



Public Consultation Summary

Comments on the 2019–2023 Budget



Lead Division: Finance



January–February 2019



portmoody.ca/budget

Survey respondents could provide additional comments about the 2019–2023 Budget. Input has been divided into the following categories: general budget comments (pages 1–22) and taxation/service related comments (pages 23–30). Comments are presented verbatim, including typos and grammatical errors. Specific addresses have been removed to protect the privacy of individuals.

There are a total of 202 general budget comments

Respondents who commented had equally strong, but opposing views on the following issues:

- Pace and type of development including sale of public land
- How the City moves forward on the Bert Flinn right of way issue
- Introduction of new revenue streams like casinos and billboards

Respondents identified issues that they would like to see addressed, including:

- Alleviate traffic congestion, especially along St Johns St, Murray St, and Clarke St
- Facilitate the growth of the local economy and attract more businesses to Port Moody
- Offer more recreation options for seniors and families (e.g., recreation centre programs, arts and culture programs, family events, an indoor pool, fields, etc.)
- Develop more cycling and pedestrian infrastructure in the City
- Preserve parks, trails, and green spaces and be leaders in sustainability

Some respondents had suggestions about how the City could generate more income and/or improve liveability, including:

- Increase developer contributions to help pay for infrastructure and amenity improvements
- Facilitate the growth of the local economy and attract more businesses to Port Moody
- Introduce pay parking in busy areas such as Rocky Point Park (especially for non-residents)
- Increase bylaw enforcement in areas such as parking
- Increase the use of event corporate sponsorship and corporate naming rights

General budget or service related comments

1. I am concerned about how much money the City is spending on the beaver management plan and things like the flow device in the creek.
2. Please get rid of single use plastic bags in the city. This initiative is long overdue. Also, please spend a little money to maintain the existing facilities such as the walking path around Westhill soccer field. Improve cycling infrastructure to get people out of their cars and onto bikes.
3. Do not sell city's property.
4. Implement pay parking to non Port Moody residents using Rocky Poont and Brewery Row. Put these find directly back into Parks & Rec in place of subsidy.

5. Please do not desecrate inlet field and the adjoining forested area to appease a niche group. My son has been a soccer player for six seasons and improving the field at the cost of nature is not going to change our kids into mini Renaldos. Please keep the field as is and if the city intends to borrow to subsidize services review the usage of those services and which groups they impact. The library caters from 0-100 and is a valuable resource to the community. It's not sexy and there is no lobby group attached to it but it's good value.

6. Please consider small increases all around, to reflect inflation costs. Perhaps there needs to be an increase planned for user fees every few years to reflect cost increases. I also believe there should be a surcharge for non Port Moody residents. We are not the size of Burnaby, Coquitlam or POCO, and we should not be subsidizing families that come from other areas to use our services. It may be a very small surcharge for a kids rec program, such as 5%, but more for adult programs, like 10%. (So, 5 to 10 dollars). I believe Anmore should be contributing to the payment of services they access in Port Moody, whether this be through direct payments from Anmore through their property taxes, or a one time yearly fee for Anmore families that want to use many services. (For example, for \$50 a year, an Anmore family covers the surcharges for all activities).

We are an attractive community, and we have families coming from the Tri Cities, Burnaby, and Vancouver to access services. Rocky Point Park is a destination for all of the Lower Mainland now. I know they bring money to businesses, but they are accessing our community resources. There has to be a process for charging for this privilege that doesn't involve Port Moody citizens paying for everyone.

7. Reduce income for counsellors

8. Spend tax payer monies wisely and prudently (which I do not believe we are currently doing) Focus on core/essential services and limit spending on non essential services (arts, recreation, etc) . We need to have more sustainable commercial development to help off set residential tax burden. Do not continue to have an "academic" view of the city by only listening to special interests groups and "block" voting on council. Roll back salary increases given to mayor and council.

9. Our taxes have increased while our Council has given themselves a raise. I don't mind paying taxes as long as I know these monies are being put to good use in overall well-being of our city and community. I would like to see a financial plan that considers balanced growth in our city. Road infrastructure is important with the increased development in our community. While it makes sense to develop around the transportation hubs, i.e. Evergreen Line, West Coast Express - we still need to ensure our road infrastructure can handle increased volume based on our current and anticipated growth, as it is not always possible to take public transportation depending where one needs to go.

10. Consider an additional fire station in Heritage Woods with all the existing and new development in this neighborhood, up the mountain.

More focus on our wildlife and awareness to keep both animals and humans safe, and being able to co-exist. Perhaps hire or have access to more conversation officers to humanely deal with wildlife when the wildlife are in areas they should not be. More awareness for people so they know how to respect and deal with wildlife when they come across a bear or deer, etc. Its a shame to have an animal put down when it is not always necessary to do so, but it is sometimes done because there aren't enough to resources to handle it appropriately. After all, we've moved into their territory.

As our residents age and continue to reside in Port Moody, services for our seniors can be looked at, from transportation, accessibility, social programs, residential. Senior programs can be offered at the local library and rec centres, with transportation offered to and from these locations. An adult daycare if you will. I know there is The Club, which is a great social gathering place. It would be beneficial to have a few more program options, especially for those seniors who may not be physically fit or mobile.

11. We need growth to pay for services. Try to find commercial revenue opportunities and build infrastructure.

12. Stop spending money on studies on loco Road. Follow the advise of your employees. Removing the right of way was a waste of money. Spend money on enhancing access to Bert Flinn.

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13. Transportation and road logistics are increasingly problematic in terms of volume. Congestion at peak time is worse than the rest of Greater Vancouver. With the increasing population and condominiums, I will not foresee any signs of improvements.
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14. I would like to see our city to attract more small & local business...
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15. Transportation issues need to be considered before new developments are approved. We are already starting to get choked - no more high rises which throttle efficient traffic movement
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16. reduce property Tax and Utility fee!!!
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17. Slow down development. No overnight tower developments. Infrastructure along Murray St and St. Johns needs to be addressed. We are a thorough fare for the rest of the Tri-cities.
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18. Consider amalgamating city hall with Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam.
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19. I am firmly opposed to deficit financing. Money spent on interest is wasted money that could be used elsewhere. If we can't afford something, we shouldn't be doing it. (In this context, obviously essential services like police and fire would take priority over "nice-to-haves" like arts and culture.) There is no reason a city can't run on a balanced budget.
- I also think developers should be paying more towards city amenities. They make huge profits and then disappear, leaving the city (i.e. the existing taxpayers) to come up with amenities for the new residents. I don't think this is fair.
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20. Consider an additional increase so that there will be some more time between now and the next increase.
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21. no
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22. Its is becoming increasingly apparent that ,in Port Moody, revenue isn't keeping up with service needs. Infrastructure has to be maintained and monies required to increase population (development) is necessary so unfortunately such things as recreation ,culture are first items to be impacted. A hugh effort is necessary to increase revenue; unfortunately high rise buildings increase taxes so other sources should be considered also. It's a complex concern with no simple answers.
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23. Spend more money making St. John's street more aesthetically pleasing to bring in more outside visitors spending there money here. Aka west van feel more trees, lights, upgrade building fronts.
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24. Think what best the the people in the community not what's best for you and your friends and family were the ones you work for.
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25. I would like to ask why condo and townhome owners pay the same in utilities taxes as homeowners.
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26. Please act responsibly with our money. I hear so much about how people can't afford this or that (homes) yet they are the same people taking frequent vancations, going to spa, driving s nicer car than me, fancier clothing. I'm getting tired of subsidizing so many things that are NOT my responsibility.
- Health, education, roads ARE all of our responsibility,
- Taking transit is NOT my responsibility, subsidizing real estate is not my responsibility.
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27. We believe it is a privilege to live in such a beautiful little City as we have for 60 years. It's important to maintain our small town ambiance and maintain a high level of public services. Residents should be prepared to pay more in taxes to enjoy all the benefits our city affords. Nothing is for free and most of us long time residents have seen the value of our properties rise far above the rises in taxes over the years.
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28. Council has considerable experience with budgeting. Please develop a plan to generate additional revenue, in addition to tax increases eg further develop land leases, sell some land, develop partnerships with developers so that they pay for some city improvements
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29. Complete the Coronation Park road access study.
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30. Not at this time

31. I believe Port Moody has excellent Police and Fire Services. I would never want reduction in those areas. I would be agreeable for tax increase if there were more outdoor sports facilities to be added (inlet soccer fields for example). I've lived in Port Moody for 25 years and there were not enough soccer / ball fields back then and the City has not kept pace with the increased population and development that has occurred.

32. Continue development in zones designated high density to increase the population base for taxation.

33. I have a hard time understanding why there is a struggle with finances with all the new development/condos/etc as I would assume the tax base would increase with that. However, the facilities in the rec centre/library are not adequate ...

34. Be prudent and efficient with funds, cut back on unnecessary spending, staffing and expenditures. Just be smart, honest and careful, like it was their own money.

35. Please build a pool at Rocky Point that is 100 m long like the one in Vancouver. Such a community and attraction

36. Port Moody is being ruined by overdevelopment and traffic congestion. Development is too fast and too much.

37. Focus on improving relationships and efficiencies for business development in Port Moody. We should be proactive in ensuring that solid businesses stay local!

38. If some users need a larger subsidy, that should be considered. However, it does not make sense to me to give all users a large subsidy, as many of us do not need that subsidy. I.e. make 'deeper discounts' available through some eligibility process so that these subsidies go to people who are truly lower income earners etc.

39. I'm very concerned at the high costs associated with the removal of the David Avenue ROW and dedication of the lands as Park Lands. There is simply no need to do this at this time - there is no immediate threat to these lands and if Council simply keeps the ROW the lands will continue to be used in the same way that they are now. If you want to do this (which I don't support) then please do this properly with a proper funding source. The City simply does not have the budget for this and should not be moving forward with this when such large amounts of money could be spent elsewhere for more pressing matters.

40. I understand Council is considering taking over the maintenance of loco Road, which I am strongly opposed to. It is a Provincial Highway that out of town people as well as residents use to access White Pine Beach, Buntzen Lake, Bedwell Bay, Belcarra and Anmore so I do not want loco Road removed from the Provincial jurisdiction. I am also in favour of the extension of David Avenue to accommodate an increase in traffic on future development.

