



SPECIAL CORPORATE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, November 1 and Tuesday, November 2, 2021
Held Electronically and Transmitted Via the
SCRD Boardroom, 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, B.C.

AMENDED AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

2. Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager, Corporate Services / Chief Financial Officer
Regarding Pre-Budget Overview *To Follow*

REPORTS

3. 2022-2026 Financial Plan Outlook *Annex A*
General Manager, Corporate Services / Chief Financial Officer *Pages 1-5*
(Voting – All Directors)

⇒REPLACE PAGE 4

4. Budget 2022 – Community Check-in Survey *Annex B*
Manager, Communications and Engagement *pp. 6-8*
(Voting – All Directors)

⇒INSERT Attachment **pp. 8a-8tt**

5. 2021 Carry-Forwards and 2022 Proposed Initiatives *Annex C*
General Manager, Corporate Services / Chief Financial Officer *pp. 9-13*
(Voting – All Directors)

6. Attachment A to Annex C:
2021 Carry-Forwards and 2022 Proposed Initiatives *pp. 14-17*
Corporate and Administrative Services Functions
110 General Government
113 Finance
114 Admin Office Building Maintenance
115 Human Resources 117 Information Technology
131 Elections / Electoral Areas
150 Feasibility – Regional

506 Geographic Information Systems
510 Civic Addressing

7. 2021 Carry-Forwards and 2022 Proposed Initiatives

Community Services Functions pp. 18-27
310 Public Transit
312 Maintenance Facility (Fleet)
345 Ports Services
400 Cemetery
615 Community Recreation Facilities
625 Pender Harbour Pool
650 Community Parks
680 Dakota Ridge Recreation Service Area

8. 2021 Carry-Forwards and 2022 Proposed Initiatives

Planning and Development Functions pp. 28-31
136 Regional Sustainability Services
200 Bylaw Enforcement
210 Gibsons and District Fire Protection
212 Roberts Creek Fire Protection
216 Halfmoon Bay Fire Protection
218 Egmont Fire Protection
220 Emergency Telephone – 911
222 Sunshine Coast Emergency Planning
500 Regional Planning
504 Rural Planning
520 Building Inspection Services

9. 2021 Carry-Forwards and 2022 Proposed Initiatives

Infrastructure Services Functions pp. 32-42
150 Feasibility – Regional
320 Regional Street Lighting
350 Regional Solid Waste
365 North Pender Harbour Water Service
366 South Pender Harbour Water Service
370 Regional Water Services
381 – 391 Various Wastewater Treatment Plants

COMMUNICATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

IN CAMERA

ADJOURNMENT

ANNEX A - REPLACEMENT PAGE

Special Corporate and Administrative Services Committee – November 1-2, 2021

2022-2026 Financial Plan Outlook

Page 4 of 5

The following table summarizes the preliminary overall Ad Valorem Tax for 2022 (increase over the 2021 Approved Budget) with all the above related items included. This is in effect the estimated tax increase required to maintain current approved service levels.

Area	Base Budget	Change in Dollars
A	1.18%	\$34,188
B	0.62%	\$25,141
D	2.27%	\$72,708
E	0.72%	\$17,690
F	-0.38%	(-\$14,763)
SIGD	-1.99%	(-\$7,695)
DoS	-2.59%	(-\$118,941)
ToG	-0.23%	(-\$6,844)
Total	0.01%	\$1,484

It should be noted that these values are preliminary and subject to change leading into Round 1 as the base budget is refined and the 2022 assessment roll is released. For instance, the timing of new approved debt issuance will be updated to reflect current procurement timelines prior to Round 1. In addition, the 2022 assessment roll will be released on January 1 and will likely have an impact on the apportionment by electoral area.

2022 user rates and parcel taxes have yet to be approved for Regional Water Service [370], North Pender Harbour Water Service [365], South Pender Harbour Water Service [366], the Waste Water Facilities Services [380-395], and Rural Refuse Collection Service [355], and are scheduled to be presented through Committee meetings in November. The Community Recreation Facilities [615] and Pender Harbour Pool [625] parcel taxes for debt servicing are expected to remain the same or decrease slightly for 2022.

“What-if” taxation scenarios have been provided in the subsequent report for 2021 carry-forward and 2022 proposed initiatives estimating the effects if every proposal was approved.

5 Year Historical Budget Data

Below is an updated five year summary of taxes, full time employee counts and inflation data.

Historical Budget Details	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change 2018-2021	Preliminary 2022
Ad Valorem Taxation	18,990,440	20,218,598	21,168,636	24,449,191	5,458,751	24,450,675
% Change Over Prior Year	4.35%	6.47%	4.70%	15.50%	28.74%	0.01%
FTE Count	195.65	198.03	206.00	223.50	27.85	223.32
% Change Over Prior Year	2.56%	1.22%	4.02%	8.49%	14.23%	-0.08%
Inflation*	2.4%	2.9%	2.4%	2.0%	8.7%	2.0%

*Statistics Canada, Table 18-10-0005-01-Vancouver

 Let's Talk Budget

Stay Informed, Get Involved



Budget 2022 Community Check-In Survey Report

Introduction

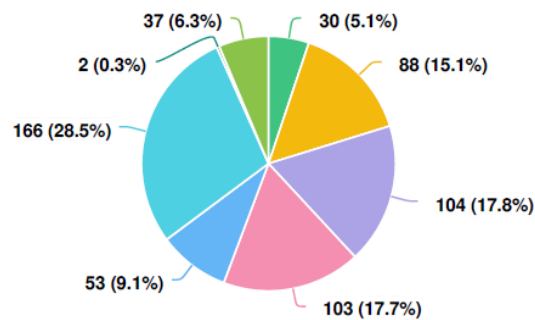
As part of the Sunshine Coast Regional District's (SCRD) 2022 Financial Planning process, a community check-in survey ran from September 27 to October 22, 2021. This survey summary provides results of this survey and comments from survey participants.

Participation

The survey received 583 responses with the majority on the SCRD's Engagement Platform, letstalk.scrd.ca/budget. A total of 49 paper responses were provided.

As shown in the chart below, the majority of respondents live in the District of Sechelt, followed by Roberts Creek and Elphinstone.

Question – Where do you live on the Sunshine Coast?



Question options

- Area A – Egmont / Pender Harbour including Islands
- Area B – Halfmoon Bay including Islands
- Area D – Roberts Creek
- Area E – Elphinstone
- Area F – West Howe Sound including Islands
- District of Sechelt
- Sechelt Indian Government District
- Town of Gibsons

Location	Number of Responses
Area A – Egmont / Pender Harbour including Islands	37
Area B – Halfmoon Bay including Islands	88
Area D – Roberts Creek	104
Area E – Elphinstone	103
Area F – West Howe Sound including Islands	53
District of Sechelt	166
Sechelt Indian Government District	2
Town of Gibsons	30

Service related questions

The next two questions on the survey asked residents about services that are important to them and how much investment they would like to see in those services.

These questions were tailored to each electoral area and local government based off of the services they receive directly from the SCRD. For example, residents in Halfmoon Bay receive services such as water and curbside garbage pickup from the SCRD, whereas residents in the Town of Gibsons receive these services from the Town of Gibsons.

A summary of responses for these two questions is below, along with additional comments provided by survey participants.

Responses from Area B – Halfmoon Bay including Islands, Area D – Roberts Creek, Area E – Elphinstone and Area F – West Howe Sound including Islands.

Question 2 - How important are each of the following services to you?



Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from Area B, Area D, Area E and Area F. These have been categorized into service areas.

Water
Twenty five years of mismanaging our water resources
Water most important recreation budgets should be cut until we can afford them they are not essential water is
don't mix water meters with building new water reserves in the mtns. stop fiddling while rome burns! build some dams!! go after the feds!
Waste Disposal
We paying to much for garbage removal. Only get pick up every two weeks. I dont use the kitchen waste removal but are charged for it. I'm a senior on fixed income
Curbside recycling
Curbside recycling service in Roberts Creek is badly needed. It's super wasteful to have so many cars on the road making trips to the depot.
Recycling pickup is much more important than garbage or compost pickup. I live in a rural area and forced to pay for garbage & compost pickup that I don't need because we gauge our purchases to be recyclable & we compost our own.... recycling pickup would be much more appreciated and a choice to have a user fee .
Recycling pick up. Would love that.
Curb side recycling pick up for our area please
Wastewater
defining sewage discharge zones in Howe Sound
Stormwater management
Although I am on septic, WW treatment is important to ALL resident in terms of operating costs and environmental impact.
Recreation
Dakota ridge ski trails
SCRD needs a gym that can be used for multiple groups such as basketball, pickleball, volleyball, etc. Enough with the expensive ice arenas and swimming pools that suck up taxpayer money
Dakota Ridge is important to because it keeps my family active and happy during the winter.
Dakota Ridge !! access and amazing space to be in nature.
Dakota Ridge is one of the Coasts treasures. So many more people discovered it during Covid.
Dakota Ridge Ski Area - maybe considered recreation, but should be listed above if it is.
Dakota Ridge is a very valuable community resource for families, children, seniors and adults
Every winter with friends I make exte3nsive use of Dakota Ridge ski area, using it 4-5 times a week and taking several friends with me each time.
Winter recreation at Dakota Ridge, including road access.
Dakota Ridge skiing and trails maintenance. I used this service so much last year and it was so good for exercise, mental health etc
Parks
Soccer fields

Soccer fields are very important to us
Good quality and available sports fields for youth is a very important topic to me.
Drainage and lighting of playing fields.
Disc golf course please!
Playing fields
Please consider funding to bring our local soccer fields up to the standards our kids deserve. Thanks
My daughter plays soccer and we need a turf field for really being able to do soccer development all season soccer field
Playing Fields specifically and outdoor sports facilities in general are very important to me my family and my community
Development
Affordable housing
Affordable housing. Decrease Airbnb licenses. Allow a second home for long term rental on less 1 acre. Promote the development of eco villages. Stop building licenses until the housing problem is solved. (You are turning the coast into a place for the rich where the middle and lower classes and the young can no longer afford to live and without them there are no workers, it's an injustice)
Transit
electric buses
We need benches at bus stops. We need a courtesy car to take people to and from the Highway and the SCRD building on Field Road, the bus service is too infrequent.
Transit system should run big busses only on the highway from Egmont to Langdale and more small van buses to shuttle residents to the highway.
Emergency Services / Bylaw
I would love to see true bylaw enforcement. if there is a loud party on Friday or Saturday night lasting until the wee hours of the morning I would love to have a phone number I can call that would shut that loud and drunk party down...
by-law enforcement and clean crews
Re seasonal use dwellings on Thormndby Islands, there appears to be no plan to provide fire fighting services, especially during a wildfire situation
Climate
The climate crisis should be the lens through which every service is assessed.
Peer reviewed science of climate change cause and affect
Roads
Roads and transportation (active transportation)
Public infrastructure such as sidewalks and PROPER bike trails, MAINTAINING streets, safe ways for bikes and people to travel on the highway - especially kids using it to get to school or work. HUGELY LACKING!
Road infrastructure and maintenance, ranked of utmost priority.
Forget the bike lanes--not enough room and a hindrance to motor vehicles and pedestrians.
Road maintenance and highway safety improvements on the existing Hwy 101. I know this is MOTI responsibility in Area D, but it is being funded and handled poorly.

