

# Budget Survey 2024-2027

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## **SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT**

26 May 2023 - 30 June 2023

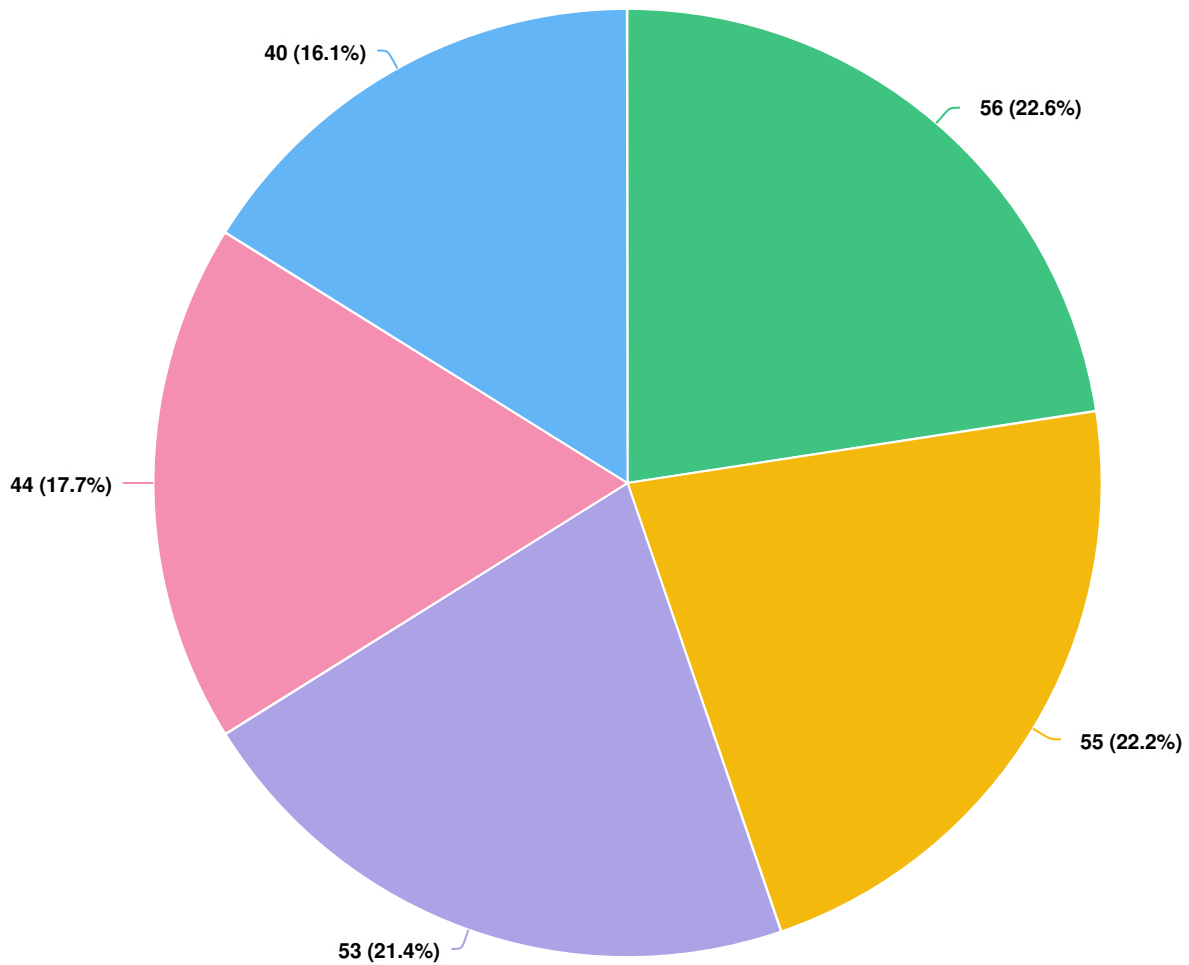
### **PROJECT NAME:**

Budget 2024-2027: Investing in Today. Empowering Tomorrow.



SURVEY QUESTIONS

**Q1** | Property taxes are the primary way to pay for services provided by the Municipality, and with inflation each year an increase in taxes would be required just to maintain services at current levels. Which of the following options do you prefer?

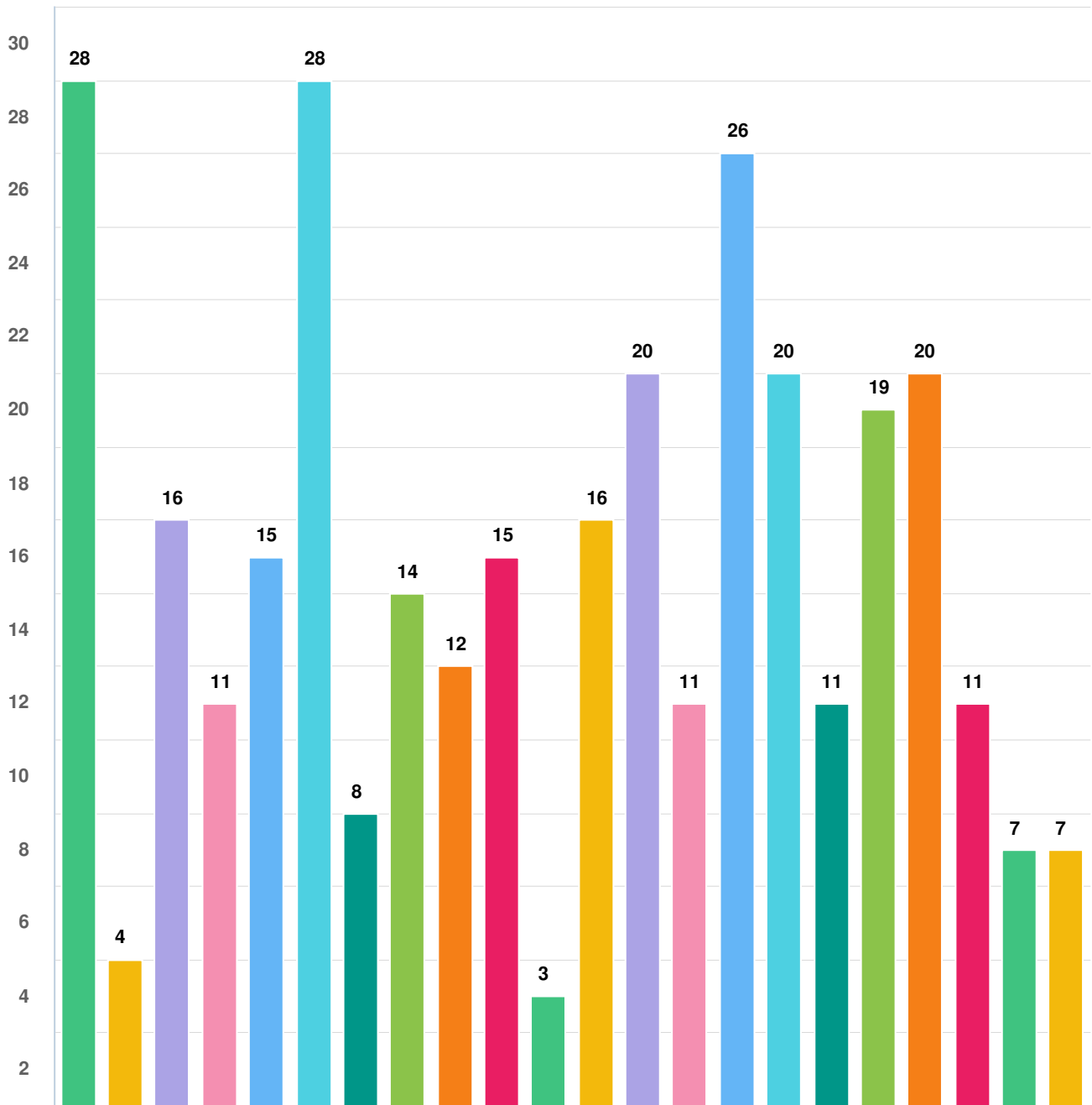


**Question options**

- Increase taxes to expand and enhance services
- Increase taxes to modernize and maintain services
- Cut services to maintain the current level of taxes
- Cut services to reduce taxes
- None of the above

Optional question (248 response(s), 2 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q2** If you chose to expand and enhance services, where would you suggest service enhancements be made? (check as many as applicable)

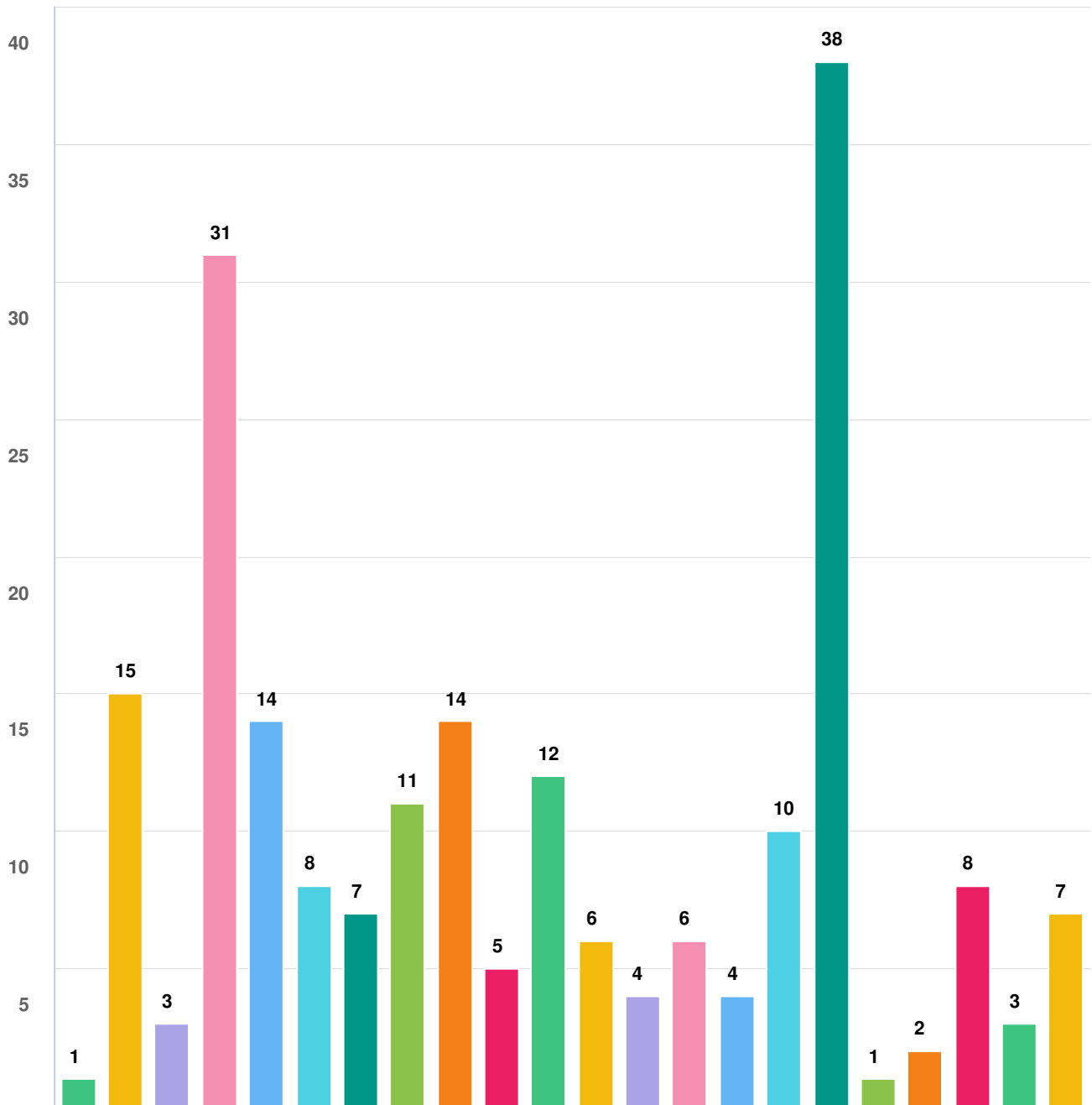


**Question options**

- Ambulance Services    ● Building Services    ● Children's Services    ● Cultural Programs    ● Economic Development
- Fire Services    ● Gravel Roads    ● Housing Services    ● Library Services    ● Parks & Cemeteries
- Planning Services    ● Police Services    ● Public Health    ● Public Transportation    ● Recreation Facilities
- Recreation Programs    ● Resident Attraction/Promotion    ● Road Maintenance    ● Senior Services
- Social Services    ● Waste Management    ● Winter Control

Optional question (56 response(s), 194 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q3** If you chose a cut to services, where would you suggest service reductions be made?  
(check as many as applicable)

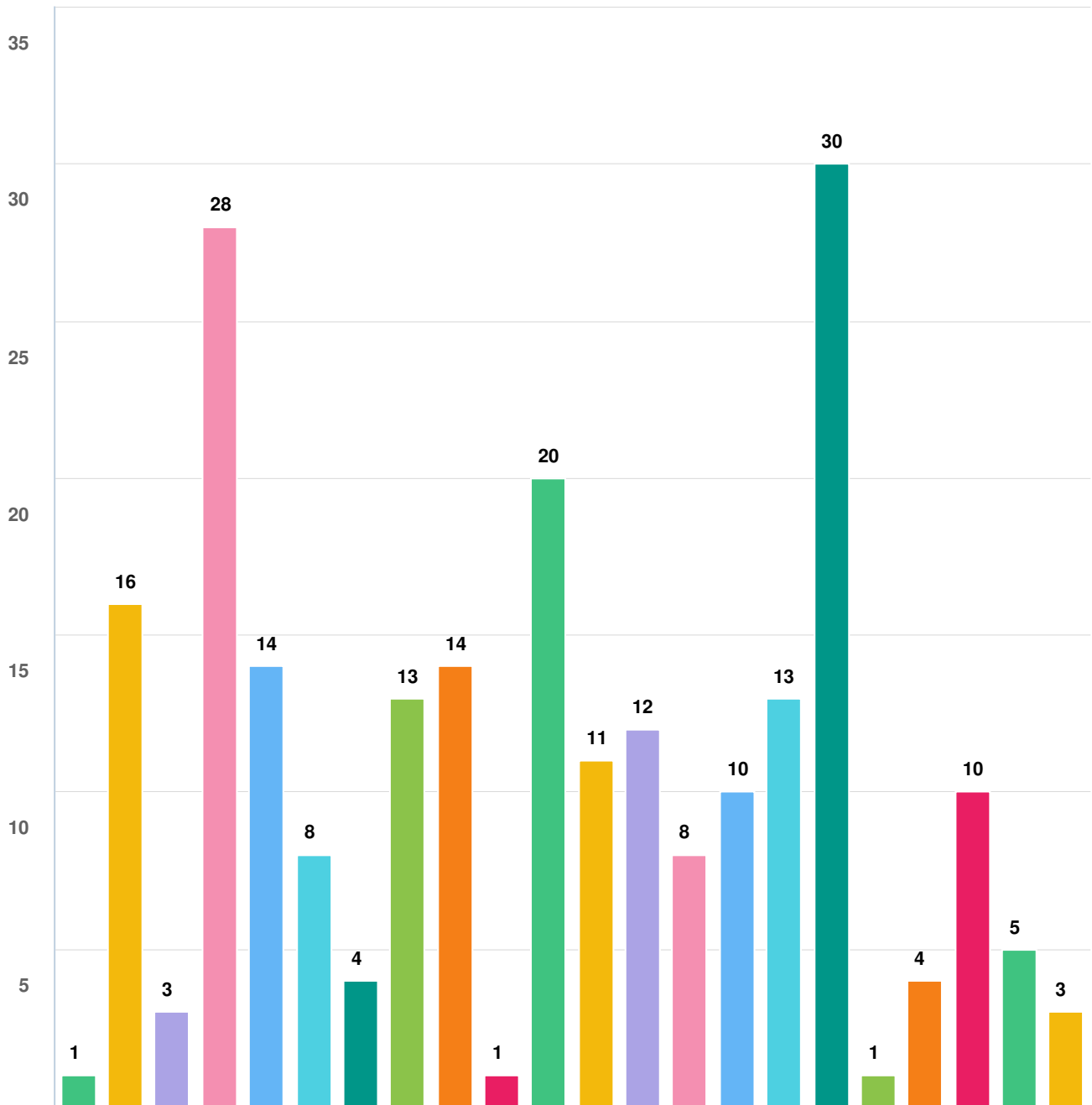


**Question options**

- Ambulance Services    Building Services    Children's Services    Cultural Programs    Economic Development
- Fire Services    Gravel Roads    Housing Services    Library Services    Parks & Cemeteries
- Planning Services    Police Services    Public Health    Public Transportation    Recreation Facilities
- Recreation Programs    Resident Attraction/Promotion    Road Maintenance    Senior Services
- Social Services    Waste Management    Winter Control

Optional question (53 response(s), 197 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q4** If you chose a cut to services, where would you suggest service reductions be made?  
(check as many as applicable)

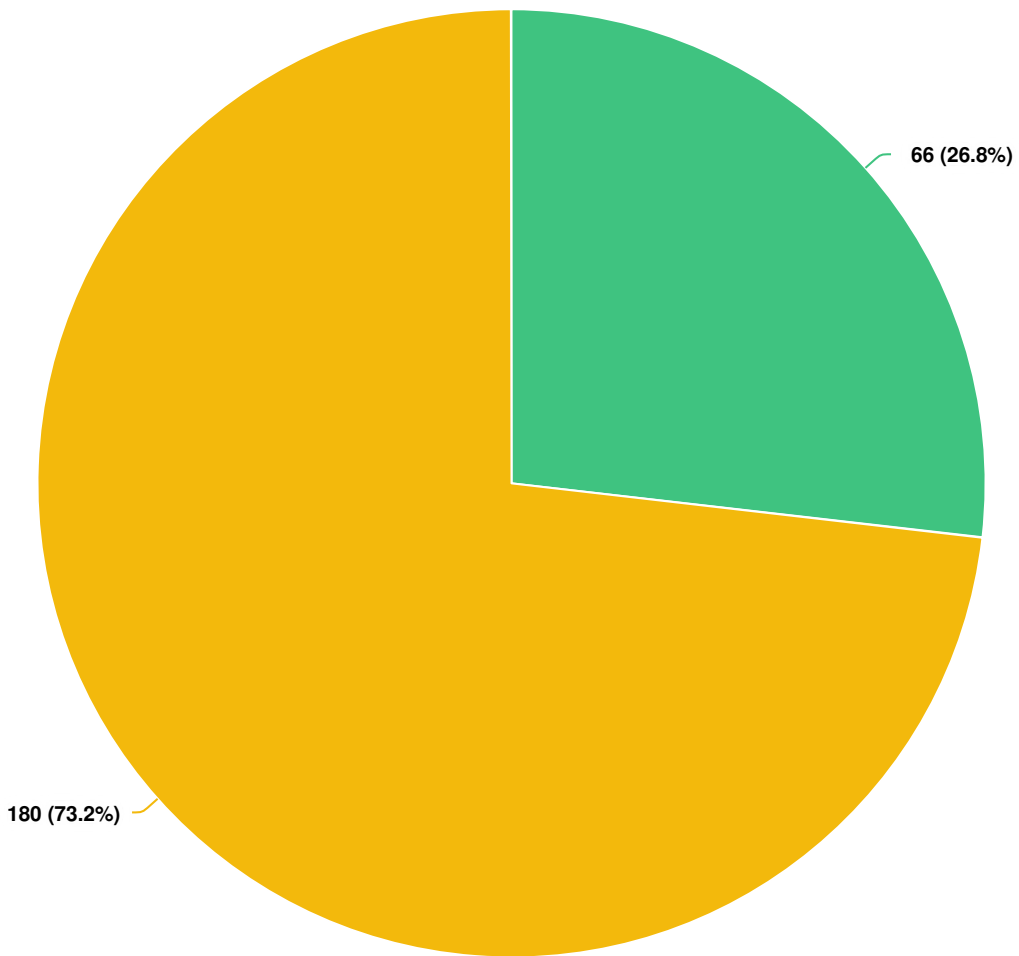


**Question options**

- Ambulance Services    Building Services    Children's Services    Cultural Programs    Economic Development
- Fire Services    Gravel Roads    Housing Services    Library Services    Parks & Cemeteries
- Planning Services    Police Services    Public Health    Public Transportation    Recreation Facilities
- Recreation Programs    Resident Attraction/Promotion    Road Maintenance    Senior Services
- Social Services    Waste Management    Winter Control

Optional question (44 response(s), 206 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q5** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (246 response(s), 4 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q6** Please leave your comment.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

Stop spending unnecessary money on free money given out. Checker sets

Anonymous

5/30/2023 11:49 AM

I understand that the farms provide a lot for our community, but doing gravel for one family to run a farming operation sounds like a waste of money.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:54 PM

Taxes in Chatham-Kent area are way to high compared to the average wage in the municipality.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:57 PM

the costs for us regular citizens plus seniors do not have the ability to keep paying higher costs in taxes. We do not make the same wages as City Employees or other Companies let alone be able to pay for our home repairs, insurances, medical etc. Many seniors do not have the best pension to carry a higher tax burden without going without food and other necessities. When do we get a break?

Anonymous

5/30/2023 03:03 PM

We need to move away from the pre-amalgamation mindset of each community for themselves and use taxation to support the municipality as a whole. Modernize services, providing more electronic options and reducing the number of hubs and old buildings supported by CK.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:35 PM

Should add reduction in municipal worker wages, especially top level, no need for so many on the Sunshine list, when everyone is struggling to make ends meet. People have a hard time paying property taxes, while municipal workers are making well over \$100,000 from said property tax payments.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

For the last 20 years I have been fed the line we are raising taxes to pay down the debt. I understand and agree with paying down debt. Now I understand that debt has been paid down yet C-K STILL raises taxes as much or more than surrounding communities!!! DO YOUR JOB, at this time you should be able to provide our services without tax increases, at least for a period of time. NO MORE feeding us lines. Other communities provide me more service for less money! C-K should be able to do better!



Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:26 PM

I'm curious to know why taxes keep raising but not seeing additional services. People are struggling with inflation and communities need more to do.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:35 PM

Without knowing what services you are referring to that question is misleading and can't be answered correctly. Do not increase taxes and find cost saving to keep the services that are required by all citizen not just a hand full of citizens. Chatham-Kent taxes are to high to begin with.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

We need to focus on core services and get rid of all the fluff. If you want fluff you should pay for them yourself.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:34 PM

council needs to consider that seniors live on a fixed income and can't afford another 5.65 percent property tax increase , cut the amount of people that work at city hall it's very top heavy also we don't need 17 councilors for our small population .

Anonymous

5/30/2023 11:02 PM

There is no need to cut services, your front line workers are the ones who excel, C-K is too management heavy, there are managers of managers. I'd suggest reducing management as a form of cutting services. The people of CK don't need or have use for this too heavy management.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:56 AM

It is unrealistic to not raise taxes to maintain services, I am not adverse to raising taxes to maintain and increase necessary services. That said, given that all residents of Chatham Kent are financially affected by an increase in taxes, the administration and council need to be fiscally responsible to the citizens living here.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:34 AM

Build the 4,000-seat downtown arena.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 11:21 AM

Unfortunately, existing support services such as the Women's Shelter are unable to help older citizens facing abusive situations if the victim is not in an intimate relationship with the abuser. We need a program to help ensure the safety - physically and financially - of our growing elderly population, to help them function to their fullest in our community, to help them thrive and remain in their own homes for as long as possible, and to make sure they have the supports they need. We have more multi-generational homes now than ever before, which

is a necessary aide to the housing crisis - but we need to make sure our older citizens are not being put in horrible living situations for the sake of their pensions and government subsidies.

why\_is\_this\_public

5/31/2023 04:00 PM

If you hire IT people, there should either be enhanced services or big layoffs. I have not seen this happen yet, so my assumption is the budget is bloated somewhere or managers are bad at managing their inputs.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 12:02 AM

Transportation needs to be vastly improved. The lack of frequency in which transit runs during the day is unacceptable in 2023.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 09:17 AM

As a resident, I feel extremely isolated while living in Wheatley. I believe there are many opportunities to develop and enhance this area of Chatham Kent due to its strategic location on Lake Erie, with a vital commercial fishing industry, a beautiful and well used Provincial Park and an abundance of folks willing to open and operate businesses. There have been extreme delays to Wheatley's economic progress due to the gas explosion and resulting damage to the area, however, there are numerous roads greatly in need of repair and/or construction. How is it that absolutely nothing visible has been done to reconnect Wheatley to Blenheim via the lake highway? The present alternative of detouring almost to Tilbury to bypass the affected area is not feasible. I believe a greater effort is needed to bring the necessary infrastructure, both in roads and communication, to this area in order to make it a vital and contributing part of Chatham Kent.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

In the future, can you please provide a brief explanation in the survey (or an external link) for what each of these services entails? It is not clear to me what the function and scope of some of these services are and it may impact my choices.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 01:10 PM

Reduce the number attending conferences, and spouses should not be going. Share the rooms. This is not a PAID holiday, actually these conferences are a waste of time and a big waste of money !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Anonymous

6/04/2023 07:33 AM

in order to maintain existing infrastructure and services, while the population is growing we cannot do this without increasing revenue. find ways to optimize performance and share costs may save some money. ensure employees fully understand that being paid for their shift means they need to provide an honest days work.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

We need to increase the taxes on farm land. The residents of CK have been footing the bills for far too long. We have the lowest tax levels on farm land across all of Ontario! yet the richest soil for growing.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 11:57 PM

We need more housing aimed at the homeless people in our community, We should be building Tiny homes and more affordable living spaces!

Anonymous

6/06/2023 01:18 AM

There should be better discretion used for these services. They are important but too much money is thrown at unnecessary items and too much staffing.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 09:38 AM

Residents of the Wheatley area deserve Public Transportation to reasonable grocery store etc. Since the explosion in Wheatley and then the road closure to Blenheim, it makes sense that some type of transit be established to Leamington from Wheatley to help our quality of life.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 03:09 PM

We need more social supports and services for people to keep our community safe. The police do not keep everyone safe and they do not have the ability to do so.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 08:27 PM

What does modernizing look like? Does that, for example, including adding a compost option to garbage collection in line with good practices that can help improve our environmental footprint? Or is that considered an 'enhanced' option. Adding details such as these would help with answering questions.

Anonymous

6/09/2023 07:01 PM

Staffing levels should be reduced. Reduce the number of management director and supervisory positions. Rates of remuneration should be frozen for the 4 year budget term. Most wages are far to high compared to the average wage of this geographical area. Positions in Chatham should not receive the same amount of pay as equivalent position in other geographical areas due to cost of living comparisons.

Anonymous

6/11/2023 09:14 AM

maybe small increases over time rather than big increase all at once

Anonymous

6/19/2023 03:35 PM

Rebalance existing tax levels across sectors - commercial, residential, rural. Critical review of existing services and existing levels of funding to increase focus in areas requiring it - and eliminating those that are holdovers from earlier days that no longer serve , or are inordinately expensive, inefficient or far too narrowly focused.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

IMO CK is not competitive with its neighbours in Canada and the US as we are very top heavy in administration and require an external evaluation by professionals familiar with the Peterborough, Kitchener Guelph Waterloo Region Whom just following amalgamation returned the best results and also during the last recession were the only region not to go economically negative. This newly created network would set a positive direction for the next 10 years. The cuts would largely be required in engineering and a distraction as hiring outside would prove to be cheaper and give better results. Speaking to a number of outside investors CK looks to be a great place to invest, however costs and hidden fees scare them away. We need to do better, otherwise we will continue to fall behind. An advisory committee as a part of Council should include both industrial and agriculture representation as we have industry leading people available in CK.

Anonymous

6/20/2023 09:34 AM

We don't need to increase or cut taxes. We need to reevaluate what money is spent where. There are lots of very valuable services that the government can provide and also lots of wasted funds. Be wise with how the money is spent.

