
Online Citizen Budget Results

Summary of Citizen Comments

May 29 - June 25, 2017



City of Saskatoon

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL COMMENTS/TAX COMMENTS.....	1
ROAD MAINTENANCE.....	16
SNOW & ICE MANAGEMENT.....	18
TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT.....	19
POLICE.....	21
FIRE.....	23
TRANSIT/ACCESS TRANSIT.....	24
PLANNING FOR GROWTH.....	25
AFFORDABLE HOUSING.....	27
COMMUNITY GRANTS.....	28
GARBAGE & WASTE REDUCTION.....	29
PARKS.....	31
RECREATION & CULTURE.....	32
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.....	33
OTHER.....	36

GENERAL COMMENTS/TAX COMMENTS

IN this time of provincial cutbacks, including to my wages, the city needs to find ways to hold the line of property tax increases. I know that this is hard (it's is hard for all of us), but you have to find ways to LESS with the funds you have currently available. You can't simply move the revenue stream from the province to city residents. Stop doing things like sound walls for a few years, but the number of staff at city hall. Cut the grass less in city parks. If the city has to keep coming to me for 5% + increases in property taxes it means you are living beyond your means. Keep the tax increase to 2% or less. Personally, I have 3.5% less income coming in every month, why should I want to see the city taking even more money away from my family?

Please please please, STOP squandering my money. Live within the budget. The budget is the current tax level. Municipal taxes never go down. You just waste waste waste. Examples - Diefenbaker and 22nd st roadwork - complete waste of money. Circle drive between 33rd and Laurier - Sound walls? are you kidding me? I though we were short of money with 9 million less from the provincial gov't? Lower taxes, don't raise them.

We live in Kensington - have for 3 years, despite being a forgotten neighbourhood. We lived without garbage collection, no street lights, and street sweeping this spring for the first time in 3 years. I don't think reducing taxes is the answer. It would be nice to be recognized as a member in the community since we've been paying property taxes for 3 years. Please add Kensington and Elk Point to the list of neighbourhoods.

Many of us are simply tapped out with the tax increases the City of Saskatoon has experienced; in particular for 2017. Council should remember that many residents in our city took a significant hit with reassessment this year. The increase was further compounded by the mill rate increase, the tax shift from commercial to residential, the off-loading related to the provincial budget, utility increase and the expanded PST. Our property tax increase this year was \$872.92! Yes, \$872.92 with another \$130.00 deferred to 2018 as part of the tax phase in. We had to come up with an additional \$872.92 which means less spending in the stores, theaters, restaurants and reductions in donations to charitable non-profit corporations in our community. We have been picked clean.

Outside of police and fire services, it seems the city also has started the process of weaving in special designated taxes with increases fees and levies. At one time, everything was covered by my property taxes.

We need 2 lists; the must do's and the nice to do's for 2018. Police, Fire, Roads & Snow are must do's, but they need to work within the funding made available at 2017 levels. Hopefully we won't use the Police & Fire Services but recognize their necessity. We also don't see a snowplow on our residential street when needed but it's a must do in the wider picture. Bike lanes for example, are NOT a priority, not even close. And we DON'T appreciate mandatory programs being imposed such as recycling was.... and yes we already pay for garbage pickup!

The reality is, council is going need to start cutting, and taking the exercise seriously. Nothing is exempt from the table.... except the must do's.

Council should also focus on "tax enforcement" or tax evasion", however you want to look at it. There are considerable amounts of funding sitting out there with homeowners whose properties have not been properly assessed. Let's get those

funds into the mix with those who renovated or altered their existing structures, altered their garages or decks, or did a full basement development without a building or plumbing permit.

Keep the 2018 tax increase from an absolute minimum to 0% City Council.

Sure reduce my already bare bone services. No road clearing in 2 years. But a huge tax increase and ridiculous new assessment.

Try hard to reign in (Environmental Services) please. Junk that wasteful "Air One" party plane and get the Police in uniforms back on the street where the crime is rampant, please. Get the City Councilors some accountability by making their positions "Full Time" – that way the small increase in pay they receive will at least get them in the building more than one part day a week. Maybe the overpaid city manager should take a pay cut to show some sincerity in his resolve to screw over all the locals with wage freeze talk this year? After all, at \$325,000/year - he really isn't much of a bargain, is he? Transit - what a waste of tax dollars. For gosh sakes, more people ride bikes than busses....Cuts!, and some serious look at what routes are used, people please!...Without U of S forced ridership & the social services crowd, , less than 1% of our city would use a bus. Take a look at their budget. Gross waste. And take some pride in the MVA, for God's sake - all they do to beautify our city, and council craps on them constantly, shameful. Thanks for the input.

With property taxes significantly increasing in my neighborhood for the next 3 years, I would expect service levels to be at minimum maintained or better yet, improved. I live in one of our 'core' neighborhoods, and while I value growth and development, it seems we are spending a lot of money 'building out' when there is a lot of revitalization that could occur in our core neighborhoods. And a lot of tax dollars are also spent in doing so. (More roads, more to maintain and remove snow from). Personally, my priorities would be 1. Policing - while I love living in a 'core' neighborhood, it also can bring challenges due to the proximity to downtown and services. As we look to expand our family in the next couple years, safety and security become paramount. At this point, I do not always feel safe on my property and wait times can be long when the police are called. 2. I would like to see the streets within our neighborhood better taken care of - pot holes, and gravel patches to cover where the road as been dug up are all too familiar. Again, especially with being a heritage area. 3. Composting program – my hometown (which is not known to be particularly 'green') operates a successful composting program that my parents participate in. It AMAZES me that they take the time and care to participate, but also how little garbage they have when combined with diligent recycling habits. Could we even target a pilot program to see if it makes sense? Finally - I didn't see pest management as an option in the above (this is also a 'heat of the moment' comment) but can we PLEASE consider some time of spraying for these Tent Caterpillars that we have been blessed with for the past few years. Although I understand they do not do any damage, they significantly effect our ability to enjoy the outdoors, our yard and our own property. With the trees being SO large, they are nearly impossible for citizens to manage on our own. I read that the City of Regina sprays for them, so it would be nice to investigate a similar option for Saskatoon.

Police and Fire are top priorities for our house hold. The planning for traffic and community growth can be done alot more efficiently. These area's continue to get it

<p>wrong (like the attridge on ramp going North on circle drive). These mistakes should not happen. Also why don't you have a sliding chart for City solicitors and Management? The Tranist lock out was so poorly managed, a hard look should be given to the people responsible for giving bad advice to City Council!</p>
<p>It's time to reduce the labour force. 100% of every business that has a down turn lays off staff but not the city. Nope you rape us for more money</p>
<p>You need to find efficiencies in providing services; citizens need to step up and not depend on "government" to do it all, although how you get people to be responsible is challenging.</p>
<p>Please spend our taxes wisely, no more art galleries, renovating water treatment plants with overpasses (for the safety of the workers and then close the street) Paving streets you are going to be closing - same as above), stop the waste and run a well-managed affordable city. I don't think that is too much to ask :)</p>
<p>Road side, flower area, to show some beauty, is a must program you should do. Pay residents, who want to do it in free times. It would be cheap. Put her or his name board on it. Many volunteer would be ready to do it for the city. Paint, walls, with colors under the bridges, to give a lively look. Shouldn't cost much. Switch off lights early and start late, to save electricity bills. You guys are still over using 40mints. We yet have not got a grass cut in our community on road side. In winters, clean off snow, on major roads, and that's it, do not start polishing them. Instead do snow removal on smaller roads with still heavy traffic. Build one or two parks every year. Put new benches on river side. And in parks. Downtown do not have enough benches to sit on. New online parking payment app system is really a neck saver. West side, cleaning is must. It is way too dirty. Thank you so very much again.</p>
<p>I have indicated that I would like increases to road maintenance, but I don't want the increase distributed along current priorities, I would like to see increased funding for active transportation. The city is currently underfunding infrastructure for cycling and pedestrians and I would like to see a dramatic change in the funding priorities. I would support either changing existing budget to divert money from vehicular to active transportation needs or to increase taxes specifically to fund active transportation. I would also like to see more funding and options for public transit.</p>
<p>Please consider efficiency in each program during the review process and assess how many managers are required to run efficient programs</p>
<p>I would like to be able to change the Education section of Property Taxes as We do not have children. And some people have many children & pay the same amount of taxes. Perhaps some property taxes should be adjusted</p>
<p>I notice that there were questions about road maintenance, ice and snow management and traffic, and recreation but nothing about water mains, sanitary sewer and storm sewer. Isn't it strange that we can drive and walk on gravel and dirt roads, but we can't live without good drinking water? Get the priorities straight and ensure that we do have good water and sewage treatment facilities, along with distribution and collection systems.</p>
<p>Stop spending every dime take in in taxes. Remove all the extra fees you charge and put it on the property tax bill as separate items, since it is a tax.</p>

Why would planning, traffic management and governance be separate? Combined its a lot on bureaucracy, 4th biggest budget spend item. I would divert money from policing (treating crime) to community grants and quality of life stuff like transit and recreation (preventing crime). As we boom we continue to marginalize the poor in this city. Saskatoon's future should be bright for everyone, not just the people who can afford it.

