



2027 Capital & Operating Budget Phase 1: Public Engagement Report

Background & Objectives

Background

A municipality's annual budget is one of its most important policy documents, outlining how resources will be collected, allocated, and invested to maintain and enhance municipal services, infrastructure, and quality of life for residents.

The City of Belleville's budget consists of two primary components: the operating budget, which funds the day-to-day delivery of municipal services, and the capital budget, which supports investments in infrastructure, facilities, equipment and other long-term assets. The budget process balances community needs and priorities with the City's strategic objectives, legislative requirements and long-term financial sustainability.

Public engagement is an established and valued component of the City's annual budget process. Resident feedback helps inform Council and staff as budget priorities are developed and refined, ensuring that community perspectives are considered alongside technical, operational, and financial considerations.

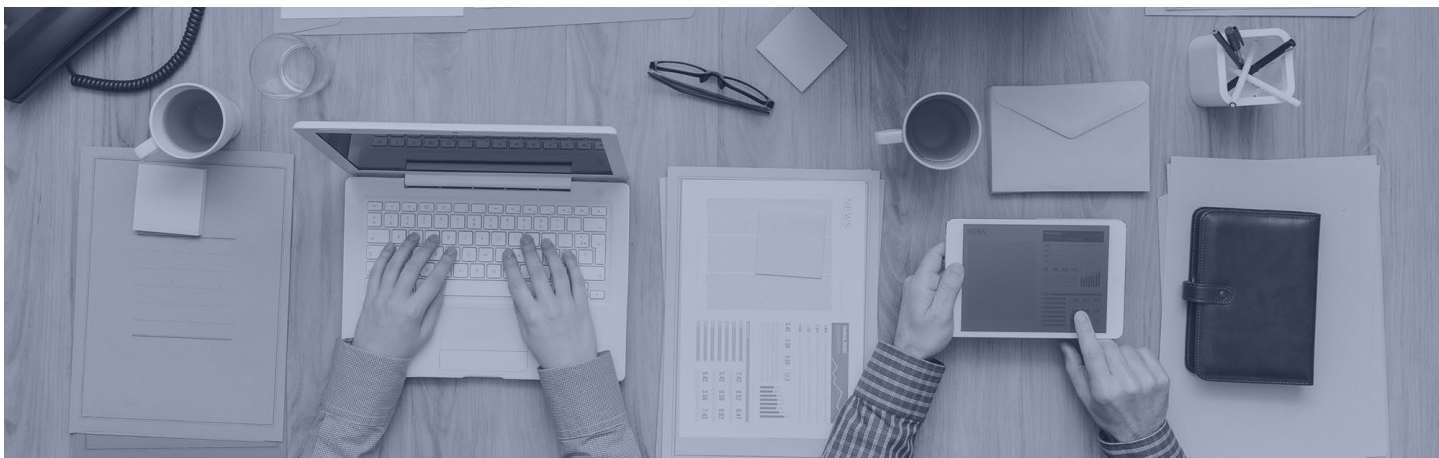
The first phase of engagement for the 2027 capital and operating budgets consisted of a preliminary budget survey designed to gather feedback on residents' priorities for municipal services, programs and investments. The survey focused on identifying areas of importance to the community and spending priorities. Feedback collected during this phase will help inform the development of budget guidelines.

The second phase of engagement will take place following the release of the draft 2027 capital and operating budgets. Residents will have the opportunity to review proposed budget investments and provide feedback on specific projects, initiatives and service areas identified within the draft budgets. This input will be shared with Council as part of the budget deliberation and decision-making process.

Objectives

The goal behind this year's communications and engagement strategy was as follows:

- Provide residents with ongoing educational material and resources around the budget process.
- Encourage direct engagement from as many residents as possible.
- Provide council and staff with public feedback to help shape a budget and plan that best serves their residents.



Engagement Strategy

Timeline

- May – Preliminary survey to gauge residents' budget priorities (closed June 12).
- July & August – Presentation of preliminary survey results and creation of budget guidelines.
- January – Draft capital and operating budget posted for public feedback.
- February – Capital and operating budget meeting and budget approval.



Tactics

Communications has used a number of channels to inform and engage the public through this first phase of engagement, including:

- Online Survey
- Budget Engagement Webpage
- Comment Card
- Budget 101 Document
- Direct Mailouts in Tax Notices
- Media Release
- Email to News Subscribers
- Website Alert
- Social Media (Paid & Organic)
- Community Press Ad
- InQuinte/Quinte News Ads
- Digital Billboard
- QSWC Marquee Sign
- TV Screens
- Newsletter

Belleville's Budget 101

Help Shape Belleville's 2027 Budget

Residents are invited to take part in shaping the City's 2027 budget and help guide future priorities for local services and infrastructure. The preliminary budget survey is open now through **June 12**. Feedback will help inform and shape priorities for the upcoming budget, ensuring community perspectives are reflected in decision-making.

Take the Survey

Have your say before the deadline—your input matters.

2027 Budget: Important Dates

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- **July/August** – Presentation of survey results and creation of budget guidelines.
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Results & Metrics

Communications around the 2027 Preliminary Budget Survey have garnered the following results:

Webpage

Total views of webpage during the survey period of May 11 to June 12:

- Belleville.ca/Budget – 658 (175% traffic increase from previous period of April 8-May 10)
- Budget Engagement Webpage – 73 (92% traffic increase from previous period of April 8-May 10)
- News Release – 28

Social Media

Social media metrics during survey period (May 11-June 12):

- Facebook (Organic) – 5 Posts Total with Average of 1,852 Views, 4 Interactions and 9 Link Clicks
- Facebook and Instagram (Paid) – Website Traffic Campaign with Total of 498 Views (Survey Link)
- Twitter – 5 Organic Posts Total with Average of 151 Impressions and Engagement of 6

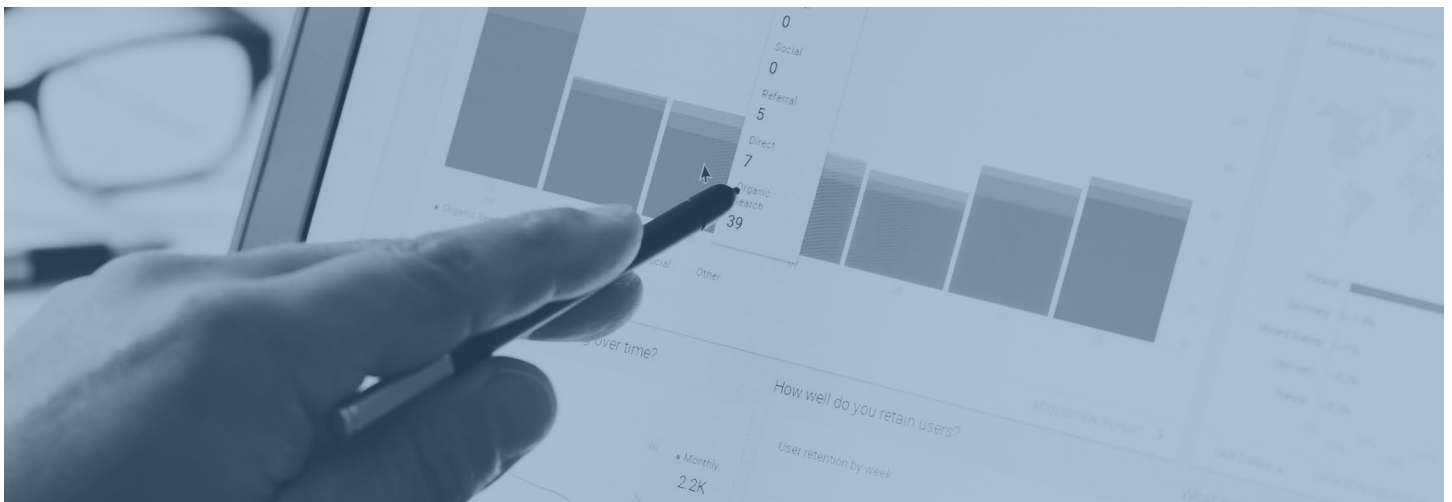
Digital

- Email to News Subscribers – Reached 401 Subscribers
- Belleville Updates Newsletter – Reached 440 Subscribers
- Belleville's Budget 101 Newsletter – Reached 175 Subscribers
- Quinte Sports & Wellness Centre Marquee Display – AADT of 22,000/Month

Print

- Community Press Ad – Total Reach of Approx. 18,553 Belleville Households
- Informational Buck Slip – Mailed to Approx. 22,000 Belleville Households in Tax Notices

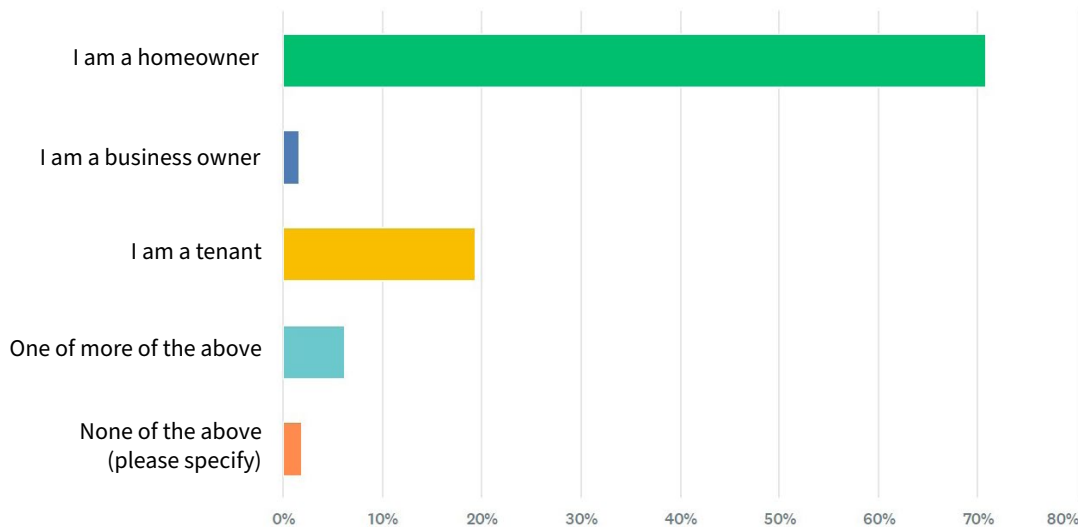
The results above were collected using Google Analytics, Meta Business Suite, Twitter Analytics, iCreate reporting and annual average daily traffic (as last reported in 2014).



Survey Summary

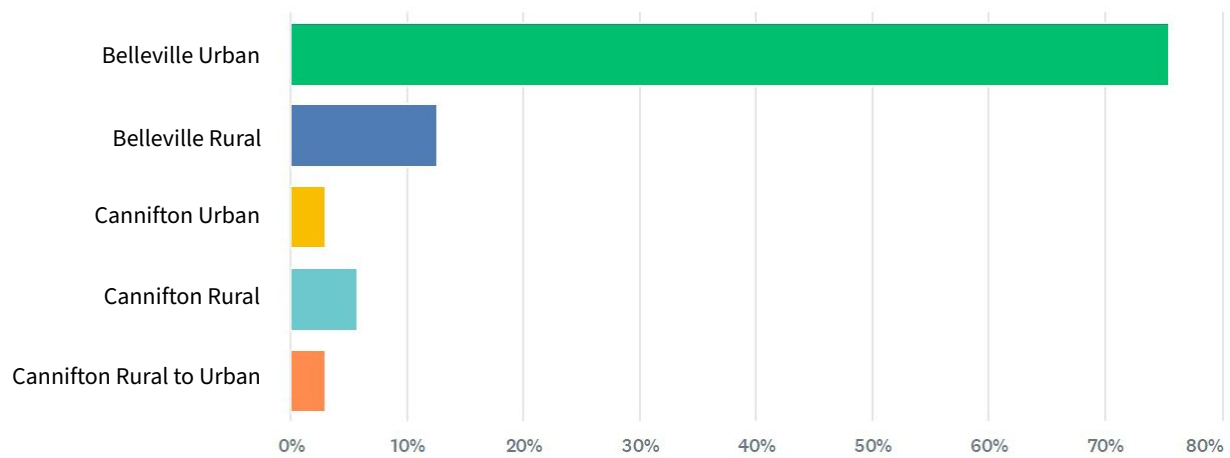
The 2027 Preliminary Budget Survey ran from May 11 to June 12. Below is a summary of the 796 total responses and feedback received through the survey period. A brief analysis of comments can be found beneath each question. See Appendix A for detailed responses.

Q1: Do you live and/or own a business in Belleville?



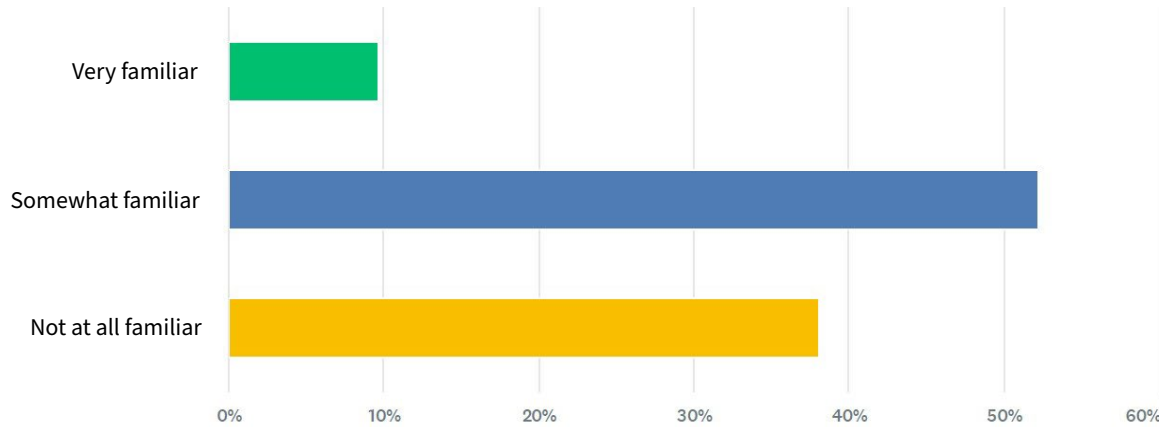
Analysis: The survey was heavily weighted toward homeowners, who represented 70.8% of all respondents. This is important context for interpreting later results because many responses are likely shaped by a property-taxpayer perspective. Tenants were the second-largest group at 19.4%, while business owners alone represented a comparatively small share.

Q2: Which tax billing area do you live in?



