

### Budget 2022: Creating our Budget – Survey Results

Tiffany Farrell, CPA, CA Director of Corporate Services

Presentation to Municipal Council | September 22, 2021

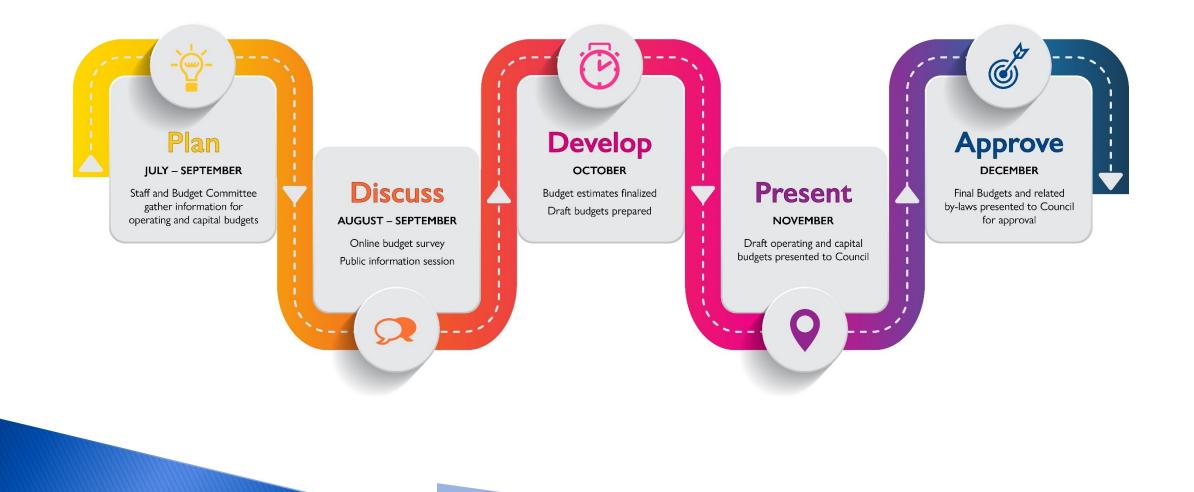
### About the 2022 Budget Survey

- > 207 Total Responses
- THANK YOU to everyone that completed the survey!
- Opened July 19 to August 24, 2021
- Advertised on Website, Social Media, e-Newsletter and Municipal page in Middlesex Banner
- Immediately followed public surveys on Community Services (Recreation) and Sidewalks & Streetlights, which may explain lower than anticipated results
- Results will be used to inform the 2022 Capital and Operating Budgets for Middlesex Centre, as outlined in Budget Road Map





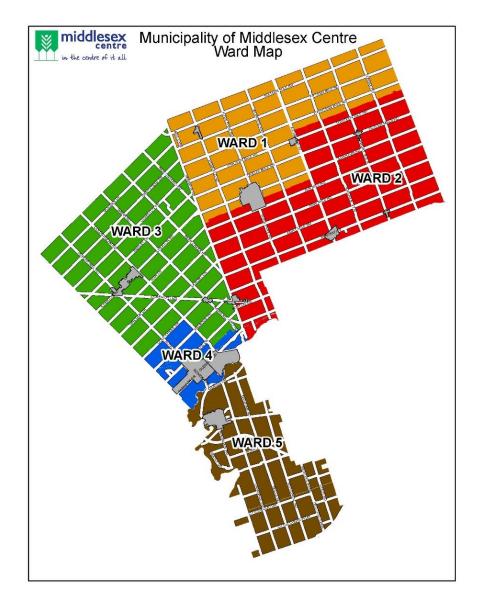
# Middlesex Centre BUDGET ROAD MAP



#### **Budget Survey Structure**

- The Survey Structure:
  - Most questions outlined services asking residents how satisfied they are with them, and then asked residents if the services should be enhanced, maintained or reduced
  - 1 question asked for "any additional thoughts on budget" (Full written comments available at middlesexcentre.on.ca/budget2022)
- Additional questions provided demographic information.
- 99.37% of respondents (who answered the questions) noted they lived in Middlesex Centre)

