

|| PUBLIC FEEDBACK SUMMARY

This document summarizes the results of public feedback relating to the proposed 5-year CIP. Public outreach during the CIP formulation included open discussions at numerous City Council meetings throughout the fall of 2017, two public engagement meetings held on November 30, 2017, and an online survey.

Generally, there is strong support for the overall scope of the plan, including \$12.1M in projects over 5 years, and possible new debt of \$3.7M. Online survey respondents are supportive of the potential for added taxes to fund the plan, with 57% of the 100 respondents indicating “Maybe” or “Yes” when asked if they would support a 5% increase in property tax to support the plan. There is support and appreciation for the more deliberate approach to capital planning, and for the opportunity for public involvement. There is also a recognition of the importance of relating projects to the Strategic Plan.

Popular Projects:

There are several projects that received strong support:

- The yearly road maintenance program was the highest rated project in the online survey, but there is some resistance to its inclusion in the CIP because respondents felt that maintenance items should be within the yearly street department budget.
- Signal modifications at Lexington and Commerce and a traffic signal at 91st and Lexington.
- The 83rd Street railroad bridge replacement also received support, mostly because it will improve pedestrian access.
- The installation of restrooms at Riverfest Park was a late addition to the CIP, but ranked fifth highest in the online poll, and received strong support during Council and public meetings.

Meeting attendees and online feedback participants are universally in support of the yearly road maintenance effort, but some feel that those activities should be funded each year through departmental budgets rather than being included in a CIP, where those funds could be raided to pay for other, less necessary projects.

Honorable Mention project #6 (Sidewalk to Riverfest) received strong support in the online surveys, and was supported during public meetings.

Mixed Reviews:

There are clear differences of opinion views on the following topics or projects:

- *91st Street Extension:* This project ranked very high during the public meetings, but low on the online survey. This might be a result of online respondents not having an understanding of the project’s economic and traffic congestion mitigation benefits.
- *Soccer Fields:* Some wanted this to be a higher priority, and praised its value to the community, while others wanted it lowered in priority. There was a suggestion that we let the County construct the fields, and rent from them.
- *Traffic Signal at 91st and Lexington:* Some see this as unnecessary because the problem only occurs for brief periods of time on school days, and the congestion might be mitigated by the extension of 91st Street to Sunflower Road. Others felt this was a good opportunity to consider a roundabout at this location.
- *Miller Park Drainage:* People are supportive of the plan to fix drainage problems at the park, but felt the \$500,000+ price tag is too high. We should look for more cost-effective solutions.

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- *Roundabouts:* Although not included in any project on the 5-year plan or suggested projects listing, roundabouts are a divisive topic, and came up during both public meeting sessions. Some love them because of their safety, efficiency, and aesthetic benefits, and some hate them because of pedestrian access issues and problems for larger vehicles.

Crickets:

Interestingly, we didn't receive much feedback on the public works facility project, even though it is one of the larger projects on the list, and does not have an outside grant funding source. There seems to be a recognition that there is a need for the facility, and it scored relatively high on the online survey, but there has not been much discussion on the project, and no written comments addressed it.

The table below gives a summary of verbal and written comments received during the two public input meetings that were held on November 30, 2017, and the online survey. Some comments have been summarized.

Project Number	Project Name	Feedback
N/A	General Comments	<p>The overall scope of the plan, including \$11M in projects over 5 years, and possible new debt of \$3.7M, is appropriate, and supported.</p> <p>There is support and appreciation for the more deliberate approach to capital planning.</p> <p>The importance of relating projects to the Strategic Plan was reiterated by the attendees.</p> <p>One comment that we should spend less on the parks, and that investments in infrastructure should take priority.</p> <p>Beautification of downtown De Soto: plant greenery, add Lighting to make it appeal more, add a small park in next to Great American Bank. Consider having a strip mall or shopping center next to Harps, adding more fast food restaurants like, Wendy's or Chick-fil-A, adding a hotel to De Soto would be ideal too.</p> <p>Anything that prepares us for growth or improves the quality of life in de Soto I feel is worth considering.</p> <p>Utilities extensions in future growth areas should be done soon so we're ready to do it right.</p> <p>I applaud the plans and community inclusion.</p> <p>I love living here and I'm excited about where we can be in 10 years.</p> <p>Capital improvements mean nothing and DeSoto will not grow if the town isn't "cleaned up".</p> <p>Time to put the citizens needs above city staff needs</p> <p>Utilize the proper priority for funding projects. No one uses most of the sidewalks there a waste of funding unless it's funded through grants.</p>
2 & 7	Yearly Road Maintenance Paint Pool	<p>These projects, and possibly others, are maintenance projects and do not belong in the capital improvements plan. These activities should be budgeted on a yearly basis and included as departmental expenses.</p>
3	91st Street Extension	<p>Consider imposition of a curb cut fee or special taxing district for properties along the route to partly reimburse the City's capital investment.</p>

