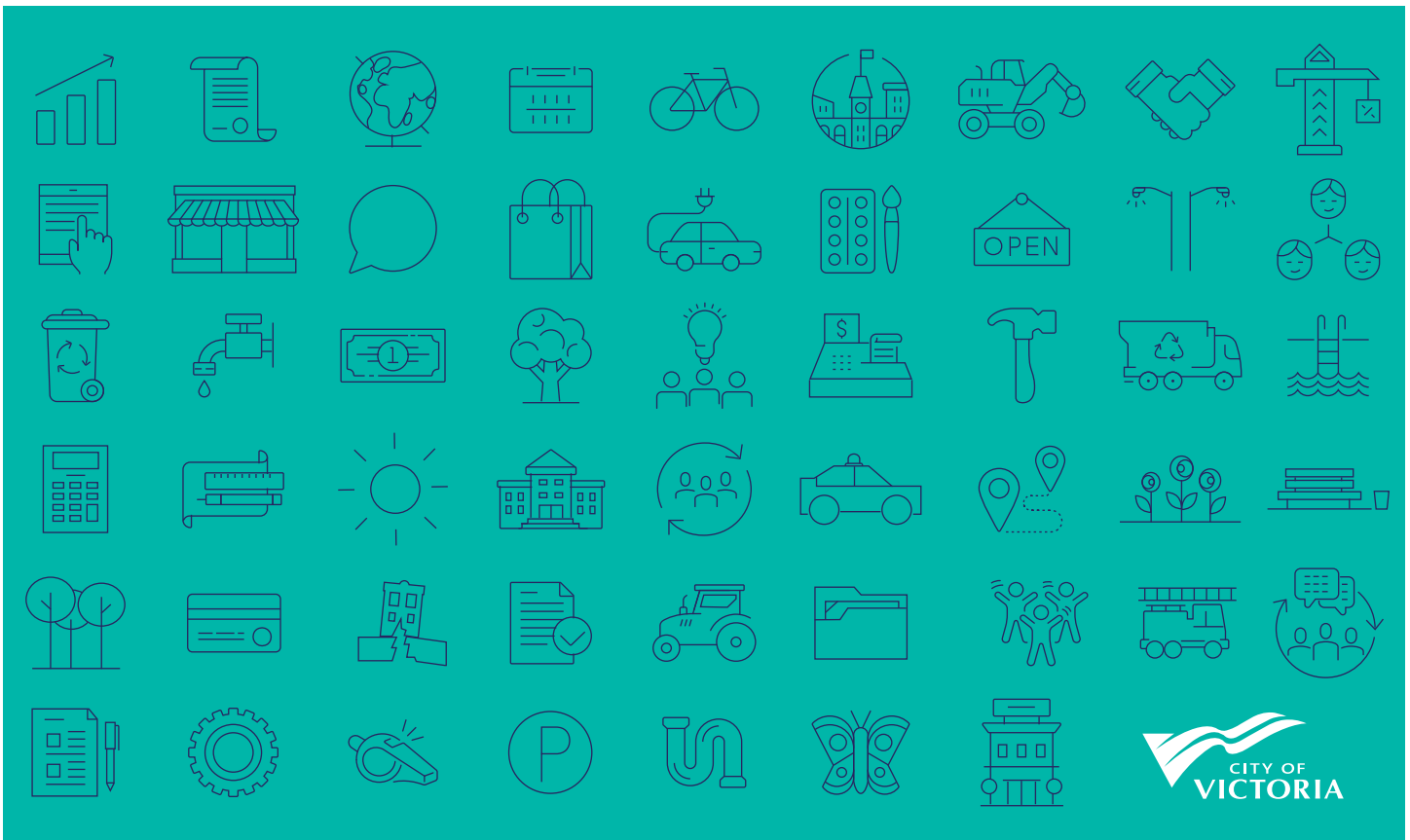


2021

ATTACHMENT B

Draft Budget Survey Report

The comments included in this report are those of the respondent who wrote them; their reproduction does not indicate any endorsement by the City, nor do they reflect the views of the City, its elected officials or employees.



ENGAGEMENT TOOL: SURVEY TOOL

Your City Budget. Have Your Say.

A strategic objective is a high-level goal that Council hopes to achieve. The 2019-2022 Strategic Plan was developed and approved by Council and includes the following eight strategic objectives. Please rank the City's Strategic Objectives from most to least important, with 1 being most important and 8 being least.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Affordable Housing	3.04
Climate Leadership and Environmental Stewardship	4.07
Reconciliation and Indigenous Relations	4.24
Strong, Liveable Neighbourhoods	4.56
Health, Well-Being and a Welcoming City	4.82
Good Governance and Civic Engagement	4.89
Sustainable Transportation	4.91
Prosperity and Economic Inclusion	5.35

Optional question (674 response(s), 35 skipped)

Question type: Ranking Question

From your perspective, what are the most important priorities facing our city right now? 1 being the most important and 9 being the least important.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Housing (affordable, rental, missing middle) and homelessness	2.75
Health, well-being and social issues	3.74
Climate action and sustainability	4.41
Economic recovery and jobs	4.65
Equity and inclusion	4.88
Governance and fiscal responsibility	5.74
Public safety	5.98
Belonging and engagement	6.12
Arts and culture events and venues	6.35

Optional question (684 response(s), 25 skipped)

Question type: Ranking Question

How satisfied are you with the availability, repair or maintenance of the City of Victoria's transportation infrastructure/amenities?



Optional question (680 response(s), 29 skipped)

Question type: Likert Question

How satisfied are you with the availability, repair or maintenance of Victoria's parks and public spaces infrastructure/amenities?



Optional question (686 response(s), 23 skipped)

Question type: Likert Question

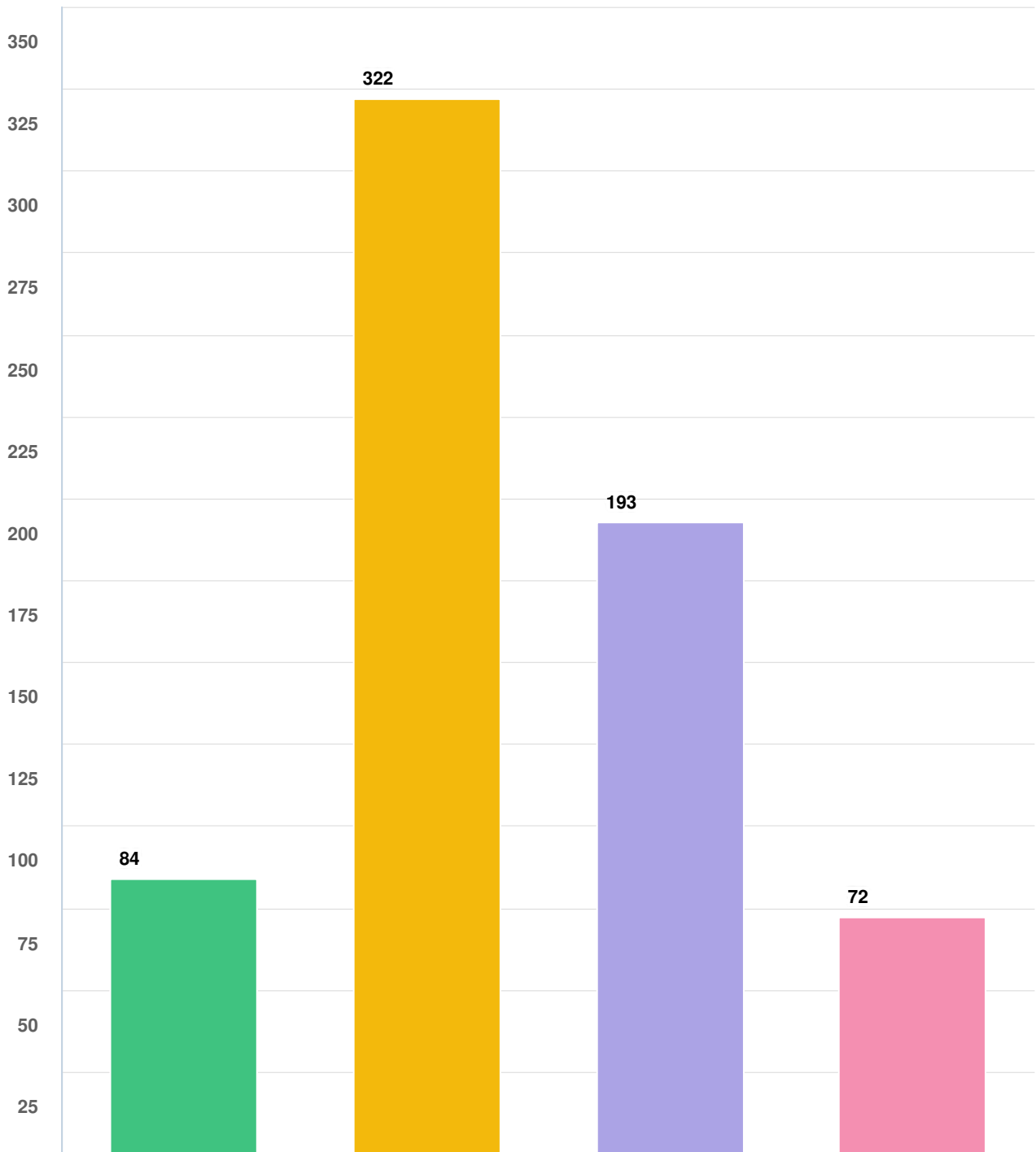
For 2021, what level of priority do you place on the following for our city?



Optional question (686 response(s), 23 skipped)

Question type: Likert Question

Thinking about all the programs, services and capital projects you receive from the City of Victoria, would you say that overall you get:



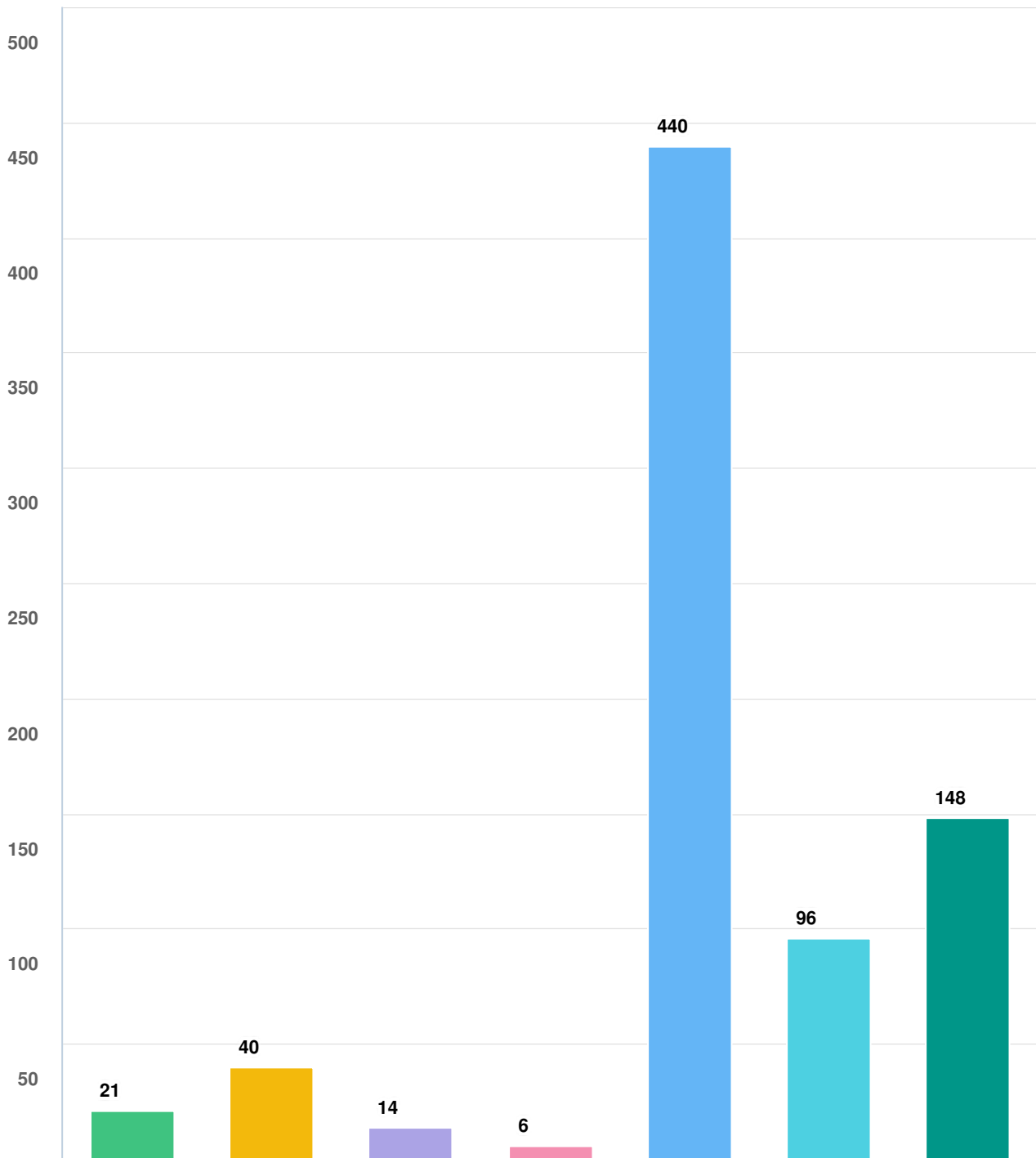
Question options

- Very poor value for your tax dollars
- Fairly poor value for your tax dollars
- Fairly good value for your tax dollars
- Very good value for your tax dollars

Optional question (671 response(s), 38 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

How did you find out about this survey? (Check all that apply.)



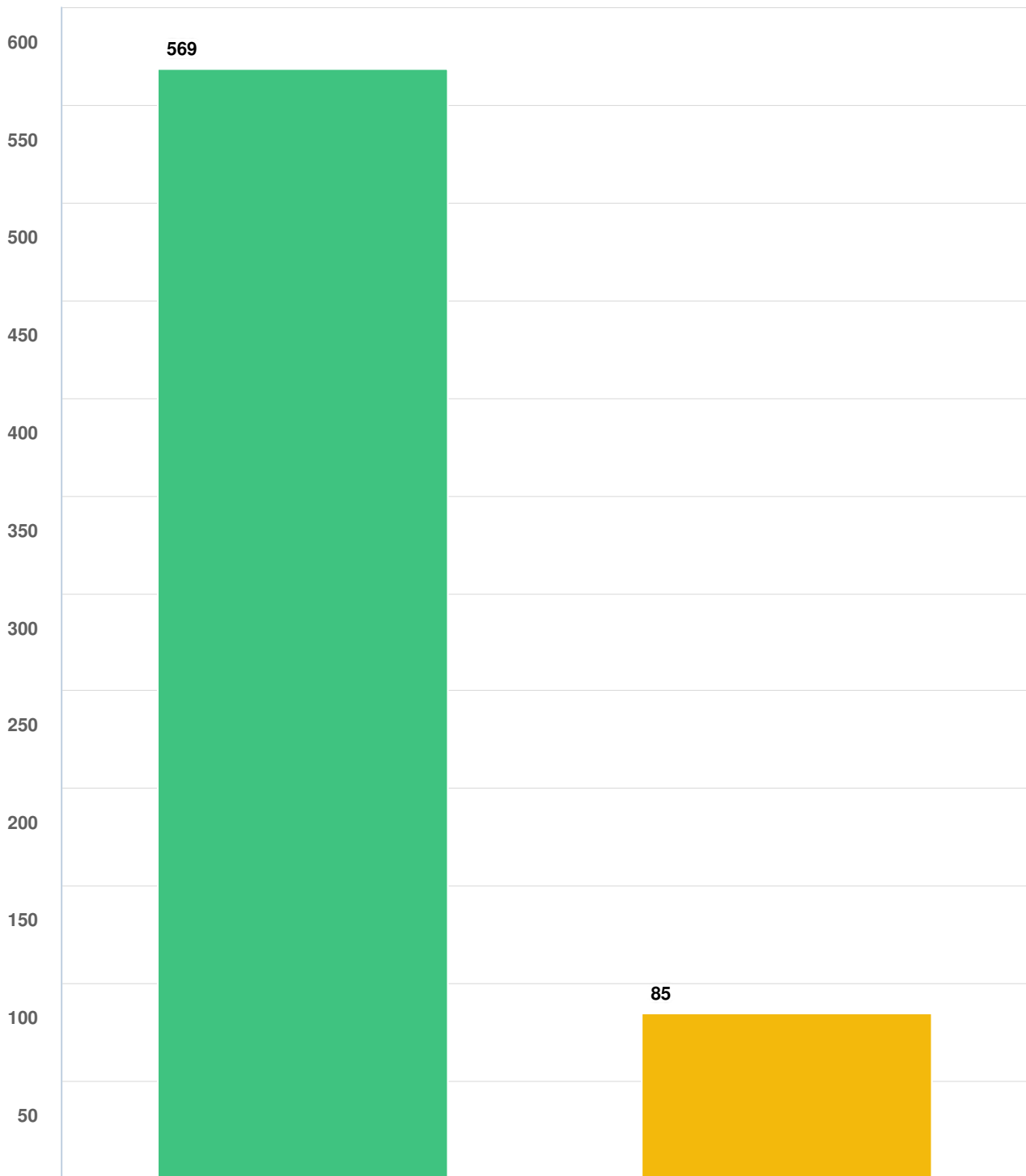
Question options

- Print ad
- Friends or family
- City of Victoria website
- Social media
- TV news story
- Radio
- Newspaper article

Optional question (679 response(s), 30 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Did you find the budget information materials to be helpful?



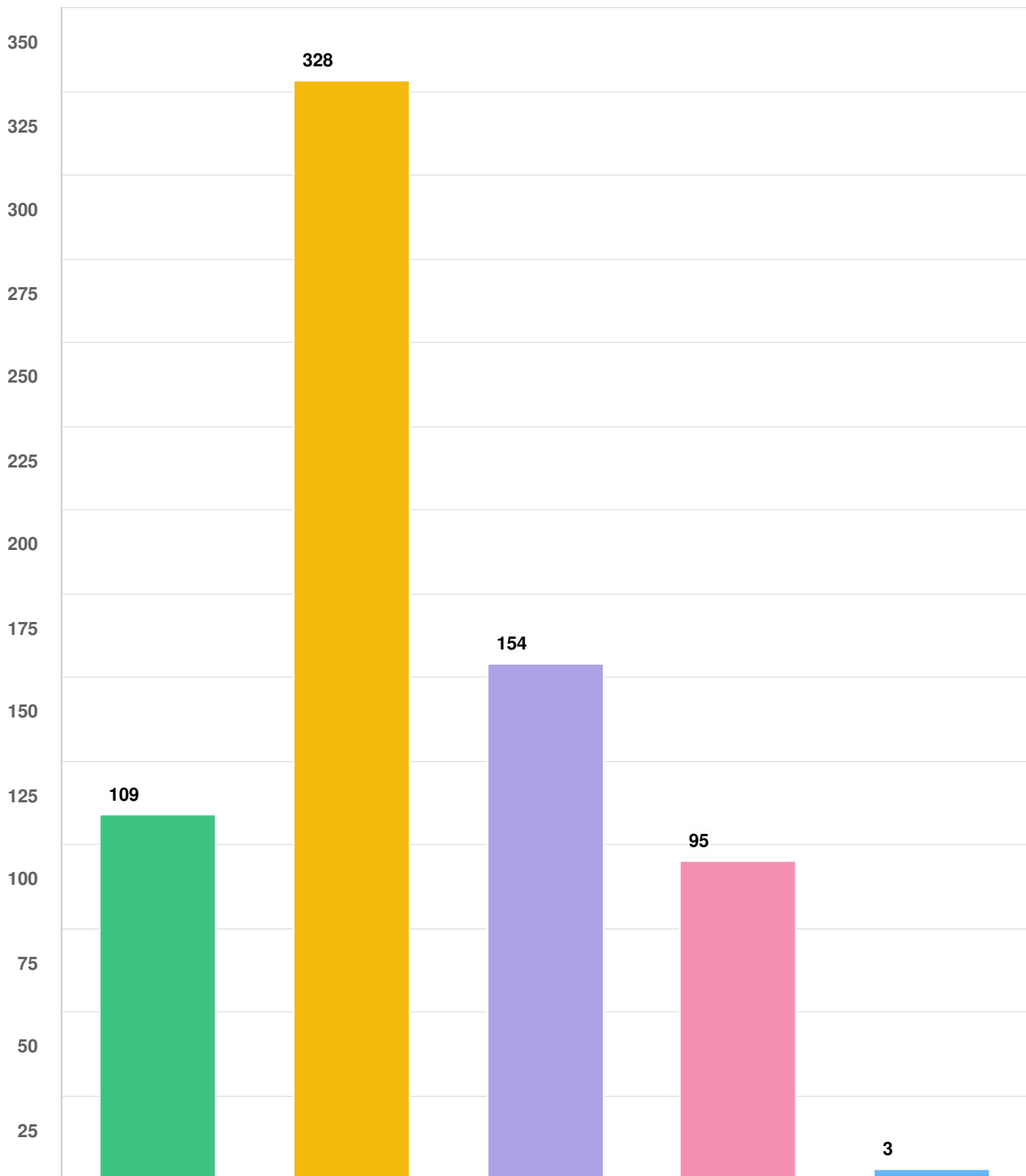
Question options

- No
- Yes

Optional question (654 response(s), 55 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Please indicate your age group:



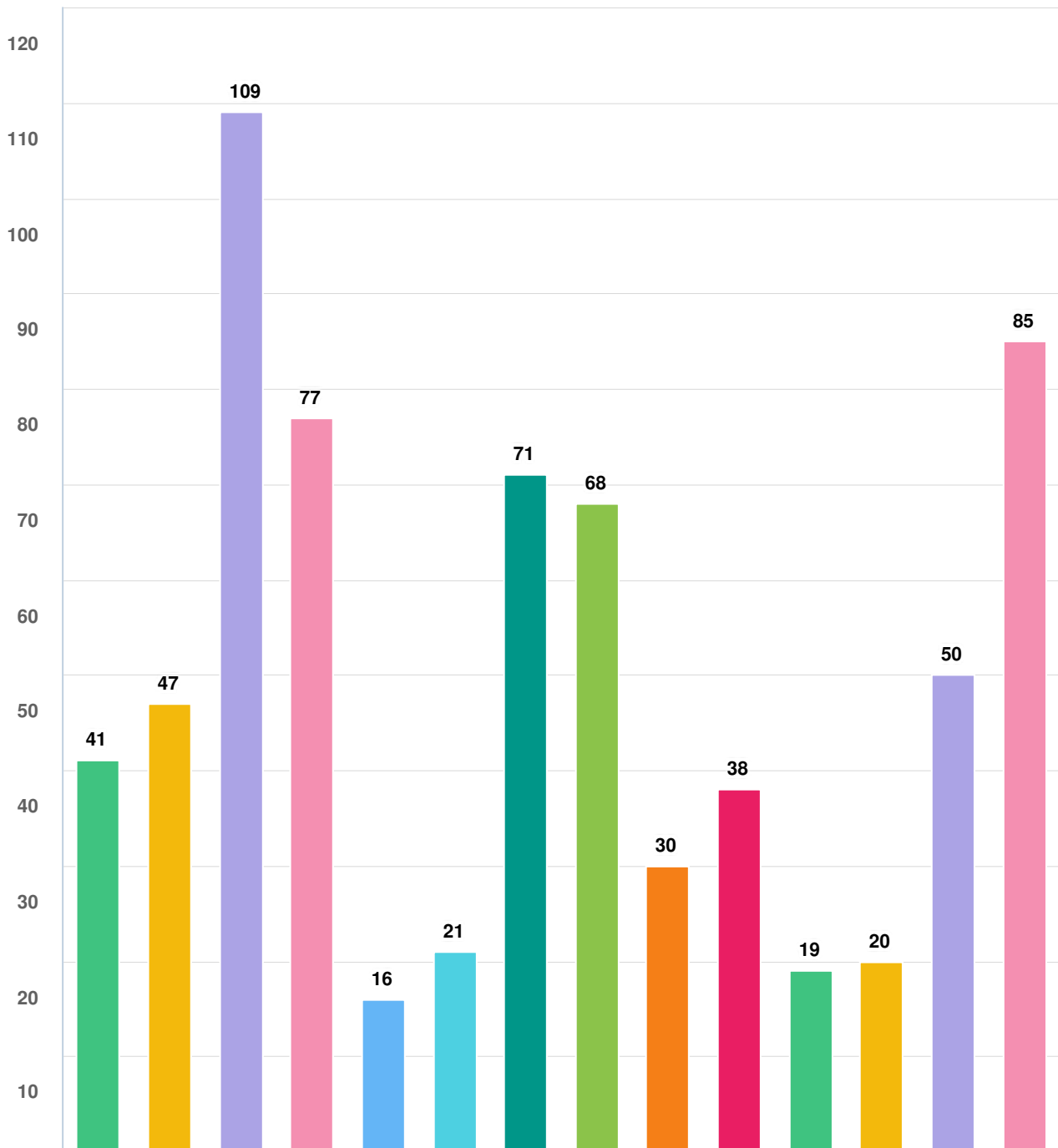
Question options

- 80 +
- 60 - 79
- 40 - 59
- 25 - 39
- 12 - 24

Optional question (689 response(s), 20 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Which neighbourhood do you live in? (Check this map if you aren't sure.)



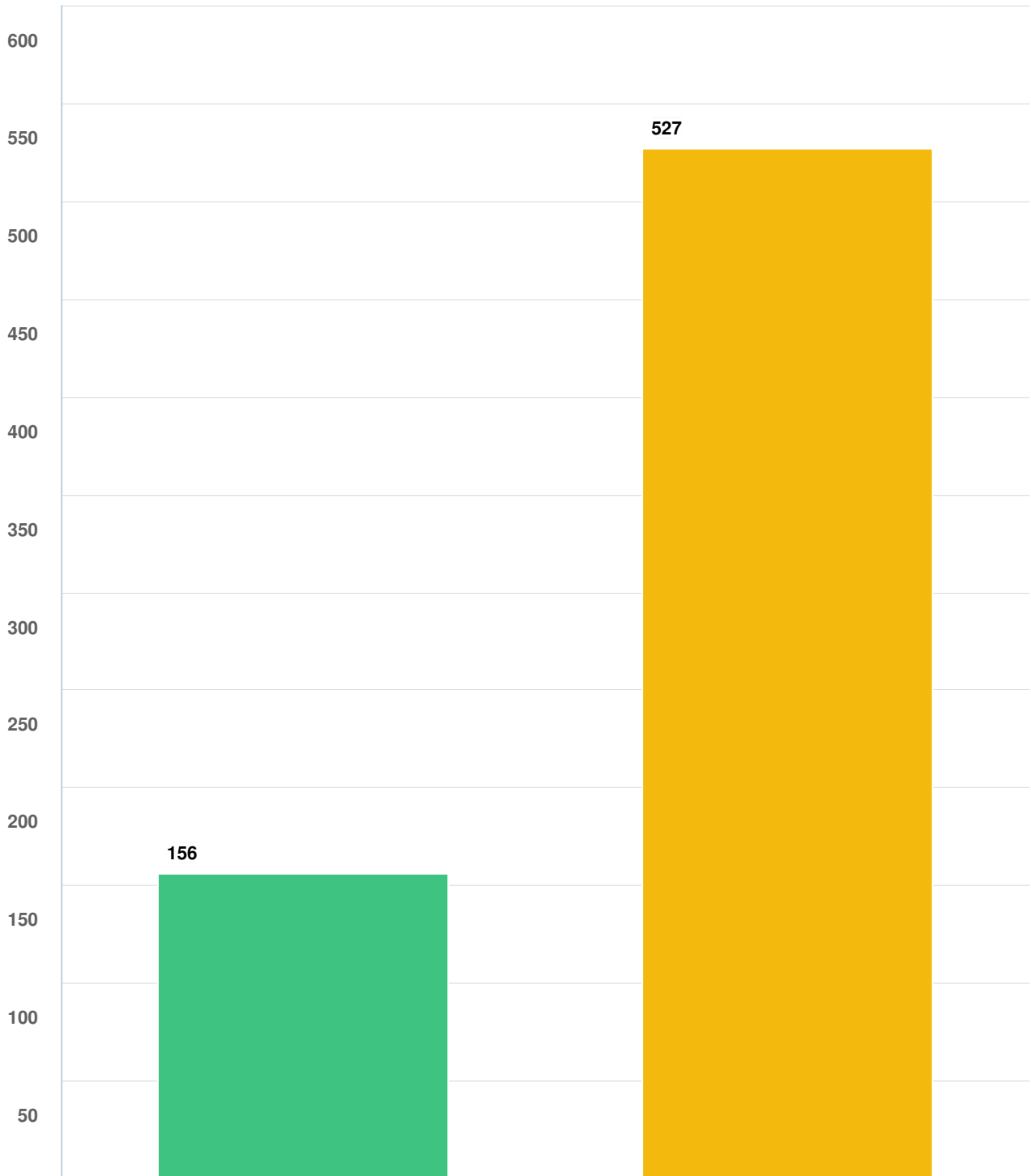
Question options

- I live in another municipality (please specify):
- Victoria West
- Rockland
- Oaklands
- North Park
- Jubilee
- James Bay
- Hillside-Quadra
- Harris Green
- Gonzales
- Fernwood
- Fairfield
- Downtown
- Burnside Gorge

Optional question (692 response(s), 17 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Are you a newcomer to Victoria (i.e. lived here for five years or less)?



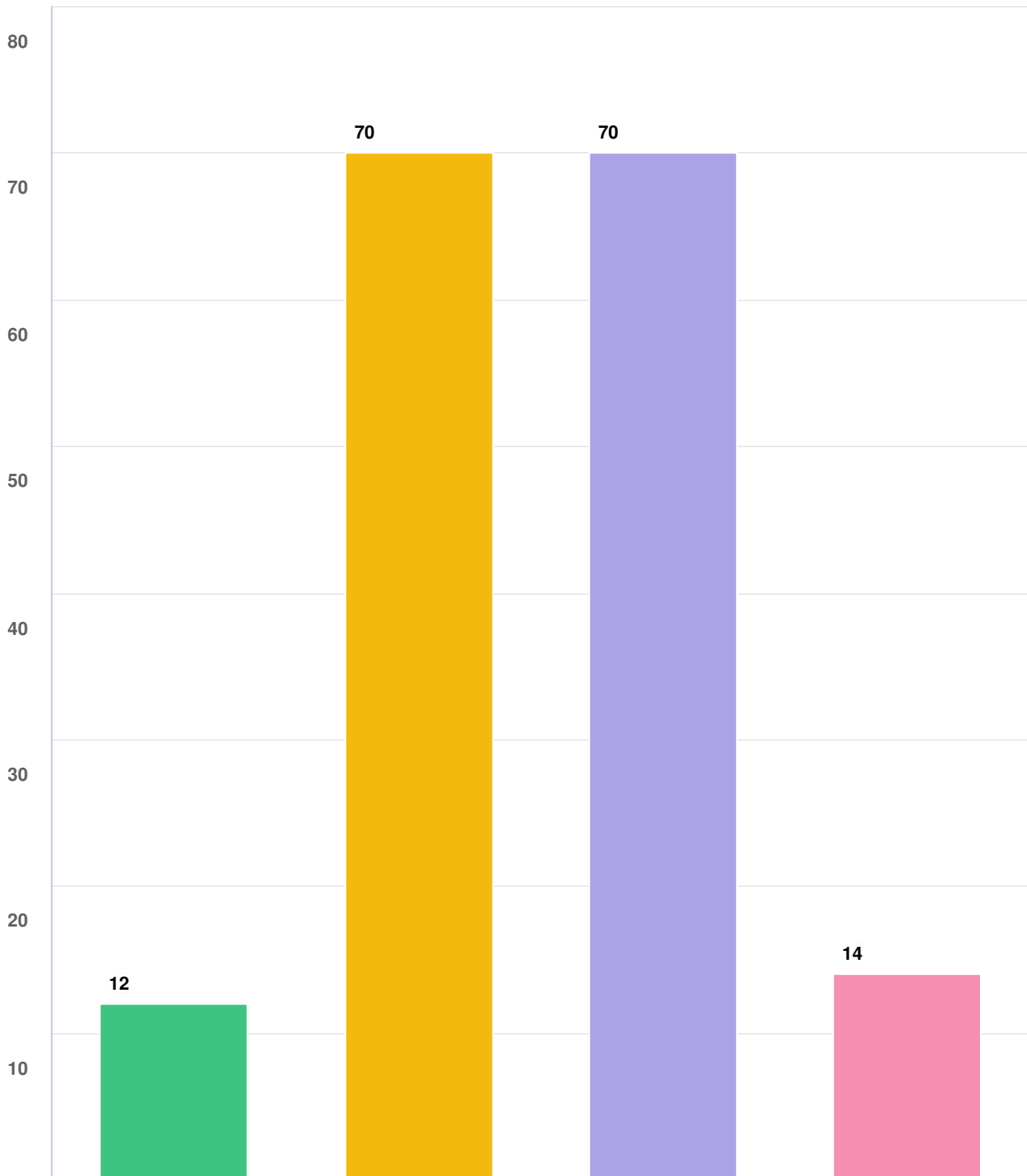
Question options

- No
- Yes

Optional question (683 response(s), 26 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

If you are a newcomer to Victoria, where did you move from? (If you are not a newcomer, please skip this question.)



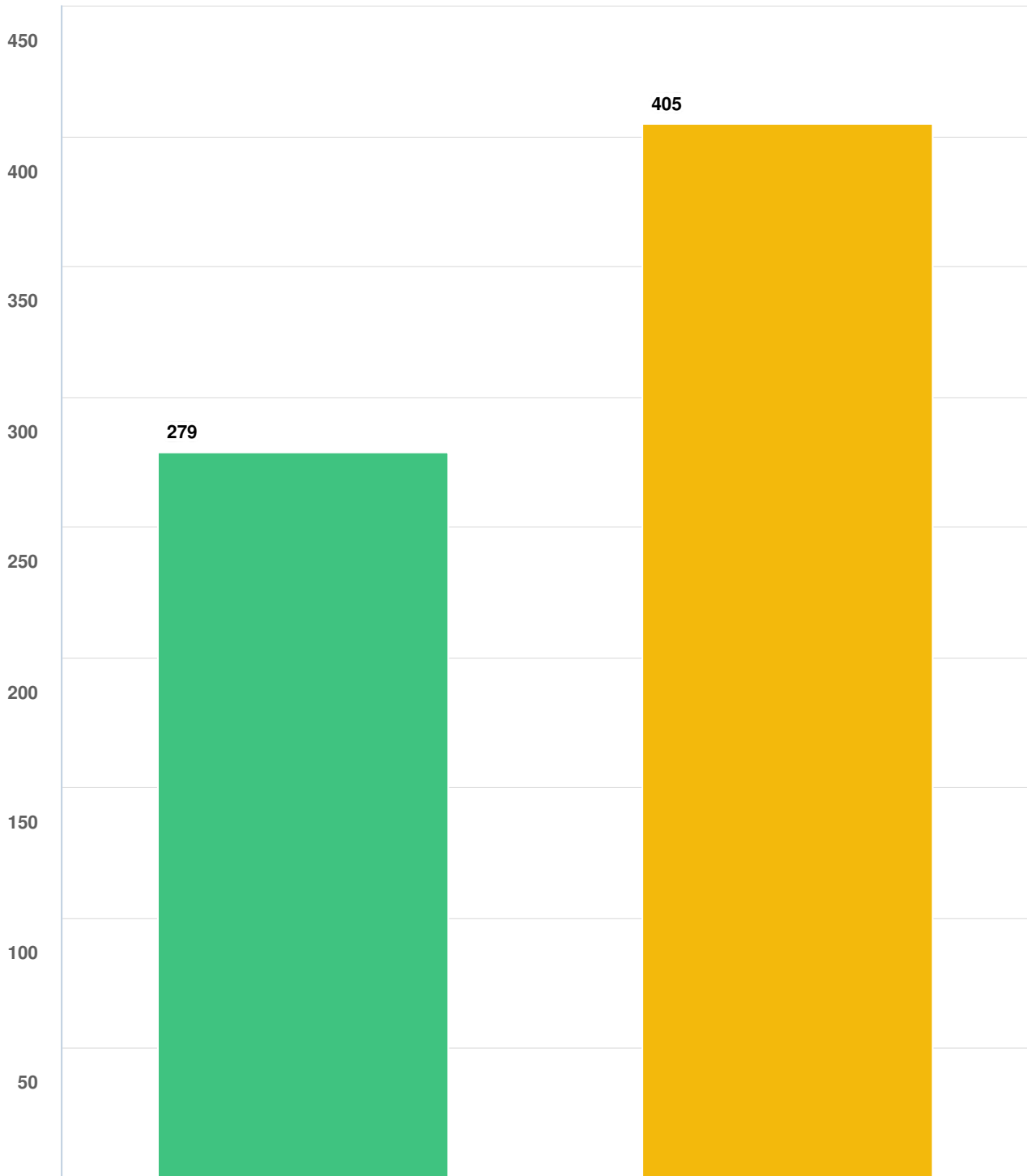
Question options

- Outside of Canada
- Within Canada
- Within British Columbia
- Within the Capital Region

Optional question (166 response(s), 543 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Do you own property in Victoria?



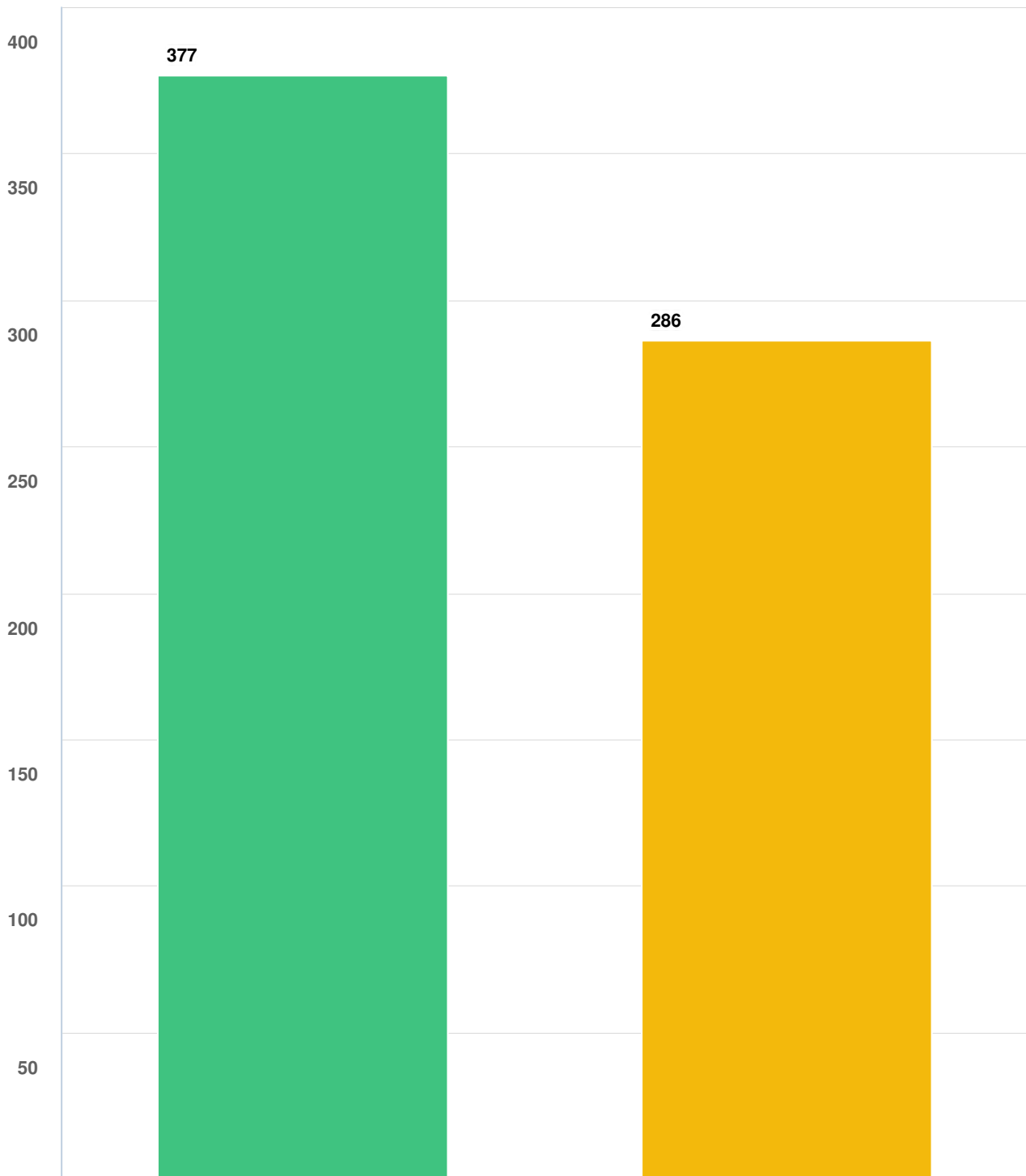
Question options

- No
- Yes

Optional question (684 response(s), 25 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Do you rent in Victoria?



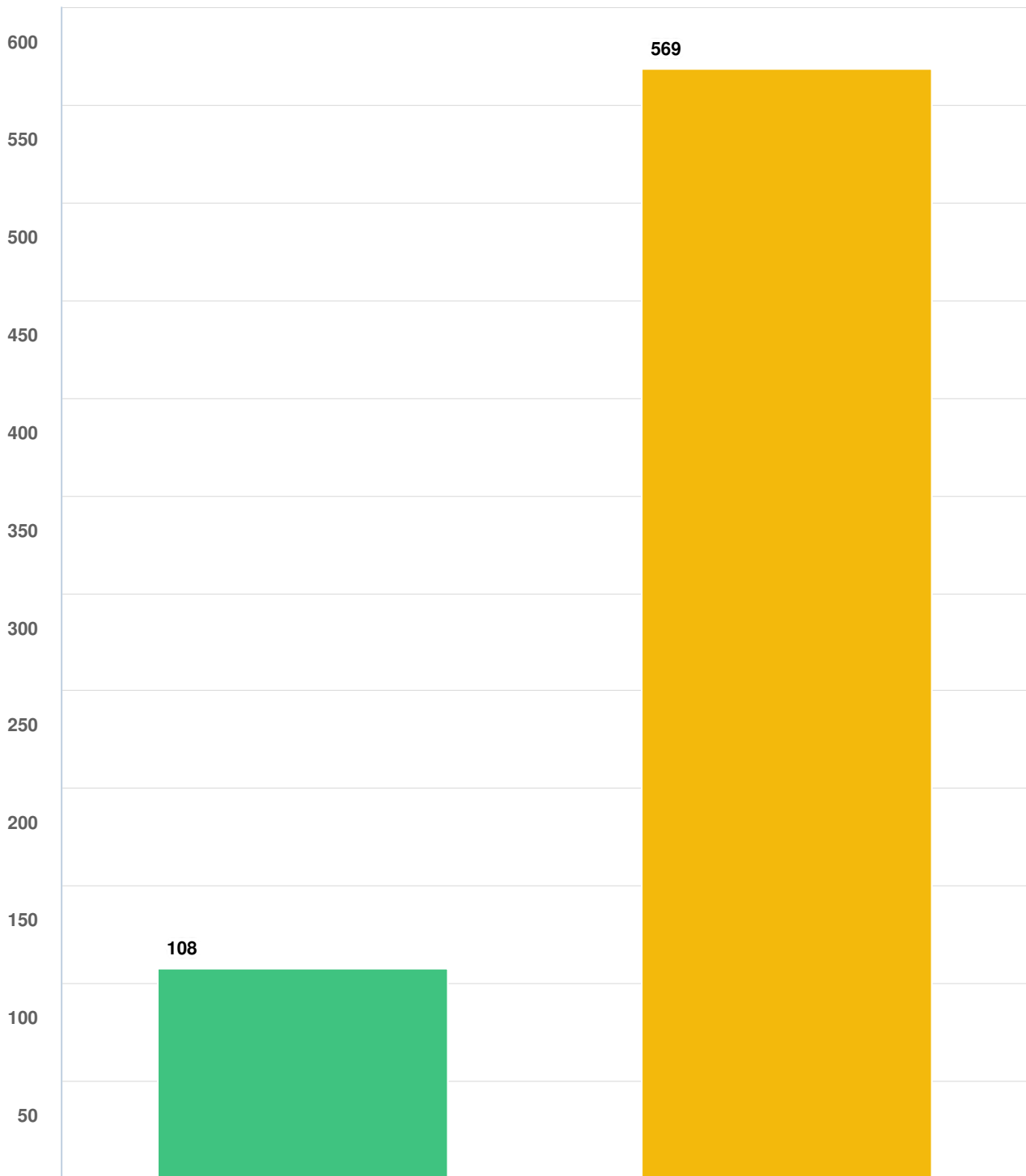
Question options

- No
- Yes

Optional question (663 response(s), 46 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Do you own or run a business in Victoria?



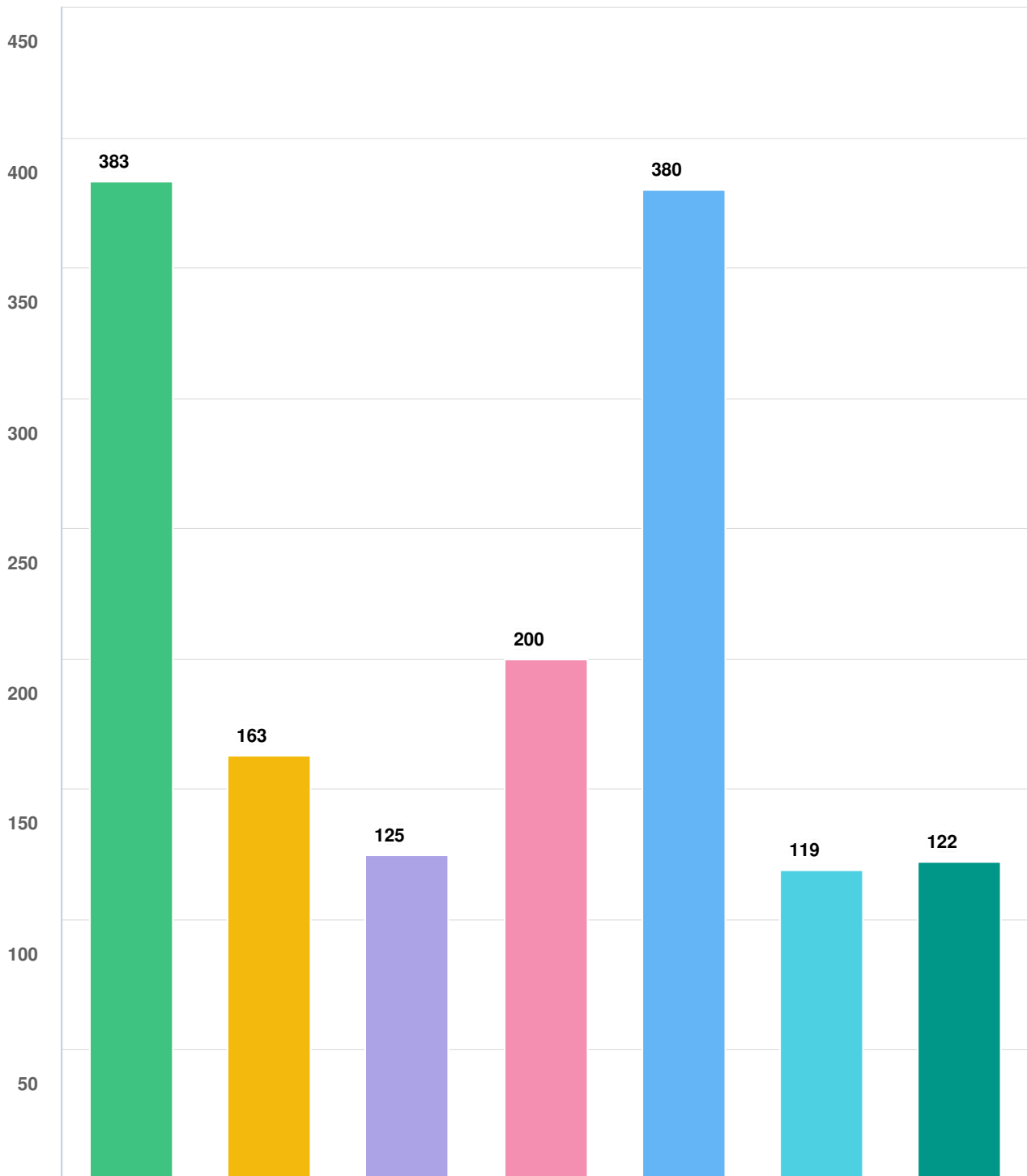
Question options

- No
- Yes

Optional question (677 response(s), 32 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

How would you prefer to interact with the City? From the list below, please tell us which channels you are most likely to participate in. (Please select all that apply.)



Question options

- Local radio
- Local newspaper
- Email
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Facebook
- City of Victoria website

Optional question (656 response(s), 53 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question



Detailed Survey Responses

Q1 A strategic objective is a high-level goal that Council hopes to achieve. The 2019-2022 Strategic Plan was developed and approved by Council and includes the following eight strategic objectives. Please rank the City's Strategic Objectives from most to least important, with 1 being most important and 8 being least.

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Optional question (674 response(s), 35 skipped)

Question type: Ranking Question

Q2 | From your perspective, what are the most important priorities facing our city right now? 1 being the most important and 9 being the least important.

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Public safety	5.98
Belonging and engagement	6.12
Arts and culture events and venues	6.35

*Optional question (684 response(s), 25 skipped)
Question type: Ranking Question*

Q3 | If the most important local priority facing our city at the present time is not listed above, please tell us what it is.

Ensuring there is never any camping taking place in Beacon Hill Park. This park is unique. It was entrusted to the people of BC. It is historic, a tourist attraction and it used to be a place of sanctuary for many. It should be protected as such.

Get the homeless problem under control and stop enabling them!

Accessibility for people with disabilities.

Covid safety.

Cost of housing, both rental and purchasing

our new Crystal pool that was promised many years ago

More active transportation. Approve Richardson bike lane

The deterioration of the streets. Too many pot holes, too much cement for bike lanes that appear then disappear (e.g. Dallas Road just west of Cook).

defund the police and put the money into the community. all we are currently paying for is systemic violence. addressing systemic racism, especially against Indigenous Peoples. address the abhorrent behaviour of the VicPD and city bylaw officials.

soundness of all infrastructure

Increased council focus upon issues within its jurisdiction and for which there is reasonable opportunity for problems mitigation or resolution.

The priority that straddles many of these but is not named is Urban Design that prioritizes equity, safety, sustainable mobility, complete neighbourhoods, health, and de-privatized profits from development.

Indigenous reconciliation and equity

Follow Denver's lead and shift spending from police to social workers. Their STAR program has been a success and I would like to see you implement something similar. <https://www.denverpost.com/2020/09/06/denver-star-program-mental-health-police/>

Defund Vic PD

24/7 camping. Getting our parks back. Get the homeless out of our parks.

Defunding of the police. The reallocation of dollars to assist the city in becoming a world leader in understanding policing and how it needs to change to better serve the people. Police do not need to be on all the frontlines for everything, nor are they trained to do many of the social issues

they are presented with. Let's get the right people in those roles to support the police; and in many instances take over those responsibilities that police do not need to be attending to.

Give the police more funding and STOP enabling the criminal element within the homeless community that have taken our once beautiful city hostage. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!!

accessibility and equity for disabled people - I note this because it's so often left out of equity and inclusion initiatives.

decriminalizing drugs in order to save our community that is dying from an opioid epidemic

Balancing the annual budget and stop tax increases. Stop using taxpayers like an endless ATM.

core review of services provided - do we need what we have / currently do?

Municipal leaders not focussed on running the city

Wellbeing, care and inclusion of 65+

It's time to stop investing money in bike lanes and invest that money in our streets, pipes, sidewalks, etc.

Support local businesses

Infrastructure and road repairs

- access to legalized drugs for those suffering from addiction - alternative mobile response team consisting of counsellor with lived experience plus mental health worker - priority given to addressing mental health and wellbeing - housing for unhoused and elimination of poverty - community based school with wrap around services

Recovering our city park system Reducing crime Reducing anti-social behaviour

Financial restraint and fiscal responsibility! we're in a pandemic, for goodness sake. Please learn to say no.

I agree with the Strategic Priorities, but not necessarily the items you've put under them or the actions being taken. For example I agree Affordable Housing is critical, but strongly disapprove of many Council decisions

Access for the disabled, low mobility and elderly

Returning the city to its former beauty and getting it back to a place where people actually want to go again

Amalgamation now!

defunding the police and providing meaningful reparative services that do not just demean and defeat.

Figuring out a realistic way of dealing with the city's homeless and drug addicted population. Not buying them million dollar hotels to burn down, or letting them destroy city parks, but a genuine real way of getting them off the streets.

I'd like to note the extreme importance of supporting the unhoused community, especially after 2020 and how the COV intends to work through the systems that disadvantage and further marginalize our unhoused community. This was particularly prominent this year at MEEGAN (Beacon Hill) where by law officers and police removed portable showers that were for use of the unhoused community. The City of Victoria needs to reevaluate how funds and policies are allocated to support our vulnerable communities. These funds need to go towards initiatives that support our communities and do not include the involvement of Victoria Police Department.

Please get back to what a municipal government is supposed to do - policing, fire, fix roads, lovely plants and flowers if economically feasible

Council needs to stay within the lanes and quit bashing Police (Potts and Isitt listening?)

Regional leadership and collaboration with other municipalities.

Fair taxation

Preserving urban forest. Protecting the urban canopy. Balancing housing with forest protection. Zoning - respect zoning by laws.

Better fiscal management, council should only concern itself with the cities

needs to give service to the people paying the taxes.

Re-establishing parks and downtown streets that are accessible and comfortable for people of all ages through better housing for homeless (with associated social and medical services provided in partnership with senior governments) and public safety/policing.

Reduce taxes

Investment in policing

Included within affordable housing, should be affordable middle class homes in Victoria proper. A middle class family cannot afford to buy a home in Victoria. Affordable store fronts in downtown is also valuable. Rents are too high, and were long before the pandemic.

Infrastructure renewal

Neighbourhood safety.

Protection of public infrastructure and public spaces for public use.

Immediate financial and other supports so that those who are precariously housed right now do not become homeless tomorrow.

Co-op housing

Roads are requiring maintenance, trees require maintenance

Crime reduction

Equity to green space and outdoor spaces for the majority of residents who live in rentals and apartments. More usable park space, covered outdoor space

Lead by example and fire the two that ignored health rules and traveled outside of Canada. We have sacrificed so much and two councillors slapped us in the face by doing as they please.

Defund the police, fix my gutter that your city truck ripped off my house.

Stop the VicPD from dismantling homeless camps and start providing affordable housing and getting these people back on track. Instead of creating anti-homeless architecture funnel that money in building care homes and accessible places where these people can create a resume and have a shower and eat a good meal

Entrepreneurship

Police reform - decreasing funding for the Vic PD

Police reform to allow properly trained individuals handle calls that police are not equipped or trained to handle.

Please add lights to the Vic West skatepark

The vic west skatepark needs lights

Improving the safety of the Burnside Gorge neighborhood and equitably distributing supportive housing facilities around the city.

You have left out indigenous sovereignty (or rights) off the priorities listed above. I would put that as number one, as it relates to many other issues.

Vehicle access and transportation including parking space.

The way the city responds to the homeless community by continuing to raise policing forces and budgets rather than creating supportive and preventative programs.

Defunding the police is imperative if we want to acknowledge the harm that is caused on a daily basis. Put these funds towards creating systems that support people who suffer from addictions, mental illness, homelessness or poverty, not incriminating them further!

Basic infrastructure - the current state of Victoria streets is creating hazards for ALL types of transportation, and is a failure of stewardship. Victoria used to have excellent streets, but now they are in shameful condition. Also basic safety - police need to be supported to do their difficult and dangerous jobs, not disrespected by ill-advised ideological campaigns (e.g., de-funding the

police). I cannot rank your strategic objectives, as each objective contains multiple sub-goals, some of which I support and some of which I oppose (at least in terms of the City wasting my tax dollars on them). If we are in a budgetary crunch, e.g., eliminate the artists in residence until there is extra money in the budget for them, WITHOUT tax increases. Same with the bike lanes, these are NOT a priority if it means a tax increase.

Defunding the police

Homelessness (should be its own category)

The abuse of power that comes with overpolicing marginalized communities is a major concern. I ask to freeze the police budget

Police reform

Increase funding to indigenous people and programs. Accessible housing!
Defund the police.

There are eight (8) strategic objectives and approximately two dozen action items under each objective in your financial plan. You are unable to remotely achieve many of these listed. The goals that you have set are lofty at best e.g. "global recognition...". You need a reset to plan for 2021 and 2022 for what can reasonably be focused on, and to reasonably execute. That is the most important LOCAL priority.

Partial but significant reallocation of police funds to social support structures

Defunding the police and reallocating the resources to social programs benefiting lower income households, people of colour, etc.

Indigenous reconciliation

Upholding Indigenous Sovereignty and respecting the original land keepers. Also the police defunding the police and holding them accountable.

police violence

Overdose crisis

defunding the police

This city is no longer affordable for even the middle class.

Education.

the first 3 impact the following 6 in a positive way, moving these down the priorities list.

The CoV needs to get back to basics and stop trying to save the world.

No Budget increase for Police. Invest in other Public services

Mental health services

Policing issues/ police budget. Dividing the budget for more social work/ programs.

Our community is lacking mental health support. Our youth are at extreme risk due to the pandemic and need more support.

reallocating police funding

less police presence in homeless communities, access to safe drug supply and resources for mental health & addictions.

Giving Land Back to Songhees, Esquimalt, and WSANEC Nations

Anti-racism

Harm reduction programs and resources to respond to ongoing opioid crisis

Downtown revitalization

Defund the Police

Ethics and public service

More local health support systems that don't rely on the police.

Drug addictions support and recovery programs. Allowing youth to be supported by the foster system and its supports until 21 years of age/help and support when aging out of the system (housing, jobs and social supports)

Divesting from policing in our city and investing in services to help the most targeted populations

I do not want a bike lane on Richardson. It will affect my small side street very negatively.

We need less funds allocated to police and more to support community engagement and support.

Greatly limiting # of cruise ships per year. Transitioning away from reliance of mass tourism.

- police (and simultaneously increasing public safety through increasing trauma-aware, peer-directed supports; furthering the institution of UBI & assuring affordable housing to all). Supporting rather than criminalizing people who unmet needs is essential to increasing public safety. - Restitutional Indigenous-steered structural change and support in light of continued systemic harms against local Indigenous communities

Cleaning up Beacon Hill Park

Safety from the VicPD and appropriate trauma informed mental Health and social supports grounded in practices and teachings from the Nations we are guests to

The most important priority is to not fund the VicPD any further and instead use that funding for social programming to support community in need. We do NOT need more policing.

Childcare

At this time the most important issue is the recovery of the economy without

it all the feel good social programs cannot exist.

The lack of safety and access to the parks, for local tax paying citizens, due to homeless camping--especially during the pandemic restrictions where there is little else to do in this city.

Economic inequality. Dramatic scaling up of non-market housing, increased taxes or mandatory amenities fees on upzoning with money going into non-market rate housing, tying new development to employment of unionized workers...these are steps that can address making the city more livable for the non-wealthy.