Although this is a future consideration, I would be interested in seeing a mixed use development of housing: single family, townhouse and condominiums, services, stores, restaurants plus the restoration of the heritage houses to be incorporated in a village community on the loco lands. As mentioned in the past, I believe the loco lands gives the City of Port Moody and Anmore a unique opportunity to create a showcase to the World on high tech energy efficiency, recycled water, shared heating, solar panels, battery charge packs for electric/hybrid vehicles, etc., etc. The tax base from such a development would be higher than large, single family homes on large lots, and give more residents a fair chance to live in such a beautiful environment. The Official Community Plan was created by the residents of Port Moody, so for the Mayor or Councillors to change that plan to suit their own agenda could create apathy when residents have taken their time and energy to provide input to the City for the benefit of all. In order to provide low income housing for those less fortunate, and to retain green space, it was agreed that building higher density was the answer, which could be achieved with good planning. Having Coronation Park development held up because the City of Port Moody has not decided on where the second access road should be and blaming the City of Coquitlam for stalling the progress of the project is not acceptable. I understand residents/owners whose old properties have increased in value in anticipation of high rise development, have had their property taxes increased considerably. To expect those owners to continue to pay those high taxes, when the development has been held up for years, developers have become frustrated and sold to other developers, and owners may be forced to sell to speculators if they're lucky, is unfair in my opinion.

41. reduce overtime and better manage staff so they are more productive

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42. Increase the source of revenue by inviting more strategic business to the city.
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43. Cost of living keeps going up, so does our taxes. For retiree, our fixed income has adjusted at the rate of inflation, but it can't catch up with the increasing taxes rate. I hope our Council members would understand the low income family and the retired residents having a hard time.
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44. The City needs to be more vigilant in bylaw enforcement and the fines accrued from violations. Weekend enforcement particularly during non winter months needs enhancement. Too many violators at Rocky Point Park! The 4 hour parking limit needs stricter enforcement within the community.
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45. Make the most with what the city has in terms of employees. Try and increase productivity with what you have already.
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46. Address infrastructure along St Johns St and Murray Road. Too much congestion.
- Address safety issues in Suterbrook village with Onni's newest multi tower development. Public safety is at risk. There are no loading bays for the commercial lots.
- Hold Developers accountable. Insist that they pay and give back more to the community that they are profiting from. Increase Police services since our population has grown and skytrain has brought more traffic into the city... good and bad.
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47. I am very disappointed that the new council members are moving so quickly to raising taxes in an area where the property taxes are already so high. We all need to learn to live within our means. I am also disappointed that long term plans like the road through Bert Flinn Park is not going ahead. This road was planned for a good reason to help with the increased traffic on loco Road and it has been on the books for over 20 years. It is not right that a few councilers can decide that they don't want it then push the rest of the councillors to go along with this plan. Lets have a vote about the road or is the current council afraid of what the public will say. It was good sound planning decision to put the road through not a whim or a rash decision. Large decisions like this should be based on what is good for the whole community not a few bleeding hearts.
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48. important to maintain a the level of family oriented events held in Port Moody, enhancing community small town feel.
- Port Moody has a great reputation as a very livable community
- Further development is going to be necessary to keep residential tax rate down - we do not have large enough commercial/industrial base.
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49. Why is it taking so long to finish reconstruction on our Rec Center and Library. It seems wasteful to start a project and not finish it in a timely manner.
- We need to have the road lines repainted more often, and the road signs cleaned more often.
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50. Population and taxable properties increase each year. Publish statistics comparing increased cost of services against the expanded tax base.
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51. To convert the fire prevention officer hired last year from a full-time position to a part-time position. The city does not need a full-time fire prevention officer.
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52. Since it is unlikely we will see innovative development in the next 4 years we really need to focus on cost containment and basic services. We don't have funds in the bank or a broad tax base like Burnaby and some of the other municipalities. All we can do is control expenses and focus on keeping the core services - police, fire, road maintenance, sewer/water strong and healthy. People can't afford escalating tax costs coming from all levels of government and our small businesses are dying from taxation.
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53. Keep tax increases in line with inflation/wage increases for staff, avoid increasing total number of employees beyond current ratio to population (staff growth in line with population growth). keep general service quality/coverage the same but look for ways to improve some services while reducing others that may be less needed due to changing resident needs/technology/etc. Avoid increasing bureaucracy at all costs.
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54. The tax increases have gotten out of hand. Specifically the health tax was anticipated and should have been budgeted for and savings incurred in other areas to offset. These large year over year increases are not sustainable. Council should refrain from any optional spending unless essential.

Clearly individual council members who promote their own agenda at a cost to all taxpayers is unacceptable. When the city goes to the effort and expense of a survey, a vote and public consultation and feedback on an issue it is unacceptable to ignore the community and intolerable to add costs associated to an ever ballooning budget.

55. It would be helpful to have a bit more information and examples around the reference for subsidies.

56. Preserve our undeveloped forests and green spaces. Improve cycling routes, particularly on loco. Don't let PoMo become Metrotown! Keep it small and beautiful.

57. Parking around Rocky Point

Soccer fields

58. I have not heard anything about the controversy surrounding extending David Avenue through Burke Flynn and wanted to go on record that I would be in favor of the David Extension; IOCO road is NOT the best way to address traffic flow. Besides, there is nothing I have seen (and I have been through Burke Flynn) that suggests the presence of a road need take away any of the green space...it is a huge area and is not and will not be the only area bisected by a road...there are many such examples in our area and throughout Westwood Plateau (as an example).

Thank you

59. Allow ongoing smart development, especially of rental properties and especially for families (e.g., 3 BR units)

Support more rent-to-own initiatives like 50 Electronic Ave

60. In order for the city to keep taxes in check they need to look at development to increase the cost ax base.

61. There can be no meaningful comparisons without factual cost/benefit analyses of the options presented.

A meaningless survey in my opinion.

62. I didn't feel I had enough information to make a selection as to whether to increase or decrease subsidies and taxes but do hope that those that have all that information will do the right thing for this city and all it's people.

63. As I mentioned previously, please check operating costs of police and firefighting to see if these costs can be reduced by some novel approach to staffing or operational costs (office staffing, etc).

64. BRING BACK THE ANNUAL "SPRING CLEAN UP DAY" when homeowners could put large unwanted items such appliances, furniture, etc at curbside on one designated garbage day and they would be picked up by City trucks. This was an excellent service, very convenient and environmentally friendly. It replaced many single trips to the dump by individual homeowners, and I remember that many items were scavenged at curbside (before the city trucks arrived) and re used. I have no doubt it cut down on illegal dumping as well.

I can only guess that spring clean up day was discontinued because of the expense, however the cost to the City I am sure is way less than individual homeowners are currently spending collectively to dispose of these items. One trip to the dump costs me at least \$15 or \$20 and a couple of hours of my time. It costs much more to hire a private service to haul away unwanted items. Many people do not have a pick up truck to haul large items to the dump, or may be physically unable to do so.

A small increase to my annual garbage bill is well worth it to bring back spring clean up day, and I believe most Port Moody residents would agree for the reasons I have stated.

65. We voted for the current council and mayor because they are generally in favour of sharply reduced or limited development, and preservation and extension of parks and green spaces. Anything done to achieve those goals has our full approval. Also, as indicated in our survey, we are willing to pay higher taxes to help achieve those goals.

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66. Please don't create a forest of high-rises in our beautiful gem of a city. Leave the waterfront as a pleasant place and perhaps develop it with low rise businesses/residences and a large park-like waterfront area with a boardwalk (perhaps like Whiterock).
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67. Talk to city staff before discussing the budget and determine what options are practicable before (not after) spending time approving or rejecting something using half baked or missing practicality. Mayor and councilors have a responsibility to do their due diligence before framing municipal plans.
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68. Increase funding for the Planning and Development departments as it is understaffed.
- Develop Coronation Park from the few crumbling houses that currently exist there to a vital community of homes and businesses that will increase the tax base and take pressure off of home owners.
- Buy the mill site next to Rocky Point Park to increase the park size. The current park is much too small to accommodate the growing community. Right now is the only chance to take advantage of this opportunity and reclaim the shoreline. Once the land is redeveloped for residential units it is gone forever.
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69. Service levels are important. Increase taxes to maintain.
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70. I encourage Council to examine the allocations and ensure that essential services are funded first. The must have items should be funded and perhaps the nice to have items be decreased. Are there currently spot audits on expenditures to ensure funds are being spent as they should be?
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71. raise money through construction costs/ density projects / charge for parking in all areas of the city - perhaps residents can pay for a permit /
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72. No
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73. Just one. I have seen public comment reflecting a cost of 8 million dollars to resurface the current field on Moray street. This is far in excess of what the reality should be. A fuller explanation as to how this agrees dollar amount was arrived at.
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74. Decisions we make now are crucial to addressing climate change. Doing everything you can at the municipal level to provide opportunities for business owners and residents to reduce carbon footprint and greenhouse gasses.
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75. I have no problem with another tax increase but it must be under 5%. More like 4.5%
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76. This is a wonderful city to live in so let's take the steps to keep it that way.
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77. Healthier citizens contribute to a stronger, healthier community. Putting a stronger emphasis on health and wellness will make Port Moody stronger. It does not need to cost more, it needs strong leadership and commitment.
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78. The raise for staffing needs to be explained better.
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79. My priorities would be:
- To leverage developer contributions as much as possible to maximise income
 - Do NOT contract out
 - While sharing purchasing power and some services with PoCo & Coquitlam is good fiscal management, do NOT consider amalgamation of the TriCities
 - Do NOT cut services or subsidies for recreation services
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80. Our CFO was clear that our revenue sources are limited by the regulation. However, everyone seemed content that there are no other alternatives available except manipulating the the tax level or cut programs. I am not sure that cost management or tax increase as the only means of moving forward is the best approach. Certainly any other organization that only looks at only one source of income for increasing revenue or slashing cost is doomed to fail. Perhaps there are other sources of income can be investigated to release some of the pressures.
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81. How much of the "Residential" costs are absorbed by rental homes? It occurs to me that renters should also be paying into the pie of the city in which they live. For clarification, I am a renter. Sure, I pay into the Municipal levy through gas taxes, and pay user fees for things like transit, but is there a way to have a flat fee of \$25 per year per unit (I'm making up numbers to illustrate the point) for those who rent a residential property in Port Moody, so that less emphasis is placed on "owned" homes and more emphasis is placed on "residences"? If part of my rent, which could include the flat fee in it, went to funding all the things Port Moody provides me - like Fire, Police, Rescue, water, decent roads, then all residences are contributing to the pool of taxes from which the city can draw from.
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82. Instead of putting the money to fix the small transportation problems I hope city can pay more attention to the real traffic problems on st. John street. and also before develop more populations city can put plans for improve transportation and community services, 10 years ago it's not a problem to find parking in rocky point park even weekends and also not that many people use our recreation center. As resident of port moody i rarely go to these places and use our facilities any more because it's already over crowded can't even find parking.
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83. Looking for more efficiencies of scale.....coordinations between tri cities for sharing big ticket items like fire engines, etc.
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84. The interplay between vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians is becoming worrisome. Understanding that policing is very important, I wonder if more education or reminders would help alleviate issues, increase safety and ultimately require less police involvement in this area (which is not a suggestion to reduce police).
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85. Community sports is a very important part of Port Moody as that is one of the key cornerstones to a very desirable Family friendly place to live. Lets build the soccer field by Inlet Park and ensure the Rec center is maintained well (ice rinks). Plus put more support into the Port Moody Community teams.
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86. I think it is time to reconsider having a Casino; not having one here doesn't stop people from gambling - they just go to Coquitlam. Additional revenue generated here would be a lot better than starting "border wars" with neighboring municipalities over parking / useage fees etc. Similarly, I think our City is large enough to support a quality hotel to make sure more dollars are spent here rather than elsewhere. (Skytrain gives easy access to Vancouver for visitors!)
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87. No more high end govt buildings like city hall, police station and fire hall. More conservative approach to public buildings. No more blue trees. No more rainbow sidewalks. Focus on essential basic services like road maintenance, sewer, garbage, fire and police.
- No more high rises, no more cement and glass. instead look more into retail with 3 floors or housing like Hastings St in Burnaby. More redevelopment of St John and Murray. No more fringe retailers like hookah lounges, vape shops, tattoo parlours. We don't know if we are trying to be King George Highway or Ambleside. Densify existing property. Lane housing, lot splitting etc.
- Scrutinize every dollar spent and double check every cheque written. We cant afford wasteful spending.
- Lastly if you all want to get elected again bring back junk day. You can win on that one issue alone.
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88. Parking and traffic remain the most challenging issues for me. Rocky Point area has become so popular across the Lower Mainland that it is virtually impossible to park there on a weekend. I suggest that PAY PARKING be implemented immediately. Currently people unable to park at Rocky Point can park at the Skytrain and pay and walk over the bridge. The parking nearest the park remains free for 4 hours. This is backwards. People should pay more for the nearest parking, especially since many are actually using the breweries and not even the park. Many non residents use the park which they can but current parking policy enables them to bring many vehicles for the large extended gatherings that are common. I think there is likely quite a bit of revenue that could be generated through parking fees both at the park and around the city core.
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89. Increase parking at rocky point, and perhaps charge a minimal fee for pay parking for non-residents, and along Murray street.
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90. A better use /overseeing of resources (funds and service contractors) may result in better services
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91. subsidies should be consistent with CPI increase

