

CL-03-23 Appendix A

Lobbyist Registry - Web Analytics for January to December 2022

<https://www.burlington.ca/en/council-and-city-administration/lobbyist-registry.aspx>

Page title and screen class +	↓ Views	Users	Views per user	Average engagement time
SHOW ALL ROWS				
	15 vs. 28 ↓ -46.43%	21 vs. 26 ↓ -19.23%	0.71 vs. 1.08 ↓ -33.67%	0m 42s vs. 59.23 ↓ -28.13%
Lobbyist Registry - City of Burlington				
Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2022	15	21	0.71	0m 41s
Nov 1 - Nov 30, 2022	16	24	0.67	0m 27s
% change	-6.25%	-12.5%	7.14%	47.67%
	28 vs. 28	26 vs. 32 ↓ -18.75%	1.08 vs. 0.88 ↑ 23.08%	0m 59s vs. 29.72 ↑ 99.3%
Lobbyist Registry - City of Burlington				
Nov 1 - Nov 30, 2022	16	24	0.67	0m 27s
Oct 1 - Oct 31, 2022	16	28	0.57	0m 27s
% change	0%	-14.29%	16.67%	1.27%
	28 vs. 19 ↑ 47.37%	32 vs. 29 ↑ 10.34%	0.88 vs. 0.66 ↑ 33.55%	0m 29s vs. 38.66 ↓ -23.12%
Lobbyist Registry - City of Burlington				
Oct 1 - Oct 31, 2022	16	28	0.57	0m 27s
Sep 1 - Sep 30, 2022	13	29	0.45	0m 29s
% change	23.08%	-3.45%	27.47%	-5.48%
	19 vs. 16 ↑ 18.75%	29 vs. 31 ↓ -6.45%	0.66 vs. 0.52 ↑ 26.94%	0m 38s vs. 18.16 ↑ 112.84%
Lobbyist Registry - City of Burlington				
Sep 1 - Sep 30, 2022	13	29	0.45	0m 29s
Aug 1 - Aug 31, 2022	11	31	0.35	0m 15s
% change	18.18%	-6.45%	26.33%	87.07%

Lobbyist Registry - Web Analytics for January to December 2022

<https://www.burlington.ca/en/council-and-city-administration/lobbyist-registry.aspx>

Page ?	↑	Pageviews ?	Unique Pageviews ?	Avg. Time on Page ?	Entrances ?	Bounce Rate ?	% Exit ?
		16.13% ▼ 26 vs 31	15.38% ▼ 22 vs 26	44.84% ▲ 00:04:12 vs 00:02:54	20.00% ▼ 12 vs 15	27.88% ▼ 38.46% vs 53.33%	18.03% ▼ 42.31% vs 51.61%
1. /en/your-city/lobbyist-registry.asp							
Jul 1, 2022 - Jul 31, 2022		26 (100.00%)	22 (100.00%)	00:04:12	12 (100.00%)	38.46%	42.31%
Jun 1, 2022 - Jun 30, 2022		31 (100.00%)	26 (100.00%)	00:02:54	15 (100.00%)	53.33%	51.61%
% Change		-16.13%	-15.38%	44.84%	-20.00%	-27.88%	-18.03%
		58.11% ▼ 31 vs 74	53.57% ▼ 26 vs 56	20.89% ▼ 00:02:54 vs 00:03:40	28.57% ▼ 15 vs 21	86.67% ▲ 53.33% vs 28.57%	9.12% ▲ 51.61% vs 47.30%
1. /en/your-city/lobbyist-registry.asp							
Jun 1, 2022 - Jun 30, 2022		31 (100.00%)	26 (100.00%)	00:02:54	15 (100.00%)	53.33%	51.61%
May 1, 2022 - May 31, 2022		74 (100.00%)	56 (100.00%)	00:03:40	21 (100.00%)	28.57%	47.30%
% Change		-58.11%	-53.57%	-20.89%	-28.57%	86.67%	9.12%
		60.87% ▲ 74 vs 46	55.56% ▲ 56 vs 36	9.81% ▲ 00:03:40 vs 00:03:20	16.00% ▼ 21 vs 25	10.71% ▼ 28.57% vs 32.00%	14.51% ▲ 47.30% vs 41.30%
1. /en/your-city/lobbyist-registry.asp							
May 1, 2022 - May 31, 2022		74 (100.00%)	56 (100.00%)	00:03:40	21 (100.00%)	28.57%	47.30%
Apr 1, 2022 - Apr 30, 2022		46 (100.00%)	36 (100.00%)	00:03:20	25 (100.00%)	32.00%	41.30%
% Change		60.87%	55.56%	9.81%	-16.00%	-10.71%	14.51%
		22.03% ▼ 46 vs 59	34.55% ▼ 36 vs 55	15.86% ▼ 00:03:20 vs 00:03:58	39.02% ▼ 25 vs 41	38.91% ▼ 32.00% vs 52.38%	37.51% ▼ 41.30% vs 66.10%
1. /en/your-city/lobbyist-registry.asp							
Apr 1, 2022 - Apr 30, 2022		46 (100.00%)	36 (100.00%)	00:03:20	25 (100.00%)	32.00%	41.30%
Mar 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2022		59 (100.00%)	55 (100.00%)	00:03:58	41 (100.00%)	52.38%	66.10%
% Change		-22.03%	-34.55%	-15.86%	-39.02%	-38.91%	-37.51%
		58.74% ▼ 59 vs 143	56.35% ▼ 55 vs 126	57.65% ▲ 00:03:58 vs 00:02:31	31.67% ▼ 41 vs 60	11.99% ▲ 52.38% vs 46.77%	36.99% ▲ 66.10% vs 48.25%
1. /en/your-city/lobbyist-registry.asp							
Mar 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2022		59 (100.00%)	55 (100.00%)	00:03:58	41 (100.00%)	52.38%	66.10%
Feb 1, 2022 - Feb 28, 2022		143 (100.00%)	126 (100.00%)	00:02:31	60 (100.00%)	46.77%	48.25%
% Change		-58.74%	-56.35%	57.65%	-31.67%	11.99%	36.99%
		34.10% ▼ 143 vs 217	34.38% ▼ 126 vs 192	30.89% ▼ 00:02:31 vs 00:03:38	45.45% ▼ 60 vs 110	0.89% ▲ 46.77% vs 46.36%	20.07% ▼ 48.25% vs 60.37%
1. /en/your-city/lobbyist-registry.asp							
Feb 1, 2022 - Feb 28, 2022		143 (100.00%)	126 (100.00%)	00:02:31	60 (100.00%)	46.77%	48.25%
Jan 1, 2022 - Jan 31, 2022		217 (100.00%)	192 (100.00%)	00:03:38	110 (100.00%)	46.36%	60.37%
% Change		-34.10%	-34.38%	-30.89%	-45.45%	0.89%	-20.07%

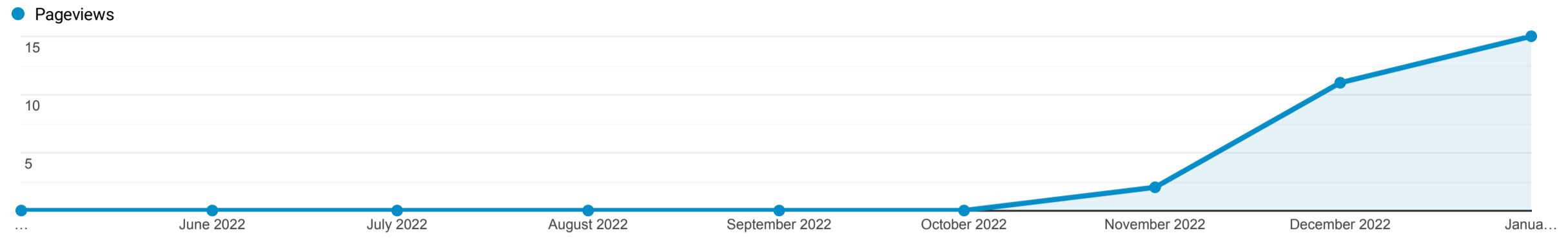
Content Drilldown

ALL » PAGE PATH LEVEL 1: /documents/ » PAGE PATH LEVEL 2: /Burlington::lobbyist-registry/ » PAGE: /documents/Burlington::lobbyist-registry/explore

May 1, 2022 - Jan 9, 2023

All Users
0.06% Pageviews

Explorer



Page	Month of Year	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Bounce Rate	% Exit
		28 % of Total: 0.06% (44,119)	24 % of Total: 0.07% (34,555)	00:01:10 Avg for View: 00:01:12 (-3.82%)	84.21% Avg for View: 23.16% (263.57%)	85.71% Avg for View: 37.43% (129.00%)
1. /documents/Burlington::lobbyist-registry/explore	202211	2 (7.14%)	2 (8.33%)	00:00:00	0.00%	100.00%
2. /documents/Burlington::lobbyist-registry/explore	202212	11 (39.29%)	9 (37.50%)	00:00:25	83.33%	81.82%
3. /documents/Burlington::lobbyist-registry/explore	202301	15 (53.57%)	13 (54.17%)	00:01:54	84.62%	86.67%

Rows 1 - 3 of 3

CL-03-23 Appendix A - Lobbyist Registry Interview Findings

1. Interest

- There was little or no public interest in the trial lobbyist registry experienced at Council member's offices or at the Office of the City Clerk.
- Potential lobbyists showed interest in the process during the registry's initial launch, however awareness tapered thereafter from lobbyists and often required prompting for registration to be considered.

2. Successes

- When the lobbyist registered on their own and was knowledgeable and willing to participate.
- When there is a dedicated point-of-contact for responding to lobbyist registration inquiries.
- Fulfilled the purpose of adding transparency and accountability to municipal governance.
- Web page and form was moderately successful in appropriately directing lobbyists.
- Widely varying responses on whether the trial was an overall success.

3. Challenges

- Determining if the individual, business, or group was a lobbyist upon receiving a request to meet with a Council member.
- Determining who makes the decision the potential lobbyist is or isn't a lobbyist in absence of a formal registrar.
- Individuals self-registering as a lobbyist who weren't a lobbyist and subsequently maintaining a standard on who is a lobbyist.
- Disagreement and contention with lobbyists who did not want to register.
- Lobbyists registering without ever lobbying Council.
- Lobbyists registering with broad subject matter for long time frames that could be about many different topics.
- Improper or incomplete registry form use, the form often gets started but not submitted or is submitted incomplete.

4. Implementation Procedures

- Intake process of determining whether the person signing up is a lobbyist varied between Councillor members office – either referral to Office of the City Clerk, advising potential lobbyist it is their discretion and determination, referring lobbyist to the policy or form, or seeking respective Council member’s input.
- How the lobbyist completes the form requires process support and guidance.
- Process requirement on whether meetings were held over the registry period.
- Resources and tool availability for aiding proper internal completion of the process.
- Open data webpage functionality can post a registration list without search, filtering, organizing, or cross-referencing to registration forms capabilities.