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		<p>This is a good “quality of life” project, with the connection to the park.</p> <p>This will provide opportunities for retail development along K-10</p> <p>Support for this project is high. There are several comments to increase its priority level.</p>
4	Paving Sunflower Road	Move up in the timeline.
5	83 rd Street RR. Bridge Replacement	<p>Include a pedestrian sidewalk on new bridge to improve walkability in the downtown area. Existing steps are a problem.</p> <p>Increase the priority.</p> <p>I do not understand why you would have the tax payers and the City pay for a the Railroads Bridge? This should be funded by one of two ways. 1.) Companies that utilize that bridge for delivery of goods and services. 2.) The railroad itself. If they have bigger trains they want to put on that track it sounds like that is a railroad problem not a taxpayer issue.</p>
9	ADA Access to Great Life	Comment that Great Life should pay for this improvement.
10	New Public Works Facility	In the council meeting of 1/8/2017, it sounded like the targeted maintenance building addition was going to be a band aid fix that we could maybe make work, instead of something that was designed to address the shortcomings of our current facilities. Don't throw money after a band aid fix...put together a plan and get something that will fully address the issues at hand so we don't have to "make do" or "work around the shortcomings" of the new facility. Look at this with a long term vision as Desoto is the fastest growing area in Johnson county...we need something that will grow to support the community in the coming years.
11	Ottawa St Culverts	These two projects should be combined, and included in the 5-year schedule.
HM6	Sidewalk to Riverfest	The sidewalk on Ottawa to Riverfest Park should be strongly considered before any other improvements are made to the park, then restrooms.
12	Miller Park Drainage	The scope and price tag for this project are too high. Find and fix the existing drainage, and consider alternative methods to provide drainage.
14	Arbor Ridge Sidewalk	<p>This project should be moved down in priority, and HM6 should be moved up, since HM 6 (Sidewalk to Riverfest) would serve more people.</p> <p>One comment that this project should remain on the funding list.</p>
16, 17	Soccer Fields	<p>This project makes our community attractive to young families. Youth sports facilities are in demand.</p> <p>Consider allowing county to construct the fields, and just leasing them as needed.</p> <p>Some comments suggested a higher priority for this project, while others suggested a lower priority.</p> <p>Instead of putting money towards soccer fields at Lexington Lake, focus on the creation of multi-purpose facilities. Though popular, participation in soccer is still a very small subset of the community recreational needs as a whole. An investment like the one proposed should benefit the entire community, not a single sport.</p>
21	95 th Street Sewer Extension	This project seems to unjustly benefit owners of the property to be served, and should not be implemented until a project proposal comes forward. Design and easements could be acquired, and the extension could be made part of an economic incentive package.
22	Huhtamaki Entrance	There are many near miss accidents here, and that will get worse when the apartments open up.

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		One comment that this project is not needed, and the funds could be spent on communication.
23	K-10 Offramp Signal Modification	This project is a priority for safety reasons. Turn lanes on the offramp are needed. Group support for a fix here.
24	Traffic Signal at 91 st & Lexington	Consider a roundabout instead of a traffic signal. Some questioned the need for this signal, particularly after 91 st Street is extended to Sunflower Road, which would offer an alternative route for buses.
25	Riverfest Restrooms	Coordinate location with festival and event organizers.
HM 1	Downtown Streetscape	Desoto should not lose sight of the importance of a downtown. Development of downtown would spur increased investment and greater retail opportunities with increase in tax revenues.
HM 4	K-10 Monument Sign	Move up to funding list. Supports community image and promotes the City. Several participants strongly favored this project.
HM 5	City Hall Rec Path	Move this up in priority. It will provide pedestrian access to the pool and community center, and fits many of the strategic plan goals.
HM6	Sidewalk to Riverfest	Improve Riverfest access and amenities and don't waste funding on Miller.