Basic Services like flowering city gardens; road maintenance; clean streets; more police presence downtown; graffiti removal & enforcement; auto traffic flow (e.g. need left turn lane at Fort & Wharf); reclaim our public parks to recreate not tenting; open Beacon Hill Park & Clover Point to cars (passengers & drivers are people too) Review new city staff positions created in the past four years & eliminate all of them that don't directly support these priorities.

Overdose crisis

It is listed but AFFORDABLE HOUSING and supportive housing for folks who need it.

Focus on core operations of the City: maintenance of water system, remediation of transportation corridors, Asset management

Biggest problem is this council not listening to the tax payers and destroying the city to satisfy there own ideology at the cost of residents health and safety

We need to focus on well funded alternative crisis response teams.

Community-driven alternatives to policing and decriminalization of substance use and homelessness.

Non-market and market based affordable and supportive housing! Without bolder, bigger solutions to the housing crisis, Victoria is becoming a place where working families, students, and lower and middle income people cannot afford to live, a place where the number of people experiencing homelessness will grow unless we take steps to ensure that housing as a human right becomes a reality.

Overdevelopment/crowding of neighbourhoods.

Crime and public disorder in the downtown core

Vaccination Plan???

Police violence esp in the unhoused communities around the city. Increasing policing does NOT keep us safe, it continues the oppression of marginalized citizens of Victoria and endangers their lives. INSTEAD allocate funds to community outreach programs

You are killing the entertainment industry..

Safety. We have been subjected to the horror with homeless population, which is above the law and you have fostered that. They have broken into my car twice. Attempted break in into the house. Doing drugs on my deck, every day stolen things and packages from Amazon. All lights yanked out. Human poop found several times in our yard. Bikes stolen and there is NO END. Those people are aggressive and threaten our families. One of my neighbors got hurt and is awaiting his knee surgery because of a dispute with homeless person stealing a garbage can. I saw so many drug dealing interactions. They are luring others into their world. They need to be removed from community as they are utterly not safe! Plus they could not car less, to wear a mask or stay out of your way when you walk with your children. They try to interact or touch your child! Lisa Helps, have people poop in your yard and and do drugs in your yard and see how it feels! I was not able to take my kids to the playground or MY OWN yard! as I was finding needles

defunding the police and respect for indigenous people

Probably the plague

I do not support any increase in the budget for the Victoria police department. We already have more police officers per 100,000 people than ANY OTHER CITY. This money can be better spent invested INTO THE COMMUNITY, rather than empowering more We need mental health initiatives. We need better crisis support and more spots in treatment programs for eating disorders, addictions, etc. We need trained professionals to help support the incredible amount of homeless people in this, our provincial CAPITAL.

Homelessness

Council rejecting development proposals. I'm a 29 year old citizen who lives and works downtown, I shop local and contribute to the economy. It's hard

seeing my needs pushed aside for residents who contribute absolutely nothing of substance to a supposedly thriving community. The lack of mental health support for the unhoused community is ridiculous. You can't buy hotels and push people inside without adequate services that will help them deal with their mental health issues (although I acknowledge that this is a provincial issue). This city is becoming a hot mess of unmanaged madness, and council is directly responsible for the lack of control and safety measures to make citizens who keep this city moving feel comfortable.

Restoring the downtown core to make it appealing to not only locals, but also those in the neighbouring municipalities and other parts of BC and beyond. Currently it looks and feel a bit rough.

Police reform & budget reallocation

Dealing with anti-houseless hate.

Adding to the housing supply and cutting development timelines down significantly.

Mental health and addiction services

I believe the City of Victoria needs to put greater emphasis on strategies, planning and services that will maintain the long-term viability and sustainability of the City as a place where people can work and live. Victoria as a whole needs to be and be seen to be a safe, desirable place for contributing residents, and a place that self-supporting visitors want to visit. I feel that too much attention and too many resources are given to special interests that do not contribute in any way to the quality of life of the community. Clearly, Victoria is seen as a desirable destination for people who only want to take, and have no true desire or commitment toward contributing. Increasingly, Victoria's elected officials are making decisions that enable, tolerate and exacerbate those behaviours and which make problems worse both near and long-term. Downtown Victoria is on a steady, accelerating downward spiral; if it ceases to be a desirable or viable place for businesses to operate and people to work and visit, the City as a whole faces a bleak future.

Affordable housing MUST INCLUDE public housing for street involved peoples and the working poor, as well as students and those employed in the service and tourism industry. Not just young professionals and government workers.

ive lived here all my life and now no one I know can afford rent

More foot police presence.

Expand options for walking, cycling, and other sustainable transportation.

Multi modal mobility - Safe, separated/protected cycling infrastructure, enjoyable people-scale pedestrian realms, and reliable/frequent transit.

Police reform

The need to REMOVE those people living on the street or in parks with mental health issues. They need to be in a mental health facility.

Indigenous relations

Defund the police. Lights at vic west skatepark. Build Topaz skatepark

Hard to make everything in a list but I think most of those items are very important. I think a strong art community is important but so is having a city where everyone is housed and good transportation exists.

HOUSING.

CITY COUNCIL DESTROYING OUR PUBLIC ROADS FOR DRIVING AROUND THIS CITY!!!!

Drinking water

Long term preventative social planning

Campers in parks....stop letting people camp in parks. It is a disaster.

Eliminating living in parks

Defund police budget redistribute to social programs and social support

Cleaning up drug related issues and homelessness in public places.

Supporting low income working family's and single parents

Firing Helps and Isett

Well co-ordinated plans with results measured regularly reports to all citizens

Support existing businesses and attract new ones

Primarily increasing outreach, treatment, and housing for the homeless population of Victoria. It is appalling that such an affluent part of an affluent country has such a raging homelessness and mental health crisis.

Defund the police. They create an unsafe environment for marginalized folks and we should be providing community resources based on care and compassion, rather than further militarizing the bloated Vic PD.

Getting rid of tent city and stop taking more people from other places because our services are better. Your making our neighborhood unsafe!

Stop camping in park and everywhere in the city They are killing this beautiful city I loved once and came here to cherish it

Systemic racism.

Give us back Beacon Hill Park

STOP 24 HR CAMPING

Deepening division

Please give importance to our local artisans. They provide an important vitality to our cities tourism and are currently being left in the dark. If you continue to make things hard on them then we will loose our arts culture all together! People want to come to our city and meet its local artisans not be inundated by made in China tacky tourist stores. Please place value in our

local community! Thank You

Enforcing laws and by-laws

Drug addiction and mental health

Domestic violence and gender based violence

Address the violence, crime and unsafe downtown issues. Stop trying to cover up empty businesses with art - be a solution not a bandaid.

ADDICTIONS SERVICES AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS.

Educate people on safe driving around vulnerable road users, and bicyclists' legal right to roadways. Illustrate how bicyclists are paying more than their fair share versus motorists (the overwhelming belief is it's the other way around).

Council transparency

There is a lack of focus and understanding on the role of local governments - fixing potholes, focusing on sustainable infrastructure and capital investment. The council also needs to focus on creating sustainable change - too much change too fast (bikes lanes) leads to anger and frustration. Think about the long game!

So many people have lost their jobs in the tourism and entertainment industry, focusing on initiatives that would rehire these people or find them alternative training would really help our economy.

The city itself is not staying in its own lane, and should be looking after issues on a municipal level - not provincial or federal.

Fair representation

Give first nations significant allocations of Land Back

Addressing the issues surrounding the temporary housing in burnside gorge and promoting safety and community in this neighbourhood

Managing divisive politics. Finding an alternative to relying on policing to

manage homelessness.

We need a balanced city council that represents the needs of all citizens, not just a select few viewpoints.

Defunding the police and investing funds into helping the unhoused population by engaging in direct conversation and dialogue WITH them to ASK THEM WHAT THEY NEED.

Accountability on Council needed, stop focusing on special interest groups (i.e. cycling coalition) and wasteful cost on ping pong table type of ideas, listen to ALL constituents. Too much focus, money and time is being wasted on issues beyond the scope of Council's duties.

Loitering and unruly behaviour in the downtown core will discourage tourism when it returns.

Defund the police! do not raise the police budget

Addressing systemic racism, active anti-racism, equitable opportunities for residents

Proper allocation of funding - less on police and more on social support.

Least important should be increasing the police budget. Please freeze the police budget or defund.

Supporting the COVID public health response.

Decolonization - a meaningful and substantive plan to transform relationships with Lekwungen people, including addressing stolen land, resources, and children; reparations (for environmental damage and the inter-generational impacts of colonization and genocide); and exploration of what Lekwungen people want around decision-making on their territories.

Infrastructure! Our city growth and development lags far behind other capital cities of its size and type, like Ottawa. Far too much wasted used of space is allowed (not enough attention to green spaces) in new developments and empty buildings go into disrepair because of confusing spot zoning laws. Bike lines are a critical element of a growing city but the design is not well thought out for longevity and consideration has not been given to their workability as the spaces "around" them also grow, Infrastructure is the most important part of a thriving, robust city.

Helping downtown businesses and promoting tourism when the pandemic is over. To do this we need to deal with our massive homeless and drug problem.

Defund the police.

We are spending an unbelievable percent of the budget on policing, which must be cut and redirected to affordable housing.

that there needs to be a team that deals with incidents that happen on the streets, with the homeless and challenged community member. Not the City Police

Retaining affordable for low income housing in ALL neighbourhoods

Catering to the tax averse elements who demand services is not finally possible. Taxes must go up when unpredictable costs of pandemic arise.

Many priorities on here .. concerned many are not in our lane or are taken out of context and disruption to our healthy normal way of prospering is unintentionally applied .

Indigenous leadership

Defund the police.

Non-market housing options

DEFUNDING THE POLICE

It is listed above.

Stop cycling priorities and start helping Those who have to rely on cars. What planes are there very unsatisfied right

stay with local issues and away from things over which municipal governments have no authority. Egs, climate change, pipelines etc

Homeless issues mental Health and Crime

Free public transit for all

all these issues are fundamental responsibilities of local government. they are so overlapping and interconnected that numerical ranking is meaningless.

Infrastructure - roads, sidewalks. City maintenance - clean streets, and empty garbage.

Alternatives to policing mental health crisis' (ie. culturally safe and competent, trained in mental health, not carrying weapons or guns.)

Alternative Mental Health and Addictions Community Response

Reduce fees for liquor licenses and liberalize Victoria's onerous liquor license and nightlife restrictions, which would enable more community-building nightlife venues and vibrant cultural spaces.

Your questions are too open to to interpretation. Your city is in crisis mode. Listen, then take action!

Restarting the Economy after the pandemic.

Instituting more city-owned or non-market housing options, particularly for those suffering from social issues such as poverty and homelessness. Engagement and participatory governance undertaken with equity-seeking groups (Black, Indigenous, person of colour, trans, disabled, unhoused). Education and engagement campaigns that humanize the social issues of poverty and homelessness, and create a more equitable, inclusive understanding of shared public spaces. Also, putting funding towards services & social programs that address the root causes of poverty and homelessness - such as health and hygiene supports, transitional and affordable housing, safe consumption sites and harm reduction, and more broadly, towards alternative response teams (i.e. counsellor, medic/nurse) where police only attend in exceptional circumstances and uniforms/weapons are not the norm, especially for mental health crises. Lessen the city's dependence on bylaw-centred, enforcement-based approaches. Give governance of public lands back to local Indigenous nations or work towards shared governance that center Indigenous legal principles.

Over taxation. City keeps finding new ways to tax businesses and home owners to the brink of disaster

Public safety is of course crucial, but I don't believe that an increase in the budget for police services is what our city needs.

Safety and prosecution of people who commit crimes. City of Victoria celebrates criminals and penalizes hardworking citizens.

Loss of public space. Parks are handed over to a minority at a huge cost. This is not housing. It's just an abdication of responsibility at the taxpayer's expense. Why aren't there tents in Centennial Square? Dry. Supervised. Close to services. Under your noses. Hypocrites.

An alternative response and support for the homeless.

Why isn't the police budget up for discussion? It's a 1/4 of the budget.

Decriminalization of drugs. Use of and dependence upon drugs is a health issue, not a criminal issue.

Focus upon better management of public infrastructure and municipal amenities

Reconciliation and land return

Optional question (227 response(s), 482 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

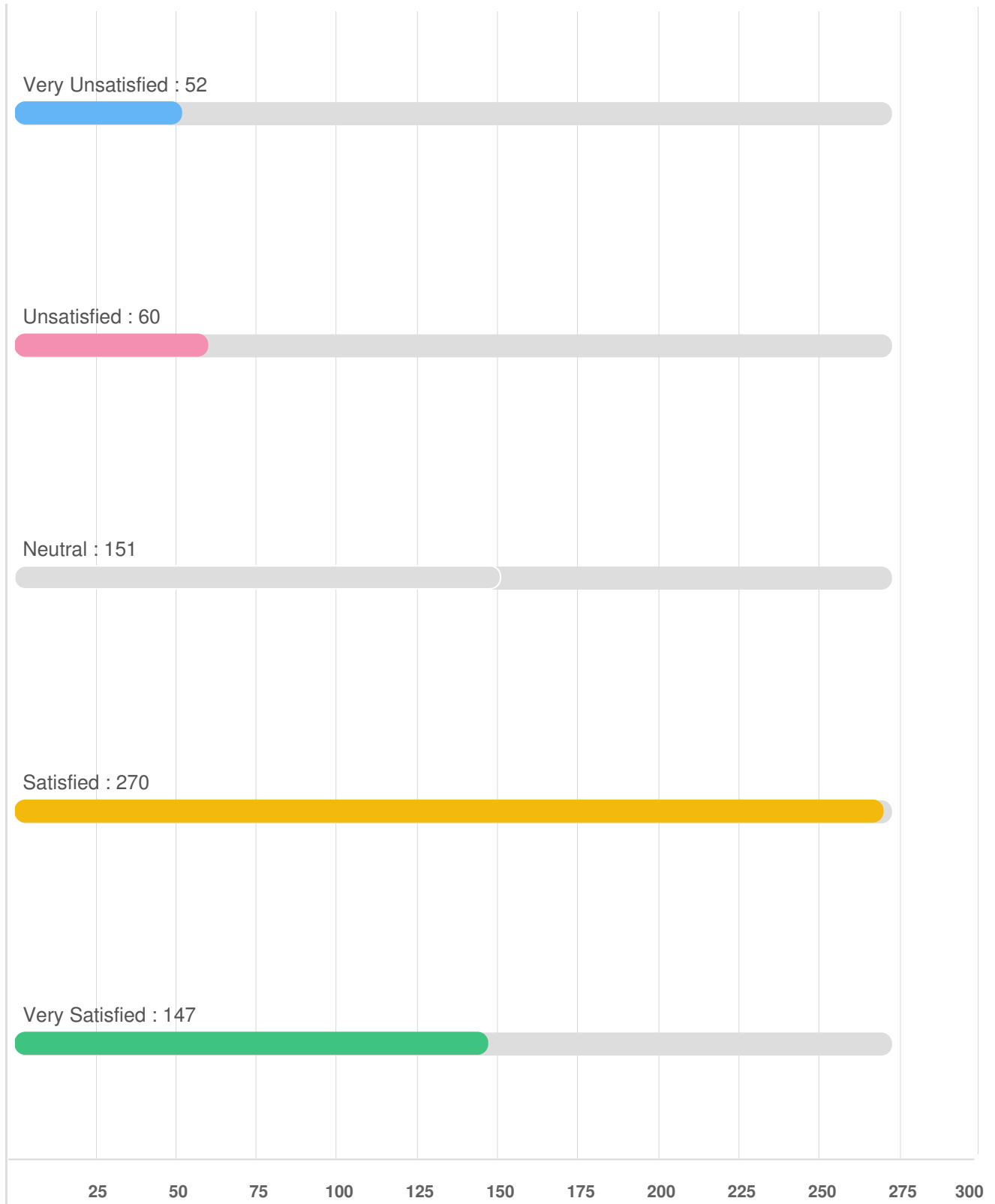
Q4 How satisfied are you with the availability, repair or maintenance of the City of Victoria’s transportation infrastructure/amenities?



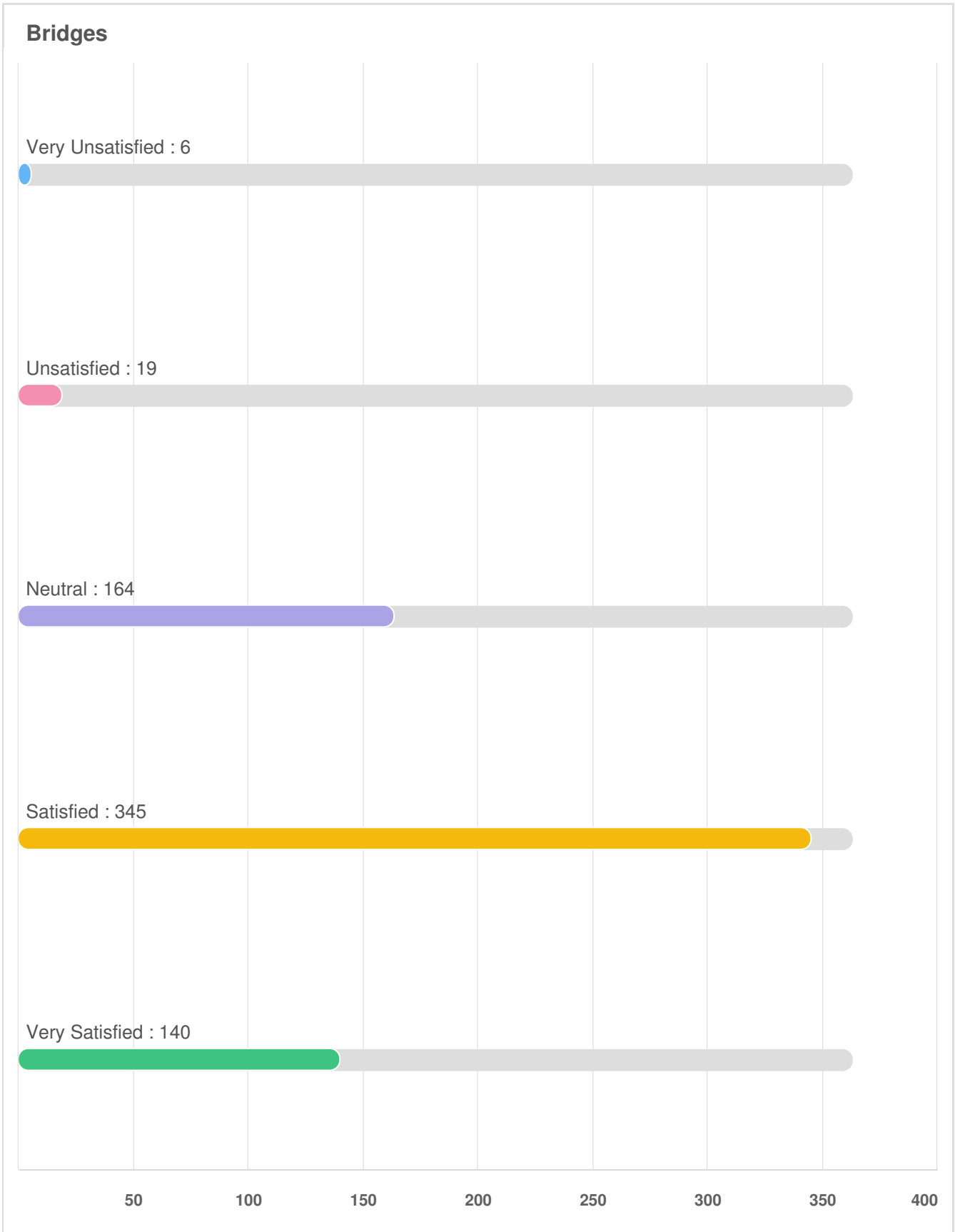
Optional question (680 response(s), 29 skipped)
 Question type: Likert Question

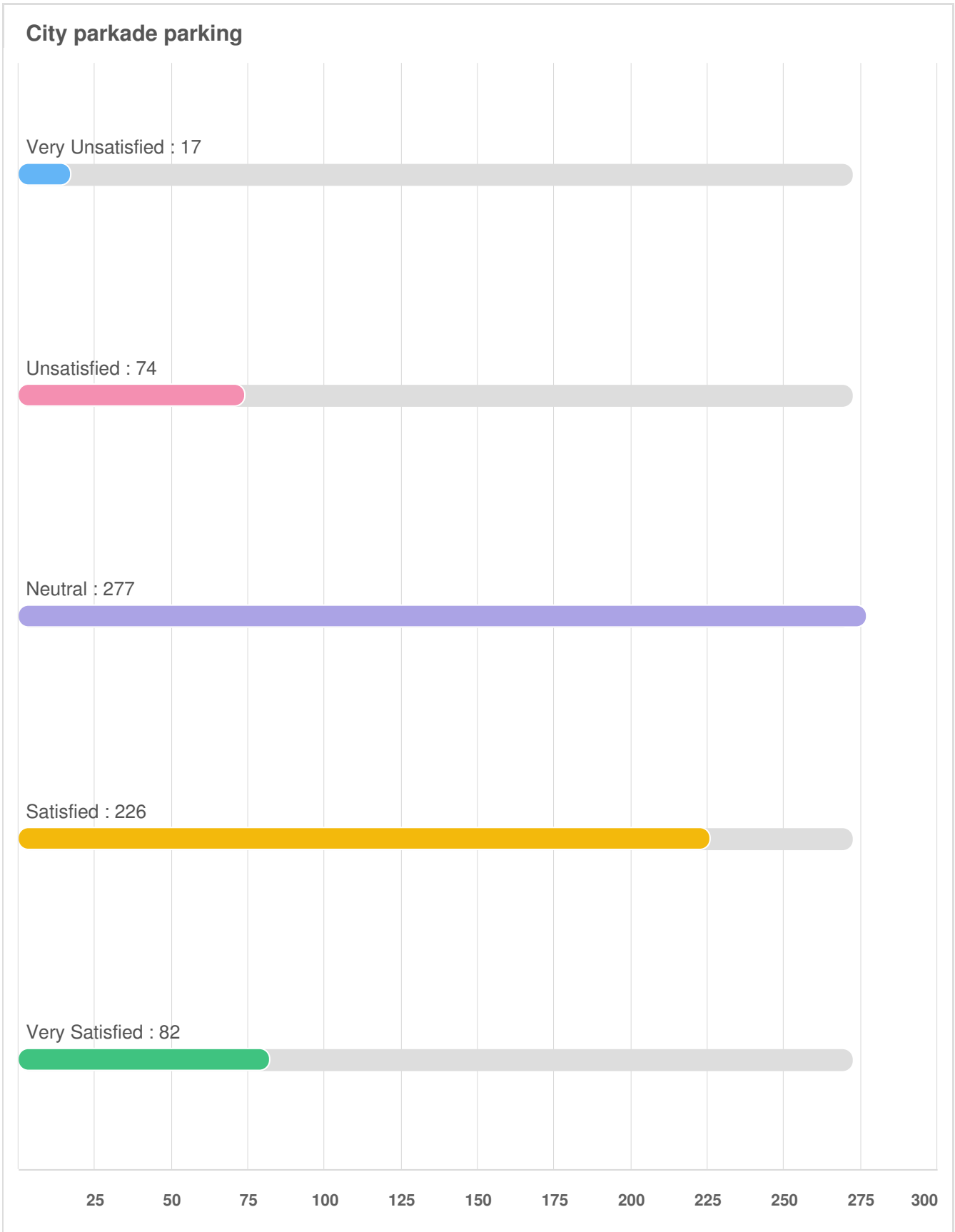
Q4 | How satisfied are you with the availability, repair or maintenance of the City of Victoria's transportation infrastructure/amenities?

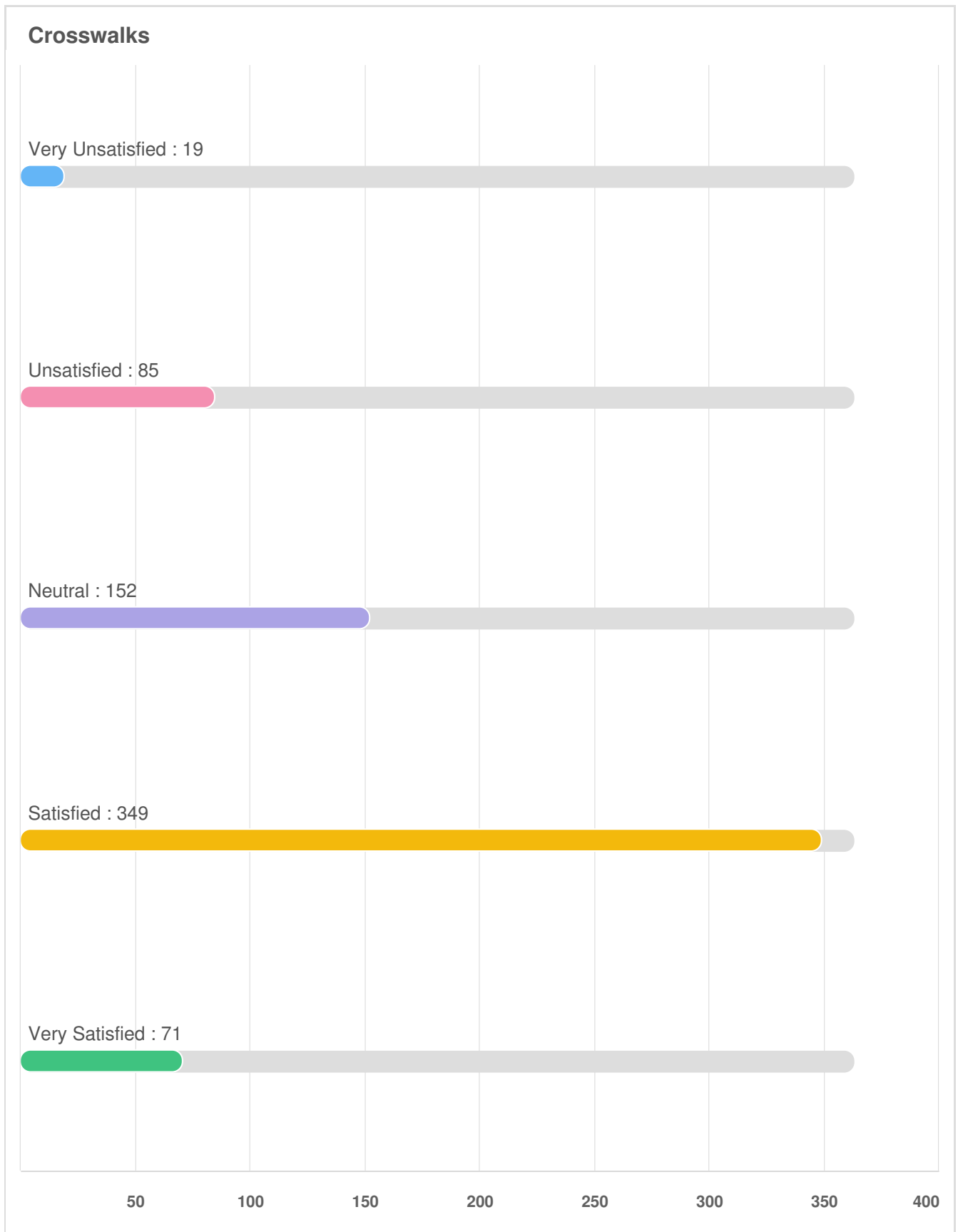
Bike lanes

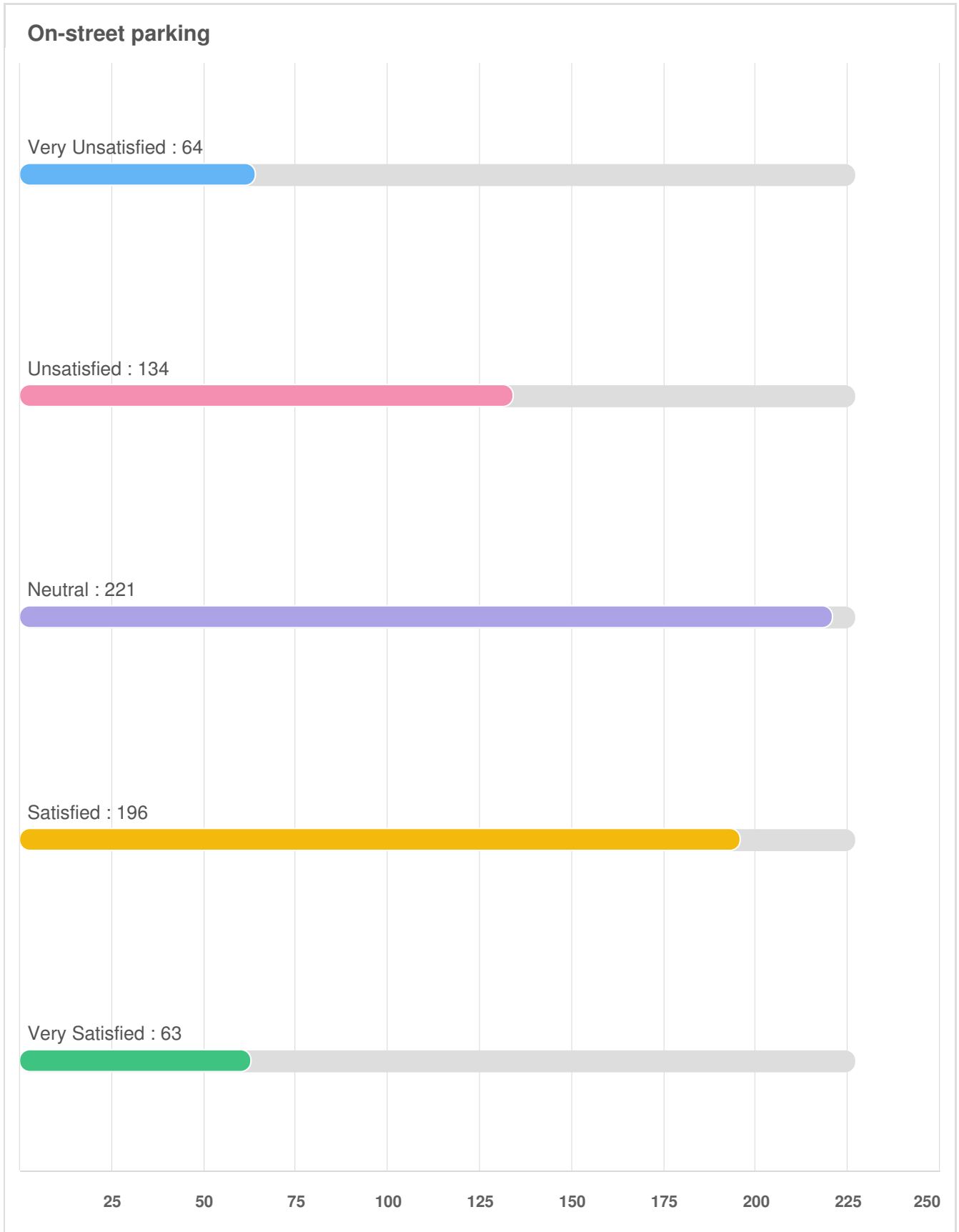


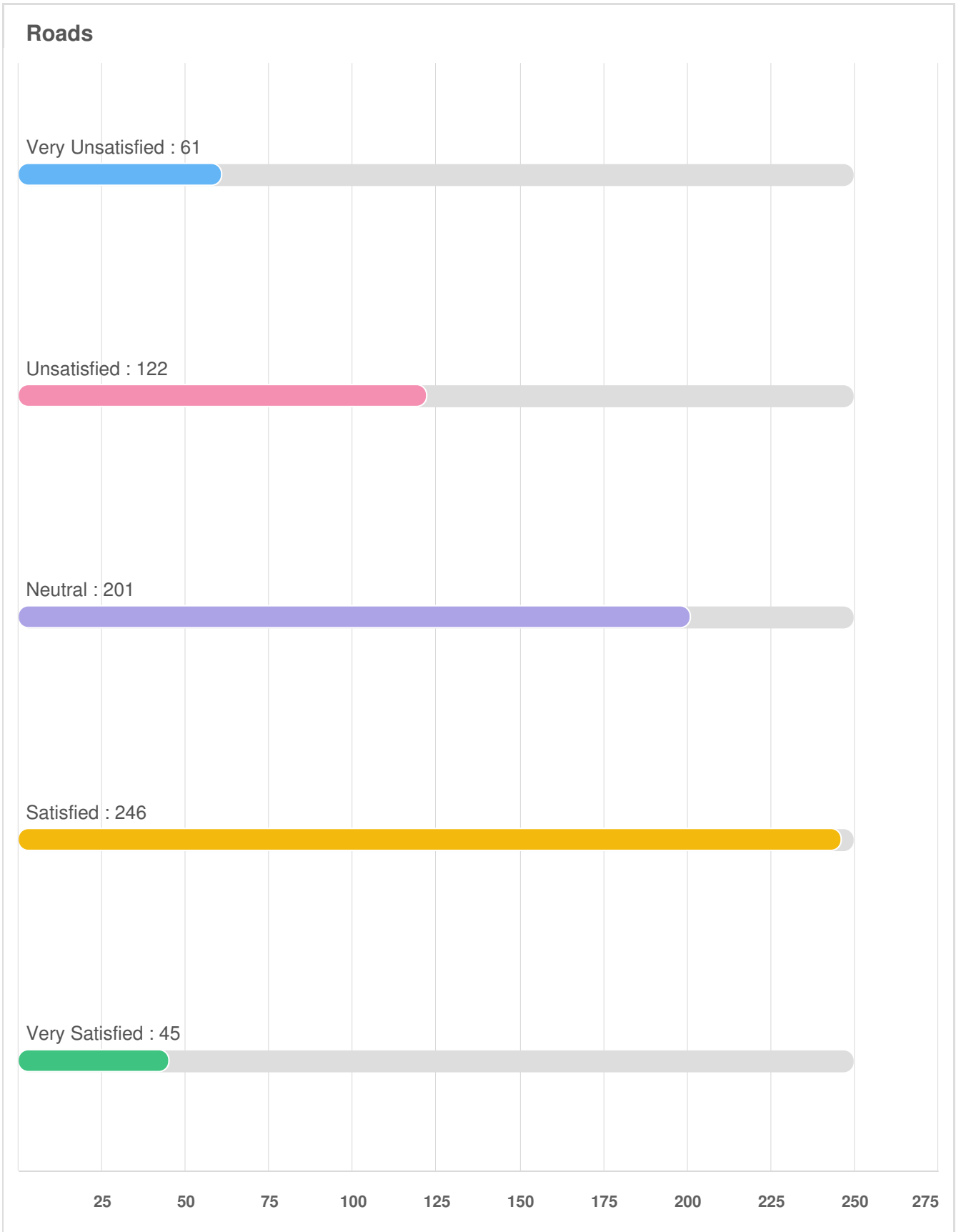
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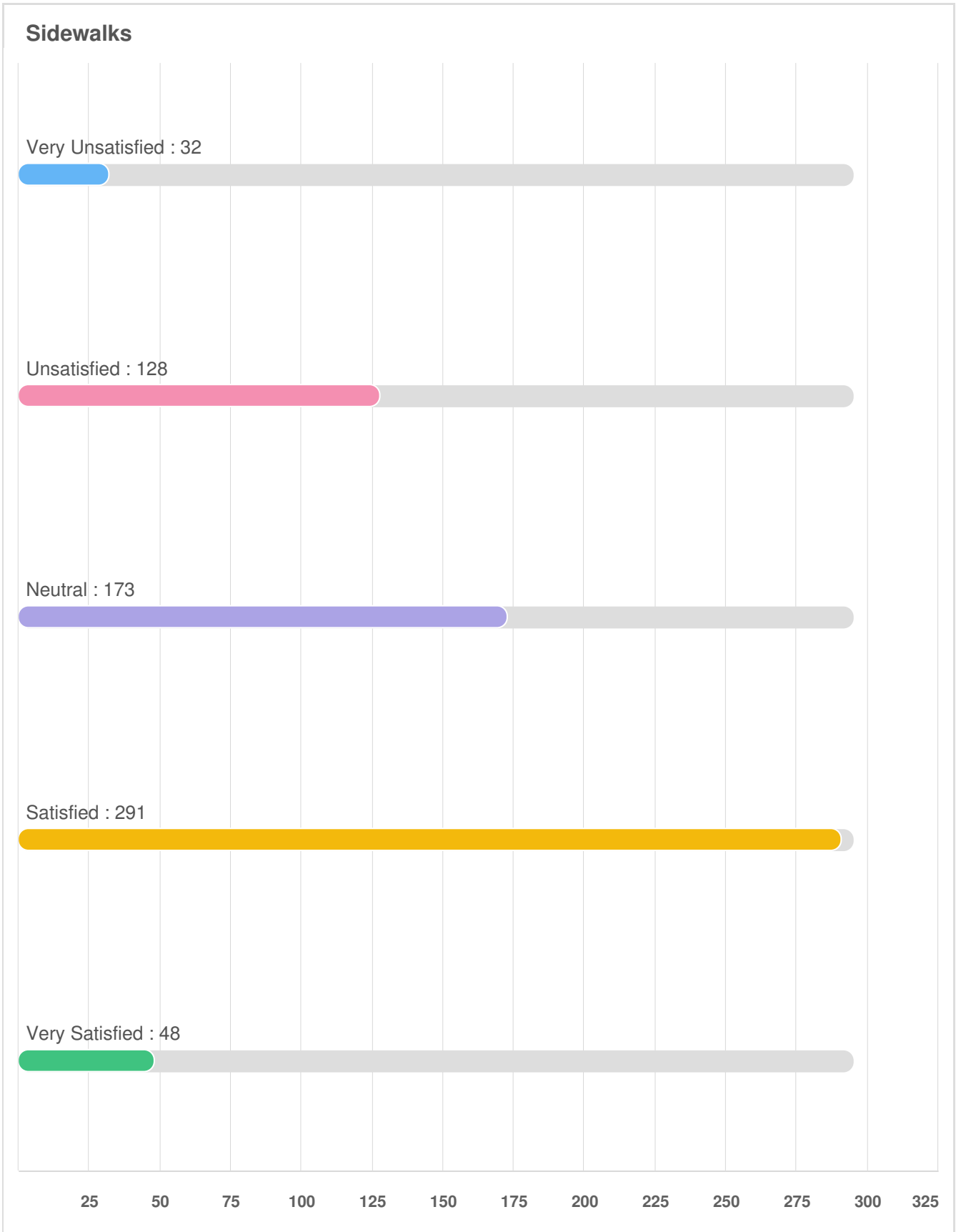




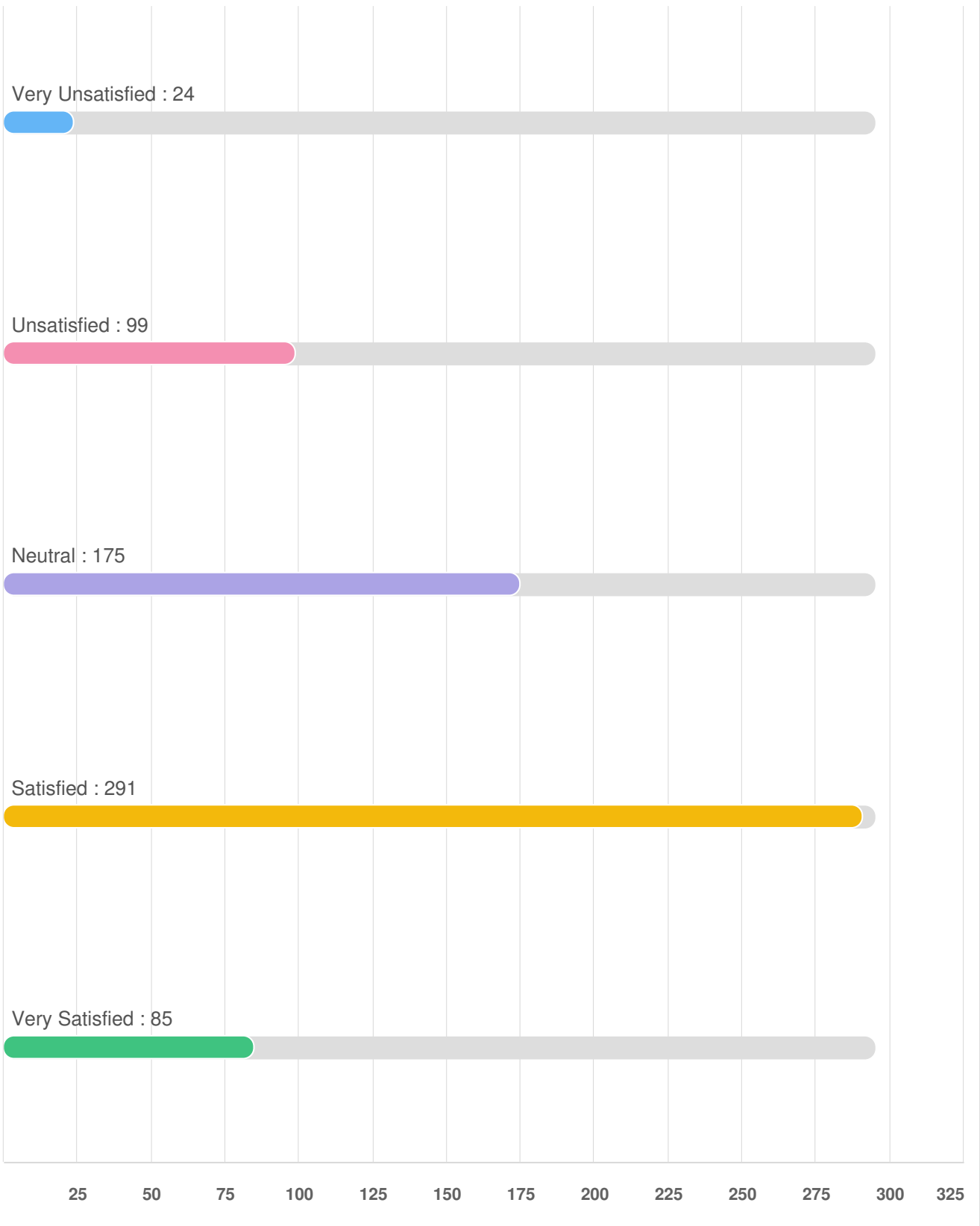








Streetscaping (boulevards and trees)



Q5 Do you have any comments or suggestions to share on the City's transportation infrastructure budget?

Would like to see more investments in safe crossings, bicycle infrastructure, sidewalks and boulevards, and signal timing, etc. for frequent transit.

Stop building bike lanes! The bike lanes in the downtown core are completely unnecessary. We have enough now. Stop putting crosswalks in the middle of major busy streets (Douglas Blanchard). People can walk the 1/2 block to the nearest light. You don't need to disrupt traffic that is already overwhelming by putting another bike lane or crosswalk in the middle of a street when there is an intersection half a block away on either side.

Stop prioritizing vehicles and give more space to sustainable transportation.

More budget allocation to crosswalks and pedestrian infrastructure. Love the safe bike network, thank you!

I would emphasize that parking/car infrastructure is NOT a priority, and that transportation infrastructure for people IS: i.e. public transportation options, cycling supports and even walking must be prioritized to be more accessible, safe and affordable/attractive means for commuters, parents and errand-runners.

Please stop wasting much needed city funds on street scaping projects that bring no value or value to few.

Enough with the bike lanes. Spend some money fixing the roads and sidewalks in residential areas.

Expedite accessibility improvements re. longstanding barriers. Budget does not say what the City will do, unlike previous years.

Replant native trees, plant and landscape more spaces naturally. Reduce impervious surfaces where possible. Keep up the good work with bike lanes. Even people that also drive, bus, walk, and cycle like me love them.

Reduce the length of free time in parkades to 30 mins, 1 hour free parking is too long.

I'm very pleased with the focus on the AAA infrastructure.

bike lanes were poorly designed

Parking is not the devil! Neither are cars. Quit trying to make it hell on earth to own a car in this city! It's insanely expensive to park down town and it affects people who work and live down town. It's making life far less affordable and more stressful

We have too much vehicle parking, we need more secure bike parking. As a cyclist and an advocate, I see people wanting to trade in their vehicle for a bike, but too many get stolen. More safe infrastructure such as bike lanes and safe streets.

Please add some secure bicycle parking in Victoria. As a Cyclist on the Peninsula I can cycle Victoria, but not stay downtown for shopping, restaurants or concerts without secure bicycle parking.

Remove the pedestrian lane on St. Charles by Fairfield shopping centre. No one uses it and it impedes traffic. It is dangerous

Would love to see more pedestrian focused initiatives

free transit.

how is the electrical recharging network's building going? and yes for the battery powered 'wheelchairs' too ?

I would if I could find it. Clicked my way through all the links above. No bananas.

Traffic lights on north-south arterial roadways need to be synchronized .

Vancouver street idea is wonderful. More green spaces around the city would be beneficial for the public

The rating system is unclear here. I want to be able to share how I feel, but I can be satisfied or unsatisfied for very different reasons on each side of the spectrum! I love our bike lanes but we need many more complete streets. We need much less parking, so I am unsatisfied, but I don't want my dissatisfaction to signal that we need more. Crosswalks are overwhelmingly invisible--please paint more crosswalks, especially those that are legally there! Please convert on street parking to walking, biking, and co-op car share facilities. Roads need to be calmed, narrowed, and have fewer lanes and reduced speed limits. Sidewalks need building and widening. Streetscaping is not a priority--please revert plantings to sustainable native plants that need less maintenance.

Crosswalks and bike lanes need to be more inclusive to the blind community

The crosswalks on Oak Bay Avenue past Richmond need attention. The lines are faded and have not been painted in 4 years. The lighting is poor!

I do not understand why the bike lanes are so contentious - they are a good thing, and also not an unusual thing for a city of this size to have.

So many of our roads are in a terrible need of repair. Whether driving or biking on them, their condition is shocking.

We have more than enough bike lanes.

Free transit

There should be Light rail from the ferry to the city core, serving the peninsula and those communities in between. So, increase on the whole.

Fix the crumbling sidewalks downtown - they're a safety hazard that cause falls resulting in injury.

Addition of speed deterrents in protected bike lanes to discourage high speed travel in congested areas (Wharf Street)

Bike lanes being added on roads where there is no need (ie Humbolt, Richardson). Two-way bike lanes on one way streets are counterintuitive expensive and dangerous

Too much money spent on bike lanes that support too few

Increase and expand it, maybe take it from policing.

We need fare-free public transit for all, to reduce on street parking downtown, create more pedestrian space downtown, increase our protected bike network, and accelerate momentum on all these issues

Fix the roads!

even in some of the newer infrastructure changes curb cuts are not being placed at appropriate places. Plan with access in mind.

Noise and pollution level of diesel buses

More parking spaces are needed, especially downtown. The cost of parking is also too high.

All we wanted was bike lanes that don't block the flow of vehicle traffic.

Not really much to say about maintenance of bicycling network until it is actually completed.

I love the proportion for active transportation. SO Important!

pause bike lanes for awhile and get back to greenways development / road maintenance

must make public transport easy and relatively pleasant to use

No more huge car lots in the city. And couldn't some parking space be better used?

Infrastructure shouldn't take a back seat to tent cities, climate change and reconciliation

Cut down all the Ginkgo trees and those red berry trees along Pembroke street side of RAP. What a F-ing mess! Replace these with trees that grow human edible fruit and that will be harvested by neighbours and organizations like LifeCycles.

Care and maintenance of sidewalks, crosswalks and curbs that improve accessibility conditions. Walking with a walker always means eyes down.

I don't feel safe parking in the parkades now. Once the pandemic is over, there won't be enough parking spaces downtown. People will shop elsewhere and we could end up with the DTES in Victoria. Don't let that happen.

Please continue to prioritize active modes of transport.

Wish the bike lanes were more visible - don't stand out in low light

More frequent buses in Fairfield / less circuitous routes. More comprehensive thinking on the bike lanes. The bus stop issue regarding visually impaired people is indicative of poor quality for dollar consultants.

cross walks should all be consistent and include option for flashing lights

The new bike lane network is much appreciated and vital to developing a sustainable future for Victoria. Keeping the bus system operating in spite of COVID challenges is important. Developing the E&N corridor for commuter rail must be entered into the overall CRD plan.

Wider sidewalks wherever possible! I don't cycle but appreciate the new bike lane infrastructure very much as a pedestrian too, and also feel more comfortable with them as a driver than the non-separated bike lanes.

Always very pleased with the repair level of Victoria transpo infrastructure. Hope to see continued efforts to reduce private vehicle traffic downtown.

I am happy that we continue to invest in public transit, cycling and walking infrastructure. Thank you so much! <3

If you want people to take public transit more often make it free. There are many examples of cities successfully doing this.

Too much money spent on cycling infrastructure without adequate ensuring people know the rules of the road as it applies to cycling and proliferation of impunity for cycling violations.

I would like the city to push for the completion of the AAA bicycle network to be finished as soon as possible

Bike lanes on Vancouver Street significantly NEGATIVELY impact the neighbourhood. I am often stranded, unable to get out with all the construction on alternate north/south routes and now I read YYJ wants to remove another east/west option too, Dallas road.

In a city with many seniors and tourists, the confusing addition of two-way bike lanes on one-way streets has reduced parking and made it difficult to negotiate downtown streets safely. For the record, I do ride a bicycle.

Walking infrastructure and public transportation should be higher priorities than more cycling infrastructure.

Widen sidewalks and please keep infrastructure (traffic signs, electric poles, etc) off the sidewalk. The Harbour Rd bike lanes are excellent, but there's so much stuff occupying the sidewalk space the it's awkward to navigate when it's busy, for example.

Please prioritize

Wider sidewalks. Enforcement of bike lanes and cyclists.

It's time to step back this year from large scale road changes and focus on housing affordability and finding services for vulnerable populations. The police need help with the widespread social challenges.

The parking metres installed in parkades should be removed and return them to the way they were (first hour free, collect your parking ticket on the way in) to encourage more people to go downtown.

I like the approach and specific projects planned. The transportation staff seems excellent and their presentations are always thorough. Based on project outcomes to date, I am inclined to trust their expertise.

Traffic flow is terrible. Bidirectional bike lanes on a one way street is expensive, dangerous and terrible for traffic flow.

Removal of bike lanes. They only serve a select few. Improve bus system as it's inclusive for everyone

I support removing the roadway at Mile Zero to add green space; support moving forward quickly with the sustainable mobility infrastructure; more traffic calming; City should seek to reduce on-street parking and one-level parking lots. Close down Government Street to vehicle traffic

My wife and I drive our truck because it is more economical and efficient than transit. It shouldn't be! Make transit affordable and good.

We need GPS tracking on buses, it's embarrassing we still don't. Buses often leave early or late making for a long wait sometimes. And start investing in rail!

I'd like to see more street scraping along Bay Street. It's a main corridor and it would be nice to see it done similarly to how Esquimalt Road was done.

the deadmans inlet bridge on the galloping goose trail is extremely uncomfortable to ride on with a bike. please consider some solution to this.

I think prioritizing the completion of the bike network should continue to be a top priority. We're already about a year behind previous schedules and I think finishing the next parts along Fort/Pandora/Oak Bay Ave/ and on to Jubilee, followed by Gorge and James Bay connectors should be priorities. I like that the City is continuing to improve walkability/livability in neighbourhoods with speed bumps and crosswalks, for example (I have two on my street and I quite like them). I would caution that the Beacon Hill/Mile Zero thing may be a bit distracting and raise public ire when it doesn't need to be at the moment, but I still support it. Finally, I think we should make the road closure to cars at the north end of Beacon Hill to the ring road permanent and we should reinstate the blockage of Government St to cars.

Once it was reopened people in cars again are recklessly speeding up that narrow route and its both dangerous and a clear downgrade from what it used to be. Increasing bus only lanes would also be a good thing.

Vancouver street is now a real stupid move. It makes people drive around more and defeats the purpose. Also why is Rockland now opened up and not remained closed? If Vancouver street is for bikers why isn't Rockland now opened up. Cook street is getting too busy and some of the residential streets are also getting busier because of these bike lanes. Very worried about the side street traffic after Richardson is turned into bike lanes. Too much is being spent on bike lanes and not enough thought about people who cannot ride a bike or choose not to.

All crosswalks that don't already have lights need those solar powered pedestrian controlled lights.

Put some money into making sidewalks accessible for pedestrians; e.g. Fairfield Road between Blanshard and Quadra one cannot get a wheelchair down this sidewalk because of the power poles in the middle of the sidewalk - how about widening the sidewalks around the powerpoles. DOWNTOWN - how about getting the bicyclists OFF the sidewalks. Get the SMOKERS off the sidewalks so we can breathe relatively fresh air when walking downtown.

Too much attention to biking - we've caught up - back to balance

Protected bike lanes everywhere!

I have had it with bikes lanes to the exclusion of vehicles being able to move and find parking and to access business, restaurants (eg. Keg @ Wharf). Signage to accommodate bikes lanes is overwhelming and a distraction. New bus only lanes are good.

Love the bike lanes and commitment to active transportation

Bike lanes were done too hastily, creating ill will. A more gradual approach would have been better and more easily accepted by citizens. I also don't think it's necessary to have two-way bike lanes on Victoria's narrow and busy downtown streets. One-way bike lanes on alternate streets would have sufficed. On a positive note, the buses are exceptional. Perhaps do an advertising campaign to promote more bus ridership.

Consult public before cutting down trees for bike lanes.

Roads are in rough shape. Keep up the great work on bike lanes!

The roads are a mess, pot holes everywhere, yet money is being spent on bike lanes. I am a bike commuter but have yet to use the new lanes. I can see the traffic getting worse in part from the crazy bike lanes that make no sense. Why two way on a one way street? Also, the way the lights are arranged, traffic does not flow, especially on Douglas and Cook streets. It's almost like you want to pit vehicles against cyclists.

Put some money into repairing pot holes. We have a street which is a disaster to drive on. 1000 block of Redfern Street

The principle of recent developments on Dallas Road and Vancouver Street is good but the designs are disappointing. Detailed design review is needed. For example, the Dallas Road development misjudged high pedestrian volumes and creates a conflict between walkers and and cyclists immediately to the east of the breakwater. On Vancouver Street at McClure, the design doesn't reflect pedestrian desire lines and there's an unnecessary curb cut 'bump' for cyclists. The proposed Richardson Street AAA plan must be postponed and re-worked. There are higher priorities at this time.

More bike lanes and public transit.

I support improvements to pedestrian and bike lane infrastructure in hopes that these improvements will shift travel modes away from private vehicles.

Bike lanes are fine if they are bike lanes. Blocking off roads for bike priority is wrong

Hold off on any more investment in bike lanes, removal of street parking and closure of roads to make no traffic areas.

I support safe bike lane infrastructure and accessible infrastructure for those with mobility issues. Closer inspection should be given to non residents parking on residential streets. Although it has not been as much of an issue during the pandemic, living in North Park, next to Crystal Pool, Royal Athletic Park, and the Save-On stadium, there is often a struggle to find parking for residents because visitors occupy resident-only spaces and there is no enforcement unless called.

Without a good understanding of the costs associated w/ maintaining and building new transportation infrastructure, as well as spending increases over the longer term, (not just 2020-2021) with adjustment for inflation, etc. it is hard to comment on whether funds are being spent efficiently and equitably. The one comment is with bike lanes. I ride a bike frequently and commute to work via bike often but the reality is, is I believe when we see growth in economic inequality and exclusion from our local social and economic environments less money should be spent on improving a mode of

transportation that benefits generally those who have, than have not.

I believe this is currently already a priority or policy, but it would be fantastic to see boulevards be planted with native plants, and more native trees be planted in boulevards. As a cyclist and a car driver, I am so enthused to see all the safe bicycle infrastructure that has been installed over the recent years. The infrastructure makes my commutes and movements about the city WAY safer, and more pleasant and contributes to sustainability and health of our community. It also, in my experience makes for safer bicycle - car interactions, and minimizes the possibility for dangerous car-bicycle situations. Thanks for prioritizing sustainable transportation infrastructure. Victoria is a pleasant city to walk and cycle in!

Stop being an enemy of cars and people who drive them, rely on them and use them for employment

It would be nice to have more crosswalks available in the residential areas along busy roads such as Cook street, for example, and also wider sidewalks. Hopefully that would improve road safety and encourage people to take the streets back from the individual vehicles.

There is still a lot of work to do for accessibility in Victoria, especially outside the downtown core (widening sidewalks, making more space for pedestrians, lighting on trails like the Galloping Goose).

Who hired the lunatic that put two-way bike lanes on one way streets? And why are the bike lanes on Pandora and Fort of different sides of the street (making turning right a holy terror for drivers, but only half the time)? And why build a two way bike lane on Wharf street instead of converting government into a pedestrian/bike only street? The millions of dollars that have been wasted on this totally illogical and dangerous bike plan is infuriating. And yes, I'm a bicyclist. Finally, why has the city decided to throw out all reason and put a British style cross-walk in only one location. Total nonsense and dangerous for drivers and bicyclists alike.

I appreciate what you've done for bike infrastructure but there is more that can be done. I would like it so that children can safely bike this city alone - that is, more separated bike lanes are appreciated! Also would be great to see sidewalks widened in high traffic areas. I would also like to see the general speed limit reduced to 40km per hour in addition to the planned 30km/hr on local streets. The death /severe injury rate when cars hit bikes and pedestrians goes down dramatically at 40 km per hour and there is no reason to go at 50km/hr on Cook, Pandora, Bay, etc.

NO MORE BIKE LANES!!

Please spend more and faster on bike lanes. Please provide incentives for ZEVs, such as priority parking or reduced parking fees for ZEVs/higher parking fees for fossil fuel-powered vehicles. Please implement a congestion

fee for fossil fuel-powered vehicles entering the downtown core.

Less money on bike lanes. More money on repairs of sidewalks and roads.

Very grateful for the additional bike lanes and looking forward to making use of the new corridor on Vancouver street.

More parking downtown. Increase speed limit 50k on main roads (bus routes)

Very unsatisfied with on-street parking because there is too much. It should be more restricted and priced to reduce vehicle use. Also, current by-laws should be enforced (inc. distanced vehicles must be from curbs).

Abolish TransLink fees, they're just a tax on the poor. Instead, make all TransLink services free and pay for it with increases in property taxes and other wealth taxes

The city looks beautiful.

Repair: State of many roads unsafe for biking (potholes) and potentially damaging for some vehicles. Streetscapes: while well maintained, in my view, most new high-density developments are not allowing for boulevards and green layering of shrubs and trees which would contribute significantly to Victoria's urban design and modestly to GHG management.

Transportation should enable people to get from A to B efficiently and safely regardless of their chosen mode of transportation.

Pause on further bike lane infrastructure; fix pot holes; replace native vegetation (looks like weeds) on islands, intersections etc. and return to a beautiful blooming city that once was. The recent practice has removed a sense a pleasure and makes the city look dispirited, affecting our mental health.

Yes , fix the potholes on residential streets - Fairfield has become a minefield! Look at Ross street - dangerous - same with lower st Charles , and Wildwood ! Holes !

We need way more cycling infrastructure in a more expedient (but still engaging) manner that reflects global best practices - no 2-way paths. Less parking, less touching of the sidewalk by developers.

Building additional roads or widening existing roads will only serve to INCREASE traffic and road usage in the long-term. Improving public transportation options (e.g., frequency & types) can help ameliorate some of that, particularly for connections between the CRD municipalities.