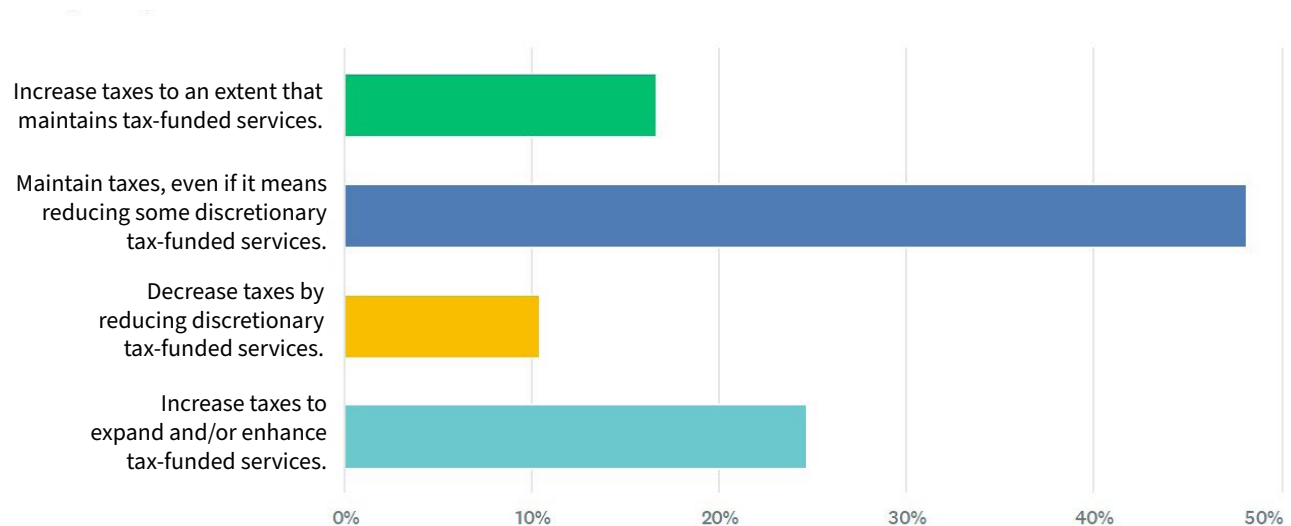
Analysis: Most respondents who answered lived in the Belleville Urban tax billing area. This suggests the survey is most reflective of urban service expectations, such as roads, sidewalks, transit, parks, policing visibility, downtown issues, and urban affordability concerns.

Q3: How familiar are you with how the City develops the annual Capital and Operating Budgets?



Analysis: Only 9.7% of respondents said they were very familiar with the City budget process. Almost four in ten respondents said they were not at all familiar, indicating a meaningful budget literacy challenge.

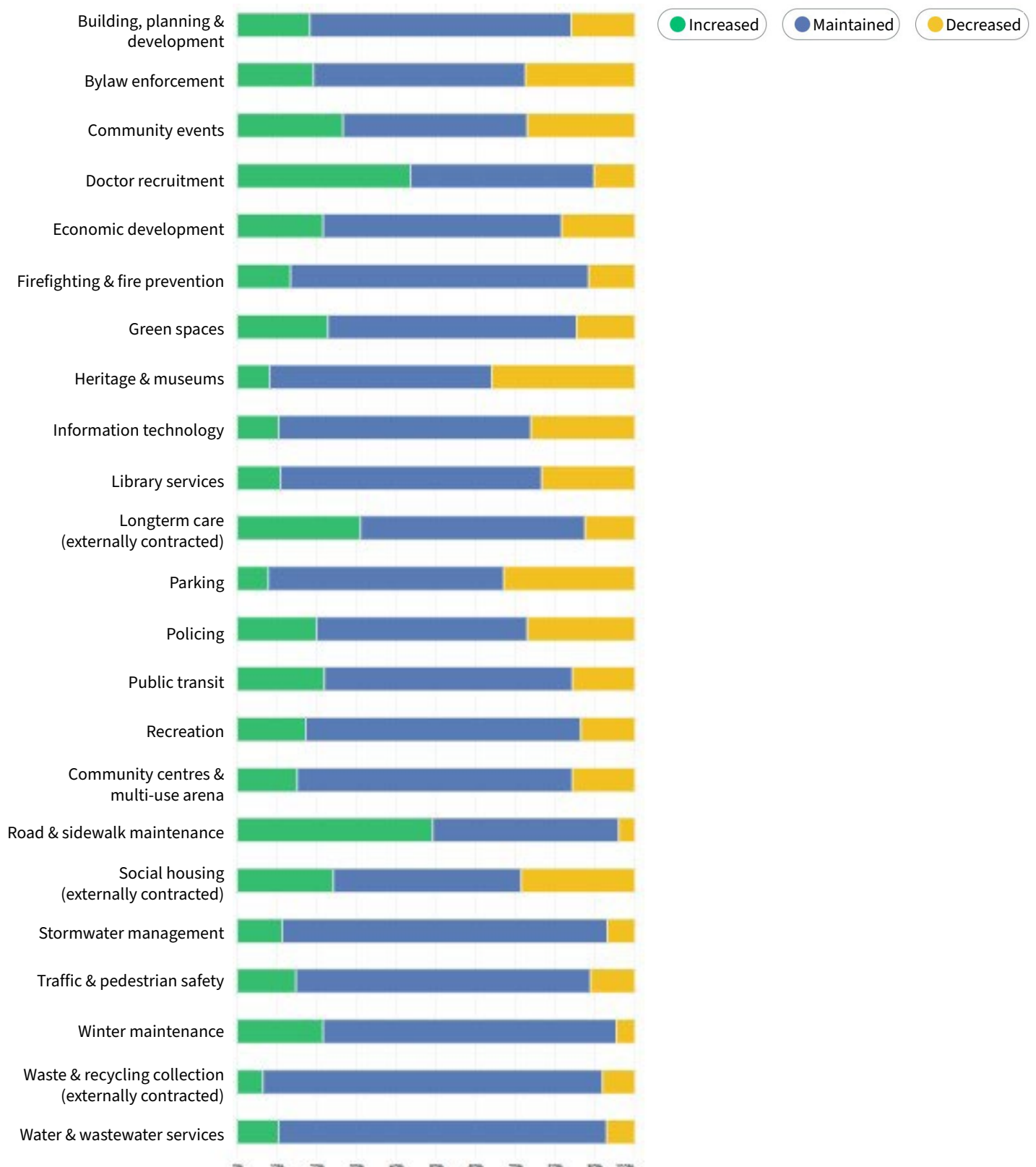
Q4: Please indicate which of the following statements below comes close to capturing your point of view:



Analysis: The largest group preferred maintaining taxes even if some discretionary services are reduced. When combined with those who preferred decreasing taxes, 72.9% of respondents selected a tax-restraint option. Open-ended comments show that residents define discretionary services differently.

When "reduce discretionary services" was selected, the most common services specified were; Police funding, homelessness services, staff compensation, and Transit services.

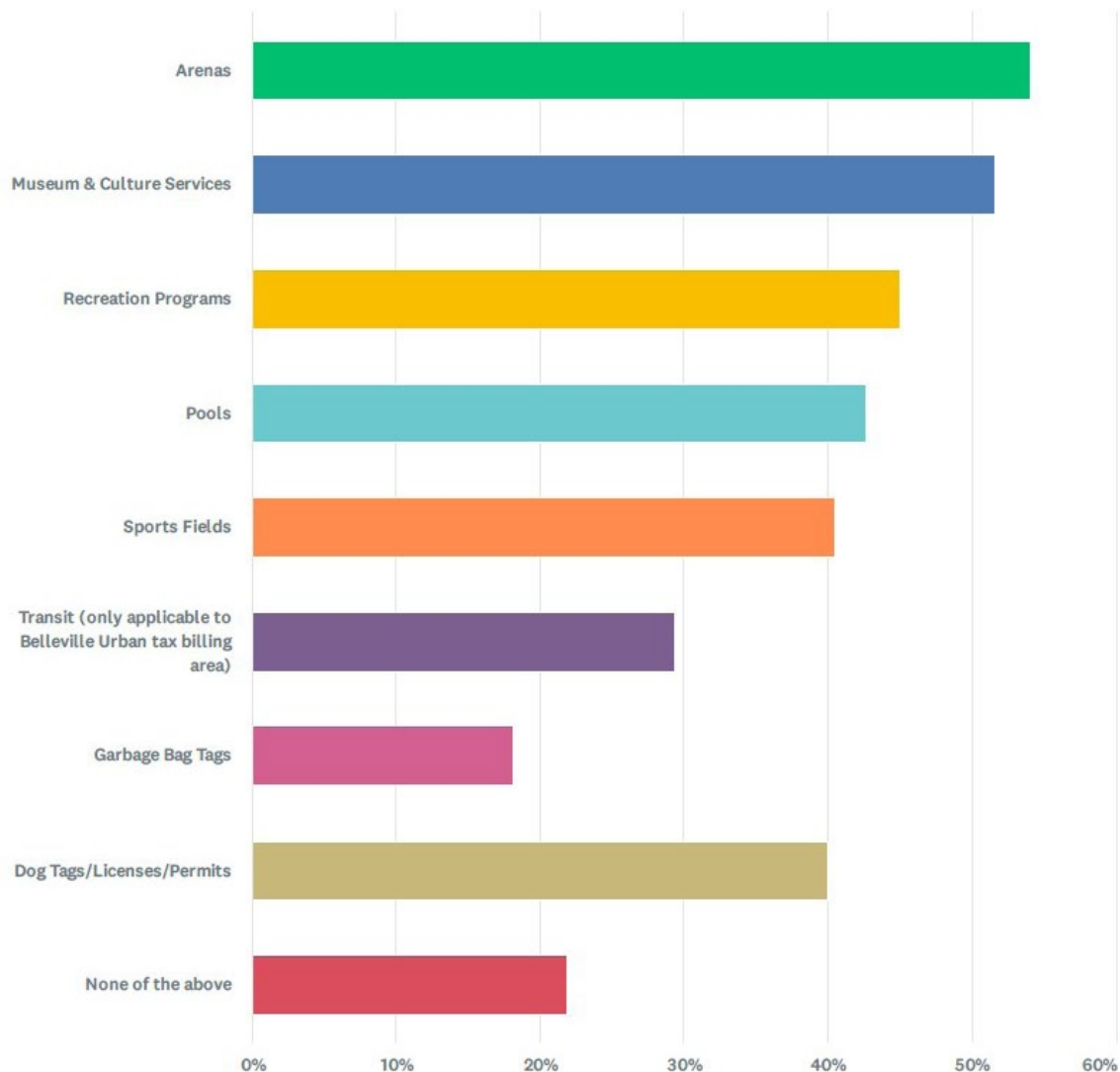
Q5: For each of services listed below that are directly or indirectly provided by the City, please indicate whether the level of service should be increased, maintained, or decreased...



Analysis: Most service areas had a maintain plurality, but road and sidewalk maintenance was the strongest increase priority. Doctor recruitment was also strongly supported for increased or maintained service.

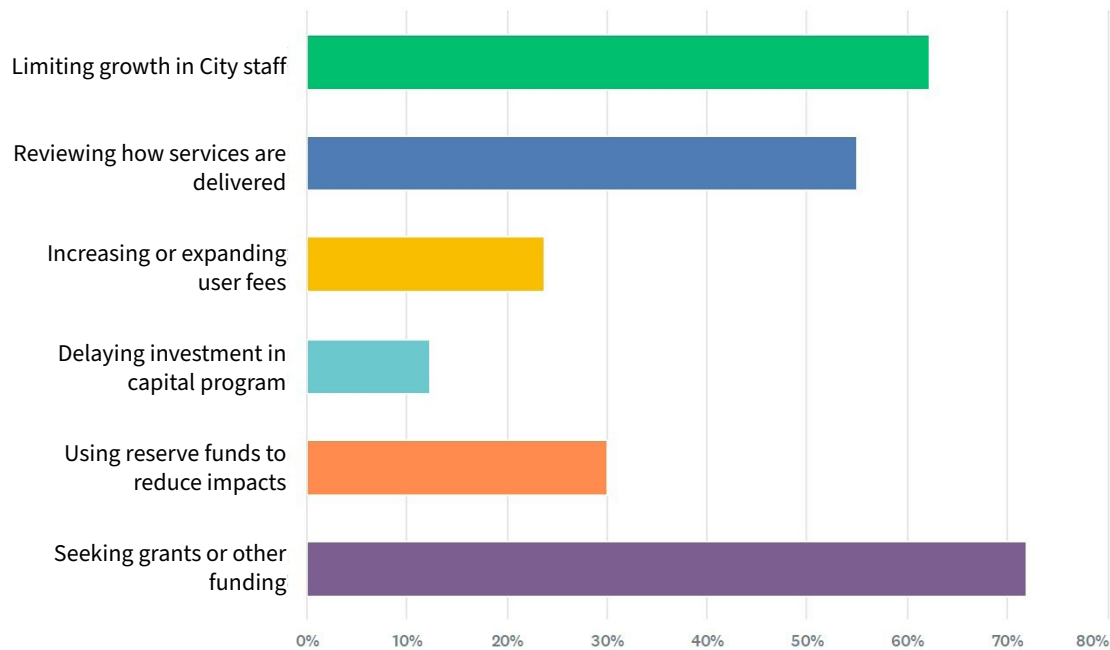
Heritage and museums, parking, social housing, policing, by-law enforcement, community events, and information technology showed comparatively higher decrease pressure.

Q6: The following services are partially funded user fees. Please identify which service(s) you would support an increase in user fees to reduce reliance on property taxes (select all that apply)...



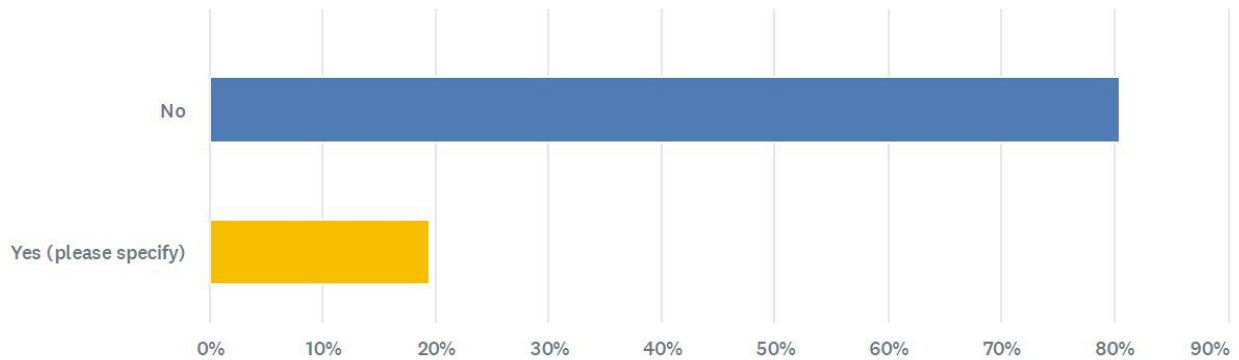
Analysis: Respondents were most open to user fee increases for arenas, museum/culture services, recreation programs, pools, sports fields, and dog licences/permits. Support was much lower for transit and garbage bag tags.

