

FY18 Budget Input Poll

Q19 Do you have any additional comments, questions, or concerns regarding the FY 2018 budget input process that you wish to add?

Answered: 212 Skipped: 798

#	Responses	Date
1	Why can't the aquatic pool be built in 3 stages, instead of \$31 million to start? Construct one stage for \$10 million each 3-year time period. We would learn along the way if we were going to make a successful venue and if it would encourage the youth in our city to participate in events there. There are so many other areas that we need to finance, like the police officers, schools and teachers, after school programs, fighting crime, even helping the children who would not be able to afford going to the pool. Before building the pool, we need to look at how all children would be able to participate. A research study of how schools would participate with low income residents before we move forward. We have a homeless problem in Hampton as well. There are more standing on the side of the road and medians. Mental health issues need to be addressed. Thank you for the many hours you have spent on this budget.	3/20/2017 11:04 PM
2	Hampton needs a baseball / softball / soccer sports facility for the youth like Newport News Stoney run and Yorktown's sports complex.	3/20/2017 9:47 PM
3	Invest in schools, reduce crime. Stop giving away tax payer dollars on development projects.	3/20/2017 8:55 PM
4	Hampton citizens must be prepared to support potential financial increases that improve the overall well being and city services.	3/20/2017 5:03 PM
5	Please remove the storm water taxed that is levied on Home Owners Association. Put it in Property taxes	3/20/2017 4:15 PM
6	BRING BACK BUCKROE BEACH..... BUILD IT>>>>>>>THEY WILL COME .	3/20/2017 3:34 PM
7	CUC and CEARC are severely underfunded. Find \$ 10,000 to add to this operating budget.	3/20/2017 2:50 PM
8	Will the local agencies and other outside private organizations that the city provides funding for also be reduced at a comparable % if city dept's have to reduce their own operating budgets?	3/20/2017 2:48 PM
9	City of Hampton seems to be charging a lot of taxes without anything to show. Most of the improvements in the city have been made by outside investors. The roads are terrible. The infrastructure is terrible. Crime rates are on the rise and seems to be little care from the city. I know in speaking with other residents, most including myself, are looking to leave due to the previous statements among others. In the 15 years I've lived here I have seen the city on steady decline. Not sure the reason but it is. The city keeps putting lower income housing in decent neighborhoods and driving everyone's property values down. This does not seem to be good practice and causes people to leave.	3/20/2017 2:22 PM
10	I just wish that you increase the quality of education in K-12. Majority of people (with higher education), who work in Hampton city live in Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown because of school system. City schools are managed very poorly. Effective communication between different departments can also reduce the cost.	3/20/2017 1:31 PM
11	Please reconsider the high school career academies. This is a terrible idea, and sure to be a waste of taxpayer money.	3/20/2017 12:54 PM
12	Continue development of Buckroe and Ft Monroe to generate revenue.	3/20/2017 12:48 PM
13	Social service and community outreach efforts should be maintained in Hampton at a level which is consistent with adjacent localities to avoid causing an in-mitigation of populations in need. Every Hampton Roads locality should absorb their per capita share of social service and community outreach efforts.	3/20/2017 11:53 AM

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14	PLEASE READ THE WHOLE THING: The addition of a 50 Meter pool in Hampton will make our city one of 3 public 50 meter pools in the area from Virginia Beach up to Richmond. If it is built nice enough, it can bring in many rentals for large swim meets that brings revenue directly to the city in the form of taxes. Local swim teams would also rent the pool for practice space on a daily basis. Citizens could enjoy a state of the art pool instead of the Hampton Aquatic Center that is falling apart. It would also bring jobs in the form of construction jobs in the 4 years it is expected to take to build. Lasting jobs like lifeguard jobs for area teens and administration jobs for adults would also be created. When it comes to replacing the Old Hampton Community Center with a similar pool or building a pool that will actually bring in money, I'd vote for the 50 meter pool every time. The 50 meter pool has the potential to bring revenue to the city while the replacement pool will just sit and cost money like the Old Hampton Community Center and the Hampton Aquatic Center. Both pools will cost money initially, but it is possible to recapture money with the 50 meter pool. I also heard a thought that building a pool like this would take away from pools like the YMCA. I am a lifeguard at the YMCA and believe me when I say this, my boss, Shannon Vander Stouwe, books that pool very well and would continue to be able to if this pool were to be built.	3/20/2017 10:49 AM
15	Housing policies should focus on improving existing neighborhoods, not just "redeveloping" and potentially adding more shoddy, slab developments and low income housing. People pick neighborhoods, not just houses. Rework city codes to ensure they reflect goals while providing investors with maximum flexibility. Businesses are choosing to go elsewhere because they find Hampton's processes and codes too cumbersome. Market and use community assets to anchor housing and neighborhoods— downtown historic district, Hampton University, ethnic neighborhoods, shopping districts, etc. Can Hampton University offer incentives to buy houses in specific neighborhoods? Can the city offer incentives for middle-income earners to purchase and fix up homes in certain districts? Can the city offer financial incentives to rental property owners to upgrade and preserve buildings as affordable housing? Focus on improving schools, police and tourist areas (more hotels!). Tourists will not visit Hampton for an extended period, because they are told it is not safe, and there are no top notch hotels. Offer incentives for home improvement projects and raise the fines for unkempt lawns, etc. Require building standards (e.g., brick front) in certain areas of the city (e.g., Downtown/Phoebus/Buckroe) and fine those who do not conform to standard.	3/20/2017 9:05 AM
16	I love the concept of this Budget Input Poll, and would like to see it again in the future. Thanks.	3/20/2017 12:20 AM
17	Our city is in dire straits in comparison with other localities. It is imperative that if we want to attract businesses and residents to our city that we become more competitive. While reading the suggestions offered in this debrief there was no evidence of thinking outside the box. It read like some of the same old stuff again. I am afraid that until there is some new innovations we will see more of an exodus than influx of citizens.	3/19/2017 8:46 PM
18	We need to continue cleaning out the blight and focusing on acquisitions, redevelopment, and infrastructure that encourages private investment. Public amenities should be neighborhood focused to encourage quality of life. Large scale investments like the aquatics center should be tabled until there is more revenue to pay for these large scale projects or the projects are designed to be revenue generating to defray cost. We also need to pay attention to what is happening to housing values due to increased flood insurance cost.	3/19/2017 6:39 PM
19	Investing in community via events and locations for community events would be beneficial to our city.	3/19/2017 10:25 AM
20	Tax RVs and boats. Property tax exempt for seniors. Salary increase for City Employees. Don't spend money on planting trees on medians that block the view when you are trying to make a left turn (like Armistead Ave and Wheatland Drive). Bulk trash pickup every two weeks. Fine the people more that break the law.	3/19/2017 10:14 AM
21	Yeah what the hell does my race have to do with my thoughts. Nobody I know will use the fancy pool and why \$1 million in the hole yearly.	3/19/2017 8:01 AM
22	Hampton is going to continue to decline until we have a much improved school system. Hampton is not a destination of choice for successful young couples with children. The way Buckle has been handled is a disaster. What could have been a boon for the city will turn out to be such for a few developers.	3/18/2017 3:58 PM
23	Stop buying land for housing. Bring in more high paying industry. Hampton can't compete for tourists with Virginia Beach or Williamsburg. Stop trying too. Instead, try making this a high paying business area. Also, taxes should go to paying for services such as police, fire, EMS and teachers, as well as parks, community centers and sports activities. We should not be paying for the Coliseum, Conference Center or VA Air and Space Museum. Those are business and should make their own profit. Stop funding the Newport News Airport. By law the PAC is supposed to be self sufficient. We shouldn't have paid for the parking garage at the Town Center. It's not in a location for shopping. It's always empty and yet we continue to pay tax for it. When will that tax end. To bad you didn't really show the public what you are paying for in subsidies in this survey.	3/18/2017 11:37 AM
24	The Aquatic Center will be one of the best asset Hampton would have to increasing tourists and economic opportunities	3/18/2017 10:08 AM
25	While I am well aware of the people that feel we need an aquatics center, I do not feel that it is a priority at this time. Swimming is not that big on the Peninsula and this is coming from a parent that has had children that have swam for years. There are too many of there important things that the money needs to go in to at this time.	3/17/2017 6:40 PM