Get rid of all transportation infrastructure that privileges car owners - residential parking should not be free. Read Neil Arason's book 'No Accident' and begin to implement inexpensive and easy to do changes that will save lives and make roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists. Reduce speeds on all neighbourhood roads to 30km/hour.

Less signage

More attention to potholes on streets and to damaged sidewalks that pose a hazard to pedestrians

Would love to see more pedestrian improvements.

Free bus passes for youth is working

There are many streets (eg. cook street) where cars parking on the street narrows the roads, making visibility difficult.

While I support bike lanes they are causing serious traffic load and safety issues on other streets, namely those by schools. Funds should be directed to prevent harm and accidents. Looking at Fairfield, between Cook and Foul Bay, Fernwood Ave and Cook Street near George Jay

A huge fan of all of the bike corridors! Safe, sustainable transportation for all is a major asset to residents living in the city.

Our transit system is archaic, need a better payment system such as Vancouver's compass cards or tapping visa or debit cards. Also, Fix my gutter that your city truck ripped off my house and defund the police.

Should be more options for people with disabilities and low income

I would like to see more accessible sidewalks and protected bike lanes.

we need lights at vic west skatepark! there isn't much daylight during the winter

At the start of the pandemic, busses were changed to a free fare overnight BUT before the pandemic city officials have said it would take years to make that change??? This doesn't add up. Also what happened to eliminating pay parking on Sunday in exchange for free transit??? MAKE TRANSIT FREE FOR ALL

The roads absolutely need reflective painting so we can see while driving at night, especially in rain.

Have more walkable areas downtown, reduce reliance on the motor vehicle

Free public transit

Increasing accessibility for folks with disabilities and mobility challenges is imperative.

We need more affordable parking options for downtown residents without parking available in their apartments and condos

Replacing street parking with bicycle lanes is short sighted. Some peoples commute cannot be transferred to a bicycle.

Fully electric/hydrogen busses

Create and easy to read and use guide for people to know all bike routes across the city

Make busses cheaper

The new one way on Vancouver st sucks.

I am a bicyclist and it can't understand the logic behind many of the bike lane decisions. For instance, putting in a giant grocery store on Vancouver street, a bike lane that lasts half a block, then forcing traffic onto other roads on Vancouver. The problem is that forcing traffic onto Cook and Vancouver actually makes it more stressful and scary for bicyclists that have to use those roads. The city has been slowly eliminating any 1 and 2 hour parking options around the downtown core. These are important for people who are lower income and need to quickly run errands. I am becoming more frightened on roads such as Chambers street, as cars are being diverted there by virtue of the slowing down of Cook street and elimination of cars on Vancouver. Its really important to look at longer term ramifications of these decisions. Vancouver should have always been a bike lane, but that should have been with printed indicators on the road, where cars know they have to share or yield. That way you don't force or constrict traffic. This often makes people rage on the road or maybe alternate routes less safe.

Allocate more funds to public transportation and bike lanes.

Stop spending money on bike lanes and tearing up primary roads. You are killing the downtown core. Keep bike lanes to low traffic roads.

Gorge Rd. from Harriet towards Tillicum really could use bigger sidewalks. It is hard on the nervous system walking along here with children. Parking in the parkade has gotten too expensive for me.

Add money for road repair. Ignoring roads isn't helpful, and will cost more in the long run if you don't do basic preventive maintenance now. Focus more on rapid bus lanes. If there isn't enough money to take on all your projects WITHOUT a tax increase, defer further bike lane expansion for a future year, vs. trying to expedite this.

It continues to shock me that a city like Victoria, with its aging population, still has such an incredible lack of sidewalks on both sides of the street, or sidewalks that would be navigable by people using mobility devices. I understand that right-of-ways make retroactively adding sidewalks challenging, but I am confident there are scenarios where a combination of priorities and political will are the main factors.

Far too much money is wasted on bike lanes.

I'm happy to see more bike lanes, but the civil design approach is poor. Some intersections are a terrible mess these days, with odd road rules and dividing lines and all sorts of things like that. I think it's worth the extra planning and money to make these changes designed for the long-term, with ease of use always in mind.

Actual cyclists (I'm talking about any of the number of high level road cyclists in Victoria... a good place to start would be TripleShot Cycling) SHOULD be consulted by the engineering firm contracted with making the bike lanes. I love that there are more cycling-protected areas to ride safely, however the newer lanes put in are quite dangerous (metal poles in a high speed turn on the waterfront?!? DANGER!). I think actual road cyclists are a great resource because they spend a lot of time in high-risk situations with cars, and understand the flow of traffic, and the best way to safely ride around our city.

Bay st. Is an active commuting lane to Esquimalt, and is horrible to bike on, the neighborhood routes adjacent to it are unworkable (haultain is only good til cook st.)

more public transportation options, expanded bus route & more affordable options for commute

The parkades are amazing. There is always a lot of construction on the

roads. I do not like what they've done to Vancouver street making different sections one day and such.

Concern about the lack of adherence to 30 kilometre zones in many neighborhoods and greenways. We need more speed bumps installed on these streets to force adherence to the posted zones. More time spent in local City of Victoria boundary neighborhoods due to pandemic has highlighted this problem because we are spending more time outside locally and it is not difficult to gauge both personal vehicles and commercial vehicles going above the 30km posted limit on a daily basis.

As a citizen who uses the bike lanes, walks and buses frequently at all times of the day, I am at a loss for why we wouldn't put more money towards this area to provide more temporary jobs with projects around the city. Extra jobs, even if temporary, will provide a wage for those who may turn to other ways of making money other wise, hence helping to keep citizens like myself safer at all hours of the day.

Money should only be spent on necessities right now. Beautification is not a priority when the budget is too low to fund housing for the homeless

Not enough parking and it's expensive. This discourages economic stimulation of the downtown core. More parcares or additions to existing parcares.

Don't spend excess on decorative sidewalks/crosswalks that don't last.

More streetcaping downtown

Please continue investments in sustainable transportation and reduce parking.

I'm all for the bike lanes popping up everywhere but please if you're spending all this money, re-pave the roads as well. The road conditions lately serve a double purpose of giving me an unintended massage on any commute.

more funding to give access to affordable/ free bc transit for those who need it!!

more bike lanes, free transit, train line between Victoria and surrounding communities

Free transportation for students

BC transit is inconsistent at best, especially the lesser travelled routes such

as bus 83

Cheaper bus fare, less busses where there's lots, more busses on routes like the 72 that comes only once every 30 minutes and is usually always full

Could a possible make work program for the jobless / homeless people be streetscaping and other unskilled tasks the city has?

I would say majority of our roads and sidewalks need repair. We also need more people in jobs cleaning the streets. Especially around downtown and high risk areas. It's actually very disgusting.

Bus passes should be assessed based on annual income and should be cheaper or free for low income folks and houseless people

Increase the amount of complete streets even if it means decreasing the total amount of parking spots. Make pedestrians top priority over vehicles.

I highly support the free youth bus passes program.

Everyone in my neighbourhood put all of our leaves in nice orderly piles at the front of our driveways in time for pick up. The city didn't show up until after the new year, picked up about half the leaves and left our neighbourhood in a bigger mess than they found it. Maybe it's time to start spending more money on basic road maintenance.

Stop wasting infrastructure money on "social engineering" projects, instead maintain what already exists.

With a lot of houses being built and many large, heavy trucks coming in and out of the Fairfield area, a lot of the old roads took quite a beating. Some of these roads have been patched but all the patch jobs did was create protrusion instead of holes, making for an equally undrivable road.

BC Transit is unreliable and inconsistent, and fares are too expensive. Public transportation should actually be PUBLIC meaning no upfront cost from those who take the bus.

appreciate bike lanes and hope to continue to see more; pedestrian infrastructure like sidewalks has seemed lacking now that people want more space from each other when walking

lets get some more trees planted please!

Make it more accessible for those with mobility devices such as canes and wheelchairs! Make the bike lanes have less potholes and hazards.

make parking more affordable/accessible

I appreciate the continued focus on multimodal transportation, both in terms of inclusion/accessibility as well as sustainability. I use the bike lane network everyday, and look forward to it's expansion. I also appreciate the widening of sidewalks and reclaiming of road space for use by pedestrians and cyclists throughout Covid-19. There are some crosswalks in town on busy roads (ex: Bay) that could use pedestrian activated lights, as opposed to just hoping fast-moving vehicles will see you and slow down.

Make public transportation FREE. No more bus passes.

Please, spend less money on the police and more money on providing housing and community supports.

Not enough residential parking with the number of properties becoming multi-unit due to the housing shortage

Please continue to support the expansion of all forms of active transportation, including transit, cycle and walking infrastructure. In particular, there are still big gaps in the bike map that need to be filled. Although Victoria has made some good progress in this area (excited for the Vancouver St. improvements!), there is still a lot of work to do before our infrastructure supports people of all ages and abilities cycling for their daily commutes. I choose to live car-free because of my concern for the environment. I commute between Saanich and Victoria for work everyday by walking, cycling or taking transit. Living without a vehicle is quite inconvenient when cities do not sufficiently support the infrastructure needed for active transportation. I think Victoria can do a lot better and I look forward to improvements that will make it easier for all of us to choose active transportation more frequently.

I think it should be given more funds to continue the great work they are doing improving accessibility.

In the future more night buses would be beneficial

More bike lanes are needed

Less cars, more public transport, more bikes.

More nature and boulevards. Less car traffic in the downtown core (buses

okay!)

Needs to be increased at expense of corporate head office activities and discretionary spending

Stop with the bike lanes

Bike lanes have not improved transportation, they have made it more confusing to drive in the city and therefore more dangerous to both cyclists and drivers. As a cyclist myself, I find I most likely travel into the city to purchase things. Since many live far from the city centre they are unlikely to be motivated bike a significant distance, especially if they need to bring things (shopping and such) home and especially if it's in the winter. A more consistent and better transit system would make it more likely for most to leave their car at home.

Please repave all horrible roadways and add a bike lane on shelbourne street!

The City of Victoria should continue to focus on sustainable transportation in the city by promoting biking and walking. This has started to happen by implementing large scale bike lanes running through the down town core. Further roads should be blocked off to promote pedestrian usage as was done to government street during most of 2020. Focusing on this will help bring many values together such as sustainability, safety, livable neighborhoods and social issues as well.

Eliminate dangerous left turns across Highway 17 and the Malahat at Goldstream Park. Improve street lighting throughout the city.

Please look at timing of traffic lights. The time it takes to drive through town is ridiculous, and is bad for the environment.

I support more bike lanes and boulevards to encourage alternative transportation.

While I applaud the efforts to increase safety for cycling I feel that cheaper upgrades for pedestrians are still being neglected. Glad to see there is some budget for pedestrian upgrades, but almost all of it is going to the Peter Pollen walkway not to neighbourhood connectivity.

no more bike lanes!! fix the roads!! repair and maintain or replace aging infrastructure.

Stop the insanity of the bike lanes.

There should be flashing lights at all crosswalks which would make it safer for pedestrians since vehicles would see ahead of time that they were there, and have more time to stop. Traffic would move better downtown if vehicles turning right didn't have to wait for pedestrians to cross at the light. By the time they have crossed, the light is ready to turn red again, and not many vehicles move through.

Continue to expand separated bike lanes beyond downtown to major arterials. Fund or advocate for CRD funding for electrified transit infrastructure and an efficient bus system. Decrease parking spot requirements for affordable housing developments. Close some of downtown entirely to motorized vehicles.

Bike lanes on Wharf Street are a nightmare for vehicle traffic flow without a left turn lane at Fort Street. Numerous street intersections have vegetation on adjacent properties that impede a motorist's view which is a safety hazard. The bike lane proposed for Kimta is totally unnecessary & will result in numerous parking spaces being lost. This proposal is an example of ideology taking precedent over common sense & undermines public support for council initiatives.

I'm baffled by the "Upgrades" on May Street and Memorial Crescent where I agree the city has made the curb appeal nicer but the function worse as both roads are now too narrow for two way traffic, especially since they are both bus roads. The upgrades could have done and not narrowed the roads. I also don't see the need to do a similar improvement at Mile Zero.

Please continue your efforts in making this city more walkable and pedestrian friendly. It adds to the vibrancy of the city.

My comment is that bike lanes are great and I am in support of this type of transportation even though i no longer commute this way. I think it was a very good investment to create a great cycling network although Im curious how the usage stats are year round. Weather is the main reason i choose not to cycle in the other 8 months of the year. I wonder what could incentivise people to cycle year round... I dont have an answer myself!

traffic lights that cause traffic backups on the main corridors and the mess you are making on Vancouver Street, Wharf Street, Humbolt Street, Richardson Street etc

Increase budget for public transportation and make it free for everyone. Budget should include process to begin building light rail to connect Victoria to suburbs and rest of the island.

Green transit, and make it affordable and accessible!

I support bike lanes and active transportation initiatives.

rapid transit, more bus lanes, more buses connecting suburbs to downtown core

A continued focus on sustainable, efficient transportation solutions is needed (buses, bikes, electric vehicles, pedestrian infrastructure), both in terms of the climate crisis and livability.

Less pedestrian vehicle interaction which would mean continuing with street safety measures like the one on Vancouver St. and the Johnson St. bridge area. The idea is contentious but ultimately it would encourage more people to break the habit of using their vehicles to drive short distances. Considering the economic recovery necessary because of the Pandemic this may not be prudent for 2021.

We need to worry more about pedestrians than bicyclists.

Less focus on bike lanes and more focus on maintaining infrastructure we have (ie potholes, dirty parkades).

Expand sustainable transportation infrastructure

Many benefits follow from focusing on pedestrian-friendly and bicycle-friendly streets.

Please do not take anyway any more parking spaces, it's choking local business and driving customers to the west shore.

Keep up the good work on the bike lanes. It would be great to extend the bus pass program to seniors and low income folks. Sidewalks could use some improvement for accessibility (e.g., the sidewalks in Fernwood are sometimes too narrow with the hydro poles for folks with strollers or with mobility aids).

More flowers please

We need a better way to bring commuters in from the suburbs, light rail or ferry from western communities. We need to encourage drivers to choose other forms of transportation including an efficient bus system.

Please stop this bike lane madness. Please allow car traffic move more freely and pollute less. We can not all ride our kids in bubble wrap on a bike to school. it is not doable! plus for us it is not safe to walk them to school as we need to pass thru homeless infected areas. It is unsafe on the bike or walk. When you are fixing the roads, don't do patching, do it properly please. It

looks ridiculous and it needs a new fix soon after. Remove all the parking from main streets so traffic can move faster. This is ridiculous! all cities are trying to speed up their traffic not to clog it. Provide incentives for electric cars purchases if you care about environment. Cycling is not everyones cup of tea, don't force people to buy into your personal hype

this part of the budget should be used to make public transportation free

Good job

Increase speed limit to 50k on main roads

Stop building unnecessary traffic calming infrastructure when you can install a freaking speed bump. Seriously, people speed down alternative routes due to planters being installed in the middle of vancouver street.

Sidewalks need to be wider. People have bushes and trees that grow over the sidewalks. Street signs, telephone poles, fire hydrants and etc are on the sidewalks making the sidewalk, effectively, single lane only. How do people in wheel chairs, manual or electric, manage. My wife and I can't even walk side by side on many sidewalks in the Fernwood, North Park, Oaklands or other neighbourhoods.

The youth bus pass program appears to be not effective, as in the uptake by youth is small. I do not think the city should be pursuing this project. That money can be better deployed to road or sidewalk improvements.

I fully support free public transport for youth and for people with disabilities.

The City's transportation/infrastructure budget should reflect its values of inclusion and equity. For instance, streetscaping should not be used to exclude homeless people from camping and/or congregating. While bike lanes are great, we also need to ensure that there is adequate parking for seniors and people with disabilities. There should be equity assessments that guide the City's transportation infrastructure budget to ensure that decisions to fund/develop infrastructure do not further disadvantage people who are already disadvantaged.

The buses are a nightmare - buses of the same route arriving three at a time, buses not arriving at all on schedule (a regular occurrence)

Good work! Thank you.

Add on-street EV charging stations to encourage uptake of low-carbon

emission transportation options

More cycling infrastructure please!

Less parking, more streets closed off to cars

The current approach to establishing bike lane infrastructure needs to be revised. I support creating a safer environment for cycling, which includes designating lanes. Unfortunately, I believe the way that has been/is being done has been counterproductive in many instances (particularly in the core downtown area) and has resulted in traffic congestion, confusion and frustration and a less safe environment overall for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

When will we consider trains or other forms of rapid transport to or neighbouring municipalities. Also, what happened on Vancouver street with the bike lane? That was weird.

Make transportation free or you're just taxing the poor

Continuing to complete the connectivity of bike lanes to create an integrated system of bike lanes is an important aspect of moving towards alternate transportation options besides vehicles. Establishing a budget for further creation of priority lanes for buses, and HOV lanes, especially on Douglas past Uptown towards the Western Communities would help to mitigate the Colwood Crawl congestion. This would require setting coordinated budget goals with Saanich and the other affected municipalities ie. an integrated transportation plan for the region of Greater Victoria.

No more \$\$ for additional bike lanes at this time. Address the seagull problem. Spend additional money on horticulture and the flower/garden landscaping. Add more trash receptacles!!

Spend a greater share of the transportation budget on walking and cycling infrastructure. We have spent most of the last century focused mostly on automobile infrastructure, so there is a lot of catching up required.

Keep the focus on building safe bicycling routes. Do a better job to do the same for pedestrians.

There is an area in Vic West, near the Roundhouse, that has very few sidewalks. Considering the number of people who live and walk in this community, it would be great if the City would take a look, especially at Kimta Road. Also, the pedestrian area underneath the east side of the Johnston Street Bridge is becoming unsafe, with groups of people using it for social gatherings and not socially distancing. Perhaps there could be more

coordination between City departments to ensure there is input on transportation designs?

Bike lanes always seem the last ones to be maintained. More traffic calming would be welcomed and an improved design guide for road connections that doesn't always prioritize high-speed turns by vehicles.

More bike lanes, crosswalks, and street trees are needed. Parking should be more expensive.

Bike lanes start and then just disappear, putting bicyclists in conflict with cars. Bike infrastructure is cheap to build and maintain. Encourage more bicyclists by filling all the gaps and create a more complete and welcoming network.

Please prioritize regularly scheduled buses on smaller routes (to connect people to main routes, and encourage more people to use transit instead of having 2+ vehicles per household--our streets are not designed for the massive increase in vehicles). The slightly smaller new buses are amazing and all that is needed for the smaller routes--keep this up.

Do not spend any more money on bicycle lanes! Enough money has been spent already.

I really, really appreciate the plan to have a bikeable, walkable, accessible city. I'm not 100% sure of the layout of the Vancouver street bike lane (it's hard as a car to be redirected onto a dead end street (McClure?) and the current frustration of cars feels precarious as a cyclist. But in general, I have LOVED being able to safely and easily cycle through all of the city and I definitely bike more because of it. There are obviously still roads and sidewalks that need repair, but I have really appreciated the efficiency of the city in repairing anything that is flagged quickly (there was antisemitic graffiti on a sidewalk near our house and when I reported it, I was told they were already aware and then it was repaved in a number of days). The extra safety measures at crosswalks, especially the new flashing lights, are excellent. When building new sidewalks, ensuring they're wide enough for wheelchairs is great. And the added COVID sidewalks are excellent - in the Quadra Village, it would be nice to have one on the main street rather than behind Fairways (which typically is not high traffic)

Push for a Royal Bay-Ship Point ferry (or similar downtown terminus), increase active transportation funding, support electrified express trolleys along E&N right of way (rail corridor).

Thank you for making bike infrastructure a priority.

More investment to keep expanding the cycling network. Do not listen to NIMBY and car-centric perspectives. Investment is needed in safe bike parking facilities downtown. Increase parking fees to reflect the value of land

it takes up.

The roads in Victoria need a lot of work. Piecemeal patchwork is not an appropriate solution, we need a complete replacement of most of the city's main roads.

there is far too much emphasis on car culture, we need to move toward car-free/car-lite lifestyles, please invest more in bike lanes, streetscaping and pedestrian safety

I don't agree with the idea of charging for street parking on Sundays in order to finance youth bus passes. Return free parking on Sundays.

Please put in more crosswalks.

We need to prioritize long term accessibility in the public realm including the widening of sidewalks and increased retrofit of crosswalk curb ramps. The pandemic has clearly shown that this type of infrastructure benefits both able-bodied and disabled people in significant ways.

Need more and more reliable public transportation. Bike lanes are moving in the right direction, but the city should pursue making the downtown area more walkable and accessible without an automobile.

bike lanes need to be true aaa and we need to make this on all bike lanes that exist. We also need to lower speed limits and increase the satisfaction of transit users.

I think the transit shelters all over the city are getting unsightly, the old ones are just old and all of them are filthy. Waste containers seemingly never cleaned and take too long to empty

FREE BUS PASSES

TELL CITY COUNCIL TO STOP WITH THE BIKE LANES!!!! MAKE ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS WALK AND NO SPECIAL PARKING FOR THEM.

You need to address the major parking issues downtown. Never enough parking,

More complete streets upgrades, more pedestrian only spaces. Phase out cars over time.

Many of the roads are in extremely bad condition and need repaving not just patchwork repairs - many potholes

Happy to see more streets move away from being priority car routes and towards more inclusive pedestrian and cycling routes.

I would like to see more investment in safe, active transportation options, including protected bike lanes and safer intersections for cyclists and pedestrians.

Some crossings seems unsafe still, but that seems more to do with drivers.

Stop with the bike lanes and repair the roads. So many potholes, bad for cars and bikes.

Too many bike lanes, fix roads and support those who need to use cars for transportation

More bike lanes, more public transportation.

No

Enough money on bike lanes already!

Try lower cost bike improvements. Ours were very expensive and I'm not sure we got money worth when vancouver threw down some cement barriers and paint and essentially outcome is the same.

The south west corner of Blanshard and Pandora has no handicapped parking or drop off spot suitable for elderly folk nearby.

Less money bike lanes. Half the people don't use them.

Repair the roads. Many are more patchwork than pavement.

The flow of traffic has been impeded with excessive bike lanes. I am all for safe bike lanes but not the overkill design that have been implemented

The streets are becoming more like the result of a design nightmare - almost impossible to navigate! Disgusting - not co-ordinated plan!

Stop the assault on cars. I drive, walk, use transit and cycle (for pleasure and commuting) and I will no longer come into downtown unless I have absolutely no other option. Why? Driving is a nightmare. Public transit grinds to a snail's pace on some streets. Cycling is unnecessarily complex and I can't get to

town walking.

For years the streets of victoria have been a mess. There are too many construction projects happening simultaneously leading to traffic congestion and confusion. Also the variable bike lane/ car traffic lane on Humbolt street is confusing and I feel very dangerous. I suppose the bridge replacement is now a thing of the past, but replacing an iconic 3 lane bridge with another 3 lane bridge that looks like an upside-down nike swoosh seemed like an enormous waste of money.

You know what doesn't need more bike lanes? Quiet residential thoroughfares (Harbour Rd? It was literally the easiest bike connection, now it's frustrating and difficult to connect to Vic West and downtown unless you're already on it.)

Lines on Douglas are impossible to see at night in rain. Very dangerous .

I am a pedestrian, cyclist (for recreation, exercise and commuting), and a motorist. I feel that there is an inappropriate distribution of resources for transportation infrastructure. I find that many of the bike lanes are overly/poorly engineered, causing some safety concerns, and causing a lot of frustration to motorists (and the attitude of "they'll get used to it" to be arrogant and dangerous considering the city hosts lots of visitors not used to the strange road rules around bike lanes). Conversely, I also find that some of the new traffic calming measures may be somewhat useful for pedestrians, but puts cyclists at greater risk, either because they need to move into a vehicle lane or because there is an unexpected obstacle in the path of the cyclist. Rather than obstructing/narrowing streets, I would prefer to see large speed humps (like along St. Charles), the terrifically reflective panels that have been added to the poles with pedestrian crossing signs, and the kind of pedestrian crossing flashers installed on Cook St in North Park village. I can think of many infrastructure improvements that would increase the safety of a much wider swath of the population. For one, the white and yellow line paint is not at all reflective at night and this city does not use any road reflectors and in many chases there aren't any signs above on the light standards indicating when a lane is a forced turn. When driving at night in the rain, the driver needs to look for difference in reflection on the road to be able to detect where there is paint on the road because the paint itself is not reflective. On more than one occasion driving at night in the rain I have found myself on the wrong side of the road after crossing an intersection because I was in the left lane that was a forced left turn (e.g. travelling east on Southgate at Douglas)

Not very accessible for people with mobility issues

Stop pissing away money on useless items.

more car-friendly

Please put a 3 way stop, which is cheaper than a roundabout, at Dallas and Douglas, when you join the park to mile 0. it will be dangerous to turn left from Douglas to Dallas if no 3 way stop, as you can't see traffic coming from the right. You should also consider the same for Cook and Dallas, for the same reason.

How can we build for a future that includes light rail?

The road closures on Vancouver and upcoming on Richardson are ridiculous and uncalled for. There is no evidence that these roads require such drastic action where some minor adjustments would suffice. This is catering to a small elite group of zealots

Wheelchair accessibility needs to be considered in every inch of our city infrastructure

Continue with cycling infrasture.

Please simplify bike lanes. Stop with the elaborate 2-way bike lanes that need traffic lights and take away parking and through streets for cars.

Chill on non-essential spending on new bike lanes, pedestrian walkways till more urgent issues resolved

While it's enjoyable to be able to ride bikes around downtown without the fear of being runoff the road by a car, far too much concrete and disruption was caused in the cities core. Lisa helps and her band of misfits have really muddled downtowns beautiful visual cityscapes. Wharf and Fort Street are almost impossible to drive down with the narrow lanes. Dallas Road looks like a concrete jungle. Not enough effort and attention is being put in to keeping the downtown core green. In my opinion, instead of wreaking havoc all over the downtown core; Douglas to wharf, Parliament buildings to Chinatown, should have been left without all of the added concrete and extra traffic lights, and simply been left as is and made car free.

Remove bike lanes from Vancouver Street, put a left turn lane off of Warf St onto Fort St, and fix the potholes rather than create congestion and unsafe roads through bike lanes. We need to focus on businesses and accessibility for people with income and room to carry purchases home aka vehicle traffic versus bicycle traffic which only come downtown for coffee,m and then order on amazon. We need to encourage downtown business rather than scenic bicycle riders who don't put money into the city.

Offer less on street parking, too much space used to park vehicles

Maintain all regions with Victoria at the same level of maintenance. Do not maintain richer neighbourhoods at a higher level.

I support any infrastructure that shifts the priority from single occupancy vehicles to active transportation and public transit. Any infrastructure upgrades need to have pedestrians and non-car road users built in.

The budget needs to be sustainable (think about the long game to partner with other levels of government), and it needs to be transparent in a way that the average taxpayer can understand and provide input. The city needs to 'up its game' when it comes to transportation planning that will support affordable housing in the CRD and promote climate leadership - you can't have one without the other.

Fix the damn potholes

Please stop adding bike lanes and please stop congesting vehicle traffic. There are businesses that need to run, and you don't seem to get that. The

The roads in the city are a mess. The large projects (sewer/water mains, bike lanes) and general construction, have left streets with potholes and broken pavement. Even after projects are completed roads are not repaved, just patched

Stay the course, 20 years from now the naysayers will realize how vibrant our city is. Edmonton has bike lanes for crying out loud!

I love the bike lanes but the area of their reach could well be expanded.

No

I would also like to see efforts made to reduce the cost of monthly passes for busing overall and allocating more funds towards this.

Stop spending on bike lanes. Pay more attention to residential speeding issues.

I would like to see bike lanes put on hold until sidewalks can be restored to a safe condition to accommodate all ability users, such as strollers, walkers, and scooters. Uneven surfaces make it difficult to navigate. I would like to see this type of alternative transportation supported.

We need to be cutting more on-street parking, especially on crowded residential roads where parking on both sides of the street makes traffic significantly more hazardous. The amount of parking in this city is a fertility drug for over-use of cars and we need to reclaim that space for better functioning public transit, bike, and pedestrian mobility.

Why are there still so many potholes in fernwood?

Too much money is being spent on bike lanes that are over built and too costly. The wasteful amount of money spent on Vancouver street which has disrupted our Neighbourhood (Vancouver and McClure) causing confusion, higher cost in gas for residents getting out of the area to head north, more time wasted in getting to where we need to go. Extreme waste in money with over-engineered and designed bike lanes!

Focus needs to be on sustainable transportation, not roads and parking lots for vehicles. More mid-block crosswalks are needed.

I would like to see more traffic calmed areas with particular attention to ensure the areas are accessible (eg. ramps for sidewalks, wide sidewalks, good signage - that is easily understandable even if unable to read, wide benches, abolish use of "homeless/sleeping deterrence", including benches with midspan railings, spikes along areas where people seek shelter, etc).

Road resurfacing needs to be a priority. Pot holes are a disaster and watching the same one get quickly filled to only open again a few days later is frustrating. Maybe time to resurface some of these roads... especially Fern Street.

Stop with the bike lanes, please. Money could be better spent improving public buses, rapid transit., etc

Should add to pedestrians to yield signs on right turn lanes

Stop spending \$ on bike lanes. Roads are falling apart. Far too many patch jobs. Bay st is awful.

The roads are suggesting while bike lanes are being built

Stop wasting money on Bike lanes and barriers, nobody will come downtown when they have to deal with constant obstructions.

More infrastructure that encourages active transportation.

More bike lanes!

More light up crosswalks like the ones on Cook Street @ Balmoral and North Park. I see near misses far too often at the unlit crosswalks. Hydro poles in the middle of sidewalks limit accessibility for wheelchair/scooters as well. (Oak Bay ave near Bank street is a good example. It limits the sidewalk to about 1.5 feet). With the diverter at Vancouver & Balmoral, a lot of traffic is now trying to turn left onto Cook Street. Is it possible to get a light there?

Ensuring all construction keeps in mind accessibility - contractors must ensure pathways better or be fined

I would rather climate initiatives take precedence over any infrastructural expenses that are not acutely necessary for public safety, as nice roads will matter very little in a 1.5+ degree warmed world.

Love the development of additional bike lanes (even though it affects car travel) because it allows communities to interact with their city in a new way, it's sustainable and equitable way to get around, and it promotes a healthy lifestyle.

It's certainly worth getting matching dollars from other jurisdictions, but inflationary pressure in the sector remains strong.

Realistically, if we are serious about addressing climate change there will need to be a rethink of how people and goods are transported. People who are able to walk, bike, or use other means of transport without emissions are going to need to give up individual ownership of cars and more to a community-controlled public transport system that is fueled off renewable and non-polluting sources. We will also need to move away from air shipping of goods. That is a huge shift from where we're at right now and the budget needs to reflect a realistic plan around how this transition will work and what the resources implications are.

making more pedestrian friendly spaces

The bike lanes have jammed up the flow of people in and out of the core. While it'd be nice to have less reliance on cars that is not the reality. Please look at fixing the traffic lights and change some of those bike lanes into public transit lanes.

We need transportation to grow to help reduce cars in the downtown core! More busses and shorter routes/options. Sidewalk and street repair is some of the worst I have ever seen out of the 15 cities I've lived in in Canada - especially for a city that does not have to deal with snow and ice often. Street cleaning is rarely done and this leads to damage to our sewer systems and creates dangerous conditions for cars, cyclists and pedestrians during

the wet winter months. Our streets here are also quite dirty with human litter. Compared to Other capital regions, we do a very poor job of keeping our street and pedestrians spaces free of garbage.

Dallas Rd and Cook Street should be a three way stop. Wider sidewalk space should be created when possible as sidewalks are very narrow. More bike lanes! I'm very happy with the recent transition for Vancouver into a bike route--more of that please!

Implementing low-no cost transit for all.

nope

Cars need to be de-prioritized and eliminated from as many downtown roads as possible to make a safe, walk-able city.

no

Safe shoulders for biking. Not every route needs full-on bike lanes, but there are many arteries that are simply unsafe to bike on right now because there is no room.

Free transit for all disabled is a must. Low income adults and youth also need free passes.

There needs to be vision zero applied to bikes and bike lanes . Bikes need safe speed limits. insurance and plates . If you are commuting on a bike this is a must. The fees can go towards user pay for this bike lane infrastructure . Icbc / Victoria ...Concerned the city will be sued as we have bikes doing 30k beside pedestrians This can also raise money \$

prompt repair of road surfaces near the curb would allow cyclists to use roads more safely in the absence of bicycle lanes; longer operating times for transit buses would enable late night workers to travel more safely and reliably; granting all persons with disabilities a no-cost transit pass would greatly raise the standard of living and ease financial and overall hardship

Boulevards could be food gardens instead of grass — at the very least pollinator gardens

You should re allocate some of the police budget to this area.

Please continue to invest in more bike lanes. I love being able to get to new places safely with my family, by bike.

No more developments without adequate underground parking. Anywhere in the city.

Overall, I think it's great. Investments in sidewalks, curb ramps, and other aspects of city streets is much needed and very important for creating a more accessible city. Also happy to see the removal of roadway between Mile Zero and Beacon Hill Park. I've been enjoying the new pathways & upgrades along Dallas Rd. I would also like to see improved bus transportation infrastructure, as I believe doing everything we can to encourage public & alternative modes of transportation to and from the downtown core is a critical part of fostering a more livable city.

The more people feel comfortable biking around the city in protected bike lanes, the more people will bike and stoke a culture of bicycle transportation

Please ensure the bike network is completed by 2022. Given the explosion of families, kids and seniors cycling, and the increasing availability of ebikes, we need safe and accessible bike paths

None at the moment.

Stop making cycling a priority. I know if I don't see on the outside of the house of parks repair nothing about the housing that are doing how

stop extending bikelanes. Have licenses compulsory for bikes and enforce laws on bikes i.e. no riding on sidewalks, stop at crosswalks, stop at stop signs and red lights, no riding the wrong way up one way streets etc

Improve the safety of routes and crosswalks that are used for bicycle commuting to school (outside of designated bike routes). For example Haultain and Richmond (for commuting with young children to school (South Jubilee area to Oaklands).

Start repairing roads downtown.

another city parkade would be good

I agree with the emphasis on active transportation. Victoria is small enough that any able bodied person can walk from one end to the other in 30 minutes. The city should work with regional partners to strengthen bus use as the pandemic winds down.

Sidewalks throughout the City have been neglected. There are many uneven or raised sections. I have fallen twice both serious causing scarring on my knee. The latest in 2020 causing a "hole" in my knee. Roads are in poor shape. I will send you my car suspension repair bill. Current infrastructure

has cars idling or sitting in traffic longer. eg. Cook St. Allocate the funds to fix the current issues and don't create infrastructure issues. eg. bike lanes (I am a cyclist) so you won't go over budget.

Love what you've done to increase bike lanes. Keep it up please! As you know, lots of bike lanes end and bikers have to merge back onto shared roads. As you increase bike lines, these problems will be reduced and the city will continue to be biker friendly.

separated bike lanes do not need to be so elaborate. Use planters and traffic quieting measures. Vancouver Street was fine as it was and now it is a mess. As is Richardson Street. I do ride quite a bit and appreciate all the efforts, the emphasis on alternative to cars

Please continue to develop the bike lane network at pace, and do not reduce its scope. Our network is a leader nationwide and something all Victorians can be proud of, and will benefit the City for generations.

The city makes revenue from car parking. Implement High-Tech Bike parking into city parking lots i.e. community waiting areas, bike shop on ground level of parking lots. Pop-up city parking near the harbour parking lot - encouraging more bikers with families into the area for shopping, eating etc.

I'd like to see more frequent buses within the city on all routes, lower cost public transit, and investment in light rail or other sustainable options regionally.

Upgrading and increasing bus transportation routes in between downtown, UVic, and other neighbourhoods. Improving public and alternative transportation infrastructure so that more people use bikes or the bus to commute or travel.

Please god stop providing a gold plated bike path and enforce fines for cyclists breaking the law. No bike helmets are a threat to everyone and so is running lights and stop signs. Please make public the investigation into bridge fiasco. If parkade is 90 percent empty then reduce price til its 90 percent full. Those parkers will not only park but shop. Right now they go to mayfair or hillside.

Gorge Road needs a safe bicycle lane. In the initial surveys it was identified as one of the top three in priority by citizens. It's off the radar now. So much for public consultation.

More cross walks.

Consider the blind and disabled when adding infrastructure.

Electric busses would be great.

Instead of a small number of high-cost, high-concept, high-signage bike highways that serve a limited geographic area, create an integral grid of low-cost, N/S and E-W bike lanes on existing roads by using green paint and strategic safety bollards to separate cars and cyclists.

Revisit free public transit and public bicycles

Optional question (367 response(s), 342 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

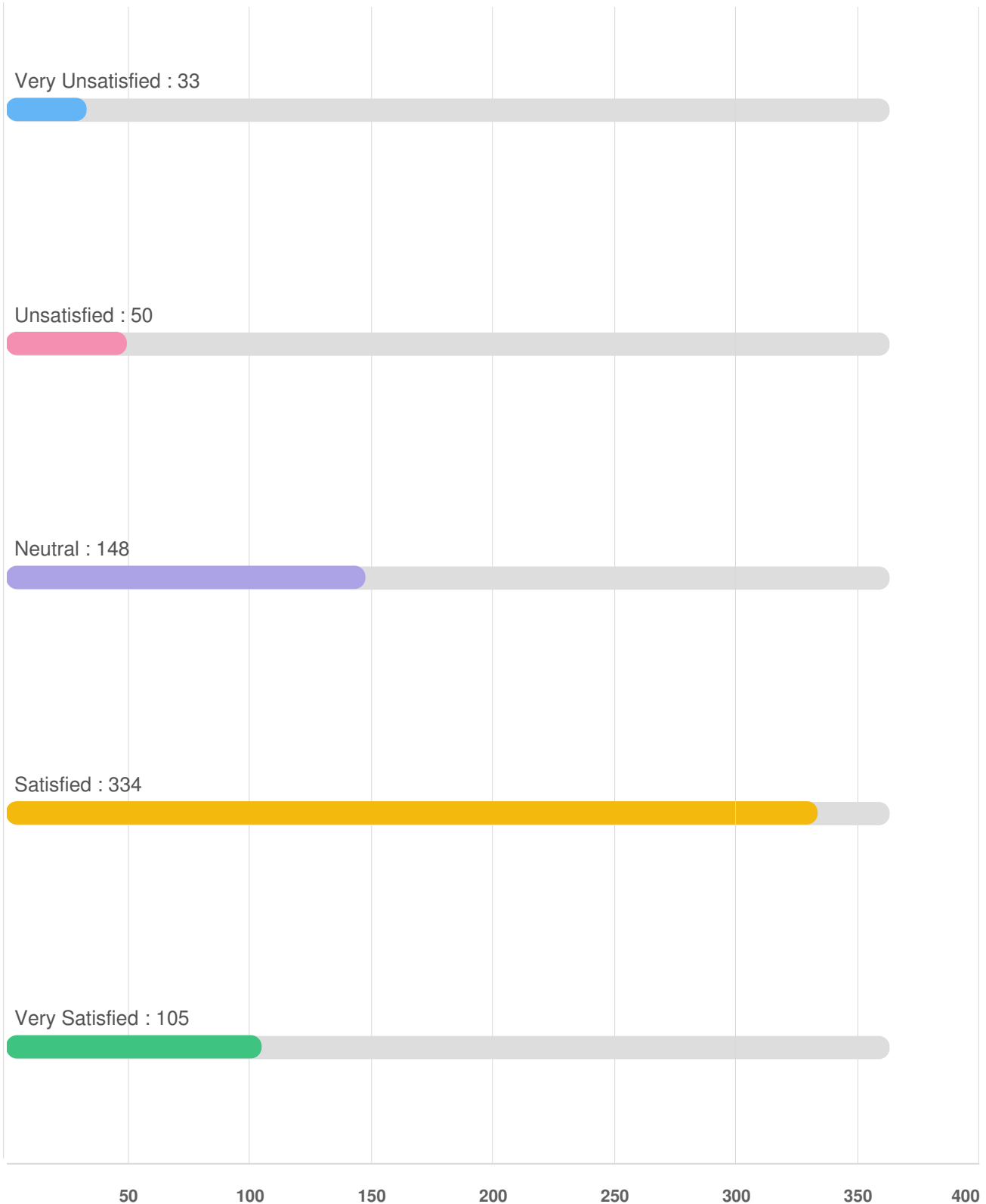
Q6 How satisfied are you with the availability, repair or maintenance of Victoria’s parks and public spaces infrastructure/amenities?



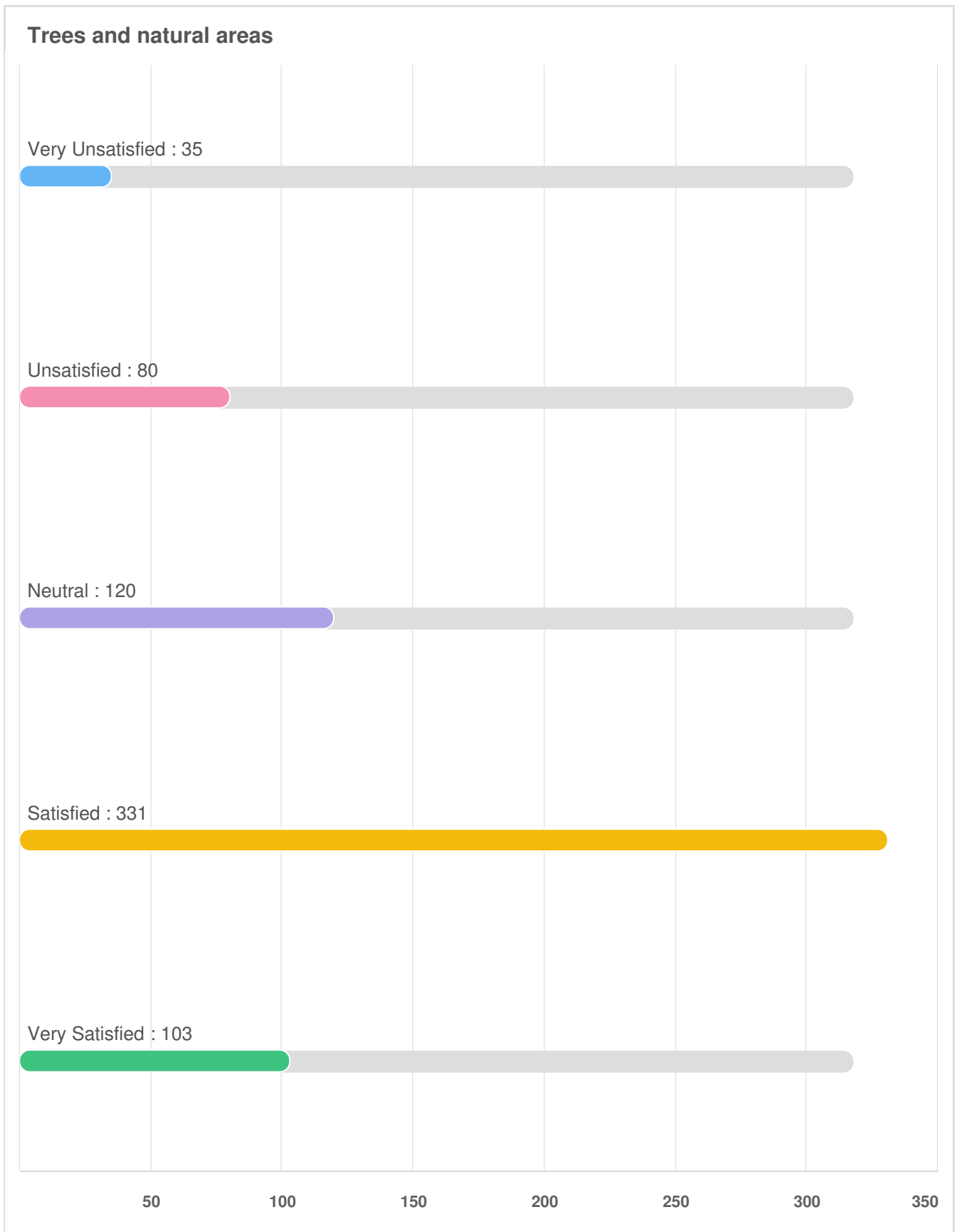
Optional question (686 response(s), 23 skipped)
 Question type: Likert Question

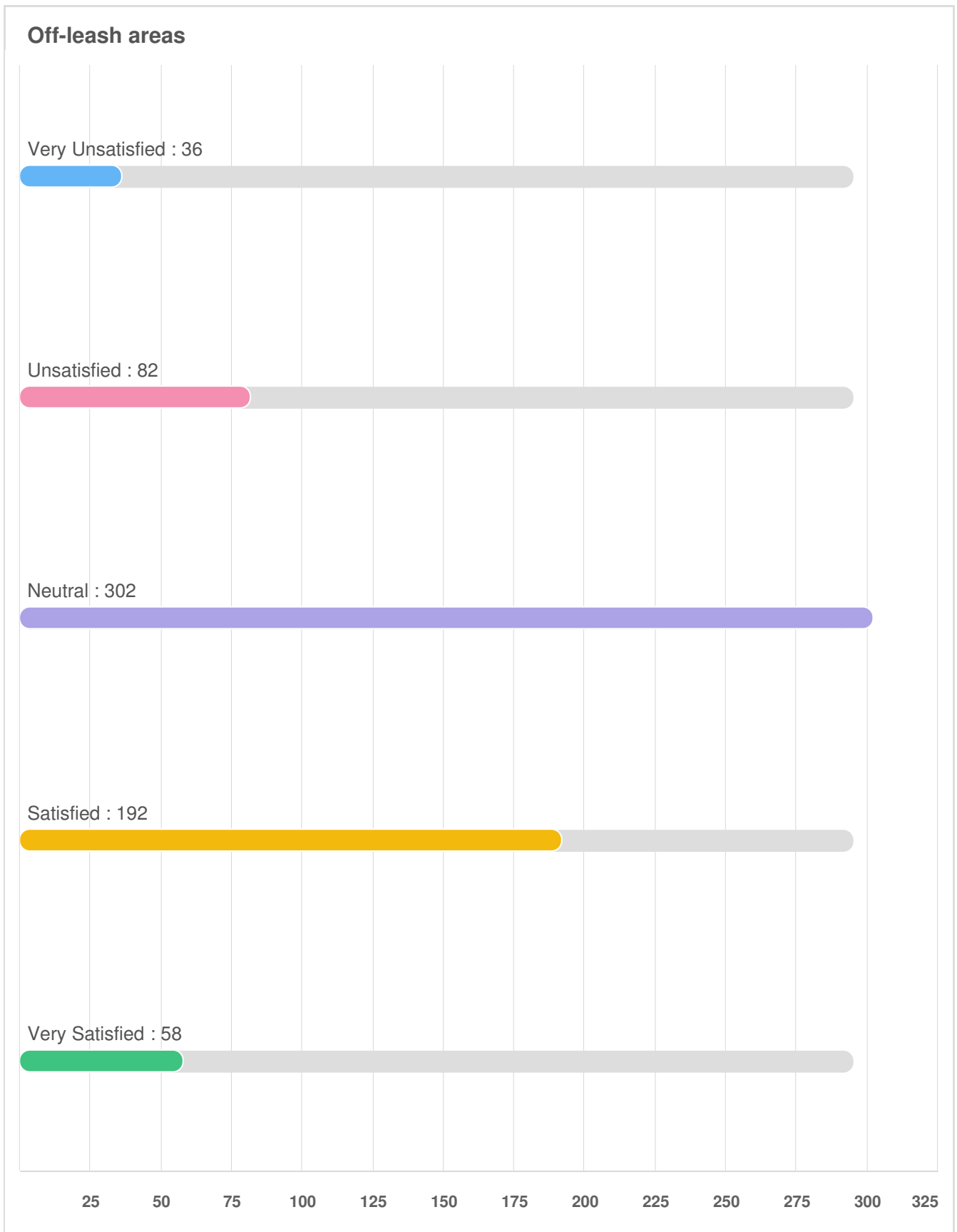
Q6 | How satisfied are you with the availability, repair or maintenance of Victoria's parks and public spaces infrastructure/amenities?

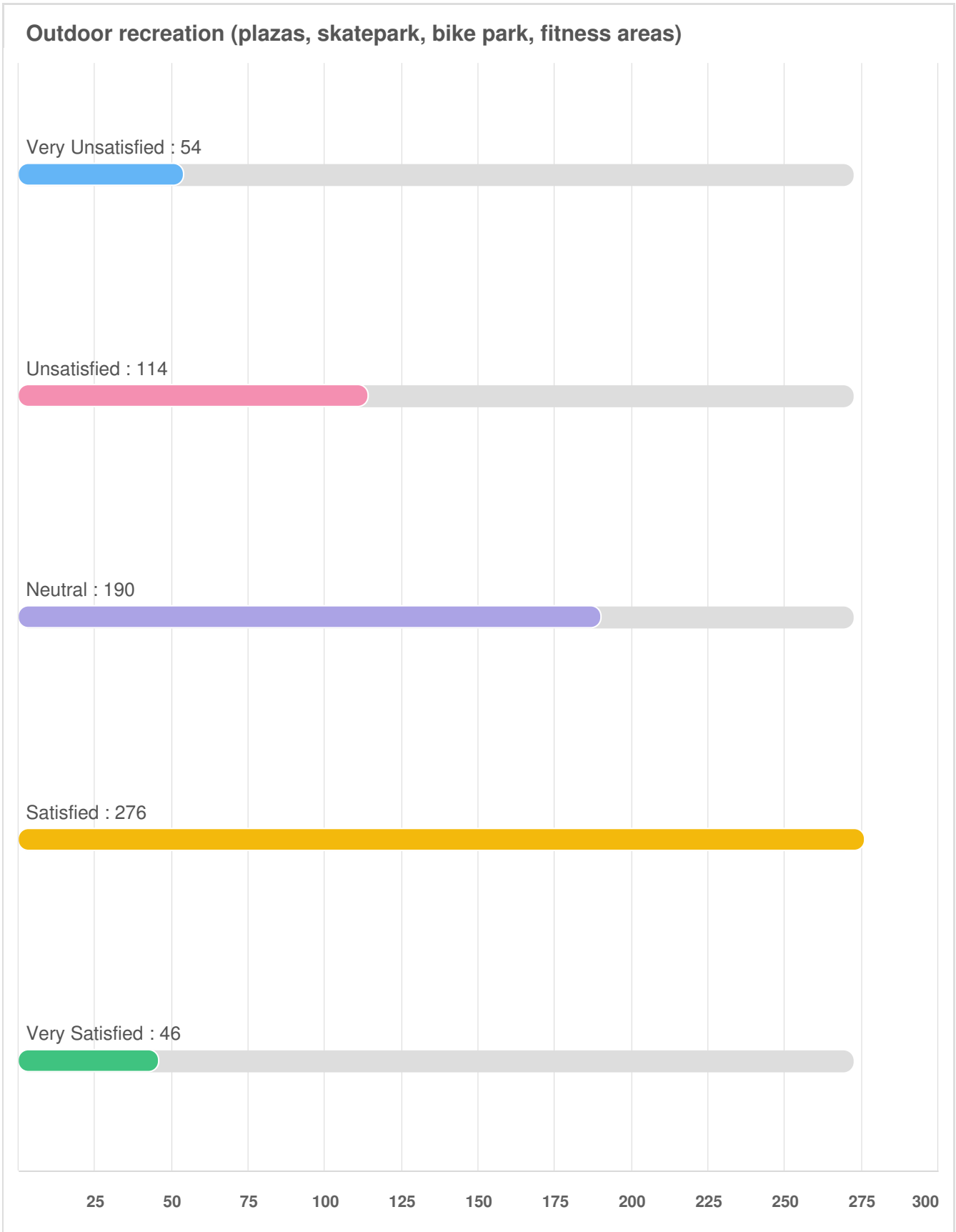
Landscaping

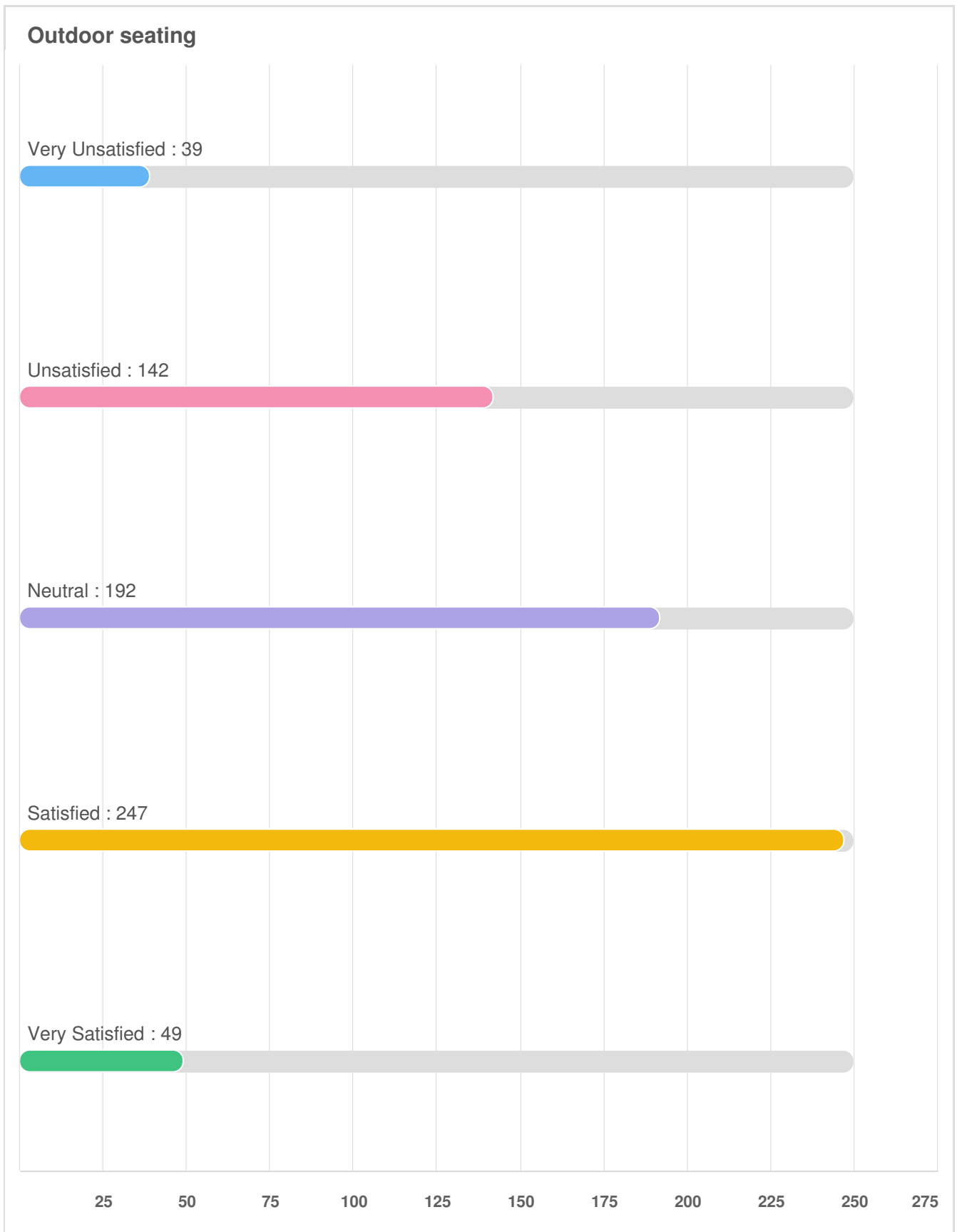


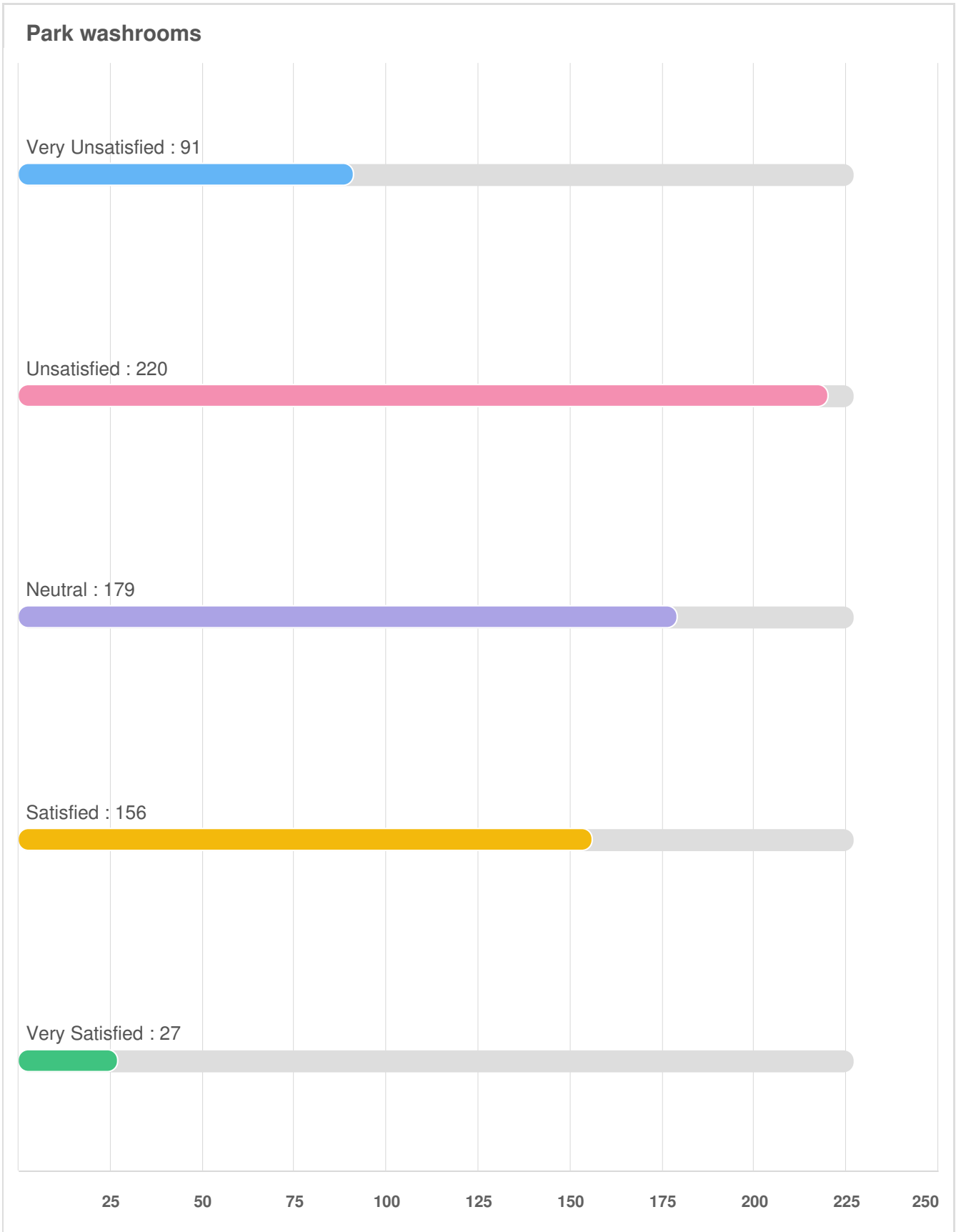
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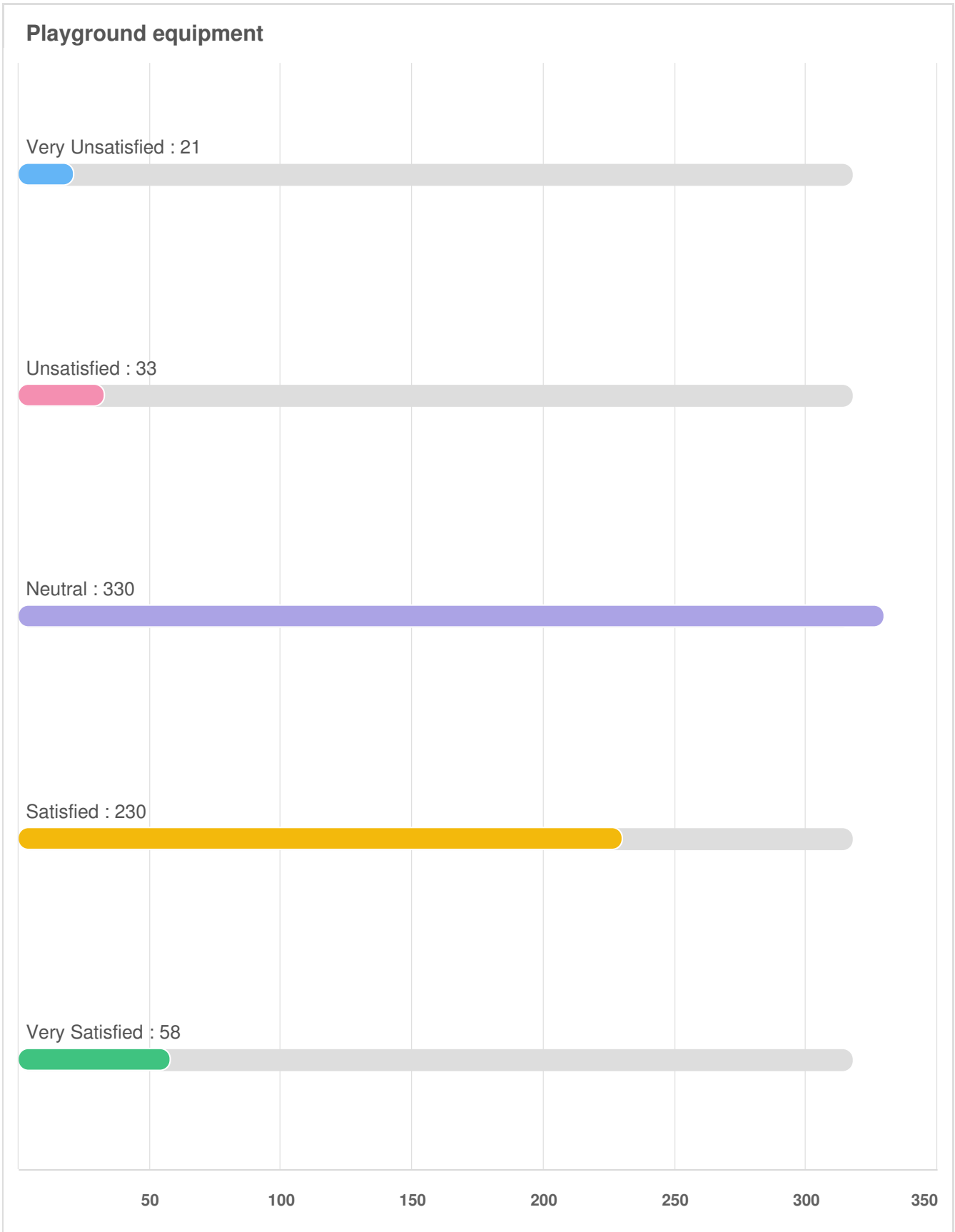


