

Topic: Parks

This document contains public input on parks. 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.

	Parks: Important Issues
1.	Maintenance to parks
2.	parks and recreation
3.	Parks
4.	Community service (parks & recreation)
5.	By-law violations require community. service, to replace some City staff (garbage, parks, street cleaning)
6.	Lack of park(ette)s and assoc. public art - in short Toronto needs to be kicked up a notch, bury wires etc
7.	Parks and Recreation
8.	Parks
9.	Parks & Recreation
10.	Environmental concerns/green space
11.	Parks
12.	parks and recreation
13.	spending tax dollars on dog parks
14.	Parks & Recreation programming

	Parks: Important Issues
15.	Green solutions (buildings, technology, parks)
16.	greenspace
17.	green space, smog, water quality
18.	Green space
19.	Protection and increase of green space
20.	lack of green space
21.	liveability services - libraries, arts, parks, day care
22.	Refuse clean-up of streets, ravines, parks, etc.
23.	maintaining clean streets, parks (public spaces)
24.	litter filled streets and parks
25.	environmental, and access to parks and recreation.
26.	Parks
27.	Green Space retention
28.	state of Toronto's parks
29.	Parks and recreation
30.	Green space
31.	Greenspace
32.	quality programs run by Parks & Rec.
33.	Waterfront, Parks & Recreation
34.	maintain public libraries and parks with funding
35.	green space
36.	Keeping our parks safe and beautiful
37.	Keeping parks & recreation programs accessible to all
38.	Lack of Long term urban planning and beautification (art and green space)
39.	Children's playgrounds and park programs
40.	Maintenance of sidewalks / roads / parks.
41.	Parks and Recreation
42.	maintaining parks & recreation programs
43.	Parks and recreation
44.	great design - beautiful streets and parks
45.	Maintain Services - Parks, Libraries, Community Centres, Rinks,
46.	community spaces - keeping community centres and libraries and parks staffed and open for people of all income levels and ages
47.	garbage pick up ,parks ,ice shortage
48.	Parks and recreation access
49.	Green Space
50.	parks
51.	decrease in parks, recreation, social and public health services
52.	rumbling infrastructure (roads, TTC shelters, park buildings)
53.	Accessibility to parks & rec programs regardless of income
54.	Parks Maintenance

	Parks: Important Issues
55.	improving parks and recreation
56.	Needs more bmx parks
57.	needs more skate parks
58.	Maintaining green space and recreation areas
59.	parks and recreation
60.	no cuts to parks
61.	Maintaining City recreational services, i.e., parks and recreation, library, etc.
62.	investment for the future - parks, historic sites etc
63.	Parks, Recreation, Libraries
64.	fewer parks
65.	Parks and Greenspace
66.	quality of community services, e.g. pools, recreation centres, parks
67.	maintenance - parks/ garbage pick up/
68.	availability of green space
69.	City Services (Libraries, parks, etc)
70.	parks and recreation
71.	Green space
72.	parks and public space
73.	Waterfront revitalization- increased public green space and access to lake
74.	parks
75.	Parks and the environment
76.	public spaces, squares and parks
77.	Parks and Recreation
78.	Improving tree canopy & parks
79.	lack of new green space and parks
80.	Green Space
81.	Parks and green spaces
82.	Parks and Recreation
83.	Parks and Recreation
84.	parks and green space
85.	Green spaces/Parks/Waterfront
86.	Taking money from the real gravy train (police) and putting it into daycare, parks and recreation, affordable housing and green issues
87.	Lack of Green Space
88.	parks
89.	Parks and Recreation
90.	Parks
91.	proper maintenance and funding for parks and recreation facilities
92.	Parks and Recreation
93.	Parks and recreation
94.	Parks and Recreation

	Parks: Important Issues
95.	Parks/Recreation
96.	parks and recreation
97.	Parks and Recreation
98.	Neglected parks
99.	Parks
100.	Service cuts to communities - libraries, parks and recreation
101.	Services for Youth - i.e. Parks & Recreation vs. Policing
102.	we need more green space
103.	parks
104.	parks and recreation for children and families
105.	infrastructure, including schools, transit, parks, roadways
106.	Enhancing the public realm - bridges, parks
107.	Manage Parks & Recreation Departments properly
108.	Cleanliness (parks, roads, TTC, etc)
109.	Litter (in Parks and Streets)
110.	Litter in parks
111.	keeping Toronto as a liveable city, including parks and other green spaces, arts and culture, and recreation
112.	the retention of free or reasonably priced parks and recreation programs
113.	Public spaces and parks
114.	libraries, parks and recreation
115.	maintenance parks and ravines
116.	maintaining parks
117.	need for more parks and green space
118.	parks and recreation services
119.	Parks and services
120.	Environment: Air, Green space
121.	maintaining public services, including parks, pools, libraries, welfare and the like
122.	parks and recreation
123.	Parks and Recreation
124.	Inadequate parks and recreation maintenance.
125.	providing parks and rec services
126.	parks
127.	parks and recreation
128.	No parks, beaches, etc.
129.	Parks and recreation
130.	social services (including parks, libraries, schools, etc)

	Parks: Important Issues
131.	Community Services offered through CHC's (School Breakfast Programs, Adult Drop-In Programs, Community Information Centre's, Speech & Language Services, Early Years Programs, Harm Reduction Programs, Youth Programs, Community Garden Programs, Counselling/Intake/Crisis/Mental Health Programs, Dads Programs, Immigration & Settlement Programs, Housing Programs, etc)
132.	Parks & Recreation Programs-affordable/accessible (i.e.: Welcome Policy)
133.	Parks and Recreation
134.	Parks
135.	green space and bike lanes
136.	Waterfront and Parks
137.	waterfront planning (more parks and public access, fewer condos)
138.	park improvements
139.	Park Maintenance
140.	efficacy of youth oriented programming (re libraries, parks and recreation, etc)
141.	Parks
142.	accessibility of parks and recreation programs
143.	Increasing/Enhancing parks
144.	Parks and public spaces
145.	Lack of green space downtown
146.	Parks
147.	parks & recreation
148.	Community Services (Pools, parks)
149.	parks
150.	City Parks / Clean up / Grass Cutting / Overall Look of Parks
151.	Parks
152.	Parks & Recreation
153.	Parks & Recreation /Libraries / Community Centres
154.	Parks and Recreation
155.	recreation/parks
156.	parks, trees, green space
157.	Better Parks
158.	Parks and Recreation
159.	Maintaining parks and ravines
160.	parks and recreation
161.	park facilities
162.	Provide hard services: properly paved and maintained roads; water & sewage supply; reliable garbage collection; well maintained parks
163.	parks and community centres
164.	Lack of green spaces and parks
165.	access to libraries, parks and pools

	Parks: Important Issues
166.	maintaining a level of service to keep the city looking like a nice place to live & visit by maintaining parks, sidewalks roads etc. We're starting to look like some down on it's luck American ghost town
167.	Parks and Recreation Programs in our community.
168.	lack of public spaces and parks
169.	parks, recreation & the arts
170.	Parks
171.	Parks
172.	loss of greenspace
173.	funding for libraries, parks, recreation & urban forests
174.	parks
175.	parks
176.	parks and recreation
177.	City Parks
178.	green space
179.	Green space
180.	parks and recreation
181.	parks and recreation
182.	Services -- libraries, parks & recreation programming, affordable housing initiatives, public health
183.	environment including green spaces, development density & physical / visual access to green space & the lake, waste & recycling management, air quality,
184.	better parks
185.	maintaining parks & recreation facilities
186.	parks & recreation maintenance & cuts
187.	parks community centres
188.	Parks
189.	park upkeep
190.	Recreation parks
191.	Parks and Recreation
192.	Maintaining public spaces and public parks
193.	recreation. more attention to creating bike parks in the inner city.
194.	park and recreation
195.	Parks
196.	Parks & recreation
197.	Better maintenance of older and addition of more useable, accessible public spaces (incl. community centres, libraries) and green space to meet the needs of a growing city.
198.	lack of subsidized parks and recreation program
199.	Green Space
200.	parks

	Parks: Important Issues
201.	parks/pools
202.	needed parks
203.	Park Maintenance
204.	parks
205.	Greenspace
206.	Recreation, parks and culture
207.	recreation including parks and green spaces
208.	Protecting Green Space
209.	City greening thro' trees, parks, ravines
210.	Parks & Recreation
211.	Excellent basic community services and resources: health, housing, education, libraries, parks and recreation, transit, food, etc.
212.	Parks and recreation
213.	parks
214.	park
215.	Not enough parks and green areas. Queen's Park is not kept well enough, a disgrace
216.	access to green space
217.	Libraries, parks, (quality of life items)
218.	Maintaining current Parks & Recreation offerings
219.	Parks and recreation
220.	Parks all sizes and many more, Community gardens, Access to the late, public transit
221.	Wasting money in parks by having men drive around in trucks, they usually park and have a smoke and a coffee.
222.	parks
223.	Parks
224.	Park Maintenance
225.	climate change/poor air quality/degraded parks
226.	equitable access to services (parks/recreation, childcare, transit)
227.	Having the finances for Parks dept especially for Etobicoke Centennial Conservatory
228.	Increased parks and recreation facilities
229.	need for more parks, better care of existing parks
230.	green space
231.	parks, playgrounds
232.	Park maintaining
233.	Parks & Recreation
234.	Save parks
235.	arts and parks
236.	Parks & Recreation
237.	Ensure support for key parks and recreation programs & libraries - which great add to quality of life in city
238.	Public planning (buildings, car parks, bike lanes, parks and parkettes)

	Parks: Important Issues
239.	parks
240.	Parks and Recreation
241.	city building - good architecture, parks, etc
242.	greenspace upkeep
243.	city run parks and recreational program
244.	park
245.	Parks
246.	Put more art in our city parks
247.	community and recreational and educational services (Libraries, parks, school services) and youth programs
248.	Parks and Recreation support
249.	environmental protection --e.g. green space, waste diversion
250.	city parks
251.	Lack of public space, especially green space
252.	Parks
253.	parks
254.	Parks
255.	Parks
256.	few parks
257.	add more pooper boxes in the parks for the dogs
258.	parks
259.	Parks
260.	Parks
261.	parks & recreation
262.	Hire more people to patrol city parks
263.	PARK RECREATION
264.	Park Space
265.	Revitalization of lakeside venues for public (parks, shops, restaurants)
266.	Increase the family feel of our city by investing in parks and recreation
267.	continued parks and recreation programs
268.	Adequate funding for social, community services and parks
269.	parks and recreation classes
270.	deterioration of parks and green spaces
271.	Parks
272.	maintaining and improving services i.e.. libraries, parks, ttc, community housing etc.
273.	Green space
274.	Parks and Recreation
275.	Parks in need of revitalization
276.	Parks & Recreation upkeep
277.	inadequate green space
278.	Green space

	Parks: Important Issues
279.	keeping our city clear of overgrown grass and weeds in parks and on boulevards.
280.	Maintenance (Roads, Parks, TTC)
281.	environment: parks, recycling, alternative energy use
282.	parks and recreation
283.	Parks and recreation
284.	Waterfront and Parks
285.	Parks and Recreation
286.	green initiatives (decrease pollution, more green space and community gardens)
287.	infrastructure- parks, ttc etc.
288.	Underfunded parks and recreation
289.	Parks and environmental stewardship
290.	Parks and recreation
291.	City Parks
292.	parks and recreation cutbacks
293.	use, accessibility to green space
294.	More parks/recreation centres
295.	Balancing fiscal responsibility with core values of maintaining park lands
296.	green space
297.	City Services (snow removal, garbage collection, parks/recreation)
298.	environmental issues--pollution/ lack of options for the car/ public green space/ tree canopy
299.	Public spaces and parks
300.	Public Spaces and Events (parks, recreation, etc.)
301.	Greenspace Protection & creation
302.	continued high quality parks, recreation and library services at accessible prices
303.	neglect of public assets (parks, etc.)
304.	parks
305.	maintaining parks, libraries, recreation facilities
306.	Toronto's sad and sorry schools & parks
307.	PUBLIC PARK MAINTENANCE
308.	parks and environment
309.	Not enough civic life - arts, food vendors, public art and people friendly spaces, including parks and pools
310.	maintaining parks and recreation
311.	Parks and tree maintenance
312.	parks
313.	Keeping our parks and recreation services at a high level
314.	Public Infrastructures - Libraries and Parks & Recreation
315.	building more parks
316.	parks
317.	programs for children & youth (daycares, recreational centres, parks & recreation)

	Parks: Important Issues
318.	Public Infrastructures - Libraries and Parks & Recreation
319.	building more parks
320.	programs for children & youth (daycares, recreational centres, parks & recreation)
321.	Clean, garbage free, sidewalks, roads & parks
322.	Orderly, safe, healthy, public areas (streets, sidewalks, parks) at low and acceptable noise levels for all.
323.	Better parks
324.	parks are in bad shape
325.	Upkeep of the city in general. (buildings structures parks etc)
326.	continued community services - parks and recreation
327.	cut backs to city services like parks and recreation
328.	parks recreation programs
329.	parks
330.	parks and recreation
331.	Maintenance (parks, roads, etc.)
332.	parks and recreation
333.	Basic services i.e. garbage, parks
334.	city services - parks and libraries etc
335.	parks and recreation services
336.	City Pollution/Littering in green space
337.	parks and rec. programs/facilities
338.	Parks
339.	Parks
340.	upkeep of parks
341.	funding for education, libraries, parks
342.	crying poor and yet funding non essential changes like dog parks
343.	maintaining green space
344.	support to vulnerable families, more programs to access through parks and recreation
345.	parks & recreation
346.	Green space
347.	Parks
348.	Parks
349.	parks
350.	parks and recreation
351.	Parks
352.	Garbage removal and general cleanliness of streets and parks
353.	Parks & Waterfront Renewal
354.	Parks and Recreation Services
355.	Parks and Recreation
356.	Park and Recreation
357.	Environment and keeping pollution to a minimum, taking care of our parks

	Parks: Important Issues
358.	Need for green space
359.	parks
360.	Funding for Parks and Recreation
361.	maintenance of public services such as parks and recreation and library system
362.	Parks
363.	Access to parks, environment and recreation programs
364.	Parks and recreation
365.	housing for the homeless and park maintenance
366.	services (library/parks and recreation/pools)
367.	Parks and Greenspaces
368.	Parks
369.	parks and recreation
370.	Social infrastructure for the growing population (parks, community centers)
371.	Quality of the public realm (streets and parks)
372.	Green Space
373.	parks space
374.	Green Space
375.	Parks, Forestry and Recreation
376.	open spaces and parks
377.	more park services
378.	parks/green space
379.	Parks and Recreation
380.	parks
381.	city-wide aging infrastructure-roads, TTC stations, parks facilities
382.	Improved Parks and Public Spaces
383.	Parks and Recreation
384.	parks & environment
385.	Intensifying while retaining green space
386.	keeping our parks and waterfront clean and safe for our children
387.	liveability: i.e. parks, environment, bike lanes
388.	Parks and recreation -urban forestry
389.	green space & sprawl
390.	urban design and public spaces (parks, sidewalks, community planning)
391.	More green space
392.	parks
393.	maintaining parks & recreation services
394.	service delivery - recreation, parks, planning, garbage, etc
395.	quality of parks
396.	parks
397.	maintaining parks
398.	green space development

	Parks: Important Issues
399.	Parks and Recreation
400.	Maintenance of public parks
401.	Green space
402.	parks
403.	greenspace, antipollution strategies
404.	parks and recreation
405.	parks and recreation
406.	environment and parks
407.	city parks children's services
408.	parks and recreation
409.	parks and recreation
410.	Preservation of public green space/parks
411.	city parks
412.	parks and recreation
413.	hire more people to keep the parks tidy
414.	Parks
415.	Clean up our parks
416.	Parks
417.	parks
418.	The need to protect and improve parks and natural greenspaces
419.	I've found needles in trinity-bellwoods park. Keep the parks safe.
420.	Parks
421.	Parks
422.	parks
423.	parks
424.	parks
425.	Park Maintenance
426.	parks
427.	parks and libraries
428.	Parks
429.	quality parks and recreational services
430.	Our parks make the city more lively. Keep them up!
431.	parks
432.	parks and recreation
433.	environment, including parks
434.	parks and recreation
435.	protection of green space and environment
436.	need more dog parks
437.	Parks and Recreation service
438.	Parks
439.	Parks

	Parks: Important Issues
440.	Public goods such as libraries, parks, affordable housing, etc. that benefit everyone who lives in the city
441.	parks
442.	Green Space
443.	parks
444.	Parks
445.	Environmental sustainability (food security for ALL, cleaner air/water, more public green space, less hassle for community gardens/green space, reduction of smog, more green roofs, solar panels, organic labelling for foods)
446.	make the park greenery look nicer
447.	Renovate the city park benches
448.	parks
449.	parks
450.	Parks
451.	too many cars, road rage and driving in parks