Q7: Which cost saving measures should Council focus on when facing budget pressures? (select up to three)



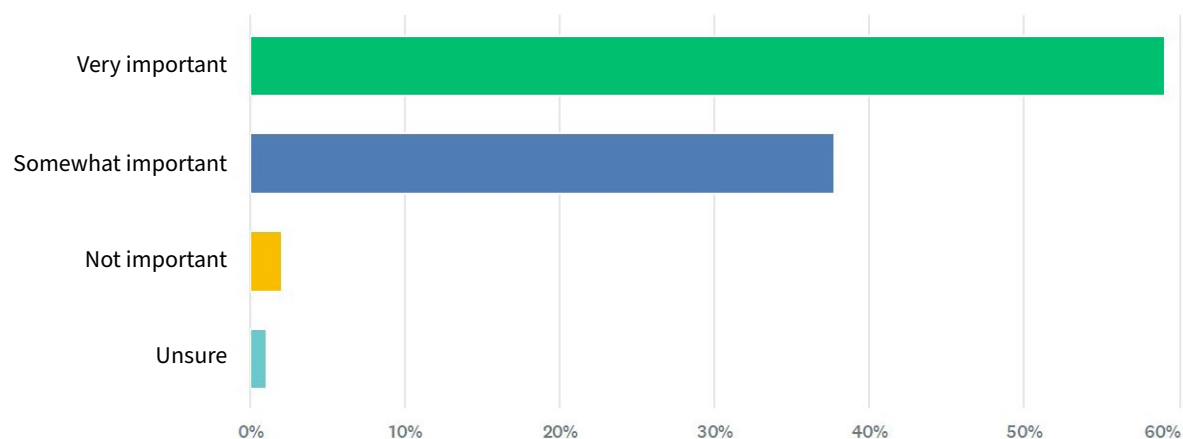
Analysis: The strongest cost-saving preference was seeking grants or other funding, followed by limiting growth in City staff and reviewing how services are delivered. Delaying capital investment had the lowest support.

Q8: The City updates its Departmental Operating Plan in the annual budget process. This document provides a comprehensive overview of past accomplishments, strategic objectives, operational goals, key initiatives, key performance indicators, and budget projections for the upcoming year. Based on the City's existing Key Performance Indicators, are there additional performance indicators and/or activities that you would like the City to regularly report on?



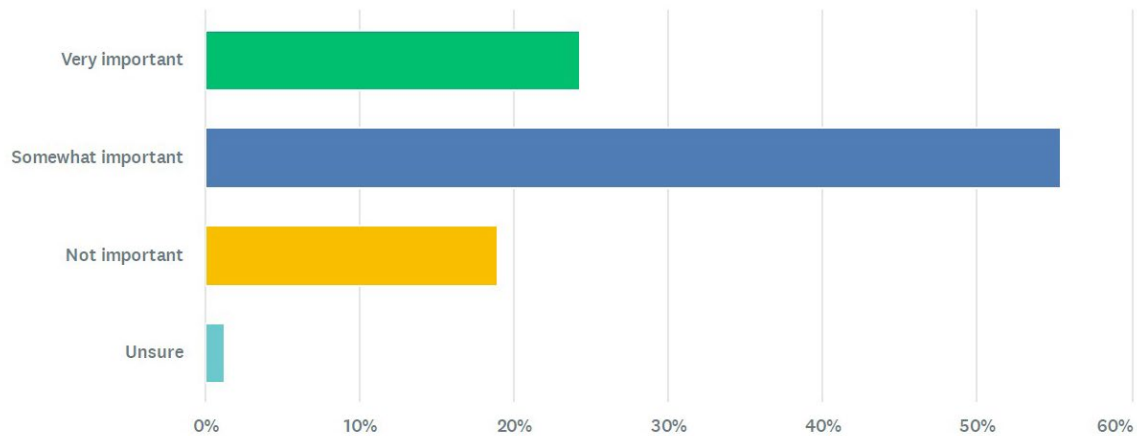
Analysis: Most respondents did not request more KPIs. Respondents who did request additional measures focused on spending versus budget, project delays, staff headcount, infrastructure backlog, homelessness costs, policing and fire metrics, road maintenance, transit cost breakdowns, environmental performance, affordable housing, grants, and clearer reporting on how funds are used.

Q9: The Capital Budget is the City’s plan for making large investments in infrastructure. Capital expenses include major maintenance to public buildings, construction or purchase of new buildings, purchase of major equipment, significant road resurfacing projects, water and wastewater infrastructure, and more. In your opinion, how important is maintaining existing infrastructure in the community?



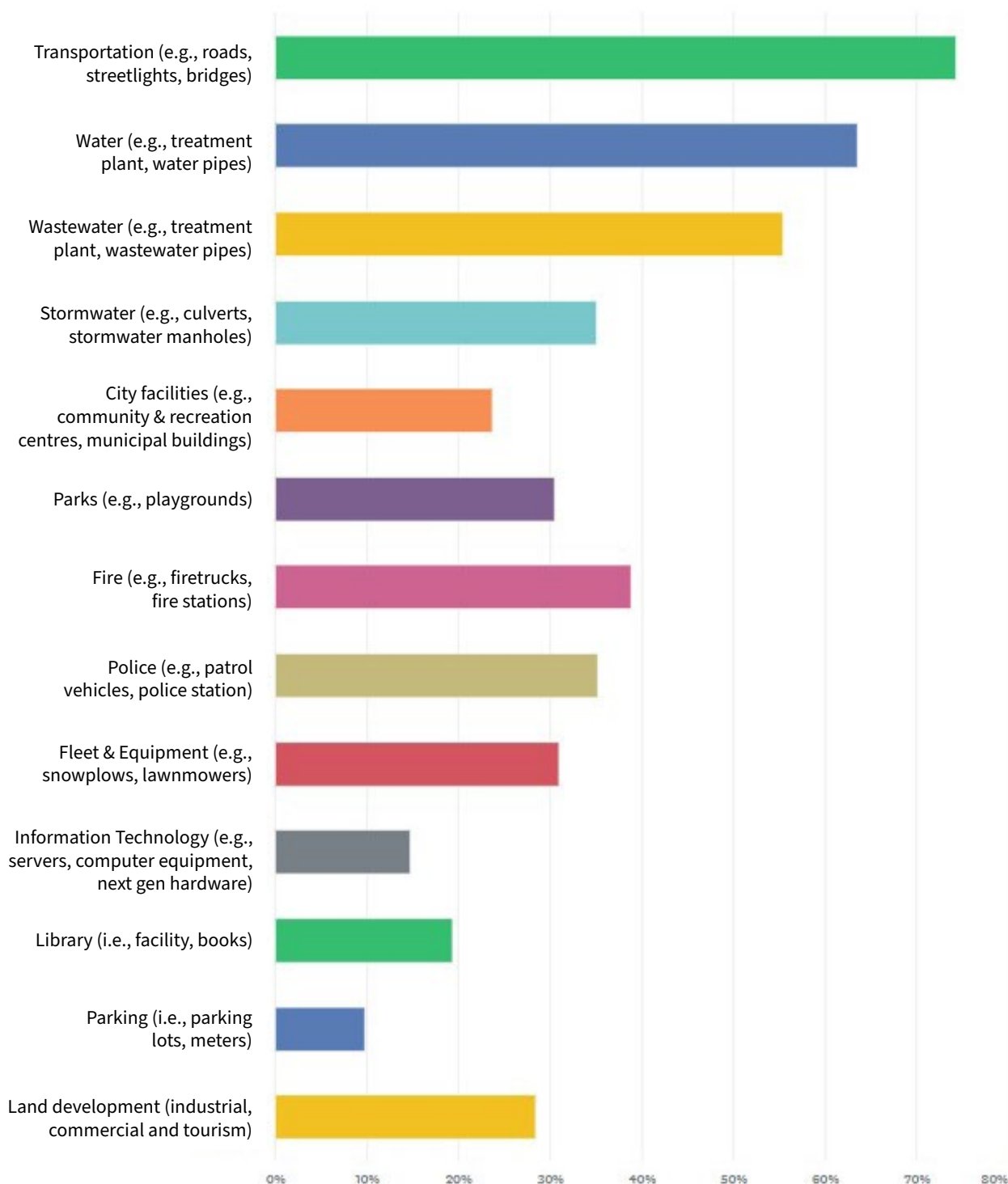
Analysis: Maintaining existing infrastructure received one of the strongest levels of agreement in the survey. A combined 96.9% of respondents selected very or somewhat important.

Q10: In your opinion, how important is adding new infrastructure to the community to service growth?



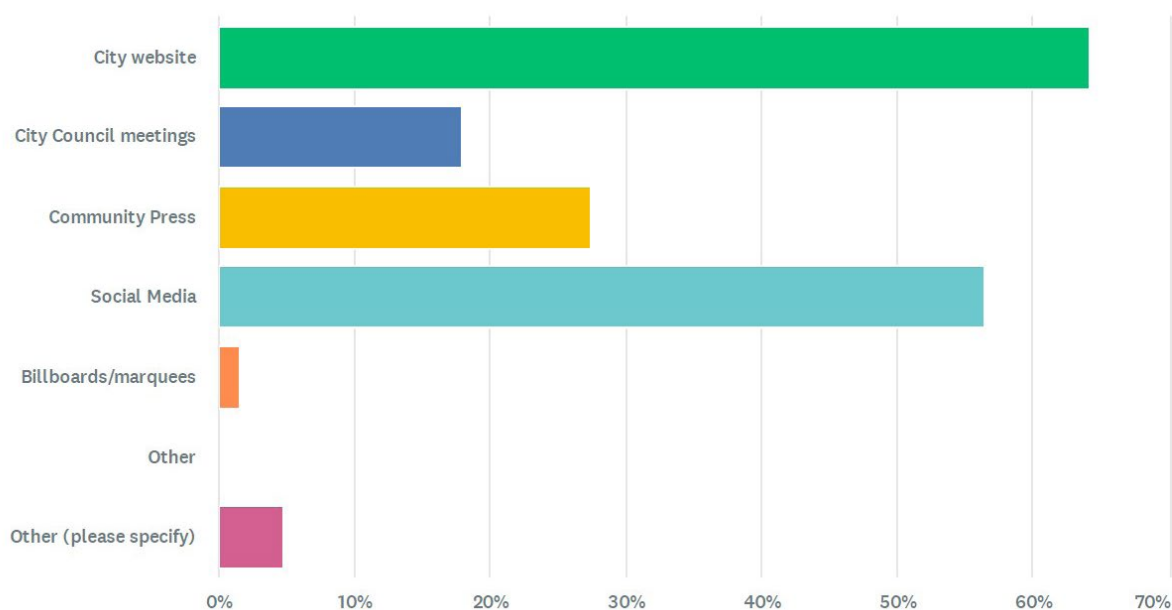
Analysis: Support for new infrastructure to service growth was positive but more measured than support for maintaining existing infrastructure. Respondents supported growth infrastructure in principle, but the stronger priority is maintaining and repairing existing assets.

Q11: In accordance with the Asset Management Plan, the City must prioritize Capital projects and annually update its 10-year capital plan. In your opinion, select the most important infrastructure areas (select all that apply).



Analysis: Transportation was the highest-ranked infrastructure category, followed by water and wastewater. These results reinforce the importance of core asset-management categories in the public budget narrative.

Q12: Where do you receive information about the City's budget?

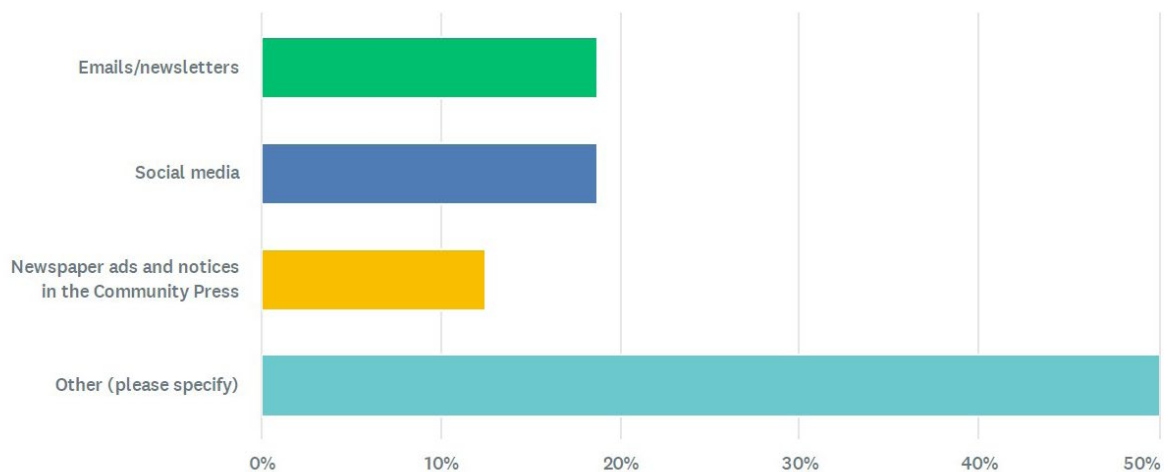


The City website and social media were the leading sources of budget information. Traditional sources were lower, although open-ended responses referenced radio, letters, tax bills, email notices, local media, and informal sources.

Q13: What is one specific change you would most like Council to consider for the 2027 budget, or additional information would you like to know? Please be as specific as possible (service, program or approach).

Analysis: Open-ended responses covered infrastructure maintenance, property taxes, municipal budget management, staff compensation and efficiency, policing costs, homelessness services, public transit, affordable housing, water and waste fees, parking, environmental sustainability, economic development, and active transportation. The strongest recurring practical request was to fix and maintain roads, sidewalks, and transportation infrastructure.

Q14: If the City were to increase communication efforts on the budget, how would you prefer to receive that information?



Analysis: Only 16 respondents answered this question, so the results should not be treated as a reliable measure of community-wide communication preferences. Comments referenced mail, public displays, the City website, local radio, flyers, InQuinte/Quinte News, the Intelligencer, and billboards.

Appendix A

Below is a detailed look at the open-ended responses from questions 4, 8, 12, 13 and 14 of the survey.

Q4: Please indicate which of the following statements below comes close to capturing your point of view.

