

2018 Budget Planning Survey  
General Population Survey Results

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Results weighted to ensure statistical  
validity to the Leduc Population

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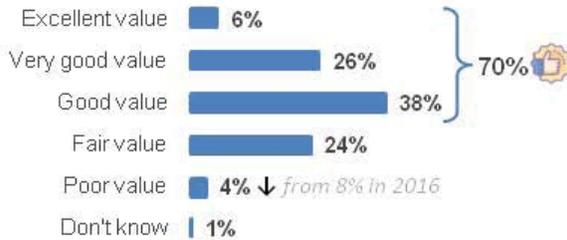
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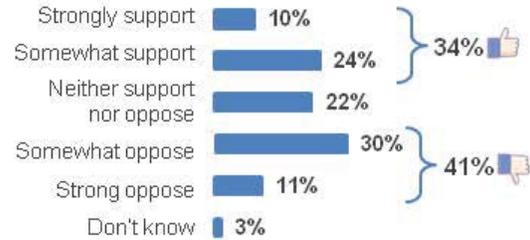
## 2018 Budget Planning Survey Highlights

Survey of **438** adult Leduc residents contacted by phone, April 24<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and did an online survey. Results are weighted by age.

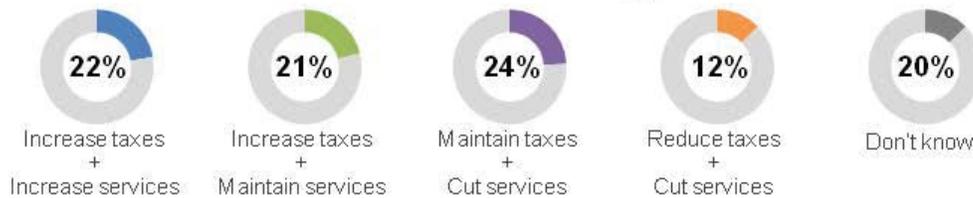
### City Service Value for Taxes



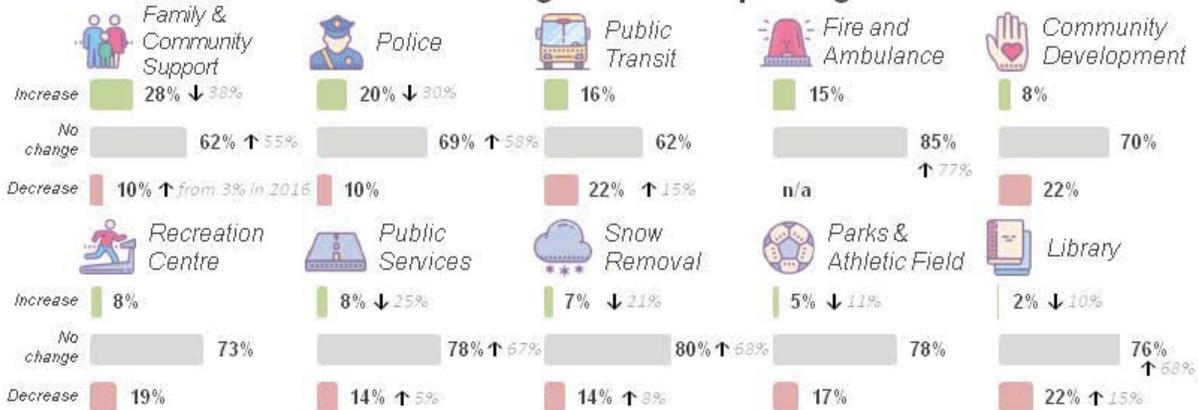
### Decrease Service Levels to Minimize Tax Increase?



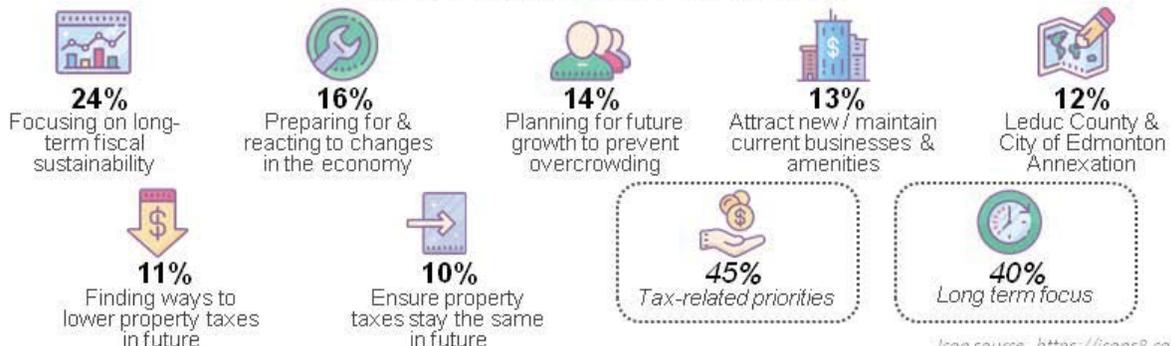
### Preferred Tax Strategy



### Desired Change to Variable Spending



### Most Important Priority Facing Leduc



Icon source: <https://icons8.com/>

## 2 Detailed Project Description

### 2.1 Project Background

In spring 2017, the City of Leduc (“the City”) contracted Advanis to conduct the 2018 City of Leduc General Population Budget Planning Survey. The primary purpose of this study is to assess the views of City of Leduc residents concerning the budgetary planning process for the 2018 budget. In total, 438 randomly selected City of Leduc residents aged 18 and older completed the survey between April 24<sup>th</sup> (the start of the pre-test, see section 2.2.3 for more detail) and June 1st, 2017.

This report outlines the results of the 2018 General Population Budget Planning Survey. Comparisons to previous years’ survey data are included where appropriate to determine any shifts in the perceptions and opinions of Leduc residents.

### 2.2 Methodology

All components of the project were designed and executed in close consultation with the City of Leduc. A detailed description of each task of the project is outlined in the remainder of this section.

#### 2.2.1 Project Planning

At the start of the project, the City provided Advanis with both the 2017 City of Leduc General Population Budget Planning Report and the 2017 survey. Advanis team members reviewed the documents and met with City employees charged with leading this research to ensure total understanding of the purpose and needs of this study. Both the City and Advanis agreed upon a research methodology and detailed work plan.

For the 2018 Budget Planning Survey, the City wanted to attempt to capture responses from younger (16 or 17 year old) residents of Leduc. While these younger residents were not a part of this General Population study, they were allowed to complete the Stakeholder study’s survey. However, only 6 surveys were completed by this younger demographic so their results are not included in the Stakeholder study’s report, but are available in separate tables showing how these 6 residents responded to each of the questions.

#### 2.2.2 Survey Design

The 2018 Budget Planning Survey was based on the 2017 Budget Planning Survey, conducted in spring 2016. This maintained consistency between years and allowed many results to be compared between years. However, the City was interested in improving the survey to try to make the survey experience better for residents as well as obtain more useful results. Some of these changes included:

- The survey was administered through a mobile friendly environment (see section 2.2.3 for more details) allowing for ease of completion on computers, tablets, and smartphones. Questions displayed to residents one at a time eliminating the need to zoom and scroll on questions. In addition, some rewording was done to improve readability and understanding.

- Last year, residents were asked how likely they would be to support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases with a 5-point scale from “not at all likely” to “very likely”. However, interpreting the results of this question proved to be a challenge. For this year’s survey, residents were given a 5-point scale from “strongly oppose” to “strongly support”, allowing for a clear understanding of resident’s sentiments. As a result, results are not trended for this question.
- The tax strategy question has four levels that cover all feasible tax strategies, as well as a “don’t know” option. In the past, a “something else” level was provided with 20% to 25% of residents selecting this option. However, no detail was provided on what the “something else” was and this information was not actionable. As a result, this level was removed from the survey and results are not trended for this question.
- In the past, the question asking residents if they would increase, decrease, or keep budgets the same showed all services at once. Residents were allowed to leave answers blank (presumably to lessen the burden answering a large question like this is) and were coded as a “don’t know”. Given the change to show each service individually, the need to allow residents to not answer was no longer needed. As a result, trended results are shown, but with no “don’t know” responses from 2017.
- The follow-up questions after asking if residents would increase, decrease, or keep budgets the same were changed from qualitative open-ended questions to be closed ended “select all that apply” type questions. This decision was made to mitigate the relatively large proportion of residents (40% or more) who were not providing answers to these questions in previous years. As a result, trending is not shown for these questions.

Advanis provided the City with a draft of the survey which the City provided feedback on. Advanis incorporated this feedback and the survey was programmed and tested. The City had the opportunity to review the survey online and provided additional feedback, which Advanis incorporated. A text version of the final questionnaire is provided in the Appendix (section 4.3).

### 2.2.3 Survey Population and Data Collection

Advanis purchased a random set of landline and wireless telephone numbers in the City of Leduc. Potential participants were contacted by telephone and recruited to complete the online survey. A link to the online survey was provided either by email or text message. This methodology is consistent with previous years and conducting the survey online is necessary given the need to show graphics in the survey to residents.

The City was cognizant of the increased use of mobile devices within our community, and recognized the importance of creating a mobile friendly platform for the 2018 Budget Planning Survey in order to most effectively engage all Leduc residents. As mentioned, the survey platform used in 2017 allowed for a mobile-optimized experience ensuring that those who chose to complete the survey on a smartphone or tablet could do so with ease. **In total, 44% of surveys collected for this report completed the survey on a mobile device.** In addition, a hardcopy version of the Stakeholder survey was available by the City

upon request for those who were unable to access the survey online. Due to the design and general population sample of the General Population survey, results are statistically representative.

A pre-test of the survey was conducted on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the pre-test was to ensure the survey was understandable for residents by asking residents if they had any questions, concerns, or suggestions for improving the survey. Since no residents reported any substantial concerns, their results are included in this report. The primary fielding dates for the remainder of residents who completed the survey was from May 1<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 (June 1<sup>st</sup> was included to allow those contacted on May 31<sup>st</sup> time to complete the survey). In total, 438 residents completed the survey which implies a margin of error no greater than  $\pm 4.7\%$  at 95% confidence.

Similar to previous years, for this analysis, weights were assigned based on the ages of residents to ensure that their representation in the City-wide sample was proportionate to the City of Leduc population as determined by the 2016 City of Leduc Census. Specific details of the weighting scheme used can be found in the Appendix (section 4.2).

### 3 Study Findings

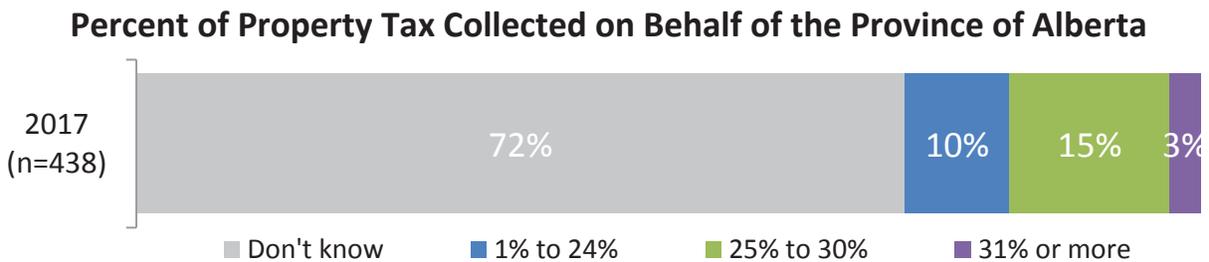
This section details the results of each specific topic in the survey. In this section, there are a few things to note:

- The term “significant” means “statistically significant at 95% confidence”. Only those respondent subgroups that are statistically different are highlighted below. The analysis checked for statistical differences between the following groups:
  - Age (18 to 34, 35 to 54, 55 to 64, 65 or older);
  - Children in household (children, no children);
  - Income (under \$60,000, \$60,000 to \$99,999, \$100,000 to \$149,999, \$150,000 or more);
  - Employment status (employed full/part time, on leave/homemaker/student/not employed/retired);
  - Perceived value from taxes (good/very good/excellent, fair/poor);
  - Preference regarding decreasing services to limit tax increases (support, neutral, oppose); and
  - Preferred tax strategy (prefer to increase taxes, prefer to cut services).
  - Home ownership was not included due to too few renters completing the survey.
- To improve readability, bars with values less than 5% may not have the value shown. Actual percents are available in separate tables.
- Results have been rounded to remove decimal places. As a result, adding up values may not exactly equal the total expected.
- Arrows may appear on graphs that compare results over time. These indicate if the results are statistically (at 95% confidence) higher or lower than the previous year’s results.

- The term “(VOL)” at the start of labels indicate that this level was volunteered by residents who put text into the “other specify” level. These results are likely lower than they would have been had all residents seen these as levels.
- For results with a base size of less than 30 residents, unweighted counts are shown. This is standard statistical practice as small base sizes lead to very large margins of error and should not be used to extrapolate to an entire population.

### 3.1 Property Tax Value

Residents were informed that a portion of property tax is collected on behalf of the Province of Alberta goes to pay for education. When asked what percent of property tax goes to the province, nearly three-quarters (72%) did not know. The true percent of property tax that pays for education is 27%. 15% of residents came close, mentioning between 25% and 30%, while only 4% of residents correctly identified that 27% of property tax pays for education.



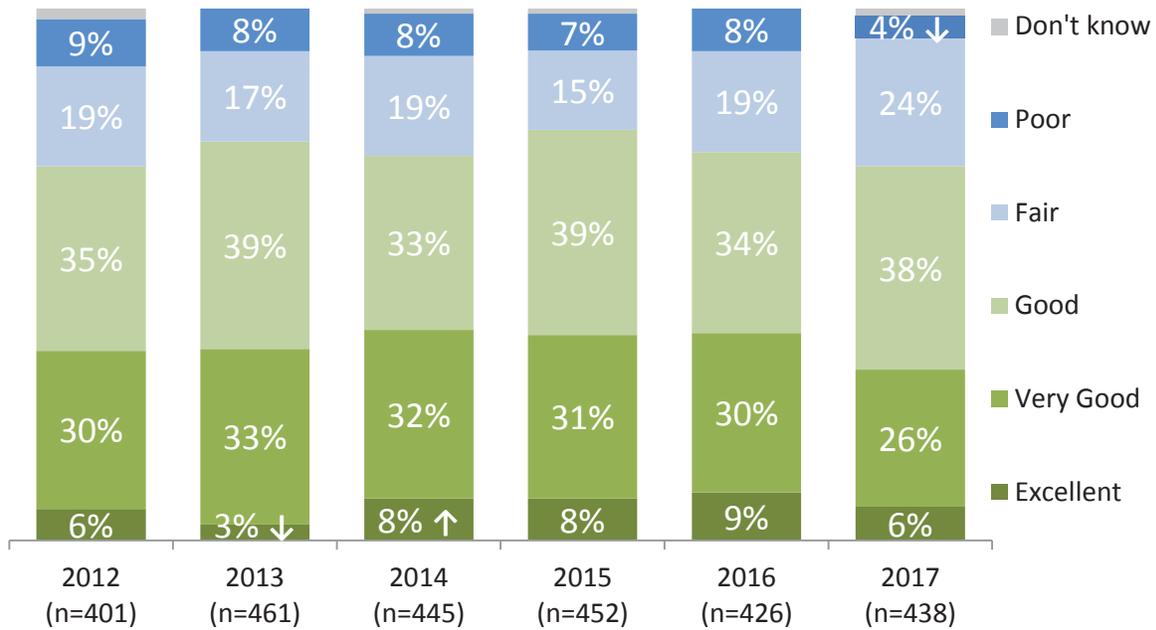
Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to answer in the 25% to 30% range include:

-  26%: Those who are 65 or older;
-  24%: Those who are 55 to 64; and
-  22%: Those without children in the home.

All residents were then made aware that 27% of property taxes are collected on behalf of the province to pay for education. They were then asked what level of value they felt they received from the remaining 73% used to fund city services. As in the past, sentiment continues to be quite positive.

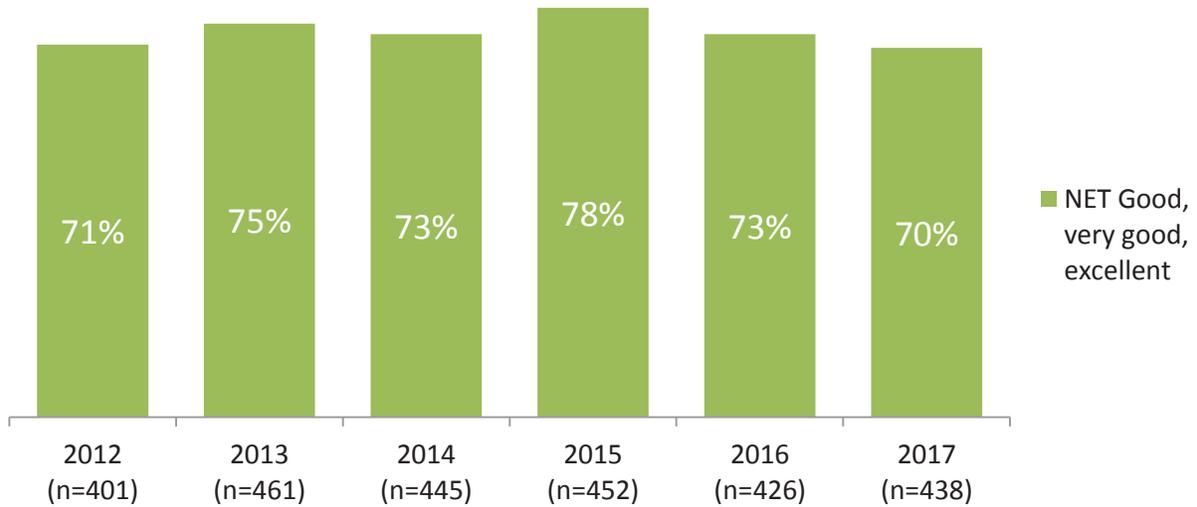
### Perceived Value Received for Taxes Paid



Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

The percent of residents that feel they received “good”, “very good”, or “excellent” value for their taxes (70%) continues to remain high in 2017, similar to the high scores in previous years.

