



Staff Report to Committee of the Whole

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2026

DEPARTMENT: Finance

SUBJECT: Public Input Summary for the 2026 Budget

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides an overview of the public feedback collected to date, including the results from the 2026 budget survey, regarding the proposed 2026-2030 Financial Plan.

To date, there have been multiple public presentations regarding the proposed Plan, as well as several opportunities for public input. Individuals were encouraged to participate either in person or on-line at the February 23, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting, via the budget email Budget2026@Langford.ca, or through a survey that was open from February 11, 2026, to March 4, 2026.

The remaining scheduled budget meetings are as follows:

<p>Tuesday March 17th at 7pm Committee of the Whole</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Budget Survey Results • Mayor and Councillors Deliberation • Public Input 	<p>Monday April 20th Regular Council Meeting at 7pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to Consider 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Readings of Financial Plan Bylaw and 2026 Tax Rates Bylaw • Public Input
<p>Tuesday April 7th Regular Council Meeting at 7pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to Deliberate and Consider Approval of Financial Plan • Public Input 	<p>Monday May 4th Regular Council Meeting at 7pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to Consider Adoption of Financial Plan Bylaw and 2026 Tax Rates Bylaw • Public Input

BACKGROUND:

The budget survey, hosted on [LetsChatLangford.ca](https://letschatlangford.ca), opened on February 11, 2026, and closed on March 4, 2026. The survey was advertised through social media, the newspaper, digital billboards, emails (weekly newsletters), and at each Committee of the Whole meeting. Physical copies of the survey were available at City Hall reception and at the February 28, 2026 Council Open House.

The Budget2026@Langford.ca email was provided to residents at the February 10, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting and advertised in meeting presentations, as well as on the budget website ([Budget 2026 - City of Langford](#)), and on social media.

Information about the proposed 2026-2030 Financial Plan is available through the City of Langford budget website and LetsChatLangford.ca.

COMMENTARY:

A total of 383 survey responses were received. A survey summary report is attached and will be posted at Langford.ca/Budget, and on LetsChatLangford.ca/Budget.

Comments and questions received through the budget email were forwarded to Council for review and may be addressed during upcoming budget meetings through staff comments or presentations. As of March 9, 2026, 16 emails have been received.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

5bii – Ensure All Budget Documents are Transparent and User Friendly.

5c – Expand Opportunities for Public Engagement.

OPTIONS:

Option 1

THAT Committee of the Whole receive this report for information.

SUBMITTED BY: Curtis Staniforth, Manager of Budgets and Revenue

Concurrence: Michael Dillabaugh, CPA, CA, Director of Finance

Concurrence: Melisa Miles, Manager of Legislative Services

Concurrence: Donna Petrie, Senior Manager of Communications & Economic Development

Concurrence: Leah Stohmann, RPP, MCIP, Director of Community Planning and Development

Concurrence: Katelyn Balzer, P.Eng., Director of Engineering and Public Works

Concurrence: Marie Watmough, Director of Legislative & Protective Services

Concurrence: Braden Hutchins, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments:

Attachment 1: 2026 Budget Survey Response Report

2026 Budget Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

11 February 2026 - 04 March 2026

PROJECT NAME:

2026 City of Langford Budget



SURVEY QUESTIONS

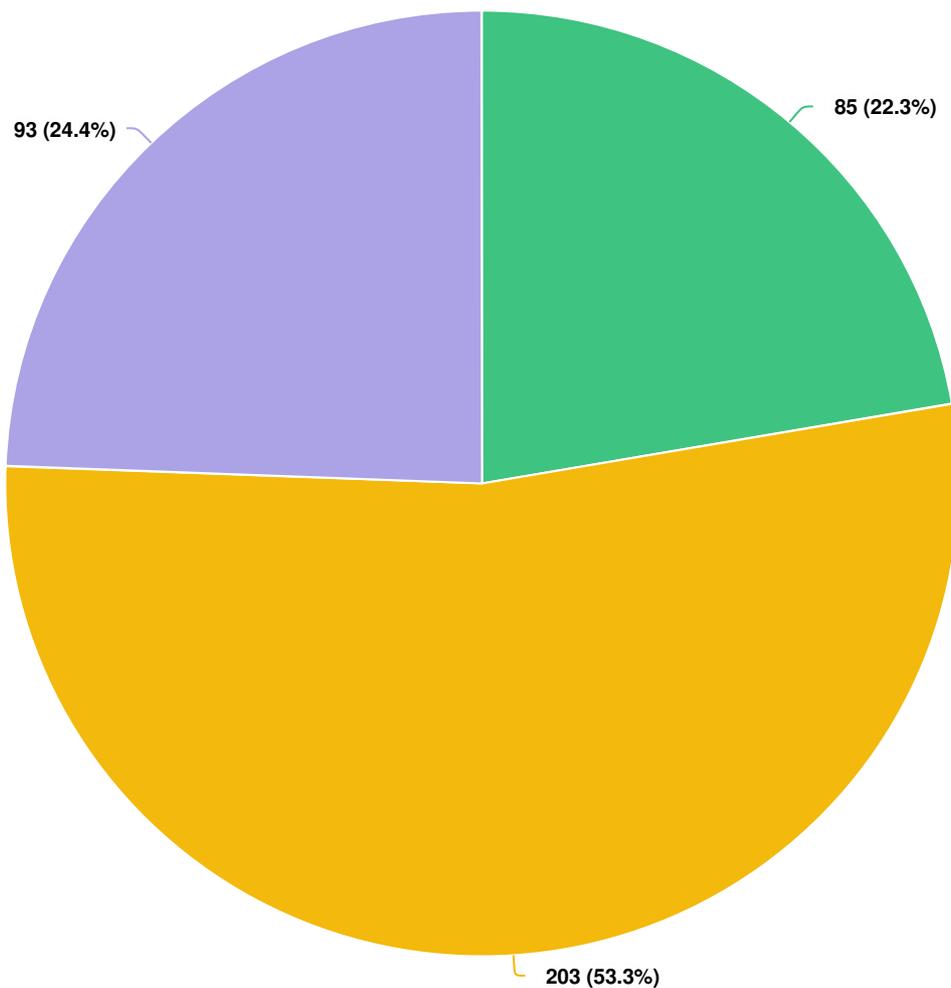
Q1 Which of the following principles should guide the City's budget decisions? Rank in order of priority, with 1 being your highest priority and 6 being your lowest priority.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Investing in long-term infrastructure	2.84
Keeping property taxes as low as possible	3.03
Maintaining current service levels	3.25
Enhancing quality of life	3.47
Supporting economic growth and development	3.95
Environmental sustainability	4.40