An increase in bike paths, additional sidewalks in the Stonebridge auto mall would be a good direction, currently there are bus stops for people to use but no sidewalk in the auto mall. Transit Bus services entering the Preston and Stonebridge Box Malls would also be a welcome addition. Increase recycling pick up to every week. Additional indoor and or outdoor pools in the newer subdivision like Stonebridge and Evergreen.

Stop putting hard to care for green space at the entrance to the new developments. Find efficiencies and do more with less. This is what business does. Stop spreading salt on the roads when it is not needed. Keep the bridges clean of snow always. This is very important. Just ask the girl who landed on the river. Be smart with your decisions and don't waste.

Firefighters and their dispatchers often make over a BASE salary of 100,000 - currently more than a police officer or a paramedic and often adopt far less risk and work in large teams. Our parks are beautiful but extremely sprawling. Sell some of our parks for development, in particular Wildwood Golf course to offset costs and reduce urban sprawl in general. As a cyclist the bike lanes are completely pointless as 99% of my cycling remains unchanged in regular traffic. I believe Saskatoon's wide streets have always allowed for excellent cycling.

Increased taxes for better city living and quality of life just makes sense. Distributing costs among all citizens has been proven to enhance city and citizens in Norse countries and other places.

I am tired of sps whining that they need more money. I am tired of fringe groups (hockey players) whining for money. I am also tired of the lack of accountability at city Hall (the transit lockout fiasco, the "I am just going to pull a number out of my hat and that will be the amount that it will cost to have a contest to name a bridge cause I am too lazy to do my job) I am not surprised you did not allow me to change corporate governance, are you worried that all the citizens will change it cause this is the poorest ran city in the country? I only left the winter road maintenance as is in hopes that there might actually be a grader coming down my street one of these winters. I highly doubt it though.

City had over assessed the value of my home by 65%. Therefore I don't feel they should be spending the extra that are stealing from me. \$178,000 "riverfront premium" in exhibition????! Come on Saskatoon, be fair!

I would also say stop messing around with bylaws regarding backyard fires. Keep things the way they are!

I find the charges for sewer and water have gone up dramatically and would like it to be better explained to the general public.

Respect citizen's dollars. Involve in public activities only.
Roads traffic and civic facilities such as Field House.
Leave facilities such as the Art gallery to the private sector. Do not build an LRT as it will put traffic flow at risk especially during construction No more bike lanes. We have

<p>enough. The ones we do have are often not used by downtown cyclists anyway. Put the needs of many ahead of needs of the few. Give Police the resources they need. Do not debate trivial issues such as Fire pits.</p>
<p>If Saskatoon has to go in debt then so be it. I have lived here for 8 years and am shocked when I go to other cities and see all the facilities they have. Quebec City, London, Edmonton, Victoria! Even smaller cities like lethbridge, north bay, etc.... all put saskatoon to shame. We also need to clean up the streets by getting punks and drunks off the streets. It is not safe to walk downtown and visitors are shocked to see the type of people on our streets.</p>
<p>I feel there needs to be more work done to encourage people to take transit, car pool, etc. Most vehicles on our roads have only one or two occupants. I also believe it is important to keep the user fees reasonable to our leisure centres, encouraging more people to stay active and use the facilities.</p>
<p>I would also like to see reduced funding for libraries, funding of more modern access to information (e.g. free or subsidized neighborhood Internet for the poor), decreased investment in new suburban neighborhoods, and increased investment in the downtown core.</p>
<p>Why does it have to result in a service level reduction? The answer cannot always be raise taxes, that is unacceptable and the easy way out. Make the hard decisions, find savings, keep Saskatoon an affordable place to live.</p>
<p>We can always do more with less when we try. The same services can be maintained or increased if we challenge the efficiencies.</p>
<p>I'd like to see a small shift towards funding 'upstream' initiatives. Such as increased budget for growth and development planning and social services. I'd also like tilt slightly toward funding things that improve the city for the individual experience of a person; sidewalks, parks, plazas, art etc. I would be willing to sacrifice some of the service provided to facilitate movement by car. Police services is disproportionately high. I believe that transferring some of that money into social programs we could reduce the need for such a large police budget in future. I am very happy to pay taxes to be provided with great services. Keep up the good work!</p>
<p>I would be very happy to pay more taxes to enhance the services provided by our city.</p>
<p>I feel strongly that we are not assessed extra charges for garbage. This is something that should be paid for with our taxes. i also compost and do not want to be charged for that. I see lots of stupid things happening with snow removal: for instance clearing off snow piles while intense melting is happening so I feel we spend too much by not just watching the weather. i do commend the city for quick clearing of streets. I DO not want to see a downtown arena in the next 10 years as I feel it is nor affordable or required. Make do with the arena we have. I would also like to see a wage freeze and a hiring freeze. Lets relook at how things can be done more efficiently with suggestions from our front line workers. Thanks for listening.</p>
<p>Get rid of expensive seldom used (especially in the winter) bike lanes that clog traffic and are a general nuisance to traffic. Stop building shrines to organizations such as Saskatoon Police service, they don't need a \$140 M headquarters but that is now done. When will we stop paying for Remai art gallery and will it really ever open?</p>
<p>If Transit provided quicker service I would consider taking it but currently, it takes me 1.5 hours to reach most locations. I would like to see more funding for affordable</p>

housing, community programming, and services for the community. It would also be nice to do this survey for Saskatoon Public Libraries.

Please control the dandelions. When the city doesn't maintain the parks, home owners have to work harder to maintain their property. Think of anti vaxxers. That's you, Saskatoon City Council. #2- reconsider the commitment to renewable energy. Alternative energy is like alternative facts. There's a reason it's not mainstream and that's because it doesn't make sense for anything other than niche usage. Solar energy and wind power can only be justified when no grid power is available. Replacing grid power with alternative energy is a terrible waste of taxpayers' money for no benefit. #3- look at saving energy by switching to LED lighting for street lighting, money spent there is a more responsible use of capital than the solar demonstration project at the landfill. #4- please stop trying to teach us a lesson by designing new subdivisions with one lane streets (when parking on both sides of street or with snow banks there's only one lane for traffic. Not everyone rides their bike to work, my daughter hasn't found a bike that can accommodate 2 car seats. Cars are here to stay. # 5- Saskatoon is a great city and the employees do a great job, just have to tune up the planning department.

We have never in the 32 years that i have lived in saskatoon cleared residential streets of snow during winter and with most vehicles being awd now as opposed to rwd 30 years ago i dont see why we would start now. We should discontinue saving for this goal and use that money to divert more waste from the land fill by making recycle and composting services free and charging by weight or load for garbage pickup.

I have adjusted my budget to what i see impacts our community the most, by going lean, and cutting the fat out of programs that are not a necessity to the survival and growth of this city. I have load balanced my allocation based on the needs of the city and areas that have gone short funded for too long resulting in lower standards of living. I traverse the roads all day every day for my business and i deal with the communities and the police with their big increase have used their money to build up their infrastructure but have decreased their service to the working class who needs it the most. They ignore a lot of issues that the working class man deserves such as dealing with noise complaints for those that work to feed the infrastructure. They allow too much to slip through the loopholes and allow the non-working community to continue to abuse the system and jeopardize the well-being of the very people that work for a living to protect their homes and ability to sleep and feel safe at night. So since they continue to no provide us service i feel some of the contribution to them is a waste. if they are unwilling to provide service and ignore people who need their service then they should not be funded as much by us. Our roads and snow remove is a dire must. People in this city are too bent on looking at the quick wins to save money. EVERYTHING IS BUILT BY THE LOWEST BIDDER IT SEEMS. This is the downfall of our very city. And the downfall of civilization in a hole. Quality goes down, reoccurring costs go up, wages go up and nothing gets done right. This results in more spending over all. EG: little to no snow flowing and grating in the side roads and residential results in rutting and excessive vibrations on the ground cracking roads and allowing frost under the roads which with the constant vibration of vehicles causes expensive watermain breaks and destroys our infrastructure which not only

