

Budget Priorities Citizen Survey Results

FY 2020-2021 REPORT

Survey Tool

- Consisted of 14 questions including demographics, budget considerations and priorities, and open ended comments.
- Featured listing of 41 programs and services to evaluate.
- Made available to all residents online from June 25-July 7.
- Over 1800 total responses.
- Percentages are shown for total responses of each question.
- ***Not a statistically valid survey, therefore results are not a scientific representation of the entire City.***

Report Layout

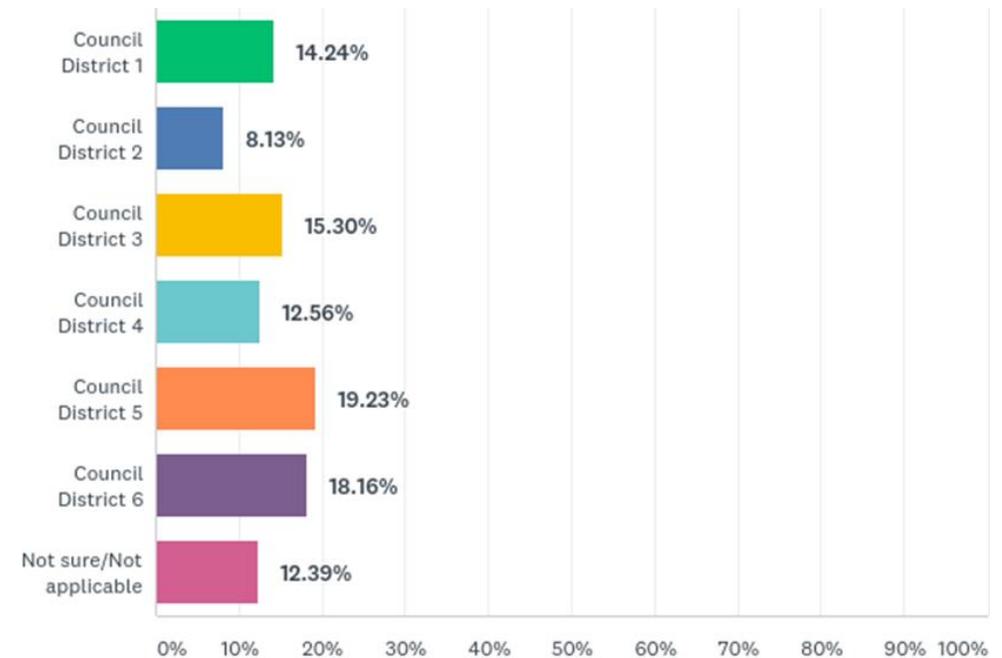
- Results are presented in this report as follows:
 - General Results
 - Demographic Questions
 - Priority Questions
 - Funding Questions
 - Open Ended Responses
 - Results by Council District
 - Council District 1 Results
 - Council District 2 Results
 - Council District 3 Results
 - Council District 4 Results
 - Council District 5 Results
 - Council District 6 Results

General Results

1810 TOTAL RESPONSES

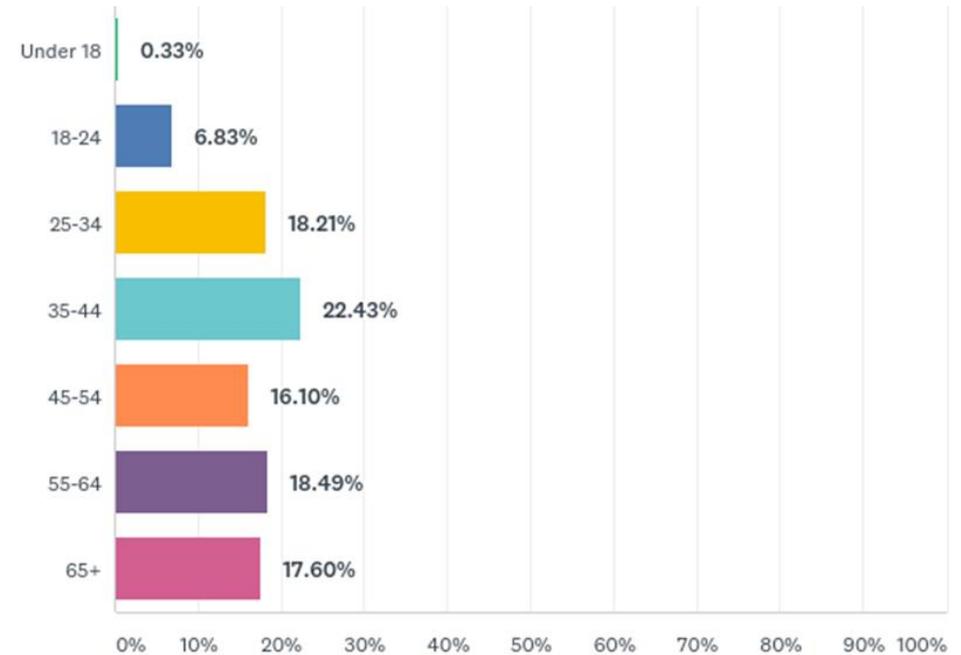
Which Council District do you live in?

- Adequate representation of responses from all Council Districts.
- Council District 5 had the largest percentage of responses with 19.2%.
- There was 12.4% of responders that did not know their Council District or did not want to provide this information.



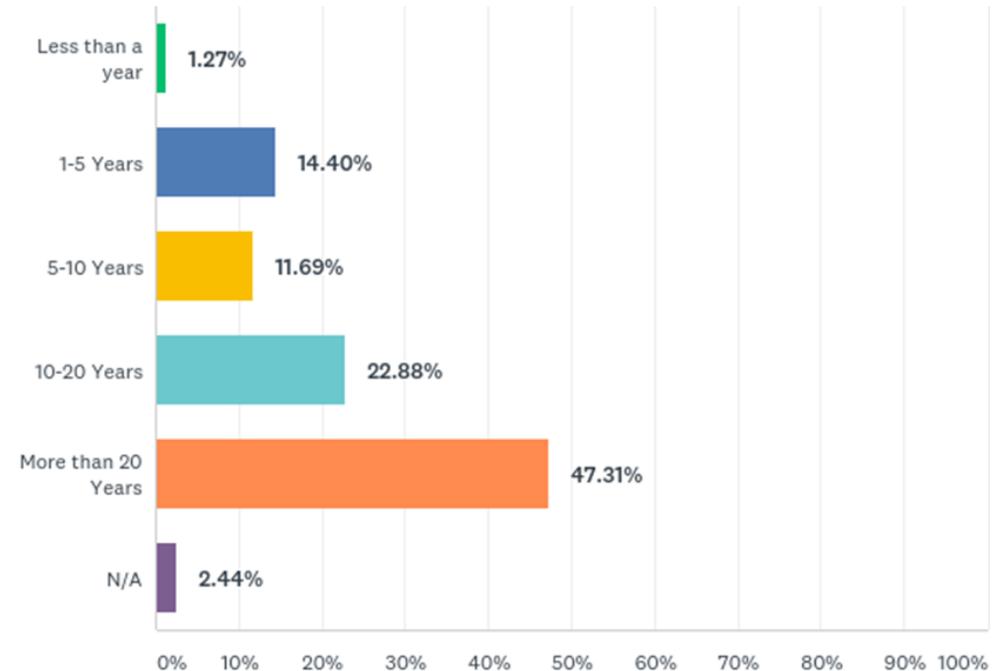
What is your age?

- Responders represent a wide mixture of age groups throughout the City.
- 25.4% of responders were below the age of 35.
- 36.1% of responders were above the age of 55.

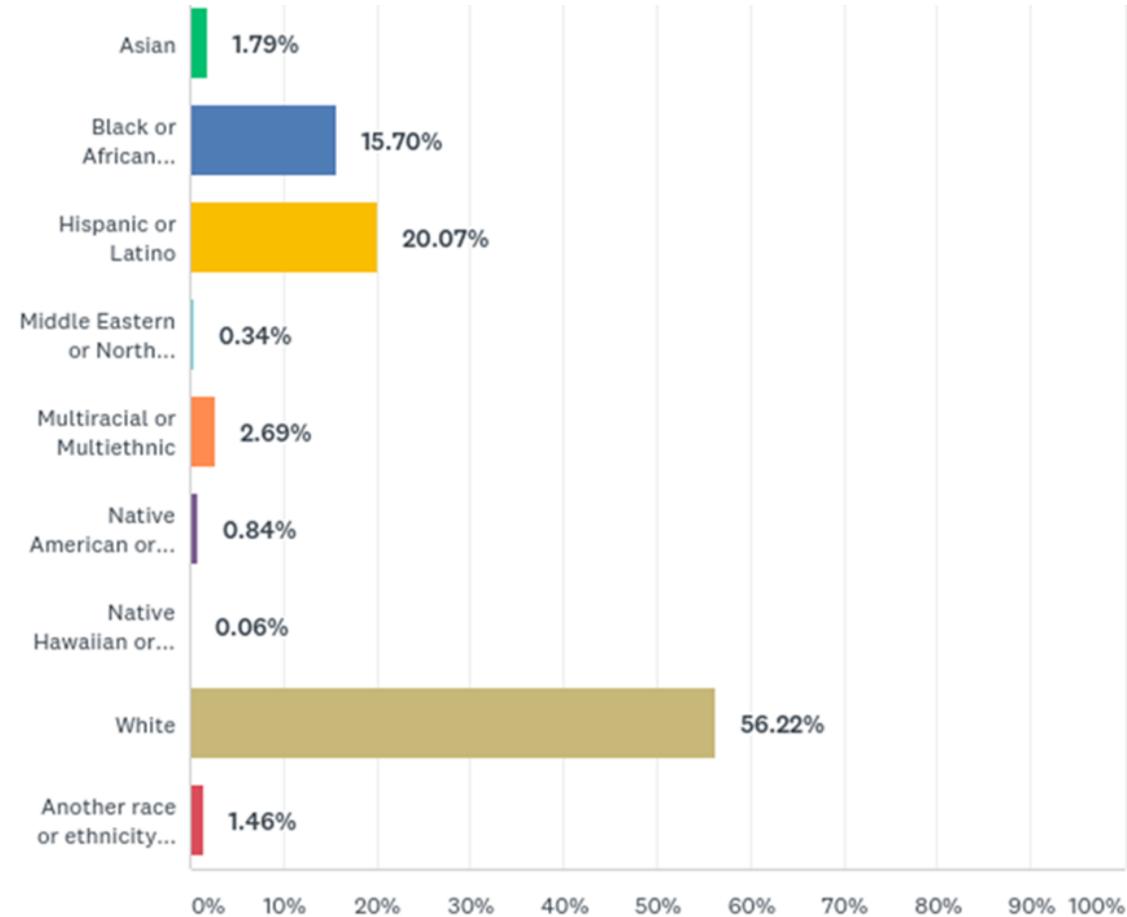


How long have you lived in Mesquite?

- The largest group of residency are those responders that chose “More than 20 Years” at 47.3% of the total responses.
- The “More than 20 Years” group belonged to multiple age groups which shows there is a significant representation of individuals who have grown up in Mesquite.

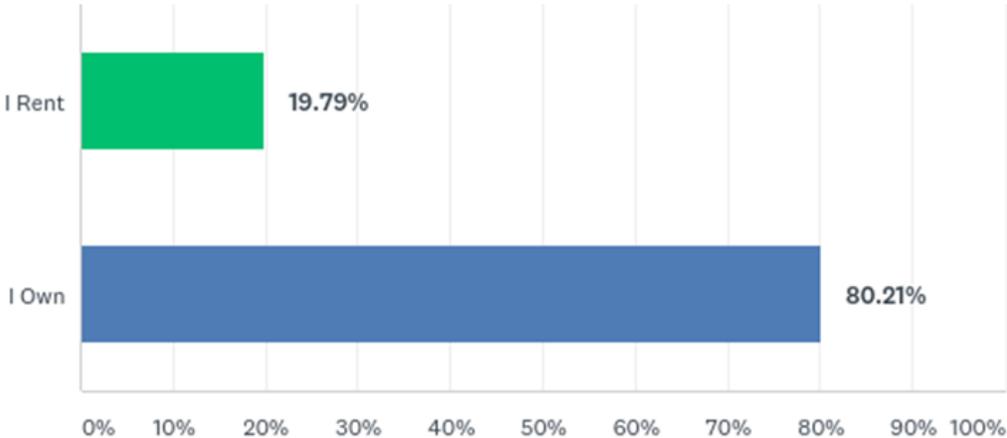


What is your race or ethnicity?

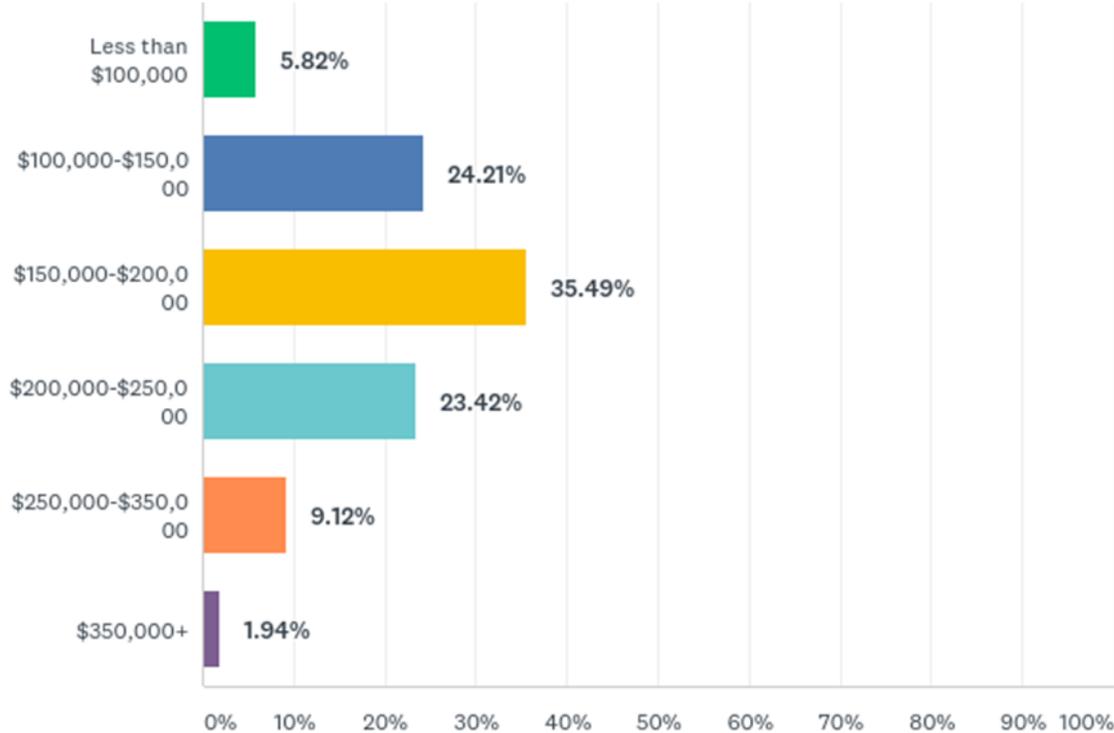


Housing Demographics

DO YOU RENT OR OWN THE HOME YOU LIVE IN?