The table below lists additional projects that were suggested on the comment cards following the public meetings, and in the online survey.

Project Name / Description	Comments
Broadband	Funding for high speed internet buildout throughout community. Possible public/private partnership or incentive for a network build project..
Pool Improvements	Add a feature to the pool to keep people interested in staying in De Soto. Possibly a lazy river, new slide, or water play feature.
Flashing Pedestrian Crossing on Lexington at Wea Street	Similar to the one by Dollar General – to increase safety and ease of use for the sidewalk.
Install sidewalk along 88th Street from Commerce to Golden Lane	There is no sidewalk in this section of relatively new, high dense residential neighborhood.
Street Improvements to 87th from Sunflower to Timber Trails Drive	Include new wider pavement section, with a sidewalk or pedestrian trail.
Remodel 3rd Floor at City Hall	
Marketing Study	Hire a marketing firm to determine best and most cost-effective way to communicate with City residents. More people involved provides better direction as to what the city residents want.
Water / Sewer Extensions	Explore all other areas to extend water and sewer services. Install sewer on Waverly Road between 83 rd and Explorers Trail.
Street Lights on Commerce Drive	Install street lights in Commerce Park.
Miller Park Lighting	Install better lighting at Miller Park for night baseball games.
83rd Street – Shoulders & Bike Lanes	Install shoulders and bike lanes on 83 rd Street from Kill Creek road to east City Limits.
Additional Parking at Miller Park	
95th and Corliss Drainage	Drainage / siltation solution project on 95th Street just east of Corliss to address ongoing issue with mud on the road after large rainfall events.
Sewer on Waverly between 83rd and Explorers Trail	
Sidewalk on Kill Creek between 89th and 83rd street.	

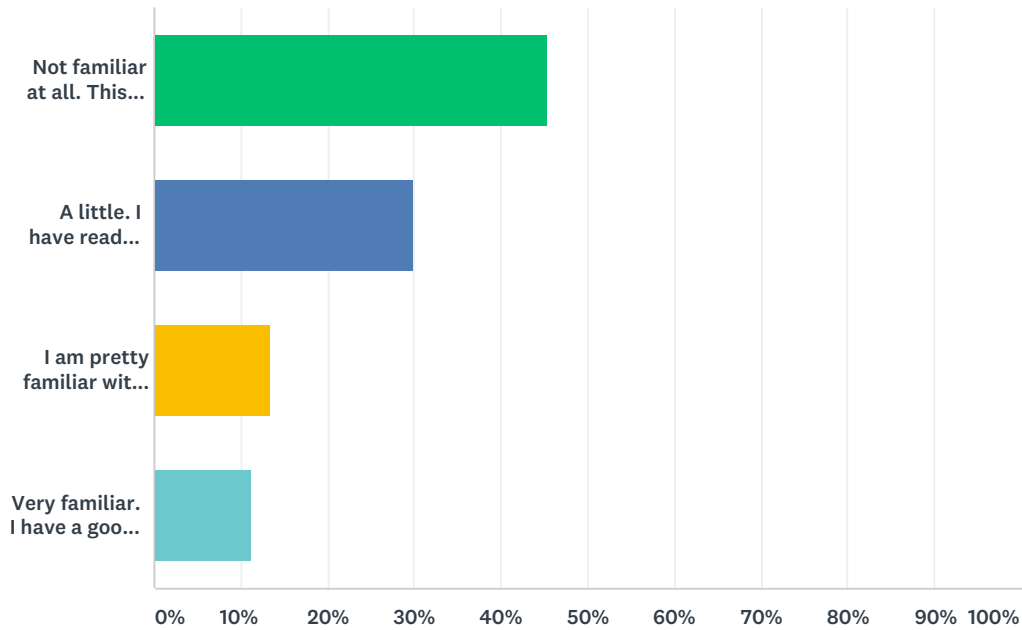
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Railroad crossing lights at Kickapoo	
Open the bathrooms at the pool house in Miller Park.	Eliminate people from parking in the ditch and hindering traffic as well as a safety factor.
Improvements of the De Meadows Lift Station and maintenance of sanitary sewer lines	Prevent storm water entering system and preventing sanitary sewer backup in residents basements.
Pedestrian Signal at 91st and Lexington	If the stoplight at 91st and Lexington is not immediately doable, we should strong consider a crosswalk light. That is an extremely dangerous crossing for our school children.
Enclosure over the Pool	This is a long shot, but the community pool is only used for a very small portion of the year, and is a money drain. I propose enclosing the pool during the winter with a heated tent (google it) so the community has access year round. The District could possibly share some of the cost due to a need for the swim teams. Communities back east do this to their outdoor pools.
Sidewalk on north and west side Lexington.	
Roundabout @ Kill Creek & 83rd	
Relocate and build new baseball fields	Will attract outside teams and tournaments.
Purchase and remove trailers near Miller park and build studio apartments or other multi family housing	
A traffic signal or intersection redesign @ Lexington and Penner Avenues. That intersection is very busy and hard to both drive and walk through.	That intersection is very busy and hard to both drive and walk through.

