

Budget Engagement – Survey Questions

June 30, 2022

Welcome to Parkland County’s Budget Engagement!

The budget is the plan for how tax dollars and other funding will be distributed to the services and programs the County provides.

This is your opportunity to have your say on how funds are prioritized within the County. Information gathered will be shared with the public and Council to inform future budgets and their decision-making.

This survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

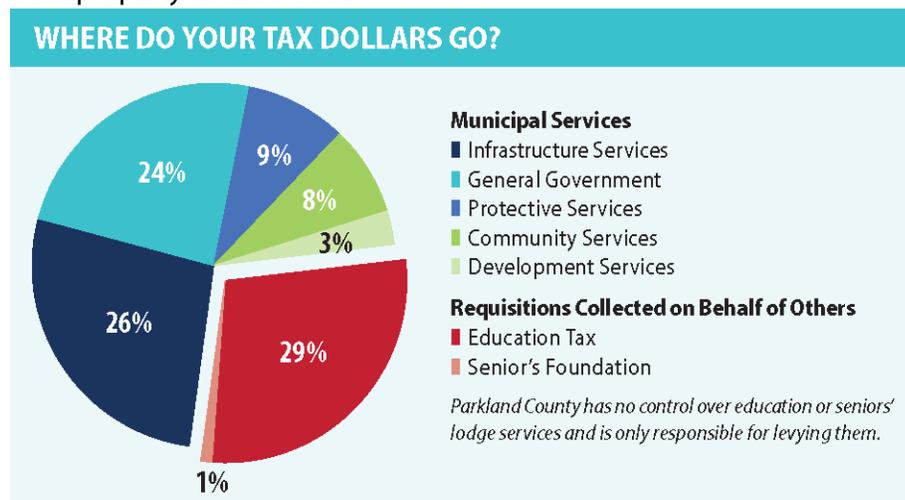
On behalf of the County, thank you for participating in this survey. Participation is important and your input will help Council understand community priorities when it comes to budgeting tax dollars.

At the end of the survey, you will have the opportunity to enter a draw for a \$500 pre-paid Mastercard. One winner will be selected from all participants at the close of the survey period.

Budget 2022

Each fiscal year, County Council provides general budget direction to administration. This direction sets the desired service levels for programs and services and desired tax rates. Council approved the 2022 Final Budget on April 12, 2022.

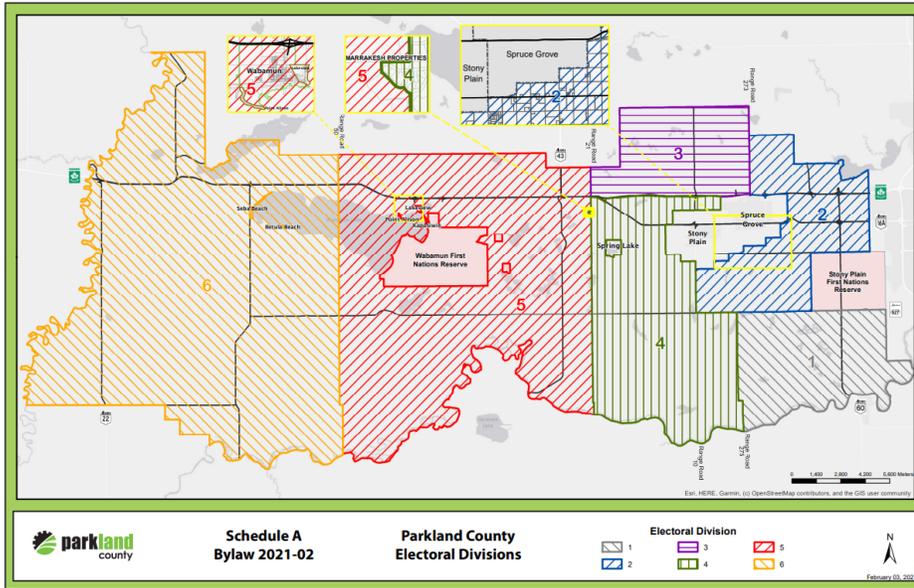
2022 property tax distribution:



Q1. What best describes you?

