

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

SPECIAL MEETING

**BLOOMINGTON CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS
BALLROOM, 600 N. EAST ST.**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015 6:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment (*15 minutes*)
3. Citizens Summit
General discussion and communication exercises with City Council, members of the public and staff, including discussions on City priorities, projects, finances, citizen needs and programs.
4. Adjourn (*8:30 p.m.*)

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts

Program Description

The City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts (PR&CA) Program includes Administration, Recreation, Golf, Miller Park Zoo, Parks, and the Bloomington Center for Performing Arts (BCPA).

Quick Facts

- The City's FY2015 PR&CA Budget is **\$10,926,180** or 11% of the City's General Fund expenditures.
- The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department include **65 full time employees** and hires up to 300 seasonal employees per year.
- The average cost of one Park Utility Worker is **\$87,800 annually** to the City. The average cost of one BCPA employee is **\$80,722 annually**. The Average cost of one Zookeeper is **\$82,547 annually**. These figures include salaries, benefits, training, equipment, and pensions.
- The City's current park system contains **38 parks**, 5 public buildings, 3 spray parks, 2 swimming pools, 4 lakes, and 30 miles of trail. The City also has a 60 acre soccer complex, a skate park, a public ice skating rink, 3 golf courses and a zoo.
- The City maintains **1,097 acres** of park area.
- The Miller Park Zoo's annual budget is **\$1.2 million**, of which \$624,000 or 52% is raised in fees and donations. Revenues in FY2016 are projected to **increase 7% to \$677,544** due to the opening of the Flamingo Exhibit as well as increased admission and education program fees.
- Miller Park Zoo is one of the smallest Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoos in the country; only about **10% of all zoos** and aquariums in the country are so accredited.

Special Considerations

- Well maintained parks have been recognized in studies to have a positive impact on property values. Utilizing Distinguished Professor at Texas A&M Dr. John Crompton's method of "The Proximate Principal" the City's existing parks systems increase the City's **property tax base \$1,787,160** resulting in **\$295,484 in property tax revenue**.
- According to a report from DCI International, studying which factors are most important for companies making relocation decisions, **quality of life** is scored highly at a **3.5 out of 5** in the rankings. Conducted using input from 3,591 US companies with annual revenues of \$25 million or more.
- **19,555** people attended recreation programs in FY2014. Such programs include soccer, sporty munchkins, day camp, dance, schools out programs, zoomba, etc.
- **85,643** people attended BCPA events in FY2014.
- The Pepsi Ice Center has run an operating **profit of over \$100,000** since FY2011.
- The City's Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (S.O.A.R.) program provides special needs
- The Town of Normal pays 40% of the program costs for the City's Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (S.O.A.R.) program. In FY2015 Normal paid the City \$90,000 (40% of program costs) for the S.O.A.R. program.

Group Questions

- It has been identified through a recent city-wide facilities assessment that the City's recreational facilities is in **need of \$3 million** in building infrastructure and building systems upgrades. These facilities include the Lincoln Leisure Center, Miller Park Pavilion, O'Neil Park Pool, US Cellular Coliseum, and the Constitution Trail. How would you address this budget issue?

- The Recreation Division of Bloomington Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Department encompasses recreation programs, the Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (S.O.A.R.) program, aquatics, and the Pepsi Ice Center. The recreation programs portion of this division provides recreational programs for the Lincoln Leisure Center, the Miller Park Adult Center, and the Miniature Golf Course in Miller Park. The City's **general fund subsidy** to these **recreation programs** is **\$581,593** or **62.75%** of the cost for operations. Should the City reduce this subsidy? If so, would you like to see these recreation programs raise new revenues or reduce programs and services?
- The City's general fund subsidy to the Miller Park Zoo is \$576,000 or **48%** of the cost for the zoo operations. Should the City reduce this subsidy? If so, would you like to see the zoo raise new revenues or reduce programs and services?
- The City's general fund subsidy to the BCPA is \$1,795,547 or **56.5%** of the cost for operations. Should the City reduce this subsidy? If so, would you like to see the BCPA raise new revenues or reduce programs and services?

Additional Information

Percent Funded*	36.66%
Parks Administration	13.56%
Parks Maintenance	5.18%
Recreation	37.25%
Aquatics	47.49%
BCPA	43.50%
Zoo	52.00%
Pepsi Ice Center	106.65%
Special Opportunities	97.72%
Golf	93.32%

*Percent Funded means the amount of revenue raised by the program through fees, donations, etc. which offset the costs needed to be provided through the general fund for operations.

Total Cost	\$10,926,180
Parks Administration	\$570,613
Parks Maintenance	\$3,574,060
Recreation	\$926,840
Aquatics	\$251,643
BCPA	\$3,177,960
BCPA Community	\$5,082
Zoo	\$1,220,969
Pepsi Ice Center	\$910,359
Special Opportunities	\$288,651
Golf	\$2,847,115

Public Safety

Program Description

The City's Public Safety Program includes the Police and Fire departments. The Police Department provides services to the community which include: Patrol, Criminal Investigation, Street Crimes, Public Information, Training, School Resource Officers, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Crisis Negotiations, as well as a Communications Center. The Fire Department provides: Emergency Medical Services and Transportation, Fire Suppression and Rescue Operations, Fire Cause and Origin Operations, Hazardous Material Response, Fire and Safety Public Education, and Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) services for Central Illinois Regional Airport (CIRA).

Quick Facts

- The City's FY2015 Public Safety Budget is \$40,139,300 or **43%** of the City's General Fund expenditures.
- The average cost of one sworn Police Officer is **\$135,542 annually** to the City. This figure includes salary, benefits, training, equipment, pension and overtime.
- The City of Bloomington Police Department consists of the 1 Police Chief, 3 Assistant Police Chiefs, 6 Lieutenants, 15 Sergeants, 103 Patrol Officers, 16 Professional Support Staff, 13 seasonal. The Police Department has **123 active sworn officers** and is **authorized 128 sworn officers** (the department is currently down 5 authorized sworn officers).
- The average cost of one Firefighter is **\$154,414 annually** to the City. This figure includes salary, benefits, training, equipment, pension and overtime.
- The Fire Department has **118 full time employees**. This consists of 1 Fire Chief, 2 Deputy Chiefs, 1 Training Officer, 3 Battalion Chiefs, 1 Public Education Officer, 3 Support Staff, 106 total Firefighters (19 Captains, 21 Engineers, and 66 Firefighters).
- The City owns **6 fire stations** with **5 of the stations** currently operational.

Special Considerations

- The level of pension benefits received by public safety employees is established by the State Legislature and is not controlled by local officials. However, local governments are **responsible for funding the pension benefits**.
- According to an independent professional assessment of the City's 5 active fire stations there is **\$12.4 million** in necessary repairs and building system upgrades necessary over the next six years, which is currently unfunded.
- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends a fire suppression response time of **6 minutes** or less for **90 percent** of emergency calls. The City's response rate is **8 minutes** for **90 percent** of fire suppression calls.
- A 2012 study found Illinois to have the **4th highest workers' compensation** premium rates in the country.
- The City Council's newly established pension funding policy will require an approximate **\$1.2 million annual increase** in pension contributions for the next four years or \$4.8 million.

Group Questions

- How would you address the City's fire department building needs?
- Would you favor lowering the City's fire and emergency medical response times to the NFPA recommendations? If so, how would you propose lowering them?
- How would you address the Police and Fire pension funding needs of the City?

Solid Waste

Program Description

The City's Solid Waste program provides a variety of services to residential customers, which include Automated Curbside Household Trash Collection, Automated Curbside Recycling, Drop-off Recycling, Curbside Large Items (items such as couches that do not fit into garbage containers), Curbside Yard Waste & Leaf Collection, Drop-site Large Items & Grass and Landfill.

Quick Facts

- In FY2015, the Solid Waste Program is expected to be **\$2.4 million** short of covering its costs for the year. The total cost of the Solid Waste Program in FY2015 is **\$8 million**.
- The Solid Waste Program was designed by the City Council to operate as an **Enterprise Program** which typically means that the fees cover the costs of the programs expenses.
- The City collects one front-end loader of bulk waste (or 2.25 cubic yards) weekly at no charge to residents. At best estimates, the cost to the City for collecting **1 bucket of bulk waste** is **\$106.92**.
- Distributing staff labor hours amongst the services provided within the Solid Waste Program, **bulk waste** collection represents **60% of the total cost** of the program, garbage collection represents 24%, recycle collection is 10%, yard waste is 4%, snow removal is 1%, and street sweeping is 1%.
- The Solid Waste Program has **40 full time employee** equivalents.
- The average cost of one Solid Waste **Truck Driver** is **\$86,598**. This figure includes salary, benefits, and pension.
- The cost of one automated **refuse truck** is **\$336,569**.
- The City's recycle participation rate is exceptionally **high at 78%**.

Special Considerations

- The City's current rate structure is as follows:

Fee Structure for Bloomington Garbage Collection	
	Effective May 1, 2014
35-gallon cart	\$16 per month
65-gallon cart	\$18 per month
95-gallon cart	\$20 per month

- In 2013, the City conducted a postal survey which revealed a majority of citizens only use the City's Bulk Waste services **0-1 times per month**.
- Midwest Fiber pays the City for collected recycled material based on the commodity markets at the moment. Prices fluctuate widely, but the curbside program typically provides some revenue to offset costs and spares the city and residents the **\$46.46 per ton landfill fee** for that material.
- The city collects recyclables from drop sites at more than 40 locations. They are school, government offices, the downtown and Illinois Wesleyan off-campus fraternities and sororities.
- At the current disposal rate of about 425 tons per day and barring expansion, the landfill is expected to run out of space in 2016.
- City staff which collects trash and recycling are also responsible for assisting with **snow removal** on City streets.

Group Question

- It is anticipated that the fees for Solid Waste services will **only cover 70%** of the program costs (or \$5.6 million of \$8.0 million). How would you address this budget issue?

From: Nora Dukowitz/Cityblm
To: City Council and Mayor@Cityblm
Cc: Directors-CM-DCM, Alex McElroy/Cityblm@Cityblm, Austin Grammer/Cityblm@Cityblm, Beth Oakley/Cityblm@Cityblm, Christine Wisniewski/Cityblm@Cityblm, Tina Salamone/Cityblm@Cityblm

Date: Friday, January 16, 2015 04:50PM

Subject: Citizens' Summit Materials

Good Afternoon Mayor & Council,

Attached please find the following materials for the Citizens' Summit:

- Results of the Citizens' Priority Survey
- Citizens' Summit Agenda
- Citizens' Summit list of invitees to date
- Inventory of Programs
- Three scenarios/case studies (each table/group will work through one of the three. Groups will be randomized.)

Thank you to staff and especially Alex McElroy and Finance for their work on the scenarios/case studies.

I received email addresses for the invitees from very few of you (which is okay!). That being said, for consistency, **please send these materials to your invitees** (as opposed to me sending them). If that causes you a hardship or concern, please let me know.

If I'm missing anything, please let me know.

Otherwise, we will all look forward to Tuesday evening!

Have a great weekend,

Nora

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 Cell: 309-287-2016

[Facebook](#) • [Twitter](#) • [Google+](#) • [YouTube](#)

Attachments:

Citizens' Priority
Survey Results.pdf

Citizens' Summit
Agenda.pdf

Citizens' Summit
Invitees.pdf

Inventory of
Programs -
Description and
Sources of Funds.pdf

PR&CA.pdf

Public Safety.pdf

Solid Waste.pdf

Citizen Summit Invitees**Name****Mayor**

Josh Barnett
Sue Feldkamp
Marlene Gregor
Russ Kinzinger
Katie Novak
Julian Westerhout
Dontae Latson
Kiranmayi Konam
Michael Gorman
Jessielee C. Hinshaw
Ann Sullivan

Ward 1 - Kevin Lower

Dale Naffziger
Troy Bowman
Larry Blake
Mark Cooper
Beverly Edgerton
Judy Henry
Allen Swanson
Don Herrin
Roger Curtis
Allen Gibson

Ward 2 - David Sage

Steve Ambrose
Roger Callender
Paula Stubblefield
Matt Giordano
Herm Harding
Becky Petta
Phil Boulds
Jeff Donaldson
Aggie Hedin
Hans Peterson

Ward 3 - Mboka Mwilambwe

Mike Ausili
Gary Lambert
J. Balmer
Ky Ajayi
Dayo Ajayi
Nick Grojean
Archana Shekara

Goverdhan Galpalli
Willie Halbert

Ward 4 - Judy Stearns

Jeremy Kelley
Ron Schultz
Chip Frank
Dan Metz
Monika Metz
Erik Prenzler
Craig Gates
Nathan Gates
Doug Burrichter
Michael Fischer

Ward 5 - Joni Painter

Charlie Harris
Victoria Harris
Jim Grossman
John Freed
Wayne Brown
Danny Leifel
Dave Toland
Joyce Moncelle Kaye
Bud Clark
Nancy Clark

Ward 6 - Karen Schmidt

David Purlee
Sue Denzer
Mike Stretch
Wes Newport
Surena Fish
Lea Cline
Raymundo Martinez
Tim Tilton
Janice Bush OR Daytreum Jackson
Michael O'Donnell

Ward 7 - Scott Black

Rick Heiser
Dennis J. Hite
James "Ray" Rybarczyk

Ward 8 - Diana Hauman

Bruce Naffziger
Mike Fitzgerald

Glen Ludwig
Kelly Neptune
Mike Wilkerson

Jim Jaeger

Mary Litwiller

Dave Blaser

Roger Elm

Anita Ashley

Ward 9 - Jim Fruin

Arthur D Eiff

Chuck Montgomerie

Bill Wilson

Dale A. Strain

Dave Wuethrich

David Kotarba

Ken Hlebasko

James E. Adams

Frank Hoffman

Mike Wilson

From the Flipcharts

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts

- Promote use on more projects – increase fees
 - Use Miller Park for more private one on one on empty zoo days
 - Golf paths –
 - Golf courses – go down to less, use land for tax generating revenue – Raise fees
 - Variable fee structure based on income on special needs program with caps and review on what someone pays
 - BCPA – Increase fee, increase use of building
 - Constitution Trail – do upgrades
 - Miller Park – upgrade pavilion
 - New subdivision – all infrastructure paid by developer – change city codes
 - City maintains, developer pays
-
- Cut 12 employees
 - Reduce zoo/BCPA subsidies
 - Raise zoo admission fees
 - Set fixed amount to subsidize & let Department come up w/ the difference
 - Privatize golf courses (franchise)
 - Find private \$\$\$ (sponsorship) for the zoo/BCPA
 - Raise rental fees for sports fields
-
- Would City consider selling the Coliseum?
 - Can the City reach out to businesses (local), for funds that have been allocated?
 - Can we get companies to advertise inside rec. facilities?
 - Where is the need at?
 - Raise user fees on places like Miller Park Pav. ie: weddings
 - Where is demand for services; ie ice rink
 - Possibly raise service fees
 - Review the programs to determine usage fees. Survey the attendees of the programs.
 - Look at \$581.593 and see where funds are going
 - *Are some of the fees too low?
 - * Lack of marketing on what is available in this community?
 - What would marketing costs be? What is current marketing?
 - Improvements to buildings would be an investment
 - Cost effective
 - Use friends of the zoo to create benefactors
 - Why is the City of Blmgtm supporting “regional attractions”?
 - Combine Bloomington & Normal Parks & Recs./District
 - Vary fees based on where you live
 - Naming rights of BCPA
 - Is there a threshold of attendance that we are not losing money on events?
 - Review ticket prices
 - Are we doing a good enough job promoting and marketing events?
 - 557 total events per year at the BCPA

- Encourage feedback for people using services
- Has the city asked for patron list from Civic Center & Krannert Center
- Dinner shows
- Market to college students

Public Safety

- Personnel – Fire
 - Supervisor to subordinate ratio
 - 1:1.5
 - SOP in fire standards?
 - Staffing part of negotiations?
 - 130 staff cut in 2009
 - Didn't fill positions
- Cut expenses
- Make gov't more efficient
- Don't higher/increase taxes
- Quality of service needs maintained
- Response time needs addressed
- 8 hr. shift – 7 days/wk?
- COB firefighters not equal to Chicago FD
- Weight room
- Putting out fires
- Paramedics outsourced?
- Audit from independent organization on how time is being spent in FD
 - Are performance standards being meant?
- Is this a state problem or city problem?
- Can't cut Public Safety
- How do we address building needs?
- What's being done w/ empty fire station?
- Response times are not what they should be
- Opportunities to share empty fire station
- Where are response times lowest?
 - Northeast
- Blm & Nrml building library together – union vs non union
- Reciprocity agreements?
- Human life is more important
- Airport – station
- Pension
 - Reducing head count
 - Minimum eligibility
 - How do we increase – state law
 - Do we reduce head count, increase efficiency, proximity?
 - Layers of management?
 - Public Works, for ex.
 - Need to start looking at unnecessary layers
 - Police & FD are specifically trained; need to preserve these ees.

- Why do we have a communications specialist for both police & fire?
 - Who are essential & who can we combine?
 - Blm has more unions than Nrml
 - Going to have reduce/get rid of so many unions. Will not be easy.
 - # of ees doesn't make a company better
 - For ex. Postal Service
 - Have to limit how much we structure upward
 - Do we have to have a certain # of Srgts & Lts?
 - Police has a flatter structure
 - NFPA – Best Practices
 - Smaller span of control in the “hazard zone”
 - Does our response time depend on lean staffing?
 - Are there *proximity levels of mgmt. that can be “leaned” out?
 - Thank you to HQ for a fire one of the members had in '09
 - Are all of the searg. In police necessary?
 - We are down 5 police officers – what if we had a riot?
 - Is police required for staffing like Fire?
 - What is the biggest driver of OT?
-
- Reconcile budget shortfalls
 - Sell unused station/property?
 - Eliminate unnecessary spending in non core services? (quality of life)
 - Prioritize budget for core issues first!
 - Not enough info to make informed decision on lowering response times
 - Pensions –
 - Priorities
 - Capital improvements
 - Core services
 - Pensions
-
- Empty building (Six Points) to sell?
 - Federal dollars
 - Add another station
 - Shared station
 - Buildings need updating
 - Prioritize needs versus wants
 - Intelligent traffic signals to lower response times = less stations needed long term
 - Possible joint or shared sources
 - Co-ordinate changes with adjoining towns
 - Find a solid funding source
 - Release some mandates on the city from the state
 - Prioritize -> Proactive funding (save on instere cost\$)
 - Citizen interactions
 - Cost of livings?
 - Holding line on hiring and spending increases
 - Outsourcing of jobs that will not require pensions?

Solid Waste

- Excess bags, piles ->
 - Is it enforced?
 - City follow-up
- Suggest pick-up same day as recycling
- Some heavy users put out disproportionate amount, others never
 - Charge for it beyond a certain amount/frequency (e.g. more than one)
- Recycling
 - Need opportunities for businesses to participate
 - Municipal system we have good for quality of life
 - Incentivize recycling for everyone – residences, businesses
- Garbage
 - Evaluate new system after 6 months -> has it happened?
 - Density
 - Municipal system convenient, better than many other communities
 - Greater differential between 35/65/95 gallon containers
- Snow Removal
 - Requirement for residents and businesses to clear sidewalks
 - Enforcement
 - Revenue generation
 - Electronics
 - Cooperate w/ other governmental entities
 - Change state law
 - Incentives to recycle
 - Increase fee for additional bulk waste “bucket”
 - Enforce regulations re trash, bulk containers, quantity
 - Encourage recycling by increasing fees for garbage pick-up (35/65/95)
 - Cooperate w/ Normal
 - Business recycling
- Bulk pick-up is a problem:
 - Who is/isn't paying for it?
 - How is it being picked up? (specifically, Bloomington process vs Normal's process)
 - Number of vehicles used vs. drop-off facility?
 - No schedule for bulk waste
 - Limit to once a month
 - Rentals: Private contractors
 - Landlord education of responsible waste disposal
 - Crews need to enforce the billing for the extra work they do for residents (not packing correctly)
 - Get rid of limits on loads per day at drop-off facility
 - Out-source bulk pick-up
 - Distinctions between residential/commercial bulk pick-up
 - Separate thought process and practices for recycling vs. other solid waste vs. bulk
 - Increase charge for “2nd bucket” pick-up so it's in line w/ what it costs

- Eliminate bulk waste pickup
 - Privatize bulk waste if it can't be made self sufficient
 - Would elimination reduce pension liability
 - Do reductions in union staff impact contracts?
 - Can bulk waste equipment be repurposed if program is eliminate?
 - What would it take to make bulk waste program self-sufficient?
 - Can it be reduced to the point where it is self sufficient?
 - Keep "drop off" location for bulk waste & possibly expand this location
 - Entire table concurs on this point
 - 8 for 8
-
- Privatize waste removal
 - Individuals pay separate find own source to contract
 - City contract with private company
 - Can just bulk be contracted out
 - Limit bulk to less pick-ups
 - Get ballpark costs from private companies
 - Quit hiring consultants
 - Cut down
-
- Solid waste fees 30% short
 - Fines
 - Greater enforcement of codes
 - Higher -> Bulk waste cost for rental properties
 - Less frequent pick up for bulk waste
 - Increase recycle

Idea "Parking Lot"

- Cap total property tax at 1% of property value
- Have a group of ILL mayors go to Spfld and lobby legislature to remove public services pensions out of state constitution. Possible amendment.
- Establish a Park District. Move zoo, Parks & Rec, Coleisum, to that District
- Accountability for contracted work
- More quality control on road work & other contracted work
- Section 8 housing?
 - What advantages
- Enforce clearing sidewalks after snow storm – Keep better track of landlords & their properties – Can surprise inspections be done? Unfortunately there are “slumlords” & renters are afraid to complain

Other Written Questions/Comments

- Comments from neighbors – street repair, water mains/sewers (major concern from everyone who contacted me), housing complex on Oakland – use metal garbage cans – couldn't they have city carts, slowdown on spending of Const. Trail/parks/zoo, how to control panhandlers in neighborhood, some neighbors can't afford 50/50 on sidewalks
- You can state the rental owner are okay
- Eliminate sticks for extra bags – just charge people for extra bags not in garbage cans
- How come there is no mention of Economic Development in all the documents. Did I miss it?
- What percent of seats at the BCPA and Colliseum are filled for each seat?
- Thanks Tina. BCPA 550 venues per year, how many are "free" gratis, how many are fees, please respond to Jim Fruin
- Didn't have the opportunity to say this – In terms of revenue streams, we, as a city, do a poor job in collecting code violation fees. I have never been in a city that lets things slide like they do here – if a citizen doesn't meet the expectations of the law, they need to pay the legal fine.
- This has been a great experience and I applaud the council for this initiative. It was also worthwhile to meet taxpayers from other wards and listen to their comments from a perspective different than mine. I hope this assists the council in successfully accomplishing completion of the 2016 budget.
- Unclear in statement, articulate cost/benefit/analysis, need to distinguish bulk waste program from recycling participations, work on enhancing citizen responsibility, communicate widely info, pickup dates, kinds of pickup, alternatives to curbside, hire professional grant-getter, re: raising fees: needs-based exemptions coordinate with county, McLean County Regional Planning
- (I was at solid waste table. I've thought of some more possibilities to save money.) Increase liquor license fees substantially; increase OTB fees; charge downtown bars a lot for extra policing needed for unruly patrons; increase local gas tax for road improvements; charge private groups that make heavy use of city parks (ie private football taking over parks on weekends); submit ambulance bills promptly to insurers; increase fines for ordinance violations; eliminate K-9 unit due to new marijuana laws – will no longer be effective in drug searches; increase trash cart fees, especially for larger carts; abandon school resource offices; no staff should take home city vehicles unless job takes them out on overnight emergencies; increase water charges; increase golf fees; no need for another fire station; discourage urban sprawl. Force developers to bear the cost of streets, sewers, sidewalks; note: we live in one of the richest countries in the world. We are the top 1% -> whining about taxes is a luxury for people whose needs are mostly well met. Change Coliseum management. Demand accountability; increase retirement age for police & fire; resist calls for an east side library branch; hire fewer expensive consultants. When they mess up (garbage cart predictions) do not rehire them; hire another full-time inspector to check for property ordinance violations – place liens on properties that are constantly out of compliance; keep the zoo & programs for children -> not everything is about the \$, and our youngest citizens didn't have a voice tonight
- Why does CIAM report not match auditors report which shows 100,000s in losses? Which shows 100,000s in losses? Why is income (revenue) not known for point of sale? Colliseum! I don't have my notes but I believe there were areas pointed out where possible fraud or abuse could take place – Have these loopholes been closed? Is petty cash being used for employee loans, refer to BLNews for Dianas outline of the report, need to look @ more cuts, cut wasteful spending and don't say there isn't any.

Citizens' Summit
Tuesday, January 20, 2015
6-8:30 pm
BCPA Ballroom

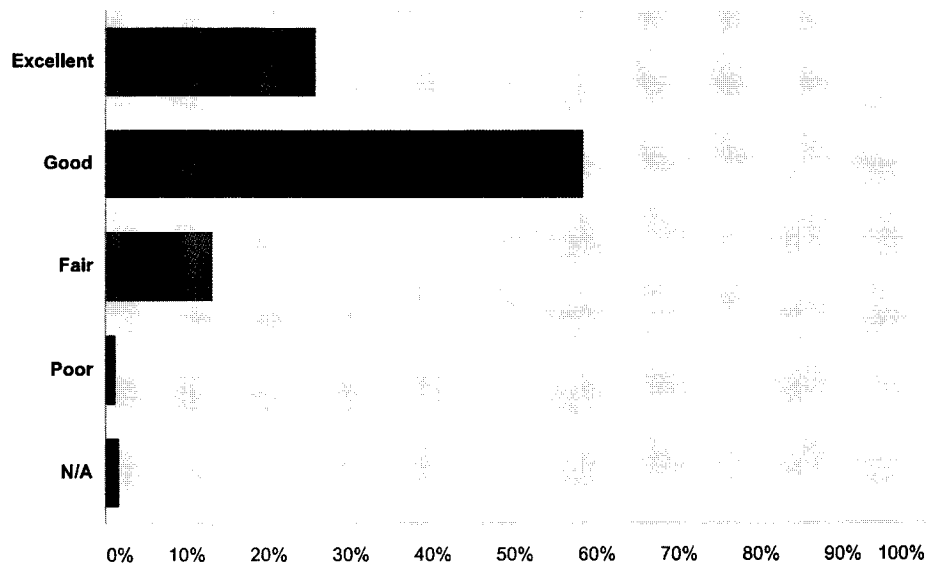
AGENDA

1. Public comment (up to 15 min.)
2. Welcome – Karen Schmidt & David Sage (10 min.)
 - a. Mayor's video welcome
 - b. Agenda, roles & responsibilities, ground rules, etc.
3. Budget overview – David Hales & Patti-Lynn Silva (15 min.)
4. Individual table work (50 min.)
5. Tables report out (30 min., 3 min. per table)
6. New insights from citizens (15 min.)
7. Wrap-up, budget timeline, thank yous – Karen Schmidt, David Sage & David Hales (15 min.)

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q1 How do you rate Bloomington as a place to live?

Answered: 601 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Responses
Excellent	25.62% 154
Good	58.40% 351
Fair	13.14% 79
Poor	1.16% 7
N/A	1.66% 10
Total	601

#	Your comments are welcome:	Date
1	We are still the envy of many Illinois communities. Our economic growth has slowed but new businesses are still opening. Crime is down and fire protection rating was recently raised.	1/16/2015 11:33 AM
2	High taxes. And too much red tape.	1/15/2015 11:07 PM
3	Property taxes are way too high for this community.. lack of oversight on programs ex. trash collection loss of revenue	1/15/2015 7:25 PM
4	Broad base on all levels	1/15/2015 6:12 PM
5	The public transit system has improved but hopefully the new system will improve it even more. Overall it's a fine city. But we need some bike lanes. Not "share the road", an actual infrastructure.	1/15/2015 6:02 PM
6	The community here is family friendly, open to varies lifestyles and clsoe to larger cities. We have a safe place to live and raise our kids. Our taxes are higher than any other place I have lived.	1/15/2015 4:05 PM
7	I have watched as our community has lost its luster. We are spending to much effort on things that have no real importance. Our leadership has lost its way!	1/15/2015 10:25 AM
8	Safe Family friendly	1/15/2015 7:32 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

9	We enjoy the peace and quiet of our subdivision. We love the ease of getting around the city in a timely manner. We feel a great sense of security and safety in our town which is very important to us.	1/14/2015 8:54 PM
10	Great community, great parks, just a generally great place to live.	1/14/2015 7:35 PM
11	If the condition of the streets and other infrastructure was better,I would rank it excellent.	1/14/2015 2:59 PM
12	I appreciate the conveniences of easy travel, highway access, support for strong programs for youth activities.	1/13/2015 5:47 PM
13	My biggest problem with Bloomington is that the services are difficult to access. Visiting the downtown library is not easy for those east of Veterans Parkway -- PLEASE consider an east side branch. Recreation programs are nice, but most of them are during the day and of little benefit to a dual-income family. Please spend money on the services that actually support our families, not pouring additional money into downtown facilities that are not needed. Vital services are good for the most part, except for roads being in bad shape and the automated trash trucks debacle. The huge increases in fees lately are out of control. Also, please consider having Parks & Rec provide after-school care at Unit 5 schools based in Bloomington -- it's a ridiculously expensive venture for those of us attending them that have to go to private daycare programs.	1/13/2015 3:19 PM
14	To date, a safe 'city' at a good value for the services and options. Let's keep it that way!!	1/12/2015 10:08 AM
15	roads are bad and taxes are way too high	1/11/2015 12:17 PM
16	The City has the potential to be a better place to live if it's elected officials exhibited the ability to develop a more progressive vision. The vision might be similar to Normals...more progressive and/or one that new and existing employers, employees and residences find inviting.	1/10/2015 2:41 PM
17	Worried about safety. city is getting large with a much different look as far as the people go	1/9/2015 5:13 PM
18	well rounded community	1/9/2015 3:36 PM
19	We live in Normal - so not sure how this is applicable.	1/9/2015 8:33 AM
20	Taxes too high. Too much spending and over committing the taxpayers is the problem.	1/9/2015 12:29 AM
21	Moved here 32 years, raised children, now son and grandson here... give of ourselves in community, school, and church. Poor city leadership and decisions past 10 years have strained the positives but we appreciate current leaders and this type of communication. Be cautious and solid in what you do for us!	1/8/2015 10:01 PM
22	High Cost to live here.	1/8/2015 9:56 PM
23	Too cold	1/8/2015 6:00 PM
24	Blm. Nrml. Has got it all..	1/8/2015 2:47 PM
25	Good place to work and raise a family.	1/8/2015 1:44 PM
26	I've lived in different communities in the Chicago area for comparison. Bloomington (and Normal) seem to be service oriented, trying to produce a quality product (living environment) for its customers (citizens). The list to support this statement would be comprehensive, but to name a few (1) recreation provided through the park district (parks, golf courses, trail, etc), (2) cleanliness, including exceptional garbage and curbside bulk collections that encourage maintenance; (3) cultural; (4) police and fire services; (5) library access	1/8/2015 1:36 PM
27	Except for severe weather (particularly winter) which you have no control over. Also, many streets need major repaving which should be a priority for upcoming construction season/s.	1/8/2015 1:12 PM
28	Need more higher quality restaurants and bars. Not all franchise stuff.	1/8/2015 12:23 PM
29	This used to be a great city. However, it seems in the City's efforts to beautify the city and expand services they have increased taxes to the point that it actually discourages people from moving here. Nice parks, but the cost to build and maintain them creates a need for more city employees, an increased city payroll and most importantly, an unsustainable pension obligation.	1/8/2015 11:54 AM
30	small town with big city amenities	1/8/2015 11:44 AM
31	I do not live in Bloomington	1/8/2015 11:25 AM
32	It was a 6 until I have lived in other cities	1/8/2015 11:25 AM
33	People are great, weather sucks in the winter	1/8/2015 10:42 AM
34	I am a Peoria County resident.	1/8/2015 10:38 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

35	Too many bad restaurants and not enough good ones, just OK shopping, and the weather keep it from getting the "excellent" rating.	1/8/2015 10:06 AM
36	I rated it excellent when I first moved to town. But since the building of the Section 8 housing at Fox Hill Circle, we have experienced a huge increase in crime. I have had numerous issues with peeping toms, one even unscrewing my security lights. We have also been burglarized, along with our neighbors. When the police did catch the criminals, I was told they did have ties to the subsidized housing. I purposely moved to Bloomington because of the low crime rate. I would not do so again.	1/8/2015 10:02 AM
37	Cold winters.	1/8/2015 9:54 AM
38	Warmer and an ocean view would be nicer!	1/8/2015 9:49 AM
39	Professors are very poor Leaders !!	1/8/2015 9:45 AM
40	Great place to raise a family.	1/8/2015 9:26 AM
41	I am from California. Don't like the shoveling of SNOW.	1/8/2015 9:15 AM
42	I have grown increasingly upset with local government because they keep raising taxes and never try to reign in spending and fraud where it exists.	1/8/2015 9:09 AM
43	Great schools, parks, and Constitution Trail. Large selection of restaurants. Entertainment that BCPA, Castle, and Coliseum bring in is really good. Just wish that downtown Bloomington could be more 'alive' and more of a family/evening/weekend destination similar to Uptown Normal.	1/8/2015 9:05 AM
44	If you don't eat for recreation there is not much more to do in the city..	1/8/2015 8:35 AM
45	other than property taxes Bloomington is a good place to live	1/8/2015 8:30 AM
46	Down town Bloomington is still in need of significant development.m	1/8/2015 8:29 AM
47	borderline good/excellent because of the state fiscal problems which are now bleeding over into city fiscal problems.	1/8/2015 8:12 AM
48	Taxes are ridiculous	1/8/2015 8:05 AM
49	All good. We miss mountains and oceans, but you can't have everything.	1/8/2015 7:32 AM
50	Except for winter	1/8/2015 7:31 AM
51	If your going to b stuck in Illinois, this is as good a place as any	1/8/2015 7:13 AM
52	great trails, parks and opportunities for golf and cultural arts	1/8/2015 7:10 AM
53	The new Mayor's plans are a detriment to the quality of life in Bloomington.	1/8/2015 7:05 AM
54	Wouldbe excellent if the winters were not so bad.	1/8/2015 6:45 AM
55	Property taxes way to high	1/8/2015 6:33 AM
56	Taxes and spending getting more and more socialist. Not good!	1/8/2015 6:18 AM
57	great shopping! great dinning! not so great trying to walk to get to it all, especially on empire and veterans.	1/8/2015 2:33 AM
58	Love having a lot of big town perks for a not so big town.	1/7/2015 9:01 PM
59	I don't believe I'd have any problem living in Bloomington because of all of the friends I have there.	1/7/2015 7:36 PM
60	I live in Normal, but am frequently in Bloomington for a variety of reasons.	1/7/2015 4:28 PM
61	There doesn't appear to be any initiatives happening to attract other businesses or industries to the community. IF State Farm were to decide to move to another location, this city would financially collapse!	1/7/2015 4:01 PM
62	The roads can be very bad (example: Washington street), the snow plowing is also subpar.	1/7/2015 1:02 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

