



2022 Budget: Public Consultation What We Heard Report – April 2022

Project Overview

Under the *Community Charter*, every municipality is required to adopt a five-year financial plan, by law, before May 15 of each year. Every year, the Town of Golden releases its annual Budget Book describing how the Town will use tax dollars and other funding sources to deliver programs, services and infrastructure needs to the community of Golden. In preparing the document, Council and staff consider the needs and expectations of the community and corporation against current corporate Strategic Priorities. This sets direction on projects, levels of service, and overall direction to staff.

As part of this process, Council must also consult the public before the plan is adopted.

Engagement Overview

For the 2022 Budget, the Town took a 'Consult' based approach to public engagement. The IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum level defines 'Consult' level of engagement as a goal "to obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions." This includes a commitment to "inform, listen to and acknowledge concerns, aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced decisions."

Public engagement took place from April 12 to 26, 2022 and worked to achieve the following objective:

- By April 26, 2022 obtain input from residents on the 2022 Budget and Town of Golden programs and services.

The information collected is intended to help inform Council's decisions in moving forward with the proposed 2022 Budget and 2022-2026 Financial Plan.

Engagement Activities:

Due to changes and pressures in staffing, 2022 saw a condensed and expedited budget process. For the second year in a row, the Town used an online survey as part of the public consultation process in addition to traditional methods:

- An online survey was available from April 12-25, receiving 72 responses (19 more responses than in 2021).
- Members of the public were invited to attend a Council meeting in person or virtually. At the April 19 Council meeting, one person spoke to the budget.

Written submissions were also accepted by email and mail.

Communications Overview

The communications approach was to reach people through both traditional and digital mediums to inform residents about the highlights of the proposed budget as well as creating awareness of all of the public engagement opportunities.

Ongoing tactics throughout the engagement period included:

- **Website:** updates were provided on the Town of Golden budget webpage at golden.ca/budget and on the homepage. Information on the website includes the Budget Book, background information, links to news releases and a list of opportunities for residents to provide input. This information is still available on the website and will be updated with the What We Heard Report.
- **Newspaper:** The Town put out a news release on April 11. The Golden Star published an article based on the news release in the April 15 newspaper. The article was also shared on the Golden Star social media channels.
- **Radio:** due to timing constraints we were unable to run a radio ad during the public process.
- **Town of Golden Facebook communications campaign:** three Facebook posts were published in relation to the public consultation period, with one post being boosted as an advertisement. The three posts reached on average just over 2,000 people per post had 731 engaged users (likes, comments, shares, etc.) and had 250 clicks on links to the budget website for more information or to the survey.
- **Town of Golden Instagram communications campaign:** two posts (one of which was boosted as an advertisement), one Instagram reel and two Instagram stories were published in relation to the public process. The posts reached an average of 2,600 people per post and saw over 373 engagements (likes/comments/shares/saves) and had 40 people click the link to the website for more information and to take the survey. The Instagram reel reached over 3,200 people and engaged 114 accounts and the two Instagram stories reached 386 people. From the link in our bio, 12 people clicked the link to the budget website and 18 to the survey.

What We Heard

There was a total of 72 unique responses to the online survey, 15 of the 72 respondents identified that they live in Area A and one identified as living in Edmonton. Those 16 responses have been removed from the survey results leaving a total of 56 survey responses.

The following provides highlights and an overview of some of the key questions asked in the survey. Full survey results and verbatim comments can be found at the end of this report.

Survey Highlights:

- Themes from the verbatim comments included:

- Concerns with affordable housing and housing prices in Golden continue to be top of mind for residents a second year in a row. Added to this is general affordability, cost of living and inflation.
- People understand the importance of roads and water/sewer infrastructure projects.
- People highlighted the importance of parks and green spaces.
- Concerns related to air quality, climate change, the landfill, wildfire risk and emergency preparedness.
- Snow removal complaints were mentioned a number of times in the verbatim comments but when it came to the satisfaction of services, snow removal came in second as the top rated services in terms of satisfaction with 78% of respondents satisfied.

Demographics:

- The majority of respondents are full-time, permanent residents of Golden (98%) and own their home (77% own, 23% rent).
- We had respondents from every age category. The top three age categories of respondents were: 35-44 years (41%), 45-54 years (21%) and 25-34 years (20%).
- The majority of respondents live in a household of 3-4 people (48%) or 2 people (37%). There was a relatively even split between respondents with children (48% said yes) and those without children (52% said no).
- Only seven respondents own business properties in the Town of Golden.

Programs and services:

- The top 5 services that respondents selected that they think should be Council's top priorities in 2022 are:
 1. Roads and sidewalk maintenance and improvements
 2. Parks, playgrounds, freeride parks, green spaces and trails (maintenance and improvements)
 3. Community planning, development services, urban design, building inspection
 4. Municipal facilities (including recreation and cultural facilities) maintenance and improvements
 5. Water services (supply, distribution and water quality management)

The top five for 2022 is almost identical to 2021, with only the number five spot changing. Water Services bumped Recreation Programs and Services to round out the top five in 2022.

- When asked respondents to rate overall satisfaction with services, the top 5 rated services were:
 1. Garbage and recycling collection – 90% of respondents are satisfied (down from 95% in 2021)
 2. Snow removal – 88% of respondents are satisfied (up from 83% in 2021)
 3. Parks, playgrounds, freeride parks, green spaces and trails – 83% of respondents are satisfied (down from 86% in 2021)
 4. Water services (supply, distribution and water quality management) – 81% of respondents are satisfied (down from 95% in 2021)

5. Sewer services (collection, sewage treatment plant and lift stations) – 70% (down from 79% in 2021)

Year over year the responses to this question are similar although we see a slight decline in satisfaction across many services.

- When asked to choose to invest more, less or the same on programs and services, the majority of programs and services fell into the “invest the same” category. There were two areas that were identified as areas to invest more:
 1. Road and sidewalk maintenance improvements – 47% answered “invest more” (down from 62% in 2021)
 2. Parks, playgrounds, freeride parks, green spaces and trails – 45% answered “invest more” (down from 54% in 2021)

These are the same two areas that were identified in 2021.

Communications and engagement:

- Respondents gave the Town a 3 star rating out of 4 (down slightly from 3.2 in 2021) when asked to rate how well the Town has communicated with residents about services and programs over the last year.
- When asked how respondents would like the Town to communicate with them, the top 3 responses were:
 1. Social media (82% in 2022, down from 88% in 2021)
 2. Town of Golden website (55% in 2022, down from 69% in 2021)
 3. Email newsletters (39% in 2022, down very slightly from 40% in 2021)

These are the same top three communications channels that were highlighted in 2021.

The majority of respondents heard about the survey through social media (89%).

Other Feedback

From the April 19 Council meeting:

- One member of the gallery, Mr. Wesley Routley, spoke to line 13 of the operational budget regarding Bylaw, Parking and Animal Control. He expressed concerns with the operating costs related to bylaw services.

Verbatim comments on social media:

- Well done. That's a lot of work.
- Please for the love of all that is holy put a sidewalk on 10th St.
- How's that Air Quality? Some days it's the worst in the province, but we don't discuss that much do we. Maybe something to add to the Budget talking points.
- Bike/ pedestrian lane from town to Nicholson?

Written correspondence: No written correspondence was received.

Next Steps

Council will review and discuss the public input received and revisions to the budget and financial plan can be made in preparation for second and third readings. The process will see Council pass

separate readings of the Financial Plan bylaw and eventually adopt it. Final adoption must take place before May 15.

Following adoption, comes setting the tax rates for the various tax classes in the community, this determines who pays how much in order to fund the budget.