If Port Moody is NOT able to achieve acceptable tax rates then investigate merger with another municipality to save management and councillor salary dollars

A approval to do this can be requested from the provincial Gov't followed by a citizen referendum to receive approval

Our police and fire costs are way out of whack with other municipalities

How do you justify replacing computer hardware on a yearly basis ?

How do you justify the expenditures for a retreat..We would have given you our party room for a week right in Port Moody and had meals catered .. would have saved some \$\$.. Governemtn has to start thinking about what we don't need rather than what we do need .. The mentality of entitlement is blatant !!

92. Please consider paid parking on street and in Rocky Point Park and the Port Moody Rec Centre (parking should be validated for users of the gym, library, and city hall -- this will disincentivize park and go for skytrain commuters) and increased traffic enforcement (eg. car traffic speeding, distracted driving, especially in school zones). The shuttle to the breweries should be paid for by the breweries; these routes are already serviced by transit and bike lanes.

93. We DON'T need to spend any money to remove the right-of-way in Bert Flynn park, and we don't need to remove loco Road off the GVRD major road network.

94. No casino. Increase tax base by encouraging more commercial retail development. Not enough amenities for residents and we could use more things like grocery stores or small restaurants. Would help to increase tax base while providing more options for residents

95. There seems to be no watchdog to oversee what or how the \$\$ is spent ..As an example, the city wanted to install traffic calming on Newport Drive. Yet there were no statistics on how many accidents there were or estimates as to how many accidents would be reduced . By new computer hardware every year.. who in any industry does this , and why ? Rather than trying to find ways to spend money, hire a manager whose job it is to question every purchase and whose job it is to save \$\$

I thought the new manager was a guy who would keep an eye on the purse strings ? I suppose once you're plugged into the gravy train it's hard to pull away

96. I am happy to subsidize some services through taxes, but for example I don't think recreation centre user fees have increased in 10 years? I would be happier to see a modest increase in user fees. Also, with all the traffic now in Rocky Point, am wondering if any further consideration has been given to charging non-locals for parking? I like the idea of the free summer shuttle too but didn't find its route and hours useful at all - who is the intended user - if it is meant for transit users rather than locals, why not lobby to add a transit bus instead? If the city is bringing back this service the route should be re-examined to see if ridership can be increased enough to justify the cost.

I also recall that our firehall was designed to provide training to the region, not just for our city's firefighters, so am wondering if we are receiving any firefighting facility funding from sources outside of Port Moody?

97. design a better, less simplistic survey. i attended your budget meeting and what is evident is not what you show and discuss, rather what you do NOT show and discuss. Please provide more detail, such as 1. the details of the budget as items roll up 2. financial statements either from the prior year or year to date. 3. Provide comparative budgets with last year for at a glance information. As i saw at the meeting, many people are quite well informed about the city's on goings despite the lack of detail in your information. Please make it easy for the rest of us who care about this city where we live but lead busy lives working/commuting/raising children etc.

98. I am happy to pay more in taxes if it is necessary to maintain or improve Port Moody's services. I am shocked that you would even consider a casino and will never vote for a councillor who approves a casino in Port Moody.

99. We have the most beautiful environment of any cities in the lower mainland, perhaps the country. We have the ocean, mountains and lakes. We ought to be a leader in environmental issues and sustainability. We should be on the map for our beauty and embracing the nature which surrounds us. I feel this should be our number one priority. If we didn't have the nature around us, we would just be another Burnaby or east van. The nature sets us apart and is why people come to visit and live here. If we don't prioritize it in all decision making, it will be chipped away and lost to future generations.

Let's cherish what we have and give it the attention it warrants.

100. I think the City needs to carefully weigh all expenditures and consider (a) whether a specific cost needs to be incurred (at all); and (b) whether that cost needs to be incurred right now. For example, I think regular maintenance costs are important, but additional expenditures should be evaluated on a "what will it add and can that be justified given the cost" parameter. For example, while I fully support Bert Flinn Park remaining forever green space, is there a need to (incur the costs to) change the right of way this year? Also, perhaps semi-public (or informal) consultation should take place for other expenditures. For example, a few years ago the city installed fencing along the top split roadway of Forest Park Way. My understanding is this was done at the behest of a few residents who expressed safety concerns, but it's been a serious inconvenience - and actually dangerous - for many of us. Do I think the City should install a break in the fence and a cross-walk at the intersection? Absolutely. Do I understand that funds to do so are low in priority? Absolutely. But the cost to the City in the first place could have been averted (or at least reduced) if someone had just walked up the street and talked to everyone who lived here, rather than the few that voiced a complaint to the right people. I don't feel like City Council (or the City Manager's office or whoever does the number crunching) has historically managed City money very well - there appeared to be a lot of "from the hip" spending, and I think thoughtful spending would serve our City better.

101. I would like to review a copy of the City's capital asset inventory. I sense that I would have a clearer picture/vision of what I would accept and/or recommend for Port Moody's future direction/growth if I knew what the City holds in inventory.

I am also curious about increasing user fees to offset tax increases. This may be something I would support if/when additional information is provided. How much of an increase, and in what areas, would be required in order to reduce taxes ... and how much of a tax reduction could residents expect?

102. I believe a careful analysis of users should be undertaken before any decisions are made to change subsidies for user fees and/or look at other sources of revenue (ie: parking fees). As long as the majority of users are Port Moody residents, I support subsidizing programs and paying through my property taxes. I believe the majority of Port Moody residents are capable of paying their share but we should have programs in place to reduce costs for those who can not.

103. not happy with the emphasis on police services; evidence shows that crime rates have more to do with other factors (e.g. gap between rich and poor, child and youth services) than with investment in policing

104. Supervision of work at the Rec. centre and City Hall has been appalling, ie. none, often see several workers not working, Staff and Management need to treat the money they spend and are responsible for as if it was their own, there seems to be a lack of caring about city funds by many staff. Also, Bert Flinn Park preservation should be a priority so this does not come up again in the future, do what is needed that's what we voted for, to keep Port Moody green space.

105. fire and police services are very important but i feel they have grown to large, we need to do more with the same, try to save, take care of existing infrastructure such as Hall 2 which is falling into dis repair, we just build a new hall, we need to keep hall two in good condition. Why do we need a new fleet of vehicles? Vehicles are more reliable than ever, we should try and extend the service life.

106. Parks and trails are very important to me.

107. Keep the tax increase at the rate of inflation.

108. Maximize the sale of city lands (Old Fire Hall site) and increase density to offset costs to the city- open David avenue so growth can happen on loco lands. Fire Hall site and David ave we're both planned as part of future development...

Stop the NIMBY's from forcing increased costs on taxpayers -53 year resident of PoMo.

109. 1. I hadn't known about the Harrison retreat until it was brought up at the meeting. I believe in making sure that all city staff, including the Council and Mayor, are compensated fairly and I think perks in any job help boost morale. However, without knowing more than the details brought up in the meeting, I find it hard to wrap my head around why council and senior officials would need an out of town retreat. I liked Ms. Dilworth's suggestion that the money would be well suited being spent in Port Moody itself.
2. I have heard arguments from a few city planners that parking fees are good for increasing revenue and decreasing congestion - two issues within Port Moody that came up in the meeting. I know it is difficult for a politician to ask his or her constituents to pay more to live in the city, but I would like to see a serious proposal for bringing in well thought out parking fees to Port Moody. We claim to be a city that cares about the environment (do we still have those stickers on our gas stations?) but keep shying away from parking policy that would actually encourage transit use in a city that is quite small and well serviced by transit.
3. I was surprised to see that the fee for a secondary suite business license has been waived this year. I realize it wasn't a huge amount of income for the city, but I am not sure why this minimal charge has been waived when it could have continued to be a source of income for the city. I have a secondary suite in my home and after the astronomical cost of bringing my suite up to code to be licensed, and the additional fees we pay in utilities (despite having fewer washrooms and fewer people living in our house than our single family neighbours), the licensing fee was hardly noticeable. I would have preferred my secondary suite fee remain in place and used in a positive way to help more people either put in secondary suites, or help the city provide below market rentals for individuals. Based on my research online the justification for this is to get more people to license their suite. I spent 10s of thousands of dollars on fire separation, entrances and parking, and if someone is not entering the secondary suite market based on fees, I feel pretty confident that it's not because of the \$130 license fee each year. I hope that the council will re-consider this issue and look at re-instating the fee and using it to help renters have safe units to live in in Port Moody.
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110. The Planning & Development Department seems to be consistently underfunded and understaffed.