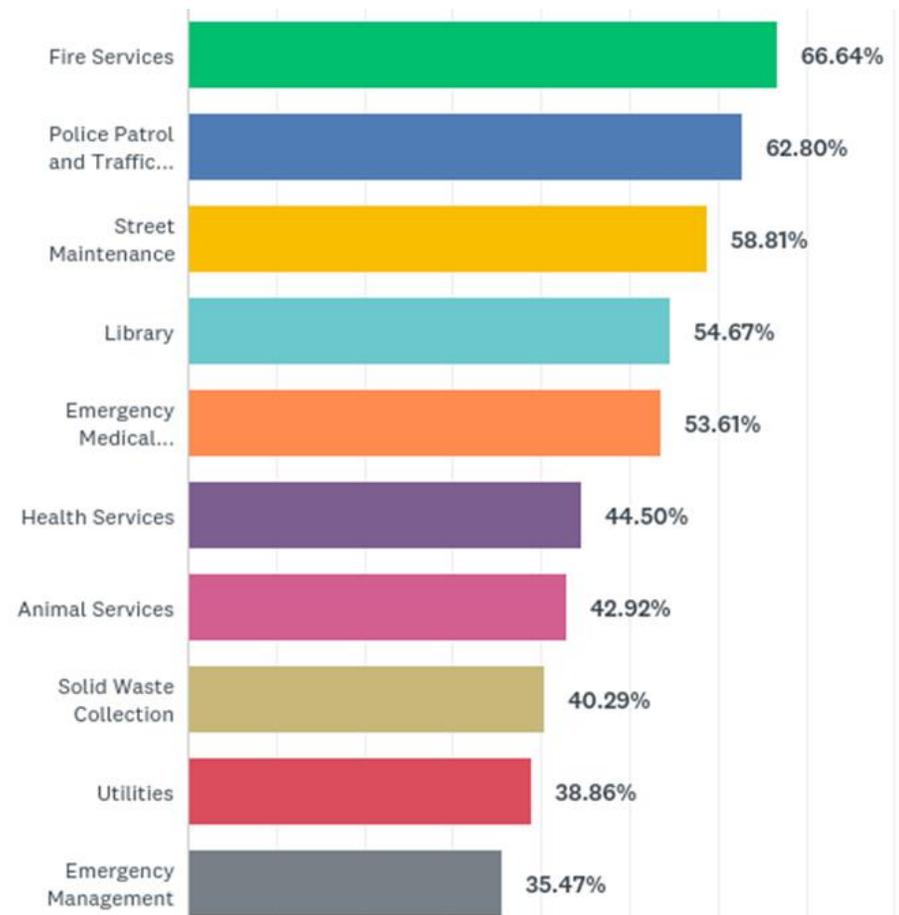


WHAT IS THE APPROXIMATE VALUE OF YOUR HOME?



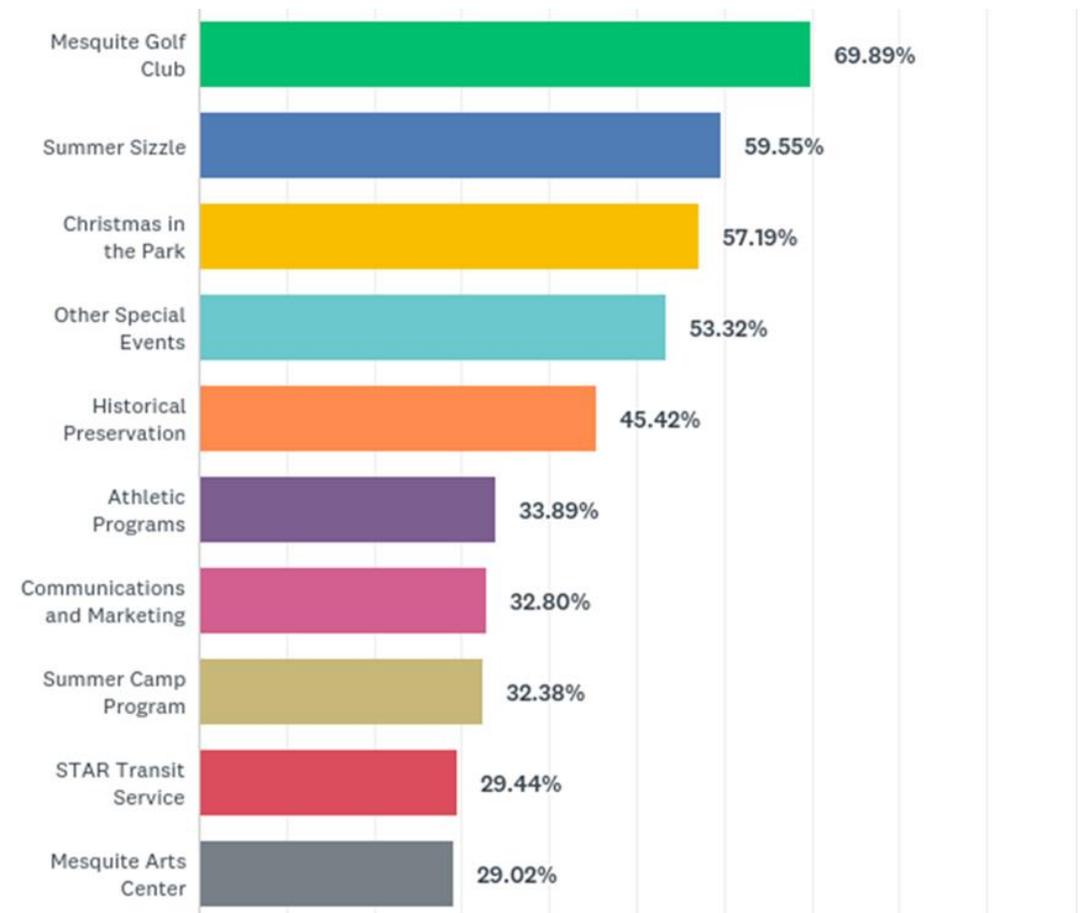
Based on the listing, please select the 10 programs/services that you believe to be the **most important** for the City to provide.

Program/Service	Respondents
Fire Services	66.6%
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	62.8%
Street Maintenance	58.8%
Library	54.7%
Emergency Medical Services	53.6%
Health Services	44.5%
Animal Services	42.9%
Solid Waste Collection	40.3%
Utilities	38.9%
Emergency Management	35.5%



Based on the listing, please choose 10 programs/services that you believe the City should consider for **reduction/elimination**.

Program/Service	Respondents
Mesquite Golf Club	69.9%
Summer Sizzle	59.6%
Christmas in the Park	57.2%
Other Special Events	53.3%
Historical Preservation	45.4%
Athletic Programs	33.9%
Communications and Marketing	32.8%
Summer Camp Program	32.4%
STAR Transit Service	29.4%
Mesquite Arts Center	29.0%



Which Services would you like to see Effort (Money) increased?

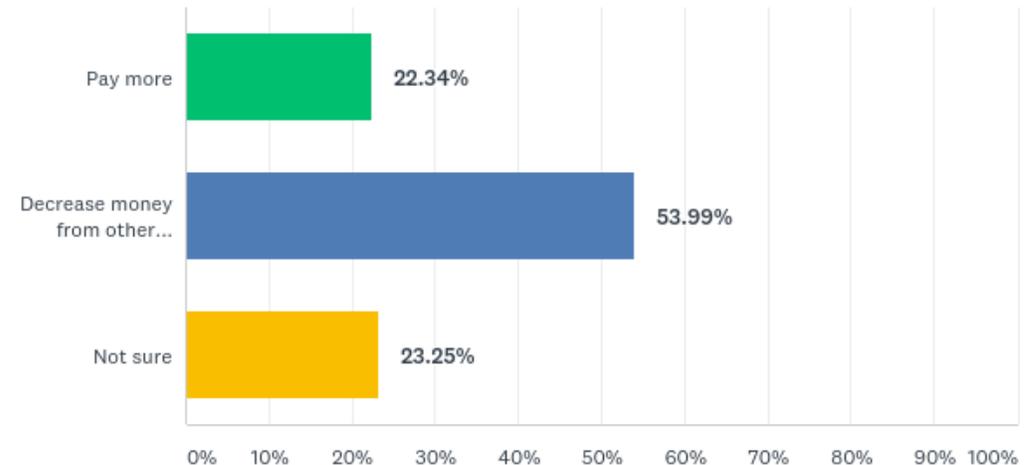
Top 10 Program/Services	Weighted Average (1-3 scale) 1=More Funding	Money Increased Responses
Street Maintenance	1.38	63.4%
Health Services	1.60	44.4%
Emergency Medical Services	1.62	41.4%
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	1.64	49.7%
Fire Services	1.64	39.5%
Afterschool Adventures Program	1.67	42.6%
Library	1.67	41.9%
Emergency Management	1.70	34.8%
Street Lighting	1.74	29.8%
Park Operations	1.75	31.1%

Which Services would you like to see Effort (Money) **decreased**?

Top 10 Program/Services	Weighted Average (1-3 scale) 3=Less Funding	Money Decreased Responses
Mesquite Golf Club	2.56	59.5%
Summer Sizzle	2.33	43.1%
Christmas in the Park	2.31	40.6%
Historical Preservation	2.27	36.5%
Communications and Marketing	2.25	33.2%
Other Special Events	2.18	33.0%
Planning and Zoning	2.09	17.8%
Mesquite Arts Center	2.06	24.6%
STAR Transit Service	2.05	22.2%
Municipal Court	2.03	15.0%

How would you prefer to raise funds for increasing effort in services and programs?

- 54% of responders stated they would rather decrease money from other services in order to fund priority services rather than pay more.
- 23.3% of responders stated they were “Not Sure” if they would want to pay more or decrease money from other services to fund priority services.



Open Ended Responses

Responders were asked to provide any additional feedback or comments they would like to share. Below is a summary of major themes:

- There were various general budget questions and feedback that centered on where to find the budget and what information was available to the public such as expenses, contracts and grants.
- There were several questions that asked to describe sales tax and property tax information, including rising home values and how it related to City spending.
- Numerous water related comments and questions, including what factors into the water bill and how do we decide what to charge.
- Some responses wanted the City to do more partnerships with businesses to fund programs and investigate privatization for some service areas.
- A significant number of responses were influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic including:
 - Individuals stated their answers were affected by COVID-19 and would potentially be different if not for the pandemic.
 - Many responses stated that services or programs that were difficult to enforce social distancing should be reduced such as special events and activities that drew groups of people.

Open Ended Responses

- There were a notable amount of responses focused on infrastructure and street repair and the need to do more.
- A large portion of comments wanted to see Public Safety remain strong and have dedicated resources.
- Responses mentioned what would operations look like if individual departments funding was reduced
 - Responders realized that this is a tough decision because they would like to keep their level of service in most areas.
 - There were some comments that did not want to see any reduction at all in the City.
- Certain responders showed an appreciation for getting feedback from the residents on budget decisions including this survey.
- Ultimately, a common theme found throughout the comments were a need to focus on necessities and adjust to the changing landscape with COVID-19 impacts.

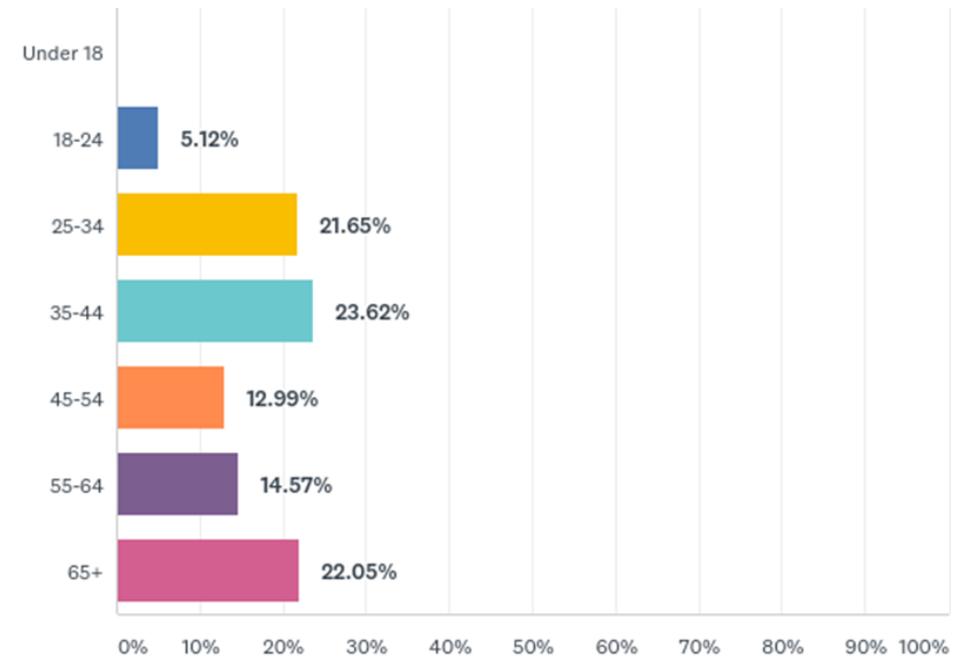
Results by Council District

Council District 1

254 TOTAL RESPONSES

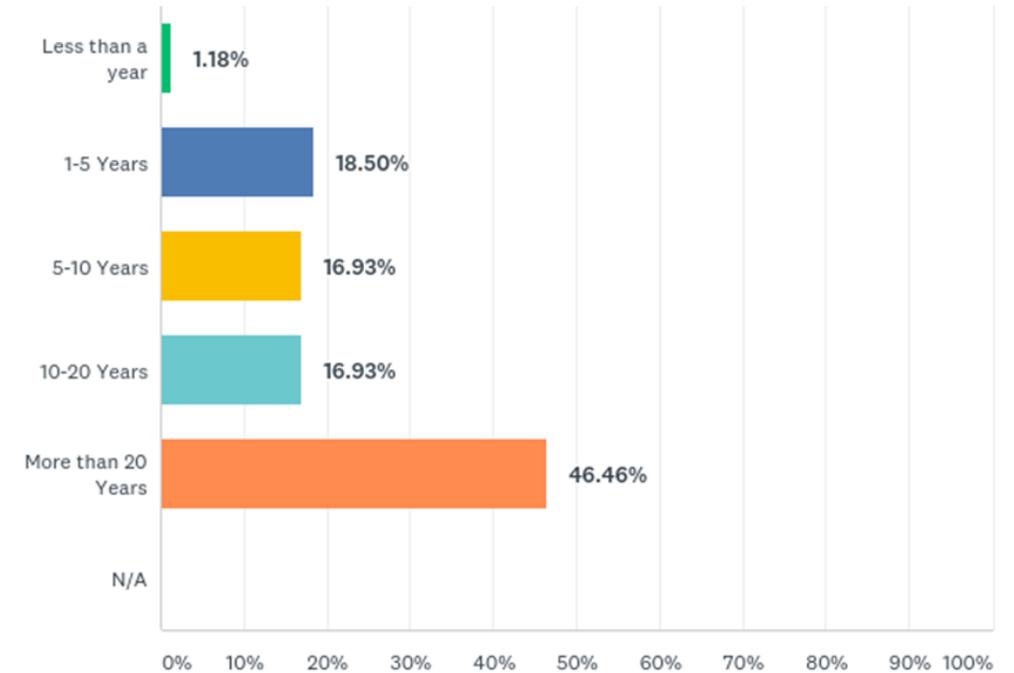
What is your age? (Council District 1)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	5.12%	13
25-34	21.65%	55
35-44	23.62%	60
45-54	12.99%	33
55-64	14.57%	37
65+	22.05%	56
TOTAL		254

