

City of Burlington
Get Involved Burlington - 2024 Budget Survey Results
August 1, 2023 to September 24, 2023

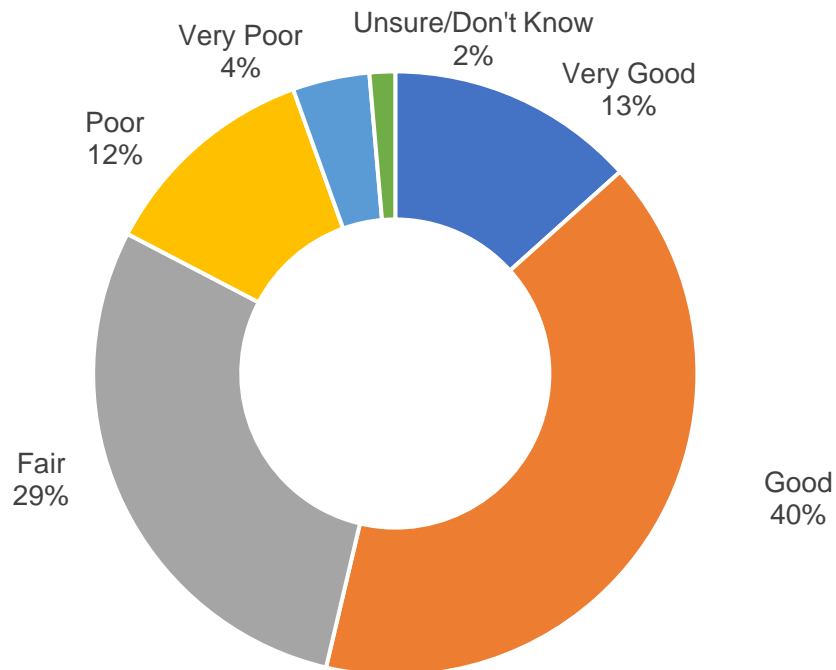
Question 1:

Thinking about all of the programs and services provided by the City of Burlington, how would you rate the value you are receiving for your tax dollars?

(as a reminder Halton Region is responsible for garbage/recycling pick up, police, public health and paramedic services)

Very Good	107	13.4%
Good	323	40.3%
Fair	232	29.0%
Poor	95	11.9%
Very Poor	33	4.1%
Unsure/Don't Know	11	1.4%
Total	801	

Note:
Seven participants did not answer this question

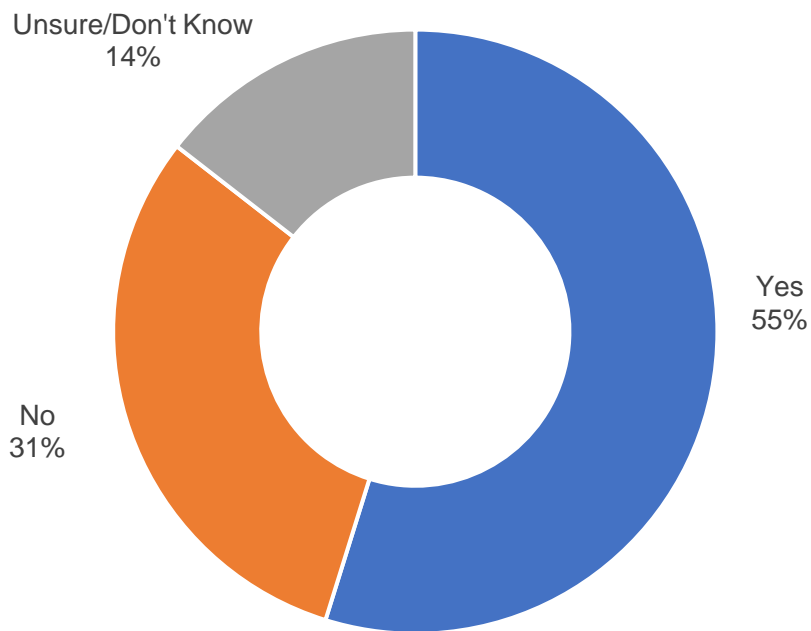


Question 2:

Infrastructure renewal is a priority in the City’s budget. Roads, bridges, and facilities like arenas and community centres need repairs and updates to maintain existing service levels. Over the last number of years, significant investments have been made to support growing renewal needs like the revitalization of Angela Coughlan Pool, repaving our roads and the renewal of our parks and playground equipment. Have you seen a positive difference in the infrastructure such as road maintenance, recreation facilities etc.?

Yes	439	55%
No	246	31%
Unsure/Don't Know	116	14%
Total	801	

Note:
Seven participants did not answer this question

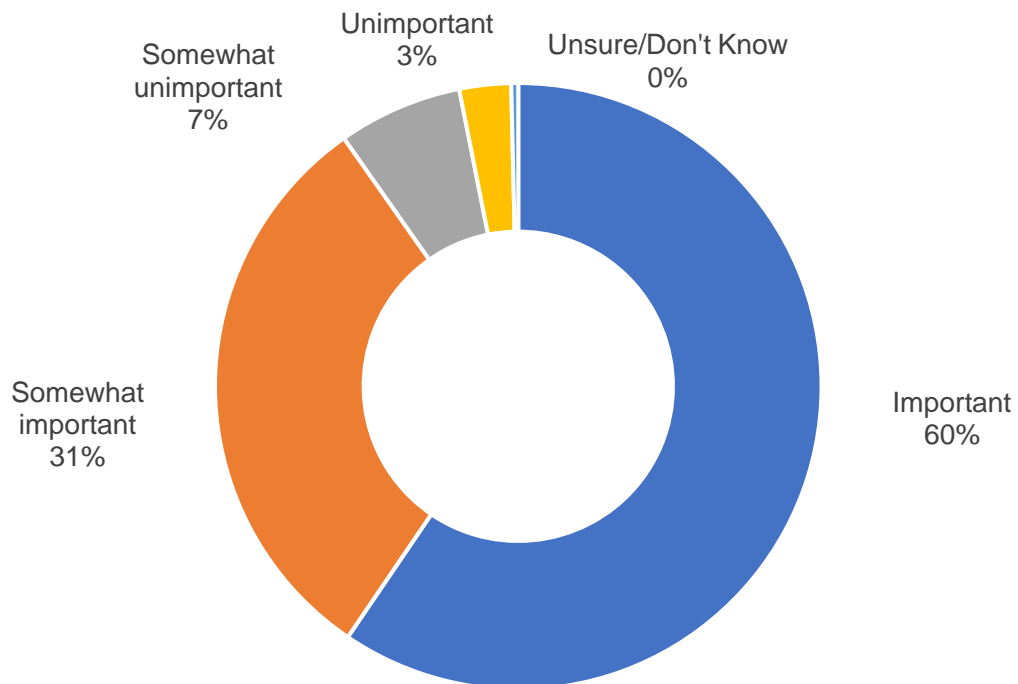


Question 3:

How important is it to you that funding be set aside to replace infrastructure such as roads and buildings to ensure they continue to meet our community needs now and into the future?

Important	476	60%
Somewhat important	246	31%
Somewhat unimportant	53	7%
Unimportant	22	3%
Unsure/Don't Know	3	0%
Total	800	

Note:
Eight participants did not answer this question

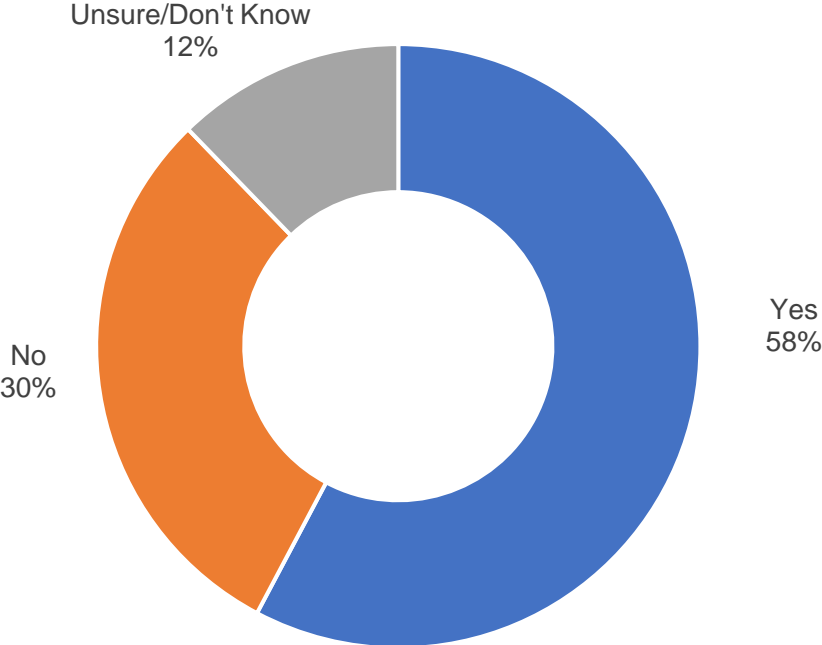


Question 4:

Overall, are you satisfied with the services provided by the City of Burlington?

Yes	462	58%
No	240	30%
Unsure/Don't Know	98	12%
Total	800	

Note:
Eight participants did not answer this question

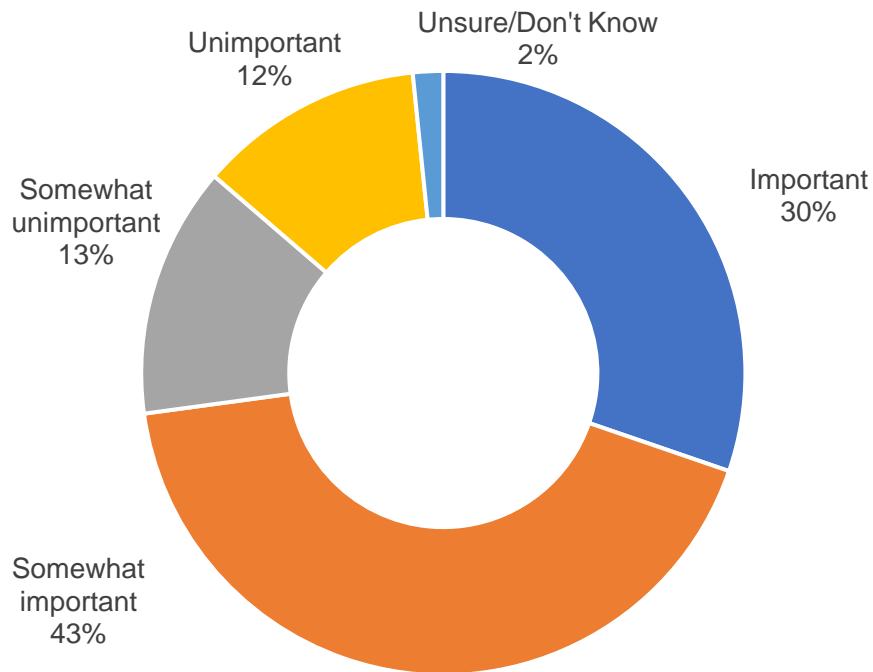


Question 5:

How important is it to you that the City set aside additional funding to address potential future emergency situations like a pandemic or natural disaster?

Important	243	30%
Somewhat important	342	43%
Somewhat unimportant	108	13%
Unimportant	97	12%
Unsure/Don't Know	13	2%
Total	803	

Note:
Five participants did not answer this question

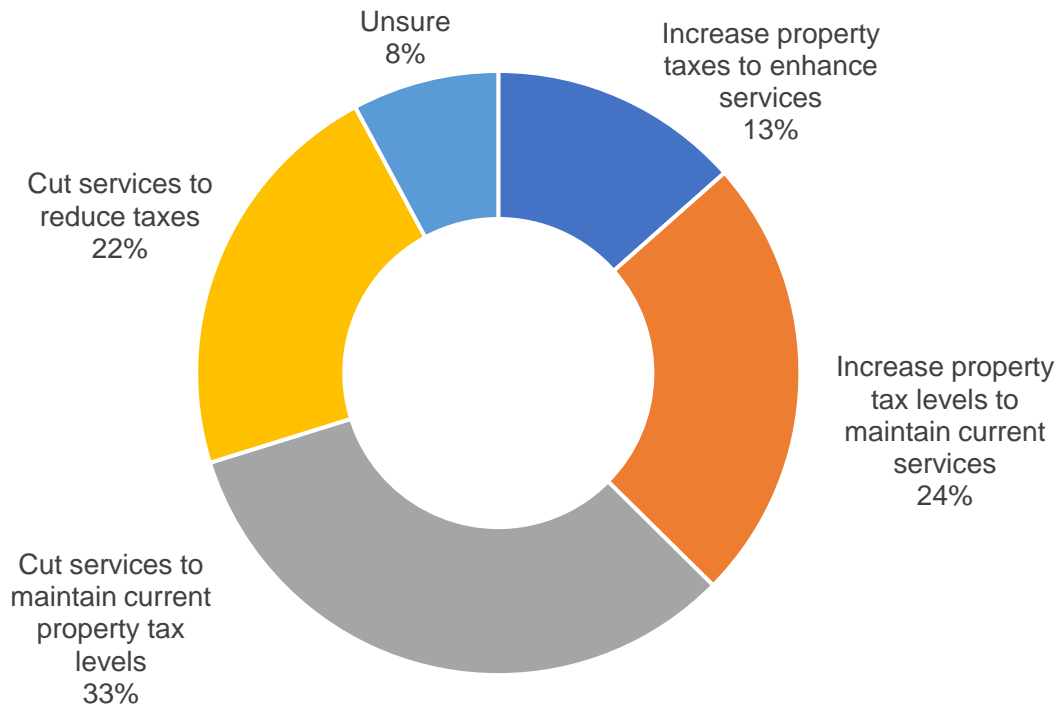


Question 6:

Municipal property taxes are the primary way to pay for services and programs provided by the City. As you may know, there are trade-offs between investments in things like services and infrastructure and property tax levels. Due to the increased cost of maintaining current service levels and infrastructure, the City must balance taxation and service delivery levels. Which of the following options would you prefer the City to pursue?

Increase property taxes to enhance services	108	13%
Increase property tax levels to maintain current services	192	24%
Cut services to maintain current property tax levels	263	33%
Cut services to reduce taxes	176	22%
Unsure	63	8%
Total	802	

Note:
Six participants did not answer this question



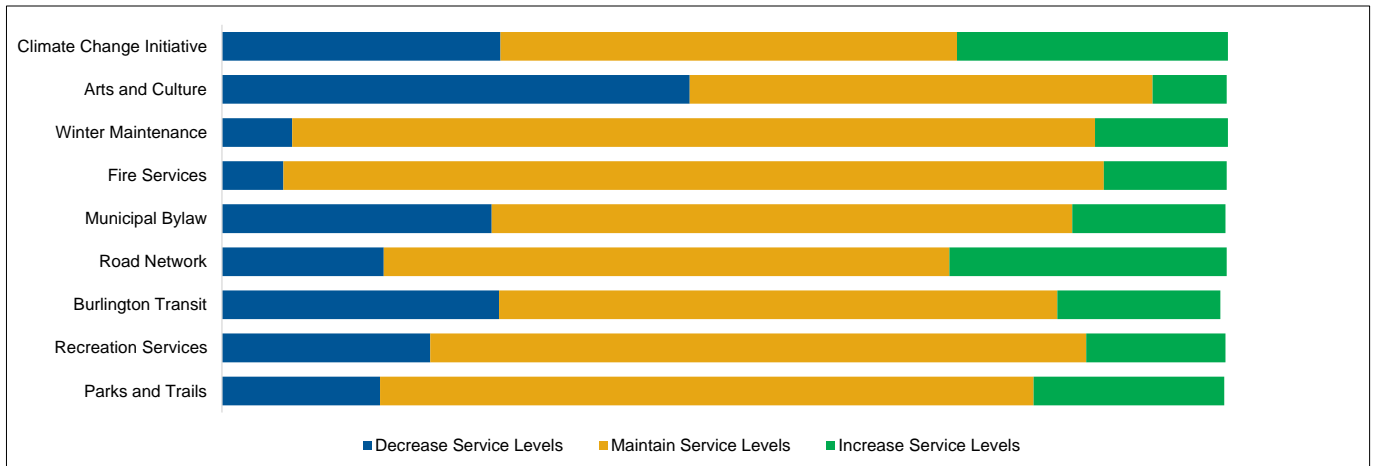
Question 7:

Thinking about the services provided, would you increase, maintain or decrease service levels?

	Chart Reference	Decrease Service Levels	Maintain Service Levels	Increase Service Levels
Climate Change Initiatives (energy efficient buildings, tree planting, active transportation, preparing for extreme weather events, etc.)	Climate Change Initiative	222	364	216
Arts and Culture (public art, festivals, cultural programming)	Arts and Culture	373	369	59
Winter Maintenance (road and sidewalk plowing, sanding, salting)	Winter Maintenance	56	640	106
Fire Services (emergency response, 9-1-1 dispatch, fire prevention and education)	Fire Services	49	654	98
Municipal Bylaw Enforcement and Animal Control (property standards and parking enforcement, noise complaints, animal control)	Municipal Bylaw	215	463	122
Road Network (ease of getting around, traffic flow, bike lanes, sidewalks etc.)	Road Network	129	451	221
Burlington Transit (service available, frequency and accessibility of transit buses and Handi-Van)	Burlington Transit	221	445	130
Recreation Services (swimming, camps, arts, adult programs, fitness, sports fields, etc.)	Recreation Services	166	523	111
Parks and Trails (multiuse paths, playgrounds, splash/spray pads, parkland)	Parks and Trails	126	521	152

Note:

Not all participants answered all the questions



Question 8:

As a resident of Burlington, what is the most important issue facing your community, that is, the one issue you feel should receive the greatest attention from your City Council and should be a priority in the 2024 budget?

Note: Some commentary has been removed due to inappropriate content.

1	Traffic, repaving roads (many are are very poor condition)
2	Speeding up housing construction and reducing zoning impediments.
3	Council needs to stop spending on nice to have things like the Bateman purchase fiasco. Also we are wasting too much money on transit, it is a \$23 million hole. Continued giving out free transit only makes the hole deeper. Cut transit routes!
4	In budgeting recognize we do not need Cadillac facilities, e.g. skyway arena. Further there has to be a recognition for those on fixed incomes our standard of living continues to decline year after year with current and anticipated property taxes-
5	Building density control and getting decision making of what Burlington citizens want away from the province regarding housing.
6	Traffic and population density
7	Less density in the downtown core
8	Climate related issues.
9	The need to look to the future in terms of shelter (all forms single family, multi family, social housing, etc) and COLLABORATING with all levels of government to take action. We must find shared common ground where all (or the majority) can benefit.
10	Currently way too much money being spent on nice to have. ie Skyway Arena. Plans for landscaping around city hall. We do not need luxurious we need practical. Tax increases way too high. Mayor and council appear to have little respect for taxpayers
11	Help power property taxes. Burlington is ridiculously high. People cannot affording to pay such crazy property taxes. They keep increasing year over year (YoY). M
12	Would like to see more open gym time at community centres
13	Affordable Housing
14	Getting more housing built.
15	Protecting our downtown from high rise development while ensuring that we are not encroaching into our green belt/natural spaces.
16	Maintaining the current density of building in our city. There is no need to feel forced to increase the number of people living in Burlington.
17	Supporting senior transit and community visiting programs as well aa clarity on how to initiate help.
18	Administrative cost reduction
19	Roads need better maintenance. Too many traffic lights, and some are too close together. Example is in front of Corpus Christi school.2 sets of lights there are unnecessary. Guelph line at mainway, then Davidson. There has to be a way to improve traffic f
20	Transit
21	Taxes in Burlington and surrounding cities tax hikes are out of control. We have a beautiful city but city is SPENDING way too much. Did we really need an upgrade to city hall at this difficult time for most families. We ALL need to cut back .
22	improving bike and active transportation infrastructure
23	We all have wants and needs. Let's concentrate on the needs and let the wants go for awhile! Do we need to revamp city square (a want)?
24	Transparency on where money is going and if there are losses due to oversight, they are held accountable
25	Continued support of EV and electrification
26	Cannot keep increasing taxes. We can't afford these huge increases.
27	Road maintenance and improve movement of traffic around the City
28	Climate change
29	Housing affordability
30	Make the city more climate resilient by increasing the native biodiversity (plants, insects, animals) in creative ways-- like living walls, green roofs, and replacing grass and turf with multi-use gardens (community food gardens, pollinator gardens, etc.)
31	Traffic and road quality

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32	More bike lanes
33	Skylines should not be built where there is no room for additional vehicular traffic!
34	traffic congestion
35	maintaining and/or enhancing infrastructure, public buildings, public spaces. Don't fall behind and let these assets degrade too far.
36	More affordable programming for preschool and toddler ages, as day care wait-lists are substantial and current preschool programs are limited and not affordable.
37	Keeping property values high by residents keeping their property in tip top shape to many yards are poorly maintained especially from rental property owners
38	ALL youth sports. There are many spaces for seniors and the kids' areas are suffering. We need our kids moving and living healthy lifestyles. Many of the spaces for kids are also used for adults so it's not even child specific funding, it benefits both.
39	Overcrowding on roads, losing green space within our neighborhoods. Build big parks with lots of amenities and parking in North Burlington. Spencer smith and Burloak are always packed in the summer!
40	Making Transit more available and easier to use.
41	More pickleball courts
42	Keep our downtown and stop building all these condos! Incentivize businesses to open in the vacant buildings downtown, and encourage restaurants and pubs to open. Also more enforcement to remove homeless/panhandlers from the street corners and parks.
43	The population is growing and we don't have the roads to support the population increase, for example downtown burlington or fairview street/brant now that more condos are being built. It can't be 2 lanes anymore.
44	New arenas for skating/hockey/ringette
45	You talk about affordable housing, yet with major tax increases proposed year after year, it's becoming more difficult for those of us already here to continue to afford Burlington. Stop wasting money on nice to haves, and focus on actual needs.
46	Property tax rates need to be more competitive with neighbouring municipalities such as Milton and Oakville. The City should pursue other revenue sources such as development charges, user fees, and upper level grants.
47	Increased traffic
48	Alternative forms of transportation - designing roads for bikes and busses as well as cars
49	Infrastructure
50	Significant lack of management. We have a lack of money management. Plenty of dollars coming in. Perhaps we need to cut the fat? Where are we spending poorly? Our services are dive par, yet our taxes are higher, let's say, then Oakvilles
51	I know it's the OLT doing it, but stop the destruction of our city by developers at all costs.
52	Magnitude of tax increases
53	Increase in homeless people.
54	With an aging population Burlington needs more programs for seniors. Website accessibility is needed for an aging population. Your website and communications are not accessible for people with cognitive issues, vision issues, ADHD or epilepsy.
55	Climate change initiatives
56	The lack of a proactive forestry department - Forestry is reactionary and very rarely have I seen the crews doing preventative maintainance.
57	Traffic lights hard to see in snow storm since switched to led lights....hazardous can't tell if it's red or green, clear roads better too in snow
58	affordability
59	New bike lanes on Plains Road way over done. Not justified,

