



# 2019 Rapid City Citizen Priority Survey

## Findings Report

*YOUR CITY. YOUR PRIORITIES.  
YOUR BUDGET.*

300 Sixth Street  
Rapid City, SD 57701

p. (605) 721-2457  
f. (605) 394-6793

[budget@rcgov.org](mailto:budget@rcgov.org)  
[www.rcgov.org](http://www.rcgov.org)

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# Overview

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How the City provides services for its citizens, spends and raises money, and sets priorities has a big impact on everyday life. Like any business or household, the needs and wants within a municipality are often greater than what the municipality and community can afford at one time. This is especially true for General Fund services that are primarily supported by tax revenues, the largest of which – sales tax receipts – are highly sensitive to economic conditions. At the same time, demand for City services increases steadily each year due to the growing population and development. Costs of doing business also increase due to inflation.

The 2019 fiscal year budget preparation process incorporates Rapid City's first Citizen Priority Survey, which will equip decision makers with the necessary information to make consequential choices in the best interest of the Community. This year's Survey focuses on the General Fund and the questions do not include services provided by the City's enterprise funds such as the Regional Airport, Civic Center, Water, Water Reclamation, and Solid Waste.

The survey is part of the City's ongoing efforts to involve citizens in budgeting and governance. The following objectives of the Survey are multifaceted and the findings will have both fiscal year as well as long-term impacts:

- Get citizens' input in ranking the seven strategic goals (or Core Values) as outlined in Rapid City's Comprehensive Plan. This will help us assign relative weights to the strategic goals to be used in the scoring and prioritization of all City programs within the Priority Based Budgeting framework.
- Help determine the general course of action in case tax and other revenues fall short and do not keep pace with the cost and demand-driven increases in spending.
- Measure residents' preferences in allocating tax revenue to various City services, which will help us identify the services respondents would like the City to allocate more or less tax dollars to.
- Help identify services that respondents would like the City to maintain at the current levels through taxes or user fees in case of a revenue shortfall or either reduced or outsourced/privatized.
- Get citizens' feedback to help identify the most important issues that the City can address to improve livability in the Community.
- Gauge overall citizen satisfaction with the City as a place to live and get citizens' comments to identify issues that influences their perceptions.

Over the open period from November 14, 2017 through December 22, 2017, we collected 1,665 completed responses. We would like to thank you for your time in participating in the Survey and your input that will be a key tool that the City Leadership will use to make important budgetary decisions.

## Methodology

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A fourteen-question survey was administered both online and over the mail. The online version of the Survey, which was identical to the mail-in version, was featured on the home page of the City's website at [www.RCGOV.org](http://www.RCGOV.org) throughout the open period. A total of 1,078 online completed responses (not including partial submissions) were collected online.

Three thousand paper surveys were mailed to a random sample of households in the City of Rapid City, with each of the City's five wards getting an equal number of surveys. The sample was drawn from the combination of voter registration data, obtained from the Pennington County Auditor's Office as well as the GIS address data. A randomized sequence generator on [www.RANDOM.org](http://www.RANDOM.org) was used to randomly draw names and addresses from the list of over 47,000 entries. Duplicate addresses were excluded. Around 10 percent of the mailed out surveys came back as undeliverable due to vacancy and were resent to a random sample (exclusive of the names in the original sample) based on the wards. A total of 587 completed mail-in surveys were collected. Please, note that the cover page for the paper survey had a reference to the availability of the online version should the respondent prefer completing the survey online.

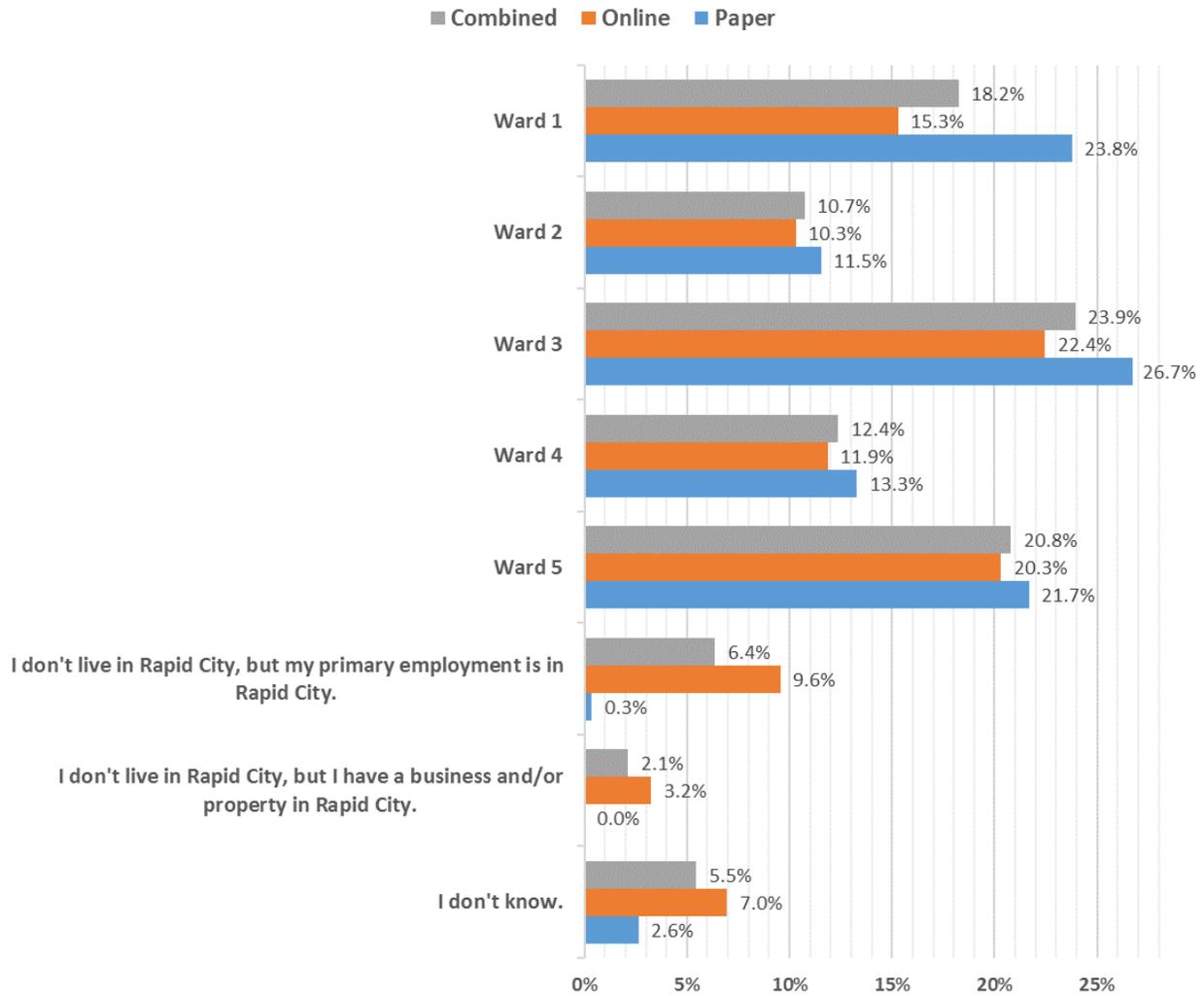
The total number of valid responses is relatively large. If all responses were fully representative of the population, this sample size would yield a 2.3% margin of error at 95% confidence interval or a 3.1% margin of error at 99% confidence interval.

Given the possibility that the two survey administration methods could target somewhat different subgroups of the population and the fact that the mail-in survey was more randomized and less susceptible to self-selection, this report presents response results separately for the online and mail-in surveys as well as the combined results.

# Demographics

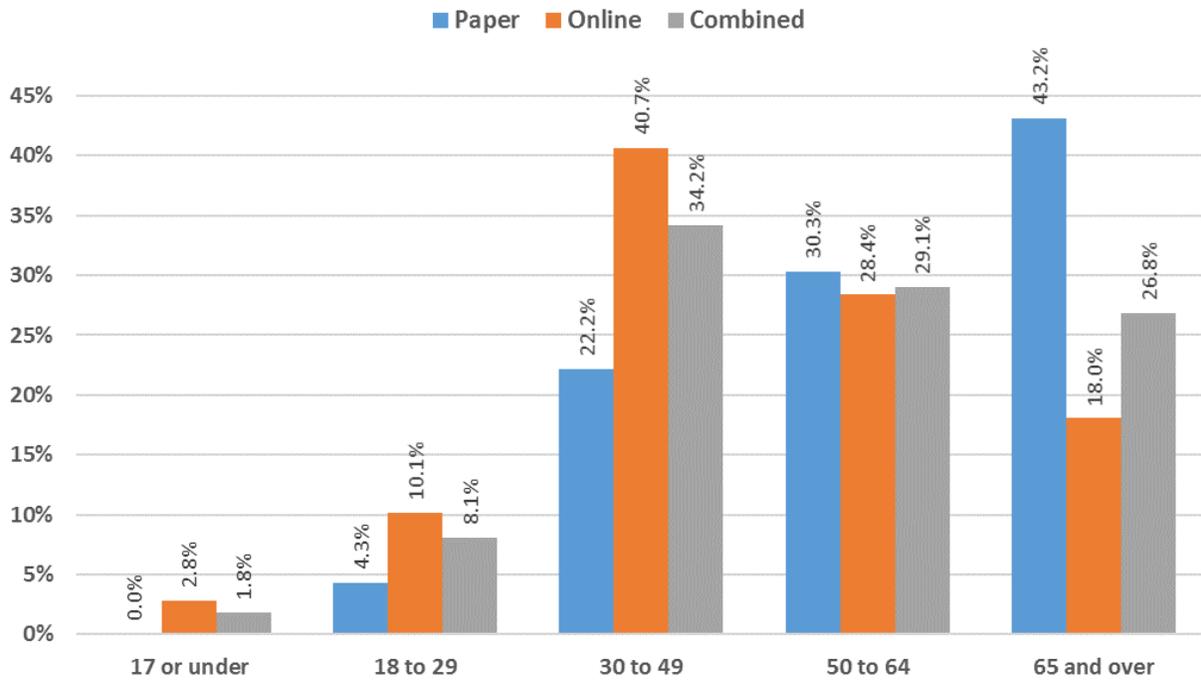
## Q6. In which Rapid City ward do you live?

(n\_paper = 572; n\_online = 1,078; n\_combined = 1,650)



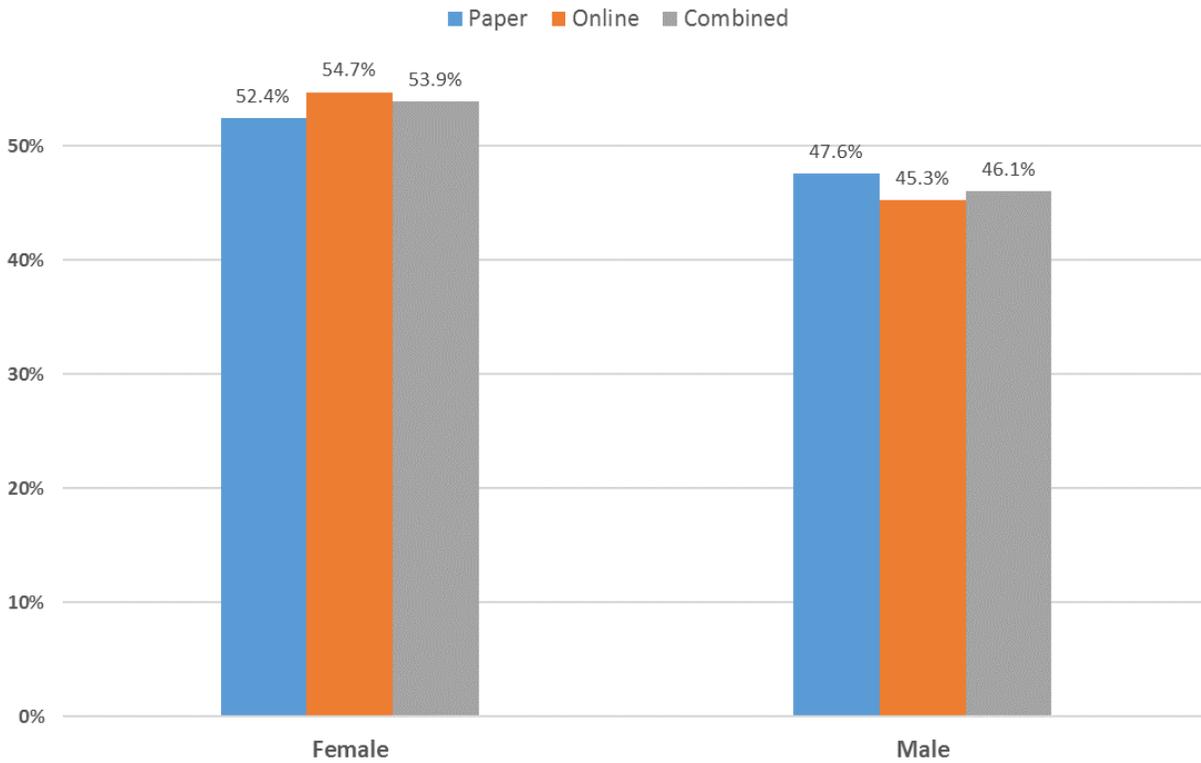
**Q7. What is your age?**

(n\_paper = 577; n\_online = 1,075; n\_combined = 1,652)

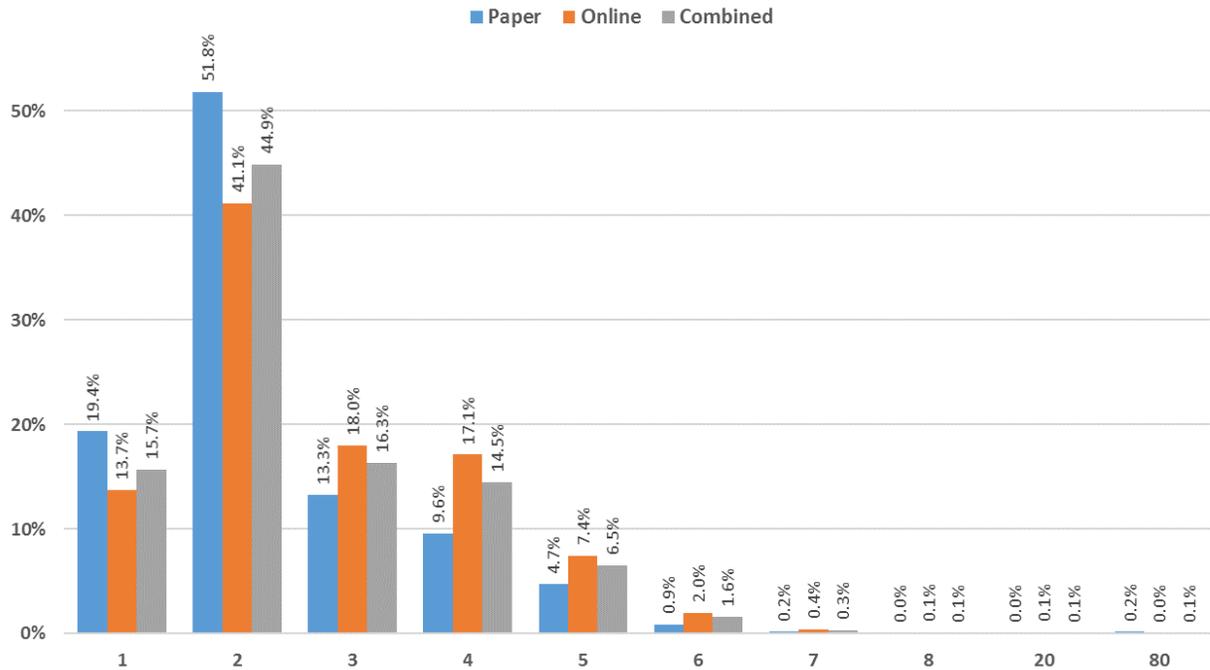


**Q8. What is your gender?**

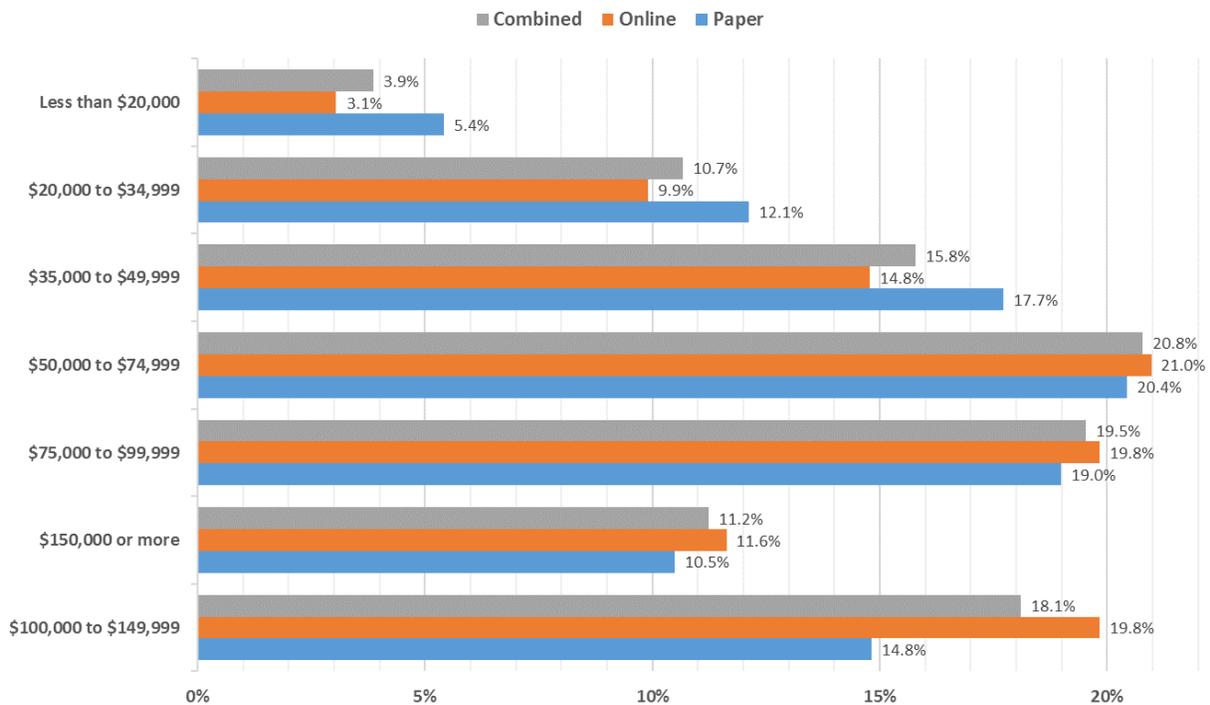
(n\_paper = 576; n\_online = 1,065; n\_combined = 1,641)



**Q9. How many people live in your household?**  
 (n\_paper = 573; n\_online = 1,062; n\_combined = 1,635)

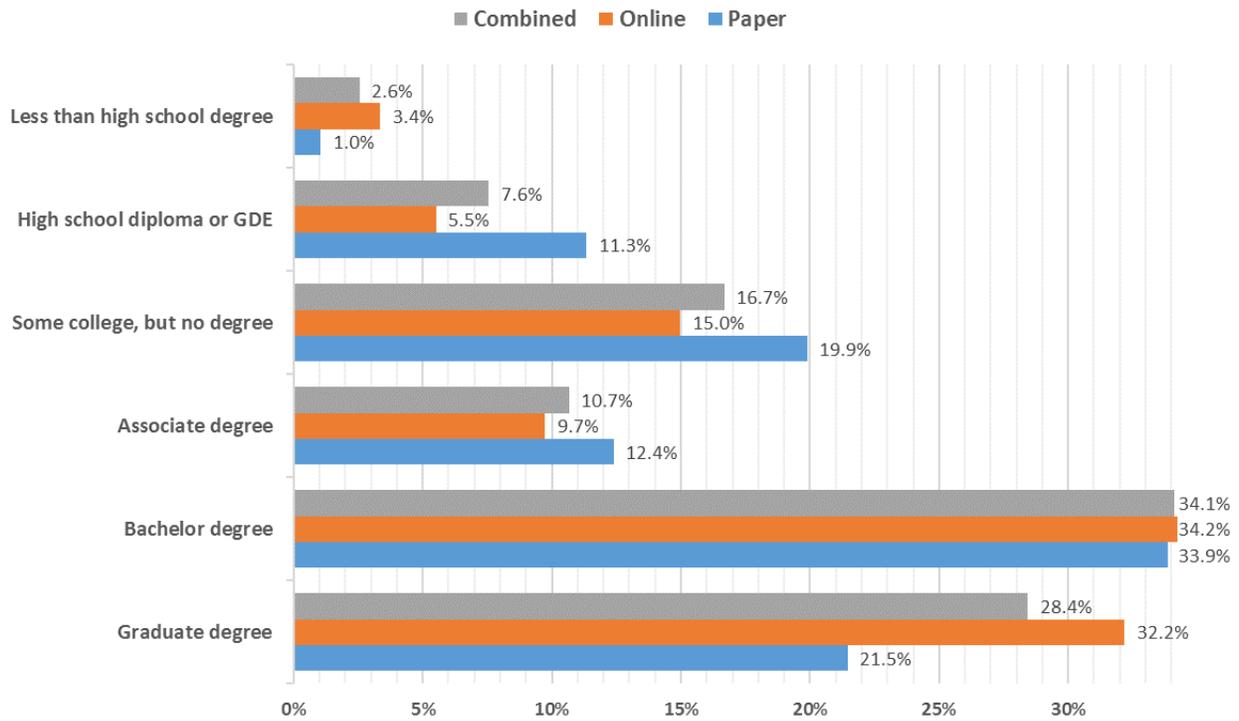


**Q10. What is your approximate annual household gross (before-tax) income?**  
 (n\_paper = 553; n\_online = 1,049; n\_combined = 1,602)



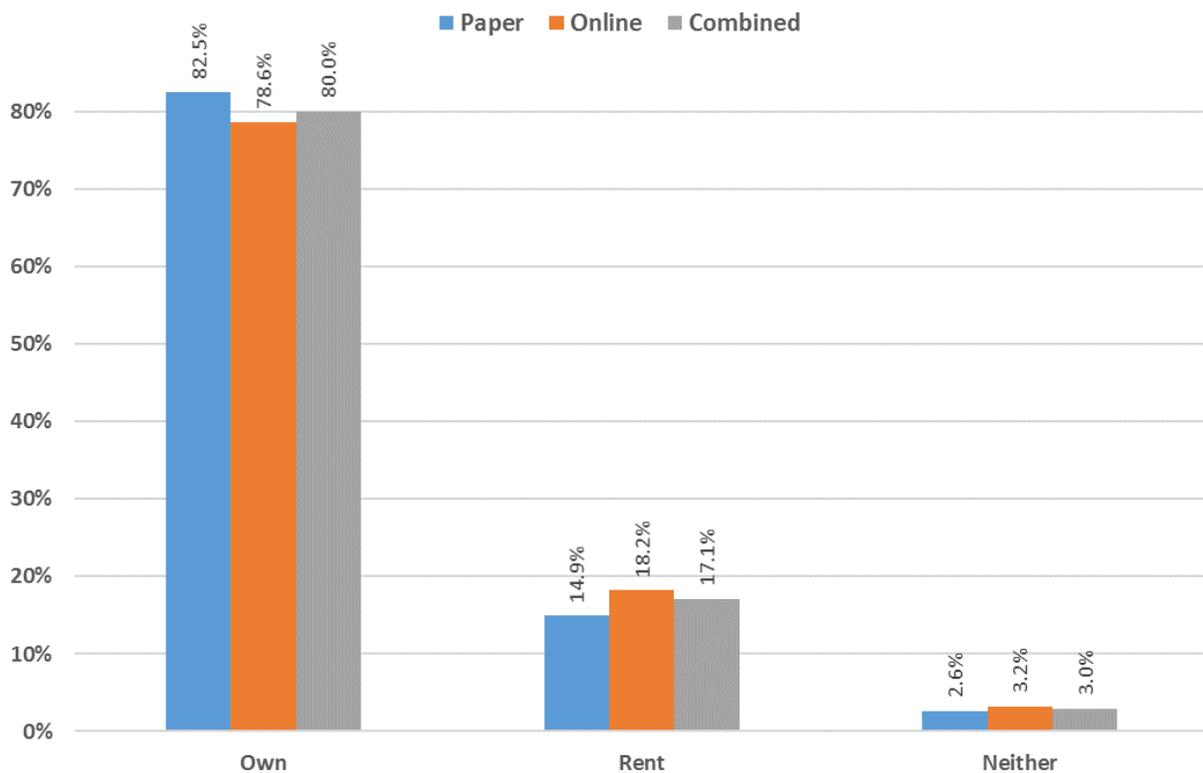
**Q11. What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

(n\_paper = 573; n\_online = 1,069; n\_combined = 1,642)

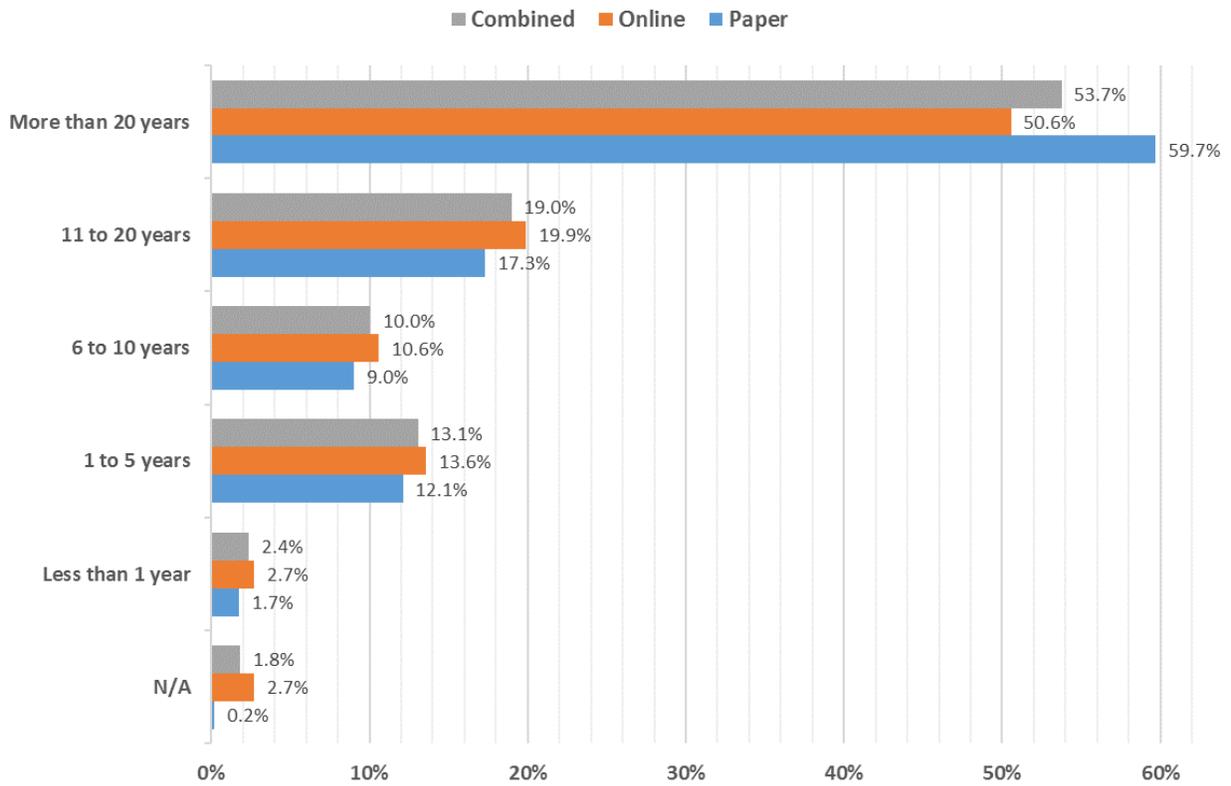


**Q12. Do you rent or own the place where you live?**

(n\_paper = 576; n\_online = 1,070; n\_combined = 1,646)



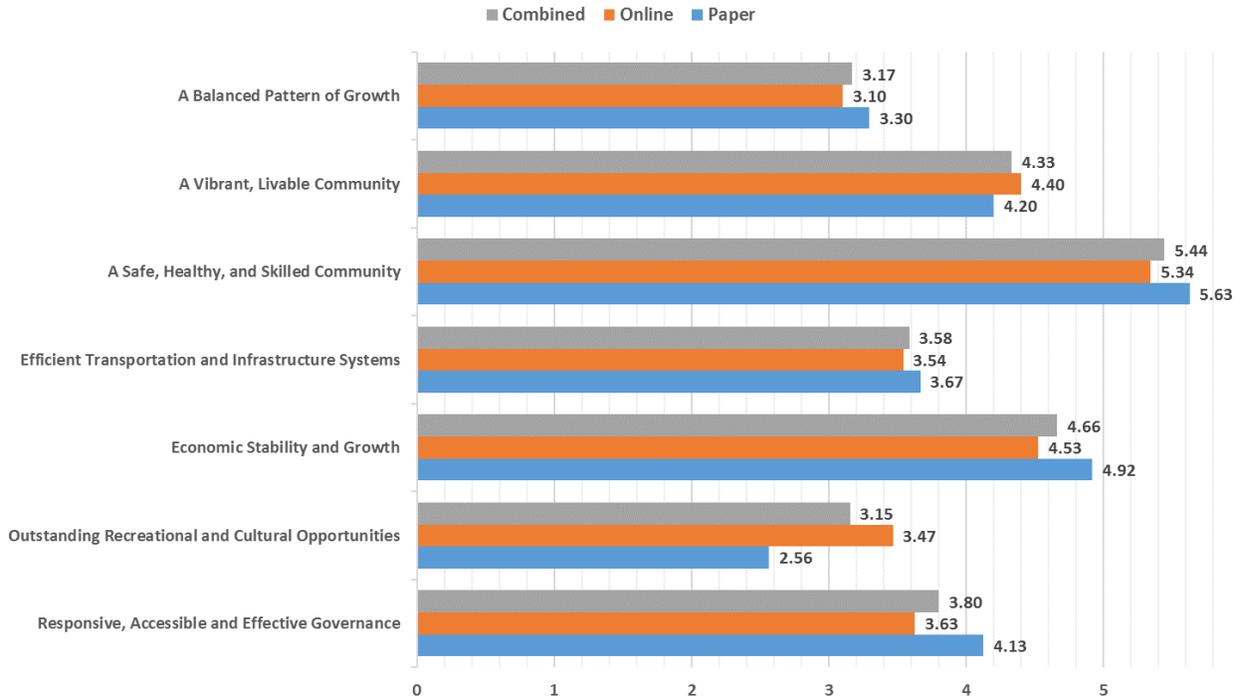
**Q13. How long have you lived in Rapid City?**  
 (n\_paper = 578; n\_online = 1,076; n\_combined = 1,654)



# Priority Based Budgeting

**Q1. Please, rank the following strategic goals in order from MOST important to you to LEAST important to you, where 1 is most important and 7 is least important:**

(n\_paper = 573; n\_online = 1,078; n\_combined = 1,651)

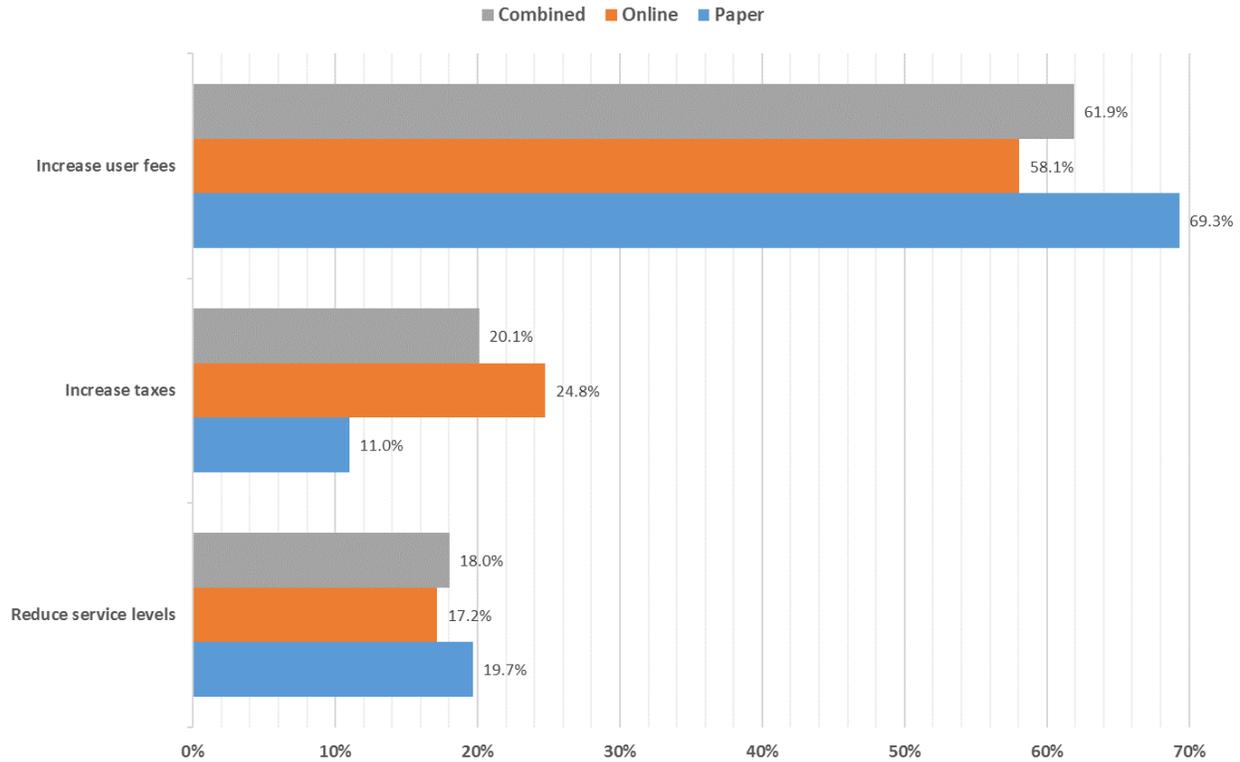


Note: Ranking values have been transformed by subtracting them from 8.00, such that a ranking of 1.00 is represented by a score of 7.00. Consequently, the larger values and longer bars in the graph above indicate a higher average ranking.

# 2019 Citizen Budget Priorities

**Q2. User fees are a City revenue stream that results from citizens paying a particular price for a particular service they use. In general, do you think the City should put more emphasis on user fees as opposed to reducing service levels or seeking other revenue streams such as taxes?**

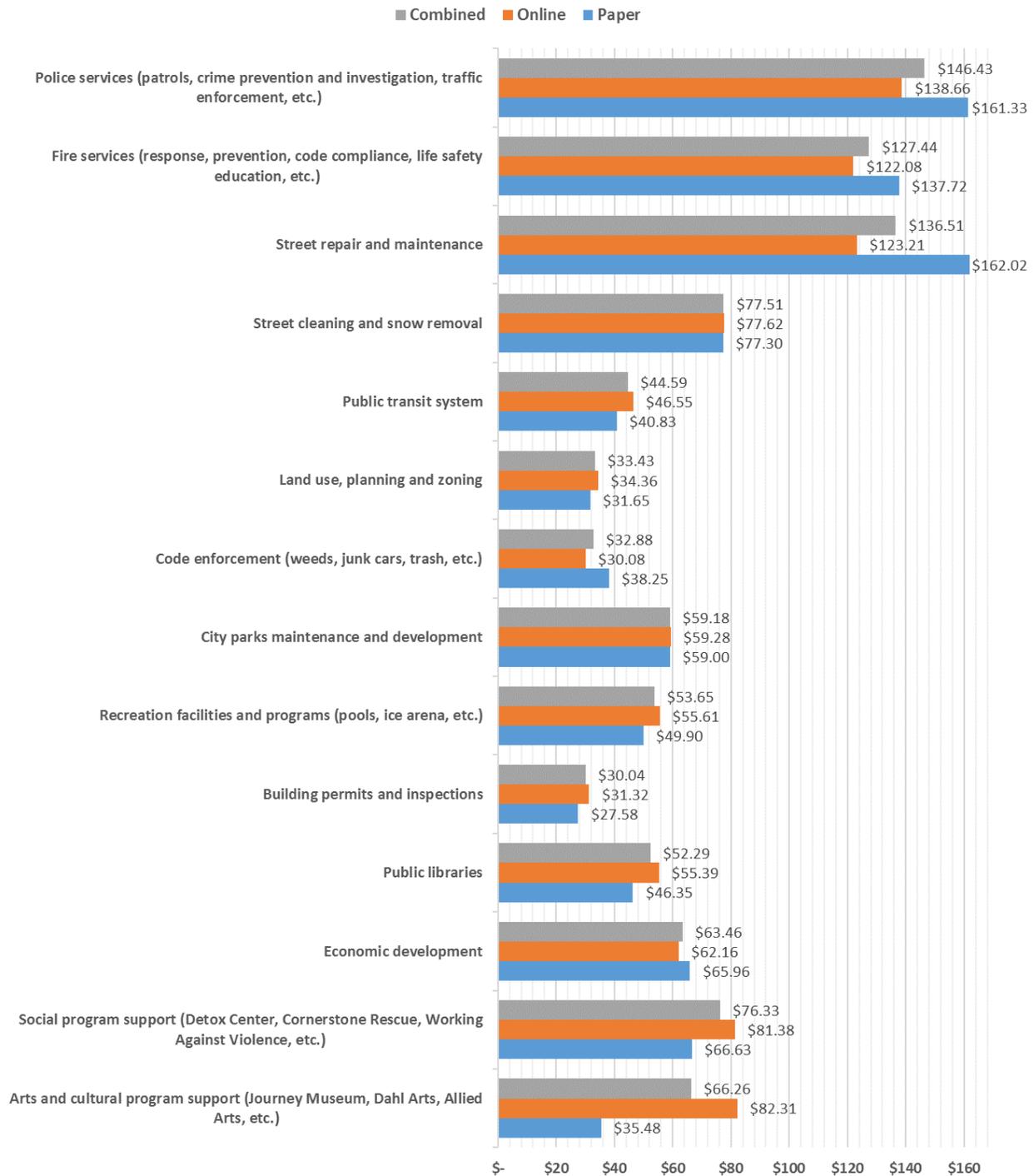
(n\_paper = 554; n\_online = 1,078; n\_combined = 1,632)



Please, see comments to Question 2 in the subsequent sections of the report.

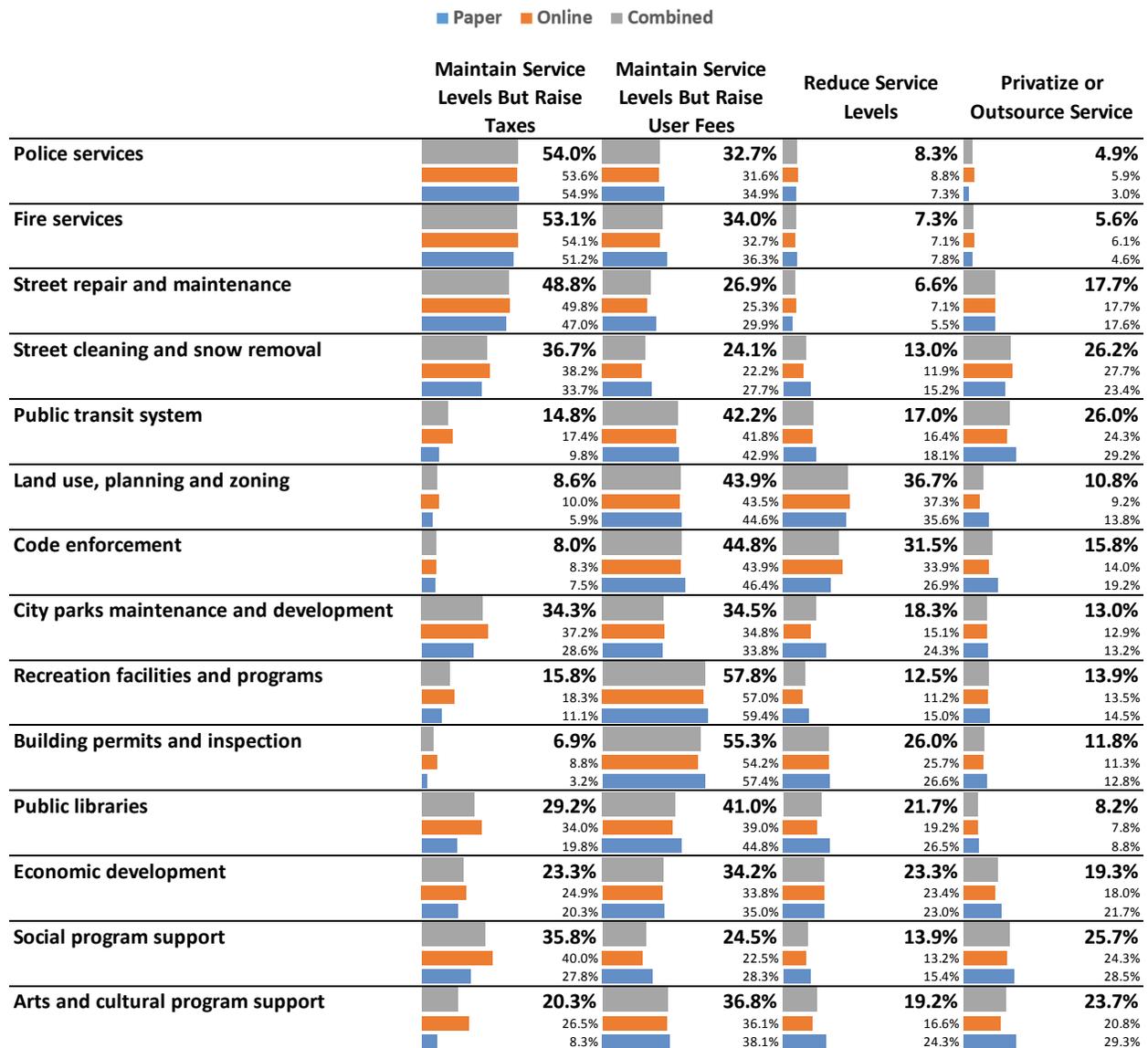
**Q3. If you were to allocate \$1,000 of your tax dollars to the following service areas, what would your allocation be?**

(n\_paper = 562; n\_online = 1,078; n\_combined = 1,640)



Note: Mail-in survey responses that did not add up to \$1,000 were normalized to sum up to \$1,000. Mail-in survey responses with no allocations were dropped.

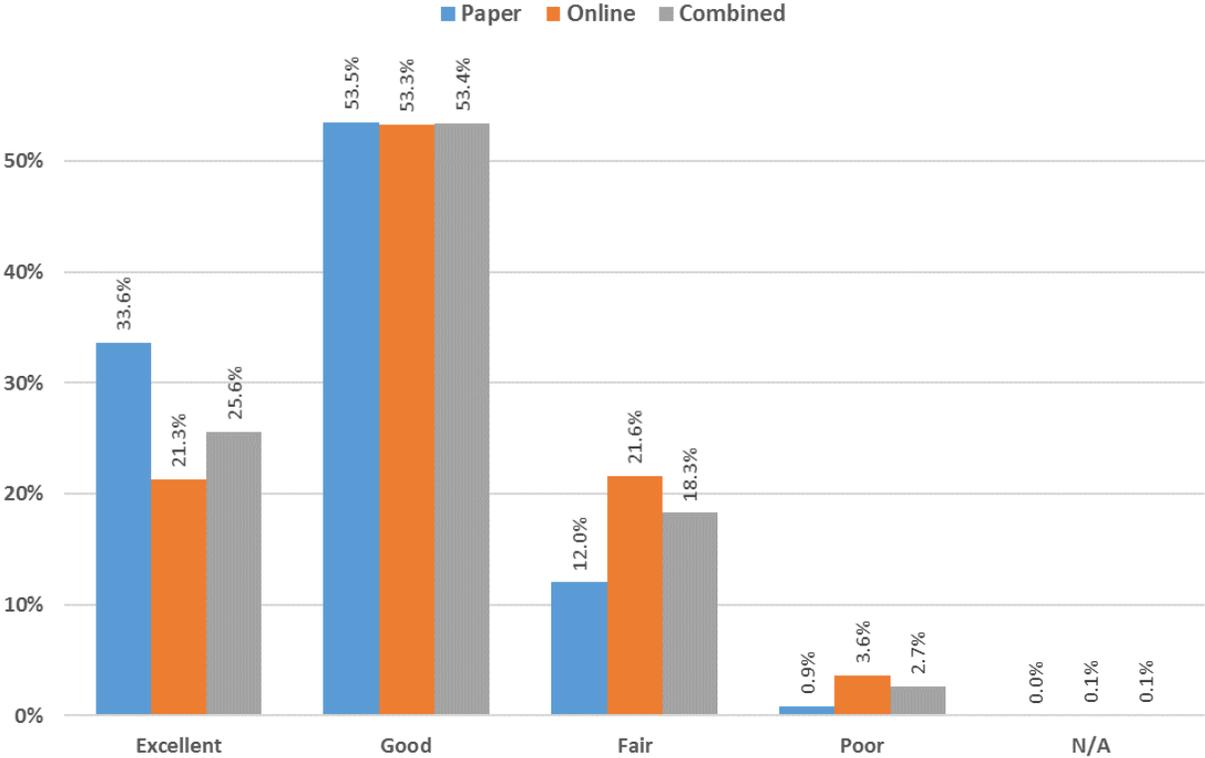
**Q4. If revenue does not keep pace with growth and demand for services, which of the following options would you prefer the City use to balance the budget in the following service areas?**  
 (n\_paper = 575; n\_online = 1,078; n\_combined = 1,653)



# Respondent Rating of Rapid City

## Q14. Taking all things into consideration, how do you rate Rapid City as a place to live?

(n\_paper = 574; n\_online = 1,078; n\_combined = 1,652)



Please, see comments to Question 14 in the subsequent sections of the report.

## Question 5 – Livability Improvement Suggestions

**Q5. What is (are) the most important thing(s) that the City can do to improve the livability of the community?**  
(n\_combined = 1,346)

(Ward 1) Foster a sense of the dignity of all persons regardless of social status.

(Ward 2) Provide social, financial, and cultural support for young people, elders, and those citizens who are not able to support themselves in a healthy way. Adopt a housing first model (as in several other American cities) and prioritize giving chronically homeless individuals a stable home. Invest in public libraries, public transit, arts and recreation, social services, and other utilities that allow lower income citizens and families to have a comparable standard of living to higher income citizens/families. Prioritize the long-term and collective benefits (social, environmental, etc) instead of short-term and individual (financial) benefits of decisions.

(Ward 2) Help everyone not just the wealthy. Do what you say you are going to do!

(Ward 3) Economic development, infrastructure, entertainment venues

(Ward 3) Arts and cultural program support Police and fire support

(Ward 3) We must improve our image as a city that is open and accepting. Our current rep as I travel is a beautiful place but not open to change and very racist. I was born and raised here and we need to be more progressive with our cultural development, our recreation opportunities and we must build our infrastructure! We must continue to improve our image! We can do that By improving roads, building recreation, improving schools and developing a more open attitude with the minority population in our city !!!!!

(Ward 3) Support arts and cultural programs. Invest in parks and recreation opportunities, including libraries. Encourage and support diversity and participation in local government. Invest in education and development of citizens.

(Ward 1) Safety & care of the people

(I don't know.) More time on neighborhood crime less on DUI More youth recreational opportunities

(Ward 3) Please fix our horrible streets in the residential areas! There are so many that need to be replaced.

(Ward 5) Increase parks and recreation. Stop spending money on morality lawsuits. Better streets and roads. Better maintenance and upgrades to avoid having to pay more in the future.

(Ward 3) How to bring in companies that pay a living wage.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Fairly distribute taxes rather than hitting property owners so heavily, such as increasing sales tax. In that way, everyone shares not just property owners.

(Ward 1) 1.)Improve education 2.)reduce violent crime rate 3.)job/economic growth 4.)financially assist private mental health services 5.)focus on inclusion in our community of all demographics

(Ward 5) Improve the roads and allow for commerce to grow. Quit creating hurdles for businesses to thrive. Improve parking downtown.

(Ward 1) #4 comment: was not sure how user fees applied to police, fire, detox center #5 comment: A good summary would be the seven items listed under #1 on the front page

(Ward 3) Be more open to duplex housing and help those in need.

(Ward 5) Do the necessary improvements to the Civic Center and stop trying to "keep up with the Jones's". The Jones's are bigger and richer than we are and they can spend us under the table any day of the week. Use our tax dollars wisely on things that improve the lives for all of us, not just for the rich few that can afford to go to \$100+ events.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Raise taxes

(Ward 3) reduce crime repair city streets entice new businesses to city center

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(Ward 5) #3 comment - indicated that Code Enforcement could be handled by Police & Fire #5 comment: #1 reduce/prevent racism and discrimination; #2 plan and work for sustainability in the face of climate change & weather extremes to come; #3 stop the school to prison pipeline; #4 implement & support restorative justice

(Ward 5) Street repairs Clearing the streets of snow

(Ward 5) Serve and protect the citizens of Rapid City

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Go back 50 years in notes; prioritize those and complete what should have been done then; get inspired by what was seen to be productive then; streets maintained; user fees of permits and zonings increased; less bellyaching and work instead of take breaks all the time; attraction is natural here, don't need to beat a dead horse. The visitors will come, give them streets & attractions to give them 'wow' not a building. Give retention options to those who 'commit' to levels of stay (5 years = 1 year's of educational debt paid/10 years = 5 year's of debt).

(Ward 1) Not have road construction projects going on for years. I.e: Mount Rushmore road. And not having multiple major road construction projects going at 1 time.

(Ward 5) We need better paying jobs. We need to attract other kinds of companies besides service and tourist jobs. We need to attract young people, young families, not just retired folks.

(Ward 3) Social programs are important or money will be spent on the other side of things. The public library is essential for community & for the homeless. Art and music are important to broaden the minds of all ages.

