

Hawthorne Road Condition Survey

Both the Department of Public Works and area residents have reported issues with the current condition of the gravel portion of Hawthorne Road. Issues include potholes and rutting, mud and clay pumping through the surface of the gravel material, lack of sufficient drainage, and surface heaving from the ice and snow.

From the perspective of the Department of Public Works, long term solutions to those issues would require significant removal of tree cover, including specimen trees and installation of formal roadside ditching.

This survey is intended to verify the extent of the issues with the existing road condition, and to assess the adjacent resident's willingness to accept modifications to the road and adjacent land to address long term solutions to road maintenance.

Please note that a survey format is intended to isolate the issues and tolerance for potential solutions. A comment box is available at the end of the survey, if the survey was not in depth enough to provide sufficient feedback.

If you are unable to complete the survey online, printed copies are available at the Engineering desk at City Hall and at the DPW facility on Industrial Drive. If you wish to be mailed a copy of the survey, please contact Casey Deuster at cdeuster@ci.mequon.wi.us or 262-236-2913.

1. What is your street address?*

*Why do we need this information?

Your address will only be used to verify the integrity of the responses. While we understand that there may be multiple responses/opinions from the same household, the City wants to verify which answers are from those who live on Hawthorne Road versus those who simply travel Hawthorne Road.

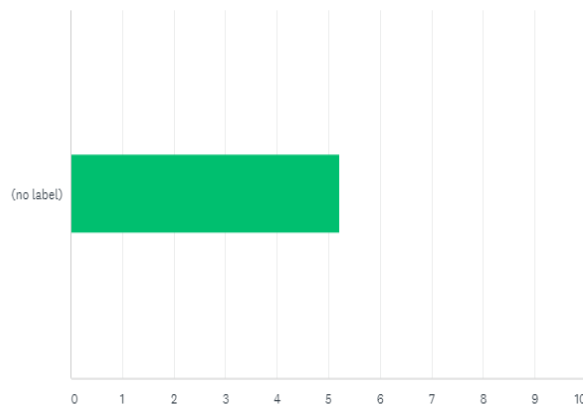
Address information will only be utilized to tally the number of responses from Hawthorne Road residents. Addresses will not be displayed with the compiled results.

The City values input from all interested parties.

The survey notice was sent to 58 properties. The survey registered 38 responses from 30 different properties (7 properties registered multiple responses). Of those responses, 28 were from Hawthorne Road, 8 from Hawthorne Court and 2 from Windsor Court.

2. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being the worst and 10 the best, how would you rate the overall condition of Hawthorne Road?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 0



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	N/A	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	10.53%	13.16%	13.16%	2.63%	13.16%	10.53%	7.89%	15.79%	7.89%	5.26%	0.00%	38	5.21
	4	5	5	1	5	4	3	6	3	2	0		

Comments (24)

2. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being the worst and 10 the best, how would you rate the overall condition of Hawthorne Road? (CONTINUED)

Comments:

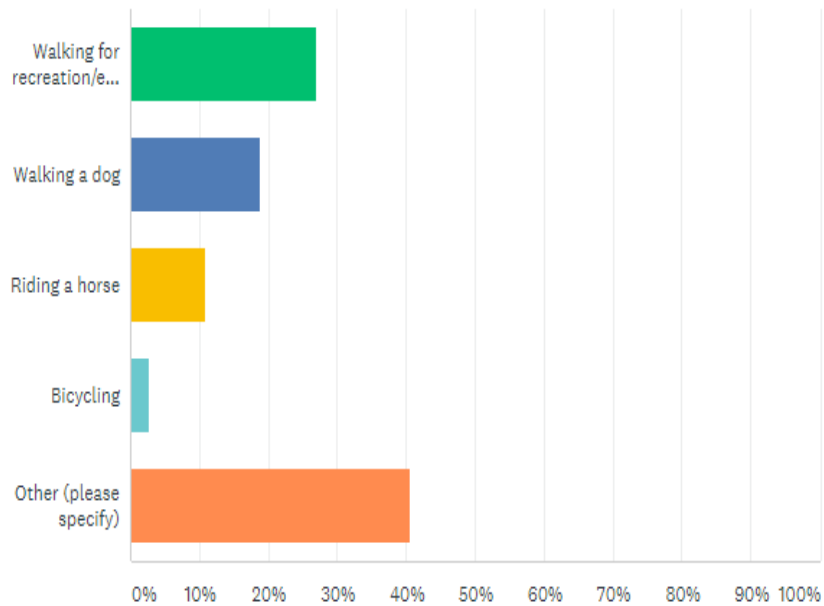
- I am <NAME REMOVED> and I live at this address.
- It varies throughout the year... right now it is fine... 8/10...
- Very bad, At times dangerous .
- It's great most of the year
- Obviously, when the spring thaw comes or unusual weather conditions, the condition deteriorates. But I think the city has done a good job of maintaining it.
- At the present time....with all potholes and dust.....
- It is a charming rustic road, that allows residents to walk dogs, horses, children...down the road without traffic and getting to take in the beauty of the trees and wildlife in the area. Hawthorne Road is fine 90% of the time (the 10% of the time the conditions are not ideal, the city could do a little better job of timing when they do repairs (they last 3 - 4 times they have come down the road to re-grade it has rained the next day--do you guys every check the weather before you start the regrading?--When the road doesn't time to get packed down and it rains--all the work you guys have done gets washed away instantly)
- Overall, the road conditions are great. However, the past year or so, the city has done repair work/regrading the road almost exclusively right before big rain storms, which makes the regrading not as effective and prone to washing out much quicker than in prior years.
- Most of the year, the road has been kept in very good condition. (Please thank the workers who are responsible!) The only time it may change a bit is in the spring with the thawing, which is normal for a gravel road.
- Rutted. Uneven surface. Dusty when dry. Impossible to keep cars clean.
- obviously the road has issues with potholes, etc. but those conditions keep speeds low and the road safer for pedestrians and horseback riders.
- When its Good It's Great and Beautiful, when its wet from the Rain its horrid
- In summer and fall, rain after grading creates potholes soon after, and before it rains, road is extremely dusty. In spring, frost coming out creates ruts and mush. In winter, potholes from fall remain because frozen road cannot be graded. Road dust is very harmful to humans (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5968206/>), and there are numerous Material Safety Data Sheets listing its effects and precautions to be taken: (<https://arlweb.msha.gov/REGS/complian/guides/hazcom/msds/naturalsandgravelmsds.pdf>). Therefore, what is Mequon's reasoning in keeping this antiquated road surface and subjecting it residents to it? Mequon doesn't allow its residents to be subjected to other safety and health issues (lead, asbestos, etc.) in the infrastructure it provides....why this hazard?
- It varying dependent on how often the City maintains the road
- The condition varies seasonally. Currently, having been graded recently, it is fine when travelled at the posted speed limit.
- This IS a dirt road Cannot expect perfection
- It is in very good condition
- Immediately after maintenance the condition is good, but it deteriorates very rapidly. The periods where the road has deteriorated to the point of dangerous or damaging to a vehicle are longer than the periods of decent condition.
- At least 3-4 months out of the year the road is very unsafe. After a thaw it is the worst, as well as heavy rains. Deep ruts, potholes, and a soft surface that pulls your vehicle in all directions. I have personally pulled a few drivers out of the woods and a creek that have lost control and left the road surface. The dust is not a problem for me.
- Right now it's in perfect shape especially after all the rain we have endured
- I Purchased a Home on Hawthorne Road because Hawthorne Road is a Rustic Road: If I wanted a Paved Road I would have moved elsewhere: Everyone in Mequon that I talk too: Loves the Feel of Hawthorne and it is a Credit to Mequon that we have such a Road in the Community:
- The road is always the last to be maintained, plowed, sanded, etc. It is unsafe and it is only tended to when enough residents complain about the current condition
- When it rains, the road is dangerous. Ruts form and it would be easy to lose control of the car. There are

always pot holes on the road. It only takes one rain storm after the road is graded for the pot holes to return. The pot holes have ruined the shock absorbers on my car. \$1400 repair.

- It depends on the day but the conditions do not bother me.

3. In addition to driving, how do you use Hawthorne Road?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Walking for recreation/exercise	27.03% 10
Walking a dog	18.92% 7
Riding a horse	10.81% 4
Bicycling	2.70% 1
Other (please specify) Responses	40.54% 15
TOTAL	37

Other (please specify):

- walking dog, exercise, riding horse and bicycling and beauty
- Walking, biking, running
- I do all of the choices!
- walking, walking dog, biking
- We walk our dogs, Mountain bike, road bike, walk for recreation, and jog on the road.
- walking dog, walking for exercise, and also biking
- Walking for exercise, dog walking, jogging, riding a horse, and biking
- I walk for Recreation, take my dog on it daily and Bicycle on it without fear of traffic
- The road is used for multiple purposes including walking/exercise, walking dog, and biking
- All of the above
- All of the above except horseback
- I could check all above
- Running: Mountain Biking; My Dogs: I pick up Trash along the Road: Horses use the Road; Do not Destroy this because of a Few Complainers:
- All of the above, although riding a bike is usually not enjoyable due to the ongoing condition of the road
- walking a dog and walking for exercise. Because of surface, I can't bike.

4. The Public Works Department receives a number of concerns regarding the maintenance of the gravel portion of Hawthorne Road. This survey is also intended to educate residents on the complicated nature of maintaining a gravel road. The Federal Highway Administration has produced a document that may be of good reference and can be found here: [Gravel Roads Construction and Maintenance Guide \(https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/pubs/ots15002.pdf\)](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/pubs/ots15002.pdf)

As outlined in the document, the majority of the maintenance issues do not lie with the frequency of the maintenance, but with the road construction itself.