A: Decrease taxes by reducing discretionary tax-funded services (please specify what services should be reduced).

- Unsure
- I would like to see a value-for-money assessment of staff budgets, as in some departments these are excessive. Do away with community grants and any trips by council. Stop incentivizing people to build ADUs.
- Salaries
- Non essential services
- Belleville Police Service
- Belleville roads are garbage i feel that i am living in garbage town lot of homeless people walking around public toilets are garbage
- Decrease city councils, remove financial incentives for running for any office. Encourage the rich to fund public services like the Romans did.
- Homeless Hub, warming stations
- Decrease mayor and city council staff pay, eliminate health benefits coverage for mayor and city council staff, purchase it out of pocket separate if needed. Most city council staff have other jobs with paid benefits already. [redacted] A mayor should not be earning these gross salary amounts when roads and infrastructure are in shambles, failed to ensure more affordable housing is built over for profit price gouging no one can afford. Healthcare is in shambles, BGH is noted even 15 years ago as a third world country hospital, worse now. Tax businesses more and make it illegal to pass increases onto consumers. Increase fines of businesses to cover shortfalls. Increase the revenue amount the casino must give back to the city. Ensure for all construction whether buildings or roadways, contracts are on budget and on time and any fall behinds the company eats the cost, if it needs fixing in 10 years or under the construction company's dime, not the taxpayers. Let taxpayers vote for most cost effective tenders submitted as it's our money being used. City council needs to be much more fiscally responsible. [redacted]
- City can conduct an alternate survey to access community voice.
- Anything to do with the homeless services. As a taxpayer, I don't want more homeless people coming to Belleville because we "have great services." Help those who want help and stop expanding services. Executives should be paid for ending the crisis, not expanding the services to keep their pay cheque coming.
- Government
- The City cannot afford more parks, new buildings, recreation services right now. we should not be spending money on any of this right now. We simply can't afford it.
- Taxes are too high in Belleville. Mpac should be reduced
- Gardens, Marina, Green Bins, Transit

- Police
- Have city departments follow zero based budgeting, provide reasons for all staff increases and where possible reduce headcount
- Bus service
- Counselors expenses
- Please I want to own a house one day
- Lower taxes by at least 20%. We are in a session and the cost of living is nuts.
- Police, recreation
- City councillors salaries
- Kind of a no brainer. Stop raising our land taxes every few months... [redacted]
- Police
- Stop funding the homeless
- Councils. Mayor and staff wages. Social services and services for homeless.
- nil
- WE pay such high taxes in Belleville... I have hear the highest in Ontario... Is that true?
- Cut your income you're overpaid
- Pay less to city politicians and city staff.
- Too much tax paying money is spent on parks and the roads are left in a disgraceful state
- Defund the hub , better management of police budgets.
- I would like to see a value-for-money assessment of staff budgets, as in some departments these are excessive. Do away with community grants and any trips by council. Stop incentivizing people to build ADUs.
- Remove bag tag program or the waste management portion on our taxes that help cover this exact thing. Reduce under used programs and facilities (ex: buses running late with ZERO passengers), reduction of public or government departments that are not fully utilized.
- closing underutilized facilities during off-peak seasons, travel allowances, and conference budgets, decrease promotional budgets, cap on discretionary grants given out to local committees, clubs etc
- Supports for homelessness. There is no way my property tax dollars should go to support homeless people who are [redacted]
- Fix roads and infrastructure, don't spend on extra services that 90% of people don't care about
- Harm reduction , homeless shelters
- Police Budget
- Any
- You wouldn't like what I have to say
- Guys this is ridiculous. For a small town, I've lived in Toronto and St. Catharines and they both have their fair share of issues but Belleville is a mess. All the roads are [redacted] and you take away EVERYTHING. Have you seen the disappointment because of the closure of the pop ups by the bay? How come Brighton and Trenton and PEC can have beautiful flourishing tourist areas but the main city with the Walmart is a JOKE. This place could be bustling but you guys [redacted].
- Reduce the salaries of the Mayor, Councillors and office staff.
- Police budget, focus on social services to help people rather than policing them
- The police fund . Why dose Belleville police cost the most and why do they have trucks brand new ford F150 . There are much better ways to spend money
- Nakeing building or giving money to the homeless
- Dr recruitment

- Decrease taxes on rural area. Increasing taxes to twice amount of city which have most of high cost services is ridiculous. We get scraps. Police services, City Hall staff, Councillors who won't stand strong against pay raise demands, putting monies into revitalizing downtown and take more drastic measures in cutting back of emergency calls to [redacted] who repeatedly keep our emergency services tied up. Projects on the books have been waiting for years to be completed. Streets are a mess. Should look at issuing more tickets for offended both traffic and parking enforcement. A source of income. Toronto is making millions
- Policing
- DEI business initiatives. Really anything not related to The infrastructure of the city, or Police/Fire departments
- Roads
- Housing & Residency Related Household & Essential Items
- Reduce funding to Transit considering they have significantly reduced services by removing stops all over the City, especially low income housing areas, and from easy access areas at businesses like Walmart.
- City transit is a joke large bus for 2 passengers, get some property standard laws and enforce them the city looks like a pig pen. it is a disgrace some of the properties
- I don't know what to reduce, but I find the taxes incredibly high here. So much so, that I have thought about leaving!
- Belleville pd, transit, rec centre
- Councillor
- It is easy to say anything when the parameters of any given thing are not understood and asking a question and not expecting an answer outside of what was provided as the only answers seems ridiculous. There are other options to be considered. I do wonder how much revenue we have and how is this managed invested etc. can we not take a break in spending without causing any disruption to anything we now have in place. Let the funds rest and grow a bit and plan during this break as to what should be a clearer way forward. I have a personal experience with Municipal Government which lasted over 40 years and saw a similar situation where employees salaries were frozen for nearly a decade, so I know that there are ways to do things that are not always popular but necessary. The tax collected in this municipality is at it maximum for service provided. There are not a lot of recreation facilities here or for that matter other than park land not much else so I have to ask where is the money that has been collected for generations. If this municipality had from its inception invested into even one Canadian bank say 20 percent of what it takes in every year Bellville would be the richest municipality in Canada without worry of what services to cut, as I indicated earlier I would have to say what can you cut as there is not a lot to choose from. Municipalities are in the service business so we should be trying to find ways to provide the most service we can for as little as possible not the other way around and quite frankly it is incumbent upon the municipality to do this. So don't cut any service invest wisely manage wiser find efficiency in all areas there are always more new ways to do things. Spend money in these areas to find develop and implement these initiatives
- Dog parks
- Focus on lowering the cost of discretionary services through efficiencies.
- By-law officers as they are not doing what they are paid to do
- As a senior and only living off Cpp and old age it getting harder and harder to maintain my life bills and taxes way to high and nothing is done in my area
- None
- Council pay
- Protective services
- I'd like to propose a decrease in taxes, as gas and grocery prices have been rising. However, I also believe we should reduce our focus on unnecessary work and prioritize essential areas like roads and healthcare.
- Policing budget, city staffing budget
- Tax assistance programs

- Reduce your paychecks you all make too much money
- Reduce administrative overhead, consulting costs, and lower priority projects before increasing taxes. Focus spending on core services such as roads, water, emergency services, and infrastructure.
- Highest taxes city in Canada. Its vile!
- City workers, like parks , when 1 person is working and 4 standing around
- Tourism investment. Nobody wants to visit Belleville they all want to go see PEC. Don't spend money on dumb things like giant Belleville signs for the waterfront. It's a waste of money.
- Fire and Emergency Services
- Get rid of the homeless shelters they only increase the population of homeless as the populations from other towns are shipped here
- Split between Capital/reserve and government funds
- Subsidizing the Belleville Senators.
- Handouts to the homeless, reduce police. They are over policing the law abiding citizens and increasing costs to live.
- Can't see any service in the first place so reduce everything
- Less money to Ontario works recipient's
- Anything that facrs and supports the numerous drug addicted homeless addicts including but not limited to any support to the new hub and any existing programs
- The raises city council just got would more than cover the increased demand. I don't see how councillors can make so much over the basic income amount while so many residents are homeless, jobless, struggling and medically untreated.
- If it's discretionary, I don't want to fund.it
- Policing, councillors salaries, ceo salaries
- Homeless [redacted]
- We can't afford higher taxes, can barely afford groceries
- Whatever it takes to decrease our taxes
- Stop Free food and disposable discarding for homeless people
- General governance
- 1. Administrative & Operational Efficiencies * Freeze non-essential hiring for a period of time. *Conduct a department-by-department efficiency audit. * Reduce use of outside consultants where internal staff can perform the work. * Consolidate administrative functions across departments. * Limit overtime except for emergency services. 2. Communications & Promotions * Reduce/eliminate spending on: * branding campaigns, * promotional materials, *rebranding exercises, * social media marketing, * printed mailers/ newsletters. * Shift more communication to digital-only formats. 3. Events & Entertainment Subsidies * Review city funding for festivals, entertainment events, and cultural programming. * Require larger private sponsorship contributions before taxpayer funding is approved. * Focus city funding only on events with measurable tourism/economic impact. 4. Travel, Conferences & Training * Reducestaff travel and conference budgets. * Prioritize virtual attendance when possible. * Cap conference spending per department. 5. Facility & Amenity Reviews * Potentially reduce hours or seasonal operations for: * splash pads, * underused community centres, * specialty recreation programming, * decorative lighting/display programs.
- Welfare
- Transit, most busses are under utilized.
- Pay for all city workers and administrators needs to be reduced.
- Social and family
- reduce staffing
- A list would have been nice to click on??
- public busses
- Any and all. Taxes are awful in this city. Brutally high
- Increase productivity of government workers (good luck lol)

- Housing for the homeless. Come up with a better solution to the problem and not waste tax dollars on a failed plan from the beginning.
- Homeless overspending
- Police
- Stop supporting the homeless.
- General government salaries, planning and development
- Eliminating duplicated services
- Why is the city adding staff when there is no justification put forward. Over the past 5 years Staff wages have increased 50%. My quality of life has not changed, the city is not a better place to live. Please justify new hiring to your taxpayers.
- Not sure
- Decrease city council
- The ridiculous police increase
- Parking enforcement
- The hub
- Police
- Please provide a list of tax-funded services that addresses this question.
- Reduce planting annuals in the city's flower beds. Reduce the total amount of garden beds.
- Officials salaries
- Transit and homeless expenses
- Social and family services
- All depts need to cut their budget spending
- City officials benefits
- Decrease departmental spending across the board. Reduce levels of service in parks & recreation, public works, and administration
- Any downtown maintenance. Spending money on making bridges and downtown feels very wasteful
- Police - Funding should be given to actual rehabilitation and deescalation services/teams.
- Stop the project at Alhambra. It is only going to attract more [redacted] from other towns. Our taxes are outrageous as it is and we can't afford to treat this issue
- Hart Hub and homeless programs. Money is not a solution !!
- Already overpaying for services not rendered ie. Police, Fire etc.
- Reduce Managerial staff and review human resource requirements in all departments including Fire and Police, mandate a 20% expenditure reduction across all departments, divisions and sections.,
- Side walk snow clearing of local/residential roads should be adjacent property owners responsibility, as in other cities. Stop doctor recruitment campaign. Stop paying for politician & staff trips out of province. Stop paying for school crossing guards (schools should staff with volunteers).
- The Bridge Hub, city hall/council salaries, dr. recruitment, affordable housing
- Police
- Across the board cuts. Every department, less staff. Services in my opinion have not improved but degraded. More money spent without positive results. Homeowners and businessowners need actual tax relief to hire more and invest in their homes/businesses.
- The Hart Hub
- 15% Police budget increase
- I think we have enough millions in the homeless program since [redacted] has come to Belleville, public works looks like they drive around in all new vehicles now so there good same as fire department looks good even police vehicles since I was informed that they don't have a traffic division for radar locations anymore
- Any or all
- Fire, too many
- Police, Fire Dept.

- Information Technology.
- All services equally until the budget is decreased by 2%
- Police services budget - OPP
- Physician recruitment (provincial responsibility), tourism (fund only from MAT)
- Police
- The amount of money home owners pay for taxes is insane and the city is lacking big time on even roads forget about building the rest little bit of a road at the end of sienna avenue
- Homeless funding / Doctor Recruitment
- recreational services
- police do not need armoured vehicles. the bridge is bringing new unhoused to the area causing an even bigger demand on ems/police/fire/ municipal resources. doctors and health care are of provincial concern, stop wasting tax dollars on bribes
- Police, fire, transportation
- expanding parks shouldn't happen now, or more rec programs, times are tough right now
- Why do I have to tell you what is discretionary, do you not know?
- fire department
- Less parks and recreation
- Funding social services related to indigent programs ,
- Ie. Eliminate subsidizing boat slips, if you can afford 100k boat taxpayers should not have to pay
- Public can't afford increase in taxes
- Cut transit buses running around empty
- All budgets should be cut 10% to reflect the federal government cuts to budgets.
- Parks and recreation, police
- Salaries for city employees, and Belleville police service.
- City employees wages
- Police department. Get OPP, no more money for Harley's and armoured tactical [redacted].
- Reduce anything that goes to "The Hub" . Also reduce your pay! Stop stealing my hard earned cash to help the [redacted]. Cut what ever service needs to be cut and reduce our property tax. My idea - is you should send a survey to each home owner and ask how much of your money do you want spent on: and the list of services. This will give an idea of where we think you can cut and where to spend.
- Hub funding and extra new parklands in the suburbs.
- relationship between taxes and services is pretty opaque

Q8: Are there additional performance indicators and/or activities that you would like the City to regularly report on?

