

Budget Survey 2027: Written Comments

In the Creating our Budget survey (July - August 2026), residents were asked three questions that required written responses:

- Please share one example of a municipal service that is working well? (205 responses)
- Please share one example of a municipal service that could be improved (218 responses)
- Please provide any additional comments that you would like to be considered during the 2027 Budget deliberations. (158 responses)

The responses are presented below as they were received – no edits were made – except in a few instances where the comments were of a derogatory nature or where the comments could lead to a specific individual or company being identified. In a few cases, the comments were significantly inaccurate; for those you will see a response provided. Note that for the first two questions, many of the answers were one or two words that repeated – for those questions, only select comments are presented to avoid redundancy.

Staff numbered the responses and sorted responses on similar issues. If a resident commented on more than one issue in a response, their response was accounted for in all relevant themes. You will also see them listed in full under all relevant themes.

Among the most common written comments were those related to:

- Roads, traffic & pedestrian safety
- Taxes, affordability & spending
- Recreation, parks & community facilities
- Trails, sidewalks & active transportation

These comments were shared with Municipal Council and staff as they began deliberations on the 2027 Middlesex Centre Budget. You can find the full budget survey results at middlesexcentre.ca/budget2027.

Question: Please share one example of a municipal service that is working well?

Theme	Mentions	Select Comments (as written)
Waste & Recycling	56	- Garbage pick up - consistent service and always on time. - Bluewater garbage and recycling pick up is excellent although the new fee for garbage dependent on size of bin I find unfair as I live alone and only put my bin out once every 3 weeks.
Roads – Snow Removal	53	- Given the amount of snow we have annually I believe the snow removal has been timely and pretty good in most cases - Sidewalks cleared and roads cleared quickly in winter - Street cleaning is done well and often. Of course we all get frustrated with snow removal and how it piles up at the end of your drive. How to improve this irritation, i dont think is possible..
Parks & Facilities	33	- I like that they cut the grass on the Hyde Park road coming in to town. It makes the entrance to the town look nice. I like the parks and splash pad in Ilderton. - Roads, parks and recreational facilities in Ilderton are generally well maintained. I appreciate that the municipality continues to maintain these core services as the community grows. - Maintenance of sports fields and hiking/biking trails are excellent - Our parks are well taken care of and there are many of them
Roads – Maintenance	29	- Street maintenance - I see the roads getting repaired.
Other	29	- We appreciate the library services. - Upkeep of public spaces Not applicable and some negative answers (e.g., “Can’t think of any”) are included in Other
Fire	14	Fire services are working well with very good value for the money invested.
Recreation Programs	11	- Community activities & sports are getting better and better every year! - Community programs through the Recreation dept
Administration	4	- communications, website - Financial
Water	3	Drinking water accessibility and saftey
Building & By-law	3	The building process has been smooth compared to other municipalities.
Police	3	Police services
Roads – Traffic	2	roads and traffic management on local streets

Questions: Please share one example of a municipal service that could be improved?

Theme	Mentions	Select Comments (as written)
Roads - Maintenance	50	• gravel road maintenance • improved road maintenance and tree maintenance • More Gravel road grading • Road and sidewalks need repair • Road repair (e.g. Carriage Road between Longwoods Rd and Gideon Dr) • Roads and infrastructure are being neglected especially rural roads. Gravel roads are extremely rough gravel not packed properly and Poor dust control. • Roads ie. Maintenance, both winter and summer • Roads painting. The paint is very poor. • Timing of road construction projects
Parks & Facilities	30	• beautification of certain parks. getting a little overgrown • Indoor swimming pool • Lack of parking at fields and diamonds • Need more baseball diamonds in Ilderton • Parks (dog park needed) • Parks and Recreation do a pretty brutal job of their basic lawn cutting and upkeep duties. It seems they do the absolute bare minimum with virtually no performance or work expectations. • Recreation facilities • Recreation, lack of walking & biking trails. • Arenas and services not in Komoka/Kilworth • Community centre rental rules and agreements need to change to prevent recurring damage • more community places parks etc • More facilities • Pickleball courts (we need more) • The municipality could improve the dug outs in poplar hill. There is high level girls softball that is regularly played there in addition to many other groups. This would benefit youth and adult experience.