5. Improvement opportunities

- Centralize registry intake at the Office of the City Clerk and remove Council member assistants from facilitating the intake process – registration form submissions received at Office of the City Clerk, whom advises the Council member’s Assistant when they can proceed with booking a meeting.
- A delegated internal lobbyist registrar or resource at Office of the City Clerk.
- Adding a field on the meeting request form which includes a tick box for confirming they are a lobbyist, or a drop-down menu which asks for desired outcome of the meeting, referring them to an expanded lobbyist registration form depending on qualifying answers.
- More information by making the registration forms public on open data, adding mandatory specific meeting dates and listing of all participating members at the meeting to the registry and registration form.
- Streamline form options for lobbyists who know they are a lobbyist.
- Update the intake form for facilitating registrants in determining if they are a lobbyist with more detail on the form.
- Mandatory enrollment to enable clarity on registration requirements and maintaining standard on who is a lobbyist.
- Appropriate identification that the lobbyist registry is either mandatory or voluntary.
- Clarity on parameters for subject matter and meeting date requirements.
- Removing requirement for identifying lobbyists as an in-house, consultant or volunteer sub-category.
- Robust internal (Clerks staff and Councillor Assistants) and external (potential lobbyists) training and communications plan coinciding with the launch of a permanent lobbyist registry implementation.

Project Report

01 January 2023 - 07 February 2023

Get Involved Burlington Lobbyist Registry Survey



Visitors Summary

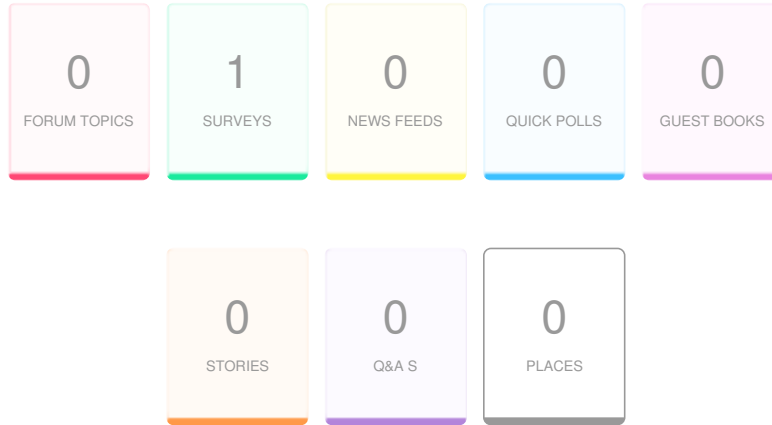


Highlights

TOTAL VISITS	139	MAX VISITORS PER DAY	43
NEW REGISTRATIONS	0		
ENGAGED VISITORS	139	INFORMED VISITORS	143
		AWARE VISITORS	143

Aware Participants		Engaged Participants	
143		139	
Aware Actions Performed	Participants	Engaged Actions Performed	Registered Unverified Anonymous
Visited a Project or Tool Page	143	Contributed on Forums	0 0 0
Informed Participants	143	Participated in Surveys	7 0 132
Informed Actions Performed	Participants	Contributed to Newsfeeds	0 0 0
Viewed a video	0	Participated in Quick Polls	0 0 0
Viewed a photo	0	Posted on Guestbooks	0 0 0
Downloaded a document	0	Contributed to Stories	0 0 0
Visited the Key Dates page	0	Asked Questions	0 0 0
Visited an FAQ list Page	0	Placed Pins on Places	0 0 0
Visited Instagram Page	0	Contributed to Ideas	0 0 0
Visited Multiple Project Pages	0		
Contributed to a tool (engaged)	139		

ENGAGEMENT TOOLS SUMMARY



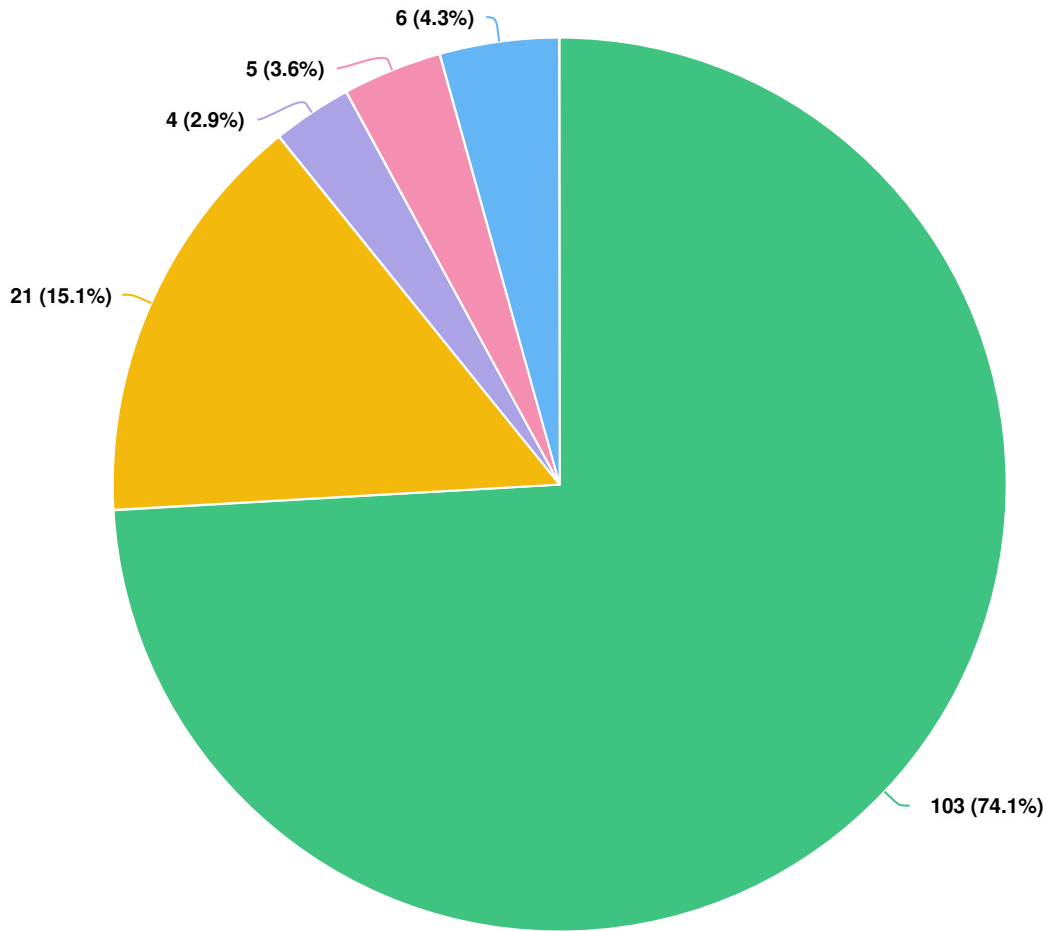
Tool Type	Engagement Tool Name	Tool Status	Visitors	Contributors		
				Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Survey Tool	Lobbyist Registry Survey	Archived	139	7	0	132

ENGAGEMENT TOOL: SURVEY TOOL

Lobbyist Registry Survey

Visitors 139	Contributors 139	CONTRIBUTIONS 139
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The City of Burlington should have a lobbyist registry.



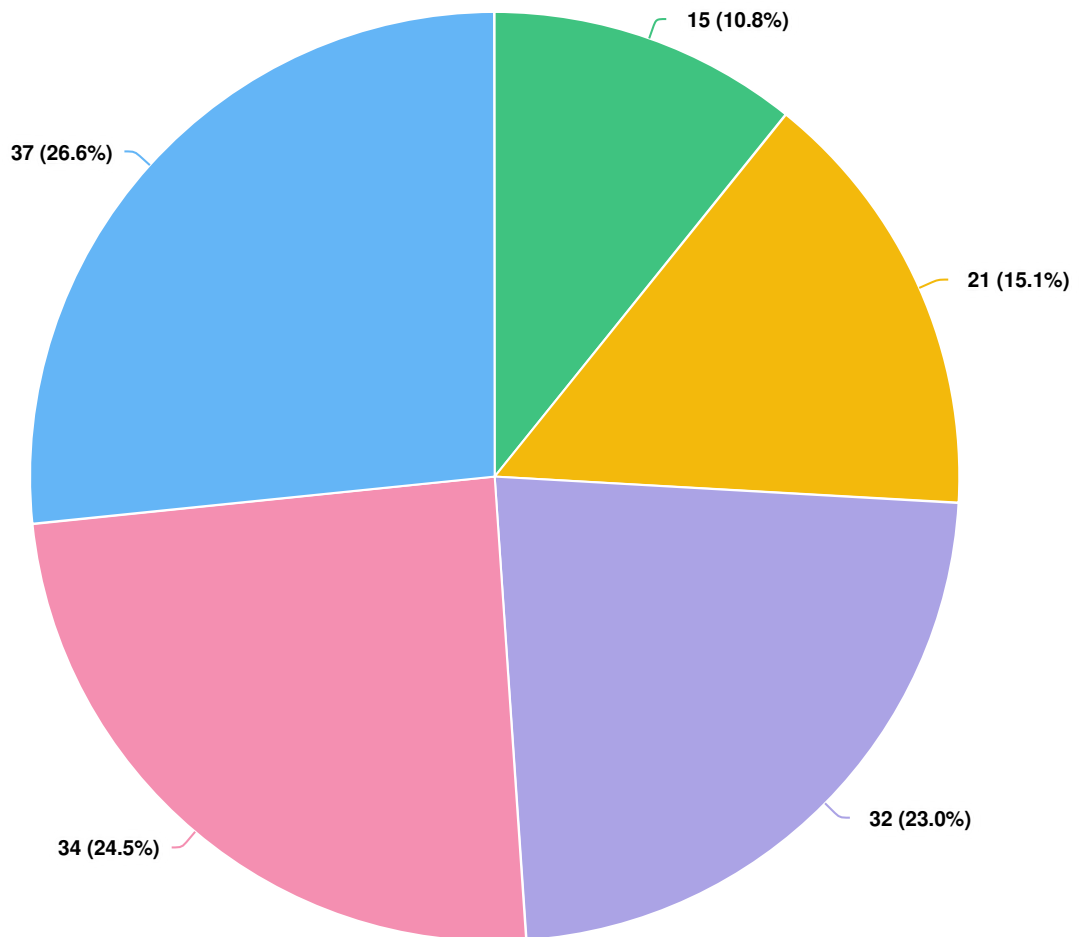
Question options

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree no disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Optional question (139 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

The City of Burlington should have a lobbyist registry based on how much the public will use the registry.