63	Desperately needs a plan for suburban developments and urban downtown survival. The southwest side as a part of the city of Bloomington is kind of an an embarrassment, really. The empty fire station, the grade school in the middle of farm and gravel pit land, the Fox Creek subdivision appears to be dying and dead end roads with many homes for sale or vacant for years. Seems like development growth exploded, developers just built with assumption growth would continue, and now the northeast side is exploding while the southwest languishes. The corner of Veterans and Hamilton to the Fox Creek Elementary School is a good representation of the area, and the area can not even support any stores more than a Hucks. An unfinished development with lots of for sale signs, unconnected roads is a bad thing for Bloomington. If the Den golf course deteriorates then it all goes.	1/7/2015 10:07 AM
64	ward 2 specific safety issue: there is a two lane bridge over the railroad tracks on Fox Creek Road just east of Fox creek school. This bridge is a huge safety issue. People walk over this bridge with NO walk lane. There is foot traffic over this bridge from an apartment complex that is close to a Casey's to the east on Fox creek road. It is only a matter of time before someone is hit and dies on this bridge, particularly at night. This is a huge cost but is clearly an accident waiting to happen.	1/7/2015 7:06 AM
65	My biggest concern has always been that when you live on the West Side-subdivisions, you get less police attention than the East Side. Our street in Ridge Wood off of Fox Creek road has had speeders on it for 8 years! They use this street as a shortcut to go to Pepper Ridge School and the apartments and Fox Creek School. You could catch so many if you would spend just 1 week from 5 am to 8 pm...they fly by 2203 - 2211 Ridge Creek Drive every day - including the school bus drivers!	1/7/2015 7:00 AM
66	Need to live within our means	1/6/2015 10:05 PM
67	I have some concerns about our financial future (pension funding, the white elephant coliseum). I also have concerns about increased gang activity and crime (although it's nothing compared to Peoria, Chicago, etc.).	1/6/2015 4:37 PM
68	I've had several opportunities to accept employment elsewhere, and declined in large part to the attractiveness of the community as a place to live and raise our children.	1/6/2015 3:51 PM
69	We have an incredibly good community. But there is always betterment opportunities. Very concerned that as we develop new areas we are careful to not disadvantage our old neighborhoods and their character. We should not permit any part of our community to live beneath its full potential.	1/6/2015 1:50 PM
70	I'm a senior citizen and Bloomington provides many, many opportunities for us.	1/5/2015 12:28 PM
71	We need to learn to keep business and personal seperate as a city.	1/4/2015 6:14 PM
72	The city can't keep up with the pace of growth in terms of infrastructure repairs. Need to get creative on ways to get the biggest bang for our buck.	1/4/2015 8:42 AM
73	High govt cost compared to Springfield, Champaign and Peoria suburbs	1/1/2015 6:15 PM
74	We need better restaurants that are interesting, maybe ethnic or specialized. We have a glut of chain restaurants that serve fattening deep fried fatty foods. The city needs to care for all areas more uniformly. The older areas show neglect while the newer areas look more well kept and scenic.	1/1/2015 1:09 PM
75	I think there is something for everyone and the schools are very good and so are the healthcare options. We have very good law enforcement and firefighters and plenty of grocery stores and entertainment options.	12/31/2014 12:47 PM
76	Taxes are way too high and rising. City Government that has no concept of cost control. "See the shiny object, we need it".	12/31/2014 12:14 PM
77	Too much money is being spent on non-governmental services and priorities.	12/31/2014 11:38 AM
78	Why not excellent? Enforce codes, clean up downtown, more patrol officers downtown, esp at night and on first Fridays.	12/31/2014 2:55 AM
79	By funding schools totally out of property taxes causes IL to have second highest property taxes in the country and creates unfair disparities between school districts which results in discrimination between the quality of education students receive.	12/30/2014 10:32 PM
80	Much work is needed to maintain the level of excellence we have been accustomed to. The next few years are going to be ugly. I hope the Council has the courage to do what needs to be done to maintain our standard of living.	12/30/2014 10:26 PM
81	Education; culture, safety, friendly environment	12/30/2014 9:25 PM
82	I like the town well enough, but could do with better weather!	12/30/2014 4:08 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

83	The downtown needs more shops, restaurants, places to bring people downtown downtown in addition to the bars.	12/30/2014 3:16 PM
84	I believe more working together is needed. Too many asst city managers, asst Chiefs, more help with businesses.	12/30/2014 2:19 PM
85	Many streets and Roads are in extremely poor condition (i.e. East Empire St)	12/30/2014 2:10 PM
86	I think Bloomington has gone down hill from what it used to be. The City keeps turning down quality of life activities like the Racetrack, the Coliseum sits empty. The City seems to just want to fine Bars and bring in income with DUI's. New business that want to come to Blm. With good paying jobs can't get a tax break. They have to go somewhere else. It's just a City as whole full of a government that does nothing for the people.	12/30/2014 1:07 PM
87	Our city does not take care of the things that are in need of attention and repair in a timely manner. We have a problem with our streets and our storm drain/sewer systems. And the City knows that. We need to take pride enough in our city to have those things maintained properly. We already pay tax dollars for these things and the people elected to represent us need to make these things a priority rather than new programs that we don't have the money for.	12/30/2014 11:46 AM
88	We have some issues with the management of District 87 Bloomington High School and Bloomington Junior High.	12/30/2014 10:24 AM
89	Bloomington has a lot going for it but the great businesses, events and the community are not marketed well. It also seems to be stuck in the past and refuses to move forward. The community is insulated from a lot thanks to some of its major employers (insurance, education) and has not had to make some changes when they are needed. The legal community is very antiquated and the forms used for real estate are lacking in both form and substance.	12/30/2014 10:04 AM
90	crime rate has been rapidly increasing :(	12/30/2014 1:03 AM
91	Property taxes are very high and make living here difficult.	12/29/2014 11:09 PM
92	Bloomington has catered to developers for too long and has allowed a great deal of sprawl and infrastructure inefficiency in the name of increased property taxes and a quick buck for the developers	12/29/2014 10:45 PM
93	I just do not like the honking drivers who use their horns very impatiently.	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
94	I think that there are areas for improvement – safety, race relations, income inequality, and the drug trade (in/out of Chicago, St. Louis).	12/29/2014 9:56 PM
95	Each year the quality of life and the efficiency of services decrease.	12/29/2014 4:05 PM
96	Seems like some benefits to one community: uptown Normal is very nice, extra expense for MetCom and City's system, overlapping city boundaries and services; coordination occurs but one seems more efficient.	12/29/2014 10:20 AM
97	its a stable town not the best looking too dependent on StF too many power lines, unkept landscaping and poor oversight to Veterans Pkwy...the intro to Bloomington	12/29/2014 10:02 AM
98	Roads are terrible - # 1 West Washington St out of town . When Market St closes you expect it to carry the added traffic ? Safety has deteriorated in the city	12/28/2014 1:10 PM
99	Taxes are too high. May move due to them.	12/27/2014 3:01 PM
100	Special Interests have too much control and don't respect the community.	12/27/2014 12:35 PM
101	Too many and too high taxes. The city needs to realize that there are many people that cannot afford to pay so much. Senior citizens are particularly the "victims" of the city's expansive spending and taxes. We were forced by circumstances to move to Illinois, it would not have been our choice just because of the taxes and the poor governance. We have lived in numerous states and cities and we have to say that this is the most expensive place we have lived. On a fixed income, it is nearly impossible to make it from month to month.	12/27/2014 11:33 AM
102	Entertainment options can be TOO "family-friendly;" those without children like to do some things without kids running around, such as beer tents at festivals, etc.	12/27/2014 9:09 AM
103	Great parks, transportation, schools and shopping	12/26/2014 5:13 PM
104	I've lived here for over 30 years and think it's a great place to live. The last 5 or so years I'm sometimes embarrassed to say I live here because of the behavior of our City council and mayor.	12/26/2014 12:57 PM
105	Great place to raise a family. Love constitution trail, library, trash and recycling program.	12/26/2014 8:12 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

106	The council is trying to hide things from citizen. For instance. Garbage fees. Rates changed, collection process changed and 10 months later, look it may not be enough. You knew 10 months ago the number of people who took the smaller cans. Trash collection need not be self supportive, it can and should have general funds being put to it. Golf on the other hand should have no general funds.	12/26/2014 7:47 AM
107	Bloomington is an excellent place to live. Unfortunately, as in many cities, there have been recent budget problems. I feel as though the budget is not being dealt with appropriately, and the citizens will end up at the losing end of the battle.	12/26/2014 12:18 AM
108	Streets are always falling apart. Are we getting what we pay for when repairs are made? Is our water safe to drink and do we know if we will have enough if we continue to grow?	12/25/2014 4:28 PM
109	Misplaced priorities by the city council. Why do pink flamingos have priority over good road, sidewalks? Why is money given annually to the BCPA when the golf courses have to fend for themselves as enterprise funds? Why is money given annually to the EDC? What has the EDC done to improve the economy of our city? What have they brought into the city in the way of businesses? What have they done to improve the mall? And, to bring in business to the mall?	12/25/2014 1:46 PM
110	real estate tax are too high for retired people	12/25/2014 1:28 PM
111	Bloomington is NOT Normal! QUIT trying to be like them.	12/25/2014 11:34 AM
112	I was born, 58 years ago, and raised in this community. I can remember watching the corporate State Farm office being built as I de-tasseled corn across the road. I remember thinking that someday we might even someday have jets flying into town. This town went through some great growth. It was a town you could be proud of. Bloomington was the envy of Central Illinois and offered families a safe environment in which they could raise their children. Sadly, the only growth I see is in city government, crime and the deterioration rate of the infrastructure. The city seems only to want to raise taxes and fees and tell us that we need to pay more if we want the basic services of the city. The reality is that they have spent the money in reckless pay plans (salaries and pensions).	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
113	Quality of life is important, but you can't live in a castle if the foundation is crumbling! We spend WAY too much on the Parks system and other amenities like Coliseum. Let's get our town on good foundation, such as the infrastructure and the others things can follow.	12/25/2014 9:59 AM
114	My ranking is lower based on the areas of the city that are blighted and have higher crime rates	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
115	We have it VERY well and need to quit spoiling ourselves so much. Just fix the basics and be thrifty on the "nice to haves."	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
116	I have lived in Bloomington for 35 years and I would have rated this excellent the first 30 years. I really appreciate trash and brush pickup, the parks, park programs and trails, and all the Coliseum has brought to the community, but am disappointed in the lack of trail extensions and conditions of city roads the last few years.	12/23/2014 2:16 PM
117	Bloomington is a very good city to live near and work in.	12/23/2014 1:28 PM
118	Many needed changes would be low/no cost to the city; i.e. TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT, REDUCE DENSITY OF BARS IN DOWNTOWN, BETTER UTILIZATION OF PEOPLE SENTENCED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE, increased tree planting, etc....	12/23/2014 9:44 AM
119	great quality of life options	12/23/2014 9:03 AM
120	Do to a serious lack of real vision, proactive planning coupled with past and current leadership only listening and reacting to just those that want a free park, water and sewer as well as many other examples. The current and past councils as well as the current and last city manager created this problems with TOO MUCH FOCUS on so called quality of life and NOT SERVICES.	12/23/2014 7:58 AM
121	Less sprawl. More redevelopment of existing neighborhoods. The western corridor to the city is uninviting and run down. No more strip malls for God's sake.	12/23/2014 7:22 AM
122	People in bloomington are so rude!!	12/22/2014 9:02 PM
123	City leaders do not listen to taxpayers and force things on taxpayers that should be voted on by the taxpayer.	12/22/2014 8:12 PM
124	Without State Farm, Bloomington would be a poor place to live. The business climate in Bloomington and Illinois does not favor future creation of businesses. Bloomington is riding the coattails of past economic success. It would be wise to improve the current business climate (lower taxes and fewer regulations across the board) to ensure that Bloomington is a good place to live in the future.	12/22/2014 7:24 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

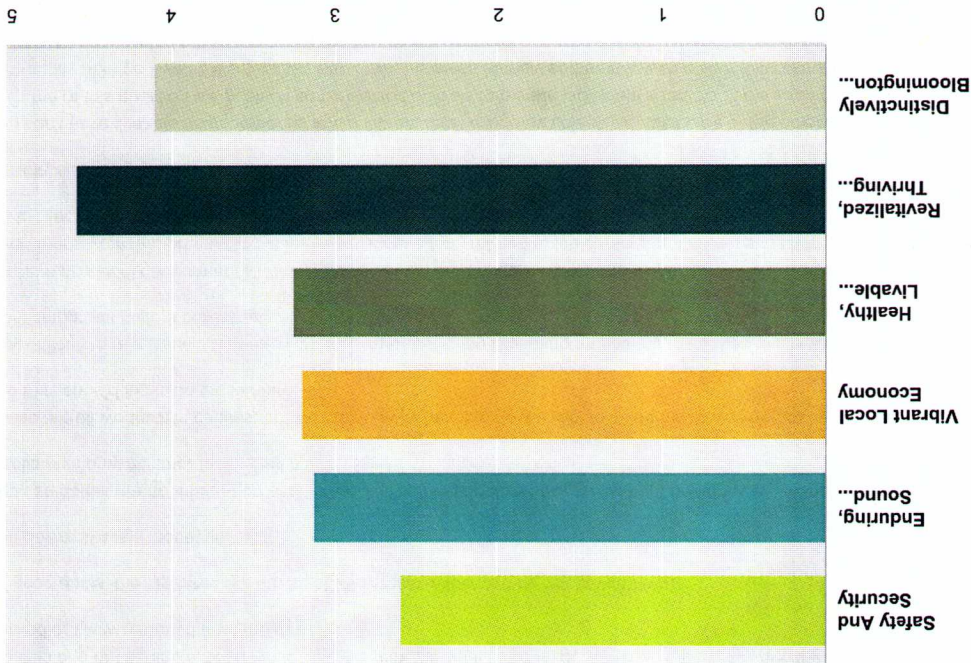
125	We have low unemployment, relatively low crime, several high learning institutes, three major highways intersecting, a strong history for tourism and a strong cultural base. What's not to love?	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
126	I love the thriving downtown, with all the changes, and especially the new work on the history museum.	12/22/2014 6:58 PM
127	It appears that citizens are looked upon as a constant source of tax revenue and fee increases--property taxes, government services. We expect a ceiling to be placed on these for us to consider continuing to reside here.	12/22/2014 6:07 PM
128	It's OK. It should concentrate on its assets, not try to become something else.	12/22/2014 4:27 PM
129	cost of living is HIGH esp for retirees - probably due to being an essentially white collar community the coliseum was built against the outcome of an advisory referendum and has yet to make enough money to pay all costs including the lone/interest	12/22/2014 3:12 PM
130	Nice but expensive	12/22/2014 3:07 PM
131	Less bars. More shops and independent restaurants.	12/22/2014 2:48 PM
132	Taxes are too high.	12/22/2014 2:33 PM
133	The roads are terrible!!!	12/22/2014 2:13 PM
134	Rookie officers that missed their class on community relationship, being taxed on top of cable bill to pay for pension funds. Not to mention that school test scores are in the dumpster.	12/22/2014 1:35 PM
135	It used to be good. It is going downhill fast due to poor maintenance of necessary infrastructure such as roads and sewers.	12/22/2014 1:30 PM
136	Not too big, not too small, lots to do!	12/22/2014 1:21 PM
137	I have lived here for 40 yrs and the city services are great. The crime rate is low and the schools are good, what is not to like.	12/22/2014 1:14 PM
138	I think Bloomington used to be a good to excellent city and has dropped, in my view, to being a fair place to live. Not too good not too bad. It is probably one of the better places to live in IL. I think that if Bloomington could be transported to another State other than IL it would be a better place to live.	12/22/2014 1:01 PM
139	The Westside around Washington and Morris is dangerous with gang activity and shootings. I live on western and see drug deals a lot.	12/22/2014 12:58 PM
140	Lots of diversity, love the downtown, the history, the focus on safe bike trails, the zoo. BCPA is amazing.	12/22/2014 12:29 PM
141	We would love to see exercise equipment in local parks that are akin to what we used in the last city we lived in. They use your own weight as resistance and they are fantastic! http://www.yelp.com/biz/bryan-clay-exercise-park-honolulu-2	12/22/2014 9:38 AM
142	the roads are terrible, snow removal is the worst I've seen	12/22/2014 9:17 AM
143	I do like bloomington as a smallish town to live. The infrastructure is good enough for me, and I don't feel like I'm being crushed in with people. If I need to get somewhere for instance, I'm not fighting through traffic jams and throngs of people in general. I also feel the community is safe enough, and feel good about my kids growing up here. I do however think the community is lacking when it comes to tech and opportunities for high skilled workers. If you have skills here, you work for State Farm and that's pretty much it. I think our highest priority should be getting off the comcast monopoly (MTCO only offers 10-20 mbs down, which is laughable as an alternative option) and introducing fiber or ultra-high speed internet to our community. There have been several examples of this recently where, by adding a 1 gbs fiber network has literally revitalized communities and brings an influx of small high skilled businesses in. This also brings in high paid skilled workers, which in turn adds to your tax and revenue streams. In short, the aging community here isn't going to last much longer and new opportunities for the next generation must be considered first to save this city in the long term. We need to focus on tech to keep our community going.	12/21/2014 8:36 AM
144	Careful with taxes. They are high already and pushing them up hurts businesses and individuals alike.	12/20/2014 11:46 PM
145	Just a thought with State Farm down sizing or at least not growing, consideration on bringing more business to the area, very large item for the future for Blooming/Normal/McLean county.	12/20/2014 1:23 PM
146	Too much taxes and fee. Lack of free market. Mayor and city manager spent too much for lunch and dinners.	12/20/2014 12:25 PM
147	Too many new housing developments and not enough focus on rehabilitating our older neighborhoods.	12/19/2014 10:37 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

148	It gets frustrating constantly hearing about how the City doesn't have any money, when there are so many unwanted projects being approved. They don't need to be fully listed here, anyone with a little bit of diligence could figure out how the people (read citizens) feel about the various money sinks in the City (such as the Coliseum.) Meanwhile, our roads are horrible, I've lived in several other Cities and States, and the roads here are just awful in comparison. It's not the salt either, that's a fairly weak excuse. I've driven down Towanda Ave every day for the last two years, and for at least 13 solid months there was halted construction of some sort, and cones in the roadway for no apparent reason. How about we don't start the projects if we can't project that we'll have enough money to finish them... Simple solutions, we don't have to cut money from our dedicated employees and departments, instead lets cut the mismanagement of those funds.	12/19/2014 2:24 PM
149	District 87 accommodates to many people here on work visas and are kids have to go without	12/19/2014 2:07 PM
150	Worried about crime and criminals coming here from Chicago/St. Louis.	12/19/2014 1:18 PM
151	Easy to get around, lots to do - great neighborhoods.	12/19/2014 12:44 PM
152	Wish there were more of a sense of community. So many people have homes and work here without ever bonding with the community and doing their part to make it a better place to live.	12/19/2014 12:36 PM
153	We do not put enough money & resources downtown. It needs to be a vibrant place to shop and get away. It's improved but still has long to go. I hope one day it can compare to a St Charles Mo or something similar.	12/19/2014 12:18 PM
154	However, I'm becoming frightened as more and more people are moved out of town by State Farm. I think our property values are soon going to fall and our unemployment rate is going to climb.	12/13/2014 6:12 PM
155	Would be rated excellent if not for overly ambitious previous & current city administrations.	12/13/2014 7:38 AM

Q2 The City of Bloomington has adopted six broad strategic goals. Please rank them in order of priority to you, with 1 being the highest priority and 6 being the lowest.

Answered: 603 Skipped: 4



#	Your comments are welcome:	Date
1	Administrative and some other overhead cuts will be needed from Police and Fire, cuts that don't reduce the number of officers on the street and available firefighters. An example is the police firing range. Changes must be made to how overtime is managed. Whether it's officers at local events or weekends in the downtown.	1/16/2015 11:33 AM
2	Top two priorities should be: infrastructure - roads and bridges (also including water & sewer) and public safety.	1/15/2015 11:07 PM

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Weighted Average
Safety And Security	36.52%	22.26%	13.04%	10.09%	9.22%	8.87%	51	575
Enduring, Sound Infrastructure	16.90%	23.87%	17.77%	21.25%	10.80%	9.41%	54	574
Vibrant Local Economy	17.25%	15.16%	26.83%	18.12%	16.72%	5.92%	34	574
Healthy, Livable Neighborhoods	13.57%	19.48%	22.26%	23.83%	13.57%	7.30%	42	575
Revitalized, Thriving Downtown	9.98%	6.54%	9.29%	10.15%	17.56%	46.47%	270	581
Distinctively Bloomington (community amenities, parks, library, etc.)	7.63%	13.52%	12.13%	15.42%	30.16%	21.14%	122	577
	44	78	70	89	174	4.10		

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

3	Infrastructure, safety and a great economy are a must. The rest will work itself out if the first 3 are taken care of!	1/15/2015 6:12 PM
4	I don't consider Bloomington to be an unsafe town. Even living in "the ghetto" I feel safe walking around at night. The summer is always a problem for the young teens and youth, but I was the same way at that age. Police presence has made the streets safe to walk on, despite what some of my east-side coworkers and friends think.	1/15/2015 6:02 PM
5	This is a loaded question, it is an Either /OR process. I would like a community that has a vision of what it will be and how to balance ALL of its need. How could anyone say that they would rather have a booming downtown rather than a police department. What level of police do we want? what response time to I get from the Fire department THEY ARE ALL IMPORTANT (1)'s I would rather have one police chief and 1 assistant and others in the field and not behind a desk, not ideal!!! but if that is what the dollars will allow to have flowers and grass mowed or snow removed from the downtown.	1/15/2015 10:25 AM
6	All good goals, the top three are the most likely most influenced by city government	1/14/2015 4:54 PM
7	The downtown is a money pit.	1/14/2015 2:59 PM
8	The categories are dependent on each other. Difficult to prioritize because without being fiscally responsible with a solid economy all other factors fall apart.	1/14/2015 12:01 AM
9	These are all worthwhile causes, but we feel the city has the most ability to influence those we rated as the top 3 and thus should focus on those more.	1/13/2015 7:53 PM
10	very difficult to rate issues over each other. I prefer believing Bloomington has the resources to provide all of these important factors collectively	1/13/2015 5:47 PM
11	I believe any local government's primary focus should be on public works and safety. I believe that efforts that divert funds from that primary focus for larger scale efforts related to job creation or cultural endeavors should be left to the private sector or philanthropic individuals and organizations.	1/13/2015 7:48 AM
12	The city streets are in terrible condition.	1/10/2015 7:59 PM
13	You can't have liveable neighborhoods and a vibrant local economy unless you take care of the other areas. The outcome of this question will position some elected officials to pursue individual agendas at the expense of the community at large. We all want a safe, attractive, business friendly community with a sound infrastructure. It up to the staff and elected officials to figure out how to get us there.	1/10/2015 2:41 PM
14	Actually, all six of the strategic goals are high priority and I would rank them equally if possible. It does not matter to me which one is "6", "3", or "1" in this survey. There is no need to differentiate.	1/9/2015 3:46 PM
15	The city needs to realize that there are more citizens than just State Farmers and make housing more affordable, not regulating people with lower incomes to the blighted areas of the west side. Work on making all areas safe and livable, as well as affordable to all income ranges.	1/9/2015 9:44 AM
16	We have spent way too much already on downtown with arena and arts section. Too many quality of life expenses. Get rid of zoo and its overhead. Library provides a needed service. We have plenty of parks. Have to get away from people thinking we need a park every five blocks. Everyone wants a park on their backyard. Don't give away so much in taxes to zones.	1/9/2015 12:29 AM
17	Downtown and economic development need to be seen as mostly private dollars and VERY cautious with public dollars - see "Coliseum" for what not to do to tax-payers!	1/8/2015 10:01 PM
18	The Den and Prairie Vista are important to me and my buddies.	1/8/2015 3:07 PM
19	Grow the economy and the rest will follow.	1/8/2015 1:44 PM
20	Although ranked 1-6, they all are very important and the range of importance between 1 and 6 is narrow.	1/8/2015 1:36 PM
21	Safety and Security hopefully encompasses police doing real police work, fighting crime, patrolling neighborhoods, etc., not writing speeding tickets to hard working tax paying citizens.	1/8/2015 12:23 PM
22	Many of the city's problems would vanish with a good economy. The taxes in Illinois and Bloomington repel businesses from locating here and discourage people from living here. In fact, I plan to move to Texas because I can no longer afford to live in Illinois on my fixed income.	1/8/2015 11:54 AM
23	Better golf course than Highland Park	1/8/2015 11:44 AM
24	all your goals are important	1/8/2015 11:25 AM
25	The proposed Hotel for downtown needs to be with all Private Investments, No city funds. Listen to the voters unlike what was done on the coliseum.	1/8/2015 10:42 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

26	Revitalizing downtown is too general for me. Sounds like following Normal into getting a hotel.... If revitalizing means making downtown have more than bars then what? Help Eastland Mall attract some shops... It could be better. Outlet mall on Westside didn't make it. Bloomington is a great place to live because of diversity.	1/8/2015 10:32 AM
27	You won't get a thriving downtown until you get rid of about half of the bars. I rated it lower in importance because we just find somewhere else to go and something else to do to avoid the madness on the weekend.	1/8/2015 10:06 AM
28	Spending too much on the zoo, bike trails & too little on street repair.	1/8/2015 9:45 AM
29	Each of these is a separate area and all should be a number 1 priority. They all tie into each other. There can be nothing here below a 2.	1/8/2015 9:19 AM
30	Revitalizing Downtown is the last thing you should be spending money on, given the fact you have just raised taxes. If we had a surplus then sure.	1/8/2015 9:09 AM
31	This order does NOT mean that the lowest 3 are not important, too!	1/8/2015 8:48 AM
32	The stretch of Fox Creek Road between the entrance to Pepper Ridge and Beich Road is in desperate need of widening to the same standards of the rest of Fox Creek Road. Pedestrians cross that narrow bridge at night which is incredibly dangerous. It is a wonder that nobody has been injured or killed.	1/8/2015 8:43 AM
33	Bloomington is relatively safe, so is my neighborhood. The infrastructure is abysmal and is in need of repair. A healthy economy follows a healthy infrastructure, economies demands businesses, businesses demand laborers, and laborers bring increased pool for taxes. Fix the roads, create opportunities for businesses to thrive and the population increase will add to tax revenues.	1/8/2015 8:35 AM
34	Hard to imagine safety security and healthy conditions would not always be #1 and #2.	1/8/2015 8:30 AM
35	A revitalized downtown will lead to the others. These are not separate and distinct goals.	1/8/2015 8:29 AM
36	without a good economy none of the rest are attainable. Since I am a heavy user of golf facilities I rate them very high as well. Safety is an issue nationwide but in Blm less so.	1/8/2015 8:12 AM
37	All of these are good strategic goals. I believe most people want to be able to live in a nice home where they feel safe and connected to their neighbors with faith that economic strength gives them hope for viable continued employment and recognition that their cities infrastructure will be adequately maintained. City parks are relevant and nice but I believe too much emphasis and concern is being placed on a vibrant downtown. Don't force it. Let it evolve with a watchful eye to ensure that the proper form of business and commerce can grow.	1/8/2015 8:03 AM
38	stop spending money on downtown bloomington. if a business is good enough, people will go to it. downtown bloomington needs to have many of the abandoned buildings torn down so green space can be opened up or new improved structures can take their place. change is good :)	1/8/2015 7:54 AM
39	The collesium was a disaster, and efforts for downtown Bloomington are a waste of time until a formal, SIGNIFICANT plan (such as the one Normal undertook) is developed and supported by the community. Too many bars, not enough parking, not enough businesses of interest to all downtown cause a deteriorating downtown.	1/8/2015 7:32 AM
40	all neighborhoods need parks and trail access	1/8/2015 7:10 AM
41	These are nice words but are in actuality more of an Agenda 21 plan.	1/8/2015 7:05 AM
42	We need to stop trying to turn Bloomington into some model urban oasis. Urban revitalization is great for urban areas, but Bloomington is not urban. Many people live here because of it is not urban. If you try to make it urban, you risk alienating many current residents.	1/8/2015 6:45 AM
43	I think all six are vital to a successful community	1/8/2015 6:32 AM
44	without safety, the rest doesn't matter because i'll be looking for a new town to call home. one of my favorite things about Bloomington is the zoo! how awesome to jump on a bus or walk when it is nice! I also enjoy constitution trail, however additional sidewalks and paths would be nice in business area of veterans and empire. the public transit busses are also really appreciated!	1/8/2015 2:33 AM
45	These initiatives are difficult to rate 1-6 because each one is very important.	1/7/2015 7:36 PM
46	I have lived in many different areas, the quality of life in Bloomington is better than most.	1/7/2015 6:16 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

47	Our City Leaders should visit Greenville, SC and see how those City Leaders turned that City around and making it attractive to pull businesses in that support the BMW Plant in Spartanburg, SC. Or, as close as Pontiac, IL where they have rebuilt their downtown area by generating revenue from a Landfill rather than raising taxes from the residents.	1/7/2015 4:01 PM
48	Those areas where EVERY citizen benefits should always be the highest priority. Parks, cultural centers etc. are great, but they benefit a local area or specific interest first. Programs that are geared towards stimulating economic activity (private not public), good roads and sewer systems and public safety benefit every taxpayer.	1/7/2015 2:47 PM
49	Seriously, I have to rank these? All of them are a priority for me.	1/7/2015 2:40 PM
50	How can we have Safety and Security if our Neighborhoods are not Healthy and Livable. I see them pretty much the same even though I ranked and the other 4.	1/7/2015 8:10 AM
51	I am not happy we spent so much on yet another East Side park, you know folks can drive to parks. That is what we did in 1990 when we lived here and had to drive 10 minutes to the closest park for our kids to play. It was better to drive on a safe road to a safe area and go downtown and feel safe to eat. It is sad we care more about a damn park that helping downtown bloomington thrive.	1/7/2015 7:00 AM
52	Revitalizing downtown is important. However, building a hotel is not the answer.	1/6/2015 10:29 PM
53	Need to be fiscally conservative	1/6/2015 10:05 PM
54	A vibrant economy helps make the other goals possible - if we don't have a decent revenue stream, then the other goals are pretty much wishes.	1/6/2015 3:51 PM
55	Cannot let the core of the City decline without impacting our entire community. While it has the most developable character, it appears to be more economically and infrastructure challenged than other commercial areas in Blm and Normal. Much has been invested Downtown; however we but 'cannot swallow the rat and choke on the tail'. Aggressive and continued investment in Downtown because it is our historic center, the county's government center and the most unique of our community's commercial/business centers. As the most densely-developed commercial business area (square feet/acre) it deserves to be the best.	1/6/2015 1:50 PM
56	Very difficult to rank since they are all important priorities. I suppose it depends on one's circumstances.	1/5/2015 10:59 PM
57	Booming and thriving economy will bring about rest of the priorities. State Farm has moved many jobs. It has affected local economy - K-Mart closed, Mall has empty stores, grocery businesses are making less, everyone associated with construction and real estate is suffering too. We need to do something to attract quality employers: why can't we have some Central Illinois silicon valley? or infrastructure for data - cloud storage server farms? One of the top actuarial firms? Bottom line: We need more people (around 5 to 10 thousand more), more good-paying jobs. Once a critical mass of around 250,000-300,000 is reached, we can attract another airline and success will breed more success. If necessary, get State Farm CEO, Country CEO, OSF/Bromenn CEO, regional heads of major banks, University Presidents and for a committee and go get, some more businesses! And, I say this as I enjoy living in Bloomington and see it as a strategically located.	1/4/2015 10:16 PM
58	As I see it, a vibrant local economy needs to be the top priority because it is the foundation for funding infrastructure, safety, and quality of life initiatives. Without a vibrant local economy, none of the other priorities can be funded at levels needed to make them exceptional. I'm not aware of any cities that have exceptional quality of life, safety, or infrastructure without a vibrant local economy.	1/4/2015 8:46 PM
59	I don't think we need a hotel downtown. I would like to see more pressure on airport personnel to find flights to more airports for entertainment and vacations spots. I think we should be more aggressive like Peoria has been. We should work for international status to get some Apple or Funjet pkgs like Rockford's airport.	1/4/2015 2:06 PM
60	Roads are a # 1 Priority to ALL of us. #1, we need a company that knows how to do this well, not just a city truck, driver & worker shoveling black tar/rock into potholes.	1/3/2015 7:12 PM
61	Its not the city's responsibility to ensure the economy. That is for businesses to ensure their own fate. Run the biz of government - period. and run it efficiently. Control costs - not cater to the labor unions.	1/3/2015 10:13 AM
62	Charge residents extra for landscaping and leaves pick up. There are too many of these type trucks driving around each neighborhood wasting gas and extra employee costs.	1/2/2015 8:26 AM
63	If police, ambulance, and shoppers can't GET around the town easily due to bad roads, the city takes on lesser status, and NONE of the other listed objectives can occur.	1/2/2015 7:41 AM
64	Quit wasting money on goofy projects that don't add value. You need to be more cost effective and not take on projects that are not sustainable.	1/1/2015 6:15 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