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

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	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
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.	creating mechanisms by which community centres, parks, BIAs, school boards and resident associations can work together and share resources without having to pay prohibitive licences and other fees.
3.	Amend by-laws, to specify sentencing of (a) \$ 1,000 \$2,000 fine or more PLUS community service, of 12-months 2-days/week, to reduce City staff numbers. Community service include (a) 1-staff and 1-offender on garbage truck (b) 1-staff and 3-offenders on parks repairs, painting (c) 1-staff and 3-offenders, clean-up of streets, shovelling snow, empty street garbage containers --- Lay off all displaced staff who have been replaced by "offenders" (crews of 1-staff and 2 or 3-offenders.----- Continue this process of asking taxpayers to submit their plans online, since most will Not attend meetings, when same plans can be sent to City by computer.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
4.	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.
5.	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.
6.	The quality of our public spaces - sidewalks, parks, squares. They should be clean, easy to use and well-designed. They are the spaces we all share and where we all come together.
7.	Transit planning should be based on demand and need, not on politics. / / The open data initiative at toronto.ca/open should be expanded. / / Neighbourhoods need a mixture of uses and building types to be sustainable. The new condo towns need to ensure they follow basic successful planning strategies - lots of side streets, mixed ages and styles of buildings, commercial mixed in with residential. "Tower in the Park" style development is attractive for developers but not good for the City in the long term. We should be trying to build more Bayview Villages, more Annexes, not more Scarborough.
8.	Maintaining and improving basic city services and programs e.g. Parks, Libraries
9.	Regional integration of transit and transportation - the city needs to integrate GO and the TTC. TTC customer service is terrible. TTC should be more like GO Transit. The parks should be improved. The City should embrace public-private partnerships. The City needs to reduce commercial property taxes and raise residential property taxes.
10.	As I said earlier, no more dedicated street car lines like on St. Clair Avenue, more chance to compost waste from grocery stores. And when are apartment buildings in the High Park area going to get a chance to have a green bin for kitchen waste?
11.	For those of us who live in the city, quality of life is extremely important. This means that residents' needs should come first, not tourists' or commuters'. Streetscapes and public spaces must be people-friendly, not business or development friendly. Decisions should be made in the interests of the common people, not corporate entities. Protect our green spaces, our trees and parks, our community centres, libraries and gardens. Keep the concerns of those who live elsewhere separate from city residents. We appreciate, and rely upon, city services and city employees. This is our home.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
12.	<p>though it may not seem important I find it offensive that so much of our tax dollars are being spent on the special interest group of dog owners. Public park lands have been diminished and they really stink. At the end of the day, dog owners continue to allow their dogs to defecate in gardens (other people's) and the increase in the number of dogs in the city is alarming. / / I have found the police to be intimidating and patronizing. I've no reason to trust them. I have called them on several occasions and have been left feeling assaulted by their aggressive and mean disposition. I've been a home owner for over ten years and I don't feel that I can rely on the police. / / Over the years I have participated on the BA and have had reason to call her office. Not once have I been contacted by her or her office nor were any of the concerns brought to her attention by the BA been responded to. There have been other candidates who've tried to run against her. When I spoke with them they explained to me that the cost of running an election campaign is huge. Why is it so costly for a citizen to run for public office in Toronto? / / When I first moved to Toronto in the late 90's it was a fun, clean, and somewhat safe city, now it's become a boring dirty city. If there were another large city in Ontario (the same of bigger than Toronto) I would move in a minute. / / As for the current Mayor, well so far I'm pleasantly surprised. As a gay man living with multiple disabilities, I was anxious about Mr. Ford becoming the mayor. However, since he has taken office I have found city hall to be much more accessible and responsive</p>
13.	Transportation, public transit, park maintenance,
14.	<p>Preparing for climate change and reducing its impact in the next decade and onwards. / Investing in greenspace and more urban trees. / Investing in community-based programs to help low income families, especially those with children</p>
15.	<p>Environmental sustainability (the city as a whole needs to do a better job of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and smog, using green energy and reducing energy consumption, creating community gardens for food, supporting walking, cycling and transit, and protecting water quality and supporting green roofs, and protecting parks and street trees. / Supporting schools and community centres so there are community hubs for education, after school / community activities, and community services. / Maintaining diversity and a good quality of life to attract skilled labour and investment - which means having a forward-thinking Official Plan and infrastructure plans that encourage office, commercial and retail development at transit stations and along transit lines, so more jobs and people can have fast, green, and accessible transportation options. / The City needs to raise money to pay for repair of water and transportation infrastructure like the Yonge subway line and Bloor-Danforth subway line - is over capacity and there should be parallel relief lines. The City should consider tolls and raising property taxes, and fees that discourage wasteful consumption of energy, water, and road space.</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
16.	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.
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.	More emphasis on green space and alternative transportation.
19.	Affordable and accessible public transit, bike lanes, parks and community centres.
20.	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
21.	On the "first broken window" theory, I think we need a concerted effort to clean up the streets, sidewalks, parks, ravines, alleyways, etc. of refuse: a litter bit attracts a lot.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
22.	<p>Our public transit is in shambles and the new mayor and his team have abandoned a plan (Transit City) that – on top of bringing accessible transit to ever corner of the city – was years in the making. This dumb move has set our public transit plan back decades. Instead of building streetcars to service the entire city, we are now building one short subway extension in the suburbs from one mall to another mall while Old Toronto (where 2.5 million people live) are gets nothing. On top of this, it's costing the city MORE to do this and it will take decades to finish. It's a dumb move. / / On top of this, the new team in city hall has a major hard on for private enterprise. Privatizing garbage pickup west of Yonge is such a pointless move. We're just going to switch out \$28 an hour employees for \$27 an hour employees until their first collective bargaining session and the price will be virtually identical to the current cost of garbage pickup...on top of this, there is less accountability because they answer to shareholders as opposed to citizens. It's short-sighted, obviously political move meant to woo the ignorant right. / / There has also been talk of selling off Toronto's waterfront property (the best land in Toronto and perhaps the entire country) because 'private enterprise can develop it for us' Yeah, that's a great idea. will buy it and put a goddamn mall up or some other developer and they will put up more ugly green glass and concrete condo towers, obliterating any chance at Toronto turning into a absolutely beautiful city. We need to keep the waterfront in our own hands, not the hands of some greedy corporation. / / Also, one councillor has floated the idea of turning the Toronto island into a Red Light District. Toronto Island is a family community with a kids park, and a vast swathe of green space. It's beautiful, I and I would have to guess most of the rest of the city (even those who would not share my political views) think this is a terrible idea. It's deplorable. / Recently, our 'stop the gravy train' mayor by proxy supported paying cops \$65 an hour to stand and watch roadwork being done. This costs the city \$5.2 million a year. This same mayor, who promised no service cuts, has cut services (transit specifically) in his first five months on the job. Being a cop in Toronto is an easy beat. There is barely any crime...I don't support paying them \$65 an hour to do nothing. I think all public employees should be paid comparable wages, with bonuses for dangerous work (infrastructure, roads, building maintenance...firefighters and police WHEN THEY ARE WALKING THE STREET AT MIDNIGHT ON A FRIDAY AT QUEEN AND SHERBOURNE, not when they are watching a pothole be filled). / / I also don't give a shit about the city's debt. The entire world is in debt...most people have garner negative net worth every year of their lives. I'm still in debt, 10 years after graduating from school. I don't understand why yokels from the suburbs have such a huge issue with the city incurring some debts to A: pay the people who work for them a good wage so they can spend the money in their community supporting small business and B: take on extraordinary public works projects to make this city a better place to live. It's because of this dim view on spending and the majority's dull wit, dull imagination and inability to wait to see results (i.e.: the instant gratification generation that grew up post 1950) that we get stuck in these messes. I don't think spending a lot of money on a worthy project is a bad thing...I don't think the answer is to sell everything to private companies so they can have their way with us without consultation. I hate that most of Toronto is so dumb. / / There's more, but my voice will not likely be heard.</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
23.	Lake Access; Parks growth; Cycling Lanes network; De-amalgamation; Public Transit fare decreases;
24.	More bike lanes. Car-free zones downtown. Upgraded waterfront - waterfront businesses, bars/restaurants, green space. NO BILLBOARDS - at least less! Someone to clean up the horse shit from the TPS Mounted Unit - come on we are in downtown Toronto, I shouldn't have to see and smell horse shit.
25.	Access to Community Gardens, Public Garbage Collection and community composting facilities, wood ovens and farmers' markets in public parks, economically feasible food carts for more diverse street foods
26.	Provide water fountain in all subway stations. / On May 14,15,16 wash room facilities were locked up though thousands were visiting to watch cherry blossom at High Park. Further wash room facilities at this location are inadequate
27.	Parks
28.	Improving public transportation, funding services as libraries, sports facilities especially for youth and in poor neighbourhoods, mental health issues, concerns about the elderly, day care availability at affordable prices with subsidies as needed, social housing, parks available to everyone no matter how poor, help for immigrants
29.	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.
30.	Green space, encouraging mixed-use and economically and culturally diverse neighbourhoods
31.	Address the systemic marginalization of women, transgendered people, and queer communities in the GTA by funding programs and organizations that target the well-being of these communities, addressing ignorance and discrimination among members of police force and other public services, and promoting the development of educational materials and pro-active policies among the TDSB and other area school boards to enable female, transgendered, and queer youth to lead safe and empowered lives. / / Prioritize green space in city planning, to promote diverse urban ecologies. / / Develop a transit system that does not prioritize car drivers over members of the community who use alternative means of transportation, which are generally more environmentally and economically sustainable than current patterns of car use. Commit to developing more accessible public transit routes, bike lanes and bike paths, and walking paths throughout the city. / / Address food security by developing programs and policies that enable all members of the GTA to access sufficient quantities of healthy food, without sacrificing the quality of our shared environment by supporting unsustainable systems of agriculture and food provisioning.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
32.	expanding light rail transport into the GTA and maintaining and funding public services like as garbage collection and maintenance, transit, public libraries, city parks programs and investing in more bike lanes throughout the city
33.	Encouraging TTC use and alternative forms of transportation such as cycling, will reduce traffic and pollution, improve health and reduce wear and tear on streets. / / As well, I am angry and disillusioned about the lack of accountability of our police force in the following areas: / - assaults on peaceful demonstrators at G20 2010 / - failure of officers to wear identification while wearing masks and carrying guns / / / Finally, I would like to put in a word about the importance of encouraging city employees to communicate and work WITH the communities they serve, rather than fostering antagonism and conflict. I am thinking here of city employees who are responsive to citizen committees such as those that operate resources in our parks. They are the difference between an apathetic, helpless, unengaged population and one that is involved and takes pride in their community.
34.	Environmental welfare and conservations. / Reducing poverty and the gap between the wealthy and poor. / Improving water sanitation and recycling programs. / Increasing wild green space in the city.
35.	Expansion of Parks and Gardens.....continuation of the Clean and Beautiful program
36.	Culture in all its forms is vitally important in a large city. Workers in cultural sectors earn less and generate more value than in any other sector. We should act aggressively to encourage culture in the City of Toronto. It is what makes a city a good place to live and a great place to visit. Libraries, parks, festivals of all kinds, imaginative art projects (yes, including graffiti art!) should get as much support as possible. Further, an atmosphere of fear and suspicion kills all joy and initiative, and promotes nothing except negativity for the city. We don't need more police. We need more libraries, more theatre groups, more festivals like Nuit Blanche, more street art --- more fun stuff! Oh -- and we need to stop taxing the bejeesus out of small business -- it's the other sector that produces way more than it costs.
37.	Parks and recreation
38.	Totally privatize the garbage collection, hire city of Toronto residents for city jobs, need to put in road tolls for improvements and city of Toronto residents could be exempt, have city public parks close at 10 pm to avoid loitering.
39.	Keeping parks staff on the job year round. Keeping all services accountable and owned by public hands.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
40.	Better integration between TTC and GO Transit. Connect stations that are near each other (example: Leslie subway station, and Oriole GO station). / Make transit a comfortable desirable option for people to get downtown, that even rich people would choose over their cars (look at Viva in York Region). / Make bicycling a viable form of transportation in the suburbs (since busy arterial roads are dangerous for riding in heavy traffic) so that everyone (but especially the elderly, and adolescents) can, say, safely take a quick ride to the post office to send/pick up some mail or to visit a friend's house for an evening bbq, without fear of being clipped by a truck or blindsided by a drunk driver on the way home. / Better promote the city-owned community centres as places where people can get together and find out more about what's going on in their community, use the gym, go for guided walks in the local parks and ravines, etc. / Develop a vibrant downtown, especially the waterfront, as a place where people can go for relaxing walks along the lake and take in cultural events.
41.	Insufficient conservation of green space and tree planting. Aging electrical and water/sewage infrastructure. Lack of a bold vision for the city including pollution mitigation and environmental issues. The need for more open public spaces and pedestrian only roads. A major waterfront cornice/promenade. And finally the removal of the Gardiner expressway!
42.	Meeting needs of children of all ages, through parks, libraries, swimming pools.
43.	Waterfront. I think we need to ensure the current plan (at least the early stages in East Bayfront) is aloud to proceed. Moreover, I think sufficient transit and tax incentives should be put in place to encourage a lot of commercial growth in the area. / / I think the maintenance of sidewalks and parks throughout the city needs to be addressed. / / Finally sustainable transit funding; Capital project are great but if there isn't money to fund day to day operation and service improvements there is no point. Along these lines, efficiencies in the TTC need to be found; By this I do not mean service cuts; I mean better route management - A all to common occurrence on routes with 7+ min service (i.e. not that frequent or the TTC) is to have 2/3/4 buses bunch together. The same applies to the streetcar routes. If this can be improved, service can be improved with no additional service whatsoever.
44.	Reduce Police force and cut wages. Increase Parks budget.
45.	maintaining supports for economic development in local communities, innovative programming in city parks, services for children and youth, TTC

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
46.	<p>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. /</p>
47.	<p>I was terribly disappointed with the cancellation of Transit City. It was not perfect, but it was a workable plan that made sense for the city, considering the expense and the time that subways take to build. It is a farce that we have such limited public transit. In many cities around the world, tram networks and LTR systems are in place and ease traffic flow and mobility around the city. We need a more extensive transit network, and Transit City could have provided a vast improvement. I am also concerned with proposed cuts to libraries, parks, pools and programs that reach the neediest citizens. I hope that the City will continue to support festivals like Nuit Blanche that bring culture and life to our city and make it a vibrant place to live.</p>
48.	<p>Waterfront development for people. Keep Toronto Island as a park. Continued support of the work being done by waterfront Toronto.</p>
49.	<p>1/ Green initiative such as community tree planting and green roofs throughout the city. / 2/ Ease City traffic congestion on weekends by demanding that all Marathons take place in the City parks and trails. Example: Move all Marathons: to Edwards Garden along the Don River south to the Martin Goodman Trail and either west along the lake to the Humber Bay Park or east around Cherry Beach to the RC Harris Water Filtration plant at the foot of Victoria Park avenue. There's plenty of room for onlookers and cheerleaders in this infrastructure of Toronto parklands. / 3/ Avoid duplication of responsibilities of the City's ABC agencies.</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
50.	Help develop the suburbs to keep young families WANTING to live in places like Scarborough. Since the schools in Scarborough are starting to get old and ranking are low on EQAO scores/Fraser Report rankings, why should we continue to live in the Toronto suburbs like Scarborough instead of moving up to Markham or Aurora? Very little attractions/educational facilities in Scarborough except for the Zoo. Families will continue to move out of suburbs in Scarborough if property values are really rising and labels like "Scarlem" continue to scare young families about sending their kids to Toronto schools instead of York region schools. Don't even feel safe about going for evening walks around the neighbourhood even when living in a middle-class neighbourhood like Agincourt. If young middle-upper class families like ours decide to leave for York Region, we will hallow out the city into two groups - rich affluent seniors or well established wealthy families (Rosedale, Leaside, Forest Hill)or low income new immigrant families (Malvern, Jane-Finch, L'Amoureaux, High Park etc). People in the Scarborough suburbs feel like they have to either go downtown or go to Yonge St to get any culture or go to a good restaurant. I guess if you want good Chinese or East Indian food then you can get that in Scarborough.
51.	assure all neighbourhoods have equal access to affordable housing, public transit and services including groceries, parks, health care and healthy schools.
52.	parks and recreation
53.	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.
54.	More parks and recreational areas
55.	The maintenance and enhancement of public spaces, including parks, public squares, and public buildings, is, I think, a matter of extreme importance. I worry that this issue will be deemed of secondary importance during the debate over the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. It is a false economy, I believe, to allow public spaces and infrastructure to deteriorate as a result of immediate fiscal restraints. Failure to maintain such things only means that our children will be left with a greater burden if they wish to be able to enjoy the same quality of life in the city that we have been able to enjoy.
56.	We need more efficient, accessible transit. As people age, they need to be able to get around without driving. Many people would rather take transit to work, but it's not efficient enough in most parts of the city to make it viable. / / We need to preserve our natural green spaces and parks for residents and tourists. We need more native species that don't need as much watering and chemicals and which will attract native birds and butterflies. Toronto could be the most beautiful and healthy city in Canada and an eco paradise with the right knowledge and progressive ideas applied. / / / /
57.	Make developing and improving public transportation the number one priority across the city; keep libraries, community centres and pools operating and vibrant,; ensure parks, tree planting and greening efforts remain a priority

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
58.	City services remain in city hands and not contracted out. / Better public transportation. / Improve and grow public spaces such as parks.
59.	increasing funds available for welcome policy for parks and recreation / continuing building hubs to provide health care and community services in the near suburbs
60.	Cycling and bike lanes, parks and green spaces,
61.	Public health is not included on the previous list. It should be there. / Likewise, public education--for people of all ages--should be there. And excellent, well-maintained parks and open spaces. / Also, the City should never lose sight of hard-to-define issues such as improving citizens' quality of life and generating civic pride.
62.	Save money by stopping the senseless harassment of dog owners with well behaved dogs. Allow well behaved dogs to run off-leash in all parks by setting aside 1/3 of each park for dogs. (1/3 of all homes have dogs). Focus by-law enforcement on problem dogs only and reassign by-law enforcement elsewhere as needed.
63.	the parks, public spaces, waterfront, streetscapes...there is a pervasive ugliness, dreariness, shabbiness, in what could and should be a beautiful city if any of the many projects ever actually got finished. Read Rocoehn in the Globe and Mail; I agree with everything she writes
64.	Cycling infrastructure, green roofs, waterfront development, parks
65.	Provision of daycare, maintaining recreation and aquatic program service delivery, and funding parks and environmental programs (including waste diversion).
66.	Access to public parks and affordable childcare
67.	Parks capital projects
68.	Job opportunities for all Torontonians / Arts and culture / Better recreation centres / More parks and green space
69.	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
70.	keeping city employees working ,giving them a living wage / off -duty police payments / cleanliness of our parks /
71.	Maintenance of parks, libraries and other public spaces
72.	green space, public housing, bicycle paths
73.	animal services, parks, recreation, sustainability, 311, infrastructure, keeping city workers
74.	Water- protecting our lake and ensuring safe environmental practices of all industries. Ensuring the highest quality and safety for our drinking water. Protecting our green space and embracing new solar, wind and electric technologies to make our city more sustainable.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
75.	Heritage / Parks and Recreation / Waterfront Development
76.	A need to take charge of the final planning decision making process and not be subject to the OMB. / Strong support for Heritage preservation / Improved relations with Queen's park and Ottawa
77.	Economic hard times should not be used as an excuse to allow developers carte blanche to ruin every park, street, green space, neighbourhood and foot of waterfront with ugly buildings - they spoil everything in the name of making money, but are the only ones to reap a profit. Taxpayers lose.
78.	Parks and recreation
79.	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.
80.	Parks responsive to their communities as well as the city.
81.	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.
82.	I think this city should rethink it's approach to development and offer a lot more support to community of people who actually live here. Support small business owners and not speculators or big corporations. We don't need a Starbuck on every corner, we need to have city of Toronto represent all of us in its services, businesses, arts and culture. Less cars more public transit that makes sense, more parks and bike lanes, more small locally run establishments, more support for everything LOCAL.
83.	Developing an accessible, beautiful waterfront, with a band shell and lots of open space—maybe a little like Grant Park in Chicago
84.	Welcome policy for parks and recreation
85.	child care; affordable parks and recreation
86.	Keeping Toronto Animal Services, more park space, garbage collection.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
87.	<p>Toronto has an enormous amount of civic pride, but too little to be proud of in terms of physical infrastructure. The cost of living here approaches that of the world's most expensive cities, but what do we get in return? We desperately need more beautiful public spaces for people to come together, engage with one another, and beautiful streetscapes that make people want to go outside, to linger, and to take in the city. Toronto is said to be "a city of communities," but it is a huge mistake to understand "community" as a private phenomenon. The assembly and vitality of a community depends on having excellent public spaces and well-planned neighbourhoods that facilitate interaction. Amongst other things, this requires coordination, imagination, and dedication from the City government to building something incredible in the name of civic pride. / / A city is far more than an agglomeration of taxpayers--it is a concentration point for narratives, histories, relationships, and commerce. A city should not only be functional or economical, but also inspiring and exciting. Some of the greatest public spaces in the world were bought at an incredible price: Baron de Haussmann's remake of Paris cost billions, or for a more recent example, Chicago's Millennium Park, which overran its budget by nearly 300%. Yet in retrospect, these projects have anchored civic pride, garnering local, national, and international respect. Such projects cannot have been accomplished solely by private developers, focused narrowly on profit; they required an overarching government mandate to remaking a city for the good of its citizens.</p>
88.	<p>I think the availability of green space and the conservation of out natural spaces is an important issue to consider</p>
89.	<p>access to child care, parks and city beautifying</p>
90.	<p>Social infrastructure: increased free access to community centres, libraries, parks, food programs, community gardens, etc. / Reducing spending on policing; it's totally out of control /</p>
91.	<p>The arts should be valued and promoted within the city and by the corporation in all endeavours - artful structures, buildings, bridges, bike paths, parks and neighbourhoods. An inspirational place in which to live.</p>
92.	<p>1/ / Noises that the aircraft is making flying over residential area. / We have been noticing considerable there is an increase of aircraft noises flying over the beaches area and surrounding between 7-8:30 am. / / 2/ Graffiti - this is an eye soar and it makes the neighbour feels unsafe. Tougher laws for offenders - perhaps public community services such as washing the graffiti on the street, cleaning up the streets and parks.</p>
93.	<p>Daycare, more green space/parks, community centres, subsidized housing, and FAIR rental rates (better tenant's rights) / / (also the TTC should have much more flexible pay options -- such as a 7 day unlimited pass *applicable from the day you buy it, versus Monday-sun). just like NY transit --> which is by far superior.</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
94.	<p>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.</p>
95.	<p>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 save 25% 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 life 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.</p>
96.	<p>The survey list is missing many important elements of the city, and important issues for city governance. For example I would include and significantly support: arts - both arts funding and making arts accessible to people, affordable childcare, libraries, free community centres and similar programs in high needs neighbourhoods, beyond basic supports for vulnerable people living in poverty - they need to have hope and dignity in addition to meals and a bed. Parks and greenspaces were missing from the list, as were things like a vision for usable transit in the dense urban core and forward thinking planning that recognises that cars are not the way of the future. Also on the matter of inclusion, I need to see more from the city about supporting LGBTQ2IAA people and our communities.</p>
97.	<p>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.</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
98.	Expanded recycling programs which would include apartment buildings, condos and parks. / More funds to libraries for expanded programs targeted to immigrant children and families. / Expanded assistance to the homeless and hungry in our City.
99.	If this city is to be elevated beyond a 2nd tier urban-sprawl, traffic=choked we need to put more money into: culture; public transit; parks; get rid of Gardiner. Make it more livable, while attracting business, industry and TOURISM. Most of the city is an ugly blister. Invest in culture and transportation!
100.	libraries, community pools, parks, bike lanes , shuttle services to shut ins.
101.	Rapid public transit that can be built quickly rather than more expensive subway projects with a completion time of decades. / A better relationship with Queen's Park and Ottawa so as to get more of the money we send out in taxes back in the city.
102.	Clean streets and better parks. Better park maintenance and street beautification
103.	<p>The city should provide or facilitate the delivery of the best possible common services that individuals or businesses can not do. These services include -- infrastructure (sewers, roads, water, clean environment, subways, street cars etc), common amenities (garbage collection, attractive streetscapes, public spaces). The city should also ensure that we provide effective facilities for educating children and young people (yes, I know this is a provincial jurisdiction - but the original neighbourhood layouts with schools linked within walking distance to neighbourhoods was always effective and help create neighbourhood cohesiveness). / / We need to get our act together for a city wide public transportation system. I understand the link to the airport has been promised since the 50's -- if Philadelphia can put one in place, why can't we. Why haven't we been building subways all over the place? Queen or King Street, Eglinton, Dufferin -- I don't really care. There are a lot of smart people in the city and it is frustrating that nothing effective is getting done. To me the Hong Kong subway is one of the best I've ever seen. / / We need to fix the sewers -- sending sewage to the lake is not a good long term solution for our drinking water. / / When the city undertakes projects like parks, public spaces it needs to assign proper budgets to these projects or they will not get done, they will look awful, or they will decline quickly. Cheap and nasty does not work. If you need examples of good projects look to Chicago. / / All of this is expensive, but cities are expensive. Seems to me we should raise taxes. If it looks like we are getting services, maybe people won't grumble about paying. Educate people about the differences in tax rates between various cities of the world. For special projects -- like subways -- maybe issue a special private bond or something. Take a look at how hong kong developed its subway (giving developers the rights to develop nodes in exchange for providing funding for the general system). / / I may be wrong, but I think the city should move away from providing services for the vulnerable. Not that I don't think this is important, but I don't see why this should be a city responsibility. There are lots of agencies that can provide these services. For the people for whom this is an important priority, they can donate money to these agencies (the city could offer tax credit or lobby the federal government to provide tax credit for donations). That said – I do think that providing common infrastructure like</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
	<p>community centres and libraries is an important thing to do (again – getting matched support from private donations would help to gauge how important it is to the community). / / I would prefer that my tax money support common infrastructure and education. In many ways, I feel that education is the most important investment we can make. Give people (young AND old) the opportunity to learn a broad subject matter with applied rigour – they can take that experience anywhere and the return on the investment will be immeasurable. / / Saving. We need to clean up the civil service in the city. It should not be a joke in the private sector (and as an architect I have to work with the city fairly often), that you can't call the city for an hour around coffee breaks or anywhere around lunch or any time past 4 because you'll never reach anyone. There are some very good civil servants, but there is a lot of dead wood – both people who work at a glacial speed and who don't know what they should know. This needs to be corrected. Reducing these labour costs and hiring more effective people will save costs. It will also encourage better people to take positions with the city (which we need). / / Also – in terms of the questionnaire – who is it possible that the city can provide employment and jobs? It isn't. The Mayor, Councillors and Staff should run an effective organization – if you do that, the rest of us in the private sector will provide the employment and jobs. /</p>
104.	Developing the waterfront as a green space when possible
105.	<p>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 bike 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.</p>
106.	parks and recreation
107.	Planning for the future. Building parks etc that are needed for the people moving into the new condos. Otherwise we are creating new St. Jamestowns
108.	Proceed with Lawrence Heights re-development / Proceed with Fort York Cycle Bridge / Increase Arts Funding and Public Arts Programs / Increase Parks and Green spaces /
109.	<p>Support community gardens and green spaces run by local groups. Support usable city space and city parks and adding more benches and places to gather outdoors. Commit to developing subway lines. Support the libraries which provide so many services to people of all income levels and help bridge the gap in quality of life for the vulnerable parts of population.</p>
110.	<p>social services for teens, at risk youth, mental health issues, etc.; / green space and park space - lots of it; / sustainable communities where the needs of the residents can be met by walking, biking, and public transit / access to healthy food /</p>

Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues	
111.	As the world moves towards more sustainable development practices, it is important for the building codes across Ontario, but particularly within the GTA to be adjusted to allow for new experimental environmentally sustainable building methods to be employed without the fear or threat of lawsuits or excessive bureaucratic red tape and administrative burdens. / / I also strongly believe that Toronto should honour the legacies of our indigenous population by for example, making the Iroquois burial mounds in High Park a protected area, accessible to native peoples for ceremonies, and insofar as it is not destructive of these heritage features, to the general public. This city rests firmly on land which is sacred to Ontario's First Nations people, and our city government has a moral obligation to not only consult in good faith, but also respect the voices and decisions of our First Nations constituents.
112.	There needs to be greater pressure on land owners to use their roof space. Every roof should either have a garden or solar panels.
113.	waterfront development (more parks and public access, fewer condos and big box stores)
114.	Maintaining green spaces and preventing further development on the waterfront: there are areas, such as the waterfront, where real estate developments should be prohibited. These areas should be kept as park land for the enjoyment of all citizens, not the privileged few.
115.	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.
116.	The rising cost of gas, natural disasters, wealthy businessmen stealing our tax money through privatization schemes of city services funnelled through conflict of interest deals/contracts and loss of green space. Losing services provided equitably to all.
117.	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.
118.	Transit; parks and public spaces
119.	Affordable housing and supports for vulnerable populations; pollution emissions; public parks;
120.	Arenas - need more hockey arenas, need arenas updated / Transportation - make the flow of public transit, cars and bikes better / Finances - property taxes have increased 130% in 11 years. You cannot keep increasing the amount people pay. / Wasted money in programs - don't just consider cutting certain budgets by 5 or 10%. Consider getting rid of a number of committees and programs. / Sell Assets - not just public housing but consider selling TTC. If people worry that service will fall off on certain routes, then add a provision to pay extra for certain routes if required. / Be Bold - think about turning Gardner expressway into tunnel and pay for it by selling land above to developers to create high rises and parks.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
121.	<p>in no particular order- 1. too many councillors-25 would be fine and cut their expenses to \$5,000 2.waterfront planning has been horrible-more parks, fewer private condos and business towers (see Chicago) 3. police guarding construction sites-what a waste of money. 4. no bike lanes on major roads!! for 7 months of the year there are no bikes on the road, yet we dedicate infrastructure to them and take from cars 5. streetcars are a waste of money-what advantage do they have over buses? they require 3 separate, exclusive infrastructures (tracks, electrical and repair crews), and cost 3\$ Mill per streetcar, 6. are there really 900 people working in the homeless dep't at city hall(CFRB 1010)? 7. privatize everything you can! (garbage is a great first step) the scope of city services has blown up. the city should provide far less than they do, and then encourage/incent private sector to do the rest 8. taxis-our system is horrible. too expensive (more than NYC!) and there are a few individuals that control a large proportion of the fleets (Toronto Life). 9. Subways- build, build, build...work with feds and province to get them build. our system is sad compared to other cities. 10. the lake- build more holding tanks for waste water to keep bacteria overflow down. 11. city airport- limit the # of flights before it becomes unbearable on the water-say no more than 4 per hour 12. cull the Canada geese and the cormorants etc, -there are waaaaaay too many birds on the water with no natural predators. we should reduce to 20% of current populations 13. please spend as little as is possible on the Pam Am games, and ignore the Olympics from here on. we do not need the Olympics, it's a total waste of money, effort and planning. / my bottom line is the city tries to do too much and in effect doesn't do very many things well, or very efficiently. downsize, be efficient, cut costs and positions. the city should not be one big make-work program. / / Good luck Mr Del Grande!!</p>
122.	<p>Look at longer term investments in infrastructure that make Toronto a more enjoyable and enriched city to live in. Bikes and Public transport matter - stop fighting with everyone over it. So do public spaces, parks and free cultural spaces like libraries. Living is about more than getting to and from work and the city needs to focus on what drives quality of life and health for the largest portion of our citizens. Cutting for cutting sake is naive and short sighted when investments today are needed. The investment in outdoor markets, cultural events that draw people out of their homes and in to the community and the beautification of our city will make a difference. Keeping all areas safe, orderly and clean is a start, but it goes beyond litter, we need to do more now for our environment. True, thoughtful city planning and investment in the required infrastructure is what you should be doing, not chopping services and bullying citizens. It's like a group of pre-teen ogres have stepped in and now it is all about shock value and macho rather than caring for each other and our communities. So sad to watch - so so embarrassing. The least you could do is stop unpicking all the things that we already invested in – that is no way to save money.</p>
123.	<p>Expanding parks & recreation programs to include more swimming & skating classes. / Maintaining library branches & expanding hours. /</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
124.	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.
125.	Transit is number one. Smog a close second. The city could use more arts and culture, more festivals, better parks, a nice waterfront, etc.
126.	Continued servicing to Parks and Recreation, library services
127.	Toronto should be able to levy its own taxes to be used only in the city. Transfer payments out of the city to subsidize other municipalities should stop or at least have a 5 year moratorium. Toronto should move to secede from Ontario and become an independent province with its provincial government at Queen's Park and city government in City Hall, as well un-amalgamating the mayoral municipal governments in Etobicoke, Scarborough, North York and with Mississauga possibly joining as well.
128.	Public Transit needs to be expanded and improved. Parks need to be cleaner and have more facilities.
129.	Put an end to pan handling, it's an eye sore for our lovely city, especially to the millions that visit TO every year / / More money for green space/parks, or plant more trees, especially downtown - the Bloor St revitalization is fantastic, something even remotely close to that on Yonge between Gould/Charles would do well to increase civic pride, property values (more money for the city in terms of taxes) and increase the profile of the city internationally / / To increase local economy/city vibrancy, consider extending last call for alcohol at 3 or 4 am - this exists in other big cities with no adverse impact, I do not see why this isn't in place already. It would also put curb binge drinking that occurs when people flood bars prior to closing time to consume alcohol before last call. The fact that Ontario has lessened restrictions regarding alcohol consumption at festivals and other events in an important first step in allowing for more relaxed rules for alcohol consumption in this city by responsible adults.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
130.	Make this city a beautiful place and fro everyone. Parks, Libraries, fixed roads, beautiful trees, and a well-planned community that works for all - people, cars, buildings, offices, well-planed and well executed!
131.	The need for more green spaces i.e.: parks, trails, allotment gardens etc.
132.	City parks
133.	I think that is we are looking for cost cutting measures we should equalize the services enjoyed by all Torontonians including snow and garden waste removal. There are services that are not enjoyed by all in the city and some of these need to be done away with.
134.	maintainability of parks/ affordable programs for low income families
135.	/ parks usage and how easy it is to use them without a lot of permits
136.	You should automate more TTC positions. / You should make Bike Lanes. / You should keep funding Pride, Caribana, and ensure sports fields and parks and upkept. / Leave the nice graffiti alone.
137.	street vending and the lack of choice; the poor state of our roads and parks and other city venues
138.	the people of Toronto need to be able to travel to and from work by bicycle. We need safe bicycle lanes throughout the city for everyday use, not for a leisurely ride in the park on the weekend.
139.	Complete streets - pedestrian, transit, cyclists and cars / Progressive city that is inclusive and welcoming / Green Spaces - parks, community gardens, farmer's markets / Affordable Housing - not just for low-income for moderate income as well
140.	save parks from condo development
141.	At the moment my pressing concern is recently noticing the lovely parks in my area including playgrounds look disgusting. The grass is about a foot long, that's where there is grass. Most of the parks are now choked with dandelions, they look horrible, uninviting & the grass/weeds make it impossible for kids to use for sports. I feel ashamed of my city at present.!!
142.	Maintenance of roads and parks / More bike lanes / Subway to Pearson airport / Better garbage collection, the city smells worse than ever on garbage day
143.	Architectural control when issuing building permits; no highrise ghettos - consideration of distance between towers for sunlight and privacy. World-class width of sidewalks. Pedestrian zones downtown. Boardwalks and parks along the lakeshore where still possible, NOT a wall of condo towers.
144.	keep public spaces going (parks and recreation), affordable housing.
145.	improving parks
146.	Public health services, food security, pedestrian friendly streets, safe playgrounds and parks
147.	daycare, after school programs, parks and recreation programs, healthcare, greenspaces and recycling
148.	Reduction of garbage and use of green space to help support 100 mile diet

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
149.	More neighbourhood focused services. For example, why not have neighbourhood "stewards" - perhaps retired persons or the like, to take care of a neighbourhood's issues, rather than paying union workers to sort-of maintain individual portions of a neighbourhood (i.e.. road, park, garbage, trees, etc). with no coordination. Our park sits filthy while adjacent street gets cleaned. Why not coordinate better? / / City government should consider the cost of its ideology. For example, why rail against a perfectly good 5 cent plastic bag tax when that tax diverts millions of bags from our municipally funded landfills? Make the connection between your ideas and how much it really costs us. / / Link great urban design to the tourism dollars and the business investment that flows from it. Don't just think of the cost of great urban design in isolation. Stalling or eliminating the Fort York bridge was a poorly thought out decision as the cost overrun for good design, which the public clearly wanted, will result in huge dividends in tourism and business investment.
150.	Wage cuts to ward councillors and political staff. / Removing corrupt infrastructure companies from city contracts. / Streamlining and improving public transit / Better care of city parks and recreational areas. / Improved notification for surveys / More community feedback requests / Better adjustment traffic flow systems / Improved road materials to reduce redundant repairs / Transport companies and heavy trucks to assist with costs of the road damage they create / limit trucks to specific roads and highways to reduce damage. / Revitalization of tourist attractions to create a world class destination opportunity / Invest in cash producing (traditionally private sector) ventures to provide regular income; sell hydro from solar panels, buy a coffee company, etc. / Encourage green resourcing and environmentally sustainable practices throughout city infrastructure system. / Stabilize rents! /
151.	parks and open spaces; libraries; urban development/design
152.	Accessible public spaces (parks, waterfront)
153.	I feel that there should be more focus on creating a more bikeable city. bike lanes and barriers between bike lanes are important to encourage cycling and to keep cyclists safe. I also feel that public transportation needs to be support, we should ban large vehicles like hummers and SUVs in areas in the city as well as trucks. The city should also help t support locally grown food such as community garden and roof top gardening and gardening on balconies and terraces. Incentives should be given to businesses that are growing food in city spaces.
154.	creating public spaces (especially parks) that everyone can enjoy. I am thinking particularly of the waterfront.
155.	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.
156.	Beautification, creation and care of Toronto's public spaces (parks, squares, the waterfront, ravines and greenspace) beyond graffiti.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
157.	<p>Communication & SINCERE teamwork amongst GTA member cities AND our neighbouring cities. / / In the Canadian democratic Parliamentary system, the # of votes decides representatives - we do not vote on each issue, like in California's propositions for example. There is a good reason for this. The most populated groups cannot impose their will and work only to serve their own interests at the expense of their neighbours. Canada, and by extension Toronto, operates under a system that promises everyone a voice; and where compromise is negotiated to ensure that together, at no one's needless expense, we make life better for each other as a country and as a city. The official GTA city members, and the cities beyond the GTA borders which are home to thousands of commuters, seem to care very little for the city & residents of Toronto proper and what was once Metropolitan Toronto. / / When someone says "Torontonians are cold & rude. They don't say hello and they rush by without even looking at you. People in Toronto are not friendly. " My friends know my response to this. With a smile I always reply, "We are very friendly - we're just busy! And tired. With the exception of farmers & oil workers, people who work in Toronto - especially those who commute hours a day from our neighbouring cities - put in more hours of work a week than anyone else in the country. / / English is becoming the language of global business so companies locating in Eastern Canada will put head offices in the Toronto & Southern Ontario region, rather than Montreal, despite it's grandeur. Vancouver is surrounded by beauty where much focus is on a balanced, relaxed & fun life. That is enviable, but not conducive to corporate & banking culture. / / If you can manage to stop a person in Toronto long enough to get their attention, we will help you with directions or point you towards whatever it is you may need. But please do not prolong this encounter & try to engage us in a friendly conversation - we are in a rush. Toronto is the economic centre of the country. So while you are here from Surrey, The Sault, or Moncton for a business meeting, a hockey game or a show, give us a smile, ask your question, say "thanks" and let us get to work. From our perspective it is rude of you to ignore our business-induced urgency in favour of your desire to have a spontaneous, social chat with a native. There are a plethora of tourism-based businesses all over the city whose mandate includes friendly banter - you know this and we know this. / / But it's too late. Once again we have been caught in your "I hate Toronto" Catch 22. You take pleasure in knowing you were right. Your detailed account is the evidence for an entire community until the experiment is run again. Our perceived abrupt departure from your amiable attempt at conversation confirms your thesis: People in Toronto are rude, cold and unfriendly. / / I am a resident of Toronto proper and am obviously very saddened by my fellow Canadians attitude towards me and the city I love so much. For my closest neighbours it is important to note that while they do not consider themselves Torontonians, every Canadian 300 kms away and further does. / / *Looking beyond their Oakville or North York property lines whose taxes they pay with money earned in Toronto. / *Accepting responsibility for the crowded transit systems and congested highways that are made so by their daly commute. / *Discussing tolls or other revenue-making ideas</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
	<p>to maintain & improve the deteriorating Toronto infrastructure which their use of the city greatly contributes to. / *Be considerate & respectful of people who LIVE in the city - this is our home. / *We like neighbourhood parks & access to green spaces in the city as much as everyone else. / *We like to exercise and that includes cycling. If you cycle in your neighbourhood, the argument that my neighbourhood is downtown and you have to drive here to work every day is not a satisfactory reason to prohibit me from enjoying my community as much as you do yours. There are drivers & cyclists who disobey traffic laws and both groups should be working together to get all bad drivers in line or off the street, regardless of the vehicle. Both groups should work together to make sure the roadways work for everyone using them - for example, bicycle lanes should not impede or cause undue stress to drivers; potholes and damaged pavement in bike lanes should be fixed so cyclists can stay in their lanes; traffic lights in urban & suburban areas should not be weight-triggered - this forces cyclists to endanger themselves and others in order to cross an intersection; Remember that cyclists are human-powered, not gas-powered. In the same spirit of co-operation I have been talking about, drivers need to stop suggesting cyclists use only certain streets to circumvent motor vehicle traffic and keep main arterial roads for motor vehicle use only. In my opinion, that this idea is considered by many drivers to be a serious option only proves that we are still fighting & not yet having the conversation to find solutions. / *Rather than creating more big splashy festivals to attract visitors, Toronto needs to re-structure the services those visitors use to access the festivals. No matter how amazing an event is, if getting to it is complicated or a bad experience, a potential annual visitor just became someone who may not return for 10 years, if ever. With global economic recovery precarious slow, people are more discerning about where they spend their vacation dollars. / *Canada is geographically larger than Europe with a healthy population and diverse cultures from coast to coast to coast. As the largest city in Canada, and the economic centre, we should be taking the lead in foreign & domestic tourism. We tout ourselves as a world-class city, and we are almost there. We have the opportunity to elevate Toronto, & Canada, to a first class destination. Forethought and expansion-based planning of all these systems means eventual co-operative projects with other cities and provinces, until we have independent municipally &/or provincially operated sustainable, affordable, efficient & integrated services & infrastructure nationwide. / / Toronto needs to look to all the world-class cities, regions & countries and determine which systems have been successful over the long term. Replicating those systems as exact as we can is next; even if it means a complete over-haul or temporary dismantling to the extent our laws, climate, geography & time will allow. / / *Taxi service in Toronto is an embarrassment. There are so many things glaringly wrong with it I will refrain from going into detail. Bottom line is London has a world class cab service due to strict "character" qualifications and "The Knowledge" test which every driver must pass. This system should be replicated in Toronto. / / *Successful bicycle-sharing systems have been operating in Europe since 1974. Bixi arrived in Toronto this year with limited</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
	<p>availability and an complicated 7 expensive pay structure. / / *Bicycle sharing systems in Europe work in co-operation with the rail systems. Go Transit & Via Rail are already equipped to transport bicycles but I've heard no news of either partnering with Bixi, Autoshare or anyone else. Is the TTC equipped for bicycles? / / *Many of Go Transit destinations's public transit systems offer discounted fares with presentation of your Go Transit ticket. Does the TTC have a comparable partnership with Go Transit or any other transportation system? / / *Autoshare systems should be invited to strengthen their tourism campaigns and encouraged to partner with other transportation systems and other communities. / / *Outdoor vendors and covered markets all over the world, in varied climates, attract huge numbers of visitors. The "a la cart" program to expand food vendor offerings is a great example of why Toronto is not a world class city yet. This pilot program, inadequate & misguided has 6 participating vendors from an original 8. Only one has a street food cart price point, though no indication of portion size. Two carts offer a meal at \$5, one of which can be purchased in a number of restaurants close by for less. The remaining 3 vendors have no price point in there listing on the a la cart website. So many possibilities are being overlooked - taco stands, empanadas, boiled or roasted corn, If the hot dog is the only food product that can stand up to the scrutiny of the safe food legislation then it's time to sit down with Health Canada to test various foods, equipment & cooking methods, then write some new legislation specific to outdoor carts - not trucks or restaurants. / / / Focusing our efforts on co-operative solutions to these issues & others will benefit the entire region. Every community in Southern Ontario depends on Toronto for it's economic well-being. I believe every community needs autonomy for community-specific concerns; and I certainly am not in favour of the GTA expanding. Looking at economic & practical integration of roadways and transportation, waste & water management, etc... with an emphasis on GTA is crucial for the entire region. A portion of the money taken out of Toronto to neighbouring communities needs to be reinvested in Toronto so it can continue to accommodate residents, commuters and visitors. In turn, Toronto would have a responsibility to fund projects that significantly improve these systems making their use by surrounding communities an affordable, easy and practical option. / / My wish is that instead of our regional neighbours perpetuating the "I hate Toronto" sentiment while they enjoy all the wares & opportunities Toronto has provided them with, perhaps a small "thank-you" in the form of co-operation would be more gracious, effective, and Canadian. Not only co-operation with Toronto; but co-operation amongst all the cities & communities.</p>
158.	<p>improving public spaces - these can be beneficial to all socioeconomic groups and improve the quality of life for all. a world class city should have world class parks and other public spaces which can be enjoyed by all and give people a sense of pride in their city and improve their quality of life. also education should be a priority particularly in high risk communities</p>

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
159.	Excessive permissions for deviations from the City Plan, thus leading to demolition of existing moderate cost housing and replacement with expensive to own or rent high-rises. / Preservation of green space and a green publicly accessible waterfront / A requirement that all new housing contain a certain percentage of rental and low-income units to preserve a mixed income demographic in the city.
160.	Consistent and thought out development plan for new housing construction, particularly condos - and how the density in new areas are overburdening existing infrastructure without the requirement for developers to contribute to infrastructure improvement. The developer plans need to include more contributions to infrastructure, parks, transit and other services the new residents use.
161.	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
162.	The city should consider building a world class race track up at Downsview Park. With Corporate Funding from the private sector. For every dollar spent on building it, one dollar would go into building subway stations that could show case the company's product. Imagine a Subway Station that would be called "Apple" or "RIM". We could host the first North American Electric Motorcycle Race. These bikes are fast. If a city like Austin Texas can build one, why are we sitting on a potential gold mine. Imagine the Indy and Formula 1. Imagine NASCAR and MotoGP. World events in our back yard. I can see it now, no more boring expensive walkways to the train, I see a walkway that brings your senses alive before you watch million dollar cars race for the day.
163.	maintaining parks and recreation services, forestry and culture. / libraries. / festivals and fun.
164.	We need a pair of lungs for this city. A priority has to be to make a downtown city park, just as Montreal has Parc Mont Royal and New York has Central Park. The closest we come is the islands, but citizens have to pay to go there. Crazy. / We need initiatives to discourage private auto use and encourage public transportation and especially biking. Biking needs to be a priority in a city concerned about traffic congestion, infrastructure costs and the environment.
165.	The city needs to consider how to offer attractive public spaces (e.g. parks, promenades) that are accessible to all.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
166.	Services and programs for the most vulnerable: homeless, handicapped, elderly, unemployed, troubled youth. / Affordable housing / Programs to promote altruism and recognize volunteers and non-profit organizations working to provide programs and opportunities in our communities. / A Massive input of cash to rebuilding the infrastructure (roads, sewers, parks etc.) / A look at governance with an eye to decreasing the number of elected officials and upper management personnel. / A commitment to improve community centers and programs and a renewed commitment to make these services known and readily available to the citizens at an attractive and affordable fee. / A commitment to the arts at all levels - for these speak to the very soul of a community and make it caring, noble and collegial.
167.	Sidewalk clearing - save the money on those little trucks. They always come BEFORE the snow's fallen or AFTER every one's already cleaned their walk. Seniors/disabled people should apply to be on a list for clearing services and if an icy property isn't on the list - bill them and add it to their taxes. / / Road tolls – Out-of-towners use our roads, sidewalks, street garbage cans, parks etc - and don't pay taxes to pay for them. So charge them!
168.	- Revitalization of ALL City-owned housing / - Better service and care of Parks properties / - More co-operative work with non-profits = better spent dollars, something Conservatives NEVER think about! / (I have over 10 years of Board/Executive and staff
169.	I'd like to address to previous questionnaire. although I am very concerned with culture. What about city services such as garbage collection and the ttc? I would like to highlight those issues as well. cycling infrastructure? parks and urban forestry?
170.	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...
171.	Establishing and maintaining an urban forest at Downsview (former military airport) Park ultimately with 100+ year trees akin to Canada's Stanley Park.. Implementing a National Park at Rouge Valley. Exploring feasibility of connecting above hypothetical urban "gems" via across-metropolis expanded Sheppard subway line, west, and, east.
172.	Transit / Parks protection
173.	Bicycle lanes and more parks
174.	Access to parks and other green space. What happened to the big, open park that everyone wanted on the waterfront? (not more buildings!)
175.	Replacement for High Park dirt jumps. Better signage on city roads and highways.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
176.	A first class city has safe dedicated walking and bike trails, sports and exercise facilities for all ages, large areas of natural green space, more and more trees especially in all streets, shrubs and flower meadows, museums and art galleries, public transit for all, well funded public schooling for all, libraries, public health and well planned public housing. Such a city needs policies and long term planning and stop relying on the unelected OMB as a thoughtless planning tool. Don't forget to build the originally planned bridge in Fort York. With any luck a lot of people will come to Toronto for the Pan Am games, as well as Torontonians visitors should be treated to a fine and interesting city with evidence of art, culture and architecture.
177.	Conservation of green space
178.	Perhaps if the Mayor had no cut taxes instituted a property tax freeze and eliminated the vehicle registration fee the deficit would not be as large. Also forcing developers to build civic/public realms, i.e., parks, benches, squares in exchange for height increases for violating official plan.
179.	Access to services - affordable housing, childcare, parks/recreation, transit, infrastructure
180.	community parks and greenhouses that the city manages is very important. city must find the money for it.
181.	tenant services / parks / innovation
182.	more garden plots for downtown seniors and across the city
183.	Food security in the urban "desert". Parks need to be generously planted with hardy, mostly native food bearing plants like raspberries, blackberries, nut trees etc. A clean "fishable" lake and urban chicken co-ops need to be encouraged. During the inevitable natural or man-made disaster, kids still have to eat! Expand community gardens and orchards into productive lawn areas. Restore green roof tax breaks which will help cool the city during heat waves while providing pollinator habitat (like City Hall's lovely roof) and potential food growing space.
184.	Affordable housing / public transit / civic engagement: participation / Access to parks and recreation services / Access: equity issues
185.	Cutbacks in city council jobs (should be done) / delays in obtaining trial dates/court dates sooner / safer communities for lower income groups / reconstructing parks/playgrounds in lower income communities
186.	Safe community space at night. These places include parks and recreational buildings.
187.	Refurbishing run down park facilities. Improved facilities equals more use, which equals safer parks. Sell all houses owned by Toronto Community Housing worth more than \$500k and use the proceeds to house low income families in clean affordable and well maintained apartments. Improving the TTC service, implementing a pay per distance system like Tokyo's