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26	As I've stated before; employees don't need raises every year especially considering the benefits we the citizens already provide; much more than in the private sector (i.e. retirement; 100% funded by the taxpayers). Raises should be based on doing a job more efficiently not just because they put in the time. Also a formal structure needs to be put into place for promotion. This would help alleviate the out of whack pay that occurs every few years. As for garbage; if you can't stagger purchases of garbage trucks, then the manager needs to be fired. Thats a recurring cost of business. Even better, go back to private like we had in the early 90's. Not only less cost to the citizens, but you also get tax dollars which can be used for essential services. Since HRT can't get their costs under control; asking for \$640K additional for FY 17; cut it out completely and move to a voucher system using taxi's; UBER, Lyft, private buses. What is now paid for the minimal service provided isn't a wise use of scarce tax money.	3/17/2017 11:07 AM
27	Hampton has done a wonderful job of juggling its expenses within what it can afford. But, because it is unlikely that all the older homes in Hampton will suddenly increase in value, more emphasis should be put on attracting commercial property investment and tourism. If we do eventually construct an aquatics center, please make sure it has a marketing budget and a long-term plan for staffing.	3/17/2017 8:34 AM
28	I think we should concentrate on the Buckroe area of improvement, maybe it would bring in more revenue. Also get rid of the gangs which will reduce the crime. Tear down old buildings that are boarded up which cause criminal activity. Cut programs which are not working. Thank you	3/17/2017 8:00 AM
29	None of the proposals on this survey will singularly set Hampton apart from the surrounding communities EXCEPT the proposal for a world-class aquatics center. This is the only option that is a game-changer, the only one that could disrupt the status quo and mean real attraction to our community from outside. This means a significant revenue increase. The aquatics center has been on the table for years. It's time to act, it's time to move and it's time to realize the benefits.	3/17/2017 6:36 AM
30	The city neglects The park place area including Child's Avenue, Ellington Avenue. They started rebuilding the area and stopped when the market dropped. They should refocus on these areas and the trailer park on old Aberdeen road is run down and not maintained by the owner. It makes property owners who purchased the newer homes build to rebuild the area move due to the area not being upkept. Even the city portion land and ditches in the area are not maintained. It seems like depending on where you live in the city is how you are treated. Even if you pay the same taxes. Something to consider	3/16/2017 9:02 PM
31	I think the City is doing a great job. I feel optimistic for the first time in a long time. Keep it up!	3/16/2017 8:17 PM
32	This may not have anything to do with the budget, but does Hampton really need all of the grocery stores that are planning to open in the near future? Is there away to attract different types of reatail businesses. We have an awful lot of restaurants and grocery stores.	3/16/2017 8:12 PM
33	no	3/16/2017 7:34 PM
34	More should be done to assist small businesses to succeed and more revenue should be allocated to make Hampton more attractive to new business opportunities. Create business friendly incentives for job producers and train the greatest asset Hampton has, it people, who are either unemployed or underemployed for the new workforce environment that those incentives will foster. Let's go and capture our piece of greatness and make our city the opportunity success can't pass up.	3/16/2017 7:00 PM
35	Offer incentives for hi tech companies to come here.	3/16/2017 6:31 PM
36	Provide hyperlinks within budget poll that link to more data and a deeper understanding of the line item. OK to pitch city recommendations but leave opportunity for comments upon sign in. City staff seldom have the opportunity to present rationale and here is an opportunity. I believe the Daily Press is correct to want more transparency so perhaps engage them as a partner to host the deeper data and comments.	3/16/2017 5:32 PM

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37	<p>To whom it may concern, My name is Zachary Becouvarakis, I am a Sophomore at the University of North Carolina Wilmington and I am proud to call Hampton home. I just wanted to put in a few words regarding the speculation of the new aquatics facility that is being debated. I have swam competitively for about 14 years now. I started swimming at the George Wythe pool in the Wythe area Hampton and today I swim in college as a division 1 athlete. Swimming has shaped my life and made me the person I am today. I swam in high school for Kecoughtan and for the South Eastern Virginia Aquatics who are based in Newport News. I went to countless meets in states including but not limited to Washington, Texas, Florida, Georgia, New York, Maryland, and Delaware. From going to all of these meets one thing that I noticed that the hosts had in common was the city that the pool was located in was very nice. Every meet I went to I found myself saying "wow" at the quality of the cities. Every single business in the city benefits greatly when a big meet is held at the facility. Every single restaurant I went to was packed. Every single hotel booked to the brim. Museums and other landmarks are very popular for people when the meet is not happening. For example the Air and Space Museum would see a spike in attendance the weekend that a meet occurred. Other businesses that could potentially benefit includes stores, malls, and grocery stores for obvious reasons. Overall I think passing up this opportunity would be extremely unwise by the city. Passing up this opportunity would potentially mean passing millions of dollars in income for local businesses and for the city in general. I did not touch on the many other ways this city would benefit because I do not feel that I am educated enough on that subject to address it to you. Thank you so much for your time, Zachary Becouvarakis</p>	3/16/2017 5:19 PM
38	<p>Thanks for the opportunity to have input.</p>	3/16/2017 4:42 PM
39	<p>Increase city salaries. I know several city employees who felt betrayed by the paltry increase made last year. For the last ten years, city salaries have increased *to match inflation but NO more.* City salaries already begin below market. How can you expect to retain a well-qualified, capable workforce when day-to-day finances are a problem and long-term low salaries make retirement impossible? From what friends have been telling me, the \$1 million allotted last year had so little individual impact that it soured loyalty across the workforce. I've heard more than one story of that being the last straw and many are actively looking elsewhere, especially blue collar and clerical positions. Those front-line employees are not wrapped up in larger development projects and are doubly frustrated by the city's willingness to spend funds on projects that may have little economic impact. Recent economic forecasts indicate salaries are becoming more and more competitive, so this problem is about to get much worse. Failure to address this serious issue will ultimately hurt the city's bottom line since a loss in experience will make the city less efficient. This loss is already happening, and in the end tax payers are not confident in city services when the workforce is sub-par. We expect good service from the city and know that it costs money. Fiscally abusing the city workforce has a disastrous effect on public perception and willingness to pay for city services. In the lower and mid level positions, salary funds are ultimately a very prudent investment of taxpayer money. If other taxpayers doubt that truth, the city's messaging needs to be more open about the severity of the problem, better describe its impact on city services, and show that it should be a priority. Bring back performance-based or other annual increases going forward, and establish a plan to incrementally recover employees' lost compensation over the last 10 years. For example, use an aggregate of past performance evaluations to add a personalized flat percentage to employees' salary annually over the next five years, or add 3-4% (on top of cost of living increases, of course) automatically each year for the same number of years of service up to 10, or use a formula to determine a flat percentage increase over 5-10 years that is based on years of service. If this recovery takes place over a period of a few years, that will create an incentive for current employees to stay on for the long term.</p>	3/16/2017 1:36 PM
40	<p>I want to add Armistead Ave. to the beautification project. It is a main street and is looking rough. Housing along parts of it are in disrepair as well as businesses. From Victoria to Pembroke it reflects on our Downtown and Residential areas. This area is a large draw for newcomers as it's close to water front, Historic areas, restaurants but it looks run down and residents & visitors feel unsafe in this area. Clean it up as its a main area for everyone. Plant flowers & other decorations in the downtown area and keep them in good condition. Let neighborhoods adopt areas to take care of and give them a feeling of ownership in the city. Garden Clubs area always looking to help with these projects. Relax some of the city rules to allow people to get things done quicker without all the red tape. Have residents maintain their yards & homes to make our city look better. Hampton home owners are suffering in a challenging Real Estate market. Owners homes either don't sell or sit on the market for lengthy periods of time. There must be a way to help our real estate market as it's most owners largest single investment of a lifetime. The result of all this is people don't want to buy, live in our wonderful, historic waterfront town of Hampton. I'm a Realtor and deal with this issue daily. Hampton has a reputation which filters out of our area and out of state ... unsafe/ lots of crime, schools not good, old and decaying homes & businesses. Coliseum Central is our only upscale area. Buyer's ask for York County or Poquoson to see property in many cases. Even our big employers i.e. Sentara Careplex the incoming potential employees have already gotten the "memo" don't live in Hampton. We need to change that. Thanks for this forum to express concerns. Sandra von Schilling, Realtor, Rose & Womble Realty</p>	3/16/2017 11:50 AM
41	<p>Support schools to the fullest</p>	3/15/2017 8:02 PM
42	<p>Update HVAC and technology in local libraries</p>	3/15/2017 7:20 PM
43	<p>We live on Grandview and love it,however as the Daily Press's front page illustrates, 2/12/17 our property values have fallen dramatically in recent years,yet property assessments have not nearly kept pace.Is there any hope this will be addressed in the near future? Concerned</p>	3/15/2017 5:13 PM