Q1 How familiar are you with the proposed Capital Improvements Plan?

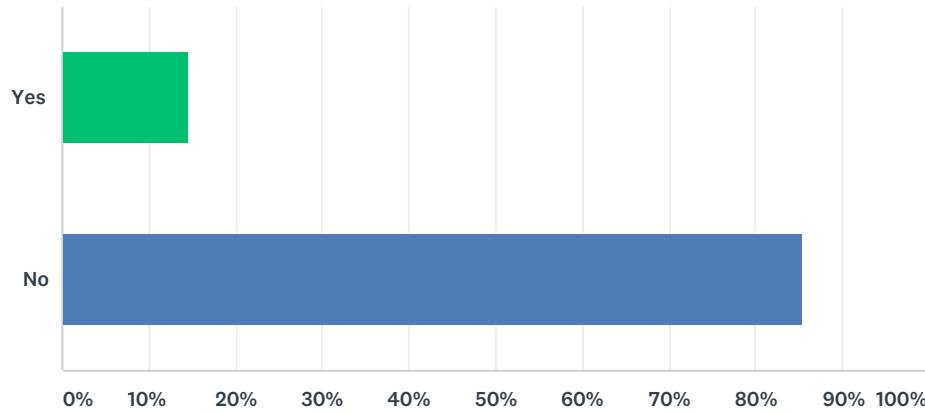
Answered: 97 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not familiar at all. This is the first I'm hearing of it, and I have no idea what's proposed.	45.36%	44
A little. I have read through the plan, and have seen the list of projects, but I don't know a lot about the details.	29.90%	29
I am pretty familiar with the proposed plan. I mostly know what is included, and how the City plans to pay for the projects.	13.40%	13
Very familiar. I have a good understanding of the scope of the projects, and I am familiar with the proposed revenue sources.	11.34%	11
TOTAL		97

Q2 Did you attend either of the public meetings held on November 30th, 2017?

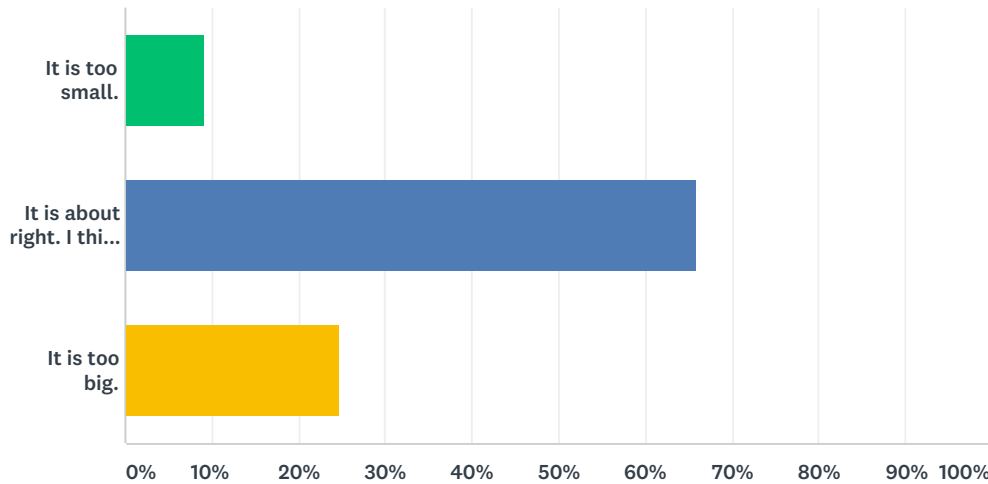
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	14.58%	14
No	85.42%	82
TOTAL		96