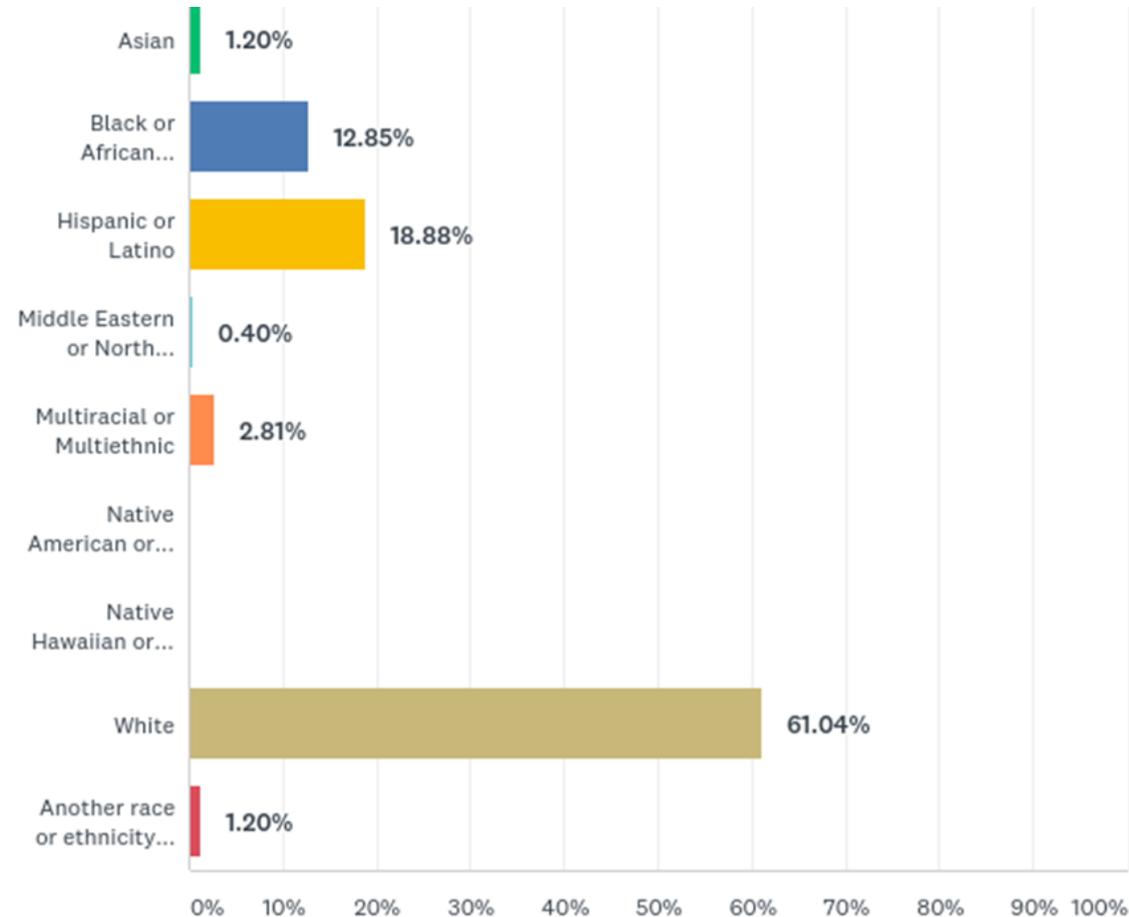


How long have you lived in Mesquite? (Council District 1)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than a year	1.18%	3
1-5 Years	18.50%	47
5-10 Years	16.93%	43
10-20 Years	16.93%	43
More than 20 Years	46.46%	118
N/A	0.00%	0
TOTAL		254

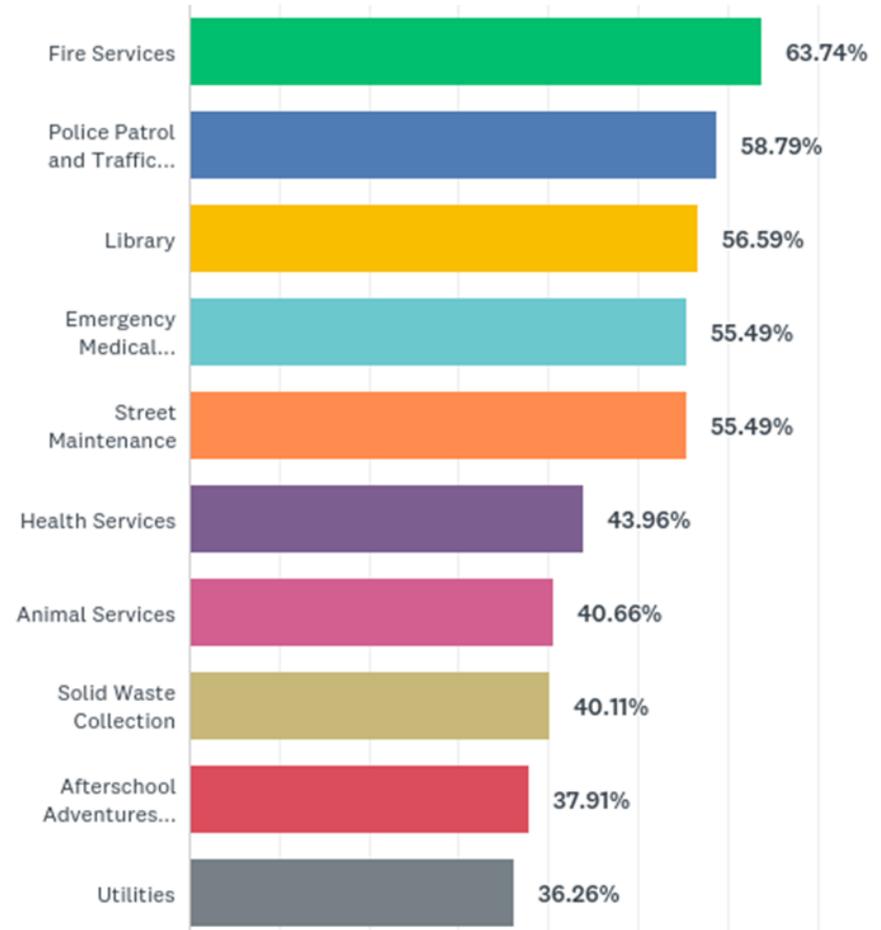


What is your race or ethnicity? (Council District 1)



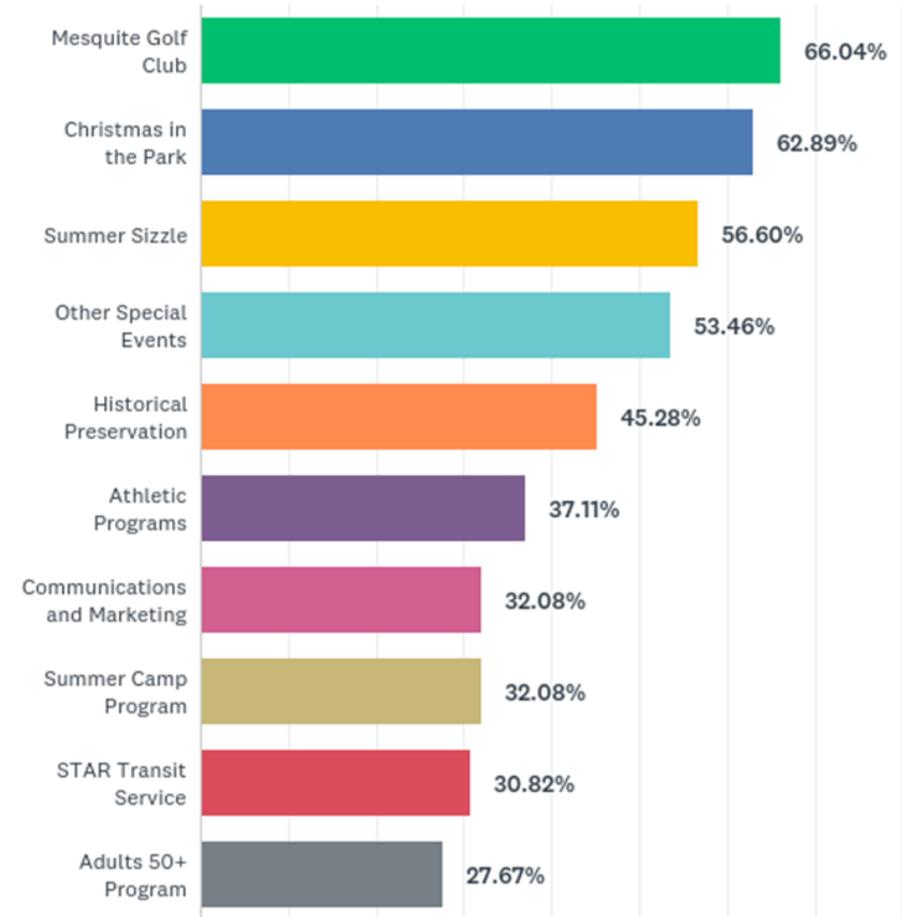
Based on the listing, please select the 10 programs/services that you believe to be the **most important** for the City to provide. (Council District 1)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fire Services	63.74%	116
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	58.79%	107
Library	56.59%	103
Emergency Medical Services	55.49%	101
Street Maintenance	55.49%	101
Health Services	43.96%	80
Animal Services	40.66%	74
Solid Waste Collection	40.11%	73
Afterschool Adventures Program	37.91%	69
Utilities	36.26%	66



Based on the listing, please choose 10 programs/services that you believe the City should consider for **reduction/elimination**. (Council District 1)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Mesquite Golf Club	66.04%	105
Christmas in the Park	62.89%	100
Summer Sizzle	56.60%	90
Other Special Events	53.46%	85
Historical Preservation	45.28%	72
Athletic Programs	37.11%	59
Communications and Marketing	32.08%	51
Summer Camp Program	32.08%	51
STAR Transit Service	30.82%	49
Adults 50+ Program	27.67%	44



Program Funding Increased/Decreased (Council District 1)

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **INCREASED**?

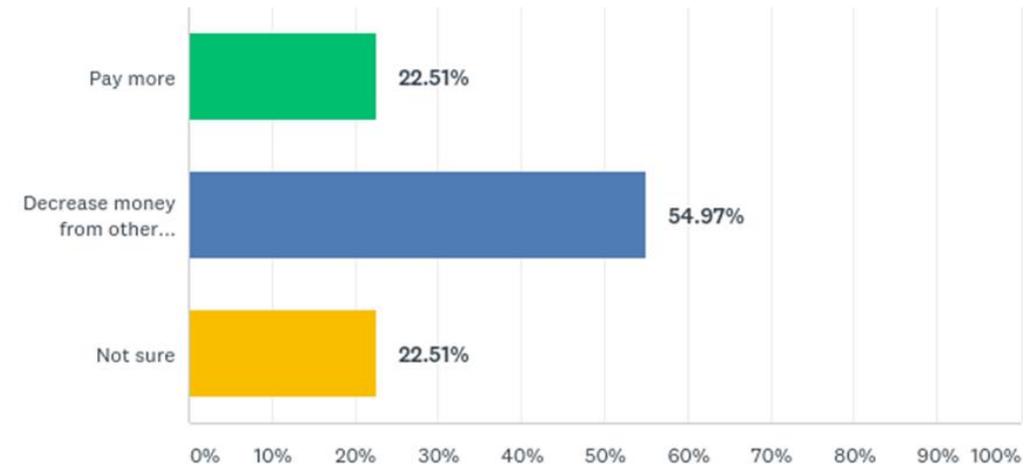
(1-3 Scale) 1=More Funding	Average
Street Maintenance	1.35
Library	1.59
Afterschool Adventures Program	1.59
Health Services	1.60
Fire Services	1.60
Emergency Medical Services	1.62
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	1.64
Park Operations	1.66
Economic Development	1.68
Emergency Management	1.72

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **DECREASED**?

(1-3 Scale) 3=Less Funding	Average
Mesquite Golf Club	2.52
Summer Sizzle	2.39
Christmas in the Park	2.35
Communications and Marketing	2.25
Historical Preservation	2.21
Other Special Events	2.18
Athletic Programs	2.05
Municipal Court	2.05
Planning and Zoning	2.03
STAR Transit Service	2.01

How would you prefer to raise funds for increasing effort in services and programs? (Council District 1)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pay more	22.51%	43
Decrease money from other program or service	54.97%	105
Not sure	22.51%	43
TOTAL		191

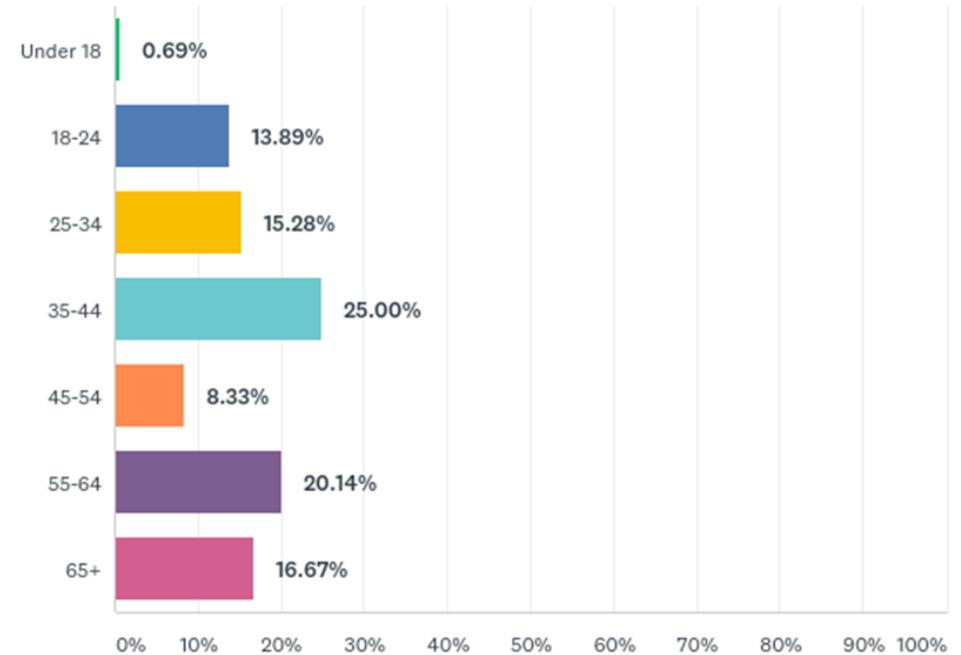


Council District 2

145 TOTAL RESPONSES

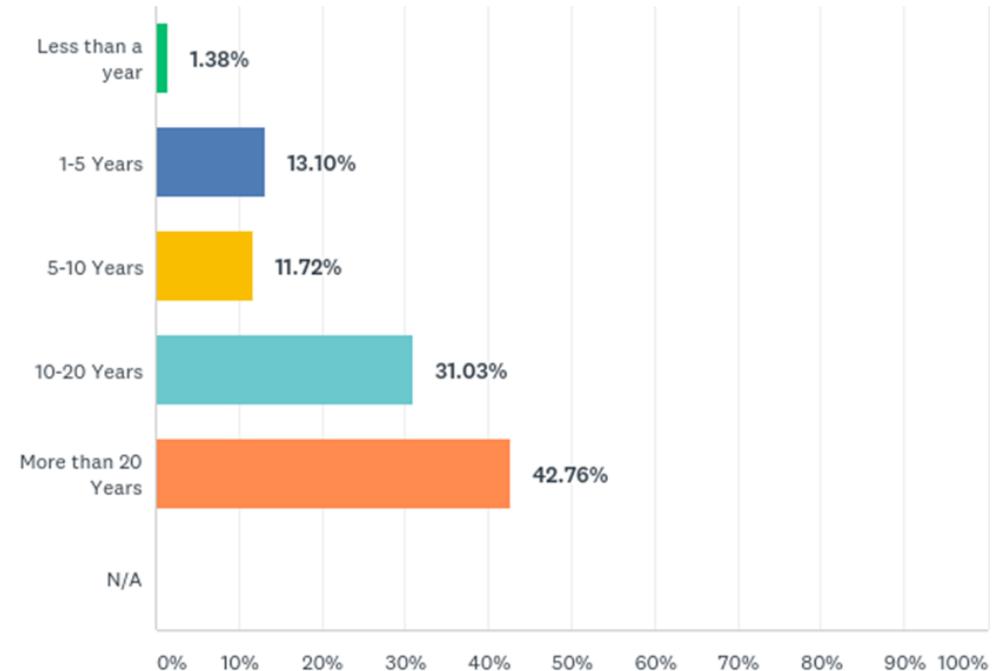
What is your age? (Council District 2)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.69%	1
18-24	13.89%	20
25-34	15.28%	22
35-44	25.00%	36
45-54	8.33%	12
55-64	20.14%	29
65+	16.67%	24
TOTAL		144

