

Budget Survey 2022

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

01 September 2021 26 November 2021

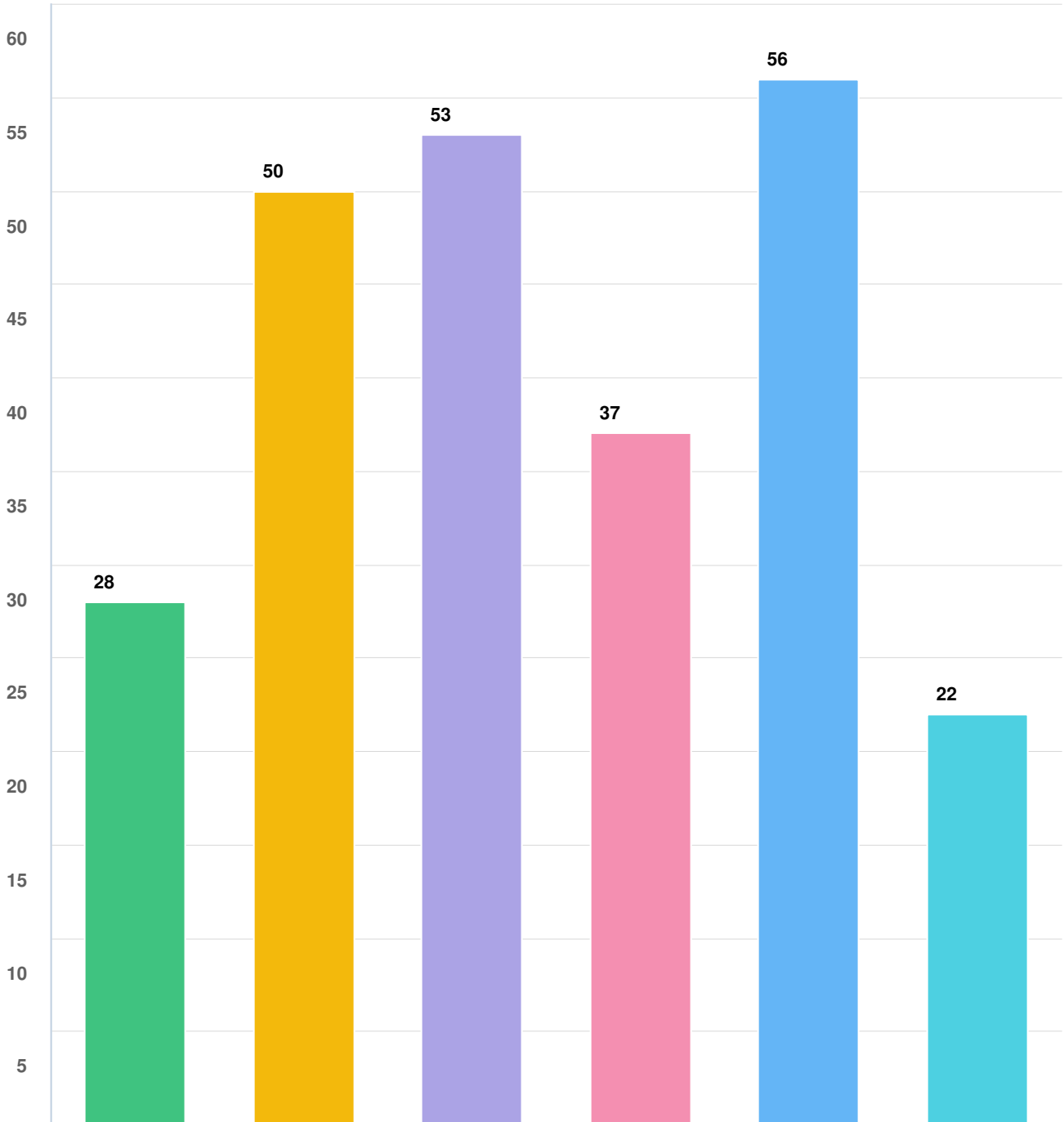
PROJECT NAME:

Budget 2022: Our Community, Our Future



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Property taxes are the primary way to pay for services provided by the Municipality, and with inflation each year an increase in taxes would be required just to maintain services at current levels. Which of the following options do you prefer?



Question options

- Increase taxes to expand and enhance services
- Increase taxes to modernize and maintain services
- Cut services to maintain the current level of taxes
- Cut services to reduce taxes
- Increase user fees for programs used by residents
- None of the above

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q2 | Please provide your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 10:25 AM

Inflationary factor leads to either increasing taxes to maintain or cut services to keep taxes down. I understand inflation and support maintaining current service levels rather than looking to cut.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 11:23 AM

If traditional services aren't able to be provided to a community because of a disaster, taxes should not be increased for that community. Yes - additional supports are being provided, but residents are already under increased costs to access things their community used to provide. Reserves should be used for once in a lifetime issues.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Chatham Kent should focus on delivering the basic services required as priority. So much effort is spent and wasted by administration chasing dreams. Put the ice hockey arena and other

nice to have away and spend the resources on efficiently delivering services.

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 01:51 PM

More taxes to pay for the things we need collectively. Not user fee increases.

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 02:53 PM

Taxes are too high as it is. Looking to move out of this municipality as a result

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 06:03 PM

My property taxes are as high as a city with many extra services. I can't understand how my taxes are 3000 yet I have no sewers on my street no fire hydrant. I asked Chatham Kent to come put more signs up on my street as it's a one way and tons of cars drive the wrong way, it's been 6 months and no one has come or gotten back to me.

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 07:27 PM

Cut police services budget and fire all police and hire low cost officers.

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 06:57 PM

Every year we as tax payers see an increase in our property taxes due to inflation and employees get an increase in wages. I for one have not seen an increase in my wages in years but am paying more in taxes to enrich the lives of municipal workers. Since a great number of employees have been working from home maybe there should be a decrease in their wages.

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 06:58 PM

We must look after our services and increase them for a better community.

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 08:12 PM

I'm sick and tired of people saying "CUT CUT CUT!" Life is about growing, not shrinking. We sure don't need a new arena, but let's put a splashpad and a toboggan hill in every town.

Screen Name Redacted
10/27/2021 08:16 PM

There needs to be a review of which things are 'must do' versus 'nice to do'; as taxpayers, we should not have to keep programs/facilities operating if they've outlived their usefulness.

Screen Name Redacted

taxes are increasing faster than most people's income. it's time to

10/27/2021 09:34 PM

hold the line tight.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 10:01 PM

With the amount of new construction in CK for residential home and the increase in property values, revenue should be at all time high for property taxes. When a home changed hands through a sale of a property property taxes increase significantly, especially over the past 12-18 months.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 03:37 AM

I own a house in ridgetown, and honestly I find the leaf vacuum something that's not necessary. It really just makes people take their leaves on to the road or take them to the end of their lawn and sit there blowing all over the streets for weeks before being picked up

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

Inflation has been minimal for YEARS until this year yet C-K has always raised our taxes! C-K has massively paid down debt over the years, a very good thing, and should easily be able to reduce that and keep our taxes unchanged! C-K tax base has grown massively over the years in areas that require little to no extra services from the municipality, read wind turbines, empty factories being filled, serviced industrial land being sold! Yet C-K can't provide us with ONE zero tax increase! I get far better service for far less taxes on my Lambton County properties! Cut the fat, keep my taxes unchanged or LOWERED. In other words, do your jobs as council!!!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:45 AM

Taxes could be cut and services maintained if some of management were reduced.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

I hope the tax increase this year is actually a decrease after such a large increase last year. What is non-essential should be looked at to verify it's needed and if needed can it be done a different less costly way. Example where service has increased but probably new service level is not required: in 8 years living at this address street cleaning was 1- 2 times a year, since COVID it seems to be monthly in summer!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:46 AM

Let's make sure tax dollars go to ALL communities and not directly to Chatham itself. Chatham receives the most funding by far, and smaller communities need the upgrades to feel like they are 'part of the municipality'

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:07 AM

Every year this council scaremongers the citizens that if we don't raise taxes, we will have to cut services. Why not start by reducing the number of employees? Cities all around Chatham have kept the increase at or near 0% and they still have all their services. This council continues to increase taxes on the households but also continue to give the farmers and commercial owners a break. Start by restoring the tax break given to farmers a few years ago (and that break was promised to end several years ago) and quit punishing the homeowners.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:11 AM

Our tax costs are already outrageous. there should be a 5% cut followed by a 5 year freeze. Wages are not increasing at the same rate as CK taxes.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:13 AM

I would be willing to have a moderate increase in taxes in order to maintain and improve services. However, efficiency should also be pursued. Some things could be done better. I recently saw 5 people with 2 trucks take 30 minutes to clear a drain. This could have been done in less than 5 minutes by 1 person. (I know because I have personally done the same to the drain in front of our house.)

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:17 AM

A good chunk of the programs and services offered by the municipality are sometimes pointless and apply to maybe 5% of our population. Unless the program is beneficial to everyone, let's not waste money for the sake of wasting it's

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:03 AM

As you very well know, the cost of everything from housing and fuel to food, is rising, wages have not been rising at the same pace, some departments think they are owed an increase each year, we have all heard that old saying "if we don't spend it all, we won't get it next time" The citizens of Chatham-Kent are not their personal ATM and we depend on you to learn a new word, NO.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

My taxes are already too high, especially considering you do little if anything to help Wallaceburg

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:14 AM

Time to start laying off public works staff we have way to many

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 12:45 PM

We need Chatham-Kent to be a place that attracts new people and keeps them staying here. We need enhanced service levels to do this.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 04:12 PM

Seniors just can't pay property taxes these days! Interest rates are nil and inflation is rampant! Enough is enough.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 06:53 PM

Do you look at the average income / how many seniors on a fixed income

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:25 PM

It's time for reorganization way to many employees for what is done

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 08:43 PM

We need to address the housing crisis.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:34 PM

Every other industry is being forced to do better with the same amount of revenue. The municipality needs to find efficiencies as well. It will be very interesting to see the results of the employee.study. I also feel the pay level for employees is on the VERY high side compared to other employers in the area. Perhaps red circling and holding wage levels needs to be considered...union contracts or not!

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 07:03 AM

Increase user fees but with supports for low income families.

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 07:53 PM

I am not interested in paying for programs that I do not use. Let the people using them pay for them through user fees

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 03:36 AM

12 years ago when I moved into my house, my property taxes were approx 3k. Now they are almost 4.5k. That's like a 50 percent increase in just over a decade. This is getting ridiculous. And as if home ownership isn't already a huge obstacle for the average person add rapidly increasing tax rates to the mix. Perhaps property taxes should be different for rentals. To help cool the housing market CK can create a two class system. Raise taxes on real estate investments so your citizens can actually afford homes. What I see is government that has failed to keep up with the times.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 11:39 AM

The taxes on my home are incredibly high compared to neighboring counties and communities outside chatham kent. Combining all the communities and areas in chatham kent was suppose to reduce taxes-but once everything was under one roof and one governing group the initial savings was short lived>and taxes have significantly shot up.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 01:45 PM

85 percent of all taxation goes to the high salaries and benefits of the public sector, not one public service worker lost one day of pay during the pandemic, we were one of a very few municipalities that had a tax increase last year during the pandemic. No more!

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 05:33 PM

When on a fixed income how can we afford increase when our income stays they same. Seriously I am paying more for taxes then a new house on water.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 08:39 AM

We are taxed at a very high rate as compared to many municipalities. Greater effort in REAL efficiencies needs to be taken to maintain our services while NOT INCREASING TAXES every year.

Screen Name Redacted

11/03/2021 07:49 PM

With all the new homes and commercial properties being built, shouldn't the increased revenue from the municipalities growth offset any tax increase.

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:34 AM

If user fees are increased, ensure that there are subsidies etc for those on ODSP, or considered low income.

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:26 PM

Chatham-Kent has one of the highest property taxes in the province, but similar services to other areas. It is unsustainable to think that property taxes can increase every year as this will be out of budget for many residents. I would like to see careful consideration given to where tax dollars may be saved while still maintaining the same level or slightly reduced levels of existing services (ex. considering whether a replacement staff member is needed when an existing staff member retires, considering whether the newest and best equipment provides a greater benefit than cost to the municipality and residents, etc.).

Screen Name Redacted

11/05/2021 01:16 PM

"Increase user fees for programs used by residents" should read "Increase user fees for programs used by those that use that program" does not seem fair to those that do not or can not use a particular program.

Screen Name Redacted

11/05/2021 01:34 PM

We live in the Ellis Park/Lancefield Place area of Chatham-Kent. The streets are in some of the worst conditions ever where they have more cracks in them than pavement. There are so many weeds growing all throughout the streets that you could use a lawn mower to maintain them. Try riding your bike on these streets and one could end up being treated by a physiotherapist for the damage caused to their back. Riding in your vehicle is no better -- reminds me of days past bouncing up and down on a wagon. Surely our taxes could be directed to our subdivision. We don't have any sidewalks either but any improvement in our streets would most certainly be appreciated.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 10:17 AM

I think there may be services we can do without but other needs we need to invest in ie) affordable housing.

Screen Name Redacted

11/07/2021 11:27 AM

if fees are increased for anything the money should be spent wisely. Refurbishing an existing unused building for the homeless would be much more cost effective than paying hotel fees. Bus passes are a one time user fee for each ride. Could there not be a day bus pass for people who are going many places in one day instead of them paying a fee every time they get on the bus for that day.

Screen Name Redacted

11/07/2021 06:23 PM

Riverview Gardens, our municipally run LTC home needs renovations, and staffing increases

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 09:12 AM

Property values are already overassessed ; time to Privatize Employees and cut services.

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 08:37 PM

Continuous evaluation of current level of services to ensure there is not room for innovative efficiencies or new models for doing business.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 11:15 AM

I own property in Wheatley. I do not agree with increasing taxes now when I'm not able to access my property.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 12:02 PM

We do not have the population/tax base to support 11 arenas and 11 library branches. Council needs to make the hard decisions that they've put off for literally years. Close Bothwell arena and Highgate Library for starters.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 04:21 PM

With unknown inflation rates, costs , that are potentially coming up ,best to cur some services ,people are just going to have the cash ,...to participate regardless... The basics of life are the unknown at the moment.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 01:47 PM

Garbage and recycling for all chatham kent not just city

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:52 PM

There should be a significant review of the services provided by CK. As an example, why is Economic Development spending money on advertising sales for privately held property (e.g.. Park Ave and Sass Road, former Navistar property) . CK should not be performing real estate services.

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 09:47 AM

Your statements are not necessarily true. There are government programs and services that could be taken advantage of. There has been bad decisions in spending. For example: rebuilding a bridge that residents didn't need or want. Helping with tax relief for the former Navistar plant.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 06:19 AM

We need increased recreational opportunities. Many of our playgrounds and facilities are dated. When you travel to surrounding communities and see their beautiful facilities it makes you wonder why we have next to nothing. Where are the indoor basketball and soccer fields? Large playgrounds? Indoor track? Something more than an arena.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 10:55 AM

Inflation is high and expected to rise and stay high through 2022 making everything more expensive for the tax payer. Please do what you can to minimize increases. This is not the time to be adding new services and new spending to pay for unnecessary projects.

Screen Name Redacted

We're trying to grow Chatham-Kent into a modern, competitive

11/12/2021 11:20 AM

municipality. That doesn't come free.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 05:56 PM

It seems like money is spent frivolously.

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 05:01 AM

Not necessarily cut services but review what each municipality has available to them and maybe cut out some - I.e roadside leaf pickup this is not available to all communities in CK should it be available to all or should it just be a cut service?

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 11:17 AM

Zero salary increases to employees earning over \$120,000 per year. Roll back the top wages (over \$150,000) by 10%. Under used services can be cut back. Move existing staff as required to fill jobs, very few new hires.

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 03:14 PM

ANOTHER WAY TO CUT EXPENSES ON YOUR END IS STOP LETTING YOUR EMPLOYEES USE OUR CITY VEHICLES FOR THERE OWN USE TO SAVE THEM GAS \$ AS IT IS 150/LITRE

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 05:23 PM

Council is given millions of dollars by tax payers every year, yet our tax go up every year. You do not need to cut services to reduce taxes, just cut down on the amount of projects performed every year.

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 11:47 PM

We always hear that C-K lost it's industrial base...well that is more than made it back from the residential, commercial, and industrial building boom. New homes that I consider modest are paying \$5,000/yr in taxes. The developer pays much of the infrastructure costs. If this building boom isn't enough to prevent a tax increase, then nothing is. I am happy with the services I receive but would be willing to accept less services to prevent tax increases. Re-assess greenhouses. The amount of taxes these gargantuan complexes pay is a fraction of industrial and other commercial compared to what they are worth and what revenue they generate.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 09:06 AM

Inflation increases need to be offset with tax increases most of the time or else we will get less services.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

Current inflation rate is ~5% in Ontario. An increase to everyone's property taxes of this level to keep up with it will hurt a lot of

people.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 01:22 PM

I would need further info. Would maintain and modernize reduce jobs? Reduce a perso-person conversation?

