Survey Report
04 December 2018 - 31 December 2018

How do you want to learn about and share input on the Regional District of Nanaimo budget in the future?

PROJECT: RDN Budget Talks

Get Involved RDN
Q1 Please let us know which area of the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) you reside in.

**Question options**
- Electoral Area B - Gabriola, DeCourcy, Mudge Islands
- Electoral Area C - Extension, Arrowsmith-Benson, East Wellington, Pleasant Valley
- Electoral Area E - Nanoose Bay
- Electoral Area G - French Creek, Dashwood, Englishman River
- Electoral Area H - Shaw Hill, Qualicum Bay, Deep Bay, Bowser
- City of Nanaimo

(13 responses, 0 skipped)
Q2 Share any thoughts or comments you may have on the Proposed 2019 Budget for the area you reside in.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input.

11% is an extremely high tax increase

It is time to have a budget that provides a zero% increase in taxes. If you have to cut services, do it. This insanity of constant increases has got to stop and stop immediately.

A large portion of the increases for 2019 appear to be for sports and recreation. I, like a lot of people, do not use any of the facilities. Will the user fees be increased in a manner that is proportionally fair to the non user subsidizing taxpayer? In front of my house is a street light. The light not only lights the street but also my backyard to the point where I do not need outside lights, I see this as a huge waste of power, resources and money. Are there any plans to reduce this waste by switching to more energy efficient lighting systems?

Was unable to read it

11 percent increase for amenity projects is too much. Tax increases should attempt to match inflation unless for core services. Did your salary go up 11 percent this year?

I have not seen any increase in services in Area G for several years, so the overall goal should be to have zero increase in taxes in Area G. Transportation is grossly overspent and over-budgeted. Driving empty buses around low population density rural areas is neither financially nor environmentally responsible. When people choose to live in a rural area, with it's low population density (as I have), they should not expect the general population to pay for their transportation costs. Using the historical model of buses driving set routes may still be viable in high density regions (such as metropolitan Vancouver), but it's time for a paradigm shift in transportation in rural areas. Look at Uber replacing taxis - at lower cost and greater customer service. It's time for the RDN and BC Transit to consider totally new approaches to providing transportation services to a few residents. Look at new technology (cell phones, internet) and ways to provide some transportation services at far lower cost than the current 'empty buses' approach. [I do support buses at specific times where high ridership warrants it, such as early and late transportation to VIU.] Sewage treatment - Most of Area G is not on sewers, so we should not be paying a significant amount towards this service. We already pay a significant fee when septic tanks are pumped out and the waste taken to the French Creek plant. Solid waste pick-up - If you really want to approach "zero waste" in a few years time, spending
money now on new automated trucks and larger waste containers is silly (to put it nicely). If you want to make progress towards lower / zero waste, go after the producers of the waste first, and encourage smaller waste containers for garbage pick-up.

I would prefer to see a comparison with the 2018 original budget and the 2018 final actual costs vs. budgeted costs. Once that is done, an explanation of what is causing the changes between 2018 and 2019, and what attempts were made to mitigate the increases.

Optional question (8 responses, 5 skipped)
Q3 | Would you like to provide input in the future regarding RDN budgeting?

**Question options**
- Yes: 9 (100.0%)

Optional question (9 responses, 4 skipped)

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Q4 | How do you want to provide input into the RDN budget in the future?

**Question options**
- Online - Get Involved RDN: 11
- Engagement Events - such as an open house or pop-up event: 2
- Direct Email: 6

Optional question (13 responses, 0 skipped)
Q5 | Do you want to know more about the differences between municipal and regional government?

![Pie chart showing 8 (61.5%) and 5 (38.5%) responses.]

**Question options**
- Yes
- No

*Optional question (13 responses, 0 skipped)*

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Q6 | If you would like to know more about regional government, what would you like to know?

**Question options**
- Services provided in the entire RDN
- Services provided in my area (Electoral or municipality)
- How to get new services in my area (Electoral or municipality)
- More details about the services provided in my area (Electoral or municipality)

*Optional question (9 responses, 4 skipped)*