



**2022 Budget Planning Survey**  
**General Population Survey Results**

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*Results weighted to ensure statistical  
validity to the Leduc Population*

**Conducted by:**



**ADVANIS**











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June 11, 2021

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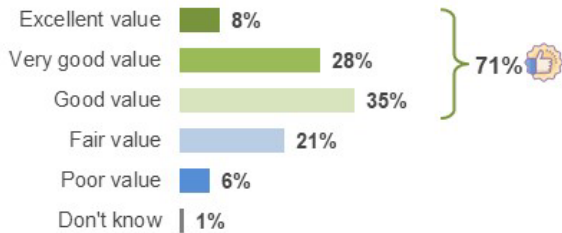
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# 1 Budget Planning Survey Highlights

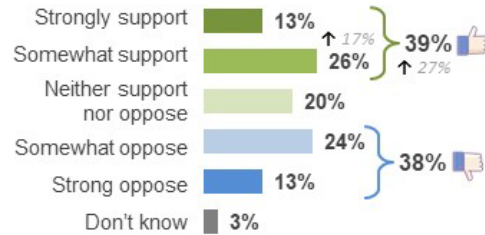
## 2022 Budget Planning Survey Highlights

Survey of **485** adult Leduc residents contacted by phone, May 3<sup>rd</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, and completed the survey. Results are weighted by age.

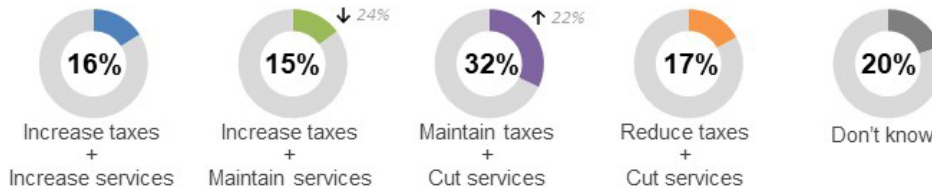
### City Service Value for Taxes (no changes)



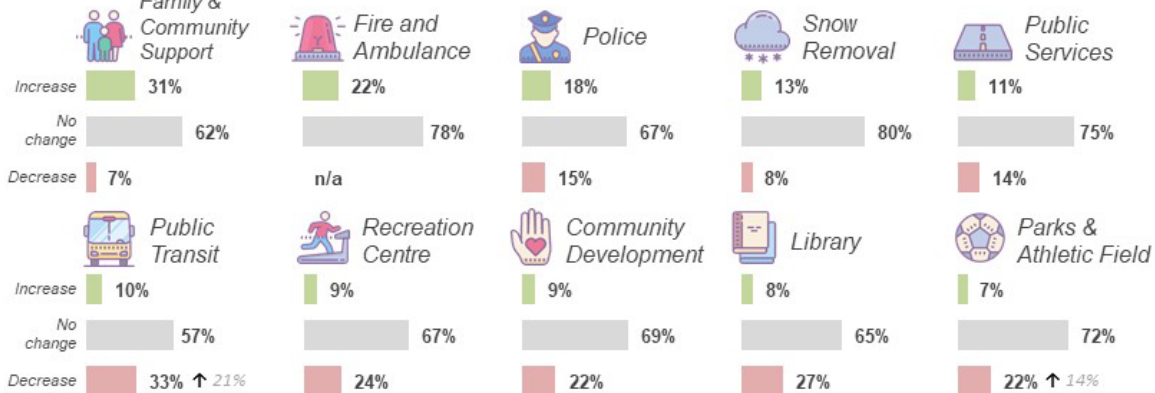
### Decrease Service Levels to Minimize Tax Increase?



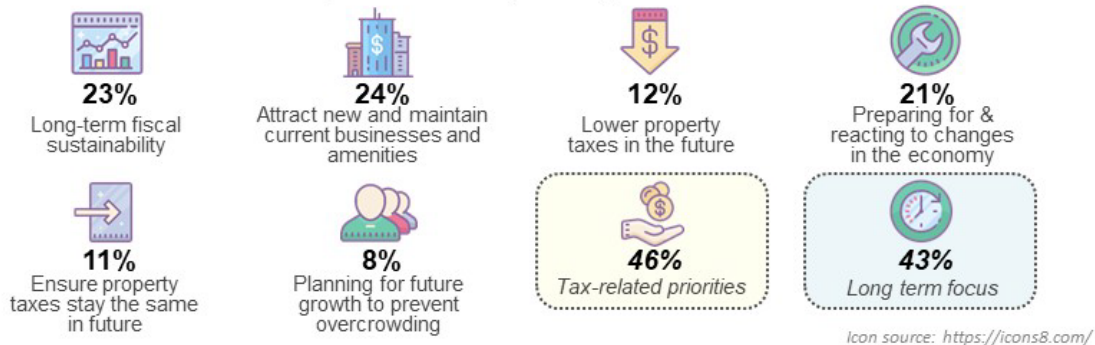
### Preferred Tax Strategy



### Desired Change to Variable Spending



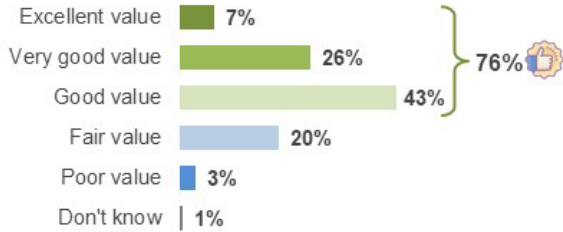
### Most Important Priority Facing Leduc (no changes)



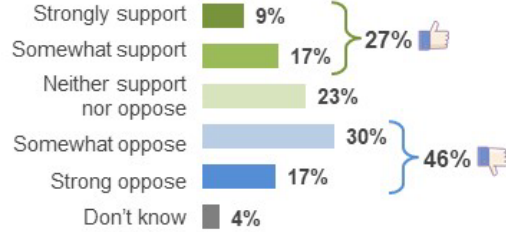
# 2020 Budget Planning Survey Highlights

Survey of **507** adult Leduc residents contacted by phone, May 1<sup>st</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, and completed the survey. Results are weighted by age.

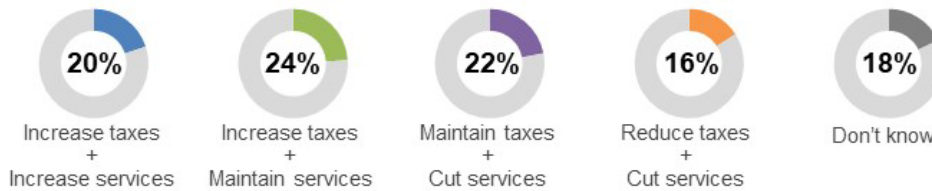
## City Service Value for Taxes (no changes)



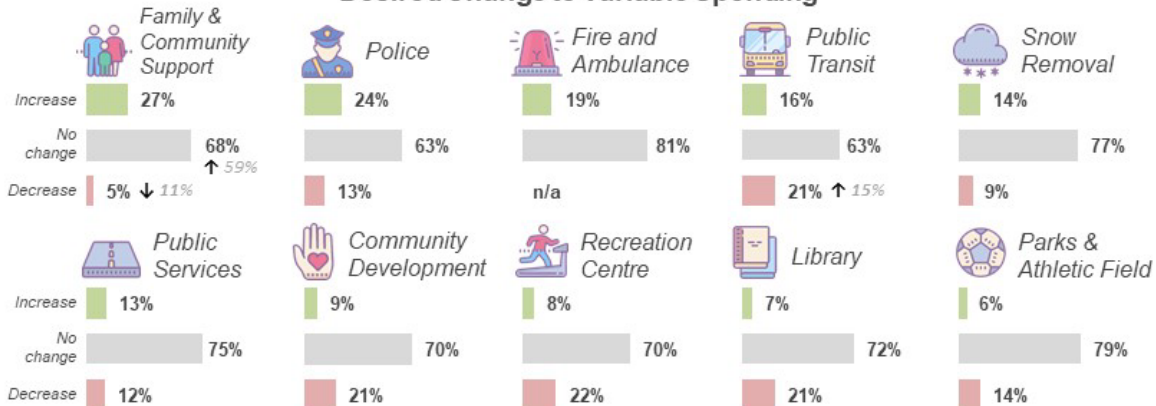
## Decrease Service Levels to Minimize Tax Increase? (no changes)



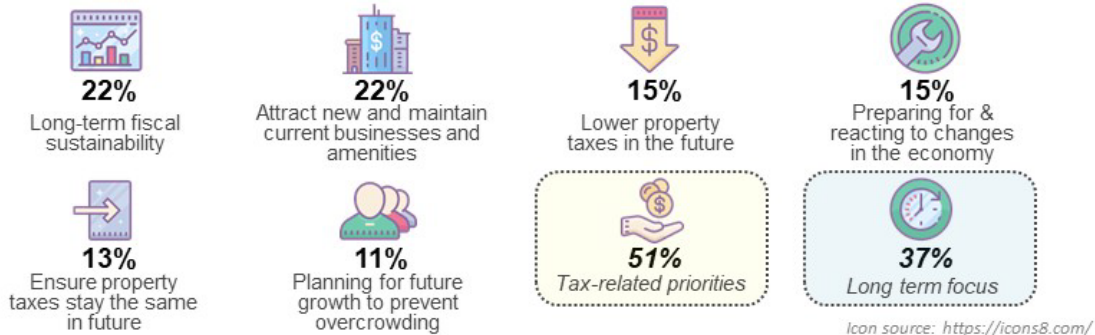
## Preferred Tax Strategy (no changes)



## Desired Change to Variable Spending



## Most Important Priority Facing Leduc (no changes)



## 2 Detailed Project Description

### 2.1 Project Background

In spring 2021, the City of Leduc (“the City”) contracted Advanis to conduct the 2022 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 2022 budget. In total, 485 randomly selected City of Leduc residents aged 18 and older completed the survey between May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

This report outlines the results of the 2022 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. Note that the survey was not administered in 2020 due the Covid-19 pandemic. As such, results for 2021 are compared against results from 2019 throughout the report.

### 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

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. As with previous years, few changes were made to the Budget Planning surveys as detailed in the following sections.

For the 2022 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. No General Population or Stakeholder surveys were completed in 2021 by this younger demographic.

#### 2.2.2 Survey Design

The 2022 Budget Planning Survey was based on the 2020 Budget Planning Survey, conducted in spring 2019 (the survey was not run in 2020). This maintained consistency between years and allowed many results to be compared between years. Specific changes made to the survey included:

- Removed the “cinema” answer level from the question asking where respondents learned about the survey.
- Updating all dates in the survey to reflect 2021 dates and all budget percentages to reflect what was actually budgeted for in 2021.
- Changing the incentive from offering tickets to a performance series of 3 shows at Maclab Theatre for the Performing arts to a gift certificate to a local Leduc business of the draw winner’s choice (valued at \$150).

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 telephone numbers and used Advanis' proprietary General Population Random Sample wireless numbers for 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 remains cognizant of the increased use of mobile devices within our community and recognized the importance of creating a mobile friendly platform for the 2022 Budget Planning Survey in order to engage all Leduc residents most effectively. As mentioned, the survey platform used in 2021 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, 58% of surveys collected for this report completed the survey on a mobile device** (compared to 52% in 2019). Due to the design and general population sample of the General Population survey, results are statistically representative.

A soft launch of the survey was conducted on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. The purpose of the soft launch was to ensure the survey was functioning as intended on the survey platform, by collecting a limited number of completed surveys and reviewing the results. Since data checks did not flag any concerns, these results were included in the final report and the survey was fully launched. The primary fielding dates for the remainder of residents who completed the survey was from May 3<sup>rd</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. In total, 485 residents completed the survey which implies a margin of error no greater than  $\pm 4.4\%$  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 2019 City of Leduc Census. Specific details of the weighting scheme used can be found in the Appendix (section 4.2).

### 2.2.4 Survey Awareness

Survey participants were asked if they recalled seeing or hearing an advertisement for the survey. In total, 28% mentioned that they recalled it from billboard signs, 15% from social media, 9% from the City of Leduc website, and 20% saw or heard an advertisement for the survey somewhere else. Other sources were up significantly (from 12%) compared to 2019. However, 43% did not recall seeing or hearing an advertisement for the survey (down from 48% in 2019).

### 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:

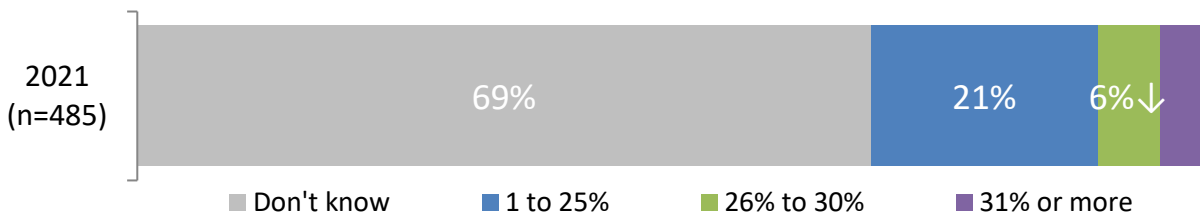
- The term “significant” means “statistically significant at 95% confidence”. Prior to 2021, statistical testing used the unweighted base in calculations. Beginning in 2021, the effective based is used in statistical testing to better control for the effects of weighting the data.
- The analysis checked for statistical differences between the following groups:
  - Age (18 to 44, 45 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);
  - Home ownership (owning, renting);
  - 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).
- The subgroup differences mentioned above are statistically tested in mutually exclusive groupings. For example, if a result says that it is statistically higher for those aged 18 to 44, this means that the result among those aged 18 to 44 is statistically higher than those who are not aged 18 to 44.
- To improve readability, bars with values less than 5% may not have the value shown. Actual percentages 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. Since these levels are volunteered by respondents each year, they are not trended year-to-year.
- For results with a base size of fewer than 30 residents, percentages are shown. However, results should be interpreted with caution due to the small base sizes. Additionally, statistical differences are not shown if a respondent subgroup has a base size of fewer than 30 residents.
- Note that icons used in this report are from icons8.com.

### 3.1 Property Tax Value

Residents were informed that a portion of property tax is collected on behalf of the Province of Alberta and goes to pay for education. The percent of property tax that pays for education is 27%.

When asked what percent of property tax goes to the province, nearly seven-in-ten (69%, compared to 64% in 2019) did not know. 6% of residents came close to the correct answer (compared to 15% in 2019), mentioning between '26% and 30%', while only 1% of residents correctly identified that '27%' of property tax pays for education.

#### Percent of Property Tax Collected on Behalf of the Province of Alberta



Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Trending is not shown as the true percent (27%) has decreased from previous year (28%).

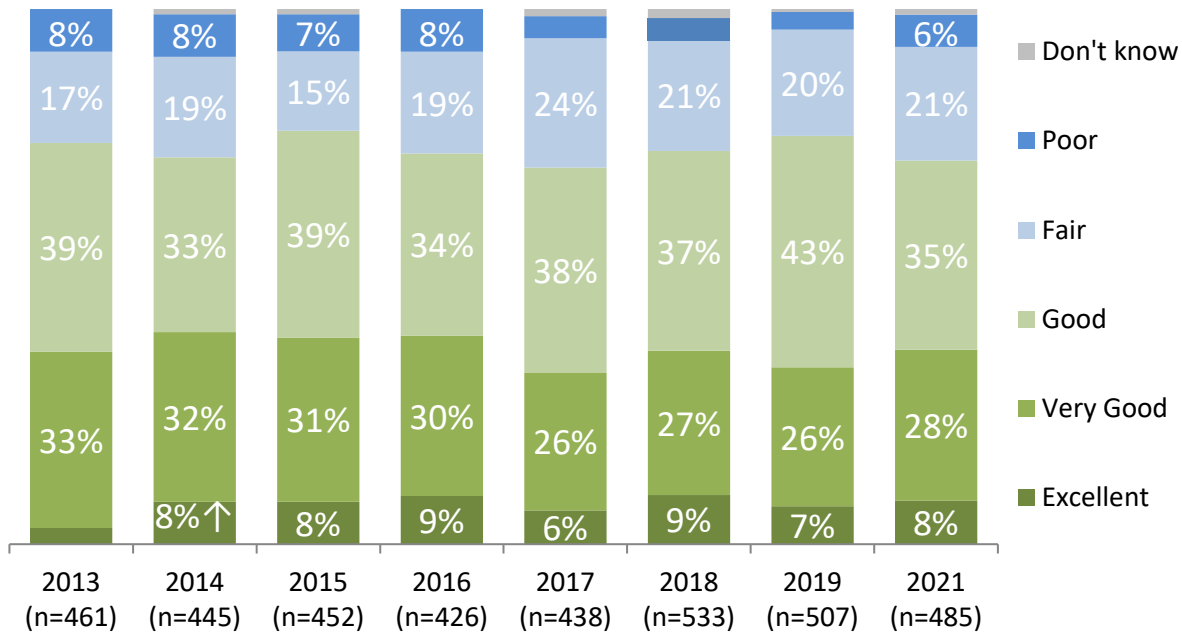
Subgroups that are significantly more likely to answer in the 26% to 30% range include:

- 🏠 12%: Those who own their primary residence; and
- 😊 7%: Those who receive good/very good/excellent value from taxes.

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. Consistent with 2019 results, sentiment continues to be quite positive.



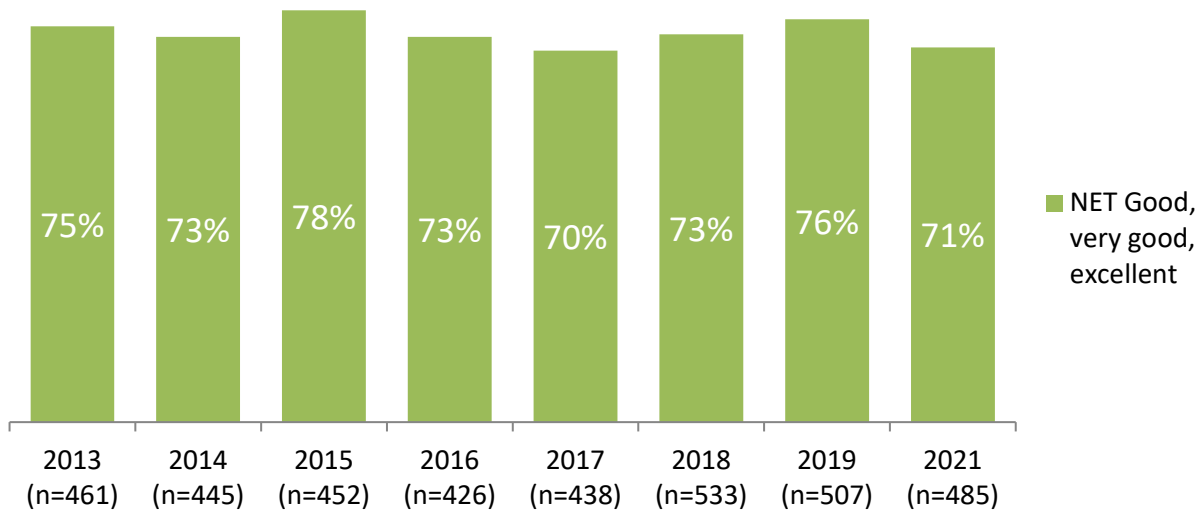
### Perceived Value Received for Taxes Paid






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 (71%) continues to remain high in 2021.