Screen Name Redacted

11/24/2021 12:37 AM

Council needs to consider the benefit of the entire community of CK when making decisions on large projects. There are a lot of infrastructure assets in Chatham-Kent that are underutilized and cost millions in maintenance or upgrade costs. We need to divest of these assets, even if it means that a few residents need to adapt to a bit of an inconvenience.

Optional question (67 response(s), 136 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

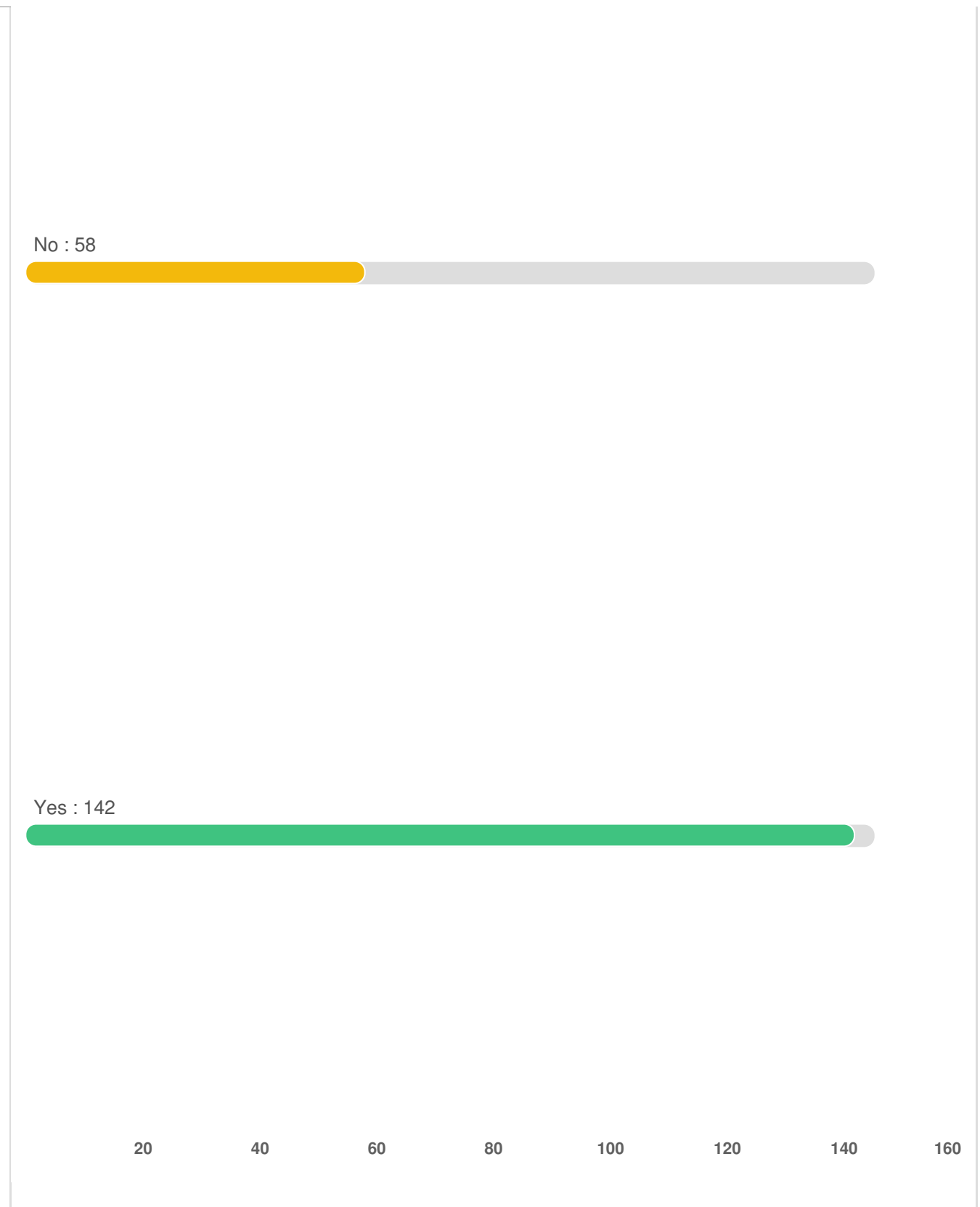
Q3 | The following services currently receive funding from user fees. Please identify for each service whether or not you would support an increase in user fees to reduce reliance on property taxes.



Optional question (202 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Likert Question

Q3 | The following services currently receive funding from user fees. Please identify for each service whether or not you would support an increase in user fees to reduce reliance on property taxes.

Arenas



Arts and Culture Services

No : 69



Yes : 126



20

40

60

80

100

120

140

Recreation Programs

No : 70



Yes : 124



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140

Pools

No : 75



Yes : 121



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130

Sports Fields

No : 74



Yes : 125



20

40

60

80

100

120

140

Transit

No : 83



Yes : 114



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120

Q4 Please provide your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:59 AM

This issue isn't a yes or no answer. Access to municipal recreation opportunities should be universal but if the services are not what the community is looking for or only serves a small subset (eg those who want to and can afford to play hockey) then I think user fees should be increased. Plus it is all relative, I do not have a good perspective of what the current fees are.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 10:25 AM

i do not support increasing user fees in these areas even though I do not use some of these services. Providing these services are important to ensuring a healthy and vibrant community that creates a cascading affect to everyone that lives here.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 11:23 AM

Sports fields and the library are the only services I access and I would be happy to pay more for both. Please consider a separate fundraising campaign for the library - I would love to contribute directly.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

People in Chatham played squash, when the Wheels closed a private citizen built a squash club to play in. This was accomplished without the municipality. Why we are building pickleball courts is beyond me. The local curling clubs and golf courses exist within the community without municipal money. Arenas should be held to the same standard 100% funded from user fees.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 01:51 PM

Raises collective taxes for all. Equity.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:53 PM

Needs vs. Wants

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 05:30 PM

If you use the service you should pay for service, not the rest of the tax payers that may not use the service.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:12 PM

There's nothing wrong with user fees, even if they don't recover the full cost of the experience. It reminds people that nothing in life is free.

Screen Name Redacted

Everyone should pay a user fee to access the programs/facilities

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

they use. If taxes are reduced, they would have more money available to use as they see fit. Without user fees we're all paying for things that are often underutilized. If there aren't enough people to keep something going, then it's time to let it go. As well, if people pay membership/user fees they perhaps feel more connected to the program/facility and will do what's necessary to allow it to remain viable.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:21 AM

Increased fees just mean reduced access to lower income people, and no, I am not one of them.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

User pay!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:45 AM

The people who use the services should be the funders. And why should people pay for services they are not allowed to use because of ridiculous mandates.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

User should pay a good portion of costs just like they would have to in private enterprise. There's no free lunch.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:46 AM

Again, as long as the funding goes to other communities and not Chatham only, that would be the best approach.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:52 AM

We have a huge transportation issue.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:03 AM

I'm not sure if parks are included in sports fields, but baseball diamonds and soccer fields should be maintained without an increase in user fees

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

Increasing user fees would likely result in less users of these services.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 04:12 PM

Let the people who use these facilities pay more rather than people who will never use these facilities. Sports are not essential!

Screen Name Redacted

Arts and culture in CK is desperately under valued and under

10/28/2021 09:21 PM

served. Not everybody plays hockey. But since so many do, let them subsidize their hobbies more fairly while the city actually pays attention to the things that make a place appealing for those considering a move here.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:34 PM

I am very opposed to raising fees for any child based activities. There are many in our area who are not able to afford to enroll children in extra-curricular activities due to cost restraints. An increase in fees would sadly alienate even more.

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 08:12 AM

We need recreational facilities to increase the health of our residents.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 03:36 AM

By raising property taxes you create an economic inequality making home ownership increasingly more difficult because minimum wage has failed to keep up with inflation. Also, It makes more sense that user fees increase especially because not everyone uses those services so why should they be expected to pay to maintain them.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 05:33 PM

In rural areas we don't have access with any of those services without driving miles. Why should I pay for Capital theater that I never use or any other service

Screen Name Redacted

10/31/2021 01:30 PM

Although having access to services helps the wellness of our community, people can only afford so many increases (and not all of us get pay raises based on inflation to handle this increase in property taxes). User-fees (that are reasonable) allow for persons accessing those services to then pay -per-service

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 08:39 AM

A modest adjustment to user fees and less waste of time open with no service being used.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 09:30 AM

I think increasing user fees could make services that are used only by a portion of people, self sustaining.

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:26 PM

I agree that property taxes should fund some of the programs indicated above as there is a collective 'good' that comes from offering such programs. However, I also think that a user fee is necessary so that those benefiting from these items pay into the

services being offered more so than residents paying into these services who do not use the programs.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 10:17 AM

Arenas are for the rich primarily so users could pay a bit more. We also have too many arenas. They aren't all fully used and everyone going is driving so they don't need to have in every town. Maybe they or the land could be repurposed in some areas so they still provide space and value to the community.

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 08:37 PM

I think there is room to increase the user fees a small percentage. I am not sure what impact this would have on the overall property tax increase.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 11:15 AM

Citizens who want these services should have to pay for them. Funds to subsidize fees should come from the province or the federal government- CK can't afford it. It can barely afford to replace and maintain infrastructure like roads and sewers after increasing taxes.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 12:02 PM

JumpStart and ALL for Kids cover the costs of recreation/arts programs for children. These are 'optional' services run by the municipality. Transit, however, is not optional for most users. Their livelihoods depend on it. Do NOT raise user fees for transit users.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 04:21 PM

Maintain recreational...everyone needs transit at some point. Increase user fees for recreational.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 09:33 AM

Most of Chatham-Kent properties have been bought by landlords increasing fees only benefits the landlord that have multiple properties and hurts the people who can barely afford recreational activities as it is !

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 11:50 AM

With current data it's shown Chatham Kent still remains a very unhealthy community. As cancer rates are sky high as well as obesity it's time we start looking at healthy ways to get CK residents more active. Having our Chatham arenas outdated but left unused due to higher rates not just in Chatham Kent but from around these things could change for more use as well as more money being brought in from adding programs. Transit currently is getting better from the programs like ck transit but with more jobs

more people can use these assets we currently waste like arenas. Imagine having put effort in something like a OHL sized arena. Twin pad with multi uses for different sports, gyms, venues for things like concerts. It's bring money in. But with investing like this it's going to create jobs and opportunities to have as stated above with transit more use. Chatham Kent and it's thinking has always been behind and it's wasting tax dollars. You mind as well cut everything and keep the citizens happy with saving.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 06:19 AM

We need more than arenas. Not every recreational opportunity should be ice based.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 10:55 AM

Most of the above programs are used by middle and upper classes who can afford to pay more if they deem them necessary. Programs for the working poor such as transit should be subsidised by the wealthy.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 05:56 PM

Have some lower fees for low income people if it can be done accurately.

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 11:17 AM

Transit we have bus service 4 times a day 6 days a week with very few riders. This has been going on for many years? There has to be a better way.

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 11:47 PM

Arenas are expensive to maintain. If people use them they should expect to pay. I've personally never set foot in a C-K arena and don't want a tax increase because of them.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 09:06 AM

Transit fees seem to be lower in Chatham-Kent than other cities I have traveled. A small increase would seem manageable.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

These programs are nice, but on a personal level I know very few people who actually use them. Fees should increase for those who use them, not the majority who do not.

Screen Name Redacted

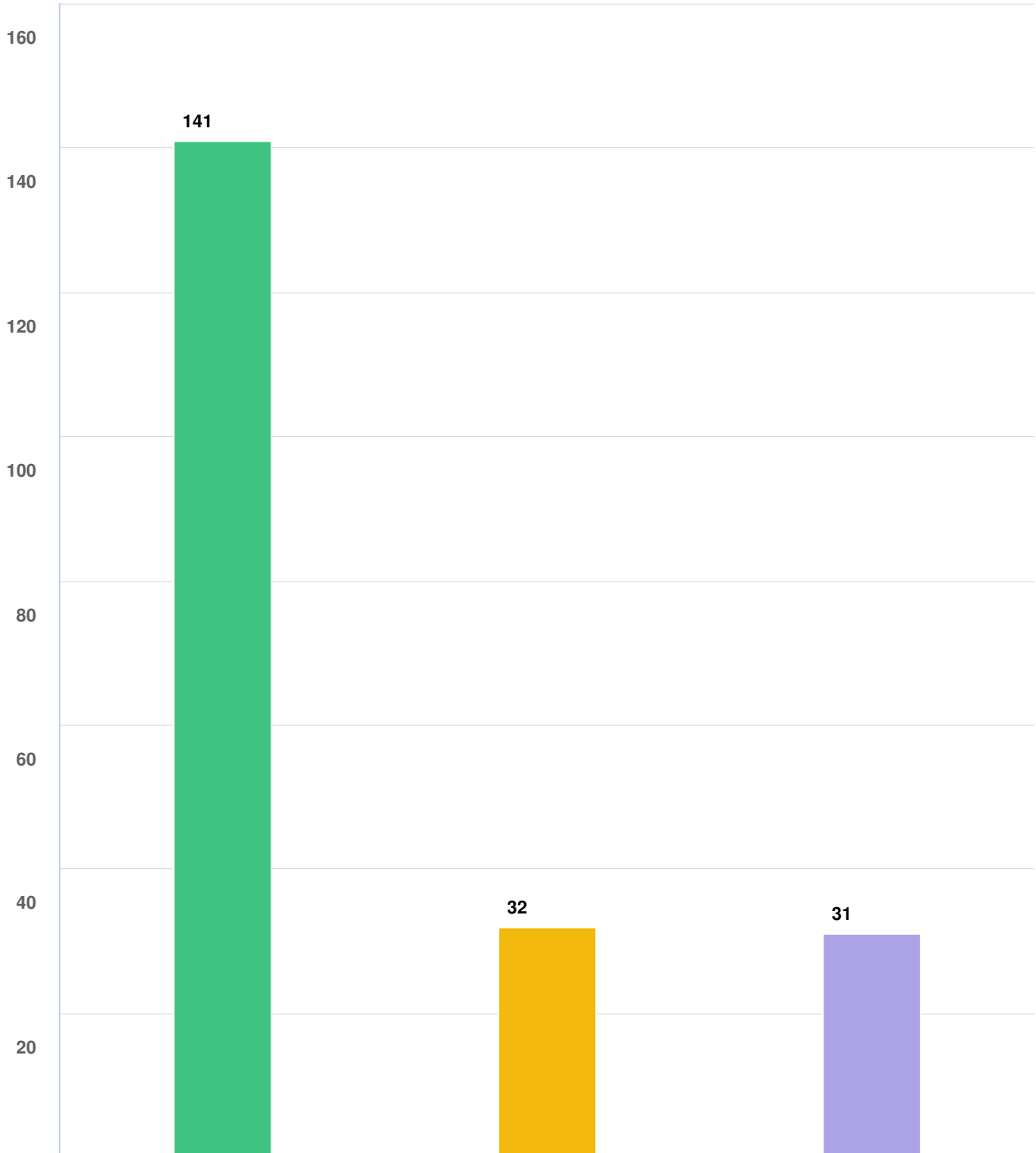
11/23/2021 01:22 PM

Increased user fees will reduce usage making it even more difficult to justify money spent for updates/maintenance.

Optional question (42 response(s), 161 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q5 Parks and trails have seen a huge increase in usage during the pandemic as residents look for outdoor recreation. As the recovery continues and we return to a more normal state will you continue to use our outdoor spaces?



Question options

- Unsure
- No
- Yes

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q7 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 10:25 AM

One area that I would like to see increase in service levels is in trails, bike paths, etc.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Most of the outdoor spaces are being used by Chatham's large population of drug users. These sites aren't safe for families.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 01:51 PM

More trails. Better maintenance. Increase taxes to support the costs.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:53 PM

Very few trails in my community and are not well maintained.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 07:27 PM

Parks must remain free.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

Trails in Chatham Kent are a good investment to the communities

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

Some of the trails, such as Mud Creek, are beginning to get broken up/uneven and should be repaved to alleviate someone tripping/falling. At that time, the walking path should be made wider as it's quite narrow for all the people walking their dog or riding a bike, etc.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

User Pay!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

Parks and trails are being used more but they look terrible, the perception of residents and newcomers is that they are poorly maintained. It's the same as the phrase "if the tray for an airplane seat is dirty they don't do engine maintenance". To be attractive Chatham-Kent has to look good.

Screen Name Redacted

My use has not fluctuated due to the pandemic, it will likely

10/28/2021 09:52 AM

maintain. I am not sure this question captures this.

