

**2020 Budget Planning Survey  
Stakeholder Survey Results**

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**Conducted by:**



**ADVANIS**











*Advanis Inc.  
Suite 200, Sun Life Place  
10123 99 Street  
Edmonton, AB  
T5J 3H1*

**Primary Contact:**

*Patrick Kyba  
pkyba@advanis.net  
780.229.1135*

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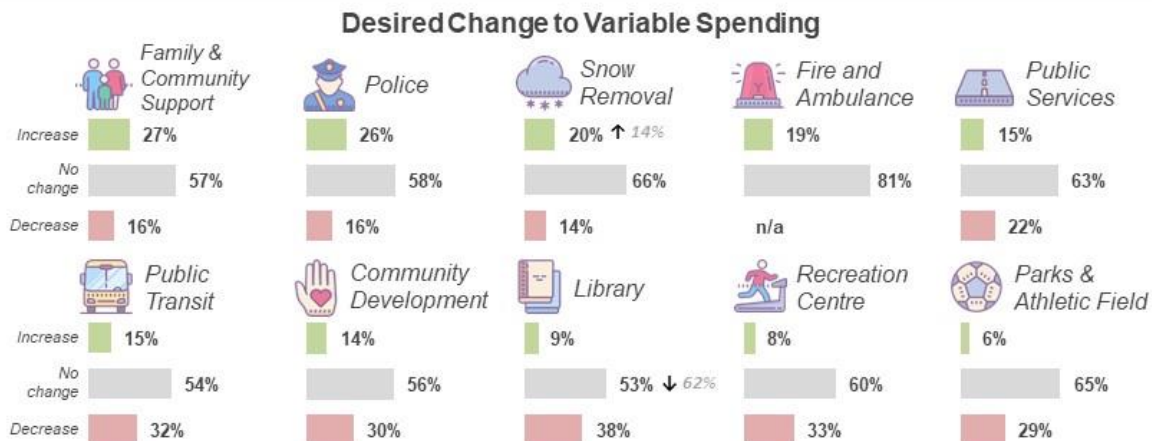
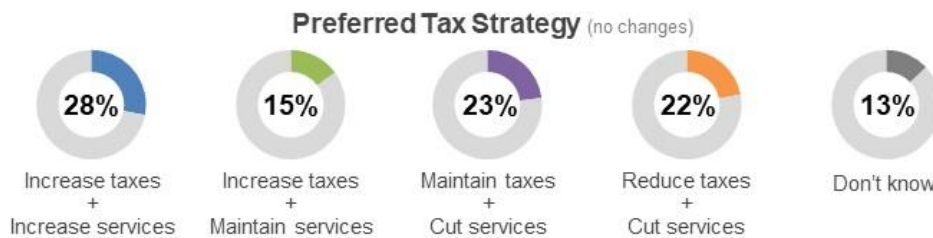
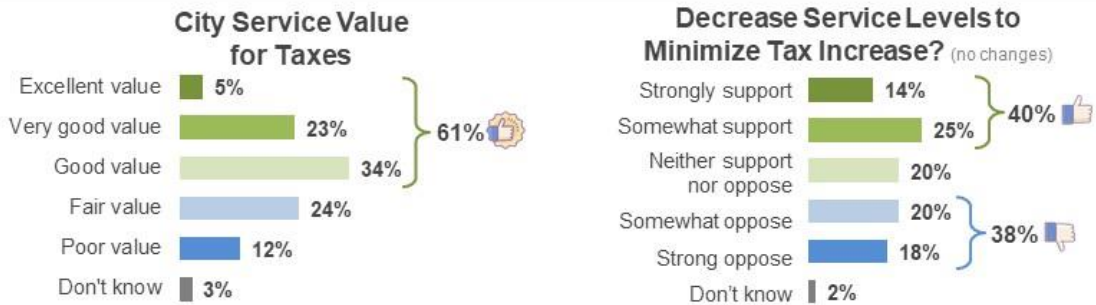
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# 1 Budget Planning Survey Highlights

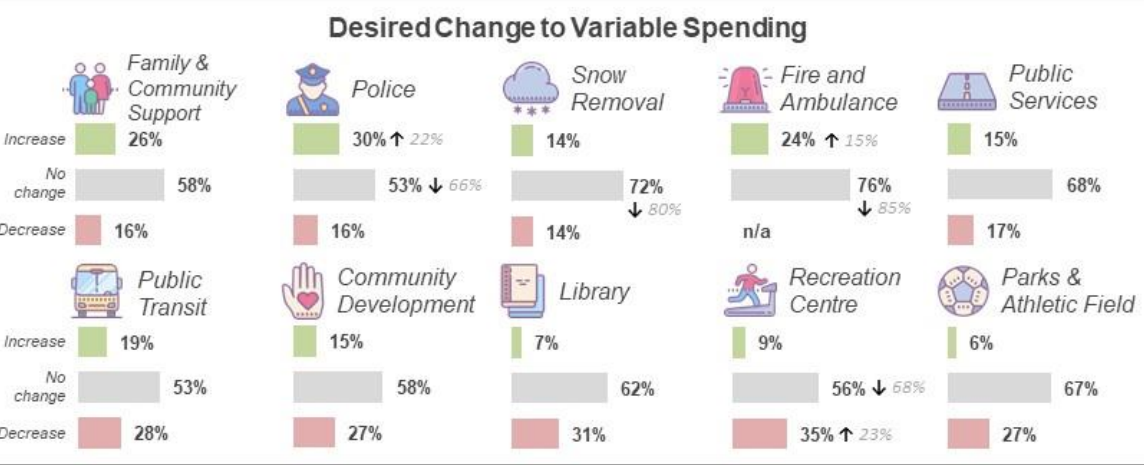
## 2020 Budget Planning Survey Highlights

Survey of 436 Leduc residents, completed online, between April 30<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Results are unweighted.



# 2019 Budget Planning Survey Highlights

Survey of 231 Leduc residents, completed online, between May 2<sup>nd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Results are unweighted.



## 2 Detailed Project Description

### 2.1 Project Background

In spring 2019, the City of Leduc (“the City”) contracted Advanis to conduct the 2020 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 2020 budget. In total, 436 City of Leduc residents aged 16 and older completed the survey between April 30<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

This report outlines the results of the 2020 Stakeholder 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. **However, given that this sampling methodology is not random (see section 2.2.3 for more details), changes over time may be driven by the type of people who responded rather than the sentiment of the 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

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 2020 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. Only 1 survey was completed in 2019 by this younger demographic.

#### 2.2.2 Survey Design

The 2020 Budget Planning Survey was based on the 2019 Budget Planning Survey, conducted in spring 2018. This maintained consistency between years and allowed many results to be compared between years. Specific changes made to the survey included:

- Removed the “Radio” answer level from the question asking where respondents learned about the survey and added “Billboard signs”.
- Updating all dates in the survey to reflect 2019 dates and all budget percentages to reflect what was actually budgeted for in 2019.
- Changing the incentive from offering a movie pass (for 4) to Leduc Cinemas to tickets to a performance series of 3 shows at Maclab Theatre for the Performing arts.

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 4.2).

### 2.2.3 Survey Population and Data Collection

Advanis provided a static link to the online survey to the City, which the City put on their website ([www.leduc.ca](http://www.leduc.ca)). The link was then advertised to the public using news releases, LED signs, City Voice (for internal staff), movie theatre ads, on the City's Facebook page, and other City websites. 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 2020 Budget Planning Survey in order to most effectively engage all Leduc residents. As mentioned, the survey platform used in 2019 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, 71% of surveys collected for this report completed the survey on a mobile device** (compared to 68% in 2018). Although hardcopy versions of the Stakeholder survey were available if needed, no paper versions of the survey were requested.

A soft launch of the survey was conducted on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. 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 no data checks flagged any concerns, these results were included and the full survey was launched. 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>, 2019.

Those who completed the survey were not drawn from the City population using probability sampling because the survey link was only available to those who saw advertising for the link and some people would have seen the link more often than others. As such, a margin of error is not reported (margin of error accounts for sampling error). If the data had been collected using a probability sampling method, the margin of error would be +/- 4.7%, 19 times out of 20. Given this sampling approach, the outcomes of the statistical tests reported reflect results as if performed on data collected using probability sampling. Similar to previous years, the data is left unweighted given the non-random sampling frame.

### 2.2.4 Survey Awareness

Nearly twice as many residents completed this year's Stakeholder survey compared to last year (436 vs. 231). The data was examined to try to determine why this was the case:

- The distributions based on age, employment status, household income, primary residence ownership, children in the household, and employment with the City of Leduc are all very similar between the two years (see section 4.1 of the appendix).

- It is possible that a specific resident decided to complete the survey multiple times from the same IP address which would inflate the base size. Although there were a few IP addresses that had multiple completed surveys, no single IP address accounted for a substantial proportion of the completed surveys. Note that multiple surveys from a single IP address can occur for a number of reasons such as residents completing the survey over an open wifi connection or using a public computer (for example, a library terminal).
- It is possible that a particular event occurred which caused an increase in the number of completed surveys on a particular date this year compared to last year. Although there were slightly more completed surveys done at the end of May, in general there were more surveys completed every day in May this year compared to last year.

As the data cannot explain the reason for the increased interest in the survey this year, it is likely that the additional completed surveys occurred because advertising was more effective this year than last year. Survey participants were asked how they learned of the survey. Social media was the most often mentioned (by 75% of participants) followed by 19% who mentioned that they recalled it from billboard signs, and 12% from the City of Leduc website. Other sources include 1% who learned of the survey from cinema, and 7% learned of the survey from somewhere else.

### 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:

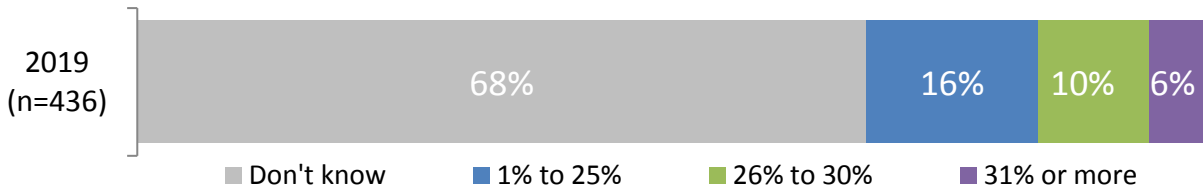
- The term “significant” means “statistically significant at 95% confidence”.
- The analysis checked for statistical differences between the following groups:
  - Age (18 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64, 65 or older);
  - Children in household (children, no children);
  - Income (under \$60,000, \$60,000 to \$99,999, \$100,000 to \$149,999, \$150,000 or more);
  - Employment status (employed full/part time, on leave/homemaker/student/not employed/retired);
  - 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 (<30) renters completing the survey.
- 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 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 fewer than 30 residents, percents 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.



### 3.1 Property Tax Value

Residents were informed that a portion of property tax collected on behalf of the Province of Alberta and goes to pay for education. When asked what percent of property tax goes to the province, over two-thirds (68%) did not know. The true percent of property tax that pays for education is 28%. 10% of residents came close, mentioning between 26% and 30%, while only 1% of residents correctly identified that 28% of property tax pays for education.

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



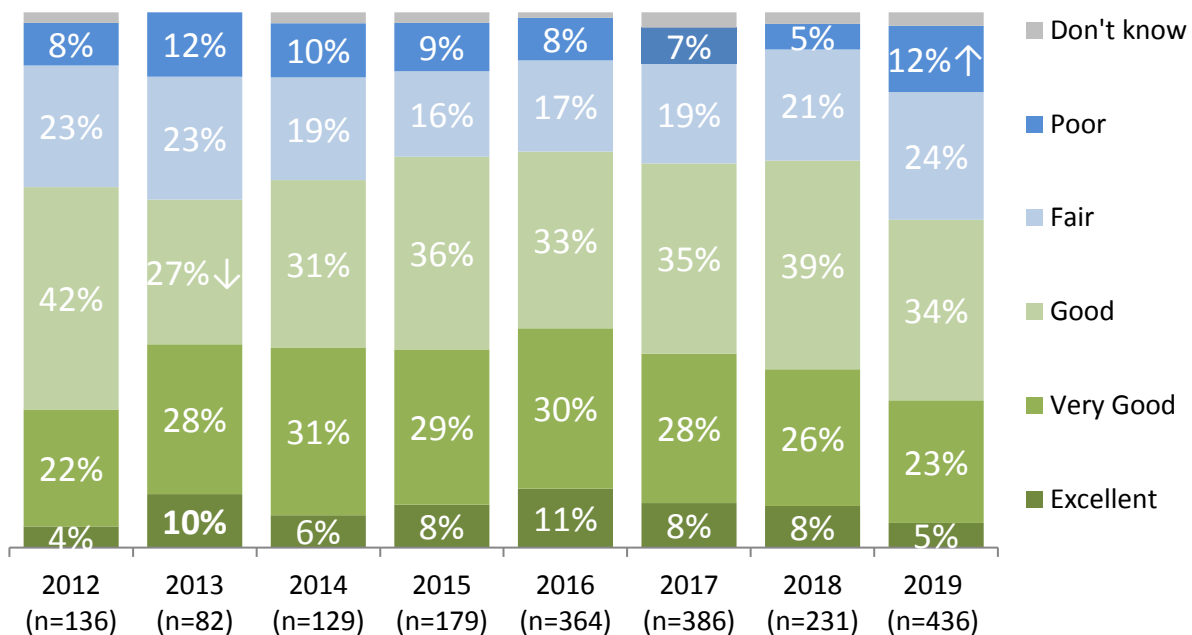
Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Trending is not shown as the true percent (28%) has decreased from last year (29%).

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

- 💰 16%: Those whose income is between \$60,000 and \$99,999; and
- 🏠 12%: Those who own their home.

All residents were then made aware that 28% 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 72% used to fund city services. Sentiment has softened since last year, as there is a trend downwards.

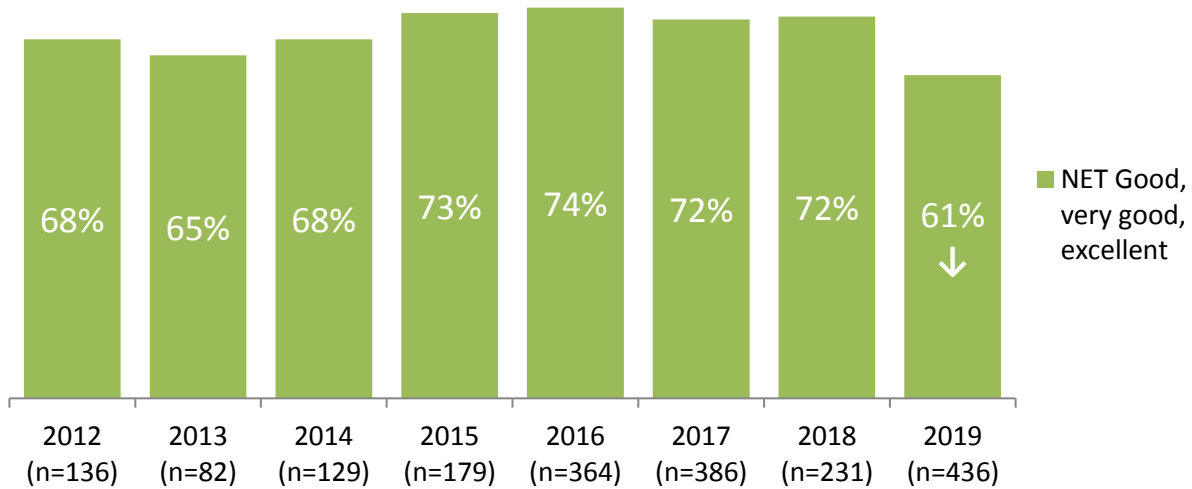
#### Perceived Value Received for Taxes Paid






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 (61%) has decreased compared to last year and is at the lower level since 2012<sup>1</sup>.