Bike lanes! It is very dangerous to ride a bike on the sunshine coast. There should be a well-maintained and safe bike lane from ferry to ferry.
Bike lanes. Need SAFE bike lanes from ferry to ferry!!!
Infrastructure...roads, roads, roads.
Road maintenance
Road services, upgrades, ditch clearing to prevent flooding. I know this is a private service but is important and should be better managed.
All road repairs, changes etc should be focussing on building bike paths
Walkable and safe walking trails from Langdale to lower Gibsons
Better bike path on Lower Road, a new highway.
Bike path on Hwy
Ports
Wharf maintenance and enforcement. The Keats island wharves are usually clogged up with repeated offenders of the regulations, making it difficult for all to use.
Dock maintenance
Keep up our wharfs on gambier, this is part of our transit system and emergency access. West bay, gambier harbour and new Brighton
Various
Noise Traffic. Short term rentals Short term rental with absentee owners. Allowing activities that do not belong in a zoning and then making them ok. Believe we need to pursue Chapman creek water improvement as we have infrastructure.
Water and waste removal most important. Bylaw officers and RCMP on call more than now. There needs to be tare taken for the older streets (MOTI should be doing this) and there needs to be a concise Decibel reading bylaw getting worked upon. Outdoor noise levels after dinner should be curtailed. As should early morning noise - especially on the weekend.
Funding for Roberts Creek Library Very Important, especially since the Province dropped it and Covid reduced fundraising opportunities. Dog licensing and animal by-law enforcement is important.
Conservation is important, road maintenance is important
The facilities that make up a community should be maintained and supported. People need to have all the infrastructure to have a quality life.
Additional
Conservation. It should be a meta department that runs through all the others. Like development & bylaws. And water and waste. You're managing big changes on the coast, follow best practices for conservationism across board please.
Libraries
Search and Rescue - extremely important
Land usage (ie/ forestry and tourism). As these two industries are, at times, oppositional I think it's important they they be added to the list.
Advocate for priority boarding and more frequent ferry service please.....
Library service very important both as a secure location for those less fortunate during the cold, as an adjunct to the services that Service BC provides and as a valuable resource for all regardless of socio economic background
ditching / rainwater management
Water bus/ connections to gambier

Question 3 – How much investment do you think the SCRD should be providing to each of these services?



Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide their feedback on investment in services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from Area B, Area D, Area E and Area F. These have been categorized into service areas.

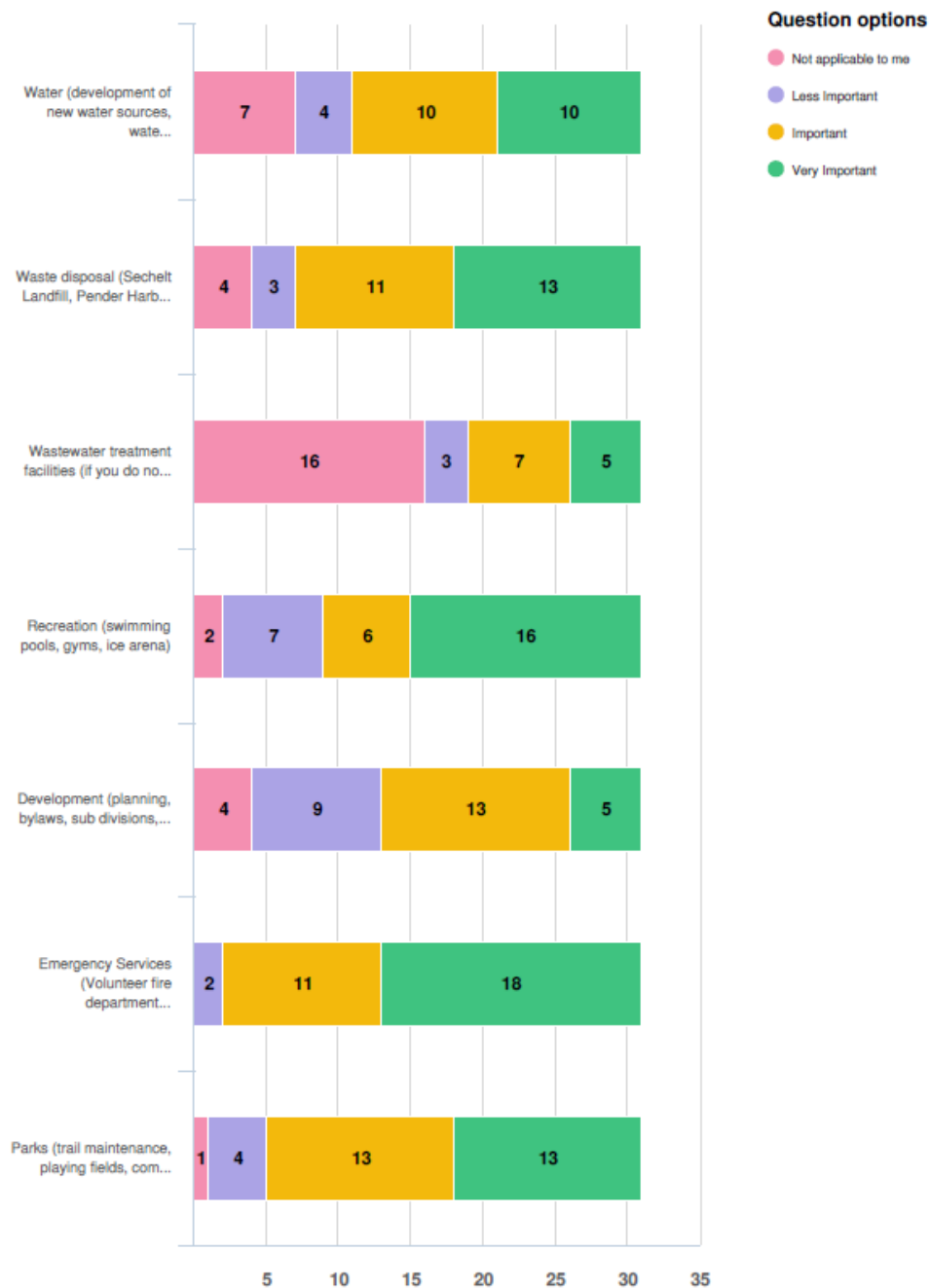
Water
Again. Enhance Chapman creek water system. We have infrastructure. Provincial government needs to support.
To fund water sources developers should be required to pay towards there water. The solution to the water shortage is not build more houses. Surely with the added construction a formula where the developers and home builders can be assessed towards there increased burden to the water system separate the meters from your survey. ridiculous!
We can survive without a lot of things in life, we can not survive without water.
Please fix our water supply issue, been a problem years come on!
Water management needs much better information, publicity and promotion of how residents need to manage their own water use, and grasp why it's so important. The info was not getting out in the way it really needs to, and residents (maybe especially with seasonal guests) were not making the effort. Crisis. As a Grantham's resident, I've heard that money's already been spent for the supplies to build the approved additional system here, but there's NO practical progress for implementing the actual work on the project. ???
Waste Disposal
Curbside recycling :p
Recreation
I think it's important to help make Dakota Ridge accessible to as many people as possible so they can appreciate and enjoy this amazing place in our community.
Disc golf course please
Under Recreation and Parks above you do not mention Dakota Ridge as an example. This facility is an absolute GEM and must continue to be available to the community. Especially during COVID-19 restrictions it proved to be a safe place for our community to get outside and stay healthy
Winter recreation at Dakota Ridge -- what a gem!
Parks
More investment in sports fields for youth.
Please consider investing in soccer fields on the Coast. We are continually having to cancel games due to too much rainfall in the winter and then in the summer because it's too dry. It's a joke and the children on the Coast deserve better. Thank you.
maintaining playing fields
I would like to see investments in our sports fields. I think there are many turf fields that could be improved (ie water drainage and improved turf conditions) and I would like to see investment in at least two artificial turf fields. The condition of some of the soccer fields can be quite poor at times.
Development
Developers need to pay more for THEIR infrastructure or development should be curtailed due to many concerns like climate change and lack of resources like water
Affordable housing

Increase budget for social housing, eco villages and stop the regular development until everybody can live with dignity. STOP Airbnb licenses ASAP
Emergency Services / Bylaw
Bylaw enforcement
The fire department needs more investment!
Climate
Review and disclose critical peer reviewed science of climate change with potential consequences to the Sunshine Coast. Significantly “Reduce” land development. Review and rethink the cause and affect of waste-to-landfill using a peer reviewed critical science focus.
Roads
Bike lanes
Again, forget the bike lanes.
Where is the questionnaire regarding the upgrading of the highway, it's time to do something about the dangers in no way in getting rid of a large population which has been growing much faster than any upgrading done in the last 30yrs.
Active transportation infrastructure isn't specifically listed but is crucial
Better bike path on Lower Road, a new highway
Bike path for safe riding along the whole coast
Various
As there are many nice-to-have things to spend finite tax dollars on, it is increasingly critical that the SCRD clearly and transparently prioritizes the 2022 budget. This will help residents and the SCRD be clear on the priorities, and help us see how the budget and staff time are being allocated to these. This means actually dropping many of the nice-to-have-but-not-essential budget items (there are way too many projects in 2021!) and being able to withstand the disappointment of many small lobby groups. At a minimum, you absolutely need to give water catchment and forest (fire) management top priority, as well as support to a realistic economic strategy (what is ours?) backed up by affordable housing.
People must make an agreeable wage - we need people up for the task - and taking care of them is paramount. Otherwise they will walk. Global warming is on our plate too - as is protection of what little forest we have left on the Coast. Somewhere in all of this we need to work smarter. I am annoyed at how little attention is given to what actually grows on our exemplary verges. That beater bar comes around a couple of times a year and knocks out superb vegetation - the excuse - it is a fire hazard. But what about the air cleaning plants provide? Ferns left to scent the air in September should be a goal. Spring herbs for teas - Geums and Glecoma hederacea might have come with settlers many moons ago - their attributes are steller. Alongside that old bugaboo Polygonum we are all too fast to covet neatness before useage. Our bad.
Appropriate assessments and permits should be required prior to cutting down trees. Look at a few properties on lower road. Add bike lanes on the entire lower road. What is a cyclist to do with a lane on half the distance! Lower road was paved this year and nothing was done to improve this and there are a significant number of seniors now using E bikes which are environmentally friendly and a healthy alternative. So many kids ride home and it's dangerous! It was a waste of money and opportunity.
Road planning and upgrading Climate change planning

Figure out the water situation and HOUSING!!!! Those are a must
Our playing fields and the Dakota Ridge recreational area
Additional
More respect for and higher pay for Ambulance attendants. \$2. an hour to sit in the hall unless on a call out. Would you do this work for this ungodly wage?
I think we can make better use of the money currently designated to the above concerns. As someone who has not had a lot of money in my life I know there are ways to make the most of options, so that there is no lack, just better financial planning
definitely more for library services
sorry I am not sure just that all are important!

Responses from Area A – Egmont / Pender Harbour including Islands

Question 2 - How important are each of the following services to you?



Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from Area A. These have been categorized into service areas.

Recreation
I feel the gym and pool are a huge benefit for the community. Excellent facility with great staff. we thank the three women who proposed the facility and the government members who listened to their ideas every time we go there
Development
Affordable housing not miner one priority
Various
Of all of the above WATER and WASTE Management are the mostimportant
Additional
libraries, museums
library
Reading room in PH. Park is very good.
Libraries
don't use local library or reading centre enough

Question 3 – How much investment do you think the SCRD should be providing to each of these services?