Anonymous

6/20/2023 07:27 PM

More events in the community.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 07:50 AM

I would like cut jobs to many high paying salaries 3 people doing the same jobs especially in parks and recs. They need to go

Anonymous

6/21/2023 08:02 AM

Chatham Kent needs to fund and expand on services that will directly support the homelessness population. This would look like expanding RGI/affordable housing, supporting the existing emergency housing shelter, introduce transitional housing, introduce a "crash shelter", directly fund and support mental health and addiction programs.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 01:31 PM

Calling the Municipality and being on hold for extended periods of time is frustrating, why can't I input the extension I've been given and contact the person I want to speak to directly? Modernizing the call

directory would save us residents a lot of unwanted frustration. In this day and age purchasing items, renting facilities and paying bills should all be accessible online, I feel like the Municipality makes these activities harder than they need to be. Your website has improved slightly but is lacking functionality.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 06:42 PM

People cannot afford a property tax increase. So you need to make cuts so it stays the same or reduces! Take a portion from each service so no one party is reduced.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 12:05 AM

On the list is the number of councilors we have and their wages, and in particular, the mayor. Spending has gone unaccountable and cuts need to be made.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

How about you cut your constant pay increases to maintain services and stop putting the burden on the taxpayer? Once we PURCHASE a property, we shouldn't be taxed on it every year.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:48 PM

I think that the BIGGEST cut in ANY services should be the Council's paychecks. EVERY time I turn around they are getting "raises". For the last TWO years they were all to scared to work in an office building because of a seasonal flu...yet they ALL claim they were "working". I think THEIR salaries and the mayors salary should be cut to the bare minimum of what a senior citizen gets ---say \$500.00 per month--then let's see how many of these people REALLY want the job!

Anonymous

6/25/2023 07:41 AM

Some services can be reviewed and streamlined but I recognize we need additional services and updates so we need to increase taxes

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

The question is too vague. What else does the budget cover except services?

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:28 AM

Reduce number of staff particularly in management. Middle managers are unnecessary.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

with costs rising, only makes sense for the municipality to raise taxes to maintain the current state. money needs to be allocated for upgrades to infrastructure. a slight increase in taxes will help

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:44 PM

I think we need a comprehensive audit. There is an incredible amount of waste

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:46 PM

So much funding is wasted on cultural activities that benefit very few, not the majority of taxpayers. Funds are spent setting up rec programs that are poorly communicated and poorly attended. Again only benefiting very few residents. Rather than attracting residents, more focus should be on developing business which will naturally attract residents. Unfortunately we are attracting more and more people who do not contribute to the community.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:00 PM

Being from the small town of bothwell (the town Chatham-Kent loves to ignore) we do not receive the same services that other towns and the city of Chatham.. receive. For this reason alone tax increase would not benefit the people of bothwell.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

I would like I don't mind some increase property tax when money is well spent. As a buisness owner the property tax I pay and service I get do not go hand and hand being on the fringe of the city.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:18 AM

Increased homelessness, drug related crimes, more man power for emergency services,

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:23 AM

Pay over 4500 in taxes already, and live on one of the worse (condition wise) roads in our community. Patches all over, uneven, just discussing conditions considering the amount of money our crescent puts out in taxes alone.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:48 AM

I would like to see my as well as my neighbours on Rose Beach Line in Morpeth, sent on a paved road at the East end. Either McKinley or Antrim. When the road was closed due to erosion we were never given a replacement paved road access to our homes. The added cost to us for car washes and wear and tear on our vehicles is getting expensive. Also I would like to see a sign for no overnight guests at the Terrace Beach in Morpeth. We see an array of campers weekly squatting in the parking lot and tents on the grass area.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:00 AM

Hybrid work environments should be continued to be explored decreasing the number of physical buildings required for municipal employees Public health is a duplicated service between provincial education initiatives and community health centres/family health

teams. With employment and housing already in need we shouldn't be focused on attracting more people we can't support. Should be focused on only targeted skilled tradespeople, medical professionals etc

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:34 AM

The town of Wheatley needs more than what they pay for with their taxes. I am in romney which isn't even Wheatley and I'm paying insane taxes and Wheatley gets NOTHING! We can't even get tree clean up from a storm that happened in April. It's a disgrace how Wheatley is treated....

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:41 AM

In order to compete with what other municipalities and the services we want, we need to invest in our services. The only way this can be done is by increasing taxes. We need to be more modern and enhance what we have and not cut things.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 11:30 AM

We need to actively attract more residents / businesses to Chatham-Kent.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 11:53 AM

Road services should include bike lanes and "share the road" signs for safety of cyclists, protect drivers and improve health and safety for a better communitie.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:05 PM

Increasing taxes to expand and enhance services needs to focus on doing what is necessary to increase economic development and municipal growth. The municipality needs to focus on attracting more industry, manufacturing businesses and people to the municipality. In doing so, the Municipality needs to make significant investments in Fire, Police and Ambulance Services in addition to investments in the municipality (e.g., arenas, event venues, land for development, etc.) that will not only attract industry, businesses, etc., but also attract more people to want to live in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:27 PM

Rural infrastructure needs to be modernized, repaired and maintained at a faster rate. Rural bridges need to stay open.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:56 PM

Money raised from taxes needs to be spent more responsibly. Wages for municipal top level employees is too high and there are too many.

Anonymous

Because we are a large amalgamated community, services are

6/26/2023 04:28 PM

sometimes less in outlying areas. If cuts end up being the order of the day it will be the fringe communities that end up with even less than they currently have. If we are truly an amalgamation then all areas deserve to be treated evenly. If that requires a slight increase in property tax it is justified.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 04:40 PM

Where I live we basically have no services we get less and less every year yet my taxes keep going up. It is now the end of June and our Road has not been graded, many potholes and washboard and zero dust control yet I have seen many roads that have dust control and only 1 house on entire road. So maybe you should reduce my taxes.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 05:24 PM

An increase in taxes allows the Municipality the opportunity to maintain and slightly expand our current luxuries.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:04 PM

As someone who grew up in Chatham there is a sever need to improve equipment and increase Fire Fighters. It has basically been at the same front line staff for the past 35 years. With all the homes and high rise apartment buildings and new businesses we are seriously under manned.

Anonymous

6/27/2023 08:06 AM

We have too many panels/boards spending unnecessary money. Top heavy a city hall

Anonymous

6/28/2023 07:32 AM

Higher level fire service needs to be more responsible for their spending. Especially the "personal" benefits. Why do we need multiple assistant chief/chief vehicles when simply providing the on-call officer one would be sufficient. To add to their unidentified privilege we the tax payers are paying for gas used in these vehicles for personal use. It's ridiculous.

Anonymous

6/28/2023 06:48 PM

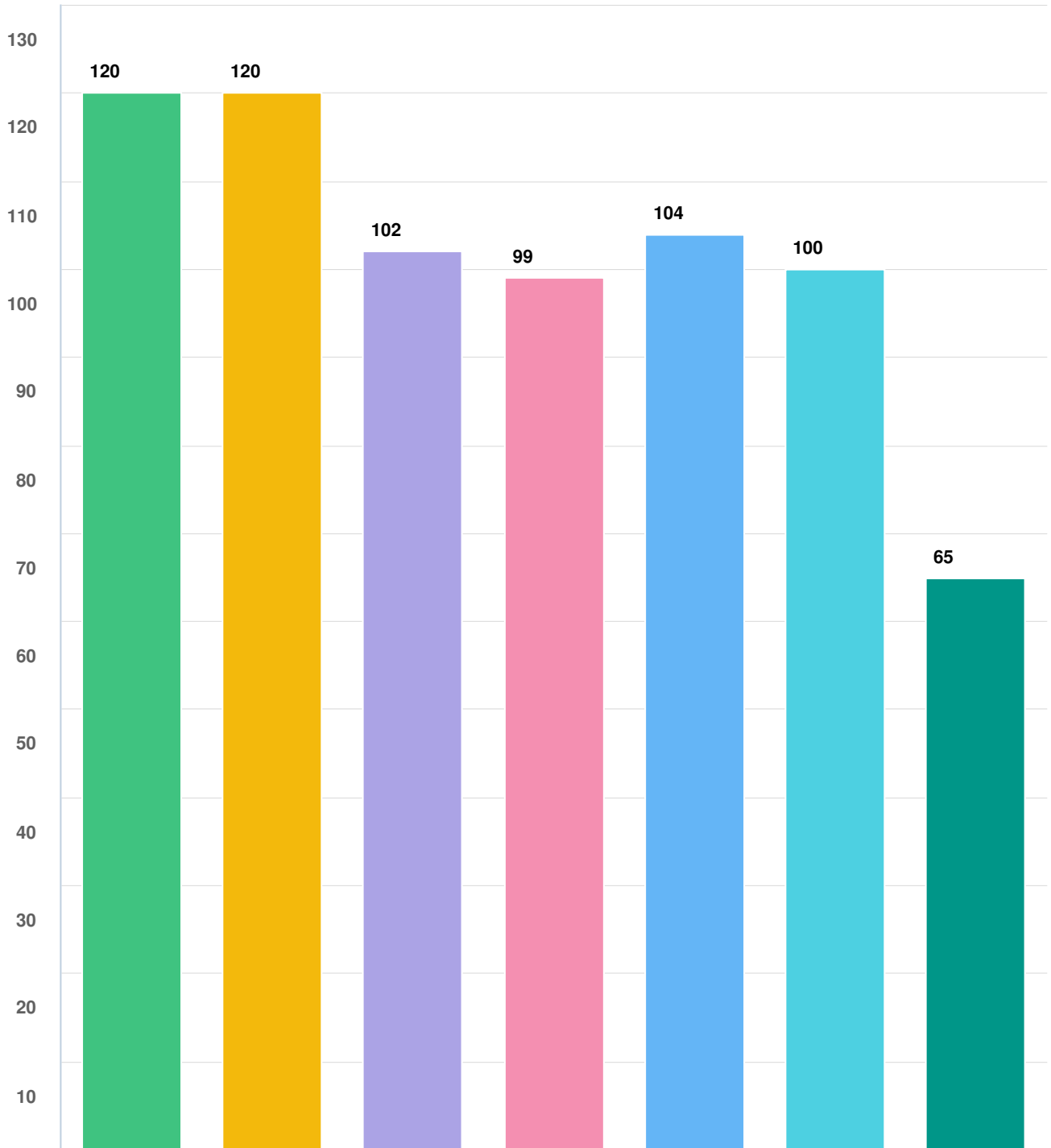
the above services really have nothing to do with where we live and yet our tax dollars are being used for them

**Optional question** (66 response(s), 184 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question



**Q7** The following services currently receive funding from user fees. Please identify for which service you would support an increase in user fees to reduce reliance on property taxes:

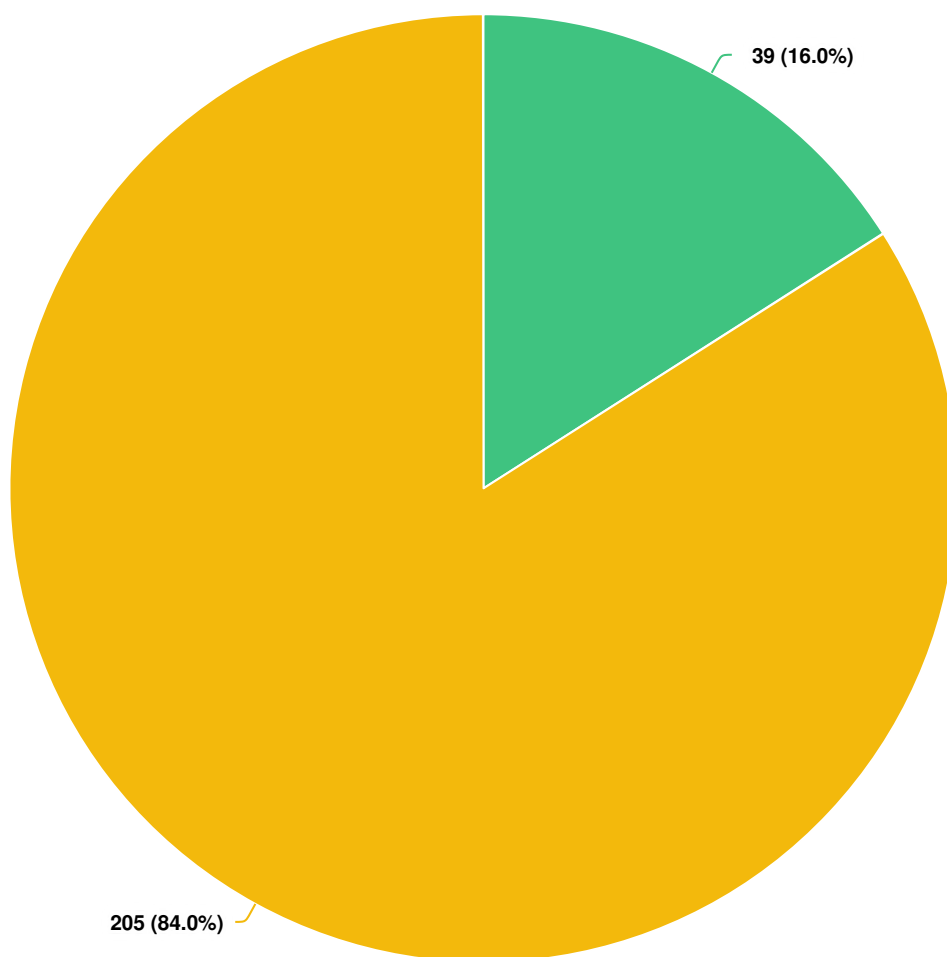


**Question options**

- Arenas
- Museum & Culture Services
- Recreation Programs
- Pools
- Sports Fields
- Transit
- None of the above

Optional question (247 response(s), 3 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q8** Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

Optional question (244 response(s), 6 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q9** Please leave your comment.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 11:49 AM

Baseball and Soccer fields should be tended to differently from parks and cemeteries. Fergie Jenkins Field, St Clair College baseball and soccer fields, Keil Drive Soccer Fields and the main baseball/soccer fields in Wallaceburg, Tilbury and Blenheim should all be cut significantly shorter and more often. Most of these places are unplayable because of their grass being way too long. Grass cutting contract should callout these locations specifically for separate treatment. Cutting the courthouse fields and all the younger kids' fields isn't as relevant/important because its more recreational and they don't know any different. Upping the fees to play on these fields shouldn't increase each player's fees too significantly.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 12:44 PM

Fees are already too high and when it specifically comes to recreation, we need to start removing barriers and cost is the biggest barrier.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:54 PM

100% should be paid by the user.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:35 PM

Again money can be found else where by way of pay freeze/reduction to overpaid municipal worker.....no reason to keep making struggling people continue to pay for services

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:35 PM

Any user fees need to be reasonable for all citizens that use all of these services.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

Again if you use the above services you should pay for them

Anonymous

5/30/2023 11:02 PM

Working families with children rely on pools, arenas, rec facilities etc to keep their children active- all part of paying taxes, increasing these fees will put strain on these families. Reduce your management staff, the saving would be huge.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:56 AM

User fees are a way to pay for services.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:55 AM

If you invest in the people and programs for people, that will expand your tax base increasing population grow.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 11:21 AM

I think the only area where we would increase user fees without impacting players who might not have the financial means to pay larger participation fees would be at our arenas - spectators could contribute via canteens, maybe a small door fee or \$1 or \$2... our hockey teams draw big crowds, but we can't expect all the players or teams to be able to carry user fees by themselves. Unfortunately, there are many people just at - or below - the poverty line in Chatham-Kent, so it is crucial for health, education and fair access that pools, sports fields, cultural venues and transit user costs remain as low as possible.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 06:50 PM

Quit treating Wallaceburg like a red-headed step child!

Anonymous

6/01/2023 12:02 AM

If an increase in transit fees is required, an improvement in transit services needs to be done.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 09:17 AM

I feel that young families must have free or inexpensive access to athletic community services as a good foundation in developing their loyalty and possible eventual contributions to the community.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

I would like to see a decrease in user fees for public transit to encourage citizens to use it more. Fewer cars on the road mean less money spent on road maintenance and traffic management, and less pollution, all of which I think is a valuable use of my property taxes. CK is already underfunded for road maintenance so every bit will help.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 07:33 AM

those who rely on public transit may not be able to afford an increase... so be careful adjusting the fees. as much as I think exercise is important, we need to cover operating costs of our facilities

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

If want that benefit of using those extra curricular activities then you should be willing to pay more to use them.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 03:07 PM

Add a 2.00 entry to museums

Anonymous

6/04/2023 11:57 PM

Again the priority should be...More housing aimed at the homeless people in our community, We should be building Tiny homes and more affordable living spaces!

Anonymous

6/05/2023 10:06 AM

These services are vital to growing our community, increasing user fees will price those who need the services the most out of being able to use them.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 03:09 PM

These user fees are already inaccessible to the people who need it the most. It doesn't make sense to increase the user fees.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 08:27 PM

It would be helpful to note which of these services would impact those in Chatham Kent who cannot afford to pay more. I assumed transit was one of those, but helping us to understand who benefits from the services would enable us to make more informed choices. Is this sort of data collected at all? I'm assuming prior survey's might have asked something along those lines (e.g., which services do you use), and the data from those prior survey's could be reported (e.g., cluster income groups together) to add more context to the questions.

Anonymous

6/09/2023 07:01 PM

In no way should user fees be increased for arts and recreation in our area. These opportunities are already very limited and increases in fees will decrease the number of users who are able to financially afford to access

Anonymous

6/11/2023 09:14 AM

i'm an older citizen i don't use arenas and i think the theatres should find a way to bring in profits. to help offset the amount we need to contribute

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

We need to lower the cost of doing business in CK to bring in economic benefit. Then when we are competitive and receiving more tax input from new businesses or expanded local business we will be able to provide more public services

Anonymous

6/21/2023 07:50 AM

It's a absolute joke city council approved a new baseball team that has no ties to the community now they will be taking precious diamond time from youth with no backup plan. No game plan for youth terrible

Anonymous

Any service being offered where user fees are required should be self

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6/21/2023 01:31 PM

sustaining. Why are all residents subsidizing activities that are being enjoyed by the few. I do support subsidized transit as this benefits the community and supports low income residents.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 12:05 AM

These are NOT the areas to cut spending.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

I wouldn't limit it to just this. Services like day-care and schools (etc) should be paid for by the people USING them, and NOT by people who don't.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:48 PM

Those people who actually USE the service are the people who should be paying to use the service. I have never used any of them.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

There is not enough information to make a decision. For example it be useful to know what the current level of user fees actually cover. Is it 5%, 40%, 85%?

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

again a slight increase will help. user fees help to share the costs of operating the services with those who use them. if you don't want to pay to play hockey, etc that is fine. we run a facility and are looking at increasing prices again this year. unfortunately a fact of life.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:44 PM

Arena fees are already ridiculously high compared to other counties

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:46 PM

To keep costs low, those receiving monthly benefits without working for them should be scheduled to volunteer to keep costs low.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:00 PM

Again, being from bothwell.. the town you tried to close the arena down in. The arena is the only facility we have for families. Raising these fees would not make it accessible to some families in the area. Further more the majority of programs at our arena is volunteer based.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

I don't mind supporting these, I'd like to see new ideas to help pay for them. Advertise on the side of busses? And sport fields. Etc...

Anonymous

Once again. Everyone pays enough in Wheatley to have their taxes

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6/26/2023 09:34 AM

increased to pay for more would be theft! Wheatley has nothing and gets nothing as it is. Why do you need to increase anything? Because you had to pay out money to families for an explosion ?

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

The user fees in the arenas and sports fields are already high enough. The free or low fee services in Chatham-Kent need to be increased. I'm tired of paying for other people to use these services.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:17 AM

The cost of these things is already high, the municipality should focus more on using the money appropriately to gain the most for the residents of Chatham-Kent.

Anonymous

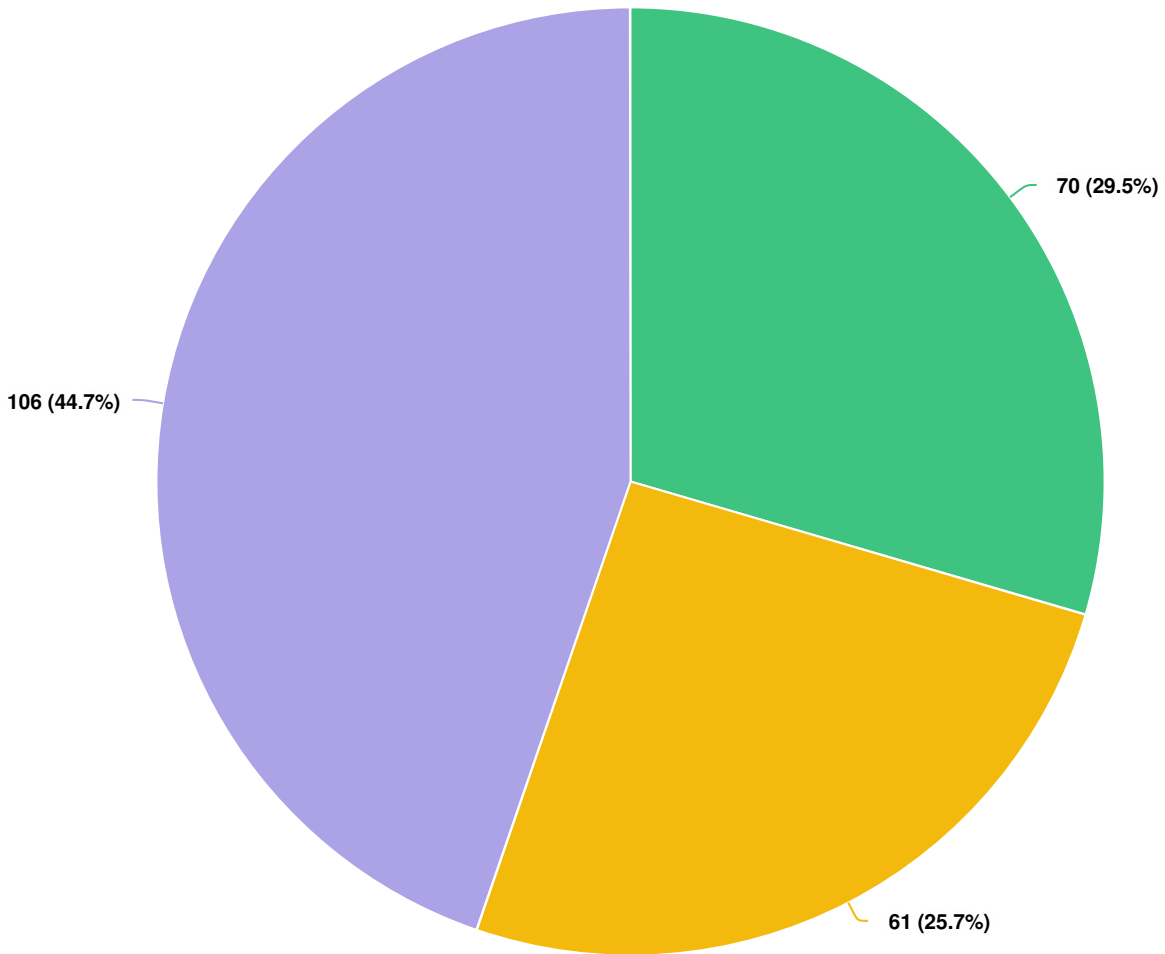
6/26/2023 04:40 PM

Cancel the 2 1/2 million on the Wallaceburg walk bridge. The span between bridges can't be any more than between Kiel street and Lacroix bridges.

**Optional question** (39 response(s), 211 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q10** Municipalities often issue long-term debt to fund projects. Which of the following options do you prefer?



**Question options**

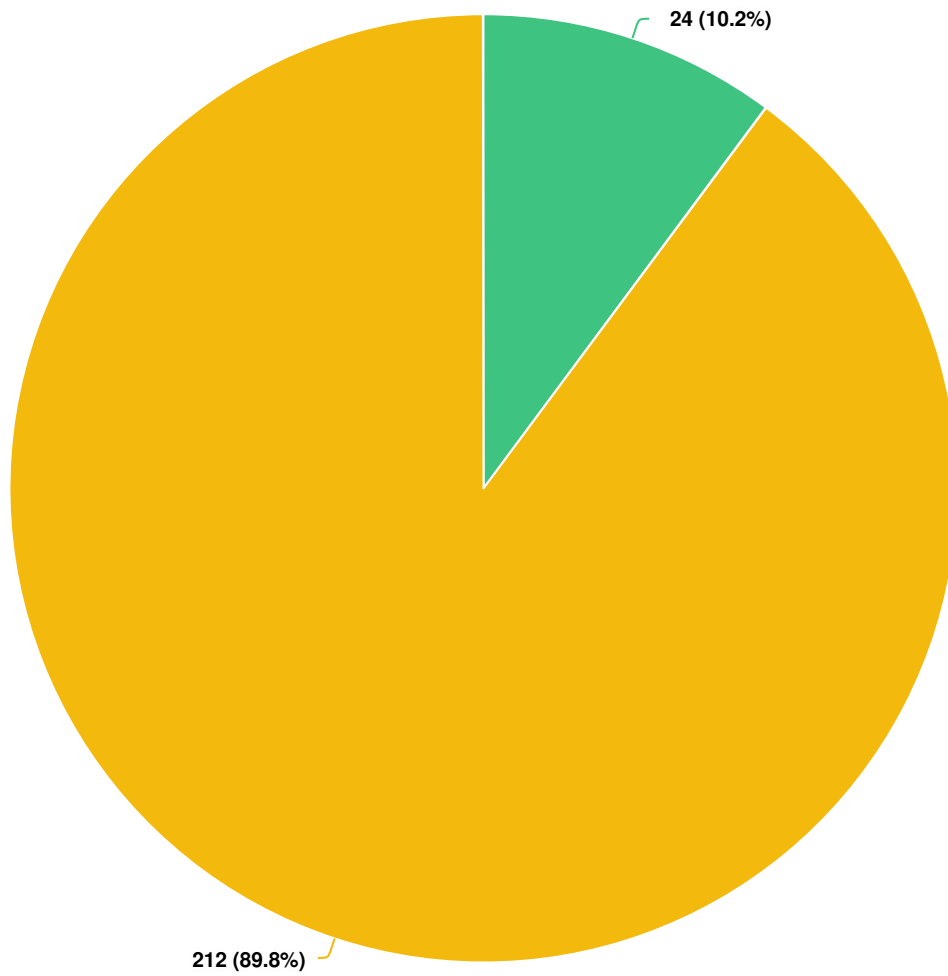
- Chatham-Kent does not issue debt to fund new capital builds and lifecycle replacement of assets
- Chatham-Kent issues debt only for new capital builds and not for lifecycle replacement of assets
- Chatham-Kent considers issuing debt on both new capital builds and lifecycle replacement of assets

Optional question (237 response(s), 13 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question



**Q11** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (236 response(s), 14 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q12 | Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

With the minimal debt you are saying we have now you should be able to get favorable interest rates to run the Municipality as any GOOD business or household does by using debt wisely. DO YOUR JOB!!

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:26 PM

I'm not sure if this is very clear. More information would be great.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 05:44 AM

Please renovate the downtown Chatham mall...and include a farmer's market

why\_is\_this\_public

5/31/2023 04:00 PM

As long as it isn't current expenditure, finance away.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 08:01 PM

If there was an option to only issue debt for lifecycle, I would have selected that option.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:47 PM

I believe some debt can be sustainable so long as the return on investment is carefully considered

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

I support Chatham-Kent using debt when it is financially and strategically sound based on current interest rates and other economic factors, regardless of its use. I would also support further exploring public/private partnerships (including naming rights or sponsorships) and local fundraising to cover costs, when ethically feasible.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:29 AM

Policy must be flexible to not let critical assets fall into decline or not allowing for new assets to enhance the experience of living in the community. Must reflex in some instances the demographics within the community.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

As long as those making the decisions do not over extend when issuing a debt for capital builds and lifecycle would be perfectly fine. The municipality needs take care of it's infrastructure properly including actually making a decision on the civic centre. The building is falling apart around the staff that are working there. Council needs to do their job and make some tough and unpopular decisions.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 08:27 PM

Can you give us an example of 'capital builds" versus 'lifecycle replacement of assets'? !

