

## Topic: Recreation

This document contains public input on recreation. The public input was collected through open-ended questions in the Toronto Core Service Review Public Consultation Feedback Form. Information about the consultation as well as other data sets and results is available at <http://www.toronto.ca/torontoservicereview/results.htm>.

Because of the large volume of comments received from 13,000 participants, multiple keyword searches were used to identify the information for this document. The comments below are in the order in which they were received, are listed by the question on the Feedback Form that they were responding to, and show the full response to the question which may include input on other topics.

### Responses:

- [To begin, what do you think are the most important issues facing our city in 2011? Please list up to three issues.](#)
- [Are there any other important city-wide issues you think the City of Toronto should consider?](#)
- [Do you have any other comments on how the City should fund services?](#)
- [Is there anything else you would like City Council to consider when making decisions about services in the future?](#)

**To begin, what do you think are the most important issues facing our city in 2011? Please list up to three issues.**

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
1.	parks and recreation
2.	Community service (parks & recreation)
3.	Parks and Recreation
4.	Community recreation programs
5.	Inaccessible Recreation programming
6.	Parks & Recreation
7.	parks and recreation
8.	Recreation facility availability
9.	Parks & Recreation programming
10.	recreation opportunities
11.	Recreation Services
12.	Recreation
13.	not enough recreation for youth
14.	Lack of Recreation Programs
15.	environmental, and access to parks and recreation.
16.	access to community recreation programs

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
17.	recreation services
18.	recreation facilities and services for youth
19.	Traffic congestion/ need more accessibility for bikes and incentives to car pool or deter people from driving into the downtown core (i.e.. a tax for entering a certain perimeter of downtown like London, England) that would provide extra revenue and reduce congestion
20.	Closing pools and recreation programs for children
21.	Funding Cuts to Arts and Recreation
22.	Parks and recreation
23.	quality programs run by Parks & Rec.
24.	Waterfront, Parks & Recreation
25.	Keeping parks & recreation programs accessible to all
26.	Parks and Recreation
27.	maintaining parks & recreation programs
28.	Parks and recreation
29.	recreation program availability
30.	Parks and recreation access
31.	Recreation facilities
32.	subsidies for recreation programs
33.	decrease in parks, recreation, social and public health services
34.	community centres/recreation programs/pools
35.	Accessibility to parks & rec programs regardless of income
36.	improving parks and recreation
37.	Affordable recreation
38.	Access to social programs (arts/recreation)
39.	Maintaining green space and recreation areas
40.	parks and recreation
41.	more space in community centre programs
42.	Maintaining City recreational services, i.e., parks and recreation, library, etc.
43.	Parks, Recreation, Libraries
44.	provide funding for the continuation of the swimming pools in our public schools
45.	quality of community services, e.g. pools, recreation centres, parks
46.	parks and recreation
47.	recreation and human services
48.	Environmental quality and recreation space
49.	Parks and Recreation
50.	free recreation programs
51.	Parks and Recreation
52.	Parks and Recreation
53.	Recreation Program Funding

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
54.	Taking money from the real gravy train (police) and putting it into daycare, parks and recreation, affordable housing and green issues
55.	Public Recreation Facilities
56.	Parks and Recreation
57.	proper maintenance and funding for parks and recreation facilities
58.	recreation
59.	Recreation and community centres
60.	Parks and Recreation
61.	Parks and recreation
62.	Daycare Spaces/Recreation Centres
63.	Fostering Community in the form of arts and recreation
64.	Cuts to recreation services (welcome policy)
65.	Parks and Recreation
66.	Parks/Recreation
67.	parks and recreation
68.	Parks and Recreation
69.	Cuts to recreation programs and community engagement
70.	Service cuts to communities - libraries, parks and recreation
71.	Services for Youth - i.e. Parks & Recreation vs. Policing
72.	Improved health care, including prevention and accessible recreation
73.	recreation
74.	Subsidized funding for child care and recreation programs
75.	parks and recreation for children and families
76.	leisure/recreation programmes
77.	Manage Parks & Recreation Departments properly
78.	recreation
79.	Recreation programs
80.	keeping Toronto as a liveable city, including parks and other green spaces, arts and culture, and recreation
81.	the retention of free or reasonably priced parks and recreation programs
82.	libraries, parks and recreation
83.	services for the vulnerable (children/elderly/poor, e.g.. education/libraries/rec-community centres)
84.	Public recreation
85.	waiting lists for essential services such as child care and recreation
86.	parks and recreation services
87.	Recreation for Children
88.	parks and recreation
89.	recreation
90.	Parks and Recreation
91.	Inadequate recreation programs

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
92.	Inadequate parks and recreation maintenance.
93.	providing parks and rec services
94.	Recreation
95.	Recreation
96.	parks and recreation
97.	Parks and recreation
98.	Parks & Recreation Programs-affordable/accessible (i.e.: Welcome Policy)
99.	Parks and Recreation
100.	Lack of City Financed Recreation
101.	community centre user fees
102.	swimming pool access
103.	efficacy of youth oriented programming (re libraries, parks and recreation, etc)
104.	Recreation
105.	accessibility of parks and recreation programs
106.	parks & recreation
107.	Recreation
108.	Parks & Recreation
109.	Parks & Recreation /Libraries / Community Centres
110.	Parks and Recreation
111.	recreation/parks
112.	economic access to community recreation and centres
113.	Recreation Programs
114.	recreation
115.	Maintaining and expanding cultural/recreation services (libraries, recreation centres)
116.	affordable recreation programs
117.	Parks and Recreation
118.	parks and recreation
119.	recreation facilities
120.	Recreation Programming
121.	Providing better services currently in decrepit condition e.g. childcare, recreation, TRANSIT
122.	Increased need for public services including transit and community recreation
123.	keeping recreation services at the level they are now without constantly increasing prices especially for kids activities. Just because people live in a nice area , it doesn't mean we aren't struggling with rising costs everywhere. My salary isn't going up(in fact it's supposed to be frozen), yet my kid's swimming lessons go up constantly, it seems to subsidize other areas in the city. How about lower fees for everyone, so it seems more fair.
124.	Recreation Programs
125.	Parks and Recreation Programs in our community.
126.	increase/improve services (recreation, arts, social)

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
127.	parks, recreation & the arts
128.	allocating sufficient funding to maintain libraries & recreation centres
129.	Increase funding to recreation centres
130.	Recreation and community centres
131.	funding for libraries, parks, recreation & urban forests
132.	Loss of community & recreation services
133.	parks and recreation
134.	economic access to recreation
135.	Cultural programming: Arts, literacy, theatre, recreation
136.	parks and recreation
137.	parks and recreation
138.	Recreation programs
139.	accessibility to daycare and recreation services
140.	Services -- libraries, parks & recreation programming, affordable housing initiatives, public health
141.	maintaining parks & recreation facilities
142.	parks & recreation maintenance & cuts
143.	swimming sessions always full
144.	Community/Recreation programming
145.	Recreation parks
146.	Parks and Recreation
147.	recreation. more attention to creating bike parks in the inner city.
148.	park and recreation
149.	Recreation programs
150.	Parks & recreation
151.	lack of subsidized parks and recreation program
152.	community recreation services
153.	Recreation
154.	Recreation
155.	recreation
156.	recreation programs
157.	Recreation, parks and culture
158.	recreation including parks and green spaces
159.	Parks & Recreation
160.	recreation
161.	Excellent basic community services and resources: health, housing, education, libraries, parks and recreation, transit, food, etc.
162.	Parks and recreation
163.	Accessible recreation programs for children, youth and adults
164.	recreation
165.	community center

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
166.	Lake Ontario - would love to swim in the lake in the summer
167.	recreation
168.	recreation centres/activities
169.	Maintaining current Parks & Recreation offerings
170.	Parks and recreation
171.	Recreation activities
172.	keeping community centre funding
173.	equitable access to services (parks/recreation, childcare, transit)
174.	Increased parks and recreation facilities
175.	Underserved neighbourhoods (lacking transit, recreation, employment)
176.	Recreation programs
177.	Parks & Recreation
178.	Parks & Recreation
179.	Ensure support for key parks and recreation programs & libraries - which great add to quality of life in city
180.	Parks and Recreation
181.	recreation programs be free for Toronto residents
182.	Recreation
183.	Affordable Recreation
184.	services - Social services, accessibility to affordable child care child care, community recreation programs
185.	more recreation facilities/programs
186.	community centre
187.	Recreation
188.	Free access to city's recreation centres/programs
189.	3. Important services: Every service is important. I read the list of services and could only find one that I felt needed some cuts, police. Most importantly, we need to attend to climate change in every way possible, including discouraging car use. Transit is extremely important. Restore the original 'Transit City Plan'. We don't need subways, we need more kilometers of accessible, fast, transit that services all areas of the city, especially the pockets of less affluent people, and that we can afford. The Transit City Plan was completely funded. . Do not raise fees for recreation, health , etc programs. Make sure you can subsidize programs for poor people. Stop trying to privatize services – in almost every city where they have been privatized it has not been as successful as city-run services and has often cost more. Public Housing is crucial and more housing should be built every year. Instead of selling off housing that needs repair we should look for clever ways of using private sector to help make the repairs. It is short sighted to sell off things the city owns. Short term gain, often long-term loss.
190.	Recreation centres are the heart of our community. Give them more funding.
191.	appropriate maintenance of our baseball & soccer fields
192.	recreation services

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
193.	Recreation & Libraries
194.	Parks and Recreation support
195.	Accessible recreation programs for seniors and children
196.	free recreation and community events
197.	Recreation
198.	recreation centres
199.	parks & recreation
200.	Expand the activities in recreation centers
201.	recreation programs
202.	access to community services & recreation - that there will be less programming and access
203.	PARK RECREATION
204.	Increase the family feel of our city by investing in parks and recreation
205.	programs for women and families i.e. childcare, recreation and violence prevention
206.	Community centers recreation program
207.	continued parks and recreation programs
208.	lack of space in recreation programs
209.	parks and recreation classes
210.	recreation programmes
211.	Parks and Recreation
212.	Parks & Recreation upkeep
213.	recreation facilities
214.	Recreation
215.	Recreation and Fitness
216.	parks and recreation
217.	Parks and recreation
218.	Parks and Recreation
219.	Recreation and Youth Engagement
220.	Underfunded parks and recreation
221.	Parks and recreation
222.	parks and recreation cutbacks
223.	Recreation Services
224.	recreation
225.	More parks/recreation centres
226.	City Services (snow removal, garbage collection, parks/recreation)
227.	Recreation programs
228.	sustain free recreation programmes
229.	Recreation
230.	Public Spaces and Events (parks, recreation, etc.)
231.	continued high quality parks, recreation and library services at accessible prices
232.	Cuts to recreation

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
233.	Community recreation (governance)
234.	maintaining parks, libraries, recreation facilities
235.	Recreation
236.	Social Services - housing, recreation, etc.
237.	maintaining parks and recreation
238.	Recreation and Community Centres
239.	Recreation
240.	Keeping our parks and recreation services at a high level
241.	Public Infrastructures - Libraries and Parks & Recreation
242.	Community Recreation Programs
243.	programs for children & youth (daycares, recreational centres, parks & recreation)
244.	Public Infrastructures - Libraries and Parks & Recreation
245.	Community Recreation Programs
246.	programs for children & youth (daycares, recreational centres, parks & recreation)
247.	recreation centers and pools
248.	Community Centre Services
249.	Lack of Recreation Facilities
250.	After school recreation care
251.	Lack of quality and affordable recreation
252.	continued community services - parks and recreation
253.	cut backs to city services like parks and recreation
254.	Need to have good affordable and free programs for our children at recreation centres
255.	I think that it is essential to increase funding for out-of-school programs for children and youth so that we can take a preventative strategy. By funding social-recreation programs, the city will be able to minimize/more accurately balance their budget. Ex. take some of the 900 million in in Police Services and board, and support.
256.	parks recreation programs
257.	Youth Support (recreation centres etc..)
258.	Affordable Recreation
259.	Recreation for Children, Youth and Families
260.	Grants for increased engagement in arts and recreation
261.	parks and recreation
262.	parks and recreation
263.	community centre access
264.	ensuring access (e.g. to libraries, rec. centres) for all
265.	Community Recreation
266.	access to community centres (swimming and recreation programs)
267.	free recreation programs, at least for low income families
268.	parks and recreation services
269.	parks and rec. programs/facilities
270.	recreation programs



	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
271.	support to vulnerable families, more programs to access through parks and recreation
272.	parks & recreation
273.	affordable recreation programs
274.	parks and recreation
275.	Parks and Recreation Services
276.	Sports and Recreation
277.	Parks and Recreation
278.	Park and Recreation
279.	attractive but free recreation facilities for youth, especially in priority neighbourhoods
280.	Funding for Parks and Recreation
281.	maintenance of public services such as parks and recreation and library system
282.	Access to parks, environment and recreation programs
283.	Recreation Centers
284.	Parks and recreation
285.	Support for the Arts, Culture and Recreation
286.	services (library/parks and recreation/pools)
287.	Service cutbacks to recreation facilities
288.	education and recreation
289.	Recreation
290.	parks and recreation
291.	Recreation
292.	Recreation
293.	Parks, Forestry and Recreation
294.	Access to recreation programs
295.	Making Lake Ontario safe to swim in
296.	Parks and Recreation
297.	Parks and Recreation
298.	recreation for low income people
299.	Youth Recreation
300.	Parks and recreation -urban forestry
301.	increase in population requires more public services like community programs, recreation and learning opportunities
302.	Accessible recreation programming
303.	access to social & recreation services
304.	maintaining parks & recreation services
305.	service delivery - recreation, parks, planning, garbage, etc
306.	lack of recreation programs
307.	Recreation and cultural infrastructure
308.	recreation program
309.	Parks and Recreation

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
310.	Accessible programming/services for women and their families (childcare and recreation services)
311.	parks and recreation
312.	parks and recreation
313.	child care (including recreation programs)
314.	Affordable recreation programs
315.	recreation programs for children
316.	parks and recreation
317.	Social justice: decreasing inequity -- includes social programs, housing, recreation
318.	Recreation/Swimming for youth
319.	Stop foolish cuts like ending Sunday library and recreation while keeping the recreation costs
320.	Culture and enrichment resources (recreation centres, libraries, arts & culture)
321.	parks and recreation
322.	Use recreation centers for events for the whole neighbourhood
323.	parks and recreation
324.	Accessible programming/services for women and their families (childcare and recreation services)
325.	recreation services for all children
326.	schools, community centres and recreation programs
327.	recreation
328.	community-based recreation programs
329.	Loss in access to recreation and physical activity through increased user fees for low-income residents
330.	recreation
331.	Access to Community Sport and Recreation programs
332.	people of low economic status receiving counselling and recreation opportunities
333.	Recreation
334.	We need more staff people at our local recreation center
335.	parks and recreation
336.	parks and recreation
337.	Recreation and community centres
338.	Parks and Recreation service
339.	Put money into recreation centers
340.	Providing affordable recreation programs and services
341.	RECREATION
342.	recreation and health
343.	Recreation
344.	Libraries, recreation centres, etc.
345.	give kids better access to their local community center
346.	we need more recreation centers in the city

	<b>Recreation: Important Issues</b>
347.	recreation

**Are there any other important city-wide issues you think the City of Toronto should consider?**

[Return to Top](#)

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
1.	Our cities parks are a vital resource, as are all our public/outdoor spaces. waterfront development has been slow, but the last few years it has been really tremendous - keep it up! The Toronto Island needs continual investment, same for community recreation. Our ski hills, golf courses, ravines, urban forest - they all need to be led by city. I think we're doing a good job - I'd like to see us do a great job!
2.	It is my belief that the City of Toronto should close down their Voyageur Canoe and Canoe department at Sunnyside Beach. This is a total waste of money that can be accommodated by the private sector at a much lower cost to the City of Toronto. / / We should not use police officers to watch over construction sites. With high unemployment in the city the job could go to more needy individuals. / / The city should create make work programs for people who need welfare and are capable of working. I have a friend who has been looking for a job for over one year and would love to work behind a garbage truck rather than collect welfare. / / The city should get completely out of the social housing business. Buildings older than 25 years old should reserve a percentage of their apartments for those who qualify for social assisted housing. The government should pay the landlord directly and provide the landlord with special rights to make sure the apartments are being maintained properly. The money raised by selling off all our social housing units could pay down our deficit. By implementing this program would not have a concentration of needy in any one building creating an environment where gangs will not thrive. / / The city of Toronto should combine school recreation facilities with city recreation facilities in order to improve these facilities without duplication. / / The city should work with the province to encourage the use of slow moving electric vehicles. This will encourage the development of this future technology right here in the city. / / The city should encourage the use of solar residential water heaters. / / The city should do a five year hiring freeze not replacing retiring workers. Less government is better government. / / The city should use software internet applications for all communication with the public. Done properly this can reduce the need for much staffing and improve service. / / The city should review the need for each and every department. The city should shrink the departments unless the need is crucial. If the need is medium to minor then come up with a private solution and close the department. / / The city should privatize as much as possible. Even if the cost is the same the long term pension expense support damage will be avoided.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
3.	privatized all recreation facilities, i.e.,; pools and rinks
4.	-Stop spending tax dollars on programs. Increase user fees for city services (not only the ones I use like garbage). Make certain programs full or near-full cost recovery such as swimming lessons, skating, libraries, etc. / / -Make certain roads (east
5.	1. Meeting 'basic needs' of vulnerable children and adults does not help move people out the 'vulnerable' category. My hope is the City will devote some of its energy (yes, and tax money) in developing public and private community partnerships in the areas of recreation, sport and play, that will include all children and youth in Toronto - everybody play together! Participation of children from all social levels will promote a community mindset in those who participate and promote their creativity and innovation, build confidence, leadership skills and life skills. They'll also have fun. Lets just lump all the kids together and level the playing field so, as a community and a city, we can increase positive childhood development for all children who live here , which in turn will increase the number of positive, contributing adults. / 2. Oh, and don't even THINK about getting rid of that small snow plow that comes along and clears the 3 foot high snowbank that the big plow left at the foot of my driveway ... snow removal - core city service - that includes the snow left behind in driveways by the plows ...
6.	too many employees areas such as recreation and parks and build Toronto agencies alongside pan am games should be abolished or outsourced with caps on spending within our means....too many councillors many useless and not even listening to their constituents. The purchasing such as 460 thousand dollar auto flush and clean toilets show the lack of spending controls and we have not even touched the salaries and pensions.
7.	Bike infrastructure, access to recreation and arts programs, housing assistance
8.	The city needs to properly fund the Parks and Recreation Welcome Policy so all low income children and youth have access to recreation programs. We will pay the price in crime later if we do not look after them now.
9.	Work with businesses to repair infrastructure and create wonderful places to live, shop, walk. The BIA program takes tens of millions of dollars from businesses to fix our sidewalks, roads, street furniture etc. We need more of this. Cost sharing programs with the private sector should be bolstered. Everybody benefits. A recreation program may improve the life of a few dozen - an infrastructure program affects millions.
10.	accessible recreation/sports programs / transportation alternatives (i.e. more bicycle lanes
11.	1. Limited expenses for government staff. Their benefit should not be way above common sector. MP expenses should be posted online that can be accessed by everyone. / 2. Community centre gyms rental fee should be lower in order to encourage more people, especially young people to work out in stead of hanging around on street and make trouble. It also lower OHIP expense if they are healthy.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
12.	Offer free spay and neuter clinics for all to address our dreadful pet overpopulation problem, send the elephants at our zoo to a sanctuary in Calif., offer free recreation programs everywhere in the city as a long term plan to reduce health costs, build better transit (the old Transit city plan), start charging 905ers fees to drive into Toronto (like London), charge far more for garbage to encourage recycling and make composting mandatory.
13.	children and youth / recreation / childcare
14.	services are always being cut. I am sick of it. my community centre closes for 3 weeks in September. It should be open and have more free, drop in programs like swimming, outdoor skating. We need more Dufferin Grove Parks. There they make a great community centre without paying huge amounts for a building and maintenance.
15.	Proper social services, continued public health, continued and expanded community centre services with no or little user fees, no privatization of services
16.	To reduce costs the city needs to think about problems holistically for example crime prevention (i.e. my personal safety) is much more important than policing after the fact (vengeance). Another example is public transit (reducing cars on the road) would speed fire and ems responses and reduce the cost of those services.. Youth recreation and after school tutoring programs with low fees would reduce gang activity and graffiti. Investing in suburban services like light rail, community centres and libraries would raise property values there and help level residential taxes across the city. This would reduce the burden on the central city taxpayers and my elderly neighbours.
17.	I honestly think that trying to balance our budget is the most important thing we can do. I also think if we can privatise certain / things that are of less important such as parks and recreation and selling off city property that we know longer use or that / is sitting vacant should be sold to help pay down our debt. I also think that toll booth on highways that are coming in to / the city have tolls on them to help pay for our roads as the bulk of the car driving on them come from the GTA area and / that would go toward infrastructure and roads.
18.	Daycare and child care subsidies / Long term care home for seniors / Managing social assistance / City Parks and recreation activities / Support for small theatre, music, art and culture in Toronto
19.	Integration services for new immigrants; services for the poor, young, elderly, ill and injured; affordable housing; access to community and recreation centres for everyone across the city; clean and pot-hole free sidewalks and streets; waterfront development; maintenance of old, historic buildings by integrating them into new, controlled development.
20.	ongoing waterfront development, keeping community centers accessible and community center programming affordable, keeping libraries well funded.