The Department of Public Works currently grades the gravel portion of Hawthorne Road twice per year. In addition, crews scarify the surface to fix potholes. The process of scarifying breaks up the existing material prior to filling the pothole, resulting in a longer term solution.

Some residents have requested increased maintenance of the gravel road. In order to implement significant improvements to the road surface, alterations to the roadside conditions would be required. The following questions are intended to gauge the tolerance of those potential changes.

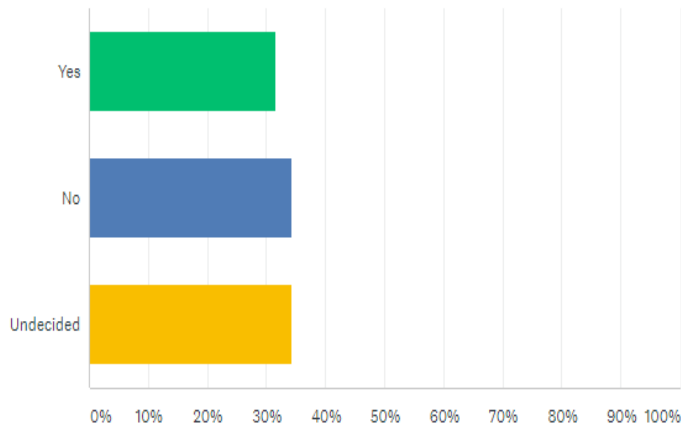
MODEST IMPROVEMENT

One of the current issues with the gravel road section is that the road base remains wet for long periods of time after a rainfall. Under traffic, the wet road is more prone to potholing and rutting, as well as the clay pumping observed in some locations.

In order to make modest improvements to the road section, City Public Works crews could remove the "windrow", or build up of excess material at the road edges, to allow for improved drainage. In addition, trees could be pruned to allow more sunlight on the road surface for longer periods of time. The tree pruning would be significant enough to allow the sunlight to penetrate the road surface.

Would you be in favor of City Public Works crews completing tree pruning along the roadside to increase the penetration of sunlight onto the road?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	31.58% 12
▼ No	34.21% 13
▼ Undecided	34.21% 13
TOTAL	38

Comments (14)

4. Would you be in favor of City Public Works crews completing tree pruning along the roadside to increase the penetration of sunlight onto the road? (CONTINUED)

Comments:

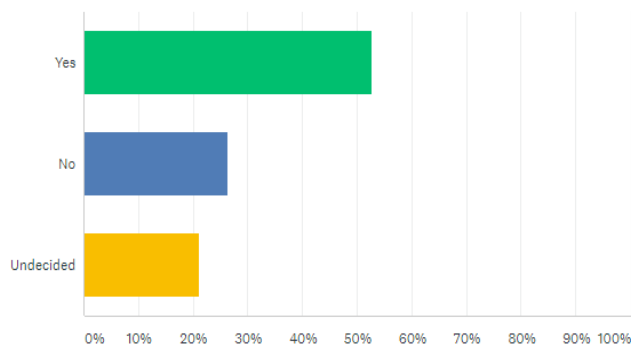
- There are many areas with trees not blocking the sun and numerous pot holes still remain.
- Dead wood and buckthorn can go... but nice trees should stay....
- Depends on how many trees would be removed
- If people didn't drive so fast, I don't believe the ruts would get as bad as quickly
- An additional bonus to pruning, is the decreased risk of tree branches falling on passerby especially during windy conditions.
- I would want to understand the definition of "pruning" of trees.
- One of the charms of living on a gravel road is the fact that the road itself has a personality. Hawthorne derives this both its potholes and its tree cover. While the potholes are in isolated occasions sometimes annoying, for the most part they actually slow down traffic, which helps keep Hawthorne safer and allows the people driving down to take a few rare moments of quiet to enjoy the overhanging branches.
- Our response would be "what is SIGNIFICANT pruning?" We don't want it overly done which would affect the road's look.
- The shade canopy over the road is one of its most beautiful features.
- Can the tree pruning be done with some constraint, and how far into a property owner's land would the city expect to prune trees?
- The trees are the beauty and charm of this road. Depends on severity of pruning
- The Trees are part of the Appeal of this Road:
- Although, it is not my property that the trees would be trimmed on. However, I have no choice but to use this road daily as I live on Hawthorne Ct which I only have access to by driving on Hawthorne Rd.
- Terrible idea.

5. DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WITHIN EXISTING ROAD FOOTPRINT

The next level of drainage improvement would be to install a small ditch in limited locations, where positive drainage can be achieved. In addition, Public Works crews could install drain tile, or a small diameter pipe, that would increase roadside drainage. Please note that this is anticipated to improve, but not resolve, existing drainage issues.