111. In my opinion the City of Port Moody cannot cut its way to financial prosperity and it should look at ways to build upon the City's core strengths and attributes in terms of its commitment to fostering and developing an economy of a City of the Arts by supporting cultural participation of its citizens and the growth of the arts and creative enterprise. The city should leverage the fact that it is home to the Eagle Ridge Hospital and encourage economic development and growth of the medical and health and wellness sector. I suggest that the city also look at new avenues for generating revenue through measures that also contribute to promoting the city's distinctive natural environment such as pay parking, increase taxes on surface parking at stores, add a drive through tax for the drive through establishments and other such items while promoting public transportation access to parks and green spaces with day trip information visitors from outside Port Moody.

112. It is unfortunate that our counsel has blocked other sources of funding (such as those used to come from developers) and did not even give the residents that option in this survey. If we want to be honest with ourselves, we should give the residents ALL the options when surveying them.

113. I don't know how much of the budget goes to specific annual events, but I would be completely ok with RibFest being cancelled as I feel that it doesn't represent the healthier lifestyle that is very much promoted here in Port Moody (big reason why we moved here). Also could look at events such as the Port Moody Community Fair that don't seem to have a high turnout (at least the times I've been there).

114. The city of Port Moody is a city of the arts, we enjoy being outside, and being healthy. This annual rib festival is not at all what I think our image should be. It is a glutenous festival that is expensive and reminds us of good old boys BBQing in Texas or somewhere in the states. How about a health festival? One with healthy food and yoga and kid fun.

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115. Be fair and transparent with citizens. Don't ask for public input and then ignore it, like the last mayor and some councillors. Work together and not against each other. It is very annoying to see some councillor's body language and behaviour in meetings.

Please stop bowing to very vocal minorities - the beaver fiasco was blown way out of proportion. Although hindsight is 20-20, it doesn't take an expert to have known that the first beaver should have been relocated as soon as it showed up. I would hate think what has been spent on those rodents to date, and to the probable detriment of the salmon in that creek.

Also, not happy about so much time, effort and money being spent on Bert Flinn, which had laid peaceful, dormant and low cost for decades until there was political interference - even when absolutely nothing was even happening there.

Lastly - it doesn't take a genius to know the city is in a financial bind. Start exploring our options, even those that were rejected in the past - casino, pay parking, etc. Burnaby has a billion dollars in their property endowment fund and we had to borrow just to fix the buildings we have.

Lastly, Council needs to start making hard decisions instead of costly, time consuming consultations - those have their place, but we voted council in to make decisions - for the good of the community, no just their own whims and desires.

116. The taxes have gone up significantly. We need to look at where we spend our money in all areas and look for more efficiencies.
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117. STOP using outside facilitators/consultants and facilities, when we have the skills in house (or should have based on the high salaries we pay) and adequately equipped venues. STOP funding events after 3 years at which time they should be self-sufficient. STOP cash grants until budgets are balanced. STOP random public art and limit future arbitrary initiatives. STOP funding events at Rocky Point Park and other over-used venues, especially with parking issues (let residents enjoy normal park use at RPP). START optimizing other city assets (facilities, parks, etc., which are under-utilized) for festivals, meetings, events (measure staff performance on this). START promoting things at Belcarra Park, Glenayre, Heritage, loco, Kyle, West Hill, etc., much more (again, measure staff performance on this). START fully utilizing Master Plans while continuing to implement priority recommendations.
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118. Essential services need to be fully maintained/upgraded to ensure public health and safety..

Perhaps arts and recreation funding budgets can be managed by user fees and by limiting and not eliminating subsidized programs. That being said, vulnerable families need support to be successful; therefore, those who need the most support should be supported by our community. I would prefer a small tax increase over eliminating all of the subsidized programs. I strongly prefer not to have a large tax increase. Coquitlam has program options for Port Moody residents; this provides a range of opportunities that don't affect our budget.

Also budget transparency is always appreciated.

Thanks!

119. I attended the Finance Committee meeting on Feb. 5th and what I took away that we are probably going to have a 5.5% tax increase for the next taxation period. I appreciate the work that went into reducing the amount from the original proposed 7.36%. After listening to all of the departments' presentations there doesn't appear to be a lot of wiggle room for this upcoming budget. My wife and I are on a fixed income and we try to figure out ways all the time and it is very difficult in this economy. Please forget about trying to reduce expenses at the recreation centre because families and seniors depend on this infrastructure. I just don't think there is enough bang for the buck right now to decrease the tax this year.
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120. I would prefer to see tax increases to maintain services than have the City rely on additional funding from developers. Maintaining the unique feel of Port Moody is a reason why many people choose to live here, and more high density development, traffic etc. will take away from the small town and family atmosphere that we enjoy.
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121. Overall, I am satisfied with the scrutiny by staff and council to keep our taxation levels within reason. I understand the loss of Burrard Thermal, as a tax base, was instrumental in our current increases. I would not like to see a reduction in services, infrastructure or environmental protection. I won't be complaining about the proposed tax increase and think we will be able to find sources of revenue in the future. One quick thing, I would not support seeing bill boards as a source of revenue. Thank you, council and staff, for all your efforts and transparency with this matter.
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122. Too much is spent on Fire Department, and Police should reign in some expenditures as well.
-
123. I truly hope that current home owners and businesses will not be expected to maintain the current level of city services. I hope council does not close the door to growth and development - we need to build our tax base.
- On a recent trip to Campbell River we were shocked to learn that municipal taxes had skyrocketed because of loss of industry. A modest family home, circa 2000, payed over \$6000.00 in taxes. If this were to happen here my husband and I would not be able to afford to stay here - this is our home town and we have owned our home since 1978. Our environment is very important, that goes without saying, but tree hugging cannot be the primary priority of running and growing our city.
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124. No to spending scarce financial resources on unnecessary election promise to remove Bert Flinn ROW. Leave ROW as is, control of development on loco Lands lies with council so no need to spend money on this now.
-
125. Reduce spending at City Hall example all meetings and seminars should be held at City Hall or in Port Moody. There is no need to spend tax payers dollars to attend seminars at resorts (Harrison Hot Springs) come on give your head a shake! You are accountable to tax payers of Port Moody!
-
126. Increase housing affordability
Avoid Shared Thrift Store closure
-
127. We all love all the services that the city provides but high tax burdens are making life difficult for families. The city needs to find ways to keep costs under control. Specifically, if you look at the past 10 to 15 years, wage increases have been far higher at the city level than at the provincial level. Perhaps the city should better align wage increase with what is happening provincially. The city residents are also having difficulty in absorbing cost increases that seem to be much higher than rate of inflation. As well, we need to encourage more office building construction to help diversify the tax base in the city.
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128. Looking a ways to generate more revenue like parking. Parking enforcement seems to be only driven by complaints. People are parking all the time on Hugh, St. Johns, St. Andrews, Moody and St. George when the skytrain parking lot is full. Bylaw should be ticketing every day to generate revenue or install meters or selling parking passes. Relook at pay parking at Rocky Point. Increase fees for boat launch. Increase recreational program fees. We should be looking at way to increase revenue to offset tax increases
-
129. Traffic congestion and speed in areas around IOCO/DEWDNEY TRUNK I feel should be looked at and studied to reduce the congestion (and if that can't be helped) then propose ways to reduce the speed of people traveling through specifically look at raised speed bump (near Dewdney and Fraser) or lower the speed to 30km to the Coquitlam border like it is on Moray/Thermal.
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130. No additional comments
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131. I'm glad to see developers are thinking of new and progressive ways to allow first time home owners into the Port Moody housing market.
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132. No offsite meetings!
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133. Make other sources of income (besides property taxes) more available for the city.
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134. I would like to see an increase in revenue from other sources. Fees for groups hosts large scale events, corporate sponsorship of events or possibly parking revenues at Rocky Point.
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135. I would like to see all developers assist with infrastructure costs. As they build more Pomo has more residents I would like to see the cost per person in Port Moody calculated and if a developer has a building with 1500 charge per person added to developers cost for Port Moody. Port Moody residents should not have to pay for all the infrastructure to cover the increase in residents. Also developers need to build community centres to accommodate new residents as well as shopping malls etc grocery stores schools etc.
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136. The City should try the best to get the funding supports from the federal and BC provincial governments and the Translink BC to expand the narrow bridges crossing the railways/skytrain lines (one bridge near Moody Centre Skytrain Station, another at the loco Skytrain Station). This should be given the highest priority to reduce the traffic jams along the St. John Street and Moody Street and improve the life quality. The City Council should also look into the possibilities to cut / reduce the staff numbers at all levels paid by the taxpayers to cut the costs and reduce the tax burden of the residents. The fact that 80% of the City's budget is from property tax and utility fees is crazy. More revenue should be and can be generated by developing more business and open more land for development.
-
137. Encourage businesses to sponsor arts and community events, and sports and recreation programs so as to subsidize the user fees. Sell capital structure naming rights (for a contracted period of time, not perpetual) to businesses for longer term financial sponsorship arrangements. Reconsider how Port Moody Public Library fits in the Internet age. Reduce the physical reliance of libraries and content materials. Turn physical library spaces to study rooms and for-rental group-use facilities. In general, I'd like to see Council direct city staff to be advocates rather than doers/providers of programs. Staff time (and value) would better reflect in their attention to capital projects quality and client service efficiency.
-
138. Stop wasting our tax dollars on beavers. You should be helping to provide affordable housing for people not rodents. Beavers ruin the trees, flood our trails, and destroy salmon runs. This all costs money to fix.
- Don't waste tax dollars on removing road in Bert Flinn park. Just leave it as is.
-
139. As mentioned we pay the 2nd. highest tax rate after W. Vancouver & I still do not know why. P.M. is not a big town (size & population wise) so where are these high expenses for: High staff salary?, High & Scandalous Long City Hall repair? Upcoming unknown projects? These high levels should be should be taken in consideration by the voters & SERIOUSLY considered for their real present & future needs.
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140. I would suggest a thorough review of where money is being spent so expenses can be re-prioritized on a regular basis as things change or market environment shifts. This includes Council pet projects tied to campaign promises, etc. Priority to strengthen our business tax base, we still have to leave PORT Moody to find far too many services.
-
141. If considering increasing the price residents pay for services and programs, please don't use one price fits all. Allow for lower prices with proper lower-income or seniority applications to receive lower prices, and raise prices as necessary beyond that.
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142. It's too late now but I think we need to re-envision the whole idea of how and where funds to run our city come from. Taxes based solely on property assessment fluctuates randomly and is inherently unfair. Property values are not at all tied to income and C.O.L.As in pensions etc. I don't have any solid answers at the moment but I think we need to step outside the box and look at ideas that have been discarded, never been put forth, and not even thought of yet. Same old same old doesn't cut it for me any more!
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143. Residents are paying too large a portion of for a reduction in service each year (garbage pick up only every 2 weeks , have to take my only recycling to the depot...) . Commercial businesses should pay more and need to attract more business.
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144. I would encourage all Council members to be considerate of the Community members who are in their care by retaining of putting forward motions that are going to cost hundreds of thousands of dollars that the City simply does not have the resources to be able to pay for their implementation. This includes the requesting of studies consuming Staff time and resources that could be better spent on more progressive areas in moving our City to be economically responsible.
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145. I have many questions about how the tax/money is spent...1.changing anything at this time especially spending money on Bert Flinn Park - leave it as is....2. new digital equip- comp & tablets for councilors this seems unnecessary (what happens to the used ones?) are they donated somewhere? 3 going into the 3rd year of 'tarps around rec centre - city hall & library' - lots of money spent and not sure if it was put to good use?! (we sure couldn't afford to live our lives and fix our houses with the same unknown pricing and letting it go on for years- should have been quite clear what the costs and time limits were - maybe get some 'expert' people to advise how it's done....4 property at Murray & loco (former fire hall prop) terrible way to be introduced to our lovely city - yellow fences (which we are paying for?? why??) and it is now used to store 'junk - dirt ' containers and all sorts of whatever - thought we now had property for the works yard to put their stuff..? .5 the corner property should be used for something that benefits the local people there - leave it as a park to sit on benches until there is a plan for 'what to do ' with the corner.....