<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>	
21.	Lack of support for recent immigrants. Also the lack of support and resources for public parks and spaces, there should be more free or subsidized recreation activities. River and parkland/forest conservation should be a citywide priority. There should also be requirements for new buildings to have green roofs and possibly solar panels so we can help eliminate the heat and smog during our summers. There should be an emphasis on new buildings to increase density by going vertical and not contribute to suburban sprawl by only building single-family dwellings.
22.	ongoing funding for all existing TDSB swimming pools; / turning lights out to save power and migratory birds; / funding to implement the recommendations of the Toronto Drug Strategy passed by Council in 2005 / bridges to Fort York and the Island Airport need to be built
23.	Parks and recreation
24.	Meeting needs of children of all ages, through parks, libraries, swimming pools.
25.	the abuse of the city welcome policy if not scraping it present form then start over and really see who is the neediest and who are the abusers, making toronto a world class city it should be start with to raise a family on and get the water front done so we can display the hidden beauty of our great CITY.
26.	1. Every Family, Business and City must live within their budget. / 2. Sell off buildings ( like previous city centres) plus any city owned property not needed. / 3. Sell land on the water front. / 4. Pay a small fee to join the library ( 50c) free for children. / 5. Swimming pools (50c) free for children. / 6. A casino on the water front. /
27.	1. Council structure: The current ward based system prevents Councillors from making decisions that are in the interest of the whole City. Some Councillors should be district based or elected at large. / 2. The high wages and benefits of the Unions create high costs and inefficiencies. / 3. City needs to negotiate additional funding from the Federal and Provincial Governments to support provincially downloaded services and Transit. / 4. City services are extended to cover the demands of small and vocal interest groups at a high cost. / 5. The City runs too many services that do not fit into a typical North American municipal service portfolio. These should be closed, transferred to other levels of Government or privatized. / 6. The core services of a Municipality: Water, Transportation, Garbage, Sewers, Parks, Recreation Facilities, Fire, Police, EMS suffer from diverting funds to non core services. / 7. User Fees: Services that benefit all should be funded by Property Taxes. Services that benefit a few, and are finite and exclusive should be funded by User Fees. / 8. City's borrowing levels are too high. There are too many facilities and City continues to borrow and build more while they are unable to look after existing ones. Multi service large sites are more efficient to operate. Fire halls, libraries, child care centres, recreation facilities can all be housed in the same compound. This would be more efficient than having a stand alone building at every street corner. / 9. City is using high priced Consultants for IT Projects. Because these are paid by Capital and funded by debt, they go unnoticed. Other levels of Government creates temporary positions at the same salary level for IT project staff.
28.	parks and recreation

<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>	
29.	Separate Culture from Sports for starters - how can you put the two together? The needs are vastly different. When I think of sports I don't think of NFL stadiums at the waterfront but better and more recreation centres, playing fields, and playgrounds supported by tax dollars and accessible to all; I think of a strong Welcome Policy. When I think of Culture I think of a strong and well-supported public library system, a per capita measure for cultural investment that exceeds those of other cities ( go beyond the goal of \$25 per capita please ), and city-funded programs that ensure access to all cultural venues for children , youth and the poor. / Ensure high-level and quality services in all areas of the City; ensure equitable access to public transit in all areas of the City; support the institutions that promote and preserve our built heritage and history.
30.	It concerns me that City council is cutting/considering cutting funding to programs that benefit our most vulnerable - children, the poor - such as parks & recreation Welcome policy and libraries.
31.	I am concerned that residents in all parts of the city have comparable access to important services (libraries, recreation facilities, social supports, etc.). We should aim to bring standards up rather than down.
32.	increasing funds available for welcome policy for parks and recreation / continuing building hubs to provide health care and community services in the near suburbs
33.	there is a lack of accessible public spaces (both indoor and outdoors) to support community programs (recreation, arts, social services) across all communities in Toronto. need to expand the availability of these spaces. /
34.	-Getting more cars off the roads / -Keeping public services public / -improving services for the most vulnerable / -how to grow without environmental degradation / - addressing the pollution on the waterfront (it's criminal that swimming in lake Ontario is
35.	Public taxpayer-supported cultural institutions such as libraries are essential to providing not just entertainment but supplementing education (see declining number of school libraries!) at all levels, providing IT skills and job-seeking resources for those unemployed or changing careers, supporting literacy (especially for new immigrants so they can contribute more effectively to our community). Where recreation centres have unfortunately been cut, libraries are increasingly for neighbourhoods the only true community centre where they can participate and learn of city programs and other local services. They are a great investment with maximum return for Toronto citizens of all ages, income and ethnic groups. I once saw a city hall broadcast where Case Ootes referred to libraries as being for the elite - I trust our new municipal government has the vision to recognize that along with sports and healthy bodies, we need healthy and enquiring minds.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
36.	Affordable social housing; support for arts and culture, especially in poor neighbourhoods; working with neighbourhood and business associations to build civic pride, participation and use of open spaces for recreation and local activities (fairs, markets, sports, gardens, etc.); supporting cross-city public transportation corridors, bike paths, and reduced gridlock.
37.	Provision of daycare, maintaining recreation and aquatic program service delivery, and funding parks and environmental programs (including waste diversion).
38.	Job opportunities for all Torontonians / Arts and culture / Better recreation centres / More parks and green space
39.	when contracts have gone to private companies...such as private company picking up garbage from local Park and Recreation parks...they have shown disrespect by digging big trenches in paths to do pick ups..many have complained...cannot use paths due to wheel ruts of too large garbage pick up trucks. Yet, when the city gave this up to privatization, they gave the small vehicles to them... don't use care or respect to get the job done. IN the end the repair costs will outweigh any savings by going private. they have to make a profit you know...and they are making our parks look broken and trashed
40.	The city should be eliminating user fees for all recreation services and programs. / There should be no privatization of city run services. Garbage collection should not be contracted out. / We need to reinstate Transit City as this plan was the most cost effective way to meet the transportation needs of a large urban and suburban population, reduce air pollution and get people out of their cars. / The city must commit to maintaining and expanding the number of childcare subsidies. / The Pride Festival must continue to receive city funding as should all AIDS services and programs for the LGBTQ populations. / Expand libraries and increase their budgets. / Community service partnership grants should be increased by four per cent.
41.	animal services, parks, recreation, sustainability, 311, infrastructure, keeping city workers
42.	Heritage / Parks and Recreation / Waterfront Development
43.	support of transit, recreation and general welfare of all citizens
44.	Affordable housing for all, food security, recreation/after school programs for youth, tax breaks for people living in poverty, financial assistance for people living in poverty
45.	Parks and recreation
46.	Developing the waterfront has been a long time coming and in all my travelling I have found that a town or city is only as good as its waterfront (be it river, lake or ocean) Every time a good proposal comes up such as the stacked rink, it is scuppered before it ever sees the light of day. / The arts and recreation have always been important in the city, but with the conservative lean at city hall at present I fear they become less so.



<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>	
47.	The city needs to build and provide more affordable housing along with affordable housing for seniors and low income citizens. / The city needs to make sure that Parks and Recreation keep low to no user fees so that those of low income can enjoy Toronto. / The city needs to provide more and updated public transit that connects all the suburbs with the downtown. This will encourage more people to get out of their cars therefore translating into a cleaner city. / The city needs to make sure the waterfront stays a public space. / The city needs to do more to protect it's historic buildings and areas. / The city needs to place restrictions on condo development which has gotten out of control.
48.	Toronto is a world-class city. We need to invest in infrastructure, culture, arts and environment. We need to support communities. Core service means more than garbage collection, snow plowing and relying on revenues from recreation programs. Core service should include creating flagship parks, supporting festivals and investment in inclusive transportation (bikes lanes). We need leadership with vision to make this a better city.
49.	Ensuring access to recreation and public health services
50.	Social and Cooperative housing support; Recreation and community services (community centres, pools, libraries, child and teen programming).
51.	Welcome policy for parks and recreation
52.	child care; affordable parks and recreation
53.	Keep our swimming pools free / Do not cut Parks and Recreation budget as this is one of the cheapest ways to provide access to a liveable city / Encourage and support neighbourhood groups, especially those involved in park/street activities / Do not cut TTC bus service - I am already hearing about people who have to leave activities early (7:30 pm) in order to catch the last bus home! / Do not privatize essential services - such efforts have been a disaster in many other jurisdictions and times / Clean up and beautify our main streets - good for tourism! / Provide public washroom facilities throughout downtown core; where not feasible, do what Niagara Falls does and negotiate with private stores/restaurants / More drinking fountains and city benches - the population is getting older! / Quit using residential streets as a cash cow - residents should not have the stress of rotating cars to either side every two weeks with a city enforcement officer licking his chops at 9:05 am. on the day of. This is not respectful of citizens, and many times is actually unsafe, given the numbers of small children left alone while parent moves the car! Put these officers to better use on the main streets at rush hour! / Instead of police issuing tickets to homeless people begging outside of stores, who will never have the means to pay the fine and instead clog the courts and increase court costs, have police report these people instead to social agencies and make these agencies accountable in following up on these leads and providing suitable housing and assistance.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
54.	Standardize programs and accessibility across the City for interdepartmental efficiencies and communications. e.g. Recreation programs offered are welcome policy eligible, Culture programs are not...but should be. These discrepancies could likely be found across every division.
55.	unnecessary programme spending, including such things a most recreation programmes. For example, absolutely nobody NEEDS Pilates courses
56.	Yes, stop privatization of public services. If you want to privatize any public services, I suggest you privatize the police services since it costs the city the most. By privatizing the police service, we as a city will save25% of the cost of our city budget. / / We need to start maintain our water and air safe from pollution, We need to create more community centres and activities for all walks of live so people can have a place to go to socialize and learn. Public libraries are so important so as Parks and Recreation Facilities. These are important component to make our city environment healthy and lower crime rate.
57.	Improving current programs, such as swimming pools in the parks and recreation department and creating safe bike lanes so that Toronto residents can ride their bikes to work, thus lowering Co2 emissions and reducing traffic.
58.	Affordable Housing, affordable childcare spaces, affordable long-term housing for Seniors, support for Seniors in the community, recreation and community support for youth.
59.	Preservation of frontline services - Community Centres, Libraries, Pools, Rec. programs (which are always oversubscribed), / Youth Employment Programs, Day Care subsidies, etc. / Public Transit - The Sheppard Subway is a White Elephant. Stop throwing good money after bad. Extend subway from Kennedy to the Scar. Town Centre. In long term, put LRT on East/West arterial roads.
60.	Yes. The City should stop paying police officers to stand around and do nothing at construction sites. The city needs to clean up the parks and boost parks and recreation programs. We also need a responsible biking infrastructure. Too many areas of this city (especially north of Bloor) are too dangerous for biking as there are no bake lanes whatsoever. My wife's job recently moved to Don Mill and Eglinton and she will no longer be able to bike to work because it's too dangerous. The location is close enough to bike (only about 7 KM) but it's simply too dangerous for her. Meanwhile there are three lanes of car traffic on Don Mills. That's irresponsible and unfair.
61.	parks and recreation
62.	Public Libraries, Recreation programs
63.	Waste Diversion. Improve wet and dry garbage/composting and recycling options. Encourage less plastic and packaging, introduce strict local by laws to prohibit plastic use and littering. Reduce the shipment of garbage into landfill. City-wide garbage clean up (and lake clean up, it would be lovely to swim in Lake Ontario and make Toronto a summer beach destination again!)

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
64.	Making various opportunities available through requisite high school volunteer hours in Toronto - i.e. parks and recreation cleanup should be part of their hours if the city's cash flow is a concern. / / Responsible government and stricter policies around campaigning, advertising and running for office.
65.	The cleanliness of the city is very important, support for parks and recreation, keeping the roads pot-hole free, cleaning up the subway -- it's embarrassing to guests on the subway these days, it's filthy in comparison with London and New York.
66.	Access to community services and recreation facilities
67.	The Litter issue is getting out of hand: We are swimming in garbage compared to the Toronto of only 20 years ago. What happened? / Thank you VERY much for providing this opportunity, what a refreshing change :)
68.	Homelessness, psychiatric, health, recreation for youth in all neighbourhoods
69.	Expanding parks & recreation programs to include more swimming & skating classes. / Maintaining library branches & expanding hours. /
70.	Waterfront development = jobs, better city image, access to recreation (thereby encouraging active lifestyle, healthy living) / TOLL roads for all non-residents. Why do we pay for roads/rebuilding when they're used by those from Hamilton, Halton, Peel, Durham and beyond... those visitors/workers don't pay our city taxes, yet use our roads. TOLLS for ALL non-residents. It's an win-win solution. Toronto tax payers win, it encourages public transit use and asks those who use our roads to pay for them! Toll the Allen, the DVP, the Gardener, all routes to the core.
71.	Heritage Conservation, Planning and Development, Recreation Centres, More Transit, Public Festivals and Celebrations, Streetscape improvements.
72.	Right now, the subsidy program for Parks and Recreation, the Welcome Policy, has been frozen for two months. That means that no child or youth anywhere in the City of Toronto was able to register for any summer programs or camps using the Welcome Policy. Shutting youth out of community centres and community recreation programs and camps is dangerous for the city. It also creates health problems that cost the system money. Adults and seniors could not register either. At the same time, PFR is eliminating adult programs at Priority Centres. Their manager Brenda Patterson, has said the freezes on the Welcome Policy will continue. Access to sport for children, youth, adults and seniors is key to health and to families. Access to our community centres for seniors to play cards or have some exercise - right now at non-priority centres all community groups must pay for permits - is key. The current state of PFR is damaging families and communities by continuing to under-resource access. Finally, there is an expensive and complex bureaucracy associated with administering fees and administering the Welcome Policy at PFR. There is expensive new equipment going into the Priority Centres to charge for adult programs, and an incredible amount of City staff time from several departments goes into the Welcome Policy and user fees. It might be more cost effective and better for families and neighbourhoods to simply let people in, as was the case in the past.
73.	Continued servicing to Parks and Recreation, library services

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
74.	1) Eliminate all sick days. Not realistic. NO WHERE to be found in private sector. A lot of sick days are used to play golf and take Monday's and/or Friday's off. Check the data / 2) Outsource all non core areas like garbage, custodian (janitorial) services etc. Private sector did so 15 years ago at tremendous savings / 3) Hire a private sector executive to make serious cost cutting changes and stop asking people in the system (who's objective is self-preservation) to fix the problem / 4) Eliminate all police at traffic lights and monitoring construction jobs. Can be done by other groups at 30% of the cost / 5) All public sector workers need an annual performance evaluation with stringent consequences for poor performance. Not happening in schools / 6) Design bonus systems that actually motivates staff to perform at excellent performance level ALL THE TIME. Today most workers do the minimum because an excellent employee gets the exact same pay as the poor employee. Does not make sense /
75.	negative effects of privatization/ the excellent work offered to so many by our city employees/ children's needs for school, recreation and care
76.	Swimming pools and sporting arenas - must find a way to keep them open and update/modernize them. Use Montreal's example.
77.	I think that Torontonians do not feel personal responsibility to contribute to the cleanliness and kindness of our communities. The City should embark on some campaigns to educate the population that littering is wrong, that TTC passengers and City employees should be considerate. How about some tv commercials on "Making Toronto a good place to live"? I also think that the unions should be dismantled. The city workers are inefficient and lazy. I'm shocked by the state of subway stations, my local community centre, washrooms in public libraries - no one is making an effort because their union protects them. It's shameful.
78.	We need to consider how the city will prepare for climate change -- this for example, will have a profound impact on heat, and therefore heat stress and employment, children, recreation, housing, and seniors. / We should reduce vehicular use in the downtown as this will help reduce emissions and help reduce the greenhouse effect within the city, and the urban heat island.
79.	maintain our police force no question here about its importance, keep our libraries and public swimming pools, but look at staffing issues..are they over staffed?
80.	The impact of city user fees (i.e. recreation) on blocking or restricting access to poorer individuals, counter to public policy goals
81.	Education and recreation for vulnerable youth; employment opportunities for newcomers;
82.	Waterfront needs to be a place for culture and recreation (model after the current area around Harbourfront and the PowerPlant)
83.	keep public spaces going (parks and recreation), affordable housing.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
84.	The systems, bylaws, and services should be flexible enough to reflect the different needs for different areas of the city. Not every area needs leaf removal but some do. Not every one needs free recreation programs but some do. Not every community needs more TCC but some do. Politicians and senior management seem to only be able to work if everything is the same but different areas have different needs.
85.	waste management / lowering taxes / ensuring recreation facilities are available for our vulnerable youth / safety and security
86.	daycare, after school programs, parks and recreation programs, healthcare, greenspaces and recycling
87.	Yes. You should consider this survey - how many people are aware of it? Not many. You should consider how you worded this survey - to include umbrella topics such as the "environment" without giving any indication of what they really mean -- water quality, air quality - not just tree-hugging activities, but ones that affect our very health and quality of life. You should consider how Ford promised no service cuts. You should consider disparities within the city, between the suburbs and the downtown core in terms of access to recreation and community support and organizations, and especially to reliable public transport, and especially in terms of the economic and income disparity. You should not cut any services that the city offers. Instead, you should offer more.
88.	Building a vibrant, livable city, with great social programs, libraries, recreation programs, first class transit, walkable communities, cyclist friendly streets, and environmental stewardship.
89.	Incentives for transit users, bicycle riders, people who walk to work or those that car pool. E.g. lower municipal taxes, increased bike lanes, increased HOV lanes. Rewards for people being green and making our city's air cleaner.
90.	Recreation facilities are under resourced, such as swimming pools and parks, which make the City livable and enjoyable / Investments in the heritage, architecture and beautification of the City are essential to creating the desire to live in Toronto / Cutting expenses cannot be the sole solution to budget shortfalls. Revenue tools must be created as well. / Torontonians are citizens and residents, not just taxpayers.
91.	Keep the swimming pools open
92.	Low to no user fees for public recreational programs in parks and schools, e.g. swimming, summer camps, winter sports and cultural activities etc for children and adults. Full support and expansion of public libraries -they are the hub of our communities. Community gardens. Bike lanes throughout the city. Road tolls to reduce pollution and encourage the use of public transit. MUCH more affordable housing. Increased educational and social support for immigrants
93.	maintaining parks and recreation services, forestry and culture. / libraries. / festivals and fun.
94.	supporting recreation, in all its forms (not just sports...) as a way to bring citizens together and to lead a healthier life.
95.	equitable recreation services, certain areas have more services than other areas