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
188.	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
189.	no user fees for parks and recreational adult programs.
190.	stop spending \$250,000 on Dog Parks / we need road tolls to fund transit efficiencies and get people in suburbs out of their cars - into buses - in special bus lanes dedicated to people moving - this will improve air quality , congestion and keep cars out of the downtown / you must be aware of the lost productivity and the 80 minute commute for citizens of the GTA - some of the longest in the world!!!!
191.	snow removal / trees and parks / safe outdoor play especially for children
192.	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
193.	Parks and recreation, more greenspace, keeping pools open, sustainability,
194.	creating a waterfront park
195.	More respect for cyclists, bike lanes, and pedestrians. Better funding and coverage for the TTC (no fare hikes, please). Fewer cars. More green space. No cuts to services (raise taxes if you have to). Respect city workers rights to good wages. The Leafs not sucking would be nice, too.
196.	Please clean up Lake Ontario NOW. It's long overdue. / Maintain a clean city (i.e. No bed bugs or other pests in buildings, clean up and keep city streets and parks clean). / Eliminate/reduce air pollution. / Eliminate/reduce traffic congestion. / Pay more attention to the aesthetics of the city (i.e. urban design, condo development, beautify Toronto with more green spaces, trees and flowers). / No aggressive panhandling.
197.	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!
198.	Need to maintain social safety net to ensure that everyone has quality of life. / Need to maintain places for community connection - early years centres, libraries, public parks, community centres. These are essential to preventing problems that are much more costly to address (like chronic disease, social isolation, depression, addiction, health crises, abuse).
199.	Moving across the city (west-east) is very painful experience, especially without a car. / New condos are often build without considering traffic, schools and parks.
200.	Waterfront access, with more inexpensive cafes and green parks. / Recycling - make it easier to understand what goes into the blue box, and accept more.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
201.	parks, recreation, livability, cleanliness
202.	responsible development (complete streets, public space, community needs and desires, human interactions), Cycling infrastructure (separated lanes or clearly marked lanes), affordable housing, parks and public spaces, maintaining city services and infrastructure (like garbage collection and public housing)
203.	public transit, libraries, parks
204.	Access to community services (libraries, parks and recreations, sports, community centers) for everyone regardless of income.
205.	tourism / maintaining and improving parks and recreation programs
206.	1. green space/parks/park maintenance/tree planting. /
207.	The city's infrastructure is falling apart. It's embarrassing and it's crippling our city. Commutes are becoming more difficult. Cycling is becoming more dangerous. We need to invest in making our city something we can be proud of, improve transit and infrastructure, build more green spaces, including parks, and encourage green modes of transportations by providing a safe and accessible inter-city bike route through the downtown core (between King and Dundas)
208.	Accessibility and inclusion for our parks and natural spaces wherever possible
209.	I have a concern that the city needs to strengthen the maintenance and services at our Parks and green spaces. Keeping the Riverdale Farm for the enjoyment and education of our children is a must. Increasing the maintenance of parks, rinks, community centers and tennis courts will go a long way in paying dividends for a healthy active community.
210.	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..... / /
211.	Waterfront. Rouge Park expansion to become a national park.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
212.	We need to remain an economically viable city with jobs, access to education, child care and safety nets available. In addition, we need also to address the need to support arts and culture and maintain a city that others wish to visit - to keep tourist dollars coming to it. To focus simply on keeping taxes low is short-sighted, and to lump 'fair' with 'low' taxes obscures the need on occasion to raise taxes while still being fair. In addition, I believe that we need to be good custodians of the treasures Toronto already has, such a the water front (it still needs work) and historical places such as High Park.
213.	Parks and Recreation
214.	More recreational facilities for community use - parks, pools, arenas, sports fields. / Incentives and opportunities for a greener Toronto - bike lanes, incentives for green roofs, ongoing green bin program. / Improved public transit including a waterfront subway line and a fixed link subway or LRT to Pearson airport. / Pedestrian tunnel to the island airport.
215.	Improving public transportation, particularly bus routes. Also, community centres and parks need good upkeep.
216.	We need a statement of overall policy on how our city should be run. What are our goals?.. / As Canada's 6th largest government, our overall goal should be to improve the social and environmental health of our city for future generations. / First of all, our government should be democratic, in other words major decisions should be made or approved by our elected council, not by appointed committees. Any changes to our electoral process should be made by public referendum to protect this structure. / Next, we need to protect the social health of our city for future generations. As the gap between rich and poor increases, this threatens the social health and security of our city and it becomes more costly and a less friendly place to live. Social programs and issues like wide public transport are critical to this health and security. / We need to protect the environmental health as well. Parks, clean air, efficient recreational services are critical to this. / Last, we need to avoid irreversible decisions that take resources out of public hands, such as the 407. The private sector may be an excellent means of delivering public services, but the overall control and ownership of these resources should remain in public hands. / /
217.	Restore transit, remove cars from downtown, impose toll fees on roads, improve parks, restore waterfront to the public, restrict condo development
218.	Improving Parks - include retail and private business to generate rental revenues for the City and make Parks more desirable for residents
219.	maintaining park land
220.	Education and Parks
221.	Balancing budget, getting rid of the sense of entitlement and jobs for life by the unionized employees, putting welfare recipients to work (even if it is cleaning up public parks)
222.	Why are Culture and Sport grouped together when they are two separate things? Other issues should include: Accessibility, Green Space, Waterfront development
223.	Maintaining/increasing green space. Encouraging positive environmental practices.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
224.	Funding for libraries / Funding for community centres / Maintaining our parks / Arts and culture programs / Programs for vulnerable populations/communities / Make living on social assistance more realistic (i.e. raising the rates) / Services for seniors / Shelter, support and housing for homeless people / Compost and recycling services / Bike lanes! - making Toronto a more bike friendly and safe city / Community Health Centres
225.	An effective, fast, electrified link between downtown and Pearson airport / An effective, unified, metro-wide transportation system with a single payment option / Lakeshore and most of the Don improvements and parks
226.	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.
227.	Parks and Green Space
228.	Parks and urban forestry
229.	we need to bring back all the things that make our city great which is the arts which brings in tourists and creates a ton of jobs and bring film back and have safe secure neighbourhoods which need to be protected from loud music, gangs and graffiti and condos so we still have neighbourhoods and save our parks
230.	alternative transportation infrastructure (see New York City low-cost, high payback bike and pedestrian infrastructure); better small park spaces; increased access to libraries; high quality transit
231.	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.
232.	When skateboarding became popular and businesses began complaining about riders on their property the city made an effort to create skate parks throughout Toronto to give them a legal place to practice. I feel the city should do the same for mountain biking and expand on what they have started in the Don Valley.
233.	Air quality, park space, the environment
234.	Public housing; / Public access to civic spaces - e.g. parks, public squares etc.
235.	Building a vision for the city (e.g. parks, architecture, bike lanes, attractions etc.) and the protection and proper development of the waterfront through Waterfront Toronto. As well as a better transit plan that connects the entire city.
236.	Parks and Green space
237.	A new approach to parks / How do we knit the downtown and suburbs together? A city-building approach is needed. / An integrated approach to planning that considers social, environmental, economic and cultural factors - not done in a vacuum.
238.	Cleaning up the waterfront (i.e.: Chicago has a great waterfront) / Burying the Gardiner (i.e.: Boston moved their highway underground, with beautiful parks above) / Clean parks for our children / Mental health assistance for our homeless / Clean transit, electrification, bike lanes /

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
239.	Better parks.
240.	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
241.	Over development of our Waterfront for Condo's thus reducing public green space. / Over development of neighbourhoods with Condo's where traffic congestion is already a problem..off loading traffic to side streets especially large trucks, load bearing vans etc.
242.	cleanliness of city, parks, accessibility for people with disabilities
243.	The City needs to find an efficient and effective way to plan strategically for long-term growth in a way that can take advantage of best practices from other cities in areas like green technology, culture, transit, heritage, parks and social services. Toronto needs a strong vision that will override the preoccupations of those politicians who can't see past the next election date, and those developers who can't see past the next profitable project. The City seems to be moving away from public input via its many citizen boards, which I believe is a backwards step.
244.	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!
245.	I love to go to city run facilities: parks and recreation, libraries
246.	keeping the city clean -- litter is regularly all over sidewalks, roads, parks and other public spaces
247.	Many people use our parks and libraries, lowering upkeep of standards causes a problem of visual affects / /
248.	Privatize garbage collection. Privatize the TTC. Remove bike lanes on streets and keep them in parks. Require bike owners to register and license their bikes to get their fair share of using public roads.
249.	INCREASE IN DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PUBLIC SPACES SUCH AS PARKS AND COMMUNITY CENTRES FOR YOUTHS AND FAMILIES

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
250.	Retain / Improve Snow Removal Wherever Possible / Clean Up Our Parks and Remove the Rampaging Weeds - Increase Months Access is Available - Fall is Later; Spring is Earlier / Decrease the Rate at Which Water/Sewer Rates are Increasing - 9% - 10%/Year is Too Much for Seniors and Fixed Incomes / Contract Out Everything That Can Reduce City Expenses Yet Maintain/Improve Service Levels
251.	Protecting our parks and keeping our street clean
252.	-Wider public transit network (including better service for bus and streetcar routes) / - increasing bicycle safety with more bike lanes (perhaps to the left of where cars can parallel park, as Montreal does. / -Increase art projects for the city (includi
253.	fostering arts and culture, improving parks and recreation, more creative architecture and streetscaping including wall murals
254.	I have a personal issue. I am an ODSP client, who started my own dog walking business(after working for someone else for over a year). I claim my income and file a tax form yearly. All I ever wanted to do was provide the dogs I walk with an opportunity to run and get proper stimulation. I have chosen to take them to areas that are NOT officially off leash. I do my best to take them to areas that are not frequented by too many people. I was taking them down the cement path aside the Don Valley, but now am greeted with incredible hostility by SPEEDING, RACING bikes and joggers, who seem to HATE animals. I am fed up with the tax grab of the by-law officers chasing dog walkers down to issue incredibly HIGH fines. I am also a part time musician and have never fit into the 9 to 5 mold(not everyone does), but I am also doing my best to be a contributing high functioning member of society, in the best way I can. I have discussed with a few people the fact that Toronto seems to be a Police state and dog/animal unfriendly. I cannot remember this kind of anger growing up in the Beach. I don't like the off leash dog parks, mostly because there is NO greenery, or trees to shade them if it is incredibly hot. Is there a way to have some green space allotted to people and their animals(off leash), where they won't be criticized verbally OR physically attacked by (now I'm being critical) "A" type personalities who speed by on bikes and have no interest or care to slow down(which is ALSO illegal). What has happened to this city???? I, for the first time have considered leaving.
255.	Hell yes! Those who come to Toronto i.e.: Thunder Bay for live on the streets and for Toronto taxpayers to support - go home! Sick & tired of teens coming here for the summer begging and getting welfare - why should we support them. Anyone on welfare that is able bodied should be given a post - anything, clean up the parks, help seniors. The ways are endless. Libraries should charge for a card (no freebies until children) late dues should be increased and staff should be reduced - they are usually chatting among themselves anyhow! Police should not be standing around at construction sites. More policing is needed from Feds & Provincial levels to get rid of gangs, drugs etc. Toronto taxpayers are responsible for too many things that should be addressed by other levels of government.
256.	more garbage cans better park maintenance

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
257.	Higher quality schools, parks and social services. Increases in these areas, not decreases.
258.	The City of Toronto should consider improving all city services rather than cuts. Affordable and valuable taxes are ones which are collected and spent well. Stop deleting revenue streams and begin thinking about improving services. Stop wasting our tax dollars on Consultants who are paid to tell us exactly what you want them too. Instead of privatizing city services, take some responsibility and institute real, and measurable accountability matrices and implement positive changes. Stop selling city assets to pay for city services. Instead, collect the appropriate taxes to support the growing city. Parks are an important part of the city. Eliminate the changes to the Eglinton Transit line so that we can afford a route to the airport. Stop bullying councillors to vote a certain way.
259.	Many, including myself, would agree to pay higher property taxes if we could be assured that our streets, buildings, roads, and parks were clean.
260.	FIRE AND POLICE SERVICES ARE PARAMONT AND NEED PUBLIC MONEY TO GROW WITH THE CHANGING DEMANDS OF OUR CITY AND IT'S PEOPLE. / PARKS AND LIBRARIES ARE ALSO VERY IMPORTANT.
261.	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
262.	Making all City Parks and Recreation services free to those on assistance of any kind.
263.	Increased TTC, more streetcars/LRT; better cycling infrastructure/bike lanes; more parks and community spaces (continued support for the excellent work of the Waterfront agency)
264.	Maintenance, development and growth of bike lanes, parks, and community recreation facilities to help encourage fitness and positive social activity.
265.	maintaining a liveable city, by ensuring marginalized people are supported generously, by meeting the needs of people who choose to walk or bike instead of drive, by preserving and extending green space and protecting the environment.
266.	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.
267.	Public transit. 407 should make toronto more money. finish Allen road to lakeshore. cover up Allen road with parks, using private-public partnerships. air quality.
268.	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!

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
269.	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.
270.	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. / / /
271.	Maintaining parks and trees, public housing to be repaired, support of food banks, public transit supported, library services supported
272.	urban planning - neighbourhoods are a mess with all the intensification, bad OMB decisions and inconsistently applied "official plan". NO expansion of green space despite population growth. No provision for traffic increases with development. the waterfront is a disgrace - its potential ruined by (previous) city governments and developers
273.	Providing Affordable housing, Provide affordable shelter to the homeless, Congestion on the roads, provide seniors city assistance and rebates, make the TTC effective service by providing more buses and extending the subway line, keeping the conservatories, greenhouses and parks continue to belong to the city. provide social assistance for the vulnerable and more money for infrastructure.
274.	1.keeping the city looking good-parks grass cut, garbage and graffiti cleaned up, / 2.improving the flow of traffic-better timed lights, less stop signs, get rid of bike lanes that are not well used / 3.get rid of street cars and replace with buses / 4.long term underground subway to the airport / 5.more parks-especially along the lake / 6.improve sports and fitness facilities / 6.

Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues	
275.	The city ought to consider further privatizing city-run services by returning them to both the profit and non-profit sectors. Libraries and community centres, as well as park maintenance and forestry, could easily be further opened up to the community participation by transferring some of the administrative responsibility for individual parks, branches, and centres to community volunteer boards and associations. For example, in the South Humber Park in Etobicoke, the 153rd Old Mill Scouting Group is currently managing a project to re-forest and re-naturalize parts of the woods and meadows with the help of a private firm and some support from the city. However, we have been hindered by city hall bureaucracy that prevents a well-respected private firm from using to use the necessary equipment and materials (i.e. herbicide for invasive trees), instead having to wait months for city staff to do it. The city ought to better facilitate community partnerships like this one that return power to the people and save the city money. / / Also, there is no reason for the city to manage companies like Toronto Hydro, which could be sold to private firms for a substantial profit. With the city's large debt-load and future infrastructure needs, it is only responsible to sell-off assets that could free up additional revenue for capital investment. Moreover, advances in technology have eliminated the "natural monopoly" for services like hydro and gas, which can now be provided in a competitive marketplace - generating wealth and jobs while driving down costs for consumers.
276.	Homeless, Affordable Housing, Parks
277.	Keeping the Parks, Forestry and Recreation programs including swimming programs and camps.
278.	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.
279.	City of Toronto continues to have most of its agency services for the homeless and community support services downtown, while the United Way identified priority neighbourhoods that are located in GTA, like Dorset Park, Steeles/L'Am area. Cutting funding to agencies with foodbanks, homeless programs and immigrant service programs in the GTA will be detrimental to the communities.
280.	Environment and Greenspace, affordable housing, local procurement
281.	Greenspace.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
282.	What other ways are there to make Toronto attractive to locals and to visitors without the simple knee-jerk, "let's slash taxes and services so it's a great place to do business." Do we race to the bottom (which we'll never find) or set ourselves apart by doing things better, being more livable, investing in transit (and private is great if managed with riders at top of mind!), parks, streetscapes, arts. When people say what they love about great cities around the world, the one thing you never, ever hear is, "Oh, their mayor really respects taxpayers!"
283.	space for community - cultural, arts, green parks - places for people to gather
284.	investment in and management of the urban forest, ravine and park system; planning and management of roads and sidewalks to accommodate private vehicles, commercial vehicles, transit, bicycles and pedestrians; sustainable revenue streams beyond property taxes.
285.	clean green space - safe play equipment in parks. / coordination between city and contractors on infrastructure projects. pouring/destruction/re-pouring of sidewalks on Roncesvalles a perfect example of wasted time and money. / balanced budget based on fiscal responsibility not cutting tax programs based on campaign promises. (vehicle tax - bring it back) /
286.	Reducing traffic congestion by restoring and raising vehicle license taxes; proper maintenance of arterial roads and introduction of road tolls; encouraging and supporting cyclists and pedestrians by improving safety; eliminating use of toxic pesticides on city property; considering subsidy programs for urban gardening and alternative fuel use; closing Yonge St. south of College to Front to vehicular traffic from June 1 through Labour Day; modernization of TTC via introduction of 'smart cards' and pro-rated fares based upon distance travelled; serious effort to reduce noise pollution with strict bylaws governing construction; elimination of leaf blowers and gas-powered lawn equipment; total shutdown of Downsview airport and redevelopment of Downsview Park as National Urban Park founded on the principles of renewable energy and accessible public green space.
287.	Access to parks and greenspace
288.	/ maintaining parks and green spaces /
289.	public greenspace / public use and accessibility to the lake shore
290.	Funding for public programs like parks and recreation.
291.	Making our city great (a place people want to visit and live), having safe water, Community Centres and investing in neighbourhoods, Supports to vulnerable people, permanent funding for libraries, maintaining parks and making the most of our waterfront.
292.	Accessibility and availability of parks and public spaces. We need to increase public space and encourage civic engagement and community building. Neighbourhoods should cater to a diverse range of cultures and income levels. We need more public art, subsidized art spaces, and public incentives to support local, independent businesses.
293.	Maintaining services and programs including Parks and Recreation programs, homeless services, programs that are run by community organizations. Keeping services public.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
294.	Affordable housing, public transit, civic engagement and participation, access to parks and recreation services, access to childcare, access and equity issues
295.	Public health services including multipronged addiction services, strengthening vulnerable communities, parks and recreation, affordable housing and support services for underhoused, affordable childcare
296.	maintaining or promoting a demographic mix in the core v. letting the market decide who can afford to live here as is the case now; preserving rental accommodations or giving incentives for providing rental properties; reducing ghettos in NE and NW area of city; aggressive social/economic programmes to counteract gang activity in marginalized communities / integrating public transportation across the GTA / environmental studies and projects need to be maintained; better engagement with residents for input, working with existing city programmes like creating local greenspace; renters are not notified of new builds in the area unlike condo owners /
297.	Keeping Parks and green spaces notably in the downtown areas. Queens Park is a disgrace and not being properly maintained.
298.	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.
299.	I am worried about the increasing encroachment of developers and development on our public lands. Protect our parks! I am also worried about the continued viability of our library system. But the most urgent issue that needs to be taken care of I feel is modernizing and expanding our public transit system. I fully support the introduction of road tolls to pay for this endeavour.
300.	- providing sufficient public space (e.g., parks/greenspace, recreational, leisure spaces, etc.) / - access to affordable arts/cultural attractions / - continued development of waterfront and related infrastructure
301.	I want the Parks department "Dog-Off-Leash Area" to stop taking away public green spaces from the community. I think this program should be cancelled and the installation of dog parks, which are expensive to maintain and monitor and only serve the needs of a few, to end.
302.	adequate subsidized and affordable housing, higher quality architecture, greenspace, make it safer for cyclists
303.	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.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
304.	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
305.	Affordable and accessible community services such as libraries, park and rec.
306.	The budget deficit, bike lanes, city parks and recreations programming, the welcome policy
307.	Cultural services; Environment including parks, trees and wildlife; Water; Garbage; Transit; Fires; Medical services; Housing
308.	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.
309.	Better maintained parks, keeping the city clean.
310.	Continue promoting city parks, public library, museums
311.	Public Transit, Housing, parks & recreation,
312.	Improving social housing / Improving cycling network / Waterfront development / Public parks
313.	Promoting alternative energy, expanding on green space, emphasis on mixed income communities, pushing cycling through out the city, efficient and accessible ttc plan.
314.	Careful on the private sector deals for city infrastructure contracts. Must be independent and accountable. Don't waste our tax dollars and time on 'graffiti' removal which only punishes the small business owners. Much more important issues i.e. communication between departments/private sector to coordinate effectively work being done on our streets. Support cultural events that are part of our diverse peoples Toronto. Never cut Parks budgets. Urban green space are the lungs of the City. As density grows, so doe the demand to maintain our parks as cool, green refuges from the concrete jungle.