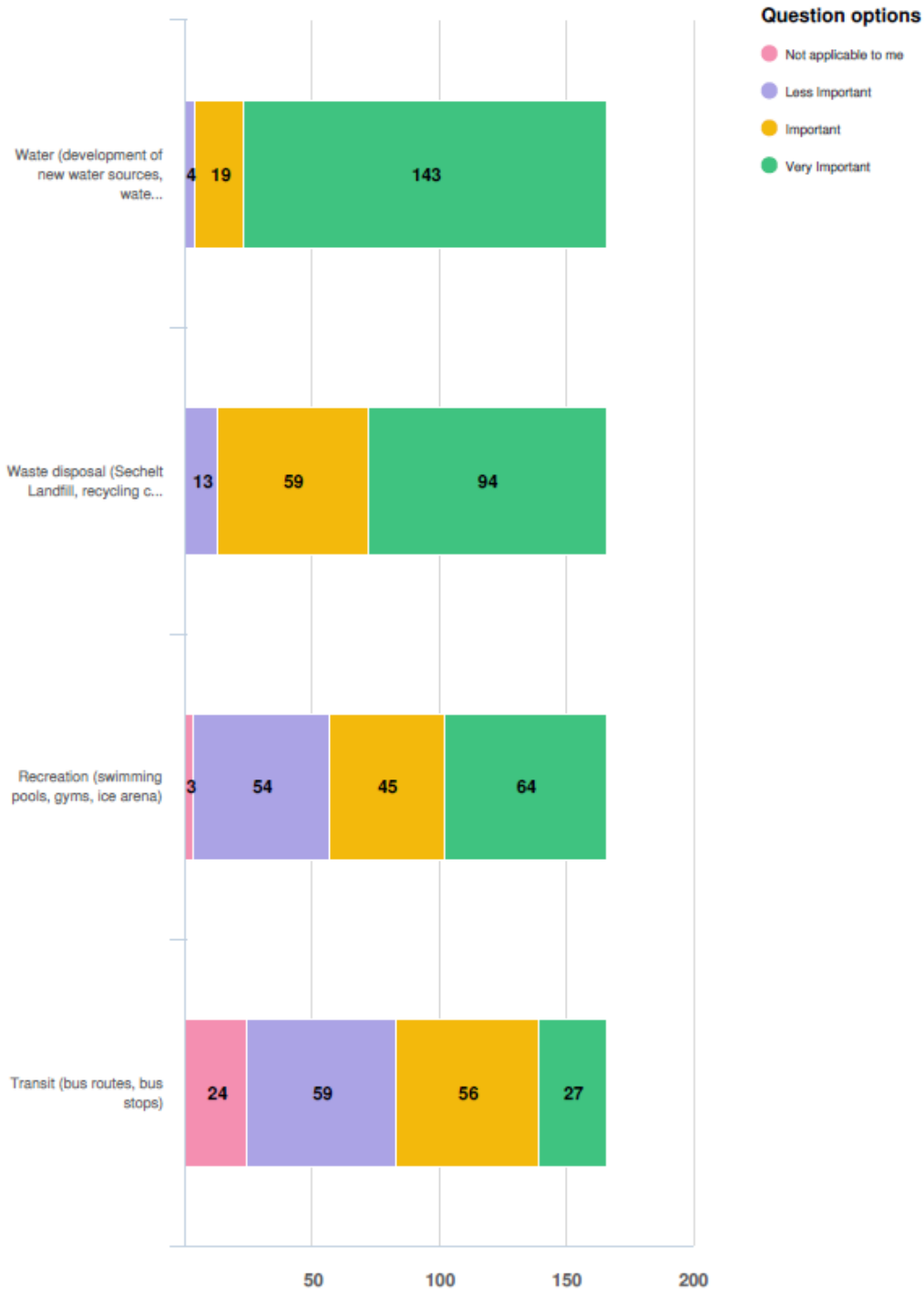


Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide their feedback on investment in services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from Area A.

Water
We feel the south Pender has benefited from water meters and know at least 2 families who have been advised of leaks and fixed them.
Waste Disposal
Lower fees at transfer station might encourage more people to use it instead of dumping on trails
Recreation
Long term planning for our recreation facilities is imperative. The importance of these facilities to health of our community depends on these facilities. Investment in staff training and recruitment is critical for the success of our facilities. Reducing costs of training / supportive staff to remain is one of the key elements to success. Also capital / operation costs.
Recreation and fitness facilities are hugely important for the health of the population. Staffing has been a huge issues. Could it be an idea to pay for the training for pools and other facilities in return for asking for a minimum commitment? the cost of training for such specialized skills (that can't be used elsewhere) can be a barrier to some very good candidates.
Transit
Need a bus to madeira park and crossroads
Roads
Road maintenance!
Additional
libraries, museums

Responses from District of Sechelt

Question 2 - How important are each of the following services to you?

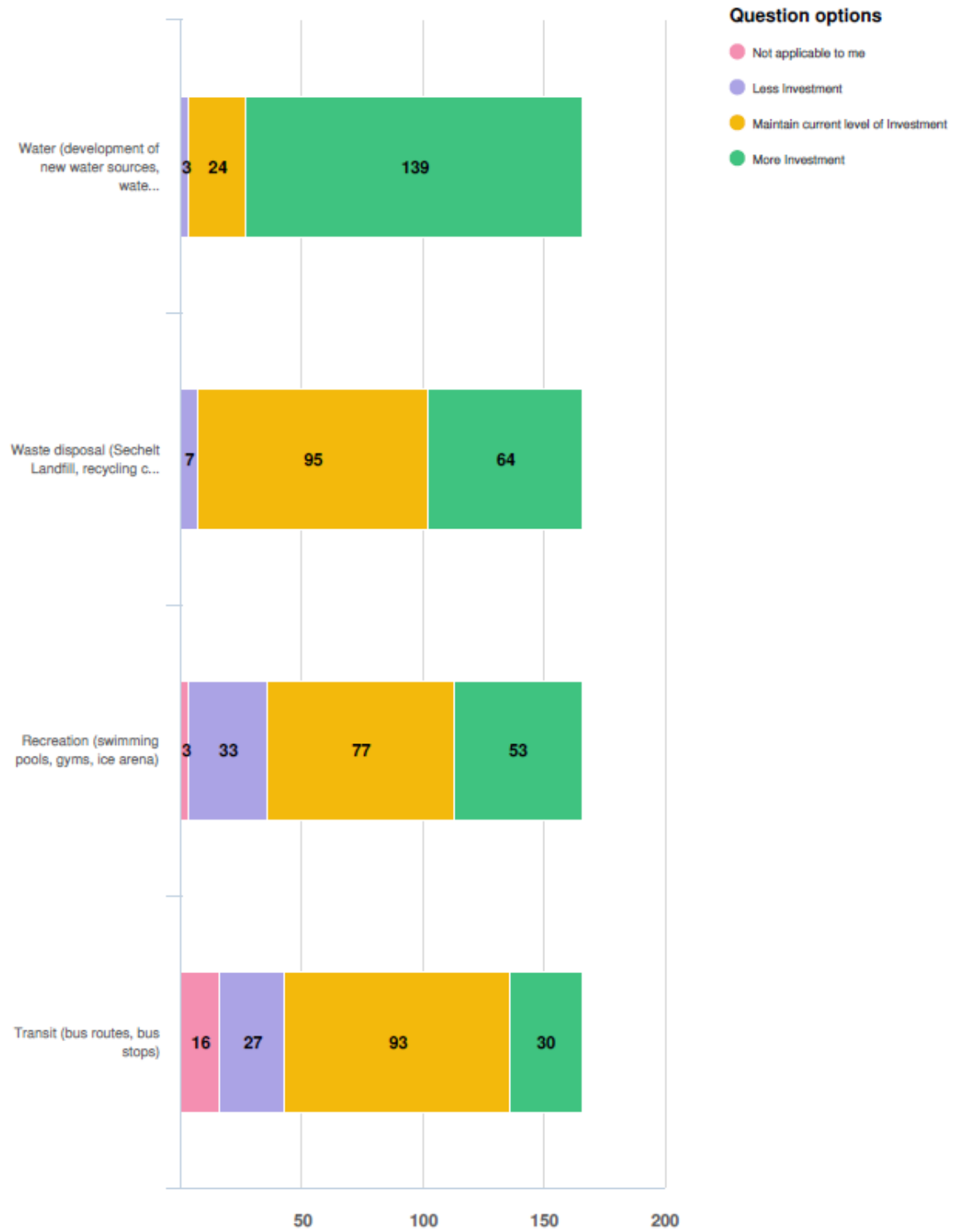


Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from the District of Sechelt. These have been categorized into service areas.

Water
Reservoir
water metering should NOT be included with new water sourcing
I am tired of wasting time and money on water talks. We need MORE water BEFORE continuing to expand population. PERIOD
Tired of listening about what you're going to do about the water, time to be proactive and move forward instead of sitting back and waiting for the other stakeholders to come to you.
No water meters
Water SUPPLY critically more important than METERS
Water infrastructure is the most important. I am strongly against water metering and "leak" finding unless done by the individual property. Fix our 3rd world water infrastructure. we live in a rain forest. It is the same problem every summer
Development of new water sources should be on its own. Meters and leak detection is a waste of time and money
Increased water storage capacity is needed in tandem with new sources and earlier restrictions on lawn watering.
New water source extremely important! Top priority Installing meters on older homes. Slowly as budget allocation permits Two different questions have been rolled into one. Two totally different projects. care for riparian zones and utmost respect for green space and watersheds
You have bucketed water meters and new water sources in one item. I am totally in support of the development of new sources and not at all in support of meters. Weighing a pig doesn't make it fatter.
I support new water sources but not meters
Recreation
Dakota Ridge Winter Recreation Area!
Parks
Green space / natural asset management
Parks and allocation of new land for parks.
Good soccer fields, outdoor recreation, pickle ball courts
Artificial turf sports fields
Sports fields!!!!
Soccer field conditions
Fields and Parks. Bike paths.
Better soccer fields and maintenance please please
Upkeep of soccer fields is extremely important to all youth on the Sunshine Coast!
Field conditions - our fields get tremendous use
Recreation such as sports fields

Soccer fields. Soccer is the biggest sport practiced in our community, soccer is fun, inexpensive and accesible to everyone, adult and children. Our current fields maintenance and shape are just shameful, the fields are full of holes, lawn maintenance is pretty limited.
Parks & Trails maintenance is very important to me.
Playing fields
Soccer Fields. Our fields are an embarrassment compared to Vancouver or Squamish fields. We need better fields for our youth. One great turf field or very well managed grass field in the middle of the coast. PLEASE.
Fields for soccer!! We need a central turf field or 2!! Maybe across from Big Macs?!
Sports fields - our family uses them every week and limited availability and field closures and maintenance issues are a huge priority for us.
Sports fields and grass maintenance
Roads
Road and ditch maintenance to ensure further flooding and erosion does not continue.
Safe bicycle paths.
Bike lanes - ie - where are they?
road upkeep
Walking and bike lanes
MOTI consultant regarding crosswalk identification for highway.
Various
Watershed protection, parks and natural areas conservation should be considered essential services on the Sunshine Coast
BIKE PATHS making biking along the highway between neighbourhoods safe for families, Dakota Ridge, Soccer fields
Additional
Local Arts and culture support.
Supporting Food security on the Coast.

Question 3 – How much investment do you think the SCRD should be providing to each of these services?



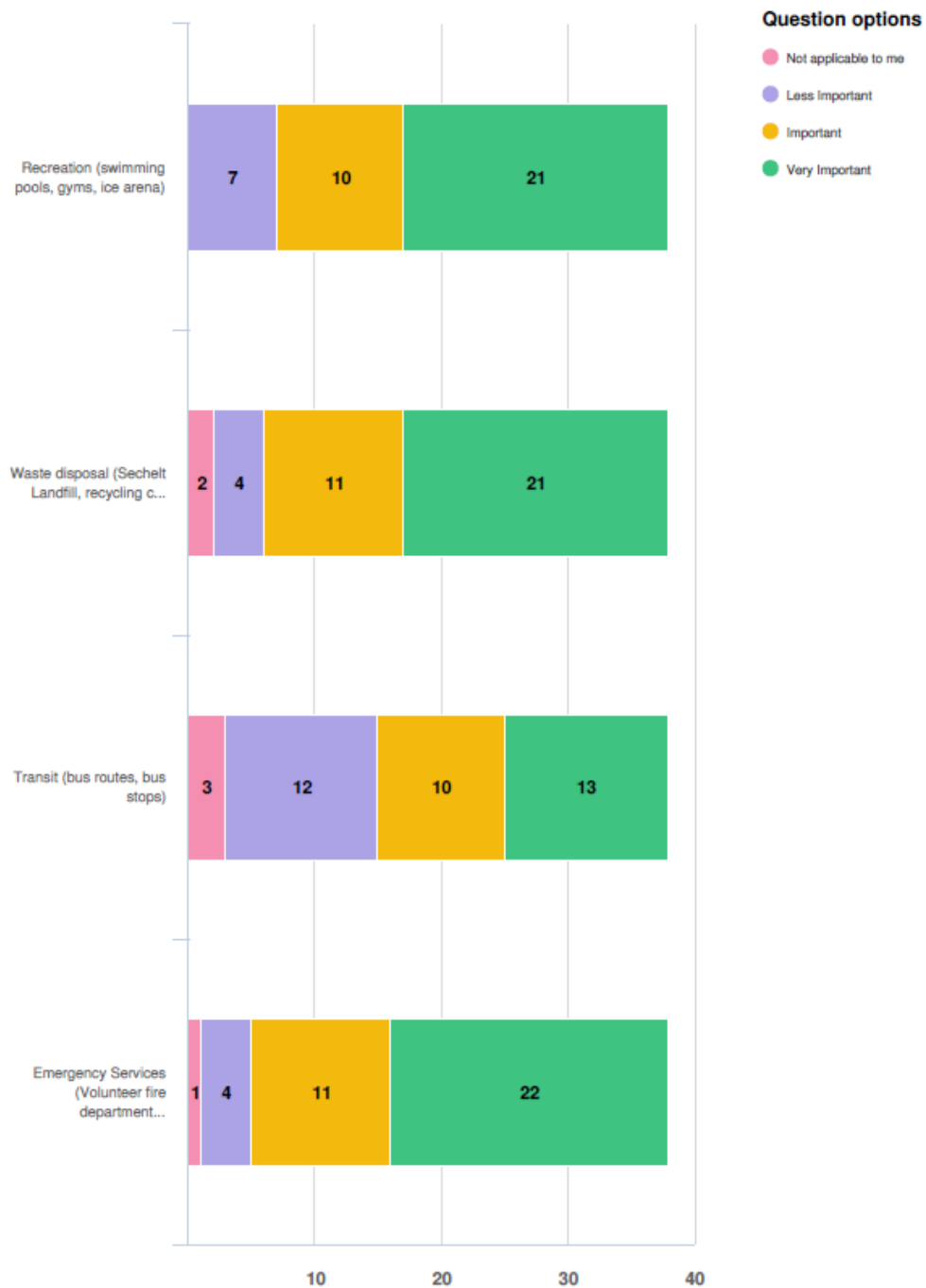
Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from the District of Sechelt.