Screen Name Redacted

We love the local trails.

10/28/2021 10:13 AM

Screen Name Redacted

I don't use any of the parks or trails

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

Screen Name Redacted

I don't really use outdoor spaces.

10/28/2021 12:45 PM

Screen Name Redacted

We must protect, honour and expand our green spaces. It is imperative to our physical and mental health.

10/28/2021 09:21 PM

Screen Name Redacted

My usage would have barely changed, if at all

10/28/2021 11:13 PM

Screen Name Redacted

So happy the bike trail has been laid to Perry siding bridge and back. Many more trails in wooded areas should be maintained and well advertised in our CK area. See Stratford and Goderich areas of how this has been achieved.

10/30/2021 11:39 AM

Screen Name Redacted

We have lived outside of Chatham and the places we chose were always those that had access to nature. The critical importance of having parks, trails and bicycle lanes CANNOT be emphasized enough for physical and mental health and wellness of our community.

10/31/2021 01:30 PM

Screen Name Redacted

Increase the number of walking trails and connect the cycling lanes on east and west McNaughton so cyclist can safely get across the city.

11/04/2021 09:42 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Can't use them, to much back pain to walk any distance but taxed as if I do.

11/04/2021 11:14 AM

Screen Name Redacted

I use the sidewalks for exercise and to get outside. We do have a beautiful city to view. I would like to see more attention given to our water front (Thames river) as it has been neglected...long grass, banks washed out and not maintained, graffiti, garbage.

11/05/2021 01:16 PM

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 10:17 AM

I'm grateful for our bike lanes trails and parks and hope we keep these up and growing.

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 08:37 PM

I will continue to use and enjoy the trails in C-K but as well will encourage others to do the same. C-K residents will hopefully continue to increase their outdoor physical activity levels to promote their health especially with our human health statistics.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 06:49 PM

I live in a rural area and do not use outdoor spaces very often

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 09:47 AM

I would like to see more care and maintenance for the trails.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 06:19 AM

Please add large interactive playgrounds to these outdoor spaces.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 10:55 AM

My wife and I have always made good use of the parks and we have noticed the increase brought on by the pandemic. I hope they continue to be appreciated by the public at large. The bike path around the river was a great addition.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 11:20 AM

Despite our geographical size, Chatham-Kent is woefully lacking in trails and other public outdoor lifestyle opportunities. We need to increase this.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 05:56 PM

Thanks for the river loop bike trail!

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 11:17 AM

Cut back the amount of grass cut along these trails. Cut one meter on each side of walking path.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 09:06 AM

Having safe places to walk or bike is very important to me.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

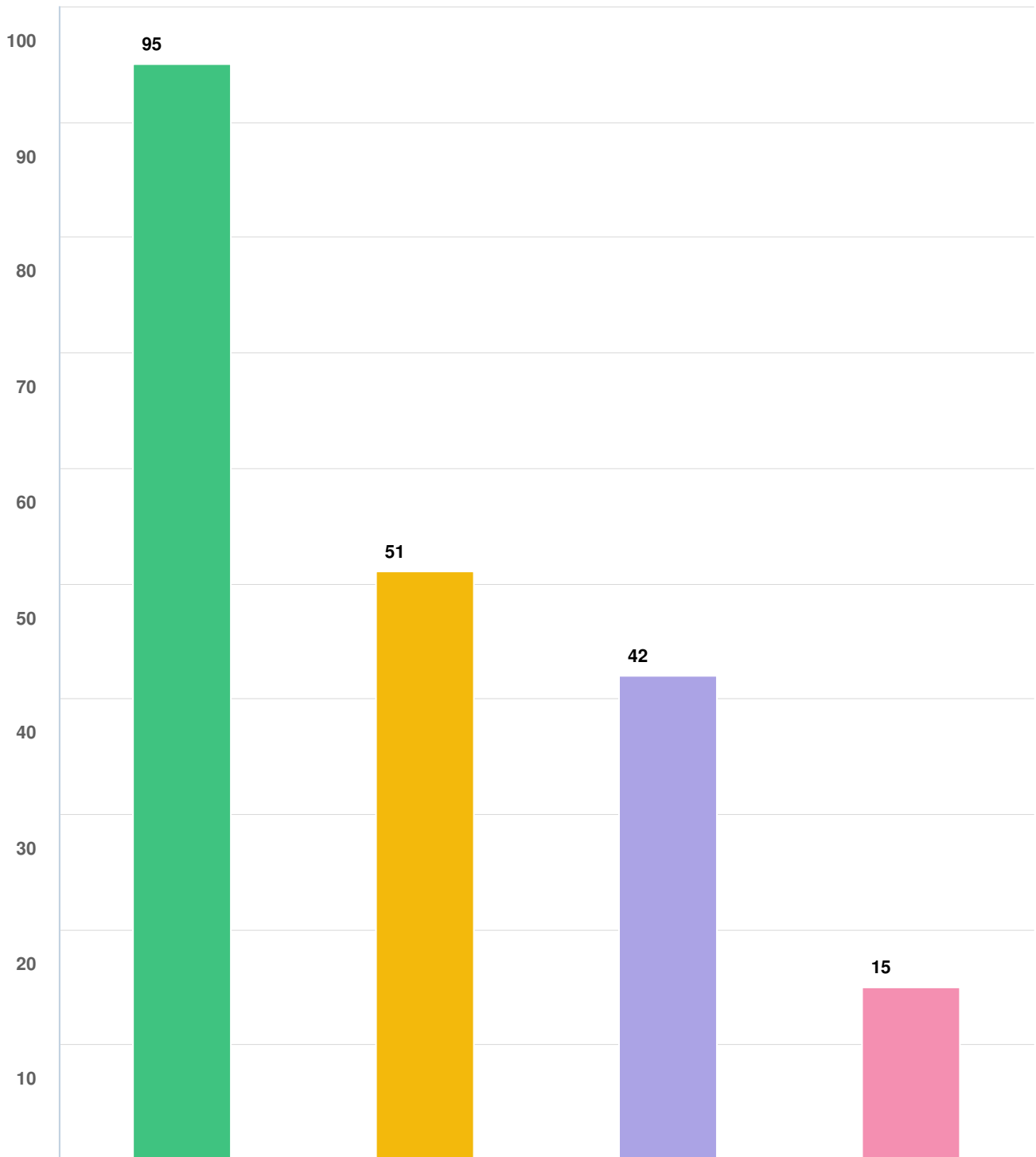
There is a lack of trails within the city. Rather than pave a road shoulder out to Prairie siding on both sides of the road and river, perhaps some trails within the city would be of more use. Could

look at expanding trails along mud Creek to the east or Brown drain east of Victoria. Im not sure of the status of the Victoria road widening but that will be a disappointing result if the road isnt at least widened to accommodate a bike lane.

Optional question (31 response(s), 172 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q8 In your opinion how important is affordable housing for the Chatham-Kent community?



Question options

- Not Important
- Somewhat Important
- Important
- Very Important

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q9 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:59 AM

Council has policies that support affordable housing, please make decisions using the policies that you have approved. That is, stop putting up barriers to building housing. You created good policies, use them.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Why use tax dollars, collected from net positive contributors to society to build housing to attract people who are Net negative contributors?

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 01:51 PM

More rental homes, geared-to-income properties and affordable housing for all CK residents.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:53 PM

Who even gets an inflationary pay increase anymore? CK continues to overburden the taxpayer.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:03 PM

There is a 10 year wait list in london, a 5 year waitlist in st thomas. Our wait list is not even close to that so much so people are moving from larger areas just for the cheap rent. There should be a minimum time you've lived in ck before your eligible.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:27 PM

Rent prices are out of control. Let's please not forget our many families and seniors who are on fixed incomes. There are no safe/clean apartments or retirement homes that are truly affordable in C-K. It is heartbreaking.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 07:27 PM

Affordable housing does not exist in chatham and needs to be created.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

We need to keep in mind that rents are the major concern but also needs to remember we can not just having the people actually working and paying property taxes to be the one covering the cost for everyone else

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:58 PM

Low income housing means the municipality must be funding it. No Way.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:12 PM

Affordable housing should be transitional, not a permanent lifetime option.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 08:24 AM

I and my partner make a combined \$180 salary and we cannot even afford to buy a home (our first home) in Chatham-Kent. This is absurd. I grew up here and I can't even afford to buy or go in on these bidding wars ... it's ridiculous.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:52 AM

Housing is an important factors in many other issues that our community faces. We need to take intersectional approaches to resolving these issues at a system level.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:03 AM

There needs to be checks and balances to ensure "affordable housing" is not being abused by anyone who is fully capable of earning a living.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

Important, provided these properties are kept up and don't turn into slums with drug dealers.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 06:53 PM

who is going to pay for the affordable housing ME? I worked hard and paid my own way

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:34 PM

The numbers of homeless has dramatically increased. High and raising property taxes have a very real impact on this statistic!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 PM

CK needs more lower to middle income housing options

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 07:03 AM

We need more housing options such as garage apartments, tiny homes in back yards. We need to ease restrictions and red tape. More municipal housing as well. Right now, rents have soared along with house sales. I honestly don't know how many low income families will be able to survive.

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 07:53 PM

CK has lost alot of higher paying jobs over ymthe years which are being replaced by minimum wage or slightly higher wages (call centres etc)

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 03:36 AM

The Meadows was supposed to be the solution to affordable housing in CK. Instead the homes were allowed to be bought by outside investors and rented out which caused an increase in demand that could not be met... Thus driving the prices up. There should be bylaws in place to prevent this from happening. There should be areas specifically zoned for rental and residential neighborhoods shouldn't be one of those areas.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 01:45 PM

There is far too much social housing as it is , it forces those of us who struggle to stay in our own houses, with high taxation, to subsidize other people. The extremely generous Canada child benefit should be recognized as income for people who want social housing. It's not fair.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 08:39 AM

The concept of Affordable housing is misleading. Homes over \$200,000 are NOT Affordable for minimum Wage families. Greater emphasis on bring White collar work and higher wages to CK is KEY! PAY LIVING WAGE as a minimum Wage.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 09:30 AM

Our aim as a municipality is to attract young families that will build a life and careers in our community. The current housing has created a situation where home buyers are mostly retirees, foreign investors and homeowners looking to upgrade their homes. Building smaller more affordable homes can help us attract the young people who will help grow our economy and attract business.

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:26 PM

Housing prices in the community have skyrocketed in the past year, with selling prices increasing over last year in excess of 30% in a large number of cases, per the CK Association of Realtors. Not only is purchasing a first time home or any home in the Municipality further out of reach for first time buyers, it's out of reach for existing residents. The high cost of buying coupled with the high cost of renting is only going to see people leave the Municipality for somewhere that they can afford to live. At current rates, both renting and buying, it is difficult or straight up unaffordable to pay for housing, utilities and food, not to mention other necessities. It's very disheartening to have housing, such a basic need, be so out of reach for so many and to see little to no plan in place by the Municipality to address this. We don't need subsidies or grants for luxury apartments, condos or homes. We need to encourage affordable (< \$300,000 for building and <\$1,000/month for renting)

and realistic housing options in this community (tiny homes serve a very niche market; they are not a solution for people with families or those who are looking to start a family).

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 10:17 AM

There is almost no affordable housing available in CK. Please invest. Young people and workers that are needed to fill entry level jobs need a place to live. So do low income seniors.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 10:41 AM

CK needs more affordable housing as well as supportive housing for those with mental health issues

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 08:37 PM

Lots of reasons- Few Factors include...Social determinants of health include affordable housing, issue of inflation post pandemic, C-K's high rate of homeless, recruitment to community,...list can go on

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 10:25 AM

You need to stop the large cities from busing the homeless to our city

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 11:15 AM

Affordable housing must be throughout CK not just in Chatham. I only support this if affordable housing is available throughout CK, specifically in smaller towns outside of Chatham.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 04:21 PM

Price freezes for rent .

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 09:59 PM

Council needs to invest in housing for the homeless and poor of CK. It's disgusting that little is being done to solve this problem. When will council act??

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 09:33 AM

We need affordable housing for everyone wheather it's a rental or owned properties. We need to stop allowing people from outside communities from buying up ck properties and renting them at astronomical prices. Home sales should be reserved for people who live and work in ck !

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 11:50 AM

As previously described Chatham-Kent has always been behind. Saving citizens tax dollars might increase investors to come in and

renovate old buildings for different uses. But everything else it's wasteful with what's been proven by the municipality.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:07 PM

With the price of houses or even trying to rent a one-bedroom apartment it is merely impossible for any young people starting out to get anywhere.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:52 PM

Affordable housing should be the responsibility of the Province, not local municipalities.

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 10:34 AM

Chatham Kent is the worst Municipality for affordable housing!

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 10:55 AM

Not everyone is as fortunate and lucky as I am to have the standard of living I do. Housing geared to income is important as long as it is not abused.

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 05:23 PM

By increasing taxes every year you are also creating more unaffordable housing, raising rents, thus overall putting more people on the streets to live and increasing the amount of people visiting food banks.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

The housing problem is a larger issue than just Chatham Kent. Tax the landlords and people buying investment properties (many who don't even live in this community) who are causing the problem - not the majority of us who aren't getting rich off of it.

Screen Name Redacted

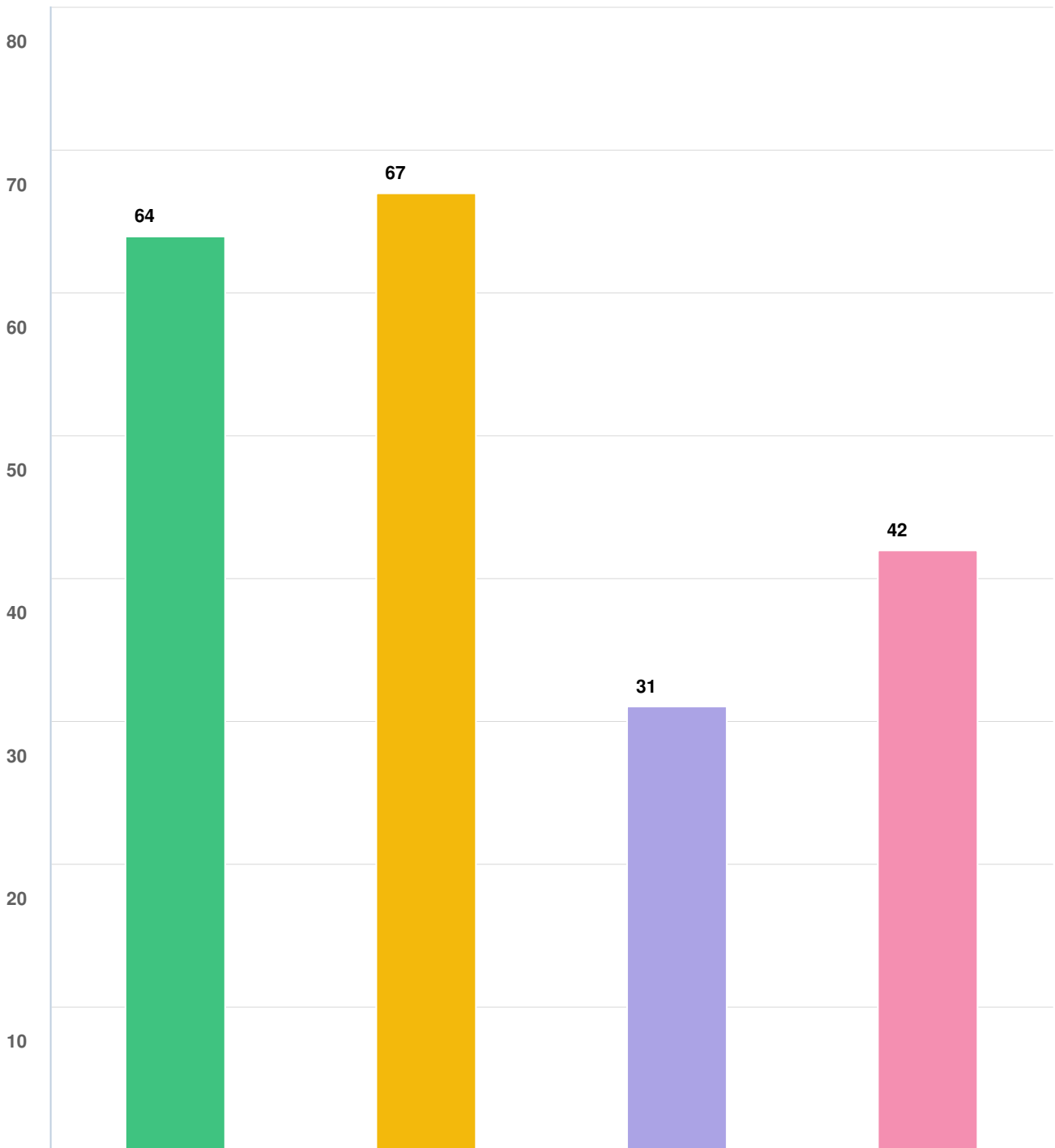
11/23/2021 01:22 PM

This makes me so sad that this is a question.