	Parks – Other Important City-Wide Issues
315.	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.
316.	Culture and sport should be separate. / Really putting the drug strategy into operation - and funding it. / proper public transit - and a well thought out plan. We had one once. / much more public housing - and that housing in better repair. / The city infrastructure - it is old and wearing out. / Making Toronto more livable and friendly - for the residents as well as for tourists. This means developing and applying architectural standards; developing parks. Developing the waterfront and Downsview park. Toronto is not "on the map" as it should be. I fear that it's time may have passed. / More pedestrian friendly streets, down town in particular. / take Scarborough back from the automobile. Develop safer, more comfortable neighbourhoods. That means doing something about the extra-wide streets without trees or places to sit and relax. The excess of strip malls, etc. Paraphrasing Gertrude Stein about Oakland I believe ... "There is no there ." / Get rid of the Gardner - or most of it / Is this enough?
317.	improve forestry services / invasive plant control in parks and green spaces / summer programs for children in parks
318.	Accessible and affordable transportation, a vibrant Toronto culture including galleries, museums and parks. Park maintenance is important.
319.	Transit. Provision of services by public employees. Bike lanes and infrastructure. Clean parks. Programs for children and youth. How to get more support from other levels of government for our transit, for public housing, for childcare subsidies and facilities.
320.	We need to build a Toronto that can compete in the emerging global economies that can provide good jobs for all. We are not able compete by lowering wages and living standards, we must build are competitive advantage on the security, accessible and livable city. This mean investing in culture, social services, parks and public spaces that are accessible to all.
321.	I believe the City should explore the expansion of increasing or maintaining the budgets of policing, EMS and green space in the city.
322.	- Cutting down the carbon footprint / - Keep the "naming rights" to the city/public (parks Canada, subway stations etc.) / - Going as green as possible
323.	Creation of new parks

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

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	Parks – Financial Advice
1.	If we want to compete with New York, London and Paris, then we need to invest in transit, the waterfront and our parks. People don't visit Paris because it's balanced its budget, people visit to see the great museums and parks. / /
2.	Contract out any union jobs that are not directly related to public safety. i.e. DO NOT contract out police services, fire, EMS, water treatment etc. DO contract out Parks and Forestry services, garbage collection, property maintenance, etc.
3.	If we must use the existing Unions I would like them to work for the money they receive. We seem to have a lot of City employees that don't want to work (just go into any of the major parks like Sunnybrook any afternoon during the week and see for yourself)
4.	take a look at public transit in other countries whereby they pay for the distance traveled. This helps save commuters money and limit urban sprawl. / / Allow commercial use of public space i.e. parks, and charge them for the license. Allow more business to be set up by the waterfront. / / Put toll fees on cars coming into downtown Toronto from the suburbs. / /
5.	Review of user fees for certain activities such as community special interest group picnics in parks, access to public gardens and heritage buildings and fees for libraries.. Review use of Wheeltrans system to ensure that buses are filled. For example consider carrying elderly people (over 75) as well as disabled at low fee. Currently the buses run with very few occupants because it is restricted to disabled. Consider higher user fees for houses with multiple green and blue bins as this is a sign of multiple occupancy, Higher fines for people who neglect their properties or leave vacant .In addition higher tax rate or shut down for individuals using homes as rooming houses or multiple occupancy. Also severe penalties or expropriation of properties convicted of grow houses or labs. Discontinue sidewalk clearing / Consider contracting out trucks running around picking up dead animals etc to maximize efficiency.
6.	Look at each service area and reduce the amount of people collecting cheques for not doing much this will save a lot of money that can be put towards the actual services. It does not take 3 trucks 7 workers and 1 supervisor to cut down a damaged tree in the park (this is an example but it happens ALOT in EVERY service area) It won't reduce \$744 Mill deficit to \$0 but it Will significantly reduce it

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7.	I think some unions are WAY too powerful, like the TTC's for example. That tends to strangle services for money and quality of service. / / to bring an NFL team to Toronto will inevitably cost the city money. We're wasting time even discussing it. / / I think there are WAY too many vehicles in the city. I believe in toll zones similar to London UK. The attitude of 'war' between drivers and EVERYBODY else needs to end. We're all just people. If the city's transit was one tenth the quality of most European cities, people would be happy to park their cars and ride into town. / / I'm not going to write a novel but once again I think that Rob Ford stands in the way of everything this city needs. I hope this kind of correspondence helps.
8.	Perhaps instead of simply looking at what I as a tax payer thinks about operating a city, to paraphrase an old saying, first clean up your own backyard before looking to your neighbour. ECONMIZE EFFICIENCY AND WELL THOUGHT OUT CHOICES. We all face hard choices about money. Last year I had to replace my roof as racoons put holes in my roof. I live next to a shelter where I know for a fact they feed the racoons and every other type of vermin. It was an unexpected eight thousand dollars that I had to spend, while on a fixed income that might have been avoided if my tax dollars were better spent on an organization that could provide shelter facilities and be respectful of the money they get by not feeding wild animals. I will iterate that the spending of tax money to provide "doggy wonderlands" while removing public park land from everyone is getting absurd. Finally I cannot fathom what requirements there are to manage a city especially since the amalgamation and downloading of programs from the province to the city. The best I can hope for is that all of us do our best to eliminate excessive spending find frugal way to deliver good services and be respectful of ourselves and others.
9.	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.
10.	Why are we talking about funding services when we should be talking about what services to fund? We have to rationalize what core services are and spend money on them. It's about clean parks, good libraries, smooth roads and efficient emergency services.
11.	I am happy to pay taxes to live in a city that provides a high level of services that are accessible and affordable. Lowering costs is not as important top me as is social services, libraries, parks, transit.

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12.	It's all an exercise trade-offs... but I would rather see a city that is proud of its services than a city that is dominated by poor services, inadequate programs, unmaintained parks and open spaces, etc... if this means paying a small increase in property tax, I am all for this. In the grand scheme of things, an increase of up to 5% is not that big of a jump considering the level of services and quality of those services the city can and should provide its citizens. I think a major issue lies in that there is a high influx of people who come into the city for work or leisure and do not contribute to the costs of the services and amenities they make use of - these users often pay less property tax than they would if they lived in Toronto. Perhaps the city should look at securing a redistribution of funds from neighbouring municipalities to offset the costs of providing services for out-of-city users. Perhaps the city could also look into a special scheme for residents of the city whereby user fees are discounted given they already contribute to property tax. Just some thoughts.
13.	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.
14.	Fire services is too costly. Funding should be given to EMS instead to put more paramedics and vehicles on the road. Fire services should focus on fire prevention, and should NOT provide medical services. It is a duplication with Toronto EMS that is unnecessary. We have too many fire trucks and fire fighters and not enough paramedics. Please change the priority! / The City MUST invest in environmental sustainability. Short-term planning for economic growth will be useless if our City will not be able to withstand the impact of climate change. Initiatives like green roofs, subsidies for solar power, investing in alternate fuel sources for the City (like biofuel from all our compost) and increasing green space will help mitigate the potentially disastrous effects of the changes to weather patterns. Cities like Chicago, Boston and New York and already improving environmental infrastructure, and Toronto must do so as well.
15.	In this survey there was no box for funds raised from the private sector. I think instead of only being able to choose raising higher property taxes and opening up to outside contractors we should also be soliciting the private sector to funding transit, parks, roads etc. It is part of being a good citizen and giving back to your community. All major cities rely on both private and public funds.
16.	Core, traditional services must be maintained through general tax revenue (libraries, parks, police, etc). The City should be working closely with the Federal and Provincial government to establish new program funding for many of the downloaded services (welfare, community housing, etc).

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17.	Please prioritize city services that the majority of citizens actually use like transit, garbage, roads, community centres, libraries, pools, arenas, parks and daycare while eliminating funding to rarely used services (311), special interest projects (city run theatres) and superfluous luxuries (zoo). Please stop making excuses for overspending on your political allies (police) while attacking other departments. I'm pleased you're eager to set the cities finances in order, but cost saving initiatives should be applied across the board. If the rest of us are getting by with less (rightfully so, in this economy), so should your political friends. I'm pleased you scrapped the a la carte street food program and hope you'll extend the same philosophy to other areas, allowing the community and motivated individuals to make their city better on their own (i.e., Dufferin Grove Park), drawing support from government only when needed. Give people the tools to do things themselves, the way they want and you'll have happier, more engaged communities.
18.	Toll on Gardiner; DVP; 401, Yong St ; Bay Street within the city area. / Have multi-level car parks at Islington, Kipling and Kennedy / Make Car park at subway stations free with monthly pass / Have more Bixi locations / Automated Transit similar to sky train in Vancouver, BC
19.	Communities and neighbourhoods should be encouraged to contribute volunteer services, i.e. cleaning up garbage at community-run centers and parks. Public-private partnerships SHOULD BE AVOIDED.
20.	Social and arts funding can and should be arms lengths from city government, but need to be funded by the city. Allow local resident input and shaping into parks. City funding doesn't need to mean centralization and bureaucracy. A little local redundancy is better than monolithic bureaucracy
21.	I believe the downloading of services from the federal to provincial to municipal governments are the big reason David Miller's regime tried to tackle so much and the Rob Ford's approach of cutting services radically to decrease costs and taxes have taken hold. I don't blame either of them (or the public) for these responses to what is a larger issue - government withdrawal from serving the Canadian public, specifically in terms of important services (public transport, libraries, parks, etc.) and services for the most needy.

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22.	<p>paying an extra \$200/yr on my property is a great deal if we could improve the services already offered by the city. Let's aim to be the best, healthiest most equitable and profitable city in the world. What this survey doesn't ask is - do you think the province or federal government should help pay for this service (such as health care or housing for lo income people) I would have said yes to that. This city has to fight to make the other levels of government who have access to other taxation methods to pay for their share of the cost of maintaining a healthy and safe society. As well this survey does not ask about increasing services until the last question. I don't think there is enough money being spent on the environment, trees and parks in Toronto - I want services in that area increased! I also want affordable housing and childcare spaces increased! I want support for artist live/work spaces increased! I want work on neighbourhood centred composting in recycling so we don't need as many diesel spewing trucks running down our roads every week. I want MORE citizen engagement. Engage the people and see how we take some of the load off staff, you don't need to contract out you need to engage the citizens in their neighbourhoods to help find solutions to the city problems. / / This survey is a good first step (although some of the questions were unreadable on Firefox) - but it looks like it's a way for Ford to force citizen to assume we need to contract out services or raise property taxes - to get the SAME services we are already getting. This is dishonest, there are other ways to raise money for some of the services, but it means negotiating with other level of governments or fighting for another source of income for the city (i.e. percentage of HST). As well Toronto property taxes are the lowest in the GTA! It's the ridiculous housing prices that are the real problem - we need to focus on that issue! / / I hope you ask for my contact info and keep in touch with me about how this survey is used</p>
23.	<p>frankly, I would be willing to pay an extra 150 bucks a year to maintain and enhance the quality of services I receive from the city. I want the park that I visit daily to be maintained. I want community arts programming and library that my children attend maintained. I want services for most vulnerable in the community maintained. I want the city to maintain a vision of Toronto that is diverse, prosperous and where business, community and all levels of government innovate and develop keeping principles in mind.</p>
24.	<p>Though no one likes increased property taxes, it's also unfair to continually raise user fees for the TTC (for example). If the TTC continues to have to raise its fares in order to maintain current levels of service, there should be more innovative ways of paying that rewards frequent users who do not use it enough to buy a Metropass, such as an equivalent system to the London Oyster Pass or the Carnet ticket system in Paris. You might also look at public-private partnerships, but only with the proviso that access to transit, parks, and public programs does not become more difficult for lower-income people.</p>

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25.	Trim the fat but be cautious what is contracted. out. All departments can cut more. Love the cops but reduce some of the paid duty overtime. Don't contract out traditional city services like garbage roads and parks. cut back on management of these services
26.	I once watched TAS respond to a litter of kittens dumped in High Park: a big burly guy got out of the white city van and spent over an hour on his hands and knees cooing and gently coaxing back each kitten. He handled each one with so much care, it was inspiring and made me proud that this is the sort of service the City provides. I don't know that a private firm would encourage staff to be so caring and I certainly don't think that a private firm would allow for that degree of resources to be spent in this way.
27.	I am mobile (self-employed internet business) and have financial ability to live in nearly any city in the world. Toronto already has a reasonable quality level of most services I find important and very low cost of living compared to Paris, San Diego, San Francisco, Madrid, Frankfurt, and London (locations I have lived for 3 months or more in the last 5 years; while maintaining my primary residence in Toronto). / / I can assure you that when considering a location to live, property taxes don't show up on the list of concerns. Primary concerns include income/sales tax, cost of housing, greenspace/parks/walkability, food quality/price, vibe/events/public realm, airport access and direct flight routes, susceptibility to disasters (natural and man-made).
28.	I would like to see services to lower income and vulnerable residents of Toronto maintained and improved. / Even though I believe in the accessibility to and universality of services, I would rather see an increase in property taxes and slight increase in user fees than a reduction in these services. / I strongly believe that funding to Parks should be maintained by the city, including the operation of the Toronto Island park and its ferry service. / I would also strongly recommend the continued funding of youth programs at community centres, particularly for at-risk youth. If this requires an increase in property taxes, so be it.
29.	I feel that the city needs to charge developers very high fees to build near Harbourfront or near a park as these places can and do charge extra to their tenants who can and should pay more fore the increased benefits they receive. / / I feel that the city demand the Province pay it's share of Provincial costs; such as Provincial courts. / / Drivers from beyond the centre area of the city should pay a fee to bring cars into the city. / / The government should not update or beautify offices after elections unless the update is needed for safety or to aid a politian who is handicapped. / / There should be no publicly paid for retirement or other parties for departing staff. / / Other than the Mayor, their should be no cars or freebies such as TTC Passes etc. should be given to Politicos. / /

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30.	Invest in the city of Toronto's residents, this is our future. Spend wisely with a vision of what the city should be instead of focussing on the short term. Forget about coming up with catchy but meaningless slogans (i.e. stop the gravy train)and really have in-depth conversations with city planners, environmentalists, community activists - internationally look at successful cities where art and culture are reflected in the city's architecture and in public transit systems, city festivals etc. In 50 years, Toronto should be an internationally renown city with outstanding architecture, an incredible harbour and beautiful parks with visitors from around the world coming to enjoy the most vibrant city in Canada.
31.	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
32.	Maintain legally required services (public health, fire, parks, libraries) and find ways to cost-share with businesses, associations and between services
33.	One of the things I love most about living in Toronto is the quality of services, the parks and ravines and waterfront. I would be more than happy to pay my share of the cost of maintaining the types and quality of services available now.
34.	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.
35.	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. /
36.	1) Lottery that goes to providing services. / 2) tax Incentives for low incoming housing development / 3) Paid Advertising on public buildings, buses and street cars / 4) Adopt a Park / name a brick / or similar community programs /
37.	Investigate revenue generating opportunities such as the London, UK tax on cars driving downtown. Allow neighbourhoods to collaborate and receive small grants if they can raise matching funds for a community improvement project such as a new play structure, comment garden, etc.
38.	Stop the handouts to the lazy citizens. Make them work for freebies. Want free courses? Sign up to earn points by cleaning parks and streets. use those points toward city services.
39.	How about taxing businesses that record enormous profits? How about fining people for littering in our parks, speeding in school zones, and other kinds of behaviours that are detrimental to the public good? Let's get a bit creative, here! Your survey seems to propose these are the only 2 options, but spending can be cut in other ways while increasing services. Who wrote this survey???

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40.	Raise taxes. Toronto is a great city that requires investment. I don't live here because of the low taxes, I live here because I love living in a great city with high quality amenities and services. / / I strongly believe that investments in our public realm will make Toronto a better place. This means better parks, sidewalks, streetscapes, open spaces and natural areas. Invest in the public realm and respective services to ensure the communal asset that is Toronto remains a great place.
41.	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.
42.	In almost every example offered, it is easier and cheaper for city to provide the service with known and predictable salary costs than to contract out. There are opportunities for public-private partnerships, though. Why don't our libraries, rinks, community centres and parks have privately-run cafes with healthy choices? I cannot believe the cutting that is being contemplated when a cafe/pavilion in every park would bring in tons of revenue. We should be learning from European examples of this. Anyway, touch the libraries and you will see that widely diverse people will be out in the streets.
43.	I chose to answer "in-depth" questions on Environmental Programs, assuming I could indicate that I believe roads, transit, water, parks, forestry, maintenance, affordable housing, are all forms of environmental programs. We desperately need an integrates approach to social and environmental equity that involves ALL city services. This likely requires increased investments; and it CLEARLY involves participation of other levels of government and the income tax bases. I feel like I've answered these questions, first under very strict and artificial constraints; second in a vacuum. The city's finances have been unsustainable at least since 1996 and the downloading exercise that has primarily screwed low-income people by cutting the services they rely on and charging them more for what's left. Let's not be cute and pretend we can fix these problems with a "service review."
44.	I hate to say it, but corporate sponsorship could make sense, if done in a respectful way. I don't want to go to the Microsoft Park, or use the Doritos bike path, but engaging corporations to SPONSOR (not advertise) city services, maybe with a short 'sponsored by ...' message, would be ok. NO LOGOS!!! Definitely no logos. / / Get creative with city properties. Don't sell them off. Trying renting them with a good management team. If private organizations can make money with renting/leases, then why can't the city? / / Road/car user fees. The vehicle tax made sense. If this can't be done for all cars, how about going after the people who do the most damage to the roads (leading to maintenance costs) - i.e. trucks, business vehicles, etc... / /
45.	I'd support usage fees on autos on downtown city streets and arterial roads, such as London England has done, and is done on the 407 highway. Also, I'd suggest selling city street 'parking passes', in addition to the green kiosk tickets - pay \$80 a month, and park on any city street during allowed hours.

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46.	Please increase the cleaning of our streets and parks, perhaps the city should look at exchanging social services (such as housing, shelter, and meals) for time cleaning our city, removing graffiti etc.
47.	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.
48.	The City should have continuity in macro projects like the waterfront, the TTC, and the renovation of Nathan Philips Square so that once decisions have been made and designs and budgets are in place, they cannot be affected by political change. It's a waste of everyone's time and money and shows no vision whatsoever in developing the city's architecture, planning, greenspace and general infrastructure when one Mayor and his counsel can undo what a previous mayor and counsel approved. We need to have a sense of commitment for the long term benefits of Toronto citizens and a vision for the city that isn't about getting - or staying - in power. Our city needs to be building for the future, not just maintaining the past.
49.	There has to be a creative solution. The parks and libraries are so important, how can you talk about reducing services?
50.	the low-skilled heavy-lifting jobs should be contracted out - waste pick-up, cleaning / janitorial, landscaping, snow clearing, security and fleet services. Maintenance of parks should also be contracted out. / / With incidences of crime and fire decreasing every year, how can we justify the increasing cost of these services?
51.	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 its 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. / /
52.	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.

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53.	<p>Ensuring food security for low-income and vulnerable persons for example can be tied together with the city-wide provision of community gardening areas in park spaces and other suitable unused areas of public land (such as under power lines). In exchange for cost-free use of the area, and perhaps a small subsidy for supplies, such areas can potentially provide volunteer and training opportunities for youth, adults and seniors, and a source of food for community support efforts, such as homeless shelters and low-income food subsidy programs. There are countless ways in which City Counsel can enact cost-neutral or even cost-negative programs such as this, to create more sustainable public services for our communities. / / Moreover, I strongly feel that as Toronto moves forward, any efforts towards economic development should place a firm and unequivocal priority and emphasis on building the rapidly emerging Green sector within the GTA (free of "green-washing", such as McGuinty's diesel buses), as this will pave the way for the long term (physical, mental and financial) health of our communities and their residents. / / As a licensed car owner, I nonetheless feel it important to state that providing safe and accessible bicycle routes throughout the downtown core and in the city's scenic areas is essential as our economies move away from dependence upon petroleum use. / / Lastly, and further to the above, I strongly feel that our city's recycling, waste disposal and composting services should remain local and self-sustaining. There are numerous ways in which we can treat our waste stream locally and more sustainably, and even provide supplements to the energy production needs within the GTA. It is irresponsible to divert our waste stream to ecologically sensitive areas, such as has been proposed time and again with general public outcry, both within the GTA and by the communities who would recipients of this refuse. User fees on garbage collection are an important element of this formula, but even more important is to take seriously the negative environmental impacts of our waste stream, and recognize that as an opportunity to improve our waste treatment strategies by implementing new technologies and methods which will turn that "problem" into an invaluable supplement for our city's food and energy production needs. / / Another aspect of the above is to provide tax subsidies to new construction and renovations which implement such environmentally sustainable building technologies as composting toilets, grey water reclamation, green roofs, on-site wind & solar power generation, straw-bail, cob, and 'earth-ship' construction (minus incompatible building code requirements), etc. All of these initiatives will help to transform cost intensive public services into cost neutral or even cost negative ones.</p>
54.	<p>Many services can be community run. / Many positions could be filled by volunteers. / Perhaps paid by food from community garden, / and provided adequate shelter or habitat for living.</p>

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55.	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.
56.	Increase user fees. Remove the Welcome policy for Parks & recreation.
57.	Look for creative ways to increase revenues from private use of public space; Increase retail business on TTC property, rent unused public facilities/office space, allow small businesses in parks. For example, instead of the current pathetic snack bar, rent that building space in Sunnybrook Park to a serious restaurant/takeout chain (imagine picking up your hot KFC or Swiss Chalet for your picnic!) and add a convenience store for all of the picnickers who need a little something. I'm sure there are huge opportunities like this throughout the city. That should be good for a few extra million per year. / Bring back the vehicle tax. That was a small inconvenience for any vehicle owner.
58.	You want to make a bundle of cash. Hire someone to patrol parks and issue tickets to dog owners who don't keep their mutts on a leash. You'll make a killing!!!!
59.	I am much more concerned with the quality of services then the cost. While fiscal responsibility and accountability is essential for any organisation, cities are judged by the quality of services it offers residents and visitors, not by the cost of providing them. Great cities have useable parks, a wide reaching public transit system, public arts and culture venues and public libraries. Improving the quality of life for residents and providing services that allow for business to succeed is what attracts further business investments, economic migration, as well as tourism. I'm not concerned with how services are funded as much as I'm concerned with the quality of services.
60.	Do not sell off assets like public libraries, community centres or public spaces (such as parks or the zoo). /
61.	Do not cut libraries, parks, environmental services, parks! Do not contract out garbage without full disclosure of bids to council and a vote by council.

