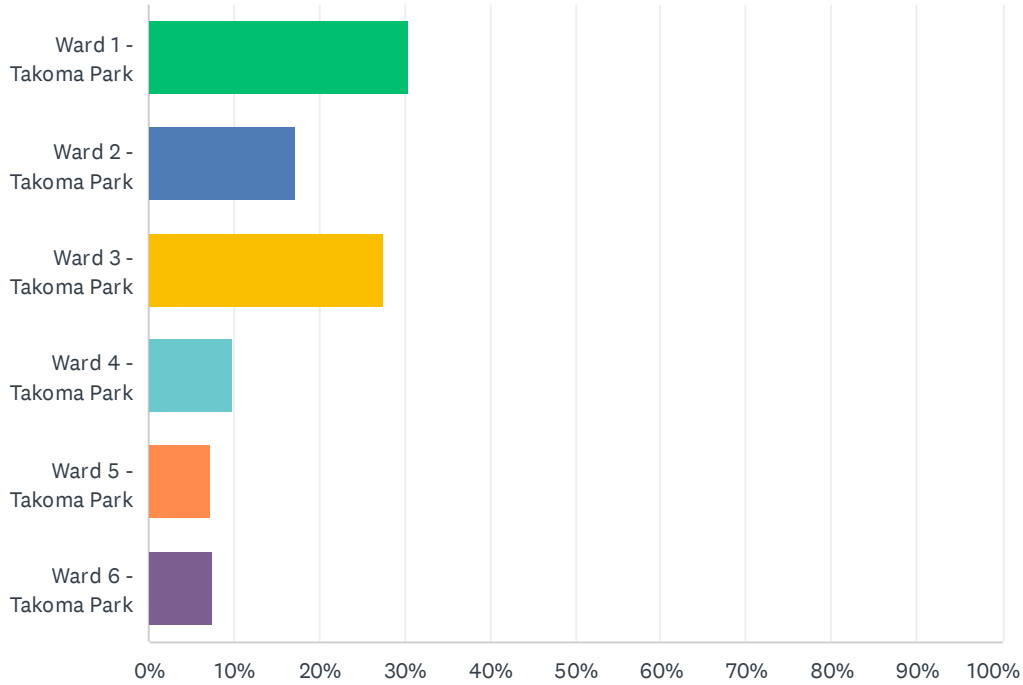


# Q1 1. According to the map below, what area of Takoma Park do you live in?

Answered: 424 Skipped: 0



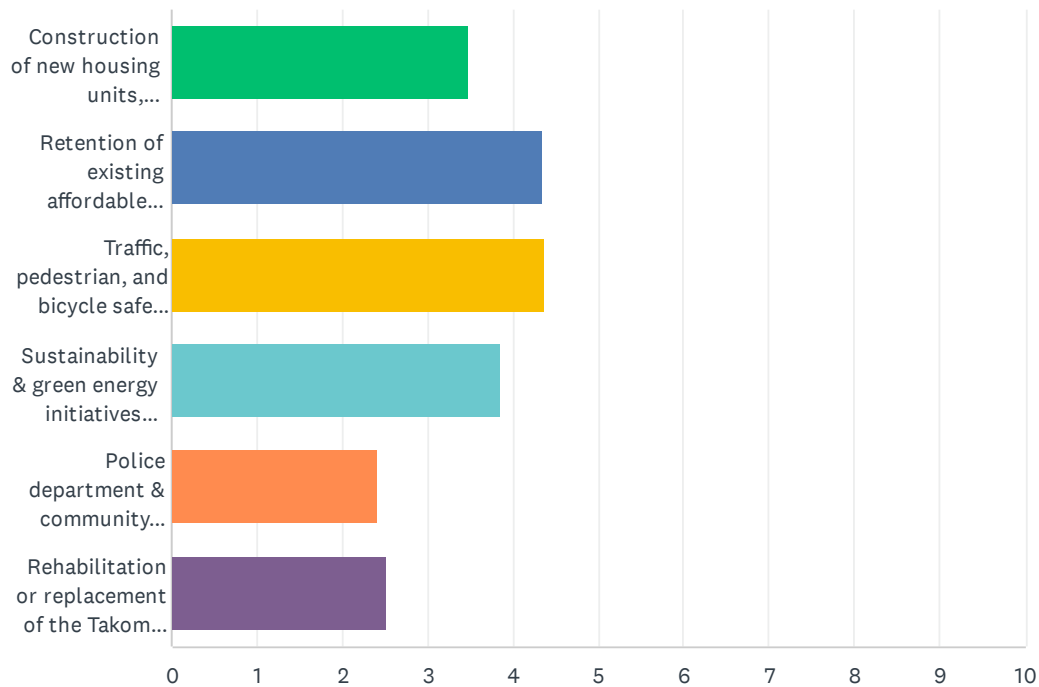
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Ward 1 - Takoma Park	30.42%	129
Ward 2 - Takoma Park	17.22%	73
Ward 3 - Takoma Park	27.59%	117
Ward 4 - Takoma Park	9.91%	42
Ward 5 - Takoma Park	7.31%	31
Ward 6 - Takoma Park	7.55%	32
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>424</b>

Q2 If you reside outside city limits, please explain your connection to Takoma Park (e.g., work in Takoma Park, family lives in Takoma Park, etc.).

Answered: 293 Skipped: 131

Q3 2. The City of Takoma Park has a few major planned initiatives over the next 5-10 years. Please prioritize the following list of initiatives from 1 (Higher Priority) to 6 (Lower Priority) using the arrows below to rank each item.

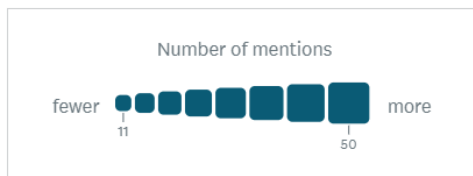
Answered: 419 Skipped: 5



	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	SCORE
Construction of new housing units, including market rate and affordable	15.27% 64	18.62% 78	15.75% 66	18.38% 77	13.37% 56	18.62% 78	419	3.48
Retention of existing affordable housing	30.55% 128	26.25% 110	14.56% 61	13.13% 55	8.11% 34	7.40% 31	419	4.36
Traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle safety improvements	29.59% 124	20.53% 86	21.24% 89	17.18% 72	8.59% 36	2.86% 12	419	4.37
Sustainability & green energy initiatives such as stormwater management, clean energy transition for City fleet and facilities, and supporting residents and commercial businesses in clean energy reductions	15.27% 64	20.53% 86	25.54% 107	20.76% 87	9.79% 41	8.11% 34	419	3.86
Police department & community center improvements	2.63% 11	7.88% 33	11.46% 48	15.51% 65	30.79% 129	31.74% 133	419	2.41
Rehabilitation or replacement of the Takoma Park Recreation Center	6.68% 28	6.21% 26	11.46% 48	15.04% 63	29.36% 123	31.26% 131	419	2.52

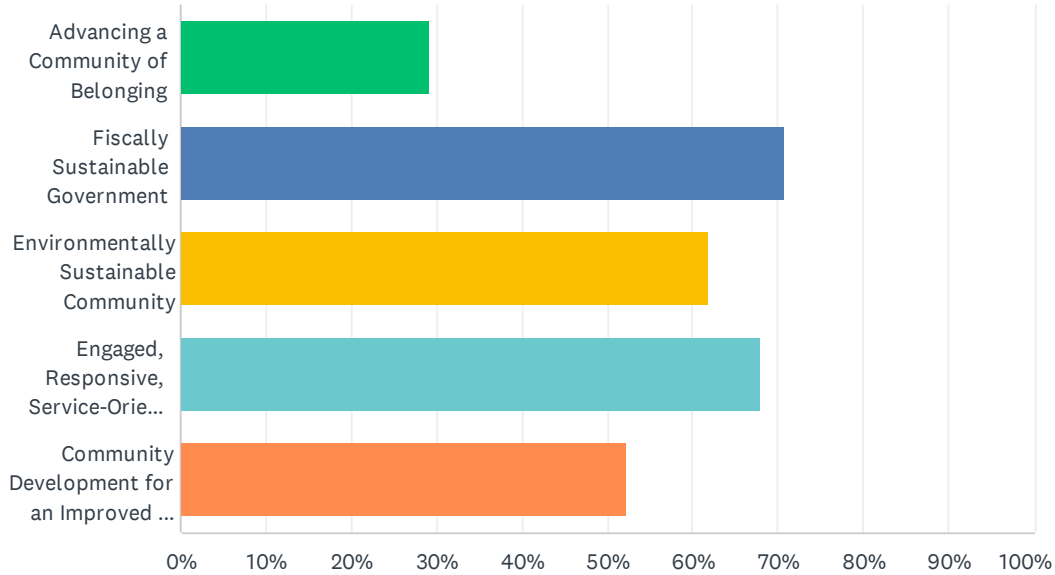
### Q4 3. Please provide any comments you have about your prioritization of the above initiatives.

Answered: 366 Skipped: 58



Q5 4. Below is a list of the City Council’s priorities for Takoma Park. Please select your top three. For more information, please visit the City Council Priorities for 2023-2024 web page.

Answered: 420 Skipped: 4

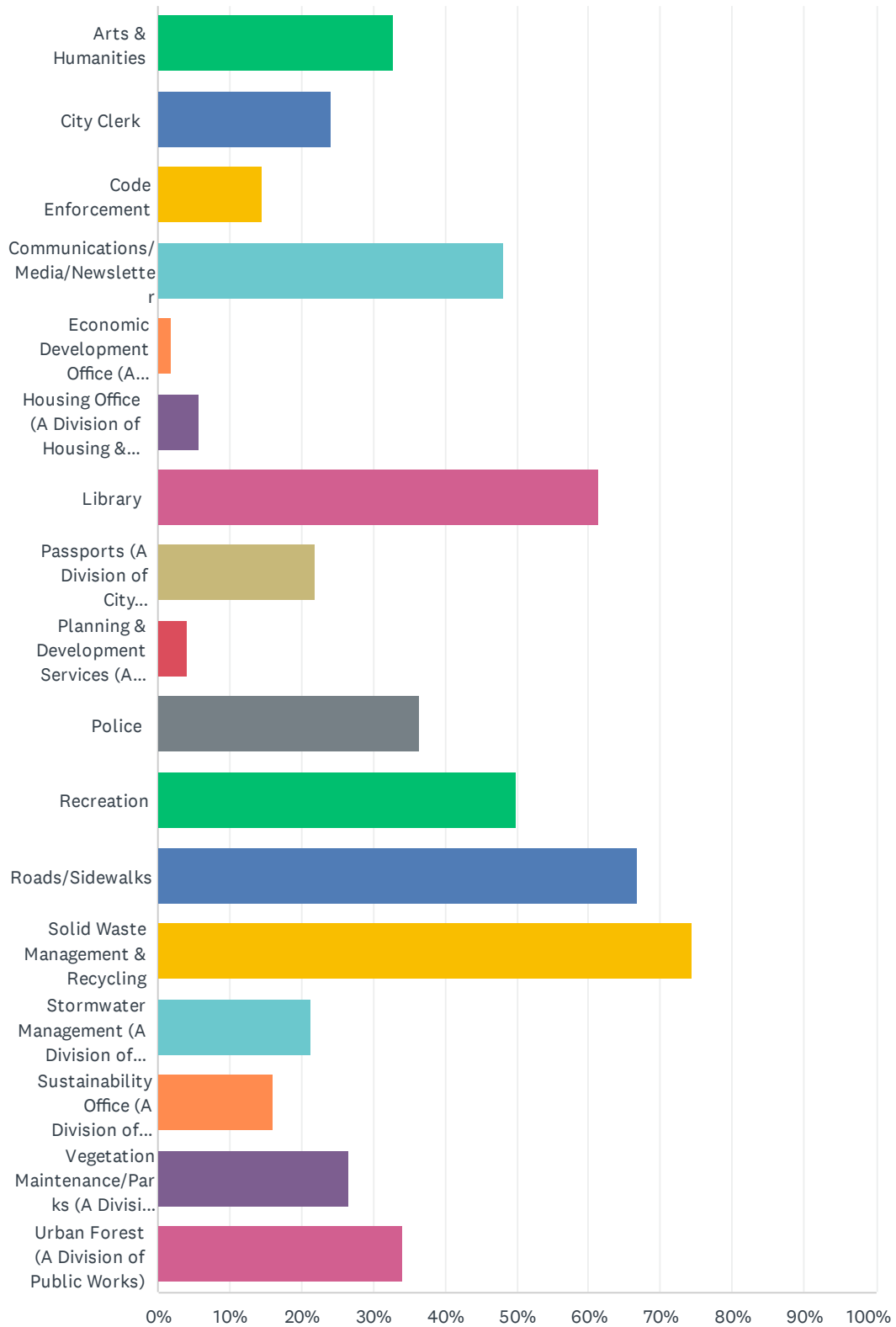


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Advancing a Community of Belonging	29.29%	123
Fiscally Sustainable Government	70.71%	297
Environmentally Sustainable Community	61.90%	260
Engaged, Responsive, Service-Oriented Government	68.10%	286
Community Development for an Improved & Equitable Quality of Life	52.14%	219
Total Respondents: 420		

Q6 5. The City provides many public-facing programs and services. Please identify any items on the list below that you have used or participated in over the past year. For more information, please review the Public-Facing Programs and Services Overview (PDF).

Answered: 418 Skipped: 6

# Takoma Park Community Survey



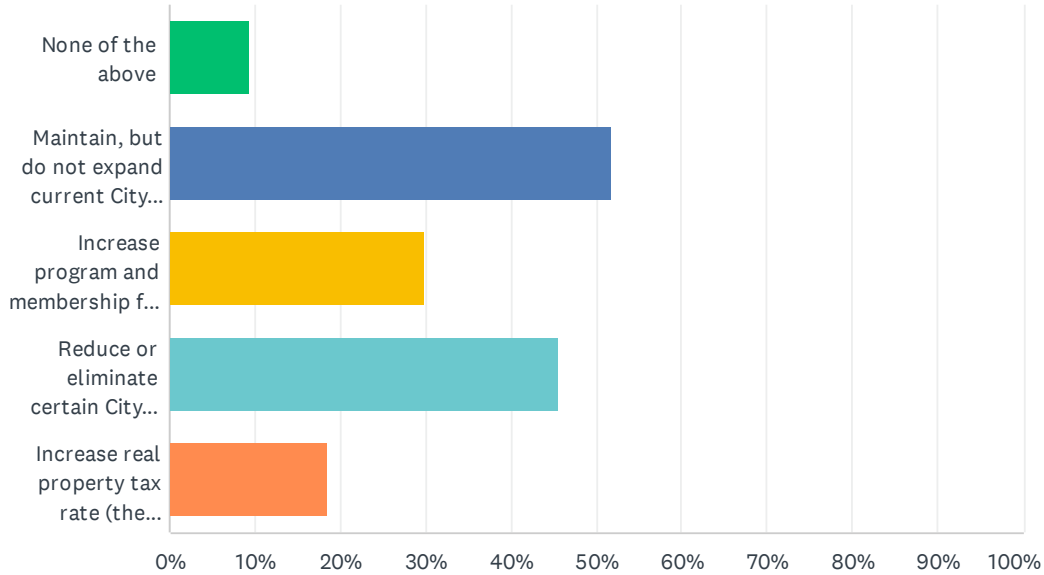
## Takoma Park Community Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Arts & Humanities	32.78%	137
City Clerk	24.16%	101
Code Enforcement	14.59%	61
Communications/Media/Newsletter	48.09%	201
Economic Development Office (A Division of Housing & Community Development)	1.91%	8
Housing Office (A Division of Housing & Community Development)	5.74%	24
Library	61.48%	257
Passports (A Division of City Administration)	22.01%	92
Planning & Development Services (A Division of Housing & Community Development)	4.07%	17
Police	36.36%	152
Recreation	50.00%	209
Roads/Sidewalks	66.75%	279
Solid Waste Management & Recycling	74.40%	311
Stormwater Management (A Division of Public Works)	21.29%	89
Sustainability Office (A Division of Public Works)	16.03%	67
Vegetation Maintenance/Parks (A Division of Public Works)	26.56%	111
Urban Forest (A Division of Public Works)	34.21%	143
Total Respondents: 418		



Q7 6. For FY 2026, the City has various options to maintain a balanced budget. Please select which options you would prefer to help achieve a balanced budget.

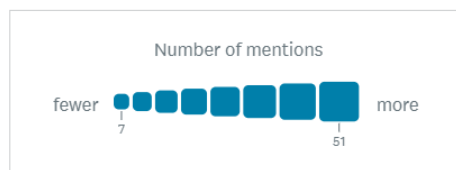
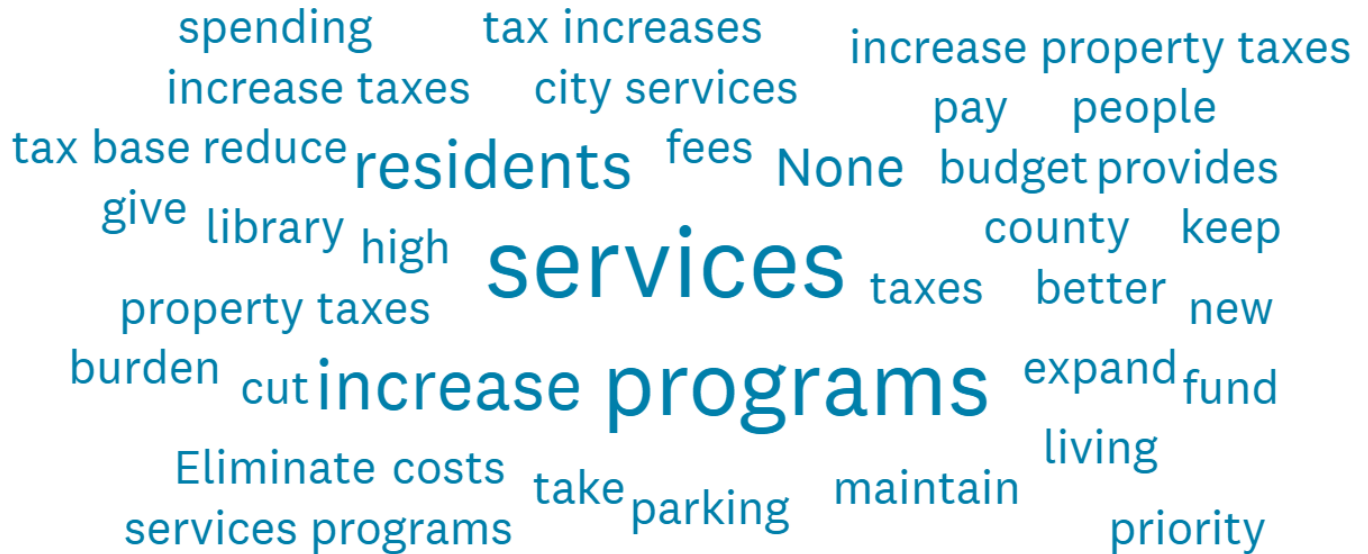
Answered: 415 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
None of the above	9.40%	39
Maintain, but do not expand current City services and programs	51.81%	215
Increase program and membership fees for City programs (for example, rentals for facilities, recreation classes, compost pick-up fee, trash pick-up)	29.88%	124
Reduce or eliminate certain City services and programs	45.54%	189
Increase real property tax rate (the current fiscal year's property tax rate is \$0.5522 per \$100 of assessed value)	18.55%	77
Total Respondents: 415		

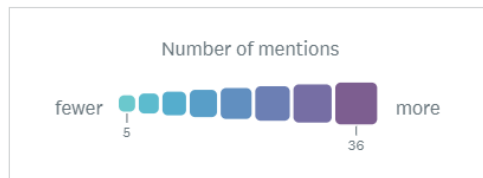
### Q8 Please provide any comments, including details from your answers to Question #6.

Answered: 342 Skipped: 82



Q9 7. You are Takoma Park's greatest resource! Please share any ideas and innovations you think the City should consider as part of its upcoming fiscal year budget development.

