

Appendix 2: Citizen Budget Public Participation Results

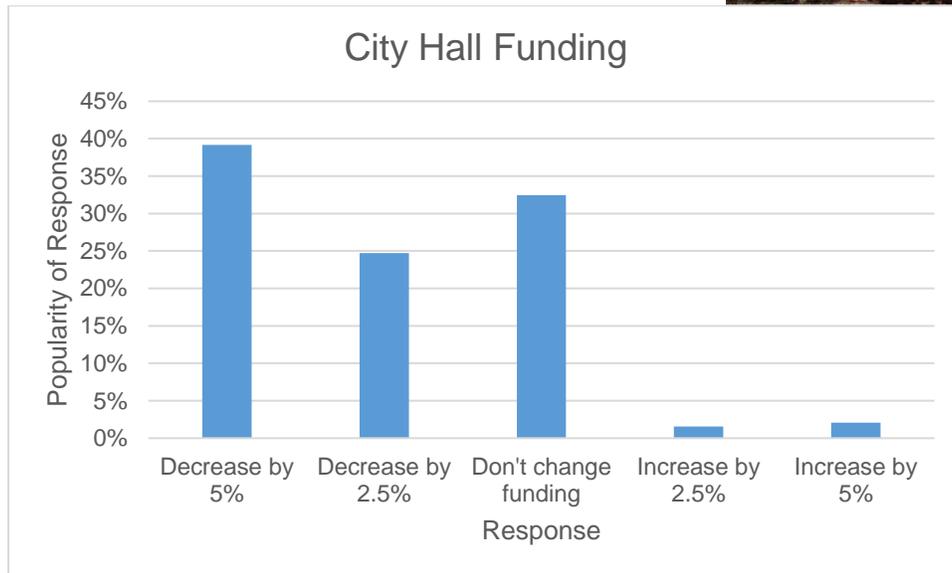
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City Hall Services

The team at City Hall provides customer service when residents come in to City Hall, coordinates community festivals, works to increase Chestermere's non-residential tax base and strengthen Chestermere's business community.

This category also involves public engagement and communications, legislative advice and support to Council, and internal administrative functions (Finance, Safety, Human Resources and IT).



Potential impacts of changing City Hall Services:

A 5% decrease: This decrease could mean fewer funds to help attract businesses (and build our non-residential tax base) and this may also result in removing components of community events, an increase in wait times when calling City Hall and cancelling mailed communication updates to residents.

A 2.5% decrease: This decrease could lead to longer wait times when calling or coming into City Hall, a reduction in the amount of communication material that is provided to residents, and may prevent the City from pursuing innovative ways to increase the non-residential tax base.

A 2.5% increase: Noticeable impacts could include an increase to customer service enhancements, more features at community events, and improved public engagement processes.

A 5% increase: In addition to enhanced customer service and an increase in public communication (that could include community signage), additional funding could be allocated to business support to help increase the non-residential tax base.

Comments:

Comments about City Hall Services
I believe there are a lot of efficiencies to be found in staffing levels and wages which could be found throughout all levels of local government. I think it is now futile to try and attract local business as east hills is way too close. This horse left the barn along time ago.
Administration at city hall currently does not serve the residents. To say we will see services cut if we cut city hall expense is a scare tactic. There is more room to reduce in this area it will take leadership that is creative and focused. I hope the new CAO has the courage to review and make the necessary adjustments. I have personal dealt with city hall employees and have never felt respected. I have seen the reports that were lined with untruths.
Although I would value these services if I used them, I just do not use these services.
Businesses will come when there is a need for them and city hall isn't attracting businesses any faster.
Chestermere
Chestermere should not be in the commercial development business as governments are inefficient at it. Attract private developers to do this. The industrial land should be sold to a private developer.
City Hall needs better hours to meet the community needs. Need a later time to be open (at least once a week) Maybe Thursday nights until 8pm or open 1/2 day on Saturdays. Banks are meeting the needs of their customers. Chestermere City Hall needs to be open during Christmas. Do the people at City Hall get paid from Dec 24 to Jan 2 or 3 from taxpayer funds or do they take vacation time? There are too many people employed by the City . There is a job posting for Play Ambassador, seriously?
Communication can be provided via email/website which should not cost a big amount if the web/communication hired by the city hall is knowledgeable. Sending communication this way only takes minutes. Eliminates cost in printing and mailing. As for the excuse saying that it would prevent the city for pursuing innovative ways to increase non-residential tax base, this is a load of crap (excuse my french). I have yet to see any improvements and have been paying high on my taxes.
Continue hiring freeze and freeze wages at City Hall
Decrease front end staff. They are not effective and do not need 3-4 people at the front desk. Tighten up job duties and be more effective.
Decrease water bill and collection bill. A lot of people are having hard time with these 2.
Default
Great service and friendly staff but appears overstaffed especially given current economic conditions and tax levels. We can't afford gold level service.
How many community events are needed? canada day - keep. why do you "mail communications? use Facebook or city paper.
I am not sure what the asks are but I would ask for funding to remain the same. With growth on the horizon, there will be a need for more staff in planning and development. These staff members should be covered off by the off-site levies that should be collected.
I believe a lot needs to be put into for planning of this growing community.
I doubt that our funding business development has been cost effective in the past, and has created its own mission/justification by getting us committed to a city developed industrial park. These people are more selling us their services than doing the tax payer any good.
I have a town house where I pay way too much money as it is...its double what I pay in Calgary. Time to spend on our money on a pool, cut some of those council jobs and downsize on some of your staff, and if The City funds the RCMP pulling people over for misdemeanor offences instead of reckless driving, drugs, drinking and driving then get rid of that service. I once had the RCMP come to my house for a cat fight which is ABSURD. Then get rid of CUI and manage the water at City Hall.
I have not been to city hall since moving here. I feel many others are the same way.
I highly doubt you have many phone calls- so the waiting isn't bad- and every time I have gone there- no one else was there and I got helped right away.

I like the open forum concept where residents are able to make suggestions and provide direction directly to council, face to face is the best way to accomplish this. In addition, a total audit of all departments is necessary, salaries, in particular need to be looked at right across the board.
I think that City Hall has to entertain a much larger revenue source than Tax Base. Example would be a Hotel/ Fuel Station zone east of Chestermere north of Transcanada, or Cutting Edge Waste conversion technology servicing the City of Calgary but owned and operated by the city of Chestermere. The solutions are out there if people care to ask.
I think tightening up this budget will not hurt.
I would like to keep the funding the same for City Hall. I believe the level of service and communications to residents is excellent.
I would like to see more businesses move here... Why are we a city when we do not have 24hr health care services? Why are we a city when we do not have public transportation? I would like to see value for my taxes which I do not see (CUI is an example). I would like to see the city invest in fibre across the city like Olds has and companies will come.
I would not make any adjustments.
I'm happy to wait longer, and receive less communication. City council's job is innovation. If you outsource that, we'll replace you like we did the last entire council.
in a world of technology , mail out sb limited to those from another time - have a town app - we can get all information there - for those who want to know will access and those who complain are just complainers , seniors may need the mail outs or a central area at city hall to obtain the information. Most in the the town paper as it.
It seems like some programs are very useless like the create amazing one for example.
It would be nice if there were one evening a week when it was open for people who can't get there during the day.
Less fireworks. Fun events are great but fire works for 4th july and winter festival are enough. We have oppertunities to see them at many other places such as stampedede, global fest, langdon most weekends(lol)
less government, less taxes.
Looking at your pie very disappointed, city hall expenses too high should be about 8 % for 21 thousand people,
Love our community events. Would like to see more of them, but also more support from police or city staff to help people park and drive in and out safely.
More Ecommerce, Ecommunication option, even if elective
Move to more automated systems
Need to find ways of doing more with less.
None
Not a lot of people use this service so why should city hall get more money. If a person really wanted to coordinate a community festival, the wait time should not be a big problem. One way of reducing money allocated to city hall would be to stop or reduce red tape. This would also decrease time and manpower needed to process a lot of the pointless paperwork.
Ok, City Hall. Why do we need the Christmas lights running well into Feb at the lake by city hall???? Waste of money guys. I feel that this building was a waste from day one. I know nothing can be done now but I can't believe that it costs what it costs? We need to rent it out for events to save some money. You can't tell me that the entire office space is full every day???? Anyways tighten the belt, turn those festive lights off when New Years is over.....right tax payers money.
Over the last few years the private sector has been forced to re-evaluate its input costs and has had to make cuts where required. All levels of government should be required to do the same. If staff cuts and / or salary reductions are required to contain costs then they should be implemented instead of asking the taxpayer to pay more for the same amount or an expanded level of service
Provided little benefit and overspent since I've lived in this city.

Reduce admin and overhead, stop having "the tail wag the dog" - City admin is telling the council where it needs the money and their (department heads) cost never seem to go down, stop capital spending for two years. Charge a fee for parking at the rec centre and use the money to pave that parking lot.
Reduce all budgets 5% and let each dept adjust accordingly. Its about cost control not spending budget Why spend \$ on fireworks?
Results based assessment of some of these services.
Sell the city hall building and develop a boardwalk area in its place. Prime land should not be used for city administration. Move out to some ATCO trailers in the industrial park.
supported times by appt. Make the calendar available online to see next available appt hours for each major dept that people meet with. i do not find an over abundance of city information so leveraging the website is better use of money.
The amount of my share of \$1219.00 to city hall services each year seems incorrect. It seems impossible that my share of the pie for the city hall services would be this amount. Having now understood the price of services I would ask that a serious review of COC internal spending have a focus when looking on rightsizing, independent or third party services (consultants), utilities, vehicles, or what have you. This survey is fairly ineffective in itself.
The city needs to be able to function with the tax dollars/budget, which is too high in my opinion
The current budget has not allowed the city hall to be innovative in building a non-residential tax base. I don't think that increasing this budget would have any positive effect. City Hall should consider other options to reduce it's expenses. Some that come to mind are: moving more services to online instead of in person (permit applications), reducing paper mail and using electronic communication, moving their office to an industrial area and selling/leasing out their prime real estate!!!
The reason I would choose to decrease this amount is that I do not feel that I have been given enough information. I consider things like the COR audit, IT services, HR to be the cost of doing business. By saying that I consider the City is employing people to cover these aspects, therefore their salary is, or should be, already considered as part of the budget. If that is the case, this is double dipping, if not, perhaps you could rethink job descriptions.
The work to increase non residential tax base and strengthen business community is woefully inadequate and is embarrassing. We have diluted shopping traffic (3 shopping districts - really??), a Taj Mah Light Industrial Park that sits empty, but has incredible infrastructure built to it with no return. This function should be cut completely as it hasn't produced any tangible results in the 7+ years I have lived in Chestermere. SELL OFF CUI - this is inefficient and very expensive .
There are always ways to run leaner.
There is an urgent need for a care facility in Chestermere. I do not see a category where help with this belongs, but this is facility is long overdue and our city should be pursuing this in every way possible.
There is really little or no progress in this area of attracting business. Throwing more money at it will not fix it. Community events are not outstanding so again why throw more money at them. Wait times when calling City Hall or getting a response are discretionary depending on which department. Some departments have always been a black hole and continue to be so - more money will not change that.
This seems extremely high relative to other categories.
Too many high salaried employees
Too much admin/support staff not very busy. Need to take a hard look at what employees are really doing rather than eliminating work or duties. Eliminate some positions and combine those duties with remaining staff. Note: This comment applies to all departments, not just City Hall services. Specifically for City Hall services, 13% of the overall budget is way too high. Should strive for no more than 10%.
We as a tax payer have to make financial adjustments and so should city hall. There are definitely ways to decrease expenses. Why do we allocate tax money to WDI and what benefit does the city receive in return
We have been trying to attract business for years and nothing seems to happen, just a bunch of talk. Results don't seem to match the dollars spent. The only solution from city hall seems to be building more houses, which seems contradictory to the huge problem we face with the tax ratio. I have seen

zero difference between new and old council. I would cut the portion lower if allowed as business is not being attracted, the shops that are here usually last a year then go out of business.