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
96.	Free and equitable access to community centres and recreation programs.
97.	maintenance of city parks; these are the heart of neighbourhoods, a stress reliever, a friend maker, a fitness instructor and most importantly the safety valve of a crowded and often aggressive city lifestyle. Kids, families and everyone love to skate, swim, picnic, enjoy a bonfire, wonder at nature and more and more...
98.	libraries, public swimming pools, recreation programs accessible to all
99.	poverty and housing. In particular the lack of availability of affordable housing for poor and moderate income people. There also need to be controls on slum landlords. Secondly a sustainable and affordable transit system is particularly important to the more marginalized communities as well as for the environment. Access to the waterfront with free availability of watersport activities, incl. swimming is very important. That requires controls to stop polluting the lake water. I also wish for a more reasonable way to handle bicycle traffic with separated bicycle lanes and exemptions for bicycles in traffic calming zones so they can roll through stop signs and ride on one-way streets the opposite directions where feasible. Overall I wish to protest the mayors choice to build a subway in lieu of honouring the previous transit agreements. I disagree with any cuts to services in favour of cutting land transfer taxes or vehicle registration taxes. In fact I would welcome a tax on vehicles entering the city core.
100.	Must always consider vulnerable populations. City of Toronto is unique and has needs unlike other Ont. cities. Child care, recreation, community centres and libraries are important for children and families. Quality matters. Need to ensure health of families and communities.
101.	Access to services - affordable housing, childcare, parks/recreation, transit, infrastructure
102.	public health service, making community recreation programs available to people and accessible to everyone through the increased access to the welcome policy
103.	recreation services for people with HIV / employment supports for people with HIV / social support programs / emotional support programs / health care for marginalized people
104.	Affordable housing / public transit / civic engagement: participation / Access to parks and recreation services / Access: equity issues
105.	Keep swimming pool open!
106.	Transparency in public spending. community centre
107.	Availability & quality of services, including daycare, parks and recreation - we need to keep investing. / WE need more investment in active transport (cycling & walking) / We don't need privatization - we should have a good stable public service - if we can afford 11% for police, we can pay garbage collectors - it works well in my neighbourhood, so please don't "fix" it
108.	Transit, affordable recreation
109.	Municipal services, such as recreation, pools, community centres, libraries

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
110.	Continue to offer affordable community programming, recreation programming that builds communities and encourages healthy behaviours. Communities that have activities to do and participate in have less crime and other social issues than communities that don't. I also think that front-line City staff should be recognized for the work that they do and should be respected as members of the community of the City of Toronto. Many staff not only work for the City, but also live and participate in City programming. By minimizing staff (i.e.: "Gravy Train" comments, etc.) and not valuing their contributions, the City is hurting their community. Homeless sheltering, more social services to help poor and people with disabilities find decent paying jobs and decent places to live
111.	West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community Centre is currently not identified as a service delivery option in the City's Core Service Review. The City's survey only asks / 1. City provide service / 2. Contract out / / A third option should be included "a mixed model approach (partnership) between the city and / non-profit organizations. This mixed model approach has evolved over many years and is / used extensively to deliver a wide range of city services. / /
112.	Access to public services like child care and recreation with no cost. Service fees are a way of increasing tax on some people rather than pooling resources and providing access to all who want or need it. / Affordable regulated public childcare for all city residents, not only those lucky enough to get on the subsidy list. / Public housing - we need more of this. Stop privatizing it and selling it off. This is not the answer. There's a crisis when so many in the community have nowhere safe and affordable to live. Invest in it. Regulate it. Enforce bylaws that hold landlords responsible. / Equity across the city in terms of bylaws that were changed in some areas and not others - for example, Rooming houses can be built in the old city of Toronto but not in parts of Scarborough. Private garbage pick up in Etobicoke. Get rid of these and equalize things across the city.
113.	safe bike commuting, access to programmes for all at Parks and Recreation, especially kids, increased welfare rates so that children don't go to school hungry
114.	Parks and recreation, more greenspace, keeping pools open, sustainability,
115.	affordable housing; recreation centres; libraries
116.	long-term climate change planning, subway construction, alternatives to toll highways, wages and conditions that reflect the labour market for employees (including city council wages), privatization of city golf courses Fiscal health
117.	there is no mechanism within the city departments with which one can easily identify duplicate services. For example, Toronto Community Housing has leadership programmes for youth. In addition, there are similar programmes being offered by Youth and Employment Services, Toronto Public Health, Police, Fire, EMS, Libraries, Parks, Forestry, Recreation as well as others... no one has had the insight to ensure each of those programmes is well run, successful or even has any idea about what other options there are for youth. Nurses should not be running a youth leadership programmes when there are already dozens available!

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
118.	I am disheartened to hear the number of people across the city who are shut out of access to basic community services, and that many further services (such as libraries and recreation) are destined for cancellation, forcing people into positions of further neglect and disappointment.
119.	Services to new comers, libraries, Health services, recreation centres, TTC / public transit / bike lanes
120.	Sport and recreational programs must be expanded -Community centre recreational hours must be extended for working people who want to use the facilities after work.
121.	1) Improving public transportation, including light rail / 2) Aging Infrastructure - water mains, roads, cycling routes, community centre facilities / 3) Improving cycling routes / 4) Public health / 5) Child care
122.	parks, recreation, livability, cleanliness
123.	tourism / maintaining and improving parks and recreation programs
124.	closing of local community centres, libraries. swimming pools
125.	Maintaining recreation centers like hockey rinks, tennis courts, etc
126.	There is a lot of wastage on paper and bulk mailing for garbage tags for example. make it accessible for those who need it, can access garbage tags at a local solid waste office. / / social services should issue a useable card that will enable them to access their monthly BFA'S via banking. too much paper wastage, not necessary. / / cut back on this mass production of fun guides offered by parks, forestry and recreation. more waste. the fun guide is accessible online! / / safety is a concern for all. no one will want to participate in anything if they don't feel safe outside their front yards. this needs to be explored carefully. / / earth day should be celebrated more than once a year. its up to all of us to take care of our environment and each other. cut back on light/power usage at nights after work hours. especially in Toronto's corporate environments...all these lights after hours is unnecessary. turn them off!!! / / Public Health- as much as safety is a concern for all, so is health. Lets examine all our public bathrooms in city facilities and ask yourself if you think we are doing all we can to prevent communicable diseases or germs to be spread via usage of taps, stalls, etc...most public restaurant bathrooms use sensory-type of taps, toilets and hand dryers and no doors..... / /
127.	There is far too much bureaucracy, and it destroys any attempt Torontonians make to improve their city -- witness the food-cart fiasco. / / Toronto seriously lacks vision and boldness at the level of municipal government, where planning, recreation, services, and transportation are concerned. The rest of the world is racing ahead past us. Wake up! / / I am not interested in having services cut. If governments/mayors would quit promising tax cuts, then you'd have enough money to make this city fantastic.
128.	Recreation services that are accessible to under-served and marginalised residents.
129.	Parks and Recreation



	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
130.	The City of Toronto must scale back on police services in order to create funds that can be shifted to other necessary areas of the budget. There needs to be a greater focus on affordable housing initiatives. Long-term care facilities for seniors are horrific. The City of Toronto should consider safe injection sites like Insite in Vancouver. There needs to be more money placed in after school programs(arts and recreation) that educate youth about what opportunities are available to them(employment, education, counselling, training etc.).
131.	Encourage usage of Public Transit downtown by taxing car drivers and implementing road tolls. / Focus on improving downtown transit - such as the King St and Queen St buses. Stop allowing car parking on both sides of street. / Implement a public transit system where the rider pays according to distance driven. / Clean the beaches and the water so people can swim anywhere on the lakeshore.
132.	Expand the services provided by Toronto Parks and Rec. Make corporations pay their fair share of taxes. Don't gut the city's budget just to give the rich a free ride. Provide infrastructure for cycling including separated bike lanes especially on Bloor street. Fund urban agriculture initiatives.
133.	Maintenance of city owned facilities for not-for-profit arts, recreation and sport. Only City-owned facilities make these amenities affordable and accessible to all citizens and citizen groups.
134.	Violence. It's not simply a matter of "safety". The city is becoming more violent. Where are the community centre programs which might entice the impressionable away from the glory of the streets? It may be a losing battle, but we must remain steadfast against the vagaries of perceived pop culture ... and what it means once off the television, and acted out in the social arena.
135.	Making the city a walkable neighbourhoods with more trees planted and plan for using more green space for parks and recreation in the vulnerable neighbourhoods of the city.
136.	Extension of public transit throughout City with affordable fees. / Recreation access for lower income families / Renovation of outdated infrastructure - roads, sewers, storm water etc.
137.	public health, community spaces (libraries and recreation centres), affordable housing,
138.	continue to support sexual health clinics, daycare spaces, community centres, pools. More bike lanes and more playgrounds and skateboard and basketball courts for youth.
139.	recreation services
140.	Libraries, recreation facilities
141.	Recreation and parks facilities are under developed / investment in heritage, architecture preservation and beautification of the City contribute to assets of the City / Torontonians are citizens and residents, not only taxpayers
142.	affordable and accessible transit for all is needed throughout Toronto. / Free and physically accessible pools and recreation facilities
143.	libraries, recreation programs

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
144.	The City needs to keep funding all the services it already provides. Our group is very concerned that privatization will not save money and that it will just siphon off profits to the companies that are contracted to provide services. We want to see parks, libraries, recreation centres, public housing, TTC and Wheeltrans maintained and improved. Many of us rely on daycare subsidies to be able to work and contribute to the tax base. We need the city to keep the city-run childcares and the daycare subsidies should be expanded. We are not happy with the increased privatization of our garbage and recycling collection. We really want more affordable and free summer day camps and children's programs provided by city workers at recreation centres. We depend on these services as mothers in low-income families. We also find the library children's programs to be very important to us for our children's growth. As we know the first six years are crucial to building healthy people. Invest in our children!
145.	I love to go to city run facilities: parks and recreation, libraries
146.	Libraries and community recreation programs are essential to the health of communities in Toronto.
147.	The cutting of taxes to the wealthier population to then in turn cut spending on services that help the poorer part of the population. Why should the poor have to pay more so their kids can go to the community pool so the people that can afford a car that pollutes our city can get back their 60 bucks. It's just crazy
148.	Accessible rapid public transport in all areas of the city so that the above goals can be achieved. If people can't get to work, school, appointments or recreation easily the city will not function efficiently. Adding more buses in or providing limited subway access while allowing private cars free reign will not allow this.
149.	fostering arts and culture, improving parks and recreation, more creative architecture and streetscaping including wall murals
150.	Transit, quality child care, homelessness, public housing, access to healthy food in under-served areas, newcomer services, recreation, culture, arts
151.	We need to stop worrying about our own wallets and start thinking about building a good city for our children. This means NOT CALLING CITIZENS TAXPAYERS. They are called citizens or people or members of our community or Torontonians, etc because there is no such thing as an individual when it comes to taxes. We pay together so that we may live together. End of story. To invest in the future, we have to hold our nose and start investing in our city from a functional stand point. Firstly, we MUST implement real mass transit that's affordable and fast (i.e. LRVs instead of subways). We need to get moving on road repairs that are already majorly backlogged. We need to stop giving permits freely to condo developers so that an already strained system is strained further. We need to convince people that driving their own car everywhere isn't the only option (you can walk, take transit, car pool, ride a bicycle, etc.). These things all cost money and we all need to buckle down through these hard times and bear through it as a team.
152.	Protect funding for libraries and swimming pools.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
153.	Food security; affordable housing; public, affordable daycare; connected, separated network of bicycle lanes on major streets should be a major priority; increased funding for public libraries; increased funding for Toronto Public Health to combat bedbug problem; access to health and mental health services for vulnerable populations; creation of pedestrian- and bike-friendly zones; a freeze on transit fares; access to affordable recreation services.
154.	Transit. Need to ensure middle suburbs are connected to where jobs are, shopping and recreation / Arts and Culture is crucial for prosperity. Don't think of this as a "frill"
155.	Snow removal, swimming pools, public health, parks, restaurant licensing, garbage removal, road maintenance, welfare and social assistance, day care operation and licensing, fire safety, building codes, water and beach safety, grants for community-based events and programs, facade improvement programs in commercial areas, managing courts for provincial offenses, long-term care facilities for seniors, public libraries, TTC, affordable housing, law enforcement
156.	Making all City Parks and Recreation services free to those on assistance of any kind.
157.	Maintenance, development and growth of bike lanes, parks, and community recreation facilities to help encourage fitness and positive social activity.
158.	the shortage of rinks and soccer fields
159.	Maintain funding for cultural events such as theatre, music, arts, Pride Week and institutions such as libraries, recreation centres and parks. Pay for this by cutting the police budget and increasing taxes on the rich.
160.	integrating newcomers / accessible recreation services
161.	Services for new parents, mental health supports (with a focus on prevention), accessible sport and recreation programs for children.
162.	Cutting services and city improvements, such as parks, recreation, harbourfront improvements, arts, etc. give us short term gains at the expense of the long-term health of the city as a whole. Think long term!
163.	Parks and Recreation; Council has to ensure that developers make this a priority when they create new developments, More often, now you see some little patch of grass with a one or two withered trees and a bunch of weeds. Or here's a thousand new homes, or Four high rises and "oh look, a convenience store". Yah, but no recreation center.
164.	In order to maintain a liveable city that is attractive both to live in and for people to visit, we require a vibrant, healthy city. This includes public transit, community services for those less fortunate, arts and culture, vibrant affordable community centres that give children access to swimming, sports and arts activities and a strong, healthy public library and education system. These are the things that keep me here. I am willing to pay taxes, even high taxes for these essentials.

<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>	
165.	Seniors: / We met with 15 Cantonese seniors at our Seniors Program on June 6th. They are very passionate about the needs of seniors. Some of the top needs included need for more seniors public housing and better maintenance including more air conditioning, of existing units. They do not want this service to be privatized. / Seniors also want more frequent and reliable TTC service, with a reduced fare for seniors and a possible seniors' day pass for a reduced fare as they have in Vancouver. Seniors do not want any parts of the TTC to be privatized. They are concerned about maintenance and the potential loss of routes that are considered not as busy. / Other top needs for the city included city run childcare and childcare subsidies, well maintained parks and recreation centres with free programs, libraries, and more long term care spaces. A number of the seniors commented that waiting lists are too long for long term care. / This group wants the city to invest in making Toronto more livable. They want public housing and TTC to be uploaded to the Ontario Government and the Federal Government to provide the two per cent revenue from the gas tax to cities. They want property taxes frozen for seniors, but accept that these taxes should be raised for other Toronto residents. / / /
166.	Equal access to recreation, education, social services for all members of society, regardless of income. / Increased taxes to support social services and to ensure equitable access to recreation, education, cultural opportunities. / Well paid, secure unionized jobs.
167.	Consider road tolls to pay for transit and road infrastructure. / Ensure services are not cut or contracted out to the private sector. / Adequate childcare options. / Community centres and recreation programs.
168.	I am quite fearful and wary of the upcoming cuts to social services. They are what make our city what it is: shelters, affordable transit, free recreation centres, etc.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
169.	<p>It depends on what is included in the words you placed on the survey. / / For example, fire services and emergency medical needs to be included, but may be assumed under the safety and security heading (so not mentioned as often as it might be otherwise). / / So, especially if the headings have a narrow definition, I would include in the mix the following - policing, accessibility, human rights support, shelters for children, youth and adults, mental health services, provincially-mandated health activities such as promotion, prevention (public health inspections), collaboration with other municipal governments and other government departments to determine best practices, food programs to ensure there is no hunger, income support where needed to ensure no poverty, managing housing stock to ensure affordable housing, maintaining waterfront access and ensuring construction of high-density housing includes appropriate community services, recreation services (pools, etc. especially for low income families), beautification and maintenance of public property (we used to have a gloriously maintained city and were the envy of many), and by-law enforcement on private property and enforcing bylaws on all fronts, undertaking all other mandated provincial activities such as court services/payments, appropriate land-use planning and permitting/inspection, noise and nuisance control, fence/boundary disputes, parking (not sure if it was included in transportation), supporting arts, cultural and heritage events to ensure tourism, child care systems, public libraries and internet access</p>

<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>	
170.	An effective plan to provide bike lanes or bike roads for cyclists, who need protection and support on the road. If bike lanes are being eliminated, they need to be replaced with an alternative. We need a bike route that safely cuts through the city, hopefully minimizing interactions with cars and the products of their exhaust pipes. / / Rent in the city is unbelievably high in comparison to other cities in Canada. / / We need more community gardens and local urban agriculture programs - one at every community center and library at least. We also need to be more active in planting urban trees and making sure they are set up in a way that is viable for them to live (not in tiny concrete boxes which do not allow them to grow, not with pavement covering the ground beneath up to a few inches from the trunk... this is just a waste of money since these trees are destined to never thrive). More incentives should be available to encourage green roofs on public property. Every community center and public library should have one. / / We need support for our public library, which offers support to students, families, newcomers, homeless people, etc. It is an invaluable community resource and must be maintained properly. It supports education, job searching, business development and personal development. / / We need a better transit strategy. Toronto is a huge city and needs more efficient and quick transport such as subways or elevated light rail. The TTC also needs to provide better value for the money spent by its riders. We should adapt a more forgiving transfer system in which a transfer is good within 1.5 - 2 hours of travel after issued, anywhere in the city. The City of Vancouver has this system and it is MUCH better. It shows more respect for users of public transit (ex. I should be able to stop on my way home to complete a small errand without having to pay an expensive fare a second time). / / Poverty in Toronto is unfortunate and rampant. We need a way of supporting the homeless population without interaction with the police and while respecting these people's human rights. Food banks should be funded more so that they can increase the amount of food they give each person and provide more nutritious, quality meals.
171.	- Affordable housing within the City, encouragement of first-time owners / property investments; / - Environmental improvements --- more green spaces / old trees, clean water, less lake pollution, clean beach / lake areas (for swimming) / - Community dev
172.	Keeping the Parks, Forestry and Recreation programs including swimming programs and camps.
173.	The provision of recreation based programs and services for all citizens (young children, parents, school-age children, youth, adults, seniors, newcomers, etc). / Providing access to city programs and services for low-income families. / Ensuring that the City of Toronto maintains ownership and control over public properties (parks, waterfront properties, community centres, recreation complexes). / Ensuring that the City of Toronto maintains ownership and control over programs which exist for the interest of the public (affordable housing, etc). / Ensure that community funding sources (city grants) continue to be available to community organizations.