65	The community is basically well policed and generally safe in and of itself. I don't feel that we need to focus more on safety and security in a community that is already doing well in this area. Infrastructure has been ignored for years and has to have high priority if we want streets to drive on and working sewers. Community amenities should be improved where we have a proven need not where we might just like to have improvements, we don't have the money for embellishments that are not necessities at this time.	1/1/2015 1:09 PM
66	I think there needs to be a focus on street repairs and improvements to the sewer system and water purification systems. Safety of all our neighborhoods could do with some enhanced police patrols and better street lighting. I think there are far too many tacky bars in downtown Bloomington along with boarded up buildings and this does not entice new businesses to enter the marketplace.	12/31/2014 12:47 PM
67	Fix the streets and roads. It is barely winter and potholes are everywhere. Where was the \$10 million spent on streets and roads last year? We do not need 45 parks and three golf courses. Nor do we need an expanded zoo. No downtown hotel to be a tax drain just like the Coliseum and BCPA. Fewer high paid administrators in the city government.	12/31/2014 12:14 PM
68	Governments in general have a responsibility to protect its citizens and ensure the infrastructure is kept up to date and working. Beyond that, while there can be some assistance given to private business to enhance the economy, priorities have to reflect what is required from government versus what is wanted from government.	12/31/2014 11:38 AM
69	Some of these goals should be combined. Infrastructure, security and revitalized neighborhoods all are related and should be addressed together.	12/30/2014 10:32 PM
70	If the first five goals are met, my sixth goal - Healthy, Livable Neighborhoods - will take care of itself.	12/30/2014 10:26 PM
71	The infrastructure has to be the foundation of the town, and then, I think the downtown needs work. Normal is leaving Bloomington in the dust with their revitalized uptown area. I was disappointed at the condition of the streets when I was driving around to view Christmas lights. Even in some of the nicer neighborhoods on the east side, the concrete was crumbling.	12/30/2014 4:08 PM
72	If we are safe, have sound infrastructure, a vibrant local economy, with good amenities, we will have healthy, livable neighborhoods.	12/30/2014 3:21 PM
73	I believe a thriving downtown will help the entire community. More and more people are living downtown, let's figure out how to make it a thriving downtown for all.	12/30/2014 3:16 PM
74	Sell imprisoned exotic animals. Reduce noise levels of motorcycles, loud trucks & cars.	12/30/2014 2:19 PM
75	If the City looked at the town of Normal and do what they did the downtown would be a better place.	12/30/2014 1:07 PM
76	Each year we encounter issues with street repair/maintenance and snow removal. We, as residents, are continually told that these things can only be done on a certain timetable. Otherwise, there is not money in the budget for them. We pay some of the highest taxes in the state of Illinois and there is no reason that these items should not be addressed with a high priority. That is how you take care of your people. Govern with integrity and discipline!! If you don't have money for these things then you don't have money to revitalize downtown!!	12/30/2014 11:46 AM
77	It is difficult to prioritize these - they are all important to us.	12/30/2014 10:24 AM
78	I expect you to live within your budget. Your "job" is to provide Fire and Police protection, deliver and maintain streets without potholes, water/sanitation and NOTHING ELSE. Your job isn't to deliver Healthy livable neighborhoods - just what the heck does that mean anyway, ensure a vibrant local economy - as defined by who?, or revitalize Downtown - none of your business - that's for local business people to deliver - without interference from nitwits like the City Council. Nor is your job to deliver a Route 66 or Flamingo museum no one will ever visit. Keep in mind you're the same folks that sold us the lemon called a convention center.	12/30/2014 10:17 AM
79	Safety and security is ranked low because this is a relatively safe community already.	12/30/2014 10:04 AM
80	Do not like this ranking system	12/30/2014 9:36 AM
81	We really enjoy the Parks and Rec, most especially as connected with SOAR and its activities.	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
82	Normal's downtown is known for food, shopping, and family events. Bloomington's is known for bars. Very disappointing.	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
83	All of these are important to me, and all are interconnected. I feel like improvement in any one area will bring improvement to the other areas as well.	12/29/2014 9:56 PM
84	There are too many bars in downtown Bloomington. I could not recommend to outsiders the quality of visiting downtown Bloomington.	12/29/2014 6:08 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

85	The streets and sewers are a joke and the constant increases are a sure sign of an over spending and under planning city manager.	12/29/2014 4:05 PM
86	All 6 goals are vital. They are very difficult to rate.	12/29/2014 3:57 PM
87	pretty broad goals	12/29/2014 10:02 AM
88	These 6 goals shouldn't be placed in competition with each other; they need to co-exist. Herein lies the problem with the way in which City Management is looking at "the problem."	12/29/2014 5:28 AM
89	Road work TOP priority	12/28/2014 1:10 PM
90	If we accomplish the goals I've listed 1-4, a "vibrant local economy" and "safety and security" will naturally follow.	12/28/2014 12:28 PM
91	I can't rank these. All are important and are interrelated. We are too easily seduced by outside "ideas" and we are not protecting the character we have left. We should not emulate the excessive, conformist model of 'uptown' Normal but should seek a more honest, natural downtown revitalization. We need the streets to be safe and quiet at night, but there are too many irresponsible bar owners downtown and too many absentee landlords who disrespect our neighborhoods. The Route 66 tourism center is a good idea but it would be nice if it could be distinctly characteristic of Bloomington. A downtown hotel may be good, but not a huge subsidized one that looks like those in every other town, displaces handsome old buildings, and competes with our remaining local restaurants.	12/27/2014 12:35 PM
92	I don't mean that "healthy, livable neighborhoods" are a low priority but that getting some of the other goals accomplished would hopefully filter down to cause neighborhoods to improve because of better economic conditions of residents.	12/27/2014 9:09 AM
93	I think parks, recreational opportunities and libraries are part of a healthy citizenry.	12/27/2014 8:28 AM
94	Recreation programs are of high importance to me. Specifically, the sport of Pickleball being brought to Bloomington this year was fantastic!	12/26/2014 7:35 PM
95	the city seems to confuse wants with needs. when you have a limited amount of funds, then we have to say no to some things. saying no is not easy but it is the reason we elect council members	12/26/2014 7:30 PM
96	This is difficult. I want it all!	12/26/2014 1:57 PM
97	All are important so it's tough to rank. Safety & security is definitely important, but not at the expense of our parks and downtown. It all goes together. People won't want to live in an area that is safe, but doesn't have places for adults and children to go and enjoy themselves.	12/26/2014 12:57 PM
98	To me, roads are most important since most of them are in bad shape. And the way potholes are filled does not work and I often think the people fixing the roads have no idea how to do their job correctly.	12/26/2014 8:12 AM
99	Revitalization of downtown is the priority of the businesses downtown. What are they doing to increase their business? Closing at 5pm does not help a business. If they offer a product people want at a fair price people will come. It isn't the job of the City to draw people to the downtown business. How is it fair to others trying to do business in Bloomington?	12/26/2014 7:47 AM
100	The downtown Bloomington area's infrastructure needs to be maintained, but spending tax dollars to "revitalize" any portion of a city is a poor decision, and the money should be spent elsewhere. There are far higher priorities for a local government. Please, do not turn downtown Bloomington into another uptown normal. This area remains one of the remaining beautiful parts of this area, untouched by commercialism and the blind desire to turn Bloomington-Normal into a Chicago Junior.	12/26/2014 12:18 AM
101	This community needs a new soccer complex to replace the impending loss of the Community Fields/PCSL complex. At stake are not only the two thousand plus kids and their families who want to experience and grow this sport locally, but the positive economic impact the sport has brought to this community over so many years. If we're creative and determined enough, I believe we can find a way to make this happen while also balancing other key priorities.	12/25/2014 4:31 PM
102	We are fairly safe and secure as a community and our neighborhoods are for the most part pretty nice. There always can be improvements but I believe the local economy and infrastructure are the main issues and are the main areas that need to be addressed by elected officials. a thriving downtown and distinctively Bloomington issues are "nice to haves" and at this point in time are not "necessary to haves." We already have a sufficient number of parks and a library that spends money like it is going out of style. We don't know anymore of these items at the present time.	12/25/2014 1:46 PM
103	IF good merchants are in DOWNTOWN (NOT UPTOWN) Then people WILL go there to shop.	12/25/2014 11:34 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

104	This is a joke. There is no "tell us how to spend the money" survey. You have already decided where you're going to spend the money. You are simply looking for a way to proclaim that you had "buy-in" from the citizens. You are simply looking for validation to support the current plan.	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
105	I think Bloomington has got "to big for its britches "- inflated egos of some elected leaders in the past has got us in trouble today. It is time to get back to the basics. We can not change the past, but must do better in decision making in the future. Maybe the coliseum should be considered for the MCDF (jail). The compensation rates of many city employees is higher than Normal and the County ... which makes needed consolidation difficult.	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
106	Streets and sewers need to be priorities!	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
107	I think the city should not pay thousands for anymore downtown studies. I think we have paid for too many and never had a realistic plan out of any of them. Also, loud car stereos. They are most annoying when just sitting in a parking lot or drive way. I think that makes my neighborhood anything but livable.	12/25/2014 5:30 AM
108	All of these are vitally important	12/23/2014 10:04 PM
109	It's not that downtown and healthy neighborhoods aren't important, but this did not allow for more than one choice to be a number 1, etc.	12/23/2014 8:23 PM
110	I picked "Enduring, Sound Infrastructure" first because I think it is the foundation for my next two selections, "Vibrant Local Economy" and "Healthy, Livable Neighborhoods."	12/23/2014 3:14 PM
111	Hard to separate Healthy, Livable Neighborhoods from Vibrant Local Economy and Revitalized, Thriving Downtown - they are all of a piece.	12/23/2014 2:38 PM
112	The Parks and Recreation programs are fantastic and add much to the quality of life in the city, and make the city much more desirable for professionals. I particularly like the Constitution Trail.	12/23/2014 2:18 PM
113	This is an almost impossible task since they almost all are equally important.	12/23/2014 2:16 PM
114	The opportunities available in Parks & Recreation keep the community connected and moving in a positive direction through its social, physical, environmental, & developmental benefits!	12/23/2014 1:28 PM
115	More bikeable/walkable Downtown and neighborhoods, would do a lot to further many of these!	12/23/2014 11:27 AM
116	Safety First. Economy Second. If done well, these should cover the rest.	12/23/2014 9:56 AM
117	While I think all six of these goals are important they are so completely intertwined it is hard to pick. Revitalizing Downtown will add to a vibrant local economy. Parks, Libraries and community go hand and hand with healthy, livable neighborhoods, and so on.	12/23/2014 9:07 AM
118	This is a somewhat loaded question. EVERYONE wants an enduring, sound infrastructure. EVERYONE wants safety and security. EVERYONE needs a vibrant local economy or there is no reason to be here. These are givens. So, when someone like me has to vote for those 3 things at the top, its a wasted vote! I personally WANT, bordering on NEED, a revitalized, thriving downtown because I work downtown. If people don't come, I'm out of a job. But, I have to put that as #5 on my list. This list doesn't reflect things accurately enough. All of the things on this list are #1 or #2 in my opinion. They ALL have to be a priority!	12/23/2014 8:08 AM
119	Clearly in your questions you have already set out the out come of the survey. One this is not specific and you are not showing dollar COSTS for each goal. You also have not defined what revitalized downtown is with ANY CLARITY in costs and geographical area. What is the tax revunue block by block for downtown by year the last thirty years ???	12/23/2014 7:58 AM
120	My prioritization is based on the overlap of these goals	12/23/2014 7:23 AM
121	This is a false choice. They are all important. Think about maslows hierarchy of needs. Safety must be met first...self actualization is last. The same is true for city development	12/23/2014 7:22 AM
122	Safety and security are awful and lacking on the streets speeding tailgating people runningstop signs and red lights, Veterans parkway is nothing but a speed way, cars going 50 60 and I've seen cars going atleast 70 way to many times!!	12/22/2014 9:02 PM
123	Try putting stop signs where needed instead of making excuses and putting lights where they are not needed.	12/22/2014 8:12 PM
124	The format of this question is biased. Only two of the six choices are vital city government responsibilities (public safety and infrastructure). The other four choices involve collecting and spending tax dollars that would be better left in the hands of taxpayers.	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
125	All are important for quality of life.	12/22/2014 7:15 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

126	Integrating all of these goals is paramount -- it is difficult to separate, let alone rank, them!	12/22/2014 6:58 PM
127	If you don't fee safe, why would you stay?	12/22/2014 6:07 PM
128	'East siders' need to discover the Downtown we already have. Downtown needs an indipendant breakfast cafe w/ veggie & vegan options like every other city our size. Downtown needs to remain almost chain-less unlike Veterans Parkway.	12/22/2014 6:06 PM
129	Your chart would not allow me to rank more than one area at a time as a top priority. A vibrant local economy is necessary to the success of any of the others. The distinctively Bloomington and revitalized thrivingdowntown I would place together in the #4 slot.	12/22/2014 5:01 PM
130	I worry as I choose Revitalized downtown. I want to see the buildings restored, at best; renovated, perhaps, but please don't demolish any more Victorian buildings. Public transportation? That's important.	12/22/2014 4:27 PM
131	This is hardly a fair question. I would list all of these as a very high priority. Certainly safety and security is essential, but if we have thriving neighborhoods, and a vibrant economy, some of the other challenges will take care of themselves.	12/22/2014 3:41 PM
132	ALL THESE ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT	12/22/2014 3:39 PM
133	The roads in Bloomington really need major repairs. Clayton Street between Washington and Market street is TERRIBLE (my neighborhood)! It needs to be repaved badly! Many many more streets need to be repairs as well. In addition, those bad streets lead to costly repairs to people's cars. Please make our streets a priority and repair them in the coming fiscal year.	12/22/2014 3:30 PM
134	the infrastructure sucks esp in the older/moderately older parts of town; "enduring and sound" that is a lofty goal and I would hope everyone would make this number one; unless we have enduring and sound infrastructure and a safe and secure environment, the rest is irrelevant	12/22/2014 3:12 PM
135	Too much money and attention on downtown. Need to look at community as a whole. Many areas need investment and attention.	12/22/2014 3:07 PM
136	Lower taxes will help a vibrant economy and, in turn, provide more income for safety and infrastructure.	12/22/2014 2:33 PM
137	Most important is sound infrastructure is what our tax money is supposed to go for. Next a good place to live which goes along with safety. A vibrant local economy will have a better chance with less government bureaucracy. We've got lots of parks and things to do,,,when will the madness stop? A thriving downtown relies on the merchants themselves to initiate better business plans.	12/22/2014 1:30 PM
138	I think with a vibrant local economy the others sort of 'fall in line'...and the downtown coming back as it has, has, over the last few years, brought life back to near downtown neighborhoods too.	12/22/2014 1:14 PM
139	I almost never go downtown. It is hard to park, and the stores I want to go to are generally on Veterans/College or Market/Rt 9. So, I do not see a thriving downtown as important to a strong Bloomington. I was a season ticket holder for the professional hockey teams, but stopped attending when we dropped to the current high school league	12/22/2014 1:13 PM
140	I believe we should combine the Fire Department and Police Department. The number of fires has dropped drastically but Firemen send large crews to events that would only require a paramedic. We could save big bucks by either combining fire and police or simply downsizing the fire department and getting a paramedic crew. I would keep the police force the same size or possibly expand it. Public safety from crime is priority one for me.	12/22/2014 1:09 PM
141	Focus on eliminating budget shortfalls, pay for the pensions as required,start funding the infrastructure and get back to providing the basic services. Focus on needs not wants/wishes/dreams.	12/22/2014 1:01 PM
142	Alot of these goals go hand in hand.	12/22/2014 12:54 PM
143	I would have voted all of these as number one.	12/22/2014 12:32 PM
144	I think safety and infrastructure are important, but if we have a strong economy, those will follow.	12/22/2014 12:29 PM
145	They are all important. I really can't rank them. However, downtown needs ALOT of work! I spend more time in Normal. It's nicer. We also need a new library. Check out the one in Champaign. It's very nice.	12/20/2014 6:18 PM
146	With a vibrant local economy many of the problems go away or at least much smaller, ie: some crime goes down, taxes are up, more businesses for downtown or other areas, people fix up property, generally people are more active and happy.	12/20/2014 1:23 PM

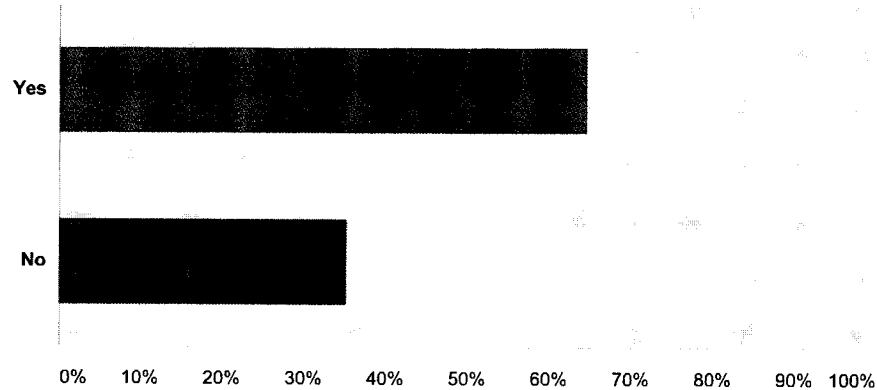
2015 Citizen Priority Survey

147	A few of those rank #1 since I feel those are just as important. The healthy liveable neighborhoods should be included with safety & security. The city needs to enforce their ordinances to ensure all neighbors are healthy and liveable, not 'ignore' those that are not keeping their properties up with other neighbors having to look and deal with yard waste being stacked by fences and not hauled to the curb. When contacting the city it's sad to hear 'we really do not see a violation' - those going out need to read what the ordinance state.	12/20/2014 5:21 AM
148	While I have, per instruction, prioritized these goals, I must point out that the more accurate response would be ALL OF THE ABOVE ARE OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THIS COMMUNITY.	12/19/2014 3:25 PM
149	Not many people will know what "sound infrastructure" means.	12/19/2014 3:14 PM
150	The zoo is one of my favorite things in Bloomington. We are lucky to have such a wonderful place in our town! The Ice Center is also a favorite. It is practically our second home.	12/19/2014 2:58 PM
151	Security is a big issue. Bloomington is not a particularly safe place to live. There are very clearly defined "bad" places to be, and "good" places to live. Ultimately it's a no-win for anyone, because you don't want to be in the "bad" neighborhood because you feel unsafe, but you don't want to be in the "good" neighborhoods because they are targeted by the criminals from the "bad" areas... Police aren't the problem either, it's the citizens, we've attracted a large number of "unwanted" types, people who aren't productive members of society.	12/19/2014 2:24 PM
152	Needs to be more things to do around here! Better resteraunts, better stores, more festivals.	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
153	fiscally sound?	12/19/2014 1:34 PM
154	This one was difficult to rank in order of priority because I think that they all go hand in hand and are all high priorities to me and my family.	12/19/2014 1:07 PM
155	This is a difficult question to answer because my safety and security is as important as sound infrastructure. This would have been better if each area had a scale to rank importance. This question doesn't reflect my true needs as alot of these are interrelated.	12/19/2014 12:48 PM
156	While I believe Safety & Security are important, I also feel that our police department needs a lot of work. I know it's not an all-or-none scenario, but the police in this town are often viewed as bullies who routinely make situations worse when they're called for help.	12/13/2014 6:12 PM
157	City needs to concentrate revenue on those items ranked of the highest priority before expenditures on those less critical items, i.e. no expenditures from GF on streets in 2014 and none planned for 2015. Proposed sweeping of water fund surplus into GF in 2015 insures crisis in the future.	12/13/2014 7:38 AM
158	This is almost impossible to rank. All of them are extremely important. Safety & Security, for example, are very important but I don't know how much responsibility the City has for my security. Many of them are dependent on the other. I would not want the job of sorting out these by priority.	12/12/2014 3:34 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q3 User fees are a City revenue stream that results from citizens paying a particular price for a particular service they use. In general, do you think the City should put more emphasis on instituting user fees as opposed to seeking other revenue streams such as taxes?

Answered: 589 Skipped: 18



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	64.69% 381
No	35.31% 208
Total	589

#	Your comments are welcome:	Date
1	There is a possibility added costs would limit usage for some residents.	1/16/2015 9:43 AM
2	Yes - Charge people who consume; don't just tax the working class.	1/15/2015 11:07 PM
3	We do not need regressive taxes (user fees) to appease our affluent neighbors; that would do more harm than good to the people who most need a break.	1/15/2015 9:51 PM
4	First and foremost the city should be efficient in the services it does do. The bulk waste is so inefficient, make it a call in system with actual cost attached. After that, then user fees are ok.	1/15/2015 6:12 PM
5	If you don't use it, you shouldn't have to pay for it. I prefer paying as you go rather than new and higher taxes.	1/15/2015 6:02 PM
6	Again asking me a loaded question. I would be willing to pay user fee for my garbage, pay for the water I use, etc. I do think we should have a choice if we want to use city service or private service. Why could we not have both in the community. You could have rules for the private companies that make them pick up the same days of city crews...	1/15/2015 10:25 AM
7	Both	1/15/2015 7:32 AM
8	We don't like paying taxes and then paying fees. Paying in one spot at one time is preferable.	1/14/2015 8:54 PM
9	The solid waste should continue to be supported, in part, out of general revenue rather than user fees.	1/14/2015 2:59 PM
10	Yes, if user fees can be used as a replacement for taxes, not in addition.	1/13/2015 7:53 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

11	I'm not wild on either, but the recent increases in gas tax and garbage collection rates are out of control. Generally, user fees would be preferable.	1/13/2015 3:19 PM
12	Depends on how expensive the user fees are	1/13/2015 11:11 AM
13	I don't particularly care for the wording of this question as a forced choice for which type of tax I prefer. In general, I favor a base level of services in return for taxes that I pay and user fees for enhanced services beyond the base	1/13/2015 7:48 AM
14	Everyone should pay for their own services.	1/10/2015 7:59 PM
15	If there is a sound vision and well thought out strategies, there may be justification for both fees and taxes. Given a choice few people want higher taxes. Don't use this survey as a blanket reason or excuse not to "think and be creative" and lead.	1/10/2015 2:41 PM
16	Some balance between the two I OK, but too much emphasis on user fees would discourage use and also does not spread the burden among those most able to pay for city services.	1/10/2015 12:05 PM
17	That's a difficult one. Broad based services should be more taxed based while more select services should/could have a minimal fee attached	1/10/2015 9:42 AM
18	No use fee. Since institution of Garbage collection fee, it has skyrocketed and in deficit....This is unwise.	1/10/2015 9:38 AM
19	also take a look at what is going on with all city workers. Put Police on Veterans Parkway and fill the bank with fines	1/9/2015 5:13 PM
20	I think it needs to be a balance. I don't want to exclude people because of user fees, but I also don't want my tax money going to a lot of things that benefit only a small portion of the community.	1/9/2015 1:17 PM
21	Most of my property tax bill goes to Unit 51 I would prefer a small municipal tax increase over user fees.	1/9/2015 12:11 PM
22	Only marking NO as more information is needed. A more fair tax system may be better than user fees for certain services - i.e. Police & Fire should not be user based, higher taxes may be necessary for this along with decreased spending (combining areas of duplicity, etc.)	1/9/2015 9:44 AM
23	You did not give enough information to answer this. Without knowing what the fees are or the about we can't answer this.	1/9/2015 12:29 AM
24	Yes on golf (that we enjoy and use at a low cost), programs, entertainment, and such services for citizens to choose and enjoy. NO on water, sewer, and such essential services that are not by choice or ability to afford. Do not be "regressive" on fees or taxes!	1/8/2015 10:01 PM
25	If people want something they should pay for it. If it cannot sustain itself then it is not needed. People should pay for bulk waste pickup. Groups and organizations reserving sports fields in the park district should have to pay for field reservation to help offset the cost of field preparation and maintenance. Public use means available any time on first come first serve basis. Reservations mean private usage and should be charged accordingly. Charge a fee for a library card or some of the more costly library services. Library services have changed greatly with the times i.e. computers, dvd's etc. fees could be charged for these services.	1/8/2015 9:56 PM
26	My gut feeling is yes because I feel I don't use as many resources. However, not being an economist, there are probably issues to going more that way. What I would like to see is every able bodied person contribute their fair share and then a bit for the TRULY needy.	1/8/2015 7:02 PM
27	Taxes are deductible. Fees are not.	1/8/2015 3:07 PM
28	I believe some services are needed by those who cannot pay. Charge for luxury services, not basics.	1/8/2015 2:21 PM
29	I don't like the question. User fees are nothing but taxes in disguise.	1/8/2015 1:44 PM
30	I support users fees or shared service fees and would rather pay a fee than cut off service. For example, when the city added a fee for excessive bulk waste, this was preferable to cutting the service altogether. In the long run the city as a whole benefits by encouraging homeowners to maintain cleanliness.	1/8/2015 1:36 PM
31	To the extent that this doesn't drive away the users. Fees for mandatory things such as water and trash should be minimized as much as possible.	1/8/2015 1:12 PM
32	More detail is needed to fully understand this question.	1/8/2015 12:23 PM
33	The city should start living within its means. The LAST option for the city should be to raise taxes. Fiscal responsibility is the key to city planning.	1/8/2015 11:54 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

34	User fees are regressive taxes on the local economy. Increase user fees slightly every 3 years, not exceeding 5%/year. Truth in taxation.	1/8/2015 11:44 AM
35	Taxes are fine. It's not much to an individual's income to tax.	1/8/2015 11:25 AM
36	I rather pay more property taxes as they are tax deductible, and it puts less pressure on those in our community that may not be able to afford the higher fees.	1/8/2015 11:17 AM
37	User fees can be too high and can eliminate lower income users.	1/8/2015 10:32 AM
38	People using services should be the ones paying for them.	1/8/2015 10:06 AM
39	Although I think our taxes are already very high, I fear that instituting user fees would prevent some from being able to utilize services. Therefore, I am willing to bear the burden of taxes to keep our services free/affordable for all residents.	1/8/2015 10:02 AM
40	First be more efficient !! Quit operations that can be done by private companies (garbage)	1/8/2015 9:45 AM
41	I believe everyone should pay a share in the bucket because it is for the overall benefit of everyone. Even if you do not use services, your safety and property values increase because of the services.	1/8/2015 9:26 AM
42	when Snow Routes are in affect, start towing or ticketing the cars that are not moved.. this would bring in more \$\$\$\$, just drive thru town and look.	1/8/2015 9:10 AM
43	Pay-as-you-go/use model makes sense, so long as consideration is given to subsidizing (some) use of services by people who truly can't afford them.	1/8/2015 9:05 AM
44	as long as property tax payers aren't the only ones paying the fees.	1/8/2015 8:53 AM
45	The city may be missing revenue by forgoing a tax due to the fact that the user fees are only directed at those who's interests are served by the current services.	1/8/2015 8:35 AM
46	May depend on the service.	1/8/2015 8:29 AM
47	Depends on the items.	1/8/2015 8:15 AM
48	not sure how to answer this...golf user fees are in place...don't know how you would institute more of them. I do get tired of the criticism of the golf structure when other sports are not self supporting such as softball, soccer etc...	1/8/2015 8:12 AM
49	taxes are a community responsibility. we provide our needs as a community	1/8/2015 8:09 AM
50	What you should do is stop spending my money. Cut spending!!!!	1/8/2015 8:05 AM
51	I am concerned, however, that this can get carried away and become burdensome for "everyday Joe". These costs need to be affordable and great restraint should be utilized before instituting them.	1/8/2015 8:03 AM
52	Progressive tax policy, please. Everyone should have access to the same services for an affordable cost.	1/8/2015 7:58 AM
53	I'd like my property taxes to be reduced.	1/8/2015 7:54 AM
54	Just another form of tax.	1/8/2015 7:32 AM
55	YOu will push business to other towns	1/8/2015 7:31 AM
56	If user fees go up then taxes should NOT go up.	1/8/2015 7:29 AM
57	Why is this question asked this way? Why is there no option to cut spending? We do it all the time in our household.	1/8/2015 7:13 AM
58	It costs more to play our golf courses than other communities and the paths are needing repair. Gymnastics class cost too much to afford it.	1/8/2015 7:10 AM
59	User fees are the same as taxes. Taxes need to be lowered to stimulate more business.	1/8/2015 7:05 AM
60	Let the people see what they have to pay for all the services they get.	1/8/2015 6:45 AM
61	Control the spending. Flamingo museum.....really!!!!	1/8/2015 6:18 AM
62	I use the zoo so I have a membership. part of the pride is in the feeling of ownership. i'm happy to use my money for what I enjoy and which to share with others.	1/8/2015 2:33 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

63	If government wants to build the Taj Mahal because they have current revenue sources that would allow for that kind of expenditure - build it. Or, if local government has only so much in the budget that won't allow for the Taj Mahal to be built, then don't build it. I want an expensive car/home. I don't buy them because I can't afford them. I make do. Bloomington should perhaps have a similar thought process.	1/7/2015 7:36 PM
64	Taxes drive new business away	1/7/2015 6:16 PM
65	I think it depends on the use - if it's mostly used by city residents, taxes make more sense. On the other hand, if I have to pay for something, I'm less likely to use it.	1/7/2015 4:28 PM
66	As long as your not also raising taxes on the masses to support the programs	1/7/2015 3:42 PM
67	This is a poorly worded question. Specific examples should be used. I'm not against user fees for entertainment, or non essential programs, but I'm opposed to them with essential services such as trash collection.	1/7/2015 2:47 PM
68	but should be balanced. taxes already are used to provide services generally.	1/7/2015 10:07 AM
69	Yes for things like tennis, baseball/softball, ice skating/hockey, swimming, etc. I am bothered anytime I go by a lighted tennis court that has no one on it. Baseball/softball fields sit idle during the day waiting for league team play at night. Why was it decided that golf must pay for itself and other activities are not. The places downtown should help pay for the coliseum, ie. extra tax. Why not place a \$2 or more head tax for all who use it. After all it is this albatross that got us in this mess. We are told to live with it, well so should the user's live with it by paying extra fees. Can't imagine a concert goer paying \$50+ for a ticket would not come because there was a user fee attached. Get real make this thing pay for itself. Wonder what % of city residents actually use the coliseum on a more than occasional basis. Am not in favor of increase fees for Water or Waste Management until some of the groups above pay more of their fair share, after all just what are we paying taxes for?	1/7/2015 8:10 AM
70	Yes. because as we saw recently...trying to slip a grant in of 750K for a special interest group when it was my taxes and I would not benefit, really was wrong. I am so grateful to our mayor or whoever caught that and brought it to attention. If I want to use the library - charge me. If I want to use the parks charge me. Same as garbage and recycle. Collect enough so the less fortunate can be subsidized in some fashion but taxing me for crap I don't care about - like East side Parks is ridiculous.	1/7/2015 7:00 AM
71	Need to live within our means, not charge more fees for more services or tax for more services. Cut some services. Flamingo exhibit at Miller Park Zoo is one place to begin.	1/6/2015 10:05 PM
72	It depends. Increasing fees for basic services hit lower income and elderly folks hardest, which is very regressive. Not certain which taxes would be increased(?) We already pay high property taxes in the B/N area compared to other Illinois communities.	1/6/2015 4:37 PM
73	I think there has to be a basic level of services provided by the City through taxes - otherwise, it's as if I'm living in the country with neighbors living very close by. I like the idea of user fees for people who use extraordinary levels of services - like the additional fee if my bulk waste is larger than the end-loader's bucket. I think things like basic garbage pick-up should be funded through taxes, with a garbage fee for excess amounts of waste (like more than one large container of garbage per residence per week.)	1/6/2015 3:51 PM
74	Do we use the same measure when we examine the profitability of our golf courses that we use on the Coliseum and Blm Center for the Performing Arts? Just not certain.	1/6/2015 1:50 PM
75	People generally seem to balk at TAX increases, and user fees are hard to take, too, especially to be forced to pay if one opposes what the fees are for. User fees for services that result in more efficiency and cost savings sense to me	1/5/2015 10:59 PM
76	It has to be a combination of both. If city institutes user fee, it must also figure out how to prevent fraud. For example, there is user fee for large trash carts. Many people stuff one and a half times as much instead of using the yellow stickers. In this case, people who abide by the rules pay for the others, who don't.	1/4/2015 10:16 PM
77	I have lived in two Nebraska cities, and two Iowa cities, and I have never paid the taxes like this but lived in a city in worse financial condition. Although I support a higher user fee rather than boosting taxes-I believe looking to the private sector for solutions needs to be evaluated. The costs of dealing with organized labor are too high and minimizing dealings with labor would be best for our city. I believe in the private sector and competitive pressure to bring forward excellent services at a fair market price and if the city is unable to pencil in their own headcount to complete tasks or maintain resources, they must look elsewhere.	1/4/2015 10:14 PM
78	I prefer keeping taxes low and using them for core services that benefit all such as fire and police departments, street repair, sewer systems, etc. Many other programs should either be eliminated, funded by user fees, or sponsored using private donations.	1/4/2015 8:46 PM
79	No user fees!!!	1/4/2015 7:24 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

80	I would think that with the high rate of taxes we pay, there would be enough "free" things available.	1/4/2015 6:14 PM
81	I think this is a false choice. I would be acceptable with a mix of taxes and user fees. While I support the idea of those who benefit should pay more, this approach place a larger burden on those who cannot afford the fees. A mixed approached with the opportunity for the community to vote on changes would be ideal.	1/4/2015 5:36 PM
82	BUT balance taxes with fees. Don't keep high tax levels and increase fees. Some services should be paid out of the general tax fund	1/4/2015 12:04 PM
83	It seems fair to expect users to pay more than taxpayers who don't. For example sports fields have limited range. Users should pay the majority.	1/4/2015 8:42 AM
84	Taxes should supplement these things, but the people using particular services should contribute more than those who never use certain amenities.	1/3/2015 7:22 PM
85	Consumers are being taxed to death.	1/3/2015 7:12 PM
86	but keep all expenses open and honest - not like the true cost of garbage services.	1/3/2015 10:13 AM
87	The exception is property taxes. I favor spreading out any increases so that all consumers share costs more equitably, including non-homeowners and visitors to the area.	1/3/2015 8:20 AM
88	I have issue with all the add ons in the water bill. Soon there will be people who will not be able to afford water.	1/2/2015 7:09 PM
89	I believe the S.O.A.R. Unit of Parks & Rec Dept should remain fully funded. The participants in these programs are not able to have a voice for themselves and I feel it is vital and critical to maintain all programs, Not only for the participants but also for the their families.	1/2/2015 12:50 PM
90	Our taxes are high enough now. Higher than communities our size. Why higher taxes for services we may or may not use?	1/2/2015 11:41 AM
91	user fees are fair. I pay for what I use. Why does this city continue to subsidize garbage services?????	1/2/2015 7:41 AM
92	User fees are fine if the City staff has done all the research and implemented procedures that are the most cost effective.	1/1/2015 8:14 PM
93	Either way I feel we probably need more money to catch up on infrastructure repair. I am willing to pay increased taxes but the general public would probably be more willing to pay through increased user fees therefore it might be the wiser route for the city to take to increase income.	1/1/2015 1:09 PM
94	If someone puts large items out for trash pickup they should be accessed a fee for that service. Each item should have a sticker on it that is purchased by the owner to cover the removal and disposal costs.	12/31/2014 12:47 PM
95	I would support the user fees more if the government would allow private business to provide many of the services that are supported by the fees. A good example is the garbage pickup situation. I certainly do not support taxes for things like soccer fields or complexes that can be done by private business. In other words, quit putting my tax money into thing that are not something that is required to be supported by the government.	12/31/2014 11:38 AM
96	I think that tax increases should also be considered since there is no way to determine how much someone uses the streets	12/31/2014 7:21 AM
97	User fees should cover all costs for the items they support. For example, garbage and solid waste should be totally covered by user fees.	12/30/2014 10:26 PM
98	I think as a society, we need to work together to fund needed services. I have no problem with taxes supporting common programs if there is evidence that the work is done effectively and efficiently.	12/30/2014 4:08 PM
99	I think it is necessary to subsidize some city services so that lower income people are not overly burdened by fees. Raising bulk garbage fees to high will only result in people dumping garbage in rural areas.	12/30/2014 3:21 PM
100	Tax churches. Build wind turbines at windy public area.	12/30/2014 2:19 PM
101	In general, I think the city needs to lessen their dependency on user and tax revenue streams.	12/30/2014 2:10 PM
102	That's all the City Manager has done since he's been here is raise fees and taxes.	12/30/2014 1:07 PM
103	We already pay taxes. User fees are ridiculous.	12/30/2014 11:46 AM
104	Usage based fee structure.	12/30/2014 10:42 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

105	I prefer taxes—it's smaller amounts over a longer period of time, so there are no unexpected charges for trying to get something done, and everyone pays it. Plus, everyone benefits from the city's services (where would we be without roads and trash collection?) so it seems fairer.	12/30/2014 10:35 AM
106	We agree with user fees. Plus, my neighbor who refuses to recycle should be charged an extra fee because he puts his recyclables in the trash.	12/30/2014 10:24 AM
107	User fees are taxes! We expect you to live within your budget. Any, and I repeat any tax increases should be put before the people for a vote. It's their money, they should decide what is and isn't important.	12/30/2014 10:17 AM
108	There are many amenities that only some people use more than others and it's only fair for them to bear a bigger burden of the costs. I don't have children but a big percentage of my property taxes go to the schools. I believe in giving children the opportunity to gain a quality education but parents made the choice to have children and should pay more fees during registration to avoid further increased taxes and the schools should become more accountable to the local taxpayers.	12/30/2014 10:04 AM
109	It depends on the service and what the fee would be. If the fees are kept reasonable, then I think it could work. I also think this should be introduced slowly, with just a couple of services.	12/30/2014 9:43 AM
110	Depends totally on what and where	12/30/2014 9:36 AM
111	Pay for what you use often makes sense.	12/30/2014 8:36 AM
112	Make it fair for all not just home owners taking a hit on taxes	12/29/2014 11:35 PM
113	I think that these should be spread out fairly evenly. I don't think, for instance, that a user fee should be increased dramatically, nor should taxes. Small increases in both types will be less impactful to the resident but still cover the bottom line. But, in general, people like to think that they are "paying for what they use" (not thinking about the shared expenses like snow removal and roads). There is astounding ignorance about what benefits government provides.	12/29/2014 9:56 PM
114	I think the city should focus on SPENDING CUTS.	12/29/2014 4:05 PM
115	unsure on either seems that there is an insatiable need for funding that never ends, with little restraint on current spending. look for outsourcing to manage the budget better	12/29/2014 10:02 AM
116	Live within some boundary of a Budget	12/28/2014 1:10 PM
117	User fees tend to be regressive and, from a civic standpoint, counterproductive. Something like recycling should be encouraged; charging a user fee will result in reduced participation.	12/28/2014 12:28 PM
118	But this depends upon the value of the service to the community. Necessary services, like garbage collection and police services, should be paid through the general fund. Extras, like the bulk waste collection and extraordinary police services, should be paid by individuals and businesses. Too much tax supported, administrative time has been devoted to looking for additional revenue streams, and the administration of these services has become cumbersome, but not necessarily fair. In any case, the cost of administering services should be considered when any changes are made. Taxes are the most fair way to pay for necessary services.	12/27/2014 12:35 PM
119	Provided that city lowers or eliminates some of the taxes, such as additional taxes on gasoline, the entertainment tax and the additional utility taxes. Just stop spending so much!!	12/27/2014 11:33 AM
120	Yes, that's only logical. "pay to play"	12/26/2014 7:35 PM
121	you also need some community members involved in setting the fees. it seems like currently spending is not an issue. we just raise taxes or fees.	12/26/2014 7:30 PM
122	But leverage tax dollars with more grants.	12/26/2014 5:13 PM
123	Trim the budget and stop finding ways to generate revenues. Focus on the important things. Infrastructure and safety.	12/26/2014 3:06 PM
124	The downtown bars should be paying for their own security and not forcing the city to provide extra patrols on weekend nights.	12/26/2014 1:57 PM
125	Staff and service reductions, the 80%+ increase of our monthly water bill, 100%+ increase in excise taxation, 0.05% increase in sales tax, the MFT addition, plus other new fees since 2009 – on top of those invented 2005-09! More fees???	12/26/2014 1:23 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

126	Not necessarily. Though user fees are guaranteed to target the specific audiences who are taking advantage of certain services, there are services and programs that should be supported by a wider funding base than simply those who use the service. There are services that more people should take advantage of, and those who do use those services should not be penalized by a lack of public support.	12/26/2014 9:28 AM
127	No motor fuel tax should be spent on bike trails or lanes. Those that ride should have skin in the game and pay some type of fee if they want the trails in Bloomington. My vehicle registration fees and motor fuel tax should go for roads.	12/26/2014 7:47 AM
128	User fees appear to be an inconsistent form of income for the city coffers. I am sure that there was a large sum of money spent and man hours credited to the new trashcan / recycling pay scheme, and trash collection remains an expensive venture for the city. If people can avoid higher user fees, they likely will.	12/26/2014 12:18 AM
129	Stop spending money.	12/25/2014 10:34 PM
130	If you apply additional fees on certain services, make sure there is an equal offset in taxes that I pay (if I don't use the service).	12/25/2014 9:30 PM
131	It would be best if the colloseum had not been built. Same for the center for the performing arts remodeling. Users should pay more....don't raise taxes to save these two entities. I wonder how much local money leaves the community with each entertainer getting paid ridiculous amounts to come here. Those dollars will never return. City buses are also a waste of taxpayer money!	12/25/2014 4:28 PM
132	Quit wasting money on consultants, David haes and outside legal.	12/25/2014 2:11 PM
133	Bulk waste removal fees are a mandatory necessity. How a city can allow this to go as it currently is, is beyond me. Increase liquor license fees to pay for the OT provided by the taxpayers for police to walk these areas to monitor college drunks. Increase the tax for the gambling machines now occupying space in local establishments. Owners are making plenty off these gambling devices and should be taxed accordingly.	12/25/2014 1:46 PM
134	Your garbage fee is an example of a "projected goose egg"	12/25/2014 11:34 AM
135	THAT IS WHAT WE PAY TAXES FOR!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
136	Paying a reasonable price for services one needs would seem to be the fairest method to raise revenue for those services, We pay to see a movie, etc.	12/25/2014 9:17 AM
137	Pay for what you get/use seems fair to me	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
138	It's all the same thing; it is beyond irritating to have to pay extra to attend an event! In fact, it's silly!	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
139	If I didn't have to pay if I didn't use the service.	12/25/2014 5:30 AM
140	Depends on the service, I suppose. But assuming that people with low incomes are the ones most likely to have to rely on city services as opposed to private alternatives, I would be opposed to flat user fees, which would essentially be regressive taxes. We have enough regressive taxes already.	12/23/2014 3:14 PM
141	I honestly don't mind taxes when more of the revenue generated stays local, but user fees might be more likely to assure that.	12/23/2014 2:38 PM
142	User fees are just somewhat hidden taxes. I don't mind paying 10% more in taxes if I see results such as better roads. The extra tax money will probably be cheaper for me than fixing my cars after hitting potholes.	12/23/2014 2:16 PM
143	Certain services are important to the entire community and not just those most using the services	12/23/2014 2:13 PM
144	If reasonable, fair, and provide accommodation for low/fixed income citizens.	12/23/2014 9:44 AM
145	Fees can be a barrier to people who need services the most.	12/23/2014 9:07 AM
146	Fees will tend to drive people away. Especially those in lower socio-economic brackets.	12/23/2014 8:16 AM
147	Cut the budget get out of anything that a ticket purchase is needed to use the city owned property.	12/23/2014 7:58 AM
148	Fee for service is helpful in funding particular items. But it's not the only answer. The zoo would have no visitors if the entrance fee reflected actual cost. Frankly I'm incredibly tired of services taxes and fees 'nickeling and diming' me. Meaning constant addition of fees or increasing them makes it feel like gov't doesn't know how to calculate costs. Always err on the side of charging too much at the outset. People like to get credits or refunds way more than they like having to pay to make up a shortfall. Add a COLA annually for fees if you need to. It is a concept people understand and can support.	12/23/2014 7:22 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

149	Although I believe the City of Bloomington should have fees, it seems it is imposing too many fees on construction cost and only discourages the revitalizing of older properties that need it most but is not being done because all of the extra restrictions and fees.	12/22/2014 10:18 PM
150	Try eliminating waste and reducing salaries instead of tax and spend.	12/22/2014 8:12 PM
151	Current garbage fees do not adequately charge overhead expense to small can users. Curb side pick up of large items needs to become a monthly "frill" vs. weekly.	12/22/2014 7:42 PM
152	A good quality of life community should not restrict those who may not be able to pay for basic recreational and learning experiences.	12/22/2014 7:15 PM
153	Actually, both are necessary to obviate the excess dependence on one over the other.	12/22/2014 6:58 PM
154	However, your fee structure (water bill in particular) leaves much to be desired. 1) are you rounding?! My bill is the same every month despite usage 2) Quit the assumption that we want the very best—we need a conservative approach to any fee assessments. 3) quit hiring outside "studies"—we hire you to study this. Are you qualified or not?	12/22/2014 6:07 PM
155	My son and I share a home. We have one of the smallest garbage containers, because we recycle there are weeks that we don't put it out since it is not full. The same goes for the recycle container. Perhaps cost could be cut if the public was encouraged to wait to put out their containers until they are comfortably full /NOT overflowing. Not just putting them out cause it is the night.	12/22/2014 5:01 PM
156	User fees mostly target those who can least afford them.	12/22/2014 4:27 PM
157	But not increase taxes while adding fees like u are currently doing	12/22/2014 3:44 PM
158	The truth is, it depends. I do not believe that usage fees need to cover 100% of garbage pick up, for example. I would look at this on a case by case basis.	12/22/2014 3:41 PM
159	I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU CALL THEM, BUT WE ALL NEED TO PAY FOR SERVICES	12/22/2014 3:39 PM
160	should charge more for trash collection	12/22/2014 3:34 PM
161	this is a yes and no answer for me; just raising taxes only makes the citizenry angry; same for user fees. however, user fees are more equitable and only those using a service pay. however, ALL must pay for garbage collection, health services etc to be sure we do have a healthy and safe City; as for fees, what about instituting a vehicle inspection program? too many older vehicles on streets with bad exhausts etc; what about a police "support" group (retired police) that has the authority to stop cars with no lights (esp when raining), those using mobile phones to their ears (only today a young woman behind me almost hit me - was talking on the phone and drinking out of a can w/o paying attention to how close she came to my trunk) something like that to allow the police to focus on more serious traffic infractions and crime; make the fine stiff enough to cover the cost and then some	12/22/2014 3:12 PM
162	Bicycle users should pay for bike lanes/ paths.	12/22/2014 3:07 PM
163	Neither. Both hurt the economy and reduce income in the long run. Spend less instead.	12/22/2014 2:33 PM
164	The city need needs to operate within limitations of existing taxes	12/22/2014 2:20 PM
165	It would be ok if the city did right with the money.	12/22/2014 2:13 PM
166	User fees is over doing it. Example, we are taxed on cable bill, we rent a movie (taxed), we go to the movie (taxed). Take children to zoo (taxed). In a month's time, a single family can pay out from \$40 - \$50. That is a little much considering everything else the citizens are being asked to pay for. It is not our fault that the city does not know how to manage the money or the budget.	12/22/2014 1:35 PM
167	Let those who want it, pay for it.	12/22/2014 1:30 PM
168	Bulk Waste!	12/22/2014 1:21 PM
169	I am a small landlord (total of 9 apts). I have no problem paying a monthly user fee for each to have trash removed, water usage, etc.	12/22/2014 1:14 PM
170	This is a tough question that is not worded well...higher costs for trash pick up are really higher taxes. I do feel like we are having our taxes constantly raised by the City and by other taxing entities...property, school, trash, gas, etc.... So, we need to make sure that we don't tax people out of the community.	12/22/2014 1:13 PM
171	Except garbage. If we charge too much for garbage people will dump items illegally. I would rather pay taxes to maintain the status quo for this service.	12/22/2014 1:09 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

172	I think property taxes should be raised rather than continuing to raise user fees	12/22/2014 12:54 PM
173	I would be ok with paying the cost of services received IF the City wasn't also going to tax me, and then use those tax dollars on unnecessary things (Like a Fountain!) until the budget allows.	12/22/2014 12:51 PM
174	These should be somewhat equally used, but things like bulk waste for landlords should be fee based.	12/22/2014 12:32 PM
175	Figure out how to run the government on what you have. The taxes in this community are very high and we dont have anything more than other communities with lower taxes and fees.	12/22/2014 10:05 AM
176	This is already a very pricy community to live in. New taxes will drive people out. I find it's only fair to make people pay for what they use, not force it on those that aren't using said service.	12/21/2014 8:36 AM
177	I don't like either. I don't know which is worse.	12/20/2014 6:18 PM
178	generally speaking yes on user fees but most times the user fees are not enough to fully fund, there fore must be help out by the general fund.	12/20/2014 1:23 PM
179	Increase alochol fees . add a trail fee for constitution trail as used in wisconsin	12/20/2014 12:25 PM
180	Cities receive tax money for a reason and we seemed to be 'taxed' to death in IL! Look at how to set your budget with the money you have and not keep dinging folks for every little penny you can get out of them. Either have user fees or use the tax money to you have affordable living.	12/20/2014 5:21 AM
181	Don't raise taxes OR fees. You take enough of our money already.	12/19/2014 6:24 PM
182	Try not spending money we do not have for things we do not need.	12/19/2014 3:27 PM
183	Those interested in the services offered are willing to pay the additional "fee"; At our local venues, however, it is referred to as the "Entertainment tax," so this is a somewhat misleading question.	12/19/2014 3:25 PM
184	This is too confusing. An example wold help. Do you mean additional fee for gasoline/food or shopping/entertainment services?	12/19/2014 3:14 PM
185	This depends greatly on the service in question. Non-essential services are better suited to pay-per-use or user fees.	12/19/2014 3:12 PM
186	Both options are bad. It seems like this is a thought process that repeats itself over and over again in all forms of our government, local, state, and national. We don't need to find more ways to squeeze our hard-working citizens, instead lets find better ways to manage our money. Seriously, please, we (read: the front-line employees) can tell you, dozens, and dozens of ways our departments can save money. But because we are the "sub-ordinates" our opinions aren't considered. If someone was actually assigned to visit, cross-train, learn, and spend some time getting to know each of the various jobs and agencies the City employes, you would find hundreds of ways to save money from going to waste, and could improve those departments at the same time. It's a win-win.	12/19/2014 2:24 PM
187	Neither. This city already charges enough for both!!	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
188	I think it is silly to have different rates. It makes more sense to have everything the same price. Taxes make the price each house pay different, but a standard fee for various things makes it fear for everyone gets the same type of service.	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
189	The fee for certain things like a towing license is sad and pathetic. \$25 for a year when the towing company makes triple that in ONE tow!	12/19/2014 1:18 PM
190	I wish you would have given examples of this.	12/19/2014 1:15 PM
191	I don't mind taxes, actually I suggest that taxes be raised appropriately but users should pay more for the more that they use. For example, those who have heavy garbage every week who throw away their recycling should pay more.	12/19/2014 1:07 PM
192	I think you shouldn't look at revenue streams as one or the other, but rather a combination of revenues. User fees will never bring in as much income as taxes will so you can't totally ignore raising taxes.	12/19/2014 12:48 PM
193	User fees are taxes. There is no market to set price - that is why theso-called business model falls apart	12/19/2014 12:44 PM
194	If the city is going to provide EMS service, the need to be more aggressive in collecting fees. Too many non-emergency responses or calls for assistance to paid medical transportation services.	12/19/2014 12:36 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

195

It would depend on what we're talking about. I like that we were able to choose our garbage can size and therefore were essentially able to choose our price point. However, I don't use the schools, yet I pay \$1,800 a year to them. I don't think it'd be logical to have parents pay for the schools through user fees. I like that taxes put everyone on a level playing field and make resources available to all, but I don't mind user fees when we're talking about "added" services.

12/13/2014 6:12 PM

196

Increased user fees for "quality of life" programs; general fund for the basics (fire, police, infrastructure, etc)

12/13/2014 7:38 AM

197

This is somewhat confusing. I understand not wanting to give an example because some will fixate on that one example (for user fee). If possible, list the services you are suggesting be given a user fee. P.S. I just read the next question and see the link to the list of City programs and services. :)

12/12/2014 3:34 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q4 What are the most important programs/services to you for the City to provide? A list of City programs/services is available here for your reference if desired. Please list up to five programs/services.

Answered: 502 Skipped: 105

#	Responses	Date
1	Police officers on the street, firefighters available for calls, and infrastructure.	1/16/2015 11:33 AM
2	Fire, Police, Public Works, Parks & Rec.	1/16/2015 9:43 AM
3	Your job, why I voted.	1/15/2015 11:25 PM
4	Water. Police. Fire.	1/15/2015 11:07 PM
5	Fire Department Police Department Public Service Finance Public Transportation	1/15/2015 8:10 PM
6	revitalizing the west side of Bloomington. more attention to pockets of crime. Market St. area, specifically, and surrounding neighborhoods.	1/15/2015 8:08 PM
7	Infrastructure, police, fire, EMS, fiscal responsibility	1/15/2015 6:12 PM
8	Public Works Police Fire Water Finance	1/15/2015 6:02 PM
9	schools, clean safe water, refuse pickup, police and fire protection, infrastructure growth and maintenance	1/15/2015 4:05 PM
10	GF - Benefit Mngmt. + Admin GF - Streets GF - Finance Debt Mngmt.	1/15/2015 2:27 PM
11	Police, Fire, and EMT	1/15/2015 2:04 PM
12	Police Fire Emt Roads Downtown	1/15/2015 12:30 PM
13	I want them all a BALANCED community	1/15/2015 10:25 AM
14	Police Fire Public Works Water	1/14/2015 8:54 PM
15	police, fire, infrastructure parks	1/14/2015 8:30 PM
16	Parks	1/14/2015 7:43 PM
17	Library, parks, sidewalks, recreation, BCPA	1/14/2015 7:35 PM
18	Golf to me personally.	1/14/2015 6:32 PM
19	Public Works and water	1/14/2015 4:54 PM
20	Fire/ambulance, police, water/sewer, streets, waste collection.	1/14/2015 2:59 PM
21	Police , Fire, Streets, Parks	1/14/2015 1:15 PM
22	Finance department to remain strong fiscally, Police, Fire, Parks, Libraries	1/14/2015 12:01 AM
23	Police/fire, safe & plentiful water, sewer, garbage, good roads	1/13/2015 10:19 PM
24	Public works, Water	1/13/2015 7:53 PM
25	Police, fire, ems	1/13/2015 7:12 PM
26	Police and fire	1/13/2015 6:48 PM
27	great education for children, safety, employment,	1/13/2015 5:47 PM
28	Library - Adult/Teen/Children (PLEASE build an east side branch, never use it so far downtown), Parks, Recreation programs (kids, need new soccer fields that aren't fancy), Water Supply, Streets	1/13/2015 3:19 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

29	The most important, of course, are those services that are necessary for the city of Bloomington to function cleanly (water, sewage) and safely (police/fire/public works). But I am frequent patron of the library and city parks. Those programs are vital for ensuring Bloomington residents can access programs and resources to stimulate the mind and the body.	1/13/2015 11:11 AM
30	Streets Patrol Fire parks	1/13/2015 9:04 AM
31	Police, fire, street maintenance, garbage, ambulance	1/13/2015 8:48 AM
32	Fire Protection, Police Patrol, Water Supply, Solid Waste Removal & Streets	1/13/2015 7:48 AM
33	Health and safety, strong economy, revitalized downtown area, leisure time activities, infrastructure	1/13/2015 7:43 AM
34	Water Fire Public Works Finance Information Services	1/12/2015 10:08 AM
35	Streets	1/12/2015 9:52 AM
36	Fire, Police, Public Works, Water, Library	1/12/2015 7:47 AM
37	we need to focus on crime	1/11/2015 12:17 PM
38	Police patrol EMS Streets	1/10/2015 7:59 PM
39	1) Youth activities and facilities: a facility for the Y, Boys and Girls Club and other complimentary not-for-profits need to be provided in a central location. The city should participate with community leaders in developing a solution. Join Normal in being progressive. 2) Public Safety (fire and law enforcement). 3) Public Works (water, garage removal, snow removal, etc.). 4) Recreational (golf, parks, cultural events, general quality of life opportunity and other amenities generally evaluated by businesses looking to relocate or invest in a community). 5) Library.	1/10/2015 2:41 PM
40	I do not see unnecessary services so I don't feel able prioritize either positively or negatively programs or services.	1/10/2015 12:05 PM
41	Public works, Fire, Police	1/10/2015 11:13 AM
42	Library	1/10/2015 11:11 AM
43	Streets in good condition. Security.	1/10/2015 10:11 AM
44	City infrastructure water and sewer repair	1/10/2015 9:43 AM
45	Police, fire, water, streets, parks	1/10/2015 9:42 AM
46	Following should be instituted at once for environment and safety of people. Walking sidewalks All types of Battery disposal All types of paint/chemical disposal All types of Electronics recycling	1/10/2015 9:38 AM
47	Basic services such as snow removal, water, trash removal/recycling as well as street repair and recreation - adult sports.	1/10/2015 9:28 AM
48	Fire , Police , water, garbage ..	1/9/2015 5:13 PM
49	Solid Waste, Streets, Snow Removal, Water, Engineering	1/9/2015 3:46 PM
50	Fire; Police; Parks,Rec & Arts; Public Works; Water	1/9/2015 3:36 PM
51	S.O.A.R. Parks and Recreation Programs Safe and clean parks	1/9/2015 3:23 PM
52	garbage and recycle programs, plus refuse	1/9/2015 1:35 PM
53	Of the services listed...they are all important and pretty basic to a healthy functional community.	1/9/2015 1:17 PM
54	Golf/Parks and Rec. Library Maintenance roads Parks fire and police	1/9/2015 12:11 PM
55	Recreational, good streets.	1/9/2015 10:44 AM
56	Police and Fire protection Bulk waste removal at the curb Golf courses and bike trails (Constitution trail) Snow removal Gang suppression	1/9/2015 9:51 AM
57	Community Development (crucial and currently underutilized) Police & Fire (with some possible restructuring if needed) Streets & Sidewalks - IF done fairly and adequately, not just in the rich east-side areas	1/9/2015 9:44 AM
58	Police, Fire, Public Service	1/9/2015 8:33 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

59	Fire, patrol, vice, swat, street	1/9/2015 12:29 AM
60	Fire, Police, Public Works, Parks & Recs, Community Development, Finances, all city functions.	1/8/2015 10:37 PM
61	Fire, Police, Public Works, Water all seem to be essential PR&CA is next in importance	1/8/2015 10:04 PM
62	Safety = police and fire; infrastructure = water, sewer, streets.	1/8/2015 10:01 PM
63	Police Officers, EMS, Fire, Entertainment (Coliseum brings in out of town revenue), Green Spaces such as parks. Water and Sewer.	1/8/2015 9:56 PM
64	Police. Ems	1/8/2015 7:46 PM
65	Police,fire,justice, roads	1/8/2015 7:23 PM
66	Infrastructure and recreation, especially parks and sports	1/8/2015 7:22 PM
67	Police/fire, streets incl sewage, garbage/recycle/waste, libraries/parks	1/8/2015 7:02 PM
68	Golf. Streets.	1/8/2015 6:00 PM
69	Street Crime Division, Fire and EMS, Solid Waste, Street, Sewer, and Snow	1/8/2015 5:08 PM
70	EMS,GOLF,SOLID WASTE, SEWER, STREETS	1/8/2015 4:39 PM
71	Police, fire, library, parks and recreation services	1/8/2015 4:34 PM
72	The golf courses are most important to me. They keep me here in my retirement. Otherwise I would be looking around.	1/8/2015 3:07 PM
73	community development, public services, police/fire, safety and security, parks and rec.	1/8/2015 2:33 PM
74	Fire, police patrol, sewer, water, EMS	1/8/2015 2:24 PM
75	Finance	1/8/2015 1:46 PM
76	Police and fire	1/8/2015 1:44 PM
77	Safety, recreation, cleanliness	1/8/2015 1:36 PM
78	Parks -- particularly golf, but parks programs touch nearly every citizen in some manner. Public Works -- road condition should be a priority and winter plowing is a necessary evil. Public Safety -- Police / Fire are necessary, but every effort should be made to minimize the costs including pensions. Finance -- the need to provide accurate recording and statistics for both legal and for in-house use are essential. Having top-notch individuals to accomplish this should not be ignored.	1/8/2015 1:12 PM
79	police/fire/sanitation/infrastructure/recreation	1/8/2015 12:42 PM
80	Community development,human resources,parks, recreation	1/8/2015 12:32 PM
81	police fire recycle/sanitation recreation/golf social services	1/8/2015 12:30 PM
82	Police Fire/EMS Parks/Recreation Roads/Infrastructure	1/8/2015 12:12 PM
83	Police Fire Parks & Rec Library Community Development	1/8/2015 11:58 AM
84	Fire, Police, Public Works. Other departments should be downsized, combined with other departments or eliminated to reduce costs.	1/8/2015 11:54 AM
85	Fire & police	1/8/2015 11:53 AM
86	ems, patrol, streets, golf, bcpa.	1/8/2015 11:53 AM
87	Water, garbage pick up, good roads, parks and golf courses and public safety.	1/8/2015 11:44 AM
88	Police and Safety Parks and Recreation	1/8/2015 11:37 AM
89	Fire, police, golf, water, recycle	1/8/2015 11:25 AM
90	The city should have a military discount at there golf courses.	1/8/2015 11:25 AM
91	Parks, Recreation, Golf, Streets, Garbage collection, Water, Police, Fire, and Emergency services.	1/8/2015 11:17 AM
92	fire - police - parks	1/8/2015 11:15 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

93	police fire roads waste water	1/8/2015 11:04 AM
94	Fire & Police Protection	1/8/2015 10:42 AM
95	Police and Fire protection. Infrastructure maintenance parks and recreation	1/8/2015 10:38 AM
96	Streets, Snow, Solid Waste, Zoo, Parks	1/8/2015 10:37 AM
97	Public safety, Public works Sanitation..., Community services like golf courses (especially Highland) and Constitution Trail, a lot of retirees need these for health and affordability	1/8/2015 10:32 AM
98	Police, fire, Golf, Parks & Rec, City services	1/8/2015 10:17 AM
99	My computer wouldn't allow me to pull up your list but off the top of my head I'd say Police, Fire, trash removal, and parks and rec.	1/8/2015 10:06 AM
100	All Police, Fire/EMT, snow removal, and recycling are critical. Parks, zoo, etc are also important to providing quality of life for our children.	1/8/2015 10:02 AM
101	Street crimes, vice , patrols, fire	1/8/2015 9:54 AM
102	Fire, Police, Water, and Golf would be my top priorities.	1/8/2015 9:49 AM
103	Police, EMS and Fire, Infrastructure Maintenance (Street , Water & solid waste)	1/8/2015 9:45 AM
104	Police, Fire, Waste Collection, Infrastructure	1/8/2015 9:39 AM
105	This is too vague of a question. Obviously, we want a safe and protective environment so the emergency police and fire services have to be the top 2 programs followed by the public works services, community development services, and the parks & rec services.	1/8/2015 9:26 AM
106	Police, Fire, Water, Public Works, Parks	1/8/2015 9:24 AM
107	garbage/sewer/water, street maintenance, safety patrolling, parks/recreation/golf	1/8/2015 9:16 AM
108	No Comment	1/8/2015 9:15 AM
109	adult & teen services S.O.A.R. program	1/8/2015 9:10 AM
110	Fire, Police and Public works!	1/8/2015 9:09 AM
111	Police - patrol Fire - EMS Public Works - solid waste Parks & Rec - parks	1/8/2015 9:05 AM
112	Parks recreation.	1/8/2015 9:03 AM
113	Fire and Police, infrastructure maintenance	1/8/2015 8:55 AM
114	Water supply & treatment, Fire, police, public services (garbage recycle snow removal)	1/8/2015 8:53 AM
115	Police Patrol Streets Golf Snow Removal Children's Services	1/8/2015 8:52 AM
116	Police, fire are most important. Public works is next.	1/8/2015 8:48 AM
117	Police EMS Garbage	1/8/2015 8:48 AM
118	Police, Fire, public works, water, parks/rec	1/8/2015 8:43 AM
119	police & fire protection streets maintenance park & rec	1/8/2015 8:40 AM
120	Water Public Works Police Parks, Recreation Fire	1/8/2015 8:36 AM
121	Golfing is good for tourism. Hotels of a higher quality are necessary.	1/8/2015 8:35 AM
122	patrol, fire, sewers, streets	1/8/2015 8:33 AM
123	Poolice patrol vice Fire Golf Utilities	1/8/2015 8:30 AM
124	Police, fire, parks and recreation.	1/8/2015 8:29 AM
125	Police. Fire Roads Water Parks and Rec	1/8/2015 8:15 AM
126	Golf Streets Solid Waste Police Fire	1/8/2015 8:15 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

127	Think recreation is right up there..be it golf or parks as a matter of quality of life. Streets in Blm stink, plain and simple. Fire and police are clearly important. Think the city screwed up changing the garbage collection system since it's now losing \$	1/8/2015 8:12 AM
128	Police and Fire protection.....then Public Works.....all the programs have their place though.	1/8/2015 8:10 AM
129	helping, feeding, housing the less fortunate	1/8/2015 8:09 AM
130	None	1/8/2015 8:05 AM
131	Everything listed is important to the vital maintenance and growth of a community, with the possible exception of the library, which could potentially be operated through a private entity. I don't see a reasonable way to eliminate any of the other services without sacrificing continued growth or maintenance of a viable community.	1/8/2015 8:03 AM
132	Police, Fire, Water, Sewer, Trash Pickup.	1/8/2015 8:02 AM
133	Infrastructure, Public Safety, Waste Management, Community Development,	1/8/2015 7:58 AM
134	Police Fire EMS Parks and Rec	1/8/2015 7:56 AM
135	Police Fire Garbage Collection Street Maintenance	1/8/2015 7:55 AM
136	golf, entertainment	1/8/2015 7:54 AM
137	Police, Fire, waste pick up, water, sewer	1/8/2015 7:54 AM
138	Police, Fire, Infrastructure, Zoo, Golf,	1/8/2015 7:52 AM
139	Garbage pickup Waste pickup police fire parks/rec	1/8/2015 7:32 AM
140	Golf Courses Parks	1/8/2015 7:31 AM
141	Police, fire, public works, parks.	1/8/2015 7:29 AM
142	Golf, Park activities	1/8/2015 7:22 AM
143	EMS, Police, public works, water	1/8/2015 7:18 AM
144	Police and Fire, Parks Recreation and Performing Arts, Community Development, Public Works and Water	1/8/2015 7:16 AM
145	Safety	1/8/2015 7:15 AM
146	Police, garbage, schools, water and sanitation,	1/8/2015 7:13 AM
147	police patrol, emergency response, parks, trails and arts	1/8/2015 7:10 AM
148	Parks and golf courses	1/8/2015 7:10 AM
149	Streets, Fire, EMS, Patrol, Golf	1/8/2015 7:08 AM
150	Police, Fire, Water, Roads, Parks.	1/8/2015 7:05 AM
151	Police and Fire	1/8/2015 6:57 AM
152	Need east side library Police, fire Street planning Recreation , golf, park safety	1/8/2015 6:52 AM
153	Fire EMS Patrol Streets Sewer	1/8/2015 6:45 AM
154	Police, Fire, Water, Public Works, Finance, Community Development	1/8/2015 6:33 AM
155	Fire, police then parks and rec (golf courses)	1/8/2015 6:32 AM
156	That's a horrible way to try to collect data. Too much effort required for a survey style inquiry.	1/8/2015 6:31 AM
157	Police and infrastructure. Reasonable jobs. Lower taxes to promote business development.	1/8/2015 6:18 AM
158	Police and Fire	1/8/2015 6:14 AM
159	fire, police, library	1/8/2015 6:12 AM
160	Golf	1/8/2015 5:47 AM
161	1. safety which would be fire police but water also 2. parks & rec 3. library 4. administrative	1/8/2015 2:33 AM
162	Police Fire Public works	1/7/2015 10:32 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

