

# MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING CARY





### **AN OPEN-ENDED QUESTION ASKED RESPONDENTS WHAT THEY FEEL IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING CARY (APPENDIX L). THE RESPONSES SHOW THAT PROBLEMS RELATED TO GROWTH WERE AGAIN PERCEIVED AS THE KEY ISSUE IN 2022 (TABLE 41).**

There were 106 comments concerning controlling growth/overdevelopment. In addition, there was also the growth-related issue of overpopulation with 28 comments. This resulted in 134 total comments directly related to concerns about growth.

The key issues besides growth were affordable housing (62 comments), traffic (26 comments), and infrastructure concerns (24 comments). Other important issues with 19 comments each were cost of living, schools, and streets/roads. There were also 63 can't think of any issues/none comments and 18 not sure comments. These responses have a positive component considering that major issues did not come to mind immediately.

For a comparison basis, the most important issues in 2020 were growth issues/overpopulation

(132 comments), traffic (61 comments), affordable housing (23 comments), schools (21 comments), infrastructure (17 comments), cutting down trees/greenspace (14 comments), streets/roads (13 comments), and high taxes (13 comments). Table 41 also shows the issues from 2020.

In terms of changes, growth/overpopulation continued to be the most important issue and remained virtually unchanged from 2020 (132 to 134 comments). However, there was an increase for affordable housing moving from 4th to 2nd (23 to 62 comments), cost of living from 10th to tied for 6th (11 to 19 comments), and streets/roads from 8th to tied for 6th (13 to 19 comments). Note that recycling needs to be weekly (10th), Covid issues (11th), and the need for housing (13th) were ranked after gathering no comments in 2020. Overall, these were the only issues that improved two or more spots in the rankings.

In terms of declines, there was a drop in importance for traffic falling from 2nd to 4th from 61 to only 26 comments this year. There was also a decline for cutting down trees/greenspace from 7th to 9th (14 to 10 comments) and high taxes from 8th to 14th (13 to 6 comments). Again, these were the only issues declining two or more spots in the rankings.

## MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING CARY

**Table 41. Most Important Issue Facing Cary 2020 and 2022.**

2020 MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE	#	2022 MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE	#
Growth	104	Growth	106
Traffic	61	Affordable housing	62
Overpopulation	28	Overpopulation	28
Affordable Housing	23	Traffic	26
Schools	21	Infrastructure	24
Infrastructure	17	Cost of Living	19
Cutting Down Trees/Greenspace	14	Schools	19
Street/Roads	13	Street/Roads	19
High Taxes	13	Cutting Down Trees/Greenspace	10
Cost of Living	11	Recycling Needs to be Weekly	8
Lack of Public Transportation	8	Covid Issues	7
High-Density Housing	7	Crime/Safety	6
Crime/Safety	7	Need for Housing	6
Construction	5	High Taxes	6



# HOW SAFE RESIDENTS

FEEL IN CARY



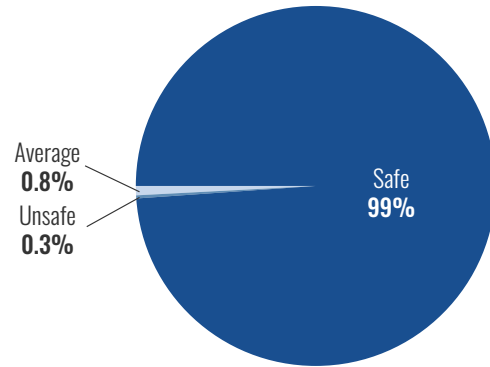
## HOW SAFE RESIDENTS FEEL IN CARY

### THE SURVEY INCLUDED A QUESTION THAT EXAMINED THE RESPONDENT'S PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY IN TOWN. THE RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED HOW SAFE THEY FEEL IN CARY OVERALL.

A 9-point scale that ranged from extremely unsafe (1) to extremely safe (9) was utilized. The results indicate the respondents perceived an exceptionally high level of safety overall (Table 42). The mean was 8.25 with an impressive 99.0% responding on the “safe” side (above 5) of the scale including 46.0% who answered they felt “extremely safe”. There were only 0.3% responses on the “unsafe” side of the scale (Figure 8). The mean has decreased from 8.35 in 2020 but this

decrease was not statistically significant. This also represents the third highest mean earned by the Town for feeling safe in Cary overall. See Appendix B for selected safe in Cary overall cross tabulations (B388–B396).

**Figure 8. Safe in Cary Overall**



**Table 42. How Safe Do You Feel in Cary Overall**

YEAR	MEAN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	GRADE
2022	8.25	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.8	1.8	14.1	37.1	46.0	99.0
2020	8.35	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.5	9.5	37.1	50.9	99.0
2018	8.22	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	3.0	14.2	31.9	48.6	97.7
2016	8.06	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.3	3.0	5.0	14.8	31.1	45.1	96.0
2014	8.15	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.5	2.0	12.6	39.2	43.0	96.8
2012	8.22	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.8	2.5	15.9	32.7	47.6	98.7
2010	8.29	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.7	12.0	39.4	46.6	98.7
2008	8.09	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.2	1.7	19.5	38.5	38.5	98.2
2006	8.10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.0	2.2	17.3	38.6	39.4	97.5
2004	8.23	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	2.0	2.2	12.2	34.0	49.1	97.5
2002	7.99	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	4.7	2.7	17.0	37.3	37.8	94.8
2000	7.93	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.0	4.0	22.5	39.0	32.0	97.5
1998	7.55	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.8	2.5	8.8	30.7	37.5	18.6	95.6