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62.	<p>permit advertising or corporate sponsors for city pools, rinks, parks, ttc, city arts and cultural events, etc. / Stream line road repair and sidewalk repairs. I see new side walks going in on our street only to be dug up a year later to do a different type of work below ground. / Get more money from the federal and provincial governments. / Green more city buildings to save heating and cooling costs. / Tax people driving into the city who work downtown and make use of all the city services, e.g.: fire, public health, EMS, police, water, sewer, but pay nothing to the city as they live outside the city boundaries.</p>
63.	<p>For services that are central to your mandate and that affect (or are used by) many residents (such as garbage, water, 311, fire, police, EMS), property taxes should fund these services. For additional services (such as community centres, parks, etc) user fees should fund the services. When the service is directed toward an at risk or disadvantaged group (homeless, seniors, etc), you could use tiered user fees (for example, geared to income or ability to pay), supplemented by property taxes or another source of funding.</p>
64.	<p>Road tolls at peak hours to pay for substantially better public transit. / Cigarette tax. / Increase garbage fees. / Encourage more businesses to locate in our employment areas. / Reduce energy costs in city facilities through energy retrofit. / Reduce road wear and tear through more bike lanes and less car/truck lane space. / Pay those already who do things well (i.e.. conservation authority for environmental services) vs. employing in-house staff. / Don't waste money on police doing construction traffic duty. / Increase efficiency i.e.. why is there three departments for tree protection (ravine, city and private). Keep the by-laws, as they are important, but have 1 staff take care of all three in smaller geographic area rather than 3 staff for huge area. Personal service is better. / / Thank you for asking us!!</p>
65.	<p>The priority should be to maintain the key City services: Fire, EMS, Transit, Libraries, Parks etc. Other services should be cut entirely, such as multi-lingual services, grants to theatre and cultural groups.</p>

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66.	<p>I believe that the City should work hard to continue to provide adequate levels of service and quality across the City, particularly in Scarborough where I reside. There is a perception that the quality of services is uneven across the City, and that Scarborough does not receive the same service levels as other parts of the City (e.g. Downtown, North York). Some services (such as garbage disposal and Police) are important but can be delivered in different ways to save money (through contracting out (in the case of waste disposal) or through staggered pay scales for traffic police), but are still ultimately monitored or even still delivered by the City to ensure that quality is high. The most important thing is to ensure that the City has a presence to ensure all services are delivered with high quality. The Province should fund certain services (or at least partial funding) such as public transit, court costs for provincial courts, EMS, police, and fire. People don't mind paying taxes if it means that they are getting value for the dollar and service levels remain the same or increase. The problem and frustration resides in one paying higher taxes yet receiving lower service levels and declining quality in city services. Public transit, roads and other infrastructure, public libraries, community centres, and policing should be the priority of the City, but within reason. City staffing levels should be at such a level that they do not affect the quality of city services. The City can still deliver many of the important services it provides, but deliver them in different ways or obtain partial funding from the Province to lower costs. Parks and the environment should be a priority for the city as green spaces are threatened as development in the City continues to intensify as we are more and more built-out. Incentives (related to toilet replacements and water usage) recently cancelled should be reinstated and better run to save money.</p>
67.	<p>Continue to push the federal and provincial governments to pay their fair share and to upload services. / DO NOT sell off the city for short term budget balancing - what happens after you run out of things to sell? / DO NOT sell off the names of streets and parks in the city.</p>
68.	<p>Reduce salaries for city employees. / Spend time finding inefficiencies. / Don't charge user fees for basic human needs like green space. Charge high user fees for luxuries like hockey leagues and baseball diamonds</p>

	Parks – Financial Advice
69.	I know it's hard to wrap our heads around the big budget deficit we have at the moment, but if we don't invest in the programs that make our city great and instead we focus on cutting the budget, these programs will be affected. I would rather pay more taxes and user fees and know that I have access to amazing libraries my family (from my five year old son to my 90 year old great grandmother-in-law) as well as ALL families in Toronto can use, community centres for all sorts of activities, beautiful public parks we can relax in, accessible public transit for everyone in the city, beautiful trees that increase our property values and environmental programs that help engage communities in meaningful ways. I want the city to invest in our fellow Torontonians who need financial help so that younger generations living in more vulnerable parts of our city will eventually be able to contribute in amazing ways to society ... and will help to reduce crime rate ... and so we will need less police officers ... and so we will save money in the long run... just one little example of how if we invest in all our great programs now, we will all be paid back!
70.	It is very difficult to provide excellent services without increasing revenue - the important part is that the money be used sensibly and not squandered. It is much more cost effective to support and provide money for existing parks, sports facilities, decent housing, than to have to spend much more on detention centres, etc.
71.	Some services should be funded through provincial partnerships. the province has reduced its funding of city services in the past, this needs to be restored to ensure quality services are provided. / Community partnership can bring funding to the City. Community organizations can help raise funds to bring to city parks, community centres, etc. These partnerships should be supported and encouraged.
72.	User fees should only be applied where the user base is capable of paying, i.e. user fees for homeless shelters and social housing are oxy-moronic. / / Public libraries, parks and green spaces, festivals, etc. should not have user fees. / / I'm disappointed that this survey doesn't take into account any other revenue streams, beyond user fees and property taxes. There are other options for diversifying the city's revenue base.
73.	Get rid of some of the middle management in parks, public works, and other services and make big savings.
74.	Collect Toll fees for people who live outside of the city and drive in and use the city every day or when they do. Take the jab out of just city dwellers as we already deal with so many things... charge people outside the "city a city user tax"... Create more Volunteer efforts and new ideas of HOW TO OPERATE. OUR HEALTH system is OLD - introduce NEW Self-Awareness on healing and prevention. Initiate GROUP and NEIGHBOURHOOD plans to have all contribute to their spaces as monthly neighbourhood potlucks and clean ups. Upgrade and sell some city properties to create income. CREATE MORE COMMUNITY GROWING SPACES - FOR INNER CITY GARDENS on rooftops and PLANT MORE FRUIT TREES IN PARKS.
75.	Through corporate partnership, many companies want to invest in parks, forests, trails, arts and culture events and other basic amenities or services that make cities great places to live

	Parks – Financial Advice
76.	<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>
77.	<p>stop asking Queen's Park and Ottawa, get house in order, stop silly payouts, consultants, bunny suits, ...</p>
78.	<p>Charge road tolls, increase car license fees, reduce transit fees, make condo developers pay tax, make condo developers provide subsidized housing and parks. Make foreign owners of condominiums pay non-resident tax. Fine and tax illegal vocational schools. De-amalgamate.</p>

	Parks – Financial Advice
79.	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.
80.	1. union workers are mostly overpaid. / 2. I have heard numerous stories from acquaintances, bragging about their low productivity they get away with / (streets, parks) / 3. there are other areas of low productivity (e.g., Scarborough property tax dept, 2 clerks, 1 supervisor; clerks did no work the hour I was there, nor did they know the answer to my question)
81.	Why city workers make so much money and are so lazy? Parks are never clean, sand is never replaced. In UK city workers earn less. Look at other countries solutions. There should be research done about solution to the problem in another countries. Why people are given subsidized housing and stay on assistance forever? They should be given limited housing assistance for a period of a time lets say 5 years unless they are old. Old people have a harder time to find a job and are less healthy and young families sticking to Ontario Works forever. It should not be number on a list but a point system. Ontario Works should pay more at the beginning and less every month and decrease for people who have no interest in looking for a job. Standard for affordable housing should be lowered. Day care should be provided by a government and paid for a citizens for up to 2 children for lower income families. There must be a limit. Every immigrant should pay fee for a benefit to getting to Canada. 5000 is not an expensive fee. It can be repaid in 5 years easy. This is not a country for a free loaders. Changing little at a time is not a solution. It must be a big change into a system.
82.	I am a property owner and my taxes are high. Twice a year I hold my breath when I open the envelopes. But I would rather pay twice as much if it means keeping Toronto a place where I want to live, with green parks, good libraries, and rich and diverse cultural events.
83.	Increase greatly fines for pollution violations (noise, air and water). Huge increases in government property taxes especially federal and provincial buildings (Queens's Park, Provincial court buildings) Road taxes of all vehicles entering Metro Tor. and earmark for TTC use. 1 cent gasoline tax. City income tax on all businesses grossing over \$5,000,000 (TSE, much of Bay St., Porter, etc.)
84.	The City still needs the Provincial government to contribute money for provincially mandated programs and services (i.e. welfare, court services) that the City has to pay for. In my opinion this is the largest contributor to the City's revenue shortfall. Unfortunately it is an uphill battle, as Queen's Park has not shown very much interest in uploading the cost of services.

Parks – Financial Advice	
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86.	Develop our transit system please. Maintain childcare programs and parks and recreation programs - they are essential for our communities.
87.	Use student labour that is in line with the job call. i.e.: Parks workers, hire students from Horticulture/Landscape programs and offer a co-op opportunity. / / Train staff better, especially the supervisory roles. "To many chiefs, not enough indians". <--- Hate that saying, but it's the truth. Supervisory authority needs to be quality, not quantity. They should not be in the office 8hrs of the day. Have them do spot checks and reviews of staff. / / Hire competent staff that have private sector experience. Many folks who apply to City jobs believe it's a cash crop job with minimum effort. That has to change.
88.	Aesthetics 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
89.	Pressure the mayor's Ottawa and Queen's Park friends to give Toronto a larger share of Federal and Provincial income taxes.
90.	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!
91.	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

	Parks – Financial Advice
92.	No, to be honest; I am not up on a lot of the city matters. I live in an apt. building and as I mentioned am on ODSP. My rent is increasing yearly and I believe I will eventually have to move from where I am living because it is getting too expensive. I presently pay 862.90 for a one bedroom and next month it will increase to 868.90. The building was just sold and they are coming in repair plumbing AND change fixtures in each apt. I am very nervous that a lot of the people who live here now, but be forced out due to rent increase. This city seems to be in such dis-repair(the roads are appalling). One more comment I'd like to make regarding my issue around the off leash dogs. People complain about animals being "dirty" (I always pick up after my dogs), but the amount of HUMAN litter is horrible. I go down to Ashbridges Bay(which is breath taking) and see the amount of garbage that people leave is so disappointing. We as humans don't appreciate our beautiful green space. Thanks for the opportunity to "VENT".
93.	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
94.	Increase property taxes. We property owners in Toronto get a bargain on our taxes compared to those in nearby cities, but that bargain comes at the price of schools that are falling down and transit system that is falling behind. We could be one of the best cities in the world if we were not so cheap. I'm willing to pay an extra \$120 a year to live in a great city, with great schools and parks and services for my daughter. Increases on user fees are fine for some services such as ice rinks but for things everyone needs and uses -- roads, schools, clean water, parks -- we should all pay our fair share to have something great, rather than trying to nickel and dime everything to death. I want good value for my money, but I'm willing to pay for quality. I want Toronto to be the best city in the world, and I'll pay for it.
95.	please do not cut environmental services/parks etc - needed to maintain our city into the future
96.	The city should focus on running the city and get out of extras, fair and cultural events and get its nose out of Provincial and federal jurisdictions. Focus on the long term of building subways -not lrt's. Improve Police/Fire/EMS, Fix the roads, clean the parks.
97.	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. /

	Parks – Financial Advice
98.	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.
99.	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 /
100.	The city needs money, yes. It must provide services for its residents. Off-loading to private contractors never works well in the long run. Look at Japan -- the public purse having to bear the astronomical cost of nuclear disasters caused by the negligence of a private company. Here in Toronto, we had the dome -- check out its history. / No, we need creative solutions to our money troubles. We need new incomes streams. A vibrant city is one with lots of public activities, large and small. Not just costly tourist or sporting events. This city does host many, different kinds of public events -- which is good -- but if you speak to the various groups that host these smaller events, you hear nightmare tales about city bureaucrats interfering with and blocking the permit and inspection process. / Permits and inspections are two separate departments and income streams for the city. I propose they be consolidated, as follows, and required for any public event requiring street closure. / Create a Step by Step Manual on how to stage a public event in Toronto, specifying the steps of the process -- which permits, fees, special levies, inspections, etc that are required along what timelines. The charge would be significant. You'd be selling not just the manual PLUS the staff time required to make the event happen -- the various forms, permits, inspections, etc PLUS "free" advertizing online and physically on city properties that have, say, bulletin boards. One charge for everything. PLUS 10 hours, say, of planning staff time for consulting and co-ordination. / City staff do this for big money events anyway; I am suggesting they do it for every event that uses city property, roads, parks. Larger groups hire outsiders to show them the bureaucratic ropes. The city should be earning that money by providing this service. / Just a thought. / And another: apart from charging for a parade or banquet permit, does the city charge an hourly rate for use of city roads and parks? Or a distance rate for the use of roads? / If the city issues a permit for some established group to close a street, say, then the city should post the event on all city properties where there are bulletin boards -- and online, on a website calendar.

	Parks – Financial Advice
101.	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. / 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
102.	Every time someone uses the TTC, they pay a user fee. Most times someone parks their car, they pay a user fee. At no time does someone who drives their car pay a user fee. Toronto is choking on traffic. The solution cannot be more roads. So put user fees on the roads -- especially ones used mainly by people who live outside Toronto -- and fund separated public transit with them.
103.	NO MORE TAX INCREASES; NO MORE USER FEES. The politicians and bureaucrats collect sufficient amounts to provide the services to the citizens of this city. / / Politicians should review and mirror how the old City of North York managed the services, staff and community. Citizens received value for the taxes paid. / / I am disgusted with what I see as I look around this city; I am disgusted at the disrepair of the roads and parks of this city. / / Fiscal responsibility is the expectation of the citizens. / / As a proud citizen of the City of North York, I did not support amalgamation and have suffered the consequences ever since. / / I DO NOT SUPPORT ANY INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAX OR USER FEES.
104.	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.
105.	The City should begin to look at fund raising activities. Examples of these could be City funded events in our Community Centres and parks with entrance fees and selling of lottery tickets for donated prizes from the local business community. An event could be renting tables to people who want to sell their wares at these events. Even a food kiosks could be rented out at these events.
106.	Road tolls / Sell bonds / lobby Queen's Park
107.	The City should go after all possible one time funding opportunities with the Feds and the province to bring services in line with other municipalities (I believe services are behind and much lower than they should be). The City could establish Charitable Foundation to net some money for cultural and recreational areas like Exhibition Place, City Parks, Live theatre, etc.; The city could try joint program initiatives with the region on larger area items like environmental programming and planning, economic development, training of staff etc. , ems for economy of scale where appropriate. The City could try investing money long term and using interest/returns to fund city expenses.

	Parks – Financial Advice
108.	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
109.	The City needs to stop burdening Toronto residents with property tax increases because many of the services (roads, transit) and attractions (Zoo, parks, museums) are used by non-residents and visitors to the city! User fees and fees on the roads (toll roads) for those who live outside of GTA to enter GTA.
110.	Put in Road Tolls and use that money towards Public Transit and bike lanes. Developers should have to ensure there are public transportation, parks, sidewalks and bike lanes into their new development - and pay to build them. Like in Ottawa, every new road built should include a bike lane. Bring back the \$75 license fee and use that money towards maintaining the roads. Raise Taxes on businesses who create unnecessary waste and use that money towards garbage collection.
111.	Charge developers for things the City needs, such a more trees, parks. / Set up a Charity Fund. Encourage people to give money to the City, and get some sort of tax break on their property taxes, or income tax if at all possible. People fund the museums, why not the TTC, or other City related services, buildings, etc.
112.	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.
113.	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.
114.	Look at various revenue opportunities, partnership and selling naming rights. Have communities sponsor trails, programs, parks and services. Encourage business communities to invest in neighbourhoods and on main street.

	Parks – Financial Advice
115.	in my opinion the city needs to maintain and improve services that directly affect residents safety and security such as: (infrastructure, water, parks, emergency services, etc.). In times of economic difficulty, 'feel good' programs such as (arts, assisted living, charitable programs, etc.) may have to be reduced. Once economic recovery is in progress these types of programs can come back online. / At the end of the day you have to pay to play, local taxpayers (property and user fees) first. Then if you are a non local taxpayer but contribute to the province / country (e.g.. 905 er) (i.e. dvp / gardiner tolls) second and in times like these if you do not contribute you cannot expect the rest of us to take care of you.
116.	Road tolls should be used for people driving in and out of the city. Many of the services we pay for as citizens are also used by people who don't live here - they cause wear and tear on everything from our roads to our parks, yet we're still forced to carry the financial burden.
117.	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.
118.	If you want to stimulate growth and create a world class city that people become engaged with and love living in you need to increase funding to public transportation, arts, green space. Hiring private companies does not lead to more efficiency, the cities inhabitants need to have control over there services and that's why we elect representatives to look after them.
119.	Increase user fees of drivers to pay for roads, sidewalks, public transit, environmental programs, forestry and parks, as driving affects all of these things. Reinstate car tax. Increase property taxes for properties worth over 1 million dollars to invest in affordable housing, child care and libraries. Increase user fees for collection of garbage that is not separated into recyclables and compostables.
120.	the city should support and fund the basics-police, fire, ems, public health, libraries, parks, planning dept
121.	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.
122.	My local library, Elmbrook Park, is fantastic but not open on Sundays or Mondays. Funding them enough to be open at least half a day one of those days would be a good use of my tax dollars... even if the money came from ad revenue in the lobby wall space. Try having local companies sponsor local libraries/ community spaces.
123.	User fees, gas tax, separate tax line on your tax bill to pay for specific investments like transit or fixing combined sewer overflows, or parks

	Parks – Financial Advice
124.	<p>When I dragged services to "I don't care as long as services are good" or "contract out" I am hesitant to do so because contracting out seems to mean the lowest bid, which translates into bad working conditions or pay for the employees for that service. For example, Wheeltrans contract providers force drivers to work 72-hours/week to recoup their costs v. TTC Wheeltrans unionized drivers' work conditions. The difference between these two sets of Wheeltrans employees is stark and troubling to say the least. And there can be a gradual deterioration in the privately-supplied service. I want to see creative approaches to contracting out that give advantages to companies that will employ people from our "at-risk" communities, the disabled, racially-underrepresented, etc. with reasonable working conditions in terms of hours per week and rate of pay. Otherwise contracting out is code for minimum-wage, sweat-shop conditions that is none of our business. I can easily see contracted out parks or other services deteriorate once the company has the contract. Does our legal department have the willingness and capacity to devise contracting out from a progressive, equity model for the company that wins the bid which that will help our residents and communities both as employees and customers, or solely as the lowest bid and the company can run the show as they see fit? For these reasons, I do not want contracting out for services to vulnerable groups in the city. / / Also once contracting out is done, is it a one-way street? If we see the quality of the service deteriorates or working conditions are poor, etc., can the city resume supplying the service? If we sell off assets to contract out, is that now a permanent state of affairs? In that case, what recourse does the city have to force companies to improve quality? Where are the contracting out lessons in other cities which show what to copy and what to avoid? I know almost nothing about the services I pass judgment on, so if I say contract out for real estate or security, I don't know what I'm saying, really, since contracts for these disparate services will mean very different things and the devil's in the details. / / In your governance/management list you have redundancies: your Facilities Management department offers maintenance, cleaning, security and real estate, but these are listed as separate services, so I presume you are tipping your hand that you wish to reduce costs in these areas. You list Human Resources and Training and Development of city staff as separate categories, when HR does training, so I don't know what the difference is for these categories. Again, a suggestion that training is an area you wish to contract out? I can't give meaningful feed back. I called Real Estate for help and they said they'd get back to me but haven't yet. Same for human resources. So my input here is meaningless.</p>

	Parks – Financial Advice
125.	<p>Outsourcing of select services that the City should never have been involved in is appropriate. Retention and support of key services that are used by many citizens, i.e. parks, library, police, fire and transit is important. Slash and burn is NOT the way to go. / / How did the City's leadership allow this kind of budget issue to come up in one year, what has been happening with our leadership over the last several years?? This issue did NOT just occur in a single year. This issue is not the fault of any one individual or group. we are led by a number of senior staff and politicians on both the right and the left sides of the political spectrum. All of our leaders should work together to effectively manage resources. / / Politicians should STOP coming up with new programs, etc that are not funded by new taxes or other revenues. Politicians should STOP slashing programs that don't align with their political beliefs. Politicians SHOULD simply manage our resources in a responsible manner. Politicians should STOP pointing fingers and assigning blame. / / Now as to suggestions: / / 1) Pay freezes for ALL for a couple of years / 2) Review ALL union contracts, and prepare a list of reasonable takeaways of inappropriate things that have been provided in the past. This could for instance include excessive levels of sick-time, and sick-time banking. When the contracts come up, if the unions refuse to accept the takeaways allow them to strike. I suspect that the City's middle management has a challenging time dealing with unionized staff based on what is in the contracts. / 3) Why not speak to the members of middle management and ask about the issues that keep them from managing effectively? / /</p>
126.	<p>The City should sell off assets to fund services. The City does not need to operate 3 theatres or own an art collection. Single family homes from TCHC's asset should be sold. Why does someone need to live in home valued at close to \$1million and be in receipt of social housing. The City should sell off its stake in Enwave and a percentage of Toronto hydro. Shut down the climate change office in London England. Many city run services could be contracted out ... why is it that many city run daycares are full of people on subsidy and the average person can't afford to send their child their. You don't need to run this daycares and pay highly unionized staff. Contract out the spaces!!! The same goes for waste collection, tree services and park maintenance. City staff should not be paid overtime because they are repairing streets during off hours. This should be a part of doing business. The City should also stop relying on the Province for handouts. Mayor Ford should be commended for thinking outside the box by leveraging funds with the private sector to support transit and subways development. Consider road tolls on the Gardiner and 427.</p>
127.	<p>The city of Toronto should not make any service cuts in culture, libraries, parks, and policy and research. In order for a city to thrive, it needs to provide services for all of its citizens. In order to provide these services, however, property taxes need to increase. It just has to. It can be pitched as \$10.00 a month, but if the citizens want the services, then they need to prepare to pay for it.</p>

	Parks – Financial Advice
128.	Higher rates or user fees for environmentally wasteful activities should be considered - even including road tolls. / If service cuts are to be done, they must be done equitably - reducing library or parks budgets should be accompanied by similar reductions to police services, for example. / Bring back the vehicle registration tax / Implement manageable transit plans like Transit City rather than stopping them and hoping instead for an expensive subway.
129.	Scrutinize expenditures, particularly contracts. Our neighbourhood offered to fund improvements to our park and volunteered to do the work. Apparently that was not permitted due to union and safety issues. These are people willing to donate time and effort. Why turn them away? Ask citizens to participate more, such as the Community Clean Up day.
130.	I stopped about one quarter of the way through the survey because it seemed the questions were arranged to create a schism in that the topic was multi-faceted and could not be delineated with a ranking. I happen to live in a form of affordable housing, am involved in neighbourhood development through a neighbourhood association and help out with High Park conservation. Each deals with multiple issues and does not eliminate any but works to offer solutions not simplistic actions that create their own problems. Let me put it this way, if you want to be a mayor or a councillor or a city manager you need to use a mind that can handle the complexities of a city such as TO. I say that having taken the Civics 101 classes which by the Ford Admin are irrelevant.
131.	The city needs to be more imaginative in working with the private sector - and not just selling off things or naming rights. There are opportunities to have private corporations to sponsor for example specific elements in parks not just the name. Our parks need more amenities and programs. Especially with more people living in condos and an aging population - check out Bryant Park in New York City!!!!!!
132.	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.
133.	The city should be reducing and eliminating services and lower taxes and fees. City government is wasteful and expensive. Its generally a burden on the taxpayer and reduces all citizens standard of living and quality of life. / Reduce city services to essentials only, fire, police, ambulance, roads, parks etc. No arts funding. No community housing. No expensive zoos. Private business can supply zoo demand etc. Contract out as much as possible to improve efficiency, eliminate the possibility of crippling strikes and reduce costs.