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44	Development of walking paths and canoeing/kayaking on New Market Creek is ridiculous because of the filth of the water and the traffic noise. The city has Grundland Park in Fox Hill that have canals that connect to the Grandview Nature Preserve and Salt Ponds area that are clean and quiet. If you actually want quality, the investment of citizen's tax money at Grundland Park makes more since. I would bet most of the citizens of Hampton do not even know about Grundland Park.	3/15/2017 12:06 PM
45	I would like to see more state of the art, up to date venues, parks, for kids/youth in the Hampton area. Since moving to the Hampton area nearly a decade ago with my then ten year old daughter, I would have to travel across the water or to Williamsburg for her entertainment. ChuckeCheese needs to retire. My daughter is away at college now and I am experiencing the same issue with my grandchildren. As much as we love the beach it would be nice to have other options in the Hampton area.	3/15/2017 11:23 AM
46	Hampton is not business friendly. It is a very difficult to deal with permits, plan reviews and inspections. It is a horrible at best. These employees are more interested in telling you that you can't do something than trying to help you through the process. Really is a major issue for development in Hampton.	3/14/2017 10:25 PM
47	Improve aquatic facilities	3/14/2017 9:42 PM
48	I think it's great you put it in your Instagram (and I'm assuming other social media). Thanks for asking about my opinion! Also your website isn't the easiest to use I don't have any concrete examples and it's not terrible (there are worse municipalities out there). It's just a little comberson. Recycling for people in apartments where it isn't available is very inconvenient. The hours are only during normal working hours and only at one location.	3/14/2017 9:33 PM
49	Take care of our police and fire departments. Take care of our school teachers and employees. 311 is amazing. Public works does a great job. Charge for RV's. Don't take away the character of Buckroe by buying it all up. Invest in Downtown...it should be lit up and inviting. Love the idea of extending something down the other end of Coliseum Drive. Do something with that Best Products corner. Tell the public what is going on with Willow Oaks Shopping Center as there is lots of chatter on the street and online. Best of luck to you...love my city.	3/14/2017 9:18 PM
50	I know this is not a Hampton thing (but it does play a small part) Hampton Roads makes up the largest population in the country without a professional sports team. You want to talk about revenue?	3/14/2017 7:15 PM
51	Increase user fees so it only affects the user and not everyone. The city pays the lowest to the employees, increase wages. Decrease bulk trash pickup. Lower property taxes on smaller homes, raise it on more expensive homes. Tax boats, RVs, and any other type of recreation vehicle. In other words, don't hurt the seniors, poor and working poor.	3/14/2017 6:42 PM
52	I am glad to see you budgeting more money for the schools, especially for the Academies. I hope you can continue to look at increasing the amount of money to keep older school facilities safe through needed renovations and updates.	3/14/2017 5:46 PM
53	Focus on Hampton Schools. It all starts there. A recent Daily Press article said that the City thought people were discouraged from buying in Hampton because of flooding. That isn't it. It's the schools. People would buy in flood prone areas if the schools were good.	3/14/2017 1:44 PM
54	Let's work on beautifying our city once again. So long, the focus has been on Coliseum Central while our neighborhoods have been deteriorating!! Require folks to take care of their properties. Many neighborhoods just do not seem to have folks that take pride in their homes. Bring back things for our families and young people to do. We have so many vacant buildings and areas that could be great places for parks, mini golf, batting cages, go carts, etc. There's nothing to do in Hampton!!! Make it a beautiful city again where folks want to be outside enjoying it!	3/14/2017 12:42 PM
55	Fix the damn ROADS	3/14/2017 11:57 AM
56	A. Making accurate responses to general questions containing general terms leaves a lot to be desired and misinterpreted. For instance: I do not completely understand what are these "services" that 'can be relocated or moved to more centralized locations or have reduced hours' to save money. I would like to have seen some definitions, lists or examples of those terms. B. Our children and our schools need more intentional action and responsible funding. To quote Rep. (Ret.) William Whitehurst: "Our young people are our most important natural resource." Each year we seem to approach our municipal education budget from the, "the State and Feds only gave us this much money for next year," viewpoint. Why are we not developing a fiscally responsible budget and going to the state Department of Education and forcefully putting them on notice, "We expect this much! and here's why." I know this is pretty much like spitting into the wind, since it's "not done" that way. But maybe a new approach is what it takes to wake up the expending folks that have collected our taxes for redistribution that we have important business to take care of in Hampton City Schools. If our school system "publicly (very out loud)," "positively, pre-emptively" budgeted and planned and carried out their plan -- rather than "pitifully, reacting" with a bare-bones budget -- and became Virginia's top of the line city school system - a lot of people, families, businesses, and industries would want to reside and locate in America's First City!	3/14/2017 11:32 AM
57	Please consider helping out the neighborhood pools. The pools are a huge asset to neighborhoods and to our children thank you!!	3/14/2017 10:08 AM

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58	The Community pools have been a wonderful experience for our family. Some pools are in need of some assistance in repairs/replacements. Please consider the many community pools in Hampton that expose our kids to the love of swimming, when they might not otherwise. The many families who enjoy the free community pool days might consider joining if some repairs and upgrades happen and that helps our community.	3/14/2017 8:42 AM
59	Fully fund the HCS budget request.	3/13/2017 11:03 PM
60	There are ways to bring more money in the city if only people would take the time to listen to everyone instead of picking a choosing	3/13/2017 10:46 PM
61	Unfortunately I think the following questions make the survey biased and degrades its validity. A. Should Hampton continue mutual aid with Newport News, which ensures that the closest ambulance gets to someone, regardless of city lines, even if this forces a change in billing practice? Yes No There is an implied negative with the change in billing practices. B. How should we make up for EMS revenue that will be lost due to high-deductible plans? Charge co-pays Raise general property taxes Cut other city services There is no option to take funds from other areas of budget instead of cutting services. C. Which of the following best describes your philosophy of as we approach this choice? Maintain existing services, even if that means that taxes and/or user fees have to be increased. Keep the tax rate the same, even if it means cutting services. There is no option to take funds from other areas of budget instead of cutting services. D. If services have to be reduced, which is your preference? Consolidate services into fewer high-quality locations, closing some lesser-used facilities Keep geographically dispersed facilities open but reduce hours and programming at each location. There is no option to take funds from other areas of budget instead of cutting services. The following questions are misleading. The Dutch Dialogue is associated with flooding and remediation etc. and how to make the most out of water control designs for the public. Funds should be saved for those designs and their implementation. Not promoting a walking trail. A. Central Park/Dutch Dialogue recommendations: up to \$2 million (could seek other funding source) Provide additional amenities throughout the Newmarket Creek basin, such as multi-purpose path connection, signage, benches, trash receptacles, & more. This is also misleading B. Sports Tourism Facility: \$29 million - \$30 million Implement recommendations to construct a new amateur sports aquatics facility that would also replace community pool in Crossroads area. There was a consultant report which provided analysis. The Hampton City Manager is recommending it. This item should be labeled Aquatic Center. This is how it has been referred to in town hall meetings, public discussions and announcements. Instead of Crossroads area it should say Northampton Community Center pool. This is how it has been referred to in town hall meetings, public discussions and announcements. Operational Budget should also be covered at the same time as the Capital Budget. Citizens do not get a complete picture of our financial situation without this.	3/13/2017 9:49 PM
62	TEAR DOWN THE WYTHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	3/13/2017 8:54 PM
63	Please consider giving more great money to the neighborhood pools. The Wythe pool has been such a huge part of my life, and hundreds of others in the Olde Wythe area. It is not just a pool, but a part of Hampton's history. That being said, it is an older pool that needs some work. We have fundraised, but that barely covers the repair and maintenance. Please think about reaching out and learning more about the Wythe Pool. We would be happen to educate anyone interested about everything George Wythe Pool!	3/13/2017 8:24 PM
64	My Comments or inputs us simple, we seek an increase in our kids programs and safer neighborhoods. No further comments.	3/13/2017 7:57 PM
65	I believe if you work in our communities and help rebuild the pools and fields and provide the safety needed, it would be more attractive to those of us living there so less would want to move out of the area and more inviting to those looking to buy thus providing more income to the city in more ways than one. Thank you for providing the survey.	3/13/2017 7:51 PM
66	INCREASE THE EDUCATION INCENTIVE FOR CITY EMPLOYEES TO SOMETHING MORE REALISTIC. A COLLEGE GRADUATE WITH A 4 YEAR DEFREE SHOULD NOT MAKE ONLY \$800/YR THAN THOSE WITHOUT AN ASSOCIATES OR EQUIVALENT DEGREE. EMPLOYEES WILL GO TO OTHER JURISDICTIONS IF THEY ARE OFFERED MORE MONEY FOR THE SAME SERVICES THEY PROVIDE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.	3/13/2017 6:48 PM
67	No aquacenter. Stop buying property for more houses. Turn Hampton into the techno gym center not the touristcenter.	3/13/2017 6:41 PM
68	Please consider investing more in our public libraries. They do a wonderful job.	3/13/2017 6:17 PM
69	More funding for Pre-K program ages 3-4 should be invested in and/or a teen program. Give kids something to do and there's less room for crime.	3/13/2017 6:05 PM
70	Keep Community services available ie. recreational areas.	3/13/2017 5:38 PM
71	None	3/13/2017 3:36 PM