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60	Lack of affordable housing. My business is having trouble hiring/retaining staff because they need to commute from Niagara where they can afford to live. We pay our staff very well, more than our competition and they still can't afford it.
61	Roads, particularly the main ones. I live off BrantSt and it's horrible how it looks like a patchwork of quick fixes. Having lived in Oakville for most of my life, this is one of the biggest differences I see between the two areas (road and boulevards).
62	Sports arenas and baseball parks with lights
63	Future growth and sustainment
64	Getting rid of wasteful spending. We do not need rainbow cross walks as they are always needing repair. The Art Gallery should have more events or things going on instead of being empty and the Performing Arts should have more shows for kids and people
65	[REDACTED]
66	Lower taxes due to removal of nice to have programs.
67	I believe we could save money in eliminating leaf collection, unnecessary last minute one off's like televising events that could be thousands of dollars that can be used somewhere else.
68	Housing
69	Do not build more high rises, especially in downtown. You're pushing local business out of business for what. Soon there will be nothing left of our downtown Keep what we have downtown.
70	[REDACTED]
71	Lack of affordable housing
72	Over development and the problem with getting around and traffic.
73	Terrible building permit turnaround and costs associated with building department in Burlington. Also scrap the ridiculous tree bylaw that clearly is adding no value only expense.
74	Maintaining greenspace.
75	Revitalization of Bronte park. It's a shame we have such wonderful green space in our community that is in a state of disrepair. The pool has been closed for years, this was such a staple in the community. Outdoor skating rink, basketball and tennis court
76	Crime is going up. Burlington should take steps to address this issue. I know that police is not under city council mandate but it should raise this issue with the police. High crime rates affect cities and citizens and can get out of hand quickly
77	While other parts of our street have speed (Francis Road), our portion, south of Greenwood, never did. Cars use this strip like a drag race. The worst are the tow trucks racing up to plains to get to the highway. We have many children in the area,.
78	Inflation is hurting everyone. Please provide relief to our citizens
79	Affordable housing / bylaws impeding healthy development
80	Maintain our tax so seniors can continue to live in this community
81	Improved road networks and traffic congestion to mitigate issues experienced now and into the future with the excessive development occurring. Incorporate multi-use paths that provides north Burlington with safe access to travel across to the south side.
82	Reduce speeding in our neighbourhood
83	A 2023 budget that sets us on a path of 30% increase in tax assessments over the next five years is unacceptable. Taxing the current tax payers for future growth is wrong - matching spend to available revenue NOW needs to be reinstated at city hall.
84	The amount of huge condos being build in an already congested area. The removal of shops restaurants and bars for larger buildings and chains.
85	Comply with and enforce the existing zoning plan
86	Quality of Education in Public Schools
87	taxes
88	congested roads in North Burlington

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89	traffic has become nearly unbearable, if the QEW is bad it has a trickle down effect on the entire city, specifically south of the highway.
90	Helping to reduce taxes for its citizens during these hard times. Cut or maintain tax levels (e.g., do not make transit free for all, reduce the free events provided by the city, do not increase fire services budget). Look into charging the developers.
91	I live at Glenwood Park area that there is many kids walking and playing but there is no sidewalk and car do not respect speed limit.. This is extremelly dangerous
92	Reduce sending . - get rid of unused bike lanes that add traffic on city roads and spend less on painting sidewalks, unusable art - provide better service to make residents proud & less excuses as why things can't be done.
93	Downtown Burlington is full of empty storefronts, can there be rent controls to entice new business to invest downtown? Specially business that bring tourism and enhanced the community.
94	Transit
95	Hate crimes against LGBTQ people
96	Infrastructure and traffic
97	Reduce taxes
98	Healthcare services. There are not even enough family physicians. The ambulance service is unreliable as well.
99	We need a Council that understand the need for efficiencies and not one that builds reserves for specific needs then spends it because the agreed operating and capital budgets are exceeded.
100	Would love to dome Nelson pool to have a full year 50 meter pool. Athletes are leaving for clubs that have this.
101	Congestion and over-development
102	Kill the coyotes
103	Reducing property taxes
104	Infrastructure should be priority and not spend tax dollars on the new Robert Batement centre. This is a nice thing to have but only after all the infrastructure is updated.
105	Recreation services
106	Reduce property taxes
107	Decrease on-street parking. Like Toronto if you have too many cars to fit your property then you pay a significant fee to secure an on-street parking space. That will help with taxes and maintaining services.
108	City provided public spaces - libraries, rec centres etc. More programming, drop ins, etc to compete with private industry.
109	Climate change
110	Traffic and litter around city
111	Too much traffic at New Street from Burloak towards Guelph Line during rush hours, the city should create a middle lane for traffic for traffic turning left.
112	In this time of financial stress and increasing costs of living, City should focus on essential services and reduce or eliminate spending on "nice to have" or "vanity" projects
113	Ability for citizens north of qew to be able to cross safely the qew by bike
114	not sure
115	Improving traffic flow along lakeshore rd.
116	Lack of independent businesses in the food & beverage industry. For example, my wife and I would like to see more small coffee shops and less major chains like Starbucks, Time Horton's, etc. Provide grants or tax incentives for small businesses. .
117	Increase greenspace and protect our greenspace such as old forest
118	Climate change initiatives
119	Infrastructure and ease of congestion
120	Traffic congestion. With the increased population and lack of any change to mitigate the problem getting around is becoming more and more difficult.

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121	Keeping tax increases at rate of inflation
122	wasteful government spending
123	More shade in playgrounds for children
124	Careful spending of tax dollars on essential services, and eliminating spending on unnecessary things.
125	Climate change, emergency response
126	Animal advocacy
127	Adequate transit infrastructure to support growth
128	Keeping tax increases to the cost of living % rise.
129	Existing Infrastructure especially sewer, water, electricity need to be strengthened or increased to accommodate current and future growth in housing and expected increase in city population
130	Rising cost of living, keep taxes at no or modest increase for 2024
131	Multiuse paths
132	The cost of living is a massive issues and should be evaluated both holistically interms of housing, taxes, and the direct impacts on families in the city but as well as individual city issues like cost of transit, cost of rent for small businesses etc
133	HandiVan Service and increasing staffing levels within Burlington Transit Operations.
134	More schools in Burlington
135	improving SECURE and accessible bike lanes across burlington (painting white lines on a road is not acceptable)
136	Crime rates escalating due to intensification. Our downtown areas will soon be like Chicago, Toronto, etc.
137	Living in a great city comes at a cost. We meet that cost with our taxes. I don't want tax cuts I want more services delivered efficiently.
138	Please don't choose ugly park structures like the one on bike path downtown, as pictured on your budget page. Many of us chose other designs do we were shocked this one was put up.
139	Limit the height of new condo towers to 11 stories.
140	Money restraint so citizens can stay in their community
141	Bike lanes
142	Better space for sports facilities including soccer fields and arenas.
143	Road repairs, infrastructure and more senior programs
144	Affordable housing and rental buildings for those who are unable to purchase a home. Encourage more senior building for example in the empty building when The Bay closes in Burlington Mall. Partner with non-profits
145	Overdevelopment and inexperienced city planning department who are approving developments that do not meet the four measures of good development
146	Council and staff hiding behind a firewall created to ignore tax payers.
147	Try to keep status quo for now to allow things to rebound and stabilize
148	Tax increases are too high.. highest in the Region. Homelessness, mental health supports, and supportive housing.
149	For me personally it is senior services. I am single, retired and 63 years old on a very small fixed income
150	The city of Burlington needs to follow up on residential complaints you can never get anyone to come and speak with you in person you are just ignored.Also we need more street lights in residential areas.The senior citizens lower taxes
151	Transit
152	Keeping the budget under thr rate of inflation. Reduce funding for items that aren't necessary for the functioning of the City. (art, festivals, cultural etc)
153	Road safety and traffic management. Far to many dangerous drivers, speeders, etc driving through neighborhoods full of children.
154	The city has increased taxes well above inflation and reserves are at highest levels, but I do not see improved service levels or meaningful investments in our community. City Hall needs to improve speed of implementation. You don't need more money -ACT!

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155	Congestion and overdevelopment.
156	The speed of traffic on roads in Mountainside I.e. St. Frances Drive (add a speed bump). Also, VERY disappointed in the way downtown is looking (I.e. losing businesses and high rises going in). Downtown is looking more and more like Toronto.
157	Congestion on roads due to increases in population. I understand we need more buildings to balance increase need for funding but we need to manage this better.
158	For several years, tax increases have been far in excess of the rate of inflation as contrasted with the Region which is committed to not raising taxes above the rate of inflation. Start to focus on taxpayers--clearly avoided in this survey.
159	Public Transportation and People-oriented infrastructure
160	Control budget expenditures with a fine tooth comb...no more "fluff or near fluff" in budget expenditures. People are hurting and tax increases for non essential pet projects must stop!
161	Traffic congestion on roads not able to handle the current volume
162	Deal with the traffic and noise on New Street between Cumberland and Walkers Line.. it has become a freeway and race section.. It would be great to have police presence between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m . or radar camera. at this moment the noise is terrible.
163	focus on need to haves not nice tohaves as we approach another recession
164	Increase in condo developments which will result in more traffic in and around already heavy traffic areas. There needs to be a improvement of traffic flow along Upper Middle Rd and Mainway.
165	Housing supply and road safety.
166	Lowering property taxes
167	Traffic downtown and jt will only get worse with new builds and population growth
168	Affordable rental for Seniors, low / middle income families, students
169	Proper training for new staff.
170	Environment: climate change.
171	Reduce our taxes!
172	I am very concerned by the lack of parking enforcement on residential streets. It is out of control in the Orchard by Bronte and the city isn't doing anything about it. We shouldn't have to complain, parking bylaws should be enforced.
173	Less emphasis on downtown and more attention to north Burlington
174	Parks and recreation opportunities
175	Crumbling road and sidewalk infrastructure, and equally poor frequency and service day length of transit. Buses need to run later and start earlier, especially on Sunday.
176	Traffic congestion
177	Safety Roads
178	Times keep changing and I look for and feel it's critical that we progress with the times, eg, sustainability, climate change, development must be innovative , thoughtful
179	Street traffic and current traffic violations such as speeding and running red lights.
180	Emergency preparedness including traffic gridlock when QEW is closed.
181	Ensure that any tax spending is valid as to a must/need to have as appose to nice to have. Make sure all required jobs and services are sent out for tender. Don't waste tax payers money on things that don't benefit the majority of Burlington residents.
182	Diversification of the tax base to attract and retain professional firms and green industry to Burlington such that Burlington is well positionod for the future without heavy reliance alone on residential property tax for income.e
183	Failure to keep costs down. Spending increases not affordable for many families and seniors
184	Traffic
185	NINBYism and the lack of awareness of the relationship between growth, prosperity and tax rates. Look at how to invest \$\$ spent on expensive land tribunal appeals and work with developers to create a vibrant community and thriving downtown.

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186	Proper and logical planning for new housing developments and related support services. Maximizing tax payers contributions for betterment of all residents.
187	Development and lack of infrastructure to support it.
188	Traffic, crime.
189	Zoning...density analysis....need for expert analysis of trends and to engage with provincial expectations ...are they good to keep the city livable?
190	Stop the nice to have projects. Taxes are killing the people
191	Two: Community safety and efficiency
192	Traffic congestion on highways and especially Plains Rd, Brant St etc during peak times. There are too many cars on the road and is contributing more and more to climate change. We should focus heavily on public transit to reduce traffic and emissions.
193	Sharp increase in population due to high density condominiums
194	Keeping taxes down
195	The community is well established but unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists to get around. Cars speed and don't come to a complete stop at intersections. Safer bike lanes, raised crossed walks, extending the multi-use trail both north and south.
196	Have developers pay their fair share for infrastructure required to support city growth.
197	Traffic and enforcement. NO MORE CONDOS DOWNTON. The city has lost its charm. Clean up the waste containers overflowing with dog waste.
198	COMMUNICATION BY PHONE! TO RETURN PHONE CALLS! TO TAKE LEGIT CONCERNS OF RESIDENTS SERIOUSLY!
199	Infrastructure ie sewers, etc ; widening and shoring up creeks that run through city neighbourhoods
200	Climate change mitigation and bike infrastructure
201	level of property tax increases
202	Maintain services. No need to offer free (it is NOT really free) bus services to everyone in Burlington.
203	Affordable housing, increasing affordable cooperative housing opportunities
204	Pave the roads
205	resources to implement existing Bylaws for the benefit of all local neighbourhoods.
206	The need for more Burlington Transit Buses. All should run every 15 minutes except Sundays.
207	Climate change. We're all facing an uncertain future and long-term planning must include it.
208	Tax increases are too high. Should match inflation. Cost of fire services is way too high.
209	More infill housing needed so that farmland not paved over
210	We need more police presence in the downtown. We need to have more outreach for the growing homeless population. Most are terrified of going into a shelter. Cases of people in mental crisis just wandering the streets yelling at people, getting scary.
211	Building better infrastructure for Bicycles across the city. Constructing bikeways separated from car traffic would be a great idea and also help fight climate change as people would have an option of using bikes as means of transportation instead of cars
212	Climate change initiatives. In particular- The city should incentivize residents to invest in green energy/ home retrofits to reduce the burden on the electrical grid. This is something other communities are exploring. Federal programs are not enough.
213	Construction of new developments without the infrastructure to support the increase in population ie. roads, water, sewage
214	Climate Change and preserving our greenbelt, parks and green space.
215	Tax increases are driving the seniors out of our community
216	Crime
217	All age Community Building on Aldershot
218	Stop new builds in Millcroft

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219	We need better athletic facilities for our growing community. Our arenas are lacklustre when compared to the regions around us and we have no large scale facilities to serve our growing athletes.
220	Inflation and cost of living. Therefore NO INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAX. Our Mayor and Councilors need to make the tough decisions. 2023 tax increase was over the top and will affect my voting next time around.
221	Community rooms available to local groups who give back to communities
222	Appropriate tree care, no more plant and forget.
223	Reduce most bus routes during non rush hours, in order to reduce empty buses, and to save tax dollars. Prioritize services to save tax dollars.
224	CLIMATE CHANGE - Apartments need adequate cooling; alternative energy sources need to be made available for residents. The world is on fire and Burlington needs to do its part to help.
225	Climate change
226	Transit and protected bike lanes.
227	keeping in mind that are budget rate was 7 % this year, the ordinary working class cannot afford it to go any higher before we have to sell our homes
228	Try to eliminate urban sprawl and increase density to comply with the provincial housing crisis.
229	Opportunities to maintain or enhance services through productivity improvements (e.g. more effective and efficient use of labour and new technology)
230	Stop wasting tax \$\$ on electrification of the transit fleet and city vehicles. Canada and Burlington cannot save the planet while China continues to pollute at current levels. You are driving Burlington businesses out of business and then we import China
231	Crime & Poverty
232	Pay attention to the needs not the wants!
233	Over development of mixed use residential construction with zero consideration for combined retail uses. Existing plazas are being demolished and replaced with condos supported by no amenities. Totally unsustainable.
234	Better use of transportation making transit more reliable to get to and from GO Stns especially Appleby GO, if we want to reduce the amount of car traffic on our roads transit needs to be better equipped especially during rush hrs b/c back to in office.
235	Securing additional public space and parkland to support the intensification of development
236	There are more young families coming to Burlington so we need to focus on playgrounds and activities for young children. I've seen the city programs and most aren't needed. A lot of money is spent on duplicating services that the region does.
237	Road infrastructure & winter maintenance
238	Proposed tax increases for 2024 are OUTRAGEOUS. I do not support 7.82%. Any increase over 5% should require approval of 50% of residential property tax payers, increases over 4%, approval by 25%. The Mayor and council should take pay cuts.
239	We need increased housing and residential density in all neighbourhoods (change zoning), not just near the go station.
240	I do not mind the services at all but please explain why you are the highest paid mayor in Halton Region? Why are councillors making 100k? Why were there people over 100 additional positions ? No tax increase to accommodate salaries!
241	Safety
242	Homeless
243	Stop spending money where it doesn't need to be spent. E.g. pools that were fine, city hall was overimproved. You need to STOP!! we cannot afford these outrageous increases in property tax. Cut staff. Find efficiencies.
244	Keeping our taxes low so people can pay their mortgages and keep their homes. Lower mayor and councillors salaries in keeping with surrounding area. No unnecessary spending until inflation rate has stabilized.

Question 8:

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245	Cutting taxes. Raising taxes in order for city employees to get raises and make high incomes is not a priority. Some of us that work in healthcare get 1% raise per year. I have seen playgrounds s ripped apparent and replaced that didn't need replaying
246	The inability for residents to pay more taxes while already paying more for mortgages, gasoline, heating, hydro etc. etc. Many residents are struggling day to day and additional property taxes is NOT the answer. Reduce salaries and services before raising
247	I want the educational institutions to be funded for infrastructure and any other needs.
248	my taxes going up each year when the City is increasing home ownership which should reduce taxes as there are more people living in Burlington.
249	Cut taxes AND spending. Remove 10% of the bloated beauracrcy and staff. Reduce salaries starting with the mayor.
250	I have lived here 17 years and the property taxes increase every year. Road resurfacing on Guelph & Appleby Lines occur on a regular basis. Not once has Walkers Line been resurfaced. Even side streets like Palmer have been done.
251	Increasing Overpopulation and overbuilding. Too many high density type of housing developments are being built. Roads are getting too crowded. We don't have to tear down smaller structures to build megastructures. Increasing taxes is not the way to go.
252	Inflation levels vs tax increase.
253	Not increasing taxes over the cost of living.
254	Keep tax increases to a minimum. Staff salary increases should be minimized and in line with other towns
255	7.82 % tax increase is ludicrous and unfair for seniors and people on fixed incomes and limited resources. 32% over five years is also crazy and almost 50% of the budget going to salaries is crazy as is the mayors salary for what she does.
256	Increase tax by about 15% over the past 2 year is outrageous.
257	To much unchecked spending of tax payers money. Remove spending for the fallacy of man made climate change. It is un-affordable and un-proven.
258	Increased taxes at every level of government. creating increased poverty levels, especially for seniors.
259	Stop the over spending. It's as simple as that. We're being financially squeezed out of this community as lower income earners. The city has lost touch with its people. What you think we need is not really what we need.
260	Affordability, property taxes are regressive taxes that disproportionately affect lower income residents and thus any increases need to be very limited during this time of hyperflation and out of control cost of living
261	Fire and emergency services
262	Tax decreases
263	Inflation and the pressure it is putting on lower income families
264	Property taxes have raised too much in 2023 and too much for 2024 proposal, how do you justify increases above inflation when people are struggling with increasing mortgages sxcosts and food costs
265	The road infrastructure needs a lift up and stop wasting money on recreational activot6. Focus on one item for a year and get that running.
266	We are seniors, on a fixed income and cannot afford these continual property tax increases. The City needs to prioritise it's expenditure, just like we do and not spend so much on upgrades in one year.
267	Keep taxes as they are. People are struggling.
268	Huge increase in city taxes
269	I think we should consider whatever we can manage with our current budget because it is totally unreasonable to increase our taxes at this point in time. Far too many people have difficulty putting food on the table and paying for their mortgages..
270	Punishing tax increases. Cut out the fluff and get back to maintaining minimum tax increases during these difficult times.
271	Considering the high interest rates, it's fair to increase property taxes again as this is just going to the 106 new employees hired by the city.