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



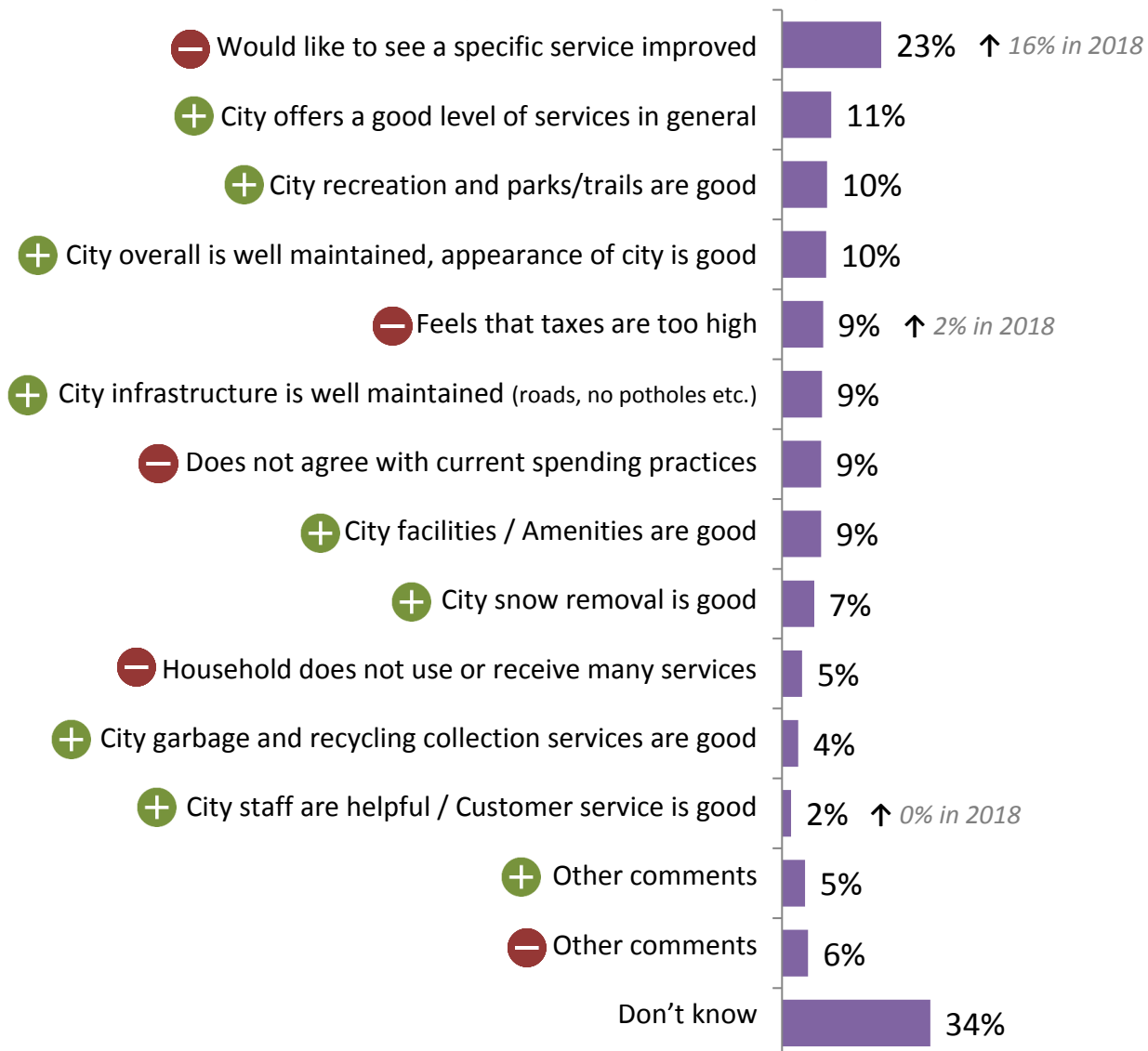
Subgroups that are significantly more likely to feel they receive “good”, “very good”, or “excellent” value include:

-  77%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to improve or maintain services;
-  76%: Those who are 65 or older; and
-  73%: Those who oppose decreasing services to minimize tax increases.

<sup>1</sup> As the Stakeholder survey uses an open web link, it could have been the case that a particular person completed the survey multiple times in an effort to bring down this score. However, there is no single IP address associated with multiple low scores on this question.

Residents were asked the reason why they felt that way. Given that the majority of 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 were that residents feel that city offer a good level of services (11%), recreation, parks, and trails are good (10%), and the City overall is well maintained (10%). The top **-** **negative** reason provided by 23% of residents was the desire to see a specific service improved (top services include snow removal, road maintenance, and garbage collection). Note that about one-third (34%) of residents were unable to provide a reason for the perceived value they receive.

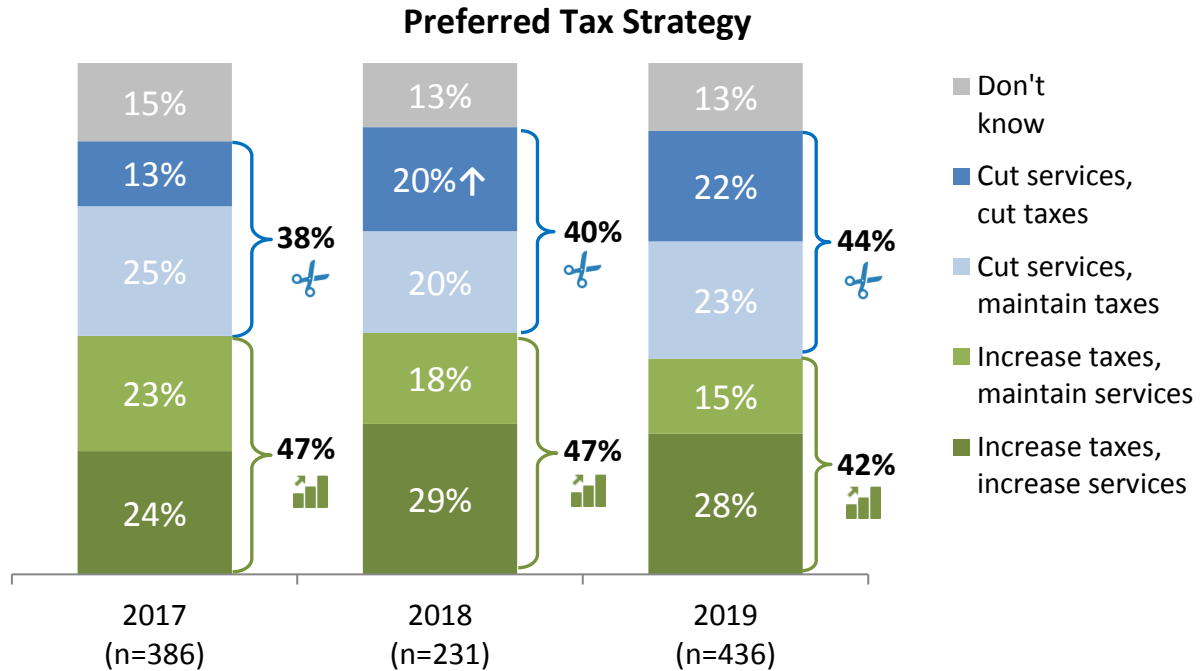
### Why Residents Feel this Way



n=436. 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 similar to 2018 and split between 42% preferring to increase taxes to increase or maintain services, and 44% preferring cutting services to maintain or reduce taxes. A further 13% did not provide an opinion.



Values may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

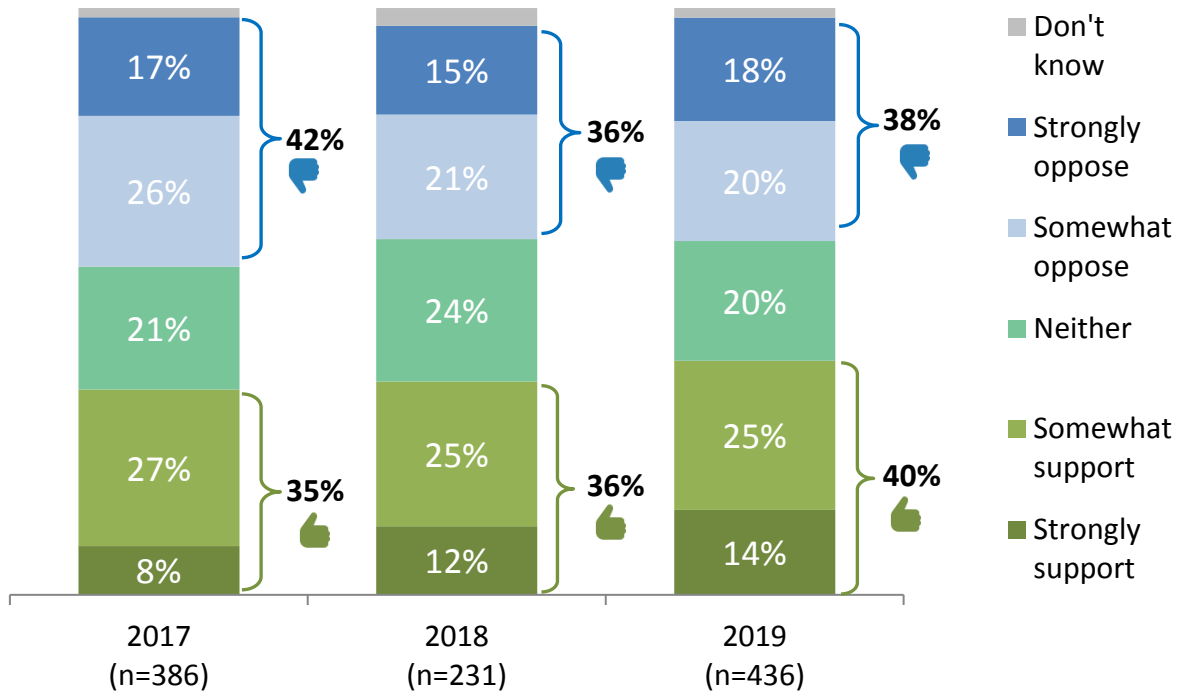
Results are not trended prior to 2017 due to the removal of the “something else” category.

Significant subgroup differences include:

Increase taxes, increase services	Increase taxes, maintain services	Cut services, maintain taxes	Cut services, cut taxes
<p>🗨️ 48%: Those who oppose decreasing services to minimize tax increases;</p> <p>🏠 47%: Those who rent their home;</p> <p>😊 36%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for their taxes</p>	<p>🗨️ 23%: Those who oppose decreasing services to minimize tax increases</p> <p>😊 17%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for their taxes</p>	<p>👍 37%: Those who support a decrease in services to maintain taxes</p> <p>🏠 24%: Those who own their home</p>	<p>👍 45%: Those who support a decrease in services to maintain taxes</p> <p>😞 39%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes</p>

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. Results were mixed with 38% opposing this approach and 40% supporting it. One-fifth did not feel strongly either way, while another 2% did not have an opinion. These results are similar to 2018.

### 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 as a likelihood scale was previously used.

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

- 73%: Those who prefer cutting services to maintain or lower taxes;
- 55%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes; and
- 43%: Those who own their home.

There are no subgroups significantly more likely to **neither support nor oppose** decreasing service levels to maintain taxes.

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

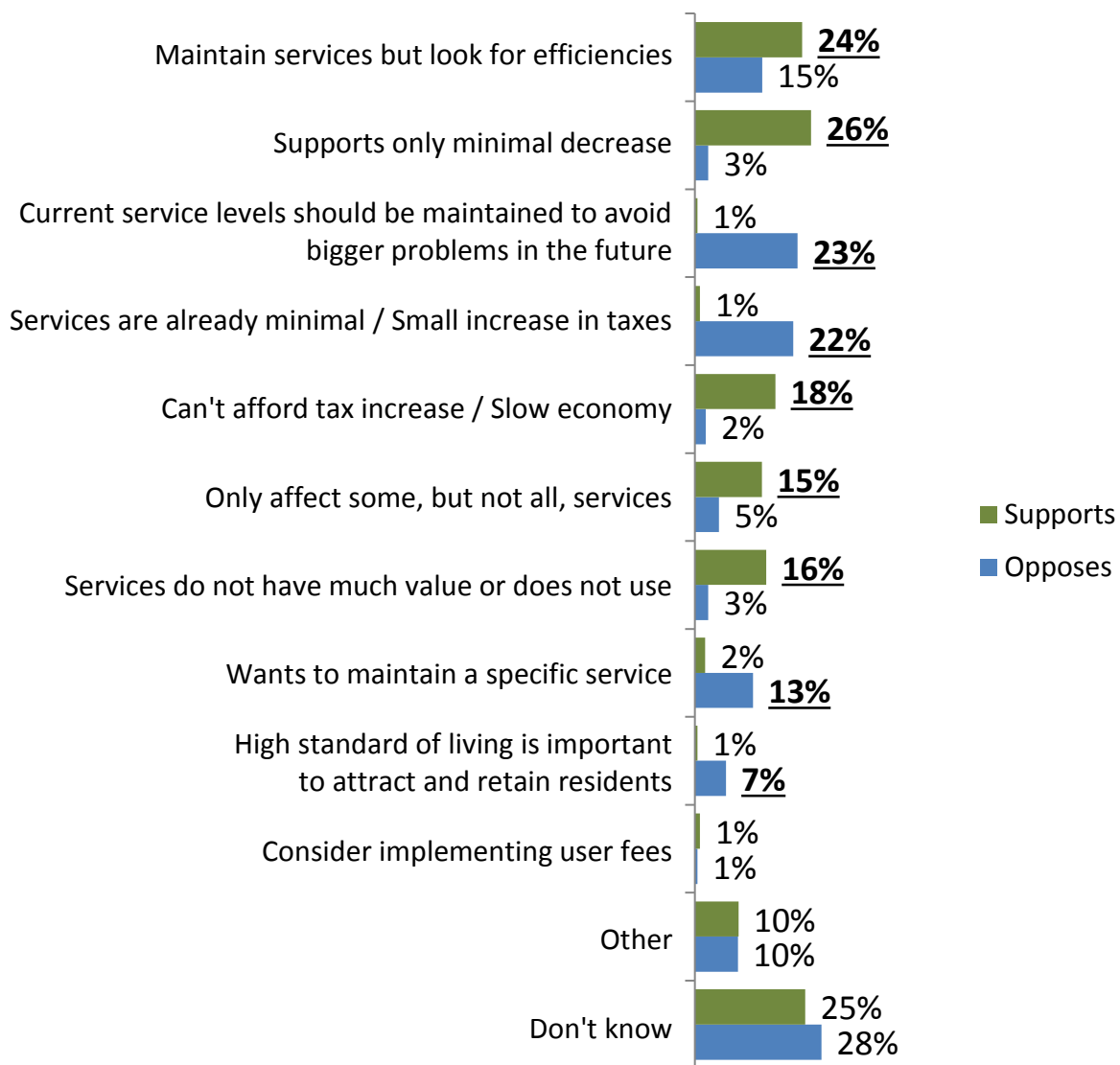
- 64%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to maintain or increase services;
- 58%: Those who rent their home;
- 50%: Those whose household income is less than \$60,000; and
- 45%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes.

In terms of why residents support or oppose decreasing service levels to minimize tax increases, 26% of those who support decreasing service levels to minimize tax increases would only support a minimal decrease, while 18% support this due to slow economic conditions. Nearly one quarter (24%) actually want services maintained but want to find efficiencies.

In contrast, 26% oppose decreasing service levels because they would like to attract and retain residents and avoid future problems. Another 22% feel services are already minimal and prefer a small increase in taxes.

It should be noted that about one quarter (25% of those who support and 28% of those who oppose) did not provide any justification for their views.

### Reasons for Support/Opposition



n=174 (Support), 166 (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 (55%) 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 (45%) includes categories where spending can be increased or decreased depending on the level of service provided.




The proposed City of Leduc 2020 variable budget is split between the following services:

#### **City of Leduc 2020 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. **Overall, this year's results show most residents want spending for all services to remain the same.** That said, the following services had the highest percent of residents requesting an **increase** in spending:

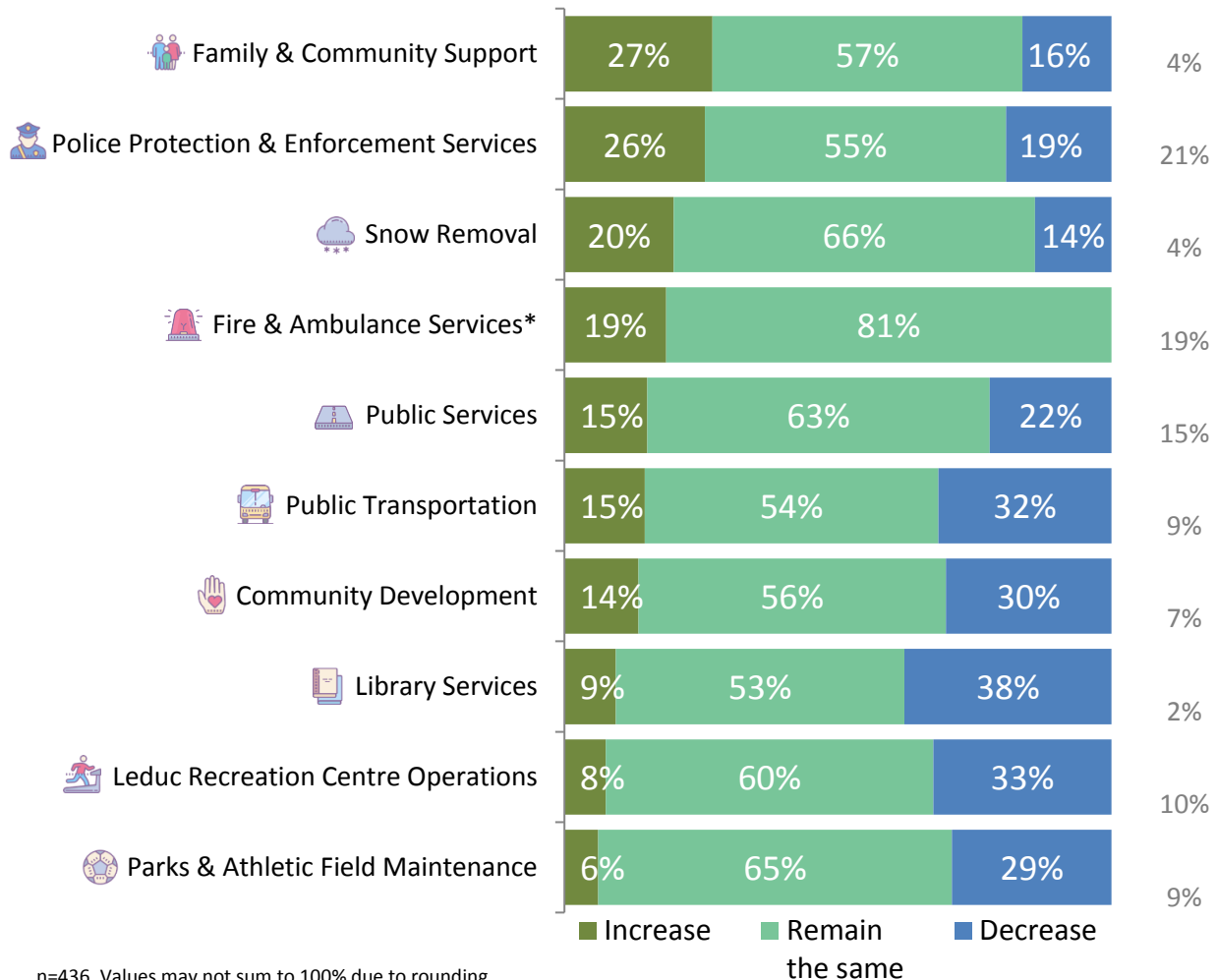
-  27%: Family and community support;
-  26%: Police Protection & Enforcement Services; and
-  20%: Snow Removal.