A: Yes (please specify)

- Could change with needs
- Entertainment at zwicks park
- Financials, developments and on target and on budget,
- Compare ACTUAL spending to budgets, explain over spending before asking for additional increases to budgets
- Pick up after dog at settlers ridge area with no garbage lid and smelling. People keep personal household garbage's in there and since we are at the corner lot we have to bear that smell in our backyard
- Please reduce the amount of "Unhoused" residents that are loitering in the Belleville area.PLEASE!
- Satisfaction with parking downtown
- Crime and the homeless situation
- Homeless encampment impact - Number of encampment complaints, monthly cost to taxpayers for encampment cleanup, hazmat removal and remediation. % of residents within 500m of parks/ encampments who report feeling "unsafe" in annual survey.
- Where our ridiculous property tax money goes
- Second year in a row a homeless has burnt down a building
- Complete budget spending
- Addressing homelessness, plans to fix road s
- Page not found
- Environmental performance.
- I would love to see waterfront trail/park usage stats, especially as it relates to event and pop-up programs or lack of
- City should more focus on economic developments
- I'd like know about public health funding.
- Better information on density city
- Traffic congestion and CO2 production, Roundabout use
- Climate change initiatives, public involvement
- Climate change initiatives, affordable housing, green infrastructure, provincial and federal funding applications/ grants.
- Success in identifying opportunities from best practices in other municipalities and adopting new technologies
- Cost benefit analysis on everything
- Don't hide things from the public
- [redacted] No one's reading your KPIs either. It's Belleville. Read the room.
- Tourism and BIA
- Any increase in City employees salaries.
- Hart Hub and homelessness
- Homelessness and poverty and actionable efforts that make a real impact to improve people's lives ie affordable housing
- I would like to see more community gardens. We do not have one. There should be one knew every school to help teach kids how to grow and make food, plus helps feed the kids in schools
- Want police to itemized calls for service
- Crime and public safety

- Transit Cost Breakdown since they keep reducing service and yet keep increasing cost on the users and taxpayers.
- Homeless and drug culture [redacted]
- Investment of tax dollars
- Transit cause and effect this governing body is out of touch when it comes to what the public needs
- Affordable housing, geared to income units, healthcare hubs for displaced people
- Proper road Maintenance
- Track the frequency of household calls to EMS and financial penalties for Miss use of ambulances
- Park maintenance and getting rid of the homeless.
- I dont really have a opinion on this is just needed to answer ot to keep going
- Actively helping the homeless
- Tourism
- Belleville Fire and Emergency Services/like overtime/salaries/performance evaluations of management and fire figters
- Cost of living
- Accountability
- Traffic congestion areas
- Clear quarterly reporting on spending vs budget, project delays, staffing growth, infrastructure backlog, and measurable results tied to major City initiatives.
- Controlling homelessness and the impacts on taxpayers
- Tourism and BIA
- Any increase in City employees salaries.
- Hart Hub and homelessness
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- Controlling homelessness and the impacts on taxpayers
- Complete removal of Bagtags

- Every project that is invested by tax payers money there should be completely transparency on where and how much money has been spent, current project reach, number/hours of jobs created by the time, etc.
- Need actual public receipts for every last dollar the City has spent the budget on.
- Inner city roads
- Income from parking, including ticketing, bylaw enforcement costs
- You should be fully transparent
- All
- Road improvements and investments in area. ie restaurants businesses. Not taking 5 years to get anything done once announcement made and then it never happens. ie Kelley or Costco
- Report on the status of Alhambra square so tax payers can determine if it was money well spent.
- Governance and accountability and KPIs related to tangible strategies to address homelessness
- As an employee that has dealt with property taxes for over 30 years and helped maintain the city budget. I have seen property owners who have a hard time keeping their homes. Due to inflation, groceries, gas etc many home owners do not have any extra funds to put towards property taxes. As municipalities are being funded by the assessment of property owners. perhaps consideration to less fortunate and studies regarding increases to homeowners and risks involved on the people
- Financials different parts of the city and property tax collected
- Make the KPI's more relevant. Staff headcount by department. Stop lumping Fire services in general cost bucket.
- Casino funds
- City Council wage freeze. Most have other forms of income.
- Sidewalk is full of e-bikes no license no helmet no insurance going 50kms hour on the Sidewalk. They need to be permitted and on the road insured
- I would like public reports on every cent spent quarterly.
- Efficiency metrics
- % incidents that police must collaborate with OPP, % infrastructure in critical zone for repairs
- Clear plan for supporting the significant number of individuals doing drugs on our downtown streets where families and children are walking by. This has somehow become an acceptable practice. What is the plan.
- Detailed Police performance review annually
- City employee wages
- Manhole cover replacement
- Homeless and shelter support
- Reduction in departmental spending
- [redacted] Homeless. There needs to be a solution.
- city grow more and better
- Environmental carbon reduction
- Cost to tax payers to support new development.
- servicing the 1998 annexing of quite west...marshall road
- Maintain a chart showing user fees and any increases over time
- get City staff and 1st responders off sick leave.
- Provide performance outcomes and operational benefits resulting from staff conference attendance. As well, indicate human resource requirements to achieve each operational goal.
- How each department is increasing efficiency
- transit
- A detailed accounting of where all the casino funds go.
- Environmental risks, such as air, water and land pollution.
- City streets rebuilding & re-surfacing (noticeable progress in recent years, should continue, would like to see future plans). Sidewalk improvements and additions (many streets still have NO sidewalks).

- QSWC use (walking track,) park/trail use, library use (free programs eg. Creative Fibres craft group,) negative impact of homelessness in our community (resident safety, property damage, The Bridge Hub, etc.)
- Police
- Budget reductions and cost savings
- Amount spent on HUB
- Enhancing & protecting the environment, greenspace & natural heritage systems
- Tell us by individual project how Capital Funds are being used. Advertise Annual accomplishments.
- Road resurfacing/ building , removing garbage tags
- Upon City Staff retirements and resignations, don't automatically replace. City Staff is too high.
- provincial and federal grants etc
- You should know what they are
- The KPIs are generally great, but I'd like to see more on Housing and homelessness (social services). These services are contracted out, but the City is still responsible for overseeing them via Hastings County and residents continue to request enhancements to those areas. Additionally, once there is a 2027 forecast, it would be great to see line graphs of the data with the target line instead of tables.
- Up to date information. Why are decisions being made with out of date data. With the investment in IT services and additional funding every year the decision makers in the city should have this information readily available to make informed decisions. I am unsure how wages/salaries can increase by almost \$4 million from last year to this year without up to date information/data.
- Finding capable Transit [redacted]
- How much homelessness is costing, ie police, fire, ambulance, city staff for example only: 30% of tax revenue/budget being focused on 100 people, may change thinking on how to approach the issue
- Why do we pay people 38\$ a hour and double that on weekends to cut grass ?
- Policing and fire service metrics to show why the increases are justified.
- more transparency on where funds are going. you have increased building permit fees but very limited resources spent on expanding the necessary services required for the expansion of units for example. are those funds being used in the right places? This is just one example. Difficult to get behind council when they lack transparency.
- Roads in bad condition
- Cleaning up the streets of drug users!
- Green-space portion of the city; tree canopy coverage; affordable housing; accessibility of services/ businesses
- People with kids should pay for their education. My tax shouldn't.
- More engagement based indicators, more indicators tied to Official Plan goals and other long-term visioning exercises. Don't just measure what can be easily measured, measure what the city is most seeking to achieve
- Congestion and safety: We need to prioritize roundabout controlled intersections to make roads safer and more efficient (less road widening needed for greater anticipated and actual now traffic volume - eg Loyalist Pkwy. re efficient
- all
- What expertise qualification criteria are used when selecting contractors/trades for road repairs? In several cases, the repairs appear to be completed to a poor standard, even immediately after completion. For example, Moira Street East near the Coleman Street intersection, around March 2006, as well as Bridge Street West and Catherine Street. These repairs do not appear to have been carried out with sufficient care or consideration for road users and nearby residents.
- work on roads that are really needing repairs instead of redoing roads already worked on...get it done right the first time! Waste of money doing it a second time!!

Q12: Where do you receive information about the City's budget?

A: Other (please specify)

- Radio
- Sunshine List
- Good question. Seems to be a secret
- Letters sent to my home
- Looking around and driving and hitting all the manholes, potholes and bumps.
- My tax bill
- Nowhere
- Property tax email
- From city workers, contractors and council members
- Mpac
- Don't see it
- Intelligence online
- Newspaper, Community Press
- Radio media, emailed notices from City and In Quinte
- Local radio news (CJBQ, Rock107) and email.
- Past experience as a radio reporter/anchor (prior knowledge from covering city hall/council,) city's website, interest as a resident/worker here
- EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS
- Who cares
- Speaking with my neighbors
- Radio
- City needs to do a better job of informing rate payers how taxes are used (by individual accomplishments) so we know what projects are planned each construction cycle.
- News from websites
- Inquinte News/ Intelligencer/ Radio
- News
- Email updates

Q13: What is one specific change you would most like Council to consider for the 2027 budget, or additional information would you like to know? Please be as specific as possible (service, program or approach).

- More investment in road works and More operations staffing to support maintenance of the city
- Cutting staff compensation.
- Repair lights on veterans memorial bridge. 8 lights, 1 missing, 3 work, 4 don't. Make someone accountable!
- Cut down on city staff growth. It does not take a crew of four to cut the grass on the side of the road.
- The City should make parking at the Belleville General Hospital free of charge.
- Lower the salary of all counselors, mayor, city hall employees and firefighters.
- Continued (re) investment in tech-adjacent "Dev-Ready" type community engagement projects. Build them, but also promote them/their use.
- What was the cost for Belleville Police to celebrate a 190th anniversary? How did this happen? What a waste. I spend a lot of time working with youth sports- youth sports are important n I understand the cost going up but it. There needs to be lower fees for Belleville residents vs out of town youth. There also needs to be a better structure for a Belleville resident renting the ice for a skate, versus a for profit person (goalie coach, skills coach or powerskating) making hundreds of dollars per hour with many clients not even tax payers.
- Stop spending more money on the unhoused 40 of them stand by the waterfront trauldrinkingall day.
- Stop giving money to the homeless/ welfare people. I work hard for my money and sick of you just giving it away when they dont appreciate it!
- City of Belleville Roads have been neglected for years. More attention has to be given. Continually putting off repairs only leads to further deterioration and significant increased costs down the road.
- Need to work with businesses and individuals interested to make the downtown more vibrant. Need more restaurants and bars or events. Goal should be for the downtown to be busy with people until 10pm like other downtowns in nearby cities like Kingston. I realize we are smaller currently but this should be the long term goal. Need to move quicker for example memorial arena renovations are great but taking too long. It has been years and difficult for those who start a business to survive if growth around them is slow.
- Red light cameras and left turn signals in general particularly at Dundas & Sidney. By-law enforcement to curb double figure occupancy of single family dwellings.
- Lower taxes, fix our roads. Hanging up some flowers around town doesn't make up for the terribly maintained parks and yards around this city. The piles of trash everywhere, the homeless & the amount of theft & crime is so saddening to see. I want my city back
- No increase in taxes except for large corporations, increase fines, user fee increases are just for sports and rec only
- Please keep project spending on target. I wrote contracts for many years and it is unacceptable to have significant overruns on budgets (i.e. the downtown work a few years ago and the Alhambra Hall project that ended up 4x over original budget).
- Stop increasing property taxes or re-zone areas to ensure everyone is paying their fair share. Re-assess areas where home values have increased due to renovations (East Hill).
- Better bus service

- The City can't afford to spend on new capital projects such as new buildings, parks facilities, building reno's, etc. We must maintain what we have but we simply can't afford new parks and recreation facilities.
- The property tax is too high for this small town seniors who have lived here long time will be out on the streets. Also you make us live beside these rental houses that have number of people living in them and they don't take care of the property. This lowers the value of our house.
- Reduce subsidies for adult sport and transit. They need to be brought into alignment with set cap rates.
- Less councilors
- Defund police, increase library and public art funding and recreation. Increase mental health support and housing for underprivileged families
- Be consistent with how costs are categorized, for example, disclose Police Wages with City wages, otherwise wages are understated. Would like to see actual headcounts by department, current, future, part time, union position etc
- Re-evaluate property taxes
- Have the budget process completed sooner. In particular the capital budget to start projects sooner. Possible more options on bidding on large projects.
- REDUCE TAXES WATER FEES
- What are the future plans for cleaning up the City's reputation regarding the "unhoused" citizens /drugs availability etc...
- Electric vehicle charging stations in the downtown lots
- City subsidizes transit by too much.
- Reducing the waste that this council seems so intent on continuing.
- For 2027, I want Council to adopt and enforce clear bylaws on public encampments with set cleanup timelines, plus quarterly reporting on taxpayer costs and reoffending rates. Shift focus toward supervised treatment and supportive housing with accountability instead of expanding concentrated harm-reduction sites in residential areas.
- The hanging flower baskets are beautiful but how much do they cost to maintain?
- Stop raising property taxes , people can't afford that
- Lowering property taxes
- Lower taxes and clean the city up. We shouldn't be driving through downtown seeing crack pipes
- Reduction of property tax, even if services need to be reduced or cut. It is way too high Belleville residents can not afford the tax its one of the highest in Ontario but yet smallest population
- Housing the homelessness community, other social programming, fixing roads
- One specific change I would like Council to consider for the 2027 budget is a meaningful rebalancing of municipal funding priorities, with less reliance on continual increases to policing and a much stronger investment in upstream community supports.
- While public safety is important, the police budget continues to grow significantly year after year, yet the social issues impacting our community are not improving. In many cases, they are becoming more visible and more severe. This suggests that enforcement alone is not addressing the root causes of these challenges. Many residents in Belleville are struggling because they cannot afford housing, cannot afford food, and cannot reliably access the services they need to stabilize their lives.

- Belleville needs greater investment in affordable housing, homelessness prevention, food security programs, mental health and addictions supports, outreach services, and community-based social services. Hastings and Prince Edward are experiencing serious levels of food insecurity, and local programs are not funded at the level needed to meet the demand. Services supporting unhoused and at-risk residents, such as outreach and hub-based supports, must be adequately staffed, prepared, and resourced. When these systems are underfunded, vulnerable people are left without support, and the broader community becomes frustrated by the visible impacts of poverty, homelessness, and crisis. I would also like Council to prioritize affordable and reliable public transportation. Belleville is not a walkable city for many residents, and it is not consistently accessible. Increasing bus fares while removing stops and dealing with frequent cancellations creates even more barriers for seniors, low-income residents, people with disabilities, youth, and anyone who relies on transit to get to work, appointments, school, groceries, and community programs. People need to be able to leave their homes and participate in daily life.
- For the 2027 budget, I would like to see Council take a more preventative, community-centred approach: invest in the services that help people stay housed, fed, connected, mobile, and supported before they reach the point of crisis. Public safety should include social stability, accessibility, housing, food security, and dignity for all residents — not only increased enforcement.
- Make safer bike lanes a priority
- Our city is looking dirty--garbage needs to be cleaned up in many areas. May a way could be found to encourage citizens to take pride in their homes, apartments etc. Promote trash bash days at schools.
- East hill road resurfacing
- Due to the increasing risks of extreme weather I would like to see decisions made to reduce flood risks. Drought preparation. Emergency preparedness. Thoughtful work on reducing homelessness
- Reduce our property taxes!!!!
- Please allow patrons to bring their dogs (if well behaved) into the library.
- Provide better garbage and recycling programs. We pay much higher property taxes here for much less services than I received in Mississauga. More than double the property tax for not anywhere near the quality of service.
- Major developments of companies with higher employment earnings and full time jobs means more money spent throughout the community supporting businesses and community
- Reduce property tax. Austerity budgets.
- Re-introduction of annual events and pop-ups, perhaps with additional waterfront vendor options
- Reduce taxes
- Belleville has grown quickly in the ten years I have lived here. Infrastructure has hardly changed. One bridge has been repaired, roads in main areas are disgusting, yet we continue to spend millions in parks. We have lovely parks as it is shouldn't we try and make the roads a safer place for drivers. I think every resident would agree that Bell Blvd. around Canadian Tire is the worst stretch of road and has been for many years!!
- Better maintenance of certain streets or complete replacement thereof, i.e, in the west end of Belleville, Bridge st. w., lower bridge ramp and extending portion of Bridge st. w. up to Highland ave. (may be a long term project done on a step by step basis) due to detour implications but something should be done to resolve the road conditions of this street area!
- Stop giving huge increases in salaries to the people we vote in and to management
- Water front development, better roads!!! , better traffic flow, less left hand turning lights and more advanced green, turning it will speed up the flow in the bottleneck areas of the city
- Public safety and healthcare
- The current waste pick up company provides poor service for the cost. HGC was better.
- City of Bellville should more focus on economic development to produce more job and bring more business and head office and big company to produce more jobs.