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272	Remaining status quo in regards taxes. The 7% plus increase is ridiculous. Considering we are just out of a pandemic plus Bank mortgage increases. People are having a hard enough time making ends meet. Please give people a chance to catch up.
273	Please keep the property taxes down. We do not deserve an increase in taxes in the times that we are in. Highest ever mortgage rates as well as economic uncertainties.
274	Cutting the salaries of city staff right across the board, from the top to the bottom, especially the Mayor, she's over paid , although, I've voted for her in each election and she does a good job to high of a salary
275	All adult bikes should have front and back lights on when on the road. I had many close calls when I can not see them during the day. Note Nike death on Northshore
276	Safety
277	Increasing household property taxes by 32% over 5 years is unreasonable and totally blind to the fact that households have already been struggling with increases across the board.
278	I feel this tax increase is outrageous and I don't support it. I certainly do not support 32% or more over 5 yrs!!! In light of high inflation and lending rates as well as astronomical cost of living, residents cannot afford massive property tax hikes!
279	Property taxes are much too high and need to be reduced.
280	If not lowering taxes, then a REASONABLE tax increase.
281	While inflation is high, do not spend money on unnecessary projects like renovations/upgrades to parks like Landsdown. I'm on a fixed income and can't afford large tax increases. 2023 tax increases was already painful and another one for 2024 is hurtful.
282	Focus on improving efficiency of services being provided. Doing so surely would result in cost savings and improvements of services being provided. Look at waste collection, now that is efficiency.
283	municipal taxes are too high. Please help lower our taxes.
284	Maintain property tax levels, cannot afford an increase.
285	Improving public transit and road safety
286	Snow cleaning
287	Keeping property taxes from increasing again while most of us are struggling to afford groceries.
288	I feel that continued tax increases beyond what has already been done are unreasonable when so many other expenses for daily living have also increased but income increases are no where close to covering the gap.
289	Unreasonable increases in taxation. Everyone but the City of Burlington seems to be exploring ways of controlling cost. Council continues to show alarming disregard for the challenges faced by residents.
290	The fixed mortgage interest rate hikes will not allow me to increase my property tax payments. No don't raise them. Freeze them and reassess in 2026
291	DO NOT increase our TAXES
292	Taxes are too high, your employees are too many and absorbing too much of our tax dollars. Time to downsize. Can't continue like this, our wages aren't keeping up.
293	Maintaining service levels without excessive spending on infrastructure and other large projects that could potentially wait until the current economic situation settles down.
294	Reducing the budget
295	Policing (We need a bigger presence considering the amount of theft going on).
296	One decrease the amount the Mayor receives in salary. Two in all the years she has been in the roads have NOT been paved. Three City Hall did Not need that much done to it spend the money more wisely and stop raising taxes on regular people that can't i
297	The people in your city are struggling, prioritize them. They can't afford groceries, gas, mortgages and the city wants to increase their taxes, again.
298	Spending and tax increases that take into consideration the inflated cost of living of residents. See below...
299	Keeping costs down. We can't afford these huge tax hikes.
300	High rate of taxation, high rate of council salaries, bloated staff levels at city Hall. eliminate positions, too much duplication

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301	Control of bureaucratic bloat and pay of top elected officials.
302	Do NOT raise property taxes
303	Until interest rates and inflation come come down, I think the City should also make compromises and decrease spending
304	Property tax proposal is outrageous, after last year who in their right mind thought another huge hike was realistic?
305	Stop increasing taxes homeowners are overburdened,
306	Affordable housing
307	helping low income people and seniors
308	bad roads (pot holes etc.)
309	Spending Control and fiscal responsibility: The mayor and her team need to control spending across the board and limit any increase to 3% - they need to do more for less! Since this mayor has been in spending has significantly increased.
310	wasteful spending eg painting chevrons in front of speed bumps / ridiculous action and east
311	Adding more outdoor recreational activities in summer- for eg tennis lessons etc. Right now outdoor is restricted to pickle ball and volleyball
312	With the already significant increase in the cost of living folks are struggling to find the money to support themselves and their families. DO NOT increase property taxes yet a 2nd year. Freeze them!
313	Lack of housing/rental units
314	keep taxes as low as possible so we can afford to live here.
315	excessive housing. the 'crisis' is over-building the city. the constant increase in population is unsustainable.
316	The size of government has increased but the service level has stayed the same. At this point in time, it's important to find ways to reduce waste and focus on fiscal restraint to prevent taxes from making life in Burlington more expensive.
317	Cut down on spending and tax increases until such time Bank of Canada rate goes down. Households have to curb their spending to meet their financial obligations and our City Council should be doing the same
318	Maintaining current tax levels
319	Reducing property taxes or maintaining the increase we just received. It is very hard trying to live on a single income with all these increases. Everything has gone up in price but not our salaries to keep up with this ridiculous inflation.
320	That our mayor and council STOP wasting our tax dollars. A great example is work recently done to Hurd avenue, repairs and road completely resurfaced and paved problem is not 10 months ago crew were here resurfacing 80% of the road only to be rippeded .
321	NOT to increase taxes! And that's the consensus of the shoreacres neighborhood
322	I've lived in Burlington the majority of my 61 years and my greatest pride was the purchase of my first house. But the pandemic has financially challenged so many of the residents . Property taxes will be increased as we deal with higher interest rates.
323	Reduce property taxes for seniors
324	Build more houses, development charges should be reduced and then you collect the taxes. Burlington is known as having road blocks to obtain permits
325	Maintain or reduce property tax to relieve already immense financial burden on families.
326	Property taxes are too high for quality and quantity of services.
327	People are not able to afford tax increases like this. Think of ways to get into longer term contracts with lesser cost and better quality. Think of ways to invest in instruments which increase the corpus faster to avoid such radical tax increases.
328	Lowering our taxes. The almost 6% increase seen this year and the proposed additional 6% this year is insane. We have well paying jobs and this is unsustainable and unaffordable. The price of food and gas is out of control
329	Too many chiefs at city hall, cut salaries and streamline staff, too many people getting paid for doing nothing!
330	winter maintenance

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331	Affordable housing - rental prices are way too high. People in minimum wage jobs cannot afford to rent a place to live. I'm concerned about my children's future and their ability to rent/own housing
332	greenbelt
333	Prioritize budget in fiscally responsible manor by raising property taxes no more than the rate of inflation and cutting services if needed
334	auditing Staffing of City of Burlington
335	Do not raise house taxes since they just recently went up.
336	repetition of services needs to be stopped. Re paving or cleaning the same roads and rec centre parking lots eats up \$\$\$.
337	Do not increase property taxes!!!
338	Property Taxes
339	please we are already under pressure, my mortgage has been increase more than 40%, I'm making 110k per year my wife is making like 35K, with all that I'm not able to cater three kids with the basics. just wait until the interest rate stop
340	I don't think anything increasing is important if it means increasing taxes. Keeping your residents from losing their homes and leaving Burlington should be your number one concern
341	Leading design in Major Transit Areas to ensure we are building active communities. Increasing tree canopy coverage and parklands. Build for future extreme weather such as putting power lines underground & storm water management when replacing roads etc.
342	We have lived here for 37 years in our 1200 SF bungalow, our taxes are \$6000/yr we are on a fixed income. When we were working in tough times we got 10% pay cuts, three times in 10 years. Stop spending money, lower my taxes I can not make any more cash !!
343	deal with petty crime we never had. People are losing their homes as prices of everything is going up. Coordinating with major suppliers of services like hydro etc so that our roads dont get paved. Planning for 50 yrs not 10.
344	Reduce property taxes and adjust services accordingly. No need to hire more staff if that represents increase in taxes. More taxes are leaving people with no money, triggering poverty and delinquency. Municipality should be an ally not a problem.
345	City employees pay from the top to bottom should be reviewed to ensure they are fair but not excessive
346	DO NOT INCREASE TAXES!!!
347	I think raising our taxes 7.82% in this economic climate is absolutely ludicrous! What are you thinking? People are possibly losing their homes because of mortgage rates increases and you want to put them under more strain???
348	Key issue is affordability. With a proposed tax increase of 7.82, after a previous increase of 7.58 is ludicrous. With record inflation and high interest rates, the mayor must be living in a bubble if she thinks residents can afford this.
349	Reducing the tax rate. Salaries and staffing levels are way too high.
350	The city must be aware of the current recessionary environment. No increase to taxes. There should be a simplified feedback loop for new development projects. Ensuring that any development projects have a traffic flow study done prior to acceptance.
351	Reducing carbon foot print,/becoming a greener city, eg. by providing incentives for people to use public transportation
352	No more tax hikes! Already went up 7%. Things are fine right now
353	Downtown Burlington has been destroyed. We have lost that small town feel. Stop wasting our money on vanity projects like art installations, rainbow crosswalks and climate change. Windrow plows blades are a priority.
354	Make sure all residents maintain there property to a as respectable level. Even if they are renting the unit
355	Increasing taxes.

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356	Taxes and addressing the growing homeless population and panhandling in our City. It's unacceptable. Human health hazards, trash, property damage, drug usage are a growing problem as a result of the homeless population.
357	Please don't increase taxes at a time when we are already being squeezed for our mortgages and inflation remains at record levels. Consider budget cuts elsewhere in your management.
358	maintain taxes at the current level
359	Education. Schools in the public system are old and run down. I.e. Pineland
360	Greater density throughout the City, not just along the Plains Road / Fairview Street corridor. Also if trees are so important, require new development to increase the calibre of trees planted, and require species that can grow larger.
361	Climate change
362	Servicing seniors in their residences. Do not allow serves to relocate leaving seniors without access to easy shopping, health services and leisure activities.
363	Downtown is becoming uninspired and vacant. We need more independent business and that requires down the entire Brant space to be affordable. The fact that our population under 50 feels they need to go to Toronto or Hamilton for "culture" is a joke.
364	Tax rate consistent with the rate of current inflation. I am not in favour of a 7% tax rate increase two years in a row.
365	Housing and affordable housing. Renting included.
366	Without further increasing taxes attempt to maintain Burlington as a lovely city in which to raise a family.. Each City Department should be mandated to reduce their budget by 10% for 2024. & this should be written into their work plan for assessing perf5
367	planning for future
368	VFM -- Value For Money. Is each Dollar spent by the City getting an optimum level of return on it?
369	need more housing - reduce red tape in Geritting building permits
370	Cost of living. City out of touch with the reality of its residences when it comes to taxation.
371	Burlington communities are well functioning with good infrastructure. Maintaining current service levels is the key. Climate change initiatives not supported by scientific evidence should be set aside in light of the hard economy.
372	Increase the upkeep for the current Parks and Recreation areas including Tyandaga Golf Course.
373	Staffing levels are too high, compensation for staff is too high. In person service from staff has diminished significantly. Staff should be on site, not working from home. I use my time to go to your offices during your hours, you need to be there too.
374	Increase the number and size of dog parks and build hills the parks for winter toboggans for children.
375	Don't waste money on pilot projects without proper studies, having things implemented and then removed is very costly to the tax payers (bike lanes on New Street).
376	Traffic - roads are getting too crowded. Too much development in the downtown.
377	Sustainable Development
378	A reduction in wages salaries and benefits
379	Traffic. Population is growing and congestion is increasing. Need ways to improve traffic flow. Best thing the city could do for climate change
380	Getting the budget increases back inline with the cost of inflation. Budget increases of 8-10% are not acceptable. Burlington has a high number of seniors, many of whom are on fixed incomes.
381	Reducing Taxes. Too many families are experiencing hardship with inflation and the increased cost of living. For the city to continue to raise taxes even higher than the rate of inflation is ridiculous and is creating more strain on families.
382	Gridlock . Change the Lakeshore at Spencer Smith park back to 2 lanes. Stop the high density building in Aldershot and downtown.

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383	Keeping tax increases down, paying for what we need , not what we want. It is getting to the point that we might have to move because of the increases for things we DO NOT need.
384	Affordable housing
385	Burlington
386	traffic management - cars, trucks and public transit need to run more efficiently across the city to reduce pollution and frustration, encouraging business investment and enjoyment.
387	Reduce taxes as we are all hurting and cannot afford taxes
388	Ensure large building are built outside the downtown city. Infrastructure maintenance.
389	Bylaw enforcement, there are far too many things not being dealt with regarding noise, pollution, and dangers the police say are bylaw issues.
390	Affordability in Burlington is difficult. Do not increase taxes.
391	Over taxation and too many staff and services we don't need
392	Keeping the city running efficiently, clean and liveable with a focus on maintaining green space
393	Traffic flow
394	Active transportation - As our density intensifies, our ability to get around in vehicles slows down....even the buses slow down...we need actual safe infrastructure to cycle and walk
395	Infrastructure and transportation (more environmentally friendly projects)
396	Increase in street parking for paid permits to collect added revenue and help residents have more parking (adult kids are living at home longer and not enough parking in our household)
397	Cost of living
398	Not enough plows in snowstorms, and constant power outages.
399	Address climate change and the related future problems.
400	Affordable housing
401	reduce taxes
402	Traffic flow. Use waze data or do something to optimize traffic on existing roads. The province is demanding density increases. The entire city is becoming grid locked.
403	We need more bike paths that work and are safe. We are seniors and just returned from a trip east. We found many two lane bike paths on one side of the road worked very well and felt safe with barriers separating the cars from the bikes.
404	Fix roads and eliminate buses. Most buses drive around empty.
405	Maintenance of accessibility for neighbourhoods:
406	gridlock
407	Senior services
408	Rapidly rising taxes! Any organization's principal cost is personnel. I would like to see a serious effort made to reduce city personnel, especially at the administrative/managerial level.
409	Update the hydro grid to support the future number of EV's as Canada is phasing out ICE's. If you don't do it now - it will be too late and costly later.
410	Keep property taxes at current level as the cost of living has not kept pace with wages.
411	I truly have a concern with the time frame the city deals with issuing building permits. I recommend a CONCIERGE service to ease going through City, region, NEC and CH. our friends have experienced 3 years to get permits.
412	Decrease taxes
413	Too much taxation
414	too many very tall buildings being built. I d
415	Stop loss of green belt land for development
416	The increase in the expansion of the city north of Dundas St and the increased traffic flow South of the QEW to the Go Train stations and further to downtown.
417	Road Infrastructure

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418	Tree replanting & not twigs, especially downtown. More & more 100+ year old trees are being removed & not replaced. Atrocious!
419	1. Road network: It's so congested in Burlington that my husband is willing to move elsewhere to get away from the traffic congestion. 2. Recreational services: cost of living is high and we don't have the money to pay for activities for our kids.
420	TAXES ARE INCREASING AT AN ALARMING RATE THIS PAST YEAR.
421	Environmental concerns.
422	The current streets and roads are insufficient to move around this city. The lights are poorly timed, downtown has become a nightmare to drive into and park and the streets north of the QEW are in terrible shape. Enhance the infrastructure to move people!
423	Lower taxes so people can afford to live in Burlington,
424	cost of living
425	Tax increases that I will not be able to afford in the future. Private pension will never increase from the amount I received when I originally retired.
426	Aldershot area needs more services for seniors. Also would like to see affordable rent, condos, housing so that seniors wanting to downsize can continue to live in Burlington. Perhaps that's not part of the budget but for many of us it's a reality.
427	The city is divided by the QEW, all the effort is in the rich portion of the city, there have not been improvements in the area where I live, in fact it is not well maintained from an infrastructure and cleanliness perspective.
428	To be able to maintain current service levels without increasing taxes beyond inflation levels.
429	As we continue to develop and add housing - infrastructure needs to be included - the west end is no longer walkable- there are no restaurants, coffee shops, community centres for seniors to enjoy the area
430	More control on spending and budgets. Do away with the many vanity projects (i.e. Bateman Community Centre) that are just eating up capital and will only serve a small portion of our community.
431	I understand that the city is considering another large tax increase. Poor timing with a large increase last year. Cut service rather than increase taxes.
432	Cost of living is out of control. DO NOT RAISE TAXES! They are high enough as is. Quit wasting money on sidewalk snow removal across the entire city, focus on major routes only. Encourage departments to find efficiencies to maintain service levels
433	Wasteful public transit spending. Buses are largely empty most of the time - eliminate buses on all the routes without adequate ridership - provide tokens/subsidies for alternative transit (taxi, Uber, etc.) on demand. Hydrogen buses rather than battery
434	Improving the waterfront. Add a marina at Spencer Smith and eliminate all the circus tents, food trucks, etc.
435	None. Maintain level for important items, decrease for not so important ones.
436	The need to approve development applications without political interference.
437	Property taxes increasing 7 percent a year for 3 years
438	Stop mediocre playground "upgrades" that are disappointing and absolutely uninspiring. Put the money towards fewer playground renovations but make them better! Take a look at Toronto, Oakville or anywhere in the world. Burlington's playgrounds are boring.
439	After last year's tax increase, we need cost saving measures to avoid another increase. It just isn't sustainable for most in our communities.
440	Financial prudence and preparation for a recession and falling revenues,
441	Taxes are too high for the services we get. I have looked at the staffing levels and many have far too many people in them for the size of the overall workforce, the levels of service we get and for the size of the city.
442	Improve bike lanes to allow safer bicycle traffic around/across the city.
443	Flooding and fires have been happening on a regular basis and I think it is important to keep and grow our green spaces as well as invest in energy efficiency to combat the toll on our natural resources and earth.
444	Reduce property taxes. Each department needs to review their budget and look for opportunities to cut costs specifically by reducing the number of staff.

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445	Climate change!! We need to invest in green energy, more trees, and planning in case of natural disasters.
446	Urban density and infill housing is a significant concern and should be aggressively managed to maintain livability and the capacity of already challenged infrastructure.
447	Stop city salary hikes on the backs of struggling residents. Think about the effect that a 7% tax increase has on fixed income seniors like me who are struggling with interest rates and the cost of food and fuel. I cant afford another hike of over 3%
448	Poor survey w/o comments after questions, so will add here: 1-need larger recycling bins with lids or use bags, need weekly garbage collection; 2/3-need innovation in permeable roads not toxic asphalt and useless bike lanes; 4-NO PANDEMIC PLANNING cont'd
449	stop wasting money. sit back re-evaluate.
450	Reduction of property taxes. Especially for senior who must survive on a very fixed income. Seniors CPP, OAS and GIS do NOT increase to the level at which City of Burlington has in recent years increased property taxes beyond acceptable levels.
451	Address ballooning city operating costs especially city employee head count
452	Managing growth so as not to adversely affect traffic flow and to maintain the family- oriented feel that the City used to have
453	should be an overall cut in the number of staff and employees at all levels of the city government. Generally the service is poor anyway, so it's difficult to understand why so many people are employed to provide "poor"services.
454	Road congestion especially travelling across (W/E) the city.
455	Traffic in Burlington is a nightmare. Something needs to be done.
456	More water features in parks- just small areas. Most summers it gets too hot to access our lovely parks that you are renovating. Small splash pad features would definitely increase use.
457	Traffic and narrow streets around downtown area ie plains rd east, brant, fairview etc
458	Infrastructure must keep up the pace with population growth
459	By law enforcement
460	Climate catastrophe
461	Infrastructure is the most important. Keep service levels as they are but if inflation is an issue than taxes need to go up. Rural Active Transportation plan needs support and implementation in 2024. Slowing traffic on No. 1 side road good start this year
462	addressing homelessness
463	Climate change
464	Well ventilated buildings
465	Development Control - are there a height & density Bylaw restrictions in place?
466	The province is starving municipalities of funds and forking them over to private developers.
467	Find efficiencies to maintain current tax and service levels. Find efficiencies to maintain current tax and service levels. Find efficiencies to maintain current tax and service levels. Find efficiencies to maintain current tax and service levels.
468	Fix traffic issues. Remove all Bike lanes as many roads (Appleby) lost a full car lane for a bike lane that 1 or 2 people a month use. Burlington is big and bus transit cannot be counted on. Cars are required to work, shop and get around with more grow
469	The cost of living.
470	Reduce property taxes
471	Over development without matching infrastructure
472	Housing and poverty. I am aware housing may not be a municipal responsibility but these things need to be looked at.

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473	Salaries for city staff (Mayor, councillors, chief officers) are way too high compared to cities of similar size. There are plenty of people out there who can do just as good a job (or better) for less pay similar population size.
474	Climate change is the biggest threat to our world and therefore the most important issue facing our community. City Council should give the greatest attention to anything that would reduce our effect of climate change such as buying electric vehicles.
475	addressing the potential impacts of climate change on the environment and how it will affect our community
476	Protect environment/add green space, lack of homelessness services. One shelter in Halton fails to meet the need
477	Animal services. There are SO many coyotes and we have been followed by one sick looking one in particular. I called animal services three times. They will not come get it unless it is dead. I am worried for our safety as it followed my baby and I.
478	In a cost of living crisis, we should do so much better with existing resources and taxes. All cities in Canada have far too much useless bureaucracy and slowdowns that stop us from having effective solutions. Do better.
479	Coyote control
480	How to afford continual aggressive tax hikes on a pension
481	Spending on large items without truth, transparency and public consultation (ie. Bateman property)
482	Vanity projects such as the Performing Arts Center, the Pier, the Museum renovations and now Bateman should be stopped. Just maintain what we have for a few years.
483	Revitalize downtown and reduce condos
484	The most important issue facing my community, given the City's scope, is the reliability of infrastructure especially power. Every year the downtown area experiences numerous power outages sometimes without there even being a storm.
485	Glenwood School Park is neglected. It has the worse playground in Burlington and it's a community with dozens of families. It's ugly, poorly maintained, cables hanging everywhere, homeless people littering the community, drugs on the ground.
486	Traffic control
487	Affordable housing, support for expanding recreation for all ages/abilities, hiring excellent & creative city staff, lobbying other levels of govt effectively to support civic services, esp. reinstating smart legislation like development charges fund.
488	Managing the roads and transit infrastructure to help people move across Burlington more efficiently
489	Climate change initiatives such as preparing for extreme weather events, maintaining/increasing tree canopy, water conservation, etc.
490	The lack of available turf fields in the winter
491	Graffiti is taking over the downtown area. Parking downtown Burlington is getting more difficult. We need to cut the property tax increases.
492	Over development in the downtown. My street is insanely busy with cars zipping through to avoid new street traffic. Calming measures need to be in place in all side streets in downtown core. Especially Caroline Street at Bridgeman
493	Keeping the Burlington feel, not over developing and causing traffic issues. Not building monster apartment buildings
494	Property taxes. City council needs to manage our tax dollars more efficiently. In todays economy sometimes we need to make cuts, and not just go to the property owners for the money .Sharpen your pencils people .There are cuts you can make.
495	Reduce Burlington taxpayer load! A 7.82% tax hike for 2024 and 32% increase over 5 years is ridiculous, especially given the typical level of service provided by our city and the 2024 proposed tax hikes of surrounding communities. Get creative, MM!

Question 8:

As a resident of Burlington, what is the most important issue facing your community, that is, the one issue you feel should receive the greatest attention from your City Council and should be a priority in the 2024 budget?