Working at City Hall, I feel we are stretched thin in a few areas which will affect services. Small, incremental increases and consideration to capacity of staff should be considered. Maybe more education to the public is needed on this as well?

Would you like to provide any feedback with respect to City Hall in Chestermere?

you do a great job with the festivals and fireworks displays

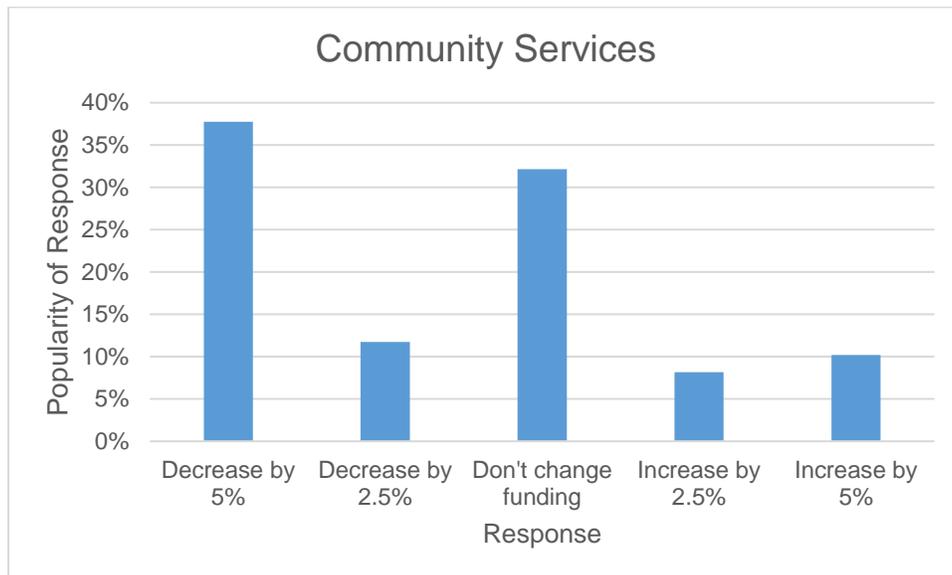
Community Services

Communities are often most connected through the things you don't see - strong neighbourhood ties, people helping each other, parks and open spaces, and healthy families. Community Services supports these connections through early childhood development opportunities, vulnerable population support, and neighbourhood and connection programs.



Please note that the many Community Services programs are grant funded and are not included for consideration in how you would spend your tax dollars.

However, Community Services also provides funding to the Chestermere Public Library, the Marigold Library System and the Rocky View Handibus as well as many other community agencies through FCSS and the United Way Partnership. These programs are partially tax funded and are available for your input.



Potential impacts of changing Community Services:

A 5% decrease: This decrease could mean reduced programming to residents which may include no addition of programming or support for Arts and Culture. There would be no expansion of programs and services to the Parent Link Centre and no additional space for PLC programs.

A 2.5% decrease: This decrease could mean a potential reduction in hours of operation, delays in customer service and reduced access to programs and services. This may include no programming or support for arts and culture. The Parent Link Centre is unlikely to grow or add additional space.

A 2.5% increase: This increase could mean potentially increased hours of operation, increased and more diverse arts, cultural and social programs and services

A 5% increase: This increase could mean the development and expansion of arts, cultural and social programs and services. This could also include the opportunity to search out new space for the Parent Link Centre to increase programs and services.

Comments about Community Services:

Would you like to provide any feedback with respect to Community Services in Chestermere?
We have a great level of service right now.
If we are paying to support block parties i think we should quit that part.
I think this should be more based on individuals using the system paying more than tax payer funded. That being said you are saying the Parent link would suffer, why arent you allowing citizens to hold priority over this compared to others things? For instance the United Way Partnership. I would remove that completely.
Put some more funding Into the library...perhaps move it to a bigger location and then rent the lake front property for a profit? The library has so many awesome features already it would be nice to see it expand
We believe this is a waste of our money we don't need to spend tax dollars for people from Calgary and other areas to come to a festival here we don't need a half an hour fireworks display three times a year. I have lived in Chestermere for over 20 years and I have never used a single one of these programs for any of my kids.
Summer and winter festivals, that's it.
Other than the library, I use none of these programs. Programs should be based on user fees.
status quo
Good ,seniors are being charged to much for recreation example pickball ,as we already support with our taxes
Expansion of our minds is essential to the health of our community. Need to involve and give back to the community.
Perfect
I don't think many use these programs
These activities are not the governments business. Nice to have not essential services.
Until the City is able to increase it's business tax base, these programs may need to take a hit for a few years.
Strongly support Rockyview Handibus usage in Chestermere and the Library is in urgent need to be in a larger space with more programs.
Seek more funding or grants for teenage programs and services.
Can't believe we spent that money building that huge mobile home by the highway and car wash. That is a waste of money. The services provided there could have been run out of the City Hall. Hello people who's money are we spending??? O yeah ours.
I would prefer that funds be directed away from the Library and instead towards public transportation!
I think that the FCSS staff are not very effective in delivering services, and are mostly well paid bureaucrats while the rest of use do community service on a volunteer basis.
We need to get our community on the right path and this needs to start with cuts at all levels. only 2 focus for city hall reduce cost and pass those reduction back to the residents.
User pay portion of costs
An increase in programs is needed for the growing community that will continue as the new housing developments are built
This number is not real and we all mow that. I assume you are using this number becasue of the "grants" issued for commuity servces. Who do you think funds the grants?
The cost could be user pay.
Although I would value these services if I used them, I just do not use these services.
I can't say I use thisservicde
I think these funds are necessary but still excessive for what the majority of residents would benefit from. Arts and culture in a city of 20,000 is going to be so limited in comparison to what we can enjoy as a bedroom community of Calgary. I myself do do not use or benefit much from this.
Community services are extremely important in Chestermere and it would be beneficial to the community to have more programs available.
keep applying for grant money
I don't believe the amount of services is needed at this time. We are a small community and will continue to meet needs for those in need as a generous community! I believe we could have more fund

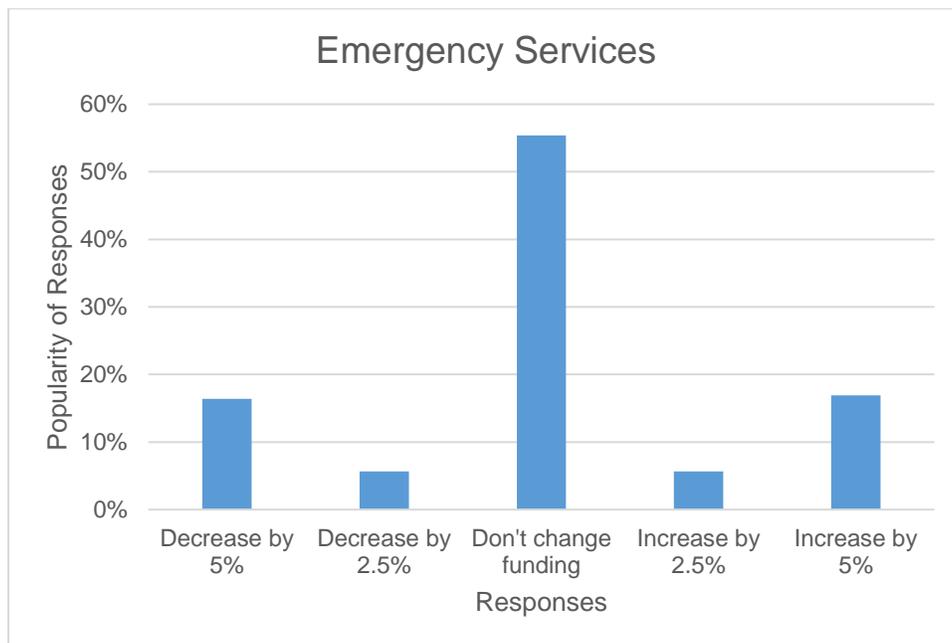
<p>raisers to support those in need. When it is hidden in our taxes it makes those in need faceless and thus many people think everybody is doing just fine! Being an integral part of a community fundraiser is a blessing for those who participate and keeps people's needs up front and not hidden.</p>
<p>What Arts and Culture? Groups can provide Arts and Culture for their own interests. We don't need Community Services at all.</p>
<p>In my opinion government's role in this area should be more limited, This type of funding should focus more on donations, user pay and other forms of discretionary giving rather than a requirement of government to support. I feel that increasing spending for this type of service encourages special interest groups to become more expectant and possibly even more demanding of support.</p>
<p>The library needs more funding in order to increase wages. They play an important role in our community.</p>
<p>A larger parent link center would be great and support to the library so that we could have no fees would also be nice</p>
<p>I'd like the city to have a full service YMCA type facility with pool, gym, and exercise classes</p>
<p>I love Synergy and the Centre for Community Leadership. Each young person reached through that centre is positively affected and that has a powerful impact on our city. Encourage these projects!</p>
<p>The library is really the only thing our family uses.</p>
<p>please look at increasing the budget and provide more funds for Synergy. they are a wonderful support group for our youth and more funding is required to reach more children and provide the necessary support they offer.</p>
<p>I feel libraries are obsolete with internet.... people are close enough to go to Calgary's library which is larger. Funding should go private.</p>
<p>Very good job. I have needed assistance and received based on inquiry</p>
<p>Library funding is out of control</p>
<p>I frequently use the public library and am impressed with the service. I am a teacher, so I appreciate their long hours of operation and the fact that they will bring in any book I want!!</p>
<p>More social services programs are needed in this growing city.</p>
<p>The people who use the community services need services of finding employment for people and not giving money to people sitting at pubs and bars.</p>
<p>Elderly and Abuse victims and people who really need help should be getting assistance.</p>
<p>The city should look at the businesses in town to provide donations for such programs. They get cheaper taxes being here so they should be able to donate to these programs.</p>
<p>Economic difficulties continues, so we need to invest in programs to support our residents - new and old.</p>
<p>The beach area is very small... what should happen is the John Peake memorial park should be a beach... all of it across the northwest corner of the lake. convert anniversary park to a dock.</p>
<p>Public services are good.</p>
<p>I would like to see an increase in programs for families and seniors in the city. More variety of programs to bring residence together.</p>
<p>Chestermere has no seniors care facility. This is a huge need in our community. If this is not the right category for this, please move it. I feel it is a disgrace that our city can not provide a place for the seniors who need help.</p>
<p>more funding for the senior programs here in Chestermere, ie: Whitecappers</p>
<p>Look at combining all of these groups into one. Get additional grant funding from the province and increase the volunteers, utilize social media to build the network. Look for alternative creative ways of fund raising, set up goals and initiatives.</p>
<p>Senior services, and programs</p>
<p>I don't think that most citizens know what CS is capable of providing for them.</p>
<p>I would like to see services for children and families dealing with autism. Transportation options are not available. There is not enough support to meet the needs of families in our community.</p>
<p>Great service and friendly staff but appears overstaffed especially given current economic conditions and tax levels. We can't afford gold level service.</p>

User fees should be charged for those making use of services/things like the library and community programs with the aim of being cost neutral.

Rocky view busing is getting busier and busier. I see it effecting transportation in our community. I see seniors struggling in Chestermere. Either they don't get around town, or they pay high cab fees or they drive unsafely. City transportation needs to be considered

Emergency Services

When you need help, Chestermere Fire Services (CFS) is available to you 24 hours a day to assist with medical or fire emergencies. In addition to emergency response, they work hard to educate residents about the importance of fire prevention and preparedness. The City also looks after Emergency Management – planning, preparing and responding to local disasters.