	<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>
174.	It is important that City services be kept within the city. I do not agree with privatizing city services. I also do not agree with giving breaks to the people with the most resources and money, and taking away services from those with the least. For example, charging user fees at the Priority Centres. Giving people a place to swim, play basketball and meet reduces crime and other problems, therefore reducing policing and health costs. Preventative measures always cut down on infrastructure costs in the long run, and will produce more balanced budgets.
175.	Public transit corridors that put streetcars first along streets such as Queen St, so that commuters can rely on them to get to work on time. / Air quality and water quality are highly important. Too many kids have asthma and there are too many pollutants going in to our lake and waterways, which are affecting our drinking water and recreation. / Please stop so many cars commuting into the city from suburbs and beyond.
176.	public health- ensuring that the citizens of Toronto have access to all the provincially mandated Public Health services. / public transportation- affordable, accessible public transit / recreation-low cost recreational programming for all ages / library services- please do not close our libraries / child care- affordable ,regulated child care / housing- safe, affordable housing for those in need / city plan- follow the plan
177.	- Enabling food access policies throughout all city departments / - Facilitating development of local green jobs / - HIV/AIDS funding and health promotion / - Climate change planning / - Expanding services provided in priority areas / - Recreation and se
178.	Funding for public programs like parks and recreation.
179.	Maintaining services and programs including Parks and Recreation programs, homeless services, programs that are run by community organizations. Keeping services public.
180.	Affordable housing, public transit, civic engagement and participation, access to parks and recreation services, access to childcare, access and equity issues
181.	Public health services including multipronged addiction services, strengthening vulnerable communities, parks and recreation, affordable housing and support services for underhoused, affordable childcare
182.	Sell off excess property, reduce workforce, challenge contracted services to meet private sector standards, review business model of Parks & Recreation, focus on performance standards, and raise taxes for meaningful purposes.
183.	you should consider the implications of cutting recreation, culture and vulnerable population programs. If you're sucking up to the conservative federal government suck up enough to get more money to support the programs that support the people of Toronto.
184.	Having a well thought out transit plan that connects people in the city as well as those in the suburbs. One day I hope that in my life time there will be a waterfront plan that is actually implemented and it opens up the waterfront for more than just condo development but provide recreation, culture and services for Torontonians and visitors - see Chicago.

<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>	
185.	Yes, I think that quality affordable daycare is extremely important, with subsidies for parents in need without the lengthy waiting lists. It is vitally important to have safe parks with recreation services that are accessible to all, wading pools, children's programs, swimming pools, ice rinks. Finally, this City is very behind in terms of having separate bike lanes, to make it fair and safe for cyclists who risk their lives every day just trying to get to work or school.
186.	Affordable housing and affordable childcare, recreation and arts programs for everyone
187.	The poor decision making at City Hall and the poor oversight. Nonsense like the Union Station deal, the chaos caused by the Bloor Street "improvements", the St. Clair LRT, the Spadina LRT, the Harbourfront LRT, and the Sheppard Subway, illustrate a consistent pattern of spending large amounts to make life worse for residents and not being able to follow a schedule. The ridiculous Recreation cuts a while back where we lost the services, but kept nearly all the costs, only the useful part-timers who actually did useful work were cut. The ridiculous cut of Sunday library service the busiest day of the week, a while back is another ridiculous decision, that also appears to have violated contracts, illustrates a pattern of punishing the taxpayer, instead of making well thought out cuts. If the cut had been to end library service from 9AM-12:30PM Monday-Friday, that would have made much more sense, since that is when the libraries are not heavily used. Then there was that propane explosion place which seems to have been tolerated. City Staff seems geared to generating a lot of paper and wasting a lot of money instead of making sensible choices and all the politicians seem to be part of the problem. Stop building new stuff and instead do proper maintenance of what we have. There should be no new TTC LRTs, subways or anything else like that. The Yonge line is packed already, there is no need to spend billions to make it worse. /
188.	recreation centres in communities, programs and services for families and children
189.	I do not agree with user fees for recreation and other services that provide activities for children and young people in low income families who otherwise would not be able to afford to use our swimming pools etc.
190.	1)provide services to new immigrants and their children e.g. more ESL classes, / 2) parks and recreation programs not accessible to new comers, not enough free spaces and programs for low-income families, long line and busy phone lines at registration dates for city' s park and recreation programs. (frustrations) / 3) rent is too high, housing prices are way too high. / 4)TTC fare and gas prices are too high / 5) emergency room waiting time is too long (Hours) / 6)universities graduates aren't finding any jobs they studied / 7)new comers aren't getting any jobs, always low-income jobs / 8)more free legal clinics / 9)more after-hour walk -in clinics / 10) more library drop-off boxes placed at the curbside of a road/ set up a kiss-and -drop off and pick up-box service for library materials at each street corners. More accessible for people who are trapped at home (e.g. new mothers with lots of chores and responsibilities, / 11) more services for mentally ill
191.	Affordable and accessible community services such as libraries, park and rec.



<b>Recreation – Other Important City-Wide Issues</b>	
192.	The budget deficit, bike lanes, city parks and recreations programming, the welcome policy
193.	high quality recreation facilities accessible to all
194.	The rights of dog owners--if dogs are property, then they should be factored into the Parks & Recreation strategy as a form of recreation equivalent to baseball, skating, etc. The number of licensed dogs outweighs the number of children under the age of 9 according to StatsCanada and yet the majority of recreational space excludes those who use dogs as a form of recreation. Only 3-4% of parks have designated off leash areas, poorly planned and lacking the mandatory park requirements for users: a) access to shade b) access to seating c) access to water. May seem trivial but there are over 250,000 licensed dog owners.
195.	Transit frequency / Accessibility to trash cans (and build up of litter) / More recreation programs (especially aquatics) /
196.	care about vulnerable, access to sport and recreation activities, transport
197.	Public Transit, Housing, parks & recreation,
198.	1. Providing better opportunities for including young people in and at all levels of decision-making; particularly as relates or directly impacts on their lives: civic engagement; jobs; arts & culture; recreation; budgeting; planning; evaluation... 2. advocating for and putting citizens/residents first in all negotiations with corporations who build and do business in Toronto. 3. Focus on and prioritize with immediate action to fix and properly invest in maintaining our city's infrastructure: roads, transportation, public buildings, parks, housing, etc.
199.	bumpy and broken roads, narrow main roads, lack of sufficient recreation facilities for low-income groups i.e. swimming pools, basket ball courts etc for kids, insufficient walk-in and emergency health care supports
200.	Youth health services including sexual and reproductive health services / Youth recreational services - 24 hr recreation centres / Government Transparency and Accountability
201.	community input in planning the city, recreation services

### **Do you have any other comments on how the City should fund services?**

[Return to Top](#)

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
1.	Our City plays a vital role in providing us quality services and infrastructure that we cannot afford to pay for as individuals. When we pool our resources together, we can build a great city that creates opportunities, mitigates inequality, and benefits all of us . The City should spend more time promoting the good and affordable services it provides and less time whipping up rage against paying taxes.

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
2.	User fees are a good way, however it should be charged directly to the user, proportionate to the level of use. It should not be in the form of across the board user fee for service regardless of use or amount of use. For example there should not be across the board swimming pool surcharge to every household, instead there should be a fee for using the pool, at time of use.
3.	Partnerships with business. The BIA program is the best program in the city because City funds are matched by private enterprise. Businesses buy flower pots, pay for streetscape studies, lighting improvements, banners, repairing city property, cleaning etc. The city should spend much more on matching funds and way less on subsidies. If a corporation wants to help build a community centre or playground, put their name on it, and match those funds. / / If funding is 100% on the backs of taxpayers, make cuts to those services. If you have partners, increase your funding, and get greater bang for your buck!
4.	the city should consider "value" instead of simply "cost" when making these decisions. for example there are situations where cutting a service might save money this year but might cost us more down the line because we lose the value that the service generated. it is often far more cost-effective to pool citizens' resources to provide a service (i.e. through taxes) than to expect them to pay for it through user fees.
5.	1. Property taxes should be used for CORE services that benefit everyone - e.g., services that ONLY the City can do (e.g., fire, police, city planning, public health, etc.) and services that are disproportionately used by the poor. Other services should largely be paid for by user fees. For example, hockey rinks, golf courses, etc. are (a) can and should be delivered by the private sector and (b) should be profit centres if they are provided by the city. / / 2. I disagree with the proposition that all city services should cost more to deliver each year. Many types of services drop in cost over time (e.g., information technology). /
6.	Implement a toll charge for the DVP/404 into the city core from north of the city, and then another toll closer to the city, during peak hours during the week only - it should be a higher toll for one person per vehicle, and no toll for three or more persons per vehicle. This will not only lessen and discourage needless traffic/drivers into the city core by daily office commuters (who should either take the train or car-pool), it will provide some city money to offset the cost of other services. I frequently need to drive into the city for my business activities, but would happily pay a toll if it meant that there was less traffic on the roads because people were rethinking their driving habits due to a road toll.
7.	Use impact on the environment and health to determine whether to introduce or increase user fees. People who are composting and recycling should pay less than those who produce more garbage. Same with water, transit and recreation programs that improve one's health -- reward those who improve the health of our environment and society.

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
8.	The Parks and Recreation programme fees are far too low. They surely cannot be recouping costs. I understand and support keeping programme fees lower for seniors, but others should be able to pay their way, this is despite the fact that I have 2 young children in city programs.. Also as far as vulnerable neighbourhoods, I live near some and there never seems to be any difference despite funding, the centres, basketball courts are neglected and or overrun so many don't feel comfortable using them, the crime remains. The only thing that seemed to reduce the crime etc. was the crackdowns raids by police.
9.	I think if the city can contract out and get better bang for the dollar should go for it. I know we have to pay our fair share of / taxes but with in moderation. I know such organizations such as the YMCA could fund and run our parks and recreation / programs a hole lot better than the city and all you have to do is look a little west to Mississauga and run our city on the / same values as they have. I know / until the province download services. I also know a lot of services such as ambulance and public health there is a lot of / duplications between province and city.
10.	I support user fees when it makes sense -- i.e., not when it comes to low-income neighbourhoods or support for jobs, homeless, youth, etc. I work full-time and I wouldn't mind paying a little bit more to go to the pool, or for a library card, or for the TTC -- as long as we can maintain or increase the greatness of our city. The LAST thing I want for Toronto is to scale back what we offer residents and visitors.
11.	I think a sign of a great city is how it takes care of its most vulnerable, and maintains a city that is vibrant, safe, clean and livable. In order to do this, we need a range of services that support recreation, culture, transportation and safety (police, fire, public health). It would be a shame for us to cut costs at the expense of this city being great. I would be willing to spend more on taxes if I knew the money was going to the above priorities I identified (helping the most vulnerable, keeping the city safe clean and livable). I would like the city to address problem areas such as youth unemployment and target areas with the greatest problems (such as teen/gang violence). What we invest now will reap many benefits in the future. We will all pay for cuts not only in dollars but in the quality of life we have come to enjoy in this great city.
12.	Create additional 'user fees' for discretionary activities to underwrite infrastructure (e.g., city centre road toll to underwrite road / transit maintenance, as in London, UK); look for opportunities for income generation in order to support / underwrite maintenance of facilities (e.g., pool and / or arena rentals to private groups).
13.	I have a real problem with the city saying there is no money, but we maintain wonderfully manicured and costly golf courses in the city. We say we can't pay employees, we say we can't afford shelters for homeless, yet all summer I drive past well-dressed golfers in their expensive clothing and their expensive clubs - which I can't afford, playing golf at these subsidized and paid-for-by-our-city golf courses. Shame. And most of the users are middle aged white men.

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
14.	The City should investigate producing electricity from non-traditional sources, such as methane generation from biosolids. Rescind the sweetheart property tax deal of nine private golf courses in Toronto.
15.	I wish that I had more in-depth knowledge about city expenditures to be able to make concrete suggestions such as cutting back in one area to avoid increases in user fees. Generally, I think user fees could be increased in less essential services such as the vehicle registration tax, parking, building permits, liquor permits as opposed to hiking up fees for children's swimming lessons, for example.
16.	Please stop demonizing taxes. I live in Toronto because it is an amazing city, in large part due to how public funds have been spent. Taxes are a way to pool resources so that we can create safe, healthy, productive and enjoyable societies through social welfare, public services/infrastructure and arts spending and I am more than happy to pay for that. Giving up our city to private interests is short-sighted and reflects a deep misunderstanding of what makes Toronto special.
17.	emergency services and transit - taxes/user fees / arts/culture - could look for sponsors/donors / parks & recreation - sponsor a park programs, the way they do with highways? / health & welfare taxes/user fees
18.	People who can afford to pay more for services should be doing so. We should not be cutting services or increasing user fees, which will affect groups who cannot afford them. Newcomers, families with young children and single parents should have access to recreation, culture, etc. as well.
19.	Salary freeze or roll-back for unionized staff (decrease OT for unionized staff, particularly Police.) / Court private partners for City cultural and recreation services / Shift social services for marginalized populations to non-profit agencies
20.	Please keep the ski hills. We are a winter nation.
21.	There are services (such as parks and recreation courses) which the city is running at a deficit. User fees should be increased to cover the costs of these services.
22.	examine funding options for services i.e.; daycare, parks and recreation, shelters. / reintroduce vehicle registration tax & parking rate increases to increase revenue
23.	TTC works well but it is becoming really expensive. I came to Toronto 7 years ago and the TTC Pass was around 90 dollars. It's more than 35 dollars increase in just few years : close to 40% for the same service. / I loved the idea that we could enjoy to go swimming for free and to know that families with low income could use those services. Now we have to pay 2\$ per person. Not everybody will be able to go swimming as much as they want anymore, that's sad. / I will love more French books in public libraries, what's exist is not enough. / Public health is suffering. It's really hard to find a family doctor. The service in hospital can be terrible. The approach to patient should be more humanist. You have to wait for hours and they treat you like a number in 5 minutes! I am really disappointed and it means that you are better to be in good health or you are in trouble. / Education is not on the survey and it's essential, why it's missing? /

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
24.	What makes a city great is not its promenades or express ways – it’s our cities communities, arts, culture, entertainment, sports, recreation, leisure, parks, and yes Libraries. All important – all worth saving – all a cornerstone to a healthy and vibrant city for all residents of Toronto. / A proud resident of Toronto for over 30+ and hoping for another 30+ years of good government, good decision making and prosperity for everyone. /
25.	When I compare with quality of life in other cities in Canada and Europe, toronto has fallen way behind in last 15 years. This is not an attractive city to live in - too many potholes, poor public transportation, poor auto-transportation, really low quality public recreation facilities. Living in Toronto, I feel like we are stuck in what we had 20 years ago; it's dismal!
26.	Look to innovative sources of funding that provide multiple returns by both raising funds and discouraging behaviour that has negative effects. For instance, congestion fees would raise money, reduce economic losses to traffic congestion, and improve air quality. Increase users fees on activities that have negative externalities (like driving or wasting water) and reduce user fees on activities that have positive externalities (like recreation centres).
27.	Raise money on the market: float bonds to raise money now for infrastructure projects like TTC expansion. Do not sell off capital assets to make up for current account and budgetary deficits, that's absolute folly, especially when the vast majority of the City's capital assets (land, for example) are appreciating property,
28.	essential services first: TTC, EMS, FIRE, POLICE ( w/ reduced officers and helicopters, more community engagement opportunities, changes in police training), HOUSING (low income)... then social and recreation services - especially for low income families and individuals. Property taxes for services like public health and garbage; user fees (for those who can afford them) for fun stuff - like CNE, zoo etc... Also - can businesses get something back for contributing to city coffers (not politician's) - like for example: if TD donates the cost of street clean up post pride celebrations, maybe they get a free billboard on the Gardiner for a month acknowledging their 'partnership' or something??
29.	Put a carbon tax on polluters. Close all golf facilities and transform them into parks. Golf courses use a lot of water ( an average of 70,000 gallons per day in the U.S.) and almost seven times the amount of pesticides used per acre compare to agriculture.