What We Asked

Respondents were asked the following questions regarding the budget and Town programs and services:

1. Are you a resident of Golden?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
2. Where do you live?
 - a. Golden
 - b. Area A (Nicholson/Habart/Parson/Blaeberry/etc.)
 - c. Other (please specify)
3. Do you currently live in Golden...?
 - a. Full-time, permanent year –round
 - b. Full-time, just for a season or two
 - c. Live full-time elsewhere
 - d. Predominantly in Golden and part of the year elsewhere
4. Do you rent or own your residence?
 - a. Rent
 - b. Own
5. How many people live in your household?
 - a. 1 person
 - b. 2 people
 - c. 3-4 people
 - d. 5-6 people
 - e. 7 or more people
6. Are there children living in your household?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
7. What is your age group:
 - a. 18-24 years old
 - b. 25-34 years old
 - c. 35-44 years old
 - d. 45-54 years old
 - e. 55-64 years old
 - f. 65 years or older

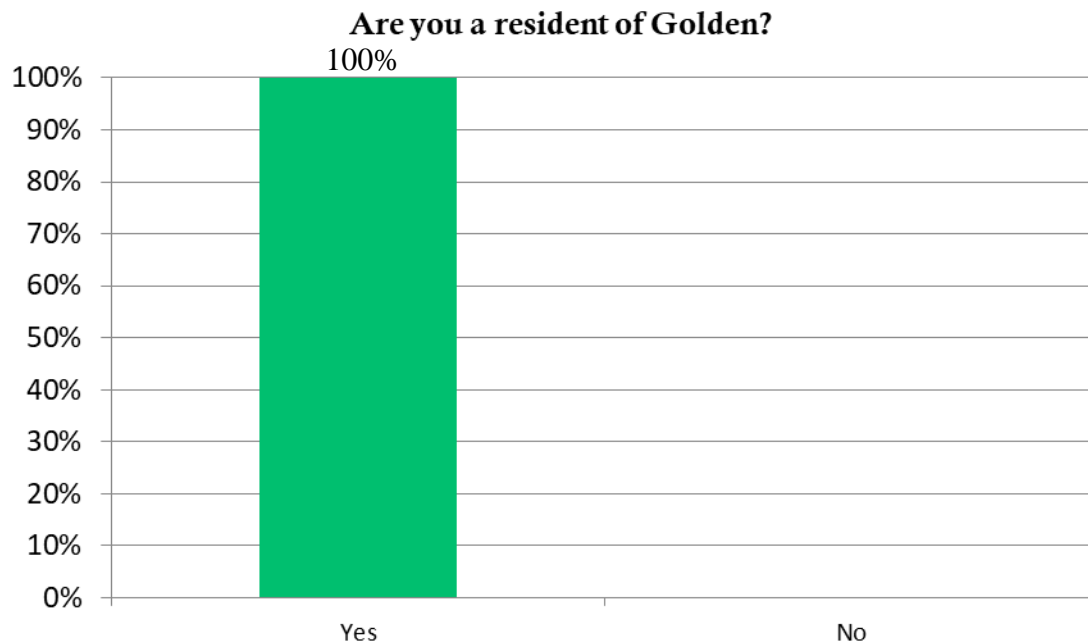
8. Do you own a business property in the Town of Golden?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
9. Have you reviewed the 2022 Budget Book available at golden.ca/budget?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
10. In reviewing the 2022 Budget Book, do you have any comments, concerns or suggestions on the proposed annual budget and proposed financial plan?
11. Of the services listed below, please identify five (5) services that you think should be Council's top priorities in 2022.
 - a. Road and sidewalk maintenance and improvements
 - b. Snow removal
 - c. Bylaw enforcement services
 - d. Fire protection services
 - e. Garbage and recycling collection
 - f. Parks, playgrounds, freeride parks, green spaces and trails (maintenance and improvements)
 - g. Recreation programs and services (ex. drop-in programs at Rec Plex, arena and pool)
 - h. Cultural services (ex. funding for Summer Kicks and Kicking Horse Culture)
 - i. Municipal facilities (including recreation and cultural facilities) maintenance and improvements
 - j. Sewer services (collection, sewage treatment plant and lift stations)
 - k. Water services (supply, distribution and water quality management)
 - l. Golden Municipal Airport
 - m. Community planning, development services, urban design, building inspection
 - n. Communications and engagement with residents
 - o. Corporate services (legislative services, Golden and Area Emergency Management Program and Golden Community Cemetery).
12. Can you tell us some of the reasons for your choices above?
13. How would you rate the overall importance of the following services provided by the Town of Golden (scale of 1 not important at all to 5 very important):
 - a. Road and sidewalk maintenance and improvements
 - b. Snow removal
 - c. Bylaw enforcement services
 - d. Fire protection services
 - e. Garbage and recycling collection
 - f. Parks, playgrounds, freeride parks, green spaces and trails (maintenance and improvements)
 - g. Recreation programs and services (ex. drop-in programs at Rec Plex, arena and pool)
 - h. Cultural services (ex. funding for Summer Kicks and Kicking Horse Culture)
 - i. Municipal facilities (including recreation and cultural facilities) maintenance and improvements
 - j. Sewer services (collection, sewage treatment plant and lift stations)

- k. Water services (supply, distribution and water quality management)
 - l. Golden Municipal Airport
 - m. Community planning, development services, urban design, building inspection
 - n. Communications and engagement with residents
 - o. Corporate services (legislative services, Golden and Area Emergency Management Program and Golden Community Cemetery).
14. How would you rate your overall level of satisfaction with the following services provided by the Town of Golden (scale of 1 very dissatisfied to 5 very satisfied):
- a. Road and sidewalk maintenance and improvements
 - b. Snow removal
 - c. Bylaw enforcement services
 - d. Fire protection services
 - e. Garbage and recycling collection
 - f. Parks, playgrounds, freeride parks, green spaces and trails (maintenance and improvements)
 - g. Recreation programs and services (ex. drop-in programs at Rec Plex, arena and pool)
 - h. Cultural services (ex. funding for Summer Kicks and Kicking Horse Culture)
 - i. Municipal facilities (including recreation and cultural facilities) maintenance and improvements
 - j. Sewer services (collection, sewage treatment plant and lift stations)
 - k. Water services (supply, distribution and water quality management)
 - l. Golden Municipal Airport
 - m. Community planning, development services, urban design, building inspection
 - n. Communications and engagement with residents
 - o. Corporate services (legislative services, Golden and Area Emergency Management Program and Golden Community Cemetery).
15. For each service below, would you choose to invest more, less or the same amount on the program or service?
- a. Road and sidewalk maintenance and improvements
 - b. Snow removal
 - c. Bylaw enforcement services
 - d. Fire protection services
 - e. Garbage and recycling collection
 - f. Parks, playgrounds, freeride parks, green spaces and trails (maintenance and improvements)
 - g. Recreation programs and services (ex. drop-in programs at Rec Plex, arena and pool)
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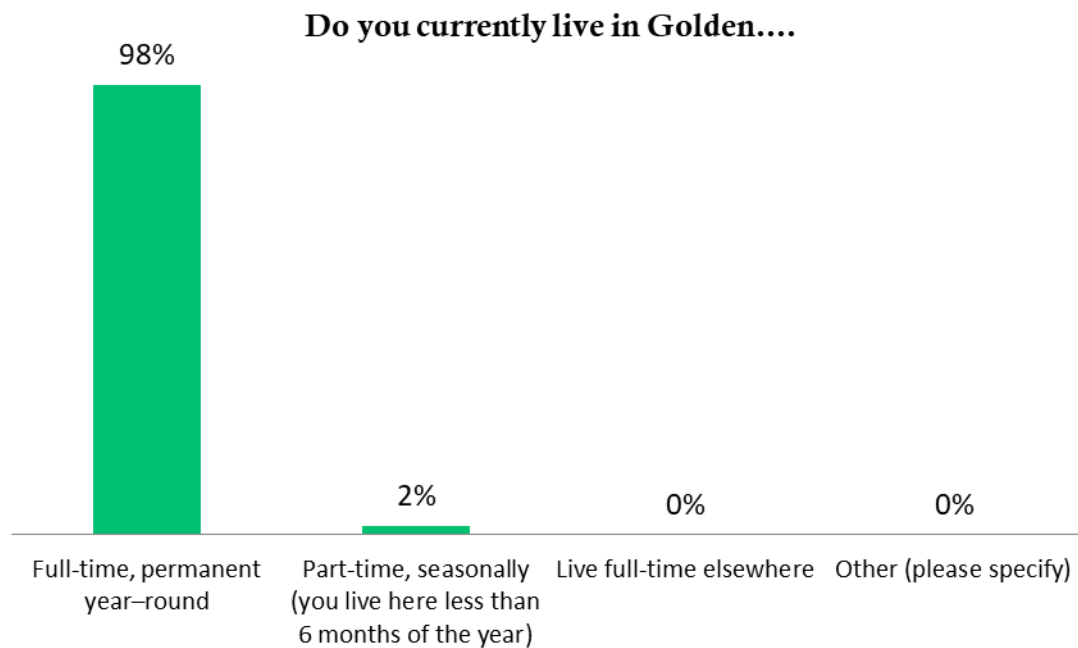
16. What do you think is the most important issue facing the Golden community?
17. Do you have any other comments for Town Council to consider when making decisions on the 2022 budget?
18. Communicating with residents is a priority for the Town of Golden. How would you prefer the Town communicate with you? (rank 1st 2nd and 3rd preferences):
- a. Social media (Facebook/Instagram)
 - b. Town of Golden website
 - c. Local radio station (Bounce FM 106.3)
 - d. Local newspaper (The Golden Star)
 - e. Email newsletters
 - f. Print materials in the mail (brochures/pamphlets/etc.)
 - g. Other (please specify):
19. How would you rate the Town in terms of how well it has communicated with residents about services and programs over the last year:
- a. Very poor
 - b. Poor
 - c. Good
 - d. Very good
 - e. Don't know
20. How did you hear about this survey? Please select any that apply:
- a. Facebook
 - b. Instagram
 - c. Town of Golden website
 - d. Town of Golden newsletter
 - e. From local news media
 - f. Council Meeting or a Town Councillor
 - g. Word of Mouth
 - h. Other (please specify)
21. If you would like to receive our monthly e-newsletter and stay up-to-date on Town of Golden projects, programs and services, visit golden.ca/newsletter or enter your email below:

Engagement Results and Verbatim Comments

Question 1:

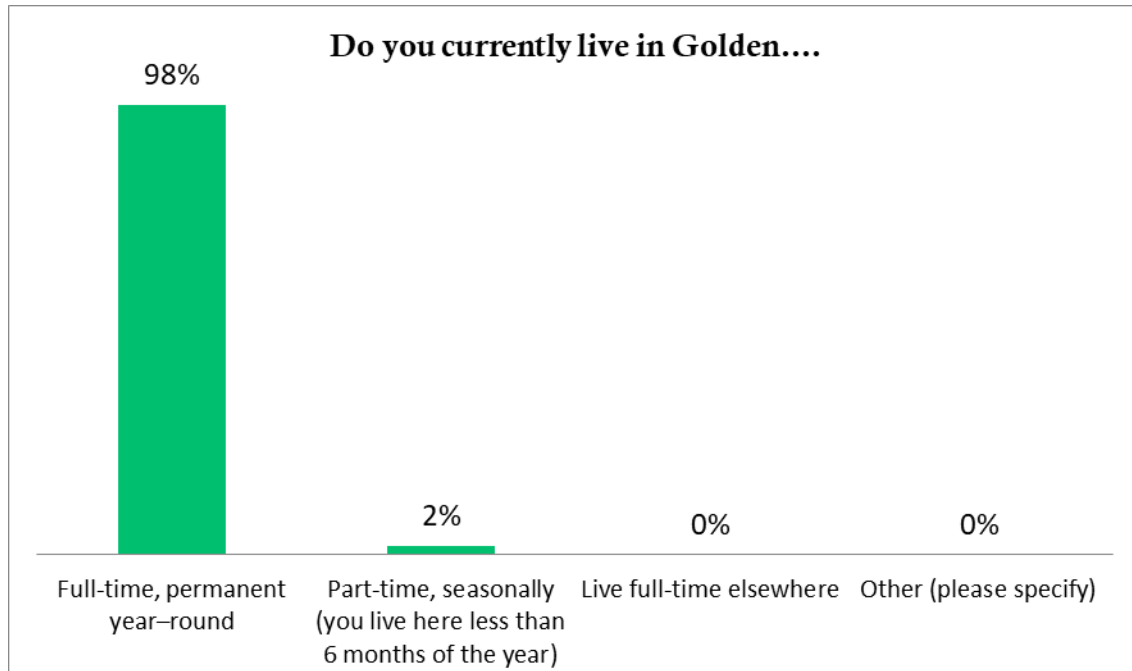


Question 2:

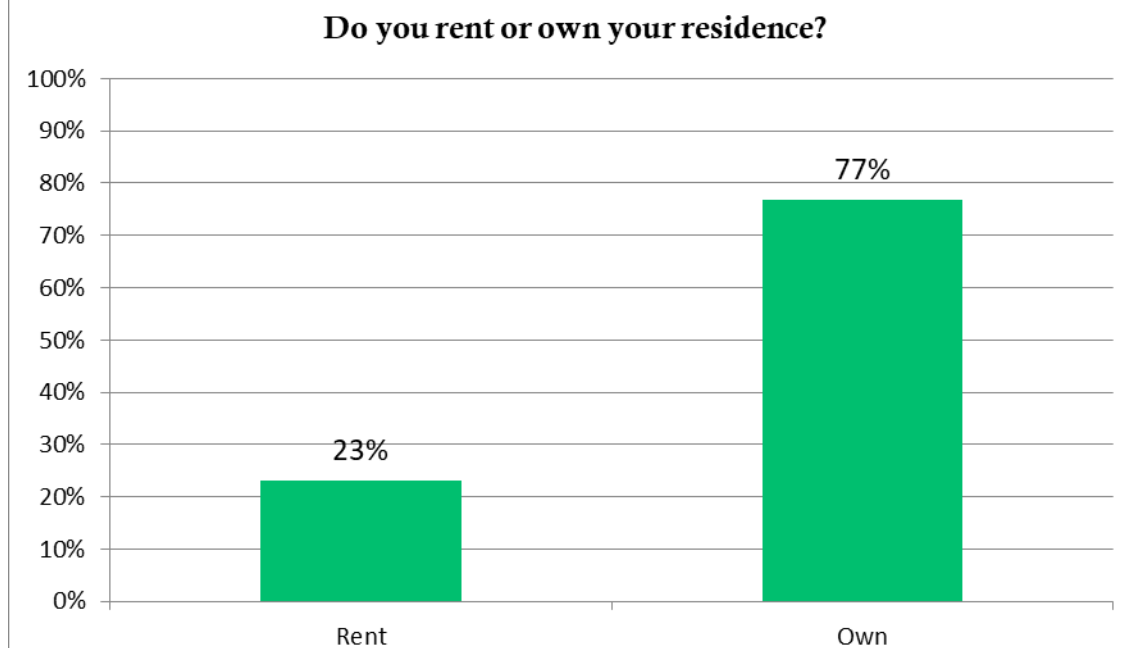


****Note: 16 people responded that they live in Area A/other they have been removed from the survey results.**

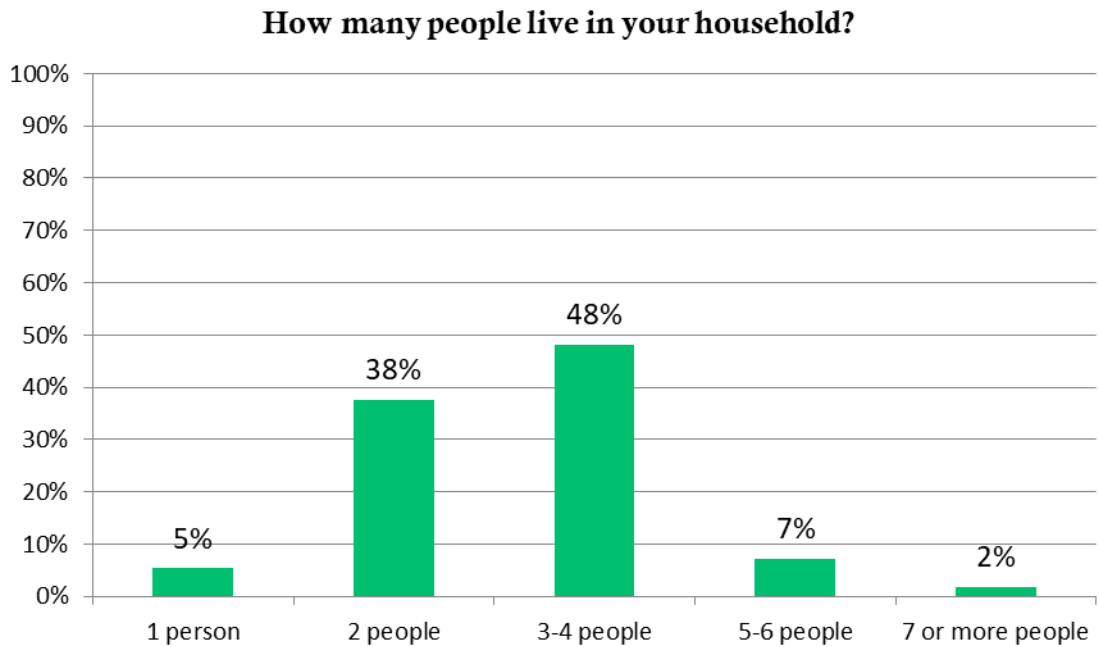
Question 3:



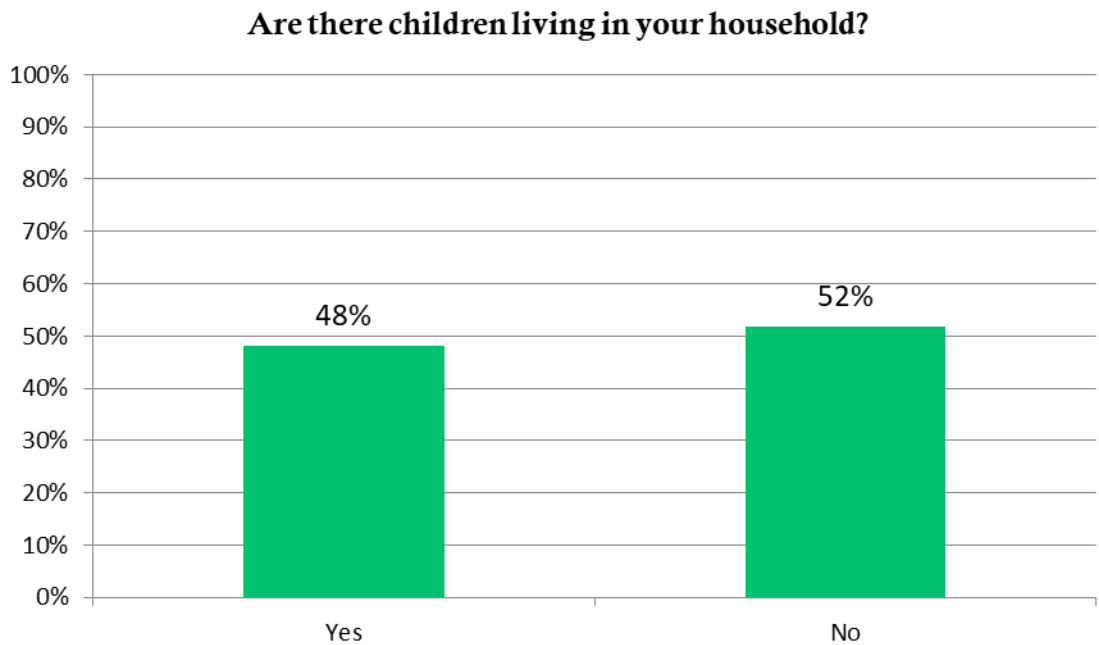
Question 4:



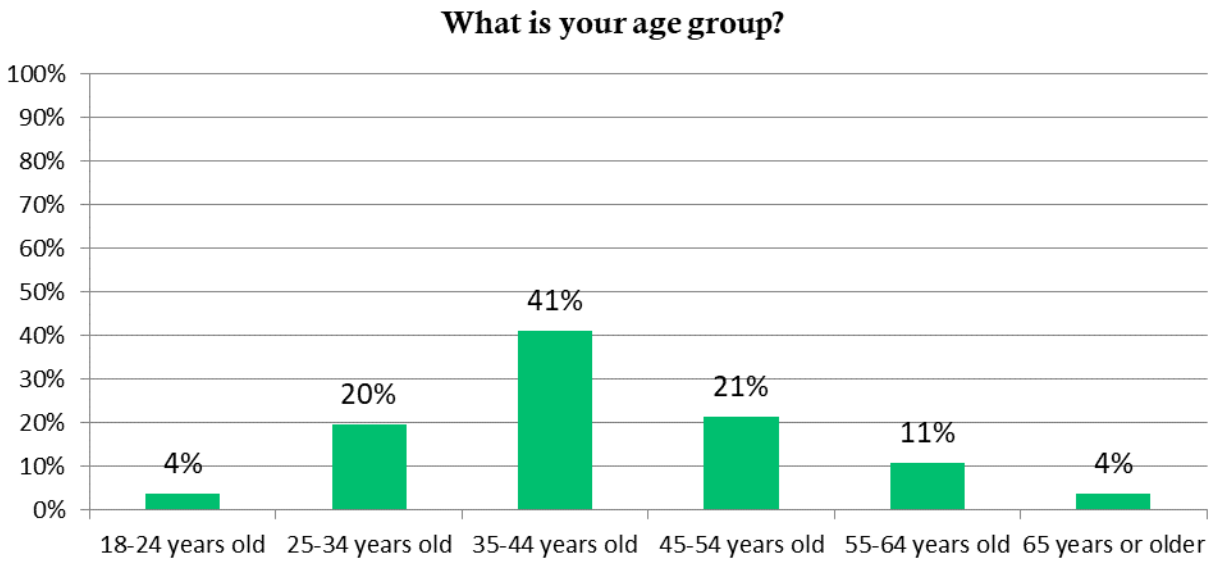
Question 5:



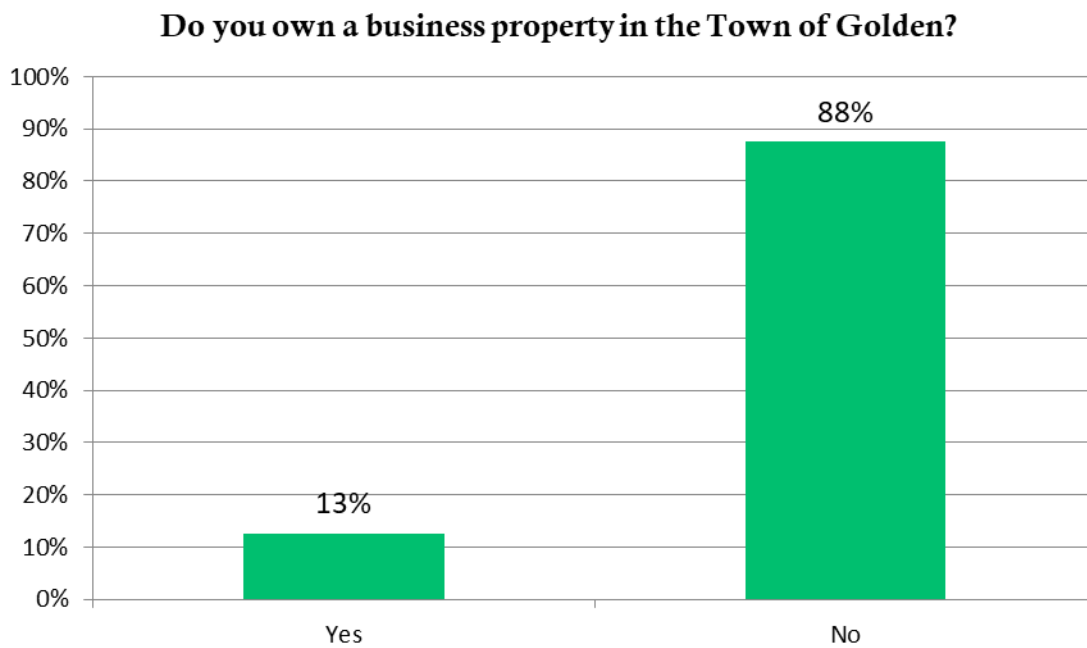
Question 6:

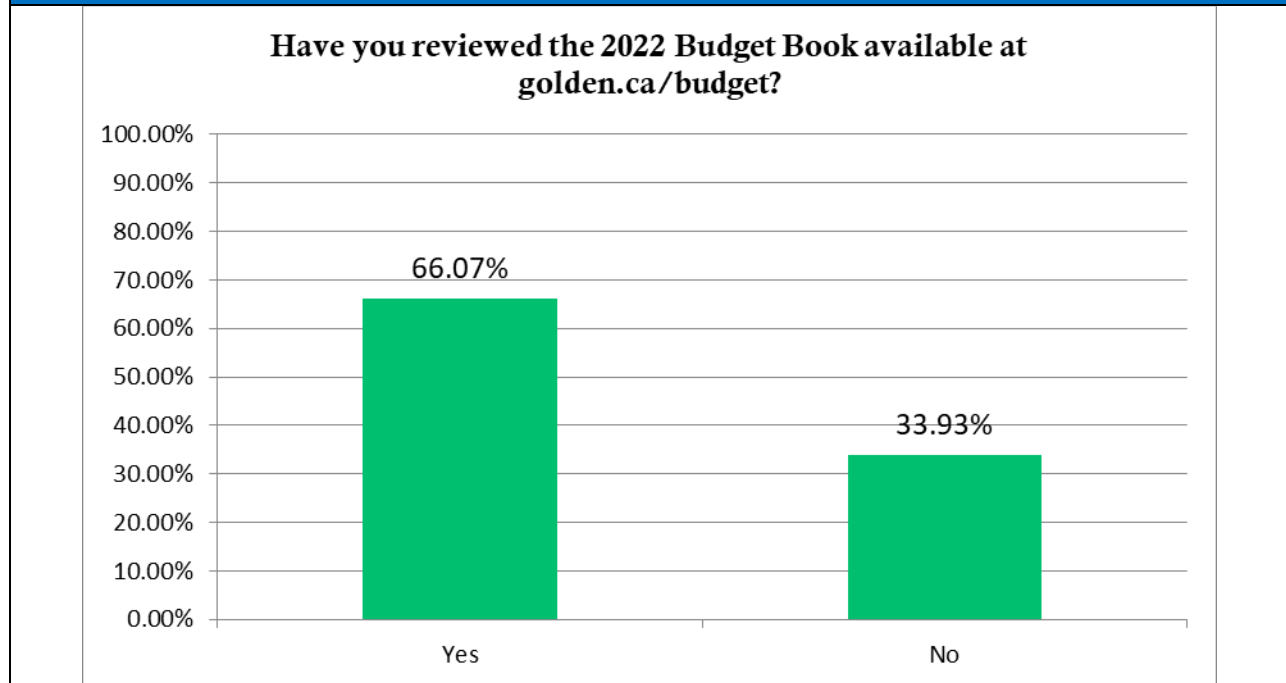


Question 7:



Question 8:



Question 9:**Question 10: In reviewing the 2022 Budget Book, do you have any comments, concerns or suggestions on the proposed annual budget and proposed financial plan?****Verbatim Responses:**

I guess I'll have to read it.