Potential impacts of changing Emergency Services:

A 5% decrease: This decrease could impact response times for fire/medical calls, decrease the amount and type of training the first responders may have and reduce our ability to support our neighbours in major disasters.

A 2.5% decrease: This decrease may impact response times for fire/medical calls, reduce our ability to attend public events and decrease our attendance at regional partner initiatives.

A 2.5% increase: This increase could mean we maintain our current response times and potentially improve our customer service.

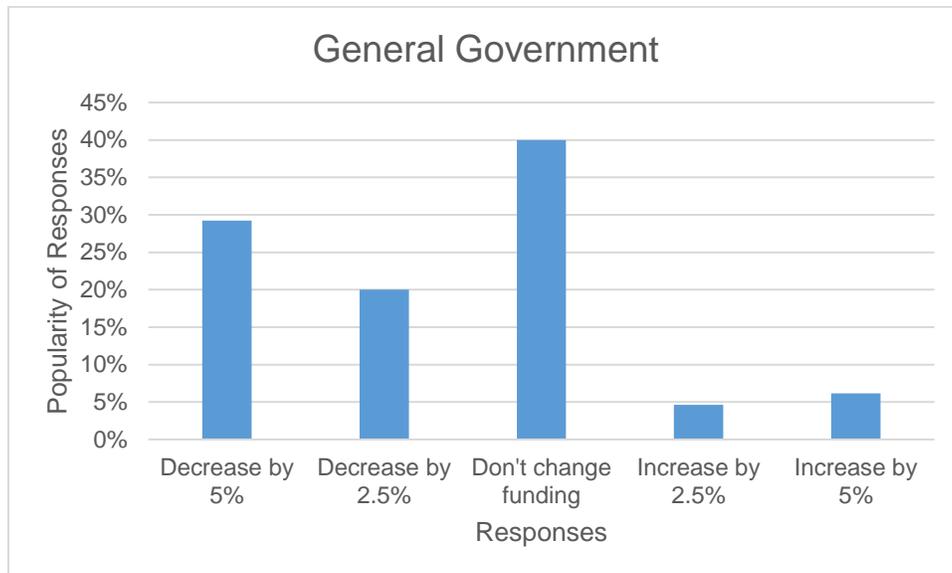
A 5% increase: This could mean increased internal efficiencies, improved call times, add additional training for first responders and provide increased support for regional partners.

Comments about Emergency Services in Chestermere
A bunch of guys playing fireman, never seen a foundation that they have lost.
As Chestermere is a fairly new city and most of the buildings are newer structures, the amount of major call outs for the Fire Dept. are minimal and therefore the staff are not as busy as other older cities such as in Montreal or Toronto. Yes they perhaps do more "community engagement" but there is an extreme amount of down time where perhaps other municipal work could be assigned to the staff.
Charge for false alarms
Chestermere should have an ambulance service 24/7
Emergency services does an excellent job.
Everyone else in alberta is getting a cut with no change to its current state of business. Emergency services should also come up with cost efficient/savings during this difficult economic times.
Excellent level of service provided to residents.
Fire and policing make up the major cost. We need to decrease our involvement in any regional partner initiatives. These are very none productive. If you can not foip the activities and cost being spent by these organization then as a resident I do not trust.
Fire services needs more people and we need another hall to cover the growth
Given we do not have our own hospital, I would like to see 24/7 Chestermere based paramedic assistance available.
Great job, but over-staffed for Chestermere IMO.
Haven't needed to use these services yet, thankfully, so I can't say if we're spending too much or too little here.
I believe that this service should be fully funded. I do think that there needs to be oversight to ensure that funds are being used appropriately and not wasted.
I believe this cut could be achieved thru buying the appropriate equipment for the size of our town. I know a lot of it is thru government grants but the maintenance and upkeep is not covered.
I see fire trucks on the go all hrs of the day. They are Always at our community event they are great ambassador of our city.
I think the staff level for the Emergency Services is a little high.. especially when this is the only city they take care of. And they do not need a bigger place . Sometimes you have to do more for less money but be more efficient. Don not waste what you have work within your budget .. households have to.
I would like to know the amount of RCMP vs the duties, I would think that more resources could be put on crime prevention particularly at night vs traffic tickets.
I would like to see a more firefighters on duty at a time.
I would like to see bigger crews. More firefighters to help with incidents.
Institute 24 hr ambulance service. a City of 20000 with 12 hour coverage is disaster waiting to happen.
Is it possible to get more funding from the Federal or Provincial goverment, as I'm sure most of the services are related to Highway 1 incidents.
Is there ambulance service in the city? If not can the budget accommodate one. Is the Kinniburg med center closing, why?
Let's be honest these guys don't make enough when you need them.
Perfect
Reduce the number of staff. Too many people sitting and doing nothing. We have too many people and way too much much money spent on the best equipment. Think more effectively and reduce staffing.
Seemingly the fire department is increasingly busy, I see and hear them heading with lights and sirens and also at every community function.
There need to be more staff in the Chestermere Fire Service and Peace Officer programs. With the population of Chestermere growing the way it currently is, we need to increase emergency services staff to meet this higher demand.
They are doing a good job so we should keep it that way.

They do a great job!!!
They do a great job, but like I mentioned the City already gets more money once it was declared a city, you get funding from Alberta Government, I guess stop thinking people are not smart enough to know this. When everyone moves you and everyone else will be out of a job.
They need more map training and finding addresses. More than one occasion ive seen them rushing down a road and then see them rushing back because they went the wrong way.
This department is consuming a large part of the overall budget, it needs to be trimmed back, too much money being spent at this point in time.
This funding should remain in place as is.
Very good
We live in a town. Response times will be the same as Calgary. Insurance paid for the last major disaster and the city of Chestermere didn't do much of anything. Flooding in Chestermere.
We need better cupport for our fire fighters. We need to ensure we have a minimum of 6 staff a shift and plan for future growth.
We need more firefighters to protect our city
We need to make sure that CFS gets the right tools and people to keep people safe.
We own a lot of extravagant equipment and staff to deal with a few fires and incidences. The water emergency response equipment seems particularly extravagant and on such a small lake the incident has played out before they or on scene to make a difference.
Would love to see some more growth to help keep up with city growth

General Government

This category acts like a 'savings account' and includes savings to put toward significant multi-year future projects (such as infrastructure and recreation), funds that are set aside to reduce major fluctuations in spending, fees for banking and investments, and ongoing fees from the 2009 Annexation.



Potential impacts of changing General Government:

A 5% decrease: This decrease could jeopardize the City's ability to maintain and replace aging assets (infrastructure, buildings, equipment, etc.), which could result in postponing new projects.

A 2.5% decrease: This decrease could lead to poorly maintained assets and extending the use of assets beyond what they should be. This could result in higher costs in the long term, higher debt levels and/or deferral of new infrastructure and projects.

A 2.5% increase: This could mean an increase to the savings available for asset replacement which puts the City in a better position to respond quickly to the maintenance and replacement of its assets and stabilizes the need for tax funds.

A 5% increase: In addition to a better ability to respond to maintenance and replacement needs, increased funding set would allow the City to consider new infrastructure and projects more quickly.

Comments about General Government:

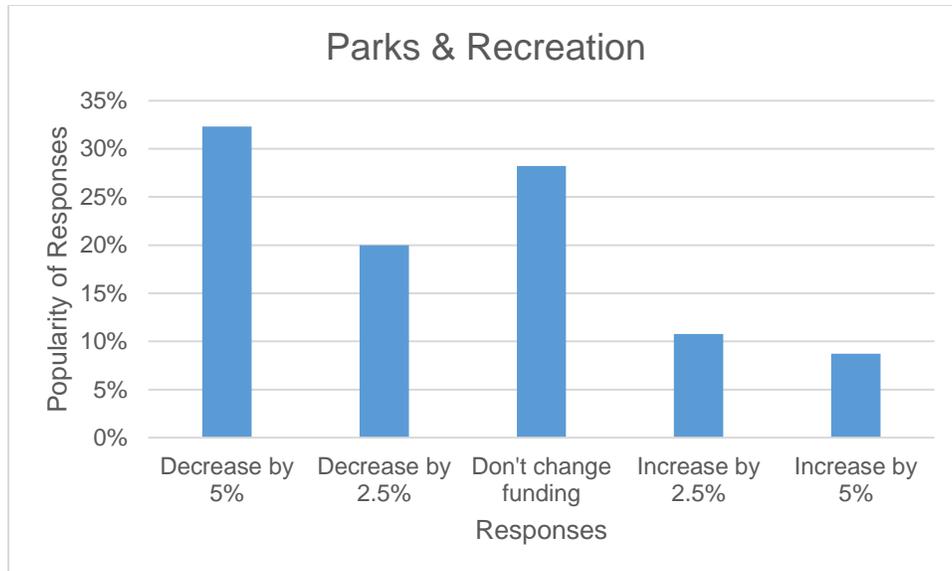
A plan needs to be in place first and approved by citizens. Having too much in this fund just allows pet projects that don't serve the citizens to the best ability.
An indoor swimming pool would be a great addition. If it was part of a complete recreational complex it would be even better.
As stated before, the City must improve it's business tax base. Once that happens money can be redirected to this area again.
Because we are such an old town! What new projects? Are you planning on closing more roads?
Chestermere
City hall percentage to high for 21 thousand people should be about 8 % to much waste over laping people ,the ceo paid to much for icu
Decrease spending, more people will move here if taxes were to be lower.
Different people, same results.
Do more with less.
Don't see much do much for their pay
Duplicated with Infrastructure.
This is too broad a % & group without further expansion of what they represent.
This is too high a % group without more information. (General what?)
For me, I agree in principal in discretionary funds, but I also strongly support and want to see some actions on an indoor swimming/waterpark that can be used year round for recreation and swimming lessons. This is top of my list even though I do not have young children. It is so important. Facilities in Calgary and surrounding areas are crowded and lessons are full, and it is hard for parents to commit to taking their families there. I would like to see meaningful progress on this.
Government is in efficient
i am a fan of less government. I think it is savings for the future...well right now..we have to get all costs under control.
I do believe in having a savings for the future rather than being in "reactive mode" all the time. I would like funding set aside for future projects.
I have been impressed so far with the new council and how the are acting. I'm hoping that this will continue and that they will continue to listen to the residents concerns
I question why we need to continually think we need to expand our city boundaries. Bigger is not better, and buying up surrounding lands has to be initially quite costly, with significant additional costs required at some time to put infrastructure in place. I am not the least bit concerned with having the MD of Rockyview or the City of Calgary as a neighbour or even swallowing us up.
I think dredging the lake to reduce weeds would increase overall property values significantly. Treat it like a back lane paving project by charging each lakefront owner \$20,000 on average for example (based on property taxes paid by lakefront properties only) and each non lakefront owner \$1,000 - \$2,000 on average again based on their taxes only. If these numbers come anywhere near the cost of dredging then the gain in property values for all properties would greatly exceed the cost of dredging
I would love to see the city looking further ahead into the future and being more strategic. If we need to spend a few bucks more now to save money/increase revenue in the future, I would support that as long as its transparent and I can trust that the investments are being made wisely.
I would need more information.
Infrastructure is a separate category. Making statements that reducing this could jeopardize ability to maintain infrastructure is disingenuous.
Keep it as a "savings account" as you would do when you raise a family for unexpected expenses.
Look for ways to reduce banking fees etc Why are we paying banking and investment fees?
MSI funding should be used for some of this. As well 2019 will be the last year for annexation payments. Use that money in 2020. Any excess funds from 2018 should go in this.
new rev Center needed
No changes required.
Not sure yet. The previous city council was terrible in every way, I am waiting for improvement