Optional question (381 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Ranking Question

Q2 Compared to a representative house within the CRD, and similar-sized communities across BC, Langford's municipal taxes are among the lowest. Should Langford's taxes be adjusted to align with other BC communities to help ensure comparable service levels are provided? Please see the table below for further information. (Select one)

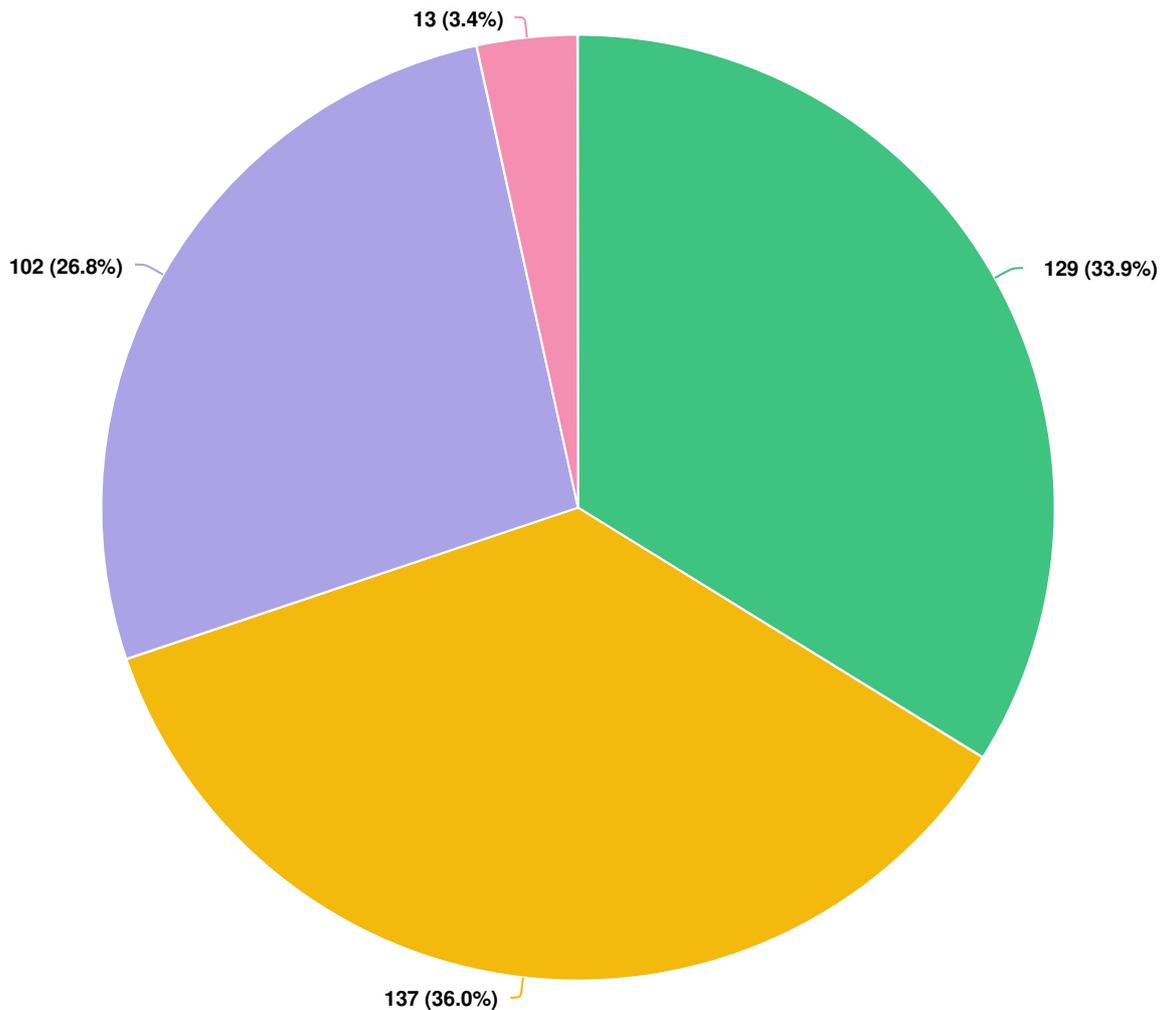
**Question options**

● Yes ● No ● Unsure/Need more information

Optional question (381 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

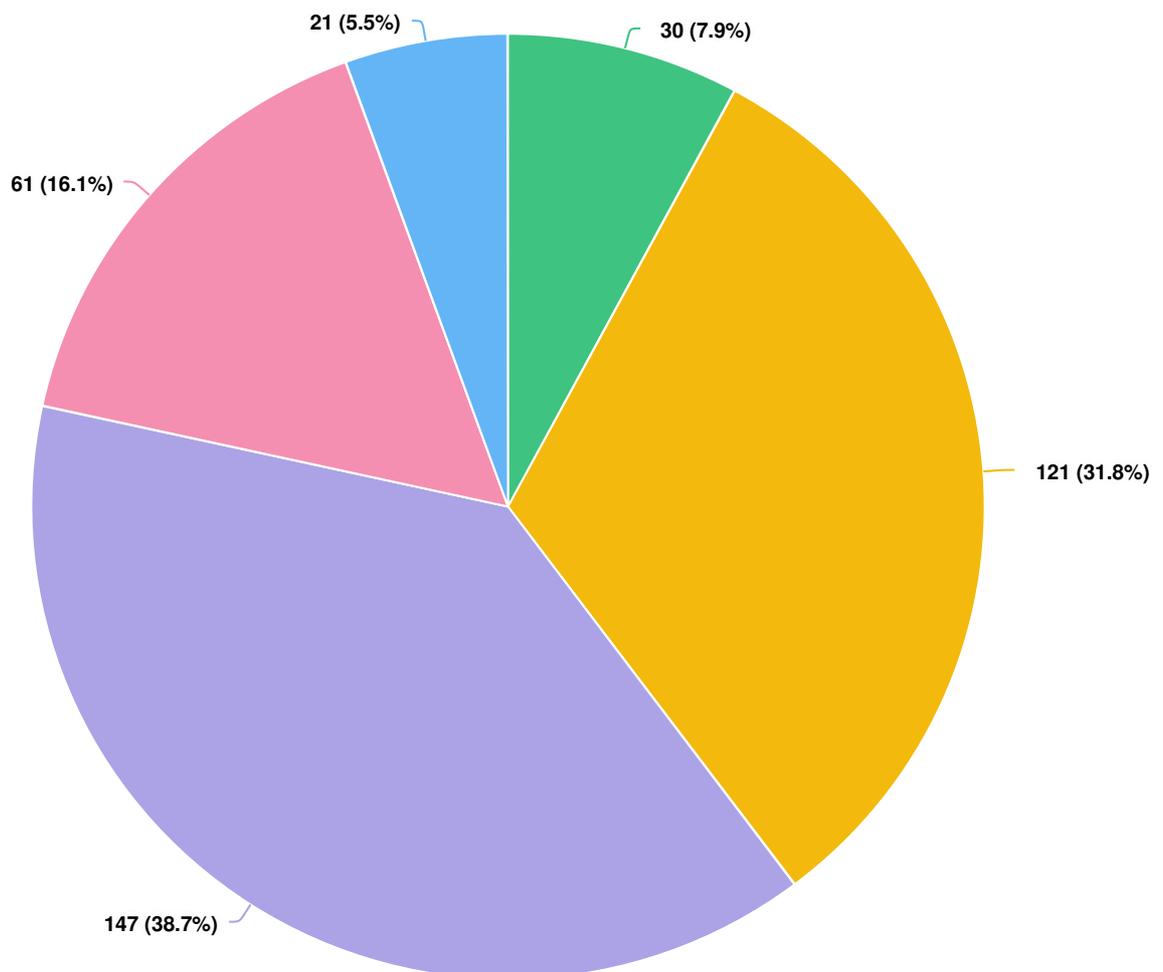