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496	Stop increasing property taxes at a level far exceeding other municipalities in Ontario. There's no excuse for nearly 8% increase this year and another planned for next. No other GGTA municipality is doing it.
497	Stop spending money on non necessary items, sophisticated renovating Park play grounds repeatedly when not necessary. Stop building bike lanes everywhere, they only increase traffic congestion. Increase Lakeshore road to 2 lanes each way between Maple and
498	I think we need to allocate more resources to address homelessness and food insecurity within the community.
499	Affordable housing
500	Does the CFO live in Burlington? How many senior staff live in Burlington?
501	Fiscal responsibility, restraint. The over saturation of condominiums in the downtown core!
502	More splash pads in south burlington
503	Our trust in local politicians to spend our tax money wisely and in common sense situations
504	Cutting costs, life is getting too expensive in Burlington
505	Addressing climate change and ways to reduce waste/use of plastics move to more sustainable practices and renewable energy
506	I find that resident shrubbery impinges on sidewalk walkers in many place downtown area. The property owner should be requested to respect the bylaws and keep their sidewalks clear of snow and vegetation.
507	Manage budget to not further increase property taxes. Further taxation to support a desired budget is not a long term solution.
508	The maintain and the upgrade of our roads
509	Dependence on the auto-mobile as the only way of getting around
510	More supports for cancer patients! Wellspring is always full/booked. So many have cancer and not enough support.
511	Make it easier/faster/more streamlined to obtain permits/city services and re-examine the current outdated bylaws (ie the tree bylaw that forced us to pay to cut down a tree on our property - ridiculous)
512	Property tax increase should not be above Consumer Price Index. Cut the staff if you do not have enough money.
513	Bike lanes should be separated from car traffic, and all major intersections should accommodate this, and be made safer for both cyclists and pedestrians.
514	Maintaining fiscal control, and ensuring Burlington Council is able to set and follow important priorities.
515	Traffic congestion.
516	There needs to be an understanding that choking off traffic to build unused bike lanes does nothing to help climate change. If you want to do this you need to enforce no bikes on sidewalks.
517	Prevent further high-rises
518	Road repair. despite current levels we appear to be losing the battle
519	Most important issue is yourself.
520	just moved here. haven't lived in burlington for 7 years. Not sure
521	Assisting the homeless
522	Waste in spending and inefficiencies in service delivery
523	More green space with splash pads
524	Quality of hydro service (multiple outages per year)
525	Road network, current residents who can not afford increasing property taxes, a mayor and council who spend too much money
526	Affordable housing
527	Inflation is killing the middle class and we are already taxed to death. We cannot afford an increase in taxes along with everything else that has increased.
528	Prepare to deal with extreme weather events -- drought/fires, mega rain storms/floods, severe wind storms/tornados, ice storms/electrical power failures and other severe weather impacts of climate change.

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529	Maintaining or decreasing property taxes.
530	The city needs to manage our money better, i.e. upgrading Plains Road with a bike lane and separation poles. How long will the poles last before being hit by vehicles
531	Ensure the city does not have an escalation in homelessness.
532	increasing the efficiency of all departments that have an impact on servicing the citizens of Burlington, eg. permits, etc.
533	Creating a sustainable community that minimizes green house gases.
534	Maintening infrastructure, particularly roads such as Walkers Line that is in dire need of proper repair
535	managing traffic flow - many commuters use Burlington as a through way we need ways to prevent reckless driving through residential neighbours and better management of traffic issues from the QEW/Construction
536	Main focus should be enhancing infrastructure and roads in downtown core. Attention is currently on building highrises however traffic comes to a standstill as roads are at or above capacity on a regular basis in downtown core.
537	Smart traffic lights to improve vehicular flow and ease rush hour congestion. Install traffic circles wherever possible.
538	Developers who will not abide by the city's desire to expand but maintain a livable city . Burlington wastes money having to oppose the developers.
539	You must reduce property taxes, you are taxing people out of their homes
540	supporting vulnerable populations somehow - those experiencing homelessness, immigrants, disadvantaged youth, substance abuse, poverty
541	Increase in property tax to limited income disabled homeowners who are not 65 years of age.
542	Make Robert Bateman into an affordable housing building, quit with the bike lanes which impede traffic flow & are only useful in summer months. Stop spending my dollars on sculptures and artwork until there is more money available is
543	Safety in the community for both children, adults and their pets.
544	Services for the homeless such as shelters and low income housing. Presently we have people living in the Go Stations until they are kicked out at 6 am or in tents. Most homeless get taken to Hamilton. We should look after our own!
545	climate change initiatives, energy efficient buildings, tree planting
546	Traffic light sequencing. Way to many red lights. Have the line flow that if you go the speed limit as steady ride through will work. Traffic flow needs to improve SO many traffic infraction that are not caught.
547	The downtown core is being ruined by Condos. There should be a maximum number of floors, not the huge buildings being built. Had there been any planning as to the increased traffic in the core. We are staring to resemble Mississauga, a concrete jungle..
548	Traffic flow and congestion through the City. With extreme weather comes far to many electrical power outages
549	To decrease over development of Aldershot west of Water down Rd. Plains Rd. Simply cannot handle more density. For future developments, it should be on the developers to pay for all new infrastructure required for their new development, not tax dollars.
550	Reducing light intensity. The majority of businesses in Burlington light their properties with ultra-bright, unshielded bulbs. This is very unhealthy for both people and wildlife and makes Burlington ugly. Please revisit/enforce 2009 Lighting Guidelines.
551	Traffic congestion and services expansion for the increased population
552	Improving community connections
553	Handling population growth, distribution and supporting this with City Services and proactive planning.
554	Increasing green space

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555	As a +30 year resident of Burlington, for both my and my family's needs I have zero complaints about how our City functions or the services that we are provided. I do think that we should not be draining our reserve funds as much as we have been doing.
556	The most important issue facing our community is the 7.5% tax increase last year and the proposed 8% in the coming year. This is outrageous. Please stop spending money on frivolities such as art at centres, especially when it's not even local artists.
557	Preparation for climate change events. South Burlington and the power line/trees situation is hydro accidents waiting to happen, yet new trees continue to be planted under lines so I feel we're mismanaging tree planting. Power outages are a problem..
558	Affordable housing for low income disadvantaged residents
559	We need to incentivize walking and biking. Particularly in north Burlington. We need a safe walking biking path to connect north and south Burlington over or under the QEW.
560	Burlington Hydro. We need to upgrade the system but we also need to have the ability to contact someone there when an issue arises.
561	Our roads. You increase housing, but not roads. The traffic is ridiculous and nothing is being done about it. You need to create proper turning lanes, widen the roads, analyze the lights to make sure more traffic gets through to improve time.
562	accessibility
563	maintaining infrastructure and keeping taxes as low as possible
564	Maintain livability standards that Burlington has achieved. Control density and since cars are important, parking is important to visit and do business.
565	Fiscal responsibility.
566	Shorten city permit processing times
567	Being the same team for the last several years you need to bring back taxes where they should be and do a better evaluation of the expenses. Last 5 years 1.96-2.43-2.50-2.84-7.44- and going to 7.84. Our expenses never doubled?
568	Paletta Lake Front Park, wood chips on pathway from new bridge to old bridge. Weed pulling and fixing broken bricks on walkway to mansion. Parks that need work done, was not on the list.
569	Exorbitant increase in property taxation owing to inability of council and mayor to address only needed municipal services. Too much money is being spent on woke programs.
570	Having read the 2024 BMA report, it is obvious that the city is under severe budget pressure. It is time for city council to exercise restraint. This means a pause on bike lanes, no "vanity" projects like the redesign of city square, etc.
571	Protecting the Greenbelt and encouraging the construction of more affordable apartment complexes
572	Make Burlington streets safe for cyclists. Bike lanes are the bare minimum and aren't even that safe, separated paths are the only real solution. ESPECIALLY ON A STREET AS BUSY AS FAIRVIEW!!
573	I see a lot of our tax dollars going to fund special projects and special interest groups. As well, the number of staff at the City continues to grow and their wages get higher. I see workers doing less in many areas. I would like to see more accountability
574	Getting back to maintaining the street scapes of neighborhoods. City planners need to take a step back and think about what they are approving.
575	Infrastructure around Appleby and Upper Middle area given the approved housing projects. Traffic is chaotic in this area all day long and it is not safe to ride bikes. The gas line trail through the Orchard neighbourhood doesn't connect all the way through
576	Parks and green spaces
577	Rebuilding the downtown core. Too many high rise buildings being proposed. We must keep the downtown core inviting for all and not turn it into just a place to live. Examples of good examples Oakville and Port Credit downtown. Bad example square one.
578	Do not increase taxes

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579	Proper, usable, safe multiuse paths and bike lanes. Feels like nothing will change unless somebody gets killed by motorists. Please make bike lanes wider, clearly marked and "connected" so that my family can bike safely without going on the car lane.
580	Efficiency, the city needs to work on becoming more efficient, better use of technology and holding people accountable for work output
581	The influx of immigration is putting a strain on the roads and increasing traffic.
582	Increasing traffic flow around the city with properly timed lights. Investment should be made in additional traffic studies and upgrade to existing automation system (assuming there is one). Driving accross this city is a nightmare!
583	Increasing density in the urban core and midtown Burlington - stop delaying condo developments. Our young people need places to live that are not million dollar + detached homes.
584	Do NOT increase our Taxes
585	Road congestion
586	Do nor spend another nickel on DEI or Climate change initiatives.
587	Infrastructure
588	Too much urban density is planned for Burlington in the future. Traffic is a nightmare, reduce planned urban density projects.
589	Safety around car thefts and high rise condo construction should be limited.
590	Lack of affordable housing for current burlington residence. Never mind an influx of immigrant population forced by the Ontario government. The city of Burlington promised to reduce downtown development. That has been a lie.
591	Further promotion of accessible public transit to all residents, including working adults and families in addition to current enhancements being provided to youth and seniors.
592	Roads and parking area of many shopping plaza needs maintenance badly. Many of them are broken,full of wide cracks and crater like potholes. They are safety hazard and I come across them every now and then.From last two years I have not seen improvement!m
593	Lowering property taxes
594	Cut some of the bureaucracy at city hall and throughout the city. I frequent a particular facility and I've never seen the visible staff work a full day. Cut staff and make them actually work!!!
595	More bike racks and bike fixing stations, connecting the current bike trails and having more trails like Oakville does, reducing cannabis stores, getting empty stores and buildings filled with businesses.
596	Stop the greenbelt steel. I'm proud of our mayor and council that stand up to this theft
597	Library
598	Housing infill projects (i.e. don't expand urban boundary while building housing in mix use, walkable neighborhoods) and increasing transit service levels
599	housing strategy that maintains community standards
600	Bylaw enforcement. No point in having bylaws if residents can do whatever they want. Parking; sidewalk & blvd maintenance; stopping at stop signs; riding bikes on the road; walking dogs on leashes (and picking up after them).
601	I don't see anything regarding the increase the efficiency of how the city operates. The knee jerk reaction is to raise taxes, or slash services.
602	Hold municipal house & Property taxes! Never fund breakwaters on Non-Burlington Land and Private Limited Marina's or other non Burlington projects
603	Deepening affordability crisis leading to poverty, unstable family environments and mental/drug issues on youth leading to rising criminality in years to come.
604	Climate change initiatives
605	Cost of living! Adding more condos at ridiculous prices and increasing cost of home owner rates by way more than needed however, minimum wage is staying the same. You need to take into account peoples lives and the future of our young children.

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606	We need a better response from Animal Control. Today we called about a very sick thin coyote in our neighbourhood on MacKay Court near Shoreacres Creek and was told they do nothing. This animal is dangerous and may have rabies. Terrible response.
607	Pushing for more intensification of our existing low density residential areas. We need more housing types and options.
608	Keeping tax increase at or below inflation
609	cost of living.
610	Climate change readiness - flood risk. The city should also put pressure on Burlington Hydro to improve services since outages are very common and more severe weather puts above ground lines more at risk
611	enhanced programs for eco friendly projects, grants and subsidies for things such as heat pumps, solar panels, EV chargers,
612	Transit. Instead of reducing service. Sell the big buses and use mid-size van.
613	Affordability
614	Traffic flow
615	Add bike paths along all creeks. Create a bike networks that is physically separated from the roads.
616	Enforcement of noise by-laws 24/7.
617	As a pensioner my priority is to maintain my standard of living. In Burlington that means ease of mobility & accessibility, ease of access to public transit, and SHELTERS at ALL bus stops! Route buses THROUGH neighborhoods NOT around them! Thanks.
618	Climate change and maintaining what ever green belt that we can
619	Maintaining support of Arts and Cultural plus Recreation are the paths to building community involvement and we know now after Covid that this aspect of Burlington is vital and growing, so we need to support it in order to thrive.
620	More city oversight of contracted services to ensure job is being done correctly. Need to reconsider any new spending in view of financial stress many people are under due to inflation. Let's concentrate on "needs" and not "nice to have".
621	Very few city garbage cans in aldershot neighborhood
622	Community centres
623	More walkable transportation in the city. More orbs rather than bike lanes. No one wants their young adults riding their bike on the road (regardless of a bike lane being present)
624	'+GHG emission reduction, -suspend \$ on aesthetics and art work for 3 years, better education on waste seperationn
625	Preparing for climate change by investing in green infrastructure, EV charging, reducing carbon footprints, increasing public transit
626	High rise over development in the downtown core
627	ensure that builders are providing and city enforcing/creating bylaws to ensure necessary amounts of parking, greenspace, pedestrian and bike zones and sidewalks to manage impacts of increased population, and density
628	housing
629	Cost control
630	Traffic flow and management
631	For the North Aldershot area needs internet addressed. This is a up an coming area for the Major Transit Station Area. Without water, sewers and internet this less attract consumers for development in this area.
632	We are becoming overpopulated, too many high rises and no extra roads to support growth. It takes far too long to get around the city and commuting is a nightmare; one accident and our roads are paralyzed.
633	Green space protection and beautification. Cycling infrastructure
634	Maintaining roads and making sure traffic lights are in sync.
635	Housing for all levels of income
636	Affordable Housing and related zoning

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637	No backbone to cut services (such as transit), staff / salaries, needless legal costs and decrease /eliminate special attention and costs to the pride movement. Burlington has many marginalized so do them all or not at all.ion to ial attent
638	Maintain easy access, parking, etc to the downtown core.
639	Better facilities
640	Increase forestry department budget. Save and preserve our trees and greenspaces
641	Transportation. As more homes are built we need to accommodate increase in traffic. Also more budget for keeping city clean... litter is often a problem so more or better garbage receptacles and more frequent pickup.
642	Maintaining and repairing infrastructure.
643	Public safety. Please continue to support policing and general safety efforts. Keep speeding down on major roadways, maintain or increase police presence in neighbourhoods and public places. Install cameras to assist in security.
644	As an Aldershot resident, my key desire is to have a grocery store in my neighborhood, driving a minimum of 4 km to get a "loaf of bread" is ridiculous, and it certainly does not help with climate change initiatives. Create more live/work/play areas.
645	Minimize property tax increases by reducing/deferring spending.
646	A 7+%property tax increase is inappropriate at a time when inflation is impacting us so significantly. As a senior in a fixed income , I have no way to increase my income to offset the increase in taxes.
647	Road network - it is NOT easy to get around this City between 3-6pm. Recreation services are primarily geared towards kids and seniors. You're missing a whole demographic of Adult singles who pay taxes and aren't seeing any value.
648	Increase in traffic
649	Maintenance of public spaces (eg parks)
650	Transit,
651	the Integrated mobility plan and the financial plan to implement it is referred to several times in the 2023 cap budget. Going forward ... What is the financial plan? Without a FP it is just a dream.itt
652	Hold tax increases to a reasonable level - over 7% increase once is too much, twice is unacceptableeceptable particularly when everyone is struggling with cost of everything i
653	Local climate change mitigation and adaptation
654	Action and investment to address climate change and biodiversity loss, and greenspace protection and restoration. Effective local community engagement is key.
655	Climate change. First and foremost above all else.
656	Climate change mitigation
657	Dense road traffic. We seem to be building only high rises and allowing huge population density growth and Burlington does not seem to have the infrastructure for it yet. We are taking away potential green spaces for cramped large condos.
658	Building and children's programs. Arenas as an example, are below the standard of any of our neighbouring cities.
659	It is very important to increase investment for local action on climate change, protecting and caring for green space, and effective community engagement to grow community awareness and mobilization
660	(seeming to come from nowhere) pass me on the right. I have seen people and animals hurt.
661	Traffic management and roads
662	clean up the people begging on the medians, and encampments, shopping cart turtles
663	Affordable housing
664	Reduction of red tape - my family experienced huge hurdles in attempting to do something properly and in accordance with City bylaws. We should have just done it, as many suggested the city would skyrocket our costs and take forever - it did both..
665	Increase recreation and parks and trails related services, repairing sidewalks and making the neighbourhood more walking friendly with better road crossings.

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666	Better transit to combat awful traffic (which spins out into pollution and noise as well).
667	Property Tax Hikes are too extreme especially in these times of high inflation.
668	Property taxes by definition should relate to property matters - the City gas mission creep. Says everything is a priority, and therefore meaning nothing is a priority, but does result in everything increased because they are so-called priorities.::
669	Affordability. (i) Prevention of property tax increases, (ii) Reduction in City Hall salaries
670	Diverting commuter traffic from city streets, those that live elsewhere but use us to get to and from work. I'm aware this is a provincial issue, but we need alternative routes for through traffic.
671	Property taxes are too high. We need better roads as there's always too much traffic now. More programs/things to do for free as cost of living is so high here.
672	Housing: The City should articulate a transparent, data based and informed (think cities in Europe) policy on " density" (will limiting mid and high density to "transportation hubs really result in a livable neighborhoods.
673	Maintaining green space
674	As a single senior, I have difficulty getting the end of my drive way cleared from the snow plough. It could take valuable time for Emergency Services to get in and out of the driveway
675	Helping homeowners conservatively manage property taxes, while still maintainint services levels in key areas, and cutting it in other small ways
676	Noise, housing and development
677	To remove the snow at the end of driveways as the snow plough passes. . To reduce the intensity of growth in Burlington. Last but not least, I am very much against the 7.82% property tax increase that is proposed for 2024.
678	Don't increase property taxes
679	Have facilities available to keep people and kids involved in activities' to keep them healthy and involved. It is very important for people to be interested and active.
680	public housing
681	affordable housing for our young people. you need 3 bedroom units and more low level density near parks and schools.
682	Health of our community especially children eg. Why are there cannabis stores across the street from schools!
683	Traffic flow. Continue to upgrade bike lanes so that we have continuity. Safe routes for cycles to get to the downtown and waterfront from North and West.
684	Restrict total (City and Region combined) property tax increase to 3% or less. Better bylaw enforcement regarding dogs and cats. Close pickleball courts which are excessively close to houses in Tansley Woods Park. Stop building sprinkler parks.
685	Adding safe and connected bike infrastructure. Improving the tree canopy city-wide.
686	Continuing to grow accessible paths and infrastructure for access to parks and nature.
687	Climate Change
688	Affordable living; re) fair tax increases
689	Better housing development planning for mid to low income while maintaining greenspace. Use of existing empty buildings. Better service in all areas without increasing taxes is possible with staff motivation.
690	Housing issues, Leaf pickup (curb) must stay/increase
691	We need more safe outdoor spaces to be active. More trees. Fix bike paths Mainway to Tansley woods and upper middle from centennial to Itabashi. Outdoor skating rink not at lake. Fix zipline at Spencer's. Add lights / bubbles to tennis courts.
692	Repairing infrastructure, e,g, water mains, roads, bridges
693	It is very importance for investment towards local action on climate change, protecting and caring for green space, and effective community engagement to grow community awareness and mobilization.
694	Keep the taxes down.
695	Affordability.
696	We need more environmental focus.

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697	The recently increased property taxes came as a shock, especially for seniors on a fixed income. I would rather see services decreased than risk losing my home.
698	In 2023 you increased the Burlington portion of property taxes by an irresponsible 13.73%. Do the decent thing and stay under current inflation rate of less than 3%.
699	Keeping community cohesive and safe, while preparing for future growth
700	Stop focusing on political things like rainbow pedestrian crossings/LGBTQ agendas and instead focus on core services that the City should be providing
701	Infrastructure, speeding up approvals for infill, maintaining growth plan without expanding boundaries
702	The amount of money the city is proposing to spend on the renovation of the school they bought is way to high and should be looked at
703	Climate initiatives-green roofs, solar panels, naturalization of government facilities
704	Keeping up infrastructure to support the thousand of new residences being built in the bottom half of the city. Have builders pay for the extra needed serives, (like widening lakeshore to handle the traffic?)
705	Hold tax levels through reduction of service levels, particularly fire department costs and increased efficiency.
706	Road safety. Aggressive driving has gotten out of control and needs to be addressed immediately.
707	Traffic congestion.
708	Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation - Nothing else matters if we do not have a functioning ecosystem to survive within.
709	There are no sidewalks on King Road. It's not keeping up with the infrasturcture in place from Waterdown to Niagara and to Downtown burlington. IT SHOULD BE 40KM PER HOUR!!!! IT"S AS SCHOOL ZONE cars race past at 70km +/-hr
710	lack of bylaws enforcement (tree cutting without approval, fireworks all year long, garbage collection time not respected (some keep containers out for days), etc.
711	911 EMS for seniors and youth

Question 9:

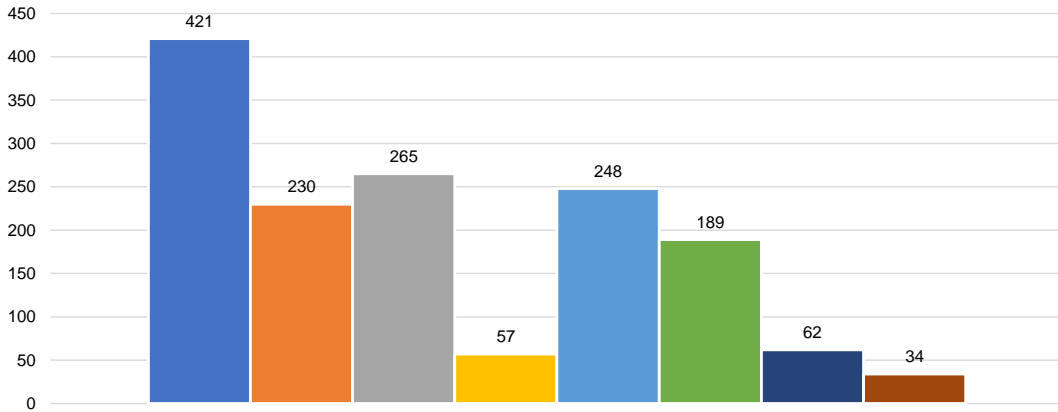
Where do you go to receive information about the City's budget?