Swimming pool!

Snow clearing in town needs to be privatized. The town workers have done a sub-par job for years now and it keeps getting worse every year.

The IT expenditure looks very high

Peoples wages who pay the taxes are keeping pace with inflation, why are the mayors and councillors increasing more than those paying them.

Why does bylaw, parking and animal count too increase by more than \$50,000?

No comment

Council budget should prioritize housing. I would like to see a plan to enforce bylaws around airbnb and short-term rentals. Would be great to have a commercial composting program.

The public works and fleet budget will be very challenging to maintain with inflation, it assumes a short period of inflation (2022) which I believe is unlikely.

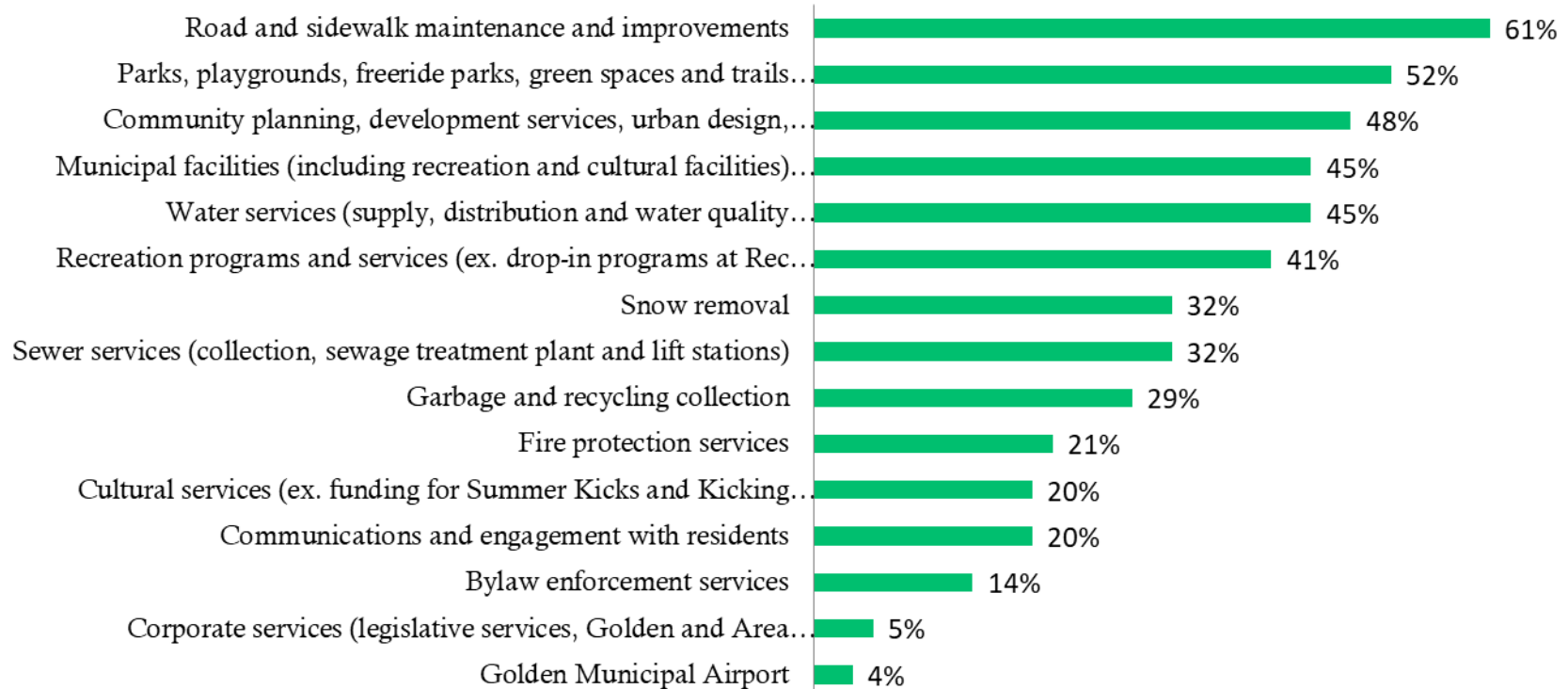
I would like to see dredging of the kicking horse occur. The natural state of the land town is built on is a braided river. Dredging or at least removal of material that is not currently wet will prevent the new dyke from becoming obsolete prematurely.

It seems like the town is adding more and more managers. All while keeping other management salaries the same. Too many cooks in the kitchen while still paying the CAO a very generous

wage.
golden is desperately looking for more new affordable housing, will there be new funding, rebate or subvention to make new housing more affordable which would help potential new homeowner develop in-suite or just make the rising cost of building less overwhelming
Good job
Inflation was acknowledged and the addition of two staff members but I'm not seeing an increase in wages for employees in the town. I would encourage a thoughtful salary review.
need to insure affordable housing is secured. Not let landlords lord over to make more money on the back of renters, including mobile home parks.
Fix side walk directly across from town hall for pedestrians. Concerned especially due to the high density walking area.
I'm worried about the increases in property tax along with all of the other increased costs of living while my salary remains the same. Also that my tax increase will be significant since my assessment went up 45% despite no renovations or other changes to the property
Considering the lack of certifications of the fire department members, I don't believe we should be paying career firefighter wages for volunteers who are not qualified. \$300k is a lot of money for volunteers who aren't NFPA firefighters, they should have to prove ongoing certifications before receiving approved wage increases.
Some minor typos, including the description of the Outdoor Rink Resurfacing being a copy/paste of that for the RecPlex floor refinishing. Also particularly considered with the Bylaw, Parking and Animal Control operating costs.
Have not reviewed as it shows an error failure to load message
Spend more on beautification projects
Selkirk hill is developing rapidly and some attention to the park and maintaining green space at Keith king field would be excellent!
Not my area of expertise, but the improvement projects looks promising

Question 11:

Of the services listed below, please select five (5) services that you think should be Council's top priorities in 2022.



Question 12: Can you tell us some of the reasons for your choices above?

Verbatim Responses:

Necessities

Keep it simple, focus on the essentials.

1. Many roads in town are in poor shape

2. Snow removal in town is slow and sloppy

3. Parks and green spaces are very important for our health

Believe that water and sewage are obviously pretty important and that infrastructure needs to be maintained.

I would like to see a year round pool service, improvements to the water quality, more programs for the children. Fire isn't going anywhere and I worry about our towns response to those in the areas around Golden, I'd like to see more of those in the blueberry protected.

Some of our roads are particularly bad and I'm glad they're being addressed, some more arterial paths through the residential areas would be great.

With the summer fire weather concerns becoming more of a season and threat, I would like our community to be ready to address fire concerns. Air quality in Golden is often horrible and is a reason we consider moving after almost 20 years of enduring it in town. The hwy kicks off a ton of dust and we should have regular washing of the hwy's and higher speed zones through town. Trees/shrubs and green foliage along that stretch would help with noise and dust reduction. It is an eye-sore looking up at hwy 1 from my house...greenery would also help rectify this issue. I guess it's a fine balance between fire reduction, air quality and aesthetics.

Water in Golden is of premium quality. I would like to see it protected and shared with the people of our community and Area A. I do not wish to see a bottling company move in and deplete this precious resource.

Lastly, our town is ready for an indoor pool facility. Can't wait to see it bring families together year round. Thanks so much!

One final thought is that there a bunch of derelict buildings in town that need to be torn down or fixed up. It's not okay that they sit in the current condition.

Housing should be number 1 priority, but that wasn't a clear option. My choices were based on that. I'd like to see a greater diversity of cultural programs. I would like to see the diversity of the residents of Golden represented. An indoor pool would be a great thing for the community, especially as the active community needs a good low impact exercise option while recovering from injuries.

I think that present a clean and environmentally friendly town is important for tourism and resident care.

Snow removal this year was worst year in a long time when service was below average.