### 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:

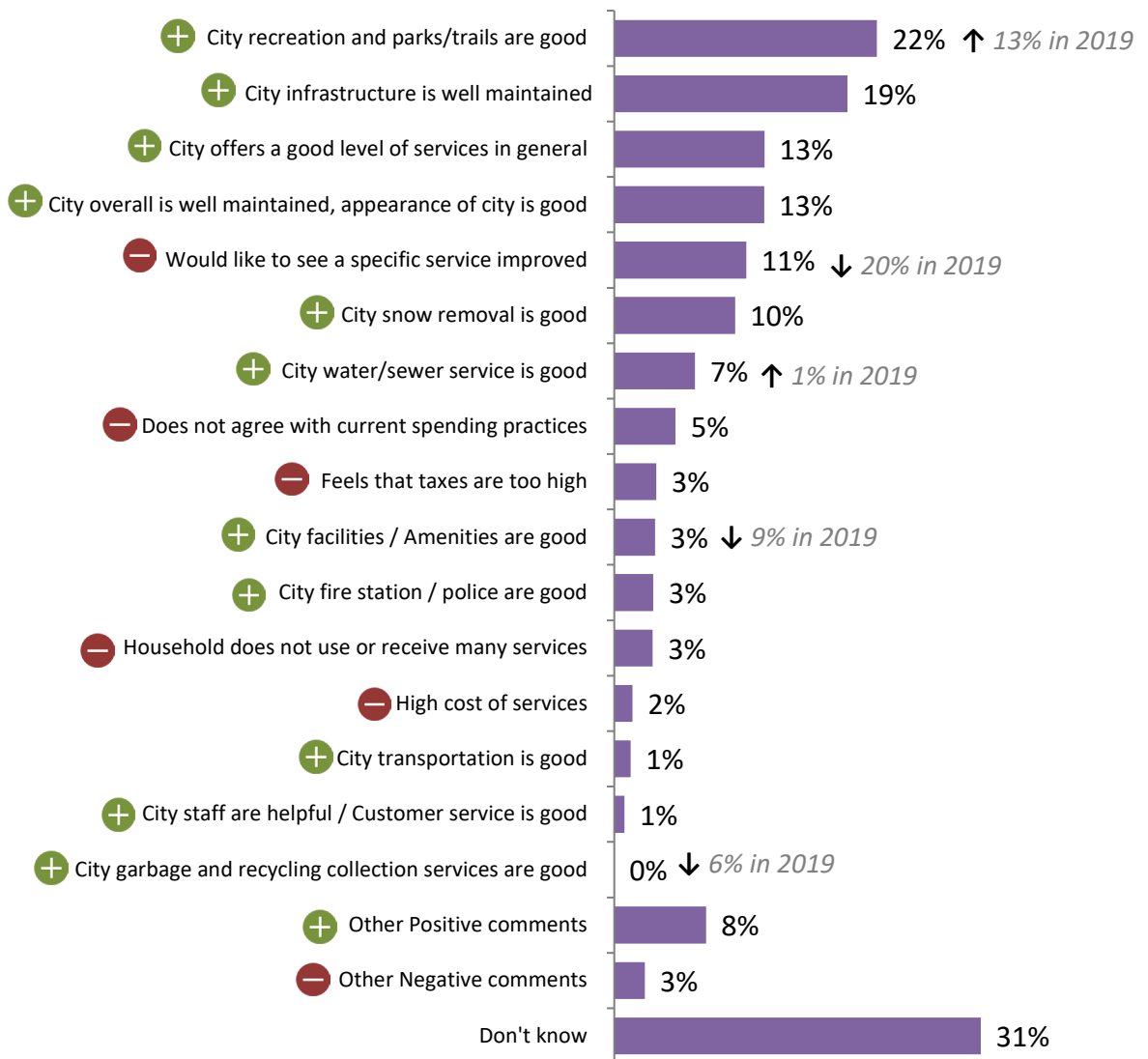
-  87%: Those who prefer to increase taxes;
-  84%: Those in households earning between \$100 and \$150K a year; and
-  80%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases.

All 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 **+positive** reasons are that City recreation, parks, and trails are good (22%), City infrastructure is well maintained (19%), residents feel that the level of services is good (13%), the City overall is well maintained (13%), snow removal is good (10%), and City water/sewer service is good (7%, a significant increase from 1% in 2019).

The top **-negative** reason provided by 11% of residents is the desire to see a specific service improved (top services include snow removal and road maintenance). Note that nearly one-third (31%) of residents were unable to provide a reason for the value they receive. Overall, 55% of residents have provided positive reasons for receiving good value (a significant increase from 42% in 2019).

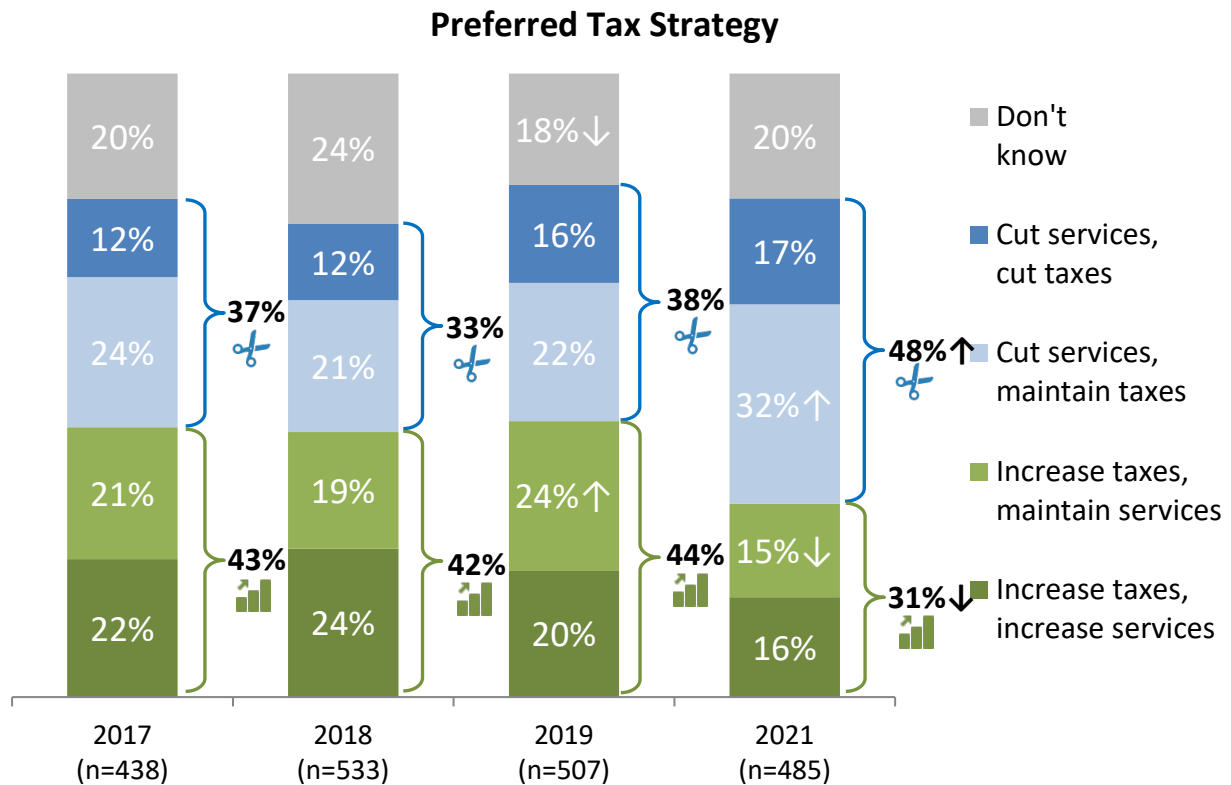
### Why Residents Feel this Way



n=485. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.2 Overall Property Tax Preference

Next, residents were shown four different tax strategies and asked for their preference. 48% of residents prefer cutting services to maintain or reduce taxes, and 31% prefer an increase to taxes to maintain or increase services. A further 20% did not provide an opinion. These results were significantly different compared to 2019, with a larger proportion preferring a cut to services, possibly in response to the economic pressures of COVID-related restrictions and/or the resulting inaccessibility of some services.



Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Results are not trended prior to 2017 due to the removal of the "something else" category.

Significant subgroup differences include those who:

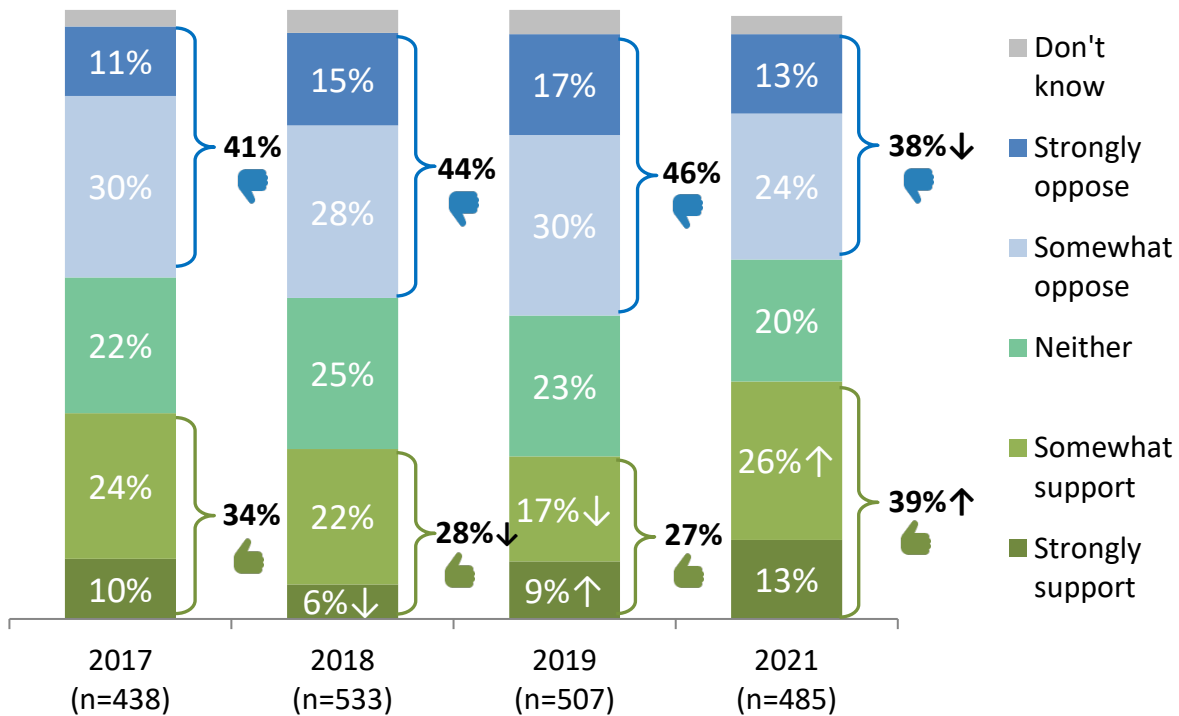
Increase taxes, increase services	Increase taxes, maintain services	Cut services, maintain taxes	Cut services, cut taxes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27%: Oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;</li> <li>28%: Earning \$100-150K a year;</li> <li>19%: Receive good / very good/excellent value from taxes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31%: Oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;</li> <li>23%: Aged 65 or older;</li> <li>19%: Receive good / very</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47%: Support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;</li> <li>37%: Employed full- or part-time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>32%: Support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;</li> <li>20%: Own their primary residence.</li> </ul>

	good/excellent value from taxes.		
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The City is sensitive to the economic climate and residents' desire to keep tax increases to a minimum. As such, residents were asked for their level of support or opposition for decreasing service levels to minimize tax increases.

Residents were divided in support (39%) for a decrease in service levels or opposition to it (38%). This is a significant change to the trend maintained in prior years when more residents were opposing a decrease in service levels (46% in 2019 vs. 38% in 2021). One-fifth (20%) did not feel strongly either way, while 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 prior to 2017 since a likelihood scale was used in 2016.





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

- ✂ 64%: Those who prefer to cut services;
- 💰 49%: Those in households earning \$60 to \$100K;
- 👨👩👧👦 48%: Those with children under 18 in household;
- 👤 45%: Those employed full- or part-time; and
- 🏠 43%: Those who own their primary residence.

Subgroups that are significantly more likely to **neither support nor oppose** decreasing service levels to maintain taxes include:

- 💰 33%: Those in a household earning under \$60K.

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

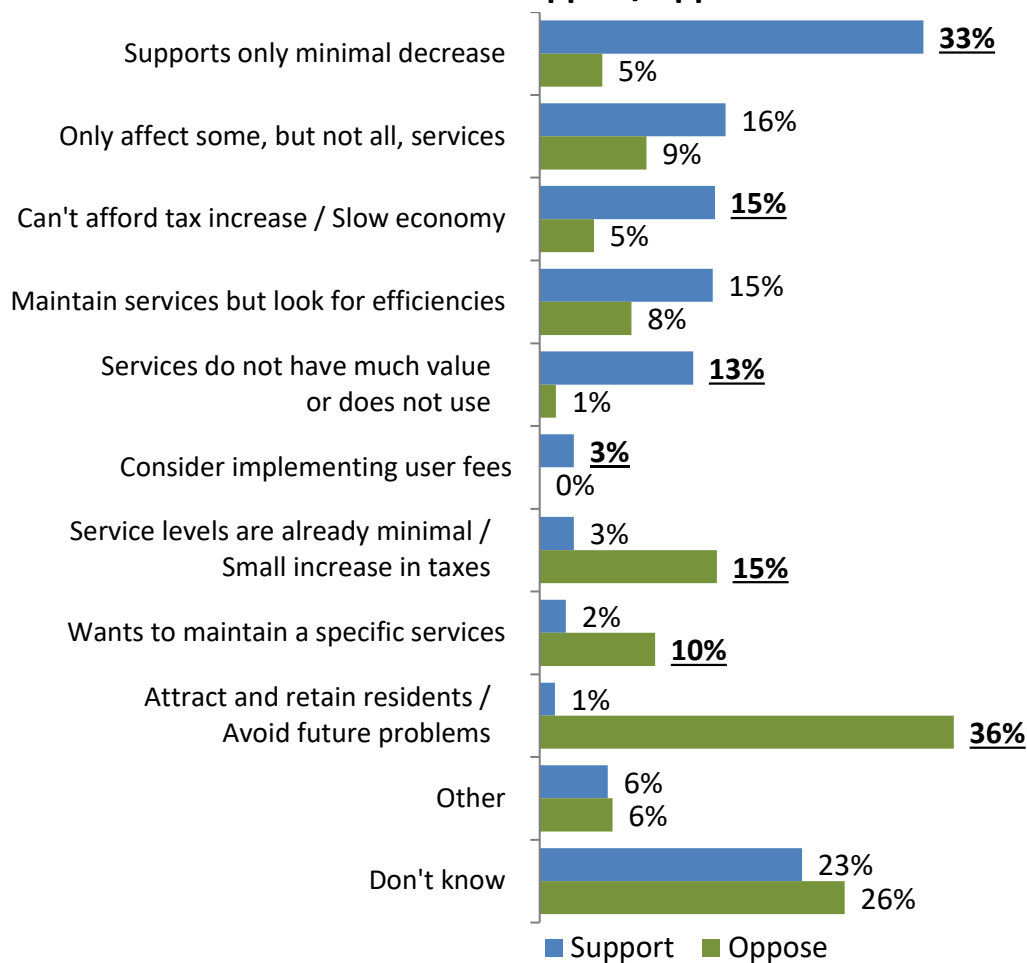
-  70%: Those who prefer to increase taxes;
-  45%: Those who are not employed (on leave/homemaker/student/unemployed/retired);
-  43%: Those with no children under 18 in the household; and
-  42%: Those who receive good/very good/excellent value from taxes.

In terms of why residents support or oppose decreasing service levels to minimize tax increases, a third (33%) of those who support decreasing service levels support only a minimal decrease. Another 16% would only like to see some services affected, as opposed to all services.

In contrast, over one-third (36%) oppose decreasing service levels because they feel that services are important to prevent future problems, 15% say services are already minimal, and 10% want to maintain specific services.

It should be noted that nearly a quarter (23% of those who support and 26% of those who oppose) did not provide any reasons for supporting or opposing a decrease to service levels.

### Reasons for Support/Opposition



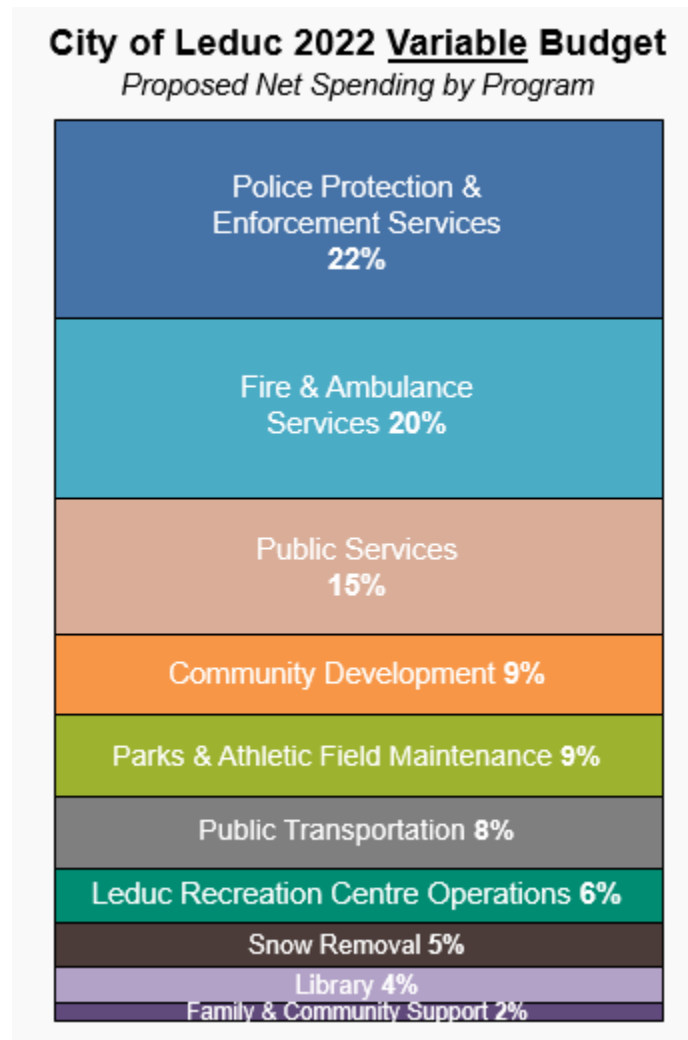
n=174 (Support), 188 (Oppose). Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed. Bars with values that are **bold and underlined** are statistically higher than the other bar above/below it.

