

Observations from the Survey on Major Issues:

A survey was conducted by staff from mid-November to year end, 2010, in order to determine issues of greatest importance to citizens. The survey was intended as an initial outreach in the course of the 7 Year Comprehensive Plan Review, also known as the “EAR”. Notification of the survey was made by press release, cable TV and internet. Staff would like to thank the more than 200 people who responded.

Along with open ended questions, the public was asked to assign a numerical rank to eight categories. Overall, utility-related and energy conservation categories were of greatest concern. Services, recreation and transportation issues ranked somewhat lower in importance. Climate change was of least concern.

Results were tabulated by type of residence, and most responses were consistent between them. One outstanding difference between them was that “available services” ranked 5th in importance to single family homeowners, but 2^d in importance to condominium and multi-family residents. Only the water utility ranked higher to condo /MF residents.

This one notable difference in result might reflect the fact that condo/MF unit owners rely more heavily on a diversity of services available within our community, and therefore rely on or desire a robust commercial sector and nearby goods and services. This fact takes on greater relevance when considering the current demographics of the City: By unit type, there are more condominium and multi-family units on the Island (approx. 10,500) than single family residences (approx. 6,500).

Ranking of Major Issues by Group

Average scores

*lower average score signifies greater importance

RANK	All Surveys 209	Single Family140	Multifamily 43	Bus./work 75
1	Water Utility (2.32)	Water Utility (2.21)	Water Utility (2.58)	Water Utility (2.45)
2	Sewer Utility (3.19)	Sewer Utility (2.99)	Avail. Services (3.42)	Sewer Utility (3.21)
3	Energy Cons. (3.98)	Energy Cons. (3.76)	Sewer Utility (3.73)	Energy Cons. (3.86)
4	Stormwater (4.18)	Stormwater (4.28)	Stormwater (3.85)	Stormwater (4.31)
5	Avail. Services (4.38)	Avail. Services (4.68)	Recreation (4.26)	Avail. Services (4.40)
6	Recreation (4.92)	Recreation (5.16)	Energy Cons. (4.51)	Recreation (4.60)
7	Transportation (5.50)	Transportation (5.53)	Transportation (5.36)	Transportation (5.14)
8	Climate Change (6.36)	Climate Change (6.47)	Climate Change (5.97)	Climate Change (6.11)