163	Water, Police/Fire/EMS, Streets	1/7/2015 10:27 PM
164	Zoo, Parks, Library, Police, Fire	1/7/2015 9:01 PM
165	Public works	1/7/2015 8:35 PM
166	Sound, safe infrastructure. Security. Programs that provide homeless with shelter during the cold winters. Food provided to the poor.	1/7/2015 7:36 PM
167	Police, community development	1/7/2015 6:16 PM
168	Zoo Recreation Streets Snow	1/7/2015 4:28 PM
169	Streets Snow Removal Water Sewer Police	1/7/2015 4:01 PM
170	Water, Public works, police, fire	1/7/2015 3:58 PM
171	EMS Fire Streets Patrol Street crimes division	1/7/2015 3:42 PM
172	Police, Fire, Water, Public Works	1/7/2015 2:47 PM
173	Police	1/7/2015 2:34 PM
174	Public Safety, Parks & Recreation, Golf, Parks, Public Works	1/7/2015 2:24 PM
175	Safety is of utmost importance, so fire, police, neighborhood watches, etc. Also parks and the zoo are very important.	1/7/2015 1:02 PM
176	police and fire	1/7/2015 12:40 PM
177	Water - supply Community Development - building PR & CA - parks Fire - fire Library - collection development Police - patrol	1/7/2015 10:49 AM
178	Good safety through police, fire protection with good streets and sewers/	1/7/2015 10:27 AM
179	Public Works dept, police, EMS/fire are most important.	1/7/2015 10:07 AM
180	Fire Including EMS Police Waste Management Water Management Parks and Rec Library	1/7/2015 8:10 AM
181	solid waste snow golf wat police and fire	1/7/2015 7:06 AM
182	Police, Fire, Water, Public Works, Library, Community Development	1/7/2015 7:00 AM
183	public works safety parks and recreation	1/6/2015 10:34 PM
184	Police, fire, infrastructure, community development on west side	1/6/2015 10:29 PM
185	Fire, Police, Public Works, Water	1/6/2015 10:05 PM
186	Public works, water, finance, police, fire.	1/6/2015 8:38 PM
187	The basics. Fire and police protection, water, parks and recreation.	1/6/2015 4:37 PM
188	1. Maintaining solid, functioning existing infrastructure - expansions are lower priority. 2. Public safety that is designed to address 95% of the situations likely to be faced (one can never eliminate risk, and it's misleading and overly-expensive to try.) 3. Residential waste disposal, with an emphasis on minimizing waste through recycling and other measures. 4. Recreational opportunities through libraries and parks, including programs like swimming and softball. 5. Being support of business investment - whether for existing firms or new ventures.	1/6/2015 3:51 PM
189	Misc Comments re specifics versus programs: 1 Visually-good Public Signage for streets and parking. Also, in Downtown when the new historic light fixtures were installed, the City attached signage to them seemingly with very little care/detail concern. 2. The Bike Trails are great; continue. 3. Check out the Downtown Ottawa, IL for street plantings. Were probably the best that I've seen outside Chicago. 4.	1/6/2015 1:50 PM
190	Fire, EMS, Police, Library, Public Works streets	1/6/2015 10:46 AM
191	Police and fire protection, public works, water, and parks/rec.	1/6/2015 10:30 AM
192	Parks & Recreation Public Service Police Fire Water	1/6/2015 10:07 AM
193	Fire/EMS, police/patrol, information services Public works/sewer	1/6/2015 9:07 AM
194	maintenance, parks, school resource officers	1/5/2015 11:08 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

195	Fire & Safety public education, Police street crime and training, Engineering & Infrastructure, Streets, Arts and Culture	1/5/2015 10:59 PM
196	Recreation BCS Police Fire Public works	1/5/2015 9:50 PM
197	Police, Fire, Public Works, Water, Parks	1/5/2015 6:37 PM
198	Police Fire Water Public Works Human Resources	1/5/2015 6:19 PM
199	Parks and Rec - especially the SOAR programs.	1/5/2015 3:05 PM
200	all of the programs that was list.	1/5/2015 2:22 PM
201	EMS, Fire response, Police patrol, police investigation, Streets & sewers	1/5/2015 12:28 PM
202	Library Public Works Community Development Police Fire	1/5/2015 11:15 AM
203	Streets - Repair and Upkeep Police - Patrol and Training Community Development - Grants and Maintenance	1/5/2015 10:47 AM
204	-Trash/recycle pick up -Parks and recreation -Police/fire protection -Road infrastructure and public works	1/5/2015 10:37 AM
205	fire and police	1/5/2015 10:34 AM
206	Parks Infrastructure (Fiber Internet)	1/5/2015 6:22 AM
207	help for people struggling to pay bills, get food and medical help based on actual need and not how many kids you have. Programs that take current earnings from employment not based on the last years taxes or amount made before need occurred.	1/4/2015 11:05 PM
208	Confusing question! Police, fire, water, public works etc. might be services, but they are not optional. What is optional is running all the programs in cost-effective manner and without promising sky-high retirement benefits to the city. employees. Park services are good. How would city sell the city without it?	1/4/2015 10:16 PM
209	Water, Sewer, Police, Fire, and EMS	1/4/2015 10:14 PM
210	Police, fire, public works, parks, library	1/4/2015 9:07 PM
211	Fire, Police, Public Works (streets, snow, sewers), Water	1/4/2015 8:46 PM
212	garbage and parks	1/4/2015 7:27 PM
213	Parks, streets, police and fire, zoo, public works	1/4/2015 6:14 PM
214	Obviously foundational programs are a must: Fire, Police, Water, Infrastructure. Additional programs that improve society that are important include the parks & the library.	1/4/2015 5:36 PM
215	garbage change was short-sighted: bad program for many reasons. Don't fix what was not broken. The roads program with the powdery stuff was awful. Again - lack of research like the garbage program.	1/4/2015 2:06 PM
216	Fire, police, emt, water/sewer, trash including bulk waste and recycling	1/4/2015 12:04 PM
217	Police, fire dept., street repairs, garbage/recycling	1/4/2015 8:42 AM
218	Fire, police, solid waste, road repair,	1/4/2015 4:37 AM
219	Fire, Police, EMS, Public Works	1/3/2015 9:15 PM
220	Library: We visit weekly. Parks and Recreation: We enroll in both youth and adult programs, from art classes to drama/theater to sports.	1/3/2015 7:22 PM
221	Police, EMS, Fire Dept., & so on down the line.	1/3/2015 7:12 PM
222	police, fire, water, code enforcement, streets & sewers	1/3/2015 1:56 PM
223	Police, Fire, water and sewer, basic services. Compare costs of in house service to sub-contracted services.	1/3/2015 10:13 AM
224	Police, Fire, Public Works, Water, Library	1/3/2015 8:20 AM
225	WATER, fire, police ems, public works	1/2/2015 7:09 PM
226	public works, EMS, parks and rec	1/2/2015 5:33 PM
227	Public Safety, garbage/recycling removal, snow removal, parks- upkeep and renewal	1/2/2015 3:12 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

228	Parks and Recreation , Public Works, Police, and Fire Services.	1/2/2015 1:27 PM
229	1) Parks & Rec (2) Library (3) Public Works (4) Police (5) Fire	1/2/2015 12:50 PM
230	Police/Fire/, SOAR program	1/2/2015 11:59 AM
231	Fire Protection/EMT services Police Public Works Water Parks/Rec	1/2/2015 11:41 AM
232	Police Parks and Rec.	1/2/2015 10:51 AM
233	Police, Streets, solid waste, Fire,water	1/2/2015 9:47 AM
234	Police and fire departments	1/2/2015 8:26 AM
235	I am unable to look at the list, but certainly roads and sewers are a huge thing - safe, healthy neighborhoods have roads free of potholes and working sewers. Police, fire, and ambulance are also necessary to have decent cities.	1/2/2015 7:41 AM
236	Police, Fire, garbage and recycle	1/1/2015 8:14 PM
237	You need to focus on basic services. Your payroll has expanded at a ridiculous rate. No money for frills... Stick to police, fire, emt and sanitation.	1/1/2015 6:15 PM
238	Fire, police, public works,community development, water.	1/1/2015 1:09 PM
239	roads, trash pickup, water and sewer issues resolved in older neighborhoods,	1/1/2015 10:44 AM
240	Fire, Police, Parks Infrastructure, Water	1/1/2015 8:20 AM
241	HR, fire, water,Police,pulic works	12/31/2014 2:50 PM
242	Fire, Snow removal, Emergency, Police, Parks, Roads.	12/31/2014 1:32 PM
243	Emergency Medical Services, Police Vice program, Street Maintenance and upgrades, Affordable Housing Construction, Water Monitoring and Lake Mngmt.	12/31/2014 12:47 PM
244	Street repair, EMS, Fire, Garbage removal. Water/Sewer	12/31/2014 12:14 PM
245	Police, fire, water, roads/infrastructure	12/31/2014 11:38 AM
246	SOAR	12/31/2014 9:15 AM
247	Parks and rec programs, especially SOAR. They fill a significant need for rec and social interaction for people with disabilities	12/31/2014 7:49 AM
248	Police, EMS, Fire, Water/Sewer, Garbage, Recreation	12/31/2014 7:21 AM
249	Public Works, EMS, Police, Fire, Water Dept.	12/31/2014 2:55 AM
250	garbage/recycle water soar programs	12/30/2014 11:02 PM
251	Police & Fire Parks & Rec Public Works & Infrastructure Maintenance	12/30/2014 10:32 PM
252	1) Public works dept items, 2) parks, 3) police & fire, 4) economic development, 5) water	12/30/2014 10:26 PM
253	Police Fire Community development Parks and rec	12/30/2014 10:20 PM
254	Police/fire Streets Recreation/special Olympic programs	12/30/2014 10:19 PM
255	Fire, Police, Public Works, Water, Parks Recreation	12/30/2014 10:11 PM
256	Question too broad giving the range of service provided or possible	12/30/2014 9:25 PM
257	Infrastructure (streets/sewers) and public safety (police and fire protection)	12/30/2014 8:40 PM
258	SOAR	12/30/2014 7:16 PM
259	1. Streets 2. Solid Waste 3. EMS 4. Sewer 5. Water	12/30/2014 5:24 PM
260	we need another sheet of public ice. For skating	12/30/2014 5:20 PM
261	EMS, Police Patrol, Solid Waste, Water, Sewer, Streets, Snow	12/30/2014 4:49 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

262	In broad categories, fire, police, water, and other public services need to come first as these services cannot be privately funded. Then, I think it important to provide for individuals who cannot care for themselves, disabled, aged, handicapped. This would include housing services and mental health support. I particularly appreciate the SOAR programs as it greatly enriches my daughter's life. Finally, I think it critical to support the arts as they contribute to a better quality of life.	12/30/2014 4:08 PM
263	SOAR recreation and water	12/30/2014 4:07 PM
264	Fire, police, EMS, refuse, snow removal	12/30/2014 3:47 PM
265	EMS and Fire	12/30/2014 3:23 PM
266	police and fire water and sewage garbage service Maintaining streets Parks and community services	12/30/2014 3:21 PM
267	Parks, Miller park zoo, constitution trail, biking	12/30/2014 3:16 PM
268	Safety (Fire,Police,Building Safety) Streets, maintenance, potholes, signage & painting.	12/30/2014 2:42 PM
269	Fire, Police, Public Works, water	12/30/2014 2:40 PM
270	fire-ems, police,streets-sewers, water, parks	12/30/2014 2:19 PM
271	Public Works Finance Fire Police Human Resources	12/30/2014 2:10 PM
272	Fire , EMS, Patrol, School Resource Officers. Streets	12/30/2014 1:24 PM
273	Fire, garbage, bulk waste.	12/30/2014 1:07 PM
274	SOAR through parks and recs	12/30/2014 12:56 PM
275	Street and sewer maintenance, Fire and police protection, trash and garbage collection, park maintenance, but not expansion, clean water supply.	12/30/2014 12:14 PM
276	Street repair, sewer/storm drain services, trash services water, police, fire, and snow removal. Public Works!!!!!!!	12/30/2014 11:46 AM
277	Police Fire Streets Water	12/30/2014 11:29 AM
278	All first responders in all categories. Public Works & Water. Community Development. All city administration (efficiencies made where possible). Parks, Recreation & Culture AND Library.	12/30/2014 11:09 AM
279	Finance Golf	12/30/2014 10:42 AM
280	General public works—roads, water, trash, etc., emergency responders, cultural enrichment.	12/30/2014 10:35 AM
281	Police Department - Street Crimes and Training Fire Department - All Areas Public Works - Waste, Recycling, Snow Removal Water - All Areas Library - Bookmobile	12/30/2014 10:24 AM
282	Fire, Police, Parks & Rec, Community Development, Public Works	12/30/2014 10:21 AM
283	Fire, Police, public works, Water, that's it.	12/30/2014 10:17 AM
284	Fire, police patrol, recreation and parks, library	12/30/2014 10:04 AM
285	Another sheet of ice for hockey, skating and other sports. Most of the other central Illinois communities of our size have 2 or more sheets of ice, creating more opportunities, and lessening the pressure on scheduling. It's obvious the Coliseum cannot be counted on for sharing since many already scheduled youth hockey events get bumped with a hastily scheduled concert or event.	12/30/2014 9:43 AM
286	Yeah, you sure made this easy to check the boxes	12/30/2014 9:36 AM
287	Public safety	12/30/2014 9:24 AM
288	SOAR, police, fire, public works,	12/30/2014 9:17 AM
289	Fire and Police -	12/30/2014 9:07 AM
290	Infrastructure, good roads, water, garbage p/u, fire & police.	12/30/2014 8:36 AM
291	Fire, Police, Garbage	12/30/2014 7:52 AM
292	Public works Police Community development Water Fire	12/30/2014 7:13 AM
293	Maintaining police security and good roads. Bulk waste pick up and recycling	12/30/2014 5:03 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

294	S.O.A.R. Program	12/30/2014 1:03 AM
295	Police all departments and fire followed by public works	12/29/2014 11:35 PM
296	1) Fire 2) Police	12/29/2014 11:09 PM
297	Parks Water Public safety Pace Arts	12/29/2014 10:45 PM
298	Fire, police, public works	12/29/2014 10:26 PM
299	Most important activities are S.O.A.R. and Special Olympic Illinois.	12/29/2014 10:25 PM
300	,safety services, 911 services, parks &R	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
301	Public works, Fire/police, community development, zoning, streets	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
302	Police Fire Public Works Water Finance (Yet, I am a huge advocate for the library and cultural institutions. None of the above, though, can be denied as important services of the city.)	12/29/2014 9:56 PM
303	Snow. Police. Library. Water	12/29/2014 9:38 PM
304	Fire/ems, police, recreation	12/29/2014 7:49 PM
305	Fire Police Parks & rec Water Library	12/29/2014 6:48 PM
306	Constitution Trail, Parks, Snow Removal, Water services, entertainment	12/29/2014 6:08 PM
307	Police, fire dept,	12/29/2014 5:56 PM
308	SOAR (Blo. Parks and Rec) Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Police/Fire	12/29/2014 4:33 PM
309	Decent streets, a solid sewer system, an efficient police and fire department.	12/29/2014 4:05 PM
310	Police, Fire, Finances, Public works, Water	12/29/2014 3:57 PM
311	Information Services Parks and Rec Finance Police Fire	12/29/2014 3:50 PM
312	City-Wide Enterprise Applications Shared Common Technology Infrastructure	12/29/2014 3:27 PM
313	Park and recreation	12/29/2014 3:10 PM
314	fire, snow removal, police, library, parks	12/29/2014 3:02 PM
315	streets, police, recreation-S.O.A.R., fire protection	12/29/2014 2:18 PM
316	recreation	12/29/2014 2:14 PM
317	Fire, Police, Street	12/29/2014 11:20 AM
318	Water, Police, Streets, Sewer, EMS services	12/29/2014 10:20 AM
319	Fire & Police ...as important as these are there is little control over the cost. that needs to change. The wages and benefits are such that we've created a "welfare" system that is unsustainable. Public Works...very important area that needs to consider more outsourcing and limit the economic pressure of union demands Finance...stop kicking the can down the road on pensions and change the retirement program to a defined contribution...show some courage! Library - sorry, but I have little appreciation and/or value placed on the library any more Public Transportation - this is one of the single most important items for the future of B/N. to recruit the next generation to this city, to keep this community attractive to economic growth public transportation needs to be strongly supported by both cities. Funding for the bus service is vital!	12/29/2014 10:02 AM
320	School Resource Officers,Streets,Snow,Water,Recreation	12/29/2014 9:23 AM
321	fire and police services	12/29/2014 9:01 AM
322	Water Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Public Works Library Community Development	12/29/2014 5:28 AM
323	Parks & Rec Fire Police	12/28/2014 7:03 PM
324	Police/Fire Protection Streets/Sewer/Water Building Safety Parks/Recreation/Zoo Library	12/28/2014 6:39 PM
325	Public Works Police Fire Water Library	12/28/2014 1:10 PM
326	Police, fire, and water; parks and library; snow removal, garbage and recycling, good streets.	12/28/2014 12:28 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

327	safety/security infrastructure parks/library	12/27/2014 3:01 PM
328	Code enforcement is critical to the revitalization of the central city. There should be more, qualified inspectors. All buildings should be safe and free of garbage. Police enforcement of noise ordinances is also critical. There should be greater scrutiny of nuisance properties and the nuisance abatement laws should be strengthened.	12/27/2014 12:35 PM
329	Traffic control and police/fire services. However we need to look at freezing the pensions of those public servants and have some type of cash balance program or 401K that the people can contribute to themselves. The public cannot continue funding these pensions. Many business has gone to these types of programs because they are more cost effective. The city (and all government, school districts etc) should do the same.	12/27/2014 11:33 AM
330	police, fire, public works, parks and rec, financing	12/27/2014 11:02 AM
331	Hard to limit to 5, and these aren't prioritized: trash collection, police/fire protection, road/sewer/water maintenance, library, parks	12/27/2014 9:09 AM
332	parks, pickleball, library	12/27/2014 8:28 AM
333	Whatever takes care of the constitution trail / bike paths :) The Zoo BCPA	12/27/2014 8:14 AM
334	Parks and Recreation (specifically Pickleball). They four courts that were added at Rollingbrook park are fantastic! I live in Normal, but to my knowledge, there are NO places to play Pickleball in Normal. Bloomington Parks & Rec rocks!	12/26/2014 7:35 PM
335	streets patrol fire EMS	12/26/2014 7:30 PM
336	Parks, Police, Performing Arts, garbage removal	12/26/2014 5:13 PM
337	public works, water, community development, parks/rec/cultural	12/26/2014 4:35 PM
338	Public Works, Fire and Police	12/26/2014 3:06 PM
339	Police and Fire services Good water Sound infrastructure Good park system Good library	12/26/2014 1:57 PM
340	Safe Water, Waste Management, Infrastructure maintenance	12/26/2014 1:23 PM
341	Fire protection, police protection, recreation programs for youth, affordable entertainment, water	12/26/2014 12:57 PM
342	Police , Fire protection, public works especially maintaining good infrastructure,	12/26/2014 10:27 AM
343	Fire, EMS, Police (all),Public Works (Eng, Streets, Sewer), Water (all), Parks (Admin, Parks, Recreation, Zoo)	12/26/2014 10:22 AM
344	Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks, Water	12/26/2014 9:40 AM
345	law enforcement public works parks and recreation services	12/26/2014 9:28 AM
346	Police, Fire, Water, Public Works, Parks	12/26/2014 9:04 AM
347	Fire, police patrol, solid waste, streets, water supply	12/26/2014 8:12 AM
348	Water, Fire, Police, Roads	12/26/2014 7:47 AM
349	In order (for me): Fire protection, Policing, public safety (building safety, public safety education, well trained lifeguards), a well maintained infrastructure (sewers, water, streets, sidewalks, etc.), refuse management, and leisure services (parks and rec., public activities, etc)	12/26/2014 12:18 AM
350	Police. Fire. Water. Sanitation.	12/25/2014 10:34 PM
351	police fire utilities garbage, landscape and solid waste pick up parks and rec	12/25/2014 9:30 PM
352	Education	12/25/2014 9:13 PM
353	Fire, police, streets, snow removal, solid waste	12/25/2014 7:29 PM
354	Golf	12/25/2014 6:24 PM
355	City streets, police patrol, police resources to investigate and solve crimes	12/25/2014 5:21 PM
356	police,fire,and garbage/trash removal	12/25/2014 4:48 PM
357	Fire, Police, Public Works, Water, and Community Fields Soccer Complex	12/25/2014 4:31 PM
358	Police, fire, garbage, streets , library	12/25/2014 4:28 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

359	fire police streets and sewers	12/25/2014 2:11 PM
360	FIRE; PATROL; STREETS; LABOR RELATIONS; WATER MONITORING	12/25/2014 1:46 PM
361	waste pickup, water, sewer, security,	12/25/2014 1:28 PM
362	Streets,sewer, solid waste, water supply, ems fire	12/25/2014 12:32 PM
363	Fix Water lines/sewers Fix Streets Plan for FUTURE POTABLE water use Clean up littered areas Quit ALL the useless"feasibility studies"	12/25/2014 11:34 AM
364	Garbage, streets, police, fire, parks	12/25/2014 11:29 AM
365	EMS, Patrol, Solid Waste, Streets, Information Services	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
366	Police and fire protection. Roads. Other than that, shut city hall down.	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
367	Police, fire, public works, snow removal, streets and sewers.	12/25/2014 9:59 AM
368	Police, Fire, and infrastructure should be the priorities. The money left over should be used for parks, refurbishing, etc.	12/25/2014 9:22 AM
369	Fire, Police,Public Works,Water	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
370	PUBLIC WORKS by far.	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
371	Recreation, golf, streets, police, planning	12/25/2014 7:56 AM
372	police/fire/emt/snow/garbage	12/25/2014 6:26 AM
373	Fire, EMS, Streets, Snow, Sewer,	12/25/2014 5:30 AM
374	Social Services, Community Affordable recreational Center. Community Job Building and Training Center	12/24/2014 11:42 AM
375	police, fire, parks, public works, library	12/24/2014 8:16 AM
376	Solid waste, Patrol, Fire, EMS, Parks	12/23/2014 10:04 PM
377	fire and police, good library safe parks	12/23/2014 8:23 PM
378	Assuming that services like police and fire are a given: 1) Much better street maintenance; 2) the library; 3) water supply; 4) parks and the zoo; 5) planning	12/23/2014 3:14 PM
379	Parks and Recreation services Pickleball	12/23/2014 2:55 PM
380	.Police - neighborhood patrols, outreach to neighborhoods, personnel development and training Fire - adequate number of firefighters and equipment Environment: Water - emphasis on quality and sourcing, protecting surface and well integrity Air - emphasis on protection from pollution (industrial, rural) Libraries, parks, trails, biking and walking amenities Code enforcement - protecting the integrity of neighborhoods	12/23/2014 2:38 PM
381	Pickleball program wellness program	12/23/2014 2:18 PM
382	Fire Police Patrol Streets Snow Recreation	12/23/2014 2:16 PM
383	Fire and Police Parks Public works	12/23/2014 2:13 PM
384	EMS FIRE PARKS ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE	12/23/2014 2:11 PM
385	Recreation	12/23/2014 1:59 PM
386	Parks & Recreation, Fire, Police, Water, Community Development	12/23/2014 1:28 PM
387	These are ALL so important, each in their own way. A communicative City Council should be able to look at the big picture and know the risks/opportunities, and prioritize these for us.	12/23/2014 11:27 AM
388	Trash service, water service, road maintenace, beautificatoin	12/23/2014 11:00 AM
389	Police, Fire, Infrastructure	12/23/2014 9:56 AM
390	Police and Fire (increased and improved traffic enforcement), SOLID WASTE/BRUSH REMOVAL, infrastructure: streets and sidewalks, water and sewer systems	12/23/2014 9:44 AM
391	Police, Public Works, P, R, & CA, Library, Fire/Emergency	12/23/2014 9:07 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

392	Quality of life Safety and Security	12/23/2014 9:03 AM
393	Garbage, recycle, debris removal; snow removal+	12/23/2014 9:00 AM
394	garbage collection, road repair, library	12/23/2014 8:53 AM
395	Public safety/Fire/EMS Library, Parks & Rec Sewage/Sewer Garage Collection	12/23/2014 8:16 AM
396	Fire, EMS, Sewer, Streets, Parks & Cultural Arts	12/23/2014 8:08 AM
397	Safe environment air, water, security sewer and garbage. Safe roads, sidewalks, buildings and schools.	12/23/2014 7:58 AM
398	Streets, Sewers, Parks, Patrol, Communication	12/23/2014 7:23 AM
399	water/sewer/trash, police & fire, code/planning/zoning	12/23/2014 7:22 AM
400	waste disposal, fire and police, streets	12/23/2014 6:51 AM
401	Emergency Water Parks & Rec Such a hard question! The link brings up an overwhelming list!	12/22/2014 11:09 PM
402	Trash/Recycle Snow Removal Bulk Waste Constitution Trail Police/Fire/Rescue	12/22/2014 10:39 PM
403	Police, Fire, Public Works, Community Development, Water	12/22/2014 10:18 PM
404	Streets/roads Sewer/water Parks/rec	12/22/2014 9:24 PM
405	Can't list. The module doesn't work properly	12/22/2014 8:12 PM
406	Water/sewer/garbage Public safety Streets	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
407	Police and Fire	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
408	EMS Fire Public Crimes Div. Streets Library	12/22/2014 7:15 PM
409	Public library Parks and rec Arts Police/fire	12/22/2014 6:58 PM
410	FIRE POLICE EMERGENCY TRANSPORT WATER SOLID WASTE	12/22/2014 6:07 PM
411	EMS, Patrol, Childrens Services, Sewer, Streets	12/22/2014 6:06 PM
412	Streets Fire Patrol Sewer Water Supply	12/22/2014 6:03 PM
413	Police, fire, sewers, streets, library	12/22/2014 5:50 PM
414	Good water Good Sanitation Good Fire protection Good Police protection Access to knowledge	12/22/2014 5:01 PM
415	EMS, Fire, Police, Water/Sewer, Library	12/22/2014 4:30 PM
416	I don't know.	12/22/2014 4:27 PM
417	All	12/22/2014 3:47 PM
418	Police, fire, ems,streets,sewer	12/22/2014 3:44 PM
419	Obviously, the safety and security functions are critical (Police and Fire). But, if all we had were the bare minimum/essentials, there would be no reason for me to choose to live in Bloomington over another smaller community in the county. I choose Bloomington because of the quality of live, great parks and rec programs, cultural arts, library - all all important and essential to maintain.	12/22/2014 3:41 PM
420	I THINK THEY ARE ALL VERY IMPORTANT AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE REASON SO MANY OF US CONTINUE TO CALL BLOOMINGTON HOME.	12/22/2014 3:39 PM
421	Public Works (streets & sewers), Police, Snow removal, Economic development	12/22/2014 3:34 PM
422	Police Fire Ambulance Public Works (i.e. Street repair) Water	12/22/2014 3:30 PM
423	1) FIRE/POLICE 2)POTABLE WATER SUPPLY 3) PUBLIC WORKS 4) BALANCED BUDGET 5) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT this would obviously include parks and cultural items 6) I KNOW THIS IS ONE MORE BUT IMPORTANT; PLEASE DO SOMETHING FOR THOSE WHOSE DWELLINGS DO NOT HAVE CITY GARBAGE COLLECTION SO THAT RECYCLING IS MORE CONVENIENT AND ACCESSIBLE - I do not have to go to Normal to recycle, nor should I be harassed when going to the City place by City Hall; I have been told that any citizen of BI can take recycle there but it is dirty, garbage trucks just whiz by stirring up dust, I am always asked where I live etc etc etc; I now carry a copy of the email I received to show the person in that little shelter	12/22/2014 3:12 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

424	Water, Public Safety, Streets and Sewers, Lower tax burden to attract and sustain business, Infrastructure.	12/22/2014 3:07 PM
425	Police, fire rescue, library.	12/22/2014 2:48 PM
426	Community Development Police Fire Public Works	12/22/2014 2:47 PM
427	Recreation Public Safety Streets Solid Waste Water	12/22/2014 2:44 PM
428	police and fire but reduce pensions	12/22/2014 2:33 PM
429	Police, waste and recycle pickup.	12/22/2014 2:20 PM
430	EMS, Fire, HAZMAT, Police, Public Works	12/22/2014 2:13 PM
431	fire police schools streets	12/22/2014 2:11 PM
432	Public Works followed by Fire	12/22/2014 1:52 PM
433	Police fire streets waste sewer	12/22/2014 1:46 PM
434	Community Development Support of Boys and Girls club after school programs Anti-Gang/Bullying programs for schools	12/22/2014 1:35 PM
435	Water, public works, emergency, police, & fire.	12/22/2014 1:30 PM
436	Fire, Police, Infrastructure	12/22/2014 1:21 PM
437	Fire Department Police Public Works	12/22/2014 1:14 PM
438	Public Safety (fire/EMS/police) Streets Water Solid Waste	12/22/2014 1:13 PM
439	Police, water / sewer, roads, parks, fire,	12/22/2014 1:09 PM
440	Fire/Police	12/22/2014 1:04 PM
441	Public works, fire, police, golf/parks.	12/22/2014 1:01 PM
442	Emergency task force etc...	12/22/2014 12:58 PM
443	Library, Police, Fire, public works, Community development, BCPA	12/22/2014 12:54 PM
444	Police Patrol Fire. Solid Waste Snow Fleet	12/22/2014 12:51 PM
445	Fire Police Public Works Water Library	12/22/2014 12:45 PM
446	Police, Fire, Library, Parks, Recreation, Infrastructure	12/22/2014 12:32 PM
447	Public Works Fire Police	12/22/2014 12:31 PM
448	fire & police; trash pick-up; library; parks; zoning & code enforcement	12/22/2014 12:29 PM
449	Police Fire Public Works Finance Water	12/22/2014 10:05 AM
450	police, snow removal in the winter, road repairs in the summer	12/22/2014 9:17 AM
451	Internet. Far and away we need to get on the Fiber train. Either by creating a bloomington normal fiber network, or by getting in touch with Google and trying to get google fiber here. The introduction of ultra-high speed fiber brings in new business opportunities and an influx of high paid high skilled workers. That in turn drops a ton of cash on the local economy that helps with your tax revenue streams.	12/21/2014 8:36 AM
452	Take a strong look at everyone and always think of the taxpayers FIRST.	12/21/2014 8:07 AM
453	Fiber Optic Internet (need in homes) Police/Safety City Parks and bike/walking oaths Cleanliness	12/20/2014 11:46 PM
454	Street maintenance (potholes, snow removal, etc) and garbage/recycle	12/20/2014 9:12 PM
455	Police, Ems, Park rec.	12/20/2014 7:36 PM
456	I don't know. They are all important. It's hard to choose.	12/20/2014 6:18 PM
457	1. Solid Waste and Streets maint. 2. Water Supply 3. Building and Code Enforcement 4. Street resurfacing	12/20/2014 1:23 PM
458	Low cost hkgarbage fees. Fix the roads and sewers. Outsource as much as possible	12/20/2014 12:25 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

459	Fire, sewer, snow, ems, patrol	12/20/2014 7:37 AM
460	Police Fire Public Works Water Community Development - at least if ordinances were enforced!	12/20/2014 5:21 AM
461	Fire and police are top Whatever services we provide the schools next Efficient public works Neighborhood revitalization, including restoration of historic/older buildings and areas Bringing art/culture alive In looking at the list, human resources for the city seems to have a lot more "programs" than any other department. That said, it appears our administration team is pretty top heavy.	12/19/2014 10:37 PM
462	Safer neighborhoods, street and sidewalk repair, running/biking trails	12/19/2014 10:20 PM
463	Parks Recreation and Cultural Arts, Fire and Police, Library, Public Works	12/19/2014 9:17 PM
464	Police Fire Emergency Services.	12/19/2014 6:24 PM
465	Police, fire and garbage services	12/19/2014 5:42 PM
466	Fire, Police, and the Zoo	12/19/2014 5:06 PM
467	Streets, sewer, water, solid waste, snow	12/19/2014 3:46 PM
468	Police/Fire, Public Works, Parks Recreation and Cultural Arts, Bloomington Public Library	12/19/2014 3:25 PM
469	Police and Fire	12/19/2014 3:14 PM
470	Fire, police, public works, community development, water	12/19/2014 3:12 PM
471	The Pepsi Ice Center and the hockey programs they offer are incredibly important to us. The zoo provides and educational experience right here in our hometown, and the library has phenomenal programming.	12/19/2014 2:58 PM
472	Streets	12/19/2014 2:50 PM
473	This is a loaded question. All of these together are necessary to have a successful enterprise. This question is just an excuse to figure out which departments we can cut from the budget.	12/19/2014 2:24 PM
474	No enough sports programs for kids in park district	12/19/2014 2:07 PM
475	Miller Park Zoo	12/19/2014 1:42 PM
476	Teen and children's programs.	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
477	health and safety first; all others second. Parks/Quality of Life issues should never be out of the equation.	12/19/2014 1:34 PM
478	Police patrol, water, parks, zoo, library	12/19/2014 1:31 PM
479	Streets, Engineering, Police Admin and patrol, Parks	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
480	Parks & Recreation Services Water to my house Police Coverage Fire Coverage Garbage pick up Technology that is current	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
481	Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks & Recreation & Library	12/19/2014 1:22 PM
482	They are all important at one time or another.	12/19/2014 1:18 PM
483	Human Resources. It is extremely important that the existing employees are happy with their job and performing to the best of their ability. Employee retention is important, as is recruiting. The employees are the boots on the floor. An employee will thrive in a healthy culture- thus, resulting in the delivery of top-notch services. Second to HR would be technology. If our processes are not streamlined then it will cost the City time and money.	12/19/2014 1:15 PM
484	Police, Fire, Streets, Park and Recreation, Miller Park Zoo	12/19/2014 1:14 PM
485	Public Works, Police, Fire	12/19/2014 1:11 PM
486	1) Public programs before/after school for those who need them most, 2) outdoor music and theatre, yoga and exercise, 3) community health clinics, 4) fire, ambulance, police/safety 5) roads/infrastructure	12/19/2014 1:07 PM
487	Recreation, Parks, Fire, Police	12/19/2014 12:56 PM
488	Parks, water, streets, fire and police	12/19/2014 12:54 PM
489	Water/Solid Waste/Fire/Police/Finance	12/19/2014 12:48 PM
490	Library, Public Safety Public Health, Public Property	12/19/2014 12:44 PM

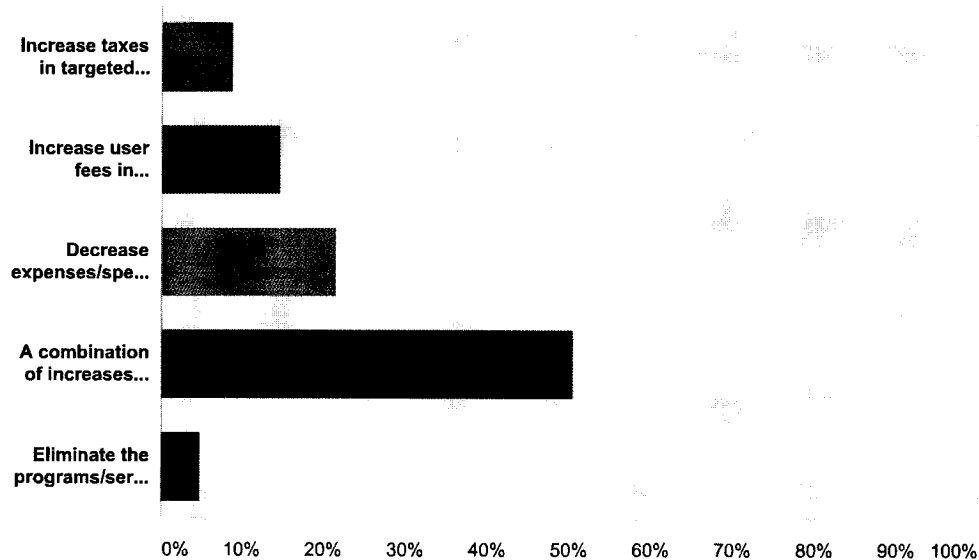
2015 Citizen Priority Survey

491	Police, fire, water, streets, sanitation.	12/19/2014 12:36 PM
492	All the fire/police are most important. The public works is 2.	12/19/2014 12:18 PM
493	Solid Waste a clean city is vital to me staying in Bloominton	12/19/2014 12:11 PM
494	Downtown revitalization, maintaining infrastructure, police/fire protection, Parks and recreation, solid waste	12/19/2014 11:57 AM
495	Schools, governance, public safety, economic development, beautification	12/14/2014 6:09 PM
496	Water Solid Waste Snow Fire/EMS Sewer/Streets Library	12/13/2014 6:12 PM
497	Police..fire...water....streets...	12/13/2014 2:28 PM
498	Fire, Police, Public Works, Water, City Operations (Finance, clerk, IS, HR, etc)	12/13/2014 7:38 AM
499	Trash removal and snow plowing library parks / zoo / pools water	12/12/2014 9:46 PM
500	Safety, Public Works	12/12/2014 3:53 PM
501	Police, Fire, Water, Public Works, and PR & CA	12/12/2014 3:34 PM
502	Police Fire Water Roads	12/12/2014 3:24 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q5 If/when faced with budget challenges that could threaten the programs/services most important to you, what would you recommend the City do concerning these programs/services?