Optional question (40 response(s), 163 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q10 What service level goal should the Municipality of Chatham-Kent achieve for affordable housing?



Question options

- Do not increase affordable housing options from current service level
- Increase affordable housing options slightly
- Increase affordable housing options moderately
- Increase affordable housing options significantly

*Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q11 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 11:23 AM

I would support policy changes that allow private funding to more easily increase the amount of rental stock/smaller homes available in the community. For example, we have a large lot and have considered adding a second unit. Building permit fees should be decreased to promote increases in urban density like this.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

I see the option to decrease isnt even on the table. Biased?

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 01:51 PM

Lots of people still in need.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:53 PM

We can't afford it!

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:38 PM

All for helping young people achieve a decent affordable place to live, again for a limited time. Give them time to save money to buy a house on their own, by subsidizing their housing, but if they are not doing that than charge them full market value. I should not have to subsidize someone who isn't going to help them selves.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 07:27 PM

Affordable housing does not exist in chatham and needs to be created.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

In my opinion the municipality does do enough to help

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

This should be left to private business owners/entrepreneurs, Chatham-Kent can be at the table and can approve planning considerations, but The Municipality shouldn't be funding affordable housing.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:34 PM

must be done in a way to help those most in need.

Screen Name Redacted

Increasing supply significantly now is a great investment for the

10/28/2021 09:52 AM

future of the community.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:11 AM

provide incentives for Private builds related to decreased rates in rent. Eg. 10 years tax free max rent 1br \$750 2br 900.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 04:20 PM

Fats track development and the supply will reduce prices make it easier to build and develop

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 08:43 PM

This is just a piece of a bigger system.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 03:36 AM

The average cost of a home in Chatham is ridiculous. There is barely anything here where our citizens are making enough money to be able to afford homes here.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 01:45 PM

There is far too much social housing as it is .

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 08:39 AM

People need to be taught how to save - Training programs for low income people on how to enter the housing market is needed.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 10:17 AM

Housing is the only way to end homelessness.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 01:47 PM

Young people can't afford to pay the high price for rent

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 11:20 AM

We spent an absolutely insane amount of money on affordable housing. Between the salaries of the municipal department to manage it, the properties themselves, the taxes... it's enough.

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 05:01 AM

With the rate of homelessness in CK if people could afford a place to live they potentially would then be able to get a job. If you don't have a means of contact, an address or ability to keep personal hygiene a priority how can we expect employers to hire these individuals

Screen Name Redacted

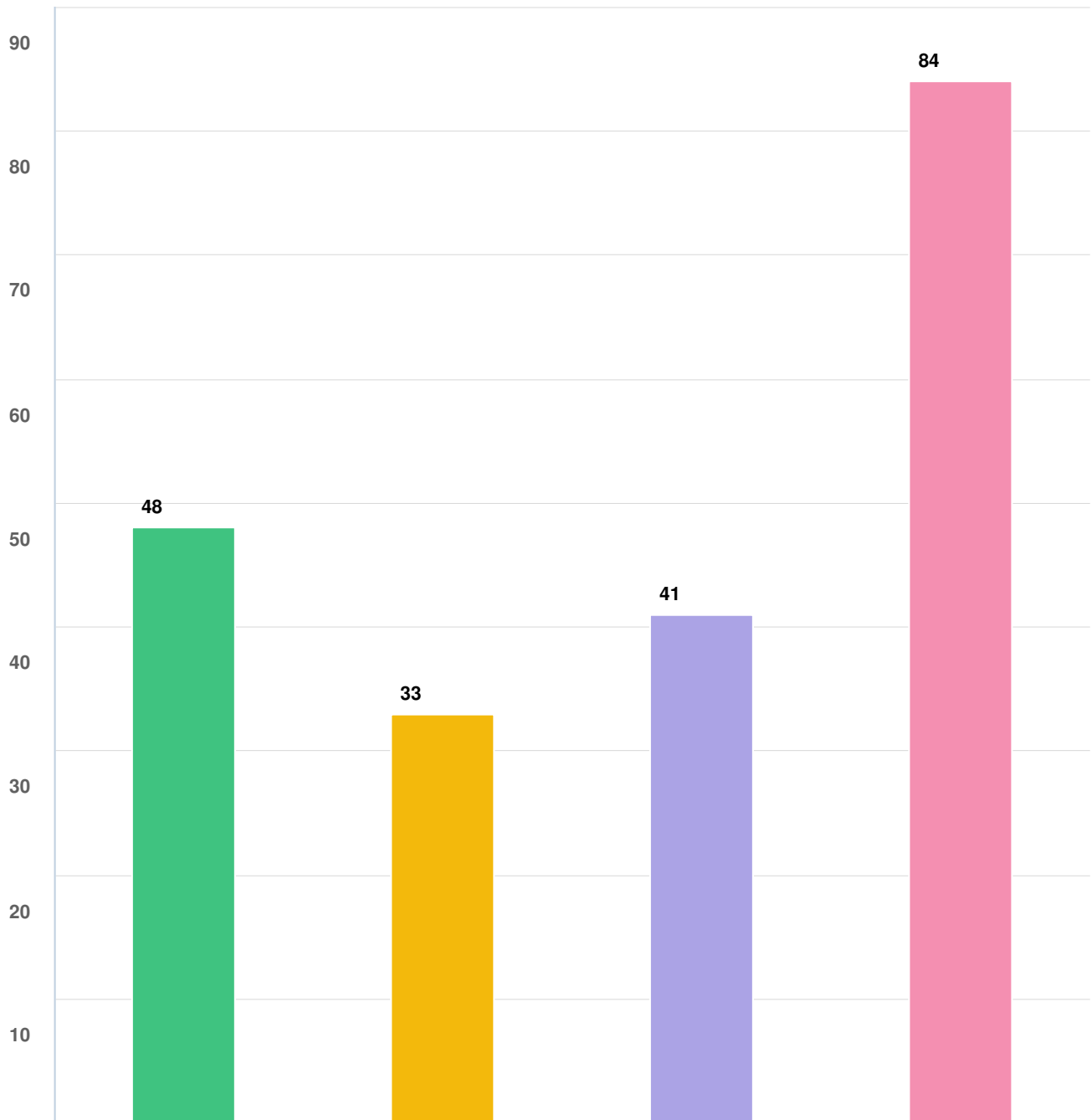
See above - add a sales tax to income or investment properties.

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

Optional question (21 response(s), 182 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q12 What amount of taxation increase (if any) would you support in order to provide more affordable housing options for the Municipality of Chatham-Kent?



Question options

- \$0, I do not support an increase of taxation to increase affordable housing options
- \$10 annual increase to my current taxation level to increase affordable housing options
- \$20 annual increase to my current taxation level to increase affordable housing options
- \$30 annual increase to my current taxation level to increase affordable housing options

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q13 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:59 AM

I don't have enough information to make an informed decision to answer question #14. What impact would \$30 have? What impact would \$10 have? What do you define as 'affordable'? I support providing more options that allow everyone in CK to have safe and adequate housing . Housing is a human right.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Why don't those people who suggest increasing taxes for affordable homes, instead just take a family in? Those who want to contribute can, those who don't won't have to.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 01:51 PM

Even more if that's helpful.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:30 PM

Funding I given from casino however taxes keep going up.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:53 PM

Every service increase comes with a price tag. Who can afford more? Efforts to attract more businesses to share the burden would be time well spent.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:38 PM

Again I'm all for helping someone down on their luck, but helping them to have a place to live should come at a price. Employment has to come with it. If they aren't going to work with taxpayer's help, let them starve. I'm not talking about people with mental health issues because that is everyone responsibility, or single people with children, I'm talking about those single people who are healthy and able.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 07:27 PM

\$50 a year would be better

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:12 PM

\$30/year is insignificant to the point of being a joke.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

As noted above, this is not something taxpayers should be funding.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

I would support an increase if council does their job and controls/cuts funding elsewhere!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:45 AM

There are many other places money can be found. Such as reducing top heavy management

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

When new or improved services are required savings in other areas must be sought. Given the amount of change in our world in the last 10 years there are better ways of doing things and as a result of change some things should be stopped.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:52 AM

Perhaps provide a gradient based on property value. Higher property values, pay more. Or investment properties could also pay more.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:48 AM

Province should be funding.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

Once again - My taxes are already too high. I have yet to see any major improvements here in Wallaceburg in the nine years I've lived here.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:14 AM

It's time to cut staff

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 12:45 PM

Affordable Housing continues to be a big issue for CK. Council needs to invest heavily in this area. It will help support single parents, seniors, and lower income families and therefore benefit CK as a whole.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 04:20 PM

Tax's are to high already

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:25 PM

Let's get real we need to quit overspending it's that simple

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:21 PM

Reduce the police budget and there won't have to be any increase.

Screen Name Redacted
10/28/2021 10:34 PM

It is imperative to focus on needs rather than wants. Housing is a need and new hires such as inclusive and equity managers is a want and huge waste of tax payers dollars

Screen Name Redacted
10/29/2021 07:53 PM

These should be built or renovated buildings put up by private companies..CK receives the taxes on these properties

Screen Name Redacted
10/30/2021 03:36 AM

I'm not sure why it would cost tax payers money to create affordable housing. Like if bylaws were created to reduce outside demand the price of housing would go down. Less demand and more supply equals affordable housing. This is economics 101

Screen Name Redacted
10/30/2021 01:45 PM

Again, it is not fair to force property owners to subsidize others.

Screen Name Redacted
11/01/2021 09:30 AM

Rather than try to solve the housing issue as a government agency, I think we would better served enticing the free market to provide solutions.

Screen Name Redacted
11/03/2021 07:49 PM

Grants and community engagement should be involved to purchase, then rent to own for the tenants

Screen Name Redacted
11/08/2021 06:17 PM

If we're all going pay more for affordable housing, let's make sure the increase doesn't go to administrative costs but, rather to provide housing.

Screen Name Redacted
11/09/2021 11:15 AM

How much housing is provided for \$10 per month. Hard to answer this question.

Screen Name Redacted
11/09/2021 04:21 PM

Fixed income residents cannot afford any increases .hard enough paying for the basics of life and just trying to sustain what is necessary.

Screen Name Redacted
11/09/2021 06:49 PM

More funding should be provided from higher levels of government

Screen Name Redacted
11/11/2021 09:47 AM

Why would there be a rate increase? Again there are government programs available to help offset taxes.

Screen Name Redacted

See above. This will not solve the issue.

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

Screen Name Redacted

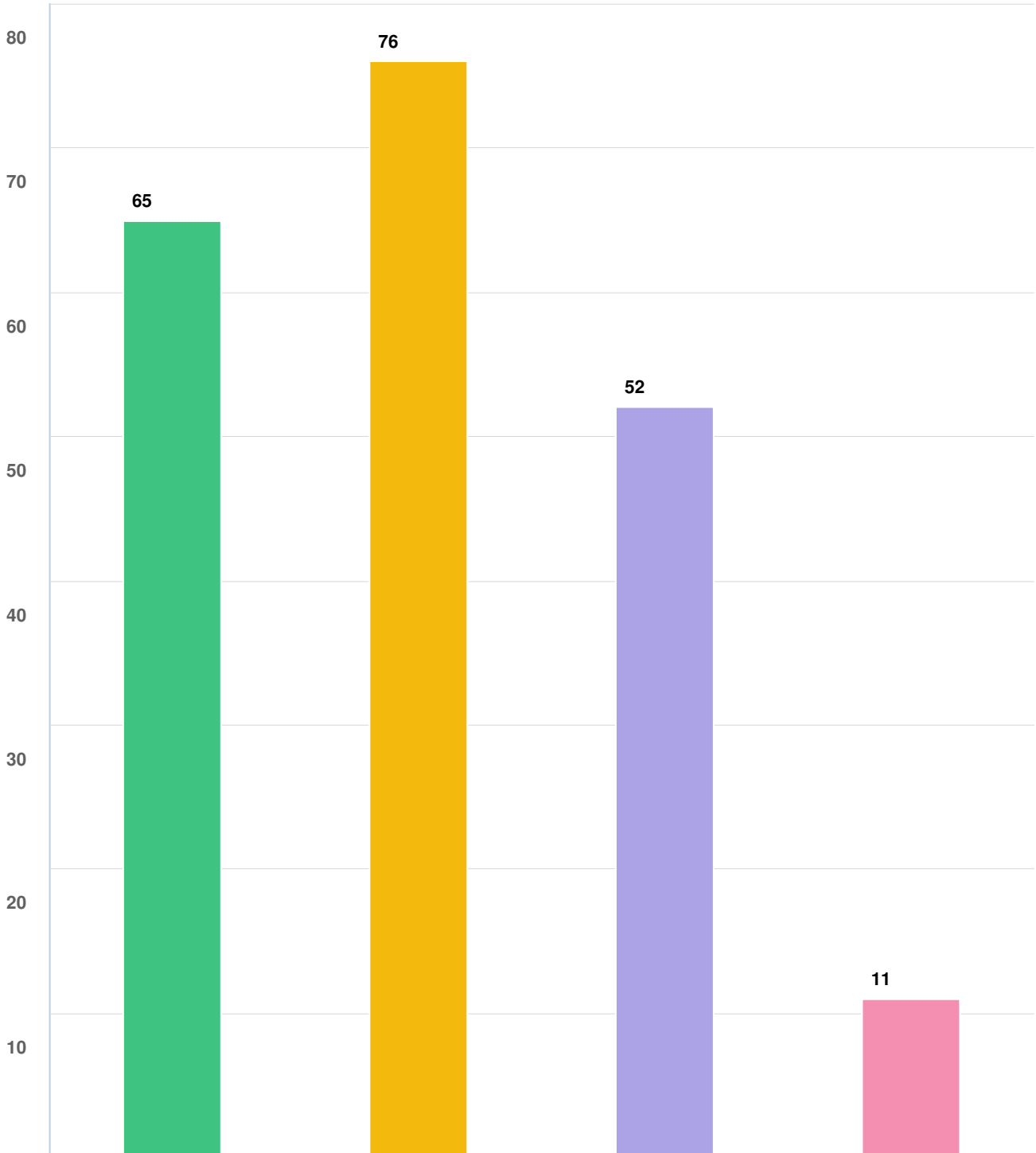
I'd want to know how my 30.00 annually helps.

11/23/2021 01:22 PM

Optional question (33 response(s), 170 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q14 Funding for homelessness prevention services (temporary shelter services, rent arrears, placement into long term housing etc.) comes mostly from provincial tax dollars. Given the increase in local homelessness since the onset of the pandemic (if there is a provincial funding shortfall) would you be willing to have your municipal taxes increase by up to 1% (\$31 on an average assessment) to help more people experiencing homelessness become safely housed?



Question options

● Don't know ● Maybe ● No ● Yes

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q15 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:59 AM

Support services need to accompany housing

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Life is hard. My life is hard, I have enough hands in my wallet. If you want everybody in Chatham Kent to need thisnp program keep taxing those who are just making it.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 01:51 PM

Supplemental taxes to pay for the provincial shortfall.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:29 PM

The rumors are that people from outside of Chatham Kent are setting up house here. Why should long-term taxpayers provide for their shelter costs when they are not even residents and when they no value to the municipality by setting up house here.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:30 PM

Keep raising my taxes I have minimum income now retired barely making ends meet. Taxes in Ridgetown already higher then Chatham and I don't understand why BS

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 05:30 PM

Maybe not as high as 1%. 0.5 or 0.25 ??