Answered: 322 Skipped: 102



### Q4 3. Please provide any comments you have about your prioritization of the above initiatives.

Answered: 366 Skipped: 58

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It's clear that there isn't enough affordable housing. We should do everything in our power to build homes. Also, we need more businesses in the city.	12/3/2024 11:52 AM
2	important to have affordable housing and not large expensive houses. important to keep taxes low for older people here. recreation is important.	12/3/2024 11:31 AM
3	Hard to choose between 3 - 4	12/3/2024 11:06 AM
4	I wish that adults with disabilities were given priority for employment and affordable housing. You should come to them.	12/3/2024 11:05 AM
5	Concern for water availability Concern for financial costs (particularly due to weather related damage) *Concern for infrastructure	12/3/2024 11:00 AM
6	The Rec Center is just dreadful. I took one class there, and won't go back. The smell alone is reason to avoid it.	12/3/2024 10:56 AM
7	In canvassing a week ago in Ward 6, I found that I'm not the only resident who cannot abide additional taxes here.	12/3/2024 10:48 AM
8	Please stop passing over the Rec Center and invest in Ward 6. And traffic!	12/3/2024 10:44 AM
9	Slow traffic speeds and enforce speed limits with ticketing.	12/3/2024 10:36 AM
10	Traffic in our neighborhood is dangerous. Kids can't walk safely.	12/3/2024 10:34 AM
11	One of us would place retention of existing affordable housing as second priority - ONLY as long as it is understood we are not speaking in code on any aspect of the Minor Master Plan or opposition to it. We believe keeping the affordable housing we have is as important as building more. It would like to see affordable housing on the WAH property. And affordable housing on the Takoma Junction Lot.	12/3/2024 10:31 AM
12	I lived in Takoma Park for 18 years. I love this city. I do not want to leave because it is so comfortable. But to purchase house in this area is very expensive. House rent is keep increasing, unaffordably. This is why we need more affordable units.	12/3/2024 10:26 AM
13	The selection is too narrow. There are a lot more topics for prioritizing. E.g. too much is spent on pet projects of staff and babysitting other people's children. The Rec Department should not have control of the Community Center.	12/3/2024 2:47 AM
14	Police dept is a huge waste of money. The coop parking lot should be a high rise affordable housing building	12/2/2024 4:37 PM
15	We are forever prisoner of rent. There aren't opportunities to buy in Takoma Park. Our families have to move due to white retirees. They think we are stupid. We want to own!	12/2/2024 4:10 PM
16	Green space, trees and parks are my top priority!	12/2/2024 3:20 PM
17	We need more housing! Preferably built on community land trusts to ensure long-term affordability	12/2/2024 3:11 PM
18	I believe that the police dept & comm center improvements are already underway. That's why its ranked last Without a larger tax base of home owners, this city will either become unaffordable for all but the wealthy or it will no longer be able to provide the services many rely upon & enjoy	12/2/2024 3:09 PM
19	City is pushing new construction initiatives too aggressively. Need to avoid displacement of residents, loss of mature tree canopy, and increases to greenhouse gas emissions that affects	12/2/2024 3:04 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

	our climate goals	
20	Cut through traffic must be reduced. Electric 2 wheelers need to be regulated, licensed & held to traffic laws just like SUVs	12/2/2024 2:59 PM
21	Concerned that city does not manage projects well and is too swayed by large developers	12/2/2024 2:54 PM
22	Until the city has gotten the budget and expenditures under control, no new costly improvements or building projects should be undertaken. Multiple times in the past, city has said rec Center would be improved or replaced. Not done!! Just increasing debt	12/2/2024 2:50 PM
23	None of the above; none of the options appeals to me; frustrated the city has not balanced the budget in 3 years	12/2/2024 2:47 PM
24	We need more affordable housing. TP pretends to be all liberal & welcoming, but over the 30yrs I've lived here, I've caught on that there's a real NIMBY thing going on. I say that as a middle-class homeowner	12/2/2024 2:42 PM
25	1. Existing affordable housing is in poor condition & old 2. Need to expand number of affordable housing units with new units	12/2/2024 2:39 PM
26	I don't want TP to become Rockville. We should limit construction of new housing. People are free to visit. We are a green city which includes safe ways to travel without a car	12/2/2024 2:35 PM
27	Large DC developments surrounding Takoma Park are adding traffic and strain. Developers are taking reasonably priced houses and flipping them into million dollar houses - over improvement	12/2/2024 2:28 PM
28	I think police dept is great, so low priority. #5, #2 & #3 are equally important to me	12/2/2024 2:14 PM
29	Adding new housing units doesn't make sense until our roads can accommodate additional volume.	12/2/2024 2:11 PM
30	We would love a splash pad at the rec center	12/2/2024 2:09 PM
31	Our police dept is already well funded. Glad to have a mental health counselor now	12/2/2024 1:58 PM
32	My priorities do not include keeping taxes low on \$1,000,000+ houses. which I think is a great concern in Ward 1 no matter what they say	12/2/2024 1:52 PM
33	NA	12/2/2024 1:22 PM
34	Working and middle class families are getting priced out of TP Housing	12/2/2024 1:10 PM
35	prioritize community spaces like parks, trails, tree canopy, small business, community center, and rec center	12/2/2024 1:09 PM
36	***only the first two items were marked*** Stormwater management needs to be addressed! What's gone on so far is (unreadable) insufficient.	12/2/2024 1:04 PM
37	Volume of traffic on street increases property damage. Cars are not stopping at stop signs. Cars are being hit and damaged, and the increase of crime is concerning.	12/2/2024 1:02 PM
38	The parking situation at the Junction is a nightmare- there is nowhere to park most days now and the intersection is so dangerous. We need a several story parking garage on the city lot to allow all the businesses & co-op in the junction to thrive and survive.	12/2/2024 12:58 PM
39	Takoma Park is becoming unaffordable. We do not want to have "NIMBY" problems. Open up zoning, more apartments, multi-use homes, development of "tiny home" communities on undeveloped land.	12/2/2024 12:56 PM
40	Stormwater management should be separated from sustainability/green issues. Police should be separated from community center issues.	12/2/2024 12:53 PM
41	Speed bumps/humps have been shown to raise emissions. Please stop installing!	12/2/2024 12:49 PM
42	I do not support additional building projects	12/2/2024 12:45 PM
43	I ranked new housing low because we are already overcrowded. The schools are a problem that is affecting lots of families. Traffic and dangerous drivers have also become a problem. More people worsens these problems	12/2/2024 12:39 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

44	More improvements/support for the business district - All of them!	12/2/2024 12:16 PM
45	Takoma Park is 2 square miles? How can this city offset the housing crisis? Any new housing is basically a freebie liken to a lottery system. Meaningless action. Top priority is replacement or renovation of the recreation center. I wish the town had been more careful in its determination of what to do with the library space. Many people, myself included believe that was another foolhardy decision by folks that were not being fiscally responsible. Improving the recreation facilities would have been a better use of scarce financial resources, particularly given 2 county libraries in very close proximity to the city. Consider using new library space for some rec activities to increase the utilization of the facility space. City needs reevaluate how funds are spent to ensure its spent in a more cost conscious manner. Review duplicative services that residents pay county taxes for (police, trash pick up, library, etc.) Improvements to police dept near bottom. Consider does not have great rec dept. This should be a consideration	12/2/2024 12:11 PM
46	The rebuilding of the non-interconnected-library and parts of the community center has been an obscenity of waste!	12/2/2024 11:55 AM
47	With increased business focus by City at Junction and downtown resident parking is an issue. How about free resident parking stickers for anyone in their Ward on any Ward Street??	12/2/2024 11:52 AM
48	To me T.P. is moving towards a community of "the elite". TP is in need of diversity (racial & socio-economic). Affordable housing would be the biggest factor for that to happen.	12/2/2024 11:50 AM
49	Note that the green bicycle street markings applied a few years ago on Cedar were confusing (to use for both north and south bike travel?), disintegrated right away, and were a waste of money.	12/2/2024 11:50 AM
50	No more resources for police. Social services best	12/2/2024 11:44 AM
51	I am a 22yr resident in a condo I own and hope I can continue to be proud of the responsibility we take of our legacy of community based sustainability. I support growth that anticipates a sea change of ownership when boomers leave over the next 10 years and a careful balancing of walkable commerce vs traffic that is likely to show up as the purple line opens.	12/2/2024 11:43 AM
52	#2- We should keep housing costs low (for the area) but some of these buildings need inspections. #3- As long as its not the brick apartment blocks. General- Need to staff the police dept. and make sure our community is safe. We were robbed and couldn't report the crime because we kept getting transferred on the phone. Others have had that problem as well and its not worth it to pursue. I work in DC with a salary of \$91,000 and I can't afford a house here and can barely afford a low-income apartment on my government salary. It's too expensive for many professionals.	12/2/2024 11:42 AM
53	Storm water management is a priority - Green Fleet is not. Affordable housing is a priority, market rate housing is not	12/2/2024 11:34 AM
54	Existing affordable housing should be prioritized because of increase of housing here.	12/2/2024 11:32 AM
55	City services and community areas are key. The environment and green initiatives are also important.	12/2/2024 11:31 AM
56	I'm more concerned with rising taxes and cost of living than any of these initiatives. I feel middle-class families are forgot about in Takoma Park. We don't have the means to care about some of these, and we don't qualify for others. I don't mind programs I don't use, but rising costs should be looked at and controlled.	12/2/2024 11:29 AM
57	WAY too much money & regulation spent on green initiatives that do NOT improve quality of life: many are SILLY! i.e. strange traffic patterns, initiatives to ban gas stoves. Focus on basic human needs! There are hungry, ill, disabled, homeless people in TP.	12/2/2024 11:25 AM
58	N/A	12/2/2024 11:16 AM
59	The Recreation Department needs a new facility to offer programs for all ages. Also offer inter-generational programs instead of senior programs.	12/2/2024 11:15 AM
60	Tough to rank with exception of #1- all others needed (*uncertain of last word)	12/2/2024 11:12 AM
61	My priorities reflect my need to be able to continue to afford to live here!	12/2/2024 11:07 AM
62	N/A	12/2/2024 11:04 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

63	N/A	12/2/2024 11:02 AM
64	N/A	12/2/2024 11:01 AM
65	N/A	12/2/2024 10:59 AM
66	We use the library all the time and are excited for the new library building. Please increase the library budget so they can fill the new space with books and events.	12/2/2024 10:34 AM
67	I'm assuming that "Construction of new housing units" means promotion of this goal rather than construction by the City itself.	12/2/2024 10:25 AM
68	The focus needs to be on reducing the property tax burden on city residents. In addition, the "Neighborhood Services" division needs to be restructured so that it does not continue to impose onerous requirements on city residents.	12/2/2024 10:11 AM
69	I put traffic and pedestrian safety first because some drivers still fly through our area very dangerous as a cut-through, and reducing speeds will improve quality of life for all.	12/2/2024 7:24 AM
70	Many of these sound expensive, and I think it's great to have affordable housing, but that should also include the middle class. Right now, affordable housing is limited, and the rising tax rates and home values are starting to price out those of us who are truly middle class. I am an artist married to an academic. We can't afford these taxes. The kind of taxing and spending here will squeeze us out, and TP will be largely those with wealth (we already have a disproportionate number of lawyers due to affordability issues), grandfathered seniors who have lower home values due to the assessment system and low income residents.	12/2/2024 1:26 AM
71	The library building should have more staff so we make the fullest possible use of the new space opening soon.	12/1/2024 10:35 PM
72	The economic divide in the city is disturbing. More should be done to serve all residents.	12/1/2024 3:07 PM
73	Please no increase in property taxes	12/1/2024 7:24 AM
74	It is odd to include sustainability on this list. Sustainability is a cross-cutting approach that needs to be part of everything the city does	11/30/2024 7:14 PM
75	I would like to continue to have affordable housing but the reality is that building is happening and we need to be as involved	11/30/2024 5:51 PM
76	Although I support more affordable housing, I ranked construction of new housing 3d because I believe the ill conceived tax credit adopted by the city council is inimical to its stated goal of affordability. This measure is too generous to developers, too long term and lacks any guardrails. It does not begin to phase out until the 11th year and then only incrementally This seems fiscally unwise when the City has a structural deficit The city has done a great disservice to its constituents in in rushing to adopt this half-baked proposal in the face of the overwhelming opposition of those who testified.	11/30/2024 5:24 PM
77	I think they are all pretty important. I wish there was an option to pass on or abstain from answering question #2! I don't know how much we already spend on each of those services and what the ROI is for that money spent!	11/30/2024 5:13 PM
78	The arrows above do not work/react in this survey!?! I would suggest to stop planning big projects like the new library ! You are pushing homeowners to the limit with the tremendous high property taxes. So here my priorities: -we need a better management of income, do not spend what is not there. -reduce deficit and pay your bills -reduce property taxes or freeze for 5 years -no building of new houses -Maybe pensions can be reduced -Salaries frozen for a few years -no more rebuilding or renovate community center -reduce budget by eliminating expensive projects	11/30/2024 3:02 PM
79	As we invest in the Takoma Park's green energy conversion and new community spaces, it's most important that we right-size the tax base with additional housing and businesses. That needs to be the priority above all. The current tax rate is not sustainable.	11/29/2024 3:49 PM
80	The library needs more staff and programs	11/28/2024 6:17 PM
81	Can we please chill with the tax rate.	11/28/2024 1:04 AM
82	We really need housing for the community.	11/27/2024 4:20 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

83	Sidewalks near schools in particular.	11/27/2024 4:17 PM
84	Bike safety + walkability are most important police already v. well funded.	11/27/2024 4:16 PM
85	The vagueness of these option and the lack of understanding of tradeoffs and budget issues makes this a very unclear set of choices.	11/27/2024 4:15 PM
86	More sidewalks and crosswalks are a must.	11/27/2024 4:14 PM
87	Please take steps to resolve traffic bypass issues (eg Boyd Ave), invest in separate/protected bike lanes, + making streets safe for kids to bike.	11/27/2024 4:12 PM
88	Already there is limited parking in Takoma Park; traffic is becoming horrific, and the feel of (unsure) community is disappearing as more + more housing, congestion, traffic is increasing!!	11/27/2024 4:07 PM
89	Focus should be on sustainable development of city, county, state of Maryland and country.	11/27/2024 4:00 PM
90	Retaining affordable housing is critical and this includes retention of affordable single-family homes. I would like to see legislated disincentives to constructing larger, less affordable housing on City lots. This might be done on property owners who convert modest homes into 'McMansions'.	11/27/2024 3:55 PM
91	n/a	11/27/2024 3:15 PM
92	No matter the project, the priority should be to spend within the means of the city and not increase property taxes	11/27/2024 1:48 PM
93	The area is not ideal for adding to population density, no parking, narrow poorly maintained streets, etc	11/27/2024 11:15 AM
94	Ensuring that the current residents of Maple Avenue can remain in their current important is of utmost importance. Making sure that any high rise construction in that neighborhood retains a low-rent component will be important too. We value the diversity and inclusivity of Takoma Park population.	11/27/2024 9:43 AM
95	None	11/25/2024 7:50 PM
96	Pedestrian safety has to be a top priority. It will also bring one revenue if you start ticketing speeding drivers. Lower speed limits will make a difference too.	11/25/2024 2:42 PM
97	My 3d priority above is really just construction of new affordable housing, not construction of market rate housing. Truly affordable housing (i.e., for those earning less than \$40-50k/hr) always gets short shrift vis-a-vis market rate housing, or even vis-a-vis what is defined as affordable but really isn't (e.g., having to earn over \$100k to be able to afford "affordable").	11/25/2024 2:35 PM
98	This list above is annoyingly vague. I strongly object to the prioritization of stormwater management and clean energy transitions all under the heads of "sustainability and green initiatives." Stormwater management is an infrastructure imperative in a city as water-logged as ours, directly affecting home values; it is nonsensical to categorize it alongside such nice-to-haves as transitioning the city fleet to clean energy (which in my view should only happen as existing fleet vehicles reaches the end of its natural service life.) What improvements are being contemplated to the police department, and why is that grouped in with the community center just because they are co-located?	11/25/2024 2:26 PM
99	n/a	11/25/2024 2:10 PM
100	Many multifamily buildings are old and unhealthy. Ward 6 needs better recreational facilities.	11/25/2024 11:37 AM
101	Keep Takoma Park affordable for a range of income	11/25/2024 10:57 AM
102	We are not a "Green" City. We live in uninsulated suburban homes and drive. Stop pretending otherwise. Sustainability = more housing near metro. Quit gaslighting ourselves.	11/25/2024 10:48 AM
103	see ranked list above	11/25/2024 7:24 AM
104	Expand police department	11/25/2024 7:23 AM
105	I prioritize housing much higher than other initiatives. Thoughtful consideration of the impact on schools is pertinent. The stretch of New Hampshire Ave along Ward 3 could use some revitalization, maybe housing instead of businesses?	11/25/2024 6:05 AM
106	N/A	11/25/2024 1:07 AM



## Takoma Park Community Survey

107	TKPK needs to focus its budget on the key services it provides. It can promote other objectives, for example, promoting more housing, including affordable housing, but getting out of the way of the market, changing its policy, and keeping existing rent-controlled properties but do like the district has done and exempt future properties from these regulations that are problem with housing.	11/24/2024 11:48 PM
108	I have a lot of concern about developers coming into the City, promising the moon, and then breaking their promises and doing what they like. We saw it with the junction lot development that promised the Co-op could keep functioning through the project and then didn't have accommodation for delivery trucks, then just wanted to do a layby and make an already difficult intersection impossible. I am very concerned about that new apartments that are built aren't just luxury apartments as we have seen over the District line by the Metro. Luxury apartments are not in short supply in this area. I want to protect what we have and be extremely careful about what we promise to developers and about believing what they promise to us.	11/24/2024 11:34 PM
109	Maintaining affordable housing to ensure takoma park is a place anyone can live. Safe streets and traffic calming methods to better control and slow pass through traffic and climate sensitive investments in stromwater management and environmentally sustainable or green development initiatives are vital to the future of our community.	11/24/2024 10:35 PM
110	No comments at this time	11/24/2024 10:31 PM
111	Let's maintain what we have and be conservative about new programs until the budget is better balanced	11/24/2024 10:16 PM
112	Traffic is a nightmare, especially at the Junction! Lots of cut through traffic in the neighborhood streets.	11/24/2024 9:15 PM
113	We need to maintain affordable housing and seek to expand it too.	11/24/2024 8:06 PM
114	Takoma Park's police should be incorporated back into Montgomery county or the size of the force should be reduced.	11/24/2024 7:20 PM
115	No comments	11/24/2024 5:20 PM
116	Rehab of the Takoma Park Rec Center is a very low priority as are most green energy initiatives. Efficient provision of day to day municipal service needs to be the focus of the coming budget	11/24/2024 4:27 PM
117	.	11/22/2024 8:19 PM
118	n/a	11/22/2024 3:32 AM
119	Does the city build housing?	11/21/2024 9:27 PM
120	Our recreation center is embarrassing and so small and outdated. It's such a shame.	11/21/2024 8:09 PM
121	none	11/21/2024 8:07 PM
122	We have a shortage of affordable housing, and an opportunity to create more with the move of the hospital	11/21/2024 3:15 PM
123	Pedestrian safety is our number one issue. We need lower speeds and we need real enforcement.	11/21/2024 2:25 PM
124	Taxes should remain at current level or less. All new programs should be supported by grants and or partnerships with state/federal or private funding.	11/21/2024 11:31 AM
125	All of the new housing developments so far are using the pretend "affordable" definition, which in Montgomery County puts them out of reach for low-wage workers and their families. The people who work in the stores and restaurants have to drive in from far-flung suburbs, while higher income people can live in these new tiny apartments and walk to the metro.	11/20/2024 11:52 PM
126	Community would be better served with improved facilities.	11/20/2024 2:31 PM
127	We want to reduce global warming	11/20/2024 2:13 PM
128	Prioritizing at this high level is problematic, as there are functions TP police performs that are so valued and vital - comparing this to a community center or green energy transitions is	11/20/2024 11:34 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

apples and oranges, and impossible without the details of the trade offs. But in the absence of the detailed information, I would just ask the Council to please please de-prioritize initiatives that will a) raise property taxes b) are not essential in the short term (3-5 years). I love green energy transitions as much as the next person, but I am looking at that and thinking 'really, can we actually afford it'? I had to increase my monthly escrow payments this year by another additional \$182 per month because of hikes in insurance and TP property tax - for families like ours who manage every dollar in our monthly budget, TP taxes hurt - and I know I won't be the first to say it, than going forward, the city absolutely should find other ways to increase revenue or reduce costs than turning to property taxes. That cow has really been milked enough.