City's website	421
City's social media accounts	230
From the Mayor or Council's electronic newsletter or virtual meetings	265
City's budget book	57
Local newspapers	248
The City's Get Involved Burlington engagement portal	189
I haven't looked for information about the City's budget before	62
Other	34
Total	1506

Note:

Twelve participants did not answer this question

Participants were able to select more than one option



- City's website
- City's social media accounts
- From the Mayor or Council's electronic newsletter or virtual meetings
- City's budget book
- Local newspapers
- The City's Get Involved Burlington engagement portal
- I haven't looked for information about the City's budget before
- Other

Question 10:

Keeping in mind the City of Burlington is not responsible for waste collection, recycling, ambulance, police, schools, health care or social housing, do you have any additional comments you would like to be considered by the City in preparation of the 2024 budget?

Note: Some commentary has been removed due to inappropriate content.

1	Please repave roads that are in very poor condition, such as mainway between appleby and burloak.
2	Cut expenses! We are wasting money on too many nice to haves. Get new housing built and not in all high rise condos. Transit is one of our biggest losers, right size routes to ridership and cut routes that should not be there.
3	Really look at where cuts can be made or be more efficient in delivering services
4	Get rid of bylaw and related permits required for me to cut down a tree on my own property.
5	Too much funding to Police. Police presence is excessive.
6	I live in a somewhat rural area, receive not direct bus on my street, do not have sidewalks or sewers yet my taxes continue to rise. I don't feel that is fair. Also with all the new development that is proposed the roads will not be able to keep up with the cars and the idling cars will contribute to the pollution and lack of air quality
7	I sense that in general the city is over staffed in office environments. I watch people at work in their processes. Based on my business experience, 20%.
8	The consideration of how to employ technology (including A.I. and engineered learning) on all labour intensive areas of city operations for the purpose of efficiency, transparency, consistency and cost savings.
9	See comments above about overspending with no seeming care about impact on taxpayers especially those on fixed incomes.
10	Maintain as is.
11	I'd like to see the bylaws around accessory dwelling units relaxed
12	More trees please! And more noise management.
13	Alot of this discusses services but to maintain tax rates, we need to consider cuts to programs. Decide what we will support and what needs to drop. Can't keep wanting more and more.
14	I found Qn 6 annoying. Basically you asked increase taxes or cut services. Why not reduce overheads and administrative salaries and benefits, improve productivity so that services are maintained or improved with the savings.
15	Trees on boulevards in Palmer area badly need pruning back so they don't hang low over the sidewalk.
16	Instead of large upfront monetary salary increases phase them in over time and implement a 4-day work week pilot and increase the minimum vacation time for employees from the start at 3 weeks and 5 weeks at 3 years of employment. Increase Transit and Fire Budget only this year as the recommended service increases and provide a supplementary list of other business cases should council decide to make further increases. Provide Council with a list of potential budget reductions each year. Invest in an integrated Downtown Strategy to build on the completed growth strategy that will also look to create a new Downtown/ Waterfront vision that started almost 25 years ago. Hire a consultant to do a comprehensive service review, governance review and to build a multi-year budget for 2025.
17	Simple. Stop spending our tax money for frivolous things. Reno to city hall are you kidding me!
18	Bylaw Noise Enforcement from motorcycles and cars, loud music playing from moving cars in the downtown area b
19	Justify every dollar of spending.
20	A contingency fund is definitely needed but a close look at how much that should be is needed. Taxes are high enough.

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21	<p>It bothers me that the city puts funds towards health care (like Jo Brant) and to police. Be strategic and please stick to the city's core responsibilities. My taxes went up from \$400/month last year to \$450/month this year. That's a big deal for a single mother like me. I can't afford my taxes going to things the City isn't responsible for, even if it seems nice to contribute to the hospital or support police, I'd rather see the city focus on things that contribute to a persons daily health and well-being through opportunities for social connection, active lifestyles, and enjoying public spaces.</p> <p>That said, I am especially pleased this summer by the tree pruning service in my neighbourhood this summer. The streets look amazing. I love the outdoor movie nights, festivals, and the outdoor equipment library lending program is such an amazing and well run program. And the transit changes for youth and seniors is great too. The people who work for the city (and are contracted by the City) are pleasant and thoughtful and offer great customer service. Please pass on my thanks!!</p>
22	<p>You need to build enormously more housing</p>
23	<p>10. The forestry team needs resources. They know what they're doing and want to move forward with planting and trimming that will act as preventative measures to significant costs down the line (damage from storms and snow for example). The department should be allowed to expand and collaborate with the community garden department and with other private entities for the purpose of adding fruiting trees to our urban agriculture landscape.</p>
24	<p>It appears to me that certain roads get repaved every couple of years (New St) and others have not been worked on. (Walkers)</p>
25	<p>I can't get an EV charger at my home due to the poor electric wiring to my home. I drive an EV and pay to charge at malls, this is unacceptable in 2023. The cost of preschool programs and the availability is very limited, these need to be reevaluated at the least.</p>
26	<p>No. Keep the city clean and moving forward</p> <p>Money could be put into our arenas which are used year-round. A little paint, a new sound system... things that are relatively cheap. It's embarrassing to have tournaments in these arenas and we can't even announce our Burlington teams.</p> <p>Bring in a private 3rd party to partner with to provide more arenas. Make sure newly built arenas have seating so we can utilize the arena to our best ability (Was excited about Skyway until I learned there is no seating, how is that taking the public's needs i to consideration, especially from a disability viewpoint?) Purchase more soccer domes to be used on fields year round.</p> <p>Hire innovative people with forward thinking skills that will make the best use of the space for the least cost.</p>
28	<p>Engage kids to give feedback on places they will use! Partner with schools to involve them in projects. Win-win!!</p>
29	<p>Focus on getting the vacant buildings filled with businesses. The Queens Head closing is a shame... stop these greedy landlords and stop allowing all these mega condos from being built!</p>
30	<p>The city needs a new additional arenas. Sponsorships should be allowed to help build new facilities.</p>
31	<p>Money is tight for residents of Burlington, between inflation and general cost of living increases, with salaries not increasing to match, tax increases hurt. We have no more to give. Like any business, Burlington must more strictly assess where spending is needed. Public art, rainbow crosswalks, upgrades to the square in front of City Hall, the Bateman School money pit, and other nice to haves are just things we cannot afford right now, so please focus on needs versus wants.</p>
32	<p>Remember that our tax increase was substantially higher than most other places I would say, work hard to stay in budget. Be creative.</p>
33	<p>Nope</p>

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34	Arts and cultural spending is at the very bottom of my priority list. A mural painted somewhere isn't going to fix our problems
35	Not at this stage
36	Crime....it is obvious that crime, robberies, gun violence, etc. is making it's way into Burlington and our daily life. Support for our police and pressure on the legal system has to increase immediately.
37	Affordable housing options that give help to young people and seniors that remain affordable.
38	Burlington for years has gotten by doing the minimum, Lowest bid everything is really starting to show. Look at the Wicklow shave and pave/boulevard restoration issues. New parks built but not properly staffed. Climate is changing and the relevant departments aren't growing. Staff look like homeless folks because lowest bid means lowest quality. Burlington residents and staff deserve more than lowest bid. Would you hire the lowest bid lawyer to defend you?
39	As stated above re health care, stop donating money to Brant Hospital out of property tax revenues.
40	Do not spend so much on bike lanes that are really not required.
41	The city spent a lot of money on the Guelph Line north of Dundas improvements, but the road wasn't paved very well, and the contractor should be forced to fix it at their expense. The gridlock on Harvester Road during rush hour is atrocious. The city needs to expropriate land from the corners at the intersections and install proper turning lanes to keep traffic moving. Make municipal government smaller and cut red tape to save money. Increase user fees and fines before you raise taxes.
42	The Halton funded services remain strong - my concern is the waste of municipal dollars on non-value add activities.
43	I think too much money is spent on things that do not benefit the community. You should ask the community to see what they want to see their tax dollars spent on.
44	Cut the [REDACTED] taxes
45	No
46	Housing
47	Encourage more health care professionals to our beautiful, newly renovated Joseph Brant hospital. Promote the need for health care and affordable housing in Burlington, rather than thousands of dollars for fireworks, painting utility boxes, abstract art in parks, displays at Spencer Smith. That money could be use more wisely.
48	free rent [REDACTED]
49	Too many concerts that go late into the evening at Spencer Smith Park. I know that doesnt have to do with allocating funds in a budget but i believe it is revenue generating for the city but not everyone likes the heavy traffic, noise, late night music.
50	Pickleball courts are needed.
51	Repave some major arteries IE Walkers Line.
52	Bronte park
53	Our city has been getting dirtier over the last 5 years. Garbage/clothes are along our sidewalks where this was not happening in the past. Dog poop on the sidewalks is now an issue when it was not a problem in the past. We need to get back to when our city use to be a clean and inviting environment.
54	Would love to understand what's going on with the pier. I think this now falls under the city but needed investment. Will this ever reopen?
55	Maintaining city's by laws

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56	Move away from having dedicated bike lanes on roadways to reduce congestion, increase safety, and potentially open up greater space to restructure the roadways for greater efficiencies. Look into having the paved multiuse pathways interconnected throughout Burlington so people can walk, run, and bike anywhere. If we keep losing the battle against the Ontario Land Tribunal with development, City of Burlington is going to need to get creative with how to not let it turn into another Mississauga. Those who moved here for the vibe and community it offered will no doubt move on elsewhere.
57	Attaining only 10% cost recovery for public transit is a social engineering decision that council should not have the decision making power over. Ridership on our transit system is so pathetically low that deeming it an "essential service" and committing to expanding our transit system make no logical sense. Committing to an electric bus pilot - when dozens of municipal pilots have already been completed across Canada and the US - is more salt in the wound to tax payers. At this point we should make transit FREE to all, scale back service levels and routes, and limit the financial commitment we make annually to the service.
58	If schools build on the public park they are near (portables, cement hardtops, etc.) the community should be involved and placement/permission should be discussed.
59	Put in more efforts to prevent traffic and noise delinquencies.
60	cut city government
61	The city needs to acquire additional lands to support parks expansions to support the growing population as well as future cemetery locations
62	Stop implementing programs that make the everyday citizen pay for things (e.g., tree permits, parking permits, etc). If you provide a service to the citizens it is different (e.g., charge \$2 a person for movies under the stars, charge an entry fee to sounds of music, or sell concessions to generate income, etc).
63	Create more sidewalks in needed neighborhoods for the safety of pedestrians. Also, create more activities for children and adults at community centres. Most of the current activities are for seniors. The demographic of the city has changed and the city needs to adapt to the increase number of families moving to this area.
64	Increase transit
65	Really focus on key issues and don't spread the money around on everything.
66	Developers/Builders need to contribute more financially to the city for the congestion they cause and the land they consume.
67	Kill the coyotes
68	Drop all measures that are simply a result of lobbying from special interest groups that will add to cost
69	Recreation programs should be paid by the users, not taxes. I am not happy with the 2023 tax increase nor the proposed 2024. Why is council looking at free bus for all citizens which will be paid by tax dollars. This is a car user city and free bus transportation will not change that.
70	More parks and outdoor activities
71	Fund the police as a priority.
72	Do more for climate change and environment. (More trees planted, community compost/garden, clean up litter around city, add recycling bins and compost to public garbage cans, use less plastic). Less buildings being built, conserve more land.
	Something to help with the traffic. The road paving is not well planned, blocking lanes increases traffic. More workers needed to get roads done faster and don't dig up more road when the part before isn't re-paved yet.
	Goose poop needs to be picked up at parks, it's everywhere. Dogs eat it and get sick. Kids touch it.

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73	Fence playgrounds near busy streets such as Nelson Playground to make it more safe for the community. The crossing guard at St Raphael School should stay longer (at least 10 minutes after the bell). Walker's Line needs new pavement between New St and Fairview (the utility hole covers are too low). Swim teachers that provide kids swimming classes need to be more skilled, I had problems twice with the coaches at Nelson Pool and Tansley Woods not making the little ones safe. They should be teaching life saving skills such as holding your breath before jumping to jumping in the water and such.
74	We want Burlington to be a leader in the province except for the rate of budget/tax increases which it was in 2023
75	East west paths for cyclists are good in north and south. Need a pedestrian/ multi use bridge to cross qew. Northern residents should be able to cycle to go stations without crossing on ramps. This will improve mobility.
76	Definitely continue the free public transit program for seniors. It reduces isolation and enhances socialization especially for those on a fixed income.
77	The lack of parking downtown is a big issue especially when events and festivals are on. the congestion actually deters us from wanting to attend these events. The only large parking lot is at 423 Elizabeth St; perhaps there should be a multi-level lot here.
78	Windrow clearing after a heavy snowfall
79	Departmental budgets must be based on needs not wants
80	we need a zero based budget approach
81	I would like to see more dedicated bicycle lanes and improvement of those that are already in place. So many times I have been biking and the bike lane just ends! I would also like to see more enforcement of dogs on the beach and smoking in parks. Also, can you do something about the horrendous smell from the waste treatment plant by the beach? Thank you.
82	Recommendation to stop re-doing perfectly fine (recently updated) playgrounds and use that money to decrease taxes or put it toward increasing the amount of green space and multi use spaces. Also, spend less on transit to increase funding for Rec activates for school age kids 6-12
83	Love the mountainside pool restoration and all the new playgrounds. Ensure neighbourhoods are walkable and not creating car required neighbourhoods.
84	There is no excuse for a budget increase greater than the cost of living. Sharpen those pencils . Scale down Bateman, postpone city square improvements, except to increase accessibility, scale down the size of downtown towers, start to keep Burlington a city controlled by an Official Plan.
85	Concentrate more on providing affordable housing, and funding for social and mental health issues. Family friendly affordable recreation and activities.
86	Reduce services to keep taxes down Cost of living is too high
87	Creek maintenance and support programs to address standing water in creaks over run by debris from vegetation /fallen trees etc (example Newport park) and the creek that feeds jt. The debris also causes massive flooding in the parks destroying the surrounding trees and plants
88	Increase Transits budget! They need more HandiVan drivers and dispatchers and Supervisors!
89	Quick turnaround on assuming new build homes.
90	To "think - outside of your box, of what we are doing today and where this puts us in the future. Adding hundreds to the police force for calm is not where we should be going. The picture is clear, does the City really care? You ask for our input but continue In an opposite direction with massive intensification leading to much unrest in our City.
91	Living in a great city comes at a cost. We meet that cost with our taxes. I don't want tax cuts I want more services delivered efficiently.

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	<p>Much money was wasted replacing the sewers and roads in our neighbourhood over the last three years, filling in and pulling up same sections repeatedly. Weeds were extremely high on the boulevards waiting for sod, and then it was replaced right on top. Meanwhile, you are fining people for pollinator gardens!</p> <p>Bike paths should be marked two directional and separated for walkers and cyclists. Fining cars that hang an inch over the boulevards, discourages family visitors. Parking lot at beach is littered with construction barriers and poorly marked for tickets.</p>
92	<p>Street sweeper goes over same spots repeatedly for hours. Snow ploughs on sidewalks ruin boulevards in the winter. Construction signs are still sitting on our boulevards with very long grass growing around them, despite construction being over and inspector being notified.</p> <p>Homeless situation is increasing in Burlington, yet there seems to be so many food banks, and other services. Are there shelters at local churches, where they can be directed, instead of camping on steps of restaurant at the lake. The drug problem of providing them free, has to stop.</p>
93	Protect our waterfront and public access to the lake through sensible development
94	Stop draining the reserve fund....stop and think before moving forward with large projects at this time of financial crisis on our citizens
95	Protect our greenbelts, sidewalk repairs, improved accessibility for persons with disabilities and seniors. Better noise/nuisance enforcement and complaint system.
96	It is important to differentiate between the needs and the wants. Presently there are too many "legacy" projects . Too many "woke" initiatives.
97	Stop funding artwork in public places. In times of restraint, these are just frills. Berton Park has a rusty globe sitting in a bunch of weeds, how is this art? Upper Middle road near Appleby has three "asparagus" looking stalks that look absolutely ridiculous. When friends from other communities visit, we're often asked what the heck are those? Wasted \$\$\$\$ we answer.
98	Cut costs across the board on the wants and focus on the needs of regular working taxpayers.
99	Put my streets lawns back together after road construction 2 years ago. Most still look like crap
100	Our tax increase was much too high, especially compared to the rest of the Region.
101	Stop building so many high rise buildings
102	Stop funding anything that isn't required for the city to function (eg twining with foreign cities). This past years increase above the rate of inflation is an insult, especially to people on fixed incomes!!!!!!!!!!!!
103	I think we need to cut back on our frivolous spending on pubic art installations, acquiring land without residents input, etc. And focus more on maintaining our current roads, parks, and trees etc .
104	The above question about balancing increases and cutting services is a false choice. I see city hall resisting innovation. Leadership is not leading. Much more can be done with what is being collected.
105	Thanks for investment in parks and pools. Would love to see increase in sports fields.
106	Focus on keeping tax increases below the rate of inflation; unfortunately, the DNA of this Mayor and Council is Liberal "tax and spend". You are completely out of touch with taxpayers (nor do you apparently care) in this affordability crisis.
107	We need a safe connection over the highway, it is a barrier.
108	Make every effort to ensure that the "no frills downtown grocery store" is not torn down for yet another condo! The economic impact on 100s if not 1000s of low to moderate income people will be devastating if council is asleep at the wheel on this important item!
109	reduce speed on some roads and make them safe to cross
110	Reduce costs and service levels

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111	Many residents are facing a high cost of living due to inflation. Any property tax increases should be minimal as residents are struggling to afford everyday things.
112	Allow more housing, reduce residential traffic and speed limits, and prioritize alternative modes of transportation to reduce congestion.
113	This year's property tax increase was shocking. Property taxes are well above what other cities charge. Reduce services and staff in order to reduce property taxes.
114	Hospitals and traffic need to be sorted out before mass housing starts.the city is in control of putting shovels in the ground and can demand Healthcare and traffic receive proper funding
115	Pave walkers line
116	What?
117	put more money towards maintaining parking bylaws....it impacts the people negatively that constantly have a car parked in front of their homes. We shouldn't have to complain to the city. There are bylaws for a reason. Or introduce parking on one side of the street for the first 15 days of the month and the other side the remainder of the month like Hamilton does. My tree didn't get pruned when the city came around because a car was parked in front of my house for 6 days straight.
118	Fill in all the empty lots for housing.
119	Dead trees on city property (Fairview south side viaduct) are not being addressed. Roads and sidewalks are in poor repair. Contracts are being paid when incomplete: Brant St. crack sealing was never completed at any of the intersections; Walmart Fairview bus stop pad incorrectly installed (too low for bus access). Sunday night transit ends ridiculously early, and the route 1 is beyond overcrowded on its last trip to Hamilton.
120	Fix the roads. They are in horrible condition.
121	Make our city tourists must visit with some water attractions more festivals Christmas Burlington villages by the lake with horse carriage ride Bringing more popular play's to our theatre Generate more income on tourism Our city has a lot to offer and with some improvement we will all be happy
122	I continue to marvel at the positive vibes I get all round in our city. Really appreciate the positive and professionalism efforts shown by our municipal leaders. Reports are first class, meaningful and worth following. Thanks to all!
123	Install red light traffic cameras to reduce vehicles running red lights.
124	I like living in Burlington.
125	Traffic issues across the city.
126	I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the budget but even how this was advertised suggested investment and the addition of net new is the primary focus. What about reshaping existing services? Evaluating underutilize for unnecessary services and reinvesting. Loose leaf pickup as an example... for 51 weeks a year every household has garden waste and disposes of it using paper bags or reusable totes. Is it really adding value to the lives of residents and could that service cost not be reinvested into something more valuable?
127	Considering these are Halton Region services, I expect more services from Burlington. Perhaps ore priorities like public transit, recreation facilities, roads and sewers, parks and greenspaces.
128	I live in ward 6 and there are always overflowing city garbage receptacles . The storm drains are clogged with debris and vegetation which could cause flooding with all the storms we get. Roads in our area aren't the greatest. So where are my tax dollars going.
129	Burlington is overcrowded and the infrastructure cannot handle the flow.
130	As the city grows in population...can traffic patterns be forecast and controlled so the city maintains it's "livability".The Province does not seem to be concerned...only focussing on increasing the density....pack in more people !
131	No More nice to have art projects
132	Halton Region budgeting and financial stewardship has a long track record of fiscal responsibility. Bravo

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133	The latest investments in public parks and amenities is good for people and we should really continue focusing on the wellbeing of people, like through libraries, rec centres, accessible and reliable transit, etc.
134	Stop increasing funds to fire departments to attend medical calls they serve no purpose on. Waste of resources
135	Enhancing communities to be walkable and cyclable in an attractive and safe way (mixed use development will help instead of single family homes). Ensuring transition accessible and in reach for all citizens, as well as considering free public transit for those in school. Providing connectivity so one can get from one side of the city to the other. Eliminate any parking standards so that more properties open up and we don't end up with asphalt wastelands of parking lots that are more than half empty all the time. These plans all work towards a better future for the city.
136	Stop building, the city is over crowded the infrastructure can't handle it. Crime there is more crime we are not Mississauga or Toronto.
137	Budget for most important needs of residents first!
138	Need to be prepping more for climate change issues. Additionally with so many services for kids and seniors, adults typically don't have many rec options
139	Our arenas need better maintenance. Showers and water temperature are constant issues for me
140	Wow that "not responsible" is a huge portion Halton Region is responsible for. What exactly does Burlingtons budget cover?
141	Stop building so many high rises
142	Costing to ensure implementation of City Policies and Plans without pressure from the Province and/or developers is key to a vibrant and welcoming Burlington. I do recognize that this is probably an impossible no-win task, let alone to budget for, but one can only ask.
143	The City of Burlington SHOULD be responsible for social housing, and housing for Seniors. Not all Seniors have cars, so there should be more senior living in Burlington.
144	Fiscal responsibility is important, but I don't want to see cost-cutting just for the sake of cost-cutting. Climate change, safe bike lanes, helping seniors and low-income people in any way possible are important to me (and I don't bike and I'm not low-income!). I really appreciate that you made buses free to seniors. A lot of seniors should not be driving and this is an incentive to get them to give up their cars (or vastly reduce their usage). I, myself, used a city bus for the first time today! And an older friend mentioned she was thinking about giving up her car now that she could ride the bus for free 24/7.
145	Region does an excellent job of providing these services.
146	Let's stick with the basics. Subsidizing people to have parties should not be a part of this budget. My elderly neighbours love the handi van. The City puts on many great events but let's not go overboard with taxpayer funded "fun". It's a fine balance.
147	Resurface or at least spot-pave the northern portion of Martha Street. This cannot wait for another 4-5 years (as per the latest budget). Parts of the street are in really rough shape. Pothole patching is insufficient. We have lived here for 14 years with no action. Our street has been neglected.
148	It's time to do an in depth review of all city services in order to eliminate waste
149	More funding for Halton Women's Shelter because of the most recent data concluding that violence against women & children is now an epidemic!
150	Keeping increase reasonable not above rate of inflation as seniors are hurting. The increase of homelessness walking around our. It's this past year is shameful. Stop for time being the help to the needs of prospect of building pickle ball courts for elite few and let them figure out with out all taxpayers having to pay.
151	Better playground equipment
152	Shade shelter over Outdoor Senior Exercise Equipment at Burloak Park
153	Increase the number of protected bike lines in order to create a network of safe and efficient cycling routes.