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:38 PM

I am all for helping someone who is down on their luck, cause it can happen to any of us, but there is a limit. Offer them jobs that we all hear there shortfalls for employers, give them housing at a very small amount of rent till they can get back on their feet. If they don't want to work, let them starve. Obviously only talking about single adults with no children.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

They will stay homeless as long as we keep giving more, they need support to get clean and stay clean (if addicted) or help to get a job and keep a job. And I can say this as I was homeless when I was 17

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:12 PM

Our homeless population are drug-addicted vermin. They will never contribute anything to our community. We should close all homeless shelters and give them a one-way ticket to anywhere they want to go but here. This experiment has been an abject failure.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:57 PM

Our tax rates are one of the highest in Ontario. It's good to help homeless, but the federal government should be funding this. Raising our property taxes can create more financial burden and more homelessness. Our taxes are unfairly high in Chatham

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 06:01 AM

There are lots of jobs, employers are having a hard time filling. Have to people apply for them.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

If people look after housing provided to them fine, if they don't kick their butts out.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 08:48 AM

Homeless shelters need to be near the services the people experiencing homelessness are. Not in residential areas, some of which are already in financially uncertain areas. The idea once tabled to put the shelter in the Union Hall on Merritt was absolutely ridiculous. [REDACTED] didn't suddenly become altruistic, but someone from the Civic Centre though it was a great idea to put the shelter across from an elementary school. Please be a bit more creative, rather than take the first "sweet deal" from local shysters. Homeless shelters have no business in residential areas, near schools or near already fragile economic areas is clear poor planning. Do better.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:46 AM

I would much rather see policing services clean up the streets. Driving to work every morning in Chatham you see multiple users strung out walking the street. it is embarrassing.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:52 AM

Is this an additional 1%? My fear is those who own, but due to the pandemic, could be on the edge of losing their homes with increasing prices. Again, not sure a gradient approach could be better suited.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:04 AM

If you start with affordable housing, homelessness may decrease

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:11 AM

Leave it to NGOs

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:48 AM

Province should be funding this initiatives which are tightly connected to mental health and addiction.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:03 AM

Its plain to see that many of the homeless are drug addicts, perhaps the police could focus more of their attention on solving the growing drug problem instead of hiding on sidestreets waiting for seat belt or speeding violations.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

Why would anyone want their taxes increased? While a sad situation for those struggling, it's not my problem to fix.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 12:45 PM

I think more money needs to be spent on Mental Health and Addictions and this could help with homelessness issues

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 04:12 PM

Mental stability seems to be questionable for many homeless. Let's address that need first.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 08:43 PM

We have a social responsibility. This must accompany a letter to higher government to invest in a rehabilitation Center.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:21 PM

see my last comment. we must protect our vulnerable citizens but not by policing.

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 07:53 PM

There are lots of jobs out there & businesses in the service industry are desperately looking for help. We need to stop paying people to stay home!

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 09:51 AM

Homelessness prevention should come with mandatory drug testing. There should also be hard limits set on the length of time an individual receives support. This should be a crutch only, not a long term life choice.

Screen Name Redacted

\$31 dollars here \$30 there.. soon we are up over \$100 extra in

10/30/2021 05:33 PM

taxes

Screen Name Redacted

10/31/2021 01:30 PM

homelessness has a mental health component to it, and it would be reasonable to improve the systems of support there to help prevent homelessness

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 08:39 AM

I strongly support affordable housing but it must be balanced with job training and Not creating a Poverty system which draws people to CK because of it. Bringing in the poor from other regions is not helping CK.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 09:30 AM

Housing the homeless in privately owned motels and apartments may be of short term benefit, but the only way to affordably address this situation in the long term is to build and operate our own facilities. I would be supportive of increasing taxes to facilitate the construction and operating of a municipally owned facility.

Screen Name Redacted

11/03/2021 07:49 PM

Could the municipality organize 50/50 draws with the proceeds going for community development?

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:26 PM

The issue with this is that it's difficult to tell how the funds are being used. Will they be used at ground level to actually build/create more permanent housing spaces for local residents, or will they be used to fund an administrative position in the housing department? If you want to increase the taxes for this purpose, a clear plan is needed to understand how the funds will be used. I support the creation of more housing spaces, but I do not support the funding of another administrative position.

Screen Name Redacted

11/07/2021 11:27 AM

Refurbishing an existing unused building for the homeless would be much more cost effective than paying hotel fees

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 08:37 PM

I understand the difficulties dealing with provincial shortfalls but the gov't needs to be held accountable for their responsibilities.

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 10:42 PM

More work needs to be done to understand why we have homeless people and to fix the problem - subsidized salaries and rent?

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 11:15 AM

We should not be making up the provincial shortfall. Make the province pay.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 04:21 PM

I would be more than willing to donate to a fund , when I could ,but not a set amount added monthly to taxes.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 09:59 PM

It's shocking that CK isn't already spending local money on helping our poor. It's not just an Ontario problem. Please do something.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:00 AM

Find the money else where

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 09:33 AM

We are already being taxed to death and to poverty and homelessness!

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 11:50 AM

With what's been rumoured about how buses of homeless people have been dropped off here should not be something the residents taxes fix. That should be held accountable and to actually not make the residents pay for others mistakes for bailouts

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:52 PM

The Province should sufficiently fund and manage this portfolio.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 11:17 PM

This should take priority and cuts to other areas may be necessary to make sustainable.

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 05:23 PM

Pay for it with current taxes collected. You do not need to increase taxes. Work with what is normally collected and cut down on projects. Would you rather see a family put into affordable housing or see water and sewers put in for developers making millions and home owners paying \$350,000 per house.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 09:06 AM

Council should push the Province for the funding that is clearly needed.

Screen Name Redacted

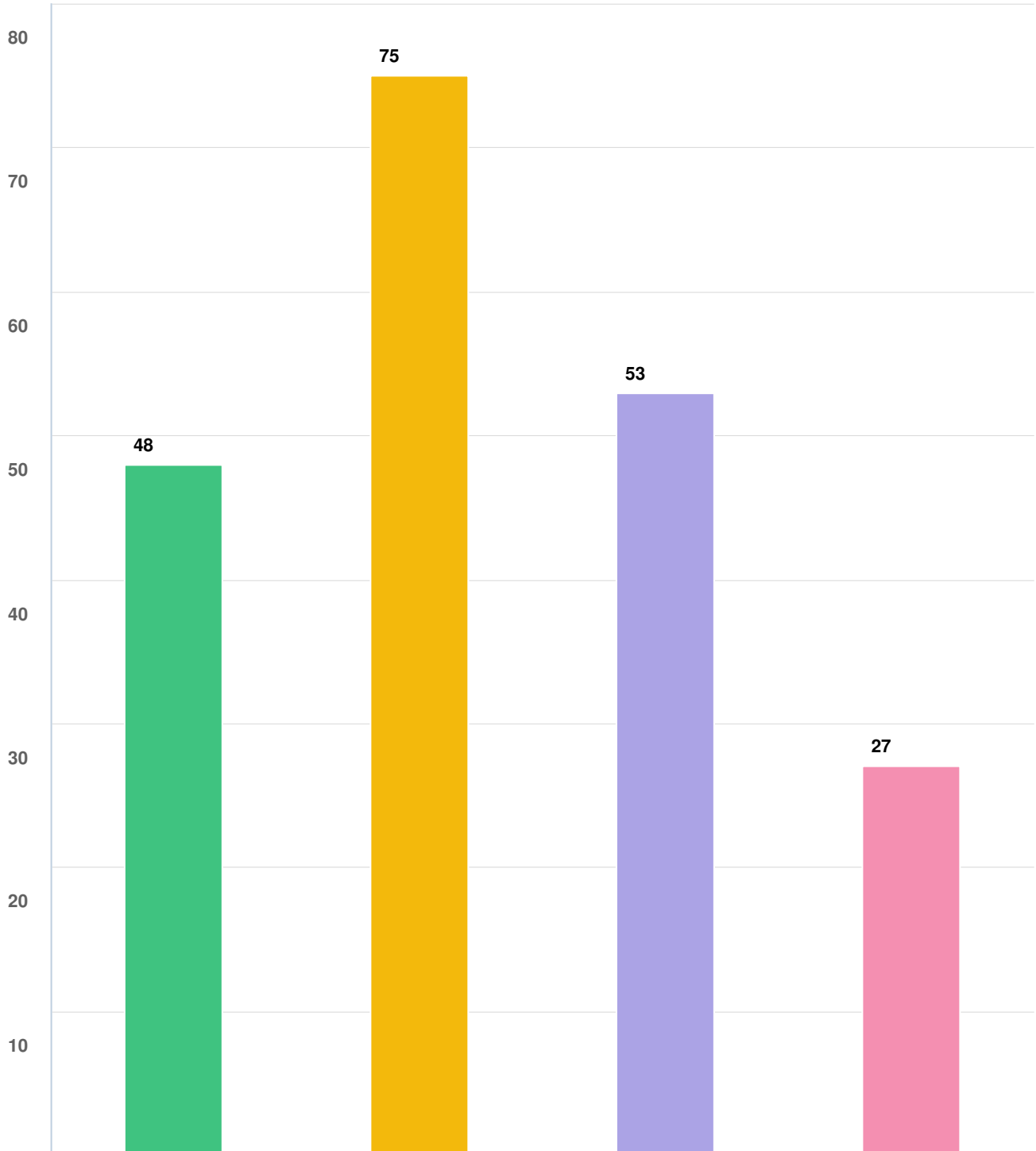
11/23/2021 01:22 PM

I would want to see the municipality staff involved and setting examples of what the public can do to help keep this number at its minimum.

Optional question (46 response(s), 157 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q16 Currently there is one staff member assigned to maintain 102 two-story townhouses, 7 houses, 8 duplexes and 3 two-storey apartment buildings (totalling 223 units) in the Community of Wallaceburg. There is aging infrastructure, a steady increase in unit turnovers, and a significant increase in service requests in the Wallaceburg area. How important is it to you that Chatham-Kent housing infrastructure is maintained to an acceptable level?



Question options

- Not Important
- Somewhat Important
- Important
- Very Important

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q17 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 10:25 AM

It is very important that we take care of our infrastructure and continually support affordable housing in our community. Not only current units but efforts to increase and add more units.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 11:23 AM

It is important to look after public property, but it is also important that tenants take pride in their homes, leave them as they found them or in better condition.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Its Wallaceburg, bulldoze it into the river and move on.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:29 PM

The reality is infrastructure and maintenance costs increase year over year. The problem is this was never part of your planning. Now you want to pass on costs to the taxpayer at astronomical increases because poor planning was done.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 05:30 PM

Question unclear. Are we talking social housing units?

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

Don't let them get to the point of needing a kit of maintenance. Ensure that the tenants has some pride in where they live.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

We need to get out of this aspect of municipal oversight; private enterprise/volunteer groups could do a better job.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:21 AM

If it is not maintained, then it will need replacing sooner, making the issue worse. Maintain what we have.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

Make them care for what is provided to them or kick them out!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

Maintenance is always important, maintain assets, don't wait until they have to be replaced. In addition, residents should help with

doing minor repairs where special skills are not required.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:46 AM

clean up the streets. drug use in these communities are atrocious.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:11 AM

Sell the properties and allow the private sector to maintain.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:03 AM

I agree its important to maintain the properties, it is also important to ensure that damage to property by residents is charged back to them.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

The people living in these units should be responsible for some upkeep as well

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 06:53 PM

does anyone count the cost of Damage done tenants? I know first hand that it is Criminal

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:25 PM

Sounds like these people need to be made to work

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 08:43 PM

It is important to meet our communities needs if they are calculated.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:21 PM

People deserve dignity in their housing. one person can definitely not oversee all these properties—as has been proven.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:34 PM

Resources and dollars need to be focused in this area rather than others of lesser importance such as wasting time and efforts and dollars with surveys and hiring of outside consultants

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 08:12 AM

People in safe housing reduces our need for over priced policing, plus children should do better at school with less stress in their home life.

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 07:53 PM

Why does the municipal own 706 social housing units? That's my question to you.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 03:36 AM

I'm sure there are other municipality jobs that can be cut in order to find money to add additional people to maintaining housing infrastructure. So the question becomes how important is this issue to city council.

Screen Name Redacted

10/31/2021 01:30 PM

I think that the allocation of maintenance should be equal (as able) across the community, to allow for maintenance of all structures. Maintenance prevents large repairs...makes sense.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 08:39 AM

Partnering with Indigenous Nations and supporting the development of housing programs supported by the Fed for Indigenous peoples. Often times Indigenous Nations do not have the staff and knowledge to create these programs alone.

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:26 PM

Housing infrastructure must be maintained so that it is safe to live in, free from hazards and in a condition that residents can be proud of. I think this is possible with the existing staff that you have.

Screen Name Redacted

11/05/2021 01:16 PM

How important is it to you that Chatham-Kent housing infrastructure is maintained to an acceptable level? come on....yes you must maintain what you have....we all should take care of what we bought. So now, are you going to house me and maintain the house and property on tax payers dollar? The city is putting their nose into things that private companies and business will invest.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 11:15 AM

Wallaceburg at least had housing. What about other areas of CK that have none?

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 04:21 PM

Social housing should have recieluent participation , or training from social program to sustain and maintain , and perhaps get off the social program?

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 06:49 PM

How is that staffing level even remotely adequate? Absolutely ridiculous that one employee is expected to maintain all of those units especially when units are consistently destroyed!

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:00 AM

Hire more help

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:52 PM

Municipal employees should not be hired to perform this service. Cost savings will be seen when this service is outsourced to the private sector.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 10:55 AM

Minimum standards should be set and maintained. People must have basic services and not be treated like animals.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 11:20 AM

Sell these properties, they should be run by private business, not funded through municipal tax dollars.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 05:56 PM

If these become slums it's a bigger more expensive problem.

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 11:17 AM

Get help from existing staff we have lots of talent

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

Im sure that many of the people in these homes are appreciative of the affordable housing program. I'm not familiar with the details of the problems in Wallaceburg but if people are damaging the property or causing an increase in the number of service calls they should look to replace these tenants.

Screen Name Redacted

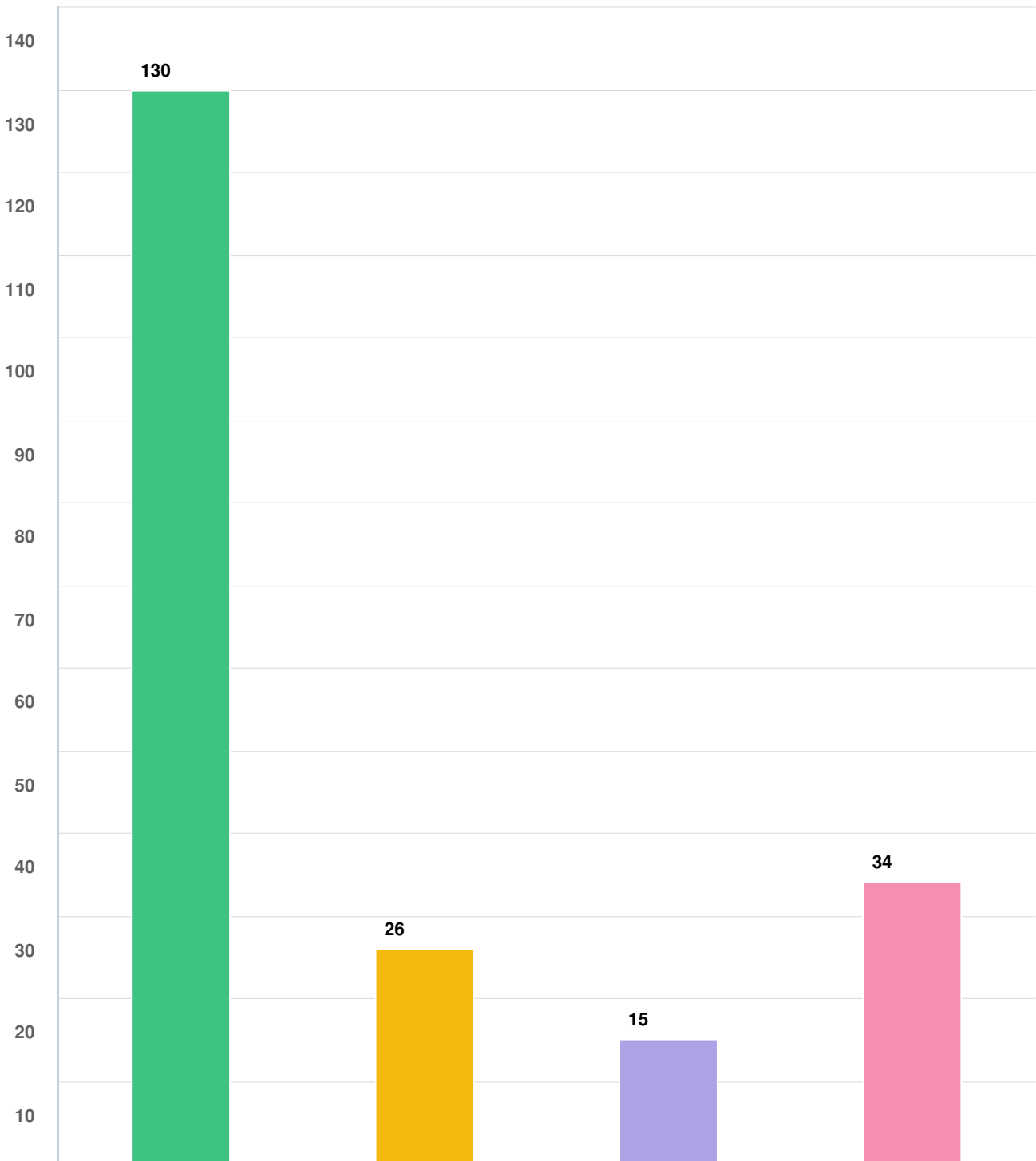
11/24/2021 12:37 AM

Residents living in social housing are people and should be treated with dignity, especially when it comes to their homes. Managing these units can be difficult at times, I understand; however, I think there should be more efforts put towards resident engagement and education in order to increase their feeling of community and belonging. This will in turn foster a more collaborative dynamic between the tenants and the property owners.