costs you more: it causes watermain breaks that destroy people's houses (such is the case that happened to me, i warned the city long long times to fix the roads in front of my house and stop busses from using the side road as a main route, 3 kids almost got killed when busses doing over 70k down a single lane road almost swerved out of control, 5 vehicles on my block got smashed parked on the sides as a result of people going into skid accidents on open ruts and cuts filled by graval and left for over 6 months.) It almost destroyed my health as well and plugged my brand new furnace 3 times due to the dust. I developed respiratory conditions as a result of the dust kicked up in front of my house and had to sweep off a layer of dust and mud off my vehicle every day for a year. This is unacceptable service as a municipal city worker for the schools i need my vehicle to look presentable.) All of this due to a MIS allocation of funds and going for the quick wins. If the roads were maintained in the winter and grated more i might not have had to go through a 65 grand insurance claim to have my house rebuilt when your water main broke due to the ruts and frost created from a lack of infrastructure and service when my home flooded in the middle of winter. So as you can see it's a domino effect. Do the right stuff and maintain things before they become a problem. In the winter where it counts. Like Alberta and Ontario which Regularly do the maintenance and clear the roads and don't have the problem. I am an engineer and a 20 year construction guy and know how things work. I know the logic and physics behind the elements and our roadworks and homes inside out. I feel that cutting funds and wages is not the answer. Raising taxes and taxing everyone fairly is the answer. That also means taxing our indigenous community as they contribute to the wear and tear. I feel it unfair that they get tax breaks and handouts and don't have to contribute to the very system they help to wear down. There are many things that need to change in this city if we are going to continue to thrive and be number one. My allocation is where it starts. It is a delicate subject and fine balance. It is also hard to fix a growing problem that we continue to feed even though we feel we feel we are doing good. We need change. The right change. We need to turn this city into a super center. We are right in the middle of the province. Everything commercial and industrial passes through us. We NEED ROAD MAINTENANCE. We don't need another new police station and fleet of 120 new 40,000 dollar cars that don't really do much. We don't need Culture and parks looking mint when we have sink holes destroying houses and vehicles at the citizens' expense. Education is important to cutting people's jobs rather than raising taxes and stopping giving tax breaks to the non-working communities is wrong. It's a system designed to fail. What happens when the non-working and non-tax contributing communities surpass the working class man and woman's population quota? Will we continue to feed them more? I ask you this: where will the money be to support all of this when the working class community is below 50%? Game over. I don't think I need to paint the picture. You already know where this city is headed if it doesn't make changes soon. I base my statement on pure logic, fact and statistical data from the communities I deal with. Don't get me wrong. Making our city attractive is important but it should not be the priority. We need to start getting our priorities straight to get back on track. Did you know: that over 1400 homes in this province sit empty? Sold empty. People are leaving because of how terrible our infrastructure is. It's a disgrace and I'm embarrassed to say I even live here right now. My whole family

sold their homes and left the province because of the lack of infrastructure and service. I am the only one still here. Even I am now starting to consider getting out and leaving while I still have the chance. If I am thinking this you have to question how many others are thinking the same way. I have a good career and support 47 buildings here in I.T. so why would I be thinking this? There has to be some truth to it. I know it's an eye opener. It scares me too.

Why do we spend so much on libraries??! Really, in this age where online documents and services have exploded and every book ever written in the history of mankind is one click away we are still acting like book museums are a priority. This can only be compared with the struggle that stone-age people went through when converting their documents to papyrus. "Where will we keep all our cuneiform tablets??" Oh the humanity.

This took more than six minutes, but that's ok! Happiness of the people is my modus operandi! I make my choices based on helping those who can least afford to live so they are "happier" – If they are happier, I am happier. And I'm even willing to clean my own portion of my street to do so.

Taxpayers should not be the source of 'unlimited funding'! Learn to live within your means like we all have to do. I am extremely tired of tax increases and getting no further services. No police come to my aid; our park is not maintained; our local roads are not maintained; traffic around the city is horrendous; buses drive the streets with virtually no passengers; we already pay extra for recycling; Community Grants??? Who is giving ME a grant when I am short of money???. good luck driving through residential roads in the snow.... Taxes go up & nothing changes. "This could result in a service level reduction"??? You don't have far to go to hit rock bottom! Enough is enough!

I feel the focus for Saskatoon should be on dealing with the current infrastructure and stop urban sprawl. Repair existing roadways and improve snow removal in all areas of the city. Deal with over hiring of city workers and return to the basics of governing our fine city. The idea of paying additional costs for garbage removal is very upsetting to me. I already pay for garbage removal and I do everything I can to recycle. Please look at equitable taxing for those who have versus those who don't have.

As pensioners we have minimal income & find that the council is over spending on projects that are causing our taxes to continually escalate with no sign of abatement in the near future. What hope is there in curbing these expensive building projects? In another part of the City operation is spring hiring of students that require a truck to look for work around the city to look busy. Counted 5 students & one senior city male with 2 trucks killing time at the Starbucks at University Hts Safeway with 2 trying to forgo falling asleep. Another instance was the lady driver of a city truck with 2 female helpers stopping at the Butler Byers Insurance office off Acadia & 8th. St. to come in an deal with her personal business while the 2 waited in the truck. As a citizen standing on the sideline it makes you wonder, other than them raising their tuition funds what is it they are doing for our tax dollars. 3rdly, how is it that 3 or 4 Firemen will take a pumper truck out during the day, not for an emergency call but to shop for groceries while being payed by us taxpayers. Can they not shop with their own vehicle on their own time like everyone else? Sure makes one wonder Eh!

Please stop putting up those walls all over, it was so nice to see the trees growing now we look at ugly brown walls. The amount of money spent on these is a waste of taxes most of the people I talk to don't like them., also when buying a house on a busy street you know that you will have noise, not only are they having trouble with kids partying behind the walls but the noise hits the wall and people further in are getting noise from the roads that they never had before. Smaller busses in off time would save taxes, Hold back on the bike lanes, In a time of restraint enough money has been spent on a very small minority of people.

Consider spending public money in ways that will be most advantageous to the vulnerable in our community. Support programs that keep kids busy, provide opportunities for those who would not have them and provide support for society's most vulnerable people. Do not clear snow when roads are bare and spring is three weeks away. I am in favour of a tax increase beyond the amount the provincial government offloaded to the municipality. We would have had to pay for that offload at the provincial level anyway, had it not been offloaded.

I feel we need to make cuts to create savings. The bike lanes need to go. The maintenance costs for snow removal, sweeping, and policing of these lanes does not equate to any income coming in from them. Bicycles are not meant to be on the roads in the winter. Riders should be required to wear reflective gear so they are seen and are safer. Efficiencies need to be found, as with any budget, household or school or government, we all need to stretch it.

The city administration must really focus on limiting the spending. More & more people are unemployed...Seniors haven't received any increase in their pensions for years. How can you expect the tax payer to keep coming up with more money... Things like another consulting firm hired to study CN/CP rail is a waste of money. Painting bike lanes for pride week is so unnecessary. IF LBGQ want this let them do fun raise & pay for this. Especially these days when most people are trying to practise spending restraints. Thank you

I'm unable to convey my concerns with this tool. The problem is, the questions make no distinction between polluting, sedentary transportation that we need to reduce, and healthy active transport, that we need to increase. As owners of 3 properties we spend hundreds of \$/yr subsidizing cars, parking and motorways etc etc etc. But we own no cars. Cycling and walking are severely underfunded. Saskatoon wants a "greener" city, but our tax dollars still support cars, cars and more cars. If I click to support "sports groups" am I funding a small local soccer field for kids who walk there? Or a distant "sports complex" which forces most users into cars? If I click for "snow removal" is it to make bike lanes clear enough to use all year? Or is it to make motorways and car parks even more accessible? Increased cycling and walking benefit everyone in the city, even people who still prefer to drive everywhere, as many cities are learning. Too much car traffic is not just an environmental issue; it degrades our neighbourhood, our health, our security, our budget, our property values and our quality of life. Car dependency is no more healthy than cigarette dependency. The difference is that homeowners are not required to provide free tobacco and lighters. We need to let car owners pay for the roads they are using through fuel tax, vehicle tax, tolls or parking fees, etc. Subsidies are fine for things we need to encourage: schools, libraries & garbage removal. But not for things that are killing us slowly, and

tearing neighbourhoods apart. There's a reason people prefer to live on cul-de-sacs. More Canadians are killed by car exhaust than by car crashes. Many people tell me they would love to bike to work, school or shopping, but just don't feel safe doing it. Our streets need a redesign. And our car-centric funding model needs an overhaul. I'm not saying get rid of all cars. Some people will always drive. But there is no rationale for these massive subsidies. Underpriced goods get overused. Besides the direct subsidies to car-centred life, Saskatoon forces developers and businesses to subsidize cars by requiring car parking in new residences and businesses. This is an onerous expense which makes all customers and residents subsidize those who drive. If I build a laneway suite, I am compelled to provide 2 car-parking spots. It's time to phase that out too. Let us decide if we want the expense of a car parking spot. Let people who park on-street pay a fair price for that too. Give people freedom to decide on big expenses. Thanks for listening!

Until the economy picks up again it is time to quit wasting funds. We DO NOT need garbage pickup on stat holidays!! In a democratic society when the majority do not want something it is removed, therefore look at the surveys that say "we don't want the ridiculous bike lanes". We don't need to pay staff union rates to water trees and those "types" of jobs. There are WAY too many busses empty and still on the road-adjust the times for the routes!! Coordinate street closures!!! I could go on and on..... I was born in and have lived in this city for over 50 years and have never been more frustrated with the waste of tax dollars!