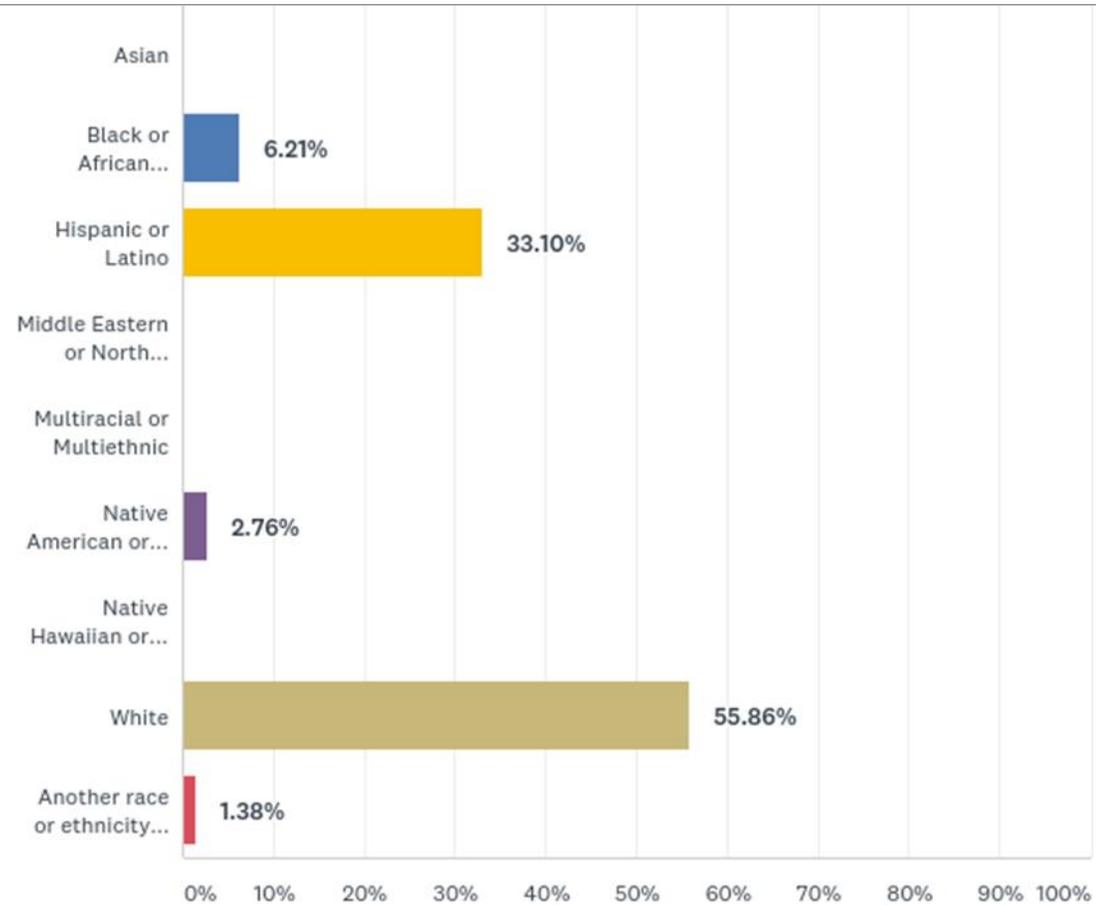


How long have you lived in Mesquite? (Council District 2)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than a year	1.38%	2
1-5 Years	13.10%	19
5-10 Years	11.72%	17
10-20 Years	31.03%	45
More than 20 Years	42.76%	62
N/A	0.00%	0
TOTAL		145

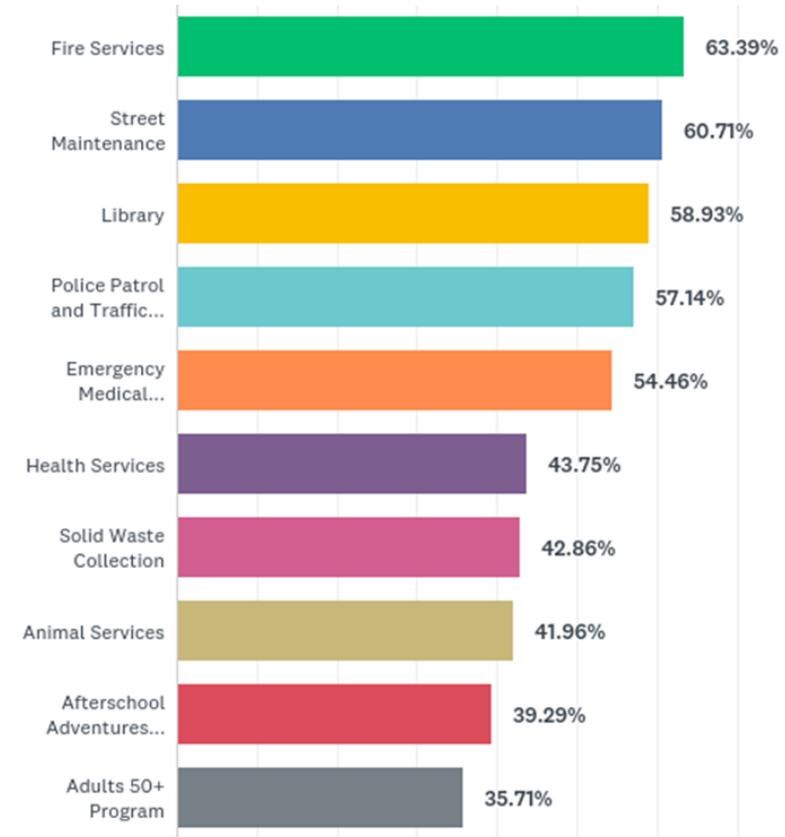


What is your race or ethnicity? (Council District 2)



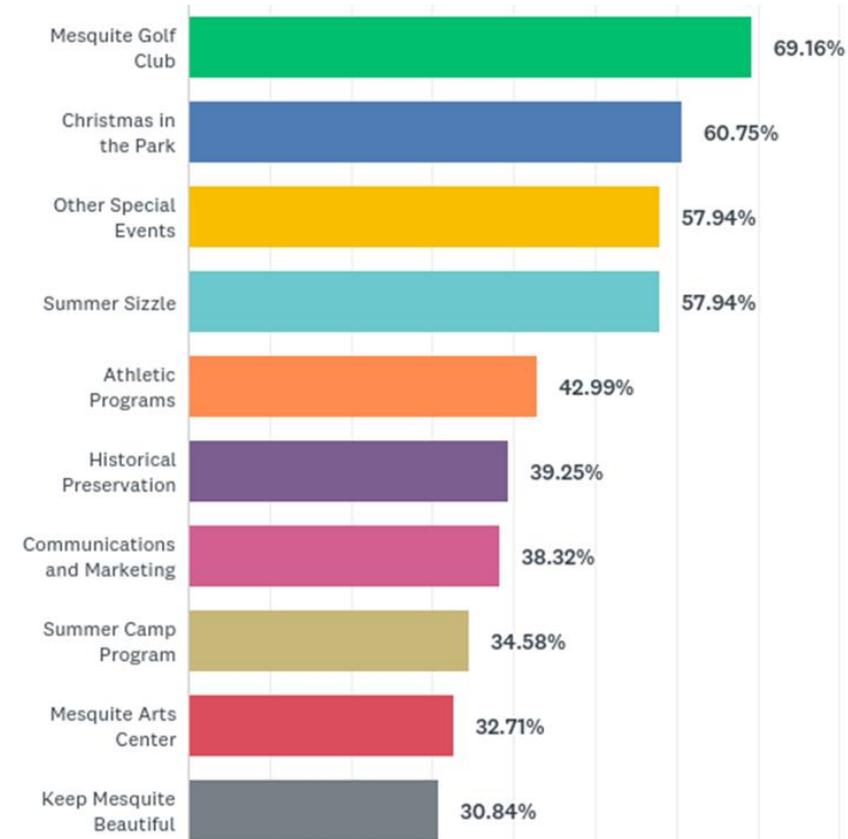
Based on the listing, please select the 10 programs/services that you believe to be the **most important** for the City to provide. (Council District 2)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fire Services	63.39%	71
Street Maintenance	60.71%	68
Library	58.93%	66
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	57.14%	64
Emergency Medical Services	54.46%	61
Health Services	43.75%	49
Solid Waste Collection	42.86%	48
Animal Services	41.96%	47
Afterschool Adventures Program	39.29%	44
Adults 50+ Program	35.71%	40



Based on the listing, please choose 10 programs/services that you believe the City should consider for **reduction/elimination**. (Council District 2)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Mesquite Golf Club	69.16%	74
Christmas in the Park	60.75%	65
Other Special Events	57.94%	62
Summer Sizzle	57.94%	62
Athletic Programs	42.99%	46
Historical Preservation	39.25%	42
Communications and Marketing	38.32%	41
Summer Camp Program	34.58%	37
Mesquite Arts Center	32.71%	35
Keep Mesquite Beautiful	30.84%	33



Program Funding Increased/Decreased (Council District 2)

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **INCREASED**?

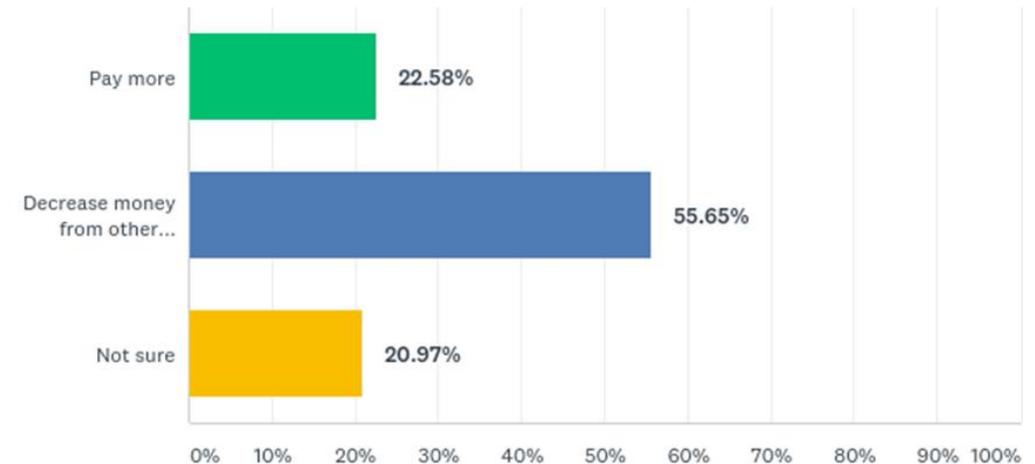
(1-3 Scale) 1=More Funding	Average
Street Maintenance	1.26
Health Services	1.52
Library	1.55
Emergency Medical Services	1.58
Fire Services	1.64
Afterschool Adventures Program	1.65
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	1.70
Vaccine Clinic	1.72
Emergency Management	1.72
Park Operations	1.73

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **DECREASED**?

(1-3 Scale) 3=Less Funding	Average
Mesquite Golf Club	2.59
Christmas in the Park	2.42
Summer Sizzle	2.38
Other Special Events	2.22
Historical Preservation	2.21
Communications and Marketing	2.17
Planning and Zoning	2.12
Athletic Programs	2.07
STAR Transit Service	2.05
Mesquite Arts Center	2.05

How would you prefer to raise funds for increasing effort in services and programs? (Council District 2)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pay more	22.58%	28
Decrease money from other program or service	55.65%	69
Not sure	20.97%	26
TOTAL		124

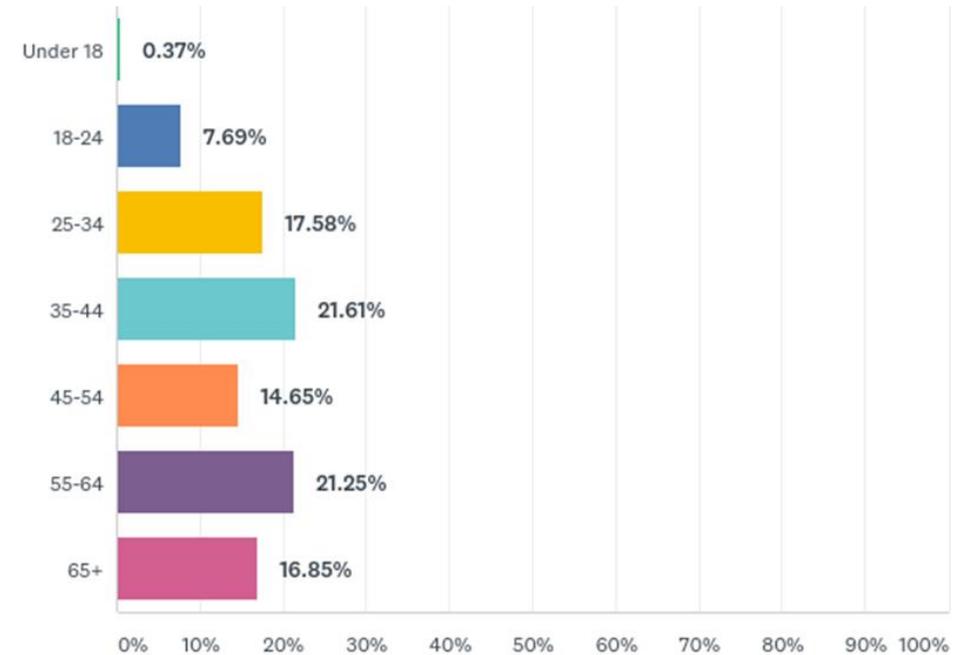


Council District 3

273 TOTAL RESPONSES

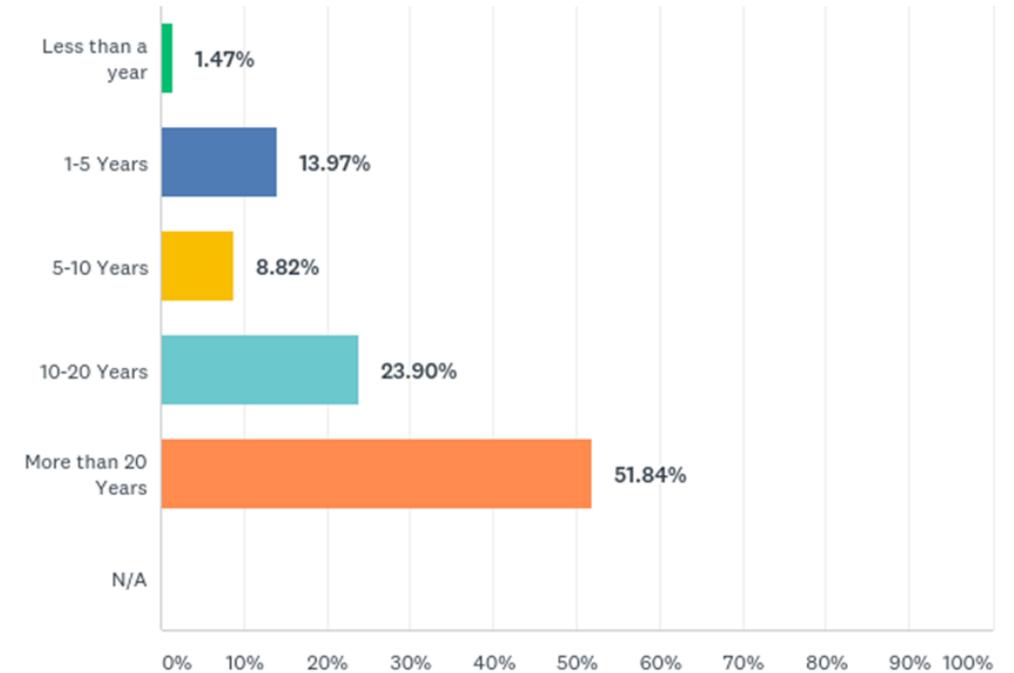
What is your age? (Council District 3)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.37%	1
18-24	7.69%	21
25-34	17.58%	48
35-44	21.61%	59
45-54	14.65%	40
55-64	21.25%	58
65+	16.85%	46
TOTAL		273