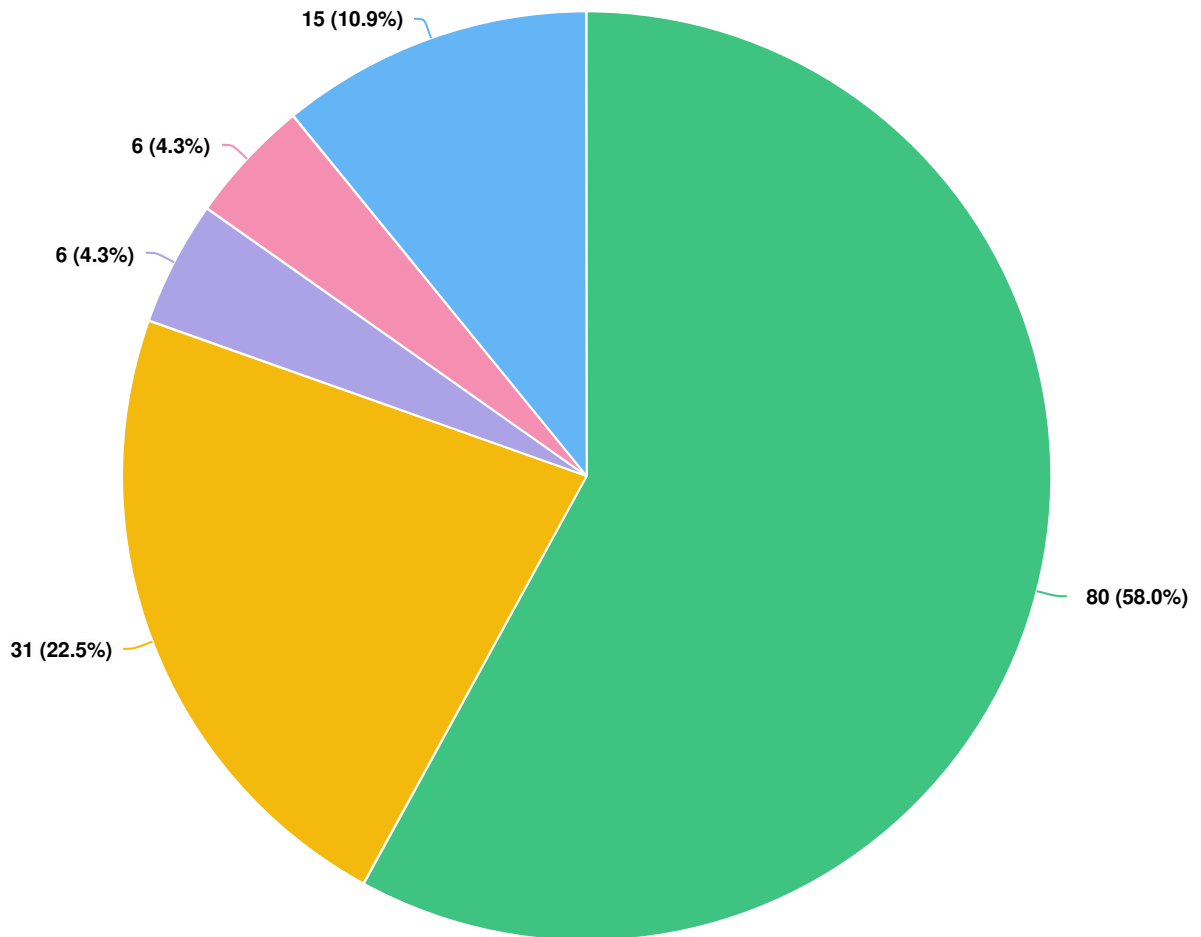
Question options

- Strongly Agree ● Agree ● Neither agree nor disagree ● Disagree ● Strongly disagree

Optional question (139 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

A lobbyist registry is important for local governance accountability and it does not matter if it gets used or not.



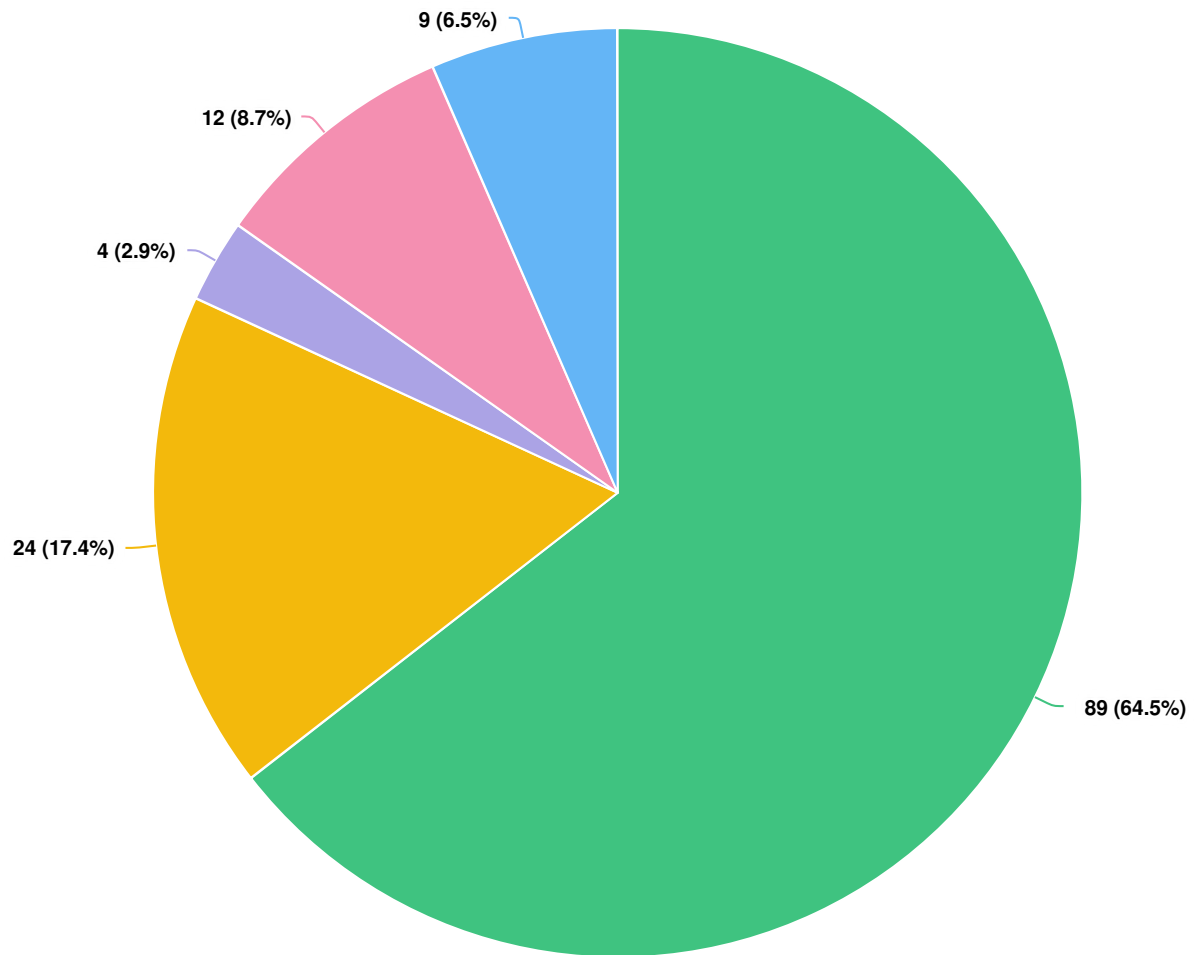
Question options

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Optional question (138 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

A lobbyist registry should list a business, group, or individual after they have met with a Council member to influence Council's decision making.



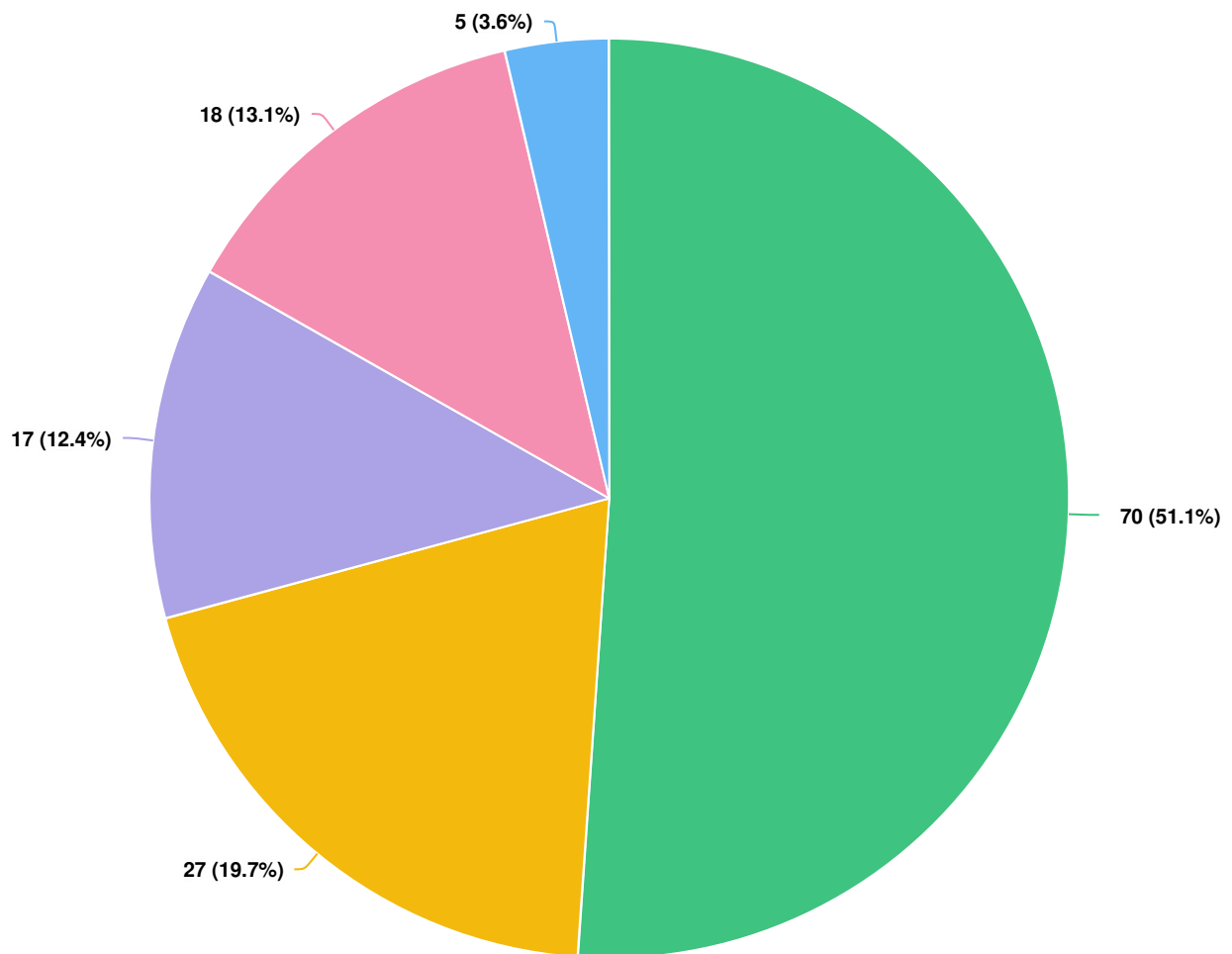
Question options

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Optional question (138 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

A lobbyist registry should list a business, group, or individual before they have an interest in meeting with Council members to influence Council's decision making.