### 3.3 Adjustments to Variable Spending




The City of Leduc budget includes two spending categories:

- Fixed Spending (53%) 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 (47%) includes categories where spending can be increased or decreased depending on the level of service provided.




The proposed City of Leduc 2022 variable budget is split between the following services:



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. **Overall, this year's results show most residents want spending for most services to remain the same.** That said, the following services had the highest percentage of residents requesting an **increase** in spending:

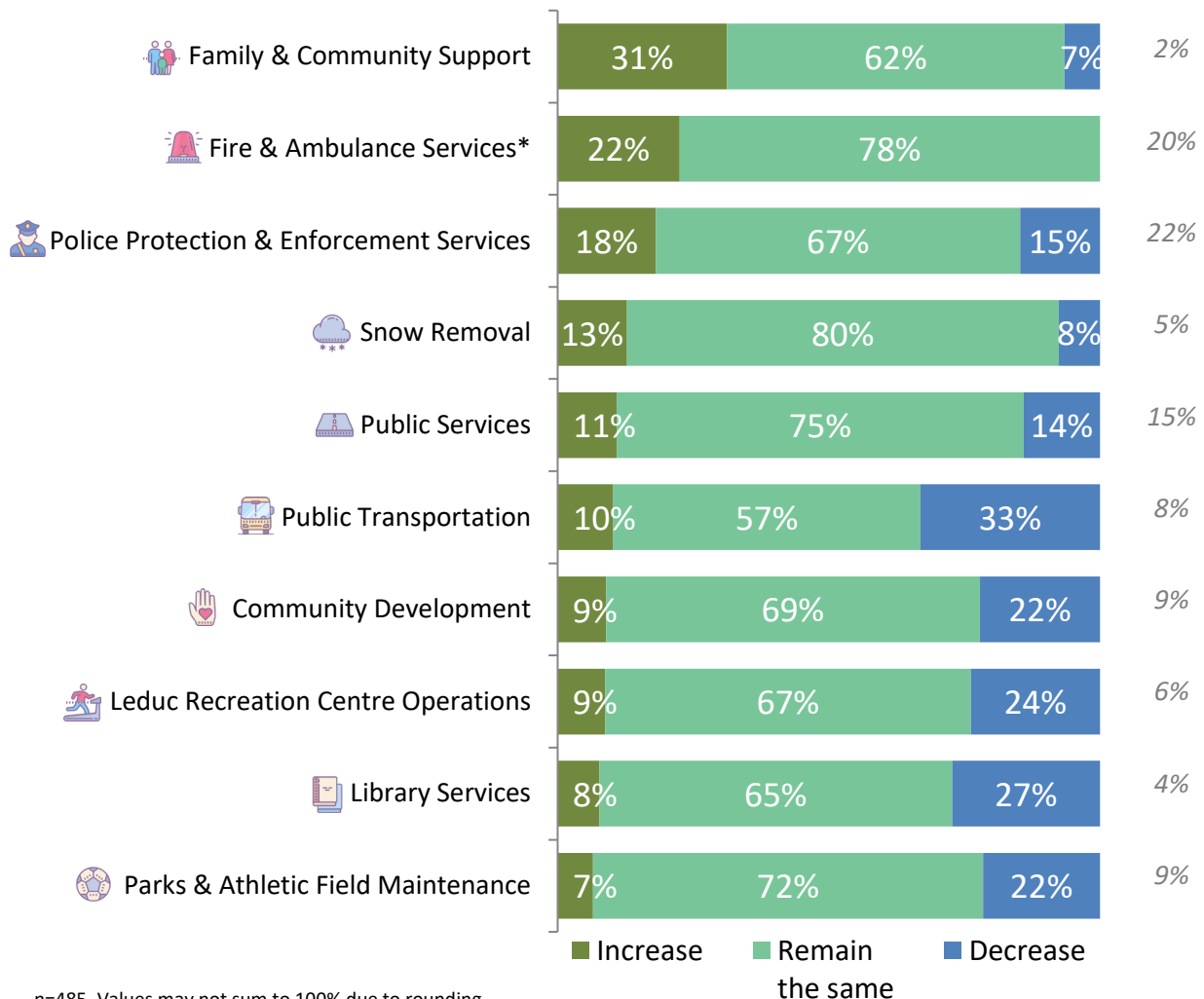
-  31%: Family and Community Support Services;
-  22%: Fire & Ambulance Services; and
-  18%: Police Protection and Enforcement Services.

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

-  33%: Public Transportation;
-  27%: Library Services; and
-  24%: Leduc Recreation Centre Operations.

### Comparison of Preferred Budget Adjustments for all Services

*Proposed % of budget*



n=485. Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

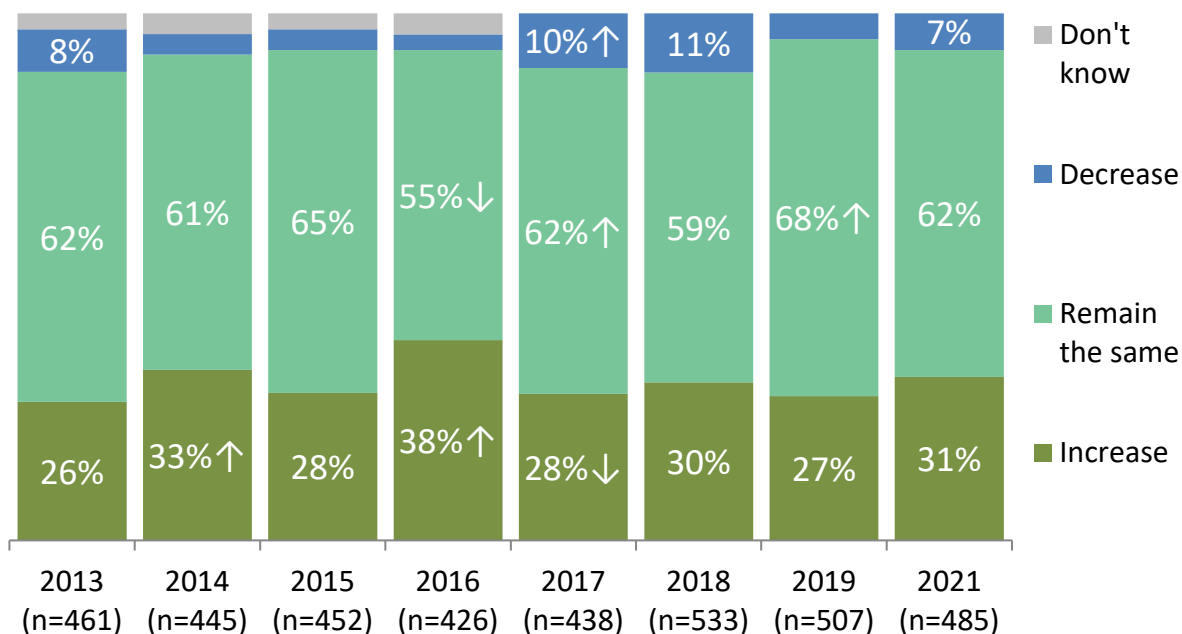
\* Fire and ambulance services are contracted services provided by the City on behalf of the Province of Alberta and cannot be reduced.

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

### 3.3.1 Family & Community Support (Proposed 2%)




About three out of five (62%) residents prefer to see *Family and Community Support Services* funding remain the same. However, nearly one-third (31%) would like funding to be increased, while 7% would prefer to see funding decrease. These results are similar to those in 2019.

**Budget Adjustment for Family & Community Support (Proposed 2%)**





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:

-  54%: Those who rent their primary residence;
-  45%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  45%: Those who prefer to increase taxes.

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

-  71%: Those supporting a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  70%: Those who prefer to cut services.

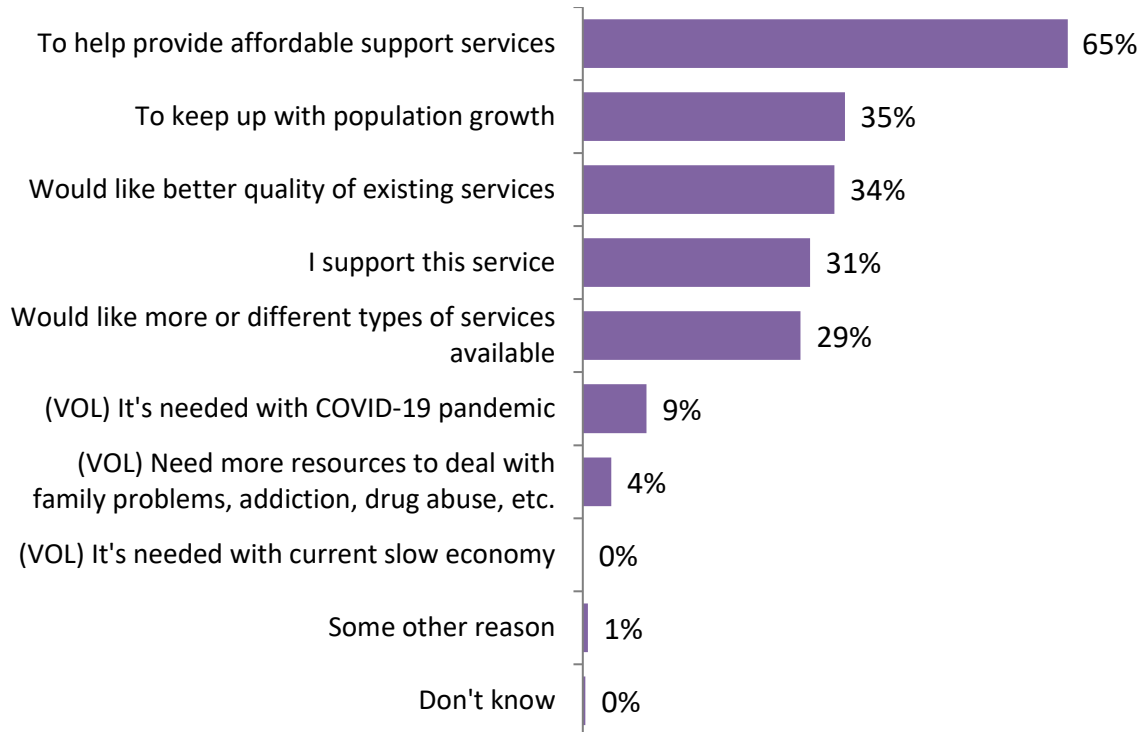
Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  10%: Those who prefer to cut services;
-  11%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  8%: Those who own their primary residence.



Most of the residents who would **increase** spending on *Family and Community Support Services* felt that funding helps provide affordable support services (65%). About one-third say additional funding is needed to keep up with population growth (35%) or would like better quality of existing services (34%).

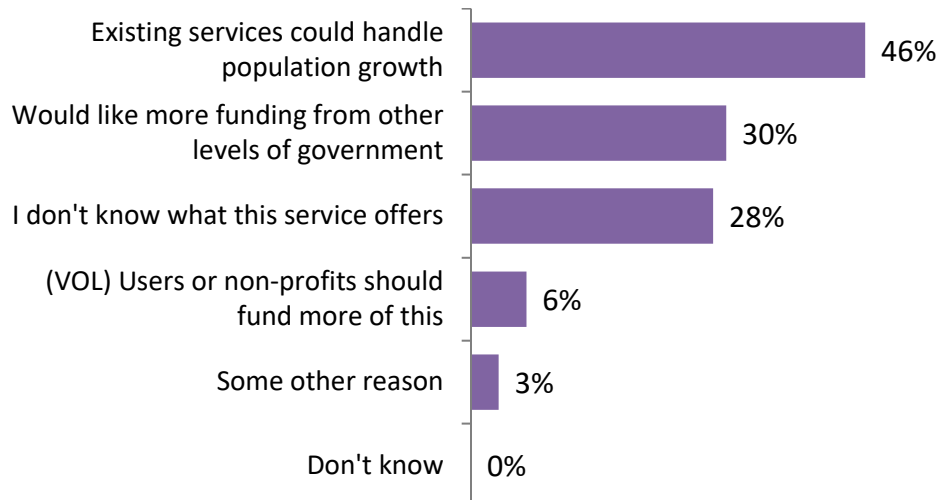
### Reasons to Increase Family & Community Support Spending



n=135. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Nearly half (46%) of residents would like funding of *Family and Community Support Services* to **decrease** because they feel existing services could handle population growth.

### Reasons to Decrease Family & Community Support Spending

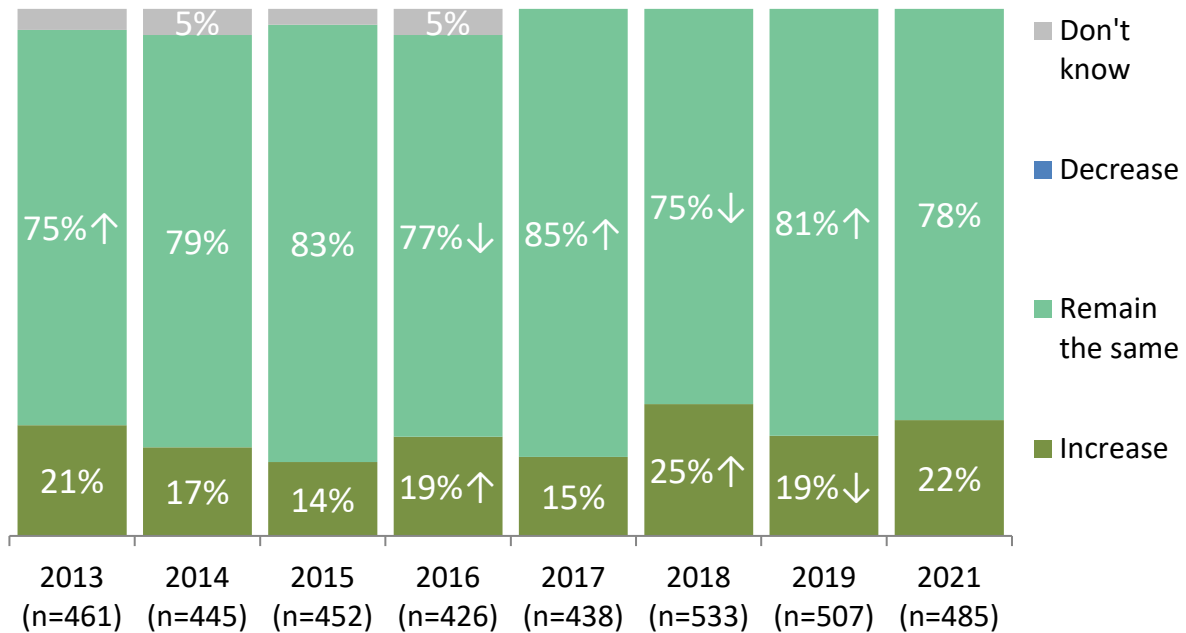


n=35. Trending is not analyzed because 2019 has fewer than 30 responses. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.2 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. Similar to 2019, approximately four out of five (78%) of residents would like the budget for fire and ambulance services to remain the same, while one-fifth (22%) would like to see an increase in services.

**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:

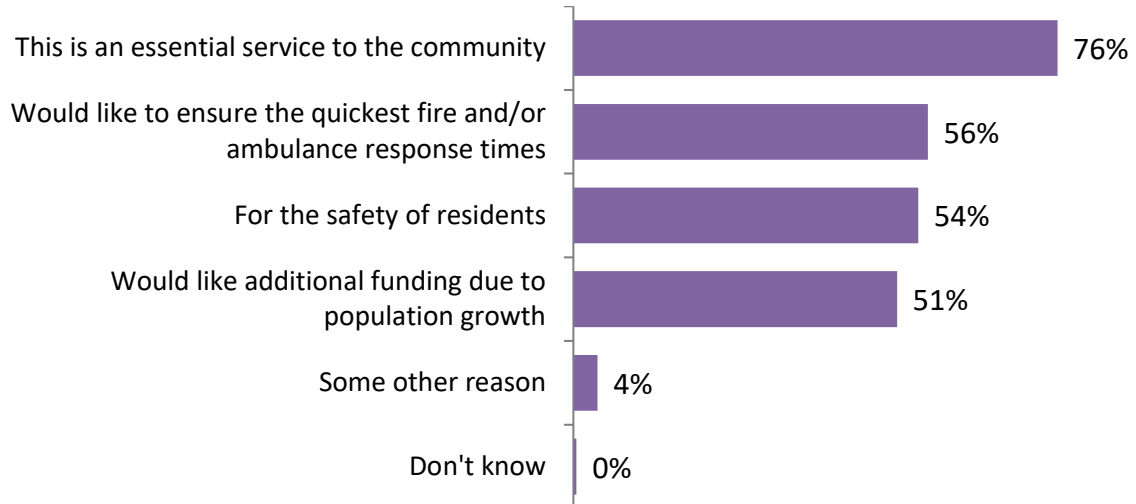
-  48%: Those who rent their primary residence;
-  38%: Those who prefer to increase taxes;
-  30%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;
-  28%: Those aged 18-44; and
-  26%: Those who receive good/very good/excellent value from taxes.

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

-  87%: Those who receive fair/poor value from taxes;
-  85%: Those who prefer to cut services; and
-  82%: Those who own their primary residence.

Residents who would **increase** spending on *Fire and Ambulance Services* most often explained that this is an essential service to the community (76%). Over half said they would like to ensure the quickest response times (56%), to increase funding for the safety of residents (54%), or due to population growth (51%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided in 2019.