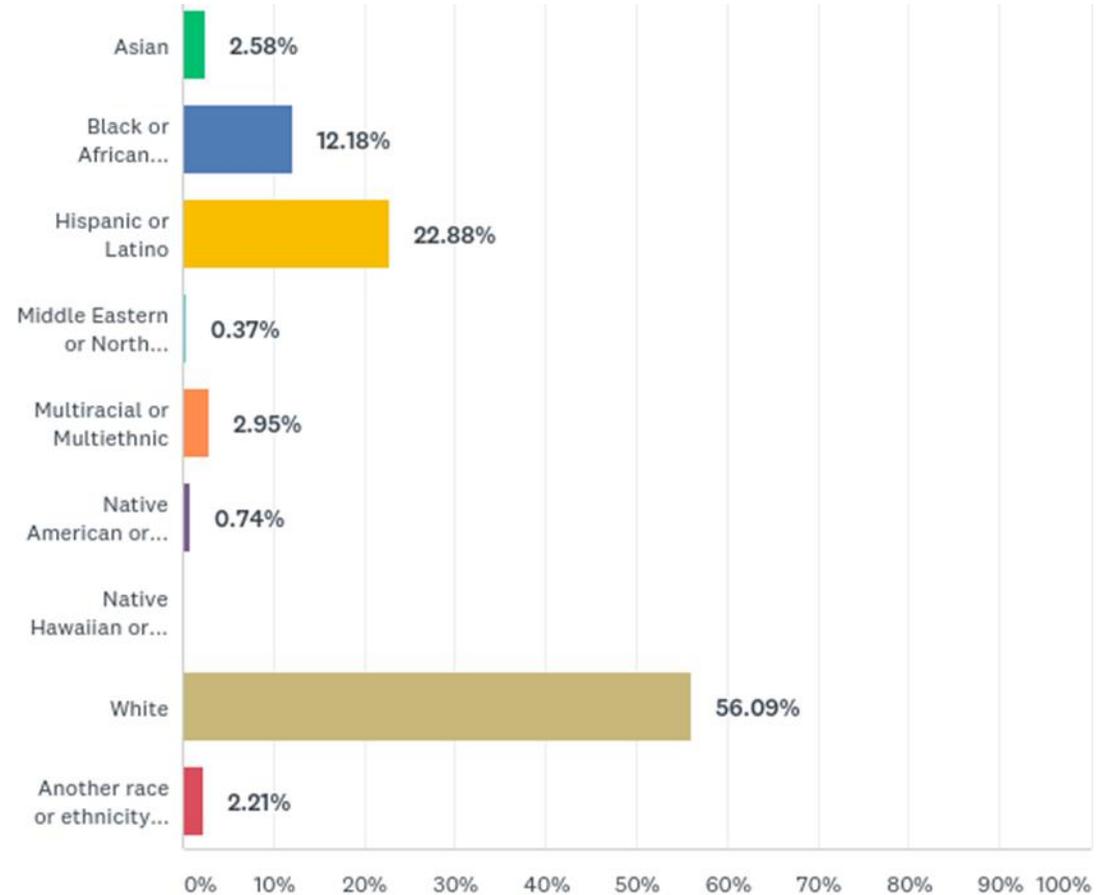


How long have you lived in Mesquite? (Council District 3)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than a year	1.47%	4
1-5 Years	13.97%	38
5-10 Years	8.82%	24
10-20 Years	23.90%	65
More than 20 Years	51.84%	141
N/A	0.00%	0
TOTAL		272

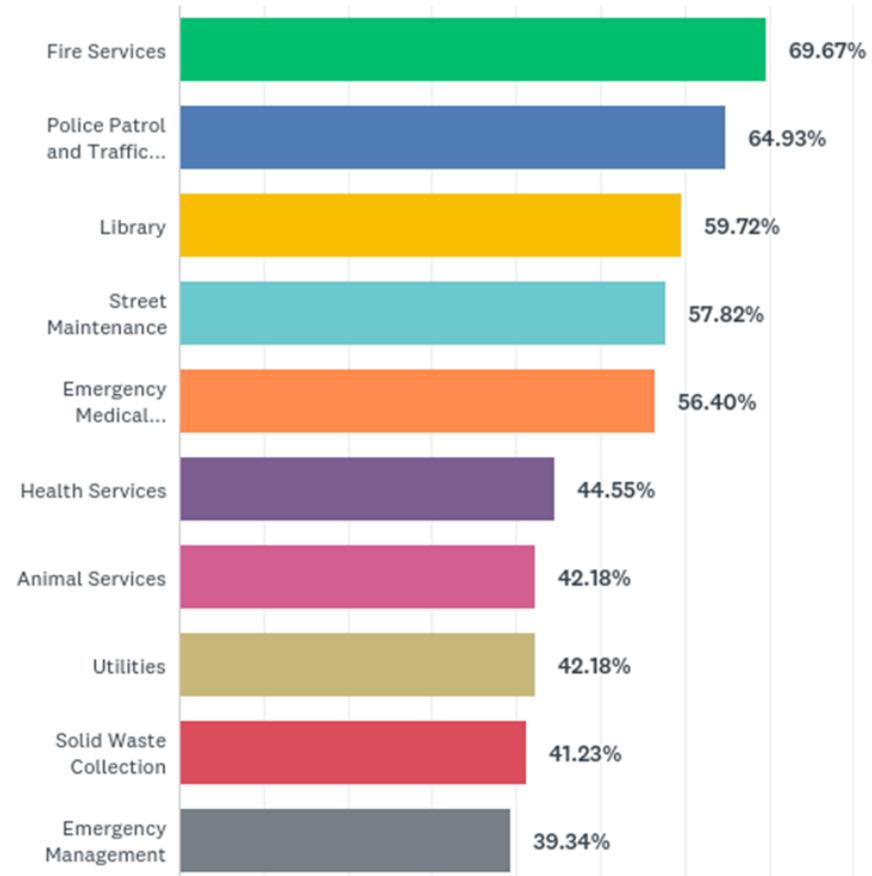


What is your race or ethnicity? (Council District 3)



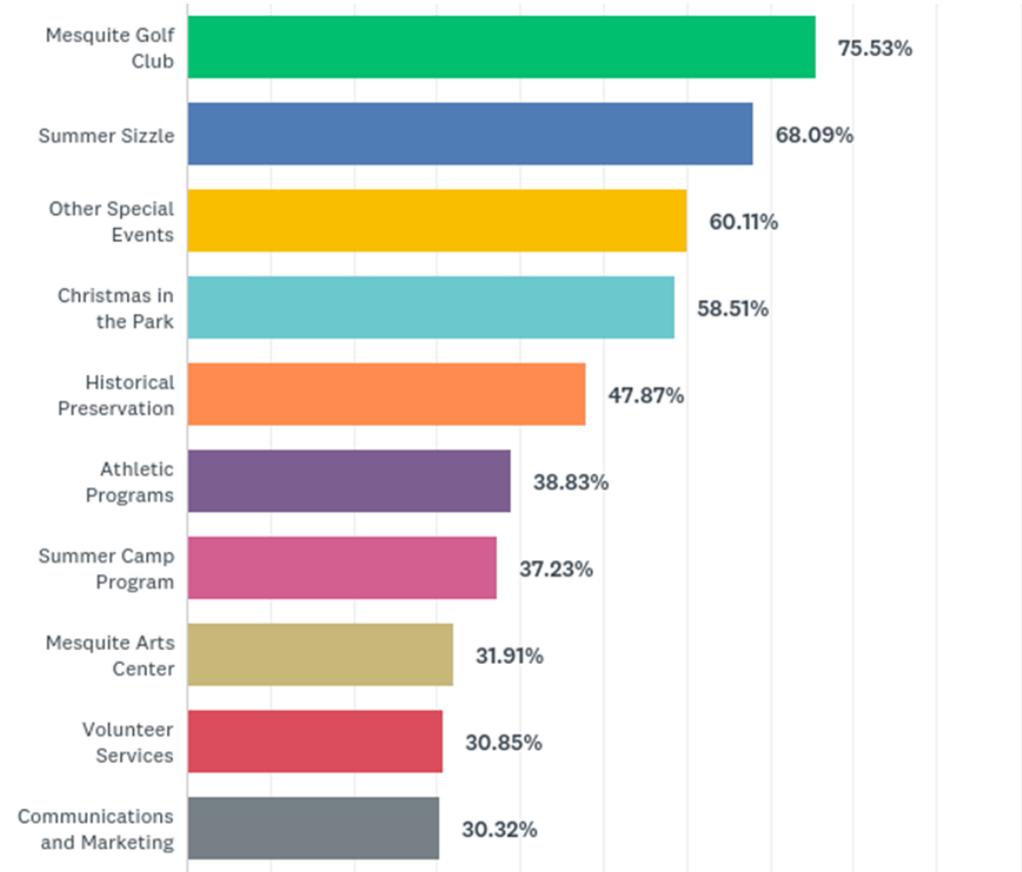
Based on the listing, please select the 10 programs/services that you believe to be the **most important** for the City to provide. (Council District 3)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fire Services	69.67%	147
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	64.93%	137
Library	59.72%	126
Street Maintenance	57.82%	122
Emergency Medical Services	56.40%	119
Health Services	44.55%	94
Animal Services	42.18%	89
Utilities	42.18%	89
Solid Waste Collection	41.23%	87
Emergency Management	39.34%	83



Based on the listing, please choose 10 programs/services that you believe the City should consider for **reduction/elimination**. (Council District 3)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Mesquite Golf Club	75.53%	142
Summer Sizzle	68.09%	128
Other Special Events	60.11%	113
Christmas in the Park	58.51%	110
Historical Preservation	47.87%	90
Athletic Programs	38.83%	73
Summer Camp Program	37.23%	70
Mesquite Arts Center	31.91%	60
Volunteer Services	30.85%	58
Communications and Marketing	30.32%	57



Program Funding Increased/Decreased (Council District 3)

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **INCREASED**?

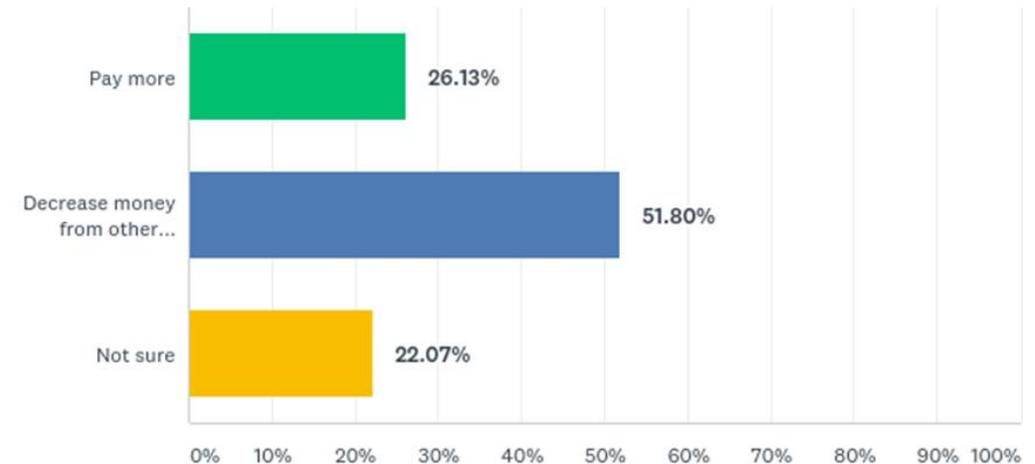
(1-3 Scale) 1=More Funding	Average
Street Maintenance	1.41
Fire Services	1.62
Emergency Medical Services	1.65
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	1.66
Health Services	1.68
Library	1.69
Street Lighting	1.75
Vaccine Clinic	1.77
Emergency Management	1.77
Afterschool Adventures Programs	1.78

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **DECREASED**?