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

-  38%: Library Services;
-  33%: Leduc Recreation Centre operations; and
-  32%: Public Transportation.

### Comparison of Preferred Budget Adjustments for all Services

Proposed % of budget



n=436. 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.

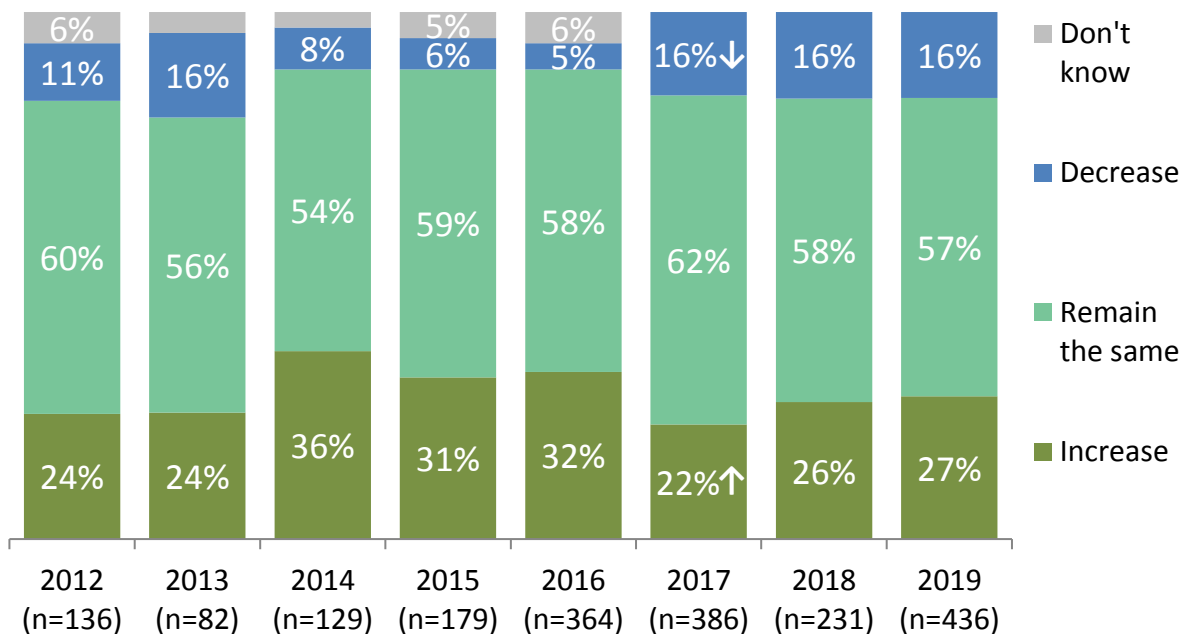
The remainder of this section of the report explores each of these services in more detail.



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





Most residents prefer to see Family and Community Support services funding remain the same, similar to 2018. About one-quarter (27%) would like funding to be increased, while 16% would prefer to see funding decrease, both of which are statistically similar to results found in 2018.

**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:

-  54%: Those who rent their home;
-  38%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  37%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  33%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes.

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

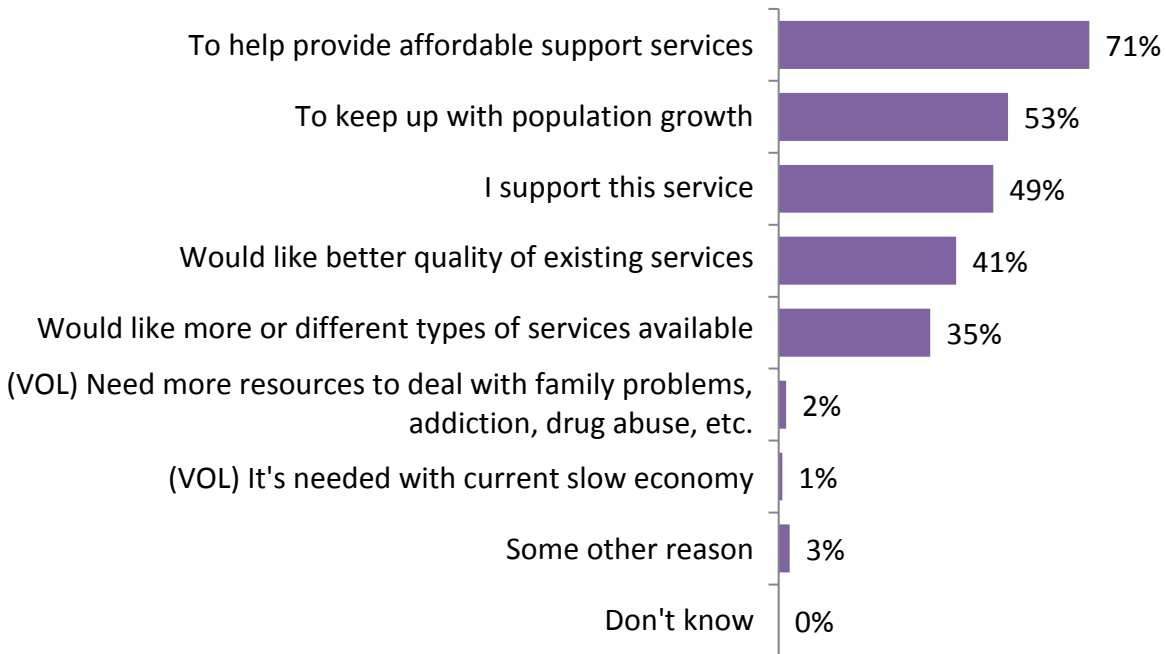
-  73%: Those who are 65 or older; and
-  60%: Those who own their home.

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

-  28%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  26%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes;
-  25%: Those who prefer cutting services to maintain or cut taxes; and
-  19%: Those who are currently working.

Most of the residents who would **increase** spending on *Family and Community Support* felt that funding helps provide affordable support services (71%). About half also say additional funding is needed to keep up with population growth (53%), or because they support the service (49%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

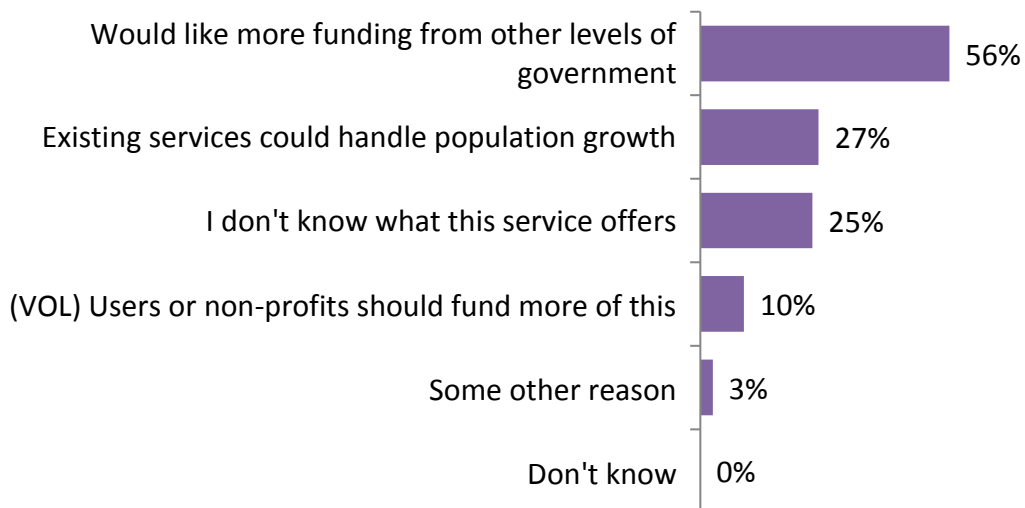
### Reasons to Increase Family & Community Support Spending



n=118. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Over half (56%) of residents who would **decrease** spending on *Family and Community Support* cited a desire for more funding from other levels of government. Additionally, about one-quarter feel existing services could handle population growth (25%) or cited not being aware of what this service offers (25%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

### Reasons to Decrease Family & Community Support Spending

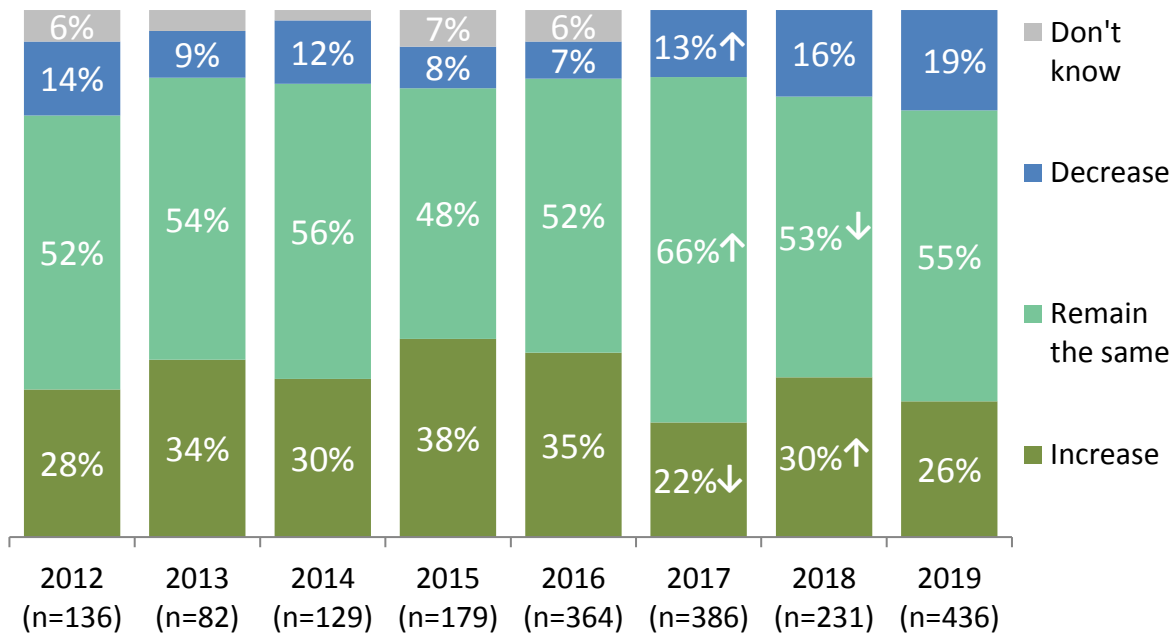


n=71. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

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





This year, 19% of residents would like funding to decrease for Police Protection and Enforcement Service. Just over half (55%) want funding to remain the same while 26% say they want funding to increase. These results are consistent with 2018.

#### 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:

-  47%: Those 65 years of age and older;
-  36%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  33%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  31%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes.

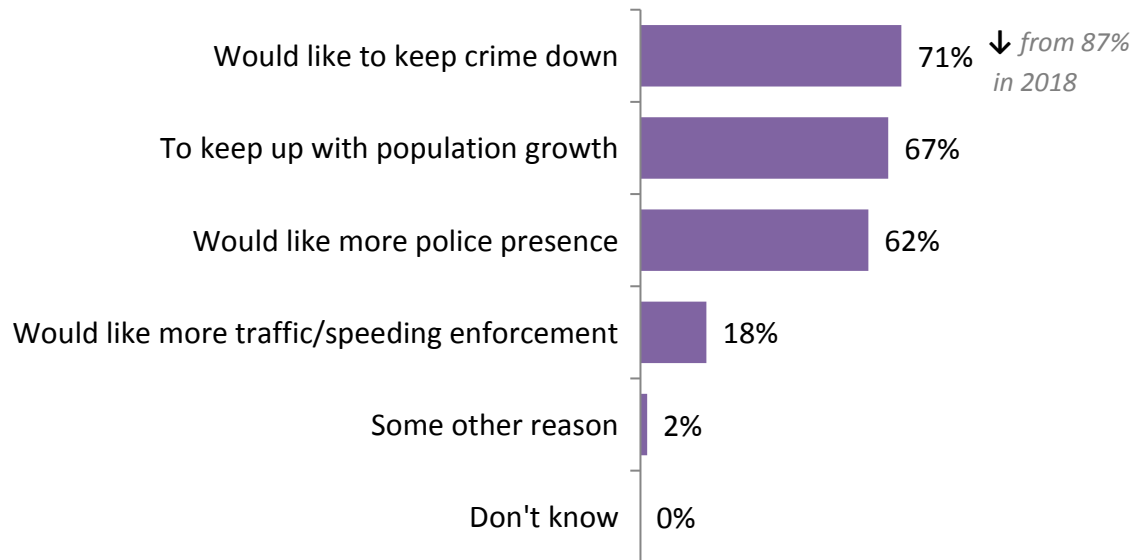
There are no subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same**.

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

-  33%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes;
-  32%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  30%: Those who prefer cutting services to maintain or cut taxes;
-  26%: Those who are 18 to 44 years old age; and
-  21%: Those who are working.

Residents who would **increase** spending on *Police Protection and Enforcement Services* most often explained that they would like to keep crime down (71%, down from 87% in 2018). Furthermore, a majority of residents feel a need to increase funding to keep up with population growth (67%) and would like more police presence (62%).