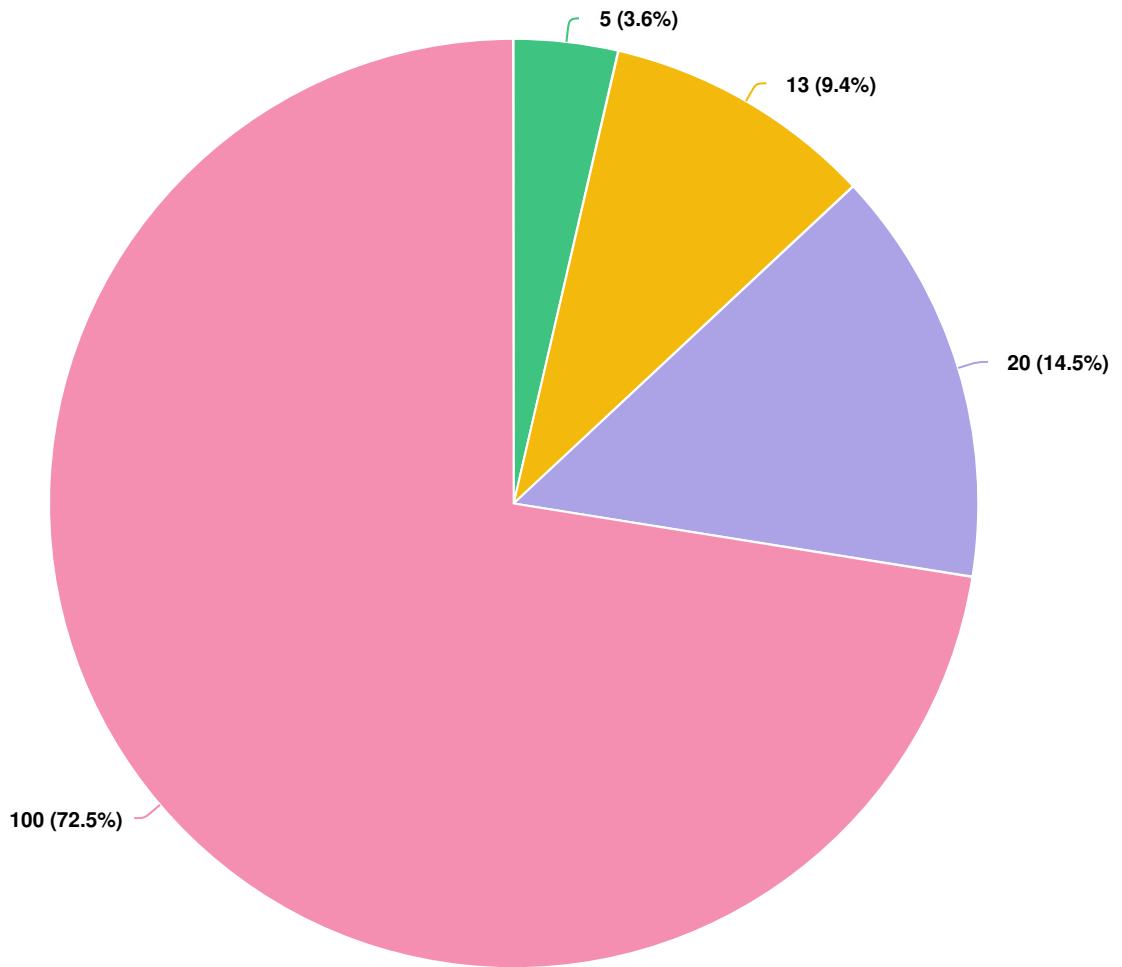
Question options

- Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree

Optional question (137 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Which statement best reflects how a business, group or individual should register with the lobbyist registry prior to meeting a Council member about matters that may influence a Council member's decision at Council?



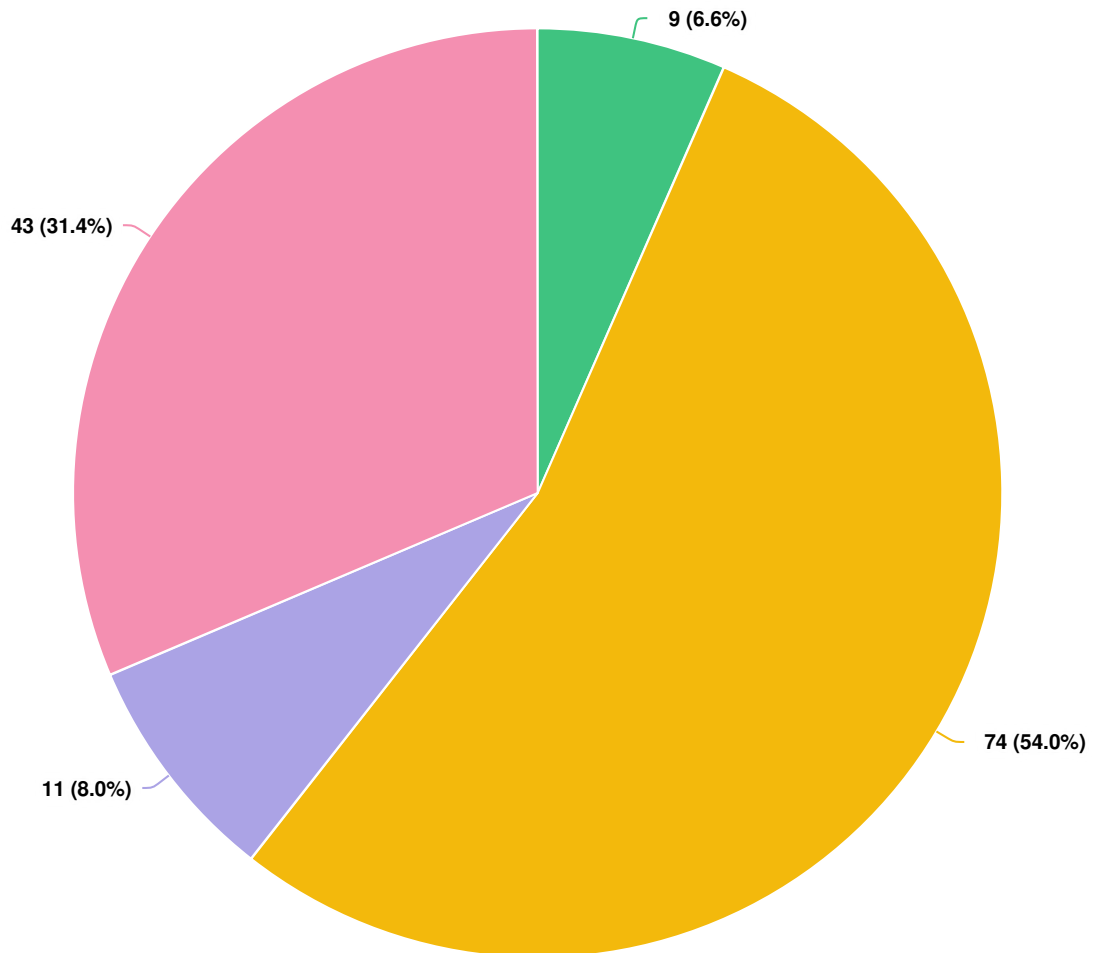
Question options

- Voluntary with no enforcement
- Voluntary with a request for lobbyist to register
- Mandatory with lobbyist self-enforcement
- Mandatory with enforcement

Optional question (138 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

What level of staffing do you feel a lobbyist registry should have?



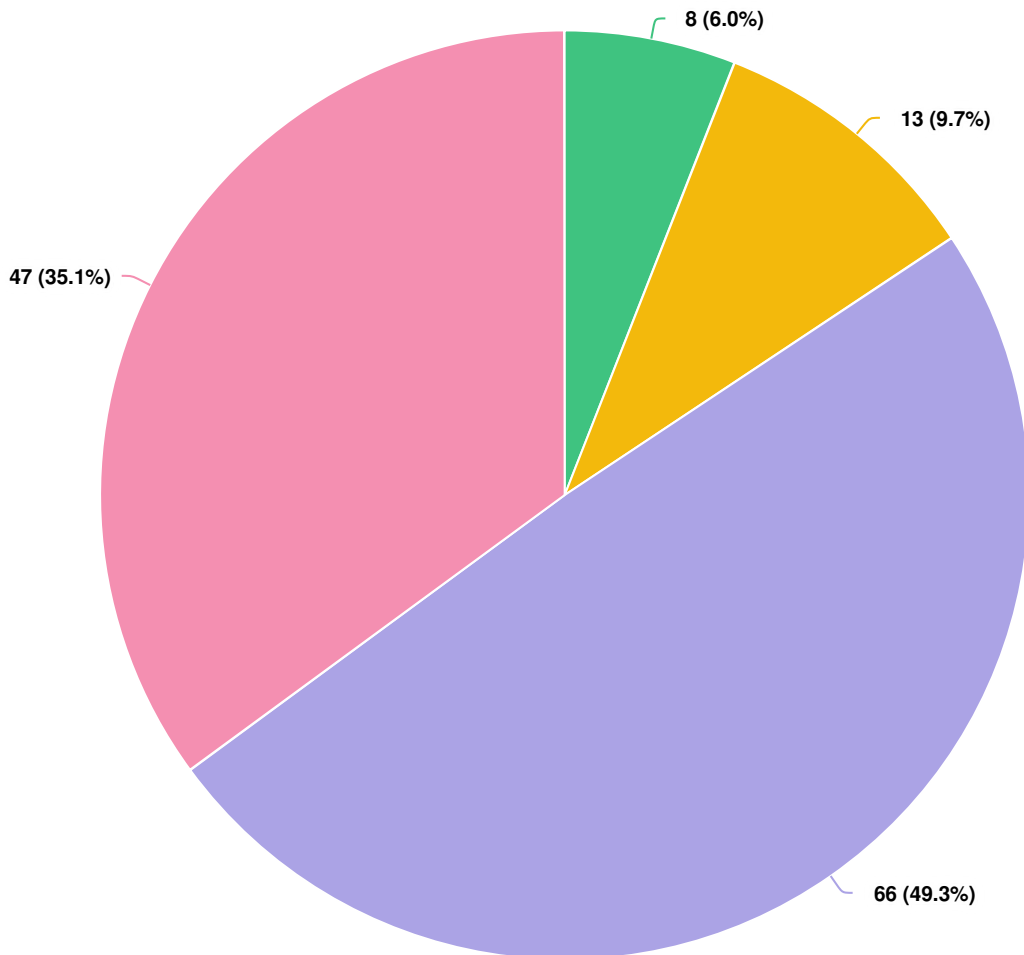
Question options

- Reduce existing staff resources which will keep an internal registry available upon request
- Keep existing staff resources which will allow a chart or spreadsheet to be posted to open data website
- Increase existing staff resources which will allow a chronological list embedded into webpage
- Add staff resources which will allow for a website database that can be fully sorted, searched, and filtered

Optional question (137 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Which statement best reflects how a lobbyist registry should be administered when City staff or a Council member is approached by a lobbyist to have a meeting?