Anonymous

6/19/2023 03:35 PM

As both types are an investment used by future rate payers - they are a legitimate reason to incur future debt.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

Maintaining existing buildings and integrated systems should be part of an existing budget. Long term investments should either be money makers or necessary replacements as once buildings are too old the maintenance contract is worth more than the building and external integrity based engineering firms would quickly point this out.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

QUIT SPENDING MORE THAN YOU HAVE!!!!

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:28 AM

I don't really understand the question.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

upgrades should be funded annually

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:39 PM

we need to maintain what we have not keep buying and building new, a perfect example would be Capital theatre, Bradley centre, new arena and new civic centre when is it going to stop.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:51 AM

Have no idea what #6 is talking about!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

I believe ck is doing a great job and depends on the numbers if it's something that's cheaper to do now and interest rates are responsible then yes. I think some project could be done cheaper and we need someone to audit some project that's is bias maybe?

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:18 AM

Debt is bad

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

I don't start new projects or maintain the my current lifestyle with going into more debt. I save them spend, run the city like a house should be run. The only time debt should be brought into the equation

is if it can be recouped and then some over a decided reasonable period of time.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:17 AM

Seems like Chatham-Kent misappropriates funds regularly. It is important to grow what the community has to offer however the municipality should have budgets and savings for these things. Especially lifecycle builds, the money should already be set aside. Chatham Kent does a very poor job at keeping up with lifecycle builds and attributes it to money, however many other places are able to keep up and produce nice updates place in other communities without having higher property taxes to pay for it.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 11:30 AM

We need to spend money to make Chatham-Kent a place that's appealing to live. It takes money to make money.

Anonymous

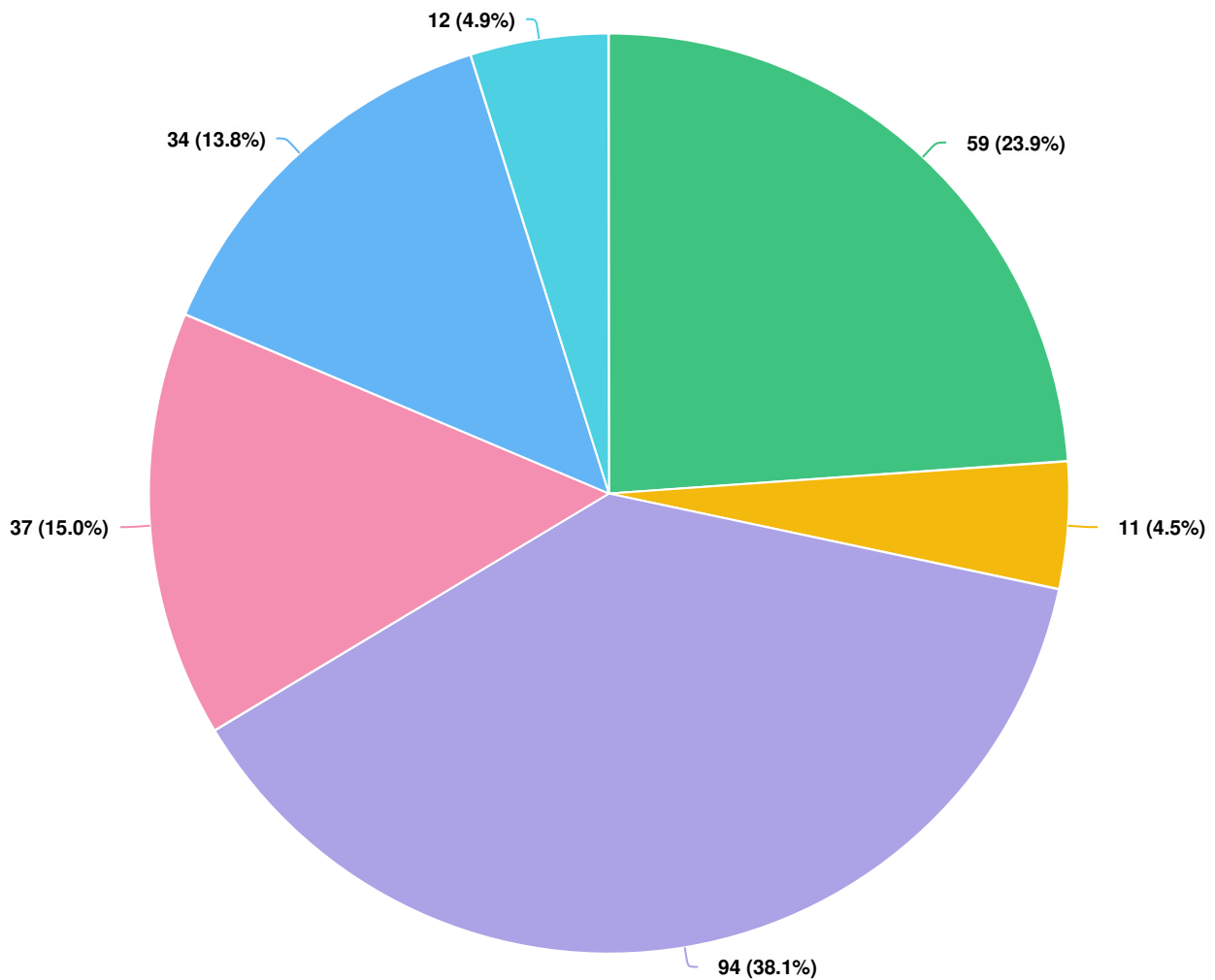
6/26/2023 01:27 PM

CK needs to fight harder with the provincial government to get rural classification and thus receive higher percentage of funding for infrastructure. While considering debt for a lifecycle replacement project, CK must also inquire about private business and citizen funding to help keep debt low.

**Optional question** (23 response(s), 227 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q13** The Municipality has approximately 1,785 km of gravel roads that require resurfacing on average every three to five years at a cost of \$4.5 million annually. The municipality is reviewing options to manage this asset longer term. Which of the following options do you prefer?

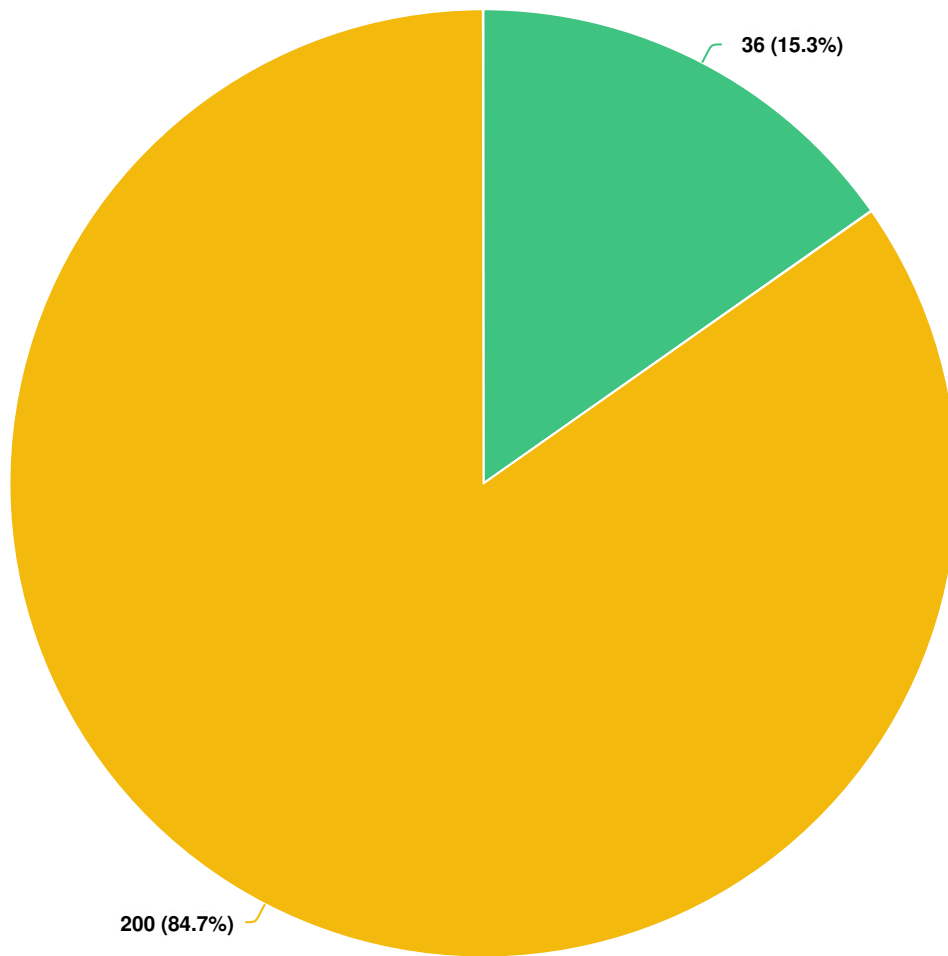


**Question options**

- No change, continue resurfacing with additional gravel every three to five years.
- Increase the frequency of gravel resurfacing to every two years.
- Develop a conversion strategy to a hard surface for key roadway corridors.
- Develop a conversion strategy to convert all gravel roads to a hard surface.
- Develop a strategy to close and divest low volume gravel roads.
- None of the above

Optional question (247 response(s), 3 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q14** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (236 response(s), 14 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q15 | Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:07 AM

That is a large number and not that surprising, my question for this though, is how many of these gravel roads are used by many people other than the farmers who live on them? There are so many gravel roads and bridges that get funded by tax dollars only to be used by so few.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

Is it cheaper to convert to hard surfaces. This is something we need to know cost??

Anonymous

5/30/2023 12:22 PM

Tar and chip the roads

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:48 PM

Rural resident - I'd love to see education about gravel road best-practices. IE - Do you spray calcium chloride? Does it damage my vehicle? Does speeding exacerbate potholes? Also, our road was graded last during right before tomato season. The fixes lasted two days tops then the tractors and trailers destroyed the road to its former state. Let's not punish the farmer, let's plan on fixing roads after agriculture has culminated.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:27 PM

All gravels roads need to be graded properly before adding gravel. This was not done in my area as one road had new gravel twice on part of it but the gravel eventually worked its way to the side. Waste of money. Also need to stop putting gravel along pa Ed roads in the fall. The snow plow usually scrapes it into the ditch or fields. Another big waste!

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:35 PM

There has to be a more long term cost effective strategy to extent the life of all roads. Do other countries in the world spend as much as chatham kent does on road? It's like, how can we do this as cheap as possible to have to continually resurface road every few years, basically a make work project to suck more tax money out of residents

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

Develop a strategy to provide us with the best roads we can afford with the current budget with increases based on inflation!

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:35 PM

There are other options then the stated above. There are some gravel road that require a strategy to convert roads to some form of hard

surface, but many only have a handful of drivers during a day. Any gravel road that run Parallel to a major road that get used when the road get closed for any reason should be first to be converted. example 40 highway

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:36 PM

Does Chatham Kent receive money from the ridge land fill. Dump on Erireau road It's a mess and a lot of traffic. Dump trucks. Sykes trucking. People going to Erireau Farm machinery Lots of traffic. Gravel roads are not good in Chatham Kent. Also newly paved roads have not been lasting. Whoever is paving these roads need to be accountable

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:56 PM

Many high usage gravel roads like Baldoon rd, Hastings line etc that you put gravel on and 3 days later it's gone, it would be better to just hard pave it to save the gravel replacement

Anonymous

5/31/2023 11:21 AM

If converting heavy-use gravel roads to hard-top is the most economical and environmental option, that should be considered. If there is an option for a more environmental substance to use in lieu of gravel, that should also be considered. As Chatham-Kent is a key farming area, we must do everything we can to facilitate food transport, etc, while also guarding our precious farmland from environmental hazards.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:22 PM

The 7th Line East between Charing across Road and Bloomfield has seen a tremendous increase in traffic, including large truck traffic over the past 5+ years, and is often used as quick access to the 401 and detour route off the 401. Bandaid fixes don't work. It needs a total revamp and proper asphalt.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:47 PM

Any strategy needs to weigh the value that is provided by the road with the cost of maintenance. The answer provided assumes the low traffic roads are too costly to justify the future maintenance costs.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

I don't think this question has the required information to make an informed decision, and it is not clear why it is being asked. What is the objective here? Is this question being asked because it is too expensive to maintain gravel roads? Or is it just because gravel roads are less desirable to citizens? Please provide additional context for why a question is being asked in future surveys. If the objective is to measure citizen preferences despite cost, then this should be spelled out so that the person answering the survey understands that



improving the road surfaces comes at an additional cost, with indications of which options cost more. This way the question can be answered with full knowledge of the advantages and disadvantages of each option. If the objective is to reduce costs, then this should be a data-driven decision, not a decision based on citizen preferences in a survey. For example, start with comparing the long-term costs of converting key roads to pavement versus leaving them gravel within a defined timeframe (at council's discretion). Paved roads have associated costs as well. Is it less expensive to maintain an equivalent paved road based on traffic volume over X years instead of gravel? If yes, pave this road, if no, leave as gravel. Prioritize based on ROI, traffic volume, and other key metrics.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:29 AM

Within the program reclaiming and reprofiling existing gravel roads with new gravel as required not completely resurfacing could stretch the serviceability of certainly low volume roads. Conversion of high volume gravel to some type of hard surface could reduce gravel needs but obviously need to be weighed against the capital improvement cost and life cycle historical costs of the hard surface to determine the functionality of each .

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

Again council needs to do their job and make the tough decisions that are best for the community as a whole.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

Perhaps also make a plan to maintain the hard road surfaces throughout the cities. And can those plans not involve them being dug up months after fresh pavement is installed. Making patches because a lack for foresight only allows these road ways to break down faster

Anonymous

6/04/2023 03:07 PM

Grade the dirt roads more often

Anonymous

6/06/2023 01:18 AM

Not sure so I didn't choose any.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 09:08 PM

In the 43 years I have been married, I have never seen Spence Line in Orford Township be so terrible. The road had 11 inch potholes, (our neighbour measured) and now the road has so much powder dust it is unsafe. We still have no brine on the roads as of June 7, 2023. It is a very busy gravel road as it has gravel trucks constantly and semi trucks carrying sweet corn when corn season begins. It would be nice to have some tar and chip similar to the section on Turin Line.

CKResident2023

6/09/2023 10:52 PM

Respectfully, closing and divesting of "low volume" gravel roads should not even be a consideration. The roads are created, people live on them and rely on them for travel. The Municipality has a responsibility to ensure that these roadways remain safe and accessible and that means performing regular maintenance, including gravel resurfacing or conversion to a harder top road that may require less maintenance. There are other places where costs can be cut without causing significant hardship to residents, and this is not one that I would support.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 03:35 PM

Regardless of the option pursued, these roadways should also be conditioned to withstand any foreseeable impacts of climate change - example: extreme dust due to drought, erosion due to torrential downpours, use when nearby hard surface roads are damaged - due to things like waterfront erosion. In short, understand why and when we are having to resurface them, is it changing - before just doing what has always been done.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

Living close to the border of another municipality it is blatantly obvious the difference of how poorly CK gravel roads are maintained. Proper gravelling and maintenance hasn't been done in years as most roads have no base. Either gravel was inappropriately diverted to other areas or there needs to be a complete change in management.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 07:50 AM

Nothing will change with gravel roads put as money towards it. Always an excuse why they don't get taken care of

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

We're paying 45 million per decade for "upkeep" on gravel roads????? . Convert them to hard surface that doesn't constantly need resurfacing. The initial cost may be higher, but the savings over the next few decades would be worth it.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:48 PM

Only non-thinkers, money wasting, brain dead morons would actually PAY \$4.5 million to re-surface 1,785 km of gravel roads every three to five years. PEOPLE PAVE THESE DAMNED ROADS AND STOP WASTING OUR MONEY!!!!

Anonymous

6/25/2023 07:41 AM

Utilize asset management to determine if some roads can be divested and if some roads could be upgraded to a hard surface

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

I don't like to see roads closed. but if there is no traffic and the maintenance costs are not making sense.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:39 PM

Start converting gravel roads into tar and chip and no more gravel road issues, no more road graters.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

Look at what road get used and need it. Grade the roads in the rain is not the best approach I think.... Maybe we should pack them after?

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:48 AM

As I've mentioned above I would like paved access to McKinley or Antrim in Morpeth as we have not had a replacement paved road for the East end of Rose Beach Line

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:27 PM

I live on Coutts Line which was converted from gravel to tar & chip 20 yrs ago and this conversion has proven to work well on adding yrs to the roads lifecycle budget. One key roadway that CK needs to resurface is Jeanette's Creek Road. Union operators also need to better their gravel road grading skills. If the gravel roads were tilled deeper to properly eliminate pot holes and graded properly than new gravel wouldn't be needed as frequently.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 04:40 PM

No more garbage gravel. Since amalgamation you have ruined the rural roads.

Anonymous

6/28/2023 06:48 PM

more than one answer should have been allowed for these questions

Anonymous

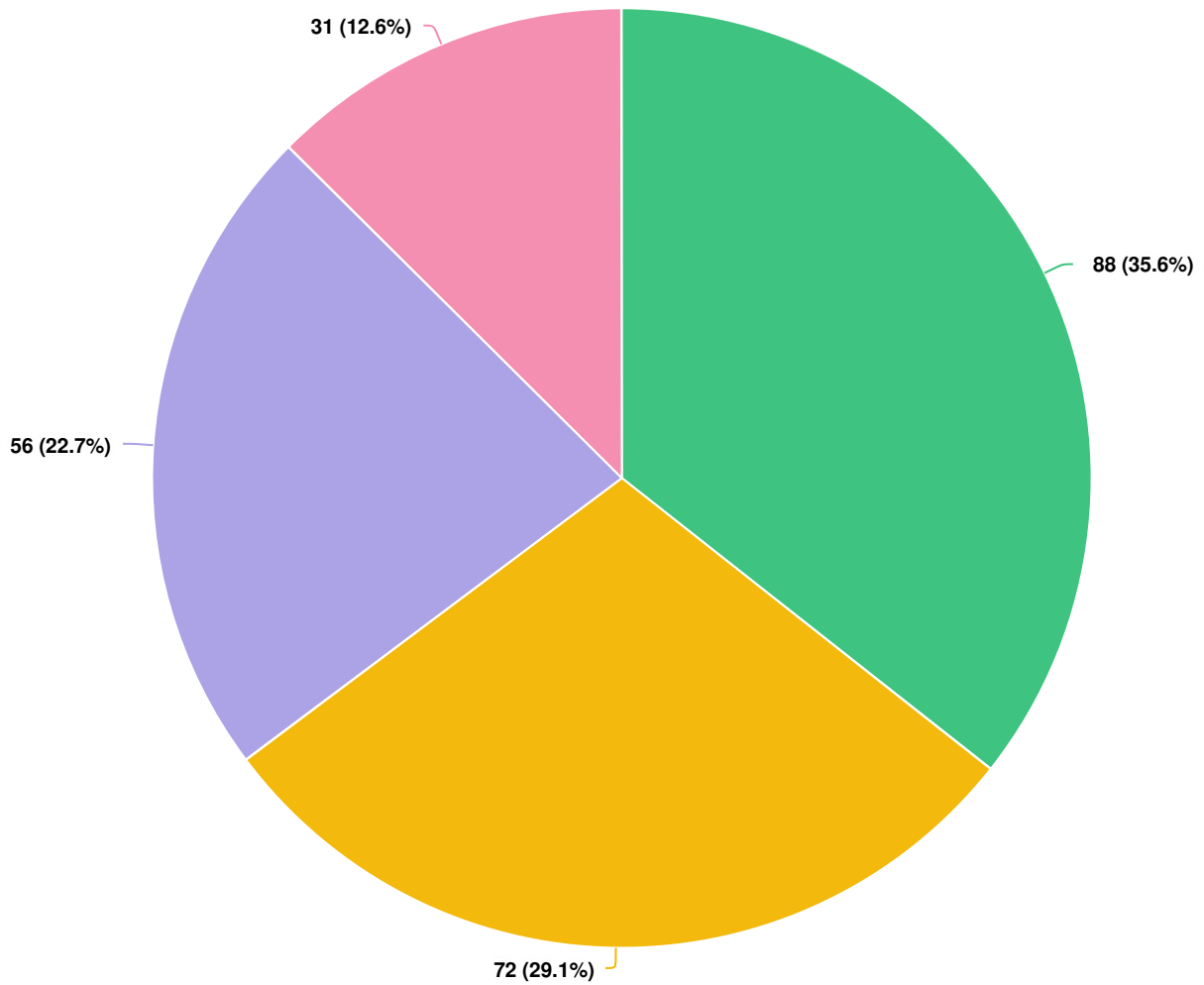
6/29/2023 06:59 PM

Have to call many times for road to be graded and it is june 29 2023, have called several times the last few weeks for dust control with NO RESULTS. Neighbors have also called. By the way my taxes went up \$268.00 , not a Happy Camper. 81 one year old widow. Make a note to inform our Mayor and councilors who voted their pay in increase and just lately again if they attend different meetings.

**Optional question** (35 response(s), 215 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q16 | How supportive are you of using underutilized land parcels and buildings owned by the Municipality of Chatham-Kent to develop affordable rental housing?**

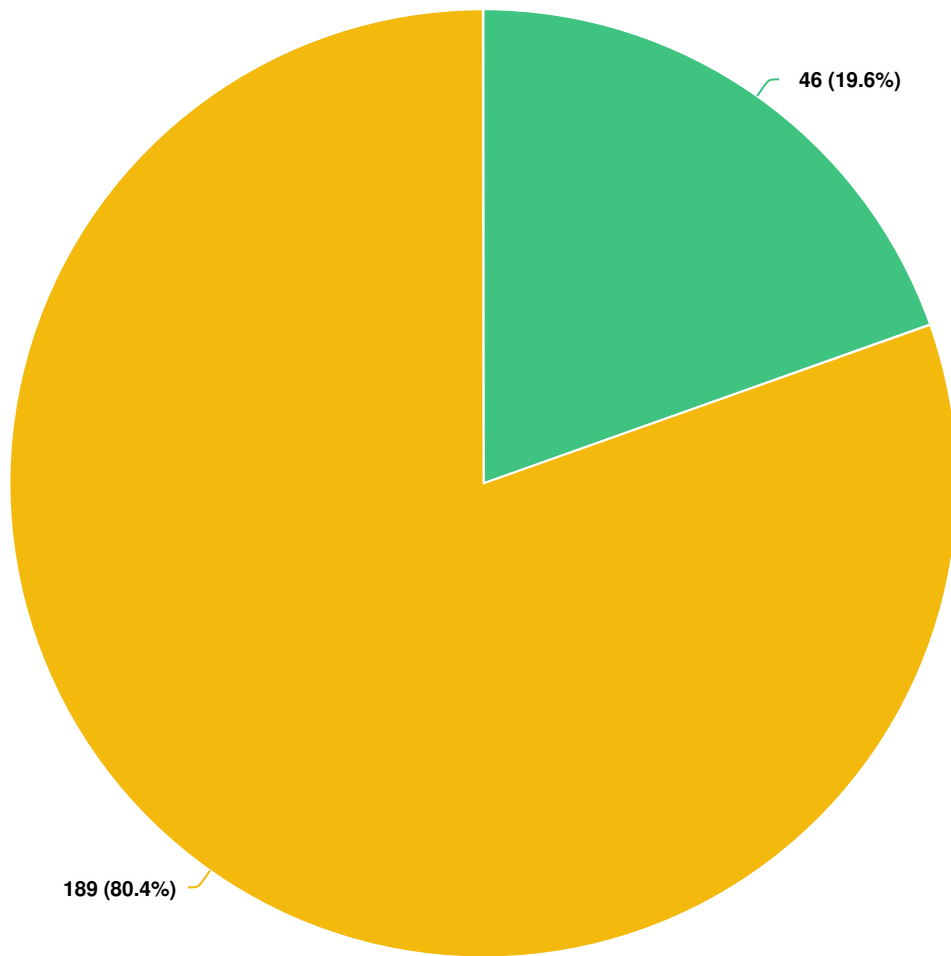


**Question options**

- Very Supportive
- Supportive
- Neutral
- Not Supportive

Optional question (247 response(s), 3 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q17** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (235 response(s), 15 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q18 | Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:07 AM

Our community is in serious need of affordable housing and we just don't have enough to offer. I believe this is an excellent opportunity.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

Most people are on welfare and need to get a job to contribute. That's all you hear people talking about is how to use the system

Anonymous

5/30/2023 11:49 AM

Need higher density in downtown Chatham area to help support the development around us; keeps taxes relatively the same while supporting our growth. The blocks closest to downtown, for example both blocks on either side of Raleigh St from Cross to Richmond should be multi-family properties (residential medium/high density zoning). Encourage smaller younger crowds versus large families to settle in. I understand that this isn't completely up to the municipality because people already live there and usually requires an investor to buy the properties and then re-zone them. This would help boost downtown support tremendously, emphasizing the walkability to the area from homes versus having to drive everywhere. Not too overcrowded building-wise, ensuring that it doesn't turn into a concrete jungle. Small park spaces and a good amount of greenery is beneficial. Making spacious walking paths to cut through each block as well.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:48 PM

Huge proponent of mixed usage dwellings and medium density. We don't need more high rises or lower-income ghettos. We need affordable housing in nice areas.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:35 PM

Any level of Government doesn't know the definition of affordable housing, because their personal pockets are lined so full with tax payers money they have forgotten what it is like to pinch pennies or go without or not be able to pay a bill. At least housing was somewhat affordable prior to the fake covid scheme. All Government is doing to making people rely on their help so the Government can have control of every aspect of people's lives.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

Not sure I trust C-K to provide cost effective affordable housing. I would support using underutilized C-K assets but have an independent business or community group run it.

Anonymous

Again without knowing what property (land & buildings) you are

5/30/2023 07:35 PM

referring to it is hard to make that decision. It should be decided on what and were before anything is confirmed.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:36 PM

My son and his family left Chatham Kent because there is no affordable housing. They were paying \$1300.00 plus. It was awful place nice cockroaches. This place has now been condemned. They moved to Alberta this year and rent is more reasonable.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

If we have facilities that can be used or converted we should look into the feasibility of doing so

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

I don't believe the government should be involved with housing, And they should clean up the low income housing now before start building more.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:41 AM

This strategy would depend on location of land and how many units planned. We don't want Chatham to have too many low income properties and we don't want them in the wrong locations (eg not on a bus route, too far from services etc)

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:56 AM

Conditionally supportive as Chatham-Kent has a housing shortage. This is a good way to use those resources; however, the municipality should NOT be in the housing rental business. This is not your job. Find a way to use those properties and determine a way to privatize it so it is out of your hands and in the hands of private industry.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:34 AM

Affordable housing for who? Low income or those that don't want to or can't work? Affordable housing should also include those starting out but that's a realtor decision, not CK so 'affordable' does not address regular hard-working residents. If it's for low or no income, this became a problem during COVID when we had a massive increase in this sector delivered to us. This is a Provincial issue, not a municipal issue.

why\_is\_this\_public

5/31/2023 04:00 PM

I don't trust your judgement to implement it well without destroying neighbourhoods. CK hasn't been convincing they can do this well.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 04:05 PM

Everyone is deserving of having a roof over their head and all vacant land and unused buildings are an ideal way to solve this on growing problem. Reasonable rental rates should be adhered to.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

Supportive only if those living there prove annually that they are holding down a full time job or two part time jobs or are in post secondary schooling. There are far too many living off the system these days.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

I feel that if we have that many buildings that perhaps we are carrying too much capital property that could be sold for revenue. Unless these projects could be revenue forward. That being said allowing private investors to make the investment in these properties would alleviate the cost off the municipality, waiting years for positive ROI if any.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 12:11 PM

I would love to see this implemented. As it stands right now there is no affordable housing for anyone that makes minimum wage or those on ow, odsp, seniors. Unfortunately part of the reason for this was the onslaught of people moving from areas like the GTA and home sellers and realtors saw dollar signs. I live in Dresden and rental prices are crazy and then there's the new subdivisions being built where you need 150 grand just to buy a lot then another 400 or better to build. Greedy developers and gentrification is ruining our small towns.

Anonymous

6/05/2023 10:06 AM

We are in desperate need of more social and affordable housing. The Municipality should not put everything on the private sector and should lead by example. The affordable housing list is far too long, this would help alleviate some pressures.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 03:09 PM

People need affordable housing but they also need a basic income. The government needs to invest in a basic income for all first and then focus on affordable housing.

