



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – November 29, 2023 Agenda Item 4

### **Work Session**

Development of Balancing Act Survey for Community Release - Provide update on the Balancing Act Tool and get Council's guidance on which priority items to include in the Prioritize module before going live and engaging the public.

### **Recommended Council Action**

Provide guidance to staff on which priority items to include in the Prioritize module for public engagement and any additional feedback since the Balancing Act presentation and Council's trial of the Prioritize module.

### **Context with Key Issues**

City staff have reviewed the Tax Receipt Module and have requested some updates including recommendations from Council which the vendor is currently addressing. We expect those issues will be resolved within the next two weeks after which staff plans to send the link to Council for their review before going live to the public.

Council has had the opportunity to use the Prioritize tool and have provided some feedback on the functionality of the website which Balancing Act is currently working on. Staff plan to go live to the public after the functionality issues are resolved and after the website is updated to include only the priority items that Council would like to include to engage the public.

The City plan to go live with the budget simulation tool once we have a draft Fiscal Year 2025 budget.

### **Council Priorities**

Advancing a Community of Belonging; Fiscally Sustainable Government; Environmentally Sustainable Community; Engaged, Responsive, Service-Oriented Government; Community Development for an improved and Equitable Quality of Life.

### **Environmental Considerations**

The tool can be used to obtain resident's feedback on the City's environmental goals and the projects that residents rank highly.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

Fiscally Sustainable Government: continue to build on improvements in budget process, presentation of budget information, and communication to residents.

### **Racial Equity Considerations**

The tool provides the opportunity to ask and receive feedback from all areas of the community as well as collect demographic information that could be used in furtherance of an equitable quality of life in the City.