Answered: 591 Skipped: 16



Answer Choices	Responses	
Increase taxes in targeted budget areas to continue to support the programs/services	8.80%	52
Increase user fees in targeted budget areas to continue to support the programs/services	14.55%	86
Decrease expenses/spending in targeted budget areas to continue to support the programs/services	21.49%	127
A combination of increases in taxes/fees and decreases in expenses/spending	50.42%	298
Eliminate the programs/services	4.74%	28
Total		591

#	Your comments are welcome:	Date
1	Downtown bar owners must pay for police callback. Local groups must fund in part the cost of paying the police overtime of highly-compensated command level officer.	1/16/2015 11:33 AM
2	Tax increases and spending cuts where appropriate.	1/15/2015 9:51 PM
3	One can always find a way to decrease expenses, freeze pay raises, and be a good steward of what you already have.	1/15/2015 8:10 PM
4	Overall decreased spending in other areas would be the best option. At the same time, it's not fair to have cut funding to programs that are stable.	1/15/2015 6:02 PM
5	We are unable to provide services and programs for each and every interest froup. That cost model in not sustanable unless you have steep user fees.	1/15/2015 4:05 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

6	Spending should be decreased in all areas of mis-management and taxes should be increased after this to provide necessary services.	1/14/2015 8:54 PM
7	You need to get the pension costs under control and revamp the administrative structure. I think that would be the biggest thing you could do to tackle budget issues.	1/13/2015 3:19 PM
8	Find other areas to trim the budget for non-essential programs/services to pay for those that are necessary. Government officials need to start to learn to live within their means and STOP increasing taxes and fees to cover their overreach!	1/13/2015 11:11 AM
9	I guess I don't understand why there wouldn't be a choice here to decrease expenses or eliminate non-essential programs or services in this list. I believe in prioritization of expenditures for city government similar to how individuals must prioritize their own expenditures and cut out non-essential spending from their budgets.	1/13/2015 7:48 AM
10	Before taking action, provide valid information (costs, what would be gained/lost) and seek the public's input via means like a survey with sufficient notification for response.	1/12/2015 10:08 AM
11	Move budget items like improvements to downtown to support the more essential programs and services	1/10/2015 11:13 AM
12	Too MUCH govt spending. Middle class getting stuck with the bill.	1/10/2015 10:11 AM
13	Complex question to answer. All the above should be considered. Have you considered a strategy to more openly communicate the city challenges via blogs, newsletters or position papers. Unfortunately busy lives prevent many from attending council meetings so strategies to create greater dispersion of ideas is desired to better answer	1/10/2015 9:43 AM
14	Wasted fund going on Eliminated nuisance programs	1/10/2015 9:38 AM
15	Coliseum has been a drain in city budget. Need to sell Lower golf fees to get more people to play the courses.	1/9/2015 3:36 PM
16	the increase fee must totally support the program, not other monies to help support	1/9/2015 1:35 PM
17	The programs and services need to be managed holistically. So if we need more police protection, you might need to cut some expenses in another program.	1/9/2015 1:17 PM
18	No new taxes until spending is cut to the bone!	1/9/2015 12:11 PM
19	I could sit down and look at department details and recommend cuts. Each department head should do this. 309-830-5652 if you need help.	1/9/2015 12:29 AM
20	Bulk waste collection every week-everything is beyond most communities and not affordable! Cut it back. It also puts staff in tough positions as I see my neighbors put very large piles of trees that have been cut down and "work" city staff to not charge extra fees.	1/8/2015 10:01 PM
21	Do Not Increase Taxes. Fine tune services to serve the most amount of people, eliminate low participation/high cost programs. In house preventative maintenance and repair instead of relying on outside contractors to maintain facilities. Solid Waste workers should not be getting done with their daily duties early in the day and then wait out the rest of the day on the taxpayers dime. If there isn't enough work to stay busy all day then there is an area for cuts to be made. Maybe a trial area should be set up to test the feasibility of private waste pick up. BCPA should merge with the Coliseum and share administrative services. The Coliseum could balance their budget if all the profits from concessions would be going to the City and not the management company. City loses money at Coliseum but management company makes a profit.	1/8/2015 9:56 PM
22	Subcontract to competing private businesses (the more local the better)	1/8/2015 7:02 PM
23	Prioritize needs, then wants, then desires. Sacrifices likely will need to be made, but surely there are things the city can decrease in the budge or release completely, especially if the private sector provides some of those items.	1/8/2015 4:34 PM
24	Privatize all nonessential city functions. Reform the pension plans for city employees who are 50 and under, changing their defined plans to a 401K. Reduce and/or eliminate administrative positions within city government.	1/8/2015 2:24 PM
25	Everything is about balance. Increases in user fees alone may make programs unattainable for many or make them go obsolete, so taxes may need to help support the fees. Decreases in expenses and spending may make sense. Cutting should be a last resort after careful analysis. Usually, savings can be realized through gaining efficiencies. CONSTANT process improvements and future staff planning should exist in all areas to continually cut waste.	1/8/2015 1:36 PM
26	Reducing expenses should always be the first option.	1/8/2015 12:30 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

27	Decrease spending and eliminate certain unnecessary programs. The city needs to remember they have no money until they take it away from their citizens. The City can't keep spending irresponsibly and expect the public to bail them out when they make poor financial decision. The city has a responsibility to be a good steward with its citizen's money	1/8/2015 11:54 AM
28	Stop paying \$500M payments to public safety people who retire for 30 yrs on obscene pensions of 85% of working salary (pay the state minimum payment for ever), cut GF-Human Resources budget by 10%, cut GF-administration by 10%; hire a new city attorney, not the \$145/hr. crony law firm from springfield,	1/8/2015 11:44 AM
29	For each dollar increase in taxes/fees a dollar in decreased spending should happen	1/8/2015 10:38 AM
30	Not extreme either way	1/8/2015 10:32 AM
31	If fees won't support a program, it really isn't wanted !! Decreasing level of program to level of citizen support not what some IDIOT mayor wants !!!	1/8/2015 9:45 AM
32	I would lean towards increasing taxes/fees but also get rid of services that do not benefit many people and are just plain stupid.	1/8/2015 9:26 AM
33	I don't believe any gov't agency/department is as efficient as it could/should be. Improving efficiency is first priority then deal with finances.	1/8/2015 8:48 AM
34	Increase fees, decrease taxes for find new revenue streams. Youth golf clinics is one way as it relates to our courses - supervised by any college employee.	1/8/2015 8:30 AM
35	There's a lot of waste that should be eliminated before any option. Also, for revenue-producing items, better marketing and management.	1/8/2015 8:15 AM
36	None of the above are single answers. All have their plus's and minus's. Already increased user fees for garbage collection are seen not to work. Makes me leery of doing the same thing for other areas.	1/8/2015 8:12 AM
37	Good stewardship is expected. When revenues are weak tough prioritization must be utilized throughout the budgeted areas. When it grows then those things that have been inadequately funded can be allowed to grow also. Similar to what I must do in my personal budget.	1/8/2015 8:03 AM
38	Decrease other programs that are nonessential, or "pet" projects that have no "need" to be present or paid for with public funds earmarked for police, fire, and water	1/8/2015 8:02 AM
39	stupid question. it depends on the service. for example, I'd for for more user fees for library expenses. I'd vote to eliminate funding for the Coliseum.	1/8/2015 7:54 AM
40	You want me to comment on services and programs and ways to fund them when the mayor was going to purchase land for a private school's practice football program???? Talk about politics affecting decisions. Pretty tough to teach your kids to save money and work during the summers when you have a city council and mayor willing to spend taxpayer money to purchase land for a private school's football program. This is one example of many that show that question 5 above makes no difference in the data you collect.	1/8/2015 7:32 AM
41	It would depend on the program as to how I would address the issue. There are some programs that could be cut but other that are vital. First reduce high ranking city employees incomes.	1/8/2015 7:31 AM
42	That question is impossible to answer. If we're talking police protection, we can't do without. I love golf, but they should b self sustaining.	1/8/2015 7:13 AM
43	why are we spending money on library services when even the schools are using nooks and kindles?	1/8/2015 7:10 AM
44	Non essential programs need to be eliminated.	1/8/2015 7:05 AM
45	combination increase of taxes and user fees. at some point, decreasing spending on an area renders it frustrating and less helpful to the user which would result in less people willing to contribute to that area.	1/8/2015 2:33 AM
46	Setting priorities must place needs before wants	1/7/2015 10:27 PM
47	It's always a balance, and those are the tough decisions we elect people to make. It seems to me that a combination of small tax and fee increases combined with decreasing spending would be the most effective.	1/7/2015 9:01 PM
48	You can only spend what you bring in.	1/7/2015 6:16 PM
49	Increase user fees for zoo and recreation; increase taxes for streets and snow removal	1/7/2015 4:28 PM
50	This question is too broad to give any one specific answer.	1/7/2015 4:01 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

51	None of these answers are the best fit in my view. I choice the closest to my view. Services should be prioritized by necessity and the percentage of the tax base that uses the service. If cuts need to be made they should be made at the bottom of said list.	1/7/2015 2:47 PM
52	Qualitification: what kinds of taxes, and on what? I would not support taxes that weigh more heavily on lower-income residents. We need to keep the quality of life aspects of our community high (in fact, we need to raise our quality of life in terms of access to culture, health, etc).	1/7/2015 2:40 PM
53	Eliminating programs is never an option, decreasing spending, increases in fees, then taxes should all come first.	1/7/2015 1:02 PM
54	See ?#3	1/7/2015 8:10 AM
55	Let's keep Bloomington vibrant as a community where people want to live and visit.	1/7/2015 7:06 AM
56	This was tough. This is a broad question. But everyone benefits from police, fire, water quality, good roads..	1/7/2015 7:00 AM
57	Life is hard. We should live within our means.	1/6/2015 10:05 PM
58	Confusing question. I support eliminating city support of things like cultural pursuits to beef up basic structures like roads, water supply.	1/6/2015 8:38 PM
59	I was surprised some years ago when +/- 60 City positions were eliminated (retirement/termination) and the City continued to function as/almost as before. How did overstaffing to that degree happen? It is less likely to happen in private business. Unfortunately it has had a lasting negative impact. Someone/pub relations staff(?) at City Hall needs to regularly articulate the goodness of the City.	1/6/2015 1:50 PM
60	When possible	1/6/2015 10:46 AM
61	Eliminating services is always a thought, but far too broad in a survey such as this.	1/6/2015 10:30 AM
62	Some increases and some decrease in expenses has to be the best compromise	1/5/2015 12:28 PM
63	Seek input from public first though	1/5/2015 6:22 AM
64	City MUST trim retirement benefits. For example, If memory serves me correct, PACE director was making approximately \$95,000 around 2009. He retired very early 2014 with a final salary of around \$185,000. How does salary doubles in just 5 years? Now the pension will be based on the final figure. This "spiking" is going to cost the city and tax-payers. Enough of sticking it to the tax-payers. This to me is basically fraud, something the city top brass ignores and condones. I bet there are many more examples like this. Then, asking the public to take fewer services or be ready for tax increase is meaningless. City employees need to understand and agree to retirement benefits reductions (around 75% of what is promised now), before we become Detroit. In that case, they would lose not just 25%, but almost 50%. How about some common sense?	1/4/2015 10:16 PM
65	Look to contractors to perform traditional city services such as snow removal, sanitation, and maintaining public parks etc. Contractors do not require the pensions, benfits, and salaries that city employees do. Put projects on hold that are for downtown attractiveness or revitalization: focus on keeping our city well maintained on a basic level and safe.	1/4/2015 10:14 PM
66	Ideally, efficiencies would be introduced on a continuous basis that would reduce expenses. When reductions are no longer feasible, user fees specific to the program are the next preference.	1/4/2015 8:46 PM
67	I would be happy to pay the high taxes if we had usable, well kept parks for our children to play.	1/4/2015 6:14 PM
68	As with any business there are ways to be more efficient and cut costs. I would like the city to be doing that regularly in conjunction with asking for higher taxes.	1/4/2015 8:42 AM
69	Some people will stop using recreational services if the fees are too great. Perhaps need-based financial waivers or sliding scale fees to help keep the programs running, while allowing those who struggle to continue to participate in favorite activities.	1/3/2015 7:22 PM
70	PR & CA, HR, Finance, Community Development, IT	1/3/2015 8:20 AM
71	focus on the core services and cut on those that are not needs. In other words determine needs from wants!!	1/2/2015 7:09 PM
72	our property taxes are already as high as almost anywhere in the nation	1/2/2015 5:33 PM
73	At our house, when we don't have the money, we don't spend it. It is interesting how many times we are told that governments don't have enough money to do something, but still manage to go forward with the plans. Stop spending money you don't have. Debt is Dumb!!!	1/2/2015 7:41 AM
74	City should judge and see if we can decrease some of the expenses if not we can raise the taxes.	1/1/2015 10:53 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

75	You have too many cultural programs that should be addressed through the private sector. As a result, people are moving out of the city... That's a death spiral. I just built a new house in town. If I had it to do over again, I would build outside the city.	1/1/2015 6:15 PM
76	increases town wide not in specific area we are a community we should support all programs, services, repairs, spending collectively.	1/1/2015 10:44 AM
77	The basic programs have to covered first, then the priority of the rest has to be made to stay within the budget. Is the budget automatically increased based on inflation and is it use the money or face a decrease in funds the following year?	1/1/2015 8:20 AM
78	If there are programs that are supported by taxes that could be supported by user fees, that makes sense to change over-such as increasing zoo entry fees or library card fees or use of pavilions at the parks and use of the pools, etc.. If there are opportunities to reduce spending and expenses while still maintaining safety, security, and excellence, I would assume the City manager would be able to give insight into options.	12/31/2014 12:47 PM
79	The city should live on a budget just like a family does. If the money is not there we do with out.	12/31/2014 12:14 PM
80	I support taxes for government necessities. However, the city really needs to look at changing some things even for those. Almost all private businesses have gone to a 401K program instead of defined pension benefit. Why hasn't the city done this? Governments need to quit looking at endless ways to spend money and then have to tax people to make up for their spending.	12/31/2014 11:38 AM
81	It depends on what's being cut. What's being proposed? More info needed to answer this question appropriately. Except you can cut funds from subdivision golf courses...see below for details.	12/31/2014 2:55 AM
82	Pray that the state of IL gets it's fiscal act together and supports schools as the law requires and passes along the sales tax dollars that it collects for the city.	12/30/2014 10:32 PM
83	It is impossible to maintain services the city has traditionally provided and not - at some point - raise taxes and fees. I don't want to pay higher taxes (who does?!) but the cost of doing business goes up, and city revenues need to be raised to maintain the quality of life we expect.	12/30/2014 10:26 PM
84	Look to economies of consolidating services with the Town of Normal	12/30/2014 9:25 PM
85	I think it is unrealistic to believe that the cost of providing services will not go up for government funded programs. So long as citizen input and oversight is encouraged, I think it is possible to make wise decisions on the budget as needed. I STRONGLY believe a long term perspective should be employed to make choices that will have lasting impact.	12/30/2014 4:08 PM
86	If we need to raise taxes, so be it. However, we need to look closely at all expenses and make adjustments where possible. It appears to me that we have several overpaid city management personnel.	12/30/2014 3:21 PM
87	I'd rather pay higher property taxes than user fees. At least with the property tax I get a federal tax deduction as opposed to nothing with a user fee.	12/30/2014 2:40 PM
88	user fees, increase taxes, tax churches	12/30/2014 2:19 PM
89	or decrease spending in non-targeted areas of the budget	12/30/2014 11:58 AM
90	Although, this should not be a problem if those elected to our local government would target the areas needed to care for our city and maintain the things that are here. Our downtown is not unmaintained. Our streets, sewers, etc. are!!!	12/30/2014 11:46 AM
91	An increase in taxes is sometimes justified because even non-users of a service benefit from an enhanced quality of life.	12/30/2014 10:24 AM
92	Cant comment on blanket topic like this. Every case is different and needs to be approached with a little more thought and concern than this	12/30/2014 9:36 AM
93	I think taxes are out of control – gas, entertainment, garbage, utility, have all gone up and taxes like Liquor is way out of bounds. I think expense control is the only way to approach this – remember SF is more likely to leave than increase numbers – let's not become Decatur.	12/30/2014 9:07 AM
94	ER services,SOAR iParks and Rec, downtown activities.	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
95	At this stage, the city has a relatively low tax rate. As long as we are below the regional average, I think that taxes and user fees should go up. Telling people where the pinch is and what you are raising to cover it is imperative.	12/29/2014 9:56 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

96	All of these expensive studies from outside agencies. Why does the city have operating engineers and an entire water department on the payroll yet so much of the digging of water mains and sewer lines are outsourced?	12/29/2014 4:05 PM
97	If decreasing expenses makes program less worthy of support and it isn't essential to serve everyone, eliminate service/program.	12/29/2014 2:18 PM
98	Continue long term strategy for water, maintain streets and infrastructure, police/fire depts	12/29/2014 10:20 AM
99	kind of tough to check pretty broad choice of answers there are certainly programs that can be eliminated	12/29/2014 10:02 AM
100	cuts before higher taxes. We are taxed enough.	12/27/2014 3:01 PM
101	Include all costs of programs, especially hidden administrative costs, and make them available to the public.	12/27/2014 12:35 PM
102	Since there are many services listed, we need to look at reducing/stopping less important services. money needs to go to the important services first. if there is no money left after these services are funded, then other services are removed.	12/26/2014 7:30 PM
103	Trim the fat.	12/26/2014 3:06 PM
104	None of the above, instead: 1) Increase taxes/fees based on distance from City Hall service headquarters; 2) OR: rebuild General Fund through property surcharge/recapture tax for annexation subsidy recovery, Fox Creek to present. 3) Increase lease fees at Lake Bloomington to match or exceed similar private permanent residential developments.	12/26/2014 1:23 PM
105	Support for decreasing expenses/spending does not imply that spending should be cut if an appropriate amount of funds are being spent on the particular program or service. A reevaluation of expenditures should always be carried out before any adjustments are made regarding tax increases or decreases in spending.	12/26/2014 9:28 AM
106	Look at cost first. What are you paying for that is not necessary. Example: Connect Transit is using a grant to buy a bunch of buses. How full are those buses? Do they need full sized buses? Could they get by on smaller buses on some routes? Think outside the box like you are spending your own money. City money goes to Connect Transit we should demand they function correctly.	12/26/2014 7:47 AM
107	Look to the heads of individual departments and/or programs for the answer to funding problems. These people are in their positions because of their expertise, and should be exploited. Outside consultants are an expensive option, and most consultations result in the same service needs indicated by the department/program heads.	12/26/2014 12:18 AM
108	It goes without saying the city must begin a program of determining essential services/programs vs nice to haves and not necessities. The latter should be funded by those using the services just like the city currently requires of golfers. Make more use of enterprise funds and look real hard at taxpayer dollars given to entities such as the EDC, Visitor's Bureau and what taxpayers receive in return. What "bang for the taxpayer's dollars" are taxpayers receiving.	12/25/2014 1:46 PM
109	LEARN to live within YOUR BUDGET!	12/25/2014 11:34 AM
110	How about the 800lb gorilla in the room?? Decrease the operational overhead of the city. Lay people off. Do what businesses and families when money is tight. Implement cuts!!	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
111	Second step would be to reduce spending - what are the plans for waste , when the dump is full	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
112	If we cannot afford it with what funds we have, then we don't get it. Plain and simple! Just like a good household budget. We need to save for it until we can afford it.	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
113	depends on what the program is	12/25/2014 6:26 AM
114	I think there are places to cut expenses. I have never understood why so many people need a city owned car. I think that should not be a perk, having a city job is perk enough.	12/25/2014 5:30 AM
115	We all would like to see a cut in expenses, but I realize that is not very feasible, given the pension situation.	12/23/2014 2:16 PM
116	It depends on the situation.	12/23/2014 9:56 AM
117	Do not offer pensions to new city employees	12/23/2014 9:03 AM
118	If you stop sprawl, we will have less infrastructure to have to upkeep. Make developers pay for their own infrastructure and put a 30yr time frame on their responsibility for repairs. They currently have no long term consequences for poor planning choices	12/23/2014 7:22 AM
119	Quit paying for the ARENA	12/22/2014 9:02 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

120	The City needs to learn how to cut expenses and unnecessary waste.	12/22/2014 8:12 PM
121	Again this question is biased. These are not the only five possibilities for meeting a budget. There is a great deal of money that can be saved without impacting essential services.	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
122	If too many programs/services are eliminated just to "save money", we are no better off. We would just be existing, not living.	12/22/2014 6:58 PM
123	Some taxes hit only home owners for services rendered for the total population. Try to have balance.	12/22/2014 5:01 PM
124	Privatize what city can't seem to control expenses on.	12/22/2014 3:44 PM
125	Not every function must be fully paid for by use fees, if so, no property tax would be needed. I believe a high standard/quality of life is important to keep people in the community. That said, there must be a balance of reducing the increase in costs and new revenue. However, new revenue should be the last resort.	12/22/2014 3:41 PM
126	May be harsh, but some (not life safety) programs might just need to be cut	12/22/2014 3:12 PM
127	We have far too many expensive ammenities that are not fundamental needs. Coluseum, BCPA, Parks and Recreation etc.	12/22/2014 3:07 PM
128	A city council frugal with tax payer funds would eliminate a lot of the problems. The constant studies to somehow "uniquely" be like other cities is counter productive.	12/22/2014 1:30 PM
129	I think the overwhelming response I heard at Townhall meetings last year is that people are willing to pay for Bloomington to continue to be a great place to live.	12/22/2014 1:21 PM
130	Unwarranted calls to the police, fire department etc should come with a cost...If it is a true emergency, of course, no cost...but someone who indiscriminately calls police or other services should be warned 'next time it will cost'...again, unless it is a true emergency.	12/22/2014 1:14 PM
131	I would like to see decreases in expenses/spending...perhaps across the spectrum to help with budget concerns. For instance, instead of cutting spending for the fire department, maybe we could reduce expenses in parks and rec in order to move more money into the fire department budget	12/22/2014 1:13 PM
132	There are a number of programs/services that can/should be eliminated, privatized or pay for themselves. I think that Bloomington and Normal should explore combining cities and end duplication of services. Unit 5 and District 87 should also be combined.	12/22/2014 1:01 PM
133	Like I would have to do in order to balance my personal budget, the City should eliminate unnecesary costs in order to continue to pay for things they need to pay for or would like to pay for. At some point in time, it is going to be necessary to make some folks unhappy (cutting Parks/Community Development programs) but it is for the better of the entire community if that means keeping up with maintenance at the zoo or other park. Living within your means is the focus here.	12/22/2014 12:51 PM
134	Pumping money into a dead or dying service isn't going to fix it. It needs to be able to survive on budget before it will be viable in the long run.	12/21/2014 8:36 AM
135	Again, it's hard to choose. I know I don't like money being wasted. Maybe you could sell the Coliseum.	12/20/2014 6:18 PM
136	and eliminate certain programs / service like may of the parks programs and overly large Human Resources dept. i.e.: 13 types of sub programs over seeing a much smaller employee work force?	12/20/2014 1:23 PM
137	It really just depends on the situation	12/20/2014 9:33 AM
138	Get your priorities straight. Don't spend money you don't have. Cut entitlement programs. They do more harm than good.	12/19/2014 6:24 PM
139	A combination of increased taxes and user fees, with an eye on efficiency to save money.	12/19/2014 3:12 PM
140	Again, these questions show how narrow-minded the City is being. Increasing Taxes/Fees and Decreasing Department Budgets are not the only two ways to save money. Lets dig deeper and find out "Why" these programs aren't successful.	12/19/2014 2:24 PM
141	None of the above. Increase efficiencies	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
142	This city needs to get it's budget in check and get rid of pensions. Pensions are very outdated and antiquated.	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
143	Lower David Hales' income and benefits	12/19/2014 1:28 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

144	I think every budget needs to be examined by an outside person to challenge and ask why do they need that service or money. We need numbers for each service and program to determine the impact on the citizens.	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
145	Fund raiser wouldn't hurt.	12/19/2014 1:18 PM
146	Employees are still trying to produce results with little staff, budget, and resources. Cutting these factors even more would result in stressed-out employees with little moral, resulting in poor-quality services.	12/19/2014 1:15 PM
147	I also believe that people should be charged for how much they use things	12/19/2014 1:07 PM
148	At times, you may need to eliminate programs/services if you are cutting a program so thin that it cannot provide adequate services.	12/19/2014 12:48 PM
149	Review and restructure city pension plans. Right now, fire are allowed to retire at pension level on their day of retirement rather than average of say highest 5 or 10 years. A number of guys have retired within 1-3 months (or in at least one case, 5 days) of receiving a promotion. Also need to evaluate spouse benefits from retirement programs. Lower monthly payout if to cover two people's lives rather than just one. No benefit to spouse if marriage after retirement date or less than 5 years before retirement.	12/19/2014 12:36 PM
150	Increasing user fees and tightening budgets	12/19/2014 12:18 PM
151	If city services are honestly prioritized, areas deserving less funding will be self evident	12/13/2014 7:38 AM
152	We get a lot for the taxes we pay, particularly from the city.	12/12/2014 9:46 PM
153	Really depends on the program/service. If a golf course isn't financially stable, greens fees can be raised. If the police don't have enough money, we can't really raise a user fee for that department. But in general, I prefer reasonable user fees over tax increases.	12/12/2014 3:24 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q6 What are the least important programs/services to you for the City to provide? A list of City programs/services is available here for your reference if desired. Please list up to five programs/services.

Answered: 395 Skipped: 212

#	Responses	Date
1	Golf courses should be outsourced. No new east-side library branch. City salaries and benefits must be brought in line with private sector jobs.	1/16/2015 11:33 AM
2	your job, why I voted	1/15/2015 11:25 PM
3	Social programs - Parks and Community Development	1/15/2015 11:07 PM
4	Parks- have way too many community development- do not develop more, maintain, improve and keep what we already have. library- too many books in good shape are taken off the shelf	1/15/2015 8:10 PM
5	street cleaning with machines	1/15/2015 8:08 PM
6	Parks, quit adding, maintain what you have.	1/15/2015 6:12 PM
7	Community Development	1/15/2015 6:02 PM
8	GF - BCPA + Coliseum	1/15/2015 2:27 PM
9	Parks Zoo School security Consulting Street sweeper	1/15/2015 12:30 PM
10	They are all important Balance the community	1/15/2015 10:25 AM
11	Zoo	1/15/2015 7:32 AM
12	Whether or not they pertain to my life, they all seem very important.	1/14/2015 8:54 PM
13	They are all important	1/14/2015 8:30 PM
14	Police	1/14/2015 7:35 PM
15	Golf and Zoo	1/14/2015 4:54 PM
16	coliseum, golf courses, bike paths	1/14/2015 2:59 PM
17	It's difficult to list these without knowing the cost verses use component. It's like a Jenga game...if you pull one piece out it can collapse the whole tower. I am all for a refined city meaning combining programs when there is overlap in goals. But proper distribution of responsibility when programs are eliminated is of utmost importance.	1/14/2015 12:01 AM
18	It was honestly hard to find programs that I felt were least important. Our family doesn't utilize the library, but I still see it as an important resource.	1/13/2015 10:19 PM
19	Golf courses	1/13/2015 7:53 PM
20	Freedom of Information Act, golf	1/13/2015 7:12 PM
21	Library	1/13/2015 6:48 PM
22	Affordable Housing Construction/Maintenance, Human Resource (too many areas, seems bloated), Employee Wellness/Health Programs, Community Development Building	1/13/2015 3:19 PM
23	BCPA, Library, Vice	1/13/2015 7:48 AM
24	Tax support for arts	1/13/2015 7:43 AM
25	Community Development Parks/Rec It's not that they aren't important - just not AS important as a useable street that doesn't require tire realignment every 6 months!	1/12/2015 10:08 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

26	BCPA	1/12/2015 9:52 AM
27	Human Resources, Clerk, Community Development, PR & CA	1/12/2015 7:47 AM
28	recreation	1/11/2015 12:17 PM
29	Golf Grant	1/10/2015 7:59 PM
30	If we want to be a great regional city why settle for less. Let's develop a vision and the strategies to implement and provide all needed programs and services.	1/10/2015 2:41 PM
31	Library, Human Resources	1/10/2015 11:13 AM
32	Back office	1/10/2015 11:11 AM
33	Arts, bikeways, etc. govt should provide basic infrastructure support.	1/10/2015 10:11 AM
34	Library, Zoo, Golf	1/10/2015 9:28 AM
35	I think all services need to have a item by item accounting of importance to see what could be cut back on or eliminated	1/9/2015 5:13 PM
36	EMS, BCPA, Golf, Zoo	1/9/2015 3:46 PM
37	library. let the library tax for themselves	1/9/2015 1:35 PM
38	public information, community development planning, FOIA Clerk, LAN/Wan network, let others do it.	1/9/2015 12:11 PM
39	Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Library	1/9/2015 9:51 AM
40	Golf & Zoo within Parks & Rec (no more growth here right now, focus on larger issues) Library (necessary but does not need to expand right now, other areas are more important) certain areas within the Police may need to be combined (i.e., Communications & Public Info) Human Resources (seems to be far too large, especially given the Finance Dept. and other programs that do the same types of services, possibly look into restructuring or condensing)	1/9/2015 9:44 AM
41	Employee wellness (let your insurance carrier do this), public information, zoo, outsource BCPA, ARFF (Airport should find more of this expense).	1/9/2015 12:29 AM
42	There isn't a least. The infrastructure needs may minimize other areas such as library.	1/8/2015 10:37 PM
43	Library - Adult and Teen Services: need is also being met through other organizations BCPA: would seem to have opportunities for savings Community Development - not aware of the value of some of these services	1/8/2015 10:04 PM
44	Entertainment!	1/8/2015 10:01 PM
45	Boats at Miller Lake. Trash/Bulk Waste Pick up. Cultural Arts Center. Low attendance Rec. activities.	1/8/2015 9:56 PM
46	Zoo	1/8/2015 7:46 PM
47	BCPA	1/8/2015 7:22 PM
48	Golf. No actually everybody has their own interests apart from basic shelter and safety. Entertainment and cultural centers for example (and golf) are low on my personal list but I understand they bring in revenue.	1/8/2015 7:02 PM
49	Position Classification and Compensation. This should be done by another HR area.	1/8/2015 5:08 PM
50	Additional administrative positions, planning, consultants.	1/8/2015 4:34 PM
51	information services, clerks	1/8/2015 2:33 PM
52	Any of the clerk, finance, or administrative positions	1/8/2015 2:24 PM
53	Parks	1/8/2015 1:46 PM
54	Community Development (especially Downtown revitalization), and Library	1/8/2015 1:44 PM
55	I don't know enough about all of the services and the impact to me and others to make a judgment.	1/8/2015 1:36 PM
56	Promotion for Downtown. Library. BCPA (Cultural District). Coliseum.	1/8/2015 1:12 PM
57	n/a	1/8/2015 12:42 PM
58	Lerk, information services	1/8/2015 12:32 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