This form does not let me pin point services in particular which i find not necessary such as the bike lanes down town which are not fully used as we are led to believe. Furthermore painting of roadway D.Town in various colors to advertise some events also is wasteful. Less money the new Art Center (Raimy Gallery). Having consultant's report on removing rail lines or other means of enhancing traffic etc in the city which we can never afford is another example of wish full thinking etc.

I'm sure you'll have received some comments about the pride-painted crosswalk over the past 24-48 hours - I just want to say that if city funds contributed to the painting costs for this I'm all for it - please direct funds (especially nominal funds like this that literally cost fractions of a cent for tax payers, but return a great deal of good-will and publicity) to make Saskatoon more of an inclusive and welcoming place for LGBTQ folk, and a city that embraces and supports diversity in general!!

Invest more in: active transportation, transit, the urban centre, Invest less in: building more roads, sprawl

I realize it costs money to find things and I am personally enjoying the improvements in my community, however I have watched a massive waste in cash. Ask yourself why would anyone put in a brand new sidewalk just to tear it up to put new pipe in. This is how you stop vast tax tax hikes hikes and keep cost to a minimum.

Reduce Transit - nobody uses it. Increase bike lanes. Get Police back on the streets & out of the mile high club! Give MeeWassin some money. Build a smarter bridge network and forget about all that Heritage building and Legacy crap. God help us, were stuck with that white elephant of an art gallery now - let's hope we can afford to staff it!

I don't mind taxes going up a percent or two annually, in keeping with the increase in household income in the last 10 years (net of cpi), as long as I get good value for the

investment. Saskatoon is a beautiful city. It also has it's rough edges, so I don't mind putting a little more money toward rewarding the efforts of the low income community. One program that comes to mind is Habitat for Humanity, another is the Lighthouse. Love my fire department. I would like to see the police department continue its transition to a more community-based service, hiring more and more socially oriented and emotionally intelligent professionals into the force. Regarding transportation, I would like to see the City begin to plan for automated transportation. I think the greatest opportunity this will present to the City is the land savings with regard to reduced parking requirements. It would be good to get ahead of this revolution. Keep up the good work.

Why is there no ability to adjust the corporate governance section? When combined with debt servicing & other, as you have done, it is the 2nd largest area of spending! Combine road maintenance, snow clearing, and traffic planning into one section and eliminate the redundancies. Debt servicing alone is now the 6th largest expenditure. How much is spent on consultants? Your survey is a joke.

Where do I start 200 word limit. So many inefficienciescut transport, library, policing, art gallery. Planning is a joke and has been for a long time. Cut wages/benefits. All I see in summer is parks workings driving around doing nothing. Fix roads that last and stop the constant reworking. 71 bridge will be a nightmare at Warman Rd. Don't be fooled by Library stats. Set up charities so that be can claim some tax offset for services we don't use like but contribute dearly like library, transit, recreation etc. STOP using the water utility as a tax device. Stop those crazy studies i.e. weir power, bike lanes, etc. Increase support for MVA. Put cap on Children's Museum which will be an never ending cost to taxpayers and be second rate

Police need to do more with less. Police budget has increased every year, yet wait times for assistance increase. We need a decent boat launch in this city. Why is it taking so long? We need more hockey rinks. Bring back a curfew for youth. Ban knives in the city. Continue to allow fire pit use. Fix Ave C and Circle drive intersection to improve traffic...Build an express overpass over entire circle drive between Ave C eastbound to bridge. Add a merge lane from Airport Dr to Circle Drive west bound. Fix Montgomery sound barrier...the current berm is not working as it should. Fire Department needs a training facility.

I was shocked to see that police services made up almost a quarter of last year's budget. I believe in investing in crime prevention (i.e. addressing social determinants that lead to criminal behaviour) more than crime management (band-aid solutions rather than addressing root causes). Is any of the police's funding being used in this way? If not, I'd like to see some of this funding redirected to other areas (e.g. affordable housing, community grants, social programs). Also find it hard to believe that fire services warrant the third highest allocation. Of course these services are important, but if the City is going to allocate 36% of taxes to fire and police and spread the rest out fairly thinly across the remaining areas, I'd like to see better justification. Regarding waste reduction, I selected 'increase' but I do NOT want this to go toward more frequent garbage collection. I think the City should provide programs and services for recycling and compost, and convert to a 'user pays' system for garbage collection. When educating the public about the cost of bike lanes, please show direct comparisons to the cost per resident for all other roadway infrastructure.

I'm sick of hearing that they're too expensive/a waste of money - they're a drop in the bucket compared to what we pay for all other roadway construction and maintenance.
Take all the money I voted to decrease taxes on and direct it to funding public libraries. We do NOT need another unwanted money pit like the Remai or another arena.
I filled out what I could but found the process totally geared towards getting what the admin wants. I would need to look at more of where my tax dollars go so I can tell you what is currently unnecessary. Do not just keep adding on. Take off some things that are no longer needed - like Councillors communication allowances. The cute as an entity is still known for "too many people standing and too few working".
I didn't make any changes as I would rather make comments. My preference is that there are NO bike lanes!! What a waste for the short season we have here. Other cities are removing them as they have become a waste of money and I totally agree. Parking and driving downtown is a nightmare that I only do now if I have no other choice. Make garbage pickup every two weeks all year and not just in the winter. We have the grass and leaves bin but would welcome a smaller one for the winter for our 'composting' items. We work hard to do our part but in the winter, we just throw those items in the garbage. We reuse, recycle as much as we can.
Lower all overhead staff. Communication services by City Managers should be reduced. Bus services should be reduced for low ridership routes and times of day and week. We cannot invest in both buses and bridges. People want to drive cars not ride bus. All new bridges should be tolled. Information on number of riders per hour for all routes should be shown for each day of the week and each month of the year. Make garbage payment based on use of garbage. Many weeks we don't put bin out. Start reviewing budgets from bottom up and find processes to drop. Early retirement plan. Kill dandelions in parks. Reduce Councillors wage. May have more ideas if had time to study budget. Can the Firemen be used to do some police monitoring near the fire houses?
I was very sorry to see how little I could increase some of the areas, particularly housing. I love taxes. They pay for good things. Our obsession with lower taxes makes us all poorer.
So I wanted to put less for Administration and there is no way to do that. I can't afford an increase as I haven't had a raise for 3 years so why should you. Planning for growth and development I have asked for less \$ as you don't seem to be doing a good job now so why put more money towards that. We have overbuilt in this city lowering property prices and they don't seem to be stopping...enough with the new areas....and we don't need renovations to the Mayors office. Also if you are going to be charging extra taxes for bike lanesthen charge a license fee for those bike riders. When I was a child years ago in another city, we had a bike licensing system. I am not in favor of the bike lanes...or chicken coops....just saying.
You need to change your thinking to what you are supposed to do. We don't need bike lanes that nobody uses. There are gangs in my naborhood that nobody will remove. Fix that and I might be willing to talk about all of the expensive hippy comune stuff
Like all of your research surveys, this one limits our responses to extremely finite choices and a 200 word comment box at the end. This city needs to reduce crime,

reduce poverty that motivates crime, create several hundreds of affordable housing units to take the strain off low income renters, create slum lord laws that trump landlord rights groups, halt infills that destroy heritage neighborhoods and trim the fat at city hall. Saskatoon is becoming so segregated by the idea of wealth and an inflated housing bubble that is about to crash. I have also heard from clients that some of your social housing units are half empty. What is up with that? I have no problem paying taxes, but I DO NOT want any portion of them going to developers or Art Galleries.

How biased is this! Why didn't you include debt service, other and corporate G.? There shouldn't be any limits on amounts of money to increase/decrease. Afraid of +50% cuts for police and corporate (not even included)? What about "spend less=lower taxes" "spend more =higher taxes" instead of your ill prepared sentences to incitate us to spend more and to be more in debt? Suggestions for a better Saskatoon: 1. Pick up garbage and recycling once a month sep-may and every 2 weeks summer. 2.-Stop cutting the grass along roads, especially circle drive, and in parks: ugly, useless, harmful for pollinators, costly. 3. Get rid of most light posts except on intersections and pedestrian crossings: it will prevent casualties and deaths, save lots of money, cut down greenhouse gas emissions, preserve our fossil fuels. 4. Ban iddling and drive throughs, give hefty fines. 5. Let people grow tall grass, vegetable, etc. on their lot, back or front. 6. Allow people to raise beehives, chickens, rabbits, etc. in their back yard. 7. Get rid of stinky and very dangerous Akzo and Erco Worldwide and when done continue the Meewasin valley trail up to Wanuskewin Centre and develop all this area with parks, houses, schools and generate hundreds of millions \$ for the next 20 years or more!!! Keep Saskatoon natural, this is what makes it so attractive and fund more the Meewasin Valley Authority. Release fish in the river like rainbow trout. Plant trees along every road especially Wanuskewin road.

This is a very vague survey... Snow removal is important but if we have winters where all streets do not need to be cleaned twice a year don't clean them but don't allocate funds for a service not provided! Do we need to produce so much light pollution? can we not remove half of the street lights on major roadways ex circle dr.? Cars have headlights and circle is lit up like daylight or change street lighting to LED for efficiency. Is it necessary for our city manager to receive bonuses to the extent he has received or to receive bonuses period?? With his massive salary increases since assuming that position salary alone should suffice!!!