- Parkland County resident
- Parkland County business owner
- Resident or business owner of a neighbouring community
- Other (please specify)

Q2. If you are a Parkland County resident or business owner, what division do you live or operate in?



- Division 1
- Division 2
- Division 3
- Division 4
- Division 5
- Division 6
- Unsure

Q3. Please enter your postal code.

Q4. How old are you (if you don't mind us asking)?

- Under 18
- 18 – 25
- 26 – 35
- 36 – 45
- 46 – 55
- 56 – 65
- 66 – 75
- 75 +
- Prefer not to answer

Q5. How long have you lived in or operated your business in the County?

- Less than 1 year
- 1-10 years
- 11-20 years
- 21-30 years
- 31-40 years

- 41-50 years
- 51-60 years
- 61-70 years
- 71-80 years
- More than 81 years
- Not applicable

Q6. What do you like most about living or operating your business in Parkland County?

- The people
- Our parks, trails, and green spaces
- The rural charm
- Local businesses
- Other

Let us know in your own words!

Q7. How satisfied you are with the overall level and quality of services and programs provided by Parkland County?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Neutral
- Not very satisfied
- Not at all satisfied

Let us know in your own words!

Council Strategic Pillars

Parkland County's budget will be aligned with the four strategic pillars in the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. Each pillar highlights different programs and services available for residents and businesses. To help us understand the community's priorities, tell us whether you would like the County to **increase, decrease or keep services or programs as they currently are.**

Pillars:

- Complete Communities - Sustainable Infrastructure
- Complete Communities - Recreation, Culture, and Community Well-Being
- Complete Communities - Safe and Secure Community
- Strategic Economic Diversification
- Respected Environment and Agriculture
- Responsible Leadership

Please note that an increase in a service or program would result in an increase in tax, while a decrease in a service or program would result in a decrease in tax. Additional details:

- By selecting an increase in an area, you are indicating your support for a tax rate increase for that area. You will see an illustration of how your response will impact taxes.
- By selecting a decrease in an area, you are indicating your support for a tax rate decrease for that area. You will, again, see how your response will impact taxes.

If a question is not applicable to you it may be skipped.

Complete Communities

Parkland County's Complete Communities pillar is about building strong, connected, and inclusive communities through infrastructure and social programs and services. From managing roadways, and solid waste to family and community support services, recreation facilities, parks, trails, and natural systems to fire services, emergency preparedness, and enforcement, this is the infrastructure essential for your daily life, supporting your well-being, and keeping your community safe.

Complete Communities – Sustainable Infrastructure

Q8. High Speed Internet – Would you like the County to increase or decrease focus on providing residents and businesses with reliable, high speed internet?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q9. Solid Waste – Would you like the County to increase or decrease solid waste management through increased access to recycling, reusing, and reducing services and/or facilities?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q10. Roadway Infrastructure – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the investment in new roadways?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q11. Roadway Maintenance – Would you like the County to increase or decrease maintenance (e.g., grading, gravelling, snow clearing) of roadways?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease

- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Complete Communities – Recreation, Culture and Community Well-Being

Q12. Services to County Hamlets & Surrounding Communities – Would you like the County to increase or decrease services and amenities provided to County Hamlets* and surrounding communities, and attracting business to these areas?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

*Hamlets are unincorporated urban communities within the County that provide a range of land uses, housing types, employment, and amenities to a local service area. Parkland County's eight hamlets (Entwistle, Gainford, Fallis, Duffield, Carvel, Tomahawk, Keephills, and Wabamun) range in both population size and service level.