Installation of drainage improvements could require isolated tree and boulder removal along the roadside. Would you be in favor of isolated tree and boulder removal along the roadside to further improve drainage?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	52.63% 20
No	26.32% 10
Undecided	21.05% 8
TOTAL	38

Comments (8)

5. Would you be in favor of isolated tree and boulder removal along the roadside to further improve drainage? (CONTINUED)

Comments:

- Yes if it didn't destroy the look and feel of the rustic road.
- Really depends where it is. The stone fences are part of the charm.
- If you go look at the rustic road in Washington County off Paradise Road and Hwy M, it is just paved with no ditches and is a small distance to some trees. It is beautiful and not full of potholes and dust and I do not see drainage issues when I travel this road. Why is this not an alternative?
- Again, I would want to understand what trees and boulders would need to be removed.
- Will the property owners have any information or input as to which trees or boulders require removal?
- More frequent cutting of the side of the road would help. Trees and boulders near the roadside keep the speed down and removing would add to the already speeding issue.
- The Road and Drainage are not Issues
- To me none of the options are ever really going to eliminate the mess that is Hawthorne Rd. unless it is paved. All other options, in my opinion, are a waste of time and money. Hawthorne Ct. has been around for over 30 years, and was finally paved a few years ago. Residents who have lived on that court couldn't be happier that we no longer deal with the safety issues, mess, and potholes that was once our gravel private court.

6. GRAVEL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

According to the Federal Highway Administration, in order to maintain a gravel road properly, operators must clearly understand the need for three basic elements:

1. A crowned driving surface,
2. A shoulder area that slopes directly away from the edge of the driving surface, and
3. A ditch.

As it exists today, Hawthorne Road does not include the majority of those basic elements. To implement a proper cross section, shoulder slope and ditches, the road would need to be reconstructed. Just as with paved roads, gravel roads can deteriorate beyond the point where routine maintenance can be effective. At that time, the road must be reconstructed to meet minimum road design standards.

For Hawthorne Road, that would first require a significant amount of tree removal. The majority of City right-of-ways are 60 feet wide, with approximately 50 feet clear from trees and other obstructions. The City Forester has noted that some of the trees along Hawthorne Road are specimen trees, and others are of high quality and size. To provide proper drainage, the majority of the trees would need to be clear-cut, to provide establishment of a ditch and room for proper equipment. While the ditch itself would be restored with grass, trees would not be replanted within the 50 foot area to maintain proper drainage.

Once the trees were removed, the existing gravel material would also be removed. At the bottom, or base, of the subgrade, a fabric or grid could be installed to prevent material separation. On top of the fabric or grid, a larger, structural stone base would be installed with a smaller, more fine gravel surface. As indicated, the final surface would be crowned to allow runoff to sheet flow off of the gravel surface to the shoulder, and eventually into the ditch.

It is likely that with the road reconstruction, the profile of the road will change. That could require the installation of cross road culverts in locations where none currently exist, or installation or modification of driveway culverts. Any rock walls or boulders in the ditches would be removed.

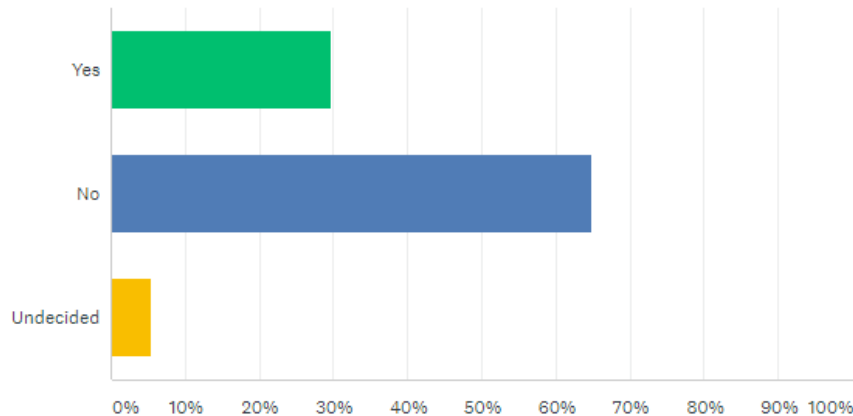
There is some potential that additional right-of-way acquisition could be required and that the significant changes in road profile could result in revocation of the Rustic Road status.

Given the information outlined above, are you in favor of the City considering a reconstruction of Hawthorne Road, resulting in a reconstructed gravel surface?