Parks – Financial Advice	
134.	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.
135.	Don't use corporations to fund parks, not if it means putting their names on the parks.

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

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Parks – Other Advice	
1.	Consider that downtown is the heart of the city--and that Toronto would be nothing without it. Downtown is more than a theme park for people in the suburbs to visit, enjoy and then abandon--it has citizens, communities, cultures and values all its own, that feed into those of the rest of the city to their benefit.
2.	More funding for Dufferin grove park and city park bike lanes
3.	That a city is more than garbage, sewers and potholes. That a truly good city looks beyond this to see what makes it good - its diversity, its culture, its green space and the way it treats its citizens (NOT "customers") through transparency and accountability.
4.	I'm fortunately fairly financially comfortable, well serviced by transit and other services (e.g.. parks/trails) but many are not. Equity should be a key priority.
5.	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
6.	I want to live in a city that looks after people, provides good public transit, health facilities, public housing, parks, libraries, pools etc. and spends money to foster the arts. I don't want to live in a soul-less city that values things only in terms of cost and money. Most things of value have nothing to do with making money. And I don't want to see our unionized city workers be laid off or made worse off by having their jobs contracted out.

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7.	<p>Let apartment and condos have the chance to have a green bin. No more St. Clair Avenue type dedicated street car lines that take away two lanes of vehicle traffic and close down stores during construction. NO MORE BICYCLE LANES , ESPECIALLY NOT ON DANFORTH ROAD AND BLOOR STREET SINCE THERE ARE NO BICYCLES ON THOSE ROADS AND TAKE AWAY BICYCLE LANES ON ROADS THAT ARE CAUSING GRIDLOCK SUCH AS DUPONT STREET. AND TAKE AWAY THE GARDEN IN THE MIDDLE OF MOORE AVENUE AND DON'T PUT ANY MORE GARDENS DOWN THE MIDDLE OF A ROAD. ROADS WERE NOT MADE FOR GARDENS.</p>
8.	<p>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.</p>
9.	<p>Stop the Gravy train. AS everyone knows, the city does not have a revenue problem it has a spending problem! A lot of the things I just surveyed on could be run by the private sector, with city governance. Take the TTC for example, if I take a bus up Warden I have to pay more past Steeles. WHY? Get the area public transit under one umbrella. I should be able to take public transit from Oshawa to Oakville and beyond. Why are there so many transit systems. If you look at the GTA from space, there are no dividing lines, you see one very large urban area. It should be treated as one large Urban Area, for transit and even services. The ongoing debate about the 905ers coming to work in Toronto, using our services, and not paying for them needs to be addressed sooner rather than later. How about a payroll tax for non Toronto residents. It is done in US cities, so it might work here. / The services that the city run should be essential services only. Contract out the others. Keep Police, Fire and EMS, but do we really need to run the Zoo? It could operate by the private sector, under city eyes. This works for much of the services. The city needs to look presentable. The mayors graffiti plan is a start, but lets get rid of the dandelions that take over the parks and get back to grass. Keep the beaches and parks clean. Keep the streets maintained (private sector) and fill the pot holes. Why do you always see a crowd of workers standing around and one worker doing the work? I see it everywhere. Get rid of the sense of entitlement of all workers, not just Councillors. Make the managers accountable to keep the workers...working. Get the cost over runs under control. If a job is contracted out, have it in writing that the contractor is responsible for the over runs. Don't let them say they need a buffer of 10%, 20% or higher, because you know they will use it. They are using the City as a free lottery. Let's get into the 21st century and have have 24 hour service for road repairs. Get the job done...on time and on budget. Penalize the contractors if they are late! / Toronto Hydro for years was telling us to save energy... so we did. Now they are not making enough money so they need to raise rates. So we save energy and now it costs us more. / Each year the TTC raises its fares, thereby making it a little more difficult for people to pay. The people that rely on the TTC are the ones who can not afford a car and have little means to pay for things. As</p>

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	<p>the price goes up, the ridership goes down. The TTC needs a certain amount of money to keep running, I know, but heres a thought. Let's get more people riding the TTC by making it more affordable. Instead of raising the price, how about reducing the price. Lower price, more people ride the TTC, more people ride the TTC, more fare is paid. More fare is paid, the better the service. I know its a radical idea, but it just might work. Drop the fare by \$1.00 and see if more people use it. / Paid duty Cops seems to be a hot topic. How about making the contractors/film crews pick up the wages? Why is the city paying it? Makes sense to me! But that may be too sensible as the entitlement is still there. This has nothing to do with the actual Cops doing the work, as I would not begrudge them the Overtime. / I watched my garbage pick up person come down my street and as the truck is moving, slam the transmission into park, leaving skid marks on the rtoad and jumping out when the truck is still moving. Can I assume that the transmissions on these truck allow for this type of treatment or are we replacing them more often. And another thing, it's called customer service... put the bins back where you found them and not throw them. I have had to replace my green bin numerous tomes because they get cracks and can not be used, Wasteful because of the Garbage Operators not taking care. / I can go on for hours on this but oif you want more / Get rid of the special projects that only affect a few. Stop the grants to small projects. If the project only affect a small portion of the population, then maybe they need to come up with their own financing and not rely on the city cash cow! /</p>
10.	<p>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.</p>
11.	<p>Please note that oftentimes, when contracting out services, the process results in a captive market of users who have no other options as for providers of a service, so this creates a monopoly situation. This is contrary to some of the best features of capitalism, and often results in high costs and increased user fees with little to no service improvements. Even when there are several providers, costs for businesses almost always get passed on to users because it is still a semi-captive market, so service doesn't increase and cost increases. Also, the only way to "have a say" in a private corporation providing a service is to be a shareholder, and most of the time one's voting power with a share is minimal. Instead, when a city runs a service, any user of that service that is a resident of the City can "have a say" without having to have made a financial transaction (the purchasing of stock) and their ability to influence an outcome is much more certain. Please don't contract out any service (TTC, garbage, parks etc.) that has a reasonable chance of encountering any of these hurdles.</p>

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12.	<p>Providing services more efficiently should not come at the expense of providing quality services. Further, Toronto is a large City requiring significant investments if it is to prosper and be competitive in a global economy. Government exists to deal with inherent market failures and provide critical investment to support future growth (i.e. take our lack of transit infrastructure from years of underinvestment as an example) and therefore should not necessarily be run as a private company. / / All the City services listed in this survey are important. Some are used on a daily basis, some are used only in the case of emergency and some provide a safety net to our most vulnerable. It seems unreasonable to try to compare these varied services along the dimensions outlined in this survey. I would hope Council takes a balanced approach to the service review and not inevitably prioritize hard services and emergency services (i.e. the sacred cows) over other key investments that provide unquantifiable and long run benefits to our communities such as libraries, parks, and cultural activities. Paying a little bit more in property taxes given Toronto's low rates next to our GTA neighbours does not seem unreasonable. After all there is no such thing as a free lunch.</p>
13.	<p>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.</p>
14.	<p>Drag money out of Queen's Park and Ottawa.</p>
15.	<p>Good services make a livable city. However, I feel that lost of money here gets wasted. I have watched a city construction crew build an entrance to High Park for 6 months. We are talking about 4 shoulder high walls. Built by 4 people. In that time a condo tower has built half way next door. I believe lots of money gets wasted that way - our expectations are very low. So don't just think of cutting. Reduce the internal waste first! There is quite a bit and everyone on the street can tell that. City hall (no matter what government we have) refuses to see that!</p>

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16.	Yes, I'd like the city to actually engage in a complex analysis of its finances and look at investing in the services our communities need. / I pay substantially less property tax on my home than friends with comparably valued homes in other communities. As a citizen of Toronto, I receive more services and have access to better parks, more culture than those same friends.
17.	don't just consider cutting and outsourcing services. Toronto does not pay the appropriate taxes when compared to many other cities in Canada. those who live in the suburbs benefit greatly and don't contribute to Toronto's tax structure. Road tolls are acceptable. I would rather have a beautiful, exciting city to live in with free cultural offerings and pay more taxes, rather than one that is always cutting corners and having issues paving the roads or keeping up it's parks etc. you get what you pay for.
18.	Always consider the arts and the impact of the arts on our city, our world and our moral. If there's a bridge to build there is tremendous value in making the bridge an EXPERIENCE...not just a bridge. The future is in people and we need to focus on them...cycling paths, parks, arts, senior health, sports, housing and education. Let's not fail them for the current selfish use of roads, use of cars and personal greed.
19.	Yes! Think long term and quality of life, not just about your immediate political future. Investing in parks might not sound like financially great, but it provides a more livable city where more people want to live and therefore spend money. Look at how other places are solving their financial woes being creative, selling merchandise, providing innovative services that people are willing to pay for.
20.	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.
21.	More policy analysis and research should be done so that City staff and citizens are included to make decisions about services based on economic data related to full costing out - including the cost of contracted out services vs. current services, the costs of legal fees when current contracts are broken, the salary costs of certain services, and the social and environmental costs of losing services such as environmental, parks, heritage, arts, library, daycare, and community services.
22.	Outsourcing of services, especially those that are low skill jobs such as garbage collection, street cleaning and basic park maintenance, is absolutely mandatory. I am sure that there are many inside services that could also be outsourced. Lets not waste money on trying to attract business to the city until we have a comprehensive change in attitude in our planning process. No business is going to locate here if it takes 5 to 10 years to get building permission to build a new office building (lets not even talk about a factory - Toronto chased all those jobs away years ago). its no secret why Peel, York and Durham have all the new business in the GTA!
23.	Walkable livable mixed usage neighbourhoods. Ease of public transit between neighbourhoods. Use of green space.

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24.	Gridlock is making this city unbearable. Try urban designers who are interested in improving traffic flow. Mayor Ford loves the automobile, so he should consider hiring people who are young, smart and interested in speeding things up, not slowing them down. I swear, this city was designed by old men. Open up the one ways where possible, use current technology for traffic flow, improve bike lanes and add lanes separate from cars, build an east to west subway near the lakeshore and consider expanding the wheel way and removing the Gardiner so people can access the waterfront in Parkdale
25.	Maintain programs for children, including parks, libraries, community centers and affordable children's transit costs.
26.	Improving the climate for business helps everyone in Toronto in the long term I think this should be the central key. / / At the same rate, improving transit, the waterfront, and our parks / sidewalks should be key as well.
27.	Please focus on renewable resources and green space
28.	To get the Parks people to stop being such bureaucrats and actually let sporting programs run events
29.	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!
30.	The kids need more BMX biking parks.
31.	Toronto is the biggest and richest city in one of the richest countries in the world. We can be great, but achieving greatness requires vision and investment. London, Paris, Berlin, New York, Chicago have all achieved great things by investing in themselves - in transit, in architecture, in parks, in public spaces, in culture, in museums, in galleries, in festivals. Toronto must find a way to pay for all the things that are needed, but I believe it would be supreme folly to try to do so by cutting back on all the things that might help to make this city great. Macdonald helped to build a great nation by investing in a railway that would link it together; I want a City Council that believes Toronto can be great; one that will work together to make that vision a reality.

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32.	<p>Consider the implications of raising property taxes. The middle class will have the biggest burden. Why should our taxpayer dollars fund city services when big business/corporations get a substantial break? Also, many seniors want to remain in their residences that were purchased MANY years ago but due to market manipulation of real estate prices their homes are assessed and grossly over valued and seniors' income can't keep up. **Politicians remember: baby boomers are your biggest voter base!!! The city of Toronto is rapidly becoming unliveable due to astronomical prices and taxes. Being a professional in my late 20's I struggled to find affordable housing, and in the end had to settle for less space (not conducive to staying long term and raising a family). Most of my peers were forced to live outside of Toronto. Yet, they use our services and commute to our city for work everyday while not contributing to our tax base; therefore enjoying a lower cost of living and what are essentially "free" services for them (transportation, road networks, parks etc...) We are creating a city devoid of a middle class. Only the rich and the very poor (through subsidized housing) can afford to live in Toronto.</p>
33.	<p>Let's try and keep the city clean and attractive for its residence and visitors with lots of green space, cleanliness and good services.</p>
34.	<p>As a cyclist, I don't want more bike lanes. They don't help me. What helps is better road conditions, and I've been thankful for the improvements in the roads, especially in the slow lanes. What we really need is more sharing-the-road education for drivers and cyclists, even if it just means educating new cyclists on the bylaws and guidelines. The city put out a pretty good safe cycling brochure, but nobody knows about it. I keep having to give my friends advice like "pass right-turners on the left, don't line up to their right." / / Honestly my biggest problem with Toronto is the diesel fumes downtown. The biggest offenders are tourist vehicles, non-hybrid city buses, school buses (this is sickening), and rental vehicles. Nobody should be able to save money by reducing our property values and gassing pedestrians. It's embarrassing when tourists and visiting friends complain about the big clouds of diesel fumes that make it hard for them to breathe, and we can't afford the healthcare costs associated with respiratory ailments. It should be illegal for construction projects to take whole neighbourhoods hostage with noxious fumes for months on end. / / The other thing that's adding to the congestion of our streets is the rampant taxicabs downtown. When one in ten vehicles is a cab cruising for a fare, enough's enough. We need to look at bylaws addressing taxicabs. They shouldn't just be able to stop in a moving lane or a bike lane to take on a fare. There should be consequences. / / Our police are required to waste far too much time busting people who aren't causing any disruption at all because they happen to be drinking in public parks, while actual public disruptions terrorize our residents. If cops are busting boozing hipsters in Alexandria Park while some screaming psycho is taking the nearest intersection hostage, how are we supposed to feel well-served? Our public drinking laws are insulting to the public. / / Bike cops need to do a lot more enforcement on cyclists who are holding up traffic and breaking the law, and officers in cruisers need to nab those drivers who use our streets like they're racing</p>

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	<p>courses. There's a whole cross-section of irresponsible drivers who slow down transit and cause congestion by pretending to be turning right, only so they can make illegal lane changes in the middle of intersections, to get in front of streetcars. It's one or two people speeding up their own commute by slowing down 70 other people's commute, and I've never seen them get any attention by cops, yet I've been stopped for not having bike lights on a sunny afternoon. A few very rude drivers and cyclists are wrecking the transit situation for the majority of us who are careful, considerate people who give ourselves enough time to get where we're going, and it doesn't seem important to police. I'm mentioning this here because it all costs taxpayer money! Insurance increases, congestion, healthcare, property values, and the general attractiveness of our city as a place to live, work and open businesses... all of these things take a huge hit from a couple thousand rude losers. / / In terms of our social safety net, one great way to get more people off of Ontario Works and into new jobs is to make the transition easier in a couple of simple ways: food and clothing. Welfare recipients in cities have to get their food from meal programs because their welfare income (typically about \$600) gets swallowed up by rent and utilities, leaving them without grocery money. This is why city-dwellers get stuck on welfare: they can't afford to go hungry during the critical period during which they are working full-time AND waiting for their first pay cheques. So full-time jobs are essentially inaccessible to them, and part-time jobs are rarely available in Toronto. I don't think that throwing more money into the Employment Start-up supplement is the answer, because those transitioning to full-time work don't really have the time or typically the skills to shop and cook for themselves - they're too busy scrambling for work clothes! If meal programs could mobilize to provide food at street-level, in minivans, through grocery stores or whatever it takes, they could meet new workers half-way and help them keep their new jobs. If these services were dependable, welfare recipients could more confidently engage with new work. Right now, making the transition, in the city, really is a huge obstacle. So we've got all sorts of employable people on OW who can't make the switch.</p>
35.	Council should consider uploading police services to the province, might scare Queen's Park into giving Toronto more money.

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36.	The city needs to take a longer term view when making decisions. For example, when the Bloor Viaduct bridge was built, the city had the foresight to include a provision for a subway into the decision of the bridge even though a subway was not constructed until many decades later. This decision saved the city thousands of dollars. This type of visionary thinking is what is lacking in the city today. Also, the city needs to think outside the box instead of being trapped in its two option world - the city does it or the city contracts it out. There are other alternatives - community boards for example. The ice rinks managed by community boards are better run, better maintained and fully utilized. In contrast, the city run ice rinks are old and decrepit, often sit empty and don't have programming that is responsive to the needs of the community (I speak from experience as I play hockey in both types of rinks). The city should look at handing over control and operation of all ice rinks, community centres and parks to community boards immediately.
37.	Prioritize arts, public transportation, parks and the environment - this will bring more tourism. Close the Island airport and make our waterfront beautiful.
38.	I'd like you to keep in mind that lots of families are raising their children in downtown Toronto, that high-density city living is the way of the future, it impacts less on the environment. Help me raise a happy healthy active urban kid. I need parks, community centres, clean and safe streets, more bikes, less cars.
39.	Please remember that without clean water, proper sanitation and a healthy ecosystem our city will not exist. Keep the environmental monitoring, protection, education and engagement programs and invest in our parks, forestry, waste management and water and sewage infrastructure.
40.	Yes. If they keep everything as it is would be better than changing anything. It seems they cannot avoid their convictions make a right pluralistic decision for the citizenry and future generation. How can you ask people if it is better to contract out public property such as TTC or Park? And why there was no increase in fines, car licensing, and such as they drain the cars drain much more than anything else and harm us most, perhaps stop the 11% income increase for the cops.
41.	Stop cutting taxes in order to create a budget crisis and then force people to choose between their parks, emergency services, supports for low-income communities, housing, etc. It's juvenile and disrespectful to the people you're supposed to be serve.
42.	To be a world class city, we need to maintain support for arts, culture, parks and heritage services and programs. Without out this, there would be much less attraction for businesses and people to relocate to our city. We should be striving to be the best we can be.
43.	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. /

	Parks – Other Advice
44.	Taxes pay for services we need to support our city. Taxes are not bad, but of course should be used efficiently. People do not think carefully about what the city would be like if we reduced taxes. Clean, well-maintained roads and public spaces, beautiful parks, a clean waterfront can be enjoyed by all. And preserve our history. We have destroyed so much of it already. Let's make Toronto a worthy place to live and to visit.
45.	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.
46.	Let those that work hard, keep their money rather than punish them more and give away their money to the lazy citizens of this city. Lay off overpaid park cleaner and use people on EI who get paid by the city and do nothing in return. GET OUR VALUE!
47.	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 /

	Parks – Other Advice
48.	Socialism is good - it means we have police protection, fire fighting services, public parks, public schools, public libraries and roads and traffic systems. Think about it- "socialism" root word is "society". Do we all want to go it alone??? Isn't that the alternative? My values include helping those who are less fortunate to enjoy a civilized lifestyle... not just helping my own family members but also helping my larger family - my fellow citizens in Toronto. I believe there is too much selfishness in the current trend towards cutting services and cutting public service jobs.
49.	Stop being small-minded. Focus on what makes a great city and not just on the cost of everything. (Don't make stupid decisions like cancelling the Fort York pedestrian bridge.) People want to live in great cities that have great public transit (i.e., light-rail & trams), great museums, walking spaces, aesthetics, theatres, sports venues, parks. They don't want to live in dull, ugly places dominated by cars and full of litter. Focusing on building a great, livable city will bring businesses and more jobs, and ultimately more tax revenues.
50.	Please do not take away the welcome program for those financially vulnerable people who use parks and rec. programs. /
51.	Public libraries, public parks, public transit and roadways are all very important services that should not be cut. To save money on items like the TTC, the City should consider implementing fare programs like those in Montreal, Chicago and New York City, where reloadable and swipable cards are used instead of paper tickets/transfers or tokens. This would significantly reduce staffing costs at TTC stations as people could use their cards to enter TTC facilities rather than have to show transfers or deposit tokens with TTC agents. It's also a way easier method of accessing the TTC and there's no dispute about whether you have money left on your card or time left on your transfer - which decreases altercations with public transit staff. Reduced staffing costs could then be used to increase service frequency and quality.
52.	Do not reduce everything to immediate \$\$ cost! Even in the Depression years, in Canada we managed to create great public buildings, parks, and services; we still rely today on much of what was created then. We need a CIVILIZED city, not a privatized jungle. We also need to look to the future.
53.	Please look at the great cities around the world and the size of their subway systems. I am aware there are greater costs involved but we should be looking at creating a world class subway system, replacing streetcar routes no matter what the cost. I would love to see a Subway going from the future Finch West Station south along Keele, then along the existing rail corridor to Queen St and East to Nevelle Park in the East end. For this I would gladly pay a 10% property tax increase.
54.	We need good public spaces, with clean sidewalks, beautiful buildings (especially heritage buildings), beautiful parks. We need good and speedy and reliable transit.
55.	Consider Chicago - what makes it great? Waterfront, parks, green spaces, planting, preservation of historic buildings, recreation

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56.	I am not a customer of city services. I am a citizen of Toronto and also a tax payer. I feel strongly that the city needs to provide a good quality of life for all of its citizens. Things like our public libraries and parks make the city a nicer place to live and also greatly improve the quality of life for all of its residents. The poorer residents have no other way to enjoy the benefits provided by these services.
57.	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.
58.	Quality, Quality, Quality / / In comparison with other cities in North America, Toronto has declined significantly over the last twenty years. We have been complacent and rested on our laurels and while many other North American cities have been improved drastically – think of Chicago’s neighbourhood improvement and fantastic Millenium Park (driving our aunt from Chicago through Harbourfront was an eye-opener), or Philadelphia’s revival of Center City, or New York, Boston, Charleston, Austin, Cleveland – (these are cities with which I am familiar). / / Aside from ensuring that our city is a nice place to live, we need to think in terms of economic competition. It may be tempting to think that Toronto will be immune to global economic changes and competition from other cities – but look at the history of cities like Buffalo, Detroit, Hamilton, and even Montreal. Just because we are successful now, does not guarantee we will continue to be successful. It is very hard for a urban environment to maintain a thriving community and these communities can easily be undermined by government policies or worse, government inaction. Many of the problems we are having reflect how the city is currently managing its resources and exercises its responsibilities and ultimately how city council and how it gets its work done. Pitting right against left in council is a sometimes mildly entertaining but stupid and fruitless waste of resources. We have a lot of problems in this city that need to be resolved. /
59.	Stop destroying parks with historical sites built on them to build condos.
60.	Healthy communities are vibrant, active, engaging, and sustainable. The more we can build healthy communities, the less poverty, disease, and crime we will have in the future. We need to be longsighted in our decisions, instead of only looking to what will save us a few bucks in a few years. Beautiful cities are built over time, and with passion. Green space, art, sport, and culture, walkability, public transportation, cycling, community centers are integral pieces of the fabric of a city.
61.	I would really like to see Toronto have more vision when it comes to our waterfront. Pieces of it keep disappearing into things that don't serve the vast majority of our citizens (e.g., new condos) and we are running out of time to put a proper waterfront plan in place that befits a city like Toronto. I would like to see more parks, bike/pedestrian trails, and things like that. You know, like practically every other city in the developed world that has a waterfront.
62.	More green space, better parks, and better bike paths connecting the city to the waterfront. Finish the West Toronto Railpath so that it connects thru the city...
63.	trees & parks are the future of Toronto

	Parks – Other Advice
64.	Better transit, green energy, parks and recreation infrastructure esp. for marginalised neighbourhoods, better education (child centred not grades centred).
65.	Keep in mind that short term cuts may not necessarily be in the long terms interests of the city. Maintaining and enhancing the city's quality of life (heritage, culture, parks, environment) is what will make us an attractive to investment and business. And that will lead to prosperity.
66.	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!
67.	Cutting costs in administrative areas should be a priority. Cutting costs in front line services, especially parks, transit, police and fire services should be avoided by increasing property taxes.
68.	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.
69.	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.
70.	Please keep the city run allotment garden program. Perhaps even look at increasing the number of allotment gardens in the city as user fees charged for each plot would contribute to the bottom line.
71.	Make Toronto a better place to live than it is today, a place where we the people living in this city can live a good life and be proud to say that we live in a great city. "Great" is more important than "cheap". I am retired, live a frugal life style, and have a limited income, but even so, I accept that paying taxes is the cost of living in a civilized society. I like my tax dollars to be spent wisely; but for people like me life is greatly enhanced by good transit, the cycling network, libraries, parks, clean air and water, etc - please spend my tax dollars on these services.