Theme	Mentions	Select Comments (as written)
Roads - Traffic & Safety	28	- Fix the no passing sign at the school crossing spot by the library ... it's not a real school crossing unless there is a crossing guard present. Add a real flashing lights crosswalk or remove the painted crosswalk lines and no passing from here to crosswalk sign. It's a safety issue as some cars stop and wait and others do not. Even the OPP cruiser passed the car waiting to turn left, right next to the no passing sign!! Remove the sign and the painted stripes, cheapest easiest fix. - Managing traffic issues. Roads are not keeping up with rapid over development. - Need a light at the top of Kilworth Park Dr and fdlso would be - Not sure if this is Middlesex but enforcing speed limits is nonexistent. I live in a 60kph zone that drivers treat as 90+ - Pedestrian safety in Ilderton - flashing crosswalks are needed on Hyde Park Rd. - Working with the County to improve Glendon through Komoka and Kilworth - Cross walk on Komoka Rd ;) - Cross walks on Hyde Park road can be hazardous and need to be improved. - Crosswalks and road safety - Everything else is good , fire , police, and parks etc. The traffic has increased on Longwoods Rd. and the commuters do not care about school buses or the crosswalk . We would like a safe community designation for the safety of families who want to get their kids to school in the morning, walkers of all ages. Especially at the crosswalk on Longwoods Rd. - Lights at Springfield way and wellness centre - Maybe actually hold construction companies accountable for leaving a mess everywhere ... Actually fix Old River Road? Maybe actually put in a walking path on Glendon so people can walk safely to the stores and restaurants on the road??
Other	21	- I would like to see more transparency with development issues, (Arva sewer constraints). I would like to see how we plan to scale in subdivisions and what the development fees look like. - Electrical grid - Hydro cutting out often - Any enforcement support for unassumed subdivisons. Seems at these house prices we are paying the most in property taxes and getting virtually no services as a result of remaining unassumed. Stop allowing Phase 3, 4, 5 to proceed without phases 1 and 2 being sold out. At this rate, it could be another decade or more to get assumed. Recreation options for 18-59yr olds, outdoor heated public swimming pool needed. - Internet service - Environmental concerns with the quality of air in area. The smell from the turkey farm is a major concern in the heat whereby you are reluctant to put your laundry on clothes lines, concern how it impacts on vegetables in garden and the unpleasant odour when sitting outdoors on a patio. - Public transit - Services for disabled

Theme	Mentions	Select Comments (as written)
Sidewalks, Trails & Cycling	18	• Basic services like sidewalks and streetlights. • More sidewalks in Delaware, traffic control and safety • traffic lights installed at busy intersections, more sidewalks on busy roads, • ability to safely walk/bike between komoka, kilworth • Additional sidewalks and bike lanes (specifically in Denfield) • Bike access trails and allowance on busy roads • Lack of trails • More sidewalks along Ilderton rd • More sidewalks in Delaware for families to use • Land use planning - sidewalks being put in that are not required • Sidewalk beside the seniors part on Hamilton St • Sidewalks to komoka • stop Ilderton Mill Street sidewalks, we have a trail in our back yard • There seems to be an Overall lack of trails in Middlesex Centre given the population and growing urban areas
Roads - Snow Removal	16	• Less snow on end of driveway • Snowplowing. Too many cars on the street to properly clear the roads. • Sidewalk snow plowing- inconsistent service and quality of plowing. • Sidewalk winter maintenance • Snow clearing and salting • snow plowing done sooner for those going to work early • Snow plowing. Our mail box gets hit every year. This is the first year we requested the municipality to replace it. But, we would rather the snow plow drivers drive more carefully and mindfully.
Building & By-law	10	• Bylaw enforcement i think could be better. The amount of cars parking at Ilderton Rd and King St, Ilderton Rd and Robert St and in Arva in no parking zones and its a daily occurrence • Enforcement of by laws, specifically off leash dogs (and cats) that have impacted ability to use services. For example, due to the number of times I have walked my dogs on leash around the Komoka community centre open grass area and been run at by off leash dogs, it does not feel safe to use this area. • Parking enforcement in the winter
Waste & Recycling	10	• Green bins for composting • It would be nice to have the Denfield depot open one morning during the week to relieve some of the pressure on the weekends. Especially during high usage times in spring and fall. • More weekday availability to drop off brush at the recycle depot • No yard waste pick up
General Maintenance	10	• Grass cutting of verges is not done well on our side road and the machine sometimes does a destructive and untidy job of trying to prune back bushes and small trees. • No one has cleaned the sand off the sidewalks and portions of the side of the road since winter when it was pushed off the side of the road/blvds to make room for more snow that was expected. Some sidewalks are in rough shape (or to the west of the former CIBC bank. And a chunk of curbing was damaged by the snow plow to the west of 4 Pizza Sakes. • Tree planting; especially replanting weak/diseased trees before they die • Tree trimming along side walks