Q3 | Property taxes generally increase just to maintain existing service levels (due to inflation, growth, legislative changes, and downloading from other levels of governments). Do you support a property tax increase to improve service levels in addition to what is needed to maintain existing service levels? (Select one)

**Question options**

- Yes, I support a property tax increase to improve service levels
- No, I prefer property taxes to only increase to maintain existing service levels
- No, I prefer property taxes not increase, even if it means reducing services
- Not sure

Optional question (381 response(s), 2 skipped)

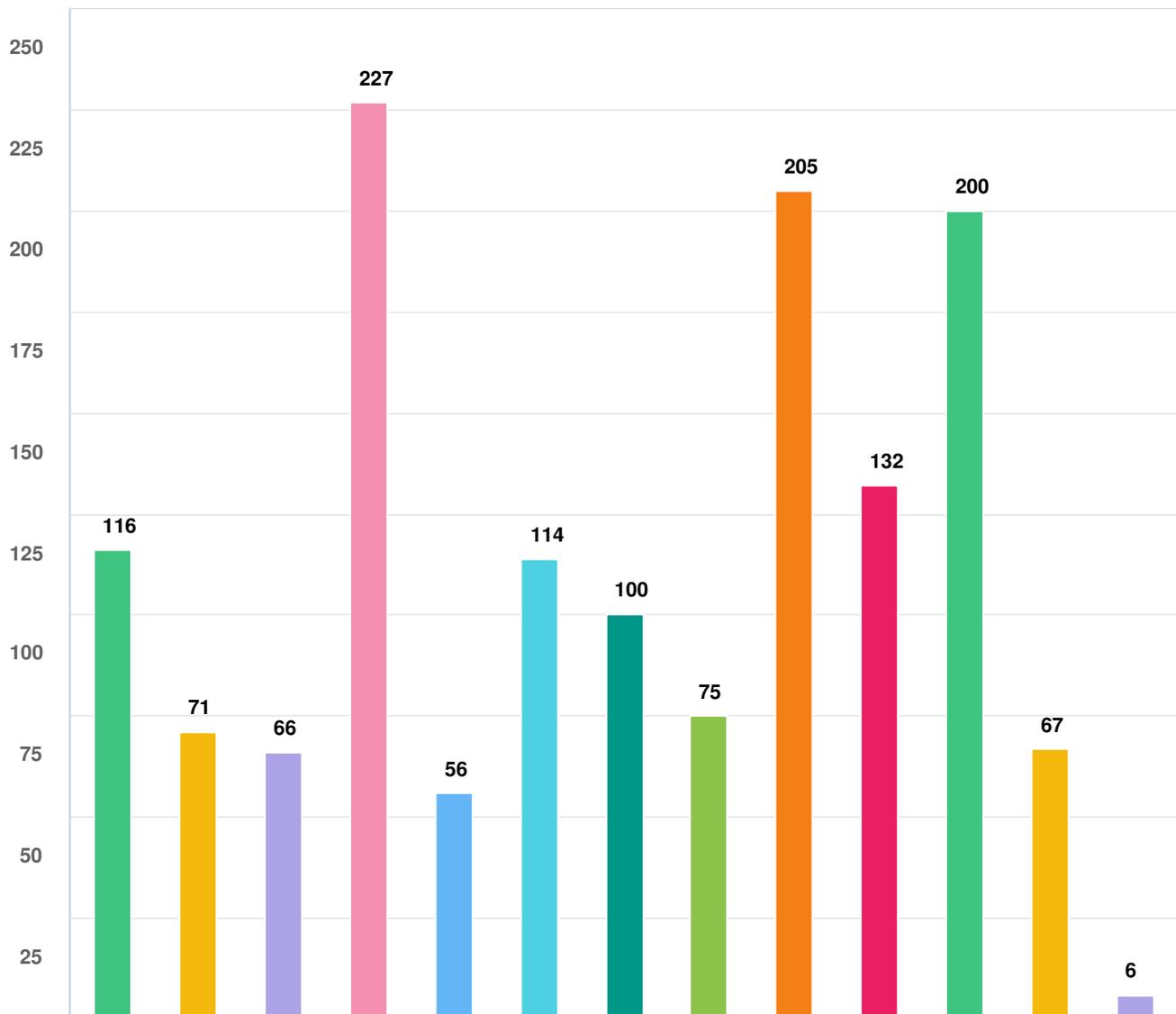
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q4 How satisfied are you with the current level of City services? (Select one)**Question options**