Water
Please capture the water as you should have done many years ago meters are wrong
No meters
Watershed protection for community water supplies is essential.
No more studies on water. If your can't solve this shortage issue new development must be halted. Not fair to issue a 47% increase for water and then tell us not to use it. Seriously? Where's the sewer and gas lines ?
development of water storage
Get our water source back from the parks department as it was in the beginning
Waste Disposal
Better pay for disposal workers
Recreation
we need to have a gym in our community to service dry floor users such as basketball, pickleball, etc.
More outdoor pickleball courts are needed.
Dakota Ridge needs more funding!
Parks
Artificial turf sports field
Way more to sports fields on the coast. We need year round fields for use. Soccer and baseball are for all families; Unlike ice sports.
Please invest more into all season soccer fields
Maintain soccer fields - maintain current level of investment
More investment into fields throughout the coast and possibly a turf field with multipurpose use . This is almost essential given our drought in the summer and flooding in the fall and winter
Sports fields need more investment and more input from the users as to where the funds are to be spent
Invest in better sports fields for our young athletes. Promotes better mental health, strong life lessons, community connection, teamwork and long term friendships!
More investment in soccer/baseball fields
Maintaining soccer fields
Outdoor sports fields
More investment in our soccer fields
Playing sport fields more investment
Turf please with a walking track around would be an amazing healthy addition where our community could gather together host tournamwnts fundraisers (walk a thons) and so much more
Sports fields - the fields are a huge resource and they require more attention. Capital investments (if done wisely) would be valuable.
Development
Encourage home owners to rent their lower level of their homes to members of our community.and new 'workers/employees moving here for jobs' for businesses to keep open. More staff to approve

more building permit applications for new developments, new homes and legal 2nd suite for long term rentals.
Better long range planning of municipal services to handle growth.
Transit
Handidart service isnt good enough. Bad enough being disabled and unable to get around by yourself but handi dart service isnt available in the evenings or weekends here on the coast and thats wrong!
Various
BIKE PATHS making biking along the highway between neighbourhoods safe for families, Dakota Ridge, Soccer fields
Additional
Coordinated workforce housing strategy. Green energy infrastructure, solar generating highways
more investment into green space / natural asset management
Facilities available for Arts and Culture.
Start utilizing our local artists to teach arts and crafts.
It's not just about investing; it's about investing smart. We need action. We don't need to spend money on more consulting reports.
Reduce red tape / improve efficiency - it's taking far too long to get things done
More funding for libraries to allow them to extend opening hours

Responses from Town of Gibsons

Question 2 - How important are each of the following services to you?



Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from the Town of Gibsons. These have been categorized into service areas.

Water
Water infrastructure
Agricultural extension and water equity
Waste Disposal
Recycling roadside pick up
Recreation
Dakota Ridge!
Parks
Sports fields are very important to me.
Soccer fields and hiking trails- maintenance I. Portable washrooms at beaches etc.
Community sports Fields (for childrens/youth soccer for example).
Development
protection of canopy in towns and related/adjacent land
Additional
Libraries!
Funding for library and muesum is very important to me. Also I use the rec centres almost every day (either for myself or my kids)

Question 3 – How much investment do you think the SCRD should be providing to each of these services?

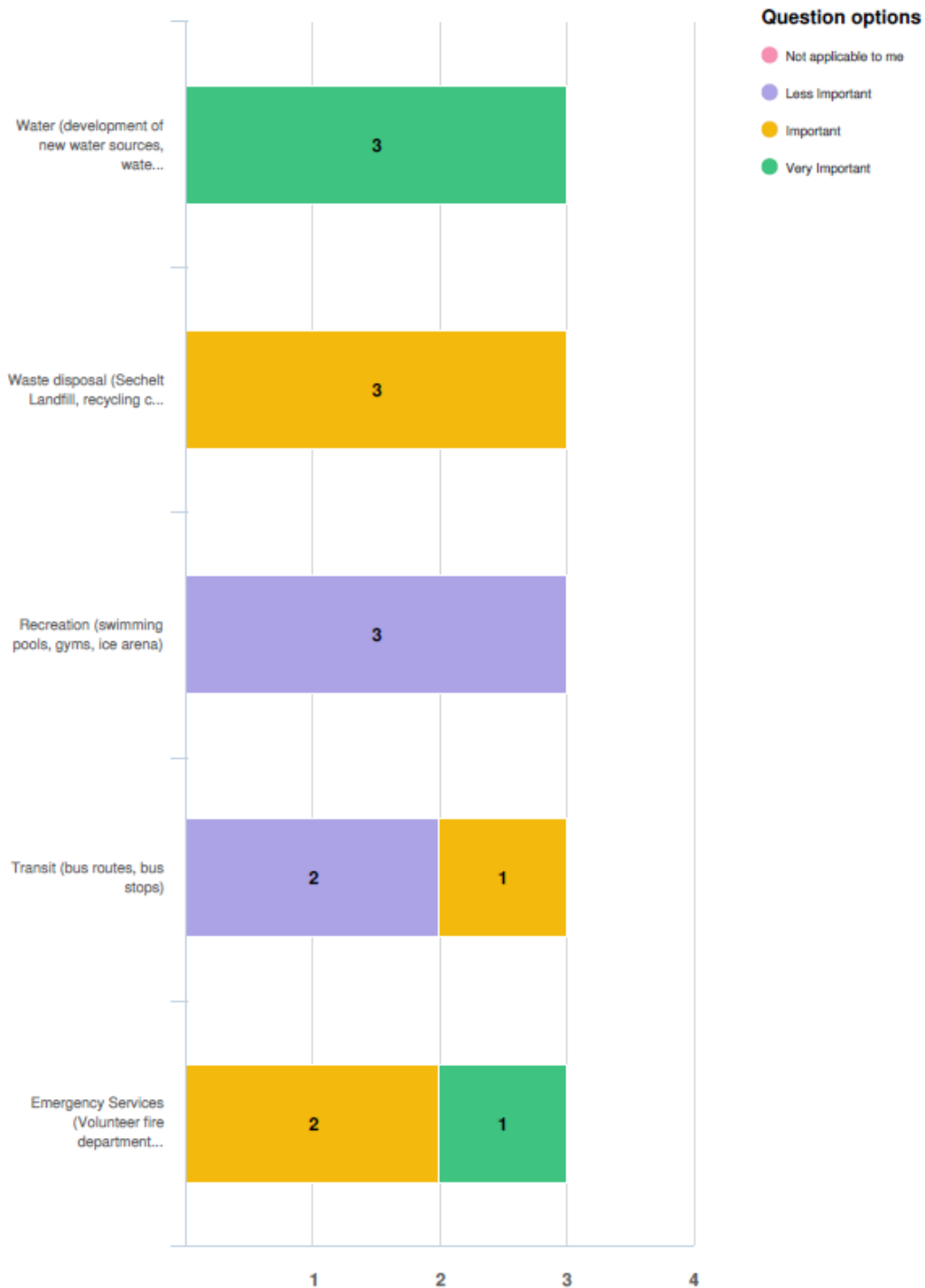


Survey participants could also select “Other” and provide their feedback on investment in services that may not have been listed. The following are comments from survey participants from the Town of Gibsons.

Water
We do not have enough water facilities
Agricultural extension, water equity, water storage
Waste Disposal
Recycling roadside pick up
Recreation
Pickleball courts at SCRD parks or facilities.
Parks
More investment in sports fields.
We need new soccer fields! Our playing surfaces compared to the city is a joke. Let’s get some and please keep the dog off of them! The TOG spend money and time fixing brothers and it’s now a dog park
Community sports Fields (for childrens/youth soccer for example). Broader availability of field(s) with Floodlights and the general condition of the fields should be prioritized.
Development
protection of canopy in towns and related/adjacent land
Additional
Our roads are too narrow and too crowded between Gibsons and Sechelt. Salting and snow removal is an increased worry with global warming creating extreme weather. We have lost parking spaces on North Fletcher due to the ridiculous and costly " traffic calming" that was not needed. There is not enough space on the handi dart for my 92 year old partner to be offered the use of it.
We need more safe bike and mobility scooter routes as more and more people are aging and not able to drive. This is another reason why roadside pick up of recycling is required. We have an aging population and need to consider that many of our elders no longer drive and need help.
Planning and Development Services. I would like to see this service focus more on protecting the natural assets of our rural areas, where we are able such as riparian areas, shoreline areas and other collaborative efforts to improve our climate resilience. I really value Dakota Ridge as a winter recreation area. It is growing family destination because of Dakota Ridge nordics efforts and would like to see the road and facility continue to get increased SCRD attention
Libraries!
- more long term investment for museum and library. - new building for museum - more classes and longer opening hours for rec centres

Responses from Sechelt Indian Government District

Question 2 - How important are each of the following services to you?



Question 3 – How much investment do you think the SCRD should be providing to each of these services?



There were no additional comments provided by survey participants from the Sechelt Indian Government District.

