

Appendix G: Resident comments from 2020 Budget game

Investing your tax dollars: 2020 budget game

Q3 Please provide us with any additional comments you would like to make on the 2020 Budget. Your comments are valuable.

Answered: 74 Skipped: 106

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The Arden Ave and surrounding area is filled with houses built in the early 1900's. Like in Brampton, I think that this area should have "heritage signage" to mark the "heritage district" of the town. Also, instead of existing modern lighting, I think that it should be "updated" in the heritage district to have "heritage lighting". Research the Mill St. South area of Brampton. They've got it right!	11/5/2019 5:31 PM
2	I would like to see better lights, and signs installed, for people to drive safer, and for the safety of pedestrians, also better bus service going north on tongs street.	11/5/2019 4:22 PM
3	Parkes get renewed to often. I see structures replaced when there was nothing wrong with the old structure. Spend less. Spend wisely.	11/4/2019 4:44 PM
4	A new library is desperately needed. Existing one is well run but too small with totally inadequate parking. By-law Enforcement is a joke. A complaints based system is not going to keep the town looking good. Lack of property standard enforcement, besides devaluing neighboring properties, sends the message to owners that they can get away with ignoring the by-laws.	11/4/2019 1:06 PM
5	Community safety is the most important to me. I live just 200 meters away from the gun shot on Colter st. In 2019 there are at least 4 times I was woke up by teenagers who were so drunk and talked loud on the street after mid-light for at least half hour. It's so scary to me and I was not able to sleep. I hope the town will invest more to ensure safety and harmony of the residents.	11/4/2019 9:36 AM
6	Would be nice to refresh the men's and women's change rooms at Ray Twinney - look old and worn down.	11/1/2019 12:33 PM
7	Stop paying huge severances to retired/resigned officials. Absolutely ridiculous what has been paid out. Newmarket needs to get rid of the "old boys network". With my 1.5% salary increase, and your almost 4% tax increase, it will be an extremely tough year for me. How do you expect people to live??	11/1/2019 9:05 AM
8	Not so much budget comments, but I haven't seen a lot of by-law enforcement in my neighbourhood. People park on grass, on brick "walkways", park overnight without permits, across the sidewalk... yet nothing is done. I've gone to the office to get a permit only to be told that I can't pave a foot of my boulevard to park on, yet I see so many other households breaking so many bylaws with impunity, I wonder why you have the bylaws in the first place. The idling bylaws need to be changed. As they now stand, they are unenforceable. As for planning, why have a Planning and Development Department when the OMB can just come in and overturn any council decision?	10/30/2019 5:19 PM
9	survey forms keep clearing my selections...	10/30/2019 2:59 PM
10	Moonlight movies would be great to see throughout the year instead of a few days out of the summer for low income families	10/28/2019 7:12 PM
11	Increase must be kept at less than 3% so frills like bike lanes traffic calming etc may have to be eliminated as they are not used much and have little affect	10/26/2019 7:55 AM
12	Please become more efficient to save our tax dollars. With on line today the library should be cut way back	10/26/2019 7:36 AM
13	None	10/25/2019 9:00 PM
14	I think you are doing an exceptional job. Keep up the good work.	10/25/2019 6:47 PM
15	Would like to see Viva Go Train Whistle Blowing suppressed in the Town of newmarket	10/25/2019 6:08 PM
16	I am satisfied with the current service, but if inflation means an increase to keep these levels where they currently stand, I would increase user fees and eliminate many of the free community events.	10/25/2019 5:36 PM
17	Newmarket badly needs a renovated, modern library.	10/23/2019 11:07 PM
18	Community input would be great, an opportunity for the community to go Positive feedback and suggestions	10/23/2019 12:26 PM
19	Why did we pay so much money on a bus line that has caused nothing but traffic headaches for a long time and I never see anyone riding the buses in town. This town is busting at the seams why do we continue to take farmland and put in more homes.	10/23/2019 9:03 AM
20	I appreciate all the parks and trails we have here in Newmarket. Thanks for helping me to keep active.	10/22/2019 3:37 PM
21	I would like to see the Engineering and Roads study going ahead for the 2020 budger	10/22/2019 2:05 PM