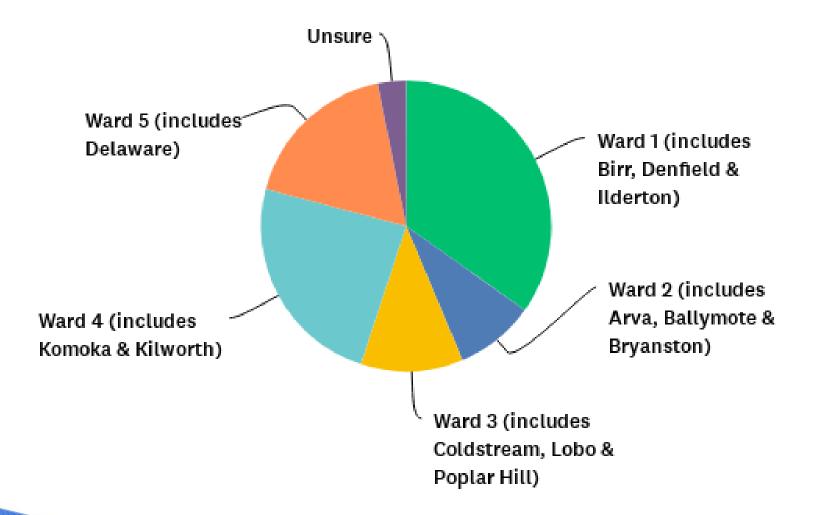




Geographic Distribution of Results

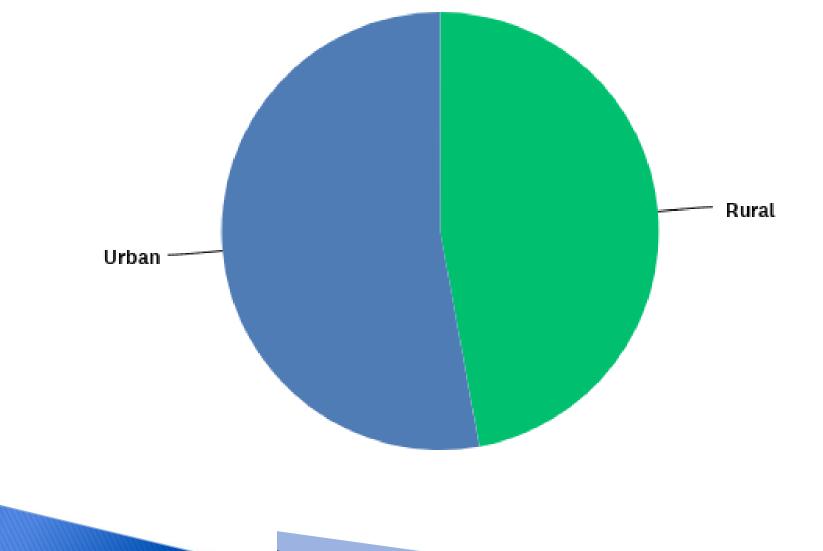
#### **Q22: Demographics - Where in Middlesex Centre do you live?**

Answered: 158 Skipped: 49



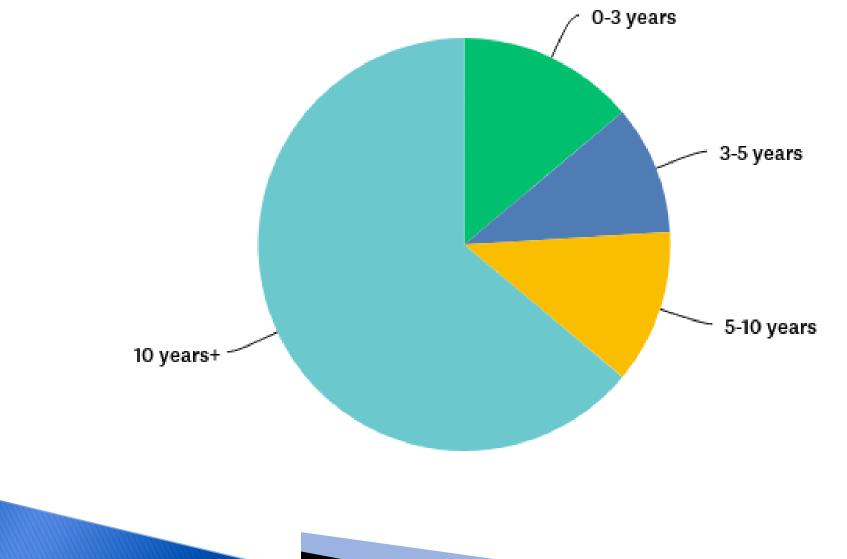
### Q23: Demographics - Would you describe your home as being in a rural or urban setting?

Answered: 157 Skipped: 50



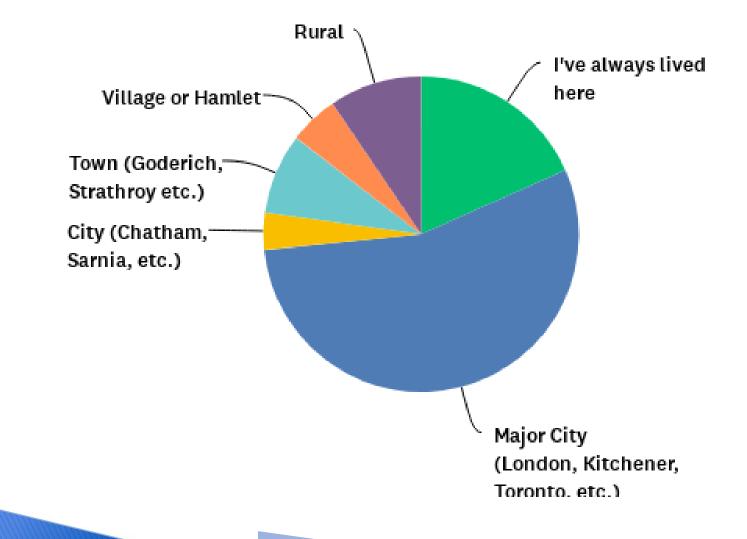
#### **Q24: Demographics - How long have you lived in Middlesex Centre?**

