



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 26, 2026

TO: Honorable Council President Joe LaCava & Members of the City Council

FROM: Bethany Bezak, Chief Performance and Logistics Officer, Office of the Mayor *Bethany Bezak*

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2027 Resident Budget Priorities Survey

As part of the Fiscal Year 2027 budget development process, the Performance and Data Analytics Department created a [resident survey](#) to solicit feedback from the public on which programs and services are priorities, and which could be reduced. This survey was developed to provide a path for resident feedback in addition to the existing public input process through City Council budget meetings.

The survey launched on February 26, 2026, in English and Spanish, with both digital and on-site distribution at City libraries and recreation centers. Respondents were required to provide their zip code to support data analytics and validation. The survey will remain open through early May to maximize opportunities for residents to provide input.

This memo summarizes the resident feedback received between February 26 and March 25, which consists of a total of 9,702 responses.

In Attachment 1, a summary of City-wide statistics is provided on: the top issues residents have reported they are most concerned about; the top issues residents would like to protect from cuts; feedback on revenue generation versus cuts; and the number of survey respondents in each Council District. Additionally, information by Council District is summarized on the top issues residents are concerned about and the top services to protect from cuts.

The information provided by residents is valuable, and it will continue to be reviewed throughout the budget process.

We appreciate your support to date, ensuring that this survey input opportunity reaches residents and communities in your Council Districts. If you would like a briefing on the survey or have questions regarding survey responses from your Council District, I will gladly coordinate with your office to schedule.

Attachments: FY27 Resident Budget Survey, Results from February 26 – March 25

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Honorable Council President Joe LaCava & Members of the City Council

March 26, 2026

cc: Honorable Mayor Todd Gloria
Paola Avila, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Charles Modica, Independent Budget Analyst
Rolando Charvel, Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Mayor
Scott Wahl, Chief, Police Department
Robert Logan, Chief, Fire-Rescue Department
Rania Amen, Chief Community Services Officer & City Engineer, Office of the Mayor
Kris McFadden, Chief Infrastructure Officer, Office of the Mayor
Casey Smith, Chief Housing & Community Development Officer, Office of the Mayor
Matt Yagyagan, Director of Policy, Office of the Mayor
Department Directors

BACKGROUND

Launched publicly at 8am on February 26, the City of San Diego's [FY27 Resident Budget Survey](#) is designed to solicit feedback from residents in the City's budget development process (through early May). **This snapshot covers responses collected from 8am Thursday, February 26, through 8am Wednesday, March 25** (but does not cover every response or every question).

As of 8am March 25, the total number of English and Spanish survey responses collected since the Feb. 26, 2026, launch was **9,702**.

SURVEY QUESTION RESPONSE SNAPSHOT: FEB 26 - MAR 25, 2026

- **Top three issues survey takers are most concerned about:**

- 1: **Poor Street or Sidewalk Conditions** (4,517 selections)
- 2: **Homelessness** (3,800 selections)
- 3: **Housing Costs** (3,328 selections)

Notes: This question allows up to three selections per response. A breakdown of top issues by Council District can be found on page 2 of this snapshot.

- **Top three areas survey takers would like to protect from cuts in the next budget:**

- 1: **Street Repair & Resurfacing** (3,771 selections)
- 2: **Police Services** (3,562 selections)
- 3: **Fire-Rescue Services** (2,892 selections)

Notes: This question allows up to three selections per response. A breakdown of top areas by Council District can be found on page 3 of this snapshot.

- **Preference for:**

- (A) Elimination of some City programs to preserve/improve other City services: **40%**
- (B) A mix of some service reductions and some new revenue: **40%**
- (C) Maintaining current services even if it requires new revenue: **20%**

Notes: This question allows one single selection and responses total to 100%.

- **Support for generation of new revenue** by survey takers who selected (B) or (C) in the question above:

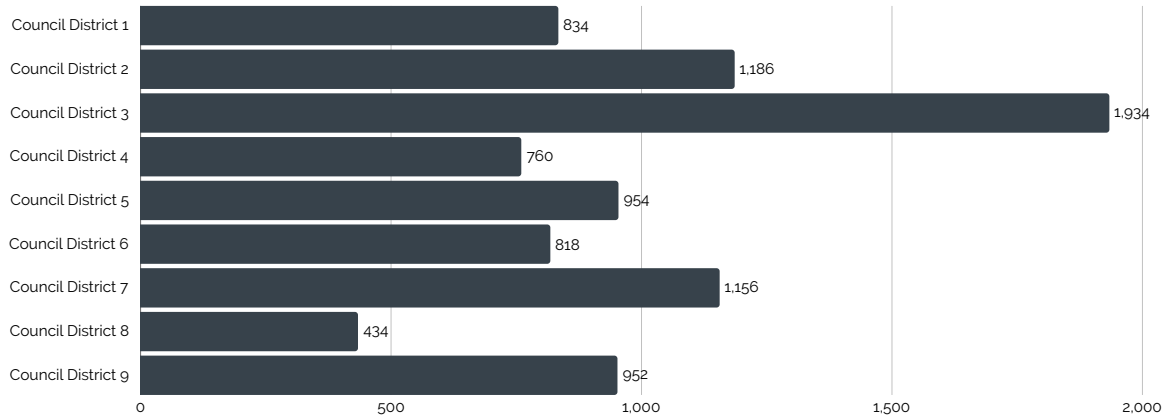
- Hotel / tourism taxes: **73%**
- Additional parking fees: **17%**
- Sales tax increase: **32%**
- Fees charged to new development: **67%**
- Other: **24%**

Note: This question does not appear for all survey takers and allows multiple selections (responses **do not** total to 100%).

BIG PICTURE & COUNCIL DISTRICT METRICS: FEB 26 - MAR 25, 2026

Total Number of Survey Submissions: 9,702

Resident Council District of Survey Taker (9,028 survey takers answered this question)



Note: The average population per district based on 2020 Decennial Census data is 154,433.

Top three issues survey takers are most concerned about by Council District:

Council District	Top Concern	2 nd Concern	3 rd Concern
1	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Homelessness	Traffic safety
2	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Homelessness	Crime or personal safety concerns
3	Homelessness	Housing costs	Poor street or sidewalk conditions
4	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Housing costs	Homelessness
5	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Housing costs	Traffic safety
6	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Homelessness	Housing costs
7	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Homelessness	Housing costs
8	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Housing costs	Homelessness
9	Poor street or sidewalk conditions	Homelessness	Housing costs

BIG PICTURE & COUNCIL DISTRICT METRICS: FEB 26 - MAR 25, 2026

Top three areas survey takers would like to protect from cuts in the next budget, by Council District:

Council District	Top Area to Protect	2 nd Area to Protect	3 rd Area to Protect
1	Police services	Street repair & resurfacing	Fire-rescue services
2	Police services	Street repair & resurfacing	Fire-rescue services
3	Homelessness services & shelters	Police services	Street repair & resurfacing
4	Street repair & resurfacing	Police services	Fire-rescue services
5	Police services	Street repair & resurfacing	Fire-rescue services
6	Street repair & resurfacing	Police services	Fire-rescue services
7	Street repair & resurfacing	Police services	Fire-rescue services
8	Police services	Street repair & resurfacing	Emergency service response time
9	Street repair & resurfacing	Police services	Homelessness services & shelters