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22	Only allow one bag of garbage for collection every other week. Then charge for extra bag tags. It will make people use less garbage, live more sustainably, and create revenue from garbage tags.	10/22/2019 12:20 AM
23	Do something about the homeless people panhandling around Davis from Main to Yonge and address homeless campers/tents by the GO train tracks by Mulok	10/21/2019 8:40 PM
24	Mayor and Council need to take a pay cut	10/19/2019 3:49 PM
25	Previously, you used a pie chart that visually showed budget dollars, if I increased \$ to one area, \$ had to come from another.	10/19/2019 11:03 AM
26	More services and housing for seniors	10/19/2019 8:58 AM
27	Although maintaining roads, waste management, effective emergency services, etc., are of utmost importance, recreational facilities and community events I feel are also extremely important for the health and wellbeing of the community and its citizens. Happy to see events and recreation facilities getting more attention.	10/18/2019 5:34 PM
28	Please Makes more local market and help local businesses if it's possible	10/18/2019 2:32 PM
29	I strongly support cultural events across Newmarket as this makes us a better town and a place where families want to live.	10/18/2019 10:41 AM
30	.	10/18/2019 5:13 AM
31	Definitely an increase in the Public Library is one of my highest priorities.	10/17/2019 8:24 PM
32	Canada in general sucks at waste management. It'd be nice to see more communication sent on what is provided and what you have been doing.	10/17/2019 7:00 PM
33	Let's clean up all the crime that has been happened more frequently in the area!	10/17/2019 5:22 PM
34	These are all valuable services that contribute to our quality of life in Newmarket	10/17/2019 1:28 PM
35	Please continue to plan for the increase of traffic. Spend money on ways to improve transit to make it faster and easier to use.	10/17/2019 9:53 AM
36	Please be mindful of snow removal in residential neighborhoods by ensuring that the snow plows do not make private driveways inaccessible with large excessive windrows.	10/17/2019 1:53 AM
37	More services for seniors would be great	10/16/2019 10:40 AM
38	We need less mansions and more midrise mixed use residential. We need to create more of the missing middle.	10/16/2019 6:54 AM
39	Focus should be on maintaining current projects and finding new ones that are environmentally friendly.	10/15/2019 8:17 PM
40	Newmarket culture is a key point of differentiation in our community - please keep it up. Continue to develop our Main Street and do what you can to support local businesses. Go parking (if municipal) needs work	10/15/2019 7:55 AM
41	I am very satisfied with all the services we receive. Keep up the good work.	10/15/2019 4:51 AM
42	Stop using money on park upgrades every few years. It's different kids using the park at that point.	10/14/2019 11:45 PM
43	I would like to see more areas for parking along main street and more events planned for local music and culture concerts for Newmarket. this would be giving a platform for local Newmarket bands to spread their creativity around the town and allow them to be heard.	10/13/2019 12:34 PM
44	Investment in strategic thinking, technology and finance will help deliver all services more effectively.	10/13/2019 10:18 AM
45	Sense of community is important, that's why i enjoy living here	10/13/2019 9:11 AM
46	Please keep up with the great community programs (including fitness programs, and events (holiday related, etc). As a parent this gives me and my kids ample activities to positively fill our time. My kids are enrolled in swimming and skating with the town, and thoroughly enjoy using the tom taylor trail and local parks.	10/13/2019 1:02 AM
47	Road infrastructure, maintenance, development and construction is very important for the public and the tax payers and still it is very evident that our governments (municipalities, provincial and federal) do not hold these companies working on our roads that costs us billions of dollars accountable and they take very long to complete and also obviously the quality of work is so poor that even though I understand our harsh weather conditions are responsible for the wear and tear but the quality of the work and the material is so poor. Also as new parents we need more high quality, safe and inexpensive available childcare so I don't have to reduce my work hours to stay home and take care of my child for most of the week. My neighbours, family, friends and myself are not at all convinced the Viva dedicated street lane is at all suitable nor productive for our city. It absolutely does not make sense to have it just available for Viva and still have the other bus services YRT use and slow down traffic of the road. Another huge waste of tax payers money and road closures, long construction times, something that actually does not help with our commuting and traffic.	10/13/2019 12:56 AM
48	More public libraries please.	10/12/2019 12:14 PM