(Ward 3) #3 comments: The parks here are a disgrace. They are old & outdated to the max. Take Canyon Lake Park for example. Its slides are still aluminum-what century are we in!? also, I've never lived in a city that does not have library branches. Only one main library, come on! Get with the program! Each side of town should also have a library! #5 comments: We need more restaurants, grocery stores & other businesses on the SW side of town. At the least, another gas station near Sheridan Lake Rd & Catron. Also a Costco...please or please! Last the neighborhoods in Rapid are outdated & ugly. The new homes being built cost an arm & a leg but look like they're from a 1980 architect. This will not attract prospective businesses or residents.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Livability-Reducing waste/taxes Dept managers need to be hands on and aware of what is going on in their divisions. There needs to be more accountability for man power. Cross training and inter-dept cooperation. The City needs to look closer into outside contract work i.e. Lighting Maintenance (street lights) Dakota Barricade (street line painting) Muth Electric (traffic signal work)

(Ward 5) Support the arts, support citizen quality of life, encourage commercial entities to "give back" to the community. Strive to keep taxes as low as possible. Encourage employers to support the community through livable wages.

(Ward 2) care for the infrastructure: roads, street, parks

(Ward 2) Reduce taxes and fees. They are too high for the wages in the community.

(Ward 2) Crime needs to be addressed it is 100% out of control I detest living here because of it. Homelessness there are people all over the streets constantly begging for money and have nowhere else to turn but crime and substance abuse. The city needs to clean up it's act before people start moving away. Then who will have to pay the astronomical taxes and fees? We have to stop beating the working class to death with high taxes and fees, that is where the growth is. The city is forcing working people out to areas like box elder and Blackhawk.

(Ward 5) public transportation road repairs support cultural activities and library

(Ward 5) Affordable Housing. Larger service area for public transportation with more hours, as well. An economy that is not dependent on tourism - bring in more jobs.

(Ward 1) Repair streets and continue fine arts

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Work to reduce homelessness, reduce crime, increase transportation options and support the arts. Economic development of jobs that provide livable wages.

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(Ward 5) The results of this survey will be published? Right?!

(Ward 3) new young families want security, safety, good schools but also a community dedicated to the arts. attract entertainment willing to be utilized by a younger population. a new event center. RC needs to attract young professionals to enhance the demographics and economic environment. To do so requires investment in the arts and entertainment expected by these individuals. This will result in better students and better schools and economic opportunities.

(I don't know.) Covering of our bus stops should be a priority. I've seen mothers holding babies with rain pouring down on them seniors sitting in blazing temps disabled people leaning on canes in the snow. Offer businesses tax write offs and advertising oppruntunites to take this on if the city is unable to find it

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) 1 - reduce crime, make the community safer 2 - bring in better jobs that pay more 3 - expand culture and arts, grow the area to a place that is attractive for people to live 4 - improve transportation (make air travel from our airport affordable, improve road maintenance and traffic planning)

(Ward 1) police and fire services public library infastructure

(Ward 1) #3 comments: Land Use & Bldg Permits - Growth should pay for growth! Developers/Builders should be paying for these. Fee based system. #4 comments: street repair-Gas Tax; Public Transit-Pay for service by allowing advertisers to use as billboards #5 comments: Quit raising taxes! Parks & Recreation outlets are an excellent way to get people outside an enjoying the community. More affordable housing options for new & old buyers.

(Ward 4) Work within a budget to keep our city financially healthy.

(Ward 3) Continue good police and fire services as we presently have, adequate repair and maintenance, and maintaining a vibrant and attractive city that includes amenities such as the arts, parks & recreation facilities; economic stability and slow growth.

(Ward 3) The Arts!

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) There needs to be more work to make the government more aware of what is actually important to citizens of a small city. Those in places of power need to realize that a community without arts and creative activities directly relates to higher levels of mischievous behavior in the youth. Judging by the current drug problems plaguing Rapid City it is clear that there are not enough alternative forms of entertainment causing children and adults to turn to drugs.

(I don't know.) Supporting activities for the citizens by supporting pools, skating, arts and cultural opportunities. These allow people to develop physically and mentally and be more emotionally balanced. It makes us a healthier community.

(Ward 2) Provide solutions for homelessness, panhandling, substance abuse, and increased crime levels. Also, make sure that snow is removed not only from commercial but also from residential areas in a manner that allows residents to fairly effortlessly commute from their homes to work. In addition, Arts and cultural programs need to keep pace with the growth of the city and diversity of citizens' interests.

(Ward 5) Beautify our streets and public areas which will bring in people to our community. Our signs are embarrassing and my visitors comment on it. Other cities have vibrant businesses without the ugliness. Economic development is crucial.

(Ward 2) Improve the citizenry. Libraries can entertain and educate, as well as providing resources for job searches. A better educated, better employed population would pay off in an economic boost. On the other side, social programs can help raise people up. If people are given aid instead of jail, they can move away from being repeat offenders (freeing up police resources) and become contributing members of society.

(Ward 2) Take care of the homeless population

(Ward 3) Race relations

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) infrastructure improvement especially enhanced internet service, road repair and a sensible plan for growth (e.g. planning)

(Ward 3) Support and invest in its parks as well as arts and cultural offerings.

(Ward 2) We need to stop growing out and instead start growing upward and replacing the old within the existing city. It is expensive building new roads and utilities to all the new developments growing outward. We need another hospital to compete against Regional.

(Ward 3) make it safer; enforce laws already there; focus on more arts & cultural support

(Ward 3) Maintain or grow services that support youth development programs. Do not rely upon outsourcing or private organizations to accomplish all. To this end, reinvest in existing programs, public recreation facilities (i.e. expansion of Roosevelt Swim Center to transform the outdoor 50m pool to an indoor/outdoor year round facility), libraries, and after school / summer educational initiatives.

(Ward 3) Facilitate economic growth and ensure streets, water, and other city structural needs maintained.

(Ward 3) provide for reasonably priced cultural activities, multi-cultural; provide EXCELLENT education and opportunities; better train city counsel folks and be very communicative; provide for those less well off and be sure that there are training opportunities for them to better themselves; do not look at only LOWER paying jobs to bring into the community; do NOT use special tax districts or heavy subsidizing for biggies like Walmart & BH Power as they do NOT need those breaks, other businesses might.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) What is happening with Downtown District Zoning; more flexibility to encourage downtown living development.

(Ward 4) A sustainable lifestyle by providing safety and growth and the arts for children and all residents. We also need to use our resources wisely when constructing residential areas, sidewalks should be required to promote safe walking areas which in turn promotes healthy lifestyle.

(Ward 3) Address homelessness and hunger issues better - building a larger jail is not a solution. We need to address the root causes of the issues.

(Ward 5) The most important things the city can do to improve our city is to support education, arts and culture. They provide economics because citizens and visitors will spend more time in RC, spending more in local shops, restaurants & hotels. RC need to understand tourism is one of our state's largest industries and places like the Journey and the Civic Center makes RC relevant. Our police & fire dept are good but seems like the only thing the Mayor cares about.

(Ward 2) More resources for the homeless & intoxication problems. This city also needs a public intoxication law. It's out of hand. This goes hand in hand with increasing library service to help get people assistance-- across the nation libraries now providing social services within libraries. Get these people help and will help provide a better community

(Ward 1) Question #3 comment - how necessary is street cleaning?

(Ward 3) Maintain/improve existing facilities/infrastructure

(Ward 5) affordable housing, access to transportation to service organizations, public health initiatives, adequately fund safety and social services

(Ward 5) Invest more in the arts and culture atmosphere to make Rapid City a year round, community oriented home for its residents. Invest more in cleaning up areas of Rapid City that are close to the Downtown sector and are heavily visited by tourists, make better use of the space surrounding the Civic Center and the Journey Museum to better serve the residents of Rapid City and its visitors (i.e. restaurant, hotel development)

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Reduce crime, encourage more cultural opportunities, continue to improve the infrastructure and continue the work done on 8th street into other city areas.

(Ward 3) Safe and enjoyable community for all. Updating parks, pools, and creating activities for all. Don't spend money on Civic Center. Get it updated and to code. Not too many people can afford concerts and shows there. You would be better spending money on fixing roads and updating our community resources.

(Ward 2) #3 comment: Libraries-less electronics-iPad, Nintendo #5 comments: build it into a real community- now we are separate groups of people functioning in a shared space. I realize this takes the involvement of the citizens as well and you can't force it.

(Ward 5) arts, culture

(Ward 3) Honestly, I am very disappointed by the ratio of the size of our police force and the lack of assistance offered by them. I know multiple businesses that are continually being robbed and their customers are being harassed and nothing is being done. The police are so focused on handing out DUI's and citations for minor violations while businesses and residents in rapid are suffering. They don't treat citizens with respect or a sense of urgency and often make the victim feel at blame. Maybe some of their budget should be used to help the city since they won't...

(Ward 5) Improve the commitment to arts in our community. As social needs demand more attention, the arts become even more of a vital part of bringing vibrant, thriving growth and hope to our community.

(Ward 2) Streets. Public safety Planning

(Ward 4) Focus on QUALITY of life (don't eliminate all funding for cultural programs/libraries); and better planning for traffic management (more pedestrian friendly as well). Nobody wants higher taxes, but RC taxes are low (comparatively speaking) and could be bumped up a little if it means keeping programs that enrich our lives as well as keep us safe.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Encourage vibrant arts and recreation opportunities for citizens and visitors. People don't move to places where there's nothing cool to do!

(Ward 5) I believe that our community is in need of more mental health and outreach programs for people suffering from physical and mental disabilities, addiction, poverty, etc.

(Ward 5) decrease crime

(Ward 5) Help the homeless and inadequately housed, the unemployed and underemployed to find a place and a purpose to become productive, contributing members. Help those with mental illness and addiction issues. That will improve public safety. Continue to support the arts - they give us hope and bring light to our world. Help those without means to have access to the arts - they need that hope and light more than anyone. Leave some green, open space. Not every beautiful spot in town needs to be developed.

(Ward 2) Economic development - giving new and growing businesses incentives to stay in Rapid City.

(Ward 5) City fathers (?) or council members and the mayor need to go around the city and check out all the crappy streets. I have called in several really bad streets in my area of town - 38th Street/Range Road - and there has been no response at all.

(Ward 4) Reduce indigents. Follow through on current programs

(Ward 1) Keep tax increases under control and maintain a balanced budget

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Create a community that attracts young families with something similar to the Pentagon in Sioux Falls. Work to bring in higher paying jobs/companies.

(Ward 4) encourage building/ reusing to promote affordable housing

(Ward 4) Spend tax dollars on things specified for our rapid city culture and helping people rather than always punishing.

(Ward 3) 1. Increase police presence: I've lived all over the country and overseas. This is the worst town for horrible drivers and crime I've been in. Ridiculous and out of control! 2. Economic growth: Been here for three years and the growth appears stagnant. Need more businesses of all types. Safeway and Walmart are terrible. There's little to no white collar work here. Help this town grow in new directions and career

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opportunities. Sioux Falls just won best small town to operate a business in America....again. Rapid City better wake up and catch up.

(Ward 5) "Livability is the sum of the factors that add up to a community's quality of life" including the built and natural environments, economic prosperity, social stability and equity, educational opportunity, and cultural, entertainment and recreation possibilities." That's a lot to sum up in a few thoughts - Think outside the box and don't just do what we've always done or what other cities are doing. We can create a community that is amazing and different from any other community if we refuse to stay stuck in the same track because that's the way things have always been done. Be BOLD!

(Ward 5) Cost of living is very expensive. We need to find a way to educate and lower rent for young tenants.

(Ward 1) Move forward with improving all areas of the city for livability use by its citizens such as walking paths, etc. in the central and southern parts of the city. Take care of the basic services that the city has to provide such as roads, water, sewer, police, fire, etc. These are services that no one else will provide. It is its major responsibility. Keep Rapid City growing and have a vision for the future to make it a place that people want to move here. Also work with in the community to subdue the negative speak.

(Ward 1) maintain or increase the services related to law enforcement & other 1st responders. improve parks and public areas.

(Ward 3) less regulations reduce cost of services

(Ward 1) Police and Fire protection. Cultural activities and parks and recreation along with the school system are very important to the livability of a community, but I want to feel safe first. We can't afford everything we might like, so let's focus on what is beyond the scope of the average citizen to provide for himself.

(Ward 5) Support cultural programs with the same respect as sports and recreation are treated.

(Ward 1) All city officials, read Romans 13:1-10 and 1 Timothy 2:1-3. For extra credit, read farther.

(Ward 5) Funding to the Arts. An example would be Stevens High School, as they have not had an expansion at all, while Central received a brand new Fine Arts Expansion. The Orchestra kids are forced into a corner and hallway by the stairs, and have a higher danger in case of a lockdown or dangerous situation. The Choir kids are forced into the basement with no cameras and no room. The Theater kids have no room in the backstage area and are forced to a crowded theater where there is no room at all, no cameras, and no designated handicap spots.

(Ward 2) Get rid of junk cars, weeds, dead/broken trees, etc. Get rid of parking on both sides of Main Street- SO DANGEROUS!!!!!!!!!!

(Ward 3) The homeless out of city center. Get schools where people live.

(Ward 3) The arts!

(Ward 4) 1-Allocate funds to what the community NEEDS! Not what some city official think we will need sometime in the future. (Suicide rates are high, yet funding to Front Porch is cut? No research is done to find out why suicide rates are climbing within a certain age group in our community? Surely something can be done!)

(Ward 2) Quit wasting our hard earned dollars on studies & use the taxpayer's dollars from input of its citizens.

(Ward 4) Get rid of the panhandlers and vagrants.

(Ward 4) We need promote our city to draw in high paying jobs to Rapid City. We also need to retain the skilled and educated students from School of Mines. The city council needs to be the moral compass of the city. They should lead by example. There needs to be a more collaboration between the City and the school board/district.

(Ward 1) GET THE VAGRANTS OFF THE STREETS.

(Ward 3) Land use planning and zoning to preserve open space, urban blight and water conservation and quality.

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(Ward 1) Quit giving everyone raises every year. The everyday person in Rapid City does not receive a raise every year but their city expense and taxes go up. Its becoming to expensive to even live in Rapid City with the cost of living and taxes.

(Ward 5) Affordable housing, higher paying jobs, better methods of caring for those in need

(Ward 3) Economic growth Civic center expansion East of 5th St development

(Ward 5) Reduce crime and attract new business and industry to Rapid.

(Ward 2) Maintain the quality of streets, parks, bike paths and library. People in all income levels in Rapid City really use all of these. The library should continue to be a priority, because I see entire families using the library on a regular basis. My daughter used to read 20 books per week, but if we would have had to purchase the books, there is no way she could have done that. I'm sure there are other children who thrive in their education because of the availability of the library. No book store can replace what we have in our library.

(Ward 5) Make us a more welcoming place for the multicultural and LGBTQ community. Sioux Falls is running rings around us welcoming people who are different races, ethnicities, and sexual orientations; and their chamber of commerce is actively concerned with how to encourage this in their workforce. Meanwhile we in Rapid are putting up barriers to making us a welcoming community, whether by Black Hills area stores (including in Caputa) which distribute Butch Stanko's neo-Nazi Stampede News or by anti-Muslim speakers brought in by Act for America and sponsored by various local churches and KSLT radio.

(Ward 4) Keep up the parks, the schools, and the roads and other infrastructure. Quit spending public money on economic development and things like a new civic center.

(Ward 4) Reduce the adverse effects of crime by addressing the root causes - mental illness, drugs, homelessness, and transient people who come to the community for nefarious reasons (i.e., escaping criminal charges on the reservation.) Reduce the handouts, make areas where criminal elements gather uncomfortable by increasing law enforcement presence and work to increase sanctions for violations of criminal law pertaining to crimes of violence and hard drugs (even possession of personal use amounts of hard drugs.) Improve traffic flow by providing more than adequately sized streets, reduce the use of automated traffic control systems that do not work well.

(Ward 1) Address the drug and crime issues in this city. Get a decent grocery store to come to town.

(Ward 5) The city leaders needs to remember that what makes a City thrive is less about a building or a road, and more about an identity and an attitude. People need to WANT to be proud of where they live, and HAVE things to be proud of. Trust the people that know the city, and stop relying on outside "consultants" that really don't know who we are.

(Ward 1) Have more police officers.

(Ward 2) Tax me, keep the services and opportunities the city provides, and spread them around. 10% of Rapid is a fantastic place. 90% is stagnant. If we want a truly vibrant city for our kids to grow up in, we've got to get serious and take some responsibility. Economic development to raise prosperity, social services to keep more people functioning and contributing to society, and educational and cultural opportunities to give the city a unique and engaging character. Rapid City should be both a destination and a place to put down roots.

(Ward 2) responsible, local government - stop asking task forces and consultants what to do and get local citizens together

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Raise cultural level

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Street repair

(Ward 2) bring high paying/full time/fully benefited businesses to the city; cost of living is excessive; tourism and retail jobs do not provide the income level required to live well in this city; incentives should be provided to only those developments that generate these types of jobs (predominately residential development w/a convenience store for commercial development should not be TIF funded); social & cultural venues do benefit the area but these activities s/b funded primarily from grants; private donations & fund raising efforts, not from tax payer \$\$

(Ward 3) Be more responsive to the elderly and/disabled residents, such as provide more handicapped parking downtown, listen to their wisdom and expertise, include them on city committees, ease up on their property taxes and other fees. Retired citizens are ignored for the most part. Ticket the numerous speeders. No wonder there are so many accidents. Fix/modify the traffic flow in the city. Travel is often congested and limited as to available routes. Hence, the "necessity" of those who feel entitled to speed to make up for lost time. Growth can be good, but too fast makes everything get out of control.

(Ward 1) Increase the economic growth of the city by providing a variety of attractive reasons to move here. Having a safe yet vibrant community attracts involved citizens who will contribute more to the place they live.

(Ward 3) Support music and arts. Promote education

(Ward 5) improve on what is here and not try to be a bigger city than what we are. The Civic Center works fine for our needs, and concerts are rarely sold out--which means it makes no sense to build a bigger arena "in hopes" for a bigger turnout. Fix what is here. Build a parking garage and work within our natural limitations

(Ward 4) Number one priority is to bring the community together via less bullying from police and all public servants. Family activities w/out booze! It has ruined Summer Nights! Better parks and recreation. More cultural activities not just summer nights which is a bust as far as being cultural. It is one big party and I nor do my family attend and I encourage others to not attend. Concerts either local or big name are all too expensive for the average family to attend. More free concerts like the Municipal Band Concerts!

(Ward 4) Crime

(Ward 2) Better support the educational system.

(Ward 4) Reduce crime, address the problems created by the mentally ill and drug users. Stop allowing these groups to have comfortable space in the community.

(Ward 3) Have to have a medical detox with in patient treatment. That would make it much more livable. Treat it as a disease & get proper help.

(Ward 5) I think the city needs to concentrate on public safety & maintenance of public infrastructure. I also believe the city needs to bet on growth and not saddle proposed developments, especially in fill developments, with outsized costs to build or rebuild public infrastructure

(Ward 1) Improve infrastructure

(Ward 3) Find a way to keep the pan handlers and drunks out of downtown. The way it currently is will ruin the great progress our town has made over the last 10 years and ultimately tourists will start to avoid coming downtown which will impact the tax dollars received as they will stay in outlying communities.

(Ward 1) Rapid City needs to market itself as an unique and beautiful place with all kinds of things, especially culturally and educationally, that make people want to move here and live here!

(I don't know.) Provide as many oppurtunities for growth, expression, and recreation as possible.

(Ward 5) Continue to develop the parks system, continue to develop the cultural resources of the city, Work to expand the ties to the SDSM&T. The future of the City lies with the SDSM&T.

(Ward 2) Bring more jobs to rapid city that pay more that \$10 and hour.

(Ward 3) Economic development so that wages keep up with the housing market. Road maintenance.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Better road conditions in winter. Better/faster road repair, Keeping library open and affordable. Better response time for fire/police. Keeping the town clean and able to use parks safely

(Ward 5) Assist with homeless population; spend more time monitoring safety, less time in low importance/hazard traffic stops. Invest more in user paid services; i.e. Pools, transportation.

(Ward 4) Crime prevention; snow removal during season; raise the accountability of students in Rapid City schools

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Prioritize the public library

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Affordable housing

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) support The Journey Museum

(Ward 3) I would like to see a change in the attitudes of the residents of Rapid City. I recently went to New York City and experienced how a tourist was treated. Living in a "tourist" city, I rarely feel like I am treated the same way. Service is a word that doesn't seem to exist in the business or government culture in Rapid City. Also, I always thought of East River as the liberal side of the state and West River as conservative. It doesn't seem that government doesn't operate on a conservative basis. Tax and spend is the motto here.

(Ward 3) Continued growth and improvement such as a new Civic Center arena

(Ward 5) Ensure cultural opportunities exist (public spaces, shows, concerts, new commercial businesses)

(Ward 5) Focus on funding public safety departments, improving infra structure while finding partners to help with social issues such as the homeless.

(Ward 4) Follow example of popular communities

(Ward 1) The questions were loaded for what programs to pick for taxes and fees. May be a sale tax on certain products. Manage programs better, deal with the crime and have sticker fines and punishment for crimes. Seems like a lot of free loaders hanging around.

(I don't know.) Cultural awareness Education Safety Economic stability Viable programs for the homeless & poor Beautiful recreational areas Clean city streets Job opportunities

(I don't know.) Safer communities Stronger Police Force Better roads Hospitals/medical centers Clean roads, parks, rivers, and lakes

(Ward 2) I'm not sure who sets the average rent prices but this town needs more affordable housing

(Ward 5) I believe that education and the arts need to be a top priority.

(Ward 3) Maintain safety, economic stability, and cleanliness.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Support of education and prevention services that ultimately save the community money in treatment and intervention services.

(Ward 3) Build infrastructure to entice businesses to relocate to Rapid. Clearly, not a lot of citizens are happy w/ the education here. There are pervasive levels of bigotry and hate that permeates this city. Uneducated citizens who turn to alcohol are decimating and ruining the city for the rest of us. Becoming a city of low (but increased from status quo) taxes and liberal social policies will increase interest from the largest economic force in the US, Millennials. This city needs to be the first city in SD to legalize cannabis and promote rehabilitation of its burgeoning population of alcoholics. TY

(Ward 3) Jobs. Jobs. Jobs.

(Ward 3) handle the homeless problem - get them off the streets

(Ward 4) The most important thing the city can do is find ways to encourage businesses that offer well-paid positions to establish here and further diversify our economy.

(Ward 1) Bring in more businesses to increase jobs. Make it easier for new business to come to RC.

(Ward 2) Public services, infrastructure, recreational events.

(Ward 5) Things are good now, the City tries to make the city has livable as possible

(Ward 2) Offer more choices for grocery shopping as we have lost 2 stores in October 2017 and there isn't a great choice on shopping

(Ward 1) Keep public safety as the top priority. Craft policy for policing, streets, water/sewer infrastructure, and social services that revolve around public safety. Goodness will follow.

(Ward 3) Improve basic services: streets, water & wastewater, Police & Fire

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) More active, more things offered to do, cleaner, less bums, less drunks downtown or around bacon park. Add more to downtown

(Ward 4) Figure out the homeless population and get rid of the weekly motels.

(Ward 5) Attract and retain more diverse people.

(Ward 1) - Maintain roads - Beautify: rules to reduce height and size of signage; stop the expansion of billboards  
- Expand and improve parks - Care for: homeless, hungry, addicted, and unemployed

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Parks and recreation

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Maintain services available to all income levels, provide services for most vulnerable population, address racial disparities with native community

(Ward 4) Try to bring more industry into our city so we're not so tourist reliant and our residents aren't all making minimum wage working at our thousands of fast food restaurants.

(Ward 4) Support high quality educational resources and facilities Listen to citizen concerns and secure citizen input; then revamp city budgets as needed

(Ward 3) Improve the aging roads and utilities

(Ward 3) positive development from downtown to SDSMT. No to more homeless sheltering in that area. we need taxable businesses to build- no more nonprofit and churches in the area!

(Ward 3) Clean up rapid city, enforce codes and clean up downtown and all of the homes along the main streets that are run down. Give resources to police and fire so that they can do their jobs without working 65 hrs a week and being physically and emotionally exhausted.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Creating a safer place to live by reducing the livability for the wrong kind of people in town. Also start fixing roads and drop the plows on the plow trucks. This town is great but there is a lot of work to do.

(Ward 5) Improve the economy for the working class. Reduce rents to sane levels. Improve wages to 21st century standards. Stop harassing and profiling people for being poor. Improve social outreach and public health strategies to combat meth problem instead of ovezealous policing and profiling.

(Ward 2) We need to increase public transportation to include areas that cannot currently access that. (the valley-where it is currently within city limits. The schools on the west side, the food bank, etc) people in these areas are paying for services they can't access. We need to concentrate on safety and infrastructure and education. We need to have a strong social program. The arts, parks and beautification of our town are great-but not our highest need area. We need to take care of people first and then worry about the rest. I see nothing about the Humane Society on here but hope it falls under social program support.

(Ward 5) Continue to develop safe recreational and cultural activities within the city limits.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) I think it is critical that continue to focus on quality of life. Arts, services for youth, activities that support healthy family development, and things families can do for minimal cost.

(Ward 5) Reduce spending, prioritize projects, do work right the first time. Decrease public nontoxicrion and panhandling. Make pools more affordable.

(Ward 5) A city rec center (gym, courts, weight room, etc) with affordable membership (\$15 a month for an individual) would improve the health of the city, give people (especially teens) something to do, and would attract families and young adults to our city.

(Ward 4) Remember north Rapid is part of the city. Transients roaming through neighborhoods & sleeping in yards are becoming out of hand. Railroad crossing on Lacrosse is in dire need of repair. Additional street lights could be installed to increase safety.

(Ward 5) Improve maintenance and control of traffic during construction. Enforce parking regulations Add cameras to public areas to reduce crime.

(Ward 1) We need more than pawn shops, liquor stores, & Casinos to have an economy. We need better paying jobs so people can afford to live in our city. Everything else is in place but the income gap between cost of items and average salary.

(Ward 4) Increase services for all. Put more into parks and outdoor recreation areas

(Ward 1) Increase wages. It is very hard to live here, and make a decent living.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Better infrastructure and more economic growth. Affordable housing.

(I don't know.) When the snow is not removed & salt used our garage is full of water but then the driveways get filled in with snow pile so we just need to get out what is cost effective, the snow removal was best from 09-12!

(Ward 2) reduce the pan handlers on the downtown streets, this is out of control

(Ward 3) Reduce taxes and welfare.

(Ward 1) Fix the streets, put dumpsters back on Fairmont Blvd., extend Elm St to hiway 16,

(I don't know.) Transportation can be a huge barrier for lots of people in this community. Improving public transportation is something the city could do. The other issues with the community, such as safety issues, are not issues that the City government can fix unfortunately.

(Ward 2) Be progressive in regards to issues like the Civic Center. Partner with groups like the Outdoor Campus, Climbing Coalition, Black Hills Mtn Bikers to get kids involved in activities that maybe their parents can't afford.

(Ward 5) Improve and increase programs designed to address addiction. The treatment center options in RC is TERRIBLE. We have a meth epidemic and it won't change until services increase.

(Ward 2) support arts, culture, library reduce intoxication

(Ward 5) Keep homeless population under control. Stop public drunkenness, panhandling, peeing, puking, loitering, make something happen to allow singles/families to be downtown and feel safe

(Ward 5) Maintain streets and other infrastructure.

(Ward 1) Art tells the story of life. A city without art is a city without life.

(Ward 3) Fix roads and aging utilities

(Ward 4) 1 - Jobs with higher wages 2 -

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Prioritize services based on the most needed. Find a way to assist, not fine, low income homeowners with needed repairs and removal of unwanted junk. This will improve the look and raise the pride of those of us living here

(Ward 4) Wouldn't it be nice to have better kept streets? Anamosa is worse now than it was in the 60's. Growing up here, we had a great city bus system. It even went through the residential areas. You could buy a monthly pass for a discounted price.

(Ward 2) Create a world class park/rec system and livable downtown, interconnect all the parks, develop an app touting this world class system. No other city will be able to compete. New Employers will recognize this quality of life.

(Ward 1) No increase to sales tax. Use the money where it is needed. Streets need fixing/repair. Our city parks do not!

(Ward 1) Lower usage fees in low-income areas to provide adequate services for those who need them the most

(Ward 5) Pave allies throughout the city to reduce repairs by street maintenance and improve air quality. Stop allowing businesses to build new structures until all the vacant structures,( i.e. Empty strip malls) are used.

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Enforce traffic laws, particularly drivers running red stop lights and speeding at school crosswalks when caution lights are operating. Parking downtown is a nightmare during business hours.

(Ward 3) Get child care for special needs, offer more support to special needs children, more things for older kids and young adults 12-25, offer more help for single mothers

(I don't know.) Clean up the homelessness. These people use the government service, but due to the free hand outs never help the community in return. Many of these individuals do not pay taxes, and many do not care to better themselves or the community. It's a drain and discouragement to our community and it's resources.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Job creation and real economic development

(Ward 1) pray for guidance; ignore the nay-sayers; increase the variety/flexibility of economic development tools; improve uniform traffic controls-signage & signals for left turn lanes are a muddled mess; maintain and improve safe, reliable police and fire services

(Ward 3) Provide safe ,clean,and wholesome place, with strong arts recreation,police and fire protection!!

(Ward 1) Affordable, safe housing.

(Ward 3) Focus on economic growth and education

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Be fair to all citizens. Stop catering to developers with TIFS, etc. Listen to private citizens as to what they want their community to be.

(Ward 1) 1. Develop and enforce building codes that protect the environment in addition to holding contractors responsible for their work 2. Plan for urban sprawl and growth. We lose 7 acres of forest a week to development. 3. Stop debating the value of the Journey and Dahl. Those things add to our community, not detract from it.

(Ward 4) More aggressive on crime and traffic. Driving in RC is out of control.

(Ward 1) Reduce the homeless population and reduce the number of "slums" in the area. Add more culture and event to the area.

(Ward 5) keep the city footprint small and dense. utilize abandoned run down areas within current city boundaries. allow small businesses like grocery and restaurants to operate in residential areas. I want to walk to a neighborhood store not drive all the way across town to a large chain. improve pedestrian and bike infrastructure

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) More social programs and people to enforce codes. I can't believe this issue isn't on here, give more money to the humane society! There is too much pressure on animal enforcement and not enough on spaying and neutering. Fix the problem, don't put a band aid on it.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Something needs to be done about the cost of housing. Either that, or wages need to become more liveable.

(Ward 5) Additional police force to increase safety and reduce non-violent crimes. Traffic planning is insufficient and should be based on actual traffic levels rather than population. Revitalize neighborhoods rather than encouraging businesses to move outward along major highways. Address food deserts and public transportation inefficiencies. Make better use of existing commercial space and open lot parking especially downtown and in the Baken Park area. Support local businesses with less emphasis on chain restaurants, hotels, and business that primarily cater to seasonal tourism.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) More fire service, better roads, stop supporting the mission.

(Ward 1) Encourage growth (restaurants, stores, etc.) and fix the roads.

(I don't know.) Rapid City needs to critically examine its City Planning. We have blind corners everywhere, poorly designed roads, a severe lack of parking in the downtown business area, hardly any public transit to speak of, and somehow we've also managed to segment the population and segregate a large chunk of the Native

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American population in sub standard housing. We need to come at this with the intention of improving the lives of our City's most vulnerable and asking ourselves how are public systems are currently failing them. I honestly believe that addressing public transit costs and schedules is one way.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Create an environment where more business comes to Rapid City, thus creating more, good paying jobs.

(Ward 5) clean up downtown.. frightening to walk downtown as so much panhandling and homeless wandering streets.. feels unsafe

(Ward 4) Schools!! Fix the buildings and keep the good teachers. Make sure there's things to do for the public. Let dick and jane's Set up shop. Would like to see a new event center.

(Ward 3) Roads need better maintenance and painted lines. One main road in my neighborhood is even a bit scary in spots. More treatment programs for drug and alcohol abusers instead of jail or prison. Non violent offenders and petty criminals should spend time on community services rather than jail. Keep up all the good work on parks and bike paths and the Thursday nights downtown. Keep us informed on what's happening in our city and what we could do to help or make a difference. Thank you for all you do!

(Ward 3) Focusing on affordable housing, job opportunities and maintaining the beauty of our city.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Provide services to the most vulnerable citizens in order to help get them on their feet and back into the work force. Support education opportunities and maintain a safe environment

(Ward 5) Recreation, arts, streets/infrastructure, safety, economic development, prioritize and properly fund public education

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Add on and upgrade the Civic Center to become competitive with Sioux Falls.

(Ward 1) Keep it safe and fix the streets AND FIX THE 5TH STREET RAILROAD CROSSING! BETTER YET, BUILD AN OVERPASS AT THE CROSSINGS(Aberdeen has had an overpass for at least 50 yrs)

(Ward 4) enforce speed limits

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Parking is an issue. If you have clients that have to move their vehicle or think about having to move their vehicle, the downtown experience is not a pleasant experience. How much does the city spend on maintenance and patrol? Is it worth it?

(Ward 1) Focus more on the arts in Rapid to see if we can give this City a little more culture!!!

(Ward 5) The city needs to develop recreational facilities to keep and attract young people to the area. A safe bike path throughout the city. Build a skatepark attached to Roosevelt or Memorial Park or at the base of M Hill. Retirees moving to the area are not going to support growth. They are here because of the state's no income tax. Attract young people who want to be here for everything this area has to offer.

(Ward 1) Provide services for mental health issues

(Ward 1) Police economic development maintain and improve parks and recreation areas for kids suicide prevention recreational activities for kid's libraries and education race relations

(Ward 5) more patrolling to reduce break ins, robberies, etc. Have residents maintain their properties and if not fine them. If you can purchase a property maintain it. Somehow help or figure something out to get homeless (drunks) off our streets.

(Ward 2) More resources to help those dealing with mental health, especially youth. Stop treating them like criminals because of an illness.

(Ward 3) Raise taxes

(Ward 4) All city services must be maintained...streets, sewers, and street lights.More grocery stores.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Have a wide variety of cultural opportunities available. Continue with arts, educational and community programs currently made available

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through the Journey Museum, the Dahl Arts Center and the RC Public Library. Our community members need these places to frequent, as this is what "makes a community". These spots are what gives Rapid City its originality.

(Ward 2) public safety & welfare, especially police, fire, and street repair/maintenance. Many of our side streets need major overhaul. We have enjoyed using "pothole hotline" several times, and the response & results were great. Please keep this service. Your list doesn't include water dept. We assume the answer has been "raise taxes" and "increase user fees" from the way our bills are scheduled to increase...

(Ward 4) Making sure the police don't abuse their authority

() Code enforcement-this might decrease by itself with better wages & social sys; Bldg permits-sorry I don't have too much sympathy for builders #5 comments: better have increase # of well-paying jobs! coordinated long term holistic services for life long positive change in persons with challenging lives (ie drugs, ETOH, poverty, poor housing); improved school attendance-graduation rates

(Ward 2) Improve transportation and safe sidewalks! Reduce traffic. Put money into the arts, small business, and libraries. Create better relationships with the local universities to share resources. Bring businesses here! This town is 40 years behind the rest of the country, at least!

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) I'm very concerned about the homeless population and the consumption of alcohol. A person shouldn't be scared to go to the parks in town. A lot of people simply do not go because they feel unsafe. They simply do not respect our town as they also litter when there are plenty of trash cans around. How do they get the money to buy alcohol but still end up sleeping under bridges? Something needs to be done so the public can feel safe again.

(Ward 1) Improve street conditions including railroad crossings.

(Ward 1) A true public transportation system, not vans that drive a very limited area. A major bus system that crossed the entire city like all the other major city's within this country

(Ward 2) Look at services the city can provide at all levels. Recognize that government is not a business, that the investments we make may not show instant profit. Just because someone doesn't pay for something doesn't mean that it is not worthwhile.

(Ward 4) Street repair, reduce crime and homelessness, get more businesses with \$12-\$20 hour wages. More manufacturing businesses. We are too heavy in the low paying service jobs.

(Ward 4) Provide more youth/family friendly environments like Memorial Park and Main Street Square

(Ward 5) Increase wages

(Ward 4) More & cheaper housing, less crime

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Arts and educational activities will be the economic drivers of a solid community. The benefit will be a higher educated community and higher income base.

(Ward 5) Safety. Walking downtown is dangerous. I have come close to being hit many times. Economic Development. I would love to see more business move to rapid city.

(Ward 3) Have recreational and cultural opportunities available, otherwise we are just another spot on the map. Culture and recreation make the community livable.

(Ward 5) More jobs with wages to support families. Reduce crime by working with organizations within the community and state. Pay teachers more so that the education system improves by attracting qualified and experienced teachers.

(Ward 2) we need to crack down on drugs & crime. It is out of control

(Ward 5) Stop the low density development patterns - it will take time. However, we need to move away from the car-centric communities (we need a car diet!!!). I heard recently that lower income people spend 40% of income on transportation.

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(Ward 2) Better environmental practices on the part of the City would enable more cultural and social expression inside of our midwestern community.

(Ward 3) Infrastructure needs to be addressed. The roads are horrific in almost all residential areas. It is not enough to just fix potholes when the whole street surface is crumbling. Code enforcement is weak. Complaints take months to get resolved which is unacceptable even with repeated calls and emails. I also think there is an excessive amount of money spent on studies which could be better utilized serving the citizens in this city. We have beautiful parks, but we don't need flower beds on every corner which need to be maintained. Programming at Roosevelt Swim Center sorely lacking. Poor management.

(Ward 1) Prioritize affordable housing

(Ward 3) Keep taxes down, control the city budget responsibly. Try to use funds to benefit the majority and those most in need.

(Ward 3) Fix bad roads and old utilities. Update parks.

(Ward 4) drug test before welfare check

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Safety

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Take crime more serious

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Get rid of corrupt politics, quite trying to annex more of the valley, north of the interstate, or out toward red rocks, YOU CAN'T MAINTAIN WHAT YOU HAVE ALREADY

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Create diversity programs that address LGBTQ+, women's, racial issues. LGBTQ+, women, and various races want to feel safe and accepted in the community and in order to do that there needs to be more programs set up in order to help these groups of people and to educate others.

(Ward 5) Increase minimum wage.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Traffic infrastructure (road repair & maintenance - "fix 'em right the first time"

(Ward 1) IMPROVE THE CONDITION OF THE STREETS. SHARE REVENUE WITH THE COUNTY FOR HANDLING PROBLEMS WITH DRUGS AND ALCOHOL .

(Ward 5) Raise wages

(Ward 2) Raise minimum wage, more affordable housing, crack down on slum lords, more large employers less casinos, fix roads other than 8th st, less street sweeping more plowing, clean up north rapid, more bike friendly more pedestrian friendly, improve areas other than downtown

(Ward 4) I work in the ER and see the increase in drugs, suicide and mental health issues. They contribute to crimes against people and property. We are on a good path to rehab with the new NAU building project, Hope Center, etc. Give them a path forward to get clean, find work, safe housing. Our police and EMTs can then be freed up for other needs. I'm proud of our city and think City Hall does a good job. We have great parks, Rush hockey, vibrant arts, keep them going. Focus on meth, herion, mental health treatment, don't worry about pot.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Improve on the lives of all citizens not just the upper and middle class. Extend transportation routes and hours.

(Ward 3) infrastructure - roads particularly

(Ward 3) Help with the crime issue. Safety downtown. Drugs.

(Ward 3) Look to grow. We can't move backwards or our town will die off. Sioux Falls has a good grip on how to grow and people "want" to move to Sioux Falls because of it.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) reduce the meth problem

(Ward 5) Lower taxes (real estate) for elderly; user rates (example water) should not fall on homeowners who do their part to make RC attractive for families and support arts and cultural level. Get more support for services from BIA-Indian funding for courts, jails, rehab, etc

(Ward 2) Focus more on forward-thinking business decisions and industries; make maintaining parks and public areas a priority; put more emphasis on education, arts and cultural resources.

(Ward 1) Get away from the tourist industry!!! Focus on us that live here! Loosen the grip that a handful of people/families have on the town.

(Ward 2) affordable, senior housing & services

(I don't know.) Safety

(Ward 5) Lower taxes

(Ward 1) cut the amount of people in city hall we have to many people on the city payroll.

(Ward 1) Let people who use a service pay for the use more. Don't raise taxes

(Ward 3) 1 - Safety 2 - attract more people who pay our sales taxes and support our businesses

(Ward 5) Improve roads and infrastructure of the city. Install sidewalks and expand and light the bike paths in the city.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Be strategic in moving forward and follow through existing projects i.e. Collective Impact. There is a momentum that has been taking place which is good for the community and it needs to continue.

(Ward 1) Bring in businesses that will create professional higher paying jobs. Continue smart growth and development. Find a way to improve the streets even if it means higher taxes. Support the arts because they do bring in revenue. Continue to partner with the schools -- the Rapid Ride program is working. Work with police, fire and mental health professionals to help those in need. The new plan for the homeless facility will help them and should improve our homeless downtown situation. We are a tourist destination and need to keep that area vagrant free.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Increase jobs with competitive and livable wages, increase economic growth by drawing in large businesses to employ large numbers of people as well as provide services to the city. Embrace and encourage culture and art in the city. Make education a number one priority by increasing teacher pay and quality of schools. Provide more affordable events downtown for families.

(Ward 2) STOP plea bargaining drug crimes! Use community human resources for creative cost effective solutions to save the city money. STOP spending money for city landscaping that doesn't produce food. STOP allowing alcohol at every damn public event the city hosts!! People can go to bars or stay home and drink. I should be able to go to community events without having to deal with drinkers. What message does this send to our youth. No alcohol, no fun? That drinking is socially acceptable behavior? Aggressively address homelessness issue! Quit raising taxes/user fees so people can afford to pay their bills..

(Ward 4) Build relationships across cultural and economic barriers.

(Ward 5) Education; bring in higher paying jobs, arts

(Ward 1) Reduce train noise. Improve roads, RR crossings, and traffic flow. Support arts, culture and education. Provide support for lower income people. Reduce poverty to reduce crime and reduce costs of law enforcement. Be more efficient with expenditures. Support small business development.

(Ward 2) Maintain green spaces. Avoid urban sprawl.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Quality of life attracts businesses that bring good jobs. Good jobs means more spending. Wise public spending on arts, culture, museums, libraries, parks shows that these quality of life things are priorities. These dollars circulate in the community again and again.

(Ward 4) Improve safety for all citizens. Provide law enforcement when laws are broken. Target areas where traffic laws are rampantly broken (speeding, running red lights, etc.).

(Ward 1) Economic development should not be funded by the city. In a capitalist society, we can't have tax dollars spent on private enterprise. We just need to create an environment that does not slow business growth & development down. This does not mean subsidizing business growth with tax dollars.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Protect the natural environment! Protect BH water sources from pollution!

(Ward 1) Keep water affordable, ie don't raise rates an astronomical amount.

(Ward 3) Improve the streets that need repairs. Improve the infrastructure. Instead of spending so much money for new buildings, etc., fix up the ones we have now.

(Ward 3) Street repair and water and sewer maintenance

(Ward 1) Take Police department focus off of traffic enforcement and instead focus on vagrants and major crimes. RCPD is much too aggressive in enforcing minor traffic laws while ignoring vagrancy, and giving light attention to violent crimes and drug trafficking. Focus needs to be changed. Remove islands from Mount Rushmore road as they will burden snow removal activities and contribute to budget problems with maintenance of the plants and trees.

(I don't know.) quality over quantity.

(Ward 1) Become more active with the community, especially the more lower income areas to show that the city doesn't overlook them. There are many areas around the north and north/east side of town: such as parks and streets; that don't get the same amount of attention as other areas around town.

(Ward 2) STOP RAISING EVERYTHING

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) more public services

(Ward 2) Complete roads in new and growing areas to alleviate congestion. Example: building roads on east side of town will cut down traffic on Omaha/cambell/ east north area Look into having a company like republic waste or waste management take over garbage operations for city collection and dump operations. they specialize in waste management. City does not. at the same time stop spending money on your recycling tv ads. until Rapid City has a true single stream recycling program like Denver, twin Cities ect... and can take more items curb side. don't waste the money on tv ads

(Ward 1) Keep our community economically sound & help lesser fortunate achieve a better standard of living so they can help improve our community.

(Ward 3) Honestly, just get a decent grocery store and I'd be happy.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Improve public transport, the cleanliness and maintenance of public spaces

(Ward 3) Reduce crime threat More walking/bicycle paths Vibrant downtown area

(Ward 4) Develop and maintain areas of affordable housing based on actual incomes available in the community. For those areas which are largely rentals, enforce appearance standards to discourage "slum-lordism". Provide financial assistance programs for seniors on fixed incomes. Respond quickly to disturbances in low income areas and adequately adjudicate in issues involving restraining or protection order violations. The current model is NOT working which impacts livability. Reduce homelessness; either invest in creating shelter environments with transportation access OR engage in hostile tactics to make homelessness less inviting. Vagrancy laws still cost the community - jail IS housing.

(Ward 2) Increase businesses downtown, expand the area, more parks, less wasted spaces (like the lot next to Great Western Bank), a LOT more money towards programs for homelessness, less gas stations

(I don't know.) Have citizens pay for services they use, if children in school, then those families should pay school taxes. Same for parks/rec.. ect..

(Ward 1) Crime prevention, addressing poverty and homelessness, focus on education, employment opportunities (beyond service industry or minimum wage positions) and transparency.

(Ward 1) provide good management, control costs, control increase to taxes and fees

(Ward 4) Snow removal is very good, but the danger is ice. The streets should be sanded as well as bladed each time. Other cities do this and we are behind.

(Ward 3) Rapid City must remain a safe community that fosters growth in our citizenship through education and opportunity. Maintaining our schools and Libraries is paramount. The police and fire departments have shown professional and outstanding performance as well.

(Ward 1) improve the wages by focusing on better jobs and business growth

(Ward 3) Reduce hostility toward development Reduce presence of vagrants on City streets Increase open hours for public library Improve transparency of City government Support increase in hourly wage

(Ward 3) Education opportunities for our youth. Maintaining our Libraries, schools, youth activities. Positive opportunities for our children and their peers to work and play together is essential for our children to become contributing members of society. Safety is also paramount. We do want a strong police and fire organization. It is obvious there is a need. I believe if our youth have more opportunities for success and education, there would not be such a need for so many police.

(Ward 2) Incentivize and subsidize additional housing units for minimum wage earners.

(Ward 1) Maintain a safe clean city with respectable roads and infrastructure. Please spend wisely and look at cost reductions vs increased tax on a continual basis.

(Ward 4) as a new resident to RC the one area that I see is street safety. I have to walk in downtown RC to get to my work. at night the streets are scary. the lighting on the streets is also very poor specifically VanBuren Street is very dark & you cannot see people walking or crossing the streets. It also amazes the number of people who drive without headlights on at night & during the day when its bad weather.

(Ward 1) Help bring in better paying jobs

(Ward 5) Maintain and improve the quality of life in Rapid City through better paying jobs with higher wages, and create a community that supports the arts, parks, and other cultural activities.

(Ward 1) We have a large population living at or below poverty, homeless, etc. We are in the bottom for cost of housing versus income. Panhandling all over the City is the norm. With all the money being spent by City and other governmental entities as well as non-profits, there needs to be a consolidation of efforts to eliminate all the duplication. At some point we are enabling the issue rather than improving it.

(Ward 4) Encourage a great friendliness

(Ward 4) Maintaining parks, schools, libraries, and streets. Police, fire, and emergency services that are needed.

(Ward 5) Address race relations and other divisions in the community. We can't improve our community until we are all truly in this together and working together in making this a safe and healthy community.

(Ward 1) Raise wages so people can keep a roof over their heads and feed their family. Would reduce crime, less jail space and better school outcomes. Businesses have more income.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Support those most in need. It is not by supporting the best/most wealthy/most skilled that we all move up, it is by bringing the bottom up.

(Ward 5) Improve social services. Mental health, substance abuse, transitional housing.

(Ward 5) The most important thing that the city can do to improve livability is to bring higher paying jobs to Rapid City. The focus should be away from tourism and recreational related jobs and more towards manufacturing jobs, which pay better. I have lived in Rapid City for most of my life, 60 years and most jobs in the area are low paying entry level. This is the reason that we have a tax base that does not provide the funding that the city council thinks we need to beautify the city.

(Ward 5) Stop economic interference

(Ward 3) Build more or increase funding for drug/alcohol rehabilitation clinics. Reduce drug/alcohol policing. Use all seizures of property from police activities to supplement drug clinic funding. Abolish local sales/use taxes and replace with a scaled property tax on commercial and industrial properties. Get rid of property taxes for all single family homes up to 2 acres in size. All homes larger than 2 acres fall under the scaled property tax. Implement rent controls and maintain strict code enforcement on rental properties. Have public input surveys and/or meetings much more frequently (and advertise more). Offer businesses owned by RC residents tax breaks/reductions.

(Ward 5) Add parks in areas that are developing and add to the Rapid Creek greenbelt on east side of town.

(Ward 3) Put handrails in the civic center auditorium upper levels. Connect Jackson Blvd with Omaha cutting through Fischer and Ace Hardware (Cross St. is a disaster).

(Ward 2) Provide decent, affordable housing opportunities with a livable wage. Maintain a healthy economy with various skilled and unskilled employment opportunities for working families. Encourage business and commerce to develop and stay here. Support working families by offering affordable quality daycare options. Build a new arena for quality of life and entertainment value. Fund programs that support or enhance tourism (economy) to increase sales tax. Influence the medical community to provide greater levels of care for treatment and recovery options for addiction and mental health crisis. Stop supporting programs that have minimal impact on the larger community or duplicated services.

(Ward 3) The city must make sure it's residents are aware of future plans and specifically, how it will affect them and their families. The use of social media can be an important tool to keep the public informed, but the communication needs to flow both ways. If you share future plans with the public, do it with the intent of soliciting feedback and input from the public. Make them feel empowered and a part of the solution.

(Ward 5) Increase affordable housing options; improve and expand mental health services and other poverty reduction services; support literacy education, alternative education programs and public library services.

(Ward 3) safety & prevention maintenance

(Ward 5) Work on issues related to inequality, poverty, and racism. Provide early education opportunities for all. Ensure transportation systems are design for more than just vehicles (i.e. install pedestrian/bicycle infrastructure, expand public transit). Overall, improve the sustainability of the community to ensure the environment, social systems, and economy are more efficient, effective and healthy. Affordable housing for people of all income levels. Continue with downtown and East of 5th improvements. Fund social programs and arts/culture activities that make Rapid City more inclusive and unique. Ban billboards and strengthen sign regulations. Look at long-term costs of development, rather than just short-term.

(Ward 4) Offer the transients a one way ticket out of RC to a warmer climate

(Ward 3) Get the County to raise taxes to help pay for some of the major services provided to the region.