Answered: 158 Skipped: 49



#### **Q25: Demographics - Prior to moving to Middlesex Centre, where did you live?**

Answered: 158 Skipped: 49



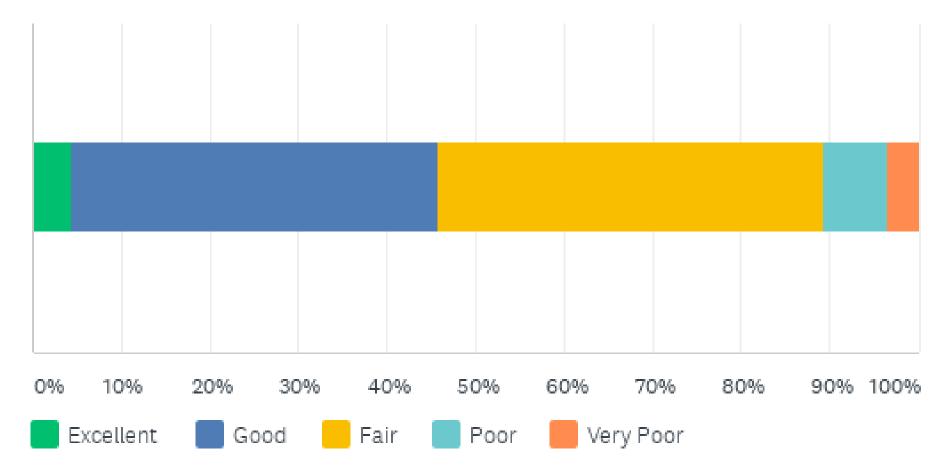


#### Overall Value for Tax Dollars



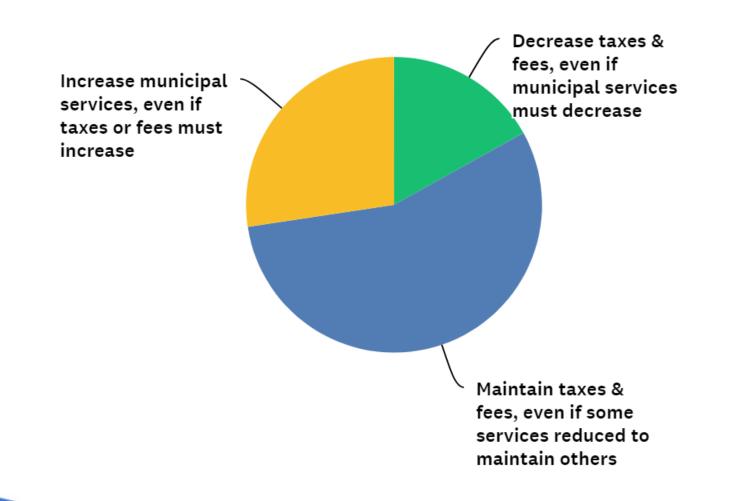
Q1: Thinking about the part of your taxes that go to Middlesex Centre, how would you rate the overall value you received for your tax dollars?

Answered: 205 Skipped: 2



### Q2: When creating the municipal budget, which statement comes closest to your point of view? The municipality should:

Answered: 201 Skipped: 6



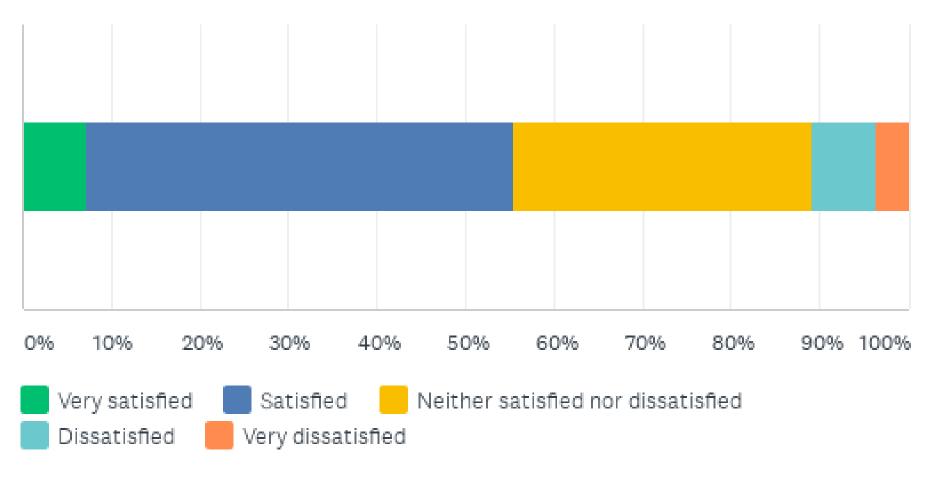




#### Satisfaction with Services

## Q3: Overall, how satisfied are you with the delivery of ALL the services provided by Middlesex Centre

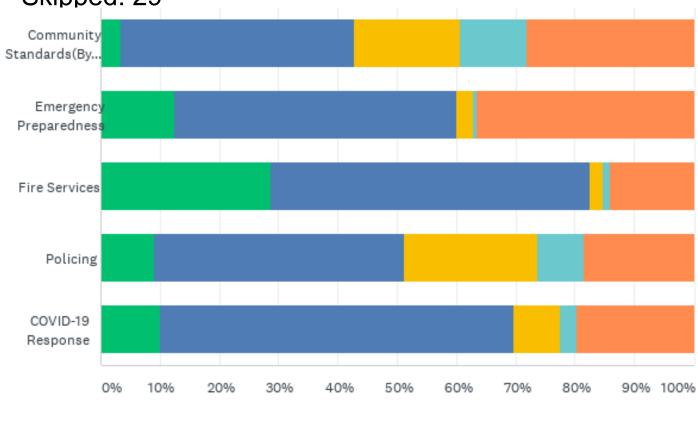
Answered: 193 Skipped: 14





# Q4: Safe Communities - How satisfied are you with the following services and programs provided by Middlesex Centre?

Answered: 178 Skipped: 29



Dissatisfied

Very Dissatisfied

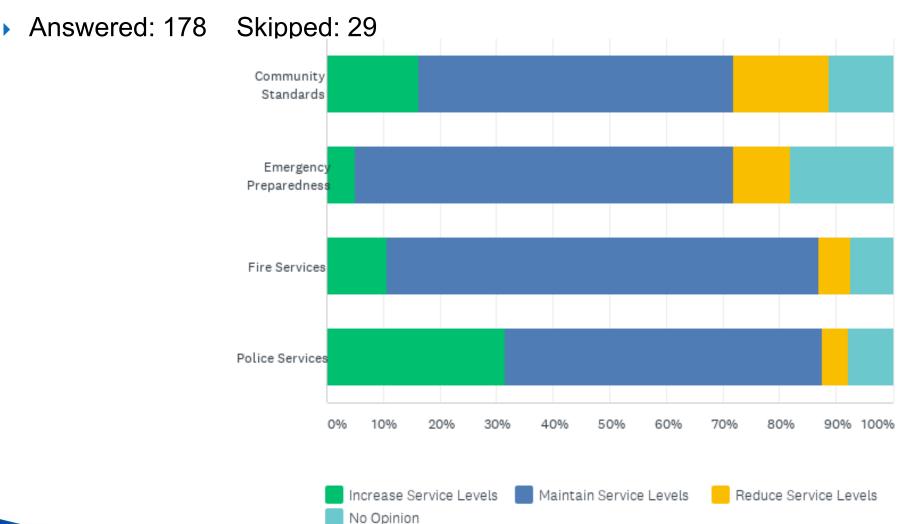
Don't Know / No Opinion

Satisfied

Very Satisified



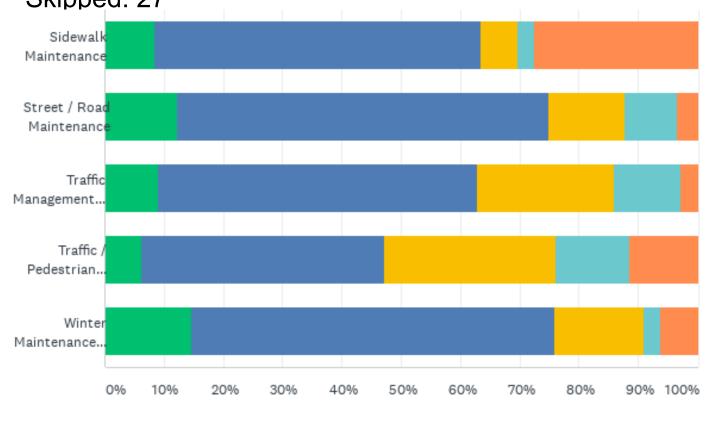
## Q5: Safe Communities - For each of the following, indicate whether the municipality should increase, maintain, or decrease the level of service.



16

# **Q6: Transportation - How satisfied are you with the following services and programs provided by Middlesex Centre?**

Answered: 180 Skipped: 27

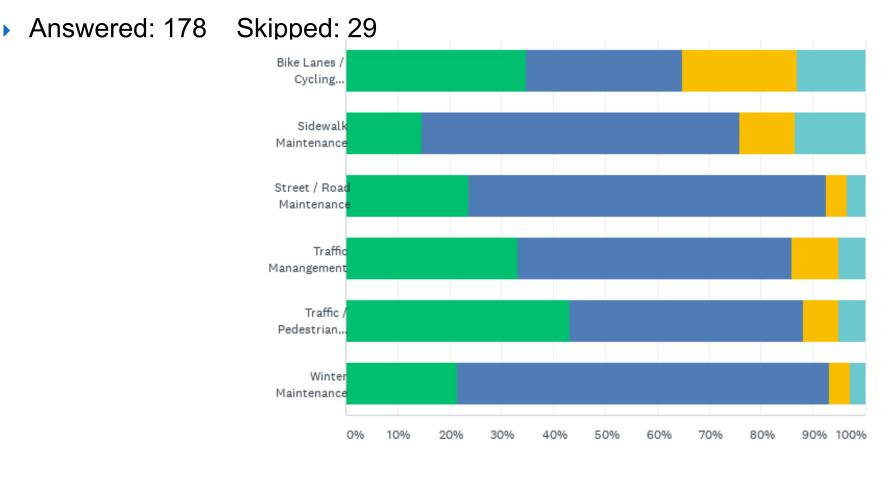


Very Satisified Satisfied Dissatisfied Don't Know / No Opinion

Very Dissatisfied



### Q7: Transportation - For each of the following, indicate whether the municipality should increase, maintain, or decrease the level of service.