don't really like to be a complainer - but - I know there are a lot of people paying attention to what's going on but don't ever 'say what they are thinking'...so now and again it's a good idea for some 'input to come from the Taxpayers' we are seniors and every year we hear the 'same old - same old' taxes going up again.... maybe some of our 'Wants' should be put on the self for a year or 2 til we can afford stuff!!! after this year of over spending - take a break !! give us some good news next year Taxes are staying the same or going down?!!!

all the best and Thank you for your time and effort that goes into making Port Moody a great place to live.....

146. review management overhead. look to gain efficiency by combining service with other municipalities. In fact hold a referendum asking for city support to combine with another municipalities..approval from the province of BC would be required, but this is not impossible to do

Why are councillors and sr managers going to an offsite retreat ? Respect tax dollars as though they were your own ! City staff and council spend \$\$ with due consideration for the hard work and effort people invest to earn these \$\$

147. 1) Stick to the master community plan or increase the growth of this town beyond that. Our region needs more residential housing. We're willing to pay more tax for this great community, but not >10% more.

2) The 3000blk of Spring street is so freaking dangerous for the hundreds of pedestrians that walk to the skytrain/WCE every day. Build a sidewalk for us to use so we're not walking in the middle of a busy road. It's not just adult commuters, kids that head to Moody Middle from the buses school use this as a commute path too.

148. Get rid off glass collection it goes back when i take my bottles, cans, styrofoam and plastic bags back

Stop spending our tax dollars on beavers that should be trapped and relocated to the wilds.

Leave Bert Flinn Park with the easement that was put in in 1987 for good reason and do not take loco Road out of the GVRD.

I have just recently learned the budget meetings are recorded and we are able to view them.

149. We need a dedicated ambulance station in Port Moody (realize it's provincially funded) but the city should consider giving a location to the service for a dedicated station.

I would also like to see a dedicated outdoor off leash trail space for dogs (not a dog park) but a trail loop which is off leash. Similar to mundy park that does off leash hours. I would love to walk in Port Moody with my pup but have to go to Coquitlam to do that.

The first section of the survey when we are asked if those services are important...all those services are important so the question seems like it won't really give you an understanding of where money should be spent?

150. Developers who build in Port Moody should pay more for the privilege of building in Port Moody. They should help more with infrastructure and other public services. To get approval to build these large development companies should be required to pay for road/transportation improvements, school improvements and other improvements required where they are building. They get away with not helping enough while making large profits.

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151. 1. Evaluate business tax rate against other region or municipality to ensure rates are competitive to support economic development. It may be that the city could enhance tax base by taking a slightly smaller slice of the pie but make a bigger pie in the process.
2. Find the extra 0.44% - cross the board cut to each department.
3. Longer term find additional revenue through hotel/casino, billboards, advertising and more practical leveraging to developer contribution.
- 4> Go back to contracted out garbage/recycling.
-
152. - I would like to see pay parking at Rocky Point Park to allow taxpayers of Port Moody to be able to park and use the park.
- Leverage increase higher fees for developers ensure they contribute to infrastructure, i.e. schools, etc.
- I would like to see more bike lanes in Port Moody.
- More activities for seniors - fitness, art and music - daytime activities.
- More support for TORCA - Tri-Cities Off Road Cycling Assoc. - they build trails for bikers, hikers, dog walkers, etc.
-
153. 1. Services are very good and taxes are quite reasonable (publishing comparisons with other areas outside BC would be good. Municipal taxation is about the only thing that is relatively lower here).
2. Make sure construction/renovation is done right the first time. The repairs to the city hall and rec centre, given their ages, are ridiculous.
3. Increase service collaboration between PM & Coquitlam for instance we have rec centre, they have CCAC. Residents use both facilities.
-
154. Definitely no to a casino in Port Moody, think outside the box and find ways to economic development in the city, stop selling industrial land and create more commercial/industrial spaces. Increase regional collaboration with other cities so that services sharing Coquitlam, PoCo & PoMo). Businesses at Rocky Point (Rocky Point Ice Cream/Rocky Point Kayak (Cuthbert)/Pajos) - What kind of rental do they pay to the city? If they benefit from city can they support/sponsor programs/events in the city. What about other businesses - the breweries, the idea of a hotel in Port Moody - where is this at? Utilizing the club for seniors services and their bus???
-
155. Maybe we should look at sponsorship funding of different events for City parties such as Goldenspike Days and for soccer fields or for all the Fun extras that people like. And you could put their name on the event. I feel that the City should be running the City basics and all the extras be funded from other sources. And if there is no funding for an event..... well then it does not happen!! I am tired of the City just cranking UP the mill rate to pay for all of the desires to make them look good and to say how much fun it was!!! With all the apartments coming to town, their portion of the taxes paid is far less than those who own a single family home. Yet they are the ones that use the Cities facilities more than the ones that own a single family dwelling. I believe that it would be more fair that a user pays approach would be better and a more fair way to pay for the extras.
- As a final comment you cannot just keep on cranking up the taxes unfairly above all inflationary rates year after year. Get down to doing business and make the budget fit or you will have to cut out some of the fun stuff.
-
156. Financial oversight on development(s) applications to make sure all taxpayers are considered when offsetting CAC's so that in future the amenity reserves are built up over time. A cost benefit analysis should be done by the financial department to make sure the amount of CAC's that are forfeited is not so heavily in favour of the developers. This oversight is for the benefit of future tax payers so that the amount of borrowing of any funds for future amenities is not downloaded to tax payers but paid for by new developments.
-
157. Keep tax increases at no more than cost of inflation. The proposed 7.5 % tax increase by the finance committee is ludicrous. The newly elected mayor and council have a chance in showing they can manage the cities financial affairs in a prudent and responsible manner.
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158. Eliminate unnecessary costs such as out of town strategic planning trips and new technology for ALL Council members, instead just issue technology to new members. Charge user fees for NEW services. Utilize / leverage 3rd party assets, such as the Gathering Space vehicle for the community shuttle to Rocky Point. Charge a nominal fee for shuttle patrons. Cut back on navel gazing so that more timely action can be made by committees resulting in more accomplishments and better utilization of annual budget's. Accelerate mechanisms to attract more businesses in Port Moody and protect remaining industrial / commercial space. Align business taxes better for small businesses so that it is not based on property values to attract newcomers / startups.
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159. As a new resident to Port Moody who moved from Vancouver, one of the draws was how the city was run and the services offered. I am happy to pay more in taxes if needed, but would be very disappointed to see services and subsidies cut.
- Increasing accessibility to parks and transit infrastructure would be fantastic - especially for people walking instead of driving.
-
160. City should look at a dedicated Emergency Manager to review the safety of the city from more than just the Fire Lens. This role should encompass all aspects of municipal safety and have a large public engagement.
-
161. I feel that the lack of services and new tax requirements are due to poor city management and overspending on councils personal agenda's without enough consultation.
-
162. I have read about a possible property tax increase of 7% +. How do you think this is affordable for people when incomes are not increasing in general to this degree? If other city costs are going up (ex. MSP to payroll tax), then please cut in other areas. This is not sustainable. Leadership is expected from our politicians in terms of saying "NO" to what the city can offer. Focus on the core services of what a municipal government should provide and stop making up for perceived short falls in what the provincial or federal governments are responsible for. Related, why are things like parking still free (esp at rec centre, Rocky Point, Westhill, Guildford (free parking for ERH staff and for Newport Village residents who want an extra parking stall for free)). A nominal charge on ALL public parking would bring in significant revenue. Please get with the time on this.
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163. I am VERY concerned that the City has proposed an increase in property taxes beyond the rate of inflation, and that this has happened a number of times in the past. BC's rate of inflation is 2.75% and Canada's rate of inflation is 2.4%. Maybe the City does not have to provide everything, and or residents can't have everything they want either. I am particularly annoyed that tax dollars have gone to provide bus services around the inlet because parking is inadequate at Rocky Point when the breweries customers take a lot of parking spaces that resident and users of the Park cannot park their cars. Why aren't the breweries paying for this, and or what parking allowance were they asked to make when they were granted a business licence, or will they be asked to make in the future as these businesses profit and businesses increase, why should tax payers pay, when they are making profits?!!!!!!
-
164. Port Moody needs a year round Indoor Pool as per of their recreational services. It rains so much, swimming is an excellent indoor activity that provides exercise, especially in the winter rainy months.
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165. Planning and Development services require additional funding. The City has opportunity to capture significant revenue through DCC's, permit application fees, and CAC's.
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166. With a Council that is majority Socialist, try thinking outside of the box. Raising taxes to pay for everything is not the answer. More of a user pay system should be considered
-
167. As a city we have assets that can be sold to eliminate debt and keep costs minimal. With appropriate planning as a city we can capitalize on this yet maintain our heritage.
-
168. Get the opinion of residents through regular surveys so you're sure you're doing what the taxpayers who voted you in want to keep re staff and services.
- Lower the importance of non-essential services like the environment, park management, rec services promotion, heritage services, arts events/promotion, etc. Make sure that important necessary infrastructure is provided to residents - such as road maintenance, police, fire, effective traffic movement, development evaluations, transit options, housing for the vulnerable, quick service for those with mental health problems (beds for those who want rehab), supply of affordable rental housing.
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169. Mayor and Council

