

Survey Question Responses:

2. What do you like most about the proposed budget?

110 Responses

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Funding for libraries and rec centers. I'm interested in the guaranteed income pilot program.
2	anonymous	The commitment to not raise property taxes
3	anonymous	decreased budget for SPPD
4	anonymous	Trying to keep things steady
5	anonymous	UBI pilot program
6	anonymous	No levy increase and no layoffs
7	anonymous	Nothing
8	anonymous	Keeps City employees working and doesn't raise property taxes. The cuts to balance the budget are spread out to not create big pain in any one area.
9	anonymous	THE IDEA OF THIS SURVEY IS GREAT, BUT YOU'RE IN IT FAR MORE THAN I AND SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT THIS IS A LARGE MESS OF INFORMATION. PRESENT IT TO CITIZENS IN A WAY THAT ALLOWS FOR CLEARER COMMUNICATION OF THE BUDGET. THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO GET RELIABLE INFORMATION.
10	anonymous	It'll encourage citizens to depend on their second amendment rights rather than municipal government.
11	anonymous	He did the tough work of holding costs down while implementing new policies.
12	anonymous	It limits layoffs to city workers. Layoffs would do more damage to an economy that is already struggling.

ID	Name	Responses
13	anonymous	(I love the new initiative to provide \$500 per month to 150 families to help kickstart their future, but I don't think this is part of the 2021 budget, but rather a separate initiative.)
14	anonymous	Not increasing property taxes.
15	anonymous	N/A.
16	anonymous	nothing
17	anonymous	Restraint on raising taxes.
18	anonymous	Limit to levy limit
19	anonymous	Public works and parks and recreation
20	anonymous	Not raising taxes.
21	anonymous	nothing
22	anonymous	Holding the line on property taxes.
23	anonymous	Planning for sales tax reduction
24	anonymous	That there are no cuts to City staff.
25	anonymous	I can't think of anything.
26	anonymous	UBI pilot study for poor families
27	anonymous	Appears to be evenly split around departments.
28	anonymous	Zero levy increase - this should be the standard goal each year
29	anonymous	It looks as though every department has budget reductions
30	anonymous	Nothing
31	anonymous	Not reducing services
32	anonymous	Nothing.

ID	Name	Responses
33	anonymous	A sense of restraint. Luckily, increasing property values create "lift" to the bottom line, so a flat tax increase will still result in more money in 2021. Plus, post-COVID, the City will be flush with cash in late 2021 as parking, hotel, and sales taxes pick up again.
34	anonymous	To be honest, nothing sticks out as particularly inspiring or useful.
35	anonymous	That it is for only one year.
36	anonymous	No increase in police officers
37	anonymous	Avoidance of staff cuts (although attrition will still mean fewer people to meet our needs). Obviously, I would rather avoid tax increases but also recognize that it may be warranted.
38	anonymous	I think it is sensible to not increase property taxes given how many people have lost employment and hardship that businesses have faces. I also like the Mayor's idea of piloting a guaranteed income as well as council members asking important questions about what happens when the money runs out in a couple of years.
39	anonymous	the willingness to do a guaranteed basic income pilot
40	anonymous	No increase to property tax
41	anonymous	Its generally the same as the previous years
42	anonymous	I guess it's good that there isn't a proposed tax increase, but honestly, if needed and going to good things, I'm plenty willing to pay more.
43	anonymous	I value the guaranteed income pilot program and look forward to seeing the benefits it may bring to my community! I am also glad to see continued investment in Community First Public Safety Initiative Awakenings Intervention Programs.
44	anonymous	No increase in property tax levy
45	anonymous	While library hours will be it, it doesn't propose closing any physical locations.
46	anonymous	I see that they are trying to keep the budget in step with the issues that COVID brought the city this year and are doing it in a way to avoid layoffs.

ID	Name	Responses
47	anonymous	These are hard times so the budget does a good job with limited resources.
48	anonymous	Looking to manage the budget.
49	anonymous	Budget given to police department too large.
50	anonymous	No layoffs
51	anonymous	No property tax increases, budget reductions for all city departments.
52	anonymous	Not much. There is quite a bit of waste.
53	anonymous	At 9.3% of the composite budget, Parks and Recreation is receiving a reasonably good investment.
54	anonymous	Its recognition that we need to make cuts
55	anonymous	No increase in property taxes
56	anonymous	Not much
57	anonymous	Nice not to have a tax increase.
58	anonymous	Proposed cuts to services to balance the budget vs increasing taxes
59	anonymous	Taxes aren't raised.
60	anonymous	I am glad the Community Ambassadors program budget wasn't cut and that they are receiving the same amount of money that they received last year.
61	anonymous	I appreciate the high level of effort that is being put forth to not increase taxes. It seems that it is working class people that are most impacted by Covid 19, and tax increases may negatively impact them the most.
62	anonymous	Flat levy
63	anonymous	Nothing
64	anonymous	I cannot find the budget and have not followed it - I just want ability to say that there should not be increase/ it's important to me to NOT continue to raise taxes- including service charges

ID	Name	Responses
65	anonymous	It does not increase property taxes
66	anonymous	Investments in sustainable infrastructure development -- addressing the pressing challenges of climate change. Investments in affordable housing and support for a more economically inclusive Saint Paul.
67	anonymous	No property tax levy increase.
68	anonymous	The announcement that the levy increase is -0-%
69	anonymous	It is transparent.
70	anonymous	Lower overall budget
71	anonymous	zero increase in property taxes
72	anonymous	No property tax increase Everyone wants to leave at Paul already because if the high taxes They can not be raised more
73	anonymous	NA
74	anonymous	NA
75	anonymous	No significant cuts to programs providing enrichment/well-being to citizens.
76	anonymous	I appreciate the intent of this budget to not burden households with additional tax increases.
77	anonymous	Decreased police funding.
78	anonymous	Nothing. It needs work
79	anonymous	I appreciate that Libraries and Cultural & Recreation, Community Development & Housing, and Health and Human Services are at least still in the budget and haven't been completely eliminated in this proposal. However, we all know what matters is how these funds have been prioritized!
80	anonymous	I like the increase in transportation and infrastructure spending
81	anonymous	No city staff layoffs.
82	anonymous	Police budget did not increase

ID	Name	Responses
83	anonymous	The SRO budget dropping to \$0 thanks specifically to youth organizing.
84	anonymous	It's nice to see that the police budget isn't being blown up. Holding it close to 2020 hopefully indicates that the city is committed to maintaining our police, but not militarizing them.
85	anonymous	Frankly, there is nothing good about this proposed budget.
86	anonymous	I appreciate Mayor Carter's commitment to avoiding layoffs - workers are the bedrock of our society, economy, and the life of the city.
87	anonymous	That it is presented to the public, albeit not many in the public may ever see it to comment on.
88	anonymous	No increased funding to the police department
89	anonymous	I appreciate that our city prioritizes parks and recreation in the budget.
90	anonymous	I'm glad that the library budget is not being reduced even more.
91	anonymous	Prioritizing support for struggling communities with no property tax levy increase and providing funds for struggling small business and low-income families.
92	anonymous	Comprehensive approach in a very challenging time.
93	anonymous	I appreciate the prioritization of fiscal discipline
94	anonymous	Nothing
95	anonymous	Nothing but pipe dreams and committees to talk. Nothing
96	anonymous	Cur Cutting out a very large number of police officers.
97	anonymous	Nothing stood out.
98	anonymous	Nothing
99	anonymous	Property tax relief
100	anonymous	Nothing.

ID	Name	Responses
101	anonymous	Not one thing.
102	anonymous	Not sure if anything!
103	anonymous	The reduction in budget for the Saint Paul Police.
104	anonymous	No increase in taxes
105	anonymous	Community first public safety
106	anonymous	Absolutely nothing...
107	anonymous	Public Works gets a big share.
108	anonymous	Although I didn't have time for detailed research, it was fairly easy to understand and transparent.
109	anonymous	Police cuts
110	anonymous	Nothing

3. What did you like least about the proposed budget?

128 Responses

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	All the cuts to city staff and services
2	anonymous	The fact that it's a decrease (but I understand why)
3	anonymous	How much is dedicated to policing - we need to transfer these funds to better investments in our community's safety focus on lifting people up rather than arresting (potentially fatally!) our neighbors.
4	anonymous	nearly nonexistent public health budget, not significant enough cuts to SPPD
5	anonymous	n/a
6	anonymous	too much police funding

ID	Name	Responses
7	anonymous	Very small cut to police, very large cuts to libraries
8	anonymous	any decrease in funding to law enforcement and no property tax relief
9	anonymous	Everything. Especially garbage
10	anonymous	THAT IT'S PRESENTED AS 200 PAGES THAT I SHOULD KNOW IF I WANT TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS WITHOUT FEELING LIKE I DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
11	anonymous	Memphis quality public services for New York City prices
12	anonymous	The budget for police has not been reduced.
13	anonymous	1. Seriously -- a 256 page document with no executive summary? No outline of the vision and goals that have led to this document? Wow. Not citizen friendly. 2. I don't understand why Planning and Economic Development tax-based funding has been reduced to 0\$. I would like to see MORE funding/support in Planning and Economic Development because it seems that it is the city's way to help address homelessness, affordable housing, and some aspects of racial inequality. It seems that supporting this important unit on "special funding" reduces it to a non-essential part of the budget. Am I missing something?
14	anonymous	In these times of contraction, we need to focus first on basic services that serve everyone: police, fire, and public works. Then we must do our best to serve those who are least advantaged, with social services, housing support. etc. This budget does not reflect those priorities.
15	anonymous	Cuts to the library. Please invest in social infrastructure as much as possible.
16	anonymous	The 2021 proposed budgets for Police dept. It's way too high, and will not significantly decrease under this proposed budget, despite the calls of community for a substantive change in funding.
17	anonymous	Budget cuts for SPPD and the proposed guaranteed income
18	anonymous	There isn't enough reduction to the police budget. After all that has happened this year, there should be a much greater decrease. I would like to see a total abolition of police budget, with a reallocation of that money to underfunded areas such as public health.
19	anonymous	It cuts the budget for police too much.