Taxes to cover education should be paid by the people that have children in school not those elderly people on fixed incomes whose children are no longer in school or they have never had children. On many occasions I have seen fewer than 10 people on a bus during the day and evenings. Car pooling and bike riding will cut back on the cost of running empty buses and paying for their drivers.

I really resent seniors being forced to pay school taxes as we are all on fixed incomes & have raised & pd. for our children's schooling, etc.!! We also never received child care tax credits like the younger generation does now (which encourages them to have larger families to get more government money) !!!!! We did our part; now it is time for them to do theirs.

The city needs to focus on core services like roads, water/sewage, police and fire. Social services are provincial responsibility and should be left to them. Also, what is the point of having a reserve fund if you won't use in economic slowdowns? Council needs to show the same leadership the province did eliminate the dross while focus on what their priorities are supposed to be. My neighborhood didn't even see a grader last winter and potholes in front of my house from when I moved in 7 years ago are still there.

Those who do not follow the rules of society should be put to work. Prisoners can mow grass, clean up trash, and do other manual labour jobs as part of their sentence.

I back on to one of the cities weed filled parks. Every second day I see someone mowing. The parks have been left to be nothing more than weed filled fields. Once a week mowing at maximum would be enough. The city has no business spending money on projects like River Landing and the Remi Art Gallery when they can't look after the basics like roads, weed. Insect control and garbage pickup. We did not need a new police station. There are empty spots where the police could have operated from, like all the empty Target stores. We have an Animal Control Group who would serve the public better if the people working there were left on welfare. These grade school dropouts' ticket people and do not have enough forehead to use any discretion. All they do is piss off tax payers. As for low income housing. Bring in more refugees and to work at businesses for a low wage so the rest of us can subsidize their kids' education, hospitalization and all the rest. Half of them are walking around dressed like rodeo clowns shoving their religion in people's faces. If think this is not going to create problems in the future, I have some ocean front property down around Cadillac Saskatchewan I will give you a good deal on. It seems like common sense has all but left our political system on every level. I remember when the parks were weed free, the roads were not filled with pot holes and the city could afford to pick up the garbage every week and tax increases were nowhere near where they are now. What the hell happened???????????

An option I don't see is spending LESS money on services to automobile transport to discourage car use (less bridges, less lanes, less parking, less roadway construction, maintenance and snow clearing (except for emergency corridors and bus routes)), and more money on encouraging the use of active transport options, including more on transit, sidewalks, bike lanes and the maintenance and snow removal for these. Another option I would consider for waste management would be charging residents for the emptying of garbage and recycling containers. At present, my household has the City empty our garbage and recycling bins approximately twice a year, while our neighbours' are being emptied every week or two weeks, yet we pay the same for this service as everyone else.

do a thorough examination of the talked about Remai art gallery expenses, reasons for over expenditures as to why this occurred as it seems to be way out in costs to the City tax payers, an examination of all City employees that are exempt, contracting out of studies in new projects that could possibility be done in house ,costs keep rising making it hard on fixed income people and lower income people, thank-You

We would like to see education and enforcement to encourage people to shovel snow from their sidewalks and also to not shovel snow from their property onto city streets. We would like to see more support for the public library user (how about a new stand-

out main library, badly needed, like Seattle, Nashville, Brooklyn, Vancouver and Halifax?!). Please also focus on enhanced public transportation - we can't continue to be a car society. Thank you.

I have ignored adjusting the scales. My property taxes skyrocketed \$90/month, I am disabled, Access Transit -many people on standby. Need more buses and drivers. Can't afford recycling fee. Not allowed to go in hot swim pool at city hospital, only to cold civic pools. Even some hot tubs are not hot. Weight rooms most equipment too large for me, benches too narrow can't do my exercises. Weights too heavy-start too high with too large increment gaps. Can't do the exercises I need. There are no Pilates drop-in classes. Don't want Hindu church of yoga. Civic centre's family change rooms: the disabled room- preference is given to healthy people. Not all are even labeled handicap. I must compete with all for that change room, Lawson even limits when disabled can use the handicap room! That is so incredibly mean! We are second class. I am on disability. There is no where I can afford to go to do the proper exercises that I need to do. There is no help for the disabled. It is a constant struggle at the civic centres! I wish I could go to a Pilates studio with my civic pass. As for the Weir, grooming is a hack job, embarrassing, thorns and no flowers. Traffic on Spadina & 33rd st. is terrible! This is an industrial road, drag strip & cruise! No one cares that it's residential! Fuel tankers, huge semitrailers, huge buses, huge school buses, every kind of City machinery goes down here, plus private machinery! Constant noise 24/7! The motorcycles are the worst, sound like LOUD tractors! Many trucks and cars are very bad also. There is constant racing, stunting and they go back & forth, back & forth, back & forth the whole day, 24/7! It is the Wild West. They know they won't get tickets. It doesn't matter how many times I call the police. Nothing changes! It is extremely stressful living here, and then my taxes skyrocket! I am surrounded by rentals. They come and go and don't complain, have no investment in the neighbourhood. Thank you very much for hearing my issues.

I also think road repair and snow clearing is of prime importance. The only time I have had a snow removal crew on my street in the past 4 or 5 years is when I call and complain as the ruts are so bad. Police and fire are also of prim importance. For police though I only support an increase if they spend more time focusing on crime. I see way to many police focusing strictly on speed, etc.

Where is mention of environmental work, like incentives for households???

ROAD MAINTENANCE

<p>I think the Road maintenance needs to be done more strategically, spend some more money upfront so as to avoid the dumb little patch jobs that have to be redone every year.</p>
<p>Please keep a closer eye on contractors closing down streets for no apparent reason. Sometimes think they do it 'just because they can'</p>
<p>Thanks first to let me type in. I as a saskatoon resident, would love to see, nice roads. ROADS are way in poor conditions. I live in west part of town, and except 22nd (half of it) is good, and rest all roads are simply not represent-able to anyone who is visiting saskatoon. I feel embarrassment. We feel embarrassment. Please, resurface them by putting a thin layer of new charcol. But no patches please (for major roads).</p>
<p>I think the major focus should be on road maintenance, transit, and growth for the future. A general complaint you hear from most people is that the roads/potholes are terrible every spring. Consider investing in new products/technologies so that the winter doesn't have such a big effect on the roads come spring time.</p>
<p>Although disappointing that our taxes were increased quite a bit in varsity view I understand why. My only issue is the amount we pay and the state of our alleys. If someone was to monitor the amount of traffic that goes through they would be shocked as it is used as a thoroughfare and they are disgusting. I pay for a permit and street park to avoid them completely even though my garage is in the alley. I would suggest paving them like Regina but we should first focus on our roads before that is introduced. There has to be something better than throwing a little gravel down and expecting it to last more than 30 days.</p>
<p>Top priorities should be infrastructure maintenance: parks, water, sewer, bridges, overpasses, roads, sidewalks, back lanes, new overpass construction and traffic management. Reduce funding to Transit which is not well used.</p>
<p>The increase in funding for the roads has not had any noticeable improvement that we have noticed. The increase was meant to deal with failing infrastructure not fund new projects. The city cannot afford keep increasing the Police budget and keep standard services in the other departments.</p>
<p>Road improvements and intersection improvements should be done only once at a perticular location. It should not be done every year[example attridge /central]</p>
<p>The street cleaning process needs some work around the major bridges. The Circle Drive Bridge is always dirty and the boulevards on 42nd Street are equally an eye-sore. I don't know why we insist on growing tall grass on boulevards. It never looks nice. Is there another flowering plant or short grass that can be used?? Can we use rubber paving instead? The whole area around that bridge (proximal to Canarama Mall) needs some attention AND CONSISTENT, ROUTINE ROAD CLEANING.</p>
<p>Road Maintenance-better quality of work would be an improvement. eg. my street was asphalted a few years ago & it was a mess!</p>
<p>Any increase to road and traffic work should prioritize pedestrians and cyclists. Cars have had their fair share of resources poured into them already.</p>
<p>Fix the roads but use common sense. Do it right the first time and stop repeatedly patching the same spot before really fixing it. Last year our street was resurfaced. This year the sidewalk were dug up and replaced and the sides of the roads were patched.</p>

I'd like to see an improvement on sidewalks for the disabled especially around major shopping areas where its next to impossible to use a walker safely. Also to keep the city streets cleaner around places that are used a lot but not on the main thouroughfares such as around the food bank which is treacherous in the wintertime