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154	Municipal taxes should not exceed 2%, 2023 increase is unsustainable. Make the difficult decisions and reduce services to meet budget. I also hope you follow the results of the survey, for the 2023 budget year it was clear what respondents to this survey said, yet council choose not to follow the input provided!
155	Improve urban forestry section, increase service level.
156	please see my comments in #8. Streamline all duplicated and wasted services such as i.e. empty buses during non rush hours. Since our costs are greatly increasing along with residential taxes - also increase all user pay services in city provided pools, recreation centres, etc. All venues in Spencer Smith park or other locations, should charge all users of these events, a special user fee, to go directly to the City of Burlington. These venues are very costly to all tax payers. Most of these costs should be implemented more to the actual user pay system, of rec. centres, pools, venues, etc. rather than constantly increasing taxes of the tax payers.
157	More rental apartments need to be made available on the market, and short term rentals need to be curbed.
158	Do not plow residential street, let the home owners shovel their sidewalk, they usually plow after the fact or the homeowner don't bother and wait. When they do plow they wreck all the lawns and need to be fixed in the spring. We don't see a plow and by the time they come to sand or salt it is like an icerink.
159	Loose-leaf collection service & the sidewalk plow is residential areas is absolutely unnecessary.
160	Stop catering to all the special interest groups and concentrate on the needs of the city, not every interest group!
161	The 2023 budget was posted at 7.52% yet 2023-Approved-Budget-Book-00-Complete.pdf shows 7.44% and 2024 BF documents are showing 7.44% as the historical for 2023. Why the difference? Multi year budget simulations are therefore off. Key Investments costs are exponentially higher for 2024+
162	Burlington transit needs to be revamped people planning the routes should actually take the transit and wait at bus stops for the bus in the rain and snow. The lack of bus shelters, connecting times for other busses and trains especially Appleby GO. You want to increase youth to take transit they can be more independent with waiting for my and dad to drop off and pick up. Easier for them to get to malls and movie cinemas they can get to easily with better transit planning and same for seniors and people with disabilities.
163	Acquire land to increase access to parks. E.g. connect a network of linear parks similar to Francis Rd Bikeway access the city
164	Property tax increases are getting to high. The focus should remain on core items in the city. Road maintenance, parks and playgrounds, city programs. The city should not be engaged in climate actions or gender issues. A lot of these pet projects cost money and give nothing back to its citizens.

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The mayor and this council claim to be cognizant of the impact their 7.58% increase in 2023 had on people. They don't. It was claimed infrastructure was deteriorating and tax payers needed to step up to preserve Burlington for the next 50 yrs. How ludicrous. We are not responsible for that. As well, these buildings are approaching mid life. Therefore you absolutely did not need to do it in 2023. It could have and ought to have been delayed a few years. The Bank of Canada rate has not been this high since 2001 (not 2007). But this mayor and council have no concept of what real people face. It's easy to be so nonchalant about money when the mayor is earning 200K and council are earning 107K. What are your family incomes? Far in excess of most people in the city. People have mortgages coming due and facing increases of 5%. Many will not be able to keep their homes. Transportation, heat, food, have all increased dramatically. Yet this mayor and council felt it was a good time to start replacing infrastructure and increase our taxes by an unfathomable 7.58%.

If money is so tight within your budget, why are you spending 6.3 m on City Hall renovations? City hall was last updated in 1985. Just bc it wasn't modern doesn't mean it needed to be upgraded at a time the city is crying its poor and has no choice but to raise taxes so dramatically. The upgrades to it seem to be more for the people working there than necessity that couldn't have waited a few years

How about the article in the July 27 Post about Civic Square? In 2019 council rejected a 1.2 m plan to upgrade the square saying the plan wasn't good enough? Just how many millions do you need to spend? More importantly, where do you get off telling taxpayers that you need to raise taxes by 15% over two years and then spend our money so frivolously on things like this? You may not think its frivolous. But if you are making the case that infrastructure is crumbling, you have to make up for shortfalls due to Ford pulling developers fees, are complaining that capital reserve funds have decreased by 31%, than it is not the time to be building projects like this. It is the time to tighten the belt and be more mindful of how you are spending taxpayer money.

This is exactly the type of project that makes taxpayers think you are so out of touch. That is the city living beyond its means off the backs of taxpayers who can't afford it. This is the mayor and council bulldozing ahead with beautification projects at a time when inflation is out of control without any common sense as to what is going on with REAL people.

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But it seems that 50% of the city's budget doesn't go to projects but rather to wages. The mayor of Oakville made 157K last year. The mayors of Hamilton, Mississauga make more than that but Mayor Meed Ward makes more than any of them at 200K. Why is that? Why are we paying so much more for wages in Burlington than the rest of the GTA? We should suffer another 7.82% increase while your family income is what? 300-400K a year? Yet you understand the burden we feel? How patronizing. This mayor and council are out of control

And you added 160 positions? If you are looking for more money, maybe it should come out of your wages. As a taxpayer, I'm not interested in paying top dollar for city hall to attract talent. We should offer competitive wages and that's it. Find a different benefit to give them. Like get a developer to donate a house at cost. Or reduce what you're spending on capital costs. Either way, find the money somewhere other than our pockets.

We are not going to incur a 7.82% tax increase. We will be actively mounting a campaign to put a stop to these outrageous increases.

This is our challenge to you. If you want to increase taxes over 5%, then you need approval of 50% of residential tax payers. It is easy to set up a website to collect this data. All you need are roll numbers and a yes or no. If you cannot get that support then its a clear indication that your budget is NOT acceptable to residents. If you want to increase taxes over 4%, then you need approval of 25% of residential tax payers. Step up Mayor Meed. Or step down. This is our city, not yours.

ADDITIONAL: The only option for frequency of property tax payment without penalty is a 10 mth or quarterly plan. This is very unfair to residents. Many people need a 12 month plan and yet that isn't an option. I would like to see this option added. Further, the interest rate of 1.25% monthly when there are only 2 options for payment frequency is excessive and highly punitive to tax payers. I'd like to see this dropped to 0.75%, esp if you are going to continue to only permit 2 options for payment frequency.

- 166 Expanding dedicated protected bike lanes across the City. And updating and increasing storm sewer capacities across the city to convey larger, more frequent storms.
- 167 Less money spent on council salaries and artwork for the city and more on crucial services.
- 168 Safety. Clearing up the homeless/drug/crime issue
- 169 Why so much tax? More than anywhere
- 170 STOP overimproving and find efficiencies. Your budget is irresponsible and we cannot afford it.
- 171 If the city is not responsible for the above mentioned items, why are our taxes increasing so substantially in 2023 and predicted for 2024. Perhaps reviewing City employee salaries and the number of positions to find areas to cut or reduce costs would be beneficial given the current state of the Canadian economy. We don't all make \$200k like our mayor.
- 172 Raising taxes at a proposed amount is completely unaccountable. Everything needs to be reviewed to find savings in order to avoid taxes hikes.
- 173 Lower property taxes please.
- 174 who is responsible then if the city is not? and why are we paying taxes... Why should people with no children or seniors have to pay for schools, the health care is broken right now, lots of wasted money doing all kinds of medical procedures which are not needed, i.e. palliative care, stop wasting money on assessments i.e. pickleball reports, stop painting rainbows on streets and benches it only singles out people, what a waste of money painting streets just fix the road instead, i.e. Upper Middle Road.

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175	Keeping property taxes as low as possible. We already took a huge hit in 2023 with an increase over 7%. Cost of groceries, gas, utilities, rent etc - all necessities of life - have all increased drastically not to mention interest rates for borrowing. Now the council is proposing a 7.8% increase for 2024. How are people supposed to get by with such a huge increase when salaries are not keeping pace and many are on a fixed income (eg Seniors.)? Spending millions on City Hall and now proposing fixing up civic square are not necessities. Council has to cut out anything that could be considered a frill and not an absolute necessity. Maintain what we have until costs for living necessities go down. We dont all make \$100,000 or more a year with two salaries per household. If we aren't careful we will end up with a homeless problem like Hamilton has.
176	See above. Cut employee numbers and silly projects. Reduce salaries starting with the mayor.
177	Stop fixing stuff that doesn't need to be fixed. Example: redoing all the bus shelters when there was nothing wrong with the original ones. Not too many people take the bus in Burlington. The buses I see are always empty. Start spending our tax dollars more efficiently.
178	People are stretched thin financially. Don't make it such that the folks who love the City can no longer afford to live here. Tax increases and mega developments aren't the answer. The charm that once existed is being eroded.
179	Raising taxes at the communicated levels is not taking into account current bank rates and overall inflation numbers. Tax levels should be maintained at current levels for a minimum of two years, with service levels adjusted accordingly, until inflation and bank rates stabilize.
180	Smaller number of hires in municipal government.
181	Let's be a little more responsible when it comes to city spending on frivolous things the city does not need. You should concentrate on things the city actually needs along with the people who live here and raising taxes 7.82% on top of last years huge tax increase is not in the people's best interest for sure. Get real!!!
182	It seems like our city officials, especially our mayor is paid way more than the surrounding cities. What are the extra services they are providing to warrant that?
183	The city needs to look at ways how to reduce spending by 5% for the next 3 years instead of increasing. Example: We are buying an old school building with rate payers dollars and the building was already payed for by us when it was build by the school board. Electric busses are an other irresponsible and unaffordable luxury.
184	snow ploughs that clear the ends of driveways. It can be done.
185	These tax increases hurt. You may not feel it as higher income earners but it hurts and makes me feel like I don't matter and am not wanted.
186	Parking enforcement should be reduced and parking bylaw should be changed to allow over night street parking year round, perhaps with a 2 or 3 day limit at 1 time to prevent people from parking wrecks on the street
187	Control salaries and benefits of city employees.
188	Question 6 is biased and leading. I do not like any of the choices and it is not because I am "unsure". I would like City Council to cut salaries by 2%, lay off workers who are not required, and cut unnecessary spending to maintain the current tax levels. Services are not the only things that cost money.
189	Increase transit services and reduce cars on road. Improve works around blocks and take survey around neighbour's if you are working on one area may be a slight extension of the work as a patch can solve many small issues.
190	See 8 above.
191	Retirees cannot afford these huge increases in taxes. Staff costs are too high in Burlington.
192	Please keep the current state of many peoples finances in mind before even considering a tax increase. It's totally unconscionable in this financial climate.
193	Find ways to minimize tax increases instead of selling the need for 7 +% increases.

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194	Please try to make people able to continue to live their lives without all the stress involved in tax increases and mortgages. Just out of a pandemic we are struggling to make end meet. a higher property tax and the amount you indicate is redicoulous.
195	We need to reduce expenses on salaries in the city.
196	Way to many staff in city hall
197	No
198	Property taxes becoming alarmingly high
199	Figure out another way to fund some of this planning, besides in the back of residents.
200	I feel any additional tax increase (2 years in a row!!) is outrageous and I don't support it. I certainly do not support 32% or more over 5 yrs!!! In light of high inflation and lending rates as well as astronomical cost of living, residents cannot afford massive property tax hikes. Please find ways to cut spending in the interim.
201	Solve the traffic issues especially on the QEW and 403.
202	Cut the pork and stop raising taxes at an unreasonable rate.
203	Please reduce this ridiculous proposed amount. I can't squeeze anymore any more money from my fixed income. This is hurtful and totally stressful now to live in Burlington.
204	I did some checking on personal (real) data. Our household income has increased 2.0439% year over year. That percentage figure would have been slightly higher for the previous year prior to that. That means that I can handle a property tax increase of approx.. 4% over a two year period and not 14%+ as suggested by the city. Learn to live within the means of the population. Oh, I will pay my property taxes as I love the city and have every desire to remain living here. However, I had planned on making a donation to the United Way NWT and Red Cross to assist with their efforts to help with hardships caused by wild fires. Probably have to hold off on that to see whether the City of Burlington will take that money. You see, I don't have the option of simply taking what I want. I need to live according to what I have coming in by way of income and budget accordingly.
205	Lower our taxes!
206	No
207	Consider salary and hiring freeze for City staff
208	Find opportunities to control spending. Unacceptable that the only options presented are increase taxes or cut services.
209	Figure out a way to reduce crime and basement apartments
210	DO NOT spend our money to change things at City Hall. It is fine the way it is. Our taxes are too high already . You are going to force people away from Burlington.
211	You should go on a budget like most of us have and try going without for a change
212	The proposed increase is a bit high considering that a lot of people will have mortgages that will be renewing at much higher interest rates too. A huge increase to property taxes will further exacerbate an already difficult situation for many. The proposed increase feels like a cash grab. Maybe keep current service levels as they are for now until things settle down. We can't continuously push people to their limits.
213	Do not increase taxes to the point that business' and people start moving away. I have seen this before. Increase taxes to maintain what we have now. Enhancements to services can happen later, if required and in turn, a tax increase to make up for it.
214	I've lived in Burlington my whole life. You should be aware and taking care of the people that live here NOT squeezing them for more money. Let's see you take a pay cut, since we are short staffed at the Hospital services there are becoming inadequate, the average person can't afford food, clothing, medicines, etc. You work FOR the people NOT sucking them dry.
215	Stop increasing our taxes! People can't afford groceries right now and the city just keeps increasing costs. Take care of the people in your city. The civic square and remodel of town hall is ridiculous

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216	We cannot sustain heavy increases of our taxes. Inflated cost of living is consuming our disposable income. The city hall renovation was not a necessity and neither is the courtyard moving forward. Expenditures need to reflect the cost of living demands on residents, saved and targeted for our most essential services. Decision makers who are not living with strict household budgets do not understand what it is like for those of us who are please consider this when making decisions in spending our tax dollars. Nothing wrong with saving money for unforeseen circumstances (example: pandemic, flooding). There is a misalignment between what average residents can pay and what the city is planning for and demanding.
217	We can't afford these huge tax hikes. People are losing their homes and you keep raising taxes.
218	The year-on-year property tax increases are simply outrageous. What effect do you think increasing these rates by 7.58% this year and a further 7.82% next year in a rising interest rate environment will have on homeowners? This obviously far outstrips CPI by multiple orders of magnitude. If those homeowners bought recently, they are likely saddled with considerable debt levels, and increases of this nature may make their debt service costs unbearable, prompting at best dramatically reduced spending on necessities and at worst foreclosures. I don't think the City of Burlington wants to lead by demonstrating how best to create a debt crisis bubble for its local residents. Providing and enhancing services is a noble goal, but it should not rise to the level of creating serious financial hardship upon residents. A focus on bureaucratic bloat and how to reduce it should be council's priority as Burlington staff levels have increased dramatically recently and the Mayor is among the most well-paid in the greater golden horseshoe. The City recently added 106 new positions and almost HALF of the budget is comprised of staff pay. This is where cuts should be made so as not to bleed homeowners dry.
219	you Cannot raise property taxes as many families are barely making ends meet with the current interest rates. Have a heart.
220	Families are struggling with inflation and high interest rates. I will not support a mayor that doesn't acknowledge that. Its time to read the room and tighten budgets just like every tax payer is doing in their own lives.
221	Keep taxes to the inflation rate.
222	Taking care of the roads to start they r a mess
223	Do NOT increase taxes, we are already bleeding!
224	Institute a cap of 3% increase on all services - do more with less ! Get additional funding from Feds on social housing and get it done - no excuses on timeline delays. Just do it instead of excuses
225	no
226	Leave the property already high property taxes as they are. In other words, freeze them and wait until inflation settles, find places to make cuts, or maintain status quo and re-think the property tax rates in 2025/26. We can do better and find places to trim some of the fat.
227	I feel this tax increase is outrageous and I don't support it. I certainly do not support 32% or more over 5 yrs!
228	be fare with budget and tax increases. if they are more than the average wage increase, then it's not sustainable; just like constant population growth.
229	Lower the proposed tax increases, all levels of government are making life too expensive. Inflation has cut into everything, higher interest rates have forced everyone spend more on just the basics and it's hitting the most vulnerable people. Say yes to fiscal restraint and don't ask for a 7+% increase in taxes!
230	Keep your spending to a minimum until times start to improve
231	Please do not increase the property taxes again for a couple of years at least.
232	Please do not renovate Civic square and waste more money. It looks great and is not "a once in generational project" that any of us want or need to spend any money on. The mayor was quoted once saying "if we have the money in budgets we should spend it". The most ridiculous and irresponsible statement I have heard her make. Was in regard to the failed project of pride walkways , and borrowing from contingency budgets to pay for them !!!!! Utter waste of money.
233	Cut spending preferably significant

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234	Consider city employee salaries while you review the budget and think the only solution is to raise taxes. Reduce property taxes for Seniors
235	We are on a fixed income & cannot afford to pay for food increases, utility increases, fuel for our vehicle & especially property tax increases while at the same time helping our daughter pay her expenses.
236	Keep in mind although Burlington is an affluent community something has got to give. Raising taxes to un sustainable prices while we are fighting the interest rates will change the city. Maybe the mayor needs to feel what it's like to have a "normal" wage
237	Work to help families afford to continue to live in this city.
238	Burlington has increased property taxes and wants to continue to increase while the quality and quantity of services is lacking. Other than city staff salaries who are higher than other areas around Burlington - the mayor can't justify these increases. We all know salaries have not increased as much as inflation and families are not able to cope with food and clothing, electricity and other life needs. Property taxes can't continue to increase.
239	1. Power reliability needs to be thought about - too many power outages 2. Roads are in a bad condition 3. Make sure we don't have crime increase like missisuaga 4. Focus on lower cost service providers and longer contracts 5. Get peoples views on priority of projects
240	Lower taxes. Consider the upgrades made to city hall and the amount the mayor and city employees are getting paid while many residents in Burlington are suffering.
241	No tax increases and that includes halton region, biite the bullet like most people
242	Year over year significant property tax increases which far exceed cost of living increases are inappropriate. Stop spending money on salary increases and unnecessary work like revitalizing Civic Square. There are bigger issues that need to be addressed. Not everyone in this city is rich and can absorb all these ridiculous increases. My house is paid for but I still won't be able to live comfortably if property tax is out of reach. It's fine to say sell and move somewhere else but the high housing costs are universal so that's trading one problem for the same problem. Have respect for the people who live here, have lived here for a long time and want to continue to live here. They are the people who make the city what it is. We don't need over priced cosmetic projects completed. We don't need any more 'green' initiatives. Canada makes up less than 2% of the world's carbon footprint. Our 'green' initiatives will make a negligible difference. Focus on making our city better but making it overtly livable and affordable for anyone.
243	more green initiatives; bike lanes, bike racks in downtown
244	No
245	some neighbours/ homeowners are still paying \$1100 a year in taxes , while I pay \$4400. for the same lot/house, because I recently bought it 4 years ago. It s time to bring the low rated homes up to current levels . That is where you can get some \$\$\$.
246	Do not increase property taxes!!!
247	STOP INCREASING PROPERTY TAXES!!!
248	please stop closing the roads without advanced notice, last two years I was struggling to reach my work because of Dundas construction.
249	Do Not raise taxes. Residents of Burlington are struggling. We will lose our homes.
250	Invest in expanding parks and active transport options to manage increased usage with population growth. E.g. acquire 800 Lasalle Park Rd and create a linear park from LaSalle Park to Hidden Valley Park following the creek behind Aldershot high-school connecting to a new linear park in the future development around Emery Court

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251	All city staff need to take a 10% pay cut in 2024, all members of council need to take a 20% pay cut in 2024. Start cutting all the nice to have programs and buildings. We have lived here for 37 years in our 1200 SF bungalow, our taxes are \$6000/yr we are on a fixed income. When we were working in tough times we got 10% pay cuts, three times in 10 years. Stop spending money, lower my taxes I can not make any more cash !! Please lower my taxes now or I will be forced to sell and move away.
252	No property tax increase!
253	Work with austerity, no need to increase staff. Any company in Canada is holding on expenses, we expect the same from Municipalities. No increase in salaries, just like in any company - companies increases are only of about 1-3%. Also stop not urgent things, this is not time to get to do new things . We expect municipality support . Last year tax increase was high and we can not hold another increase for any reason. Inflation is high, mortgages went up and claro of living went up. If push for more taxes more people will need to leave their houses, poverty will increase therefore delinquency will increase, and sooner we will have bigger issue and no money will Be able to fix. We need you to help us not increasing taxes.
254	Please define not responsible
255	Yes, cut the staff - the City has to many employees.
256	Instead of gouging residents with 7.82% tax increases, how about you put a kibosh on wasteful projects like revitalizing City Square. Do you really think in this economic climate we residents actually care about this??? And do you think North Burlington residents would even see it??? Stop making downtown Burlington the centre of your attention. We all pay taxes. As a senior, I am on a fixed income. I can't afford to have my taxes increases almost 16% in two years when inflation is at an all time high. We don't all make 100-200K a year like the mayor and city councillors. Also, you don't give any money to support wildlife rehabs so they become overworked and filled to capacity. What is a resident supposed to do when they find an abandoned baby? Well, apparently they can't try to help it because they'll be charged by the city. Really??? Where has compassion gone???
257	My husband and I are retired and on a fixed income, (that is not indexed). A 15% tax increase over 2 years will force us to sell our home and move away from Burlington. It is beyond my comprehension that the mayor and city council are blind to the pressure families are under. Many families, including mine are looking for ways to cut costs because cost for basic needs have become so expensive. Perhaps, the mayor can look at the operating costs and look for efficiencies, starting with contract employees, also explaining to Burlington residents why the city needs a Deputy Mayor... why is the Mayor not doing her job! I'm frustrated and disappointed in the elected officials that Burlington has.
258	Cut staffing levels and stop spending so much on consultants. With the Jo Brant investment finished why did I not see a reduction? Because it was another tax no matter which way you spin it.
259	I wonder whether the city has considered to make parts of downtown Burlington a dedestrian zone, partialrlrly parts of Lakeshore Road?
260	No more tax hikes
261	Keeping the city clean and affordable
262	I feel this tax increase is outrageous and I don't support it. I certainly do not support 32% or more over 5 yrs!!!
263	Well if the major services are outside of the city's scope, there is little reason for taxes to increase.
264	Thank you for encouraging use of transit by free rides. I am taking the bus and so is my husband. Housing the unhoused in empty buildings.
265	Stop industrial building and retail sites. Repurpose already established buildings and sites.