Ok for now..
Once again, fix the CUI crap
Our taxes are way too high. Somehow this has to be reduced and, if it's through a reduction in funding to General Government, well then that's fine with me. It's out of control and I'm so tired of it that I want to move. Seriously. you want to be a city but don't want to provide any of the things that a city offers? No public transportation, no public pools. When my car is out of commission, I have to take a cab to Calgary. That's insane.
Please describe the 2009 Annexation! WHAT was it, WHERE is it, and WHY did we annex this land.? What did it cost, and why are we still paying for it? Thank you for some info on this deal!
Rather than taxing the citizens to no end, build a reserve fund and get out of debt. Like most Canadians, the municipality is hooked on cheap debt since the great financial crisis of 2007. What is your plan when interest rates normalize in 1-2 years? What will taxes look like when interest rates are at historical norms of 5-6%? When interest rates are at 5-6%, what percentage of your general revenues will be spent on just maintaining the interest payment of the debt?
Right, I like how whenever you choose to decrease funding there is a banner telling you how bad things can be, fear mongering at its best.
Sell city hall and move to unused office space in Rainbow Falls. City Hall sits on very expensive property and was a "vanity" build by the previous administration. Use that space for better commercial (ie tax generation) space.
Spend less and reduce staffing.
Streamline processes, reduce waste as much as possible.
there is always a way to reduce costs for "planning" and "maintenance"
Until you can prove that you will be responsible with the taxpayer's money, I don't believe we should be giving you as much. Past councils have spent wildly and I need the new council to prove to me that this attitude has changed before I believe I should give you that much money.
Was the Webster Industrial park a part of the 2009 annexation. Now that it is up for sale will the proceeds lower the costs of borrowing . Where will the balance be allocated?
We are draining our savings to pay taxes and necessities. This is no time to save.
We need a pool for fall winter and spring & swim lessons for kids without long wait lists. Close it in summer bc we have the lake.
We pay a lot of taxes to each level of government. Get more money from the Provincial or Federal Government.
We should look for reduction in this category . We should only focus on initiatives that make business sense. Once we have finished the house cleaning and have a good focus on non-residential growth discretionary spending can start but it must be managed smartly.
We will need to have our own rec center in the future.
When times are tuff it is time to tighten up.
Why is this separate from 'City Hall" expenses?
With this difficult economic times, everyone else is cutting back. The city should think of a more innovative ways to save the citizens \$\$\$ without any change to its current state. This is the more reason to attract more businesses here not just local to decrease our taxes.
Wrap up the annexation, why have fees for banking and investment.
You are kidding? Start knocking on the Alberta Gov door for funding. We pay way too much , stop asking for more money because its drowning the residents. Soon no one will want to live here and news travels fast. People are already selling, foreclosures or on the uprise and so is crime.

Parks & Recreation

Whether you are taking a walk with your family on the [City's pathways](#), enjoying a day at the [beach](#), or trying new jumps at the [Bike Park](#), the Parks & Recreation team ensures that our community is a clean and vibrant place to live.

The Parks & Recreation team care for 70 parks and green spaces, look after maintaining Chestermere Lake and the Beach, and promote local recreation activities.



Potential impacts of changing Parks & Recreation

A 5% decrease: This decrease could mean reduced frequency of mowing, weeding, flower planting, beach maintenance and litter pick-up in parks and open spaces; fewer repairs to fences and pathways; and no dead/diseased tree replacements.

A 2.5% decrease: This decrease could mean reduced frequency of mowing, weeding, flower planting, beach maintenance and litter pick-up in parks and open spaces.

A 2.5% increase: This increase could mean hiring summer recreation staff to provide programming at our parks and beaches (e.g. adventure playground, water safety instruction, dog park events).

A 5% increase: This increase could mean a calendar of year-round recreation and cultural events and programs.

Additional Question:

If the City could build one new outdoor recreation amenity, what would you recommend?

Pool/Rec Centre/Splash Park	41
Don't need anything new	18
Other Comment	11
Another Beach/Improved Lake Access (especially in the south)	8
Outdoor Rink	4
Dog Park	3
Baseball diamonds	1
Outdoor walking track	1
soccer field	1

Additional Question:

If the City could build one new outdoor recreation amenity, what would you recommend?	
Comments:	
I think we're in good shape for parks right now and if we need to pull money from somewhere to be more strategic I think this is the least bad option.	
Pool. We need fall winter and spring. Close it during summer bc we have the lake. Need swim lessons without long wait lists. Family swimming for exercise, play and entertainment.	
Another beach, private to citizens.	
an Area on the south end to launch paddle boards and kayaks. Nothing major just a safe access point that you don't have to climb down grass and rocks	
I would love to see a park with an outdoor walking track that is maintained year round. Sometimes it's hard to walk around in the winter with icy sidewalks.	
Nothing	
I don't believe the city should be building anything it should be use your pay not taxpayer pay.	
I would not recommend any more outdoor recreation amenities! There are so so many parks and structures out there that not being used by our residents. They are empty 99% of the time. The controversial beaches are the only parks that being overused causing all kinds of issues for maintenance, traffic, and costs to us.	
A usable park on the South or southeast side of the lake (near Kinniburgh). The current beach park is extremely busy.	
Proper outdoor hockey rink with boards, chain link, change rooms, lights, etc.	
Splash Park	
New Facility which includes rink, fitness centre & pool area.	
None at this time.	
Swimming pool (indoor preferably).	
Swimming pool or spray park	
Like genie's place like Airdrie ,very can not afford under present system	
Water slide and or water park off the lake but with access to another beach preferably on the south end of the lake.	
Chestermere	
Pool	
No more recreation amenities - we have enough	
This is the only piece I believe Chestermere is missing. I would love to see a rec centre with a pool, arenas and areas for indoor physical activities and classes. We are limited through the winter months and are taking our business into Calgary and Strathmore.	
A splash pad.	
Looking for indoor amenity, pool, courts.	
I feel current level is way too high.	
a swimming pool	
Pool	
NEW REC CENTRE+ POOL PLS	
We have an abundance of outdoor amenities. Let's get a handle on the tax structure before we spend more money on parks that will require us to increase budgets in several different areas.	
Enforce the bylaws by fining people who litter and do not pick up after their dogs. On the new beach, litter is left by immature adults and children who are not taught to be tidy.	
I think the City should fence the Beach and collect entrance fees to pay for other parks and the up keep of this area.	
Dog park events and festivals	
I believe that another beach location would be the best use of funding. It appears to be the most used park in the city.	

Make sure it is focused on serving the local city needs, and not a glory project that isn't warranted in serving Chestermere's current residents.
SWIMMING POOL, We are big enough, we should have a pool!
Control costs by being more efficient. Having 2-3 trucks following each other is inefficient. Do we need 1 ton trucks running empty to do the job?
Whatever you do, don't build anything to do with water. If you look at the City of Calgary, all water facilities lose money and it will become a drain (no pun intended) on our resources. Partnering with groups such as Best Western was a good idea.
We can not afford. Lets get this community on the right track.
Spray Park (not near the lake parks to alleviate traffic and parking congestion).
None unless its user pay
More trees, beach on South side of the lake... Non residents crowd our beach. People would be much happier
Purchase recreation center
Swimming pool
NO. Save for new recreation facility. We are in DIRE need of more arenas.
A park on the south end
Dredging of the lake
Arena and pool
If it benefits our community I support whatever the majority want.
seasonal skaing rink so people will stop using storm ponds.
each spring there are hockey nets and lawn chairs that end up in the water.
A facility that brings people from other towns and cities to Chestermere to spend money instead of 20m people trying to support. A motor vehicle race track or proper off leash dog park (not the one being currently proposed). I pay dog license which is a tax and see no results. Do not use the beach or lake. Put a user fee on the beach usage.
Proper baseball at the rec centre
No, we don't need new outdoor recreation amenities. How about a swimming pool, like every other city has? We have a community hall that no one wants anything to do with anymore. How about levelling that and building a pool? Chestermere is about more than the lake.
The beach that people in Chestermere paid for and is overcrowded with people from Calgary? We should pay to pick up their garbage and keep the beach nice for them?
Pool or splash parm
An additional beach. I know they are quite expensive, but the small beach here is constantly packed to the point that it is unenjoyable to go there.
A swimming facility
I would prefer an indoor recreation amenity like a pool. We have plenty of outdoor recreation already. Winter is longer here so we need an indoor rec activity to keep active.
Why build something new. The city is great as is. No need to spend more money just because you can tax us to pay for it.
pool
A Main Street like Cochran's or Invermere's.
Nothing. The bike park and beaches are usually packed with people from out of town and too busy to enjoy on most days. We had a cheap alternative by having resident maintained ice rinks on the ponds but that was deemed too dangerous.
a water park would be well used in the summer months
Splash Park for kids.
i would shift that money into savings or tax reduction
Swimming pool
Swimming pool
Exercise park
Splash park
Use that money for a new outdoor rec towards the new rec centre with a pool. Best western doesn't cut it!
Splash park

Please, no big projects at this time as am not prepared to increase my tax bill especially as we have very little from businesses.
POOL!
Public pool or splash park
None. Don't waste money from one budget year on an outdoor amenity. We are in tough times, so build less! Save up for a pool.
I would like to see a pool, but it should be an indoor pool.
They don't need an outdoor facility. The residents need a pool or indoor activities for kids. Have you walked around the neighbourhood to see what the kids are doing? We have a lake for summers with a beach...turn that lovely community centre into a sportsplex
Rec Center with indoor pool
It would nice to see the splash park built.
I don't believe we have tax base to support a pool in indoor soccer arena. Again Calgary is too close, lets use theres as I have been for the past 30 years.
Water park, public tennis courts, more soccer fields, ice rinks (yes we know we live on lake) and baseball diamonds.
A pool but that isn't going to happen. Try and get the YMCA to come to Chestermere.
It would be an outdoor pool with spray park.
Pool
We only see them once or twice per yr in our neighborhood as it is today, so we couldn't decrease much anyhow.
We do not need any new outdoor recreation.
fenced in dog park
A proper soccer field.
Public rink with Zamboni
I would like to see the Parking Lot in front of the present Recreation Centre properly torn up and repaved, with decent wheelchair access and sloping curbs for seniors using their end of the Centre. The current gravel lot and steep curbs are difficult for some to manage!
Community centre
Perhaps a slash park.
I'm NOT in favour of a pool.
Ice rink- now that ponds are not allowed to be skated on. My family worked on a pond rink for the last few years. It was used by many and great exercise. We were safe in when we built it and when we shut it down. Be loss for my neighborhood

Comments about Parks & Recreation

It appears they do a good job around the city in the parks there seems to be a lot of inefficiencies, examples of that are driving lawn more is up and down Chestermere Boulevard three times a day like in your picture you used for the segment. Well it sure seem to have lots of equipment. I'm not one for flowers but they sure have looked a lot better the last two years I don't know what you've changed but is definitely looking professional.
A new recreational building such as a swimming pool is needed in the community because it allows people of all ages to go and have fun, to stay active, and allow teenagers to stay around in Chestermere without going into Calgary. This will generate revenue in the long term and it allows teens to get a job around here, contribute to the community and stay out of trouble.
Add more recycle/garbage bins at beach. Bylaw should be more visible @ beach.
Again a great job but not affordable.
Are people with no Chestermere address charged to use our lake including day swimmers and campers.
Beach excellent but you were told the beach does not drain properly year ago ,poor engineering,you have done nothing to fix the problem ,good money spent poor work done
Better use of labour to look after these parks . educate the people using them to clean up. ? paid parking at the parks
Do we need trucks out watering plants and trees after a rainfall?