### Perceived Value Received for Taxes Paid (Good, Very Good, Excellent)

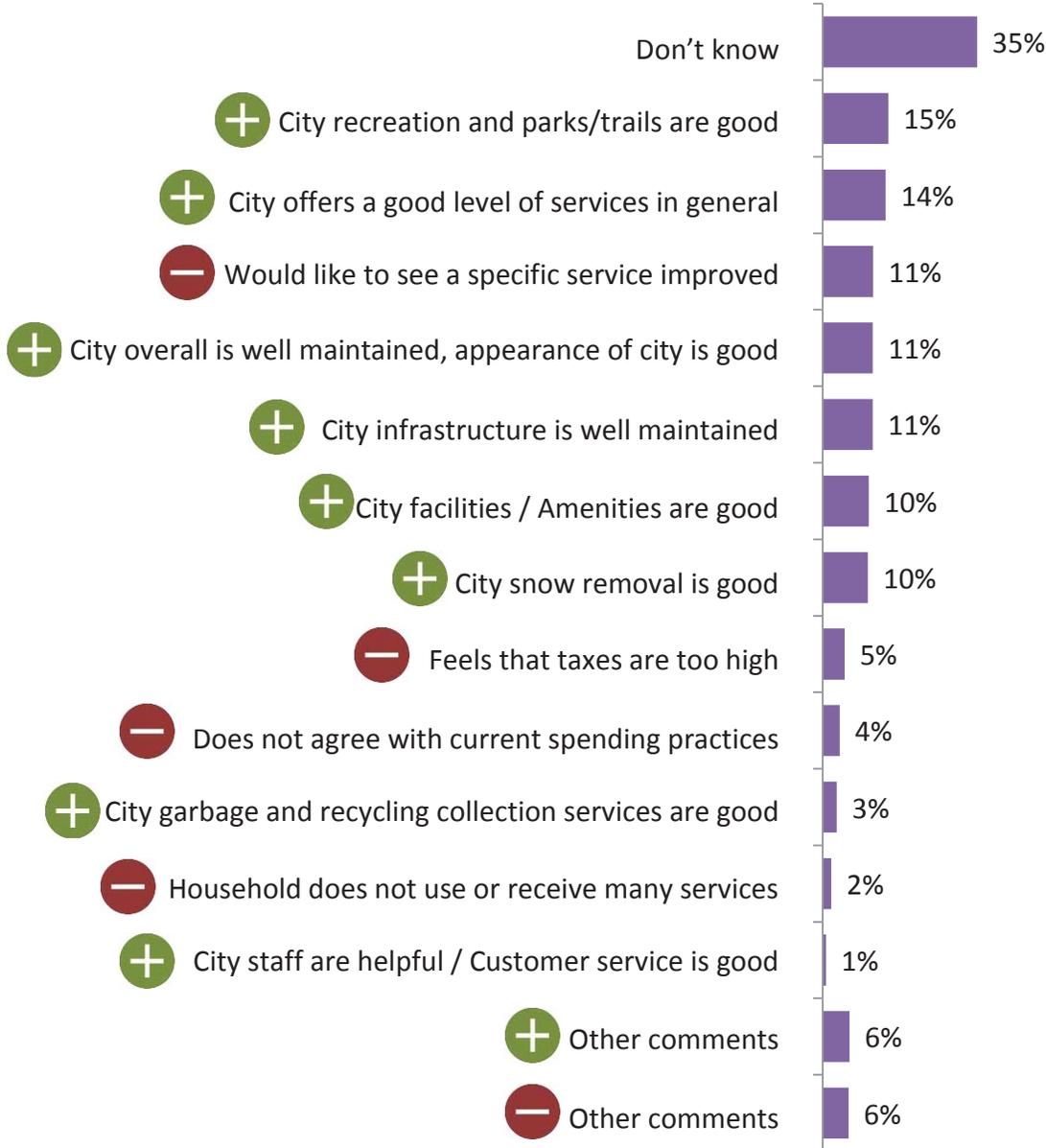


Subgroups that are significantly more likely to feel they receive “good”, “very good”, or “excellent” value include:

-  88%: Those with income of \$150,000 or more;
-  78%: Those who oppose decreasing services to minimize tax increases;
-  78%: Those with no children at home; and
-  77%: Those who favour increasing taxes to improve or maintain services.

Residents were asked the reason why they felt that way. Given that most residents feel that they have received “good” or better value, it is not surprising that most reasons provided are positive. Although there were a number of different reasons mentioned, the top reasons are that residents feel that city recreation, parks, and trails are good (15%), level of services are good (14%), and the city overall (11%), infrastructure (11%), and facilities (10%) are all good. The top negative reason provided by 11% of residents is the desire to see a specific service improved. Note that over a third (35%) of residents were unable to provide a reason for the value they receive.

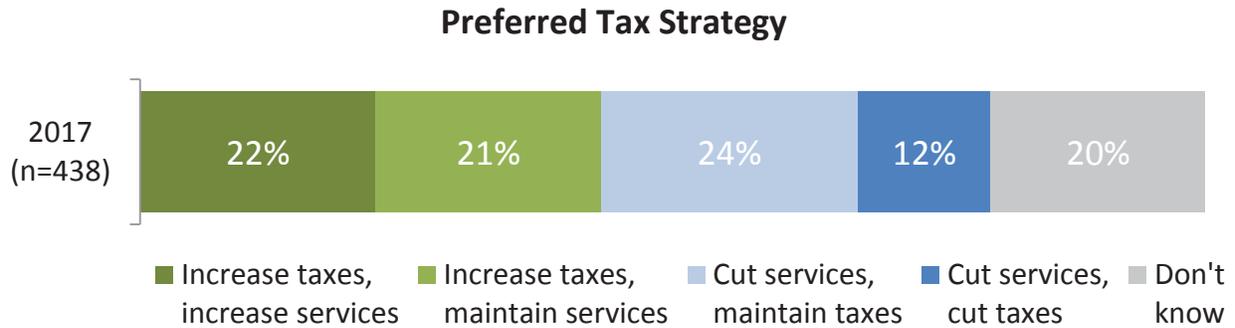
### Why Residents Feel this Way



n=438. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.2 Overall Property Tax Preference

Residents were shown four different tax strategies and asked for their preference. Results were split with 43% preferring to increase taxes to increase or maintain services, while 37% preferred cutting services to maintain or reduce taxes. A further 20% did not provide an opinion.



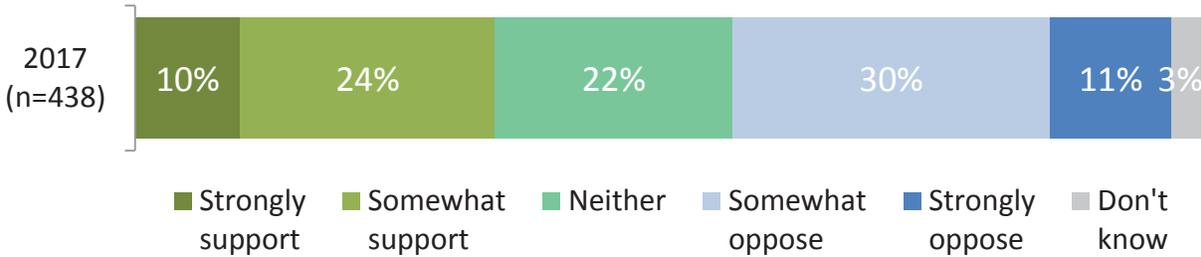
Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding.  
Results are not trended due to the removal of the “something else” category.

Significant subgroup differences include:

Increase taxes, increase services	Increase taxes, maintain services	Cut services, maintain taxes	Cut services, cut taxes
✂ 30%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases	✂ 31%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases	✂ 42%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases	✂ 31%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases

The City is sensitive to the economic climate and residents’ desire to keep tax increases to a minimum. As such, they were asked for their level of support or opposition for decreasing service levels to minimize tax increases. Results were mixed with 41% opposing this approach, compared to 34% who supported it. 22% did not feel strongly either way, and another 3% did not have an opinion.

### Support/Opposition for a Decrease in Service Levels to Maintain Taxes



Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding.  
Results are not trended since a likelihood scale was used in 2016.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to **support** decreasing service levels to maintain taxes include:

- ✂ 68%: Those who prefer to cut services to maintain or cut taxes.

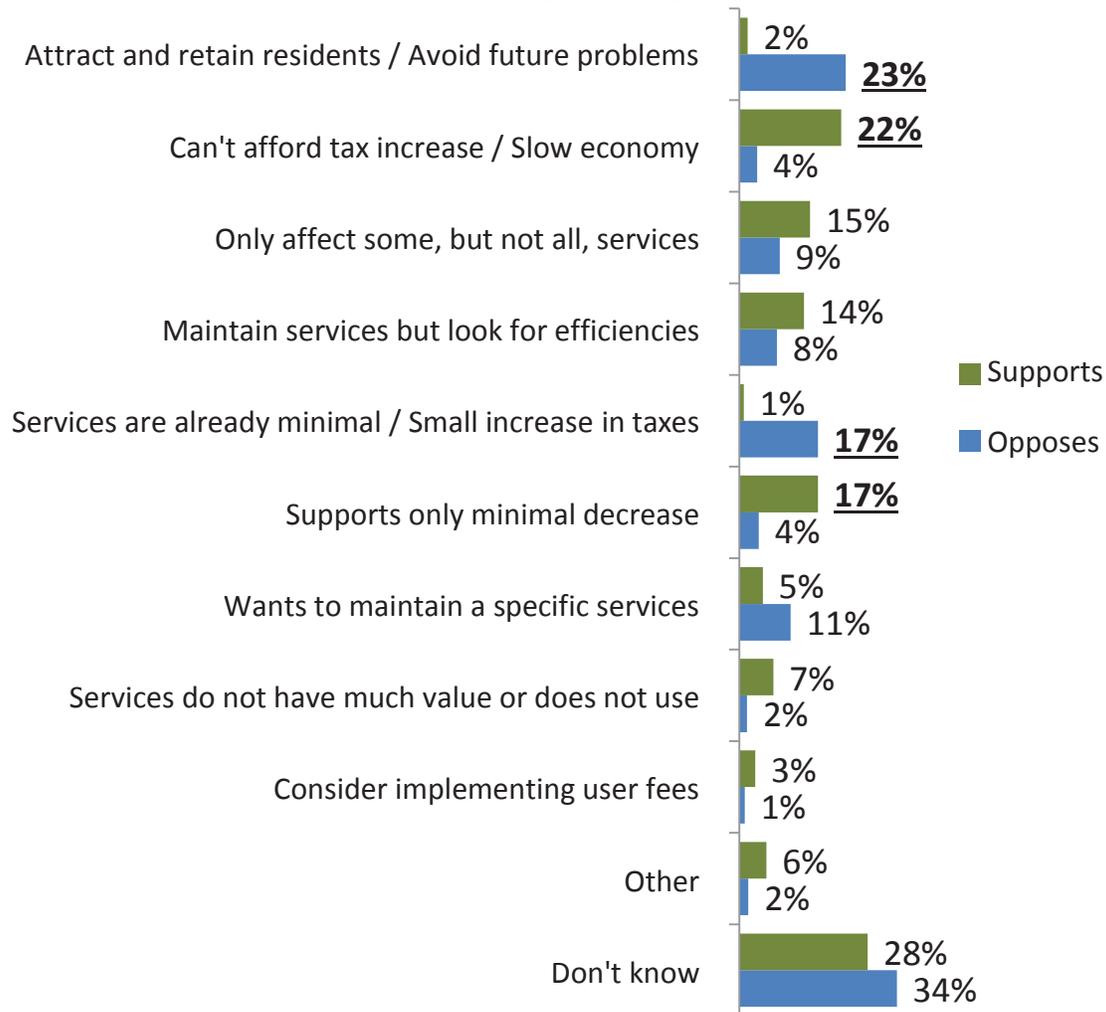
No subgroups are significantly more likely to **neither support or oppose** decreasing service levels to maintain taxes.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to **oppose** decreasing service levels to maintain taxes include:

- 📊 58%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to improve or maintain services; and
- 😊 46%: Those who feel they receive “good”, “very good”, or “excellent” value for their taxes.

In terms of why residents support or oppose decreasing service levels to minimize tax increases, over a fifth (22%) of those who support decreasing service levels to minimize tax increases feel that either they cannot afford a tax increase or cite the slow economy. This is in stark contrast to the 23% who oppose decreasing service levels because they feel that it is important to attract and retain residents or avoid problems in the future. However, 17% of those who support decreasing service levels would like to see only a minimal decrease in services which compares with the 17% of those who oppose decreasing service levels who feel that services are already minimal or would prefer just a small increase in taxes. This said, it should be noted that approximately a third (28% of those who support and 34% of those who oppose) did not provide any justification for their views.

### Reasons for Support/Opposition



n=153 (Support), 180 (Oppose). Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed. Bars with values that are **bold and underlined** are statistically higher than the other bar next to it.

### 3.3 Adjustments to Variable Spending

The City of Leduc budget includes two spending categories:

- Fixed Spending (57%) includes items that are necessary to govern, operate and maintain the City of Leduc and do not vary based on the level of service provided, including
  - Mayor and City Council;
  - Corporate and Legislative Services;
  - Engineering Services;
  - Planning Services;
  - Facility Services;
  - Debt Repayment; and
  - Capital Transfer.
- Variable Spending (43%) includes categories where spending can be increased or decreased depending on the level of service provided.

The proposed City of Leduc 2018 variable budget is split between the following services:

**City of Leduc 2018 Variable Budget**  
*Proposed Net Spending by Program*



Residents were asked to rate their preference for how the city should allocate funds (increase, decrease or remain the same) for each of the services. Most residents would like budgets to remain the same. That said, the following services had the highest percent of residents requesting an **increase** in spending:

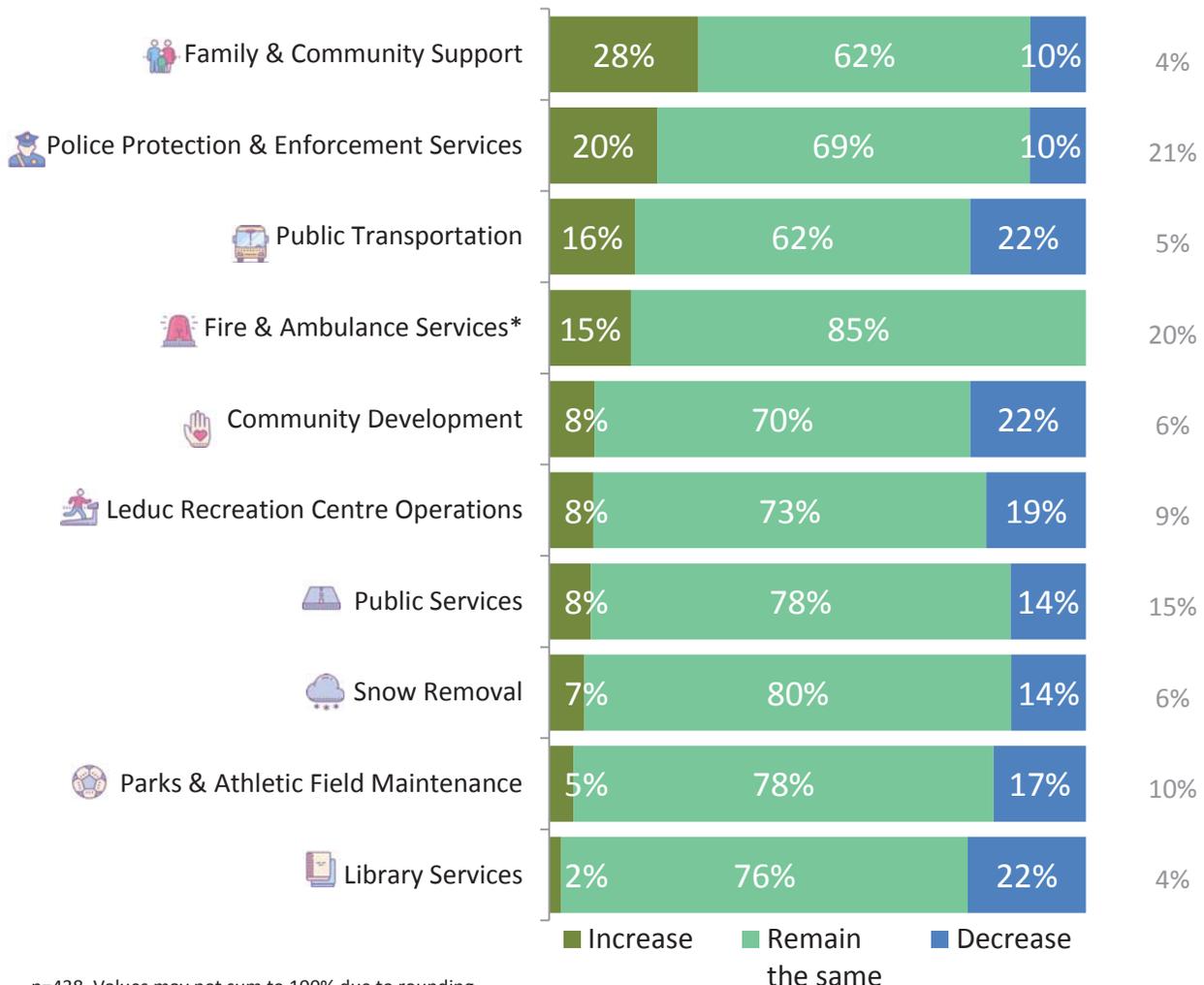
-  28%: Family and community support;
-  20%: Police protection and enforcement services;
-  16%: Public transportation; and
-  15%: Fire and ambulance services.

Services that had the highest percent of residents requesting a **decrease** in spending include:

-  22%: Library services;
-  22%: Public transportation; and
-  22%: Community development.