ID	Name	Responses
20	anonymous	New \$500 per month to families
21	anonymous	I want to be sure our neighborhood roads get the work and attention they deserve. We suffer with very poor road conditions despite quite high taxes in many areas. It seems we take a superficial approach to road maintenance and we do not do the deep work required. Similarly, the St Paul approach to snow removal is a huge dissatisfier for my neighborhood and is significantly and woefully inferior to Minneapolis' approach.
22	anonymous	Cutting police budget and spending too much on fake homeless solutions.
23	anonymous	everything. waste waste waste. high priced aides for the mayor when the city is in deep trouble due to his shut down rules and that of his party with constant enormous property tax increases when WE did not flee the city like many and invested in our homes. I fled Minnesota and st paul due to the unscientific masking and lockdown rules where people live more normally. I am going to move out of your beautiful city as soon as I can after 50, count 'em, 50 years. you cannot tax yourself out of the problems that you all and the mayor have caused!!!
24	anonymous	This is one of the most challenging times for our City government. How do you budget adequately during a pandemic, rioting and looting.
25	anonymous	If we were made out of money, sure, turn Ayd Mill Road into the Eighth Wonder of the World. Right now, use that money for the homeless, or helping small businesses survive. (I don't actually know if Ayd Mill Road is in the Mayor's budget, but I hear plans are going forward. I hope he can put them on hold.)
26	anonymous	Cuts to our libraries
27	anonymous	Moving of mental health to Ramsey County--could use more of this everywhere as it helps with homelessness as well.
28	anonymous	That there is no increase in the property tax levy. I think we should increase the levy but also create a program to help those struggling financially to have their taxes forgiven or maybe a service program to work off taxes.
29	anonymous	No new funds for police. Soon masses will be leaving St Paul because it is no longer a safe place to live. Let's set our priorities!
30	anonymous	Not enough cuts to police budget

ID	Name	Responses
31	anonymous	Police budget not reduced enough compared to the budget cuts to other services.
32	anonymous	Need to weigh basic services and look at additional programs that can be cut. During Covid we added programs or projects with declining revenue. With Midway invasion we have fewer jobs and tax revenue + poorer way of life.
33	anonymous	No City Layoffs - that should not be a priority. Businesses & non profits are managing through these very challenging times with all options on the table. The City should seek to reduce non essential overhead. Guaranteed income - this is a Federal or least Statewide level policy experiment. Trying it out in St. Paul is clearly political and not about exploring the merits of such a proposal.
34	anonymous	I did not read the budget line bu line but it seems the Mayor's office budget remained pretty much intact.
35	anonymous	Not enough money for police. For the amount of taxes I pay, I would like to feel safe in my own city.
36	anonymous	The police budget
37	anonymous	Lack of support and funding for the police department.
38	anonymous	Guaranteed income to Aprox 150 families. Let private/non-profit sectors provide that sort of stipend. If we must spend that Fed. appropriation, spread it out as a one-time credit on water bills to all households in St. Paul. More democratic than picking a select few. How would you feel, living in poverty, and your neighbor who was equally poor, got the "golden ticket" and then moves away...and you're still stuck on hard times? Not good. Not good.
39	anonymous	The mayor has added a consider number of highly compensated administrative positions over the last couple of years and these appear to be largely unaffected.
40	anonymous	The money give aways. All the excess salaries which go to the mayor's inflated office.
41	anonymous	So much money goes to the police:(
42	anonymous	There needs to be a tax increase to pay for COVID services.

ID	Name	Responses
43	anonymous	Services to St Paul will diminish. Diminished city services mean the city will be a less attractive choice for a home.
44	anonymous	I support having a police department and I am glad that many of the kinds of reforms discussed at the state and national levels have been occurring here and there is momentum to continue making changes. However, the cuts to the police as a percentage of the budget are smaller than I would have expected given all of the broader community needs that dollars could be allocated towards. Maybe there is more nuance to the police budget to justify the low proportional reduction in budget. I would like to hear more.
45	anonymous	cutting libraries
46	anonymous	Decreased/cut budgets are affecting safety - infrastructure safety.
47	anonymous	Police budget is so high
48	anonymous	Would like to see more cuts to police funding with redistribution to community service/safety initiatives. Also, the St. Peter/Wabasha leg of the Capital City Bikeway was not included to my knowledge, which is an essential part of helping to connect and make the CCB more useful for more people.
49	anonymous	I would like to see additional investment in crime prevention through Community First Public Safety initiatives and less investment in reactive policing.
50	anonymous	Guaranteed income initiative
51	anonymous	\$500 cash handouts. Give folks in poverty \$500 in groceries if you must, but NOT cash.
52	anonymous	Spending so much on the police. If I read it right it looks like the police department is getting raises and other folks who work for the city are getting a pay freeze? I would rather we spend more on parks & rec, public works and human rights.
53	anonymous	The police budget needs to take the largest cuts as it is also the largest part of the budget. This is completely separate from calls to defund the police.
54	anonymous	Cutting Street maintenance program -4.4% St Paul streets are a disaster, causing damage to vehicles and danger to bicyclists. Reducing many

ID	Name	Responses
		valuable services, especially when needed most: communicable disease control family planning WIC supplemental food
55	anonymous	The fact that police aren't getting reduced
56	anonymous	Budget cuts required for Library:
57	anonymous	The disproportionate effect on libraries and public works, and the fact that the police budget is still incredibly high compared to all other departments.
58	anonymous	Too much money going to homelessness and not enough to help small businesses impacted by Covid and the looting and destruction after George Floyd's death.
59	anonymous	<p>The "fringes" not being defined when, according to the budget proposal, it accounts for approximately \$100,000,000. As one who has had to manage budgets in the private sector, it would be great to have such a huge pot, both in amount and percentages. Also, it's time to cut the \$100,000+ salaried jobs called Chief Equity Officer, Chief Innovation Officer, and Chief Resilience Officer. I dug all over the city's website to see if these three people and their staff members were effective in whatever they do and there's not a thing. Cutting these jobs would likely save \$500,000+ of complete waste. And in this time of organized looting and rioting and the fact St. Paul has no leadership in the mayor's office or city council, we need police. It's time for young Mr. Carter to honor his father and keep St. Paul citizens and businesses safe (which he has failed tremendously) and stop cutting the police budget. Mr. Carter's baseless plan for getting the youth out of crime has failed tremendously and crime has increased at levels not seen before. Time to get back to a strong and effective police department without all the interference by vote pandering politicians.</p>
60	anonymous	At 19.2% of the composite budget, and 33.5% of the general fund budget, policing remains a dominant force in the budget.
61	anonymous	What we're proposing to cut. I think, first, we should cut all the extra administration costs brought into the mayor's office by hiring people for vague-sounding jobs that don't deliver basic services.
62	anonymous	No elimination of appointed positions and no reduction of salary by ALL appointed positions for the year 2021 cut salary by 10% and eliminate close to 40% appointed positions

ID	Name	Responses
63	anonymous	Cut of park and recreation funds which closes all.much needed Rec Centers over the winter when they are needed the most. They can be open like the zoo is with appointments by small groups to.families with masks and sanitation required. Families need the open gym.timescwhisch could be from 9 am to 9 pm . Then no rec staff would need to be Furloughed or later off. Staying open is more cost efficient versus paying out unemployment?
64	anonymous	Cuts to funding rec centers and libraries. We should be expanding hours and adding staff.
65	anonymous	By percentage, the Saint Paul police department has the second smallest proposed budget reduction at 0.8%. Police do not make Saint Paul safer, they just make it less safe for our neighbors of color (especially our black neighbors) and other people who are all ready left behind by the system such as house less neighbors and neighbors with chemical dependencies. The people have made it clear that we need to rethink community safety and at the bare minimum the city council must redirecting money away from the police department to programs that support the community such as the community safety programs identified in the previous budget last year. Ideally, the police department as we know it would be dissolved and overhauled. Civilian
66	anonymous	Cut to police budget in a time of high crime.
67	anonymous	That the cuts weren't deep enough to balance the budget. The city has an opportunity to cut back on nonessential services and focus its resources on providing superb essential services (road maintenance, fire department, police department, etc.). Unfortunately the city is still maintaining an excessive amount of bloat in its structure.
68	anonymous	Deep cuts to city departments such as library and public works.
69	anonymous	I don't think that the police general fund budget should only be cut by 0.8 percent while libraries suffer an almost 7 percent cut and public health spending takes what looks to me like a 17 percent cut.
70	anonymous	Cuts to programs such as parks and libraries and their activities. I worry about limited activities for kids who are not able to go to school right now. It is difficult enough as an adult to not have normal social interactions, and I can only imagine that it even more difficult for young people. We need to support our young people and help them get a good start in life and for them to feel hope for their futures.

ID	Name	Responses
71	anonymous	I do not favor cutting police as I live near a neighborhood where you can hear the shots fired almost daily, and, I am still thinking of the 61 year old East Side grandmother shot in the head. That could have been any of us. The city is not safe. I work downtown, I am harassed daily by panhandlers who want my money and thugs who block the sidewalks and dare me to make eye contact. Robberies are up, assaults are up, car thefts are up. Do something about it, that YOUR job. In addition to cuts to what are basic city services, you keep ridiculous things like financial empowerment. That can be taught elsewhere. it is not a function of city government.
72	anonymous	Community policing while crime is skyrocketing in our city. Time to give it up.
73	anonymous	Any increases in spending
74	anonymous	Impacts on libraries, human rights, and public health seem too disruptive and destructive, particularly when compared to the relatively smaller impact proposed for the St. Paul Police Budget. The Mayor's budget continues to overwhelmingly center in and reproduce police-centered approaches to community safety, rather than investing in proven and necessary alternatives.
75	anonymous	No to property tax levy decrease.
76	anonymous	Well intentioned and shows that our city really cares for all its citizens. We must provide what we realistically can to those who need help as well as those who do not need help. But we try to do too much with limited resources. Either trim excesses or raise taxes. But you must give the those paying the taxes (residential, commercial, industrial) something tangible in return. Without tangibles, taxpayers will most often vote with their feet before they will vote you out of office. Easier to do.
77	anonymous	reducing police funding
78	anonymous	cuts in the police dept.
79	anonymous	spending millions that we don't have on less than 1% of the population, on bike lanes
80	anonymous	
81	anonymous	Decrease in police funding Shame on you With the anarchy of this summer it is necessary to have more police. We have never been so afraid to live in this city.

ID	Name	Responses
82	anonymous	Cuts for police department. I've been informed of the evidence based framework that is being used to battle crime. Fine. Great. Keep it up but don't make it more difficult for police to do there jobs. These social programs take a lot of time to work. Years. Our violent crime is getting worse NOW due to complicated struggles related to the pandemic. You need social programs AND patrolling police.
83	anonymous	NA
84	anonymous	The continued over funding of the police department. A significant portion of that money should go toward social services and intervention, rather than continuing to divert money into a department who consistently disenfranchises its Black and brown citizens.
85	anonymous	The library budget is disproportionately cut (6.9%) relative to other city departments at exactly the time when city residents (particularly our immigrant and refugee neighbors) need library services now more than ever.
86	anonymous	Decreased parks & rec funding.
87	anonymous	Cutting SPPD by only 2% is not enough when you are proposing cutting public health spending by 17%, community. dev. and housing by 16%, and libraries by 7%. You are not listening to what your citizens need. We need to fund community services that make us safer.
88	anonymous	The amount proposed for 'Public Safety' is not reflective of city needs, and based on the information provided, appears that there are no changes to our public safety/law enforcement despite significant demonstrated need that increasing investments elsewhere in the city budget will reduce the need to invest in Public Safety. The budget does not adequately invest in public health, libraries, parks, and community development despite an exceptional need in these areas, especially in light of demand and use changes resulting from COVID-19.
89	anonymous	The size of the Public Safety budget is too large in comparison to other important services that the city provides. The 3 smallest budget areas are seeing a decrease in spending while public safety is increasing.
90	anonymous	The budget cuts to Public Housing, and other public services are not acceptable. These are critical programs that must not be limited. The budget to police and K9 should be reduced. The city has seen many protests and demands by individuals and entire communities for police and K9 budgets to be reduced.