Anonymous

6/09/2023 07:01 PM

I would like to see cost comparisons for this prior to issuing full support of initiatives. And to ensure no new staff are hired to deal with increased number of rental properties to maintain

CKResident2023

6/09/2023 10:52 PM

Affordable rental housing is a need in our community. However, these rentals need to actually be affordable based on the income level of people in our community, not those whom you are hoping to attract to the community. I would support the Municipality developing affordable rental housing, but for-profit partners/companies involved should be required to pay the estimated development costs and/or fair market value for the acquisition of that property themselves. Taxpayers



should not be expected to foot the bill for development costs only for a for-profit company to benefit.

Anonymous

6/11/2023 09:14 AM

going to be a lot of talk here. most people feel this housing. is for homeless people. people need to understand low income is not homelessness. anyone utilizing this service should agree to yearly inspections and have to pay for damages

Anonymous

6/19/2023 03:35 PM

Current steam of these projects - either for shelters or added rental housing are haphazard, reactive and demonstrate that there is no holistic strategy being pursued. You are simply creating confusion, conflict and band aid " feel good" projects that are standalone - this approach is not cohesive nor sustainable & impactful until you step back and think this through as a true longterm, community wide strategy.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

We need to reduce administrative costs at all levels, which in turn would free up affordable rental housing

Anonymous

6/20/2023 09:34 AM

affordable housing is an absolute need. there should be caps on how much a one bedroom apartment can cost and limits to the amount rent prices can change when someone moves out. we are losing all of our affordable housing options and this causes the govt and other organizations a lot of money trying to support people. even if more apartments are built it is pertinent that the rental rates be affordable. people are paying way more for rent than what they can afford just because there are no other options and then they can't pay for basic needs like food, hydro etc.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 08:02 AM

Affordable housing is a MUST. Council cannot ignore that homelessness is a growing problem in our community, and therefore should be a main priority.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 06:42 PM

Housing is a priority. Our young adults are struggling to find affordable housing. Something must be done immediately and also prepare for the future.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 12:05 AM

What could possibly be a disadvantage in utilizing both land and buildings that are not being used?

Anonymous

6/22/2023 04:20 AM

Take homeless shelters out of residential neighborhoods. Was driving around the newest one in Chatham on Murray St. So sad for the home owners in that neighbourhood. Not only do they have to contend with the homeless folks and with that comes mental health and drug abuse issues the value of their home is decreased and they will never be able to sell. The home owners in that general vicinity should be offered funds specific to home improvement (home security, fencing, privacy)

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

Politicians tend to ruin everything--leave this to private enterprise.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:19 AM

Focus on the basics. Roads, Fire, Police. All other investments sell off.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

I would like to know more about the budgetary impact of the provincial decision to take away municipal charges on new development.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

rather than let property decay as what happened with the home on highway 3... making use of existing structures seems like a good idea. as long as the cost analysis is done

Anonymous

6/25/2023 04:52 PM

Increasing affordable rental housing can help alleviate the homelessness problem currently plaguing the county. But the keyword is affordable! Affordable and safe housing should be a right available to every person.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:44 PM

I believe the local municipality should have final say in how property is used

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:54 PM

The land must not be green space

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:51 AM

What type of infrastructure assets are we talking about? Maybe some are more important to fund in a more timely manner.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:18 AM

Increased homelessness and need for affordable housing across the county

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:48 AM

If it's cost effective to make these affordable housing units

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:00 AM

Sell unused buildings

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

I personally see how some of the projects with the infrastructure in chatham-kent or poorly planned, where things have to be redone or altered after the fact. The projects go over budget many times. Sometimes renovations occur just because there is money in the budget that has to be spent or they may not get it at the following budget. Again spend the money like you would in your household.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:41 AM

If these locations exist - let's use them for a purpose that will serve all of the community and help those less fortunate. This is a hard time for everyone - we need to do what we can to assist.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 11:30 AM

We have the space. Build affordable housing so we can reduce the newly sprouting homeless issue.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:27 PM

Reusing existing municipal buildings that are vacant is an excellent strategy.

Anonymous

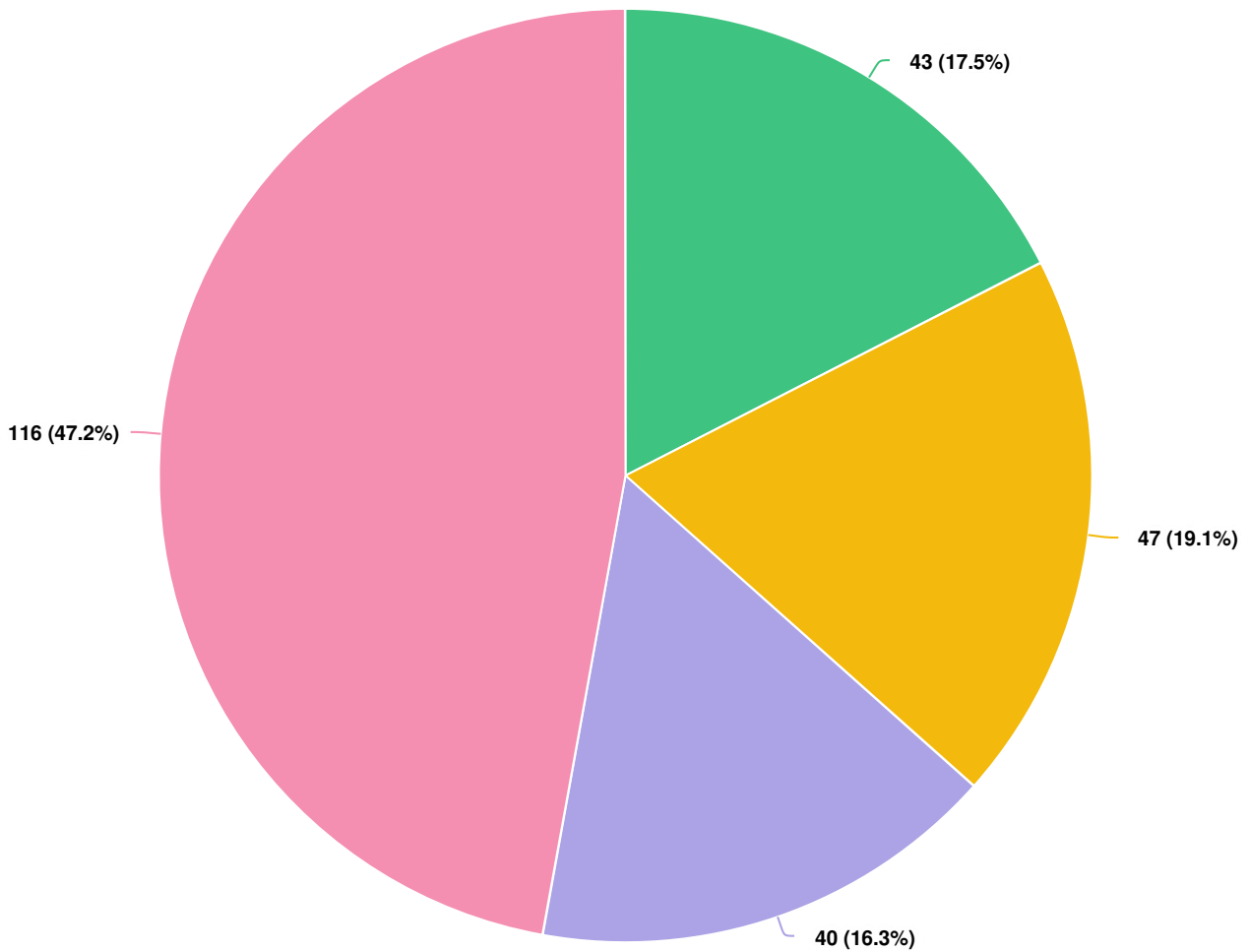
6/27/2023 08:06 AM

Most of the homeless were put on a bus and now are reliant on our tax dollars. During covid there was and are housing but they refuse to get help for themselves. How much can the municipality give them

**Optional question** (46 response(s), 204 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q19 | What amount of taxation increase (if any) would you support in order to provide more affordable rental housing options for the Municipality of Chatham-Kent?**



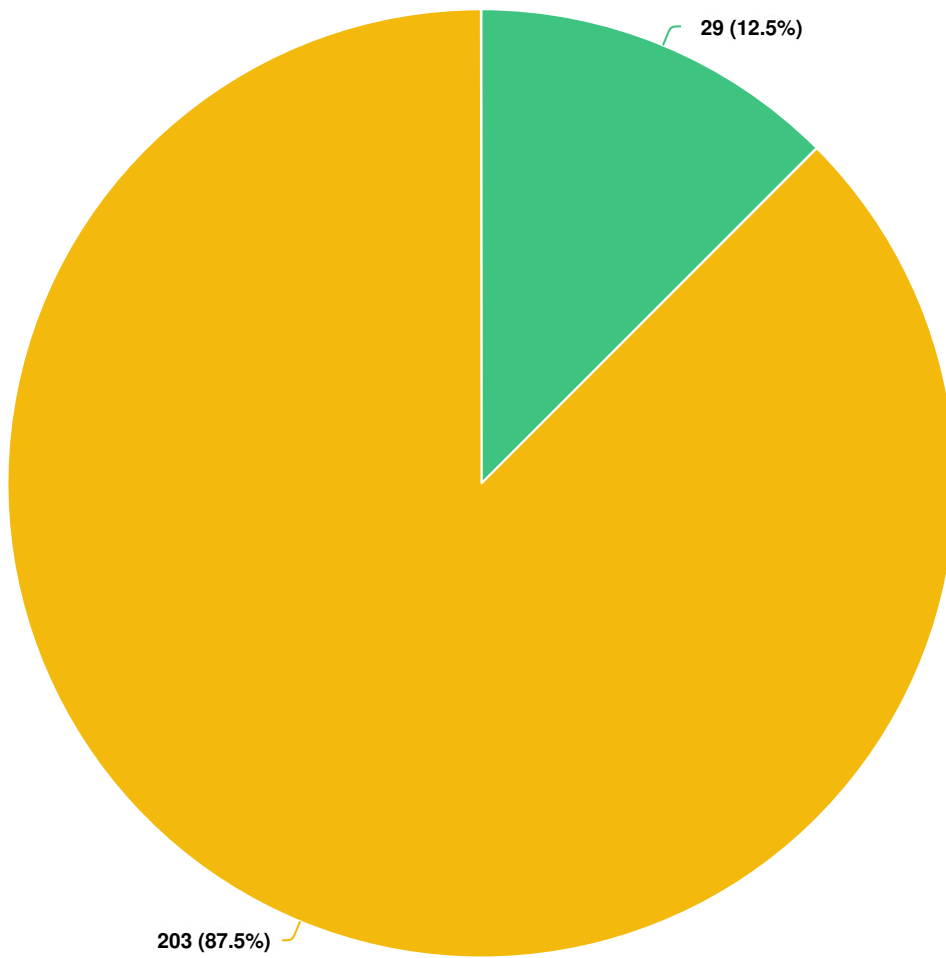
**Question options**

- \$30 annual increase to my current taxation level to increase affordable rental housing options
- \$20 annual increase to my current taxation level to increase affordable rental housing options
- \$10 annual increase to my current taxation level to increase affordable rental housing options
- \$0 I do not support an increase of taxation to increase affordable rental housing options

*Optional question (246 response(s), 4 skipped)*

*Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q20** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (232 response(s), 18 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q21 | Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

Same as last comment

Anonymous

5/30/2023 12:48 PM

Rental property should pay for itself via the renters paying the rent.  
My tax dollars shouldn't be used to build such projects

Anonymous

5/30/2023 03:46 PM

Do not bring in more people if we can not house the ones we currently have. The homeless shelters and organizations that are currently in the community are overwhelmed. Do not bring in more people if we are not committed to finding them jobs within the community.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

Not sure I trust C-K to provide cost effective affordable housing. I would support using underutilized C-K assets but have an independent business or community group run it with my \$30 of taxes!

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:36 PM

People need affordable housing. Just imagine if it was your son or daughter looking for a place to rent anywhere in Chatham Kent. Wish them the best of luck

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

I pay enough taxes for these no income people.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:34 PM

what does council feel is the cost of affordable housing . renters that have affordable rent are being asked to leave by the new owners of the property so they can do minor renovations and then charge double or more rent to the new tenants. Property owners should not be asked to increase their taxes to solve the affordable housing problem , All three levels of Government created this problem and its not up to the property owners to fix it at their expense .

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:56 AM

This is not your job!

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:34 AM

Why am I always supporting people to have cheaper rent? Cheaper rent means they don't have to go into work as often or barely at all. See the pattern?

Anonymous

5/31/2023 11:21 AM

As long as these proposed "affordable" rental units are actually affordable and are accessible and have access to necessary infrastructure and amenities: please keep in mind the absolute pittance many people receive from Ontario Works and ODSP. \$1400+utilities for a one-bedroom unit is NOT "affordable". These new units should be central to our larger communities whenever possible, to allow access to groceries, transit, schools and services - not plopped in the middle of suburbs with no easy access to life's necessities except by walking kilometres in inclement weather, endangering both the tenants and other local residents by foot traffic on small roads in areas without even sidewalks.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 04:05 PM

Why not use Casino received money for this???? What do you do with the millions you receive or have received from them.....STOP ALL THIS NEW HIRING AND ALL THESE UNCALLED FOR ENGINEERING STUDIES.....CK IS OVERSTAFFED AND OVERPAID!!!!!! ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

It would be helpful to have an "end game" objective in mind for determining what amount of funding would be required to address X% of the underhoused population. For example (I'm just making these numbers up for illustration purposes): "At current projected rates, it is estimated that an annual tax increase of \$30 would address 90% of affordable housing needs in the municipality. \$20 would address 75%, \$10 would address 50%" (etc.). If this data isn't available, I think this would be very valuable for both council and citizens to see what the "deficit" is, and then pick an objective (e.g. 90% of housing needs addressed in 5 years).

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:29 AM

Partnerships with senior levels of government must be sought. Proper criteria established to assess needs in all age categories with an aging senior population coming on. Partnerships with social agencies should be developed to ensure quality of living at these locations. Life cycle set up for sustainability

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

Why should I have to pay more for others to have affordable housing? This is simply a supply and demand issue. The more supply the more the prices will normalize. However a quick trip in facebook marketplace will show you that possible renters are fighting over rentals when they become available.

Anonymous

I see to many people on ODSP or Welfare that could be working jobs

6/04/2023 03:07 PM

Anonymous

6/19/2023 03:35 PM

See above comment, I do not support a public sector group getting an open ended mandate to increase taxes when no strategy, measures, accountabilities or end date has first been adopted.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

Affordable rental housing supports businesses in CK Whom in return support CK

Anonymous

6/20/2023 09:34 AM

put caps on rental rates.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 08:02 AM

Affordable housing is the only way to solve homelessness. We cannot ignore this as a community wide problem anymore.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 12:05 AM

The problem lies in getting people off of social assistance, educate them, and have them work to pay the rent. When people work and make money, they can afford rental housing.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

I do not support any increase in taxes--period.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

Affordable housing should be developed and managed by non-profits and housing co-operatives. The majority of the funding should come higher levels of government.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:51 AM

Rental housing units should be funded by builders and companies....not our tax dollars

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

I hear what people are paying at ck housing and its cheap I hope it increase with all new tenants and with inflation

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:34 AM

Why would you take more of my hard earned money to build and fund living for others outside my home!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

There's no incentive for people to try harder in life. Everyone knows that they will be taken care of no matter what and I'm tired of paying for that. I do agree some people need a helping hand but that should always be temporary, where in a lot of cases this is a lifetime outlook



on life that is passed down to the next generation through learned behaviours.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:17 AM

Why is it the responsibility of the hard working citizens of Chatham-Kent to support those people who aren't willing to work hard and afford the same things those of us who have worked hard to achieve. Just taking more money out of the pockets of the hard working to give to those who want handouts.

Anonymous

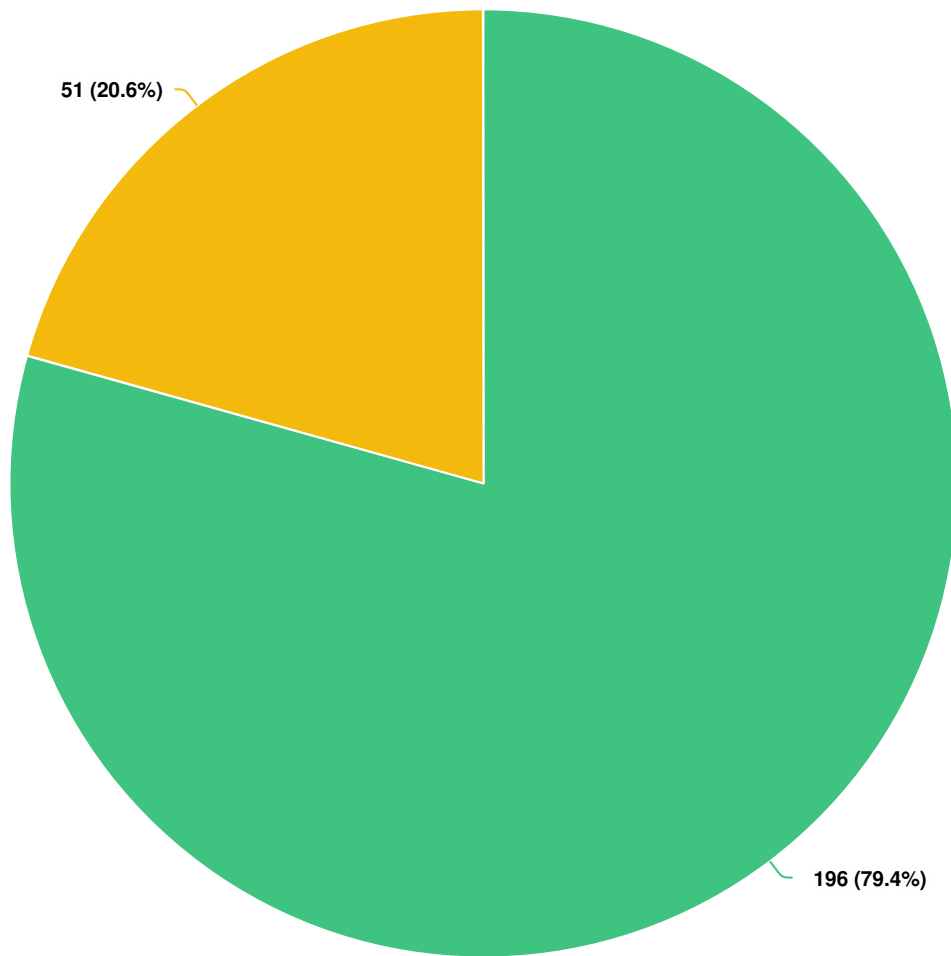
6/28/2023 06:48 PM

as a retired home owner it is more increasingly difficult to afford the taxes on our own home, maybe this burden should fall on the businesses that would benefit from more people

**Optional question** (28 response(s), 222 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q22** The Municipality of Chatham-Kent is one of many community agencies who offer summer day camp programs. Increasing program costs, including staffing, have municipal summer camps running in a deficit. Would you support an increase in summer camp user fees from \$61 to \$75 per week to ensure sustainability of this valued community program if subsidies are available to support families in financial need?

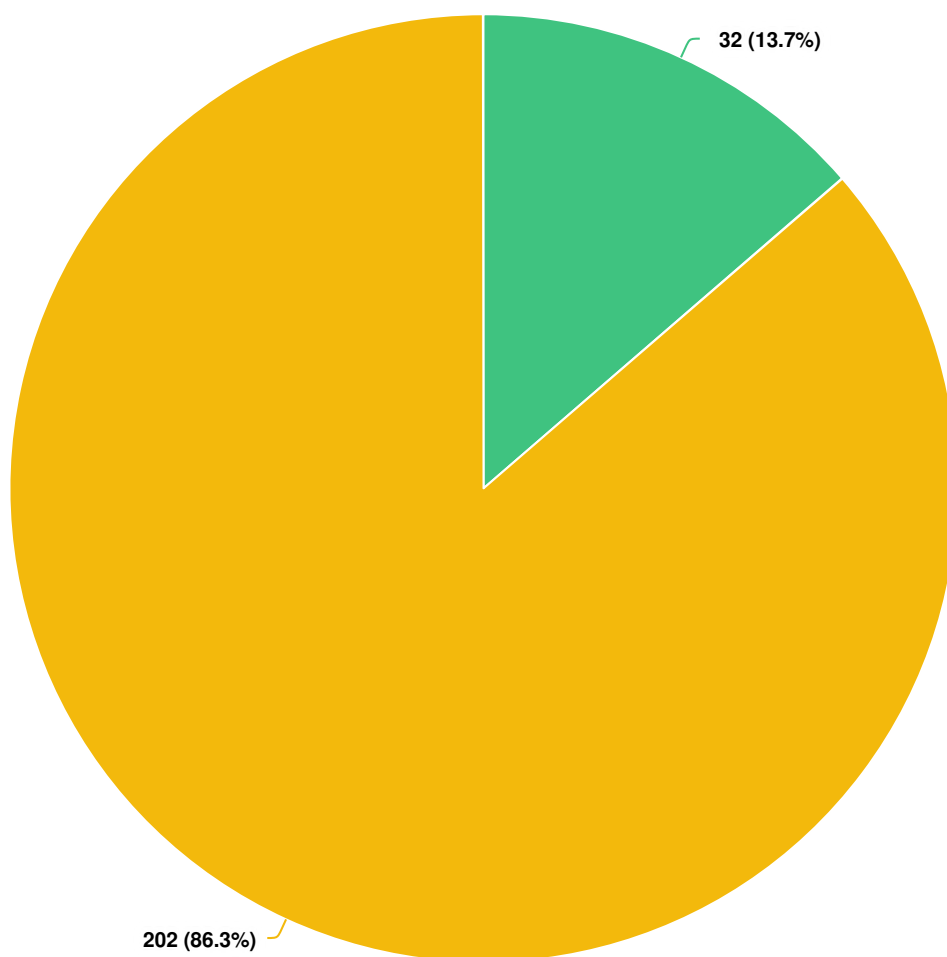


**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (247 response(s), 3 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q23** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (234 response(s), 16 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q24 | Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:18 AM

With how much money childcare is, these camps have been a very affordable option. So much so that they sell out within a couple minutes. They need to be increased in cost so that we at least break even and look into adding more.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:07 AM

I feel that even \$75.00 per week is low. My kids attended a city camp run in London and it was \$140.00 for one week. Even a bump to \$100 per week per child sounds reasonable.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

If you can't afford to pay you don't go. Just like when we were kids

Anonymous

5/30/2023 12:44 PM

Yes, subsidies are available, but most families average income is above the threshold to qualify for subsidy, but yet these are the families that are struggling to put gas in their vehicle, struggling to put food on the table, looking at second sources of income just to live day to day. There was such a demand for summer camp the last two years that I don't know why you are not looking at increasing the capacity to meet demand of this program. That should have been the question that you asked.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:48 PM

Parent of 4 children - options for financial assistance are important. However, with adequate planning a minimal increase is expected each year!

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:35 PM

Would Government and Sunshine list workers be willing to reduce their wages to help fund any of these questions? Let's start there.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

If these programs are used the user should pay the full cost. This should not be born by the tax payer

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

Yes spend money on the little one so they won't turn out like your parents

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:56 AM

The Municipality should not be running any programs at a financial loss. If fees need to be increased to cover costs, then do it. If families are in need of financial support, determine a way to help those families by finding the root cause of the need for financial assistance.

If it is truly a need due to a disability then provide financial support. d

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:34 AM

Again, all we are doing is supporting families in need. I'm okay with this but it's not being reciprocated. When is this community going to do something on a larger scale that provides something for those that do work and can afford events?

Anonymous

5/31/2023 04:05 PM

There are too many families who have been raised on welfare assistance and then they in turn rely on it for themselves as adults.....quite often welfare children are given preference to sport signups and then never show up to play which leaves some willing to pay youngsters who are genuinely committed to playing out in the cold and also leaves game player shortages.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

These programs are so important to the strategic objectives and health of this municipality that I do not support increasing user fees. We should be \*decreasing\* user fees and expanding the programs. Increase taxes as needed for the shortfall. Use subsidies and other funding when available.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:29 AM

Some type of subsidy criteria needs consideration for different income levels to insure they can participate Partnerships should be sought out for this.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

Didn't even know that summer camps were available. Perhaps better communication with these services and there wouldn't be a need

Anonymous

6/04/2023 03:07 PM

This would make it unaffordable for many families

Anonymous

6/05/2023 10:06 AM

We are in a period of high inflationary pressure on government and household budgets. Government can more easily withstand these pressure than the individual household. Kicking people when they are down is not helpful. We need to make sure these services remain affordable and accessible.

Anonymous

6/09/2023 07:01 PM

The families that utilize these service are already struggling financially. Definately no increases should be proposed. Staffing levels should be covered by current staff without additional hires, even seasonal hires

Anonymous

6/11/2023 09:14 AM

maybe not that much. programs in place through the welfare system help with low income families utilizing this service. families with full time employment should get benefit over stay at home parents

Anonymous

6/16/2023 09:31 AM

If you compare the daycare costs to the summer camps the savings are astronomical. I think an increase to \$75 is very reasonable. These programs should not be running in a deficit. I dont think we need to make money, but they should not be creating debt for the municipality.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

These should be run privately and supported through donations.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 04:20 AM

I don't have children, my carbon footprint is low. How about offering classes to low income or social assistance people on budgeting 101 and birth control. Quit having kids if you can't afford to feed them!!!

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

Funding should come FROM THE USERS, not from the people who DON'T use the service.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:48 PM

If someone wants to send their kid(s) to summer camp THEY are the ones who should be paying the extra summer camp user fee. It is not my responsibility to pay extra taxes to support kids that I DO NOT HAVE!!!! Let the actual USERS of the summer camp PAY FOR IT THEMSELVES!!!!

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

It would be useful to know what % of summer camp participants are subsidized.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

again user fees must be paid by those who are making use of the services. for those families who are less fortunate, having a partial subsidy available would be fine.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 04:33 PM

\$75 per week is still reasonable compared to other summer camps offered. I do not agree with charging an extra \$25 per child per week for extended hours. It's penalizing those who work full time and do not have grandparents or others to help by dropping off and picking up within the shorter timeframe.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:46 PM

Working parents should receive the subsidies. Non working parents should not be subsidized.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:06 AM

Summer programs in Ridgetown sold out in 10 minutes this year and within hours last year. There is obviously a demand for more openings. Cancel the adventure camps and put in more stay and play camps.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:48 AM

My taxes are high enough

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

For the same reasons as my last answer. I feel for the kids but it has to stop at some point.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:27 PM

CK's Summer Camps are an amazing asset for our community! I support an increase to fees, but only if more camp staff are given so more spots are available for each camp week. I tried registering my 6 yr old daughter this summer in Tilbury, and after 8hrs every week was full. This clearly shows that more groups need to be added to every camp location.