### Comparison of Preferred Budget Adjustments for all Services

Proposed %  
of budget



n=438. Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

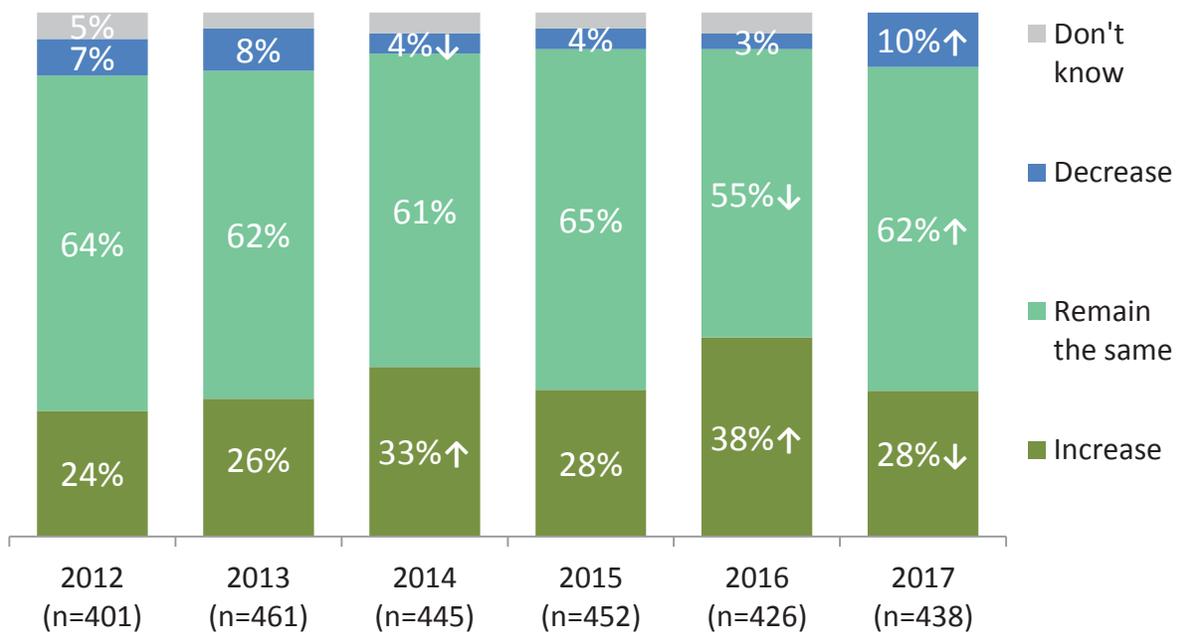
\* Fire and ambulance services are contracted services provided by the City on behalf of the Province of Alberta and cannot be reduced.

The remainder of this section of the report explores each of these services in more detail.

**3.3.1**  **Family & Community Support (Proposed 4%)**

Although family and community support services did have the most residents wanting funding to increase (28%), fewer residents wanted funding for this service to increase in 2017 compared to 2016. In contrast, more residents want funding to either decrease (10%) or stay the same (62%) compared to 2016.

**Budget Adjustment for Family & Community Support (Proposed 4%)**



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

-  42%: Those 18 to 34 years old; and
-  40%: Those favouring increasing taxes to increase or maintain services.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

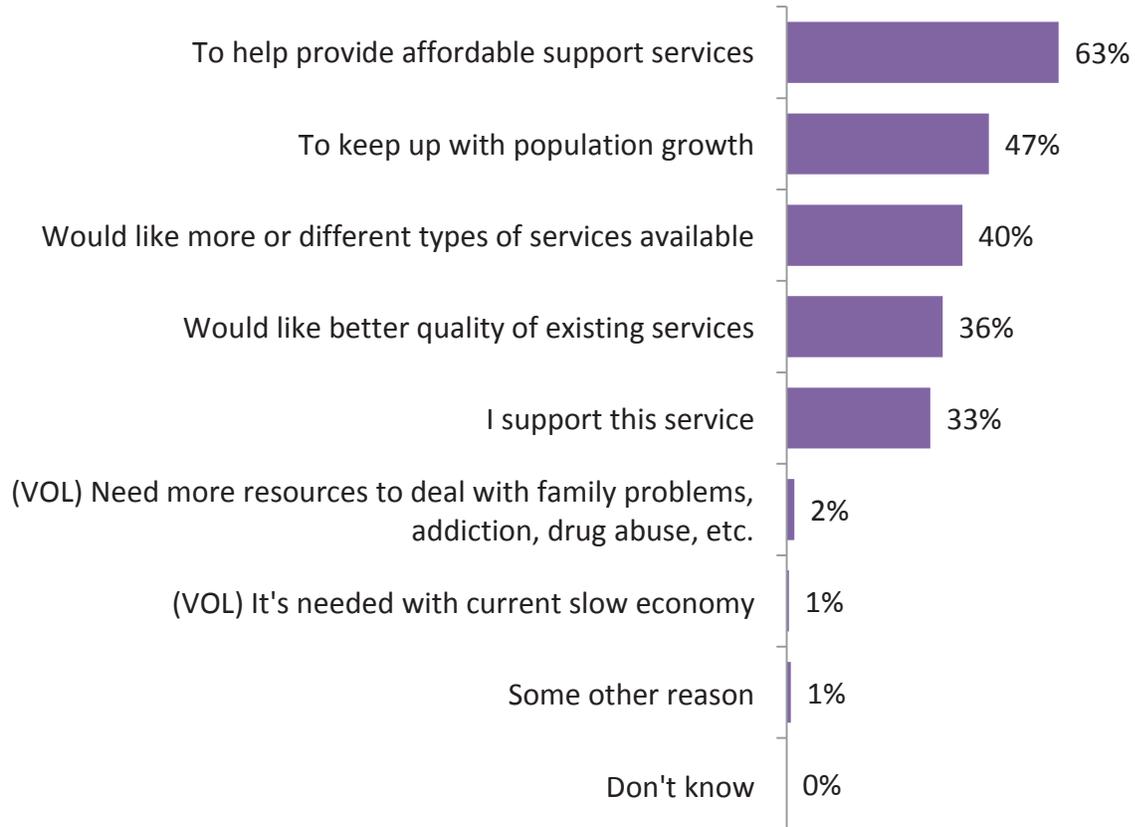
-  72%: Those 55 to 64 years old; and
-  72%: Those 65 years old or older.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  21%: Those who support decreasing services to maintain taxes; and
-  21%: Those favouring cutting services to maintain or decrease taxes.

Most of the residents who would **increase** spending on *Family & Community Support* felt that funding helps provide affordable support services (63%). Nearly half (47%) also believe additional funding is needed to keep up with population growth and 40% would like more or different types of services to be available.

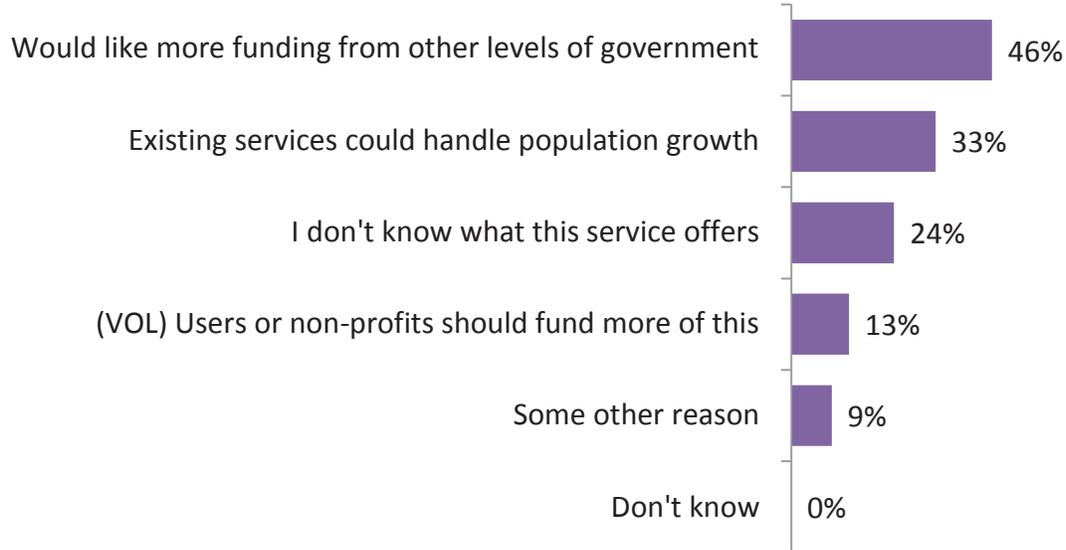
### Reasons to Increase Family & Community Support Spending



n=99. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Nearly half (46%) of residents who would **decrease** spending on *Family & Community Support* cited a desire for more funding from other levels of government. A third (33%) also believes existing services can handle population growth.

### Reasons to Decrease Family & Community Support Spending

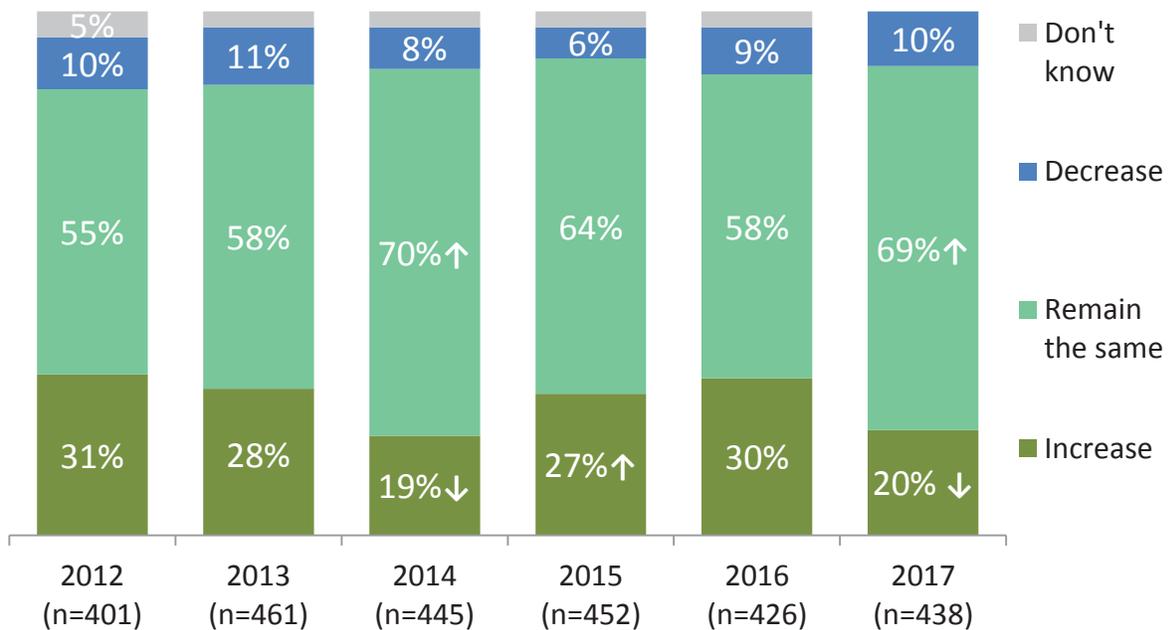


n=40. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.2 Police Protection & Enforcement Services (Proposed 21%)

Although 20% of residents would like funding to increase for police protection and enforcement services (the second highest increase among the services), this is down from 30% in 2016. The shift has moved to more residents wanting funding to remain the same (69%) compared to last year. Similar to last year, one in ten (10%) would like funding to decrease.

#### Budget Adjustment for Police Protection & Enforcement Services (Proposed 21%)



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

-  29%: Those 65 years old or older.

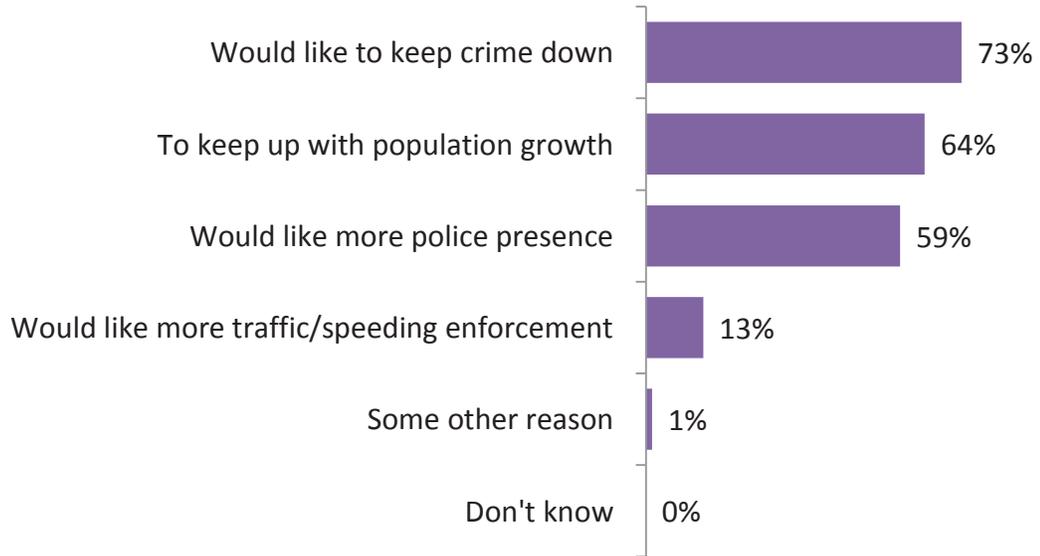
There are no subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same**.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  22%: Those favouring cutting services to maintain or decrease taxes;
-  20%: Those who support a decrease in services to maintain taxes; and
-  19%: Those who feel they receive “fair” or “poor” value from their taxes.

Residents who would **increase** spending on *Police Protection and Enforcement Services* most often explained that they would like to keep crime down (73%). Furthermore, a majority of residents feel a need to increase funding to keep up with population growth (64%) and would like more police presence (59%).

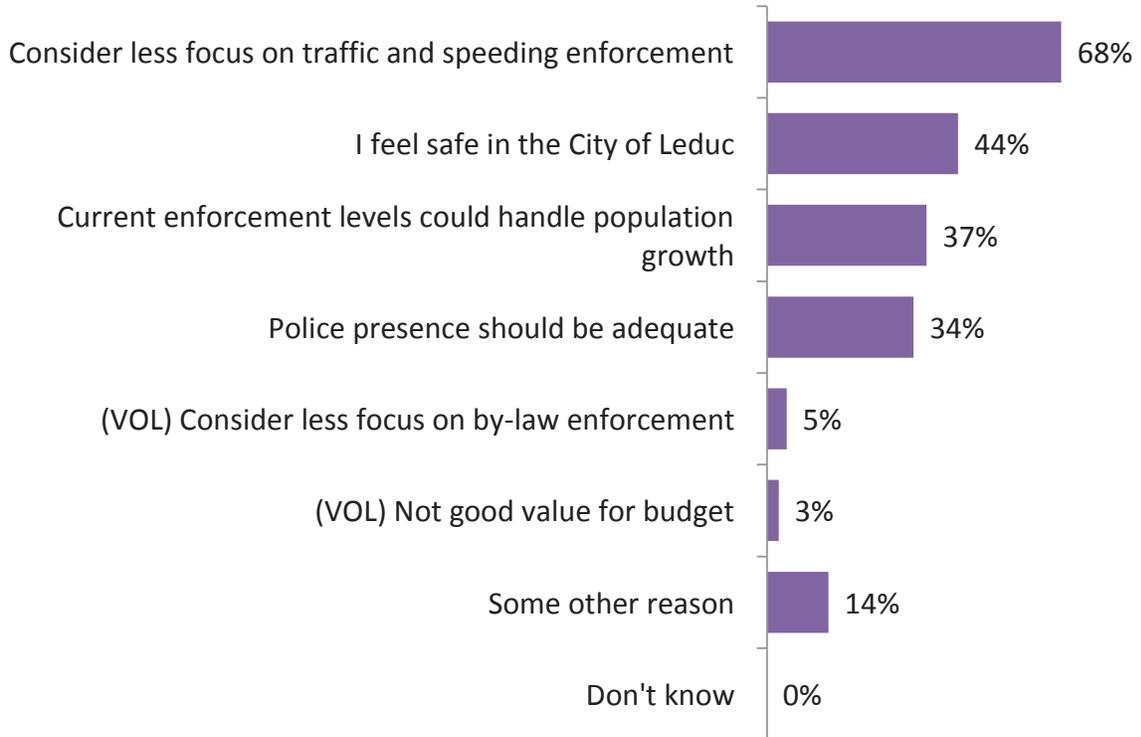
### Reasons to Increase Police Protection & Enforcement Services Spending



n=103. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Over two-thirds (68%) of residents who would **decrease** spending on *Police Protection and Enforcement Services* suggested less focus on traffic and speeding enforcement.

### Reasons to Decrease Police Protection & Enforcement Services Spending

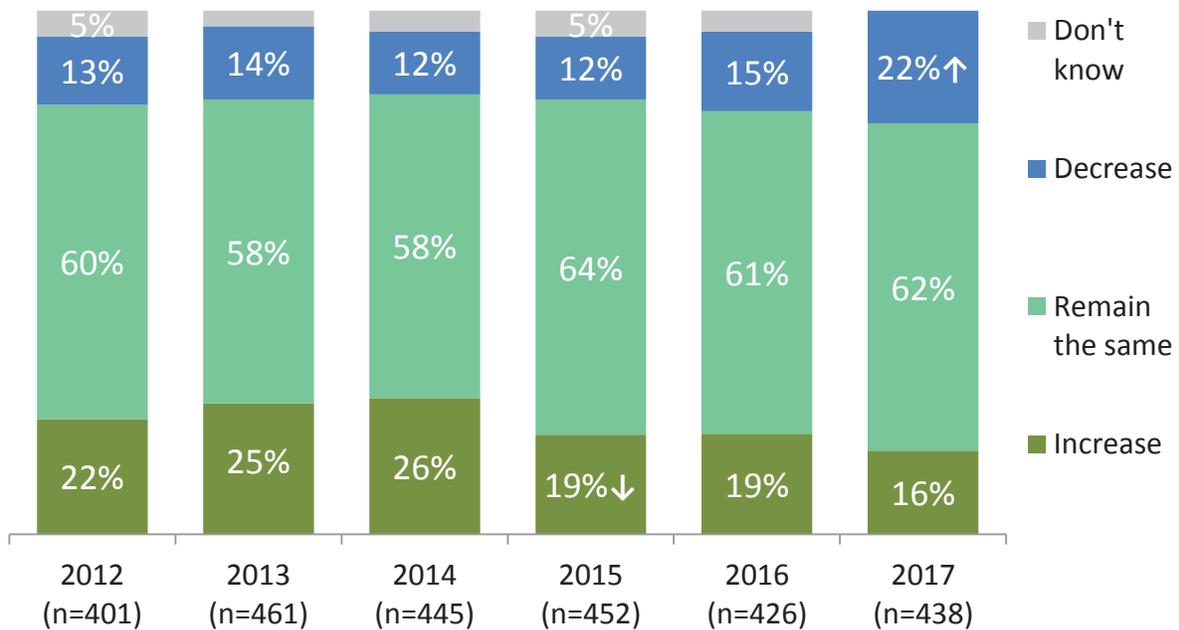


n=46. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.3 Public Transportation (Proposed 5%)

Public transportation ranks as one of the top services where most residents would like to see funding either increase (16%) or decrease (22%, significantly higher than last year). Similar to last year, 62% of residents would like the budget for public transportation to remain the same.