ID	Name	Responses
91	anonymous	Almost no change to the budget allocation for police, with significant reductions in nearly every other department.
92	anonymous	The police budget didn't decrease by nearly enough.
93	anonymous	You dare invoke the name of George Floyd, yet the police budget is nearly 5X that of the PED during a double-fronted housing crisis.
94	anonymous	PED is still underfunded. How can the mayor/council preach about creating equity when they won't put the dollars where they'll make a real impact? Spend more on PED and less on police.
95	anonymous	The policing budget is far too high. It is not in line with the demands of the community to divest from policing and invest in services that actually help us thrive. The St. Paul budget is the people's money and the Police do not serve our people.
96	anonymous	The police budget remains extremely bloated, having been the largest segment already and taking one of the smallest cuts. With "Patrol Operations" alone receiving nearly \$54 million, we need to begin thinking about the law of diminishing returns: will more and more hours spent by officers driving around really serve as a deterrent to crime? Or will reallocating some of that money to other segments of city government help the city to lift more St. Paulites into a place of social and economic security, building a safer city in a longer-lasting way? And if we're concerned about protest-related property damage, that can also be cut off at the source: reduce the hours officers spend patrolling with no specific calls to respond to; reduce the number of officer-related incidents that residents will experience.
97	anonymous	\$ for police should be lower. Police do not prevent murders in the city. Community prevents murders. So what are we funding in the city which promotes community? How are we helping residents live in safe, affordable housing? Debt spending at 3x's the cost of the public library system! Shocking.
98	anonymous	The City's reasoning for raising the Technology budget made sense BUT it is also a strong argument for similar treatment of the Library budget, which provides corresponding services to residents, with a great increase in both demand and variety of services/solutions that must be offered during COVID. The City is funding their own need for increased tech services during a pandemic but de-prioritizing citizens' needs for the same.

ID	Name	Responses
99	anonymous	Too much \$\$\$\$ being spent on police, and not enough spent on things that actually create a safer city for ALL residents (education, libraries, business development, youth programs)
100	anonymous	Over \$120 million going to the police department, while less than \$50 million is invested in Community Development and less than \$2 million is invested in Community Health. This budget doesn't seem to respond well to the current crises many families in the city are facing - a pandemic, massive unemployment, rampant homelessness, and high levels of food insecurity. I don't know how such a high level of investment into the police department is going to fix any of these problems, even though many of these issues force people into crime.
101	anonymous	We are spending too much on policing and not enough on housing our neighbors.
102	anonymous	It seems that there is a ton of money going to policing that would be much better served going to public health and other community programs.
103	anonymous	Despite the urgent needs of the moment with families struggling to make ends meet and unsheltered people in need of supports, this budget still invests an astronomical amount (32%) in policing, at a time when SPPD continues to be a source of harm and terror for BIPOC St. Paul families. Again and again, communities have spoken out calling for real solutions and investments in services to meet the root causes that cannot be solved by criminalization and policing, and this budget again does not respond to these urgent calls.
104	anonymous	how has this pandemic not made it clear how important public health funding is? less than \$2m is UNACCEPTABLE. reallocate funds from the police. READ THE ROOM.
105	anonymous	Reductions too large in parks/rec, libraries, public health, economic empowerment
106	anonymous	The randomness by which costs are captured (a moment in time vacancy rate) seems more opportunistic than strategic
107	anonymous	Not having enough cops
108	anonymous	All of it!
109	anonymous	The increased annual City "Solid Waste" (aka. trash) fee. The decrease in police funding.

ID	Name	Responses
110	anonymous	Reduced police force!!!! Really?
111	anonymous	Street maintenance resurfaced many streets
112	anonymous	Eliminating any Police Officers - we need more.
113	anonymous	Cutting funds for the police. Only an idiot would do this when crime and population are on the rise.
114	anonymous	Trash
115	anonymous	I felt robbed of my rights from the get go.
116	anonymous	Cutting the police force by attrition or otherwise, thereby compromising the safety of the citizens as well as the police officers; anything related to assessments related to trash.
117	anonymous	Police funding
118	anonymous	This city has become lawless. There is nowhere near enough money in the budget for helping to prevent and deter crime. We are losing a lot of homeownership as people move out of the city due to the increase in crime. That in return will reduce the cities tax revenue. Turn it around!
119	anonymous	Please remove the city wide trash disposal program. You are literally having me pay 3 or 4 times more than I used to pay annually for a worst service. They skip the route and still charge me for it. I used to pay under \$200 for the year for the biggest container. Now I pay more than that in just 2 quarters of service. How is that ok? Plus you add additional taxes and fees to run a program I never agreed or requested. This is horrible and reflects horribly on the city. This is why I will not vote for Mayor Carter. You could have terminated the contract but you lied and said you couldn't. We don't deserve your lies. I could use those extra \$200 this year.
120	anonymous	Trash service. You still require people to participate and do not allow sharing to reduce trash loads.
121	anonymous	Trash costs
122	anonymous	Not enough priority to public safety.
123	anonymous	significant cuts in services which prevent crime, only 2% cut in police department

ID	Name	Responses
124	anonymous	Trash plan
125	anonymous	Trash contract still sucks. Library funds being cut.
126	anonymous	I am concerned about the police budget. Looking on the pie-chart on pg. 23 it seems like 32 percent was pretty high.
127	anonymous	We need bigger cuts to the trash collection
128	anonymous	Too big

4. What would you change about the budget and why?

122 Responses

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	N/a
2	anonymous	More funds to public works, parks & recreation, and public health (especially now!)
3	anonymous	Spending less than 1% of the budget on public health is unconscionable.
4	anonymous	Reduce spending on police
5	anonymous	less police funding to pay for more community services that actually reduce crime and violence
6	anonymous	Make police trim items like supplies, cars, etc - make them save money on non-personnel expenses
7	anonymous	More focus on alcohol and drug addiction
8	anonymous	Take away garbage requirements.
9	anonymous	I WOULD DO THE FAVOR OF PRESENTING THE INFORMATION IN A DIGESTIBLE WAY TO THOSE I REPRESENT. THIS IS ALSO AN EQUITY ISSUE. THINK ABOUT WHO HAS THE TIME TO READ THIS. HOW MANY OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS CAN'T READ IT BECAUSE OF THE LANGUAGE IT'S PRINTED IN? OF THE INFORMED

ID	Name	Responses
		<p>OPINIONS YOU GET BACK, WHOSE VOICES WILL BE MOST ABSENT AND WHAT COULD HAVE DONE TO HAVE BETTER INCLUDED THEM IN THIS PROCESS? PRESENTING ALL OF THIS INFORMATION IN SUCH A COMPLEX WAY, WELL, I HATE TO SOUND CYNICAL, BUT IT FEELS LIKE THIS ALL JUST AN EXCUSE TO SAY, "I ASKED PEOPLE IN MY WARD, AND THIS IS WHAT THEY SAID." WHATEVER YOU GET FROM THIS, IT WILL NOT BE "US."</p>
10	anonymous	<p>Choose a couple things to be good at rather than sucking at everything</p>
11	anonymous	<p>The police budget needs to be drastically reduced. They do not protect our citizens and do not increase safety in our city. They do the opposite. Funds need to be redistributed to areas that can actually create positive change for community members.</p>
12	anonymous	<p>1. See above. 2. Also the fact that the largest FTE and budget is in the police department is concerning. I am not saying defund the police, but rather I strongly support working toward shifting away from needing so many police by increasing opportunities, supporting learning and job/career training (things that are freely available to the privileged, which includes me, but less so for those not coming from privileged backgrounds), and working on living wages.</p>
13	anonymous	<p>I would restore more funding to police and focus on improving the performance of public works. The mayor's notion that a majority of police calls need not be handled by police is false; we lack other services and resources, and even if those were to become available, police would still be needed to facilitate and protect the initial delivery of those services. Simply put, our roads are terrible, and our snow plowing and snow removal are even worse.</p>
14	anonymous	<p>The 2021 proposed budgets for the Police needs to be changed. The people of this community have clear demands about the need to defund the police budget, in order to fund actual community-serving resources like more investment in our homelessness response, which is desperately needed. We need more long-term investment into more permanent homes, shelters, and solutions for those experiencing homelessness, rather than investment into department that continues to terrorize the unhoused (police).</p>
15	anonymous	<p>City Hall staff salaries need to be reduced. Paying 'feel good' positions to push progressive programs at the expense of core services is irresponsible</p>

ID	Name	Responses
16	anonymous	Less police, more public health.
17	anonymous	deal only on smaller government and less interference with business', get rid of some regulations.
18	anonymous	I would restore more money for the Saint Paul Police and for the library system.
19	anonymous	Use the proposed \$500 per month for families to support eviction support
20	anonymous	See above
21	anonymous	Far, far less to the fake homeless problem. More to police and allow police to enforce already established laws. Infrastructure funding. Not bike lanes that are not used. Reduce counsel and mayoral staff.
22	anonymous	cut his personal budget, eliminate the stupid aid mill road changes, stop giving money to rich sport stadium owners. There is too much to say.
23	anonymous	Again the Mayor and City council are being asked to do the impossible due to the extenuating circumstances we all face.
24	anonymous	I would increase the budgets in our Parks, Libraries, PED, and Public Works Departments to increase resident services and create opportunities for residents and businesses across Saint Paul.
25	anonymous	Delete funding for all the bike and channel those funds into making our streets and alleys driveable. Our alley is deplorable! Make cyclists pay for registration AND insurance.
26	anonymous	Defund the police in favor of mental health/addiction/homeless services and other interventions that can prevent crime (rather than merely responding to it).
27	anonymous	Add the gunshot technology spotter thing as we desperately need to cut down police response times with fewer cops available. Add something that would deal with our safety- gun violence reduction and homeless mess we are in. Cameras on all LRT stations with live feed to police.
28	anonymous	Do not reduce police funding. Eliminate non essential departments like HREEO as the County & State should own these important responsibilities - not the City