Very satisfied Satisfied Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Dissatisfied Very dissatisfied

Optional question (380 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q5 Which services or projects should receive priority for additional funding? (Select all that apply)

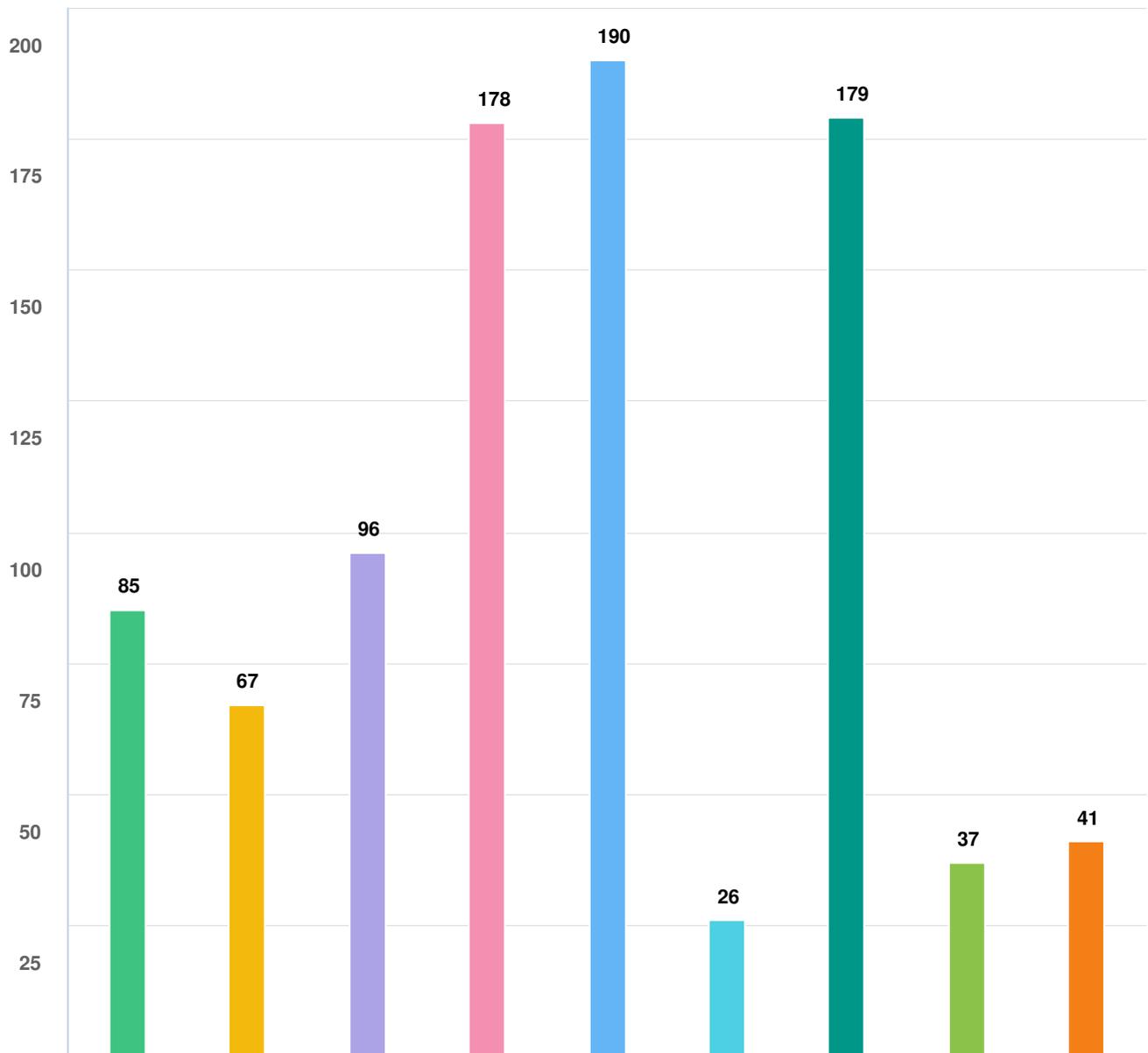


Question options

- Active transportation (bike lanes, sidewalks, pathways)
- Affordable housing initiatives
- Arts, culture, and community events (public art, cultural festivals)
- Asset management (repairs, maintenance, replacement of City infrastructure)
- Beautification projects (decorative lighting, landscaping, gathering spaces)
- Climate action and environmental initiatives (tree planting, GHG reduction)
- Community services (library, community gardens, grants in aid)
- Economic development (business support, workshops/training, business attraction)
- Protective services (police, fire, bylaw, emergency preparedness)
- Recreation facilities
- Road and sidewalk maintenance or additions
- Nothing, I do not want property taxes to increase
- Not sure, I need more information

*Optional question (382 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q6 To achieve a lower tax rate in 2026, which actions would you support? (Select all that apply)

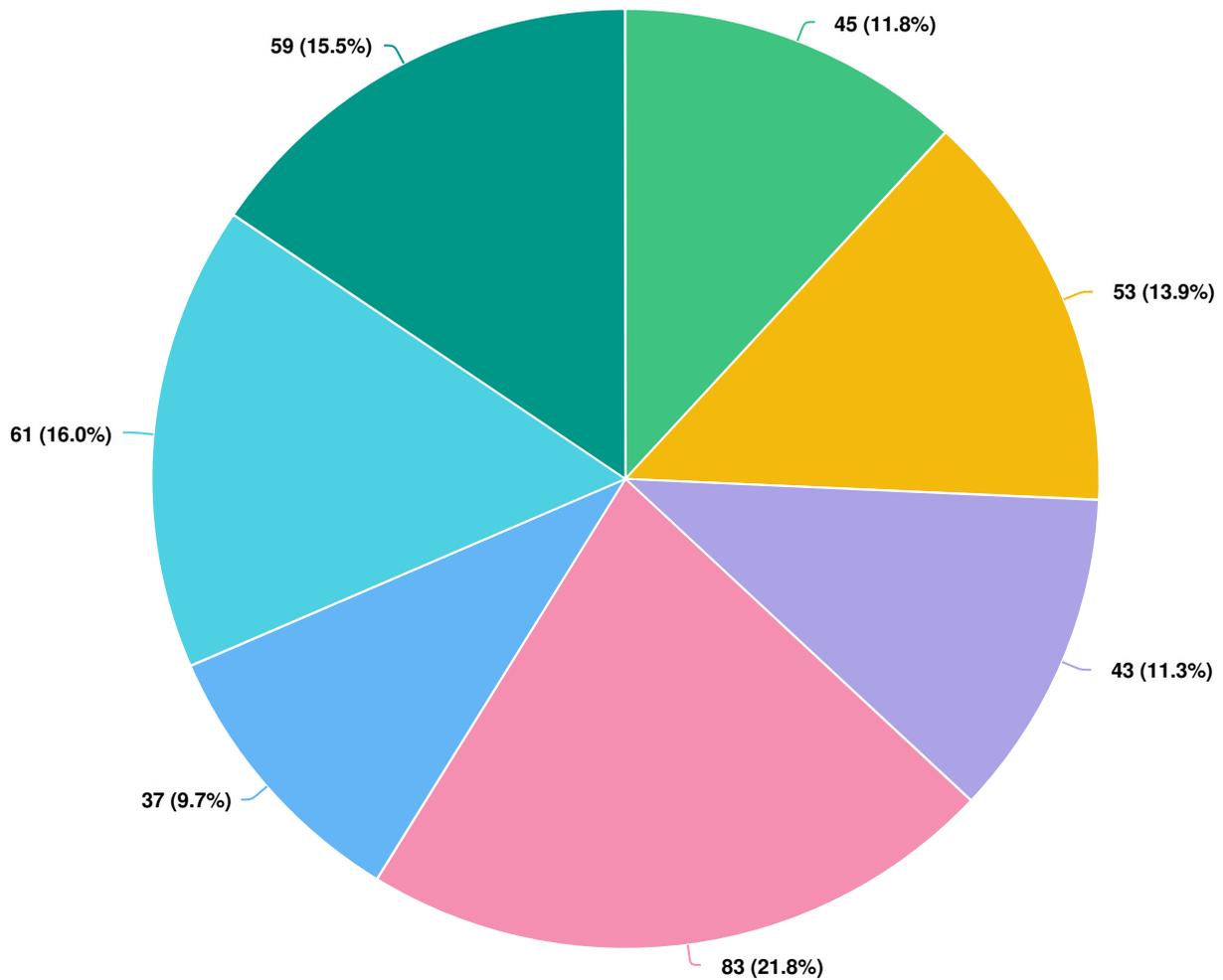


Question options

- Reduce services or programs (public safety, landscaping, community events)
- Postpone capital projects (roads, sidewalks, parks)
- Change the per capita ratio of police officers to population ("cop to pop") to hire fewer additional police officers
- Phase in the hiring of additional staff at City Hall
- Proactively advocate to stop the downloading of services from other levels of government
- Delay debt repayment on internal borrowing to future years, recognizing this will increase property taxes in future years.
- Direct staff to identify further reductions within operating budgets (service levels and long-term planning may be impacted)
- I don't support any of these actions
- Not sure, I need more information

*Optional question (382 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q7 At the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 10, 2026, staff presented possible property tax reduction options to reduce the 2026 property tax increase to: 11%, 9%, 6%, and 3%. Each option would affect service levels and future tax increases differently, ranging from significant to minor impacts. Considering this information, which reduction would you support? For more details on the proposed changes, you can watch the Committee meeting video. A report with further information can be found here.