Q13. Community Support Services – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the support to residents through family and community support services?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q14. Community Leagues & Programs – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the support for local community leagues and non-profits and promotion of different volunteer opportunities?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q15. Community Recreation Facilities & Open Spaces – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the service level for our recreation facilities and promotion of activities at our parks, trails, and natural areas?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Complete Communities – Safe and Secure Community

Q16. Emergency Response – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the service level for prompt and coordinated emergency response, including fire response?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q17. Fire Risk Reduction – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the focus on fire risk reduction (e.g., fire permits)?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q18. Safety Prevention Measures – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the focus on safety and prevention measures such as safety codes compliance, traffic measures, and high-visibility peace officer patrols?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q19. Disaster Preparedness – Would you like the County to increase or decrease safety promotion through emergency management and disaster preparedness (includes appropriate

training and resources in the event of wildfires, floods, or other substantial emergency events)?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Strategic Economic Diversification

Parkland County's Strategic Economic Diversification pillar recognizes the diversity of economic opportunities in the County, from large industrial development to home-based businesses. Spending money in this area allows us to attract new local and industrial businesses in Acheson and other industrial areas as well as support the vibrant agricultural industry we have in the County.

Q20. Promoting and Attracting Businesses – Would you like the County to increase or decrease efforts to attract and promote new business within the County?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q21. Retaining Local Businesses – Would you like the County to increase or decrease efforts to keep local businesses in the community?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q22. Attract Commercial Development – Would you like the County to increase or decrease investment in infrastructure and servicing (e.g., roads, water, wastewater) to attract and expand industrial and commercial development in Acheson and other business parks?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Respected Environment and Agriculture

Protection of sensitive environments and prime agricultural land are key under Parkland County's Respected Environment and Agriculture pillar. A well-managed and maintained community considers how we balance growth and development, manage County owned lands, protect our ecosystems, and plan for sustainable land uses throughout the County given our essential and limited natural resources. This area sets the vision for how Parkland County will grow and develop long term, as well as ensures current planning, development, and County-owned lands work towards supporting the overall vision.

Q23. Protect the Ecosystem – Would you like the County to increase or decrease efforts to protect the County's ecosystem and environmentally sensitive areas, including monitoring and ensuring compliance with the *Agricultural Pests Act* and the *Weed Control Act*?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q24. Promote Sustainable Land Use – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the promotion of sustainable land use? This includes ensuring development and buildings are appropriate for the proposed locations.

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q25. Strong Agricultural Industry – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the promotion and protection of viable and sustainable agriculture?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Responsible Leadership

Regulatory and planning frameworks go hand-in-hand with relationship-building and collaboration under Parkland County's Responsible Leadership pillar. This means we can work together by creating partnerships or agreements with our neighbouring municipalities as well as other levels of government to tackle challenges while remaining responsible and accountable to County residents and businesses on how their tax dollars are spent. These partnerships could include regional service delivery resulting in regional cost-sharing intended to reduce costs, increased service levels and/or create consistency for residents and businesses of Parkland County and its partners.

Q26. Other Levels of Government – Would you like the County to increase or decrease relationship building with other levels of government (e.g., federal, provincial, Indigenous) to identify areas of mutual benefit?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Q27. Regional Service Delivery – Would you like the County to increase or decrease the exploration of opportunities for regional service delivery* to reduce costs, increase service levels and/or ensure consistency of services with our Tri-Municipal and Edmonton Metropolitan Region partners?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

* For example, community support services, recreation facilities or programming, emergency response such as fire and/or enforcement services, to name a few. This may also include or result in regional cost-sharing agreements.

Q28. Engagement and Relationships – Would you like the County to increase or decrease engagement with residents, businesses, and community groups?

- Moderate decrease
- Slight decrease
- Keep the same
- Slight increase
- Moderate increase

Add your thoughts

Strategic Pillars

Q29. Council has approved a Strategic Plan which has four pillars. Rank the pillars in order from most important to least important to you.

- Complete Communities
- Strategic Economic Diversification
- Respected Environment & Agriculture
- Responsible Leadership

Thank You for Participating and Optional Opt-In for Prize Draw

- Note: respondent would be asked to provide email address or phone number to be contacted only if they win the prize draw. Language will be clear that the contact information will not be associated with their survey responses and will only be used to contact them in the event that they are selected as the winner.