ID	Name	Responses
29	anonymous	I would double the money for law enforcement. Listen to the ones that pay taxes not the dips on social media platforms. If the city turns into another Chicago or Gary Indiana, it's on your hands.
30	anonymous	I would like the city of St. Paul to fundamentally restructure what police are FOR, and to create departments and budgetary items for services are currently but SHOULD NOT BE part of police duties. Mental health services, dispute negotiation, post-crime report gathering and support services.
31	anonymous	Fund the police department and give them the authority to make the city safe.
32	anonymous	Cut another 4 Million out of Police budget...and move it into a dedicated City victims services/support budget. Cops enforce the law, often giving people 2nd and 3rd chances to self-resolve. But in many cases, people really need to be arrested. Then Prosecutors plea down or dismiss cases, assuming anyone gets actually arrested. In the end, the victims get squat. Justice delayed is justice denied applies not only to the criminal participants. It's the victims & neighbors that get re-victimized by a system that is moving from punishment to restorative justice. I get the trend, and see it's the wave of the future...but right here and now....it's the victims that get screwed. First by the criminal activity, then by the system that does not hold people accountable. "Prevention" strategies don't help the victims either. Prevention won't bring your stolen car back to you, or restore its ruined interior or missing catalytic converter.. Prevention doesn't cover property damage or medical expenses from a shooting.
33	anonymous	There are several administrative positions that appear to have minimal utility to the city overall. Social and equity focused departments (e.g. HREEO) are seeing significant cuts, which seems to be contradictory to the mayor's vision.
34	anonymous	Increase funding for police to increase number officers working the street.
35	anonymous	Less money for police, more money for parks, public health, human services, libraries, housing, mental health services...
36	anonymous	Increase the tax levy.
37	anonymous	Less money for police, more for providing resources to homeless folks.
38	anonymous	We are battling national problems at the city level, hence the resources are minuscule compared to the problem. For example, homelessness results from lack of social services, lack of accessible job training, the level of expense

ID	Name	Responses
		faced by the American family because of poor national policy (eg, health care). Bottom line, a far greater proportion of St Paul's services should be paid by the county, state, and federal levels.
39	anonymous	See 3- try to distribute monies from policing to services for the community that address community needs and reduce the likelihood that a police presence is needed.
40	anonymous	hard to know, since I don't have the horizon view
41	anonymous	Balance spending better
42	anonymous	Less money to police and more to community/citizen lead safety and support programs
43	anonymous	Divert as much as possible from police and car-focused road funding and make real investments in community safety and sustainability. We've seen that putting so much money into roads just costs us more and more in the future and we already don't have money to fix the roads we have. We need to get people to drive less and that won't happen if you keep employing Public Works officials that are focused on car efficiency over every other mode. We have also seen that bigger and bigger police budgets don't translate into safer cities for all, especially our BIPOC community members. In the name of true safety and equity, we should divest and redistribute more of the police budget.
44	anonymous	Reduce social services. Layoff city workers.
45	anonymous	See above
46	anonymous	Make it easier to read! I looks at budgets at work - and P&L statements and this was a lot to comprehend. I like that pie charts, but how do you expect average citizens to understand all of this? More examples - I liked the examples in the property tax section, but not that is said so much of my taxes were going to policing.
47	anonymous	I'd reduce the police budget and save other departments.
48	anonymous	1) Increase street repair and infrastructure. Include better street design to calm traffic and allow safe passage of non-motorized commutes (pedestrians and bicyclists). 2) While reducing expenditures to update sewer and infrastructure, it increases costs of damage to buildings and streets and

ID	Name	Responses
		possible cost of life. 3) Include mental health specialists to help with problems of homeless, crime and child intervention.
49	anonymous	Cut the police
50	anonymous	Cut the police budget way more.
51	anonymous	I am a Social Worker and I believe in helping those who need it, but not to give them a lifestyle they may prefer without having them invested in helping themselves, does not seem like money well spent. Providing treatment and jobs along with housing is the way I believe will have the most impact. Obviously it may cost more so perhaps fewer people will have access but in the long run it will pay off and will allow others to be helped in the future.
52	anonymous	I would get rid of "fringes". I would get rid of all the \$100,000+ "C" jobs that Mr. Carter added when he came to office since they are completely ineffective. I would increase the police budget, fire Chief Axtell and get the police back to the strength they need to be at to keep St. Paul citizens safe.
53	anonymous	Reduce the share of funding that goes into policing and reallocate the money toward public services that proactively support a safe and healthy community. In the wake of George Floyd's death, I have been reading and hearing a lot about the movement to divest from militarized, oppressive policing and instead invest in mental health services, affordable housing, youth programming, and other avenues for actually preventing unsafe behaviors. To me, the suggested approach makes a lot of sense. Policing addresses crime by acting after the fact and hoping to "deter" behavior through punishment. Frankly, expecting policing to actually produce public safety seems quite disingenuous. Corporal punishment and negative enforcement has been shown not to work for children, why should we expect that it would work for our communities? I would also like to see specific investments in building a resilient, low-carbon community: walking and biking infrastructure; local food enterprises; local, community-owned renewable energy infrastructure; widespread composting. The climate crisis is here, and its effects are only going to become more pronounced. By making these types of investments we not only mitigate our carbon footprint, but we also build a community capable of weathering the storms, literal and metaphoric.
54	anonymous	I'd take the money wasted on new administration jobs and put it into maintaining police services and keeping our roads driveable. We should prioritize public safety, especially during period of civic unrest. We should negotiate a better, cheaper garbage pickup contract.

ID	Name	Responses
55	anonymous	Stop spending city dollars on county social service programs. County should pay for social service programs and positions. City should provide only basic city services. Turn to the county, state to run those social services
56	anonymous	I would not cut on libraries. It is no different going to the library than shopping. Every one just needs to follow the Covid 19 safety requirements orvmade to leave. Recreation centers or Community Ed. Community Ed should offer classes virtually free or for a small fee. . I also would not cut on funds for the police Dept. We are experiencing higher crime this year due to the protests and covid 19 keeping people from working and need money to survive and for teens to get into trouble.
57	anonymous	See above. Fund rec centers and libraries, add hours and staff. It is important that kids have a place to go to channel their energy.
58	anonymous	Maybe the mayor should cut at least half of his advisors, and combine those positions. CARTER AND COUNCIL- YOU ARE SUPPOSE TO BE STEWARDS OF OUR (taxpayers) MONEY! DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS??
59	anonymous	Divert funds from the police towards the youth employment & free rec check programs, mental health services, schools, affordable housing, providing housing to our unhoused neighbors, and other programs to create an inclusive and thriving community for everyone.
60	anonymous	Fund the police to the right level, we should be supporting them and their initiatives to reform and bring in diverse recruits.
61	anonymous	Cut more G&A FTEs and salary. Across the nation every government has been bringing on more FTEs and services in an unsustainable manner. Now is an opportunity for Saint Paul to be a leader in servant leadership and show how you can effectively lead a city with fewer people. This will reduce overhead and allow the city to lower property taxes and make the city more affordable for people of all backgrounds
62	anonymous	Eliminate new initiatives and focus on nuts and bolts-- people need parks now more than ever with COVID.
63	anonymous	I would rather see investment in getting people housed and fed, addressing people's trauma and mental health issues through better funding for mental health care, and violence prevention efforts led by credible messengers rather than seeing almost 1/3 of the general fund go to policing. I truly believe we would all be safer if we invested more in addressing human needs and much

ID	Name	Responses
		less in policing and punishment. Policing has huge costs for our community, in the stress it causes people of color, the impact of incarceration on families, and the fines and fees that wear people down—not to mention the trauma inflicted on people who are assaulted or whose loved ones are assaulted or killed by police.
64	anonymous	I would focus exclusively on basic services. This is the function of government and this administration seems hard pressed to understand this is what the majority of the city residents want.
65	anonymous	Everything. Especially get rid of the C jobs that have done nothing since Carter was elected. Fund the police in the volatile time. Stop wasting money on bike paths no one is using. h
66	anonymous	No increases in spending- like my home if something is changed I have to drop some spending
67	anonymous	Redirect more resources to prioritize housing, job training, youth programs. Focus on a data-driven, public-health-centered approach to violence prevention. Invest in community services that, in very efficient and low-cost ways, amplify meaningful community development and reduce violence -- educational resources, youth programming, libraries, job training.
68	anonymous	I would take some of the burden off of property owners and reduce property taxes. Just because you own your home in St. Paul does not mean you should pay more taxes than a renter or someone using public services that does not even live in the city. I think taxes should be more evenly distributed across the general population by raising the general sales tax so that everybody pays their fair share.
69	anonymous	I would reduce the amount allotted to 'military-style' policing and increase funding and resources to expand the COAST unit -- support communities around mental health and homelessness. I've had first-hand experience in my neighborhood with COAST, helping us deal with a mentally unstable resident; it makes better sense to approach these types of situations from a social work perspective rather than old-style policing. Given the assumed rise in mental health issues due to financial, housing, work and educational impacts from Covid-19, a compassionate response is needed sooner than later. With this, ensure affordable housing with access to healthy food sources, jobs and education. Create an environment that reduces our carbon footprint. Use community resources where possible (not corporate giants like Waste Management). Support local businesses and give them a reason to hire more jobs in the area. We need to address issues related to the climate crisis

ID	Name	Responses
		now. Lowering our carbon footprint and creating a resilient, sustainable community needs to be priority 1.
70	anonymous	The Mayors budget has not cut enough from his budget particularly his personal directors. The lack of funds for both police personal and responders.
71	anonymous	Increase funding for police, parks and recreation, and basic city amenities, all of which are needed to keep our city attractive to those who live here.
72	anonymous	Support our officers and reducing Mayor's pay check.
73	anonymous	I would cut upper management level in the city and leave the police and fire budgets alone. Actually, with a city our size, our police dept. is UNDER funded! The city's first job is to protect its residents and by cutting the police dept., you are failing the residents!
74	anonymous	More funding for police. Crime is increasing like never before. It is not a time to decrease the police force. More funding for crime prevention initiatives in addition to more police funding -- not taken form the police budget. Remember the the safer the city, the more people want to live here. The more business want to be here. The more jobs that are created. And as a result, the more taxes are collected. Spend more time and money making the city safer. Stopping crime. Preventing Crime. Increase spending in both of those areas - increase police funding and increase crime prevention. Prioritize this first. It is getting really bad here crime-wise.
75	anonymous	Increase police funding. Period. If we do not decrease crime, more people will head to the suburbs where they do not have to deal with the tragic amount of safety concerns that we do here.
76	anonymous	Increase police funding. Violent crime is increasing. More car accidents from speeding. Get with it.
77	anonymous	Improving communities and creating more job opportunities
78	anonymous	Defund the police. Invest in community programs. Funding reactions to problems rather than solving the underlying issues gets us nowhere.
79	anonymous	I would recommend that additional funds -- whether through reallocation of general fund dollars or designation of unrestricted special fund dollars -- be used to restore some of the cuts to the library budget, so that library hours (and staff) are not cut so deeply.