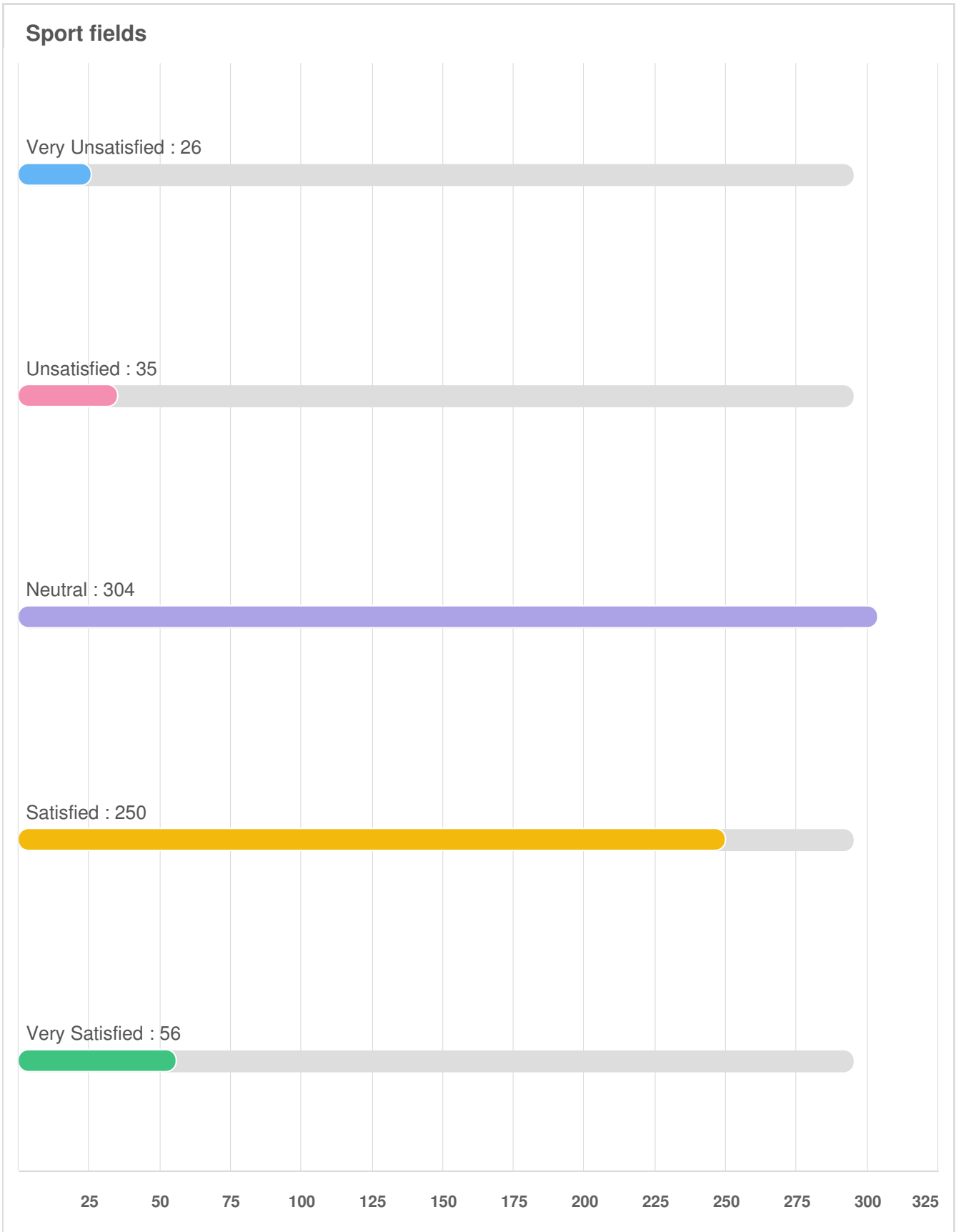


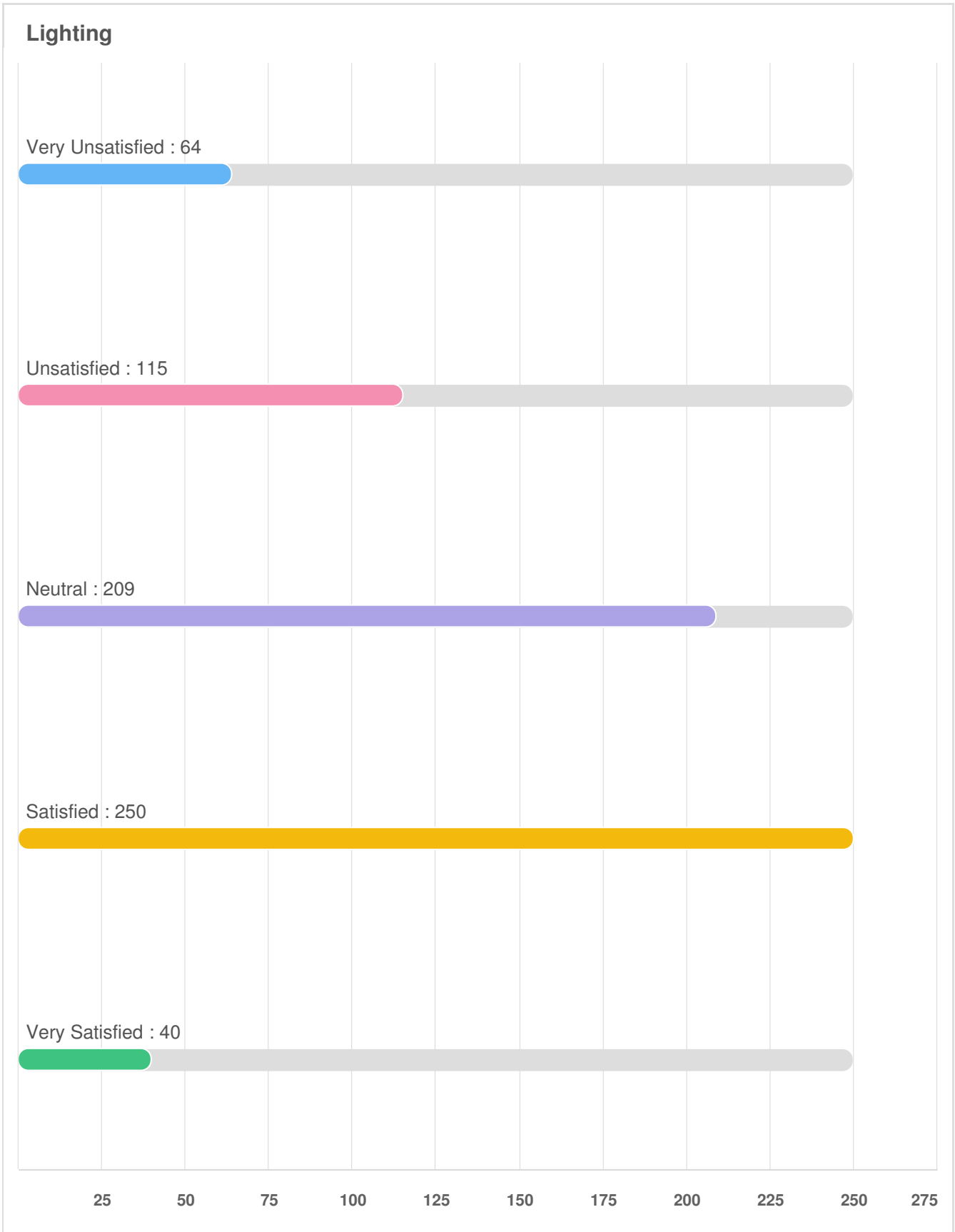












Q7 Do you have any comments or suggestions to share on the City's parks and public spaces infrastructure/amenities budgets?

Let's keep making improvements to our parks so they can be places where we gather, socialize and recreate. More seating, including picnic tables and covered seating areas for all seasons; better playground equipment, a splash park, more community gardens.

The City needs to acknowledge and honour the Beacon Hill Park Trust. Remove the homeless campers from the park and ensure the park is never again used as a living space.

More programming and ways to use parks is needed.

Please open Royal Athletic Park to the public. A for profit sports facility that costs taxpayers money while remaining locked and earning profit for the owner of the harborcats is a shameful waste.

It would be great if there was a shade/ shelter structure around Songhees Hilltop Park. Also a water feature by the park would be great since it is an off leash park. It gets tremendously hot in the summer there since it is an open area, so shade and/or water would be great.

It would be great to see more xeriscaping with an eye to warming temps and water use, from parks to decorative urban elements. Green roof retrofits would also be an interesting thing to explore for qualifying structures. Integration of fenced off-leash areas into existing (not overly ecologically sensitive) park space and playgrounds might be a good way to meet dog park demand.

Parks and public spaces have been desecrated by homeless sheltering in the parks. Park infrastructure is acceptable the enjoyment and safety of these spaces has been compromised. Clean up the parks and make them safe for tax payers to use.

All of the parks are currently unavailable to me, especially the Beacon Hill Park. There is a massive tent across the street from me that houses a man who is abusive towards his partner daily. I no longer feel safe in my own neighbourhood. I also no longer have access to the pool and recreation centre. As a person living with a disability I rely on these city services.

Get the homeless out of Beacon hill park. It is disgusting what you have allowed to happen to that once beautiful park.

1. Stop adding new off-leash areas until environmental degradation addressed. Don't assume that unsatisfied re. off-leash areas = wanting more.
2. Create equal no-pets areas. Make healthfulness of plantings a priority.

Use solar powered lighting where possible.

need more off leash dog parks (Jackson park or other parks with underutilized green space), outdoor recreation (more bike/skate parks) and park lighting (see Oaklands park path)

More public washrooms, better lighting in residential neighbourhoods

I am extremely worried about our ongoing loss of greenspace and mature tree canopy. We need more parks and natural areas in order to maintain livability in the city.

Give us back our parks/playgrounds. I can no longer take my children to my neighbourhood parks as they are homeless camps.

Can we try to love within our means this year council? Stop spending money to rip up roadways to add green space. Clean up beacon hill and just put the money in more important places (like not increasing taxes, water infrastructure, homelessness and helping residents and businesses survive!

We could use more outdoor covered seating.

Do not permit campers in Beacon Hill park and if they cannot be relocated, then they should have to keep their camp grounds clean. Deduct from their social assistance, welfare, government funding the cost of accommodation, services and clean up.

Would love to see more family focused green space downtown. Centennial square is in dire need of a revamp. Interactive ground level fountain for kids, chess boards, green space, food vendors, playground. Any and All would be welcome additions. Centennial square could be a gem.

we need the people of Victoria to understand that public means public. as in anyone can access these spaces. we need to de-stigmatize homelessness, addiction and mental health issues

you are going in the right direction ,keep , keeping your eyes on world-leadership , healthy cities is wisdom

Public washrooms in park areas need more frequent cleaning. Perhaps full time attendant in areas used by homeless campers is appropriate. Give some of the "homeless" part time jobs cleaning washrooms and picking up litter.

Definitely lacking plazas, public areas, skateparks. More lighting around certain key places in the city is needed.

Again the rating system is unclear in what it communicates. For more clarity:
- landscaping is not a priority: just convert to low maintenance native plants - trees and natural areas - please advocate for an urban limit to growth at the

urban fringe with the CRD. Langford needs to stop sprawling! The Highlands needs to revert to forest. - off-leash areas. It's horrendous how Dallas road has been commandeered by the dog owners. Our jewel of a waterfront is now a play pen for dogs. It stinks of piss and shit, and now the waterfront excludes anyone without a dog. - Outdoor recreation: we need a downtown park for recreation (sport). Please make sure it gets created. It's named in the OCP, but we need a site. What about Harris Green? - Outdoor seating: there aren't many places to sit down and eat lunch downtown that aren't private land. Please look at creating more seating downtown. - park washrooms: every park should have at least one. This should be a public good that is available at every park as well as within at least 400m from every location in the city. - sport fields: we need one downtown - lighting is fine, except for Dallas road along Beacon Hill. We need better lighting for pedestrians crossing the park at night.

Warm showers and more toilets must be made available to those sheltering in parks.

Vic west skatepark would be much safer with lighting installed (motion activated, solar). The vulnerable communities that skate at night or early in the morning are at risk of injury/ theft in the dark

Could always use more green space. Also the 'new' streetlights are sort of disruptively bright. It would be worth installing them with shades (or perhaps several shades) by default so they don't blare into people's windows. Keep up the good work.

Under normal circumstances, I'm very happy with all our park spaces. I've been waiting 31 years for something to be done with the space north of the inner causeway that's now parking. Hopefully that will be happening in the next couple of years and won't take forever to complete.

Do not want to risk the dangers (sharps, assaults) taking my kid to the playground. What an awful childhood.

End 24/7 camping and end it now.

Postage stamp parks are not parks, they are green spaces. This should be reflected in future, so we can design true parks in the city.

Improve washrooms and lighting.

Increase the number sheltered picnic areas in city parks.

Get the campers out so the general public can safely use the parks

Too much emphasis and money on 'place making'

increase and expand, maybe take from policing.

There are so many opportunities for added green space downtown - the three waterfront parking lots, the poorly used space at Pandora and Government across from Centennial Square, the unused fenced grassy area on Fort behind View Towers. We need to move forward on better utilizing this space. I would also love to see pollinator corridors along boulevards that connect between sensitive habitats, community gardens, etc., like what Seattle has done. I also feel like we're falling way behind on our tree planting targets.

Get the homeless out of our parks and STOP enabling the criminal element.

all playgrounds should be accessible and inclusive and more work needs to be done to achieve this. More spaces for off leash dogs and more areas for youth to be active also.

Enforce day use only

Get rid of tents

Camping should be banned in all parks. Drug users and other ne'er do wells should be promptly removed. Parks should be clean and safe places.

Camping in the Parks has been a zoning and bi-law disaster. The management responsibility for Beacon Hill Park should be taken away from the City of Victoria and given to CRD Parks.

Nope

field mtnce is comical.....injuries abound on uneven turf and long grass makes some sports difficult

more public/volunteer engagement especially re native plantings and eradication of invasives

Need more trees and community gardens, including small boulevard gardens.

Need more off-leash space. REALLY need more outdoor seating to get geriatrics like me out an walking.

OMG the lighting such as what is current in Central Park is blinding. Who thought that one up, eh! There are no park washroom facilities in Central Park. The sport fields in Central Park continue to flood in the rainy season despite a half-assed remediation about 10 years ago that applied a coating of sand but no piped drainage system. Go figure. What a waste of money that was. Forget using the playground equipment in Central Park with all the homeless whose presence is at the very least, intimidating.

Introduce playgrounds for seniors in public parks. A major missing amenity. Integrated with regular play spaces to encourage intergenerational opportunities.

Beacon Hill is our crown jewel and it makes me so sad that the city is turning a blind eye to its demise. It is no longer safe, clean or peaceful. What was once an oasis is becoming a cesspool. You have a responsibility to all citizens, which you abdicated to play politics.

More bike parking at all city properties

The City needs more professional ecologists and parks workers. I understand there are TWO professionals to care for all of Beacon Hill Park in terms of invasive plants etc. During COVID the city needs dedicated mask "rig dig" type crews as the proliferation of discarded masks is appalling. Provide free tongs and biodegradable bags for citizens who want to do mask patrols, and designated drop off places.

Outdoor fitness structures for adults would be nice

In general, there are inadequate toilet facilities in Victoria and CRD parks and along bicycle trails.

Please improve lighting in all public spaces to help address safety and make these spaces more appealing in the darker months.

I would prefer the city to prioritize indigenous species over ornamental ones, and I would love to see more food production on public space.

Take them back for families as intended

Vancouver street does not need Parks and seating.

The crown jewel of the city park system - Beacon Hill Park - and other green

spaces which have always been welcoming oases, are now a disaster. What money is being budgeted for restoration of these spaces? What money is being budgeted to ensure that they do not become permanent camping spaces?

more trees and washrooms and green spaces including rooftop gardens

- Parks wrecked by homeless camping/vans/tvs and associated crime, drug use, etc. Need major rehabilitation and end to camping. - Need more parks to have outdoor fitness circuits given that indoor fitness spaces may be unsafe indefinitely.

Get the camper out of Beacon Hill Park immediately. This was one of the worst decisions I've ever seen by a government.

Now that we've allowed homeless encampments in our parks, the City should invest in the tools to clean up debris, including metal detector sweeps to locate and remove discarded syringes.

If you need to reduce spending, the Mile Zero Beacon Hill road to grass conversion could certainly be delayed.

You allow 24 hour camping in the parks and have ruined them for the majority. Your disregard for environmental stewardship is shocking. Too scared to take my young family to the parks after getting yelled at by some campers.

Would like to see when replacing trees to consider fruit bearing trees

Get the tents out!! Buy property outside the city and house them there. There is no reason they need to be downtown

More public restrooms with hand hygiene stations are needed. Support tree planting initiative

If the best place for people without homes to shelter is parks, then they should shelter in parks. Maybe we can do better, and build homes.

It's hard to find a public washroom. This isn't just a Victoria thing but seems to be a Canadian thing. Many European cities have stand alone urinals and toilets for example. I don't understand how Victoria has tried to position itself as a tourists paradise with so few public washrooms.

Just be nice to get tenters out of parks and indoors - it's not right for them to not have shelter, warmth and safety. It also damages our parks having long term camping. It's not nice having to sweep for used needles before allowing

kids to play. Even doing a pre- play sweep, I overlooked some and I can't believe the potential consequences.

Thanks to all the City who assisted the unhoused residents to live in the parks during this emergency. Caring for people with needs is a high priority. There is no unresolvable incompatibility with other park uses. Emphasis should be on support, not punishment.

I'd love to see a park added at the corner of Fort and Quadra - I'm not sure who owns that vacant lot but it would be nice to purchase and turn into something useful given the lack of greenspace for downtown residents.

We 100% need more off leash/dogs allowed areas for dog owners. We have been pushed into smaller and smaller spaces with more and more restrictions. Some beaches you're allowed to take your dog in the summer would be nice, they want to swim too! Maybe a dogs allowed time frame for summer, late evening, as in 6pm onwards dogs are allowed?

NOte on showers in public parks to support the unhouse community who are currently living in parks in the COV.

Get the smokers out of the park spaces and rest areas downtown so one can breathe!

Don't want people to camp in them. If that's the way things are going lets do away with parks.

More off-leash dog spaces please

My comments above reflect the anarchy created by the so called homeless campers. The City got themselves into this mess by allowing overnight camping. The taxpayers will now be faced with huge bills to eventually rehabilitate the parks never mind the time and public access restricitions over months when the money could have gone to better maintaining and improving our parks and playgrounds. Get the housing, force the people off the parks into the housing and if they come back or don't leave; jail them.

I've noticed an improvement in the washrooms and appreciate it

24/7 camping in parks has ruined our parks and it will take a long time to bring them back to their former state. I suggest that campers be evicted/relocated during the winter rather than waiting till the end of March when the weather is warmer and more campers will have set up tents.

Supporting local gardeners to grow food by starting plants in city's greenhouse was an excellent project. Provide more support to homeowners who have significant, heritage trees - by reducing taxes to assist with arborist

maintenance and costs of insurance for liability.

Public washrooms often very unclean. Poor job maintaining boulevards and parks in lower income parts of the city ie. outside of Fairfield James bay and rockland

Get the campers out of our parks.

Camps in parks have made a mess and the parks need to be improved when the camping ends. We need more outdoor, weather-friendly places to gather (in small groups) in commercial districts. We need more public washrooms (and associated maintenance) in parks and commercial areas

More public washrooms

Please do not stop people from tenting in parks until they have access to safe, secure housing. Enforcement of the 7-7 bylaw is cruel and further marginalizes our most vulnerable populations.

more street lighting! More boulevard gardens

24/7 tenting should not be allowed in parks

Every basketball court is constantly in use. Please consider adding more.

Restrict camping in public parks.

The priority should be making sure that those without homes are not evicted and that they have the amenities they need, such as hot showers. It is absolutely shameful that the city prevented grassroots efforts to provide for those less fortunate. Living across the street from a park, I see all the maintenance that goes into the care of the lawn, the trees, the fencing. If even a fraction of this budget was redirected towards ensuring the comfort and reintegration of the unhoused population instead of policing them, then we would have a more equitable society. It's terrible that most of the city's residents despise poor people and value public greenery more than human lives. I imagine that those voices will be over-represented in this survey as they tend to be the voices of white, elderly people who have time to do surveys.

Similar general comment as the transportation breakdown. Generally though, when the problem we face is underrepresented and underserved people and we are presented with a finite resource (the budget) then it would be nice to

see more of the money going to services that support those in need rather than to lawns.

Again, I would emphasize the importance of getting native plantings in the landscaping in city parks and greenspaces, even on the tiniest of boulevards. They have the added benefit of being lower maintenance. I feel like there is a lot of parks that are big open grassy fields, and while this is important for sports events, I'd prefer to see more of the parks with wooded or semi wooded green spaces (for example, spaces like Beacon Hill, Stadacona, Summit Park & Moss rocks seem to serve the general populous better, in my opinion, compared to Parks like Oaklands, Brooks, David Spencer, Topaz, Royal Athletic, Central park etc. which seem to be very user defined - i.e. for sporting events and with minimal tree coverage.) I don't use off leash areas/playgrounds/sports fields all that often, so have no comment there, and don't tend to gravitate toward overly constructed spaces either i.e. plazas skateparks, etc. The park washrooms that I use most often are Beacon Hill, and it tends to always be pretty gross in there - lots of water on the floor, no soap....ick. More maintenance here perhaps. I find streetlights to be overly bright! As a cyclist they are great, but as a resident in an urban centre, they shine so brightly into every home I've ever lived in. Not sure if there's anything to be done about this - but perhaps covers or something that shine light more directly onto roads and not into peoples bedrooms?

Disappointed with the total lack of Holiday lighting in 2020. Its tragic that you aren't replacing our flowering trees with similar flowering trees. These are things that make our city special. Your ideology is too focused on active transportation and you're losing the plot for regular, tax paying property owner constituents.

More trees along busy paved streets would definitely help in the hotter months.

There is a lack of parks downtown and north of downtown.

Victoria has done a great job of providing parks and landscaping. I do appreciate it. However, a few suggestions: (1) more washrooms (the elderly can't travel far without one). (2) Covered picnic areas to allow more outside activity (really noticed in pandemic there were no picnic areas that had covers from rain). (3) Widen the path directly beside the cliff on Dallas road. The one near the cliff is too narrow especially with pandemic. Plus given how narrow it is, so many walkers are using the shared wider paths with bikes that it is pretty impossible to bike. I've tried. (4) I don't get out at night much but please be sure your lighting is Dark Sky compliant, if you haven't already considered that. Thanks! I also look forward to when there will be enough housing that the tents can be removed from public parks... I know it was a short term solution, but the tents in Beacon Hill Park long term have been concerning.

END 24/7 CAMPING

Please devise and implement a more effective strategy for ending camping in parks.

Only allow overnight camping in designated areas where washrooms are available - Beacon Hill Park should not be a designated area.

It is not safe to go to Beacon Hill Park. why don't campers have a designated area like the field off of Douglas Street? My family hasn't been able to enjoy the park since the pandemic started. I used to walk to the park on my way home but my daughter asked me to stop she was worried for my safety.

For the love of god, please add washrooms to all playgrounds and parks. Banfield Park, George Jay Park, and Alexander Park are good examples- so many little kids (including my own) pee and poop in the bushes there because there are no washroom facilities. This can be paid for by increasing taxes on the wealthy and on luxury items.

I wish there were more public washrooms. Especially at night.

Availability: I moved to Victoria because of park amenity and the amazing jobs Parks does in creating and maintaining them. However, despite living close to Beacon Hill Park I don't use it any more due to the significant and enduring homeless presence there - along with all the detritus from that occupancy. Washrooms: I don't feel safe using the washrooms at Beacon Hill and I absolutely would not let my grandchildren use them. Once again...tenters have made what was once a jewel of a park a no go zone.

As a result of neglecting to protect and preserve public spaces many have become unusable or unsafe for general use. Please ensure appropriate use and work to improve these public amenities.

We live in a micro-climate that allows us to surround ourselves with botanical beauty - please take advantage of this and return Victoria to a city of flowers and gardens.

Why is Peter Pollen Park not being completed

Please consider reducing the number of invasive plants and species (e.g., Scottish Broom).

While we have a pandemic ongoing we need to recognize that 'our' parks (I put the word parks in quotes since they are unceded Indigenous land) may need to be used for sheltering and that we should be flexible and helpful rather than punitive and rigid as Bylaw and the city governments have been

with campers. Open washrooms, provide water for washing and drinking, provide electricity etc. etc. You know what the right thing is to do - show some political spine and do it.

The LED street lights are brutal and bright. Consideration of residents
Windows should be at installment not complaint

Want to see Beacon Hill Park restored to its former beauty ... it should not be a homeless camp ground as there are more suitable places that do not interfere with public enjoyment ... especially for families wishing to take their children there ... especially important when the BH Farm animals return post pandemic

I am afraid to spend time with my family at most of Victoria's public parks due to the fact that the City of Victoria is not enforcing bylaw restrictions regarding public camping. Not feeling safe to use these parks and playgrounds makes me supremely disappointed in understanding the choices of council.

Increase safety, I shouldn't have to sweep for needles

More public washrooms and gathering places are needed. Especially during the pandemic.

No more tents

COVID has shown how little public washroom, park and recreation spaces there are for Victoria residents. Meanwhile, the population in congregate housing grows. Divert more funds to more public washrooms, park space/seating/covered areas and playgrounds

either more bathrooms, or have the ones you do have open more often. what's the point of a washroom if they're locked 24/7?

Side streets are poorly lit and could use more lighting to make them safer

Some parks could have better lighting for safety.

We really need lights at Vic West Skatepark!

Need lights at Vic west skate park for congestion of park users during lighted hours.. and a new skate park too, but lights will help the congestion for now

Please add lights to vic west skatepark!!!!

Fix my gutter that your city truck ripped off my house & defund the police.

Lights to be installed at vic west skate park

We need to make it easier for people to spend extended amounts of time outside. That includes specifically washrooms, covered areas, places to sit, tables for eating or reading, and similar infrastructure.

Need public washrooms in all major parks in neighborhoods. Some better street lighting

Any tree cover that could be added to the urban landscape would be beneficial to people and the environment (more carbon sinks). We love the new outdoor seating on Dallas Road and would love to see more of this.

The skateparks need lighting

Adding lighting to the local skatepark to allow for more hours of usage in the colder months

lights at vic west skatepark & a indoor skate park!

Install lights to the VicWest Skatepark! This is the largest most populated skatepark in Victoria & the skate community would benefit massively from the installation of lights

Bright and high coverage lighting have two really important benefits (1) increases safety and (2) allows outdoor spaces to be useful for more hours of the day, important for overall well being and especially during a pandemic

More covered outdoor space. Especially in times of Covid to be outside barring weather

We need lights at the vic west skate park please!

Please add lights to Vic west skatepark, and break ground on topaz skate park

Vic West skate park needs lighting. Now more than ever!

Lights at Vic West Skatepark to allow skaters to skate and be active for longer periods of time during the day.

We need lights for the skateparks! Preferably to a later hour so adults are able to skate more with far less risk of collision with children when the park is very crowded during the day. This will also prevent people to attempt skating at night, or in places not desirable to others.

Please add lights to Vic west skatepark and build topaz skatepark

There needs to be lights at Victoria West Skatepark

Keep public washrooms available and clean at all times for unhoused people, including showers

Better lighting in dimly-lit areas of the city, particularly for folks who are more vulnerable.

Need lights at Vic West Skatepark

More lighting in skateparks

Living in Canada we are subjected to long, dark winters. An outdoor facility is not being used to its fullest extent if it depends solely on sunshine to be well lit. The Vic West skatepark should follow suit of the majority of skateparks across BC and Canada, and should have lights installed an on from dusk until late in the evening. The park is a massive safety hazard after dark because of the lack of light.

Lights at the skateboard / bike parks

Lights at Vic West skatepark

Public showers for the vulnerable community should be priority one

The Victoria West skatepark is becoming increasingly overpopulated and nearly impossible to use comfortably, particularly during late fall, winter, and early spring. The lack of daylight hours results in a bottleneck of hundreds of

people showing up within a small window of time. I believe the community would greatly benefit from having lights installed for use between sunset and 10~12. I know there's a significant upfront costs as well as maintenance/power resources. I suggest that a system in which an individual can pay (such as a parking meter) and the lights will come on for a set amount of time, thus cutting down on wasted power and providing a monetary incentive for the city to install these lights. Thousands of people rely on Vic West skatepark as a place to socialize, exercise, and self-improve. This has become increasingly difficult and I personally know many people who have given up because they are unable to skate in the overpopulated park. Please, something needs to be done to maintain the community people have worked so hard to establish in this city.

We need lights at vic west skatepark.

As it gets dark very early, I wish there were more lights in the parks, such as off leash parks and skateparks. There is very limited playing time during winter. This will result more spread out activity times and it's good for social distancing. Besides, it is very important for safety too.

Please install and use low consumption lights in park to keep them safe while using renewable energy

VicWest skatepark should have lights to skate past 6pm.

Lights at the vic west skatepark to make it look cleaner, and have it more accessible during darker times of the year

Please make lights at vic west skatepark.

These areas are all in disrepair due to ongoing homeless encampments. Many parks and green spaces are now filled with needles and garbage, and are not a safe or fair place to let members of our community continue to live in. Those without homes deserve better than camping in muddy parks without appropriate facilities.

Losing uvic as an off leash dog play area was a big loss. We need more designated areas for animals. More outdoor seating that allows people to lay down and rest their legs. More public washrooms (especially now that so many places are closed). More skate and bike parks

Get rid of anti-homeless architecture (spikes/metal bars on benches, etc)

Stop giving the homeless our public spaces.

Small scale spaces for skateboards bikes and scooters are needed throughout the eastern portion of victoria

We need lights at vic west skatepark

Put lights in the skatepark!!!

Please support those who need housing who are currently in tents in the parks.

END 24-HOUR CAMPING IN ALL PUBLIC PARKS. It is inconsistent with the Beacon Hill Park Trust, and establishing semi-permanent homeless encampments creates a sharp divide between campers and local park users, as well as creating safety issues for nearby residents and City workers. This is NOT acceptable. The legal decision only gave campers the right for overnight tenting, not 24-hour. This is creating social issues and increasing costs to the City for remediation.

We really need lights at Vic West Skate park

More public free restrooms

Get the homeless out of the parks. Put them in parkades. Dry, warm and away from damaging or hurting the public.

they should put up more street lights at vic west skate park so you can see when you skate at night

The amount and location of skateboard parks in Victoria is very poor.

Have you seen how busy the Vic west skatepark is?? It's packed every day that the ground is dry. We need more skateparks ASAP! This is a hot spot for youth exercise and community. Each park is considered a treasure to those who use it. At the very least add lights to the Vic west skatepark so we can skate until 9pm (and spread out the use over the day). We need more skateparks in the city, and make one of them dedicated to young kids and kids on scooters.

I am concerned by the anti-homeless nature of much of the architecture of Victoria's parks, such as bars on benches, with little alternative housing for

those without homes. In addition, when resources such as the local showers were built by concerned citizens to accommodate the local unhoused population, these were dismantled by the VicPD and alternatives were not provided.

Lights need to be installed at the skatepark. This is issue #1 for so many Victorians, you probably don't hear this because the primary users of the space are young people who aren't as politically involved. The skatepark and adjacent basketball area also have ongoing drainage issues and would benefit from perimeter drains. Victoria also has a complete lack of dry spaces to skate at, which is causing an ongoing battle between skateboarders and security staff at the city's parkades and at other parkade areas. No one wants to skate inside a car park, we are just out of options every winter. This is not a small community, Victoria is a destination for skaters from all across Canada. In recent years the population of skateboarders in the city has exploded due to a number of factors I won't get into here, but the fact remains that we've collectively outgrown the city's limited infrastructure for the sport and its beginning to cause problems which could be resolved by making it more accessible in two basic and effective ways; Make skateboarding viable at night, with lights. Make skateboarding accessible in the rain, with a sheltered skatepark. (Vancouver has done this to some degree and I can personally attest to its success with parks like Coopers Park and the Granville Island Bowl)

more public washrooms available

consider making the public washrooms accessible 24/7, as it would benefit many people in the community who work odd hours

Lighting fit vic west skate park

All playgrounds should be accessible to wheelchairs. This excludes children, parents and caregivers who use wheelchairs. All skateparks should have ample lighting. They foster amazing community in our city and they should be able to use this incredible space when it's dark out. More public washrooms.

The budget for 2021 and 2022 needs to be spent remediating the damage to many local parks due to 24/7 camping.

Vic West needs lights, and the Victoria needs an under cover place for people to skateboard. We wouldn't be taking to the streets and parkades if so.

We could really use some lights at the Vic West skatepark.

Have more spaces designated where people can set up shelter within city limits or parks to help ease friction between those who come to the park as a break from their current living space, and those who don't have a current home.

More public bathrooms

Lighting at skateparks (especially Vic West!) Crosswalks NEED to have flashing lights that pedestrians can press when crossing.

Don't spend money on implementing architecture that is hostile to the unhoused (centennial square for example). Money would be better spend on solutions for these folks instead of big fences.

Would like to see areas of smooth pavement available for roller skaters/bladers as many trails aren't suitable for these activities (parts of the Goose) or banned from participating (David Foster Walkway)

Cleaner public outdoor washrooms- especially amid Covid-19 pandemic

Improved lighting for safety of walking at night. Also if parks are continued to be used for camping/housing for homeless, there should be sufficient funds to provide adequate facilities and for park clean up in high traffic areas.

More public washrooms. Don't understand why waterfountains are turned off in winter along bike lanes and in parks (not during COVID-19)

Should have public washrooms at parks, especially for unhoused community.

Vic West skatepark really needs lights!!

Having lights installed at Vic west skatepark, similar to the Whistler skatepark where the lights are button activated and on a timer setting

Getting lighting installed at Vic West Skatepark would be a very good use of this budget.

I think replacing the turf field at Topaz Park is a huge waste of resources, especially as we cannot hold events for the foreseeable future. I also think removing the road between Mile Zero and Beacon Hill, while nice to have extra green space, doesn't consider accessibility for those who have trouble walking long distances.

There are so many empty and underutilizes outdoor parking lots, please

repurpose more spaces for the growing demand of housing and the homeless crisis!

Provide more places for the houseless to access showers, toilets and clean drinking water.

stop repeatedly removing unhoused people from public spaces if you dont have other resources for them!! that is awful and completely inhumane, create safe spaces for homeless people in lekwungen territories

install showers in parks so house insecure people can bathe. open for washrooms with running water in parks.

Skateparks should have lights at night.

Add solar energy systems

add more public washrooms

Sometimes I would really like if there was a couple lights set up at Vic West Skatepark

Lights at Vic West skatepark, more outdoor fitness equipment/calisthenics equipment

Please include lights at the Vic west skatepark

We need self cleaning washrooms for the homeless population.

Lights at Victoria west skatepark! And lights for the topaz park when ever it actually gets built... build it!!

Park washrooms should be open for use 24/7 for access by houseless people and folks who work overnight,.

Lights at Victoria west skatepark so that users can use the park into the evenings, especially during the winter when days are so short.

The parks are being used as shelter for the homeless which is unacceptable both for the homeless (who need housing, obviously) and tax-paying citizens who pay for use of parks but are currently unable to.

I can no longer take my two young children to the nearest park due to the amount of people camping in it. I also have stopped taking my two young children to Beacon Hill Park. It is impossible to prevent a four year old from exploring while I am pushing a stroller with a one year old. I can't sweep the parks for needles beforehand as the signs you put up instruct me to do. Spend money to get campers out, remediate the parks and give them back to the tax payers.

It's laughable that a city which has turned over at least two of its parks to squatters has the nerve to ask about the state of its parks budget.

The public washrooms around beacon hill and Dallas road need to be taken care of better. They are a great resource for the public and homeless community and a little extra attention would go a long way.

Build another skatepark, there is extreme overuse of the only 2 there is. Which is dangerous as recently there was a collision which unfortunately killed a man. Skateparks are so over crowded with scooters that is forces us to take to street skating which the city does not like either. Build more parks & put lights at a park or an indoor?

Vic West Skatepark needs lighting!!

Increasing lights on streets would be helpful for driving and walking at night, would help to increase safety as well

Need to create community gardens and more sustainable green spaces that are for everyone. Beacon Hill park or other green spaces are for all! Need to house the homeless and those with mental health issues and keep green spaces for all to enjoy.

We need lights at Vic west skatepark!

off leash areas should be fenced in or away from other users. Dallas road is dangerous and no longer walkable thanks to the uncontrolled dogs. Need more appropriate locations (and more of them)

There needs to be more places for skateboarding and lights installed at the Vic West park! Vic west park is currently heavily overcrowded and becomes unsafe due to that. With the increased popularity of scooters for young children, lots of kids are being hurt partially due to the overcrowding and the parents' negligence of teaching their kid to look before they go.

Build lights at lightless skateboard parks.

It would be great to see more calisthenics infrastructure at parks (dip bars

and platforms) for safe outdoor workouts - i usually have to use playgrounds like the one at Central Middle School

Focusing on bringing programming, community events, etc, including events that support struggling music, literary and arts sectors, to parks and outdoor rec spaces would be a nice way to ease back into community spirit and group activities as the pandemic winds down

Lighting at the skatepark

Lights at vic west skatepark

lets put more showers in public washrooms for unhoused community members that way we can prevent the spread of illnesses such as covid 19

More public washrooms and dignity for unhoused populations

make space for homeless to exist without police presence and harassment.

Stop investing in displacing unhoused people by relying on neoliberal conservation practices for environments degraded by urban development. Accessible, gender inclusive 24/7 bathrooms, showers, hand washing stations, drinking water stations should be ALL over the city. Public outdoors spaces to sleep, meet, play music, exist without criminalization would be nice. No more police or bylaw threatening our community members.

I have noticed the deterioration of several local Garry Oak ecosystems. People trample these rare and endangered ecosystems, allowing their dogs free rein of the areas. I think that vernal pools should be fenced off, at the very least, to avoid further destruction.

Provide more public washrooms and showers for the unhoused population.

It's so aggressive that the city put up extreme lighting in Beacon Hill Park where homeless people were trying to sleep. Also, I often find that our public bathrooms are not very clean.

More parks that allow dogs off leash, and more bylaw/animal control around monitoring for bad owners not cleaning up after there dog. Or use camera monitoring if it's easier, penalize the bad owners ruining it for the majority of owners that do clean up after there dogs.

I think they could use with more money to improve covered spaces and creating clean safe washrooms and public showers.

The more support for biodiversity in green spaces the better!

More blue lighting and less anti homeless infrastructure.

Lights at Vic West skate park would be good. More greenspace. Less cars.

More covered outdoor seating would be great. It's hard to find good seating in the surrounding area of the downtown core. And I would like more lighting, especially for bikers and pedestrians

Question 6 may be misleading. My und=satisfactory designations for 2 items does not mean more expenditures required. In fact the opposite. By unsatisfactory for bike park etc and washrooms, suggest no more funding goes towards such items (the useless ping pong table) until the City proves it will end the games and wastage we see almost daily through fluff projects rather than long-ago committed infrastructure.

Don't feel safe in the parks with dirty needles, drugs and garbage being left behind.

Please consider extended hours for public park washrooms as many people rely on them and it is especially important to have access to running water and soap during these times.

Parks are too over developed and landscaped and do not allow space for native vegetation and species

Please provide vicwest skatepark with night lights or build a indoor skatepark for public use.

Please put lights at the Vic West skatepark

Vic west skate park need night light for kids. Under cover recreation for winter.

Victoria Skate Park lacks lighting itself and certain areas other areas around the city that lack lighting are quite unsafe. Victoria during the day is typically a safe city but recently, we have seen robberies take place downtown showing just how unsafe it can be.

I would like welcoming green spaces and food production spaces to take priority over cosmetic/non-edible landscaping

Better, cleaner toilets. No free standing toilets anywhere within the Core.
Improve street lighting. More litter removal from sidewalks and more funds to combat graffiti

More public washrooms

-more space and services available for homeless people to shelter in place with access to water and showers - less money going towards by-law enforcement that pushes out and puts at risk the city's most marginalized people

There needs to be a solid plan to remove the campers from Beacon Hill park and remediate the damage. It is unacceptable that a family can no enjoy the space without seeing people drinking, swearing and otherwise conducting themselves which is not suitable for a public space.

There are not adequate facilities providing clean water, bathrooms, and showers to people who are sheltering outside.

Once parks are decamped from all the homeless tents, please do not "refurbish" them through unnecessary spending to prevent future tents. It's a waste of money and only further marginalizes where people can or cannot camp when they literally have no where else to sleep at night besides a tent in a park.

We need a central space for Indigenous BIPOC LGBTQ2S to gather for culture in Victoria

We want our parks back.

Please no overnight camping/tents/homeless camps in our parks and public spaces!

I support continuing to expand more accessible green spaces

More outdoor public washrooms for our unhoused communities.

I am very unhappy that the biggest chunk of the capital budget is going to turf replacement at Topaz. This is a great benefit to REGIONAL organised sports and of limited benefit to the neighbourhood. I note that the skate and bike skills park at Topaz is still in the planning phase. This despite the neighbourhood advocating for years. In terms of Royal Athletic Park this should be returned to public use. In order to have 80 operational days that are all paid events it is locked up, unavailable to the neighbourhood. For

years I thought it was a private facility and was stunned to find it was city owned. Parks priorities seem to reflect the backgrounds of parks director and do not reflect neighbourhood interests.

At this time do not spend \$760,000 on additional crosswalks etc. Do not spend \$4.8 million on artificial turf and playground upgrades. Only spend funds on absolute necessities. 1 road that is in need of repaving is Yates st a main artery into the city.

Keep them as parks, more consideration for the tax payers.

More covered spaces for socially distanced socialization in parks would be great

The parks were very nice places to go before the homeless encampments. Now I do not feel that they are a safe place to be. There could be more seating around the city for elderly people.

How dare the Mayor and Councilors exclude the public from accessing the parks that we pay for with our tax dollars by allowing 24/7 tenting by high risk and high needs people. Crime has doubled in some categories (break and enters) along with sexual assaults' increasing. The park in my area has been filled with garbage, prostitutes and the washroom destroyed on a daily basis. The cost to the City to support 24/7 tenting has cost more than \$1M according to the Mayor. I want a refund on my taxes as I paid for a service (parks) that I can't access.

Emphasize native and fruit trees for shade, climate mitigation, and a food source for those who need it. Increase space for outdoor seating to support local businesses hit hard by COVID. Allow continued camping and develop additional infrastructure to support the unhoused on city land, including parks, but restrict these activities to certain areas in certain parks and develop maintenance standards. Support the Victoria Extreme Weather Protocol Conestoga Hut program to replace tents with warmer and more secure structures in areas where tenting is to be allowed.

The full 8 lane track should be maintained at Vic High. Parks should be used for recreation, not emergency housing. Mayor Help's promise to reopen Clover Point to cars should be honoured. QUESTION: Has anyone bothered in the past count the number of vehicles that used it daily. Count the number of occupants? Ages? Visits on stormy days? The proposal to restrict it to pedestrian use only will deprive all sorts of people (seniors, people with disabilities, storm averse users etc) from visiting. This is another example of Council following ideology rather than common sense.

Remove the showers at Clover Point (put in without consultation) and allow parking as soon as possible at the Clover Point. Facilitating tenting, bus passes etc. Build it and they will come.

Adding more trees and natural areas would be appreciated. Native ecosystem restoration is important, especially the Garry Oak ecosystems.

I don't visit these spaces unfortunately. A main reason I avoid parks/public spaces is because they have turned into a housing option for the homeless. The closest parks to me is Stadacona and Crystal Pool. Both of these sites are housing many homeless folks at the moment. My family and I go to Margaret Jenkins Elementary School to use basketball hoops and generally avoid City parks.

What this council has done to the public spaces and parks is disgraceful and an absolute travesty

Stop wasting money building split cedar fences as "unfriendly design" to displace homeless people under the guise of ecological restoration. Allocate more funding to create more public seating, more public covered areas, more public washrooms, more public water. Reduce policing and surveillance in public areas. Allocate money to keep public washrooms open longer hours and make sure they are cleaned regularly. Reduce money spent on bylaw officers used to harass and police homeless people.

Increase food security so that anything planted/landscape has the capacity to feed those who need it!

Victoria city should do a disability/accessibility audit of its infrastructure. There should be more spaces for folks to sit, indoors or under cover, that don't charge money to be there so that folks who are homeless have a safe, dry place to go during the day. More gender-neutral and accessible washrooms throughout the city.

An increased focus on food security through our public green spaces is needed - fruit & nut orchards, food forests, etc. Increased lighting is needed from Banfield Park, across the Selkirk Trestle, and through Cecelia Ravine Park.

Green spaces and recreational areas must remain available and safe for the citizens who use them for recreational leisure and community engagement. Parks and public spaces are not suitable for sheltering encampments for any reason.

More seating and washroom facilities (one in all of Beacon Hill Park isn't enough!)

More public space and amenities to allow for safe distanced socializing

Dog-friendly is NOT environmentally friendly. Dogs as pets to city-dwellers come at significant overall environmental cost.

Please don't funnel parks money into other ways to criminalize unhoused folks living in parks.

More dog parks please

We know that covid has put pressure on resources for the homeless but the impact has been very negative on parks. The city has a shortage of green space. I would love to see building lots assembled and turned into green space.

We need playgrounds with gazebos or some sort of cover. We have long rainy season and cant use playgrounds ass they are too wet. Other cities have this.

money in this part of the budget should be used to build infrastructure and amenities that would support the survival activities of marginalized and homeless people - there should be 24 hour access to water, toilets and showers in the city's parks and public spaces

I remember wanting there to be a bench somewhere once but I might be imagining it

The abundance of park space in Victoria should be used to house the homeless during this pandemic. Otherwise it is clear that the city values, prioritizing landscaping and irresponsible gardening practices, OVER human lives. City gardens should be planted with perennials. Planting and removing items is wasteful, it is wasteful to continually spent the budget on frivolous and temporary plants. It is 2021, we should be beyond this harmful showmanship.

Allow people without homes to live in parks

More family oriented areas, obstacles course. I live 4 blocks from Beacon Hill and do not feel safe in the park

For the most park they remain unsafe, unkept and unused for their intended uses.

Clean up the garbage. Plant more trees.

There needs to be lighting on the stretch of the Goose between Harbour Rd and Mayfair as it is currently a hazard to pedestrians and bikers, esp when pedestrians are often lacking any reflective gear. I recommend adding a reflective paint strip along the path between the bike and pedestrian portions as the separation is not visible at night. I also recommend posting signs

reminding pedestrians to be visible at dusk, night, and dawn. I also recommend signs asking pedestrians to walk on the "brick" portion as too many walk on the bike portion when travelling south.

People will continue to live outside after the pandemic is over due to skyrocketing rent prices and evictions. While the City strategizes on maintaining and creating affordable rentals, we need to also invest in creating and maintaining parks for the dual purpose of leisure and survival needs. A priority for the City should be increasing the amount of public washrooms and showers, covered cooking spaces, and storage in public parks. We have many people living outside and not having public washrooms available creates conflict between the housed and unhoused community.

Great work! More trees and green space please.

It's challenging to comment positively on the maintenance of the park areas when so many areas are occupied 24/7 by tent cities.

Please complete the Ship Point Plan. Which was expected to start in 2020

More food and native plant plantings

Stop allowing and enabling camping in City parks and public spaces. It is completely inappropriate, at any time. Parks and public spaces should be safe, clean, welcoming places for all members of the community; they should not be "free" bedrooms and toilets for individuals.

We could always use more lighting.

Let's house some homeless people there shall we? Until you get your whole 'government takes care of it's people' stuff together.

Protecting and preserving our green spaces and parks is paramount for the health and well-being of our citizens and visitors to our region. Densification of our downtown core makes every possible green space and park even more important for all to enjoy. Especially in this time of the pandemic the mental well being of all living in our region includes protecting these spaces and their natural habitat for all living things.

Get the vagrants out. Police them, make the space attractive to and desirable for our resident population and businesses

Create more car-free areas in Beacon Hill Park and other parks.

Campers and their detritus have negatively impacted park enjoyment

More parks, plazas and outdoor spaces are needed. Make the outdoor patios permanent!

Happy with public bathrooms, but can always use more.

More lighting is needed in some of the parks to ensure safety after 5pm for much of the year.

Off-leash areas need more fencing for the safety of all. (E.g. Dallas Rd - fencing is more ornamental than functional.)

Ensuring there are garbage bins in or close to the bathrooms would be great.

More funding for programming at RAP,

Please consider some lighting on the galloping goose from the trestle to harbour road. It's unsafe to walk at night.

Vic west skate park needs lights.

more trees, natural areas and 'wild' or restored green spaces, improve accessibility to pathways in city parks

Get the homeless out of our public parks.

I'm very disappointed and concerned about the way the showers and sanitation facilities for Meegan/Beacon Hill were removed without concern for houseless folks staying the camp. It seemed unnecessarily punitive and created a barrier to supporting all of the community's ability to follow PHO orders.

They are unwelcoming towards and designed to deter the unhoused population

Increased public rest areas and washrooms are needed throughout the city, and hostile architecture that prevents homeless people from resting should not be used anywhere.

Lights at vic west skatepark! Build Topaz skatepark (with lights). More public seating at vic west skatepark. NO SPRINKLERS AT VIC WEST SKATEPARK. There have been a lot of accidents at vic west skatepark due to overcrowding, including one death. The "scooter gang" (usually around 15 or so teen boys) show no respect for the park with no park etiquette, excessive littering, and bullying. They are essentially an uncoached football team and many adult spectators of the park have mentioned their rampant disrespect. Skateparks have traditionally been used by individuals and small groups, allowing everyone to share the space. The scooter crew hang out in packs and essentially monopolize the space. Requests of adherence to the etiquette are met with further disrespect. It's a big problem. Signed, Former Skate Park Host with a Child and Youth Care degree, Carla Hyslop Please contact me to discuss these issues. 250-818-0394

Preservation and expansion of green space, particularly around Quadra village is important for equitable access to the outdoors.

I think we should have more public art and more public washrooms.

Anything of any modern significance to me doesn't seem to be located in the city of Victoria but other municipalities; ie decent sports fieldstone Rec centres are unappealing

HOUSING CRISIS

Sanitation is a human right, and the people living in Beacon Hill Park desperately need access to showers. Public washroom availability has decreased significantly because of Covid, and this makes life significantly harder for our most vulnerable (unhoused, seniors, people with disabilities).

You need to address the numerous tent city's in the parks. I agree that affordable housing is an issue but not everyone in the parks wants to be housed and creating an environment for individuals to build tent communities does not encourage the necessary changes needed.

Stop putting the junkies and homeless in the parks. Please leave parks for the law abiding, tax-paying citizens that obey the rules and pay the property taxes to run the city. Let the other municipalities do their part. Time to end the 24/7 camping in parks. The homeless are from all over the CRD yet Victoria has to bear the burden for some reason.

Would love to see more native plants, covered seating, and public washrooms available!

I would like to see greater availability of and access to public washrooms.

More washrooms are needed. And the tents in parks has made them less used for intended purposes, not that I blame those folks.

Stop the campers in the parks. No more tents.

The availability of public washrooms across the city has always been a concern for me; with both the closure and restrictions around commercial spaces, libraries, and cafes due to COVID-19, the situation has become ever more dire. Without access to the Fernwood Community Centre or Little June, where can you pee in Fernwood? Where, other than a couple public toilets near Bastion and Centennial Square, can we count on having public, free, and round-the-clock access to a toilet or hand-washing station? While this is always a concern for those sheltering in parks or other public spaces, it is also increasingly affecting those of us who are attempting to follow social distancing measures by meeting with friends for walks in the city and in parks. Increasing free 24-hour publicly accessible washrooms should be a priority: not only for those listed above, but for children and families, people with disabilities and gastrointestinal issues , and elders.

Priority should be to keep trees and maintain/increase outdoor liveable healthy nature spaces

More public washrooms.

No it's a beautiful city

Overrun by the homeless that residents can't use them anymore. It's not safe.

We no longer go to Beacon Hill Park. We do not feel safe, due to the large population of homeless.

Yes . They are no longer safe. They are nothing more then cess pools of crime now

Lack of bylaw enforcement using Covid as an excuse is wearing very thin! get on with solving the homeless situation which was instigated by the City of Victoria Council! How can Victorted obviously!

Sections of the Goose are too dark to use after dusk.

I'd be happier if the park was safer and not covered in trash and beer cans and tents all the time.

Please remove the "unhoused" and bike chop-shops from Beacon Hill Park now!

Defund bylaw by 30% at least .their main function in the parks is to criminalize our unhoused neighbours

Existing off leash areas are mud pits throughout the winter. I don't know if there is any solution, but a park that isn't so muddy would be really welcomed. Also, there doesn't seem to be an off leash area that is lit so unless you get off work very early and it's still light out, then there is no where to take a dog in the winter in the evenings.

I would be more satisfied if people were more allowed to tent and live in the parks. The red zones are not covid friendly. They should be allowed to spread out. It's also more safe for them in other ways.

Keep parks as parks and end the 24 hour camping.

Get rid of campers

You are destroying our ability to go to the parks by allowing 24 hr camping. We used to walk there daily, and take the dog, now it's unsafe. Thanks for excluding all the tax payers from using the parks

Its practically impossible to use a City Park without fear of needles, excrement, violence or theft

The big problem with parks is the campers, not the infrastructure.

More public washrooms

Many (homeless tents nearby) public bathrooms are unsafe.

Get homeless out of parks

More garbage cans

All of the money being spent on these beautiful things is being wasted. None of these areas are being enjoyed by the general public, as downtown has

become increasingly unsafe, and taken over by tents and drug addicts.

Get the homeless out and create more dog friendly places and things for youth to do

Stop turning our parks and green spaces into homeless camps. You cannot have safe public parks coexisting with violent drug addicted homeless camps.

Investing in public showers, washrooms, and shelters available 24/7.

stop allowing full time campers in parks as remediation costs are too high

Central Park needs many upgrades to bring it in line with other parks. The annual flooding needs to be addressed.

I would like to see continued focus on native plant species, more green spaces downtown, more covered outdoor areas. I'm also pretty worried about light pollution and how it affects native species, not to mention people, so I think those worries should be factored into lighting considerations.

Fully enforce the existing bylaws within the city's purview. There is full recognition that the housing and homelessness issue requires multiple levels of government and stakeholders to buy in, but the city's lack of action has resulted in a lack of trust by the citizens that it can actually be effective. There is a middle ground - the elected officials represent ALL citizens, not just a faction.

increase access to washrooms, improve lighting at night in parks ie Topaz Park has two dimly lit bulbs for the entire path, it's dark to walk through at night but is a main thoroughfare for our neighbourhood. lack of access to 24/7 or accessible (including for non-men, disabled folks) in and around the downtown core

get the tents out of all parks

Please stop 24/7 camping in parks. This allows criminals to operate theft and drug activities, without being held accountable.

increase access to 24/7 washrooms in and around the downtown core

Most parks are or have been filled with 24/7 campers making them unusable. Topaz was fenced off for months afterwards. Beacon Hill and Central are unsafe and will need millions of dollars in remediation

Please add lights to the galloping goose trail through cecelia ravine park and across the Selkirk trestle.

Aside from the need for more investment in creating more public washrooms throughout the city that are accessible 24/7 i am satisfied with this budget.

Remember that Victoria doesn't just mean downtown and tourist areas. It's important to beautify and maintain all neighbourhoods.

If all levels of government, including municipal, fail to provide housing to its most vulnerable citizens, then people should be allowed to shelter 24/7 in parks - no questions asked.