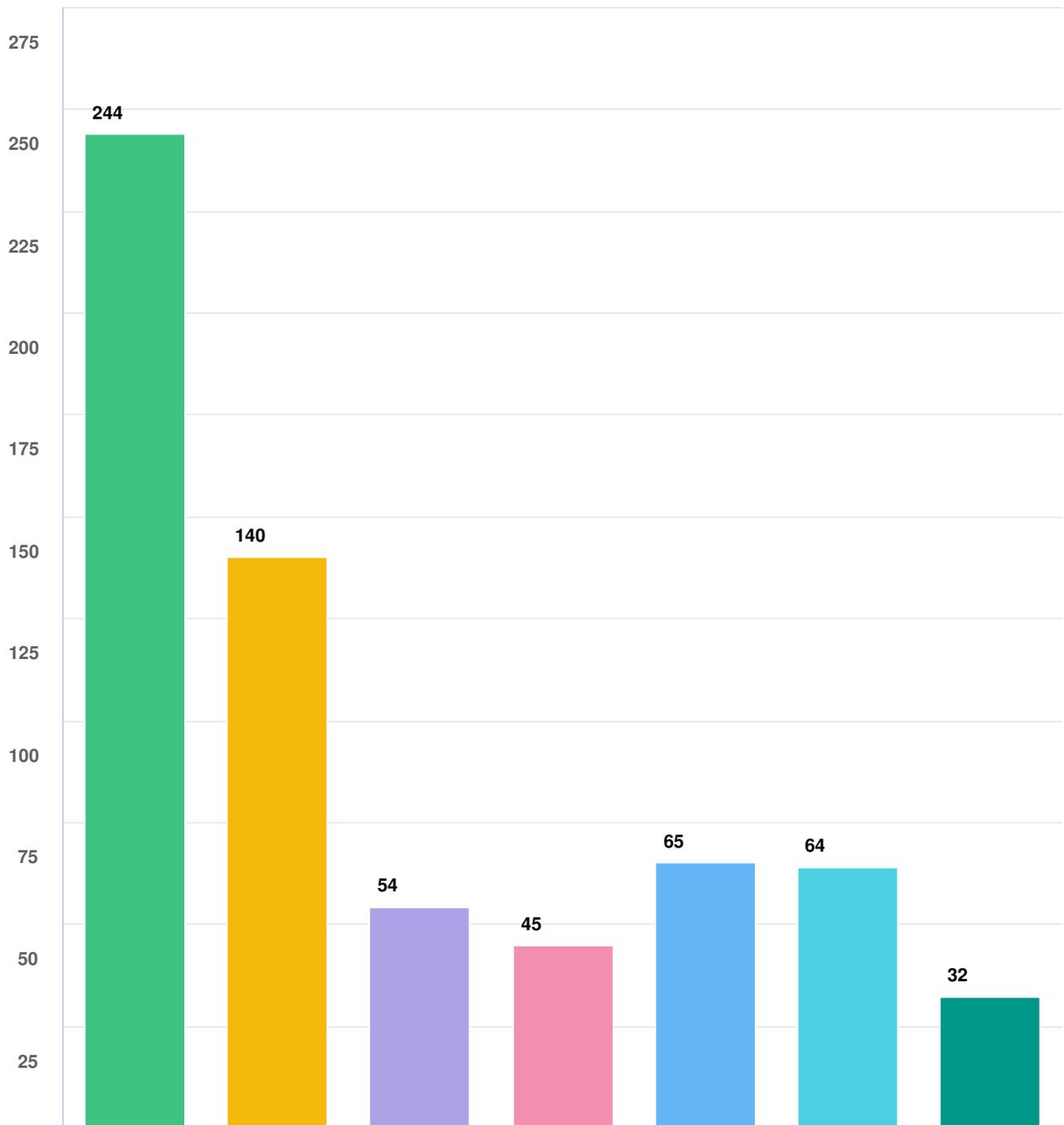


Question options

- An 11% increase which requires a reduction of an estimated 16 budget items valued at \$2,569,110
- A 9% increase which requires a reduction of an estimated 34 budget items valued at \$3,813,235
- A 6% increase which requires a reduction of an estimated 46 budget items valued at \$5,679,415
- A 3% increase which requires a reduction of an estimated 53 budget items valued at \$7,545,600
- I don't support any of these actions
- I support the 15.13% tax increase as proposed
- Not sure, I need more information.

Optional question (381 response(s), 2 skipped)
 Question type: Radio Button Question

Q8 If the City needs to increase revenue to offset rising costs, how should this be achieved?
(Select your top two)