ID	Name	Responses
80	anonymous	22% of the City's property has been exempted entirely from paying property taxes - that's a big issue!!!! We are putting the tax burden on residents and small businesses when Allianz field and other large properties will drive up taxes without paying their fair share!
81	anonymous	I would invest in community development, housing, the office of financial empowerment, libraries, child care services, community spaces, etc. These are the things that make our community safer and stronger. Spending 20% of the budget on police feels like you're turning your back on us. We HAVE the resources to make our community better but you're choosing to spend it on surveillance and a false sense of security through systemic violence and racism.
82	anonymous	Increase spending for community needs that reflect the direction we want to go as a community (Public Health, Libraries, Community Development and Parks & Recreation), and not react to fear or precedent that suggests we should spend a fifth of city spending on public safety, particularly police. Obviously there is a need for adequate Fire and Safety services, but it is clear and timely to take a more critical look at the Police Department spending and realize we can be doing much better by our residents.
83	anonymous	Redistribute money from public safety into Health and Human Services; Community Development & Housing; and Libraries, Culture & Recreation items. Especially the health and housing areas.
84	anonymous	The budget cuts to Public Housing, and other public services are not acceptable. These are critical programs that must not be limited. The budget to police and K9 should be reduced. The city has seen many protests and demands by individuals and entire communities for police and K9 budgets to be reduced.
85	anonymous	I would significantly reduce the proposed budget for the police department (by at least \$20 million) for several reasons. In the proposed budget, departments and programs that contribute significantly to the well-being of St Paul residents like financial services, libraries, human rights, and public health face budget cuts of between 7% and 20%. Meanwhile, the proposed budget for the police department, which contributes significantly to the disempowerment and premature death of Black people and other residents of color, faces a measly 0.8% budget reduction. After almost 5 months of unmistakable demands from the community to reduce the police budget and fund community-led health and safety initiatives instead, this proposed budget feels like a slap in the face.

ID	Name	Responses
86	anonymous	Decrease the police budget by 20 million and disband the K-9 unit
87	anonymous	I support the call from Root and Restore to cut \$20 million from the police budget, and disband the police's K9 Unit. They have called for creating a medical and mental health dispatch system separate from the police and prioritizing investments in the community that truly make people feel safe.
88	anonymous	Give more money to housing, health, and your constituents that are hurting instead of the boys in blue that terrorize us.
89	anonymous	More dollars allocated for PED.
90	anonymous	I would divest from policing. This money could be used to help prevent the root causes of crime by investing in mental health services, health care, education, affordable housing, eliminating homelessness, jobs training, etc. Police are not who should be responding to mental health crises nor non-emergency calls. They only escalate these situations and put our community in harm's way, often with lethal consequences.
91	anonymous	I would reduce the police budget, especially with regard to weaponry and patrolling, and I would redirect that money toward additional funding for a citywide housing guarantee program.
92	anonymous	See #3
93	anonymous	Reduce cuts to the Library, and invest in housing considering the compounded risk to unsheltered populations of COVID, loss of personal belongings to encampment clearing, and winter exposure - including affordable housing initiatives to aid people at risk of becoming homeless due to COVID. Honor Saint Paul citizens' calls to redistribute police funding to help meet community needs, and then look to day-to-day operations for additional flexibility since we're in a pandemic and keeping people housed, fed, and able to undertake job or school tasks are the Maslow's hierarchy essentials. Funding tools that keep citizens connected to community resources can overall alleviate some burden on the city - investing in knowledge and communication infrastructure like libraries can help residents access mutual aid, Little Free pantries, community meals, and other resources. I understand the overall amount of money for the budget is fixed, but citizens have been very vocal about their priorities for where portions of that allotment go this year. Please listen.
94	anonymous	More investment into community health, housing, and economic development and less money for the police.

ID	Name	Responses
95	anonymous	I would divest from police and invest in meeting the needs of community members.
96	anonymous	I would invest in further public safety infrastructure outside of the police department, such as: - further funding the commission on community-first public safety - increasing funding for public health. it is very discouraging to read through the budget and see the police funded to \$104 million and on the next page, public health is funded to less than \$2 million. It seems crazy to reduce the public health budget by 17% in the middle of a pandemic. I understand that many of these services are being covered by Ramsey County, but it would be wonderful and very helpful for the community to see the city of St. Paul initiate public health programs. - fund a dispatch system for medical and mental-health issues that is not connected to police response
97	anonymous	The creation of the commission on community-first public safety is a start, but if the intention is to create and invest in alternatives to policing for the safety of all communities, these values must be reflected in the composition of the commission and a 2021 budget that reflects a direction of reinvesting in community services, not a police force that creates more harm and costs to the city. As a resident of Payne Phalen, I frequently see multiple police cars clustered around my neighborhood, yet supports for the real needs of community are not present at the same scale — supports like affordable housing, support for small businesses, and mental health supports. Moreover, the presence of a ton of police cars makes me feel less safe, not more safe, and I know my neighbors who are Black, Latinx, Indigenous and Southeast Asian are at higher risk of harm. Because I do not want to risk harm to these people I care about, if I did encounter any problems in my neighborhood, I would not call the police, but without city investment in other supports, I do not have a lot of other options. I support Root & Restore's call to divest from policing in order to #FundTheVillage and invest in community so we can create a city that works for and supports all of us.
98	anonymous	community development, libraries, and public health deserve more money. DEFUND, DEBLOAT the police budget and reallocate these funds to the aforementioned, very deserving categories.
99	anonymous	Mayor's commitment to community first public safety should be maintained. Reduce public safety budget to shift more public \$\$ to youth and community investments.
100	anonymous	I'd have left some room in the levy or allowed yourself to tap the reserve fund to continue funding service that directly meet the needs of the community's most historically underserved populations.

ID	Name	Responses
101	anonymous	More cops and cheaper trash
102	anonymous	No increase for the City "Solid Waste" (aka. trash) fee. Do not charge this fee to every cart at a multifamily property, they are already over charged for the excessive number of mandated carts. If anything, they should have a decrease in the annual fee. Put money into the spot shooter program. Crime is crazy in St. Paul and the newly passed/prosed "Community First" studies are too far out in the future for the immediate issues to be addressed. We can't wait any longer or more innocent people will be hurt or killed. Stop spending money on studies and kicking the can down the road to another administration, we need action now, we need officers all over St. Paul, not just in the higher crime ridden areas but also in Summit Hill, Mac-Grove, and Highland.
103	anonymous	Stop bike lane \$\$, use for a needed purpose, start enforce laws, penalties against criminals(prosecutor choy needs to go). Stop pandering to the people you claim need you, that you hurt with the other hand.
104	anonymous	Add more police crime has risen to the point citizens are not protected. Plow streets curb to curb may take a bit longer to clear city
105	anonymous	Fund our police and cut your pork filled staff bent on turning St Paul into socialist nightmare. Enough with the bike lanes to nowhere and universal basic income, the ludicrous savings bond money grab. America was built on Capitalism and Socialism kills.
106	anonymous	Increase the funding for police. Hire hundreds of more officers.
107	anonymous	Trash because it isn't fair I pay more for less because of requirements
108	anonymous	Give people the opportunity to opt out.
109	anonymous	City wide trash ordinance. Very unfair to 2 to 4 unit properties. Should be base on total property volume.
110	anonymous	I would cut the worthless positions within the Mayor's office, and cut positions of privilege such as that of Erik Skold at Sprockets. What a waste of our taxes.
111	anonymous	Increase police funding, cut mayors off ice payroll in half lower property taxes.
112	anonymous	Due to the huge uptick in crime, I would allow more in the budget to prevent and deter crime as well as hold those who committed responsible. The

ID	Name	Responses
		property values are decreasing due to the amount of crime in certain segments of the city. Please remember the east side, and the west side.
113	anonymous	Lower property taxes by reducing the city staff that barely work. They offer horrible customer service and treat people like we owe you something each time we walk in the building. You don't need security in the building. All that are forms to reduce the budget. Also, remove the additional staff managing the trash program that no one asked for or wants. It costs us more for a horrible service and missed pick ups. We deserve better.
114	anonymous	Allow sharing of trash services Increase police budget to keep police, encourage community policing and increase mental health services for officers.
115	anonymous	Move more emergency services monies from police to a citizen focused agency
116	anonymous	More \$\$ for public safety and less \$\$ for affordable housing. We have a public safety problem right now, and if this continues no one will choose to move to St. Paul.
117	anonymous	keep our social supports as strong as we can, do not increase police budget
118	anonymous	Community first
119	anonymous	Freeze (at worst) or increase library funding. We need our libraries. America is growing more stupid every day, and libraries are much cheaper than a nation dragged down by willful ignorance.
120	anonymous	I would divert money from the police budget to libraries, public health, and job programs for youth and adults.
121	anonymous	get rid of senior property taxes
122	anonymous	Reduce budget by 10% overall and mayors cronies by 100%

5. What services would you reduce to help balance the budget?

124 Responses

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Police
2	anonymous	N/a
3	anonymous	Reduce spending on police
4	anonymous	policing
5	anonymous	Policing
6	anonymous	police
7	anonymous	Number of high ranking police leaders
8	anonymous	The size of Mayor Carters staff
9	anonymous	I would reduce special loans
10	anonymous	Policing, especially by reducing lawsuit payouts by requiring officers to carry liability insurance.
11	anonymous	Rather reducing 1 service area, I would spread reductions across departments to continue to provide a broad range of good quality services for St Paul residents.
12	anonymous	IDK.
13	anonymous	Everything that doesn't involve roads and public safety.
14	anonymous	Police
15	anonymous	The police department's budget should be reduced to protect programs and services that address the root causes of poverty and crime.
16	anonymous	I don't think I interact with enough of all the aspects of city government to be able to come up with a reasonable answer here. That is why we elect our council members.
17	anonymous	Some level of contraction across the board is necessary, but I would focus on new ancillary programs and the mayor's own staff, which have not proven to deliver results. I would also suspend economic development and related real estate investments.

ID	Name	Responses
18	anonymous	Police
19	anonymous	Police services. They cause more harm than good in this community.
20	anonymous	Police.
21	anonymous	the mayors cabinet should be cut by 50%, cut all departments by 25%.
22	anonymous	Money for housing the homeless population, which I think charities would pick up the slack on.
23	anonymous	
24	anonymous	Fake outreach programs like the ambassador program. Programs that should be funded by churches and community organizations, not government funded.
25	anonymous	see above
26	anonymous	this is a complex question that cannot be easily answered
27	anonymous	Yeah, that's hard. I don't envy you at all having to make those decisions.
28	anonymous	Move more from law enforcement to social services
29	anonymous	I would reduce the police departments budget and sell off their militarized assets (armored trucks, etc.)
30	anonymous	Money for bike paths, street painting the path ways that are necessary every season.
31	anonymous	Fewer police.
32	anonymous	Police budget is still far too high! Some of their jobs can be performed far better by non-armed social/community health workers.
33	anonymous	Car related services could have fees added to them if at all possible. Police charging for writing up car crashes? Etc...Could add to meter parking rates once Covid is over? Look at delaying new programs that were started under current administration including new hires.