I know this is tough especially with crazy spending in the past 2 terms of. (8 years), but you need to stop spending money. Let commitments that we can't change come to fruition and only focus on "needs" not wants. Budget just like any other households have to do. Past Mayor and Council were "Greedy"

I do have a question: According to FOA of Port Moody in March 2018. Cost for refurbishments were: Arts Centre \$1,193,000.00 Civic Centre \$6,140,000.00, Recreation Centre: 5,094,000.00 Total: \$12,427,000.00. Would like to know cost now for the 3 projects increased or decreased?. What is the time line ? Spending like this or any project should be voted on in future. As a matter of fact, when this was discussed 4 years ago, (previous mayor and council) it was Cityhall needed a new roof and what we got is as above with 3 projects at a high cost. I also have noted that sound proofing insulation was substituted over regular insulation.

Please do the same when permitting new builds just like you did for yourselves.

All and upcoming apartment buildings need to be cement construction NOT wood framed. Living in a wooden bldg. is a nightmare of noise and contention with your fellow neighbours in "new" and old wood building construction. At least if your going to stuff people in these structures, give us some kind of quality of life. Please change your bldg. code for any structure 3 stories and up, please make them cement. These cheap buildings are terrible to live in. Electronic Ave. was approved to build a 6 floor wooden framed apartment. How did that happen.

Please stop spending monies, payroll is Out Of Control!

Owner and resident of Port Moody

170. Re subsidies (increasing/decreasing), not sure how this would affect taxes. Would not want low-income folks to suffer.

Make sure development is a net benefit for city/residents, including whether it pays for itself in \$ and overall benefit. E.g., more park space, more revenue to city, basic infrastructure upgrades (St George and Williams streets are (or have been) damaged by Marcon George development, who covers the repair cost?). Is the extra pressure on city services covered by developer revenue, at start and going forward?

Non-core services are nice if we can afford them. Some programs may have non-tangible long-term benefits, some may result in economic boost, look at near and long-term benefits, both \$ and other.

Can city partner with school district or other entities for sports facilities, community events, etc.?

Needs first, nice-to-haves second. Then what are priorities for nice to haves?

171. Need to turf inlet field and make improvements to old orchard park

172. Use a LEAN process to look at the operations. We seem to have a huge overhead for the services we provide and the population we serve. Make some optimizations so that you do not increase taxes significantly.

173. I think the questions were much to vague to give reasonable feedback. There needs to be numbers associated with the questions in order for us to have any concept of what's going on. I hope the city doesn't use this vague feedback for to decipher any changes to the budget.

174. First, look at your productivity, what internal cost can you eliminate before looking at reduced service levels or increased taxes. Having worked consulting all levels of government I KNOW there is fat within that can be eliminated first. Show what you are doing to cut costs BEFORE you come to us asking what services need to be cut or what taxes need to be increased.

175. The City of Port Moody, like many other municipalities in Metro, needs to adopt a much more fiscally responsible approach to governance. The capacity for taxpayers to continue to pay more has reached a tipping point. We have to spend within our means and the ever-growing wish list of nice things to have needs to be significantly whittled down. We also need to create an environment that is conducive to attracting more businesses to our community and the building of significantly more purpose-built rental housing.

176. Increasing taxation above 5% is really a huge increase. This massive increase would reflect how fiscally responsible Port Moody newly elected council are. Please look at the average pay increase (if any) to an average tax payer and see how out of touch this increase of taxation amount is. It would be prudent to keep taxation to a maximum of CPI

Sincerely

FIPPA s. 22

177. What opportunities are there for improvements to service deliveries? Does the City need to cover waste collections when condo owners pay out of pocket extra for private waste collections and subsidize the single family homes? Single family homes should pay for the services they use. Facilities management offers an avenue for improvements. Data collection should be more actively engaged to determine best usage opportunities. The City needs to recognize that multifamily building dwellers contribute greatly to the City revenues but public recreation facilities for kids are located at Rocky Point or at the Rec. Centre. With the number of very young kids, the more urban areas of PoMo need further attention by the City. We need to encourage density but this mandates an improvement in public outdoor spaces and pedestrian navigation across 6 lane speedways. Transparency on City budgets should be encouraged - why are the Rec. Centre floodlights on for an hour before or after actual usage requires? 40,000 Watts is a lot more than the nominal LED lighting in our condo consumes. It's not just a matter of increasing or reducing taxes - it's about being smarter with how budgets are allocated. Departments should be mandated to prove why they need the funding and how they plan to enhance efficiencies. Finally, users of expensive rec. centres should be carrying a larger portion of the cost. We're a small community with premium facilities - increase the tax base - new businesses and residents to increase the revenues.

178. As a homeowner on fixed income, I do not support the tax increase. Many homeowners cannot continue to support all the additional programs that are being approved.

179. More funding through increased taxation is not required but a change in attitude and service delivery that is more progressive and innovative is. Why are the recreation programs not attracting more users i.e. gym, skating, basketball etc. These services should pay for themselves with the facilities Port Moody has to offer, the high staffing levels and marketing resources. Other departments are sitting on "low hanging fruit" that could save money without impacting services. For example, the Parks and the Streets departments. If you get out and drive around you will see theft of time from workers sitting in trucks, installing signs that add zero value or safety. Financial waste is everywhere please bring in Senior level managers that have not grown through the current broken system but have experienced pressure in making creative and tough choices in the private sector.

180. The City needs to add more green space and better infrastructure considering the population explosion which seems to be coming.

181. Coq, PoCo & PM should merge their fire departments to reduce costs, reduce staffing by stopping firemen attending vehicle accidents, this is the job of paramedics who are paid by the Province. Examine city staffing levels, compare today to 10 years and 20 years ago on a per capita basis to allow for an increase in population. The payroll must be reduced. A few years ago the City finance guy said at a public meeting that city employees earned 20% more than the private sector when taking into account salaries, medical benefits and the defined benefit pension plan. Salaries should be frozen to redress this even if it leads to a strike. There seem to be a lot of managers the city looks top heavy

182. We are very disappointed with the new mayor and council proposing such a large tax increase, right after being elected.

183. I pay \$700Per month in property tax alone. This is an absurd amount of money. This needs to decrease

184. The city should be run like a private business. you don't spend more than you earn.If money remains in any department's budget, it should go into a contingency fund.

185. Please do something about the traffic along St Johns its ridiculous!!!! Same with the clark road and moody over pass!

-
186. Tax increases every year of 3-7% are not sustainable for tax payers, especially when i have been getting salary increases of only 1%!
-
187. Continue to employ a risk-based approach in prioritizing operating and capital expenses. Business cases for projects should leverage common investment formulas, such as Net Present Value, Payback Period, and Internal Rate of Return among others, in order to make financial decisions that maximize value when committing money to services and infrastructure.
- Utilities at a flat rate give no incentive to conserve water. It's nice to think that everyone wants to do what's best for the environment, but that's not realistic. Consider utility taxes, at least how they relate to water usage.
- Lastly, there is commentary on the challenges of funding a city, citing inflation and decreased provincial/federal funding. As true as this may be, it doesn't play well. Two financial impacts moving in the opposite direction doesn't win any sympathy. Especially when this is a challenge faced by all municipalities. Right? If not, what opportunities do we have to learn from those that are in a better position to fund city operation and capital expenses?
-
188. Get spending under control!! How is it that taxpayers will be on the hook for more than \$13 million to renovate the exterior of a relatively new city hall. Why is the city not going after the designers and engineers that OK'd the original construction. They should carry insurance to cover mistakes like this!
- Look at contracting out certain services or sharing with other municipalities (fire and police services, eg.)
 - Why are you thinking of changing the status of loco Rd and adding an additional \$250 K/yr to tax load and also spending another \$300 K to remove right of way for David connector!?
 - I had heard well over \$100 K has been spent on the 2 beavers that have been causing damage at Noons Creek. Really? Relocate!
 - Finally, I think a good use of taxpayers money would be to contract a private sector financial consulting firm to give direction and guide our council in making fiscal decisions.
-
189. It is a different world for a millennial with no financial responsibilities and a huge paycheck, but we can no longer afford to help pay for everything everybody wants for free. Perhaps the time has come to tax people rather than the over-valued price of land that they own. We are 2 people in a detached house who pay probably 3 times the tax as 2 people in a condo, and the same as those 5-8 adults in the nearby house. Think of the amount of money you could collect by charging every adult \$3,000 per year.
- Oh, and leave the road allowance in the park alone until you decide how the cars will come through PM from those Anmore lands which will be built on sometime. I realize that some of you will be gone in a term or two, but you could feel sorry for the poor saps living here when the city is sued. Or perhaps that will be the reason you're gone.
-
190. Suggest sharing an example of change, here within the lower mainland. Good services are possible without 5.5% this year and securely every year. Fleets (Police, Fire, City) are all far too numerous and new. Vehicles don't need replacing so often. We don't need 8 fire trucks! We don't need so many brand new police vehicles.
-
191. Charge parking at Rocky Point parking lot all this Council has done is turn Rocky point into a free parking lot for all the Brew Pubs across the street. Change the light system at the crosswalk at Rocky Point, no one cares about us hard working taxpayers having to get home and all we do is get backed up from the never ending crosswalk light going off for all the people using the free parking lot to get to the Brew Pubs. Why is it that these premises do not have enough on site parking for the public use. One has turned the parking lot into a outdoor patio how is this allowed? Seems like Moody council is more concerned about beer drinkers than taxpayers..
-
192. - Develop city owned land e.g. Firehall
- Subsidized housing at a minimum - does not pay enough in taxes - put on marginal land
 - Encourage market housing and increase tax base
-