(Ward 1) infrastructure improvement (lights, roads, sewer, electricity, water, etc.) and beautification

(Ward 4) Keep it safe residence here do but as the city grows so will crime. Taking care of our streets, hole, snow all play a part in safety. Most of the budget that comes from property taxes I feel should be spent on maintaining the things we all use to make life better, that can cover a lot of things, but growing costs money. I just want to see the city maintain what is already here and close or withdraw money from un-used places.

(Ward 4) Take care of the homeless problem, street repairs, and stop using out of state consultants. Let's utilize our own people.

(Ward 2) A well-educated, happy populace are going to achieve greater economic success and are going to stick around. Emphasis on social programs and change can help convert people into productive members of society. Someone who is helped to get off alcohol and to get a job is someone not becoming a repeat offender.

(Ward 5) Actually listen to constituents. When something is voted down, don't implement it. When something is voted for, don't ignore it. Don't extend time in office without bringing it to a public vote.

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(Ward 2) invest in the community - arts and culture, museums, children

(Ward 2) infrastructure would bring more businesses to rapid city

(Ward 4) In this community with conservative population which is middle class and poor people the city should encourage Middle class owners to raise peoples wages. Also the departments in the city to encourage new large company business to move into this area. I believe that these operations be should be related to manufacturing. With Western Dakota Tech, School of mines, and Black Hills U in Spearfish, there could be people that would be able to learn and stay right here in Rapid city. I see people who are highly educated who see opportunity in other states. We like the Hills Rapid

(Ward 1) Keep improving the public library system. Fix the streets.

(Ward 1) Stop giving TIFs for areas that don't need them, like Catron and Hwy 16; use that for areas like north Rapid or east of 5th. Encourage mixed-age communities not huge warehousing of elderly apts.

(Ward 4) Keep up our parks and library. Improve our schools and teacher pay. Raise taxes on liquor and cigarettes. Stop trying to build a new civic center. Quit giving taxpayer money to developers and contractors.

(Ward 3) FIX ROADS

(Ward 2) Maintain infrastructure such as streets and parks. Also have viable police and fire departments.

(Ward 3) Improve social services for homeless, impoverished. Improve low income students' education.

(I don't know.) enforce all of our city codes enforce traffic rules & regulations, as an example, speeding, red light and stop sign violations etc. do not allow panhandlers in the down town area. the city does not need to be a stopping off point for all of the homeless. our streets need to be maintained better along with painting the markings for the crosswalks, lines for the traffic lanes more than just once a year, people who are unfamiliar with the area have a difficult time navigating our city streets.

(Ward 5) Basic infrastructure, planning for growth, road planning and development

(Ward 3) create higher paying better benefit jobs. The city is too reliant on the tourist industry and should look to bring industry into the region to create a higher paying job market thus increasing tax revenue.

(Ward 5) Maintain what we have with reasonable growth

(Ward 5) roads

(Ward 5) Address poverty, racial, sexual and gender inequality.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Actually fix the drug and alcohol problem. I know it is much easier said than done, but kmit seems to be out of control.

(Ward 5) Create a safe, livable, and environmentally friendly downtown area. Rapid is famous in the midwest for its booming commercial district and nightlife, I'd love to see the city become even more of a cultural and arts hub. This starts with the fostering of good relationships between the city, private business owners, and artists. I love the direction of the city of Rapid City, and where it's going.

(Ward 2) Maintain public safety, aggressively tackle drug and gang issues, secure the safe and efficient operation of all infrastructure systems.

(Ward 3) Better pay a city minimum wage of 14and he would be helpful to start, next a reduction in home values. I make 35k a year as a single parent I can not afford a vehicle, food, utilities, and a home by myself. Most homes are 200k plus that's way to expensive, I afford my home I have and pay utilities thanks to a elderly family member who helps out once they are gone I will be in trouble and potentially looking to leave SD as a whole due to the pay vs living difference in the state and particularly RC itself.

(Ward 1) Ensure that all people pay taxes, not just home/property owners.

(Ward 2) Expand public transit in frequency and area that most people could use it to commute to work, shopping, airport, etc. More generally, plan around people not cars. Plow the roads more often in the winter. Continue the honest efforts to earn the trust of the Lakota community. Allow backyard hens.

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(Ward 5) Humanities, public services, and arts funding to service those in our community that currently consume the time and money of our govt, police, and courts. A higher expectation for the outcome of those looked down on now.

(Ward 2) Eliminate racism (attack discrimination in public accommodations, housing and real estate, education and employment against Native Americans and others) and income inequality (close the wage gap between men and women, white and minority, for example). The Mayor needs to put his racism and classism away in order to do this. I've read a lot of his stuff, he's a perfect example of white supremacy and fragility. Rapid City is known as Racist City among Lakota, unsolved homicides, missing and murdered, police brutality against Indians, this comes at a great cost to the social fabric of the city and the region.

(Ward 2) The city has an issue with poverty. No city anywhere as found the absolute solution, but we must do everything we can to raise the impoverished. Rapid city has a tourist driven economy. Spending money on cosmetic niceties and entertainment venues is not frivolous it's important to drive tourism. Rapid City needs to drive down airline costs.

(Ward 3) Fix and maintain the roads and improve traffic bottlenecks. Rapid City is not the small town anymore that some people want it to be. Traffic flow needs to be improved, and the condition of the roads are absolutely horrible. Rapid City also needs better sidewalks and bike trails throughout the whole city, not just in certain areas. The City also needs to attract new businesses such as grocery stores that cater to a growing and diverse population (ie. HyVee) and grocery stores in areas that don't have easy access to one.

(Ward 1) Improve the education from Pre-K upward. Schools in North Rapid especially. More teachers so that the classes are smaller and they have more one on one time. Additional teachers in each room to keep children from falling behind. More Teachers.

(Ward 5) Focus on reducing homelessness and improve community relations. Rapid city does have an institutional racism problem with differential treatment of native americans. We have experienced it and do not appreciate it. Law enforcement and service providers should recognize native culture and native people are an asset and promotion of our diversity is good for tourism and economic development

(Ward 4) Spend wisely; many citizens cannot afford tax increases.

(Ward 4) Provide affordable housing

(Ward 4) Less government regulation

(Ward 1) Two words. The arts. I don't want to maintain the current levels of funding. I want to double it.

(Ward 1) Make the city a safe place

(Ward 5) Continue to develop arts and outdoor recreation opportunities. These are clear strengths that we should capitalize on.

(Ward 1) Better economic development, less crime downtown with intoxicated subjects, better allocation of funds to services that could make the community grow. No one cares about paying for art development, we want economic development as a priority.

(Ward 3) bike lanes; community cohesion; green space-especially in under served communities

(Ward 5) Affordable housing

(Ward 3) Provide necessary resources to help the homeless population. This may also help the panhandling and crime issues within and around the downtown area.

(Ward 5) Crime prevention Street repairs

(Ward 3) Nothing, the city is just fine the way it is! Don't mess the city up with Government trying to do things, we all know the government does not do anything well or efficiently. People in government always seem to forget their roots, once in government they only look to grow government! This is what ruins good places to live!

(Ward 4) Keep up our parks, roads, and schools. Don't try to build an expensive, new civic center. I'm not in favor of giving taxpayer money to developers and contractors. Stop having TIF districts in scenic areas -- this doesn't seem right, and it deprives the city of tax dollars.

(Ward 5) more community active engagement between all social groups/socioeconomic/police/leadership groups

(Ward 2) Treat rich & poor communities (North, east, west) equally. I noticed the west side streets are in much better driving condition after a snow than the east side. Provide more entertainment. There are very few entertainment/recreation options for evenings or days off.

(Ward 5) Maintain safe levels of law enforcement and fire protection. Repair and maintain infrastructure. Get rid of bums and homeless that refuse to work. Discontinue supplying tax dollars to non-profits.

(I don't know.) Rapid Valley needs public transport and a high school to avoid over filling Central HS

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) bring in higher paying jobs and another hospital so RCRH has some competition so maybe they will improve their services

(Ward 5) #3 comment: can't answer this as I have no perspective on what is spent now. I will be surprised if people take the time to do math on this question #4 comment: all items left blank except for Rec Facilities and Econ Development

(Ward 5) Reduce drugs & trafficking, find solutions to the indigenous people's crises, safe city, clean water, good roads & traffic flow, good infrastructure, reduce waste & fraud, keep taxes & fees low.

(Ward 1) Junk houses, junk cars, and landlords and owners not maintaining their properties reflect on the image of Rapid City. When a city's image is trashy and neighborhoods are left to decline then the whole city suffers. Once a city goes downhill, it's almost impossible to stop. Our image is what brings in tourists and higher paying jobs and better businesses. Without that we are doomed to mediocre living conditions and stale growth. The city needs to get a backbone on this and citizens need to insist on stronger enforcement. Be proactive and just not rely on complaints. Open your eyes!

(Ward 1) Invest in the education of our children.

(Ward 5) Safety, transportation, and steady and sustainable growth.

(Ward 2) we do not drive so we really appreciate Rapid Ride and would like more free days for seniors. We could do more volunteer work with more bus service.

(Ward 5) I didn't move here because of the quality of the roads. I moved here because of the quality of life. The most important thing the City can do in terms of livability in ensuring that social spaces are safe.

(Ward 4) Public Safety and Economic revival

(Ward 2) low income affordable housing; people only get \$400 to \$100 a month social security benefit that is not enough to pay for housing

(Ward 3) Keep supporting arts and libraries in the city.

(Ward 3) more summer concerts in the parks

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) The city is suppose to take care of infrastructure (e.g., buildings, roads, and power supplies). You are not in business to entertain ie hockey, civic center, downtown drunkfest that is for people like Pepsi, Budweiser. Stop being a charity let the churches do that. Fix your budget by balancing it. Stop giving yourselves raises. The private sector doesn't give raise every year. The city jobs were suppose to be min wage if they want a different job or make more go work for private sector. Start to outsource Garbage etc. City vehicles WOW cut them in 1/2. use vans

(Ward 1) stop trying to be Sioux Falls

(Ward 5) Allow services and outside companies that pay more than \$12 starting wage to come into our community. These companies are willing to train their employees.

(Ward 5) Keep the arts programs, they have brought so much joy to me and many others I know. They make me feel less lonely and I wish I could see more local musicians sponsored.

(Ward 1) More arts+culture

(Ward 1) I am a little worried about synthetic hard drugs like meth and heroine. I feel like Rapid City is at a population size/tipping point that could be crucial for preventing it getting any worse. Not sure how... Keep supporting the Cornerstone. Keep up the good work with public access and maintenance of all our wonderful parks and green spaces. The community conversations and efforts around race relations are also good. Find other water leaks and don't raise our rates. :) encourage less water use. I really like the improvements at the landfill. Encourage volunteering and community involvement. Thanks.

(Ward 3) Encourage new business growth with well paying jobs and affordable housing.

(Ward 1) Keep us safe (PD/Fire). Keep us smart enough to not kill ourselves (Library/schools/educational). Keep our infrastructure from falling apart. Parks, pools, ice rinks and etc are NEEDED to survive/thrive. Fund the important things that are ESSENTIAL.

(Ward 5) too much money is funneled to law enforcement at the expense of fire protection & road maintenance

(I don't know.) Reduce cost of living drastically, this is not a metropolis. Allocate funding and actually apply said funds to appropriate needs, not wants or luxuries.

(Ward 3) Provide a safe and healthy community where citizens can thrive in both a business and cultural environment.

(Ward 3) Find alternate sources of income ... what about federal grants? Why punish citizens for the failure of city officials.

(Ward 3) Facilitate/ support Churches doing this.

(Ward 2) A community is defined by how people come together, and many of the arts and recreational programs can help with that. I would consider them a very important part of making the community more liveable. Also, keeping the community safe and free of crime is a big part of liveable communities, which is probably the most important thing.

(Ward 3) Maintain a strong social safety net, empowering those less advantaged to succeed. Eliminate racism (said by a white citizen).

(Ward 3) Provide bus services for more than just elementary. Somehow increase the overall average wages.

(I don't know.) Increase economic growth by enticing businesses to locate in the area. SDSMT could produce an abundance of engineers to work in the area, but there are very few jobs for them.

(Ward 1) To progress and grow as a community we will ultimately need money. Understanding that this is a price of growth and it will benefit our community. I am ok with taxes increasing if it is for the growth and betterment of our community.

(Ward 4) Keep the library open! The library provides many services that a lot of people cannot afford to have in their homes e.g. computers and books. Stop bulldozing people's homes to make a homeless campus. In your effort to help those who won't help themselves, you are putting other people out of their homes. Counter intuitive much?

(I don't know.) We need more substance abuse rehab facilities and improve homeless shelter conditions. Long term it will help reduce the crime rate and homeless rates... which should also help add workers back into the economy.

(Ward 1) Safety, also increase sales tax so all can contribute. I think so many non-profit places should have to pay property taxes, there are some very fancy churches that don't pay, yet their ministers live in higher income homes. Those that have schools charge a lot for students to attend. Why shouldn't they pay their fair share?

(Ward 3) Get rid of low income housing in neighborhoods

(Ward 3) Safety educated, cultured populace every respectful and respected

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Everyone I know loves the size of Rapid right now and do not want it to grow...stop the constant push for more growth. The bigger Rapid becomes the less desirable of a place to live it becomes. Reduce services and allow people to keep more of their own money. Stop pushing for a new civic center...unless it can fully pay for itself with no tax dollars being used.

(Ward 1) Work to keep cost of city services and taxes at a point where citizens can afford them.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Stop trying to force growth.

(Ward 4) Affordable housing, better jobs, diversification of the economy, and elimination of social welfare handouts and more social programs to encourage job seeking. Handouts only encourage people to remain on them.

(Ward 4) #3 comment: No tax dollars for Social programs; #4 comments: City Parks make a budget amount & use that much! Items from Land Use & City Parks thru Public Libraries left blank; Arts checked both Raise User fees & outsource service #5 comment: Allocate the amount to each of these based on what you have to work with. BUDGET BUDGET BUDGET I don't feel the options listed above cover the choices needed. Budget X amount to each & that is what you have to work with! That is how we have to do it with personal finances!

(Ward 1) Safety of citizens, recreational opportunities,

(Ward 2) Maintain emergency services and keep the town clean.

(Ward 3) Maintain a healthy balance between the basic infrastructure (police, fire, roads) side of our city and a vibrant, educated (library) and culturally rich (music/arts) side.

(Ward 2) Stop allowing builders and real-estate developers to cut corners and get out of doing things like build sidewalks and widen the roads to their properties. Taxpayers shouldn't be subsidizing private profits, but that's what happens when the city foots the bill for installing things the developer didn't or fixing things the developer didn't do right.

(Ward 3) crime prevention; recreation facilities & programs-variety; stop wasting money on outside consultant groups; stop raising the price of utilities so much-most people can't afford the steep increases; stop wasting tax dollars on defending criminals in court; need to increase financial support to the Humane Society

(Ward 5) Increase cultural activities City beautification City maintenance Economic development Infrastructure

(Ward 3) Reduce crime, increase mental health options, attract new and vibrant businesses and people, support the arts education.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Better public transportation Better city planning to avoid ugly sprawl. WHERE IS EDUCATION IN ALL THIS? That's our future.

(Ward 2) Keep it safe. Continue with downtown development with emphasis on upscale housing. I don't feel the location for the homeless should be in the core of the development plan. Continue with our wonderful parks system and arts.

(Ward 4) more surveys, and pay attention to them...consider the low income people when fees and taxes are planned, perhaps percentage of income could be considered....big out of state companies that pay low paychecks should pick up the slack in city income caused by low income of their workers in some other way

(Ward 5) Bring better jobs to the area not focused on tourism.

(Ward 3) Safe place to live and work.

(Ward 2) Public relations

(Ward 3) make the entertainment at the civic center available for the senior citizens "prices are out of reach". keep streets in good repair. Jackson/W Main intersection and Sheridan Lake Rd south of Arrowhead to Corral Dr to mention 2.

(Ward 1) keep it user friendly, that covers a gauntlet of items

(Ward 5) More community outreach/ intervention towards our most vulnerable citizens (children, seniors, veterans, mentally ill, homeless, poor, substance abusers). More emphasis on education/ training opportunities. Keep up to date with our infrastructure and using responsible/ alternative energy whenever possible; Water, sewage, trash, recycling, roads, electric, and so on. As our community grows, remain mindful of the effects urban sprawl can have on our resources. Also, maintain plenty of open spaces and recreation areas.

(Ward 1) safety - maintenance

(I don't know.) Transparency seems to be an issue, judging from this AM's RCJ. An active arts (all arts) community is a HUGE draw for so many communities. It is how we stay connected to our better side; and fight our dark side. Respecting input and not vetoing it or doing an end-run around it is a necessary commitment by community leaders. The City committed to the Dahl Museum initially and should maintain that commitment.

(Ward 1) Maintain or increase strength of police force. Keep long-term economic growth.

(Ward 1) Fix the streets

(Ward 5) #3 comment: Keeping in mind, I have no idea how much they now use just to keep going. #4 comment: Fire Services - No to Reduce Service Levels

(I don't know.) 1. Celebrate our multicultural heritage. 2. Make the drainage area between Baken Park and McDonald's a scenic lake 3. Consider raising sales tax a hair more if necessary. Westminster CO is 7 pct for example. This creates income from non-Rapid Citians to a large degree. 4. People really want to live here and will work for less income to be in Rapid City ... does this include some City employees as well or are they being paid higher, possibly along "national or regional averages" that include places not-fun to live. Salaries should be higher for not-as-desirable places to live.

(Ward 3) Maintain internal transportation services, everything, roads, buses etc. GV really improve the lackluster support recently given to cultural activities, museums, libraries etc. The kids have received a great deal of money recently, now support the elderly who have been neglected. And for a volunteer survey do not use an address with 52 characters!

(Ward 5) Help to keep all the Arts and the Parks to maintain a Quality of Life in Rapid City. People will stay to raise their children and also to retire here.

(Ward 2) Decide, which are we, a small city or a big town.

(Ward 5) Provide more options to help people facing the crisis of poverty. We need more help for those who are homeless, especially families who are homeless. We also need better options for public transportation. We also need more emphasis and access to education and/or trade skills to help those in poverty be able to support themselves.

(Ward 3) Law enforcement to make this city safer. Downtown is hard to even walk down and the north sides crime rate is out of control.

(Ward 5) Address the areas where community members wish they could visit more but feel unsafe to go

(Ward 5) Affordable housing

(Ward 4) Vibrant downtown, green space, code enforcement, safety.

(Ward 4) Focus on improving childrens' lives and opportunities to make stable families. More affordable housing that is not in the suburbs. Improve public transit network and operating hours. Continue building strong and friendly connection between police and community. Continue more training for law enforcement. Continue improving services for homeless and individuals with substance use issues. Work with local businesses pay a living wage to workers. Avoid subsidizing bloated medical monopoly. Continue hosting and supporting. community building events and networking between nonprofits/ businesses/ local associations.

(Ward 3) Increase jobs, support K-12 schools and School of Mines, develop a high tech sector for start-up companies

(Ward 5) enforce the same rules and regulations for everybody

(Ward 3) Provide effective traffic enforcement. Eliminate panhandling in downtown. Provide more effective/efficient snow removal. Spend no tax dollars on social services/low income housing.. Reduce the rate of growth. Eliminate the use of TIF's. Quit subsidizing development. Require developers to install required improvements at their expense and quit shifting costs to the taxpayers and waiving requirements. Eliminate PR positions at the City/PD/FD. Reduce the number of employees. Maintain streets and public spaces - including the public parks systems. Maintain and expand the bike path system. Maintain streets and infrastructure. Reduce taxes (property and sales tax) and all public expenditures.

(Ward 2) Work on the drug and crime levels. Keep the neighborhoods throughout the city safe. Continue to foster family friendly activities.

(I don't know.) Lower Taxes

(I don't know.) Repair streets, \$5 wheel tax

(Ward 5) Raise wages, both public and private Stop sprawling growth Maintain parks Remote arts and culture Improve public transit

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) keep the town vibrant and responsive to needs, including Arts and homeless.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) More arts activities, concerts, classes, etc. Make them more accessible through marketing.

(Ward 4) Keep up our parks, streets, and schools.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) bike friendly community public transportation to reduce number of cars and increase air quality continue to ensure clean water eco devo so citizens have incomes that support families

(Ward 3) Housing drunks so close to Mines will be very negative effect on people coming from other countries. I would not want my child to be in a foreign country on a campus with that population being housed there. Limiting that dorm to homeless families is a better move. The family population will be less negative and easier to rehabilitate . Did social work many years and I understand the issue is chronic. I also recognize chronic addiction for what it is. It's our duty per Jesus to help the poor and needy. I get that too. God be with you.

(Ward 3) services to the least fortunate of our community.

(Ward 3) Reduce crime.

(Ward 4) Greater emphasis on expanding park system especially east of Cambell Street. Infrastructure improvements.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Increase cultural and entertainment activities. Continue to "beautify" city with street improvements and gathering spaces. Complete downtown-to-SDSM&T planning and implementation.

(I don't know.) Improve culture

(Ward 1) We need to address the issue of addictions, homelessness & the correctional system (which really isn't correctional, but punitive). We have a serious problem in Rapid City & what we are doing isn't even a "Band-Aid" but a cycle of defeat & a revolving door for our citizens who are caught in this vicious cycle. We need a total revamp...new thinking...thinking outside the box. We need to look at what other communities are doing. We also need to partner with the Faith community, because the bottom line is without God these people and our community have no hope to overcome this problem.

(Ward 3) Raise taxes minimally to provide more opportunities for the citizens.

(Ward 5) Better wages; affordable housing.

(Ward 3) Keep areas safe, especially for night time activity. A transportation system that worked into the night. A joint effort of the community and the city government.

(Ward 3) Support the arts and education at all levels!

(Ward 5) Expand economic development

(Ward 3) Work more to prevent homelessness in the Native American community. More resources to Hope Center, WAVI, and Cornerstone.

(Ward 5) increase wages increase public transit increase services for homeless/underserved implement non-violent policing end hills alive

(Ward 3) pave unpaved alleys in downtown area

(Ward 5) Continue to support Arts and culture; find a compassionate way to serve the poor and end the cycle of poverty

(Ward 4) Find ways to educate our citizens on the services that City Government provides that impacts our quality of life issues. There can be a disconnect between the two.

(Ward 3) Plan carefully

(Ward 3) Have an ocean close by & increase winter temperatures!! ðŸ˜˜

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Provide more affordable housing, bring in grocers who sell health foods at lower costs, promote healthy lifestyle changes in citizens by creating better events downtown (aka less beer focused activities and many more community and family relationships building exercises or health expo), promote more widely for people looking to volunteer in city parks!

(Ward 5) #4 comment - Library left blank with note to terminate=computers

(Ward 3) Remember all of us out here doing our best to make Rapid City the best place to live.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Build a new arena to draw people and help keep taxes from going up.

(Ward 3) Better paying jobs will ease the burden on families, provide opportunity for businesses, and provide revenue for schools and government.

(Ward 5) Reduce the size of the government. I don't mean secretaries or clerks. Get rid of the layers and layers of bureaucracy. Instead of getting rid of volunteers, how about making road crews and garbage cleanup more efficient? When you run a business you don't get rid of free stuff, you optimize what you're spending money on.

(Ward 5) fix streets enforce laws: stop shoplifters, public drunkenness, panhandlers anyone arrested for public drunkenness immediately be required to 30 days of sobriety checks

(Ward 4) Meet everyone where they are at. Focus on becoming a poverty informed community. Ensure that economic development focuses on high wage jobs and economic incentives that focus on giving back to the community, not the CEO

(Ward 3) Do not overreach the pockets of the citizens of Rapid City.

(Ward 3) Provide some options that don't involve alcohol. The city seems to have a fixation with having booze at all of its affairs. Sets a really great example for the children in our community, doesn't it.

(Ward 3) Allow citizens to keep more of their money to spend in the city on what they deem more important

(Ward 4) Take care of what we have, including the bike path, parks, library, and schools.

(Ward 5) 1. Continue to address the homeless issue so that homelessness in our community is reduced. 2. Support nonprofit service agencies that are providing services for the most vulnerable in our community. 3. Address issues of racism and discrimination in our community.

(Ward 3) Improve education and support so that future generations improve naturally, help people out of destructive cycles (alcoholism, homelessness, mental health), and raise some revenue with taxes or fees to maintain the high quality of living we all already enjoy.

(Ward 2) The city needs to focus on development and planning. There is not long-term strategy and planning regarding city growth. First, the city must capitalize on the university as a catalyst for high-value job creation.

Second, the city must take charge of long-term growth planning. Follow the Sioux Falls model regarding where development is going to take place. City leads developers follow. Third, the city should move back to a city manager governance structure. The council has too much sway over day-to-day management of the city, and political ideologies get in the way of effective management.

(Ward 5) Realize the importance of the library to the community. The library serves the community through the use of computers, for research, the programs for children to encourage the children to read and maker space.

(Ward 5) take care of the homeless-getting them off the streets

(Ward 2) -improve infrastructure in areas of the city that are dilapidated and need improvements. -create favorable economic opportunity for small businesses. -establish a limit on the number of gas stations in town; set a moratorium on building new gas stations

(Ward 5) Provide public transportation or rapid ride to the whole area. It doesn't service everyone including basic educational needs of the Southwest Middle school and other schools. Kids shouldn't have to walk or call cabs. Complete failure to the system. Also the rapid ride needs to run longer hours. If they can't do the work. Find others that will bc we need the after hours when lots of business and jobs don't close at 5 pm.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Reduce taxes and fees

(I don't know.) Make it safer!

(Ward 2) Bring more non seasonal jobs. Take care of the schools.

(Ward 1) I think it is important to maintain professional graduates within the state. Too many highly qualified candidates are moving out of the state for higher paying jobs. Keep these people here...they will inherently make the community better and more "livable".

(Ward 5) Bring in companies with better-paying jobs and benefits.

(Ward 3) Earlier snow removal on arterial roads adjoining neighborhoods. Start ticketing red-light runners and those failing to yield right of way at sheridan lake road and cantron; and sheridan lake road and corral drive.

(Ward 1) Rapid City's approach to promoting development, especially in new businesses to the area, is terrible. More emphasis needs to be on being willing to spend on infrastructure to bring business as opposed to current practice of business pay all (ie build the street, utilities, everything) and then we (City) take ownership and bill for service. Awful approach-businesses have a tough time working with city to bring in new growth. Too costly and too much hassle with city, so go elsewhere.

(Ward 5) more transparent government. better tax breaks for limited income people age 65+

(Ward 5) here is what I think you must NOT DO: reduce support for last 2 items on this list (Social Programs & Arts). Do not react to the "2 Cents" column. There has been wise leadership in Rapid City-may it continue.

(Ward 4) More attention to substandard housing and enforcement against bad landlords. And, attention to social programs that raise up the poorest of our community.

(Ward 1) build a new arena

(Ward 3) Find a solution to the crime problem. Also deal with the homeless population. These two issues keep people from moving here. Also, water rates are way too high. They need to be lower

(Ward 5) fix roads; get businesses to move here

(Ward 2) affordable housing for young, single, workers that do not qualify for low income rent. They do not need apartments with granite counter tops, stainless steel appliances. They need something that doesn't take half of their income to live in.

(Ward 3) Focus on improving access to Healthcare through cost reduction, raise taxes to maintain infrastructure and access to parks and public facilities, increase greenspace and incentivize lower housing costs.

(Ward 4) control vagrant population downtown

(Ward 5) Stop relying on a civic center expansion to save us, and look to our parks and downtown events and opportunities for reasonably priced regular entertainment instead. My quality of life in SF was much better thanks to the Pavilion and cafes and outdoor festivals, not one overpriced Ed Sheeran ticket. AND GIVE US A PASSENGER TRAIN STATION!

(Ward 1) the pace of economic development should be paired with the growth of arts/culture/parks & rec, etc. The more people that are working will need entertainment & community growth to continue to spend money locally & keep jobs/economy growing

(Ward 4) Bring in more economic development that benefits the community as a whole.

(Ward 1) Public transportation-transferring downtown is a waste, need a direct route. snow removal on 5th street. 5th St does not end at Minnesota street, you should continue to 5th & Catron, past the Wal Mart

(Ward 1) Better paying jobs!

(Ward 1) safe community clean city that I can be proud of

(Ward 4) SAFETY. Support law enforcement & fire dept with higher wages, increased staff, and equipment they need. Increase patrols in areas of high transient, high crime, and highly intoxicated. Concentrate drug enforcement of crack, opioids, meth, heroin. (Not bothering with personal medical use marijuana). Support services that reduce crime such as detox and cornerstone And take care of victims of assault or abuse. Keep our parks and city beautiful.

(Ward 5) RC needs economic development badly. Not just service industry (tends to pay on lower scale) but companies that make things-design systems companies that need will educated people. Evidently RC government tends towards the DUMB side-why this constant demand for outside sourcing for problem solving.

(Ward 5) Rapid City needs to be much more pedestrian/bike friendly.

(Ward 3) spend income wisely

(Ward 4) I'm a bus driver and we have horrible streets and roads that have never been maintained since they were built. They spent millions of dollars on Mt Rushmore road and nobody cares if there's a nice median in the middle, trees or a retaining wall. They could've repaved it and spent the rest of the money on repaving other roads and railroad crossings. Secondly move the homeless and new income areas out of downtown. The city spent millions on revamping downtown and now it'll be overwhelmed with homeless and low income individuals

(Ward 4) living wages and benefits; less tourism/more good jobs; strict sentences for meth crime; affordable housing/less slumlords (out of state)

(Ward 1) Street repair, bike paths, increase quality of restaurants and night clubs for people 45yrs old plus

(Ward 1) Make road planning a priority.. handing only 5th street has your only n/s street through town is dumb.

(Ward 4) Plans for the homeless to have jobs, a place to live. There are to many wandering around our community without a purpose. Consideration for the drug use-this is interfering with public safety!

(Ward 3) social, economic and educational development

(Ward 1) continue to provide opportunity for people to come together for positive events and not just to protest. Continue to seek input from all segments of society. Open dialog with takes extreme effort not to get frustrated with time will hopefully allow for more connected city and therefore less crime, etc.

(Ward 3) be proactive in making Rapid City a desirable location for business to start-up or re-located to

(Ward 5) Tourism needs to be on the top of the list and economic growth

() this is like a choice of which noose do I want to hang myself with. Come on! do you job. Prioritize, economize make it all work

(I don't know.) street repair and maintenance

(Ward 4) 1. Improve the street repair/maintenance programs. Far too many Rapid City streets are in very bad condition (regardless of what the current mayor believes). Not every street needs to have utilities replaced when the surface is repaired. 2. Put police officers back into a position of physical presence in the community. Our police officers have become social workers who spend far too much time dealing with social issues. If police had a more visual presence in the community, such as street patrol (traffic stops), it would provide a higher sense of safety while deterring crime.

() #3 comments - Libraries on the way out; Arts should be supported by donations #5 comments - safe, lawful community

(Ward 1) Lower taxes!! Again, the wages in South Dakota are too low for taxes to continue going up. The city needs to reduce spending in other areas that are not as important (i.e., the city does not need to pay to help people find volunteer opportunities; the city needs dependable vehicles, not fancy ones)

(Ward 5) Safety is #1; #2 Is it really necessary that the RCFD show up every time an ambulance is called. It is a total waste of \$. I don't need 6 paramedics. All that training - be a fireman or a paramedic, not both. Huge drain on tax payers

(Ward 5) Stop sprawling growth- it only puts a strain on the City's resources. Put a major emphasis on the transient/troubled population (which I believe some progress is being made on) so residents feel safe using the City's wonderful recreational paths, entering their places of work, etc. Also, put a major emphasis on the drug problems in our community.

(Ward 3) Economic/industrial development

(Ward 3) #3 comments: Outsource Street repair & Cleaning; Social Programs ADD suicide prevention #5 comments: provide a suicide hotline & walk-in center, since suicide is becoming a major problem all around the country. The recent refusal to fund this service is terrible. Too many young people are taking their lives & there needs to be services for those who need counseling.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Continue developments similar to Rushmore Crossing. Need another more services around the south Walmart (another Sam's). More shops/restaurants that will attract young people and make this a place people want to put down roots.

(Ward 4) maintain/increase crime prevention; provide affordable entertainment for families; provide affordable housing/abundant housing

(Ward 5) Focus on the core- downtown and surrounding neighborhoods and stop creating fringe spaces that exacerbate transportation and service costs.

(Ward 1) Don't tax retirees (on fixed incomes) out of their homes. Keep taxes at present levels. Increase user fees if needed. Middle class is shrinking and can't keep paying for continued increases in taxation.

(Ward 1) #3 comments - this allocation assumes all the other areas are also funded to a standard level #5 comments - more businesses; walkable streets; cleanup/remove old properties; more tables, benches & gathering areas in the parks; continued redevelopment of downtown & business areas

(Ward 4) instead of always taking the easy solution (raising taxes) figure ways to cut. why buy a new automobile when you can fix/maintain your current one at a fraction of the cost

(I don't know.) get rid of employees privatize golf course get out of the homeless business work on efficiencies to save dollars fix the roads

(Ward 3) For Street cleaning/snow removal checked both raise user fees & privatize/outsource Bring the Bible back into all Government bodies & public schools & lower taxes & outsource to private businesses. Preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in & out of season.

(Ward 3) Safety

(Ward 4) keep a strong government in charge. don't buckle under to special interests that can cost the city more than the majority can afford

(Ward 3) Reduce spending Tighten purse strings

(Ward 5) improve arts & culture

(Ward 5) Be more efficient with tax dollars and pursue economic development with vigor.

(Ward 5) New Police Chief RC PD is too aggressive. combine Sheriff Dept and PD

(Ward 1) enforce codes

(Ward 5) Better mass transit services Better road care Better funding of our Arts and Library programs

(Ward 5) I have no idea

(Ward 3) increase police presence downtown; do a better job at snow removal; stop raising property taxes & fees for water/garbage; increase sales taxes

(Ward 2) not be so racist

(Ward 2) Invest in infrastructure. Keep homeless away from downtown. Improve schools. Increased police presence to lower crime, or perhaps add cctv cameras all over town to monitor crime activity

(Ward 1) Less gangs so I can walk in the streets at night

(Ward 3) Maintaining a safe community consisting of good security and a safe environment.

(Ward 3) provide economic incentives for bringing business in that encourages young people to stay in Rapid City

(Ward 2) Spend less on buildings and more on police fire infrastructure. Stop getting in business of paying for buildings and helping a select few make money while ignoring other business. Should be sued for unequal use of taxpayers money. The city has not right to pick and chose which business gets money and which do not. City should only be spending on police fire infrastructure

(Ward 2) More trails, sidewalks and bike lanes. repave roads

(Ward 2) We need to make sixth street a pedestrian only walk way, helping our community grow.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) I think if we were to transform 6th street into a pedestrian/bicycle only plaza we could increase livability substantially. It would allow us to hold the farmers market there and encourage a healthier happier city. Contact me for more info: (605) 593 - 2523 I really think this could revolutionize our city.

(Ward 2) keep parks safe for kids to play and do activities in

(I don't know.) We need to make 6th street for foot/bike traffic only.

(Ward 5) provide safety & keep streets repaired

(Ward 1) WE could make the city more bike friendly and pedestrian friendly. We need to up our social services. There are way too many struggling people in our community

(Ward 3) lower property tax for fixed income elderly; fix streets; crime rate, drug problem

(Ward 1) Make sure there are plenty events that everyone in the community can enjoy and come together to take part in. A great example is the Parade of Lights. It is something I personally look forward to doing with my family and community every year. Also make the quality of the parks and number of parks better.

(Ward 1) Increase opportunities for low-income families to access educational resources for children.

(I don't know.) Include the whole community in all activities, such as education and career opportunities, volunteer work. Not just those who are economically able or look fit for the position.

(Ward 3) safety, crime prevention

(Ward 5) Work to reduce homelessness and the negative effects it has.

(Ward 3) Stop raising fees & taxes every time a new idea comes up, you are forcing people out of homes because they are being taxed to death. Either adjust the city budget so you (the city) can live with it or quit

coming up with these ideas that are always costing the people more. Wages in this city do not match the council's ideas and wants. This city will soon be tax poor!!!

(Ward 3) include citizens in planning & development so there cultivates a feeling of ownership and belonging. need to create neighborhoods within neighborhoods so the town is not so spread out & the infrastructure not so difficult to maintain. have some areas of building up-so more condensed neighborhoods. bike lands & paths. social awareness

(Ward 5) keep the community as safe as possible

(Ward 1) Create safe fun environments for young people. Put more money into the youth of our town. Allow more private companies to do work with the Homeless, Drug addicts, and Criminals.

(Ward 2) work with the community as a whole. we really need to focus on lower class, making sure they have access to transportation. the police and sheriffs office do awesome work as do the social programs in our area.

(Ward 1) bus people to other areas that can help improve their lives

(Ward 3) police actually enforcing laws - charging juveniles; mental health is a huge community issue with little to no resouces

(Ward 5) Control homeless population in high traffic areas of town. Allow for more varied cultural experiences.

(Ward 4) economic development-very hard to earn a livable wage in this area, especially given housing costs

(Ward 3) Most important goal of our city is to keep it safe! Spend whatever you need to do this

(Ward 3) Ensure public safety. Support programs that actually help reduce crime levels and engage young people. Reduce red tape and regulations.

(Ward 3) better screenings of people who take & use without even trying to help earn

(Ward 2) 1st Reduce crime 2nd Repair roads 3rd Reduce tax burden on home ownership

(Ward 4) Free real estate property tax for retirees; repair roads & crossings

(Ward 3) The rise in water is an outrage considering the city would benefit from "zero-scaping" rather than landscaping the area with items that need constant watering. We also need to take the issue of meth more seriously and penalize those using/ distributing the destructive substance. A center for recovery and conviction would be a wise use of taxes.

(Ward 1) Make it inclusive and diverse

(Ward 2) RC should receive the gambling taxes originally expected. What and who is getting what we deserve? Raise cigarette, alcohol and local luxury and video lottery taxes which will equal to what we know as a user tax.

(Ward 2) provide buses for all citizens; hire more police; repair roads; more code enforcement

(Ward 3) More crime prevention. More shelters for the homeless. More resources available for mental health

(Ward 2) stimulate economic growth

(Ward 1) Improve road infrastructure and beautify the city (make sure everything is well-maintained). Improve walkability and public transportation--have a vibrant parks and arts community so that people want to be in the city.

(Ward 2) we need more opportunity in the community in terms of work, Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!

(Ward 1) raise wages-make Rapid City an affordable place to live. Cost of living is high here and wages are low. Everything keeps going up. Property taxes, utilities, insurance but I haven't had a raise for 3 years

(Ward 1) Having lives in Rapid City the homeless, loitering, and panhandling experiencing now has increased exponentially. I think we all know that this leads to all sorts of issues. Growth, quality of life, burden on local services, etc.. Thanks for asking for our input.

(Ward 5) Get fresh blood in City Council- Mayor etc. and create fiscal responsibility - the money collected does not belong to the city - It's ours!

(Ward 2) Cheaper housing. The cost of homes in Rapid City is out of wack compared to other places in the state. I cannot find a decent house I can afford.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) increase development to reduce poverty

(Ward 1) street repair & infrastructure

(Ward 4) Improve railroad crossings, strong and effective police

(Ward 4) Code enforcement needs to do their job. Clean up this town. Appoint a new street supt w/ maintaining streets & new snow removal procedure a main goal. Look at cities E river. Enforce existing codes; parking, dead storage, etc. People park facing wrong way, cars (vehicles) dead storage along curb/ROW; City atty office is a farce, hire someone who is interested in enforcement & city/state laws. Pay them accordingly!

(Ward 1) maintain the health & safety of our community \*allow for a 2nd hospital in our region to provide for competition and better levels of care (Sanford, Avera, etc)

(Ward 3) Safety and infrastructure

(Ward 4) Make the city safe

(Ward 5) reduce panhandling - better approach for dealing w/ homeless & vagrant populations downtown & along the bike path. Make city transportation routes more bike friendly.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) I think continuing to engage the community is important. Looking for ways to modernize civic engagement also helps keep people informed on major decisions in our community.

(Ward 5) #3 response: Group 1 mandatory: police, fire, street repair, Street Cleaning; Group 2 Land Use, Code Enforcement, Bldg Permits; Group 3 Public transit, City Parks, Recreation, Libraries; Group 4 Economic Social Program & Arts. I grouped these into like services. there is no way I could say that Police & fire do not get the most. This question is far too difficult to answer. They are all services, tho some are mandatory, others not. #5 comment: reconciliation between the native and white community

(Ward 5) affordable housing & businesses that will pay a living wage. We need to keep our young people here with jobs that pay well & offer growth opportunities. I love what the city has done with the downtown area. I think we also need to provide activities & places to go to help keep our youth occupied. I have lived in RC my whole life & have watched the city grow over the years & overall, I think it has been for the positive

(Ward 1) Fines for texting & phone use within our city-charge for false alarms & for what they use. Enforce codes & follow through with charges & fines

(Ward 5) Good jobs! Economic development. I think that would drive everything. I think we should build the new civic center arena with 2012 funds and tourist dollars.

(Ward 4) it seems the city has to buy the most expensive choice (like Fire Dept) which isn't the right choice. Try not to take the highest bid. It seems politics and corporations run the city - same with street dept

(Ward 4) Stop the huge increases in fees such as water rates and garbage fees. The taxpayers are not earning more income to support these hidden taxes. concentrate police patrols to higher crime areas instead of trying to catch an honest citizen for speeding in a spot that the good person is trying to get to work. Texting while driving is a big problem.

(Ward 2) increase security at Summer Nights; no more pan handling

(Ward 5) Invest in rehabilitative initiatives to address the meth epidemic. Stop the cronyism that goes on in pretty much ever branch of both the social services in this town and all other agencies, and invest in some research-based plans. Stop trying to tell the people there isn't enough money when it seems there is more of a misappropriation of funds than a true deficit...City govt is bureaucracy at its worst.

(Ward 3) Focus on crime and how to prevent it

(Ward 5) use common sense!

(Ward 5) Improve roads and enforcement of traffic laws. Driving in this city is scary and law enforcement does not seem to care when people violate traffic laws, even right in front of them! The transportation system is good for people who need it. The community does not need to keep expanding, but should be revitalizing areas when businesses have left vacant buildings. I was glad to hear additional homeless options are being explored downtown. Homelessness is a major issue and programs to assist this problem are needed. The city should care more about its citizens than businesses.

(Ward 5) there needs to be a better "common sense" use of funds. It seems over the years that money has been spent on things that are less important

(Ward 4) Have a stronger police present downtown and in areas of higher crime rate

(Ward 3) safety on walking paths, biking paths and downtown; continue to attract new businesses; continue to support arts & culture programs; continue developing programs for the homeless; address meth problem

(Ward 4) Reduce housing costs for renters and make it easier to build new homes.

(Ward 1) reduce crime; enforce drug (illegal) laws; keep us safe; repair roads

(Ward 5) Make sure our schools have a safe productive learning environment. Continue to have an exceptional police force. Provide opportunities for recreation.

(Ward 4) provide confidence that the city is safe; don't grow faster than infrastructure is ready to handle

(Ward 4) Stop spending money on parks and start repairing our infrastructure. Taxes are already way too high and income levels are way too low. Stop giving tax breaks (drainage, easement) to big companies who don't put much back into the city, stop using tax dollars to help them build, stop wasting money outsourcing project planning for stupid things like this "Master Plan" I hate so much, and make events like the Mayoral election advertised better to inform people. Take care of what's best for the citizens instead of taking care of the upper crust's bank accounts

(Ward 2) Get street crews that do a good, long lasting work, not piece meal

(Ward 2) Give licenses to businesses that pay a living wage, provide access to fairly priced housing, stop legislating morality, keep public buildings up to federal code.

(Ward 1) reduce or remove rail traffic from the core of downtown; cooperate more with SDDOT to keep street markings freshly painted; strengthen rules to reduce the eyesores leading into the city i.e code enforcement, junk removal, billboard pollution; maintain the greenway along Rapid Creek!

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Maintaining the roads during the winter and summer, a good infrastructure of the government. Making sure the police and fire departments and the emergency systems are well maintained and workable. There are great things that happen down town but we need to make sure they are taken care of and more enforcement.

(Ward 1) I think the city does a good job of taking care of city business. I have enjoyed living in RC for the last 27 yrs after moving here from North Dakota in 1990. The only 2 changes that I would like to see made are the following: the speed limit on E Anamosa from Menards to Walmart at 35 MPH is too slow for a 4 lane road with no business or residential side roads; the speed limit on Jolly Lane going south of Hwy 44 should be changed to 36MP, the same as it is going north. The commercial and residential development is about the same going north or south. When the road gets to the residential area past the Elks Lodge, then I think it should be 25MPH. As you may guess, I drive these roads back & forth about 3 times a day.

(Ward 5) Build a new civic center.

(Ward 5) improve safety downtown and in parks/public outdoor spaces; repair and maintain residential streets and infrastructure; better paying jobs; think about a smaller substitute venue other than spending so much money on the civic center; most larger acts are moving towards smaller more intimate venues

(Ward 3) safety is the most important to me. as an educator, I always told my students that they were safe with me/at school. If RC is perceived as a dangerous community, no one will want to live/move here

(Ward 5) build affordable/low income housing better support for drug/alcohol addiction and mental illness

(Ward 1) Take a cultural leadership role for the upper mountain west in the same manner as Boulder or Austin have done: "Make Rapid Weird Again." Try to provide free space and performance opportunities for cultural groups that are weird, edgy, hidden, and exciting.

(Ward 1) Police services; more downtown foot patrols; double the service on East North Street

(Ward 1) We need a regional master plan to control growth.

(Ward 3) Introduce public beatings and beheading as an alternative to lengthy jail sentences. Drug testing for anyone receiving any benefits. Mandatory birth control for anyone receiving any benefits. Offer community service in lue of jail time for minor drug offenses. Drug testing for city officials. Investigators hired to look into crooked city officials. Investigators hired to look into welfare fraud.

(I don't know.) Apprenticeship programs for low skilled workers. For the school system to partner more frequently with the private sector to teach the skill sets needed for the future. A modern movie theater, mountain bike rally, place all text books on tablets, votech,

(Ward 2) Update fire and police stations Support the library Support detox, homeless shelters New Civic Center Annex surrounding bedroom communities -or make county pay more

(Ward 1) You cannot help those who will not help themselves! Stop using 90% of resources on 10% of the people. All citizens must contribute equally to the financial stability/growth of the city.

(Ward 4) Road upkeep snow removal on roads, reduce taxes and privatize where the city cannot budget

(Ward 4) City wide clean-up. ie: junk vehicles, delapidated and abandoned buildings and houses, dead tree removal, etc

(Ward 1) public safety, care for homeless, economic growth

(Ward 3) 1-repair the streets-they are horrible; 2- more open space and parks

(Ward 5) Make it safer. I moved here from Sturgis 3 yrs ago, and I can't believe how many stabbings there are in RC. I wouldn't consider this a really safe community even though it's not that large of a city

(Ward 5) Create a united city. Better serving our struggling citezens by providing them more support services. Do not punish community members by raising user fees to public places that will result in less of our community being able to use certain spaces, but instead provide more access to and invitations to join in the community. Let's make that our top priority.

(Ward 4) get a new Mayor

(Ward 2) lower taxes and quit wasting money

(Ward 1) lower property taxes; raise minimum wage; cost of living is more than wages, can't afford rent either too high!

(Ward 3) How about being an effective government? One that can live within its budget without passing on stupid tax increases

(Ward 2) Lower housing prices for renters without worrying about slumlords

(Ward 1) A combination of these solutions seems to me to be a workable answer #4 checked both raise taxes & raise user fees for Police, Fire, Street repair, Street cleaning, code enforcement, city parks, library, economic dev & social programs; Also checked outsource for Street cleaning, Economic Dev & Social programs. Checked outsource for Arts

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Cleaning up the older parts of town.

(Ward 5) Safety of citizens Affordable housing Roads Economic development

(I don't know.) get more corporations to headquarter in RC while maintaining small business pride and livelihood

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Safety, improve streets .

(I don't know.) #1 priority is to clean up trash all over the city. when one drives into RC from any direction there is trash blown everywhere - looks very unappealing!! Take a look. There are service clubs that could help on this & sure some patrons of our jail could help if in for a minor DUI or bad check or child support non-payment

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) When the civic center was originally paid off, from that point on the city should have kept collecting, which it did, but set aside sales tax funds received over time to be able to build the community projects they want now. Then they would already have the funds and it wouldn't be an issue. I drive all over the neighborhoods for my job and the streets are really in bad shape and should be more aggressively addressed. New developments are not being held accountable for the streets they are installing and that means our employees are not doing their job.

(Ward 1) growth with stability

(Ward 5) Public Transit raise taxes + user fees; social program user fees + outsource; Arts raise taxes + outsource; comments: I believe in a balanced community. without available structured help we're going to have continued growth in homelessness, crime, incarcerations; we need better facilities that aren't just "flops" but structured "help" to put people on a different path of life. Economic growth will solve many issues, parking improvement for events, facility for events. But we must have better traffic flow-a train don't go through the main traffic areas during high traffic hours - WRONG put a by-pass/over the track. its archaic.

(Ward 1) transient persons shelters and help and community outreach

(Ward 4) Build the new event center the mayor has proposed. We have a vibrant downtown that attracts people globally. Let's attract even more by complimenting it with a new event Center.

(Ward 1) 1-fix roads and infrastructure; 2 increase community policing - make all neighborhoods safe for residents; 3 more outreach to underserved residents, elderly, working poor

(Ward 2) #3 comments: economic development should be funded by Business; Social programs & arts should be funded by churches & service groups; #5 comment - safety of the citizens

(Ward 3) address drug & crime problems with solutions not pointing fingers. create a real public transit system that services the entire city limits not just downtown

(Ward 2) Providing plenty of opportunities for the people as well as having a plan for expansion. Making sure the entire city is safe for children and adults. Making sure the people dont feel like they're becoming a commodity or product of the govt. Being open to change, innovation and progressive ways of thinking and to make sure a pseudo-monopoly isn't taking place. Open roads for all. Care more about the well being of a man than what's in his wallet. Clean air. Clean Energy. Stepping towards the future in terms of jobs, tech, shops, vehicles, education, recreation and infrastructure.

(I don't know.) Give the homeless oneway bus tickets out of this town.

(Ward 5) \*\* page left blank

(Ward 5) Art Music Continue to develop downtown area

() Maintain clean air and clean water. Expand local development at the expense of large chain business. Local food development at the expense of Walmart. Create local communities that has inherent strengths. Strengths that can withstand global shocks.

(Ward 3) Quality governance, superior public safety agencies, excellent infrastructure, competitive economic base.