129	Pedestrian safety needs so much improvement. Please lower speed limits and seriously step up traffic enforcement.	11/20/2024 11:03 AM
130	Given that the residents' taxes will be financing these initiatives I think we should prioritize making it possible and pleasant for people to continue living here, hence my two top choices.	11/20/2024 10:31 AM
131	God knows we don't need more police vehicles. Potential builders will come to Tk Pk when profits can be made.....we don't need to subsidize builders with taxpayers' money	11/19/2024 3:33 PM
132	Enforce the speed limits! Use ticket revenue to support traffic calming measures.	11/19/2024 11:17 AM
133	N/A	11/18/2024 8:05 PM
134	Why these choices and not others? Why so vague? What kinds of police department improvements, for example? Why does the Rec Ctr need rehab or replacement, if it does? Why should government create new housing (to increase city population? to house homeless? something else?).	11/18/2024 4:44 PM
135	Preserving (and, if possible, increasing) affordable housing should be our highest priority in order to protect the large number of low income - and minority - residents.	11/18/2024 3:47 PM
136	We moved to Takoma Park to raise our children in a socio-economically diverse city that provided top amenities to citizens across the economic spectrum. In the five years we've lived here, we've seen housing prices sky rocket and multifamily homes being converted to massive single family homes. We'd like to see efforts that grow our multifamily housing stock (apartments, condos, duplexes, triplexes) and protect current affordable housing.	11/18/2024 11:22 AM
137	Opening the library earlier in the morning will make a big difference for people who can't get there during the current hours.	11/18/2024 10:26 AM
138	Lowering property taxes is my priority	11/18/2024 8:07 AM
139	Police department should be audited.	11/18/2024 2:19 AM
140	Affordable housing is important. And my kid needs safer routes to school, and we need safer walking routes. But	11/17/2024 11:24 PM
141	Do whatever is necessary to preserve, protect, and upgrade (renovations/code enforcement the existing affordable housing on Maple Avenue.	11/17/2024 6:38 PM
142	Pedestrian and traffic safety must include enforcement. I cannot support new housing without more information on how it will affect our property taxes and the city budget because the development "seems" to be impossible without tax credits to the developers. Perhaps if there is a will, there is another way. Some of the people who talk about this the loudest who are single family homeowners should first change their home properties to be multi family or at least duplex before they ask others to bear the brunt. Also consider a higher tax rate for commercial businesses and utilities. Also make sure that the original leaseholder is the actual tenant of rent stabilized locations. And make sure all TP businesses are paying sustainable, living wages.	11/17/2024 5:57 PM
143	I believe it's more important to protect existing tenants living in affordable housing than to subsidize developers in the fanciful hope that any new housing they build will be affordable	11/17/2024 11:14 AM
144	First priority is balancing our budget and reducing spending	11/16/2024 9:00 PM
145	N/A	11/16/2024 6:08 PM
146	Na	11/16/2024 12:22 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

147	N/A	11/16/2024 12:14 PM
148	All of the above are good goals, so for me the question is where the City (as opposed to other actors) has the biggest role to play and the most impact. I think our funds would be most effectively focused implementing traffic, pedestrian, safety, and bicycle improvements along Maple Avenue and throughout Takoma Park. I certainly support more housing units, but it's not clear to my why the city would be funding that, as opposed to paving the way for developers. Likewise, while I think stormwater management and clean energy support is important, I do wonder whether Montgomery County should be funding the former, and whether there might be state/national resources for the latter. I worry about duplication of effort.	11/16/2024 11:11 AM
149	All activities should occur keeping in mind current resident homeowners including tax incentives that include seniors, middle and low income homeowners. Seniors are the people that made Takoma Park great.	11/16/2024 10:39 AM
150	no comment	11/16/2024 10:28 AM
151	To address environmental improvements I'd love to see a partnership with Chesapeake Bay conservation groups to do something like the DC Dept of Environment RiverSmart homes project. It's a great way to get residents to help make climate resilient improvements at a reduced cost for them and for the city. Happy to help coordinate if it is of interest.	11/16/2024 9:34 AM
152	The rec center is such an underutilized resource in our community and investment in it would have meaningful impact for ward 6 and beyond.	11/16/2024 9:15 AM
153	Parks and public spaces are important to quality of life in Takoma Park.	11/16/2024 8:23 AM
154	I would like to see better reliable public transportation options to get around town, restricted traffic during rush hours (Ward 6 is a traffic disaster), and restrictions on tear down/rebuild developments that are pricing everyone out of our city. And a tax break for artists would help keep artists from having to leave, as they are now at an alarming rate.	11/16/2024 7:55 AM
155	I'd like to see improvements to existing affordable housing before addition of new units	11/16/2024 7:53 AM
156	I would appreciate having modern amenities in the recreation center and there must be solutions to the speeding, cut through traffic in New Hampshire Gardens.	11/15/2024 11:25 PM
157	I support new housing on the hospital property, but am extremely concerned about using tax dollars to subsidize builders, especially before any site plan has been proposed.	11/15/2024 8:59 PM
158	none	11/15/2024 8:49 PM
159	Public safety is the number 1 problem in our ward, followed by the cut thru traffic as well as the congestion along all roads leading to our neighborhood.	11/15/2024 7:20 PM
160	Traffic is out of control in Ward 6 due to purple line construction and increase of people. The city has done little to prioritize and help with cut through traffic in neighborhoods off of New Hampshire Ave.	11/15/2024 6:54 PM
161	As a small town in a big metropolitan area, traffic resulting from commuters through Takoma Park has impacts on residents (especially children and elderly). Pedestrian and bicycle traffic needs to be safer and promoted. This has a positive environmental impact as well. Offerings at the recreation center for all age groups should be encouraged. A healthy and mobile population is a happy population.	11/15/2024 6:20 PM
162	I couldn't care less about the recreation center. The other five items are equally important, and must all be prioritized	11/15/2024 6:03 PM
163	Traffic is worse and more dangerous for kids than ever.	11/15/2024 5:35 PM
164	Ward 6 issues must be prioritized. You have historically ignored our needs	11/15/2024 4:57 PM
165	n/a	11/15/2024 2:59 PM
166	None	11/15/2024 2:32 PM
167	TKp has an opportunity to provide residents areas to congregate and meet outside of the increasingly congested and expensive Junction and historic areas. By renovating the community center, the city can draw residents to other parts of the Ward providing opportunities for business and increasing safety. The purple line is will be a great addition however the city must take a leading role in addressing the resulting traffic. Tkp needs to lead	11/15/2024 2:24 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

coordination with city, state and county officials to plan for new traffic patterns to keep tkp safe for bikers and walkers. No other entity will take the lead and our city will be neglected.

168	I support having a second library branch on New Hampshire Ave in addition to the Philadelphia Avenue library.	11/15/2024 1:53 PM
169	None	11/15/2024 12:40 PM
170	Perhaps focusing on green initiatives will help the City to realize some cost savings that it can pass along to residents as decreases in the property taxes.	11/15/2024 12:26 PM
171	It would be fiscally irresponsible to build new housing units at this time, due to extreme uncertainty over the region's future over the next 4+ years (not to mention, the schools are already crowded). Instead the city should focus on improving the lives of its current residents. We need more traffic-calming measures. We need to ensure that people continue to have access to public transportation. We need to stop increasing taxes. We need to put a halt to unnecessary and high-cost capital expenditures. The city does not need more inspectors or little white cars or police officers or feel-good capital projects. It's a small city and should grow slowly and intelligently.	11/15/2024 12:26 PM
172	None	11/15/2024 12:14 PM
173	The property tax increases have gotten out of control and the feeling of resentment towards being double taxed is growing. Work needs to be done to reduce the property tax burden on residents	11/15/2024 12:11 PM
174	N/A	11/15/2024 12:04 PM
175	We need to take a break on new large scale/expensive projects.	11/15/2024 12:03 PM
176	Going green should translate to a biodiversity and sustainability plan that emphasizes native trees first and foremost; the local ecosystem needs to be retained to flourish and provide the great gift of a tree canopy and home for all residents and visitors-human and otherwise	11/15/2024 4:59 AM
177	Pedestrian safety must be prioritized. We need lower speed limits and more speed bumps. Please enforce speed limits. Ask the state for permission to install speed cameras on City streets.	11/14/2024 10:18 PM
178	Given the cost of living in this area, I think it's important to provide more affordable housing for residents. Green energy initiatives are also extremely important.	11/14/2024 2:33 PM
179	This survey is biased, I'm not surprised. For example, why are you combining the police dept with the community center??? These have nothing to do with each other. They should be two separate issues.	11/14/2024 11:16 AM
180	No additional tax hikes, esp property-based increases—not even marginal ones. 2) Seek ways to cut costs and dramatically increase grant applications to fed agencies and other funders for ANY costs that are not for life and safety or public service improvements (e.g. road repair or the like).	11/13/2024 11:40 PM
181	N/A	11/13/2024 9:12 PM
182	None	11/13/2024 8:31 PM
183	I see streets getting replaced when they're still very usable. Seems very wasteful and bad for the environment. I also don't think the police dept should be replacing cars and expensive equipment so frequently.	11/13/2024 7:50 PM
184	No comment	11/13/2024 2:06 PM
185	I'm not sufficiently well-informed to know whether it's more important to build new affordable housing or retain existing affordable housing, but I think maintaining economic diversity in Takoma Park should be a top priority.	11/13/2024 11:59 AM
186	No new capital debt and no subsidies to developers to encourage new housing.	11/13/2024 10:53 AM
187	More emphasis on native trees and supporting biodiversity	11/13/2024 9:50 AM
188	More resources for public safety and traffic management in ward 6.	11/13/2024 9:37 AM
189	n/a	11/13/2024 7:37 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

190	None	11/13/2024 7:02 AM
191	N/a	11/13/2024 6:25 AM
192	Na	11/13/2024 5:40 AM
193	Affordable housing and constructing new homes for low income residents should be #1 priority in the city of takoma. Renovation of existing apartments buildings is urgently needed as most buildings have mold and cockroaches. There is zero maintenance from landlords and lack of inspection and follow-up from the city. Affordable is urgently needed in Takoma Park MD	11/13/2024 12:56 AM
194	N/A	11/12/2024 10:36 PM
195	N/a	11/12/2024 8:25 PM
196	None	11/12/2024 7:29 PM
197	N/A	11/12/2024 6:55 PM
198	Current existing affordable housing is in poor condition. We should be able to grow the amount and variety of housing while not displacing people. Already too many people have been displaced over decades by rigid adherence to numbers of affordable housing units. People are born and grow up in TP but can't buy places so they leave.	11/12/2024 5:27 PM
199	Increased housing and development are incredibly important for economic sustainability/growth and environmental impact.	11/12/2024 4:33 PM
200	Affordable housing is mandatory to keep even with any new construction plans to takoma park.	11/12/2024 3:59 PM
201	Some of these can go together in one project	11/12/2024 3:31 PM
202	I want stop sign cameras. Everyone runs stop signs in TKPK and it is dangerous	11/12/2024 1:20 PM
203	The City has lost vision of what makes Takoma Park unique	11/12/2024 12:51 PM
204	Takoma Park will see a lot of changes due to the minor master plan—including more people, more traffic, etc. A focus should be on preparing for this in terms of making neighborhoods more pedestrian friendly (and bike friendly) through more sidewalks, traffic calming, and considering more one-way streets, etc.)	11/12/2024 11:51 AM
205	I'm most concerned about bicycle safety. The main bicycling roads (Carroll avenue and maple avenue) are narrow without actually safe bike lanes.	11/12/2024 11:46 AM
206	None	11/12/2024 11:45 AM
207	There is such great disparity in TKPK and I would like to see the city prioritize projects that benefit lower income, marginalized communities: bus shelters (more important than bike lanes IMO), access to affordable food, affordable housing, assistance to the unhoused (?) people asking for \$ in downtown TKPK	11/12/2024 11:20 AM
208	Affordable housing to keep our community diverse. Adding native trees and maintaining our tree canopy. More pedestrian areas and traffic calming measures.	11/12/2024 11:02 AM
209	Your survey does not allow me to rate more than one as lowest priority. In my view, the city abused ARPA funding and took on too many new things in recent years	11/12/2024 10:58 AM
210	Locally managed public safety is my top priority	11/12/2024 9:14 AM
211	I would like Takoma Park to make what we have better, cleaner and safer. I do not think newer, bigger or more expensive should be considered.	11/12/2024 8:48 AM
212	The city's role in new housing construction is unclear to me. Sustainability as defined above focused mostly on clean energy, which does not seem to deliver many benefits relative to other uses for this money. If the priority has included something about protecting Nature, biodiversity, and green spaces, I would have ranked it #1.	11/12/2024 7:43 AM
213	Affordable housing does not necessarily mean no development. New development should be done with the goals of providing affordable housing, support by developer for additional costs (infrastructure, environmental protection, etc), and a reasonable profit for the business.	11/11/2024 4:49 PM
214	There must be a discussion about tax reduction. I frequently investigate moving out of TKPK because even though I have a reasonable house with a great interest rate, the taxes from	11/11/2024 2:03 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

Montgomery County coupled with the TKPK taxes are equal to the amount I pay each month for my mortgage, effectively doubling the amount I owe each month.

215	Traffic and crime, especially along New Hampshire Ave corridor, is becoming untenable.	11/11/2024 11:04 AM
216	I ranked bicycle & pedestrian safety as #1 because I think the City can actually have a significant impact there. Housing is #2 & 3 because the housing crisis is a serious problem, but the broader financial environment is such that I'm not sure our City can have much of an impact on our own- most of that will need to come from the County or private sector. I do not care about the police department and think we spend far too much money on it.	11/11/2024 9:19 AM
217	Rec center is used by all types of residents in TP, so that's why it's a priority	11/11/2024 8:55 AM
218	None	11/11/2024 8:50 AM
219	Would love to see more units that also boast businesses below that might help to diversify the city's revenue	11/11/2024 7:26 AM
220	All of these are important, but the cost may vary.	11/11/2024 7:09 AM
221	NA	11/10/2024 10:49 PM
222	Our police department is criminally (no pun intended) oversized and overfunded. Maintaining affordable housing is essential so that our neighbors are not forced out as prices increase, and the state of our storm water preparedness is a joke—greater investment there is a safety issue. Construction of more affordable housing would be great—the city should not incentivize construction of market rate housing. Developers should pay full freight for such projects, as they do not improve the City or serve any other important social end (unlike affordable housing, which is an important goal for the City).	11/10/2024 6:52 PM
223	Unless the recreation center is wildly deficient, then it is fine and isn't a priority. Regarding housing, instead of going about a massively expensive effort to build housing yourself, first relax the zoning code and enable others to build more, denser, housing (if necessary in larger buildings, even [gasp] apartments). Lets stop throwing money at problems we ourselves created by our ridiculous and counterproductive rent control. We have rent control, it helps a few families, and the rest of us are scrapping trying to find homes because in the name of saving this place and its trees the city and its leaders have stood in the way of any new housing for decades.	11/10/2024 1:00 PM
224	I'm planning to become a homeowner in the next couple of years and I would love to stay in Takoma Park, if I can find something that is within my budget and meets my needs.	11/10/2024 10:11 AM
225	Nothing is as important as climate change	11/9/2024 9:24 PM
226	Na	11/9/2024 5:03 PM
227	Congestion on roads continues to be a problem. Let's designate some roads for cars only (no parking on side of roads) and other roads for only walking and biking.	11/9/2024 11:50 AM
228	Prioritize maintenance of parks and green spaces	11/8/2024 11:33 PM
229	Affordable housing is very important, but I'm not sure that our city (as opposed to our county) has the capacity or resources to actually construct new housing. We should instead focus on policy and practice to reduce barriers that nonprofits and even for-profits face when seeking to build.	11/8/2024 3:09 PM
230	none	11/8/2024 1:06 PM
231	I listed the renovation of the Takoma Park Rec Center first because it is in poor condition and I think it could be an important amenity and community support for the area. It could also help us meet some of our equity goals, as it sits in a neighborhood with larger proportions of people of color. I listed housing as the second and third priorities because we need more housing units and different types of housing if we want to bring down the cost of housing and create home ownership opportunities for more people.	11/8/2024 7:19 AM
232	Preservation of existing affordable housing on Maple Avenue and elsewhere is the only one of these three address should be a "priority." Beyond that, the real number one priority is missing from your list. The city is running a huge deficit. You cannot afford many of the initiatives you do have. Reduce the salaries of the higher-ups and get your fiscal house in order as priority #1.	11/7/2024 7:33 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

233	I don't really agree with any of these choices and think they are all too expensive. We already have one of the highest tax rates in the area for subpar services	11/7/2024 7:11 PM
234	No comment	11/7/2024 7:00 PM
235	None of these initiatives are my priorities. My priorities are to focus on core services and focus first on fiscal responsibility. The city should not take on so many major priorities.	11/7/2024 6:57 PM
236	I am not interested in having new residents in Takoma Park until you upgrade the bike/pedestrian and public transportation system. There needs to be additional traffic calming measures installed, or you'll just see as many cars as there are new people and that will be bad for all of us.	11/7/2024 6:55 PM
237	Many of the apts of Maple Ave need renovating. That needs to be a priority. We need to be better prepared for bigger and more damaging storms. We need to protect our land and Sligo Creek. Cut through traffic has increased considerably. We need a plan to figure out how to direct traffic AND also how to lessen traffic by encouraging more foot/bike/metro traffic.	11/7/2024 6:42 PM
238	Xxx	11/6/2024 8:00 PM
239	We also benefit from wonderful County facilities, so I think we should prioritize housing and bike lanes in our city, rather than community center and recreation offerings.	11/6/2024 4:44 PM
240	No comments.	11/6/2024 3:26 PM
241	vague as to what is meant by police and community center improvements. Considering how efficient city government has been constructing in the past much doubt housing would be built on budget.	11/6/2024 1:29 PM
242	The county is pushing for new housing. We're the only ones that can protect the unusual stock of very affordable housing we have now. And all of this will become irrelevant if we don't do all we can to stop climate change.	11/6/2024 12:27 PM
243	Library needs increased funding to provide quality services in the new space	11/6/2024 11:01 AM
244	Takoma Park needs to increase its tax base by supporting more commercial and residential development, including affordable housing. The working conditions for police employees is deplorable and the renovations of the Police Department shouldn't be delayed any longer.	11/6/2024 10:47 AM
245	We need to do our part to increase the housing stock in Takoma Park. This should include removing the restrictive historic designations entire neighborhoods. We should allow historic buildings to be protected because something historic actually occurred there, but otherwise entire neighborhoods should not be allowed to be designated.	11/5/2024 8:38 PM
246	The city needs more housing and replacement of aging housing. The Police department facilities are woefully inadequate and should be upgraded. The community center needs upgrading beyond the library. The entire building is disjointed, an architectural eyesore, and does not serve the community well. The recreation center is similarly dated and in desperate need of rehabilitation. The city streets have been improved in recent years and those efforts should continue.	11/5/2024 8:31 PM
247	N.A.	11/5/2024 8:18 PM
248	I would say that sustainability encompasses the traffic issue, which is why I put traffic toward the bottom. I would say that retaining affordable housing is a higher priority than the city, taking on building new housing, including affordable and market rate, though I am not adverse to more housing as we need it. I understand that the rec centre is in need of a rehabilitation, but its location, far from a lot of the density on Maple Avenue, makes it less of a priority for me.	11/5/2024 5:18 PM
249	None	11/5/2024 4:16 PM
250	The most important sustainability measure our City can take is to make it possible for more people to live in our walkable, transit-accessible community by creating more housing. Also please finish the library.	11/4/2024 8:15 PM
251	No comments	11/4/2024 6:05 PM
252	I prioritized safety and new affordable housing--I wouldn't have been able to purchase a SFH in Ward 2 had I not bought a condo in TP in Ward 5 2008. TP is a wonderful place to live, but we're pricing people out.	11/4/2024 4:53 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