Optional question (37 response(s), 166 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q18 Do you think the gardens and grounds of Municipal buildings receive an adequate level of service for maintenance?



Question options

- Don't know
- Maybe
- No
- Yes

*Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q19 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:59 AM

Some do, some don't. Why does the municipality not maintain the grounds of the WISH Centre. There are holes in the fences, the bushes are not maintained, and when the weeds are cut they are just left in a big pile to rot, the gardens are not weeded. Please respect this part of our community.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 11:23 AM

Bring back Community in Blooms staffing to help support volunteers who were making these spaces attractive.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 05:30 PM

This is a representation of our community. It should look nice.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:58 PM

Our spaces do not have flowers, like they used to be. More would be nice.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:34 PM

some areas look old and unkempt.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 03:37 AM

I feel like they recieve more than enough, I feel like you don't need someone watering plants for hours a day! it shouldn't take that long

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

Hard to tell to the untrained eye. Have to maintain assets so that they don't have to fall down before issues addressed!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 04:08 PM

The building in Erieau needs work outside. The weeds in the yard and garden are terrible. The building needs to be washed & windows & doors cleaned.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:25 PM

It seems we always wind up focusing on Chatham when this takes place favouritism

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:34 PM

We have many other areas to spend dollars and efforts rather than gardens. Plant the grass and ensure it is cut and neat and be done. Rocks and flowers are a complete waste of dollars

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 03:36 AM

Honestly, I don't think municipal buildings need anything but grass. I can't imagine what amount the budget allots for to maintain all of this. Taxpayers should only be paying for grass cutting services. The grass shouldn't be watered either. This is a much more environmentally friendly option. Further an infrastructure investment I would prefer to pay for is solar panels on the roofs of all municipal buildings. I wonder how much the municipality would save on hydro each year. A

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 11:39 AM

How a community perceives it government is very important- projecting a well maintained image is important in presenting the perception of a well maintained local government.

Screen Name Redacted

10/31/2021 01:30 PM

for the most part, I think that the city is doing a good job of maintaining our parks and recreational spaces.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 09:30 AM

Our municipal buildings, parks, gardens, etc, are a visible representation of our community. They should reflect the pride, creativity and personality of our community. Unkempt and unsightly buildings, parks etc, sends the wrong message to visitors and residents of our community.

Screen Name Redacted

11/05/2021 04:31 PM

I'm not sure the importance of this question in your survey. I think that the amount spent in this area would not significantly impact the budget in any way.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 08:43 AM

I never see the gardens at the municipal building

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 11:15 AM

If we can't afford housing and infrastructure we should focus on safety- clear snow and maintain sidewalks and not worry snout whether the gardens are pretty at municipal buildings. Priorities!

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 04:21 PM

Grounds keeping is not a priority at the moment, actually people would volunteer if it was allowed . they seem to get in trouble cutting park grass?

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 06:49 PM

Again due to lack of staff to do this work and or manage contractors.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:52 PM

Some of the properties in Chatham are overserviced while many others elsewhere are underserviced.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 11:20 AM

It's enough.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 05:56 PM

This falls under luxuries.

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 11:47 PM

C-K municipal buildings have excessive gardens/grounds that require a lot of maintenance. As a taxpayer I don't feel this is benefitting anyone. I don't think they should be converted to a "natural state" like the Lower Thames Valley Conservation building as that has evolved to a natural, noxious weed garden but I would be fine with gardens becoming grassed over.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

Get a local gardening group or a group of seniors involved in beautification. Create a sense of community and promote participation vs raising taxes for this.

Screen Name Redacted

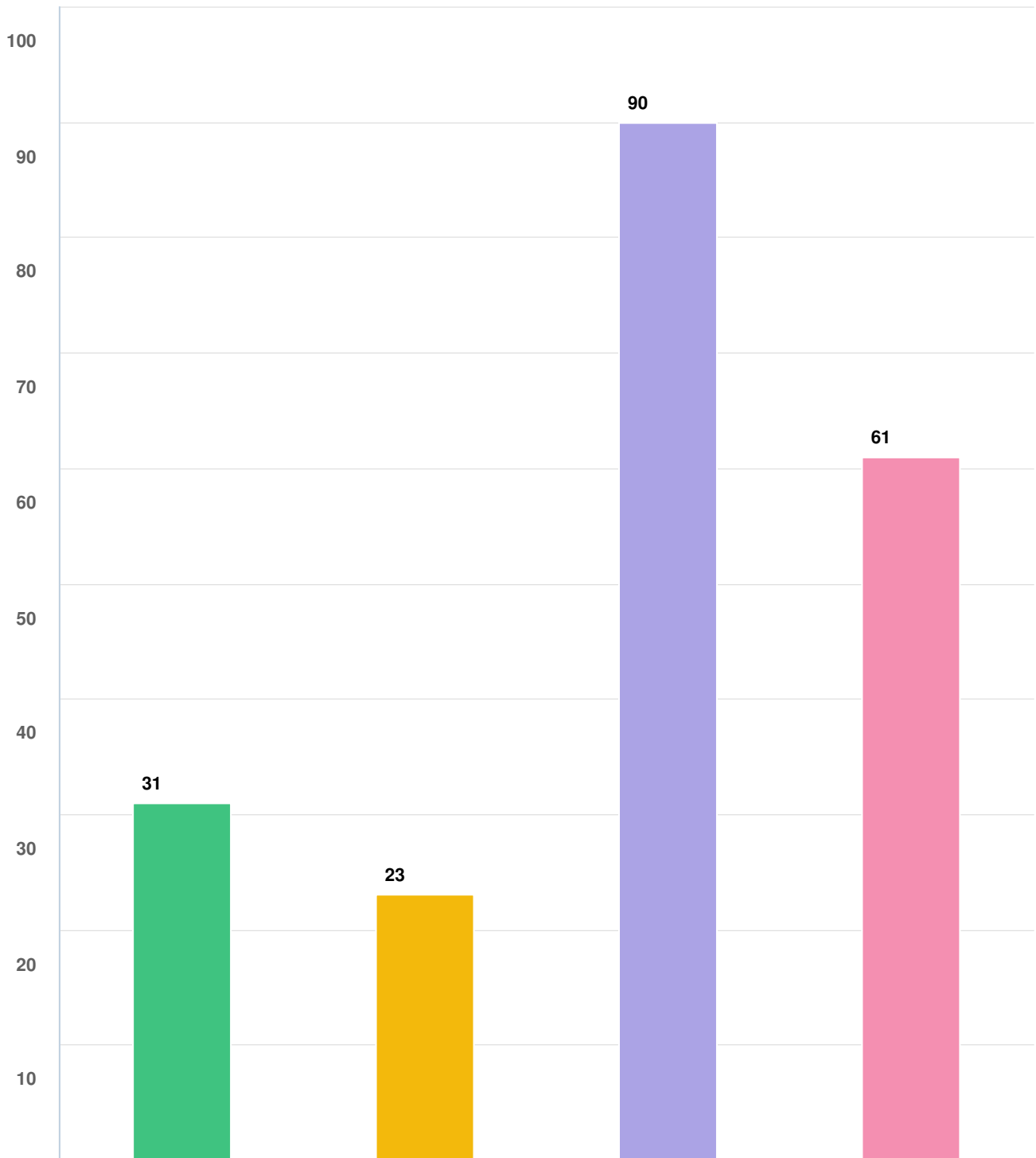
11/24/2021 12:37 AM

I have the impression that municipal buildings of commercial and institutional types have adequately maintained grounds and gardens. However, I have no info on social housing properties such that I can formulate an opinion. Hence, my answer is reflective of the former types only.

Optional question (25 response(s), 178 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q20 The Municipality of Chatham-Kent’s budget questionnaire helped me to understand the types of decisions faced by staff and Council during the budget process.



Question options

- Agree
- Slightly Agree
- Slightly Disagree
- Disagree

*Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q21 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:59 AM

All of the questions focussed on the cost of services. A budget should support the plan for the community and community values. You can't have a budget discussion without understanding how the budget is intended to acheive the objectives in your plan.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Every question is about how to spend more money on new or failing programs. Nothing about investment in fixing the basics. Garbage pickup, road repair, infrastructure repair thay doesn't become a complete shit show.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:53 PM

Well aware of the process already

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 05:30 PM

These were just a few questions, clearly not enough to understand decision types Councila HD Administration face.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:38 PM

No where is there comments about the costs of fire and police services. I think we over spend in these areas. I'm not talking about wages or benefit's or anything for their safety. I think they are paid a reasonable sum for what they do. I'm talking about the extra's like drones, motorcycles, bicycles a huge command center for all these so called emergencies. Every other department has to live with in their means, they should be the same. They need to ask if what they need is a necessity or just something they would like to have because their is money in the budget.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

The questions have been basically the same for years and worded different. I also have attended every budget meeting for so many years I have list count and it always the same outcome ...our taxes increase

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

There are many more aspects to municipal taxation that weren't addressed.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

You always make the questions geared to hot button issues that pull at our heartstrings. The big issue is what does council do with

the MILLIONS they control but just let employees tell them they can't look at/cut! Do your jobs people! The boss gets to control everything! You seem to forget that!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

The budget always is at such a high level that it's difficult to challenge. I think Council should mandate starting from \$0 for each area and have each manager justify the spending.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:46 AM

questions were mostly vague.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:07 AM

the questions are skewed to give council the results it's looking for, not for real input.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:13 AM

I was a municipal councilor prior to amalgamation, so have a reasonable level of knowledge.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:17 AM

Some of these decisions are pretty cut and dry. It should be very clear how many people who use something like our transit system versus the arts programs. We should be investing in things more practical and useful

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

The decisions made by council are usually wrong - always looking out for Chatham instead of the smaller towns

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:25 PM

Vague and dishonest more like bribery for questioning

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:21 PM

don't make this just an exercise in lip service.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 09:51 AM

Should this not include infrastructure? Seems to me this has been neglected in the community for many years.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 11:39 AM

This survey barely scratched the surface of the big over all picture, needs to be more intricate and detailed- hope to see an even more intimate/intricate survey in future.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 11:47 AM

Too many affordable housing questions, total lack of questions for other services like roads, fire, police, and management staffing levels.

Screen Name Redacted

10/31/2021 01:32 PM

We always focus on service levels but there isn't much discussion on base budget. One might wonder about current overall staffing levels and what not.

Screen Name Redacted

11/01/2021 08:39 AM

I strongly support a COMPLETE and thorough examination of expenditures from top to bottom. Too often waste exists in these systems which gets ignored year after year.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 08:43 AM

There wasn't many questions on roads and bridges. I think it is important to maintain our roads & bridges, even if that requires a tax increase. infrastructure is aging and needs improvements before it's too bad.

Screen Name Redacted

11/07/2021 11:27 AM

If things were more transparent we would be better informed of what goes on and help us to make more knowledgeable decisions on surveys

Screen Name Redacted

11/07/2021 06:23 PM

Budgets should be completely transparent; these are our tax dollars that are being used; eg how Riverview Gardens spend the provincial government COVID funding. It should not take a POIR to see how that money was used.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 11:15 AM

I'm disappointed Wheatley isn't mentioned

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:00 AM

It's so easy to spend spend on things that matter not in these hard times cut out trivial things and help people ,then there would be less crime , homelessness sickness etc give people a sense of community and happiness after all we are to help one another in hard times , so cut some of the social programs and help our people thrive . Do you want generations of poverty ?

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:52 PM

A more comprehensive survey would be more appropriate for the information you seek.

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 09:47 AM

The questionnaire is slightly biased toward the city and a fair evaluation of the concerns for the citizens.

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 10:44 AM

There wasn't enough info in terms of the actual figures that you are working with. Increasing taxes by \$10-\$30 for affordable housing - how much impact will that have? How many units/staff will that cover? I also think that there are likely areas that may be over-funded while others are under-funded. But I can't know all of that based on the info provided.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 05:56 PM

Having covered council as a reporter elsewhere, I am familiar.

Screen Name Redacted

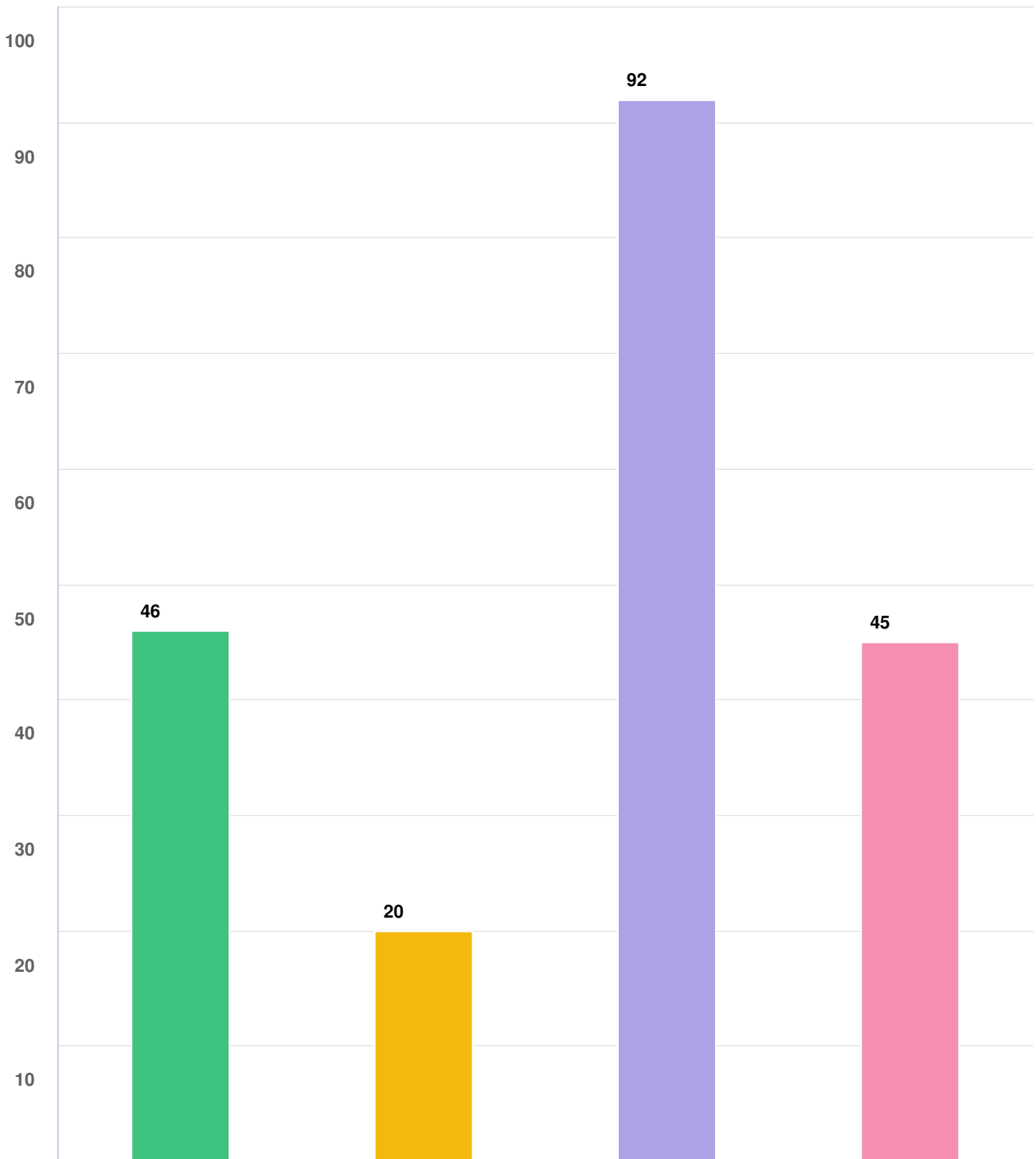
11/14/2021 11:47 PM

The budget process like all other years is going to start with a target...3-5% This will be made public and since many people feel their concerns are not heard, many remain silent. Then council will start chipping away at miniscule items with threats of cancelling things like sidewalk snow removal (which should never be eliminated). The big ticket items like Police, Fire, overall salary increases, benefits (pension being huge) are untouchable. Infrastructure items such as rural bridges that benefit one or two farmers are never eliminated. Even though I sound negative, I am not negative of the city services, I am genuinely satisfied with them. I am negative on continual increases because I feel the city can operate on what they currently have. Using \$100 to represent the 2021 tax revenue....C-K can operate in 2022 with \$100 rather than asking for \$103 to \$105. With many people opting to work from home there is no longer a need for a new city hall. Close the existing one and move into the Chatham Downtown Centre This should save hundreds of thousands in capital, maintenance and utilities. Manage the overtime budget. Are you getting 35 hours of work from everyone working from home? How do you know? Saying the work is getting done isn't a good answer because in the normal office environment there is ALWAYS additional work that needs to get done. That doesn't happen from home. C-K has it's work cut out for them on convincing people the higher house values and mill rate are neutral. People see houses that only a few years ago took months to sell for \$200K are now selling for \$500K in days. They are afraid of the taxes based on the latest values. And please use a realistic assessed value when you calculate an example of the tax increase. Saying a 1% increase = \$31 is not realistic.