- Finding a way to encourage new businesses to the downtown core. Either through rent incentives or grants. Work with landlords to offer lower rents or free month(s) rents to small businesses and entice larger/brand name businesses to the core area. Keep banks and services downtown.
- I would like to know more about this new Hub you built so far I have not heard anything good about our taxes paying for it. [redacted]
- I'd like to see specific portions of the budget being used to address the income in homeless individuals. Does the city have any plans or budget towards increasing shelter space or programs for those who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness?
- Drastic change in accommodating residents who pay the city personal. I am tired of the entitlement of staff
- Increase use of Roundabouts to reduce congestion and make intersections safer. (Roundabouts can handle 60% more volume than Stop lights. Reduce the need for road widening.
- I would like to see the city more proactive on climate change and providing more services to the homeless, including use of city property to house individuals. These issues have not been given the priority that is needed to address these problems effectively. Belleville would be given a grade of D on both these issues. Higher standards of performance are needed from City Staff and more public involvement.
- Remove bag tag program or waste management taxes. Already taxed for this and we see no other cities utilizing this program. This is just a money grab but also currently have taxes for this service. Water and waste prices are out of control. I pay more in other fees than I do water consumption itself.
- I would like Council to consider a temporary freeze on funding for Community Improvement Plans (CIPs) that offer discretionary grants to private business properties. While downtown beautification and commercial facade upgrades are nice to have, tax-funded subsidies for private commercial property owners should be paused during high-inflation periods to prioritize lowering the baseline property tax rate for all residents.
- More emphasis on getting the proper level of government to pay for things that they are responsible for other than paying for them out of property taxes. Eg doctor recruitment
- Stop letting other cities send their homeless here for our taxes to pay for the consequences
- Tin town streets are terrible to drive on, I've lived here for 1 year and have had 2 control arms go out, also all of us have flooding in our basements and my neighbors and I have lost a lot of money because of poor sanitary infrastructure
- I understand the pressures of budgeting but people are not getting raises and often are on fixed incomes. Maybe some events need to be cancelled and optional expenses cancelled. It's bad when we are considering moving because tax goes up. Maybe reduce tax and have more pay to use services.
- Prioritize additional floor time, and game equipment (nets, shot clocks, etc) for minor lacrosse- a not-for-profit youth sport program run by volunteers, rather than catering to private hockey programs.
- Water and sewer connection on the Wallbridge Loyalist rd
- Reduce workforce
- Fix the roads, lots of potholes. Maybe try not to use salt in the winter
- Decrease the homeless shelters Look in to supporting single mothers who make enough that they cannot receive any assistance but not enough to live on their own with their children.
- Reduce headcount in administrative positions. Run a lean ship. People cost the city a lot of money. I have not seen anybody over extended doing their jobs. We have potholes everywhere and manhole covers below grade. The need fixing.
- Working on making Belleville a better city not making the mayor and council richer
- The roads. The side streets are awful, and the little patches done to "fix" them don't even last a year.
- The municipal police are obviously unable to balance their budget and buying trucks is inappropriate, expensive and obviously unsuitable for fleet development.

- Transportation. Belleville is still living in the 1970's. When any urban road is resurfaced, new curbing and sidewalks should be installed as well as upgrading below grade services. People don't mind paying higher taxes if they see something of value. The roads in this city are embarrassing compared to the gta municipalities for the same property tax amount.
- Policing. I don't mind increased spending on policing, but an armored assault vehicle isn't gonna stop a drug addict from passing out on my front lawn.
- Affordable housing and address homelessness and addictions/ mental health so citizens can receive the shelter they deserve, the dignity of having a basic need met and the care needed so we can all enjoy the amenities and public spaces in our city that we collectively pay dearly for.
- Fire should be like Quinte West with volunteers. We're paying too much for fire
- [redacted] Fix all the roads. Stop taking things away.
- Roads
- Stop removing tourist attracting activities and keep things like zwicks park vendors. Stop cutting back on events. Stop funding import and housing of homeless drug users that abuse welfare and disability. Moved here in 2020 from Toronto and there has been practically no improvements, just financial waste with no strategic plans for growth. It really feels like a trash city. Won't stay here much longer if no practical improvements.
- I would like to see each and every Council Member deny any further increase in their salaries.
- Support things such as festivals and events for the public to enjoy with their taxpayer dollars. This city should be like Peterborough with FREE music in the park. NOT THE LIONS CLUB MUSIC.
- Social housing and services for unfocused people. The hub is a start but not a solution
- Remove the trucks from the police . With the cost of gas now a days it dosent seems like continuing on the path with trucks that use more in gas in a day then every other vehicle on the road . It's an unnecessary and excessive
- If the police arent going to deal with the homeless issues. Cut their budgets. If I commit the same crimes as those folk, I get arersted. One law for all. If they wont do their job, I dont want to pay for the force. Same for bylaw.
- Belleville roads disgusting. Council should be embarrassed.
- I want to see a green house in each and every school!!
- The cost of policing in our city is getting way out of hand , the police are very vague about the information they release on calls for service, in my opinion police overtime spending is out of control i personally would pefer the OPP to police our city.
- Account for senior citizens fixed income.
- Stop charging rural tax payers twice as much as city dwellers. We do not have all the luxuries of city dwellers. We have to maintain our own wells, septics, excess water issues etc. We are not on transit routes and do not have full time or fully equipped fire department (volunteers) nor do we have regular police officers patrolling our area like we used to. But we are paying twice city taxes. Businesses do not want to deliver our here.yet we are classified City of Belleville. We drive everywhere to support businesses and services in the City. But we are treated like dirt by City Council. We are the City's reserve for their overspending and misuse of people's tax dollars.
- Less taxes and defund the police
- Fix our roads. They are beyond unexceptable.
- Stop our town by being overrun by street people. The vitality is being destroyed and killing our businesses by allowing This problem. I understand that laws need to be changed but people should be in institutions (Sanitariums, or prisons, or rehab) and this should be a Provincial or Federal issue. Advocate for the problem being solved in any means neccessary.
- Property taxes are fairly high, with garbage services requiring an increased cost per bag, it would be very nice to receive free brown leaf-bag / yard wasted pickups for free (e.g. every 2 weeks from May to November)

- Reducing the per capita cost of the police service, while the violent crime in the city is low, petty theft and vandalism is rampant in spite of the cost of policing.
- Anything that will stop me from being scared to walk in my own neighborhood with my toddler.
- Improved healthcare coverage
- Policing -
- The homelessness and how its policed through the city
- 5-7% increase in property taxes year over year is not sustainable.
- Remove [redacted] from [redacted] Transit Committee and do a complete Audit and Review on how decisions have been made and a study to determine if these changes have actually harmed Transit services now that Covid is long over, in comparison to pre-Covid service years.
- The homeless and drug culture Belleville is beautiful it has good ppl and potential for tourism but the [blank] are scaring everyone away and work force we travel far for work in the trades
- Property standards, city transit a million dollar bus for 2 passengers. Water and sewer rates are one the highest in Ontario as is police cost. Stop spending start working
- Get rid of the Belleville pd. We don't need OPP and Belleville pd. I don't like seeing them drive around in their pickup trucks which are unnecessary, they can drive regular cars
- Better roads and sidewalk. More bicycle lanes
- Consider working with Quinte West and seeking both provincial and federal government grants to boost the viability of bike lanes for commuting purposes. A dedicated bike lane between Belleville and Trenton would enable healthy lifestyles for many, as riding a bike on hwy 2 is a death sentence. Furthermore, there are areas within city limits that are in need of proper crosswalks. Specifically, the intersection of Bleecker and Queen Sts needs a crosswalk.
- I believe that most people in Ontario are in the dark as to how any municipal budget is handled so I think that a simple explanation of money in money out money invested and balances are necessary before we make any statements about what should be done. I think this could be a letter to every taxpayer one page should do it keep it simple. Let us know what we are dealing with the big chunks then ask for input.
- Decrease property taxes
- Free tennis courts
- Adaptive services and infrastructures for people with disabilities and not just the bare minimum.
- Public transportation. Belleville transportation systems is rated the second worst in all of Canada that is sad and pathetic and an Embarrassment to the people who live here!
- The cost to the public needs to be lower and low income people need affordable homes to live in rent is way to high along with taxes and wages of city council members
- Fixing roads and old hydro poles
- Keep seniors taxes down
- Fix the streets/roads!!! They are doing more harm than good to our vehicles.
- Housing
- Not increase ice user fees for locals Increase ice user fees for out of town users
- Increase Capital Projects and funding for EMS/ Paramedics. Freestanding permanent bases self owned, increased budget for equipment updates and staff wages. There isn't even an option to select paramedics/EMS in the above list to suggest increasing their budget! They quite literally stop people from dying and you can't even list them in the budget survey
- Change in government. Cash grabbing with speed cameras. City council got rid of things that could increase tourism. If no multicultural events then there should be no duwali. There is more to Belleville [redacted].
- Raise money other ways than through property taxes
- I would like to see them do a detailed review of highly funded areas within the budget to see if they could be run more cost effectively if they were to be contracted out. Things in the transportation sector for example. I also think we have allocated way too much money to police services.

- More funding for local shops, city attractions. Outdoor summer activities. Bixi city bikes! Great alternative for public transit as it doesn't run as often/ very limited routes. More green spaces.
- Reduce usage of externally contracted social services (e.g. increase city funded social housing instead of externally contracted social housing). It is cheaper in the long run.
- Development
- Stop funding homeless programs! We are taxed to death for less services while drug addicts get everything handed to them. Provide to those footing the bill!
- Fix the walk button on Sidney street and collage street
- Affordable housing
- Quit you all dont seem to have a clue how to run this city and are all over paid.
- Improve healthcare and hospital wait times and bring Costco to Belleville
- Please focus on controlling spending and keeping property tax increases as low as possible. Review non essential programs and administrative costs before asking residents to pay more.
- We got screwed with a 7% tax increase. [redacted] Make leaner decisions within your staff and departments !! I consistently see 4 street employees standing around while 1 does the work. You've got NO respect for the burden we tax payers face! Every damn year agregious increases for property owners. Terrible.
- Do not reduce staff. Pay for higher quality staff and you will see a return on investment.
- Better road maintenance. The lines are not visible, and the potholes are offensive.
- Creating safe ways for people to walk or bike across the 401 over passes. We need to be more connected to the city.
- Stop wasting on extending the water front trail just maintain the one we have millions wasyed there
- Decreasing the police presence as it's overbearing at times driving and seeing 3-5 police cars in a row just patrolling
- Wider reach to local contractors for general construction work as there seems to be little to no public notice, new roads in downtown core and remove no overnight parking in downtown core
- Roadways take a while to repair, especially pot holes. Maybe a reporting system? Also during winter plows don't surface scrape leaving packed now on the roads which becomes slippery
- Evaluate the financial structure of the full time component of Belleville Fire and Emergency Services where there is a lot of wasted monies and wasted time
- Get rid of thr bridge proje t or Hart hub or whatever it's called.
- Free garbage tags
- Are the parking enforcement services worth it? Is there enough revenue to justify? What about just using them Nov-April?
- Cut off the Belleville Sens
- Reduce police costs. They do nothing to tackle the actual crime in this city. Only targettingthose trying to make a living.
- Belleville Transit
- Redo the road on Bridge Street from Highland ave to South Front. As well as Bell Blvd between the mall and Canadian Tire
- There needs to be more development of parks, playgrounds, and community centres for youth and young families. To attract more young families to the region, we need to create a place where people want to raise their families. There is too large of a focus on the elderly community and not enough on youth and the middle aged.
- Funding a rooming house/ green house - Helps provide cheaper food for the community and the people in the rooms are the labour in exchange for food and housing. Create a community market, where businesses and vendors can sell their local products and bring each other together
- Reducing grossly high executive salaries. Reducing policing budget (maybe contracting opp). Reducing overtime salary for fire staff. Reducing financial allocation for homeless and instead sending them to another community more equipped than our rural area

- Overnight parking rules for the non winter months. Also water bills are outrageous. If I use \$30 of water every 2 months, why is my bill \$200?
- Clearer on where money is going, where casino money is going, where property taxes money is going. Why things are in such disrepair and taxes keep going up.
- Cleanliness and beautification of public space. Quick response to debris left in and around the streets. Graffiti dealt with quickly.
- Taxes are too high garbage bag tags are too high snow removal in the winter sucks
- Focus on core infrastructure, operational efficiency, and clearer public reporting on spending, staffing growth, project delays, and measurable outcomes before continued tax increases are considered.
- Make downtown a place people feel safe and want to go. Clean up garbage around the city. Provide addictions counselling to those struggling.
- Increase funding to social housing and end homelessness
- Employment opportunities via community programs as well as infrastructure to support growing city demands
- Using our taxes for residents in Belleville only.
- One free garbage bag per household per week. Any additional bags would need a tag.
- Increase policing and reduce and remove extra support to homeless people, Abolish Garbage Bag Tags Completely and invest in repairing and replacing streets and sidewalks especially Belleville East End
- increase doctors and their availabilities at least until 8 pm. then the rush for the ER will be lesser. and ER also increases doctors. this insane that people had to stay for 6 hours to get the basic treatments. pathetic service . you can this is a G7 country. shame you.
- No pay increase for Mayor and Council
- The city should not increase fees for fields, arena, etc. it's important that families can afford activities for their kids and themselves. Policing needs to be increased with the homelessness on the rise. It's out of control. Increase things like the bus, dog tags, garbage, etc.
- We need additional arenas/sports complex for youth sports
- Reduce property taxes. I pay double than friends in Brampton, ON whose home is twice the size of mine.
- I would love to see a play structure at Sir MacKenzie park. There are lots of kids in the area and many going to Mary Ann Sills but there isn't an actual park close by. I also feel the city needs to invest in social services, addictions mental health to better address the homelessness crisis in our area.
- Lower cost of water Way too expensive
- Lower the price of municipal water. It is way too expensive . It cost more than my hydro and gas.
- Transparency on investment projects.
- 24/7 community policing in the area of "the bridge/ the hub" at Alhambra square, it's getting as bad as downtown, bridge street united church. Station street looks like a dump every other day.
- Get a new mayor
- Right turn Lanes at intersections
- Zero increase in taxes, be more efficient
- Get snow removal that removes berms from plows- it's a hazard to have our driveways blocked from what the plows leave. There are blades that can be dropped that remove the snow berms.
- City Hall to improve Homeless situation!!!!!!
- Property tax needs to come down or business will relocate elsewhere. Building permits need to be free for private homeowners.
- Road repairs. Potholes are bad. Parks especially along the water need a retrofit for landscaping
- Reduce taxes . We are dying in this tax
- Free Parking as promised!
- Social housing
- More federal grants and less burden on public will help as increased inflation and less increase in minimum pay increase

