

Gallatin County Study Commission Survey

INSTRUCTIONS: Only complete this survey if the enclosed letter is addressed to you personally. **Clearly mark only one response for each question or statement** and return the completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Questions #6-9 below will be used to ensure that responses are representative of all registered voters in Gallatin County. The characteristics of the full set of respondents will match with important Gallatin County voter characteristics.

1. Are you a registered voter in Gallatin County, Montana?

- Yes
- No

2. How long have you lived in Gallatin County?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-2 years
- 3-5 years
- 6-10 years
- More than 10 years
- I no longer live in Gallatin County

3. On average, how often do you interact with Gallatin County government employees (for example, county courts, attorneys, sheriff, clerks, health department, 911, weeds, treasurer/motor vehicle department, solid waste, fairgrounds)? *[See back of cover letter for complete list]*

- Daily or more frequently
- Not daily but multiple times per month
- Monthly or less frequently
- Never

4. Do you live within the city limits of one of the towns or cities in Gallatin County?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

5. Do you pay property taxes in Gallatin County?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

6. What is the highest degree or level of school you have **completed**?

- Less than high school
- High school diploma / GED
- Associate's / junior college degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate degree
- Don't know

7. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary / other

8. Which of the following age categories applies to you?

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75-84
- 85+

9. For whom did you vote in the 2024 election for U.S. president?

- Donald J. Trump, Republican
- Kamala D. Harris, Democrat
- Robert F. Kennedy Jr., We the People
- Chase Oliver, Libertarian
- Jill Stein, Green
- Other / none of the above
- Did not vote
- Don't recall

INSTRUCTIONS: Respond to the following items about your views and experiences as they relate to **Gallatin County government**. Do NOT include your views or experiences with any city government in Gallatin County. If your views and experiences differ across the departments and offices of Gallatin County government, you can provide averaged responses.

10. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
Information provided by Gallatin County government is accessible.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Technologies used by Gallatin County government are user friendly.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
The employees of Gallatin County government departments and offices are accessible.	<input type="checkbox"/>						

11. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
It is clear whom to contact in Gallatin County government when I need something.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
I can get answers from Gallatin County government when I need them.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Gallatin County government provides clear channels for input from the public.	<input type="checkbox"/>						

12. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
Gallatin County government departments and offices are responsive to initial contacts.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Gallatin County government deals with concerns in a satisfactory manner.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Gallatin County government deals with concerns in a timely manner.	<input type="checkbox"/>						

13. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
Gallatin County employees have appropriate resources to carry out their jobs.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Gallatin County government is generally effective in carrying out its responsibilities.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Gallatin County government meaningfully incorporates public input into its decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>						

14. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. *[See cover letter for elected and nonelected offices]*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
The departments and offices of Gallatin County government provide sufficient public notice.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
The departments and offices of Gallatin County government make decisions in transparent ways.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
The checks and balances in Gallatin County government are adequate.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
The power balance between elected and nonelected offices in Gallatin County government is appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/>						

15. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. *[See cover letter for elected and nonelected offices]*

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
Gallatin County elected officials are appropriately accountable to the public.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Gallatin County nonelected officials are appropriately accountable to the public.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
It is clear who is responsible for decisions in Gallatin County government.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
The current structure of Gallatin County government still functionally meets the needs of Gallatin County citizens.	<input type="checkbox"/>						

16. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Certain groups or people get preferential economic treatment from Gallatin County government.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government based on political party affiliation .	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government based on geography (for example, based on zoning or incorporation).	<input type="checkbox"/>						

17. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select "Unsure" if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Slightly agree	Slightly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Unsure
More Gallatin County government leadership positions should be appointed rather than elected positions.	<input type="checkbox"/>						
More Gallatin County government leadership positions should be nonpartisan (i.e., not affiliated with political parties).	<input type="checkbox"/>						
More Gallatin County government leadership positions should have minimum professional qualifications.	<input type="checkbox"/>						

18. If you could change any **one thing** about Gallatin County government, what would it be and why?

Thank you for your participation!