### Reasons to Increase Fire & Ambulance Services Spending

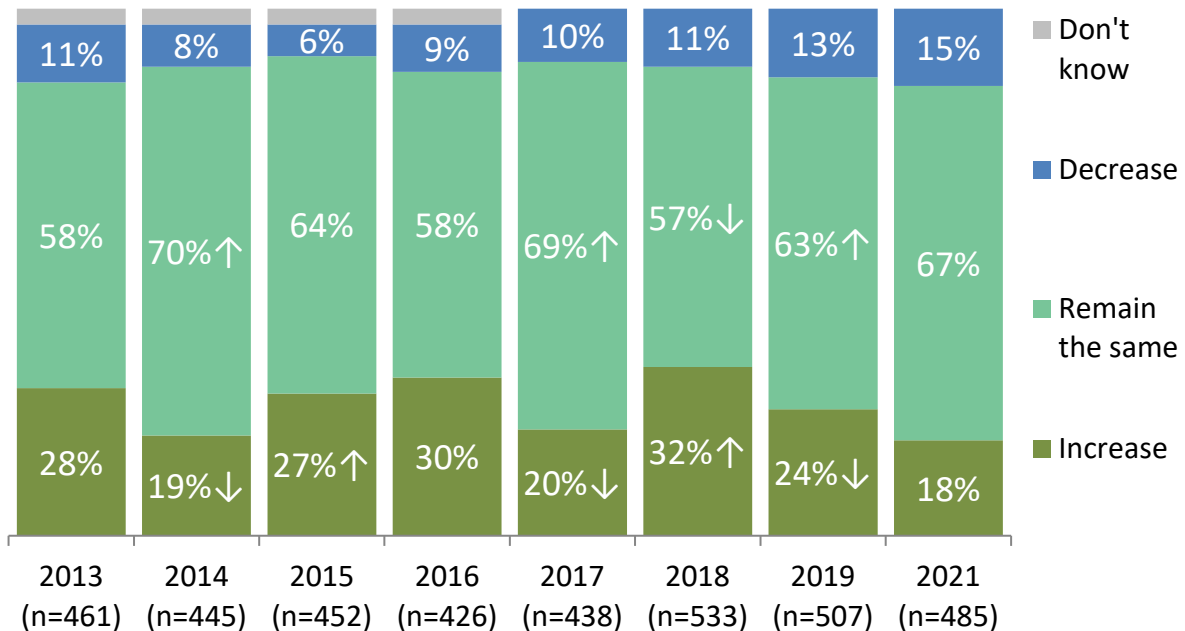


n=90. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.3 Police Protection & Enforcement Services (Proposed 22%)


About one-fifth (18%) of residents would like funding to increase for *Police Protection and Enforcement Services*. However, most residents continue to want funding to remain the same (67%), while 15% would like funding to decrease. These results are statistically consistent with 2019.

#### Budget Adjustment for Police Protection & Enforcement Services (Proposed 22%)




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:

 30%: Those who prefer to increase taxes.

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

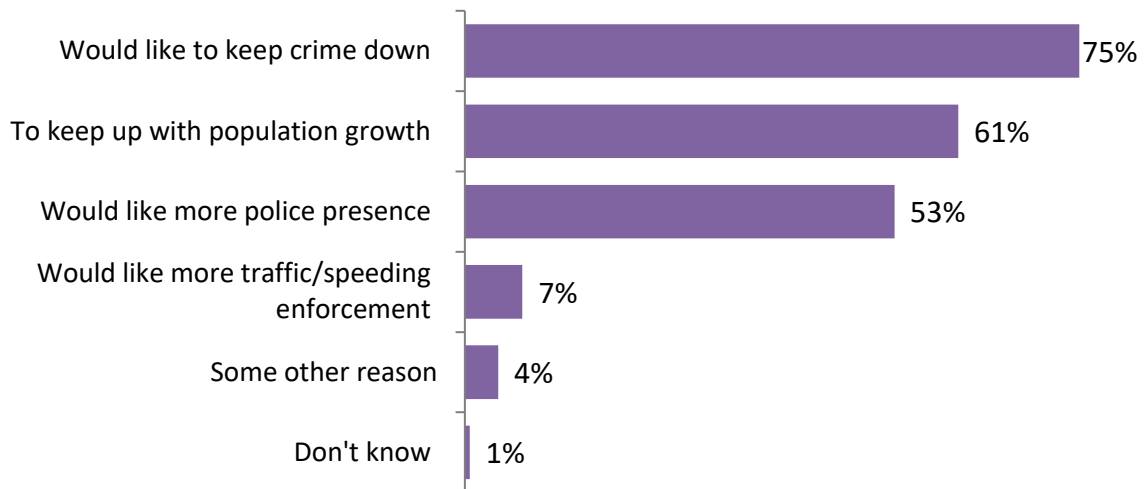
 74%: Those who prefer to cut services.

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

 24%: Those who receive fair/poor value from taxes.

Residents who would **increase** spending on *Police Protection and Enforcement Services* most often explained that they would like to keep crime down (75%) and six out of ten would like enforcement to keep up with population growth (61%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments residents provided in 2019.

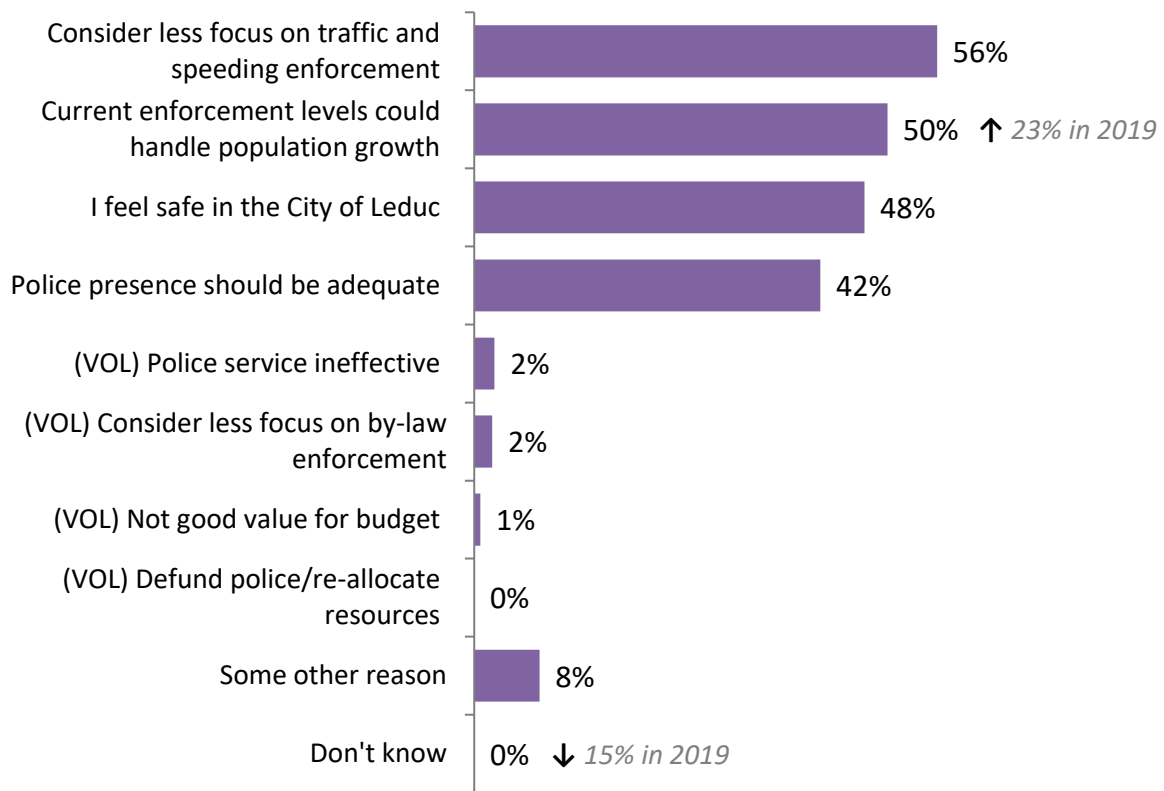
### Reasons to Increase Police Protection & Enforcement Services Spending



n=90. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Over half (56%) of residents who would **decrease** spending on *Police Protection and Enforcement Services* suggested less focus on traffic and speeding enforcement. A half (50%) said that current enforcement levels could handle population growth, a belief that has doubled compared to 2019. Nearly half (48%) said they feel safe in the City. No residents in 2021 were unsure why they want spending to decrease.

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

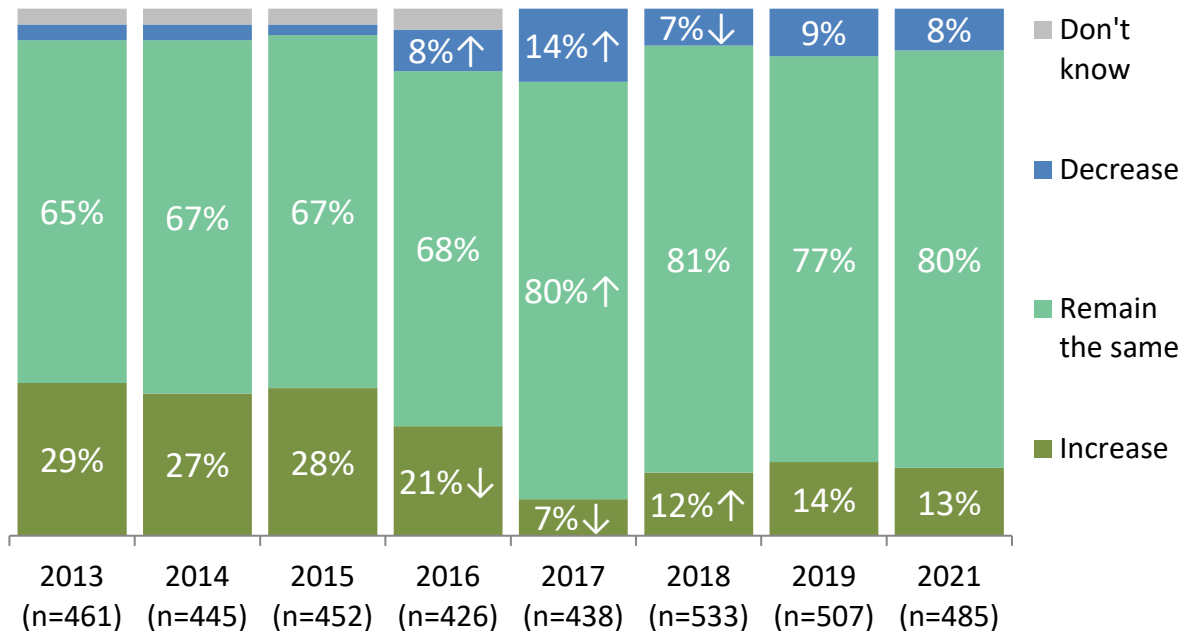


n=65. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.4 Snow Removal (Proposed 5%)

Eight-in-ten (80%) residents wants spending on *Snow Removal* to stay the same, while 13% want spending to increase and 8% want spending to decrease. These results are similar to the results from 2019.


**Budget Adjustment for Snow Removal** (Proposed 5%)





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

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

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

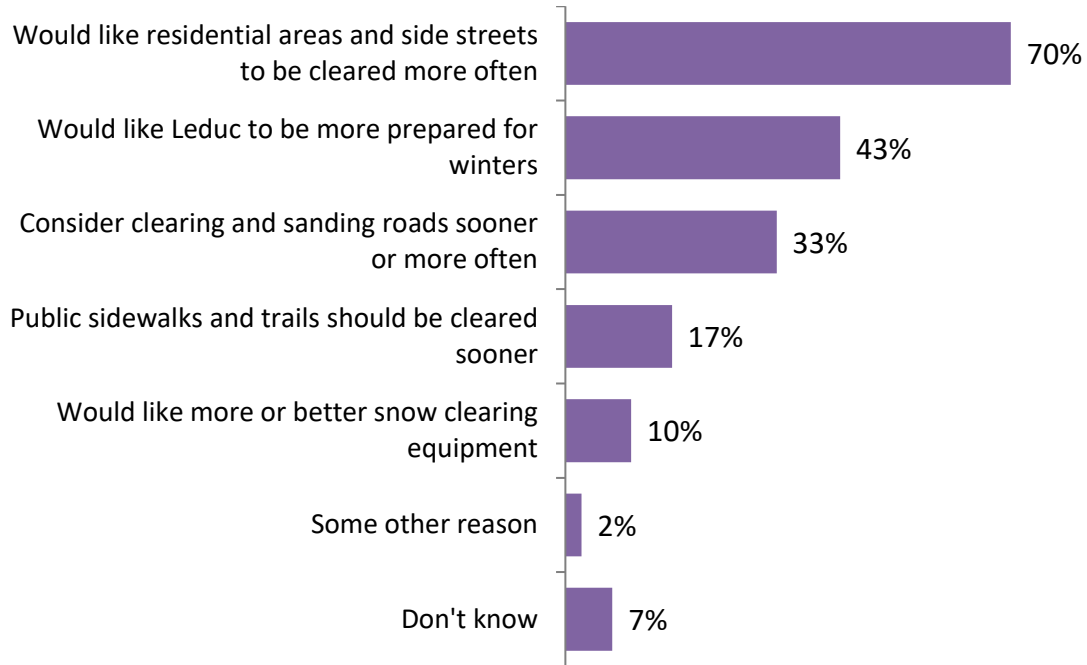
-  88%: Those aged 65 or older.

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

-  13%: Those who prefer to cut services; and
-  15%: Those aged 45-54.

The most common reasons mentioned by residents who would **increase** funding for *Snow Removal* are that they would like residential areas and side streets to be cleared more often (70%), Leduc to be more prepared for winter (43%), and roads cleared and sanded sooner or more often (33%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

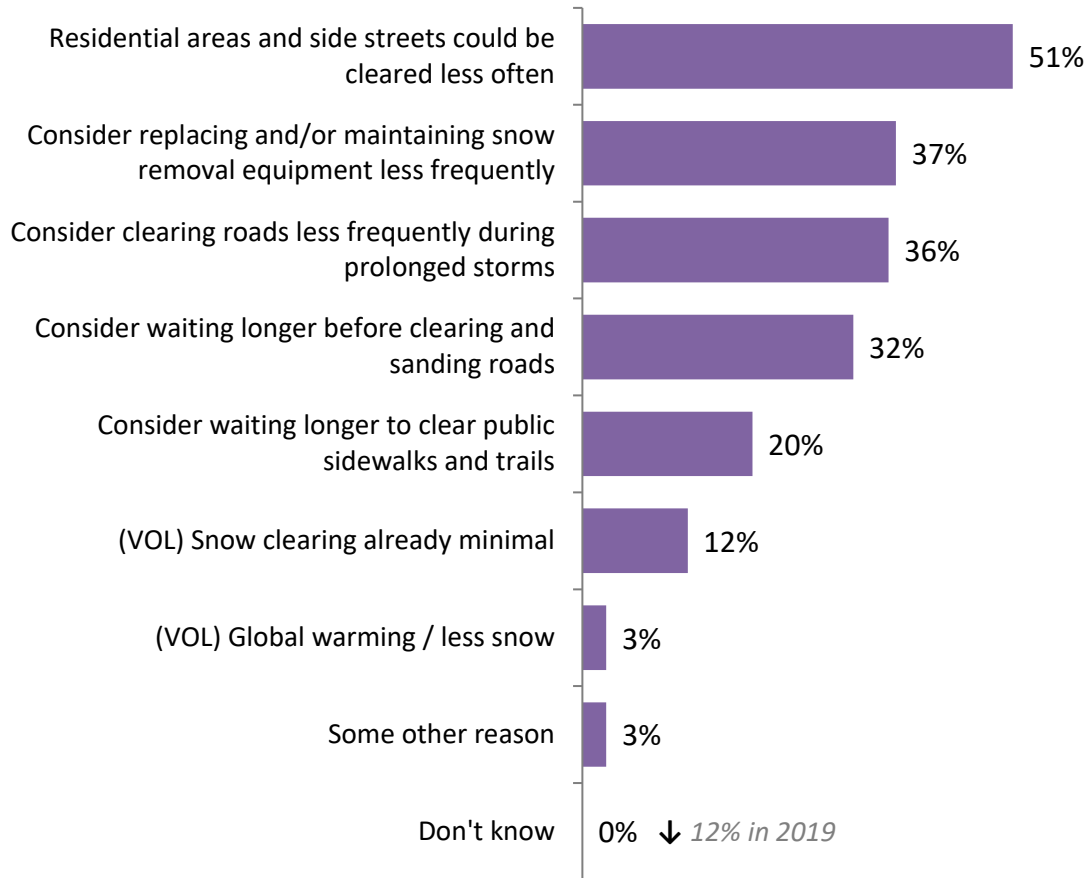
### Reasons to Increase Snow Removal Spending



n=48. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Among residents who would like to **decrease** funding for *Snow Removal*, half (51%) feel that residential areas and side streets could be cleared less often. More than a third would like the City to consider replacing or maintaining snow removal equipment less frequently (37%) or to consider clearing roads less frequently during storms (36%). All residents who would prefer spending on snow removal is decreased have cited some reason for their preference.

### Reasons to Decrease Snow Removal Spending



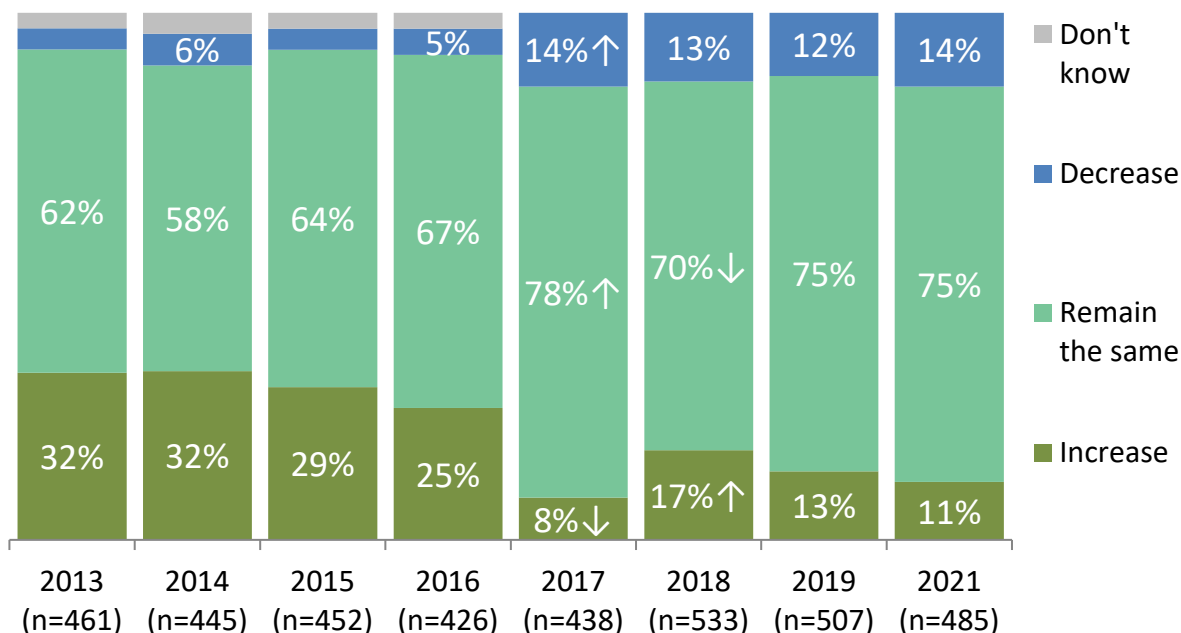
n=35. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.



### 3.3.5 Public Services (Proposed 15%)






Residents' opinions regarding spending on *Public Services* has remained similar to the 2019 results; most residents want spending to stay the same (75%), while similar proportions want spending to either increase (14%) or decrease (11%).