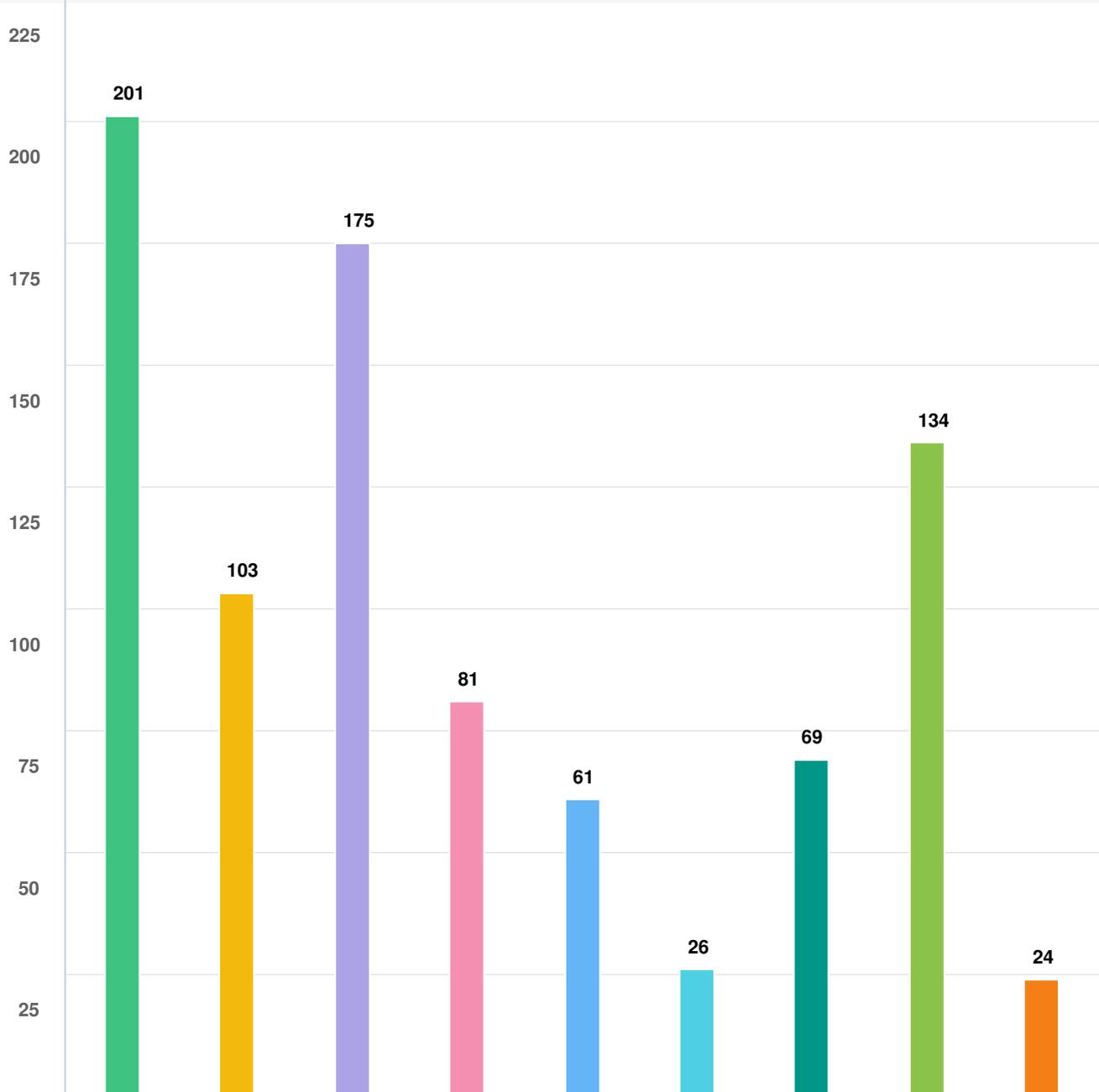


Question options

- Increase existing permit fees (e.g., building permits)
- Change business license fees from perpetual to annual
- Increase user fees (e.g., recreation fees)
- Increase property taxes
- Introduce new fees (e.g., paid parking)
- I do not want the City to increase any fees
- Not sure, I need more information

Optional question (383 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: *Checkbox Question*

Q9 Each year, the City invests in capital projects that are essential to maintaining core public services and existing infrastructure, such as roads, utilities, and public facilities. In addition to these required investments, the City may also pursue new capital projects that enhance quality of life, address emerging community needs, or introduce new public amenities. Please select up to three areas that you would like the City to prioritize funding for future capital projects. (Select your top three):