(1-3 Scale) 3=Less Funding	Average
Mesquite Golf Club	2.60
Summer Sizzle	2.38
Christmas in the Park	2.35
Communications and Marketing	2.29
Historical Preservation	2.27
Other Special Events	2.23
Summer Camp Program	2.12
Athletic Programs	2.09
Mesquite Arts Center	2.09
Keep Mesquite Beautiful	2.06

How would you prefer to raise funds for increasing effort in services and programs? (Council District 3)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pay more	26.13%	58
Decrease money from other program or service	51.80%	115
Not sure	22.07%	49
TOTAL		222

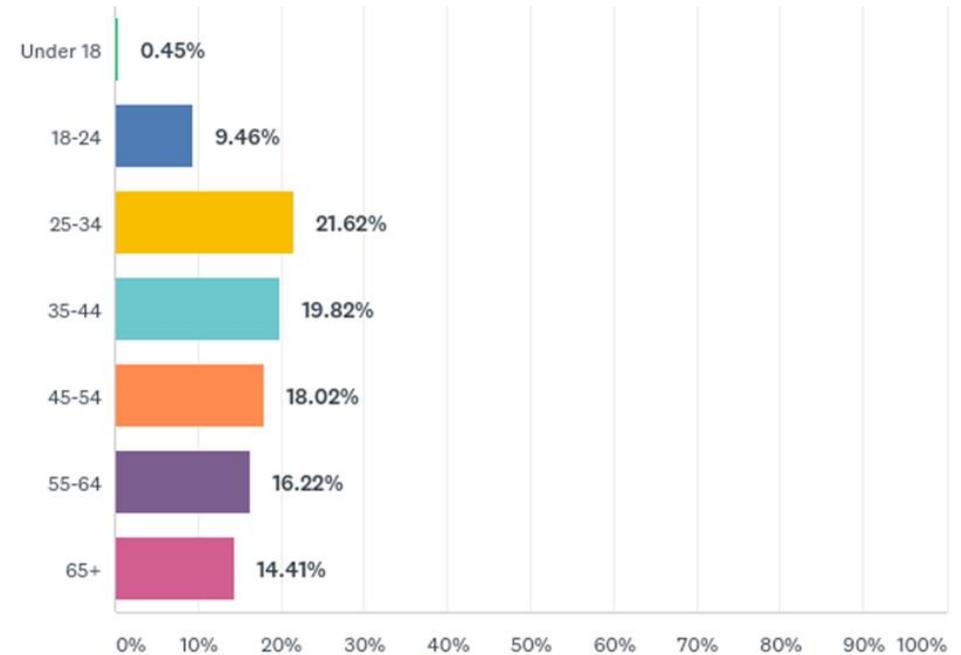


Council District 4

224 TOTAL RESPONSES

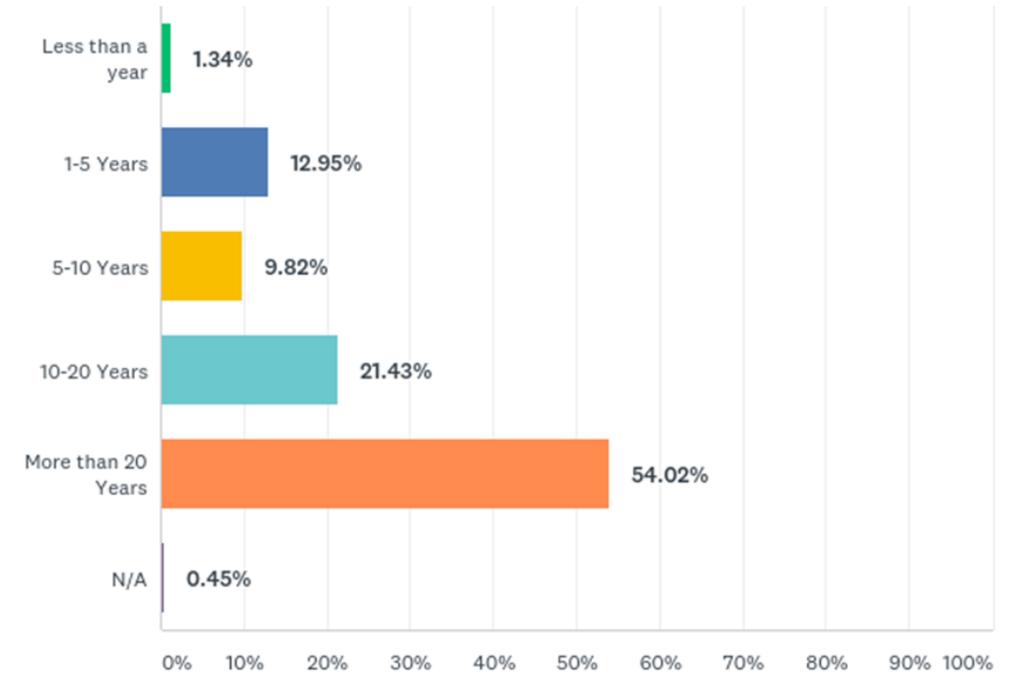
What is your age? (Council District 4)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.45%	1
18-24	9.46%	21
25-34	21.62%	48
35-44	19.82%	44
45-54	18.02%	40
55-64	16.22%	36
65+	14.41%	32
TOTAL		222

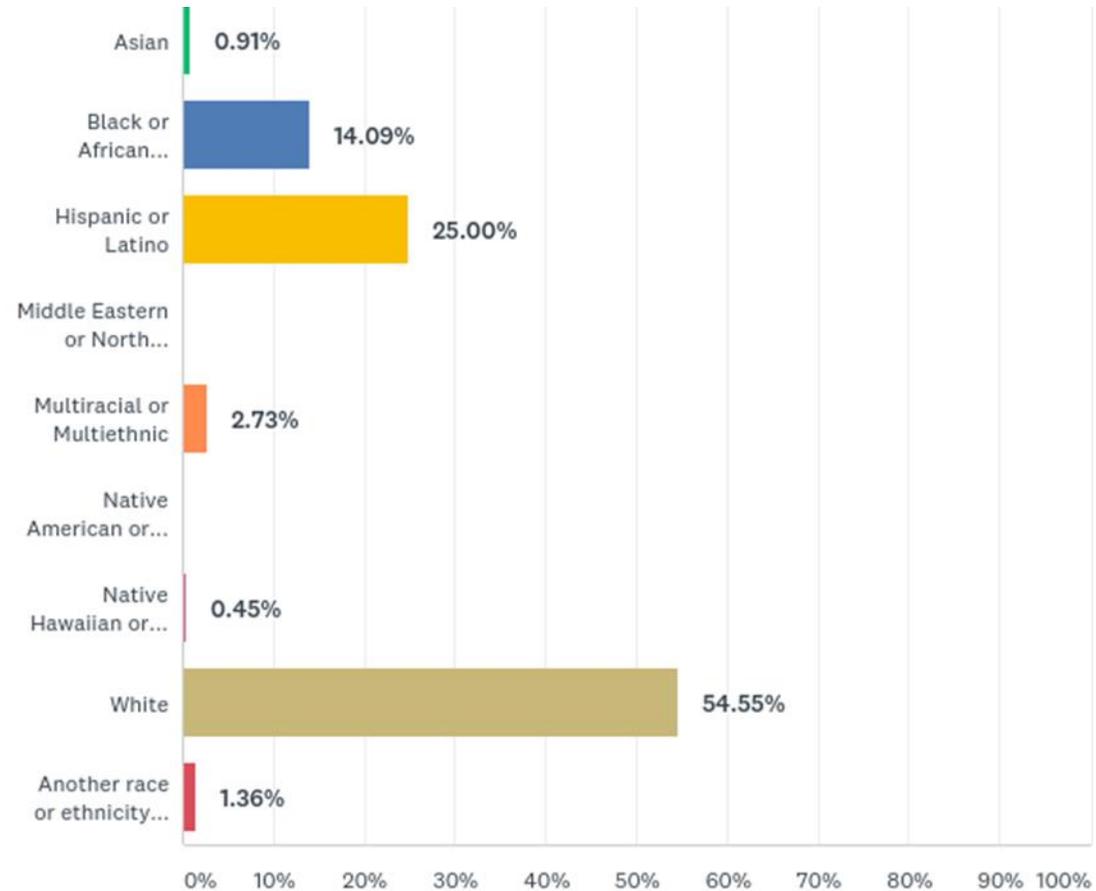


How long have you lived in Mesquite? (Council District 4)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than a year	1.34%	3
1-5 Years	12.95%	29
5-10 Years	9.82%	22
10-20 Years	21.43%	48
More than 20 Years	54.02%	121
N/A	0.45%	1
TOTAL		224

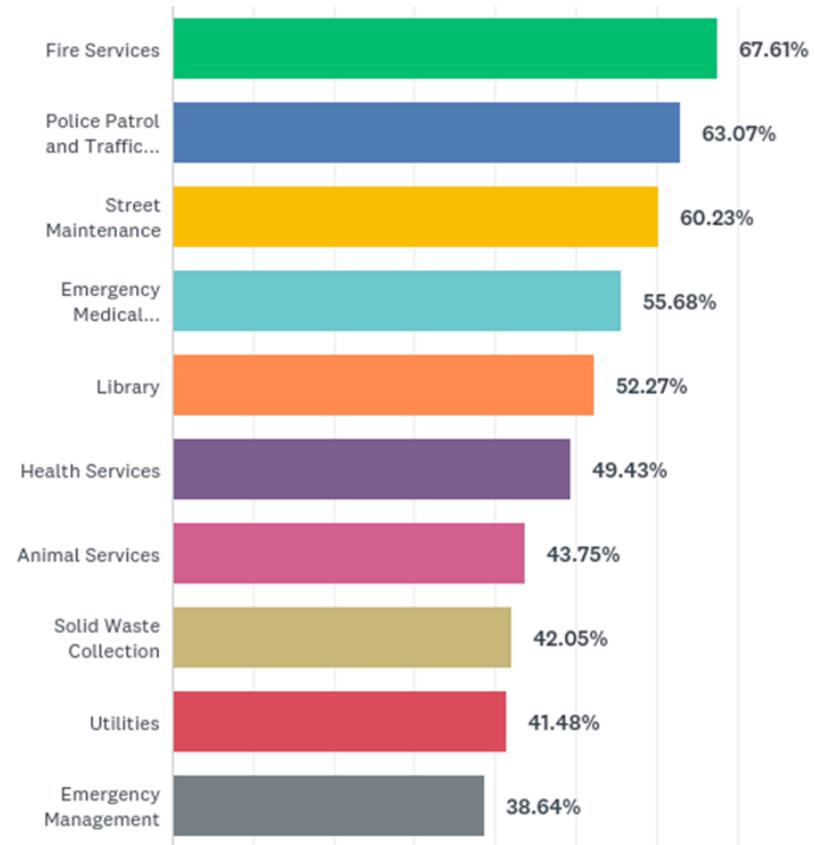


What is your race or ethnicity? (Council District 4)



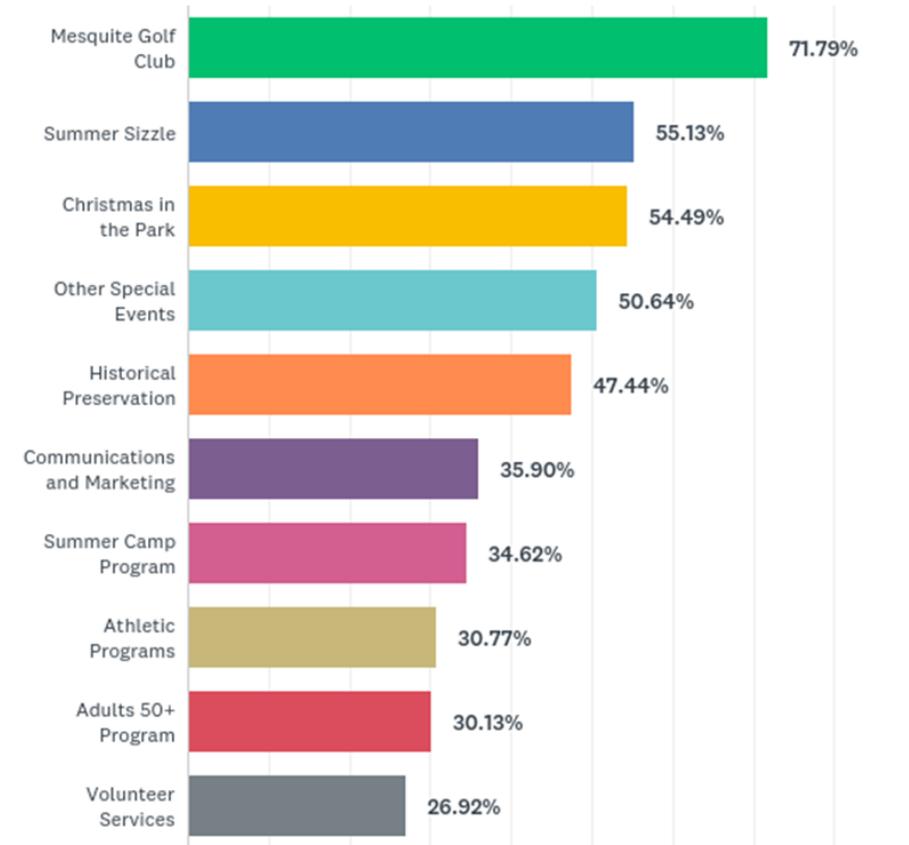
Based on the listing, please select the 10 programs/services that you believe to be the **most important** for the City to provide. (Council District 4)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fire Services	67.61%	119
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	63.07%	111
Street Maintenance	60.23%	106
Emergency Medical Services	55.68%	98
Library	52.27%	92
Health Services	49.43%	87
Animal Services	43.75%	77
Solid Waste Collection	42.05%	74
Utilities	41.48%	73
Emergency Management	38.64%	68



Based on the listing, please choose 10 programs/services that you believe the City should consider for **reduction/elimination**. (Council District 4)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Mesquite Golf Club	71.79%	112
Summer Sizzle	55.13%	86
Christmas in the Park	54.49%	85
Other Special Events	50.64%	79
Historical Preservation	47.44%	74
Communications and Marketing	35.90%	56
Summer Camp Program	34.62%	54
Athletic Programs	30.77%	48
Adults 50+ Program	30.13%	47
Volunteer Services	26.92%	42



Program Funding Increased/Decreased (Council District 4)

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **INCREASED**?

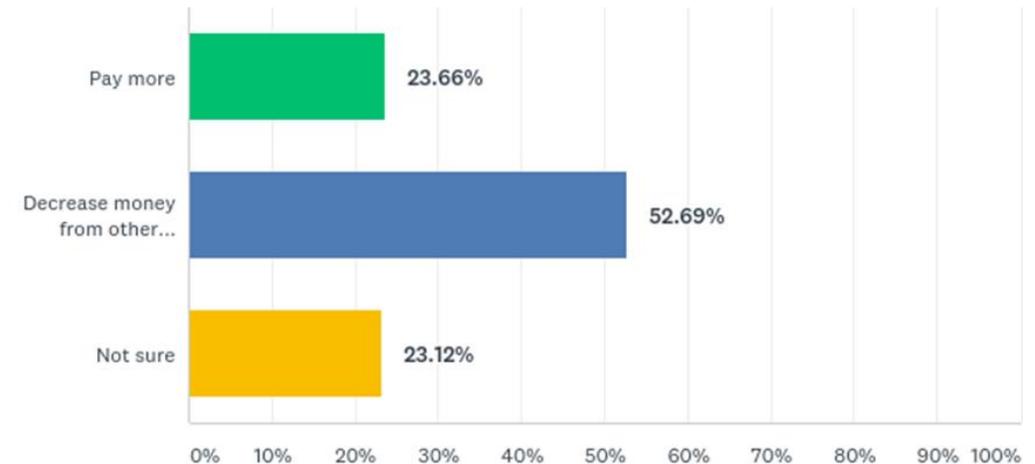
(1-3 Scale) 1=More Funding	Average
Street Maintenance	1.37
Health Services	1.53
Afterschool Adventures Programs	1.57
Emergency Medical Services	1.59
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	1.64
Fire Services	1.65
Vaccine Clinic	1.65
Library	1.66
Emergency Management	1.67
Street Lighting	1.72

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **DECREASED**?