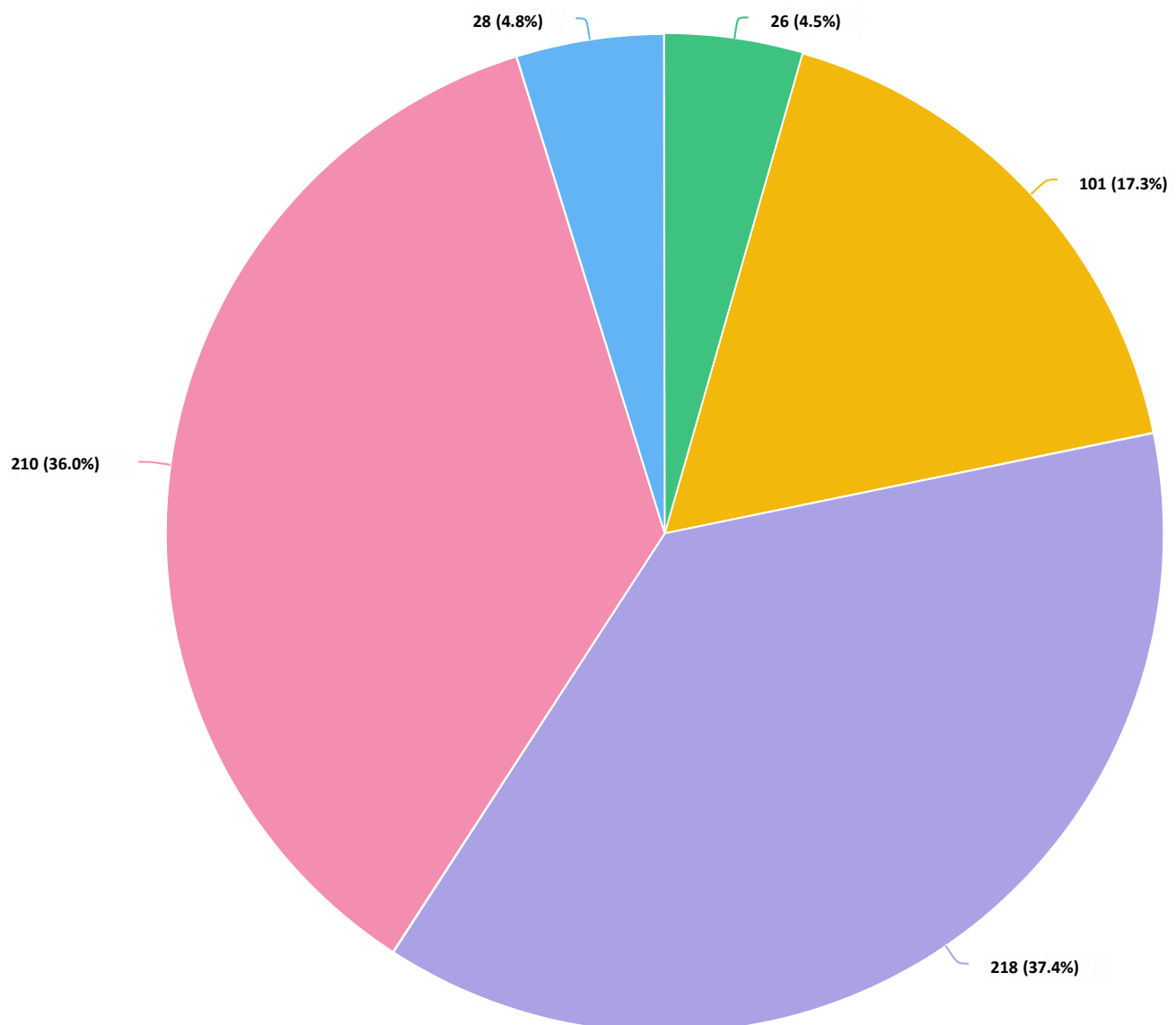
Budget knowledge & participation

The next three questions are focused on participation in SCRD budget meetings and also knowledge of the SCRD budget process.

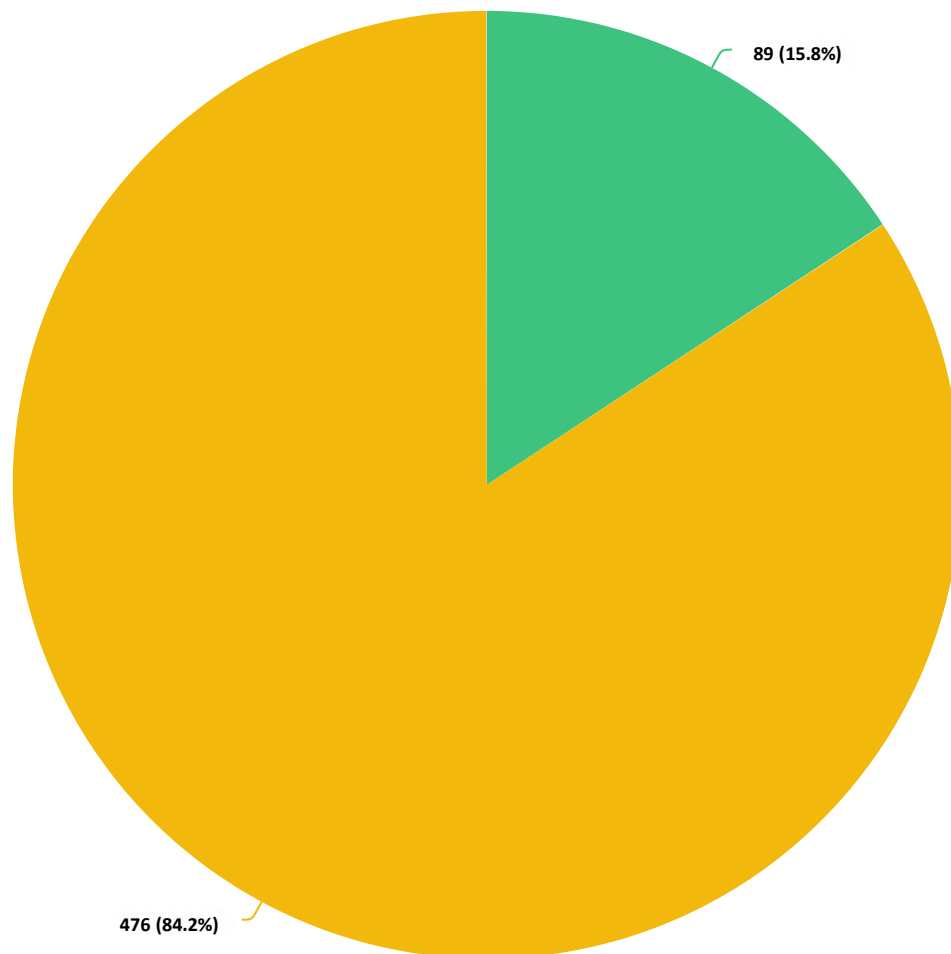
Question 4 – How do you rate your knowledge of the SCRD's budget process?

Question options

● The SCRD has a budget process? ● Aware of the budget but don't know a lot ● Know a little ● Good ● Great



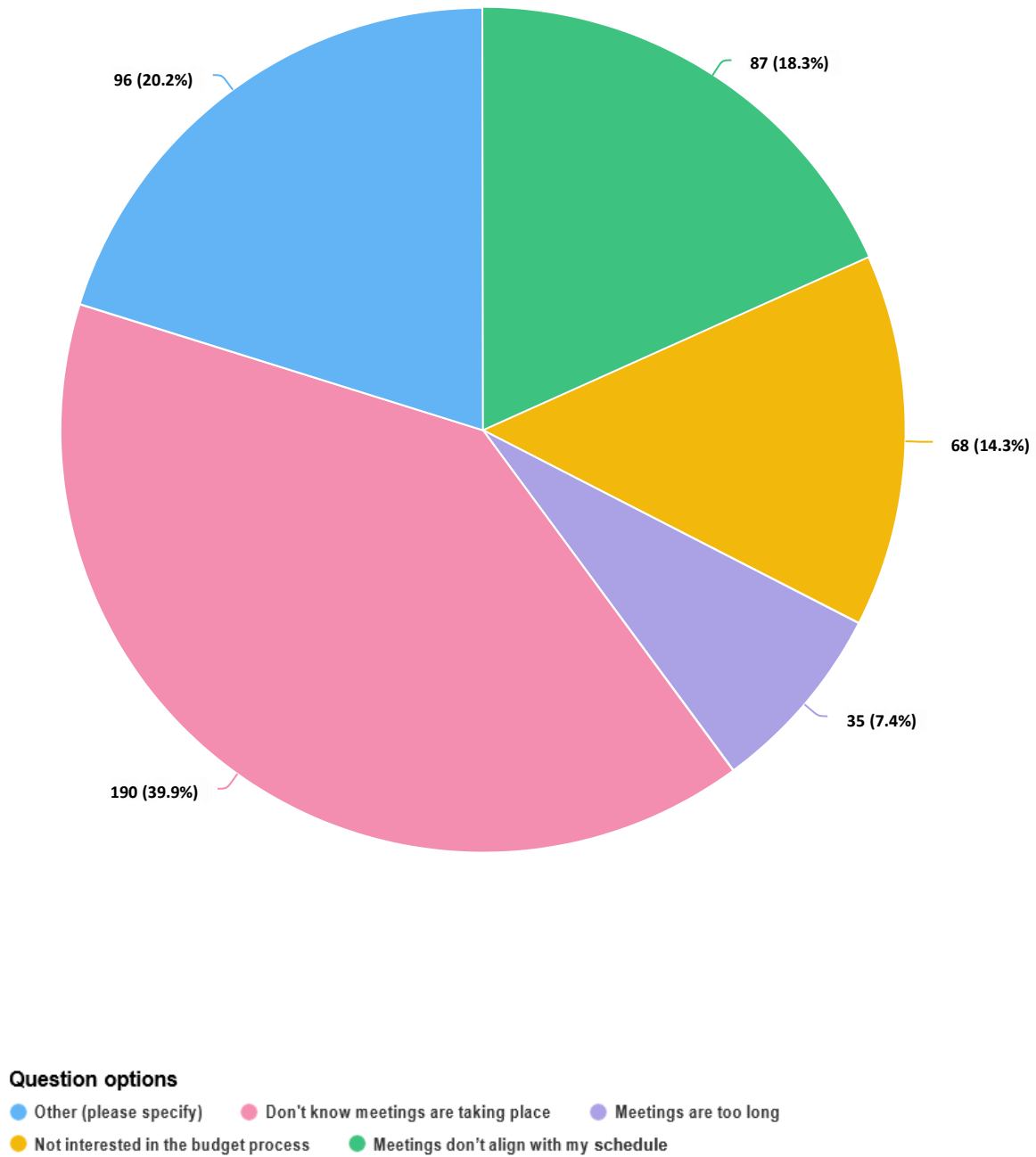
Question 5 – Have you ever participated in a public meeting about the SCRD’s budget?



Question options

● No ● Yes

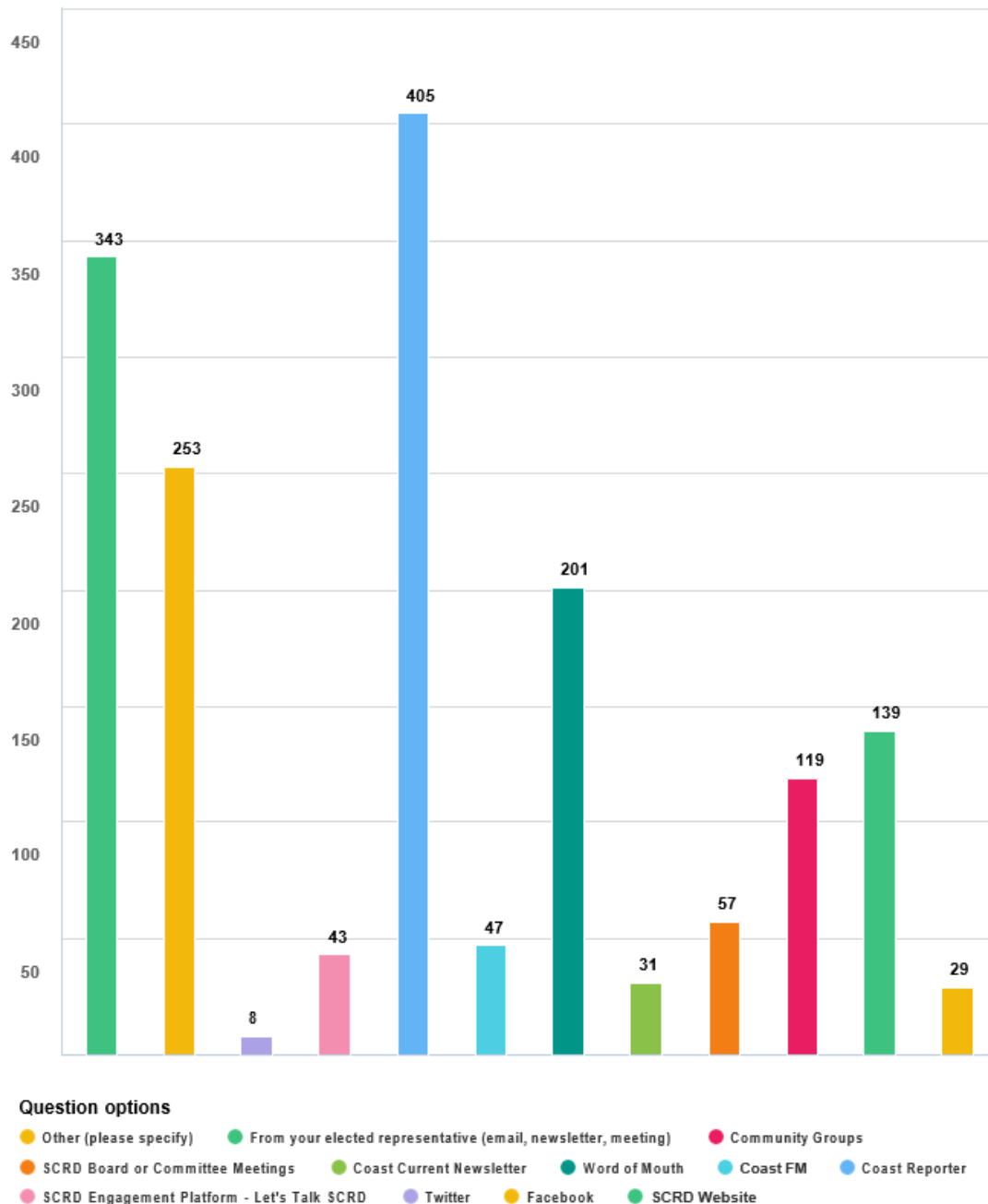
Question 6 – If answered no, why have you never taken part in a public budget meeting?