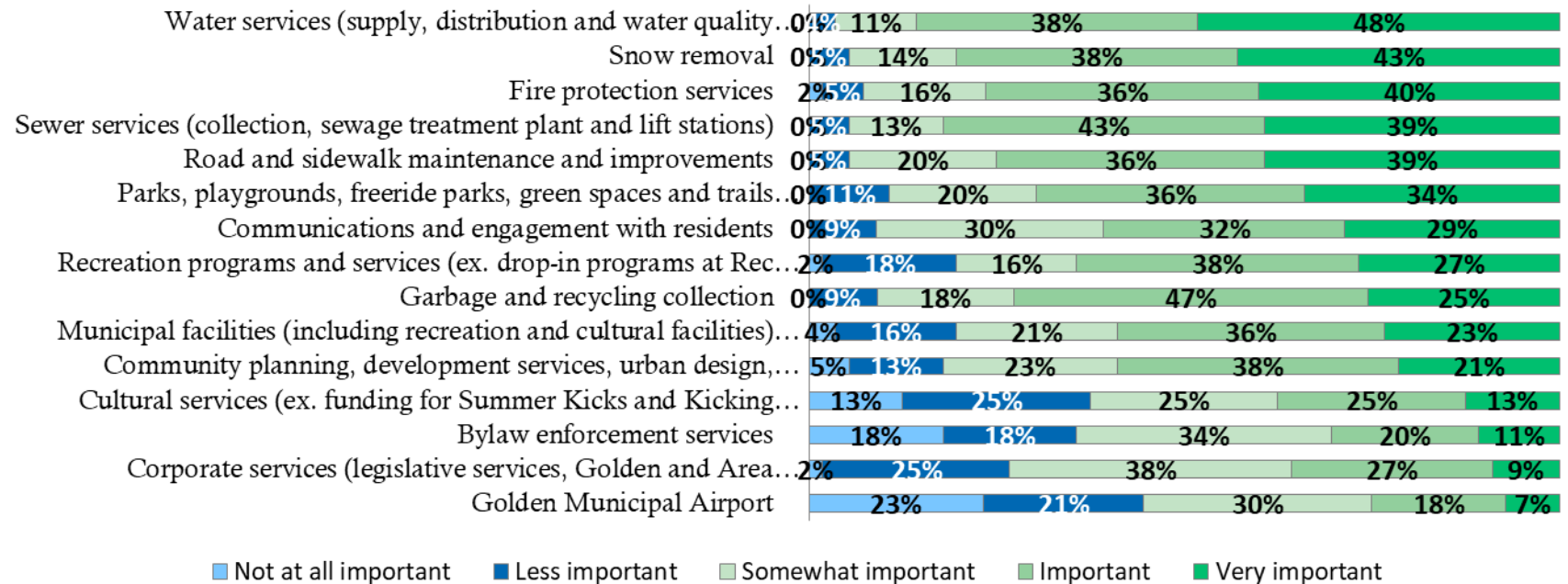
These are the services critical to a healthy community. Residence of Golden continue to struggle with affordability, quality jobs, and housing. A large reduction in the quantity of Air bnbs within town and stricter policy enforcement is needed. Becoming a store of value/investment haven for people living in

stronger local economies will continue hurt the working class and harm local businesses that cannot find people to work for them.
Roads need work
The town seems to be growing and our amenities need to reflect that.
Maintaining existing infrastructure is more important than adding new infrastructure
Our street are falling apart, we don't have very many sidewalks in town and it seems the town is hiring beyond its' means.
Concerned about the amount of garbage Golden and Area A put into the unlined landfill that is contaminating the groundwater around and outside of the landfill boundary. This is heading to Towns drinking water. The town needs to do more to reduce the waste the town produces and push to have a landfill that is properly lined and follows a ministry Guidelines. With the limited space for Golden to expand, how does the landfill affect community planning?
These are areas I feel are important to me as a resident
government have made acommodation a top priority in the country and i believe we whould do the same in golden, there should not be 20 persons messaging a land owner whenever there is an affordable house going on a rent. can you on a municipal level have bylaw in accordance with the apraisal of a building versus a maximum cap on rentals price ?
as for cultural services, i believe this is what create the face of a small town like golden, culture and diversity in municipality's activities and events.
Future directions for Golden seem to reflect the values and interests of younger, newer and "partial" residents of Golden who have outsized voice with the Town. We've lived here for 30+ years and I want an affordable, friendly community in which recreational opportunities and lifestyle choices are NOT funded by others. I'm not interested in Golden becoming a destination for tourists while deep-pocketed newbies drive up the price of real estate. My kids will never afford a home in Golden. So, every time I see a new online survey I fear the impact of limited voices that will lead to massively increased property taxes to fund a bloated municipality that operates with little accountability. For example, the survey for the transport plan was excessively long, but ludicrously vague and makes me fear for the future. What will it really mean? Do you plan to close the road to Selkirk Hill so there's more room for bikers? Be transparent and clear, and employs referendums so all residents can have a voice on specific issues. BTW, with the new pool referendum, will you have updated costs that reflect the inflated construction and maintenance costs?
Garbage and recycling is very important and needs to be disposed of correctly and sustainably. I'd also like to see COMPOST options in our pickup services.
Road & sidewalk maintenance long overdue; Town can't function without adequate snow removal; keep people / families outside; Sewage collection should always be a priority; Water is life.
Good for the kids and me.
Gotta get the fundamentals covered before adding the fancy toppings
So many roads and sidewalks need work - and snow! Oh the snow! We need more resources here. Children and adult recreation outside of 'core working hours' - the Rex Plex and others are largely inaccessible for
Folks who work m-f 8-6. I would love the town to explore recycling pick up weekly and garbage every other week.
A side walk in upper Donald going form the rest area to the sky bridge would be amazing. It's getting super busy up here. Too many people at risk of getting hit in the hill (just before dump by pine drive).

Our pool is dying, the town is growing and demand for activities is going up. We also need more affordable housing like rent controlled apartments
Most of the other items are adequately, or overfunded. Parks, recreation, and sidewalks/trail infrastructure items have been in need of new investment for a long time
Need to maintain freedom. Saw nothing about keeping affordable housing affordable.
Sidewalk directly across from town hall is a hazard. Lots of foot traffic due to hospital, town hall and commercial business
This town looks like a shit hole
We need to come up with a growth plan that will not make our town unaffordable for those already living and working here.
1) It's hard for bylaw to do her job when she doesn't leave her office. Why did we hire someone who doesn't want to walk the beat? We are not getting what we paid for.
2) Future planning should be on the forefront considering how fast Golden is moving into the future. Messing it up now like previous councils have would be detrimental for all of us.
Public engagement is quite low in Golden. We're nearing an inflection point for Golden's development, and with it we need to see improved infrastructure and amenity access.
Need services
Top priorities are essential services
Invest in making the town a nicer place to live
Arts and culture make this town.
Revitalizing community green spaces and parks benefits all ages. Since we don't have an indoor pool, all of these places are even more important!
One of Golden's strengths is its ties with the outdoors and improving outdoor spaces (especially with the ongoing pandemic) will really improve Golden's liveability and community experience
Everything is important, I didn't really kite to choose just 5. The communications aspect seems wasteful, but then again a thriving community necessitates people being informed and engaged. One thing I'm missing is an air quality "service". We need real leadership from the town here, district heating, etc. Otherwise, despite all the excellent services offered by this town, we will leave.