Do we really need flower pots at what cost ?
Everything seems clean well maintained and comfortable. Is great as is.
First and foremost, we need to look at recovering some of the overall expenses being paid out to maintain the main beach area, this area is being used in large part by non residents of Chestermere, some type of fee to use this facility must be implemented to recoup some of the costs to maintain this facility, not acceptable to be footing the total bill. Just like we charge non residents for launching a boat, we need to examine ways to charge non residents using this facility.
Great job removing snow in the winter, but the extra help in the summer amounts to zero in our neighborhood. If I waited on the city to mow the lawn on the walking path behind our house, the grass would be headed out....and weeding....that's funny!
Great job with hanging flower pots and planters....these look attractive and greatly enhance the appearance of city roadways. The light pole banners also look attractive.
Great park, beautiful!
i dont think so many flowers are needed around the city.
how many residents use bike/walking paths? there seems to be enough and plowing them in the winter seems an unnecessary expense, either reduce that cost, or shift the funds to better street plowing/sanding.
I enjoy walking along the pathways in Chestermere. The water recreation appeals to me as well.
I feel the money allowcated was not put to good use. example would be a overcrowded beach that drops off into the lake instead of sloping into it. plus sand you cant dig into
I find it appalling that our parks & rec budget is one of the highest expenditures. That's absolutely insane and irresponsible. Yes, our parks are beautiful, but that's not a responsible place to spend money when we need to lower taxes significantly.
I likr that our parks are beautiful, I just think we can't afford that level of care
I think a lot of money has been spent on glory projects and parks that the residents themselves do not need or use, or are build far more elaborate than what is required. I can say that 90% of the funding in this area did not serve my family who grew up in the city over the past 30yrs.
I think Chestermere should charge for beach entrance. Many people who don't live in Chestermere use it and leave garbage in the community center parking lot. I don't want my tax dollars going to support a park which I don't use and I pay for so people not from Chestermere can use. If we collect a fee or sell a summer pass this money could be used to maintain the park and possibly expand other park areas.
I think it is apparent that the users of the beach are not all residents of Chestermere. Calgary and other area residents should not receive the benefit of this asset while we pay for it. Either a user fee or restriction of access to only Chestermere residents and guests should be considered. Sikome Lake in Fish Creek PP implemented a user pay system; Chestermere should consider doing the same.
I think our parks in the north part of the city are great. Increasing our parks amenities is not a priority for me. I have never seen any families in the park beside the police/fire station. I would like to see more effort spent on garbage pickup around the parks and roads. I know a lot of it blows in since its so windy, but I think we need to raise our expectations of cleanliness in the community.
I think there is a very high staffing cost for are parks. I ride my bike around the lake a lot and on average day I count 25-40 city workers maintaining flower beds, shrubbery, and flower pots. It is nice but not for the price. Planning for public beaches need to be low maintenance and not involve
I think they are doing a fantastic job with everything!!
I think we should find ways to reduce the general labor and other costs. Involve the community to help and give them a tax deduction if they do.
I would like an increase to the parks and recreation funding to provide more amenities to residence. For example the dog park.
Also to keep up the great work maintaining the parks and greens spaces.
I would like to see more of the budget devoted to the lake, specifically the weeds. If they cannot manage to pick up the ones that are cut maybe they should stop cutting the weeds. The people who pay the highest taxes in Chestermere are doing serious heavy manual labour that causes injuries, wastes time, and adds volumes to the frustration of the high taxes around the lake. If dredging could occur it might be something that the WID or the Provincial Gov't could contribute to.
i would recommend payment for non-residents..much like the boat launch.

I'm not sure an increase to taxes in recreation should mean adventure playgrounds. I think citizens have made abundantly clear that we would like you to spend it on a recreational facility that offers pools, more ice surfaces for our hockey community, fitness facilities and classes. For physical building ideas check out Cochrane's Spray Lakes Family Sportex, and for program ideas check out City of Calgary.
If a corporate sponsor and provincial funding could be found, an indoor facility (pool/leisure Centre) would be welcome. Due to the high operation costs, however, this might be possible. The Parks Department does an amazing job.
Indoor pool please!
Just review what we have. Do not add more.
Kudos to our flower displays again this year
Lawn maintenance equipment should be trailered to limit wear and tear that occurs from driving it on the roads
Less planters, more to policing and other essential services. Charge non-residents for use of the beach and park - we shouldn't have to pay to clean up their mess.
Look at charging non-residents a use fee for the beach park; or make it restricted to only chestermere residents.
Love our parks
More play fields
No
Our parks are beautiful.
PARKS ARE FINE. NEED A YEAR ROUND GATHERING PLACE
Perhaps hiring less summer staff to plant trees& flowers etc. Or have someone do the job of two people just like in private business . Or work 4 ten hour shifts.
Provide more options for off leash dog parks. It seems the city is anti-dogs as the on park we have they want to change it. Its bull! Dog owners love that park and I'd like to see more options rather than less
Quit spending money on parks if no new parking is not added. We can't park on the street because the Cove Beach attracts so many vehicles
Reduce the budget by having multiple annual clean-up days. If you don't show up, then you can't complain if the garbage piles up. You reduce the budget and let the garbage pile up and you WILL see people put in their own time to clean up.
Several communities have water features which have fallen to waste. The green spaces are completely unkept, ponds are full of garbage and algae. Over grown weeds have taken over. It is disgraceful how once beautiful features of our city, lie in abandonment. I remember when we first moved in there was a watering system in the green space and the spaces were maintained. The city needs to step it up and clean things up should be under contract to private sector
Spaces all seem to be well maintained. I have asked multiple times to have a water culvert to be cleaned up. It never happened.
Stop wasting money on elaborate flowers and planters. The cost to water and maintain them seems like a waste of money to me.
Such high taxes and I've had to mow city weeds from walk ways behind our house.
the area looks great - but community development is more important to me that weeding. and grass cutting
The beach area is very small... what should happen is the John Peake memorial park should be a beach... all of it across the northwest corner of the lake. convert anniversary park to a dock.
The city has spent beyond its means and we generally can't afford new amenities at the current time. Pay off debt.
The city should conduct a study of the usage of the different parks and focus their funding on the most used spaces. There appears to be areas that are barely used that could be sold or switched to a low cost/low maintenance area (treed or just grass).
The flowers are beautiful around town. We have a pretty place to live! Maybe some parks are a little too decorated. For example the green space down marina drive, i beleive its at or by the birth forest. The floweres planted are overly excesive for an area most only drive past. Less flowers and plants would still be attractive and some of the excess could have been put at other places in town that have none. Is it really more cost effective to grow the plants we use for parks and planters?
The flowers are nice but they could be decreased.
The flowers in Chestermere are beautiful but paying one person every day (and overtime on long weekends) to water plants seems wasteful. I walk in my local park and pick up garbage daily not once or twice per month.

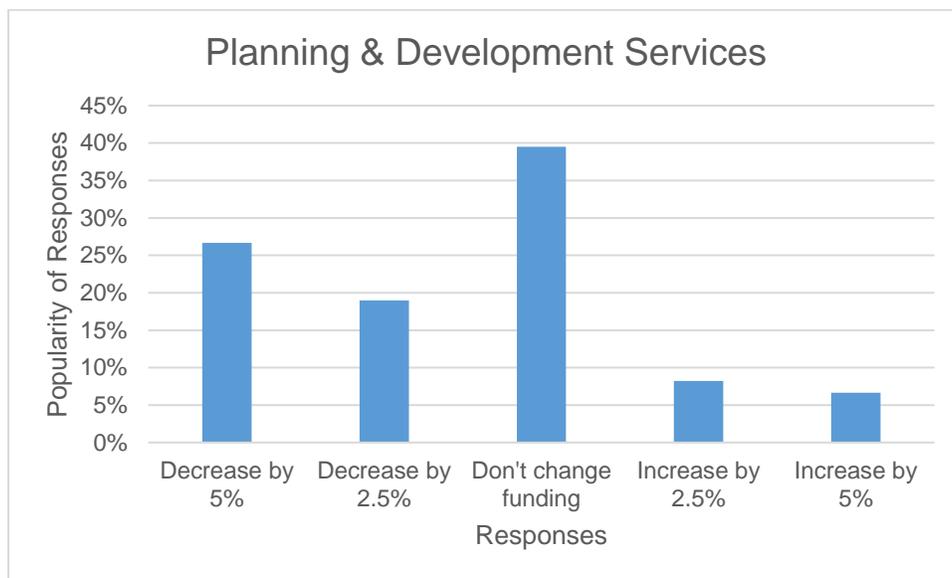
The only way I would want to increase my tax dollars for recreation in Chestermere, is if/when we go ahead to build a proper recreation facility in our city. One that is owned by the City and not the county!
The parks are all beautiful and well maintained. Priority however should be a rec centre.
The recreational Center is in need of an upgrade
There needs to be a look at how the parks and recreation team is managed to increase efficiency and reduce costs.
They don't really keep up anyway if you ask me.
This is likely one of the most over staffed departments - I have seen so many cases of unsupervised employees doing nothing - you could likely cut this in half if some of the staff would actually do some work other than drive around all day looking busy. Pretty parks and flower pots are nice but you need to choose between needs and wants - no different than any family in Alberta.
To many employees
To reduce the amount of garbage more garbage containers in the communities would reduce the amount of time collecting it. Compost should be collected every week in the summer and every second week in the winter. Recyclables could be moved to the 2 week slot. We as a community are saddened by the wrong decision to not allow skating on the run off ponds. The extra rink at the CRA is great but there is a severe shortage of ice. In mid winter the ice has been measured at 16+ inches that is adequate.
Unless you play hockey or curl there are no recreation facilities in Chestermere.
Walking path access from west chestermere drive to east on the south end of lake round marsh. Restrict further residential development blocking lakefront public recreation. Improve waterway for boats under power or sail segretd from nonpowered activity (ie congested at bridge).
Way too much spent on trees, planters etc. All along Rainbow road there is way too many trees, too close together and the wrong type - they will grow too high and have to be cut before they interfere with the power lines. A quarter of the amount of trees would be sufficient. Same with planters - far too many and too high maintenance. Reduce the number and plant perennials
We have enough parks in the Chestermere proper. I did not agree with the spend on the new park. Any new division should support their parks a recreation build with their taxes.
We have too many small parks scattered across the city. Should consolidate these parks making them easier to maintain.
We need to do a better job with weed and insect control. We also need to use the irrigation systems to keep the parks lush and green
We way Overpay for Garbage services now. It is very poorly organized for effective and cost effective services now. WE PAY FOR GARBAGE PICKUP NOW. Since the beach area is not too useable by our own residents; maybe the same application for extrenal boats on the lake should be applied to the beach if non-residents. This will pay for the horrible messes left behind as well.
Well done! City beautification is important.
Well this year many parks were not watered or maintained regular if not a primary park. Looks Terrible and people living to these small parks now have lawns infested with weeds. Way to go Chestermere. All because I was told they need to cut 10%.
While Chestermere is looking beautiful, I don't feel that I can afford the upkeep. It's not necessary, it's an extra that costs a lot.
While I enjoy the planters and green spaces, I feel that \$400 of my taxes to maintain items such as the bike park and beach is too much. There should be a way to find some revenue from the beach. It appears there is a large population of people that come from the city. While, it could potentially be good for nearby businesses, we as tax payers are paying for the upkeep. People without children and seniors are paying for services that we simply do not use.
Who uses this? Its pretty lame for a CITY.
Would like to see the doggies litter bags available at the south end West Chestermere Dr (same as north end with off leash area).