Communications

The next two questions focused on learning more about where the community is getting their information from and also an open question asking what the SCRD can do better to help inform residents about the budget process.

Question 7 – Where do you receive your information about the SCRD?



The majority of respondents, receive their information from the Coast Reporter newspaper, followed by the SCRD website and Facebook.

Question 8 – How can the SCRD provide better communication and opportunities for you to share your feedback?

This portion of the survey received over 200 responses, outlined below.

Provide more detailed justification for big ticket items and any proposed increase in staff. Hopefully the last 2 year hiring spree comes to an end. That magnitude of hiring is not sustainable.
Summarize agendas and highlight meeting items. Make agendas and meeting videos easier to access and share.
Communication quite readily available. No problem accessing.
Adequate opportunity is provided
Email Bulletins, Newspaper ads
make it easier for the average (non accountant) person to understand simplify
Citizen budget tool?
newsletters
There is too much of an emphasis on 'managing' the public rather than informing them. The SCRD's messaging is far from neutral. Rather, it has an embedded bias for a particular outcome. One of those outcomes is to present the SCRD as doing the best job it can. It is also to point to others as the ones who need to do better (lower waters use, fix leaks, adapt to an ever-changing garbage collection system) rather than take responsibility for either fixing these issues (force Waste Management to adhere to its contract) or for its inability to fix the problems (sorry, our contract with WM didn't include a clause covering this). Even this survey is a good example of what is wrong with the SCRD communication and feedback. There is no context for how more or less funding for the four functions would impact services. And comparing fire protection with recreation is ridiculous. It's like asking if you want to spend more on house insurance or sports. you spend what you need on insurance.
Send notices by email
More information via Facebook and Twitter.
Regular town halls, proactively push out a monthly newsletter update through the Coast Reporter and social media (a few of the directors do it, but they target their own constituents).
Zoom meetings that I can tune into are great. Surveys are somewhat helpful, Facebook is used by a lot of people and we can get a sense of the diverse views/opinions that way which I think (generally speaking) are somewhat informative.
Include a current budget so we know what is being spent where. It was tough to answer these questions when I don't know how much is allocated where.
The community facebook pages could perhaps pin the links to these meetings at the tops of their pages? There seem to be a lot of people griping on the pages, so the least that the facebook page administrator could do would be to share more concrete practical information I'm thinking that FYI page. (since they are such strong communication hubs.)
Make sure info is out well before issue is decided. Like mentioned above it all depends on who directors and staff consult with. Don't see anyone looking for this households input
Ample notice of invitation to public where and when and listen to our suggestions on where we want our taxes spent
Doing fine communicating. Not so good about listening to people or enforcing rules on the books.
Regular online surveys and posts. Clearer breakdown of arena and pool costs.
Continue to include summaries of discussions in your newsletter.
Much more exposure on free social network sites and less costly exposure to newspaper.

Donna McMahon has done an outstanding job of communication and engagement. Her approach is what has really engaged me in the SCRD.
Get rid of Municipal Act rules that disqualify legitimate input and force resubmission if SCRD or service provider doesn't get the public notification right. For instance, if it is not advertised twice all public submissions are disregarded and all input has to be resubmitted. As long as the person submitting is properly identified and has a right to submit- their stated viewpoint should be still valid. One could still readvertise and collect more submissions, but those already submitted should stand.
All information should be available on an app which includes options for feedback and survey buttons. Too long surveys most people won't complete . Keep it simple
Specifics questionnaire/survey of topics, especially the hi cost items would be a good start, I often read of the paper, that so many people voiced out their opinion, but this is probably the first time I was asked...
I am not an accounts person - I am better in exploratory solutions to problems ... and out of the box ideas. I would suggest a practical budget conscious governmental accountant. Certainly not me.
I just need to be more involved.
Perhaps continued input from surveys like this one. On any given topic before the Board, ask for feedback in a Forum like this
1) Provide notification to me (via email) when there are meetings/decisions being made in areas of concern to me (Gibson's has such a platform) 2) Get the Coast Current and Engagement platform and Coast Current Newsletter working properly. I have registered for both and have received zero communication back 3)re-activate the advisory committees which have been phased out (APC's, Water Advisory, etc.) - each member of such groups has some connection to others in the community 4) Create some you tube video or slides to explain the budget process; it is quite complicated.
Email
Our elected representative, Donna, is amazing and keeps Area E extremely well informed.
Explaining why we continue to be assessed our water usage instead of using the water meters.
Hold more open public community meetings
Pretty tuff to do. Takes a deeper understanding of how regional governments work. Keep up the good work!
Let's Talk is a great start.
Surveys like this are a good star
Letter in my mail box?
If I feel the need to opine , I'll contact the regional board member.
Actually, listen and pay attention to what citizens say. Right now, you ask, but then proceed with whatever you want despite what citizens say.
Open discussion, questions, and contributions (subjective and objective) from credible sources must be encouraged. People are new to open discussion and should be continuously invited to participate.
Facebook
Increased communication, easy to navigate website.
weekly newsletter
be more honest and transparent have proper records available to public
Written info. I get tired to always use the website to get any info.
I feel the scrd doesn't really listen to the public and just does what it wants regardless of public wants
Twitter
Better designed (visually) social media and website content. This way it would be easier to understand and access info.
Mail out

Transparency in operating costs associated with Ice Arena
More online updates. Difficult to search out the information as a full time working parent. More likely to read about if it pops in my email or online.
Not sure if feasible, but direct e-mail to all property owners would be cheapest and best.
Mail
Be more transparent.
Make public aware they even have a voice regarding these things - you need to utilize all forms of communication - from the Directors, to social media, to Coast reporter to specifically created brochures and mailed to each house.
direct email summary from the SCRD that a person can subscribe to - or maybe this already exists
Put the meeting on line?
This survey is good.
Personal approach
I believe the information is there if a person wants to learn more. You need to be proactive and engaged in personal learning - take responsibility to find out before "spouting off" that you didn't know something was in process.
Update website.
I think it's pretty good.
I would love to see a short video summarizing the budget process and high-level budget allocations.
Emails perhaps
Meeting announcements and agenda published online
Searchable website with up to date info, for example, in trying to do our part this year during water shortages your website was up to three weeks out of date when trying to determine water level of Chapman Creek.
Try addressing the problems and following through with plans to solve them and not just waiting for the next election.
reduce the budget for the first time! and word will spread!
More detailed information in the Coast Reporter with links to past, current and proposed budgets.
Post the dates and deadlines for budget discussions on all the local FB platforms on the SSC. Very few residents randomly check the SCRD website.
Our RD rep is super and that is where I get 99% of my RD information. Your website is very hard to search. Your maps are good but could be a bit more user friendly.
direct emails
Consider how much money is paid to the SCRD in taxes it doesn't seem like much is being done to improve and maintain the area. It would be nice to see a breakdown of how those funds are distributed.
The budget process should be transparent and available through all social media/print avenues.
I think SCRD does a good job already - it is really incumbent on all citizens to avail themselves of the available information.
Make a clearer website that is easier to navigate. I find the your website clunky and counter-intuitive.
Newsletter to homes
By mail
Make Donna McMahon's Elder College info available to the public. Very informative!
I got this email via my Islands Trust rep, that seems to work reasonably well.
Generally satisfied with SCRD services, with thanks.

I would like to see email utilized more and think it would be able to reach many more. If in place, I would like to get my name on it
Send out more communications like this to all residents
more on line surveys
Radio announcement and referendum
Timely Notification of proposals and options, open house or zoom presentations of proposed budget options.
Maybe set up information kiosk or staff manned table outside the grocery stores, (or liquor store) on key days.
More advertising
More advance notice and invitations to submit ideas about specific areas of interest to SCRD and the public
Create a notification list for those who apply. Only on public input opportunities though - wouldn't want a lot more emails filling my inbox.
This is a good start.
More and detailed email surveys like this
Do more outreach with local community organizations. This also including school PACs which would broaden the standard audience.
invite ideas via your website, not just for budget process
As we currently receive our notices from our LTC Island Trustee, we'd like the option to receive the information directly. Perhaps provide a way to sign up for direct comms in our annual property tax assessment or payment mailer.
Better communication when contacting scrd, eg,, re waste disposal, etc. I was ping ponged back and forth between agencies with no real issue resolved.
Instagram
Put notices in mailboxes.
It seems to get to me with what you do now
Send us info to our emails.
This is an excellent form of engagement. Also, newspaper articles, radio ads to invite people to read up on things in advance. Also, simply a poll/vote aspect to give folks the opportunity to weigh in without necessarily need to go to the meetings.
Explore where cuts/savings can be made and consult the public about that. All the SCRD ever does is add, add, add... and tax us to pay for it. Hard to call this "budgeting."
Provide a listing of the specific proposed cuts after each round of the Budget discussions on the website. Use the Coast Reporter and communication methods listed above to direct the Public to the web page and provide a means of responding to proposed cuts.
Provide live (and recorded) Zoom presentations on the budget, starting out with background information like what Donna McMahon is sharing in her ElderCollege course about how RDs work (which I am attending). In tandem with those, provide more surveys like this one, that go into more depth (such as explaining what the downsides would be to reducing certain budget items). I'd like to see more ongoing email newsletters like Donna sends out; I am not in Area E, but I'm on her mailing list because I get lots of valuable information from it
Educate Sunshine coasters by posting on facebook and being proactive explaining issues and status.
I'm not convinced that my input would be heard or make any difference.
Town Hall meetings
More notice on when budget talks will happen More surveys
Make meetings more accessible online

Multi public process opportunities
Referral to Sunshine Coast community associations, including in the Sechelt and Gibsons.
Provide a separate website portal specifically for budget agendas, minutes, and public surveys/consultations or communications.
Newspaper advertisements with locations for paper surveys etc.
Believe the scrd is well aware of the public's viewpoint. Exercises such as this are not the answer, they are designed to make us believe our input has value when it doesn't
listen instead of tuning the public out ,there are some good ideas out there .
Surveys are good.
Host meetings
More consultation with community stakeholders. And actually embrace the responses, don't just ask to check it off your list, do your do diligence.
Advertise meetings - though I should take the time to find out.
Town hall meetings are helpful
Email newsletter (infrequent updates) and I like these survey platforms.
I'm sure there is communication, I am buried in mom life these days.
Email us directly. You can email me my tax payment. You can email me to keep me up to date
This method seems good
have a regular spot in Coast Reporter? no idea, really.
I would love to see events created via social media so we can click to attend and have the social media platform remind us of its time.
Are all meetings held at the SCRD office only? If so, maybe different locations would allow for more public input.
Maybe communicate through an app?
Newsletter by emails, options to vote, transparency of spending.
Maybe more of a presence announcing meetings time and location on local social media pages.
Listen to the community for real and make decisions without politicized them.
Public notices and emails in the newsletter about zoom invites (I just signed up for the newsletter today)
Not everyone is on social media, the internet or listens to the radio. It's old fashioned and not eco friendly but I've always favoured hard copy communications delivered to the mailbox.
Be more vocal with meetings and updates ie flyers ect.
It doesn't really make any difference. The SCRD has proven on several occasions that they don't listen to public input when making decisions. In fact they do the opposite of the publics wishes
Mail outs to residents...inform them of what is going on. Not everyone has a computer to read your website every day.
Good question - find a way to make sure citizens are informed
send a link to a survey such as this one together with property taxes
Instagram. SCRD newsletter and include call to action to sign up on all our scrd bills etc.
More detailed survey's. Large community notice board on the Hwy.
direct mailing and using e-mail notification would be helpful
Be transparent in communication, post minutes from meetings, allocate a percentage of voting power to community online much as you have this survey, and those that want a voice will participate (or at least the option is there for them) to decide where tax payer money is spent i.e. infrastructure versus raises etc.
Direct email