**Budget Adjustment for Public Transportation** (Proposed 5%)



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

-  35%: Those with incomes under \$60,000 per year;
-  27%: Those who are not currently working; and
-  22%: Those who favour increasing taxes to increase or maintain services.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

-  77%: Those with incomes of \$150,000 or more per year;
-  73%: Those with incomes between \$60,000 and \$99,999 per year;
-  72%: Those 55 to 64 years old; and
-  67%: Those who are currently working.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  35%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to maintain taxes;
-  33%: Those with incomes between \$100,000 and \$149,000 per year;
-  33%: Those who feel they are receiving “fair” or “poor” value for their taxes;

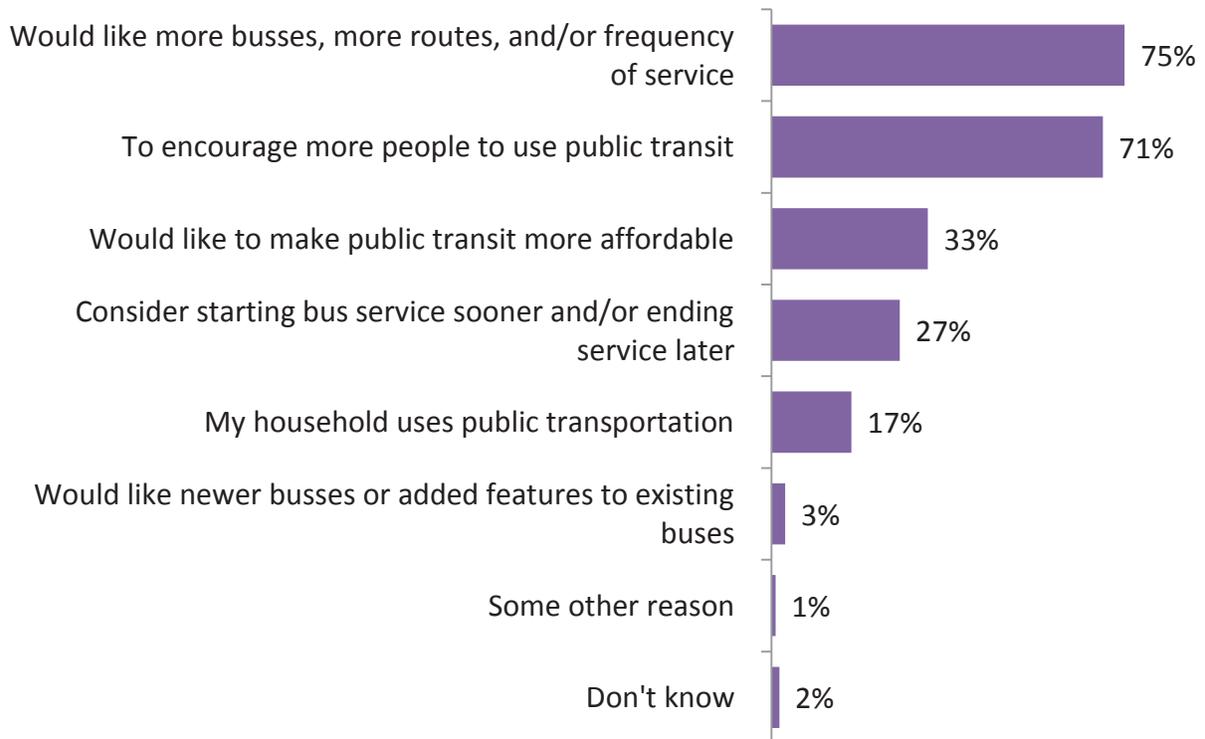


32%: Those favouring cutting services to maintain or decrease taxes; and

31%: Those with children in the household.

Three-quarters (75%) of residents who would **increase** spending on *Public Transportation* said they would like more busses, more routes, and/or increased frequency of service (75%). Most would also like more funds to encourage more people to use public transit (71%).

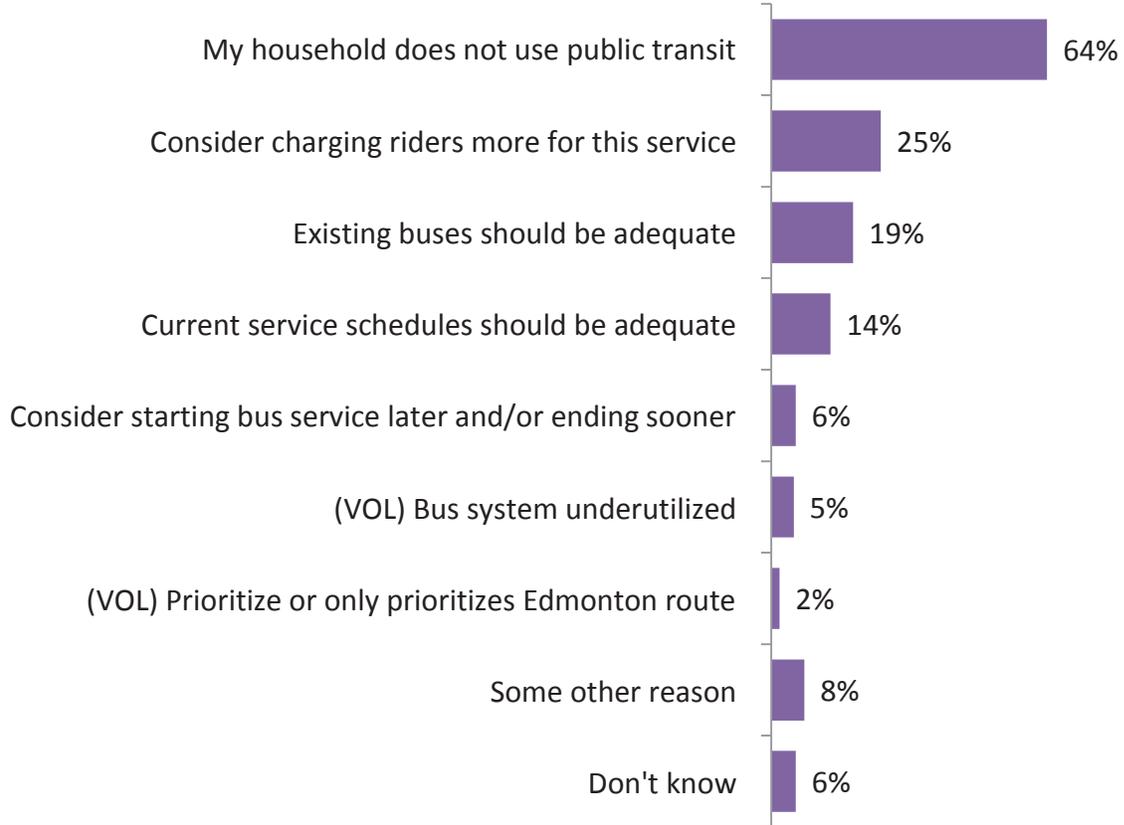
### Reasons to Increase Public Transportation Spending



n=66. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

A lack of personal and household use of public transportation (68%) is by far the most common reason mentioned by residents who would **decrease** spending on *Public Transit*. An additional 25% suggest charging riders more for the service.

### Reasons to Decrease Public Transportation Spending

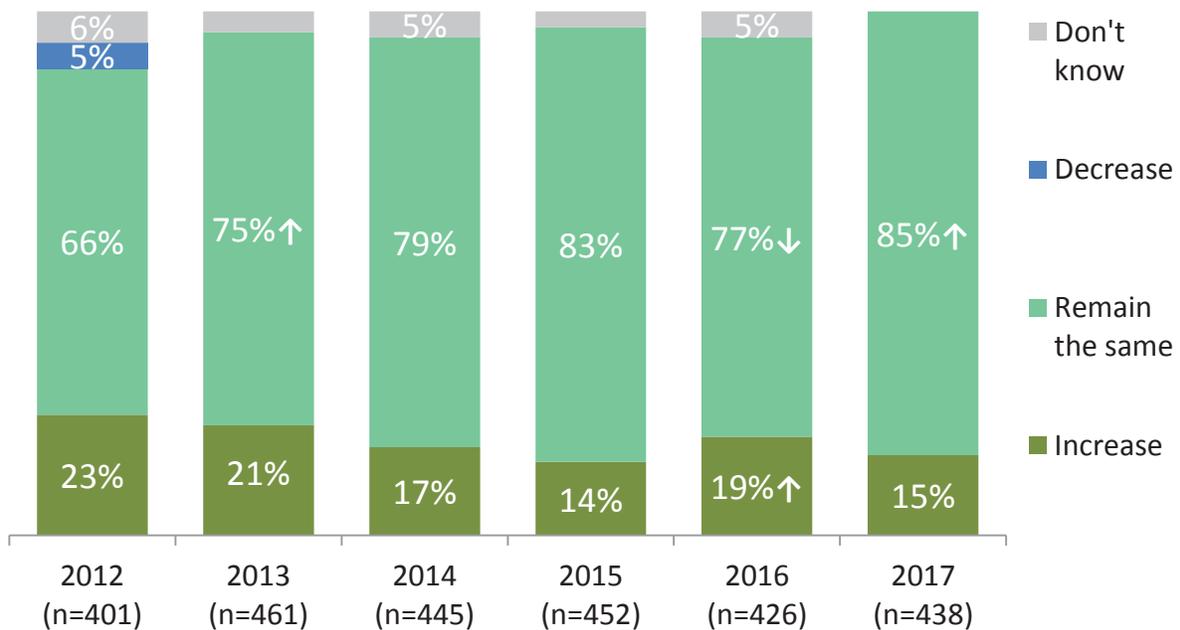


n=80. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.4 Fire & Ambulance Services (Proposed 20%)

Fire and ambulance services are contracted services provided by the City on behalf of the Province of Alberta and cannot be reduced. In 2017, there has been an increase in the percent of residents (85%) who would like the budget for fire and ambulance services to remain the same compared to 2016. A similar proportion compared to 2016 would like to see an increase in services (15%).

**Budget Adjustment for Fire & Ambulance Services (Proposed 20%)**



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

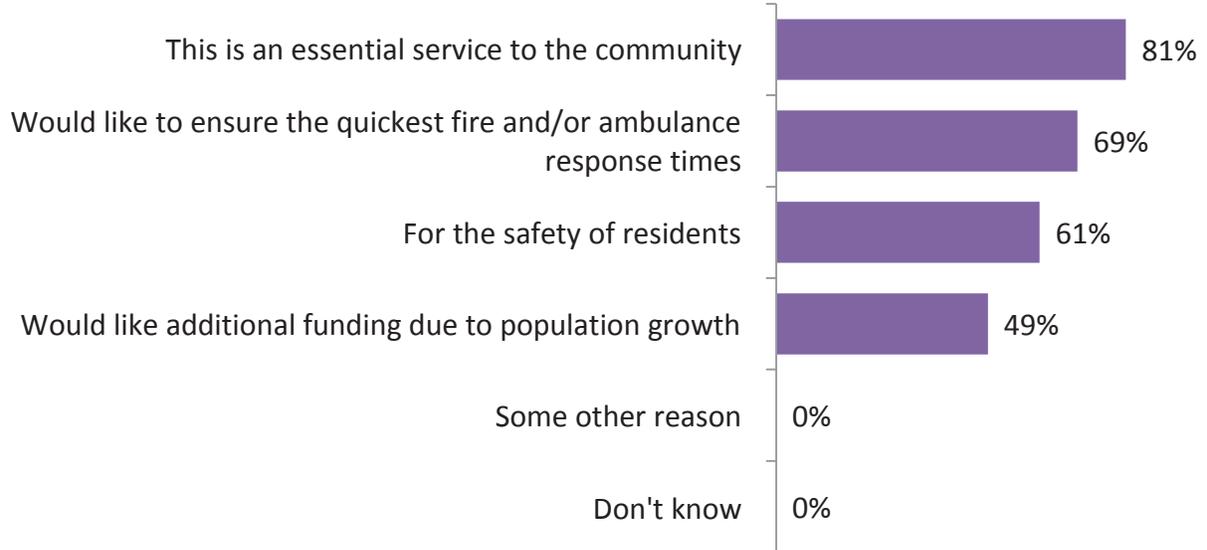
- 😊 19%: Those who feel they are receiving “good”, “very good”, or “excellent” value for their taxes.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

- 😞 93%: Those who feel they are receiving “fair” or “poor” value for their taxes.

Residents who would **increase** spending on *Fire and Ambulance Services* most often explained that this is an essential service to the community (81%). Over two-thirds (69%) also said they would like to ensure the quickest fire and/or ambulance response times.

### Reasons to Increase Fire & Ambulance Services Spending



n=67. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

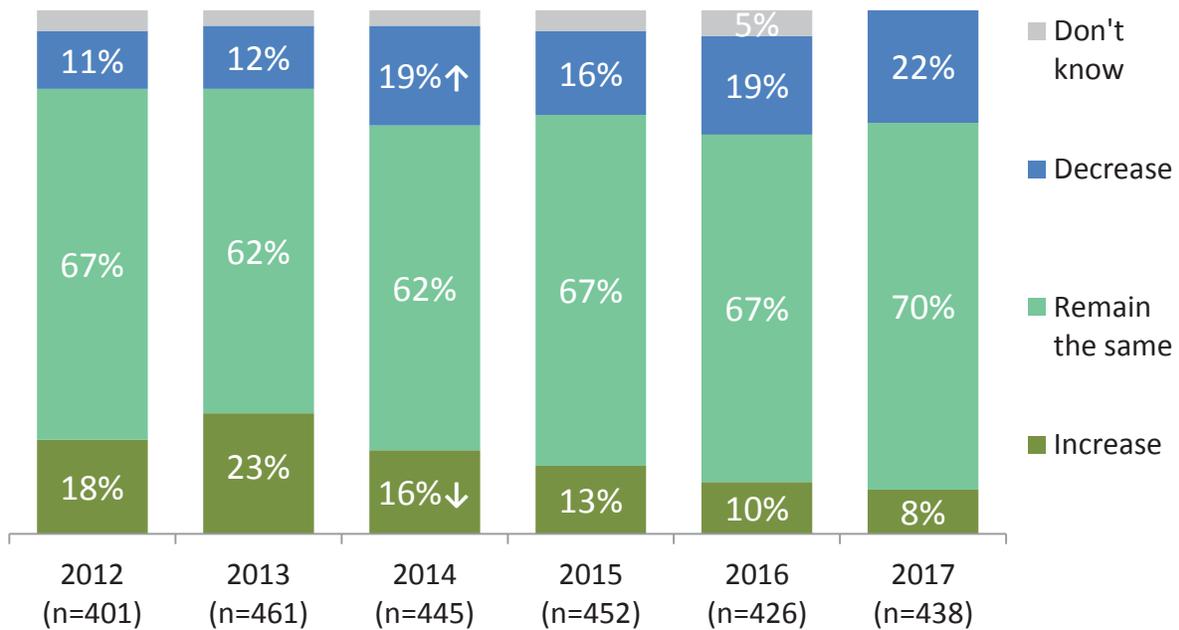
3.3.5



**Community Development (Proposed 6%)**

Community development is tied for having the highest percent of residents suggesting that funding should decrease (22%). This sentiment is similar to 2016, however significantly more feel this way than compared to 2015. 8% of residents feel that funding should increase which is also similar to last year but significantly lower than two years go. The percent who feel that funding should remain the same (70%) has remained consistent over the past 3 years.

**Budget Adjustment for Community Development (Proposed 6%)**



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

- 14%: Those whose preferred tax strategy is to increase taxes to increase or maintain services.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

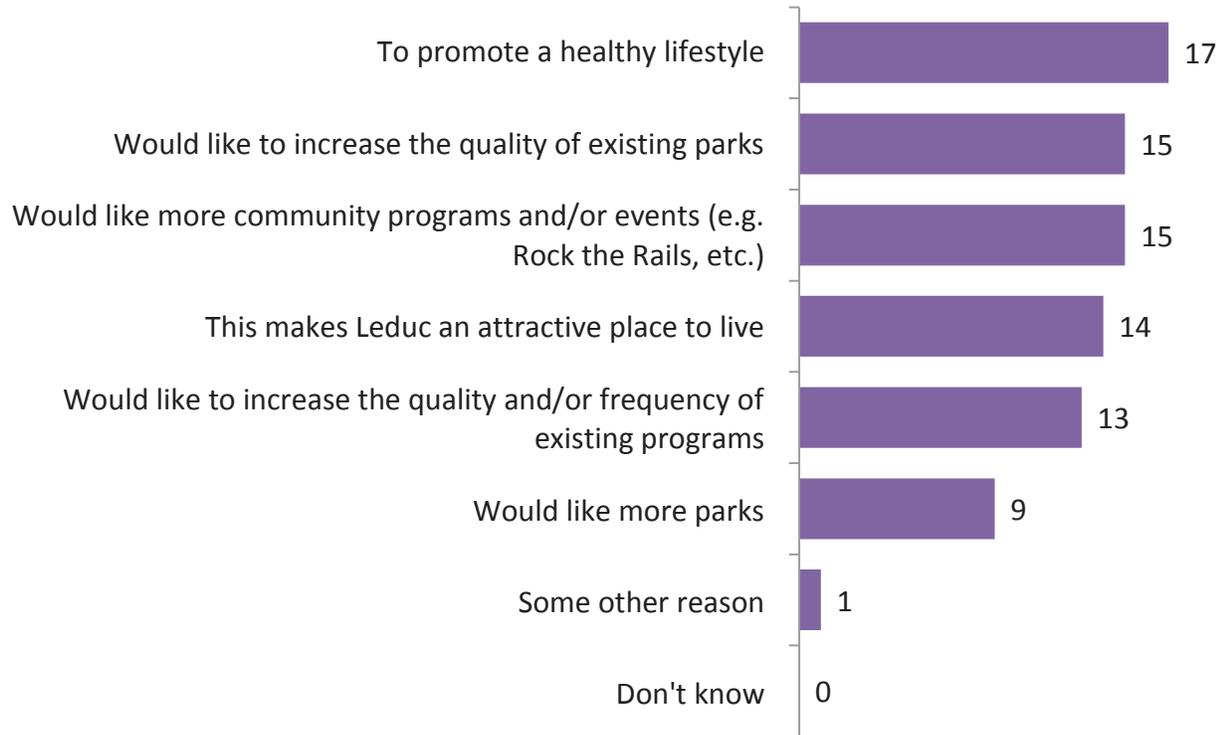
- 84%: Those who oppose a decrease in services levels to maintain taxes.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

- 40%: Those who support a decrease in services levels to maintain taxes; and
- 36%: Those whose preferred tax strategy is to cut services to maintain or lower taxes.