Planning & Development Services

Strong communities don't happen by chance; they are deliberately designed. The Planning & Development team carefully reviews all proposed developments and structures in our community from subdivisions right down to basement developments. By doing so, they ensure that buildings are safe and communities are thoughtfully designed to be livable and sustainable.



Planning & Development Services looks after long range planning, current development, safety codes regulations, and permitting.



Potential impacts of changing Planning & Development:

A 5% decrease: This decrease could mean a reduction in project based work, long range policy review and development, public inquiries, Council projects / inquiries, and organizational priorities. It could also mean extended review and response timelines.

A 2.5% decrease: This decrease could mean a reduction in project based work, long range policy development and updating, public inquiries, Council projects / inquiries, and organizational priorities.

A 2.5% increase: This increase could mean an increased ability to pursue project based work and long range policy development, to respond to public inquiries, to explore Council projects / inquiries, and achieve operational priorities.

A 5% increase: This increase could mean the City would be able to more regularly update long range planning documents and growth management initiatives. This increase could also mean improving the ability to pursue project based work, long range policy review and development, public inquiries, Council projects / inquiries, and organizational priorities.

Comments about Planning & Development:

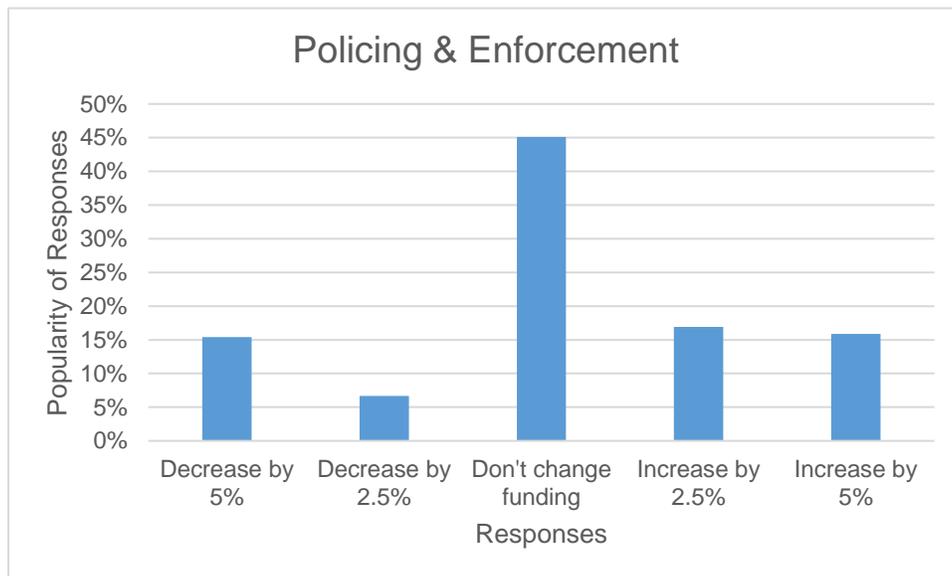
<p>It's almost like planning and developing doesn't have a long-term plan.. I know that they have area structure plans but it sure is a lot of houses residential after residential. They need to start thinking about commercial we are way behind the ball on this one if you want to be a city look and act like one. If you want to just be a residential Sleepyhollow from the city of Calgary keep doing what you're doing. There's a reason why most people have to go into Calgary every day!</p>
<p>Planning to make Chestermere open for business opportunities and employment</p>
<p>a city should have a main street</p>
<p>A recreation center/field house similar to other communities around Calgary should be a priority. See my Roads and Infrastructure comment for something that I attempted to put here but did not have enough room.</p>
<p>Again a great job but not affordable.</p>
<p>Again, not sure why this is not part of the city hall expense.</p>
<p>Although I would value these services if I used them, I just do not use these services.</p>
<p>Be far more open about what is happening with future developments. I also currently built a home on an infill lot in Chestermere. This was a very painful process as the city was not able to outline any clear expectations and the rules seemed to keep changing throughout the process. Talking with many builders and developers they also commented that the process in Chestermere is very broken and some have even stopped working in Chestermere as a result. Time to grow up and get your house in order!</p>
<p>Critical to the future and for future generations. Plan 4-5 steps ahead, with alternatives in case things change, pays off huge down the road.</p>
<p>Don't tax current residents for new community building. The developers should be paying their fair share.</p>
<p>Everything in the budget needs to be reduced in funding. There's no room for further comment below, so I'm adding this here. The end of Seagreen Manor has a fence that was knocked out by a drunk driver in the winter, early 2018. Still not fixed. So many deficiencies, yet such high taxes.</p>
<p>Force efficient operations</p>
<p>Great level of service is already provided in this department.</p>
<p>Have not done a good job here. So do not expand it further and make more bad choices. There is so much that needs attention in terms of development. The threat of increased response times if a bit of empty threat as there is no response now to concerns so it cannot be worse.</p>
<p>I am distressed at how little input is given to the concerns of the residents of the city. When we are asked for our recommendations; they seem to be ignored. Maybe with less money they won't be able to entertain all these large developments and we already have.</p>
<p>I believe this is the most dysfunctional group out of all city hall, it needs fixing if we are going to get controlled growth.</p>
<p>I do not like how our roads and parking lots are planned. It's ridiculous to have a city our size and the amount of festivals, which is great, but there is no parking. Access has been poorly designed.</p>
<p>I don't think planning needs so much money</p>
<p>I personally think that it is not necessary to require permits for every single thing one does with their home. For example: if I upgrade my deck, why is it necessary for me to have a permit; if my neighbour puts in a hot tub - why should they have to pay the city?</p>
<p>I would be in favour of a pool & fitness centre in Chestermere.</p>
<p>I would like to see Planning & Development Services include in its long range planning City or RV County land designated to the building of a seniors' care facility.</p>
<p>If Chestermere did not have so many rules and regulations you would not require as much staff in this department. Nightmare to deal with this group of people.</p>
<p>If this includes approval of housing changes, and the engineering that goes into the lot development, then the current employees should be fired. Our neighborhood has changed from original proposal and is now becoming overwhelmed with multi-family homes as they are being built to fill empty lots as opposed to the original design. There is now no where to park all the vehicles that come with this kind of development as the street wasn't designed for this for a reason.</p>
<p>Inefficient planning. Why dig up holes when they could check plans for information</p>
<p>Keep it roughly the same but not overkill and make use of the money wisely.</p>

<p>Make sure there are no really bad decisions re lakefront property that has made our waterfront a disaster, that now contain city hall and other businesses. More town hall meetings on major issues, utilize social media. Safeguards to prevent the mistakes made for flood control and improper sewer piping in the Cove. Make it mandatory to have soil analysis and proper concrete mix reports by the contractors on every new property where concrete is to be poured to prevent future deterioration.</p>
<p>more businesses here. bring down the lease and taxes for business so they can survive... heck we don't even have a McDonalds.</p>
<p>More money towards getting more businesses in Chestermere and increasing our non residential tax base</p>
<p>More residential development coming when that's the last thing this city needs. Planning seems to be worried more about the population figures than making Chestetmere sustainable through commercial and industrial development.</p>
<p>More should be done to apply increase costs to the non residential side. I.e. permit fees, licensing. Look into what other cities are doing to increase non residential costs. If there is no business tax then there should something else in lieu of.</p>
<p>Much more proactive planning is needed. We are always increasing residentially but it seems the amenities are not keeping up. Unless it's a pizza place, nail salon or liquor store. Where are all the other business we SHOULD have? i.e. family restaurants, retail shops. The previous council built city hall, a daycare and an accountant office on prime lake real estate where an amazing boardwalk, restaurants and shopping could have been.....I sure hope this council can do better than that!</p>
<p>No</p>
<p>None</p>
<p>Permit fees are very high so should fund the Planning Department without a significant tax component.</p>
<p>Planning and development has been unimpressive and have not shown value. Planning and development has delivered poor & expensive infrastructure such as the beach wall, and demonstrated a stark disconnect with the needs and desires of the residents of Chestermere.</p>
<p>Planning and development need to remain the same and focus on non-residential area. The current plan for the business park in flawed in location and access and size.</p>
<p>planning for the city should be the same as a household "needs" vs. "wants".</p>
<p>what percentage of the population uses the facilities we already have? do we need more?</p>
<p>Please give us seniors a care facility.</p>
<p>Reduce plans for more residential and look at improving commercial tax base first. Attract more business to Chestermere, not more residents!!!</p>
<p>Reduce staffing as too many people are not working to full capacity.</p>
<p>Require developer levies toward a recreation facility; get it paid for with more than just tax dollars.</p>
<p>Schools and High School. Major priority to my family.</p>
<p>See above comment</p>
<p>See my comment under general gov't above.</p>
<p>small reduction</p>
<p>So far, I am pleased by this Department's decisions.</p>
<p>Start listening to the recommendations of planning instead of redoing work so you do not have to make any decisions</p>
<p>Stop all new residential development and concentrate all efforts on commercial/industrial.</p>
<p>The only thing that has built up in Chestermere is the residential areas and the developers have been planning their areas on their own. If Chestermere Planning and Development was doing any planning they would be planning for increased traffic flow, new roads, temporary roads around construction sites. All I see is road closures. Does Planning and Development need a full year to close a road?</p>
<p>There is always room to tighten up. Industry has done it .</p>
<p>There seems to be a lot of staff in that office for the volume of work, although appreciate the work loads can fluctuate. Great people but perhaps take a hard look at how busy they really are.</p>
<p>They should be focused on serving the existing residents needs, not building home marketing features for further development. This department mostly served the development community to sell out Chestermere's "small town" and make it a big city.</p>
<p>This department must work to build business viability in Chestermere.</p>

<p>This is a very dysfunctional team, and in my opinion and experience needs drastic improvement, and more or less money will make little difference.</p>
<p>This is important. Needs to be continued and done better.</p>
<p>This nice Rural Town I moved to to have a escape from the city is going to be another hated City type recluse.</p> <p>Please keep this a Rural Town atmosphere even if you have to call it a City. We DO NOT want to become a another Calgary, we moved here to get AWAY from the City.</p> <p>How long have YOU lived here?</p> <p>No Residents wanted to become a city. It was forced upon the town.</p>
<p>Time to consider halting residential growth for awhile considering that the city can't keep up with infrastructure and traffic. Why are we building new residential suburbs when we have over 200 properties listed for sale in Chestermere? Part of Chestermere's attractiveness is it's quaint little size that makes it feel that you are not living in a large city like Calgary. Keep making it too large and then you become just another suburb of Calgary.</p>
<p>Very poor ,need more industrial,to off set tax's ,mum and pop businesses do not cut it,see lots to talk no action,people not doing there job have to hire out side to get industry</p>
<p>We are not fans of the idea that Chestermere should grow any bigger than it already has. It used to be a small close community with almost no amenities and we were very happy with that.</p>
<p>We can't let growth get away from us.</p>
<p>We moved here to get away from all the wasteful overcharged developments as proven as a waste by prior idiots.</p>
<p>We need our services and taxes to be equivalent to other bedroom communities in order to keep property values from dropping further I don't mind paying taxes if it's not being wasted, ie CUI. City planning has totally squandered the water front opportunity with the Tim Hortons drive through and the backs of buildings and parking lots at the waterfront, although the park space has been done nicely although very noisy and the beach should only be for tax paying residents and their guests.</p>
<p>We need planning to allow more creative development. Not all according to a master plan dictated by the Calgary Regional Partnership. As long as we must follow their lead, why do we need city planning or public input? I wish we had more autonomy. If we did, I'd up my support of this department.</p>
<p>We need to increase our tax base to include more big businesses and industrial services! We can't keep expecting the house owners to carry the burden. Having big business also is good for a community as they love to donate to those fundraisers for the needy!!</p>
<p>Well Chestermere has not done a good job here. No large business to take the tax brunt so as a result we are taxed. I see they are breaking ground now with those new developments. I hope we are getting the proper tax set up so in the long term the residents see a reduction.</p>
<p>When you get the poor folks on Viewpointe Terrace a sound wall then really come talk to me. Go stand on Viewpointe Terrace and tell me how well that sound wall which is mean for a 50km road works? Fix what should have been fixed before building stuff people aren't using anyway.</p>
<p>Would hope with an increase to this budget might then improve process for development permits.</p>
<p>YES, We need Seniors Housing. Why should our long time and aging residents have to move out of the town when they can no longer maintain their homes and care for themselves. We need single level, easily accessible units. Why does Olds and Strathmore have many seniors units in their smaller towns, and we have NONE??</p>

Policing & Enforcement

Laws and regulations ensure that our community is a safe place where all residents can enjoy a high quality of life in peace. The RCMP and Community Peace Officers (CPO) provide education, support and emergency response services to enforce local, provincial and federal laws.