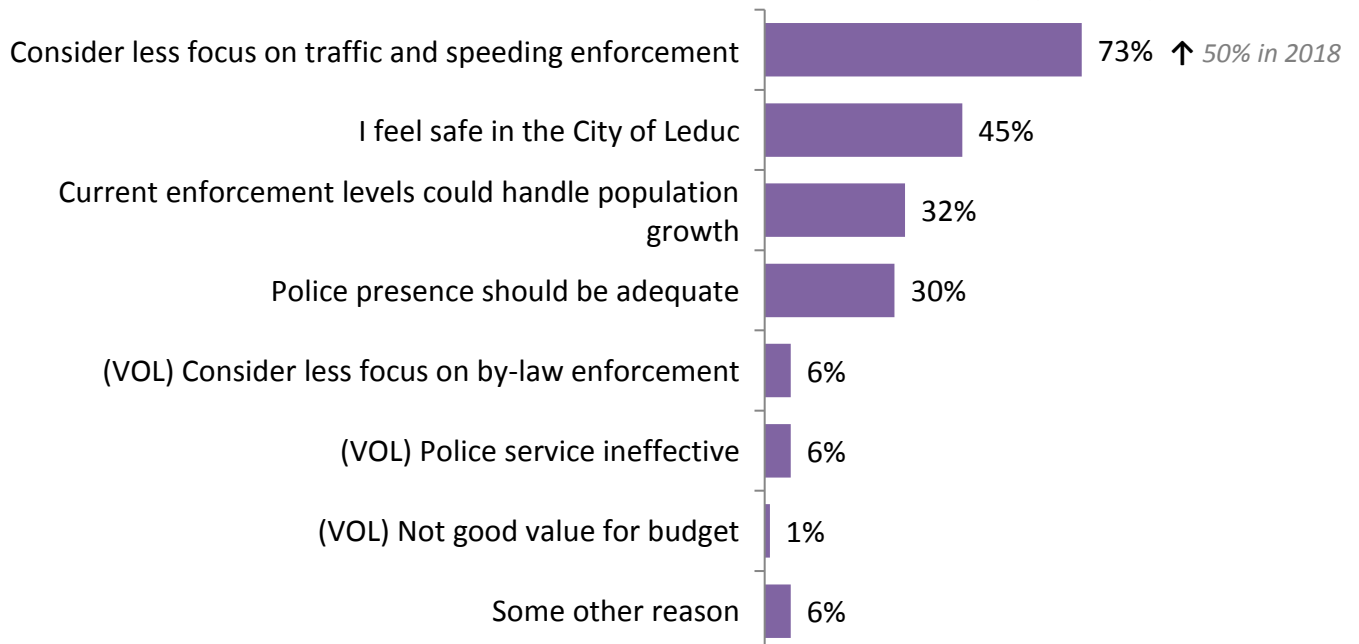
### Reasons to Increase Police Protection & Enforcement Services Spending



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

A large majority (73%, up from 50% last year) 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

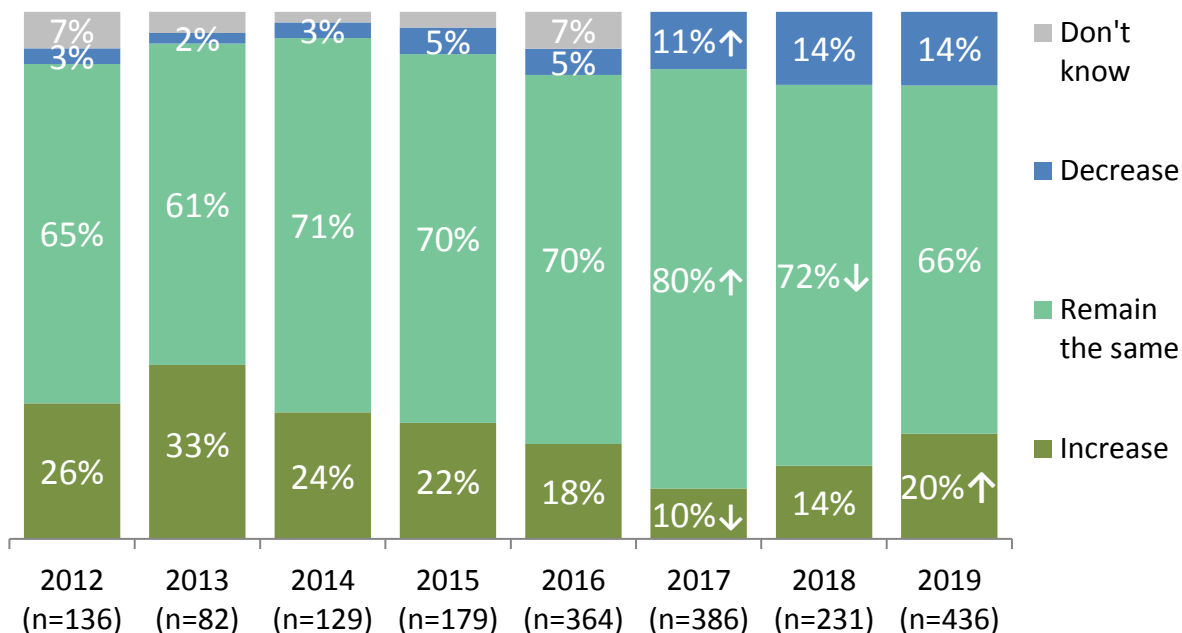


n=84. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.3 Snow Removal (Proposed 4%)




Compared to 2018, more residents would like Snow Removal’s budget to increase (20%), while a similar percent of residents feel that the budget should either decrease (14%) or stay the same (66%).

**Budget Adjustment for Snow Removal** (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:

-  33%: Those who rent their home;
-  27%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases; and
-  27%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase services.

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

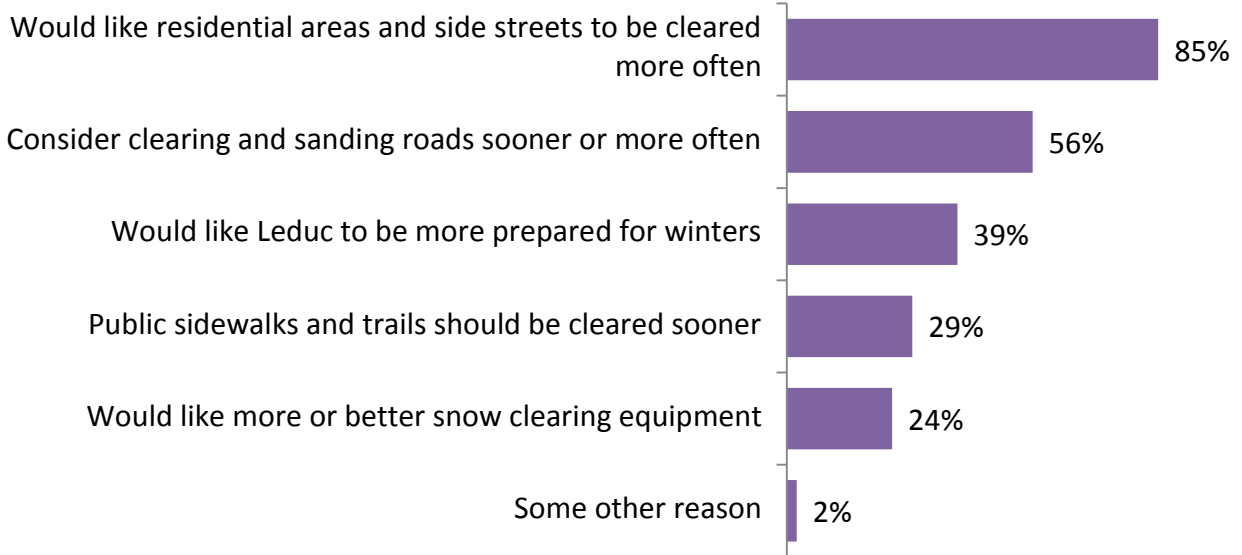
-  78%: Those who are 65 or older;
-  70%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes; and
-  70%: Those with no children in the household.

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

-  29%: Those with a household income of \$150,000 or more;
-  26%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  23%: Those who prefer to cut services to maintain or decrease taxes;
-  19%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes; and
-  15%: Those who own their home.

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 (85%), would like the City to consider clearing and sanding roads sooner or more often (56%), and would like Leduc to be more prepared for winters (39%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

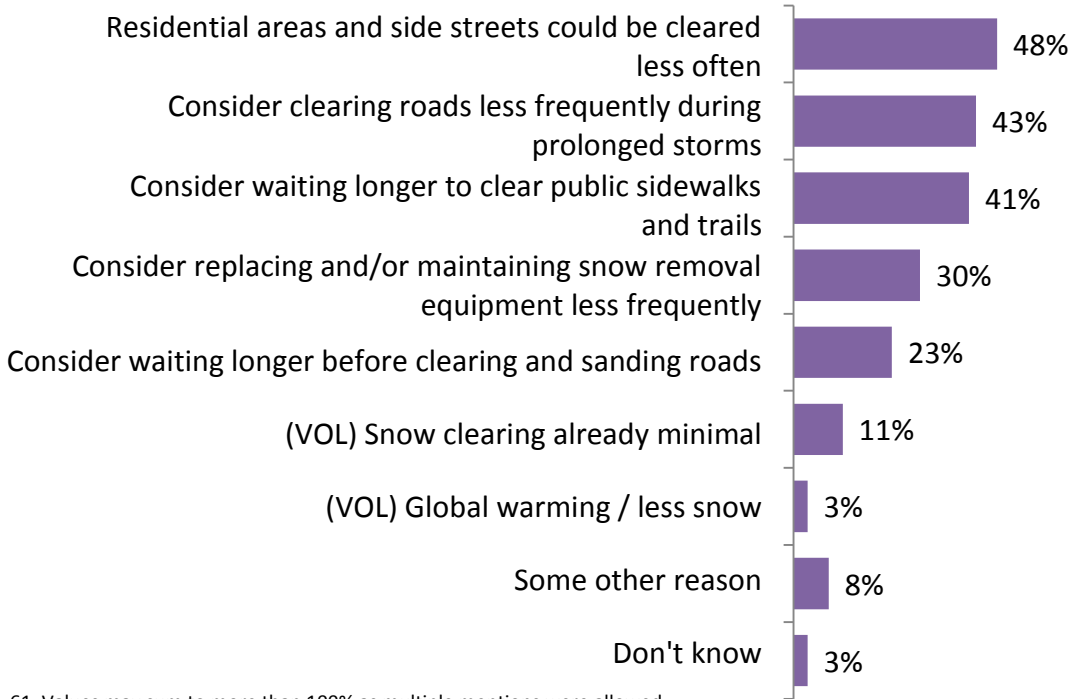
### Reasons to Increase Snow Removal Spending



n=87. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Nearly half (48%) of residents who would like to **decrease** funding for Snow Removal say residential and side streets could be cleared less often. Additionally, over four-in-ten would like the City to consider clearing roads less frequently during prolonged storms (43%) and to consider waiting longer to clear public sidewalks and trails (41%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

### Reasons to Decrease Snow Removal Spending

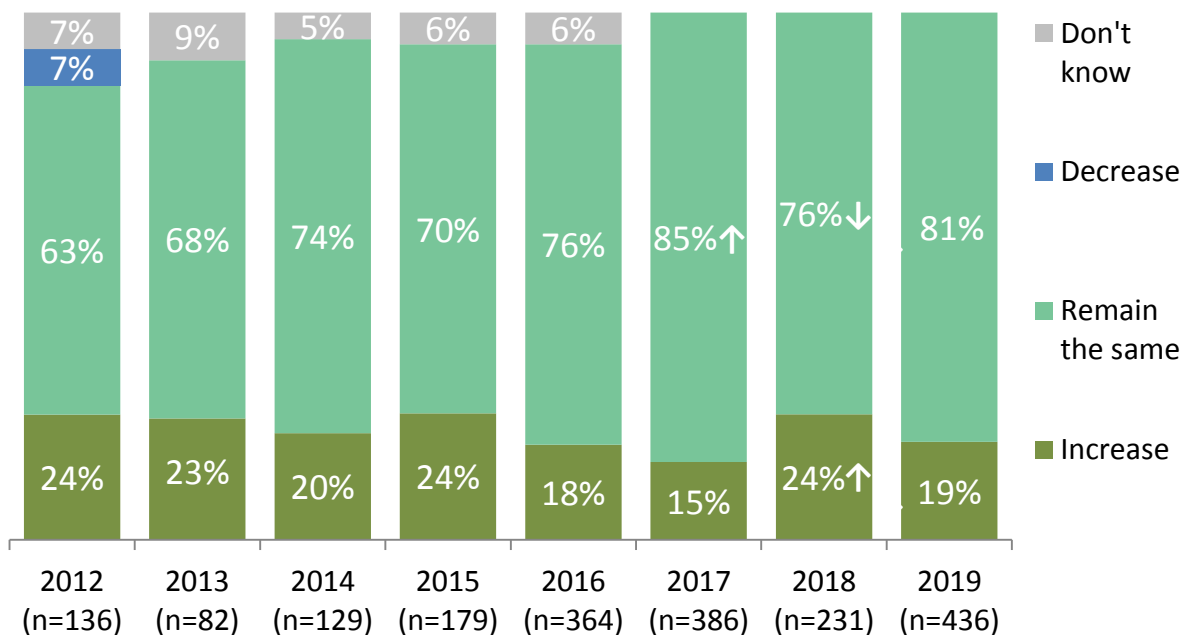


n=61. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.4 Fire & Ambulance Services (Proposed 19%)






Fire and Ambulance Services are contracted services provided by the City on behalf of the Province of Alberta and cannot be reduced. In 2019, a large majority would like to see the budget for fire and ambulance remain the same (81%). About one-fifth (19%) would like spending to increase, which is similar to last year.

**Budget Adjustment for Fire & Ambulance Services** (Proposed 19%)






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:

-  36%: Those who are 65 or older;
-  30%: Those who oppose decreasing services to minimize tax increases;
-  29%: Those whose household income is under \$60,000;
-  28%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  25%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes.

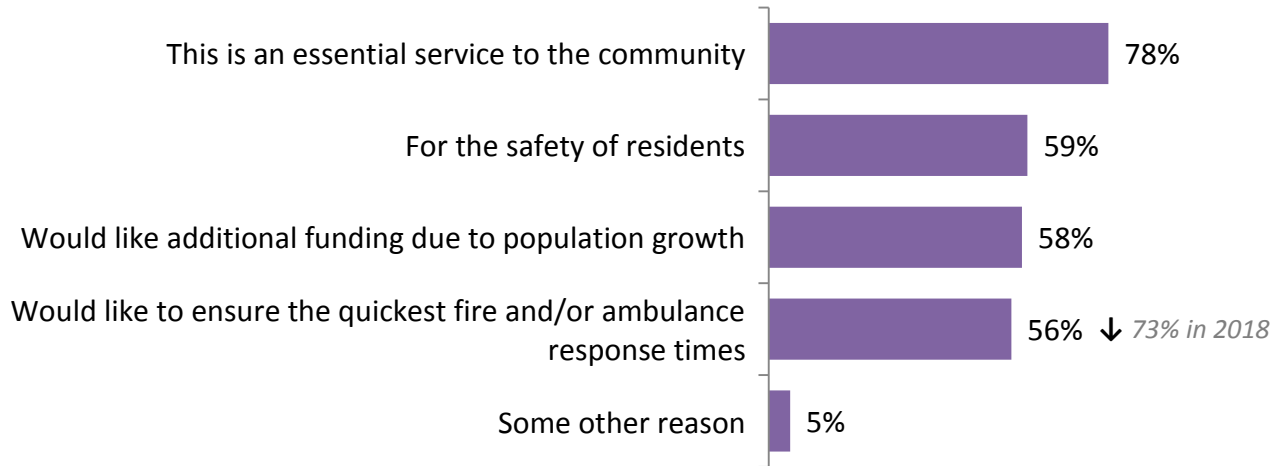
Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want funding to **remain the same** include

-  92%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes;
-  91%: Those who prefer to cut services to maintain or decrease taxes; and
-  90%: Those who support decreasing services to minimize tax increases.



Residents who would **increase** spending on *Fire and Ambulance Services* most often explained that this is an essential service to the community (78%). Additionally, over half said they would increase spending for the safety of residents (59%), due to population growth (58%), and to ensure the quickest fire and/or ambulance response times (56%, down from 73% in 2018).

### Reasons to Increase Fire & Ambulance Services Spending

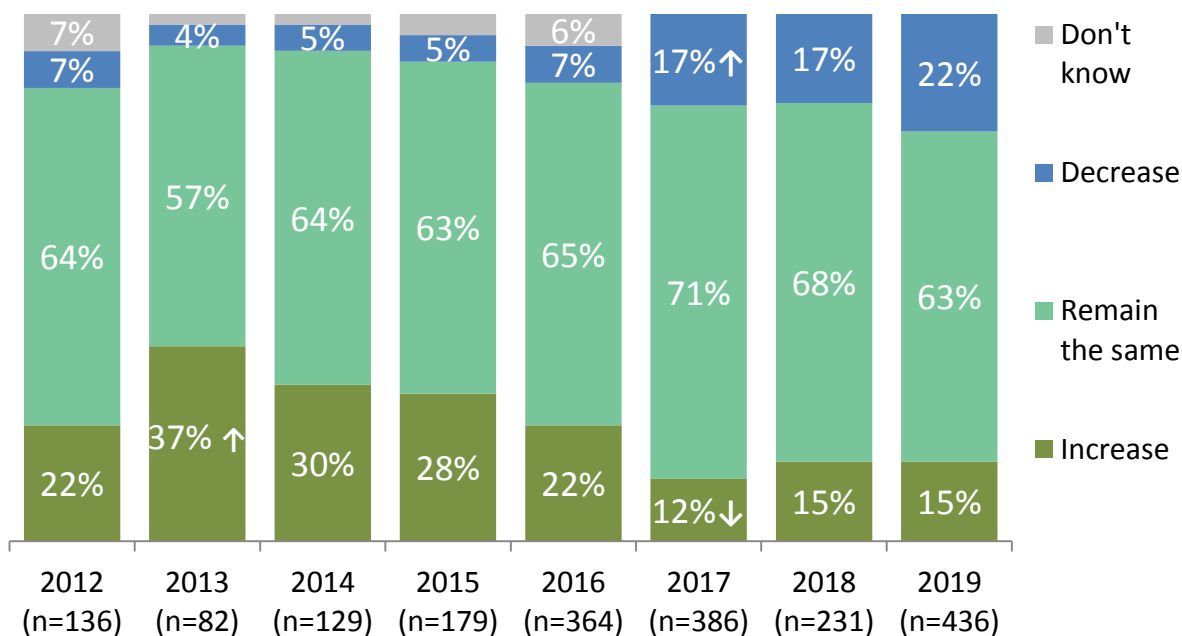


n=81. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.5 Public Services (Proposed 15%)




Residents' opinions regarding spending on Public Services have remained relatively stable in 2019; 15% want spending to increase, 63% want spending to remain the same, and 22% want spending to decrease.