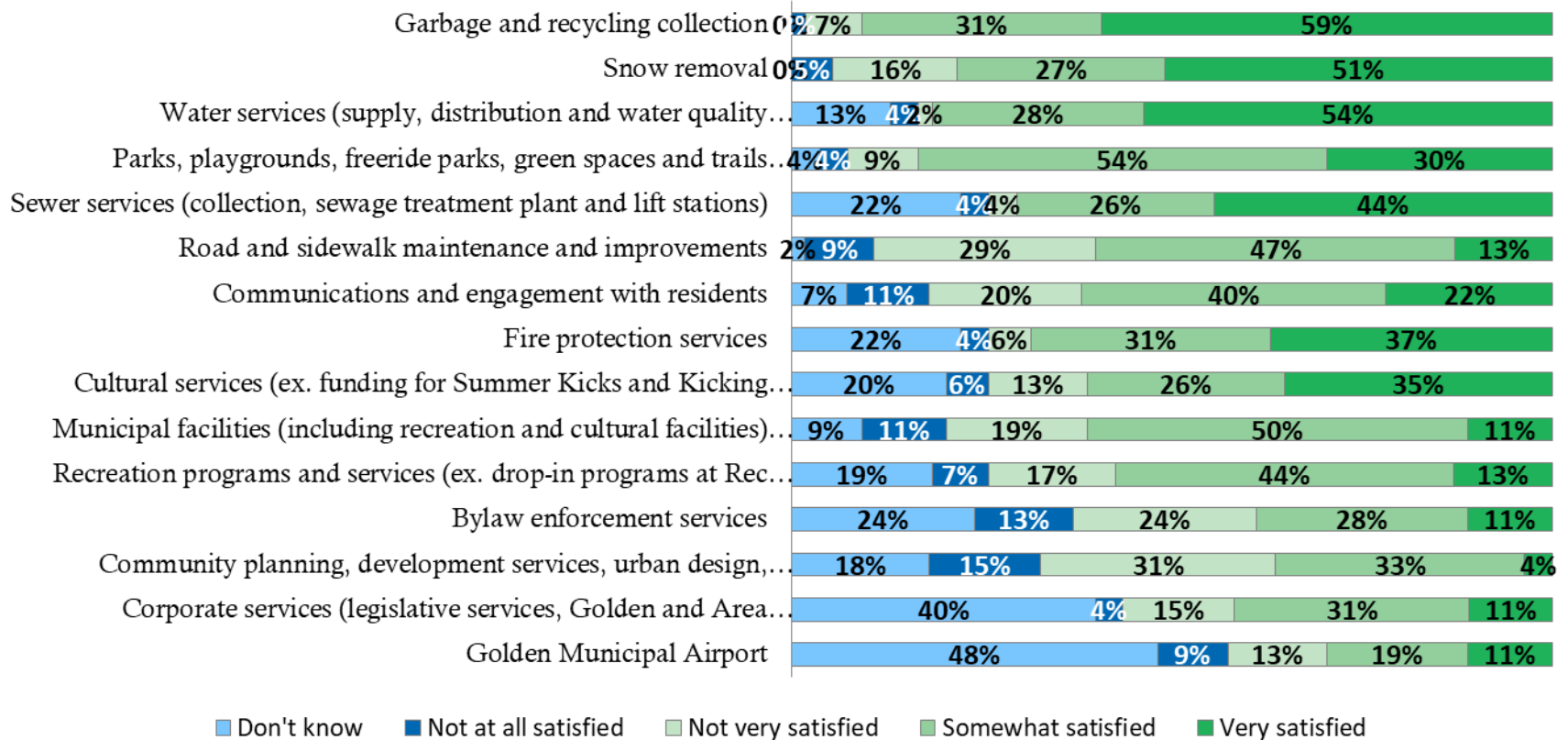
Question 13:

How would you rate the overall importance of the following services provided by the Town of Golden:



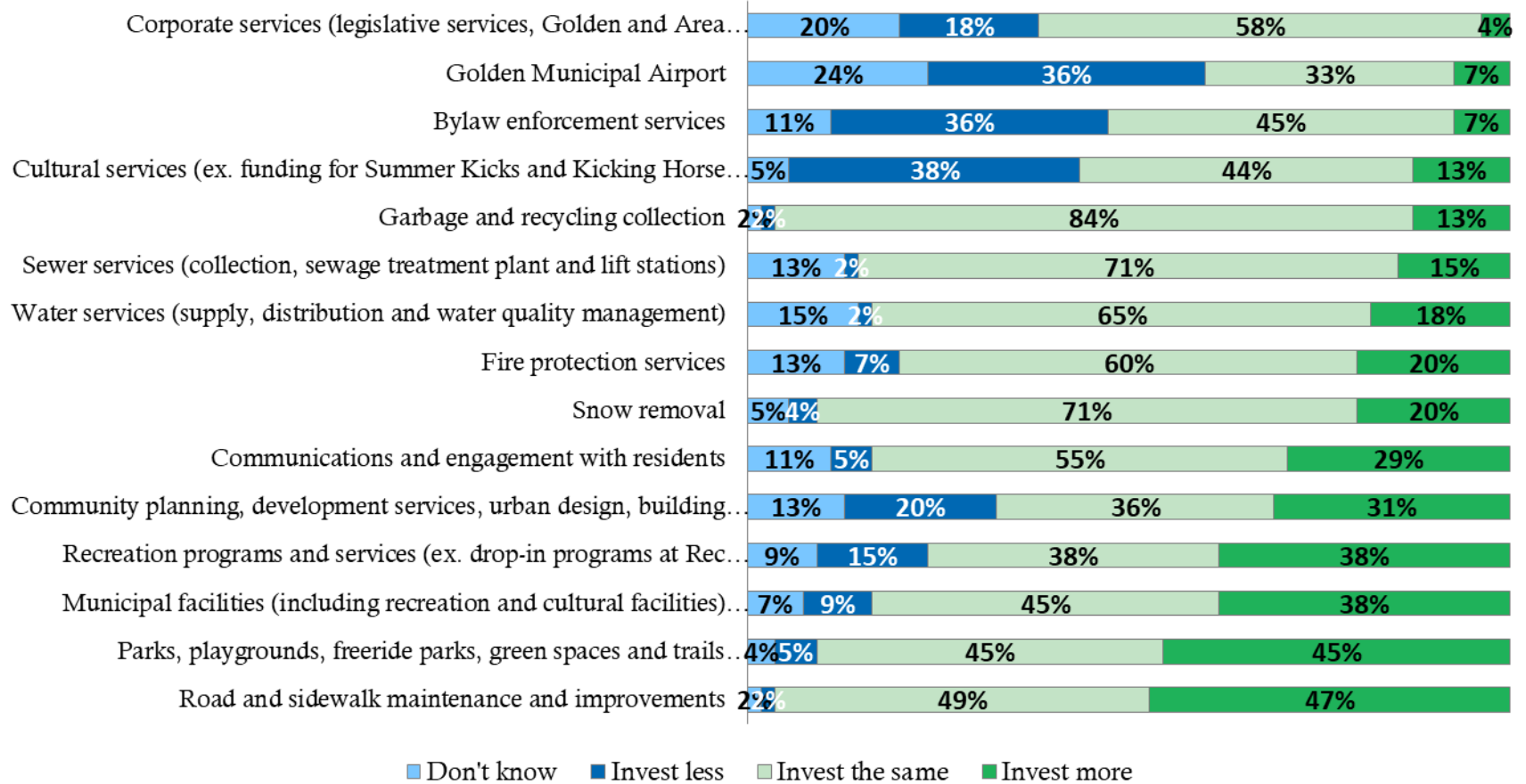
Question 14:

How would you rate your overall level of satisfaction with the following services provided by the Town of Golden:



Question 15:

For each service below, would you choose to invest more, less or the same amount on the program or service?



Question 16: What do you think is the most important issue facing the Golden community?

Verbatim Responses:

Water, sewage and traffic patterns.

Derelict, empty commercial buildings, affordability

River needs to be dredged more often

Increased rent commercial and residential. What is with talk the abandoned properties and storefronts? It's such a downer for the appearance of the town

The derelict properties in town owned by Jack Wong. That condo building across the tracks has been wrapped in tattered black plastic for 20 years. It's time to get something done about that. C'mon people!

Affordable housing

Lack of affordable housing and transportation

Cost of living rising faster than wages and gentrification

Sustainable, achievable growth that addresses current concerns of air quality, aging infrastructure and town beautification. Thanks for all you do

Year round pool

Housing!

Housing and air quality

Affordable housing!

Over populated houses.

Derelict buildings. Eye sores in town that need to be dealt with.

Affordable living (housing)

Price of housing

Housing costs

Access to affordable housing

Affordable housing

Maintaining aging infrastructure

Affordable housing and long term rentals. The town keeps approving luxury vacation homes/condos. These people primarily do not work or live full time in Golden. The town should stop catering to the rich and think about its' own full-time residents.

With the number of people moving to Golden, means increased need for services (water, sewer, housing, and more waste). Most significant concern is the contamination from the landfill.

Having a solid capital infrastructure and preventative maintenance plan

Affordable housing/ first home owner challenge

Keeping the small town community culture that's existed for decades. It's also important that we limit the crazy real estate inflation fueled by corporate builders and greedy developers. The world does not need yet another Banff or outdoor playground for rich Albertans.

Community indoor swimming/recreation building.

Climate change and waste management

Affordability

housing

I think we need an indoor pool and more affordable housing

Affordable housing, community wellbeing for all

BC wild fires in the summer. Community facilities and town planning for growth.