It may just be where I tend to go, but there doesn't seem to be a public washroom around when I need one. This is not meant to be a major complaint though.

The Vic West skatepark needs lighting.

They should not be used for tents

Issue zero tenting and camping enforcement to prevent absorbitant cost of remediation.

I understand that washrooms could be a target for destruction by those that love to wreck things. Maybe that convenient washroom by the duck/boat pond on Dallas Road could use a fix up.

We need more trees and more parks downtown

we need to allow homeless people to resie in parks (as they are not housed properly by the city) and have open bathrooms

I think we should have less of a focus on pet friendly areas and more of a focus on people friendly areas, which includes on leash dog areas. Some park washrooms aren't accessible for those with wheelchairs or walkers and this could be improved. Hand washing stations should be distributed throughout the city, particularly in parks (decrease spread of COVID), bathrooms should be more plentiful for all people (standing washroom at Pandora and Gov't is great, but difficult for transgender/females/people with disabilities). Access to toilets and washing station is an essential human right that should be embodied within the number of facilities available to folks in the city. Would like to see an expansion of the city program that grew food plant starts for distribution along with development of city spaces for

community gardens as the city currently has very few community gardening opportunities, particularly in North Park/Vic West.

Keep the trust of beacon Hill exactly that. It should not be used for the homeless where we now feel unsafe to use the park because it has been destroyed. Sand in fern street park should be refilled periodically

More dedicated dog areas with large dog and separate small dog areas. For a population of dogs lovers, Victoria one of the least dog friendly places I know.

Too much \$ being spent on park clean up after homeless have occupied the park. Cut down on light pollution at night! Stop planting trees on boulevards that constantly need pruning and that have destructive root systems.

Rather than budget for "[e]xpanded services to mitigate impacts relating to increased outdoor sheltering," there should be a higher priority on allocating funds to support public housing programs for unhoused folks sheltering on park land.

There should be more allocation to urban garden and permaculture spaces and skate parks in the City. They are not only an asset to youth, but provides skills and a sense of community well being to many demographics.

Community spaces to grow food and be active together and build community are crucial to the health of any urban space.

I would like to request that the COV have another look at the possibility of a Portland Toilet at Bamfield Park.

More outdoor, covered spaces would be nice. More seating and less defensive architecture.

- Open Royal athletic park to the public year round for free community access. It is a huge park, that makes up half of North Park's allotted greenspace and is not accessible to the community. - A bench overlooking the pickle ball court in Franklin Green

More public washrooms are needed

I would rather climate initiatives take precedence over any infrastructural expenses that are not acutely necessary for public safety, as nice roads will matter very little in a 1.5+ degree warmed world. Though I appreciate the attempt at balancing the many various intricate needs of many different communities, spending almost 5 million dollars to replace a turf feels like a luxury we don't have in 3 State of Emergency's (COVID, Opioid Epidemic and the Climate Crisis).

I would like to see more environmental restoration and natural park areas within the city. Also, possibly daylighting sections of bowker creek in the Oaklands area.

A splash pad like the one in Esquimalt would be lovely!

Parks and public spaces serve multiple purposes and are not only recreational spaces but also survival spaces for people who are unhoused. Instead of using hostile architecture (e.g., benches with arms preventing people from laying down, removing seating) and refusing to install survival basics out of fear this will "enable" people to be homeless, I want the City to both prioritize resources for affordable and adequate housing, and also in the meantime admit that at the current rate of new builds and with the failure to address causes of homelessness (e.g., colonialism, poverty, relationship violence, family violence against 2Spirit and queer/trans/non-binary kids) people are, for many years to come, still going to have no option other than living in parks and public spaces. It is long overdue for the City to stop its hostile relationship and surveillance/punishment orientation with unhoused people, and create an appropriately resourced working group with the mandate to ensure that human rights are respected and map out a prioritized plan for installation of infrastructure needed in parks to support people sheltering outside. This is not just a need in COVID-times but is especially critical right now given the current respiratory pandemic which requires high intensity access to COVID-safe (e.g., foot-pedal-powered) handwashing, drinking water taps, etc. The City should include in the 2021/22 Draft Financial Plan funds to rapidly assess compliance with the United Nations' "National Protocol for Homeless Encampments in Canada" and to address all areas where the City is out of compliance. This is an emergency in a dual public health crisis, and emergency reserves are appropriate to use for this purpose.

making more pedestrian friendly spaces , benches, places to sit and eat, etc would be good to include in the plan. Opening up Government street was a great idea, lets do more of that!

I don't have young children any longer, but I feel more family friendly fixtures would be welcome in parks: playgrounds, skate and bike parks, putting greens, anything to keep kids wanting to get outside, socializing without organized play.

Victoria does a good job of recreational spaces - sports field, skateparks, seating areas - but we do not have nearly enough green spaces per neighbourhood for an adequate resident-to-green-space ratio. For one of the most densely populated regions on the country, and a high level of condo renters, we need more greenery! Far too many new builds have moved forward with concrete where grass could be. With a bench, where a tree should be. Victoria is, in my experience, also one of the most dog-UNfriendly cities. Very few rentals allow pets (in Toronto, it is illegal to not allow pets and pets deposits are not taken), and with so many people living in rentals, access to yards for these pets doesn't exist. They NEED more available spaces for off-leash play and to socialize with other dogs - this is VITAL for

their well being! Every neighbourhood needs to have a minimum of 2 off leash spaces - even smaller like the one in Dockside Green. This is standard for top-level cities. I would also like to see more green space for the sake of green space - this means simple fields and trees/gardens that are not simply a small section of a larger paved rec space.

We need way more public washrooms and also spaces for homeless people to access services like showers.

Gender inclusive, 24 hour restrooms and showering facilities for i housed communities are required. Bylaws preventing sheltering in parks should be abolished.

We really need more fully fenced off leash parks for dogs.

nope

The washroom situation is severely lacking in parks across the city. More lit 24 hour toilets and warm showers need to be installed.

no

In these times when we can only see each other outside, the lack of public space is glaring. I think everyone would benefit from some creative problem solving and the construction of more spaces that are dry (at least mostly), have seating, and are free to be in, and shared. Gazebos, covered picnic tables, more un-landscaped green spaces.

Yes, immediately install some permanent hot water showers in Beacon Hill Park for both the current unhoused population and the residents and tourists who like to use the park for athletics.

Tent cities make public spaces into private spaces. Other housing solutions are needed.

There are no other places than the reduced area to walk dogs or pets than Dallas rd. Propose tuesdays and thursdays off leash "walks" for animals under control "two call" along the galloping goose trail Johnston st waterfront to esquamalt. Possible athlete "walks" off leash. Days and hour restricted. Pets add to our inclusive city. Laural pt new waterfront could use an outdoor pool .. glass side towards the ocean ...

accommodate the usage of park spaces for as-needed sheltering. our parks are capable of serving all members of the community. it is frankly ridiculous that those most in need of a place to rest are the ones most immediately approached and displaced. compromise is essential; those with the privilege

of returning to a house must participate in that compromise.

Too bright! Also way more need for food and pollinator gardening, and more washrooms that are open to all including under housed populations (also washrooms should be gender inclusive)

I would feel safer if you defunded the police.

I look forward to a day when most people are housed and not needing to live in our parks. I would like more lighting on pathways in parks for evening walking/biking to feel safe. I also appreciated the Growing City plant starts this year.

More lighting along the goose especially around Cecilia ravine

I would like to see more covered / rain-friendly covered outdoor spaces in city parks. I've been trying to find covid-safe meeting spaces throughout the pandemic, and I've realized this is a very difficult task when it's raining - as I couldn't think of or find any covered outdoor public spaces with seating in any city parks. I would also like to see more public washrooms - both in parks, and in the downtown core (...which would also greatly benefit from more green space). Compared to other cities I've visited within Canada, and thinking of the 9 years I've lived in Victoria, I've been disappointed by the noticeable lack of green spaces, including trees, natural areas, and parks, in the downtown core. That said, I am happy with the park infrastructure in many of the neighbourhoods surrounding downtown.

All pedestrian cross walks should be equipped with flashing pedestrian activated lights

END THE HARASSMENT OF PEOPLE SHELTERING IN THE PARKS. THE LAWN BOWLING CLUB VIOLATES THE BEACON HILL TRUST. REMOVE IT.

- Victoria does not have a large fenced off-leash dog park. Some dogs (especially rescue dogs) can't function in unfenced dog parks. - Victoria does not have a skatepark. This kind of strange when you think about all of the other types of facilities that do exist for other physical activities. - Pretty much all washrooms in public parks are not well maintained. Factor in homeless campers using them, and the situation gets even worse. - I wish there were more green pedestrian walk-ways. Le corridors that cut through neighbourhoods and are pedestrian only. So much money has been spent on all-ability bicycle lanes, and think it's only fair that pedestrians start to be considered more. - More park space downtown. Esp dog friendly and child friendly spaces. - It would be great to see Ship Point turned into a large amphitheatre for music performances and festivals, or at the very least a re-design of Centennial Square to accommodate large scale events.

We need more playgrounds that are downtown and downtown adjacent to accommodate increasing demand and families that live downtown

Focus on Urban Agriculture as its very helpful for people to grow their own healthy foods and create a local economy.

Start to enforce park bylaws. Community is healthy no community isn't safe so that should be your priority

The drainage of Redfern Park needs to be improved. Redfern Park is the main amenity of the South Jubilee neighbourhood. During the wet season, the grassy areas in both the dog park and playground areas are extremely wet and are basically unusable. This park also drains into the adjacent properties and causes flooding.

No camping in parks

public washrooms should be better and cleaner and more accessible.

I feel there could be more public washrooms.

You do a fantastic job keeping parks and public spaces well maintained and wonderful to be in. More street lighting in residential areas all throughout the city is desperately needed. I would also love to see stronger bylaw enforcement of dogs off leash in on leash areas.

To much emphasis on dogs in our society at the expense of underprivileged humans.

Really appreciate increased lighting along Dallas Rd - makes walking during the pandemic feel much safer for single people and women walking alone,. More outdoor socially distanced spaces would be appreciated. Could we get more places to have an outdoor fire pit or charcoal BBQ structures to support outdoor gathering (once we are allowed again)?

Hard to access these resources when there are unpredictable homeless populations in the area. I will not risk the safety of my kids.

Public spaces would benefit from green spaces that serve ecology roles above aesthetic

NA

More public washrooms, covered outdoor spaces to gather. I've been particularly disappointed in the lack of support for people sheltering outside in Beacon Hill Park - to remove water when community found a way to provide badly needed showers was not an appropriate response. I'd like to see more public space for growing food, and/or an increase in the food plants in existing park spaces. While I appreciate many of the ornamental plantings in our parks, I think we need to integrate and expand food growing capacity. I thought Parks' work on producing vegetable seedlings for the public was a great use of resources.

More covered outdoor spaces for small gatherings would be appreciated. While COVID-19 pushes socialization outdoors, realistically the same infrastructure could serve similar purposes post-pandemic.

You morons have turned our parks into a national disgrace. Open sewer and toxic needles. Use the parking area off Ogden Point or strike a deal for unused barracks at the naval base. Think outside the box instead of handing the keys to the inmates who are now running this city.

It's not safe to go to our parks. This needs to change.

You have handed over our parks and some public space to the homeless. Not a solution.

More lighting in parks and on trails. More playground/bike infrastructure in all parks like Cecelia Ravine.

I think the city should have allowed 24/7 camping on the unused dirt soccer fields at the southern end of Beacon Hill Park, to better provide services to the unhoused during COVID, and to protect sensitive ecosystems in the park.

People who are living outside in parks deserve proper hygiene amenities.

City residents need our public spaces like parks, playgrounds, walkways, and rec centres to be well-maintained, inviting spaces for leisure and recreation.

The pandemic has really shone a light on how few public bathrooms are available, particularly when the city is struggling to help those faced with homelessness. We need more public facilities.

I urge you not to cave to the deluge of callous and comfortable people who are furious that people living on the very edge are sheltering in their precious parks that they stroll through. Parks are for everyone, yes, but some people needed them more in 2020 than others and I am ashamed that my fellow housed citizens couldn't come to terms with that. And fwiw I happily used the parks alongside unhoused people all year without discomfort or incident. Also we should give the parks back to the local Nations, frankly.

Optional question (432 response(s), 277 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q8 For 2021, what level of priority do you place on the following for our city?



Optional question (686 response(s), 23 skipped)
Question type: Likert Question

Q8 | For 2021, what level of priority do you place on the following for our city?

Our community is welcoming

Not a Priority : 53



Low Priority : 97



Medium Priority : 230



High Priority : 206

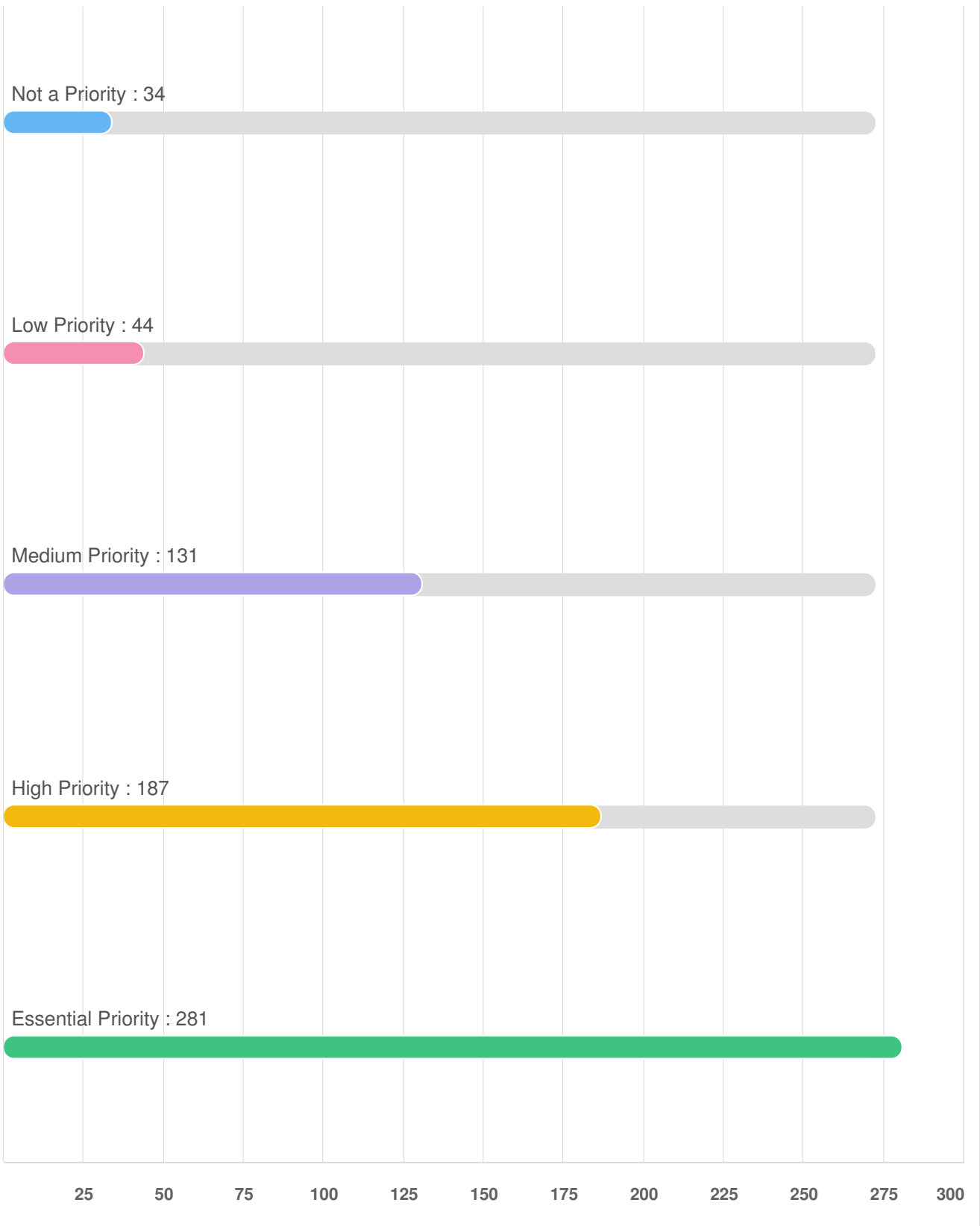


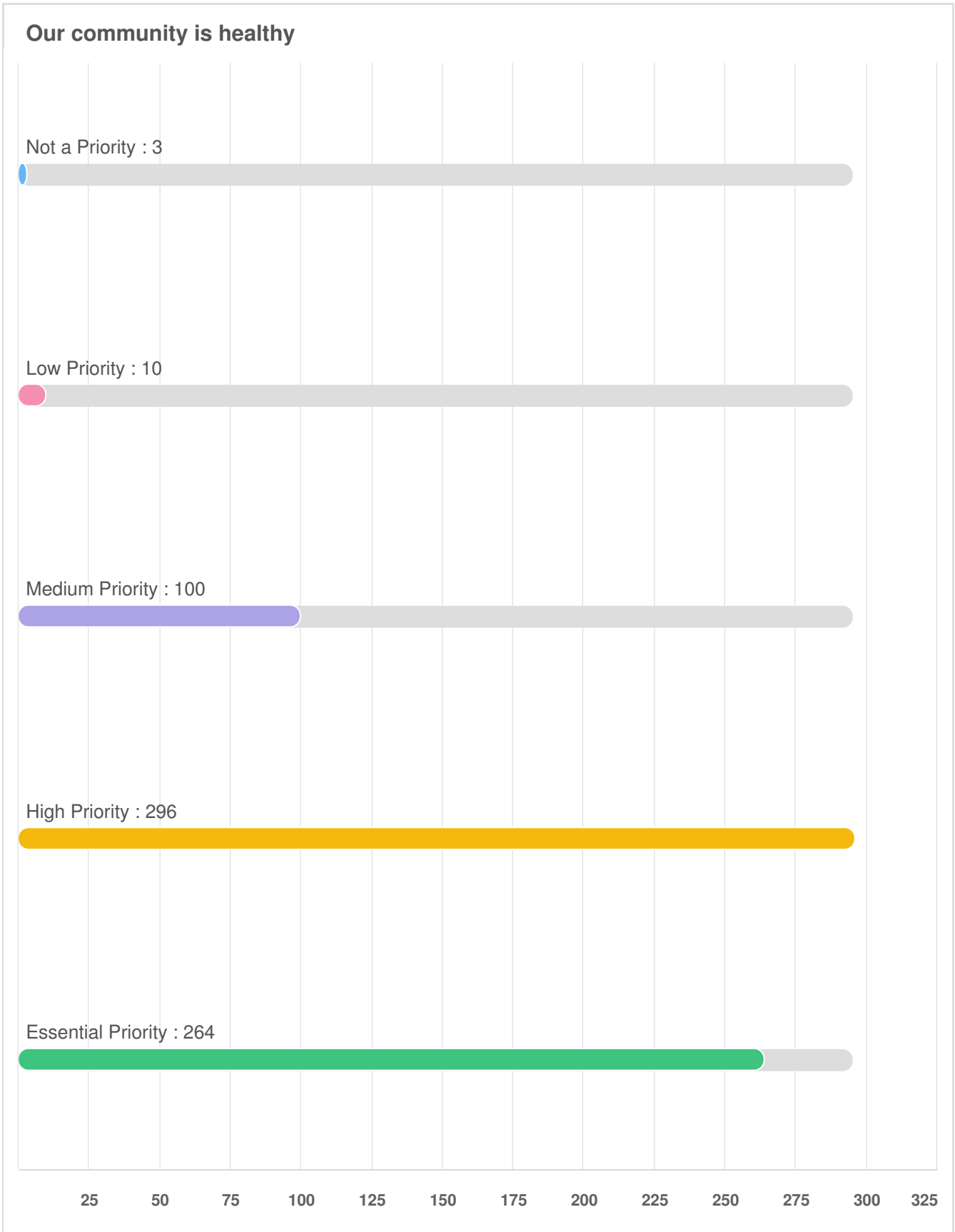
Essential Priority : 87

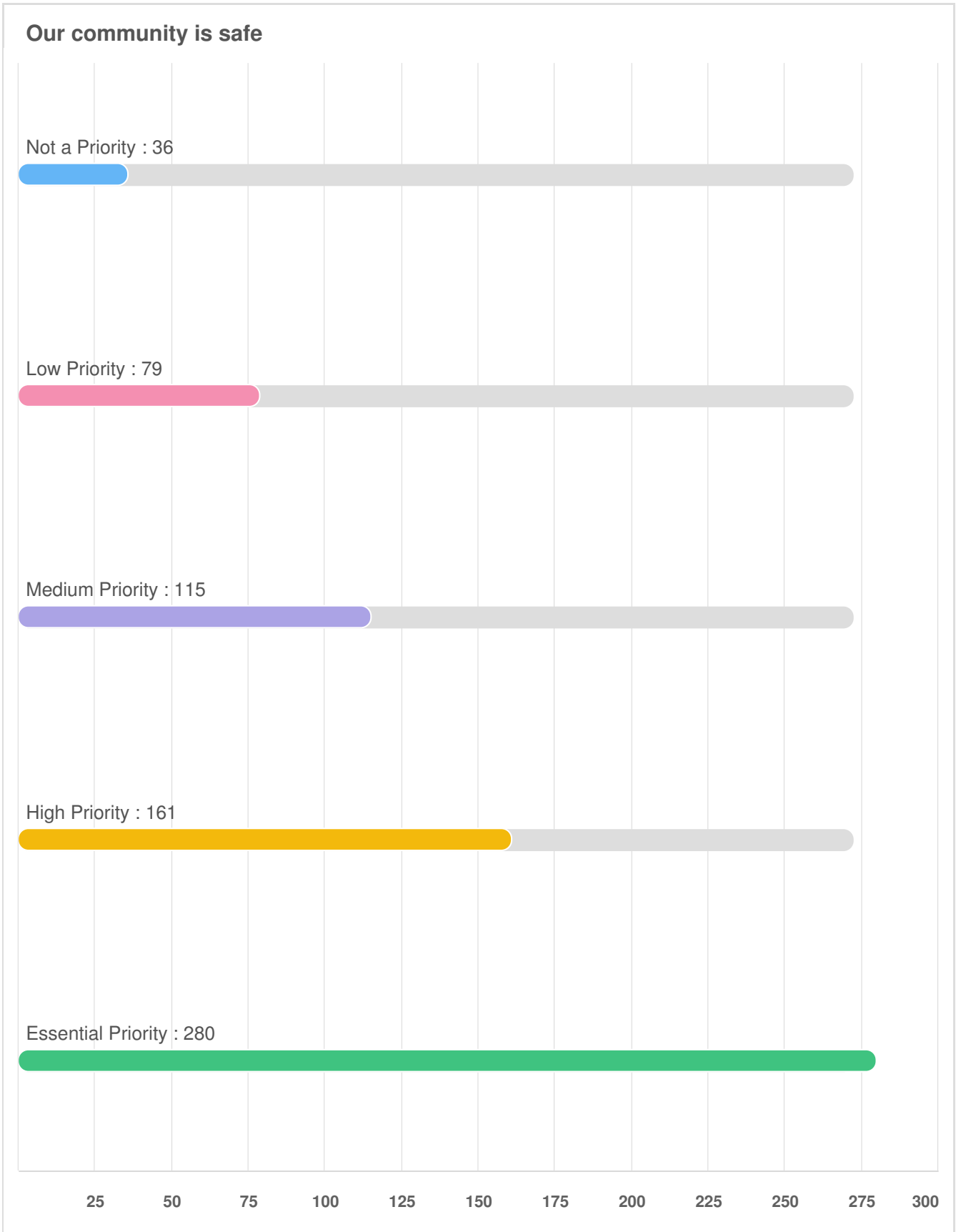


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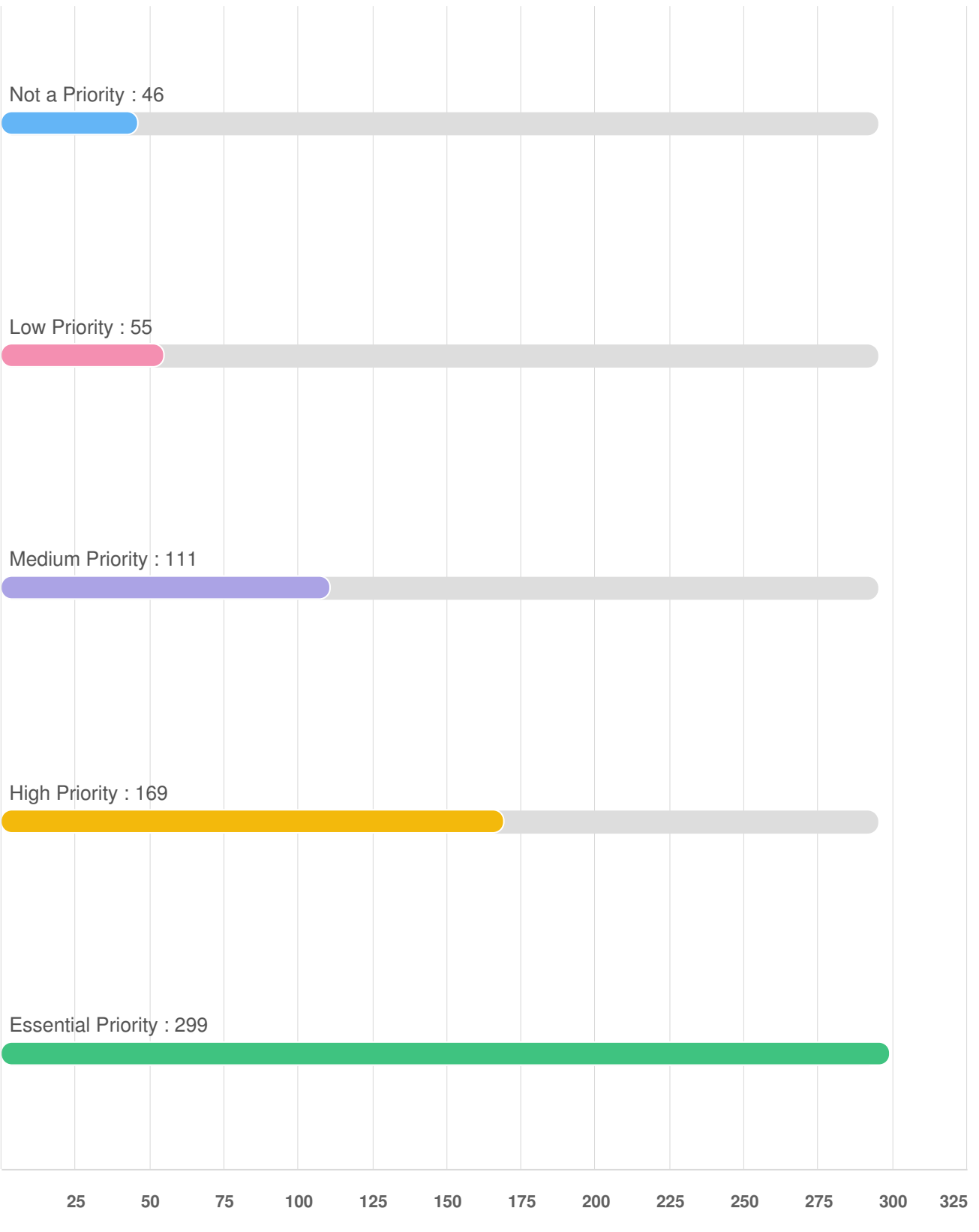
Our community is equitable and inclusive



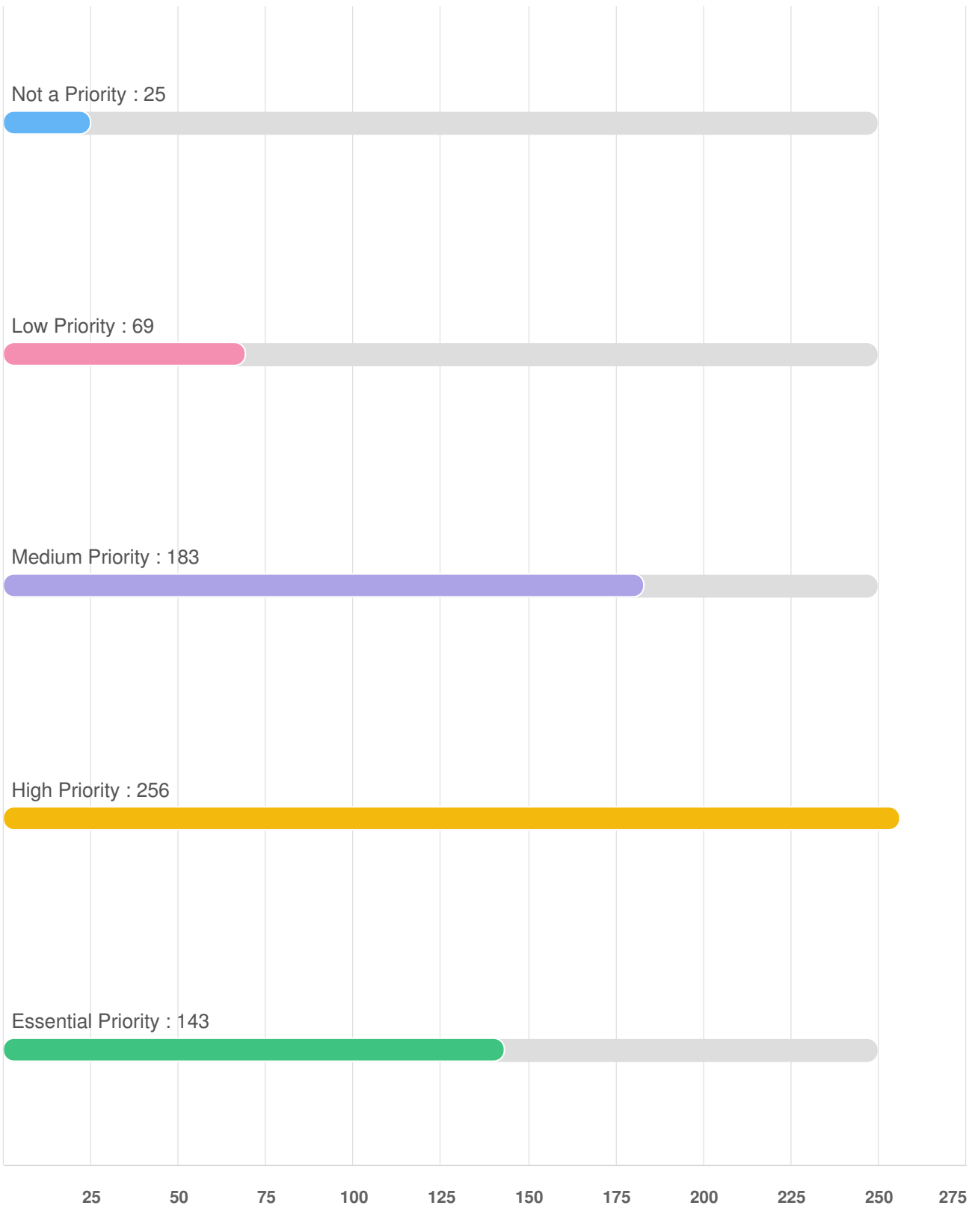


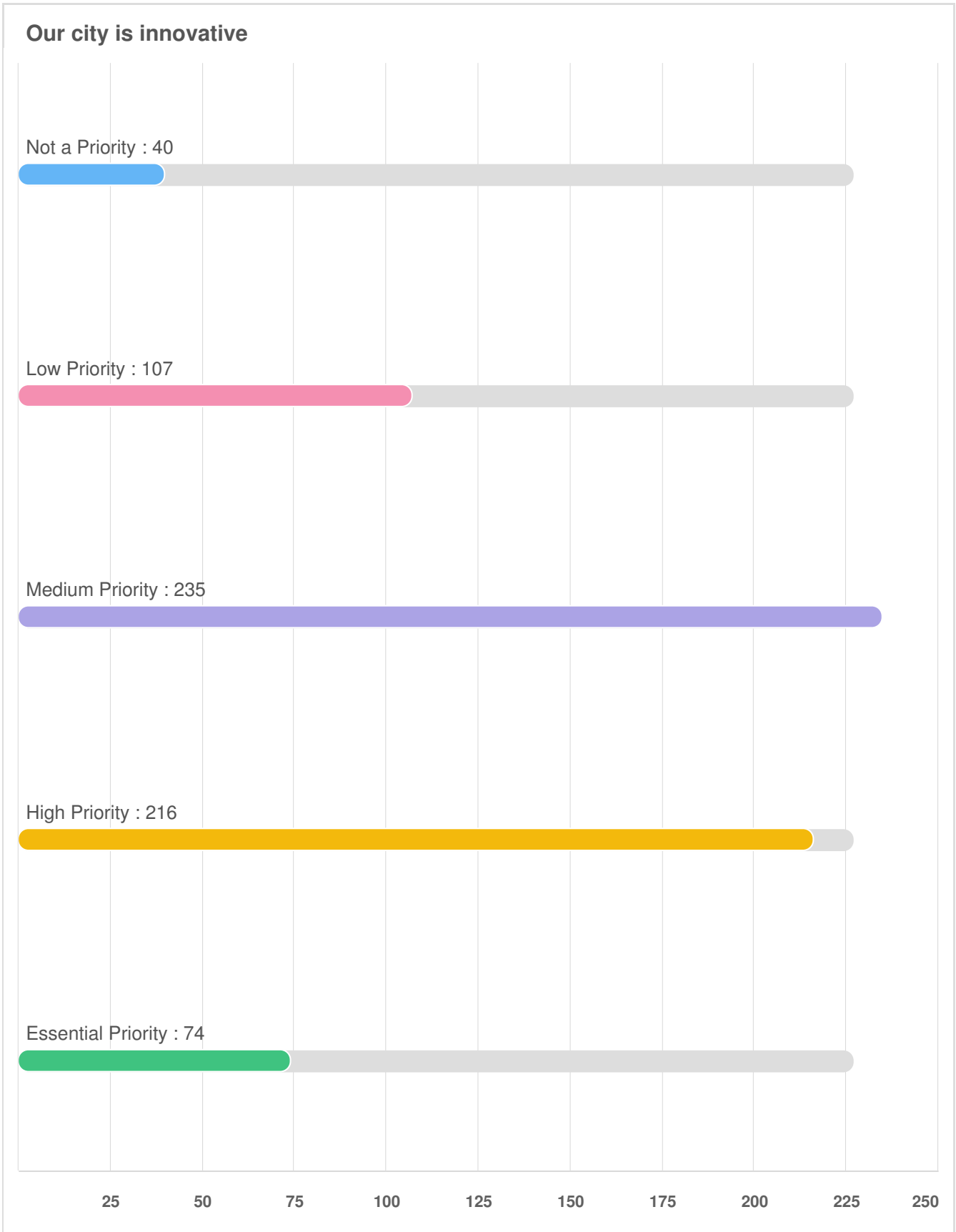


Our community is a leader in climate action and sustainability

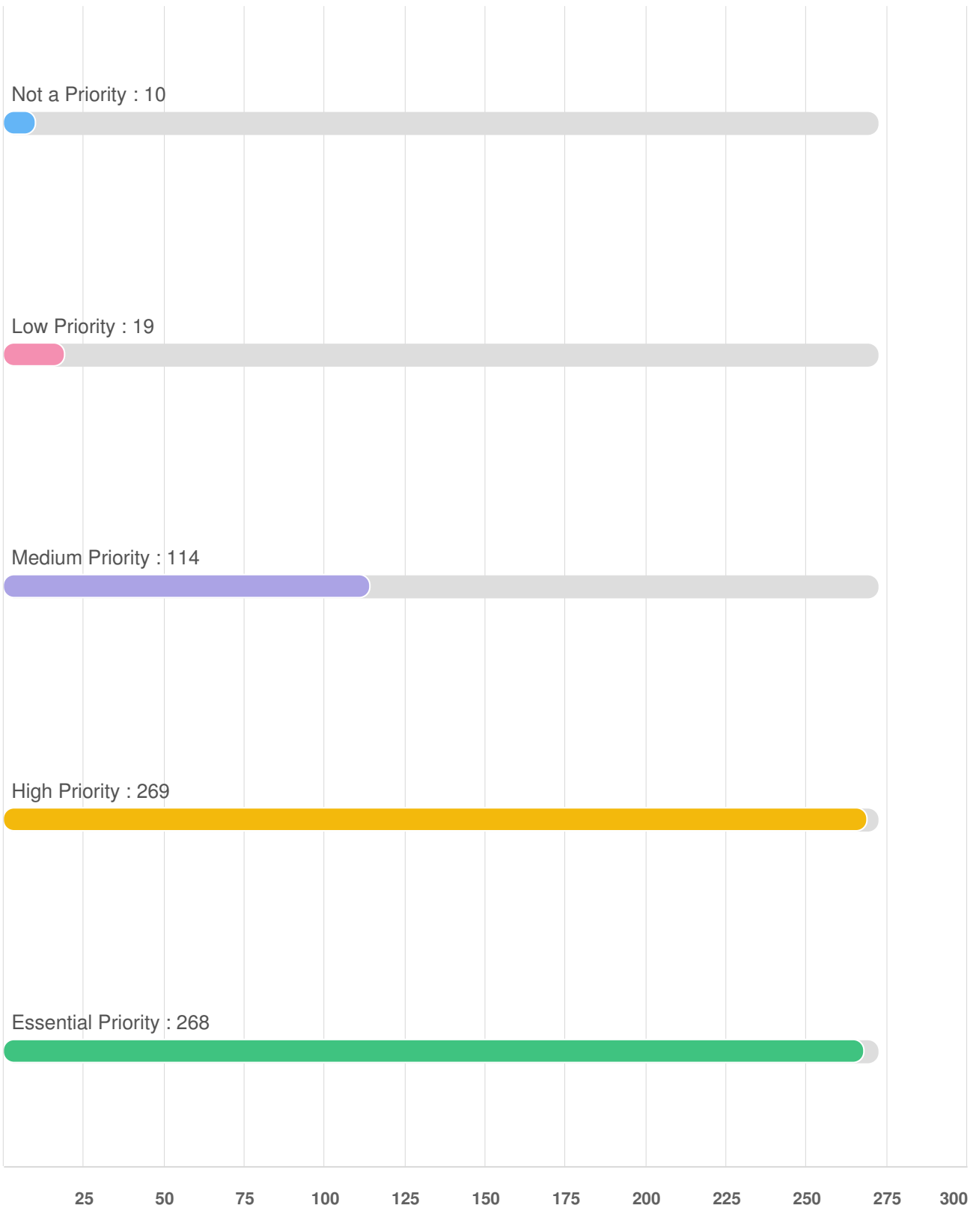


Our city embraces arts and culture

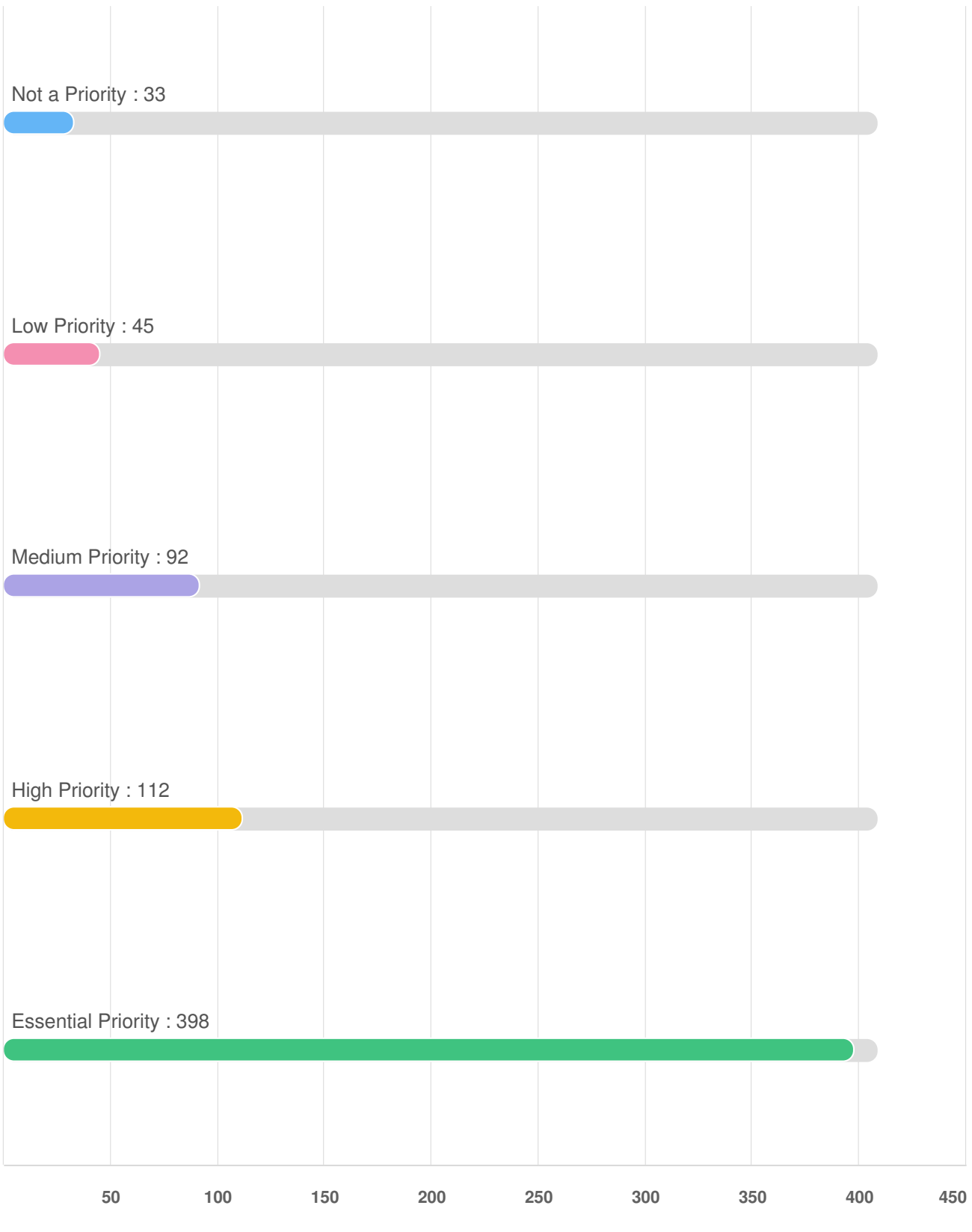




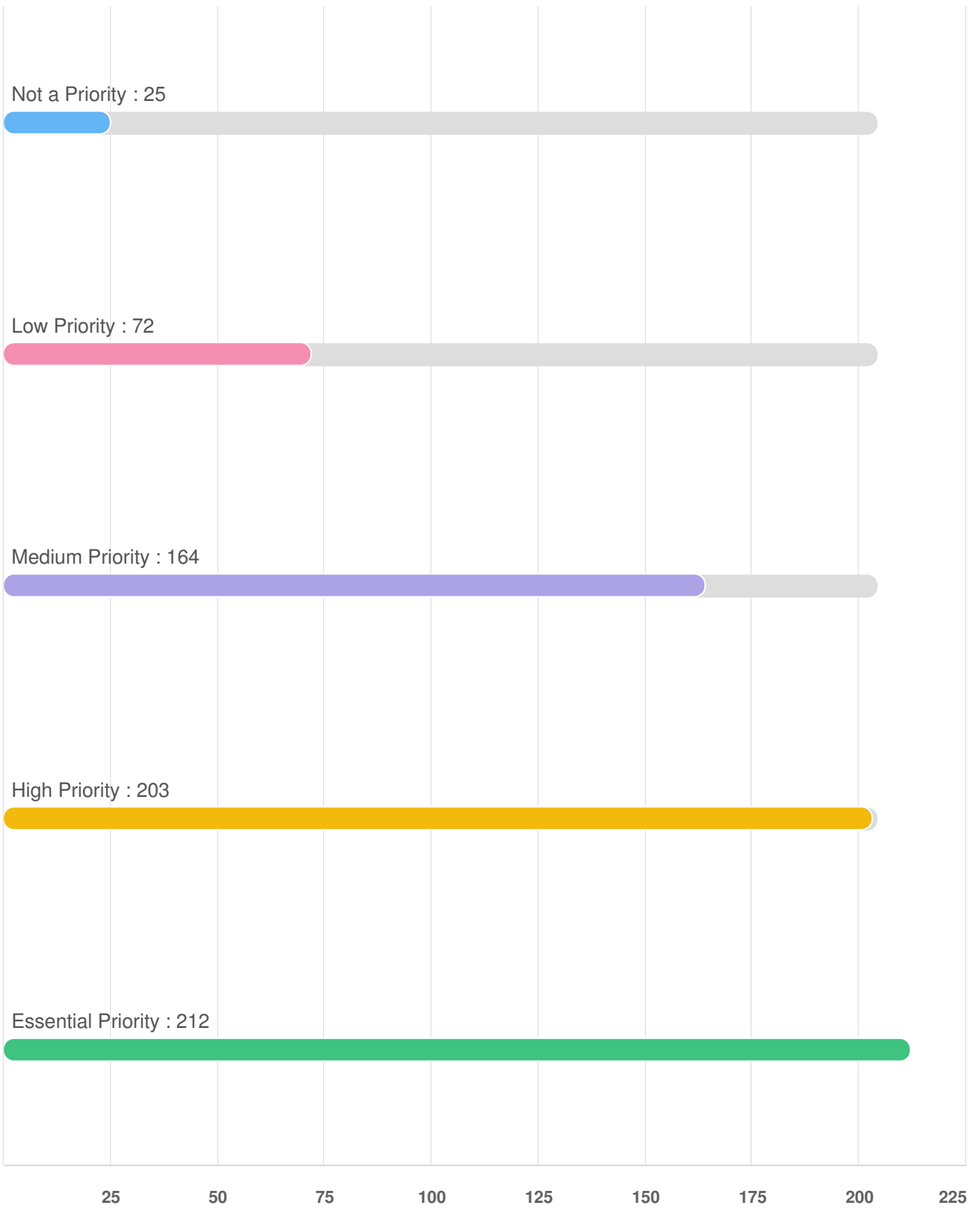
Our city supports local businesses and economic recovery



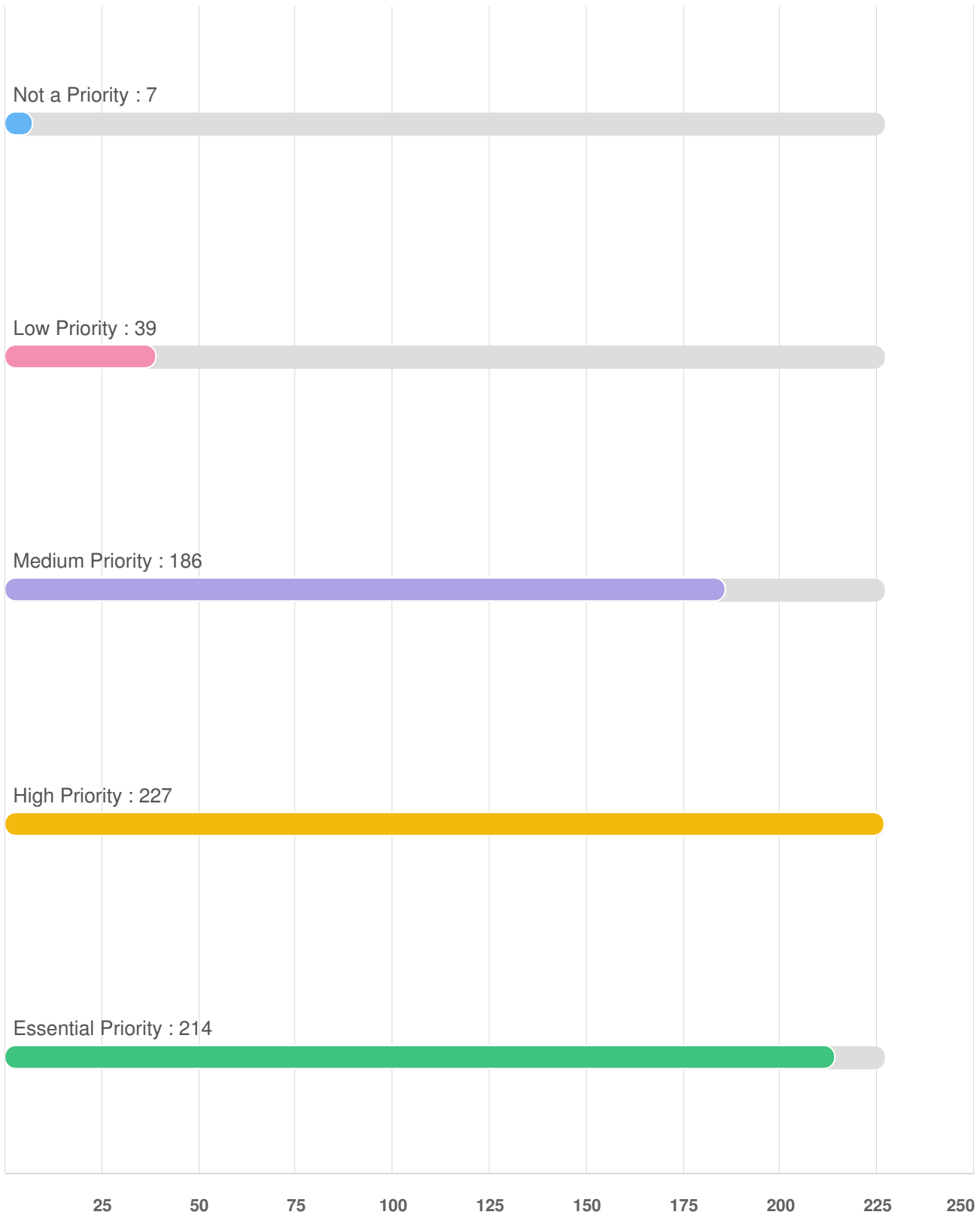
Our city supports vulnerable populations



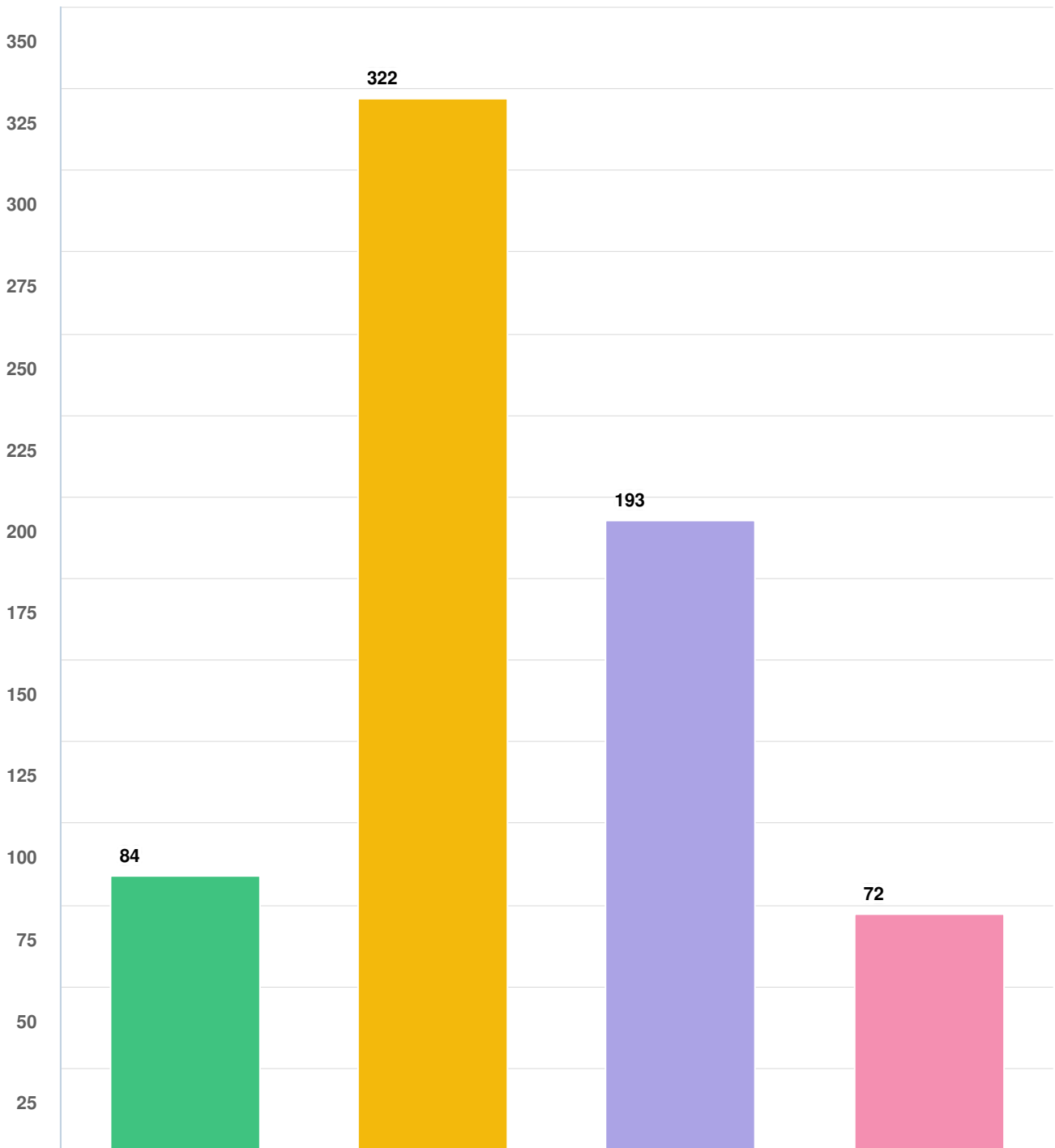
Our city supports multi-modal transportation



Our city has the infrastructure it needs for the future



Q9 Thinking about all the programs, services and capital projects you receive from the City of Victoria, would you say that overall you get:



Question options

- Very poor value for your tax dollars
- Fairly poor value for your tax dollars
- Fairly good value for your tax dollars
- Very good value for your tax dollars

Optional question (671 response(s), 38 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q10 | Do you have any further comments or suggestions you would like to share about the 2021 Draft Financial Plan (City Budget)?

In this economic climate, lets consider limiting the commercial tax increase to inflation, not inflation plus 1%. Let's consider dedicating 1% of the budget to the affordable housing fund to move projects forward. Let's complete a parks acquisition and improvement plan and ensure new development contributes to funding improvements, and increase funding for parks especially in under-served areas as budget allows.

Seek low-cost ways to achieve goals. Eg. Leading Pedestrian Intervals — a huge safety win that shows respect for the lives of those of use who live centrally and walk. Free and would have an incredible impact. More street trees - an investment that makes streets shady and walkable, while saving infrastructure money through wastewater benefits. Smart spending.

By following climate change as the guiding priority, this vital framework will inform the subsequent resilience and health of all other overlapping sectors/priority areas identified in this survey and the plan. Even arts programming can be benefited from a climate lens, and likewise economic prosperity, health, community safety, social and cultural justice, and even pandemic prevention cannot succeed outside environmental/climate best practices.

Getting our tourism revenues up by making the city a welcoming and safe place for visitors is critical for economic recovery. Too many handouts has made it a destination for homeless and drug addicted, rather than a tourist destination. Provide support to those who need it, but have accountability in place. Provide a hand up, not hand outs!

Please stick to city business. Each time you step out of what you are there to mange much needed services are eroded and we become less healthy overall as a community. You are seeing this play out on the streets.

Be explicit about the resources spent on accessibility. Let Council make choices about how much to fund. The Accessibility Framework says this will happen, but not in the draft document I read. Make infrastructure improvements on priority basis, not convenience - when doing something else. Get rid of barriers in James Bay. Improve pedestrian safety and accessibility of crosswalks and sidewalks. (Wish this survey was more in-depth. I read most of draft Financial Plan for this and didn't need to.) Lumping accessibility with inclusiveness makes it seem to many as a "nice to have" that can be sacrificed. I'm sure accessibility alone would rank higher. Will everyone have the same idea of what is included in the various strategic priorities as meant by the City? Is the survey available in other languages? Is assistance in completing the survey available? If not, you know you are missing folks.

Why is the police patrol budget increasing by 1M? Couldn't this money be better spent on social workers, outreach programs? I think policing is getting a higher priority in funding than programs that would reduce social problems.

This is a good budget, so many improvements are being funded such as crosswalks, bike lanes, traffic calming and closing the gap between mile zero and beacon hill park.

Where did our new pool go????

Why do t oh I get an increase of 1% plus inflation, when some members of your community don't even get an increase of inflation, or lost their jobs and are struggling to make ends meet? STOP RAPING MY POCKETS FOR YOUR DREAM CITY PLANS AND GET REAL! Live within YOUR means and stay in your lane. Between you all loving to take bigger pieces of my income, strata taking bigger and bigger bites my standard of living has gone down in the last 3 years.... and I've actually gotten promotions in that time! Now I can't even sell my condo (that has been on the market for 1 we 6 months) because no one wants to live in the city you run!

I am a homeowner in Victoria, our property value increases rapidly due to how beautiful and desirable victoria is. I'm in favour of increasing our tax dollars to continue this. I want the council to focus on missing middle housing and active transportation. We need all of the bike routes to be approved desperately. We need to make Victoria more walkable by increasing density and ensuring more corner stores are opened as the need for them is established.

Do not change Mile Zero road. It is fine as it stands. This will be a waste of money. No free bus passes.

Thank you for asking and listening

Mayor needs to do better job keeping council members focused upon priority objectives within municipal jurisdiction. Some councilors waste time and staff resources on self promoting issues in apparent attempts to grow their public profiles. Too many council members are enthralled by the sound of their own voices.

Please re-think about the amount of money the city is spending on the police force. The city is truly lacking on areas for the community's well being. Unfortunately this city isn't very welcoming to everybody. I know we can do better, and we are definitely heading in the right direction!

Defund the police. Seriously: so much could be done with their budget. Their work does not create value and it does not scale. Build safer streets through sustainable transportation design and suddenly you don't need to spend \$10,000 to issue and collect on a \$150 speeding ticket because drivers *can't*

speed due to design. Increase funding for active mobility infrastructure.
Increase funding for public land acquisition for affordable housing.

Defund the police to fund essential community services. Why is there no question regarding the police budget or public satisfaction with their services?

Defund the police, please.

I think the phrasing of "our community is safe" is leading and biased. Of course everyone wants the community to be "safe" who would ever opt for "unsafe"? But while I support the idea of a safe community - I do not support the idea of evicting people from tent cities or displacing homeless people off the streets of downtown just to send them somewhere less visible. I don't support removing showers or housing that people have built as offerings of solidarity. It's about what "safe" means to you. The police do not make me feel "safe". And more police or a higher budget for them will not change that. Fund social workers, or people who actually have adequate training to engage these sorts of problems. Follow Denver's lead and implement a program like their "STAR" program.

<https://www.denverpost.com/2020/09/06/denver-star-program-mental-health-police/> If I say I support a "safe strong community" then you will use that as a trojan horse to put more money towards policing. Which is not what safe means to me. It's pretty gross. This survey reminds me of the sad excuse for a survey that the Liberal government used to argue that "nobody wanted electoral reform".

A safe and clean city, with support for local businesses, the arts and sports, as well as well-maintained green spaces for all to enjoy. These things will help keep folks engaged with a sense of belonging.

DEFUND THE VICTORIA POLICE

We need affordable housing for all!