(Ward 5) increase economic opportunities for small business and individuals

(Ward 3) Bring in non consumer businesses so that the money can be brought into the community to help it grow.

(Ward 3) Start spending the tax money we give you wisely.

(Ward 4) Cultural resources are important to a community libraries, museums, sports, and arts programs are what keep people here and bring people to spend money. We need to have a concert venue large enough to bring in groups but not so large that we cannot maintain it. We need to keep the roads safe for drivers but I feel that a wheel tax is a better then an increases in property taxes. Quit allowing people to come in get a p.o. box and then consider themselves county residents entitled to our services but not living in our community.

(Ward 1) Live within a budget so people can afford to live in Rapid City.

(Ward 4) affordable housing, more homeless shelters, more inpatient and out patient treatment facilities, diversified workforce, representation from community members, cultural awareness,

(Ward 1) Repair streets where necessary.

(Ward 5) More drastic drug investigations and arrests. Nothing is too small to overlook, the rampant drug sale, use and trade in this town seems to be overlooked often an should not be tolerated. Other crimes stem from this source and could be controlled if more effort was placed into a drug task force.

(Ward 3) Step trying to grow the population. We're happy because of the size we are. Consider a property tax credit for the elderly, or at least raising the tax freeze threshold for the elderly.

(Ward 1) Reduce cost to citizens through efficient cost management of programs This survey is flawed in believing the only answers are either increased taxes, increased fees, or decreased services. Cost management is the answer.

() Remove all billboards. They are eyesores.

(Ward 3) Quit raising fees

(Ward 3) Build a new Civic Center

(Ward 5) Rapid is in desperate need of more mid to large size employers. There is a lack of professional jobs that allow high wage earners to stay in this area. We need to attract more businesses to the area and improve the infrastructure. Rapid also needs to start fixing up the more run down areas of town, as it decreases property values. More focus should also be applied on the growing methamphetamine problem in this city- we need to stop this asap. Overall, get more mid to large employers to move into the area- that will help a lot!

(Ward 4) have the residents on north side clean up their properties & get rid of the graffiti in the alley ways. Repair streets, so many are horrible & they're getting worse

(Ward 5) Your questions are a catch 22, it doesn't cover how every time we agree to raise taxes for something why they are spent on something else.

(Ward 1) Get rid of the indians, no one likes them a d they are the reason we need so many public servants.

(Ward 5) 1. Build the arena and leave room for add on 2. The arena again 3. We must sell Rapid City and the Black Hills 4. Help the School of Mines whenever we can

(Ward 1) Reduce city spending. Let city depts. Do more surveys/fact finding statements instead of outsourcing. City council need to listen to the citizens and project a clearer picture on the direction of this city. We do not need people on the council or mayor with personal agendas like the civic center. We do not need to compete with sioux falls or become the next denver. Lets just be rapid city.

(Ward 3) Make the cost to live here more affordable. Keep the level of local government at the current levels and look for places to cut. Cut Cut Cut before you even talk about raising taxes. Taking money out of your citizens pockets should be the last resort. Be very cognizant that you are spending other peoples money. Keeping people safe and the roads in good condition need to always be at the top of the list. The civic center, museums and the arts need to be self supporting. If not, they need to be like a business and close. Cut Cut

(Ward 5) Street maintenance is poor the City taxpayers deserve better no matter what area of town they reside.

(Ward 1) Eliminate Ward2 (lowest voter participation). Divide this ward into the remaining 4. Reduce city council from 10 to 6. One for each ward and two at-large council members. (Use the savings to keep other services rather than raise taxes.)

(Ward 3) Improve roads and infrastructure Maintain a strong Police force Maintain a well prepared Fire Department

(Ward 3) Budget money for education Keep the people in the community safe Provide activities for all children Continue to take care of our city parks

() I love the Dahl and other artsy things in RC. The Dahl seems like artists supporting artists at others expense. I love the Library, it looks more like a hangout for the idle than a learning center. How much do you think RC can determine the economy? I would have spent less than \$1000 if it were possible. No \$ for subsidizing bad behavior or moochers.

(Ward 3) Security Safety Healthy Economic growth Skill development

(Ward 4) Increase the presence of and enforcement of violations by our police officers. It has become increasingly unsafe or uncomfortable to be out in our public areas, especially after dark.

(Ward 3) Improve police support. Maintain streets and roads and utilities to make them safe and useable. Reduce property taxes.

(Ward 2) Fix the railroad crossings. They are ridiculously damaging to vehicles. Especially severe is E St Pat & S Hwy 79/St Joe

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Traffic management through better city planning and road expansion BEFORE approving development

(Ward 3) Reduce/Reform/Assist our Transient Population.

(Ward 3) Public service Streets economic development

(Ward 3) 1. Repair residential roads. 2. Install water and sewer - Areas within City limits that are still using septic.

(Ward 3) Get housing for the homeless. Invest City funds to reduce the number of homeless.

(Ward 1) Strong, common-sensical elected officials who don't pander, grandstand, or cave tot he loud minority. Think strategically and follow the Comprehensive Plan. Lobby State officials for more resources.

(Ward 5) Enforce red light runners, speeders. Build a new Civic Center.

(Ward 1) Increase safety Improve Infrastructure Improve education

(Ward 4) Get rid of all homeless programs then they will go somewhere else. Clamp down on Native Americans for crime, homeless, plain worthlessness

(Ward 3) Rapid City needs to remain safe and clean. However, we can't ignore the arts and outdoor communities that make Rapid so special.

(Ward 5) More robust service for our most needy people, treatments, homeless shelters, preschools, etc. Our public transit system is rubbish.

(Ward 4) Fix roads, fight crime, supply drug addiction services.

(Ward 3) Cameras at major intersections to diminish red light abusers.

(Ward 1) Get rid of Mayor Allender. He does not get it and I'm sure he ignores anyone who tells him to stop spending Government is meant to provide protection and roads - not ice hockey - museums and civic centers. He needs to resign!!!

(Ward 5) Reduce or eliminate crime. The North part of the city is particularly hard hit. More patrols--both by foot, bicycle, and care--are needed. Add more street lights in this area.

(Ward 3) Wants vs. Needs

(Ward 5) Still lots of fat that can be trimmed from city departments. Those savings should be applied to street improvements, water and sewer infrastructure improvements. I feel police and fire have enough employees and budget funds... those people and funds can be better used. Cut out of state travel. Cut take home vehicles. Etc.

(Ward 2) Q3: This is for today only; in five years could (would) be very different. Q5: Safety, Equal opportunity, Provide services to those that need it most.

(Ward 5) Improve roads and aging utilities Keep improving parks

(Ward 5) Sustainable growth, coupled with a high priority on infrastructure

(Ward 3) Stimulate economic development Reduce crime Enable recreation Strong planning and zoning for smart growth

(Ward 4) Find a way to increase teachers pay and try to fund in the education of young people.

(Ward 5) Keep it clean and well maintained (infrastructure, snow removal, street repairs). How the city looks is everything! Address the homeless issues. Continue to develop relationship with School of Mines. Construct a new civic center.

(Ward 4) Reduce the incidence of crime. People are afraid to use the beautiful parks or go downtown due to vagrants begging and stealing

(Ward 3) Red light cameras! The driving conditions in Rapid City are deplorable. The City could raise enough revenue through red light violations to easily pay for cameras. It would increase safety issues as well.

(Ward 5) As to question 4, I believe it is too simplistic to answer a question with the alternatives listed above, it is a balancing approach based on the circumstances. As to livability, you need a living wage, good education, culture, recreation plus infrastructure that supports this type of development.

(Ward 5) Clean it up. Parts of RC looks like a dump. No pride in ownership.

(Ward 1) Stop wasting money on president statues and fancy street mediums (such as those on Mt. Rushmore Road) and use the money to improve the streets and roads - pavement, potholes, bridges.

(Ward 5) Invest in long-term solutions for the disadvantaged (as opposed to day to day fixes). Implement policies that help small business owners & encourage technological entrepreneurship. Increase police presence at intersections (focus on those running red lights - it's a problem)

(Ward 3) Do something about all the vacant large commercial building in many areas of the city.....and respond to complaints for code violations, ie: weeds, junk cars, dilapidated homes that are eyesores in many developments across the city.

(Ward 5) Q3: Five Year Plan Q4: multiple responses for each of the above Compile the data from this survey Assemble your panel of experts Develop you comprehensive plan and follow it.

(Ward 1) Improve public schools

(Ward 4) Having a safe environment

(Ward 5) Provide a clean safe environment, stop trying to develop pet projects like the civic center and focus on the people of this community vs businesses profiting from bringing more events in the area. Protect those out using/enjoying our city.

(Ward 5) Streets repair and maintenance

(Ward 5) Fix animal control its totally ineffective and should not get any public funds. If they were to charge a fee every time they got a call or showed up for a barking dog complaint they would have a budget surplus! It greatly effects quality of life when all you hear are barking dogs day and night and nothing can be done when you call for help.

(Ward 5) FIX ROADS! More cultural awareness for ALL cultures.

(Ward 4) Q3: Recreation facilities and programs and Arts and Culture are noted "should be user fees" Q5: Many residential streets are in bad shape. Snow removal on residential streets is not very good. Street cleaning could

be cut back, does not do very good job. Really irks me to see lawn watering on City areas during day when residents can't do it. This happens a lot!!!

(Ward 2) Allow low income families to keep more money. Improve the state of neighborhood streets.

(Ward 4) 1. Build Civic Center 2. Strive to improve racial relations. 3. Improve the Detox Center 4. Make our Parks safe again. 5. Stop raising property taxes; remember retired citizens do not have the available funds to meet the rising cost of home ownership due to taxes & other increases on the total cost of living.

(Ward 2) Stop wasting money on non essential pet projects

(I don't know.) Sticking within a budget and stop over estimating the revenue. Raising taxes is not going to balance the budget. Decreasing what you spend helps to balance the budget. Every citizen has an individual budget he/she must follow. The government needs to follow a budget, as well. The economic times are not as good as the political people like to think it is. People don't have a lot of extra money. Any extra money is spent on increasing inflation of products and/or a raise in taxes.

(Ward 1) Tighten up the City/County/State/US Govt enablement programs that overcompensate the poor to the point that they need not seek employment of any kind because they can live nicely on a child's disability check - or grandpa's. We are fostering poverty by not providing alternative methods of job training and incentives to working poor.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Do not get rid of the arts funding and the libraries! These are safe places in our city that has become riddled with crime.

(Ward 3) ?

(Ward 1) Do not raise taxes! its like if you keep borrowing money from your neighbor eventually they will say no more an fix the problem without taking money from me. That is what the citizens of Rapid City are trying to say fix the problem work with what you have cut the fat out.

(Ward 5) #3 comment-I have no idea on this section, all are important. Have you thought about a professional grant writer to generate added revenue? #5 comments: #1 set up a schedule for street cleaning example west of gap Monday E/W streets-Wednesday N/S streets; offender of parking-ticket-raised revenue to be used for street maintenance. Also (no) long term parking on streets, this would include boats, campers & trailers. #2-Active weed control on city property, make the city more attractive; #3 repair the railroad tracks

(Ward 3) We need to keep or community safe from crime and drugs - to keep fighting these scourges. Also keep RC clean and well-maintained and moving forward in actions and thinking.

(I don't know.) Care for it.

(Ward 1) Schools, parks, cool things like mainstreet square, Thursday nights, good police, schools, update Civic center, schools. Basically if your schools stink no one wants to live and work in your city that has a family and you will be a city of old grumps with the infrastructure crumbling down around you.

(Ward 3) Work to ensure low income housing is available in all areas of Rapid City so low income families have choice of where to live in the City and are not congregated in just a handful of areas.

(Ward 1) Better snow removal, better street repair on streets that actually need repairs. Stop catering to those downtown groups. We don't need a big drunken party on the downtown streets every Thursday.

(Ward 5) Economic development to increase wages.

(Ward 5) The streets are in poor shape all over. The library has become a mission for homeless.

(Ward 5) Police and Fire should be priorities in this day and age with the violence happening around.

(Ward 5) Continue to keep the community safe

(Ward 1) It seems the Mayor/City are focused on increasing taxes and spending our tax payers money on a constant basis. I feel that they do not consider the fact that there are many low income and senior citizens that are on a fixed income that cannot afford increased taxes or user fees. The Mayor/City should work on finding solutions with the understanding there are things we all want, but not that we all need.

(Ward 1) provide a safe community that doesn't burden people on fixed incomes with moving to be able to afford to live

(Ward 5) Walkability - sidewalks are important Great downtown - that we now have Continued support of the Civic Center

() Education of children, eventually\*\* (not sure if correct) return to community when grown

(Ward 3) 1. Build road over skyline drive 2. Get a second hospital 3. Clear air / clean water 4. Affordable housing 5. Strong law enforcement

(Ward 3) Bring in more big businesses, and reduce the amount of intoxicated panhandlers in the downtown area.

(Ward 2) We are so far, impressed with the livability (convenience, access to conveniences, traffic, etc.) of Rapid City. We have only lived here about 2 years and have been impressed with what we have experienced.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Provide an environment that is conducive to businesses both small and large. If people have good jobs, the rest will follow.

(Ward 5) RC needs to encourage visitors/tourists to our area. We have so much to offer. They will help to generate revenue, which will in return help all of us with our taxes. #1 on the agenda should be a new arena to capture that market!

(Ward 3) Q3: Snow removal circled. Encourage people to go to work at ANY job rather than wait for a "handout". This builds self respect and helps the community to accept all races, religions, etc. Older people are losing their homes because of property tax. Perhaps there should be a "freeze" on tax after age 70 or so. We have paid for schools long after we have children attending them.

(Ward 3) Increase wages for first responders, and provide more resources to schools so they can meet the basic needs of their students.

(Ward 1) Good jobs in the private sector, small business is the answer to increased revenue to City!

(Ward 3) Q4: items 1,2,3, and 14 (in order) are indicated to maintain service level without increasing \$. Balance expenses to City Government, with cost of living that its residents maintain - if residents aren't making 5-6% more why should the City employees.

(Ward 4) Desperate need for high paying jobs affordable housing

(Ward 3) what is the city doing to provide essential services that need to have priority. What things are the tax dollars being spent on that should not be in the public realm or at all; i.e. museums, library, social programs

(I don't know.) Create affordable housing options for low income/minimum wage workers. Raise the minimum wage.

(Ward 1) Continue addressing the issues faced with "bridging the gap" between Native people and others in the community.

(Ward 5) Lower crime rate Strong educational opportunities Strong economic opportunities / incentives Encourage multiculturalism / diversity

(Ward 2) Affordable housing Encourage, not stifle, new business

(Ward 4) Q4: items 2,3,4,7,11,13,14 are marked for both maintain service levels but raise taxes and maintain service levels but raise user fees.

(Ward 2) Spend a few years fixing what we already have. Don't spend more money building more things that eat tax dollars. If the parks and the arts are not making enough money to pay bills don't subsidize them unless it comes out of the vision fund. How about a hotel room fee and a use tax on the civic center to get a fund going to build a new one. This way we don't take it out of what should be infrastructure like roads, bridges and water lines.

(Ward 1) Police & Fire protection, street repair Cultural programs

(Ward 1) Affordable housing, public transportation, funded arts, address rampant racism

(Ward 3) Roads/bridges, RR, need improvement Public transit & housing for homeless

(Ward 5) Stop raising taxes. Pay doesn't match the cost of living. This makes it difficult for younger families to survive here. Think progressively to bring in better paying jobs and businesses to boost the economy which in turn will provide funds to the city.

(Ward 3) Focus should be on supporting education and the school system. Need better skilled jobs.

(Ward 1) Use Vision for the future, and safety for its Citizens

(Ward 4) Rapid City is already a liveable community. I feel the current administration is doing an outstanding job in balancing the needs of the citizens and community with the needs of the City.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Public safety and streets

(Ward 5) restructure the planning/building department to promote jobs growth

(Ward 3) Maintain or improve environmental quality. Clean water, clean air, healthy green spaces.

(Ward 5) Better traffic enforcement Control drunks & panhandlers

(Ward 2) Infrastructure maintenance

(I don't know.) Livable wages, more drug and alcohol programs, more homeless programs

(Ward 3) No comment

(Ward 4) I believe helping the homeless get off the streets especially during the winter because it could get pretty harshly cold.

(Ward 4) Road and railroad crossing improvements, increase punishment and enforcement to minimize crime, possibly look into working effective neighborhood watches. Bring businesses other than gas stations. Increase inmate work programs(cheap labor, no brainer).

(Ward 4) Provide a safe environment which promotes livability for all.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Invest in its youth. New playgrounds, more playgrounds and have them be accessible. Families shouldn't have to drive to Spearfish to enjoy a great park.

(Ward 5) Quit raising taxes

(Ward 2) Take the side of citizens over corporations. Like killing covenants that prevent homeowners from using renewable energy systems on their house. Have a citywide wireless network not tied to private companies. Basically every point where corporations try to prevent competition, the city should promote such competition instead of allowing them to stick it to people.

(Ward 3) Prioritize the health and well-being of our citizens. Thus, a significant increase in mental health providers and services that are not being addressed by Regional.

(Ward 1) expand public transit encourage liveable wages

(Ward 3) #3 comments A very difficult exercise. I appreciate the Mayor in getting public input. I can now understand the difficult decisions the Mayor and City Council wrestle with.

(Ward 1) Focus on facilities and activities for our teenagers. Encourage economic development geared toward the teen crowd....and families.

(Ward 2) Safety is the most important things Reducing property taxes

(Ward 5) Help economic development with mid level careers. Stop supporting jobs only in the tourist and hospitality industry which is 4 months out of the year. A community with more average to above average technical higher paying jobs will help grow all area of the community. We are a community of low and high income people. 25-30% aren't supporting themselves.

(Ward 2) Transit system needs to be enhanced to keep up with City growth and expansion.

(Ward 1) Maintain high quality of life with effective police force, attract new business, strive for affordable housing. Work to eliminate homeless and transients. Strive for growth in our city while maintaining the quality of life we currently enjoy.

(Ward 5) We need to address affordable housing and look to more than one type & sources for viable housing to bring it to a level where it is no longer a problem. We need improved access to mental health care & treatment for addictions. We need to look for keeping City services efficient and involving citizens to help with solutions - maybe have "neighborhood support groups" - neighbors helping neighbors.

(Ward 3) Diverse business - climate to promote large and small business. Access to medical care/ hospitals. Great schools. Affordable housing. Strong Police/Fire services.

(Ward 3) 1) get the drunks out of downtown

(Ward 5) Make developers pay for the consequences of their development on livability such as a large businesses or housing developments should have to pay for road improvements and parking lots and water and utilities because those developments cause traffic congestion and they avoid bearing the burden on livability. For example, Black Hills Energy should pay for a portion of road improvements to Catron and Sheridan Lake Road and Hwy 16 because of the congestion their business causes there.

(Ward 3) Lets face it Journey Museum is a bust - bad, bad, bad location. Move Cornerstone Mission - Be aggressive with development - welcome developers - don't chase them away

(Ward 5) Improve job options and job force.

(Ward 4) Help find suitable housing for the homeless.

(Ward 3) take better care of our homeless population

(Ward 1) Safety with policing Get homeless/panhandlers under control Support the Arts

(Ward 1) Strong code enforcement makes the community livable.

(Ward 5) Promote downtown development Stop subsidizing greenfield development Provide supportive housing to end homelessness

(Ward 1) not legible

(Ward 1) Get a handle on drug activity - improve treatment options.

(Ward 4) 1) Affordable housing, it is sad when you have people making minimum wage and all they can afford is a run down motel. 2) Lower property taxes

(Ward 3) The meth problem needs to be tackled at a much greater level.

(Ward 1) Improve sidewalks and create bike lanes. Improve roads (maintain) More wilderness trails like Skyline. A fenced in dog park

(Ward 4) Fix the streets so they last longer than a year or two.

(Ward 1) Improve sidewalks & create bike lanes. Improve roads (maintain) More wilderness trails like Skyline a fenced in dog park

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Serve the homeless Encourage education Bring in professional jobs Leverage SDSMT technology

(Ward 3) - Improve traffic congestion @ Catron Blvd/ Sheridan Lake Rd. - Improve & expand shopping areas (Rushmore Crossing) - Get a Costco - Provide / encourage aesthetics of businesses on W. side - Increase funding to Cornerstone Rescue Mission, Love Inc. Etc

(Ward 5) keep improving the downtown area

(Ward 5) A City Council that serves ALL the people.

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(Ward 2) #3 comments-our streets need repair. The railroad crossing on E St Pat is deplorable #5 comments - bring in industry

(Ward 3) Bring in more jobs that would increase revenue.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Listen to the people and hear what they say.

(Ward 5) 1) Enforce code enforcement and prevention code compliance - 2) Maintain police services and crime prevention

(Ward 5) keep it safe; community activities, keep it clean

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Keeping the citizens safe.

(Ward 4) Street repair and maintenance Police and Fire Services Public Libraries

(I don't know.) Tackle the living wages for people. Bring in companies that can produce more career jobs. Not fast food all the time.

(Ward 5) Provide a safe & healthy environment for all citizens of RC. I feel there is too much focus, or enabling of the homeless and not safety of the Citizens.

(Ward 5) Improve and support our public education system preK-post secondary. Quit the give always to business. Support community conversations to improve civil discourse with a broad spectrum of diverse voices.

(Ward 1) Clean up Rapid Creek so sports fisherman can use and enjoy Parks and Rapid Creek

(Ward 3) Continue to support the thriving arts community. Prioritize education. Work with all available resources and agencies to alleviate homelessness and poverty.

(Ward 4) Enforce the laws against panhandling & public drunkenness. Enforce stricter rules for bars & public places to maintain client control. Private security or bouncers. Tell your judges to stop letting criminals off so easy. Stricter controls. Could begin by not stealing people's homes or land.

(Ward 5) Pay attention to infrastructure

(Ward 5) Realize all City employees are in need of better pay/benefits.

(Ward 5) Improve and maintain road system, foster economic stability and growth to attract more diverse companies, remember recreational and cultural events keep RC residents involved and have a vested interest in their community.

(Ward 5) We need more parks and statues like we need a hole in the head. There needs to be more programs for children/ adolescents in the community. These are you future Rapid City citizens. Things that low income families can afford or funded, City infrastructure is important as well sewer, lights, streets, water.

(Ward 5) Safety

(Ward 5) Develop ways to "bring the community together". The community appears to be fragmented without a real sense of community purpose.

(Ward 3) Leverage the natural beauty and significance of the Black Hills as quality of life issues that will attract new economic development / business that employ younger people who are looking to integrate quality of life with their business growth and interests. Attract creative, substantial, well paying jobs and rely less on low paying hospitality and tourism jobs. #3. Note: Holding \$15 to be allocated as needed.

(Ward 1) In order to change the actions of people, you have to change the mind. In order to change the mind you must change the heart. We need the pastors, congregations, churches to be united, work together and be involved in our community.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Get good employers

(Ward 5) Road improvement

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(Ward 1) Allow/encourage wages to increase across the board, to encourage better performance and draw skilled workers to the community - thus increasing population and revenues.

(Ward 5) We still are a community where people don't know each other. Having talking circles in various parts of town with young people, middle aged people and seniors would go a long way to further community coherence. We should have a Rapid City Day with a picnic, bands and a get to know your neighbor flavor.

(Ward 1) Provide more working opportunities for individuals looking for stable, living wage positions.

(Ward 4) 1. Improve racial relations 2. Enable non-governmental entities to assist homeless and other marginalized people 3. Bring in more employment opportunities 4. Task force to reduce rampant burglaries 5. Close the casinos

(Ward 2) Keep the trash off the streets and lock them up

(Ward 4) Improve our streets! Most are in serious need of repair. Formerly, it seems the City has "allowed" contractors to be short-sighted- i.e. building/constructing 4 lanes when it should be 6/7 lanes to begin with, so we "re-do" our streets constantly. City police and firemen are doing an excellent job! Keep up the high standards for candidates, training and a fair salary for all. P.S. I promise I have not written to the two cents column!

(Ward 3) Educate the public on opportunities and services available to residents. Education on what tax dollars are used for will make government more transparent and help citizens have a better understanding of where money is spent and why some repairs take time.

(Ward 2) Create a unified message that diversity is a unique strength of our community rather than an economic stressor. Out of that build a unique brand for the city that supports culture and local businesses rather than chains. This will bring a sense of investment in every aspect of life.

(Ward 3) Have an accountable government, find ways to live within your means.

(Ward 1) Crime prevention

(Ward 1) infrastructure repair

(Ward 4) more emphasis on reducing the drug problem. More job opportunities for the homeless. Routine drug testing for those receiving handouts, welfare, food stamps, etc

(Ward 3) maintain public safety and increase economic development

(Ward 1) 1 - Infrastructure 2 - Recreation facilities 3 - Social Programs

(Ward 3) Improve service for people over age 65 Find a place for people to live who have none

(Ward 4) partner with agencies providing social service programs to ensure the sustainability of these programs while leading to positive outcomes for those living in poverty which will lead to community improvements and potentially solutions to housing issues and economic issues

(I don't know.) create jobs.

(Ward 3) More career level jobs - work with SDSM&T to cultivate graduates to open businesses here. Better traffic flow, city planning. Affordable housing solutions. Resources for homeless community

(Ward 4) Make sure it is a safe place to live no matter which area of town they chose to live in.

(Ward 2) Economic development. Recruit new businesses.

(Ward 5) jobs jobs jobs

(Ward 3) Q3: It would help to know what it is currently. More lighted, fenced dog parks with partitions to separate groups of dogs. Less street cleaning - sometimes streets are clean already. Q5: Better traffic flow at peak hours. Plan for shared use of public spaces - recreation, schools. Eg. use of schools in summer. Splitting ball diamond parks with other use - dog park (already lighted and fenced)

(Ward 2) maintain infrastructure like roads, school buildings, etc.

(Ward 2) Improve the streets & infrastructure. We have a great parks system in Rapid City that we need to continue expanding. The Parks give a lot of use to general public.

(I don't know.) Improve the condition of infrastructure, and improve the public transportation options.

(Ward 4) Bring more middle income jobs to the city by leveraging companies to come here making sure these are non-tourism related jobs. Provide more services for fees such as small fee city wide wifi to get more tech jobs. Get rid of trash service and privatize it.

(Ward 4) fix bad streets

(I don't know.) Make Rapid City a City that new businesses want to come to, i.e. better shopping choices, better restaurants, entertainment, to include big City type plays and musicals.

(I don't know.) I would argue that as of right now, the most important thing we can do is have a stronger police force. With the recent incident with a violent criminal at WDT, I believe this is a time where we can have our officers in more locations than we have them currently, and able to stop more tragedies from occurring.

(Ward 3) Police and Fire Department Services

(Ward 1) We should help people that are out of a job find one. It would lower crime and increase the stranded of living in the community

(I don't know.) Treat everyone equally in all things

(Ward 4) Make more opportunities to be involved in the arts.

(Ward 4) Less homeless - less crime. Clean up places like Knollwood meadow (sp?) dam.

(Ward 2) Have better equipped shelters and clean up/ take care of the roads better.

(Ward 5) Work with volunteer organizations to assist and recognize their commitment to the community.

(Ward 4) Take the voice from the people. Don't use our money on unnecessary things. Let us choose what our money does.

(Ward 1) We need to work on our homeless population. Clean up some neighborhoods etc. Build a new Civic Center.

(Ward 2) Listen to the public about concerns!!

(I don't know.) Get community more involved in decisions.

(Ward 1) police patrol - crime prevention

(I don't know.) the only problem I have with our city's peoples attitudes, and we sadly cant change that

(I don't know.) they should take care of the streets. so basically take care of the environment. pay more attention to the education system and the police fore and fire fighters etc,

(Ward 4) Mandate recycling Reduce street lights and pole lights (Dark Sky initiative) No video billboards Energy Efficient Codes Reduce Waste Improve dog parks, connect to bike path

(Ward 2) Do things that will make most of the residents happy.

(Ward 1) Use the stop light on Meade Street the street is a racetrack and need more speed control or use the light at Meade. The stop light between the hospital and St. Patrick is all residential and need some help

(Ward 1) The city could possibly use more of the money to give to less fortunate people

(Ward 5) Fix roads. Rapid City should be ashamed.

(I don't know.) Make sure everyone is getting educated, getting the help they need, aware of the services that are available to them and can use. We should focus more on the people in the community and making sure they can improve and then hopefully we can improve on other things like the parks and recreational places within the city.

(I don't know.) in our community we have a lot of areas that are nice like the west side but we also have areas that are not the greatest. I feel like we should improve that so we a big nice community.

(Ward 2) I wish I knew. I love Rapid City - God bless you for trying to make sense of all this. My husband's two cents: no City employee should make a larger salary than the mayor. I agree.

(I don't know.) Provide strong and reliable help centers such as WAVI and the Cornerstone Mission. Provide reliable recreational and educational experiences such as museums and libraries.

(I don't know.) I personally don't thing we should raise taxes. It would be better to raise service because its better for someone not to be able to afford to go to the pool verses not being able to life in a house because they cant pay for it.

(Ward 3) No more TIF's!!! No more huge apartment complexes and housing developments.

(Ward 3) I would say the top 5 issues facing the livability of RC are: 1) Affordable housing 2) Crime / Drugs / Shootings 3) Our homelessness problem 4) We need more manufacturing/technology jobs and less reliance on tourism. 5) Lack of monetary support to our local non-profits especially by corporations that "use" our community for employees and don't give back as much as they could. (BH Corp/Energy, Littelfuse, etc.) Some of these corporations have CEO's that make multi-million dollar salaries and keep all the \$ at the top, but they are reducing their charitable giving and I feel that's very wrong.

(Ward 5) Primarily I am fine with current livability

(Ward 5) Repair my street... it is more potholes and exposed base than actual street, we live a block away from Pinedale school.

(Ward 2) Reduce the aging population, increase youth and non-white population levels.

(Ward 3) keep crime reduced

(Ward 3) More cultural events which would mean building a new Civic Center

(I don't know.) increase opportunities thus increasing user fees because therefore there would be more money coming in and taxes wouldn't go up by so much

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Improve the way we see our homeless I do not care if they are screwing up they are still people. if the sleep under a bridge let them they might not be able to go anywhere else. we should be helping the homeless not treating them poorly and kicking them out. I know the people of this town are kind a loving and some share my feelings on the fact. I hope we can start to be more humane and show sympathy to these people

(Ward 5) I don't like the options given.

(Ward 2) I think making the city more modern and adding more things to do would help it to be a more livable place.

(Ward 2) Q3: Libraries, pools, ice arena, Dahl Arts, etc. should increase their user fees. Should not all be the responsibility of the City Government. Q5: Why can't abandoned buildings, including motes, become housing for the low income/homeless instead of just sitting & deteriorating? Also, many of the streets are awful. The road crews need to be taught how to patch - not overfill, or underfill.

(Ward 5) Increase & improve local activities i.e. theatre, concerts, good restaurants, live music, clubs, art galleries, good shopping. Enough of the fast food, and cheep tourist stores.

(I don't know.) 1. Safer downtown area 2. Career opportunities for young people 3. More public functions 4. Better/safer public transit 5. More art

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) maintain green space

(Ward 3) Increasing services, opportunities, and social services for the poor, so that panhandlers aren't scaring away tourists and the citizens of North Rapid are more economically integrated into the city

(Ward 3) Hold the taxes and service, utility costs in check. Seniors & low income people cannot afford to live here.

(Ward 2) Increase public safety, more resources for the homeless, support local arts

(Ward 3) Infrastructure must be maintained - streets, water and sewer. Water pressure in many areas is too low to put out a fire. Traffic flow would improve if Sheridan Lake Road is extended to Deadwood Avenue. A shopping/ entertainment area will fail if a homeless center is too close. Look at Portland, OR. Columbia Sports Wear is leaving because its employees are tired of being scared and having their vehicles broken into.

(Ward 5) Reduce the salaries of high level city employees, stop hiring consultants for every decision and utilize the resources already available to city government.

(Ward 1) Increase police presence to reduce crime

(Ward 3) Increasing economic development to bring higher - paying, quality jobs into our community. Making Rapid City an inviting place to do business, specifically business that provides jobs year around versus seasonal jobs found in tourism.

(Ward 3) Increase wages (economic development).

(Ward 5) Emphasize the positive features which are many! We have great parks and recreational opportunities which are free! We are near the Black Hills lakes and hiking trails. Excellent skiing is a short distance away. We have a wide variety of cultural organizations and events.

(Ward 1) Fix the housing crisis

(Ward 3) Infrastructure, streets and upkeep of buildings.

(Ward 4) Creating a vibrant downtown area and cleaning up issues with homeless/vagrant population.

(Ward 3) Not locate the Transformation/Restoration center in the downtown core. Locate it on the fringe of downtown. Make concerted effort to address homelessness & panhandling.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Create more community involvement. Work more with the arts and help create more avenues for artists!

(I) Q3: \$1000 does not go very far in this day and time!

(Ward 5) Improving city infrastructure (buildings, roads, parking, etc.)

(Ward 2) Increase support of performing arts, visual arts and cultural recreational options available. Support of the arts increases community and economic development. Additionally, the arts present a healthy outlet for our children and inherently teach critical thinking skills.

(Ward 1) More code enforcement, hold citizens accountable for the look of their property.

(Ward 2) work on homeless and vagrant problem

(Ward 4) Attract businesses that pay a living wage. Protect locally owned businesses from predatory businesses that will undercut them. Invest in solar and wind power and enact net metering so that everyone could have renewable energy.

(Ward 5) Q3: added ambulance service to fire services, and 'reduce street sweeping' under street cleaning. Also allocated the remaining 75 to sew plant, H2O treatment plant - asking, "what about water, sewer, and garbage?" stating a City the size of Rapid City should have more than one primary water main and one primary sewer main. Stop wasting money on the Journey. If the City's water & sewer infrastructures fail, the City fails. The City cannot continue to expand given limited, fragile state of sewer system. Q5: Privatize the Journey Museum & free up City funds for other purposes. When possible, help improve appearance of all areas of City. Focus on economic development of City core and (cannot make out penmanship) appears to say ridua sprall. Residents of the City shouldn't have to drive through the entire City to access shopping or dining. Privatize garbage / recycle pick up.

(Ward 1) Better streets, more control over developers and their development, development shouldn't be at the expense of the taxpayers. Heavy truck usage on residential streets have added to the current need for repairs. Increase the fees for contractor vehicles by loaded gvw.

(Ward 2) 1) Raise speeding ticket prices/cost. 2) Utilize more volunteers 3) Gainfully employ anyone able to help bring costs down in other areas. 4) Why are these already not privatized?

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Address the social problems, homelessness, low wages, crime and substance abuse. Follow a comprehensive land use / zoning plan; Industrial parks, organized commercial districts. NO leapfrogging.

(Ward 5) Competition between hospitals/healthcare. Cost of living assessment & adjustment. Diversity in the job market.

(Ward 4) The city needs to put more effort into fixing or cutting programs that aren't using their funding legally, wisely, and/or just spending it on something so they get the same, if not more funding, next year. There are more severe crimes, criminals, and law breaking to pursue than minor traffic tickets.

(Ward 1) Our streets are in terrible shape. Don't rebuild the City, but throw down some fresh asphalt every now and then. Not every street needs concrete.

(Ward 2) Better infrastructure.

(Ward 2) Maintain, improve and update streets and public infrastructure. Prioritize spending of public funds on public needs, (infrastructure, utility services, public safety and health),, and quit giving away money to fund private interests (developers, contractors, builders), profits and benefits.

(Ward 3) Maintain a safe community - snow removal & road repairs. Recreational opportunities.

(Ward 5) Improve and support cultural opportunities & tourism. Improve police services. Move RR tracks from downtown area.

(Ward 2) Help the homeless, provide attiquite care for drug abusers and provide them with rehabilitation services

(Ward 2) people need jobs & affordable housing. Our public transit does not support employment. Cost of living in this town does not correspond with the wages here

(Ward 4) We have a lot of young new innovative residents who want to live in Rapid City. They want to be included, please start listening to them. Let's get rid of the "good ole boy" network!

(Ward 5) Police and Fire protection

(Ward 5) Improving buildings, streets, and parking will enhance the quality of living in Rapid City.

(Ward 2) Bring in companies that will/can pay higher wages. Technology jobs, etc. more big box stores doesn't offer job opportunities that pay decent wages. Keep up the parks and hiking trails (like M-Hill) these things make our community welcoming to families and young people.

(Ward 2) protection of the environment; maintenance of a diverse economy; provision of accessibility through land use; delivery of services for residents and businesses; housing choices; balanced city budget; and, the involvement of citizens in planning and delivery. talent attraction and retention as well as economic dynamism; and, the overall amenability of local governments to the development of a progressive economy. solar power, wind power. Recycling, clean air. emission testing.

(Ward 2) Q4: Cancel public transit system and fire code enforcement. Q5: Replace our aging streets

(Ward 3) Q3/4 this was difficult! You are the experts - you know how to do the allocations.

(Ward 5) promote arts

(Ward 3) Safety Education Health Care Public Transportation

(Ward 5) Jobs, social, economic equality, recreation safety with equality, responsive govt for all.

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(Ward 5) Ensure adequate law enforcement, public safety, and maintain parks and streets.

(Ward 1) Enforce codes (weeds, etc.) for the whole City not just in select areas. Have those in violation pay for entire bill. 1 warning letter is enough - they know they are in violation.

(Ward 2) Keep the library viable. Many people use it for internet service, books, movies, a warm place to shelter, and community.

(Ward 1) !-make up your minds. This deal with the Civic Center is a joke. Its taking too long because no one can make a decision. the civic center should be moved to along the interstates, so its easy to get to and has room for more expansion when needed. 2-parking and getting through down town suck 3- move the thursday night to the civic center and quit messing up downtown 4-fix the roads and fix them right the first time

(Ward 5) Support economic development. We cannot improve unless we have a more diversified economy.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) quit spending money we dont have on things we dont need.

(Ward 1) #4 comment: Code Enforcement - who cares we have more important things #5 comment: get rid of the homeless in the city parks; street repair; don't worry about "weeds, junk cars, trash, etc"; we need more for the younger crowd

(Ward 5) 1. Encourage local people in their local neighborhood to decide what would help the livability of their neighborhood. - a process there could do. 2. Try to find/discover ways to have local neighborhoods work with their business community members who maybe artists, musicians, bakers, weavers, etc. to join with "transforming" or addressing an issue in their neighborhood with arts based community development skills & process. (We have a group in RC that has been trained to possibly help define this for people if interested)

(Ward 4) 1. Safety 2. Livable community 3. Jobs

(Ward 3) Better wages and lower rent

(Ward 1) Make it easy for a business to conduct business here.

(Ward 3) Street repair, more industry, more promotion of the city as a desirable place to live.

(Ward 5) Fix roads & improve public transportation

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) I believe our weakest livability aspect in Rapid City is affordable housing, and lack of professional careers. I believe we can improve quality of transit and fee free areas such as parks.

(Ward 1) Improve snow removal during winter & come up with a solution for homelessness & public intoxication.

(Ward 2) Expand economic development. Stop being closed-minded as a community. Be welcoming to new industry, employers, employees, etc. Improve housing options. Stop thinking small.

(Ward 1) Police, fire and streets most important followed by recreation.

(Ward 3) Public Safety , Quality Streets, Quality Parks and Cultural activities

(Ward 1) - Continue improvements - like Mt. Rushmore Road. - Add turn lanes throughout City. - Try to better deal homelessness in downtown - not very livable when homeless approach & harass & intimidate me and my family - also not good for tourists. - Rapid City

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Remove aggressive panhandlers and inebriated people from the streets immediately. Improve the quality of schools...current situation discourages new people from moving to RC...difficult to recruit Physicians to the area for this primary reason....bad schools.

(Ward 5) Protect our water quality and quantity. I was amazed that none of the Strategic Goals addressed our natural environment, which provides our local economic base (agriculture and tourism) and allows us to survive here.

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(Ward 5) Improve the infrastructure and create/build more parks and community areas.

(Ward 3) reduce taxes, fix the roads, crack down on crime

(Ward 1) Economic growth

(Ward 1) Get back to basics that you can afford with revenue stream you have. Don't make the revenue stream fit your wish list you want!

(Ward 5) Keep a safe environment, clean water, clean air (dust levels?), keep citizens safe.

(Ward 3) Improve safety and continue improving quality of life with parks, art, etc

(Ward 3) Bus service to grocery store and walmart for people in high rises.

(I don't know.) Financial stability/reduce and eliminate corruption in city government. Reduce use of specific companies for city work and require multiple bids. Enhance crime prevention/law enforcement.

(Ward 5) Stop wasteful spending, especially overbuilding when replacing existing infrastructure. Stop wasteful spending on additional employees which take tax revenue away from needed programs (i.e. budget analyst, media spokesperson, employees after grants run out.

(Ward 2) Encourage small business growth by lowering taxes on business with less than 50 employees. Speak and act positively about the large economic movers and growers in our local economy. Street lights in many neighborhoods need to be brighter or put more into place to make the City safer.

(Ward 5) improve non-motorized transportation options, i.e., sidewalks, bike paths, transit

(Ward 2) maintain infrastructure

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) 1. Maintain an excellent police and fire dept.; 2. Improve educational and recreational services; 3. Improve infrastructure, e.g. streets, water, sewer, storm drainage; 4. Keep citizens in the loop.

(Ward 2) More focus on economic development; build a new civic center; social programs should be supported by the churches & individuals; Public/private partnership on housing; tear down homes in blighted areas and build continuous 4, 6 & 8 plexes in those area

(Ward 1) Coming from working in the school district I would love to see the City and RCAS work together to help the bed bug epidemic. Families can't afford to properly treat so the problem continues to worsen within the community.

(Ward 5) Currently, I'd say addressing crime and promoting economic development and growth

(Ward 3) Reduce the tax burden on the citizens of the town. Also it would be nice if the traffic laws were enforced. I am constantly passed on the streets while I am doing the speed limit and using my turn signals. Rapid City has some the worst drivers I have seen. It doesn't seem that this is a concern to the police force. If you issue more tickets, you can use that money to help keep the streets in good shape.

(Ward 1) Go back to original plan for Civic Center.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) First and foremost don't saddle us with this debt of a new Civic Center! Remodel to compliance our existing one. Secondly, place our ambulance service to a private entity like we used to have. We would not need a truck or two to go to EVERY call cutting down on manpower time, fuel, wear and tear. Your dream of a cash cow is not working and is costing too much. City government should not be in health care, it never works! Lastly, get the drunks off the street, I did not say detox, move them on, off downtown!

(Ward 3) Improve recreation facilities. Put a roof on the 50 meter outdoor pool at the Roosevelt Swim Center.

(Ward 3) Support arts and culture programs. Support affordable housing and help for homeless people. Support programs for children.

(Ward 5) Continue to support arts and culture. Support social service programs, including care for the homeless population

(Ward 4) Quit giving Wards 3+5 preferential services on snow removal.

(Ward 5) Stay well-rounded to keep current and attract new residents. Police and Fire are important, as are recreation facilities, parks and museums.

(Ward 4) Infrastructure development such as rail yard airport expansion interstate expansion to denver

(I don't know.) I don't believe I've lived here long enough to provide an accurate opinion

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) economic development economic development economic development economic development affordable housing street maintenance

(Ward 1) The Airport situation is pretty bad. It is impossible to fly most places, much less get tourist to fly into Rapid City. It's expensive.

(Ward 3) Stop hindering growth and make a forward thinking plan. There are little incentives to welcome new change/growth. We can't want amenities but then be unwilling to pay for them.

(Ward 3) Support the effort of developing a greater \*\*\*\*ty of job opportunities.

(Ward 3) Live within their means - - I believe we can make due with some things - - We are a wonderful City & I love it in Rapid City.

(Ward 4) Higher wages

(I don't know.) Increase economic growth of the area, possibly in technology, avoiding reliance on tourism.

(I don't know.) Side walks in all communities. Finish the road construction in one area before starting another area.

(Ward 3) Get rid of the Good "Ol" Boy network in the City. Let more business into the city, i.e. costco-Dick's Sporting Goods, restaurants. Let this "BIG TOWN" become a "SMALL CITY". Add more services to Westside of Rapid.

(Ward 1) We realize it is difficult to balance a budget but as a citizen we have to and so should government. You cannot continue to increase fees and taxes year after year since the average citizen does not get their income increased. Make those who want the "best of everything pay for it", those in the community that utilize say parks, recreation, places like Downtown Square pay more. Many citizens do not use the areas and should not have to pay for others' enjoyment.

(Ward 3) Repair and maintain our streets... Not just the ones to Business developments. Have the police address the issue of "aggressive drivers". This problem lies beneath the cause of many traffic deaths and injuries.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Reduce crime and get the homeless off the streets.

(Ward 4) Allocate more resources to code enforcement so people will clean up their properties = way too much junk, trash, old cars that can't run and weedy lawns, especially on the North end of town.

(Ward 1) Fixate on improving the infrastructure, as opposed to constantly building anew around Rapid City. Improve what is already here prior to new expansion

(Ward 3) Improve social services to people in need

(Ward 4) Affordable housing and a living wage. There is no housing that a person making min wage can afford without housing assistance. The wage a person needs in order to live here without any assistance is \$12/hr. No more tiffs for slave wage jobs! If they won't come without a giveaway, then slam the door in their face!

(Ward 1) As a city we are constantly "reactive" to growth and changes. We need a planning/zoning group that anticipates, legislates and enforces. We are on the brink of explosive growth. Developers are throwing up subgrade medium density apartment complexes with little or no concern for traffic infrastructures and public utility capacities. "Proactive" action needs to supersede reactive chaos.

(Ward 5) Fix the streets

(Ward 3) Economic expansion to provide higher paying jobs. Better control of inebriated people on bike path. Expand/rebuild Civic Center to attract additional performers/show.

(Ward 3) Safety - better programs to address violent crime Homelessness issues Sports Complex for Youth Sports Street maintenance and repairs Zoning, codes, building permits

() Mr. Mayor, I received your survey request in the mail. I did the survey on line but thought I would provide you a some more of my thoughts in relation to Rapid City, its budget and recently becoming a citizen of the city. I served 20 years in the Air Force. My stations included Montana, Australia, California, North Dakota, Kuwait, Nebraska and Florida. I was never stationed in South Dakota. I chose to retire here based on the proximity to my family and the lack of state income tax. I chose Rapid City because of Ellsworth AFB and the Black Hills VA Health Care. The house and land I purchased is in Countryside which at that time was in the county. But 85% of my neighbors decided they wanted to be part of the city so they could get more water. I have never seen the final numbers on what it cost to make this happen. But now I am a part of your city. My perspective is the service level has gone down, the cost has gone up and the harassment of my neighbors trying to use city ordinances to change the way I live has increased. The city has found no fault with me but yet my neighbors continue to submit their anonymous complaints. I took the first summer and winter off after I retired and tried to figure out what I wanted to do. My Air Force career taught me a lot about a lot of things and my upbringing in Montana and North Dakota gave me a different perspective and work ethic than most of my fellow officers. So, I have tried to stay employed since then but that is difficult in this town. Employers don't take care of their employees and employees don't think they need to work. I receive a good retirement check and also a little VA disability. Those 2 incomes would put me above what the average worker makes in this town. So I don't have to work; I WANT to work. So when a job becomes a job and starts to become stressful, I am able to step away and easily survive. But employees who need the job because there is no other income they have, sit on their behinds while I am the one learning and doing. That is the workforce I have personally experienced in your city. Customer service is another area that this community is seriously lacking in. For a tourist based economy, the employee doesn't do much to help the customer. I am a local and I can see it every day from the grocery store to Walmart to the gas station to restaurants. I am just used to it now that if I want help with something, I better go ask. Seems like an area where the Chamber of Commerce could provide some training to employers and employees to highlight these issues. This town doesn't need a Civic Center. The administration doesn't need to be seen spending millions on itself. Those millions need to be going to directly help the public with their life. The roads can use a lot of improvement. Enforcement of existing traffic laws can use improvement. Civility on the road can be improved. Neighborhoods need to have nice neighbors and not nasty ones that call the city to make complaints about things that they can talk about face-to-face. I don't have anything really positive to say about your city. I was hoping that with your term as mayor you would have influenced things to be more like you were when you talked to me before your first election. But now I see that politics is politics and the people are just the way to get money into the coffers. That is not who I want to be. I want to live in a town where I am appreciated and rewarded for my abilities and my contributions. I want to live around people who speak to me like a friend and work on our differences. I want to drive on streets where I feel safe and not part of a NASCAR race to see who can cut in and get to the next light. The place I thought would be a good retirement spot is wanting to make me find another place to move to. Finally, government continues to expand both at the city and county levels but the direct impact on my household is negative. Live on less than you make and do more with what you have. That is the motto of my life. If I need more money for a project, I look to cut something out of my life first before I look to go get more money. Can your administration say they do the same?

(Ward 3) Neighborhood policing, economic development, fund social services, fund the arts, maintain our park system

(Ward 1) Police force wastes money with high turnover rate. Cost too much to train & then have them leave. Need whole new management team. Tell mayor to stay out as well. Don't want taxes or fees increased!! Get more efficient. Too easy to just raise fees or taxes! If can't afford it, then don't do it!

(Ward 2) The arts are incredibly important to the community, public funding is needed to augment the private sector. Its important economic development as well as for the youth

(Ward 5) Building a strong foundation that promotes safe, health and well-being. From this foundation other services, goals, and strategies can be built to grow & thrive.

(Ward 3) Maintain service levels Raise taxes

(Ward 3) More policing of downtown and parks, and better assistance for vagrants that harass citizens there. More investment in business sectors that aren't tourism and agriculture. Invest more in technology business growth. Continue to fund park improvements like Skyline Wilderness.

(Ward 1) Take care of the first responders - they are the ones who keep us safe!

(Ward 4) Bring in skilled jobs. One of the original purposes of the Vision Fund was to bring in high paying manufacturing jobs.

(Ward 1) For police (out source) for large events like Civic Center and events co\*\* summer night down town

(Ward 1) DO NOT INCREASE WATER RATES. Find other areas in the over inflated budget to streamline services offered by the city.

() We should have had the new Civic Center built by now & get some class entertainment booked. If we listen to all naysayers, it will never happen. It was the same when we built the current one. Maybe you are too young to remember that. It was one of the best things ever for Rapid City.

(Ward 5) Continue city financial support of cultural and de relational facilities and opportunities.

(Ward 4) Prioritize funds away from beautification and into drug and alcohol education and homelessness. It would be useful to see driver's education mandatory for all new drivers.

(Ward 1) Continue to try to bring in bigger businesses to help drive the economy forward.