**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 funding for *Public Services* to **increase** include:

-  21%: Those who prefer to increase taxes;
-  19%: Those in households earning between \$60 and \$100K;
-  17%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;
-  17%: Those who are not employed (on leave/homemaker/student/not employed/retired); and
-  13%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for their taxes.

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

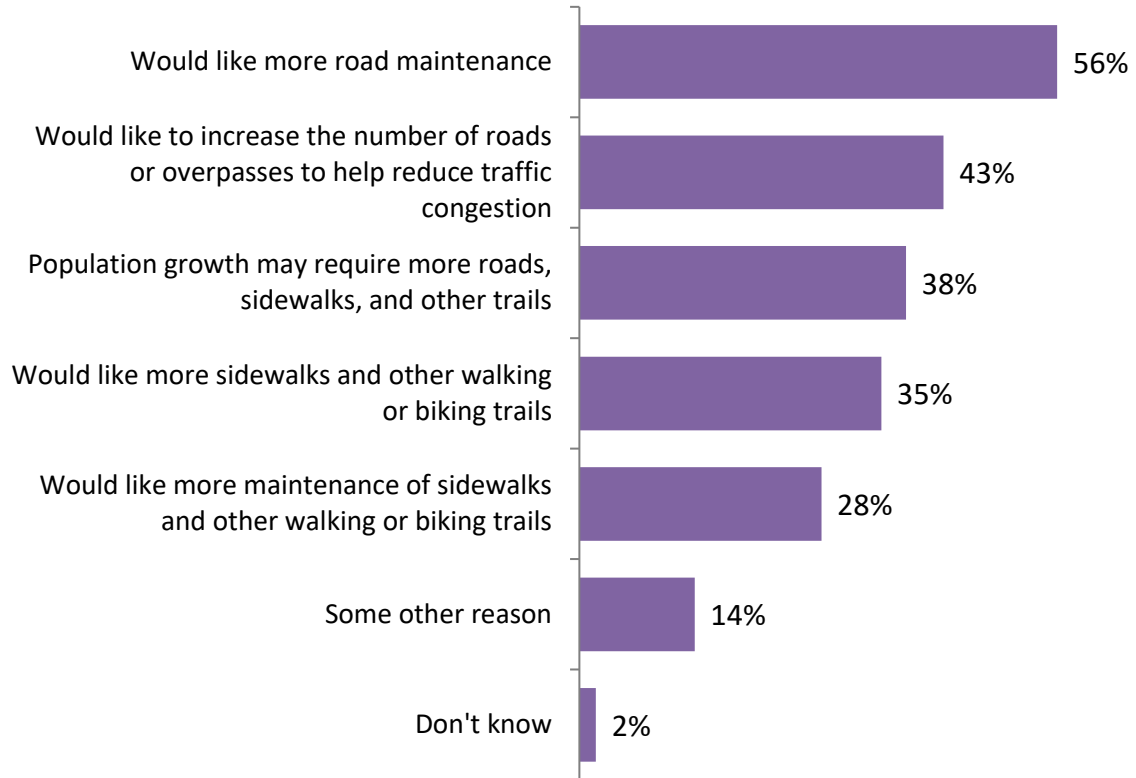
-  88%: Those who are neutral toward a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  83%: Those aged 65 or older.

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

-  25%: Those who receive fair/poor value from taxes;
-  23%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;
-  20%: Those who prefer to cut services;
-  18%: Those employed full- or part-time; and
-  16%: Those who own their primary residence.

When it comes to *Public Services*, those who would like an **increase** in funding primarily would like to see more road maintenance (56%). Around four-in-ten would like to reduce traffic congestion (43%), or more roads, sidewalks, and other trails to keep up with population growth (38%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided in 2019.

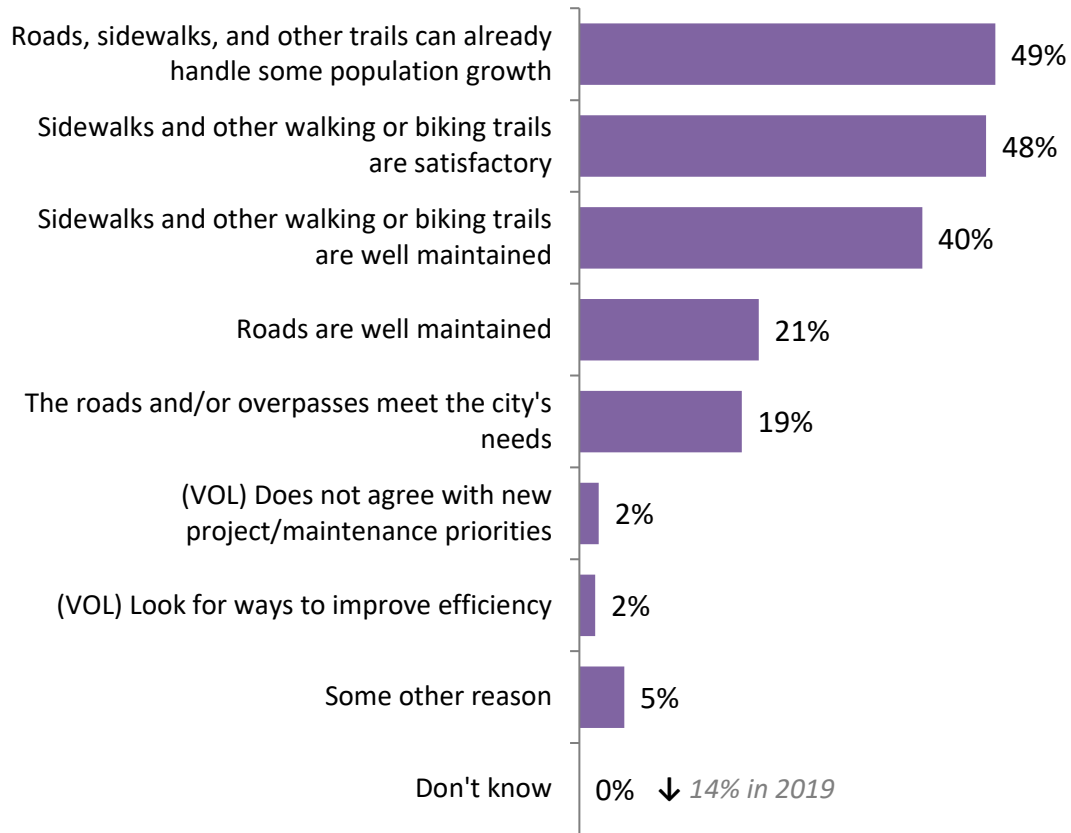
### Reasons to Increase Public Services Spending



n=43. 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 can already handle population growth (49%) and are satisfactory (48%). Additionally, two-in-five (40%) feel that sidewalks and other walking or biking trails already well maintained. All residents who would prefer spending on *Public Services* is decreased have cited some reason for their preference.

### Reasons to Decrease Public Services Spending

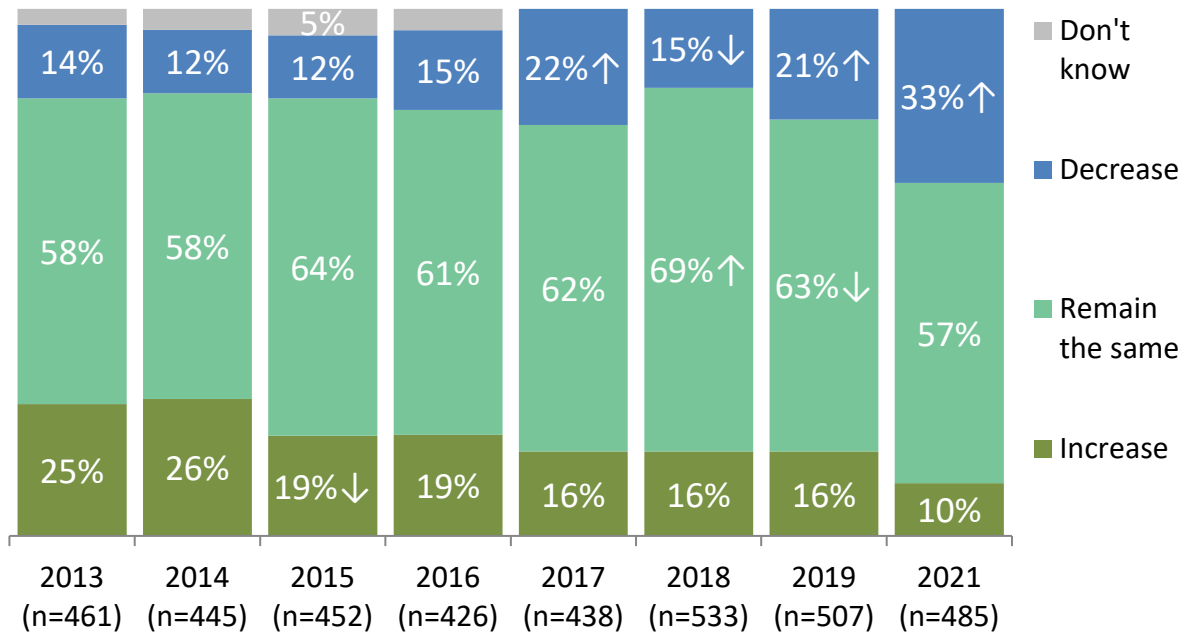


n=65. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.6 Public Transportation (Proposed 8%)





In 2021, just under six-in-ten residents (57%) would like the budget for *Public Transportation* to remain the same, 10% would like to see it increase, and one-third (33%) would like the budget to decrease. The proportion of those preferring a decrease has grown compared to 2019, which is the highest of any service.

**Budget Adjustment for Public Transportation (Proposed 8%)**








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:

-  23%: Those in households earning between \$100 and \$150K;
-  23%: Those who prefer to increase taxes;
-  19%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  13%: Those who receive good/very good/excellent value from taxes.

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

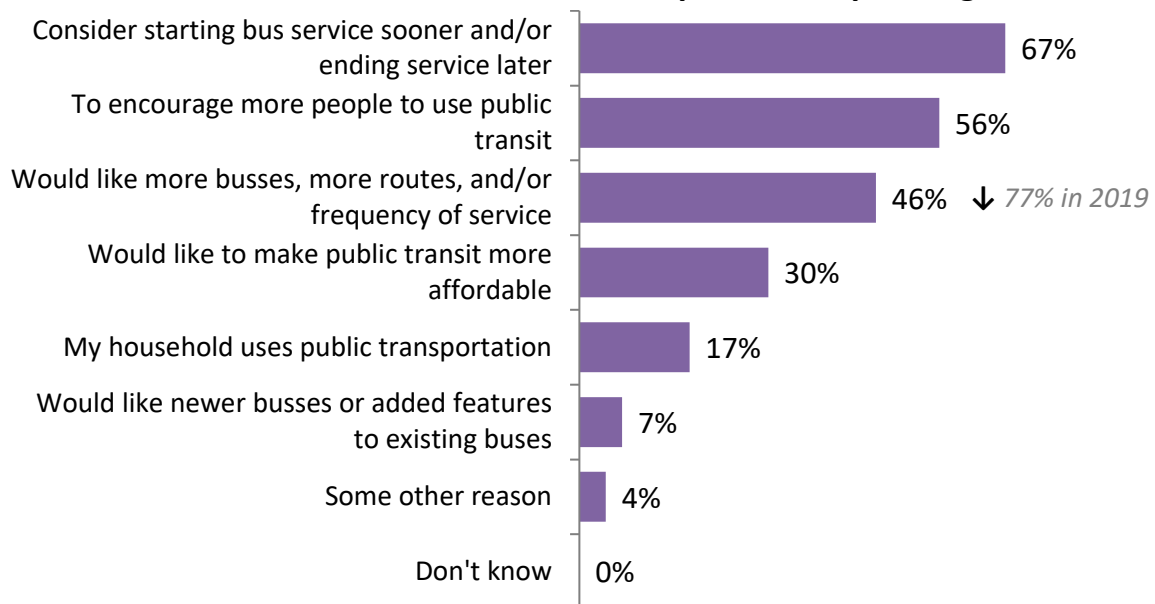
-  76%: Those in households earning less than \$60K;
-  74%: Those aged 65 or older;
-  74%: Those who rent their primary residence;
-  73%: Those who are neutral toward a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  68%: Those who are not employed (on leave/homemaker/student/retired/not employed).

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

-  52%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases;
-  51%: Those in households earning more than \$150K;
-  50%: Those who prefer to cut services;
-  48%: Those who receive fair/poor value from taxes;
-  43%: Those employed full- or part-time; and
-  38%: Those who own their primary residence.

Two-in-three (67%) residents who would **increase** spending on *Public Transportation* said they would prefer bus services that would start sooner and/or end later. Additionally, over half would also like more funds to encourage more people to use public transit (56%), and nearly half would like to see more buses, routes, and/or more frequent service (46%). The need for more buses, routes, and more frequent service has decreased significantly compared to 2019.

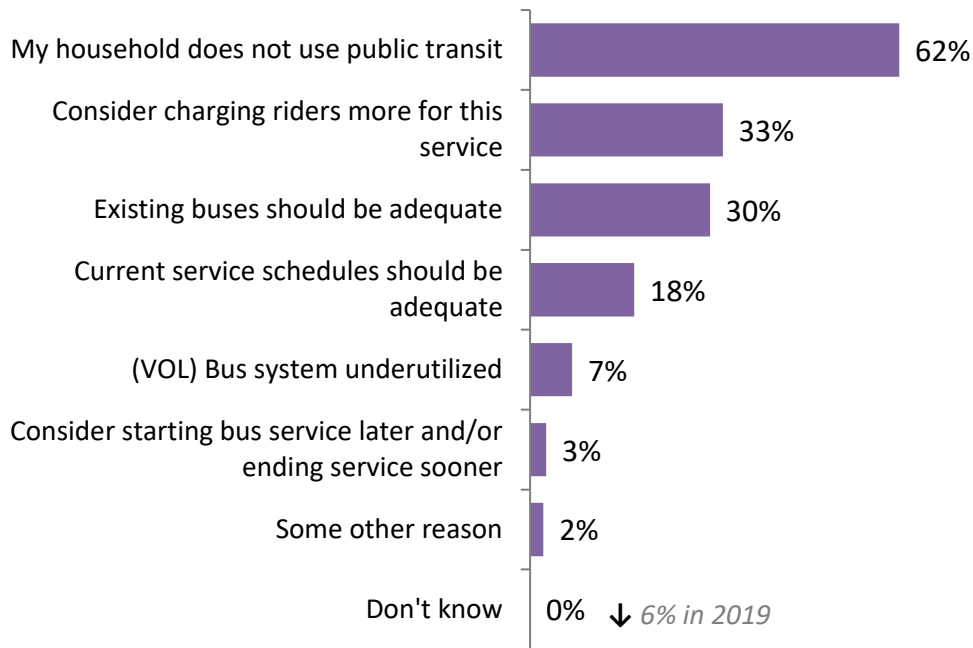
### Reasons to Increase Public Transportation Spending



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

A lack of personal and household use of *Public Transportation* (62%) is the most common reason mentioned by residents who would **decrease** spending. An additional 33% suggest charging riders more for the service, 30% feel existing buses should be adequate, and 18% feel current service schedules should be adequate. These answers are statistically consistent with those provided by residents in 2019; however, this year, all residents desiring a decrease to public transportation spending provided some reason for it when prompted.

### Reasons to Decrease Public Transportation Spending

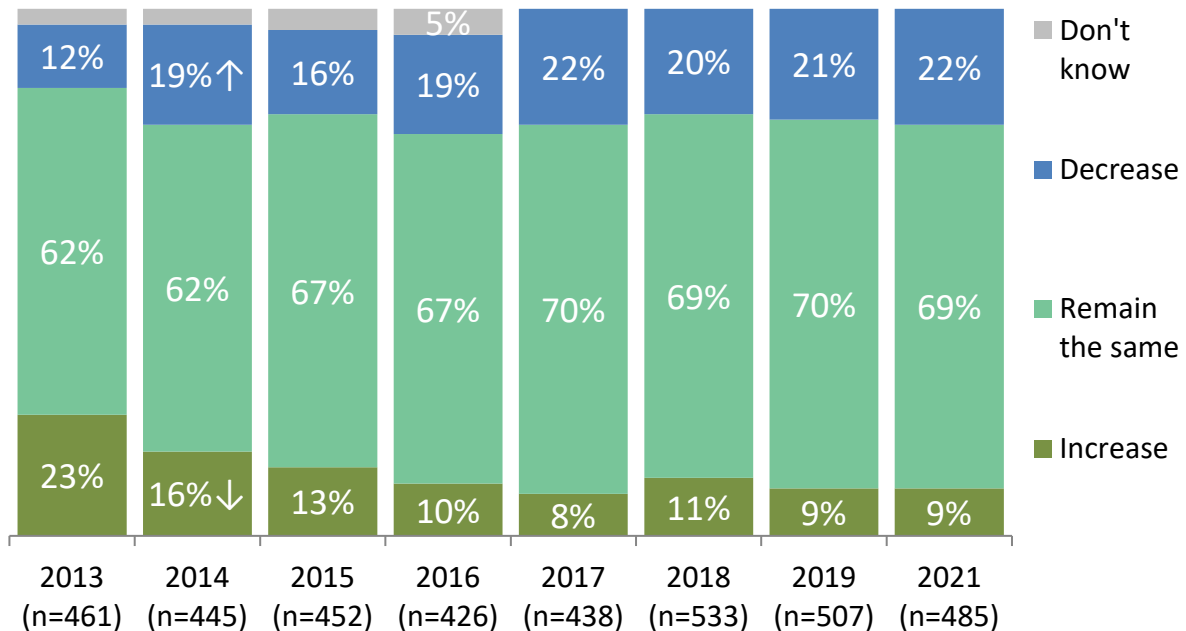


n=140. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.7 Community Development (Proposed 9%)


The percentage of residents who feel that funding for *Community Development* should decrease (22%), remain the same (69%), or should increase (9%) have all remained consistent over the past several years.

**Budget Adjustment for Community Development** (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 funding to **increase** include:

-  15%: Those who prefer to increase taxes.