Potential Impacts of changing Policing & Enforcement

A 5% decrease: This could eliminate proactive safety initiatives such as boat patrols on Chestermere Lake, and cause reductions in some areas of service including a decrease in response times for non-urgent calls and the elimination of CPO school programming.

A 2.5% decrease: This could reduce or eliminate proactive safety initiatives such as boat patrols on Chestermere Lake, limit Peace Officer after-hours service availability for the community, and cause minor reductions in some areas of service including proactive community patrols.

A 2.5% increase: This could increase proactive safety initiatives such as boat patrols on Chestermere Lake, increase presence in parks such as foot patrols and bike patrols along pathways and increase targeted enforcement activities which may include a bait car program. It could also allow for an increase in CPO school visits.

A 5% increase: This could increase proactive safety initiatives such as boat patrols on Chestermere Lake, increase presence in parks such as foot patrols and bike patrols along pathways and increase targeted enforcement activities which may include a bait car program. It may also fund a ½ time dedicated school resource officer for the 7 schools served by Chestermere RCMP.

Responses to additional Policing & Enforcement Question:

Are you in favour of photo radar and red light cameras as a means to improving community safety and to help offset Policing and Enforcement costs?

No: 91

Yes: 81

Comments about Policing & Enforcement:

Over the last year it appears that the Chestermere peace officers do more than the RCMP you see them in the community at events with the fire department. You also see them pulling people over in dealing with people in parks. When you called bylaw CPO they were actually nice and help you, when you call the RCMP they make you feel like you're burdening them.
A lot of expensive nuisance enforcement that doesn't seem to have much effect on dope growers, late night high speed traffic, contractors owning the streets or thievery. I would support the use of street cameras to help catch the crooks and midnight "rockets".
after hours patrolling and methods to capture property damage/thieves..this is a major focus. Too often i see multiple cars on one scene.
All I want is more and/or the current police dedicated to stopping the ridiculously high number of break and enters in this city vs handing out traffic tickets.
Already too much invested in new building, vehicles, etc.
Been here for over 25 years and to be honest feel the policing is getting worse rather than better. Continually add extra officers and yet we hardly ever see any driving around our area of the city. Live near Triangle Park and never have we seen any policing at the playground zone. Speeding has been occurring through there for years and nothing ever gets done.
Chestermere will require more police with cannabis being legal,they do an excellent job
Crime is increasing in our city
crime is so high here. better services needed
Don't really see them around much. Only crime I hear about is car break ins which could be reduced if people used their garages or locked their vehicles!!!!
enough with the entrapment traffic tickets. concentrate on gangs, drugs and b&e.
Focus less on speeding and more on public safety and property crime.
F*(! photo radar. Fire the useless sheriff or peace officer and provide more real police. Speeding tickets and photo radar are a tax that penalize the law abiding citizens. Hire more real police to reduce crime. CPO school visits are also a waste of time. Kids can see police and fire during their volunteer activities like the parades.
Get rid of 3/4 plus proven useless staff.
I believe that because our community has grown so much that we need to increase our tax dollars to policing. We are sitting ducks here in the evening without proper police patrols.
I consider it to be quite adequate currently.
I don't think they patrol with the money spent. It seems that is more of a policy issue compared to money issue.
I feel our police and Peace Officers are very present in our City. By putting in cameras we may have increased service levels to other things rather than what appears to be just traffic.
I just want a safer community to live in where I know my children will not be taken from their back yard or front street. Or that we won't get broken into when we are at work.
I say yes to the above question but would like to see what kind of reduction this will provide. No change in expense.
I think it should go more toward pursuing crime/ criminals with the amount of rural crime going on. Frustrating when we had a vehicle stolen and it took 20min for a RCMP to show up to be told they can't do anything and have to go to another call.
I think they currently do a great job and if they need more then so be it but seems as though they are managing with what they currently have. If a bit of a revenue source is needed so be it but don't want to see that get out of hand either.
I think we are properly represented and am satisfied with the level and quality of service.

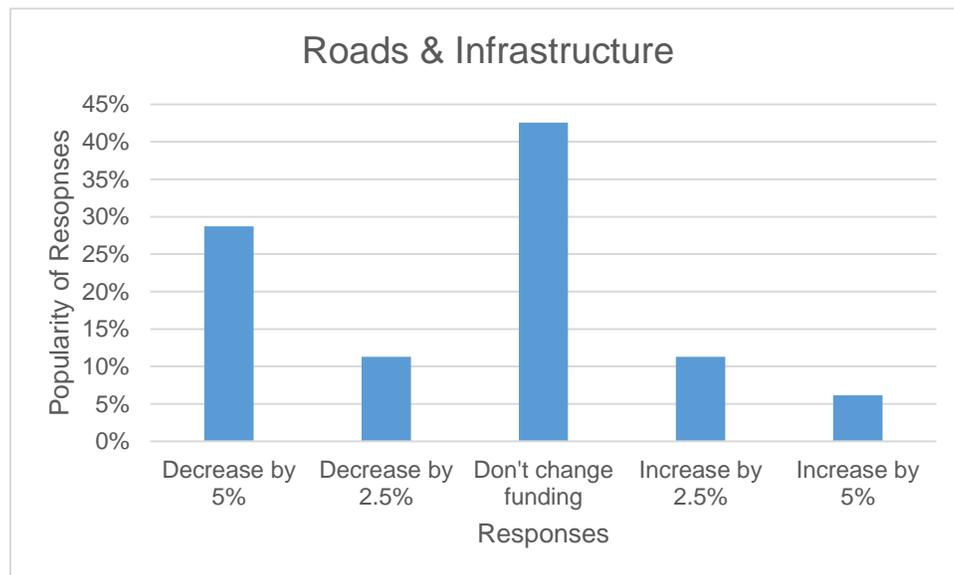
I worry that people think stop signs are optional in Chestermere. I think we should prioritize road upgrades (e.g., traffic circles) to mitigate traffic risk.
I would like to know the amount of RCMP vs the duties, I would think that more resources could be put on crime prevention particularly at night vs traffic tickets.
I would like to see less emphasis on enforcing traffic laws and more vigilance/effort placed on reducing thefts, break in's, criminal activity.
I would like to see more peace officers instead of police and later shifts for peace officers
I would like to see more peace officers instead of Rcmp. They help create revenue for the city.
I would like to see more police driving around residential areas. I only see them by Tims and on 17th. I think school zones and residential areas need patrolling during the day and night.
I would like to see RCMP out and patrolling as we have too much crime. Presence of police is important. Not just sitting to ticket minor infractions. Peace officers are just trying to write tickets. I watch them running plates to give tickets on Marina drive. How about actually driving in and out of the areas rather than just sitting on a main road to ticket people.
I'd like to know the cost of installation vs potential revenue before considering this.
If installing red light cameras and reinstating photo radar can lower my property taxes then I'm all for it. I believe there is too many Peace Officer's anyway
Keep it the same. Make sure undesirables do not congregate at the car park John Peake park. This is one way of keeping the park clean and safe.
Kinder and friendlier police officers please
LESS boulevard flowers more police on patrol
Let them do their job and police
More boat patrols
More community patrol. Our crime rate is off the charts. I Love Chestermere, the Facebook group, prevents more crime than the RCMP do at this stage and I think that's embarrassing. No to photo radar and red light cameras. We've lived through that nightmare and know what it feels like to live in a police state - affecting speeders only, not thieves. Now if you want to talk about cameras to catch the thugs, that's a different story and I'd vote yes to that! Raise the speed limit to 50 kph.
More enforcement of all kinds. Photo radar, cameras, ghost cars, and higher fines.
more patrols into the late evening to combat vandalism
More police out doing more than just sitting in a photo radar truck and hiding behind bushes. Get involved in the community and more patrol cars please
More policeing for crimes and theft. We dont need any more speeding tickets except for the drag racers and loud muffler vehicals.
My concern is protection for the increase in theft that we hear about. Our RCMP need more support.
Need to do more about property theft and vehicle break ins
not sure what they can do about rolling stops ... seems quite a few people treat stop signs like yield signs ... and well yield signs seem to be ignored.
Our police are amazing. We want to be safe in Chestermere. Give them the tools.
Perfect
Photo radar would be a great benefit. The boundary line should be extended East to at least include hwy 779 and south
Please spend more time working on crime prevention/ community safety and less focus on traffic violations.
Police are used much more often than fire dept. Makes no sense that fire has more than double the funding. Kids stealing from cars etc is rampant. Police are notoriously under staffed and funded. Let's help them out a bit. Seems ridiculous that we have so many firefighters who sit around all day while police are stressed and depressed from being constantly overworked.
Police do a good job of enforcing, we must continue to have boots on the ground, along with regular patrols through neighbourhoods in off hours, to decrease break ins and car thefts.
Police more. Revenue collect less.
Police response times are terrible for the most part. If anything increase the amount of peace officers in chestermere as they actually create revenue for the city and are out in public working hard every day.
Police service does an excellent job, but need to be more supportive of other groups that want to help out such as CCOP, block watch, etc

Police services are pretty good, bylaw enforcement needs to be tweaked. As we see bylaw driving around why does it take a phone call to get any enforcement? Especially for blatant infractions
RCMP do a pretty good job. Need more officers. Peace Officers do not do a good job of bylaws and have been heard to complain about doing bylaw complaints. Peace Officers excel at traffic law enforcement during the day, and not really when it is needed during weekends and evenings.
Significant increase in police visibility, and enforcement for speeding vehicles/distracted drivers in residential areas.
Something needs to be done to make citizens feel safe to leave their home. Break-ins are becoming more frequent as are car thefts. Perhaps I. The higher instance areas the idea of street cameras similar to what they have in the UK would be beneficial
Start rounding up suspicious people driving and walking around neighbourhoods.
Stronger overall presence in the community.
Tell them to police vs ticket, stop some real crime.
they seem to run radar in the out lying roads move to the play grounds
this is a good one, well most rcmp are friendly doing their job when you see them. I see them pulling over older people for running stop signs, etc..no ones pulling over drug dealers, drunk drivers and gang bangers speeding around.
This should be a revenue generating operation. Education first, enforcement second. Fines need to be punitive.
Vehicle theft and home theft needs to come down!
Visible enforcement
waste too much time doing boat patrols on the lake.
We are a growing community that is right beside a very large community and unfortunately have a lot of big city crime that is not being dealt with. On my way home from Calgary at midnight I frequently see cars sitting with their lights out on side roads with people in them doing who knows what. I don't feel safe at all.
We are over policed.
We have too many police but the city will likely grow to the point that the current level of policing is adequate.
We've had to call on the RCMP twice and both times we felt very unsatisfied with the results, as there were no results.
With our community growing so quickly; so is the crime rate. We have to increase the policing to make chestermere a safe place to live.
I'm sorry but I think red light cameras and photo radar are just a cash grab
Would like to see a stronger night time patrol to help with all the vehicle theft.
Would love to have more peace officers/rcmp for speeding/illegal u-turns in play ground zones and school zones.
You forgot about the large number of vehicle thieves and break-ins in Chestermere. Great job of policing in Chestermere but lets put up photo radar and red light cameras so police can do even less patrolling and still be receiving money. Another great tax gouge. How about put a police car there. That is what they used to do.