(Ward 3) My biggest thing is infrastructure. Streets, runoff and the entire City needs work on streets and water management. The streets will beat you to pieces and during summer, there is a lot of standing water. We are #1 in the Nation for West Nile. Water needs runoff and and we need to start spraying for mosquitoes and ticks. People don't think when they are hiking or biking (even Dinosaur Hill) but these two pests cannot only make people sick or they can even die. We have gigantic mosquitoes & ticks.

(Ward 3) Good paying jobs

(Ward 1) better paying jobs - increase standard of living City is growing, but mainly retail & food service - low paying jobs

(Ward 1) Build some side streets for local use 'to and from work'. Open a street south of Maynards to take traffic away from Campbell/hwy 79. More bike paths. Make Storybook Island Park more like Wyle Park in Aberdeen.

(Ward 5) Continue support for the arts recreational activities.

(Ward 3) Services for the working poor and safe neighborhoods

(Ward 5) Bring in new businesses and be transparent about it. Do not let developers over build so it hurts the local owners

(Ward 3) Performing arts and visual arts promote a vibrant community, promote economic development, and provide the resources for healthy and active children who will become successful and contributing adult members of society.

(Ward 1) Honor the input of senior citizens and Native Americans. Too many of the decisions seem to benefit only a few downtown business people. When the mayor asks for volunteers for committees, include real people, not just business people or city administrators. Also, get going on the affordable housing agenda.

(Ward 3) Improve racial relations

(Ward 1) Better collaboration with organizations for helping people in poverty and homelessness. Initiate more affordable housing opportunities.

(Ward 4) Address affordable housing. Create long term plan for better public transportation. Create paths for Native Americans to overcome the barriers of historical trauma; educate non-Natives about their role in keeping

the world a good place. Grant TIFs/TIDs in places that are \*actually\* blighted. Develop North Rapid. Make flights out of RAP cheaper. Get long-distance public transportation, like to Sioux Falls and Denver.

(Ward 3) Continue to develop downtown in to a livable core, focusing on parks, transit/parking, economic development (especially coordinating with Mines for east of 5th) and cultural opportunities (such as BHSO/Allied Arts and the Dahl)

(I don't know.) 1. Make it safe to walk ANYWHERE in the city. 2. Reduce taxes on industry to bring better paying jobs. 3. Affordable housing. 4. Get the drunks off the streets of downtown. 5. QUIT SPENDING MY TAX DOLLARS ON STUPID PROGRAMS THAT DON'T WORK. 6. No more programs that overlap with Tribe programs. Tired of paying for the same thing twice!

(Ward 3) improve the plight of the homeless and poverty stricken in our community. Work towards helping those with addiction issues rather than jailing them.

(I don't know.) Increase the amount of affordable housing, encourage new businesses other than tourism, retail, or restaurants- bring in higher paying jobs that will help people live more comfortably.

(Ward 2) Reducing poverty would increase livability for everyone. An emphasis on housing, education, job training, and substance abuse treatment will help get more people into the workforce and decrease the need for policing. Our community lacks affordable housing and spends too much on its police force. Better allocation of resources could help to right the imbalance.

(Ward 3) Code enforcement needs to be more even I've personally seen people be targeted in a neighborhood but 10 more properties around them are in violation and not made to up keep with code. Also better street signing to many areas of town are private property but appear as public the city does not put up signage correctly to notify people if an alley way or dead end is private or public. And a cap on housing values and rent rates to many homes in Rapid City are valued over 150k and most places to rent are 1k a month

(Ward 1) #1-street repair - to many streets with problems that need fixing; RR track crossing are atrocious #2-economic growth-new business bring new tax revenue

(Ward 5) Do not spend all of the Vision Funds on the convention center. Arts and Culture and parks (bicycle trails etc) make the city a fun place to live.

(Ward 3) Support all educational levels Support police and fire protection We are a tourist location...we need to deal with the homeless and panhandlers with a new location from downtown.

(Ward 2) Develop a competent, educated workforce and provide low-income housing options that encourage people to be engaged in improving themselves and their community

(Ward 5) Affordable housing for people that are just above poverty level but still struggling.

(I don't know.) have people receiving welfare or other support do services for the city. Mow parks, sort recycle materials, etc.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Fix the streets and traffic jams

(I don't know.) Fix the roads!! The road does damage to our cars!!

(Ward 4) Street repair and maintenance. Parking garages. Code enforcement. More common sense in city government. Quit always hiring from out of city for studies.

(Ward 5) Continue to invest in services that support widely beneficial economic development and quality of life.

(I don't know.) Be kind. We all take things for granted but half the people get treated terribly because of what the don't have the things they don't have.

(Ward 1) N/A

(Ward 3) #3 comment-I included ambulance service with Fire #5 comments: good Fire, ambulance & police protection, good roads, good medical facilities

(Ward 5) Offer incentives for economic growth, continue to provide a variety of activities for people

(Ward 3) Provide resources for people who suffer from mental health, trauma, and addiction.

(Ward 4) Stop defining the different areas such as North Rapid vs the rest of Rapid. Stop allowing certain political sectors dictating rules for the rest of Rapid, such as getting rid of summer fireworks and moving them to new years as an example. The citizens don't feel they are being heard.

(Ward 5) Maintain a vibrant downtown Extend the city corridor east to SDSM&T

(Ward 5) Keep the arts, library, and social services fully funded.

(I don't know.) Stop prosecuting people for victimless crimes.

(Ward 1) update roads lower crime clean Rapid up!

(Ward 3) Keep the communities safe.

(Ward 5) Continue to support the areas of arts and culture

(Ward 1) Better street construction that doesn't last a million years. Expand libraries. More arts.

(Ward 1) Invest in the school systems, after school programs, and public libraries. Maintaining roads and infrastructure is also very important. However it's counter productive to have poor construction crews who only do a sub par job. There should be strict time lines and penalties if the job is not done satisfactory and promptly. Bonuses should be offered for a great job done and in a quick manner. It should not take several years to get 8th st done properly. The west side shouldn't have to have worse roads than the North side.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Work towards building a welcoming and inclusive city.

(Ward 5) Take care of the homeless. Every life matters. People should not freeze and starve and die because there is no where for them to go. People should not be put in jail because they have a mental issue with no options. More and more people cannot afford to live in our beautiful city because there are less and less jobs that pay liveable wages. A single mother of two cannot afford to live on \$12 an hour Why is the cost of living so high in Rapid City, and the wages so low?

(Ward 1) The highest priority should be the safety and security of members of the community. This includes fire safety, law enforcement, infrastructure improvements, and support for families and community members in need through social programs.

(Ward 4) Better Paying Jobs With a \$40 hour work week instead of 32 or less

(Ward 3) Provide adequate resources to the underprivileged and the homeless population

(Ward 3) Help improve the north side of town

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) keep the drunk homeless out of downtown.

(Ward 1) Maintain our current services

(Ward 4) Ensure law enforcement and fire are properly staffed, compensated, and trained to provide the best service to the community. Properly maintain and plan city infrastructure. Fund programs to help the most in need population (elderly, homelessness, drug addicts, etc.) Stop bending to special interests!!! JUST BECAUSE A GROUP REQUESTS PUBLIC FUNDING DOES NOT MEAN IT SHOULD BE PROVIDED! Public funding should be reserved for items that benefit the majority, not a select few and some already receive public funding through non-taxable status (sales tax and/or property tax) and should not receive additional funding.

(Ward 1) Snow removal at the residential areas in addition to the main streets, recreation facilities and city parks in addition to public library are essential for growing a strong healthy future. Social program is also essential for a healthy city and should have significant support from the community. However I don't believe my taxes should be raised because someone is breaking the law. We should increase their fines. It seems like the same families continue to economically develop while not raising the wages they pay to their workers. The fees associated with economic growth should, therefore, come from their pockets, not mine.

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(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) 1. Aggressively improve the quality of K-12 education. This is the biggest barrier to recruiting talent from elsewhere as recruits are concerned about their children. 2. Work with SDSMT to foster economic development.

(Ward 1) Reduce the homeless population and do not allow panhandling. I avoid downtown and East North street businesses because of the actions of the homeless, especially when they are openly consuming alcohol in broad daylight. They do not attempt to hide their bottles which tells me there are no consequences for their actions. Businesses will never thrive with this activity on their doorstep, no matter how nice and new they are!

(Ward 4) 1. keep ALL citizens included in budget (seniors are as important as children!). 2. enforce traffic laws. 3. affordable housing. 4. job and school opportunities 5. be inclusive (art, sports, senior programs, neighborhood watch, libraries, plow the streets, keep things affordable).

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) 1. Hire a City Manager to run the City. 2. Break down the culture of bureaucracy. 3. Simplify all zoning requirements. 4. Eliminate redundant planning procedures. 3. Require Engineering to expand all major infrastructure to guide growth. 4. Require Engineering to stop running their department by crisis. 4. Reduce the control and input from Fire Department (tied to item 3 above). 5. Reduce staff to the minimum required to run an efficient business (tied to Item 1 above). 6. These items will change the negative reputation the City has created which is necessary to attract new business.

(Ward 3) "Clean the streets". We have serious crime going on. I am tired of being nervous to walk downtown. Many times I have been harassed by transients. I haven't taken my children downtown in years, which is a shame. Waste of money if you don't maintain the image. Increase the police and patrols.

(Ward 3) Build a new civic center, continue to improve roads, support development, reduce unnecessary regulation, encourage competition, think out of the box, re-elect Steve Allender

(Ward 3) Enforce laws, especially for the police dept. Keep the city safe. Maintain and improve streets.

(Ward 1) allow for economic growth, encourage new organizations to move into our community, including a new/another health system. Nothing else can be funded in our community if we don't have strong businesses paying higher wages

(Ward 3) clean up downtown by helping the homeless & addicted that loiter - addition programs, more aid to Cornerstone & Help Center, low income housing

(Ward 1) Do not raise taxes. We are already taxed to death. Our income is low and housing prices continue to rise. Something needs to be done about that.

(Ward 3) To attract and retain community members, we must understand wants vs needs. Livability studies indicate affordable housing, low crime, access to health care are important. Then we come to good schools, transportation, nature & culture opportunity. However, not much can happen if we're not a strong, vibrant community with employment opportunities. If we have money, we spend money and everyone benefits.

(Ward 3) Safety and protection, i.e., police and fire. Street maintenance and repair.

(Ward 5) New Civic Center (rebuild, not repair) Increased Economic Development Increased BID Privatize certain aspects of service lines Organize and Increase budget for low income / homeless services

(Ward 1) Continue to find ways to generate revenue/tax collections i.e. increase tourism & attendance at public events

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Vibrant arts and cultural opportunities. "The arts have a crucial impact on our economy and are an important catalyst for learning, discovery, and achievement in our country." Paul Allen, Microsoft founder "We need people who think with the creative side of their brains" people who have played in a band, who have painted it enhances symbiotic thinking capabilities, not always thinking in the same paradigm, learning how to kick-start a new idea, or how to get a job done better, less expensively." Annette Byrd, GlaxoKlineSmith Recreation. Economic development. Services and "safety nets" to alleviate hunger, addiction, homelessness. Services ensuring safety of citizens.

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(Ward 1) Fix streets, railroad crossings. Improve snow removal. Upgrade Civic Center. Build parking structure downtown.

(Ward 3) Quit spending money on things that encourage nonproductive people to move into town from the reservation and other areas.

(Ward 4) Improve economic growth

(Ward 4) Increase the police force possibly adding substations in expanded growth areas of the city. similar to the fire dept substations

(Ward 4) SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(Ward 4) Good roads attract people to move here and stay. public safety is generally a given. Parks, pools, arts etc. show people you have a community that cares. The role of government is to provide for those things the public cannot provide for themselves. Those who use a service should pay for the service. Have a fee schedule and update and revise it.

(Ward 3) The city needs to focus on economic growth to draw more business. We need to be able to expand our city, but was also needs to keep it safe with first responders. Planning of growth and business location is very important as well, as it can have a huge impact on it's surroundings.

(Ward 3) Expand our downtown to incorporate the School of Mines more, while making it safe and well lit for patrons.

(Ward 4) I feel like more money is being put into tourism (bringing in outside money) than taking care of the citizens needs who are already here. We need more recreational programs for children/Adults/Seniors to be involved in at a low cost. When people are happy and satisfied they stay where they are and put more money into their own environment which makes our economy stronger. Only focusing on tourism will cause unrest within the city as a whole. i.e. A great place to visit but a horrible place to live.

(Ward 1) Support the resource needs of existing, effective non-profits. Facilitate opportunities for innovation. Facilitate momentum for new business.

(Ward 5) Maintain infrastructure and health/safety.

(Ward 2) Provide affordable living options

(Ward 1) Get a handle on crime Repair/improve infrastructure Support the arts

(I don't know.) Fight crime/drugs

(Ward 3) Keep it clean, safe, economic growth

(Ward 5) Address the homeless issue.

(Ward 2) Police and Fire

(Ward 3) Ensure Safety Plan for the future

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Raising taxes is not the answer you've already raised Water and Electric you raise anymore and nobody will be able to afford to live around here. Maybe quit paying the higher up so much tax more on gambling and legalized marijuana look what it's done for Colorado they have no money issues

(Ward 4) Put stronger forces in place to clean up the bad neighborhoods, junky houses and trash. Become much tougher on the criminal element, native mainly but also white.

(Ward 1) Economic development to bring new businesses and thus hopefully creating more revenue and tax revenue which provide opportunity for new and better programs and services. Update and maintain parks and recreational activities.

(Ward 3) Run efficiently. Minimize tax burden.

(Ward 5) Fix the roads. I don't care about a new ball field or the beauty of our parks when I have to replace my shocks and re-align my steering yearly.

(Ward 3) Repair Streets especially in the following areas: West Blvd and Old Robbinsdale; Mandate that all future development within 3 miles of the city or within city limits have city water, sewer, and side walks. We have approximately 18 miles of recreational parks running through the city; no future development should be allowed in any flood plain whether it is a 100 or 500 year flood plain.

(Ward 1) Use the money raised by fees and taxes to provide services rather than pay big wages to managers and supervisors of departments.

(Ward 5) 1.traffic enforcement and not just speed. 2. Pro active code enforcement instead of complaint based. 3. Support schools arts and cultural activities

(Ward 3) Allocate more resources to code enforcement to make people clean up their properties to reduce junk, weeds and old vehicles that don't run. Focus more on side streets for snow removal in the winter, other cities do way better at this with less. work on relocating homeless and vagrant Natives that panhandle aggressively around town.

(Ward 5) Have clear lane markings on the streets. Maintain a visible arts presence. Keep Rapid City safe through adequate funding for police and fire services.

(Ward 5) More affordable housing Inclusive race relations Reduce city government Reduce city employees

(Ward 3) Increase the number of indoor recreational facilities available during winter months

(Ward 5) Move the homeless out of the streets. Walking in the park with my family is hard to do when being pestered by homeless drunks.

(Ward 4) Economic development, downtown improvements (Presidents Plaza), no more panhandlers & drunks. Communicate with other similar cities regarding issues that have worked in different communities. For example Billings, Montana had a major issue with their arena that was handled quickly and for a fraction of the cost I'm hearing it's going to cost R.C. regarding our arena issues.

(Ward 5) More social support to help the bottom & middle. MORE economic development to provide better living opportunities to bring all levels up. It doesn't appear like anything is being done in this realm.

(Ward 4) Street improvements

(Ward 3) Don't build items without a plan to pay for the operating cost. Outsource whatever you can through the bid process. Don't make homelessness in Rapid City so attractive people migrate here as a result. Poor money into economic development and infrastructure. That is jobs and growth of the tax base.

(Ward 3) Provide excellent Police and Fire departments and have an aggressive repair/replacement strategy for the streets. As much as possible outsource other functions ie Parks to contractors who would be responsible to bid to provide services thus turning them into sources of tax revenue.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Economic Development - more growth Need larger labor pools to support growth.

(Ward 4) economic development

(Ward 3) Support k-12 education and encourage economic development without TIF's given to existing businesses/utilities( BH Power) that robbed Rapid City of millions in tax revenue.

(Ward 1) Reduce crimes

(Ward 5) Remove the billboards. Limit on interstate & in town; Improve maintenance of roads; Partner with area schools to create economic opportunities for city & graduates; Build, don't update arena

(Ward 3) I think one of the most important things Rapid City can do is maintain/increase funding for the arts, in and out of schools. The arts play a vital role in education and cultural awareness for all ages. I don't know where I would be today if I didn't have the arts in my life. I'm in college now, so I don't live in Rapid year-round, but I

actively participated in orchestra and chorus in the public schools, and the BH Community Theatre and BH Symphony Orchestra outside of school. Others should get the same opportunities I did in the arts.

(Ward 5) tackle social issues- homeless, intoxication, violence, addiction

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Vibrancy, recreation, tourism, skilled workforce, education of population, a working drug and alcohol rehab program; this is improving but a work in progress.

(Ward 2) Invest in arts and culture as an industry so that it helps to generate economic growth.

(Ward 3) Spend less money on the fluff and the very nice and fix and maintain what we have, Have the old guard of the city allow wages to be raised through out. With raised wages overall better things will come and flow through out the city. Do not allow special interest small groups to run the city or always have there hand out for there special projects that the city allows funds or gives away instead of them paying there way. Have developers pay there far share and not put it on the tax payers back.

(Ward 5) A vibrant cultural community that is safe and clean and has a variety of job opportunities.

(Ward 5) improve police patrol downtown at night improve traffic flow (I could write a book on potential improvements there) provide more support to homeless

(Ward 5) Continue efforts to lower crime rate.Streets are in dire need of repair showing lack of pride in the community. Continue improving parks and recreation facilities (which need not be 100% City cost). Work with developers to increase affordable housing. Continue working with economic development to provide well paying jobs. Approving longer term limits for City governing body has been "a long time coming" and should assist in many areas including developing realistic and vibrant long term planning.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Get a handle on the meth problem.

(Ward 3) \*Replace the civic center as explained by the Mayor at his presentation recently \*Do not fall behind on infrastructure maintenance and replacement-roads, water, sewer, parks

(Ward 3) tame the octopus: homelessness, panhandling, not working, not going to school, not taking care of their own kids, stealing, doing drugs---we have a layer of dysfunction that impacts all of us. some people are NOT contributing to the livability of RC!

(Ward 3) I believe our flood plain is at this point a great asset that we can continue to develop into great outside spaces.

(Ward 5) Smooth running city governments produce very livable communities. Rapid City government seems to have no organized and operating plan to direct and better inform the governing city council .There is a conduit needed to more fully inform the council long in advance of what staff is planning or working on thereby allowing the council to more fully understand what the future will be upon their collective decision rather than allowing the mayor to continually advance advance what he believes is best. Cities are always better when ideas are originated, deliberated , refined and formally adopted as a elected body .

(Ward 5) Safety Support Cornerstone

(Ward 1) Roads and public safety

(Ward 5) Maintain funding for the arts, for every dollar spent, it is return in multiples. maintain Police and Fire Departments, maintain roads and keep ahead of development by keeping ahead with infrastructure.....I would think it would save money if the city prepares for growth, rather than try to catch up with it. The city has to look at the whole picture, rather than to focus on certain priorities. Each is important in its own right. Rapid City a city of vitality, with a number of modalities that makes it succeed as a whole. All are important as the next one.

(Ward 5) Expand the bike trail system. Expand technology related employers. Retain a Whole Foods or Sprouts natural food grocery store.

(Ward 4) 1. More consistent flow of traffic. 2. More police on patrol throughout neighborhoods at night. 3. Road conditions

(Ward 4) Fix the infrastructure. Privatizing is the stupidest concept a govt can pursue. Govt is supposed to provide services to its community that benefits the community. Privatizing takes the benefit to the community and gives it to only those whom can afford it.

(Ward 3) Increase number of higher paying jobs.

(I don't know.) Maintain recreational and cultural events and opportunities to sustain a vibrant and enriching city.

(Ward 3) Sustainable planned growth that includes economic and cultural development.

(Ward 5) Make the town more bike friendly- make it a priority for bike lanes to be implemented on every major street, not just the ones in your master plan. This town is very unsafe for those that choose or have to bike to get around - the bike path is great as an expressway to get you to and from the west and east side of town, but as soon as you get off of it, it is a death sentence to try and get around, especially with Rapid City's aggressive drivers. This will ultimately save the town money. Thank you.

(Ward 4) Good schools, Good churches, and good infrastructure, good recreational experiences, good police, and good fire fighters

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) 1-affordable housing to match Rapid City wages; 2-let business come in that provides jobs and money coming back into the community; 3-better snow removal/ice treatment on roads; 4-don't waste tax payer dollars with poor communication on projects

(Ward 3) A strong recreation, arts and other cultural activities help attract people and businesses to relocate here.

(Ward 3) Make it a City people want to live in with great parks, cultural offerings, schools and an entrepreneurial spirit that brings high paying jobs.

(I don't know.) Improve traffic flow ie the entire west side of Rapid using the cut across at Shooters to get to I90....Jackson Blvd dead ending at Main Street etc. More Arts and Cultural depth to serve citizens and attract tourism Downtown revitalization....more than just Main Street. Avoid things like providing a ward map on a priority survey that has no ward information on it. ...just nameless colored blocks. More professionalism in all activities.

(Ward 1) Expand Cultural, Arts programs and activities. Well planned, and logical zoning and economic development.

(Ward 3) The two areas most important to quality of life and pride in community are social programs (to reduce homelessness, provide affordable housing, and reduce poverty), and culture (increasing the arts, heritage, and local culture).

(Ward 2) Improve wages and streets but needs to quit wasting money on statues and giving land away. The city needs to be run more like a business and not a charity.

(Ward 5) Get rid of the good all boy club, raise wages, cut city and state government budgets. Illuminate corruption within the city government. Quit bowing down for the 2% of the population. The city administration building is full of fat. If city workers would work as hard as everybody else in the city we would not need half of the employees.

(Ward 1) cut spending., consultants, surveys, etc

(I don't know.) infrastructure repair, increase safety

(Ward 3) Address the homelessness problem. I think we are on the right track now, but that problem really hurts us. Also, the fire department's budget is out of control. They hired 5-6 new firefighters when, according to their annual reports, fire calls are declining every year. Ambulance calls are rising at a higher rate (so total calls are rising), so why did they hire more firefighters instead of EMTs? It makes absolutely zero sense.

(Ward 3) Make sure the arts are funded. I moved here from the San Antonio, Texas, area because of the safe environment and the arts that is available.

(Ward 3) Support of the Arts

(Ward 3) Focus more on infrastructure

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Safety and chances available for homeless Maintain cultural and arts community Provide recreation for all

(Ward 3) the streets and the arts.

(Ward 3) Bring in and develop high paying jobs. Invest in the "livability" of the City i.e. parks, recreational opportunities, Main Street Square, Summer Night like programs.

(Ward 1) The area has natural resources that draw people. Money needs to be budgeted and not become a drain on the living resources of people

(Ward 5) Fund programs to reduce homelessness and to increase affordable housing.

(Ward 4) Help to rehabilitate the homeless

(Ward 5) Fix the road surfaces, dangerous intersections, and traffic flow problems (user fee " gas tax option?). Don't waste police payroll and time on speed traps. Build a 3rd high school. Do not build a new civic center at the expense of taxpayers when the current facility can't support itself as is with user fees. Do more to promote new business development and growth in the area, the town is sprawling with decrepit vacant buildings on unmaintained land.

(Ward 5) Road infrastructure needs major improvements- too many dangerous intersections and areas of congestion along with numerous potholes and surface damage. More large scale beautification projects like Mt Rushmore Road. Consider building an additional high school. Two is not enough. Increase Economic Development. There are too many vacant commercial buildings in town. Attract less retail, more manufacturing.

(Ward 5) Cultural events, promote arts and music

(I don't know.) 1.Create more competitive paying jobs that provide benefits 2. We need to help the poor of our community. Not just handouts of food and shelter, but with programs that teach them the value and dignity to be found in work and providing for oneself /ones family. 3. STOP TAKING THE ARTS OUT OF SCHOOLS! Music, in particular, teaches a student discipline, dedication, how to function as part of an ensemble or individually, and allows then to create music with either voice or instruments! Music builds confidence, creativity, and helps create a more well-rounded student. The ARTS ARE IMPORTANT!

(Ward 1) Provide incentives for growth in high paying jobs and attract new businesses for high paying jobs

(Ward 4) street repair is sorely needed, have lived in Rapid City for 38 yrs, this is the worst I have seen them

(Ward 5) Keep working on the poverty and homeless problem. Look for ways to get illegal drugs off our streets and lower crime rates.

(I don't know.) Provide arts and cultural opportunities. A city that is alive, vibrant, and has opportunities to create, express one'self and connect are important. Also walkability and bikeability would be important.

(I don't know.) Create and implement a sustainable growth plan.

(Ward 3) Police Fire Arts

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) economic growth and proper education of our youth. By proper I mean getting back to basics. Music must be a part of it as it teaches teamwork, art math and history all in one.

(Ward 1) Improve street repair, provide opportunities to meet public servants in a smaller scale

(Ward 3) The cost of living in Rapid is high and wages are low.

(Ward 3) #4 comment: Code Enforcement FINES! #5 Comment: Enforce the law - traffic violations, code violations, parking, panhandling, snow removal by business owners. I guarantee you that these things bother people more than if there was a burglary on their street because these affect them and make life miserable every day

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Promote the arts

(I don't know.) Enhance cultural activities and opportunities by supporting the arts especially the Black Hills Symphony and programs like it.

(Ward 2) continuous economic improvement and expansion. It's also time to realize that the different areas of Rapid City North-South-East-West all deserve the same attention without leaning towards the wealthier areas of town. Seeing road work and beautification in the wealthier areas of town while the poorer areas are left to rot and decay is so obvious it's pathetic and embarrassing. I pay an equal rate of taxes and should be afforded an equal return on city services. Another area of concern is school availability, plans need to be engaged now before our children suffer because of our unwillingness to act.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Make this a place where people want to come. We need affordable housing, we need cultural programs and good schools. We need a safe environment.

(Ward 3) #4 comment - Building permits-very little value here #5 comments: #1 reduce property taxes; #2 keep us safe; #3 improve quality of streets; #4 economic development-pursue hi-tech companies

(Ward 5) We absolutely need funding for the arts in this town. The city already allocates a comparatively minuscule amount of money to the arts in Rapid City. Everyone in this town benefits either directly or indirectly from the fantastic arts/cultural programs that are publicly funded. Economic growth and infrastructure need art and culture—it all goes hand in hand. To cut funding completely to one area is like cutting off your hand because you think, "hey, I have another one; I can live without." In reality you're living with a handicap. I

(Ward 1) We continue to attract more homeless. That seems to be a bit of a strain on the city budget. Is there a way to discourage the homeless from settling in Rapid City? I feel that could be some of our budget problem and the safety of our citizens.

(Ward 1) Better roads and planning. Go after real paying jobs. Provide for better parks in neighborhoods by making the developers include this in their plans. Have developers make neighborhoods, not just a terrible road with housing. The newer section of 5th street should have been lined with shrubs and trees when built. Plus, the road is fairly new and already needs repairs. More bike paths made without having to cross side streets.

(Ward 3) We need to make rapid city a more affordable place to live. Many young people are leaving as they cannot afford to stay

(Ward 3) maintain infrastructure and economic development

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) stop the panhandling, drugs in downtown. Feel unsafe on the streets at times.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Work on racism and assistance for the homeless and unemployed.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Don't tax it to death, cut the wages of the government people, not the working class

(Ward 2) Stop trying to compare Rapid to Sioux Falls. We have a more vibrant, unique setting and we need to embrace and enhance this advantage. Not try to lure the next set of Garth Brooks concerts and build something that won't get used as much as you think.

(Ward 5) continue with downtown & community development & improvement. Build up not out

(Ward 3) Continued support of the arts, libraries, parks, etc. that make this a good place to live for all, regardless of income. Better public transportation options. Maintain infrastructure (streets, water quality) and safety (fire and police protection.) Support of public education at all levels so we will have a trained work force with skills needed by any new industries. Economic development that will include jobs that offer living wages.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Open and be transparent about city government. Who gets contracts and why. Have voting districts done fairly and stop the gerrymandering!

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Feeling safe in our community

(Ward 1) quit raising taxes and raising fees every time you turn around. We have a lot of seniors that live on a fixed income here and you are hurting them

(Ward 1) Pay better attention to the needs of the many rather than the needs of the few. Focus on programs that will help people not need to commit crime, rather than increasing police numbers. Focus on giving kids extra-curricular activities so they don't turn to drugs or violence (look at Iceland). Focus on getting kids to love school rather than teaching them how to take a test (look at Finland). Rapid City needs to start focusing on helping the people that live here so they want to stay after graduation and make the community a better place.

(Ward 1) Bike and walking friendly infrastructure

(Ward 2) Make it much easier to start a business or build a home. No more TIF's, if a new business feels RC is where they want to start then they should pay the cost. Reduce regulations. The government can't do everything there has to be personal responsibility.

(Ward 4) police, fire service street repair, maintenance public libraries city parks social program support & homeless

(Ward 5) maintain the transportation network - bike, auto & pedestrian

(Ward 3) Do something about the pan handling down town. Remember, if you support it you will get more, if you tax it, you will get less. As long as you support homeless people, who come here from other places, word gets around.

(Ward 3) Increase the quality of life through cultural and recreational facilities so we are more appealing place to move to for young professionals.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) -Keeping growing the downtown district -Increase interstate to 3 lanes -Beautify the on/off interstate ramps -Decrease the amount of commercial development on hwy 16 -Place a stoplight on hwy 79 by landfill entry/exit -Expand the Rushmore Plaza Civic Cen

(I don't know.) Safety, Infrastructure and Culture

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Create a community which promotes education, the arts, and community involvement

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Beautification and safety

(I don't know.) safety, homeless, education

(Ward 5) Educate the citizens, either through the public library, schools, or community-wide access to wifi for self-education

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Keep it safe!

(Ward 3) Maintain a vibrant arts and cultural community.

(Ward 1) Rapid City should be a healthy, balanced, community with business opportunities, good schools, and a vibrant cultural scene. Why would you want to move here? Not because we have great streets and effective snow removal. People move to Rapid City because of what it is at its core. It is a City with arts, business and employment opportunities, great schools, generous people and a do-for-others mentality. If you think of why people visit Rapid City, stay in our hotels, eat at our restaurants, purchase goods here, it is because of the entertainment available while you visit.

(Ward 1) The answer is multifaceted. Economic development, while improving the downtown, which includes dealing with the homeless population, in conjunction with keeping the arts available

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Keep reinforcing the arts.

(I) you must address the problem of housing. The slum lords need to be curtailed. The connection between the Govt programs & the high rents in R.C. needs to be investigated & acknowledged

(Ward 5) Responsibly spend the tax dollars already paid in. This survey obviously omits one important option. That is how can costs be reduced and taxes either maintained at the current levels or reduced. This survey is very one sided.

(Ward 2) 1. Education. 2. Give the citizens, especially the youth, plenty of options for things to do, including sports, music, theater, and other events. The higher educated, and the busier, the people are, the better the quality of the community.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Provide access to good schools, museums, music, art, and opportunities to participate.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Safety so supporting and prioritizing police and fire services and advancements in these areas.

(Ward 3) Continue to develop the innovation district, east of Fifth to tap the potential of School of Mines student energy and imagination. Continue to support a vibrant downtown (similar to Ft. Collins as one example).

(Ward 2) Maintain a safe environment with police and fire services.

(Ward 3) violent crime (apparently mostly drug related) is becoming more of a concern for safety and safety is a major factor in livability

(Ward 4) more cultural activities-not rock bands etc that don't appeal to everyone. and our current civic center is sufficient. We have seen, in the past, many nice shows there, but nothing recently.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Public resources (library) and reasons to come from out of town (civic center events), street maintenance including potholes and snow.

(Ward 1) street repair

(Ward 4) Plan for new growth by doing what the community wants. This survey is one thing that will help show many different ways to achieve our visions. I think we should build a new Civic Center to be able to bring more people to visit Rapid City

(Ward 2) address social and economic disparities which are contributing to increased rates of crime and reduced public safety. focus only on municipal issues rather than pointless political nonsense that only serves to divide the community. don't be afraid of taxes, because money has to come from somewhere...you can't please everyone all the time, so focus on the bigger picture. also, i really want to see Mayor Allender wearing a big sash that reads, "MAYOR".

(Ward 2) Come up with a plan that does not disadvantage the poor even further with more idiotic ideas such as water/sewer/trash rate increases, wheel taxes, parking fees, etc. The city's current agenda seems to exclusively favor developers and the rich who gain much but give back very little.

(Ward 5) 1-stop raising taxes; 2-fix the streets; 3-quit rebuilding the same roads; 4-stop with all the studies, listen to your staff; 5-let big developer build their project using their money not tax payers

(Ward 5) Improve streets and traffic flow.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Be more responsive to needs of the homeless by getting large businesses involved in funding programs.

(Ward 4) Build lots more truly affordable housing, raise minimum wage. Increase cross cultural dialogue and expect leaders to Place a much higher value on cultural and livability non-tangibles and less importance on the obvious services (streets, police and fire) which will always, automatically be funded.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) safety, green spaces, economic development,

(Ward 3) Provide a safe environment & parks & arts entertainment to improve our status

(I don't know.) The arts are the #1 most important asset to an American community. They arts provide people a reason to go to work every day regardless of whether they create or simply enjoy. In order to thrive in the arts, an individual must gain skills in critical thinking, and problem solving, teamwork, and collaboration - important

life-skills regardless of profession. Further, It is impossible to be a thriving, informed democracy without these skills. Therefore, if we love America, the only responsible allocation of resources prioritizes the arts. Advocating against arts funding is to advocate against having an informed democracy...which is un-American.

(Ward 5) Reduce the homelessness and crime issues in our city. Support the Collective Impact and Haven for Hope programs and work towards helping the population that have issues with addiction and alcoholism. Both residents and visitors are accosted by panhandlers downtown and at intersections around the city. I love Rapid City but those are the concerns I hear.

(Ward 3) 1. Smart proactive spending. 2. Good schools = good workers = businesses growth. 3. Good social services = less crimes = less police. 4. less focus on tourism (we don't need big concerts, we have too many hotels, and tourism jobs are min wage). 5. more active recreation = less crime (expanded rec center) 6. Tax alcohol to pay for social services. 7. Stop giving money to developers and make developers pay for roads and service. 8. Hold construction company accountable for poor road construction. Poor trench compaction on 32nd between Jackson and Canyon Lake is ruining a new road

(Ward 3) Green spaces, bike path, skyline wilderness type trails, walkability

(Ward 3) Develop and invest in social programs, and recreation programs for our children and young adults. Every dollar that is spent on treatment of addiction, opportunities like housing, etc... reduces the millions of dollars that law enforcement requires. Supporting our children with healthy recreation and art opportunities keeps them off the streets and out of trouble. Developing our arts programing as well as community education (perhaps at library) can help people get a hand up rather than a hand out. The citizens of Rapid City are the most important thing we should focus on to move forward.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Education-- an educated society is a strong society

(Ward 3) A community cannot function without the arts!!! Stop trying to underfund it or get rid of funding. If you want your community to grow then you have to continue to expand artisticly to attract more business people and culturally minded people to the area. Because guess what...people will not come for the weather I can assure you of that.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Safe neighborhoods, promote cultural activities, eliminate road hazards,

(Ward 3) Increase treatment and assistance options for addicts and those either homeless or in extreme poverty. Eliminate useless and costly arrests and incarceration for addiction and drug and alcohol use. Instead of building more jails, reduce jail population. Put in place real public transportation that efficiently serves where people live and need to go and doesn't quit at 5:30. Start thinking like a progressive community and stop making it so difficult for businesses to start and thrive here. Eliminate archaic regulations. Why are we one of the last cities to get Lyft?

(Ward 3) Our economic development is terrible. The city says no before they ever entertain an idea. The city continues to make commercial building harder and more costly every year Water retention ponds to hold a owners own storm water is ridiculous. Breeding ground for West Nile Storage lots now have to be paved?? Crazy. Land owners can't afford it and renters can't afford to pay what it would cost The developer of Dollar General states that this city is the most difficult of any city this size that their company has ever worked with

(I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.) Sustainability of the Arts gives residents events to go and attracts tourists, both of which are essential for a healthy economy. Any vibrant city has a healthy arts community.

(Ward 3) Do more for the homeless and create better avenues to give a leg up. Detox and rehabilitation are tremendous. Criminal reintegration within the community and promote second chances.

(Ward 5) Stop taxing us out of our homes for the sake of runaway development. It is ruining everything that makes Rapid City a good place to live to begin with.

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(I don't know.) Grow! Bring in businesses that aren't tourism based. Make the community more progressive and educated by funding arts and things that can bring community members together. If staying on tourism donations, enrich the city with more to attract people from around the world.

(Ward 3) Improve availability of mass transport especially for elderly, handicapped and the young. Maintain our high quality of arts, libraries and parks.

(Ward 3) Reduce the amount and frequency of violent crimes, burglaries, assaults, child abuse, domestic abuse, sexual assaults predominantly perpetrated by the local indigenous population. This is coming from a registered Rosebud Sioux Tribal member. I believe these issues are what gives Rapid City the biggest black eye in the minds of both residents and non-residents.

(Ward 5) Safety, inviting with parks downtown activities, maintain library, journey, safe houses and public buildings. bus system friendly and efficient and continue free rides for school children. roads need to be clearly marked and maintained, citizen friendliness toward our visitors. (that is huge as I think we need to remind people constantly of their responsibility to our visitors as they are our bread and butter) PSA are a possibility and a thank-you to all the people who make our community work.

(Ward 5) Common Sense and Communications

(Ward 5) Fix the side Streets, maintain cultural venue.

(Ward 3) Two things- 1. The crime in our downtown community is unbelievable. As a mom of three- I couldn't even walk down main st today, a Saturday at 11:30am without being harassed by multiple drunk men. This is not ok. 2. being the owner of a plumbing company, I know first hand that our permit and inspection process is an absolute disgrace. We have stopped doing sewer line repairs altogether so that we do not need to deal with the city. I don't know how qualified these so called "inspectors" are.

(Ward 5) Make the public more informed about what each service cost per year and month by maybe putting it in the journal and on the digital bill boards around town. Then maybe people will be willing to have less services to save on what they pay for taxes. For example shutting of street lights at 7:30pm, only picking up trash every other week, less policemen, etc.

(Ward 5) Make owning a home more affordable, having more jobs available by bringing in businesses

(Ward 5) Control spending and reduce (or at least stabilize) taxes

(Ward 2) The city needs to help its citizens- providing education and cultural opportunities will improve them, and police and fire can protect and support.

(Ward 3) provide recreational, cultural and educational activities

(Ward 4) Improve our roads and find someone who knows how to coordinate our traffic signals!!

(Ward 2) More affordable housing options

(Ward 1) Support the arts and agencies that support the most needy in our community.

(Ward 1) Too hard to answer in a survey.

(I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City.) Stronger support of the arts,

(Ward 1) Get rid of the drugs!

(Ward 5) #1 Priority: Increasing community policing and other steps to reduce the vagrancy problem. To many vagrants downtown, plus the bike path is unsafe in many places. 2nd most important priority is to encourage and promote economic growth. Better jobs & industry such as technology & manufacturing sector companies

(Ward 2) Fix the rail road crossings. Rapid City has the worst RR Crossings in South Dakota! There is NO excuse for it! The Civil Engineering students at the School of Mines could even fix this problem! It's not brain surgery!

(Ward 4) Make sure that all income levels are provided for. Real grocery stores accessible to all. Public transportation, public parks & Libraries. Arts available to all.

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(Ward 5) They need to continue to support for the arts, music & community theatre in RC. Keep our police & fire safety in good condition for all RC people. Keep & maintain good roads & streets in RC. Provide good snow removal on the streets & roads in RC.

(Ward 5) Increased public transportation, programming for middle/high schoolers, continued arts

(Ward 5) Keep downtown and all the neighborhoods safe. Maintain a good economic growth with livable wages.

(Ward 3) Maintain strong community of arts, integrate Mines into the community, affordable housing, strong library, continue support of parks

(Ward 3) Maintain a safe and clean city.

(Ward 3) Support public education

(Ward 1) street repair & maintenance & traffic flow

(Ward 5) You can invest in improving the economy of this area but it's a thriving arts community that will attract and keep people here.

(Ward 5) Question #3 comment-Arts & Cultural program support should be self-supporting or sold to private entities; Question #5 comments: #1 support our police & fire depts.; #2 keep our streets repaired, maintained & snow removed; #3 code enforcement including making property owners trim or cut down trees that are dangerous

## Question 2 Comments – User Fees

**Q2. User fees are a City revenue stream that results from citizens paying a particular price for a particular service they use. In general, do you think the City should put more emphasis on user fees as opposed to reducing service levels or seeking other revenue streams such as taxes?** Comments (optional):

(n\_combined = 477)

(Increase taxes) It 's very difficult to answer this question without concrete examples of fees vs. taxes. My primary concern in this question is that income inequality is addressed - that fees/taxes should be drawn more from the citizens who can afford them and less from the citizens who are living paycheck to paycheck.

(Increase user fees) Allow citizens to pay for the services they use

(Increase taxes) Taxes are necessary to provide the infrastructure , growth and stability a city needs to attract clean business

(Increase user fees) pay for what services you use

(Reduce service levels) Reduce/eliminate spending my tax dollars on feel-good stuff that can 't support itself.

(Increase taxes) #1 comment - Economic Stability was left blank, coded a "7 " as that was the only un-used #

(Increase user fees) personal/property taxes are too much as it is and not all taxes are sent to what it was originally intended for (i.e. gambling/casino taxes = education funding... must have been East River education only; 1% sales tax = teacher pay raises/education... still not seeing this in use in some areas of our State ); user fees should be implemented, but if so, make sure fee goes to that item/category/idea rather than a general pot that isn 't controlled and can be raided by officials.

(Increase taxes) It 's a community responsibility

(Increase user fees) Increase User Fees? What does that mean? This "user fee " concept is vague. What services are we talking about? I need to know more before I can take a stance on this. By all means, don 't increase taxes-that should be a last resort

(Reduce service levels) I would have to say use the current funding more wisely. Operate more efficiently. The residents of this city pay dearly for all the services we get. Maybe there needs to be an extensive audit to locate all of the money we paid in?

(Reduce service levels) Taxes are too high, can barely afford to live here. Government is too big already. Buying the former BHE building was simply more growth of Government. Lost the tax revenue! Look at the vast number of Government buildings in town!!

(Increase taxes) User fees are necessary but too high and utilization will go down. Hotel (bed) taxes are too low and the inherent fear that tourists won 't come is not true. This is the tax rise I would see helpful. Not necessarily more taxes on citizens.

(Increase user fees) Increase user fees and/or reduce service levels, so those using the service bear the cost. It is not fair to increase taxes across the board for programs that only benefit a few (equivalent to making everyone buy a Cadillac when a Ford is sufficient for some)

(Increase user fees) If I used a certain service or program that I was dependent on, I would expect to pay or pay more if costs increased. Particularly recreational services. I don 't believe that the governing bodies should raise fees on services because they pay more in other communities that are similar in size.

(Increase taxes) Increase taxes on "wants " instead of groceries. And reduce service levels if needed.

(Increase user fees) I believe there are places and ways of reducing spending without increasing taxes or user fees, or reducing service levels. In other words, cut wasteful spending, freeze administrative costs, etc.

(Increase user fees) It depends on what service fees are for. When it comes to basic services (water, sewer, garbage disposal) potentially increasing taxes would be better than increasing fees. For non-essential services, fee increase is the best solution.

(Increase user fees) Although increasing taxes is not always bad. We want services, but they need to be paid for.

(Increase user fees) This isn 't a state where wages are adequate to live comfortably & stress fee concerning \$\$\$\$.

(Increase user fees) Make those wanting the services pay for said services

(Increase taxes) RC is using national averages as their target for Aquatic Division cost recovery without adjusting to local economics. National average is 50% recovery costs. RC Aquatics Div is at 47% recovery. This is right on the mark adjusted to local economy. Therefore, user fee increases are not justified. Services are efficient and necessary within Aquatics Div. Any cost increases should be covered by taxes.

(Increase taxes) I think that perhaps reevaluating the best methods for doing things could be better. Can funds be saved by increasing efficiency anywhere?

(Increase taxes) All services make Rapid City a good place to live in Reducing services would result in less people wanting to live here and our city will not grow.

(Reduce service levels) The city should give priority to those services which benefit the larger segments of the population. Some services are too specialized.

(Increase user fees) I am happy to buy my annual swim center pass -- love the facility and staff. I personally would pay a bit more to keep doing so. Important that more people can afford it (so not too high as hike) but better than the other 2 alternatives

(Increase taxes) Please! Raise my taxes! User fees discriminate in favor of those who have resources and against those who don 't.

(Increase user fees) If you are using a service and there is a charge you should pay. Not the whole community by raising taxes.

(Increase user fees) Probably fairer than increasing property taxes.

(Reduce service levels) Tough decision on this one. I am assuming the city must have data or some analytics on services that are successful and show results. Prior to reducing services, can the city look at which programs are successful and which are not? Then take the one 's that are not and determine if they are needed. If needed, either fold them into an already successful service or consider training, perhaps leadership replacement, etc. If the program is not needed, get rid of it. The trick will be determining the definition of success for each service. I don 't think we can just eliminate services or ask people for more money until we know what 's really needed and what 's successful or failing.

(Increase taxes) Increasing user fees are okay if they do not get to be that all user fees support the expense of that purpose. Taxes should be spread across all city services whether it is golf courses, water, sewer or streets.

(Reduce service levels) None of the above. I would want the city to operate more efficiently and not reduce service levels or increase taxes.

(Reduce service levels) In reviewing descriptions of priorities on previous page, it looks as if city government is attempting to accomplish too much. We are personally responsible to provide for many of these well meaning efforts. City government is responsible for safety and transportation.

(Increase taxes) This is an unfair question. Shouldn 't there be other options?

(Increase user fees) Build in a COLA into the fees every year.

(Increase taxes) There is another option and that should be the use of CIP and Vision fund to augment cost of services. I really don 't like increasing taxes but it 's better than the other two alternatives. If its a public service, everybody should share the cost.

(Reduce service levels) The City is more interested in getting raises and having "reserve funds ", They put this above all else.

(Increase user fees) User fees for things like water & garbage but not fire & police

(Increase user fees) It 's not great, but necessary.

(Increase user fees) I think people get tired of paying high tax so that other people can take advantage of the various programs. Let those who use it pay a little more for it, rather than having people who can 't or don 't want to use it having to pay for other people.

(Increase taxes) As a very low income citizen (Social Security Disability, low income housing and food stamps), I am concerned about anything that puts services farther out of reach of the poor. I 'm not sure how we avoid this, but it 's a continuing problem.

(Increase taxes) User fees don 't sound good to me. Your question is very vague, however.

(Increase taxes) I believe that the effective use of the current user fees are adequate to meet expected service levels.

(Increase taxes) Tax us progressively. I can afford to pay. Most of the people I know can. But there are parts of the city where they 've already got enough problems.

(Increase user fees) all city costs associated with new development s/b developer paid as they reap the profit, not the taxpayer; golf s/b self supporting; all other rec is utilized by all income levels and s/b funded by combined taxes/fees; cameras s/b installed at major intersections & traffic fines increased for violations; parking meters s/b reinstalled in the downtown area & parking fees increased (Omaha charges \$1 per hour for downtown parking)

() #2-nothing selected #3- Depends which service. Be more efficient and stop giving \$\$ away to School of Mines & BH Corp

(Increase user fees) This survey checked all 3 options in #2 noting that for reduced service levels should be for non-essentials; In General I support increasing taxes for necessities like roads, utilities, police, fire. But I think this is overly simplistic-some services like police and streets, I don 't see any way to fund them other than a general tax. Others like pools and the ice arena, or water/sewer could easily be 100% allocated to user fees.

(Increase taxes) Citizens should not always expect services without paying for them!

(Increase user fees) There needs to be an associated reduction in service levels if the fees don 't cover the cost of operation.

(Reduce service levels) It would be nice if the survey would of said what taxes, fees and service levels. This question is misleading. Should have been a box on how to spend our money wisely.

(Increase user fees) A plan should be in place to ensure that those living in poverty can access and participate in programs - regardless of ability to pay.

(Increase taxes) This is the most equitable way of balancing the budget. Increasing taxes on luxury goods in lieu of raising user fees is going to help those who have trouble paying their bills by those who are able to purchase a new ATV/UTV or boat. Nah mean?

(Increase user fees) I support increasing user fees, but would encourage the city to use a sliding scale so we can help maintain fair access.

(Reduce service levels) Particular money spent on Parks & Rec

(Increase taxes) we need to tax based on income levels

(Reduce service levels) Budget better. Cut waste. Improve the economy for the working class so we can afford to pay more taxes and service fees.

(Increase user fees) We cannot reduce service levels. So many services are struggling as it is. I also feel that there are many property owners that would not be able to afford an increase in property taxes.

(Reduce service levels) It seems there is a TON of waste when it comes to road construction. Work is done, then redone because of poor planning. CATRON blvd for 1 and yhe upcoming prject planned for that...shoulf have been 4 lanes to begin with, the Jackson Ave was a mess, why did the City remove turning lanes on west blvd and Omaha intersection? Clogs up traffic on Omaha even more with the timed red lights at every intersection. Mt Rushmore is taking way too long...the list is extensive for blunders with road planning

(Reduce service levels) Reducing the benefits of a select few to help balance the budgets that benefit the whole city is what 's best.

(Increase user fees) I have no problem with a user fee increase or a tax increase as long as the money is put to good use improving our community, AND not just for the WEST SIDE!

(Increase taxes) We have some extremely poor parts of the population - for example elderly on fixed income, that cannot handle increases in user fees - I strongly object to either reduction of services or increase in user fees.

() #1 Comment - Balance Growth-Big Enough Now #2 comments - no tax on food would be nice

(Reduce service levels) City of Rapid City taxes are high and the services provided (if any) are extremely poorly executed.

(Increase user fees) User fees should be implemented, but if the project is complete then they should be reduced at that time. Example: Build water plant with user fees and when finished reduce them to maintain operational capacity. NOT rathole money.

(Increase user fees) taxpayers shouldn 't have to foot the bill for everything. Pay to Play

(Reduce service levels) This is too broad to effectively answer at this time

(Increase taxes) Non of the above. More efficient government

(Reduce service levels) Raising user fees punishes those who want to use the facilities most

(Increase user fees) I don 't like any

(Reduce service levels) Let the private sector fill the voids

(Increase user fees) I believe in balance of all 3 but user fee increases makes the most sense and reducing services the least.