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
30.	Force the libraries to become places for help and education again. Force them to fix their collection and stop providing parties for teens, play areas for screaming children and video game internet club houses. Make them start caring more about providing good people with books, study areas etc. They have changed the library system so much its sad. Libraries don't even have classics sections! Spread all of their librarians around and stop having them clustered only in the comfortable neighbourhoods. Why do high needs areas have the least staff. Force library staff to spread out to provide equal quality service. / Don't give in to community centres. These are places for people to suck up tax dollars. We shouldn't pay taxes for people to HANG OUT! Instead send this money to affordable housing, whip the libraries back into shape so that kids have homes and they end up going to libraries (that are regulated for quiet enjoyment) and make something of themselves.. Unfortunately, if they go to a library now, they aren't even told to behave themselves. If library staff were to revert back to being a mature role model for the city, many of the costs for community centre's, social services could be handled by them. They have the qualifications. But unfortunately they don't spread their staff fairly. Plus, their computer systems always break down and the nice worker (at least at my branch) just gets snubbed by their tech department. (I once forced the nice lad to phone them in front of me). Cut managers down all across the board. Too many chiefs here and they just scam their way through everything.
31.	City should review to ensure that funds issued for services are used responsibly. / Illiminate Priority neighbourhoods and programs that discriminate based on arbitrary criteria. We are all Torontonians and should be treated equally. Benefits should benefit ALL equally. / Welcome Policy and waving fees for low income families is fine but they should NOT get priority placement over those who are paying user fees; first come first serve.
32.	1. stop overtime / 2. privatise non core services (e.g.. housing, policing of housing, day cares, building cleaning, golf courses) / 3. bring in youth in management. 20-30 years city experienced managers have lost touch and afraid to make changes

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
33.	<p>The city misses opportunities to engage the private sector in funding operating and capital because of a 'lefty pinko' aversion to corporate advertising. The aversion to corporate advertising is self-defeating when we have a deficit and pressures to increase service in areas such as the waterfront. / However, the work with MLSE in funding local rinks is an example of where its working. We should be doing more programs like this. / Also, citywide recreation subsidy programs should be harmonized. Currently, priority centres offer free programs to people of all income levels. The Welcome Policy allows the subsidy to be targeted at those who are most in need. / The Welcome Policy recreation subsidy should be capped on an individual basis so high users are not using up the funding for those who require the subsidy. / Performance measures and benchmarking figures are not actually used in city decision making. There should be increased attention on what programs/ locations provide the best value for the tax payer. i.e.. why do we continue to subsidize a pool when it costs over \$50 per each visit (due to low usage)? / The city needs to take a longer term perspective when making budget decisions since sometimes a short-term cost will yield positive financial benefits in the future i.e.. marketing activities, productivity improvements. / / /</p>
34.	<p>User fees are inappropriate for a wide variety of city activities that are intended to bring people together and should not be discouraged with fees. User fees are appropriate for activities we want to discourage -such as waste creation, driving or parking downtown. However, these should not become a burden for people who cannot afford them. / / There is very little in the way of excess service in the city today. For example, when I was a child and even when my oldest children were little, we had much better children's programming through Parks and Recreation, all free. It helped to build cohesive, compassionate communities when rich and poor played together. The existing quality of services must be maintained and in many cases improved on if we are to have the kind of city that's worth living in.</p>

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
35.	The answers allowed were not detailed enough for me to give my views accurately in a number of areas. For example: in the questions as to who should deliver services, the options were City OR Contract Out. However, it was not clear whether contract out included both private sector *and* community not for profits. There are a number of areas in which I think it would be good for the city to transfer services from City staff to Community Not For Profits (i.e. some community recreation programs, homeless services such as shelters and street outreach, housing for low income Torontonians, etc.), but where contracting out to for profit providers would be a terrible idea. There was no way in the survey for me to clearly state my views on this, which forced me to say that services should stay with the City even where I believe they would be better provided by the non-profit sector. / / Service Areas where it would be good to look at moving services to the *non-profit* sector in order to keep high quality services at some cost savings to the City (and likely reductions in user fees as well) would include: Community-Run Community Centres, Recreation and Community Centres, City-run LTCH and Services for Seniors, Community-led Heritage programs, Shelter, Support and Housing for homeless and low-income people, and Childcare.
36.	Certain services should be cut. It is not a matter of contracting out, or having the city do it. It is a matter of the city not doing it at all. If people want it - like virtually all recreation programs, then the private sector will see the opportunity and offer it. If they offer it at a good price, people will buy it.
37.	ask the community first before you just close a community centre or a service that serves that community.
38.	Do not agree with User Fees except for highway tolls for maintenance. Expect to receive library, parks and community centre services free funded through the property taxes we pay.
39.	There should not be an assumption that city services need to be more expensive to maintain the same level of service each year. This should certainly not outstrip the level of inflation. If it is, that probably means that city services are expanding too much, and need to be cut back. / / The city needs to identify which services have become redundant, or which services are no longer absolutely essential. Do we need as many firefighters as we currently have? Probably not, but it's a sexy job, so no one likes to say we can cut a bunch. But there's a good way to save a few bucks. / / In addition, the city has to be careful when expanding it's mandate, and intruding into areas which are already federal or provincial matters, such as social assistance. / / Finally, think long term, ex. public health/parks and recreation. Better we invest a few bucks now, and keep people healthy, than we pay millions down the road in healthcare cost. Develop a program with the provincial government which provides money to municipalities whose public health programs actually improve the health of members of that community. / /



	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
40.	The city is poorly managed. Parks and Recreation are a good example of poor management. Scheduling mistakes leading to over staffing, facilities closures, dirty and unhealthy conditions are just a few examples. Front staff are usually friendly and competent but facilities are not run efficiently.
41.	more Toll Routes, Parking, renting out property, set a high price on community center programs, theatres, and other cultural and art (i.e. non-essential) programs. DO NOT increase or add fees to TTC, Health Services, or Garbage Services.
42.	Stop giving away programs and services for free. Other cities charge for things like swimming - why doesn't Toronto?
43.	The city should stop catering to inefficient unions. I am enraged by the poor garbage and TTC service relative to costs. However other departments - Public Health and Libraries for example - should be applauded for the quality of service they deliver. There are too many locked in interest groups who think they have a god-given right to run city services - parks maintenance and community centres for example - and don't do a particularly good job. In particular I'd like to see the city let PRIVATE OPERATORS offer programs at the often underused city owned community centres. We'd get better value. Churches have become the defacto real community centres in many neighbourhoods - with a wealth of dance, arts, sports and other program offerings - while our community centres - barred from admitting privately operated programs because of unions - are underused spaces. / / But - overall I support increased user fees for all expendable programs: arts, recreation etc to people who can afford it... while maintaining core services - police, TTC, garbage pickup, fire through the property tax base after contracting out and other cost reducing measures are taken.
44.	Increase user fees. Remove the Welcome policy for Parks & recreation.
45.	A mix of both private and public workers is necessary. Working with ALL types of communities: arts, culture, recreation, business, education etc and realizing that each community/group stimulates the city's growth (economy), reputation (both city-wide and provincially/nationally/internationally) and increases our quality of living by increasing and diversifying city offerings.

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
46.	Stop sending out separate notices about construction (parking pads, residential, etc.) - do all construction for the area by street once every 6 months OR put details in community papers indicating which area/ lots are affected. / Don't regulate trees in our back yards, just front. / Partner Libraries with schools, Community centres with schools & libraries - e.g. rent out school auditoriums and gyms, libraries for recreational events/ social functions, not just community centre rooms. / Library hours should include Saturday for every other library, Sunday for every other library so that you can go to an open library either day. / Fine users of parks/ community centres for not leaving it in pristine condition (e.g. deposit returned if garbage removed) or incent to help with maintenance (e.g. larger deposit returned if help pull out dandelions at the end of your function). / Advertise use of pools for private events/ private lessons during off hours - partner with private instruction to accommodate demand for lessons/ pool time, rather than all lessons being booked within an hour of opening. / Create a city that tourists want to visit - exploit historic sites, partner with NPOs who give tours/ history on city, ask cultural centres to provide translations/ recordings to download for museum exhibits/ plaques, etc. as part of their school programs.
47.	BMO soccer field (Exhibition Place) should not be supported with city funds, nor should the ACC or Skydome. / / Professional sports tickets are high enough they should NOT get further financial city support. / / Theatres, Museums, Art Galleries SHOULD have city financial support as most of the public does not invest their time or money here...If the price of admissions to cultural venues could be reduced more people will realize what they have been missing. / / Robust cities have thriving arts and cultural institutions and contribute to tourism. / / Film/tv production industry in the city contributes substantially to the GDP, the province and the city's restaurants, hotels, taxis and more. Local film/tv productions also employ thousands of independent contractors. Keep the city of Toronto film friendly.
48.	I am not a fan of privatizing services. If user fees must be imposed or increased, I would not wish for people of low income to be shut out of services. My daughter, who has autism, attends a day program in a community centre. She may not be able to attend if the fees for her program were increased significantly. Their program has in the past contributed to the community centre and improved it with their own money and I think the community is a better place by including everyone and all efforts should be made to include people with special needs, affordably.
49.	Generally, if increased funding is needed I think that a mix of user fees and property tax increases should be used. Just because one does not use a particular service, it is usually to their benefit that the city provides this service. By increasing both property tax and user fees, instead of raising solely the user fees it keeps programs more accessible and acknowledges the benefit that residents get from having more residents employed, housed, in recreation, etc.

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
50.	<p>Cut managerial staff. Cut staff who only go to meetings. Meetings don't accomplish anything. Meetings breed more meetings. Based on what I've seen of large organizations (government and private), it's the bureaucracy that will never make the so-called "hard decisions" about their own jobs. And since it's the bureaucracy that makes these decisions they protect their jobs and salaries, thinking they are too important. Well, they're not. The people who are important are the guys picking up your garbage, the men and women driving the buses and streetcars, the cop on the beat, the librarian who's introducing your kid to the world of literature or the swim teacher teaching your kid to swim. There the ones whose jobs should be protected. Unfortunately, once people are in a position of power, whether a middle-management bureaucrat or a fat-cat elected politician, they forget where they have come from.</p>
51.	<p>I often feel that my taxes are fair but my services are under-delivered. Mainly, this stems from the attitude of staff/providers and not from the actual level of service. A better attitude would go a long way to making it easier to stomach either a tax-increase or service cut-backs. / / Additionally, both personal experience and anecdotal evidence tell me that there is potential to find operating/procedural efficiencies which would, in turn lead to staffing efficiencies. I don't mind taxes, I mind waste and arrogance. / / I don't think it would be unreasonable to charge modest user fees for a day at the beach, use of rinks at open skate times, etc. A fee of \$2 per person or \$5 per family seems fair and largely affordable. It would encourage citizens to not take these things for granted and would also generate some revenue for the city. Perhaps this could be done on the honour system with spot checks for enforcement, much the same way conservation areas operate. / / Pronounced user fees/increases could be applied to services which are not required by or of interest too the majority of citizens, or which are required by private corporations. I'm thinking of permit applications, zoning variance requests, off-duty policing/security, use of rinks/sport facilities for organized sporting events and leagues as opposed to open/free/drop-in events... / / Can by-law officers be put to better use? Can parking enforcement? They are already eyes-on-the-street with a knowledge of the city. Maybe they could keep an eye out for and report pot-holes, burnt-out street/security lighting, damaged bus shelters, trash receptacles, etc. so that a more pro-active approach to maintenance could be taken? Perhaps they already do this but if not, there is huge potential for these officers to become stewards of the city. / / Further, I think Mayor Ford or a member of his staff or council suggested that council budgets could be trimmed by having councillors work out of recreation centres and/or other city owned buildings instead of paying rent in privately held buildings. This is highly attainable, requires almost no planning to implement and is an excellent, sensible idea. Go for it! / / Thank you for an excellent survey and the opportunity to contribute to the city I love, despite some frustrating experiences.</p>

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
52.	Reduce unnecessary spending by optimizing processes, by reducing administration and by renegotiating union contracts. If necessary, break union contracts and hire private companies to provide certain services - in this case, clear target/goals should be set, with financial penalties attached. / Create limited access traffic zones, where drivers have to pay for permits to drive in, just like other major cities in Europe. Limit deliveries to businesses/stores for night time - allow daytime delivery only with permit, again to be purchased. Tow cars, trucks illegally parking/stopping right away - will create higher revenue and ease congestion on roads. Eliminate right turn at any major intersection where there is no separate turning lane (indirect benefit). / Do a serious audit of all social services and assistance currently provided to individuals and withdraw from those who are not entitled to these. / Provide better management and maintenance for all public arenas and sporting venues (swimming pools) to allow for an increased user fee to be charged - requires investment.
53.	Live in Etobicoke and the garbage service that has been contracted out has been exemplary. Good move to contract out garbage for the rest of the city. Use swimming pools and pleased with this, but feel that staff sits around a lot. Also the facility is not super clean which it should be when dealing with health issues from shared water etc. Never stop funding the arts..they are the quality of life factor for the city and give it its unique profile.
54.	I agree with contracting out certain services BUT only under the eye of a City watchdog to ensure that services are being provided properly and safely. I am considering things such as water, power, garbage/recycling/composting, roads, childcare... Do not sacrifice services to the marginalized to save money. Recreation / cultural programs are essential to our city as are city planning programs to build an environmentally responsible city that appeals to city dwellers and tourists.
55.	We pay taxes and expect a certain level of service. Generally when the city runs the service the city can ensure a particular standard is met. When you give away City assets to community groups or businesses to run a city service you are often left with the City "picking up the pieces" when things go wrong. I strongly feel that service is better and in the end cheaper when the city provides it. (e.g. Hwy 407). I do recognize that not all of the services the City presently runs need to be directly offered by the City. These services include garbage, daycares, tree pruning, snow removal and grants for community groups. City services should include, water quality, transportation, ttc, police, fire and ems, and city run recreation programs, permits and services
56.	I think people should pay for services they use rather than ones they don't use. For example, I don't think I should have to put money towards rinks or recreation centres for kids since I don't have any kids that use them. I do however use the library, so I should pay for that service. It's common sense. It's not my responsibility to pay for your kids' sports teams.

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
57.	Increase user fees for those who can afford them. Find a way to "tier" the cost of a metropass, make it relative to how much money people make. Make water more expensive ONLY when people are using A LOT (when their house has 3 bathrooms, or they pressure wash their huge patios, or they have a swimming pool). / / Find creative ways to make user fees higher and lower for members of different income brackets. Myself and many Torontonians I know only make enough money to cover our basics (health care, food, the bare necessities for clothes and personal hygiene, rent, transportation, and hydro, with about 200 dollars left over per month for entertainment and savings), and we work full time!!!!. If everyone lived a little more modestly, so many of us could get out of survival mode. thank you.
58.	charge a user fee for stop lights in between intersections when it provides service to a mall or business. / a property tax on second parking spots at condos / a surcharge on vehicles towed from commuter routes at rush hour. / parking permits for the whole city / a surcharge on swimming pool construction and an annual fee / explore shipping waste to green lane and organics by rail / explore the possibility of burying hydro corridors and the developing the area above ground for residential or industrial uses. / install water meters on all buildings and new condos have individual unit meters / pressure the province to reinstate deposit return on all beverage bottles glass or other materials. Introduce a deposit on motor oil, but returned to customers upon return of used oil. / replace police on traffic duty with parking and traffic control officers further replace police with city works staff controlling traffic at accidents or fire and special events(parades or runs and other such events. / remove old factories converted to places of worship from tax exemption. / reintroduce promoting city staff to management from within. / return downloaded services back to the province. /
59.	1)stop paying police officer directing traffic at a construction site. / 2)Toronto fun parks and recreation should allow all residents to register on Saturday morning before 6:00 a.m. not on a weekday at 7:00. People have to leave their homes before 7:00a.m. / 3)should have significantly more separate bike lanes for clean air in this city. / 4)commercial buildings should turn off the lights at night. / 5)day care fee should be much lower and more day care centre. / 6) No summit or G8 summit hosted in Toronto. create a lot of day care problem for parents / 7)library drop off box should be on the curb next to the roadside and allow some parking spot to drop off the returned materials quickly. / 8) No support for mentally ill and new mother (trap at home with crying babies with huge amount of chores and responsibilities)services such as more drop off and pick-up boxes for library materials in more different locations. longer maternity leave until children age full-day school age. / / 8) more staggering work hours for working mother, so they can drop off and pick up kids before and after school. / / 9) more family days. / / 6) /
60.	Please have "optional services" provided by the city covered by user fees. This includes pools, recreation centres and fitness classes.
61.	When funding groups i.e. theatres heritage programs - recreation - aoccs make it always watching funding - avoid subsidies.

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
62.	I would particularly insist the City to continue services offered by Applegrove Community Centre and the Fairmount C.C. and also the East End Health Centre without which my family would be miserable.
63.	Renting out its Community Centre for events (corporate or even private parties)
64.	Road tolls may be an option. Having variable public transit fees (time of use, distance of travel) could be considered. Car licensing surcharges were actually a good idea to help cover the cost of roads, and could be reinstated. Other modest user fees could be considered (e.g., a \$5/year library card fee, 50 cents/person to use a public pool or skating rink during the public times, etc.) I think the city should also look more closely at its processes and the efficiency with which it provides services - could these be streamlined? Does every step need to be followed? Are there less useful activities or requirements? What are the primary goals of a process and are these being achieved? Is there appropriate balancing of risk versus cost to avoid risk being realized (for example, does the city have extremely cumbersome procurement processes that cost more brown dollars in their execution than potentially are saved in ensuring that procurement is "totally fair" or that the "best price" is received)? I also think that the age of entitlement is over, and that very sweet wages, benefits, pension plans, and job security provisions amongst the city employees (far beyond anything people in the private sector could ever hope to have) need to be re-examined and revectorred to what is more appropriate and fair to all citizens.
65.	The Vehicle Registration fee should be re-instated. Toronto parking should be priced higher for larger vehicles. Other fees like ones that are progressive (sliding scale depending on income) or not tied to services for the most vulnerable citizens should be instated. NOT for Recreation Centres ... especially in Priority neighbourhoods, or Shelters, or affordable housing ... but higher TTC fees or Water Use Fees/taxes are a possibility.
66.	The people pay taxes to pool our resources so that we all have equal access to city services. Privatization of any of our facilities or services should not be an option. Ford's promise to "stop the gravy train" should include cutting back high salaries and rooting out inappropriate spending and other misuses of taxpayers collective money. THE CITY IS NOT A BUSINESS! We elect officials to represent our best interests and ensure the quality of life of Torontonians rises. Historical sites like Casa Loma belong to everyone and cannot be taken away no matter the cost. The Toronto Zoo is a staple of Toronto culture. It is a crucial service for educating our children and youth. Water, the TTC, and Garbage pick up are services that we need and should be kept under public control so we can monitor the services closely and enforce safety regulations.

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
67.	<p>Reduce unnecessary programmes. For example, stop trying to control tree removal from private property. Stop providing free trees (if this programme is still in effect). / / Charge fees for summer programmes that reflect those in the private sector - keep it cheap for low-income families only. / / Consider the cost of flowers in parks - fewer annuals and more perennials would make sense. / / Consider more group TTC fares. The TTC is so expensive that it is usually cheaper for two couples to drive and park rather than take the TTC for an evening out. / / I'm an avid library user but would accept a minor reduction in hours to reduce employment costs over time. Opening an hour later wouldn't reduce public access significantly. / / TDSB and Parks and Recreation courses are well-attended but lack choice and expertise in many areas. Could higher level, specialty adult programming be a revenue opportunity for the City? I would pay more for an excellent seminar series on certain topics. There are underutilized facilities in our schools (music rooms, woodworking shops, etc.). / / I do some contract work for Toronto Public Health and discovered that the computers must be left on 24 hours a day in order to accommodate IT updates. Is there another way to meet this need that would end this energy-wasting practice? / / Toronto Public Health sexual health clinics deliver services that, if provided in a private office, could be billed to OHIP, the federal refugee programme, or to 3rd party insurers (foreign students with university private plans). I believe there is a benefit in having the City provide these services (improved access to certain groups) but the source of funding should be reviewed. There is an arrangement to get provincial funds for STD services but not for any contraception services. Why does OHIP pay when I give a student contraceptive advice in her university medical centre but, if she goes to a City clinic, Toronto foots the bill. Likewise, private insurers and the Federal Government would pay if our services were provided in a walk-in clinic. / / I hope the new subway cars are being bought only to replace cars that are not worth maintaining any longer. If the whole "fleet" is being replaced, this has been an unforgivable waste of money. We need money to be spent on keeping the system running. I can't count the number of times I've been late for work (and lost income as a result) because of "signal problems". / / STOP PAYING POLICE FOR JOBS THAT DON'T REQUIRE THEIR EXPERTISE!!! Others can and should perform those functions.</p>
68.	<p>Commercial taxes and development fees/taxes. / / User fees applicable only if accommodations are made for those who cannot afford it, especially where recreation programs and social services are concerned.</p>