Q3 The draft 5-year CIP includes \$11 Million in projects, to be funded by \$3.7 Million in new debt, \$2.9 Million in grants, and \$4.4 Million in sales and property taxes. How do you feel about the overall scope of the plan?

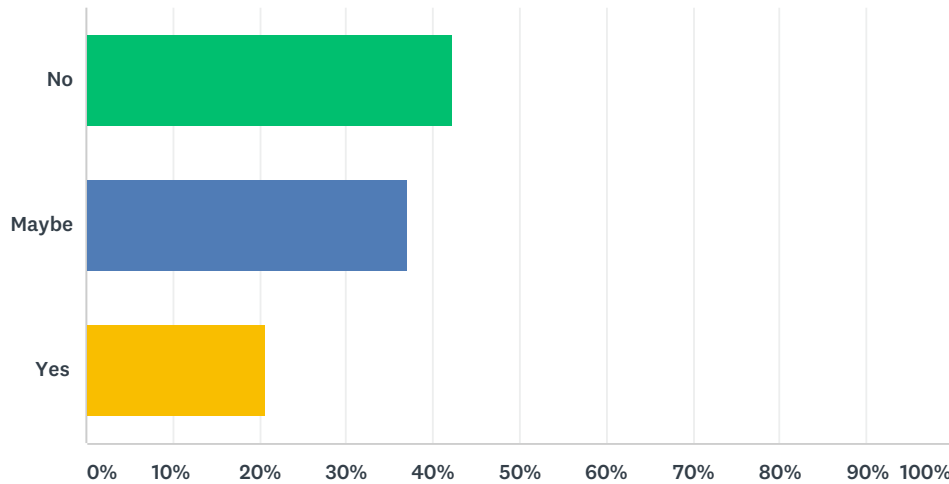
Answered: 97 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
It is too small.	9.28% 9
It is about right. I think that is a good balance.	65.98% 64
It is too big.	24.74% 24
TOTAL	97

Q4 The draft 5-year plan includes the issuance of new debt in the amount of \$3.7 Million. It is projected that this may equate to a 5% increase in the City's property tax rate. Would you support such an increase?