so far seems i get what i need
this questionnaire is a good start
Unless you're going to be out in garbage removal I don't see the point in taking part in a meeting that ultimately will not be supporting the public!
More visible presence in the community
Have a courtesy car for people without vehicles who have appointments at the SCRD building on Field Road or who want to attend a meeting there. The bus service is too infrequent to be useful for people other than SCRD staff.
Probably Sunshine Coast FYI or similar Facebook local Community group
Advertise in weekly newspapers
First of all this survey is flawed. Where is the existing budget? How much are all services in the last year? It would have been good to see a breakdown first so our answers can be informed. Lack of connection. I know more about Gibsons town than I do about my regional district. Why is that?
leaflet in the mail
Solicit answers to tough questions first - "do you support paying more in taxes to get . . . ?" and "Is SCRD providing prompt efficient and accountable services?"
I feel the information I'm looking for is available and don't have any suggestions on ways to improve communications or opportunities.
set up email list and distribution
It is good as is
surveys like this
More advertisement in general
Regularly reminders in all types of medium
I would like to see our representative share information and provide more personal lines of communication to residents. It can be cumbersome to dig our way through the website, board meeting documents, etc. Residents would like to feel like they are being heard, have a voice. While I understand that individuals can email their representative any time they desire, there's a feeling that as a community we need to have some kind of regular communication that actually nets some results.
Flyer in every mailbox
More online/zoom meetings
Online
Email or social media
I like this platform. short videos are great for learning. Find more opportunities to get to the community, using the digital channels most often used here
On our community Group of Halfmoon Bay
Newsletter?
Email list, brochure/magazine
Invite me to meetings, make them available online, print results in Coast Reporter.
Radio?
set up a schedule of all committee meetings and publish them weekly in the Coast Reporter
This sort of questionnaire in the Coast Reporter may retain more people. Is it possible to set up info booths at community events? (farmers markets, shopping malls etc ...)
Notices - Coast Reporter with at least 3 - 4 times in the paper. In big boxes so people will notice them. Especially for those in their 60s - 80s. We need reminding.
More frequent social media posts and e-newsletters
Communicate on social media pages.

Anything else to share?

The final question invited participants to share anything else they would like on the survey. This portion garnered over 150 comments which are added below in different categories / service areas.

Question 8 – Is there anything else you would like to share?

Water
The SCRD priority of installing residential meters should not supersede the checking of the main water supply lines for leaks and the creation of more storage. So many of the SCRD water mains date back to the early '80s when I worked at the SCRD. Since then, there have been earthquakes and blasting for roads etc. The ground in places may have shifted under the pipes either from the earthquakes or groundwater incursion or from inadequate bedding base material. WE notified the SCRD over a period of about 4 years of such a main leak and were ignored by the office. It was not fixed until my spouse spoke in person to a member of the outside crew. The next day it was checked and the main had been cracker from the date of installation due to improper base material.
Better management of water and breaks for people who grow their own food
We need to find a solution to our water storage problems and do whatever it takes to eliminate the need to ever go into stage 3 or stage 4 water restrictions.
All water related revenue is: DP fees, water levy, water tax, etc should be required by law to be spent on water infrastructure construction or maintenance.
More resources should be used for detection and repair of leaky watermains. Approval of any new builds should be on hold until this water issue is sorted out .
Please fix the water
In my opinion, there must be other multiple sources for the water, because the existing source can not support the demand, also, all building permits in all S.C.R.D. areas must be "frozen" immediately as long the water supply issue is solved !
Please fix the water issue.
Please fix the water shortage. It has been getting worse instead of better . Developers should be assessed
We do not have enough water storage and it's a very dire situation.
Yes. I want to stop fearing about running out of water!! The population is growing so much... be they part time residents, full time residents or tourists. The infrastructure on the whole coast needs to be upgraded!! We need a much better highway and available water all year round. These 2 issues have been raised by so many COASTWIDE for years and years- yet NOTHING has been fixed. Thats NO GOOD. Water and highway
We need an expanded reservoir, not water meters. Water meters will only be used to increase fees without having to consult citizens. Water meters are an incredible waste of limited resources.
For two months if the year you put us through absolute hell . In one week all rain you need is sorted. Learn to capture it. It's embarrassing
Question #1 was misleading. I support Water but not meters
I find it important to invest in our water infrasturcture, but my priority is not in funding water metering but in finding a permanent solution to our constant problem of water shortage. Finding solutions based on the growth of our community rather than continuing to rely on our system than cannot keep up is a necessity and needs solutions rather than band-aids.
Please, please manage the water better, ie encourage homes (families) to maybe save their own water, say for gardens. More education on water conservation. How do other areas of the planet manage their water? Never sell it another country.

I did not agree with metering water. Put that money into new reservoirs.
ask the feds for money and build dams in the local mtns
32 yrs ago SCRD knew of water shortage in summers. Water meters are useless
Please no more stage 4!
tired of our taxes going up and we still have a huge water shortage. Also, water meters should be installed so you pay for what you use. There is no way a single person household should be paying the same as a family
Eastbourne Keats Islanders should not be assessed a water tax on their annual tax notice when we pay the entire maintenance and operations annual costs of the SCRD Water system at Eastbourne. This additional Water fee is a tax Grab to lower the per capita costs on the Sunshine Coast Residents.
Invest in rain water catchment and storage systems, provide grants for homeowners to do so Please pause all new development until we actually have enough water. The last thing we needed to here during covid was don't wash so much. The quantity of disinfecting wipes and or bleach and paper towel used that had to be shipped off coast because of a lack of water...ouch. And allowing tourists to enjoy our water while we don't shower? hmmm
I would like the Chapman Creek water issue to be resolved ASAP
Fix our water problem!!!!!!!!!!
Water is a broad topic, I would like to see more investment in conservation, metering etc and maintain the current support for finding alternate sources. Watershed protection as a whole is also important. Particularly when we're talking about increasing the demand on watersheds to draw more potable water.
Stop wasting more money on studies, and water meters. Invest money in building a reservoir or tapping into another lake like Lake 9. You could run a pipe from there to the head waters of grey creek and get the bulk of the water from there. Just a suggestion.
Please just get the water situation figured out for crying out loud
The water situation is serious, and embarrassing for the District of Sechelt. It needs to be fixed by next summer - 2022, and the need will be there again, and again, and again, and the pattern of drought will not change.
In the 20 plus years, I have lived in the Creek the water issue has not been fixed. Time is up people are angry.
Waste Disposal
Thank you for the water storage and compost bin grants, they are great. I hope these kinds of incentives continue. It would be wonderful to see non-homeowners be able to apply for such grants or for some level of discount. The compost pickup program in RC was never used by us when we lived there as we compost our own. Having the garbage pickup reduced was not helpful in that we lived on a large property with a few other households, even though our own garbage produced was limited compared to others, we lived in a tiny space and didnt have room to store any extra weekly garbage.
I would like to see curbside recycling implemented asap. There is no information that I have found through the website, that explains if the curbside recycling will go ahead or was canceled.
Solving the water crisis is by the the highest priority but it sure would be great to have Curbside recycling in the SCRD.
just very upset about the fact that people who make big effort to not be wasteful regarding keeping garbage out of the landfill and composting on site and taking their own recycling to Salish Soils and run their own water supply systems and not burdening the systems, are penalized financially and not rewarded. There needs to be a system of incentives and rewards and not being penalized. Powell river was doing a garage user fee system with tags for pickup which I feel is much appropriate.....

Please pick up my household garbage and supply water. Taxes are paid and service is not delivered.
too much being spent on waste disposal and not enough on water supply
Increase the number of people to clean the streets, the sides roads are full of garbage and it ends in creeks and in the ocean. The most urgent thing is to solve the scarcity of water and decent and affordable housing
Recreation
Why is there no public gymnasium on the Coast yet there are 3 indoor pools and 2 regulation size arenas - all high cost facilities in terms of capital and operating expenditures. A public gym would provide recreation opportunities for many sports (pickleball, badminton, basketball etc) as well as a community space for events.
Get rid of one arena as the cost to keep them with ice is a joke. Also I'm tired of >30% of taxes go towards these recreation facilities. Simply put, we don't need 3 swimming pools and 2 arenas to be maintained. What we need is 1 pool, 1 arena and a gymnasium for multiple dry floor physical exercise options.
Very important considering the large percentage of Pickleball players on the coast that we have a dedicated community sports gymnasium.
With younger families and youth moving to the Coast, recreation facilities are growing increasingly important to this community. We want our youth involved in healthy activities that are organized. We need the same services that other communities have- facilities open year round and available.
We need to find a way to support our youth in year round ice sports.
More qualified staff for swimming pools. Keep pool equipment in full working order.
Need recruitment of staff and a plan for training new staff. Succession planning for recreational facilities so there are staff to offer programming
More curtains needed in Pender Harbour pool
Pender Harbour pool and showers should be warmer
I think Dakota ridge is a very important community asset that should continue to be supported. It has great value for recreation, community building, and wellness. The community enjoying Dakota ridge has grown, and it is such a great opportunity for children (and all ages) to have a chance to be active in the winter and enjoy snow
As a parent I am aware of the need for recreational facilities for youth. In the short term investment in the maintenance of scrd fields with good drainage and lighting to allow activities into the winter in multiple locations along the coast. In the long term investment in expanding indoor facilities for team sports e.g indoor soccer training, tennis, badminton, pickleball to allow active participation in exercise sports in a community setting throughout the year. Outdoor turf fields so we can compete with the lower mainland in terms of our facilities would help improve youth participation in healthy, activities/exercise/work that benefits the coast and it's people.
Please consider Dakota Ridge heavily in your budgeting process. The thousands of volunteer hours that have gone into establishing and maintaining Dakota Ridge over the years is the strongest indication of how much value community members place on being able to access Dakota Ridge! A continued strong partnership between SCRD and volunteers is necessary.
Dakota Ridge recreational area is a completely unique and very special part of the sunshine coast. For many of us who grew up skiing, it's crucial to our staying and investing and fueling the economy here on the coast. Please don't overlook it as an important area in your budget!
Please continue funding road access to and maintenance of the Dakota Ridge Winter Recreation area. During the long dark months of December-March, this healthy recreational outlet is an important part of what makes the Sunshine Coast great.