- Increased cycling infrastructure, specifically more dedicated trails, including off-road/gravel type trails. Speed up development of already proposed cycling projects, including 401 underpass, and hydro tower path. Current time estimate seems excessive.
- Roads need to upgrading all over town
- Cut taxes. Make tougher decisions. Increase user fees for non necessary items. Zero tax increases period
- Lower property taxes by spending less. Find ways to increase transparency and show us how you guys spend our money. Incentivize the city to spend our money wisely.
- Reduce police spending and increase spending on water treatment infrastructure.
- Approach on dealing with the homeless population. Stop wasting money on bandaids solutions. That building did not need millions of dollars of work to it. Definitely did not need new siding. Especially if it's just going to be used to watch the people do their drugs. Re-event the wheel and be the first city to attack the problem. If you wish to be homeless in our city and do drugs, we will Staff an old building, forcefully clean you up and send you home. Even if the return rate was 50% it would be a cost savings, our emergency services would not be over ran and at least tax dollars would be put towards saving some lives instead of a safe place for their lives to be ruined even more.
- How decision-making is being done in a fair and accountable way. Some of the items listed should be decided using consultants and heavy risk analysis, not public opinion. Why are we having to attend meetings to avoid giving land away for peanuts and where in the financial plan are we addressing the overwhelming issue of homelessness? I'm disappointed in the way things are being handled then presented to us like our say is needed. We want fair value for taxes and to take care of the vulnerable sector.
- City expansion. Current rate payers should not be responsible for costs. If you want a shiny new home in the new burbs, developer's need to fund costs and price new builds accordingly
- People and the risk involved if u increase property taxes.
- A public bus stop on Farnham road to take the many teenagers, seniors and students in these subdivisions to work or enjoy the community. The last time there was a bus it was a pilot program run during covid. It was corrupted data and since then the population and need has increased. Not in residential area on mountain ash, just on Farnham road,. Free bus passes for students cannot be utilized in this area. It is unsafe for teens or woman to walk to walmart bus stop, additional 20 minutes in the winter minimums along side roads without proper lighting and sidewalks on both sides of the road
- Free parking downtown more of it remove metres and to many staff giving constant tickets
- Fix the roads, Catherine road to be specific, it connects Sidney street and downtown, it's very important, lots of people use that road
- Get rid of homeless and stop supporting them. [redacted]
- Life is expensive, property taxes shouldn't be triple the amount a resident pays in Toronto because you live in urban belleville. ENOUGH-- there should be no increase to taxes for anything
- Don't increase taxes for homeowners.
- Cheaper housing options
- It is impossible to review audited financials with the annual budget. Additionally, the current years audited statements are never available for the current budget. All too often we see departmental expense below budget, yet the up coming budget has a significant increase in spending. Where is the justification? The City should reduce staff headcount. Why are Firemen paid SO much? Why are Police paid SO much. The city is killing the taxpayers. Match spending and tie to growth.
- Do what's best for the city and not best for your pockets.
- City transit more affordable and better routes
- Review of staffing costs, review of external services city contracts and costs. Review of much wasted funds involving the herding of homeless from location to location to location after they destroy each one.
- I would like to see a commitment to funding museums, art galleries, and community based projects that are made by people in our community, for people in our community.

- No increases to current city employees and get rid of the crazy police increase
- Stop trying to do more, when you can't budget to manage what you already have in place.
- Belleville needs to grow, support small business and overall get people out and about to increase the profit and see better turn over in the area, a huge focus on what's coming into the city to focus on jobs and transportation access to public sidewalks and bike paths
- The cuts to bus services were devastating to many in our community and should be rectified. Entire neighbourhoods now have no bus service at all, which increases reliance on cars and private transportation.
- Fix the roads
- Prioritize water quality. Main/distributor water lines to be checked for metals/ contaminants
- Make all townhouses and condos freehold they pay high condo fees and land taxes some pay more property taxes than single dwellings with more acreage it's not right
- E-bikes need to be permitted insured with helmets not on sidewalks going 50kms hour their are Moms and children and people with walkers on those sidewalks everyday there is more and more they should be on the road. You would make money permitting them If even seen smallecars on the sidewalks where does it stop. When someone gets killed ?
- Maintain or reduce property tax.
- When deciding to replace a road or street, replace all ungrounded pipes at that time. Belleville is notorious for completing a street only to Crack it open 2 years later to repair something.
- More free parking lots since you're not allowed to park anywhere in the city! Impossible to own multiple cars if you don't have a driveway. Cheaper transit, this is a sleepy town, buses shouldn't cost \$4 a trip. The mayer also shouldn't be making over \$200k a year, waste of money for a small town.
- Stop increasing taxes, review officials position and salaries - invest what benefits ALL of us
- Do not increase property taxes. Increase user fees and decrease expenses to do so.
- Do not increase property taxes this is going to be a hard year for a lot of families with the ridiculous increase in living expenses
- Ridiculous we pay for bag tags with cost of taxes we already pay
- I would like to see the doctor recruitment actually fall in the hands of the Provincial government, whose job it is to deal with healthcare and fix the mess they've created. This shouldn't be a municipal responsibility, but I appreciate that the municipalities are trying to help people get the care they need.
- I would suggest taking a careful look at the roles and responsibilities of city staff. Are there roles that can be amalgamated to reduce the number of positions required. In education we are constantly being asked to do more with less. If you want to reduce your bottom line, I would suggest starting there.
- People are breaking bylaws all over the city, and none of the bylaw officers are willing to enforce them. You need officers with more guts and confrontational skills. There is funding that the city is largely missing out on because the bylaw officers won't do their jobs. The city could also be renting permanent parking spots downtown for tenants, but instead the city is keeping those spots as "no parking overnight", which creates an issue for residents. There are 2 women that feed birds in the parking lot downtown and it's resulting in the destruction of many people's cars due to an absolute barrage of bird feces. Bylaw hasn't done anything about these women. They are a public nuisance to many residents.
- More help for the unhoused
- Cut unnecessary and expensive city staff, or, make sure all staff are being fully utilized and are busy. The salaries are way too high and there are too many people doing nothing
- The homeless in Belleville is out of hand, and costing taxpayers, through policing, fire, emt, the hub, city staff cleaning up etc, as well as making the city more dangerous. Homeowners in Belleville are fed up with this ongoing, costly problem.
- If o have to tighten my belt to make ends meet so does the city. Property taxes should not be more than inflation. Use reserve funds if necessary
- Road repairs

- Do better with winter maintenance. Minimum standards are just not enough sidewalk plowing was horrible this year.
- More police tougher on open drug use and encampments
- Get OPP costing for police services and consider moving to a volunteer fire department model for entire city
- Keep tax increases in line with annual inflation rate. That is for all areas of the city
- The new firehall for the Moira street fire station.
- Belleville street conditions need to be addressed. Wallbridge-Loyalist rd. (South of Moira Bridge) , #2 east of Bayview Mall - Point Ann rd, intersections (college/sidney) just to name a few problem areas
- The library is lacking in books from diverse authors.
- Decrease the Police Budget. They do not need huge trucks and SUVs to be doing their jobs.
- Fixing some of the roads in Belleville that are full of potholes and or really rough on vehicles
- Drop all hub funding/support, this should not be a municipal taxpayer responsibility.
- Belleville city should focus on more industries and head office and attract big company to move in city and provide them easy access to them and provide fund so city can develop together.
- You should not get a ticket for parking your car in a cul de sac during non winter clean up months.
- Downtown homeless and drug issue needs to be taken more seriously. Remove them from downtown and watch our beautiful downtown blossom
- I would like to see better management of existing parks before new ones are built.
- The rent cheaper and odsp give more money
- Deal with the homeless as they are habitating behind Quinte high school (where I live) well as other areas. Adopt other cities successful homelessness improvements. Neighbourhoods are no longer safe or enjoyable as they are polluted with debris, needles, garbage, tents and an array of mentally ill homeless folks. Complete disgrace to our beautiful community.
- don't be afraid to raise taxes, do what is needed, not what you think will help you get re-elected
- Greater focus on future conversion of carbon to electric energy usage
- Adding bus service to Cannifton Rural.
- Reduce city staff. They make 6 figure salary. While the city tax payers don't. Tax increases make difficult to own home in Belleville. Little increases over time add up. On top of other monthly expense.
- Make developers pay for true cost for the development they wish to proceed with. History has shown that new development does not show a reward on people's tax bill.
- that the city services the existing homes in the 1998 annexed area of Quinte West...28 years is enough is enough...
- A vacant property tax on both commercial and residential properties. If no one has been using a commercial property or living in a residential property for 1 year or more, the owner of said property should be charged a vacancy tax.
- Take into account climate change. Both by making decisions through a lens of reducing carbon emissions and also climate change-related mitigation.
- Limit the addition of city staff and start holding people accountable for their quality of work. I think an investment into softball and baseball diamonds would prove quite profitable for the municipality in the way of hosting tournaments.
- More sidewalks
- More buses with expanded routes and operational hours. Business and recreational development (events and facilities). More housing, both low density residential subdivisions and higher density multi-unit apartments of which the city is extremely lacking. Finally, please build a road connecting the Home Depot parking lot to the back parking lot of the Quinte Mall to reduce retail oriented traffic on Bell Blvd.
- I would most like Council to expand social housing, including a commitment to building new social housing.
- Get rid of the [redacted] centre at Alhambra

- The cost for policing is OUT OF CONTROL.
- Contact WSIB to investigate the fraud that is rampant in the City Employees & 1st responders. Absenteeism is out of control. Citizen's are paying for 30% of the employees to sit at home and collect full pay. Investigate the hiring process as work environment is toxic. Good people leaving and incompetent remains. Stop hiring consultants and Engineering firms. We already pay adequately for full time city staff. If they cant do the job, consider replacement.
- A detailed explanation/answers WELL BEFORE preliminary budget timeso the public has timetime to understand doubled % increases in requesated operating budgets. The police services board for one needs to have some civilian oversight and our MAYOR and CITY councillor removed because of them [redacted] and not explaining the double digit increases YEAR OVER YEAR. Other departments aren't getting it!!!
- Try sticking to the essentials, water, waste water, roads etc... The Police and Fire budgets are out of control.
- Would like Council to prioritize improving street and road conditions. Secondly, have staffing requirements, in terms of FTEs, reported for each divisional, departmental or operational objective and associated manpower costs. Seems the City is very top heavy.
- Improve efficiency in all departments so there is no tax increases or very minimal increase going forward
- The City should be investing in MORE tourist events / opportunities, not less. Over the last three years Belleville has been cancelling 'city' events – due to 'costs', in hopes that community groups will pick up them up (including the tab) - The Waterfront Multi-Cultural Festival (a near 50 year tradition), the Pop-Ups - which was used as a business incubator – ata high cost to the businesses and according to things I have read, very little support from the City last summer. Instead of cancelling it – it should have been made into an event or activityspace: host pop-up art shows / galleries /workshops / music or performances, that changeevery couple of weeks which would have people coming back to see what's up next. That is atourist attraction. I have read that Pride is moving most of its activities down to The County,and that the Caribbean Festival won't be down at Zwicks either. Is it true that Belleville's Visitors Services at the log cabin is being cut? How does this help bring tourism to the city? Where will people find out what there is to do in Belleville? Not everyone does all of their planning digitally, which all brings up the fact that there isn't really a tourism page on the Cityof Belleville's website – you have to navigate through other pages and information to get to Discover Belleville (which I believe is the City's tourist tagline). That should be one of the first things to pop up on the website – or at least have a tab front and centre for anyone looking to visit. I recognize that budgets need to be managed – but if there are more people visiting (withreal reasons to visit and not just as a stop-off on the way to Prince Edward County) our economy will benefit.
- City transit is a mess and needs to be intigrated more efficiently. Stop spending money on outside companies (HDR) to tell how to run our transit. Appoint a commitee of non council members to advise and implament changes in transit routes. Not just switch one route for another. Send out notices to affected areas and neighborhoods that could be affected.
- I would like to see Council consider transit service on holidays, even if it is very limited it is needed for low income families, and woould also help the environment
- look for efficiency everywhere. My property tax bill is already \$6000/year and i do not think I am seeing value for money and when I think of the millions that are coming in form property tax, I struggle to understand how things aren't better. Pages upon pages of people on the sunshine list definitely doesn't help.
- Moving the fire hall from Moira Street West, and the fire hall in Thurlow. The cost of living is going up so fast. The city needs to delay some capital projects because the taxpayers do not have endless amounts of money to deal with annual property tax increases. Those halls most likely to be ugraded, but you need to give the taxpayers time to catch up between large capital projects. I was born and raised in Belleville and see how it's becoming unaffordable to live here.