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72	Regional cooperation seems an obvious area for collaboration and efficiency. Please consider returning to the regional police academy rather than continuing to invest in our own. There are likely other examples of this. I support funds to War Memorial Stadium because it has the potential to contribute to tourism and also to be utilized year-round with the proposed improvements. Please do not build a fancy new aquatics center unless you invest funds in our neighborhood pools and community centers. That's where swimmers are "born," and I'd want to be absolutely certain that a fancy aquatics center served local swimmers.	3/13/2017 3:35 PM
73	I found this survey by accident. You may wish to publicize it more.	3/13/2017 2:19 PM
74	I have heard that Hpt taxes businesses very high. If you are going to have such high taxes, no wonder all of the new businesses go to N.N. I would rather shop in Hpt. Also, I need to feel safe. Please give our police force a raise, big enough to keep them here in Hpt. We need more police officers in the communities. I live in Willow Oaks and the crime in our area has gotten so high. We are always reading about houses being broken into, cars being broken into, people getting shot, Farm Fresh being robbed, etc. I moved here 13 years ago because I knew it was a good area. Also, I want to address Willow Oaks shopping center. We have heard that it is going to be knocked down and apartments built there. This is unacceptable. We don't need Section 8 housing here. It will lower our property values. We understand that there is a meeting with the owner and hopefully, the city will make sure he can't have apartments built here by not zoning it to be residential. I am sure that there is a lot of waste in the Hpt city government, like all governments. Maybe hire someone who can find this waste, and get rid of it. Treat the money the city gets as if it was your own. We all have to live within a budget, and when it's tight, we have to not spend it on things that are not important to the great scheme of life.	3/13/2017 9:21 AM
75	Whatever you do the answer is not to increase revenues by raising real estate property values nor raising real estate property tax. Many things can be brought into the area to better attract tourism and increase revenues. Buckroe Beach was thriving at one time and now it just sits there. Why don't you put a giant Ferris Wheel down there and some other things that would attract people. If there was a nice hotel I would go and stay down ther but not at the one that is there now.	3/12/2017 8:54 PM
76	I see the city Hampton and the elected people as rip-off. You spend the money as if you don't have a care in the world and if you don't have enough raise the tax and force the people to pay or move to York country.	3/12/2017 6:57 PM
77	Yes I am extremely concerned that you have no money in here for parks and nature preserves! I think that that needs to be done immediately I also do not see anything for a study regarding the Atlantic coast pipeline and the effect that I can have on our beautiful bay. No one will want to come to your area if we are just a bunch of buildings people come to this area for its natural beauty and the fact that we have the largest bay in the world let us not forget that!	3/12/2017 5:18 PM
78	Consider an increase in non-exempt emergency services employees salaries. We should focus on keeping our emergency works well paid and happy, as well as all other non-exempt employees.	3/12/2017 4:37 PM
79	None at this time.	3/12/2017 4:20 PM
80	I do believe our tax revenue could be better spent. Our neighborhoods need to be revitalized. Investing in our community pools that are 50 years old would be helpful as well. Hampton City Schools do not attract new residents to Hampton. It's a fact. Fix that and bring in more revenue. At this point I think that a new aquatic center is too expensive. If the city were to have a public/private partnership to build the center I think you could sell it a little better. I would rather see a Hampton Roads partnership to bring a Pro Team to the area and split that revenue.	3/11/2017 9:59 PM
81	It is very important that we support our Police Department. The crime in Hampton is getting really bad. It is to the point that I am considering moving out of Hampton. I don't really want to do that but I certainly will if things don't improve.	3/11/2017 7:25 PM
82	I have had concerns about the decline of Hampton City Schools for years. Year after year of budget cuts have hurt them. First services were cut, then "non-teaching" positions were reduced or cut. We can't retain top teachers because of a lack of benefits and low salaries. We also need administrators that are willing to be tough on discipline. I know too many incidents where aggressive , violent, and troubled students are not disciplined because it "looks bad on yearly reports". Improving schools will lead to increased property values and will improve Hampton as a community. No more new court houses or parking garages or show pieces until the schools get the money they need and deserve.	3/11/2017 7:11 PM
83	ADA is the law and all of Hampton City should be made accessible per the law.	3/11/2017 5:02 PM
84	As a life-long Hampton resident, seeing our public beaches being turned into private waterfront enclaves is heartbreaking. There is little enough free space in this city, and the beaches have traditionally been the one, free beautiful place for everyone. Grandview has been removed from access, and the City is doing all it can to make Buckroe Beach the same. It is a great shame and without justification, other than the almighty "tax base".	3/11/2017 4:16 PM
85	We are considering moving because we have owned our house here for 9 years and it seems like Hampton will not get it together to offer the kind of life we would our family to be around.	3/11/2017 10:44 AM

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86	<p>Before cutting or adding taxes, take a good look and make sure money is not being wasted within city departments. Why does the police chief need so many assistants? That's money that can be used for more patrol men. We don't need any more retail stores in Hampton. We need big businesses that create a significant amount of jobs. A headquarters of some sort. There aren't but so many grocery stores I am going to shop at. I like what's happening at Buckroe Beach but expanding it right now does not seem like a priority. Money needs to continue to be spent on the schools and police department.</p>	3/11/2017 7:48 AM
87	<p>Some of these were difficult to vote on because there were several things rolled into one topic and needed more information. Next time can you set it up so that you can click on the topic and get more information if you wanted it? Especially why spending this money is thought to be beneficial for that specific issue. A lot of those questions made me feel like we can't get businesses into places that need to be occupied without doing all the front work - is this normal? What businesses do we plan on coming in? It seems like we only get retail and what other close cites already have. I don't shop in Hampton stores - people are very rude here. That's no a lot of future for our kids who are getting ready to go to work. The city isn't safe, I am glad you are increasing the number of officers! We need to increase their salary also. You listed such and such "corridors". I am not exactly sure what each corridor entails, from where to where on street maps. Again a link would have been great! Also about the neighborhood outdoor pools, aren't they private pools and you have to pay a high seasonal fee to belong? If P&R were taking them over then I would have put that at a higher priority. They should be able to pay for themselves or raise the money to fix those pools. BUT I think there need to be a plethora of opportunities for people to learn to swim which is why I would be ok with spending the money if P&R took them over or had a joint use agreement such as no charge for summer camps to use the facilities for free swim and to teach them swim lessons. I am excited about the potential aquatics facility! For EMS and ambulance rides, I think for life threatening situations - no breathing, no pulse, severe bleeding, unconsciousness there should not be a charge - that's what the ambulance is there for. I also think that for people that repeatedly call on EMS more than 2 times a month should be personally charged a higher fee than a co-pay.</p>	3/11/2017 6:37 AM
88	<p>It would be appreciated by a Hampton homeowner and TAX payer if the council would listen to us instead of ignoring us. AND yes that is what we feel! You want more tax revenue, then STOP approving subsidized housing, i.e. Wilsondale and that is just ONE of many in the city. The apartments between Queen and Settlers Landing that were supposed to have businesses on the first floor, what the hell were you thinking when you decided to make it all apartments and for go the businesses? Why to I feel that George Wallace is still the city manager. Who in the world thought that the way Town Center was laid out was a good idea??? Have any of you council members ever tried to drive there??? It's a mess!!! When I moved here 20 years ago, I planned on making this my FOREVER home. NO longer do I think that, HAMPTON, you have let me down. :(</p>	3/10/2017 8:05 PM
89	<p>Cut back on beautification projects.</p>	3/10/2017 7:46 PM
90	<p>Employees-- pay -- increases</p>	3/10/2017 7:25 PM
91	<p>Between the high taxes and the criminal activity in Hampton it is increasing harder to love this city. I have lived here for fifty eight years and it had been going down hill for years. It is very sad that hearing gun shots is becoming a constant. Is that normal? I think not. Bring safety back to our neighborhoods. I have paid enough taxes in my life time that I should be entitled to a feeling of safety. Priorities...are mine so different from the powers that be.</p>	3/10/2017 6:54 PM
92	<p>Please address the flooding and CLI mm are controlled iss</p>	3/10/2017 2:15 PM
93	<p>Approve the large Aquatic Center! Don't make kids learn to swim in the bay or ocean. There is alot of revenue to be made. Swim families will pay to use a better facility!</p>	3/10/2017 1:00 PM
94	<p>A new social services building is needed. We have the oldest and most run down building in the Hampton Roads are. People are constantly getting sick due to mold. We do not have the space to expand for the need of new case managers which leaves the workers over worked and unhappy about coming to work. Our systems shut down at least twice a day because we cannot get the support from higher a broadband. Teams are not together which makes communication hard when you have to go across the building to relay a message. Our front office is cramped, dated, and dirty. even our bathrooms look like they did at the old school. This building is infested with bugs and you know this because there is always a dead bug laying in one of the hallways. They have done the best they could but this building is too old to take us into the future. You want the citizens of Hampton happy but they will never be happy if we do not have the proper equipment or facility. For the amount of work that is done here in comparison to the supplies and equipment we have, we have done astounding. But imagine what we could do for our city if we had what we needed to do better and be better?</p>	3/10/2017 12:52 PM
95	<p>Insure that police have very high quality ballistic gear, such as ones that resist rifle fire, additional plates, etc. (sorry if I don't know all the exactly correct terms). Provide rifles or enough equipment allowance to cover them (over and above the amount usually needed for clothing), additionally, fund trading for officers who wish to use rifles. Thank you.</p>	3/10/2017 12:36 PM
96	<p>As a city employee, I see the need to continue to upgrade the community and instill pride. Crime needs to be reduced and people need to feel safe being able to move about freely. A few cents increase should not affect the masses.</p>	3/10/2017 12:35 PM