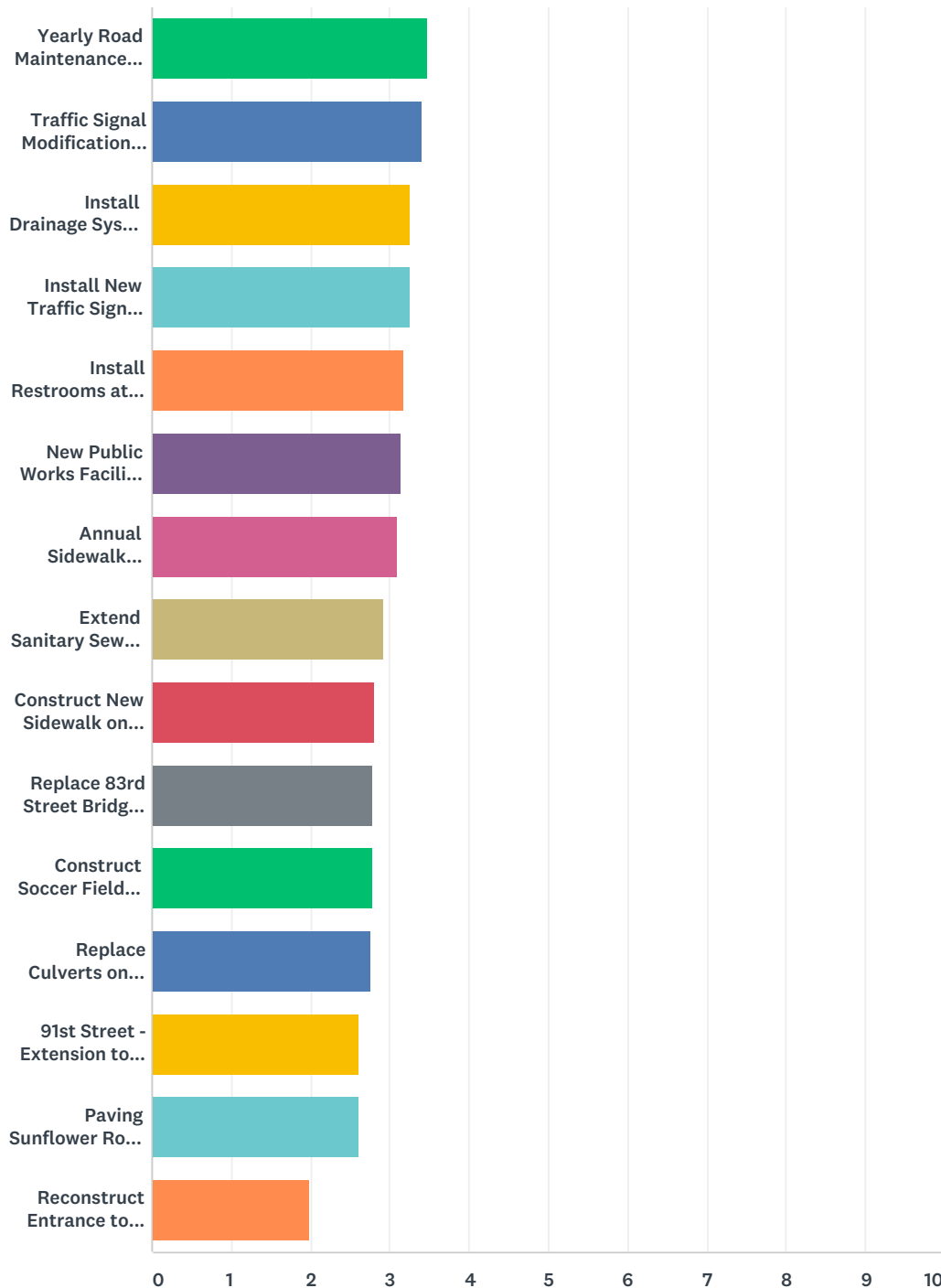
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	42.27%	41
Maybe	37.11%	36
Yes	20.62%	20
TOTAL		97

Q5 The following projects are all proposed to be funded in the current draft of the CIP. Please indicate your priority for each. For details about the projects, see the following link: <http://www.desotoks.us/assets/appendix-b--project-detail-sheets-11.13.17.pdf>