6. GRAVEL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Given the information outlined above, are you in favor of the City considering a reconstruction of Hawthorne Road, resulting in a reconstructed gravel surface? (CONTINUED)

Answered: 37 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	29.73% 11
No	64.86% 24
Undecided	5.41% 2
TOTAL	37

[Comments \(14\)](#)

Comments:

- Pave over the existing road. If the current drainage is sufficient, it should be sufficient if the surface is paved. Some drainage could be added.
- We chose to live here because we want to live in rustic area with animals, wildlife and access to safe road use as well as safety for our children and others.
- We moved here knowing what this is like. There are great benefits to the way Hawthorne is.
- This would totally alter Hawthorne Road, a unique road that attracted us almost 30 years ago due to its beauty and rural character. That would be sad indeed. It would become just another street.
- Look at above question's answer.... we are not looking for a big street here with bike lanes, carpool lanes, etc. We still like the rustic road...but paved. I already see runoff erosion going into the ditch that was "fixed" by my mailbox. Creating a deep ditch is dangerous for pedestrians and cars alike. When I get my mail from my car, I am extremely careful not to go too close to the edge for fear of falling into our ditch. Fixing our ditch created a hazard, when all I asked for was to clear out the culvert under our driveway because the road runoff is clogging our culvert and causing water backup. Paving the road will not have grit and gravel runoff. It is not all or nothing here. Also, Emerald Ash borer is taking care of many of the trees here so work on the ash and the other healthy trees can stay.
- As stated earlier, Hawthorne gets most of its charm from the old trees that naturally line its way. Cutting trees back 50 feet from the road would ruin this element of the road. I do not think that the road conditions are bad enough to merit complete reconstruction and stripping out all of the old trees. I think that most of the problems would be solved with a few new ditches and making sure to regrade the road when it is not going to rain heavily the next day.
- I feel very strongly about this. When we purchased our property in 2011, the atmosphere, quiet, and lack of high-speed traffic were very significant draws. We regularly use the road for all types of recreation (including horseback riding) and enjoy the natural beauty. The neighborhood would never again have the feel it has today if the described roadwork were completed.
- Not if rustic road status would be revoked
- No no no

6. GRAVEL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Given the information outlined above, are you in favor of the City considering a reconstruction of Hawthorne Road, resulting in a reconstructed gravel surface? (CONTINUED)

Comments:

- There are many Rustic Roads in the state and most are paved. I do not understand why any improvements would cause this designation to change.
- With all the reconstruction Hawthorne Rd will look like all the other roads. This road is a hidden jewel in Mequon and should not have its character changed.
- Although, I think paving would be a more permanent and long term solution. Based on what is said above, the City of Mequon and Hawthorne Rd. do not include even the basic elements that the Federal Highway Administration require in order to properly maintain a gravel road. How can this even be the choice of residents as to whether or not these issue are taken seriously and finally addressed and fixed? This is a City owned and maintained road, it is not private, and should be treated like every other road in the City and maintained properly to keep it safe for all that use it. The majority of the year it is a hazard, and I have seen many bike and car accidents on the road due to poor maintenance. What is the benefit of keeping the Rustic Rdoad status if it is unsafe for bikers, hikers, walkers, etc?! It also sounds like Hawthorne Rd has deteriorated beyond the point where routine maintenance is even effective, it sounds like something needs to be done, and its not an option any longer.
- We want to keep our trees on Hawthorne , it's part of the charm of this lovely road!
- Just pave the road. Leave some of the specimen trees. There are ways put in an underground pipe where a ditch can't be created.

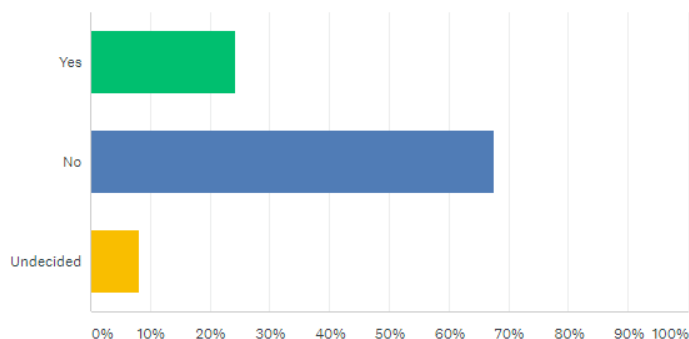
7. ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND PAVING

Some residents have inquired about the potential to pave the gravel road. Due to all of the issues previously outlined with both the insufficient roadside drainage and quality of the existing material, adding asphalt to the existing gravel is not sufficient. Doing so would only result in significant surface cracking and potholing, as the issues with the underlying gravel would project through the asphalt surface.

In addition to those improvements outlined in the previous question, paving the road would require additional widening to provide proper width of drive lanes and shoulders. The City would also need to consider whether to provide widened paved shoulders to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian traffic.