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

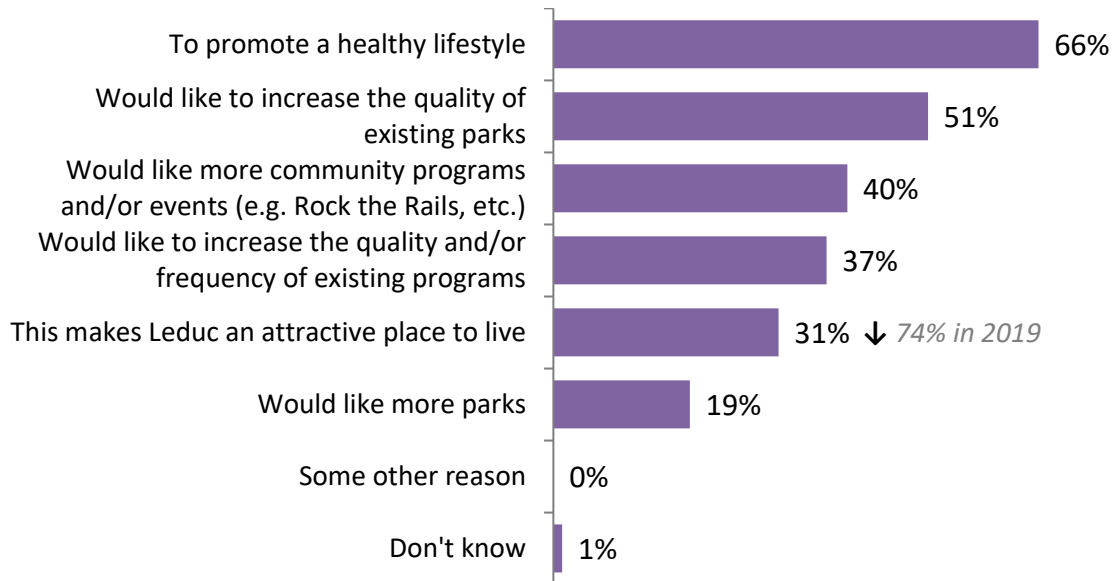
-  76%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  76%: Those who are not employed (on leave/homemaker/student/not employed/retired).

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

-  33%: Those who support a decrease in services levels to minimize tax increases;
-  31%: Those who prefer to cut services; and
-  25%: Those who own their primary residence.

Those residents who would **increase** spending on *Community Development* mentioned a number of different reasons, with promoting a healthy lifestyle mentioned by most (66%). Half (51%) would like to increase the quality of existing parks. The proportion of residents citing that spending on Community Development makes Leduc an attractive place to live has reduced significantly compared to 2019.

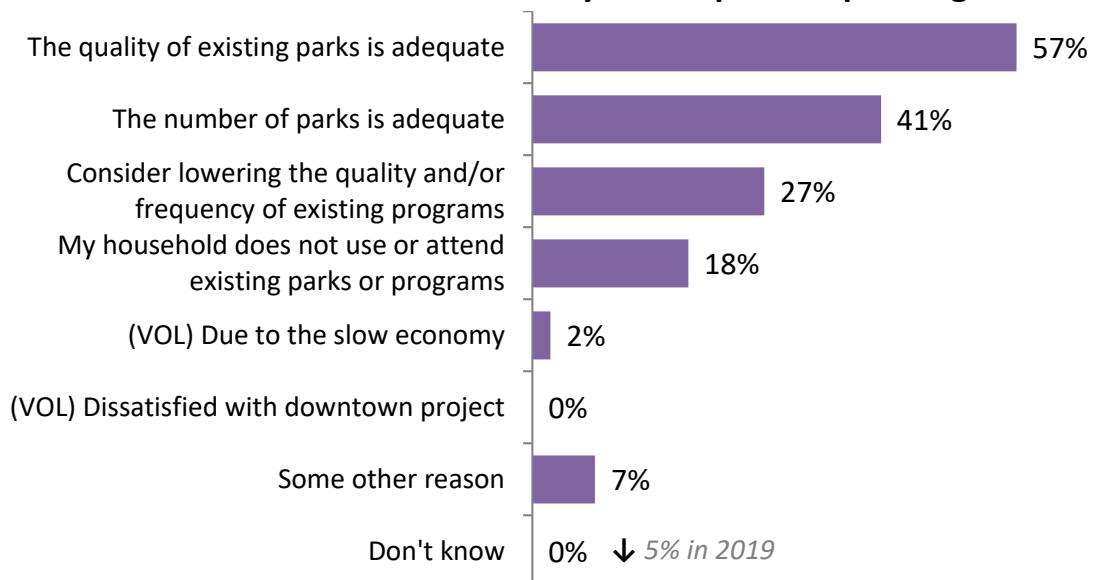
### Reasons to Increase Community Development Spending



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

Residents who would **decrease** spending on *Community Development* were mostly split between feeling that the quality (57%) and number (41%) of existing parks are adequate. All residents who would prefer spending on *Community Development* is decreased have cited some reason for their preference.

### Reasons to Decrease Community Development Spending



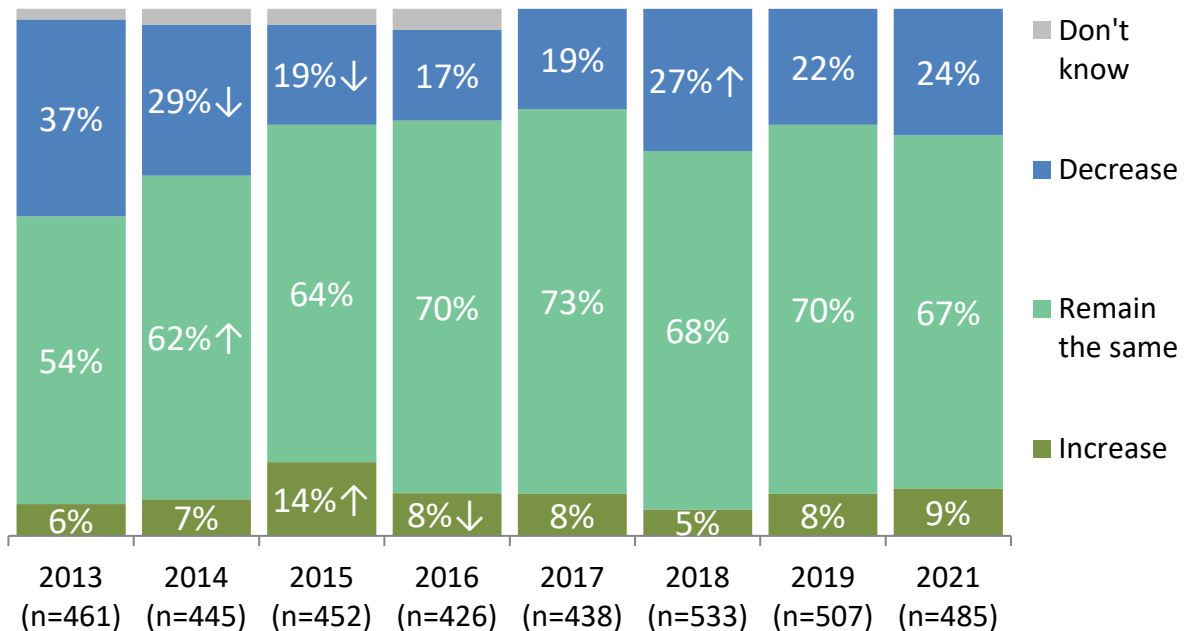
n=112. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.



### 3.3.8 Leduc Recreation Centre Operations (Proposed 6%)


This year, nearly one-quarter (24%) of residents want *Leduc Recreation Centre Operations* funding decreased. Additionally, most (67%) would like it to remain the same and only 9% would like funding to be increased. These results are similar to 2019.

**Budget Adjustment for Leduc Recreation Centre Operations** (Proposed 6%)





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



There are no subgroups significantly more likely to want an **increase** in funding:

-  14%: Those who prefer to increase taxes.

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

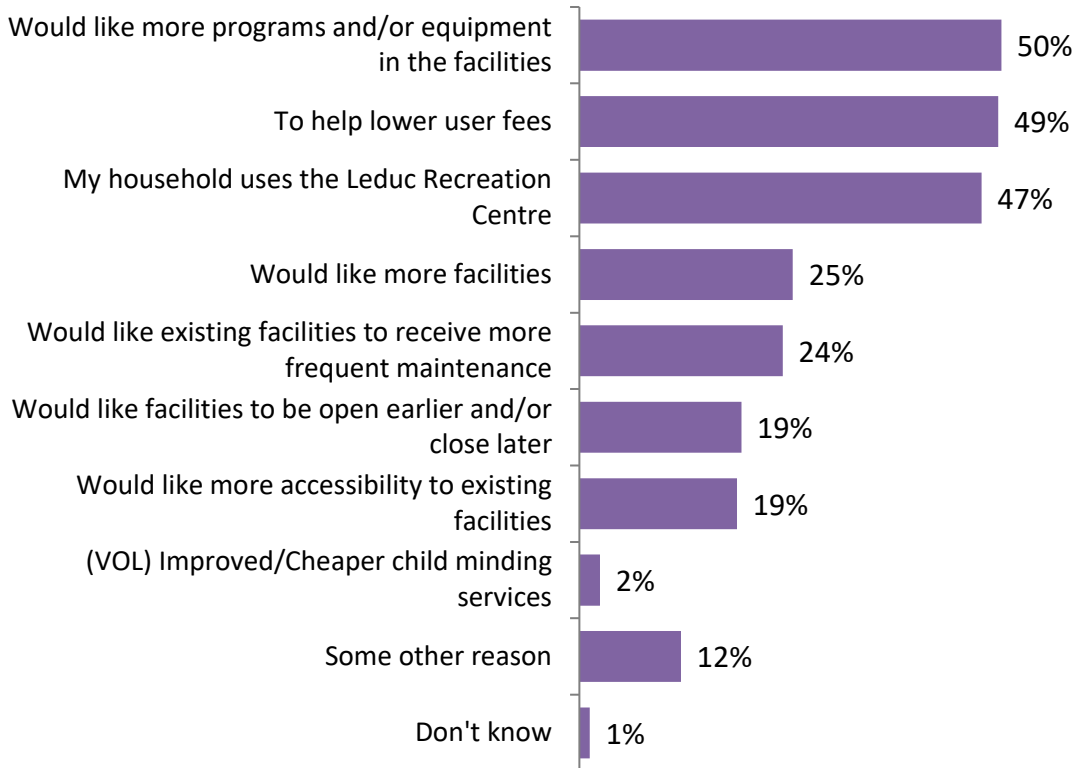
-  79%: Those who are neutral toward a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  77%: Those aged 55-64.

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

-  35%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  35%: Those who prefer to cut services.

Wanting more programs or facilities (50%) is the most mentioned reason provided by residents who would **increase** spending on *Leduc Recreation Centre Operations*. Additionally, nearly half of those who would like increased funding also want to help lower user fees (49%) or say they use the Centre (47%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

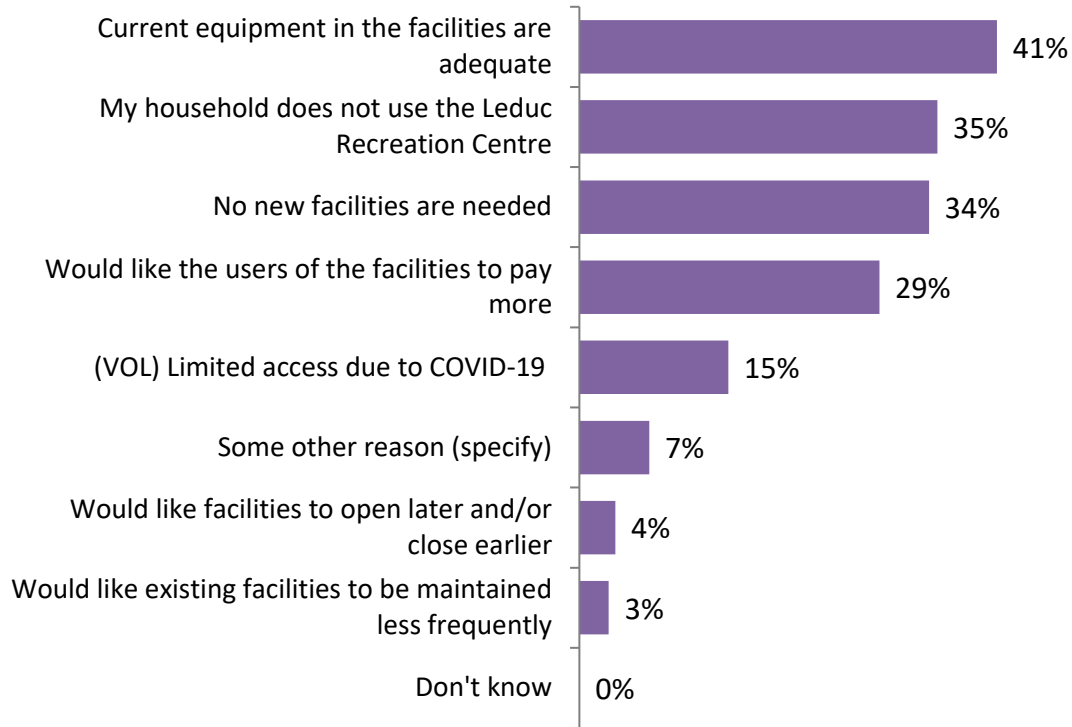
### Reasons to Increase Leduc Recreation Centre Operations Spending



n=37. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Two-in-five (41%) residents who would **decrease** spending on *Leduc Recreation Centre Operations* feel that the current equipment in the facilities is adequate. In addition, 35% say their household does not use the Centre and 34% feel that no new facilities are needed. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided in 2019.

### Reasons to Decrease Leduc Recreation Centre Operations Spending

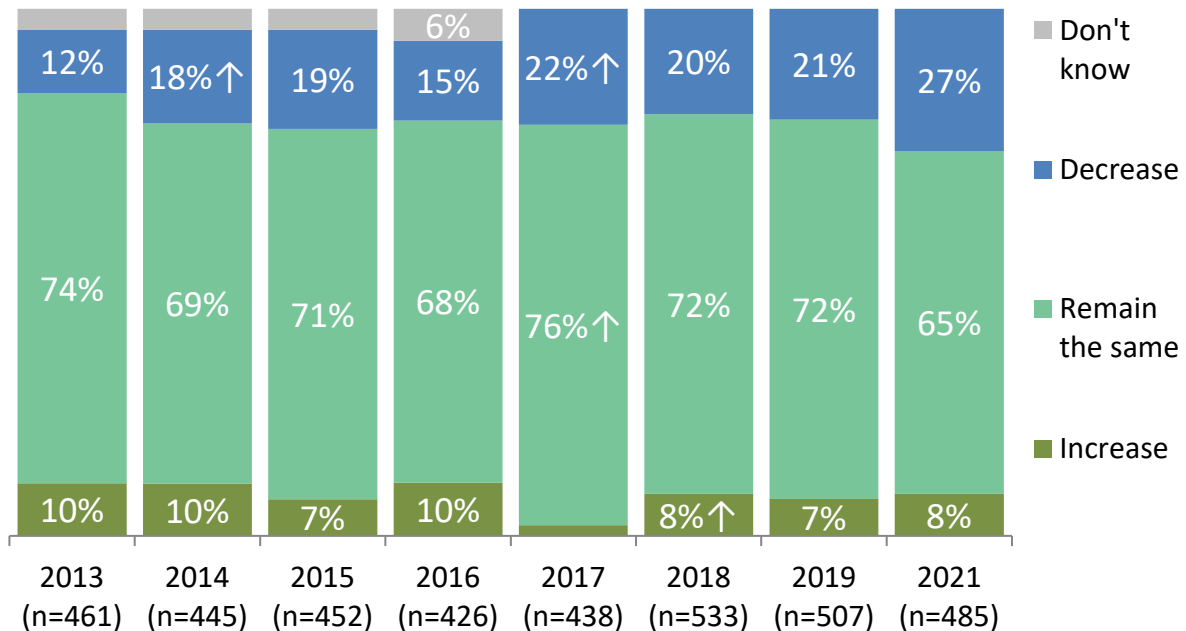


n=107. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.9 Library Services (Proposed 4%)




Few residents feel that the budget for Library Services should increase (8%). In contrast, a quarter (27%) feel that the budget should decrease, while the remaining 65% feel that the budget should remain the same. These results are similar to 2019.

**Budget Adjustment for Library Services** (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:

-  31%: Those who rent their primary residence;
-  15%: Those who prefer to increase taxes; and
-  14%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases.

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

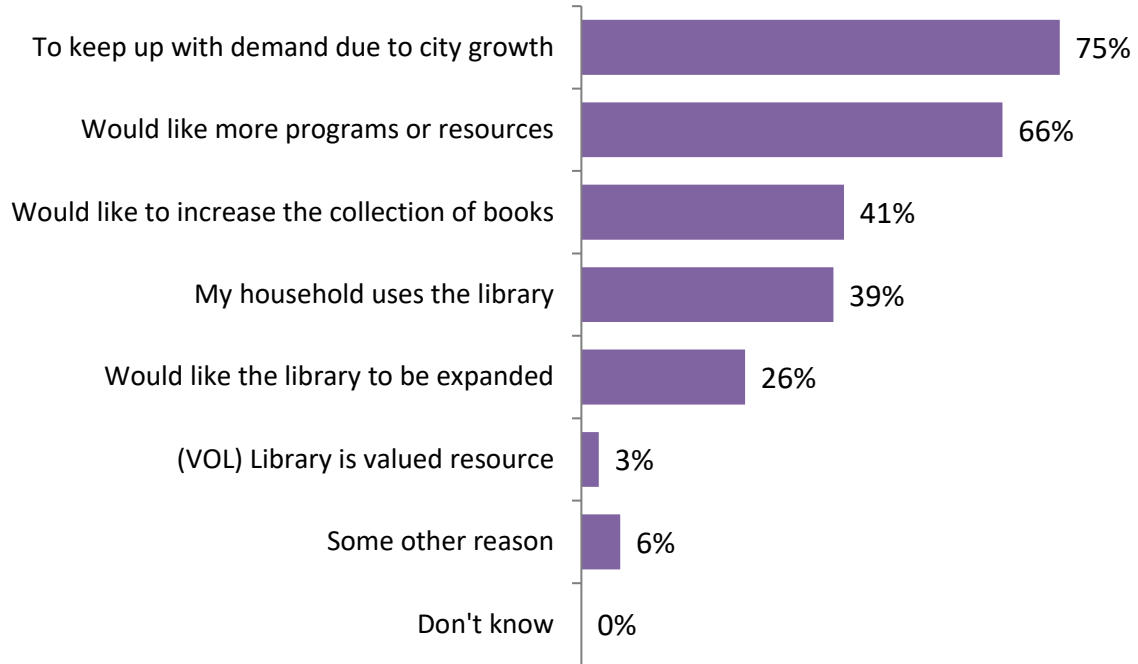
-  80%: Those in households earning less than \$60K; and
-  72%: Those who are not employed (on leave/homemaker/student/not employed/retired).

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

-  41%: Those in households earning more than \$150K;
-  40%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  37%: Those who prefer to cut services;
-  33%: Those employed full- or part-time; and
-  31%: Those who own their primary residence.

Only 30 residents suggested an **increase** in spending for *Library Services*. The most-cited reason for increasing spending is to make sure library services keep up with demand due to city growth (75%), followed by a desire for more programs or resources (66%).