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49	Bylaw enforcement could use more attention to customer experience. Processes are complicated and not user friendly. Warnings for parking infractions and better information about parking and building bylaws would help people comply. Feels like a cash grab instead of helping community.	10/11/2019 11:59 PM
50	.	10/11/2019 6:52 PM
51	Would love to see no increase, be nice if we could keep our number in check.	10/11/2019 9:44 AM
52	More development of parks and recreation ie/ planting trees and developing more hiking trails	10/10/2019 12:00 PM
53	Minimal property tax increase this year was appreciated! Please try to keep them lower every year.	10/10/2019 7:05 AM
54	Homelessness	10/10/2019 7:03 AM
55	Expand the services and programs offered at Ray Twinney. Create partnerships with local schools to develop community based programs in conjunction with Town recreation services to keep children and youth safe and occupied after school. Invest in local initiatives for seniors...transportation, housing, more day programs to give caregivers a break and Lee their loved ones with Alzheimer's and dementia safe	10/9/2019 9:16 PM
56	I think we have a pretty great community. If everyone does their part to keep it clean, safe and sustainable it'll be even better.	10/9/2019 9:13 PM
57	Don't forget about the seniors!	10/9/2019 7:49 PM
58	I love Newmarket and it seems that my taxes are going to towards things that our family values. Thank you.	10/9/2019 4:05 PM
59	More money budget to mental health groups activities	10/9/2019 2:15 PM
60	Please upgrade our current library so it is more comparable to other towns' libraries. Adding more service branches that are easier to access will be helpful, too.	10/8/2019 2:42 PM
61	Can we please get more public library locations? Having only 1 library is not enough for a town of this size.	10/8/2019 2:07 PM
62	Invest more in the public library. A new locoation that is more accessible and with more parking is greatly needed.	10/8/2019 10:22 AM
63	I'd like to see a greater effort made into reducing waste in Newmarket. This can be done by increasing the number of recyclable items and making it so restaurants are incentivized to move towards recyclable/compostable takeout containers and away from styrofoam. You can add more recycling/garbage recepticals to the town streets and at major intersections (I'll often pick up garbage on my way to work and there's only one garbage can on my 2.5km route. You can also update the recepticals so they accept compostable material as well. Make it easier for people to recycle and they will. If we are going to brag about diverting 64% of waste from landfills, we might as well shut our mouths. We should be innovating and finding new ways to get that number even higher. I'm frustrated with Newmarket because the town is afraid to do anything new. All I see is the same waste management practices gong on, expensive condos that regular people can't afford, neighbourhoods slowly turning into rental communities, and 6 construction sites that I pass on my way to work. This isn't my town anymore.	10/8/2019 10:20 AM
64	Need to develop better east-west trails that avoid busy roads and connect to main north-south Trail.	10/7/2019 9:34 PM
65	Need more focus on making communities safe and patrolled, given recent increases is violent crimes. I dont feel safe walking past daylight, and sometimes even when it is daylight, by myself and that was originally what attracted me to newmarket was that it was safer than other communities. I can only.assume it will get worse if affordable housing is not a priority and as more people are coming to the suburbs in new condo and housing developments. Need to ensure police and enforcement services are increased in accordance to projected population increase.	10/7/2019 7:03 PM
66	So glad town's infrastructure is being maintained and upgraded. Also appreciate recreation facilities.	10/5/2019 8:02 AM
67	My concern I think probably falls under the "By-law and Licencing Services". I think that there should be some "blitzes" of By-law Officers going through neighborhoods to see if people are following the proper protocol for keeping their dogs secure. I live in a neighborhood here in Newmarket which is referred to as the "Dog Patch". My home is near the corner of Newbury and Longford specifically. In keeping with the neighborhood, I just happen to have a dog who is a rescue and is scared of other dogs. We try our best to be careful and aware of our surroundings at all times when outside as one just never knows what a dog might do. However, my dog and I have to make quick decisions very often to either go another way to avoid a loose dog or keep my dog a safe distance away until the other unsecured / unleashed dog is gone. Epidemic of people in this neighborhood who do one or more of the following: *owners just out on a leisurely stroll walking with their dog with no leash on the dog *dogs not secured to anything while being allowed to just "hang out" in their front yards that have no fence *people in this neighborhood who have bigger dogs which are on a leash, but the owners can't control the dog themselves *our neighbor lets his big powerful dog be all by himself in the fenced back yard, but the dog barks and goes crazy when anyone walks by - one day he managed to get the gate opened on his own and came charging out after my dog, chased my dog around even straight into our own home - it really is only a matter of time before this neighbors dog manages to get the gate open again... *some owners / landlords are not maintaining the gates / fencing of their properties properly *many landlords just don't care what type of tenants they are taking in / what their tenants are doing	10/4/2019 11:44 PM

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68	A lot of roads are in bad shape. I've only seen by-law officers once, they should be out more. People park all over the place.	10/4/2019 9:24 AM
69	you could save on multiple fronts of waste (like storm drain cleaning/ waste cleanups, etc) if we could utilize the bigger, lidded blue bins (similar to garbage sized bins) instead of small open top recycling bins	10/3/2019 4:42 PM
70	I realize the library would never be the top priority but would like it to receive extra funding.	10/3/2019 4:31 PM
71	Newmarket is a great town that offers its' residents a lot of amenities and services for the taxes they pay - I would encourage Council to continue to strive to keep taxes low while continuing to find efficiencies in the services provided.	10/2/2019 8:41 AM
72	Just because we can doesn't mean we should. Let's stop the cycle of every increasing taxes. If that means a reduction in services so be it.	10/2/2019 7:53 AM
73	this is stupid. my comments are skewed towards whatever you want.	10/1/2019 7:24 PM
74	Where does Economic Development fit?	10/1/2019 4:32 PM