

THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

Report TR 26-2021

Council Meeting Date: November 30, 2021

TO: Mayor Weber and Members of Council

FROM: Janet Ferguson, Treasurer

RE: 2022 Budget Survey Results

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report TR 26-2021 regarding the 2022 Budget Survey be received for information.

SUMMARY

This report presents the 2022 Pre-Budget Survey results.

BACKGROUND

For the last 6 years Council has issued a survey enabling the public to provide input to the annual budget and comment on any concerns, projects, and programs.

The 2022 Budget Survey was posted on the Lambton Shores website from September 10th to November 12th, 2021. The results have now been collected and summarized within this report. The detailed questions, results and comments are provided in Attachment 1.

There were 177 participants in the survey, which is down 198 from last year. To summarize the demographic of the responders:

- Majority of responses were from Ward 1, Ward 2, and Ward 5
- Majority of responses were ages 45+ (43.5% were ages 45-64 and 32.8% were ages 65+)

In response to the value received for their tax dollars, most respondents rated the value received as “good” or “fair” (40.1% “Good” and 40.1% “Fair”).

The survey allowed participants the opportunity to provide input on items or issues they would like included in the 2022 budget. The following list summarizes some of the repetitive comments or projects for consideration:

- Economic development initiatives for Arkona, Forest and Thedford
- Traffic congestion in Grand Bend / Highway 21
- New Community Centre in Grand Bend
- Additional parks and outdoor recreational facilities (e.g., pickleball)

- Improvements for Arkona (e.g., programming, roads/planning for new housing, new library and community centre, sidewalk repair)

The major component of the survey was directed at budget items and financial impacts; however, there were questions for business owners as well. The results of these questions suggest there are many business owners who are unaware of the services and resources available through Municipal partners. This identified an area for improved communication efforts to ensure business owners are aware that these resources are available to them.

ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER

Council has the option of considering all or some of the comments provided during the budget process. Council could direct staff to include specific items in the 2022 Draft Budget for consideration.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

That Report TR 26-2021 regarding the 2022 Budget Survey be received for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact by Council receiving this report. If Council chooses to implement any suggestions from the survey, the cost would have to be determined at that time.

CONSULTATION

None

ATTACHMENTS

2022 Detailed Budget Survey Results