253	I originally moved to TP because of the ability to find an affordable rental unit. I stayed and bought a condo because I love the green space and environmentally sustainable values of the community and government.	11/4/2024 4:53 PM
254	None	11/4/2024 4:18 PM
255	The climate crisis is an existential crises faced by everyone on this planet. Takoma Park talks a big game, but when it comes to spending resources, it refuses to do so. Case in point, purchase of gasoline powered vehicles for police. What about storm water management? Sligo Creek has overflown numerous times in the past few years.	11/4/2024 3:53 PM
256	Other than pedestrian and traffic safety none of the items above reflect community priorities for me	11/4/2024 1:39 PM
257	Some of the above are not priorities for me, but there is no way to indicate that. One thing not listed that I would prioritize is making sure the businesses and restaurants in the historic downtown area can thrive. Having a thriving, walkable downtown with lots of restaurants and shops is important to me.	11/4/2024 12:33 PM
258	N/a	11/4/2024 9:20 AM
259	N/a	11/4/2024 8:08 AM
260	We need safer walking and biking routes throughout the city.	11/4/2024 7:46 AM
261	Construction of market rate housing should not be subsidized. Traffic issues require a systematic approach, not piecemeal Stormwater resilience requires a systematic approach not piecemeal	11/3/2024 7:30 PM
262	Overall sustainability will determine livability for current and future residents. I'd prioritize resilience, inclusive of stormwater management, over clean energy in particular. Pedestrian and bicycle safety, and multi-modal transportation (including buses) give current and future Takoma Park residents more equitable access to healthier forms of transportation, and reduce energy consumption and pollution. Retaining existing affordable housing is very important because the city is becoming so expensive. Retaining existing affordable housing also means supporting / requiring affordable housing providers to keep their buildings well maintained and support their residents in having a healthy life free from issues like poor air quality (from leaks or mold), lead paint exposure, and other maintenance concerns. Having good affordable housing also supports people from a wide variety of backgrounds, which is an important part of Takoma Park's values.	11/3/2024 6:45 PM
263	The rec center is dated and could be modernized.	11/3/2024 6:38 PM
264	Maintaining and expanding the supply of housing, particularly affordable housing is key to the long-term vibrancy and sustainability. Retaining what we have has to be first because it is the easiest.	11/3/2024 4:43 PM
265	All initiatives need to be completed without increasing TP property taxes.	11/3/2024 3:33 PM
266	We are a very small city. I don't approve of continuing to spend all sorts of money like on demolishing the library and building a new one. We should have the police department be under the county. We do not need a newsletter. We could have our library be part of the county. I have lived in Ward one since 1980 and really think our city is going in the wrong direction by racking up these big expenditures	11/3/2024 2:56 PM
267	We need the transportation and safety infrastructure in place (and environmental protections) as a foundation for additional growth and density.	11/3/2024 1:25 PM
268	Housing is critical for lower income and younger people, esp immigrants and people of color	11/3/2024 12:51 PM
269	none	11/3/2024 10:32 AM
270	Climate change is one of the greatest threats to humanity today and local action will be most essential for making real progress	11/3/2024 9:09 AM
271	All are important.	11/3/2024 8:10 AM
272	N/A	11/3/2024 7:39 AM
273	Need more city-scale cooperative energy, geothermal, and efficiency projects. Net zero plan?	11/2/2024 8:29 PM



## Takoma Park Community Survey

274	Price of houses are way too high many residents reside in apartments and unable to afford to buy a house in Takoma Park. In my case I have been living off and on in Takoma for the last 25+	11/2/2024 8:04 PM
275	Sustainability improvements are one time investments (not increases in operating base budget) and lead to lower future costs.	11/2/2024 7:44 PM
276	Please avoid any new construction projects (costs) with the exception of public safety reasons and/or traffic safety related improvements on the streets and sideways.	11/2/2024 6:47 PM
277	Provide incentives for developers to build additional housing; for use of our own money, redoing the joke of a recreation center would be the priority.	11/2/2024 5:06 PM
278	None	11/2/2024 5:01 PM
279	My biggest priority is that the council focus on reducing the overall budget and making major reductions to taxes.	11/2/2024 2:22 PM
280	The cost of living is too high, as are our property taxes. Working and middle class people as well as people on a fixed income are being forced out of Takoma Park due to the outrageously high property taxes, which are wasted by the city on hiring consultants and building or buying things we don't need. Please get a handle on spending, lower taxes, and prioritize affordable housing lest we lose all of our community's diversity.	11/2/2024 1:46 PM
281	There should be a strong effort to take advantage of the old hospital area to create a lot of and a lot of affordable housing, even above the usual county requirements.	11/2/2024 11:33 AM
282	N/A	11/2/2024 9:47 AM
283	I support new construction in Takoma Park to allow more people to enjoy our beautiful community! Also strongly support improvements to police, community center, and other public services.	11/1/2024 7:52 PM
284	I would like to see judicious pruning of services that it makes no sense for the City to pursue.	11/1/2024 7:44 PM
285	No additional comments.	11/1/2024 5:51 PM
286	Takoma Park should radically relax its zoning to allow for multifamily construction anywhere.	11/1/2024 7:54 AM
287	Na	11/1/2024 7:51 AM
288	Affordable housing can be achieved without catering to the builder's and developer's desire for profits. The majority of new construction is not built to last more than 20 years. Stop selling and promoting short sighted solutions.	11/1/2024 7:40 AM
289	We need to make sure our existing residents are not displaced due to redevelopment after the minor master zoning changes. Less money for police, and more for a proper community center on new hampshire	10/31/2024 10:42 PM
290	WE NEED MORE STARTER AFFORDABLE HOUSING!!!! I'm 23 and despite working full time, I live with my parents. I would love to live independently but it's not feasible AT ALL in TKPK. I love this city but wish a studio apartment was not pushing \$2000/month	10/31/2024 9:00 PM
291	More security, more police presence at the parks and near to schools	10/31/2024 8:24 PM
292	None	10/31/2024 6:57 PM
293	We do not need new construction in Takoma Park, which is surrounded by heavily urbanized areas. Downtown Silver Spring is full of new apartments, condos, and office buildings ready to be converted into residential housing. In an era of climate change, permeable green space is our most important resource	10/31/2024 4:19 PM
294	n/a	10/31/2024 3:08 PM
295	Much of the city's infrastructure is out of date and needs to be maintained and upgraded for same of livability and public safety. This includes stormwater management, sidewalks and bike lanes, street lighting, landscape management. I put that at a higher priority than overpriced projects like the library.	10/31/2024 3:07 PM
296	Reduce don't increase size of city government	10/31/2024 2:26 PM
297	We need to be offering new opportunities for people to come and enjoy Takoma Park, while	10/31/2024 2:20 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

also investing in maintaining our current diverse community and investing in under-invested parts of our city.

298	Consider affordability of senior citizens and their participation in community affairs. Thus NO additional tax increases and consideration of subsidy for low-income seniors	10/31/2024 1:43 PM
299	Retention of existing affordable units should include (explicitly) establishment of significantly more ADUs in existing housing.	10/31/2024 1:33 PM
300	Na	10/31/2024 1:26 PM
301	Missing the priority of making the commercial areas of Takoma Park more business friendly. Incentivising growth of businesses needed to serve an influx of many new residents just across the DC line.	10/31/2024 1:12 PM
302	I do not want my property taxes raised for affordable housing initiatives. Climate change is more important to me.	10/31/2024 1:11 PM
303	The area is becoming unbearably dense, and traffic and stormwater management are not taken into account.	10/31/2024 1:08 PM
304	Housing is at capacity, the police force seems under resourced and infrastructure needs to strengthened to support	10/31/2024 12:36 PM
305	No	10/31/2024 12:10 PM
306	The city should incentivize affordable housing but should not be in the business of building them and especially not at the retail / individual level.	10/31/2024 11:09 AM
307	We could use a lot more bicycle infrastructure, including protected bike lanes, bicycle parking. I'd like to be able to cycle to work, but it feels dangerous given how aggressive the drivers are here.	10/31/2024 10:25 AM
308	Housing is a real crisis around here.	10/30/2024 9:47 PM
309	I think all the initiatives are important, and I have ranked which I think is the order of their importance. I do worry about increasing new housing units because we are already pretty densely populated. In particular, our schools seem as though they can't take many more students.	10/30/2024 4:53 PM
310	Encourage businesses to collectively pursue funding to support sustainability and green energy. Make TkPk the Small GREEN town USA or the GREEN East Coast Berkeley.	10/30/2024 3:30 PM
311	We have enough housing in TKPK. We need more retail establishments to make this a more thriving city.	10/30/2024 3:08 PM
312	To make TKPK most green, affordable, and diverse - duplexes should be legal again in single family neighborhoods. Spending money on electric vehicles is wasteful when similar goals could be made with electric bikes (such as parking enforcement). Also closing streets off to cars would be of amazing benefit for little cost.	10/30/2024 2:52 PM
313	Start with maintenance and required infrastructure services and projects before undertaking any more capital expenditures on new buildings and services. Avoid scope creep.	10/30/2024 2:46 PM
314	I have no additional comments	10/30/2024 2:09 PM
315	Work within existing budget and pay attention to NOT increasing taxes. Takoma Park already has much higher taxes than nearby jurisdictions!	10/30/2024 1:50 PM
316	Want to avoid any displacement of affordable housing that exists but support development of new affordable housing that minimizes any environmental impacts	10/30/2024 1:15 PM
317	The police department, as our greatest expense should be eliminated. The county has good policing.	10/30/2024 12:52 PM
318	The rec center is embarrassing.	10/30/2024 12:40 PM
319	Please stop development and cutting down trees.	10/30/2024 12:37 PM
320	People want to do the right thing when it comes to environmental action. The City needs to provide expert guidance and leadership to the citizenry. We need to prioritize the liveability issues that make TP unique among Washington suburbs.	10/30/2024 10:34 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

321	No comment	10/29/2024 9:52 PM
322	n/a	10/29/2024 8:03 PM
323	none	10/28/2024 7:16 PM
324	Our traffic is out of control and needs help. Piney Branch and Takoma Avenues are a nightmare to navigate and very dangerous.	10/28/2024 11:30 AM
325	Assuming #1 includes safety initiatives such as better lighting, cameras, etc.	10/28/2024 9:36 AM
326	The city should create new housing as part of the Takoma Park Rec Center replacement, after getting the county to upzone the parcel to allow more units than could be built with the current zoning.	10/27/2024 8:50 PM
327	These categories are far too broad to be very useful.	10/27/2024 6:31 PM
328	Focus on revenue growth before expense items	10/27/2024 9:35 AM
329	I want lower taxes, not higher. I don't want the city to subsidize developers. City should offer less services, not more. The city looks like an addict that cannot stop spending. Someone (the neighbors) will end up paying the bill for all the spending. We have higher taxes than anyone in Montgomery County but offer worst services (storm water management rebates and subsidies, recycling of trash, security, etc.)	10/27/2024 9:10 AM
330	N/A	10/27/2024 5:19 AM
331	I feel that the storm water issues that impact Takoma Park and restoration and preservation of existing affordable housing are my highest priorities and are foundational.	10/26/2024 6:01 PM
332	construction of new housing units is important, but the wording "including market rate and affordable" is concerning. The priority should be a high percentage of affordable, including rentals. The new Glade apartments in DC, for example, start at \$1500/month for a studio apartment. Two bedrooms are \$2,015-\$3,123. Such rents cannot be considered affordable.	10/26/2024 5:49 PM
333	affordable housing is the most critical issue in our community, second is making sure those buildings most used by our community are functional and up to date (especially those in economically underdeveloped neighborhoods), stormwater management is also critical with changing climate issues. The others are not unimportant, but farther down the list.	10/26/2024 11:12 AM
334	Glad you are asking for people to set priorities. The council's historic spending patterns and resulting taxes are pricing long term residents out of the city.	10/26/2024 10:04 AM
335	No further comments, enough arguing	10/26/2024 7:44 AM
336	I'd like to see protected bike lanes throughout the community	10/26/2024 6:49 AM
337	Need more housing	10/25/2024 11:53 PM
338	Without sustainability and transition to green energy - that is awareness of climate change mitigation. none of the other priorities are possible.	10/25/2024 11:43 PM
339	And what if I don't have any comments? Poor survey construction.	10/25/2024 11:01 PM
340	None	10/25/2024 7:05 PM
341	Na	10/25/2024 3:42 PM
342	City expenditures should not exceed city revenues.	10/25/2024 2:59 PM
343	Housing is very important both existing and future. A sustainable community with a sustainable budget	10/25/2024 11:04 AM
344	Without pedestrian safety, etc. & good stormwater management, none of the others matter.	10/25/2024 10:43 AM
345	It's difficult to choose between them. I think it's important to make it possible for young families and people who are teachers, police officers, etc. to live in the city, and I support rezoning to make single-family homes eligible to be duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes. That's how I first came to live in Takoma Park after not finding a traditional apartment building. Otherwise we will continue our path toward being a community of very wealthy people in single	10/25/2024 7:21 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

family homes, and non-wealthy people living in subsidized housing, but nobody in between. This will erode the diversity of Takoma Park and make it a less desirable place to live.

346	No comment	10/25/2024 5:40 AM
347	It's great to have a police for Takoma park!	10/24/2024 10:20 PM
348	None	10/24/2024 9:53 PM
349	Would prioritize community spaces like parks, rec center, community center	10/24/2024 8:52 PM
350	They all seem important!	10/24/2024 7:15 PM
351	This was hard. I basically picked the initiatives that I am most interested in	10/24/2024 7:09 PM
352	New playgrounds in Ward 3, spring Park and Takoma urban park are in need of new equipment. Additionally stop the poplar ave cut through, it's VERY dangerous with the bus stop up at spring Park - people FLY through there.	10/24/2024 6:49 PM
353	I want Takoma Park to be an inclusive community with safe, comfortable housing available to a wide range of income levels. I appreciate our access to public transportation so encourage a focus on housing density as both a housing and a sustainability measure.	10/24/2024 2:28 PM
354	Pedestrian safety must be a top priority. We need lower speed limits and more clearly marked crosswalks.	10/24/2024 11:04 AM
355	Connecting Takoma Park bike infrastructure to DC, metropolitan branch trail and decrease car traffic in TP	10/23/2024 10:09 PM
356	None	10/23/2024 7:43 PM
357	I want to see the city spend the most money on those with the lowest incomes.	10/23/2024 7:19 PM
358	We are congested and we have high taxes and no economic development. Because our leadership is so weak and attached to the idea that TP has to solve all the world problems, homeowners bear the majority of the revenue burden. We don't need more housing. We are already congested and 50% of housing is already multi family. I see nothing I. Your priority that is even mildly exciting. How about prioritizing economic development and let the county work on housing. We are out of room. I didn't buy a home here to be crushed in by apartments	10/22/2024 6:10 PM
359	Community participation.	10/22/2024 3:25 PM
360	Support the current affordable housing so no one is displaced. Open Laurel Ave to 2-way traffic again to ease cut-through traffic in the neighborhoods and to protect children attending school on Willow Ave. NW. Repair crumbling curbs and sidewalks.	10/22/2024 2:35 PM
361	If the city is not environmentally sustainable none of the rest will matter	10/22/2024 2:27 PM
362	The problem is that all these initiatives are important. I would add to this list attention surrounding improvements at the commercial area at NH Ave and University. It needs lots of upgrades and traffic improvements.	10/19/2024 12:19 PM
363	We have enough people in our small town. Every place is becoming congested with traffic. We don't need more density. We need to make the town more livable and enjoyable for those who are already here.	10/19/2024 12:47 AM
364	Pedestrian safety must be a top priority for the sake of our children and our environment. Also, please increase library programming.	10/18/2024 11:57 PM
365	Prioritize affordable housing	10/18/2024 9:03 PM
366	Housing is a top priority. S	10/18/2024 8:22 PM

## Q8 Please provide any comments, including details from your answers to Question #6.

Answered: 343 Skipped: 82

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I'm unsure of what programs are lesser used and could potentially be cut, so I feel cautious there. And I really appreciate the affordability of the programs, so again, I would exercise caution and go lightly.	12/3/2024 2:04 PM
2	I live in a condo that recently hiked up its monthly assessment. It was a painful but necessary measure to the overall wellbeing of the building. While I think it's a fun thought experiment to cut services and programs, I think that tends to be a very shortsighted endeavor and will lead to very unhappy city inhabitants who can't get what they need. Increasing taxes even if by a little bit will help the City immensely.	12/3/2024 11:52 AM
3	takoma is a unique and wonderful town- we want to keep its community feeling. there is much crime and shoplifting now. that is very sad and if possible to lessen it	12/3/2024 11:31 AM
4	Look for ways to streamline and reduce costs within existing services and programs. Stop making things fancier and adding staff.	12/3/2024 11:06 AM
5	This is a terrible survey. Too non-specific. For example: "Was my interactions with City services positive or negative"	12/3/2024 11:03 AM
6	Perhaps decrease the property tax. Too much?	12/3/2024 11:01 AM
7	Major cuts need to be made that are duplicates in county with city.	12/3/2024 11:00 AM
8	Reduce services which can be provided by County or State	12/3/2024 10:58 AM
9	We need resolutions to cut through traffic + commercial parking in residential areas, exacerbated by Purple Line Construction, some are concerned about public safety + responsiveness to Spanish speaking residents. I personally have found TP Police to be very responsive but others here have not. Maybe its benefit of my fluent English.	12/3/2024 10:48 AM
10	reduce police.	12/3/2024 10:44 AM
11	Ticket speeding drivers!	12/3/2024 10:36 AM
12	We want strong city services.	12/3/2024 10:34 AM
13	My neighbors and I have agreed that resources spent on code enforcement (like making sure cosmetic improvements are carried out) and tree removal where clearer guidance through the website would be more cost effective) could be better used elsewhere.	12/3/2024 10:33 AM
14	Arrange development so developer pays city, NOT the other way around.	12/3/2024 10:31 AM
15	The current city services to programs is good. But I prefer to get walk in clinic or hospitals in this area like the former Adventist Hospital.	12/3/2024 10:26 AM
16	The City has spent millions of dollars to build sidewalks on side streets where they are not needed and most residents do NOT want them! This is an abuse of authority. Sidewalks should only be built where absolutely needed (state roads) and where EVERY property owner on the block approves. Staff have abused their positions on this horribly!	12/3/2024 2:47 AM
17	It is important that Takoma Park stay affordable for long-term residents on fixed incomes and newer low to middle income residents.	12/2/2024 6:15 PM
18	Since the Junction plan did not proceed to increase commercial tax base. Do not raise already high property tax. no one can afford to live here	12/2/2024 3:24 PM
19	Perhaps trim the police force	12/2/2024 3:11 PM
20	If taxes keep going up, the community becomes increasingly like a mini Bethesda	12/2/2024 3:09 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