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
69.	City should fund or have user fees for residents who are part of our city especially in our community centre. I personally know of people out live outside of the GTA and have registered for programs (kids and adults) using their parents toronto address. How about asking for identification and holding person to person registration at community centres. Youths should have their own programs after school or on weekends, rather than being drop ins for programs run at community centres. I am one of about a dozen on a waiting list for a zumba class at ancaster community centre. The gym will hold at least 30 to 40 participants, however, only 15 have paid the fees while the other 15 spots are being held for youth drop ins. When I contacted the staff I was told that the spots are held for youths between the ages of 15 to 24. In my opinion once you are 19 years of age you are no longer a youth.
70.	The city should look look to ELIMINATE non core programs such as: animal licensing, Toronto Ravine Conservation Authority, city run golf courses (sell to developers- this is prime real estate near transit lines, using for golf is a waste of land and unrealized cash to pay down debt). Neighbourhoods should be empowered to run services (BIA's should have the power to lower speed limits for example). This city has too much centralized control and needs to devolve to local communities who could run services on a volunteer basis at much lower cost.
71.	Stop phony choices, bring back the balance of revenue sources which have been eliminated, recognize many city services are far more cost effective to provide collectively! When I was a child, I could skate - for free - in the schoolyard, swim - for free - in local pools, and borrow books - for free - in libraries. Why deprive current children of this? And, just because my children are grown, why should I pull up the bridge?
72.	POA Courts are administering the Provincial Offences Act (and Municipal By-laws) and should go back to the Province. The City should however contribute to the operating costs of these courts, i.e. accommodation costs. / The fees (all categories) paid by private sector developers and business should include a specific contribution to the City services provided in the category "beneficial to the City life", i.e. arts, heritage buildings, parks, recreation, libraries, TO Zoo, etc. This policy should also apply to the GTA users of the City's amenities, TTC services and City parking lots in form of some user fees and/or tolls. /
73.	Develop our transit system please. Maintain childcare programs and parks and recreation programs - they are essential for our communities.
74.	Aesethics of city must be improved; i.e.: - remove litter, empty street and parks litter bins more frequently, remove graffiti, provide fresh flags for city facilities, clean city facilities i.e.: recreation centres/civic centres/libraries



	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
75.	I would like to see the City employees be accountable for actually doing some work. In the recreation centres across the city, I see large numbers of staff members earning large money and spending days on the internet, standing around, and even closing centres early but clocking out as if they had stayed. No one in the upper levels seem to care. I see the city wasting huge amounts of money with Unions and defending employees and paying a large amount of money to employees who, in any other environment, would have been fired, Get with it, we don't need unions for office workers. It's just a waste of my money.
76.	The TTC is a necessary service and should not be contracted out. Drivers should have to pay more if they are not car-pooling. This would be easier to approach by giving people incentives to car-pool and take other transit options. Traffic and subway delays are a serious problem right now.
77.	Build a lot more rapid light rail and subways. Sell unused city land that are not for a park or community centre/arena/pool/etc. / We have NOT had a war on the car but it is time to start one!
78.	Please stop allowing the taxpayer to pay for employees who don't actually work. I walked into a recreation center the other day only to see 3 people not working. I know of one recreation worker who earns \$28./hr and doesn't actually show up for the 40 hours per week he is paid for. He loves to brag about how he'll never leave the city because he can not work and still get paid. I urge the city to stop spending money negotiating with the union to protect employees who deserve to be fired. The tax payers of toronto are sick and tired of footing the bill so others can collect a pay cheque that is not deserved. I pay my taxes and don't complain as long as I get services and not attitude. Mr. Ford, do what you were elected to do.
79.	I am very willing to pay more taxes for better quality and increased efficiency. I want to know that my taxes are well managed and well spent. I don't have any assurance that this is so. In many cases I find that the city offers poorer quality of service relative to that which is provided in the marketplace. I think most human services such as child care centres, old age homes, recreation, parks maintenance, shelters and homeless services are more cheaply delivered by the non profit voluntary sector with no loss of quality. The city does not need to always be a service provider, it just needs to ensure that services are available and it should not matter who provides them. The city can do this with setting and enforcing standards
80.	Parks and recreation programs have to be running @ a loss. So many programs are 'full' at registration but only half attend as the cost is such that attendance isn't felt to be necessary
81.	Access to affordable childcare is limited. / Navigating the subsidy application process and the endless waitlist is next to impossible and is a terrible reflection on what should be a world class city / The demand for recreation programs is high, spots should be increased in many neighbourhoods
82.	keep the golf courses

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
83.	The city should become more efficient and live within it's means. I do not agree with property tax increases. If I have a shortfall in income I cut back on my spending. The city should do the same. Not everything the city provides is a necessity, safety is the most important for example, police, fire and EMS, senior, childcare recreation etc. anything other than that such as theatre, 311 24/7, cultural heritage, the zoo are extras that we may not be able to afford with our aging population.
84.	Balancing the budget should not be at the cost of essential or important services. Arts, culture, recreation, and environmental programs and public libraries are very important and should not be cut. Money can and should be found by reducing inefficiencies in how the city provides services, increasing user fees and taxes for those who are able to pay, and ensuring that money is spent in a way that maximizes services for Torontonians.
85.	Truck Tax - trucks do most damage and use the roads for free. / Increase in Development Charges, Building Permits and Planning Applications for Large Buildings/Projects - The developers can afford the high priced lawyers to get what they want, they can afford the higher priced development fees and C of A application fees. / Increased Section 37 Grants - community benefits for programs, not only new parks. Pay for maintenance and funding going towards community programs near recreation centres. /
86.	Most City workers have a pleasant attitude towards the public. The biggest bang for your dollar are the libraries, community centers, parks and recreation. I know Mayor Ford that you will not agree with this comment but their budget should be increased. / Some of the TTC drivers, and kiosk operators have a really rotten attitude towards the public, and although they are rather rare, they should be gotten rid of. / The City should press the Federal Government for some portion of the fuel tax.
87.	Make City attractive for Companies to locate here. / Get Companies to sponsor funding for destitute/homeless/culture/sports/parks [it makes a better city for them to be in] & shows them to be a good Corporate Citizen. Sell Parks names, Museum Names, Community Centre names, Sports Areas Names, CNE Names, Seniors Homes Names[ Same as Rogers Centre, Sony Centre, etc] / / Would work also for lowering TTC cost / / In return make city planning less time consuming - USA cities seem to grow well with much less red tape. / USA cities which are allowing non-unionized companies are thriving /
88.	To the greatest extent possible try to allocate increased taxes to areas that will benefit from higher property values as a result of city expenditure / / Also since interest rates are so low, float municipal bonds to tap into private funds. What better place to invest in than Toronto
89.	It is not a simple formula to increase tax or fee vs. keep or reduce service. Some services like garbage, EMS, fire are essential and may need an increase to sustain level, while child care, parks, libraries may manage a small reduction in service instead of an increase. At some point tax increase or fee would have to be introduced as a large reduction in service would appreciably destroy what we have come to love and value. /

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
	Services not seen by the public like finance, HR, cleaning are expected but not as valued by the public so they would rather they had less money than Parks, recreation, transit used by most residents and visitors
90.	I think it is important that the city work with other municipalities to have the various levels of government (Provincial and Federal) provide greater funding for key services that are delivered at the city level. A national transit plan, for instance, would help bring revenue to fund current operational costs as well as future capital projects. There has been talk about Toronto trying to get its "fair share" of the GST. Perhaps this can be looked into. / Another idea might be to create some sort of "Build Toronto" fund, like a charity perhaps, where people and businesses who are interested in city development could funnel money into. This could create a pool of resources to pay for projects and services that would help make Toronto great. In fact, wasn't the Sydney Opera House paid for by a specialized lottery?
91.	The City should be working to have the Province assume some of the operating and expansion costs of agencies such as the TTC and Parks/Recreation. This is only fair, as Toronto generates economic value for Ontario as a whole, but is woefully neglected by higher levels of government.
92.	Keep property tax increase pegged to COLA. Otherwise increase user fees. Or cut services if needed. / Sell Passe Muraille. There is no reason for the city to own a theatre. I was amazed how cheap swimming lessons were at my local community centre. The could go up--even if you want to do a means test.
93.	Higher development fees, congestion charges for driving downtown, toll roads, higher user fees for recreation programs with the caveat that those less financially able can apply for lower fees - plus sponsorship opportunities for well to do individuals to sponsor other users of facilities. Finally, increase parking charges downtown significantly.
94.	Less waste in every department / contract out all types of services like garbage-the garbage collection service in Etobicoke is great / contract out lawn and garden maintenance-currently many parks, parkettes and boulevards that the city maintains look terrible, and soccer fields are too long-work with TDSB to better manage who cuts shared parks etc
95.	Answering this questionnaire was a learning experience for me. I was astonished at the number / variety of services City Hall is supposedly providing at the present time. Is this why City Services have deteriorated so much over the last 7 or 8 years? Is City Hall trying to be all things to all people? The sad thing is that city services desperately needed by the people at large (like road maintenance, public transit, garbage collection) have become a joke, while City Hall bends over backward to invent new services it can provide to a select few (subsidized theatre, bicycle lanes and green roofs come to mind). / / I think it would be productive to think of city services not only in terms of what needs to be done by the city and what does not, but in terms of what services are not needed at all. Some services can and should be privatized and others need to be eliminated altogether. / / For example, in my view the city should provide

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
	<p>water / garbage / paramedics (EMS) / police / public transportation / road maintenance. The city can contract out these services in some cases. I am strongly for contracting out garbage collection, and some security services currently provided by the police for instance. I think that allowing jitneys would be great as the TTC is a disgrace and competition would be a nice wake up call for TTC management/unionists. Just to be clear, by saying that a given service is needed and should be provided by the city, I do not mean that no cutting should be done. Actually, I see wastefulness everywhere I turn in this city. Why are road crews of 6-9 men seen everywhere when 3 would do the job nicely? Some repairs done two years ago by the city on my street were eye-opening. Nine workers were sent out by the city. At any given time, only one or two were working. Disgusting. And Miller wondered why we were so angry at his tax increases! / / Other services don't need to be done by the city at all and/or need to be pared down drastically. The TCHC has become a giant entity, totally out of control. It needs to be contracted out, and then reduced. Impoverished families and individuals should be able to rent apartments where they wish and private landlords can be paid by the city. We also have an overlong waiting lists of subsidized housing so lets put some rules in place as to how long any one tenant/family can remain in subsidized housing. Five years is long enough for people to better their circumstances. Then they get bounced out to make room for others. / / Draconian cuts are also needed at City Hall. There are far too many civil servants, doing precious little. The 311 service is a nice convenience but not a necessity and I shudder to think of how much glorified phone clerks get paid. / / A couple more words: / Toronto Public Health needs to be uploaded to the province. The city can save a few dollars that way. / A layoff of at least 10% of our police force is in order. We are an aging society and violent crime is on the decline. Also, construction sites/road crews should hire private security staff, not police officers. Or put up pylons. / Environment is not a municipal issue properly speaking. It falls under the domain of the Federal government and should be treated as such. / Toronto's subsidies to the arts community have become a vile way for the establishment/civil servants to funnel taxpayer dollars to friends and relatives who pretend to be artists. Those rewarded with "grants" are nearly always frauds, not genuine working artists. I would like to see this practice discontinued. Real artists sink or swim on their own merit as we always have. / Citizens should not be subsidizing the living costs of Toronto Island residents. They should pay for their own ferries and their own police services. / It has become apparent that councillors need to be told what is and is not appropriate in the way of expenditures. I'm not pleased that 12 Toronto City Councillors are going to Halifax for the Federation of Municipalities conference. Frivolous expenditures should be disallowed. (They can still go, but on their own dime.) / Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to participate in this process.</p>
96.	<p>user fees for everything pay as you play is a good motto, nothing should be free and that means for everyone, e.g. swimming in public pools, ice skating, using recreation fields for soccer, cricket, baseball, as well as bike licences and road tests for cyclists just like auto's and have the police enforce all road laws for cyclists.</p>

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
97.	tax cars that have only one driver, cars ought to car pool all the time. all city employees must live in toronto to contribute to the taxes. Stop paying so much to the unions.
98.	I know the city, cannot do this because of Ontario laws, but I think we need to look at changing some of these laws, and those who get social assistance, need to participate on a volunteer basis , for example, helping with all these community events they want, in other words, being part of the community. If you do not have money you can certainly volunteer your time. I also think we should look at using people who are incarcerated, to help clean parks, and other activities. I think the city really needs to investigate some of these not for profit agencies that they fund . I see a tremendous amount of wasteful spending. I also think there is nothing wrong with charging nominal fees for pools, and recreation centres.
99.	The city should use most of the money it receives from the Ontario Lottery, and from monies seized from criminals, and drug dealers, and also use the unclaimed money from the different banks in Toronto. This money could pay for the maintenance and / staff supervision at the parks and at all recreation centres. The city should not have to fund services for those who can afford them.
100.	User fees for services that only poor people use - like pools, recreation centres, libraries - are inherently unfair
101.	Stop cutting fees and taxes in order to starve the City of revenue. Cutting the vehicle registration tax was stupid. Cutting the property transfer tax would be insane. Nickel and dime fees are a nuisance and a barrier to doing things that make our city healthier (like swimming). Reasonable property tax increases are a better solution. We lag all of surrounding municipalities in our property taxes -- Torontonians get a good deal and we should stop pretending we pay too much tax. Better services make for a better, more liveable and more economically competitive city. Slashing and burning will leave us with more crime, poorer health, and more derelict neighbourhoods - not a recipe for success.
102.	Road tolls....put your money where your mouth is...while this might not be the most politically safe thing for the mayor to do it makes sense....raise money to pay for transit, decrease congestion, cut down on pollution...put that money into transit, more green initiatives, building inner city services and recreation areas.
103.	Why are we funding in and building so many fenced in dog parks? They are costing the city millions (in building and maintenance)and are almost a cause of controversy in communities. The dogs of leash program would be an easy program to cut from Parks and Recreation and would have a minimum effect on the city at large.
104.	Maintaining and increasing youth programs in our Parks and Recreation Centres will do more for peace in our city than increasing police pay or the number of police. Without these services more youth, particularly in the economically challenged social strata, will turn to gangs.

	<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>
105.	I hope that our city will keep in mind that we must all invest our personal and communal resources, time and energy in maintaining public education, housing, health and recreation programs. We must fund services and housing for the less fortunate. We must invest in our public transportation services, including bicycle infrastructure, and increase road use taxes for motorized vehicles. We must fund services that encourage our citizens to make environmentally and socially responsible choices. We must support local, independent business and arts initiatives.
106.	The city should not put user fees in place until it educates taxpayers about how their property taxes go to pay for the recreation and/or community services they currently use.
107.	Reduce bureaucracy and increase efficiency! Community collaboration/ innovation. Pool resources. Think outside the box!
108.	An increase of 10% in property tax would only be a \$12 per month increase in cost to the average property. For a few cups of coffee each month we should be taking this path instead of trying to freeze taxes. For those who truly need assistance there is already help in place. Programs such as swimming lessons are essential for the health and safety of the residents of Toronto. We should pay for them.
109.	The survey offered very little creative solutions to problems; raising user fees or taxes, contracting out services. The City needs to look at more creative ways to provide services. For example, what benefits would be achieved to public health if you merged it with recreation, arts and culture? Could we make better use of the facilities? achieve city goals? Establish local planning boards for example and eliminate the costs of going to the OMB. The city creates Official Plans and guidelines, lots of monies are spent on these studies. Adhere to them and eliminate costly meetings, only for only truly exceptions. Work together with community members to find sustainable ways to provide services that are needed locally. Again, create local service boards.
110.	Toronto -- and other Canadian cities -- MUST get a better deal from the Federal and Provincial orders of government. The case has got to be made concretely that cities are the engines of Canada's growth, and must be maintained and in good working order. Greater outreach to the private sector to help fund programs that benefit them, or make them look good, should be expanded. Fees for services such as garbage, water, hydro, tree removable, and so on should largely cover costs. Fees for public services such as libraries and recreation facilities and programs should be minimal or eliminated entirely.
111.	Fed government should develop integrated national policies and share funding for : healthy living that includes sports and recreation; affordable housing; child care; senior care; public transit; participation in accessible arts programme; / Prov. Government to share in costs in those areas and develop integrated policy to provide funding for all mandated programmes. At present the Province only provides about 20% grants and subsidies to the Toronto city budget but mandates Close to 32% of the programmes. / / Users fees are way too high and admin costs could be reduced if all services at the City community recreation centre were made available free of charge.

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
112.	Significantly increase parking costs in downtown Toronto. Toll on cars coming into the GTA during the week during business hours. City tax on vehicles with above-average emissions. City tax on more than one vehicle per household address. Pay for garbage pickup. Cleanup tax for developers, manufacturers, or other industries that pollute or create waste that the city is expected to collect and destroy/recycle/send to landfill. Eliminate plastic store bags altogether and supply all those little stores with cheap "save our City" cloth bags with the proceeds going to environmental programs, childcare, and parks and rec. Get creative. Tax the people who waste -- those who waste water, oil, landfill space, our clean air, our skyline--and tax those who can afford to and are willing to pay more--advertisers using up the sky space at Yonge and Dundas, for example.
113.	I would gladly pay higher taxes to have higher levels of service and lower or equal user fees for people who are less able to pay. As a child, I learned to swim, read voraciously and did gymnastics because there were free swimming lessons and free libraries and gyms in walking distance to my house. I also got to love the amazing city fireworks shows at Ashbridges' bay, a highlight of each summer. I came from a middle-class family, but money was tight all through the 90s. There are a lot of kids now for whom money is tight all the time. They should have the same opportunities I did.
114.	Reduce sidewalk cleaning in suburban neighbourhoods. GTA wide car carbon tax. increase fines on companies emitting pollution (air, water, etc). Corporate sponsorship of programs, community centre programs, etc. Reduce water demands by enforcing mandatory water conservation strategies.
115.	User fees should only be applied to those with an income over a certain amount. Services should be increased in low income areas particularly for youth. In areas with high incomes individuals should be paying for recreation centres/libraries... Water, garbage... should be based on individual usage to encourage environmental behav...
116.	User based services, fee for the pool usage for example. / / Private companies can usually do it better than city.. So contract it out because Business will squeeze out every cent and manage every cent... Life time jobs are not how this economy is working. / / Manage services to reduce overtime... I saw maintenance persons working on a Sunday... was that over time? Was it required that day or could it have been scheduled for a regular work day.
117.	Many of the services you ask about are really areas that make no sense being funded out of a fixed pool like property tax and should be funded by the province or Federal governments out of income tax. Examples include fire, social assistance, transit. The property tax system is fundamentally flawed for funding nearly anything except the relatively fixed costs that relate to property (water, roads, community centres, parks, etc.) We need to get on the higher levels of governments to take proper responsibility for the mess that was caused in the late 90s when all kinds of services with open-ended costs were dumped on municipalities without funding to support them.
118.	Creating partnerships with private industry, colleges and universities. Encouraging volunteerism for local community center activities such as programming.

<b>Recreation – Financial Advice</b>	
119.	Don't cut public health, libraries, public housing and recreation/community/parks. These reduce costs in the long run. Contracting out will do little to save the city money.

**Is there anything else you would like City Council to consider when making decisions about services in the future?**

[Return to Top](#)

<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>	
1.	I have no problem paying more to live in this city. This city has great opportunities to enjoy arts, sports, recreation and culture, and those things cost money. I understand and appreciate that, and am fully prepared to pay for it.
2.	a liveable city is one in which all residents feel welcome Toronto will not be able to achieve being this if we continue to cut services / 311 is a great idea but I would be happier if they could deal with the issue immediately instead of referring me to call another number i.e. billboards being lit up past 11pm / keep increasing cycle lanes and further connect the system presently in place / libraries, parks, swimming pools, art galleries, farmers markets, street festivals, music events etc....these are the things that bring people together and create a City I believe that we should be supporting these types of events/places not cutting funding for them as they are vital to the growth and development of a liveable city
3.	Fund the needs not the wants. We need water, roads, and sewers... We do not need the same old programmes that have failed. Or the frills which yes I consider the recreation programmes while wonderful frills.
4.	1. Do not add any services. / 2. Eliminate most services that the City has no business doing today. I mean, owning ski hills, zoos, and water parks? Why not a racetrack? Or a brothel? The City has no business owning businesses - it only exists to ensure justice, order, and infrastructure, in that order of precedence. / 3. Implement user fees for services to the extent that is practical; only the rest should be tax.
5.	Please keep in mind that the small, seemingly insignificant programs and services make this City fabulous - its the free festivals and arts events; its our wonderful necklace of parks and waterfront; its our bike paths and markets and recreational spaces and classes. Let's not nickel and dime everyone to death with user fees!!! A \$6.00 increase in this year's property tax would have kept every service we had in 2010 - now we are losing libraries, transit routes, whole transit lines, charging the vulnerable to hang out at rec. centre .... think about the City you grew up in, live in and want your children and grandchildren to live in. A concrete box with bare grey walls or a vibrant, colourful and kind place with respect for all citizens.