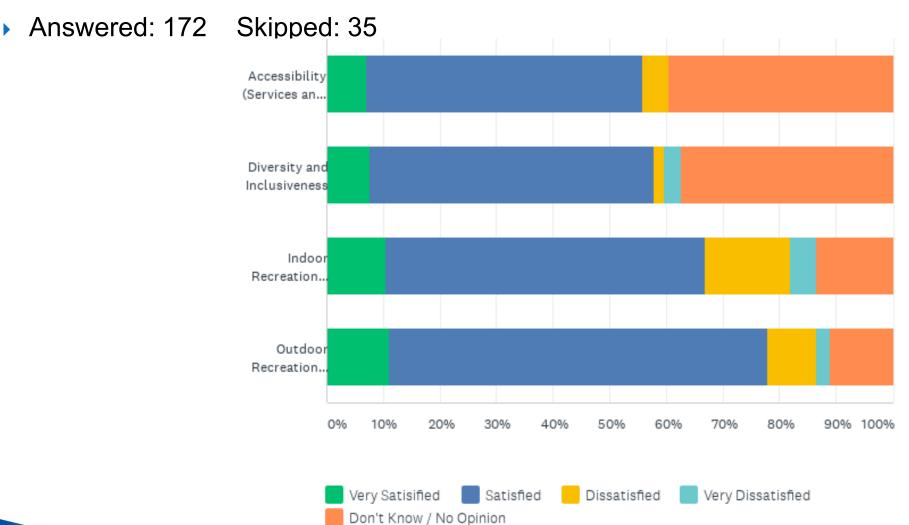


Increase Service Levels 📕 Maintain Service Levels 🦳 Reduce Service Levels

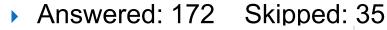


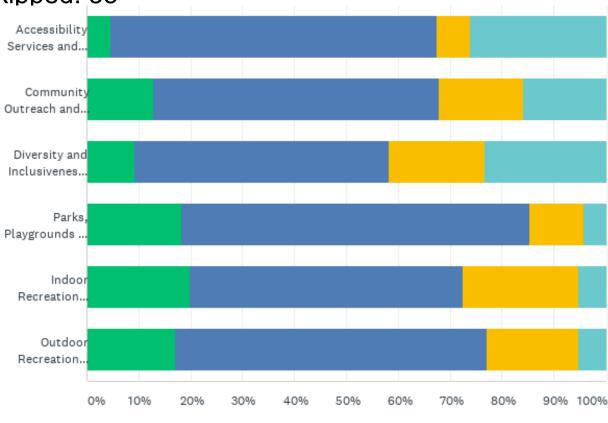
18

# Q8: Healthy, Livable Communities - How satisfied are you with the following services and programs provided by Middlesex Centre?



# Q9: Healthy, Livable Communities - For each of the following, indicate whether the municipality should increase, maintain, or decrease the level of service.