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266	Bring a vibrant community to Burlington's downtown. Attract retail, restaurant and business. Downtown Burlington is a culture-less and dwindling Main Street.
267	I am not in favour of a 7% tax rate increase two years in a row. Please keep the tax increase to the rate of inflation.
268	Cost of living. Stop giving stupid parking tickets. Pay attention to what actually matters. [REDACTED]
269	Target at least a minimum 5% reduction in property taxes from the 2023 level. Maintain the "musts", but eliminate or reduce the "nice to haves"
270	The waste collection has visibly declined in the last 12 months. The downside started post-Pandemic, it hasn't gotten better since. Coming back to the same thing -- no VFM or not enough VFM. For the 2024 Budget please be much more mindful of VFM on public art, festivals, cultural programming.
271	Connecting walking and cycling infrastructure.
272	Many Canadians are suffering economically. Keeping tax increases as low as possible is extremely important.
273	I am retired with a fixed income source. I do not have the funds for your Wish list that you portray as necessary. Taxpayers are not a never ending source of money. I am entitled to spend my retirement years spending my limited money on what I want. You can spend some of the reserves, you do have money from non cash depreciation expense to fund capital, you can tighten the budget, delay or modify initiatives, growth will be higher due to house sales at high prices, current housing/ retail construction and new development under Ford's gov't. The fire dept did not have to come to the house when I called for an ambulance to take my terminal daughter with cancer to the hospital. You can revise who does what to streamline and work more efficiently with less people. You can process building permits on a more timely basis and Ford announced more funding for meeting targets. Get your staff back onsite to work. Collaboration/teamwork is effective and creates ideas. Your staff wages do not have to be comparable to Toronto where housing expenses are much higher. If money is your staff motivator there are many people looking for work to fill their jobs. Your job is to take care of the RESIDENTS of Burlington FIRST, NOT your employees.
274	n/a
275	Proactive policies to address houselessness
276	With inflation, the city needs to focus on how it can maintain services while minimizing tax increases by targeting wasteful/discretionary spending. There are cost cuts that can be made without impacting services.
277	Stop spending money on nice to haves 1) Art for the the new Skyway Arena 2) Redoing the City Hall interior when the vast majority of city employees that used to work there, now work remotely. Robert Bateman Community Centre isn't a bad idea; however at a cost of a \$100 million + for this, it is not money well spent.
278	STOP RAISING OUR TAXES!!!! Stop creating city councillor jobs and stop giving yourself raises!!!! Ridiculous and shameful.
279	Downsize the number of employees at city hall.
280	My property taxes should be going for services NOT an ideology. When times are tough we have to cut back, and not get everything we might want. Citizens are not a bottomless pit of money.
281	Burlington
282	Cost efficiencies - review of discretionary spending during this financial crisis, greater accountability for consultants, contractors and employees to reduce spending
283	32% tax increase over the 5 year span is simply absurd Mayor salary should be reduced to 100k period
284	Support for local businesses to ensure their success so we can keep our downtown core functioning well.
285	Please do not increase taxes. Affording to live in Burlington is already very difficult as a senior.
286	Councillors sit on the regional government which should be eliminated. Stop increasing debt!! Reduce taxes!!

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287	Stop wasting valuable tax dollars on Mayor's pet projects including virtue signalling issues she deems important. Stop wasting tax dollars on items relating to climate emergency council mandate. Stop acquiring properties for community centres until finances improve.
288	Active transportation should be a Priority - it would change Burlington for the better
289	An Indigenous Friendship centre, also a multicultural centre.
290	Make sure the waterfront is accessible to residents. Help keep downtown a nice place to go
291	Less taxes is a good thing. Government wastes money on whatever they do. I want it to be very clear what pension obligations are carried by the city, government salaries are likely the largest government expense and I know money is being wasted by hiring unproductive people or maintaining a roster of unproductive government employees
292	Consider be more prepared in winter months snowstorm to get more snow plow especially on smaller streets. Repair or better maintenance in power to avoid inconvenient power outages.
293	High crime rate in the last year.
294	reduce taxes
295	Some people are struggling with higher interest rates and higher home costs. Property taxes add to that burden. Higher taxes lead to higher homelessness. All levels of government need to find ways to be more efficient. Fighting developers who win by going to the province just costs the city money and the developer making the cost of the units higher.
296	Residents need more voice to determine what happens in their neighbourhoods. These surveys are a joke. Council rubber stamps the bureaucratic city staff plans. Also, too many layers of "managers" at city hall. Get rid of them and replace with people who actually work.
297	Stop increasing property taxes.
298	Get rid of this council as they are negatively effecting the city's budgets, and because of their socioeconomic statuses are completely out of touch with the majority of Burlington residents who many of are struggling to find \$ for their next meal. STOP FEEL GOOD SPENDING - people are starving in the city and moving away because they cannot afford to live and work in Burlington anymore. Why are we painting rainbows on the road/wrapping hydro boxes/ painting mail boxes/unnecessarily creating a redundant Burlington 150+ logo/ cityhall did not need updating, 100+ million \$'s on 2 new rec. centers in ward 2 within walking distance didn't need to happen, when we are in the middle of a finical crisis. SELL TRANSIT.
299	It is prudent in harsh economic times to be conservative with spending. This is not the time to add costs and pass that on to residents.
300	It is my opinion that there should be a decrease in pandemic funding as i would look to the province or public health for information and city of Burlington would be duplication so not necessary. As well for transit if you are providing free bus service for seniors etc then why would you ask to increase taxes? Bylaw enforcement for noise complaints and animal control when it is after hours is non existent in the rural area so i am not a fan of bylaw enforcement being increased through taxes. Climate change through marketing initiatives is not a priority to me as it is paper wasted and thrown in recycle. If you want to add to your website then that is an alternative. I know that takes place already so why would increased taxation be necessary.
301	I don't understand why we need more bike lanes in Burlington (specifically Plains Rd) when it is already legal to ride bikes on sidewalks in Burlington and very few people walk (except for downtown)
302	Keep Burlington from being a concrete jungle especially along the lakeshore. Keep building heights no more than 20 floors.
303	Maintain the green belt

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304	Please replace the trees that have been taken down. They provide so many benefits to the environment & to people
305	No. I've noted my most important issues in question #8.
306	FIND A WAY TO KEEP TAX INCREASE TO THE LAST 10 YEAR AVERAGE 3.5%
307	Continue to plant trees.
308	Stop painting rainbows and putting in art on intersections. Work on the roads and lights to move people around better. Rush hour becomes an issue on all of the secondary roads thru the city and getting downtown Burlington is an undertaking. We have basically stopped eating, shopping and going downtown as it's terrible to move around and find parking. And if you happen to find parking and are a few minutes late you get a ticket. No grace.
309	Enforce your parking bylaws rather than waiting for complaints from citizens.
310	cost of living
311	Concerned that transit services seem to exceed transit usage. Seems like a lot of mostly empty buses on the roads.
312	Don't raise taxes. I'd rather done services like events and parks Etc be cut then taxes go up again. Taxes went up too much this year.
313	Reduce the municipal government cost.
314	As Burlington has one of the highest per capita level of Senior Citizens in Ontario it is imperative that the city looks for innovative ways to provide support for this demographic. Community backed programs that offer aid to decreased mobility and decreased daily activities, such as, meals, social interaction affecting Senior Citizens.
315	We cannot continue to absorb 7% property tax increases year over year - combined with mortgage costs and cost of living - it will drive me out
316	The HRPS always submit an annual increase in budget which seems to get approved with very little pushback. I would like to see Regional Council challenge the police administration to be more frugal with their budget proposals and to find more creative ways of delivering service. Its time they sharpened their pencils.
317	Minimize/eliminate funding for divisive social issues/advocacy - spend limited funds on pressing municipal service matters
318	High rise developments should pay more to improve traffic flow.
319	Taxes should not be increased beyond inflation, ideally less than that. Cut whatever is needed for that to happen.
320	Hire leadership that are capable of improving each department's operational efficiencies rather than hiring additional staff. Reduce property tax portion provided to Halton Region.
321	We can't afford another tax increase! People are struggling to survive with all the prices going up..Burlington should freeze tax hikes and do what's best for its residents. Stop wasting money..
322	After the tax increase last year, any "nice to haves" like the civic square project need to be held off. With the current economy and things being so challenging with inflation, we need a break. Maintain the essentials like fire, but we cannot afford frills and extras right now.
323	Need to do detailed workflow analysis to determine the correct size of staffing needs.

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The City needs to protect our Green Belt, with the increase in rains and droughts, we need solid root structure to help absorb the rains, and if more land is cleared to make way for housing the land less stable and more prone to dryness.

The fire in Maui was caused by a long drought and an electrical line that collapsed into a dry prairie like grass land at the top of the island, the fire was put out but the land was so hot and warm that when the winds from the hurricane came it made the fire blaze up immediately and yet the Fire Chief in charge did not call or set the siren warning. I want to know what the City will do if there is in fact a real emergency that threatens the lives of it's citizens.

Are there homes or rentals that go un-used or un-lived in for 75% of the year? Is the price of those places too high? Why are we allowing people to hold onto these very usable spaces and not demand for them to fill those properties with tenants or buyers?

I also want to know if the City is going to be investing in more energy efficient methods and technologies? We could create a lot of jobs by producing energy efficient products and services and I think that houses could be more efficient as well.

324 I also know that many of Burlington's residents are suffering from the increase to mortgage rates and parents are struggling to keep up with house payments and food on the table. We need to offer concrete ways to allow people to find affordable food, while also being able to keep up with the bills. The cost of living continues to rise, but wages aren't always rising at the same speed, and a single income home can barely keep up with large rent and housing payments. We need to have inventive, clever and community based ways to give people access to housing but also make those homes efficient and clean.

Apps like Flash Food and Too Good To Go are a good start as well as food and vegetable options from OddBunch are also good, but I clear and concise sheet of all the available Emergency Services should be developed to provide to anyone who is suffering from homelessness, so that they can be given the list of resources that will include food, shelter and rehabilitation. No one wants to see a human suffering on the side of the road, and there should be a one sheet that is regularly updated with services and phone numbers that will give us the blueprint for what to do when we see someone who needs help. There will be an increase in homelessness as people continue to struggle and people will need to be pulled back from the brink with extra help in order to keep their homes or to find rentals that are affordable. I doubt that many of the rentals or homes on the market at this time are affordable to many people, and we may have to re-direct people away from Burlington in order to give them shelter, if we are in fact unable to give them support services.

Again I think it goes back to creating energy efficient homes, providing jobs in the sectors that are growing that can give people great wages and steady work, so they can continue to afford homes in Burlington and pay the taxes that the City needs in order to maintain it's services.

325 The property tax increases of over 15% in two years are outrageous! The city needs to take a long hard look at how they are spending money. Instead of placing blame for the increases on other levels of government, the city needs to step up and cut costs. This is not the time or environment to bring on additional staff as we have seen occur. The city should be reducing non-essential staffing levels and remove the work from home option in order to increase employee productivity. The fact that the mayor's recent additional role as Chairman of the big city mayors has required her to hire a deputy mayor to perform her duties is unacceptable. The mayor needs to adjust her priorities and focus on our city.

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326	Any climate initiatives. It would be great if there were more solar powered city buildings or parking lots, as well as more trees and pollinator gardens around the city. I think more buses and bus routes would also be great, particularly if buses could be electric.
327	Tax increases cannot be the only solution to managing a budget. Homeowners, residents are already challenged by the wild increases to interest rates, food, housing etc.... A tax increase in excess of 3% should be off the table until interest rates come down and people have a chance to recover financially from the pandemic losses.
328	SPEND MONEY WISELY AND STOP WASTING MY TAX DOLLARS ON "MAKE WORK" PROJECTS like using crews of workers to replace "speed bump" signs with "speed HUMP" signs on Francis Rd. Foolish spending in my opinion. The money could have been put to much needed use to cut back old tree branches that get knocked about by every moving van or tall trucks that can't pass under them. This is just one example.
	This is an extremely poorly designed survey without a comments section to elaborate after each questions, so will add here: 1- Need larger recycling bins with lids or use bags and need weekly garbage collection 2 and 3- Need innovation in permeable roads not toxic asphalt and tar. Need to stop building useless bike lanes - people want to ride on a bike park trail path with their families not to the GO Train in slushy winter weather 4- NO PANDEMIC PLANNING - this is ridiculous. Pandemics are caused by poor animal handling of blood and excrement. They only last a short awhile not 3 years like the WHO, WEF, and government propoganda try to fear monger. We must never violate human rights and lockdown people ever again!
329	4- Need build design innovation eg basementless homes for prevent flooding and cracking of foundations and split ductless HVAC systems to reduce noise and combustion. Look to innovators like Bone Structure who build with 5x1 steel frames and Deltec Homes who build on stilts or round designs to prevent flooding and tornado/hurricane damage. 7- Need to plant more trees for shade and pollinator and vegetable gardens for food. No more ridiculous bike lanes. Absolutely, no \$ for Burlington Arts Centre that allows men in the women's washroom! 7- Need serious revamp of the by-law office who refuses to test or enforce the noise and nuisance by-laws which include AC noise, pool pump noise, pool heater noise, light pollution, and vehicle idling. The installation of air conditioning requires permits that follow the Ontario Environmental Guidelines like NPC 216 Residential Air Conditioning Devices 1993 and NPC 300 Environmental Noise Guideline 2013 and should consider the WHO Environmental Noise Guidelines 2018 . All of these things can also be addressed through new builds and required of developers and renovators.
330	If the city is not responsible, then what input do I have.
331	Align the budget numbers, reduce wasted expenditures, claw back mayor Meeds hefty annual salary. Give the seniors a break in property taxes. City services do not equate to the ginormous amt of money pulled in by the city and not shared with its citizens. Enough wasted money already.
332	I would like the city to clearly explain in detail individual line items in the operating budget such as salaries and benefits. Also please show some discipline by limiting increases in operating expenses to levels below the rate of inflation, eliminating discretionary expense items, and freezing employee headcount.
333	I would like to see the city dedicated funds toward infrastructure items rather than murals, and special products when the "viewing" time frame is limited.

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352	Please continue to fight the intensification and development of the downtown area. Thanks for your continued work on this.
353	We need a solution for the coyotes. We live at Walkers and Fairview. Have called multiple times for the sick looking coyote to be removed - it gets close to people and has even come up to my front window. I'm not going to waste 911 resources, animal services should handle this before someone gets hurt. Thank you!
354	Honestly, I think this city has done well for itself but the increase in taxation is not fair to those of us who don't get ANY use from those tax dollars. I don't intend to have any children, so why should my tax dollars go towards schooling of other people's children? Also some of the uses of tax dollars are so poorly directed given that we are in a cost of living crisis. No one cares about art displays when they can't afford to eat or keep a roof over their heads. We're in one of the most highly taxed countries and probably one of the most mismanaged ones too. As a public entity, you must do better.
355	Withdraw from Bateman, this will cost the taxpayers for many many years to come. Residents around the area don't want it anymore as not was promised...a community hub. The talk is it will be mostly to brick uni and other partnerships and minimal community access. We have skyway which is an atrocious amount at this economic restraints. Curtail all spending on nonsense ideas and get back to common sense spending.
356	I was recently told wood chips on park pathways hurt trees in the woods. So no more wood chips. What's the alternative? Is it a certain species of wood chip that is no good? Is something like pine wood chips OK? No one is answering these questions. So we look forward to dirt paths with muck and puddles in wetter times. Not a solution.
357	No new projects. How can we have a tax increase >7% and then do a survey like this and not have cutting projects as a cost reduction? Things like new town squares and town hall renovations should be if the tax hike is 3 - 4%.
358	No more wasting money on rainbow crosswalks
359	Keeping in mind the City's scope, as the safety of residents and our property should be a priority for the Region, I would like the budget to recognize that we are in a year of inflation. While this affects the cost of services, it also affects residents ability to maintain their finances. A tax increase over 7% while expensive projects are being approved, is not appropriate. Instead of reducing projects, consider being more efficient and effectively negotiating pricing instead of accepting large price tags.
360	Less bread & circuses, more substantive & long term planning to support sustainable, healthy living, like the environmental initiatives, maintaining tree canopies, working collaboratively with other GTA communities.
361	More focus on increasing the tree canopy in newer neighborhoods. I would gladly pay more to have higher quality trees planted in the Orchards
362	This city needs another sports dome
363	The questions asked in this survey are terrible. Highly skewed to get a favorable response. Terrible. The lack of care from the mayor about the increase is horrible.
364	More garbage cans downtown. Constantly picking up trash off my lawn after an event like ribfest, sound of music, etc. As well, I think parking in the downtown should be paid on Saturdays in all City lots.
365	Seriously, what do you do?
366	Run the city like it was your own small business. The tax payers in this city can't afford another big property tax increase.
367	The City of Burlington needs to stop robbing Peter to pay Paul.
368	Cut down non-essential services and do not consider offering free transit to all but rather cap property tax increases. The services n'offres by this city are not superior to those of other comparable municipalities so there is not excuse for hiking our taxes beyond everyone else's.
369	Increase the width of Lakeshore Road to 2 lanes each way between Maple and roughly Guelphline. Which will help in stopping the congestion.
370	No
371	Keep the name Robert Bateman

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372	Be extremely fiscally responsible in these inflationary times. Many Burlington residents are financially stretched and council needs to keep any increase below the rate of inflation!
373	More splash pads
374	Please review your transit system It is atrocious, there are many examples of transit systems in more congested cities that are convenient to use and reliable
375	I disagree with all these bike lanes popping up on major roads. Why are bike lanes not put on secondary roads instead?
376	Continue to focus on a walkable city, encourage transit use. If possible, assist with having a grocery store established in aldershot to provide further walkability. Have new developments install green roofs, solar panels. Have new condo buildings include multi-storey units to provide additional options for families that cannot purchase detached homes. Reduce/eliminate use of single use plastics in city facilities. Renew awareness about vehicle idling bylaw.
377	The stop/stop traffic lights timing causes pollution and road rage. Resident shrubbery crowds the sidewalks in many downtown neighborhoods. Resident should be notified by bylaw enforcement to respect the public area by trimming their bushes or the city will do it at their cost.
378	litter pickup around the city..... too much garbage laying around
379	More supports for cancer patients.
380	Another 7% increase just isn't feasible for so many of us. I can't raise my rates 7% year over year or I'd have no customers. The residents can't be an endless well of money that the city keeps going to. Sharman says he doesn't support getting sponsorships because it's going to be hard work - welcome to the real world Paul where you actually have to hustle to make money and not just TELL people the rates are going up. There is so much perceived wasted \$'s being spent on initiatives at the city. For example, city hall gets a complete facelift/reno and then our taxes go up. That's a tough pill to swallow for people who are barely able to afford rent/mortgage payments.
381	This City has squandered an incredible amount of money on a number of ridiculous initiatives. We do not need to spend monies on expensive art projects like the one planned for Skyway Arena. The amount of signage on roads is absurd and excessive. We do not need to provide funding so people living in million dollar homes can host neighbourhood block parties. We need to "hit the brakes" on bike lane funding. This City, and particularly, this Council, have a serious inability to set priorities and separate essentials from frills. To propose a property tax increase in excess of inflation, particularly in light of last year's excessive increase, will seriously compromise public confidence in this City's management.
382	It is important to ensure that taxpayer's money isn't wasted on projects designed to make it look like council is doing something to solve an issue like climate change, while, in fact, they will have little or no impact on the city's climate footprint. (Unused bike lanes which lead to longer times in cars for those who have to commute that way.) Further, if you're going to create Pride crossings, don't make them out of such poor quality material that they crack and fade after only a few years. I'm not a member of the LGBTQ+ community, but if I were, I wouldn't feel honoured by the poor state of these crossings. Finally, the number of city staffers, particularly middle managers, is getting bloated. Yes, middle managers do have an important role to play (I know as I am one myself), but it seems like the more the payroll grows, the less gets done.
383	Majority of tax payers money spends on City of Burlington employees and not for city. You can not every year increase the tax and pay yourself. City of Burlington pays very well, excellent benefits for workers. Secure and easy job. Output is not worth at all.
384	Community is pretty great. No comments
385	Be fiscally responsible when spending our money
386	Reduce it
387	Less condo buildings