Keep ice in the arenas longer / all season, don't make kids go off coast! Increase field availability for sports (many fields are not available this year due to damage caused by weather). Partner with schools/PAC to come up with common goals; use this as groundwork for disseminating information
Please invest in recreation opportunities. Our communities are underserved with recreation infrastructure and this is a top priority for our family.
Parks
Make soccer fields that don't have to close every time it rains.
Please invest in maintaining quality sports fields for youth.
Put lights at sports fields! So many teams are limited in their practices due to lack of lights.
I'm kind of shocked that Kinnickinnick park is closed when it is so important to our youth through the fall and winter months. This is not a one time "drought" issue. That field has been degrading for years. Shameful to forget our youth in your budget and decision- making process.
Included in recreation, it would be great to see our fields (soccer etc) be given more priority in the budget.
With growing population of young families the RD needs a least 2 all-weather playing fields. North Shore and all of Metro Vancouver have them.
Development
Less development and more infrastructure. That said, affordable rental housing is important but not fancy condos and oversized developments. Take care of the people who actually live here now!
THIS (housing or lack of) is the number 1 issue on the coast, yet it receives no attention from the SCRD. I am of the opinion that the SCRD should actively enforce its bylaws regarding STRs without an on-site operator. I really find it ridiculous that we have so many illegal STRs and yet we won't enforce removing or fining the perpetrators. I recently learned that they won't be enforced unless a complaint is made and that the complainant must be immediately affected by the STR! No wonder we have a housing crisis! We need more bylaw enforcement officers and we need to get rid of these illegal STRs. Imagine 300 new residences opening up across the coast over the winter. In an extremely stressed rental market that would be a true godsend. We recently rented our small second home to 2 workers here on the coast. They looked for months but found nothing suitable! They had begun actively seeking employment in the lower mainland and had they not found a home they'd have been gone by now. We'd have lost 2 amazingly good people here (both work in social services). I truly believe our housing crisis is highly exacerbated by illegal STRs and judging by the continual conversion of current homes (often with long term rentals) to non owner occupied STRs on the coast, it will never end. Homes are being converted to STRs as fast as homes are being built here. And don't believe any non resident operator who says they'll let it sit empty before creating a long term rental. 95% of those people will sell ASAP as these homes were only an investment for them. They won't be losing money on an investment. They'll either convert to long term rental or sell.
Prioritization is important we have owned property here for a long, long time only recently full time. There is so much development going on and it does not seem as if infrastructure building and replacement is keeping pace. e.g. with ongoing water shortages in the summer and fall why are more houses being built at the pace they are? Where will the water come from for these hundreds of new homes? With global warming a reality it should be expected that warm dry summers and fall will be the norm. While expansion of the tax base can be advantageous and demand is exceedingly strong, planning must be done to ensure services can be provided to everyone at a sufficient level that at least home gardens can be maintained, there are places to still enjoy nature, that schools have sufficient space and resources, that quality health care is available when needed and fire, police and

ambulance services can offer a quick response. Of course it is hard to keep good staff anywhere when housing prices make owning a home little more than a pipe dream.
We desperately need rental housing. We need to focus on our infrastructure and water availability before approving big developments. Affordable housing is more important. We are short of workers because they have no where to live/ can't afford exorbitant rental prices.
it is stupid to keep growing the population when the water needs can't be met. i am very dismayed by the lack of regulation of bnb's, if it isn't reigned in there will be no affordable rentals at all, therefore no one to do all the jobs that keep things running.there are staffing shortages in all areas of service now, not just restaurants.
Provide more than 5 working days for all requested public input.
Build infrastructure before allowing development.
Please curb the development permits till infrastructure catches up. Solution to the water problems is not keep giving out development permits. Maybe new development could be charged more to help with new water developments.
It's been very hard to see how long it's taking for the water shortage problems to be addressed and how houses just keep being built. I have two young children so it's hard for me attend meetings in person. I wonder if there is a zoom option?
Emergency Services / Bylaw
By law enforcement needs more financial support
Forest fire safety plan including fire breaks of critical importance
Bylaw enforcement in the Halfmoon Bay Area is lacking. In particular Coopers Green Park (overnight camping, illegal parking, off/leash dogs) and Short-term rentals.
Climate
Yes. The big picture of climate change impacts every aspect of government and so should be given the highest priority in all economic discussions and decisions.
Roads
Street maintenance is lacking big time. Is it our responsibility to clean the drains and scrape the build up along the curb? My kids ride on the highway from the trailer park in Gibsons to upper Gibsons and their safety has me concerned every time. I'm so worried - wiser highways and safer bike lanes are a must before someone gets seriously injured or killed. My daughter doesn't want to ride to school because of this
The network of roads on the coast are in dire need of upgrade and repair. They are ridiculously busy and often impede emergency vehicles from getting through. Being as the Chapman Creek bridge is the only access to the upper and lower coast scares me. I am grateful that it is in place every time I cross it. This is unacceptable as the coast continues to rapidly grow.
Various
The SCRd was formed to provide reliable water supply and garbage pickup--just do it!
I think with COVID some budget items need to be revised or at least reviewed. I am concerned about pressure of more people living here - working from home - on water availability, loss of affordable housing through AirB&B and also loss of 'Community', and loss of housing affordability for service industry and craftsman positions and the ensuing huge effect on local businesses; and the grandiose plans for Coopers Green which was designed pre-COVID. Rather than grinding along on historical

funding issues, SCRD needs make a list of what is highest to lowest priority and pick a few to do (research, fund & complete) really well.
We went to two community meetings in the community centre. We sat on very uncomfortable chairs for two hours and heard people talk, but that was 6-7 years ago and things they talked about never changed. We have soooo much junk in people's yards that never gets cleaned up and good that roam and bark and the smell of marijuana drifting through in summer. There are no "smoke" rules. Fires burn with wet wood - "smoke!!!" No thought for those whose health is compromised. I also heard 8 years ago that there would be a solutions to the narrow pathway from lagoon road to warnock. It's very dangerous for walkers.
Mostly municipalities require permits prior to cutting trees. SCRD is very behind. Water has been a problem for 20 years and it's still not resolved. This is not acceptable and must be a priority. Recyclables should be picked up to support those with assessability needs who cannot take them back to recycling stations in the SCRD needs to work together with Gibsons and sechelt to ensure there are appropriate and safe bike lanes for the increasing number of bikers on our roads.
The SCRD is growing and infrastructure development, like water and bike lanes, needs to keep pace. Let's get into the 21st century!!
Water, garbage, emergency services and planning/bylaws/building are where the the RD should focus in my opinion. Taking on things like recreation is nice but should not be up to a Regional District to deal with. Let a private entity deal with that.
Traffic congestion and short term rentals are our two main concerns. We believe that the SCRD is taking the right steps to conserve and expanding our water supply, and improve waste management. Thanks
Stop approving new developments! We don't have the infrastructure or water to maintain them sustainably. Until we get a long-term, sustainable water source for our existing population, we should not be building more and more subdivisions for additional people to come here. It's insane. Make climate change and its impact a top priority: prepare for the impact of fires, drought, sea level rise, heat domes etc. Add more fire hydrants in upper Roberts Creek. Make emergency preparedness a higher priority.
Bike paths. And making the sketchy hill turn on the road up to Dakota Ridge safer.
The children need a turf soccer field in Sechelt and the Coast needs to deal with the Ferry problem in order to support the current level of development.
1. Dakota Ridge is a critical recreational asset for our family and I'd like to see investment going towards that. 2. A safe pedestrian / bicycle / horse path running parallel from Gibsons to Davis Bay along our hwy (like that built in Tofino) would transform our community making it safer and more importantly greener. Our hwy poses a huge public safety issue and I know it's not under local jurisdiction but we need to find local solutions. A capital campaign would I think be well received.
We need weekly garbage service!! I have the same amount of children and animals as I did when I used to fill 45 pounds worth of garbage a week. We already compost because we live on a farm. The green bins are just useless. Where am I supposed to put the animal faeces, in the garbage can but my animals still produce 40 pounds of animal faeces per week. Thats over 80lbs every two weeks. Thats just from 2 dogs and two cats. If I'm filling my garbage with animal faeces where is my actual garbage supposed to go? The water shortages have been going on for more than 40 years. It's so bad now that people have to bail on the food they're growing in their gardens during the summer. With food becoming so expensive, this should be an available thing for the public to be able to do. Not to mention how many ridiculous restrictions were put in place because of the water shortage being at a stage four this year. So where does that put us for forest fires or house fires during the summer! On top of that you allow people to build houses up here. When our infrastructure can't support this many

people living up here. I was born and raised here until this summer I was proud to live here. I am no longer proud to live here! Conditions have become absolutely deplorable!!
Additional
More consideration should be given to asset maintenance. The recent fiasco with the dump building and power supply should be wakeup call
Communication is getting better but we still have a lot to do and a long way to go
Thanks for doing what you do, sorry some members of the public are jerks.
A ban on large marijuana growing operations in all residential zones is needed. The Coast smells really bad. And is getting a reputation for it. This will affect tourism. At the least, yearly safety inspections for noise and air quality of growing facilities. Watching the burning hydro wire set on fire by my neighbours was unsettling.
tired of the huge tax increases, water, garbage, and nothing happens, useless.
The SCRD directors are doing a great job as best they can.
I'm ok to pay more taxes for top notch services.
It sometimes seems that the Council puts the cart before the horse in their deliberations (eg. compost bins without including blue box pick-ups; water monitoring devices before ensuring there is sufficient water for residents; allowing Highways to dictate development).
I am alarmed at the large annual unsustainable increases in the budget and taxes. I don't understand why the board does not direct staff to create budgets to a set increase set by the board. In addition, the board should be mandated to make the hard choices so that budget increases are held to 2% per year. Too much waste at regional district and cost growth is unsustainable.....
Staff is overblown he need for more funding is tied directly to the cost of staffing if some cuts are needed then reduce facilities that are non essential and the need for more staff is not needed
It's really annoying that people are leaving their old furniture, household items etc all over the place ~ in front of their homes, entrances to public areas (like Secret Beach) and in the bushes along public paths ® Not sure what can be done about it but it's really unfair and looks horrible! Thank you for your service ~ I'm sure it isn't easy.
Just an example, but I first heard about this survey by combing the SCRD Agendas and then the Elphinstone newsletter put out by Donna McMahon. I am interested how you were planning to communicate to residents about this survey.
thanks for the survey Communication really needs to improve so people can get involved. And zoom doesn't work for many of us.
Thank you for your efforts.
Thank you for all you do.
Work together better. Less bickering between areas
I certainly hope that next year's proposal does not resemble last years increase.
I love the Sunshine Coast and have lived here most of my life. I hope that great people are working hard for it because that's what this beautiful place deserves.
Thank you to the current Board and Staff - you are doing an excellent job and I know how much criticism you face every day.
I see waste of money and energy everywhere. A poor person's budget is drastically different from a wealthy person's. There is a lot of wisdom to be gained from those who have learned how to survive well on a low income
I wish the public in general were more educated about how finances work in a Regional District structure. It could generate more helpful input if people knew what they were talking about.

I live on Keats Island and we seemingly pay a taxes for very little in return other than to drop off garbage in Gibsons. We don't use any other services. The budget should reflect this for Islanders.
Recognition of the value of Arts and Culture and that there are so many community members involved professionally, semi professional and for their mental health. It is now part of recreation
The roads are in terrible shape because of erosion from stormwater. The increased amount of stormwater arises from new developments that seem to have no requirements to manage stormwater. It's a huge problem
Thank you for your work.
Please do your job.
Thank you for your hard work and commitment to our community.
I see so many people weighing in on facebook who don't understand the limitations RDs are subject to when budgeting and don't understand that the RD doesn't have jurisdiction over how things like roads and restricting development. The more I learn, the more I understand what the SCRD board is up against. I think it would be valuable for the community as a whole to have this information shared in engaging, interactive ways. Several other people who are in Donna's ElderCollege course about RDs have made the same comment. Education and communications could help rally people in the community to cooperate more around water and garbage instead of complaining.
The SCRD needs to pull back on NON essential public services and development. It should focus on improving its own infrastructure and services . The continued push for development by the SCRD is totally misaligned with the severe lack of infrastructure and support staff within the SCRD.
I appreciate the services and generally think things are well managed.
Invest in youth and families. The coast is finally seeing growth in these age groups. Find ways to retrieve feedback knowing that families today are busier than ever, they don't have time to attend week day, day time meetings. Investing in things like recreation will save you money in the long run.
More bike paths/ no plastic laws Thank you for your hard work for our community. As a family with young children, we appreciate all the trails and recreation available.
Our taxes are horrendous for the services we don't receive...water, sewage, waste pickup, sidewalks, snow removal, road maintenance...etc.
Big decisions impacting future of our communities and would like to know there are meaningful ways to participate
The Board was elected to make the hard decisions. Those can't always be made by consensus. Surely survival issues such as water and waste management have to be addressed as emergency issues right now. My child's access to constructed entertainment must be put aside for potable water for the community.
I think you are doing an amazing job, our community is growing and thriving!
Keep up the good work!
I think you're doing a great job!
No. Thanks for the work you do.
Now is the time for the SCRD and the Sunshine Coast as a whole to put a Regional Growth Strategy at the forefront of its plans. To examine all of these key issues in isolation is a mistake. A Working Group needs to be struck involving all interested parties, all levels of government, community groups, a cross-section of businesses and residents, and come up with a plan for the short and long term future.
Lower the property taxes!
We need support in being noticed by the BC Ferry Corp. This is our highway and link to the mainland, medical appointments and family. We are ignored unless it is tourist time. We shouldn't have to reserve to go for a medical procedure.

Thank you for providing operating grants to museums and libraries

Thank you to everyone who took part in this survey. Keep the conversation going and learn more about next steps in the SCRD's budget process at letstalk.scrd.ca/budget.