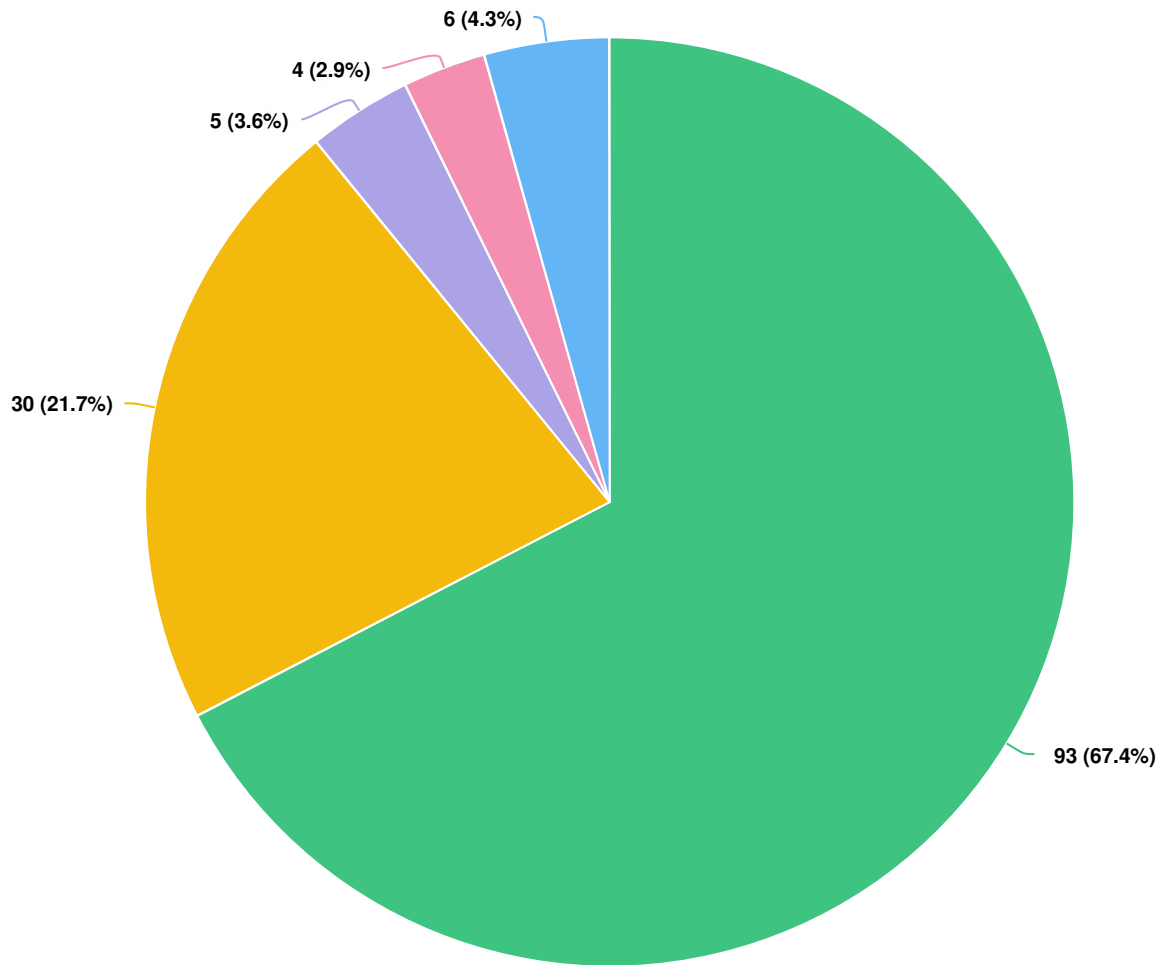
Question options

- Administered by Council member(s)
- Administered by Council member's office
- Administered by City staff
- Administered by dedicated staffing to administer the registry

Optional question (134 response(s), 5 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Please tell us your level of agreement. Do you think a lobbyist registry should list a business, group, or individual who have an interest in meeting with City staff to influence the use of city resource or staff recommendations to Council?



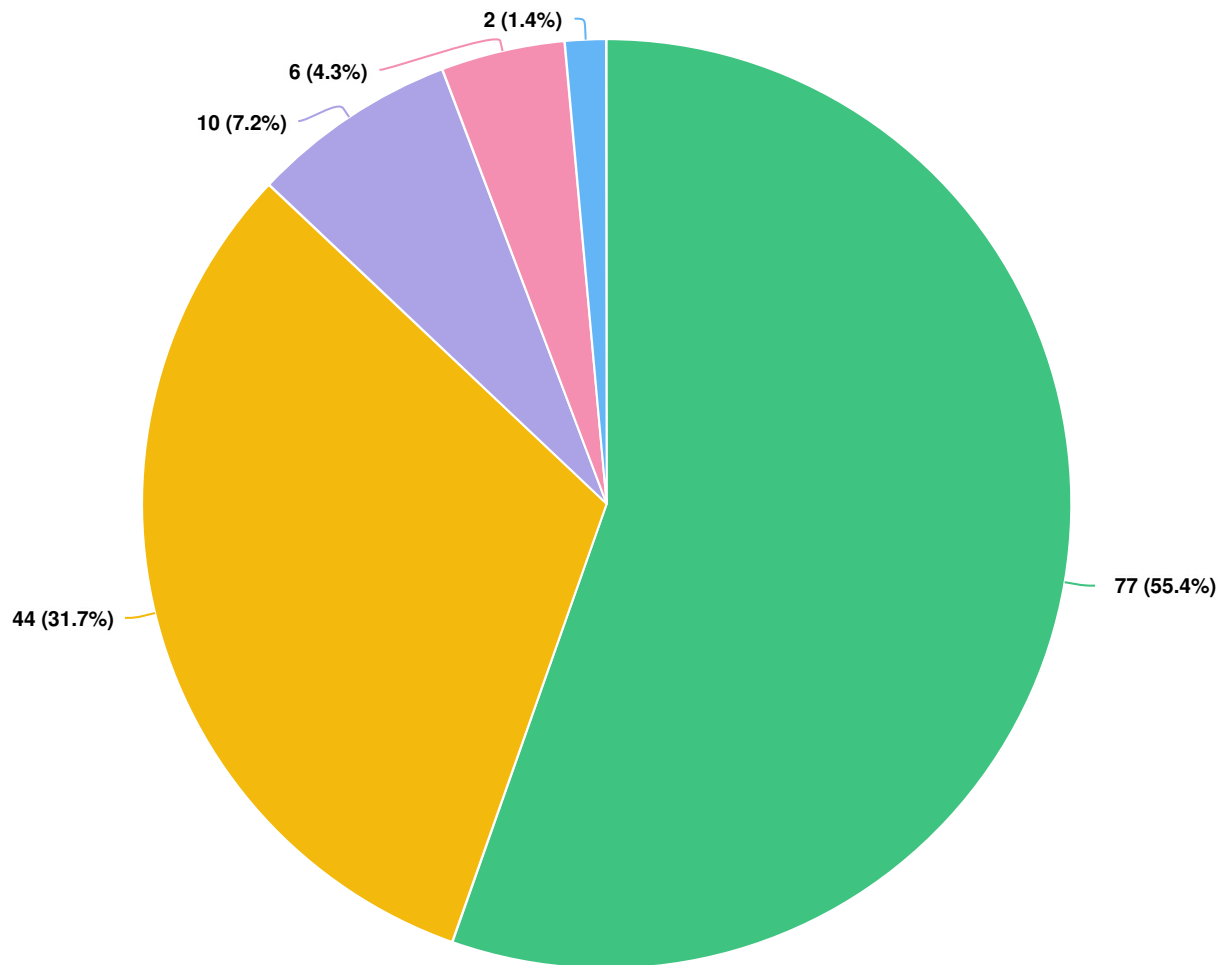
Question options

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Optional question (138 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Please tell us your level of agreement on whether the lobbyist registry should have the ability to classify different types of lobbyists, e.g. consultant lobbyist (payment on behalf of a client), in-house lobbyist (owner or employee on behalf of b...



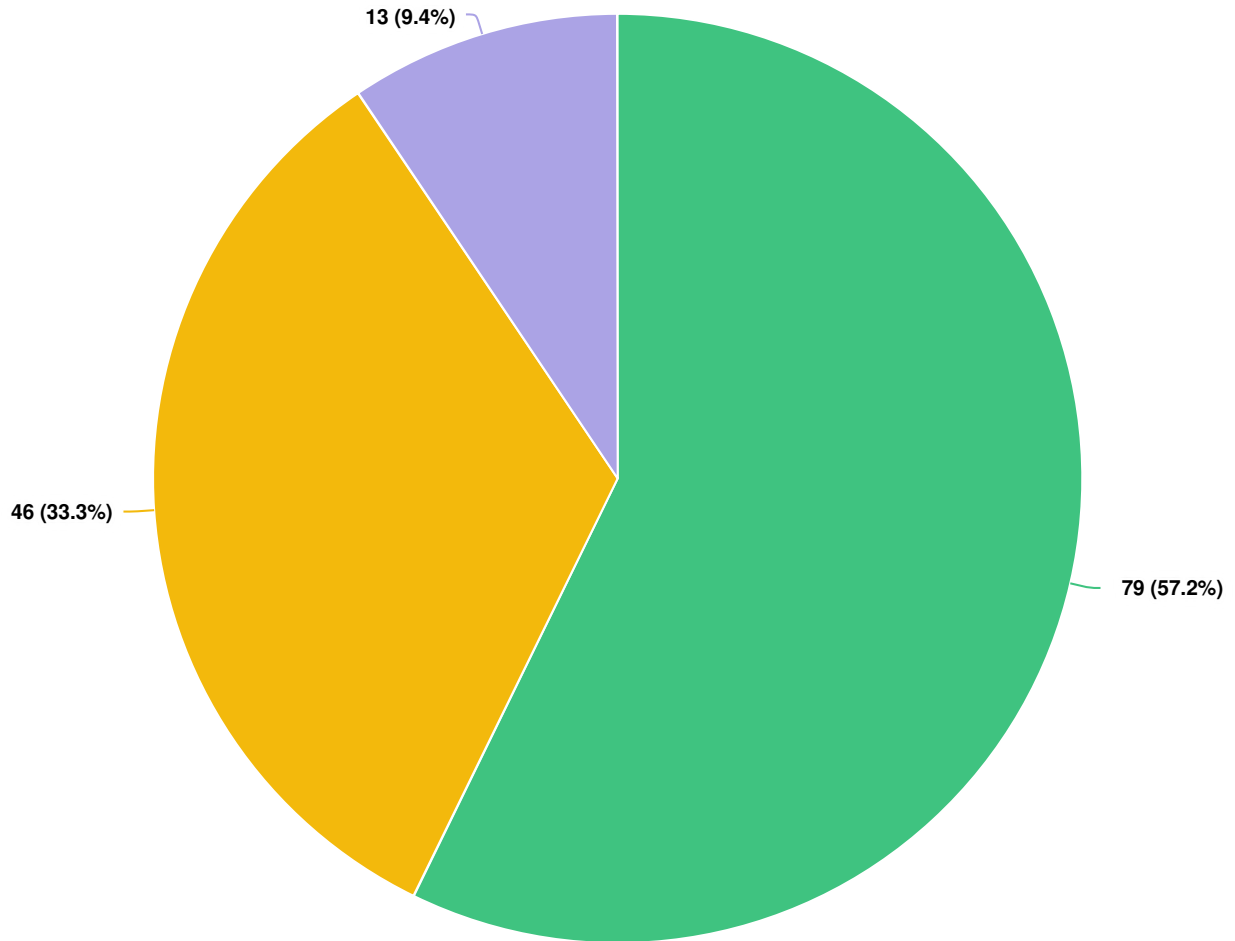
Question options

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Optional question (139 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Which statement best reflects how often a lobbyist should register when they meet a Council member?