(Increase user fees) Swimming ,skating, really cost us Aton!! Tennis pays nothing!! Golf is close!!

(Increase user fees) Depends on the service received for user fees. You can 't price them so people won 't use them or only a select few can afford.

(Reduce service levels) Too general. Need to be specific as to what services might be reduced or increased taxes for what services.

(Increase taxes) Increasing user fees makes sense on things that are legitimately user-based such as usage-based fees on vehicle miles or age, etc., parking, or road use e.g. tolls. Common services need to be spread across the tax-base for things like municipal services and "free " space like parks.

(Increase taxes) I worry that raising rates will restrict access for low income residents. It makes more sense to have a progressive tax and increase it for those who can afford to help the rest.

(Increase taxes) Paying more for water or trash will do less to help long term.

(Increase taxes) Increasing fees puts the burden on actual use and may deter people from using facilities. Taxes are raised across the board and may be more fair raised and people may be more apt to use facilities that have adequate services and reasonable fees.

(Increase user fees) If you 're using the service, then budget for a higher fee. As a golfer I see increases to fees each year. No complaint - pay to play.

(Increase user fees) Increases should only happen if the city has looked at all options first. Reduction of wasteful spending should be a priority.

(Increase user fees) If the user fees were for luxury items, not necessities

(Increase user fees) We cannot keep paying more in taxes, from the city, county and state, everyone increases taxes with no thoughts of the other groups tax raises.

(Increase user fees) we would support user fees as opposed to reducing services, such as fire, police, ambulance, etc. User fees for public recreational services, such as golf courses, should be mainly self-supporting

(Increase taxes) In general, I think taxes and user fees should be balanced. However I am concerned about our high poverty level and don 't want those people who are unable to pay user fees-especially for ears that promote healthy lives such as pools, Roosevelt, Ice, Etc.

(Increase user fees) I 'm a little unclear what you mean by "user fees. " What kinds of services are you referring to? I 'm fine with either increasing user fees or increasing taxes. DO NOT reduce service levels. They are low already!

(Reduce service levels) We pay to much on taxes and user fees, time to trim the fat from programs and cut costs or provide on a balance budget

(Increase taxes) With as many hotels as there are here, we could make a tax and use the tourist income to help pay for things.

(Increase user fees) I believe that if you use a service you should pay for it. Everyone should pay that uses it.

(Increase user fees) Taxes are high for persons with a fixed income. I would rather pay as I go for services I use.

(Increase user fees) Combination of user fees and taxes; maybe even graduate fee structure for some. For example, water usage above a certain amount cost more per gallon

(Increase user fees) Depending on circumstances. The library, education, police assistance should be free to all.

(Increase user fees) Make certain systems self-sufficient (ie: Rapid Ride) or self-supporting (ie: civic center)

(Increase taxes) like 1/2 cent sales tax fair & property to users, not just homeowners paying via water increase, etc.

(Increase user fees) people who use a service should be the primary funding source.

(Increase user fees) I personally believe that taxes should be used to fund opportunities for various services and set a base line for those to exist. Additional funding should come from usage fees which would allow the service to grow based upon the actual participation of its users.

(Increase user fees) Once a service has been removed it is much more difficult to reinstate the program. If it is a critical access service a tax increase would be an option.

(Reduce service levels) Utilize more creative solutions for saving on costs

(Increase user fees) Increase efficiency to reduce costs.

(Increase taxes) Increase taxes only on those with household incomes over \$75000.

(Reduce service levels) Do not fund non profits, arts organizations, rebuild civic center, RSVP programs etc. These should stand or fall on their own merits alone.

() None of the above. I feel that we should get the same levels of service with the current taxes/users fees. Both are too high

() NONE of the above - Stop increasing!! I don 't get a raise when my bills go up. My family continues to suffer. Budget! Budget! Budget!

(Increase user fees) In all fairness, those who use "should " pay; although I would not be adverse to providing, through taxation, an incremental support as a community infrastructure support payment. This is NOT to provide total support. If the user fees are not the bulk of the support, then the service is a burden which should be eliminated from the city overhead. (If movies cost too much for a household to attend, then they stop going to movies and rent/buy DVDs instead.)

(Increase user fees) If something is worth your time, it is worth paying for. I do not golf so I would not be paying a fee to golf, however my family swims. We will pay to swim!

(Increase user fees) Fees should be usage based. If you use a service, those who don 't use it should not subsidize your usage.

(Increase user fees) That allows the people using the services to help pay for the costs.

(Increase user fees) A mix is appropriate. Obviously, reducing service levels in low priority areas would create savings. Another option is increasing user fees for those areas so the people/groups who think they are a priority fill the need. If you stop supporting areas such as the arts and culture and reduce taxes people can spend the money on their areas of interest.

(Increase taxes) It depends on the services and who 's accessing them. Some services could maybe be reduced if they aren 't effective or benefitting the community, and some services aren 't essential and could have higher fees. But until there 's a surplus of jobs with livable wages, I feel that we should tax those who have the means to pay to make sure that everyone has access to the services they need. People end up unable to fulfill requirements or access services simply because they can 't afford them and that 's a problem.

(Increase taxes) Paying for services through taxes makes them more accessible to all. I would gladly pay higher taxes to provide equal opportunities to less privileged residents

(Reduce service levels) The city spends too much money on parks and frivolous beautification projects and not enough on maintaining streets, sewer, and water systems to justify increasing taxes or user fees.

(Increase taxes) Increased user fees disproportionately affect people with lower incomes. Taxes should be scaled and user fees should be a reduced flat monthly rate.

(Increase user fees) Doing some research of cities and counties across the country, there has been a decided increase of the use of user fees since 2000. I do not know the current breakdown of how Rapid City utilizes user fees but I believe we can benefit from the right mix of user fees. User fees can be all inclusive in that they are popular to the consumer and if they are structured correctly will cover all expenses. Here is a small sampling of where cities can make good use of user fees? • fees for utilities and necessary services: • charges for the use of government-owned facilities such as community centers, meeting places and park shelters: • fees for recreation activities, and • fees that individuals and businesses pay for licenses and permits. There were 249 cities, counties, villages and towns that responded to a survey in Wisconsin and half said they had implemented 275 new user fees within the past three years. Revenue collection appears to be the most efficient when its blended with present municipal financial system that offers multiple payment options including e-commerce.

(Increase user fees) pay to play will allow for tourism dollars to apply

(Reduce service levels) If the user fees get too high residents will not use the service or few will be able to afford it, so I feel if we reduce the level and can keep up what is currently provided to a reasonable rate is the right choice. The Journey Museum is no doubt costing more than its making.

(Increase taxes) We 're all aware of slippery slopes, but we want good things for our city, and if that means an extra \$25 in property taxes, we can pay it.

(Increase user fees) Taxes would be a close second as long as its a gradual increase

(Reduce service levels) If there are some service fees that are not in needs they could be reduced. Some services have their own methods that make enough if they can reduce in some way

(Increase taxes) It should not be an either/or. User fees for non-essential things like golf courses could be increased

(Increase taxes) I'm not in favor of user fees for things such as the library and our parks.

(Increase taxes) More snow plows please

(Increase user fees) More fees should be paid by contractors and growth

(Increase user fees) Although taxes must provide and support essential services, user fees should fund those opportunities that are not essential.

(Reduce service levels) If my paycheck is lower one week I don't continue to enjoy the same things that week a I would another. I can't tell my neighbor I need some of their money to sustain my lifestyle, I have to reduce what I spend. Why should the city be allowed to increase my taxes to sustain their programs when funds are low. Reduce city expenditures rather than increase peoples taxes!

(Increase user fees) Increasing taxes would be an option if everyone participates, not home/property owners only. Such taxation is a form of reverse discrimination as when only landowners had the right to vote. Taxing sales would be more equitable. If all benefit, all should pay for the privilege of that benefit.

(Increase user fees) The phrase "user fees" is rather vague. Are you referring to building permits, toll roads, or something else? Also, which taxes would the city increase? My answer will vary depending on which fees or taxes are being increased.

(Increase taxes) A balance of all 3 options is preferred

(Increase taxes) The wealthy will respond with reduction of services, people with a conscience will say user fees because they do not understand impoverishment and the taxes will remain low for the wealthy to continue to hoard their wealth for their future heirs and luxury lifestyles. Only taxes can remedy the inequality found here in the Black Hills city, and use of governmental services needs to be defined broadly. Let them pay for their roadways to their mansions in the Black Hills, their police forces, their impoverishment of the Lakota needs to be addressed as well - the government and corporate entities have long been involved in then suppression of Natives in the name of taxation of other forms of covert racism. Taxation and avoiding it is indeed ways of manipulating the vast resources that corporate, business and wealthy interests take from the government, as well as masking the true nature of poverty in America like it found in Racist City, South Dakota and South Dakota at large. Biggest racial divisions along housing, income, employment exist here between whites and American Indians. This question does little but mislead less informed citizens of government, history and resources in this city, region, and state.

(Reduce service levels) rather than continuing to raise revenue, how about increasing efficiency and economy - we need adequate services not the best money can buy!

(Increase taxes) Please take care of our roads, schools, and parks. We could try to tax liquor more, to take care of more law enforcement needs.

(Reduce service levels) Not all services are equal and some are not needed. This shouldn't be a blanket statement to all services.

(Increase user fees) User fees are always good. Let those that use help pay. Reduce service is 2nd choice. Raising taxes not an option.

(Increase taxes) Unsure which would truly be better

(Reduce service levels) we are taxed way to heavily as it is - the city also needs to maybe utilize Lean 6sigma to help with streamlining the financials and save money - it is a proven way to reduce costs

(Increase user fees) #1 comment: difficult question to answer as some of these rank the same in my priority list

(Reduce service levels) reduce payable hours or FTEs for parking ticket enforcement :)

(Increase user fees) people should pay enough for the facilities they use that there places do not have to depend on city subsidies

(Increase taxes) Possibly find other things to tax, such as advertising, coffee, or fast food.

(Reduce service levels) I would imagine that there is an opportunity to boost in-city sales of goods and services to earn more from already existing sales tax rates. A creative enterprise and local business campaign? If there are City services that aren't pulling their weight, maybe instead of increasing fees (which could further decrease their use) they could be streamlined? Or maybe like some big entertainment events where half the proceeds go to city budget (marketed to keep taxes down) and the other half to some other community organization that the city supports???

(Increase user fees) Increasing fees or taxes is the only feasible way to ensure the levels of service DEMANDED by those that need them. A decrease in services will cause an outcry, just like the raise in fees/ taxes.

( ) did not identify any item from list comments: Keep fees as is, leave taxes along. It is more feasible for Council & School to use what we have and do away with tax incentives for companies or put in place penalties if the company does not stay & pay full taxes for 10-15 yrs after opening past the incentive timeframe

(Increase user fees) Pay to play, especially regarding recreational activities not everyone participates in like trying to build a new civic center... not needed. Not everyone uses it.

(Increase user fees) Maybe its time to raise parking fines a \$1 or so.

(Increase user fees) I would rather pay extra for services I use personally than pay more in taxes for services other people want but that I do not personally use.

(Reduce service levels) I think we need a balance of services reduction and increased user fees to balance it and help pay for system (water works) upgrades slowly.

(Increase user fees) Re User fees. WE are a older couple, we live in our own home. Social Security is our means of income. We cannot afford increased rates or increased property taxes. Wouldn 't sales tax being increased make it more fair, for all of Rapid City 's population? Everyone would have to pay.

(Reduce service levels) on a fixed income, will not be able to live & maintain home much longer

(Increase user fees) My wife and I live on less than 40K per year. I think users should pay for the services they use, not raise taxes on everyone!

(Reduce service levels) parking downtown is not conducive to a welcoming experience. space is limited, parking tickets are overpriced. downtown should offer free parking if they want to continue to encourage downtown business. shopping downtown is not worth the hassle of keeping up with the meter. Maybe you could offer monthly cost effective parking passes for places like the Dahl where educators are constantly fined because they get busy with class and forget to keep feeding the meter.

(Increase user fees) I live in county and prefer to abstain. I do think the City should continue to support the Dahl. Survival (food, clothing & shelter) is not enough.

( ) No items checked; comments: reduce service levels-get rid of unnecessary, then increase taxes

(Reduce service levels) These questions and categories are seemingly quite vague without specific examples. The idea for input is super tho!

(Increase taxes) I think everyone should have acces to clean drinking water, winter heating, green spaces, quality k-12 education, etc...I am comfortable with funding these heavily with taxes coupled with educating and monitoring to ensure services are not used wastefully

(Reduce service levels) Reduce the number of police department employees. Reduce the number HR employees - including the four new FTE. Eliminate the PR positions for the General City, the PD and the FD. Eliminate the additional special project positions. Reduce the number of employees working in the Mayor 's Office. Focus on front line services to customers and hold existing employees accountable.

(Increase user fees) Increase fees during tourist season and offer discounts to Rapid City residents.

(Increase taxes) We can afford to pay taxes to support our roads, parks, and schools.

(Increase taxes) User fees will be an issue with those who have limited income.

(Increase taxes) User fees are already unaffordable for a single working parent family.

(Increase taxes) City services should be available to all and paid for by all. User fees prohibit access.

(Increase user fees) But, with this being my preference, I would also challenge the City to operate as smart and lean as possible. I witness what I consider over-staffing at the Ice Rink, which is concerning.

(Increase user fees) I feel that users of particular services should pay for the bulk of the cost.

(Reduce service levels) we must reduce cost of home ownership ie property taxes, drainage fee, septic, etc.

(Reduce service levels) There is no choice here. Two unfairly impact lower income individuals and the third reduces quality for all. Poor plan. Thought you could do better than this. Fail!

(Reduce service levels) Cut non-essential services and let them have user fees before cutting essential services

(Increase user fees) Also raise taxes

(Increase taxes) I 'm not in favor of increased user fees for things I such as the library and parks.

(Increase taxes) In my limited experience Rapid City does not seem to offer a large number of services. What services are provided are likely provided to its poorest citizens. As a result the increased taxes route seems the least regressive option.

(Increase user fees) Tax policies are politicized and do not always reflect proportionality to incomes. I would support balanced tax increases that do not burden the middle class and low-income individuals and families. The best option from the list above seems to be to increase user fees to meet growing demand...or develop more efficient infrastructure and service so that costs to the consumer or the city are stabilized, especially for necessities like water services.

(Reduce service levels) please, do not increase taxes!!

(Increase user fees) you give no samples-but I think of water/sewer fees somehow maybe they could be subsidized for the very poor and those serving them

(Increase user fees) if you increase taxes, everyone pays whether they use a particular service. This hurts the older, retired people on fixed incomes.

(Increase user fees) this is not a black and white question. depends on the circumstances & the type of services being considered

(Reduce service levels) There are too many people being hired with no additional services being given for the growth. ie, Fire losses are down with protection systems but we keep hiring more and more people and administrators. Street Department has equipment that never leaves the yard and people that should be seasonal and not as many year around setting doing nothing all winter.

(Increase user fees) you can't always go to increase taxes. If you increase user fees it has to be affordable or no one will use it

(Increase taxes) Increase sales tax

(Increase user fees) this way the more frequent user will pay more

(Increase user fees) A-If I need it, I will pay for it!! B-Quit!! nanny to grave. I'm an independent and under 80% of personal issues I will take care of my family & self. The other 20% can be worked through!! C-More taxes equates to more bureaucracy-guaranteed. therefore higher need for \$\$=more taxes

(Reduce service levels) wages are not going up but utilities keep rising. I AM NOT HAPPY paying for Black Hills Power 's new ridiculous expensive (looking) facility. Sorry if I went off topic

(Increase user fees) Make it so everyone has a share in the costs. A fair share

(Increase user fees) I would reduce service levels if it was my household. The city decision making on this is more challenging. Maybe combination of both increase user fees & reduce service levels.

() Excuse Me! you people were hired to manage the city functions. Don't take the easy way out & raise taxes. Manage and control funds you have coming in. I am on a fixed income. I have to make do with what I get each month. Stop abusing the people who love living here

(Reduce service levels) Stop giving away city assets then, saying you need to pay taxes for shortfalls, 1.6 million land downtown, Garfield schools, Cabelas land, on-on-on

(Reduce service levels) When discussing the reduction of service levels, DO NOT start with the services such as police and fire as a way of threatening the public. Instead, start with the services that are used the least and/or available through other means.

(Increase user fees) Fees should be increased small amounts on regular basis - 50% in 3 years is too much

(Reduce service levels) Do not increase taxes. Given the low wages in this town citizens cannot afford more taxes.

(Increase taxes) I am a senior on a fixed income. I rent to property tax hurts me indirectly.

(Increase taxes) because it goes across a broader base

() (Both increase fees & taxes checked): depending on what service-some are more necessary than others-whether it should increase taxes or user fees; when snow plow goes right by my house I don't understand why the blade isn't down. Instead the plow goes by-blade up & 5-6 inches of snow-a different plow (2) or time another plow comes other times 1-2 inches of snow & weather is warm & the plow is out & plowing-the sun would remove snow in a short time

() #2 checked both Increase user fees & taxes; comments: user fees should be increased for those who choose to use the service. Otherwise we know that taxes pay for people to live on this planet & in this free country. Nothing is free, that is why people live & work for the purpose of surviving.

(Increase user fees) If you use a service you pay for it. no exempt status. as time goes on there will be less people paying in and more people using without paying. we are not all rich politicians (like Thune). the middle class is shrinking and cannot keep paying forever. If you don't pay then you can't use!!!

(Increase taxes) a combination of all the above, may be the best result, depending on the service and the budget short fall

(Reduce service levels) ridiculously loaded question simply operate more efficiently

(Reduce service levels) less taxes on businesses and less government involvement

(Increase user fees) I wish funding for RSVP+ had not been given. I have worked with & for them and I never was given an answer as to why most of the programs seniors are asked to do provide funding for RSVP+

(Reduce service levels) Reduce wasteful spending

(Increase user fees) How about adding a fourth category? Greater efficiencies and more productivity from government employees.

(Reduce service levels) I have lived here 29 yrs; service levels have stayed the same.

(Increase taxes) all three of these options hurt the low income families

(Increase taxes) Not property taxes, increase booze & bed, sales tax, and other taxes that all citizens could contribute to. Have city employees start contributing to their cost for health care-pay at least 25% of the total cost. Stop TIF 's

(Reduce service levels) \*Should be affordable with best of service

(Reduce service levels) The city needs to learn that cutting spending is a option when balancing the budget

(Increase user fees) I really enjoyed the bathrooms in trafalgar square in london and it required money. maybe we should take after them.

(Increase user fees) If you increase both slightly instead of one being raised significantly both parties would be happy

(Reduce service levels) thinking about those who use oportunites for free in Rapid City due to low economic stability, I don 't think increasing user fees will help those people. Same with increase taxes, though it may help budget opportunities for new sites and activity in Rapid City.

(Increase user fees) #1 - circled "economic stability "; Rapid city is tax heavy. not sure I have an answer- but people are leaving because our cost of living is high

(Increase user fees) increase fees if necessary but find ways to help those who can 't afford fees

(Increase taxes) a user fee is similar to a flat tax and carries more burden on lower income families

(Increase user fees) eliminate parking ticket fines and build areas along 8th & 2nd with 3 level structures. This will encourage more downtown visitors spread growth west to the gap and east to the post office.

(Increase user fees) Although my concern would be a burden for needy & poor citizens

() #2 no response comment: re-appropriate administration funds to those particular services. There 's too much overhead. There are too many overpaid, underperforming employees working for the city. None of the three options above are sufficient, therefore I note an option here.

(Reduce service levels) spend less! Live within your budget

() #2 no response comments: what quality programs & services are you talking about? Very obscure question

() #2 no response this question appears far to vague to property answer. increase user fees on what services for example

(Increase user fees) Increase user fees, and increases of taxes in small steps ex 1/1.5% each year. Those of us that use the extra services, golf, pools etc should pay the fees. The past councils have thought they were "good guys " by not raising taxes & fees & now we are reaching a crisis & have to increase by measurable amounts that puts fear into the citizens. Unfair to present mayor & council.

(Increase user fees) user fees general only apply to the stakeholders, but fees can 't get too high or people will stop using it

() #2 no response; without specifics the question is impossible to answer. There are some service levels that may be fine to reduce while others should not be. Generally I don 't care for tax increases that are not strictly tied to a specific purpose

(Increase user fees) The cost of downtown parking could easily be increased & updated meters that accept credit cards for longer parking like all day/parking garage.

(Increase taxes) #1 comment: Responsive Governance-do this & all of the above will occur #2 comment If we have a "pay as you go " system, then those who cannot pay are left behind

(Reduce service levels) Rapid City is not a wealthy city typically. We don 't make the money here that places like Sioux Falls does. Sioux Falls has jobs, shopping, housing and needs to create an attraction like convention or

civic center. They have no other attraction. Flat plains. But Rapid City does automatically have an attraction (hills, etc) as a "draw " for people. We don 't need to compete w/ SF. RC doesn 't have the jobs, housing or shopping because of the "tourism " factor. We are poor.

() #2 no response: comment: none of the above. Find extra revenue by selling excess city properties, instead of giving it away! Such as the land east of the fire station. Take those monies and apply it to city debt. Donating city land can become corrupt. If people have a good business idea-they will get it working without the taxpayers help. When an employee resigns or retires in the private sector, a business will look at the possibility of present employees doing more, to prevent a new hire. Department heads in RC should be encouraged to do this and become more efficient

(Increase user fees) The City pays its department heads an exorbitant amount of money. Reducing the cost at the top-tiers would alleviate part of the budget problems. Also, spending less money on outside counsel for lawsuits would benefit the budget and the city.

(Increase user fees) #1 comment - this is hard, all so important

(Reduce service levels) If it 's not critical and there are higher priorities, quit spending money you don 't have and you won 't be looking for more money out of us constantly

(Increase user fees) Seek other revenue sources

(Reduce service levels) Lower property taxes

(Increase user fees) I want to provide detailed feedback about where and when I feel increased user fees are appropriate.

(Increase user fees) stop penalizing property/homeowners with constant increases. Any increase should be paid by all citizens equally

(Reduce service levels) privatize services

(Reduce service levels) I think we as a community need to reduce certain service levels. Most households cannot afford anymore increases in taxes or other fees.

(Increase user fees) It should be a balance of increasing taxes and user fees. Be careful which facilities. Will this make access more difficult for our impoverished community?

(Increase user fees) need more responsibility to budgeting. Make your own decisions and not hire out side people to evaluate everything

(Reduce service levels) Taxation is theft!!!

(Increase taxes) A combination of increased taxes and user fees might be a good solution but most people think they are entitled to services but truly, no free lunch. someone has to pay

(Increase user fees) An increase in users fees is acceptable as long as the city is also accountable.

(Increase taxes) I feel a portion of the budget should be an increase in taxes, as we grow, we 'll need more structure, more services, more costs.. We must support it. But NOT all of the revenue should ever come from us. The entities that primarily use these services should incur a portion, as well as other revenue streams found like gambling, cigarettes, alcohol, parking perhaps the legalization of prohibited herbs by the state would bring in an enormous amount of taxes as in CO

(Increase user fees) people should pay for what they use

(Increase user fees) none of the above stability is key doing more with less is what we have to do when our costs go up & income stays the same

() I plan on opposing all politicians who vote to raise taxes. Balance the budget by reducing spending.

(Increase taxes) There needs to be a tax system (graduated) where wealthier pay higher rate. South Dakota really needs to look at an income tax. Raising only property taxes unfairly penalizes local investment. Raising sales tax unfairly penalizes lower income families.

(Reduce service levels) Continually increasing fees is unsustainable for the majority of Rapid City residents. There must come a time when we, as a community, evaluate the services we offer, and curtail some.

(Increase taxes) Do it with a tax that everyone contributes to and not just property owners. And government needs to be more fiscally responsible with that money. The mayor loves to spend money on outside services for things that anyone in town could tell him for free. He is wasteful.

(Reduce service levels) Work harder on staying within a budget and not just raising our user fees - Home owners have to live within a budget.

(Increase taxes) I don't see how user fees will cure city expenses. Other than parking fee increases or costs for city attractions like MSS. How do you charge a person for using Police services? I think user fees may stop tourists from enjoying our town as well as residents.

(Increase user fees) Increase fees, but never increase taxes. Reduce service levels before increasing taxes.

(Increase user fees) Put 2012 funds into infrastructure (Civic center is NOT infrastructure). OR get rid of the 2012 tax, 2012 was 5 years ago.

(Reduce service levels) Loaded answers to above questions. Pay more or lose them 2 to 1

(Increase user fees) taxes should be the last thing to be raised

(Increase taxes) When you increase anything stop putting it into the general fund for use on pet projects. That is not the purpose.

(Increase user fees) Thank you for the survey. Your work must be one of herding cats in similarity.

(Reduce service levels) Being on a fixed income with the city / state increasing fees it is getting difficult to live a comfortable life.

(Increase user fees) If user fees cannot cover the cost of operations, then the level of service needs to be reduced to correspond with the deficit.

(Increase user fees) 1. Lots of double talk that can mean anything. (budget) less is more Government. 2. Pay to play --&gt; if you can't afford an activity (priorities) I can't afford to subsidize you.

(Increase user fees) the continuous increasing of various taxes, surcharges and fees on the entire population of the City to continue to subsidize or fund special interests that appeal to only a few people are causing hardships on our citizens.

(Reduce service levels) Decrease expenses Eliminate waste

(Increase user fees) increase funding for law enforcement. We need to feel safe!

(Increase user fees) Get more use out of your employees, ex. construction inspectors should be doing snow removal and maintenance during winter months.

(Increase user fees) This places the burden on those who use the service.

(Increase user fees) increasing user fees make the people that over use systems pay more

(Increase user fees) Question 2: To out of town citizen User fees should be less for citizens living/ owner, property in RC City limits.

(Reduce service levels) Question 2: ranked 1 - reduce service levels, 2- Increase user fees, 3 - Increase taxes. Prioritize Services Need vs. Want. You need City Managers \$. You want, you pay

(Reduce service levels) I believe there are significant cuts that could be made in city departments that would save enough funds wherein user fees would not need to increase, taxes would not need to be increased and most services would not be impacted. Just a couple examples. City employees at least two full time FTEs year round called "the paint crew " yet, a vast majority of city street striping is done by contractors and, all could be done by contractors for much less than the cost of two or more FTEs. Another area where major cost savings could be made is in city owned vehicles. The city probably has, conservatively, 75 to 100 or more employees who drive a city owned vehicle home every day. Many are in the police and fire department. Seemingly every or almost all police or fire employees who work in an 8 to 5 job drive a city vehicle yet, there are very few who truly need to have a car for their work and even fewer who actually get called out on a regular basis. These vehicles, the insurance, gas and maintenance are very costly. I have no doubt these costs could be reduced across all city departments significantly. Sadly, vehicles appear to be part of the compensation package in the city but are not factored in when looking at an employees "pay. " Cut the number of city take home vehicles by 50 or more!

(Increase user fees) Question 1: Responsible, Accessible and Effective Governance noted this is a "means " to the others, not an end to itself. 1) Have a clear & accessible vision of \$ and timeframe for "services " expenditures - thinking infrastructure. 2) Utilize user fees if applicable to &lt; 50% of population 3) Utilize tax increase if applicable to &gt; 80% of population

(Increase user fees) Increase parking costs downtown and add credit card machines

(Increase user fees) This way it is apparent where the money being given is going.

() Q1: It is my opinion that a vibrant community is created through all the goals. All these are inter-related. Q2: I think increased user fees may be appropriate depending on the service & increased taxes may also be needed. Reducing services may also need to be an option.

(Increase user fees) Rapid City is getting too expensive to live in. Property taxes are ridiculously high.

(Increase user fees) Some user fees seem to be proportionately unfair....

(Increase user fees) This allows people to put their money right where they want it.

(Reduce service levels) May other options to reduce costs.

(Increase user fees) Fees should be based on what it costs the City not what the average is for other cities

(Reduce service levels) Why can 't the city cut back on some of their budget? Why is it always budget increases or increased user fees?

(Increase user fees) Pay for what you use

(Increase taxes) Answer to this question depends on which services increased user fees are being considered. If user fees are increased for services that are important to the livelihood and well-being of lower income citizens (I.e. Public Transportation) that would be a detriment to our community.

(Increase taxes) City projects often do not consider long term operational costs - use portion of Vision Fund for community development. Vision Fund process is broken. Lacks vision & supports pet projects. I.e. \$1m to Wellfully, \$2m+ RAI --&gt; all good things, but not fur City Government \$

(Reduce service levels) Increasing taxes to cover this is a never ending circle. Retired people are not able to stay in their homes if taxes keep going up.

() Q2: Rank 1-increase user fees, 2-increase taxes, 3-reduce service levels

(Reduce service levels) Q1: All very important - none more than the other. Increase user fees and increase taxes both hurt the poor - People with money don 't give a crap!

(Increase user fees) Low income & Senior citizens cannot afford continuous tax increases. As a current Senior citizen on Social Security I along with some of my friends are discussing how we may have to move to a more affordable town/city.

(Increase taxes) don 't give contractors passes on infrastructure improvement by taxing home owner taxes to pay for them

(Increase user fees) Parking ramps, garages, etc should have a user fee. If one does any amount of traveling outside of RC, they would see this is a common practice.

(Reduce service levels) Increase user fees on chosen activities - ice skating, swimming, concerts, etc. , but not on City services like police, fire, water, etc. If you can 't afford the user fee, don 't do the activity. Basic services are a necessity.

() Somehow improved service need occur within a balance of increased fees and taxes. They not necessarily link together. I believe you can do better than you are today without increasing cost.

(Increase user fees) Increase user fees 1 Increase taxes 7 Reduce service levels 4

(Increase user fees) There is a limit to the services that government can provide. There are services and expenditures that the local governments are doing now that fit into social services that have exceeded their limits and unbalanced other required services, police, fire, infrastructure & roads

(Increase user fees) U pay for what u use

(Increase user fees) Q2: Marked both Increase User fees and Increase Taxes

(Increase user fees) Big fan of pay for what you use not someone else paying for part of it. City 's that continue to do this always run out of money and are slaves to debt!

(Increase user fees) \$.50 per hr parking meters on Main & St. Joe 6th-9th St. Other places free. \$.50 per hr in parking ramp.

(Increase user fees) But do it equally for all services. Encourage users of services to find alternative revenue streams such as grants by decreasing fees if users find other monies.

(Increase taxes) I don 't mind paying taxes if I get a good result from them.

(Increase taxes) Depends on who pays the user fees. Golf courses? Yes. Increase fees to pay for improvements. Youth recreation such as swimming, ice skating and basketball? No. We should do what we can to make these available to all.

(Increase user fees) If wages were livable we would be more open to paying for services

(Increase user fees) None

(Increase user fees) My husband and I have no issue with paying higher fees to have continued access to quality/improved services.

(Increase user fees) Within reason, those who use and benefit from a service should pay.

(Increase taxes) Increasing taxes is ok as long as the money is used responsibly. I do believe we need to seriously reign in TIFs though. Giving money to projects that were already going to happen without the TIF is blatant corruption.

(Reduce service levels) If I wanted to live in Sioux Falls - I would move there! I am tired of the City 1) hiring outside careers, advisors and contractors. 2) not having major expenditures referred to the people 3) taxes and water bills going up to pay for frills rather than necessities. Activities (pools, parks, etc.) being available to the upper crust and mere tax payers not being able to afford them

(Reduce service levels) Depends on the service being used. Some are just plain funny.

(Increase user fees) It may be a combination of all 3 of the above options to balance things out. I am not opposed to raising taxes, but minimally, with a targeted goal and use for the \$\$\$. Those on fixed incomes need a way to be exempt or receive support or subsidy. User fees increases for certain areas may be needed, and in some areas, service levels reduced. Line by line management - continued oversight may seem "nit picky" and some work, but it 's like every department does it every year - prioritize and become efficient...

(Reduce service levels) When you visit the City offices there seems to be a lot of unmotivated and below average skilled staff. Consider getting better people - thus reducing costs. (especially the Planning Department on 2nd floor).

(Increase user fees) User fees appropriately put the burden of paying for services on those that utilize them most. Any services the City provides that have user fees still benefit from tax dollars in overhead at the very least.

(Increase user fees) Let 's pay for the service as we use them.

(Reduce service levels) As I walk thru City Hall appears some people are not real busy. Out source more services - save money.

(Increase user fees) By increasing user fees each household can make his or her on cost increase.

(Increase user fees) agree with increase in user fees as long as considerations/sliding fee schedules exist for low income families

(Increase user fees) We need to keep up with basic services. Vision Funds s/b used for such things as water and sewer updates.

(Increase user fees) Perhaps there could be a reduced user fee for those showing economic need - particularly for essential services.

(Increase user fees) I am not sure any of these alone are good answers taxes are already too high no one wants reduced service levels. If user fees go up does that mean the cost of a speeding ticket goes up. I picked user fee because I can conserve water or not use the recreation facilities. How about a 4th option control spending such as not buy that new truck or copier when the old one still works.

(Increase user fees) We think if Rapid City would get more industry in it would help with taxes. Ordinary people are being taxed to the point that they are losing their homes. Rent is to the point of being ridiculous. Seniors are suffering. We don 't get pay raises yet we are forced to pay all the increases

() None of the above. Number one priority should be attracting new corporate businesses!

() Q2: ranked top-bottom 1, 3, 2

(Reduce service levels) I am 95 years old and living on a fixed income. I go without and can not afford any increase in expenses. It is costly being old.

(Increase user fees) explain why it is OK to have bees, pigs & dangerous snakes in Rapid, yet not a couple of hens: Oh that 's right, need a friend on the council

(Increase user fees) Never reduce services.

(Increase user fees) Fees should be utilized for arts, recreation, library, police, fire services. All departments are needed, but fees would go farther to provide revenue.

(Increase user fees) I think we can have a better balance between increased taxes, increase user fees, as well as reducing service levels. There is a fine line between deciding what is essential to the community and a wish list.

(Reduce service levels) Unless you indicate what kind of services are in question this is at best meaningless - at worst misleading.

(Increase taxes) this question probably is not very useful in that any reasonable approach has to be weighted rather than an "either/or "

(Increase user fees) Unfortunately, SD has a regressive tax system drive by unpredictability of revenues - sales & property taxes. Communication is paramount when employing user fees. A clear, broad, concise explanation of why increased user fees are necessary and how they will be used will go far to increase trust and transparency. #1. Obviously, the most important is #7 " A Vibrant, Livable Community ", but to get there everything else needs to be in place. All the goals depend on each other 's success.

(Increase user fees) No win - no matter what there 's a cost.

(Reduce service levels) Increase user fees before increasing taxes and be selective about services reduced.

(Reduce service levels) Include majority-used service costs within the budget/tax structure.

(Increase taxes) I am in favor of paying higher taxes for better services.

(Increase user fees) Until gov 't (any level) becomes more efficient, tax increases should be off the table. RC in particular should stop spending money on "studies " & "consultants " .

(Increase user fees) I think Mayor Allender has "bit the bullet ", getting our citizens to wake up & realize we must increase water/sanitation fees if we expect the same safe water, etc. Continuing to raise taxes is less popular than increasing service fees. I don 't think many folks would want serve levels reduced - I want great police, fire services, etc.

(Reduce service levels) We voted in an option back in 2002 for reducing water rates, and the Council threw it out after a year. Revisit our wishes PLEASE!!

(Increase taxes) On nonessential rather than survival items. Soda tax for example.

(Reduce service levels) Those are not very good options to choose from. I would think efficient use of resources and finances currently available would be more beneficial.

(Reduce service levels) It 's called "living within your means " Just as a family should/does

(Increase taxes) All of these negatively affect people in poverty and move toward a community that is not all-inclusive. If we seek economic growth, a city of inclusion, and positive recreational value other options need to be considered. These three are exceptionally limiting and excluding for many.

(Increase user fees) People should be ready to pay for what they want.

(Increase user fees) Q1: Unsure!

(Increase user fees) User fees affect more, whereas, certain taxes only affect those who pay the greater amount for our government.

(Reduce service levels) Get the waste out of Government & cut programs the Government shouldn 't be paying for anyway.

(Increase user fees) "Pay to play " sounds trite, but it is the most equitable in my mind.

(Reduce service levels) in some cases increase user fees

(Increase taxes) In a world where we 're constantly being called to "tax the rich ", the truth really is that if taxes go up, they must apply to everyone. This ensures that everyone is able to chip in for the budget, and also gives us the most money to work with.

(Increase taxes) I would suggest increasing the taxes by a small margin, the small amount is unnoticeable by most people and it would increase the budget by how much you increase taxes by everyone in the city

() I think you should think more about fire, police and water depts., and much less about arts and especially the Journey Museum.

(Reduce service levels) School taxes keep going up. Why should we keep paying such high taxes when we have no children in school. The new soccer field was put in, we are paying for the maintenance & water bill. They need to put in wells for the water. We are being taxed for maintenance on ice rinks, etc. We accept homeless with open arms. The homeless should be a resident of our county or state. There should be some kind of rule on how long we help the homeless person. Quit giving them a free ride forever, they will never work.

(Increase user fees) An increase to both (user fees and taxes).

(Increase user fees) I do not think people not using certain things should be paying more for them.

(Increase taxes) If we increase user fees, no one will want to take their kids anywhere that we do now, because it 'll cost to much. Poorer families are usually the ones who take kids to parks and public pools. Them paying more, wont help them any. But an increase in taxes will give everyone equal responsibility for the community. My family is definetly not rich, but neither poor. we have an occasional day were we go places like parks and the library. but some families spend all day, everyday in our services.

(Increase taxes) Q2: (income tax) Increase Efficiency & Reduce Administrative Cost. Energy efficiency, Dark Sky initiative, water conservation (smart sensors) Improve Building code enforcement adopt Energy Efficient code for homes. Stop building or expanding unnecessary road construction and fix what is already in need of being fixed. Improve dog parks.

(Increase user fees) Increasing the taxes will have all residents pay. Reducing the service levels may increase unemployment. If the user fees are increased, however, only the people using the services will have to pay more. This will be more fair, and it will still be efficient.

(Reduce service levels) Reduce levels of service if you can't spend our money wisely. I see money spent poorly every day. Roads should be number one!!

() None of the above

(Increase user fees) Q1: All of these things are important and should be used to work together. Q2: The City's job is to run the City. Cut back on everything until stable, then expand. Suggestion--& buy the Family Thrift store that closed & turn that whole area into a parking garage with an elevated walkway across Omaha.

(Increase user fees) I feel that for the "extras" people need to be willing to pay for using those things. Streets and things we all use need to take priority over the fun things.

(Increase taxes) I feel we should increase taxes because of the fact that some people may not be able to afford the increases in user fees that use the services

(Increase user fees) If you use it, you pay for it.

(Increase user fees) I think increasing using fees is the better option because it is only fair to go up on the people who use it the most.

(Increase user fees) Increasing user fees is the fairest, because those using those services/facilities would be helping support while those who do not use the services/facilities should not pay as much as the users.

(Increase user fees) Q1: Can't have any of the above without the last one listed.

(Increase taxes) Increasing user fees may be appropriate for some services, but I think the tax code is a more systematic approach to raising revenue. One thing though: I DO NOT support raising sales tax. Sales tax is regressive, and disproportionately affects the poor. If you are living paycheck to paycheck, a greater percentage of your money is spent in town buying things you need, like food and winter jackets and school supplies. Meanwhile, the wealthier you are, a greater percentage of your money is being spent out of town, used to order online, or invested-and therefore NOT TAXED by the city. As we go forward, the poor should not bear a greater tax burden than the more fortunate of us.

(Increase user fees) We need to use more restraint in using TIF's. It's out of hand!

(Increase user fees) Q2: both increase user fees and reduce service levels. Q3: Raise taxes on liquor to pay for rehabilitation services. Use those taxes for that purpose only. Actually collect fines for trashy yards, lack of snow removal, traffic violations and bad behavior.

(Increase taxes) Income tax, please... not property tax.

(Increase user fees) Q2: both increase user fees and increase taxes

(Increase taxes) We have room for fair prop tax increases as long as low income people are protected.

(Increase taxes) Spend our money to help grow the City. We to rebuild the Civic Center in a new location.

(Increase user fees) #1 Comment - they are politicians, they are going to lie anyway #2 Comment - I understand the need for services, but if I do not use the ice arena or the pool why should I have to pay for it? Maybe a corporate sponsorship for some things

(Increase taxes) Develop community parks and open space projects that don't require high levels of maintenance. See Boulder Colorado's open space program and how it contributes to the City's financial and public health successes.

(Increase user fees) Pay for a service provided. Don't punish the masses. Taxation is theft anyhow.

(Reduce service levels) I believe those making the budget should seek other revenue streams other than more taxes.

() What about an income tax and reduce property taxes?

(Increase taxes) Also marked "Increase user fees"

(Increase user fees) Both increase users fees and taxes; I wish this question was more specific. How would service levels be reduced? What specific user fees would be increased? I would choose either increase fees or taxes, whichever would spread the increase most evenly throughout the population

(Increase user fees) Q2: ranked 1, 2, 3 top to bottom

(Increase user fees) Raise user fees for certain services rather than reduce service levels. Increase taxes when services are used by the majority of the community.

(Increase taxes) tax on soda and cigarettes, beer, gambling. none essential items

(Increase user fees) Police come to 2 houses in our neighborhood every week to handle domestic disturbances (families fighting). Charge them \$5,000 for each police trip. Or, kick them out of town if they don 't pay.

(Increase user fees) Too many "freebies " given out!

(Increase user fees) For many services, not all

(Increase user fees) Increase fees with no reduction to services!

() None

(Increase user fees) Q2: Marked both Increase User Fees and Taxes

(Reduce service levels) We can seek other revenue streams through tourism rather than taxes/user fees.

(Reduce service levels) Reduce non revenue generating service levels at facilities that benefit specific parties for example RPCC / Library.

(Increase user fees) Q2: 1- Increase user fees, 2- increase taxes, 3- reduce service levels

(Increase user fees) People that use services should be the ones paying for it.

(Reduce service levels) The govt in general does too much. It all cost money. The size of govt should be reduced. Good roads are an important responsibility of govt. Govt should do as little as possible not only to cut costs, but to leave more responsibility to the individual. Never raise taxes, instead reduce them!

(Reduce service levels) Balance between increase user fees and reduce service levels.

(Reduce service levels) Too much extravagant features in todays city and its government. Get back to basics!

(Increase user fees) Those that use these programs should pay.... Try to bring any programs to a self sufficient point. Utilize volunteers & service organizations. Create more service & volunteer organizations. (scouts, retirees, altrusa, etc.)

(Increase user fees) The option I would REALLY like to see is make better use of the resources that are available, rather than waste, overbuilding and bad decisions.

(Increase user fees) Have the people utilizing the services be the ones to pay for them.

(Increase user fees) Firmly believe user should pay for services used/provided. This includes social programs with some tax support.

(Increase user fees) Do each off the particular service support themselves or does it come from one big pool of funds? Can one activity that is making money support one that is losing money? Is it responsible to continue a service that is not breaking even?

(Increase taxes) Paying taxes is the price we pay for freedom. They are everyone 's responsibility.

(Increase user fees) By user fee 's I mean fee 's associated with games,concerts, shows, swimming NOT infrastructure fee 's like water,sewer and garbage!

(Increase user fees) I would assume that if a particular service is needed, the user would be agreeable to paying a higher user fee to keep the service.

(Increase taxes) Increase land taxes.

(Reduce service levels) Do both increase service fees and reduce government

(Increase taxes) I believe people are not against tax increases. I believe the reason tax increases keep getting shot down is because taxes increase but never get to where they were voted for. People are tired of this happening!

(Increase user fees) #1: I had a hard time ranking the above as they are all important to me.

(Reduce service levels) As a senior on a low fixed income, increases in taxes and user fees makes it very difficult to figure where such monies will come from since Social Security does not increase some times not at all and Medicare as well as other insurances continue to increase but we are left with delema to choose food, medicine, gasoline or a roof over our head. The City needs to do something like "freezing " fees or taxes for disabled and seniors.

(Increase user fees) As necessary, but ensure that those on the bottom economic rungs are not priced out.

(Reduce service levels) Only provide what you can pay for. Don't raise fees because someone else says so from other communities. What does it cost for our facility?? Then do a cost analysis! Can't keep raising taxes & fees!

(Reduce service levels) Conduct true analysis of services offered and how they do or do not promote the strategic goals. May need to reduce, eliminate or find other ways to provide services that are not found to have positive impact upon strategic goals.

(Increase taxes) Increase sales tax - DO NOT tax necessities i.e. food

(Reduce service levels) Does not take 3 people to put a stop sign or six guys to fill a pothole

() This is a total waste of time & paper/ Use your expertise & get something done. That's why we elected you. You already know you can't please everybody. You hire surveys & put out surveys. Just get to work & use all this money to improve the city.

() None of the above Some user fees fir but some do not. As the city is putting fees on events they provide no services for.

(Increase user fees) It seems to that taxes will always be to high, therefore raising them, for people who do not or cannot use some services shouldn't be penalized for not using these services. We need to increase, not reduce the service sector, to keep up with our growing population. I also think that the cost of things like raising registration fees on automobiles is a serious detriment to our economy.

(Increase user fees) charging user fees (and increasing if necessary) makes sense so those that use the services help pay for them. On that note, services that are over funded with taxes due to under-utilization of that service should be eliminated. If nobody is using it or user fees must be so low as to keep people using it, perhaps it's not a good investment

(Increase user fees) User fees is using common sense!

(Increase user fees) Regardless, increase transparency of how citizens' money is being used - go out of your way to explain in layman's terms

(Reduce service levels) Get rid of programs that do not work!!! Tired of adding new programs with out cutting out old, inefficient ones.

(Reduce service levels) No new taxes, we need less taxation and less services. The community functioned fine 30-40 years ago with a lot less services and taxes. Now a days people seem to forget how to do things for themselves and rely on the government to do it for them. Reduce taxes and services and make people have to be self sufficient again

(Increase user fees) It depends on what service you are talking about....and how much of an increase.

(Increase user fees) We NEED a Bed and Booze tax...you can't go anywhere ie. CO, MN that don't have a huge add on!

(Increase user fees) Increase in small phases so it's not a shock

(Increase user fees) The increases need to be MODEST and balanced. There needs to be a consideration for those who are low income or on a fixed income to allow them access to the services. A 43% increase in 4 years is NOT modest or balanced.

(Increase user fees) Users should pay for services

(Increase taxes) No I don't like tax increase - but you don't give the choice suggested above - which is what I really prefer - "seek other revenue streams."

(Increase user fees) City government needs to stop unnecessary spending for things such as consultant fees and studies. There are many areas of wasteful spending that can be addressed as opposed to cutting programs or increasing fees and rates

(Increase user fees) Reduce waste in city government Make the needs of the citizens matter more than the needs of the decision makers.

(Increase user fees) Increase user fees or increase taxes. More people would probably want increased user fees instead of taxes

(Increase user fees) I feel an increase in service fees would be the best answer although none are optional. We have consistently seen an increase in taxes with little benefit to me as a middle class citizen. Reducing service levels for those in need only puts us in a more precarious situation. Why not put different stipulations on service levels instead of cutting those that absolutely need it. I see and know several people that abuse the system resulting in those that need it to be in a fear of being without.

(Increase user fees) Consider increasing user fees by inflation every year to avoid the onetime huge increase that draws attention and push back.

(Increase user fees) The cost causers should be the cost payers

(Reduce service levels) Both reasonable user fees and reduced service levels: NO TAX INCREASES

(Increase user fees) User 's should pay the majority of the cost of providing services, such as golf, pools, other sports, etc. However, the Cities bsic responsibility is to have those services available. User fee 's need to rise periodically not take large increases in one or two years.

(Increase user fees) There has to be a balance between increasing fees and reduce service levels. Best practice management is best.

(Reduce service levels) Quit raising cost of everything around her. Its hard to make a living around here. The cost of living is already ridiculous and by raising cost and fees were doing nothing but bringing out poverty.

(Increase taxes) It would be helpful if you had identified what exactly user fees are. This is too vague.

(Increase user fees) #2-checked both Increase user fees & taxes; An increase in both would be reasonable. Our city already provides less services than cities similar in size in other places, less service levels would be detrimental to our growth and ability to attract skilled labor

(Increase user fees) I think there can be a combination of increasing user fees and reducing some services. Get out of businesses the City should not be in...i.e. the golf course, cemetery and so on.

(Increase user fees) Review the need to control any process and eliminate the need for license/approval.

(Increase user fees) users should pay more...not hike taxes. This includes parking charges.

(Increase user fees) People that use the service pay for it.

(Increase taxes) A balanced approach of using taxes & an increase in user fee is best. By using taxes does not limit options available as you can spread out cost to full community & tourist (sales tax), while still target revenue (user fees) for these that use the commodity

(Increase user fees) I think it really depends on the services that the user fees will be applied to. I think that it would make the most sense to have the most steep user fees apply to services that might be considered "extra " or "frivolous. "

(Increase taxes) balance between increasing taxes and user fees

(Increase taxes) If you just increase user fees, you will eliminate an important part of our population who can 't afford those fees, thus increasing the gap between people living at the poverty level/middle class and people who can afford the rates.

(Increase user fees) Or perhaps reduce governmental service levels and eliminate service or buck to or share with private enterprise.

(Increase user fees) 1st Increase User Fees 2nd Increase Taxes

(Increase user fees) water, for example: those who use the water should pay for it.

(Increase taxes) If this should happen, increased taxes should be offset by "no food tax " I am that would help the most who are at or below the poverty level. Those who can afford luxuries, should be able to pay the tax on that item.

(Increase user fees) Specialty fees work if the funds are protected for the intended use.

(Increase user fees) Charge tourists a travel fee on hotel rooms, like they do in places like vegas.

(Increase taxes) If used responsibly, I believe in contributing more by paying more taxes for a community that is providing good services and opportunities.

(Increase taxes) We have to face up to the fact that great city services require taxes.

(Reduce service levels) And example of this is when they did work out in front of my house four trucks five people and one person doing the work.

(Increase user fees) Increase user fees to the point where they cover a reasonable portion of the costs associate with the activity. Make them increase by 3% every year. If certain facilities start to run a surplus, reduce the rate of growth to 2%, etc... Offer lower rates to non-profits (like that swim club), through a "grant " application process. That is the proper way to subsidize non-profits, as opposed to keeping all rates unreasonably low.

(Increase user fees) Most residents would prefer user fees rather than a reduced amount of services

(Reduce service levels) this relates to responsible governing - living within means, budgeting and planning for the future... be careful with resources

(Increase taxes) User fees unproportionately impact the poor.