Those few residents who would **increase** spending on *Community Development* mentioned a number of different reasons, with promoting a healthy lifestyle mentioned by the most people (n=17).

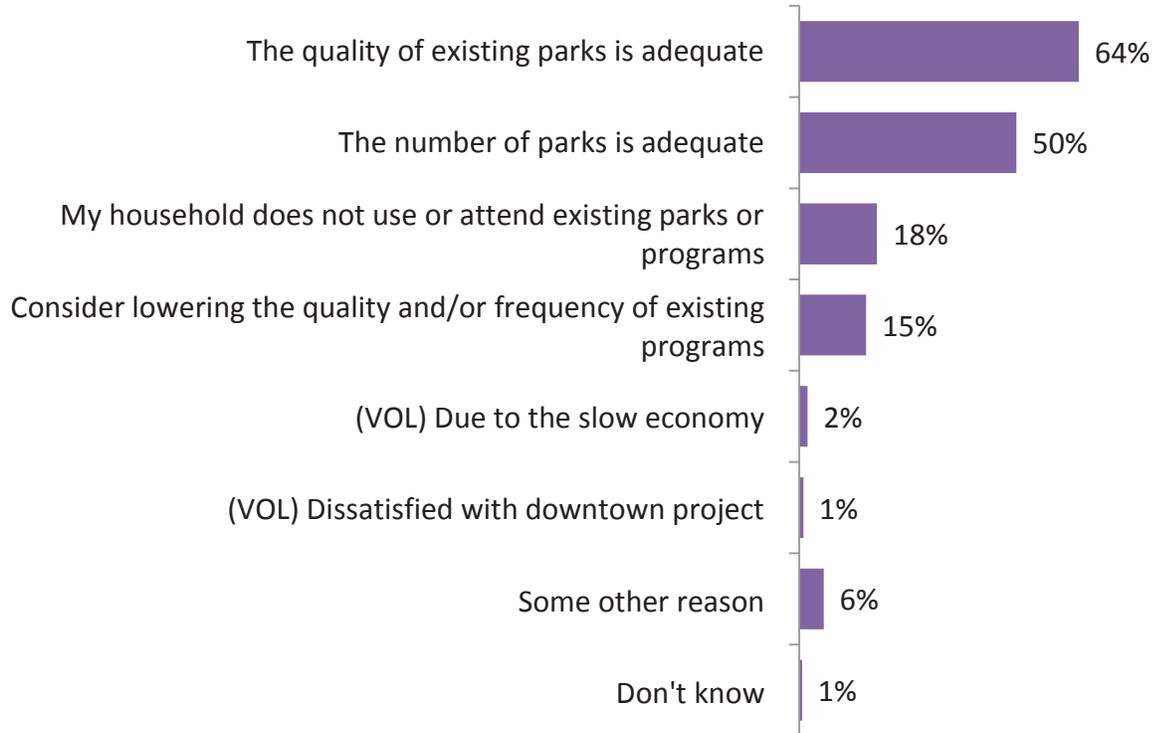
### Reasons to Increase Community Development Spending (Unweighted counts)



n=28. Due to the base being less than n=30, unweighted counts are shown. This is standard statistical practice as small base sizes lead to very large margins of error and should not be used to extrapolate to an entire population. Values may sum to more than 28 as multiple mentions were allowed.

Residents who would **decrease** spending on *Community Development* were mostly split between feeling that the quality (64%) and number (50%) of existing parks is adequate.

### Reasons to Decrease Community Development Spending

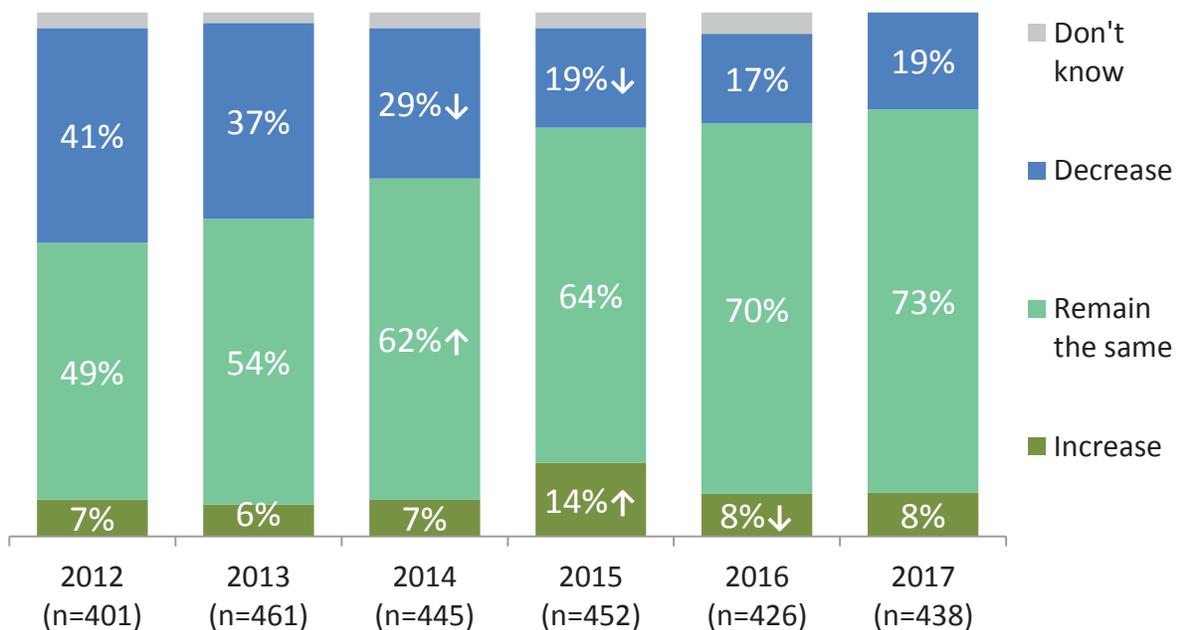


n=101. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.6 Leduc Recreation Centre Operations (Proposed 9%)

With regards to the Leduc Recreation Centre operations, spending priorities are nearly identical to 2016 with 8% wanting budgets to increase, 73% wanting budgets to remain the same, and 19% wanting budgets to decrease. This does suggest that sentiment has stabilized compared to some of the differences seen in the past where a much higher percentage wanted spending to decrease.

**Budget Adjustment for Leduc Recreation Centre Operations** (Proposed 9%)



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

-  13%: Those whose preferred tax strategy is to increase taxes to increase or maintain services.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

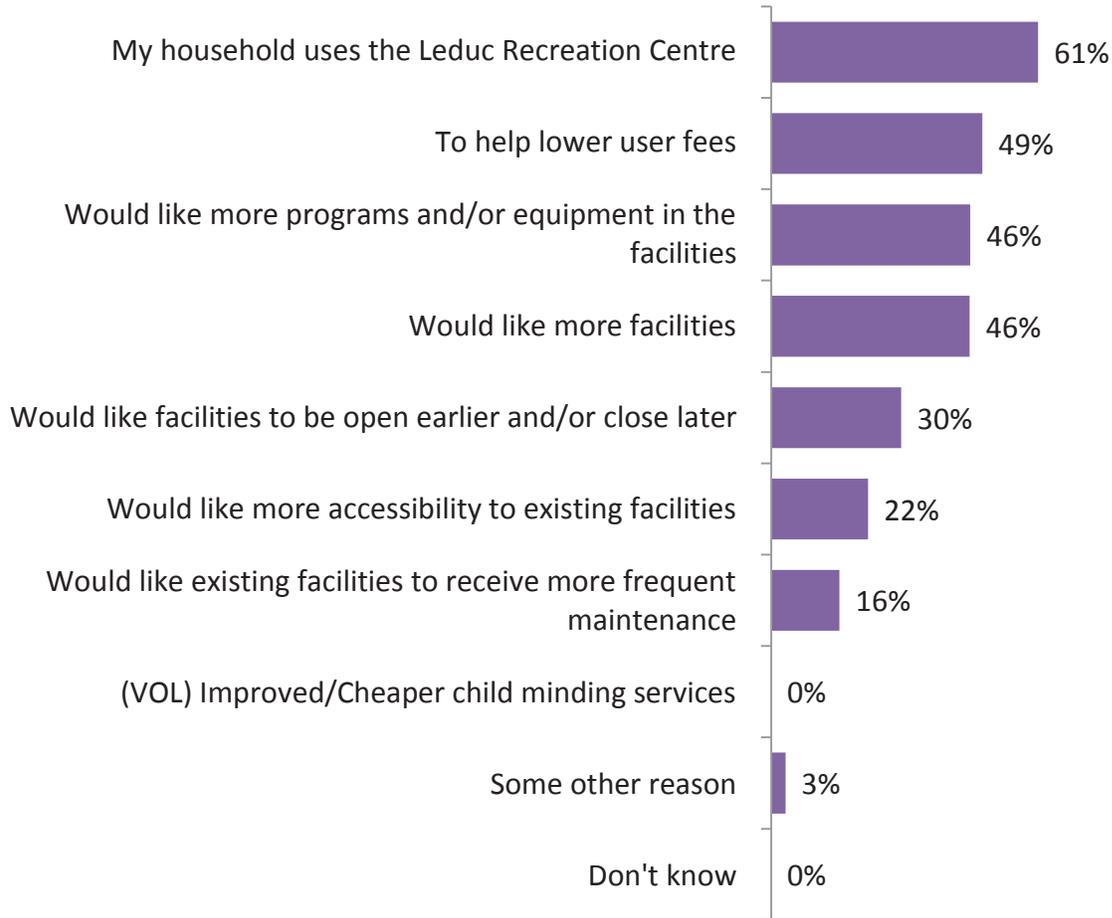
-  79%: Those who feel they receive “good”, “very good” or “excellent” value from their taxes.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  32%: Those whose preferred tax strategy is to cut services to maintain or lower taxes; and
-  31%: Those who support a decrease in services levels to minimize tax increases.

Usage of the Leduc Recreation Centre (61%) is the most mentioned reason that residents who would **increase** spending on *Leduc Recreation Centre Operations* provided. Additionally, nearly half of those who would like increased funding want to help lower user fees (49%), more programs or equipment (46%), or more facilities in general (46%).

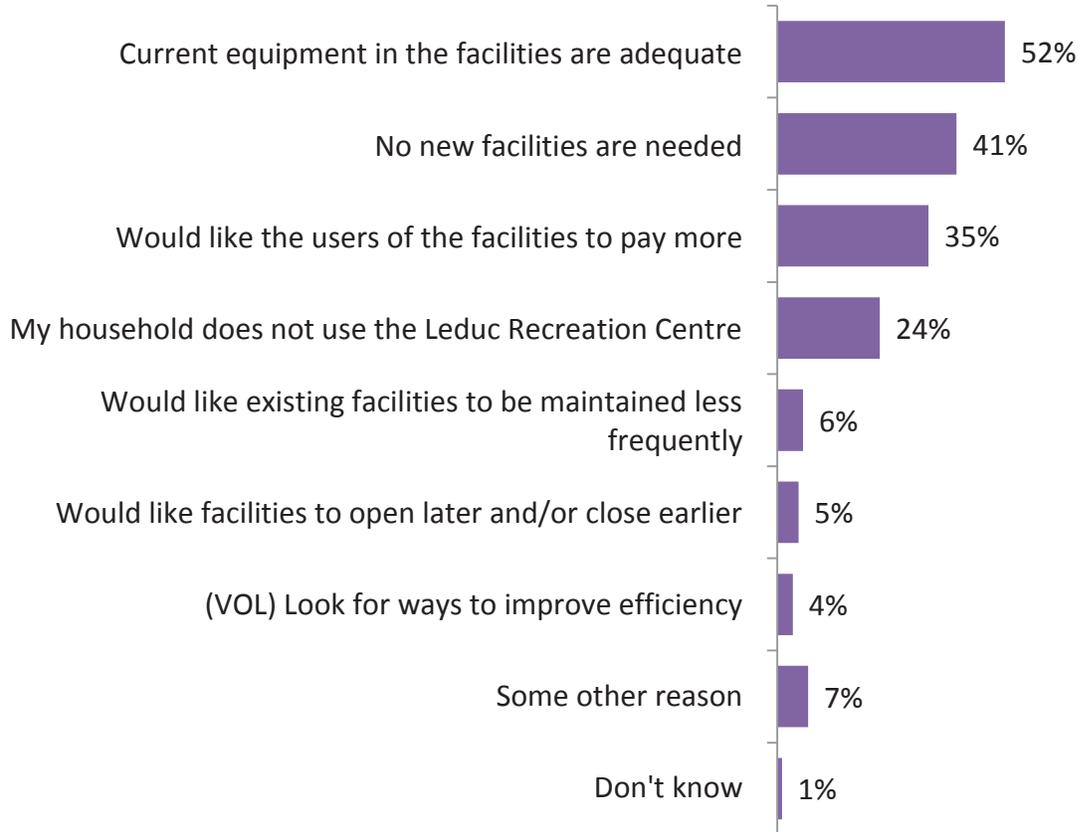
### Reasons to Increase Leduc Recreation Centre Operations Spending



n=38. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

About half (52%) of residents who would **decrease** spending on *Leduc Recreation Centre Operations* feel that the current equipment in the facilities is adequate. 41% mention that no new facilities are needed, and just over a third (35%) would like those who use the Leduc Recreation Centre to pay more.

### Reasons to Decrease Leduc Recreation Centre Operations Spending

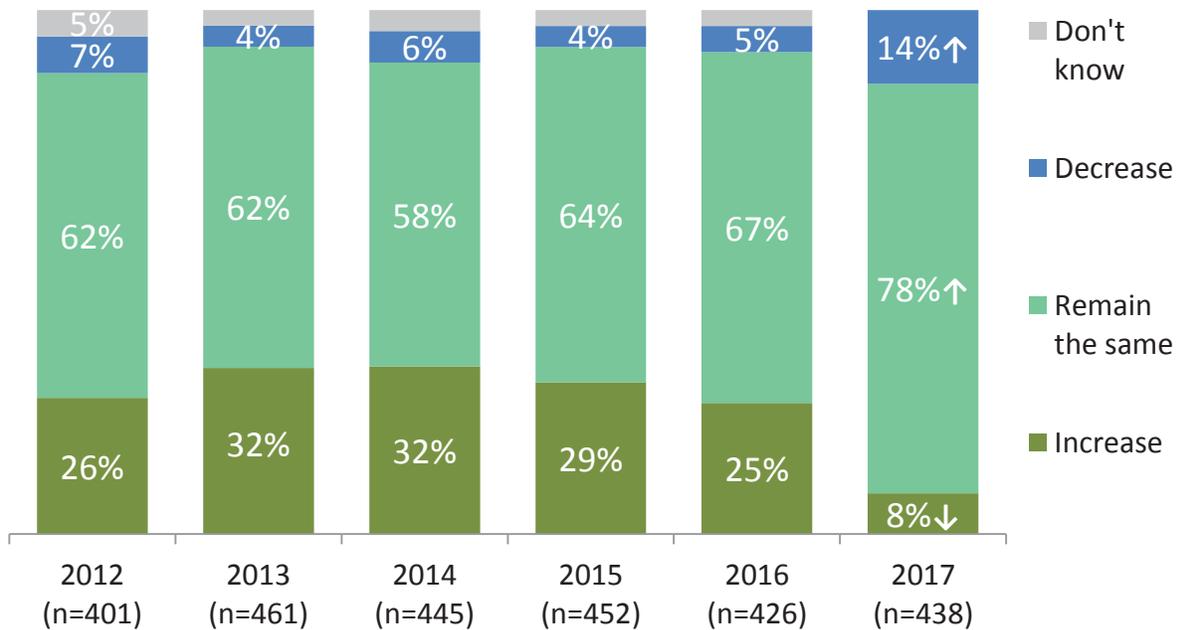


n=84. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.7 Public Services (Proposed 15%)

Resident’s opinions regarding spending on public services has changed quite substantially since 2016 with fewer (8%) wanting spending to increase and more wanting spending to decrease (14%) or remain the same (78%).

**Budget Adjustment for Public Services** (Proposed 15%)



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

-  14%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to maintain or increase services.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

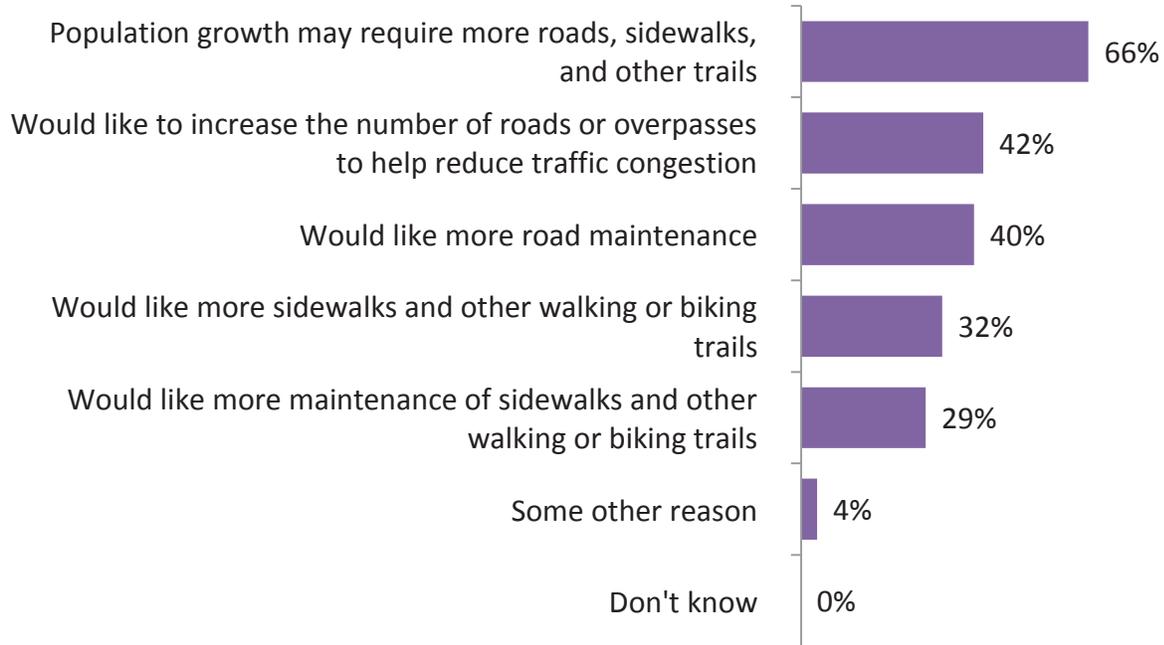
-  87%: Those who are 18 to 34 years old.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  29%: Those who prefer cutting services to maintain or lower taxes; and
-  28%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases.