-
193. Wage and benefit increases need to be controlled and must be justified.
-
194. 1. We need another through way into Port Moody. Traffic on St. Johns and the Murray connector increases every year during peak traffic times.
2. The recreation facilities for Port Coquitlam are surpassing what we have available in Port Moody.
3. I will always support an increase in policing services. Crime appears to have increased in Moody Centre area since the skytrain has come to our area, which I love, don't get me wrong, but it has its downfalls.
-
195. Standard observation seems to be more tax increases over the years with less service. Hopefully this new council will change the way things are budgeted for with a vision for the future. (renovate current library then immediately suggest we need a new one and costly repairs to the recreation center a few years after it had work done to expand/reno.)
-
196. We need to make existing parks more usable (expansion of shared walkway around inlet) and not be spending money removing road right-of-ways or protecting too much space. Must balance park and development.
-
197. The residents - not just the property owners must take more responsibility for the City and its properties. Parks, garbage collection, snow clearing
- Maybe the council and MAYOR could cut back on expenses and trips at the tax payers expense. Council could come a little more prepared for meetings and be on time.
- Also not leave early. Pay far more attention to what the citizens have to say.
- We read just as well on plain paper. Do not need overly fancy coloured pictures and glossy paper.
-
198. I feel this is such a delicate balance , I think Developers should be ask to help subdise Parks and Rec, Roads , Electrical and Water system up grades , this will be a benefit to them in selling the projects. I also think a sharp knife should be used to cut the size of City Government and make running our City more efficient. For example I think the Shore Line Bus to Rocky Point was a great Idea , but if people are not going to use it , it was a good idea to discontinue it.
-
199. The budget increases every year - the survey questions remain the same and with the same results.
-
200. I am not pleased with the BC Assessment value on my property given that there are properties being listed larger than mine at 5 to 7 % lower than my actual assessed value. Therefore I would be hard-pressed to want to pay anymore tax than I did last year. Not everyone is making more money year over year. Do not anticipate that everyone see indexed pay raises. Some business owners in Port Moody and the Lower Mainland in general (my business is in Vancouver) cannot afford to pay anymore ... period!. That doesn't mean tax the residents more ... what it means to me is "Do more with Less!" Please be advised a dollar only goes so far so when thinking of increasing taxes please realize we are already feeling the pinch. The debt to income ratio is very high here compared to anywhere across the country. My business is being squeezed harder and harder on property tax rate increases passed down from the landlord due to "unreal" manners of assessing tax rates under the "highest and best use" methodology of assessment. They cannot be absorbed into costs without affecting our pay dramatically - in real terms in one years time my rent may set to double current amounts based on the property value increase the landlord has seen in three years time alone. The only place where this money can come from is increased sales volume which is no guarantee or it means a drop in pay to the owners. Please imagine you are that business owner ... where is their indexed salary increase; there is no pension other than what they save, they have no E.I., they provide services ... imagine trying to buy your groceries from Walmart or Starbucks... these are the only kind of stores that will survive.
-

201. I think we need to realize explicitly that the mantra that increased density will lead to lower taxes is FALSE. Whatever the City's financial issues, they aren't going to be solved by simply allowing developers to build yet more units. There may be good reasons to allow new development, but the lowering of taxes is not among them. Neither, by the way, is the claim that the City "must" build x number of units as mandated by the GVRD. That's utter bs, though it is exactly what the General Manager of Finance and Information Technology, Paul Rockwood, said at last year's budget meeting. You can, I hope, see why the public grows weary and jaded.

I think we need to increase our industrial/business base to generate taxes and also jobs. Nothing much is happening in Moody Centre--howzabout a techno-hub? Could the City find an anchor tenant or "incentivize" (I hate that word) such a development? The Moody Centre Station (which is, of course, also a WCE station) is next to basically nothing. I'm not suggesting high-rises, but a tech-savvy green business centre.

202. - Propose cost saving measures to Dept. Managers
- Incentify cost savings by Dept. and pool as a group
 - Eliminate adding structures (aesthetic) or plants (non-indigenous) that require maintenance
-

There are a total of 201 taxation/service related comments

Respondents who indicated that services should be enhanced by further increasing taxation had the following comments:

1. library
2. I would be okay with a one or two time levy on businesses and home owners to help fund a specific project, like police and fire, or an integral issue like a library or indoor pool. However, I suspect that other for police and fire, the other issues would need to be voted on in a referendum.
3. road improvements, recreation centre
4. Solving transportation issues e.g. extending Murray over rail tracks to join Barnet highway
5. Build an indoor pool for Port Moody
6. I would be willing to pay more for environmental preservation and improving quality of dog parks. The one by rocky point is a terrible dog park - just rocks and dirt.
7. affordable housing, seniors' housing, parks and recreation services, police and fire services
8. snow removal from roads and walkways with a steep grade
9. Parks and Recreation and Environment
10. None
11. Parks and Recreational Areas
12. Arts and Culture, parks and policing
13. more pick up in fall for leaves maybe allow paper bags at that time of year
14. More fitness/wellness programs for families, improve Rocky Point Park, more Police liaison with youth, etc is a
15. Anything infrastructure related, parks, roads for expanding population
16. Road improvements, recreation facilities, police services
17. Traffic issues need to be addressed, especially if development continues.
18. Green Spaces ,
19. Until there's a cost/benefit analysis between the 2 options above there's no valid basis for comparison.
20. infrastructure
21. Better/faster snow removal on North side after an event.
22. In general I am satisfied with the level of taxes and services but would be in favour of an increase in both. I would love to see loco road upgraded so it is safe for bicyclists; I would also love to see Bert Flynn park protected, Rocky Point park extended, and other green / public spaces preserved, enhanced or extended.
23. Road safety and maintenance. Traffic control
24. Finish renovations to community and recreation centre; more social support services for seniors, low-income, affordable housing, etc.
25. Transportation
26. Rent bank; green initiatives to reduce carbon emissions in municipality

-
27. Library services, improve/ increase green space
-
28. park development, green space, road and traffic concerns
-
29. pedestrian, cyclist, transit access through enhanced systems and traffic enforcement
-
30. Traffic infrastructure
-
31. I have noticed less reliable de-icing of roads this winter so far, was excellent in prior years, please resume previous service levels - I have to walk downhill on the road early mornings to get to work, with sciatica - even in hiking boots it is too often a challenge
-
32. Children activities and recreation center focus.
-
33. these are not the appropriate questions. your survey should be redesigned. there are not simply two answers. your approach is overly simplistic.
-
34. Expanding environmental issues/ land protection/ park expansion
-
35. Police and Fire Services
-
36. All.
-
37. Economic development initiatives especially in the arts and creative enterprise through coherent and imaginative urban planning
-
38. Reduce the costs of running your government. Look to that first before cutting services or going after us for more money. You can do it!!
-
39. Rec centre, roads
-
40. Traffic easing (and monitoring areas of high congestion and speed) and Green space development
-
41. Arts and culture should be privately funded. Sell 2 fire trucks-we don't need 5 at the Inlet hall. We don't need so many gardeners.
-
42. Development of parks (Ailsa, for example) and recreation/ community centres
-
43. Police
-
44. Should be able to maintain current service levels withOUT a tax increase larger than inflation.
-
45. Utilities, sewage/storm drains (Glenayre is getting old)
-
46. none need enhancing over present services
-
47. land use planning, affordable housing, sustainable city recycling programs (closing the loop by reclaiming and reusing what we recycle), creating dedicated bicycle lanes and more
-
48. Why isn't balancing the budget an option and maintaining/ enhancing services based on residents priorities
-
49. Current service levels are good .. in fact they are maintained at a "rolls royce" level of service when a "chevy" level of service would suffice
-
50. Continue to expand parks (Flavelle Sawmill area redevelopment) and build walking infrastructure (such as sidewalks along the 3000blk of spring steet) around transit centres.
-
51. bring back the Port moody junk removal day
-
52. Public space enhancement
-
53. Improve infrastructure especially around transit and parks for walking and mobility
-
54. swimming pool

Respondents who indicated that services should be reduced to keep the tax rate the same as last year had the following comments:

1. arts & heritage
2. Arts
3. Golden Spike Days cutback.
4. Reduce fire and police budgets
5. Heritage, Recreation
6. Police and bylaw
7. stick to basic, fire, police, roads, etc. cut back on artwork, expanding library, expanding fields, expanding rec center
8. spend less on ticketing for minor garbage offenses
9. Cultural, rec centre programs, environmental preservation (anything but core services such as police, fire, roads, water, sanitation, by laws, building permits and zoning
10. Heritage conservation, combine Port Moody police with Coquitlam & Port Coquitlam
11. Renovation of city hall and rec centre have been going on for well over a year. Review of all spending is necessary, it seems there is a lot of waste in numerous areas such as signage, vehicle maintenance, possibly staffing incl. police etc.
12. All services should be reduced across the board,AND take into account the BC rate of inflation of 2.75%. Bank of Canada quotes 2.4 %. Staffing levels have gone up, perhaps should be reduced and no increase in property taxes beyond Canada's rate of inflation. Reduce wastage in all departments, for several years property taxes have gone up above the rate of inflation. Maybe residents can't have all that they "want" all the time.
13. Sports field maintenance
14. The city should look significantly reduce fire and police budgets. They represent far too significant a proportion of total budget for the value received
15. Land and business developments can grow at a slower pace.
16. Arts snow removal
17. Our mayor giving himself a raise and not even showing up to his office on a daily basis, stop wasting out money it's not yours,
18. Arts funding, special interest groups
19. art events
20. Payroll-No increases or new hirings, bonuses, overtime: example fire and police and staff at all civic events 2) flowers and plants around city hall, recreation complex and maintenance yard 3) All civic events only golden spike days 4) no light installment at old orchard hall
21. Just be more efficient with the money and resources you already have, the fire department is obviously a necessary service but I think they spend more money than needed and attend more minor accidents/situations than is needed, clogging up streets and traffic more than should be needed. They could also turn some lights off in their parking area and the old fire engine at night to save on the electrical bill.
22. Library
23. Recreation, arts and heritage

-
24. Policing

 25. policing, parks and recreation

 26. Arbitrary spending such as grants and spending on non issues like the ROW through Bert Flinn Park to satisfy some egos on Council.

 27. Arts, library, leisure

 28. Less parks maintenance, eg new plantings, trimming. Reduce road cleaning / sweeping. fewer one person works vehicles in service,

 29. Increase efficiency, close some facilities which is not necessary, cut staff level

 30. How about we live within our means and not over spend then have to raise taxes to cover the costs. If I don't have money I don't spend it!

 31. Arts , non city critical programs

 32. Fire-rescue and Police Force Services should be reduced. Planning and Development needs more investment which will in turn assist revenue generation for the city through DCC's and CAC's.