Anonymous

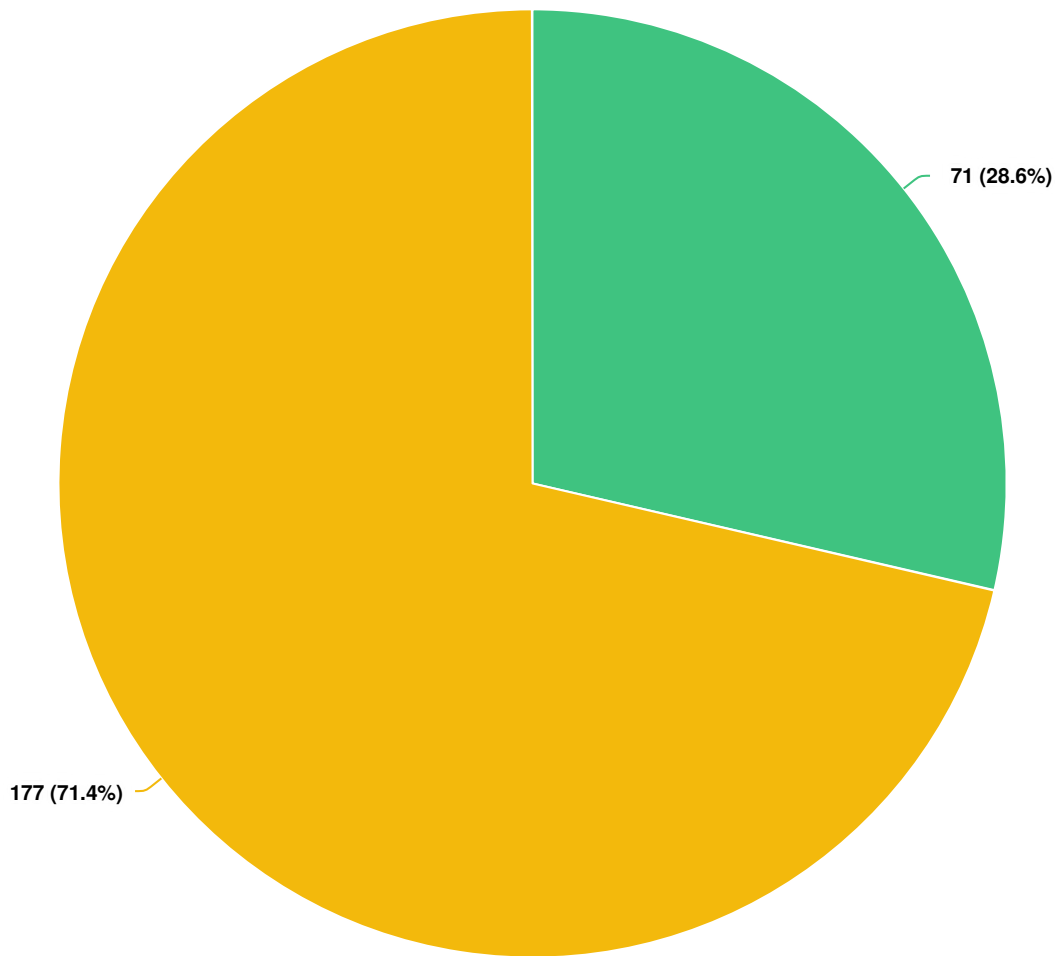
6/27/2023 08:06 AM

We are not a babysitting service. Staffing with students is a law suit waiting to happen

**Optional question** (32 response(s), 218 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q25** Library fines traditionally have been used to encourage people to return borrowed items on time. While fines create revenue for the library, fines are a major barrier to many in our community who can't afford to risk incurring fines. Eliminating all fines would add \$24,000 to the tax base, approx. \$0.43 per household. Do you think it's time for Chatham-Kent to eliminate all barriers to public library service and eliminate overdue fines?



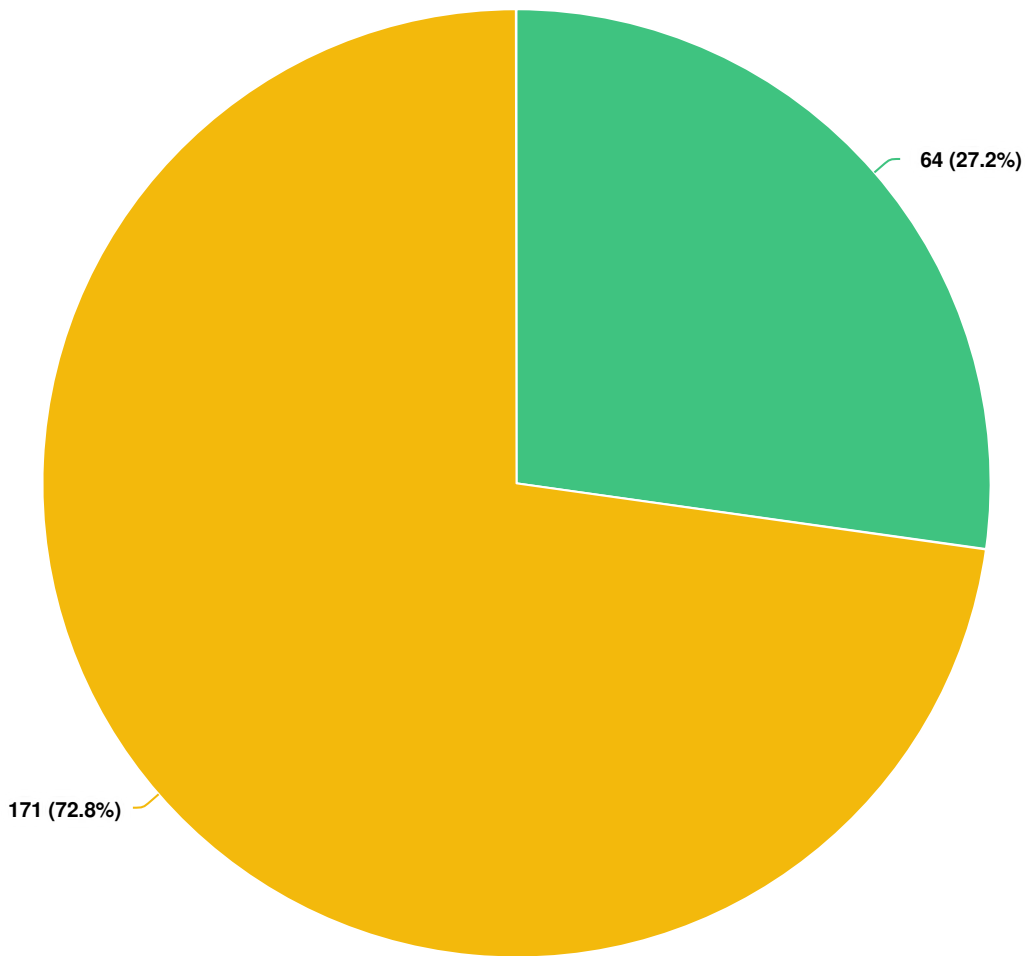
**Question options**

- Yes
- No

Optional question (248 response(s), 2 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question



**Q26** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Optional question (235 response(s), 15 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q27** Please leave your comment.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:07 AM

Make late fees a user by user case. If someone cant afford, dont charge them.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:18 AM

What would be the incentive to return books on time if there isn't a fine? Many of the popular books have long wait lists, if I was waiting to read a book and there is no set timeline to when I will receive it by people returning it on time, I most likely wouldn't use the library.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:07 AM

Without fines, what would push people to return books at all? A fine makes people responsible for returning their items back on time and is something that should remain. The \$0.25 fine per day is a very reasonable rate for people who brings their books back late.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

Make people responsible.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:48 PM

We already have a healthy start with removing fines on childrens and teens items. However, I do support keeping fines on higher value items and inter-library loans.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:57 PM

People have to learn to be responsible and not get a free pass, such is life!

Anonymous

5/30/2023 03:46 PM

Eliminate penalties for late books and there will be no reason to bring them back. The library will lose its inventory

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

If you can't bring a book back in time don't take it out. OMG expect more out of people not less!

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:35 PM

To eliminate all barriers to public library service and eliminate overdue fines, could or will just make it to easy for individuals not to return books on time then others will need to wait longer to get the book they are tying to read. It does not always have to all or nothing.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

With the use of social media the use of libraries are on the decline. We should look at closing some of the or reducing the hours and days they are open which would result in reducing staff and costs

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

Responsibility is necessary to return books on time.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

You won't learn a lesson if you don't pay the small fine.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:41 AM

If there is no fine, what method will be used to encourage the return of the books? People could conceivably take out a book and never return it with no recourse. I would like to see an alternative to fines if this method is adopted

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:34 AM

Still on the same theme. You're telling me that we have factual data that people have said because of late fees, this is a major barrier to many in our community who can't afford to risk incurring fines? This is ridiculous that this is even a discussion. Do you think eliminating fines is going to really encourage usage and do you think it's possible that the problem of lateness will be corrected?

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:55 AM

Back about 20 years ago when raising kids, this barrier limited my kids from use of the library as i could not afford the fines. I was able to about 8 years later pay for the fines. This limited access, and only discourages use of the library and adds a stigma to those effected.

why\_is\_this\_public

5/31/2023 04:00 PM

What's the incentive to return items without fees. They are optional and the risk is pretty small if you just return the items. Are the unemployed too busy during the week to make it to the library? Seriously, this makes no sense and is made up victimization.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 04:05 PM

The taxpayer should not have to come good for their irresponsibility. If they don't pay their fine then discontent their privileges.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 07:21 AM

If you can't afford the fine, return the book. If you are a habitual late returner who cannot pay fines, revoke card. No borrowing until fines are paid. It's a free service. What stops anyone from returning a borrow book? Nothing.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 09:17 AM

I do not support the elimination of an onus of returning what does not belong to you!

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

I support removing fines so long as there is another incentive for citizens to return their borrowed books within a reasonable timeframe. Perhaps it is limits on how many additional books they can borrow, reduced access to library resources (e.g. computers), and things of that nature. But I defer to the library's administration on how best to handle this based on their research of other successful programs of this nature.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 07:33 AM

I am not in favour of eliminating fines. however a deterrent needs to be found to encourage people to return items.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:29 AM

Track and ban access to borrowed materials for abusers. On-site services would still be available.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

If they can't afford the fine then ensure the books are returned in time. It's very simple.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

So if you remove the fines what become the cost of full replacement value for books? Plus once it's known that a fine will not be charged people will be more likely to not return or never plan to return said book. It's the same with crime, who cares about the charge of your being released hours later

Anonymous

6/04/2023 03:07 PM

I believe the fee for late books should stay

Anonymous

6/05/2023 10:06 AM

This is a good move and one that many other communities have moved forward with.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 08:27 PM

I think we should have a more flexible policy where fees could be forgiven for people who cannot afford them. Psychology would say that its important to still have a fee as it can create a friction that prevents people from just ignoring library protocols entirely.

Anonymous

6/09/2023 07:01 PM

Learning and litereracy are fundamental to financial success and independence. Everyone should have free access to all aspects of our public library systems

CKResident2023

\$0.43 is a very small price to pay if it means that more people can

6/09/2023 10:52 PM

access library services. This is a great resource in our community and should be available and accessible to all, regardless of financial circumstances.

Anonymous

6/16/2023 09:31 AM

You could have the option to waive fees for low income residents. Similar to the LEAP program with deposits for hydro, you could set up a system to have some fees waived.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 03:35 PM

Terminate borrowing privileges for those that habitually keep the books; reinstated when they pay restitution.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

Developing personal literature and mental growth is a huge part of a Library's importance. Saying this also is character important which includes responsibility and integrity.

Anonymous

6/20/2023 09:34 AM

don't eliminate fines. but I do like the idea that there are forgiveness days. they have had that in the past where if you bring in a food item for the food bank they will waive your fee.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 01:31 PM

People should be fined for not returning books on time, its selfish and impact other library patrons.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 12:05 AM

Number one problem with society is lack of accountability. People need to be held responsible for their neglect. If anything, fines should be doubled or tripled.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

Stop encouraging and rewarding bad behavior. If people can get to a library to get a book, then they can get to the library to bring it back on time.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:10 PM

How about some accountability. Reduce fines, lengthen borrow times, volunteer to pay off fines....

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:48 PM

If someone checks a book out of the library it is HIS/HER responsibility to RETURN the book on time. What you are doing is making IRRESPONSIBLE people by stopping the fees for late books. STOP giving people excuses to be forgetful or irresponsible. Keep things like they are!

Anonymous

6/25/2023 07:19 AM

If you cant risk incurring fines, return the books on time. It shouldnt be up to the general population to pay for those who dont follow the rules. If you do the "crime", you pay the fine.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 08:28 AM

You take something that's not yours, you're expected to return.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:19 AM

People need a consequence to their actions.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

Eliminate fines but limit borrowing access or exclude chronic "non-returners".

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

if someone is continually late and I don't mean a few days. a month or more then reconsider stopping their privileges.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 04:33 PM

If you eliminate overdue fines there will be books and other items you'll never see again. There is no reason for anyone to return the books/items (other than not being able to borrow again).

Anonymous

6/25/2023 04:52 PM

Library fines teach people accountability. The cost to eliminate fines would not factor into the cost to replace items that will never be returned if fines were to be removed

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:44 PM

Put a cap on fines

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:46 PM

If people are not responsible enough to return books on time, they should not have access to the library.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:07 PM

It encourages kids to return the books , its something that's valuable to teach about responsibility and repercussions

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:51 AM

Leave the fees intact. This promotes responsible borrowing habits. Plus...most books are now available online to sign out. Responsible citizens should not be fined on their tax bill for negligent people.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

Forgive them or not allow to borrow books til they're back?

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:23 AM

People should be held responsible for lost items.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:48 AM

I think low income households should be waved of library fees

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:00 AM

Borrowers should be responsible to return their items on time.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:34 AM

If someone does not return property that's their issue, not mine to pay!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

Another free service. What is this teaching these people? Bring your stuff back when you borrow it. There's no barriers is just people need to be responsible.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:17 AM

People need to take responsibility for there actions. If you can't hold people responsible for returning a book on time to the library then there's a much larger problem. People should be held responsible like everything else is for everything in life. If you can't afford the fine then simply return the book on time.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 11:07 AM

You'd just be encouraging theft.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 11:30 AM

People should bring their books back, regardless of fines or threats. There are consequences for irresponsibility.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:19 PM

People need to take responsibility for their actions.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:56 PM

If a person fails to return a borrowed item, they are not allowed to borrow another item until it is returned or replaced. I

Anonymous

6/26/2023 04:40 PM

You have plenty of time to return books. If anything increase the fines.

Anonymous

I find it hard to believe fines are a major barrier to library lending.

6/26/2023 04:42 PM

Anonymous

6/27/2023 08:06 AM

During pandemic the library staff were redeployed I feel we don't need this service as no one attends anymore

Anonymous

6/28/2023 06:48 PM

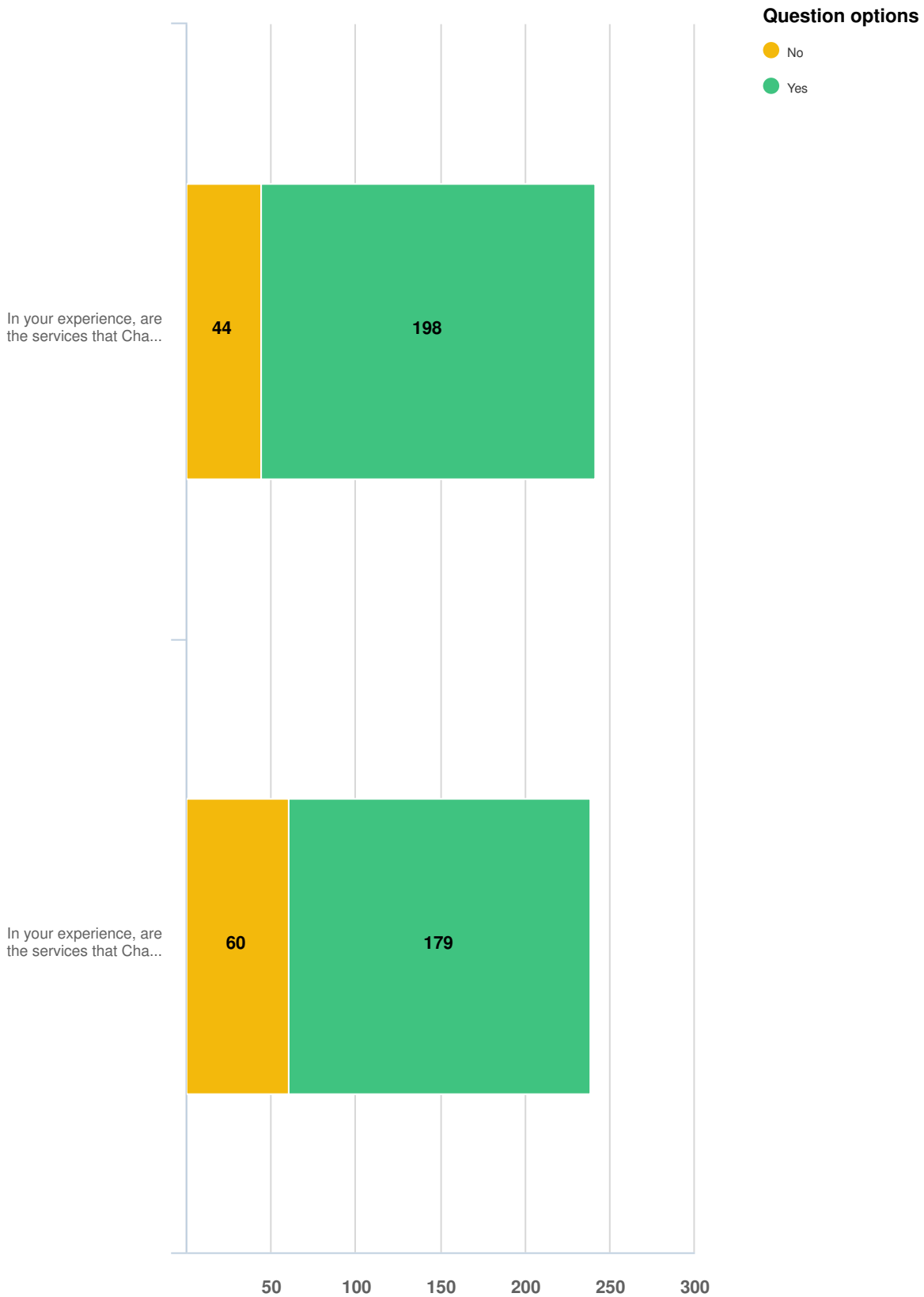
nothing wrong with paying when you screw up , helps build responsible people

**Optional question** (64 response(s), 186 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question



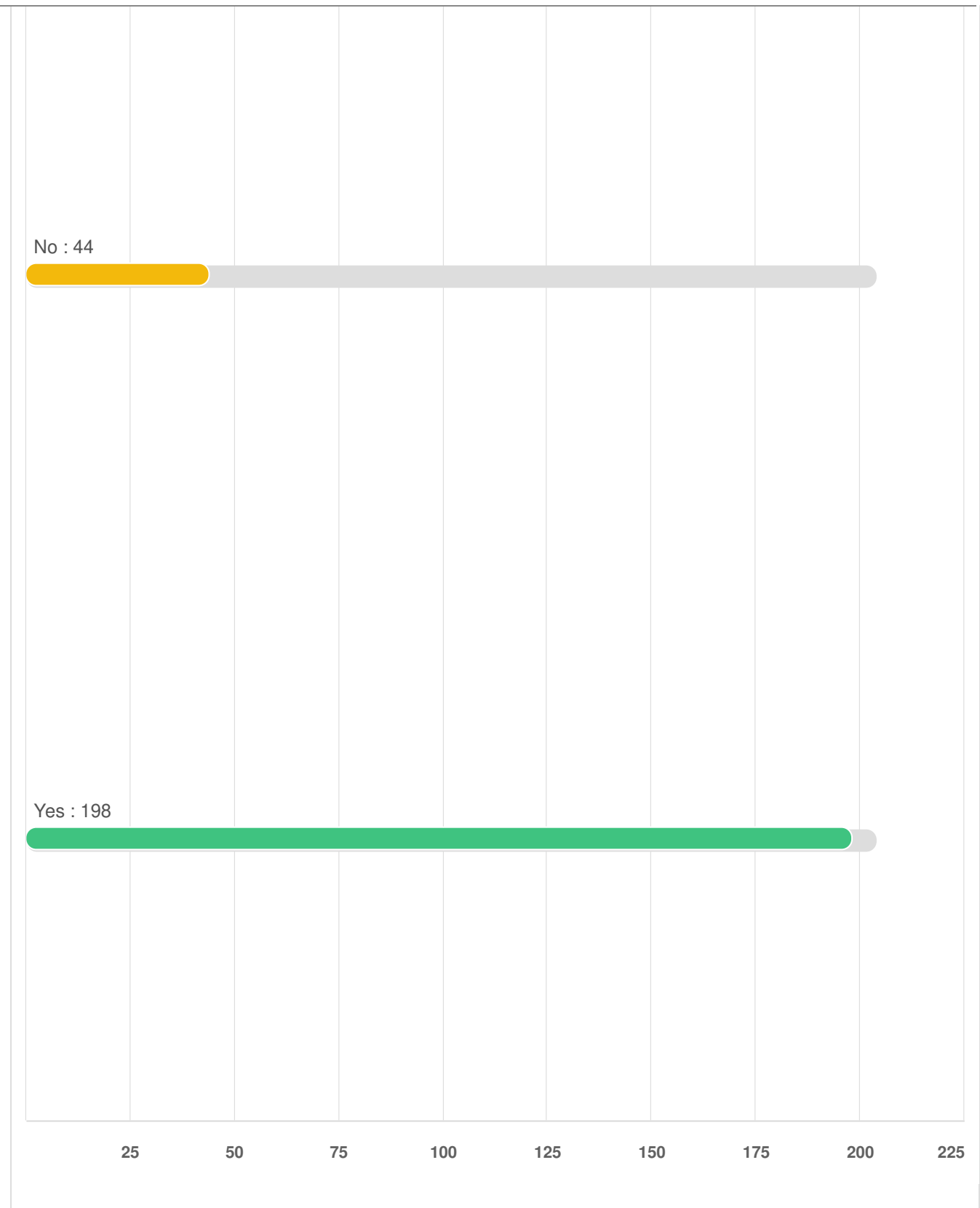
**Q28 | Chatham-Kent Emergency Services is composed of three divisions. Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue, Chatham-Kent EMS and Chatham-Kent Emergency Management.**



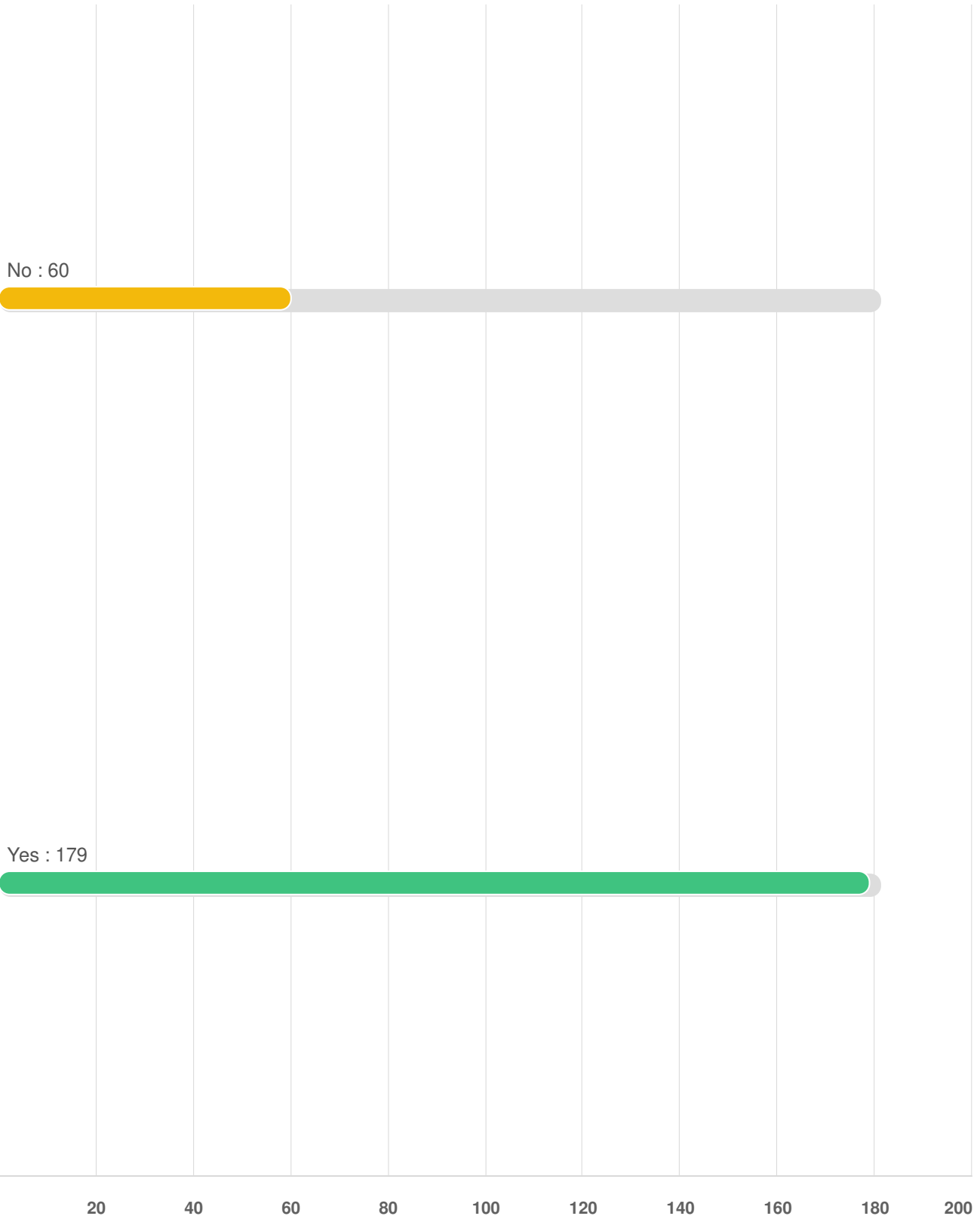
Optional question (242 response(s), 8 skipped)  
Question type: Likert Question

**Q28 | Chatham-Kent Emergency Services is composed of three divisions. Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue, Chatham-Kent EMS and Chatham-Kent Emergency Management.**

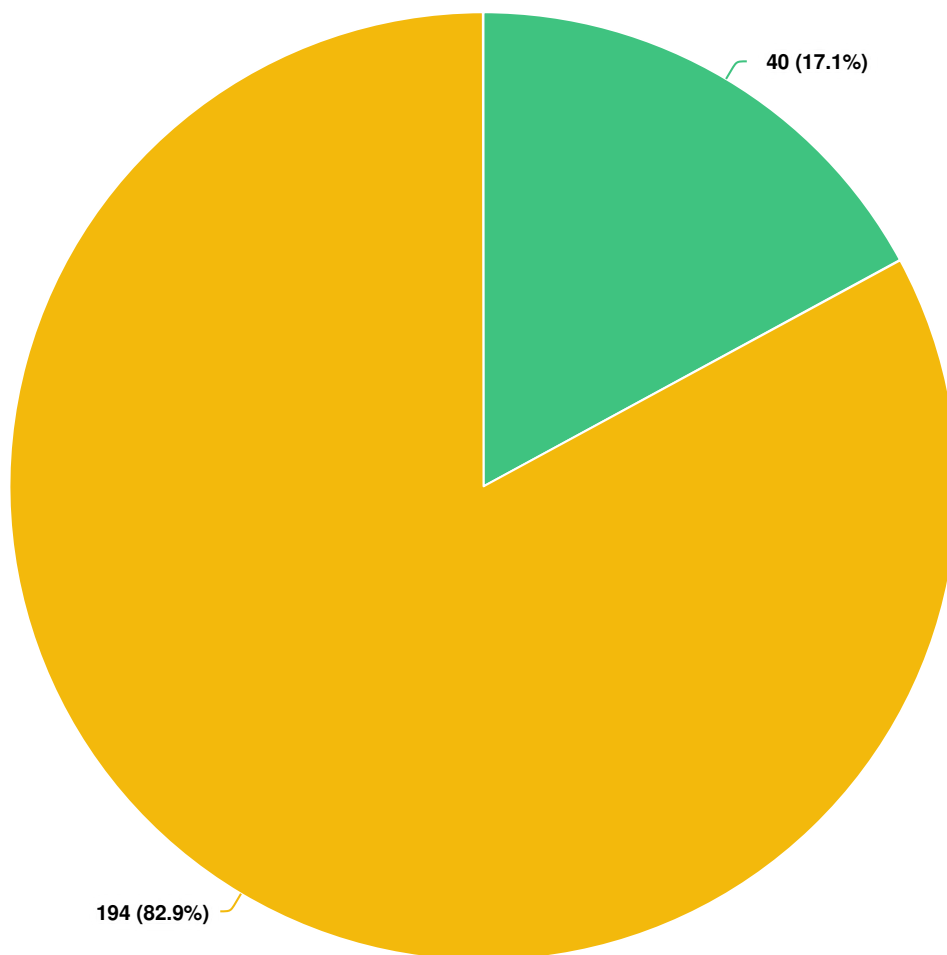
**In your experience, are the services that Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue provides in line with the needs of the community?**



**In your experience, are the services that Chatham-Kent EMS provides in line with the needs of the community?**



**Q29** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (234 response(s), 16 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q30** Please leave your comment.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:18 AM

We do not have enough EMS to support our community.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

Never had to use these services.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:53 PM

As a "fringe" resident, I feel I pay too much in extra tax for services that are dispatched from too far away. If I require ambulance services, it would be faster for them to reach me if they came from the station on Richmond; however, when I required an ambulance last year, it was dispatched from Merlin to the east Park Avenue area resulting in a wait time of 45 minutes.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:35 PM

Some questions are not just a yes no answer there should be an unsure or have not used

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

The use of volunteer fire fires would reduce the overall all coast. The problem being full time fire fighters are called out on overtime before volunteers are used. This happens time and time again in Wallaceburg. Rather than call out the Wallaceburg's volunteers they will call out a station in Chatham. This is just poor use of resources and manpower which as a result cost the tax payer more each year. This needs to change

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

I'm not sure this is true. But if there's an accident just outside of wallaceburg why does the volunteers have to go to the full time people sit around.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 01:11 AM

The Wallaceburg Fire Station should be converted to a part time station. No full time employees

Anonymous

5/31/2023 06:15 AM

EMS appears to be under funded and/or under staffed.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:41 AM

I think we need to improve EMS services as I understand there are often long wait times.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:55 AM

Giving the opinion on this from a unqualified person that does not know the full details of the full working is hard I believe the heads of these departments and working within the whole scope is better placed to fully judge this.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 06:56 AM

There should be a better more efficient coordination of services between full-time and volunteer fire services. Wallaceburg and Chatham stations 1, 2, and 3 should be calling neighbouring volunteer stations for assistance when needed NOT waiting for full-time off-duty firefighters to backfill full-time positions or to aid during large scale emergencies. Volunteer response times are significantly faster than the backfill system/call-in of off-duty firefighters, it is more cost-effective and more personnel are on scene. The potential loss of life and continued loss of property as a result of "contract language" is unacceptable and does not adequately serve the community of Chatham-Kent, particularly the residents of Wallaceburg.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 07:21 AM

I understand, after calling 911, that our ambulance services park mid way between Chatham and Wallaceburg. It was going to be 10min before the ambulance could make it. This is unacceptable.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 09:17 AM

I have one concern regarding fire and public safety. I find there are far too many residential households burning cut down shrubbery and other items causing a great deal of smoke within the community.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

I don't agree with our EMS being outsourced. They are not paid nearly enough as it is. Please in-source our EMS. Considering their circumstances, I think they do an outstanding job.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

Thankfully I have not had to use either service much.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 08:27 PM

I did not answer these questions because I don't know. Having a "do not know" option would have been helpful.