(Increase user fees) No city money should go to the civic center. It should be self-sustaining with user fees.

(Increase user fees) seems logical and responsible for people who actually use services to pay for them.

(Reduce service levels) meaning don 't put money into the civic center, soccer fields & lighting, public information offices and the Dahl. We need to spend on public safety, safe streets and a safe downtown

(Increase user fees) Any increases should be minimal

(Increase user fees) Seems only fair to pay for services you use versus those you don 't.

(Increase user fees) what kind of user fees? this is not clear, on what you would be increasing or decreasing. How much would you increase or decrease said fees,taxes and how much would you decrease the services

(Increase taxes) Increased user fees affect lower income folks more proportionately and often they are the ones who need the services most.

(Increase user fees) #1-Increase User Fees #2-Increase Taxes

(Increase user fees) increase taxes last option i am maxed out on taxes i wonder how the young afford housing and pay college debt without constant struggle

(Increase user fees) I often see crews of 2 working in the parks & wonder if 2 individuals are needed to empty trash etc. Park run very new equipment more than what is needed i.e. removal of lite snow, leaves on a windy day etc. I would rather have good sidewalks/bike path with snow on them rather than clean poor ones

(Increase user fees) My taxes are so high now, I think people should pay for what they use. Those of us, who are old, are usually on a fixed income and can 't afford higher taxes or rents.

(Increase taxes) #1 comments: bad roads all over town, why must railroad go middle of town & have such bad crossings #2 comments: This is a republican state. Like it or not & there is a growing trench between middle class & the working poor. This needs to be addressed. Right now it is a game between state & federal services that keep the poor poor

(Reduce service levels) None of the above. I think a hard look needs to be taken at spending priorities and number of dollars spent. Why is None of the above an option??

(Increase user fees) If something is important to you then you should be willing to pay extra for it, don 't make everyone pay for your preferences.

(Increase user fees) with the many retirees here living on a small social security income, we can 't afford to tax them out of their homes, many live payday to payday and do without to make ends meet

(Increase taxes) Some people in this community don 't mind paying taxes as long as they 're used responsibly and with full transparency/accountability. The "NO TAXES " people are just living in a ridiculous bubble.

(Reduce service levels) a true evaluation of some services would prove that we could use less of i.e. Fire

(Increase user fees) Not everyone uses a service thus those that do should bear the cost with the user fee

(Increase user fees) Having recently moved here, I have noticed that prices for everyday necessities, plumbers, electricians, lawyers are fairly high, which implies wealth in and being attracted to this community. Therefore, greater fees and taxes, which would empower the city to provide services to those requiring services via government programs as well as providing funding to non-profits and the arts makes sense. Further, people making more money tend to contribute to non-profits and the arts anyway, so they will feel gratified knowing that the local government is also committed to investing into the community.

(Increase taxes) We need affordable activities for kids. The swim center needs to be expanded to include basketball and classrooms so kids have a safe, supervised place. The YMCA is a private business that only meets the needs of the affluent members of the community.

(Increase taxes) I think a "user fee " is just an attempt to shift the tax upon the poor. Taxes seem to be focused more on those that can pay. Property taxes and sales taxes are a decent way to increase revenues for the city from the people that can afford to pay the tax. Part of living in a community is doing what you can to help your fellow citizens.

(Increase user fees) Probably in RC user fees would seem the most appropriate otherwise you have some community members complain that they pay so much in taxes (even though it is to improve the community)

(Reduce service levels) For example, the City does not need to plow anything less than 6 " of snow from our street. It will melt soon enough by itself.

(Increase user fees) Add more income options from the rally, such as paying for prioritized "bike only " parking downtown.

(Increase user fees) Some service can be reduced such as plowing streets with 2 inches of snow.

(Reduce service levels) Cut support to things that can 't support themselves (Journey Museum, etc.)

(Increase user fees) Do so however on an annual or biannual basis rather than wait years to do so.

(Increase user fees) No further comments

(Increase taxes) Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes said it very well, "Taxes are the price we pay for civilized society. "

(Reduce service levels) I 'm 81 & trying to live on my SocSec. I don 't want my tax \$ go to keeping up golf courses, ball fields, etal. I filled this out knowing Mayor Allender & most of the City Council will ignore the answers. This was sent out just to make them look good.

## Question 14 Comments – Rapid City Rating

**Q14. Taking all things into consideration, how do you rate Rapid City as a place to live?** Comments (optional):  
(n\_combined = 537)

(Good) There 's always room for improvement

(Good) The difference between taxes and fees should have been explained in the survey for each of the budgetary categories. I don 't work for the city, so I am not sure if my answers actually reflect what I want re: taxes vs. fees as I had to make my best guess on what they meant. The survey reminds me that Rapid City does have a lot of great resources and services, and I am thankful for that. However, it is still a bit of a hard place to live if you are a night owl. Everything closes so early! For example, if the swim center were open until 12AM or 1AM, I would be there every week. As it is, I think I have been there once in the past year.

(Good) Need to improve economic drives such as the Civic Center.

(Good) A lot of room to improve.

(Good) Good survey. #3 was difficult not knowing what kind of budgets these departments are operating with now

(Fair) It would be better if the City didn 't keep allowing (encouraging!) developers to cover every square foot with concrete and asphalt. It is to the point where it is spoiling everything that made RC a good place to live to begin with.

(Fair) The school system isn 't family friendly. Making strides, but still lacking in that; The priority to 'entertain ' our citizens isn 't what should happen. This increases taxes to support a few. Our city needs to look at the big picture: Transitional city or a Family/commitment city. Capture your audience.

(Good) It is beautiful, but we need to protect the beauty from over development. We need to make sure all citizens feel invested and part of the community and its future.

(Good) To appeal to move younger families, please consider the following: #1 improving/updating/building parks. It 's a must. Build a splash park on the SW side of town-go look up "amphitheater park water feature " in Sandy, Utah to get an idea of what this town should aspire to; #2 home builders are crooks here-homes-basic homes-should not cost what they quote. It makes sense to no one! Regulate them!; #3 build branches of libraries, please. Not mobile libraries, actual libraries; #4 start a campaign to attract Costco & Chick-fil-A & more modern stores & restaurants! The SW side of town is in dire need of restaurants & grocery stores & more gas stations.

(Good) I 'm aware that the Police Dept does not have a traffic division and in my humbly opinion traffic violations in a city our size has become an epidemic.

(Fair) Taxes, utilities and housing are too high for the wages in the community. There are very few good paying jobs unless you work at Black Hills Corporation or the hospital. Rapid City needs more job opportunities for professionals. There is very little industry here other tourism which only provides low paying, seasonal positions.

(Fair) It 's excellent for the top 10% and fair for everyone else.

(Excellent) We moved here from us 14 years ago and everything is better including the weather!

(Poor) I have lived here for 10+ years and yearn for the day that I 'm proud to call Rapid City my home. Stop raising taxes, improve the things that matter (crime, transportation), and provide access to better food options (get a HyVee!)

(Fair) More affordable housing options are needed for purchase. The low wages here make it hard for people to get into homes and raise families here. This would make it a better community for them and put more dollars into play for the local economy.

(Good) The cost of living is higher in Rapid City than in other parts of the state, including cost of food, rent, taxes, etc.

(Fair) Over the past 5 years that I have lived in Rapid City, crime rates, illegal drug related issues, and taxes have all increased substantially. On the other hand, cultural opportunities and diversity of arts and cultural programs have decreased. In addition, city has had an overall unsatisfactory performance in the areas of snow removal, street maintenance, and dealing with the increased amount of daily traffic in the city streets.

(Fair) I like it here but there are certainly things that frustrate me. While I support user fee increases for various services, it must be fair. My child is on the swim team and that is an example of user fee increases that are not equal across the board. The pool seems to not want the swim teams and fight us every chance they get. Odd. In all the places we have lived and various pools we have used we have never experienced this. I was told the city does not subsidize activities and yet softball and baseball teams do not pay much for field use? Bottom line is it seems like there is some special treatment for various groups. And as swim teams we have not said we do not want to pay fees but our fees have increased 88% over the past four years and are increasing again while other users of the pool are not experiencing similar increases! Does not make sense!

(Fair) infrastructure improvements and a sound plan for growth are needed

(Excellent) I do not live in Rapid City but spend most of my week in Rapid City; Business is in Rapid City.

(Excellent) Over the past 20 years Rapid City has become a great place to live. Revitalizing downtown, a great museum and arts center, an amazing library, great parks and rec center and events center (civic center/performing arts). That is why young people that are born and raised here are finally starting to stay in town open businesses and continue living here. Rapid City needs to support those things.

(Excellent) I love Rapid City!

(Excellent) I feel safe and there are many recreational activities available. Great people abound!

(Excellent) Love this community! Left after high school to learn more and bring it home!

(Good) Thank you for asking for public input! I like having more than one way (ballot box) to have more of a voice in the decision making

(Good) Thank you for allowing those of us who live near (but not in) Rapid City to voice our opinions in this survey.

(Good) The \$100 fee charged businesses for watering systems whether they use water or not is ridiculous! Why are we taxing businesses an extra \$100 a month??

(Fair) Wages earned do not keep up with the cost of living.

(Excellent) Ward 1 is filling up with apartments. How dense should the population be in one ward? I think apartment growth needs to slow down. Employers in Rapid can 't find employees so why the need for all the apartments.

(Fair) I gave fair because I 'm trying to stay positive. This town has such great potential. Rich in history, location, activities. We can do better though. It 's not a little town tucked away in the Black Hills anymore. Time to join up with the 21st century and realize there 's more than tourism, logging, mining, and construction for careers. All good things, but there can be more. My dad was a cement finisher. I did a lot of that work growing up. But I wanted more for myself and so did my dad. Bring in more economic growth. Bring in competition. Give us choices for retailers, restaurants, etc. Please no matter what you decide, make the town safe. The drivers are terrible. The crime is terrible. Let 's do something.

(Fair) It is very hard for me to make ends meet. I love this city I love what it has to offer, but it cost of living is making it impossible to save for my future.

(Good) Since moving here a year and a half ago, we are pleased with the community. Its appearance is good and the growth is managed well. The only negative is we were unaware of the overwhelming negativity of the community. It is as the negative breeds more negative. I think this is a conservative area and we trust that folks

will not overspend. You need to spend money and do things to move forward. We would like the council to be a positive force for the community.

(Good) My wife and I are happy and satisfied with living in Rapid City. We 're pleased with it 's governance. But I think city government is trying to please too many well-meaning people/groups and its cost is too high. Not enough effort to cut costs. Sorry that this is such a hard responsibility.

(Good) City is needing a real plan for growth & development that is friendly to business. The city employees appear to be counting the hours in the day or until retirement instead of being engaged in finding better ways to encourage affordable development & organized growth. Never seen a group that has the "its not my job " mentality like some departments here.

(Good) It used to be a wonderful city to live in, but not anymore. Too much emphasis is being put towards trying to make RC like a large, large city which we aren 't at all.

(Excellent) We chose to retire to Rapid in 2007 because of the "feeling " the place has.

(Good) This city needs to be much more proactive in preserving and enhancing it 's amenities, water quality and quantity, quality of life and the environment and leave the economic development to private enterprise.

(Fair) To expensive to live

(Excellent) Nice variety of smaller down town with a variety of outdoor activities

(Good) Housing costs are too high.

(Good) Quality of life is good, social services leave much to be desired, but that is a state problem, not a city one. Pierre needs to get its act together.

(Fair) I don 't support spending money on a new civic center or "economic development. "

(Good) An excellent survey. Focus resources on the things government should do (police, fire, streets, water sewer, garbage) and leave the rest of the feel good nonsense like the money pit that is the Journey museum, to the private sector. It is not governments job to do everything everyone wants - government should only do what private citizens cannot do themselves.

(Good) We have some unique issues to deal with (crime and drugs) to help improve our "community ", but we also have some amazing attitudes and history to build upon that provide a great foundation.

(Fair) Too much crime.

(Fair) I 'm doing fine, but it 's hard to rate Rapid as a good place to live when there 's so much poverty just a ways down the road. Can 't enjoy a feast with starving kids outside the door. If we can raise the quality of life for more people, we can improve our overall livelihood and ameliorate many of our civic problems. When more people have a real stake in my city, I benefit. Jobs, social services, education and culture: those are the keys. Thanks for considering my input and good luck.

(Fair) 1st priority s/b those services which cannot be self provided (fire/police/water/sewer); cost of living/housing is too high for income levels, need to focus economic development on quality jobs not so much on tourism industry which only creates low paying/no benefits jobs; social/cultural programs should be funded through fees/grants/private donations/fund raising-tax payers should not be required to subsidize the golf courses

(Excellent) I feel the growth of Rapid City is too much, too fast! I miss the small city feel I really love. I have considered moving to a smaller town in the Hills.

(Excellent) The city is growing by leaps and bounds. People need to contribute to this growth. It is time for many people that have lived here for years or have just moved here to realize they need to help contribute to this growth in a positive way. That includes being taxed for services they may not necessarily need or use. When we all give, we all have better lives by making our community an even better place to live.

(Fair) Racism is rampant. Unemployment is a huge factor, and housing is out of line compared to the actual salaries paid.

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(Good) Room for improvement, but overall, a good place to call home.

(Good) We have to get medical detox for priority drugs (meth & heroin), not 48 hrs of lockup with no meds. Crime would reduce with options.

(Good) I appreciate the opportunity to take part. I do hope though that answers on question 2 aren 't used to justify moving water/sewer away from a user fee supported item or police toward user fees. I think the current system works well enough. I just wish for a little more thought on what we value and what we don 't, like in questions 3 & 4

(Fair) Love the climate, feel there are way too many homeless or poor people for a size of this town.

(Good) We have made many important strides forward! Please don 't take us backward!!!

(Poor) The city does not care about its citizen it all about what ways upper class citizen can make a buck off of everyone else. But who really cares your not going to read this

(Good) New resident to Rapid City; taxes and housing are higher than expected. Great place to live and raise a family, but wages don 't support the housing market.

(Fair) I work hard to make the money I do. It is hard to find and keep a rewarding job here in Rapid City. After retiring from the Air Force 7 years ago, I have had at least one different job a year. This is partly because the leadership of these companies is lacking and partly because the wage I earned was not anywhere near the what I was contributing to the company, especially in relation to the other employees. I feel that employers look at employees as another commodity that can be replaced when it wears out. My military time taught me that people are your most important resource. So teach them, take care of them and keep them in the organization because it will save you money and make you money in the long run.

(Good) My one regret about Rapid City is the cost of airfare to travel in and out of here.

(Fair) Too many vague questions, no helpful examples of what the money is for and why taxes are going up, cut some programs that should rely on donations.

(Good) I love Rapid, but it needs innovative, business-friendly leaders to help create the climate of western South Dakota as one for young progressive families. Btw, all younger professionals are essentially considered progressive. Thank you

(Good) It 's a good place to live but we have our issues. We need to improve wages, race relations, snow removal, housing, and please make it easier to do business with the city, especially in building and development. Too much red tape. Thank you for the opportunity to share.

(Fair) Lots of crime. Public occasions improving. Need something in rapid to bring in more tourists.

(Poor) RC is not a desirable place to live currently

(Good) Why did this survey not state where Civic Center expansion fits in the priorities and qualities of life as listed in survey?

(Excellent) Roads need work

(Good) It 's good but it needs to be cleaned up of crime and all of the run down and dirty neighborhoods

(Poor) I have been watching rapid city crumble from the bottom up my whole life, watching money spent on polishing the face built on crumbling infrastructure and a crippled economy by making sure all improvements benefit the controlling families and not the common citizen.

(Good) Overall I love living here. You are on the right track with so many things. I am proud that our city is embracing Collective Impact! I work with people in poverty. We need to improve our services & transportation. Poverty is not just on the north side or downtown. Thank you for giving us a voice by offering this survey.

(Good) Thr cost of living is my only complaint. Housing is insanely expensive, along with taxes and groceries.

(Excellent) We have lived in Rapid City 43 years. There is no other place I 'd rather live.

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(Good) It is safe and i still love the small town feel. But i travel out of town for work to support my family because the wage is so low in Rapid city and surrounding communities.

(Good) So much potential

(Fair) #10 comment - income varies; #14 comment - pollution keeps getting worse

(Good) Gov. Does not listen to the people.

(Good) The downtown has been vastly improved in the last 20 years. Encourage new breweries, parks and the amenities that draw young professional people to the area.

(Good) Beautiful location, great activities, good people. Non-productive people need to work or leave, jail inmates put to work around city. Better streets & snow removal, street sweepers are great, garbage & sanitation great too. Too many trees are getting down in parks. Quit wasting \$ by cutting out picnic tables at Chet Andrew Shelter

(Good) Quit trying to be like Sioux Falls. We can 't match their economy or revenue levels - and why do we even want to try. If I wanted to live in Sioux Falls, I would move to Sioux Falls.

(Excellent) A fantastic community and friendly people

(Good) poor streets

(Excellent) Good job mayor - you are doing a fantastic job!

(Excellent) Keep thing like they are now!! Don 't mess things up like Trump is doing!!

(Fair) Lack of diversity and housing. Pay is marginal and not in line with cost of living

(Poor) Several things about Rapid City appeal to me as a young woman on the cusp of starting a new family such as the size and cost of living. However the city and the state have past several laws recently that have me very concerned. I will not be staying in Rapid City to raise my family. As a fairly liberal person of color I don 't feel like I 'm welcome here. I 'll just have to take my Advanced degree And my partner 's Advanced degree to another city.

(Excellent) Rapid City is a very nice place for its size.

(Good) Love it here but the schools need help.

(Good) Some things need attention but overall we strive to help others and live peacefully.

(Fair) RC has lots of potential but needs to addrsss the homeless problem, difficulty with public transportation, and need for more affordable housing.

(Good) City lacks viable facility to hold concerts, arts performances and sport events. O 'Harra Stadium and Barnett Arena are prime reasons RC doesn 't keep pace with Sioux Falls in those areas. Economic development is gaining pace but still lags behind East River in the business and tech sectors. Wages are stagnant and need to improve. Business incubator is a welcome addition. Older residents need to stop holding community back and let it grow as it did back in the 70s when many of them were younger.

(Good) My family and I love Rapid City, though it does lack an entertainment venue as the Civic Center continues to go in reverse.

(Good) If you have a lot of money

(Excellent) It 's a terrific place to live. We can make it even better. Work to make it a healthier community.

(Good) Proximity to recreational opportunities in the hills and diversity of businesses where you can get whatever you want is a plus for living here. Crime is getting out of control though. The murder rate is bad and needs to addressed. Providing assistance for drug/alcohol abuse may help reduce crime in the city.

(Good) rating would be excellent if we could resolve the homeless issue. rental properties are very expensive here, keeping lower income people in a never-ending cycle of poverty and sub-standard housing, if not homelessness. We are seeing progress on this issue, and hope the city continues to work toward resolution.

(Good) #14 comment - good to fair; poor urban planning/zoning, need to take lessons from (Steve Metli, now deceased) city planner in Sioux Falls! And, I'm not a SF snob! too many "good ole boys" in power; excellent weather, scenery, recreational cultural opportunities; mostly wonderful, kind, caring people; many of the city's goals go hand in hand-difficult to separate, as most are interconnected.

(Fair) Not sure code enforcement even exists. We reported a neighbor that left lawn unmowed for weeks, had to be 2ft high almost & nothing got done. Also should be illegal to park where ever you please on your boulevards, blocking sidewalks, going against traffic on the residential streets, but yet we got a warning on a vehicle in our yard behind a fence for an outdated sticker on the license plate. Doesn't make sense when bigger issues than that could be taken care of or enforced.

(Poor) Easily 40 years behind the rest of the country in economic growth and environmental concerns. I didn't know there were still places that didn't recycle paper/cardboard until I moved here!

(Good) I love Rapid City but I can't rate it excellent because of the crime and homeless issue. I understand every city has its issues but nothing seems to be getting done about the matter.

(Excellent) There are many opportunities in our community to make this a good place to live.

(Fair) Some city council members are too conservative and others are way lefters. Make for government planning impossible. City council waste too much money and time, they should be held accountable for the funds they throw at programs that later the tax payers revolt in a city wide vote.

(Good) We are a diverse population, with lots of extra curricular things to do. But we are seeing a bigger gap between the haves and have boys. We need to encourage more businesses that pay higher wages for entry level jobs. Manufacturing, etc. We have too many places that are low paying - hotels, restaurants, convenience stations, retail, or seasonal jobs. We need several more very large factories to help with the low income levels we have.

(Good) I think the city allowing the Black Hills Rapids to lease all or most of the city owned fields for their soccer program is wrong. Tax payers own those fields. They should be able to use those fields w/o issue. The soccer leagues have their own fields to use specifically for soccer

(Excellent) My rating is excellent instead of good because of the location of the city in the beautiful Black Hills, not because the city is the best it could be. I am tired of the mayor constantly threatening the funding of the wonderful Journey Museum and the other art and cultural institutions.

(Good) I adore Rapid City. I see the opportunity to make it better. Another comment: Rapid City needs to start thinking about how they want autonomous cars implemented. There could be unintended consequences if we don't. For example, someone with an autonomous car who doesn't want to pay for parking may program it to circle the block while they shop downtown.

(Good) Roads and utilities need improvement. Parks need updated.

(Good) too many non-profit org; city supports too many

(Poor) for the income the cost of living is high

(Fair) Too much governments small things, the city can't control what it has already, they need to deannex and reduce, not annex more and grow

(Good) More activities for kids (under 18) need to be considered that are affordable and safe

(Excellent) Lived in Hot Springs for 15 years but traveled to RC for work, hockey, medical, etc. Decided to move here and glad we did. Rental housing for son's family is scarce and expensive as they need single family and not able to buy yet.

(Good) keep up the good work - thank you

(Excellent) RC-my home most of my life. great educational opportunities, beautiful mountain activities, great climate (most of the time); safe community although concerned about the impact drugs/alcohol have on crimes recently; I would like to be able to afford my home in these later years, perhaps breaks on certain new charges/taxes should be addressed

(Excellent) We love it here, but housing is very expensive.

(Good) More racial and cultural diversity would make us even more friendly for emerging US demographic and for business offering better jobs. People who have good economic opportunities develop pride, civic-mindedness.

(Fair) municipal utility rates are higher than everywhere else that I have lived. Ames, IA has very affordable water rates and has some of the best water in the nation. Follow their lead.

(Good) No new Buildings, Maintain instead!

(Fair) Police much too aggressive in enforcing minor traffic laws. Afraid to travel even 1 mph over the speed limit. Considering relocating due to this over aggressive enforcement.

(Excellent) Love it here in Rapid City. Please keep making this a great place to live. Thank you.

(Fair) Apparently the citizens votes do not matter to the city. Budget the money, just as households are forced to do. STOP raising taxes & fees!!!

(Good) Once the city council and mayor acknowledge the fact that were a growing city and make decisions and plan for the future and learn how to present future planning to the residence then rapid will be an excellent place to live

(Good) I really like it here but wish we had better zoning & enforcement of junk removal.

(Fair) This is becoming an outdated community, there isn 't enough space to attract more tourists, we rely too much on Sturgis and mount rushmore for tourism while leaving our community to rot. There 's also a homelessness problem that isn 't being dealt with, less racist cops, less racism overall.

(Fair) Thank you for providing this opportunity for input!

(Fair) expensive city to live in

(Excellent) Chose to live, work and raise our children here.

(Fair) Rapid City is a great place to live BUT a terrible place to make a living.

(Good) We need to improve! We live in a beautiful area that attracts people, but that does not pay the bills. Our young people leave because of the lack of good paying jobs.

(Good) When we moved here I would have said excellent, but now I am embarrassed to take out of town people downtown. We are so worried about a civic center (I notice that and other proprietary funds not in survey) when we have people who can 't afford housing. There are multiple, duplicating programs, but they just seem to be less and less effective. We have wonderful parks, but we are spending significant dollars to build more/better/premier and cutting the budgets. I appreciate the priority budget approach and trying to do it the right way, not just give lip service, but you are certainly up against social and general media as every group that gets cuts floods the media with their sob story and "it 's just x\$" to get their way. Budget cuts have to happen. Our taxes have increased exponentially in 6 years. I realize it is not just City, but fees, taxes, overall.

(Good) We have very considerate neighbors.

(Good) We love it here but it 's not good for everyone. We need to address racism, poverty, and homelessness head on. Lower on the priority list but not included in this survey, we need to improve transport in and out of our town to help it thrive. We need more airlines at our airport and flights to more major cities. Bus service to Denver is atrocious and Train service would really benefit the region. Its just really hard to get here!

(Fair) Must address wages, race relations, drug use without jail time, treatment programs, better facilities for children in the areas where they live so parents don 't have to drive. More partnerships between elected officials, City/county employees and marginalized communities to improve relations. Improved race relations.

(Good) we need to continue to maintain and improve our air quality; we must be vigilant in guarding our air, water resources against pollution by regulating industries use of our water and air

(Good) The area is well suited to outdoor activities, i.e. hiking, bike riding, fishing, and sports. However, it is not a good place to work. Most of the jobs in that area are entry level minimum wage jobs. The city officials need

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to do more to court manufacturing and industrial jobs with tax incentives and grants. I would be more than willing to pay more taxes to bring in higher paying jobs. As long as the city continues to promote tourism and recreational types of industry I cannot endorse raising taxes or user fees to encourage more minimum wage positions which are almost impossible to fill now with quality people.

(Good) There is a lot of potential for our City to 'break the mold ' and be a leader in the state (and the nation) when it comes to improving the lives of its citizens.

(Fair) I would really like to see Rapid City reinvest in existing neighborhoods. Many of my neighbors do not have the extra income to fix up their properties (I.e. windows, paint, lawn care, etc.) The City could homeowners to invest in their properties by offering tax incentives or rebates. Also, the privatization of youth athletics in Rapid City with expensive registration fees (I.e. baseball, basketball, soccer, hockey) exclude, and likely prohibit, low income families from participating.

(Good) Elected officials are not required to have all the answers! The more the public is involved in the process, the better the outcome for everyone.

(Good) Rapid City is a good place to live, but it could be an excellent place to live!

(Excellent) Thank you, Mayor!!

(Excellent) As the city is today I feel safe here. I am disappointed to see all the building on top of Hwy 16 because it has ruined the view for residents and tourist, also all the god awful signs that are being put up all over, causing more distracting driving problems not to mention UGLY, thank you for asking.

(Excellent) I Love Rapid City and the Black Hills, and intend to stay here. I am glad you produced this survey. I know people who are really concened about this city but I also when you speak in prerson to people in power they are listened to, but they never incorporate the information. They want their way and you can take the highway, but we stay here and live with the status quo.

(Fair) Rapid is improving, but thoughtless development has hampered its livability - planning has been much too shortsighted

(Fair) This survey seems biased toward drumming up support for a new civic center and other forms of "economic development. " I 'm uncomfortable that some of my answers might be misconstrued. I 'm in favor of parks, libraries, and cultural opportunities, but not a new civic center.

(Fair) Snow removal needs improvement

(Poor) Terrible growth and development planning

(Fair) It 's the eyesore of the hills in my opinion. Its improved over the years but it 's gotta be one of the dirtiest in the area.

(Excellent) No where else I would rather be!

(Poor) High cost of living, homes are extremely over valued and priced, cost of building or improving homes is too expensive, income (wages) from jobs are sub par or worse. I 've lived in MT, WI, and Ill. And I can tell you this Rapid is the worst city I 've ever lived in for debt to income and wages to home prices levels I 've seen in the country so far.

(Fair) Very high cost of living. City is too focused on taking advantage of tourism than the livability of the community for it 's citizens.

(Fair) This survey seems geared towards rationalizing some cuts that are anticipated, and to justify the Mayor 's budget priorities. There needs to be a major reckoning with the Lakota community as is recognized by many people including the current Mayor, but the steps to do so are shallow, superficial and will ultimately prove counterproductive and even harmful as key social indicators continues to decline or sharpen in difference. The haves and have nots are starkly clear in Rapid City and the performance of settler colonialism continues today. This needs to end and basic dignity must be respected by all as well as actionable strategies and a diversity of tactics to right the wrongs of the past and current state of affairs in Rapid City, SD. Rapid City is an eyesore in the realm of human and civil rights and until that is changed, it will continue to have a prosperity lag and deep social divisions. The structures of opportunity, the distribution of resources, the readiness of the communities

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here in Rapid City, all must be factored into an action plan around racism and class division, as well as violence against women and children. South Dakota gets more from the federal government than it gives \*discounting reservation allocations from the federal government so do not deny this\* and thus, the state must stop creating jobs for white people to minister, degrade or abuse people through social services, education and law enforcement (instead of serve, educate and protect).

(Fair) Rapid City is in a nice area, but the city itself could use many improvements to its livability.

(Good) Stop encouraging people to move here. Fix our infrastructure and the schools first, then let 'em come.

(Good) economic development needs to be a focus!

(Good) Notorious low wages are a detractor, however this is nothing that government should be involved with, let the free market work on it 's own.

(Fair) We need to take care of what we have, including our schools, parks, and roads. I 'm not in favor of taking taxpayer money for things such a new civic center.

(Fair) I have been in smaller population towns with cheaper cost of living, more options of places to eat/shop, and with more fun things to do.

(Good) Rating would be excellent if City were to get rid of panhandlers, drunks, and druggies on the streets. Also, enforce driving without insurance law by impounding cars when caught and make it more expensive to drive without insurance than purchasing insurance in the first place.

(Good) I love Rapid City but I wish the schools were more of a priority

(Good) Stop outsourcing millions of dollars to outside vendors if the job can be done equally well locally. Reduce waste & fraud. The recycle truck could run every other week to reduce redundancy.

(Good) I was between "fair " and "good " and went with "good " but without some changes, it could drop to fair. It was excellent when we moved here in 1979 but not now.

(Excellent) I have no desire to live anywhere except Rapid City, I am very glad Steve Allender is Mayor. I hope he will be willing to serve many more terms.

(Good) too many Republicans

(Fair) This used to be a great town with working class people. Now all we see is people moving here to get their free housing, benefits, commit crimes, etc all while we work, pay high property taxes, expensive electricity, purchase security cameras and survive. Look at all the industry jobs that you have lost. Tourism is dying every year you can fake the books all you want but in the end we better start supporting businesses that want to build here and people who want jobs. Have you really looked at the Census most the people here don 't work, don 't want to work, its not very encouraging for a business owner that is thinking about building here.

(Excellent) I love Rapid City. Born and raised. :)

(Good) I rate it good but declining. The homeless need better options (like the campus being planned) and the people who choose not to seek help/treatment for intoxication need more severe consequences. The revolving door that group uses now is not working. Detox is not a solution. Public intoxication to THAT level shouldn 't be allowed to habitually occur.

() #10-no response; #14 selected both Excellent & good Comments: we have room for improvement just like everyone else, build a whole new Civic Center instead of wasting tax payer money on a bandage on existing facility

(Fair) I would say excellent if it weren 't for the ridiculous prices of everything, especially cost of living. Get these fools who don 't know how to represent the people out of office. Republicans are regressive, we need progress. Quit selling your citizens for lobby money. Shameful.

(Excellent) Rapid City is a great community with vibrant arts and recreational activities that appeal to both young and old citizens.

(Good) Think outside the box. You 're restraining yourselves.

(Good) A diamond in the rough, with lots of potential to grow beyond red-neck thinking.

(Excellent) I would like to see the city install roundabouts instead of stop lights. There are some stop lights that just don't make sense. I know it would be a learning curve, but it would save energy and lessen the chance of a serious accident. And, roundabouts keep the traffic flowing.

(Fair) It's nearly impossible to venture downtown without panhandlers asking for money, food, booze etc.

(Fair) I no longer feel as safe as I used to living in Rapid City. I have noticed that as the amount of meth in the area increases so does crime. We need better drug education and rehab facilities. Without those and services for the homeless we are never going to keep an economic balance. If we want to improve things we need these addicts and homeless people help and back in the job market. That right there will help slowly stabilize our community.

(Good) I don't understand why user fees have to be raised, when we can donate a parcel of land. Also, this non-profit business doesn't make any sense at all. Why is it that they can charge big prices to use their organizations...where does the money go? Since they don't have to pay property taxes. It's a nice free ride for them, to bad others don't get any help. Seniors are being run out of their homes. There will be a lot of brown lawns next summer. The city doesn't follow the water restriction times. I've driven by the city administration offices late at night and seen the sprinklers watering Omaha street!

(Good) Development in this town seems to get too much of our tax dollar. Every time you open up the paper you read about Hani Shafi and his group getting another TIF. I don't believe that TIF's are needed for every piece of ground developed. The old "Ranch" on HWY 16 is a perfect example, there have been numerous builders and businesses built in that area. The infrastructure and work has been paid for by those builders and business owners, now there is talk about a TIF for the blighted property where the Ranch once was! There has been an enormous amount of money put into infrastructure development on the outskirts of town, much of it in the county, while our in-town infrastructure has been/is falling apart. Example Seger/Dyess/143rd area and all of the water line installation east of town towards the airport. Are we seeing any tax or income benefit from any of these projects?

(Good) Mayor needs to start making some decisions, seems like he spends his whole time thinking instead of acting

(Good) Public education is not where I would like it to be. Crime and homelessness seem to be on the rise. I feel there has been a revitalization in our downtown and good economic growth. Continue to support the arts and outdoors. So important for kids and quality of life.

(Fair) Overpriced rental market and high cost of living deter people from moving here and keep the poor poor. Housing is inadequate, programs for homeless are insufficient, mental health programs are impossible to find and jobs that pay well enough to actually afford to live here are scarce.

(Excellent) At the conclusion of my tour in Vietnam, my wife and I moved here, choosing Rapid above our home towns in St Louis MO & Marion IL. I served as a RC Police Officer in the mid to late 80's!

(Good) Rapid is a beautiful City, taxes are pretty high for retired persons. I have a limited income so that is always a concern.

(Excellent) I've lived in metropolitan places as an adult. Returned and live in county in my 50's. RC is a draw with its arts, outdoor opportunities, educational opportunities for like-minded people. Multiple choice is not always comprehensive to get thru! I no longer work in RC, tho I did for 3.5 years

(Excellent) YMCA is getting way crowded. Another nice large community center will be needed soon. This should be a high priority in next 5 years. Dickenson ND has a model facility the people absolutely love ... and they are much smaller than we are. Running track, open areas, climbing wall, pools, etc.. Time to add on to Roosevelt's operations. Would be great to combat other problems like, meth, crime, increased police dollars necessary etc. Healthy body is a healthy mind and out of trouble. It's cold here in the winters, like ND. Running, basketball etc would be great to have available at the Roosevelt within walking distance for many kids and adults. Making it really nice and large, seems achievable.

(Good) Keep trying but get a little better!!

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(Good) my wife and I have enjoyed the expansion of downtown and feel this has been a major improvement to our community

(Good) I love that our government is reaching out for citizen feedback. Best initiative possible. Please continue collecting and using feedback!

() You don 't care what we think. You do things the way you want anyway.

(Good) City government needs to refocus on providing municipal services and get out of the social services/public housing/rehabilitation business. Those services are best provided by non-profit organizations - not property or sales tax dollars.

(Fair) Rapid City has a nice setting, but its educational system could be improved, our parks should be kept up, and the library could benefit by more support. The bike path is an outstanding feature. We shouldn 't stretch the definition of TIF funding to include areas that are scenic and aren 't blighted. In general, I 'm not in favor of giving money to developers and contractors for so-called "economic development. " Because of its location and situation, Rapid City has plenty of economic development and will continue to have it.

(Good) Rapid City needs to treat people equally, regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, etc. We need to improve race relations in RC. We need to support each other.

(Good) I see the city fathers working hard to keep it good in the midst of more than their share of issues.

(Excellent) The Journey Museum is a wonderful educational place, but is absolutely in the wrong location. If visibility were better, it would increase visitation and revenue. Cut the losses, and move it. A couple things that trouble me are: 1) the neon flashing advertising signs, they are an eyesore and dangerous to drivers. 2) the concentration of buildings in the Central High School/Civic Center area. I think the School Board made a poor choice in expanding Central HS, and not building a 3rd high school.

(Good) It seems like we are an economically depressed City. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on bringing skilled high paying jobs to Rapid City.

(Good) I am a huge supporter of the new Hope-One-Stop-Help concept but putting it downtown is poor location. Will sink project.

(Good) As someone who has volunteered in the Pennington County jail (leading a weekly program in the women 's cell blocks) who has also been to the mission to minister on several occasions, and also been part of groups ministering to those in North Rapid. As well as a teacher in the public school system I am very concerned for the poor and the addicted individuals in our community. I saw the same girls returning again and again in the jail. I also saw them at the mission upon release. We need programs, plans that help these individuals. Many of the girls in jail shared how their mom was in jail when they grew up...and how they never wanted to end up there - but the cycle continues. We also need to focus on the meth problem as never before.

(Fair) beautiful part of the planet stifling socio/political landscape

(Excellent) Enjoy the events offered by the civic center, shopping, and other available services.

(Good) Rapid City is only a few changes away from being a great place to live. We have some social issues and economic development challenges we need to deal with. We should not let petty distractions stop us from the opportunity in front of us.

(Excellent) But city government is horrible under this mayor. He is a dictator. I 'm looking at moving and commuting, if my \$250,000 home is even sellable.

(Good) Weather and climate are wonderful. Success is more often based on who you know rather than what you do. New industry is discouraged from coming into town. Planning and zoning puts restrictions on new businesses that are not put on the "good old boys. "

(Good) None aside from: I attended the Mayor 's meeting held for the public addressing the need for a new civic center/Barnett arena. A great presentation. This facility needs a new arena. I believe the citizens of Rapid City would benefit hearing the Mayor 's presentation.

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(Fair) We should take care of what we have, including the parks, bike path, roads, and schools, rather than building a new civic center.

(Poor) Racism and hate crimes are insane here. Even the police refuse to address issues. White Privilege needs to be taught in and at all educational levels bc it bleeds it here. Get a cue.

(Excellent) fantastic place to live

(Good) repeat #5 comment: here is what I think you must NOT DO: reduce support for last 2 items on this list (Social Programs & Arts). Do not react to the "2 Cents " column. There has been wise leadership in Rapid City- may it continue.

(Excellent) I am 96 year of age and have lived in Rapid City for 62+ years

(Fair) There isn 't enough to do in the winter for a family that doesn 't do outdoor winter sports. The camping is phenomenal here, but not enough to make us stay.

(Good) keep the job market/economy growing! people are more willing to pay taxes/user fees if they aren 't struggling paycheck to paycheck. \*Push vocational skills to younger kids-Rapid needs a more highly skilled & driven work force

(Poor) Due to the way that the city is and as been developed for land use and economic development it is virtually impossible for young professional people to want to stay in our community to help it grow. The retirement sector does not drive any growth and if you look at things like the Civic Center work hard at not letting the community grow.

(Good) #1 tear down the civic center; #2 stop funding the Journey, should be self sustaining; #3 have direct bus routes; #4 snow removal past Minnesota Street on 5th

(Good) I love Rapid City, the hills, plains and Badlands, I just wish the jobs paid better. All my life I keep hearing that they 'll bring in better paying jobs but that has yet to happen.

() I believe that drivers in RC are the worst of any place that I have lived or visited. Speeding is out of control. We park on the wrong side of the street, block sidewalks, etc. I realize that police are busy with things that eat up all of their time. My belief is that if you take care of the little things the big ones will take care of themselves.

(Good) I love living in rapid city except for the crime.

(Good) #7-every 5 yrs past 65 creates different attitudes, needs, wants, abilities, etc. I 'm 82 and very little reference to 65; Comments: Choices like Excellent mean you can 't get better-malarkey!! Living in RC is viable but RC also has an impact on Pennington County IE Just outside city limits is people in wall etc and surrounding counties!!

(Fair) Housing market and rent in Rapid City isn 't comparable with the low pay at jobs. Crime is getting out of control

(Fair) I see our current mayor doing more for this town than any other I can remember. It gives me hope. Thanks Mayor Allender!! Thanks for letting me voice my opinion!

(Good) The health facilities are why I live here. The weather is ideal. Better economic growth plans are needed so people would desire to live here

(Good) no response to #10

() no response to item 6 thru 14

(Fair) looking to move out of city limits as many have, higher taxes, crime, fees, etc, proposed water rates, now higher than small private systems, drainage tax-really. I have no storm drains in my whole neighborhood-what drainage do I have for my tax

(Fair) Rapid City has the ability to become a "Good " place to live but we need leadership with vision beyond what we currently have. Our priorities are misplaced and our leaders lack focus. If our City leaders would focus on providing a safe community with good infrastructure then other good things will follow naturally. And, stop

trying to cram a new Civic Center down the throats of the public. Fix the remaining ADA issues and then see what happens over the next 5 years.

() #6 no response

(Good) I love the city and the Black Hills but it is an expensive place to live, especially for a single woman.

(Good) Like I replied - separate fire and ambulance services

(Excellent) thank you for this survey. great idea. demonstrates an administration that wants to be responsive to the citizens. good job!

(Good) we need more economic & industrial development

(Excellent) #7-2 people 50-64 & 1 person 65+; #11 associate, bachelor & graduate degrees; We recently moved from Cheyenne, then from Florida. Rapid City is a great place to live, beautiful, clean & with lots of beautiful parks. Cheyenne was very disappointing & not a lot to do. We love the activities here & the people, plus everything is within a close driving distance (ie doctors, labs, library, grocery, shopping, hospital, clinics & a variety of stores. One big plus is the newspaper, it is excellent.

(Good) No response to #11

(Good) keep up the good work for our city!

(Good) nice place to raise a family on modest income; nice place to retire on modest income

(Good) some businesses I would love to see: grocery (Smith 's); better movie theaters; car wash (full service); more fast food/restaurants; Vasa/Gold gym; expand civic center

(Fair) too high taxes bad streets low pay

(Good) Infrastructure, parks & economic development is priority along with safety & parks & recreation is key. Put Bible back into schools. Try to outsource to private businesses but if can 't government should do good in these areas.

(Good) I haven 't lived anywhere else so I can 't compare it to other places

(Good) a lot of racism but I grew up here and know the appropriate and professional way to handle it.

(Fair) Too much crime! Bad roads. Fix train crossings! Schools should be better and more equitable across town.

(Fair) The City never tries to cut spending all it knows is raise taxes fees etc.43 percent water increase is ridiculous will tax low income working class right out of this City. I know many working poor and believe me there are a lot of them in this City. I don 't think our local government even cares about the working poor its all about more and more money that 's all this town is about.Bad streets lots of drugs and crime I would say we have gone backwards from when I moved here.This was a great town when I moved here I loved it but not anymore bad growth has killed the lifestyle.Service jobs all low paying motels that are catered by the city big business getting city help.

(Fair) Short commute, but lack of access to cultural events and ease of getting around the city without a car. Also housing is expensive for what you get and middle income benefitted jobs are hard to come by. Library and existing parks great!

(Fair) I really think having sixth street be a pedestrian walk way would really up the public draw of Rapid City

(Fair) The pedestrian and bicycle living is horrible

(Fair) I would really like to see an improvement in public transportation, as well as making places like downtown friendlier for foot traffic in order to make our community more enjoyable

(Good) would be nice to see the city spend less money for all the studies for various projects & keep the homeless out of Rapid city. Not encourage them to move here because of free amenities

(Good) Very family friendly

(Good) #10 no response

(Good) you need to bring some industries/businesses that will pay wages so people in Rapid can survive. A lot of people need 2 jobs to live here & families fall apart because of it. Decent wages and lower cost rental places are needed badly. You can 't get blood out of a turnip

(Good) I feel we are on the right track. need more involvement in RC collective impact. Get people involved to take ownership in their own community. People step up where there is a need. When they feel it is "your " job to provide-not as vested

(Excellent) #10 no response

(Good) This is a great place to live as an adult and visit. But not a great place to raise kids.

(Good) "transplants " from other areas increases crime as well as the drugs coming into this area

(Good) would rate excellent if higher wages/not so tourism dependent

(Good) just an FYI. I moved into Rapid City & my car insurance went up significantly. when I ask why & the answer was the high rate of uninsured drivers in the area. who is getting penalized?

(Poor) Crime is increasing and we no longer feel safe in our homes, on the streets or while shopping. The streets are in need of repair and look tacky.

(Good) Eliminate taxation on basic goods, toilet tissue, milk etc. Let 's be a progressive community rather than a repressive one. Open a great deal of layered parking and charge us in higher taxes. Do absolute minimum repairs to civic center or rebuild with more parking and I-90 access. Create life points for students which will limit our increasing brain drain. Change school system to an ability based not similar age curriculum. Washington students achieve AA degrees at the same time they get their high school diplomas.

(Excellent) I love RC have lived other places but always return & now retired, will live here to the end of our days. Born & raised here.

() No response to 12-13-14

(Excellent) when considering next years budget, the city should consider the growing need for jobs in the community, the increase of mental illness and the lack of infrastructure and programs to appease it, and the need to re-appropriate admin funds to expand programs

(Fair) I have always lived in the same house but our area is not as nice and drugs and crime are up. Instead of building a new civic center (a lot of people here cannot afford to attend) Improve the crime rate and get a handle on the drug problem. Make Rapid City a safe place to live. More important than a concert

(Good) Homeless as increased

(Good) No response to #10; Clean house, the city has too many bosses, mayor, directors, supervisors, etc. we need term limits as many have made a career of being on the public dole. Also, consider privatizing the airport, Civic Center and forget about adding new buildings & services. Do Not add the Hope Center as talked about as the services we have now such as "Corner Stone " is a better option to spend our dollars.

(Good) The cost of housing is ridiculous.

(Excellent) There is a nice park in W Rapid for dogs to enjoy their daily walk. It would be great to have a city law that says all dogs should be in the owners home, garage or fenced in a back yard so that seniors (or anyone) who walks outside; they are unable to drive anymore or doesn 't have a car

(Good) streets are ridiculous in most areas of the city. Clear to me that RC has not taken growth into city street account. Poor infrastructure in general. City Council needs to be refreshed!

(Fair) The city has been non progressive due to influential few. Need to step up, support this mayor & those that want to see the city & area thrive & progress. Visionaries such as Hani S are stymied by city regs especially engineering & planning. Support the new planning director & appoint a new Public Works Director

(Excellent) in the past 15 yrs the in city recreational opportunities have become outstanding i.e. bike path, mountain bike trails, main street square. need to continue this trend.

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(Good) No response to #10

(Good) I believe the city needs to stop hiring consultants & rely on those people, who work for the city, to come up with the best solutions to issues we face. These are the people that live & work in the community

(Good) no response to #10

(Excellent) Great place to live. I wish there were great jobs for my children when they graduate from college. I LOVE the downtown and hope for new construction and progress on outdated Rushmore Plaza Civic Center.

(Good) I am a life long resident of almost 70yrs. I was here the night of the flood and helped recover bodies. I have stepped up and been a responsible citizen in this community. Native American groups seem/tend to be "tip-toed " around and are not held accountable for breaking laws and don 't receive the consequences. Therefore, reverse discrimination happens. Why not have other cultures too, painted on the sides of patrol cars (German, Italian, Irish, Norwegian, etc) American 's melting pot? You know 7 generations of being made to feel guilty for what ancestors did (both ways whites & natives) tells us we need to move on now!

(Good) Stop the TIF 's in areas that don 't need it. The prime real estate south of town would have been developed without a TIF. This invites corruption. A person or company receiving a TIF will support a mayor and alderman with political contributions; and possibly indirectly by hiring relatives of politicians

(Good) Good town with some backwards practices and people

(Excellent) No response to #10; I would like top management to think in terms of how SD people perceive things rather than how Washington DC evolves. Money is precious and there is a limit to how much we taxpayers want to expend. Pull in your horns and think like us!

(Good) We moved to Rapid City to enjoy the outdoors more. We like the location of Rapid City and the ability to explore the outdoors. However, the daily near-death experiences of driving in this city are very scary. Traffic laws are not enforced (I know that service calls take priority, but I witnessed every cop in town go to one incident while sitting at an intersection one night - left the entire city unattended - too many officers go to calls and not enough care to patrol the streets and enforce traffic laws.) Homelessness is a major problem in Rapid City and the city seems unconcerned about the problem and wants private organizations to pick up the load. The city has been involved in lawsuits, paying John Nooney a lot of money to lose those lawsuits. The city should prioritize its spending and not hire such expensive outside counsel or settle cases. The city has plenty of qualified attorneys on its own payroll that can handle lawsuits. The city raised the pay for a department head position in order to fill it. Meanwhile lower level employees barely scrape by at the pay rate they have. The city does not prioritize payroll spending appropriately. The city provides many opportunities for economic development at the expense of open spaces and the environment. Roads are in disrepair; the railroad tracks (finally getting fixed in some places) are terrible for cars to drive over; I cannot imagine being the back of an ambulance injured and crossing those tracks. The city seems more concerned with businesses and development than its taxpaying citizens. We want our tax dollars to be appropriated intelligently - quality of living and services are far more important than another hotel being built or cheap housing developments. Rapid City has the opportunity to be a truly great city, but the council and mayor do not prioritize appropriately. The Civic Center could be a great facility, but it is a scary place not being up to ADA code. I saw elderly people fall down the stairs at the Elton John concert because there were no handrails to assist them. Places like the Humane Society should receive city funding, but assisting private for-profit businesses through tax breaks or incentives to build needs to stop. Many businesses will build regardless of incentives and without the incentives, the city will have more money in its budget.

(Good) We need a much stronger police presence downtown at ALL times to handle the drunk panhandlers. They harass people left and right and ruin our beautiful downtown we 've worked so hard to achieve.

(Excellent) I think RC is a wonderful place to live! We could not live in a more beautiful place. As in my personal budget, it is important to prioritize the budget to fit the needs of the most people.

(Good) I love my city so much!

(Excellent) I 've lived many places and none of them felt as comforting and warm as RC. This is my home. I am concerned that we are approaching the city growing beyond what its capable of handling at this time. I don 't want to lose the perfect combination we currently have of small town feel with all the big city amenities.

(Fair) Stop wasting out money on stupid things

(Good) give more attention to painting and repainting street markings throughout the city

(Fair) property tax too high

(Fair) Crime rate has really increased with all the growth. It 's great having so much to do in our town but there are roads severely being neglected time and time again and our lack of a good education system makes it very hard to want to live here and put my child in public education.

(Good) you need to take a hard look at redundancy of administrative personnel & processes. All public offices, schools, city, etc

(Excellent) less government, less taxes are why I came to this lovely city, keep it that way

(Good) need more middle income and tech jobs and affordable housing

(Good) as a retiree we do not need to put the elderly out of their homes by more taxes. the government needs to learn how to be more conservative and realize they aren 't spending their money

(Fair) cost of living way to high with property taxes and amount of rent. wages not comparable.