Given the information outlined above, are you in favor of the City considering reconstructing and paving the gravel portion of Hawthorne Road?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	24.32% 9
▼ No	67.57% 25
▼ Undecided	8.11% 3
TOTAL	37

[Comments \(14\)](#)

7. ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND PAVING

Given the information outlined above, are you in favor of the City considering reconstructing and paving the gravel portion of Hawthorne Road? (CONTINUED)

Comments:

- See previous comments.
- Absolute no. This would increase speeders on the road, which there are already many, joy riders etc., making it more dangerous to enjoy the road and where we live. Absolute no.
- Absolutely not
- Again, this would invite people to drive fast; zipping along just to get to their destination and destroy the horse country tradition of this special road!!
- Overkill. We don't need pedestrian/bike lanes. Scrape out the mud you call a road and put in a small paved road. Have any of you gone to see the rustic road off of Hwy M? Why could they do what they did, and still maintained rustic road status and Mequon won't?
- Hawthorne's gravel surface is one of the things I like most about the road. Many people don't travel fast down Hawthorne due to the fact that it is gravel. Because of that, I am very comfortable taking my dogs out on walks and running on the road. If the road is paved, I would be concerned about increased traffic and increased speeds on the road.
- Paving would have a significant negative impact on current recreational uses, including horseback riding, which make the Hawthorne Road neighborhood so attractive (and the reason we moved here). Also, I am extremely concerned about high-speed traffic. Even given the current condition of the road, there are often vehicles passing our property at speeds well in excess of the 25 mph speed limit. Paving or significantly improving the road surface will result in much more high speed traffic, which would be extremely undesirable and totally undermine our reason for living here.
- + Pave it like Hawthorne Ct. and Rustic Road R-52. Those roads kept the width the same, have minimal ditches and have minimal tree removal. + There is no need for bicycle lanes, sidewalks, etc....this is utopian design criteria, too costly, and not practical for a rural environment. + What about chip-and-seal?
- (1) We currently have a problem with people speeding down the road, even in its current condition. If the road were to be paved I fear that it would turn into a speedway (2) I don't own horses but many of the local residents do, how does pavement affect the use of the road by the riders? (3) Every single person who has purchased homes/properties along Hawthorne did so knowing the rustic road conditions, it is part of what makes our area unique and peaceful. I personally am happy with the twice a year maintenance done by the city crews and see no need to change.
- If folks do not like the road they should move to a paved road. This road is for horses and walking and enjoying nature Paving would increase driving speeds leading to bad things. No to paving or removing trees
- Widened paved shoulders to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians is ridiculous. Let's not overthink the problem.
- For reasons previously stated I am against paving.. If residents want a paved road move to a different road. There are plenty out there. Keep Hawthorne rd unique.
- Please read comments above. If you are going to take the time and spend the money to reconstruct the gravel surface it could be suggested to include funding for the paving of Hawthorne Rd. in a future road program. Simply fixing the gravel base and leaving it to deteriorate again over time will only solve the problem for now, and not for the future.
- Pave it, but don't widen it.

8. There are several iterations and alternatives to those options outlined in the previous questions. As stated in the introduction, this survey is intended to revisit the type of maintenance conducted on the gravel portion of Hawthorne Road so that City officials can determine how to move forward.

ALTERNATIVE 1: Privatize Hawthorne Road*

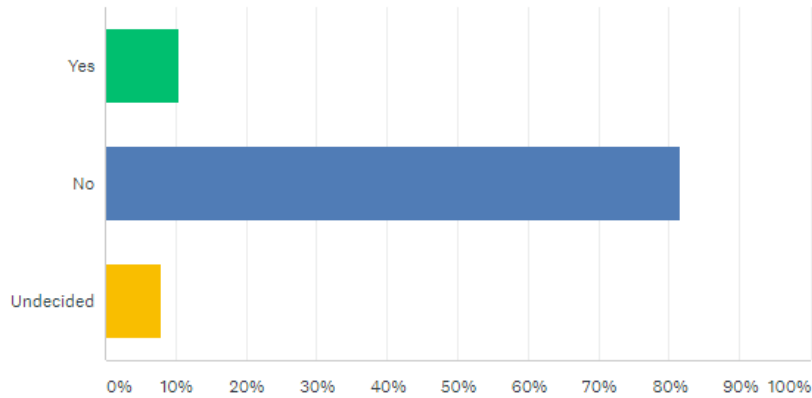
*Please note that this is neither being suggested nor considered by the City, but is merely listed as an alternative.

Several years ago, the residents of Hawthorne Court, a private road on the north side of Hawthorne Road, contacted the City to understand the process to make Hawthorne Court a public road. The process would

have required right-of-way acquisition, tree removal, establishment of roadside ditches and contemplated paving. Ultimately the residents decided not to petition the City to make the road public, and instead paved the roads themselves. Hawthorne Court residents are required to contract for and financially support all road maintenance efforts, including snow removal.