SNOW & ICE MANAGEMENT

road repair and snow removal should be cut...my taxes have gone up consistently for 4 years and I have seen a snow plow once in 4 years on my street...paying for a service that we are not getting...
Residential sidewalk snow clearing bylaw is unfair to homes on corner lots. Up to 4 times more sidewalk to clear! Needs to be addressed. Very difficult for Seniors and handicapped on fixed incomes.
Snow clearing process is not adequate. Snow hauling from roads and snow train programs are wastage of funds.
Do not believe we are receiving value for snow removal and road maintenance for what we are paying. As with community grants – they should be reduced.
I find snow removal takes place so long after the snowfall event that it is of little value. The city could hire contractors to do this work and not have to maintain such a large fleet of equipment.
I suggested more money be spent on snow and ice clearance. However, this is for clearance from public foot and cycle paths not from roads.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

<p>Traffic flow is my major concern. Living in Evergreen makes it a nightmare to get to the northend for work in the morning. The new bridge should help alleviate that but we probably don't need to be doing construction on both Attridge AND College/HWY 5 at the same time... Secondary concern is radar traps. These guys could be patrolling high incident areas (there's a machete attack every other week it seems) and instead they're wasting our tax dollars by sitting on the side of the road and stealing more of our money WHILE FURTHER IMPEDING TRAFFIC FLOW!</p>
<p>I have a SIGNIFICANT CONCERN about how Roadways and traffic is planned. IT still seems and has been historically so the focus is deficient in long term use and planning. The latest case in point is the North Commuter bridge...I know years down the road there is plan for truck traffic but honestly why was the North Commuter bridge not adjusted to carry the weight of truck traffic...What about diversion of hazardous goods(route)? It also makes no sense to have all traffic snarl at Idylwyld and Circle Drive. Reminds me of the errors by allowing business' on ea h side of Circle Drive north without adequate traffic access for smooth flow.</p>
<p>Maybe you should look at a toll tax on our circle? Drive---charge a levy for those trucks utilizing 42nd street (it's a mess) Ave C and 42 overpass is a shaming welcome to our city. .25 cents for everyone coming onto circle drive-(toll stations at all on ramps—do the math) sell monthly passes for \$10./vehicle—the revenue alone would pay for infrastructure and maintenance(wouldn't it be nice to have an actual interchange where you don't have to cross traffic to get somewhere – may save accidents too.</p>
<p>I don't see funding options to improve bicycling routes. I presume that is caught under traffic management, but it could be under road maintenance. If you make the cycle routes more comfortable, with car traffic calming accessories, more people wi9ll you them. For example the 23rd street corridor between Idylwyld and Ave W is VERY rough for blocks in a row. That doesn't slow the car traffic but it sure slows cyclists!</p>
<p>Cycling infrastructure is developing well but still could use more improvement. New bike/jogging paths where possible should be a priority to encourage people to be active and outside.</p>
<p>Reduction of the downtown bike lanes. They cost a ton of money and are just dangerous since nobody seems to obey by traffic laws. I watch cyclists got hit on a daily basis people turning right on red lights onto 4th Ave....at the same time though trying to get into 4th Ave is now a disaster.</p>
<p>I feel there is a lack of foresight in our infrastructure of roadways. There seems to be much redoing of more functional intersections when it could have been done right the first time. ie turning lanes added, widening with extra lanes. The west end of 22nd and circle is the biggest bottleneck because there is no good way to get off of circle onto 22nd. Plus there is only one street(22nd) accessible since the closure of 18th St. That is one of the dumbest decisions ever made. If there is an accident on the stretch just past Ave W and before Confederation drive nothing moves and the emergency vehicles cannot even get there. We need another street open to get to confederation and / or Fairmont Drive.</p>
<p>Get rid of the bike lanes downtown – they are too expensive to maintain for the few riders who use them year round.</p>

I live in Avalon and find the level of vehicle noise in my back yard from the south freeway makes enjoying the summer in my yard unbearable at times. The south west corner of Avalon does not have adequate noise barriers. Some are actually below the level of the roadway. Many of my neighbours also are not happy about noise level. The city does not seem to care about this issue.

I added quite a bit to roads maintenance and traffic management because I would like to see money going to bike lanes and such because I don't own a car.

The Victoria bridge is total wast of \$-shud b just bicycles/pedestrian. I hate the area in front of Persephone-stop with all the concrete it's ugly and unnecessary-support the Meewasin.

I would really suggest that the city move more towards encouraging citizens to reduce single passenger commuting-programs and advertising to encourage car-pooling, car sharing, and walking/transit will reduce the impact on infrastructure that will save dollars in the future. Too many people need (or feel the need) to take their car on their own into the downtown area and on the freeways. Perhaps commuter buses into downtown from designated parking areas such as those used for events. Or a small commuter bus only to from the University to the downtown stop and back again across the bridge, every 15 minutes. Reducing vehicles is something Saskatchewan is does very poorly and we can improve a great deal.

Stop forcing people to bike by putting in lanes even bike Riders don't use. If you want to expand transit why isn't there a route that takes Circle Drive? Do not build an LRT we can't afford the taxes.

Increase usability of public transit, proper *separate* cycling lanes and building a rapid transit system are better uses of tax money than chasing road capacity. Past due that people are prompted out of their car addictions. Try taxing people additionally based on the number of cars per household and engine displacement!!

I feel that the city is wasting money on unnecessary traffic measures. Drivers who need signs and concrete boulevards directing them to stay to the right of the centre line probably should not be driving a motor vehicle (Kingsmere Blvd & Costigan Cr among other spots.)

POLICE

<p>I personally do not think we need \$313 funding distribution on Police Service. I rather the funding allocate in more useful operation for the city such as fire protection emergency, recreation & culture, planning and development and garbage and waste reduction plan and operation. If the resident are living in healthy, satisfaction and well education on city service, we do not need police enforcement at all. Also, being fair to say why police service stand alone to take up to 23% of the funding with other main city service or program. If the city is willing to reduce police service funding and re-allocate the funding on other civic service. All other program can share and increase at least 2-5% funding to run better city service.</p>
<p>Take half the police constantly doing road stop checks and place them on the streets. Work with the justice system to hold multiple repeat offenders accountable, and off the streets. Work with detox and counseling services to help addicted street people.</p>
<p>My top priority is Police. We need more police presence. Our crime rate is steadily rising and our police presence needs to exceed our criminal presence especially where gangs are present.</p>
<p>Decrease physically policing force by installing surveillance systems at all parks and strategic areas. Hire consultants for half the wages to review footage.</p>
<p>One of our top priorities in this city should definitely be Policing! Statistics have shown that Saskatoon is the #1 crime rate in Canada for many years in a row. This needs to stop!! Instead of beautifying our city with each mayors "Pet" projects each and every citizen not only wants but deserves the right to be safe! Stop throwing money away and keep us safe! Put more Police Officers on the streets!</p>
<p>Service level reduction. That is a joke. I have saved \$126.43 annually and I do not believe it would effect me directly. Police service should be cut drastically. No need for more police. Where has the level of crime and drugs diminished.</p>
<p>Police and Fire services spending is by far the largest portion of our budget. These budgets, particularly Police Services, have increased disproportionately to other budgets for many years, without meaningful debate either within the Police Commission or Council. It is time to take a serious look at these expenses, as they free up resources to many aspects that have been neglected for many years.</p>
<p>Stop making income from speed/radar traps. Go after criminals</p>
<p>Ground the wasteful police plane.</p>
<p>I think policing has become self perpetuating. Many charges and people incarcerated for relatively minor offences which negatively impacts families already under stress. More children in care result and greater social supports required</p>
<p>Policing-could direct their efforts in other areas. Et. The police are continuously entrapping speeders at Attridge & Circle. The speed limit is 60km/hr. I think there are other important issues to deal with.</p>
<p>Stop building bile lanes and do something about the crime in this city! I don't even own a bike because every one I have had has been stolen. The crime rate in this city is a disgrace! There's no point to building pretty streets and parks when I don't feel safe even walking across the street. Get your priorities straight! Everything on this list is completely redundant if the citizens of Saskatoon can not enjoy their benefits out of fear of getting stabbed by some derelict punk ass gangster wannabe.</p>

In my opinion the police use the most expensive options in dealing with marginalized people (i.e. arrest and remand), especially with indigenous youth, creating many problems downstream rather than starting with creating solutions. The City should assist in co-ordinating a city-wide effort to ensure indigenous youth and youth with disabilities or disorders (including intellectual and emotional) are helped to find a path to personal success thereby reducing police and remand and other expenses and encouraging more wealth in Saskatoon.

The police are important, but can we either shift focus to the more important parts of policing, or else just cut back on their service in the less important parts of their services? They seem a little to expensive...