Optional question (31 response(s), 172 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q22 Through the budget questionnaire I have been able to learn more about municipal services.



Question options

- Agree
- Slightly Agree
- Slightly Disagree
- Disagree

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q23 Please leave your comment.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 02:53 PM

Already aware

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:38 PM

Other than housing for the homeless and social housing, nothing in here for the taxpayer that has worked their whole life to buy a property. What am I getting for paying my taxes. More of a break down would have went along ways.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

As stated above I attended the meetings ... But for others that have not attended may have learned some new things.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

These seemed like leading questions, so that responses could be gathered for a few areas that must be on Council's radar, but there are many more things that our tax dollars pay for and therefore the survey could be been better and more extensive.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

You don't go into many areas that don't give information on many big budget areas!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:34 PM

Yes I have definately learned how many staff hours are wasted on very trivial ideas rather than focussing on completing concrete and much needed areas such as homelessness and the opioid crisis we are facing.

Screen Name Redacted

10/31/2021 01:32 PM

It feels like themes are being cherry picked based on popular topics

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 11:47 PM

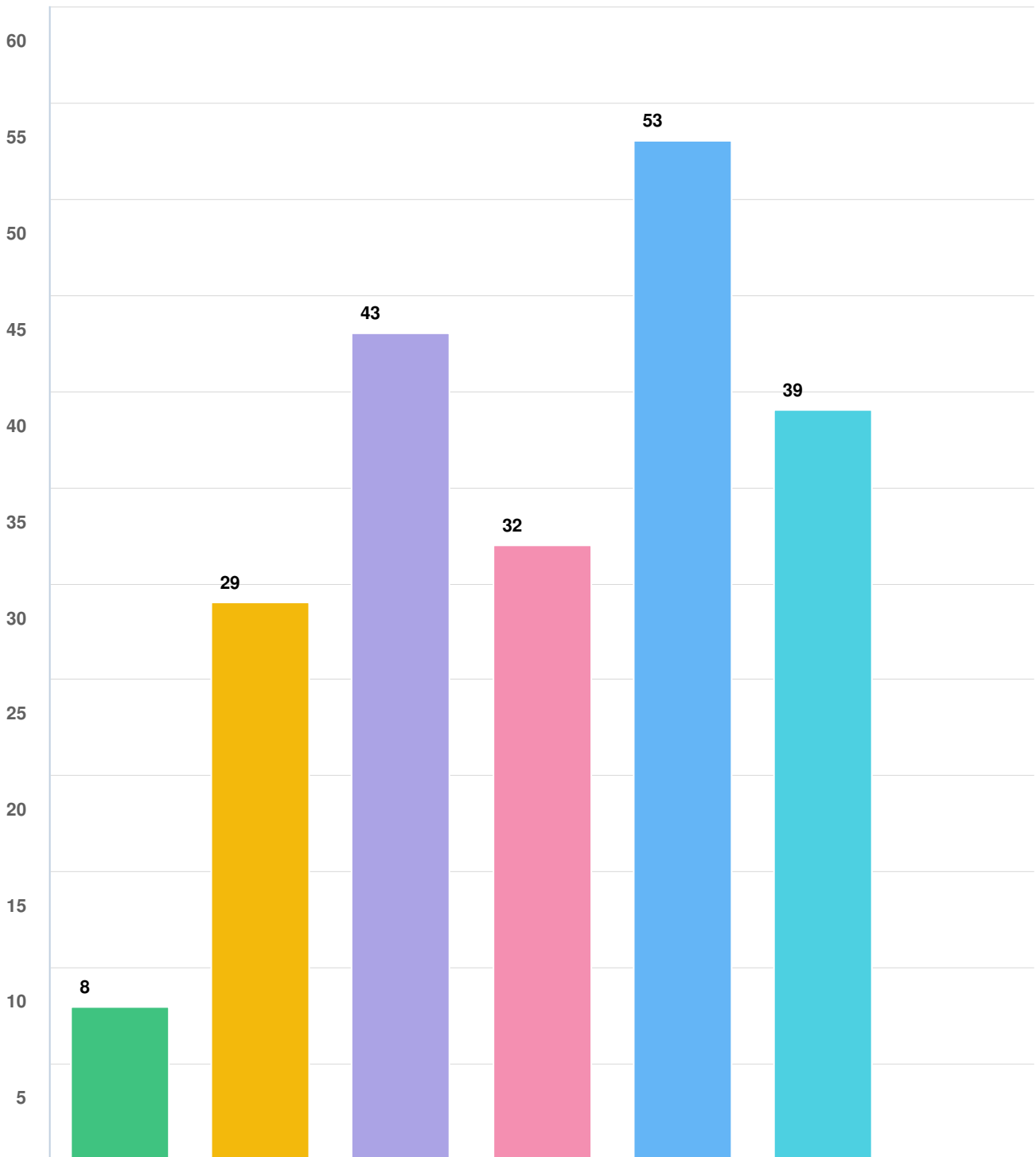
It's not nearly specific enough. I would estimate salaries and benefits = 80% of the budget but that is untouchable by council (or they chose to avoid it) That fact combined with the initial target (3-5%) makes the entire budget process ineffective. My very modest pension from Navistar NEVER increases. Yes....you read that correctly. And I am one of the lucky ones that has some pension. Before Navistar I managed a very busy, dynamic cost accounting department in a competitive environment (automotive) where there wasn't an option to ask the customer to pay more. In fact, the

opposite was true....the selling price would automatically reduce for a number of years. That meant to maintain margin, costs had to reduce. If C-K has reduced costs we need to hear that. Again, I am happy with the services I receive but I feel I pay dearly for them. If C-K goes the simple route and follows the CPI which is trending over 4% I will be very upset you didn't do your job of looking closely at ALL costs. Not just the easy pickings like sidewalk snow removal.

Optional question (8 response(s), 195 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q24 Age



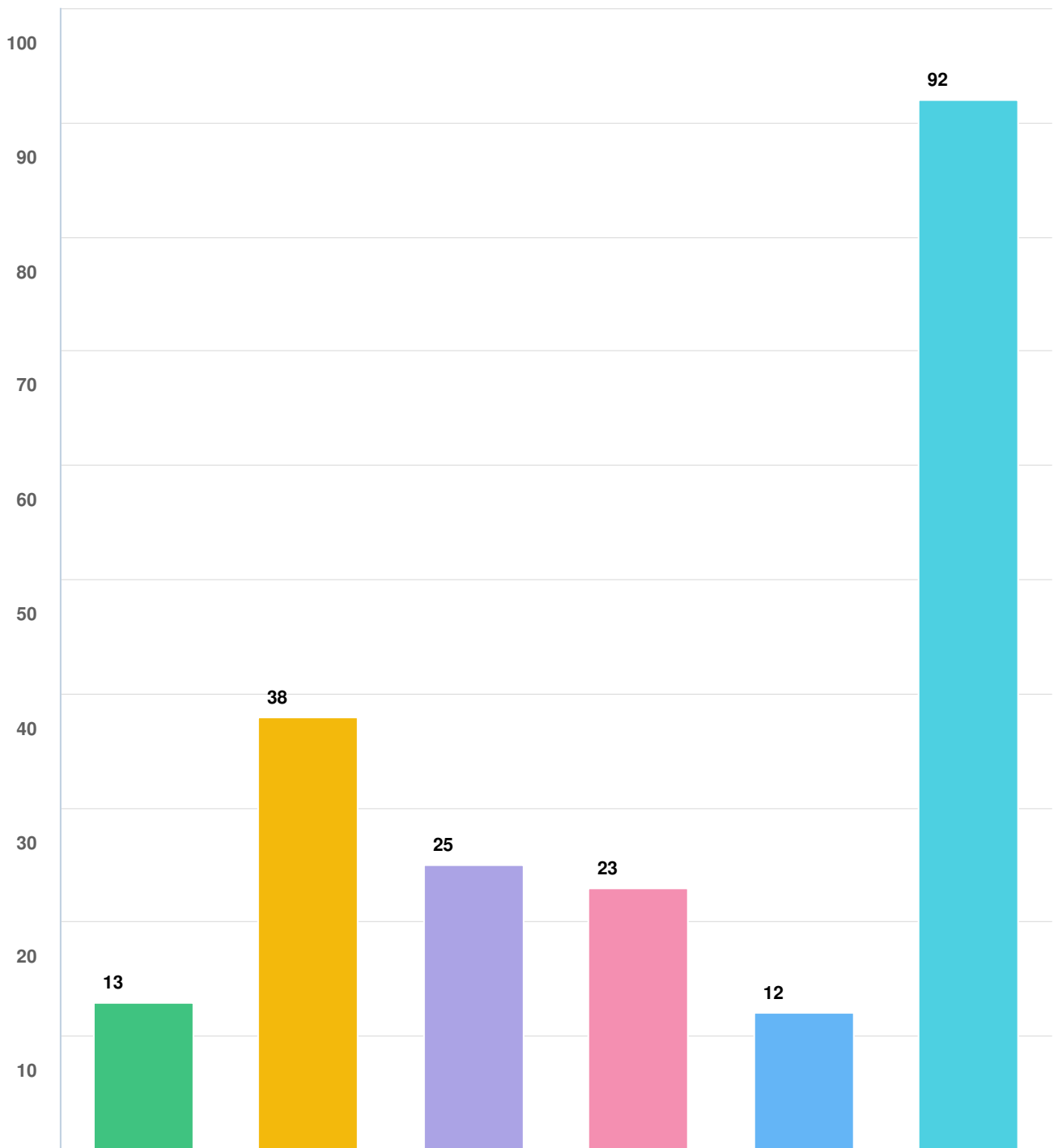
Question options

- Under 18
- 65 and over
- 55-64
- 45-54
- 35-44
- 25-34
- 18-24

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q25 Which ward do you reside in?



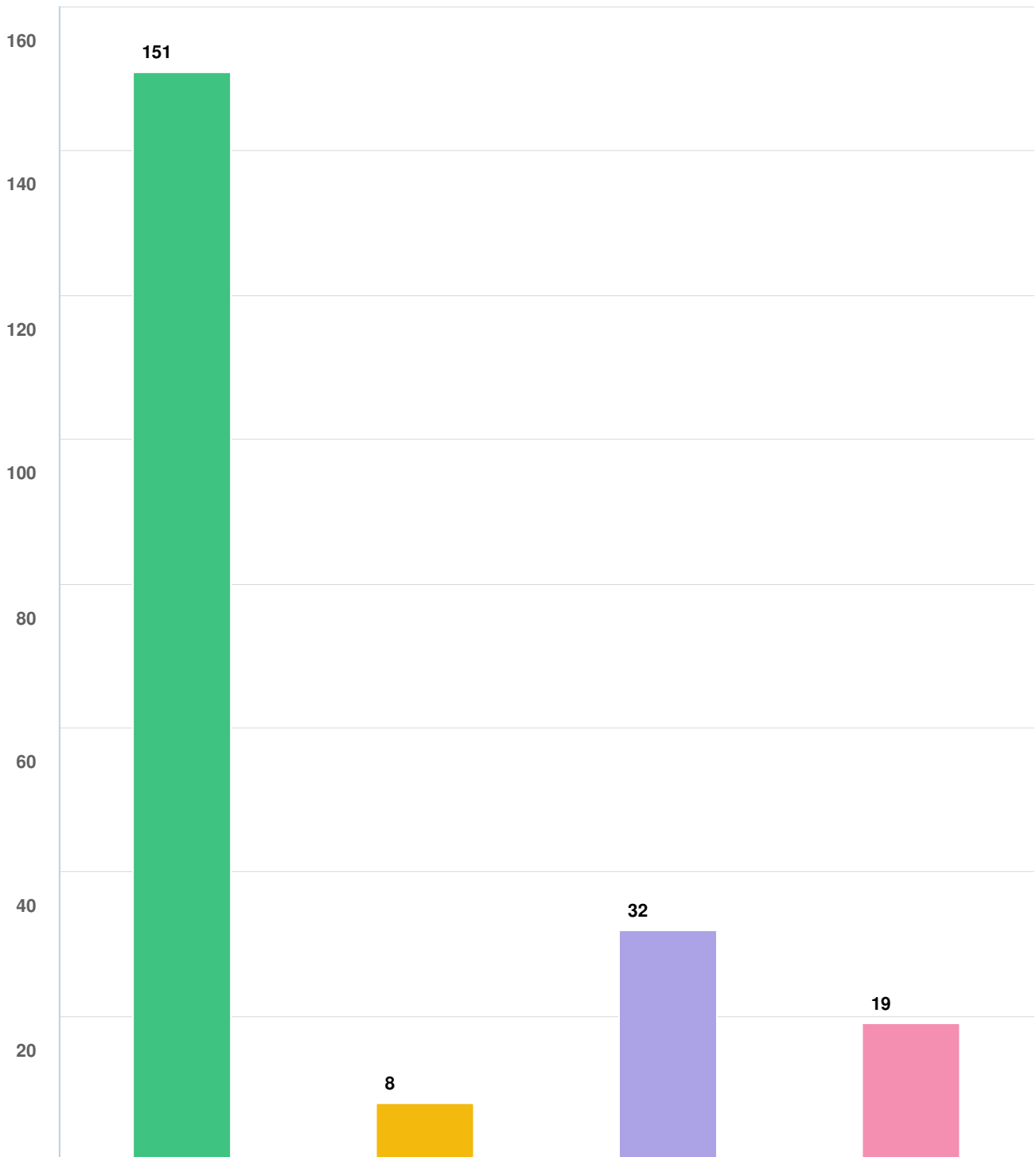
Question options

- Ward 6 – Chatham
- Ward 5 – Wallaceburg
- Ward 4 – North Kent
- Ward 3 – East Kent
- Ward 2 – South Kent
- Ward 1 - West Kent

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q26 Are you a homeowner and/or business owner?



Question options

- Neither ● Both ● Business owner ● Homeowner

Mandatory Question (203 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q27 Please use the following box to provide any comments on this survey or suggestions for Council as it completes the 2022 Budget.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 10:25 AM

Canada's inflation rate is sitting around 4% and I would expect our 2022 Budget process to fall somewhere in line with the current inflation rate. I am hoping good decisions are made during the budget process that does not lead to reduced service levels or use of one-time dollars to try to get to an unreasonable low tax increase this year that creates a large problem next year before the 2023 budget process even begins.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 11:23 AM

Please consider building in extra funding to help get Wheatley back on its feet - let's have a booming recovery from our big boom!

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:00 PM

Im sure a large component of the budget is labour, yet no discussion around reducing that bucket of money. Outsource where it makes sense, get rid of redundancy, stop paying gold plated salaries to useless management.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:04 PM

Taxpayers recognize the challenges of living in a large geographic area and having to maintain minimum service level standards, however there are opportunities to cut services, divest assets and increase user fees to maintain current taxation levels.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 12:42 PM

Please do not cut required services, infrastructure maintenance and upgrades just to keep taxes lower. In the future we will pay much more to catch up.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 01:51 PM

Raise taxes to pay for the things we want/need. People will understand.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 07:27 PM

Cut police services and fire officers making more than \$50,000 a year.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 06:57 PM

Please actually read and not just go through the motions and do what council does every year and say well we cannot take away anything anything and we must do more

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:16 PM

Council must take a hard look at what taxpayers dollars are being used for, and make some decisions about areas that could be cut back. There are many things that may have been 'nice to do' at one time but as prices increase and people are struggling to make ends meet, they need to have more money in their pockets. This means cutting some services or at least instituting user fees so that tax bills can be reduced. It's not easy, but the time has come do focus on what must be done versus what has been done.

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 08:57 PM

Stop raising our taxes, especially for recreation like arenas! We pay wayyy to much taxes

Screen Name Redacted

10/27/2021 09:10 PM

0% Tax Increase is the most responsible decision for 2022 considering the increase in government spending in 2020/2021. Tax increases make housing more expensive for the middle class and take away one of Chatham Kent's main attractions for people moving out of large urban centres. Municipal governments can lead by example and show the upper levels of government fiscal restraint. Would support some spending on working with developers to increase the housing inventory to stabilize prices and increase the tax base.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:34 AM

Zero budget increase is achievable if council finally runs the show instead of letting staff run the show. Many municipalities had 0 increases for YEARS. Not C-K! EVER! Show some leadership and do it this year!