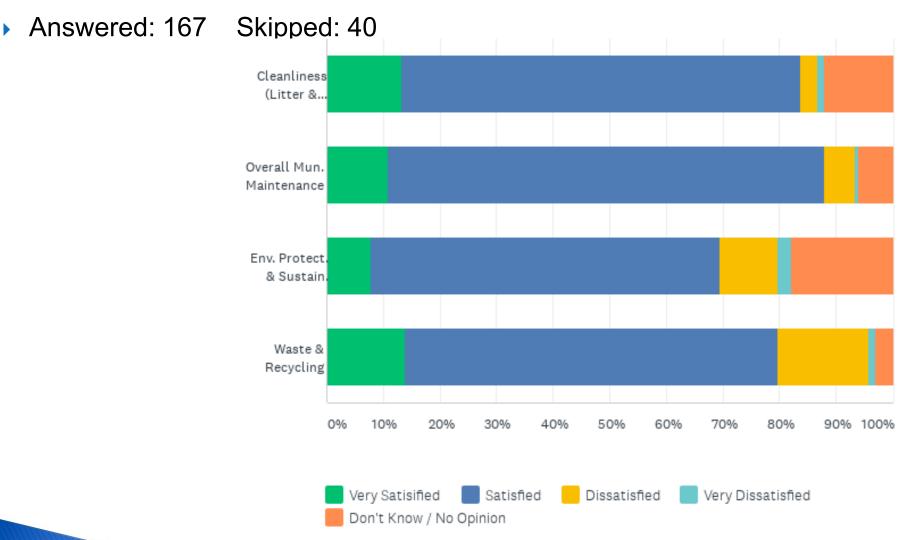




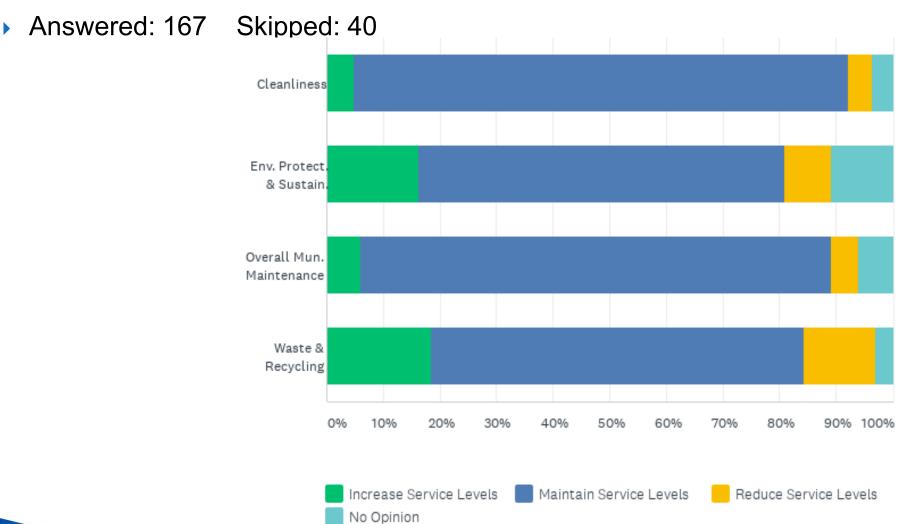
Increase Service Levels Maintain Service Levels Reduce Service Levels



# Q10: Clean, Sustainable Communities - How satisfied are you with the following services and programs provided by Middlesex Centre?

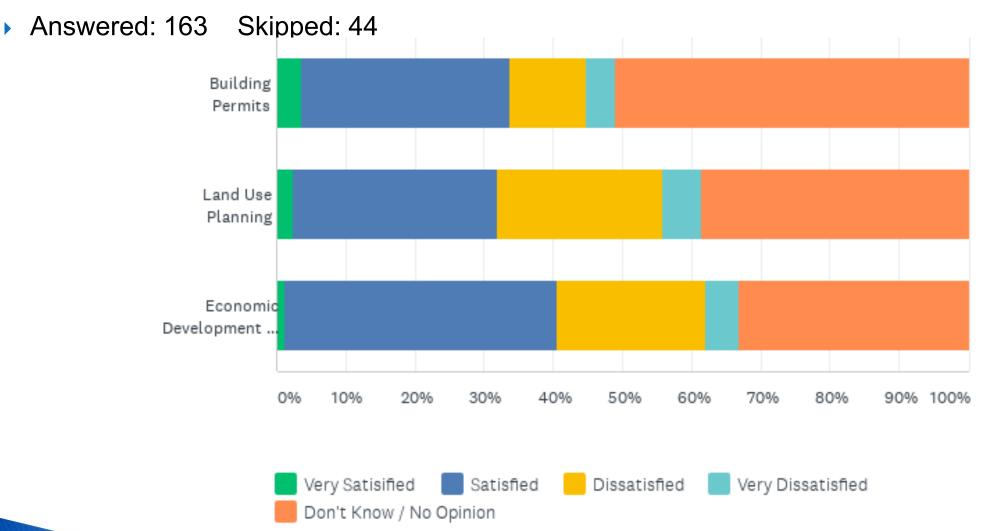


# Q11: Clean, Sustainable Communities - For each of the following, indicate whether the municipality should increase, maintain, or decrease the level of service.



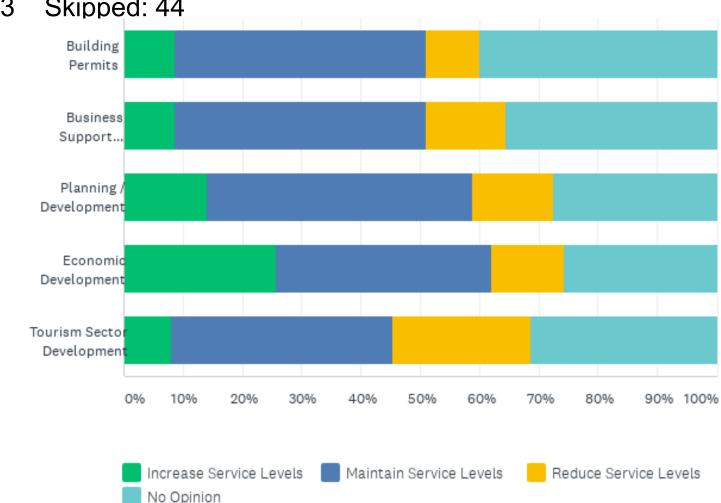


# Q12: Growth & Ec. Development - How satisfied are you with the following services and programs provided by Middlesex Centre?





## Q13: Growth & Ec. Development - For each of the following, indicate whether the municipality should increase, maintain, or decrease the level of service.