FIRE

<p>Making sure there is enough personnel on the fire dept to maintain the best response and a facility for firefighter skills training in the city is very important to me.</p>
<p>I don't think an increase in Fire Department funding results in an increase in response time as indicated by this survey, it would mean a decrease in response times. A closer watch on police spending may be in order.</p>
<p>Don't spread the fire service to thin when the city grows.</p>
<p>Fire Fighters do nothing but sleep and lift weights. I watched a condo fire and all they did was stand there and watch it burn. They don't need all that fancy stuff, they don't do anything and are way overpaid. Police work hard but have to presence in the North end, businesses get broken into and are just told its an insurance issue now.</p>
<p>For the level of services that the Saskatoon Fire Department provides to the taxpayers, I would like to see a dedicated training facility erected to facilitate the necessary training for firefighters/paramedics. This would allow the ff's/paramedics to maintain excellence while increasing safety while training to maintain their skills. It is surprising that a dedicated facility does not already exist for a city this size. The SFD provides a diverse variety of services contributing to the health and well-being of the citizens and should be afforded the safe and inclusive environment to polish these skills</p>
<p>I feel the fire service should have total control of EMS in Saskatoon, there should no longer be a private for profit ambulance service in Saskatoon. The bottom line for any company is to make money why should they profit of the backs of the sick or injured. Loose the private ambulance and put the ambulance where it belongs under the Fire departments control. Fix the current dispatch system to that any life threatening 911 or emergency call goes to the fire service at the same it goes to the private for profit ambulance service. It is time to put citizens first when it comes to EMS delivery, this is not an area for political crap.</p>

TRANSIT/ACCESS TRANSIT

The transit system should be run more efficiently with less funding. Far too much tax money goes into a failing system.
Transit needs to be more efficient. I live in Rosewood and it takes me 10 minutes to drive downtown vs. almost an hour on the bus. I will always drive if that continues to be the case.
Though I drive, I would gladly have less money spent on roads and traffic if that led to more money spent on transit, affordable housing and public spaces.
The only times I see buses either full or even close to full is during rush hours. Yet I see buses running all day and the large extended buses running in my area and basically empty. I think perhaps less buses during non-peak hours. We do not need buses every 15 or 20 minutes except during peak hours. Plus I think smaller buses for some routes instead of larger buses should be considered.
Roads are subsidies for vehicle owners. Transit is far more efficient for moving people.
Back to basics and quit spending so much on public transit.
Clean sidewalks in winter, provide shelter boots at all bus stops in Saskatoon, and I will take Transit buses instead of my car.
Transit-no opinion on S'toon Transit. Access Transit needs to be improved.
INCREASING & PROMOTING TRANSIT ROUTES/FREQUENCY IS MUCH MORE COST EFFICIENT THAN BUILDING/REPAIRING NEW ROADS, PLUS HELPS REDUCE SASKATOON'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT. WE MUST DO THIS!!!

PLANNING FOR GROWTH

<p>The added money for planning should go to incentivizing inner city growth and infill of existing neighborhoods rather than planning new suburban neighborhoods. Need to add budget line for active transportation including new sidewalks and sidewalk infills. Would like to see the budget to reflect the costs of all of the recommended planning initiatives (Active Transportation, City centre plan, BRT, etc.) that council has already approved. Without this link or planners and admin are eating their time and our tax dollars.</p>
<p>Increased effort in the inner city (downtown, City Park, Broadway etc) – road maintenance, snow clearance, infrastructure, housing and policing of these neighbourhoods. Too much is being spent on urban sprawl and development of the suburbs when the older, inner city communities are suffering. The city also needs to be more bike friendly by adding more bike lanes, keeping bike routes free from potholes, and increasing awareness in the city to make biking safer.</p>
<p>Growth for the future - I feel like our projects are always reactionary. We need to get better at planning to ensure we have the right infrastructure ready at the right time (easier said than done I know), e.g. the Boychuck and highway 16 interchange. The turning lane gets dangerously long and in my mind this overpass should have been in place at least 2 years ago or more, before it became such an issue.</p>
<p>I hope the city planning department takes into consideration density housing and improved public transportation as a way of improving services and decreasing maintenance costs. Sprawling the city limits creates more roads, snow removal, police presence, parks maintenance, etc.</p>
<p>Take away the bike lanes. They are a waste of taxpayer money.</p>
<p>I would charge more for land on future developments and at the same time have developers add to a fund for schools and fire resources. This will make it cost more to build/buy, however this would also encourage more people to buy in existing neighbourhoods giving a better chance of infill.</p>
<p>I would like to see weed control, no vehicles parked on front lawns and better care over all of all communities. Garbage in ditches and on roads continues to increase. I find the city is looking run down. It would be nice to have communities come together to help beautify the neighbourhoods they live in. We all need to pitch in to make Saskatoon beautiful again.</p>
<p>I think the city needs to get a better handle on the new subdivisions being built. The roads are too narrow they will need to get priority snow removal. Go ask your firemen it's an accident waiting to happen.</p>
<p>The money that is being spent on consultations about what to do with the Railways in the city is an absolute waste of money. In the 1970's, Regina went through the same type of process and found that they could not move the Rail yard In North Regina as the cost was prohibitive. It would even cost more now and the city can't afford it. The railways are happy where they are, are not going to contribute any money and this is a waste of time. Plan on living with it and start designing underpasses or overpasses where needed.</p>
<p>I think that our priorities need to be planning for future growth and roads. Improved public transit would serve to reduce congestion and impact on roads but public</p>

perception of our transit system is not good and changes need to be made to improve transit times and perception.

Growth & Development Planning- I can't believe people are actually getting paid to plan some of the new neighbourhoods! (eg Stonebridge). Poor planning as far as neighbourhoods without proper ingress & egress, which leads to poor traffic flow.

I would like to see more development in the existing neighborhoods, and less urban sprawling. Make downtown safe, and attractive for business and living. Including the ability to get groceries.

More work on climate change, get the city off of fossil fuels

Infill development, transit planning, and maintaining what we have. Avoiding "growth" simply for growth's sake. Growth should be smart and compact.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The only place where I would be in favour of a slight increase is affordable housing. Everyone deserves to have some place to call home, or at least a safe place to sleep. I will also always favour adequate funding for our Police and Fire Protective Services!

COMMUNITY GRANTS

More information is needed to accurately reflect my views on Community Grants, i.e. what specifically does that cover? I think that area could be looked at for review-some organizations could do their own fund-raising

GARBAGE & WASTE REDUCTION

I feels priority is more emphasis on the use of green bins and reduction of garbage pickup service
Increase to recycling services and transit.
Reduce garbage pickup to twice monthly – the more frequent the pickup more garbage people create it seems and the message city is giving to citizen with weekly pickup when recycle and green bin are twice monthly is that the city expects resident to create more garbage and less of the other. Further, smaller bins for all – on Vancouver island, garbage bins are small, while compost is unlimited. Also, make green bin mandatory – having one house per block doing green bin is not helpful (we stopped since we were just basically subsidizing garbage pickup for most residents.). Or for neighbourhoods with loads of leaves which mainly get put in garbage, create a program for the fall where residents can bring leaves to a neighbourhood drop-off, current compost sites are inaccessible to many (really the west site is such that a major accident is waiting due to having to cross a major highway to get out) – mandatory green bins or more accessible pick up would reduce compost items in garbage and hence save city money
I would love to see the city become more environmentally friendly. Instead of more garbage pick-up and the suggestions made under the waste management options I'd like to see more diversion projects, like what Edmonton is doing – turning their garbage into fuel. Better transit. I also feel there is a lack of civic centers on the East side.
I feel since we were forced into the recycling program, more than half our garbage goes into recycling. I doubt that the garbage fees have gone down even though we have quite a bit less garbage. I also feel you shouldn't be charging residents to haul garbage to the dump. The city has hired enough high priced Engineers, etc., and I don't think they should be paying so much for consulting fees. Or eliminate some engineers and management that can't make these important decisions.
Garbage/Waste Management-I support user fees for amount of garbage/recycling, etc.
Do not convert garbage costs to a utility or extra charge. We pay horrible tax increases already that should easily cover basic services. Quit wasting money on huge costs like an art gallery. These will be key issues in the next round of elections. Social media will dictate how people vote and negative changes will trump everything else as most citizens don't invest a lot of time into deciding their vote.
The only response I'd like to say is since my property taxes are going up yet again, why does the council feel the need to punish the homeowners further by charging additional bags of garbage when we pay for pickup. I normally don't put out my bin til it's full, now I'll be penalized. Just another money grab
One suggestion I have to get more garbage diverted from our landfills is to not have a recycling or green bin fee on our utility bills but charge us a good amount every time we put out our garbage can for pickup. I'll bet a lot of us could go 4 weeks before we need a pickup.
Please do not impose mandatory weighing of garbage cans. Hit the businesses who are producing the most waste. People will be hiding their garbage in other people's cans at night just like how people steal from the recycling bins that are put out now.

We pay taxes for garbage collection and should not have to pay anymore for weighing it.