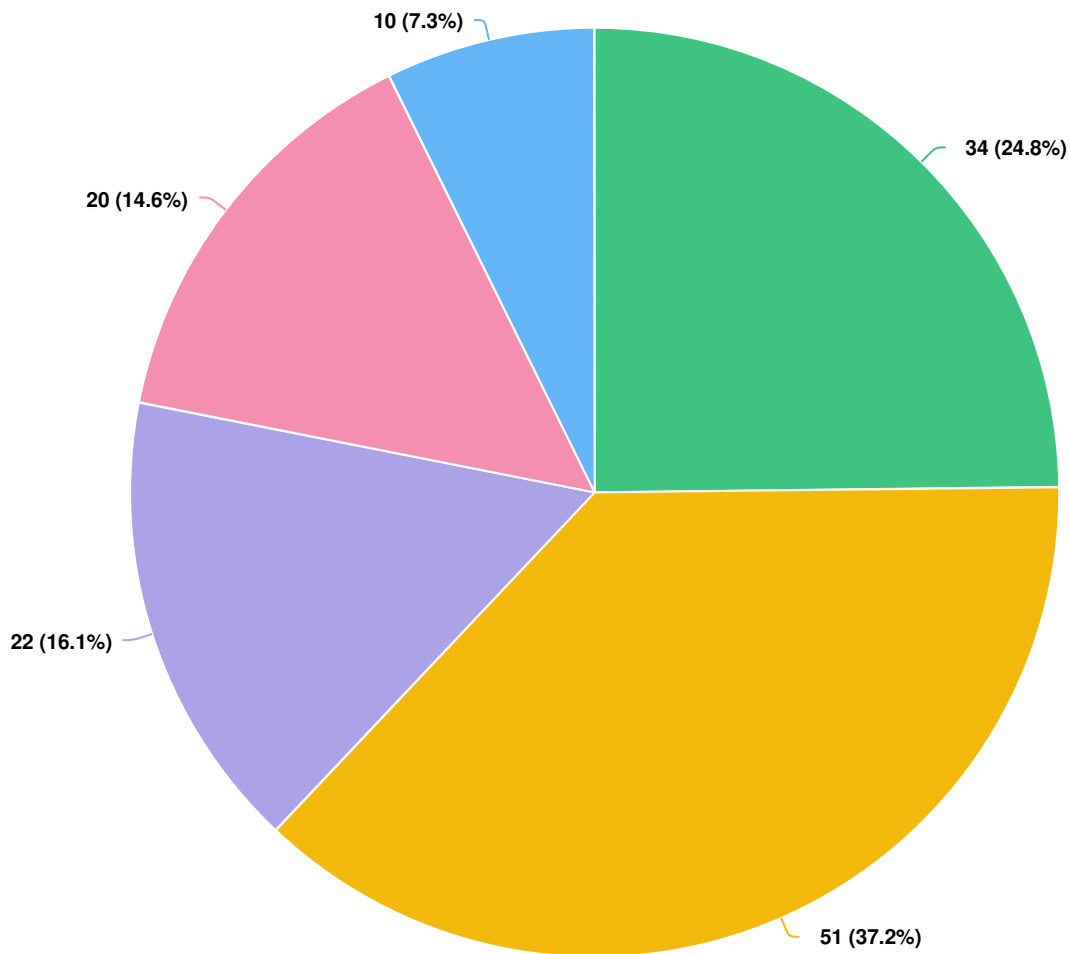
Question options

- Register each time they meet
- Register once and indicate number of times met on that topic
- Register once over an extended period up to a year on multiple topics

Optional question (138 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Please tell us your level of agreement. Do you think dedicated financial resources and administrative staffing support should be allocated to administering a lobbyist registry?



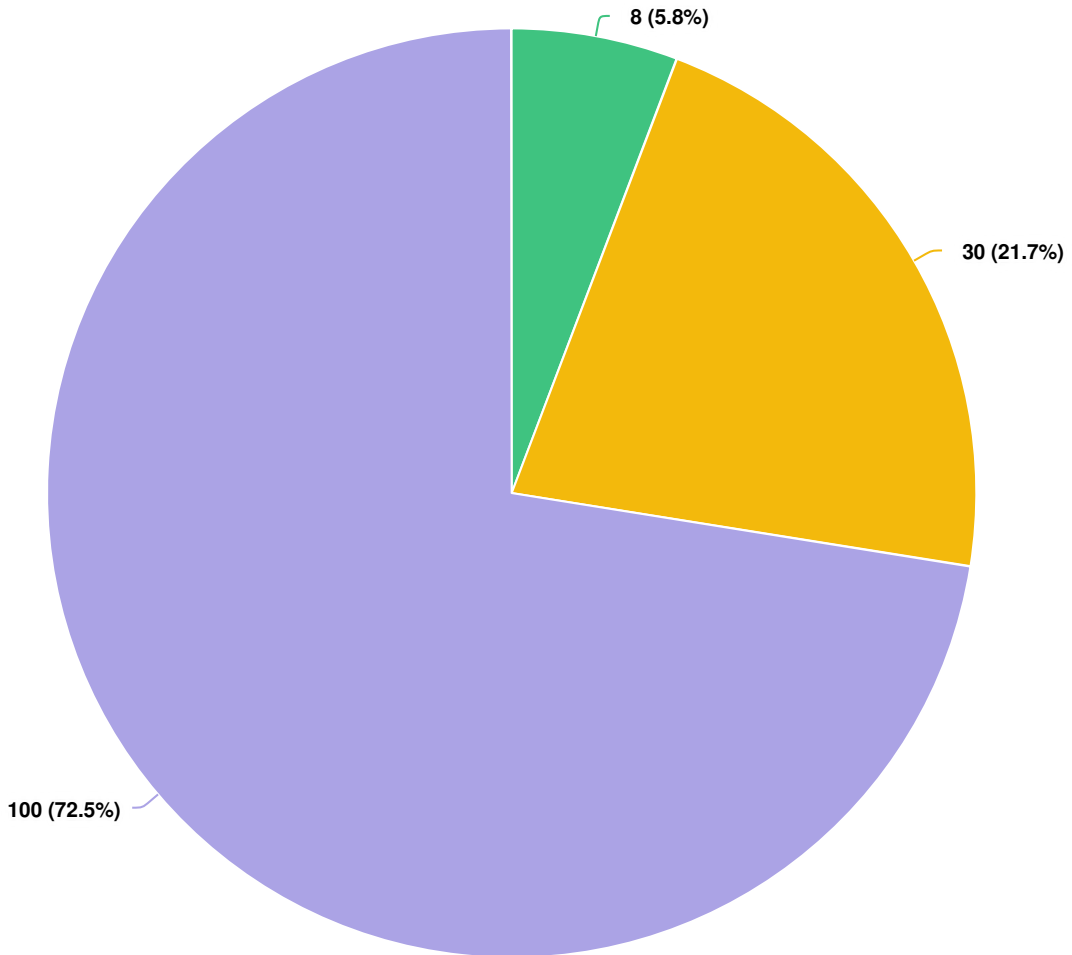
Question options

- Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree

Optional question (137 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Which statement best reflects the level of detail a lobbyist registry should state?



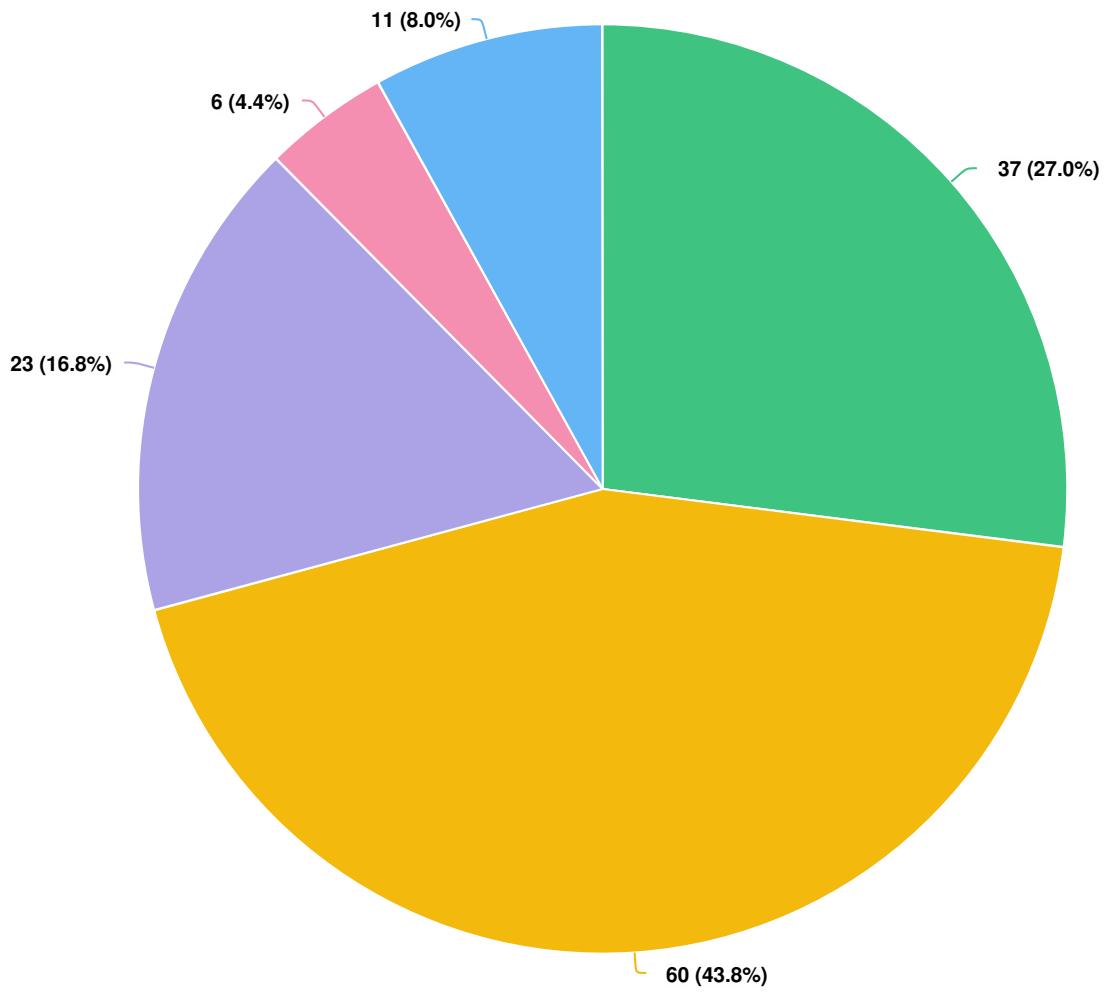
Question options

- Lobbyist choice – as broad or narrow subject as the lobbyist decides
- Staff choice - Preset topics from a drop-down menu to select
- Staff review – specific, clear, detailed topic of meeting required

Optional question (138 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Please tell us your level of agreement. Do you think technology investments should be allocated to administering a lobbyist registry?