Anonymous

6/08/2023 01:33 PM

Call volume is up due to increased population. More staffing is needed to meet new demands.

Anonymous

6/16/2023 09:45 AM

I find it odd in this day and age we still use Volunteer Firefighters, sure it's nice they get tax breaks and a token amount of pay. Just hire full time firefighters

Anonymous

6/19/2023 03:35 PM

When you go over these responses, are you going to give thought to how very different the needs for these services vary across the geography and demographics of the population the EMS serves - to be clear, a young home owner in the city is very different than an elderly female farmer in the outskirts.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

Fire and Rescue are very important, however in Fire a small well trained group of professionals with a large number of volunteers would do similar in CK. In the Industrial sectors the volunteers should be from the area businesses, who are more familiar with the possible dangers. This was very apparent as in the Bonduelle plant fire, as no attention was paid to the huge ammonia tanks which serviced the freezer compressor which until other regional fire departments came in to Hope was not being properly cooled. This particular tank was very close to a brand new subdivision.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 08:02 AM

For our very large rural community, we need more ambulances to eliminate long wait times for life saving calls.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 09:10 PM

Fire should not be driving fire trucks to go do their grocery shopping for the station!!!

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

Having never used these services, I'd prefer an "I don't know" or "never used" answer.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 07:58 AM

I think Wallaceburg needs 2 ambulances on standby all the time, and I would like to see more volunteer firefighters in Wallaceburg, maybe fulltime service during the day and volunteers after 6pm. I would like to see Wallaceburg run like a true composite station.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

I have no idea whether the EMS or Fire Services are in line with the needs of the community.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 AM

I think EMS is underfunded. also having the staff remain at the hospital for prolonged periods is not efficient.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:39 PM

Did you know that the fire service has had 2 master fire plans that the tax payers have paid for and little to nothing has been done with all of



the recommendations.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:54 PM

Both do not have enough funding or personnel

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:13 PM

The fire halls in chatham proper should be more strategically placed to quicker respond to emergencies and more fulltime staff is necessary.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:34 PM

The areas of Chatham and Wallaceburg need more full time firefighting staffing 24/7 and EMS should be brought into the Municipality not through a third party company

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:51 AM

Didn't know about the assessment that was done, or what fire services offer to CK citizens

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

I think they do the best with what they have. Seems like they need more staff at certain times.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:00 AM

Not enough EMS, wait time is unacceptable in critical patient call's especially in rural areas

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:13 AM

Lack of personnel. Crews are working minimum staffing.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

The services are way understaffed and undertrained with the size of Municipality we have.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:17 AM

Although the Chatham-Kent fire and Chatham-Kent EMS do there best to serve our community they are understaffed and poorly utilized by the municipality. It seems as though politics dictates most decisions by the counsel lord regarding these services and not what is best for the municipality. There are many improvements that can be made to better utilize these services, including manpower, station locations, location of calls that stations are going. It's ridiculous that volunteers stations are travelling to calls that a full time station could be to 5 minutes quicker and are readily available to go to. The municipality needs to focus less on politics and who they may upset and focus more on utilizing these services to the optimal benefit for everyone.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:05 PM

There are many services that our community needs that Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue does not currently provide. A significant investment in Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue is needed in order to meet the needs of our growing community and begin providing these services to our tax payers moving forward. Doing so will allow Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue to provide not only a higher level of service but also, a much more value added level of service to our community members.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:19 PM

Chatham-Kent is a single municipality! The Fire Department needs to start looking at things in this regard. The full time service does not need 3 Aerial Ladder trucks for example. It makes no sense financially. In some cases I'm sure boundaries need to be rearranged. A few slow volunteer stations could be closed. This would save lifecycle costs for many expensive apparatus. Full time could expand their territory and reduce volunteer demand while improving response and service. There needs to be a big picture perspective.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:04 PM

These are two areas that are seriously lacking in funding its hard to ask businesses and new residents to locate here. When they see other areas of the province far more dedicated and committed to this protection and these very valuable services. As we have an aging population and these services are in need more than every. If we don't invest we continue to put our citizens at risk and any current or future business.

Anonymous

6/27/2023 08:49 PM

I beleive both services, ambulance and fire are understaffed.

**Optional question** (40 response(s), 210 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

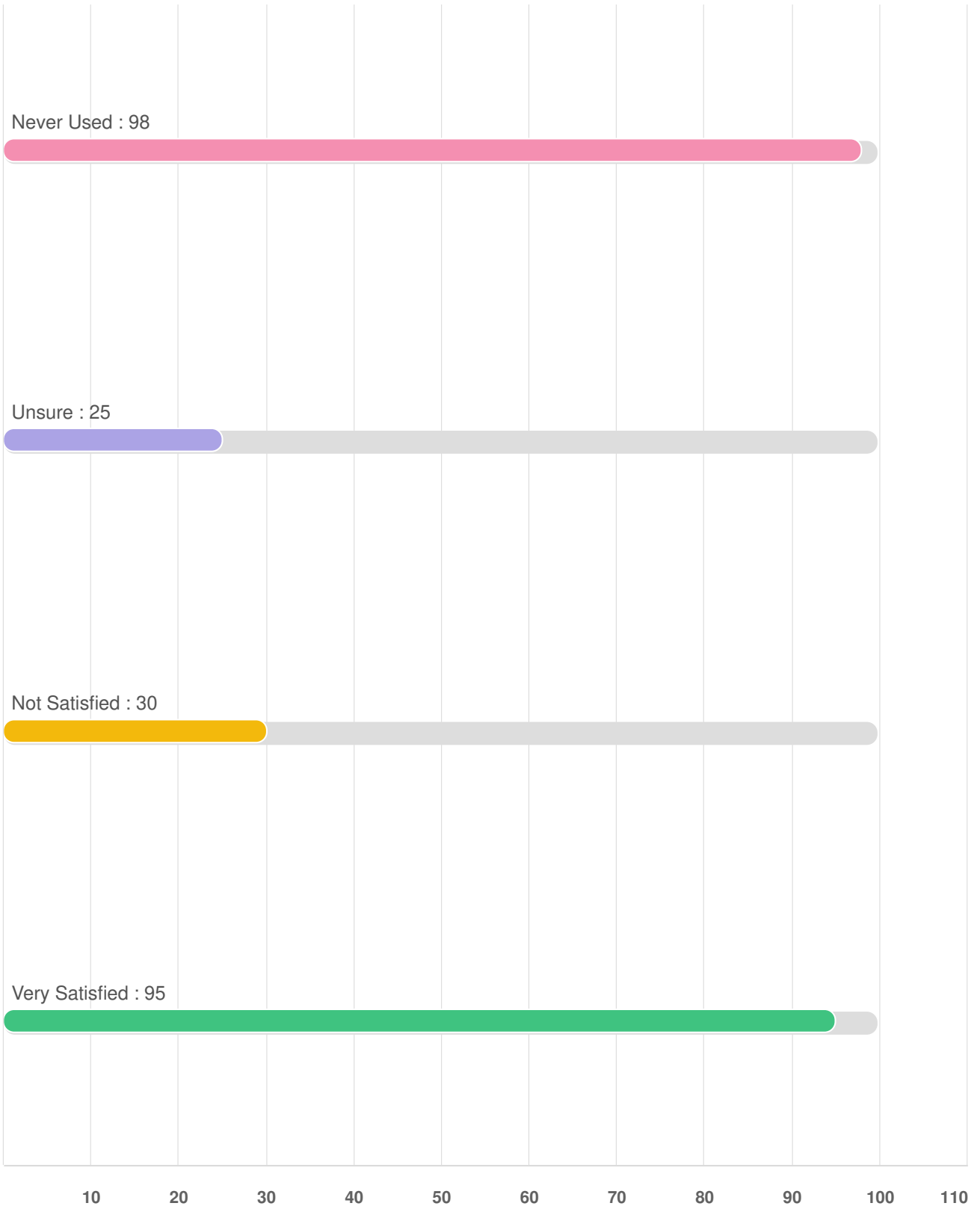
**Q31 | The Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue and Chatham-Kent EMS provides a range of services. Overall how satisfied are you with:**



Optional question (248 response(s), 2 skipped)  
Question type: Likert Question

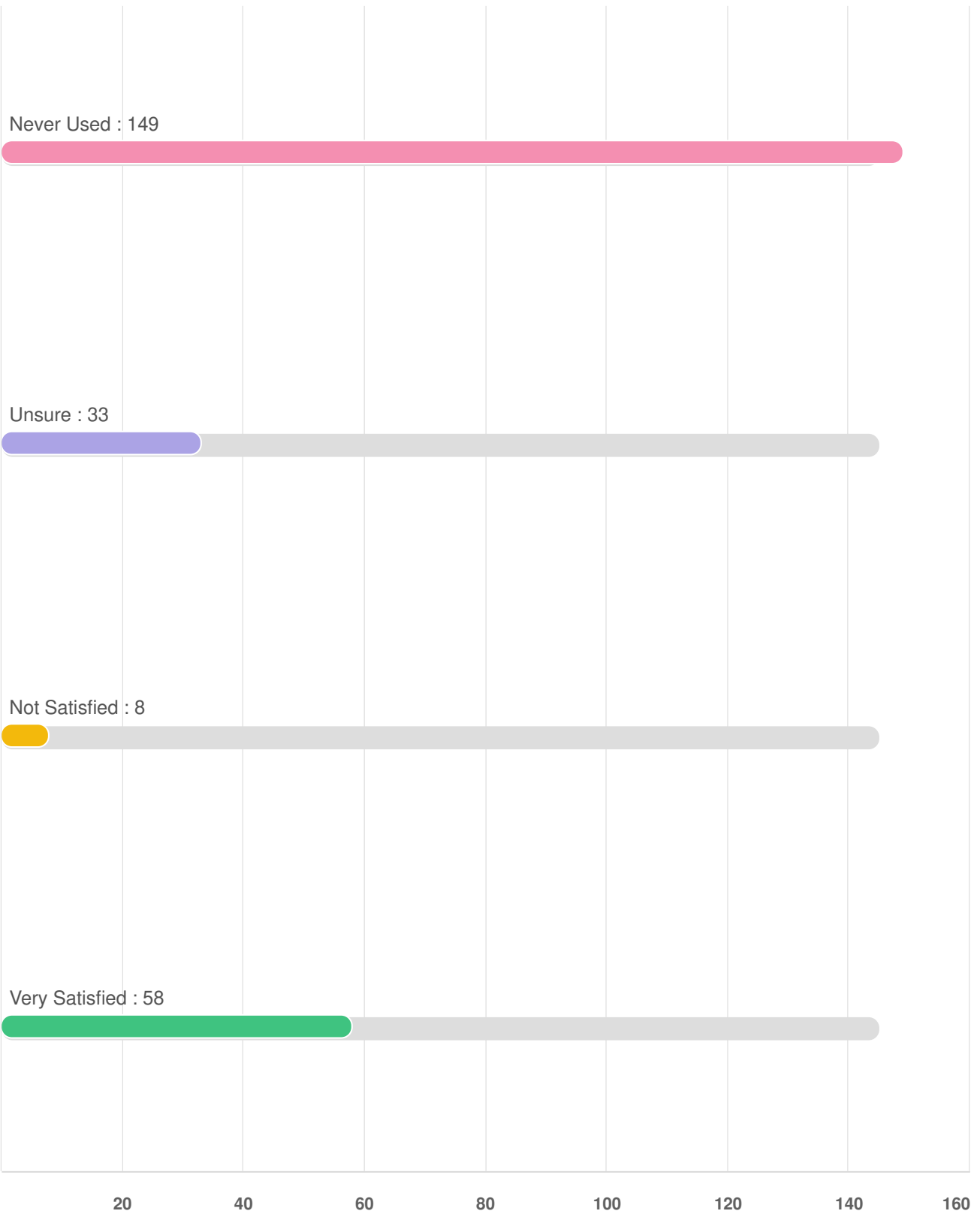
**Q31 | The Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue and Chatham-Kent EMS provides a range of services. Overall how satisfied are you with:**

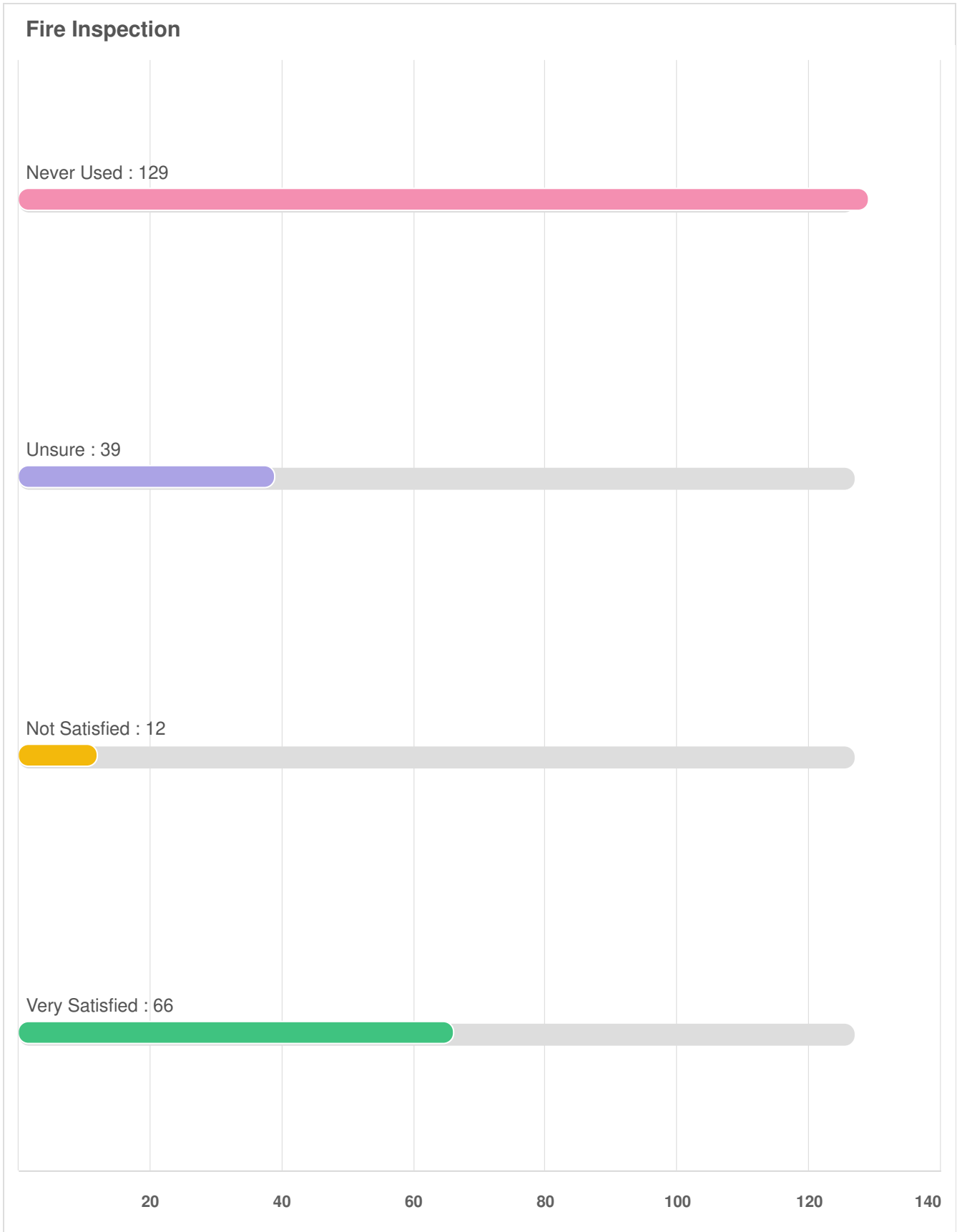
**EMS Medical Services (Ambulance)**



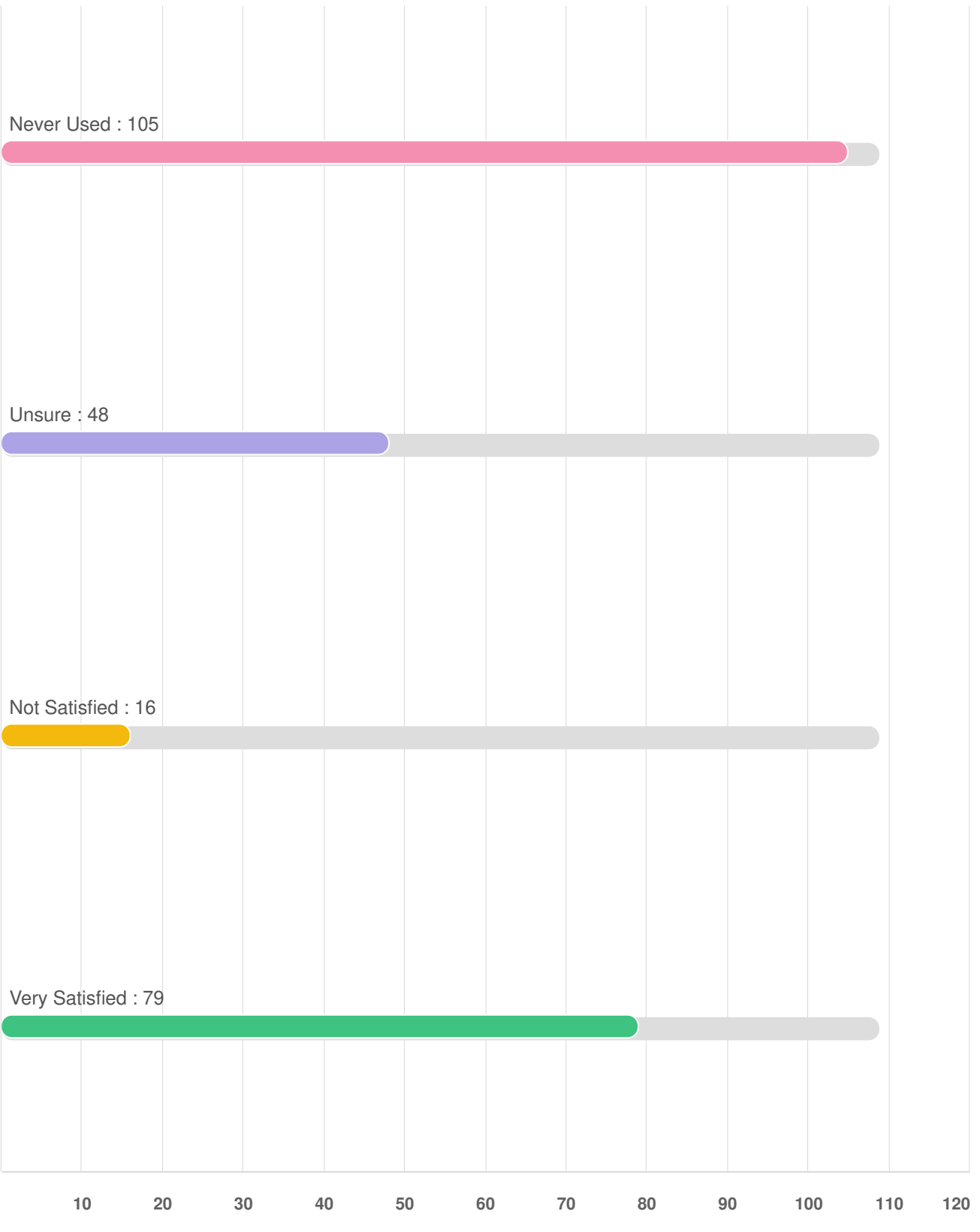


### Community Paramedicine





### Community Fire Safety and Public Education





### Fire Suppression

Never Used : 111



Unsure : 44



Not Satisfied : 19

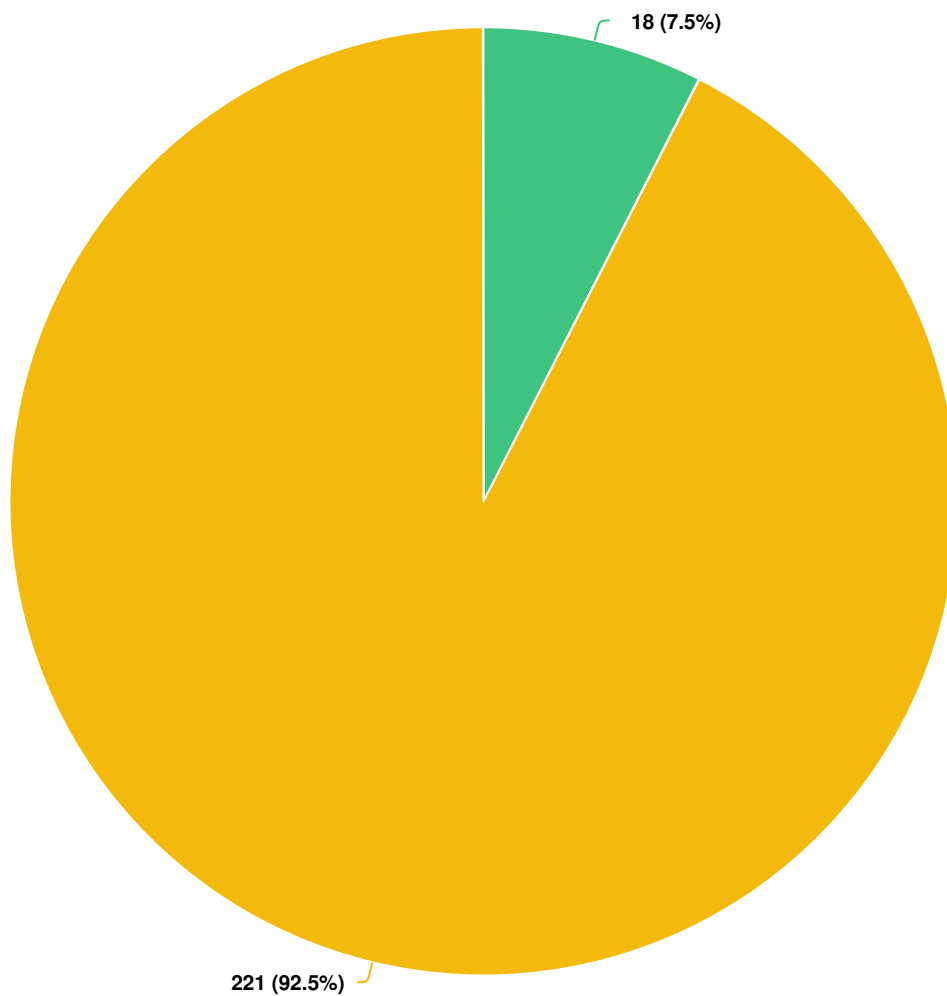


Very Satisfied : 73



10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120

**Q32** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (239 response(s), 11 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q33 Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:55 AM

As a building Manager we had the Paramedicine at our building for a very short time then the services stop with no notice. I believe it was never given a chance to fully see the effects on population of the the residence members and for them to feel comfortable with the program.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 04:05 PM

These people are well trained and for the size of Chatham Kent they meet our needs quite effectively

Anonymous

6/01/2023 06:56 AM

There should be a better more efficient coordination of services between full-time and volunteer fire services. Wallaceburg and Chatham stations 1, 2, and 3 should be calling neighbouring volunteer stations for assistance when needed NOT waiting for full-time off-duty firefighters to backfill full-time positions or to aid during large scale emergencies. Volunteer response times are significantly faster than the backfill system/call-in of off-duty firefighters, it is more cost-effective and more personnel are on scene. The potential loss of life and continued loss of property as a result of "contract language" is unacceptable and does not adequately serve the community of Chatham-Kent, particularly the residents of Wallaceburg.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 09:17 AM

Thankfully, I have never required the services of the above and simply hope that they are efficient.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

I didn't see an option on here for 911 dispatch. We have used 911 several times for real emergencies, and 50% of the calls we've made we have had to redial because the line was busy! Please significantly expand and improve our 911 dispatch service capacities!

Anonymous

6/04/2023 07:33 AM

EMS is understaffed. they provide a valuable service and need to be looked at accordingly

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

EMS in CK is very well run. Saying this it could be updated by further educating first responder as in other jurisdictions to administer life saving anti shock drugs and perhaps for more rural areas having a doctor on board to say within the critical 20 minute time.

Anonymous

Chatham-Kent Fire service needs to address the overtime issue and

6/25/2023 07:58 AM

start running it like a business

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:39 PM

I think I am paying for a full time fire service in Wallaceburg but I am not receiving the same service as what Chatham is getting, All I get if my house burns down is 4 guys and a truck and then I have to wait for 20 mins for a truck to come from Chatham doesn't seem right?