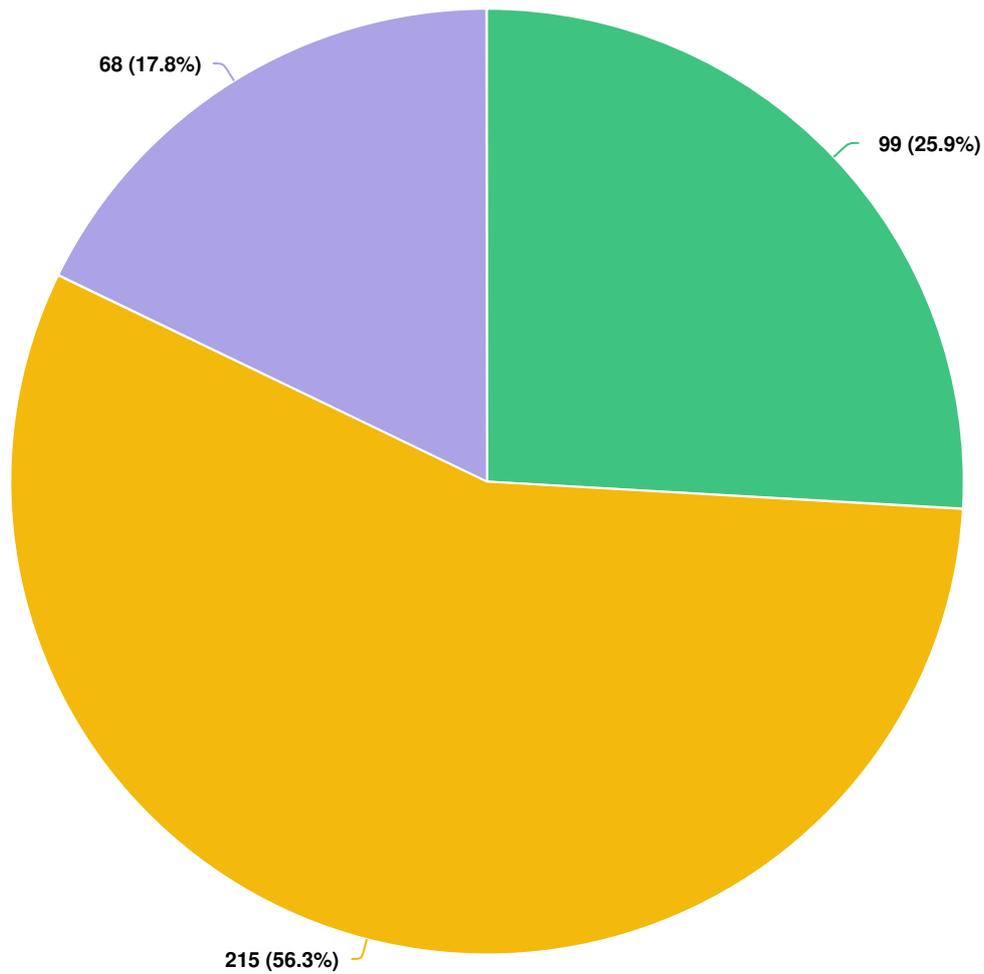
Question options

- Transportation/Active Transportation Infrastructure
- Acquisition or improvement of New Parks and Trails
- Police and Community Safety Equipment/Infrastructure
- Improvements to Recreation Facilities
- Major Projects (community amenity buildings)
- Beautification/Way Finding/Placemaking Initiatives
- General Government Systems Improvements to Maintain/Create Corporate Efficiencies
- Do not take on any Capital Projects, Focus on Internal Debt Repayment
- Unsure / Need more information

Optional question (382 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q10 | How informed do you feel about the City's budget process?

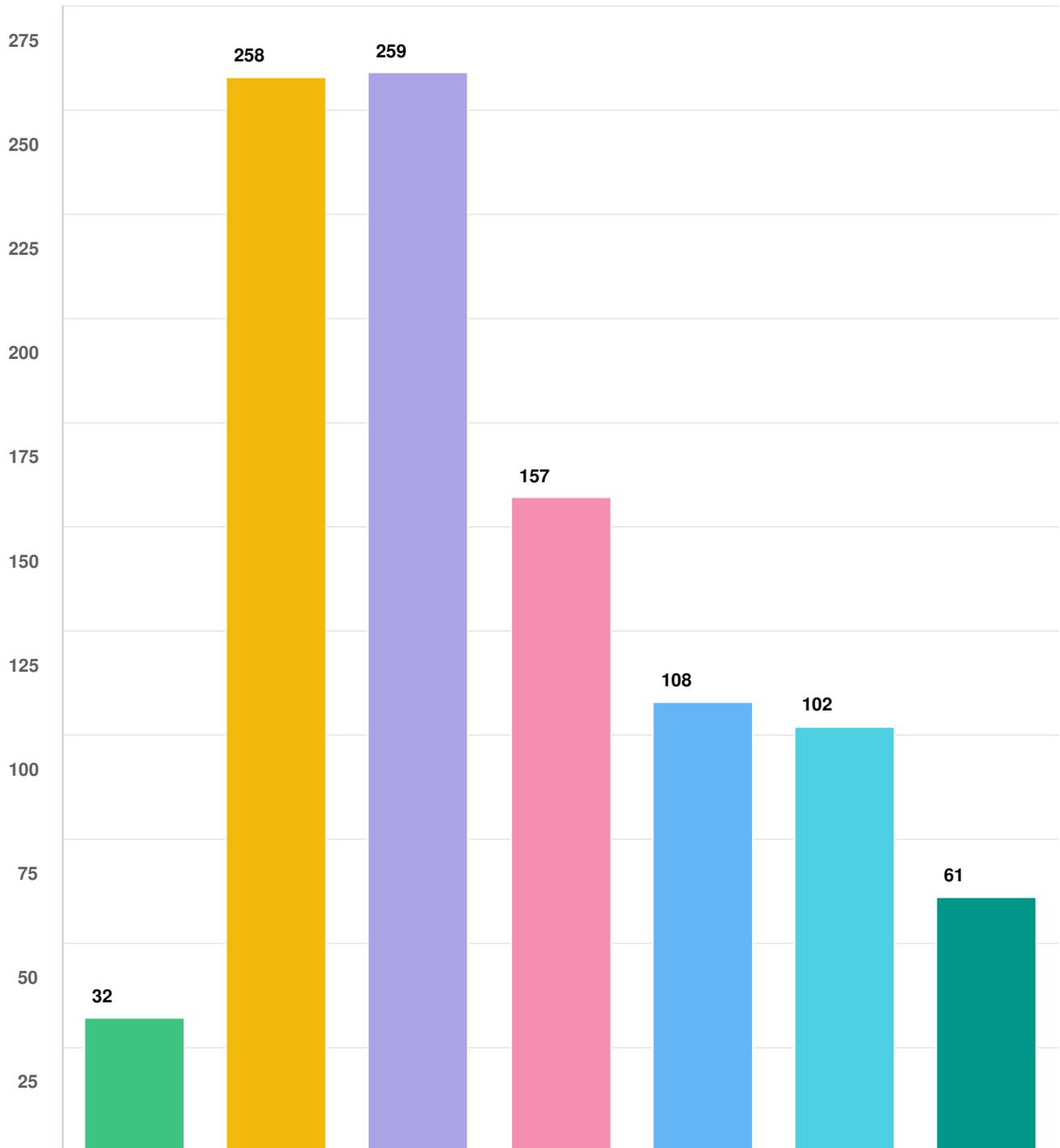


Question options

- Very informed
- Somewhat informed, but I'd like more information
- Not informed

*Optional question (382 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q11 | What is the best way for the City to share budget information with you? (Select all that apply)



Question options

- Other (please specify)
- City of Langford website (Langford.ca)
- LetsChatLangford.ca
- Social media
- Public meetings
- Budget open house
- Online seminar

*Optional question (380 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*