Police are eating up a quarter of the city budget, their reputation is poor. One of their jobs is traffic safety and enforcement and I haven't ever be witness to them pulling someone over in the city for speeding, reckless driving, running red lights, where I could see value. I mainly see them harassing the homeless and vulnerable populations. What value are we actually getting when they can't even preform duties that would actually make me feel safer? I have a better change of being killed by the reckless drivers in this city than those people police target and don't care about. Defund them and put dollars to social services and housing and we can talk about improvement on all of the strategic goals and how much easier it will be for us to achieve them.

Improve the strategic plan to better communicate with high levels of government how they can provide the resources necessary to allow the City to provide wrap-around support for vulnerable populations.

pls slow down on bike lanes

I lot more could be done for and felt by tax payers if you moved monies from policing into other sectors.

Manage the city and STOP your social agenda. Do the work of the city and wake up. Steven Andrew's win should me make all of you realise that your special interest group agenda is coming to an end in 2022.

I would prefer to see police funding reduced and that money redistributed to supporting rather than policing the unhoused populations.

prioritize pedestrian over bike budgeting: sidewalks, lighted crossings, traffic calming etc.

Control your costs. The City should have furloughed or laid off non-working City Staff during the pandemic like Vancouver did.

I think the work being done with active transportation is really important and will yield great long-term results.

why begin with additional taxes? Cannot you begin with a zero based budget. Examine every aspect of the city's services and ask (a) why do we do them ? (b) can they be done more cost effectively? (c) do they need to be done in the first place? (d) are city staff the best at delivering them? EG: is private business more cost effective / efficient

Nothing specifically pertaining to mental health crisis worsening due to Covid

Better support for locally owned businesses.

Stay in your lane YYJ city hall. Let BC and Ottawa worry about big ticket items- you focus on fixing pot holes and improving police budgets + relations. Shame on Council for allowing 'art' that disrespects those who we ask to protect us. #disgusting

Are we still shipping our recyclables out of Victoria or dumping them in landfills? Ongoing high profile communication on priority issues identified by the citizens needs, in itself to be a priority. I think that a similar model of communication such as the example of COVID updates hosted by Dr. Henry and the Provincial Health Minister needs to be initiated by Council and

hosted by the Mayor.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate.

The next year should be about the basics. We need to rebuild and recover from the economic hit in 2020. It's not the time for "nice to have's" in the budget.

Survey questions like "Our city is innovative" and "Our city is healthy" are so general as to be meaningless. Please be specific in future surveys as "high level strategic" phrases can be used to justify operationalizing anything, many times not at all what the citizen /. resident had in mind.

Not OK to allow camping in parks without public washrooms - serious public health hazard!

Don't be afraid to raise taxes.

We need more doctors

Disappointed to see increases to police budget. Both police and bylaw continue to dedicate resources to displacing folks that that are just trying to survive.

I would like to see the alternative response model implemented - we know we cannot police our way out of the mental health and affordability crisis we find ourselves in.

Defund the police. Invest instead in accessible and affordable housing for all, no strings attached and you will find that the people you criminalize for trying to survive actually don't need to be harassed by cops, they need stable living situations.

House homeless in other municipalities besides YYJ core. Give people back our Beacon Hill Park, for recreation, not residential camping.

Six years ago I would have answered this survey differently because Victoria was a safe, vibrant easily navigable city. Current Council priorities have made it less safe, less clean, less welcoming, less beautiful and less healthy. I would love to see it return to some shadow of its former self, but that will require a significant shift in priorities!

- some funds from the police budget set aside for neighbourhood policing and neighbourhood police stations - money to train police officers in dealing with people suffering from mental health and substance disorders - more rehab facilities for those dealing with mental health and substance disorders

I can't believe this is the only question in this survey that deals explicitly with the budget. Last year I participated in a much better framed engagement around the budget. We had the opportunity to weigh in on individual line items. In the absence of this truly transparent and meaningful engagement, I will only say that the proposed budget contains way too much money for Vic PD! I supported the City of Victoria's decision last year to slash the proposed budget increase for the police. You should continue in this vein, and explore other ways to deliver public safety beyond just relying on police and their expensive hi-tech equipment.

- I previously would have supported more funding for arts, but completed projects too divisive (eg, ACAB mural, film that whitewashes the criminality homeless encampments) so I can no longer support arts funding.

Get back to managing a city and stop 100% of the initiatives and announcements that are outside your jurisdiction.

I'd like to see rapid response, first responder social services i.e mental health workers deployed to respond to social emergencies. Let police focus on police work. Reallocate police funds to create this new emergency response division.

I'd like to see multi level government action on homelessness and the root issues around it. How we address it locally this year will set the groundwork for many more years to come. The city infrastructure, roads and parks look really good due to the great work of staff this last few years. The road and park improvements can go by the wayside this year. It is imperative to address and plan for homeless populations and the challenges police are facing due to the poor infrastructure around assisting this population. The downtown businesses will benefit from having the homeless issue addressed wholeheartedly. Once the social issues are addressed then we can get back to fixing damaged parks and planning for our future.

1. The budget lists measures & 2019-20 projects, but where is the report card on how we actually did against the measures in 2019-20? Did the \$ we spent achieve the goals we intended? 2. I know the city doesn't control Police, but the Police section of the budget is quite difficult to understand.

More money to Police and Bylaw less money to bike lanes

Way too much money goes to policing given how few crimes are actually solved and how the police operate in this community. Fewer armed officers and less emphasis on policing marginalized peoples would make our community safer. I also dislike seeing expenditures on items such as drive-thru light shows, holiday decorations, and temporary artwork (i.e. paintings and murals). Investments should prioritize public health and community safety (safer transportation, mobility, reductions in emissions and pollution).

Infrastructure is key at this time. Invest for the future

Defund the police

If you're serious about helping the businesses in the downtown core in 2021 you should put the Christmas decorations up. They bring a lot of light and colour to a dark time of year, they make downtown more inviting. I understand this year The Downtown Holiday Decorations were mostly cancelled due to this idea that the decorations represent Christianity? The stars that normally go up could represent Diwali in November, Hanukkah, Christmas and more! Perhaps think of it as Holiday Decor and invest in more inclusive options. It was depressing not seeing our city done up this year. I had to leave town to see nice lights in Ladysmith and Sidney.

Police budget way too high in comparison with other municipalities and local needs. It could easily be cut by 10% without loss of services.

You have noted an increase in taxation to fund police duties, and also a very high policing budget. The citizens of Victoria have made it very clear that policing as it stands today is toxic and cannot continue. There was even the incident that police dismantled the community care tent in beacon hill against your (council's) recommendation. Why are you still supporting them? We need a budget that creates more mental health workers and social workers and less policing that serves only to escalate and incarcerate.

Put the \$\$ towards the following high priority items: - Health and Safety (i.e., policing, supports for homelessness, wellness initiatives, parks and outdoor spaces) - infrastructure (especially ROADS which are a disgrace, IE Blanshard between Pandora & Fort!) - encourage multiple housing units on a single property - EG basement suites, laneway housing, MAKE IT EASY to get approval - rezone blocks and neighbourhoods to allow for these uses instead of one property at a time and leave it up to homeowners to add these amenities if they so choose - stick to local and important issues - City Council - keep your nose out of places that don't concern you, IE federal/provincial responsibilities - quit nickel and diming the police force. The city is growing and adequate and appropriate policing is necessary. Enable the police force to be innovative and to add special constables who are trained to deal with and/or work with mental health specialists, which then allows regular status police to deal with crime etc. - if really wanting to tackle homelessness, why don't you get on with the project that is gaining steam and \$\$ to provide tiny home living on a downtown site?

I'd like to see less going to the police budget. It's a key area that could use reform or refocusing/reprioritization that could free up funds and I think the organization commands too much political power and deference. I'd like to see some concrete action from the City's climate plan put into motion. On the EV charging front, it would be good to see some of the new cash dedicate

from this budget put to fast chargers, not the Level 2 stations, which are fairly well covered in the region. The fast chargers are the ones that are hard to come by, and still will be with the installation of the ones on Wharf and Johnson. I'm not sure if the money dedicated to free youth transit will be recoupable from the Province when they roll out their program for free transit. I think the city is doing a decent job working to house people experience homelessness and would like to see more vocal advocacy for funds from higher levels of government to help end homeless in our city through targeted investments in infrastructure and services.

The Victoria Police Department should not have an increase in their budget in the 2021 Draft Financial Plan. Why will VicPD be receiving \$4,793,600 for their Community Services Division? This amount is astounding; it has barely been decreased since last years budget. Why are the police being given so much money to address the mental health crises and people who don't have homes within our city? We know that this shouldn't be the job of the police, it leads to an increase in the criminalization of those who are mentally ill, those who don't have homes, and BIPOC community members. This funding needs to be directed towards other services within the city such as building affordable (or why not free) housing for people in our community who need it the most. This aspect of the budget must be changed or else those who are the most vulnerable within our community will continue to suffer during these really hard times. It feels like a slap in the face that the budget has been INCREASED for VicPD and that the bare minimum of reforming VicPD (like cutting and redistributing their Community Services Division funding) hasn't been addressed.

Less money on bike lanes and buying expensive property downtown and more money spent on cheaper property for the homeless people out in outlying areas not downtown where property is expensive.

I would like to stress that after 2020, it is disappointing to see an over 700000 budget increase for the Victoria Police Department. After witnessing the VPD violently mishandle indigenous youth, including disrespecting indigenous protocol and pulling on a young indigenous woman's hair, and their unwelcomed presence policing the unhoused community I implore the COV to revisit that increase. With calls across the nation and within Victoria to work towards defunding the police, it is disappointing to see that the COV hasn't considered how the police reinforce systems of violence in our communities. I'd like to see the COV consider moving funds allocated towards the Victoria Police Department into other community based initiatives that engage in mutual aid and directly support vulnerable populations.

Please stick to municipal issues

Defund the Police. Take money AWAY from the VicPD and give it to social services that help folks with mental illness, addiction, trauma, homelessness, etc. Create an alternative to police for folks who need HELP and not guns

drawn in their faces. I do not agree with adding MORE money to VicPD's budget. DEFUND the POLICE.

My comments are obviously coloured by my hatred of bike lanes; specifically the negative effects they have had on driving, parking, access to business and simple safety. And, I am very disturbed by the overnight camping and the consequential costs we will be faced with to rehab against comprised overall maintenance, improvement and access because all the money will go there. I want to see more funds allocated to Police and Fire and Bylaw. Also I struggle with the too broad survey categories such as Housing. I would gladly pay higher taxes for senior's housing and housing for handicapped etc whereas the young who can get a job or some homeless people not so much. But I was not given the choice to voice my specific opinion.

I would like to see taxes LOWERED for businesses in downtown Victoria. Make the city so attractive to business owners that they won't be able to resist having businesses here, rather than in Langford or Sidney. We MUST keep our downtown core vibrant and prosperous, or the city will die. Affordable or free parking is also crucial for good commerce -- perhaps free parking on certain days or times. Also, the increase in crime has deterred business owners. If strict rules are instituted about closing our parks to 24/7 camping, the criminal element will be reduced. A cap on rents would also be beneficial for businesses, perhaps for a two-year period. The pandemic has taken a great toll on our city and our number one priority is to bring it back to its normal prosperous self. This is not the time for expenditures on issues that do not support Victoria's full economic recovery.

Reduce the police budget

I am very opposed to the proposed 1.5% increase in the police budget. If anything, this is the time to re-allocate any additional funding to community wellness initiatives like the proposed Alternative Response initiative.

This survey seems geared toward validating what you are already doing

Home taxes are increasing too rapidly. Please consider indexing to inflation only. Youth bus passes should be discounted, but free seems unnecessary.

It's hard to rank most of these concepts in this survey because it's not clear how they are defined. I value public safety but I don't think the police promote safety (they criminalize the poor and jeopardize BIPOC lives) so that's not something I would rank highly even though I value community-led safety initiatives.

I really appreciate the granting streams that the City has for residents and organizations e.g. Strategic Plan Grant and My Great Neighbourhood Grant, Community Garden grants or permits. I do wish though that there was slightly

less red tape and bureaucratic expectation involved with securing these funds - it's really difficult, and requires a great amount of commitment for a group of volunteers to do all that is necessary to get a community garden established on city park space (For example, I speak from experience in being involved for 4 years in trying to get a garden in the Oaklands neighbourhood). The Food Systems Coordinator position at the City in the Parks department has been helpful, but having more city led urban agriculture projects combined with less rules and needed information for projects would be fantastic. It would be fantastic if the My Great Neighbourhood Grant didn't require matching funds in Volunteer Labour, perhaps a smaller percentage could be possible. It seems a strain at times on dedicated well meaning community built projects. For the Strategic Plan Grant, the amounts given out to some organizations that serve the population in huge ways seem relatively insignificant (e.g. average in 2020 was just \$10 000). More substantial grant amounts would be incredible in advancing the good work that non-profits do for residents of the City of Victoria. Please keep prioritizing spending on addressing Climate Change resilience. The economic and social repercussions of climate change have the possibility of being way more dramatic than the even the pandemic has been. Maybe it will happen slower, but impacts will be massive over time if we don't have the leadership of our city and province. I appreciate your Zero Waste Victoria strategy that recently came out - please put some funds toward executing the goals in this strategy, this will support the climate resiliency of our communities. It would be fantastic if there was less bureaucratic tape here too - e.g. could it be less difficult for businesses to safely use re-useable containers? Perhaps it can even be a requirement or bylaw for some businesses to use less packaging, or reusable packaging? Please put some budgetary funding toward local, small scale composting options. Food and yard waste in landfill contributes significantly to GHG emissions. It is imperative that all residents in Victoria have the option of a curbside collection bin, a yard compost bin, or participate in a small scale neighbourhood composting program. Consider offering rebates to residents who buy compost bins at a local business/non-profit organization like the Compost Education Centre, located in Fernwood. Make it mandatory for all building and property owners to allow yard compost bins (many renters complain that their landlords won't let them have a bin!) and make it mandatory for multi-residential dwellers to have a food waste diversion option as well! There are many apartment buildings that still don't have green bins even though there is a Food Scrap Ban at the Hartland Landfill for years now! One last thing about compost bins and the suggestions I've made - there needs to be enforcement - people need it drawn to their attention that they MUST use their greenbin, MUST provide their tenants at an apartment building with a green waste bin and MUST allow their tenants to have a compost bin in their yard if they wish. Consider funding or creating small scale neighbourhood composting programs like New York City's BK Rot (<https://www.bkrot.org/>). This will further reduce the costs of shipping the City's food waste up island or to the mainland, and create more resiliency in

our community. Rather than creating new programs and educational opportunities for residents, please consider putting more funds towards organizations that are already doing that work. No need to re-invent the wheel. Perhaps there could be a new granting stream for such a model. For example, to achieve the goal of creating a more welcoming city, fund Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Center Society; another example, for supporting and prioritizing affordable housing, fund the coalition to end homelessness; for education programs related to climate change resiliency and composting food scraps, fund the Compost Education Centre. To achieve Equity and Inclusion, and to support efforts to help the most vulnerable in our community, there needs to be a serious investigation into how money is spent on policing in the region. Could some of those funds be re directed to community oriented services, so that, for example, police calls that don't actually require police intervention are instead addressed by skilled and trained mental health experts? This would mean that people who are already vulnerable aren't made even more vulnerable by the law, and by the inherent racism that exists in every police department all across North America. Also could some of the police funding be directed at a far more rigorous equity and inclusion training for Victoria Police Department? Again I'll say, I believe it is incredibly important to take a VERY serious look at how policing plays into the continued oppression of those folks most at risk. Thanks for prioritizing safe and diverse transportation options (e.g. bicycle lanes, safe pedestrian crossing, bus lanes). Please keep funding this into the future, it ties in well to the objectives of Climate Change leadership/resiliency. One last thing - I wish for everyone in this city to have a livable wage - and I can't help but feel like I am just making it in this city, working for a Non-Profit that I am very passionate about. I will never be able to own a home here; likely having to leave the region, (my home!), to own a house or even an apartment. I feel curious about how much City of Victoria employee wages are - they seem overly high in some cases shifting employees into the overly consumptive 1%. Could some of the wages of City Employees be redistributed to community minded livable wage programs, or to Non-Profits doing so many positive things in the City? Thanks for reading my comments to the end, and for allowing residents to contribute in this way.

Fund the police. Stop taking away parking downtown. Clean up Pandora Ave.

I generally support the vision outlined in the draft city budget. I would like to see more effort in addressing the housing issues in our city, including homelessness and more affordable rental units.

I do not feel unsafe in Victoria but I would like to see an effort to increase safety for everyone through continued efforts to alleviate extreme poverty.

"Invest \$510,000 in capital to create five new signed crosswalks, upgrade 10 existing crosswalks and add a second marked crosswalk at Douglas Street and Pembroke Avenue. An additional \$250,000 will be invested in traffic

calming measures such as speed humps, curb extensions or medians to enhance pedestrian crossings and safety." "Invest \$270,000 in capital to remove the roadway between Mile Zero and Beacon Hill Park to create a continuous green space." **These initiatives are a waste of money. While I wholly support a complex transportation plan, removing roads is not a long term solution. Current urban planners do not seem qualified for long-term planning. Pedestrians are already extremely safe in Victoria. Spending further money on their safety is wasteful. The new nonsensical bike lanes do cause confusion for cars and pedestrians alike, but additional nonsensical crossings, limiting of car traffic, and speed humps are not the solution. "Since 1999, Council has increased the annual capital budget funding through property taxes from \$2.5 million to over \$11 million." Have local wages risen commensurate to this property tax increase? While property taxes may not be "directly related to the economy" they are directly related to how affordable it is to live in Victoria. "human-powered modes of transportation" is an illogical phrase Island life requires cars. Even for those who live downtown (such as myself) cars are required for outdoor island activities and for local travel, from Tofino to Mount Washington. Getting in and out of downtown with ease (both towards the North Island and towards Oak Bay/UVic) Victoria remains a long term priority for all Victoria residents, even those who walk/bike normally (such as myself). Victoria is already a welcoming and pedestrian friendly city with excellent bike routes. City dollars would be better spent elsewhere (insecure housing, creating sustainable rents for low-income people, and for small business, actually creating sustainable and meaningful recycling programs, building electric car infrastructures, implementing sustainable energy plans in public services, addressing the local opioid crisis, etc.) It seems like reprogramming who responds to overdose calls should be a city priority. From the graphs it appears that the fire department responds to such calls. If that is correct, then why does the fire department have 7% of the budget and the Vic PD 23%. Should that money be with the police or elsewhere? PS Hurray for sewage treatment!! Finally!! Thank you!!!

Just a comment about recycling and solid waste, that impacts GHG reduction. I live in an apartment surrounded by condos. And every building on this block uses different companies to deal with the solid waste. So this one block has multiple trucks picking up the garbage, organics, and recycled materials each day. That's a lot of trucks driving around unnecessarily producing GHG emissions. If it was all city run, we would just have the 3 trucks (one for each type of waste) coming through. Save a lot of GHG emissions. Secondly, it can be confusing with difference between what different companies pick up. I want to recycle materials but it is a real struggle when I cannot even recycle glass - no condo or apartment is accepting glass now, which is ridiculous. I feel we should be doing more to recycle and make it easy for people to recycle. So (1) Every apartment, condo and business should be on city waste collection with employees earning a union, living wage. (2) Consistent collection across city. (3) Make it easy to collect items the city cannot pick up with multiple little depots, rather

than having to take unusual items to London Drugs or travel outside Victoria to find places to recycle. - I appreciate the bike infrastructure, but note, I haven't seen an apartment or condo yet that has decent bike storage. Maybe the city could support information and ideas to apartments and condos about that they could do to support bike infrastructure by providing easy to access (with aging populations), secure storage. - Lastly, didn't see it as highlighted much here (sorry if I missed it), but also really support community centres and programs for teens - so that they don't become at risk populations. Thank you.

NO MORE FREE LUNCH FOR COUNCIL

While the mayor and council and all of the civil servants working for the City would probably say that they are very concerned about climate change and are taking measures to address it, really those initiatives are far too modest. Perhaps people think that "climate emergency" is just some sort of branding rather than a literal description of our situation. I would be happy to pay much higher taxes in order to get some real, concrete measures to get the City to carbon neutrality by 2030.

Don't spend money on matters outside of municipal jurisdiction.

Please do whatever you can to increase taxes on the wealthy in order to decrease economic inequality. As a high income household, this would absolutely involve raising my own personal taxes, which I would love, because then we could have things like affordable housing, real reconciliation, washrooms at every park, etc.

I wish that rents would be lowered. The rent is becoming very high and keeps going up every year. It is a major factor in homelessness. Thank you.

Question 8 "Priorities" Welcoming: Of course but for who? new residents? businesses? tourists? existing resident taxpayers? homeless? The answer strategy and tactic would be different for each category. Equitable and Inclusive: I assume this goes to hiring and funded programs. If so, hiring should be entirely on confirmed need and merit not on, frankly, discriminatory preferential hiring. Innovative: don't think you can make innovation a priority; it happens or it doesn't in a policy environment prepared to take informed risk. Innovation can't be programmed. Vulnerable Populations: support yes, but not at any cost. The present hands off approach to homeless and lawbreakers (e.g. blockades etc) is allowing the few to hold the majority hostage financially and in our use of the city in which we pay taxes. Fiscal Responsibility: not stated as a priority but the most significant one. I believe municipalities in BC have a core mandate around infrastructure and public safety that deserves more attention from an apparently overtaxed Council. Given pressures on policy makers time and financial resources maybe stick

to core areas. If time and money allows (without unaffordable to resident increases in property taxes) move on the next tier of 'nice to have' items.

Public safety and ability to use public spaces (streets, parking, parks) is a minimum. Sadly this has degraded significantly over the last year.

In these challenging times, the City of Victoria should focus solely on its core business, especially sewers, watermains and roads, and stay out of mandates that rightly belong to other jurisdictions (fed/prov). Too many glamour or showcase initiatives in this time of fiscal crisis.

REDIRECT POLICE FUNDING TOWARDS SOCIAL SERVICES NO MORE HURT

Please reconsider not increasing the property taxes more substantially - it is more equitable and just to use this method to redistribute wealth between the privileged homeowners in this city and those that rent or are homeless. Please also reconsider the frankly disgusting disproportionate amount of money that is going towards policing (some 23% of the draft budget) versus that for affordable housing activities (~0.25%). Surely this must be a mistake!

The police budget is going to kill opportunity

Not at this time.

Less budgets police and more towards First Nations communities!

When will we get a new Crystal Pool and recreation centre???? Being the City's only recreation centre and with disparaging COVID-19 closures of gyms and programs, knowing that we have something positive on the horizon in the form of a new recreation centre was one of the only things I was looking forward to seeing in the draft financial plan. I was 100% on board with the idea of it going in the RAP parking lot to alleviate the notion of losing green space, but to see a "TBD" and \$0 over the next 5 years is ludicrous and inexcusable even with a global pandemic. The amount of money we have paid as taxpayers to design, engage, and inquire on options is past the tipping point; to remove that work and effort is a slap in the face. Please put something back in the budget to reassure us that this is moving forward. Once the pandemic is over, people will need recreation, programs, and a sense of community more than ever.

I would like to see a freeze on the police budget. The city is already spending too large an amount on policing. That money could go a long way elsewhere.

Allow more density in development

I strongly urge the city of Victoria to divest from, or at least not increase funding to, the police. This should be invested into programs and services that support at-risk populations.

I am not pleased with the amount of funds spent on policing or bylaw.

Defund the police, their budget is bloated and large portions of what you give them could go towards housing. They do NOT need an increase

2021 should focus on keeping all residents healthy, housed, and safe. Once the pandemic is over, we can shift focus to innovation and creating a welcoming environment for visitors. However, since the climate emergency has not lessened, attention to climate action should remain a priority.

Not having lights at Vic West Skatepark is a safety and mental health issue! We need lights!

Please add lights to Vic west skatepark

Please defund the police and fix my gutter that a city vehicle ripped off my house.

I am disappointed to see that this consultation asks for direct input about transportation and parks, but not policing, which is also part of this budget. I strongly oppose to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. The VicPD budget should be frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. A budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time.

Essential- services for vulnerable people and unhoused during COVID- it's totally unacceptable that shelters and services have been left to nothing due to the excuse of COVID.

I do not think we should be increasing our police budget at all. There is no justifiable reason that Victoria should require the most well-funded police force in the country on a per capita basis. The evidence shows again and again that policing poverty and drug use does not work, is not beneficial to the community, and is very expensive. Those tax dollars would be much better spent on harm reduction and making our city more affordable. It would also significantly improve the experience of BIPOC and Indigenous residents, and is a core part of decolonization and reconciliation.

DEFUND THE POLICE

Make decisions as if you were a member of a population that is made vulnerable

I think that there should be a 0% increase in the funding for the VicPd. I think that we need to allocate that money into different social services and programs. In light of the events of 2020, from indigenous youth getting arrested during a peaceful protest to the VicPds interference with BIPOC artists' murals, and to the increased policing of people without homes I think there needs to be a fundamental shift in our priorities. I live right next to a "tent city" and have never felt unsafe or had any problems with the people living there at all. I do not think that increased police budgets can make our city any "safer" than it is now.

Please add lights to Vic west skatepark

I believe a large part of the Victoria population would be strongly behind cutting the police budget, even just slightly, to help fund other community based projects.

I think that budgets you have increased, like policing, vs the ones that you've decreased, like affordable housing and reconciliation, clearly don't align with the City's Strategic Plan, what council members have voiced as important, or what a lot of the people of Victoria have advocated for.

I am aghast to notice an increase in the police budget. After this issue being brought to light this year, the increase should be a clear 0%. Studies show that reallocating these funds to social programs and communities at risk helps to lower crime, increase employment opportunities, decrease homelessness, decrease domestic violence, decrease police violence, etc. I expected more of the City. Please amend the budget and be part of the solution.

Defund the police

I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time.

DEFUND THE POLICE. Increasing the police budget is a slap in the face to the marginalized communities and activists who have made a clear demand for defunding. Victoria is already massively overpoliced, with policing already over 20% of the city's budget. We do not need more police. We need the money we waste on them to go toward social services that actually improve the lives of people in this city.

to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries.

The Victoria West skatepark is becoming increasingly overpopulated and nearly impossible to use comfortably, particularly during late fall, winter, and early spring. The lack of daylight hours results in a bottleneck of hundreds of people showing up within a small window of time. I believe the community would greatly benefit from having lights installed for use between sunset and 10~12. I know there's a significant upfront costs as well as maintenance/power resources. I suggest that a system in which an individual can pay (such as a parking meter) and the lights will come on for a set amount of time, thus cutting down on wasted power and providing a monetary incentive for the city to install these lights. Thousands of people rely on Vic West skatepark as a place to socialize, exercise, and self-improve. This has become increasingly difficult and I personally know many people who have given up because they are unable to skate in the overpopulated park. Please, something needs to be done to maintain the community people have worked so hard to establish in this city.

Do not increase the police budget. The police budget should be decreased. Defund the police.

It's time to address all issues in the city through a lens that understands the urgency and severity of climate change

I would like to add that the improvement of/increased spending on social justice ensures increased security for all. Such an increase on police in your proposed draft seems counter productive. Perhaps some of that increase

could be put to better use on supporting housing, food security, and health of our most vulnerable. Thank you.

Lower the police budget and put their money towards social services.

for all of the money spent on bikelanes, there is a huge lack of secure bike lockup areas downtown. With the ongoing homelessness and mental health issues the city is facing, i do not feel safe biking downtown because i'm not sure my bike will be where i locked it. bike theft is a very big issue here.

Why is 23% going to the police, and only .03% to relationships with indigenous populations and reconciliation? It is telling that most of the cities money is going to the police, when we are in a housing crises (or should I say, strategically created housing deprivation). You put forward that Reconciliation and Indigenous Relations and Affordable Housing are, respectively, number 2 and 3 on your strategic priorities. Why is this not reflected in your budget at all!? When do the Songhees people get to have their land back? What are the cities plans to make that happen? Also I support action on climate change, but this needs to be equitable. It is unfair for you to focus energy on helping those who have more wealth get access to "green" alternatives. Consider giving people who make under 50,000 a year \$100 per year towards bike repairs. This is a a tangible way to both address economic inequality within Victoria AND promote green alternatives.

Vic PD should NOT receive any more money than they already do, and the money allocated to Vic PD should be REDUCED. I OPPOSE the increase to the Vic PD budget.

I do not agree whatsoever with the increase in budget directed towards Vic PD. As a social worker, I have seen the way increased police presence does more harm than good to the community around them, especially the most vulnerable communities. These communities need more support and preventative programs, not punishment and policing. By increasing funding to Vic PD, you take the funding away from such supportive programs. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to freeze the Vic PD budget, for the wellbeing and health of our community members. Please use your power for good - as the ones who do not have power are suffering as the city continues to raise the Vic PD budget.

COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of

Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years.

This message, in full or in part, and including the contact information of the sender, must not be sent or forwarded to VicPD or any third party without the written consent of the sender. Dear Elected Officials and the Victoria/Esquimalt Police Board, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly

increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs. Yours sincerely, Hannah This message, in full or in part, must not be forwarded to VicPD or any third party without the written consent of the sender. This includes the contact information of the sender.

Please DO NOT increase funding for the police department!!

Focus on core municipal responsibilities, and eliminate (not just limit) tax increases. Residents and businesses alike have lost income due to COVID, and we cannot afford tax increases. If you cannot do it within the existing budget WITHOUT increasing taxes, delay your pet projects (e.g., further bike lane expansion) and disengage Council from areas that are actually provincial and federal responsibilities. If you want to send a letter to the federal or provincial government advocating a position, do that, but quit overstepping your municipal mandate.

No to the increase to the Victoria Police Budget.

The proposed 1.5% increase to the police budget is truly offensive. Resources are constrained as it is, and to propose giving the police more money when there are countless other ways that money could be spent more effectively (ie. climate action, sustainable transportation initiatives, transitional

housing, mental health services) and would ACTUALLY have a positive impact on the city's most vulnerable populations is utterly appalling. If Council is truly committed to condemning racism and addressing systemic injustices in Victoria, you will not increase the police budget for 2021.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change.

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municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change.

Please recognize the importance of youth, and how many youth use the skateboard park. It has saved countless lives. If our tennis courts we're lined up down the road you'd build double. Well, our skateparks are essentially overflowing. We need more space!! Thank you

I don't believe that an increase in the police budget is needed, or is a responsible decision moving forwards. I also believe that an increase in police presence will not actually make our communities stronger, or safer. We don't have the same struggles that big cities in Canada sometimes face with regards to violence, although we do struggle with a high population of homeless people, often with mental illness. I'm not an expert here, but I do drive and ride my bike down Pandora Avenue, and it is heartbreaking. These people need help, and the city should step up here.

Please consider diverting funds from policing to housing, addiction, and mental health services. Per capita we have more police than many other Canadian cities, and these aforementioned pressing issues are in dire need of action and funding.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I urge that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. As a concerned Victoria citizen, I stood with the Indigenous land defenders at the beginning of 2020, and protested for Black and Indigenous lives and livelihoods throughout the summer. I was horrified to see the VicPD arrest — and detain for hours — 5 Indigenous youth following a peaceful sit-in at the legislature, and outraged to see the VicPD's recent interference with the

IBPOC artists' murals which called for peace and justice. This city can absolutely do better than this, and I want to add my voice to those calling for the freezing of the VicPD's budget, and those voices strongly opposing the budget increase. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and

meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs.

Make an effort to cater to the interest of residents who don't have a political voice. Not just skateboarders but all young people. Victoria is a wonderful city but it has so much room for improvement. Bike infrastructure is lacking on major transportation routes, city plazas are becoming unused by citizens due to restrictive and selectively enforced rules (centennial square is a no skateboards or bikes zone but what else is it used for?)...

the housing crisis is a priority that greatly impacts the health of our community. we don't need more police funding. we need community support & affordable housing now.

I request that the city of Victoria freeze the VicPD budget. I am strongly against increasing their budget. overpolicing does not keep communities safe, and it places marginalized people at risk

Victoria west skatepark lights

I feel frustrated with the way the city mistreats our homeless population, and with the increased funding proposal to the police. These people are our most vulnerable and it's a disgrace how the city treats them.

I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. Freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department

and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget.

Concerns about 'free' offerings such as bus passes - this does not belong in a municipal service . Free parking downtown on Sundays is acceptable.

I think that the increase in police funding could be put to better use. For example, funding mental health initiatives and supports or providing more resources and supports to the homeless population. Vulnerable populations don't need more policing, they need more supports and options.

Do not increase the police budget. That is the absolute last thing we need. Let's care for our unhoused population - this problem is vastly cheaper to address than to allow to continue. See Malcolm Gladwell's piece on this ("Million Dollar Murray") to start.

Reduce the Victoria Police Department budget and instead increase funding for social programs.

I do not understand or support an INCREASE in police budgeting without concrete numbers to separate out mental health and other support services. Also more planning for the unhoused should become a priority. The fact that North Park had to step in to move and relocate the camp when that area floods every year should not have come as a surprise to anyone. Also remove those derogatory signs on RAP. Portraying the unhoused as angry and dangerous is unhelpful and perpetrating a stereotype.

I am strongly opposed to any increase in funding to the Victoria Police Department. I believe that the VicPD budget must be frozen in order to reallocate municipal resources to communities in need, which have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that our city's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than to any other municipal function.

Why in a city with a population that so clearly supports the Black Lives Matter movement and the defunding of police is the police budget increasing? Increasing other social services has been shown to have a much better impact on community safety.

Please defund the police- or at the minimum maintain the current budget.

Please reconsider increasing police budget; they do not need an increase especially considering the actual operating costs in 2020. Other departments such as business and community relations are taking a hit when they could use the increase to support local businesses in providing safe shopping practices to encourage business throughout the pandemic.

More equitable distribution of city spending towards meaningful housing, sustainability, and futureproofing a city, rather than moving money towards frivolous police services. Safety is maintained by creating a community that has better social services and support, and access to resources (housing, food, running water, etc.). I would like to see much better investment into livable infrastructure, carbon neutrality, and functional public transportation. During a time when shared spaces can be dangerous and bus usage is down, I think heavier investment is needed for bike lanes and bike infrastructure. Particularly in connecting central locations (Cook St, Yates St, Fernwood Rd, Shelbourne St, Richmond St, etc.) where bike lanes are either non-existent or incomplete.

We should not continue to increase Vic PD's budget by 1.5%. According to Stats Canada, Vic PD has the most police officers per 100,000 people than any other municipality in Canada. Policing already accounts for 23% of City's operational budget. In a time of Covid-19, where there are real fiscal challenges, and there are many areas of need, VIC PD's budget should have a 0% increase, as other municipalities such as Vancouver have decided to do. Instead of putting more money into VicPD which oppresses the most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), we could put that same money into other programs such as community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives will support our most targeted communities and centre experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require funding, partnering with and supporting community-based organizers, instead of increasing the VicPD budget.

I oppose the proposed increase to police funding.

More lighting at Vic West Skatepark.

I have concerns about the policing budget - at this time I am generally opposed to increasing policing budget, and am strongly opposed to the larger increase in Patrolling budget. Additionally, I would prefer to see a more nuanced view of the 5-year policing budget plan. For example, the Patrol budget beyond 2021 appears to project a flat 2.49% increase to all line items. Given a combination of historical data as well as input from Police leadership on future direction, could the prediction be more precise?

I truly believe the increased budget for police needs to be reconsidered. Victoria is already too heavily policed. The police budget needs to be drastically reduced, with the extra funds put towards safe, affordable housing, and hiring medical workers who can assist with mental health and substance abuse issues.

Please further green spaces, electric/clean energy incentives, affordable housing!!! And lastly, refund our other social services/community services and redistribute the portion of wealth going to Vic PD

Do not increase police budget!

Defund the Vic Pd. Use that extremely high budget to support indigenous peoples, the houseless and emergency shelters. Distribute that budget to mental health professionals, providing emergency services without the Vic Pd present. The amount of money going towards the police budget is appalling and only upholds the values of a white supremacist idealization of policing and therefore continues to contribute to systematic racism, patriarchy etc.. Divesting in this area could create more positions to support people in mental health emergencies. It also should be distributed to the Indigenous original caretakers, whose land we stole and continue to occupy.

less \$\$\$ to cops. more to helping people

Make dental care apart of health care and affordable education should be a top priority

The police do not need an increase in budget especially in the middle of a pandemic when we could be helping people and businesses with recovery from their losses.

I do NOT support an increase to the Vic PD budget. In light of the BLM protests and universal call for defunding police departments across North America I think it is extremely tone deaf and counter productive to increase the Victoria Police Department budget. 23% is far too high. I would like to see an immediate decrease in Police funding.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of

increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs.

Reduce funding for police and reallocate funds to peer run programs, mental health task force, housing and trauma treatment

I feel very strongly that the Victoria Police Department should not get a budget increase in 2021. They continually ask for budget increases and continually fail to accomplish the same tasks. I'm specifically worried about their interactions with Victoria's homeless community and their consistent failure to deal with them in an effective manner. Periodically forcing tent city to relocate does not solve the issue and does not require more resources and Vic PD is deliberately using statistics to mislead the public to support increased funding. An increased police presence in an area will lead to more arrests and the bias of the area being dangerous when other less policed areas have just as much crime occurring. Furthermore I was deeply disturbed by the conduct of the Vic PD during the Wet'suwet'en protests by indigenous youth at the provincial parliament, censoring of the Black Lives Matter protest art in Bastion Square, and the forced violent removal of homeless in Beacon Hill Park. They are out of touch with Victoria's most vulnerable populations and an increased budget will not change that. Instead I strongly urge Victoria City Council to either freeze or decrease the Vic PD funding and instead consult the affected populations and experts in the UVic sociology department to work towards community based solutions that are not governed by fear.

increasing the Victoria police departments budget by 1.5% is ridiculous. What will more cops do when people don't have homes

More resources for low income housing and addiction support

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. This is inspired strongly by the vocal support I and many others have heard for defunding the VicPD and police departments across Canada I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: - COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. --As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police

budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. --According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. --The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. --The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. --In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. --Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. I was horrified when over 30 armed VicPD officers arrested 12 Indigenous youth at the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources in January 2020, and when the VicPD arrested 5 Indigenous youth after a peaceful sit in, and detained them for hours. As well, the recent interference of the VicPD in IBPOC artists' mural was shameful and in poor taste at the very least. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs.

Please don't increase the police budget. Put those millions of dollars to better use in social programs to help better the livelihoods of the homeless in our city, youth programs, and women's shelters.

An increase in the police budget is absolutely unacceptable. Increased policing does not provide value to most of the community of victoria, and in particular, it actively commits violence against houseless people and other marginalized groups. Vic PD has more police officers per 100,000 population than vancouver, regina, toronto, or ottawa. The Vic PD is overfunded, and a poor solution to "public safety". If we want people to stop committing crimes, we need to provide them with the resources they need so they are in a position where they don't have to, or don't feel the need to, commit crimes. We should provide houseless people low barrier of access housing first programs, with enough resources to get the food, healthcare, and professional mental support they need. Programs like that, directed and informed by people who work with houseless and marginalized people, is where the money that is being put towards the police budget should go. In fact, I think the police budget should be significantly decreased, and that the money from that decrease should also go into programs like the one described above. Police should not be performing the jobs of social workers. We need to fund informed services built around people who are trained and specifically want to work with houseless people that can provide them equitable and non-violence support.

Please do not increase the police budget for this year. The money can and should be spent elsewhere. Victoria is a relatively safe community and an increase in police is not critical at this point of time. Whether the money is spent supporting the community from the impacts to of COVID or helping with maintenance costs of infrastructure, it will be more well used than on the police program.

I am strongly opposed to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% or some amount of deficit is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget

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initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs.

I am in strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead the VicPD budget should be frozen so that the limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored.

I would urge our local government to reconsider how much disproportionate spending is dedicated to policing. I would much prefer that our community provide resources, assistance, and empowerment to folks who need it, rather than over policing and harassment of people who are unhoused (and People of Colour, in general). I would like to see a redistribution of resources away from policing and towards community resource initiatives like housing, healthcare, childcare etc.

I signed up for this specifically to tell you that I am strongly against increasing the police budget. It does not make our communities safer and rather puts people in our community at risk of violence. If you are going to change the police budget, consider decreasing it.

Start spending money on basic services for tax payers like road maintenance and emergency services and stop spending money on things that are the responsibility of the provincial and federal government. Stop hiring city staff.

The CoV has been heading in the wrong direction for several years now in regards to its spending priorities. A 180 degree shift is essential if taxpayers and citizens are ever going to get good value for their money.

Our climate action goal NEEDS to be fast tracked to 2030 or 2040. We are running out of time and do not have the luxury to wait until 2050 to reduce our carbon footprint at this current rate. The community of Victoria wants to become more green, please help us in doing so! The Victoria Police Department's budget is outrageous. Over \$60M, with an increase of 1.5% is unacceptable. I want to strongly suggest reconsidering this and allocating funds to communities most in need and higher priority areas such as climate action, sustainability planning and the homeless community. I do not believe VicPD should have a budget increase this year. Vancouver Police has recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021, I think Victoria should follow along suite and allocate this money else where. Please divest in Victoria Police and reinvest in our community!

More skateparks, how is there no budget for skateparks, when Nanaimo has just gotten 3 brand new ones in 4 years??? Instead there is people who have been doing bottle drives for 3 years in order to fundraise for a park, which is a crock of shit because HOW many new sporting fields you going to create?? Now compare how often those sporting fields get used, now go look at the crowded skatepark. See where I'm coming from???

The amount of funding being allotted to the police dept. is ridiculous! Put this money towards affordable housing and mental health services if you want to see an improvement in the safety of our city. I am more scared of the police than I am of the "criminals" they are dealing with. Victoria has the highest per capita police budget which is ridiculous and causing so many issues within our city.

Too much tax going to police. Defund the police and invest in other public services.

Instead of investing in the police budget, it would be beneficial to prioritize and divest that money into community outreach programs and supports. Increased police presence continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. In the wake of covid19, racial injustice, and economic precarity, increasing funds for mental health support, harm reduction services, and affordable housing are paramount.

The police budget is outrageous and needs to go to address homelessness and mental health issues

The fact that a proposed 23% of the City's budget is allocated to The VicPD is deeply upsetting to me. I would feel great about where my tax dollars go if not for this enormous chunk going to an institution that directly harms people, the environment, equity and inclusion, Health, well-being and social issues, and belonging and engagement. I chose "public safety" as an area of least concern because I think what you mean by that is a police presence in our city. I want a safe community and I believe that contrary to their stated mission the police DO NOT keep us safe.

The Victoria Police department does NOT need a 1.5% budget increase.

The police do not need an increase in funding! They need a decrease. Services allocated to providing outreach for at risk individuals are needed more now than ever considering an ongoing pandemic, opioid crisis and housing shortage (through means of economic disparity, as well as low vacancy rate). The city would be a whole lot safer and in less need of police efforts if the vulnerable populations of Victoria were better looked after!

Defund the police and allocate funds to decrease homelessness and support minority communities; decriminalize drugs, affordable housing

Dear Elected Officials and the Victoria/Esquimalt Police Board, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital

community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs. Personally myself, I am horrified of how the police treats people. The unnecessary brutality towards BIPOC is absolutely disgusting. Raising the budget is a terrible idea and it going towards areas that need it more than the police is 100% necessary. Please put this into consideration. Thank you

The police budget is much too high and an increase to it is not only useless to the common person but it is detrimental to certain communities and takes away from areas that desperately need improvement. Including but not limited to the opioid epidemic and the rampant homelessness. The police only make these issues worse and a large portion of their funding MUST BE reallocated to be able to make a meaningful change in Victoria. Make us an example for the rest of Canada to follow and show us who you really represent. The people, or your pockets.

There does not need to be an increase to the police budget! It's already the highest of all the provinces!

Don't increase the VICPD budget. Decrease it. Not what we need to be spending our tax money on.

Considering the increased need for support to other sectors, including local businesses and the arts, and the continued need for climate action and affordable housing, continuing to give the police department the largest amount of money seems wasteful; increased policing isn't going to solve problems like homelessness, but instead further threatens marginalized communities.

The use of the term "safe" is challenging in this survey. I find myself asking "safe for who" because currently our community is not safe for all members. "Safety" is often a term used to other/alienate different populations (unhoused, differently abled, BIPOC, low income, drug using, etc.). I would like to see the city better define this term for its future use in gathering public feedback.

Dear Elected Officials and the Victoria/Esquimalt Police Board, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget

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freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change

I want to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change.

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Defund the police

defund VicPD

I do not agree with the proposed 1.5% increase to the police budget. Given the fiscal challenges related to Covid-19, this money would be much better spent on community resources - such as mental health outreach and support, affordable housing, and harm reduction services. The institution of policing does not keep us safe, it harms vulnerable populations in our community such as homeless folks, BIPOC, and people experiencing poverty. We need to partner with and fund community organizations who can help us build true

safety and inclusion for all, centering the voices of those most affected.

DO NOT INCREASE VIC PD BUDGET. It is a crime against humanity.

I strongly disagree with the proposed 1.5% budget increase for the Victoria Police Department. I believe this money can be reallocated to organizations that better support the most vulnerable members in our communities-- particularly mental health outreach.

Defund the police, use that money to end homelessness.

DO NOT increase police budget this year. Have you been deaf to the cries of BLM and other political movements this year? Police. Cause. Harm. They do not protect or provide safety-- they instigate and perpetuate violence. FUND community resources to PREVENT crime from happening in the first place! It's brainless!!!!

I do not want an increase in police funding, i would actually prefer a decrease and that the funds be reallocated to social services in the community around mental health and addictions

I think it is disrespectful to increase the police budget in light of the events of 2020. Seems like policing needs to be rethought, not increased.

Affordable Housing is so very very important

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time.

Defund the police! This is outrageous

Do not increase the already bloated police budget. Invest in social and community services that prioritize community building rather than punitive measures.

Poor survey; indeed an example of what is wrong with the City; does not get to the heart of financial expenditures and possible areas to eliminate. Want to comment on many items not identified. There is room to save a few million dollars or transfer \$ to police and infrastructure, but these opportunities aren't

covered at all. Survey doesn't even reflect some key commitments in Lisa's 2014 and 2018 commitments. The weakest Budget survey the City has ever had.

Not to sound rude, but please do not purchase anymore buildings to house the homeless as they destroy them and suffering businesses around them struggling to retain customers already with the lack of parking. The homeless need mental health and addictions centres with professionals to look after them built for them.

Decrease police spending

less money going to the Police and more money going to health (mental & physical) services.

Please consider freezing the budget for the Victoria police department. Victoria already has a well funded police department; and it could be argued that heavier policing does not lower crime rates.

Please do not increase the police budget. This takes money away from much more important services that can actually help people, such as decreasing homelessness and addiction. Police do not help to solve our problems.

Decrease the budget to police and security. Increase the budget for marginalized people such as the homeless. Increase funding for drug user rehabilitation and support. Increase accessible low income housing. Increase funds for safe needle injection sites.

An increase to the Victoria Police Service budget is counterproductive and does not support the city's strategies to help unhoused populations and engage with Indigenous people in (so-called) reconciliation. Police are not welcome on stolen land and cause trauma among unhoused folks. We need to be investing in affordable housing immediately. We have people sleeping out in the cold. The situation is unacceptable and increasing the police budget is simply a bandaid solution. I ask that you do not increase VicPD's budget and instead invest in housing for folks who have nowhere to go.

1. Add bike lane to shelbourne street 2. Add night lights at vicwest skatepark for nighttime usage 3. Build a undercover or indoor skatepark for public use

More bike lanes. Ex, shelbourne Richmond rd for school computers.

about \$60 million to the Police force is quite outlandish, I think that with Victoria being already such a safe city there are so many better ways to spend money that will indirectly bring safety to the community. -Addressing homelessness better -Mental Health services -Addiction and other services - Lighting and safer spaces

I want to see reduced or sustained budget for the Vic PD, not any increase.

I would recommend not increasing but rather de-funding the Police Budget.

We do not need an increase in the police budget. Putting money towards housing, equity, and support for vulnerable populations creates a safe community, not policing.

#9 Question above does not function. I chose #2 Fairly good and receive a rejection that I could only select 1 answer - which I did. Also #14- Age, same rejection, # 15, 18, 19 20 same rejection."that I could only select 1 answer" FIX GLITCH.

-A huge portion of community money is going towards the criminalization and harassment of this city's most vulnerable, most marginalized and most targeted members. The city should be committing to defunding the police and this type of criminalization and diverting those funds to affordable housing and community/peer-directed trauma-aware supports. I do not support the use of community funds for the criminalization of marginalized people and those exercising their rights to protest in the name of their human rights -It is appalling that funding for affordable housing is decreasing as Victoria becomes increasingly gentrified and people are becoming increasingly pressurized by low vacancy rates, skyrocketing rents and the shift of the market to airbnb and short term higher-priced rentals. Affordable housing is an essential part of public safety, health and wellbeing -People's unmet essential needs deserve to be prioritized over matters of convenience, recreation or development -Increasing services and supports that meet people's unmet needs is the most integral part of assuring public safety, public health, collective and individual well-being, equity and inclusion

The budget increases to policing and bylaw enforcement are not in line with Council's stated commitments regarding alternatives to policing in Victoria. It is essential that the City divests from policing and invests in communities, particularly those impacted by policing. The Bylaw budget should be frozen and staffing levels should be reverted to 2019/2020 levels - there should be no funds for enforcing bylaws against individuals sheltering outside, there should be no funds used to enforce criminalization and punishment of people who are homeless. The use of park spaces needs to be understood as they are - survival spaces for unhoused people. The emphasis and prioritization of parks as recreation spaces for housed individuals needs to stop, and prioritization of survival needs must occur. People should not be displaced from these public spaces, and they must be afforded access and facilities that are essential to survival, including but not limited to clean water, bathrooms, and showers. Funds should be allocated to affordable housing initiatives for this year, and the amount should increase annually rather than decrease as affordable housing of great importance to the majority of citizens

who are renters in this city. There should be funds allocated for adequate housing for indoor sheltering for houseless individuals - there is a demonstrated need for emergency housing. Council has discussed reconciliation and Indigenous relations, but there is no commitment financially to this. There should be budget line items to support co-governance or Indigenous leadership roles.

The council has not followed through on its stated commitments regarding alternatives to policing. The City has a responsibility to divest from policing and invest in communities. It's essential that alternatives to police be designed and run by communities. The VicPD budget should not increase any further, police spending far exceeds other municipal spending and needs to be reined in.

- Decrease the annual police budget. Our city is very safe for us white people and we know police threaten and harm BIPOC people and vulnerable people, without preventing most crimes violent and sexual crimes. - The City should be putting more into affordable housing each year, not less. - As a homeowner, I am comfortable with you increasing my property taxes to pay for needed services - not policing. Seniors can defer property taxes, so they are okay. - What is going on with recreation programs in 2020/21? If you need more funding to get that back up and running, then add more funding to this area. Even Ontario has re-opened pools and they have WAY worse COVID-19 than Victoria. Public recreation programs are essential to families with children, especially low income families. Please do what you need to do to get these programs back up and running. - Please fund more community-based programs to address vulnerable people than security-based programs such as bylaw officers and private security contracts. I live very close to Central Park and across the street from Royal Athletic Park and it's crazy how many security officers are watching all the homeless people. Why are they needed? Please invest more in the Coalition to End Homelessness, and peer-based, harm-reduction based supports for vulnerable people. They will be more cost effective and will do more good and less harm than security-based approaches.

Reduce the Victoria Police Department budget. It is massively overblown and shown ineffective

I strongly oppose the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored.

Increasing the police fund is not the answer for public safety.

More funding for police please.

I do not support an increase to the police budget and would like to see it frozen. Given the research and data showcasing allocation and comparing to other jurisdictions, I feel this funding would be better spent supporting social services. Research shows that type of support has better long term outcomes for health and safety of the community.

Defund the police.

-The police budget needs to be re-directed. It represents 23% of the city budget and police spend much of their time policing social concerns such as mental health and addictions that they are not qualified to address. This needs to change. I note that the capital budget for police furniture is 50K, compared to 37K for all community centre improvements. Priorities need to shift. -I am glad to see some money for public washrooms much needed for a long time. -during Covid City of Victoria has gone entirely online including all engagements. This disproportionately impacts marginalized people of many demographics. Our libraries and community centres have been largely shuttered or offer very limited services when we need them most. Everyone is NOT online. This is a huge equity issue that is largely being ignored and I do not see addressed in budget to increase access to services

Please understand that many businesses and consequently many of our citizens employed by these businesses are in severe financial difficulties. The first and foremost responsibility of Council is to do everything possible to assist in the Economic recovery of the city. Fiscal prudence is paramount! Taxpayers do not have unlimited funds and do not want their taxes spent by Council promoting their own political agenda of saving the world from itself. Stick to providing the basic core needs of the community. If there is anytime and money left over after that then consider items of a want nature. The City should be looking at the Commercial property tax base and providing relief to property owners and their tenants through the Provincial Governments Interim Business Property Tax Relief Exemption that recognizes that the Assessment Authority's practice of valuing properties on Highest and Best use is flawed when it comes to establishing fair and equitable taxes for existing properties.

More provision for funding of our POLICE force. Let us be able to enjoy the beautiful City of Victoria. Not live in fear of the criminal elements.

Safety is important to me, however NOT through increasing the police budget. Police budget should stay the same or be reduced and funds redirected to affordable housing and community-led initiatives (e.g. peer support)

More emphasis should be put on locals. Without tourists here we seem to be at a total loss. Business and restaurants are too expensive and geared to tourist dollars. Living here is getting to be way too expensive for middle class

locals. IT feels like the middle class is being pushed out and the focus is on the really rich(expensive new condos and apartments being built) and the really poor (ie. homeless shelters) The rest of us are being forgotten, in the city BUDGET.

Do not raise taxes. The Mayor and Council have wasted so much money on trying to solve problems that are NOT within the scope of the City's mandate (housing all homeless people) while ignoring issues that are within the City's mandate (public safety). You should be ashamed of have you have let the City deteriorate, not supported businesses, and jeopardized the public's safety.

Please prioritize robust funding for creation of alternative mobile crisis response teams that do not include police where there is not imminent risk of violence, with multiple paths to access a well coordinated dispatch service for these teams that includes peer counselors available to speak quickly with those in crisis. Ensure that truly inclusive stakeholder consultation is done to support creation of this program, and you will also find that its creation is widely needed and supported by Indigenous organizations, organizations run by People of Color, and low-income people, all of whom tend to have justifiable negative associations with police that work against crisis de-escalation. Also, work in every way possible to maximize taxation and fees on new development and on upzoning and use these funds to create a Vienna like system of non-market rate housing for people who need it. This city is rapidly becoming a place where working families, students, and anyone low or middle income who doesn't already own property must move to Westshore communities to make ends meet. This is not sustainable in any sense of the word, and existing affordable housing plans remain too small in both vision and actualization. Compact, climate friendly, truly affordable, transit accessible neighborhoods will simply not happen without bold leadership and looking beyond mere market-based solutions.

I am disappointed that when drafting it goals that the city did not first commit to providing the basic services that are essential to the community before embarking on higher level goals, many of which are beyond there basic mandate. It's one thing to plan for 30 years out but it is another thing to neglect its responsibly for our current challenges of today. I am also disappointed that the city did not mail evert resident an invitation to participate in this survey. I think Councillors should be required to live in or own property & pay taxes in the community they represent. Councillor who live in Esquimalt or Saanich should direct their experiences, talents & public service their own communities. They should not be telling me how my tax dollars will be spent. Whether I will or will not lose street parking for bike lanes. etc, etc

I find it insulting to our intelligence that a line item to curb travel and conferences is in the budge to save dollars.

Reduce the police budget. Invest in supportive housing and mental health

services instead.

PLEASE support rental housing. It is TOO expensive to live here. Middle class people are being forced out of the City. Myself and my boyfriend make an honest living and are finding it very difficult save money for a down payment with rent being so sky rocketed. We want out of rental housing for this reason!!

Stop spending money on your self serving projects and concentrate on the people who pay the taxes

This survey is not accessible, does not provide clear definitions of the concepts being discussed (what does safety mean? Policing does not increase safety for everyone), and does not provide sufficient opportunity for detailed comments from the public on the budget breakdown. The "property" tax increase is insufficient. Keeping this tax low benefits people who have wealth at the expense of people who do not own property, who are far more likely to be poor and marginalized. The budget for policing must be defunded, not increased! The city must reallocate the police budget to material reconciliation, affordable housing, safe and adequate indoor housing, emergency funds to support the most marginalized during this crisis, sustainable and affordable public transportation, and community services. It is unacceptable that the city has chosen to increase funding for the violence of policing while decreasing funding for affordable housing, ignoring the needs of the people in greatest need while upholding violence against them. Given the disproportionate rate of Indigenous people who are unhoused and who face violence at the hands of the police, this budget is racist and upholds colonization. The budget does not align with the stated goals of the strategic plan.

Please consider freezing or decreasing the VicPD budget. When everyone else in Victoria is struggling and every other municipal department is facing restraint I cannot fathom how you could support a single penny more spent on the already inflated VicPD budget. VicPD already takes by far the largest portion of the municipal budget - and VicPD already has more officers per capita than any other municipality in the entire country with more than 100,000 people. COVID-19 is requiring everyone to make financially responsible decisions. VicPD should not be an exception. If Chief Del Manak can't figure out how to manage a budget just like everyone else, he is failing at his job. There are plenty of courses at Camosun College on fiscal management - I would support a one time budget line to help pay for his tuition fees if that would help. Municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze or decrease the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change.

I don't currently live in Victoria city, but did when the current mayor and counsel were elected and I work in Victoria. I do harm reduction work in vulnerable populations and was extremely disappointed to see the proposed increase in police funding for 2021. The police spending is already ridiculously high. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other census metropolitan area in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. All this while we are in a global pandemic and city budget could and should be used so much better. Police harass, criminalize, and brutalize vulnerable populations. Spend the money to consult with communities targets by police violence to create safer alternatives to policing. We need to build equitable communities that are safe for our most vulnerable to get their needs met safely, with compassion and care, not violence, incarceration, and displacement.

I believe much more funding should be aliquoted to Objective #3 - Affordable Housing and less to the Victoria Police Department. There are many people in our city who are spending the winter outdoors in our parks, without proper sanitary facilities amidst two public health emergencies: Covid-19 and the opioid crisis. The proposed 1.5% police budget increase should instead be used to for housing, mental health and addiction initiatives and harm reduction initiatives. As well, affordable housing for renters is incredibly sparse and this issue demands immediate attention.

We require a well funded Alternative Crisis Response Teams: any person in a mental health or addiction crisis, or a loved one or witness to a person in crisis, should be able to pick up a phone and call for a humane, culturally appropriate crisis response team without fear that the person in crisis might be harmed by those responding. De-escalation and connecting those in need to help must be made a priority! This is not a job for the police, and nor should additional resources be directed to Vic PD to do this work.

Question 9; I selected my answer based on previous years not last year. The year 2020 was the year I decided that Victoria is no longer the place that meets my criteria for a good place to live. The two main factors being over development and all the negatives that brings with it and the enabling of all the harm the 'homeless' movement inflicted on neighbourhoods and people. On the latter issue it felt like there was contempt from city council for those who do their best to fulfill their part in the social contract. Concerning the homeless factor I would prefer to see my tax dollars support those with addictions, mental health afflictions, and temporary misfortunes in a way that is beneficial for their reintegration into a meaningful life. I would choose 'Fairly poor value for your tax dollars' for 2020 in that the amount of money that goes into enabling addicts, cleaning up destruction done by encampments , policing the populace in encampments; and the gang element and crime thriving with that populace, and many other elements that the broad category of homelessness requires expenditures for, is not the way I want to help those who have given up on themselves or have had insurmountable odds to

overcome.