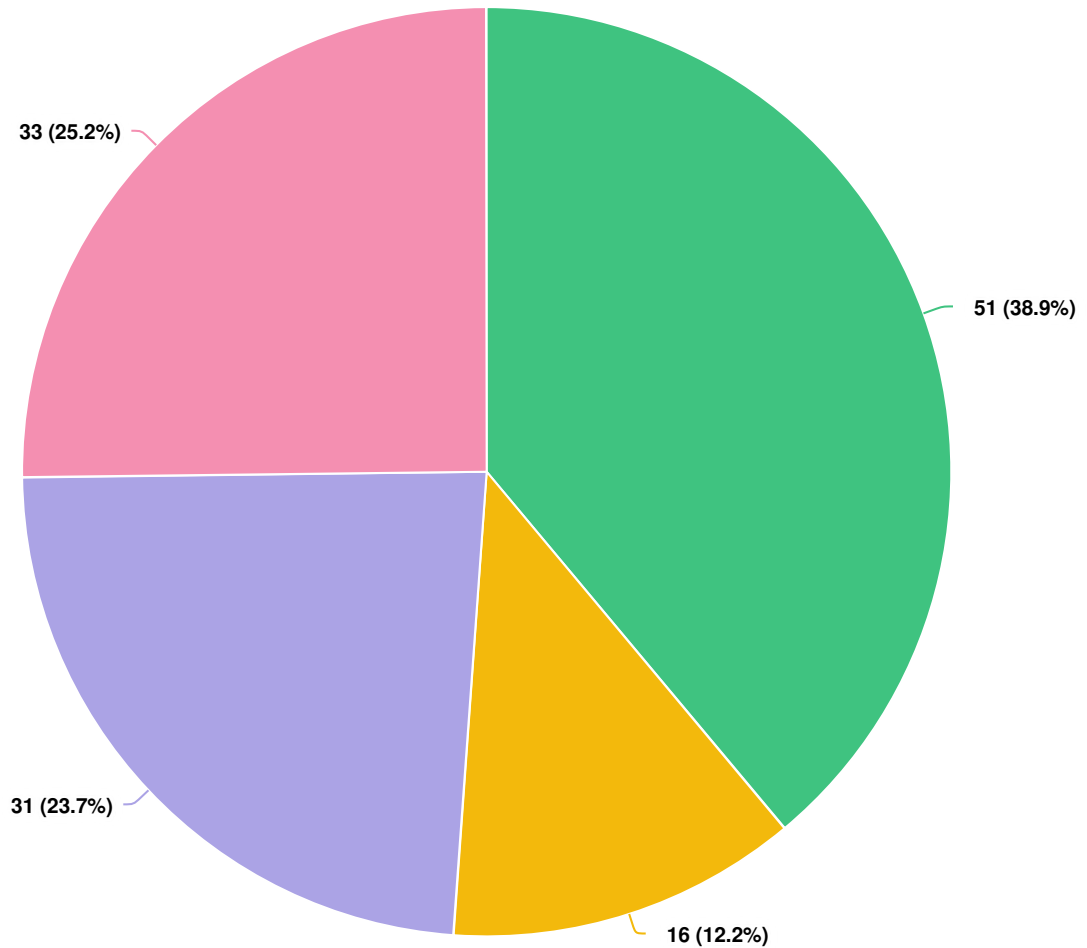
Question options

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Optional question (137 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

How should the City determine how much money should be allocated to resourcing or technology?



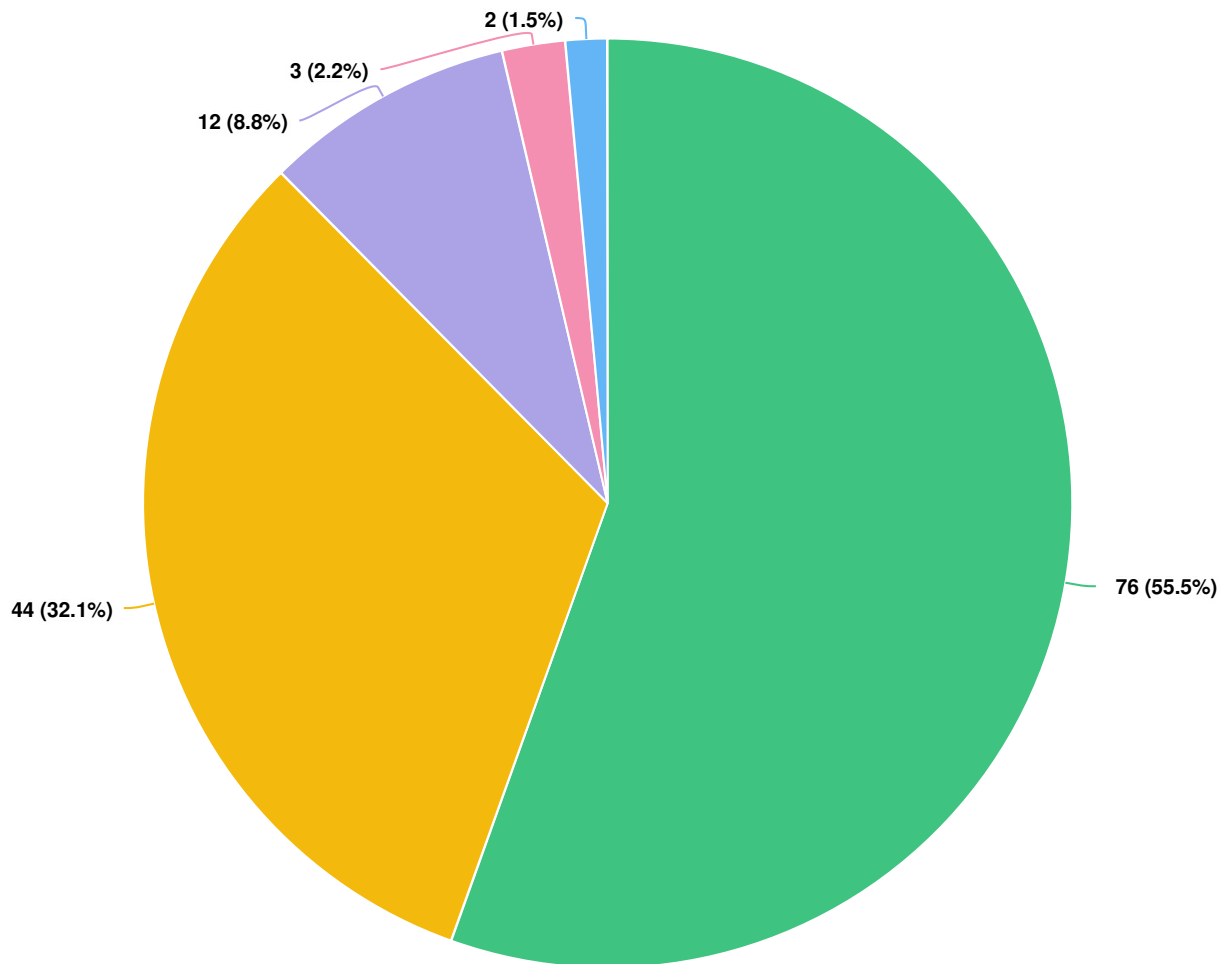
Question options

- Look at registries of similarly sized cities
- The public demand for a lobbyist registry
- According to Ontario local government accountability expectations or standards
- Sets the example for the best lobbyist registry

Optional question (131 response(s), 8 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Please tell us your level of agreement. Do you think a lobbyist registry should state if a Council member is being lobbied as a member of regional council, city council, mayor or deputy mayor, external or advisory committee/board member?



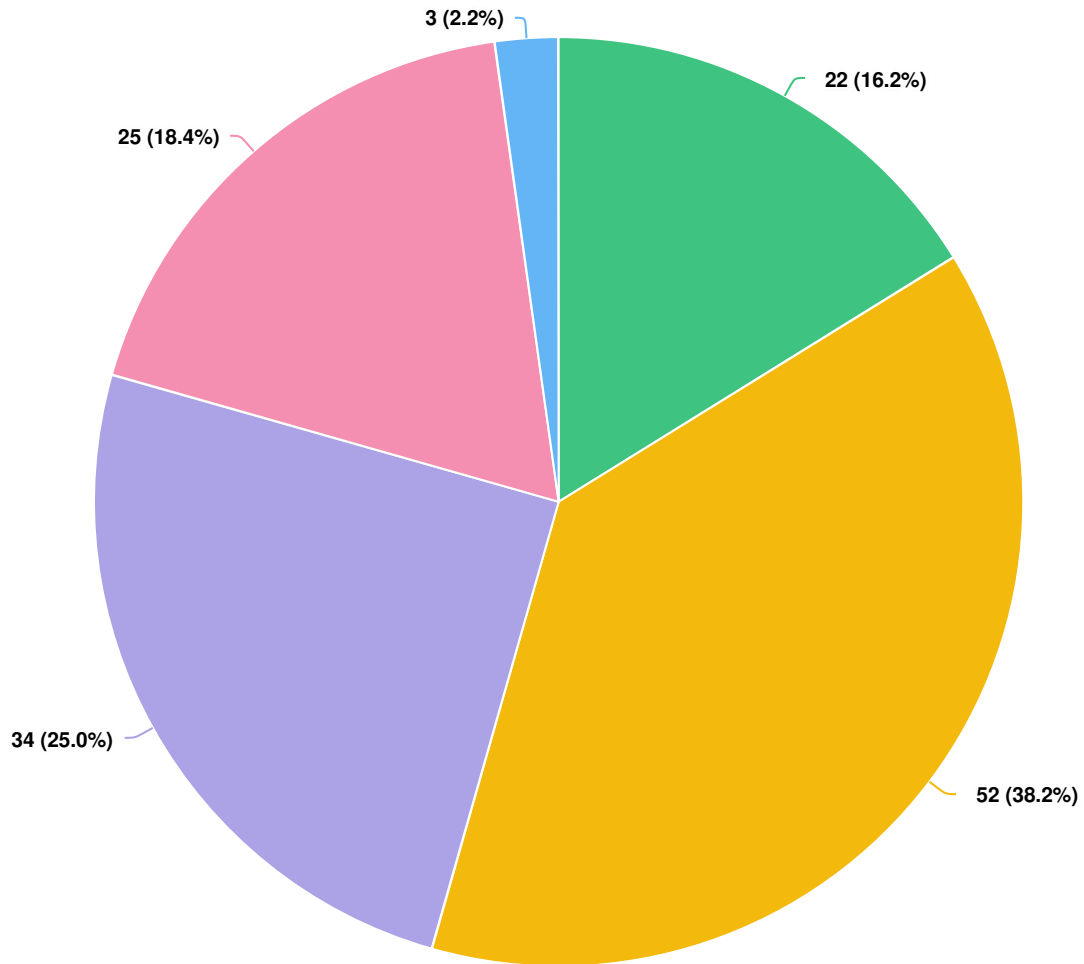
Question options

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Optional question (137 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

How often should a lobbyist registry be updated to the public?



Question options

- Same day
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Annually

Optional question (136 response(s), 3 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Do you have any other comments or concerns about a lobbyist registry?

The. Lobbyist Register should not be a major item to set up or maintain with todays technology & the Citys current IT staff. I was very disappointed a number of the questions seemed to lean towards justifying more FT staff to administer a Lobbyist register. That type of thinking is Unacceptable & needs to be purged from City staff. Set up the Operating Policies & Procedures, Build a simple little Database / Webpage & Operating procedures & put in place documented Audit procedures to Audit the use & adherence of Lobbyist Policies by Staff & politicians. It's not rocket science, you have the technology & the staff to build it. In a close to 8% tax increase Year it's very scary to see the staff mentality on needing more staff for a simple thing like a Registry.

All individuals, companies, organizations etc that have potential influence on City policies and decisions should be clearly and honestly identified to the public at all times.

Volunteer not-for-profit organizations, having no paid employees, are not lobbyists because there is no gain. Most volunteer not-for-profit organizations work for the benefit of society or the environment. Also, individuals i.e. citizens need to be able to meet with their Councillor and Mayor without need to register.

Any public meetings must not require lobbyist registration, regardless if presenter is lobbyist or not, since all matters are open to all.

Voluntary unpaid lobbyist advocacy for a cause supported by ordinary citizens should be exempt. For example: Promoting improvements to city infrastructures.

Has consideration been given to registering lobbyists who lobby non-elected, paid city staff?