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:54 PM

Both services are underfunded and understaffed

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

I would like to see more volunteers firefighters in Wallaceburg 10 is not enough when there's a fire and the cost of volunteers is amazing benefits to the community

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:18 AM

Needs increase staffing to support higher call volume across all 3 emerg services

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:48 AM

I was sprayed with a fire hose when the firefighter turned his hose on to extinguish our camp fire on Spring street in Morpeth and mistakingly aimed the hose at me

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:59 AM

More EMS More Fire Inspectors

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

They do a great job for the resources they are given.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 03:17 PM

This service needs to keep focused on putting more boots on the ground and keeping management personnel and corporate sponsored vehicles to a very minimal level. It's the daily workers on the streets that get the job done for people and businesses in their respective communities.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 10:04 PM

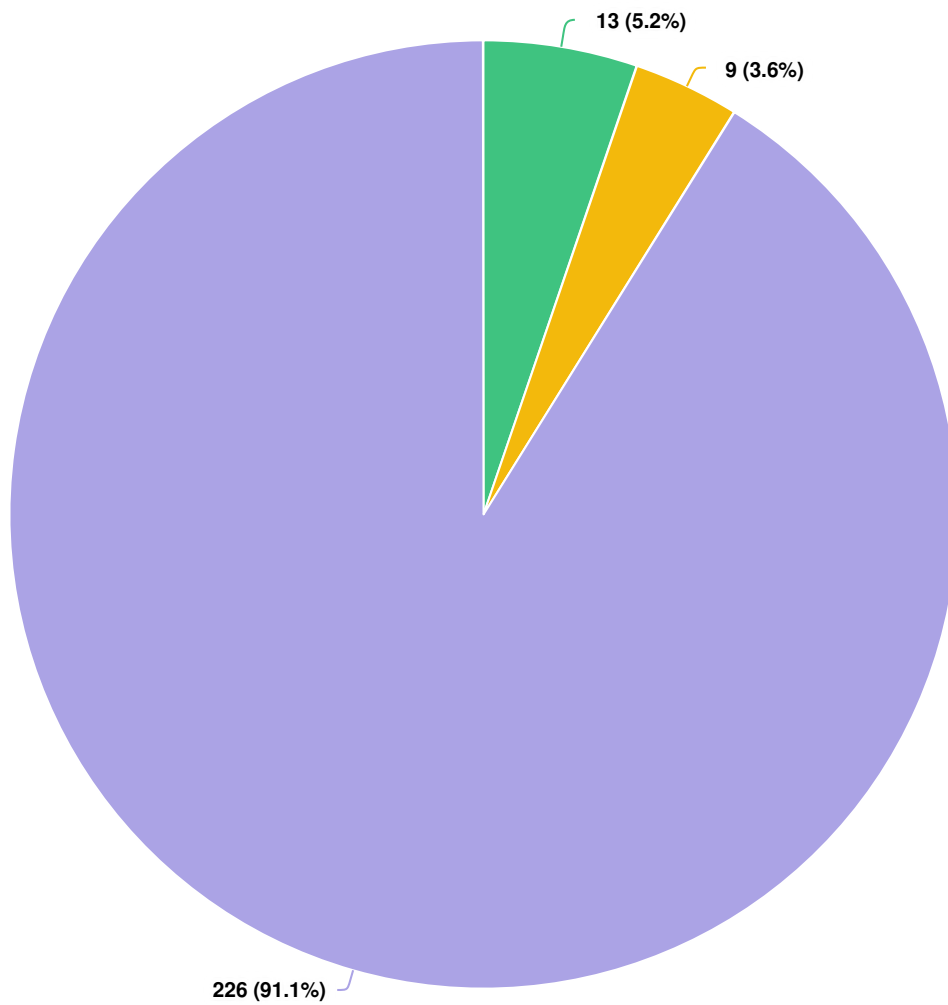
I have seen the amount of personnel that respond to dangerous situations and it is very lacking. When you watch the news or witness what response other areas of the province get as far as staffing we are far behind.

**Optional question** (17 response(s), 233 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

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**Q34** Ride CK On Request Transit service allows a shared ride public transit trip between any two designated bus stop locations within an urban area, as opposed to a fixed-route service. It has provided a benefit of later evening options for transit riders. Have you found the On Request to be a benefit?

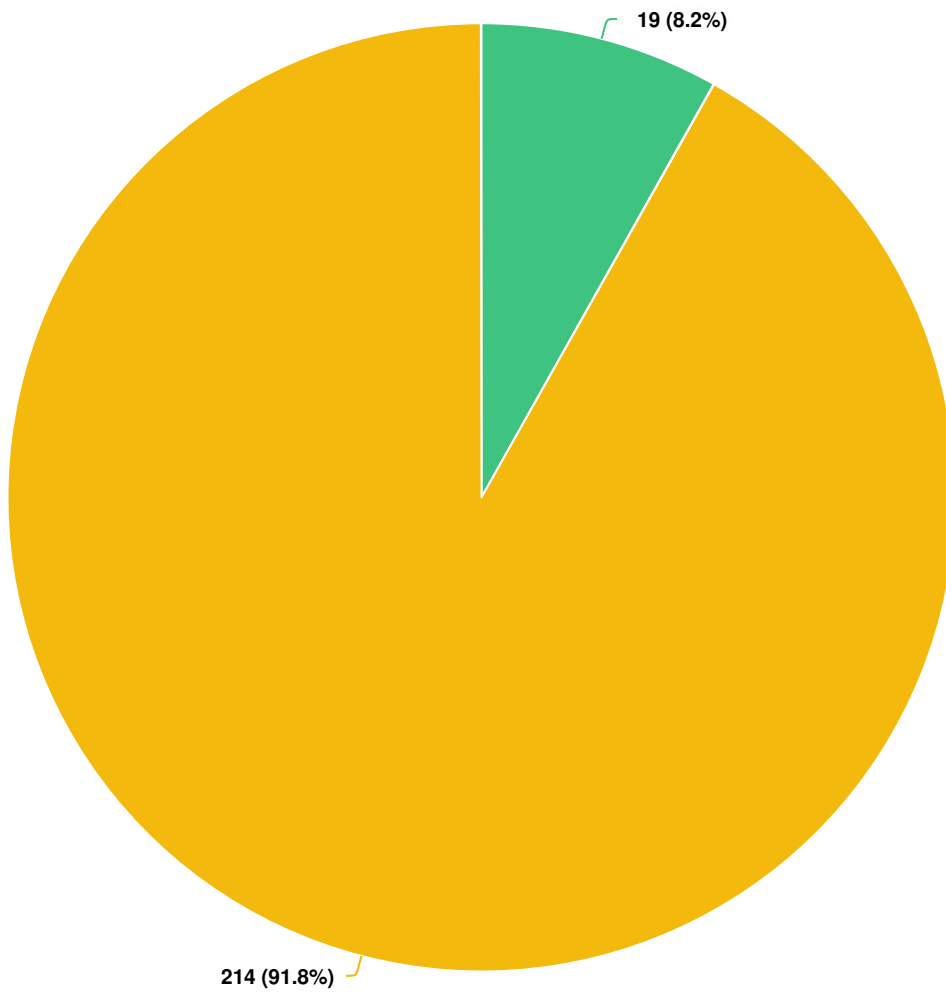


**Question options**

- I have not used this service
- No
- Yes

Optional question (248 response(s), 2 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q35** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (233 response(s), 17 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q36 | Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:57 PM

without a cell phone with data it is not accessible to many people who would otherwise use this service

Anonymous

5/31/2023 11:21 AM

This is amazing! I would like to see more advertising and information about this program in public local areas.

why\_is\_this\_public

5/31/2023 04:00 PM

I wish routes included more high volume locations, like schools. Right now they stick with major routes only which aren't easy to walk to.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

Although I've not used this service, I think it's a great idea and are glad we have it!

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

I think this is a great service for those that it.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

I don't believe I've ever used the bus in Chatham since 1997

Anonymous

6/05/2023 10:33 PM

I don't believe this service is available in my part of the community

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

IMO the ride program is critical for people who require the services

Anonymous

6/20/2023 08:42 AM

Please bring that option to the rural regions

Anonymous

6/20/2023 09:34 AM

it is a nice option to have but i have heard it is not always reliable. in regards to public transit/busses they don't go past 7 and so many people who work till 7 pm or have evening programs to attend need to find other ways to get transportation. there is also no bussing on sundays? many many people use the bus system due to a lack of transportation. i would like to see it be more available and reliable and have more options.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 09:10 PM

It appears to work better for local riders the new way

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:19 AM

I see the buses constantly empty in my rural area. Seems like a huge waste of \$\$\$

Anonymous

6/25/2023 10:20 AM

I have no idea of the ON Request Transit Service or that it allows a "shared" ride option.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:44 PM

I think it is a very valuable service

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:46 PM

Rural communities do not receive this service.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:34 AM

We pay for this service on our taxes for Wheatley AND Romney but we do not receive it! Or the option to even get on as it doesn't come to town

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

Not educated on this program but I'm sure it's another free one for many that the tax payer is paying for.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 03:17 PM

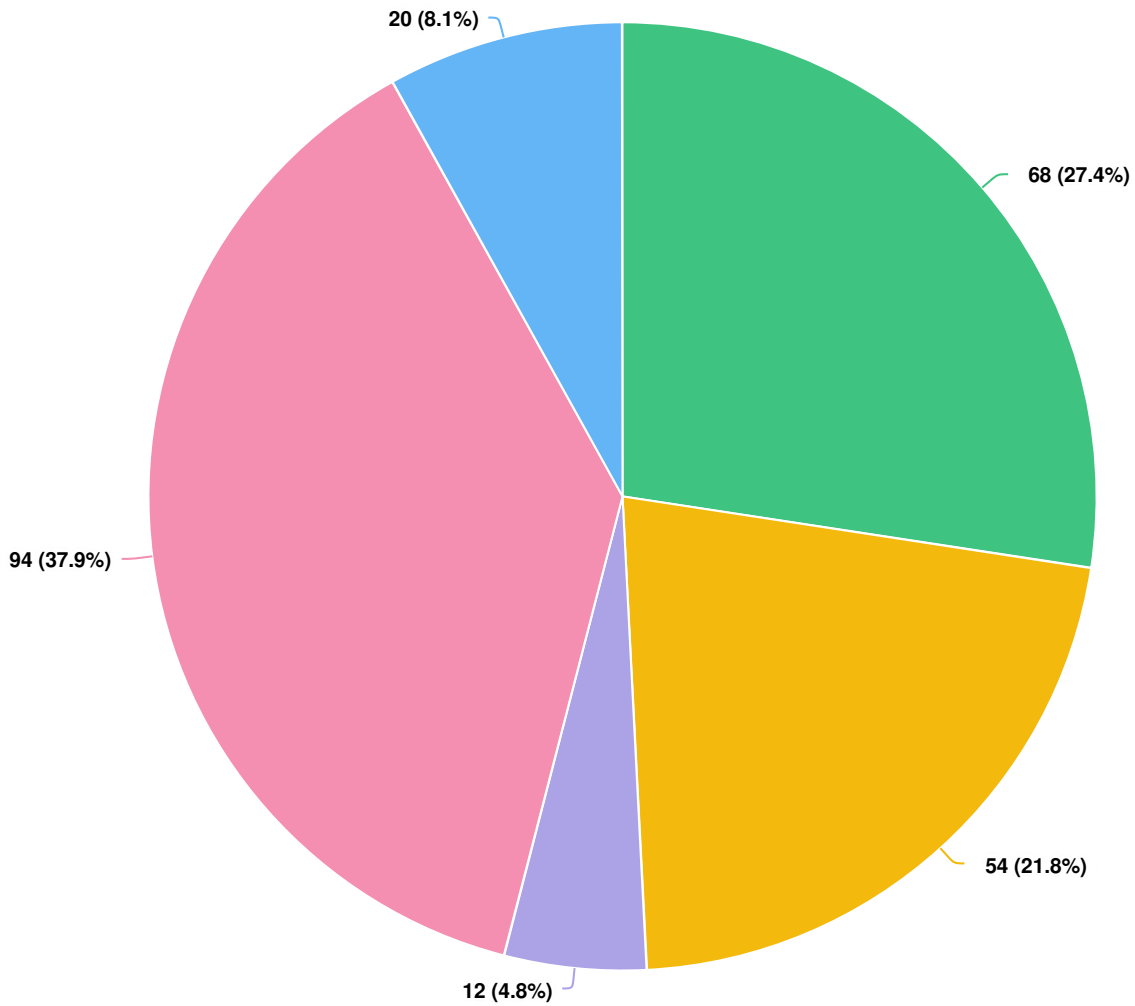
I haven't used this service but do see the value it can provide for others.

**Optional question** (18 response(s), 232 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question



**Q37** | Did you know over 30% of household garbage is food and organic waste? Do you support implementing a food and organic waste diversion program at an additional cost?

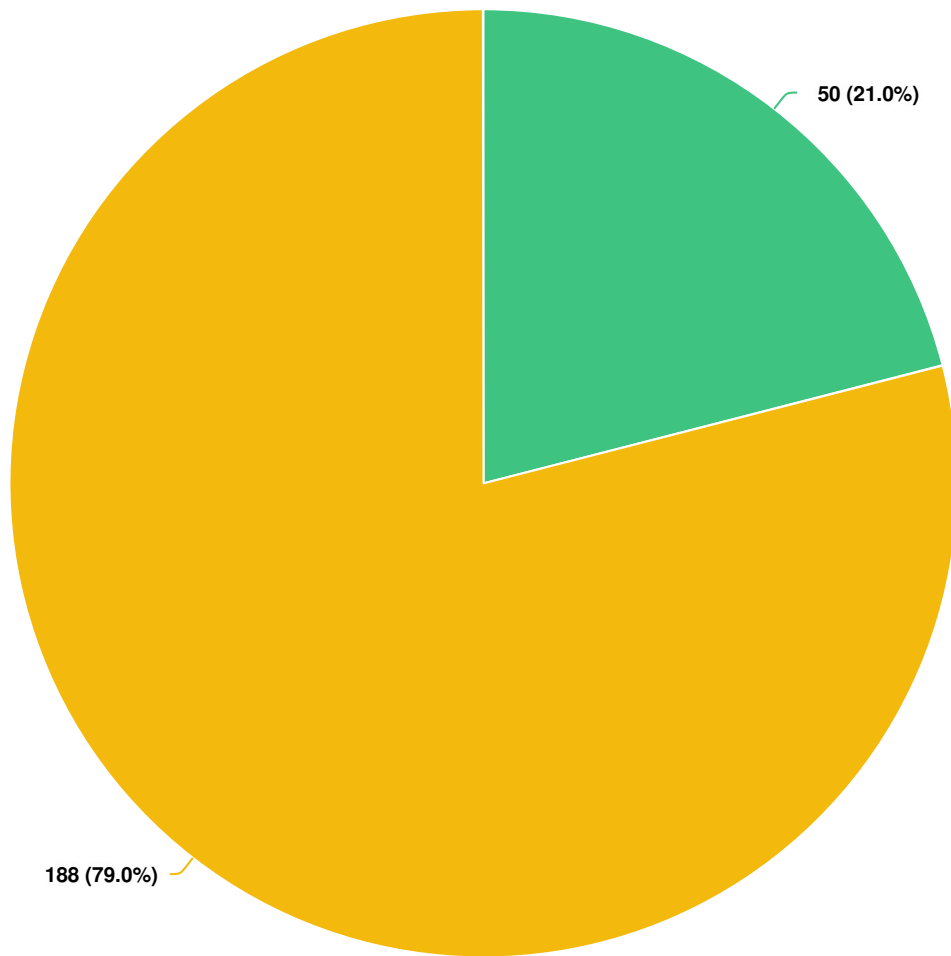


**Question options**

- Unsure
- Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Somewhat Agree
- Agree

Optional question (248 response(s), 2 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q38** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (238 response(s), 12 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q39** Please leave your comment.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:18 AM

Many other community's have a compost program, I think it is time we start that initiative. To reduce costs, the amount of allowed household garbage is WAY too much. I would suggest our toter cart every 2 weeks instead of every week. That will reduce costs at the landfill & with our service provider.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:13 AM

I will not do this. I think this is gross . You can't even get people to recycle. Since the toters cane out it has been worse

Anonymous

5/30/2023 12:44 PM

I am happy with our current bin.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:48 PM

Who receives the compost at the end? If I'm paying for a service, I'd love to have access to a limited amount of compost at the end.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:27 PM

Do not want that as I do not have waste pick up and do not want to pay for that

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:30 PM

I backyard compost my garbage has reduced significantly since , I would like to see more encouragement of this and leaves picked up in fall

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:35 PM

Does this question fall in line with the Greener Canada, Carbon emission scam the Federal government is trying to push on us? That is going to cost us a an astronomical amount of money to reduce emission by the smallest amount of a fraction that the change is insignificant

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

Expect MORE from people. Either we compost our own stuff or we don't compost at all.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:02 PM

id be happy to divert more organic waste, but not at increased cost.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

The municipality could save thousands of dollars by just having everyone on a street put the garbage containers on collection day on the same side of the street. That way the trucks only go down the

street once rather than twice. An easy way to save money

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

I'm being a landlord that means I have to pay for it. Of all the properties I own I one only have one tenant that even recycles. We recycle and bring our yard ways to the transfer station. My family generates 1 1/2 small kitchen garbage bag a week. There are too many lazy people that won't cooperat

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:56 PM

I agree with comparing food and organic waste, but not at a cost but maybe informative information to households on how to.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 07:56 AM

I support organic waste disposal as long as that waste does not end up in a landfill.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 11:21 AM

Could we consider having curb pick-up of food and organic waste AND a buy-for-cheap home compost start-up kit available at municipal offices (maybe the basic pyramid and such at cost level 1, and the deluxe tumbler etc at cost level 2), to encourage people who have access to their own private greenspace to recycle food waste at home, garden, etc? Gardening and growing victory vegetable patches is wonderful for children, the elderly, and everyone - and if we tied in some sort of recycle-pallets-to-raised-beds workshop, people with mobility issues would find it easier to participate as well. If more of us veg-gardened at home, this could help alleviate some food poverty and help out the food banks and shelters at the same time.

why\_is\_this\_public

5/31/2023 04:00 PM

Get a compost bin. People who don't use a compost bin, probably wouldn't use an expensive program either. No one wants to sort their garbage before tossing. Look at Western U - I just looked at the 30 different bins and if I couldn't find it 2 seconds, into regular trash.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 04:05 PM

At additional cost no for households.....for fast food or restaurants if they use this then let them pay.....we compost our waste but a compost bin would be a way the city could go just like our recycling bins.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 06:50 PM

Always a fee attached to everything in CK, yet Wallaceburg is criminally under serviced.

Anonymous

It's 2023. Why this isn't already in place is unacceptable.

6/01/2023 12:02 AM

Anonymous

6/01/2023 06:56 AM

There are many rural residents of Chatham-Kent who still have NO garbage or recycling pickup service. Prior to augmenting services already provided to some residents, consider providing the same service to ALL residents.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 09:17 AM

I have a closed compost bin in my yard for that exact purpose and regular use the produced soil in gardens. I feel that many households could be doing the same thing unless they are residing in apartments or dwellings with no yards.

Anonymous

6/01/2023 01:10 PM

Why would you want to do that when 25% of the population don't even recycle. Why is recycling not manatory. This is all getting to look like a big JOKE anymore.

Anonymous

6/03/2023 07:39 AM

Implement fines for people that don't recycle.(McDonalds, Tim Hortons)

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:56 AM

Only if a proper study is conducted, is financially feasible and proper staff and support are in place as well.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 10:00 AM

While it would be beneficial to reduce waste in landfill the current structure is already complicated as it is. Perhaps if better scheduling would be implemented that could help but putting waste out to the curb 2-3 times per week is a bit excessive

Anonymous

6/05/2023 10:06 AM

I have lived in 3 other municipalities and every single one has had organic waste collection. That was 12 years ago, so we are well behind many other communities. Landfill diversion is a fantastic idea for the health of the environment and sustainability of our community. It also encourages more gardening.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 03:09 PM

It shouldn't cost any additional money to create a food and organic waste diversion program. It should be included with the current waste program. Almost all municipalities have this program already.

Anonymous

6/08/2023 01:33 PM

We don't have garbage collection now, so this would not affect us.

Anonymous

6/09/2023 07:01 PM

These programs should be implemented but at no increase to tax dollars paid

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

We need to reduce administrative costs. Education on composting should eliminate this

Anonymous

6/20/2023 09:34 AM

people can be very wasteful and with so much need out there we need to be stewardly. however this new program sounds like it would cost a lot of money and not have a huge impact on changing the ways of wasteful people.

Anonymous

6/22/2023 12:05 AM

We need to cut costs, not increase them. Better education in how to compost is a better solution.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

I'd like to first know the plans the city has as to what THEY will do with the organic waste. I've seen too many "recycle bins" outside of restaurants getting dumped into normal trash, so if this is a "feel good project" to make people think they're helping the environment while it's simply tossed in with trash, then no, don't waste our money on "feel good projects" that don't accomplish any real goal.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:48 PM

Can we even trust you to do THAT correctly?

Anonymous

6/25/2023 04:52 PM

I think this is a fabulous idea! I think lol homes should have the option of buying a compost bin that goes out separately from their garbage/recycling

Anonymous

6/25/2023 08:51 PM

Backyard chickens have been proven to reduce overall household waste. Maybe a trial of program would be beneficial to see impact in household waste.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:39 PM

Why would I want to pay more to dispose of my garbage

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:44 PM

Depends on cost

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:46 PM

If people care enough to sort their trash, they will already have a solution for this.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:00 PM

Provide people info on how to compost on their own

Anonymous

6/25/2023 11:13 PM

So important to implement green bins! Not only for food waste but yard waste too. Some people don't have any way to bring yard waste to the depot so they just put in garbage. It may facilitate people caring for their properties better too, cleaning up leaves etc.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

Depends on cost saving at the land fill and cost to operate and how much carbon it uses.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:18 AM

This service should be provided with no increased cost

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:34 AM

That is one of the only services I get for over 6k a year! Why would I want to pay more for one of the only services I get!!!!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

Just educated the community on compost and let them decide. We should have to pay a few for a good practice anyone can do at their own house without pickup. It looks good that CK is going green but we're going to more damage with the green house gases that will be emitted for the trucks that are picking this compost up. I guess the illusion is better then the actual outcome.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:27 PM

I compost at my rural home, at my own expense of a compost box to keep rodents away. I feel that composting is an excellent practice, and should be offered like garbage disposal and only those that use the service should be charged extra taxes.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:56 PM

plan needs more details. Frequency of pickup, equipment required etc..

Anonymous

6/26/2023 03:17 PM

This could create organic compose for use by our citizens. It just can't secretly go to the dump like the other recycled materials collected and paid for through our taxes where most think it all gets recycled. Who is to be held accountable for this at the corporate level??

Anonymous

I can't understand why Chatham Kent is so behind in this service

6/26/2023 10:04 PM

when other cities have had this service for years.

Anonymous

6/27/2023 09:42 AM

Taxes cover this garbage pick up excluding those outside of the triangle yet the taxes still remain of the highest in the municipality. I believe in the recycling program however give the municipality my money then have to drive to recycle. should be ashamed!!! Review the triangle and offer garbage services I already pay for in my taxes.

Anonymous

6/28/2023 06:48 PM

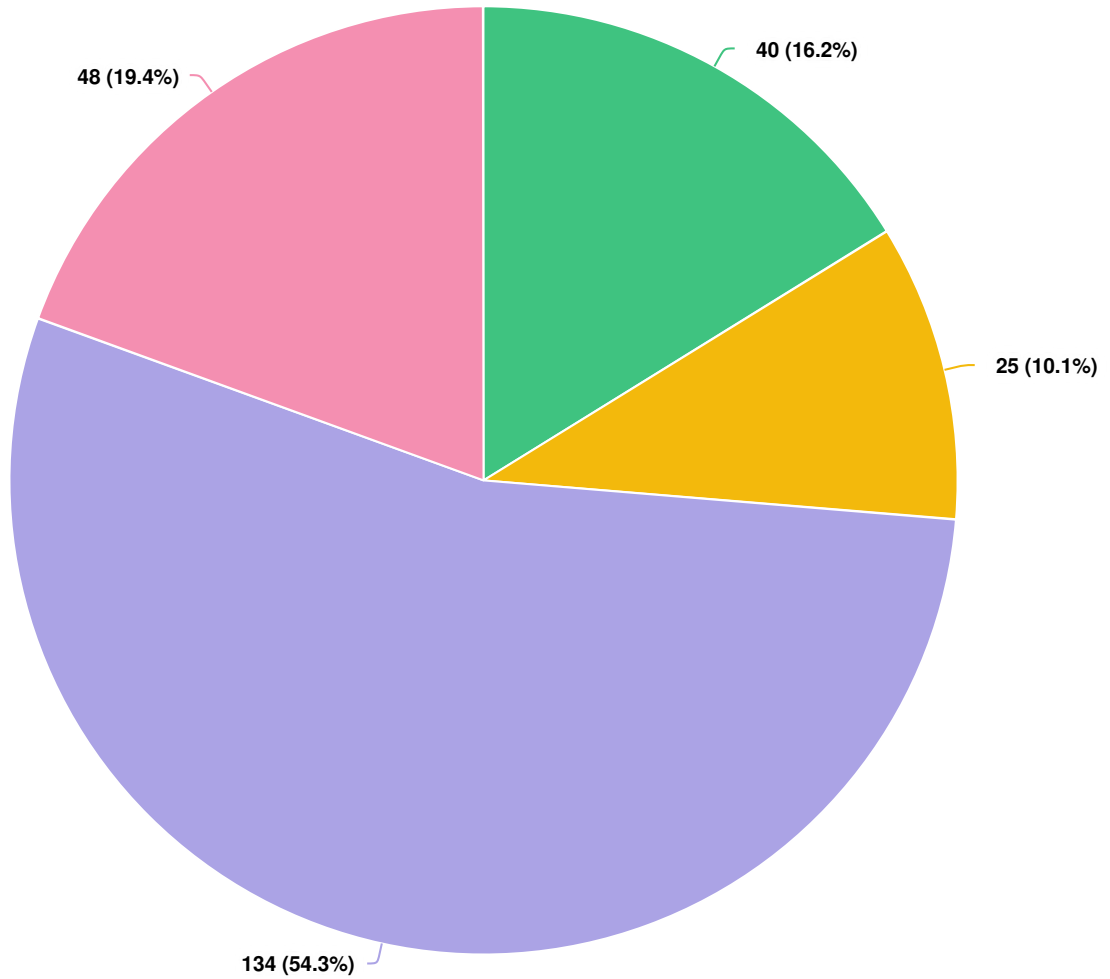
each household should deal with managing food and organic waste

**Optional question** (50 response(s), 200 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question



**Q40** | Through the budget questionnaire I have been able to learn more about municipal services.

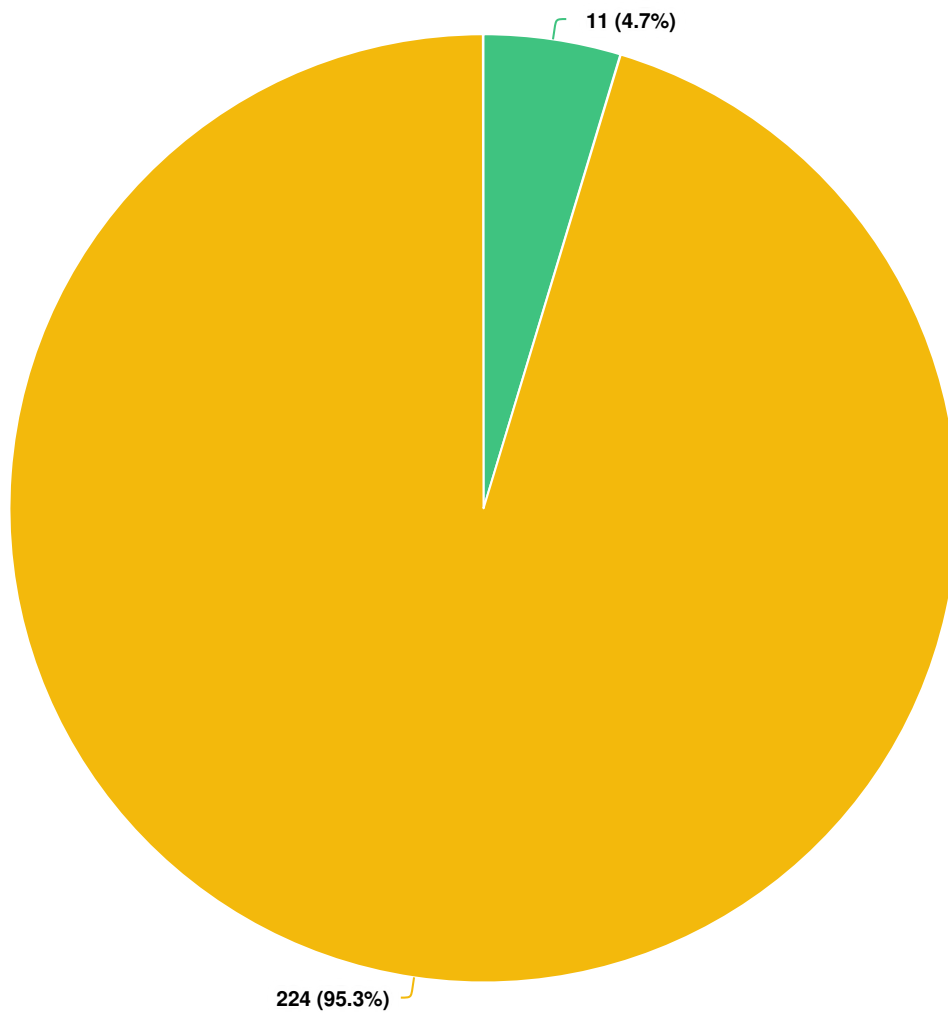


**Question options**

- Agree
- Slightly Agree
- Slightly Disagree
- Disagree

*Optional question (247 response(s), 3 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q41** | Would you like to leave a comment based on the question you just answered?