(Excellent) no response to #10; love the parks & recreation including RC Swim Center. Great access to cultural events too. Would like to see more acceptance of racial and cultural diversity

(Good) Seems like crime has been going up though

(Excellent) please fix our streets, especially at RR crossings!!

(Fair) Kind of dirty but has potential

(Good) the pay scale here is significantly less than other regions in the country. The local & state governments need to be pro-active about staying competitive or risk losing the younger workforce

(Good) I also feel the large apt complexes should be made to enclose their large garbage receptacles. Garbage blows onto neighboring houses yards, the receptacles smell & very unsightly. they are becoming a health hazard. Speaking mainly about Homestead apts.

(Good) questions 7-12 are not needed and will end up giving you bias to the answers given...its human nature.

(Good) I enjoy living here; there 's many things to do for events, bicycling, etc in town; you have the beauty of the entire Black Hills for recreation within minutes. And when you are tired of the "attitude & lifestyle it affords " it 's a short ride/flight to Colorado, Minnesota, Arizona, Nevada, etc. The best indication Rapid City 's future is the motivation of this survey & the promise it holds Thank you

(Good) Build the event center so we have a better quality of life and things to do all the while the city gains tax revenue from it.

(Excellent) retired USAF, moved home 2017; thanks for all you do!

(Good) the current mayor is the best thing to happen to RC since I moved here in 2002

(Fair) Too small for a city. Too big for a town. A place seemingly without direction and unprepared for the future of industry and business. We have the potential to get several steps ahead of most places but no one is thinking outside of the box and no one has guts. The native Americans need to feel one with everyone else. Their youth struggle and need help. There are ways to take care of this with hard work and patience. It 'll be better for revenue, I assure you.

(Good) Too conservative a community

(Good) Thank you for this opportunity.

(Good) Very disappointed with current mayor and his spending habits.

(Fair) Elected officials seem to think if they have small increases in taxes, fees etc. they don't hurt the people living in Rapid City, but when all added together it makes it hard to stay in your home you spent a lifetime to pay for. We don't have endless piles of cash. Where do I go when I don't have money for increases?

(Good) I would like an open and transparent overarching direction for all City planning. Publicize how we prioritize projects to accomplish an overarching goal to increase economic development and City planning/zoning projects that will reach these goals. Show how end project will achieve this goal.

(Excellent) Rapid City is still an amazing place to live, but as we grow, we lose the small-town values that make it great in the first place. Please don't try to make it another big City, because we don't want it.

(Good) Your question on social programs was especially misleading, as you mention Detox, Cornerstone, etc. Of course the senior programs are part of that, but you will get skewed results by virtue of the "type" of social programs you listed as examples.

(Excellent) Try not to spend money before you have it. You say we haven't raised property taxes but you sure raise values which is a property tax increase.

(Good) The only problem I have with the city is the Indian trash, they need to go back to the reservation and stay there.

(Excellent) Again, the town can not stand still, build the arena. The medical community. Education. We could learn by watching how Black Hills Energy has grown. Then learn from them.

(Fair) This could easily be an excellent place to live. This seems like the conservative side of the state but there are some liberal spending habits. Hopefully that changes

(Good) Crime is up dramatically - seems there 's something can be done about that.

(Excellent) City elections are largely ignored by voters. The budget and planning experts recently hired by the city provides for a smarter and less emotional future. Please reduce the size of that city council.

(Good) Mayor Steve likes to spend our money on his pet projects and show how much he cares. Culture should support itself. As a tax payer I'd like to get as much attention as those demanding "more" from my wallet. Don't be afraid to build the new Civic Center project for the future. Remember how expensive the original Civic Center was in 1976.

(Good) This is the first place I have lived that I don't want to leave. I have lived in large towns like Omaha, small communities like Mt Alto, PA and on the island of Guam. I loved Guam but it was too far away from extended family. This is a beautiful city, centrally located in the mainland. We are retired military and appreciate the support services offered by Ellsworth. In general people are friendly and kind.

(Good) Rapid City should not be run by mayor(s) but rather people with experience/education in running a multi million dollar business such as a City.

(Excellent) Need Attention - railroad crossings; loiterers everywhere downtown, E North St; increase local law enforcement; terrible traffic issue at the light at E North/Cambell; Thank you for this opportunity

(Fair) Poor long term road planning and crime drag down a spectacular setting with active small businesses and economic potential

(Good) Ward 3 - private wells are great - septic are not.

(Excellent) I feel our mayor is doing an excellent job!! The City should continue to improve municipal golf course (improve cart paths, parking, maintain trees, etc).

(Excellent) Need to reduce North Rapid crime.

(Fair) Get rid of the mayor and half our problems will go away.

(Excellent) City needs to prioritize what basic services people need - taxes is it 's a want - user fees

(Excellent) The Mayor is on the right track, but many more cuts can be made without impacting services, before fees or taxes need to be raised. Cut the fat Mayor.

(Excellent) Need to improve aging infrastructure such as roads and utilities

(Good) Many in my socioeconomic status complain about low wages. I remind them that other cities, Sioux Falls, Fargo, have more assembly-line factory jobs. However, the riff raff these jobs bring in, isn 't worth it. A good quality of life is not worth the trade off. Thank you.

(Fair) More business options for people who think to run a new business; example; Food Truck Business - thank you

(Good) The police need to crack down on unsafe drivers. More cultural events. We have a civic center, let 's us it to increase the arts, symphony, etc.

(Fair) RC is located in a place of amazing outdoor beauty and with the green belt (our Parks system) + M-Hill provides wonderful recreational opportunities. We have the SDSM&T, which is sorely neglected by our City as a way or method of economic development. We are a poor community and need to work on methods of helping the poor & under privileged, including Native Americans.

(Good) Thank you to the Police Dept, Highway Patrol, & Sheriff 's Office. They are doing a good job considering lack of resources.

(Good) Great sized town; I believe the political correctness gets in the way of maintaining a low-crime City. (regardless of facts). I would love to see more programs that focus on helping families help themselves (instead of handouts). Overall, I enjoy living here.

(Good) The high level of drug related crimes is a concern: The raises to utility rates, and yes, taxes, is a concern, since we are fixed income. Need to safe for long term care, and all services seem to go up in price....Need higher paying jobs for youth....service work certainly doesn 't pay enough to provide for a family, ie: nursing home workers and restaurant workers and the like. So sad that those that serve the elderly can 't make a living wage....and we have many elderly in the community....

(Excellent) I would like to be informed as to the results of this survey. Thank you, Madeline "Maddie " J. Arnold

(Excellent) I love RC, raised my children here and now have grandchildren here. City government needs to stop focusing so much on growth and collecting more taxes and just improve this great city we have.

(Good) City Council needs to take a ride on the residential streets on the west side.

(Good) City employees are overpaid compared to general population. Many are not pleasant to deal with, people get bounced from one person or dept. in order to get an answer.

(Good) In my opinion the city government is much larger than is required for a city our size and city employees are more highly paid than the average citizen.

(Excellent) Follow a conservative budget- 1) Prioritize basic services before any "fluff " 2) Let private enterprise relieve the budget on services that can be contracted out and run more efficient 3) All departments evaluate their efficiency

(Good) Better weather here compare to East River. High housing costs and low wages. Stop irresponsible voting - example walmart.

(Fair) The city antics can be perceived as corrupt or as a "I will scratch you back, if you scratch mine ", making Rapid only a fair place to live versus a good or excellent place to live. Plus the high cost of living and high taxes with jobs that do not match pay also make it difficult tobratate the town as a good/excellent place to live.

(Fair) #1-lots of activities for all ages; #2-love the Thurs nights during the summer; #3-I would love to see a better filter system on the cement plant. Way to much dust in the air; #4-Add cardboard to recycling pickup-will save on the landfill

(Excellent) Since being annexed several years ago, little has been done to improve our area. I live in Ward 2 on Hillside Drive off of North Valley Dr. North Valley Drive is in terrible shape and Hillside Dr. is still a bumpy gravel road. We should get better service from the City. There also should be a stop light at the intersection of North Valley Drive and Hwy 44. Very hard to cross or turn left.

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(Good) \* I like the strategic goals and don't see the need to rank them. \* Questions 3 & 4 seem redundant, plus I don't have data or expertise to back up my opinion. I feel like our Fire Department is over staffed, but how should I know? That's your job. Why are you asking for our opinion? - Lead with knowledge and vision and at least present informed decisions. Overall I think the very act of this survey shows a lack of leadership.

(Excellent) Too many give away programs. Everyone should work for free money. Employees in City should put in a full days work, see some working others watching.!

(Good) I live in west Rapid City, which is becoming very barren due to shopping and dining all moving to South Side and Rushmore Crossing. We need more business over here.

(Good) If the taxes go much more, I will have to sell. SSA has not had raise for 3 years.

(Fair) In the past, Rapid City was a good place to live. I consider it as "fair " at this point because costs continue to rise and services such as street repair, snow removal seem to have a low priority. Also crime continues to get worse. There is constantly increases on "goods and services " in the form of a tax or "user fee ". To the general public there is a feeling that our city officials think there is a endless supply of money in our bank accounts.

(Good) Mayor Allender is trying to get city government to operate like a business and professional decisions on city questions need to answered on this basis instead of the emotional basis that are the current method I may not like inflation but it is a fact of life that needs to be addressed on an annual basis For his efforts I commend the Mayor and will continue to support him

(Fair) Way to conservative!

(Good) I walked Robbinsdale Park until you closed it. Moved down to Memorial Park by Civic Center. Do not feel safe there, to many homeless sitting around. Sad for such a expensive lush park. From Rushmore Road east not good.

(Excellent) We are happy to help anyone in a temporary problem or disaster, but we should not take care of them forever. Rapid City allows many people to feed off the system, rather than develop self-reliance. This encourages discrimination among the tax-payers.

(Good) Our city government needs to do its job. If more expenses are incurred in surveys and contract advisors, why are we paying employees. The individuals in charge shouldn't have to pay someone else to accomplish the tasks they have agreed to perform. Hire the right people in the first place and make decisions locally.

(Good) I believe that too many public funding outlets are being abused and that we are creating additional demand on public resources that should be directed toward only those essential services and growth

(Fair) The community as a whole tends to undervalue education and criminalize those living in poverty. The westside cs the rest of the town is divisive and does no good for the overall appeal and livability of Rapid City.

(Good) Nice place in terms of shopping / restaurants / public recreational items, but people here seem to be more racist against non white people than other places in the usa.

(Good) Why is there no middle ground in part four that says improve services but don't raise taxes? Maybe the taxes should go to infrastructure roads and bridges unless they were never meant to go there like the vision fund. Maybe try to keep them separate. Another thing would be look back at prior budgets to see where the tax money is going! Say the city built this in 19 whenever and years later it cost this but only makes this! Maybe something or a few somethings are not worth paying for! What does the council like to say pay me now or pay me later.....I think we are already doing that. If the city does not stay on top of the little stuff it turns into big stuff kind of like a leaky roof can wreck a house.

(Fair) Would appreciate heavier patrolling & enforcement of public drunks/ intoxication in and around the downtown public library. As a frequent user, I am fearful of that area. The current security patrol is ineffective.

(Good) My wife and I are from Iowa and our school system is our biggest worry about raising a family here.

(Good) None

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(Good) I feel that it is very important to support our most vulnerable citizens toward becoming contributors through the use of supportive services, such as housing, counseling and crisis support. I think Rapid has done a good job moving resources toward this goal.

(Good) Very good but not exceptional. Am concerned about the past history of violence and crime, however, the past year things seem to have improved.

(Fair) Poorer sense of community than where I moved from. Seems everyone enjoys the hills, not necessarily the people, too tourist dependent.

(Fair) Our city needs to get aggressive on economic development and stop allowing Sioux Falls to take all the new technology jobs. However economic development should not be in the form of massive giveaways to local developers and corporations that only create a few low paying jobs. It should be reserved for companies and startups creating high paying STEMM jobs which will further stimulate growth in other areas.

( ) Q14: depends entirely on your income

(Fair) Natural beauty with low paying jobs and conservative cowboy mentality that most don 't want progress

(Excellent) Would like to see growth similar to what Sioux Falls has experienced.

(Excellent) I believe we have a wonderful community that is challenged with issues of racism and poverty. I think it would be beneficial to utilize the data collected by Black Hills Knowledge Network to target exact areas and ways we can provide and improve the situations of the majority that need it, and include them in the solution process. Improved options for housing, mental health care and addictions will help our community overall.

(Excellent) RC is a great place to live. We have a great police department and great recreational opportunities.

(Good) I don 't want Rapid City to fall into the trap of pursuing growth for growths sake and easy sales tax dollars and property taxes without accounting for the increased burdens on livability such as traffic this growth causes. Growth is not always a good thing, if I wanted to live in Sioux Falls or Denver I would. Just try driving there to see how NOT to grow.

(Excellent) RC is a great place to live. Outsource more services. Reduce City Staff. Competitive bidding - No more Bob Scull deals! Citizens (tax payers) did not like that. Bad PR.

(Excellent) I love South Dakota and the people who live here.

(Good) #8 answer - husband and wife filled out together; #11 answer - both husband and wife have graduate degrees

(Good) I don 't always feel safe downtown at night

(Excellent) I wish wages were higher, and I wish housing was less expensive. I wish, I wish, I wish.

(Excellent) This survey is a good idea. There is never enough money to fund all the things we want, and we must prioritize.

(Good) #11 comment - husband has bachelor degree; #12 comment - own home, pay lot rent We are both retired on a fixed income. I believe everyone should get a decent living wage, but the SS rates do not keep up with needs. Water rates go up, our rent goes up, same with everything. When you put something on the ballot, and people vote, don 't go in & change it or ignore it. I admire the survey, you did good. But please listen to our concerns. We may be Seniors, but God willing you all will be!

(Good) RC needs a food store on the corner of Omaha & West Blvd. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this survey. I can live without fancy bells and whistles

(Excellent) Q12: Own a home in the Black Hills

(Fair) I don 't think the City Council really has a good understanding on what should be important. The debates on different issues take too long to decide (Civic Center, etc). Start talking to your community and ask what they need.

(Good) I believe we could improve our race relations along with incorporating a more diverse perspective of progress.

(Good) Q13: pay lot rent

(Fair) I grew up here. Very upset over how far down things have gotten. People worked for what they had & took care of it. Self responsibility & pride were normal. Today, everyone is robbing & stealing. Holding their hand out waiting for it to fill, instead of doing it yourself. People had property rights to do or have what they wanted. People helped each other. Stop being so easy on people, force them to grow up.

(Fair) Rapid City has extreme poverty, and high crime rate as of last 2 yrs. Drugs are prevalent, with homeless population increase. Both go hand in hand. Low paying jobs, with little incentive to attract new business with higher pay opportunities. Current businesses push those opportunities out to relieve pay competition. Rapid City has small town attitude.

(Good) Economic development combined with social programs, art, cultural activities facilitates work together to create a vibrant healthy community. Keep thinking outside the box and embrace a diversity of ideas.

(Good) Crime has increased.

(Good) more crime due to increased drug use & population feeling desperate has increased that is a problem I am a fan of implementing jail time to get them off the streets giving them time to clean up & get treatment

(Good) Since the development of Main Street Square there is an increased pride and interest in our community. We need to all be responsible for solving the homeless shelter and we should have a women 's center and one for Native Americans as well.

(Excellent) Q10: prefer not to answer

(Excellent) Protect Skyline Drive against encroachment & neglect.

(Excellent) Q13: 45 years! We have an exceptional City with great leadership at City Hall, Police Dept., Fire Dept., & Sheriff 's Office. Our setting in the Black Hills couldn 't be better. When I 've been at public events, i.e. fireworks at Mt. Rushmore, RC Hot Summer Nights, etc., I 've heard comments such as, "Wouldn 't it be wonderful to actually live here? " "I wonder if we could ever find jobs and live here? " "I don 't want to leave ". We are all blessed to live here. We have a very beautiful City.

(Good) Maybe look at a different government setup. Do Council members and the mayor have the experience to run a City of this size?

(Good) We have a high home TAX in SD.

(Good) Jobs are lower paying then they should be compared to housing expenses.

(Good) I moved back here from Phoenix because I like the quieter lifestyle

(Excellent) Your ward map does not work. I entered my address, but it claims that address does not exist .Please fix this. It is a useful tool.

(Fair) I don 't feel safe with all the homeless that are invited into Rapid City to live. Please fix the infrastructure.

(Fair) getting worse the older I get. changing too much

(Fair) Its too cold. not enough to do for fun.

(Good) none

(Excellent) Except traffic.

(Fair) Taxes are spent poorly. Roads in poor condition. You spend money on unnecessary issues, and you always find ways to raise taxes and find ways to get money like the water run off tax. What a rip off.

(Good) I see the homeless as the biggest problem right now. #2 is drugs. I do not like to go downtown or almost anyplace after dark unless it is an organized event. 5 years ago we enjoyed just walking in town. When you let

anybody build large projects & there is a big influx of people you need to PLAN AHEAD!!! Sewers, water usage, schools, policing - it 's a crashshoot.

(Excellent) Q10: retired We cannot compete with Sioux Falls. I wish we could but we do not have the population to support the "extras " they have.

(Good) Q10: This includes SS and working FULL TIME. Whenever the city council is shown on the news, 90% of them look like they are ready for a nap, taking a nap, or will be napping any minute. Rather disconcerting to see this - I have been told that members of the City Council are allotted \$23 per day for lunch. If this is true - SHAME! They need to provide their own lunch with their own money. I have been a member of the governing body of a wealthy municipality in a neighboring state and we were responsible for our own lunches - everyday!

(Good) City of Rapid City makes or puts more emphasis on our City being a destination for tourism. They need to spend more \$\$ on roads & services for citizens that pay taxes 12 months out of the year & who live here year around.

(Good) Arts funding pays for itself through the taxes and increased traffic to local businesses.

(Good) TIFs are overused. Developers should be responsible for streets, water, sewer, sidewalks - all utilities. Current residents should not have to pay as they (developers) can make more money.

(Good) There are many benefits to living in Rapid City. However, being a young entrepreneur in this town is tough. As a business owner, it is challenging to find quality employees to support our business. It 's also not the friendliest town to do business in. I would like to see the City of RC be more open to industry and proactively go after business to invite into our community.

(Good) Outsourcing does not save money. The Feds have discovered this - outsourcing always gives you less accountable services for more money!

(Good) City needs to stay out of private business. Do not compete.

(Excellent) I believe the City has too many employees. Whenever I see City workers there are more than needed to complete the job. Most of them are standing watching 1 or 2 people working and every person there has their own vehicle. By decreasing the City workforce it could be more efficient and save the people of Rapid City tax dollars.

(Good) Certain areas of town need to be pushed harder to be cleaned up. Some of the roads in this town are terrible, between the deterioration of the road itself and the settlement, there needs to be some work done.

(Good) We need to develop community parks within walking distance of all new or newly annexed properties to promote health and community ties. Take a hint from Colorado and legalize, regulate, and tax marijuana. Who doesn 't need \$ millions in extra funds? Colorado, for one...

(Fair) There 's been a lot of positive changes but also quite a bit of stagnancy in areas of jobs, wages, and overall cost of living with businesses. Also not happy about losing my mailbox and going to a communal box on Harmony Lane. New road is a definite plus thought!

(Good) This could be an amazing place to live, but falls short in areas that can be fixed and are not insurmountable. WE CAN DO IT!

(Good) Rapid City is a very nice town. Our streets are terrible and make look us poor. I would also like to see more small business in Rapid City. Old time neighborhood business. Feels like nobody can start a small business unless they already have one or they have 500K or more to spend.

(Good) Higher fines for alcohol related crimes. Jail time served immediately. No doctor weekends. Cut salary to balance budget.

(Good) Thanks for asking for resident input!

(Fair) REPLACE OUR AGING STREETS

(Good) 1972 - Came to RC from Wisconsin. My husband taught at SDSMT for 25 years. I taught lower elementary in RC Schools. Our 4 children attended RC Schools. Am very satisfied living in RC 45 years. Convenience for shopping, church, and activities. Progress in beautification and downtown is done well.

(Poor) Coming from San Diego, Rapid City has a lot of nothing. Too many people that are "Bible Thumping Prudes". That will make your city seem to be not very welcoming

(Good) 1. Housing cost are inflated (buying or renting) 2. Lack of good paying jobs (\$20-25hr for at least one member of the family) 3. Too many events downtown that could be for families yet alcohol gives our teens the wrong message. 4. Too many billboards - look "cheap" & we lose some of the beauty of our area.

(Excellent) We moved here from the South. We LOVE it Here!

(Good) Side Note, An internet cafe would be much cheaper to operate than the public library.

(Good) It's an isolated community, difficult to fly into and out of. Improve airport connections and options.

(Excellent) Race relations remain poor, but otherwise a good place to live.

(Excellent) RC is a great town in many ways. Some streets could be better maintained. We need a zero tolerance attitude towards crime. Live within the budget. Reduce the fat & expenses. Cut taxes. Offer less social services & arts and put money into infrastructure, police, etc.

(Excellent) Great place

(Good) used to be excellent but in last 5-7 years it has decreased from excellent!

(Excellent) Thanks for asking my opinion!

(Good) Q8: Married couple (male and female) filled out together.

(Excellent) we need a more diverse economy than tourism and retail. More emphasis needs to be placed on workforce development

(Fair) Rapid needs more kid friendly programs for the low income family. The need is even greater in winter months. Public transit really could use extended hours.

(Good) It is home! :)

(Fair) We don't need to waste money on a Civic Center that doesn't fill up its shows. Again if it can't make money, close it. Make money off the visitors to the town, not the permanent residents.

(Excellent) I love RC but I'd like us to become more progressive!!!

(Good) But in fast decline due to lack of fiscal accountability! Government always wants more and best and can least afford. I can afford anything yet I choose to conserve and cut back or contain within my budget and to have for future! Those in government always want what they can't have or provide for themselves, and never will be able to.....And then some go on to teach?

(Good) Please balance the needs for infrastructure with the investment for the arts. The arts return on investment in terms of tax dollars is very high.

(Excellent) #14 Checked both "Excellent" and "Good"

(Excellent) I retired to Rapid City & I appreciate all the good qualities & services we have here.

(Fair) Rapid City is a very expensive place to live based on jobs & wages, it is a white collar price on a blue collar wage. Don't get much for your money.

(Good) We chose to move to Rapid City when we were in our 40's and was able to work and contribute but as the City has grown, more frequently in the last couple of years, taxes have gone up. Not just property & school & county taxes but it's getting ridiculous with the amount of sales tax we pay. For every \$100.00 spent you really only can spend \$92.50 because the rest goes to the government. Our law enforcement needs the support of the citizens, we need highly trained, equipped officers to protect us in this crazy world. We are living in peace of mind knowing I'm safe as well as my family and neighbors is paramount!

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(Excellent) Let us be responsible and conservative in our plans for this community.

(Good) I feel RC Police traffic DUI is very understaffed. Traffic is bad. RC great place to live.

(Poor) Really need to address the vagrant Native panhandlers that wonder around town. Snow removal on side streets in the winter is just pitiful - other cities do way better with less. Wages vs. cost of living are way off compared to Iowa where I 'm from. My house payment doubled for a comparable home, and my wages for the same job are about half what I used to make back home. Rapid City employers really need to work on paying more to keep good employees here in the State.

(Fair) Lack of affordable housing, laughable public transportation, litte economic opportunity. These are holding Rapid City back from being the jewel that it could and should be.

(Good) Unfortunately I don 't see many actions over the last decade to effectively address the more serious issues we face. Infrastructure, limited oversight on development, serious, enforceable planning for future land use and a lack of focus on serious issues has us mired in an ever increasing mountain of "issues " without a plan or resources to effective solutions.

(Excellent) We need to change our inefficient form of government and go to a city manager style that is more professionally managed and accountable

(Fair) Plan ahead. We (Rapid City) seem to govern by reaction, not forward thinking! Thanks for letting me vote & express my concerns. Get rid of the positions if we can 't afford them. Do not take the easy way out and keep raising taxes & fees. To easy! Make people work for employment, to many easy positions & jobs!! You didn 't use water revenue fund over night, so why be short-sided & try to collect all @ once!

(Good) Rapid City is an amazing community. Yet as we have grown and society has changed - Rapid City must also step up the pace to forecast and change and place emphasis on ensuring its community 's safety, health and well-being.

(Excellent) Rapid City is a great city More growth

(Fair) Housing taxes to high people who take pride in up keeping there homes have to pay more housing taxes and people who do not take pride in there home should pay more taxes. Rental properties should pay more taxes due to more renters.

(Good) Get the Natives and the Mission out of Downtown. Provide the services the people can 't provide for themselves. No more quite trying to provide everything to everyone. Wake up. I supported the mayor but no more!

(Good) The Fire Dept is a big overkill of spending.

(Excellent) We live in a beautiful, well planned city. There are so many things to do, places to see and friendly smiles everywhere you go. My daughter & son-in-law visited for 2 weeks this past summer, and eventho we were at a dead run the entire time. It would take lifetimes to see all that our beautiful Black Hills have to offer. This is a a very family friendly place to live. It 's also wonderful for elder people like myself. We have grade A achools, transport, parks & to\*\*. The City of Presidents is the best place for me. We also have top worldclass \*\*\*\*. addendum: I have to add that I believe wholeheartedly that every single person in and around Rapid, should attend and hopefully join in neighborhood watch programs. Not to replace Police but to aid them. We live in very dark & frightening times. Everyone needs to be constantly on guard & watching out for each other. We definitely need stronger laws now that meth has arrived in our town. We need to have very hard laws against use, transport, manufacture & sale of this drug. I think our greatest challenges in keeping Rapid family friendly is to rid our city of this deadly, very highly addictive drug. We will have to funnel money from needed programs to fight this war unless we can find a way to irradicate it entirely.

(Excellent) More emphasis needs to be placed on education in RC! You need to pay your teachers more. You also need to invest in children because many of them are struggling. If kids can 't read-their futures are very grim!

(Good) surprising number of arrests for a city this size=a lot of people in jail. This should be analyzed as this is an enormous drain on resources. An issue not addressed here is cost cutting. Each department should be analyzed for waste. We all know people who work for the city and see a lot of waste first-hand.

(Excellent) We need to embrace our tourists and find way to stop them on their way to Mt Rushmore and Yellowstone. ADVERTIZE!!

(Good) When I compare the level of cultural activities that are being held in the Northern Hills right now with what is happening in Rapid City, I'm embarrassed for Rapid. Clearly, the planners of cultural events are not looking ahead, not applying for the grants that could help pay for these activities, not working with other groups - the Northern Hills is offering much more vibrant activities than Rapid. So what can the City Council do? Encourage all organizations and committees that work with the arts to work together to bring more activities to Rapid. Need ideas? Look to Sturgis for the Tim O'Brien and Vietnam vets activities; to Spearfish for the Vincent van Gogh and the Neither Wolf or Dog activities. Come on City Council - light the fire under the Arts in Rapid City - not with money but with public encouragement and support. Stop threatening cuts and making committees shrivel in their chairs. Offer grant writing workshops or meetings where all the Arts groups can get together and discuss what everyone could do for Rapid.

(Poor) Cost of living is way too high for the low income levels of this city. I've lived north of Chicago Ill, 30 miles from Williston ND, and have family right by Pensacola FL, and knowing the true cost of living to avg. wages Rapid City is the absolute worst city I have ever experienced for living cost to wages. Home values are too high, construction services too high, taxes too high, and wages too low. The true avg. wage of this town is 10-11 per hour Rapid City needs to raise the city minimum wage, needs to find a way to cap housing prices as they are crazy a 150k home here will buy a 225k home 50 miles north of Chicago in a good neighborhood and pay is almost double. Rapid City also needs STOP all mining in city limits the gravel pits contribute excessive dust population to communities and are an eye sore in the black hills. A side note the city of Rapid City should also implement a no smoking ban inside city limits at least set the bar for the state and other cities to help put an end to the dangers of cigarette smoke you can't enjoy a park or summer nights without smokers all over (I myself am a former smoker of 2 packs a day) and know it's terrible for not just the user's health but the public's

(Excellent) WE wouldn't live anywhere else but we need to address our needs as a community!

(Fair) Very controlled by old families, expensive housing, difficult environment to hire competent workers, still stuck in the rural 1900's

(Good) Please encourage our homeless to seek employment, fix our streets, control the panhandlers

(Fair) Great place but is lacking resources for our growing community

(Fair) Being a transplant from another state, I am unimpressed with Rapid City. I don't find the community to be welcoming to minorities or outsiders. I don't find leadership capable of thinking outside the box to find solutions to issues or problems. I have experienced different treatment from leadership as to what should've been done by elected leaders, being completely disrespected. There is a large disconnect when it comes to civil rights. The first solution to any problem seems to be how much money can be thrown at it and seems to be the only solution to any problem. Then raise in taxes or user fees without consideration for other taxes being raised by other state or local governments. Example is the state increases gas taxes and sales tax, Pennington County wants an increase in taxes and to add a wheel tax, and Rapid City raises taxes plus adding a water runoff tax. But our income sees no increase. There is also the disconnect between seeing the value of Ellsworth which is located in Meade county and not seeing the positive impact of other federal employees who live in Rapid City, spending their money in Rapid City, and owning homes in Rapid City.

(Excellent) Many in-town outdoor activities Many restaurants/bars & shopping options No traffic issues Relatively low crime Relatively low cost of living

(Good) I am always tempted to move to a larger city where more cultural events and opportunities exist. Was in Omaha recently and was jealous of all the things going on there - great art museum, frequent performances, music of all kinds. I feel like Rapid City is a poor step child in that regard. Things would really be dismal if the little funding the arts receive was to be reduced or eliminated.

(Excellent) Especially proud of our parks and recreation facilities and activities including the arts and cultural aspects. These are vital to attracting and sustaining growth and well being in our community.

(Fair) Rapid needs to embrace the population growth and new businesses. Education should be the number one priority. Teachers need better pay and better curriculum. We need to strive to have the best school system in SD.

(Fair) I find Rapid City people to be quite closed minded about diversity of people within its community.

(Good) Rapid has a very low cost of living, hopefully we can keep it that way while also expanding economically

(Fair) Recently purchased a home in Rapid City, but my primary place of employment has been in Rapid City for the past 6 years.

(Excellent) I enjoy the climate and people

(Good) This is my home. I love Rapid! But it is getting a reputation with the crime.

(Fair) our education system is not acceptable . Support for growth is hindered-Civic Center is an example. We need to raise the income level in our community so the programs that rely on financing get what they need. I am impressed with our recreation, parks & police force.

(Excellent) I love Rapid City. It 's a healthy, safe place to raise a family. However, the cost of living here is way too high for the income. You 'd think we were living in some big city on the West coast. Housing prices in Sioux Falls are much lower and wages are much higher. What 's wrong with that picture? The quality of education is terrible. We have teachers in place that shouldn 't be - they are just riding the wave until their time is up or simply because they are tenured. My kids are in high school and are so upset because they feel the teachers don 't care and treat them as delinquents. They are top students and vibrant assets to their classrooms. We need teachers to be checked for background checks also every year. If they have any misdemeanors, get rid of them. They are no example to the students.

(Good) We chose to move here in 1968 - it would be good if the lives of the homeless & underemployed could be improved

(Good) We spend way too much money on unnecessary "improvements " i.e. new shop building, NAU campus, bike paths, and endless studies made by outsiders.

(Good) I don 't believe my income is important to this survey. I like living in Rapid City. However, it seems like it takes months and months and sometimes years to do the smallest thing. It is talked about for so long you almost forget about it. The City in general needs to move faster and bring projects, ideas, whatever to a conclusion quicker.

(Poor) I grew up in Rapid City and due to the declining health of my parents I returned. I have lived in places like NYC, Columbus, OH, Minneapolis, MN and Madison, WI, finding that in all of these places the arts communities were much higher supported. Making citizens happy and organizing events that encompass both city and arts together in collaboration. Also having city officials regularly attend art functions shows their support of the community as a whole

(Good) Think our city government staff is not very flexible in decision making thus requiring additional staff. REDUCE staff and make them accountable! Too many decisions by committee.

(Good) check efficiencies in all departments, including schools, less hire ups more workers

(Poor) Its who you know, how much you have! The citys concern is not it citizens! Theres spending issues everywhere and funds are being mismanaged.

(Good) Thanks for seeking our input. I know the questions you are seeking answers for are not easy.

(Fair) The cost of living is quite high for the services/environment currently offered by Rapid City.

(Poor) Wages compared to the cost of living is just too disproportionate. employers really need to pay more to keep good employees here in SD. Aggressive homeless Native panhandlers are out of control, the police need to do more in this area so people will feel more safe.

(Fair) Rapid City has a real homeless problem.

(Fair) Low wages, lack of high-quality job opportunities, and lack of social support keep me from rating the community as good

(Excellent) developers need to pay for their utilities. Main Street Square should not be funded by a tax on just the surrounding businesses

(Excellent) Rapid is a great place, there are areas that need a bull dozer though. That may sound insensitive, however, redevelopment can be a good thing.

(Excellent) I think a major effort should be undertaken to reduce the usage of water in the City. Any City property should remove/reduce underground lawn sprinklers. The Parks department should be significantly reduced and various areas that need landscaping should be put up for bid to private firms, let the free market provide this.

(Excellent) looking to buy a home in Rapid City...though it appears we are taking our time. Real Estate is tough in Rapid - something that needs to be fixed to spur economic development here.

(Good) There is always room for improvement. There always seems to be a struggle between need and financing that need.

(Good) Race relations need to be improved if we are to grow.

(Good) Just need to make some decisions and go with it and not have the special interest and old time guard money in town really making all the decisions of what direction the city goes just for the benefit of them making more money

(Excellent) overall I believe the city is well managed and that the Mayor is doing an excellent job in challenging times. Thank you to all!!

(Good) I have been astonished by the homelessness, begging, sleeping on benches in our beautiful, historic downtown area. and the begging for food and other essentials (esp. for infants) that occurs daily on the Rapid City " garage sale " type Facebook sites. We have a dysfunctional layer of people that don 't contribute AT ALL--they don 't take care of their kids, they don 't have jobs, they don 't understand ownership and providing for oneself---like I say, I 've been astonished!

(Good) City has no need to enter the entertainment field by construction of a new center, Public made that clear several years ago.

(Excellent) I love Rapid city, especially the culture that exists here, I support the arts, I support the Journey Museum, I support building a new Civic Center, I support our cultural diversity, and I know the city has to have a good foundation for all those to succeed.. Please look at the whole picture, not just what you see as glaring in front of you. I will take all of us to make Rapid City as beautiful as it is.

(Excellent) We have a generally safe community. Let 's keep it that way.

(Excellent) There were no questions about water--why? A lot of the desirability is due to location, but we need higher wages for people to take advantage of it. My kids would love to return to Rapid City, but have had to settle elsewhere to earn a decent living.

(Fair) better planning on roads to high traffic areas; do it right the first time wastes less money than having to go back and correct intersections

(Fair) Rapid City needs to get after the railroads to improve the crossings and quit blocking the streets. They also need to be more considerate of lower income families.

(Good) we moved here in 2006, gave Rapid City excellent place to move to, never heard of the crime, shootings, stabbings, drugs that we do now

(Good) We love the Black Hills and surrounding area. We don 't want to see our town fail due to poor budget decisions.

(Good) Please publicize the results of this survey and provide citizens more opportunities like this.

(Good) crime and homelessness seem to be increasing

(Fair) Rapid City area is rather expensive to live when you look at housing, groceries, gas, etc. compared to pay.

(Excellent) Would be even better with more fine Arts

(Fair) The cost of air transportation to and from RC is a leading factor in discouraging potential new citizens. The housing market is also a major issue, the comparison of home prices in similar areas is a joke, what folks have to pay for here in RC can fetch a home 2-3 times its perceived value in most other similar markets. Kids today know a dual income family is the norm these days but things like housing cost and transportation (and why the hell do we not have any rail or bus service here??) cost/options are big factors in their decision not to put down roots here.

(Good) I still think the city services are great! Just wish developers would build communities instead of houses. Don't build a bypass and then fill it with stoplights - plan the roadway to consider this.

(Good) Love that we have embraced the outdoor trail systems and would like to see more of that

(Good) The racism is very depressing

(Excellent) I have no family here any more, but I love the area and plan to stay so long as I can live independently. The size of the city is manageable for me and offers most of what I need. Access to the airport is important, as is the shuttle service there. Good medical and dental care has also been an asset. I appreciate the influence of Native American culture in the area.

(Good) maybe charge \$1 or 2 for city library card thank you for the opportunity to participate in this survey

(Good) provide funds to facilities (parks) that get the most use

(Good) Rapid City is expensive if you consider the taxes or high rent and believe me groceries are not cheap here. It would be nice if you could bring Aldis here, Sioux Falls has two. Their prices are good, the stores are smaller and easier to navigate for people, who have trouble getting around. I moved back here after living in another state for years, it was cheaper there but I like Rapid City with all its faults.

(Good) The city is a great place to live but the people are not very progressive or aggressive when it comes to preparing for the economic future. We need to do more so our children can move back here to find good paying jobs.

(Good) I'm praying for our leadership & hope our leaders make wise & thoughtful decisions for our community & next generations

(Excellent) Please remember that a City needs to be well rounded with many opportunities to be healthy.

() Questions 6-14 were unanswered

(Good) My only complaints about Rapid City are the high price of housing and the cultural strain between whites and natives. Our wages are supposedly low because our cost of living is low, but the cost of housing is not low here.

(Good) It is unfortunate that the mayor thinks that providing quality services to the homeless is more important than providing quality educational opportunities for tax paying citizens.

(Good) There are not enough things for teens to do. We could have a center where they could feel welcome to come and be with their friends.

(Excellent) you have a thankless job, and this citizen appreciates all you do.

(Fair) And stop annexing more land into the city!!!

(Good) 1-you call this a survey...; 2-five questions out of 14 had to deal with the city problems; 3-learn to live within a budget like I have too; 4-quit building things without a plan to maintain them; 5-stop all the studies; 6-so I guess we didn't need a new fire station, sell the land don't give it away; 7-fix the current civic center, look down the road moving it out by I90; 8-my taxes have double in 10 years, it has to stop!!

(Good) Wages too low, not enough value given to quality of life. We need to encourage better paying companies like Costco with TIFS. Develop leaders who believe in attracting great concerts, art and green businesses and recreation.

(Excellent) I moved here because I love this community and look forward to being a part of it as it continues to grow and thrive

(Good) Uncontrolled growth and focus on tourism is ruining a great place. Buffalo Crossing should never have been supported with a TIF. RC did not need another Hotel or Regional Health Orthopedic center. Tourist jobs are poor paying and temporary.

(Good) I would say, high fair or low good. Our focus on business rather than people isn 't a positive for our community. Our politicians allow themselves to be manipulated by those with money (ex... giving TIFs when not needed). There are individual groups that pick up the slack for the city, but the burn out is quick. If the City genuinely wants to improve Rapid City, it will focus on the citizens and the children, and what makes south Dakota great... that isn 't the fact we have Cabelas. It is that we have arts, theater, parks, and food people.

(Good) Support the arts!

(Good) Good, but going downhill.

(Fair) Lack of opportunity for work, since rapid likes to stay behind the times. Beautiful area with relatively well priced cost of living.

(Good) Thank you for doing this survey!! Great idea!!

(Excellent) I did not reveal my true income, because I do not think it is any of your business.

(Good) As a retired person, more taxes is not the answer to keeping all the retired people in Rapid City.

(Good) Stop catering to a few rich developers and listen to the common citizens.

(Excellent) Everyday I become more proud to be a citizen of Rapid City. I believe we are on the correct path.

(Excellent) The weakest services provided the public in Rapid City are not covered by city services. That area is Public Education.

(Good) #11 response-Business School Degree; Comments: the main problem with Rapid City is that Mayor Allender & the majority of the City Council want to raise taxes & then spend our tax \$ on "wants ", not "needs ". They don 't care what the residents want i.e. totally ignoring the vote of the people not to build a new civic center

# Survey Instrument

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Please, see the mail-in survey instrument on the next page.



**RAPID  
CITY** SD  
USA

# Citizen Priority Survey

## Dear Rapid City Resident!

You have been randomly selected to participate in Rapid City's Citizen Priority Survey. The purpose of this survey is to assess citizens' budget priorities. We will use information collected to prioritize City programs and services. Your responses will be one of the key tools City Council and City staff will use in setting priorities during the 2019 budget development.

The survey consists of 14 questions and should take you **less than 10-15 minutes to complete**. Please, answer all questions. Your responses will be confidential and we do not collect identifying information such as your name, address, or any other information that will personally identify you. Any individual response data collected in this survey will not be disclosed to third parties.

When you are done, place the completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope and drop it in the mail or deliver directly to the Rapid City Administration Center at 300 6th Street, Rapid City, South Dakota 57701. Please, provide your feedback prior to noon on **Friday, December 22, 2017**.

You can also access and complete this Citizen Priority Survey on Rapid City's website at **[www.rcgov.org](http://www.rcgov.org)**.

Thank you for participating in this process and letting us know what is important to you, so the City's budget can reflect your priorities. Should you have any questions about the survey, please, call us at (605) 721-2457 or email us at [budget@rcgov.org](mailto:budget@rcgov.org).



SEE RAPID CITY WARD MAP ON BACK OF THIS PAGE



## PRIORITY BASED BUDGETING

Rapid City has adopted seven strategic goals as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan. These strategic goals are used in peer-reviewed evaluation of all City programs within the Priority Based Budgeting process. We ask for your input in prioritizing the City's seven strategic goals. Your responses will be incorporated into how City services and programs are evaluated. You can find a brief description of each goal in **Appendix A** at the end of the survey.

1. Please, rank the following strategic goals in order from **MOST** important to you to **LEAST** important to you, where **1** is most important and **7** is least important:

|   | RANK                 |
|---|----------------------|
| A Balanced Pattern of Growth                        | <input type="text"/> |
| A Vibrant, Livable Community                        | <input type="text"/> |
| A Safe, Healthy, and Skilled Community              | <input type="text"/> |
| Efficient Transportation and Infrastructure Systems | <input type="text"/> |
| Economic Stability and Growth                       | <input type="text"/> |
| Outstanding Recreational and Cultural Opportunities | <input type="text"/> |
| Responsive, Accessible and Effective Governance     | <input type="text"/> |

## 2019 CITIZEN BUDGET PRIORITIES

Rapid City strives to provide quality programs and services to our citizens, often times while facing the fiscal challenges of increasing expenses and unstable revenues. Just as in your household, the City must decide its budget priorities. Please, help us identify budget priorities for the 2019 fiscal year. Your responses will help City leadership and staff make resource allocation decisions that reflect your preferences.

2. User fees are a City revenue stream that results from citizens paying a particular price for a particular service they use. In general, do you think the City should put more emphasis on user fees as opposed to reducing service levels or seeking other revenue streams such as taxes?

Increase user fees       Increase taxes       Reduce service levels

Comments (optional):

3. If you were to allocate \$1,000 of your tax dollars to the following service areas, what would your allocation be? Please, enter whole positive numbers. Do not use decimals or percentages. Your choices need to add up to \$1,000.

|   | AMOUNT               |
|---|----------------------|
| Police services (patrols, crime prevention and investigation, traffic enforcement, etc.)  | <input type="text"/> |
| Fire services (response, prevention, code compliance, life safety education, etc.)        | <input type="text"/> |
| Street repair and maintenance   | <input type="text"/> |
| Street cleaning and snow removal  | <input type="text"/> |
| Public transit system   | <input type="text"/> |
| Land use, planning and zoning   | <input type="text"/> |
| Code enforcement (weeds, junk cars, trash, etc.)  | <input type="text"/> |
| City parks maintenance and development  | <input type="text"/> |
| Recreation facilities and programs (pools, ice arena, etc.)                               | <input type="text"/> |
| Building permits and inspections  | <input type="text"/> |
| Public libraries  | <input type="text"/> |
| Economic development  | <input type="text"/> |
| Social program support (Detox Center, Cornerstone Rescue, Working Against Violence, etc.) | <input type="text"/> |
| Arts and cultural program support (Journey Museum, Dahl Arts, Allied Arts, etc.)          | <input type="text"/> |
| <b>TOTAL must add up to:</b>  | <b>\$1,000</b>       |

**4. If revenue does not keep pace with growth and demand for services, which of the following options would you prefer the City use to balance the budget in the following service areas?**

Please, consider each service area individually and independently of the others.

|   | MAINTAIN SERVICE LEVELS BUT RAISE TAXES | MAINTAIN SERVICE LEVELS BUT RAISE USER FEES | REDUCE SERVICE LEVELS    | PRIVATIZE OR OUTSOURCE SERVICE |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Police services (patrols, crime prevention and investigation, traffic enforcement, etc.)  | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Fire services (response, prevention, code compliance, life safety education, etc.)        | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Street repair and maintenance   | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Street cleaning and snow removal  | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Public transit system   | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Land use, planning and zoning   | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Code enforcement (weeds, junk cars, trash, etc.)  | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| City parks maintenance and development  | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Recreation facilities and programs (pools, ice arena, etc.)                               | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Building permits and inspections  | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Public libraries  | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Economic development  | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Social program support (Detox Center, Cornerstone Rescue, Working Against Violence, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |
| Arts and cultural program support (Journey Museum, Dahl Arts, Allied Arts, etc.)          | <input type="checkbox"/>                | <input type="checkbox"/>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>       |

**5. What is (are) the most important thing(s) that the City can do to improve the livability of the community?**

**TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF**

**6. In which Rapid City ward do you live? Please, see the map on the back of the cover page, if you are unsure. You can also find a more detailed map with ward outlines at [www.rapidmap.org](http://www.rapidmap.org).**

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ward 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't live in Rapid City, but my primary employment is in Rapid City.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't live in Rapid City, but I have a business and/or property in Rapid City. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5 |   |

**7. What is your age?**

- 17 or under
- 18 to 29
- 30 to 49
- 50 to 64
- 65 and over

**8. What is your gender?**

- Female
- Male

**9. How many people live in your household?**

**10. What is your approximate annual household gross (before-tax) income?**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$20,000   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 to \$99,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000 to \$34,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 to \$149,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35,000 to \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000 or more      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 to \$74,999 |   |

**11. What is the highest level of education you have completed?**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school degree | <input type="checkbox"/> Some college, but no degree | <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school diploma or GDE   | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate degree            | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate degree |

**12. Do you rent or own the place where you live?**

Own

Rent

Neither (please, specify)

**13. How long have you lived in Rapid City?**

Less than 1 year

11 to 20 years

1 to 5 years

More than 20 years

6 to 10 years

N/A

**14. Taking all things into consideration, how do you rate Rapid City as a place to live?**

Excellent

Good

Fair

Poor

N/A

Comments (optional):

**THANK YOU!**

This concludes the Citizen Priority Survey. Your time is appreciated and your input is extremely valuable as we evaluate City services and programs and consider next year's budget. Thank you!

**Appendix A**  
**RAPID CITY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**  
**STRATEGIC GOALS AND DEFINITIONS**

**A BALANCED PATTERN OF GROWTH**

- Stimulate a compact and efficient pattern of growth that uses available land, resources, and public infrastructure effectively, while targeting infill and redevelopment in key areas
- Facilitate coordinated growth by fostering a cooperative and regional approach to planning and growth-related issues
- Promote a balanced and diverse mix of land uses throughout the City that ensures flexibility and balance capacity with demand

**A SAFE, HEALTHY, INCLUSIVE AND SKILLED COMMUNITY**

- Ensure safe and secure public spaces, neighborhoods and business districts by offering high quality services for policing and law enforcement, fire protection, and life safety
- Minimize hazard risk and enhance community resiliency by being prepared for emergencies, raising safety awareness and ensuring active community involvement in providing for its own safety and security
- Provide for the health and well-being of the community by increasing accessibility to services, expanding opportunities for active living, encouraging personal wellness and improved availability and access to healthy foods
- Foster a caring and inclusive community that eliminates discrimination and supports opportunities for all abilities, ethnicities and income levels
- Support a network of strong, successful schools and place a strong focus on opportunities for life-long learning and workforce skills training and enhancement

**A VIBRANT, ACTIVE, WELCOMING AND LIVABLE COMMUNITY**

- Encourage variety, visual interest and durability in the design of new development and strengthen the community's image at major gateways to the community
- Establish and support development of new neighborhoods that are diverse, offer a variety of housing types, promote community pride and character and are connected to the larger community
- Maintain the character and livability of existing neighborhoods, retaining their unique qualities and supporting continued investment in the upkeep and preservation of their infrastructure and amenities
- Sustain a vibrant Downtown Center through continued revitalization efforts, infill and redevelopment within and adjacent to the downtown core
- Develop vibrant activity centers and corridors, investing in their ongoing revitalization and ensuring activities and employment are equitably distributed
- Conserve and protect City's unique cultural and historic assets

**EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS**

- Plan for the efficient provision of public utility and transportation infrastructure facilities and services and improve the linkage between infrastructure planning and land use planning
- Provide a comprehensive, connected, accessible and safe network of public transit routes, roadways, pathways, and sidewalks for motorists, transit riders, pedestrians, and bicyclists of all ages and abilities
- Support an integrated intermodal network (truck, air and rail) that preserves, enhances and regionally connects a freight network that is efficient, cost-effective and compatible

**ECONOMIC STABILITY AND GROWTH**

- Foster a strong and diverse economy through targeted economic development activities that make the City an attractive place for both employers and jobseekers by maintaining a high quality of life
- Strengthen Rapid City's role as a regional economic hub by focusing on the economic health of the tourism, agriculture, commercial services, education, medical services, and energy sectors
- Coordinate land use planning, infrastructure investments, and economic development efforts to stimulate economic growth and stability

**OUTSTANDING RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- Provide a safe, accessible and interconnected network of well-maintained parks and trails that are aligned with current and future needs and that promotes an active and healthy lifestyle
- Provide a broad range of recreational facilities and programming for all ages, abilities, and varying interests
- Support and sustain the presence of visual and performing arts as important elements that connect residents and cultures, and add vitality to public spaces, schools, neighborhoods, and the economy

**RESPONSIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE**

- Maintain fiscal stability and accountability by balancing desired service levels against changing costs and revenues providing clear and transparent information about the municipal budgeting process
- Ensure opportunities for citizen involvement in all aspects of governance and forge partnerships with public, private, and non-profit organizations to maximize efficiency and promote innovation
- Provide leadership in the planning and governance of the community and ensure that local government business is open, accessible, and transparent to all