Given the information outlined above, would you be interested in having Hawthorne Road established as a private road?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	10.53% 4
No	81.58% 31
Undecided	7.89% 3
TOTAL	38

Comments (4)

Comments:

- I think the City should pay for it.
- This is a city owned and maintained road, and its time the City took more responsibility for it and properly maintained it rather than trying to brush it off on the residents as their problem.
- Absolutely not, people, contractors, landscapers drive like mad people on this road that is regulated at 25 m/h supposedly . I've personally call the police department many times for heractic driving. More than 50 miles!,, It would be nice to have more cops supervising before a deadly accident happens with all the horses around. I got my shoulder broken two years ago, while riding my horse who got spooked by a landscaper truck who didn't slow down when he saw me. Speed bumps would be a good alternative. The school buses also drive crazy like if they were on a mission. Paving Hawthorne road would be the beginning of the end. Turn a beautiful country side into something ugly where bikers in summer will drive us crazy with their harley'engine. The pot holes are made by speeders' let's find a way to slow down the speed Thank you
- But, that would depend on the cost.

9. ALTERNATIVE 2: Extend Asphalt Pavement on East End of Hawthorne Road

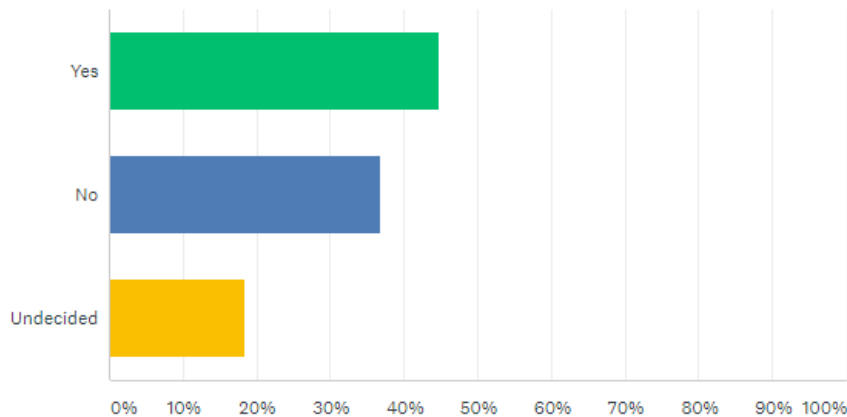
One of the areas most often reported as a cause of concern is just west of the paved section on the east side of Hawthorne Road, nearest to Wauwatosia Road. With some additional drainage improvements in this isolated area, the pavement could be extended farther to the west.

Given the information outlined above, would you be in favor of the City considering extending the pavement near Wauwatosia Road?

9. ALTERNATIVE 2: Extend Asphalt Pavement on East End of Hawthorne Road

Given the information outlined above, would you be in favor of the City considering extending the pavement near Wauwatosa Road?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Yes	44.74%	17
▼ No	36.84%	14
▼ Undecided	18.42%	7
TOTAL		38

[Comments \(9\)](#)

Comments:

- Yes, but it depends on how far west you go.
- Paving a portion of the road to just past (west of) the bridge would be helpful in the winter
- Possibly the bridge area as I know that gets slippery and dangerous for buses etc.
- If it goes to our property...we are at the midpoint of this mess and cannot go a shorter route when the going gets dangerous. I invite you to drive here mid spring thaw when you can't even get an emergency vehicle down this road in a timely fashion. Or come down here a day after a snow when they didn't plow/sand and now we have glare ice the entire length of the road! If you pave, we can salt and melt the ice.
- The most problematic area is the steep hilly area on the east, this is especially true in winter with the ice, but also when it's wet during the rainy season. So I would be in favor of looking at extending the asphalt east to the top of the incline. Same is true for the incline just to the west of Hawthorne CT, I would be in favor of extending the asphalt down to the intersection with the court.
- This may be the best option, provided it extends to 8400 W Hawthorne Road
- It is my understanding that the east and west ends of Hawthorne were paved years ago after complaints from farmers with dust on there adjacent orchards. If these sections have been paved for years lets pave the rest.
- However, this is the same issue on the west end of Hawthorne Rd. Once you hit the end of the pavement at the west end of Hawthorne rd and go down the hill toward Hawthorne Ct. is what is constantly a sheet of ice and full of potholes. This is where I have seen multiple car accidents as well as school buses in the ditch after sliding off the road.
- Make sure you extend it as far as the power lines.

10. As indicated previously, this survey is intended for information gathering purposes. The intent is to compile the responses and submit them to the Public Works Committee with a staff report. Public Works Committee meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend. If the survey has not provided sufficient opportunity for you to provide information regarding Hawthorne Road, a comment box is

available below. In addition, you are welcome to contact Kristen Lundeen, Director of Public Works/City Engineer at 262-236-2938 or klundeen@ci.mequon.wi.us to share any further information.