Priority for new assessment revenue and CACs needs to be replenishment of reserve funds which have been raided in recent years to fund pet projects.

As stated in the budget, it appears the city plans on spending over 60 million dollars on policing. That's ridiculous, especially with the state of north America being what it is. There are worldwide protests trying to address over-policing, white supremacy in law, deep rooted discrimination, and police brutality. Our city is fairly small, yet we have such a huge number of police and security here already. Not to mention the sadly large homeless population we have here, dominated by indigenous people who's land we stole and live on. We don't need or want more police, if anything, we cant to cut funding down and rewire it into affordable housing and community care like homeless shelters and free transportation. Overrunning our town with police will only bring more hurt to people. As I see it, the more reasonable thing to do is to solve the problems that cause uprising crime, like homelessness and mental wellness. We need more resources for the less fortunate, not to punish them for the situation we put them in.

Defund the Police and transfer those \$ to social services/mental health supports/affordable housing

We do NOT need to increase the budget for the VicPD. This money should go to other wraparound services to support our vulnerable citizens.

The police budget should be reduced by 50%. 25% should be directed towards affordable/ transition housing initiatives, 25% directed towards Island health's Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES), Crisis Response Teams and Community Response Teams. Our homelessness problem is only going to get worse this year due to the psychological and economic ramifications of Covid 19. Drug and Alchohol dependency has increased dramatically, people are getting to the end of their CRB payments, and there are few jobs to go back to. We need to stop our neighbors from falling through the cracks and create housing accessible to those living under the poverty line. Using police to shoo panhandlers and street campers from one side of the city to the other doesn't solve anything.

WHY are we funnelling more money into policing and not social programming! DEFUND THE POLICE! I do not support the increase to the VICPD budget. Invest in community outreach programs (SO many options here) and housing initiatives. Community > Police

I would like to challenge the concept of "safety" which has been raised several times in this survey, and to me in this context, is a dog whistle for more resources to police (and bylaw). I am uncomfortable with answering that public safety is important to me because I am worried that it will be interpreted as support for increases to the VicPD and bylaw budgets. While I

believe that everyone deserves to live in a "safe" city, I cannot support the assumption that bigger VicPD and bylaws budgets will lead to an increase in safety. The term "safety" is a subjective one, but I truly do not believe we should be prioritizing the FEELING of safety of housed residents over the HUMAN RIGHTS of our neighbours who who unhoused and/or struggling. Public safety, to me, is accessible and affordable housing, harm reduction services, adequately funded mental health and addictions services, restorative justice programs and STRONG COMMUNITIES. Increased police presence does not keep our marginalized communities safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. This is why I strongly OPPOSE the proposed increases to the VicPD and Bylaw budgets. While they may appear to be minimal in nature, they send a message that the city prioritizes criminalizing marginalized communities over anything else. The fact that the VicPD budget is the biggest city expenditure and is more than double the second highest expenditure is quite alarming. I support, at the very least, a freeze to the police budget so that the city can work with the community (WITHOUT VicPD's involvement) to determine how to work with them to meet their needs. In fact, reducing the VicPD budget to put that money back into the community, or the housing reserve fund, or towards the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion would be preferable. This preference is also in the context of a lack of accountability and transparency and perceived fiscal mismanagement from VicPD. Personally, I feel the first (and easiest) thing to cut should be their communications department that spends far too much time posting harmful things on Twitter.

We need to change our policing system so that police alone are not the first responders for every emergency. We need teams of mental health and social workers to attend many crises.

Taxes need to drop. People have experienced financial hardship and assessments have done up. No need to increase taxes above and beyond inflation, rather to look for ways to reduce current taxation. so much money is planned to restore for example topaz park, that we should have found cheaper more permanent solution. so much money gets wasted, it is sickening.

It is disappointing. again. It seems like this budget doesn't address the needs of the most marginalized people in our community. it feels unacceptable to me that the wealthy elites are pampered and catered to by the city while people struggling due to lack of appropriate housing and health care are not adequately supported. this budget does not reflect action towards right relationship with the local indigenous nations, does not prioritize the health care and housing needs of the most vulnerable people in this community and instead it continues to fund the racist, colonial institution of policing at an incredibly high rate - taking up almost a quarter of the city's entire budget. i think the city should defund the police and invest in health care and housing

for all.

Police are 23%? That's so much money

Do not increase the budget for the Victoria Police Department. It is harmful to continue to invest in racist and violent community groups - and that is what police are. They are harmful to the general public and particularly harmful to vulnerable populations. Investing more money into VicPD would clearly demonstrate that the city values a discriminatory, racist and harmful group, OVER investing funds into mental health support.

do not up the Victoria police departments budget and invest in community safety OUTSIDE of policing.

More funds for public safety and supporting business in downtown Victoria. Downtown needs rejuvenation

Mind the wages, benefits and size of the City's employees in all faculties of its operations and do not withhold the funds necessary to operate a policing budget that can efficiently and expertly serve the needs of this city that is overwhelmed with the ability to set rules and enforce them. Now more than ever, we need a strong, communities focused, team of law enforcement whose very presence on our streets, around our parks and facilities, presents a calming assurance that we can enjoy our city and feel safe walking or riding around it.

Defund the police budget. They contribute absolutely nothing of value to this city. Increasing their budget will NOT make this city safer, it will do nothing. The money is better spent elsewhere. Vic PD give out speeding tickets, and enforce bylaws, they do nothing to make citizens feel calm and welcome.

Please stop running council as if it is resp for the world, and instead put first priority to your core responsibilities. The pet projects could instead be handled by other interest groups in the area.

As a young renter with a medium income in Victoria, I am being priced out of the City. There is a dire lack of affordable options for renters shown by the huge amount of unhoused people on our streets. We need to freeze new high-end developments and invest in affordable housing and protection for renters (e.g., eviction prevention) so that we don't lose the few housing options we have left. While people are living outside, we need to invest in public infrastructure so that people have basic needs met - running water, showers, toilets, outdoor cooking spaces, storage, etc. More and more people are finding themselves homeless and inattention to these issues will continue to cause conflict among residents of Victoria. It is unfathomable that the Victoria police are requesting a 1.5% increase in a year where police brutality/racism has been so highly profiled. The City of Victoria has the highest policing per capita than any other city in Canada and the trend

across North America is reducing police budgets, not giving more funds to an approach to problems that is costly and ineffective. The City of Victoria policing budget should be extensively cut. We need to reinvest policing funds into building strong communities, infrastructure, and affordable housing, rather than investing in the punishment of people who are being failed by the system. The proposed budget should reflect the values of the City and spending almost a quarter on punishment and surveillance is not in line with values of inclusivity, equity, and Indigenous reconciliation.

Less money for the police & more money for social programs

1. Defund the police. 2. Use extra money to support houseless people, people of colour, poor people, climate action, people with disabilities etc. In general, more social support, including mental health resources, less policing and punitive approaches to dealing with social issues. Victoria could be poised to be a leader in Canada in actual positive social change. We have a fairly progressive council, and lots of progressive support. Reallocation of funds does not have to be an impossibility, though I understand it is politically very challenging with all the special interest groups (i.e. Police unions). But you have support. We have the chance to be a leader in Canada.

Given the current climate (pandemic and increase in substance abuse), it is critical that a greater portion of our budget be spent on policing. Temporarily housing the vulnerable has created a ghetto in the Burnside/Gorge community that needs to be continually monitored and the lack of resources made effective policing impossible last year.

Please finish Ship Point Plan!

Please reduce the police budget (definitely do not increase it). It's current budget share of 25% is unacceptable and those same funds would save lives elsewhere. Please invest in Indigenous relationships and reconciliation and affordable housing.

Reduce funding for the police and spend that money on mental health services/housing the homeless

This message, in full or in part, and including the contact information of the sender, must not be sent or forwarded to VicPD or any third party without the written consent of the sender. Dear Elected Officials and the Victoria/Esquimalt Police Board, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the

VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs. Yours sincerely, Holly This message, in full or in part, must not be forwarded to VicPD or any third party without the written consent of the sender. This includes the contact information of the sender.

I believe that the 1,5% increase in the Vic PD budget is unnecessary. Instead I am demanding for the Vic PD budget to be frozen(as it was done in Vancouver recently) so that the funds can go to preventing crime and violence in communities most in need and for those how benefit of less privilege and have been historically underfunded and ignored.

We absolutely cannot increase the police budget, we must consider decreasing. VicPD are too heavily armed and are provided with too aggressive vehicles. Stop the militarization of our police and invest in social services! We have more police per capital than other major cities and it is unnecessary.

Pls try and save us poor people? Or not. It's your conscience.

As a taxpayer, and as an engaged member of Greater Victoria Acting Together I would ask that there be financial and other resources committed to developing an alternate crisis response model comprised of 1-2 teams of professionals (social worker and paramedic and psychiatric nurse) to be established as a pilot project to address mental health and wellness check calls (without an initial police presence, unless it is determined that safety is an issue) and to engage relevant stakeholder groups in ongoing advisory/consultation to evaluate and recommend modifications to this pilot project in hopes it would broaden and develop into a region-wide service, as an adjunct to the existing ACT teams.

I would like our City of Victoria 2021 Budget to promote a safe; impeccably clean; efficient and well managed; tourism- promoting city - one that is inviting to both Businesses and Victoria residents alike. We need more money toward 'policing' to accomplish these endeavors. I find the survey to be misleading and ambiguous for several topics.

I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. I appreciate the work good people are doing in the VicPD service, but find it deeply concerning the proportion of financial resources going to the VicPD when those resources NEED to be diversified to solution-focused work addressing social inequality, such as community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. Such initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget.

Ensure that library funding is sufficient to help GVPL rebuild after having their services devastated by the pandemic.

I do not support the budget increase for the Victoria police department. Victoria's police department is significantly overfunded compared to other cities in Canada and already comprises a large portion of proposed expenditures for 2021. The proposed increase should instead go towards supporting social work and mental health initiatives in Victoria.

Hold the line on police budgets. Police always seem to be unable to solve problems with the resources provided. Many efficiencies exist in policing.

Let's make sustainable transportation a priority. It builds a healthier, safer, and more welcoming community. The pandemic has shown if you open streets to people they will be used. Building and maintaining car infrastructure is expensive, creates an unhealthy population, and high health care costs (both from injury due to collisions and health problems associated with not enough exercise).

Tax dollars are needed to improve and maintain services; I would be fine with a 2% increase as if the money is spent wisely, it should be worth it in the longrun.

I want to make sure our Police department is properly supported and funded. I am glad to see a slight increase in the police budget but I believe they could use even more. I was upset to hear last year when they had to pay the extra provincial employment taxes out of their policing budget, which effectively reduced their operating budget. I want to ensure they have enough funding to do their vital work. In the past there was a threat by some on council to defund our police. Please make sure the police are funded adequately!

Do not increase the police budget from 2020. Direct more funds to affordable housing instead.

It is essential to shrink the police budget. This money needs to be transferred to housing, social services, and resources to support health and wellbeing. The City of Victoria cannot say that inclusion, equity, health and wellness, and improving Indigenous relations are priorities while funding an institution known to be discriminatory, harmful, and racist. If the City truly wants to be a leader in these priorities, it needs to look to cities already defunding from policing and join in this important movement.

I choose to live in Victoria because of the high level of services I enjoy. My biggest complaint would be that city disposal services do not extend to very small townhouse complexes (6 units). I want to see a rapid expansion of the minimum cycling grid to all borders of Victoria and beyond. Please support development of downtown parking lots (e.g, 1100 block of Wharf) and derelict buildings (e.g., the Northern Junk buildings) into usable public spaces that are enjoyable for locals and that tourists can visit, too. Incentivise development of open-air, single-storey, surface parking lots into underground (where possible) lots, or with public amenities on top. Ferry terminal or moving the Victoria Art Gallery to somewhere along 1100 Wharf would be

perfect examples of promoting this kind of activity. Another idea is to acquire all of the car dealerships and convert those spaces to public amenities. The MINI dealership's location would serve perfectly as a transit hub for electric trolleys coming off of the E&N rail corridor with excellent access to Dockside Green and Downtown.

The city of Victoria should not be giving a penny more to the police department unless that money is going towards significant systemic change. The need for this was highlighted by their poor handling of any form of criticism, not limited to but including the bastion square mural fiasco and vicPDs continued overpolicing of minority groups, and their refusal to respond appropriately to requests from city council and constituents as exhibited by their continuation of the policy of random carding.

reduce police budget while investing more in support services for vulnerable populations

Good value for my tax dollars includes service, dignity, belonging for folks more excluded/marginalized than me. I do not want to see protection of middle class "safety" as our city's primary priority.

I strongly oppose the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. At the beginning of 2020, I witnessed VicPD use excess force in arresting twelve Indigenous youth attending a peaceful sit-in at the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources. Subsequently, VicPD expended unnecessary resources to harass and later detain Indigenous youth on Legislative grounds. As a resident and business owner of Victoria, I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation

of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. In fact, as a person of colour, I can attest that it keeps me unsafe and continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs.

I do not agree with the increase of the police budget and the substantial allocation of city revenue towards the police. With the international movement that has highlighted serious issues with how policing is conducted, a budget increase is counter to the real concerns raised by indigenous and marginalized communities. If the strategic plan is serious about reconciliation, safety of neighbourhoods, good governance, and equity and inclusion, then the conversation about police funding must be on the table for public discussion and engagement.

DEFUND THE POLICE. FUND SOCIAL PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH.

The city should move money from police services to mental health and other emergency services. I think in general the Vic PD do a very good job in my part of the community, but I have very little interaction with them and vulnerable communities need services not criminalisation.

police should not need to increase their budget considering how much we are

policed.

I strongly oppose the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: - COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am asking for the VicPD budget to be frozen and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering

with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am requesting that we work together to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs.

More funds are needed for affordable housing.

Safety safety safety and economic recovery

THERE IS A HOUSING CRISIS

The allocation of funds in the Plan does not reflect the City's stated goals for the upcoming year, in particular with regards to Indigenous reconciliation and affordable housing. Unhoused people desperately need housing, not increased policing and surveillance. The fact that a supposedly progressive city is proposing increased police budgets while slashing opportunities for affordable housing is appalling from a practical and moral perspective, and says little for its engagement with Indigenous populations.

QUIT WITH THE WASTEFUL SPENDING ON BIKE LANES. AS THEY DO NOT HELP CITY TRAFFIC AT ALL. THIS CITY COUNCIL IS DESTROYING THIS CITY

I would recommend the city takes a new course on dealing with the downtown core before there is nothing that can be done and it becomes too unsafe.

I'd like to see a reduction in the police budget. Victoria has a disproportionate ratio of police to residents. I don't see investments in policing as making our community safer.

Please don't forget about the silent majority in this city who obey the laws, don't steal or vandalize and pay the property taxes to fund this city. It appears mayor and council has forgotten about this group - as evidenced by the landslide by-election win for Stephen Andrews. We are frustrated this city is basically handed over to criminals and drug addicts who, in a great number of cases are not even from here and who steal from and assault residents and businesses.

I am strongly opposed to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored.

I don't believe that police and security guards help create a safer city. I'd like

to see more dollars go towards affordable housing, social recovery, addictions care, and more vibrant/inclusive/accessible public spaces.

I believe the draft financial plan allocates too much funding to policing and inadequate funding to other social services that would reduce the need for police.

I don't think an increase in police budget is a good idea. Truly innovative cities around North America have significantly cut police budgets and are using data driven decision making to support community safety in other ways. community safety through community development, design, prevention etc. There is so much more that is possible than enforcement. Police logic is closed minded with very little space for compassion. They are ruled by the criminal code which we as a city have no control over. Enforcement is able to help in certain circumstances, but when it is applied as the default strategy it escalates and sustains criminal behaviours. The research is out there. (I helped write a community safety strategy for a municipal government a couple years ago). Please don't commit us to using a hammer as the only tool in our shed.

When we say "our community is safe" or list "public safety" as a value, whose safety is being prioritized? Dollars towards VicPD actively contribute to putting those experiencing houselessness, those living with mental illness, those who use drugs, those with disabilities, those living in poverty, those involved in sex work, and Indigenous and BIPOC community members at a greater risk of harassment, violence, and criminalization. In the wake of the movement for Black Lives this past spring and summer, and the growing public understanding that police do not serve the inherent health and well-being of our communities, and are not suitable to be first-responders in times of crisis, why is the City proposing to increase the police budget by 1.5%? Municipalities across the country are facing substantial decreases in revenue due to COVID-19; some, like Vancouver, are voting to freeze their police budgets, in order to redirect funds towards community-oriented initiatives, or to take time to consider alternatives to policing. It is clear that there are many crucial discussions that need to be had about who (or what) the police protect, and whose safety they threaten. Now, in the middle of a global pandemic and ongoing overdose and housing crisis, is not the time to increase the funding of the VicPD. I implore the city to look for ways that we might ensure public safety that don't involve giving more power and resources to this already over-funded and outdated institution. There are an abundance of community-led organizations and projects that deserve our attention and our support, and which actively contribute to the well-being of the community at large; organizations that centre harm reduction, trauma-informed methodologies, conflict resolution, transformative justice, Indigenous ways of knowing, and cultural safety; that create a sense of well-being, belonging, and community through arts programming; and that address poverty through offering resources and supports needed to find stability. The VicPD offers none of these things, and the fact that it is awarded 23% of the City's total budget while community organizations operate on a fraction of the

cost shows a shameful lack of regard for the real well-being of this city's residents. Through organizations like the Living/Lived Experience of Homelessness Network (LLEOHN) I have seen how VicPD have used their authority to intimidate and harass unhoused communities in the long months of this pandemic. This past February I personally witnessed VicPD harass the many Indigenous youth engaged in peaceful ceremony and land defense on the steps of the Legislative Assembly, and those gathered to protect the youth (including a priest, who was shoved down the stairs by a VicPD officer). This summer, I witnessed young BIPOC artists faced with the defacing of their mural, and harassment from VicPD supporters for speaking the truth of their experience. These experiences do not exist isolated from each other; they are part of the larger system of violence that is inextricably bound up in policing as an institution, and which will always serve to protect the property and power of the elite while criminalizing those who stand in the way of their power. Increased police presence does not keep us safe; caring, supportive, and committed communities do. I am calling on the City to use your position to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget for 2021 and seeking meaningful engagement with those communities you claim to value.

Please increase policing and social service budgets, halt bike lane developments

Defund police!!! Redistribute to social services and to addressing access to affordable housing, prioritize indigenous and other BIPOC health and well being, prioritize housing for street involved people and people with disabilities

Trim down or eliminate non essential expenditures.

I would like to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored.

My main concerns are for the wellbeing of residents: affordable housing, mental health, and inclusivity for minority and first nations residents.

Less wasting money and time.

Make sure the police have the resources they need, and support them in making Victoria a safer place to live. Listen to them, and learn from their experience, in formulating a plan for crime reduction. At the same time, stop creating and promoting an environment that attracts criminals, encourages street drug use, and that chases away businesses. Victoria's motto, when dealing with drug users, should be 'We make it as hard as possible for you to

be an active street addict, while making it as easy as possible for you to get help and treatment.' This needs to be your top priority. I have lived here for 46 years, and have never seen the city in such an abysmal condition as it is now. It is looking more like an unlivable slum every day, and it really hurts that my home city has fallen so far.

Council spends too much time on micro-management and e on dealing on issues that affect no more than 1500 people (homeless) leaving the vast majority of citizens feeling ignored or underserved!

Cities are not responsible for housing. Stop expanding city services and stick to your knitting. It's no good being innovative and inclusive when residents and businesses are being marginalized and stressed due to city actions.

Do not increase the budget for policing in Victoria. Victoria is one of the heaviest policed cities in North America. We don't need more police and militarization of the police. The grave conditions for a growing number of the people in the city is not going to be helped by more police and more arrests. Police lack the training to deal the rampant mental health and addiction crisis this city faces. Consider defunding the police and re-allocating funds to other professionals who are better trained in out reach, mental health, addiction treatment and rehabilitation who can work in tandem with police and actually help people to get help for their mental illness. This was done in Portugal with great success and many lives saved.

As a resident of Victoria, I disagree wholeheartedly with the proposed increase to the Victoria PD's budget for this year. As seen time and time again, police forces DO NOT "stop crime", but they sure do escalate situations that often end in civilians being harmed (injury, death, incarceration for being poor etc.) The criminalization of houseless folks and Black and Indigenous folks must stop. Please reconsider this budget increase and look into the many resources out there on how defunding the police creates safer communities. Community resources need to be funded, rather than pouring more funds into the bloated and racist carceral system.

It's imperative that you don't continue to increase the police budget. Housing people and funding for social services for mental health and addictions should take precedence over anything. Increasing an already inflated police budget is taking away from necessary essential services for the community members most in need.

Defund the police

Defund the homeless gang

No to the increase in police budgets

1) I think the City should avoid undertaking visible projects that might appear to some to be frivolous. For example, the summary budget highlights "Invest \$270,000 in capital to remove the roadway between Mile Zero and Beacon Hill Park to create a continuous green space". This seems entirely unnecessary under the best of times, and particularly so in this time of covid and unprecedented homelessness and addiction and substance abuse challenges. 2) I think that far too much has been spent (and is planned to be spent) on the few protected bike lanes and far too little spent on improving people's perceptions and attitudes towards cyclists. As a frequent cyclist, I feel that there has been an increase in anger and antipathy of motorists directed towards cyclists which has translated into more aggressive driving near cyclists. This puts all cyclists not in a protected bike lane at greater risk for a collision. 3) I think the cafe/bar/restaurant tables out on the street (e.g. in Fernwood, like on the cover of the budget document) should be maintained after covid, and even expanded. They make a city more interesting and livable. Liquor licenses should be more lax to allow reasonable consumption in public areas. 4) Please re-consider the current road line painting practices. Many of the new intersections are a confusing array of lines and dashes that cause a lot of visual chaos and confusion, none more so than when there are dashed lines (for bike lane crossing) along with the solid lines (for pedestrian lane crossing), for example at the new Kings and Douglas. The dashed line is completely unnecessary.

Safety doesn't mean what some people think it does. The Vic PD do NOT keep us safe. Mental health support keeps us safe, community led projects keep us safe. Decrease the police budget.

We needed a new pool. The thing could have been torn down and a new one built in its place during the pandemic. But we are still dithering over it, yet more and more bike lanes and homeless housing keeps getting done. How about something for the other 80% of the population. Have you noticed bike lane usage drops off during the wet cold winter how do you think those cyclists are getting around ? Typically by car, yet council insists on plugging up the automobile traffic.

give back streets for cars

Would you please start considering the disabled who can't walk or bike downtown. My mother can no longer go downtown, as she can't park anywhere near a store. I should think families with strollers etc would also appreciate parking.

Stop increasing the police budget. This is a substance use health crisis not a safety crisis exacerbated by a temporary pandemic that has closed borders. Increases will be near impossible to reverse. More police do not make the city safer.

Absolutely ridiculous wasting taxpayer funds to close more roads and other

unnecessary pet projects in the middle of the biggest economic crisis in 100 years. You are spending as if taxpayers are flush with money to accommodate your virtue signaling. Right now the #1 & 2 priority is to focus on protecting the local economy and the future tax base. Without either you will have no money for your pet projects in the future. Dont be so arrogant as to assume that Citizens want you to close another road or build another tent city. Stop listening to your acolytes and listen to ALL the citizens

I'd like to see the police budget held, and not increased. They need to make do with what they're given. Ideally some of their existing funding could go towards crime PREVENTION such as social programs, education, and crisis teams.

Be a leader in the defund police priority being pursued throughtout North America.

City needs to support business, maintain the roads and increase public safety. The rest is window dressing.

We need affordable housing for people who are on disability, in recovery and are low income!

There City should stick to issues not already the responsibility of the province or federal government.

Focus on urgent issues, defer "wish" list until city is in better shape

Policing of drug addicts and residential theft

It's absolutely necessary that the city of Victoria make all of their meetings accessible to the public. Lisa helps and her band of misfits do far too many decisions based on patting each other on the back and keeping their sounding board just between them. This is not just their city. I think it's absolutely ridiculous that we can pay a counsellor to go on vacation for a month, and then take a further two weeks off to quarantine, yet apparently there are no funds to broadcast meetings over the Internet. In previous years the city Council has found upwards of \$10,000 to have fancy lunches. No one is buying the fact that Setting up a YouTube channel is out of their reach. If the city of Victoria expanded their voting system to include neighbouring Saanich and Oakbay communities, there is absolutely no way that Lisa helps, or any of the current elected counsel officials would have been reelected, or elected again in the future. Keeping the voting system solely to the city of Victoria limits, is absolutely insane. Most of the condos downtown are owned by people who don't actually live there, it makes the sounding board even smaller. The decisions of very few are affecting many. The

downtown core survives on the money of the locals in the neighbouring communities, their voices should be heard too.

Investments NEED to be made for addiction services and programs specific for Indigenous people. Investing in addiction programs saves money in the long run due to less crime. Investing in more policing is PROVEN to be ineffective. More funding for collaboration with the nations to reclaim and restore sacred spaces on the land.

Focus on municipal items, not provincial and federal items. Affordable housing should not be forced onto developers by city council. Homelessness should not be resolved by Victoria, but rather CRD, BC and Canada: Council needs to draw lines in the sand. Focus needs to be on making the city inviting for home owners and business rather than increasing taxes and painting over abandoned buildings. Focus on growing the city through vibrant business and community rather than forcing crime and poverty into the downtown core. Spend the money, not on painting abandoned buildings, but on paying businesses and home-owners the insurance deductibles caused by crime. Yes poverty needs to be solved, but not off the backs of just Victoria residents. Draw firm lines in the concrete with other municipalities, the province and the country to equally distribute and fund poverty. Do not make Victoria a destination for all of Canada's criminals running from warrants unless the province they are fleeing from send monthly funds to pay for their stay in BC/Victoria

I think that while every other area of the budget is staying the same or going down, the police budget should not be going up. We can find other ways to deliver public safety. For many people in our community, police do not represent safety and help. Discussions on alternatives to public safety should be led by those most impacted by police violence and oppression.

i have been absolutely HORRIFIED at how the city has responded to unhoused folks during this pandemic. so, i am disgusted to see yet another increase to victoria pd operating budget while affordable housing receives less than 0.25% of the budget. i call on the city of 'victoria' to reduce the police budget in order to allocate a greater amount to affordable housing. victoria has rapidly become one of the least affordable cities in the world, and increased police presence and harassment of unhoused folks does nothing to fix that. i do not support any increases to vicpd and would actually love to see victoria city council take bold moves to reduce this over inflated budget and re-prioritize spending.

We need to focus on rebuilding small business and getting jobs for people who have lost them during these hard times. Many people are still struggling with living month to month on top of having extremely unaffordable housing!

Start by adding to the police budget. Unfortunately, through the coercion of NGOs in the city of Victoria, there has been an influx of people from other provinces. (Many of) these people have mental illnesses, addictions, and/or are criminals with outstanding warrants. These people are un-housable,

unemployable and a burden on taxpayers. I gathered the statistics for my old neighbourhood (1090 Johnson) and was going to speak to mayor and council at the beginning of 2020, but then covid hit. The numbers that I gathered showed a steady increase in crime, but were still low because NOT ALL CRIMES WERE REPORTED. I worked in security for almost 3 years after a (massive) layoff from a consultancy, and what was going on from 2016 - 2019 at night, is tame compared to what is happening now 24/7. If the mayor and select councillors can't separate themselves from their 'Mother Teresa' mindsets, and start running the city like a business, then I weep for all of downtown. Looking after people with mental illnesses is something that should be done by a different level of government. This is falling to us on a municipal level through policing. This shouldn't be our fiscal responsibility. The unsafe conditions in downtown were created by the city, but are being mitigated by businesses and property owners by hiring private security. The city needs to be held accountable for this and needs to either hire additional police, or a higher level of security (direct hires) to keep their eyes and ears on what is happening downtown. I no longer shop downtown, walk downtown or live downtown. Additionally, the city is clearly reliant on visiting tourists who get to Victoria via fossil fuels. With the changes to work habits (remote) and the seeming reluctance to allow vehicle traffic into downtown, it's clear to me that the downtown core is not self-supported by anyone riding a bike. And finally, what is it with all of the building permits? You collectively have cried over a lack of housing, but you approved dozens of building permits to mitigate this, but there is a shortage of skilled workers, so the projects are all delayed, and therefore no occupancy permits. No occupancy permits = no taxes from those developments. I know of MANY projects that still can't be moved into because there was not enough people to complete the jobs.

No increase to VicPD budget for 2021. at a time when municipal budgets are being constrained due to COVID, and significant numbers of folks are still sheltering outside during a global pandemic, it is appalling that VICpd would ask for an increase in funding. freeze the budget at a 0% increase, or even better - reduce funding to vicpd and allocate additional funding for affordable housing.

Thinking of 2020, I can't actually tell you specifically something the city has done for me or the majority of its residents

Police have too much money compared to other social services.

Please address safety and the concentration of temporary housing in burnside gorge. Please write the principles of crime prevention into the land use policies. Please reallocate some police funds to fund mobile teams of experts in mental health and addictions.

Not at this time.

Rather than focusing on a few select groups of people - the unhoused and cyclists, consider those of us who pay taxes and live in neighbourhoods that get very little attention. My neighbourhood, for example, lobbies for years to get any services from the city, such as traffic calming or residential-only parking, so it's galling when we hear that more money is going to bike lanes and housing the homeless (especially projects that fail and bring increased crime into our neighbourhoods). Remember that multi-modal transportation includes more than just bike lanes — it also includes space for pedestrians, cars, wheelchairs and transit. Give the police more support staff for dealing with mental health issues. Rather than taking patrol officers off the street, hire people who specialize in helping those with mental illness and addiction. Our police are stretched too thin.

I am totally dismayed at the proposed 1.5% increase in the VicPD budget. VicPD is a bloated department which has zero justification for consistently taking the single biggest piece of Victoria's budget pie. Why on earth does VicPD own a militarized vehicle, essentially a tank, which cost \$320,000? On June 3, 2020, Mayor Helps proclaimed that “condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action.” Action would look like divesting millions from the VicPD and investing in affordable, public housing, for example. But instead, I am appalled that the city I have called home my entire life would prefer to invest more money in the police force which has: (1) Worsened conditions for those living unhoused in this unaffordable city: The confiscation of personal belongings on Pandora St earlier this year and the removal of crowdfunded showers from Beacon Hill in November were horrific and should have led to consequences for VicPD. (2) A track record of racialized harassment and violence: VicPD repeatedly brutalized indigenous youth in early 2020 while they peacefully protested the militarized invasion of Wet'suwet'en, first at a BC ministry building and later at the legislature. In 2017, Michael Regis of the UVIC School of Public Administration published a report titled Policing in Greater Victoria: A Study in Addressing the Gaps in Engaging Greater Victoria's Diverse Communities. It has been consistently ignored by the Police Board despite containing incredibly troubling evidence of blatant police misconduct and worse towards Victoria's minority communities. (3) Made our community less safe and more violent. According to the official provincial statistics available online, in 2019 alone VicPD: threatened to shoot 119 people; threatened 24 people with 'extended range impact weapons; shot 12 more people not included in the stats above (including a woman who was shot and killed on Christmas Day by three projectiles in the back of the head and neck); threatened to taze at least 41 people; tazed 14 more people; threatened to pepper spray 10 people; pepper sprayed 18 more people; threatened 52 people with police dogs and had the dogs bite at least 4 people. We desperately need to create a safer, more inclusive city for all by immediately freezing the VicPD budget and beginning to divest resources from police in favour of productive, nonviolent community services.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase

in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored.

I don't understand the need for the police budgeting for a K9 unit. I don't think I've ever even seen a police dog in Victoria. Regardless, I don't support an increase to the Victoria Police annual budget at all.

Decrease the police budget. The increase is ridiculous. Look to other cities for ways to work with the unhoused population that do not involving increasing policing and police presence.

Before getting into the Dreamscape of the future we need to Remedy Our biggest issues right now

It's time for council to listen, not appear to listen to all voters and not just the section that voted them in.

No more buying hotels and making ghettos in neighbourhoods! Property assessment went up but property value dropped due to criminal element around the Travelodge.

Defund the police! \$880,320 is the proposed increase that the police department is receiving this year! Instead put that money into community support systems for unhoued people and make a difference! Listen to what people are saying! The police do not keep people save the comunity does and we need to invest in community not the police!

Disappointed to see no direct mention of policing services in this survey. While public safety may directly translate into availability of policing services for some people (particularly white people with economic and housing stability), this is not the case for many in our community, including Indigenous people, Black people, those living with mental health challenges, and those without adequate shelter. While I am inspired by Victoria's commitment to be a leader in addressing our climate emergency, I think as a community we must expand our lens to truly consider what constitutes a 'safe community' for all people. I think this starts with investments in community led initiatives for supporting people in homelessness and mental health emergencies, more funding and opportunities for peer support, and investments in community initiatives that benefit all citizens, not just those who are housed. Most importantly, this money should be redirected from policing services. If we have learned anything in the past year, let it be that police should not be the caretakers of our communities.

Support our police correctly...you expect them to clean up the mess of the city, but then want to pull their funding. Then get mental health workers from Viha working with them before you pull their funding.

Concentrate budget towards homelessness, mental health and addiction

services. Stop trying to allocate funds to these three things by throwing everyone in hotels and tents together. Different problems require individual solutions & funding. Mental health is a priority. Addiction services priority. Affordable living priority.

Don't feel as comfortable with our city and don't view council as focusing on the priorities of its commercial and private taxpayers.

The police budget for 2021 should be frozen. With decreased city revenue due to COVID-19, cities across the country are making the fiscally and socially responsible decision to freeze or decrease their police budgets. Rather than spend an alarming 23% of the city's operating expenditures on a service that criminalizes our most marginalized neighbours (BIPOC, LGBTQIA2+ folks, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc), we should be reevaluating the effectiveness of the police in fostering safety and wellness in our community. As a resident of the City of Victoria, I am calling for a reallocation of city funds from policing into programs and services that are proven to support the well-being of all community members such as community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems.

This message, in full or in part, and including the contact information of the sender, must not be sent or forwarded to VicPD or any third party without the written consent of the sender. Dear Elected Officials and the Victoria/Esquimalt Police Board, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Instead, I am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time given the following: COVID-19 has resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for the City of Victoria, requiring Council to make more fiscally responsible decisions for the 2021 budget cycle. As a result of the fiscal challenges related to COVID-19, municipalities across Canada are either freezing or decreasing their police budgets, including the City of Vancouver that recently voted to freeze their police funding for 2021. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. The VicPD budget is the City's highest operating expenditure, with a whopping 23% of the City's total operational budget. The City of Victoria's 2021 Draft Financial Plan allocates \$60.7 million of its \$256 million budget to the VicPD, a 1.5% increase from 2020. In stark contrast, the draft operating budget only allocates \$23.7 million for parks, recreation, and

facilities, \$6.0 million for sustainable planning and community development, and \$5.6 million for public libraries. Despite the already enormous allocation of city funds to the VicPD, the VicPD's budget is steadily increasing every year. From 2019-2020, the VicPD's budget increased by 4.43%. Between 2021 and 2024, the City's Consolidated Financial Plan commits to yearly increases to the VicPD budget, allocating over \$250 million — a quarter of a billion dollars — to the VicPD over the next four years. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Mayor Helps' Statement on the Need to Take Action Against Racism on June 3, 2020 proclaimed that "condemning racism and building understanding requires more than words, it requires action." Unjust police violence continues to occur throughout North America, and right here in our city. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs. Yours sincerely, Momo This message, in full or in part, must not be forwarded to VicPD or any third party without the written consent of the sender. This includes the contact information of the sender.

I do not agree with the increase of budget to the Victoria Police Department and have sent a separate email outlining my feedback.

As a registered nurse, I find it inappropriate and frankly offensive that the City of Victoria would even consider increasing the police budget. With the majority of crimes in the Victoria area being needs based, allocating more funds to policing would only further punish those experiencing poverty and mental/physical health issues. Investing in grassroots community programs, healthcare, affordable and supportive housing is evidence based and would do more to improve the lives of all that live in the city of Victoria. I urge Council to follow the evidence and not increase the police budget.

More funds should be allocated away from Victoria Police force. The budget increase does not align with the city's words or a welcoming city mandate.

The Victoria police force must be defunded a minimum of 2% to increase funding for essential supports for vulnerable populations.

Funding for affordable housing has decreased in this budget. The Draft Financial Plan states a commitment to “allocate additional City revenue to affordable housing” (page 44) but the proposed budget does the opposite, decreasing the annual allocation for the housing reserve -- dropping from \$900,000 in 2020/21 to \$650,000 per year in 2021/22 and the four fiscal years after that. I also noted that in 2020/21, \$152,500 of the \$208,228 allocated to the Late Night Task Force (policing downtown) was reallocated to emergency housing but the plan for 2021-22 has this special policing force once again at full budget, now increased to \$231,650 per year. Council has not followed through on its stated commitments regarding alternatives to policing. After years of community campaigning to divest from policing and invest in communities, at the June 25, 2020 meeting Council directed staff to report back on how to develop a framework for an accessible, culturally safe, and appropriate alternative response model -- in time for consideration as part of Council’s 2021 budget deliberations. Council also instructed staff to as part of this process hold a virtual community town hall and provide a range of opportunities for individuals and communities to engage, with “strong representation of those disproportionately harmed within the current system namely black, Indigenous, and POC communities, TNB2s people, persons with lived and living experience (PWLLE) of poverty, homelessness, mental health challenges, or substance use”. Neither the framework for the model nor the robust community engagement have happened in time for the public consultation process on the Draft Financial Plan. Instead, according to Mayor Lisa Helps’ January 3, 2021 blog post, Island Health and the VicPD are working together to create a response team for mental health calls -- though this team is also not mentioned in the VicPD budget so it’s unclear what is contemplated. The City’s role going forward is not clear. As the primary funder of the VicPD, the City has a responsibility to divest from policing and invest in communities. As was conveyed to Council years ago, and has been repeated since, the right role of government in this is to resource communities most impacted by policing to determine what would be a more appropriate investment of public funds. It’s essential that alternatives to police be designed and run by communities, not government; and that any alternative be non-coercive (unlike police-embedded Island Health teams). Replacing police-only response with police-embedded response is still supporting a policing response.

I am in strong opposition of increasing the operating budget for police and am demanding that the VicPD budget is frozen so that limited municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. In addition to freezing the budget of the money toilet that is the VicPD, which as you know absorbs 23 PERCENT of the city’s overall operating budget, I am also calling on the re-allocation of the ~1.5 MILLION DOLLARS (2.9%) of the city’s overall capital budget to be reduced to 0\$. Perhaps The VicPD can re-

allocate some of the 12 million dollars earmarked for fancy new cars over the next few years that they expect to receive from Victoria citizens to compensate. Where-as policing in Canada has always been an arm of the colonial state; Where-as the policing in Canada was literally introduced as a way to quell indigenous groups from asserting their legal, rightful sovereignty; Where-as Indigenous groups are disproportionately arrested and imprisoned to this day as a result of ongoing colonial oppression; And where-as reconciliation with Indigenous communities is stated as a priority for The City of Victoria; I demand that the operating for VicPD be frozen and capital budget of the VicPD be reduced to ZERO.

Reallocate the additional police budget expenditures towards other equitable and inclusive initiatives. The budget would be more impactful if it was spent elsewhere.

I would like to see a reduction in funding to the police budget and those funds be allocated to other services, addressing social issues.

(1) OVERALL COMMENTS. This whole process is skewed in a particular direction, towards maintaining the status quo of colonial relationships with land and each other. There's no consideration in the budget of where wealth comes from and how to shift out of a death-producing economy based on stolen lands and resources, exploited labour, and violence against the earth into something that is peaceful, sustainable, and fair. With no plan for economic and political transformation, the City can't meet communities' real needs. All that can be done is to remain in denial about the need for change and keep stalling on change. (2) BUDGET DOESN'T ALIGN WITH COMMUNITY NEEDS. In its current form the budget doesn't align with community needs or the City's stated priorities. The Draft Financial Plan identifies as priorities local area land use planning, supporting businesses, affordable housing, active transportation, climate change, and emergency preparedness; according to the Goal Statement on page 13, by 2022 "We will be known globally for our climate leadership practices, multi-modal transportation options, innovative approaches to affordable housing, and for meaningful reconciliation with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations on whose homelands our city was built." But none of these aspirations are substantively resourced. Relationship with Indigenous nations and affordable housing are particularly deprioritized in the budget. (3) LAND IS NOT PROPERTY. By calling a tax on settlers' use of Lkwungen lands "property tax", the City is entrenching colonial ideas of land as property rather than this place being a living, organic place that is the home of many beings. As a starting point, a real land tax would acknowledge that the City is on Lkwungen Territory, and would actively work with Lkwungen communities on how to decolonize and begin to engage in respectful relationship. (4) BUDGET CONTINUES TO STEAL WEALTH FROM LOCAL INDIGENOUS NATIONS. The Draft Financial Plan doesn't consider Lkwungen ways of making decisions or ensuring that any benefits derived from settlers' use of Lkwungen resources (including lands, waters, knowledge, etc.) are returned to Lkwungen people.

Council talks about “Reconciliation and Indigenous Relations” but has no commitment to redistribute stolen land and wealth -- it doesn’t even fund Indigenous positions for its stated Indigenous relations activities. The Draft Financial Plan includes a commitment to “deeper and more engagement with Songhees and Esquimalt Nations”, “recognition of Indigenous sovereignty”, and “more Indigenous involvement and inclusion in all aspects of civic life”. But nowhere in the budget is there a line for the 2020 Strategic Plan commitments to establish an Indigenous Relations function and to pursue co-governance of MEEGAN and shoreline areas, the 2021 commitments of appointing Indigenous Elders in Residence and continuing co-governance explorations, or the 10 actions relating to Indigenous community relationships that are identified for 2022. The only two mentions of Indigenous relations in the actual budget are the Witness Reconciliation Program and an Indigenous artist-in-residence program (which is identified as 2019-21, so no City commitment to continue). While the required five-year financial plan for most departments involves a standard 2% inflation increase every year, the Witness Reconciliation Program -- the only funded initiative addressing the City’s relationship with local nations -- has decreased funding in 2022 (page 550). All of these are examples of the lip-service the City is paying to ‘reconciliation’, they are not end goals in and of themselves. True decolonization would involve much more than funding these activities, it would mean a complete rethinking of how non-Indigenous people relate to these territories and local nations, and a systematic plan to stop relating in violent ways and hoarding stolen land and wealth. (5) LIMITING LAND TAX TO THE EXTENT SET OUT HERE IS SOCIALLY IRRESPONSIBLE AND KEEPS WEALTH IN THE HANDS OF PRIVATE LAND OWNERS. By protecting settlers from a reasonable land tax increase, Council is making ‘victoria’ less affordable to the most economically precarious people. It’s contradictory to commit to ‘Make Victoria More Affordable’ while limiting the annual land tax increase to a maximum of the rate of inflation + 1%. Addressing affordability is great, but limiting property tax only benefits people wealthy enough to own land. This year’s property tax increase is 1.75% which according to the budget summary works out to an annual increase of “\$44 for an average household and \$124 for a typical business” -- minor amounts that will make little difference to people who are wealthy enough to own land, but that if increased could significantly improve real affordability measures like return of stolen lands, rent banks, community-controlled housing, urban agriculture, etc. (6) THIS BUDGET DECREASES THE COMMITMENT TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING. While it’s great that Council is funding staff work on policies to try to stem the further loss of affordable units, there also needs to be a tangible plan around increasing affordable housing stock, far beyond Council’s current goal of 100 units per year (beyond the housing stock needs projected for population growth). The Draft Financial Plan states a commitment to “allocate additional City revenue to affordable housing” (page 44) but the proposed budget does the opposite, decreasing the annual allocation for the housing reserve -- not only dropping from \$1,000,000 in 2019/20 to \$900,000 in 2020/21, but going down even

further to \$650,000 per year in 2021/22 and the four fiscal years after that. Affordable housing has been the general public's #1 issue for several years according to the annual local Vital Signs survey, for good reason. According to 2016 Census data (which excludes people who are homeless), five years ago 9,065 households -- 21% of 'victoria' households -- were living in housing that is overcrowded, in significant disrepair, and/or unaffordable, with 4,050 households in 'victoria' identified as "in extreme core housing need" (living in housing that is overcrowded, in significant disrepair, and/or unaffordable, and with an income so low that more than 50% of income would need to be spent to get adequate housing). Affordability and vacancy rates are worse now so these numbers are likely higher than in 2016. (7) HOUSING NEEDS WILL NEVER BE MET THROUGH FOR-PROFIT DEVELOPMENT. The City needs to stop relying on private developers to build affordable housing, that's not realistic and keeps resulting in scarce land base being used primarily for luxury developments with a few below-market units sprinkled in. With thousands of people in desperate need of safe and affordable housing, we can't keep treating housing as a commodity rather than a basic human need. A serious plan needs to be created for massive and rapid investment in community-controlled, not-for-profit housing. This plan for new builds of affordable housing needs to be determined with local nations so it doesn't further entrench settler control of Lkwungen lands, and Indigenous housing needs are met first. (8) ADDRESS THE CURRENT EMERGENCY FOR PEOPLE SHELTERING OUTSIDE. According to the Draft Financial Plan, as of December 31, 2020 the Victoria Housing Reserve was expected to have an unallocated balance of \$2,582,942 sitting dormant instead of being used for emergency housing. In 2021/22 there is a proposed allocation of \$3,517,740 for transfer to a contingency reserve account for unspecified emergencies (pages 547-548) -- enough to provide 244 people living outside with \$1,200/month towards rent, for a full year. In the meantime Council continues to ignore its human rights obligations set out in the United Nations National Protocol for Homeless Encampments in Canada, with a total of \$0 allocated in 2021/22 for basic infrastructure proximate to where people are sheltering. Of course some level of savings are prudent and necessary, but when new money is set aside for 'emergencies' while there is an active emergency for unhoused people, that implies "your well-being is not enough of an emergency...we're going to put money aside for a situation impacting wealthy people". It's particularly baffling that the City is keeping Housing Reserve money dormant instead of using it to build emergency interim tiny homes or other stop-gap measures. (9) DIVEST FROM POLICING, INVEST IN COMMUNITIES. As long as policing continues to take up such a giant proportion of resources, there will be a self-perpetuating cycle of more homelessness and social inequality, and more policing of marginalized people to appease the anxiety of people who have money and political power. We need to divest from extremely expensive responses that keep a small but highly marginalized population intensely trapped in daily surveillance and criminalization, and invest in programs that build community capacity to effectively meet people's needs, resolve conflicts, and otherwise

collectively address societal problems. Policing doesn't build social cohesion, meet people's survival needs, or address tensions relating to injustices and inequities. As evidenced by the past 30 years, social problems can't be solved through investing in "law and order" approaches and infrastructure. After years of increases to the VicPD operating budget, and a year where the City increased resources to Bylaw as well, it's time to stop any further increase and instead start a process of divestment from these activities to instead resource communities hurt by policing and Bylaw to decide on and implement community-controlled programs and infrastructure. Part of the shift is the need to have community decisions and control, but the City can start to reallocate budget categories appropriately, to give marginalized communities more tangible resources to work with. (10) INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES INCLUDES ALTERNATIVES TO VICPD. Investing in communities isn't only about alternative response teams, it's also about doing a better job in meeting people's needs so things don't get to crisis point. But crisis response is a piece of the puzzle. At the June 25, 2020 meeting Council directed staff to report back on how to develop a framework for an accessible, culturally safe, and appropriate alternative response model in time for consideration as part of Council's 2021 budget deliberations. Council also instructed staff to as part of this process hold a virtual community town hall and provide a range of opportunities for individuals and communities to engage, with "strong representation of those disproportionately harmed within the current system namely black, Indigenous, and POC communities, TNB2s people, persons with lived and living experience (PWLLE) of poverty, homelessness, mental health challenges, or substance use". But none of this happened. Instead, according to Mayor Lisa Helps' January 3, 2021 blog post, Island Health and the VicPD are apparently working together to create a response team for mental health calls (though this team doesn't seem to have any financial allocation in the proposed VicPD budget so it's unclear how far along this is). While alternatives to policing are much needed, it's essential that alternatives be designed and run by communities, not government; and that it be non-coercive (unlike police-embedded Island Health teams). The right role of government in this is to resource communities most impacted by policing to determine what would be a more appropriate investment of public funds, not to create a new response team that has the same problems of power-over and mandate of control and containment. (11) INVEST IN TRUE SAFETY. The survey questions were difficult to answer as the categories are ambiguous and interconnected -- there is no public safety if the environment is being trashed or people don't have a safe place to live. I think true public safety is very important, but don't want that misinterpreted as support for policing, Bylaw enforcement, security guards, or other City-funded measures that make the City profoundly unsafe for people who are visibly poor, Indigenous, Black, assumed to have mental illness, people who use drugs, and others who are racially and/or socially profiled. To me true public safety means safety for everyone, not only people with money or who conform to middle-class and white norms. To me true safety is about having a safe place to live, clean air to breathe and clean water to drink, access to nutritious food,

feeling supported and included in your community, being treated respectfully by the people around me and being free from oppression and violence, having confidence in collective capacity to address conflict in healthy ways. None of that can be achieved by policing or other approaches to "safety" that are about control and punishment.

Do not increase the VICPD budget.

My biggest issue with this draft financial plan is the proposed increase to policing. How can we justify an increase to our police department's budget given all we have seen in the past year? Our communities lack resources for well-being and need support in ways that policing cannot provide. We need to invest in alternative solutions. At the very least, the police budget should be frozen.

I am appalled that Victoria's governing bodies continually allocate a greater percentage of the municipal budget to the VicPD than any other municipal function. I believe a budget increase of 0% is the only appropriate action at this time. I am calling upon you, and all our elected officials, to freeze the VicPD budget and begin meaningful action to divest resources from the Victoria Police Department and invest in meaningful change. Increased police presence does not keep us safe. Instead, it continues to oppress and harass our most targeted community members (Indigenous, Black, people of colour, transgender, Two-Spirit, queer, people who use drugs, unhoused people, street-based sex workers, people with disabilities, people experiencing poverty, etc.), and puts their lives at risk. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget. I am calling on you to use your power to create a safer city for us all by freezing the VicPD budget and meaningfully engaging with targeted communities to determine how to work with them to meet their needs.

I do not think we should increase the police budget, the police should be able to manage the funds that they currently have. This is not a time to increase police budgets. Other departments need to be creative with the funds they have, the police should do the same.

Community safety does not require increased policing. I strongly oppose the proposed 1.5% increase in the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) budget. Safe communities are housed, fed and able to access essential services without fear of criminalization, harassment or other harm. Instead, I believe

the VicPD budget should be frozen so that those municipal resources can be more appropriately allocated to communities most in need and communities who have been historically underfunded and ignored. According to Statistics Canada, in 2019, VicPD had more officers per capita than any other municipality in Canada with more than 100,000 people. Therefore, we do not need more police. Instead, we need sustainable solutions to homelessness, the housing crisis and food insecurity. Our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations, instead of increasing the VicPD budget.

Increase funds to police for mental health programs and training, for programs to address issues dealing with minority populations and people at risk.

I placed "support for vulnerable populations" as low because I truly believe the city has greatly overstepped its mandate on this issue and taken on too much - mostly the fault of idealistic members who ran on these concepts. This is a provincial issue and THEY must be the leaders here. I would like to see a return to the province leading and the city executing on issues of housing, affordability, health, and homelessness/mental health, which allows the city to focus on city mandates: infrastructure, budgets, public safety, city transportation, events and arts, & park spaces. I would also like to see the city lean on the province more for climate action initiatives - they should also be the ones leading in the area with the city supporting and executing locally. We cannot bear the weight of these massive issues - it is currently crushing us.

Disappointed by the large increase to police budget and lack thereof to creating affordable housing for all. Not sure why this isn't the biggest investment.

Regarding the Victoria PD budget: increasing the patrol budget while decreasing the community services budget is laughable. I live across from SOFMA, which was (and should be again, by the way, until a more permanent solution is ready) used through the summer to house people experiencing homelessness. I have witnessed first hand: whatever training officers currently receive to deal with mental health/substance abuse crises is utterly insufficient, and their funding should be diverted to actual professionals in these areas. If you won't do it out of actual care for our most vulnerable neighbours, then do it for the PR. I don't care, as long as you stop pouring money into a system of law enforcement that is not protecting and serving those who need it most.

I feel we need a rental cap and more affordable housing. We need less

money going to the unnecessarily burgeoning police budget and more to creating transitional housing for the homeless and affordable housing for low to middle income folks.

Personally, I was disgusted that the City of Victoria reallocated \$52,000 to the VicPD to increase policing of unhoused communities around Topaz Park. That is money that could have been used to create shelter for homeless people during the pandemic. We have watched now for 10 months as the city has continually promised that support for the homeless is just around the corner and yet, 10 months in and little to no progress has been made. This year we have heard clear explanations around why it is important to defund police and reallocate that money to services that actually support marginalized communities that are experiencing poverty. Instead of investing even more resources in the VicPD, our city must prioritize and fund alternatives like community outreach programs, anti-colonial mental health services, housing initiatives, income security, harm reduction services, arts and cultural programs, anti-colonial forms of social work, conflict resolution services, transformative justice, and other vital community-based support systems. These initiatives must support our most targeted communities and centre the experiences of IBPOC folks in Victoria. This will require partnering with, funding, and otherwise supporting community-based organizations (which there are many of), instead of increasing the VicPD budget.

The proposed budget for the Victoria Police Department is completely irresponsible, given their reputation of creating an unsafe, violent city for BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+, and unhoused communities. The Victoria Police Department should be dissolved, and their budget reallocated to community-based responses and care for our citizens. An increase in their budget would be absolutely deplorable.

Please make it a priority to get the homeless out of our parks and make Victoria a safer place!

Provide a wider variety of support and services for unhoused folks and other vulnerable people. Pay for it by defunding the police.

Take money from the police budget and re-direct it to affordable housing, more walk-able streets, better cycling infrastructure, and toilets and showers in parks.

Less money to police. More money to the people and programs that are benefitting the many not the few.

No

Current priorities must be adjusted to deal with acute problems. e.g. Where to house the homeless is far more important than multi-million dollar bike

lanes or sports facilities that will stand empty until pandemic is ended.

We cannot afford to pay for more services for the homeless this is provincial or federal. It appears councilors are deep in conflict with funds coming from the city. An industry being sported by mayor and council, we might have expected this corruption 120 years ago. It's clear now and not acceptable. "Inclusive" has many self-fulfilling directions. I don't see any inclusive for one..rental advisory committee no rep for property owners. Two, the quiet hard working individuals that ask for nothing but a chance to count on their future in Victoria to plan with a good amount of confidence. City of Victoria disrupts this and forces people to speak up. This is not fair to some, many just work, build and ask for nothing. Low income or middle housing? Problem? Perhaps offering rental housing property owners something for offering long term rentals.. after 5,10,15 years. Also a tenant screening process similar to airbnb or STR screening. Please consider offering rentals is very similar to loaning your car or bike or shoes to someone you barely know. We hope they look after it but not sure and now government comes in and makes very heavy rules. Do you want to lend the car out? Dents do you want to loan the bike out? No air in the tire. Do you want to loan your new shoes out..mud puddles!

directing funding towards community supports and resilience is essential. if no company will choose, independently, to build apartments over condos, the city itself must make that choice. if the essential workers who run Victoria can't afford to live in Victoria, then the city has failed to establish its own infrastructure. the amount of funding allotted to the Victoria police force is scheduled to be increased, to become over 20% of the total city budget. this is both unnecessary and wasteful. the problems that police are currently being deployed to solve are not problems that police have the ability or training to solve. police officers are not counsellors, medics, outreach workers, advocates. fund and encourage the services that will actually benefit this city and its residents.

VPD does not need more money, they should be defunded

The police are allocated far too much money. Any increase in funding to the police is a slap in the face to all of us taxpayers.

Please keep the Build Back Victoria program going. It's great as a resident to have all these beautiful patios. I hope this is here to stay.

Encourage, and enforce a distributed supported housing model. No more dumping all the homeless and needy in one area. That my model does not work and only leads to disparity and class division within our city

I disagree with the 1.5% increase to the police budget, and I believe it should be frozen this year instead. I would like to see greater oversight of the police budget, as I believe that there are many roles they are being funded for

which are outside of traditional policing functions. I will look forward to seeing the report of the Province's review of the police act and any changes that might come from it. The safest cities are not the ones with the most police funding, they are the ones that are most affordable and have the smallest disparities between rich and poor. The greater percentage of the City budget that police services make up, the less we have for programs & services that actually address the root causes of crime, which is socioeconomic inequities. In addition, I believe the City should prioritize the development of more non-market housing and increasing the city-owned housing stock. Having more buildings owned by the City would save costs in the long-run and make us more resilient when facing economic downturns & crises (e.g. this current pandemic) -- it provides opportunities to create childcare spaces, arts / culture / music venues, commercial spaces for non-profits & small businesses, and of course more affordable housing options. I would also like to see more support for our city councillors. I don't envy those in the job, as it's difficult work for not much pay -- on top of that, and despite making 1/3 of what an MP makes, councillors receive much more public criticism (at least on the local level). We need to make sure that our local elected officials have the supports they need to make well-informed decisions - this includes administrative support to help with emails, so that councillors can have more time focusing on reading & reviewing budgets, reports, and other documents required to make well-informed decisions. The fact that councillors only make approx. \$42K a year in one of the least affordable cities in Canada, and in a city where over 60% of people are renters, means that most people can simply not afford to run for public office, which makes it less likely that marginalized voices will be represented on council. I was upset to read this week that lunches for councillors will be cut. The total cost is a quite small overall - especially compared to the police budget (and I'm curious how many lunches are paid for out of their budget). When council days can run upwards of 12 hours, I believe that having a lunch provided so that councillors don't have to spend time finding their own not only shows appreciation for their work, but also supports better decision-making by ensuring councillors are well-fed. Having councillors eat together would also foster more collaborative work environments, and likely benefit the city overall. I am happy with many of the services, programs, and capital projects the City is funding, but with VicPD taking up nearly a quarter of the entire city budget (the highest percentage out of any police force in BC - and the highest I could find in Canada, having reviewed budgets of other major Canadian cities), and prioritization of market-based affordable housing options, I am very concerned about the long-term sustainability, health, and prosperity of Victoria. This also means doing what we can to encourage more diverse candidates to run for public office by making it more economically feasible for them to do so. This city has been my home for 9 years, and I hope to make it my home for many more -- as vaccines start to roll out, it's important to recognize that the actions we take now to rebuild and bounce back from the pandemic will determine the direction we take over the next several years, and the livability of Victoria for future generations.

DEFUND THE POLICE.

-Way too much money and energy is being spent on entrenching the "hard to house" population in the downtown core, and it is not solving any problems. Rather it is creating many problems for the larger community, and growing problems that already exist. This does not constitute good governance. Please focus on good governance moving forward above all else.