59	Parks & Rec., Community Development, certain Human Resources Departments, Information Services. We have too many beautiful green spaces and parks that are unused or underused. These were a bad use of city money based on a cost/benefit analysis.	1/8/2015 11:54 AM
60	All are important	1/8/2015 11:53 AM
61	arff, swat, fleet, grants, zoo.	1/8/2015 11:53 AM
62	Communications directors, too many lieutenants in fire and police departments,	1/8/2015 11:44 AM
63	Downtown improvements	1/8/2015 11:37 AM
64	N/a	1/8/2015 11:25 AM
65	I am not aware of any programs that are not important. They are all seem important to a vibrant, progressive community and should be funded with our taxes.	1/8/2015 11:17 AM
66	large entertainment venues hotels	1/8/2015 11:04 AM
67	Administration	1/8/2015 10:38 AM
68	Golf, Community Development	1/8/2015 10:37 AM
69	Building more parks, McGraw is great addition for east side but Miller Park is a gem too, BCPA ok but overemphasized, in my opinion,(rather fix roads, pot holes, street lights, sewer sink holes ...)	1/8/2015 10:32 AM
70	Nothing, it is all important.	1/8/2015 10:17 AM
71	Can't see the list, so no input on this.	1/8/2015 10:06 AM
72	Community Development	1/8/2015 10:02 AM
73	All are important. Would hate to list any.	1/8/2015 9:49 AM
74	As above any that private industry can provide : start with garbage pick up !!	1/8/2015 9:45 AM
75	No opinion	1/8/2015 9:39 AM
76	The library does not do much for me but whenever I drive by, there seems to be a lot of people who use it so I would probably not cut their funding. I have never researched any programs/services so I cannot offer any suggestions. However, a few years ago, the Parks & Rec Dept used to offer outdoor movies at Rollingbrook Park and it was attended by many neighborhood people but the program was cut. Personally, I think that was a bad decision because it surely did not cost that much to run and it sure was a nice way to end a summer night.	1/8/2015 9:26 AM
77	Community Development, Info Services, Human Resources, Clerk, Finance	1/8/2015 9:24 AM
78	community outreach, wellness	1/8/2015 9:16 AM
79	NO Comment	1/8/2015 9:15 AM
80	Parks, Legal fees and consulting services	1/8/2015 9:09 AM
81	Human Resources - community relations	1/8/2015 9:05 AM
82	Down Town renewal.	1/8/2015 9:03 AM
83	Things that have a small targeted demographic for use like soccer fields for private leagues that are limited to use by a select few for a short period of time	1/8/2015 8:55 AM
84	Parks & rec, community dev, library	1/8/2015 8:53 AM
85	HR and info services.	1/8/2015 8:48 AM
86	The public works employees milking the system	1/8/2015 8:48 AM
87	Community development, library.	1/8/2015 8:43 AM
88	Public Information BCPA Library	1/8/2015 8:40 AM
89	Library Human Resources Fire	1/8/2015 8:36 AM
90	zoning, children's services (schools provide these)	1/8/2015 8:33 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

91	Library - Bloomington should lead the way to moving to an online library experience. Public Transit - nobody uses, I can't believe that makes money	1/8/2015 8:30 AM
92	A very poor list in a very poor survey. Someone should have summarized the departments better.	1/8/2015 8:15 AM
93	BCPA	1/8/2015 8:15 AM
94	no opinion	1/8/2015 8:12 AM
95	HR	1/8/2015 8:10 AM
96	All of them.	1/8/2015 8:05 AM
97	Public library - I recognize that this is an unfavorable stance but I also recognize that this is one entity that may be able to stand on its own in the private sector. Similarly, the zoo and BCPA are entities that potentially could survive through private ownership. However, that being said, these services should not be recklessly discarded.	1/8/2015 8:03 AM
98	The Zoo, The Coliseum	1/8/2015 8:02 AM
99	Luxury recreation or any other publicly funded recreation that not everyone has access to because of the additional costs that make it exclusive.	1/8/2015 7:58 AM
100	Community Development	1/8/2015 7:56 AM
101	Entertainment	1/8/2015 7:55 AM
102	City administration salaries and cars for city employees.	1/8/2015 7:54 AM
103	administration, HR	1/8/2015 7:52 AM
104	Community Relations, Adult and Teen Services	1/8/2015 7:31 AM
105	Community development, library	1/8/2015 7:29 AM
106	BCPA	1/8/2015 7:22 AM
107	Police and Fire Commission	1/8/2015 7:16 AM
108	parks	1/8/2015 7:15 AM
109	Depends. If the zoo is revenue producing, keep it. If it's costing us millions a year, scrap it. Same with pools, golf courses, etc	1/8/2015 7:13 AM
110	stormwater, sister cities, administration,downtown	1/8/2015 7:10 AM
111	Water Maintenance, BCPA	1/8/2015 7:08 AM
112	BCPA, Library, Zoo. All should be 100% privately funded. These services should not be a part of city government	1/8/2015 7:05 AM
113	The Coliseum and Ice Rink - Sale them off and get out from under them!	1/8/2015 6:57 AM
114	Clerk, Library, Information Services, Human Resources, PR&CA	1/8/2015 6:33 AM
115	That's a horrible way to try to collect data. Too much effort required for a survey style inquiry.	1/8/2015 6:31 AM
116	Downtown hotel paving of bike paths bike path construction next to roads flamingo museum	1/8/2015 6:18 AM
117	Zoo and Library	1/8/2015 6:14 AM
118	Softball	1/8/2015 5:47 AM
119	I will admit I don't really understand all the administrative services, but that probably makes them more important so the services will not be missed if eliminated.	1/8/2015 2:33 AM
120	Golf courses, flamingo exhibit	1/7/2015 10:27 PM
121	Human Resources, Community development	1/7/2015 8:35 PM
122	Local governmental studies/travel which produce less than the cost of those practices.	1/7/2015 7:36 PM
123	Clerks, information services	1/7/2015 6:16 PM
124	those related to providing public information, freedom of information act, etc.	1/7/2015 4:28 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

125	Golf Courses should not be owned and maintained by the City! Myrtle Beach would go BROKE if they owned Golf Courses! Public Information Fleet I am sure HR can be reduced. BCPA	1/7/2015 4:01 PM
126	-	1/7/2015 3:58 PM
127	Golf Building	1/7/2015 3:42 PM
128	Community Development, Cultural	1/7/2015 2:47 PM
129	I'm not sure.	1/7/2015 2:40 PM
130	Affordable housing	1/7/2015 1:02 PM
131	building and maintaining the civic center, get rid of it or turn it into a jail	1/7/2015 12:40 PM
132	Police - SWAT Police - Vice Police - Public Information Fire - ARFF PR & CA - golf Human Resources - Employee Wellness	1/7/2015 10:49 AM
133	I do not know how or what to answer this question.	1/7/2015 10:27 AM
134	cultural events not a priority	1/7/2015 10:07 AM
135	# of high ranking / paying City Administrators use of consultants	1/7/2015 8:10 AM
136	"office" type of functions of the city: clerks finance HR These are needed functions but meaningless to the average citizen.	1/7/2015 7:06 AM
137	Information Services, Clerk, Human Resources, Finance, Cultural	1/7/2015 7:00 AM
138	sign code enforcement recruitment of outside businesses	1/6/2015 10:34 PM
139	Arts, cultural programs, grants	1/6/2015 10:29 PM
140	Community Development, Parks and Rec, Information Services, Human Resources	1/6/2015 10:05 PM
141	Parks, recreation, cultural	1/6/2015 8:38 PM
142	The coliseum. Continue to try to sell it. Not an appropriate facility for public ownership.	1/6/2015 4:37 PM
143	1. Continued operation of the Coliseum. (I supported its development, but if we're bleeding money by trying to operate it, shut it down, continue to pay off the sunk costs of financing it and don't throw any more incremental monies at it.) 2. Center for the Performing Arts. (This one hurts - I really like the BCPA, I've patronized it and seen some really amazing shows, but if we're best off just shutting it to save ongoing O&M expenses, I'd rather shut it down than skip replacing a water/sewer main or repaving a street.)	1/6/2015 3:51 PM
144	Snow - Clearing Streets/No hauling snow!.....\$\$\$\$ Fleet - Outsourcing more of these services? Human Resources - City jobs are too benefit rich Fire - How do we compare to others? Police - How do we compare to others? NOTE: Does a higher socio-economic profile than other cities mean less need for police, fire support? Do we need to spend as much as other cities if our incidence is lower than others?	1/6/2015 1:50 PM
145	SWAT, Golf, Zoo	1/6/2015 10:46 AM
146	It is hard to call necessities least important. Streamlining administrative duties, I guess.	1/6/2015 10:30 AM
147	Some Depts. could get rid of the "extras" that are not required to have. Charge for some of the services that are free now and expected.	1/6/2015 10:07 AM
148	golf	1/6/2015 9:07 AM
149	clerk services, human resources	1/5/2015 11:08 PM
150	Recreation/GOLF: Because I don't play I could care less. There are many golf courses in the area!	1/5/2015 10:59 PM
151	Golf	1/5/2015 9:50 PM
152	Library	1/5/2015 6:37 PM
153	Have no idea how you could get rid of any of these programs and run the city efficiently.	1/5/2015 6:19 PM
154	all of the programs are important to me.	1/5/2015 2:22 PM
155	Library collection development, some city clerk services, golf, zoning sign code administration	1/5/2015 12:28 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

156	Parks & Rec	1/5/2015 11:15 AM
157	Golf	1/5/2015 10:47 AM
158	All of the services are important to me.	1/5/2015 10:37 AM
159	gf-golf	1/4/2015 11:05 PM
160	Payroll processing can be sourced out. So can be Benefit Management and Administration. In other words, some functions of the HR.	1/4/2015 10:16 PM
161	These are never easy choices but in tough times, decisions are also tough. The library (All), Parks & Rec, Community Development.	1/4/2015 10:14 PM
162	HR, information services	1/4/2015 9:07 PM
163	Library, Parks and Recreation, Cultural Arts	1/4/2015 8:46 PM
164	police	1/4/2015 7:27 PM
165	SWAT (in this town?) golf(raise the fees) BPCA (should be privately owned)	1/4/2015 6:14 PM
166	Out of the list of programs, the zoo unfortunately is the least important. I think its a great benefit to the community and children, however if it is not profitable or difficult to maintain, there are nearby Zoos and attractions. Also, any opportunity to efficiently reduce cost of running government would be welcome. However, great care would be taken to ensure that quality is not sacrificed.	1/4/2015 5:36 PM
167	We should not look at new svcs and tax drains until we can pay for the svcs we currently have.	1/4/2015 2:06 PM
168	Bloated city administration, pension benefits (help lead the effort for reform, don't get rid of pension but work towards reform like later age for retirement, not as generous payments, etc.)	1/4/2015 12:04 PM
169	Parks and Rec	1/4/2015 8:42 AM
170	All programs and services are important, some more than others and to various audiences, but vital to maintaining a great community.	1/3/2015 7:22 PM
171	Community Development	1/3/2015 7:12 PM
172	human resources seems too large compared to number of employees, as is administration	1/3/2015 1:56 PM
173	The city needs to ensure the highest priority services are provided by the most efficient service provider - not exclusively city employees.	1/3/2015 10:13 AM
174	See above	1/3/2015 8:20 AM
175	community development (no results from this dept since Mitsubishi, public info,	1/2/2015 7:09 PM
176	community relations, human resources, cultural district	1/2/2015 5:33 PM
177	Community Development, Information Services, and Human Resources	1/2/2015 1:27 PM
178	1) Clerk 2) Finance 3) Information Services	1/2/2015 12:50 PM
179	Information services	1/2/2015 11:59 AM
180	Information Community development	1/2/2015 11:41 AM
181	BCPA Golf	1/2/2015 10:51 AM
182	Library	1/2/2015 9:47 AM
183	Anything that can be done privately can normally be done cheaper and better privately than by a government. Divest yourself of anything you can. Garbage? You don't need to do that (thought YOU probably do because you spent a ton of money on new trucks and garbage cans without planning it very well!)	1/2/2015 7:41 AM
184	Wellness Library should not be part of the city budget	1/1/2015 8:14 PM
185	Cultural services. There is enough of that through the universities and can be supplemented through private funding.	1/1/2015 6:15 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

186	As far as city services Parks & Recreation and Library are least important in the sense of not being ultimate necessities, however, they are necessities in helping to develop a livable, desirable community. I would only cut funding to them in times of fiscal constraints.	1/1/2015 1:09 PM
187	library, entertainment	1/1/2015 10:44 AM
188	comm dev,info services,finances,, clerk, lrary	12/31/2014 2:50 PM
189	ARFF, Vice, CD - Admin, Lake Management, Parks & Rec Admin	12/31/2014 1:32 PM
190	The US Cellular Coliseum costs far exceed its benefit to the citizens.	12/31/2014 12:47 PM
191	Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts (PR&CA)	12/31/2014 12:14 PM
192	Pretty much anything in the Community Development, Parks and Rec, clerk and Library. I'm not opposed to having some fundamental services funded by some tax dollars, but a new library should not be a priority of any kind and neither should giving \$500,000 to the zoo.	12/31/2014 11:38 AM
193	Golf courses...we should not be forced to subsidize or pay for subdivision attached golf courses...mostly, the only people using those live there...it's close to using tax dollars to pay for a private country club.	12/31/2014 2:55 AM
194	Police SWAT team	12/30/2014 10:32 PM
195	1) Most recreation programs (these can be handled by private organizations like the Y, religious organizations, etc), 2) BCPA (great facility, but the city should not own it)	12/30/2014 10:26 PM
196	Wellness Hazmat	12/30/2014 10:19 PM
197	Information Services, Finance, Clerk,	12/30/2014 10:11 PM
198	continued support of entertainment venues, including the coliseum and BCPA	12/30/2014 8:40 PM
199	1. Police Administration 2. Crime Intelligence Analysis Unit 3. Golf 4. Human Resources 5. Library	12/30/2014 5:24 PM
200	Grants, Parks and Rec., Library	12/30/2014 4:49 PM
201	fleet of cars for city workers, golf courses	12/30/2014 4:07 PM
202	Affordable housing grants, fleet, employee wellness	12/30/2014 3:47 PM
203	Hazmat	12/30/2014 3:23 PM
204	Library, parks, City sponsored events. Not saying they aren't important, just not important to me.	12/30/2014 3:21 PM
205	PARKS! We have plenty of parks and golf courses, we dont need any more	12/30/2014 2:42 PM
206	Community development.	12/30/2014 2:40 PM
207	upkeep of Miller park zoo, asst city manager position, one city lawyer, city nspectors	12/30/2014 2:19 PM
208	PR&CA Library	12/30/2014 2:10 PM
209	SWAT, Golf	12/30/2014 1:24 PM
210	Haz-mat	12/30/2014 1:07 PM
211	Coliseum	12/30/2014 12:56 PM
212	Golf courses, zoo, No more money spent on parks expansion, money spent on downtown. Property owners should invest their own money.	12/30/2014 12:14 PM
213	The Library programs are not as important to me because of the existence of the World Wide Web. I think it is important to have an avenue for people to do their research online, but I am not sure that paper copies of publications are as important to me anymore.	12/30/2014 11:46 AM
214	Community Development	12/30/2014 11:29 AM
215	I truly cannot think of any.	12/30/2014 11:09 AM
216	Golf. That's a weirdly specific part of Parks & Rec.	12/30/2014 10:35 AM
217	Community Development - Grant and Building Parks - Golf Clerk - Freedom of Information Act	12/30/2014 10:24 AM
218	Clerk, Human Resources	12/30/2014 10:21 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

219	Community Development, Parks and Rec, Human Resources, Library	12/30/2014 10:17 AM
220	None	12/30/2014 9:24 AM
221	Let capitalism decide what stays and what goes...downtown should stand on it's own	12/30/2014 9:07 AM
222	Library (most everyone has access to the Internet) Zoo (should be privately funded and operated) SWAT (really?)	12/30/2014 5:03 AM
223	ARFF	12/30/2014 1:03 AM
224	Library I don't use it however I still think it's important to have. All jobs are important.	12/29/2014 11:35 PM
225	1) Zoning	12/29/2014 11:09 PM
226	Golf Separate emergency dispatch Bulk waste	12/29/2014 10:45 PM
227	Community development	12/29/2014 10:26 PM
228	Golf	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
229	I am sorry but I don't see any of the city's services as "least important." If anything, I think we need to expand city service, especially in the realm of child services, family violence prevention, and mental health services.	12/29/2014 9:56 PM
230	Swat team.	12/29/2014 9:38 PM
231	Golf	12/29/2014 6:48 PM
232	Downtown pet projects including plans for a downtown hotel. I would like to see the assistant city manager be a part time job. Why do we need a full time city manager at 150k per year, and full time assistant city manager for 135k per year? I would also like to know why the city has a full crew of mechanics and garages for vehicle repair including a tire shop, yet at least twice a week city cars are having work done on them at Clay Dooley Tire on Grove St?	12/29/2014 4:05 PM
233	Can't answer that. All are important.	12/29/2014 3:57 PM
234	Clerk Community Development	12/29/2014 3:50 PM
235	Administration Department Overhead	12/29/2014 3:27 PM
236	Clerk	12/29/2014 3:10 PM
237	fleet and electricians could be subcontracted zoo	12/29/2014 3:02 PM
238	coliseum, BCPA, downtown development, number of golf courses	12/29/2014 2:18 PM
239	Parks and Rec	12/29/2014 11:20 AM
240	Hard to list any services I suggest cutting or naming as least important	12/29/2014 10:20 AM
241	library	12/29/2014 10:02 AM
242	Public Information,Zoning,Golf	12/29/2014 9:23 AM
243	coliseum	12/29/2014 9:01 AM
244	There seems to be overlap between Finance & Human Resources. That is a huge HR department for a support service.	12/29/2014 5:28 AM
245	Clerk Human Resources	12/28/2014 7:03 PM
246	I know a lot of people use them but for me personally the least important programs are cultural activities such the BCPA and the Coliseum. I would like to see these activities become more self supporting thru enhanced revenues by means of more programs and activities. The proposed downtown hotel would probably go a long way toward bringing this about over time. Also, more and better parking for these facilities would help. "All it takes is money."	12/28/2014 6:39 PM
247	All BCPA Golf Coliseum - same as above Arts and Entertainment Center - same as above	12/28/2014 1:10 PM
248	If we want a thriving, livable community, all the programs are necessary. A progressive tax system is the fairest,	12/28/2014 12:28 PM
249	non essentials. Not security/infrastructure	12/27/2014 3:01 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

250	Communication directors are often wasted expenss.	12/27/2014 12:35 PM
251	USA Cellular Arena	12/27/2014 11:33 AM
252	The various internal HR depts., sign code administration, golf courses. Not saying they're not worthwhile, just that they don't mean much to me personally.	12/27/2014 9:09 AM
253	golf	12/27/2014 8:28 AM
254	School Resource Officers	12/27/2014 8:14 AM
255	Golf	12/26/2014 7:35 PM
256	Parks administration zoo community development planning Police School resources	12/26/2014 7:30 PM
257	Library-we use our e readers, internet, book mobile is an old fashioned way	12/26/2014 5:13 PM
258	human resources and finance	12/26/2014 4:35 PM
259	Library, community development.	12/26/2014 3:06 PM
260	Public golf courses!	12/26/2014 1:57 PM
261	Annexation Contract Obligations. Debt Service. Arena Maintenance and ownership.	12/26/2014 1:23 PM
262	Miller Park Adult Center, Softball, Creativity Center	12/26/2014 12:57 PM
263	Parks, Recreation, Cultural arts	12/26/2014 10:27 AM
264	Parks (BCPA, Golf), Public Works (Fleet, Electricians) Community Dev (grants),	12/26/2014 10:22 AM
265	Human Resources, Library	12/26/2014 9:40 AM
266	Reduce police/fire pension costs, reduce number of city parks, increase user fees for all services to match the cost of the service provided, eliminate no-bid contracts, sell coliseum and BCPA to private firms, more incentives to Businesses to locate in Bloomington.	12/26/2014 9:04 AM
267	Golf and Bike Paths. No General Recreation fund dollars should go to golf.	12/26/2014 7:47 AM
268	Beautification, visitors bureau	12/26/2014 12:18 AM
269	Community development. Parks and rec. human resources. Finance. Clerk.	12/25/2014 10:34 PM
270	Not sure about this one. Don't know enough detail on all services to comment.	12/25/2014 9:30 PM
271	Zoo	12/25/2014 9:13 PM
272	Golf, zoo	12/25/2014 7:29 PM
273	the sports events at the coliseum	12/25/2014 4:48 PM
274	Information Services, Human Resources, Clerk, and Library	12/25/2014 4:31 PM
275	The \$750,000 should be returned to the state of Illinois with the stipulation it go to pay off the state debt. Encourage every other community to do the same. Do away with enterprise zones and tiff districts. They only delay and make problems worse later on by creating a false sense of a healthy economy.	12/25/2014 4:28 PM
276	Golf courses zoo	12/25/2014 2:11 PM
277	BCPA---make it an enterprise fund and require it to pay for itself; EMPLOYEE WELLNESS---this can be accomplished on an employee's own time and free of charge, it's called walking/running, etc.; ADULT AND TEEN SERVICES---all one has to do is sit down to a computer to see how they are being used by the public and this should not have to be at taxpayer's expense; CIRCULATION AND OUTREACH SERVICES---in today's computer world, this is an expense that can be done away to save taxpayer's dollars; ZONING---surely this service could be combined with another in the community development program/why not combine with code enforcement?; combine the PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS units within the police department---they are important but should be combined as it appears they would have overlapping missions.	12/25/2014 1:46 PM
278	support for parks. Constitution trail the percent of people using the trail compared to the population of Bloomington is very small. Older people 55 years old and older is a high percentage of Bloomington's population yet they are budgeted very little for services for them.	12/25/2014 1:28 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

279	Advertising for Downtown Bloomington Association, and other such things as connect transit advertising. People who use OR are interested will find out by word of mouth. NOT spending tax monies on ads.	12/25/2014 11:34 AM
280	All non-essential, non-emergency programs.	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
281	Parks, theaters	12/25/2014 9:22 AM
282	Golf, Zoo, BCPA, Library, Con.Trial	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
283	Stop the PARKS AND LIBRARY expansions. We have unused parks and libraries are going away in lieu of ebooks. Deal with the Police department and it's constant ethical issues.	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
284	Grant, code, zoning, employee wellness	12/25/2014 7:56 AM
285	golf/ parks and rec admin/ bcpa	12/25/2014 6:26 AM
286	Fleet, Zoo, Wellness, Employee Relations	12/25/2014 5:30 AM
287	SWAT, Golf, All programs are important to someone.	12/23/2014 10:04 PM
288	I don't think there are any "fluff" programs in this city. There are some that don't apply to me, but are vital to other people.	12/23/2014 8:23 PM
289	I don't think the Coliseum is especially valuable, but it would probably be foolish to get rid of it at this point. Beyond that, I'm not sure. There are a fair number that seem uninteresting to me but are probably important. Not informed enough to answer this question.	12/23/2014 3:14 PM
290	No suggestions, they are all important.	12/23/2014 2:16 PM
291	COMMUNITY RELATIONS TEEN PROGRAMS	12/23/2014 2:11 PM
292	Library, Public Works, IS, HR, Clerk	12/23/2014 1:28 PM
293	Same comment as #4	12/23/2014 11:27 AM
294	Everything has its purpose. If addressed in the proper order, they should take care of themselves	12/23/2014 9:56 AM
295	Golf courses should be user supported.	12/23/2014 9:44 AM
296	It may be easy to list P, R, & CA and Library programs and services because they seem less essential in emergency situations, but they are who engage community. I would suggest looking at who has the biggest budgets and see what expenses within those departments can be cut.	12/23/2014 9:07 AM
297	pensions for new city employees	12/23/2014 9:03 AM
298	Golf Courses	12/23/2014 9:00 AM
299	HR seems like it's larger than it needs to be	12/23/2014 8:53 AM
300	Golf, BCPA	12/23/2014 8:16 AM
301	They are all important.	12/23/2014 8:08 AM
302	Coliseum BPCA Golf Zoo Meals for council and other meetings	12/23/2014 7:58 AM
303	Zoning, code enforcement	12/23/2014 7:23 AM
304	Those higher up on the heirarchy of needs...	12/23/2014 7:22 AM
305	BCPA US Cellular Coliseum	12/22/2014 10:39 PM
306	Parks, Rec - some of these programs could be cut	12/22/2014 10:18 PM
307	solid waste removal-could be privatized affordable housing program-100% state/federal	12/22/2014 9:24 PM
308	Code ENF Zoning Monitoring	12/22/2014 9:02 PM
309	The module does not work properly.	12/22/2014 8:12 PM
310	Coliseum BCPA Golf The problem with these "amenities" is that taxes from everybody (including the poor) subsidize recreation and entertainment for the well to do.	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
311	Golf	12/22/2014 7:24 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

312	Administratives consultants	12/22/2014 7:15 PM
313	As with the human body, there is no "least important" -- all are necessary and interconnected, as are the people of the city.	12/22/2014 6:58 PM
314	Golf Library BCPA Get rid of Coliseum expenses	12/22/2014 6:07 PM
315	Golf, Security, Information, Administration	12/22/2014 6:06 PM
316	BCPA Recreation	12/22/2014 6:03 PM
317	All seem necessary	12/22/2014 5:50 PM
318	Leaf pickup, golf	12/22/2014 4:30 PM
319	Golf. Hockey. I hate that there are city golf courses and the Big Ugly Arena was a mistake.	12/22/2014 4:27 PM
320	Trash, city council, mayor	12/22/2014 3:44 PM
321	Clerk - could this office be combined with another? Or become a function of the HR department? License fees, etc, should be raised to cover the cost of this function.	12/22/2014 3:41 PM
322	SEE MY COMMENT ON #4	12/22/2014 3:39 PM
323	Public Library	12/22/2014 3:34 PM
324	Community Development	12/22/2014 3:30 PM
325	unless the Coliseum makes enough \$\$s to pay the loan and all costs this is most certainly something that is not important to me; however the ice rink must be kept though a dog lover, a dog park is not a NECESSITY bike lanes the way they are currently done are a safety issue for the biker and drivers - bike lanes have been painted on narrow older streets with no room to move to the left to give the required space for the biker unless you move into one of the center turn lanes or lanes going in the opposite direction (see Front street west of East st	12/22/2014 3:12 PM
326	Entertainment ie Downtown sports and BCPA etc	12/22/2014 3:07 PM
327	Human Resources Information Services Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts (PR&CA)	12/22/2014 2:47 PM
328	None on the list	12/22/2014 2:44 PM
329	ARFF Anything Parks and Rec Anything under Library Human resources - pensions	12/22/2014 2:33 PM
330	Recreation, golf, zoo, BCPA	12/22/2014 2:20 PM
331	ARFF	12/22/2014 2:13 PM
332	Community Development followed by Parks & Rec	12/22/2014 1:52 PM
333	Electricians golf labor relations BCPA recreations	12/22/2014 1:46 PM
334	Some of the programs with Community Development. The worst offender is the "quality of life" choice being made by city officials with agendas to follow rather than seriously listening to the needs of the citizens.	12/22/2014 1:30 PM
335	Hazmat / SWAT / Golf	12/22/2014 1:21 PM
336	I have never been in favor of the "Coliseum"...It is a drain on resources and I have always felt we were sold a 'bill of goods'...so far we have had to support it with tax revenue ever year...put that money towards infrastructure, schools etc...	12/22/2014 1:14 PM
337	BCPA (never gone to a concert there) Golf Courses (LOVE to golf, but have never golfed our courses) Extras at the library (like book clubs, summer reading, bookmobile) Community Relations	12/22/2014 1:13 PM
338	Library other than books. I don't like the Library putting so much money into videos and other electronic media. This does not improve the citizens intelligence. Let the private sector take care of videos and music.	12/22/2014 1:09 PM
339	Parks & Rec	12/22/2014 1:04 PM
340	BCPA, US Cellular, Miller Park Zoo, should not be subsidized. Donations to other non-profit entities should stop (e.g. Downtown Bloomington Association, Challenger Learning Center, McLean Co Museum ...)	12/22/2014 1:01 PM
341	Bpca	12/22/2014 12:58 PM
342	All of the programs are vital	12/22/2014 12:54 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

343	Golf	12/22/2014 12:51 PM
344	Clerk	12/22/2014 12:45 PM
345	None	12/22/2014 12:32 PM
346	Golf Parks, these should be funded primarily from fees used to play.	12/22/2014 12:31 PM
347	bulk waste for free; golf;	12/22/2014 12:29 PM
348	Zoo, affordable housing	12/22/2014 10:08 AM
349	Human Resources Library Parks Recreation	12/22/2014 10:05 AM
350	Zoo, affordable housing construction, recreation, golf, employee relations, BCPA	12/22/2014 9:17 AM
351	All the services listed are more or less useful in some way or another.	12/21/2014 8:36 AM
352	All are important/better management/understanding to the public	12/21/2014 8:07 AM
353	Collisium	12/20/2014 9:12 PM
354	Don't know.	12/20/2014 6:18 PM
355	1. PARKS II 2. Overly large HR dept. 3. Police and Fire are fine at present no new programs or expansion. 4. It appears that the (IT) Information Services is quite large for the size of the City.	12/20/2014 1:23 PM
356	Bike trails. Golf courses. Pantagraph. High paid attorneys and consultants. Highpaid employees. Bcpa/uscc	12/20/2014 12:25 PM
357	Golf. I really don't understand why the city owns a golf course.	12/20/2014 9:33 AM
358	Most of the items are needed, they may not be important to me but you must have a clerk to run the city. If I used parks & rec I would find it important but I don't so it would be on the least important list.	12/20/2014 5:21 AM
359	As I said above, maybe we can streamline our hr/administration, but that's based solely on how the list has been presented. I can't think of a service I would prefer to see cut. They all have a unique and valuable purpose.	12/19/2014 10:37 PM
360	None	12/19/2014 9:17 PM
361	Parks Libraries	12/19/2014 6:24 PM
362	Golf, employee wellness, grant,code enf.	12/19/2014 3:46 PM
363	City manager raises.	12/19/2014 3:27 PM
364	Human relations, finance and IT are all interdepartmental and have no impact on the community as a whole. While they are necessary departments within the structure of the machine, they have no bearing on we the people.	12/19/2014 3:25 PM
365	Library, Human Resources, Administration	12/19/2014 3:14 PM
366	Recreation Golf	12/19/2014 2:50 PM
367	...See #5	12/19/2014 2:24 PM
368	N/a	12/19/2014 2:07 PM
369	Golf	12/19/2014 1:42 PM
370	Police force needs more schooling and better training. Just high school is unacceptable to serve and protect us citizens.	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
371	bulk waste pick up	12/19/2014 1:34 PM
372	Employee wellness, BCPA, golf	12/19/2014 1:31 PM
373	Fleet Management, new Parks (maintain and improve the ones we have), Administration	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
374	Road maint. does not need to be increased. The roads are better than most cities.	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
375	Community Development and clerk	12/19/2014 1:22 PM
376	BCPA Library	12/19/2014 1:18 PM

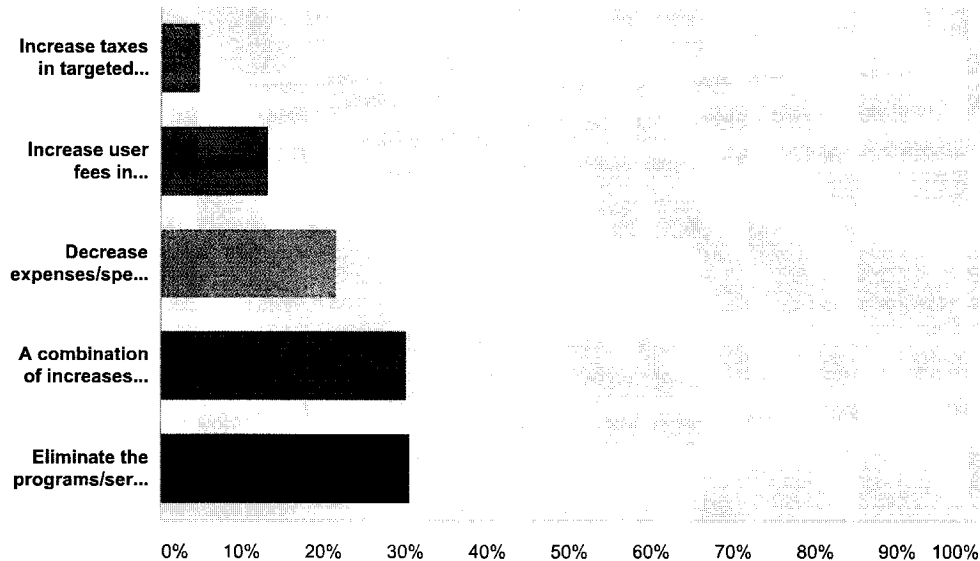
2015 Citizen Priority Survey

377	I don't personally use the Library so that would be my first choice.	12/19/2014 1:15 PM
378	Sister City,	12/19/2014 1:14 PM
379	All of the programs and services have merit. What it looks like to me is that you have divided up the jobs so that there are many more people doing fewer things. While it may not be good for employment, I question the number of administrators and other workers needed to make certain areas run.	12/19/2014 1:07 PM
380	Garbage/recycle	12/19/2014 12:56 PM
381	Wellness Challenges, Downtown, US Coliseum	12/19/2014 12:54 PM
382	Fire - Public Information/Fire - ARFF/Library-don't need an expansion with technology/Golf - reduce number of courses owned by the City/HR - Community Relations - needs to be better managed.	12/19/2014 12:48 PM
383	Golf, Your funding of sprawl, Overly high Police and Fire Pensions(You can lobby the state to lower them)	12/19/2014 12:44 PM
384	Golf courses	12/19/2014 12:36 PM
385	n/a	12/19/2014 12:18 PM
386	Golf	12/19/2014 12:11 PM
387	Golf programming,	12/19/2014 11:57 AM
388	BPCA, Golf	12/14/2014 6:09 PM
389	FOIA Clerk (I don't know if it's legal, but I feel people who abuse the FOIA process should pay user fees to fund this position which they've essentially created) Golf Employee Wellness School Resource Officers (seems the schools could pick up the tab for this) Parks (I like that we have parks. I just think we have too many. Some are tiny and still require maintenance. I wish we had a 15-20 good-size parks which were strategically placed.)	12/13/2014 6:12 PM
390	Center for performing arts...golf	12/13/2014 2:28 PM
391	Continued funding of "quality of life" programs and of ongoing outside "studies" supporting those programs to the detriment of "essential services"	12/13/2014 7:38 AM
392	economic development that results in incentives being offered to new businesses school resource officers golf courses	12/12/2014 9:46 PM
393	Golf, Grants	12/12/2014 3:53 PM
394	HR, Clerk, Information Services	12/12/2014 3:34 PM
395	Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts programming (i.e. parkland is important to me, but not necessarily publicly-run programming on that land)	12/12/2014 3:24 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q7 If/when faced with budget challenges that could threaten the programs/services least important to you, what would you recommend the City do concerning these programs/services?