21	Taxes lead to spending. Shiny objects are seductive. We need to focus on the basics	12/2/2024 2:59 PM
22	Work more with the county; asks developers to pay more for supporting infrastructure	12/2/2024 2:54 PM
23	Identify waste in overhaead	12/2/2024 2:50 PM
24	We already pay more taxes than neighboring areas. N more fees or tax increases!	12/2/2024 2:47 PM
25	Prioritizing fiscal sustainability doesn't ensure all voices are engaged with government - prioritizes squeaky wheels	12/2/2024 2:39 PM
26	Concerns with fuel; clean energy. Think about the future of oil	12/2/2024 2:23 PM
27	In reviewing services, please look at how much they are used by residents compared to their costs.	12/2/2024 2:11 PM
28	TP does not need its own trash & recycling & compost programs. Montgomery county does this as well	12/2/2024 2:07 PM
29	Only 1 of these is a progressive tax. It's best for those who can afford it to have a higher burden	12/2/2024 1:58 PM
30	That's where the kids with overburdened parents are. Increase support for lunch & learn	12/2/2024 1:52 PM
31	NA	12/2/2024 1:22 PM
32	in many cases (minor master plan, police, etc.) we don't get better outcomes than the rest of the county. For everything we do, we should be clear how it's better than the county or else just let the county do it all.	12/2/2024 1:09 PM
33	Would prefer initiatives that are inclusive & equitable for resident participation and quality of life (e.g. fees create barriers)	12/2/2024 1:06 PM
34	Taxes are too high and program fees are too high. Would it save Takoma Park money to have MoCo do our trash and yard collections? TP Police are amazing-keep.	12/2/2024 12:56 PM
35	We have a small house on a large lot with many trees. As retirees, we do not have the means to pay extra fees beyond our TKPK taxes. There are too many restrictions now & that make it difficult to improve our property. Perhaps TKPK does not value the continued presence of its senior citizens.	12/2/2024 12:45 PM
36	Please do not raise taxes	12/2/2024 12:39 PM
37	Taxes have to grow to match inflation	12/2/2024 12:16 PM
38	Review Takoma Park real property tax with other jurisdictions Takoma Park real estate is high .5522 compared to other areas, namely Garret park .2045, Kinsington .1312, Chevy Chase .292. I have owned a home since 1992; alarms should be going off that the city financial situation is out of control	12/2/2024 12:11 PM
39	Eliminate any (if any) obsolete or inefficient programs that do not contribute to quality of life.	12/2/2024 12:07 PM
40	Ok to charge for extra trash pickup. But there should be no extra fee for residents to have regular weekly trash pickup.	12/2/2024 11:50 AM
41	Could probably do a study to see what city services are effective and what could be eliminated.	12/2/2024 11:42 AM
42	Return to staffing levels of 4-5 years ago. Arts programs could be done my Mont. College or private non-profits	12/2/2024 11:34 AM
43	The City need to live within its means. Cut programs and stuff if taxes don't pay for them. Taxes and fees in TP have gone up, but the services my family benefits from have not.	12/2/2024 11:29 AM
44	N/A	12/2/2024 11:15 AM
45	N/A	12/2/2024 11:12 AM
46	Again- my priorities reflect my need to be able to continue to afford to live here!	12/2/2024 11:07 AM
47	N/A	12/2/2024 11:04 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

48	N/A	12/2/2024 11:02 AM
49	N/A	12/2/2024 11:01 AM
50	N/A	12/2/2024 10:59 AM
51	We rely on City programs, especially at the library.	12/2/2024 10:34 AM
52	Do whatever it takes.	12/2/2024 10:25 AM
53	I don't understand how the Council can be considering tax giveaways to developers given the City's precarious and unsustainable financial state. Unfortunately, the services and programs created by Takoma Park over the past decades, with the accompanying staff to administer them, have outgrown Takoma Park's ability to pay for them and it will be difficult to roll back that kind of growth. But the Council and staff must look at every department for duplication with MoCo, importance to the TP community, efficiency. This budget survey is a good first step.	12/2/2024 8:32 AM
54	A middle class family on \$130k cannot sustain \$12k/yr property taxes. The level for reduced taxes is so low, it is not possible to own a home here given the cost of property and rate of taxes. Also stormwater fee used to be \$45 and is now like \$200 (and we don't have a lot of nonporous surfaces. We bring a lot to the city with our community contributions, but we do not have high paying jobs. We will not be able to afford living here at these rates.	12/2/2024 1:26 AM
55	More library books and programs	12/1/2024 10:35 PM
56	No increase in property taxes	12/1/2024 7:24 AM
57	A systems level approach as described above may be more valuable than "nickel and diming" the city budget	11/30/2024 7:14 PM
58	It seems like balancing the budget should be a shared burden.	11/30/2024 5:13 PM
59	People all over this country are tightening their belts, reduce their spending, do not buy certain products due to the high prices. The city needs to follow that example, NOT to ask what more we want, but what we can give up! We will need to stay within our means. When big plans are made and citizens accept that, it should include how to pay for it. Borrowing money from the bank means paying interest, while saving money means that plans can be made using the revenue. , and a plan to pay for that plan within a short time. Now we are paying interest on top of the millions of debt.	11/30/2024 3:02 PM
60	More library staff and programs	11/28/2024 6:17 PM
61	Can we go below the constant yield rate for once? It's a reassessment year. Don't use the inevitable increase in all of our property taxes to reap a benefit again and again.	11/28/2024 1:04 AM
62	For fees, allow for reductions IF needed based on income.	11/27/2024 4:16 PM
63	Reduce city staffing, eliminate the Takoma Park Police Department, reduce real property taxes (they are too high)	11/27/2024 4:08 PM
64	Let's not make our lovely town into a megapolis! Small is better. So we know our neighbors, can help those around us. BIG CITY life does not promote togetherness.	11/27/2024 4:07 PM
65	Reallocate existing financial resources to reflect priorities	11/27/2024 4:00 PM
66	Please see my response to (3.) above.	11/27/2024 3:55 PM
67	(circled increase property tax rate option) Are you kidding? This is a joke choice...right. The middle class here is already paying OUTRAGEOUS property taxes to support the wealthier and poorer renters, not to mention that the little bit of business there is pays very little. UNBELIEVABLE.	11/27/2024 3:51 PM
68	n/a	11/27/2024 3:15 PM
69	Do not increase property taxes	11/27/2024 1:48 PM
70	We are elderly and hopefully will die before you tax us out of our home	11/27/2024 11:15 AM
71	The property tax rate should not be increased, as a growing share of inhabitants are feeling the burden of recent increases in property taxes. We would support some membership fees for	11/27/2024 9:43 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

optional services (rental for facilities, recreation classes) but not for trash collection. Another option would be to slightly reduce opening hours of certain services (library for example)

72	N/A	11/25/2024 7:50 PM
73	We need safer streets for pedestrians and cyclists.	11/25/2024 2:42 PM
74	The city keeps building boondoggles we don't need, like the new library. There's a brand new library right down the street on Fenton in Silver Spring. In the historic district, we pay close to three times the amount of property taxes that our Silver Spring neighbors 2 streets away pay for the same house valuation. TP doesn't need to replicate all services provided by the County; there should be more attention to reducing duplication of services & increasing coordination so that more is provided by the County in exchange for the county taxes we already pay, and less has to be done by the City. Please note that I am not arguing for "cut services & programs" generally, only the duplicative ones that seem more like vanity projects than essential community services.	11/25/2024 2:35 PM
75	I am strongly opposed to tax increases, and would prefer service cuts. Our taxes are already high, and I do not benefit from many of the services Takoma Park provides (for ex., there are many alternative recreation programs available in our area.)	11/25/2024 2:26 PM
76	n/a	11/25/2024 2:10 PM
77	More programs mean more staff. Parking fees could be raised.	11/25/2024 11:37 AM
78	Have a graduated scale for property tax	11/25/2024 10:57 AM
79	Things are crazy expensive and we're taxed for worse services. TKPK needs to tone it down.	11/25/2024 10:48 AM
80	see 7 above	11/25/2024 7:24 AM
81	Requesting an increase in taxes while providing subpar governance is unacceptable	11/25/2024 7:23 AM
82	Taxes are already high. Please don't consider that an option. I remember the last council having questions about the fiscal responsibility and the pay/amount of responsibilities of some staff members. I would like to see information regarding that too.	11/25/2024 6:05 AM
83	Retaining seniors as residents (by controlling taxes) = diversity	11/25/2024 1:07 AM
84	Saving money but cutting back on rank-choice voting is a regressive step and a false economy. We have a more inclusive electoral system than MoCo that cannot be maintained if we were part of the county. RCV is a protection against extremism of all kinds and our postal system has increased participation to levels that are still low but better than in the past. We should protect this.	11/24/2024 11:48 PM
85	There is a ton of (loud) large-scale renovation work going on in houses in my neighborhood, not just redoing kitchens but complete rebuilds, add-ons bigger than the original house, etc. I feel like the homeowners can afford higher property taxes. Also, I don't think growth and expansion should always be looked at as a plus. Sustainability means just that, sustaining. Everything doesn't have to be bigger and brighter and more. The Community Center was redone not that long ago, now the library is being redone - a library that's surplus to the County system, with two County libraries, Long Branch (recently renovated) and Silver Spring (also quite new) very close by. I wasn't thrilled about cutting down the trees in front of the Library to expand it, and using the wood for furnishings doesn't come close to making up for that. I think it is time to hold off on new and shiny things for a bit.	11/24/2024 11:34 PM
86	Maintain key services such as the compost and recycling programs to keep them in house and eliminating others such as larger investments in our police force.	11/24/2024 10:35 PM
87	No comments at this time.	11/24/2024 10:31 PM
88	See comment above; some budget cuts may be needed.	11/24/2024 10:16 PM
89	We don't need new city services.	11/24/2024 9:15 PM
90	it is okay to consider raising taxes on homeowners	11/24/2024 8:06 PM
91	none	11/24/2024 7:20 PM
92	Property taxes are simply too high, particularly for older longterm residents who now live on fixed income.	11/24/2024 5:20 PM



## Takoma Park Community Survey

93	See above	11/24/2024 4:27 PM
94	.	11/22/2024 8:19 PM
95	n/a	11/22/2024 3:32 AM
96	Do not increase property tax rates if Montgomery County is not current on reimbursements (with interest if more than one year in arrears). Have public full hearings on the budget, including detailed explanation of why any property taxes need to be raised.	11/21/2024 9:27 PM
97	N/a	11/21/2024 8:09 PM
98	none	11/21/2024 8:07 PM
99	I don't know what the impact would be of maintaining but not expanding problems, and raising fees. To eliminate or reduce the structural deficit, we may have to look at the elimination of some programs, at least temporarily.	11/21/2024 3:15 PM
100	Longer library hours would help us make the most of the new library building.	11/21/2024 2:25 PM
101	#4 Language of council priorities unclear. What goals does the council have which success can be measured? Paper form only goes to #7.	11/21/2024 11:31 AM
102	We don't need to turn into Silver Spring. Concentrate on making the city a nice place to live, not a moneymaker for developers.	11/20/2024 11:52 PM
103	Raise retail taxes in Takoma Park, and charge more for parking on all the residential streets.	11/20/2024 2:31 PM
104	NA	11/20/2024 2:13 PM
105	-	11/20/2024 11:34 AM
106	Increase library hours. Open earlier in the morning and stay open later in the evening.	11/20/2024 11:03 AM
107	I'm no expert on city finance and imagine the above idea would pose all sorts of problems, but just my 5 cents.	11/20/2024 10:31 AM
108	Congratulations to the City Manager for starting the budget process earlier this year and for engaging the public as fully as possible.	11/19/2024 3:33 PM
109	We need more library programs and expanded library hours.	11/19/2024 11:17 AM
110	N/A	11/18/2024 8:05 PM
111	Re Question 5: Very odd to provide list and survey relating to the current Council's priorities when a new Council is about to be sworn in after the elections. Listed priorities are also very vague and pretty much useless. Council and Government should have much clearer and, where possible, quantatative/measurable goals, instead. And there should be explanations as to why each priority (or, ideally, clear, measurable goal) was developed and chosen by the Council.	11/18/2024 4:44 PM
112	I believe our most important challenge is to maintain quality of life for lower income residents, who make up such a sizable proportion of people living in TP. Does this mean increasing the responsibilities of higher income residents - perhaps that's necessary. Along with looking carefully at budget for city staff....	11/18/2024 3:47 PM
113	N/A	11/18/2024 11:22 AM
114	Library services should be expanded	11/18/2024 10:26 AM
115	See above	11/18/2024 8:07 AM
116	Take funds from under performing PD and get MOCO to pay back our property taxes	11/18/2024 2:19 AM
117	My taxes have risen by \$400 a month since moving here in 2020 as my house increases in value. I'm not sure why more money is needed. Please don't raise taxes.	11/17/2024 11:24 PM
118	The questions in this survey are very poorly worded. You can do better.	11/17/2024 6:38 PM
119	These options are too general to say yeah or nay to. Some fee increases in rec dept are important. However, trash and compost should not go up as that is the minimum we all expect from the govt. Reduce some TPPD expenditures. Look at the metrics of the Rec Dept and see	11/17/2024 5:57 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

if there are programs that could be cut totally. I think after school care is the most important. Not sure about attendance at most of the others. Goal should be to make a profit on each class with a minimum enrollment and a maximum number of scholarships which are subsidized by those who pay tuition. .

120	I don't want to cut existing services but property taxes have spun out of control.	11/17/2024 11:14 AM
121	Reduced spending and no increases in taxes is highest priority	11/16/2024 9:00 PM
122	N/A	11/16/2024 6:08 PM
123	Na	11/16/2024 12:22 PM
124	N/A	11/16/2024 12:14 PM
125	Two places I'd propose cutting: - Takoma Park TV -- Do we really need a TV channel anymore? Couldn't we save money by just using YouTube? - Consider eliminating the catalog of adult books at the Takoma Park library, since residents can use the fabulous Takoma DC library or the MOCO library in silver spring instead, as well as Libby. Keep the children's library, and the magazines and newspapers. I suggest taking a close look at: (1) where there are redundancies between what the County provides and the City provides, or where the County can take on some of the City's responsibilities, especially ones that are not tightly connected to our values; (2) where private non-profit organizations might be able to take on some of the City's responsibilities. If you increase program and membership fees, consider offering a sliding scale or scholarships for community members who cannot afford increased fees. An increase in property tax could also have some sort of hardship exemption.	11/16/2024 11:11 AM
126	More effort needs to be made to add Montgomery County Services which are duplicative to what we have.	11/16/2024 10:39 AM
127	no comment	11/16/2024 10:28 AM
128	NA	11/16/2024 9:34 AM
129	N/A	11/16/2024 9:15 AM
130	Property taxes should not be increased.	11/16/2024 8:23 AM
131	I know this is an old complaint, but fighting the double taxation by the county for duplicate services would ease the tax burden on residents and allow for more financial flexibility for tkpk residents to fund services we believe are essential	11/16/2024 7:55 AM
132	N/a	11/16/2024 7:53 AM
133	I appreciate the services my taxes support. I would be disappointed if the cost of those services increased.	11/15/2024 11:25 PM
134	I value the Police, trash service, road maintenance and other basic city services. I dislike having my taxes used to incentivize or support private economic projects.	11/15/2024 8:59 PM
135	The City services are too much	11/15/2024 8:49 PM
136	Na	11/15/2024 7:20 PM
137	Takoma park offers many services and should evaluate which are still needed or have to spend more wisely. Prioritizing a new library above renovating the rec center on New Hampshire Ave was a poor decision. The recreation center would service a more diverse community with much needed services	11/15/2024 6:54 PM
138	Increase taxes to support increased services. It's simple.	11/15/2024 6:20 PM
139	Eliminate the Takoma Park Police Department. Laws can be enforced by the Montgomery County Police Department	11/15/2024 6:03 PM
140	Taxes are crazy high already	11/15/2024 5:35 PM
141	None	11/15/2024 4:57 PM
142	n/a	11/15/2024 2:59 PM
143	None	11/15/2024 2:32 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

144	Do not increase taxes further. Residents who have lived here their whole lives can't afford to retire here because of the taxes.	11/15/2024 2:24 PM
145	The library should offer more programs. Please provide funding for this.	11/15/2024 1:53 PM
146	None	11/15/2024 12:40 PM
147	A useful exercise may be to determine which City services are available from the County within a five-mile radius and accessible via public transportation. This data would be used in cutting redundant programs. The property taxes are disproportionate to the value of services provided. The City management must learn to make do with less money and give property owners some relief.	11/15/2024 12:26 PM
148	Takoma Park cannot afford to increase its operating budget at this time, when its tax base will surely be impacted by federal policies over the next few years. It should build up a reserve fund and should halt/slow all unnecessary expenditures.	11/15/2024 12:26 PM
149	None	11/15/2024 12:14 PM
150	Do NOT increase the current property tax rate. That is the fastest way to guarantee that I will vote out any administration that supports a property tax increase. In fact, I would like to see a decrease in property tax rates. I need to understand what my additional tax dollars are getting me more than my neighbors that live one street over. I am struggling to be able to afford to live in my home because of the ever increasing property tax.	11/15/2024 12:11 PM
151	Lack sufficient information to evaluate.	11/15/2024 12:04 PM
152	NO MORE PROPERTY TAXES - work on how to transfer some of the City's services to the County. Would rather have less services than more taxes.	11/15/2024 12:03 PM
153	na	11/15/2024 4:59 AM
154	Increase parking fees and fines!	11/14/2024 10:18 PM
155	I feel that maintaining the current programs, but not adding new programs is better than eliminating or cutting them.	11/14/2024 2:33 PM
156	TP wastes too much money on stuff that has nothing to do with city govt. The city council likes to give away other people's money and I'm getting sick of it. For example, last year they had money in the budget to provide unhealthy snacks to kids at a time that was right have dinner, when NO ONE needs a snack let alone such garbage they were providing. This was going to be used to give to kids volunteering to babysit during city council meetings, which was nonsensical anyway, given the meetings are broadcast. This is just one example. I think they also use money to give scholarships to kids or something. That isn't the purpose of a city govt.	11/14/2024 11:16 AM
157	Increases for facilities rental and rec classes and voluntary individual expenditures is fine, but NOT for core universal services like trash or compost pickup.	11/13/2024 11:40 PM
158	N/A	11/13/2024 9:12 PM
159	None	11/13/2024 8:31 PM
160	none	11/13/2024 7:50 PM
161	Maintain, reduce and expand certain services subject to usage and desirability	11/13/2024 2:06 PM
162	As a long-time resident, my property taxes have increased far in excess of the rate of inflation. Since the online records don't go back far enough to give the full history, I can say that in 1999, my Takoma Park property taxes were under \$900 a year. They are now over \$3000 a year -- considerably more than my entire property tax bill was in 1999. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' CPI calculator, if my Takoma Park property taxes had only increased as much as the rate of inflation, I'd be paying less than \$1700 a year now. They would have increased by about 88%. In actuality, they have increased by about 269%! I realize that one of the reasons this has happened is because the assessed value of my home is higher. However, that's not actually helpful to me in paying my tax bill until I decide to sell my home and leave Takoma Park. I love Takoma Park, and I don't object to paying additional taxes for the privilege of living here. But these tax increases are a real burden for families like mine, whose income has increased at roughly the rate of inflation over the same period.	11/13/2024 11:59 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

163	No additional comments.	11/13/2024 10:53 AM
164	We must balance our spending with our income. Those of us in Ward 1 on fixed incomes cannot afford the property taxes. First the assessed value of our homes went way up so more taxes could be collected and now every year taxes are increased.	11/13/2024 9:50 AM
165	Please don't raise taxes. Increased property values in Ward 6 have already increased taxes.	11/13/2024 9:37 AM
166	n/a	11/13/2024 7:37 AM
167	No property tax increases. We already pay more than very wealthy cities in the county.	11/13/2024 7:02 AM
168	N/a	11/13/2024 6:25 AM
169	Na	11/13/2024 5:40 AM
170	The city can balance the budget without cutting anything	11/13/2024 12:56 AM
171	N/A	11/12/2024 10:36 PM
172	N/a	11/12/2024 8:25 PM
173	None	11/12/2024 7:29 PM
174	N/a	11/12/2024 6:55 PM
175	N/A	11/12/2024 5:27 PM
176	Budget and revenue need to reflect reality of the services we want.	11/12/2024 4:33 PM
177	I think it's important to maintain the budget, but do not exceed the budget.	11/12/2024 3:59 PM
178	N/a	11/12/2024 3:31 PM
179	Provided above	11/12/2024 1:20 PM
180	No comment	11/12/2024 12:51 PM
181	N/A	11/12/2024 11:51 AM
182	Takoma park already has the highest property taxes. I would prefer alternative solutions	11/12/2024 11:46 AM
183	Taxes are already very high for Takoma Park. Please do not increase them any more! Actually, bringing them down would be much appreciated by those of us who are long term residents and may be pushed out by the higher cost of living in Takoma Park.	11/12/2024 11:45 AM
184	Again, older and poorer residents are being left behind in this city. Instead of focusing on things of importance to wealthier residents (bike lanes, food forests), this city should prioritize programs that benefit low-income, unhoused, and older residents.	11/12/2024 11:20 AM
185	City services at great. The library rebuild seemed totally unnecessary!	11/12/2024 11:02 AM
186	In the past, I delved into this, but my knowledge is not current. I could not advise on what programs to reduce or drop without reviewing the budget again.	11/12/2024 10:58 AM
187	I would rather pay more for services I use than see taxes go up.	11/12/2024 9:14 AM
188	None	11/12/2024 8:48 AM
189	Eliminate the Sustainability Manager position. Eliminate non-productive citizen advisory committees such as Sustainable MD. Reallocate these resources to Vegetation Maintenance/Parks	11/12/2024 7:43 AM
190	see above	11/11/2024 4:49 PM
191	n/a	11/11/2024 2:03 PM
192	None	11/11/2024 11:04 AM
193	I am a rich homeowner, and I strongly support paying more taxes to provide services for neighbors who have fewer resources. I want to live in a community where we tax the rich (majority white, single family homeowners) to increase the quality of life for everyone with high quality services. Take my money, and use it to make people's lives a little easier! Especially	11/11/2024 9:19 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

with the national political picture looking bleak, we need to protect each other and use our comparative wealth to do it.

