



FISCAL YEAR 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET

Budget Priority Survey

Budget Oversight Committee

September 4, 2018

CITY OF
LONG BEACH

Introduction

- The Budget Priority Survey went “live” on August 1st, and the results were summarized based on the responses received as of August 31st
- The survey does not preclude multiple responses from a single individual, nor do they attempt to balance the responses from all segments of the community
- Not a statistically valid survey, but it does provide some feedback on community interests

Introduction

- Participants were asked to rate 35 City services as being:
 - Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Not very important
 - Not at all important
- Survey was available online and through hard copy handouts, which were distributed at community budget meetings. Hard copies were available in English, Spanish, Khmer, and Tagalog
- 135 survey responses had been received as of August 31st

Revisions

- Three services removed:
 - Providing community park programs for youth and teens
 - Maintaining a police presence in neighborhoods
 - Providing well-lit City streets
- Three services added:
 - Providing public access to the internet
 - Providing affordable housing
 - Collecting illegally dumped items

Respondent Demographics

Council District

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Don't Know	Non-Resident	Skipped Question
7	16	21	11	14	9	27	12	4	6	1	7
5%	13%	16%	9%	11%	7%	21%	9%	3%	5%	1%	--

Age

0-18	19-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	Skipped Question
1	9	20	17	29	32	17	10
1%	7%	16%	14%	23%	26%	14%	--

Household Size

1	2	3	4	5	6	7+	Skipped Question
26	63	18	10	5	1	3	9
21%	50%	14%	8%	4%	1%	2%	--

Data Analysis

- To provide a means for the comparison of the results, each response to each service was assigned a “weight”

Very important 3 points

Somewhat important 2 points

Not very important 1 points

Not at all important 0 points

- The total points for each service was divided by the number of responses received for each service to obtain a “weighted average”
- When considering the results, it is important to remember the general demographics of respondents. The results may have been different if a scientific sampling methodology had been utilized

Results

Service	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Not at All Important	Weighted Average
Maintaining a low crime rate	98	22	6	3	2.67
Maintaining and repairing streets (fixing potholes, etc.)	91	34	5	1	2.64
Providing emergency medical services (paramedics, EMS)	91	30	7	1	2.64
Providing fire protection services	92	30	8	1	2.63
Maintaining parks	66	59	5	0	2.47
Maintaining and repairing sidewalks	71	50	8	2	2.45
Reducing ocean pollution by improving storm drains	66	50	10	0	2.44
Maintaining and repairing public buildings (community and senior centers, fire stations, libraries, etc.)	63	60	6	2	2.40
Providing services that address homelessness	72	42	9	6	2.40
Preparing the community for emergencies or disasters	65	53	9	4	2.37
Providing neighborhood police patrols	73	29	17	7	2.33
Enforcing traffic laws to protect the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers	66	42	15	6	2.30
Keeping the City attractive and eliminating blight	59	49	18	2	2.29
Providing nuisance abatement programs (loitering, drug activity, excessive noise, etc.)	65	41	14	8	2.27
Providing free or low-cost recreation programs for youth and teens	63	48	10	9	2.27
Collecting illegally dumped items	54	55	16	3	2.25
Providing prompt graffiti removal services	61	46	17	6	2.25

Results

Service	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Not at All Important	Weighted Average
Providing code enforcement services (citing blighted buildings, etc.)	50	50	21	7	2.12
Providing new Library books, ebooks, media and access to technology	50	53	17	10	2.10
Providing specialized Police units (property crimes, directed enforcement, etc.)	54	45	14	14	2.09
Providing affordable housing	64	26	16	19	2.08
Providing access to libraries (hours of operation)	45	56	19	11	2.03
Providing programs for seniors	35	66	20	8	1.99
Providing environmental sustainability programs	47	41	25	12	1.98
Providing animal care/animal control services	37	54	30	6	1.96
Trimming trees on residential streets	32	64	26	6	1.95
Providing business assistance and supporting economic development	36	57	28	9	1.92
Providing library programs and services (reading, homework help, etc.)	41	51	22	15	1.91
Prosecuting all adult misdemeanor crimes committed in the City	38	39	28	19	1.77
Providing arts and cultural programs	29	53	32	15	1.74
Providing public access to the internet	37	35	36	18	1.72
Creating new parks and open space	33	47	32	19	1.72
Providing special events and programs for families	27	50	33	16	1.70
Providing translating services (Language Access)	24	37	33	30	1.44

Top 10 Comparison

2018

1. Maintaining a low crime rate
2. Maintaining and repairing streets
3. Providing emergency medical services
4. Providing fire protection services
5. Maintaining parks
6. **Maintaining and repairing sidewalks**
7. Reducing ocean pollution
8. **Maintaining and repairing public buildings**
9. **Providing services that address homelessness**
10. **Preparing the community for emergencies or disasters**

New to List

2017

1. Maintaining a low crime rate
2. Providing emergency medical services
3. Providing fire protection services
4. Maintaining and repairing streets
5. **Providing neighborhood police patrols**
6. Maintaining parks
7. **Providing nuisance abatement**
8. Maintaining a police presence in neighborhoods
9. **Providing well-lit city streets**
10. Reducing ocean pollution

Dropped from List

Written Comments

- 72 written comments were received
- The comments concerned a wide variety of issues, both big and small. Major themes include:
 - Homelessness
 - Investment in Youth (libraries/education, recreation programming)
 - Infrastructure
 - Public Safety/Crime
 - Traffic



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