Please do add to our already rising taxes to pay for additional staff to do this. I'm sure work priorities can be made to accommodate this

It's important to clearly define the difference between what a Lobbying meeting will be and what a regular meeting about a genuine regular operating concern or service problem will be. (I.e., Meet to discuss excessive speeding on street to solve issue vs. meeting to change bylaws regarding speed limits). It is important that citizens feel comfortable addressing their councillors for regular issues or concerns and that the registry does not create the sense that everything has to go through it.

In the definition of volunteer lobbyist, there should be a distinction between lobbyist for a group like a city wide group,, province wide or nation wide and a specific group such as a local neighbourhood association. Specifically if those doing the lobbying live in Burlington.

Great idea! The registry should also be made available on demand, to the public.

essential in a democratic form of government but frequently ignored.

Any proposal written, gifts, invitations to events, or parties, jobs references provided by the lobbyist or their firms should be listed

A mandatory lobbyist registry is a must for transparency, regardless whether it is viewed often by the public or not. It is a basic ethical requirement. The current spreadsheet is a good start but could be improved with by using common, simple data best practices: make it available in csv format for download for easier re-usability and cross-referencing with other datasets, use controlled vocabulary to ensure data consistency within fields (ie. use data validation to ensure terminology consistency via drop-down lists, which is easily done in common spreadsheet tools), ensure consistency of personal and company names, use ISO date format for the date column to allow for easier sorting. Regarding question 11, it is essential that there be one row of data generated per meeting, in order to give a more complete and transparent view of activities. This is also just a basic necessity for adhering to tidy data principles

Great survey and ethics in keeping municipal interests for the public good

Question 13 - I choose drop down, but really I would have to see an example of what the drop down menu stated to give a proper opinion.

First you ask me if I agree that this should happen, then you proceed to assume we have one. It sounds like a fait accompli!

Why not have this done with tax payers input so we can also participate.

Don't spend any incremental money to support a lobbyist registry. Accountability should be up to the council members to declare.

Additionally, this does not address lobbying of city staff.

The city must be aware of all its obstacles. Money talks. TAXPAYERS Need Honesty, transparency and Accountability. Builders are cutting costs making huge profits and filling the governments pockets. Municipalities get nothing and have to beg for grants. City Must stay compliant but periodically review where the votes actually come from. And New systems are being forced rather than embraced. The Big builders do not get to compromise our city's style of living in the suburbs. Our city facilities amenities are number 1 in the province. How will we maintain our standars if bills get passed that are not in the municipalities favor. Wait till more crime and homelessness comes our way. We might need a second police station. You think the government will help with that build and staffing? Stay smart City (formaly Town, Village) of Burlington Ontario Canada Ultimately its OUR Town and we love it. NOT sure with the 10 of hundreds of new residence occupying the street of this City in the next 5 years. It will be interseting to witness as a 26 year resident. Thank you

The city should not have to ask to be transparent, you should want to be. This registry should be mandatory, concise and regularly updated, as well, easily accessible. The way this city and its council spends money, the resources should not be an issue .

Don't have lobbyist. Let the city council do their job like they were elected to do. Don't have outside influence dictate the outcome

Meetings with lobbyist should be in public, not private meetings. The meetings should be recorded and the minutes should be available for public scrutiny.

This Lobby registry is important in a democracy. However, technology should be employed to decrease costs and decrease potential additional layers of bureaucracy. In addition, there should be regular updating of the info on the City web site to address timely transparent reporting !

Would have been helpful to have cost for staffing and technology. I don't know how many people are currently doing this and don't know how many would be required to have " the best". Council needs to have more transparency.

I don't like any option for #7. You should keep the same staff and they can manage a website database that can be fully sorted, searched and managed. There's no need to hire new staff for this job.

good idea - let's get it done for transparency

Money support from some lobbyists should not be a driving force to persuade decisions and voting.

We've seen the level of corruption in politics, especially with the Ford government, so public trust is extremely low right now and this would help with transparency and accountability to voters.

The constituents should know about any past, present or future land holdings acquired by any members of council. Including the mayor. Past and present council members have done really well getting the inside scoops from their realestate cronies. Personal information

I strongly support a lobbyist registry and think it will have nothing but positive results for the city. If those involved are doing no wrong, they should have nothing to hide.

Another campaign promise from 2018 from the mayor ... here we are into a new term and just now you're asking this! It seems like a no-brainer that you need a fully enforced, mandatory registry and considering council members keep claiming the City and council is transparent (they are NOT), I can't see how they can say that and not do this.

The current mayor in a campaign briefing that occurred in July 1918 on open government and proposed flood mitigation measures, proposed a Lobbyist Registry and was quite forceful on the need to implement. Here we are over 4 years later and still nothing has been done. Why?

Personal information

The costs for the registry should be born by lobbyists, not taxpayers

I think the best way to deliver the function of a registry is to have clear expectations for members of council and senior people on staff who are responsible for personnel and material (say over \$100K) purchasing decision to publish their agendas on a monthly basis. This would include the date/time of all meetings, a list of participants at the meeting with the name of the organization they represent, and a list of the agenda topics covered at the meeting. This kind of information made available by Clerks dep't each month for all covered individuals would be more than sufficient to ensure transparency around decision-making and lobbying efforts. The information should be made available in a consistent format so it can be put in a database and queried by members of the public.

"Lobbying" could take many forms. For example, if I, as a constituent and resident, post an opinion to my social media account which is visible to members of council, some people may consider that lobbying (I have been accused of this by members of the community who are "lobbying" for opposing positions). I don't think it is possible or desirable to track all of the various interests, whether they be for-profit organizations lobbying for their specific interests, non-profits advancing specific causes on behalf of certain components of the community, or citizens utilizing their freedom of speech to share opinions with city employees or councillors. But it is possible to ensure accountability and transparency about employee and council members time and efforts through such a mechanism. I believe the Ward 2 councillor has already put something like this into practice, and it would be a good thing to have it expanded and made consistent across Council and key staff.

Appreciate the opportunity to give my views. Do feel that overall City Staff do a great job.

All past, present and future council members should have to disclose any land holdings they have due to conflict of interest. Seems some former municipal members have done quite well with their side deals in real estate.

Your questions regarding staffing, resources etc. for maintaining a registry seem to lead to the assumption that additional funds are required of some significance to dedicate to this. a registry with pre-determined fields and some open text fields (with guidance to the lobbyist of what is required) can be done on a web page fairly quickly at little cost - this can also be set for the website to predetermine if all fields have been filled prior to submission. Once that is set up, all that is required is for city staff to point all lobbyist to this website, at which point existing administrative staff will ensure based on a Standard Operating Procedure if the lobbyist has or hasn't met the criteria - at which point the lobbyist will be emailed to indicate if the meeting will be granted or if further information is required to make a decision. Upon successful completion, admin staff will update the registry publicly within 5 business days (must be prior to lobbyist meeting with council member).

there should also be a binding code of conduct signed by all council members and their staff yearly that they attest that they cannot meet lobbyist until the city has approved, and any violation of this can result in penalties up to and including fines or revocation of their seat / position.

this is not hard nor expensive, many private companies have similar processes for various compliance measures that are done at minimal cost with minimal effort and time to keep running with quality.

It is important for transparent government. It allows publicly available evidence to hold elected representatives accountable. I would suggest that the retention period of at least 10 years

We need to understand who is influencing decision making in our city and if that poses a conflict/problem.

Electronic data that updates immediately with little expense. Mandatory registering and arms length staff to supervise.

Yes, As a Board Director of a local charity that advocates on environmental policy and programs, I want the City to retain its current helpful guide to determining if an individual or organization is a lobbyist (Appendix C to CL-28-21). the key issue that is very helpful in my opinion in this document is the element of a lobbyist being one who is seeking a direct or indirect financial benefit. There is a difference between being an "advocate" and being a "lobbyist" when meeting with a public officer holder.

Lobbyist registries are bad for democracy as they require "businesses" to register but often protect other well-funded stakeholders such as NGOs (including foreign NGOs), unions and groups of residents from the same scrutiny. It has to be all or nothing -- Either everyone who speaks to a city official or council member has to register and file, or no one should. It's a matter of fairness and transparency.

Do not let lobbyists (particularly in-house & paid consultants) to exercise too much influence in the design and administration of the registry. It must be recognized that this is a regulatory process, and the "regulated" persons or the organizations they represent will "balk" at almost every proposed "rule" they might be required to follow.

neither agree or disagree was used in some questions as I do not have enough information to feel I can adequately give an opinion on that question

Scrap the voluntary registry. To be transparent and equitable, this needs to be unbiasedly monitored and enforced with the same level of detail for every lobbyist and subject matter/topic. Don't spend too much money/resources on this - if available as open data, interested & engaged community will build an application for free (nature of open data) vs. dedicated staff salary + benefits and ongoing technology maintenance and hosting.

Dedicated staffing resources could also prepare a summary report/ presentation slides each year to summarize lobbying efforts over the previous 12 months, to make the info more accessible to more residents.

It should be 3rd party reviewed (Not City Staff/Not Council or their teams/ Keep the Mayor as far away from this as possible).

The city should disclose the hiring of lobby groups on consulting and staff. There are former public servants who are working on the side as consultants, who are working for lobby groups. There are former public servants who retire, and are hired back into city hall, to do 'consulting' work, that they paved the way for. THIS is unethical use of public funds. Some are starting consulting businesses and paid by their friends and former co-workers, to do studies that are clearly lobbying for the self-interests of the city to make them look good.

All public meetings should begin with a 'conflict of interest' disclaimer to make the council, staff or public aware of any former friendships, alliances or relationships within the system. If they were former city staffers or public policy staff writers, then this potential conflict of interest or bias should be disclosed.

If any lobby group is paid by the public purse, or has been paid by public purse or industry, this conflict of interest should be declared.

Transparency and accountability when dealing with public dollars and resources is vital to a healthy democracy

Lobbyist should not be part of government decision making or be allowed to influence any decisions.

I want this to have no extra cost to the taxpayers. I'm sure there is no need to employ outside resources.

Lobbyist are common at every level of government and their numbers and demands are growing. The City of Burlington is a prime target for lobbyist, especially those involved in residential development. However, see no need to devote a large sum of finances and staff. After the first year, this can be reviewed, but I'm sure there's qualified staff that have room in their schedule to set this up and begin quarterly reports.

This is municipal government which is supposed to be closest to the people. Having a registry to "lobby" a member of council for something that I am interested in is counter to the idea of municipal government. As a taxpayer, I am essentially a shareholder and I expect certain allowances to make my personal wishes about my city known. If I am a business owner, the same holds true. Having a conversation to appeal to a member of council....to express my opinions or desires as a resident or business owner....is a waste of everyone's time and could potentially weaken the council-resident relationship. Further, I think it presents a high potential for problems. How is it administered? What extra costs are there? What controls are in place? What will be cut in the budget to pay for this? This is not good governance...it is a new cost and should be only considered if other savings can be identified. As an alternative, a registry that lists any substantial gifts received by a member of council would be good governance, easily established and with virtually no additional costs.

The lobbyist registry is important but the technical details are best left to staff to minimize the work load.

A lobbyist registry should also include staff as decisions are made by staff in preparation of staff reports. This should include EVERY member of staff and council.

We don't need lobbyists. Let the members of city council do the investigation and the decision on city matters.