194	I don't know the actual size and priorities of the police department, but I'm guessing it's larger than needed for our small city.	11/11/2024 8:55 AM
195	None	11/11/2024 8:50 AM
196	N/A	11/11/2024 7:26 AM
197	Start to charge for number of trash cans people use. more trash = more cost. Increase parking fees and parking pass fees. Parking passes should be equivalent to the cost of the space they occupy for the year. Increase enforcement.	11/11/2024 7:09 AM
198	NA	11/10/2024 10:49 PM
199	A tax increase would be fine, but only after some effort is made to reduce expenditures and more broadly reconsider the City's approach to spending. Greater controls on public projects (e.g. construction overruns) would also be appropriate.	11/10/2024 6:52 PM
200	Elected leaders always want to do more because that is easy, but too infrequently look at what we are already doing and ask if it provides the value we want from it. Be BRAVE! Look at every single program and ask are we getting the right value? Or should we redeploy these resources someplace better. That may mean confronting entrenched interests. That is exactly what leadership is.	11/10/2024 1:00 PM
201	An all-of-the-above option is my preference, in a way so that the impacts are borne as much as possible by people who could afford it. Priority is to maintain as much as possible, with moderate fee-for-service increases where necessary. Property tax hikes are next, and cuts only on an as-needed basis.	11/10/2024 10:11 AM
202	Pls do not raise our taxes. I think the city government is bloated and some city employees do NOT do their jobs	11/9/2024 9:24 PM
203	See above.	11/9/2024 5:03 PM
204	Let's eliminate the services that only impact a small number of people.	11/9/2024 11:50 AM
205	Improved funding is needed for maintenance of green spaces. Proper remediation and maintenance of Sligo Mill Nature Conservation Area should be a priority.	11/8/2024 11:33 PM
206	There's no reason to subsidize things like summer camp for everyone. Offer scholarships or make it sliding scale income-based or something to ensure that those who need the opportunity can access it, but don't waste the city's money on paying for camp for my upper middle class child. For park rentals, please offer multiple time windows for each day instead of forcing you to rent the whole day. You could double the revenue by creating a morning window and an afternoon window.	11/8/2024 3:09 PM
207	none	11/8/2024 1:06 PM
208	I think we should continually be reviewing the menu of City service/program offerings to understand the demand for and effectiveness of them. If there are no opportunities for cost savings there, I am open to a tax increase or a special bond to support the renovation of the rec center.	11/8/2024 7:19 AM
209	None	11/7/2024 7:33 PM
210	The city is already overstaffed and spends beyond a realistic budget	11/7/2024 7:11 PM
211	No comment	11/7/2024 7:00 PM
212	The city has expanded its scope too far and needs to reconsider what the residents really want. Takoma Park has the highest property taxes in Montgomery County and needs to reduce both the tax rate and overall tax burden.	11/7/2024 6:57 PM
213	None	11/7/2024 6:55 PM
214	WE need performance metrix for staff; reduce services that might be handled by the county; use residents more often in task forces to advice staff and city manager	11/7/2024 6:42 PM
215	Xx	11/6/2024 8:00 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

216	NA	11/6/2024 4:44 PM
217	No comments.	11/6/2024 3:26 PM
218	Why does your survey require an answer to this question???	11/6/2024 1:29 PM
219	See above. Reducing costs does not have to mean cutting positions. Reduce expensive administrative positions, not necessarily programs. Evaluate the cost and benefits of each program, and compare them to county services. Look for other cost savings, such as leasing rather than purchasing police cars, and evaluating sidewalks before repaving them, etc.	11/6/2024 12:27 PM
220	Please increase library funding	11/6/2024 11:01 AM
221	Do what's right for Takoma Park and all city residents. Don't just listen to the loudest voices in the room because most city residents don't have the time to attend City Council meetings.	11/6/2024 10:47 AM
222	None, thanks.	11/5/2024 8:38 PM
223	N/A	11/5/2024 8:31 PM
224	N.A.	11/5/2024 8:18 PM
225	1. My filling out this survey was due to receiving the city newsletter today. I tried the QR code, and it did not work. I then just entered the website address printed in the newsletter. Also in the newsletter was an announcement that the friends of the library books sale was happening, November 2, which was three days ago. Why was this announcement in this issue of the newsletter which came to my home after the event? 3. One specific budget item, albeit a small one, would be my question about why police cruisers need new paint jobs because the current colour of dark grey is "too aggressive"? Please explain that to me, as I don't understand. 4. I have had issues in the past with the execution of athletic programs under the recreation department, with Teams, not being organised prior to the beginning of the season, season is cancelled due to lack of participation/lack of marketing to the target audiences, unavailability of space in a calendar that should be set for an advance, et cetera. My kid has a benefit of playing on his school, team and/or club team, while a number of his friends do not have that luxury and rely heavily on city recreation programs, like the YES league.	11/5/2024 5:18 PM
226	None	11/5/2024 4:16 PM
227	We appreciate the new curb cuts, like the ones on Carroll	11/4/2024 8:15 PM
228	No comments	11/4/2024 6:05 PM
229	Our property taxes are already so high so it would be great if we could find other ways to maintain services. Are there efficiencies we've over looked?	11/4/2024 4:53 PM
230	We aren't currently charged for the compost pick up, so this would be a new fee, correct? I am open to paying for this service rather than have to give it up!	11/4/2024 4:53 PM
231	NA	11/4/2024 4:18 PM
232	Our property taxes recently increased significantly when Montgomery County reviewed the property values. The value of the property does not actually reflect what we can sell the house for given the increase in crime. An increase in property taxes, would place the burden on one segment of the TP population. Don't spend money the city doesn't have.	11/4/2024 3:53 PM
233	I would object to increased taxes and fees to fund the local government as they are too high already	11/4/2024 1:39 PM
234	-	11/4/2024 12:33 PM
235	N/a	11/4/2024 9:20 AM
236	I'd appreciate an info session and report explaining how city budget resources are allocated in relation to how much those services are used.	11/4/2024 8:08 AM
237	None needed	11/4/2024 7:46 AM
238	See above	11/3/2024 7:30 PM
239	Inflation already stretches household budgets, so please try not to increase expenses for residents.	11/3/2024 6:45 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

240	I believe the city already has enough programs. If something needs to change to keep a balanced budget, increase city service fees, not taxes.	11/3/2024 6:38 PM
241	We could increase program fees, but for the recreational opportunities, should find ways to ensure that lower-income individuals are not hit with the higher fees.	11/3/2024 4:43 PM
242	TP services should be in keeping of the responsibilities of an incorporated city, and not be a vehicle to fund special interests of a few residents. Focus on a limited number of initiatives and do them well.	11/3/2024 3:33 PM
243	Measure twice cut once. It looks like city Council has been passive about expenditures.	11/3/2024 2:56 PM
244	Property tax collections have risen faster than the rate of inflation for a long time. Do not squeeze out existing residents any more with these high tax increases. Focus on the yield and on the impact on moderate, fixed-income residents. Do not simplistically and falsely maintain that holding the tax rate steady is the same as controlling rising taxes.	11/3/2024 1:25 PM
245	N/a	11/3/2024 12:51 PM
246	Takoma Park should look at our need for our own police department. Has anyone assessed if we are really safer with our own police department? Does the TPPD solve crimes more quickly or at a higher rate, or have a faster response time, than the Montgomery County Police. TPPD accounts for around one third of our budget; is it really necessary?	11/3/2024 10:32 AM
247	N/a	11/3/2024 9:09 AM
248	No additional comments.	11/3/2024 8:10 AM
249	No thanks!	11/3/2024 7:39 AM
250	Please investigate existing local developers.	11/2/2024 8:29 PM
251	No additional comments.	11/2/2024 8:04 PM
252	Eliminate Deputy City Managers and reorganize into four departments: police, operations (finance, HR, communications), infrastructure (PW and parts of HCD), human services (library, recreation, etc).	11/2/2024 7:44 PM
253	The city government is expected to be providing high quality services and public safety to its residents. Please evaluate the efficiency of the city government operations and services such as any overlapping city departments and/or duties or any city services which are extremely under utilized or not used at all in the last two fiscal years.	11/2/2024 6:47 PM
254	Keeping the tax rate while real estate prices climb is increasing the tax amount. The rate of .5522/\$100 of assessed value should be reduced concomitant to the increase in total Assessed property value to maintain a level budget.	11/2/2024 5:06 PM
255	None	11/2/2024 5:01 PM
256	i think we need to ut services and the budget	11/2/2024 2:22 PM
257	Please, please reduce taxes and make living here more affordable for all.	11/2/2024 1:46 PM
258	Perhaps slowing hiring and shifting workers to priority areas. For example, while video of things like council meetings are necessary, doing that for festivals is nice to have but could be scaled back.	11/2/2024 11:33 AM
259	N/A	11/2/2024 9:47 AM
260	I love our community and public services but would prefer not to raise taxes if possible as they are already quite high in Montgomery County.	11/1/2024 7:52 PM
261	The City needs to take a good look at the services it should provide and actual staffing needs. Both services and staff have expanded beyond the City's financial capacity.	11/1/2024 7:44 PM
262	No additional comments.	11/1/2024 5:51 PM
263	Property taxes are already very high, find efficiencies rather than raising them.	11/1/2024 7:54 AM
264	Na	11/1/2024 7:51 AM
265	What does this city want be like in 50 years? If we are just moving to be like everywhere else	11/1/2024 7:40 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

	in this suburban county seems we don't need all the pretense of being some place special.	
266	Fewer police and enforcement positions. Examine whether trans and recycling can go back to county	10/31/2024 10:42 PM
267	Na	10/31/2024 9:00 PM
268	The programs that te city provides are good for our children	10/31/2024 8:24 PM
269	None	10/31/2024 6:57 PM
270	We do not receive additional services beyond those enjoyed by residents of Silver Spring to justify the additional costs of living here. Had I realized this when moving here, I would have chosen Silver Spring.	10/31/2024 4:19 PM
271	n/a	10/31/2024 3:08 PM
272	Please take a solid look at where programs can be scaled back, take a look at what's not working, and find ways to slim down.	10/31/2024 3:07 PM
273	None	10/31/2024 2:26 PM
274	N/A	10/31/2024 2:20 PM
275	none	10/31/2024 1:43 PM
276	We need to seriously evaluate the potential costs/benefits of merging our waste management services with those of the county. The fact that we were among the first to undertake recycling and composting is not enough of a reason to keep going now that the County has caught up and surpassed us in their services in this regard. I have heard the concern that too little would be left to justify the existence of TP as an independent entity. I am not sure if that is true, and I kind of doubt it, but even if so, we should undertake this evaluation.	10/31/2024 1:33 PM
277	Na	10/31/2024 1:26 PM
278	Measures to expand the tax base, consider a city sales tax, reduce obstacles for commercial (retail) enterprises.	10/31/2024 1:12 PM
279	Have an outside company provide refuse pickup (such as Waste Management). If an outside company can provide waste pickup services for less than it costs the City, I would strongly support that move.	10/31/2024 1:11 PM
280	I do not use most of the listed services.	10/31/2024 1:08 PM
281	N/A	10/31/2024 12:36 PM
282	None	10/31/2024 12:10 PM
283	This is a great outreach program that I hope you will keep expanding to engage more residents. Keep reminding people that programs come at costs, and if people really want equitable distribution of resources, someone has to pay for it.	10/31/2024 11:09 AM
284	We either need to increase the tax base by building more density or increasing property taxes. The former is difficult in TKPK due to entrenched community opposition, so our only choice is the latter if we want to both maintain and expand city services.	10/31/2024 10:25 AM
285	Defund the police	10/30/2024 9:47 PM
286	From what I understand we already struggle with the services and programs the city provides. So please do not expand more! Most people probably won't like more fees or taxes, but those could be considered.	10/30/2024 4:53 PM
287	Please see "Other" in #7.	10/30/2024 3:30 PM
288	Na	10/30/2024 3:08 PM
289	NA	10/30/2024 2:52 PM
290	Review each department to see if there are programs that overlap, are no longer used much, or might be eliminated or offered for a fee. Eliminate processes and procedures that are hold overs from past, might be automated, are overly bureaucratic or time consuming. Review if it's cost effective to hire outside contractors vs use city staff for various tasks/projects. For	10/30/2024 2:46 PM



## Takoma Park Community Survey

functions that interact with the broader region, perhaps send these services back to the county - an example might be storm water management. Potentially combine departments to reduce need for as many higher paid managers and middle managers. Ask each department head to submit a budget based on say a 2% or 5% or 7% or 10% reduction in funding in order to keep property taxes from increasing above the amount residents are currently paying or even reducing property taxes.

291	I have no additional comments	10/30/2024 2:09 PM
292	Are there city staff positions which could be replaced by a group of volunteer residents with expertise in that area? Ie City Arborist	10/30/2024 1:50 PM
293	See above — property tax burden is a big ongoing concern for me	10/30/2024 1:15 PM
294	County doubled services should go back to the county, namely trash and police.	10/30/2024 12:52 PM
295	We should be more business friendly to expand tax base	10/30/2024 12:40 PM
296	Reduce the load on the police department by having the fine repeated noise violations.	10/30/2024 12:37 PM
297	Show respect to the people who engage in the City governing process. In your efforts to get more citizens to participate in government, avoid rhetoric that alienates those who already do. The City seems very comfortable deprioritizing and demeaning the people it wants to raise taxes on. That is morally bankrupt. Beware of wolves in sheep's clothing, including on the County Council. Look hard at ideas that come from people/entities who have a monetary stake in the outcome before agreeing to them. Are they really best for our City and the quality of life that people moved here for? Just because it can be done doesn't mean it should be done.	10/30/2024 10:34 AM
298	No comment	10/29/2024 9:52 PM
299	n/a	10/29/2024 8:03 PM
300	I am sure some services and programs could be cut, on the margins. What is happening with tax duplication? Can't we use more County services?	10/28/2024 7:16 PM
301	Our taxes are already too high. Please don't commit the city to any more budgets that aren't balanced. The city is already too deep in debt and the bills just keep getting bigger. Please stop spending irresponsibly!	10/28/2024 11:30 AM
302	Property tax is already ridiculously high and discourages persons from moving to/buying in Takoma Park.	10/28/2024 9:36 AM
303	none	10/27/2024 8:50 PM
304	See comments for #7	10/27/2024 6:31 PM
305	Expand revenue base before expanding expenses	10/27/2024 9:35 AM
306	Please do not increase taxes!	10/27/2024 9:10 AM
307	N/A	10/27/2024 5:19 AM
308	A balanced budget is of critical important to the residents of our City. Increasing taxes is the least desirable manner for smart budgeting.	10/26/2024 6:01 PM
309	City programs need to be carefully looked at to see a) if there is a duplicate or similar service available from the county for residents to take advantage of, b) if the funds allocated to the service/ program are being spent efficiently, and c) if fees for some programs/ services can be increased to maintain affordability for residents but to help balance the city's budget.	10/26/2024 5:49 PM
310	I'm happy to pay increase taxes for making sure services are available to ALL in our city	10/26/2024 11:12 AM
311	Done	10/26/2024 10:04 AM
312	stop wasteful duplication	10/26/2024 7:44 AM
313	As housing values go up, the property tax total cost to each households has gone up. I'd prefer to hold steady with programming for a bit rather than raise taxes. And I would want to raise the cost of programs unless the city is sure this DOES NOT put the burden on lower wage residents.	10/26/2024 6:49 AM
314	Taxes are a necessary evil	10/25/2024 11:53 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

315	Do not make it more difficult to utilize the City services by increasing costs.	10/25/2024 11:43 PM
316	Question 6 makes little sense. Identify items "you have participated in"? Of course everyone has had trash pickup, roads cleared, sidewalks maintained, leaves collected. We interact with Police under duress, or to get required parking permits (or face a fine). If we want a tree removed we must work with "urban forest" or face a fine. Same goes for code enforcement--code enforcement interacted with us, not us with them. Any so-called findings from that question are useless without clearer metrics of "participation." Please publish the results and how the city intends to use them.	10/25/2024 11:01 PM
317	None	10/25/2024 7:05 PM
318	Na	10/25/2024 3:42 PM
319	Focus should be on basic, essential services for all residents, e.g. safety, traffic enforcement, trash collection, etc.	10/25/2024 2:59 PM
320	Financial responsibility	10/25/2024 11:04 AM
321	I have voted wholeheartedly for increases in taxes to build the new city hall & recreation facilities, & then been surprised when we didn't get what I thought we voted for. No more.	10/25/2024 10:43 AM
322	I think property tax only is a tough increase year over year. Ideally I would like to see other ways of generating revenue, whether it's from more small businesses or increasing our population and thus the tax base.	10/25/2024 7:21 AM
323	No comments	10/25/2024 5:40 AM
324	None	10/24/2024 10:20 PM
325	Defer vehicle replacement is one example. Limit use of consultants. Consolidate functions, a new position for a new function is not always needed	10/24/2024 9:53 PM
326	Would lower taxes and cut programs. Doesn't make sense that Takoma Park taxes are so much higher than other cities	10/24/2024 8:52 PM
327	none	10/24/2024 7:15 PM
328	See comments above	10/24/2024 7:09 PM
329	Just don't increase taxes, we are OVER taxed as it is	10/24/2024 6:49 PM
330	Residents cannot sustainably continue to battle both development (which expands the tax base) and increases in property taxes.	10/24/2024 2:28 PM
331	Library funding should be a priority. Please provide library services at both the Philadelphia Ave and New Hampshire Ave locations.	10/24/2024 11:04 AM
332	The city seems to have a lot of programs that don't meet critical needs.	10/23/2024 10:09 PM
333	None	10/23/2024 7:43 PM
334	I want the city to collect taxes and fund programs that improve life for households with the lowest income.	10/23/2024 7:19 PM
335	Audit and decrease duplicate services. Make public the bloated salaries of the city manager and other over-paid city executives. Quit with the down payment assistance and other stupid racist grants.	10/22/2024 6:10 PM
336	Do not layoff staff.	10/22/2024 3:25 PM
337	The city has been over-reaching in its activities. Stop building new buildings, stop working on the ill-advised minor-master plan. Quit funding so many outside groups, such as the Old Takoma Business Assn.	10/22/2024 2:35 PM
338	There are many programs the city can and should turn over to the county including stormwater, solid waste management, library, sustainability etc. if the city can't do it right we should let others do it	10/22/2024 2:27 PM
339	Perhaps rental fees can be raised. Review your programs. Remove those that do not perform well. A couple of years of maintenance or few new programs is okay. Do a major survey about	10/19/2024 12:19 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

which programs are needed for the communities. Invest in those. Perhaps look for business partners for funding. More grants, maybe. I know all that takes time, and you may not have staff to do these. Please, please...do not raise taxes. Takoma Park is beginning to be an expensive place to live. One idea to fill coffers: what about adding a tax for properties sold or a fee for future developers that goes to future programs/parks?

340	None	10/19/2024 12:47 AM
341	Please increase library funding to support optimal use of the new building that will open in the coming months.	10/18/2024 11:57 PM
342	The city should balance its budget in the most progressive way possible, with the greatest burden on the highest earners	10/18/2024 9:03 PM
343	I love living in TKPK and happy to pay more to expand services for others	10/18/2024 8:22 PM

## Q9 7. You are Takoma Park's greatest resource! Please share any ideas and innovations you think the City should consider as part of its upcoming fiscal year budget development.

