



OTTAWA COMMUNITY SURVEY

YOUR FEEDBACK IS NEEDED BY AUGUST 6

[Click here if you prefer to take the survey online](#)

1. **Do you live:** Inside Ottawa City Limits Outside City Limits

2. **What is your age group?**
 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+

3. **How long have you lived in Ottawa?**
 Less than 1 year 1-5 years 6-15 years 16-25 years More than 25 years

4. **How would you rate the following? (A excellent, B very good, C average, D below average, F poor)**
____ Overall quality of life in Ottawa
____ Police services and safety of our community
____ Condition of our streets, curbs and sidewalks
____ Access to recreation activities (city pool, splash pad, golf, parks, Recreation Commission programs)
____ Cost of living in our community
____ City maintenance (condition of city buildings, snow removal, cleanliness of streets and public areas)
____ Enforcement of city codes for upkeep of residences, yards and commercial buildings
____ Community activities (Auditorium concerts, farmers market, downtown/Forest Park/Legacy Square events)
____ Utility services (water & electricity)
____ Fire & emergency services
____ Communication & accessibility of information (livestream of commission meetings, city website/social media)
____ Leadership and responsiveness of our city commission
____ Knowledge and responsiveness of city department leaders and staff
____ Community pride in our city

5. **In the past year, have you had a reason to interact with a city department or city staff (utilities, police, fire, zoning & planning, city hall)?**
 Yes No

If yes, which department? _____

How would you rate your experience? _____
(A excellent, B very good, C average, D below average, F poor)

If you wish, please share additional information about your experience:

6. **What do you think our city's top priority should be over the next 5 years (choose one)?**
 Repairs to our streets, curbs & sidewalks
 Upgrades to the city's utility infrastructure (electric & water)
 Increased attention on public safety (police, fire, EMS)
 Recreational/quality of life amenities (upgrades to parks, pool, Recreation Commission programs, etc.)
 Economic development (Main Street & downtown, recruiting additional businesses to Proximity Park)
 Other _____

7. **What is the primary reason you choose to live in Ottawa?** _____

SEE SECOND SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS >

In 2015, Ottawa residents approved a one cent sales tax - a half cent for economic development and a half cent for core services, like police and fire - without placing all of the costs for these services on our property taxes. That one cent sales tax is set to expire in 2026.

8. Right now, the one cent sales tax holds down property taxes on our homes and businesses by about 30% (a 13.87 mill reduction, which is \$2.02 million in reduced property taxes). Knowing this, would you be more or less likely to support continuing the one cent sales tax?

- More likely to support
- Less likely to support
- Makes no difference

9. Currently, the one cent sales tax prevents a scenario where Ottawa residents bear all of the costs for services. The sales tax allows the city to spread the cost of services across more people - like visitors and neighbors who live outside the city limits and do not pay city property taxes, but who utilize city streets, parks, police and first responder services. Knowing this, would you be more or less likely to support continuing the one cent sales tax?

- More likely to support
- Less likely to support
- Makes no difference

10. Renewal of the one cent sales tax could be used to make street improvements around town, including maintaining and upgrading streets and making sidewalk, curb, gutter and pothole repairs. If a portion of the sales tax were dedicated to streets, would you be:

- More likely to support
- Less likely to support
- Makes no difference

11. The city pool is nearly 60 years old. Built in 1967, it has served our community well but is past its expected life cycle and continues to require costly repairs. Renewal of the one cent sales tax could be used to replace the city pool with a more cost efficient community pool that has more modern aquatics features. If a portion of the sales tax were dedicated to a new community pool, would you be:

- More likely to support
- Less likely to support
- Makes no difference

12. The city maintains our community parks and walking trails, including Forest Park, Legacy Square, the ballfields, teen park, disc golf course, new fitness court and the new splash park. If a portion of the sales tax were dedicated to maintaining and improving our parks, trails and recreation amenities, would you be:

- More likely to support
- Less likely to support
- Makes no difference

13. Having read how the one cent sales tax has been used and what it could be used for if renewed, if an election were held today, would you vote to keep the one cent sales tax in place?

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Probably no
- Definitely no

14. Do you have additional comments or ideas that you'd like to share:
