



City of Beaumont Council Presentation - Project Outcomes

June 3, 2025



A PLACE TO GROW



A Place to Grow engaged citizens to identify priorities and explored how to grow City services through a variety of financial options. They also explored how to grow City services through a variety of financial options. The engagement program developed the narrative and led discussions on this exciting, city-building topic.



PROJECT OUTCOMES



An affirmation of Citizen's priorities for City services and amenities.



A sense of citizen willingness to consider different methods for funding and implementing community and Council priorities.



An engagement toolkit that is replicable, scalable and adaptable for future engagement initiatives.

Citizens will have a heightened understanding of the many priorities that are being managed by the City and the recent accomplishments.



WHAT WE DID



Large-scale public engagement

- + Digital engagement
- + Public Events



Focused discussions

- + Small meeting groups
- + Targeted community organizations



WHO WE HEARD FROM

- + Chamber of Commerce
- + Newcomer community
- + Youth
- + Vulnerable sector agencies
- + Leaders of voluntary organizations
- + Recreation and culture organizations
- + Representatives from Beaumont 50+ club
- + Broad public participation: an online survey, Brighten Up Beaumont, Family Day event.
- + Administration & committees

A Place to Grow had over 1,000 interactions with participants through the various engagement opportunities.



OUTCOME 1 – CITIZEN PRIORITIES



LEADING THEMES:



- + Deliver on the priorities that are core municipal services.
- + Maintain and enhance what already exists.
- + Strategically prioritize major initiatives to achieve community pride and satisfaction.



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OUTCOME 1 – CITIZEN PRIORITIES

LEADING PRIORITIES:



Expanded safety services

- + Most frequently mentioned top priority in discussions and in the online survey.
 - + Was viewed as essential; should not be considered alongside other 'nice-to-haves'.
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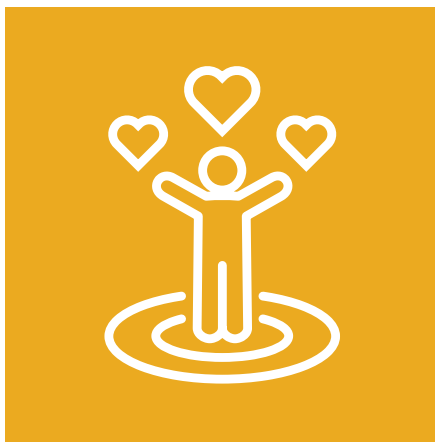


New and improved places to play outside

- + A key theme included maintaining existing facilities and ensuring projects are complete.
 - + People emphasized park-space for informal use: walking, reading, meeting friends, picnics.
 - + Strong support for joint-funded initiatives like shared facilities.
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OUTCOME 1 – CITIZEN PRIORITIES

LEADING PRIORITIES:



Enhanced support for all ages and stages

- + Most discussion on affordability and housing for all stages of life
 - + Connection between this priority and a strong, vibrant City
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New space to perform and create

- + Lack of art spaces in the community even though Beaumont has a very active arts scene which encompasses a variety of activities and engages hundreds of people
 - + This would serve all cultures at all ages and stages of life
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OUTCOME 2 – CITIZEN OPINIONS ON FUNDING



LEADING THEMES:



- + There is a hesitation when considering new ways to fund service growth. Citizens want to understand more about the options.
- + Prioritize funding for core services, ensure sustainability over the long-term.
- + Support for fully completing projects, ensuring good maintenance and that nothing is left unfinished.



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OUTCOME 2 – CITIZEN OPINIONS ON FUNDING

MOST POPULAR:

Reduce Costs Through Finding Efficiencies

Support for finding operational efficiencies, wherever possible.

- + New school site used as an example.
- + Collaboration with Leduc County on joint use facilities strongly encouraged.

Sell or Redevelop City Assets

- + Concern over sustainability of this approach.
- + Support when assets are no longer used

Increase User Fees

- + User pay philosophy and cost recovery models make sense and are more acceptable than tax increases to the general population.



OUTCOME 2 – CITIZEN OPINIONS ON FUNDING

LEAST POPULAR

Increase Property Taxes

- + Generally, participants felt that property taxes should cover core services. Once those are covered, then consider other things.
- + Limited support for special levies, unless for specific projects.

Decrease Service Levels

- + Clear opposition to decreasing service levels.



OUTCOME 3 – ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT



LEADING THEMES:



- + Engaging Beaumont brand
- + Templates for future outreach
- + Community participant lists
- + Comprehensive list of priorities and plans



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Discussion & Questions