Comments:

- Road is ruining our cars. It is creating a dangerous situation. Winter is very bad and DPW doesn't want to do repair to fix the pot holes.
- We do not support major changes to the aesthetic of the road... putting up with the bumpy roads a few times of year is definitely worth living here and enjoying the freedom and peacefulness of our lifestyle... thank you.
- Mequon
- I wonder what people were thinking when they moved here?
- To recap, if Washington County can have a rustic paved road, so can Mequon! (with no ditches, 60 foot easements, clear cut trees, etc.)
- I have lived on Hawthorne road since 2005. When we purchased the home, it was communicated that the city and residents of Hawthorne road had decided it would always be a gravel road. Everyone buying a home on the road was well aware of it being a gravel road and that it had already been decided to STAY a gravel road. The road does get pot holes and some winters have been harder on the road than others. We have noted that the last several times the road has been worked on, it rains the next day which just washes away all the work the city has done. Perhaps checking the weather the day of and being able to reschedule the repair if rain is in the forecast would help.
- I chose to live on Hawthorne because it is a gravel rustic road. I chose to live here knowing that gravel roads are subject to developing potholes and getting soggy in the rain. But the benefits of living on Hawthorne as a gravel road outweigh these additional costs/inconveniences. I do not think that the road conditions merit any extreme measures.
- We have lived on Hawthorne Rd for 47 years and chose this road because it is a gravel road and a very beautiful one at that! Each season brings its own beauty because of the closeness of the trees to the road...many people who we meet when they're walking down the road, driving down the road, or riding their horses down it, say they come just because of the beauty. Everyone who lives on this rustic road, (which it was designated about 25+ years ago), knows when they move here that is IS a gravel road. If they don't like that, they could always have chosen a different road here in lovely Mequon. The rustic road designation was so they would not put ditches, blacktop or expand the width of the road which would take out the lovely trees. We feel very strongly about that! We walk on the road in all seasons, daily with our dog, often with grandkids, and the only thing that sometimes bothers us is how fast some of the cars shoot down the road....not all of course, but a number who go over the limit. Hopefully the road should slow them down a bit for safety for people and wildlife. I have heard people say their car gets dirty driving in certain weather....there are car washes close by. We really feel that our special road is a unique treasure here in Mequon and Wisconsin, and would like it to remain as it is without butchering and removing lots of trees, etc. Thank you for letting us give our input!
- Hawthorne road is a gravel, rural road and everyone along it has accepted this as part of it's unique appeal. The people complaining the most are the people who have been here the shortest period of time and do not appreciate its rustic flavor. They are also the ones who do not abide with the current speed limit and put the rest of us in peril with their self centered attitudes. Any major changes to the road will only allow these few to drive faster and take away the rustic nature and safety we have all been a part of for many years. Keep it as it is for the benefit of all despite the random complaints from the few.
- Although I am in favor of paving Hawthorne Road, I would like to have a full understanding of how much of the tree population would be sacrificed to achieve this purpose. It is reasonable to expect that some trees will need to be cut but: How many? Which trees? I feel at least a preliminary estimate should be done to have a more informed set of facts before any decision is made regarding this matter. Any alternative that would alter the current condition of the road either as a gravel or paved one will effect the tree population. Under both scenarios a mitigation plan needs to be incorporated to replace and if possible increase the tree population. Finally I would be in favor of a reasonable one time tax assessment to increase the financial resources for such mitigation plan. Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Respectfully
Rafael Luciano

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Comments:

- I remain frustrated that there are no reasonable solutions. The road is simply unsafe often in winter being an impassable sheet of ice. We should be able to get permission to pave it as is without widening for safety and to maintain rustic road designation and protect specimen trees and the canopy. We did that on the court and it worked well. Mequon simply does not want a solution.
- Thanks for organizing survey and meeting!!!
- Having lived on Hawthorne Road for over 30 years, I have been through a number of discussions on making major changes to the road. Usually those discussions are brought up by newer residents over concerns of convenience (including the need for frequent car washes, the 25 mph speed limit, and road dust). I can't help but wonder what drew them to this neighborhood in the first place and did the advocates for paving preconceive that all residents viewed this unusual rustic place as a road that needed to be drastically altered. I appreciate the thorough explanation given here by the public works department to explain our options and the price to be paid for extreme alterations. In my opinion, that price is the complete abolishment of a unique and beautiful rustic road and the lifestyle that it affords. I am in favor of some modest improvement with communication between residents and the city.
- Have you researched other alternatives? Asphalt Grindings and chip sealing, bituminous, etc?
- The city road crew is doing a great job on Hawthorne rd. All of the previous listed complaints this past winter are the norm for this road. There has been lots of new home owners over the past years. I think the condition of this road is often overlooked when dreaming about living here. Take a break right now and come walk this road with me. It's absolutely beautiful!!!!
- Hawthorne Road is a Great Rustic Road to Live on and Enjoy; Thank you:
- Mequon
- These are my views. Something needs to be done soon. Unfortunately, I will be out of town for the meeting in November.
- I love Hawthorne Rd. just the way it is and am thankful for the city for maintaining it as best they can!!!