Once again, I can see that out of control policing costs are responsible for a large part of the tax increase. Why does the most policed city in Canada need more tax dollars for the police in these difficult times? Diverting police budget money to better first responders on social issues will save the city a lot of money and lead to better outcomes. Freeze police funding levels. One easy way to reduce police costs and increase safety is more automation on traffic enforcement

Freeze the VicPD budget increase. There are more areas that need financial support, such as helping support the homeless population, indigenous communities, and other minorities. The VicPD already takes up a very large amount of the city's budget, and I believe it doesn't need any increase whatsoever.

Stop spending money enabling addiction and mental health issues. Provincial Governments need to step up and take action. City of Victoria needs to enforce bylaws and make Victoria safe and crime free once again. #1 priority for 2021 as we try and get our economy back on track.

defund the police in order to properly invest in sustainable, SAFE communities that don't have to rely on cops for outdated, racist notions of "public safety"

this survey is patronizing.

I would like to see well funded Alternative Crisis Response Teams to ensure appropriate de-escalation and support for persons in mental health crisis, and reduce the need for police intervention.

I come from Oaklands community and there is one tenting community near us. I think having some innovative, well resourced with diverse members in decision making is very important. Also I think that there should be some good resourcing to alternatives to policing for incidents involving people with mental instabilities and mental illness, involving social workers, health professionals etc.

Don't raise the police budget. Put that money into mental health. Are you oblivious to everything?

Affordable housing and alternatives to police response to mental health

crises are essential I believe to be addressed immediately. Additionally, increased substance use harm reduction and trauma supports is absolutely essential. The CARES clinic is a step towards mental health and substance use support services that are easily accessible. Wait times are long however, trauma support is minimal (well researched as the root of substance addiction), and safe injection sites hard to access. Alternatives to policing mental illness and the police budget line MANAGE the ramifications of trauma; harm reduction, accessible supports, and having basic needs met such as housing MITIGATE the ramifications of trauma. Let's be innovative and strive to make our tax dollars work for everyone who calls this city home.

Let's get more temporary housing structures build - shipping containers, modular housing, huts, tiny homes - use empty parking lots, City of Victoria properties waiting to be developed. Also, is there any work being done to outlaw/reduce/restrict renovations?

I strongly oppose the 1.5% increase in the VicPD budget.

I do not support an increase in police funding

Decreasing the budget for the victoria police department is most essential and reallocating this funding to community-based initiatives instead.

More funds directed towards prevention for crime prevention, drug abuse and unhoused. Bylaws to protect public lands i.e. parks from being used as tent cities.

I'd like to specifically comment on the police budget. In the context of COVID-19 and the financial difficulties we'll be facing in 2021; in consideration of the excessive use of force we saw back in January 2020 when Indigenous youth were arrested at the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; given that people sheltering outside have been drawing attention to the over-policing of their communities for years; and for many other reasons that have been brought up year after year at budget time, I frankly find it obscene that an increase in the VicPD budget is even being tabled. Their budget needs to be reduced - not increased, not frozen, but reduced - and we should be re-investing that money into the many pressing social needs our communities are facing, from housing, to social services, to public transit. We have more police per capita than anywhere else in Canada, and there is at least a portion of their time that is spent policing poverty which is damaging and costly. We must reduce their budget.

The City of Victoria has the opportunity to be innovative in instituting a socially responsible budget, one that centers the dignity of the less fortunate while fostering community instead of individualism and division. I hope to see the city debate budgeting through a lens that centers the lived experience of those who are suffering the most, not just because of COVID-19 but also

because of the current economic system and housing market. When resources are directed towards those who are the least fortunate, this improves the city and life for everyone.

Protect merchants against shop lifting and other petty crime. Ditto for home owners. Fix the traffic lights so you can drive more than one block without hitting a red light. Now that you have killed Vancouver street as an artery for cars make it mandatory for cyclists to use it or Humboldt rather than clogging the remaining streets.

Decrease the policing budget.

Decrease police funding.

Rather than providing a budget increase for police services, our city should prioritize redistributing these funds to support community-based resource alternatives like mental health services, conflict resolution services, harm reduction, housing, education, etc.

I really don't understand the 1.5% increase to the police budget, as I feel we need answers to this. If the city is really committed to vulnerable populations they should then allocate funding to the appropriate places. I do believe there is a place for the police within the City however they can no longer be the only solution in every situation, as we have seen for centuries this is not working. We need to allocate funding towards first responding mental health supports, and culturally appropriate supports for people. I believe that increasing the police budget will only further perpetuate the great inequities we have, by making police respond to many situations they don't have the proper training to attend to, and by not giving funding to the people who have the correct training to respond in certain situations.

Please spend money on public safety and revitalizing downtown.

Taxpayers and businesses are fleeing Victoria for safer ground. You are forgetting who pays the bills here. Who employs people. Who makes Victoria a vibrant community. Keep your eyes on the ball and stop experimenting with social projects out of your depth or jurisdiction.

The youth bus pass program is great. Bus passes should be free for everyone. Younger people need access to affordable housing.

It's insane that this survey doesn't allow for discussion of police budgets. I would like to see an innovative approach to police budgeting and shifting of resources towards unarmed liaison and special officers to help with public health and homelessness. Not armed enforcement but community service.

I do not support the proposed operating budget allotment for the Victoria Police Department. I think more effort should go into "exploring opportunities to increase efficiency throughout the City's operations focusing on providing better service to the community and reducing expenditures" - specifically, I think the City should rethink how we keep the community safe. The VIC PD has not demonstrated that it efficiently and effectively reduces crime or leaves people feeling safe and cared for and therefore is underserving of an increase in funding.

we don't need the police to have more money, we need money invested in our communities, particularly those who are the most vulnerable. we need investments in health services, such as counseling, far more than we need increased "protection"

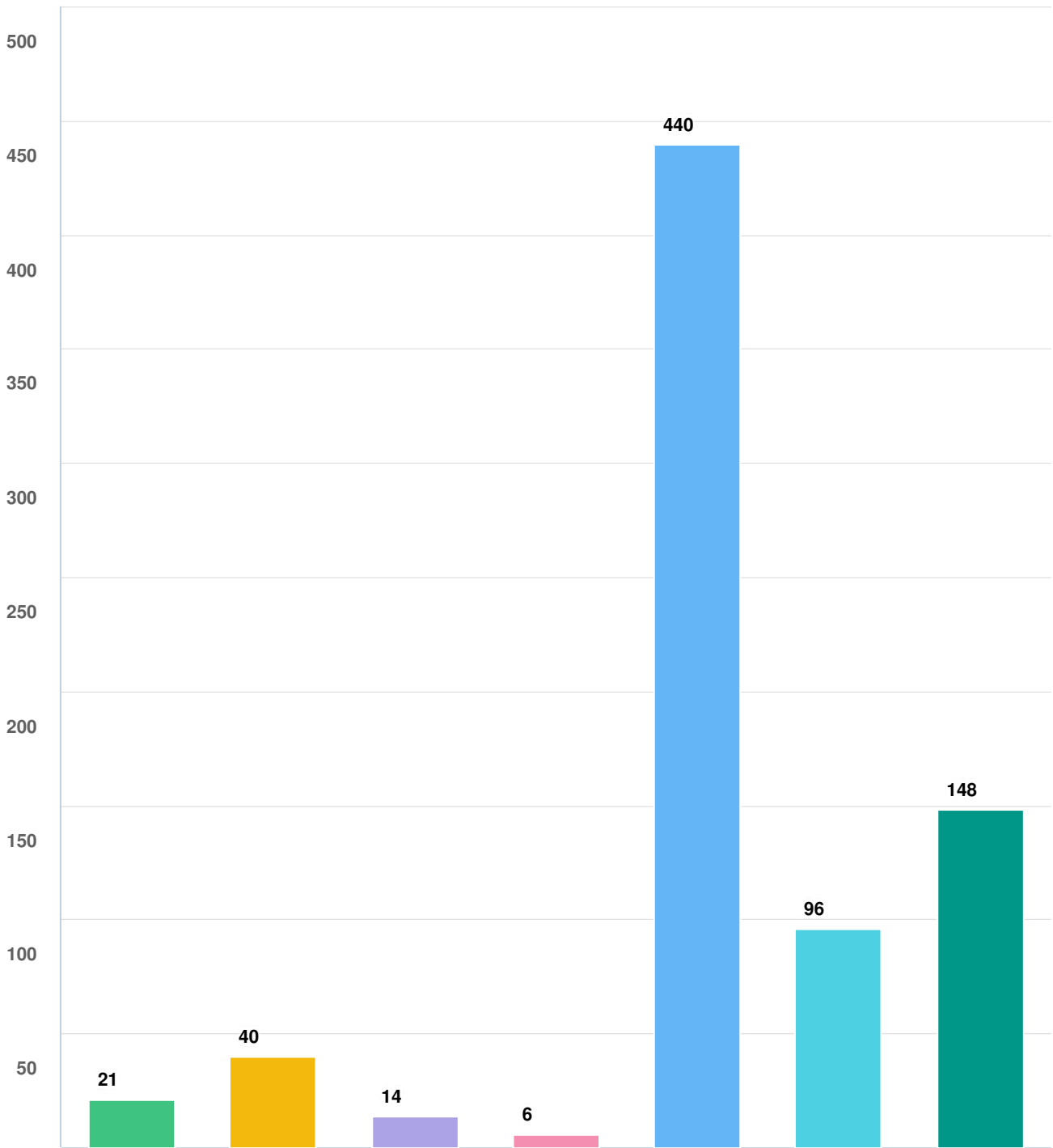
For the last three years I have been speaking to council about the extravagant and inflated police budget. We need to freeze the police budget this year and look to decreasing the police budget going forward. To expend 23% of the city's budget on policing is 'criminal'. No pun intended. We need to invest those scarce resources in addressing homelessness, addictions and the mental health and divert those resources to appropriate bodies that are best suited to dealing with both the unhoused and struggling members of our city. We cannot police homelessness nor poverty. Policing is used to further criminalize those members of our society that need social supports. Freeze the police budget - no increase in 2021. As they have done in Vancouver.

The amount of budget directed to policing vs the amount directed to housing is obscene. Sinking so much money into enforcement, often against the poorest members of our community, will never solve social problems. It will only perpetuate a cycle of dysfunction that serves mostly to fuel calls for more police. We have the most police per capita in English Canada, and one of the worst housing crises. We need structural fixes not the band-aid of armed enforcement. Additionally, as a visible minority in this city I do not feel made safer by police generally and am troubled by the conduct I see specifically from VicPD. When I worked downtown I witnessed excessive squad car deployment just to harass homeless, often Indigenous, people on the street corner. When I attended the legislature on a few occasions, I saw police manhandle demonstrators with impunity. I saw them expand and delay operations there, increasing cost, then turn and ask the City to pay more. I watched with concern as VicPD leveraged its clout, and its City-funded communications capacity, to incite public outrage against Indigenous and Black activists multiple times. Everyone and every sector has had to tighten belts in this time; the police must have their turn too. The City has a choice of whether to prioritize truly helping disadvantaged minorities or appeasing the comfortable majority. I ask that it make the moral choice.

Optional question (441 response(s), 268 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q11 How did you find out about this survey? (Check all that apply.)

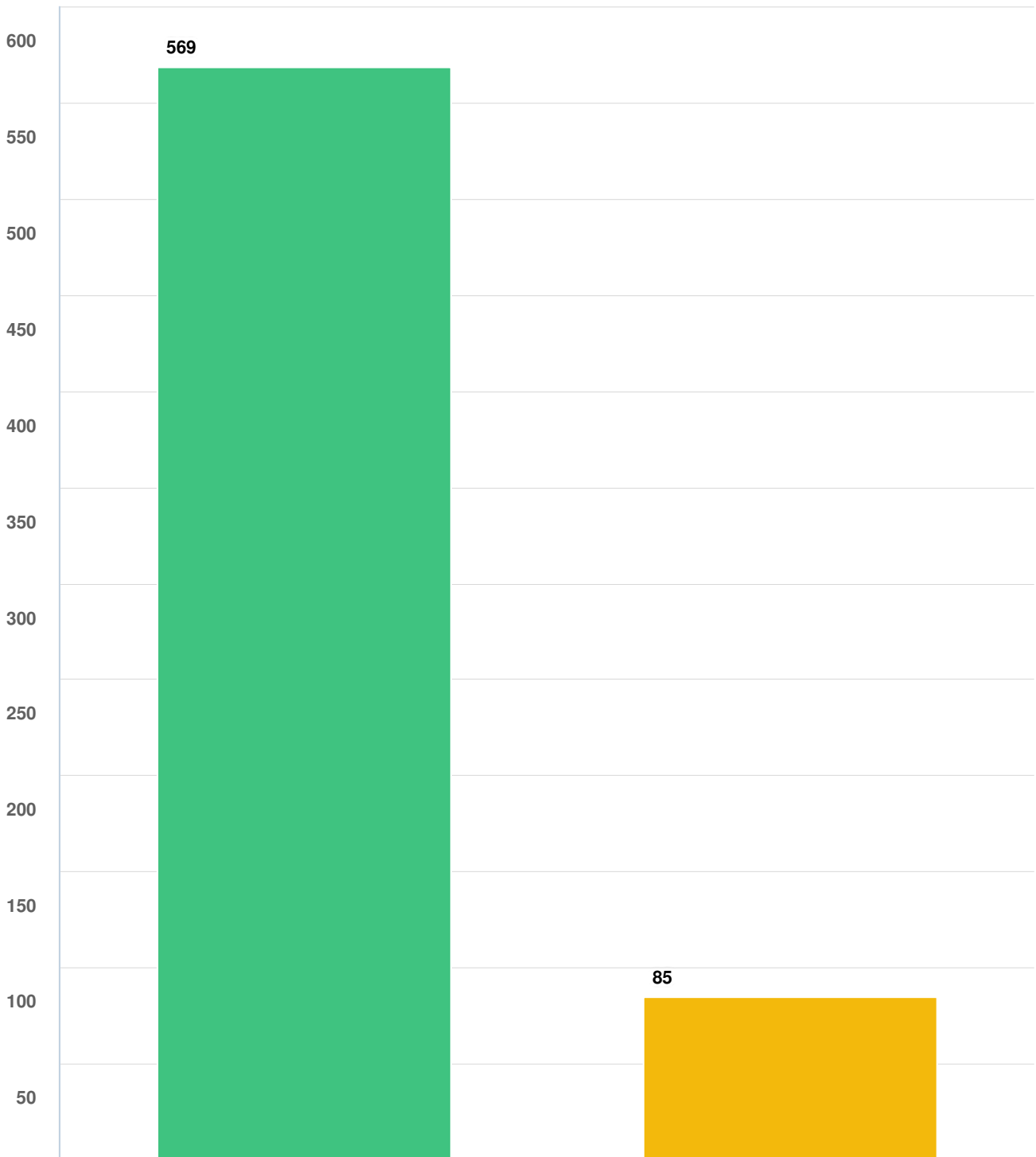


Question options

- Friends or family
- City of Victoria website
- Social media
- TV news story
- Radio
- Newspaper article
- Print ad

Optional question (679 response(s), 30 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q12 Did you find the budget information materials to be helpful?



Question options

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (654 response(s), 55 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q13 | **If you answered "No", please let us know how we can improve our information materials.**

The summary was too brief and the survey does not address the level of detail in the large document. Page 4 of the summary should better define what is included in each Strategic Priority. And they should be broken down with questions about sub-areas. Survey better in previous years. Is the survey accessible such that someone with vision loss can register and complete it?

It was too generic, didn't actually say what the plans are (video)

The balance sheets are too general to understand what the money is actually being spent on. Can we see account listings? Trial balances?

Waste of time... All false promises anyways. Where is our new Crystal pool??

Cut to the chase without all the introductory blather.

I heard about the budget survey from the Mayor--wasn't an option on question 11.

Please provide definitions. For example, what does "Our community is healthy" in the survey mean?

I got a reminder from an email. This is not listed above.

(There was no place for comments for the survey, so I wanted to mention that I find the city recycling program lacking as plastic bags are not accepted and it is confusing to know where to recycle them. I think the city program should expand what it accepts or a lot of people will put things that could be recycled in the trash. Thank you.)

So-so. What citizen has the time to read the 800-page detailed budget? At the other end, the executive summary is high on generalities and low on measurable detail. It should include at least a graph showing increase/decrease of spending for a key few budget priorities, and the reasons why.

make a short version

The answer is yes and no, but I put no so I can extrapolate. Overall Victoria is a great place to live so nice job with the YoY with the budget. The budget summary is also easily digestible and I can easily understand the breakdown of where the operating and capital budgets. What it does not explain is the process for how the City takes the priorities of its citizens and translates them into dollar figures. I do not feel this survey allows me to have a tangible impact on this years budget. Prioritizing the city's goals doesn't translate into me knowing whether or not my beliefs and my input- things like spending less on manicured lawns and the police and more on social and cultural services- is actually implemented in 2021.

STOP LYING

Would like to see past two year's budgets to be able to compare changes.

No itemization of capital projects - is Crystal pool another Johnston Street bridge? No ability to weigh in on funding of strategic priority actions, levels of service, capital projects.

Better summary

I think you should invite local political science and social science scholars to critique your budgets and provide this information to the public. Most of us are not intimate with the intricacies of local government and finance and I think it is YOUR responsibility to help us understand why you have prioritized the spending in the ways you have.

This feels like fluff to maskarade as engagement

Not enough information about budget

I do NOT think the budget information was helpful, but you survey won't let me change that. You bury the information about where money is going within the document. And you call the budget "operating budget" suggesting that where the money goes is just part of "operations", but this is not the case. This is based on strategic choices on what you think should get funding, or deserves funding.

Let people vote on the sub-goals below the strategic objectives, instead of rolling up multiple sub-goals (some of which taxpayers may support, while they oppose others, making it difficult to have an overall opinion).

Police reform

I would have answered "sort of" if that was an option. It's too much broad information to try to cutesy up with images. Just stick to the facts, I'd rather my tax dollars went to fixing actual problems in the city than paying a graphic designer to make a budget proposal look good.

Some of the information is vague. There needs to be more transparency.

clear concise information summary

Very little information was given in the budget summary about the fact that the Vic PD budget was increasing, or why it is increasing. It feels like you wanted that information to be hidden, or at least, not have attention drawn to it. Any increases to policing should be clearly and prominently stated, along with the reasoning behind why.

Budget priorities are mostly wrong. Focus on getting back to basics and stop trying to save the world with the finances of a city of less than 100,000 residents.

Not enough direct input on Police budget. Defund the police and invest in other public services.

Shorter summary for those who do not want details, linked to more exhaustive details for those interested.

Please be transparent about what you mean when you say things like "Public safety". Are you talking about safety from things like police violence / harassments or do you mean increased police harassment for people IN PUBLIC.

Information somewhat useful but not detailed enough. However, that doesn't matter because survey so very weak.

Accessible and transparent

Vague

The ranking questions were designed in a biased manner: - I'm concerned that the city is interpreting the prioritization of 'public safety' as justification for continued overfunding of the police. Most people will rank 'public safety' in their top priorities, however the police are a source of harassment and criminalization and racial profiling for many people. I prioritize public safety, however take that to require defunding the police and creating more trauma-

aware, peer-directed, anti-oppressive and culturally honouring supports that meet our communities most vulnerable/targeted members' unmet essential needs. -tying 'health' together with 'a welcoming city', seems a problematic bias inclined towards piggybacking the tourist industry's interests to a seeming higher-ranking prioritization spot than most people would warrant it, if it were not tied to the obviously necessary priority of public health

Access to information materials are largely inaccessible, and there are barriers for people without access to technology, individuals who are not fluent in English, and those with disabilities.

More clear delineation of the police budget is needed for accountability

I feel like it's spin.

There are some major gaps in the information which I hope will be answered in the budget meeting upcoming but overall it is reasonably accessible.

indicate changes from last year for operating budget

An overwhelming amount of information. This is very intimidating and will exclude a lot of people from wanting to be engaged.

Provide greater detail and breakdown of the budget.

Accessibility. Text to voice, bigger text, etc.

The budget summary sheet is helpful, but there is so much education needed for the general public about what this all means, especially for folks who want to dig a little deeper into the full draft to find details about the areas they are specifically interested in. This is not an accessible process to most. The budget survey has definitely improved since last year, but I still find it odd you ask folks to rank the city's strategic objectives... I feel that they are all incredibly important and that it is inappropriate to pit objectives against each other... Indigenous reconciliation should be present in everything the city does, good governance is important all the time, and we need affordable housing just as much as we need to ensure a just and sustainable future.

to long yet to vague

Too much text, point form would be better

they were helpful but confusing and lengthy

Didn't read, no time. A high level summary essential

THERE IS A HOUSING CRISIS

The youtube video equated expenditures on police budget with safety which is misleading.

It's much too long and overly complex.

Budget document is too 'generic' and lacks measurable results to accompany expenditures to show value and support the business case. It is relatively easy to write a lot but hard to write a little to explain clearly how value is being received.

I answered yes, but I wanted to say that I found the two shortened versions to be very helpful

More direct questions rather than these very broad priority statements.

Helpful, but more outreach is needed so there are a variety of perspectives.

I didn't look at them much

stick to municipal responsibilities, stay in your lane

It's not that it wasn't useful, but it could be shared via email (I am sure you have many addresses from people contacting city hall), as opposed to relying on social media and people visiting your website.

I found the budget information useful, but the survey questions were too vague. "Public Safety" should be split up into the categories that are actually used in the budget such as Police, Fire, and By-law.

The strategic objective points are way too vague. For example, of course everyone wants to live in a safe city, but I do not believe that increasing the

police budget and presence is going to make the city safer. Another example, what do you consider "affordable housing?" Because if it's micro-lofts in the downtown core for \$1000+ per month that's a joke.

Didn't review them

In this survey, it would be helpful to have each section include a brief summary of what the 2021 budget is proposing, and what the priorities are for each section. I have the links to the budget summary, but this survey could be done in a way that makes it easier and more accessible to provide useful feedback.

I saw lots of information about police costs but no where in the survey to write my dismay at their portion of tax dollars spent.

The budget documents are far denser and less accessible than they should be relative to budget documents from other orders of government.

The Draft Financial Plan this year is an 841 page document that provides too much info about fine details and not enough information about big picture issues in the context of a larger plan. For example this year the VicPD 5-year financial plan could only be determined by taking the time to manually copy and paste items from each department into a spreadsheet and then sum up all the columns - this took me 2 hours to do and many people will not have the patience or time to do this legwork. Rationales for budget changes are not tied to evidence -- departments are just asked to produce estimates based on current conditions. This is most apparent in policing where there's no data on crime trends, calls for service, etc. yet there are massive increases in police overtime and also increases to specific units. For example the proposed budget includes a \$808,384 (4.13%) increase to the VicPD Patrol Division, including a projection of \$905,000 in overtime -- a \$103,000 (13%) increase from 2020/21; the budget of the Behavioral Assessment & Management Unit is proposed to increase by \$130,001 (22.3%) in 2021/22, with salary and benefit changes consistent with addition of an officer to the unit. I noted in the reviewing the budget that there are line items for police operations outside the VicPD operating budget, e.g., the Late Night program and special duty policing. The omission of these items from the high-level rollup for the VicPD skews percentage of policing operations. All items related to policing should be appropriately included in the determination of the percentage of policing operation dollars in the overall City budget, and the total dollar amount for policing. It's impossible to see trends over time without more data on past years' expenditures. A one-time increase to address a short-term issue is different than a steady increase over decades, as is the case with VicPD operations.

Again, many of the projects are outside the scope of what I believe is a city mandate. Affordable housing is great, but the province MUST lead that and

provide the funding. We must move away from the this critical overreach over the last 5 years - I don't know if it's the province refusing to address these issues or if it's the city playing wanting the glory, but we cannot afford the utopia we want alone.

I'm completing this survey to express discomfort about the increase in the Victoria Police budget and would have liked the opportunity to comment in the survey.

Transparency

materials are very superficial or require special knowledge. they do not seem designed to actually educate working class people.

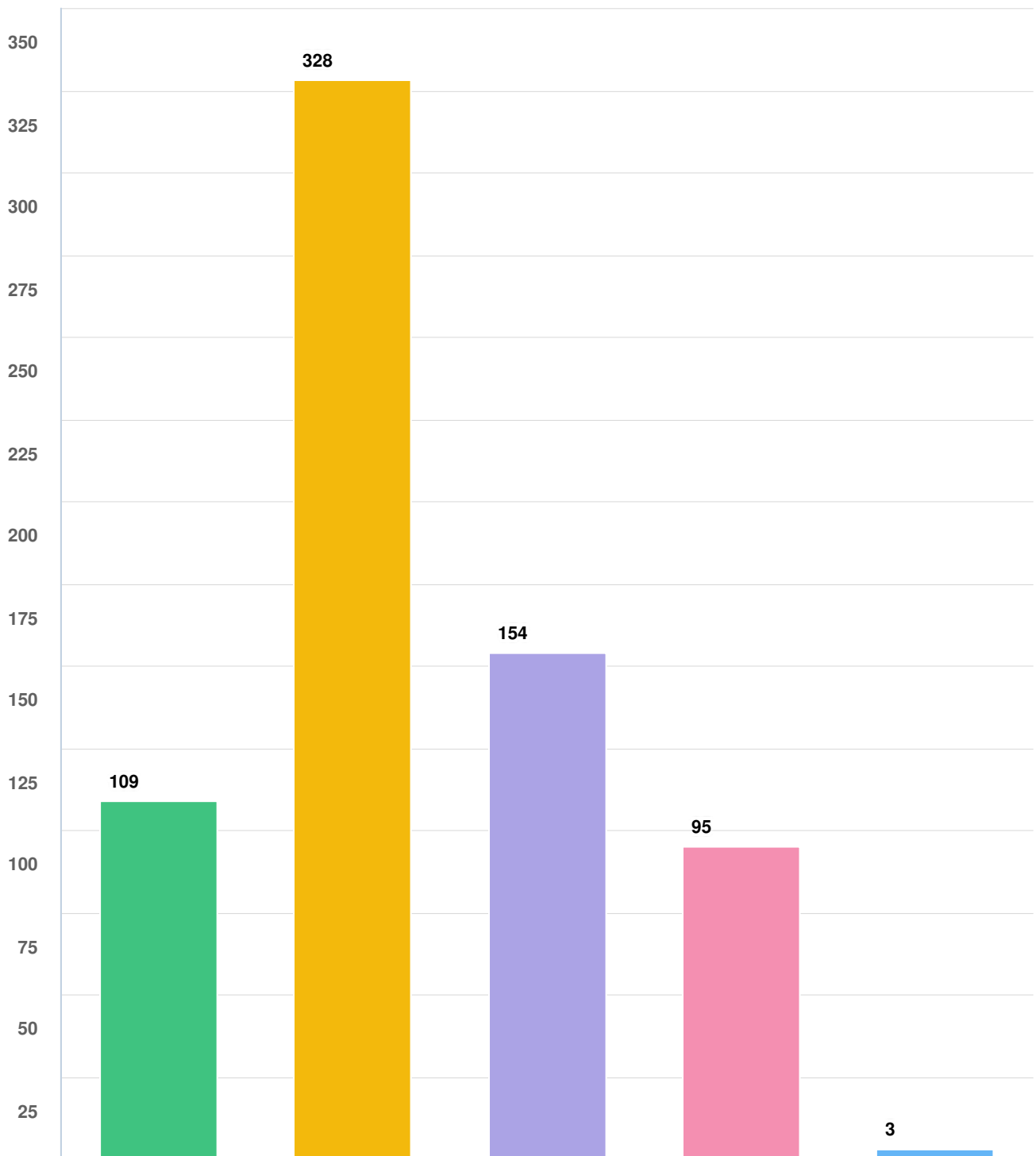
845 pages is way too much to digest for most people. Appreciated the summary,

It's hard to tell how things that I see in the city are funded like arts programs and affordable housing.

Optional question (70 response(s), 639 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q14 Please indicate your age group:



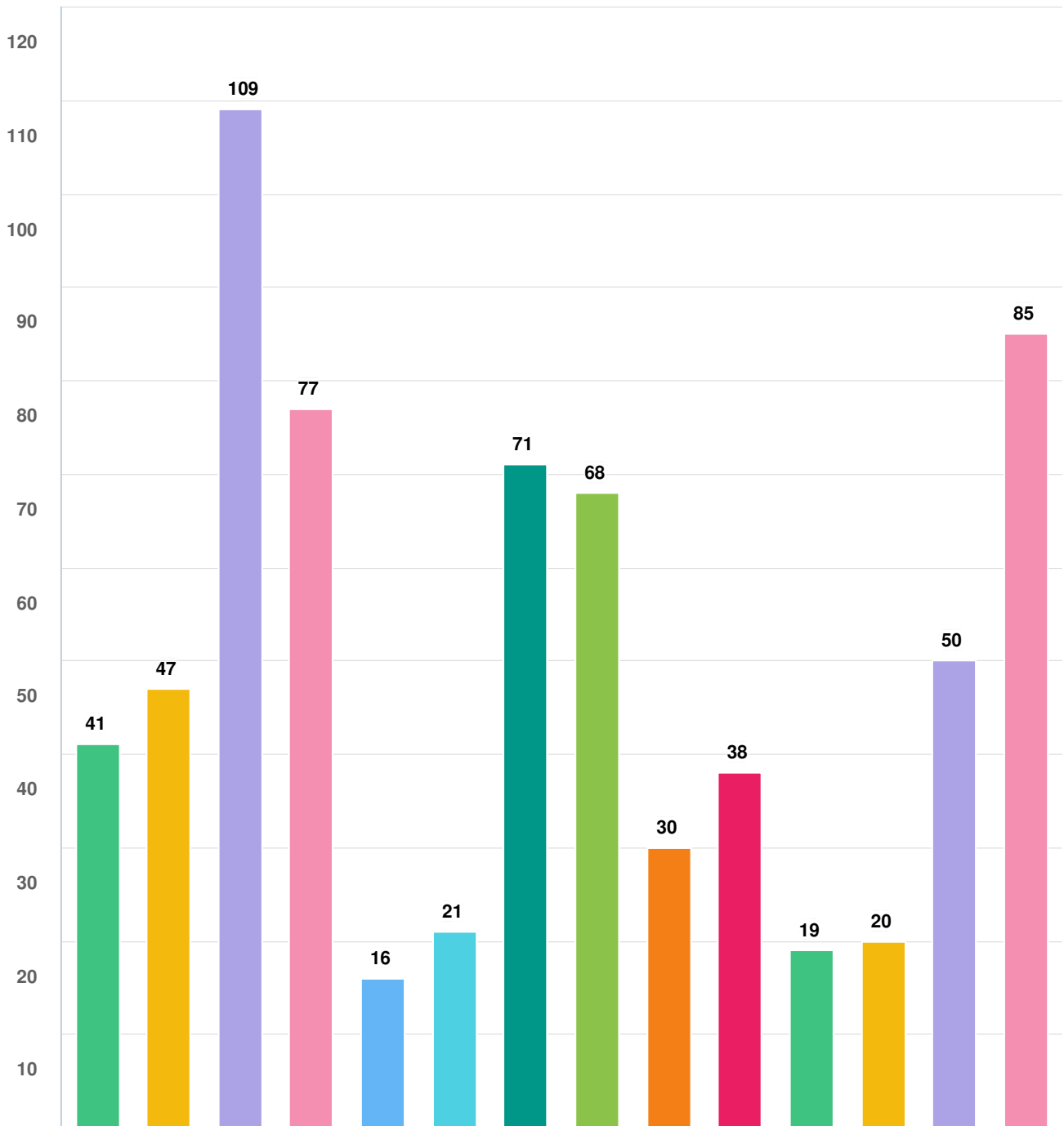
Question options

- 80 + ● 60 - 79 ● 40 - 59 ● 25 - 39 ● 12 - 24

Optional question (689 response(s), 20 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q15 Which neighbourhood do you live in? (Check this map if you aren't sure.)

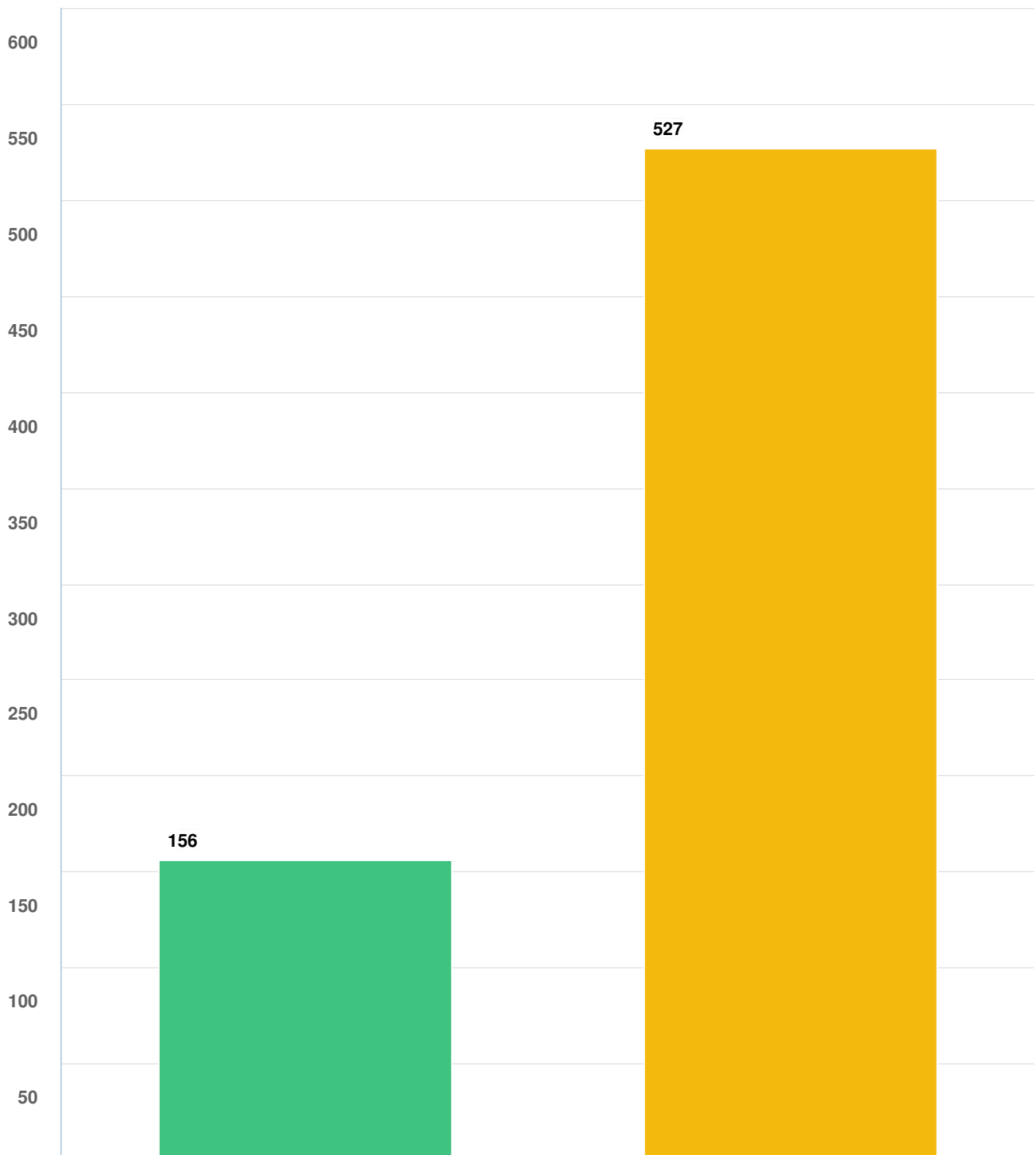


Question options

- I live in another municipality (please specify):
- Victoria West
- Rockland
- Oaklands
- North Park
- Jubilee
- James Bay
- Hillside-Quadra
- Harris Green
- Gonzales
- Fernwood
- Fairfield
- Downtown
- Burnside Gorge

Optional question (692 response(s), 17 skipped)
 Question type: Checkbox Question

Q16 Are you a newcomer to Victoria (i.e. lived here for five years or less)?

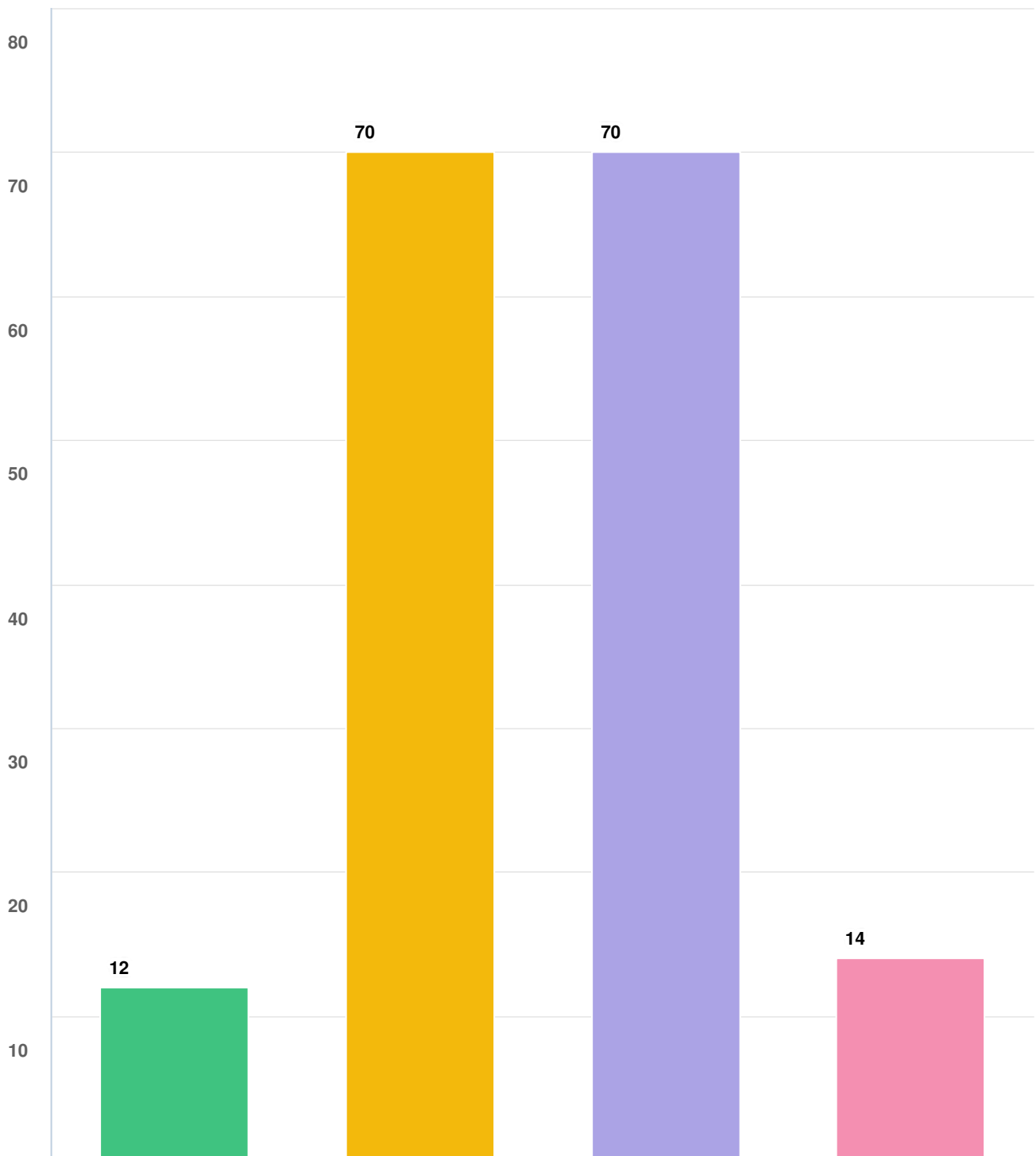


Question options

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (683 response(s), 26 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q17 If you are a newcomer to Victoria, where did you move from? (If you are not a newcomer, please skip this question.)

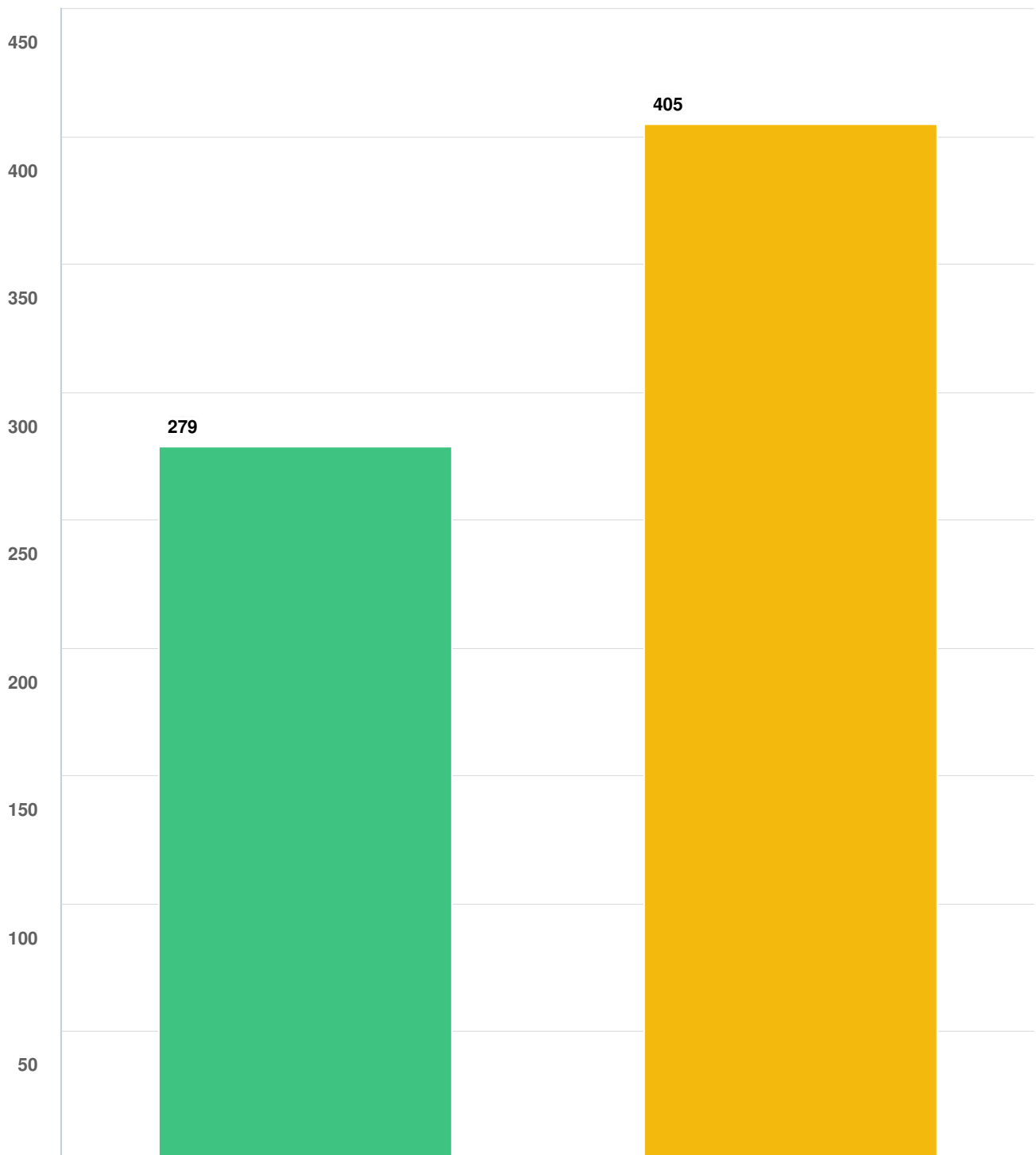


Question options

- Outside of Canada
- Within Canada
- Within British Columbia
- Within the Capital Region

Optional question (166 response(s), 543 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q18 Do you own property in Victoria?

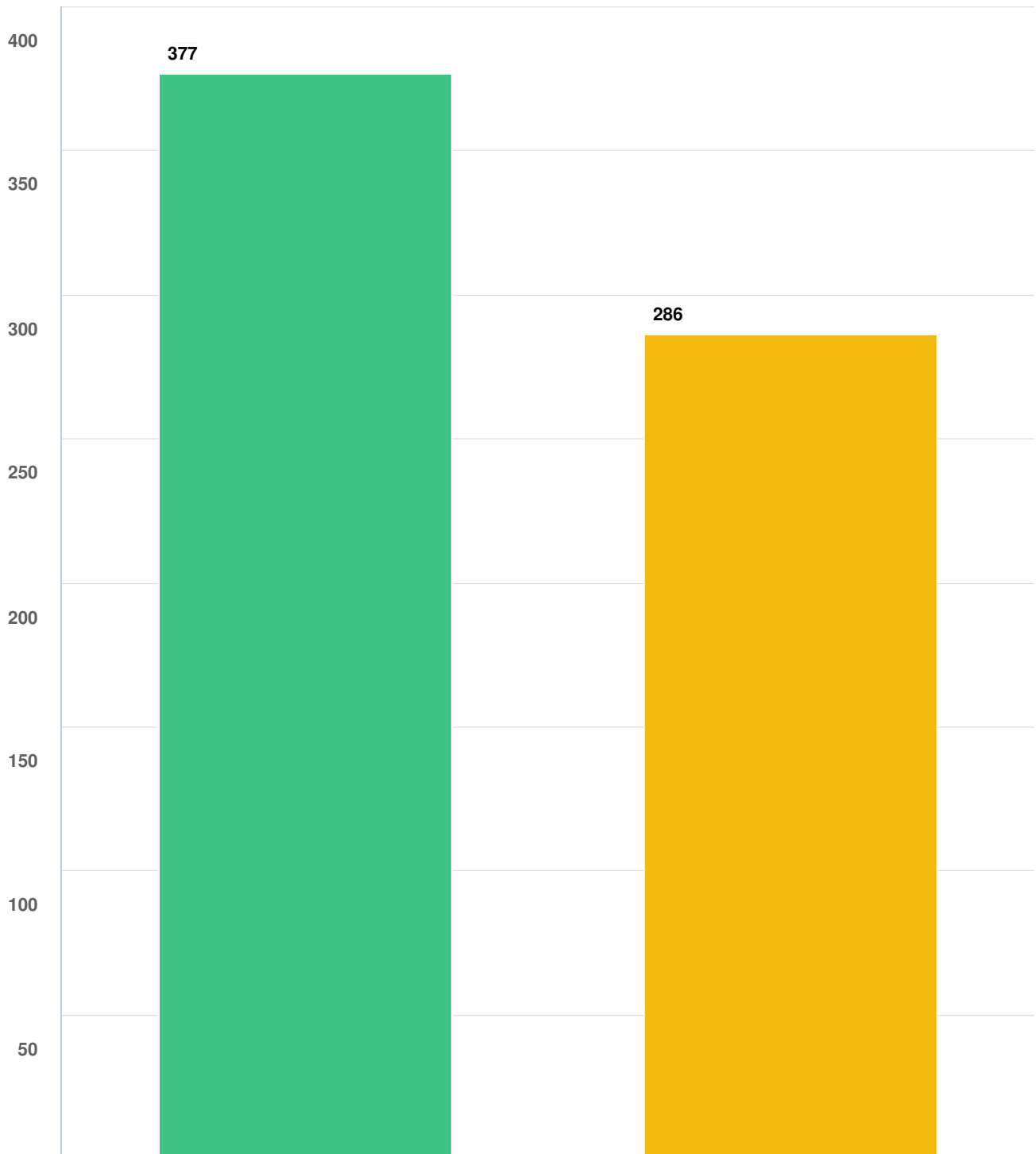


Question options

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (684 response(s), 25 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q19 Do you rent in Victoria?

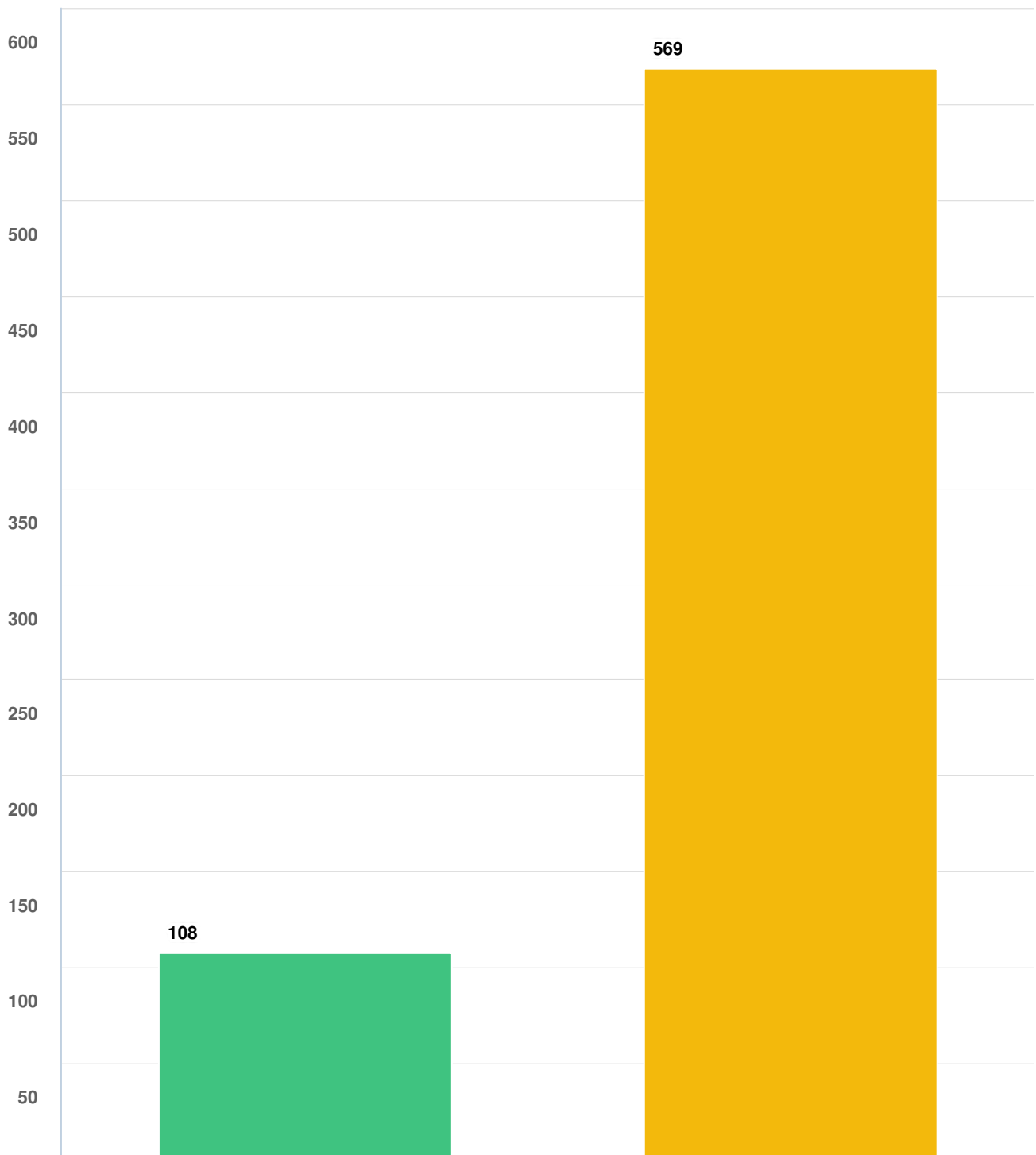


Question options

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (663 response(s), 46 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q20 Do you own or run a business in Victoria?

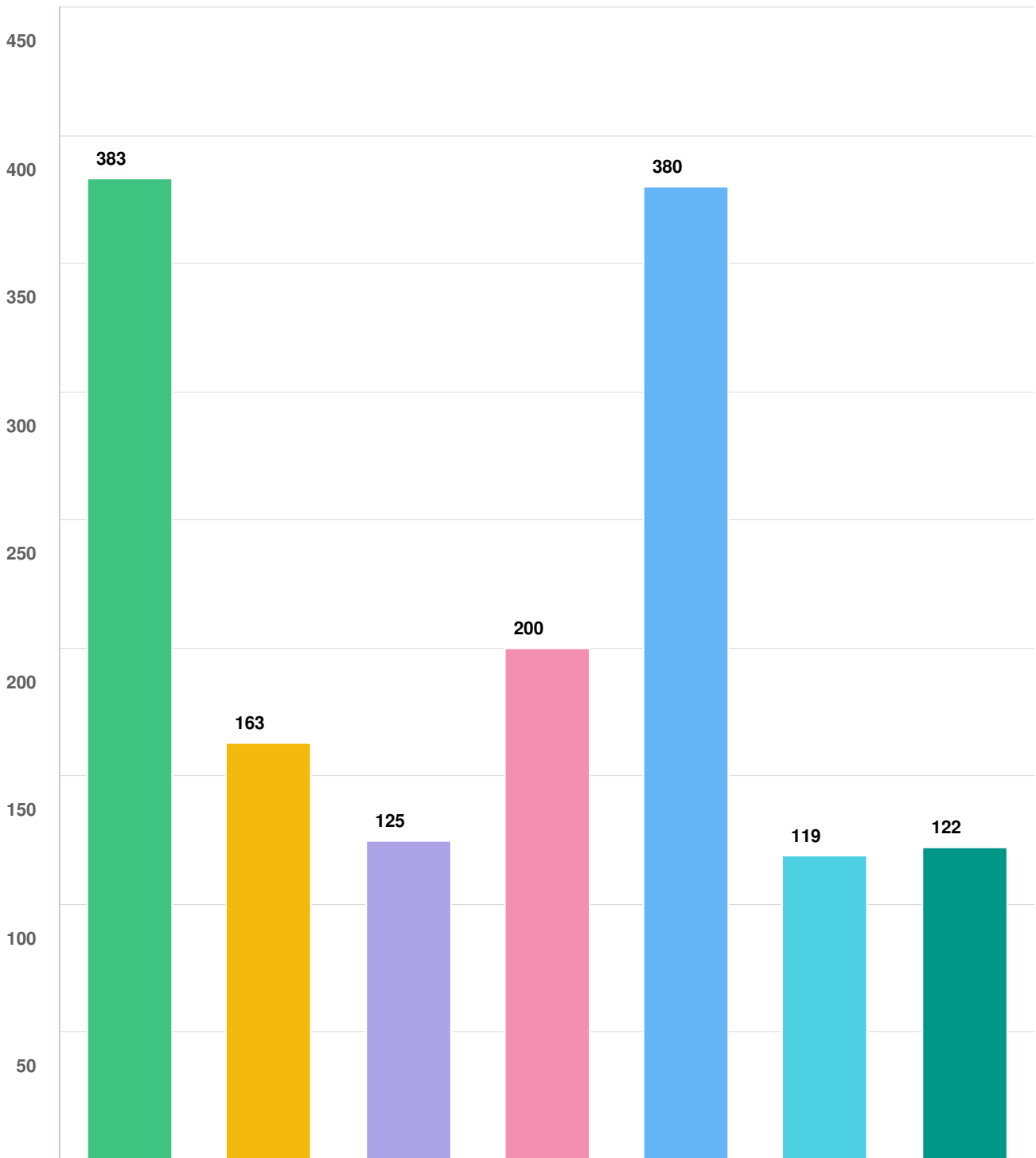


Question options

- No
- Yes

*Optional question (677 response(s), 32 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q21 How would you prefer to interact with the City? From the list below, please tell us which channels you are most likely to participate in. (Please select all that apply.)

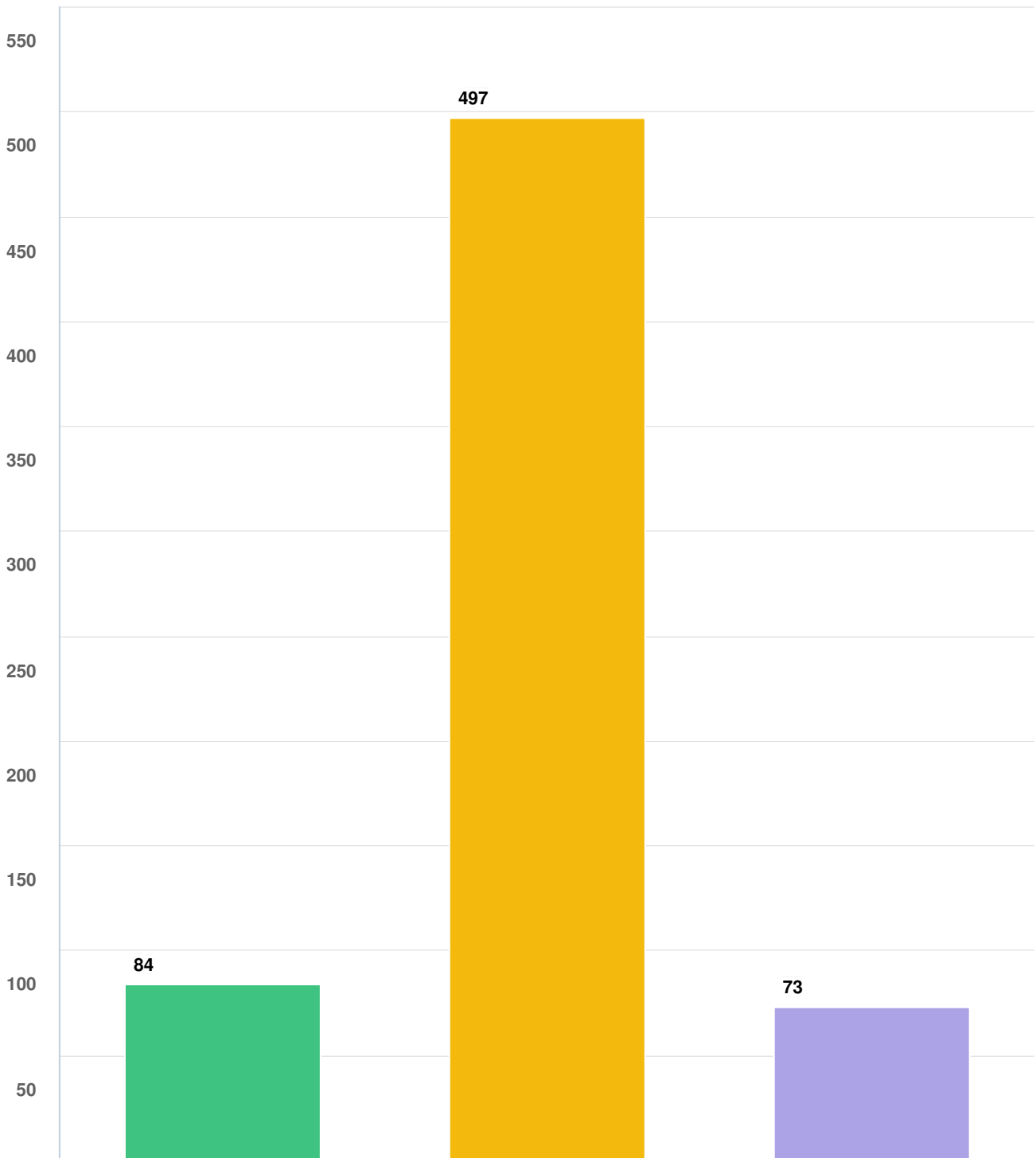


Question options

- Local radio
- Local newspaper
- Email
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Facebook
- City of Victoria website

Optional question (656 response(s), 53 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q22 Is there a community group or organization that you interact with that would benefit from receiving and sharing information about City programs, services and initiatives?



Question options

- If yes, please specify:
- No
- Yes

*Optional question (596 response(s), 113 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*