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97	The city needs to insure that their employees are compensated for all the work they do to keep the city running efficiently. The Police need additional manpower and training. The schools need to be adequately funded, so our children are competitive with other cities. We don't need to duplicate services that are already available in the city or in Newport News. There should not be a need for an aquatic center in Hampton.	3/10/2017 12:27 PM
98	I am all for having a strong police force, however I am not in favor of city vehicles being driven home every day as far away as Williamsburg and Isle of Wight. This has to cost the city a small fortune in gas and vehicle maintenance.	3/10/2017 10:45 AM
99	Wish more money would go towards Phoebus	3/10/2017 9:40 AM
100	Its sad to see other areas in Hampton Roads fly past Hampton in progress. Going to Newport News anymore is no big deal to me, especially if I have to consider dealing with the traffic at Coliseum Central. Time for Hampton to be bolder.....we've been stagnate and old-school for a long time and the local communities are far-surpassing us, with perhaps Portsmouth being the exception. I would consider using the green space behind the new court house as a concert venue or AA-baseball type venue. I'm sure downtown businesses/restaurants would see a pickup in revenue by bringing people downtown. War Memorial is quaint enough, but since it has been decided to renovate that facility, I feel a huge opportunity was missed to get a niche market downtown. A concert venue is still possible in the real estate behind the courthouse I believe.	3/10/2017 9:01 AM
101	I didn't see much about improving our schools. How are we addressing declining behavior among some students? If you want property values to increase, improving schools is one way to do it, although it may take time.	3/10/2017 8:58 AM
102	This poll is an asset to the budget planning process.	3/10/2017 8:57 AM
103	Earlier mentioned funding or helping schools form academies , My daughter will be attending Kecoughtan High School next year and after sitting in on the information session about these forced academies it made me think about moving out of Hampton. I strongly do not agree with these forced academies. You are dumming down the schools to the lowest level students. PLEASE rethink this position as it will put our high achieving students at a disadvantage to students in other school systems when applying for college. Any money spent of this is a waste of money !!!!!	3/10/2017 7:26 AM
104	Why was nothing about public education mentioned? That should be high priority.	3/10/2017 1:25 AM
105	Made comments on previous question that may be appropriate here. See earlier question. Safety is important. Increasing police officers is good but allow them to serve and protect the neighborhoods. Actions taken by the city management must improve the appearance and services to all citizens. As part of a city wide curb appeal, existing ordinances and codes need to be enforced and when appropriate, add new ordinances, codes, regulations that will help make our city a desirable place. This not only applies to homeowners, but to non-caring/slum landlords who usually do not reside in neglected area. The city needs to be cleaned up. City management actions need to support the goal of attracting taxpaying individuals. To that end, what are the non-ethnic characteristics of individuals targeted to come live in our city. (i.e., income level, etc.) If the goals for the city are not clear, it will be a hit or miss in achieving them. Hampton needs more individuals feeding into the revenues and supportive of projects and programs that do not limit access to the 'gems' (beaches, parks etc.) of the city for all citizens. There are two developments in Hampton that raise questions regarding the thinking behind the decision to approve their locations. One is the hideous building that is going up at the corner of Todds Lane and Aberdeen Rd. How does it fit in with Coliseum Central? A massive industrial building in that location does nothing toward the beautification/appeal of the area. Why wasn't this building approved for the Magruder area which would be an appropriate location even if the term e-commerce is attached? The other development is the grocery store at one of the worse locations-- as you exit the interstate and enter one of the busiest roads on the peninsula (Mercury Blvd) My comments are without benefit of information known to city management. However, Hampton is becoming less attractive.	3/9/2017 11:48 PM
106	Many feral cats running around. Would love more information on a Trap-Neuter-Return program, some volunteer programs and some after school/summer school type recreation areas for our kids. Phoebus has no parks for our kids or dogs.	3/9/2017 11:15 PM
107	Please build a better skate park. We have been asking for a new park for years. If you look at all the surrounding cities. They all have new and updated skate parks and Woodland is years old and needs a new look.	3/9/2017 7:39 PM
108	Thank you for opening this up to comment from your citizens.	3/9/2017 6:20 PM
109	Please please please find a way to use litigation against the current owners of the Willow Oaks Shopping Center if they refuse to sell or make drastic improvements.	3/9/2017 3:43 PM
110	Thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback. We feel that our voices are being heard and that what we want matters!	3/9/2017 3:27 PM
111	Improve amenities which will entice more and new residents to invest in the city. If it is a beautiful and well cared for city, people will come regardless of the tax rates. People need to want to live someplace before they will move there. Tax revenue needs to support all areas of the city but with an emphasis on downtown, a healthy downtown will encourage infill development and investment elsewhere in the city.	3/9/2017 2:37 PM

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112	We need money invested in our communities. We need outlets for our youth. The community centers in the city are in need of renovations. We need the children to have role models to emulate. Our Black youth need to see their own kind in police and fire uniforms, helping their families and themselves. We need to work on improving the relationships between our young black men and women with the police departments. We need to hold our police and fire department accountable for malice and egregious acts against minorities. Stop wasting the taxpayers' time and money on committees to address these problems. The citizens are tired of being pacified. We need progress, not lip service.	3/9/2017 2:17 PM
113	Increase police to keep residents feeling safe. Clean up neighborhoods by enforcing City ordinances. Improve schools. This will make families want to live and stay in Hampton. Security, education and clean environment is where people want to live.	3/9/2017 2:04 PM
114	Does Hampton have team in place that looks for government grants? How can robotics be used to fulfill city services? Citizens may be budget conscious, but will pay for good food , good fun and address needs of needy. Thank you D. J. Jones	3/9/2017 11:58 AM
115	Thanks for your hard work.	3/9/2017 11:15 AM
116	Make city more walk-able, bike friendly, child/family friendly. Reduce speed limits in neighborhoods to 25 mph to make them all safer. Have better notification to citizens and other areas outside of Hampton for advertising of events so more people will know about them and come (not just hear about things after they happened). More street lights. Market the benefits of living in Hampton compared to other localities, right in the center of all other cities, small beaches, all of Hampton roads is easily accessible, very integrated city, great neighborhoods etc. Make it a destination!! Have more beach rentals (like Cape Charles to attract tourists) Try to find ways to keep young people here- everyone graduates from high school and leaves- we need more young people to stay to make the city vibrant. Place low income families into existing housing and single family homes, not into large apartment complexes throughout the city where it leads to crime and bad areas of town. Please build more small new homes that are affordable to lower income families and replace aging homes with new small homes not just large mansions and million dollar homes while the rest of neighborhoods are aging and becoming neglected. Fox Hill/Willow Oaks needs a community center!! (either in Golsnold's Park or the old WEST building could be used in Willow Oaks shopping center!	3/9/2017 10:59 AM
117	As I said earlier, we need to focus city resources on having the best schools and safe neighborhoods. People are leaving this city because of poor schools and high crime. That should be the number one priority of Hampton. No one wants to live or say in a city with poor schools and high crime.	3/9/2017 10:55 AM
118	Fully fund school budget, police and fire budgets.	3/9/2017 10:45 AM
119	none	3/9/2017 10:38 AM
120	We really need an Olympic size pool in Hampton similar to Midtown Pool on Jefferson Ave in Newport News!	3/9/2017 8:34 AM
121	Love Hampton! Thank you!	3/9/2017 8:29 AM
122	Property values have decreased, flood insurance and zones have increased. Pay attention to our waterways and protect the citizens of the city from flooding and high cost of flood insurance. Since the city has not been maintaining waterways the tides have risen and causing more flooding then homes are being placed in higher flood zones. Now the flood insurance has doubled or tripled to many families and the cost is rising. Look also at the shoppings centers sitting vacant or becoming a ghost town. Many businesses are leaving or relocating outside of Hampton. What are you doing to keep or attract new business? Mercury Blvd is looking empty as well as Fox Hill. What is the city doing to help existing business owners, attract new business and make Hampton a safer place?	3/8/2017 10:29 PM
123	No mention was made of Hampton's school system. It is terrible! Check out Yorktown and what they have to offer. Yorktown is clean, safe, a good school system, low property taxes, is not beautiful and a place where everyone wants to live	3/8/2017 9:28 PM
124	I believe that residential neighborhoods that are not adequately lighted should be addressed. Leave this to the residents of said neighborhoods to call the city 311 line to make claims.	3/8/2017 8:54 PM
125	No aquatic center! Use private funds. Coliseum area is too congested!	3/8/2017 8:51 PM
126	Community pools all around Hampton are in disrepair, bring them up to standards will assist the community as a whole and will continue to be a community asset if funds are allowed to repair them	3/8/2017 7:28 PM
127	Please find a way to fund the broadcast of the Hampton Holly Days parade this year	3/8/2017 7:07 PM
128	Tax RVS. No excuse for them being lodged in the city without paying taxes since the city is cash-strapped. It's time for all area cities to begin thinking about taxing or surcharging fees for apartment dwellers and other renters. We cannot afford to indefinitely put the burden of a city's taxes on the homebuyer. Renters live and use city services, too. If this should ever be done, it would require a regional co-operative effort of the cities. The other option is to increase taxes on apartments. Rents are spiraling out of control and may eventually require city rent control boards. Seems very profitable to owners of apartments investment-wise. Just a suggestion for future thought.	3/8/2017 4:55 PM