**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:

-  30%: Those who rent their home;
-  27%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  22%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases.

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

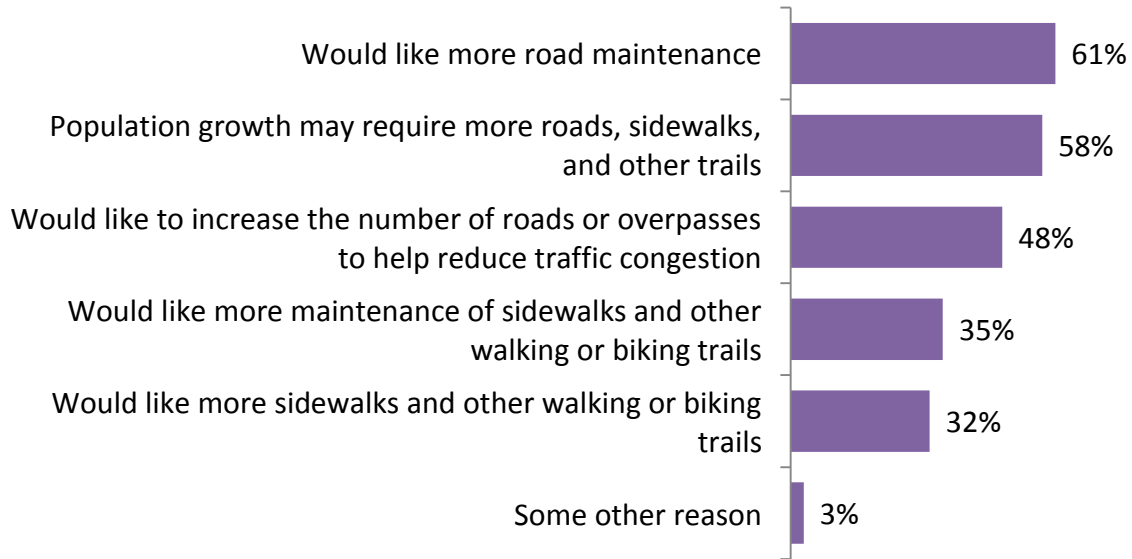
-  75%: Those who are 55 to 64 years old;
-  70%: Those who oppose decreasing services to minimize tax increases; and
-  67%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes.

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

-  41%: Those who prefer cutting services to maintain or decrease taxes;
-  41%: Those who support decreasing services to minimize tax increases;
-  35%: Those whose household income is \$150,000 or more;
-  34%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes; and
-  25%: Those who own their home.

When it comes to *Public Services*, those who would like an **increase** in funding primarily want more road maintenance (61%) and feel population growth may require more roads, sidewalks and other trails (58%). About half (48%) would like to increase the number of roads or overpasses to help reduce traffic congestion. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

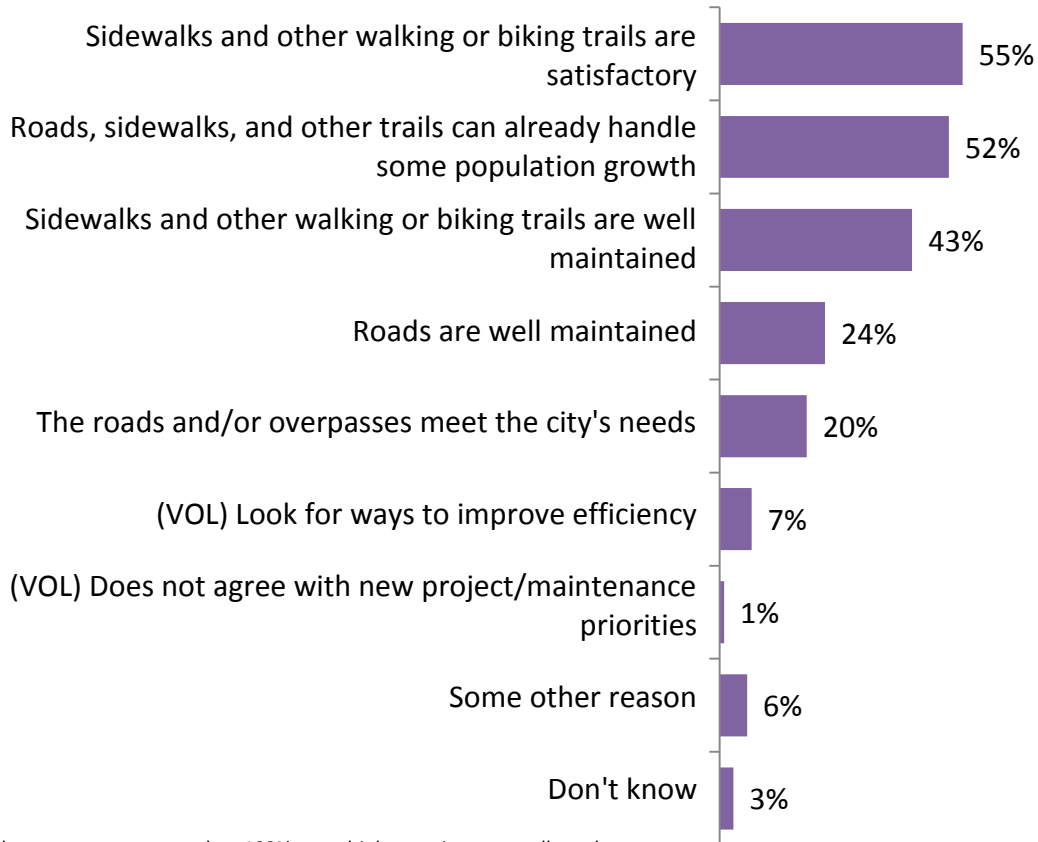
### Reasons to Increase Public Services Spending



n=66. 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* most often mentioned that sidewalks and other walking or biking trails are well satisfactory (55%), can handle some population growth (52%), and are well maintained (43%). These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

### Reasons to Decrease Public Services Spending

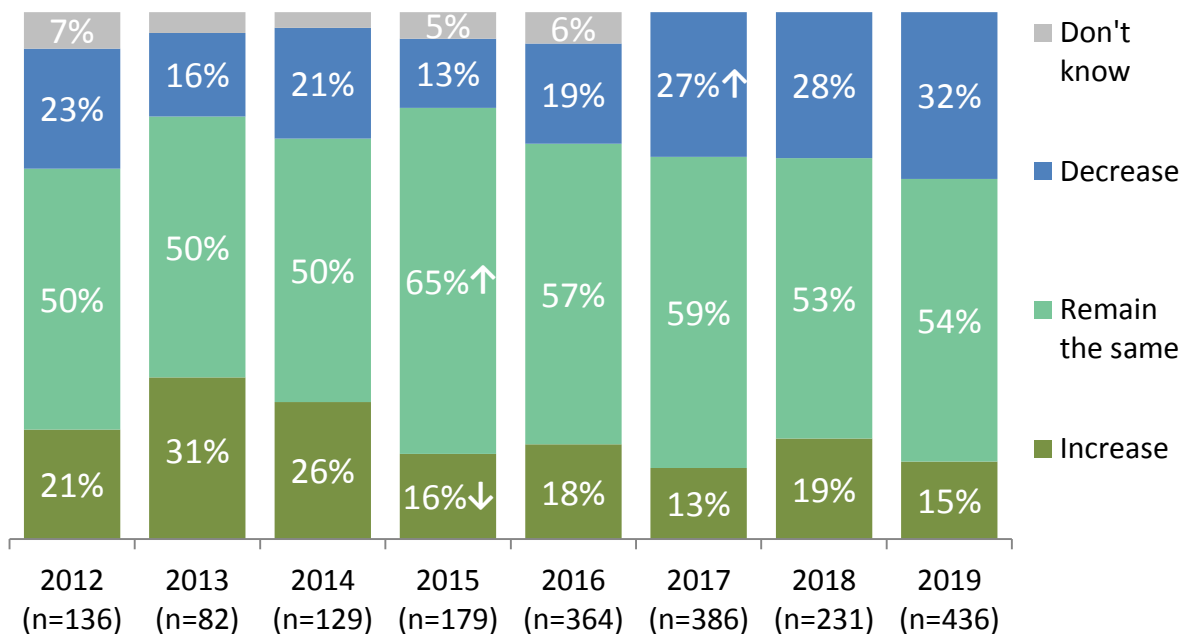


n=97. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.6 Public Transportation (Proposed 9%)





In 2018, just over half (54%) of stakeholders would like the budget for Public Transportation to remain the same, 15% would like to see it increase, and 32% would like the budget to decrease. These results are similar to last year.

**Budget Adjustment for Public Transportation** (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:

-  37%: Those who rent their home;
-  27%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase service;
-  25%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases; and
-  17%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes.

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

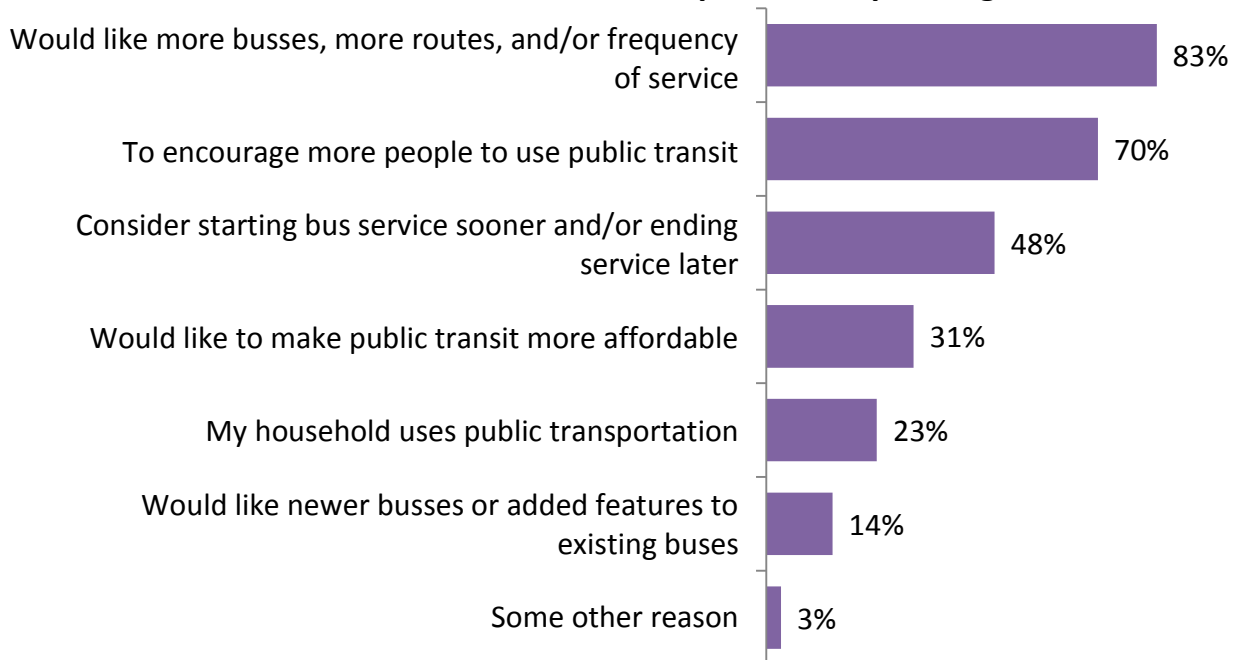
-  75%: Those who are 55 to 64 years old;
-  71%: Those who are 65 or older;
-  61%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  60%: Those who feel they get excellent/very good/good value for their taxes; and
-  59%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase service.

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

-  53%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  49%: Those who prefer to cut services to maintain or decrease services;
-  47%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes;
-  43%: Those who are 45 to 54 years old; and
-  35%: Those who own their home.

A large majority (83%) of residents who would **increase** spending on *Public Transportation* said they would like more busses, more routes, and/or increased frequency of service. Additionally, seven out of ten (70%) would also like more funds to encourage more people to use public transit. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

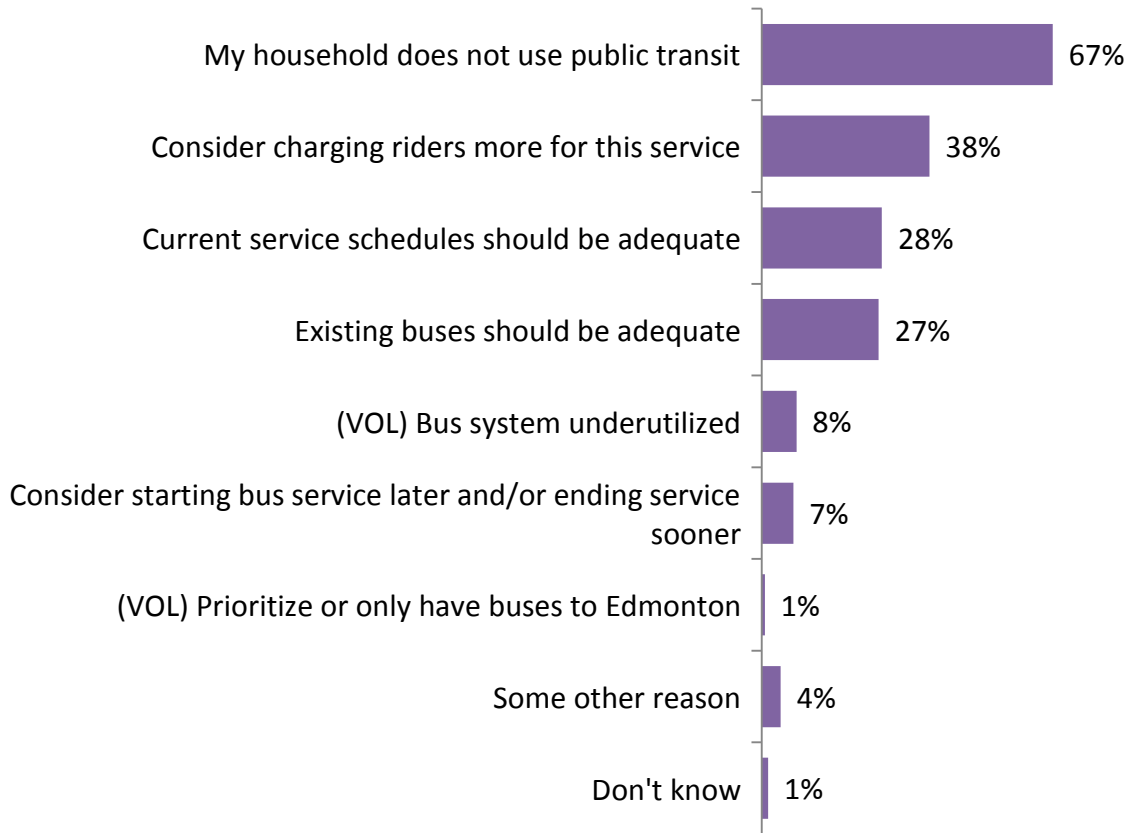
### Reasons to Increase Public Transportation Spending



n=64. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

A lack of personal and household use of *Public Transportation* (67%) is the most common reason mentioned by residents who would **decrease** spending on Public Transit. An additional 38% suggest charging riders more for the service, while just over one-quarter feel current service schedules (28%) and existing buses (27%) should be adequate.