 33. Police

 34. new cars used by the city of port moody staff (ie: landscaping, road maintenance department). Keep old cars to save money

 35. Expenditures associated with the maintenance of the fire hall takes up disproportionately large share of the city's budget. Fire service personnel are idle most of the time, except there is a fire.

 36. trim a percentage off every budget and increase usage fees by 5%. We don't need flowers in medians or ice surfaces in the spring/summer. Basic services for the community.

 37. Any further expenses related to the Bert Flynn park or taking on a future liability in the ownership of loco Road. Any future library related spending increases. A rollback to 2017-2018 service levels should be considered. We can't afford our "wants"

 38. review contract with unionized workers and reduce their salaries and benefits

 39. Road "improvements"

 40. conservation and green initiatives

 41. See above comments

 42. Although I said "no" I do think we need to check if we somewhat can reduce the cost of Police and Firefighting in that we look at their operations costs more closely

 43. Wasteful spending. Overpaying.

 44. There should be some balance - small reduction in service with small increase in tax. This option is missing from this survey.

 45. Removal of arts/community grants. Removal of free shuttle. It's not free if our taxes pay for it. The shuttle duplicates translink services. Focus on smart spending.

 46. Grants for public art, donations to various groups

 47. garden waste pickup bi weekly //// reduce

 48. Review non-essential (vs. essential core) services. Are there efficiencies to be found? Duplications? Partnering opportunities?
-

49. Fire, park conservation, art and heritage
50. Arts, Heritage, Parks, Recreation - no pool
51. Recreation... also, do you need the same staffing level? I would suggest looking at a leaner operation at City Hall.
52. BIKE LANES - STOP EXPANDING SERVICES THAT ARE COSMETIC AT BEST AND A WASTE OF MONEY AT WORST - ESPECIALLY NEAR ROCKY POINT ALONG MURRAY
53. I would have to have a better concept of how the budget is distributed to these services to answer this question.
54. arts/ culture/ community events/ shoreline shuttle/ library/ other non essential services.
55. Not reduce services, better manage them
56. Arts, library
57. reduce police and fire as they take up largest % of budget
58. Frivolous spending and administration overhead
59. cutting under-used services, such as shoreline shuttle, etc.
60. This is a red herring question .. you CAN maintain existing service levels while looking for efficiencies that reduce costs .. why do police & fire consistently achieve salary increases higher the CPI ? There is a cost to maintaining resident satisfaction levels at such a high rate .. what is the \$\$ savings is the satisfaction level declined by 1, 2, 3 or 5 points
61. recreation centre costs
62. This is a flawed question. I believe the city can maintain service levels with a minimal tax increase by looking for service efficiencies.If something changes the city replaces the old with the new rather than asking can we do without or can we change r restructure to achieve efficiency.with a budget the size of Port Moody's it is very difficult to believe that efficiencies cannot be identified to reduce costs
63. is PoMo trying too hard to be kid/family friendly, seem to pour a lot of money into kid events not sure is necessary. Maybe more family user fees would be okay?
64. Police cost.
65. Keep the increase to 2% and Cancel the shuttle, Don't spend money on the removal of the ROW
66. How about being more efficient in the use of taxpayer's dollars by reducing redundant staffing and increasing productivity? In that way we could maintain the same level of taxes AND services?
67. fire/ police
68. Bylaw / Permits / licenses
69. Rib fest
70. reduce the some of the nice to have funding for additional programs, reduce the amount of gardening done at city hall - keep the grass maintained but could definitely reduce the amount of flowers etc planted - I find it excessive.
71. arts and culture
72. Art
73. anything that is not an essential service
74. The cost of proving if the service. You can find cost reductions without reducing the service the public gets. You can do it!

75. Police, and Fire department spending
76. Decrease police presence
77. police and fire costs seem out of line with the rest of the services. do we really need new cars and a constable at \$140,000 per year
78. See B
79. Library. It appears the library/city hall renovation work is taking forever to complete. I'm sure this project has gone far over budget. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM HERE?
80. The services which are identified as unimportant in this survey by the citizens of Port Moody.
81. Lower-priority services like heritage, library, rec etc.
82. Community-based and arts/cultural events and programs. Why you may ask - the city should simply encourage the community to self-organize and have business sponsors and participants to pay for the programs. The city can provide the physical facilities for such events (at reasonable low fees) as the city already owned and maintained those capital items. This is about redirect the tax dollars to better utilize the limited funds.
83. Fire depart, merge with Coq & PoCo, police, crime is low, reduce staffing at City Hall
84. Plan more wisely for the future so that we do not have to spend money repairing things,
85. I didn't answer 'yes', but have a comment anyhow. We need to maintain and enhance our industrial tax base.
86. Should be able to maintain current service levels withOUT a tax increase larger than inflation.
87. P. Moody residents/owners already pay one of the highest tax rate of G. Vancouver & I think wwe has to slow down. We are not al millionaires....
88. Parks and recreation
89. library, parks
90. Bike Lanes over paid workers
91. Art, Heritage and recreation
92. Less spending on Arts
93. Heritage, St. Johns Street Multiuse Pathway, Postage (switch to e-mail where possible), City Christmas Lighting (cut 50%), Winter Street Banners (cut 1 of 2 or 50%), Street Banner Expansion, Replacement of Cardio Equipment in Recreation Complex Weight room (cut 33%), Bike and Pedestrian Improvement Program (cut 20%), Murray Street Bike Path Extension (Phase 2), Replace OP063A - 2016 John Deere Zero Turn Mower, Equipment Replacement - PKM001 2017 Kubota VS400 Premium Spreaders, Equipment Replacement - PK066 - 2016 John Deere Zero Turn Mower, Consider reviewing Police vehicle asset lifecycle, Accessible Podium for Council Meetings, Council Microphone System, and Council Strategic Plan Goals (cut 23%)
94. maybe start with a 'no new hiring policy' and decide what jobs could be combined with other jobs.... i see the parking for the 'works yard' is full all year - you would think in the fall/winter that wouldn't be needed
95. eliminate glass recycling. Everyone I've talked to always took their non-returnable glass to Coquitlam Return-it bottle depot with their liquor and pop empties. We've never used the Port Moody glass recycling
96. City workers constantly beautifying Rocky Point Park and around City Hall and many other areas. Wasteful renovations (ie. recent library renovation).
97. Answered yes to be able to comment: Be wise with our tax dollars... priorities need be set and this does not involve services it involves Council policies.

98. Same as my previous answer .. Port provides service at a "rolls Royce" level of service when a "chevy" level of service is more than adequate . You could combine services with other municipalities to gain efficiencies, reduce management overhead and lower costs
99. Council and mayoral salaries and getaways to Harrison Hot Springs
100. if you don't indicate what services you are even talking about how can this be answered. No free bus rides to the park. No free concerts. user pay, user pay No \$20m curling rink. No new library after last year's 2 month reno. Sell the old city hall building and let the 'arts' look after themselves. Charge them rent for light, heat and taxes until you do.
101. Across the Board general all services
102. glass collection
103. Heritage, grass cutting, Rec Ctr programs
104. All - each dept. can find a few % to reduce their budget.
105. Would rather see better management rather than service reduction.
106. Charity; ice machine (portable); pleasure craft pilot project; Christmas lights; add more park benches; consultant fees; off site meetings.
107. User fees should be increased across the City for things such as the Rink, hall rentals and any other "Fun" type of activity to make it more user sustainable.
108. Festivals

Respondents who indicated that services should be further reduced to make the tax rate lower than last year had the following comments:

1. Police city counsellors bylaw
2. spend less on grants
3. Anything/everything except the core services of police, fire, roads, water, sanitation, by laws, building permits & zoning
4. city government
5. Heritage conservation, combine Port Moody police with Coquitlam & Port Coquitlam, Building inspections, permits, licensing, and bylaw enforcement
6. I chose this option if it was necessary. All departments should reduce service across the board, perhaps not replace staff who leave for a period of time.
7. Less council we should join with Port Coq and Coq in be one community,save on fire, police, mayor and council
8. art events
9. Employees - high paying jobs example planning and development If kept the same, need to change benefits example no more pension plans, or terms of a bonus after project complete
10. Arts, library, leisure
11. Reduce police cars on road and go to 2 person cars vs single member now used.
12. library service
13. All areas should be evaluated. There should be a priority on essential services, the police and fire.

-
14. conservation and green initiatives

 15. See above comments.

 16. A tax rate equal to CPI would be acceptable .. Give this target to city managers, ask how to achieve this and then present this budget to residents for approval

 17. see comment above

 18. Police.

 19. again, shouldn't be an either/or situation. overly simplistic. i also own a property in the city of vancouver; see their surveys. quite a bit more detailed and in depth.

 20. Do a serious efficiency evaluation on City operations and remove or reduce ALL staff and services that are fluff and not required.

 21. anything that is not an essential service.

 22. The costs to deliver the service. Look at your productivity levels

 23. The drain on taxes is from wage increases that do not line-up with the private sector. The unions are not realistic and negotiations need improve with common sense long term thinking. Taxes do not need to increase. How the money is spent and the way the various service units operates does. Working smarter and changing the culture needs to happen.

 24. We don't need to pay for offside council meetings.

 25. cutting community events, eliminating art grants, reducing police force and fire rescue staff sizes, developing more business and opening more land development for increasing revenue.

 26. Fire depart, merge with Coq & PoCo, police, crime is low, reduce staffing at City Hall

 27. Should be able to maintain current service levels withOUT a tax increase larger than inflation.

 28. Arts

 29. Municipal workers and administrative staff do not need pay increases every year of 2-3%!

 30. look at the whole picture of 'where the money is going and are we getting good results from our decisions'

 31. Every area should be looked at. There are always areas where money can be trimmed without causing much change to service. Ie. no more out of town council meeting especially at a hugely expensive resort like Harrison Hot Springs.

 32. Reduce management overhead, make staff more accountable .. why are you paying staff to oversee pickleball when this is coordinated amongst the pickleball players

 33. Answered yes to be able to comment: Be wise with our tax dollars... priorities need be set and this does not involve services it involves Council policies.

 34. Council and mayoral salaries and getaways to Harrison Hot Springs

 35. charge those who approved, designed and constructed PM's problem buildings.,

 36. All services

 37. Creative management. Services cannot be reduced but perhaps handled in a different way.

 38. Extend life of vehicles; subcontract road line painting (I hear \$11,000 to paint rainbow crosswalk??) Freeze hiring; remove Council allowance - revert to expense reporting.

 39. Staffing levels