	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
6.	Do not privatize city run recreation and community centers. Understand the service the public will lose when you contract out recreation programming. Go to your centers, speak with staff and understand what it us you are doing to the public before it's too late.
7.	Do not limit access to recreation services to lower income people.
8.	I am tired of newcomers that come to this country and are offered free access to the recreation programs and don't have to pay especially when my grandchildren or other children can't afford the programmes through parks and recreation. Enough / is enough I feel everyone needs to pay and if you can't afford it you don't do it. I also feel daycare is the same I had children / and stayed home with them and again if you can't afford to look after your children and expect the state to look after them don't have them. I do believe that sometimes people fall on hard times and the community should help them to get back on there feet an I know some people just are unable to survive on there own we do need to help them but in a way the we make them / feel better about themselves. I also know that a lot of services such as TTC should be amalgamated with the GTA and working together so it could run a lot smoother. Public health is one service which is overlapped with provincial there the / ones that are insisting on vaccines such as flu shots and other services and they should pay for that. We have had so much / downloading that the province needs to take it back or offer up more money.
9.	I would like to see a breakdown by neighbourhood about which neighbourhoods would be most affected by a user fee. For example, which neighbourhoods have the lowest income, which neighbourhoods have the highest use of community recreation centres?
10.	Think about the impact of creating a service vacuum. What will become of our city if local government could no longer provide services to those who have become dependant on them? I would be enraged if the city closed a park, pool or library. There are other solutions.
11.	reduce management and staffing levels to a level which makes sense / Concentrate on core services / beef up community centre recreation programs
12.	1) Determine if the City should really be providing the service at all. For example, police offices standing around doing nothing at construction sites, city run theatres, golf courses, etc. / 2) Look into more effective ways to deliver service - Toronto Hydro becomes Toronto Water & Hydro for example, smart water meters that report usage back automatically so no one needs to come and do meter readings. Use technology, kiosks, etc., to make delivery of services cheaper. / 3) Address the parking elephant that seems to exist - all traffic in the city (buses, cars, bikes) would move a lot better if on street parking was reduced, if parking laws were enforced and if cars that were in violation were towed rather that just getting a ticket yet remaining where they are, impeding the flow of traffic. Create parking zones for street parking where pricing is the same within the zone. / 4) Adopt a system similar to Montreal's snow clearing that forces parked cars off the streets during snow clearing or they're towed.
13.	keep the essentials city-run: ttc, water, garbage, arts and culture, recreation

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
14.	Council should look outwards to see examples of great practice in other cities, such as Munich for public transit and excellent public recreation facilities to see what Toronto can take from other great cities. In order for Toronto to remain a great city, funding from programs such as public parks, libraries, community services and public transit can not be cut- they should be maintained, and ideally, increased to improve access for all!
15.	Do less services but do those things magnificently. Recreation centers, pools & rinks should all have fees.
16.	The city needs to continue to provide excellent public transit, recreation spaces, and recycling. / All of these impact on our physical and mental health. They provide savings to society as a whole through better health, better access to work. And the city should not use the poor, ill and disadvantaged as scapegoats in trying to balance the books.
17.	arts, culture, recreation and public transit are very important aspects of running a well-rounded city. it may be worth it to increase fees for "luxurious" services in the future such as driving and overly-priced privatized classes.
18.	Our city is still not a very livable place when compared to other places. We should continue to invest in connecting up the many walking trails that are interrupted by roads, golf courses, bridges, etc. such as the East Don trail.
19.	TTC works well but it is becoming really expensive. I came to Toronto 7 years ago and the TTC Pass was around 90 dollars. It's more than 35 dollars increase in just few years : close to 40% for the same service. / I loved the idea that we could enjoy to go swimming for free and to know that families with low income could use those services. Now we have to pay 2\$ per person. Not everybody will be able to go swimming as much as they want anymore, that's sad. / I will love more French books in public libraries, what's exist is not enough. / Public health is suffering. It's really hard to find a family doctor. The service in hospital can be terrible. The approach to patient should be more humanist. You have to wait for hours and they treat you like a number in 5 minutes! I am really disappointed and it means that you are better to be in good health or you are in trouble. / Education is not on the survey and it's essential, why it's missing? /
20.	What makes a city great is not its promenades or express ways – it's our cities communities, arts, culture, entertainment, sports, recreation, leisure, parks, and yes Libraries. All important – all worth saving – all a cornerstone to a healthy and vibrant city for all residents of Toronto. / A proud resident of Toronto for over 30+ and hoping for another 30+ years of good government, good decision making and prosperity for everyone. /

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
21.	I like that the City is in great control of some of the public services, i.e. Police, Fire, EMS, Libraries, Parks and Recreation, TTC. I find it hard to make a decision based on the information given in regards to contracting everything out. I feel the above are being run in a great way and I would have no issue's paying a little more in user fee's/property taxes in order to keep them at the same level of service, and also run by the City. I would like to believe that an Officer, Medic, Fireman, Librarian, TTC driver would feel a lot of pride being a city employee and servicing their peers. I know people that work for the city, and they hold themselves accountable for the work that they do, knowing that it is important to represent the taxpayers with the best service they can possibly provide. I also feel that if we contract the city out, we lose control of many factors, including holding individual companies responsible for lack or quality of services.
22.	Less regulation over everything would need less oversight and bureaucratic tangles and open opportunities for staff to have more productive jobs. More incentives for the kind of behaviours that are good for the city i.e.) less fees for producing less garbage; lower property tax for those who do business improvements/hires; Increase participation levels in all community activities/recreation so it lowers the pro-rated cost and we all enjoy a better quality of life. Seriously.
23.	Think long term and what is best for the city rather than making decisions because of political ideology / A truly great society is determined by how it treats its most vulnerable / When there is extreme distance between the privileged of this city and those in need, that is when we run into trouble / Funding Programs for Youth ( i.e. Parks & Recreation ) is more important than Policing them / Improving health inequities helps make a safer city / There is a significant problem with racism and oppression in this city that desperately needs to be addressed / You desperately need to address the TTC issues in the extreme northeast & northwest....subways just don't make sense to those areas...you need to look at the TTC service to York University / Garbage pick-up by city workers is definitely cheaper than contracting out...you treat them with such disdain...it is a really hard, physically challenging job where workers are prone to injury...they need our support not our condemnation / It takes an entire city to work co-operatively together ( that includes all voices and especially those of people in need ) to make this city great / Stacking consultations doesn't lend itself to us hearing everybody's voice...the most disenfranchised of this city ( and those who access and need the services the most ) are the ones whose voices won't be heard...that is unconscionable /
24.	Make more bike lanes. Provide a safe injection site for IV drug users. Increase social assistance and recreation programs. Keep streetcars. Improve education of bicycle and car drivers.
25.	Please do not take away the welcome program for those financially vulnerable people who use parks and rec. programs. /

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
26.	BE HONEST and for a CHANGE DO NOT GIVE JOBS AND CONTRACTS TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS.. / Please make every one work all day! In the summer why are most of management playing golf Friday afternoons????
27.	taking care of the vulnerable in our city decreases the need for police services and decreases the need for additional services in the future. recreation centres, child care services can prevent future homelessness
28.	Only do things that are truly necessary - like infrastructure and leave culture and heritage and arts and recreation out of the equation.
29.	Municipal services are integral to a healthy city. People rely on them. They make our city a better place to live. They represent jobs. They ensure equality. We have a civic responsibility: everyone should have access to transit, good housing, recreation, daycare, etc. The City provides those things, and if we cut funding or 'contract out' we lose the accountability and transparency (not to mention quality) maintained by those being in the public sector. /
30.	Consider Chicago - what makes it great? Waterfront, parks, green spaces, planting, preservation of historic buildings, recreation
31.	Consider ALL residents, including those in the downtown choosing to live without cars, and those that want their children to live near full services parks and swimming pools.
32.	We need more investment in recreation and sports. We also need public service to run these programs and facilities
33.	Better transit, green energy, parks and recreation infrastructure esp. for marginalised neighbourhoods, better education (child centred not grades centred).
34.	Try to mitigate the user fee increase for low income families. Lower income families should have access to services, especially recreation and community space.
35.	Invest in maintaining city infrastructure and environs (lawns, parks, schoolyards). Put responsibility for services where they belong -- e.g. pools should be funded by parks/recreation, NOT board of Ed, even if they happen to be located in a school. Likewise, school yards adjoining parks should be maintained by parks/recreation, NOT board of Ed. DO NOT be afraid to raise taxes to fund necessary services. But CUT frivolous services!
36.	Outsource if it saves money. Get rid of jobs for life, unions, collective bargaining, ban all strikes. Run govt businesses like a regular business, efficiently and to cover all costs i.e. the TTC. Have user fees cover the cost of these types of services. Review funding to special interest groups. Expand sport, arts, parks, recreation and the public face of the city. Underground public transit. No bike lanes. No street cars. Work w the ON govt to buy back the 407 and make it free to reduce gridlock.

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
37.	Some cuts cost money in the long run. Cutting access to community recreation, for example, drives up public health, policing, EMS and social assistance costs. Cutting public health programs to deal with pests and infectious diseases make the city worse and are more expensive to deal with in the long run. Prevention saves money, even in the short term. In addition, when people have access to community recreation programs for their kids, safe and affordable housing, clean and efficient public transportation and affordable child care, they can move forward with finding and maintaining employment. Cutting services and creating a precarious situation for many will affect everyone.
38.	Please consider the needs of middle and low income earners that live in the city. As a low income earner with a child, I often rely on city services and programs. Having affordable recreation programs and housing is important to me.
39.	Yes - think big. Toronto as a leader among cities on the world stage. Don't cut but invest in our future. Improve public transit, libraries, parks, community centres, ballparks (need new bleachers and washrooms), keep day camps and swimming lessons affordable, invest in our youth and in literacy.
40.	Swimming pools and ice rinks do more to reduce youth violence than large police forces.
41.	What I said before... / Cut managerial staff. Cut staff who only go to meetings. Meetings don't accomplish anything. Meetings breed more meetings. Based on what I've seen of large organizations (government and private), it's the bureaucracy that will never make the so-called "hard decisions" about their own jobs. And since it's the bureaucracy that makes these decisions they protect their jobs and salaries, thinking they are too important. Well, they're not. The people who are important are the guys picking up your garbage, the men and women driving the buses and streetcars, the cop on the beat, the librarian who's introducing your kid to the world of literature or the swim teacher teaching your kid to swim. There the ones whose jobs should be protected. Unfortunately, once people are in a position of power, whether a middle-management bureaucrat or a fat-cat elected politician, they forget where they have come from. / And remember, based on what I've seen of this survey and the mayor's actions so far, he knows the cost of everything but the value of nothing. So when considering these cuts I'm sure no one will ever consider the over-all value of something, and just look at the pennies. Operating a city like this is not the same thing as preparing a budget for a 4-person family, and every time I hear a politician say that kind of stuff, I want to scream. Oh yes and don't make comparisons to how much something cost 20 years ago for the same services. The last time I looked my grocery bill has gone up 25 per cent in the last year for the same amount of food!!! You think the TTC is always gonna cost the same to operate year after year

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
42.	Yes, please consider that what lives in our city is PEOPLE. People have needs for shelter, food, recreation and recognition. Once we have a city of a few very wealthy folk and a huge majority of people stretched beyond their stress limits, we have the makings of a grim, violent and dangerous city. The rich will need to realize that we all live together, in one city, and they have an obligation, financial and social, to contribute what they CAN and not want they wish.
43.	The quality of life and jobs in this city is profoundly affected by the cuts you lead me to believe you are about to make. My safety and security is increased by libraries, recreational and other community programs, not by fattening police budgets. Cut the police budget before you cut out recreation for children and teens and you'll save on policing down the road. Cutting public services is short sighted..
44.	While levelling services to some point is fair, higher taxed areas should receive more attention and better services. E.g. downtown sport and recreational facilities are awful compared to the suburbs - ??????? / Some city-run facilities seem to compete with readily available private services (i.e. golf clubs) at a much lower cost - shouldn't the city price these at market and maximize revenues? / When quality of facilities differ, the collected fees should reflect it, so those who can afford, would be paying for the better quality services/facilities and those who can not afford, would still have access the services although at a lower quality.
45.	Parks & Recreation is so abominably run, something must be done. Such apathy towards their jobs and its the kids who usually suffer. Maybe that should be privatized if they'll do a better job.
46.	The environment is very important and should be given top priority, as well as libraries and recreation facilities.
47.	User fees discourage people, especially young people and low income families, from using services. It is important for people to make use of parks, libraries, swimming pools and other facilities without having to worry about the cost. Toronto's property taxes should be used to provide services to the general public. The City of Toronto should try to avoid contracting out whenever possible. Look to other great cities in the world and see what they are doing right.
48.	Equality of access and level of service for all citizens is important. Ensuring people from all walks of life mingle and use the same services. A high quality of life for all citizens no matter what their income (clean air and water; good housing; lovely neighbourhoods; access to parks; access to arts, recreation and cultural services; jobs and services within walking distances of homes.
49.	Consider the resident and provide cost effective services / Provide affordable homes that is in a community based environment / Provide free community centres and school gym for the youth to spend time in meaningful activity (baseball, volleyball, soccer, etc)
50.	don't cut the budget of recreation and community activities

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
51.	The city needs to do a review of neighbourhood demographics. I believe that the city's information is outdated. For instance, in my neighbourhood, Danforth Village (near Danforth & Coxwell) the TDSB and other city services are operating as if this is an aging neighbourhood. In fact the area is BURSTING with young families that are in desperate need of park upgrades, recreation facilities, support of local businesses that meet our needs, TTC services and daycare.
52.	Act as a group in a less confrontational way please. Look longer-term. Keep a sense of community and a healthy community: don't neglect recreation and culture. Then, always consider the needs of the vulnerable in our city; those are the ones who tend to be left out of or underrepresented in this process as they happen to have less influence (i.e., power and money).
53.	A serious need to re-evaluate the bureaucracy that plagues the systems, such as which contracts and companies must be used to improve city services such as in schools and with parks and recreation. So many grassroots level opportunities are impossible to obtain due to the rules and regulations around food and handling money, permits etc.
54.	Services are long-term investments in the overall health of a city. Line by line auditing something for an annual budget does not account for how valuable it is to have a kid stay out of jail because there is a recreation centre to go to, or how valuable it is for people to have food and stable housing so they can work a job and contribute with taxes. Additionally, privatizing services is NOT cost saving. Someone is making a PROFIT from running the service (which the city does not) ... and the workers get paid less money in wages and therefore contribute less in their overall taxes. Lower paid workers also need to rely more heavily on the social safety net (instead of funding it with their taxes) because they make a shit wage.
55.	1) Research on what can increase street safety in the future / 2) Anything related to sports, recreation, environment and transportation is highest priority / 3) Redevelopment of waterfront should keep in mind accessibility for recreational purposes and all existing recreation facilities should be saved (clubs, beaches etc)

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
56.	<p>We pay taxes to collectively pool our resources so necessary services can be adequately funded, managed, and maintained. Privatization is not the answer for any of our services. We need higher taxes for corporations and businesses that can afford it (i.e. not small businesses). All drivers should pay more to combat environmental concerns and road damage. Cars should also be taxed based on their emissions and size to adequately respond with environmental services to compensate emissions, as well as road repair for larger vehicles that are rougher on our roads. The city is broke because we overtax home owners while refusing to make corporations and private enterprises pay the price to operate in our amazing city. A city is defined by the people who live here, and the Toronto must remember THE CITY IS NOT A BUSINESS! Services should by no means be cut. I will gladly pay more taxes to ensure these services are here to stay, and I hope the city forces businesses to pay more as well, since increasing property taxes means less money to spend at shops and businesses, so if they help carry the burden, they will see a return. I'd rather see our politicians lose their inflated salaries than lose any public service.</p>
57.	<p>Make sure Toronto remains a liveable city, where people at all income levels can live a full life. If you cut back on public , open, access to community services, such as libraries, parks, free sports for children and community centres, the city will have social unrest, Those with money will leave and Toronto will become like one of those run-down, violence-ridden American cities. / / We pay almost twice the average property tax and it is becoming a financial strain, but we enjoy a wonderful city -- we walk the dog through three small parks several times a day, we walk every day along clean, safe streets, we visit our local library several times a week, our friends use the elder care support in a community centre, our kids play sports in city parks, garbage is picked up regularly, the Forestry department has very dedicated arborists who look after the old trees, and we use the TTC. So, we get great service for those taxes. / / The biggest disappointment is the TTC. Bus and streetcar service is absolutely unreliable so we often drive and pay high parking fees, just to be sure that we will arrive on time. Subways are more reliable, but the stairs and stations are really dirty.</p>
58.	<p>Communities should be made aware of any possible decisions. Rumour has it that Ancaster Community Centre may be one of the centres slated for closing. I have used the centre for years and drive by on a daily basis, and it seems to me that the programs run are always full no matter whether it is morning, afternoon or evening programs. How about posting a sign regarding this possibility and have a general meeting?</p>
59.	<p>Use common sense... save money where it doesn't matter who is providing the service. Invest in Arts, Schools, Parks and recreation, swimming pools in the summer, hockey rinks in the winter, etc.</p>



	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
60.	Our environment is very important. Please don't cut back on funding that will help us clean our water, air or land. In general, Toronto has a lot of smog (we could use some more trees to clean that air!) and the lake water is not clean enough to swim in. I think we could increase tourism if we could offer swimming, boating etc. in water that is CLEAN... Let's invest and make harbourfront more beautiful! / / I'd also like to see more security with TTC. There are people who get on there that scare me sometimes...
61.	Develop our transit system please - we need more subway routes. And maintain our childcare and recreation programs - they are essential to our community.
62.	Toronto is a livable city with fabulous services for everyone that lives here. It is important that we do NOT look at Toronto as a business - we are not here to MAKE money for Toronto - we are here to provide a livable city - which includes accessible services such as parks, swimming pools, libraries, employment services, affordable housing, long term health care, day care etc..... these city services are here to make this a city for ALL people to live in and afford to live in. if you want to make minimum wage \$25/hr then you can increase fees for service but until then we need to stop pretending that we are a world class city when Toronto has one of the highest rates of working poor.
63.	There is a serious lack of out-of-school programs in the greater city of Toronto. The marginalization that is happening is negatively affecting I not only individual communities but that greater success and capacity of the city . / / A report was conducted by Middle Childhood Matters Coalition: An Inventory of Full-Week After-School Programs for Children 6-12 in Toronto provides a baseline measure of the type, location, number of children that can be accommodated, and number of full-week after-school programs that are available across Toronto. Working with city staff, coalition members and community advocates, we identified organizations that operate full-week after-school programs for 6 to 12 year olds in Toronto. These programs accommodate just 9.5% of children 6-12 in Toronto. The further one travels from the city centre the more difficult it becomes to find quality child care. In the seven neighbourhoods with the largest number of 6-12 year olds (where 15% of Toronto's middle years children live), programs can only accommodate 5% of local children. / The middle childhood years are an important developmental period for children, and quality child care programs can have a significant impact on children during these years. Spending time after school unsupervised leaves children facing increased risks for academic difficulties, delinquency, injury, physical and sexual assault. The Roots of Youth Violence report by Roy McMurtry and Alvin Curling noted: "Given the relationship between undiagnosed literacy problems and behavioural problems later in life, including incarceration in many cases, effective early learning programs can play an enormous identification and prevention role." / After school programs benefit children and provide positive learning environments as well as supervision. Children who participate in after school programs are more self-confident, have better social skills, and are more likely to succeed academically. These programs, however, are in short supply for children aged 6 to 12. Further complicating the issue is a lack of