### Reasons to Decrease Public Transportation Spending

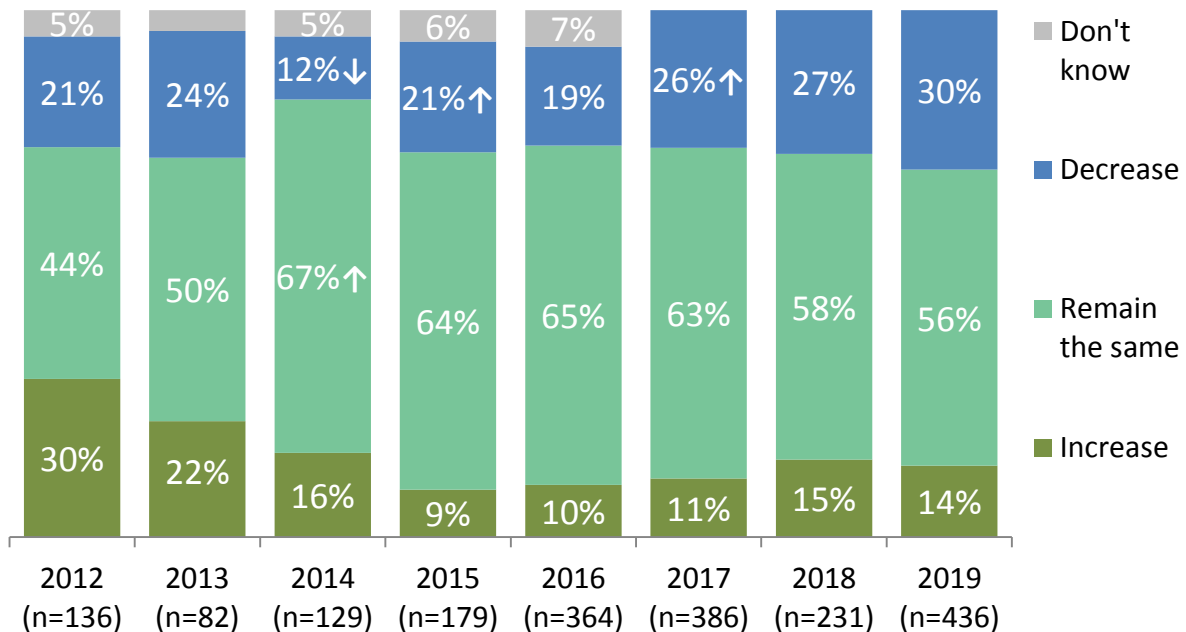


n=138. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.7 Community Development (Proposed 7%)





Nearly one-third (30%) of stakeholders suggest that funding for Community Development should decrease, while 56% feel that funding should remain the same and 14% say it should increase. These results are all similar to those seen in 2018.

**Budget Adjustment for Community Development (Proposed 7%)**







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:





-  28%: Those who rent their home;
-  26%: Those who prefer increasing taxes to improve or maintain services;
-  20%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases; and
-  20%: Those between the ages of 18 and 34.

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

-  71%: Those who are 65 and older;
-  70%: Those who are between 55 and 64 years old;
-  63%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases; and
-  61%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for taxes.

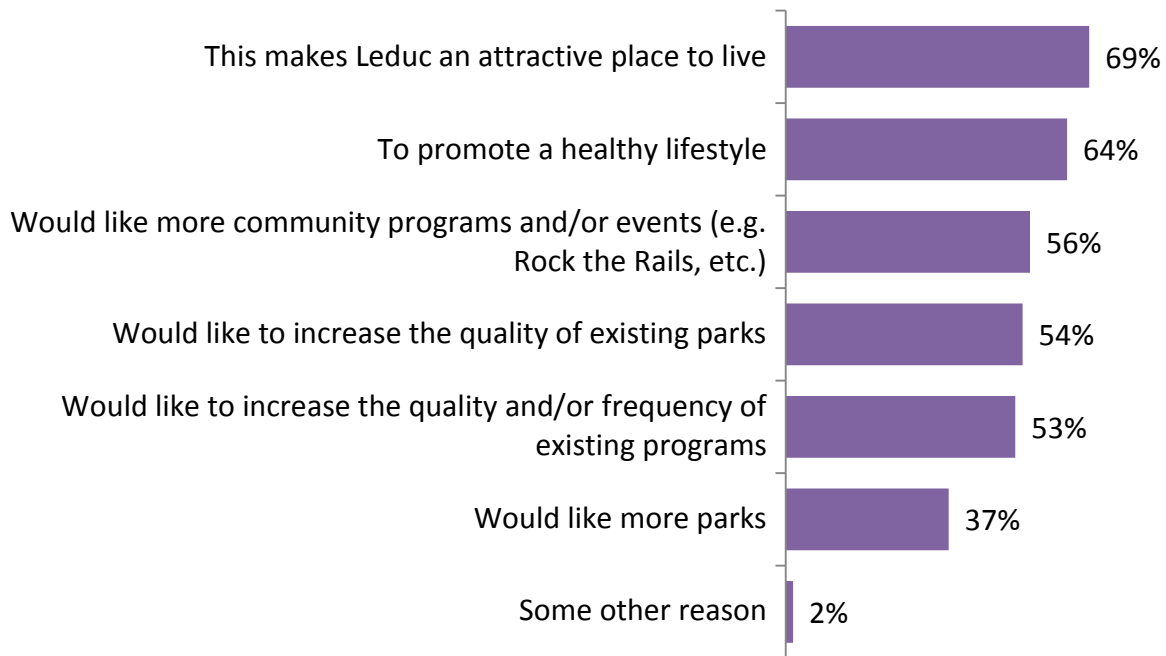


Subgroups that are significantly more likely to want a **decrease** in funding include:

-  48%: Those who prefer cutting services to maintain or decrease taxes;
-  47%: Those who support decreasing services to minimize tax increases;
-  43%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes; and
-  33%: Those who own their home.

Those residents who would **increase** spending on *Community Development* mentioned a number of different reasons, with making Leduc an attractive place to live (69%) and promoting a healthy lifestyle (64%) mentioned most often. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

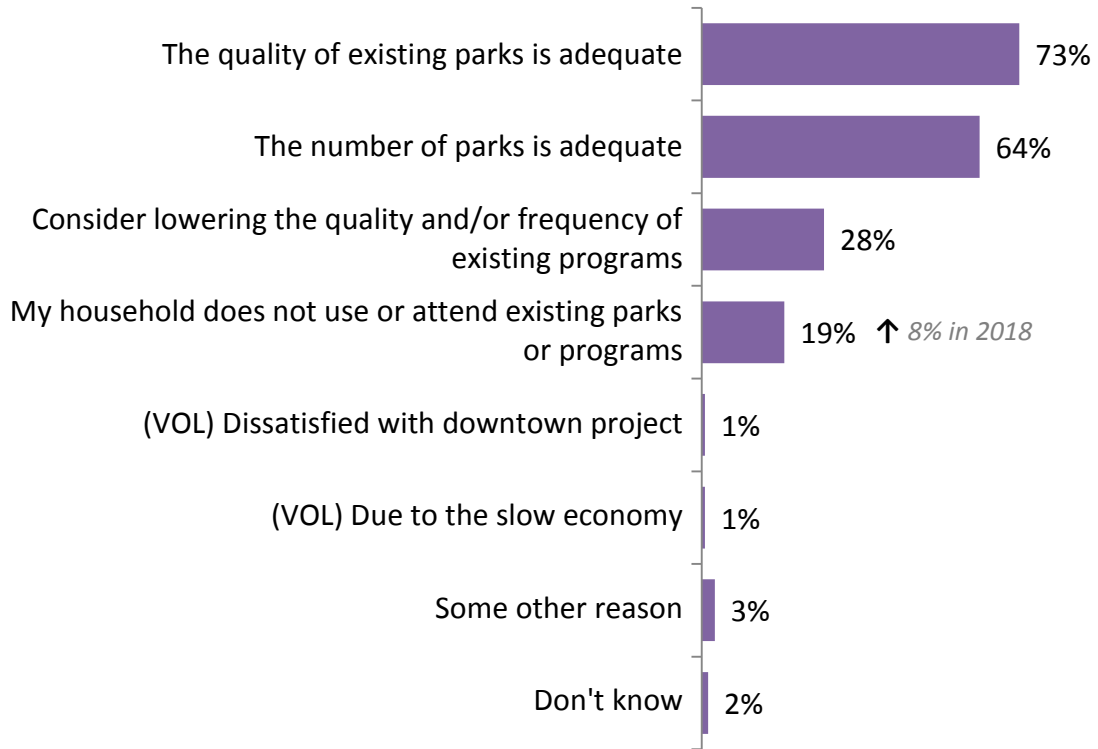
### Reasons to Increase Community Development Spending



n=59. 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 (73%) and number (64%) of existing parks are adequate. This year, stakeholders are more likely to say their household does not use or attending existing parks or programs (19%, up from 8% in 2018).

### Reasons to Decrease Community Development Spending

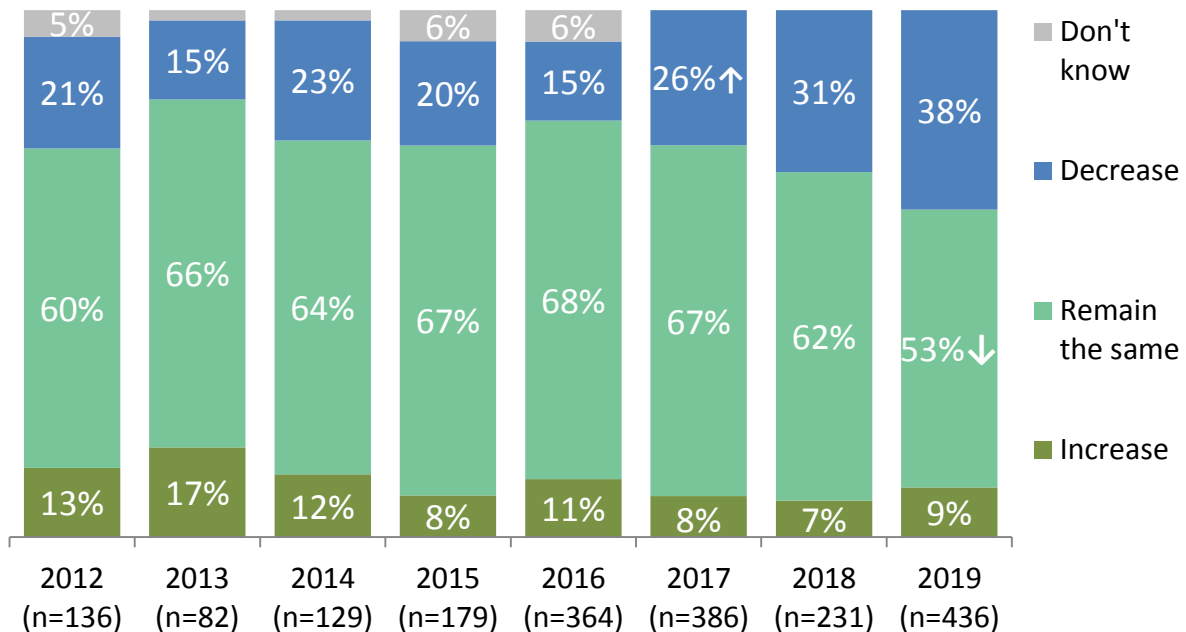


n=132. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.8 Library Services (Proposed 2%)





Few residents feel that the budget for Library Services should increase (9%). In contrast, over one-third (38%) feel that the budget should decrease, and the remaining 53% (down from 62% in 2018) feel that the budget should stay the same.

**Budget Adjustment for Library Services** (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:

-  19%: Those who rent their home;
-  17%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase services;
-  17%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases; and
-  12%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for taxes.

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

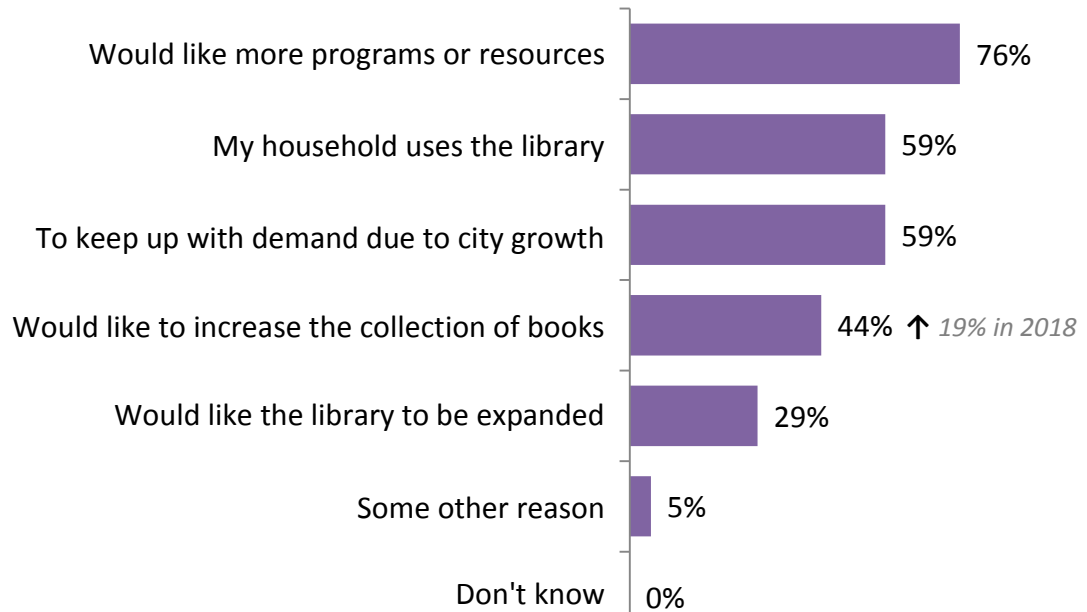
-  69%: Those who are 65 and older;
-  61%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  60%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  57%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for taxes.

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

-  57%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  53%: Those who prefer to cut services to maintain or decrease taxes; and
-  49%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes;

The most common reasons given by those who would like *Library Services'* budget to **increase** are wanting more programs or resources (76%), the respondents household uses the library (59%), and to keep up with demand due to city growth (59%). This year, stakeholders are more likely to cite wanting to increase the collection of books (44%, up from 19% in 2018) as a reason to increase spending.

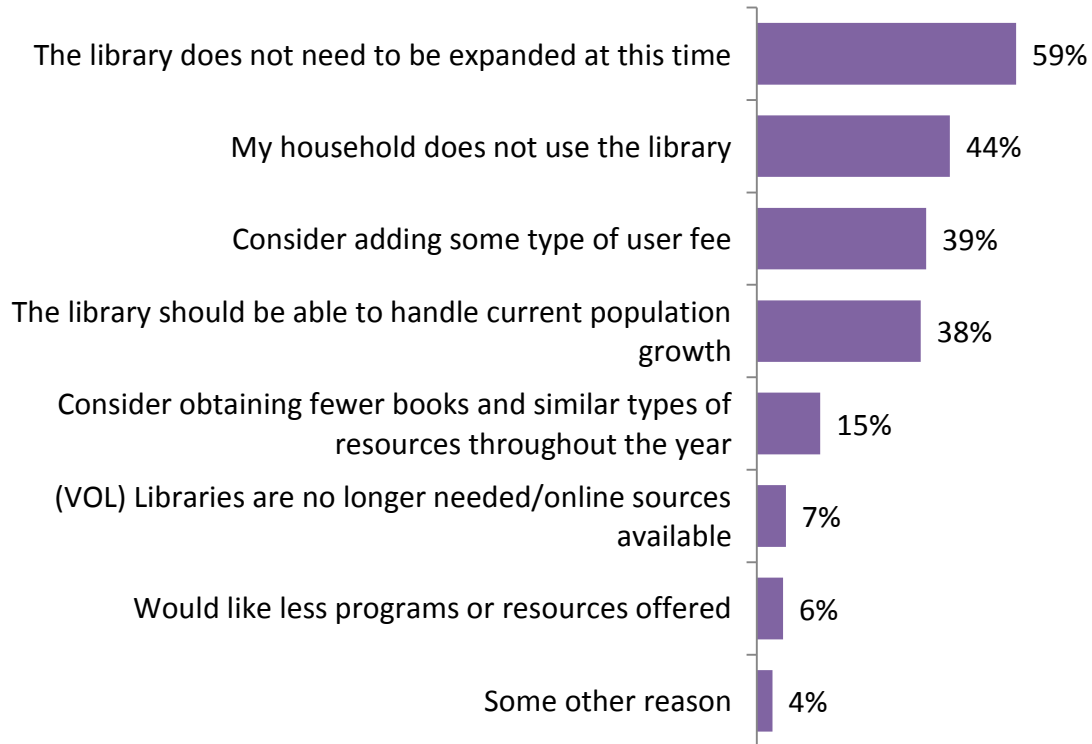
### Reasons to Increase Library Services Spending



n=41. Trending is not analyzed because 2018 has fewer than 30 responses. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Over half (59%) of those residents who would like *Library Services'* budget to **decrease** mentioned that an expansion is not needed at this time. Additionally, over two-fifths (44%) mentioned that their household does not use the library, 39% suggested adding a user fee, and 38% suggested that the library should be able to handle current population growth. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

### Reasons to Decrease Library Services Spending

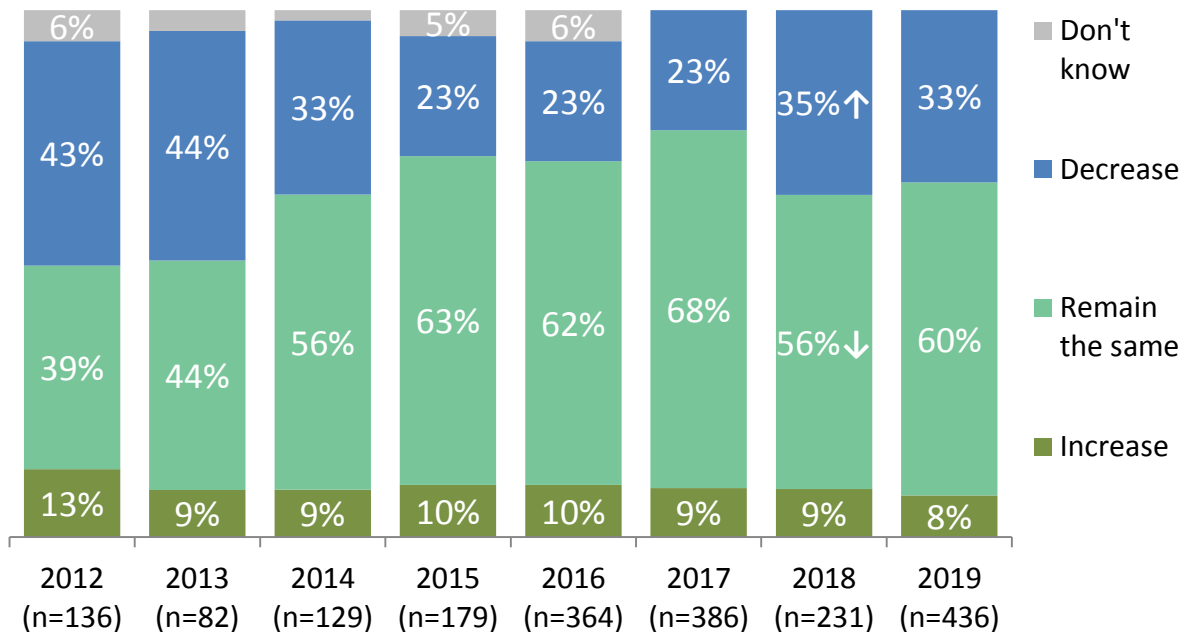


n=165. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.3.9 Leduc Recreation Centre Operations (Proposed 10%)


Residents' opinions regarding spending on Leduc Recreation Centre Operations are similar to those seen in 2018. Less than one-in-ten (8%) want spending to increase, over half (60%) want spending to remain the same, and one-third (33%) want spending to decrease.