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129	yes give the employees 5 % this year and help the parks dept find a new place there compound is a health haz why dont you folks go out and look at there place of work then you will see where to spend our tax dollars	3/8/2017 4:10 PM
130	I forgot to put this earlier...I really wish the city could improve their snow treatment/plowing services! I feel like a lot of this could be solved by better training, and putting better salt down before the snow starts. It's bad for everyone when the city has to shut down for 3 days. But overall we really like living in Hampton! :)	3/8/2017 3:41 PM
131	The Kecoughtan corridor project has been a failure. Hampton Redevelopment owns lots and lots of property along Kecoughtan but "cannot" find developers to undertake any projects for new businesses?? Kecoughtan has not had one new business, retail or restaurant establishment in over 12 years. And still has lots of dilapidated and abandoned business buildings. Why can we not find developers to build brand new small strip malls or restaurants, sit down or fast food, or other new retail ? The area is dead! Much more effort by the city needs to be put forth to get new growth in this area. You do not get much taxes from those abandoned and dilapidated sites.	3/8/2017 3:32 PM
132	Reduce funding to the Peninsula Airport Commission. Hampton Roads Transit needs to raise their fares to cover excess spending, and not place their overruns on the city budget.	3/8/2017 2:41 PM
133	I do understand the city's position with the need to replace equipment for trash pick up, however the trash service in the past year has gotten terrible. Not only does bad weather throw the schedule off, but now almost weekly the pick up service is way behind. The city may wish to look at that prior to increasing the fees. A lot of people feel that they don't get with they are paying for now.	3/8/2017 2:26 PM
134	I continue to have great concern about a city that has one of the highest tax rates in the state and depends more on real estate taxes than most other areas in the state. For a city that is suppose to be the oldest community in the country this represents poor management not to have more attractions to attract businesses (and taxes) and tourist. .Even what is here is not promoted such as St Johns Episcopal church on Queen Street;	3/8/2017 1:46 PM
135	Beautification projects are necessary but should be at minimum priority. Focus on safety issues and quality of life to bring in new residents. Currently our city doesn't have the appeal to justify trying to build \$400,000+ homes. Work to improve our city and then possibly we will be in position to attract higher dollar homeowners.	3/8/2017 1:28 PM
136	Stop building cheap, low income housing.	3/8/2017 1:12 PM
137	I pay a lot for garbage pickup services, but I don't put out much and only biweekly. Is there any way to only charge us for the times we have garbage and recycle pickup.	3/8/2017 12:16 PM
138	Eason Park Walking Trail needs budget improvements.	3/8/2017 11:55 AM
139	This survey is a joke. How can you adequately gage results when this survey will allow you to continue to do new surveys? I have filled this FY18 Budget Input Poll out multiple times. The City is wasting money on these surveys which give a falsehood that the City cares about the resident input. This survey does not give realistic selections / opinions from residents.	3/8/2017 11:45 AM
140	1. Increase the trash rate slightly and decrease the bulk pickup to every other week like Newport News. 2. Increase revenue through user fees (RV tax, boat tax, cigarette tax, etc.). 3. Increase revenue through red light cameras and send tickets for violations (hold people accountable when they don't follow the law). 3. Increase revenue through selling advertisements on billboards, benches, or anywhere a sign can be placed. 4. Increase city employee salaries so that people will stay. Hampton pays less than other cities in the Hampton Roads area. 5. Have parents pay more tax if they have children in public schools.	3/8/2017 11:15 AM
141	Hampton has plenty of Parks, community centers, swimming pools, basketball courts, tennis courts, and two Golf courses, why not one shooting range? I am sure that a well maintained shooting range would pay for itself in short order, although most of the other items on this list, do not. Thanks,	3/8/2017 11:03 AM
142	We do not need an aquatics center for a very small number of users, not the additional hotels for hoped for visitors. Reduce costs for city facilities and have more events at a lower cost thereby keeping the income approximately the same. I don't know how a family with two or more children can afford some of these events.	3/8/2017 10:41 AM
143	Great job....Keep up the good work !	3/8/2017 10:34 AM
144	I didn't see a question for it but compensating city employees competitively should be a priority for quality and consistency of service delivery.	3/8/2017 9:49 AM
145	Please don't nickel and dime our city to death, don't let it die by a thousand cuts. Let's invest in our city and be proud of our history, our present, and our future!	3/8/2017 9:22 AM
146	I believe the city is doing a great job, but I feel like we are behind Newport News in attracting tourism, and entertainment/convention group attractions due to our lack of quality large hotels in the area, but I feel that the city is moving in the right direction in this area.	3/8/2017 9:16 AM

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147	It seems that the benefits paid to city employees exceed the standard benefits given to employees in the public sector. Many companies have removed pensions and matching 401K benefits. We pay high taxes to help fund the government employees retirements. These high taxes, in addition to the high cost of sending our children to college leave us with no way to fund our own retirement. The city employees might need to consider reducing their benefits just as the public sector has had to do.	3/8/2017 9:12 AM
148	This survey is weak and biased, a very poor way to gather input from citizens. The questions are structured and answers provided are selected to support particular political positions currently held by City management and employees. I suggest the City hold wages at current levels, and look to cut certain benefits offered by the City that exceed those offered by Hampton's private employers. And the millions it would take to construct and then fund annually a 50M pool make such a plan not even worth considering. I also suggest that the City Council receive in public session a complete and documented report on how much the City pays for the Boo Williams facility and precisely how much the City receives in return. Finally, gathering information about the race and zip code of survey takers clearly is intended to be used by City officials in a racist and classist manner where and when necessary to support or oppose some political position or decision.	3/8/2017 9:11 AM
149	Thank you for tearing down derelict houses. Please continue to do this.	3/8/2017 9:11 AM
150	I think if the City invests some of their savings wisely, gets the communities more engaged and involved, provides more outreach and education to residents on the importance of a safe and clean city, and concentrates on having the infrastructure in place to support growth, then we should an economic change in the next five years. We certainly can't expand housing and commercial properties without the proper infrastructure in place.	3/8/2017 8:41 AM
151	- Go back to having real estate tax exception (not freezing or deferral) for low income seniors. - Salary increase for City employees, which still falls below other Cities in the area.	3/8/2017 8:37 AM
152	I love Hampton, but sometimes it seems that our tax dollars are spent foolishly or with unrealistic expectations. We are not VA Beach. We are not shaped like VA Beach and we should not try to be like VA Beach. Hampton is a great city with a lot to offer, if we would appreciate what we have and take care of it. Hampton also has a lot of animal lovers - people who truly respect and appreciate animals and their rights. Please look at changing Animal Control hours. When I see a loose dog on a Friday night, I call 311 and am told to call back on Monday if the dog is still loose. That's just ridiculous, thoughtless, and inhumane. We know what can happen to that dog by Monday morning. Can't Hampton & NN work together for weekends? Or something? There are smart people working for Hampton government, I'm sure someone can come up with a better plan. Thank you for your interest in our opinions, your time, and your consideration. Please be very thoughtful in this process and remember that Hampton is made up of people from all walks of life and a huge range of incomes. We all have to live here, in this beautiful place, together. Let's do what we can to make that work and be a shining examples to other cities.	3/8/2017 8:31 AM
153	Provide more opportunities for input and open up the survey sooner rather than after the community meetings, there isn't enough time for people to participate in the online polling. Be intentional about engaging the school board in similar processes and reaching out through the PTA's and to students to provide insight on the community they want to have in the years to come.	3/8/2017 8:22 AM
154	Although city council is "At Large" the members need to take responsibility for each of the areas and meet with them to discuss how expenditures are going to affect each area. Wither, Old Wythe, Buckroe, North Phoebus, South Phoebus etc	3/8/2017 8:06 AM
155	none.	3/8/2017 7:22 AM
156	The aquatic center is a waste of resources. Why not provide a baseball/softball facility similar to Stoney Run that could be utilized by AAU organizations for tournaments?	3/8/2017 7:11 AM
157	Charge a small rental fee for the pavillions at buckroe beach. Street lamps placed along Mallory Street to Buckroe beach. Plant median on entire Mallory street. Clean up Phoebus for a more appealing effect for tourists coming to Fort Monroe and Buckroe Beach.	3/8/2017 6:44 AM