**Question options**

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (235 response(s), 15 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q42 | Please leave your comment.**

Anonymous

6/04/2023 12:11 PM

I think that some of these questions could of been explained a bit better. I'm sure there are few people who would prefer a bit more clarity.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 08:27 PM

Some of the services were not well explained.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

In the process of budgeting it seems always to come to more services or less services to either increase taxes slightly or more. CK based on questioning continues down this same road. I suggest they coordinate with other communities to see how they are using their economic services and industrial/agriculture advisory committee's as part of Council to use existing Provincial, Federal and International Leadership aGroups. This Network would be able to advise Economic Development, and Council what has worked and not worked in other regions and why being tax based competitive as well as reducing additional costs and Red tape is so attractive to Investors. One should remember Directors on one board of investors generally sit on as few a 7 or as many as 14 different boards in What appears to be non affiliated businesses. Word travels fast. Additional costs and maintenance contracts are not looked kindly upon. Best of Luck

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

I now have a better idea of how you waste our tax dollars.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 05:48 PM

I've learned how badly you waste my money!!!!

Anonymous

6/25/2023 07:41 AM

Some neutral options were needed for questions. Some topics I didn't know too much about and would of wanted an option to state I wasn't sure

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:39 PM

I would like to see administration act on some of these comments.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

Great job!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:18 AM

Budget is not clear and easily understood

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:56 PM

cost breakdown figures would be good so we can see where the money collected is being spent.

Anonymous

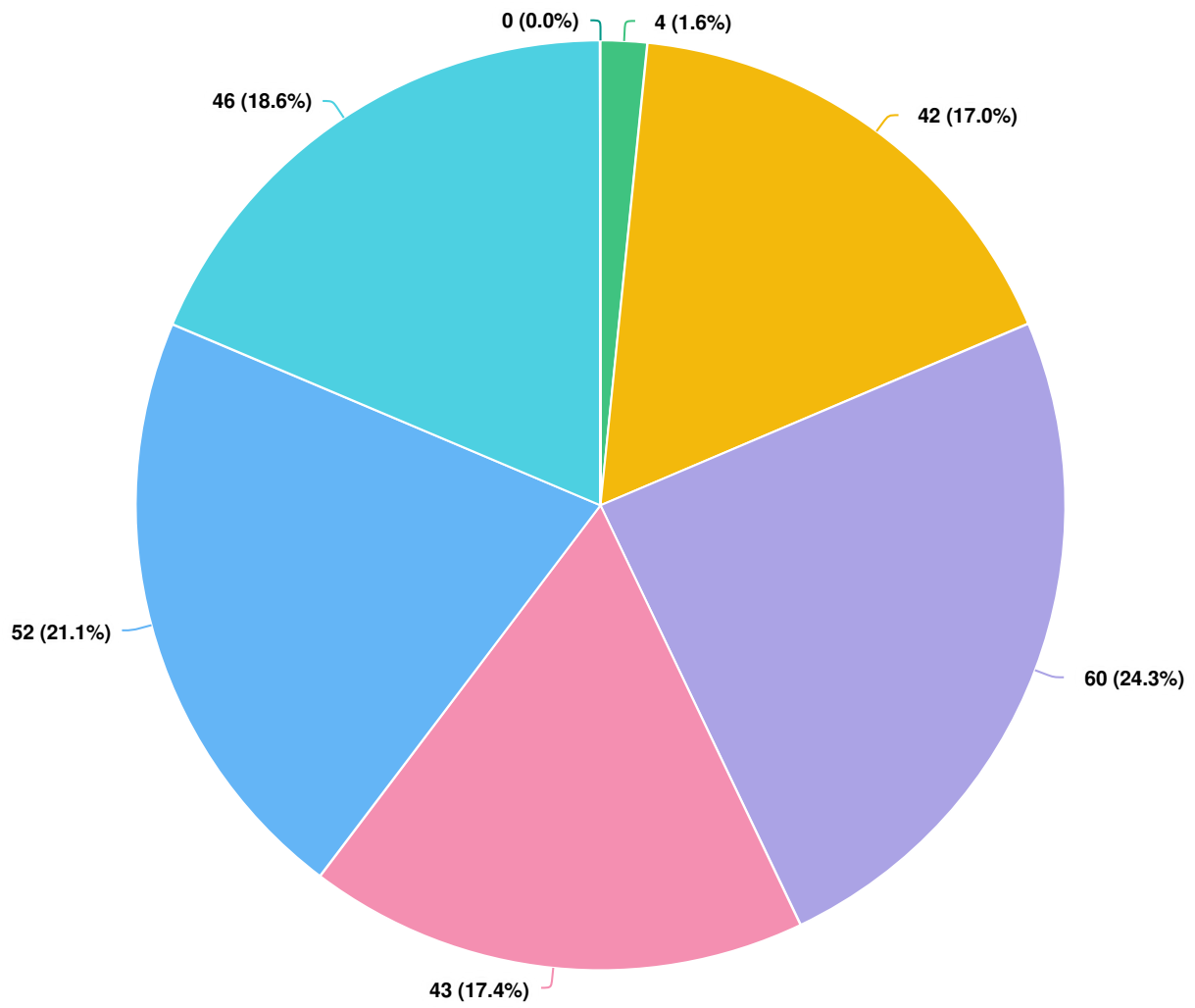
6/26/2023 03:17 PM

Not a lot of information was given out through this article to give a true picture for CK municipal government insight.

**Optional question** (11 response(s), 239 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

Q43 Age

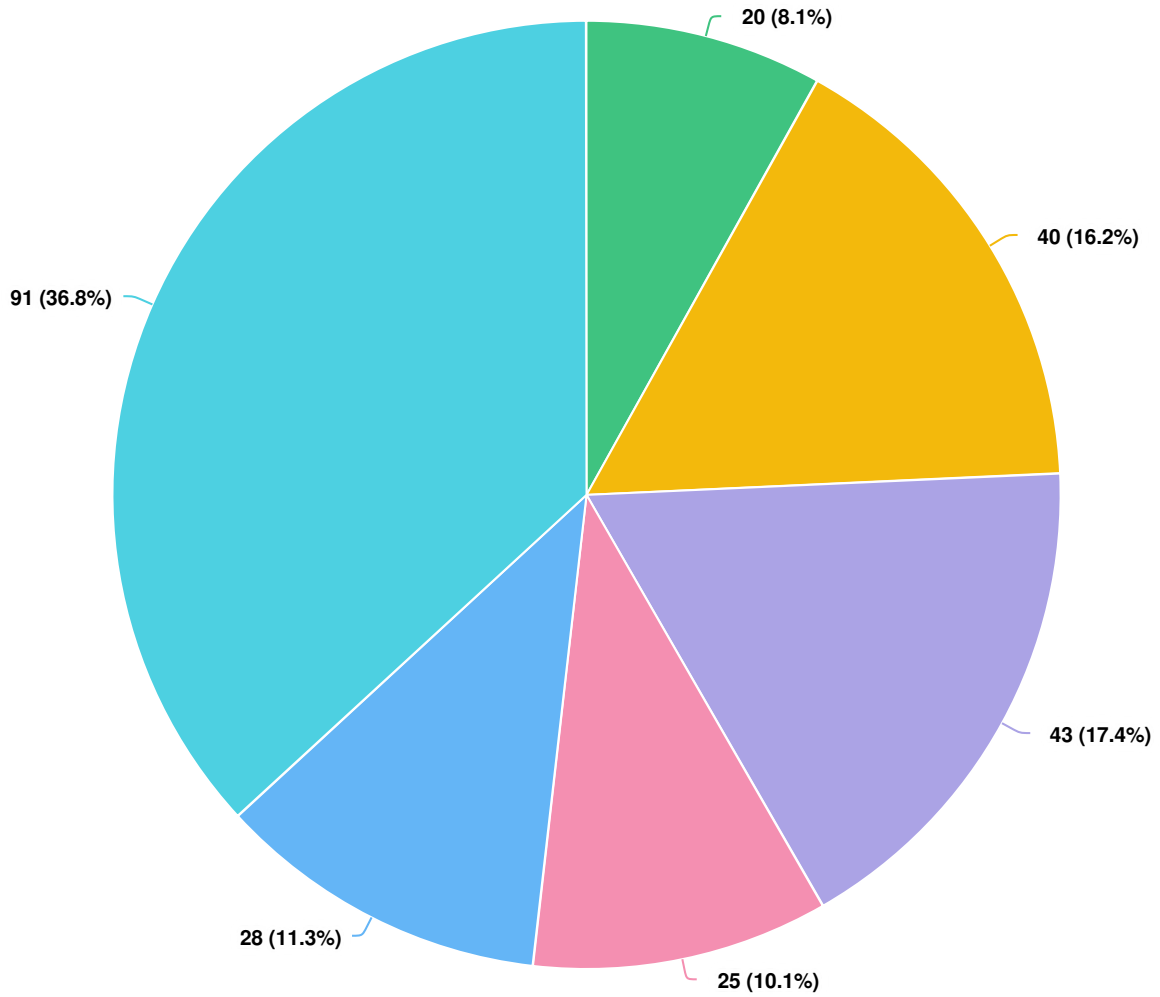


Question options

- Under 18
- 65 and over
- 55-64
- 45-54
- 35-44
- 25-34
- 18-24

Optional question (247 response(s), 3 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q44** Which ward do you reside in?

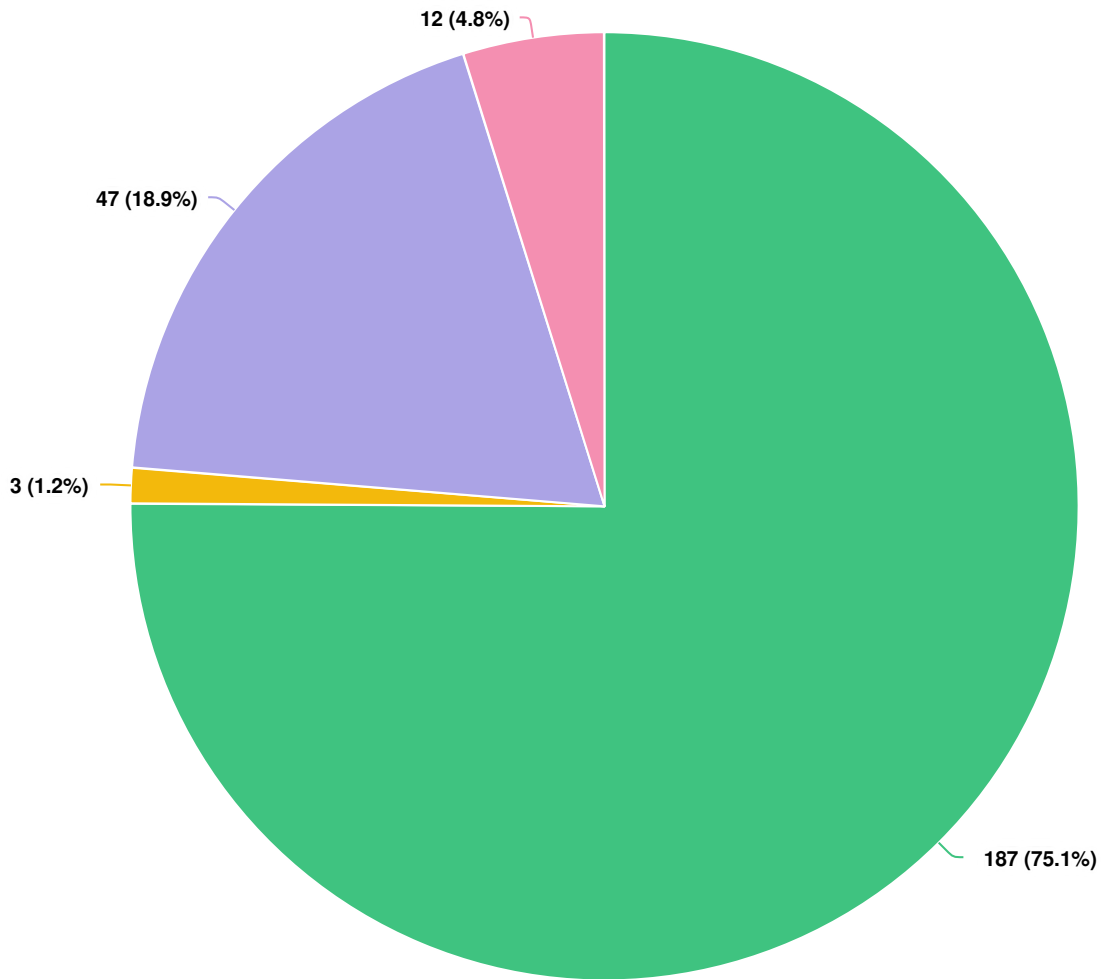


**Question options**

- Ward 6 – Chatham
- Ward 5 – Wallaceburg
- Ward 4 – North Kent
- Ward 3 – East Kent
- Ward 2 – South Kent
- Ward 1 - West Kent

Optional question (247 response(s), 3 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q45** Are you a homeowner and/or business owner?



**Question options**

- Neither
- Both
- Business owner
- Homeowner

Optional question (249 response(s), 1 skipped)  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q46 | Please use the following box to provide any comments on this survey or suggestions for Administration and Council as they complete the 2024-2027 multi-year budget.**

Anonymous

5/30/2023 11:49 AM

Overall I believe that encouraging the independence of young adults will actually cause them to spend more locally versus spending their money on shopping and other things. Boosts our local economy and creates a fool-proof support system for our local businesses. Creating an appealing town for younger people should be extremely important to keep them here rather than having them move away to a more attractive city and never looking back.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 12:22 PM

I think the two councillors for Wallaceburg should be more present in the community....start a Facebook account or something cus I know nothing about them...they should be interacting with us at town hall meetings or just telling us what is going on in Wallaceburg. Keep us informed on a weekly basis. Say like a reminder the bridge washing is starting this week. Etc. They need to hear our voices. Don't need to email them

Anonymous

5/30/2023 01:28 PM

I believe all residents should have access to safe drinking water. That is not the case for farms who had wells ruined by wind towers. That is a municipal concern if we charge tax on those farms.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:27 PM

Chatham Kent often has the highest tax increases every year compared to surrounding areas.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:30 PM

Keep the winter sidewalk lowing as many seniors can not do this ,, also some break for residents that have to purchase salt to spend their time on sidewalks their neighbors across the street use doing nothing.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 05:35 PM

Quit increasing wages and see how much tax money can be spent elsewhere. Time to give Wallaceburg a bigger helping hand and quit taking from there. Chatham will never be a big city with attractions like London and Windsor, nobody want to pay the outrageous amount of property tax we currently pay and that continues to increase, nobody can afford it.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:27 PM

DO YOUR JOB. Provide us the service required for a cost more in line with other municipalities. If we have paid down debt for 20 years you should have MORE than the funds currently to do so!



Anonymous

5/30/2023 06:53 PM

Considering our demographic, it would be advantageous to divert resources used for homelessness and affordable housing towards seniors and the disabled. Attraction and retention of hard-working, family oriented individuals is going to be difficult with the increasing amount of crime in our city. Chatham is becoming increasingly less desirable to live in.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:02 PM

People are hurting at every turn. Inflation and corporate greed are killing us. Tax increases will continue to squeeze us even more. We are at the breaking point. This isn't sustainable.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 07:26 PM

I'd like to see more funding to the arts and the libraries in CK. These are places many families, newcomers, refugees and the elderly spend a lot of time at and rely on these services, programs and activities.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:11 PM

I do believe staff reductions can be made within the municipality. I had a new Calvert installed in my driveway. The municipality showed up with a dump truck a backhoe and five helpers yes that is five the backhoe operator, the truck driver and one of the five did all the work. The other four leaned on their shoves and chatted the entire time. They never lifted a finger. Then went for coffee.

Anonymous

5/30/2023 09:45 PM

Keep the survey going. I think the councils are doing a good job. I would like to see more Police on the roads and water way

Anonymous

5/30/2023 10:34 PM

most seniors live on a fixed income and have a hard time paying a 5.65 percent increase on their taxes , I don't think that our mayor and councilors ever consider the harm that they put on seniors by the huge increase that they put on property taxes

Anonymous

5/31/2023 05:44 AM

Please Give us back the name of our city....why do we have to be Chatham-Kent and not Chatham..there's no Wallaceburg-Kent, or Blenheim-Kent etc.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:34 AM

Just do the right thing. Build the downtown 4,000-seat arena and good things will happen. This community needs the boost in excitement, pride and enthusiasm. We want to see our leaders prove the are actually doing the things they say they want to do (give us a

reason to stay, come back or move here) that are available in other cities. It's time.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:55 AM

As someone that is involved in residential rentals, I hear why people like and dislike Chatham Kent. The most negative comments that I've heard involved the lack of recreational activities for those aged 16 to mid 20's if they are not into sports. I think we have to work on arts programs and other type interest, such as culinary school or programs and expanding the arts. Expanding transit would be very helpful for many, as well if more user friendly reduce the need for additional automobiles on the road, thus helping the environment. I think we need more focus on the homeless and preventing it by having supports for addictions and mental health issues. Skills training and such.

why\_is\_this\_public

5/31/2023 04:00 PM

Focus on core items instead of Canniff dreams. We know council want to pretend they are successful business people when they are just the most electable lovable idiot that was dumb enough to run, but I think most people just want to be able to go for a walk without encountering a tweaker.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 04:05 PM

Hopefully you read and take in consideration these responses and use common sense in making sensible decisions. There are too many CK employees on the Sunshine list and a way too many CK employees not earning their pay. Another thing that irks me is how many we have on City Council....we do not have a Toronto population but have nearly as many councillors!!!!!! Ridiculous.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 06:50 PM

Give Wallaceburg Hospital back all of the equipment the "Alliance" pilfered from the facility.

Anonymous

5/31/2023 10:47 PM

Serious consideration needs to be given to the types of infrastructure the municipality is willing to adopt and commit to the respective future maintenance costs. New linear infrastructure including roads, sewers and water mains constructed as part of low density developments add too greatly to the future burden of maintenance for too small of a tax base/residents served.

GB

6/01/2023 10:38 AM

While the vast majority of questions were clear and even came with some external links for additional context and information, there were a few that I was unclear on and needed more information. Please refer to my other comments for these details. Thank you for all your

hard work on making this survey!

Anonymous

6/02/2023 01:22 PM

Our municipality needs to work within their mean. Our Municipality needs to learn how to fundraise for things sports courts, arenas etc, rather than put more burden on the tax payers that are already struggling.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 08:15 AM

There was no mention of environmental concerns, such as things that could keep our community cleaner, including air and water, or things that are being done to help with climate change, such as tree planting and permanently stopping the clear cutting of woodlots.

Anonymous

6/04/2023 11:57 PM

The primary concern for Chatham - Kent should be in solving poverty and homelessness in our community!

Anonymous

6/05/2023 10:06 AM

Native plants in all municipal gardens will reduce costs on planting tropical and non native plants.

Anonymous

6/06/2023 10:19 PM

Council, remember, you are elected to tell administration what to do. NOT the other way around. Also, tell the mayor he works for the voters, NOT the rich businessmen.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 03:09 PM

This survey was a bit challenging to understand. I am unsure if people in the community will understand what is being asked of them.

Anonymous

6/07/2023 09:08 PM

Where we live, we have no access to high speed internet, , no recycling made available, no leaf vacuum trucks available that come in the fall to vacuum up our leaves and a terrible road that seems to get worse each year. If our taxes get raised, I would like to see some result here and not in the city of Chatham. The road is my main concern.

Anonymous

6/08/2023 01:33 PM

As we grow in population demand for services increases, we may have to increase staff levels to compensate in different departments.

Anonymous

6/09/2023 07:01 PM

All tax rates should remain as is for the next 4 years. Our tax rates are very high compared to the average wage in the area. People are financially struggling to keep food on the table and roofs over their heads. Please be mindful of this and do not create more of a

homeless problem than we already have due to municipal tax rate increases

CKResident2023

6/09/2023 10:52 PM

I appreciate the opportunity that you giving for residents to have input into the budgeting process. It would be interesting to be able to also have access to the (anonymized) survey results as well to compare against the budget decisions that are actually ultimately made.

Anonymous

6/19/2023 09:45 PM

Council needs to Control the Budget and the Administration. The other way does not work and leads to inefficiency. An Integrity Commissioner from outside is a must to maintain a Community Trust. Thank you for your commitment to our community.

Anonymous

6/21/2023 06:42 PM

Housing should be a priority. Getting rental prices down! Property taxes cannot be raised this year everyone is hurting and hard times are coming

Anonymous

6/22/2023 12:05 AM

Way too much money is spent on special interest groups and healthcare costs can be cut drastically by better management and far less upper management.

Anonymous

6/23/2023 09:15 AM

Stop increasing taxes. Increase user fees for those who USE the services. AND QUIT GIVING YOURSELVES RAISES. ALL OF YOU STAYED HOME FOR 2+ YEARS AND TOOK RAISES FOR DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!

Anonymous

6/23/2023 10:37 AM

Fix our city roads in Stacey subdivion. Croydon and Semenyn are a mess. We pay high taxes in Stacey subdivion and get an occasional black asphalt pothole repair.

Anonymous

6/24/2023 08:15 AM

Tired of constantly seeing increases in residential taxes. If you were in the private sector, you would all be fired for your budget decisions. Get with the program and start spending taxpayer funds wisely.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 12:25 AM

Less waste, higher efficiency and reduce taxes.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 07:41 AM

Ck is behind on climate change initiatives and more work needs to be done to align with council said priorities on the topic. As housing increases we need planning to ensure that developers aren't building

homes and making unsustainable properties both in an environmental and engineering sense. If they build fences or other infrastructure we need to ensure it will last and it won't become an issue for the municipality and community. Quit building new municipal builds that are not green builds or net zero. Divest old unused municipal buildings

Anonymous

6/25/2023 07:58 AM

I think Chatham-Kent is very top heavy with supervisors, managers and directors. 30% of those positions needs to be eliminated and make people do there job and be accountable. I am OK with a 1% increase in taxes but the amount of money wasted has to stop.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 08:28 AM

Please use our money wisely, clean up the streets of the overwhelming theft going on in the city. Moved here 10 years ago and this town is slowly turning into the place I left.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:19 AM

What percentage of the jobs in our municipality are municipal in comparison to the actual population? At the rate we are going our community can sustain or support all the municipal programs and staff.

Anonymous

6/25/2023 09:46 PM

Council needs to recognize that Bothwell is part of chatham-kent. They constantly remove services, and expect us to pay more. The entire municipality should have access to the same services.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:51 AM

Not many questions here when you're talking about a 4 year budget. As a senior, there are many services that I don't use, but still have to support them with my property taxes. If these budgets don't take into consideration the budget that seniors live on soon, many of us will be forced to sell our properties. It would be great if citizens over the age of 65 didn't have to support the school system any more and transfer that amount into supports that are age appropriate for us.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:17 AM

Right step in the right direction! Well done

Anonymous

6/26/2023 07:37 AM

Do not cut services to rural wards in order to enhance services in urban wards!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 08:48 AM

As mentioned above I would like to see Antrim or McKinley rd in Morpeth paved to gain access to Rose Beach Line East end. As we

were not given a replacement paved road once RBL closed due to the Erie erosion. Also a sign at Terrace Beach stating no overnight campers as I also stated in an above comment

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:13 AM

Possibly get garbage pick up in Tupperville.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:34 AM

I believe Wheatley and Romneys tax base needs to be lowered and we yet still need to be given things. Because we currently all pay for things we don't even have!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 09:35 AM

Start a program that makes managers more fiscally responsible and we won't need huge tax increases. There's nothing we can do about cost of living going up but there is a lot of money wasted in this community because of peoples decisions. Anyone in charge of financial decisions should be trained of how to properly spend and save money. This is not a skill that our education system puts a whole lot of value to so it's something that doesn't normally come naturally. It's CKs duty to make sure these managers are trained on money management before they are even offered the job and once they have the job there should be repercussions when funds are mismanaged.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 11:53 AM

More cyclists on the roads should encourage municipalities to increase road safety should as cycling lanes or at least add "share the road" signs for awareness, safety and healthy community.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 12:05 PM

It is imperative that Council focus on investment in the economic development of the Municipality. As more industry, businesses and people come to Chatham-Kent and work, live and play here it will make everything easier to accomplish moving forward and help alleviate many of the financial burdens the Municipality currently experiences. Councillors need to be willing to make the hard decisions now and put personal agendas aside and focus on growing and bolstering the economy throughout Chatham-Kent. Further more, one of the key parts to accomplishing this is showing potential businesses and residents that the Emergency Services in this Municipality are well funded, well equipped and well trained to manage and mitigate emergencies throughout the Municipality.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 01:53 PM

Need county wide garbage collection. All neighbouring municipalities have had this for many years. Why are we so far behind? As an elderly person with mobility issues it is a hassle to get my garbage to

transfer stations.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 02:25 PM

Your communication with Wheatley residents regarding the downtown disaster here has been irregular, ineffective and now practically non-existent today. Please realize, you will not get much support from people here for any future tax or budget increases unless you show some progress or improvement to the unforgivable and ugly mess downtown. WE ARE STILL HERE!!!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 03:13 PM

Do not raise taxes. At least not for wheatley. We are still devastated by the explosion. As a matter of fact. Wheatley taxes should have went down since we lost so much.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 03:17 PM

We are tipping the scales on managerial leadership. Their numerous bonuses to do their jobs are sponsored by on the backs of the taxpayers, reduce this, increase the working personnel to get any of the jobs this corporation has a hand in, done in a timely manner and successfully completed!!

Anonymous

6/26/2023 04:28 PM

It will be unfortunate if the outlying areas of CK get services cut, or lose recreation facilities over tax cuts. We are a large amalgamation and those that enjoy full services ought not begrudge other areas the few things make their communities livable.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 05:24 PM

Increase funding to CKFR and EMS to allow for advancements in equipment, ie more EDraulic extrication equipment and Lucas CPR machines.

Anonymous

6/26/2023 05:44 PM

Schools Libraries Arena Parks Resources for healthy lifestyles in all CK communities. I don't mind a tax increase to support CK as long as it supports all population of CK. It is still thr mind set of Chatham + all the other communities....it has not changed since amalgamation and until small rural communities feel supported and of value to CK it never will. Don't continue to close, management needs to be inventive in ways to grow the communities...not take the easy way out and eliminate services.

Anonymous

6/27/2023 05:46 PM

The DEIJ strategy and climate change initiatives need to be prioritized.

Anonymous

6/28/2023 06:48 PM

for 15 years we have paid taxes on our current property ( a new home in 2008) and still deal with no street light and a busted up tar and chip street that just continues to deteriorate, and for 15 years our taxes have continued to increase. angry and frustrated with Chatham Kent and the lack of caring

Anonymous

6/29/2023 04:39 AM

We do not have public transits to my knowledge and we pay for it. Taxes on new build home is outrageously ridiculous

**Optional question** (62 response(s), 188 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question