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 07:45 AM

The municipality is too top heavy. To many managers. Too many perks

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 08:20 AM

Put more funding into arenas and parks

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:33 AM

Each new initiative must be cost justified and savings sought in other areas to help pay for it.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:52 AM

I appreciated the extra comments to provide more context to the budget. I still found some of the questions extremely hard to answer, especially in the midst of a pandemic. I think that we need more services for those who need it, without increasing taxes so

much that those who are scraping by end up needing the services as well.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:07 AM

cut staff, not services. We have too many people earning far too much at the top of the administration. Chatham hires outside experts for everything, yet we employ all these people who are SUPPOSED to be able to do the work.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:11 AM

Stop trying to do everything. Network and outsource to the private sector and Non-Profit. Provide support not solutions

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:03 AM

Learn to say no to departments requesting increases. Everyone needs to take a hit this time, not just the taxpayers.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:13 AM

Rather than increasing taxes, find a way to decrease them

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 11:14 AM

Let's consider on quitting the spending spree we are on and get down to reality we are way over staffed in our public works

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 12:45 PM

Council should put their own agendas aside and do what is best for Chatham-Kent as a whole.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 02:35 PM

This barely touched the surface of services that should be reviewed or considered during budget.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 02:49 PM

Services and infrastructure needs to focus on what the general public can not do for themselves.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 04:12 PM

Stop increasing staff hires! Too many people sitting in municipal vehicles around time with the motor and ac running. What do all these workers do?

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 06:53 PM

are we doing what is right for the rate payer or for empire building ?

Screen Name Redacted

Trim the sunshine club down and let's get real about over staffing

10/28/2021 07:25 PM

problems in this municipality

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 09:21 PM

Reduce the police budget and you can avoid a tax increase. don't say you can't.

Screen Name Redacted

10/28/2021 10:34 PM

Budget needs to be a zero percent increase. Find the necessary efficiencies to maintain the current service levels by cutting staff or cutting and or maintaining wage levels. Hard actions that are required in difficult times

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 12:55 AM

Taxes are too high already for the average homeowner. People are losing their jobs. I don't agree with any increase in taxes.

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 08:12 AM

Current bike lanes are very sketchy in many areas, get the current oil and gas bashing Liberal government to give some grant money to increase the safety of biking. That would reduce emissions and increase the health of our residents.

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 07:53 PM

Good luck in keeping this year's coming budget at inflation values

Screen Name Redacted

10/29/2021 11:40 PM

Need more biking and walking trails for citizens to use and keep healthy. Need more trees and nature areas for everyone to use. Need to somehow teach/help those that are homeless or need shelter or on social services - some activities which will help them live a better life or help others in need (where possible).

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 09:14 AM

Please continue to improve cycling friendliness throughout Chatham. I am disappointed when I see new subdivisions being built that don't have even basic walking paths (let alone cycling) leading to other streets and neighborhoods (e.g. "shortcuts" to accessing other areas). This discourages and prevents access to shared amenities such as parks and any path network, discourages walking/biking between areas, and isolates each neighborhood into its own bubble. I would support increased taxes and for additional municipal planning and more walking/biking paths, and especially having them connected to a larger network that preferably minimizes the use of vehicle roads for additional safety. It would be wonderful to be able to bike just about anywhere in the city through a network of paths that feel safe, and the size of our city is great to support many people biking in place of driving while still being able

"get things done" around the city (commuting to work, shopping, visiting family/friends, etc.). While the biking path around the river is okay, that is really geared towards recreational cyclists. That being said, I cycle a lot for recreation, but I don't plan on ever using the round the river path because I'm not comfortable sharing the road with drivers going 80km/h+ with less than a metre of space between us. I support additional cycling paths, but I'm skeptical that the money put towards that path will provide a commensurate value to our citizens in return. In the future, please allocate that funding to more cycling paths within city limits, as I feel that would create better value for our investment. Thank you.

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 11:39 AM

lumping every one over 65 into one big group is insulting and dismissive, lacks diversity. why wouldn't this last group be broken into units like the younger groups- a lot of assumptions about older chatham kent residents appears to have been made- once over 65 "all your needs are the same"

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 05:12 PM

Re visit the possible option of O.P.P. Policing for C/K. Cut administration and wages,

Screen Name Redacted

10/30/2021 05:33 PM

where is reliable internet services for rural areas .. your questionnaire is again just about Chatham... take taxes from outer areas to improve profit Chatham

Screen Name Redacted

10/31/2021 01:30 PM

If you read any literature on what sustains communities, the recreational and outdoor access components are significant. Good job on prioritizing these projects....we need to keep everyone active.

Screen Name Redacted

11/03/2021 07:49 PM

Efficiencies in the process should always be improved upon as technology allows. Throwing money at a problem does not resolve it

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:34 AM

We need safe injection sites, decriminalization of drug use and possession, an LGBT+ homelessness shelter for adults and youths, services and much more supportive housing and staff for people with mental illness AND developmental disabilities (right now services are exclusive and siloed).

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:50 AM

I find this survey to be simplistic. It offers no questions concerning most of the areas the budget will cover. Despite the questions concerning Wallaceburg, once again I am getting the usual idea that the city of Chatham is the only important space in this area. Despite the fact that our local paper often includes local stories I feel disconnected from council's ideas for the future. Possibly the letstalkchatham-kent site will offer more detail.

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 11:14 AM

Wasn't much of a survey as it covered very little of where the money is being spent.

Screen Name Redacted

11/04/2021 09:26 PM

Sincerely appreciate the opportunity to contribute.

Screen Name Redacted

11/05/2021 04:31 PM

Survey is covering such a small portion of what is in the budget that it is almost insulting to complete.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 08:43 AM

I think the focus should be on road repair. People who use the arenas can pay more for using the arenas, why does everyone have to pay for arenas? Everyone uses the roads!

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 10:17 AM

I think farms should pay higher taxes in line with legislation, to offset commercial taxes, I think our council is too large. We are kind of famous for it. While it doesn't cost a lot of money to keep them all, there is a ridiculous amount of discussion and self serving per project promotion discussions at council.

Screen Name Redacted

11/06/2021 12:17 PM

There are many things in the community that require tax dollars, including services/recreation/art etc . It should all continue to be important. The amount of spreading the wealth through 3rd party consultants and analysts is where I strongly believe much of the waste could be trimmed to be more responsible with tax money.

Screen Name Redacted

11/07/2021 08:49 AM

Increasing taxes won't make living more affordable

Screen Name Redacted

11/07/2021 09:22 AM

I am very concerned about the lack of staffing at municipally run nursing homes. On my father's unit, they have 2 staff looking after 64 residents at night. Many of them are wheelchair bound or have dementia and wander at night. It's a very unsafe ratio. The staff are

wonderful but they are burning out

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 09:12 AM

Lower taxes and pressure the Ontario Government to finance the roads and bridges they downloaded on this Municipality.

Screen Name Redacted

11/08/2021 10:42 PM

Increase library funding. It is a great place and helps to give all access to information and services.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 12:02 PM

Doesn't really matter what I think because I won't have my home for long since the municipality FIRED me for not being injected with something I don't need. Will be on OW soon. Thanks CK!

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 04:21 PM

People are scared , broke ,and need all unessential spending and increases stopped Until some normalcy with covid ,inflation and jobs are settled in this area.

Screen Name Redacted

11/09/2021 10:08 PM

The municipality is staffed to heavily in management. If you want to save money, so do you don't have to raise taxes start at the top. There is a great deal of people employed by the municipality in a management role that make too much money. Also... fix the damn roads. They are crumbling in front of our eyes

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:00 AM

I would hope you will listen to the answers on this survey but I highly doubt it governments tend to do as they like , with no regard of the taxpayers voices , I hope you will consider and address our current homeless problems and affordable housing . Last yr you closed most things but continued to pay the workers why didn't you lay them off could of saved millions there is no common sense , municipal workers at the trough !

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 09:33 AM

Something has to be done about our Municipal police ! They don't come to all calls including robbery of homes . If they do show up they tell you to move as if not all of ck is treated equally. The front desk officers question your reasons for calling and even denied service calls for things like wallets being stolen, robbery break and enters and so much more . Enough is enough, it shouldn't matter which area of ck you live in, we all deserve the same level of treatment and service. My wallet was stolen and I called to make a report I was told to report it online by the front desk officer. But the online reporting wasn't working so I called back and was told an

officer would be coming to take my report. No one came within 24 hrs so I called back and was told due to covid they were behind and someone would call or come. No one called, no one came for a week so I called back and was told the same thing as before No one came again so I kept calling and was told I would be charged for harassment. That I should wait someone will come. A year passed and no one took my report. My id was used for fraud and identity theft in Windsor at uhaul. The criminals rented a locker and truck with my id. They abandoned both. I received a collections notice and immediately called the uhaul that sent the collections letter. They said they had them on video surveillance multiple times. The Windsor police closed my case without posting a single image of the criminals . I had to notify Equifax and TransUnion which they needed a police report number for both the wallet being stolen and the identity theft. I wasn't given a report number for the wallets because they never took my report! So .I called CK police and was told I had to contact Windsor and it went back and forth for days until finally CK police took my report a year after the crime . My ID was never recovered along with all my children's id . My neighbors house which was empty due to eviction was in the process of a B and E (breaker and enter) I called CK police to report a crime in progress. The dispatch gave me attitude and asked in a condescending tone "how do you know it's being robbed ?" I told them the two men discussed it out front of my house and said one was going around back and the other would stand out front to keep watch and they didn't want the cops to catch them . No police ever came not even to take my statement! I've heard several CK residents tell similar stories. This is unacceptable! I've been threatened by my known criminal neighbor who has pulled a knife on people and is well known to the police. He threatened to stab me and my husband and burn down his house so the whole neighborhood burned with it and the police told me it was "not a typical threat" they refused to see my video evidence on several occasions and I had to go to a supervisor when he was harassing us by driving his untagged, uninsured motorcycle in the sidewalk towards my house in a community safety zone. He nearly hit my 3 year old son ! And they police said there wasn't anything they could do until I threatened to call his supervisor then 24 hours later I finally got a notice to appear in court as a witness I had video evidence and the CK police wouldn't even acknowledge it until I threatened to go to the supervisor. They aren't taking reports for all calls and they seem to think that's OK depending on where you live . CK police need to help all CK residents not just business owners.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 11:38 AM

Fund the tree planting initiative to increase tree coverage in CK

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 11:50 AM

In reality the minds of the council is and will be made up without giving a care about the surveys. Chatham Kent residents is not responsible for other area's problems and therefore should not be taxed and penalized for that. The average wage here is already low enough with more taxes and inflation will kill the area more instead of being ahead. You need to look at what's in the area. It's farming blue collar community that's not into Toronto style thinking. You need to keep taxes low to prevent our own for homelessness before you make it continue to go up in numbers The smaller town arenas money should not be going towards Chatham. They've already paid off and yet things like ice rates are high for no reason. You can travel 30-40 minutes outside our area for cheaper ice and still save money with the drive. And summers no programs run through is a issue. Create opportunities to be a healthy green community. More jobs are created once you realize your backwards thinking mentality is wrong.

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:07 PM

Thank you

Screen Name Redacted

11/10/2021 05:52 PM

There needs to be a discussion about the significant lack of efficiency within a vast majority of departments in CK. There is a large lack of holding people accountable for the quality and efficiency of their work. Wasted tax dollars are seen every day. Rather than talking about increasing services and taxed, perhaps a discussion about efficiency if the existing services should take place

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 09:47 AM

Before any major spending on services or projects we as citizens should be notified a given a chance to accept or reject.

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 10:34 AM

I believe the first place you can cut funding is what our police officers make an hour. They do not deserve what they make an hour. Yes, they help our community but so do many other jobs in Chatham kent who get paid way less an hour then they do. I love how we pay them good money an hour to enforce rules, yet the cops are the first ones you see breaking rules like driving and texting on their phone and speeding just because they are cops and they think they have the right to. Chatham Kent is a very sad municipality to be apart of.

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 10:44 AM

Provide more info next time. Show us the numbers you're working with. How many people need to be homes vs how many spots. Budgets vs shortfalls. The real-world numbers are important. You asked us if we'd be willing to increase fees for things. But how much, for what? And how big is the budget gap that you're looking at? What services are under utilized and perhaps would be able to replace something else? Or what is not cost effective and should possibly not run again if it isn't essential for anyone? The questions are way too vague to receive an accurate polling of the residents. Especially if you're trying to get us to understand what you need more money from, asking people plainly if they want their taxes to go up will not give you their real feelings.

Screen Name Redacted

11/11/2021 05:11 PM

Id like more done for nursing homes and long term care facilities!!!!

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 06:19 AM

It is important we expand our services to provide opportunities for our youth. This will also help retain your families and professionals that will add to the tax paying base.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 10:55 AM

I understand that there are always going to be pressures to increase taxes for one reason or another. Please do what you can to minimize increases. Many are living on fixed or quasi fixed incomes.

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 11:20 AM

The municipality needs to invest more on the front-end of their website. This is 2021/2022, we need a municipality that looks modern online and has modern tools/features on their website. It has improved over the last 2 years, granted, but it needs to be maintained and modernized regularly to keep up with the times. There is too much stock imagery on the website. We have lots of great things in CK that they could be taking pictures of. My business is listed on the tourism site (visitCK.ca) and I want my business to be presented in a modern way. I appreciate the tourism department who came out to my business and took a great picture to feature on the site. They seem to understand the importance of marketing local businesses and use good imagery on the website (not using stock, instead featuring real CK businesses and locations).

Screen Name Redacted

11/12/2021 05:56 PM

Please try to be frugal, while providing what is needed.

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 11:17 AM

No tax increase, we have growth which will increase revenue.

Screen Name Redacted

11/13/2021 03:14 PM

STOP LETTING YOUR EMPLOYEES USE PUBLICLY FUNDED VEHICLES FOR THEIR OWN USE SO FUEL EXPENSES GO DOWN NOT UP & THAT WOULD HELP CONTROL COSTS, TIRED OF SEEING VEHICLES THAT WE PAY FOR BEING USED FOR GROCERY SHOPPING OR TAKING THEIR KIDS TO HOCKEY GAMES. WE PAY THESE EMPLOYEES BETTER THAN 80 % OF THE TAXPAYERS WAGES, SO THEY CAN USE THEIR OWN MONEY AND VEHICLES FOR PERSONAL USE! I DONT THINK THAT THAT IS TO MUCH TOO ASK FOR, IS IT (IE STOP TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE TAXPAYER)

Screen Name Redacted

11/14/2021 11:47 PM

Start at 0%. You would be surprised how departmental managers could run their departments knowing that is the target. Analyze the departmental spending several months before year-end....we all know how favorable spending variances fade away.....spend it or lose it.....City Taxpayers are tapped out. Look at the urban /rural split.

Screen Name Redacted

11/17/2021 07:43 AM

We need new council members and a new mayor. Stop giving yourself raises.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 09:06 AM

With inflation running over 4%, I would be fine with a 4% tax increase with services maintained rather than 2% with services cut. Don't cut just because an election is coming up. Voters are smarter than that.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 10:48 AM

Thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion.

Screen Name Redacted

11/23/2021 01:22 PM

Roads and bridges need to be kept. Reducing access is not helpful to residents of Chatham Kent. If roads and bridges are reduced I hope that the effects and emergency access time frames are communicated with reasoning.

Screen Name Redacted

11/24/2021 12:37 AM

Please lead, and don't be afraid to make tough decisions. Don't compromise the quality of life for current and future CK residents, including caring for our environment, to save a few bucks in the

short term.

Optional question (76 response(s), 127 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Received November 14, 2021 via ckfps@chatham-kent.ca

I would like to know why our taxes increase every year by 2-4%. From previous years revenue council knows approximately how much money will be collected and how much you can spend on projects. Why is it you go over this amount every year when you could have a 0% tax increase for a few years before you would have to increase taxes. With low inflation over the last several years it would have been a prime time to have no tax increase.

You know of any big projects coming along such as bridge repairs and the Leamington explosion expenditures. With rising water levels dam repairs will be needed. With big projects on the horizon you would think council could cut down on other projects.

To truly balance revenue with expenditures there should be no tax increase. Also why are Chatham residents paying more taxes than residents in other communities in Chatham-Kent if their houses have the same value?

Sincerely,

Doug Perrin

Received November 24, 2021 via Let's Talk project page for Budget 2022

Divest of under-utilized infrastructure, or at least reduce levels of service in underutilized areas

Received December 15, 2021 via Let's Talk project page for Budget 2022

Make municipal outdoor pool facilities wheelchair accessible. Ex: Dresden's pool doesn't even have a path to the entrance, let alone a ramp.