ID	Name	Responses
34	anonymous	HREEO should be eliminated. Again, it's important but its service exist at the County & State level. Merge portions of the Parks Dept w/County Parks and seek all other ways to merge w/County
35	anonymous	Stop putting money into homeless resources unless they can prove a hardship. Most of the homeless out there today have chosen to live in a tent and are not truly without a home. This continuing circle that started about 10 years ago is a joke. Homeless people or drifters are showing up here because our pockets here are deep. If you put a dish of milk in the back of your house a cat will come, it will keep returning if you continue to give it milk. Use this philosophy to figure out what the problem is.
36	anonymous	Anything but police and education.
37	anonymous	See above. Also, move Forestry, Grass cutting & Natural resources out of Parks and over to Public Works. It's all part of watershed mngmt anyhow. Let Parks & Rec align with Schools, Libraries, and Planning Dept to focus on the recreation, social support, & programming of essentially interpersonal interactions, public healthiness & economic vitality. Plus, moving those larger infrastructure maintenance type items (Street Trees, fields, trails, Design) into Pub Works could allow the activities to be paid under Fees separate from Property taxes. This shifting can offset prop-tax sticker shock, and apply to otherwise tax exempt properties. Also, don't expect a CAHOOTS responder type system to work in lieu of police responders. That's naive. It will not be a cost savings. Plan to be ADDING more costs to handle those sorts of mental health, unshletered, and civil disturbances that are currently Police dispatched. At best, you might be able to leverage EMT's...but they come with a cost as well.
38	anonymous	I would begin with the extraneous, administrative positions and then look to consolidate those departments under existing departments and take advantage of cost savings by cutting the resulting redundancies. For example, the policy director positions could be eliminated/consolidated. Additionally, the positions and budgets of Intergovernmental Relations could be consolidated as they are redundant. Overall - reductions in redundant (or potentially redundant) positions would be places to start.
39	anonymous	Start in your own office. Get rid of ambassador program. They do nothing.
40	anonymous	Ash tree removal-and allow residents to Adopt an Ash to pay for treatment of trees that will respond to treatment
41	anonymous	Police

ID	Name	Responses
42	anonymous	None, that's why we need to increase the tax levy.
43	anonymous	The Mayor and Council should demonstrate that they understand the fiscal drag of our 50+ TIF districts and formulate policy to stop its abuse. Eg, can any developer jump on the "but for" clause at any time?
44	anonymous	???
45	anonymous	Services that do not affect infrastructure or public safety.
46	anonymous	Police
47	anonymous	Any tax incentives aimed at "job creation". To create jobs, focus on building a strong, resilient, and safe city that isn't overwhelmed with cars. This is a great step in helping to support our local businesses over chains that aren't invested in our city. Also, get rid of parking minimums and allow triplexes or fourplexes citywide.
48	anonymous	Homeless initiatives
49	anonymous	You're going to have to do layoffs. Stop paying librarians to sew masks and other such nonsense. If a job has outlived its usefulness, the employee get laid off. As for departments - it's time to formally cut back on public festivals. Most were canceled this year and should only be held next year if private industry foots 100% of the bill. Thinking of community festivals, fireworks, Winepter Carnival events, jazz festivals, etc etc.
50	anonymous	Police and planning.
51	anonymous	Police. We need to reduce the police budget. SPPD isn't even sharing an equal percent of the cuts.
52	anonymous	Stop Ayd Mill Rd. Project Just resurface it and save \$\$\$
53	anonymous	parking. If you reduce on-street parking, some services such as street sweeping and plowing should cost less.
54	anonymous	Police
55	anonymous	police department
56	anonymous	Limit what types of calls police are called for.

ID	Name	Responses
57	anonymous	Some of the parks budget, seeing trash collected on weekends always makes me wonder if that is overtime pay for those workers. Reduce some of the positions in city hall, too many administrators.
58	anonymous	"Fringes". The city attorney office. The pay and staff of the mayor and council members. The "C" positions added by the inexperienced mayor. The continuous building of bike paths since ridership has not increased.
59	anonymous	Again, the mayor's new administration hires, as well as administration in general.
60	anonymous	All social services programs and positions. Basic services only. Meat and potatoes not side dishes. Let SPPS provide services for youth not the city. Centralize services don't duplicate them
61	anonymous	I would cut on some of Mayor Carter's assistants and administration positions he added in the last 2 years. He is spending the most money with these assistants then any other Mayor in the History of St. Paul. There should be a freeze on raises and hiring for 2021 in the City of St. PAUL FOR ALL CITY POSITIONS. There should be a cut of city of St. Paul School district funds that are given to charter schools. More Education funds should be kept for SPPS's needs to help make all the school's stronger in educating all SPPS children. Too many charter kids are coming from suburbs and the district they come from do not pay SPPS for educating the student because they are enrolled in a charter versus a SPPS. that is so wrong. St Paul has the most Charter schools than almost any other city in the USA other than maybe Louisiana, and Washington DC.
62	anonymous	Not sure. It is a difficult issue. And I don't know the "ins" and "outs" of the budget process.
63	anonymous	Police
64	anonymous	I don't feel like the mayor laid out many specific numbers in his address so it's hard to say.
65	anonymous	Return library fees. We can reduce the money going to the city council and the executive administration. No public official in these roles needs to make more than \$100k to live in Saint Paul
66	anonymous	Top-heavy management in the mayor's office needs to be eliminated.

ID	Name	Responses
67	anonymous	Divest dramatically from policing, starting by cutting the community engagement fund and giving it to credible messenger programs instead. Instead of handing out bike helmets and basketballs to kids through high-paid police, get resources to kids more cost-effectively through parks and rec and libraries.
68	anonymous	Maybe postpone less critical infrastructure improvements to fund other priorities?
69	anonymous	I understood vacancies will not be filled, perhaps understand that if you've done without the position maybe you don't need it. Also, the mayor needs to cut his cabinet. What meaningful thing has Chief Resilience Officer produced? Financial empowerment, a lot of people and \$300K plus and again, not a government function.
70	anonymous	Stop building worthless bike paths and messing with the roads. Stop giving money to people for nothing. If Carter wants to spend \$500 to those low income people, make them earn it. Cut the mayor's and council members' staffs. And lower the pay of the part time council members.
71	anonymous	Across the board. I especially think the rec centers have smaller use compared to cost. Therefore less value.
72	anonymous	Administrative costs.
73	anonymous	Policing. Shift emphases based on core objectives -- for instance, prioritize violence prevention, rather than response, and allocate resources away from SPPD to help redirect where such efforts should be organized.
74	anonymous	I don't know that you have to necessarily reduce the budget, just restructure it so that home owners are not paying the brunt of the budget.
75	anonymous	I would very carefully review the Mayors budget. Finding Housing and jobs for the homeless,
76	anonymous	Guaranteed income. This is for a national program, one that goes beyond the scope of civic benefits our city should be providing. Well intentioned, yes, but will lead to unintended consequences. Stick to the programs a city must provide in order to maintain and grow tax base. Without which, Saint Paul will decline.
77	anonymous	See above.

ID	Name	Responses
78	anonymous	I would go line by line and cut whatever programs are not showing results. There are so many duplications of services that could be cut.
79	anonymous	1) Proper use of TIF money -- to help blighted neighborhoods, not make nice ones nicer (e.g. the Ford Plant Plan -- ridiculous). 2) Reduce funds going to turn roads into bike lanes. We have made a great effort as a city to be bike friendly. We are at a good point. 3) Stop the funding of Ayd Mill road redo. (Really - who wants to walk along a highway?!)
80	anonymous	City council salaries
81	anonymous	Financial services. Cut them across the board.
82	anonymous	Police
83	anonymous	I would not so much reduce as reallocate budget dollars to parks and libraries and other departments that also can provide public safety services from a community-first public safety approach.
84	anonymous	Reduce police funding. They are not preventing crime only contributing to fear. SUMMARY NUISANCE ABATEMENT 2.2 Million dollars - really?
85	anonymous	I would follow Root and Restore's suggestion and cut the police budget by \$20 Million and disband the police's K9 Unit because we have all the data we need to know that police do not make our communities safer. They are the arbiters of violence. Our city is suffering from poverty, mental health problems, lack of housing access, lack of drug counseling... none of those issues are solved by police.
86	anonymous	Reduce the amount proposal for Public Safety by \$20 million, and re-direct those funds into Public Health, Libraries, Community Development and Parks proportionally. By addressing resident needs through these other areas, we ultimately reduce the need for as large investments in public safety as have been proposed.
87	anonymous	Public safety budget reductions. A slight reinvestment from public safety to other areas would be wise to stop the underfunding of other critical services for the community.
88	anonymous	Police and K9
89	anonymous	I would reduce the budget for the police department by at least \$20 million and use that reduction to create a medical and mental-health dispatch system

ID	Name	Responses
		that is entirely separate from the police department. This is a bare-minimum step that we need to take as a community in order to protect the health and safety of all of our residents - a job that the police have been consistently failing to do for decades.
90	anonymous	Police
91	anonymous	Police
92	anonymous	Reduce police and public works (bring more diverse voices to the table so that losing dollars doesn't mean you lose innovation) and redistribute to PED.
93	anonymous	Policing.
94	anonymous	Patrol Operations
95	anonymous	See #3
96	anonymous	Police Department first and most, based on the fact that their services are only "safely" available to a portion of Saint Paul residents, and increasing numbers of people not historically impacted directly by police brutality or mass incarceration are refusing to call police in order to keep their neighbors safer.
97	anonymous	Police services.
98	anonymous	The police department
99	anonymous	As a property tax payer, I would like to see the amount we invest in policing go towards other services and balancing the budget.
100	anonymous	I would reduce some of the \$104 million going into policing. I live right by the police station in Midway and see police often in my neighborhood and they do not make me feel safer. What makes me feel safer is understanding that folks who need food/housing/money are getting these services; that our schools are being funded fully so that kids can have better opportunities; that our rec centers have quality programs and staff so that teens and young adults have places to go to do fun things with role models that care for them; the creation of jobs and internships (especially for young people) that give real skills in things people are interested in; and providing mental health services so people who are experiencing issues can get helped by professionals. I understand that our community does need police officers, and that they serve a very important role, especially in responding to gun calls and violent