When it comes to *Public Services*, those who would like an **increase** in funding primarily want more roads, sidewalks, and other trails to keep up with population growth (66%). Many others would like to reduce traffic congestion (42%), or see more road maintenance (40%).

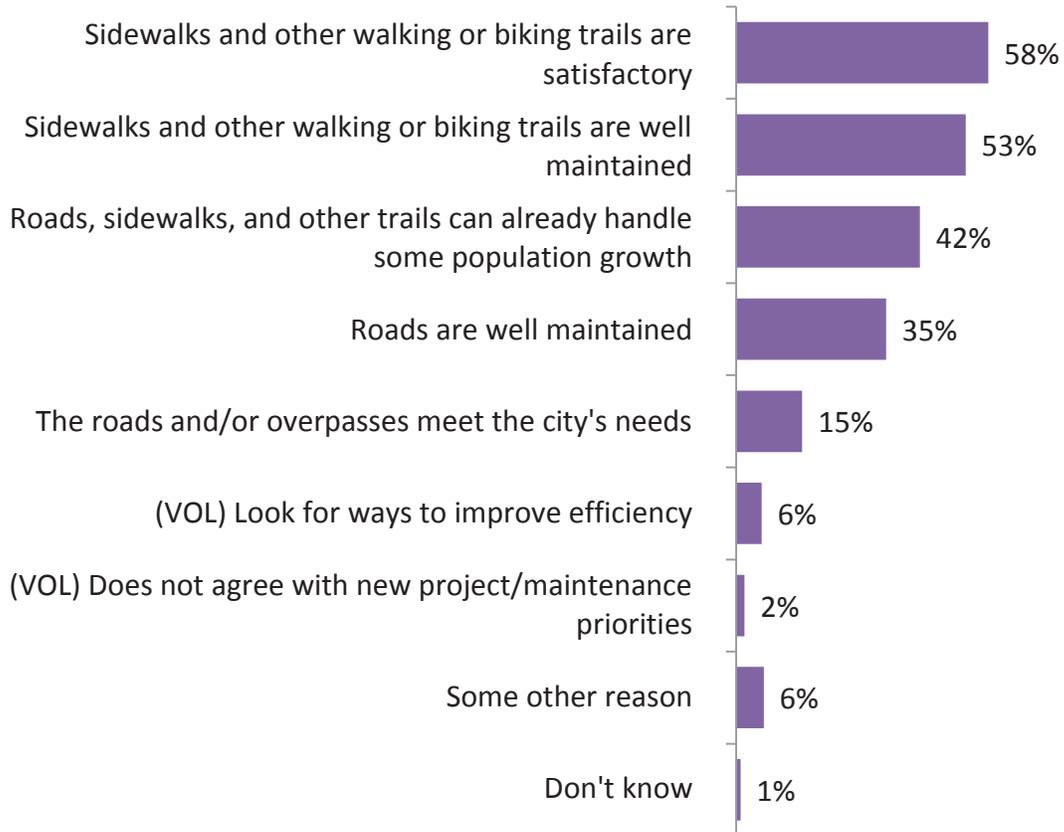
### Reasons to Increase Public Services Spending



n=46. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

In contrast, those residents who suggested a **decrease** in funding for *Public Services* often mentioned that sidewalks and other trails are satisfactory (58%) and well maintained (53%). Additionally 42% feel that roads, sidewalks and other trails can handle some population growth while 35% feel that roads are already well maintained.

### Reasons to Decrease Public Services Spending

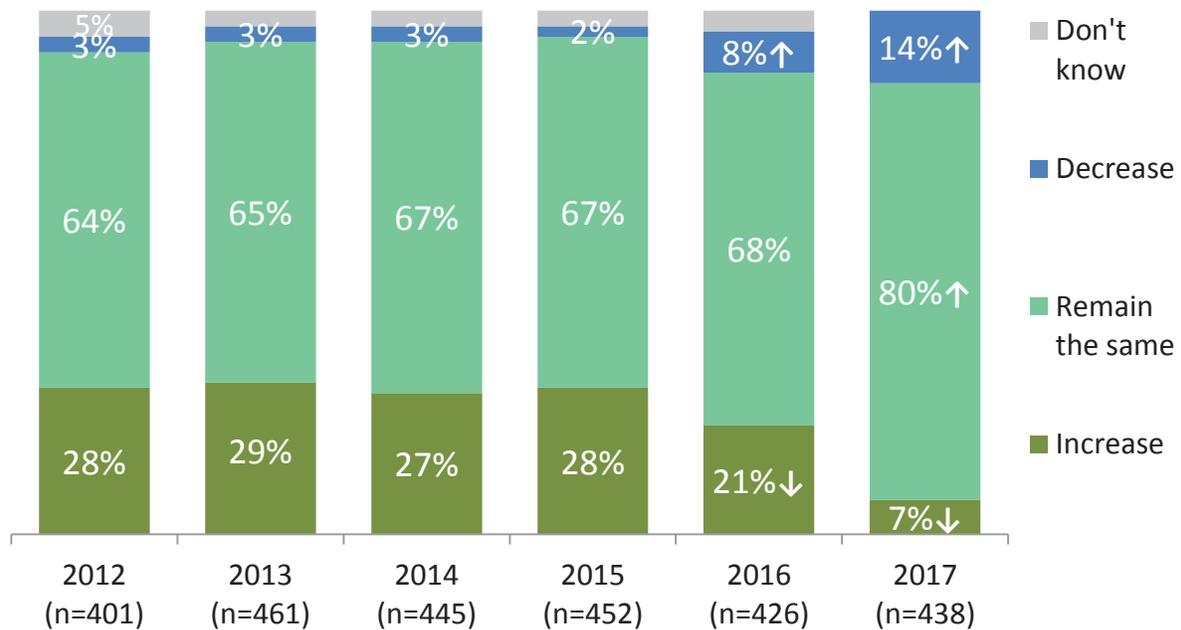


n=63. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.8 \*\*\* Snow Removal (Proposed 6%)

Residents who would like snow removal’s budget to increase (7%) has dropped to a third of what it was last year. As a result, there has been a significant increase in the percent of residents who feel that the budget should stay the same (80%) or decrease (14%).

**Budget Adjustment for Snow Removal** (Proposed 6%)



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding include:

-  11%: Those 35 to 54 years old.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

-  86%: Those who feel that they receive “good”, “very good”, or “excellent” value for their taxes; and
-  86%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  26%: Those who feel that they receive “fair” or “poor” value for their taxes;
-  26%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases; and
-  23%: Those who favour cutting services to maintain or lower taxes.

The most common reasons mentioned by residents who would **increase** funding for *Snow Removal* gave are that they would like residential areas and side streets to be cleared more often (77%), roads cleared and sanded sooner (54%), and they would like Leduc to be more prepared for winter (47%).

### Reasons to Increase Snow Removal Spending



n=32. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Those residents who would like to **decrease** funding for *Snow Removal* were more split in their reasons. 40% feel that residential areas and side streets could be cleared less often, while 31% feel roads should be cleared less frequently during prolonged storms.

### Reasons to Decrease Snow Removal Spending



n=55. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

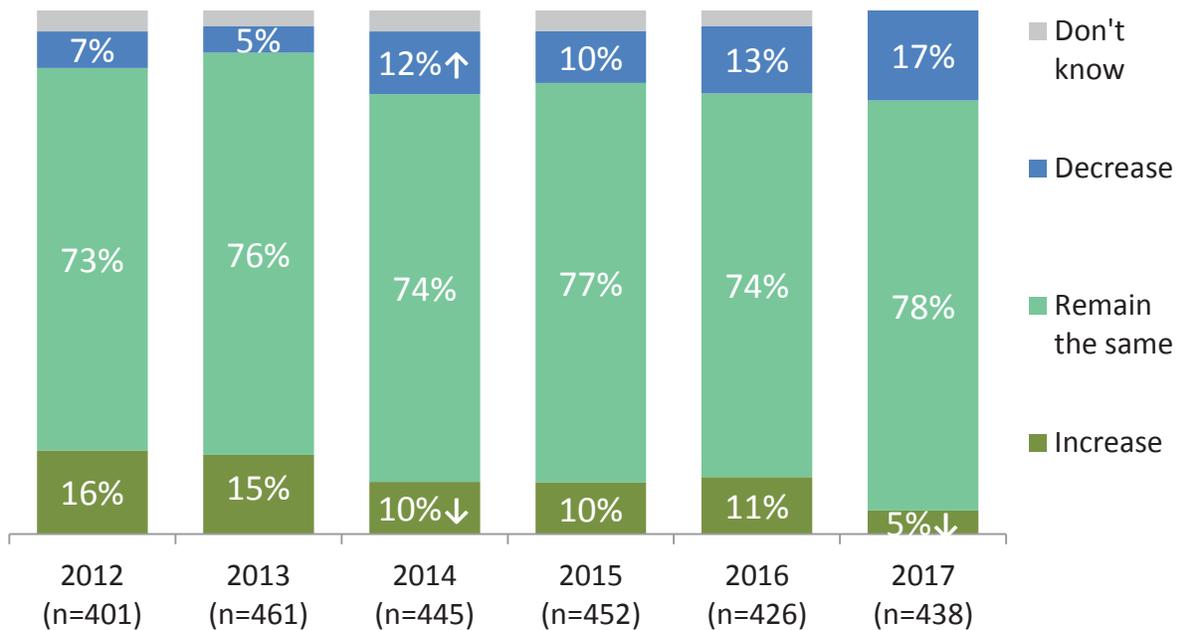
### 3.3.9



### Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance (Proposed 10%)

Unlike the previous three years where the proportion of residents who thought that the budget for parks and athletic field maintenance should increase was very similar to the proportion who thought it should decrease, this year they are quite different. 17% feel that the budget should decrease compared to only 5% who feel that the budget should increase (significantly lower than in 2016). The remaining 78% think that the budget should remain the same.

**Budget Adjustment for Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance (Proposed 10%)**



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

There are no specific subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** funding.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

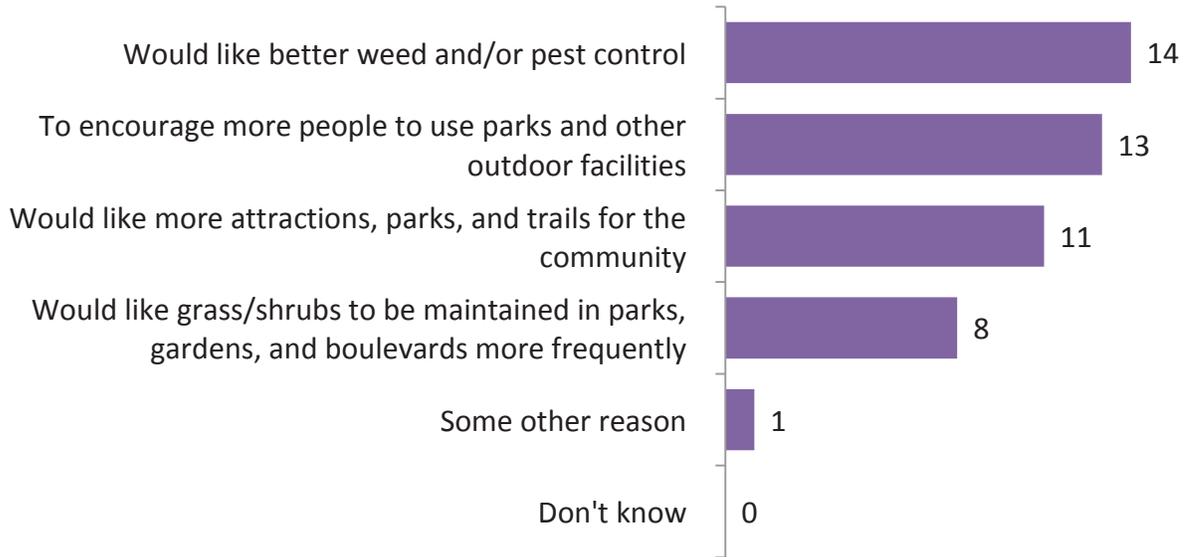
- 92%: Those who neither support nor oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;
- 87%: Those who favour increasing taxes to maintain or increase services; and
- 84%: Those who feel that they receive “good”, “very good”, or “excellent” value for their taxes.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

- 33%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;
- 28%: Those who feel that they receive “fair” or “poor” value for their taxes; and
- 26%: Those who favour cutting services to maintain or lower taxes.

Although very few residents mentioned that they would like to **increase** spending on *Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance*, the most common reasons cited are to improve weed and pest control (n=14) and to encourage more use of parks and other outdoor facilities (n=13).

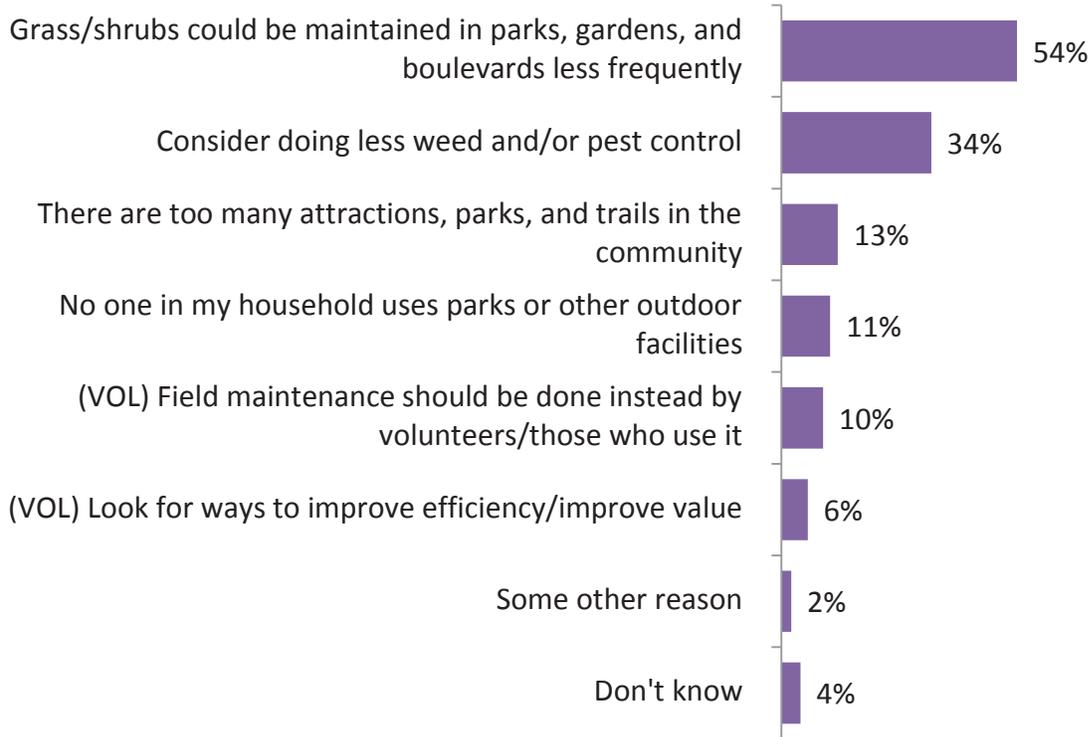
**Reasons to Increase Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance Spending  
(Unweighted counts)**



n=21. Due to the base being less than n=30, unweighted counts are shown. This is standard statistical practice as small base sizes lead to very large margins of error and should not be used to extrapolate to an entire population. Values may sum to more than 21 as multiple mentions were allowed.

Residents who would like a **decrease** in funding for *Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance* were more unified in their reasons with just over half (54%) mentioning that maintenance could be reduced, and a third (34%) would consider less weed and pest control. Additionally, one in ten (10%) provided their own response suggesting that field maintenance should be handled by those who use it or volunteers.