	Parks – Other Advice
72.	I am much more concerned with the quality of services than the cost. While fiscal responsibility and accountability is essential for any organisation, cities are judged by the quality of services it offers residents and visitors, not by the cost of providing them. Great cities have useable parks, a wide reaching public transit system, public arts and culture venues and public libraries. Improving the quality of life for residents and providing services that allow for business to succeed is what attracts further business investments, economic migration, as well as tourism. I'm not concerned with how services are funded as much as I'm concerned with the quality of services.
73.	Maintaining quality of services should come first. However, slashing taxes and offloading that burden onto single individuals for widely used services that define our city (e.g., libraries, city parks) should not be an option--we need to maintain the "liveability" of our city.
74.	Parks & Recreation is so abominably run, something must be done. Such apathy towards their jobs and it's the kids who usually suffer. Maybe that should be privatized if they'll do a better job.
75.	Please don't target parks and other environmental initiatives. It's bad enough that the federal government doesn't care about the environment (tar sands) nor does the provincial government (cancellation of off-shore wind farms). At least I would like to know that my city, Toronto, recognizes the coming environmental crisis and is trying to do something about it.
76.	City Council needs to listen to its constituents and not shut them out of the debate, as the Rob Ford government seems to want to do. Rob Ford needs to understand that he does not have a mandate to only protect the interests of particular suburban taxpayers -- he must also create and maintain a city for people, not cars, and he must recognize that public goods (parks, transportation, public space, etc.) are critical elements of Toronto's identity and strength. He must focus on creating a liveable, likeable city that is affordable, and the City has a responsibility to maintain the public character of many services -- not privatising our public realm.
77.	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.
78.	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.
79.	Maintain lawn cutting in City parks

Parks – Other Advice	
80.	Focus on the core responsibilities of providing police, fire and EMS, then transportation including the TTC, and maintaining our infrastructure and parks. Eliminate spending in areas that should not be paid for by the city ratepayers such as arts, culture, and theatre, as examples of items that should be entirely privately funded; these are nice frills, but do not rise to the level of commanding support with public tax dollars.
81.	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.
82.	There was a question of what to do w/ the Cinesphere and my suggestion is to turn it into an exotic aquarium where children and adults alike can learn about many sea creatures which are endangered by pollution and over fishing. Also, stop wasting money on horrible statues and have people on welfare pick up garbage to keep the city clean. More input from taxpayers on a regular basis is also needed as we live here, and many of our councillors are out of touch with our needs. bike lanes on a two lane roadway which has numerous pot-holes, etc. and has no intention of licensing them, yet they cause many accidents by going against the lights, not stopping at stop signs, etc. Also, stop having the lights go red one after another as it wastes petrol, causes excessive pollution and gridlock. Stop signs at t-intersections is insane, and there should be more left turn signals in use as many are equipped but not working, and streets which have stop lights turn red though no cars or pedestrians are there should be changed to only turn red when a car is there or a pedestrian presses the button, otherwise cars constantly come to a stop, causing pollution and gridlock for no good reason. Someone should do a study of things like where pedestrians cross as, when exiting Shopper's World to make a left onto Danforth, the pedestrians are crossing on the wrong side and often only two cars can exit before the light turns red again. There are many such instances of this, another is when trying to make a left at Danforth & Victoria Park.

	Parks – Other Advice
83.	<p>WE NEED AN ARCHITECTURE SPECIALIST TO VETO BAD DESIGN - IT SHOULD BE LAW THAT EVERY DEVELOPER PAYS FOR THE EXTRA INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO BUILD AND THEY MUST PROVIDE SET BACKS, SHORT CUTS AND AMENITIES IE DAYCARE SPACE, MEETING SPACE, PUBLIC ART WORKS AND ENHANCING THE STREET LEVEL EXPERIENCE SEE LISA ROCHON'S COLUMNS ON THIS ISSUE in the Globe and Mail / Transit - start building subway on Bathurst Street !!!!! Have you seen it during rush hours? north and south?? / How do you stop road rage when these traffic nightmares are a daily part of working people's existence? / You must dedicate Bus Lanes and triple the number of them to take people to work and get them out of their cars - and move the cars quickly to and fro work play etc. / Stop Sprawl / Stop Sprawl / It will be our demise one day / / Police and Fire - huge wastes of funds - when I see 3 or 4 trucks at a non event - why do so many respond to a non fire event? / forget 2 officers in cars / and again - why do I see 4 or 5 cars responding to a homeless person - 5 officers hovering over a person who is helplessly drunk / Can they not distinguish who will go - send one car? not 3 or more / their salaries are a disgrace / they are not trained well / they should be walking the beat - get them out of their cars and onto the streets / and the accountability is not even close to being there / the Parks Dept. is quite a fiefdom / too many managers and layers of managers I know I have dealt with Parks ongoing for more than 3 years / and sub managers / too few enforcement staff / for parks and animal services / /</p>
84.	<p>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.</p>
85.	<p>Remember what is special about Toronto and work to keep those things - community, diversity, taking care of the poor, integrated many different types of people, etc.. Work to cut back on the gross sprawl! parks, bikes, human-scale streets, etc.</p>
86.	<p>Quality is important. The Council needs to instil a sense of civic duty and civic pride in citizens. If more people took personal responsibility for careful waste management, family members who have special needs or require care, property maintenance, tidying parks and green spaces that they use in their neighbourhood, etc. then there would be less need and cost for city services to provide these functions. Instead, lots of people have come to the unsustainable expectation that there ought to be publicly funded city services to babysit their kids, clean up after them, and care for their elderly relatives, etc. This is unfair to those of us who are personally responsible enough to look after ourselves and our family members, and not have kids we can't afford to raise. I'm happy to pay a generous level of taxes to support important services that will make for a safe, clean and healthy city. On the other hand, I'm sick of having to work extra hard so that I can subsidize lazy freeloaders!</p>

	Parks – Other Advice
87.	<p>It is important to realize that Toronto is a world-class city and that being in the black should not mean that we forget the things that draw people to Toronto or make it good to live here. We need to be a leader in environmental issues. We need to preserve our heritage and heritage buildings (as that is what makes Toronto different from every other city in North America). We need to slow down on the number of condos going up as we don't have the infrastructure in place to service these buildings (especially down by the water). We need to put a toll on the DVP or the Gardiner to help pay for road maintenance. We need to make sure that those with lower incomes have access to the things that make life worth living like parks and community centres. We need to create services that would fast-track immigrant professionals into workforce. We need to have more and cheaper cabs on the road so that people will be more willing to leave their commuter cars at home. We need to make sure that we have the processes in place to draw world class performers and events to the city by allowing more outside sponsorship. We have to make sure that we give people a reason to visit and people a reason to stay.</p>
88.	<p>Put some pride back into making Toronto beautiful again. We have parks filled with weeds, roads that are third-world quality, and general decay everywhere. It's a mess. We need along term vision for fixing infrastructure, adding road capacity and building transit in order to keep the City working.</p>
89.	<p>This Survey had a lot of OLD and DEAD end answers that are outdated. It is not about just charging us more taxes or cutting the programs - it is to stream line them better so they work more efficiently on less money and more community organization - such as the care of PARKS - see DUFFERIN GROOVE for a great example. LOOK AROUND AT WHAT IS WORKING AND ENGAGING - places like the AGO and the ROM need to be HONEST and WELCOMING, as well as the many HISTORICAL Buildings just sitting there - they need to be used and be useful to us now - not just empty property to take care of. / WE need to really LOOK AT the HAPPINESS factor - because a happiness campaign may really be what we need. CHILDREN need to be consulted more and listened to - the schools are so boring and slow for most of them, PROGRAMS to Support interaction with children and the elderly can be a great start to un-alienating both groups. / / People are smart and respectful when treated that way - there needs to be more loving kindness encouraged in city of Toronto that will help elevate the moods of those who really take most of the responsibility and re-distribute it - CALL IN THE YOUTH - they are a great energetic smart and totally untapped resource - let them come in to the workings of the city and help organize</p>

	Parks – Other Advice
90.	I believe the City should have an overall statement of goals or policy. Perhaps this exists already? / / As Canada's 6th largest government, our overall goal should be to improve the social and environmental health of our city for future generations. / First of all, our government should be democratic, in other words major decisions should be made or approved by our elected council, not by appointed committees. Any changes to our electoral process should be made by public referendum to protect this structure. / Next, we need to protect the social health of our city for future generations. As the gap between rich and poor increases, this threatens the social health and security of our city and it becomes more costly and a less friendly place to live. Social programs and issues like wide public transport are critical to this health and security. / We need to protect the environmental health as well. Parks, clean air, efficient recreational services are critical to this. / Last, we need to avoid irreversible decisions that take resources out of public hands, such as the 407. The private sector may be an excellent means of delivering public services, but the overall control and ownership of these resources should not be reduced. /
91.	Create a decision matrix that would allow for effective analysis of services to determine if they should remain publically funded or contracted out. The matrix should allow for decisions that could result in a mix of public oversight and outside contracting for a service; for instance, our parks: the vision and planning for parks remains with the city but the actual maintenance should be contracted out.
92.	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.
93.	Yes. Don't be short sighted and small thinking. Toronto is much more than the basic services such as roads, sewers, police, etc / Have some vision about creating a vibrant, liveable, inclusive city--and this will mean investment in--not cuts to-- the "softer" services such as arts, libraries, parks,, public space, good architecture, the environment, childcare, services and support for vulnerable people / Improve public waterfront access and facilities / And very very important important invest in and significantly expand public transit--not just subways and buses-- but light rail with right of ways that take them out of traffic. The suburbs should have and need excellent transit options-- and planning for and providing these should take precedence over continuing support of the car culture. A huge effort has to be made to get people out of their cars and to give them real options for doing so
94.	Just that since amalgamation it seems to me that Etobicoke has deteriorated in terms of general maintenance of roads, sidewalks, parks and urban forestry. Nothing is done unless some one complains which is definitely not a cost effective way to do business. The apparent lack of coordination is staggering with the implications of wasted \$\$\$\$. Try being proactive about some things and better coordinate the work and perhaps the costs will be automatically reduced.

	Parks – Other Advice
95.	the financial and economic health of the city depends on the delivery of excellent public services - investors and knowledge workers are attracted to places that offer a high quality of life. That means: good transit, clean streets, attractive parks and community centres and public libraries.
96.	Services are what make the City livable. Increasing services increases the quality of the City. This means Parks, Childcare, Welfare, clean streets, ferries to the Islands etc...
97.	Toronto is the largest city in Canada and should be on par with other great world cities - Hong Kong, New York, Chicago, Vancouver, Paris, Nice, etc. and should work to be as progressive as these cities with incredible services including seamless, efficient transit, accessible services, great parks and waterfront that invite Torontonians to spend time in their city, mixed used areas that alleviate low-income, new Canadians burdens, inviting to tourists and good for business and young families.
98.	Willing to pay more for services ,but want some accountability . Tired of seeing the same roads get torn up by different agencies year after year. Is there really no way they can work together? Tired of developers designing our downtown...they need to fund more greenspace/community events if they are going to keep putting up ugly glass slabs. Affordable housing should be a stopgap and not a lifestyle choice (except for those in dire circumstances for physical reasons).
99.	Transit, libraries and urban spaces (including beautiful infrastructure and green space) are crucial to a healthy city so don't cut funding in these areas. As well, don't cancel plans that are underway where money has already been spent (e.g. Transit City and the Fort York Pedestrian Bridge) simply because a previous government initiated them. Sometimes it takes more courage and vision to continue with something you didn't start yourself for the greater good of the citizens.
100.	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.
101.	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.

	Parks – Other Advice
102.	Services are important only to those who need them. For instance, I don't care about child care as I don't need that service however, with teenage children priorities are having low cost resources and services (community centres, park activities -- like when we were kids and parks had "clubhouses" with balls and organized activities, more "free skates", etc.) No local family skates to be found anymore. / Services should be more localized, especially since Transit City won't be getting us to where we need to go.
103.	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!!!!
104.	Stop handing out tax dollars collected for core services (roads, transit, infrastructure, parks etc) to special interest groups particularly those seeking City funding to support cultural activities such as Pride and Carabana. If these groups truly provide the City's businesses with the dollar benefit they claim, why are these business recipients not flocking to Caribana and Pride to fully fund its events? If it was good business, they would.
105.	Quit listening to rhetoric and BS and use common sense balanced by listening to all sides. Leave the political BS to Queens Park
106.	Consider how one department maintains the usability of others: / / Trees, and parks, environment, waste management and indeed culture will create good health, and lessen the need for security. Do these as long term interrelations. / / Safeguard the integrity of planning processes that have been established through participation and expertise. Use and maintain the level of human resources that the city has - these people have seen what occurs, but also must be up to date on what might occur - bring in others to assist them, do research. / / Who best can provide for street people, day care, and the aging - what government infrastructure can best 'see' what is going on, regulate and monitor these actions? Before cutting or changing go to the individuals best informed - public, Nonprofits, experts and those benefiting. / / Do not waste effort and money redoing projects that have already been planned if they can be salvaged at all. / / Do not put the weight of an economic failing on those that can ill afford to lose money or services. / /

	Parks – Other Advice
107.	Councillors should think big - we should work together to build a better city, and that means we have to actually pay for things. We should invest in infrastructure, the environment, housing, daycare, parks, etc. I'm well paid. It would cost me more to have a municipal income tax. And homeowner or renter (and I've been both), property taxes cost me.. But that's fine. Let's have a beautiful city that we can be proud of and that will be something our children can be proud of, even in awe of. Let's not be petty, vindictive, mean spirited, and small minded.
108.	Please stop requiring police to attend job sites, or provide mall security. Toronto Hydro should provide ebilling - this option has been broken for at least a year. I would like to see the number of departments reduced significantly, with a goal of reducing duplication and waste. I would like to see less construction near the waterfront, burring the Gardiner, and more parks. Please have the police crack down on panhandlers, particularly in the financial district and in tourist areas - I would have more pride in the police and in city government if I wasn't accosted by panhandlers every day. I would like to see the libraries reduce the number of physical books, and significantly increase their collections of ebooks, plus allow citizens to register for a library card from home over the Internet.
109.	A city is more than garbage pick up and road clearing. Invest in communities and support them. A happy community will give back much more to the city. Realize the vast importance of a healthy urban forest, ravine and parks system.
110.	Consider that some of the money saved by contracting out certain service needs can provide more income stream to fund the TTC or public housing. Another idea for public housing could be to invite different architectural firms to compete to create the best green/space design. I think one way to reduce costs is to create competition. Just an idea. If you want to hire me as a marketing person, I'm all ears. Thanks!!
111.	that we need a healthy community- pools and community centres and parks are completely necessary for the health of our children- stop penalising them-

	Parks – Other Advice
112.	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.
113.	If we increase density in the city all services will become cheaper per person. Suburban sprawl is forcing us to have to spread our money around a larger but less dense area. The downtown core should compete more for businesses to locate there instead of in less dense areas with lower taxes. By encouraging high density mixed use residential/commercial developments in the downtown core we will grow a more sustainable city in which people can both live and work. There should be programs and development enacted that would encourage people to leave the suburbs and live downtown. Better parks would encourage families to move downtown as would proximity to employment which would also mean parents spend less time commuting and more time with their families.
114.	Maintaining city control over all aspects of quality of life for city-dwellers (i.e. no privatization); focusing on improving and building sustainable infrastructure for the long-term (public transit, housing, health, green space); always prioritizing caring for the vulnerable.
115.	please consider tourism. This includes theatre, festivals, parks, water front, and less cars.
116.	Not contracting out the Parks, Forestry and Recreation division.
117.	Do not create a 'drive-thru' city where the priority is not to slow down cars. Do create a city with neighbourhoods and parks that promote festivals, culture, walking, cycling, and other outdoor activities. Create a waterfront accessible to the public, not the developers. Nurture our urban forest for both aesthetics and clean air - most of our urban forest is old and we need new trees to replace the old.
118.	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.

	Parks – Other Advice
119.	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.
120.	Toronto will only be a great city through investment, not through cuts. We need to invest in staff, infrastructure, transit, parks, urban forestry, environmental programs and the like in order to make Toronto a world leader and a great place to live. If that means property tax increases, so be it.
121.	Aim for a high standard for environment-air, water, parks. The TTC needs more support from the city. Libraries in Toronto are well used and well managed. Heritage sand culture should be valued more. Keep our history and culture alive. It's worth the investment.
122.	Take into account the costs associated with NOT providing services such as forestry, parks, clean water, libraries, health services, affordable housing, community centres, support for families, etc., in terms
123.	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.
124.	Our park system is critical to the success of our city and life of its residents and with growing populations we need to preserve our parks and green space. We need to reduce our pollution and footprint on this planet if we want future populations to enjoy the level of life we have. It is our duty. Public transit is the lifeline of our city - we need to invest more and reduce our dependence on the auto. Public input is important to the success of any area - elimination of public committees disassociates the public from the city and neglect and ultimately creates a less caring society. The city will be expected to deliver more services that use to be delivered by volunteers. A less caring society can contribute to a decrease in capital value of property.
125.	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.

	Parks – Other Advice
126.	Although things like heritage, parks and libraries may seem like easy targets for cuts, they are part of what make life in this city a cut above that in other places.
127.	Think long term. Create a vision for the city that includes excellent public transit and lots of green space -- a walking city. Cities are for people not cars. Our kids and grandkids need more access to nature.
128.	The biggest problem is the gap between rich and poor. This affects crime, health, transit, housing, parks, the environment, you name it.
129.	Invest in transit. / Invest in active transportation. / Invest in services to improve the living our less fortunate, disabled, and elderly. / Reign in Police Services spending. / Punish polluters with taxes/fees. / Maximize green space w/ low cost community gardens.
130.	Reducing city run programs in Libraries, parks , community centres cultural programs, especially for youth will cause a back lash for this city, please don't do this
131.	Toronto needs families to live and work within it. That means we need great parks, and affordable childcare facilities, to make it easier for people with children to stay in Toronto. And arts programmes are really important- it's the artists that innovate, in many different areas. It's important that we support the arts.
132.	A city is a community and not a business. Council needs to promote services that serve ALL of Toronto. You may not have liked light rail, but light rail serves a far greater number of citizens than subways. It is important to promote neighbourhoods and local business, schools, parks, and libraries that lie at the heart of a vibrant neighbourhoods. The city will thrive or collapse based on the quality of its services. Fiscal responsibility is not the ultimate goal in delivering services. Delivering services is the ultimate goal of delivering services. In the end you must envision the kind of city you'd like Toronto to be. Will it be a city that preserves a few enclaves of well-to-do neighbourhoods while the majority of the city falls to ruin, or will it be a true city in which all of its residents have equal access to quality services that serve all aspects and needs of the city, whether urban or suburban. City council must not pit one borough against another. All boroughs have their own requirements in order to function as healthy communities. City council must serve the city as a community, and not merely as an investment opportunity. City services should not be delivered for profit. Neither is the lowest cost the best solution. The best solution is the one that serves the greatest number of people regardless of cost. Saving money should not come at the expense of impoverishing the city through a deterioration of city services.

	Parks – Other Advice
133.	I think we should consider getting people more jobs and educating people. Why? If the people who do not have jobs, have jobs the city will be in a better state. The people with jobs can buy what they need. But we also need to provide for those with the less fortunate.. Educate if possible. People with mental illness can get jobs too we need to find proper employment that they can do. / We need to help kids who are becoming violent..so we do not have violent individuals in the future as adults. We need housing for people, and food. If people have no food and can't afford it that will increase crime because they have a necessity that isn't met. Some mental illness is founded by lack of food. We also need to train parents to be proper parents.. lots of education and job foundation. Libraries help individuals on places to go to read and educate them selves.. They help people research. Parks and forests help with relaxation and hiking. It provides a release from the city stresses that happen daily.
134.	Pleas don't hurt Toronto and clean up the garbage in the park and get the panhandlers off the streets and into some housing
135.	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.
136.	Privatization only helps a corporation's bottom line! Get Queens Park to change 1- the funding formula 2- the rule saying cities must balance their budget every year.
137.	Demand better work for pay received from certain groups. I witness maintenance work on parks, street cleaning and TTC repairs. Staff would be fired for slacking on the job, for lack of performance, shoddy performance, etc. in working in the private sector. If supervisors are among these workers, they are not in evidence and not doing their job. Management needs to be better trained to exercise discipline and should be able to enforce it. e.g. Summerhill subway roof repair or lack of it has neighbourhood disgusted.
138.	The idea of having corporate sponsors pay for public services, like subways and public parks, is ridiculous and revolting. Do not do it.
139.	I'm disgusted by how biased this survey is. It would never stand up to a critical review. Why couldn't I find a single place to comment on cyclist and pedestrian issues? I guess we don't use roads and sidewalks? Or are tax-paying pinkos not citizens? This survey further enforces the perception that I am not welcome here. / / Stop the populism, start using evidence to make decisions. What is easy and what is right for the city are not always the same thing. A city is not a big-box store: the complexity of needs it must address do not always fit into the "business model." / Taking the easy, populist route now will further paralyze this city in the future, especially when the solutions are tried, tested and failed elsewhere. We know social programming reduces crime, we know cars cause gridlock, we know people like access to waterfront trails and parks.