ID	Name	Responses
		<p>emergencies that no one else is currently equipped to handle. But please stop dumping money into policing at the expense of programs that can actually make us safer. Heavy investment in policing has been the norm for decades and it is NOT WORKING. Please stop beating this dead horse. There is a huge groundswell to try something new and there is no practical reason to keep pouring money into the old system. The community is pleading with you to have the vision to try something else. Please think creatively in how to invest heavily in the commission on community-first public safety to include voices from people impacted by violence. Please focus on employment opportunities, reducing inequality of educational outcomes in St Paul, sheltering homeless people.</p>
101	anonymous	<p>I would reduce and eliminate funding for a St. Paul police force that stops, searches, and assaults Black people at disproportionate rates and consistently blocks attempts to hold police officers accountable. More funding for a system built on and rooted in protecting capital and the safety of white communities at the expense of BIPOC communities will never solve the real and persistent challenges we face in St. Paul.</p>
102	anonymous	POLICE
103	anonymous	Public Safety funding redistribution
104	anonymous	Welfare
105	anonymous	<p>Reduce salary for the Mayor and all of his very large staff. Reduce salary for the City Attorney and staff.</p>
106	anonymous	Debt, Trash
107	anonymous	<p>Bike lanes, 2-3 cabinet positions with No Logical defined job duties. All those Carter added this term saves 1/2 million or more. Stop talking, do something productive!!!</p>
108	anonymous	<p>Due to the pandemic there should be extra money due to cancelled events Schools are closed use some left over money for police snow plows</p>
109	anonymous	<p>Cut your elitist socialist staff and focus on public works, public safety and job creation.</p>
110	anonymous	<p>Welfare programs. Assistance programs. And the mayor's assistants should all be cut. The guy has a staff that makes him look inept. No mayor has ever had such a large staff.</p>

ID	Name	Responses
111	anonymous	Trash
112	anonymous	The amount of money the mayor spends on staff.
113	anonymous	Programs like guaranteed income. Funding should be better targeted.
114	anonymous	Cut programs such as Sprockets. What a waste of money. Cut the salaries of the mayor and his admin staff.
115	anonymous	Mayor's office staff, privatize trash hauling, decrease city council payroll, re-evaluate many initiatives started and never completed or failed.
116	anonymous	All the special positions that were created in the mayors office.
117	anonymous	Terminate city jobs. Let those people retire and do not fund future jobs. Terminate the trash collection contract. Stop trying to create additional programs to continue to spend tax payer money. We need a reduction in the budget since most people are not working in the buildings. Shut them down.
118	anonymous	Trash. Ayd mill road was a waste of money we did not have as we entered a pandemic. Get back to the basics such as repair roads but don't over build like Ayd Mill Road. Snow and leave removal, etc.
119	anonymous	Trash collection
120	anonymous	police and library
121	anonymous	Debt service.
122	anonymous	(from #4 above) - reduce the police budget.
123	anonymous	cut police budget more
124	anonymous	Mayor's cronies

7. What other comments would you like to share?

82 Responses

ID	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	I hope the police union contract is renegotiated to give the city more control over our public safety and our budget. No other city department is set up to only grow. I would rather see money spent on patrolling our communities go to staff and services that prevent violence like rec centers, libraries, and direct assistance.
2	anonymous	Thank you for your work on this!
3	anonymous	I will be watching this process closely for only the second time in my life
4	anonymous	better street lighting is another great public infrastructure investment
5	anonymous	Today everyone is hyper sensitive, right and left. I would like to see any campaign sign that is not officially endorsed by the candidate to be banned, home made signs do nothing but stir up peoples emotions
6	anonymous	Raise the property tax as much as necessary.
7	anonymous	Why bother with the snow plows if they don't move snow off the roads? It's just hard on the roads to drive heavy plows around for no reason.
8	anonymous	There should also be more funding directed specifically towards climate change and green infrastructure, like transit, bike and ped infrastructure.
9	anonymous	I wish there were a way to raise property taxes in a progressive way so that the owners of the most valuable real estate in the city paid a higher percentage than ordinary property owners.
10	anonymous	Fund family violence intervention advocacy & public health
11	anonymous	I know you are all working hard, so thank you. It is complicated, to be sure. I guess I would ask that you continually return to the question of "how does this decision help the people and communities of St. Paul?" after every decision you make.
12	anonymous	I know it going to be challenging, but please invest in people and families and not so much in big businesses and developers. And let's reduce funds for police, we should re-examine how we provide public safety services.
13	anonymous	Why are you relying heavily on private organizations and band-aid solutions to address the crisis of homelessness? This is the city's job. Not a non-profits. We need permanent solutions for the unhoused, and we needed it yesterday.

ID	Name	Responses
14	anonymous	Please do not cut the forestry budget. Caring for our urban forest is what makes Saint Paul the most livable city in America.
15	anonymous	St Paul employees should be St Paul residents
16	anonymous	The destruction of historical homes in established neighborhoods for more apartments is immoral and self destructive to the community. in our neighborhood it is an excuse to make more quasi dorms. 7 bedrooms. NOT for a family. The ignoring of neighborhood groups is also dictator like like preservation groups and enviro groups like Neighbors against the burner. We should not have to spend thousands of hours and dollars of our own to protect us. That is your job .
17	anonymous	Please do not defund the police department. Now more than ever we need a capable, well trained and accountable police force. These are very unsettling times- In addition to the pandemic we are experiencing stress in our communities with rising crime (violent), rioting and looting and general disregard for personal safety. We are seriously contemplating moving from the City if the police force is reduced or defunded.
18	anonymous	Seek state and federal help for the Midway as we deserve justice for the violence that was thrust upon us by extremists May 28th.
19	anonymous	We are in dire times. I fully commend the public service of our Mayor, Council and staff. These are tough times. Like non profits, businesses and truly all organizations we must find and force efficiencies working smarter and merging service.
20	anonymous	The city needs to do a lot more to improve the lives of the homeless population. It's unforgivable that citizens are living in tents in our city.
21	anonymous	I'm a progressive, and I support social services wholeheartedly. But holy hannah, can the public works get their act together in the winter, plowing has been an absolute joke. It feels like St Paul is a warzone after a freeze. Not to mention the horrible plowing of the areas around bus stops.
22	anonymous	Please keep the streets plowed in a timely manner this winter Please fill the pot holes in the spring in a timely manner Find safe shelter for the homeless, not only do they need to be protected from COVID, they all deserve a safe place to live. There are too many people sleeping on bus stop benches and pan handling seems to be everywhere

ID	Name	Responses
23	anonymous	Bring in the National Guard and let them patrol the streets if you're not gonna back the police department. I have been a Democrat my entire life and now I'm becoming embarrassed to say so. I'm sick of the lack of support for public safety and the disregard for the taxpayers of the city. Social media and the Internet have gotten too big of a voice and control the moves of government. Stand up, kick some ass, and take the city back.
24	anonymous	I really appreciate Mitra Jalali Nelson as my city council rep. Thank you!
25	anonymous	The city should not be taking money away from libraries during a time when children need access to reading materials and resources. The funding for the police department is a joke. The city should not be listening to just millennials and social media when deciding things that affect everyone in the community. I would like to feel safe in the city and continue to live here, but I have considered moving because of the lack of support for police.
26	anonymous	The bold leader is willing to look at increasing police spending this year to strengthen community engagement & diverse hiring even when popular opinion is to decrease spending. The visionary leader sees the value in rebuilding and improving infrastructure to lure job creators, even if means less social programming. Picture yourself in the year 2030 looking back....did you miss the steak because you were focused on the sizzle? Did you miss the chance to compete globally, because you were too myopic?
27	anonymous	The mayor's aim at creating diversity in his cabinet, while admirable, has resulted in an amalgamation of redundant skill sets that are not appropriate under the current, economic conditions.
28	anonymous	*Priority should be on insuring any pandemic related loss of income needs: housing-no evictions & mortgage/rent support, utilities, food and tech support. *Strongly consider adding a "pandemic tax" to those in upper income brackets who can afford this and make sure it's visibly directed at pandemic related needs
29	anonymous	I am a native English speaker with a masters degree and I had difficulty combing through the huge amount of information in the budget document. There has to be a simpler way to present it.
30	anonymous	Austerity politics are failing the country. Increasing income inequality and poverty mean we need government to do more for the poorest at all levels. We cannot do this without a levy increase.

ID	Name	Responses
31	anonymous	Saint Paul and the Council need strategic thinking. Eg, should we compete directly with Minneapolis and other "A" list cities or do we have another niche? I was told we should not complete Pedro Park because St Paul needs more "A" office spaces. Really?
32	anonymous	Thank you for creating the survey to gather input on the budget.
33	anonymous	property taxes matter to schools, right?
34	anonymous	Has the city looked into the possibility of a land value tax? Given the huge amounts of unproductive surface parking currently taking up space in the city while contributing little to the budget, this might be a good time to look into the possibility of such a tax code change.
35	anonymous	I would really like to see more outdoor basketball courts at our parks. It seems so wrong that there would be any park with a tennis court but not a basketball court in this city. Our kids need more options.
36	anonymous	Again, I think it's time to change how we do policing and justice in this country.
37	anonymous	Please make the police at least share the percent burden of cuts. Right now they are taken WAY less of the cuts than other departments. This is completely different than calls to defund the police, which should also be part of the conversation.
38	anonymous	As a retiree, I am on a fixed income. I won't be able to afford to live here if taxes keep rising so much. St. Paul needs to work on expanding their tax base so that the city can provide the services to make it a vibrant, livable city. Too many people I know are talking about leaving St. Paul, I haven't heard that kind of talk in my 38 years living here.
39	anonymous	Stop trying to be Minneapolis.
40	anonymous	The East Side deserves better fire protection.
41	anonymous	Stay within our budget and start to reduce property taxes. Budgets are about \$ and how to keep residents living in this city not driving them out because of high taxes and poor city basic services. You can't have affordable housing with HIGH property taxes
42	anonymous	No more funds spent on bike paths in 2021 and 2022.