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158	<p>I would like to see a major expansion on and upscale entertainment area similar to that which Va. beach is working on. We have more than enough restaurants, grocery stores and half or underused shopping centers in the City. We should promote nice, upscale music venues that are well-managed, promote local artists and musicians similar to Norfolk's successful Neon District, be able to attract National touring artists, etc. so we can be a go-to City year round for this sort of thing rather than wait on the Jazz Festival, etc, once a year. We have a lot of vacated properties and plenty of land and we should look into something like this and have top-flight professional management involved provided by a City liaison and private owners. No more hip-hop clubs. Promote higher-end jazz clubs in larger venues. We have to be more competitive with the Southside regarding something along these lines. The City could conduct meeting with promoters, investors, artists both Local and National to see what kind of interest would be generated by regular bookings, reasonable ticket prices, etc. People don't have much to do around here except go to bars or the Coliseum all the time for music. We need some fresh ideas and input because when the City does put on big shows they are usually quite successful. We need to get started because we have a long way to play catch up with the Southside. We can cater to the old-school and jazz community in a very successful way depending on the approach, marketing, location, etc. and still make it affordable as part of a general plan to have a well-run and secured entertainment district.</p>	3/8/2017 6:41 AM
159	Please put more funding for the bus system	3/8/2017 5:20 AM
160	<p>Can outside programming be sublemented. le ameri corp . City year ? They help in cities and would be an asset to the city. Also I do love to see an increase in ours on the beach. I think that is a natural resource that can be marketed to the country and Virginia as a premier place , if a board walk and venders were included there doing the warm months. Tourism would be great if that was considered a desirable destination.</p>	3/8/2017 2:07 AM
161	<p>We are looking at moving to Hampton to be closer to my husband's job, which is why I filled out the survey. We also do many recreational activities in Hampton - movies, festivals, beach, museums, etc.</p>	3/8/2017 12:52 AM
162	<p>Better integration of Hampton University campus community with the city would be a great goal. There are few places students feel welcomed in Downtown Hampton. Hampton University has a lot of potential to attract students from around the country, if it had a better "college town" feel. Give grants to businesses that create small, casual community gathering spaces such as coffee shops at visible street corners and intersections. Examples of desirable locations include: Mellen Street and Mallory Street in Phoebus, Mallory Street and Buckroe Avenue in Buckroe, Hampton Harbor Avenue and Settlers Landing Road (near HU campus), Wine Street and Settlers Landing Road (Downtown Hampton). Allowing Bull Island Brewery to open in the parking garage outside Crowne Plaza hotel is a GREAT IDEA! Those water-front parking garages are a HUGE waste of those prime water-front land. More developments like that please! The top of those parking garages (the one next to the Harbour Center Tower too) sure can support more developments! Encourage more use of the Harbour Center Tower office spaces. Further development of the Virginia Air and Space Museum would be a great idea -- they do not effectively apply to federal grants currently. They need to hire someone who specializes in science museum operations.</p>	3/8/2017 12:28 AM
163	<p>I am appalled by the cities lack of concern for the residents of Hampton who pay taxes, your salaries and vote in this city. The first thing that always comes up is the need to bring in more revenue. What about the citizens struggling to pay their flood insurance along with other day to day services and "expenses" like food to feed their families? The city acts like it is no big deal and eventually the squeaky wheels will shut up and stop complaining about trying to maintain their residences from the weather events that cause flooding. I guess that's because visitors don't come into our communities to spent money so it's unimportant. Every time we have a flood event and make a claim, our insurance goes up! Most don't even have FEMA to lean on because they only offer loans, that along with rising costs of everything, we can't afford. We can't sell our homes because they are in flood zones. The city is trying to tax us/drown us out of our homes just to promote certain richer areas. It's not fair and needs to stop! Take care of your children, your residents, your communities first! Your policies are corrupt, unprincipled and dishonest.</p>	3/8/2017 12:21 AM
164	<p>Each year the talk is all about taxes and fees. There are taxes and fees on every service, everything we own, everything we buy and the utilities we use. The restaurant tax is ridiculous and it hurts the people who work in businesses that depend on tips. When people have to pay the city \$6 in taxes to go out for dinner, they make up that loss by reducing the tips. The big lie was the state lottery. The lottery was supposed to be 100% dedicated to schools, when, in fact, none of the money actually went to education. The same amount that lottery contributed to education was also removed from education and put in general funds. The biggest lie was that the lottery would reduce property taxes by 20% to 30% because the localities would no longer be dependent on property taxes to fund the schools. And your survey that stated 2 years ago that residents did not want education money reduced was rigged. You had teachers at Farm Fresh telling customers to go online and help fund the school by completing the survey multiple times. In 1985, I was paying a little over \$200 a year for property taxes and that included garbage and storm water. That same property (I know longer own) has a annual tax of \$1300, garbage fees of almost \$300 and another \$200 in fees and utility taxes. There has to be a balance between property taxes, revenue generation and expenditures. It's time to take a look at what is really needed to run the city and what is just a plain smoke screen. I see some police officers who drew enormous salaries from overtime and these officers live in houses that most residents cannot afford. There is one police officer that has 4 vehicles in his driveway and not one of them costs under \$30,000.</p>	3/7/2017 11:56 PM
165	If feasible city wide wi-fi for students, would covering so many homes reduce the cost per home for residents?	3/7/2017 11:37 PM

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166	none	3/7/2017 9:52 PM
167	Seek opportunities to maintain services at current levels. Consider tax increases if needed.	3/7/2017 9:46 PM
168	Good idea this survey. I have had no idea what the City has had in mind in the past when it came time for spending, probably should go to some council meetings.	3/7/2017 9:16 PM
169	Please increase the funding to Hampton City Schools!	3/7/2017 9:14 PM
170	Yeah, Get rid of Mary Bunting, Taxes going up and services going down. Land is getting bought, but not being sold or developed. Many homeowners are not getting the services that our taxes pay for.	3/7/2017 9:00 PM
171	Regarding previous comment on schools. We should evaluate charging a busing fee. Homeowners will not be able to handle the future costs of supporting the schools alone. We have many seniors on fixed incomes who will be forced to relocate. We should also look at putting the unemployed welfare folks to work doing community services. Would help alot.	3/7/2017 8:29 PM
172	Acquire the Willow Oaks Shopping Center from out of state owners and resell to private entities within Hampton. This can be converted into youth and family venues to generate revenue	3/7/2017 8:17 PM
173	Sports are fine. The schools love those. Poor investment. Career academies are a good idea but how can you sustain them without corporations to fund them and attract technology careers? Increase test scores and your school arts offerings! This is what serious school do.	3/7/2017 8:01 PM
174	Support the Hampton public Library as much as you can.	3/7/2017 7:57 PM
175	Try to look at any services and costs that can be shifted from City funded to private funding.	3/7/2017 7:51 PM
176	Would like to see local cops patrolling there areas on foot (walking a beat) in groups of two or higher. They would get to know there area and the local people. I would pay for the huge increase in spending required.	3/7/2017 7:49 PM
177	Thank you for asking.	3/7/2017 7:23 PM
178	Already stated \$10. hr. For anyone working for the City!!!!	3/7/2017 7:09 PM
179	Our beautiful waterfront town needs to become a destination and pushed to be in all vacation sites and books around the world. A casino would improve revenue also. The city needs to be more involved in the operation of businesses such as hotels. FYI, I stopped going to the beautiful setting of the crowne plaza hotel because of their poor management and poor staff training for customer service.	3/7/2017 7:05 PM
180	Would like to see the City work HARD to establish the Hampton Downtown and Phoebus areas as city centers where people want to visit. That means more arts, music and dining establishments. These establishments can NOT be chain restaurants. New, hip and engaging points of interest are what people are looking for. Hampton has so much potential but having two waterfront parking garages as a welcoming view is not going to work. An entire look at a master plan that considers an aggressive revamping of the waterfront areas from HU to LaSalle Ave along Settler's landing over to W Queens Street should be given SERIOUS consideration. I want to build a small business within this corridor but I've heard many times that there is no attraction/incentive for business owners. Even Phoebus needs more attention given for potential business development. These two great areas are perfect for weekly afternoon and evening crowds due to the horrible traffic congestion. Turn a bad thing in to a great opportunity for everyone.	3/7/2017 6:58 PM
181	I have nothing more that I haven't already emailed or spoke to the Mayor and Manager about.	3/7/2017 6:57 PM
182	Concerned about crime	3/7/2017 6:51 PM
183	Do away with the plans for the large Aquatic Center. In this era of lean budgets and compromised services, this would be a waste of money that would not be a good return on the investment.	3/7/2017 6:48 PM
184	Employees deserve a pay increase. They went for years without one. They can't afford NOT to receive one.	3/7/2017 6:45 PM
185	I am pleased with the new building I see going on in town and it's encouraging. The new groceries (aldi and lidl), and more shopping/eateries in town center are great. Could we not encourage a Belk or Nordstroms to Town center and not apartments? Please... I also heard that HU is building dorms at Strawberry banks. Sigh... Prime waterfront for the city to have hotels or parks for more tourism would have been my druthers... Lastly, the efforts with Fort Monroe really need to be pushed forward and the place needs to be advertised as the National Park that it is. What is going on in Phoebus is hopeful (Mango Mangeaux, and other restaurants) as well as the wonderful American Theater. That corridor needs to be encouraged, cleaned up and refurbished as much as we can afford for those coming to see the Fort. Mango Mangeaux has a wait any time you go... Let's help all our restaurants and shops down there do the same! I thank you all for the work you do. I know it's not easy. I love this town and I hate to see people trashing it, fleeing to York County because of our schools (which is another whole are of need not addressed in this survey) and otherwise putting it down. I hope we can save it from those who mean us ill.	3/7/2017 6:45 PM
186	Please spend the hard earned money of the taxpayers as if it was yours!	3/7/2017 6:13 PM

