

City of Taylor, TX Police Chief Survey Summary

A total of 43 surveys were received; a summary of the responses is listed below:

Question 1: What do you believe are the most significant challenges facing the Taylor Police Department?

Residents were clear that the department is severely understaffed, struggling to retain officers, and unable to keep pace with the city's rapid growth. Many shared concerns that limited staffing and resources are leading to burnout, reduced responsiveness, and a lack of proactive policing. There is also a growing expectation to address rising crime, drugs, homelessness, and traffic issues with more urgency and consistency. Overall, the message was direct: the department needs more people, stronger leadership direction, competitive pay, and a plan to handle Taylor's growth now and not years down the road.

Question 2: Are there any specific changes you would like to see implemented within the Police Department?

Community feedback reflected a strong desire for meaningful improvements within the Taylor Police Department, with priorities centered on increased staffing, competitive compensation, and enhanced officer training across all levels to strengthen service delivery and prepare for continued growth. Respondents expressed interest in a more proactive and visible police presence, including increased patrols in neighborhoods, parks, schools, and business areas, as well as expanded specialized units to address drugs, homelessness, traffic enforcement, and investigative needs. Many emphasized the importance of modernized leadership, clearer vision and expectations, improved internal procedures, and greater transparency—particularly through community engagement, social media communication, and accessibility of body-camera footage. Additionally, residents cited the need for stronger community policing efforts, improved mental-health response training, and increased focus on professionalism and consistency in enforcement, all aimed at strengthening trust, accountability, and collaboration between the department and the community.

Question 3: What characteristics/traits would you like to see in the next Police Chief?

Residents expressed a strong desire for a principled, supportive, and visible leader who demonstrates integrity, accountability, and professionalism. The community wants a Chief who will advocate for the needs of the department, support and develop officers, and set clear expectations while fostering a positive and inclusive culture built on trust and respect. They value a leader who is approachable, engaged, and committed to building strong relationships with both staff and the community through transparency, communication, and community-focused policing. Respondents also emphasized the importance of a forward-thinking, experienced Chief who can manage growth, embrace innovation, invest in training, and stay committed to the City of Taylor for the long term.

Question 4: Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

Residents emphasized that Taylor is at a critical turning point, and the selection of the next Police Chief will heavily influence whether the department is prepared for the city's rapid growth. Many urged the City to prioritize a leader with a clear vision, modern policing practices, and the courage to address staffing, crime, and cultural issues head-on. Several residents stressed that the Chief should live in Taylor, be visible and engaged, and uphold high expectations for officer performance, training, and accountability. A recurring theme was the need for updated policies, stronger leadership, and more proactive policing, along with a desire for a department that attracts and retains high-quality officers and earns the community's trust and respect.