ID	Name	Responses
43	anonymous	<p>The rhetoric around community first public safety programs should not obscure the fact that dismantling the police as we know it is the most important step to creating a safe community. Rest In Power to Ronald Davis, William Hughes, Phu Mee Lee, Cordale Handy, Eugene Smith III, Jaffort Smith, Philip Quinn, Justin Tolkinen, Marcus Golden, Guillermo Canas Culajay, Yee Vang, Alden Anderson, Melvin Fletcher Junior, Chue Xiong, Victor Gaddy Senior, John Carr, Jason Jones, Romel Hill, Robert Jeske, Joseph Kubat, Donald Gartner, James Cobb Junior, Johnie Rodgers, Walter Dochniak, Ki Yang, William Hayek, Charles Craighead and everyone else murdered by the Saint Paul police department. I wish healing upon those who have suffered from police violence-physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual-but I understand those wounds may be unhealable. We may never be able to reverse the suffering and terror that the police have wrought upon our community but we must do everything in our power to prevent them from inflicting pain upon anyone else.</p>
44	anonymous	<p>The ideas to refund the police are divisive and a political clown show. I support evolving the police but building more parks and bowling alleys is not going to reduce crime. If we want to reduce crime we need to support a culture of virtue and fatherhood. Families need to be built up, not torn down by violence and a cancel culture that uses fear to drive political change. Lastly the only way to build a better city is to attract and support businesses. We should be a place that supports diversity businesses and small businesses. What are we doing to attract additional tax revenue so we don't have to raise taxes? If we reduce police, businesses will not come and many will leave. Just look at downtown Minneapolis.</p>
45	anonymous	<p>Buck the trend and instead of raising taxes and driving people out lower taxes to allow more people to live here</p>
46	anonymous	<p>It is possible to fund programs that reduce the need for police, such as helping people get out of poverty, etc., while maintaining a police dept at the same time. You don't need to defund one to fund the other. You can fund both. The divisive rhetoric doesn't build bridges. Some of these bridges may lead to funding of creative, interesting programs that can help us move forward. Unfortunately, at this time, we do need police. Please continue to add officers that reflect the make up of our community. Aggressively pursue trainings, experiences, and whatever is necessary to prevent events such as what happened to George Floyd, as well as ensuring that the people of Saint Paul feel respected. This includes time for police officers to spend time developing relationships with neighbors, not just running from call to call, and time to spend responding appropriately to calls that may require more time to ensure a good outcome. We need to build relationships of mutual respect. Looking at</p>

ID	Name	Responses
		<p>Minneapolis, there have been a number of officer involved shootings where a community member died over the years. The elected officials there chose not to make prevention of such incidents their priority before George Floyd was killed, and this is where they are today. We all want to have nice things in our city, but maybe we don't necessarily need extravagance, and maybe there are other things that should be placed at a lower priority for now. There is money that can be used to help BIPOC and also to help build relationships between police and the people of St Paul.</p>
47	anonymous	BASIC SERVICES
48	anonymous	I can't understand the continued increase in taxes.
49	anonymous	<p>I hope St Paul can continue to prioritize and support sustainable initiatives. Why can't we place solar panels on rooftops all throughout the city, paying for electricity for low income families and create real off road bike paths so any corner of the city is reachable without a car.</p>
50	anonymous	<p>I appreciate that everything you do takes money, but it doesn't have to come from residents. As a senior on a fixed income, I cannot make up the difference for income shortfalls. We all have to work within our budgets, and sacrifices can be hard to make, but they must be done. We're all in the same boat. Any business that is tax-exempt in this community, for whatever reason, should give something. Residents cannot carry the heavy burden, and if these businesses can't be tapped, then we have to draw in businesses that are tax paying.</p>
51	anonymous	<p>While I appreciate the fact that it is difficult to tighten staff a solid look needs to look at each persons actual responsibility in the Mayors Office. He needs to remember that he is a CEO of a City not a Community activist or a Social Worker. Downtown St. Paul has become badly neglected with the wonderful cobble streets needing to be repaired, maintenance is at an all time low.</p>
52	anonymous	<p>MAINTAIN A HEALTHY BALANCE OF ECONOMIC DIVERSITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY!!!!!!! If we do not maintain our infrastructure and public safety FOR ALL CITEZENS NO MATTER WHAT THEIR ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL STATUS we will see those who can afford to leave our city do so, taking their tax dollars with them and leaving a weakened civic and economic core that will be less attractive to families. People who have the economic means (i.e. privileged) have what economists like to call portability. This means that if an urban area is not attractive (safe, clean, amenities, services, balanced) they can move to an area that is. The Twin Cities is now on the cusp and could go either way. Do what you can to keep it an attractive place to live</p>

ID	Name	Responses
		for all our citizens (economic, racial, educational, ethnic) as we need everyone to keep Saint Paul a vibrant and economically healthy city. Do not denigrate or marginalize those who are paying the bulk of the taxes.
53	anonymous	I have lived in St. Paul my entire life (58 years) and have seen the city do downhill for many years. There are so many shootings on a daily basis, criminal and gang activity are on the rise, and there is no respect for human life. Stop focusing on what color our skin is and start working to keep us ALL safe!!! We cannot afford all of these "special" programs that give away millions of dollars to folks who are already collecting public assistance. We need to get our residents back to work!!! Very soon, the city will have more people collecting money than paying in money and then we will be in real trouble! We cannot continue to pay out more than we take in. You cannot continue raising property taxes by 20% each and every year. You will be taxing residents out of their homes! I do not consider St. Paul to be "the most livable city" any more....I am afraid for our future!
54	anonymous	Remember the the safer the city, the more people want to live here. The more business want to be here. The more jobs that are created. And as a result, the more taxes are collected. Spend more time and money making the city safer. Stopping crime. Preventing Crime. Increase spending in both of those areas - in crease police funding and increase crime prevents -- not shifting of from policing to community initiatives/prevention. Prioritize this first. Also, spend money and brainpower trying to get big businesses into Saint Paul. In downtown Saint Paul -- we already have the infrastructure to support it. Follow the money here. Saint Paul is awesome. I have lived in NYC and other cites and towns. But Saint Paul is losing some of its shine as crime goes up and businesses have left over time from downtown. Safety and building up big business in downtown.
55	anonymous	Put an end to the protests that shut down the interstate. Shame on you for not having control over our safety Bring back library fees to promote responsibility Stop giving money away and get these people a job instead of more handouts. Encourage productivity
56	anonymous	We've been residents of this city for over ten years and this is the absolute worse crime we've seen. Yes, the pandemic has caused problems everywhere across the nation but what's the plan now? You need to adapt your prior framework for addressing crime. All the programs are not going to work fast enough. You need to act now.
57	anonymous	Improving business infrastructure along Arcade to help create more work opportunities for people.

ID	Name	Responses
58	anonymous	I appreciate the virtual community conversation Mayor Carter is hosting. We want to be heard and his effort to listen is noticed.
59	anonymous	I expect the St. Paul City Council and Mayor Carter to take seriously the gravity of their proposal for the Public Safety line item of the budget, and consider the impacts of maintaining the status quo with our Police Department in particular, versus the opportunity to be a national leader at changing what 'policing' looks like. I hope our city leaders will respond with proposed changes that instead reflect a greater need for appropriate mental health services, restorative justice, dignified addiction treatment, affordable housing, and parks investments rather than just maintaining the current system of law enforcement with a blind eye ways the 'law enforcement' world needs to change right now.
60	anonymous	None, see responses above.
61	anonymous	The people of St. Paul are telling you loud and clear what they want and need to change. Make the right decision for the majority of the people of St. Paul
62	anonymous	Our inalienable rights are to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Make a budget that reflects that.
63	anonymous	Nah. But thanks for representing our city. :)
64	anonymous	I and my fellow community members support divesting from policing and allocating more money toward the things we so desperately need in order to thrive: housing, health care, mental health care, and violence prevention, conflict resolution, and healing led by trusted community members, NOT police.
65	anonymous	Not sure what "community first public safety" is as opposed to "public safety"?
66	anonymous	Mutual aid and community safety efforts are booming this year, with increased visibility due to the pandemic and to the George Floyd uprising. Many neighborhoods have mutual aid and/or safety groups on Facebook. Give us the tools to connect to each other and we can take care of some of our own needs; we need City help on the big structural needs (housing, libraries/communications), and on listening to citizen input on what keeps us safe.
67	anonymous	In light of the George Floyd murder that happened just 7 months ago and the massive protests throughout the Cities calling for divestment from the police

ID	Name	Responses
		<p>department and a turn towards more community public safety, this budget does little in terms of reform. This is just the same-old, same-old, which means we'll be back in the exact same place a few years from now - many residents of St. Paul are asking for actual transformation.</p>
68	anonymous	<p>I bought my home - my first home - in 2018. In the last two years, I have had more negative interactions with the police than anyone else in my community. The presence of police does not make me feel safe. If anything, the presence of police make me feel tense and worried for my neighbors. I feel safe when I know my community have everything they need to thrive - housing, healthcare, education, nutritious food, and community.</p>
69	anonymous	<p>This year, more than ever, has exposed how drastically our current system is failing us. St Paul has shown it can be bold and creative with efforts like College Bound St. Paul and a basic income pilot. It's my hope that the city can put that same creativity and vision toward truly reimagining what public safety investments look like so that, across race and place, all of us have what we need to live safely.</p>
70	anonymous	<p>I'm disheartened to see that the Saint Paul Public Library is not even an option on #6; it calls into question where the library lies as a priority among city leadership.</p>
71	anonymous	<p>Waltz and Melvin are complete idiots</p>
72	anonymous	<p>Please listen to the community (business and residential) and act on their comments in this survey. Don't just pass the budget and say "we hear you and will fix issues later" as we all know that almost never happens. If the people are dissatisfied with the budget proposal, work now to make it right. Not later. It's our money, please understand even in a pandemic, every single penny counts and should not be wasted.</p>
73	anonymous	<p>50 year Como park resident, resilient until now. Kiss my inflated property taxes (up from \$870-2500 over 22 years) goodbye. Less cops??. Thanks but no thanks, Roseville is 3 miles away and they send 2 squads to everything, always. Falcon heights, 4 miles. Maplewood. Eagen is 7. Hudson is 15. I can go on, but we are leaving and taking our safety and tax\$\$\$\$\$ out of this sinking ship</p>
74	anonymous	<p>The homeless camp could use the old Hillcrest golf course</p>
75	anonymous	<p>Lift the Covid restrictions and let the city get back to creating & sustaining small businesses. Work with those businesses that were devastated by the riots</p>

ID	Name	Responses
		and pledge to do what is needed to defend our city if such a thing ever happens again. All I see is boarded up windows and people begging for money in the Midway. Fund our police and make the streets safe again with a strong police force. STOP CLOSING DOWN SMALL BUSINESSES for a fakedemic virus that has 97.8% survival rate. Create business and jobs not dependency.
76	anonymous	The mayor and every member of the City Council are completely inept to serve as public officials.
77	anonymous	Remove camps, better fund shelters. Take a different approach than Mpls council. Try new ideas but support the police. Remove barriers to remove bad police, but strongly support the 99% of good police.
78	anonymous	Please remove the city wide trash disposal program. You are literally having me pay 3 or 4 times more than I used to pay annually for a worst service. They skip the route and still charge me for it. I used to pay under \$200 for the year for the biggest container. Now I pay more than that in just 2 quarters of service. How is that ok? Plus you add additional taxes and fees to run a program I never agreed or requested. This is horrible and reflects horribly on the city. This is why I will not vote for Mayor Carter. You could have terminated the contract but you lied and said you couldn't. We don't deserve your lies. I could use those extra \$200 this year.
79	anonymous	Get back to the basics this year. Be responsible and wait to take on expensive initiatives. Wait for the rebound before investing in extras.
80	anonymous	The city trash plan is a failure for its citizens.
81	anonymous	Seriously, stop talking about fixing the trash contract and actually DO it. Or toss the damn thing. So far we're getting lots of lip service, and no other kind.
82	anonymous	Thanks for reading this input. Please continue to keep the process as transparent as possible. It is great when more people get involved with city government, and the fewer barriers to that is essential.