tattoo parlors and bars and not enough family oriented commercial establishments.

- It seems to me “older” Destin is less attractive than newer areas and can be improved. It just looks kind of tired and not like a welcoming seaside village as it could.
- As someone who works for the City but doesn't live in Destin, I'd encourage the City to continue investing in its parks, public spaces, and environmental conservation while planning for future growth. Maintaining infrastructure, improving traffic flow, protecting natural resources, and ensuring city employees have the tools and support needed to serve the community will help keep Destin a great place for residents and visitors for years to come.
- Stop the TDC from advertising us so much! We are full now and our roads can't handle it.
- As a life-long resident of south Okaloosa County, I remember Destin when it was a sleepy little fishing village. I know that tourism is important, but I think it has been the focus for far too long. Many of the people who work in Destin cannot afford to live here and must commute (in very heavy traffic during the summer) to get to their jobs. I would like to see Destin roll in the red carpet that has welcomed developers for so long, and focus and concentrate on what the residents and workers in Destin find important. The development genie cannot be put back in the bottle. That ship has sailed (pun intended). But I would like to see a focus on preserving the natural habitat that is left and a City that is dedicated to the people who live and work here year round. One of the focal points I see on City vehicles says something about preserving history or something similar. I have to laugh every time I see that, because the historical part of the City of Destin was ushered out years ago to make room for development and tourism. It's very sad.
- I think we really need to work on blending tourism with residency. The complaint I hear most often is that residents think the city bends over backwards for tourists. Let's face it - we need tourism, but we need to find a way to make tourism more compatible with those that live here.
- I think Destin has a great opportunity to be an environmentally forward and community driven place due to it's smaller size and access to several natural environments, but getting around can be very dangerous by all means of transportation. There is a lot of tourism and traffic that can impede on everyday life and it makes it harder for locals to travel between cities and even just within Destin. I think introducing more environmentally friendly spots that provide respite from the heat and traffic throughout all the stores and businesses could exponentially improve the city.
- " - Attention to the commuter workforce which are affected heavily be traffic concerns with growing tourism and continued construction.
    - Attention to creating options for workers to afford to live in Destin (affordable housing, transportation options, etcetera)"
- Work with FDOT to make traffic improvements to 98, close left-hand turns except for signalized intersections.
- It is vital to prioritize the health of our waterways and ecosystems that have taken the burden of overfishing, pollution, and disruption from the sudden growth of tourism and development here. Destin is not a

passive paradise--it was created out of the relationships between wildlife, forests, waterways, and weather. The people who live here will not be able to thrive in one giant shopping center or one long line of condos above beaches littered with disposable beach toys. When I think of the future of this place, I wonder if that ancient beauty of the oaks and the quiet sunsets will be paved over to create more parking, more shopping. The nature of our area is unique and irreplaceable, please prioritize the stewardship of our landscape as you choose the path forward, because what is destroyed will not come back.

- Wildlife conservation and animal rescues
- Parking issues at Norriego Point and in general.
- Roads, Transportation
- A new City Administrative building to collectively keep the Annex and City Hall in one location.
- a cleaner looking town, less construction
- Decrease tourism
- treat it's employees with more respect
- Protect the few green areas we have. Increase parks if opportunities arise. Keep adding beach access as we can.
- It's employees first, not last. The face of Destin.
- Remove tolls on mid bay bridge for local residents. Preserve the family environment of old Destin. Enforce laws and have a higher police presence with foreign individuals on electric bikes terrorizing family's on sidewalks.
- Destin has always felt different from surrounding communities...I have always felt it has been more of a community that was great for