

Budget Priority Survey

Budget Oversight Committee

September 6, 2016



Introduction

- The Budget Priority Survey went “live” on August 1, and the results were summarized based on the responses received as of September 2nd
- 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



Budget Priority Survey

- 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
- 334 survey responses had been received as of September 2nd



Budget Priority Survey

Demographics of Respondents

Council District

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Don't Know	Non-Resident
33	75	28	20	71	2	23	9	16	37	0
11%	24%	9%	6%	23%	1%	7%	3%	5%	12%	0%

Age

0-18	19-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+
2	26	58	43	75	88	30
1%	8%	18%	13%	23%	27%	9%

Household Size

1	2	3	4	5	6	7+
64	152	43	38	14	4	4
20%	48%	14%	12%	4%	1%	1%



Budget Priority Survey

- 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



Budget Priority Survey

Service	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Not at All Important	Weighted Average
Maintaining a low crime rate	85%	10%	2%	1%	2.82
Providing emergency medical services (paramedics)	70%	24%	3%	0%	2.68
Providing fire protection services	71%	24%	2%	1%	2.68
Maintaining and repairing streets (fixing potholes, etc.)	64%	31%	4%	1%	2.58
Providing neighborhood police patrols	66%	25%	4%	3%	2.58
Maintaining a police presence in neighborhoods	67%	20%	7%	4%	2.54
Providing well-lit city streets	60%	33%	4%	2%	2.54
Maintaining parks	49%	45%	5%	1%	2.43
Maintaining and repairing public buildings (community and senior centers, fire stations, libraries, etc.)	50%	42%	7%	1%	2.42
Providing nuisance abatement programs (loitering, illegal drug activity, excessive noise, etc.)	57%	28%	10%	3%	2.42
Keeping the City attractive and eliminating blight	52%	36%	9%	2%	2.40
Reducing ocean pollution by improving storm drains	53%	33%	9%	3%	2.40
Maintaining and repairing sidewalks	52%	36%	9%	2%	2.40
Preparing the community for emergencies or disasters	47%	43%	8%	1%	2.37
Providing prompt graffiti removal services	47%	35%	14%	2%	2.30
Planning for the future of the city	45%	40%	10%	3%	2.30
Providing specialized Police units (property crimes, directed enforcement, etc.)	49%	31%	12%	5%	2.26
Providing code enforcement services (citing blighted buildings, etc.)	40%	38%	17%	2%	2.20



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Service	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Not at All Important	Weighted Average
Enforcing traffic laws	43%	35%	16%	4%	2.19
Providing free or low-cost recreation programs for youth	39%	37%	16%	4%	2.16
Providing services for the homeless	43%	33%	14%	7%	2.16
Trimming trees on residential streets	34%	40%	20%	3%	2.07
Providing access to libraries (hours of operation)	34%	39%	19%	6%	2.03
Providing animal care/animal control services	30%	43%	21%	4%	2.01
Providing community park programs for youth and teens	33%	38%	20%	6%	2.00
Providing new library books, ebooks, media and access to technology	31%	40%	18%	7%	1.99
Prosecuting all adult misdemeanor crimes committed in the City	35%	33%	17%	10%	1.97
Providing programs for seniors	23%	45%	24%	5%	1.89
Providing business assistance and supporting economic development	27%	39%	22%	9%	1.86
Providing environmental sustainability programs	30%	33%	22%	11%	1.86
Providing library programs and services (reading, homework help, etc.)	28%	34%	27%	8%	1.85
Creating new parks and open space	21%	35%	30%	11%	1.68
Providing arts and cultural programs	21%	35%	26%	14%	1.66
Providing special events and programs for families	15%	37%	28%	17%	1.52
Providing translating services (Language Access)	15%	24%	28%	27%	1.29



Budget Priority Survey

Top 10 Comparison

2016

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 a police presence in neighborhoods
7. Providing well-lit city streets (15 in 2015)
8. Maintaining parks
9. Maintaining and repairing public buildings
10. Providing nuisance abatement programs (16 in 2015)

2015

1. Maintaining a low crime rate
2. Providing fire protection services
3. Maintaining and repairing streets
4. Maintaining and repairing public buildings
5. Providing emergency medical services
6. Maintaining parks
7. Providing neighborhood police patrols
8. Preparing the community for emergencies/disasters (14 in 2016)
9. Keeping the City attractive and eliminating blight
10. Reducing ocean pollution by improving storm drains (12 in 2016)



Budget Priority Survey

Comments

- 186 written comments were received
- The comments concerned a wide variety of issues, both big and small. Major themes include:
 - Parking
 - Public Safety
 - Crime
 - Homelessness
 - Infrastructure
 - Traffic



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