Roads & Infrastructure

This team makes our roads drivable, clearing snow and sanding in the winter, sweeping the sand in the spring and repairing potholes. They also coordinate the completion of many major construction projects in the City including road upgrades, bridge maintenance, and parks upgrades.

Roads & Infrastructure includes road maintenance, engineering, GIS, and the Project Management Office.



Potential Impacts to Roads & Infrastructure

A 5% decrease: This decrease could dramatically decrease the ability to conduct regular maintenance, strain the ability to respond to resident service requests and extend development reviews and response timelines as we grow.

A 2.5% decrease: This decrease could reduce the ability to perform regular maintenance, increase service request response times, reduce safety initiatives (including high visibility crosswalks) and lengthen development review and response timelines.

A 2.5% increase: As we are facing inflationary pressures due to fuel prices and the increase of inclement weather, an increase of this amount would allow the City to keep up with the current operations.

A 5% increase: This could increase infrastructure maintenance initiatives, improve our ability to respond to resident requests and add new safety initiatives (cross walk flashers, zebra painted crosswalks).

Comments about Roads & Infrastructure:

<p>We have some pretty high traffic areas near city hall and Rainbow drive for such a small city. We need to find alternate funding sources for road costs specifically, but I do see it as a concern that will get worse with the way we are growing.</p>
<p>No need for snowplows to be scrapping the practically bare pavement. No need for them to wear down the blades doing the same street over and over!! Blade repair must cost us a fortune!! And over use of sand is a waste.</p>
<p>I would hope an increase would provide more service not just maintaining current operations. I don't understand the limited options when choosing increases/decreases</p>
<p>Roads needs a serious overhaul. Snow removal is a joke and is very poorly organized. The current way that it is run seems to lack for site and planning.</p>
<p>Very poor service and organization.</p>
<p>Snow removal needs to be more organized. When it was contracted out through Christmas a while back it ran so much smoother.</p>
<p>I think that the roads are fairly well maintained. As a major thoroughfare out of town 17th ave needs to be looked at...make sure it is salted and sanded before morning rush hour. Perhaps some communication between Calgary and Chestermere to get the road cleared all the way to Easthills. It's not only our residents using the road. There is a consistent flow of traffic from the city as well. The amount of \$770/yr seem astronomical</p>
<p>No</p>
<p>Roads in the winter look better 10 years ago than they do nowadays and that's the exact same roads. Yes I understand there's more roads nowadays but they still have the same main roads to plow with more equipment and don't seem to get the job done proficiently. If it's Monday to Friday between eight and five not bad but after hours horrible.</p>
<p>Again - this is one of the most over staffed departments in the city. Sanding and plowing is only one example of over kill, at one point East Chestermere drive looked like a county road with so much sanding. The amount of equipment the City owns is insane - IE a heavy haul tractor trailer for what? Have they never heard of using a contractor to tow or haul a broken down piece of equipment? There are thousands of areas in this department that would be far more cost efficient using contractors.</p>
<p>Generally good, snow clearing in the winter is always timely.</p>
<p>I feel we should have another access road to get in and out of Shoreline Vista area (backing onto 16 Ave) with all the new properties being built this is cause for concern with only one way in and out. In the event of a disaster or emergency this could become a trap.</p>
<p>I think our current level of snow removal and street cleaning is more than necessary.</p>
<p>Roads in Chestermere are fairly new and early into the pavement lifecycle. Snow removal is a key to increased life. Let roads remain status quo for a couple of years before increasing the budget.</p>
<p>They never respond to requests. Even if to say that they received the email. Poor customer service.</p>
<p>Takes to long to get things done ,and we do not get quality work done for the money</p>
<p>This subject is paramount. Must be done and done better in my opinion.</p>
<p>Potholes</p>
<p>This will continue to be a struggle and this team works hard but is under staffed at times. To meet the needs of Chestermere, they need more people.</p>
<p>Gain addtl support through other govt funding and negotiations</p>
<p>Currently too much/frequent snow clearing is done. Road are kept to a v. high standard eg-few potholes.</p>
<p>I feel that the snow removal and road matenance is OK.</p>
<p>General road maintenance is important, however I see crews replacing sidewalks with a small crack in them, plus the jobs are very poorly coordinated, and sometimes on weekends for likely premium pay. more scrutiny required</p>
<p>I see a great deal of waste in the maintenance of our infrastructure. Rented machinery that sits for days on end not being used, project that were not completed correctly the first time and odd choices for the scope of some projects. Many businesses believe that cost over runs are part of municipal projects. Holding these contractors accountable and assigning penalties when projects go over budget or over time could help decrease costs.</p>
<p>repair potholes, clean up the roads of sand earlier. Also when plowing snow do not push it so that it blocks the driveway.</p>

I have no problem with the amounts. My complain is I see sanding trucks sanding dry roads, I realize that people who work there need to work, but lets be honest dropping gravel on dry roads benefits no one. I also feel that we need to have people on call when it snows. Last year we s*!% the bed after a couple of storms hit on Sat and it wasn't until Monday that some of the roads were cleared.
Be more efficient
At times poor utilization of snow removal equipment. In the winter/early spring when it is predicted that temperatures will rise significantly and the snow will melt, we really do not need snow plows out the day before.
Any growth should be supported by new taxes from new residents. I have seen snow plows and sanders going down the street when there is no snow. Better plan should assist in this cost reduction.
I'm shocked at the piece of the pie dedicated to roads and infrastructure. I didn't have any complaints but now that I'm aware of how much goes toward it, my expectations are higher. Perhaps widening the bridge across the lake to keep traffic moving?
Force efficient operations
Inefficient operations regarding labour costs and vehicles (why is it necessary to have custom mud flaps on vehicles)
Do you really think you will get unbiased information when you ask people for their name and contact info after?
The East and West Chestermere Drive upgrade project from a few years ago had a couple planning miscues. One of the worst was the 6m wide driveway max. I understand this if your property is below the roadway but forcing the 3 car garages in the homes just south of West Merganser to share a driveway is goofy while any house not on East or West Chestermere drive has no such restriction. One house has a light pole right in the middle of their garage door. I'd be embarrassed to have "planned" that!
they should be sub contracting this road maintenance, and garbage pick up .
I believe it would be less expensive
Complete waste of funds on all the road developing which was unnecessary along lake roads. Did absolutely nothing for lake shore owners.
We have some dysfunction in this area as well and could use some experienced folks making decisions on impacts that effect the operations and balance that to the costs.
its all in the planning, budgeting and curbing the "wants" and "would be nice to haves" a little which would allow the city to save.
The snow clearing the last couple of years has been brutal. Main roads not passable with a car most of the winter. Dollars need to be spent properly on the roads. Just because our "city" took control of 17th Ave, doesn't mean we need to keep digging it up for no reason.
I have recently in the past few months seen improvements such as crosswalk lights. This has taken a long time. Some sidewalks have been replaced three (3) times. This is not acceptable and waste of money. The department needs a shakeup.
This is too broad a % & group without further expansion of what they represent.
This is too high a % group without more information.
They do an excellent job and more funding does not appear to be needed
Do not need our streets cleaned five times in a row. Clear snow when our side streets are so impassable that neighbours have to band together to get each other out of the drifts? Very few snowfalls last year, but then the streets were a mess. What are these guys doing for the rest of the winter? They could be out there cleaning up the side streets. Rainbow Road was closed down for months - a major traffic artery for our town. 17th can no longer handle the volume of traffic. Not city worthy!
What maintenance? Pothole repair? There could be a reduction in road closures, signs and contractors tearing up the streets and not repairing them after. How about road expansion? Why isn't that on your list? I would cut a lot more than your 5% if I could. This city council needs to remember why the last city council ran away or wasn't voted back in. Taxes are being pissed away like we are some cabin club and the comments about what would happen if the taxes were reduced reflects that.

I feel that the city is doing an adequate job in this area for the funding it receives. Considering the relative size of Chestermere, I don't feel that there is any need to consider major road upgrades in the near future/
Happy with the road crews.
Too much street sweeping in the spring. Our street gets swept 10 times.
I think the allocation of these funds could be reviewed. It seems that this is a significant piece of my tax dollar that doesn't actually get my road cleared in the winter. Every year there is a drop from the road to my driveway because of the ice and snow build up on the road way
I would be in favour of increasing this budget for more side street ploughing to ensure that small vehicles don't get stuck in the winter.
Rainbow Road and 16th Ave need work. Would like a bus system with Calgary set up
Cutback is needed during this difficult economic times. The city needs to cutback on this but maintain its current service.
Plot the roads better and more often !!!!
Too many useless things in new Cove park. This should have been done in a much more economical way as opposed to the "money is no object" way.
Better organization needed
Seen the snowplows clearing dry bare streets too many times.
this is a necessity to work/school/grocery etc
Our current roads need upgrades in a number of areas, along with road widening to accommodate more traffic, as well, snow removal is a key items, along with the street sweeping program in spring.
They are not doing a good job clearing snow from streets in a timely manner
don't adjust the budget for roads. They are cleared enough.
The biggest problem is Highway #1, it is so close to East Chestermere Drive that it's impossible to carry on a conversation due to noise, and the path is very dangerous, dozens of vehicles go through the fence every year, mostly in the winter. In other places there are walls right along highways. We periodically hear rumours of the highway being moved further east, we pray that it's true!
This department is sorry to say non existent. Who signed off on that 50km sound wall behind our houses on highway 1? its a sound wall made for a 50 km road way. Try sleeping and living in this area, the sound and noise affect those as far as Marina Drive. I cant have my dog stay a tmy house because the noise is so disturbing, and cant enjoy my back yard but I am paying top dollar taxes to support things I do not care about, I plan on moving.
I don't believe the current status is working. I believe this needs a reboot and refresh of old ways.
I am sure of the needs but I would want to know the cost involved in painting lines (especially on CB). It is September and they are still not painted. They need to be done at the end of April and again at the end of September/October.
Please twin Chestermere blvd (17th ave se) to Calgary.... this makes sense and can keep people safe. Add a overpass at garden road and trans canada
Plowing services are poor in the winter.
I am happy with the level of service for roads but would like an increase to continue with infrastructure projects in the city.
Our road was plowed more than enough last year. I feel even with the extraordinary winter we had for snowfall accumulation, it didn't need to be plowed and sanded as much as it was. We sometimes had the sanding truck go by as many as 3 - 4 times per day.
They are doing a good job so far.
The city does a reasonably good job in clearing the streets,however we strongly object to the plow coming down our street every time 2 flakes of snow fall it is a way to excessive and unnecessary there must be a better way of dispatching the plows to the different areas. There is money to be saved here.
Again a great job but not affordable.
I'm surprised by the amount of, and the newness of public works equipment that the town owns/leases and operates. Same goes for the public works shops/storage sheds/offices. Must be a very significant amount of capital outlay and labor cost to operate everything.... I wonder if all is necessary or if savings could be possible if some work was contracted out.

We had the plow on our street on rainbow falls once last year, in March. The roads were so bad on the bottom of my vehicle from ruts. At the same time, don't want more money in this category.

We have to make certain flooding never happens again, it has been very hard on our family to recover from losses and I'm sure there are others that have had it worse than us