### Reasons to Decrease Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance Spending

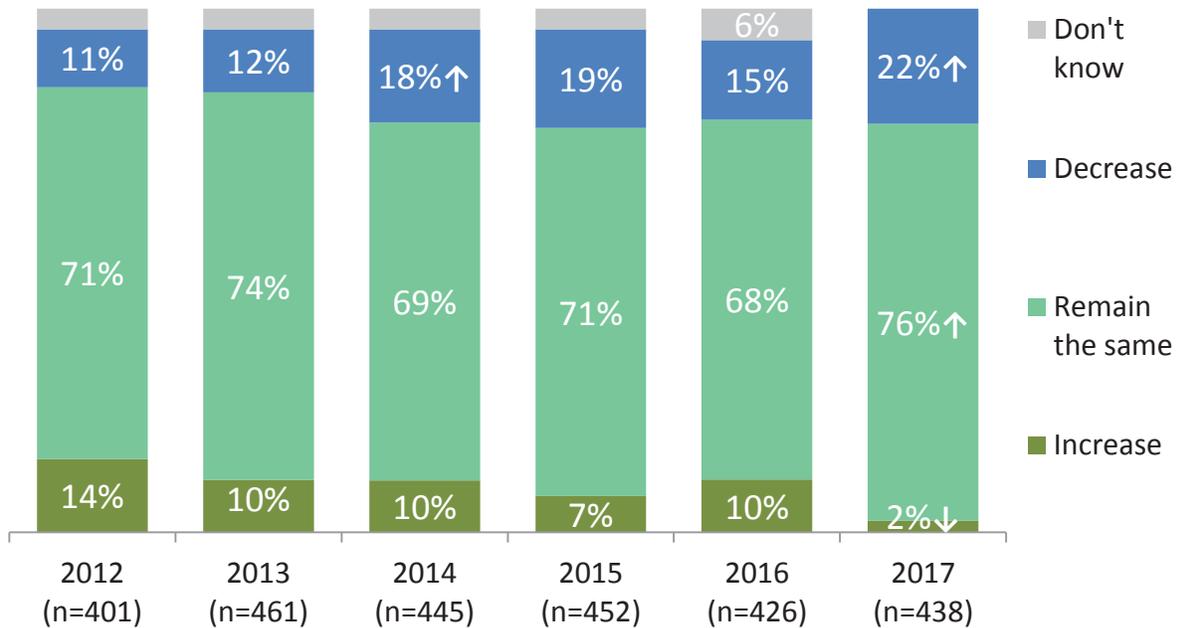


n=77. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

**3.3.10**  **Library Services (Proposed 4%)**

Very few residents feel that the budget for library services should increase (2%), much fewer than last year. In contrast, a record 22% feel that the budget should decrease (higher than in 2016) while the other 76% feel that the budget should remain the same (again, higher than in 2016).

**Budget Adjustment for Library Services (Proposed 4%)**



Values may not add to 100% due to rounding. Bars missing values are less than 5%.

There are no specific subgroups that are significantly more likely to want an **increase** funding.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include:

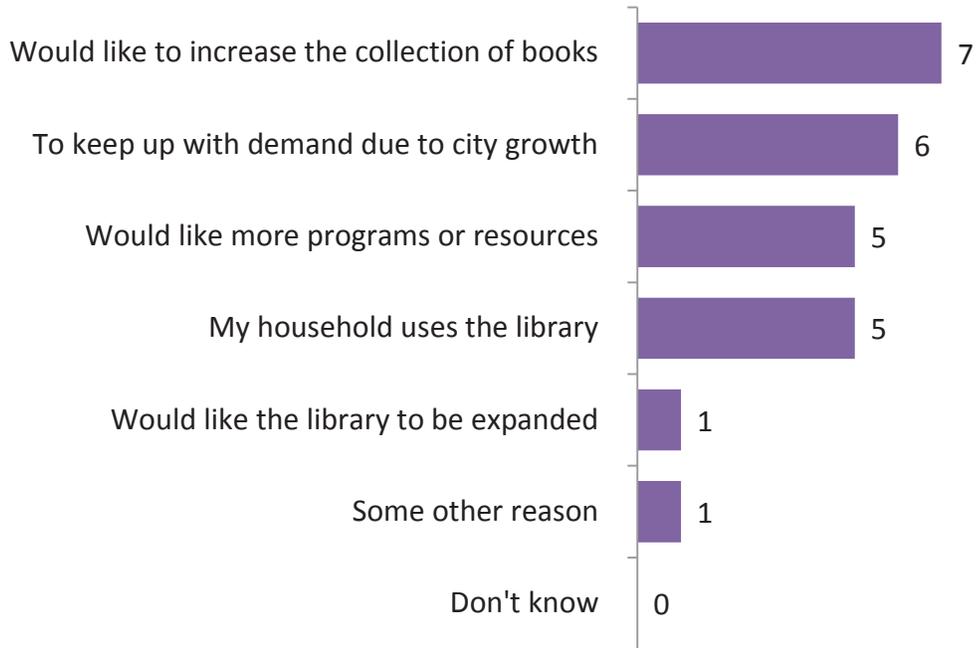
-  89%: Those who neither support nor oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  85%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  83%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  40%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases; and
-  40%: Those who prefer cutting services to maintain or lower taxes.

Only 13 resident suggested an **increase** in spending for *Library Services* with seeing the collection of books expand (n=7) and to keep up with city growth (n=6) being the most common reasons why.

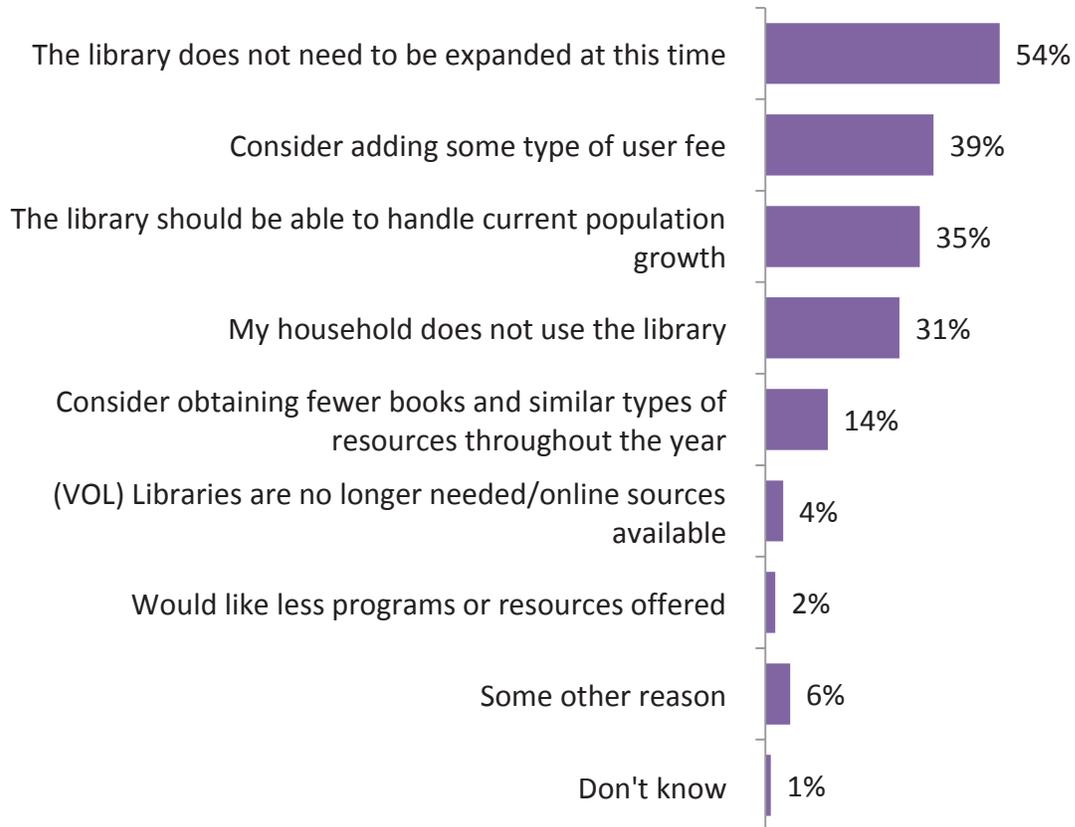
### Reasons to Increase Library Services Spending (Unweighted Counts)



n=13. Due to the base being less than n=30, unweighted counts are shown. This is standard statistical practice as small base sizes lead to very large margins of error and should not be used to extrapolate to an entire population. Values may sum to more than 13 as multiple mentions were allowed.

More than half of those residents who would like *Library Services'* budget to **decrease** mentioned that an expansion is not needed at this time (54%). A further 39% suggested adding a user fee for the library to help with funding.

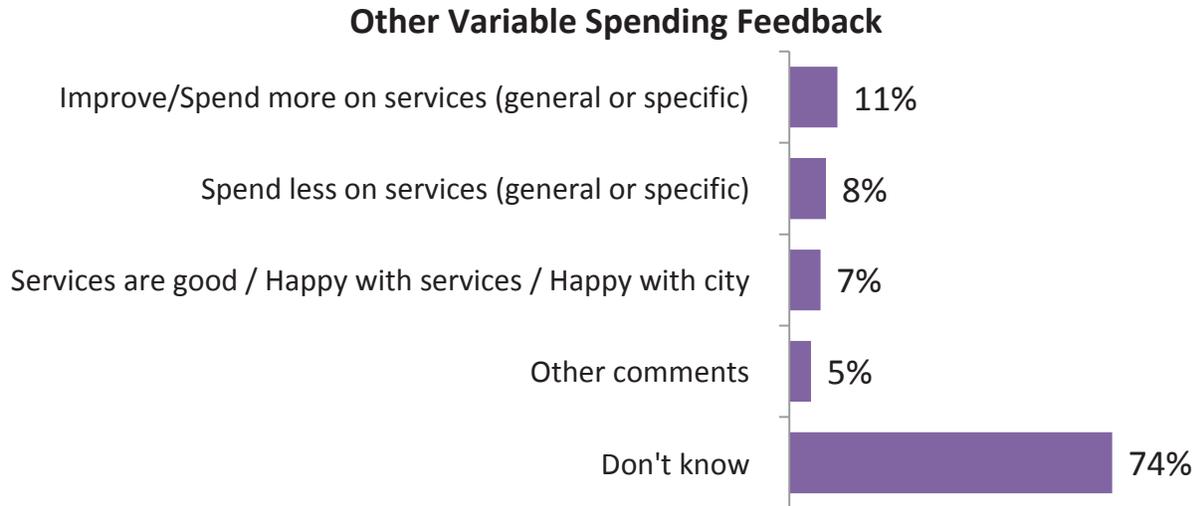
### Reasons to Decrease Library Services Spending



n=105. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.11 Other Variable Spending Feedback

After residents rated their preference for how the city should allocate funds, they were provided with an additional chance to offer any other feedback on spending that may not have already been covered. Given that they had just provided feedback for the ten different services categories, only about a quarter (26%) provided further feedback. 11% reiterated that they would like spending to increase in general or for specific services, compared to only 8% who reiterated that they wanted spending to decrease.

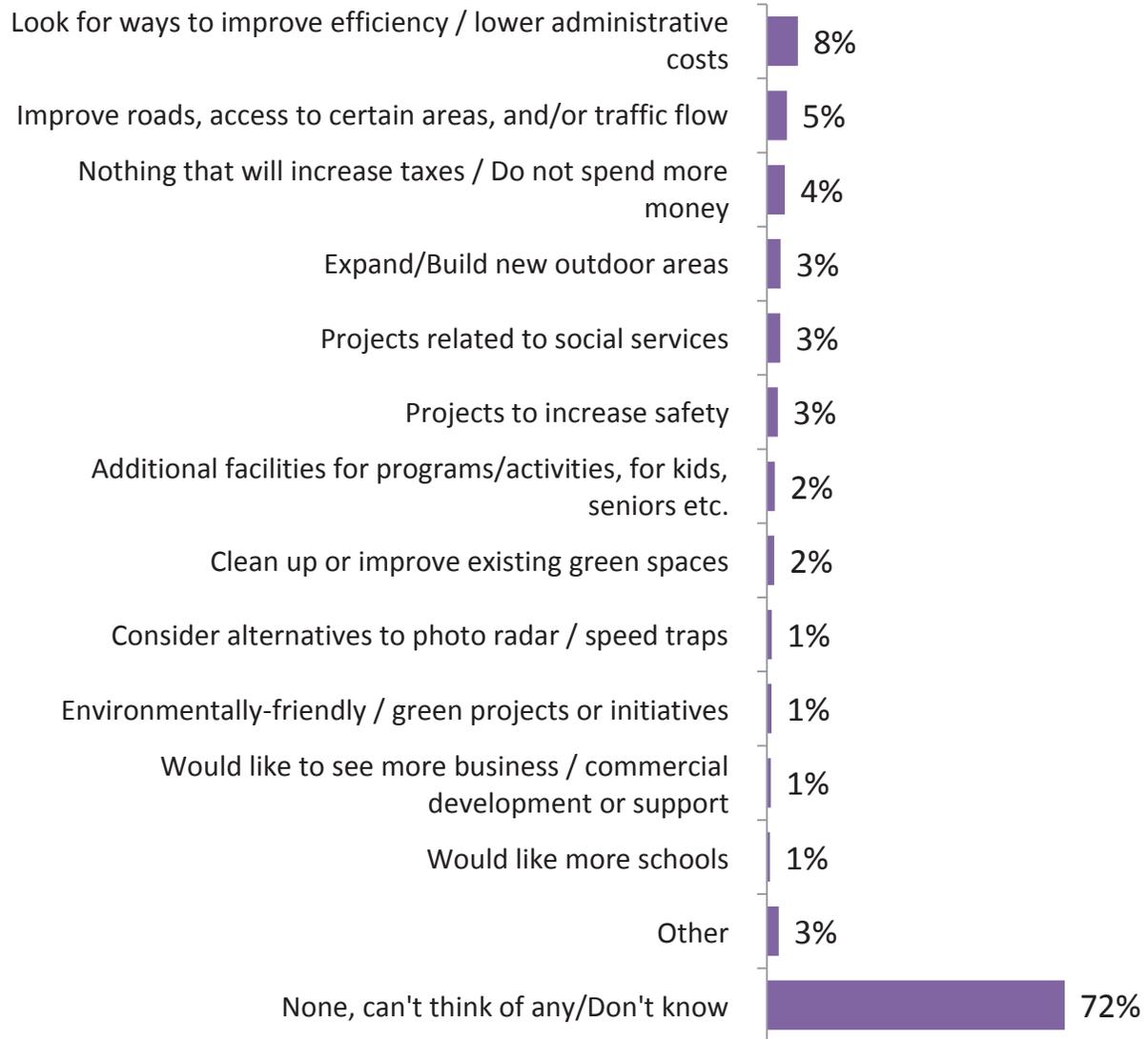


n=438. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.4 Other Projects and Priorities

Residents were provided an opportunity to state other projects or goals for the City to consider. The vast majority (72%) could not think of any other projects or goals, while 8% would like the city to be more efficient, and 5% would like improved roads, access, and traffic flow.

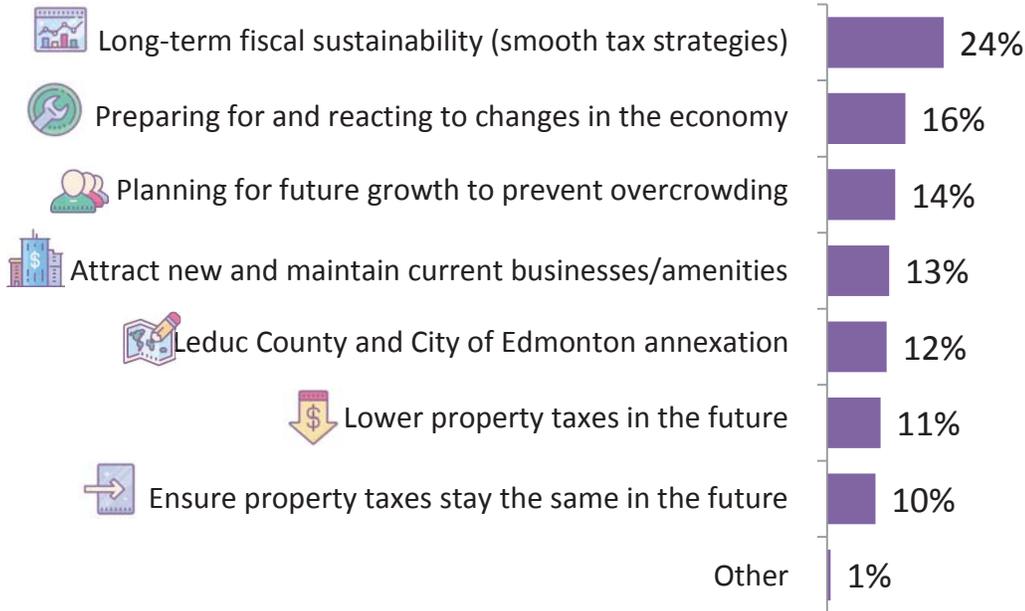
#### Other Projects of Goals to Consider



n=438. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

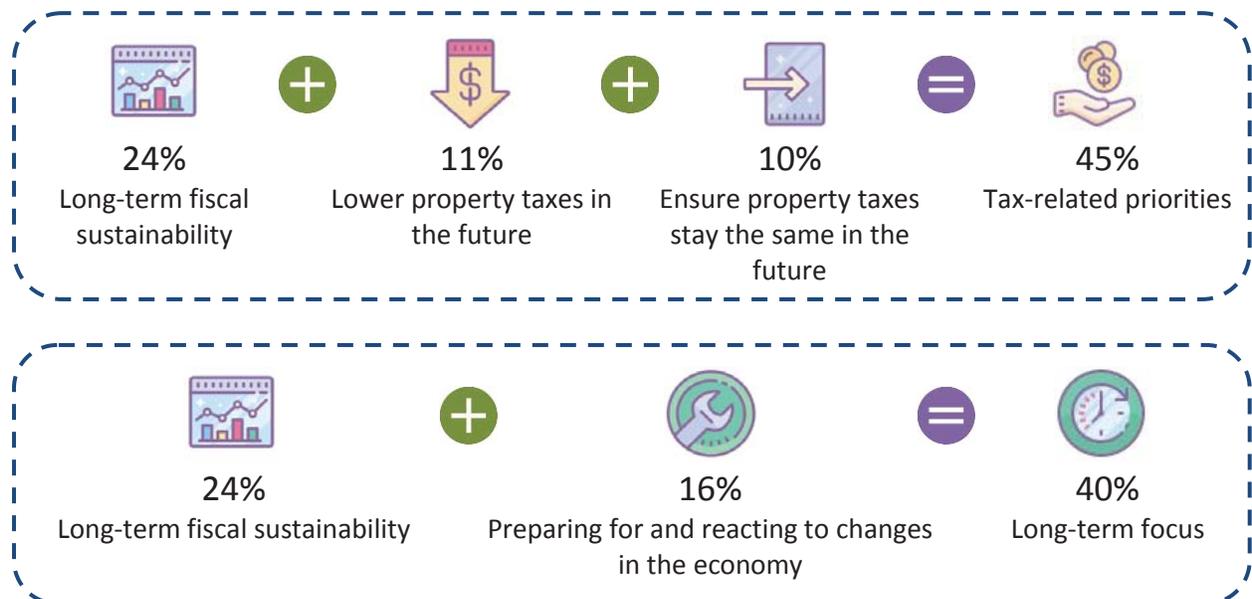
Finally, when asked about the top priority facing the city, nearly a quarter (24%) want smooth tax strategies. A further 16% would like the city to plan for and react to changes in the economy and 14% would like the city to plan for future growth to prevent overcrowding.