#### Budget Adjustment for Leduc Recreation Centre Operations (Proposed 10%)








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 to increase taxes to maintain or increase services.

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

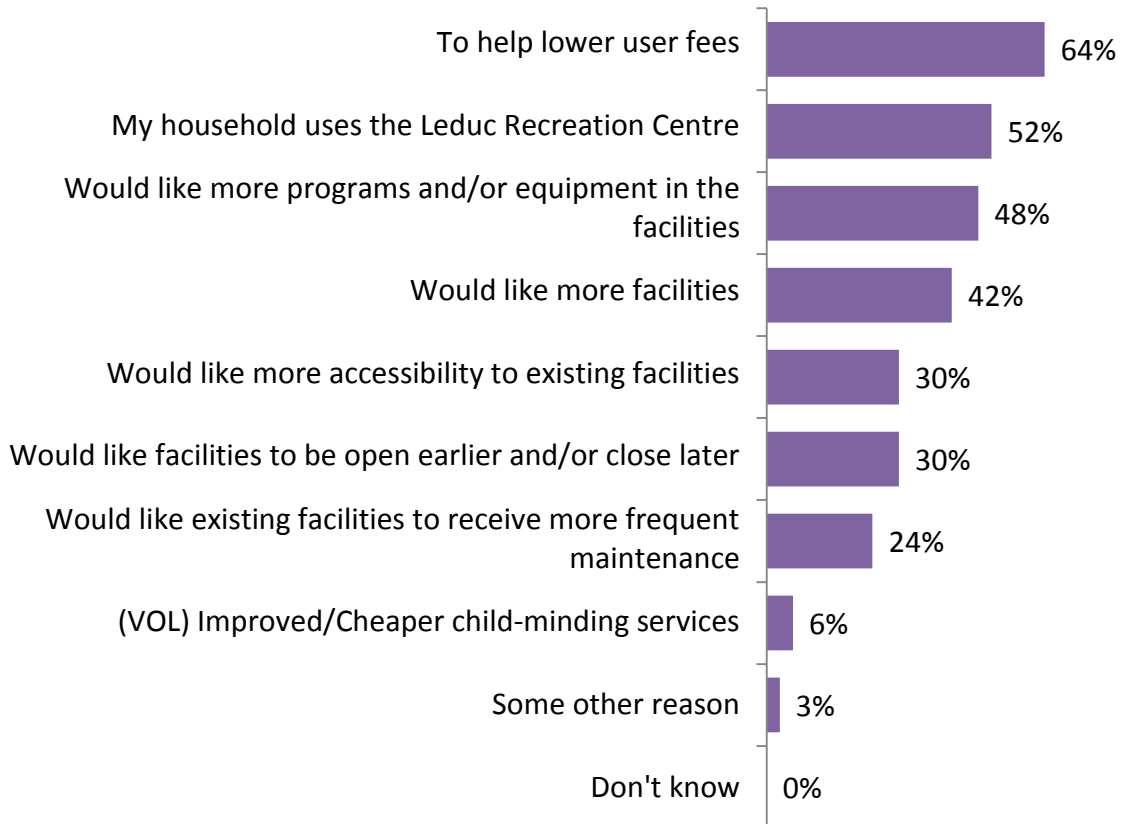
-  75%: Those who rent their homes;
-  72%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  71%: Those who are 55 to 64 years old;
-  70%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  67%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for taxes.

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

-  51%: Those who prefer to cut services to maintain or decrease taxes;
-  49%: Those who support decreasing services to minimize tax increases;
-  48%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes; and
-  36%: Those who own their home.

Wanting lower user fees (64%) is the most mentioned reason provided by residents who would increase spending on *Leduc Recreation Centre Operations*, followed by because their households uses the centre (52%), and wanting more programs and/or equipment (48%). Some examples include more pool facilities (e.g. lazy river, additional slide), more programs/equipment suitable for seniors, space for hockey, a field house, gym, racquet court, curling rink, and climbing wall.

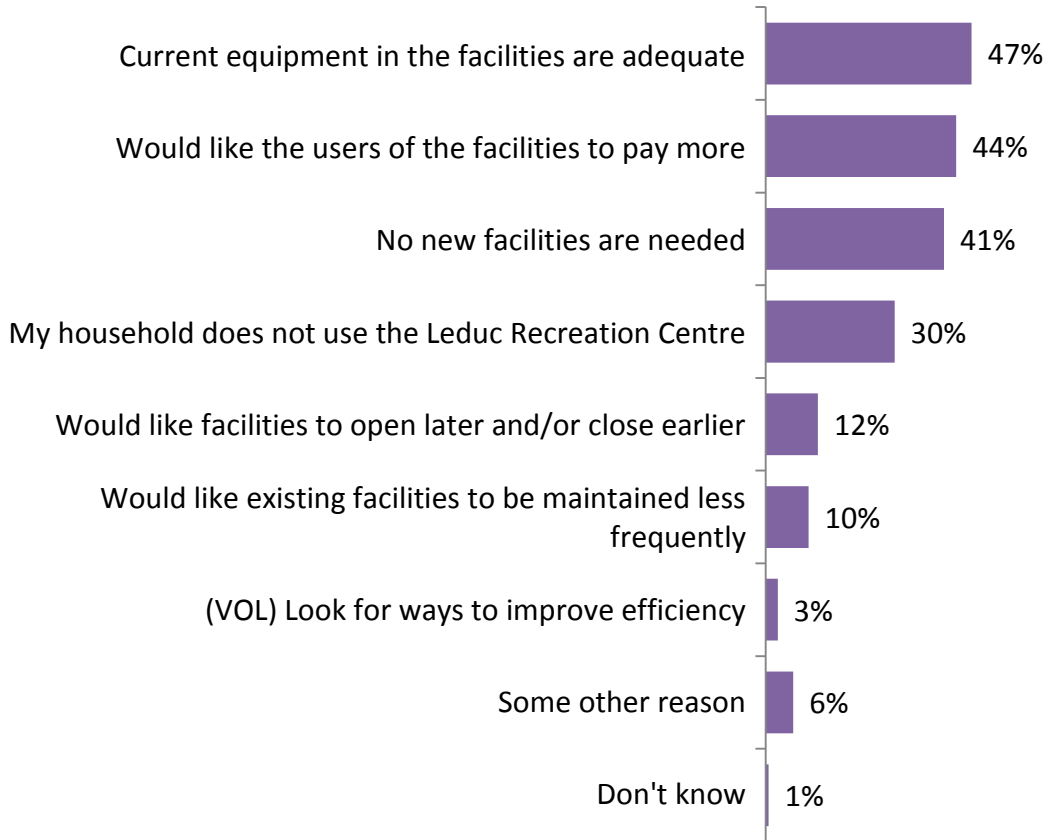
### Reasons to Increase Leduc Recreation Centre Operations Spending



n=33. is not analyzed because 2018 has fewer than 30 responses. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Nearly half of residents who would **decrease** spending on *Leduc Recreation Centre Operations* either feel current equipment in the facilities is adequate (47%) or would like users of the facility to pay more (44%). Additionally, 41% feel that no new facilities are needed. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

### Reasons to Decrease Leduc Recreation Centre Operations Spending



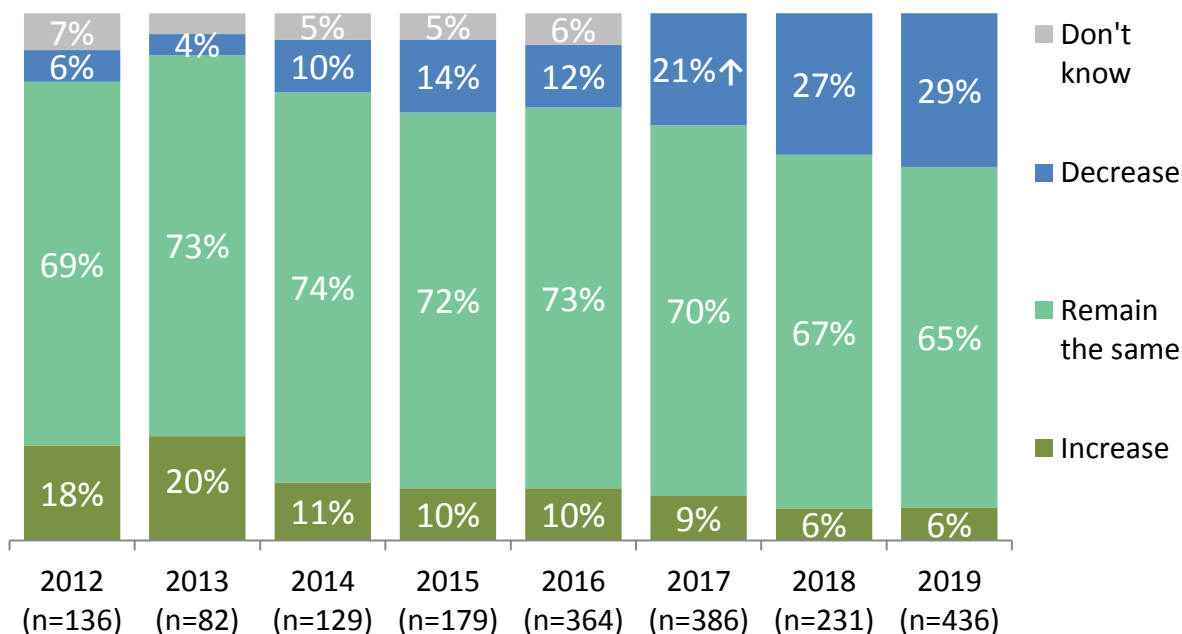
n=142. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.



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




Similar to 2018, 29% of residents feel that the budget for Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance should decrease compared to only 6% who feel that the budget should increase. Also similar to 2018, the remaining 65% think that the budget should remain the same.

**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 an **increase** in funding include:

-  16%: Those who rent their home;
-  11%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase services; and
-  10%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases.

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

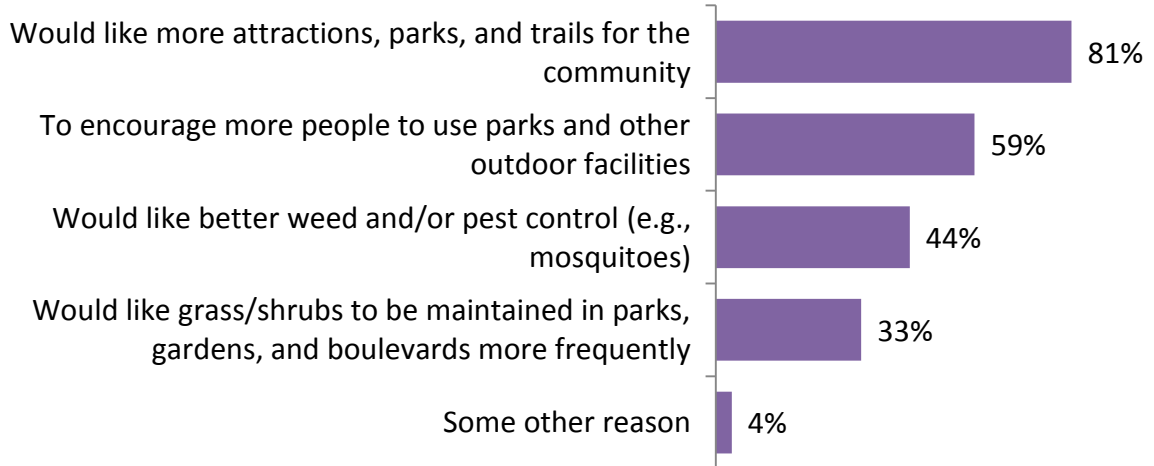
-  78%: Those who prefer to increase taxes to maintain or increase services;
-  77%: Those who oppose a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  74%: Those who are on leave/homemaker/student/not employed/retired; and
-  72%: Those who feel they get good/very good/excellent value for taxes.

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

-  48%: Those who support a decrease in services to minimize tax increases;
-  47%: Those who prefer to cut services to maintain or decrease taxes;
-  44%: Those who feel they get fair/poor value for their taxes; and
-  42%: Those who are between 45 and 54 years old.

The top reason that stakeholders would like to **increase** spending on *Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance* is wanting more attractions, parks and trails for the community (81%). Over half (59%) said they want to encourage more people to use parks and other outdoor facilities.

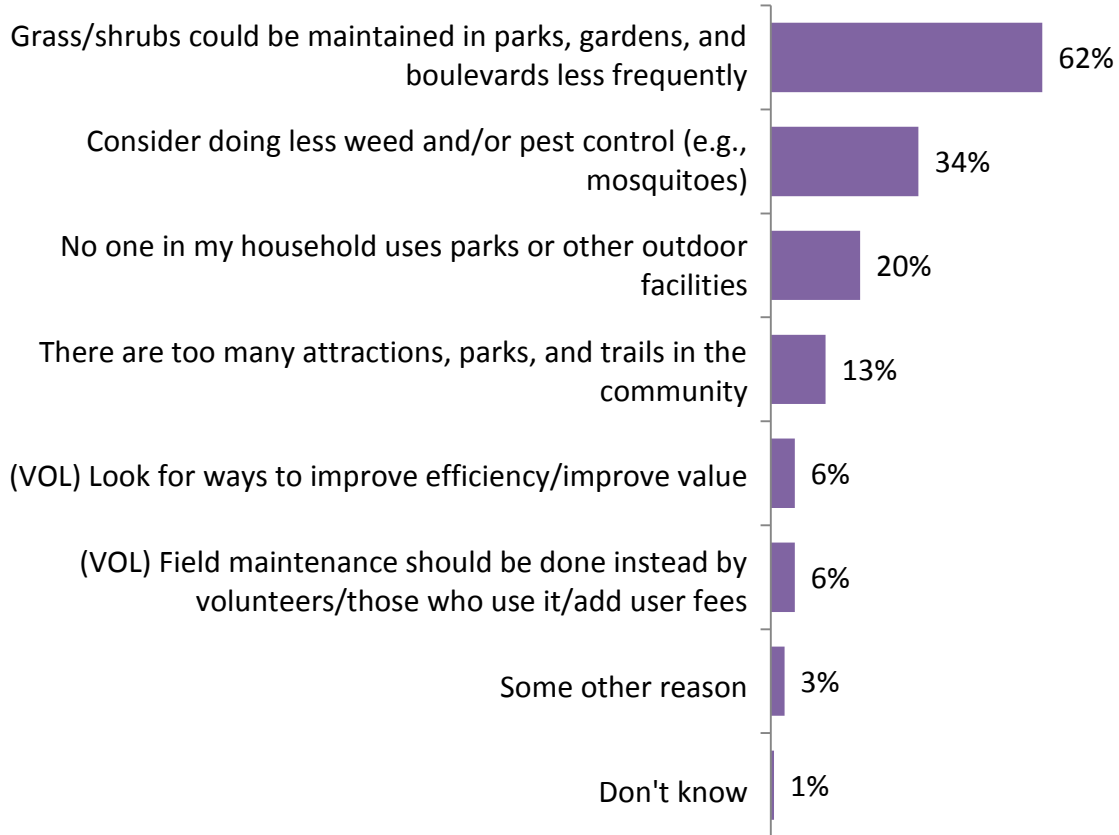
### Reasons to Increase Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance Spending



n=27. Due to the base being less than n=30, interpret with caution. Trending is not analyzed because both 2018 and 2019 results have fewer than 30 responses. Values may sum to more than 100% 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 about three-fifths (62%) mentioning that grass and shrubs could be maintained in parks, gardens, and boulevards less frequently, and one-third (34%) suggest considering less weed and pest control. These results are statistically consistent with the comments provided last year.