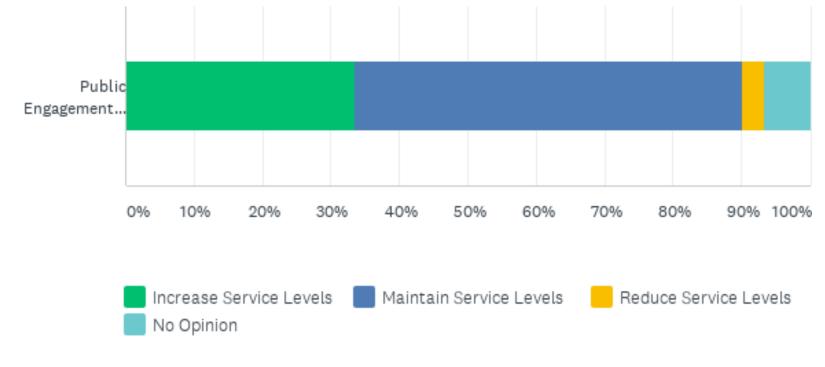
Answered: 163 Skipped: 44



**Q14: Governance & Engagement** - Over the past year we've reached out for community input on a number of projects and initiatives, including our Strategic Plan, Official Plan Review, and Community Services Master Plan. We've done this through surveys, town hall meetings, virtual open houses, and sharing content through our website and social media platforms.

Should we continue to engage with you in this way?

Answered: 164 Skipped: 43



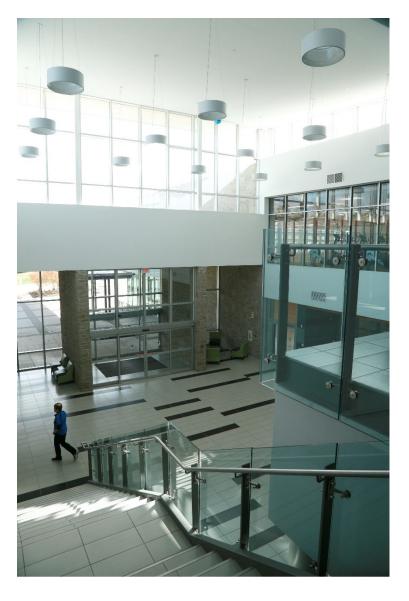












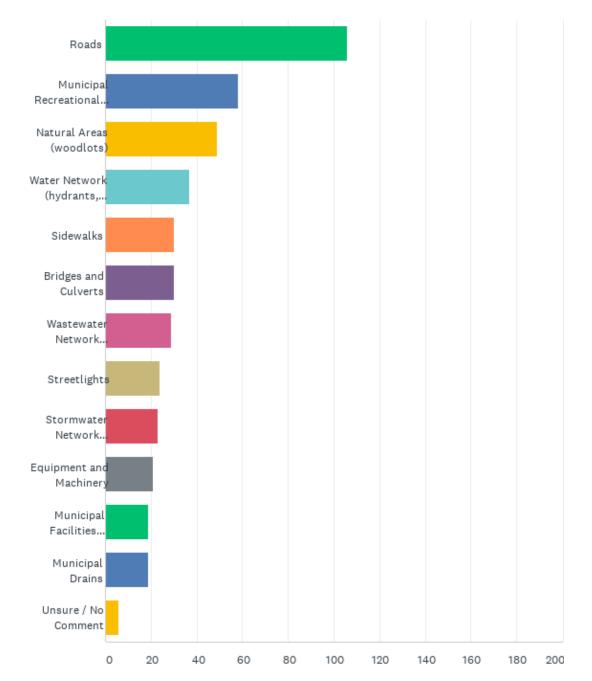
#### Managing Municipal Assets



#### **Q15: Managing Municipal Assets**

Like many Canadian municipalities, we are focused on infrastructure renewal, and planning for the cost of that renewal through asset management. Council approved the Middlesex Centre Asset Management Plan earlier this year. Which municipal assets are most important to you? Select up to 3.

Answered: 165 Skipped: 42



#### Q15: Managing Municipal Assets

Like many Canadian municipalities, we are focused on infrastructure renewal, and planning for the cost of that renewal through asset management. Council approved the Middlesex **Centre Asset Management** Plan earlier this year. Which municipal assets are most important to you? Select up to 3.

Answered: 165 Skipped: 42

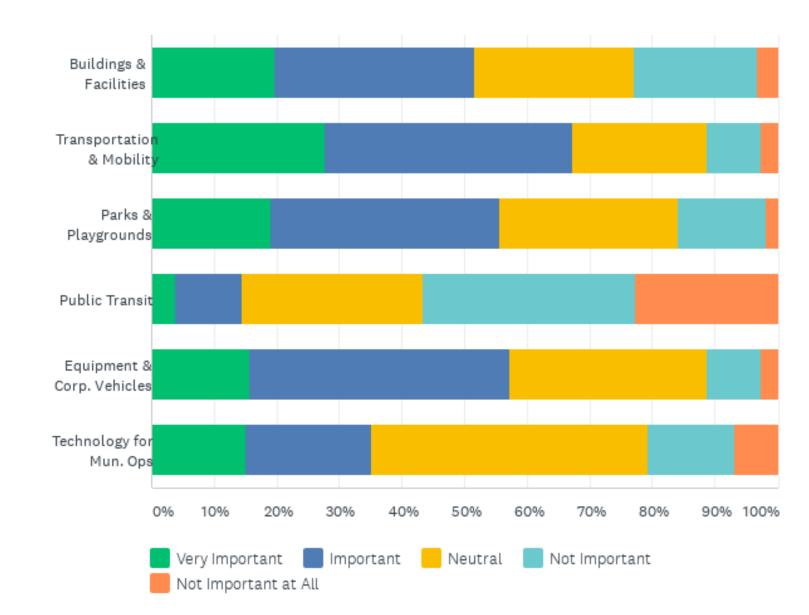
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Roads	64.24%	106
Municipal Recreational Facilities and Parks (arenas, community centres, playgrounds)	35.15%	58
Natural Areas (woodlots)	29.70%	49
Water Network (hydrants, water mains, water towers)	22.42%	37
Sidewalks	18.18%	30
Bridges and Culverts	18.18%	30
Wastewater Network (pumping stations, wastewater treatment plants, wastewater mains)	17.58%	29
Streetlights	14.55%	24
Stormwater Network (stormwater management ponds, catch basins)	13.94%	23
Equipment and Machinery	12.73%	21
Municipal Facilities (municipal office, transportation garages, fire stations)	11.52%	19
Municipal Drains	11.52%	19
Unsure / No Comment	3.64%	6
Total Respondents: 165		