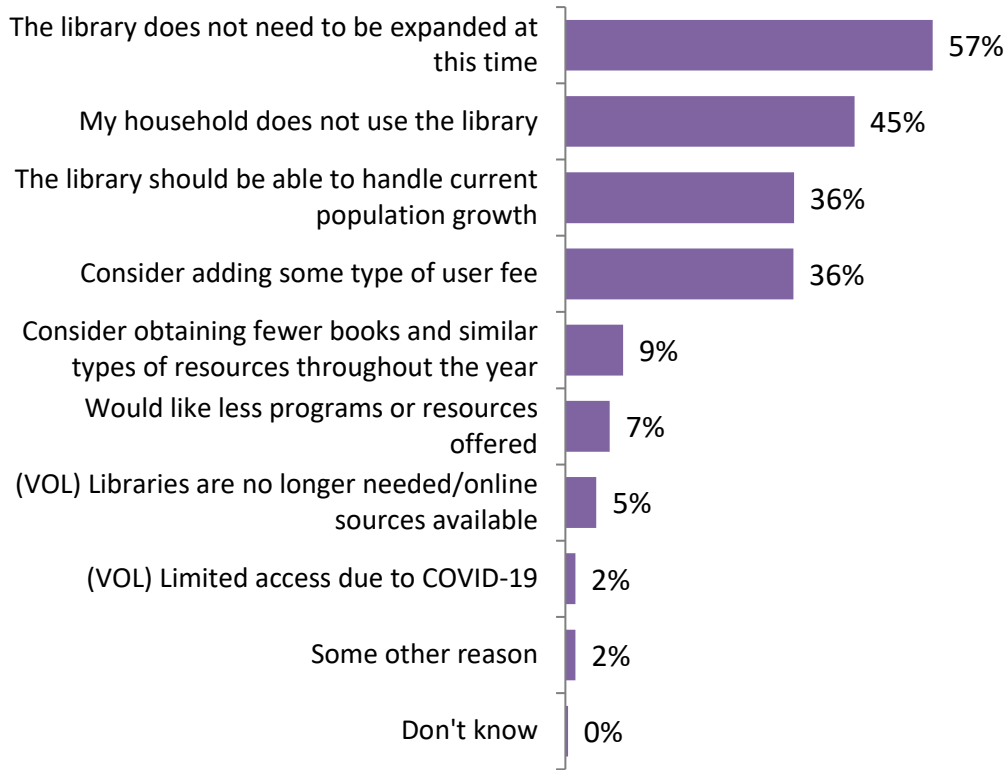
### Reasons to Increase Library Services Spending



n=30. Trending is not analyzed because 2019 had fewer than 30 responses. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Over half of those residents who would like *Library Services'* budget to **decrease** said that an expansion is not needed at this time (57%). A further 45% mentioned that their household does not use the library. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided in 2019.

### Reasons to Decrease Library Services Spending

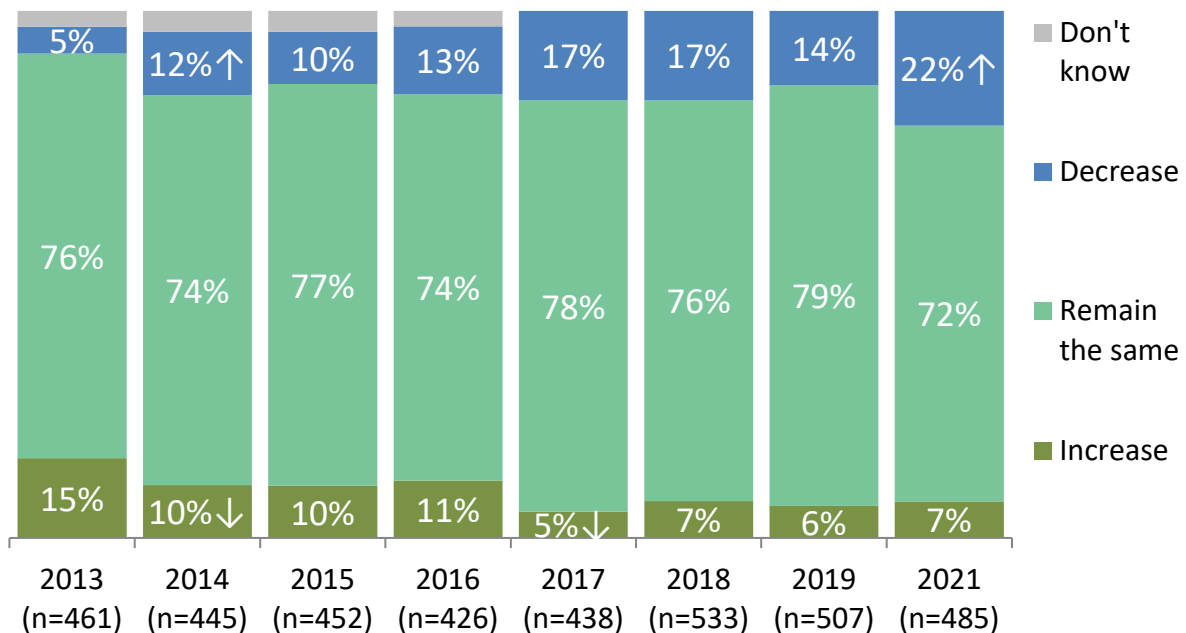


n=128. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.10 Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance (Proposed 9%)



22% of residents feel that the budget for *Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance* should decrease, compared to only 7% who feel that the budget should increase. The remaining 72% think that the budget should remain the same. The proportion of residents thinking budget for Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance should decrease has grown compared to 2019.

**Budget Adjustment for Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance** (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 funding to **increase** funding:

-  11%: Those who oppose a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  9%: Those who receive good/very good/excellent value from taxes.

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

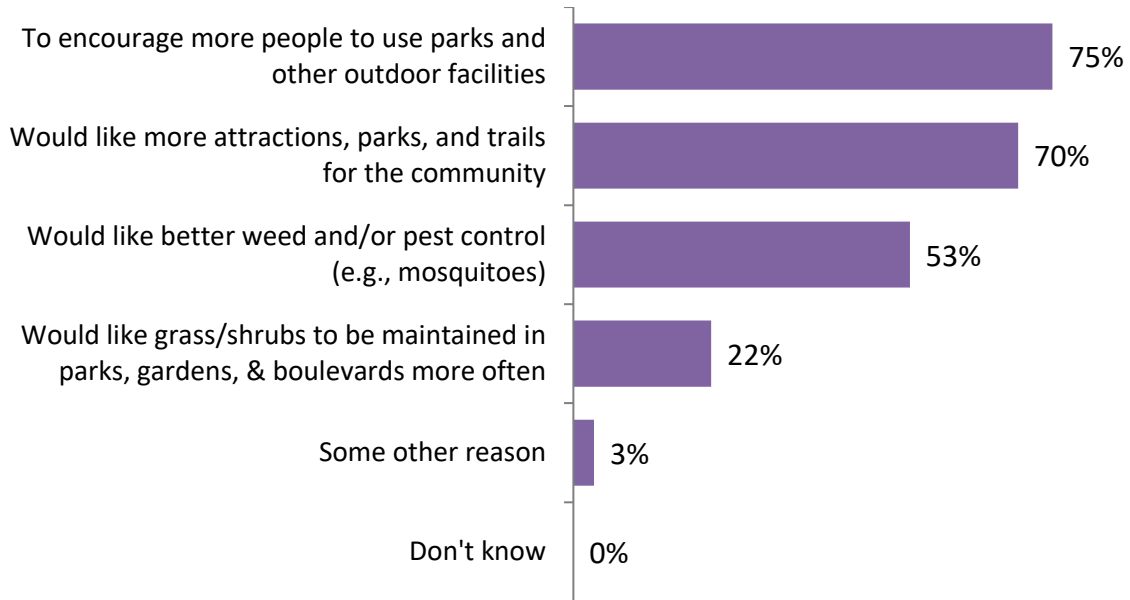
-  87%: Those who are neutral toward a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  86%: Those who prefer to increase taxes.

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

-  35%: Those who receive fair/poor value from taxes;
-  35%: Those who support a decrease in service levels to minimize tax increases; and
-  29%: Those who prefer to cut services.

Although very few residents mentioned that they would like to **increase** spending on *Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance*, the most common reasons cited are wanting to encourage more use of parks and other outdoor facilities (75%) and wanting more attractions, park, and trails for the community (70%).

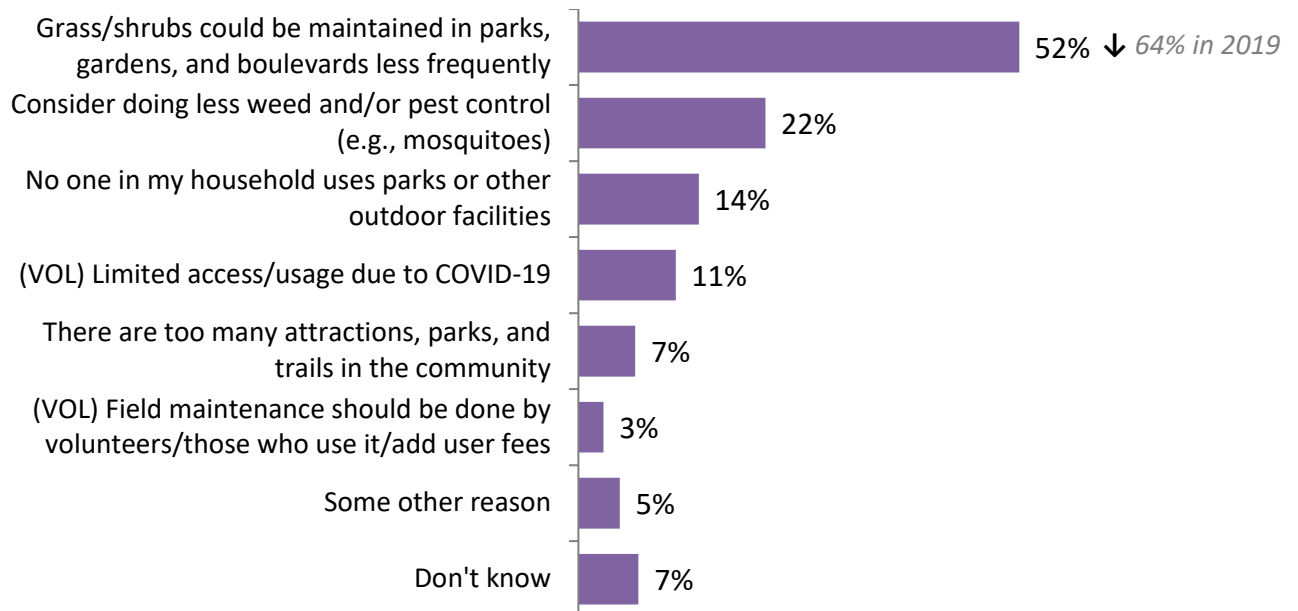
### Reasons to Increase Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance Spending



n=26. Due to the base being less than n=30, interpret with caution. Trending is not analyzed because 2019 has fewer than 30 responses. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Among residents who would like a **decrease** in funding for *Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance*, over half (52%) mentioned that grass and shrubs could be maintained in parks, gardens, and boulevards less frequently. This specific reason was mentioned less frequently in 2021.

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



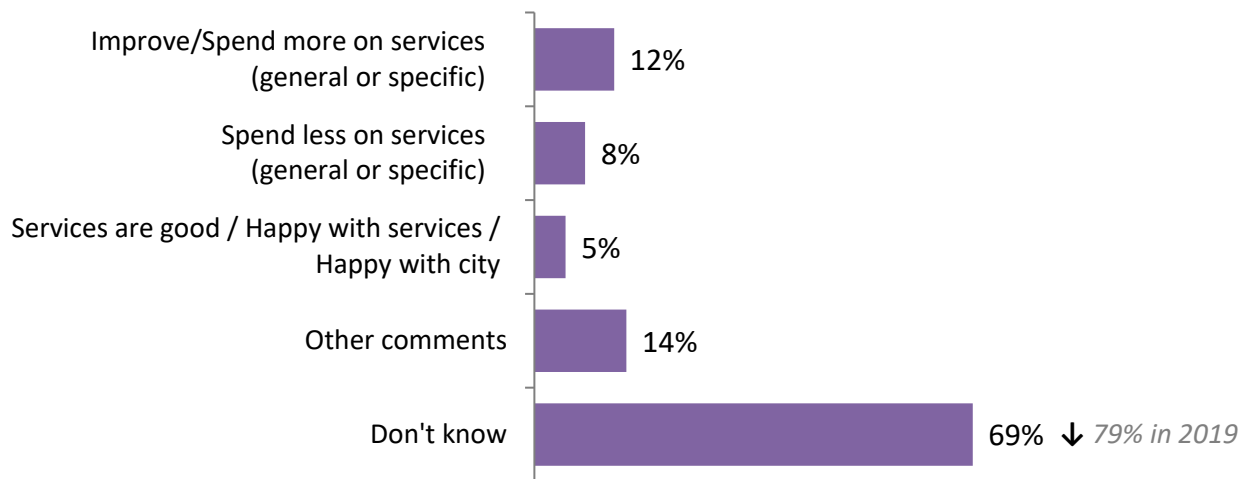
n=95. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.



### 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 31% provided further feedback (which is more than in 2019). In total, 12% reiterated that they would like spending to **increase** in general or for specific services, compared to 8% who reiterated that they wanted spending to **decrease**.

#### Other Variable Spending Feedback

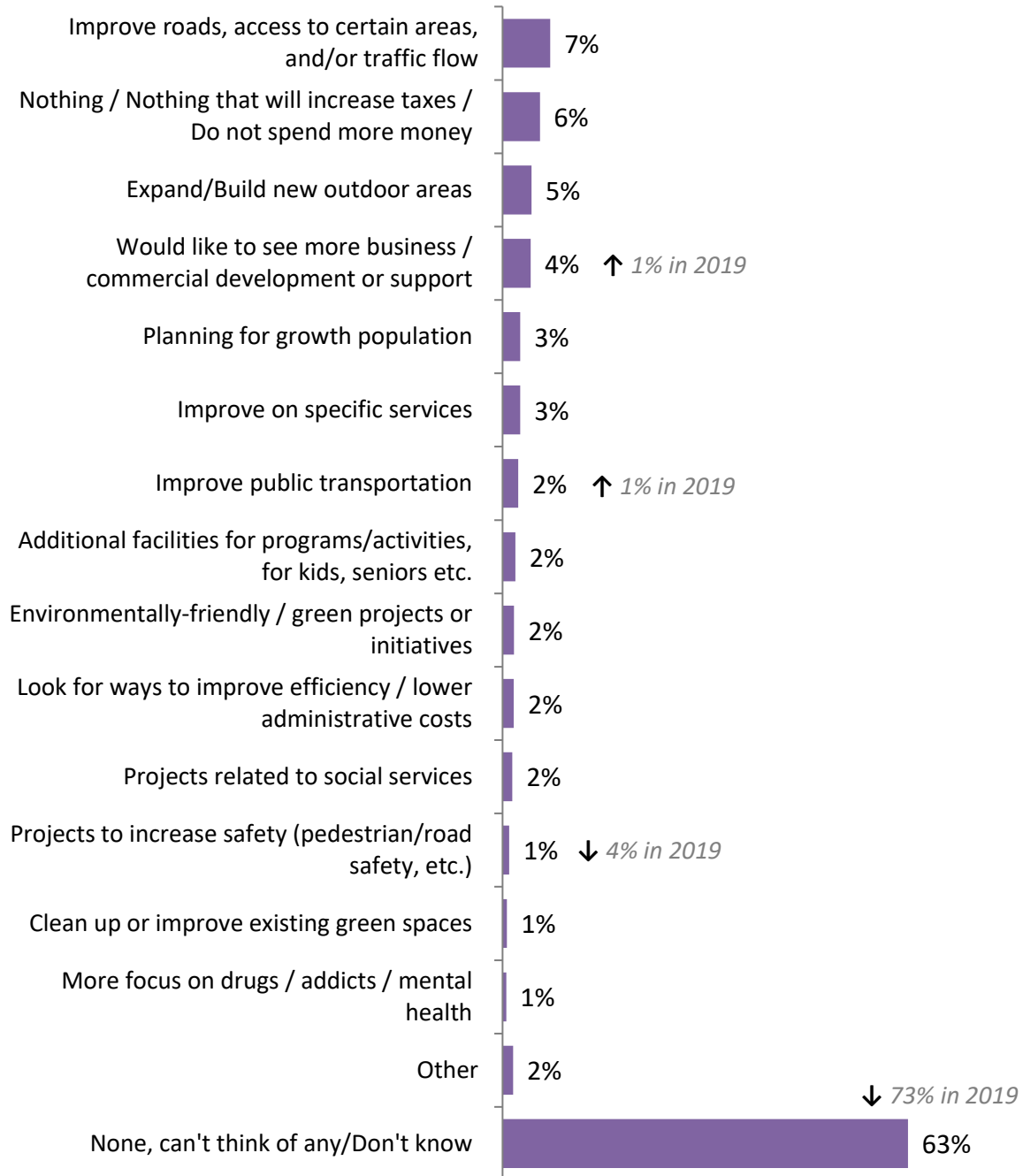


n=485. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.4 Other Projects and Priorities

Residents were also provided an opportunity to state other projects or goals for the City to consider. The vast majority (63%, which was fewer than in 2019) could not think of any other projects or goals. That said, the top suggestions were to improve roads, access to certain areas, and/or traffic flow (7%); expand/build new outdoor areas (5%); and more business/commercial development or support (4%, up from 1% in 2019).