(1-3 Scale) 3=Less Funding	Average
Mesquite Golf Club	2.57
Historical Preservation	2.33
Christmas in the Park	2.26
Communications and Marketing	2.21
Summer Sizzle	2.18
Other Special Events	2.12
Planning and Zoning	2.05
Mesquite Arts Center	2.00
Municipal Court	1.99
STAR Transit Service	1.98

How would you prefer to raise funds for increasing effort in services and programs? (Council District 4)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pay more	23.66%	44
Decrease money from other program or service	52.69%	98
Not sure	23.12%	43
TOTAL		186

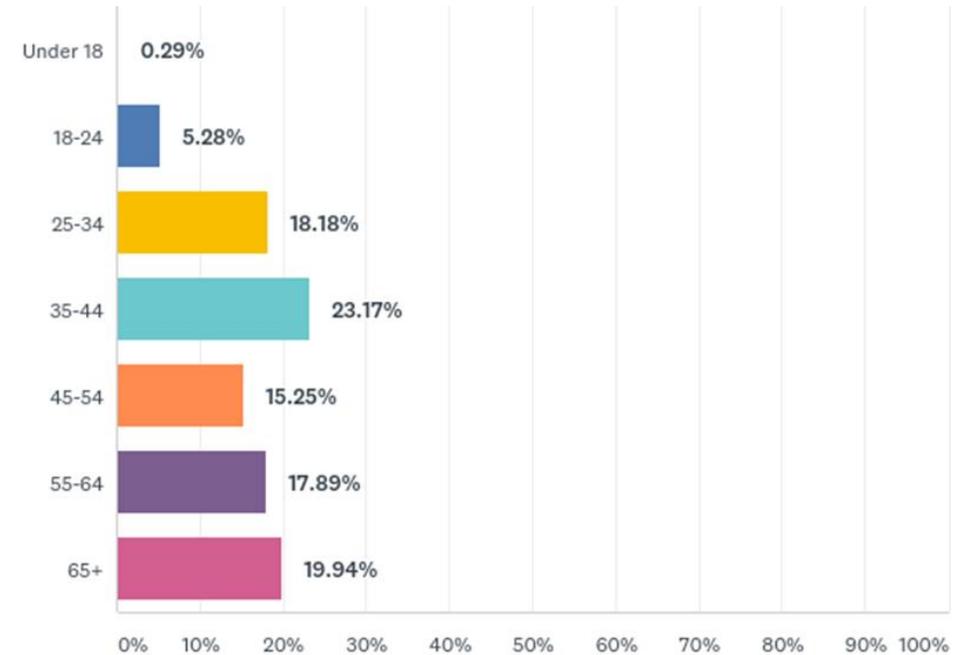


Council District 5

343 TOTAL RESPONSES

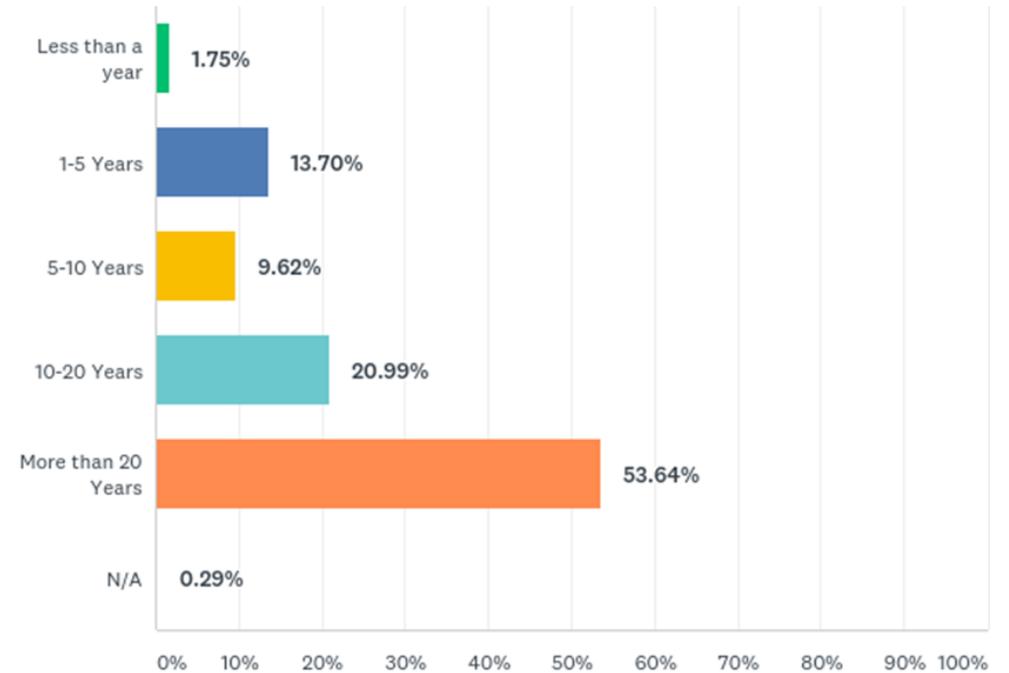
What is your age? (Council District 5)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.29%	1
18-24	5.28%	18
25-34	18.18%	62
35-44	23.17%	79
45-54	15.25%	52
55-64	17.89%	61
65+	19.94%	68
TOTAL		341

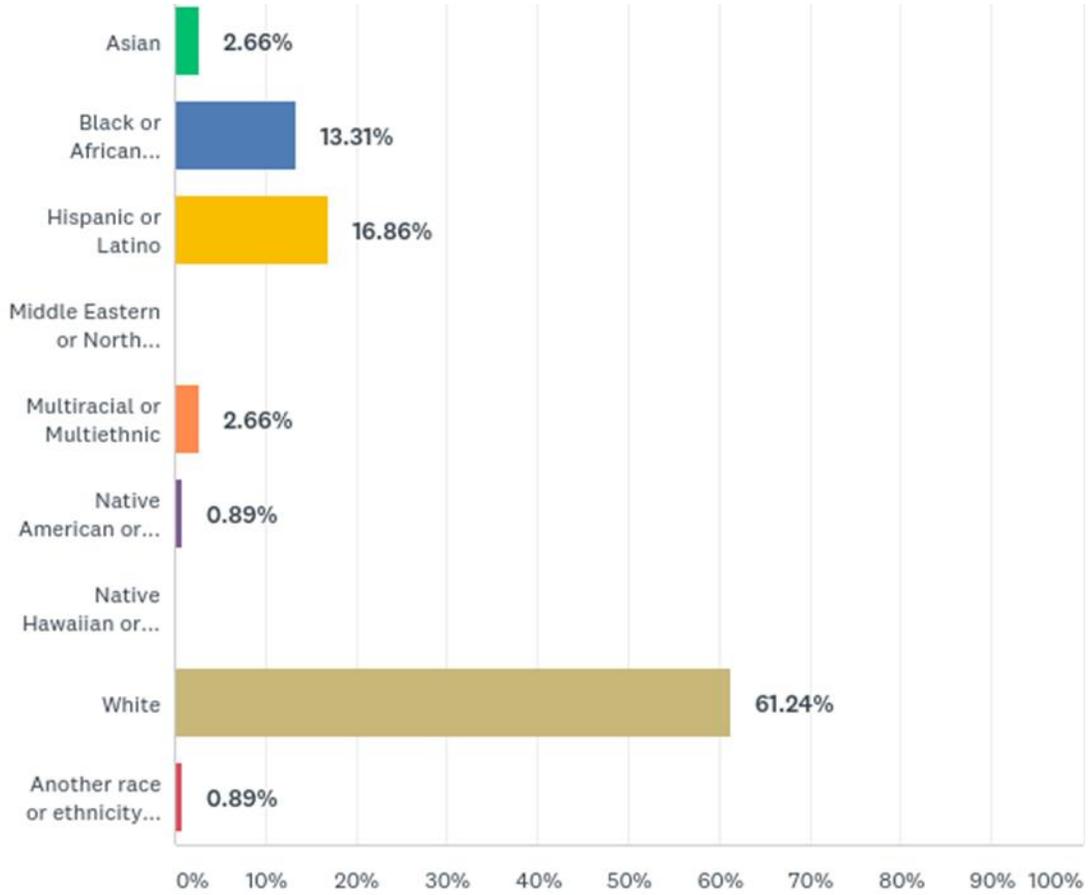


How long have you lived in Mesquite? (Council District 5)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than a year	1.75%	6
1-5 Years	13.70%	47
5-10 Years	9.62%	33
10-20 Years	20.99%	72
More than 20 Years	53.64%	184
N/A	0.29%	1
TOTAL		343

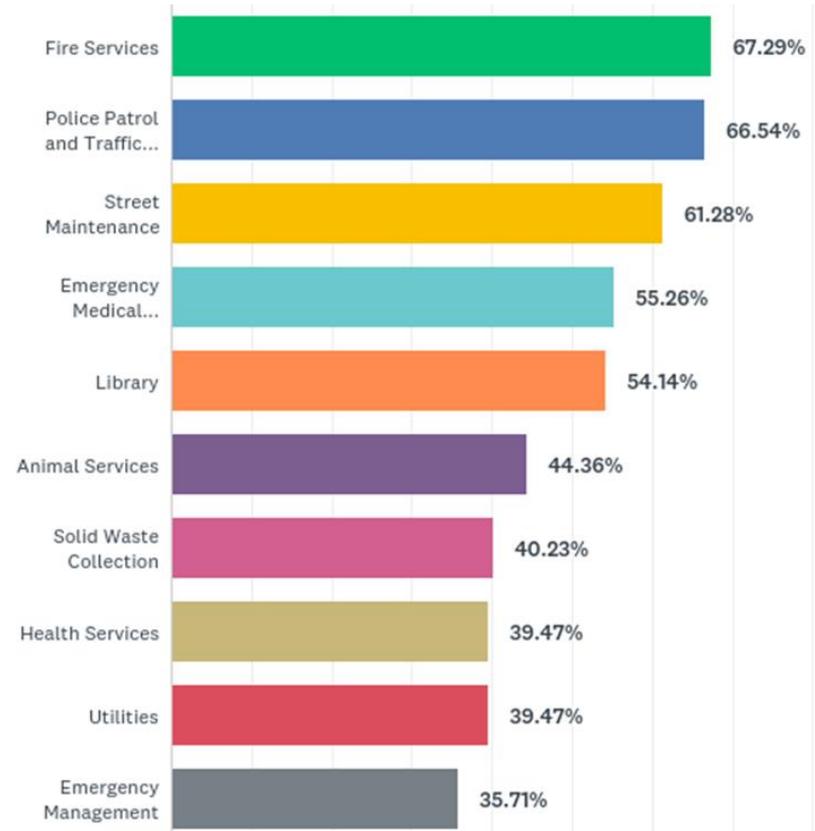


What is your race or ethnicity? (Council District 5)



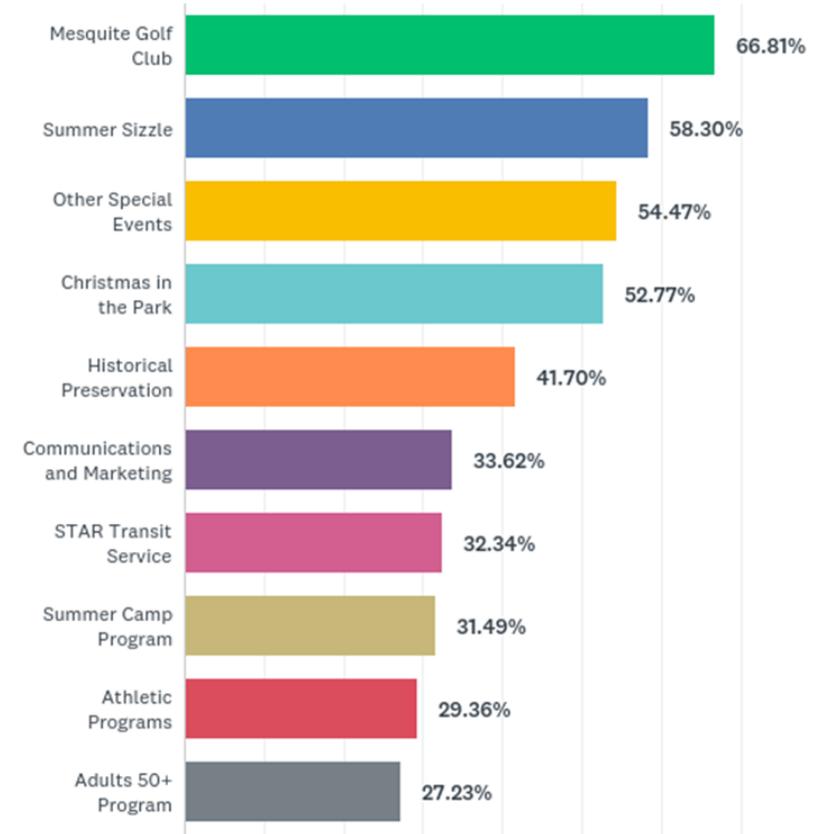
Based on the listing, please select the 10 programs/services that you believe to be the **most important** for the City to provide. (Council District 5)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Fire Services	67.29% 179
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	66.54% 177
Street Maintenance	61.28% 163
Emergency Medical Services	55.26% 147
Library	54.14% 144
Animal Services	44.36% 118
Solid Waste Collection	40.23% 107
Health Services	39.47% 105
Utilities	39.47% 105
Emergency Management	35.71% 95



Based on the listing, please choose 10 programs/services that you believe the City should consider for **reduction/elimination**. (Council District 5)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Mesquite Golf Club	66.81%	157
Summer Sizzle	58.30%	137
Other Special Events	54.47%	128
Christmas in the Park	52.77%	124
Historical Preservation	41.70%	98
Communications and Marketing	33.62%	79
STAR Transit Service	32.34%	76
Summer Camp Program	31.49%	74
Athletic Programs	29.36%	69
Adults 50+ Program	27.23%	64



Program Funding Increased/Decreased (Council District 5)

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **INCREASED**?

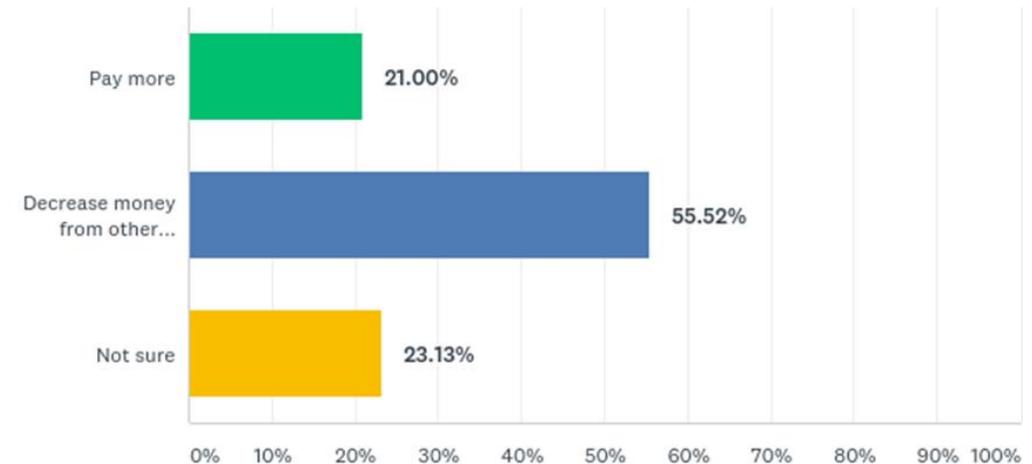
(1-3 Scale) 1=More Funding	Average
Street Maintenance	1.40
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	1.57
Health Services	1.59
Emergency Medical Services	1.61
Fire Services	1.63
Library	1.67
Afterschool Adventures Program	1.70
Emergency Management	1.70
Street Lighting	1.72
Park Operations	1.74

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **DECREASED**?