#### Q16: Infrastructure Priorities

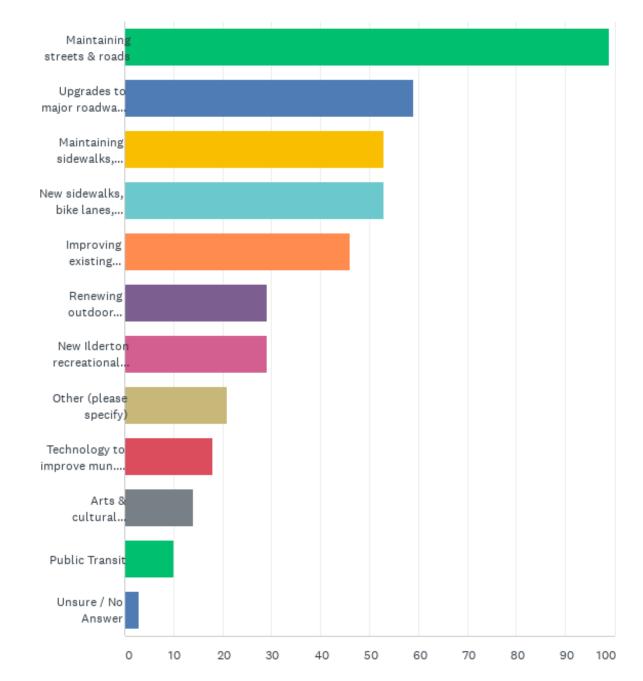
The municipality invests in various infrastructure projects, including buying or building new assets, or investing in existing ones. How important is it to you that we invest in the following infrastructure categories?

Answered: 160 Skipped: 47



**Q17: Infrastructure Priorities** Middlesex Centre spends a portion of its yearly budget on infrastructure to meet growth requirements and community expectations. The following are some of the infrastructure projects we may wish to pursue in the coming five years. Which would you like to see the municipality pursue? Choose up to 3 options.

Answered: 162 Skipped: 45





**Q17: Infrastructure Priorities** Middlesex Centre spends a portion of its yearly budget on infrastructure to meet growth requirements and community expectations. The following are some of the infrastructure projects we may wish to pursue in the coming five years. Which would you like to see the municipality pursue? Choose up to 3 options.

Answered: 162 Skipped: 45

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Maintaining streets & roads	61.11%	99
Upgrades to major roadways to provide increased capacity	36.42%	59
Maintaining sidewalks, walkways & trails	32.72%	53
New sidewalks, bike lanes, walkways & trails	32.72%	53
Improving existing facilities	28.40%	46
Renewing outdoor recreational facilities	17.90%	29
New Ilderton recreational facility / arena	17.90%	29
Other (please specify)	12.96%	21
Technology to improve mun. service delivery & customer service	11.11%	18
Arts & cultural facilities	8.64%	14
Public Transit	6.17%	10
Unsure / No Answer	1.85%	3
Total Respondents: 162		





#### Suggestions and Comments

# Budget-Related Suggestions & Concerns from Survey (Written Comments)

- Responding to Comments:
  - All comments compiled and provided to departments for response (grouped into topic areas).
  - Response document will be posted to the Budget 202 website with this presentation. Overview follows.



# Budget-Related Suggestions & Concerns from Survey (Written Comments), cont.

- Comments and priorities identified includes:
  - Water Rates
  - More bylaw enforcement
  - Green bins/composting
  - Affordable housing
  - Climate Change
  - Trails
  - Limiting and controlling growth
  - Farm tax rate



#### **Issues Outside of Municipal Control**

- Some of the suggestions dealt with issues outside of municipal control:
  - Concerns related to County Roads and services (primarily crosswalks, safety)
  - Concerns related to Policing (enforcement/patrols)
  - Rural Internet and Cell Service
- Where appropriate, these issues will be shared with lead agency or government department.



### **Positive Thoughts from our Community**

"Thanks for all your efforts. Not an easy task with limited funds."

"Building department and permit services are top tier; web services are easy, quick response and staff are helpful. Thank you."

"I think that I'm mostly satisfied with how things are run and how my tax dollars are spent. I realize that staff and elected officials will never be able to please everyone."





#### **Stay in Touch!**



farrell@middlesexcentre.on.ca



519-666-0190 ext. 224



middlesexcentre.on.ca



@MiddlesexCentre



@MiddlesexCentre