Answered: 567 Skipped: 40



Answer Choices	Responses
Increase taxes in targeted budget areas to continue to support the programs/services	4.76% 27
Increase user fees in targeted budget areas to continue to support the programs/services	13.23% 75
Decrease expenses/spending in targeted budget areas to continue to support the programs/services	21.52% 122
A combination of increases in taxes/fees and decreases in expenses/spending	29.98% 170
Eliminate the programs/services	30.51% 173
Total	567

#	Your comments are welcome:	Date
1	This is a bad survey.	1/15/2015 11:25 PM
2	Freeze spending, cut back costs where able.	1/15/2015 8:10 PM
3	Our taxes rate is already higher than most cities/counties	1/15/2015 4:05 PM
4	These are not comments that pertain to this question. These comments are general because there is no room else where. What I will say it will be easy to use this survey and cut services or raise taxes because of it. What I would like to see is budget that has all of the elements of a well rounded community. If we are short of money then lets decide our standards of living. !!!!!!!	1/15/2015 10:25 AM
5	Same answer as number 5.	1/14/2015 8:54 PM
6	May be transitioned to private fees or ownership	1/14/2015 4:54 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

7	Sell to private owner	1/13/2015 7:53 PM
8	The Coliseum and BCPA should be able to support themselves or should be sold off. Taxpayers should not have the continued huge expense of supporting them.	1/12/2015 7:47 AM
9	See that the service is being used in all city areas and if not charge more in area the service cost more	1/9/2015 5:13 PM
10	Look at getting airport to fund more of the airport fire expense. The zoo should be closed. Don't know enough about BCPA but I would bet it is union and not cost effective as out sourcing it. Within the last year or two positions were add that current staff could have taken on the responsibility.	1/9/2015 12:29 AM
11	Do what a city NEEDS TO DO and not what might be nice to have.	1/8/2015 10:01 PM
12	Same as above	1/8/2015 7:02 PM
13	Same comments as #5	1/8/2015 1:36 PM
14	Unnecessary programs should be eliminated, significantly reduced or combined with other departments that preform similar functions. Keep in mind the City can always reactivate a department in better economic time if it's determined the department has become necessary. The City needs to take a serious look at the functions that are necessary to run a government compared to the functions that are desirable. If our city has a financial shortfall and we have unnecessary city functions, they should be eliminated. The City needs to do a better job of living within their means. Keep in mind the City has a duty and obligation to use it's citizen's tax dollars wisely.	1/8/2015 11:54 AM
15	Not extreme either way	1/8/2015 10:32 AM
16	Here's an idea.....eliminate the position of people driving around neighborhoods to see if garbage cans are visible from the street, house numbers are on houses rather than mailboxes, dead trees on private property have not yet been cut down (I think everyone with dead trees plans to cut them down, but the tree services are always backed up due to the bore situation). Really??? Our tax dollars go to pay these salaries? I know many in the community feel that is a ridiculous waste of our tax dollars....and one of the reasons I know many people have left Bloomington to live in outlying towns. We have a number of friends who have moved from Bloomington precisely because of the items I have listed throughout this questionnaire...over regulation of residents while there is an increase in criminal activity.	1/8/2015 10:02 AM
17	not sure	1/8/2015 9:10 AM
18	See #5 above.	1/8/2015 8:48 AM
19	user fees of course. if it is not important to some, but is important to others, let those who use the service pay.	1/8/2015 8:30 AM
20	What's least important to me might not be the same for others.	1/8/2015 8:15 AM
21	I really don't like eliminating services that have been there for a long time and are needed.	1/8/2015 8:12 AM
22	I didn't really see any programs that should be eliminated without trying to save them.	1/8/2015 8:10 AM
23	Due diligence should be exercised	1/8/2015 8:03 AM
24	I own rental properties in Blm	1/8/2015 7:15 AM
25	Setting priorities based on needs instead of wants means some amenities may not be possible until essential services are fully funded. Evaluate amenities by cost/benefit/usage	1/7/2015 10:27 PM
26	Even if the services are least important to me, maybe they're important to others - and a balanced approach would seem most reasonable.	1/7/2015 9:01 PM
27	Again, my answer to this question is the same as Question #5. There are other options ie: bidding out the certain program/service or even selling it. Again, this is too broad to give a 1 answer fits all situations. Are there any TIFs that could be used?	1/7/2015 4:01 PM
28	Eliminating programs is never an option, decreasing spending, increases in fees, then taxes should all come first.	1/7/2015 1:02 PM
29	Way too many chiefs in all departments Why do we always have to have consultants. With all the information that should be available on the internet and from similar cities why do we almost see we are paying for some conulstant to come in and tell us what to do, Isn't what city staff is for. If they can do it, then why not replace and get some that can/	1/7/2015 8:10 AM
30	These are needed functions but meaningless to the average citizen.	1/7/2015 7:06 AM
31	Life is hard. We should live within our means.	1/6/2015 10:05 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

32	Do we have access to information of other US cities similar in size, etc that could compare our city to other cities? How far off are we from the norm in the City's taxation, services offered and expenditures? As a lay person it would be very important for me to be able to compare Blm to other cities prior to making cuts or increasing taxes. NOTE: This has been very difficult to answer simply because I feel I have so little data with which to work. Most importantly, thanks so much for the kindness in seeking public opinion.	1/6/2015 1:50 PM
33	Seek input from public first though	1/5/2015 6:22 AM
34	City MUST trim retirement benefits. For example, If memory serves me correct, PACE director was making approximately \$95,000 around 2009. He retired very early 2014 with a final salary of around \$185,000. How does salary doubles in just 5 years? Now the pension will be based on the final figure. This "spiking" is going to cost the city and tax-payers. Enough of sticking it to the tax-payers. This to me is basically fraud, something the city top brass ignores and condones. I bet there are many more examples like this. Then, asking the public to take fewer services or be ready for tax increase is meaningless. City employees need to understand and agree to retirement benefits reductions (around 75% of what is promised now), before we become Detroit. In that case, they would lose not just 25%, but almost 50%. How about some common sense?	1/4/2015 10:16 PM
35	Either eliminate, temporarily close or suspend projects, suspend hiring or rehiring, or preferable seek private sector solutions to take over and manage area unable to cash flow or that are beyond the capabilities and budget of the city.	1/4/2015 10:14 PM
36	If revenue needs to be increased for these, it should be done through user fees and private funding, not through general tax increases.	1/4/2015 8:46 PM
37	I think it depends on the service and what issues they are facing. All options should be on the table, raise taxes, reduce cost or eliminate the program.	1/4/2015 5:36 PM
38	I would like our alderperson to be welcoming of phone calls and emails and consider ideas- to listen and consider. I do not like this council and mayor based on past actions. The only one who seemed to be a good steward is the women who just left the council.	1/4/2015 2:06 PM
39	I am supportive of parks and rec but feel it can be outsourced to other areas than the city, especially the golf courses and athletic fields.	1/4/2015 8:42 AM
40	What can the city afford to pay for, without going over the budget?	1/1/2015 8:20 AM
41	Again, what are the cuts being proposed? Raise or stop subsidizing subdivision golf courses.	12/31/2014 2:55 AM
42	I think the town should look to move from focusing on the CIRA as a passenger airport to developing regular train service to the Peoria airport and connect to AMTRAK in Galesburg. It would also be good to have train service east to Indianapolis and Cincinnati.	12/30/2014 4:08 PM
43	Reduce miller park budget-put on streets/water	12/30/2014 2:19 PM
44	Spend only on programs for the general good - things that we as residents can't reasonable provide for ourselves - fire & police protection, water/sewer. etc.	12/30/2014 12:14 PM
45	approach should be the same, it's not all about me.	12/30/2014 11:58 AM
46	If targeted budget areas are realistic, these budget challenges should not exist.	12/30/2014 11:46 AM
47	I was looking at your list of services, and there don't seem to be a whole lot of "unimportant" services offered. I'm far more in favor of increasing taxes/user fees and thus the budget than I am of cutting programs.	12/30/2014 10:35 AM
48	I generally believe that the community as a whole benefits from tax increases, but I also believe that users of services should pay more for the service than non-users. That being said, education is of prime importance, so services from the library would best be kept free of user fees.	12/30/2014 10:24 AM
49	Same as above.	12/29/2014 9:56 PM
50	There should be more parking lot structures built next to the Coliseum. People are not comfortable walking a few blocks to a lot given the nightlife of downtown.	12/29/2014 6:08 PM
51	or, if inefficient, eliminate programs.services	12/29/2014 2:18 PM
52	depends on service whether fees or taxes are more appropriate	12/29/2014 10:20 AM
53	Some streamlining or consolidation of processes and personnel seems to be in order.	12/29/2014 5:28 AM
54	NOW This city is falling apart !!!	12/28/2014 1:10 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

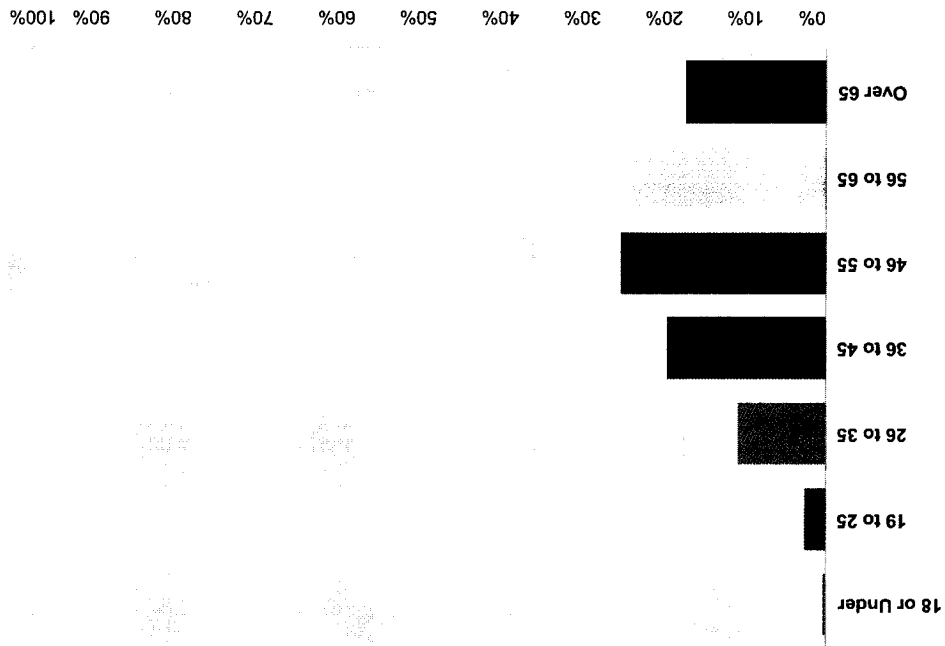
55	The role of government is to serve the public, not to make citizens the students of an administrative vision.	12/27/2014 12:35 PM
56	golf courses seem underused	12/27/2014 8:28 AM
57	when there isn't enough money you have to stop providing some services or at least reduce the level of service.	12/26/2014 7:30 PM
58	None of the above: 1) Increase property tax levy to reflect expansion costs. 2) Rebuild General Fund through property surcharge/recapture tax for annexation subsidy recovery, Fox Creek to present. 3) Increase lease fees at Lake Bloomington to match or exceed similar private permanent residential developments.	12/26/2014 1:23 PM
59	I feel this survey is stilted. It is certainly not intended to receive truly honest feedback.	12/25/2014 6:26 PM
60	Scaling back or eliminating lower priority/demand services should also be considered.	12/25/2014 4:31 PM
61	Contingency plans for combining/eliminating services first and then taking a look at elimination of services. Once again, make a decision as to what is really necessary to lead/manage a city vice some of the frills that add unnecessary expenses in the time of real crisis.	12/25/2014 1:46 PM
62	see above	12/25/2014 11:34 AM
63	Or eliminate overhead.	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
64	Park Maint. is vital, but I'm not sure all of the the different programs are being utilized enough to justify their existence.	12/25/2014 9:59 AM
65	No pain- No Gain	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
66	PLEASE STOP HIRING CONSULTANTS! THERE ARE PLENTY OF CITIZENS WHO WOULD GIVE YOU BETTER INFORMATION, STATISTICS, AND PREDICTIONS THAN EXPENSIVE CONSULTING FIRMS!!	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
67	I think you should fine people for all of the things being done that are wrong. Don't let things slide. Every week I see these new garbage cans overflowing with garbage. They should be fined. People not recycling should be fined. People who rake the leaves into the street, fined. Don't shovel the walks, fined. Think of all the money you'd make and people might actually start following the law.	12/25/2014 5:30 AM
68	It depends on the situation.	12/23/2014 9:56 AM
69	eliminate pensions for newly hired city employees	12/23/2014 9:03 AM
70	The city should not subsidize any entertainment type programs. The user fees need to be adjusted to pay for it!	12/23/2014 9:00 AM
71	Use the money for something more in preservation or conservation.	12/22/2014 4:27 PM
72	see question 5 about the demographics - just because I am 70 does not mean I am feeble and not aware of what is going on so please do not discount my answers and comments! TY mhh	12/22/2014 3:12 PM
73	Most of the things that I listed here are "extras" for the community. So, it would seem that many of them could be more self-sufficient. For instance, I believe it is way more important that we have a solid police force than a solid line up of great programs at the Center for Performing Arts.	12/22/2014 1:13 PM
74	Eliminate videos and music from the library. Stick with paper books (not ebooks)	12/22/2014 1:09 PM
75	For those who want to partake in Golf (and I know it is a good money maker), increase user fees so those that have the money to spend on golf can do so...as long as revenue is larger than expenses.	12/22/2014 12:51 PM
76	See my answer to 5. Just because a service is unimportant to me doesn't mean someone doesn't use it. Intelligent budgeting and business acumen will save a dying service NOT more money.	12/21/2014 8:36 AM
77	Again, it's difficult to decide. Many people would find some services important, that I do not.	12/20/2014 6:18 PM
78	Pension reform.. Outsource cost effectively as much as possible	12/20/2014 12:25 PM
79	Make wise decisions on how money is spent with keeping in mind, it isn't 'your' money but tax payers money you are spending.	12/20/2014 5:21 AM
80	Just so you know the direction this town is heading is why I'm moving out of state this spring. Keep doing what you're doing and you'll have no taxpayers left to pay for your 210k a year city manager, guaranteed pensions, flamingos and entitlements. Illinois and chicago have always been pathetic. Quit trying to screw up bn too.	12/19/2014 6:24 PM
81	Same as above.	12/19/2014 3:12 PM
82	...See #6	12/19/2014 2:24 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

83	Curious how profitable the 3 public golf courses are.	12/19/2014 1:31 PM
84	Things need to be eliminated. Directors are trying to keep all services running and it hurt the quality.	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
85	While I don't NEED the BCPA or the library, they are important to many others.	12/19/2014 1:18 PM
86	I think we receive a great value for our curbside garbage and recycle. If residents payed for this privately it would cost a lot more. I am willing to help balance this more.	12/19/2014 12:56 PM
87	I would actually choose a combination of decreases in funding over elimination when possible.	12/19/2014 12:48 PM
88	Why should it change	12/19/2014 12:18 PM
89	Privatize/outsource	12/14/2014 6:09 PM
90	For some things, I would recommend elimination of the program. For others, I would recommend user fees.	12/13/2014 6:12 PM
91	Increase user fees for "quality of life" programs. We should not be undertaking new programs until we have paid for previous mistakes, pipe dreams, ego builders e.g. BCPA, Coliseum, unused fire station.	12/13/2014 7:38 AM
92	This will be problematic, because each area has its own advocates and opponents.	12/12/2014 9:46 PM
93	Although I may not feel these are the most important, I understand they are still very important parts of our City and the running of the City.	12/12/2014 3:34 PM
94	Either eliminate the program/service or increase user fees. But, again, this depends on what the program/service actually is.	12/12/2014 3:24 PM

Q8 What is your age?

Answered: 603 Skipped: 4

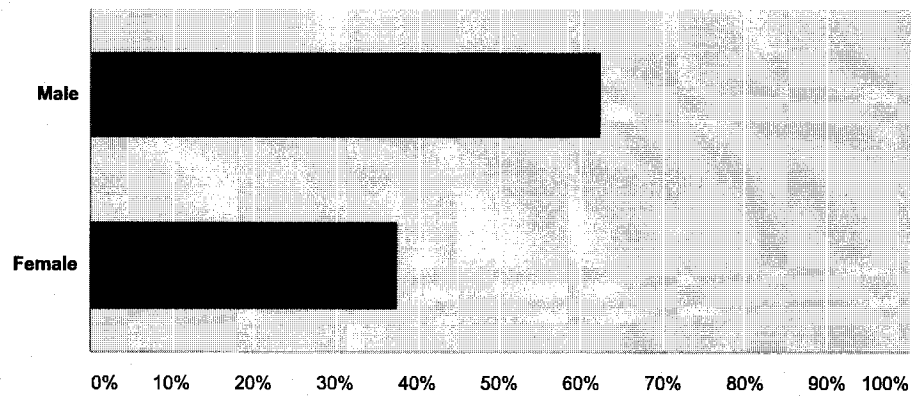


Answer Choices		Responses	Total
18 or Under		0.33%	2
19 to 25		2.65%	16
26 to 35		10.95%	66
36 to 45		19.57%	118
46 to 55		25.21%	152
56 to 65		23.88%	144
Over 65		17.41%	105
			603

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q9 What is your gender?

Answered: 595 Skipped: 12

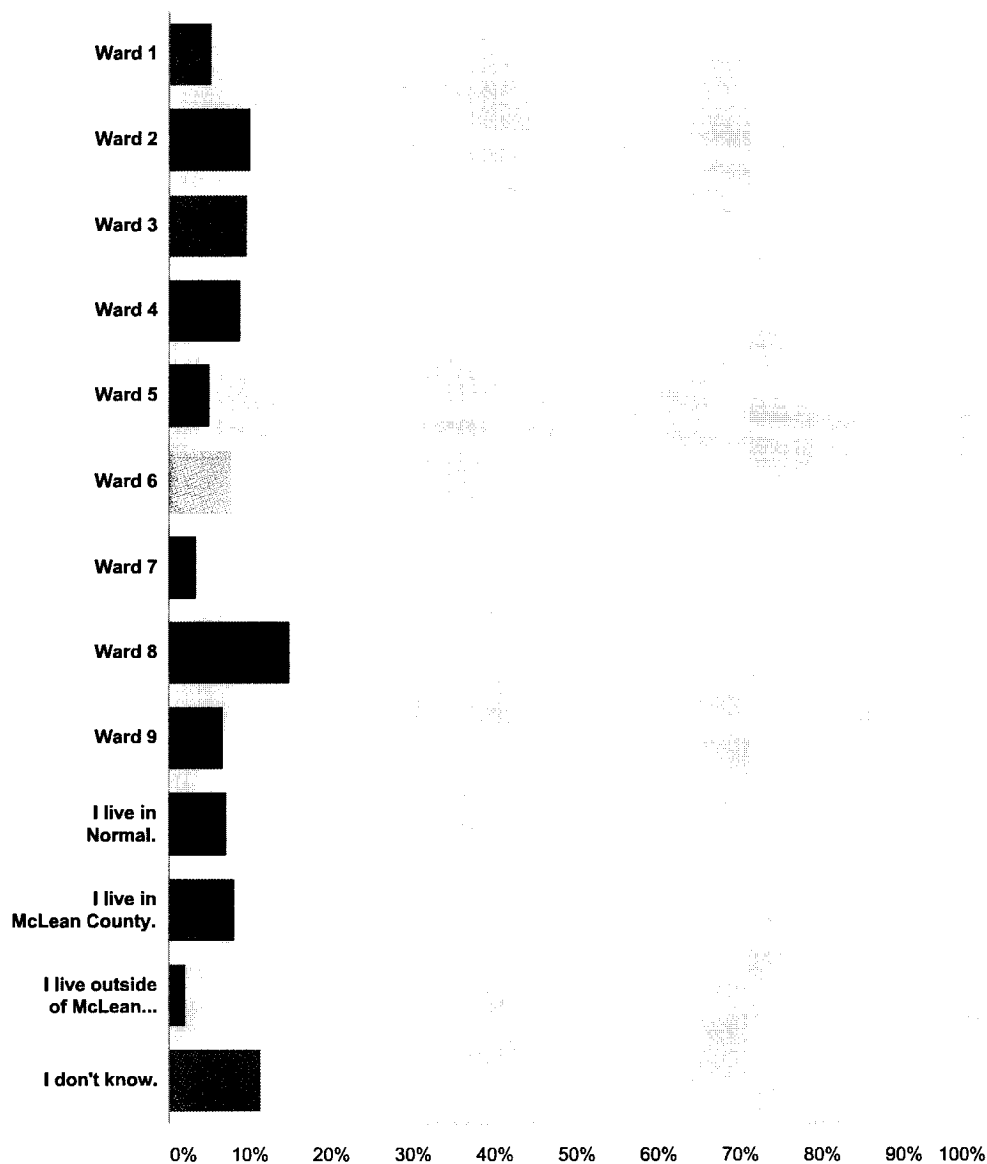


Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	62.52%	372
Female	37.48%	223
Total		595

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Q10 In which Bloomington ward do you live?

Answered: 599 Skipped: 8



Answer Choices	Responses
Ward 1	5.18% 31
Ward 2	10.02% 60
Ward 3	9.68% 58
Ward 4	8.85% 53
Ward 5	5.01% 30

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

Ward 6	7.68%	46
Ward 7	3.34%	20
Ward 8	14.86%	89
Ward 9	6.68%	40
I live in Normal.	7.18%	43
I live in McLean County.	8.18%	49
I live outside of McLean County.	2.17%	13
I don't know.	11.19%	67
Total		599

Q11 What is your zip code?

Answered: 599 Skipped: 8

Answer Choices			Responses
Name:	Company:	Address:	
Address 2:	Address:	Address:	0.00%
City/Town:		Address 2:	0.00%
State:		City/Town:	0.00%
ZIP:		State:	0.00%
Country:		ZIP:	100.00%
Email Address:		Country:	0.00%
Phone Number:		Email Address:	0.00%
		Phone Number:	0.00%

#	Name:	There are no responses.	Date
#	Company:	There are no responses.	Date
#	Address:	There are no responses.	Date
#	Address 2:	There are no responses.	Date
#	City/Town:	There are no responses.	Date
#	State:	There are no responses.	Date
#	ZIP:	There are no responses.	Date
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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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2015 Citizen Priority Survey

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340	61704	12/30/2014 10:04 AM
341	61761	12/30/2014 9:43 AM
342	61704	12/30/2014 9:25 AM
343	61701	12/30/2014 9:24 AM
344	61701	12/30/2014 9:17 AM
345	61704	12/30/2014 9:07 AM
346	61701	12/30/2014 9:00 AM
347	61704	12/30/2014 8:36 AM
348	61704	12/30/2014 7:52 AM
349	61704	12/30/2014 7:37 AM
350	61704	12/30/2014 7:13 AM
351	61704	12/30/2014 5:03 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

352	61761	12/30/2014 1:03 AM
353	61704	12/29/2014 11:35 PM
354	61704	12/29/2014 11:09 PM
355	61704	12/29/2014 10:45 PM
356	61704	12/29/2014 10:26 PM
357	61704	12/29/2014 10:25 PM
358	61701	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
359	61704	12/29/2014 10:11 PM
360	61701	12/29/2014 9:56 PM
361	61704	12/29/2014 9:38 PM
362	61753	12/29/2014 7:49 PM
363	61704	12/29/2014 6:48 PM
364	61704	12/29/2014 6:20 PM
365	61704	12/29/2014 6:08 PM
366	61704	12/29/2014 5:56 PM
367	61704	12/29/2014 5:18 PM
368	61726	12/29/2014 4:33 PM
369	61701	12/29/2014 4:05 PM
370	61754	12/29/2014 4:00 PM
371	61704	12/29/2014 3:57 PM
372	61701	12/29/2014 3:50 PM
373	61704	12/29/2014 3:27 PM
374	61772	12/29/2014 3:10 PM
375	61704	12/29/2014 3:02 PM
376	61761	12/29/2014 2:18 PM
377	61761	12/29/2014 2:14 PM
378	61701	12/29/2014 11:20 AM
379	61704	12/29/2014 10:20 AM
380	61704	12/29/2014 10:02 AM
381	61704	12/29/2014 9:23 AM
382	61704	12/29/2014 9:01 AM
383	61701	12/29/2014 5:28 AM
384	61701	12/28/2014 8:28 PM
385	61704	12/28/2014 7:03 PM
386	61704	12/28/2014 6:39 PM
387	61704	12/28/2014 3:35 PM
388	61705	12/28/2014 1:10 PM
389	61704	12/28/2014 12:28 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

12/27/2014 3:01 PM	61705	390
12/27/2014 12:35 PM	61701	391
12/27/2014 11:33 AM	61704	392
12/27/2014 11:02 AM	61704	393
12/27/2014 9:09 AM	61704	394
12/27/2014 8:28 AM	61705	395
12/27/2014 8:14 AM	61701	396
12/26/2014 7:35 PM	61761	397
12/26/2014 7:30 PM	61704	398
12/26/2014 5:13 PM	61702	399
12/26/2014 4:35 PM	61705	400
12/26/2014 3:06 PM	61705	401
12/26/2014 1:57 PM	61704	402
12/26/2014 1:23 PM	61701	403
12/26/2014 12:57 PM	61704	404
12/26/2014 10:27 AM	61704	405
12/26/2014 10:22 AM	61705	406
12/26/2014 9:40 AM	61704	407
12/26/2014 9:28 AM	61701	408
12/26/2014 9:04 AM	61705	409
12/26/2014 8:12 AM	61704	410
12/26/2014 7:47 AM	61701	411
12/26/2014 12:18 AM	61701	412
12/25/2014 10:34 PM	61705	413
12/25/2014 9:30 PM	61704	414
12/25/2014 9:13 PM	61704	415
12/25/2014 7:29 PM	61704	416
12/25/2014 6:26 PM	61701	417
12/25/2014 6:24 PM	61706	418
12/25/2014 5:21 PM	61701	419
12/25/2014 4:31 PM	61704	420
12/25/2014 4:28 PM	61704	421
12/25/2014 3:31 PM	61704	422
12/25/2014 2:11 PM	61701	423
12/25/2014 1:46 PM	61704	424
12/25/2014 1:28 PM	61704	425
12/25/2014 12:32 PM	61701	426
12/25/2014 11:34 AM	61701	427

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

428	61704	12/25/2014 11:29 AM
429	61704	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
430	61704	12/25/2014 10:09 AM
431	61701	12/25/2014 9:59 AM
432	61704	12/25/2014 9:22 AM
433	61701	12/25/2014 9:17 AM
434	61704	12/25/2014 9:03 AM
435	61704	12/25/2014 8:42 AM
436	61704	12/25/2014 8:24 AM
437	61704	12/25/2014 7:56 AM
438	61701	12/25/2014 6:26 AM
439	61701	12/25/2014 5:30 AM
440	61705	12/24/2014 6:28 PM
441	61701	12/24/2014 11:42 AM
442	61705	12/24/2014 8:16 AM
443	61704	12/23/2014 10:04 PM
444	61704	12/23/2014 9:21 PM
445	61701	12/23/2014 8:23 PM
446	61701	12/23/2014 3:14 PM
447	61761	12/23/2014 2:55 PM
448	61701	12/23/2014 2:38 PM
449	61705	12/23/2014 2:18 PM
450	61704	12/23/2014 2:16 PM
451	61705	12/23/2014 2:13 PM
452	61761	12/23/2014 2:11 PM
453	61771	12/23/2014 1:59 PM
454	61705	12/23/2014 1:28 PM
455	61701	12/23/2014 11:27 AM
456	61701	12/23/2014 11:00 AM
457	61704	12/23/2014 9:56 AM
458	61701	12/23/2014 9:44 AM
459	61761	12/23/2014 9:22 AM
460	61701	12/23/2014 9:07 AM
461	61704	12/23/2014 9:03 AM
462	61701	12/23/2014 9:00 AM
463	61701	12/23/2014 9:00 AM
464	61701	12/23/2014 8:53 AM
465	61701	12/23/2014 8:16 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

466	61761	12/23/2014 8:08 AM
467	61701	12/23/2014 7:58 AM
468	61701	12/23/2014 7:23 AM
469	61701	12/23/2014 7:22 AM
470	61701	12/23/2014 6:51 AM
471	61701	12/22/2014 11:09 PM
472	61704	12/22/2014 10:39 PM
473	61705	12/22/2014 10:18 PM
474	61704	12/22/2014 9:24 PM
475	61701	12/22/2014 9:02 PM
476	61701	12/22/2014 8:12 PM
477	61701	12/22/2014 7:42 PM
478	61704	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
479	61701	12/22/2014 7:24 PM
480	61701	12/22/2014 7:15 PM
481	61761	12/22/2014 6:58 PM
482	61701	12/22/2014 6:07 PM
483	61701	12/22/2014 6:06 PM
484	61701	12/22/2014 6:03 PM
485	61701	12/22/2014 5:50 PM
486	61701	12/22/2014 5:01 PM
487	61705	12/22/2014 4:30 PM
488	61701	12/22/2014 4:27 PM
489	61704	12/22/2014 3:47 PM
490	61704	12/22/2014 3:44 PM
491	61705	12/22/2014 3:41 PM
492	61704	12/22/2014 3:39 PM
493	61701	12/22/2014 3:34 PM
494	61701	12/22/2014 3:30 PM
495	61701	12/22/2014 3:30 PM
496	61774	12/22/2014 3:27 PM
497	61701	12/22/2014 3:12 PM
498	61701	12/22/2014 3:07 PM
499	61701	12/22/2014 2:48 PM
500	61701	12/22/2014 2:47 PM
501	61701	12/22/2014 2:44 PM
502	61701	12/22/2014 2:33 PM
503	61704	12/22/2014 2:20 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

504	61701	12/22/2014 2:13 PM
505	61701	12/22/2014 2:11 PM
506	61772	12/22/2014 1:52 PM
507	61701	12/22/2014 1:46 PM
508	61701	12/22/2014 1:37 PM
509	61701	12/22/2014 1:36 PM
510	61701	12/22/2014 1:35 PM
511	61701	12/22/2014 1:30 PM
512	61701	12/22/2014 1:26 PM
513	61701	12/22/2014 1:21 PM
514	61701	12/22/2014 1:14 PM
515	61701	12/22/2014 1:13 PM
516	61704	12/22/2014 1:09 PM
517	61701	12/22/2014 1:04 PM
518	61704	12/22/2014 1:01 PM
519	61701	12/22/2014 12:58 PM
520	61701	12/22/2014 12:54 PM
521	61701	12/22/2014 12:51 PM
522	61701	12/22/2014 12:45 PM
523	61705	12/22/2014 12:32 PM
524	61701	12/22/2014 12:31 PM
525	61701	12/22/2014 12:29 PM
526	61761	12/22/2014 12:28 PM
527	61704	12/22/2014 10:08 AM
528	61704	12/22/2014 10:05 AM
529	61701	12/22/2014 9:38 AM
530	61701	12/22/2014 9:17 AM
531	61704	12/21/2014 9:35 PM
532	61701	12/21/2014 8:36 AM
533	61704	12/21/2014 8:07 AM
534	61705	12/20/2014 11:46 PM
535	61704	12/20/2014 9:12 PM
536	61701	12/20/2014 7:36 PM
537	61701	12/20/2014 6:18 PM
538	61704	12/20/2014 1:23 PM
539	61704	12/20/2014 12:25 PM
540	61761	12/20/2014 9:33 AM
541	61704	12/20/2014 7:37 AM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

542	61704	12/20/2014 5:21 AM
543	61704	12/20/2014 1:05 AM
544	61704	12/19/2014 11:49 PM
545	61705	12/19/2014 10:45 PM
546	61701	12/19/2014 10:37 PM
547	61704	12/19/2014 10:20 PM
548	61701	12/19/2014 9:17 PM
549	61705	12/19/2014 6:24 PM
550	61704	12/19/2014 6:15 PM
551	61704	12/19/2014 5:42 PM
552	61704	12/19/2014 5:42 PM
553	61701	12/19/2014 5:06 PM
554	61701	12/19/2014 3:46 PM
555	61761	12/19/2014 3:36 PM
556	61701	12/19/2014 3:27 PM
557	61701	12/19/2014 3:25 PM
558	61761	12/19/2014 3:14 PM
559	61701	12/19/2014 3:12 PM
560	61705	12/19/2014 2:58 PM
561	61704	12/19/2014 2:50 PM
562	61761	12/19/2014 2:24 PM
563	61704	12/19/2014 2:07 PM
564	61701	12/19/2014 1:51 PM
565	61761	12/19/2014 1:42 PM
566	61701	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
567	61704	12/19/2014 1:39 PM
568	61761	12/19/2014 1:35 PM
569	61704	12/19/2014 1:34 PM
570	61704	12/19/2014 1:31 PM
571	61701	12/19/2014 1:30 PM
572	61701	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
573	61704	12/19/2014 1:28 PM
574	61705	12/19/2014 1:22 PM
575	61704	12/19/2014 1:18 PM
576	61705	12/19/2014 1:17 PM
577	61704	12/19/2014 1:15 PM
578	61704	12/19/2014 1:14 PM
579	61732	12/19/2014 1:11 PM

2015 Citizen Priority Survey

580	61701	12/19/2014 1:07 PM	
581	61701	12/19/2014 12:56 PM	
582	61704	12/19/2014 12:54 PM	
583	61701	12/19/2014 12:48 PM	
584	61701	12/19/2014 12:44 PM	
585	61705	12/19/2014 12:37 PM	
586	61704	12/19/2014 12:36 PM	
587	61701	12/19/2014 12:35 PM	
588	61701	12/19/2014 12:18 PM	
589	61701	12/19/2014 12:11 PM	
590	61725	12/19/2014 12:02 PM	
591	61701	12/19/2014 11:57 AM	
592	61704	12/14/2014 6:09 PM	
593	61701	12/13/2014 6:12 PM	
594	61701	12/13/2014 2:28 PM	
595	61704	12/13/2014 7:38 AM	
596	61701	12/12/2014 9:46 PM	
597	61701	12/12/2014 3:53 PM	
598	61701	12/12/2014 3:34 PM	
599	61701	12/12/2014 3:24 PM	
#	Country:	Date	There are no responses.
#	Email Address:	Date	There are no responses.
#	Phone Number:	Date	There are no responses.