With recycling fees being forced on residents and also increasing, garbage collection every week is unnecessary

PARKS

<p>Spray for the weeds in the city, Saskatoon looks disgusting with more weeds than grass, and it is a burden on the home owner to try to keep their own property weed free.</p>
<p>I would also like to see increased funding for Meewasin. The riverbank and adjacent areas are vitally important to this city and the flat funding for Meewasin over many years has limited the effectiveness of this organization. Recent provincial cuts have created an urgent problem and the city needs to provide stable and long-term funding for Meewasin that scale with Saskatoon's growth regardless of whether the province restores funding.</p>
<p>Outside the city along the highways, there are signs which say "Saskatoon Shines" I think you should to that sign "With Dandelions". It is time to get control of the weeds and the insects also – mosquitoes, tent caterpillars etc. Other cities can spray, why can't we?</p>
<p>City could do a lot more for user pay fees or misbehaving fees – sidewalks not being shoveled yet multiple warnings so residents don't care b/c there is no consequence, dog crap everywhere (river trails, dog parks) yet never heard of anyone getting a ticket (in Vancouver the fine is \$2000 and they don't have a problem with dog feces every 10 feet in a dog park, city could do much much more to enforce rules they already have which would help quality of life.</p>
<p>The City has to do something about the billions of dandelions growing in the park behind our yard and every other park in the City!!! Ugly, blow everywhere in our yard – costs us lots buying Killlex and many hours of work. You must spray the dandelions. You sent a crew of 5 to the parks to cut out dandelions from the tree/mulch – where there are NO dandelions. What an irony. Just today billion of dandelion seeds were blowing around our neighbourhood landing in our yards.</p>
<p>I wish that parks dept was more efficient with watering. My neighbourhood park is watered too frequently. Paths and low areas are so saturated in places that walking is difficult. Sprinklers are not set properly so when one, parts of the pathway are impassable because water is on the path not the grass.</p>

RECREATION & CULTURE

There's days during the week where there's no public swimming at any of the leisure centres, also the zoom slide at Harry Bailey could be used more than a 4 hour window on Saturdays.

Saskatoon can use a new track and field facility.

I personally do not receive any benefit from recreation, culture or affordable housing spending in the city. I spend my own money on recreation and culture with groups that do not receive any significant funding from the city. None of my family members currently utilize city recreation facilities.

Stop funding to the art gallery.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

<p>More front line employees. Less administrative. The lowest paid employees accomplish the most as far as improving the livability of the city. Much of the city's bureaucratic morass is a self-generating employment scheme wallowing in the hypothetical.</p>
<p>My final point would be that we should ensure our corporate governance and capital allocation processes are as robust and efficient as possible. Try to drive competition within departments to improve different areas, e.g. roads vs. transit. Tie employee KPI's and bonuses to successes in their project studies/programs and ensure they understand that the cities resources are finite and that we will fund the most critically necessary but also the most valuable projects only. The citizens of Saskatoon are essentially shareholders in the company that is Saskatoon and I expect that my investment in the city is spent in the most value accretive way. I am more than happy to pay more tax if I knew that my dollars are being allocated in the most efficient manner possible, optimized for both necessity and value, with visible results through things like better roads, improved transit, or reduced crime rates.</p>
<p>Please support our libraries. They provide such a wide variety of services for our City to such varied populations all the while being ignored or often maligned. Try visiting one before you judge! They Budget survey is extremely well done – great job!</p>
<p>Didn't see library or admin costs. Cut library to \$0. Reduce employee pay to the private sector equivalent. Flatten the organization. Eliminate senior management positions.</p>
<p>I would also adjust Corporate Governance & Admin Support, eliminate mandatory recycling (return to previous method), eliminate support of new art gallery.</p>
<p>Prioritizing the components of a budget is great through feedback. However to reduce costs that should be done by empowering civic employees and businesses. Give the power to the people to find ways of reducing costs through contract negotiations, alternative solutions, and waste (money) reductions.</p>
<p>I believe the current structure of City Hall is over staffed, over managed, and the cost effectiveness is questionable. Accountability does not seem to come into effect, as our parks are not effectively looked after, maintenance issues (see roads/winter issues) are horrendous, traffic patterns are a mess with little or no planning, and if City Hall can't manage what they have, (without double taxations – levies – and increases, then where are we—The Budget process should be like most businesses—how much have we coming in—we have to find a way to deal with that. The current system is not working as residents don't have the option of saying—I don't want an increase—some can't afford increases (over 50% in last 8 years) and you are overtaxing Condominium Corps and yet we still don't seem to have enough—CITY HALL HAS TO LEARN TO WORK WITH WHAT THEY HAVE—If someone has to take less money than last year, so be it. Reasonable increases are expected but there is not an open pocket book because of fiscal mismanagement.</p>
<p>There was no slider to adjust money going to corporate governance section.</p>
<p>I would like to see senior management of the City more in the public eye to explain matters from time to time. They are the professionals hired to do the job but when it becomes news to the public that seems to left to City Council. The CEO and his assistants should have more public profile.</p>

Would have liked to have be able to cut “Corporate Governance & Administrative Support”..
Reduce taxes through cuts to police budget, transit budget, and senior administrative salaries
I did not go thru the process of adjusting any numbers as you think the solution is increasing my taxes. I would like to see a breakdown of the number of employees by department and salaries before you load this to the tax payer. Example: City hall hires top notch qualified people for management correct? Then why do we go outside to get a 600,000 dollar evaluation on moving rail lines. Use our hired people or cut back on admin costs. I am not convinced an analysis has be completed at budget time, each and every budget. Let’s be transparent.
Why did you not have a sliding scale for corporate governance and administrative support? My vote is a 10% reduction. The city does not do enough in process improvement to build efficiencies. The information provided was insufficient. Point in time numbers are not sufficient. Knowing the trend in spending over the past 3-5 years would have been more helpful and informative.
The city needs to examine its own internal costs – my uneducated guess is they are not running financially efficiently. There are a lot of well paid staff, could maybe budget more effectively and use the staff more effectively. Like any business in t6odays economy you need to learn how to do more, offer more services, offer improved services with less cash. They city has expected businesses to reduce quotes and offer them absolute bottom line budgets when tendering work – perhaps they should look internally and expect the same of themselves. I would like to see police learn how to keep this city safe without always asking for more money and police because each year they ask and each year there doesn’t seem to be any difference. A healthy community comes with services, programs, education, safe housing and food...not more cops. Thanks for all the good work at the dog parks – so nice to have a safe and clean place to let our dogs run. Overall the city does a good job but like anything there is always room for improvement.
Fewer expensive consultants from outside of Saskatoon!
Corporate governance and administrative costs need to be reduced and contained. There are too many 6 figure salaries and too many admin employees being hired year after year. City planning needs improvement as we’ve seen many new areas being poorly designed with significant traffic bottlenecks. Downtown and core areas need to grow (upward) more and faster and suburban growth needs to be curtailed. More emphasis needs to be put on public transit and active transportation. More attention is required toward recycling/composting in order to significantly reduce the need for garbage dumps. More Vision, Strategic Planning and Common Sense are required at City Hall.
I have MANY comments on ALL of the items above but 200 words is not near enough to voice my frustration! WHY no input on Corporate Governance & Administrative Support???? Businesses are cutting back on those positions and so should the city! City Administration needs to stop thinking they are entitled! They retire early with huge pensions & then go back to work as "consultants"! I’m tired of paying for this gravy train!

<p>City Administration is too fat on high paid staff. Very high on staffing with Engineers, etc. More Engineering services should be handed over to the private side (Consulting Engineers). When the project is complete the Consultant moves on to other projects outside of the City. City Engineers continue to cling on to the City after the work is done. They become a liability to the City Tax Payer.</p>
<p>What is other for \$123? Why is there no choice for corporate administration?</p>
<p>We should start cutting at the top! In each dep. We have too many managers are top heavy!</p>
<p>Why weren't we allowed to increase or decrease spending for Corporate Governance & Administrative Support? I would have significantly reduced spending on administration had this been an available option. You also didn't include a section for arts funding. I think the new art gallery is a waste of taxpayers' money and a planning/cost disaster. I think there are too many empty full size buses driving around the city especially in the evenings. Use smaller buses for underutilized routes or cut back service appropriately.</p>
<p>We are in an economic downturn. Plan on wage freezes for the next few years. My company isn't giving cost of living increases, why should I pay extra taxes to provide increases for government employees?</p>
<p>The CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE Support slider is missing. Convenient?</p>
<p>Reduce staff absenteeism by fifty percent to be more in line with that of the private sector. Sick leave is abused and also leads to excessive overtime. This would save millions annually.</p>
<p>Keep up the good work. We love living here. Let's make it better.</p>
<p>The planning department should be reduced significantly since the city already has far too many neighborhoods under construction that have already been planned and more focus should be put on infill. The associated reduction in administration and support for planning would also contribute significantly to reduce spending.</p>
<p>The City of Saskatoon needs to scale back on its administration. The budget should be zero based, and old programs need to be retired. More is no longer an option. We are over spending on fire/police and this will ultimately put us into a debt crisis. Less on these key areas.</p>
<p>There was no option to decrease corporate governance and administration support. Probably the place that needs to be cut the most!</p>
<p>I believe City work crews could be more efficient. It seems every department has too many managers. Higher taxes will put many out of their homes. We are in a recession time to cut spending.</p>
<p>Reduce management, reduce management salaries, offer early retirement packages, increase privatisation.</p>

OTHER

Also, our hospitals are way rushy. WE have to wait for 2-5 hours for any non emergency case. Parks do not have washrooms, or fresh waters except few only.