(1-3 Scale) 3=Less Funding	Average
Mesquite Golf Club	2.58
Summer Sizzle	2.35
Christmas in the Park	2.29
Communications and Marketing	2.24
Historical Preservation	2.22
Other Special Events	2.18
Planning and Zoning	2.09
Summer Camp Program	2.08
STAR Transit Service	2.07
Mesquite Arts Center	2.05

How would you prefer to raise funds for increasing effort in services and programs? (Council District 5)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pay more	21.00%	59
Decrease money from other program or service	55.52%	156
Not sure	23.13%	65
TOTAL		281

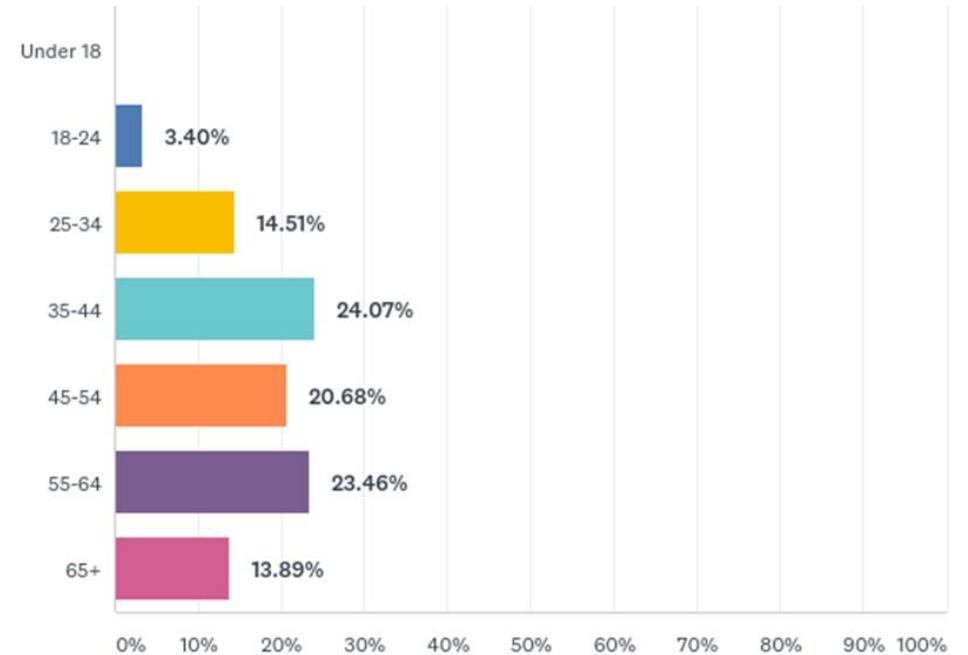


Council District 6

324 TOTAL RESPONSES

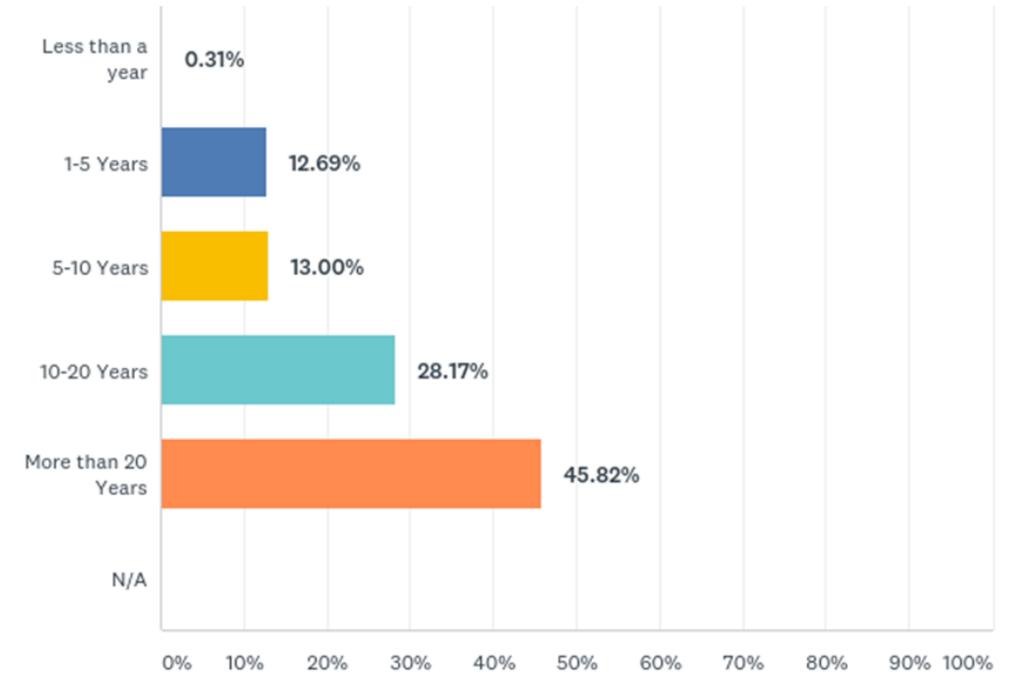
What is your age? (Council District 6)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	3.40%	11
25-34	14.51%	47
35-44	24.07%	78
45-54	20.68%	67
55-64	23.46%	76
65+	13.89%	45
TOTAL		324

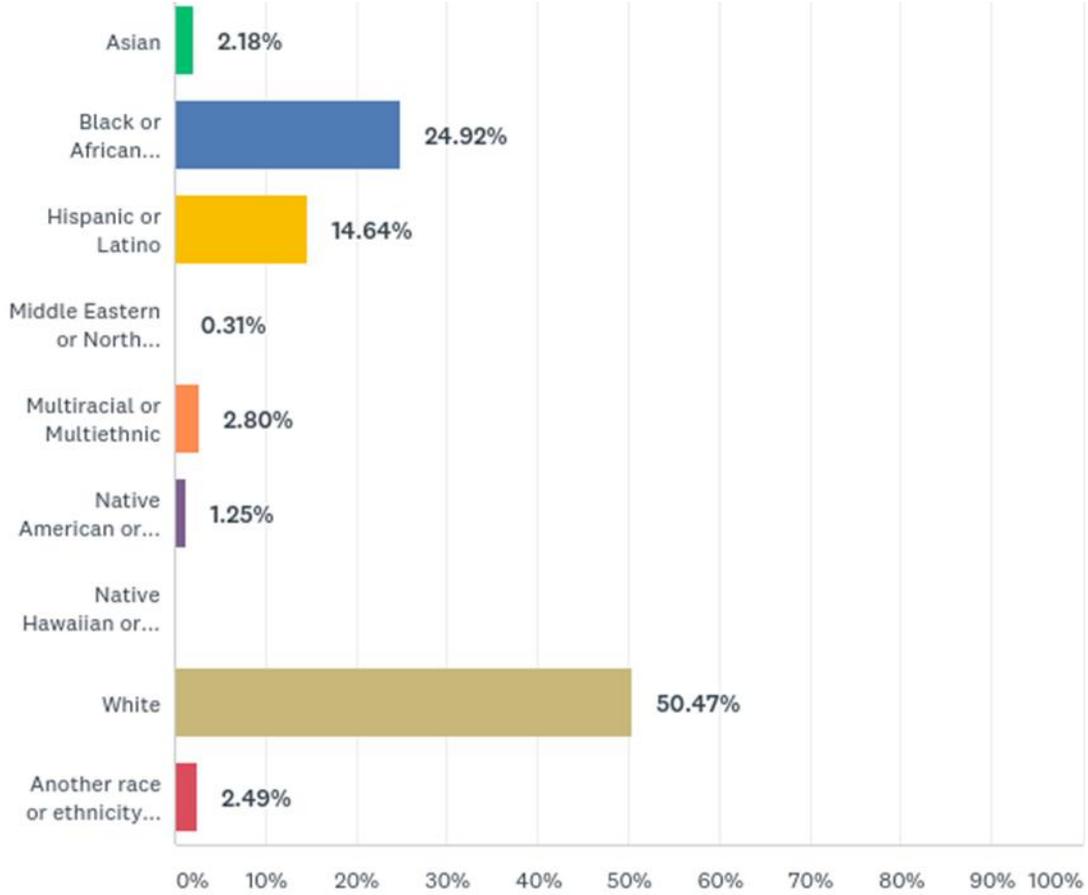


How long have you lived in Mesquite? (Council District 6)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than a year	0.31%	1
1-5 Years	12.69%	41
5-10 Years	13.00%	42
10-20 Years	28.17%	91
More than 20 Years	45.82%	148
N/A	0.00%	0
TOTAL		323

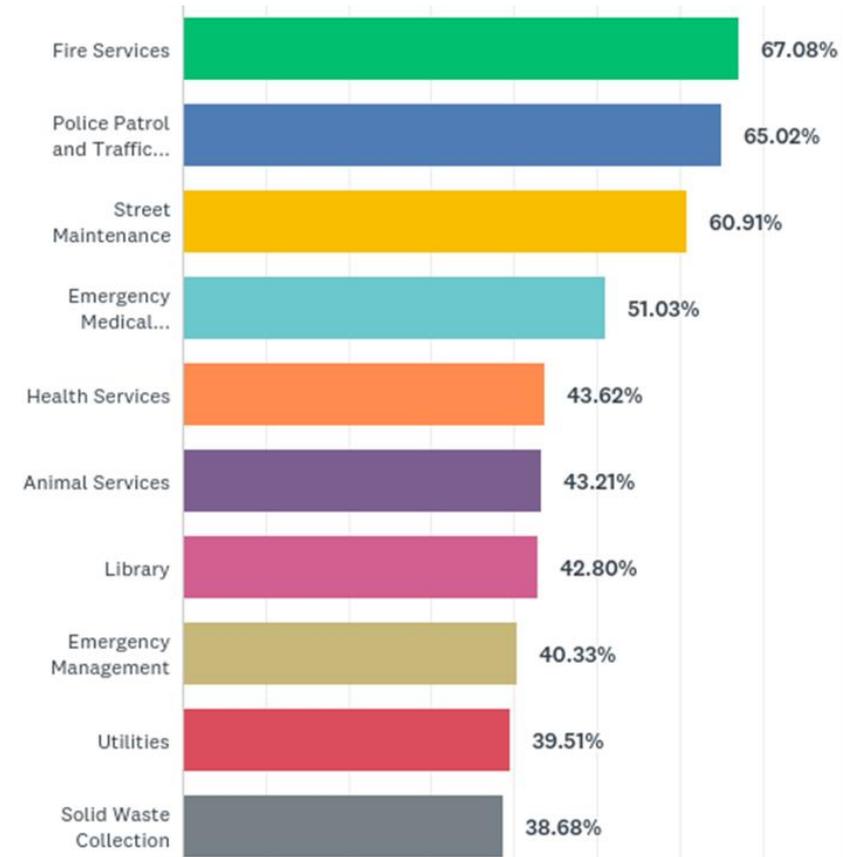


What is your race or ethnicity? (Council District 6)



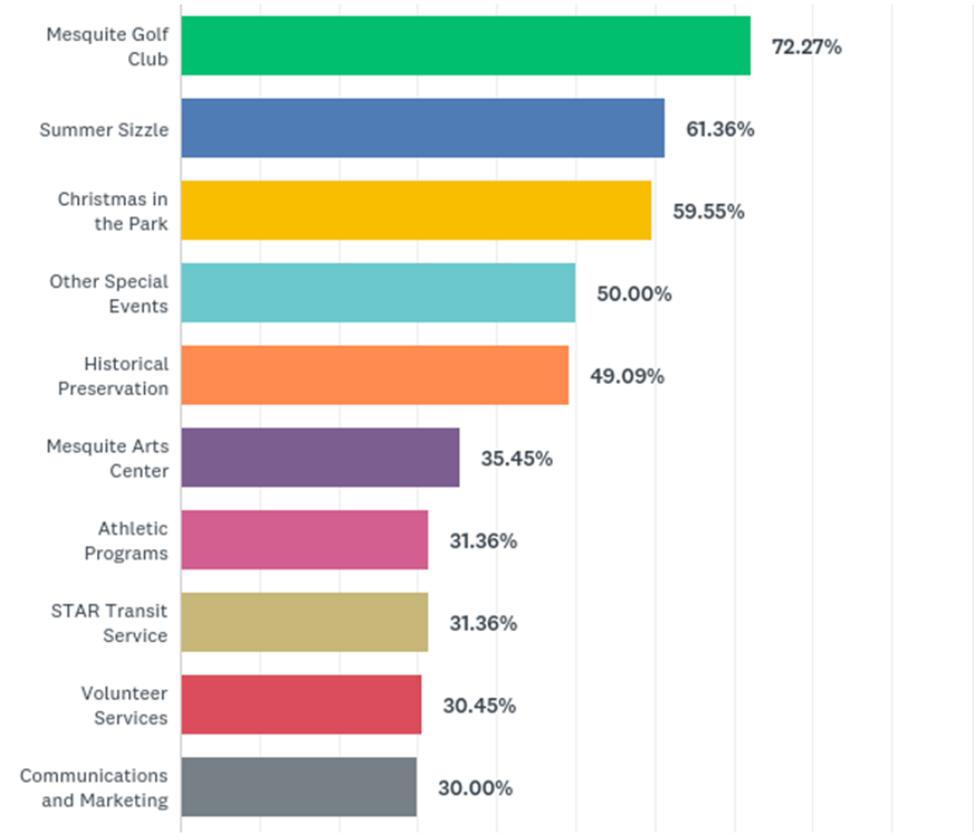
Based on the listing, please select the 10 programs/services that you believe to be the **most important** for the City to provide. (Council District 6)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fire Services	67.08%	163
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	65.02%	158
Street Maintenance	60.91%	148
Emergency Medical Services	51.03%	124
Health Services	43.62%	106
Animal Services	43.21%	105
Library	42.80%	104
Emergency Management	40.33%	98
Utilities	39.51%	96
Solid Waste Collection	38.68%	94



Based on the listing, please choose 10 programs/services that you believe the City should consider for **reduction/elimination**. (Council District 6)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Mesquite Golf Club	72.27%	159
Summer Sizzle	61.36%	135
Christmas in the Park	59.55%	131
Other Special Events	50.00%	110
Historical Preservation	49.09%	108
Mesquite Arts Center	35.45%	78
Athletic Programs	31.36%	69
STAR Transit Service	31.36%	69
Volunteer Services	30.45%	67
Communications and Marketing	30.00%	66



Program Funding Increased/Decreased (Council District 6)

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **INCREASED**?

(1-3 Scale) 1=More Funding	Average
Street Maintenance	1.42
Health Services	1.59
Police Patrol and Traffic Services	1.63
Emergency Management	1.63
Fire Services	1.65
Emergency Medical Services	1.65
Afterschool Adventures Program	1.68
Economic Development	1.72
Street Lighting	1.76
Park Operations	1.77

WHICH SERVICES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE EFFORT (MONEY) **DECREASED**?

(1-3 Scale) 3=Less Funding	Average
Mesquite Golf Club	2.57
Historical Preservation	2.33
Summer Sizzle	2.32
Christmas in the Park	2.30
Communications and Marketing	2.27
Other Special Events	2.19
Planning and Zoning	2.13
Mesquite Arts Center	2.11
STAR Transit Service	2.11
Volunteer Services	2.06

How would you prefer to raise funds for increasing effort in services and programs? (Council District 6)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pay more	19.55%	52
Decrease money from other program or service	61.65%	164
Not sure	18.42%	49
TOTAL		266