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
	<p>affordable child care and after school care: more than 3000 middle years children are waiting for a child care subsidy in Toronto. A problem clearly exists in terms of the capacity and location of full-week after school programs in relation to where the greatest need exists for those programs. / While we realize that the current recession may seem to present barriers to funding these programs, a recent study by University of Toronto economists showed a 2:1 payback on public funding for developmentally enriched child care created from the increased taxes paid by working parents, coupled with reduced social service and compensatory education costs. In Quebec, over 40% of the public cost of the province’s early childhood program is covered by the tax revenues from mothers who otherwise would not be working if low-cost child care was not available. Investment in child care is cost-effective and benefits the public. The OECD recently urged Canada to increase funding for child care in part because of this issue. They have recommended that Canadian governments increase spending on out-of-school hours child care. Our research has led us believe that after school programs would provide long-term benefits to the economy, children, and families. / The Middle Childhood Matters Coalition urges the federal government to respond to these urgent needs and recommends: / / • The creation of a national child care strategy for all children 0-12 to ensure comprehensive access to quality, affordable early learning and child care services. The provision of national child care is essential to Canadian prosperity, a crucial support for children and parents and a common sense response in an era where every public dollar invested in quality early learning and child care programs returns \$2.54 in benefits to society. / / • Increased funding for early learning and child care programs for children 0-12 yrs. There has not been an adjustment in funding for inflation to municipalities in over fifteen years. That means every year we have less money to fund vital programs and qualified staff. Because of the lack of provincial funding, licensed child care is very expensive. Many parents pay \$40 to \$60 per day or \$10,000 to \$15,000 per year, per child for child care. The cost of child care is now more than most families can pay - fees cannot continue to rise. A lack of subsidies means many low income families can’t access high quality child care. We need a new funding model that does not rely on ever-increasing parent fees. / / • Increased numbers of quality programs for children 6 to 12 years of age and the provision of adequate resources in order to hire, train and maintain qualified, experienced staff to create a comprehensive and integrated network of services that includes early learning and care, education, child welfare, health, recreation, and family supports. / / To ensure that children 6-12 years of age, along with their families, have access to a wide range of high quality, developmentally and culturally appropriate services and supports in their communities, the above recommendations must be considered. Most importantly, parents, caregivers, agency stakeholders and the Middle Childhood Matters Coalition need to be at the decision making table. /</p>

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
64.	The Seniors are aging. And their children need to start their lives; i.e. get a house, get a job, provide childcare, have recreation/facilities to facilitate exercising. They will need help with it. The last thing you want is stressed out and sick individuals living in this Country. Who will be doing the work?
65.	Where is the Community Centre in York South-Weston that was scheduled for construction years ago? / Also, contracting out services will lower regulatory standards and service delivery.
66.	Increasing taxes to residents while cutting back on services will only help to drive younger middle class families away to other municipalities with better infrastructure and resident services like childcare, community center, etc. When I see my taxes increase, while residential services are reduced, and yet large business and corporation taxes are not increased in proportion, I simply makes me want to leave the city. I don't mind paying more taxes if it will help the city residents. I do mind when my tax increases/payments are not fair in relation to what large businesses and corporations pay. I also mind when taxes are not increased and services are continually being reduced while city deficits continue to increase, or there are continual short falls. It frustrates me that city politicians and employees seem to have no interest in building a good city for the long term. It seem to me politicians only want to do short term/popular fixes to make them look good/get elected the next term rather than have the balls to do what's right for the long term. And to make things worse, the many of the city employees are consistently unhelpful and ineffective across the departments I, as well many others I have spoken to, have had the displeasure of dealing with. / This may be an old city with an old infrastructure. But European cities are even older, yet many of them seem to be able run with better infrastructure, public/resident services. Why is it that we can't?
67.	My main concern at the moment is keeping the programs very at local community centers. I am just finishing up this session that North Kipling Community Center. It looks like I will not be able to take anymore adult fitness classes come the fall time because we will not be able to afford to it there is such a jump in user fees. I have only been able to take them because they are free. We are one of the families who are in the "middle class" but leaving from pay check to pay check. We really don't have extra money for programs such as these. We are not one families who are looking for and uses handouts. We would just like these programs to stay free or very cheap. Every can use a little help now and then. / / The point I am getting at is please don't forget about the middle class families. We do work very hard to provide for our families but no user fees mean the world of difference to use! It gives us the chance to do more with our families and stay or get more healthy. We don't want to be a bourdon on the already stretched health care system. Prevention is so much better!

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
68.	DON'T CUT PUBLIC SPACES SUCH AS PARK AND COMMUNITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS. HAVING THESE SPACES GIVES KIDS AND FAMILIES LOWER COST ALTERNATIVES AND WILL CREATE A SAFER CITY DOWN THE ROAD. CITY MUST REDUCE POLICIING COSTS. THEY ARE EXORBITANT AND THE CITY IS BEING HELD HOSTAGE TO POLICE. THE CITY IS A SAFE PLACE AND WE SHOULD RE-ALLOCATE POLICING TO HIGHER RISK NEIGHBOURHOODS AND NOT KEEP HIRING MORE POLICY EVERY YEAR. ALSO THE CITY SHOULD ELIMINATE THE VERY COSTLY DECISION TO MAKE TTC ESSENTIAL SERVICES AS IT WILL CAUSE HUGE COSTS DOWN THE ROAD WITH ARBITRATED SETTLEMENTS.
69.	Concentrate on core services. Water, sewers, roads, potholes, snow clearing, clean parks, well run recreation centres, pools, ice rinks and libraries; all open as much as possible. Try to get out of the welfare and housing rackets. Press the provincial governments to take this crap over. Get out of the grant business except for rare and exceptional events. No more annual grants to theatres and other such things that should be able to stand or fall by themselves. Start up money for two years is ok, but not a lifetime annual income. Put the squeeze on the Ontario Lottery and Gaming outfit for the return of some of our gambling money as their infamous grants for hospitals, recreation centres and rinks that you only see in small town Ontario. Perhaps a City Lotto if it could be established. If not, perhaps a Hospital type annual or bi-annual lottery. For every service, make it pass the smell test. Is it necessary? Do 50% or more of the city residents need/use it? If not, consider reducing or eliminating it if it is not a core service. Don't spend money on things like a homeless survey!!!!
70.	There is a great need not to cut services or increase user fee's for our social rec. programs especially to our youth and youth in high risk neighbourhoods. Also there needs to be a greater effort placed on building more diverse and affordable housing units for our population. Mixed housing not ghetto ising low income people.
71.	Currently, the City of Toronto is no longer accepting Welcome Policy applicants for Spring/Summer 2011 Recreation due to budgetary constraints. This is disgusting. All Torontonians should have equal accessibility to programs.
72.	close downtown for cars, make it only for bikes and walking, keep priority centres, make all recreation programs free.
73.	Yes. Do not cut services to the citizens. Increase the property tax and corporate tax so we can create a pool of finances that can be used to benefit all the citizens in the city. A vibrant creative safe and interesting city invites more people, businesses and tourists to become citizens. We cannot hollow out our centre as happened in many US cities. We should find ways to maintain and increase services rather than cut any. In fact, the mayor promised that he would not cut any services. he should keep his promise.
74.	Keep at a high level, the services that make cities great. Police, Fire EMS, Transit, Garbage Recreation.
75.	Build more indoor swimming pools.

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
76.	<p>The survey only gives a choice between the city providing the service and contracting out. There is a third option which must be considered by City Council and that is the one that currently exists - a mixed model between the city and non-profit organizations to provide services. The city should continue to build on the mixed model (partnerships) between the city and non-profit organizations to provide this service. Our city's mixed approach to service delivery has evolved over many years, and is now used extensively to deliver a wide range of city services. Shelters, services for the homeless, employment services, recreation services, after-school and summer camp programs, daycare programs, homes for the aged, and a wide range of social programs that promote inclusion, community education, and civic engagement are all delivered in this way. At present, the City of Toronto transfers over 10% of its entire operating budget (approximately \$1billion per year) to non-profit organizations to provide these services in our City.</p>
77.	<p>North Americans expect their cities to provide a large array of services at minimal cost, all funded by property tax revenues. / / What might make more sense is to increase user fees, so that demand for city services can be better analysed. / / Additionally, the city should consider outsourcing most of its activities outside of policing, the courts, public health, planning, engineering and a few other core areas. Services such as transit, waste collection, employment services, housing, water treatment and recreation should be considered for outsourcing where quality standards and cost target (set by the city). The role of city staff would change to one of tendering, contract supervision and planning. Many of the city services that are most vital to the functioning of the city (water treatment, transit) are entirely contracted out in Europe, with the result that quality is improved and cost is constrained.</p>
78.	<p>Maintain Toronto's current service levels and look for efficiencies so that service levels can increase, so that our City continues to be one of the best in the world to live, work, and grown in. This means providing funding for local communities and organizations through community development initiatives, supporting environmental improvements (clean water / water saving plans, tree planting, green spaces, and initiatives that encourage residences and businesses to adopt more environmentally friendly practices), helping those most in need in society (the homeless, unemployed, youth, elderly, ethno-racial minorities, new immigrants, etc) by providing direct services that will improve their education/ skill sets, employment opportunities and social ties to the City at large. Don't lose sight of the importance of investment in City infrastructure, parks, recreation, libraries, arts, and culture as a means of maintaining a healthy, clean, safe and vibrant community. Ensure that the City addresses the systemic issues that lead to crime, so that we support programs that prevent crime rather than those that merely enforce the law after crime has already occurred. To truly be efficient, you must think about the best ways to prevent future problems; an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.</p>
79.	<p>Answering this questionnaire was a learning experience for me. I was astonished at the number / variety of services City Hall is supposedly providing at the present time. Is this</p>

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
	<p>why City Services have deteriorated so much over the last 7 or 8 years? Is City Hall trying to be all things to all people? The sad thing is that city services desperately needed by the people at large (like road maintenance, public transit, garbage collection) have become a joke, while City Hall bends over backward to invent new services it can provide to a select few (subsidized theatre, bicycle lanes and green roofs come to mind). / / I think it would be productive to think of city services not only in terms of what needs to be done by the city and what does not, but in terms of what services are not needed at all. Some services can and should be privatized and others need to be eliminated altogether. / / For example, in my view the city should provide water / garbage / paramedics (EMS) / police / public transportation / road maintenance. The city can contract out these services in some cases. I am strongly for contracting out garbage collection, and some security services currently provided by the police for instance. I think that allowing jitneys would be great as the TTC is a disgrace and competition would be a nice wake up call for TTC management/unionists. Just to be clear, by saying that a given service is needed and should be provided by the city, I do not mean that no cutting should be done. Actually, I see wastefulness everywhere I turn in this city. Why are road crews of 6-9 men seen everywhere when 3 would do the job nicely? Some repairs done two years ago by the city on my street were eye-opening. Nine workers were sent out by the city. At any given time, only one or two were working. Disgusting. And Miller wondered why we were so angry at his tax increases! / / Other services don't need to be done by the city at all and/or need to be pared down drastically. The TCHC has become a giant entity, totally out of control. It needs to be contracted out, and then reduced. Impoverished families and individuals should be able to rent apartments where they wish and private landlords can be paid by the city. We also have an overlong waiting lists of subsidized housing so lets put some rules in place as to how long any one tenant/family can remain in subsidized housing. Five years is long enough for people to better their circumstances. Then they get bounced out to make room for others. / / Draconian cuts are also needed at City Hall. There are far too many civil servants, doing precious little. The 311 service is a nice convenience but not a necessity and I shudder to think of how much glorified phone clerks get paid. / / A couple more words: / Toronto Public Health needs to be uploaded to the province. The city can save a few dollars that way. / A layoff of at least 10% of our police force is in order. We are an aging society and violent crime is on the decline. Also, construction sites/road crews should hire private security staff, not police officers. Or put up pylons. / Environment is not a municipal issue properly speaking. It falls under the domain of the Federal government and should be treated as such. / Toronto's subsidies to the arts community have become a vile way for the establishment/civil servants to funnel taxpayer dollars to friends and relatives who pretend to be artists. Those rewarded with "grants" are nearly always frauds, not genuine working artists. I would like to see this practice discontinued. Real artists sink or swim on their own merit as we always have. / Citizens should not be subsidizing the living costs of Toronto Island residents. They should pay for their own ferries and their</p>

<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>	
	own police services. / It has become apparent that councillors need to be told what is and is not appropriate in the way of expenditures. I'm not pleased that 12 Toronto City Councillors are going to Halifax for the Federation of Municipalities conference. Frivolous expenditures should be disallowed. (They can still go, but on their own dime.) / / Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to participate in this process.
80.	Not contracting out the Parks, Forestry and Recreation division.
81.	A great effort should be made to enhance services that will make it attractive for people to exercise, from bike lanes to recreation centres. A healthy population will save huge amounts of money in health services and a healthy population is more inventive and creative, exactly what is needed for economic growth. The funding for the Building Department should be increased in order to speed up Committee of Adjustment and Building Permits. This is another way to increase economic growth. The Police Force has to be cut down in size, it is way to big. For example the Marine Police has at least 15 boats. Vancouver has 2 with 160 KM of coast line to patrol and many more pleasure & commercial boats to look after and it is year round.
82.	Think about the long term effects of the decisions that are made. A cut to a service or privatization of a service or an increase in user fees to the point that it makes important programs, services, and public spaces inaccessible to citizens can end up costing the city more in the future. The provision of community services, recreation programs, health services, newcomer services, resources for families, affordable housing, etc are essential services for people of the city of toronto, and if access to these programs is removed in an effort to save money, the social ramifications of this will end up costing the city more in crime, unemployment, poverty, homelessness, etc.
83.	review and revise property tax exceptions for recreational properties e.g. golf courses
84.	There is a rising number of very affluent Torontonians who benefit from the services of this city (transit, excellent public schools, parks and recreation) it is time our investment becomes more proportionate to the benefits we reap.
85.	High quality should always be a consideration. This should never be compromised. Nothing in life is free, and its our taxes and user fees that pay for the level of service we've come to expect. I'm against cutting services for the purpose of saving money. Toronto is a great city because of our services - which include our arts and parks and recreation services - and I'm very worried that these wonderful things will suffer if services are cut or contracted out. There is only so much that can be managed if the city contracts everything out - transparency will be a problem if this happens in too many areas.
86.	Maintaining and increasing youth programs in our Parks and Recreation Centres will do more for peace in our city than increasing police pay or the number of police. Without these recreational services more youth, particularly in the economically challenged social strata, will turn to gangs.

	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
87.	User fees might not be a problem for some residents, but they are for many and these are the very people who are most likely to need them. For instance, a poor family likely cannot afford to go to a Raptors game but they should have access to a library and a community centre. "Increasing user fees only for those who can afford them" actually costs more if it involves testing means to pay; it's reasonable a very expensive item like daycare, but not for recreational programs.
88.	I regard all services currently provided by the City as important. Your challenge is not to cut them but to find efficiencies where possible(without cutting the quality of the service),to find adjacent revenue sources to fund the services and take some of the burden off the property tax base. / With regard to user fees, I would only support user fees for things that I don't want .In my mind those would include higher fees for waste pickup, higher fees for water consumption and fees for reducing congestion(i.e. tolls, gas tax etc). / I would not support user fees for use of the city's community centres, libraries, swimming pools ,park facilities etc. These services should be free by subsidizing with other revenue sources.
89.	since there was no other space for comments, I am including a few here. / Voluntary early retirement incentives may reduce City staff. / Also, I read a one page letter from Mayor Ford in which he expressed his commitment to bring high school football back to Toronto. Really....is this a top priority on the minds of the citizens of Toronto??? if Mayor ford wants to consider an activity that would reach far more individuals and provide life saving skills (in particular to newer Canadians) then make sure the City pools remain open. They could be much better utilized by the schools so all children learn to swim.
90.	This survey was a dreadful example of binary thinking and pandering to populist ideology. There is need for nuances between 'city provides' 'Contract out'; 'user fees' or 'property tax', 'quality' or 'cost' - There is nothing said about overall vision, overarching policy choices. For instance the police budget is bloated and should be cut, but it does not mean that we need lower quality of policing; we need a different kind of policing and we need the city not to be hostage to the police force. We also need to have the city realise that there is less need for policing, mental health care, subsidised housing when people have easier access to / -jobs (public transit issue), / -recreation such as sports, recreation and arts resources (community centres) / -reliable and high quality child care and senior care / -affordable and non-discriminatory housing. / Societies with a bigger gap between rich and poor are bad for everyone including the well-off. The level of fairness and equality in a society affects more positively life expectancy, decreasing violence, mental health problems and illiteracy than the society's wealth.



	<b>Recreation – Other Advice</b>
91.	I feel that any changes should be made with the needs of the most vulnerable as a top priority. I feel those who have a good income and have no disabilities etc... will be willing to pay more in taxes, which will not severely affect their day to day life, compared to low income or impoverished families that would have to start paying user fees for swimming pools etc or pay higher user fees for public transit etc... These changes will seriously reduce their quality of life day to day.
92.	cut the police and EMS budgets; lots of overtime and other gravy hidden there / / should undertake a thorough EMS review - why, for instance, are all 3 of police, fire/paramedics and ambulance dispatched to many 911 calls when 1 responder would have sufficed? / / make more use of police auxiliary instead of paying officers overtime / / improve (and never cut) services people use daily such as transit, libraries and swimming pools / / make better use of / allow residents to better access city assets - e.g., extend the swimming season for outdoor pools from Victoria Day to Thanksgiving / / consider climate change both reducing CO2 emissions and adaptation (e.g., larger storm sewer capacity and burying utility lines to decrease vulnerability to more severe weather events, more bike lanes)
93.	Think long-term. Very long-term. For example, if the environment is not a priority in the near future, it will impact us in the long range. If public recreation is not a consideration in the short term, it will impact our health costs and wellness in the long range. We are placed on one tiny spot along a continuum of time, and we have a responsibility to make decisions that are responsible and sustainable.
94.	Continue to fund our parks, recreation centres, parent/child resources, libraries, zoo and cultural programs as these make our city a great place to live.
95.	Social services such as affordable housing, recreation programs, etc, are investments for the future of our city. We should not discount the savings they can have on our future service delivery. We need to pressure the federal and provincial governments to pay their share.