Keeping people here - I would love to see residential fiber internet. It would make telecommuting far more accessible.
"After Hours" family activities. Sunday and Monday the town is "dead". I wish there was extended hours and activities.
Air quality. Put a ban on installing wood stoves in new homes. Make residents who own old stoves upgrade.
Air quality, routes for bike commuters.
Affordable housing and a new pool
Lack of affordable housing
maintain and improve number of affordable housings. Prevent landlords from increasing rent rates and abusing renters, including in mobile home parks.
Zoning. Commercial property taxes. Depreciates property should pay higher taxes. Provide an incentive for commercial property owners to upkeep their land and building
No jobs, no homes, no daycare.
Our growth plan and how to ensure that local residents who work here don't get left behind. Ensuring that we are growing in a sustainable way so that we don't have to wait 45 minutes to pay at the grocery store and that shelves aren't bare and that we can afford to go for a meal in a restaurant and to pay our taxes.
Lack of transparency and integrity from Town employees
We must ensure that we stave off the "Weekender Effect"; our community needs to grow sustainably without letting current residents fall through the cracks.
Growth
Being able to afford to live here and housing
Lack of recreation facilities
Unregulated growth and housing
- affordable housing - year round recreation such as an indoor pool A growing community of young families need supportive services for all ages.
Terrible air quality- from slash piles, home heating, wild fires, dust to vehicles - it's brutal here and we may leave over it. It feels like it's not a priority for the town, despite clean air, just as clean water, is fundamental to our health and well being.
housing affordability and availability both in terms of rental and ownership options

Question 17: Do you have any other comments for Town Council to consider when making decisions on the 2022 budget?

Verbatim Responses:
Please make traffic flow effectively
Get the new bridge built
Crandall Acres, out on Anderson road is such an eyesore. Can't anything be done about getting that makeshift trailer park removed?
Please consider wage increases in council when those who contribute through their taxes are not seeing the same rises.
Indoor pool
Would love to see Golden be more inclusive of diversity. Would like to see more LGBTQ2S+ programs

and representation.
retraining of snow removal operators
I would like the town to investigate power generating sewage treatment plants (methane capture) some companies may be willing to offer the capital investment as a long term bond on some portion of the value of energy produced.
I would also like to see more clarity from water quality reports- specifically how does the minerals content vary throughout the year and which homes draw of which well system.
Affordable living
More police presence on the 95 during the highway closure I'd a must. There's sure to be an impending tragedy if nothing is done.
Administrative salaries have sure gone up but we are not seeing any positive results from this.
Think about the benefit for the whole community not just a small member within the "boys club"
Housing Housing Housing
My house value massively increased over the last two years (40% or so), as did everyone's in town. My salary went up 2% and with the inflated cost of living, my disposable income has actually decreased! I'm not interested in moving from the town that's been my home for my entire adult life, so PLEASE don't get greedy when it comes to property taxes. And keep the actual cost of living in mind when making future decisions regarding Golden's development.
Consider the Climate changed!
Don't stretch people too much, there's a lot of hardship at the moment.
Would like to know more about the wild fire plan. Would be great to see downtown become a visitor attraction. The new river walk is heading in the right direction. Would be great to see businesses start to take advantage.
A side walk along upper Donald from the rest area to sky bridge.
Stop investing in the airport as it is. Rotary aircraft and helicopter based businesses are the only users of the airport that come close to contributing to the local economy in a real way. Get rid of the fixed wing runway and use the extra land for a combo of parks space and housing
This isn't your personal play ground, get your shit together.
Please remember that yes tourism is important for our community but it's not the only thing. Not everyone benefits positively from tourism. Those who aren't business owners or workers just get increased prices and traffic and wait times and increased property taxes to pay for replacing roads and sewers etc. I fail to see how this is a positive for me.
The Bylaw Enforcement, Parking and Animal Control operates at a *95%* LOSS... \$100,000, net, up in smoke for a largely neutral public service... we need to reconsider the necessity of this service, or to restructure it so that the Town can address more urgent concerns than parking.
More focus needs to be on essential services & benefits for All residents. Road conditions throughout the town are horrendous, yet we see grants applied for & \$ spent on beautification projects that benefit a select few.
Defund the airport. Makes no sense to have a hardly used airport occupying some of the best land in town.
I would like to see some investment into the green spaces on Selkirk hill. (playground and protecting green space specifically). There has been incredible growth and the playground needs an upgrade and hopefully some landscaping to hide the water treatment facility. There are quite a few families that would benefit from this improvement and create more of a sense of community. In addition, soccer, baseball, and live kicks concerts draw a large number of people to the area that would benefit from this.

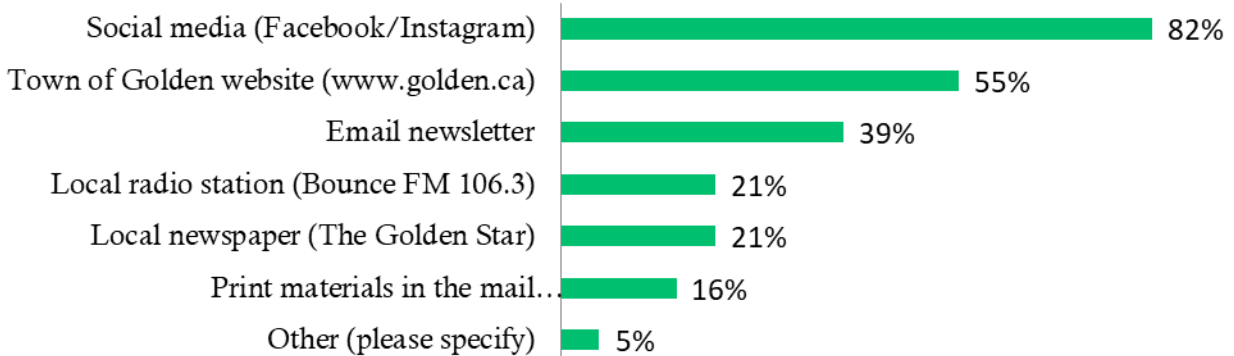
As the community continues to grow, protecting the current walking paths and greenspace is so important. If the sense of nature and natural beauty is lost there will be much less appeal and incentive for people to live and work in Golden.

Creative use of grants and town support would be supported.

Spend it on current residents, not tourists.

Question 18:

**Communicating with residents is a priority for the Town of Golden.
How would you prefer the Town communicate with you? Please select
your top 3 preferences.**



Other (please specify):

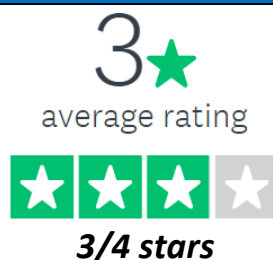
Reddit

Have councillors out in public on a regular basis to explain their decisions.

Town of Golden website would be fine IF IF IF you could easily find the desired resource through a search engine. The current search facility is awful.

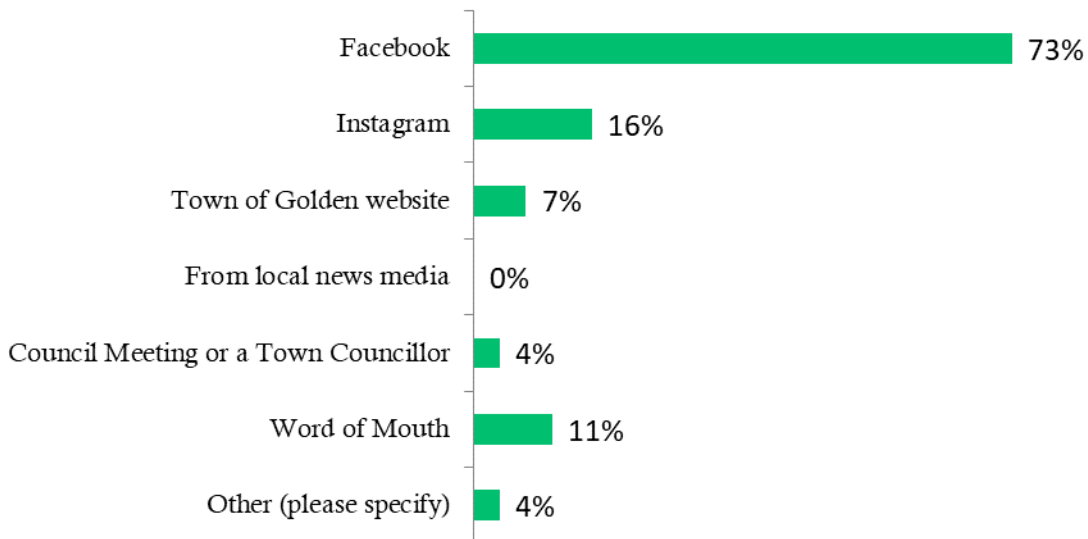
a website with an easier interface

Question 19: How would you rate the Town in terms of how well it has communicated with residents about services and programs over the last year



Question 20:

How did you hear about this survey? Please select any that apply:



Question 21: If you would like to receive our monthly e-newsletter and stay up-to-date on Town of Golden projects, programs and services, visit golden.ca/newsletter or enter your email below

13 email address were provided.