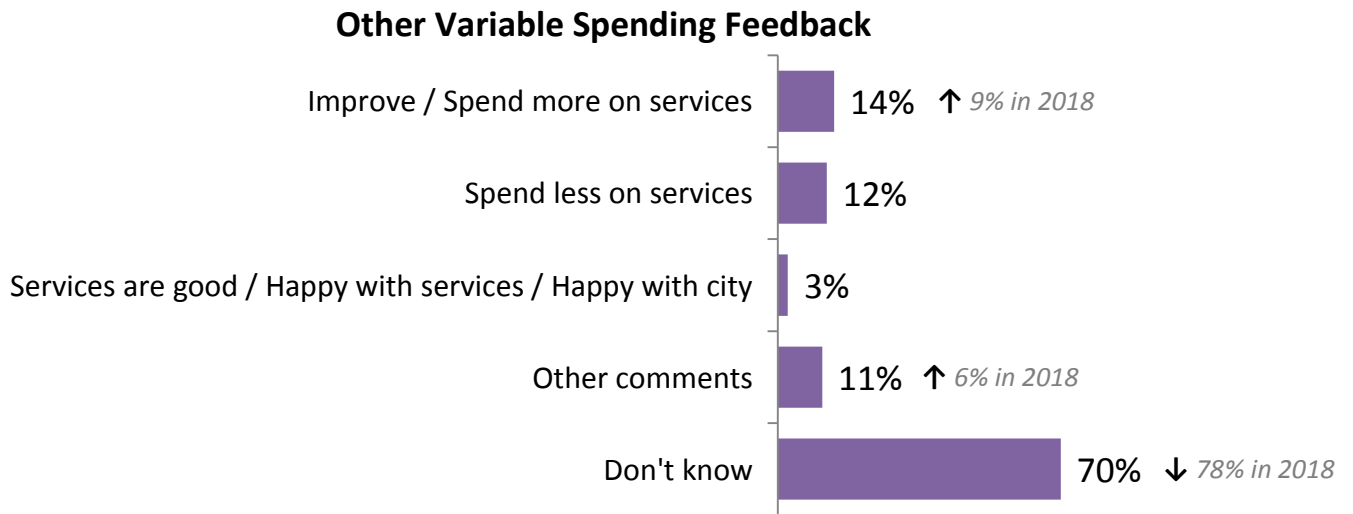
### Reasons to Decrease Parks & Athletic Field Maintenance Spending



n=127. 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 30% provided further feedback. In total, 14% (up from 9% in 2018) reiterated that they would like spending on services to **increase** (the top being 4% mentioning public services, 3% on services in general, and 2% on parks and athletic field maintenance), compared to 12% who reiterated that they wanted spending to **decrease**.

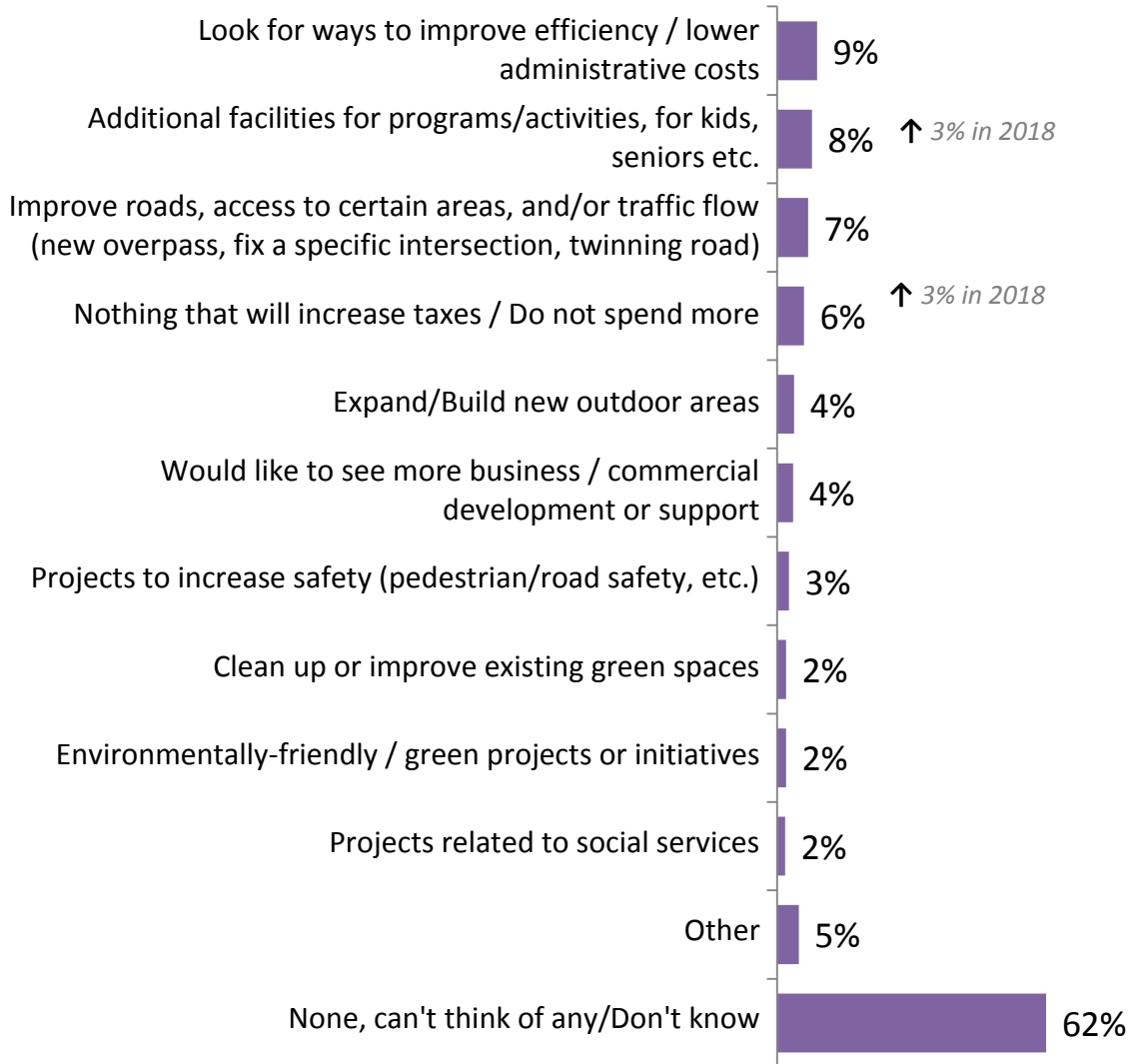


n=436. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

### 3.4 Other Projects and Priorities

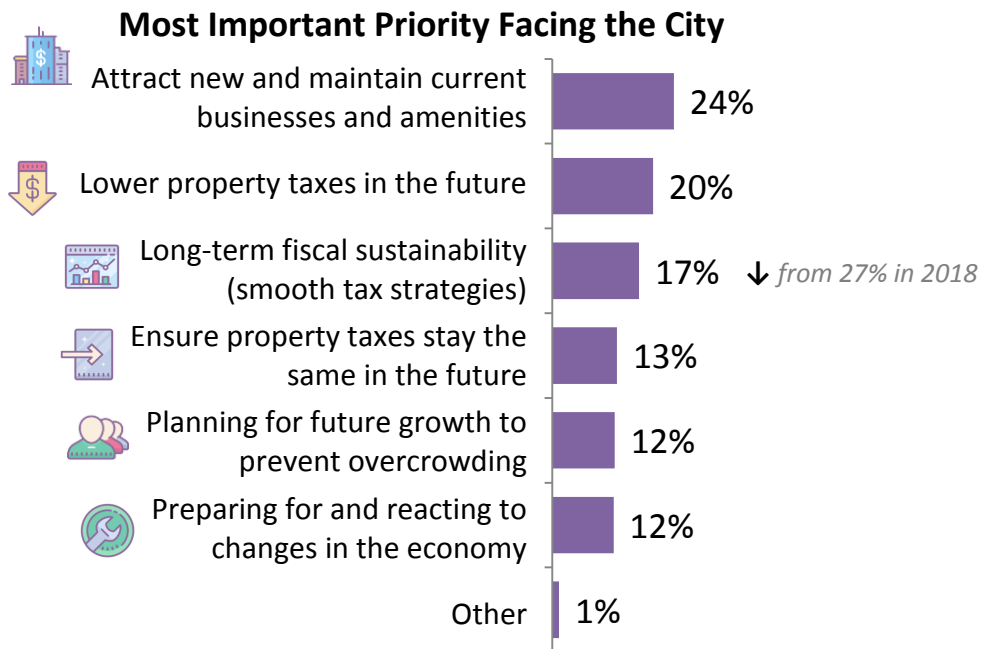
Residents were provided an opportunity to state other projects or goals for the City to consider. The majority (62%) could not think of any other projects or goals. However, the top suggestion was to look for ways to improve efficiency and/or lower administrative costs (9%). This year, stakeholders were more likely to mention additional facilities for programs/activities, for kids, seniors, etc. (8%, up from 3% in 2018), and nothing that will increase taxes / do not spend more (6%, up from 3% in 2018).

#### Other Projects of Goals to Consider



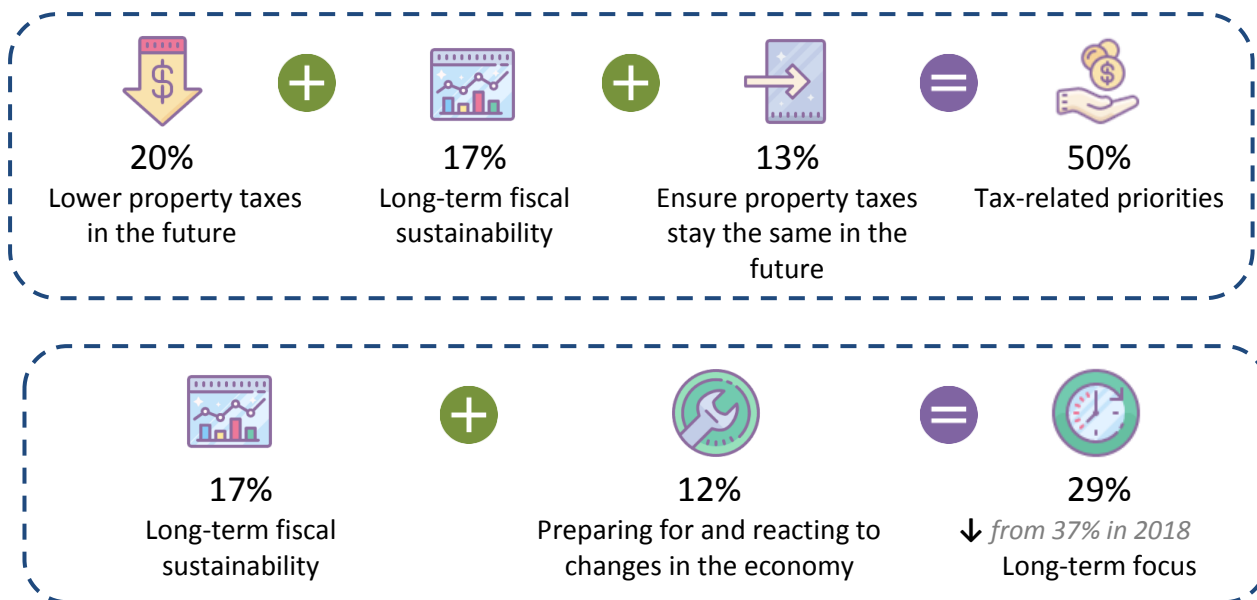
n=436. Values may sum to more than 100% as multiple mentions were allowed.

Finally, when asked about the top priority facing the City, about one-quarter (24%) would like the City to attract new and maintain current businesses and amenities. A further 20% would like the City to find ways to lower property taxes in the future, 17% chose long-term fiscal sustainability (i.e. smooth tax strategies, down from 27% in 2018), and 13% would like the City to ensure property taxes stay the same in the future.



n=436. Values may not add to 100% due to rounding.

After grouping some of the categories, we find that 50% of residents would like the City to prioritize the taxation of residents, while 29% (down from 37% in 2018) would like the City to have a long-term focus.



## 4 Appendices

### 4.1 Resident Demographics

	Percent of Residents							
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
	(n=436)	(n=231)	(n=386)	(n=364)	(n=179)	(n=129)	(n=82)	(n=136)
<b>Age</b>								
18 to 24 years	6%	5%	3%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%
25 to 34 years	23%	35%	27%	18%	20%	29%	27%	30%
35 to 44 years	31%	30%	24%	24%	29%	28%	27%	40%
45 to 54 years	16%	13%	15%	19%	21%	16%	24%	15%
55 to 64 years	13%	10%	18%	19%	13%	14%	7%	4%
65 years or older	10%	6%	12%	17%	15%	8%	10%	4%
Not stated	1%	0%	1%	3%	1%	5%	2%	5%
<b>Employment Status</b>								
Working full time, including self-employment (more than 30 hours/ week)	67%	68%	59%	57%	73%	74%	74%	72%
Working part time, including self-employment (30 hours per week or less)	10%	8%	10%	9%	10%	8%	5%	10%
On leave (disability, paternity, etc.)	2%	6%	3%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Homemaker	4%	3%	5%	6%	3%	9%	6%	12%
Student	1%	3%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Not employed	3%	2%	3%	7%	0%	0%	4%	0%
Retired	9%	8%	13%	18%	11%	8%	6%	4%
Prefer not to answer	4%	3%	4%	2%	2%	2%	4%	2%
<b>Household Income</b>								
Under \$20,000	1%	1%	1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$20,000 to \$39,999	5%	2%	4%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$40,000 to \$59,999	8%	7%	11%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$60,000 to \$79,999	10%	13%	11%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$80,000 to \$99,999	14%	12%	12%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$100,000 to \$124,999	17%	16%	18%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$125,000 to \$149,999	11%	11%	10%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
\$150,000 or more	18%	23%	16%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Prefer not to answer	17%	15%	17%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Primary Residence</b>								
Own	86%	85%	88%	92%	93%	89%	90%	90%
Rent	13%	12%	10%	5%	7%	8%	9%	7%
Not stated	1%	3%	2%	3%	0%	3%	1%	3%

City of Leduc Employee?									
Yes	<b>8%</b>	6%	8%	6%	7%	9%	6%	8%	
No	<b>87%</b>	90%	88%	91%	92%	90%	92%	89%	
Not stated	<b>4%</b>	3%	4%	3%	1%	2%	2%	3%	
Children (under 18) in Household?									
Yes	<b>43%</b>	47%	40%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
No	<b>55%</b>	52%	58%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Prefer not to answer	<b>2%</b>	1%	2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	

### 4.2 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 2019, the City is seeking input from citizens to assist in the 2020 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 2020 budget. Doing so makes you eligible to **enter a draw to win tickets to a performance series of 3 shows at Maclab Theatre for the Performing Arts (valued at \$120).**

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/leduc2020budget>

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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, 2019.**

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 2019:

- **28%** is collected *on behalf of the province* to pay for **education**.
- **72%** goes to the *City of Leduc* to fund **city services**.



Thinking about the **72%** 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 understands and recognizes that 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 2020?  
(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

**Blntro**

The City of Leduc budget includes two spending categories:

**Fixed Spending (55%)** 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 (45%)** includes categories where spending can be increased or decreased depending on the level of service provided.

**City of Leduc 2020 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 2019. 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 2020 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 2020 for **Fire and Ambulance Services** (proposed 19%)? 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 2020 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 2020 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.

*(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 2020 for **Leduc Recreation Centre Operations** (proposed 10%)? 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 2020 for **Snow Removal** (proposed 4%)? 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 2020 for **Community Development** (proposed 7%)? 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 2020 for **Public Transportation** (proposed 9%)? 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 2020 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 2020 for **Family and 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.

(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 2020 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)

- 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 2018?

*(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

**D7**

How did you learn about this survey? *(Select all that apply)*

- Billboard signs
- Social media
- City of Leduc website
- Cinema
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- I have not heard or seen any advertisements promoting this survey

**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 tickets to a performance series of 3 shows at Maclab Theatre for the Performing Arts (valued at \$120).**

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 2020. Should you have any additional questions, please contact:

Carmen Dragan-Sima  
 Manager, Budgets & Financial Planning  
 City of Leduc  
 780-980-7161  
 cdragansima@leduc.ca