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388	Do not raise property taxes!!!!
389	Propose province-wide 1% increase to sales taxes (GST/PST) with guaranty that this 1% tax increase is given back to municipalities for their municipal/regional budgets.
390	Decreasing property taxes is important as I don't want to feel like I'm paying rent even after paying off a fairly large mortgage. Oakville appears more efficient. I would also like clarity on what happens to property taxes if houses are re-assessed. Property taxes are already going up by fairly large percentages each year it doesn't make sense to me that a re-assessment would increase the rates further - feels like highway robbery.
391	I was brought up in the business world. Each year we were asked to cut our expenses by 5%. The city of Burlington should be looking at our expenses and reducing where possible. i.e. how many vehicles does the city need. Everytime I go past Aldershot arena, I see 4 to 6 cars parked in the parking lot. One other item. If you are going to increase taxes, free the salaries of the ward representatives.
392	Please re-pave Walker's Line. There are huge potholes that are growing in size and affecting drivers.
393	efficiencies are possible per citizen. I can't imagine that the city's expenditures, net of increased property taxes, increase proportionately as new citizens move into the city. Can you relate net increases in costs relative to change in population in your presentations?
394	Road resurfacing should be completed more often in our subdivisions as well as main cross streets.
395	More focus should be on getting around in downtown Burlington.
396	Limit high density housing in downtown core area to avoid further traffic congestion.
397	Its a good job you are not responsible for all the above services
398	Reduce arts and frivolous spending!
399	If you add another Rainbow Crosswalk, am I allowed to cross there if I am straight? Put smaller busses on the road, I have yet to see a full one. We are a small city. Stop raising taxes just to look like everyone here can afford it!
400	I appreciate the effort and results to remove dying trees and to replace them as an ongoing project.
401	I would like to see the Burlington Art Gallery looked into. They have dropped a lot of courses since the pandemic. Before there where classes day and night!
402	streamlining services, less waste
403	That the City spend tax dollars in the right places, there is only one taxpayer and I would like to see how our cities tax hikes compare to other Cities with similar populations.
404	More greenspaces: trees, parks, flowers. Spend less on cutting to allow tree canopy to provide beauty and shade. * Lighting bylaws need to be written and strictly enforced. This is particularly essential now that lighting is LED Suggestions: 1/ pot lights on homes must be recessed and on the front only- too many people are lighting all four sides of their homes- residents should respect neighbours 2/ all lights must be shielded 3/ security lighting must be motion activated
405	These are a large portion of costly services for the residents. Perhaps looking at redistribution of current spending and providing increases or attention to items that the majority of population find more important.
406	Keep taxes low because all other expenses have increased and are a burden on residents right now.
407	Not at this time.
408	You must keep in mind that the current Provincial government is hell bent on destroying the GreenBelt to satisfy the demands of its owners...and Dougie is in their pocket. Every roadblock possible must be championed to protect what little is left. I think that all City Councillors should be open about what Provincial party they support. The information may well determine their likelihood of being (re)elected. BTW, my postal code keeps being rejected by the crappy software used. Why do US states appear? My real postal code is L7L2G8, I just picked something that would allow me to continue.

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409	Please be frugal in spending our taxpayers money. With the rise in mortgage rate, food, etc., there are going to be more and more homeless people in the near future. Please work to keep our taxes as low as possible. Thank you
410	With the increase in housing units, I do worry about traffic congestion, especially on Fairview and New Street. Implementing synchronized traffic lights and figuring out ways to ease congestion before the congestion happens would be good. Also pre-planning for population growth and ensuring services are ready to absorb the need. This includes increased spots for fitness classes, day camps etc. With more people, more competition to get a spot so-to-speak. I would prefer to be ready and have the investment in place than play catch up when a problem or service deficit is already in place.
411	We need to ensure that waste in EVERY city department is eliminated. Zero based budgeting perhaps!?
412	Get rid of the loose leaf collection by the city. It creates a mess of blowing leaves and leaves clogging the sewers. The region already collects yard waste. People need to bag the leaves and yard waste if they want to dispose of it. Otherwise, use them around your property. We pay for the same service twice through our taxes. I'm sure the city crews could use this time to clean up city parks and prepare them for winter.
413	Fight for us to not increase housing if you're not improving the roads.
414	faster processing of building permits, repaving roads (Fairview St), reducing height of speed bumps
415	WE appreciate the leadership of the Mayor working with Councillors and dedicated city staff.
416	Find ways to cut costs, continue making investments in maintaining current infrastructure and find a balance for new developments with new or expanded infrastructure to accommodate increased traffic flow. Traffic in the city is a growing problem.
417	You can't ask citizens to pay more again. We're not free money. You have to review all the expenses by department to bring back the tax level where we use to be. You were proud to say that we were below the average tax of all the major cities around us. Now we have the highest tax and it seems the city is very proud about it. A good mayor would lead her team in the right direction.
418	Reduce expenditure on unnecessary programs and DEI aspects. Get back to basics! Stop competing with other municipalities regarding staff and salaries. Find organizational efficiencies that do not require growth of bureaucracy. Realize that many tax payers are hurting and are not able to afford your expansionist ideas or programs.
419	Stop the spend, spend, spend approach because the mayor and her council think we need it, need it, need it. It is irresponsible of you to foist perpetual property tax increases of ~7% and I would point out that a 7% annual tax increase doesn't result in a 21% tax increase over three years, but compounded it ends up as a 24% tax increase. Again, having read the BMA report, it is obvious that the city is under financial pressure. Most worrying is the rather cavalier fashion with which the mayor and her council approach spending. Bad enough last year with the collective shrug at city council. Now this year we have a councilor advocating free bus service for all whilst blithely blowing off the approximate \$2 million loss of revenue as unimportant. And more recently I read of the mayor's desire to redevelop the area around city hall, meanwhile she can only name three events in the last ten years that were held there. What's next? A free balloon and a kitten for Burlington residents? It would be far more courageous of the mayor and councilors to be open and honest about the fiscal challenges facing the city and explain the necessary need for restraint.
420	N/A
421	People will only use sustainable transport if it is convenient. Make it that way, and they will come
422	I would like to see you run the City the way we run our households: don't undertake a project you cannot fund. For example, you have plans to refurbish Nelson Park and Millcroft Park. Does this really need to be done when we don't have the funds?
423	Developers of new housing should fund the infrastructure surrounding their project and the impacts to the area. With new housing the tax base is increased and no need to raise existing taxes for same services

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424	No
425	Road and sidewalk maintenance
426	<p>With the climate issues becoming larger every year, Burlington needs to shift the car-centric communities into walkable, bikeable communities. We need to make all streets bikable and slower speed limit for car traffic. Provide fewer lanes for car traffic and install wide, protected multiuse/bike lanes. Once residents feel safe to bike, they will ride. Please remove the centre left-turning lane and provide dedicated bike lanes. Stop offering city parking for free and use the revenue towards developing multiuse/bike lanes, more bike locks, and EV charging stations.</p> <p>As a city, please guide the real estate developers and builders to build more human-scale, walkable communities with better-looking (more classic-looking) architecture that would make our city beautiful and comfortable to visit/live for years.</p>
427	Please reduce taxes if possible.
428	Consider fee-based revenue tools instead of just property tax increases (i.e. parking fees, increasing traffic enforcement to get more \$ from tickets, luxury item taxes to target the wealthy). This will spread out the costs instead of just taxing homeowners and landlords who pass this on the tenants via rent increases.
429	NO need to increase our Taxes. No increase to wages either.
430	Upgrade utilities, power, sewer backflow, and water, etc.
431	Work with the Region and feds and find a way to pedestrianize downtown get the through traffic off our core streets. Martha to Maple Caroline to lakeshore closed except buses and emergency vehicles
432	this abdication of responsibility is reprehensible. you are involved, take ownership. otherwise, why are you there?
433	I was very disappointed to learn by experience how poorly the city handles development proposals. It has deteriorated over time.
434	Prioritize opening up more lanes and arteries for vehicle traffic. Bike lanes are great in the summer but useless in the winter time. Plains Road W is a great example of a place that needed an extra lane of vehicle traffic for rush hour but instead got bike lanes....
435	Quit spending money on services that very few people access such as useless Piers, purchase of Robert Bateman, unused bike lanes..enough already! The amount of money spent on these projects thus far is absolutely ridiculous. You guys give yourselves nice wage increases while the bulk of the population are in negative positions. Most of what is written in city documentation is just grandiloquence! I do not believe in the City of Burlington anymore.. I've lived here for 66 years and you lost us to Toronto. All you have to do is to let ok at the ugly new buildings for proof. Change the name to Boronto. 66 years...you lost us:
436	Réduction of traffic volume and speeds will benefit air quality reduce noise, and reduce the need for spending on roads, both fewer repairs and fewer roads will be needed.
437	Washrooms required at Smith and Spencer's park area because half of the time these washrooms are locked whenever there is an event at Spencer's restaurant. If these are public washrooms, why do they become property of the restaurant in case of a hotel event.
438	I have no use for spending tax money on arts. Those that want arts can pay for it. Bike lanes are dangerous and a hazard for all. Many riders ignore them and take up the lane.
439	Not at this time thank you.
440	Still waiting for more regular maintenance of blvds & public spaces, including replanting of trees cut down in previous years.

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441	Miller waste collection is the most professional waste collection Burlington have ever used ... far superior to the prior years of BFI. The Halton District School Board has done a very poor job over the years with its administration and trustees. Note the number of high and public schools closed and replacement with excessive school bussing. Also I mention the WOKE Nonsense of changing the name of the Ryerson Public School and Park. Our police services in Burlington are excellent.
442	Keep up the good work. Efficiency and doing the work day in and day out to use tax payers money.
443	Garbage collection in summer months should be weekly. The summers are hotter now and it is difficult to hold onto garbage for two weeks in summer. At least 3 to 4 months of weekly pickup. I am ok with biweekly pickup of recycle during these months to save money.
444	Stop being selfish and taking more than is needed from your residents! A hike of almost 8% on home owners rates after already a 7.44% is ridiculous to say the least! You are running people out of their homes and on the street. Cost of living is insane and families are struggling! You have the power to help them and you are doing the opposite! The mayor should take a pay cut, that would help 'catch up' in the debts you have. This will never happen though. People are suffering!!! This is all on you, the mayor!
445	City sidewalk snow removal is ruining the boulevards and people's property every year. The blades are simply too wide.
446	Maintain service levels, future-proofing for climate challenges, more community collaborations
447	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- City should consider an outdoor rink for kids to play hockey.- Downtown square could use some Muskoka chairs and perhaps some umbrellas to make it more inviting than the metal tables currently there.- Is the city getting its value out of public transit? I have never seen a bus close to full. Are smaller, more economical buses an option?
448	Must keep up with roads and sewer improvements. Prioritize the quality of life issues: recreation, health and wellness along with climate initiatives
449	Transit needs a fresh look at. Don't reduce service. Reduce the size of buses. Small size school buses!?
450	Keep taxes low. We don't want/Need to have the largest increase of any municipality again
451	No
452	Then... what is the city responsible for?
453	Previously I stressed the need for buses to go through neighbourhoods not around them. My wife & I are seniors in Palmer. To take bus means a trek to Upper Middle Rd then wait at a stop with NO shelter.
454	Affordable Housing for seniors and more rental units for young adults and retirees that is close to amenities.
455	As we are aware there are certain projects that are termed Net Zero Operating models, as in the Tyandaga Golf Course. This valuable resource could be a formidable and impressive money maker with the right management and a creative marketing team! If a committee is required, I would love to join the cause and see it flourish!
456	Welcome/encourage sponsors at community centres. Eg: RIM Centre In Waterloo
457	Landscaping/ tending to trees on boulevards in front of houses
458	Issue Debentures with various Terms, that the citizens can purchase instead of the City borrowing from commercial lenders!
459	keep parking free at night and on weekends, makes a huge difference for people to go to downtown core and for business bus route that runs from Dundas down Guelph Line to New street without having to go to Burlington GO to switch
460	If city hall is now used only on a part time basis by staff then sell the building and build housing
461	I feel the city does a good job of budget management. A common sense approach coupled with needs over wants.
462	Housing needs to be looked into for growth.

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463	Responsible spending of tax payers dollars. Spending \$3+ MM for bikes lanes on Plains Rd. W that doesn't take you anywhere. It doesn't connect to shopping areas etc. It goes from Waterdown Rd. to the RBG. It also took 2 years to complete. Since the road has fully re-opened, we have yet to see a stream of cyclists enjoying this expensive project. This does not feel like a necessary expense. People are struggling with rent/mortgage, hydro, food, etc. and then we watch an expensive bike lane project take 2 years and over \$3 million dollars.
464	Protecting communities like Tyandaga from through traffic, keep the bike lanes and do not allow two way traffic on kerns. Continue and enhance tree planting and green space protection initiatives. Dramatically increase costs and add a climate change levy for private removal of trees that are not dead or diseased or causing immediate safety threat. Build additional cycling infrastructure and educate the community on cyclists as humans and sharing the road.
465	Seniors are usually on a fixed rate retirement. This years tax increase was hard to fund and 4% increases per year will be difficult. Can you give seniors a break and develop a plan to limit the increases. We do not get more money each year whirl Ford Motor workers are going to strike over their request for a 40% increase over the next 5 years. We will have to move out of Burlington as it will be difficult th pay increased taxes.
466	Littering and basic garbage dumping on rural roads is out of control. Perhaps a campaign to educate people about the problem and costs to the city for removing rubbish from ditches. Why not have crews patrol our countryside for speedy garbage removal? . If people see garbage in the ditch they may think it's acceptable.
467	I strongly disagree with spending on bicycle infrastructure. Actual bicycle Use in our demographic does not warrant additional expenditure.
468	Clarity on just what can be recycled and what cannot be.
469	Climate change initiatives should be a priority in order for us to protect/prepare our city and our people to deal with environmental changes and adaptation to a new normal.
470	More environmental friendly entertainment (drones vs firework aka noise pollution aka more PTSD for vets and pets)
471	None
472	Please keep property taxes down.
473	I think Burlington does a good job, however, there must be ways to keep our taxes at the same level or only slightly higher, like 2-3%...the double digit increase you are implementing will take food off the average persons table. We are struggling enough Burlington, don't make it more difficult.
474	Property taxes have been increasing far too rapidly and there is no noticeable change in services provided.
475	Stop investing in projects that divide the community.
476	Where do we get to weigh in on how our tax dollars are spent by the region? If the City isn't responsible for vital core services why do our taxes keep going up?
477	Worry about increase in our property taxes...
478	More busses, new transit routes maybe accordion busses to improve the busy routes
479	Cut/reduce the social vote getting programs which benefit few people.
480	Planning for future generations and challenges should be a central organizing principle of Burlington. This includes improving health, affordability, inclusivity, climate change efforts, mobility without a car, and many other factors. We should also be focused on ways to prevent harm and discrimination, and ensure Burlington is safe and welcoming for everyone who visits, lives, and works here. Anti-2SLGBTQIA sentiments and movements threaten the human rights of people in this community. Misinformation and growing threats to democracy from the far-right are also something that should be on the City's radar - protecting democracy is everyone's responsibility.
481	Please look at all decisions through a climate and biodiversity loss lens, to help ensure a liveable community for young people.

Question 10:

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Note: Some commentary has been removed due to inappropriate content.

482	Services should be supported but Burlington needs to see more community improvements, such as trees and green spaces, community members are sad they don't see their own community be improved when their tax dollars go to what should be supported other ways like through the government or something.
483	Free transit was a great initiative. I would like to add free swimming lessons for kids as that should be a life skill that all are afforded.
484	Not at this time. I wish Halton Region and the City of Burlington could work together educating residents on all the subjects aforementioned.
485	Please hurry the lakeshore road closure. It has been a huge pain!
486	yes, this city need a pump track like other cities. Keep people in the city and attract people from pother cities with fun spaces to be here in the city, PUMP TRACK
487	no
488	Increase space for parks and recreation programs for kids because they're always full, maintain/increase library spaces/services.
489	Traffic is awful and our city should be improving transit options and increasing walkability. The concept of 15 minute neighbourhoods sounds wonderful and we should aim for that. More transit options, actual bike lanes (not just pictures of a bike painted on the road like on Lakeshore), and even small things like a pedestrian scramble at Brant/Lakeshore would be very welcome.
490	Co-operative federalism - work as a team with Private.andFeds on areas of mutual concern. Otherwise, get out of each others hair. Transfer all first responder services to Halton, and rationalize service areas. Decrease multiple service calls to single issues.,
491	Fix the tennis courts at Sherwood Forest park. Replant trees at Fothergill park. Fix the heavy asphalt on Phoebe Cres.
492	Continued financial commitment to the heritage properties in the city, and ensuring funds are replenished as they get used.
493	With climate change, there appear to be extended periods, say > 2 weeks, that are rainless. The city, at relatively minimal cost, (mail box insert) compared to replacing a dead tree, can remind citizens to water the " city" owned trees in front of their homes, especially newly planted ones.
494	Replacing dead trees, maintaining green spaced
495	In the 32 years I've resided in Burlington, I can not get over the increased traffic in the downtown core where I live. We need alternate emergency ways to get out of the city if required. This was especially true when the skyway was closed for 2 accidents this week. I'm also upset with the high rises going up in the downtown core.
496	City of Burlington and the council is doing a great job. Appreciate the collaborative approach by the city council between wards, while continuing to encourage and support diversity in our community.
497	Senior property taxpayers are being squeezed by ever increasing property taxes, the proposed 2024 tax increase of 7.82% is outrageous. Taxes at all levels of government in Canada, are becoming a detriment to society. I am fed up of living some politicians agenda, or dream. Government is the problem.
498	No more bike lanes or traffic calming or support for special interest groups or "green" initiatives. Stick to the basics.
499	Education: Taxes help build our community. They are an investment.
500	The city needs to spend much more money on the arts. Recreation always gets a priority but local artists have no space or affordable venues.Putting these things back under Parks and Recreation was a mistake. The people in that department lack the expertise or the interest to service anything other than what already exists in your funding.We lag behind other centres close to us and lose many people because of it.
501	Maintain Green Belt. Plan in the future to build a safe bicycle/pedestrian route North to South via QEW flyover. Hamilton has two. Major North/South arteries are excessively busy to reach downtown/waterfront.

Question 10:

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Note: Some commentary has been removed due to inappropriate content.

502	<p>I would like to see more frequent bus service (especially to the Burlington GO station). Commuters spend, for the most part, 1 hour on the trains, then have to wait a considerable amount of time to get a bus and sometimes 2 buses to get home. If the city is trying to encourage people to use transit, a more convenient system with shorter wait times would be effective.</p> <p>Also, as a person who sometimes walks at night (in the Brant Hills area), more street lights would be appreciated especially with our shorter days.</p>
503	<p>Reduce the budget for installation of traffic calming speed bumps. They are ineffective at reducing the speeds between their placement and do nothing to provide for safer pedestrian crossings.</p> <p>Continue to pave accessible park access in major parks for everyone's nature enjoyment.</p>
504	<p>Climate change needs to be addressed. I think the city should prioritize climate initiatives such as solar panels for city owned properties, increasing trees planted in Burlington, planting pollinator gardens, creating more community gardens, etc.</p>
505	<p>Traffic flow and safety. Bike lanes are not being used enough to warrant the cost in \$s and inconvenience. Road bumps not working well either.</p>
506	<p>More support for community groups and joint ventures, the things that bring us together as a community. More trees and natural spaces. Don't reduce Tyandaga golf course to 9 holes. More spaces for tweens / teens to be active outside. Protect our green spaces. Tansley woods has thinned out over 20 years neighbour roadside trees are slow to be replaced - more trees everywhere.</p>
507	<p>Limit increases to a minimum.</p>
508	<p>I would like companies and citizens to be incentivized to do good environmental things for Burlington.</p>
509	<p>Last year you tried to hide the 13.73% increase. This year be less shameful and stay under the less than 4% rate of inflation. If most taxpayers knew of how badly you have been controlling expenses you would be voted out of office in the next election.</p>
510	<p>Property tax just increased by a lot. It wouldn't make sense to increase it again.</p>
511	<p>Regional government should be maintained in Halton when the review by the Provincial government takes place. Adjustments may be needed but Burlington cannot afford to go it alone. Also, Council is too small. There should be an increase in the Wards or and increase in Councilors in the present Wards. That could be accommodated by having one local Councilor and one Regional/local Councilor. This should be a public discussion. Decisions like this budget are being made by too few.</p>
512	<p>Stop wasting money on climate change and come up with better ways to recycle.</p>
513	<p>roads</p>
514	<p>Fire department and city wage increases are out of control. Stop "nice-to-have" programmes like free tree giveaways. Increase user-pay programmes. Productivity is the number one issue hampering Canada's economic performance. The city is not doing its part to improve this.</p>
515	<p>A city bus to run along Plains Road to and from the Seniors Centre.</p>
516	<p>Be fiscally responsible and reduce property taxes.</p>
517	<p>Please prioritize protecting the earth locally, supporting groups, organizations, clubs, etc. that are doing this work in the community. Enhance public education around the declared Climate Emergency and please treat it like the EMERGENCY that it is.</p>
518	<p>Address King Road please. It's really unsafe for such a busy road and kids and cyclists and runners.</p>
519	<p>enhance the tree canopy, develop a better network of recreation/bicycle trails</p>
520	<p>Increase low coast and rental housing</p>