### Most Important Priority Facing the City



n=438. Values may not add to 100% due to rounding.

However, by grouping some of the categories, we find that nearly half (45%) of residents would like the City to prioritize the taxation of residents and another 40% would like the City to adopt a long term focus.



## 4 Appendices

### 4.1 Respondent Demographics

	Percent of Residents					
	2017 (n=438)	2016 (n=426)	2015 (n=452)	2014 (n=445)	2013 (n=461)	2012 (n=401)
<b>Age</b>						
18 to 24 years	2%	6%	4%	4%	4%	2%
25 to 34 years	30%	26%	31%	32%	32%	14%
35 to 44 years	18%	18%	18%	18%	18%	21%
45 to 54 years	18%	19%	18%	17%	17%	22%
55 to 64 years	14%	15%	14%	14%	12%	18%
65 years or older	17%	15%	13%	14%	16%	22%
Not stated	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%
<b>Employment Status</b>						
Working full time, including self-employment (more than 30 hours/ week)	49%	53%	63%	59%	64%	54%
Working part time, including self-employment (30 hours per week or less)	14%	15%	8%	11%	10%	12%
On leave (disability, paternity, etc.)	4%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Homemaker	6%	7%	9%	8%	9%	7%
Student	3%	3%	1%	3%	1%	1%
Not employed	3%	6%	3%	4%	3%	2%
Retired	16%	15%	14%	14%	13%	24%
Prefer not to answer	5%	1%	1%	1%	<1%	1%
<b>Household Income</b>						
Under \$20,000	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$20,000 to \$39,999	5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$40,000 to \$59,999	11%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$60,000 to \$79,999	9%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$80,000 to \$99,999	12%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$100,000 to \$124,999	18%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$125,000 to \$149,999	10%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$150,000 or more	14%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Prefer not to answer	19%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Primary Residence</b>						
Own	92%	89%	92%	89%	88%	91%
Rent	7%	11%	7%	9%	11%	7%
Not stated	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%
<b>City of Leduc Employee?</b>						
Yes	5%	3%	4%	5%	7%	4%
No	90%	96%	95%	94%	93%	94%
Not stated	5%	1%	1%	1%	<1%	2%

Children (under 18) in Household?							
Yes	<b>49%</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
No	<b>50%</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Prefer not to answer	<b>1%</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

## 4.2 Data Weighting

The data was weighted to the age characteristics of the residents of Leduc as determined by the 2016 Leduc Census. The following outlines the weighting factors utilized in this research:

Age group	Number of completed surveys	Proportion of completed surveys	Census proportions*	Weight factor
<b>18 to 34</b>	31	7%	32%	4.46
<b>35 to 54</b>	173	39%	36%	0.91
<b>55 to 64</b>	109	25%	14%	0.57
<b>65 or older</b>	120	27%	17%	0.62
<b>Unknown/Refused*</b>	5	1%	1%	1.00

\* Residents were allowed to refuse to answer their age as long as they confirmed that they are over 18 years old. These cases are left unweighted (i.e. with a weight of 1) and the census proportions for this group are scaled to match accordingly.

## 4.3 Survey

What follows is the paper version of the survey. The online version of the survey was slightly different as completing surveys online allows for:

- Question randomization (the order of the B questions were randomized);
- Level randomization (the order of some lists were randomized);
- Response ordering (for example, some residents saw “Strongly oppose” first and others saw “Strongly support” first in Q2);
- Conditional text (for example, online Q1b asks why they feel they receive <Q1a value>); and
- Popup text (the ability to provide additional information in the form of a popup only to those who want it).



## Intro1

Have your say in your city's budget planning process! The City of Leduc is committed to gathering input from citizens regarding the planning for the future of the City, as demonstrated through the Citizen Satisfaction Survey and Community Visioning Workshops. In 2017, the City is seeking input from citizens to assist in the 2018 budget planning process through this survey.

The budget is a plan for tomorrow's Leduc and this is your chance to share your thoughts with City Council and Administration to help guide the 2018 budget. Doing so makes you eligible to **enter a draw to win a Leduc Recreation Centre Family Flex Pass (10 admissions)**.

We want to hear from you! You can complete this paper survey or you can complete the survey online using this link:

<http://surveys.advanis.ca/leduc2018budget>

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To ensure your confidentiality, the third-party vendor Advanis Inc. has been hired to ensure only aggregated results are shared. There will be no way for anyone to tie the responses you provide back to you.

Advanis' Privacy Policy can be found here: [http://www.advanis.ca/privacy\\_policy2.html](http://www.advanis.ca/privacy_policy2.html)

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## Intro2

Please read each question and statement carefully. For each question, please select the response(s) that best represents your point of view.

Please respond before **May 31, 2017**.

To begin, how old are you?

*(Select one)*

- 15 or younger
- 16 or 17
- 18 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 or older

## D1

Do you live **within the city limits** of Leduc?

*(Select one)*

- Yes
- No

**D1a**

Do you own or rent your primary residence in the City of Leduc?

(Select one)

- Own
- Rent
- Not applicable

**Q0**

A portion of property tax is collected on behalf of the Province of Alberta to pay for education.

To the best of your knowledge, what percent of property tax is collected on behalf of the Province of Alberta to pay **for education**?

\_\_\_\_\_ %

- Don't know

**Q1a**

In fact, of property tax collected in 2017:

- **27%** is collected *on behalf of the province* to pay for **education**.
- **73%** goes to the *City of Leduc* to fund **city services**.



Thinking about the **73%** used to fund **city services**, would you say you receive...?

(Select one)

- Excellent value
- Very good value
- Good value
- Fair value
- Poor value
- Don't know

**Q1b/Q1c**

What is the **main reason** you feel that way?

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**Q2**

The City of Leduc is sensitive to the economic climate and residents’ desire to keep tax increases to a minimum. In order to do this, the city may need to consider reducing current service levels.

Would you oppose or support a **decrease in service levels** to minimize tax increases in 2018?  
(Select one)

- Strongly oppose** a decrease in service levels
- Somewhat oppose** a decrease in service levels
- Neither oppose nor support** a decrease in service levels
- Somewhat support** a decrease in service levels
- Strongly support** a decrease in service levels
- Don't know

**Q2a**

Why do you feel this way?

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**Q3**

Next, thinking about the City of Leduc infrastructure (public buildings, road, etc.) and services overall, which of the following tax strategies **best represents** your preference?

(Select one)

- Increase taxes to fund growth needs, infrastructure maintenance and improve services
- Increase taxes to maintain all existing infrastructure and services
- Cut existing services to maintain current taxes
- Cut existing services to reduce taxes
- Don't know

**BIntro**

The City of Leduc budget includes two spending categories:

**Fixed Spending (57%)** includes items that are necessary to govern, operate and maintain the City of Leduc and do not vary based on the level of service provided:

- Mayor and City Council
- Corporate and Legislative Services
- Engineering Services
- Planning Services
- Facility Services
- Debt Repayment
- Capital Transfer

**Variable Spending (43%)** includes categories where spending can be increased or decreased depending on the level of service provided.

**City of Leduc 2018 Variable Budget**

*Proposed Net Spending by Program*



Have your say in your city's budget planning process!

**BInstruction**

The next section wishes to understand your opinions on how **City of Leduc** spending should be altered (if at all). For each service, please specify if you think spending should increase, stay the same, or decrease in 2018. If you select increase or decrease, please let us know **all** the reasons you feel the way you do.

**B1a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Police Protection & Enforcement Services** (proposed 21%)? This includes RCMP contract and detachment administrative support, community safety, animal control and other bylaw enforcement.

*(Select one)*

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

*Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:*

**B1b**

Why would you increase spending on **Police Protection & Enforcement Services**?

*(Please select all that apply)*

- Would like to keep crime down
- To keep up with population growth
- Would like more police presence
- Would like more traffic/speeding enforcement
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

*Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:*

**B1c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Police Protection & Enforcement Services**?

*(Please select all that apply)*

- I feel safe in the City of Leduc
- Current enforcement levels could handle population growth
- Police presence should be adequate
- Consider less focus on traffic and speeding enforcement
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B2a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Fire and Ambulance Services** (proposed 20%)? This includes Fire and Ambulance response, rescue and patient treatment services, community prevention and inspection services and emergency preparedness.

**Note:** *Ambulance services are contracted services provided by the City of Leduc on behalf of the Province of Alberta and cannot be reduced.*

*(Select one)*

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same

Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:

**B2b**

Why would you increase spending on **Fire and Ambulance Services**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Would like additional funding due to population growth
- Would like to ensure the quickest fire and/or ambulance response times
- This is an essential service to the community
- For the safety of residents
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B3a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Public Services** (proposed 15%)? This includes maintenance of roadways, sidewalks, multi-ways, bridges, overpasses, traffic controls, including: pot hole patching, crack sealing, grading, guard repair, cleaning, dust control, and pavement marking.

(Select one)

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:

**B3b**

Why would you increase spending on **Public Services**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Population growth may require more roads, sidewalks, and other trails
- Would like more maintenance of sidewalks and other walking or biking trails
- Would like more sidewalks and other walking or biking trails
- Would like more road maintenance
- Would like to increase the number of roads or overpasses to help reduce traffic congestion
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:

**B3c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Public Services**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Roads, sidewalks, and other trails can already handle some population growth
- Sidewalks and other walking or biking trails are well maintained
- Sidewalks and other walking or biking trails are satisfactory
- Roads are well maintained
- The roads and/or overpasses meet the city's needs
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B4a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance** (proposed 10%)? This includes maintenance, grass cutting, cleaning and repairs to cemetery, sports fields, tennis courts, outdoor ice rinks, skateboard parks, lakes and storm ponds, garden plots and playgrounds, parks landscaping and pest control.

*(Select one)*

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

*Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:*

**B4b**

Why would you increase spending on **Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance**?

*(Please select all that apply)*

- Would like grass/shrubs to be maintained in parks, gardens, and boulevards more frequently
- Would like better weed and/or pest control (e.g., mosquitoes)
- Would like more attractions, parks, and trails for the community
- To encourage more people to use parks and other outdoor facilities
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

*Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:*

**B4c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance**?

*(Please select all that apply)*

- Grass/shrubs could be maintained in parks, gardens, and boulevards less frequently
- Consider doing less weed and/or pest control (e.g., mosquitoes)
- There are too many attractions, parks, and trails in the community
- No one in my household uses parks or other outdoor facilities
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B5a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Leduc Recreation Centre Operations** (proposed 9%)? This includes Leduc Recreation facility maintenance and operations, sports & tourism, guest services, fitness centre and track, pool services, ice skating, field house and programmed services (i.e. child minding).

*(Select one)*

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:

**B5b**

Why would you increase spending on **Leduc Recreation Centre Operations**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Would like more accessibility to existing facilities
- Would like more facilities
- Would like existing facilities to receive more frequent maintenance
- Would like more programs and/or equipment in the facilities
- Would like facilities to be open earlier and/or close later
- To help lower user fees
- My household uses the Leduc Recreation Centre
- Would like to more accessibility to existing facilities
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:

**B5c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Leduc Recreation Centre Operations**?

(Please select all that apply)

- No new facilities are needed
- Would like existing facilities to be maintained less frequently
- Current equipment in the facilities are adequate
- Would like facilities to open later and/or close earlier
- Would like the users of the facilities to pay more
- My household does not use the Leduc Recreation Centre
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B6a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Snow Removal** (proposed 6%)? This includes street, parking lot and alleyway sanding, snow plowing and snow removal.

(Select one)

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:

**B6b**

Why would you increase spending on **Snow Removal**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Would like Leduc to be more prepared for winters
- Consider clearing and sanding roads sooner or more often
- Would like more or better snow clearing equipment
- Would like residential areas and side streets to be cleared more often
- Public sidewalks and trails should be cleared sooner
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:

**B6c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Snow Removal**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Consider clearing roads less frequently during prolonged storms
- Consider waiting longer before clearing and sanding roads
- Consider replacing and/or maintaining snow removal equipment less frequently
- Residential areas and side streets could be cleared less often
- Consider waiting longer to clear public sidewalks and trails
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B7a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Community Development** (proposed 6%)? This includes parks (e.g. spray parks, playgrounds, off-leash areas, etc.), recreation and culture planning and development including building playgrounds, Communities in Bloom, Healthy Hearts, and Canada Day programs.

(Select one)

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:

**B7b**

Why would you increase spending on **Community Development**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Would like more parks
- Would like to increase the quality of existing parks
- Would like more community programs and/or events (e.g. Rock the Rails, etc.)
- Would like to increase the quality and/or frequency of existing programs
- To promote a healthy lifestyle
- This makes Leduc an attractive place to live
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:

**B7c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Community Development**?

(Please select all that apply)

- The number of parks is adequate
- The quality of existing parks is adequate
- Consider lowering the quality and/or frequency of existing programs
- My household does not use or attend existing parks or programs
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B8a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Public Transportation** (proposed 5%)? Leduc Transit provides Leduc Assisted Transportation Service (LATS) to seniors (65+) and persons with disabilities within the City of Leduc. Leduc Transit also provides a separate inter-municipal transit service, in partnership with Leduc County, offering service that connects the Leduc and Nisku areas and also stops at the Edmonton International Airport and the Century Park LRT station in south Edmonton.

*(Select one)*

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

*Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:*

**B8b**

Why would you increase spending on **Public Transportation**?

*(Please select all that apply)*

- Would like more busses, more routes, and/or frequency of service
- Would like newer busses or added features to existing buses
- Would like to make public transit more affordable
- To encourage more people to use public transit
- Consider starting bus service sooner and/or ending service later
- My household uses public transportation
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

*Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:*

**B8c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Public Transportation**?

*(Please select all that apply)*

- Current service schedules should be adequate
- Existing buses should be adequate
- Consider charging riders more for this service
- My household does not use public transit
- Consider starting bus service later and/or ending service sooner
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B9a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Library Services** (proposed 4%)? This includes provision of children, teen and adult literary programs, exam proctoring, e-resources, e-books, internet access, audio books, DVD's, CD's, outreach services and access to resources from over 150 Alberta libraries.

*(Select one)*

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:

**B9b**

Why would you increase spending on **Library Services**?

(Please select all that apply)

- To keep up with demand due to city growth
- Would like the library to be expanded
- Would like more programs or resources
- Would like to increase the collection of books
- My household uses the library
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:

**B9c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Library Services**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Consider adding some type of user fee
- The library should be able to handle current population growth
- The library does not need to be expanded at this time
- Would like less programs or resources offered
- Consider obtaining fewer books and similar types of resources throughout the year
- My household does not use the library
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**B10a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2018 for **Family and Community Support Services** (proposed 4%)? This includes family counseling and support, prevention and education regarding social issues, meals on wheels program, senior support, and homemaking services.

(Select one)

- Increase spending (may increase taxes)
- Spending should remain the same
- Decrease spending (may decrease taxes)

Answer this question if you would **increase** spending:

**B10b**

Why would you increase spending on **Family and Community Support Services**?

(Please select all that apply)

- To keep up with population growth
- To help provide affordable support services
- Would like more or different types of services available
- Would like better quality of existing services
- I support this service
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

Answer this question if you would **decrease** spending:

**B10c**

Why would you decrease spending on **Family and Community Support Services**?

(Please select all that apply)

- Existing services could handle population growth
- Would like more funding from other levels of government
- I don't know what this service offers
- Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know

**Q4**

Thank you for your input on the City of Leduc's variable spending budget. Is there any additional feedback you would like to provide regarding your choices?

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**Q5**

What other projects or goals (if any) should the City be thinking of when planning the budget for 2018 and beyond? These may result in a tax increase.

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**Q6**

Finally, with respect to the budget process, which of the following would you say is the **most important priority** facing the City?

(Select one)

- Leduc County and City of Edmonton Annexation
- Focusing on long-term fiscal sustainability (smooth tax strategies)
- Planning for future growth to prevent overcrowding
- Attract new and maintain current businesses and amenities
- Finding ways to lower property taxes in the future
- Finding ways to ensure property taxes stay the same in the future
- Preparing for and reacting to changes in the economy
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**DTxt**

In order for the City to better understand the different views and needs of citizens, this final set of questions will allow us to analyze the data by sub-groups. Please be assured that nothing will be recorded to link your answers with you or your household.

**D2**

Are there any children under the age of 18 in your household?

(Select one)

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

**D6**

Which of the following categories applies to your total household income before taxes in 2016?

*(Select one)*

- Under \$20,000
- \$20,000 to \$39,999
- \$40,000 to \$59,999
- \$60,000 to \$79,999
- \$80,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$124,999
- \$125,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more
- Prefer not to answer

**D3**

Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

*(Select one)*

- Working full time, including self-employment (more than 30 hours per week)
- Working part time, including self-employment (30 hours per week or less)
- On leave (disability, paternity, etc.)
- Homemaker
- Student
- Not employed
- Retired
- Prefer not to answer

*Answer this question if you are employed:*

**D5a**

And, do you work for the City of Leduc?

*(Select one)*

- Yes
- No

*Answer this question if you are on leave (disability, paternity, etc.):*

**D5b**

Immediately prior to the start of your leave, did you work for the City of Leduc?

*(Select one)*

- Yes
- No

**I0**

Thank you for completing the survey! You now have the option to enter a randomly selected prize draw for people who have taken part in the survey. The prize is a **Leduc Recreation Centre Family Flex Pass (10 admissions)**. This prize would allow you and your family (includes 2 adults and all children) to visit the Leduc Recreation Centre for 10 admissions.

Do you wish to be entered into this draw? Your contact information will only be used for the purposes of the draw and will not be tied to your survey responses.

*(Select one)*

- Yes, I allow Advanis to provide the City of Leduc with my contact information should I be the winner of this draw
- No, remove me from the draw

**I1**

If you wish to participate in the draw, please provide your contact details below so that we may contact you should you be the winner of the draw. Personal information will remain confidential and **only** be used to contact the individual who has won the draw. Personal information provided as part of the City of Leduc Budget Survey contest is collected under the authority of section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_



**End**

Thank you very much for your participation in this important study, your time and feedback are greatly appreciated by the City of Leduc!

Please note that the results of this survey will be shared with City Council during the budget planning process for 2018. Should you have any additional questions, please contact:

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