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187	please give the fire department and police and pay increases. They do so much for our community.	3/7/2017 5:53 PM
188	Raise salaries for police and fire departments!! What we pay them is shameful.	3/7/2017 5:30 PM
189	I think investing in the Buckroe and Kecoughtan area are worthwhile endeavours as are improving parks and attractions. Base level services like emergency and sanitation are of the utmost importance. Improving South Mallory st. leading into the Buckroe area will improve the aesthetic and perhaps attract more private investment. Continue to open up Fort Monroe to private business and even. I believe that Hampton's schools must be improved to create additional demand for the housing sector. If the schools don't improve, civilian families won't want to move to this area. As you may know, people are moving out. We can't rely on the military to sustain this region. Hampton has to buy up worn down commercial property and improve it like what is being done on Mercury between the Peninsula Town Center and Armistead. I can't wait for that Kroger.	3/7/2017 5:08 PM
190	The Clean City Commission needs better recognition of its work and budgetary support. Also, the city needs to start looking at an Urban Forest Management Plan.	3/7/2017 5:06 PM
191	I will voice them at City Council meeting	3/7/2017 5:03 PM
192	Controlling crime and business development along the Kecoughtan Corridor is vital for keeping people in Olde Wythe. At the current trajectory, people will continuously be leaving Olde Wythe unless we have restaurants and business nearby that people actually want to go to and feel safe going to. There is no development along Kecoughtan that I can see and this is very disheartening, causing me to question if I want to move to a better area like Phoebus or Hilton Village in Newport News	3/7/2017 4:54 PM
193	Don't forget that there also needs to be better communication and more opportunities between officers and the neighborhoods (not just the communities, but the NEIGHBORHOODS). No one has a problem with the fire department or EMS, but everyone has a problem with police officers/deputies. Develop relationships withing the neighborhoods. Same cop, same beat, everyone becomes familiar with the face - and there begins a TRUST factor. This will bring pride and commitment to the neighborhoods - and guaranteed to lessen crime with everyone looking out for each other. There is no sense of pride in many of these areas. And I am extremely saddened about the lack of opportunities for the youth in our community. What is available for them? Teen Center - gone. Job ops - very minimal. Guidance for a better future - none. If you have something for the youth, then you need to communicate that better because I am not aware of any. I do want to thank HPD for initiating the new program in the schools for law enforcement (a minute too late, but it's definitely a start!).	3/7/2017 4:54 PM
194	At tis time we don't need a new swimming pool. We need to focus on Education, school transportation, Teachers salaries, & Public Safety Workers, salaries. #1 Priority.... A new pool, NO!	3/7/2017 4:50 PM
195	Make Hampton a more desirable city by adding by adding attractions, venues, etc to appeal to more diverse population. Bo Williams attracts large numbers of people almost weekly via sporting events,build on that interest. Buckroe Beach attracts large numbers of people yet parking is a challenge and nothing else is offered.Money spent for the nice beach at end of First Street yet time limit on parking in unreasonable. Stop catering to only citizens that live in "upper class neighborhoods"	3/7/2017 4:42 PM
196	We need to focus on improving our neighborhoods and safety of the citizens. The blight and crime deter new residents from coming to Hampton and long time residents like myself questioning whether to stay in the city or to sell our Hampton homes and find a more neighborhood friendly city. Mercury Blvd. is such an eye sore. If the city wants to attract new businesses and new residents the abandon and run down buildings need to be torn down. When we have out of town company, I am ashamed of the city I live in. When traveling out of town and seeing neighborhood friendly cities and nice retail and entertainment facilities, I come home and question why I continue to live in Hampton. Very sad to admit!	3/7/2017 4:41 PM
197	More money needs to be utilized to update our schools. They are in deplorable condition. Hampton should invest more money in maintaining schools than in shops/restaurants that are going to fail. Need to learn from your/our mistakes.	3/7/2017 4:31 PM
198	I believe the best investment is back in our neighborhoods. We need to help lower income families rebuild or renovate their existing homes to make them more appealing and livable. The curb appeal project is a great start and we need more of that. Hampton needs to stop focusing on commercial stores and hotels and focus on the people who live in the area. The better/nicer the housing, the more likely someone is to move or stay in Hampton. And the increased housing value will help with tax revenue.	3/7/2017 4:22 PM
199	Need more sidewalks and bike lanes. Need more control of hands and guns.	3/7/2017 4:17 PM
200	n/a	3/7/2017 4:09 PM
201	Reinvesting in our neighborhoods should be priority one for hampton.	3/7/2017 4:01 PM
202	Build a pool, it will bring in families from outside of the City that will purchase meals, rent hotel rooms, pay to visit the pool, go to movies, museums, etc. One large project like this can bring financial aid to not only the tax base, but increase the opportunities for small business to make money.	3/7/2017 3:58 PM

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203	Give City of Hampton employees a RAISE....not the ones close to \$100+	3/7/2017 3:58 PM
204	No easy answers to the issues that Hampton faces. Job opportunities, quality education, and public safety should be the priority. If we cannot create a safe environment to raise families, live and work; provide public schools with resources that ensure we produce young people equipped with tools to succeed ie a quality education; and provide an employment base that is competitive and able to retain quality people in Hampton, then we have failed and the downward spiral will continue. I feel Hampton has lost much appeal over the past 20 years. Most indicators are not trending in a positive direction. Crime is increasing, particularly violent crime and gun/gang related crime. Hampton City Schools is unable to create a learning environment where all can succeed and feel safe. Job opportunities in Hampton have been greatly reduced and no longer offer professional job opportunities but focus solely on service/retail centric jobs. Hampton has a great waterfront, recreation amenities, and culture. Unfortunately, all of the positive attributes we have as a community continue to be overwhelmed by the negatives that have become the reality of life in Hampton. I would like to consider relocating like so many others, but the housing market in Hampton is so soft that no one will buy my house. But you have to have people who want to come to Hampton before houses will sell, so Hampton government needs to do all it can to provide for public safety, schools, and attract jobs. All the rest of the stuff you have in this survey is off target.	3/7/2017 3:53 PM
205	I support the city's efforts in economic development and housing revitalization, especially where it will reduce concentrations of low income housing and the crime that seems to come with it. However, until some of these things happen and begin to generate recurring income, I also think the city needs to take a hard look at the services it provides and consider either reducing some of these, or charging a fee/higher fee for them. It's nice to provide free or low cost services to citizens, but not at the expense of the city's health and its ability to attract and retain quality employees (and a fully staffed and trained police dept), and high quality schools.	3/7/2017 3:50 PM
206	I live on Fort Monroe which is the 23651 zip code. Since I vote in the City of Hampton, I would think that the 23651 zip code would be considered part of Hampton.	3/7/2017 3:41 PM
207	Please do not backslide and cut our valuable programs and services. Please do not cost us more valuable employees by dropping salaries. Hampton is one of the best cities around for a reason--and that reason is the services and the excellent staff providing them.	3/7/2017 3:32 PM
208	social services really needs a new building	3/7/2017 3:30 PM
209	As a city, we need to start more readily utilizing user-fee services. A disproportionate amount of residents abuse city services and do not pay their appropriate share. The residents that make up your highest tax base use the services the least, yet pay the highest taxes.	3/7/2017 3:29 PM
210	Funnel less money into parking and car-related infrastructure and spend more on providing safe, efficient options for transit, biking, and walking.	3/7/2017 3:27 PM
211	What are the chances of having Grandview Isle roads equipped with drainage and paving and adequate lighting. The creek behind dredged to help with drainage. The ditches redug? This would help defray the cost of flooding problems, keep mosquitos down, improve the property values.	3/7/2017 3:25 PM
212	THANKS YOU FOR DOING THIS SURVEY. IT IS COOL WHAT YOU DO FOR US, HAMPTON!!!	3/7/2017 12:12 PM