Answered: 323 Skipped: 102

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	How can we encourage more businesses to be in Takoma Park to bring in additional revenue? Cultivating business along the purple line could be very helpful.	12/3/2024 2:04 PM
2	Please consider which ward is making which type of demand. I think you'll find certain folks will ask or demand things that are more self-serving and not good for the city. Lets not put the more emphasis on the older, whiter, richer folks who have paid off homes but complain about property taxes. While it's important (to them) we need to look at the issues at a grander scale.	12/3/2024 11:52 AM
3	important to help police with crime. important to enable poorer people to live here and older people to remain here. we dont need more building or services - if you lose the unique flavor of takoma park you will be doomed.	12/3/2024 11:31 AM
4	Cut our duplicate offerings (if county, offers it, cut out city depts) offerings	12/3/2024 11:00 AM
5	Prioritize pedestrian safety, please!	12/3/2024 10:36 AM
6	Encourage more small businesses. Build recreation and charge the resident and non-resident (more).	12/3/2024 10:26 AM
7	Take residents ' comments seriously!!! We are angry that you have a public process on issues and then ignore our comments and do whatever you want!	12/3/2024 2:47 AM
8	Innovative, no-cost or low-cost public communication about City programs and expanded use of volunteers/residents to help get the word out.	12/2/2024 6:15 PM
9	Defund the police. Make MOCO pay us back for duplicative services we already have!!	12/2/2024 4:37 PM
10	Is anyone in city government going to pick up on plans to expand commercial tax base?	12/2/2024 3:24 PM
11	The city should have proceeded with the Junction Plan	12/2/2024 3:20 PM
12	Mid-priced housing for families! Starter homes for younger people	12/2/2024 3:09 PM
13	Better increased funding of economic development efforts	12/2/2024 2:55 PM
14	An independent library is not needed	12/2/2024 2:42 PM
15	Give council more oversight over city employees' activities	12/2/2024 2:31 PM
16	Sick of time taking for library, deer destroying property and crime is escalating	12/2/2024 2:23 PM
17	Please work with MDOT to have Philadelphia Ave resurfaced as there are worsening potholes that cause our house to shake when buses & trucks drive by	12/2/2024 2:17 PM
18	New rec center and NH Ave should be #1	12/2/2024 1:52 PM
19	Have a holistic plan for Junction development putting residents needs as a priority- esp. homeowners!	12/2/2024 11:52 AM
20	Be wary of tax breaks for commercial developers. They aren't needed to stimulate development in highly desirable Takoma Park. More important is to consider incentives to help owners maintain and improve existing affordable housing.	12/2/2024 11:50 AM
21	I'm happy to clarify anything I've offered. Risa Shimoda 601 Hudson #102 risa@theshimodagroup.com	12/2/2024 11:43 AM
22	Must get the crime, homelessness, and housing code violations rectified first, then we can focus on economic development; which would get you the taxes to help your budget.	12/2/2024 11:42 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

23	The budget is bloated & unsustainable. Salaries are outrageous. The population has been 17,000 since 1950 but you wouldn't know it by the services & budget	12/2/2024 11:28 AM
24	Pay more attention to the needs of low income, disabled residents and apartment/rental dwellers.	12/2/2024 11:25 AM
25	N/A	12/2/2024 11:16 AM
26	Share a City map with all the playgrounds and public facilities to all residents.	12/2/2024 11:15 AM
27	N/A	12/2/2024 11:12 AM
28	N/A	12/2/2024 11:07 AM
29	N/A	12/2/2024 11:04 AM
30	N/A	12/2/2024 11:02 AM
31	N/A	12/2/2024 11:01 AM
32	N/A	12/2/2024 10:59 AM
33	More library books for little kids and more library staff to run programs.	12/2/2024 10:34 AM
34	Find some way to measure the value of programs and services to their actual cost.	12/2/2024 8:32 AM
35	We get so much great foot traffic to our small businesses and the restaurants from the city - if there's any way to keep those resources in TKPK...	12/2/2024 7:24 AM
36	Make sure residents aren't charged by the county for services provided by the City. Recognize that the combination of rising property assessments and tax percentage for more spending, the less middle class residents will be able to afford to live here. Dramatic increase income thresholds for capping property taxes. Maybe consider reducing the number of committees. As a community artist, I've noted there are never rooms available to rent in the community center. Most are taken by committee or City programs, so citizens can't really use them. Also the Humanities commission or committee, meets only to be disregarded if the recommendations are counter to the coordinator. What is the point of having a committee, if the coordinator implements his ideas regardless of their input?	12/2/2024 1:26 AM
37	More library programs, please!	12/1/2024 10:35 PM
38	Have lived here for 43 years, now on fixed income, my biggest annual expense is the \$11,397 RE taxes. Bought house for \$95,000 and finally paid off mortgage as a teacher all these years. May have to move if taxes increase, as they have every year. I've contributed to the city in many ways over those years and now at 82 I'm hoping I can age in place as I love TP where I've raised my kids and have been involved in our schools for kids and grandkids. Worked hard over the years to keep our schools open, especially the TPJH (TPMS). Participate in the VILLAGE OF TP and am fearful I may not be able to pay RE tax if it continues to increase. I'm speaking for not only myself but many others who are in a similar situation. Please be strategic in your planning to keep a multi-generational and inclusive community. Thank you for this survey.	11/30/2024 8:45 PM
39	The city should invest in developing a long term plan for fiscal mgmt and sustainability rather than asking people who lack the data and financial analysis to provide useful information. There are city residents with this kind of expertise who probably would be willing to serve on a task force if asked. Such a task force could look at big structural issues such as the appropriate size of the reserve fund rather small items such as program fees and nebulous things such as cutting or eliminating unspecified programs. It should also look at issues such as the appropriateness of zero-based budgeting and various accounting programs as have been proposed by residents. Perhaps a separate group should look at the city's policies for investments to see whether the city is generating sufficient revenue from our investments and the appropriate level of risk. Also, it is worth exploring whether the city should have a comptroller or chief financial officer.	11/30/2024 7:14 PM
40	Closing the miniscule section of Laurel street downtown TP, so elderly, kids and families and guests can mingle without jumping aside for fast cars, cutting through Takoma Park to Eastern Ave. Secondly, I like to see a plan how the City can reduce the huge deficit! Hard times are ahead of us.	11/30/2024 3:02 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

41	Please see above. Takoma Park should not pursue additional construction projects or expanded services unless they can be paid for in ways aside from increased property tax rates. Fix the property rate to inflation and start getting creative in finding additional revenue. Broaden the tax burden.	11/29/2024 3:49 PM
42	More kids books for the library please	11/28/2024 6:17 PM
43	Can we move the speed camera that's sitting by the 4 way stop sign? Any chance of using program open space funding from the state? Other BOW grants or the like?	11/28/2024 1:04 AM
44	Ward 4 doesn't receive the same care and love as other parts of Takoma Park as it represents a large tax base of the city. Can we please have a new projects and buildings be made of the same quality and care of Main Street takoma. Thank you	11/27/2024 5:10 PM
45	Lower the speed limits and enforce them.	11/27/2024 4:14 PM
46	Have residents decide what is VITAL, what is IMPORTANT and what is NECESSARY - other areas don't needed add funds.	11/27/2024 4:07 PM
47	Pay the necessary amount so that each city address receives exactly one copy of the Takoma Park News each month.	11/27/2024 3:43 PM
48	n/a	11/27/2024 3:15 PM
49	Consider restricting traffic flow on residential streets, especially during the am and pm rush hours, as per the town of Chevy Chase and Bethesda	11/27/2024 1:48 PM
50	I don't believe that you care about us, only your agenda to gentrification....	11/27/2024 11:15 AM
51	We value the programs and services offered by the City. Thank you for such a great community!	11/27/2024 9:43 AM
52	N/A	11/25/2024 7:50 PM
53	Ticket drivers who don't follow traffic laws	11/25/2024 2:42 PM
54	Is it too late to kill the new TP library? ;)	11/25/2024 2:35 PM
55	N/A	11/25/2024 2:26 PM
56	n/a	11/25/2024 2:10 PM
57	More pedestrian areas.	11/25/2024 11:37 AM
58	Outside contracts need to be carefully scrutinized and researched	11/25/2024 10:57 AM
59	Stop spending money.	11/25/2024 10:48 AM
60	see above	11/25/2024 7:24 AM
61	Provide justification and explanation of every service that would normally be provided by the county. Being doubly taxed and not seeing any benefit or reason for the city government to exist since the Montgomery county annexation	11/25/2024 7:23 AM
62	Opinions already noted	11/25/2024 6:05 AM
63	Tax credits for developers not well thought out. Vote was rushed through before election.	11/25/2024 1:07 AM
64	These opt-in surveys may provide some interesting ideas but have no statistical relevance. We should not pass this off as consulting our community. They are a cheap and lazy device preferred by the squeaky wheels of our local politics. Bring back and pay for a properly administered random survey for the whole city.	11/24/2024 11:48 PM
65	Just chill out on renovating and replacing everything. Can't believe the Community Center and Police Department are being considered for improvements when they were newly redone, what, a decade ago? If it was done well then, it shouldn't need to be improved already. Stop trying to make everything constantly bigger and brighter.	11/24/2024 11:34 PM
66	We can be more creative with the junction parking lot, using it as space for food trucks and other community events. It is not imperative that it is fully developed into a commercial space to generate revenues for the city.	11/24/2024 10:35 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

67	No comments at this time.	11/24/2024 10:31 PM
68	A study on how much new businesses and different types of businesses contribute in taxes so the we can encourage those who will help with city revenue. That should not be the only factor in encouraging new business but it should be part of the process.	11/24/2024 10:16 PM
69	No idea	11/24/2024 9:15 PM
70	Thank you	11/24/2024 8:06 PM
71	Look at ways we can streamline the government and still deliver services. The Takoma Park Police have expanded, in no way proportional to our population.	11/24/2024 7:20 PM
72	No comments	11/24/2024 5:20 PM
73	See above	11/24/2024 4:27 PM
74	Please increase funding for alternative forms of travel	11/22/2024 8:19 PM
75	n/a	11/22/2024 3:32 AM
76	Several intersections are not lit well enough for pedestrians to safely cross the road because they are so hard to see. If the city does not have responsibility for an area, inform citizens that the City is negotiating with the county or state to do the lighting	11/21/2024 9:27 PM
77	Consider getting more development and business in Takoma Park like what exists on the DC side.	11/21/2024 8:09 PM
78	none	11/21/2024 8:07 PM
79	Don't have any right now	11/21/2024 3:15 PM
80	Charge more for parking!	11/21/2024 2:25 PM
81	What are the program measures for the departments? Takoma Park has been designated as a sanctuary city. What will this mean to the current budget. Please name the duplication services where Takoma Park is not being reimburse or is receiving far less than the service cost the city. It appears the continuous cry by the municipalities is robbing Peter to pay Paul. The county pays the municipalities and then raises county property taxes etc.	11/21/2024 11:31 AM
82	No new big projects.	11/20/2024 11:52 PM
83	Spend less than you take in.	11/20/2024 2:31 PM
84	Reduce numbers of staff	11/20/2024 2:13 PM
85	-	11/20/2024 11:34 AM
86	Increased library funding will create a culture of belonging and give our kids a safe and welcoming space to be together.	11/20/2024 11:03 AM
87	Nothing more to share	11/20/2024 10:31 AM
88	As in past years use the program that allows residents to suggest specific budget measures, including cuts.	11/19/2024 3:33 PM
89	Prioritize sidewalks and pedestrian safety. Ticket drivers that do not follow the law.	11/19/2024 11:17 AM
90	N/A	11/18/2024 8:05 PM
91	This is pretty loosey-goosey survey. What, exactly is its purposes, and how does its content and requested responses promote those purposes? Much more generally: Takoma Park has extensive financial, intellectual, and political resources within its borders. They should be tapped by the Council and Government as part of a regular, ongoing effort by the Council and City Government to make Takoma Park a model city or example for other cities to emulate. Why not aim to be the best little city in the USA and work toward that goal -- after figuring out what being the best little city would entail given the values and needs of Takoma Park's residents.	11/18/2024 4:44 PM
92	I have no doubt that City staff are hardworking, but wonder if reaching some positions might be necessary.	11/18/2024 3:47 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

93	N/A	11/18/2024 11:22 AM
94	Provide more funds for library programs and staff. Collect ticket revenue by catching people speeding -- it will improve everyone's safety on the road.	11/18/2024 10:26 AM
95	See above	11/18/2024 8:07 AM
96	Audit Police Department	11/18/2024 2:19 AM
97	Eliminate programs that people don't use. I think a new recreation center would be a nice to have. But to be honest we never use it as it's far from our house and is across NH Ave.	11/17/2024 11:24 PM
98	Stop raising taxes, implement time on task management for city staff, continue to work on ways to reduce charges for duplication of services (city and county)	11/17/2024 6:38 PM
99	We keep hearing the website is being changed and there is sooooo much outdated information on it. The most important things (like election) are not covered well. It should include full pages on each candidate so the candidates do not have to spend money on one themselves that way it the campaigns can be more equitable. Reveal how much it's going to cost to move the library back and how much the new furniture will cost. We need to weigh in on that. Mileage on TPPD vehicles. Since they are use for commuting home, there should be a max on that for a reasonable commute. I understand some people live 2 hours away. Also, we should not have to pay for the use of the vheicle while at their homes. Someone once told me they've seen A TPPD vehicle in NC. Perhaps don't buy full service vehicles for all but share them. And use electric compact cars for commuting home.	11/17/2024 5:57 PM
100	I'd like to push harder for higher, more reasonable rebates from the County, for services we are providing (eg police, library).	11/17/2024 11:14 AM
101	Please reduce city spending	11/16/2024 9:00 PM
102	N/A	11/16/2024 6:08 PM
103	Na	11/16/2024 12:22 PM
104	N/A	11/16/2024 12:14 PM
105	See above.	11/16/2024 11:11 AM
106	Please NO more deficit spending.	11/16/2024 10:39 AM
107	street safety	11/16/2024 10:28 AM
108	I'd love to see periodic flyers going out to the community in multiple languages. Prioritize topics based on results of this survey, fundraising, building community. The Takoma newsletter is great but flyers could be an enhancement to that. Could be interesting to think of ideas the city could use its residents to offset costs for some services or projects. Eg stronger committee involvement, more planting trees plants or gardens around the city, more events like sweep the creek but perhaps a sweep the city for trash pickup. And I'd love to see some efforts to alleviate the stress and challenges associated with the inconvenience of the purple line construction. Is there any way we could do something about the car alarms always going off and the amplified muffler problem? It's illegal so why do I see multiple every day? They are so loud sometimes they sound like gunshots.	11/16/2024 9:34 AM
109	We love having the temporary library in Ward 6 and I would love to see a way that its presence can continue after the construction is finished. It's such an asset to a community who may not be able to frequent the main location.	11/16/2024 9:15 AM
110	Budget cuts should be considered before tax increases.	11/16/2024 8:23 AM
111	Tax break for artists, to maintain the dwindling creative capital that has made takoma park a living destination for so many decades. Artists are leaving for Baltimore and PG County because of the unsustainable cost of living here.	11/16/2024 7:55 AM
112	N/a	11/16/2024 7:53 AM
113	Please ensure there are investments in traffic calming measures in Ward 6. Additionally, innovations to address the increase in crime in the city without over policing will help maintain the beauty of our community.	11/15/2024 11:25 PM
114	The city should have a better handle on estimating and controlling the costs of its various	11/15/2024 8:59 PM



## Takoma Park Community Survey

projects, e.g., the Library. If we have to pursue this kind of project, we should have a dedicated and professional project manager supervising from the bidding process through completion. As hard as they work, the City staff does not seem competent to do this.

115	Cut City staff by a third.	11/15/2024 8:49 PM
116	Don't spend beyond our means.	11/15/2024 7:20 PM
117	Share resources more equitably throughout the city	11/15/2024 6:54 PM
118	City negotiated solar panel programs would be great	11/15/2024 6:20 PM
119	The only item in #5 that makes sense is "Fiscally Sustainable Government" The others are all word salad.	11/15/2024 6:03 PM
120	I am a single issuer voter on who will create more sidewalks in the neighborhoods. It is insane that my kids have to cross the same street multiple times for a straight walk to their bus stop or the park.	11/15/2024 5:35 PM
121	Ward 6 traffic and economic development and better services	11/15/2024 4:57 PM
122	n/a	11/15/2024 2:59 PM
123	None	11/15/2024 2:32 PM
124	Na	11/15/2024 2:24 PM
125	Increase parking fees and speeding tickets to pay for needed services such as having the library open earlier on weekends.	11/15/2024 1:53 PM
126	Maintain current staffing for services	11/15/2024 12:40 PM
127	Please stop printing and mailing the City newsletter. This can easily cut thousands of dollars per year by simply providing it electronically via email or on the website.	11/15/2024 12:26 PM
128	Continue to introduce more traffic-calming measures, and work with local law enforcement to halt unsafe driving. Do not make the city friendly to motor traffic. Discourage cut-through traffic on side streets. Partner with DC when needed. That being said, make sure the e-charging stations work throughout town. They bring business to local enterprises.	11/15/2024 12:26 PM
129	None	11/15/2024 12:14 PM
130	Reduce the salaries of top officials to that of their mid-level managers. They can live on what they expect their subordinates to live off of. Analyze the vacancies to see if they are really needed. Reduce the duplicity of services.	11/15/2024 12:11 PM
131	N/A	11/15/2024 12:04 PM
132	It shouldn't be a question as to whether City employees need to be more responsive and courteous to the residents. (See question #5) 90% of all interactions with the City employees are obnoxious, with the exception of the library. I would like the City to only hire employees who live in the City. I was surprised to find out how few actually do. They need to have a stake in the budget as residents, not just live next door in the County, and draw a check from the City.	11/15/2024 12:03 PM
133	it would be wonderful for the city to formally commit in writing the time and resources to plant, maintain and increase native trees and flora in the city. there is an abundance of good will and interest in residents and community members further a field and a partnership with local environmental educators and organizations would not be challenging to establish! it should incorporate all ages and walks of life-through community center offerings and service projects with all local schools and after school programs. we can make this green dream one the takoma park community machine achieves!	11/15/2024 4:59 AM
134	Support the library and our parks.	11/14/2024 10:18 PM
135	N/A	11/14/2024 2:33 PM
136	n/a	11/14/2024 11:16 AM
137	Focus on core universal services. Fund police and public safety resources as needed to combat increasing and increasingly serious crime, esp incl. violent crime in city. If energy programs save funds, go with them, but do not spend city funds on macro-regional or global	11/13/2024 11:40 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

challenges such as climate responses that are largely out of the span of control of TP as a city. That macro goal is fine but if the city cannot control the outcome, it should support that goal in other ways, such as via policy advocacy to higher levels of government.