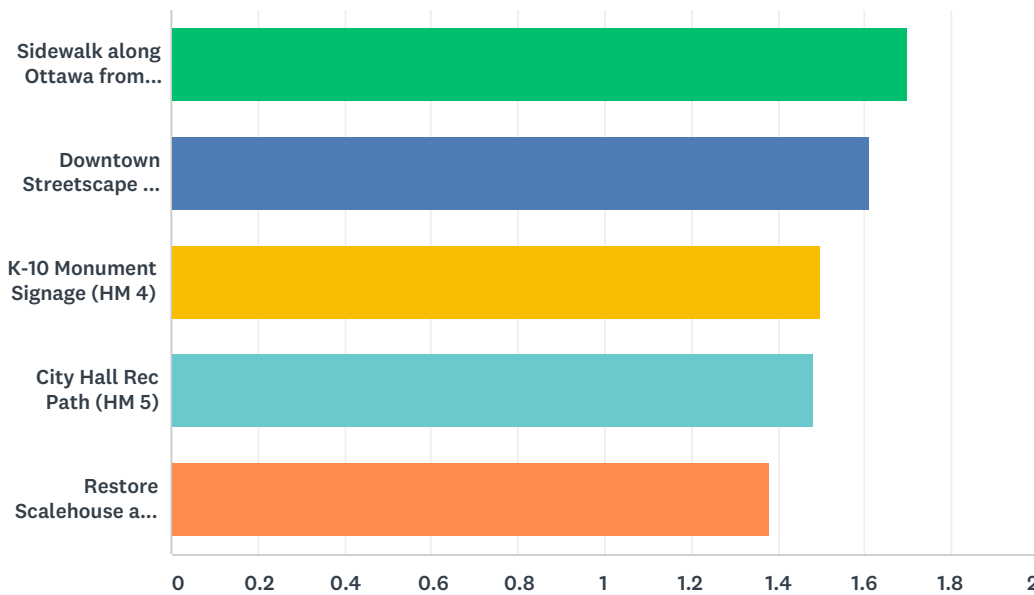
Answered: 78 Skipped: 21



	NOT A PRIORITY	A LOW PRIORITY	A MODERATE PRIORITY	A HIGH PRIORITY	A VERY HIGH PRIORITY. WE SHOULD IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Yearly Road Maintenance Program (Project #2)	2.60% 2	9.09% 7	37.66% 29	38.96% 30	11.69% 9	77	3.48
Traffic Signal Modifications at Lexington and K-10 (Project #23)	5.19% 4	24.68% 19	18.18% 14	28.57% 22	23.38% 18	77	3.40
Install Drainage System at Miller Park (Project #12)	2.60% 2	23.38% 18	27.27% 21	37.66% 29	9.09% 7	77	3.27
Install New Traffic Signal at 91st & Lexington (Project #24)	10.39% 8	19.48% 15	27.27% 21	18.18% 14	24.68% 19	77	3.27
Install Restrooms at Riverfest Park (Project # 25)	7.79% 6	16.88% 13	33.77% 26	33.77% 26	7.79% 6	77	3.17
New Public Works Facility (Project # 10)	5.13% 4	21.79% 17	38.46% 30	23.08% 18	11.54% 9	78	3.14
Annual Sidewalk Replacement Program (Project #13)	5.19% 4	23.38% 18	37.66% 29	24.68% 19	9.09% 7	77	3.09
Extend Sanitary Sewers to 95th & Lexington (Project #21)	12.00% 9	14.67% 11	48.00% 36	20.00% 15	5.33% 4	75	2.92
Construct New Sidewalk on 83rd Street from Valley Springs Drive to Kaw Ave (Project #14)	11.69% 9	29.87% 23	35.06% 27	12.99% 10	10.39% 8	77	2.81
Replace 83rd Street Bridge over US Army Railroad (Project #5)	11.84% 9	27.63% 21	39.47% 30	11.84% 9	9.21% 7	76	2.79
Construct Soccer Fields at Lexington Lake Park (Project #16 & 17)	17.95% 14	25.64% 20	25.64% 20	21.79% 17	8.97% 7	78	2.78
Replace Culverts on Ottawa Street just North of BNSF Railroad (Project #11)	6.58% 5	34.21% 26	44.74% 34	5.26% 4	9.21% 7	76	2.76
91st Street - Extension to Sunflower Road. (Project #3)	16.88% 13	36.36% 28	25.97% 20	9.09% 7	11.69% 9	77	2.62
Paving Sunflower Road from 87th to 95th. (Project #4)	12.99% 10	36.36% 28	35.06% 27	6.49% 5	9.09% 7	77	2.62
Reconstruct Entrance to Huhtamaki on Commerce Drive (Project #22)	43.42% 33	31.58% 24	14.47% 11	3.95% 3	6.58% 5	76	1.99

Q6 The following projects ARE NOT proposed to be funded in the current draft of the CIP, but did make an "Honorable Mention" list. Please indicate your opinion of each. For details about the projects, see the following link: <http://www.desotoks.us/assets/appendix-c---honorable-mentions-11.13.07.pdf>

Answered: 77 Skipped: 22



	THIS PROJECT SHOULD NOT BE FUNDED	WE SHOULD CONSIDER FUNDING THIS PROJECT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Sidewalk along Ottawa from 83rd to Riverfest Park (HM 6)	30.26% 23	69.74% 53	76	1.70
Downtown Streetscape (HM 1)	38.67% 29	61.33% 46	75	1.61
K-10 Monument Signage (HM 4)	50.00% 38	50.00% 38	76	1.50
City Hall Rec Path (HM 5)	52.05% 38	47.95% 35	73	1.48
Restore Scalehouse at Riverfest Park (HM 3)	62.16% 46	37.84% 28	74	1.38