- Planting more trees (not seedlings) in the urban area, such as on boulevards and go back to requiring builders to plant a tree for each new unit. I would like to see the City demonstrate/report on how it and others have followed the Tree Bylaw, ie how many trees removed, by who, how many replaced and where. The City seems oblivious of how important trees are to the desirability of the City - for people to live, visit or relocate here. You could probably replace most of the Economic Development budget, put the money into trees and better street design, and reap more economic benefits.
- Social housing projects.
- As a pedestrian, would like to see more focus on expanding sidewalks to streets in the city with no sidewalk. I do support a modest increase in taxes, but would also like the city to consider using alternate funds (such as Casino money) to put towards sidewalks & trails--expanding in the most cost effective manner available (such as paved multi-use versus concrete poured). Improved infrastructure is an asset to attracting investment. Most of this survey focused on essentials, which I appreciate, but just beyond the items required for efficient daily operation I would like to see more secondary street re-surfacing and more sidewalks.
- We need more dedicated separated cycling infrastructure.
- The incredibly negative impact that homelessness is having on residents, feeling scared to walk alone - day or night - and being approached by strangers on trails/roads/downtown when walking to work/home (especially as a woman.) Living near The Bridge Hub, this happens daily-Loud noise 24/7, garbage on the streets/sidewalks/train tracks, people on private property/dumpsters, encampments in parks - It's embarrassing. Recently, I've considered moving out of Belleville permanently, to get a fresh start somewhere else, just because of this issue (despite working seven days/week at two jobs, just to afford my apartment and everyday life - and moving here in 2012 to attend Loyalist.) I'm sure this is a common feeling among many residents - Any help is appreciated.
- WHAT IS THE SHORTFALL (IF ANY) BETWEEN DEVELOPMENT CHARGES AND THE COST OF CITY MAINTAINED INFRASTRUCTURE (TRANSIT, ROADS, SEWERS, ETC) FOR SERVICING NEW DEVELOPMENTS
- consider what the residents want while maintaining the current services.
- Stop letting the police get every toy they can think of. No major purchases for departments until the budget is under control. No trips abroad until budget surplus. Get back to basics!
- development and support for vulnerable populations such as children, homeless and seniors in long term care facilities. ensure police and fire departments are maximizing their staff use .The police budget and purchase of armoured vehicle
- appears excessive. Is there a way to decrease overtime in these in those budgets, working 8 hour days or 12 hour shifts that do not require overtime costs.
- Members of BPS being more accountable for their actions. An example of this is when driving, following the rules of the road when driving on duty.
- Keep property tax increases down. Everybody is feeling the affordability crisis. You are just forcing more people out of their homes with large increases. Find some efficiencies instead of tax increases
- I do not want Belleville to spend gobs of money on Myers Pier, just fix what is needed. Or better yet sell it! Belleville should not be in the marina business, look at the crap Trenton did. Marinas only benefit a few
- Do not increase our taxes.
- Provide option for monthly parking pass on curbed streets. Cyclist and pedestrian safe crossing of 401 (could achieve by reducing Cannifton overpass to one car lane south direction)
- Police the homeless and move them out of Belleville
- Cut funding on the homeless or cap at this year's rate , spending the vast amounts on the has did very little for the same ones we see around the city (million each by now) still a burden on the city's capital funds
- Remediation of abandoned buildings.
- Lowering taxes

- I would like to see a dedicated fund the sets aside money (generated from land sales, development charges, etc.) to fund purchases of land featuring natural heritage features (woodlands, PSWs, significant wildlife habitat & species at risk habitat) and natural heritage systems.
- Reduce police budget. Hire mental health support instead of more officers
- Lower taxes.
- Bringing in new businesses for kids/families.
- Review of compensation and size of administrative staff at city hall. Reduce the fire dept, perhaps move to volunteer
- library services, increase funding for purchasing books
- Eliminate all consultants. For example, if the City has engineers, surveyors and drafts people on staff, why do we still use third party consultants to design capital projects?
- Cost benefit analysis for policing.
- Its time to get an opp costing for policing the city. The cost is outrageous. Council has ben reluctant in the past for some reason. Hmmm
- Better explanation of the tendering process. Seems the City is too late into the annual summer cycle before a warding tenders for individual major projects. Tenders should be being awarded by late winter rather than late spring/early summer.
- Focus needs to be on capital infrastructure projects and the staffing resources required to compete these projects. These budgets should be increased.
- Garbage collection should be free. Families shouldn't need to pay for garbage tags. Build an online platform to register overnight guest car parking on the street. Check out city of markham/ Whitby/ Brampton in regards to guest parking. The number of day for allowed guest carparking on the street needs to be increased and it should go by per number plate and not ONLY TWO OVERNIGHT STREET PARKINGS allowed per house in the WHOLE YEAR. COMMUNITY CENTRE must have a monthly access pass cost to encourage more users. Forexample, Cornell community centre charges \$55/month as a monthly cost for community centre. The only programs which one has to pay a drop in fee are badminton and pickle ball
- Please stop funding the homeless and doctor recruitment with our municipal dollars. Both are provincial issues. Stay in your lane.
- Quit wasting tax dollars on duplication of services.
- Audit Police and Public Transit Budgets - both are out of control and mismanaged.
- build the new fire halls indicated in the master plan,
- Stop wasting money. Quit giving property to [redacted] only to buy back at a high mark up. Make the police do their job, this city is like the wild west. Start enforcing the law and traffican and stop worrying about new toys like armoured vehicles. Make people start paying for things. You're using the working class poor to subsidize the everyone else's stuff ie water to county rd3 and the new idea of disabled / low income folks. This is getting outrageous.
- No ward system but have all counsellors represent all Belleville
- DO NOT RAISE OUR TAXES ANY HIGHER, if you must spend on capital projects etc, apply for grants, cut back on other departments and the same with policing, fire, etc. Some programswill have to cut way back to fund the ones people really need. We don't need to spend millions on the expansion of the Riverside trails and park or equipment for them. Stick to what is really important.
- There should be a freeze on all wages of public employees. Workers in the private sector don't get the increases in pay and benefits that public sector workers get. All you have to do is lookat the sunshine list to see how many employees are in the list and the increases in the pay. This absolutely applies to the management of these organizations. If public workers are not agreeable to this then let them to some other municipality. Tax payers only have so much money.
- Roads need to be maintained, they are just awful!
- -Review how services can be provided more efficiently where applicable. - increase user fees vs. general taxation for services that are user funded.

- Why does the City always focus on growth. My guess is the most residents do not want growth. If so, they would move to a bigger city.
- Better maintenance of our city streets
- With all the infrastructure troubles with water in other communities (Calgary for example) I'd like to be sure the our water and waste water are up to date. I know it's federal, but I can't believe that the on/off ramps under Hwy 62 at the 401 haven't been fixed. Crazy short and dangerous!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I saw a plan for change but haven't heard any timeline!
- Continue to expand public transit. In a struggling economy, giving citizens an affordable way to get around is the path to growth and sustainability. Children need to learn how to travel in more ways than inside a car. Merge PEC and Belleville with reliable public transit and create higher satisfaction within the greater community.
- More shelter/supportive/affordable housing. If Hastings County can't or won't get housing built and you can't change the makeup of its council, and Council can afford to invest tens of millions to make things nicer for business owners in the hopes some of the benefits trickle down to residents, you can and should invest in more projects like Queen Mary, Project Tiny Hope in St. Thomas, Habitat Village, etc. that by definition directly benefit and improve the lives of residents. Scale it up.
- I would like Council to put more focus on green tourism initiatives example bikers, hikers. Moira street west to Potter's creek conservation area is a good example where you can bike there and enjoy a nice walk.
- I would like Council to explore opportunities to improve the areas out side of downtown Front street and focus on improvements to areas that make it easy and comfortable to enter downtown. Bridge street road near courthouse is atrocious and unsafe for biking. Coleman and Pinnacle street could use a face lift. Maybe the addition of volleyball courts at Meyers Pier? Adding bike paths to city streets that are safe to ride unlike Catherine street.
- Encampments cleaned up and moved to one area!
- My largest concern in our area is housing, and making it affordable for all. Why can't we try programs like Kingston or Peterborough? Instead of bulldozing people's only safe space create them something to call their own. If they cannot pay we make ways for them to pay such as garbage collection, watering flowers, entertaining if the talent is there. Make these people feel human and that they matter.
- Improve Transit. Bring back the Belleville Waterfront Festival.
- Bring in fines or fees and set timelines to any developers who constantly request zoning changes/ severances etc to their properties year after year then flip the property without putting a shovel in the ground
- Organization top heavy
- Water supply lines on Frank Street between Purdy and Wallbridge Crescent streets. The service is lacking. Most residents that I have talked to agree that we are not getting value for our property tax dollars.
- Times are tough no new parks or trails we have enough now
- Fire and Police service metrics. Significant increases are arguably justified but the service needs to be much more transparent and detailed. We have a serious issue downtown with homeless people destroying properties, making a mess and when police are called they do nothing even though people have been issued trespass notices. Fire calls seem to increase significantly at the beginning of the month how many of those calls are medical emergencies due to the homeless/drug issues in town. Need to get to the root of the problem vs just throwing more bodies at it so I don't consider it money well spent. Expansion north of the city seems to be poorly planned when you look at no pedestrian access over the 401 bridges, and now your moving a firehall to place it closer to the expanding subdivisions, and the waste of money on the old fairgrounds property suggests pure mismanagement by the city staff to not at least complete a phase 1 environmental, similar to the alhambra hall purchase and now south John street. Completely unacceptable with all the cost overruns that could have been avoided if the purchasing 101 questions were asked. It tells me the politics behind the scenes is costing taxpayers who don't have a stake in the properties millions. Absolute lack of transparency.

- More community involvement with committee's.
- ensure tax revenue generated goes to the appropriate places; if you are telling people their taxes are being increased by 7%, please clearly articulate that ALL of those 7% of funds are going to what you outline and that the project remains on time and on budget and not filtered to other projects as you see "fit". Times are tight and misappropriated funds are not well received at this time. Taxes have been increased in certain parts of the city by 50% in the last 10 years. Not to mention tons of new residential building approved with very substantial permit fees. But absolutely LITTLE to show for this. No new infrastructure, no new roads, no new services and cur backs galore.
- Mandating police to deal with excessive vehicle noise. Sidney Street is terribly designed at the corner of Bell Boulevard, two left turning lanes to the casino and one right turn while the traffic turning east is 20x the traffic going west. Speed limits outside the city are too low and only result in tailgating and dangerous passing. Paying \$500 a month in property taxes with no water, sewer, or high speed Internet is unreasonable.
- Fix the roads!!!!
- There should be a 5-10 year operating and maintenance budget with every capital cost. As an example, a new truck next year comes with ongoing and maintenance costs for years following-they are linked but the true cost of ownership is separated when approving capital.
- Deal with the sanitation plant stench. Retain parkland
- Be transparent to tax payers
- I have been very interested in understanding why the Belleville police service has invested in so many pickup trucks, and large, less fuel efficient vehicles. I can not wrap my head around the need for pickup trucks.
- Discount on water billing to people on odsp who owns their home.
- Increase housing
- Increasing budget for urban canopy coverage as required in the outdated municipal policy - and in the growing need to mitigate the impacts of climate change (i.e., temperature/air pollution, and habitat degradation) on the City of Belleville.
- Cut the police funding. Our roads destroy our cars while they increasingly cruise around on bikes, unmarked pickups etc. I am beyond angered!
- You need to reduce our taxes. Cut services or make the people using them pay for them. I don't need to pay for things I don't use - increase their fee. We pay an absurd amount of property tax - I'm going to leave the city because of it. Don't kill the city and force people to leave.
- I mean I guess you will have boarded up homes for all the [redacted] you took a bribe to take in
- Please use the long view towards facilitating sustained growth and investment. Seek other revenue sources besides property taxes and user fees. For capital spending, maintaining infrastructure is important, but long-term strategic investment such as investing in parks and economic development is crucial in making Belleville a place that people want to live in and visit in the long term. Cutting pop-ups by the bay was a mistake. Place-making has sustained value.
- More scrutiny of the police budget. Reduce or eliminate the levy for the HUB. Increase funding for bylaw enforcement.
- Renegotiate the contract between the city and the Senators hockey team to produce more revenue for the city.
- Roundabouts will increase road capacity by 40-60 percent and reduce the cost of traffic lights, while increasing intersection safety. No more speed bumps! No More stop signs! and less speeding while getting there faster while using less gas.
- Sewer maintenance/upgrade on Victoria avenue.
- Rebuilding Catherine St sooner rather than later. The condition is dire and impacting the nearby homes and the morale attached to maintaining the beauty and conditions of homes in the area. This is one of the routes to get downtown. Make it an attractive one.

Q14: If the City were to increase communication efforts on the budget, how would you prefer to receive that information?
A: Other (please specify)

- Letter mail
- Displays in public places - Quite Mall, QSWC, Library, City Hall, highschoools
- City website, local radio, flyers on bulletin boards at QSWC/library
- Mail. I'm buying Canadian and Belleville is using American technology such as Survey Monkey or Google to communicate with the public.
- Radio
- Use inquinte or quite news
- Media (Radio, Inquinte,Intelligencer)
- Billboards. It needs to be in our faces if you want real engagement. Email and mail is very easy to dismiss for myself and many people I know. It simply isn't a priority in competition with lifes' other demands otherwise.

Appendix B

The comments below were received through email and social media:

- Doesn't matter if anyone does survey or not they don't use the information. There are majority of people in the city that agree the property taxes here are ridiculous amount for what is put back into this city. Lots of city workers largely paid including the mayor. City police are grossly funded and we should be with OPP as every community around us use their service and can afford it
- I notice lowering mayors salary and reducing overpaying of health benefits aren't included in decreasing, increasing or maintaining portion of the budget. Increase fines amounts on businesses in violations for years city bylaws and go retro on payments with interest. Ensure residents get to vote on tenders for road work, building and construction costs. Ensure any company for road work and building, come in on time and on budget. if they fall behind, any issues with what was built, repaired or resurfaced is on those companies dimes and not taxpayers. If requires overtime, it's in the company and not taxpayers. Cut down in traffic congestion and pollution, do what Europe is doing, perform street construction in the evening and overnights less traffic and less risk to workers. Less co version equals less pollution of cars sitting and idling. Increase taxes on large corporate businesses. By law should be proactively monitoring their areas. Not enough man power, use technology for good to pull to monitor complaints and issues especially for noise and such. Noise should fall on city by law as police need to focus on more serious crimes. Repeat offenders keep upping their fines. What you have set doesn't cover pay rates. Residents shouldn't be having to do all the work for bylaw officers whose job it is, residents are working a lot. Ways to work smarter and increase fee revenue. As we already pay for garbage and waste, we shouldn't have to pay for garbage tags or increased costs for it either. Take the money out of the over paid mayors salary
- Please lower the property taxes, whatever it takes to make this happen, it needs to be done. Cut services, increase fees, lower wages. Consider flat fees for property taxes one lot pays the same fee. To be paying almost 5 figures annually in a small city of 60, 0000 ish people for property tax with no property with an average home is insane. The city council/Mayor should be ashamed. Time for change!!!!
- As if they would actually listen . . .
- I think that Belleville should greatly increase the amount of money that we are spending on ROAD improvements. We have the worst roads in the area