138	N/A	11/13/2024 9:12 PM
139	None	11/13/2024 8:31 PM
140	none	11/13/2024 7:50 PM
141	OK	11/13/2024 2:06 PM
142	One way to save money might be to reduce enforcement of the property maintenance code for owner-occupied single-family homes. I've noticed an increase in this over the last couple of years, which is annoying to me and some of my neighbors. I deliberately chose not to live somewhere with a Homeowners Association because I didn't want this type of enforcement. Let's live and let live.	11/13/2024 11:59 AM
143	We must live within our budget. Transfer functions back to the county and take on no new programs that duplicate county programs.	11/13/2024 10:53 AM
144	Think small, take care of what you have.	11/13/2024 9:50 AM
145	Redevelopment or rezoning of Ward 6 commercial properties as higher density mixed development to compliment Takoma-Langley purple line hub and increase tax revenues.	11/13/2024 9:37 AM
146	n/a	11/13/2024 7:37 AM
147	None	11/13/2024 7:02 AM
148	N/a	11/13/2024 6:25 AM
149	Na	11/13/2024 5:40 AM
150	AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOW INCOME RESIDENTS. MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING APARTMENTS ENSURING LANDLORD ADHERE TO INSPECTION ON MOLD AND COCKROACHES	11/13/2024 12:56 AM
151	N/A	11/12/2024 10:36 PM
152	Consider reducing our police force	11/12/2024 8:25 PM
153	None	11/12/2024 7:29 PM
154	NA	11/12/2024 6:55 PM
155	N/A	11/12/2024 5:27 PM
156	Increasing parking fees; stop-sign and speed cameras within the city.	11/12/2024 4:33 PM
157	No ideas at this moment	11/12/2024 3:59 PM
158	N/a	11/12/2024 3:31 PM
159	Please reduce city taxes. It is too much. Use services already provided by the county.	11/12/2024 1:20 PM
160	Review all programs and determine if the County can provide more effective service.	11/12/2024 12:51 PM
161	N/A	11/12/2024 11:51 AM
162	Bicycle safety, development of the old hospital site	11/12/2024 11:46 AM
163	None	11/12/2024 11:45 AM
164	Increase access to healthy and affordable food. Residents without cars have very few options. Discounts at co-op maybe for city residents?	11/12/2024 11:20 AM
165	Keep adding native trees and maintaining the canopy.	11/12/2024 11:02 AM
166	As many people have been saying for years, the council should direct the city manager and staff to develop a budget where the contribution from property taxes is based on the concept of constant yield - at most. At this point, due to previous increases, our taxes are the highest in Montgomery County.	11/12/2024 10:58 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

167	Have another campaign to get county leadership to stop double taxing us?	11/12/2024 9:14 AM
168	I think the bikeways need to be improved and the vehicular traffic and congestion reduced. This may be beyond the city's capabilities; we need to let people pass through the city. But keep the traffic focused on the main thoroughfares (410, Maple, University) and let the neighborhood streets thrive as outdoor space. Could certain streets be closed to cars? Narrower streets, more trees and gardens in the right-of-way. You could park your car outside the neighborhood and walk, ride or be pushed when moving within the neighborhood. Ha! I know that will never happen, but thought I'd bring it up.	11/12/2024 8:48 AM
169	Review the ARLINGTON COUNTY FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN for urban forest policies applicable to our city. The team that worked on this plan understood biodiversity as one goal for an urban forest, and which native trees would best advance that goal.	11/12/2024 7:43 AM
170	not now	11/11/2024 4:49 PM
171	n/a	11/11/2024 2:03 PM
172	TP should at least be cognizant of what impacts would result from extreme rainfall events.	11/11/2024 11:04 AM
173	Nothing additional. City staff are the experts and I trust you all to find the best possible solutions for the a council to choose between.	11/11/2024 9:19 AM
174	Anna M. John is a treasure as is Marty Frye.	11/11/2024 8:55 AM
175	N/a	11/11/2024 8:50 AM
176	Stop sign cameras (when it's allowed) with fines attached. Pro-business mindset to help our small biz / retail / food establishments thrive.	11/11/2024 7:26 AM
177	Increase enforcement and ticketing. Traffic and parking violations could generate significant \$\$\$ based don't he way people drive and park around here nowadays.	11/11/2024 7:09 AM
178	NA	11/10/2024 10:49 PM
179	N/A	11/10/2024 6:52 PM
180	I think it bizarre that we spend money on economic development when we purposely try to prevent development. First address our outdated and counterproductive rent control measure.	11/10/2024 1:00 PM
181	I'd like to thank City Council for having to make tough decisions on our behalf.	11/10/2024 10:11 AM
182	Thx	11/9/2024 9:24 PM
183	Please keep fiscal responsibility in mind. Are there any services we could get from Montgomery county instead of funding ourselves? I hope the Council will seriously consider this. TKPK is a wonderful community. Let's not make it a Bethesda or a Chevy Chase where only the rich can afford to live.	11/9/2024 5:03 PM
184	Let's keep spending contained so that we don't have to increase taxes, especially on the people who can't afford it.	11/9/2024 11:50 AM
185	Increase funding for Library -- advocate for state library funding like the county libraries receive.	11/8/2024 11:33 PM
186	TKPK needs to learn to live within its means. We need to be clear with ourselves about what our county taxes cover and what our city taxes are intended to pay for. The city should not duplicate everything that the county already does, often with much more efficiency. One particular source of frustration for me is the library. Why do we have a library with its own, limited collection instead of a facility integrated with the tremendous capacity of the MCPL system?	11/8/2024 3:09 PM
187	none	11/8/2024 1:06 PM
188	Use other/creative means to collect community feedback in addition to this survey, like focus groups with those who attend classes at the rec center, human centered design activities at the farmers market (check LUMA Institute or IDEO for ideas), focus groups with realtors and folks looking to buy homes in the area, etc.	11/8/2024 7:19 AM
189	None	11/7/2024 7:33 PM
190	Get rid of the library, police department, city council and public works. Rely more on the county	11/7/2024 7:11 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

	services we are already paying for.	
191	No comment	11/7/2024 7:00 PM
192	The City should have a committee made up of residents to discuss the scope of city services and opportunities to better leverage county services.	11/7/2024 6:57 PM
193	I have nothing other than to say that library should not have happened - bah-humbug. Will it at least have solar panels? Zoned parking everywhere.	11/7/2024 6:55 PM
194	Please utilize residents' wisdom and skills. You can use us for FREE.	11/7/2024 6:42 PM
195	Xxx	11/6/2024 8:00 PM
196	I think the City should explore options to share back office functions with the County to reduce redundancies and costs.	11/6/2024 4:44 PM
197	No comments.	11/6/2024 3:26 PM
198	See the above response. Why does the person that designed this survey ask to please share but then require a response??	11/6/2024 1:29 PM
199	Assess the needs of residents, spend less, do not raise tax revenues. Put tax revenues into supporting those who need it most: preventing eviction and displacement, making sure people have food and health coverage.	11/6/2024 12:27 PM
200	Increase library funding to expand programs and services.	11/6/2024 11:01 AM
201	Don't rely too much on the results of this survey. The people who respond will overwhelmingly be the older, whiter, and more vocal residents who don't represent the city as a whole.	11/6/2024 10:47 AM
202	We need to turn all streets that are one way into contra-flow bike lane streets. The city should also work with MCPS, MCDOT, and SHA to create bike bus route to schools for our students.	11/5/2024 8:38 PM
203	N/A	11/5/2024 8:31 PM
204	N.A.	11/5/2024 8:18 PM
205	Please note the ongoing litigation regarding the fast EV charger at the corner of Laurel and Carroll avenues, so that folks don't think that the city is unresponsive due to the fact that discharger has been not working for more than 14 months. I only found out because I spoke with my city councilwoman. A simple laminated 8.5 x 11 note explaining why the repair cannot be completed. Promptly would help with folks' frustrations. Scrap the repainting of the police cruisers for the reason "the current colour is too aggressive". My information on this may be incorrect as it may just be a rumour. Please keep the cruisers the colour they are, as they are just fine, unless you can explain to me and to the city residents, how grey is more aggressive than white for police cruiser colour. Thank you for serving our city, pretty darn well! I feel lucky to live here!	11/5/2024 5:18 PM
206	None	11/5/2024 4:16 PM
207	n/a	11/4/2024 8:15 PM
208	No comments	11/4/2024 6:05 PM
209	Thanks!	11/4/2024 4:53 PM
210	This is a comment rather than a constructive idea: Since we are surrounded by excellent library systems in MoCo and DC I have never seen the need for the Takoma Park library. I suppose that ship has sailed given that it is being renovated, but I see it as a redundant frill. I appreciate that you are soliciting our input regardless! If this isn't already part of the system, I would suggest that developers of the new affordable housing units we will be prioritizing could pay a fee that could help offset the rising costs accommodating new units will incur (stormwater systems, pedestrian safety, etc). Better yet any developers of market rate units in TP could pay a fee to help with rising costs that need to be covered in the budget.	11/4/2024 4:53 PM
211	City government needs to improve communications with residents, clearly outlining budget impacts of proposed activities	11/4/2024 4:18 PM
212	I would focus on mitigating climate risk. Maybe start with a new report on assessing potential damage that would be caused in difference scenarios so the city can prepare.	11/4/2024 3:53 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

213	Non	11/4/2024 1:39 PM
214	-	11/4/2024 12:33 PM
215	N/a	11/4/2024 9:20 AM
216	N/a	11/4/2024 8:08 AM
217	Na	11/4/2024 7:46 AM
218	Frame the budget development in the context of current and future tax rates and the negative impacts high taxes have on many residents.	11/3/2024 7:30 PM
219	I'd like to volunteer for the city more often, and volunteer with neighbors, but have struggled to carve out the time for the existing opportunities.	11/3/2024 6:45 PM
220	None come to mind. Appreciate the chance to fill out this survey.	11/3/2024 6:38 PM
221	Assess the use of all programming and services to ensure that all continue to meet the objectives. There are likely some items that could be trimmed.	11/3/2024 4:43 PM
222	Opportunities to increase TP tax base, such as development of Takoma Junction.	11/3/2024 3:33 PM
223	I've already said I think many services could go back to the county. I would be in favor of having takoma park be a neighborhood in the county and not our own little city.	11/3/2024 2:56 PM
224	Develop outcomes-based performance measures for core City services. Design these measures so that they can be used for comparisons with County-provided services. Begin studying the legal and logistical possibilities for transferring responsibility for all or parts of some equally- or lower-performing City services to the County. Explore how much the cycles for resurfacing and capital equipment purchases, including vehicles, can be extended. Inventory consultant fees over the past five years and conduct a cost-benefit analysis. Freeze hiring of new consultant firms until this analysis can inform the scoping of new work. Reach out to neighborhoods adjacent to Takoma Park (in Maryland) to inquire about interest in annexation, using a similar property-tax-forgiveness incentive to that offered to new developers of multi-family housing in the City. Freeze hiring for supervisory positions and begin moving toward consolidating City services within fewer departments, not only for reduced personnel costs but also for better synergy in pursuing objectives.	11/3/2024 1:25 PM
225	Thanks for inviting input!	11/3/2024 12:51 PM
226	Noted above: reduce duplicate programs and services; review the need for the TP police. Re-evaluate what is possible for a small town of around 17,500 folks in a little more than 2 square miles and budget accordingly.	11/3/2024 10:32 AM
227	Thanks for the opportunity to input	11/3/2024 9:09 AM
228	I'd like to know if there are more federal and state programs the city can tap into to increase energy efficiency updates, city vehicle conversions etc.	11/3/2024 8:10 AM
229	None	11/3/2024 7:39 AM
230	Path to net zero energy, zero carbon emissions.	11/2/2024 8:29 PM
231	There are many people who love to live in Takoma and would like to own their own house. This is what many would like to have some assistance with. There are far too many speculators who come in to the area purchase old houses, refurbish them and then sell them at exorbitant sums. One gets the impression that there is some type of class division taking place.	11/2/2024 8:04 PM
232	More consultation about trade offs. No increase proposals without offsetting cuts or tax rate increase. Simpler budget game.	11/2/2024 7:44 PM
233	In order to make it cost-effective, consider charging fees for services or programs which can be considered non-essential or discretionary or used by less than a predetermined percentage of the residents. In addition, check to see whether there are any city services or programs which are also offered at county or state level and can be eliminated at the city level with minimal or no impact on the city residents.	11/2/2024 6:47 PM
234	Manage the significant funding you get from us more wisely. Stop with constant budget increases.	11/2/2024 5:06 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

235	None	11/2/2024 5:01 PM
236	n/a	11/2/2024 2:22 PM
237	Reduce property taxes. Become a leader in environmental and social policy once again,	11/2/2024 1:46 PM
238	See above.	11/2/2024 11:33 AM
239	Community pool, please!	11/2/2024 9:47 AM
240	N/a	11/1/2024 7:52 PM
241	The City should limit itself to services that its tax base affords.	11/1/2024 7:44 PM
242	Again, merge the city's police force into the county's.	11/1/2024 5:51 PM
243	Find ways to encourage more business development and opportunities near the metro and Laurel to maximize the benefit of so many new residents on the DC side of the line right there.	11/1/2024 7:54 AM
244	Na	11/1/2024 7:51 AM
245	A huge improvement the city gov can make is to take care of and effectively manage and operate the facilities and services they have jurisdiction over. We have city gov with a history of bad decisions when it comes to development.	11/1/2024 7:40 AM
246	More transparency about spending and efficiency would help people provide better input on budgets. We need metrics to see if our government is working well.	10/31/2024 10:42 PM
247	Na	10/31/2024 9:00 PM
248	Fixing roads around the city some are in bad condition	10/31/2024 8:24 PM
249	None	10/31/2024 6:57 PM
250	Consider unincorporating. What is the point of a small town whose leadership is unresponsive to its constituents and wasteful of their funds?	10/31/2024 4:19 PM
251	n/a	10/31/2024 3:08 PM
252	Glad to see parking meters going up at the junction. That was a real lost opportunity for improvement in the city.	10/31/2024 3:07 PM
253	None	10/31/2024 2:26 PM
254	I recognized how hard you all work and want to appreciate your efforts!	10/31/2024 2:20 PM
255	none	10/31/2024 1:43 PM
256	I am concerned that the budget process appears to involve starting with a number with City staff/council members deciding how to spend it. Instead we should start with vital services and determine the least costly way to accomplish them. Then we should discuss the use of any surplus revenue, keeping the prospect of lowering taxes in play.	10/31/2024 1:33 PM
257	Na	10/31/2024 1:26 PM
258	N/A	10/31/2024 1:12 PM
259	The City should start a campaign to help residents get rid of invasive plants. There should be fines if homeowners do not get rid of invasive plants.	10/31/2024 1:11 PM
260	Keep Takoma livable.	10/31/2024 1:08 PM
261	N/A	10/31/2024 12:36 PM
262	None	10/31/2024 12:10 PM
263	Consider gamifying this experience in both online format and in-person discussion groups. Start with easier topics before ramping up to hot-button issues.	10/31/2024 11:09 AM
264	N/A	10/31/2024 10:25 AM
265	Defund the police	10/30/2024 9:47 PM
266	Thank you for doing this survey and working to plan a balanced fiscal budget in a way that	10/30/2024 4:53 PM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

	makes sense.	
267	Create a charity to allow residents to leave a percentage of an estate (or make a donation) to the City. Tie the charity to TP values: Sanctuary City, rent control program, inclusivity/diversity, etc.	10/30/2024 3:30 PM
268	Reduce to minimum. We do not need city government	10/30/2024 3:08 PM
269	NA	10/30/2024 2:52 PM
270	Start the process earlier. Find services or projects that can be eliminated. Ask each department to submit budgets as if they would have to reduce the total amount available to spend - 3%, 5%, 8% etc.	10/30/2024 2:46 PM
271	I have no additional comments	10/30/2024 2:09 PM
272	Ask TP residents more questions like this one! Ideas for cost savings, ideas of waste to be eliminated, possibilities of having a group of volunteers doing X task instead of a FT staff person.	10/30/2024 1:50 PM
273	Thank you for all you do! Support you supporting businesses and environmentally sustainable growth to increase tax base and increase community vitality.	10/30/2024 1:15 PM
274	Push the MOCO to develop the Hospital land as a new down county high school.	10/30/2024 12:52 PM
275	No	10/30/2024 12:40 PM
276	Enforce the laws for repeated noise violations Encourage the police to fine repeat offenders Bring back the noise council	10/30/2024 12:37 PM
277	We are lucky to have many residents who are trained in technical and policy areas that can help the City. Save money by using those people-- they want to help-- and not trying to duplicate that expertise within City staff. In areas where those people don't exist and staff expertise is not sufficient, it is essential to pay for knowledgeable third parties to advise us so that we don't make costly and hard to fix mistakes.	10/30/2024 10:34 AM
278	No comment	10/29/2024 9:52 PM
279	n/a	10/29/2024 8:03 PM
280	none	10/28/2024 7:16 PM
281	We should demand our tax dollars from Montgomery County and stop the double taxation or negotiate an agreement to have our police department become a part of the County so that our budget and/taxes become smaller rather than bigger.	10/28/2024 11:30 AM
282	Focus more on safety.	10/28/2024 9:36 AM
283	The city has housing creation opportunities at the Washington-McLaughlin property and the Takoma Park Rec Center. It's way past time to act on them.	10/27/2024 8:50 PM
284	This survey needs to be done more formally. There will be many residents who don't complete it - who don't even know about it. It will not be even remotely generalizable to describe what the people of the city might want.	10/27/2024 6:31 PM
285	Tax vacation homes, streamline residential and commercial developments permitting processes, reduce excessive public input periods, post letters from residents to council publically.	10/27/2024 9:35 AM
286	Start dropping services and give them back to the County	10/27/2024 9:10 AM
287	N/A	10/27/2024 5:19 AM
288	The city needs to operate within its budget guidelines, address stormwater issues, ensure the availability and improvement of existing affordable housing stocks, and create and maintain a more open dialogue with its citizens.	10/26/2024 6:01 PM
289	It's important to increase our tax base to keep taxes at a level that people can afford to remain in the city. However, jumping into rapid development without consideration for maintaining diversity and affordability is a serious mistake.	10/26/2024 5:49 PM
290	not at this time	10/26/2024 11:12 AM

## Takoma Park Community Survey

291	Done	10/26/2024 10:04 AM
292	Keep in mind that the purpose of the city's operations is to support residents, not to adopt its own priorities and preferences and use tax monies to fund them regardless of what residents think	10/26/2024 7:44 AM
293	I would like to see the city promote entrepreneurship more. And do more to integrate apartment and single family residents through programming.	10/26/2024 6:49 AM
294	Build more housing	10/25/2024 11:53 PM
295	Consider how sustainable commercial & residential development could provide additional financial revenue to the City. It's interesting that there is a lot of development on the DC side of Carroll/Eastern Avenues and none in Takoma Park. Can the Green Line provide development opportunities to the city?	10/25/2024 11:43 PM
296	Consider services the City can return to Montgomery County.	10/25/2024 11:01 PM
297	Your hard work is appreciated!	10/25/2024 7:05 PM
298	Na	10/25/2024 3:42 PM
299	Focus should be on basic, essential services for all residents, e.g. safety, traffic enforcement, trash collection, etc.	10/25/2024 2:59 PM
300	No new government building	10/25/2024 11:04 AM
301	Maintain services, do not do any new construction/rennovation.	10/25/2024 10:43 AM
302	Economic development, plus getting more grants. It's tough, though, and I know this is difficult. We have a lot of priorities and they are all important. I'm interested in this topic because I want to learn, not because I think I have any great answers right now. I'll try to attend the Nov. 12 budget session.	10/25/2024 7:21 AM
303	No comments	10/25/2024 5:40 AM
304	None	10/24/2024 10:20 PM
305	Demonstrate that public comments and criticism are taken seriously. Be honest that assessments constantly rising; claiming the tax rate has been maintained or reduced to disguise or cushion an increase in taxes paid is disingenuous to say the least.	10/24/2024 9:53 PM
306	More transparency over where money is spent and its effectiveness	10/24/2024 8:52 PM
307	None	10/24/2024 7:15 PM
308	Thanks for asking our priorities. I hope this survey provides good feedback to city council.	10/24/2024 7:09 PM
309	Decrease duplicative county services	10/24/2024 6:49 PM
310	Please find a way to continue to fund support for community organizations that bring so much good to the City.	10/24/2024 2:28 PM
311	Please support the library!	10/24/2024 11:04 AM
312	Takoma Park should have its own school system through high school.	10/23/2024 10:09 PM
313	Upgrade or replace old playground equipment	10/23/2024 7:43 PM
314	Please consider restarting the direct cash assistance program and continuing funding for food insecurity reduction and emergency rental assistance.	10/23/2024 7:19 PM
315	Start by being more accountable and get rid of the costly and ridiculous policies. Fire the arborist, sustainability coordinator and get someone in there who can stimulate economic development other than via taxes and rentals	10/22/2024 6:10 PM
316	The Maple Ave. residents and the sense of community.	10/22/2024 3:25 PM
317	Cut programs. Do the hard work of fiscal responsibility. lay off managers.	10/22/2024 2:35 PM
318	This survey is really not useful. The city is verging on dysfunctional and certainly neither fiscally nor environmentally sustainable. Rather than a survey, the city government needs to	10/22/2024 2:27 PM



## Takoma Park Community Survey

	make meaningful systemic changes	
319	Can we make alterations to the police forces? I know we have one mental health specialist. Can we reduce law enforcement numbers and replace with mental health specialists?	10/19/2024 12:19 PM
320	Do a fundraiser, apply for municipal green grants, etc.	10/19/2024 12:47 AM
321	Please increase library services and programs.	10/18/2024 11:57 PM
322	None at the moment	10/18/2024 9:03 PM
323	Please expand services for folks in need and ok to raise taxes if you need to. I'm willing to pay!	10/18/2024 8:22 PM