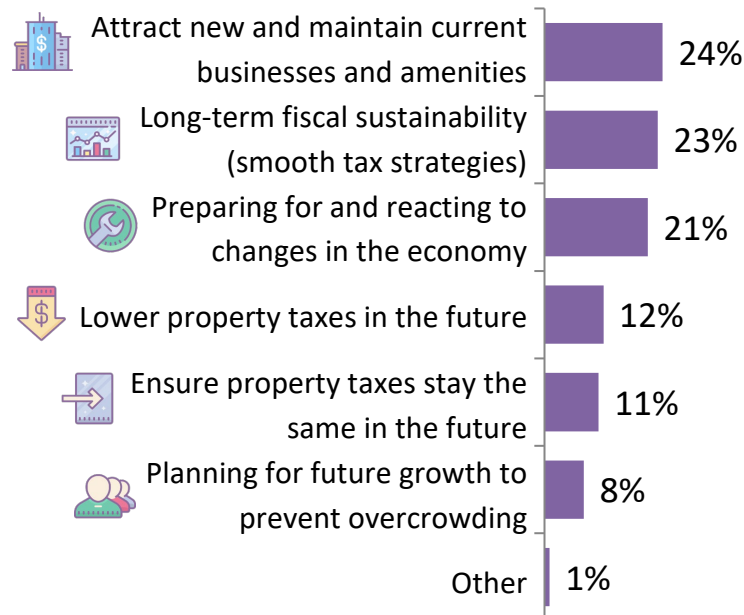
#### Other Projects or Goals to Consider



n=485. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

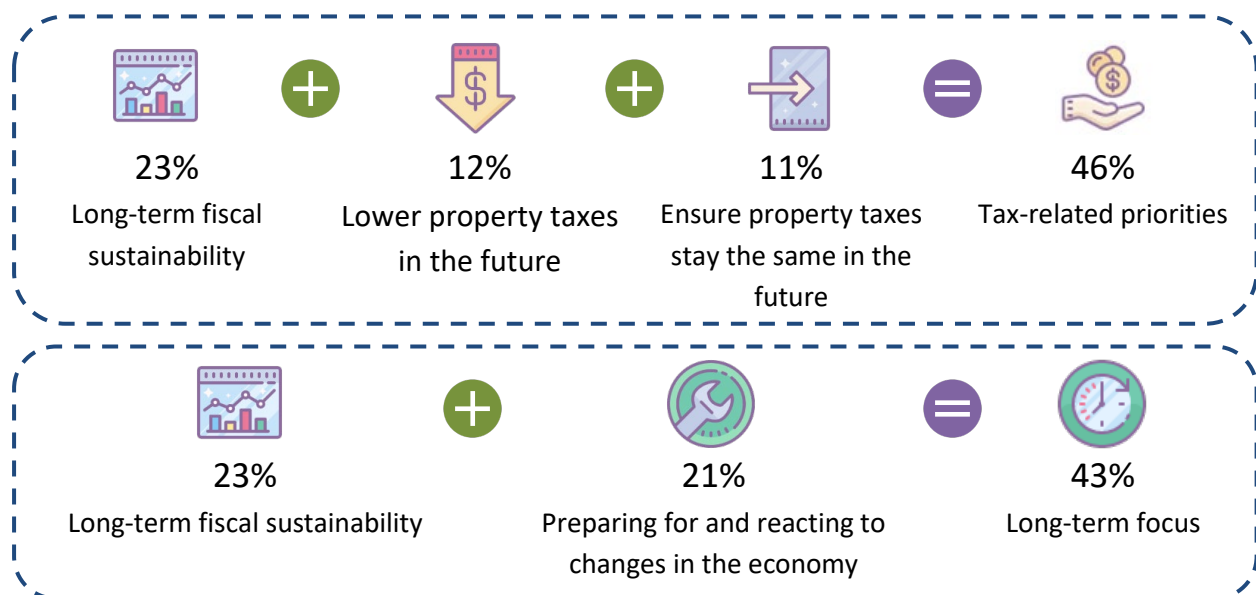
Finally, when asked about the top priority facing the City, about one in five chose either attracting new and maintaining current businesses and amenities (24%), long-term fiscal sustainability (i.e., smooth tax strategies, 23%), or to prepare for changes in the economy (21%). A further 12% would like the City to either find ways to lower property taxes in the future, 11% would like the City to find ways to ensure property taxes stay the same in the future, and 8% want the City to plan for future growth to prevent overcrowding. These results are similar to 2019.

### Most Important Priority Facing the City



n=485. Values may not add to 100% due to rounding.

After grouping some of the categories we find that 46% of residents would like the City to prioritize the taxation of residents and another 43% would like the City to adopt a long term focus.



## 4 Appendices

### 4.1 Respondent Demographics

	Percent of Residents							
	2021 n=485	2019 n=507	2018 n=533	2017 n=438	2016 n=426	2015 n=452	2014 n=445	2013 n=461
<b>Age</b>								
18 to 24 years	10%	0%	7%	2%	6%	4%	4%	4%
25 to 34 years	18%	6%	23%	30%	26%	31%	32%	32%
35 to 44 years	20%	45%	16%	18%	18%	18%	18%	18%
45 to 54 years	18%	15%	21%	18%	19%	18%	17%	17%
55 to 64 years	14%	14%	14%	14%	15%	14%	14%	12%
65 years or older	19%	19%	18%	17%	15%	13%	14%	16%
Not stated	0%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	2%	1%
<b>Employment status</b>								
Working full time, including self-employment (more than 30 hours/ week)	49%	47%	51%	49%	53%	63%	59%	64%
Working part time, including self-employment (30 hours per week or less)	9%	15%	11%	14%	15%	8%	11%	10%
On leave (disability, paternity, etc.)	2%	4%	2%	4%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Homemaker	3%	8%	6%	6%	7%	9%	8%	9%
Student	6%	0%	5%	3%	3%	1%	3%	1%
Not employed	6%	2%	2%	3%	6%	3%	4%	3%
Retired	21%	20%	18%	16%	15%	14%	14%	13%
Prefer not to answer	4%	4%	4%	5%	1%	1%	1%	<1%
<b>Household income</b>								
Under \$20,000	2%	1%	2%	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$20,000 to \$39,999	8%	7%	6%	5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$40,000 to \$59,999	8%	8%	10%	11%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$60,000 to \$79,999	18%	9%	12%	9%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$80,000 to \$99,999	12%	12%	11%	12%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$100,000 to \$124,999	10%	19%	14%	18%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$125,000 to \$149,999	6%	10%	10%	10%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$150,000 or more	20%	15%	17%	14%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Prefer not to answer	15%	21%	19%	19%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Primary residence									
Own	<b>80%</b>	91%	81%	92%	89%	92%	89%	88%	
Rent	<b>13%</b>	8%	14%	7%	11%	7%	9%	11%	
Not stated	<b>7%</b>	1%	5%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	
City of Leduc Employee?									
Yes	<b>2%</b>	6%	5%	5%	3%	4%	5%	7%	
No	<b>94%</b>	90%	92%	90%	96%	95%	94%	93%	
Not stated	<b>4%</b>	4%	4%	5%	1%	1%	1%	<1%	
Children (under 18) in Household?									
Yes	<b>38%</b>	53%	45%	49%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
No	<b>61%</b>	46%	55%	50%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Prefer not to answer	<b>1%</b>	1%	1%	1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	

Values may not add to 100% due to rounding.

### 4.2 Data Weighting

The data was weighted to the age characteristics of the residents of Leduc as determined by the 2019 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>	30	6%	28%	4.54
<b>35 to 54</b>	179	37%	38%	1.02
<b>55 to 64</b>	95	20%	14%	0.73
<b>65 or older</b>	179	37%	19%	0.52
<b>Unknown/Refused*</b>	2	0%	0%	1.00

\* Residents were allowed to refuse to answer their age as long as they confirmed that they are at least 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 was randomized);
- Level randomization (the order of some lists was 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 2021, the City is seeking input from citizens to assist in the 2022 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 2022 budget. Doing so makes you eligible to **enter a draw to win a gift certificate to a local Leduc business of your choice (valued at \$150).**

We want to hear from you! Press the right arrow to continue.

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.

© 2021 Advanis *Privacy Policy* ([http://www.advanis.ca/privacy\\_policy2.html](http://www.advanis.ca/privacy_policy2.html))

### Intro2

Please read each question and statement carefully. Throughout the survey, information will be provided to you so that you are able to reflect and provide an informed response to the questions. Pressing this icon **\*?\*** when shown will provide additional information. For each question, please select the response(s) that best represents your point of view.

Please respond before **May 31, 2021.**

**\*?\*** Additional information will show up here.

### D1

To begin, how old are you?

- 0 15 or younger
- 1 16 or 17
- 2 18 to 24
- 3 25 to 34
- 4 35 to 44
- 5 45 to 54
- 6 55 to 64
- 7 65 or older
- 8 Prefer not to say

**D1a** *Show if D1 Refused*

In order to be eligible for this survey, please confirm that you are over the age of 15.

- 1 You are 18 years old or older
- 2 You are 16 or 17 years old
- 3 You are 15 years old or younger

**T1** *Show if Younger than 16*

Unfortunately, you do not meet the eligibility requirements to complete this survey. Thank you for your time.

Status Code: 501

**S1**

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

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Prefer not to answer

**T2** *Show if S1 Does not live in Leduc*

Unfortunately, you do not meet the eligibility requirements to complete this survey. Thank you for your time.

Status Code: 502

**D4**

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

- 1 Own
- 2 Rent
- 8 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**?

Minimum: 1, Maximum: 99

\_\_\_\_\_ %

- 9 Don't know

**Q1a**

In fact, of property tax collected in 2020:

- **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...?

- 1 Excellent value
- 2 Very good value
- 3 Good value
- 4 Fair value
- 5 Poor value
- .9 Don't know

**Q1b** *Show if Q1a not DK*

What is the **main reason** you feel that you receive [Q1a answer] value?

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- .9 Don't know / No comment

**Q1c** *Show if Q1a DK*

Why can you not rate the value that you received from the **73%** of property tax that goes to the *City of Leduc* to fund **city services**?

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- .9 No comment



**Q2**

The City of Leduc understands and recognizes 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 support or oppose a **decrease in service levels** to minimize tax increases in 2022?

- 1 **Strongly oppose** a decrease in service levels
- 2 **Somewhat oppose** a decrease in service levels
- 3 **Neither oppose nor support** a decrease in service levels
- 4 **Somewhat support** a decrease in service levels
- 5 **Strongly support** a decrease in service levels
- .9 Don't know

**Q2a** *Show if Q2 support or oppose decrease but not neither*

Why do you say you **[Q2 answer]** a **decrease in service levels** to minimize tax increases in 2022?

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- .9 Don't know / No comment

**Q3**

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

- 1 Increase taxes to fund growth needs, infrastructure maintenance and improve services \*
- 2 Increase taxes to maintain all existing infrastructure and services \*
- 3 Cut existing services to maintain current taxes \*
- 4 Cut existing services to reduce taxes \*
- .9 Don't know

*Levels marked with \* are randomized*

## BIntro

The City of Leduc budget includes two spending categories:

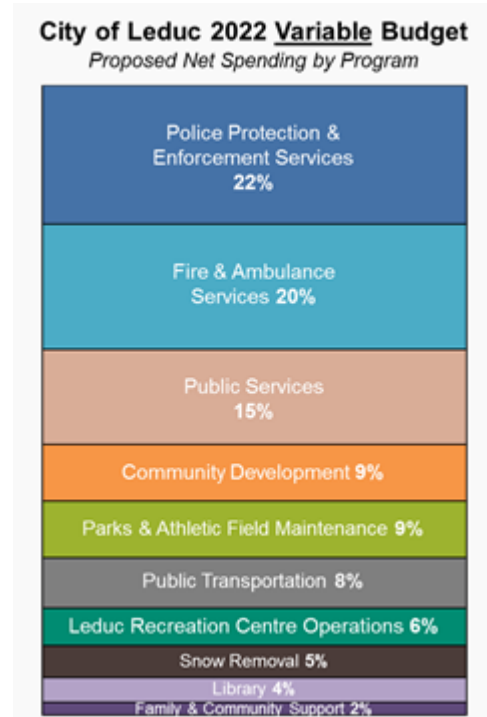
**Fixed Spending (53%)** includes items that are necessary to govern, operate and maintain the City of Leduc and do not vary based on the level of service provided:

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

The next section will not include these budget items.

**Variable Spending (47%)** includes categories where spending can be increased or decreased depending on the level of service provided. As shown below, the next section seeks your input into spending in these areas.

Press the right arrow to continue.



## 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**, **remain the same**, or **decrease** in 2022. A description of each service can be found by pressing this icon: \*?\*. If you are asked why you made the choice you did, please let us know **all** the reasons you feel the way you do.

Have your say in your city's budget planning process! Press the right arrow to continue.

\*?\* A description will show up here.

**B1a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Police Protection & Enforcement Services**\*?\* (proposed 22%)?

\*?\* This includes RCMP contract and detachment administrative support, community safety, animal control and other bylaw enforcement.

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

**B1b** Show if B1a increase police

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 22% of the variable budget. This includes RCMP contract and detachment administrative support, community safety, animal control and other bylaw enforcement.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B1c** Show if B1a decrease police

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 22% of the variable budget. This includes RCMP contract and detachment administrative support, community safety, animal control and other bylaw enforcement.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B2a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Fire & Ambulance Services**\*\* (proposed 20%)?

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

\*\* This includes Fire and Ambulance response, rescue and patient treatment services, community prevention and inspection services and emergency preparedness.

- 1 Increase spending (may increase taxes) *(Show if version 1)*
- 2 Spending should remain the same

**B2b** Show if B2a increase fire

Why would you increase spending on **Fire & Ambulance Services**? \*\*

Please select all that apply.

\*\* Proposed 20% of the variable budget. This includes Fire and Ambulance response, rescue and patient treatment services, community prevention and inspection services and emergency preparedness.

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

*Levels marked with \* are randomized*

**B3a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Public Services**\*\* (proposed 15%)?

\*\* This includes maintenance of roadways, sidewalks, multi-ways, bridges, overpasses, traffic controls, including: pothole patching, crack sealing, grading, guard repair, cleaning, dust control, and pavement marking.

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

**B3b** Show if B3a increase public services

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 15% of the variable budget. This includes maintenance of roadways, sidewalks, multi-ways, bridges, overpasses, traffic controls, including: pothole patching, crack sealing, grading, guard repair, cleaning, dust control and pavement marking.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B3c** Show if B3a decrease public services

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 15% of the variable budget. This includes maintenance of roadways, sidewalks, multi-ways, bridges, overpasses, traffic controls, including: pothole patching, crack sealing, grading, guard repair, cleaning, dust control and pavement marking.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B4a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance**\*?\*(proposed 9%)?

\*?\* 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.

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

**B4b** Show if B4a increase parks

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

Please select all that apply.

\*\* Proposed 9% of the variable budget. 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.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B4c** Show if B4a decrease parks

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

Please select all that apply.

\*\* Proposed 9% of the variable budget. 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.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B5a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Leduc Recreation Centre Operations**\*\* (proposed 6%)?

\*\* 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).

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

**B5b** Show if B5a increase rec centre

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

Please select all that apply.

*\*?\** Proposed 6% of the variable budget. 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).

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

*Levels marked with \* are randomized*

**B5c** Show if B5a decrease rec centre

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

Please select all that apply.

*\*?\** Proposed 6% of the variable budget. 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).

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

*Levels marked with \* are randomized*

**B6a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Snow Removal****\*?\*** (proposed 5%)?

*\*?\** This includes street, parking lot and alleyway sanding, snow plowing and snow removal.

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

**B6b** Show if B6a increase snow removal

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 5% of the variable budget. This includes street, parking lot and alleyway sanding, snow plowing and snow removal.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B6c** Show if B6a decrease snow removal

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 5% of the variable budget. This includes street, parking lot and alleyway sanding, snow plowing and snow removal.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B7a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Community Development**\*?\* (proposed 9%)?

\*?\* 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.

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



**B7b** Show if B7a increase community development

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\*

 Proposed 9% of the variable budget. 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.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B7c** Show if B7a decrease community development

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\*

 Proposed 9% of the variable budget. 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.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B8a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Public Transportation** **\*?\*** (proposed 8%)?

\*?\*

 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.

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

**B8b** Show if B8a increase transit

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\*

Proposed 8% of the variable budget. 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.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B8c** Show if B8a decrease transit

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\*

Proposed 8% of the variable budget. 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.

- 1 Current service schedules should be adequate \*
- 2 Existing buses should be adequate \*
- 3 Consider charging riders more for this service \*
- 4 My household does not use public transportation \*
- 5 Consider starting bus service later and/or ending service sooner \*
- 6 Some other reason (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- .9 Don't know

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B9a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 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.

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

**B9b** Show if B9a increase library

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

Please select all that apply.

**\*?\*** Proposed 4% of the variable budget. 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.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B9c** Show if B9a decrease library

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

Please select all that apply.

**\*?\*** Proposed 4% of the variable budget. 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.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B10a**

How would you adjust the variable spending in 2022 for **Family & Community Support Services**? **\*?\***  
(proposed 2%)?

**\*?\*** This includes family counseling and support, prevention and education regarding social issues, meals on wheels program, senior support, and homemaking services.

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

**B10b** Show if B10a increase fccs

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 2% of the variable budget. This includes family counseling and support, support, prevention and education regarding social issues, meals on wheels program, senior support, and homemaking services.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**B10c** Show if B10a decrease fccs

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

Please select all that apply.

\*?\* Proposed 2% of the variable budget. This includes family counseling and support, support, prevention and education regarding social issues, meals on wheels program, senior support, and homemaking services.

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

Levels marked with \* are randomized

**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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- .8 No additional feedback

**Q5**

What other projects or goals (if any) should the City be thinking of when planning the budget for 2022 and beyond? These may result in a tax increase.

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- .8 None/Cannot think of any

**Q6**

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

- 2 Focusing on long-term fiscal sustainability (smooth tax strategies) \*
- 3 Planning for future growth to prevent overcrowding \*
- 4 Attract new and maintain current businesses and amenities \*
- 5 Finding ways to lower property taxes in the future \*
- 6 Finding ways to ensure property taxes stay the same in the future \*
- 7 Preparing for and reacting to changes in the economy \*
- 8 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

*Levels marked with \* are randomized*

**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.

Please press the right arrow to continue.

**D2** *Show if 18 or older*

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

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 Prefer not to answer

**D6**

Which of the following categories applies to your total household income before taxes in 2020?

- 1 Under \$20,000
- 2 \$20,000 to \$39,999
- 3 \$40,000 to \$59,999
- 4 \$60,000 to \$79,999
- 5 \$80,000 to \$99,999
- 6 \$100,000 to \$124,999
- 7 \$125,000 to \$149,999
- 8 \$150,000 or more
- 9 Prefer not to answer

**D3**

Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

- 1 Working full time, including self-employment (more than 30 hours per week)
- 2 Working part time, including self-employment (30 hours per week or less)
- 3 On leave (disability, maternity, paternity, etc.)
- 4 Homemaker
- 5 Student
- 6 Not employed
- 7 Retired
- 8 Prefer not to answer

**D5a** *Show if D3 employed*

And, do you work for the City of Leduc?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

**D5b** *Show if D3 on leave*

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

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

**D7**

Which of the following are places that you have heard or seen advertisements promoting this survey?

Please select all that apply

- 7 Billboard signs \*
- 2 Social media \*
- 3 City of Leduc website \*
- 5 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 I have not heard or seen any advertisements promoting this survey (Exclusive)

*Levels marked with \* are randomized*

**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. Doing so makes you eligible to **enter a draw to win a gift certificate to a local Leduc business of your choice (valued at \$150).**

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.

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

**I1** *Show if I0 yes draw*

Please provide your contact details[[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.]] so that we may contact you should you be the winner of the draw.

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

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

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

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

-8 Not interested in entering draw



**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 2022. Should you have any additional questions, please contact:

Lauren Padgham  
 Acting Manager, Budgets & Financial Planning  
 City of Leduc  
 780-980-8474  
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You will be redirected shortly to the City of Leduc website.