Theme	Mentions	Select Comments (as written)
Water & Wastewater - Cost	11	- Water and wastewater affordability needs significant improvement. The cost for residents in Ilderton has become extremely high, particularly the fixed monthly charges before water consumption is considered. I would like Council to review operating costs, reserve contributions and future capital spending, and ensure growth-related infrastructure is funded as much as possible through development charges, developer contributions and available government grants rather than continually increasing the burden on existing residents. - Water rates are out of control, water should not be this expensive when the same water in London is 1/4 of the price - Water services could be priced better.
Control Spending	9	- Reduce your spending. Inflation is massive. Gov't borrowed to give us food. Zero or less. - Reducing expenditures. - Way too expensive, staff redundancies, expensive equipment thats not needed - Managing capital cost - Needless projects could' be minimized - Stop giving raises to township workers year after year and then maybe my taxes wouldn't go up 1600 dollars for the year absolutely disgusting - The property tax is increasing every year. For seniors it has become a huge burden. Instead of providing more services why don't you reduce the property tax.
Administration & Customer Service	8	- Answer telephone in office - Communication from elected officials - Communication with service groups who provide events to the community such as a he Craft Show and Fish Fry. - Response time from office staff at the municipality - To much administration, to many transfers to find the right person
Land Use Planning	9	- Land use planning and economic development - Planning services. Stop building so fast!
Police	6	- Policing - Policing and monitoring school property, traffic safety
Water & Wastewater - General	3	Water and Sewer
Fire	3	We need fire services in Komoka/Kilworth
Recreation (General)	3	Receation
Drains & Stormwater	2	- Municipal drain maintenance - Some homes on Poplar Hill Rd continue to experience wet basements when we receive significant rainfall. Perhaps some improvements could be made to improve water flow in that area.

Question: Please provide any additional comments that you would like to be considered during the 2027 Budget deliberations.

Summary of Themes

Theme	Mentions	% of comments*
Roads, traffic & pedestrian safety	44	27.8%
Taxes, affordability & spending	38	24.1%
Recreation, parks & community facilities	29	18.4%
Trails, sidewalks & active transportation	27	17.1%
Growth, development & land use	21	13.3%
Staffing, administration & efficiency	17	10.8%
Environment, climate & natural heritage	13	8.2%
Rural equity & community fairness	14	8.9%
Water & wastewater rates/services	15	9.5%
Positive feedback & appreciation	11	7.0%
Utilities, internet & other infrastructure	8	5.1%
Governance, engagement & transparency	8	5.1%
Fire, emergency & community safety	9	5.7%
Economic development & business attraction	7	4.4%
Waste collection & organics	9	5.7%
Other / general comment	4	2.5%

* Each response was counted once per applicable theme. A response may appear under more than one theme, so percentages will not total 100%.

Theme: Economic development & business attraction

Response ID	Comment as written
63	Keep the tax increase at the minimum or not at all. Keep applying for grants to help the people and promote it. Add more businesses to our municipality in order to diversify our tax base.
81	New initiatives that attract businesses create employment opportunities and better income source for the city. We already pay one of the highest in terms of property tax and water bills compared to London area
94	Planning development in settlement areas only. Luring businesses to our township by changing zoning in agricultural areas to suit their needs should not be used as a way to increase the tax base. Study the need for township trucks to be driving around 7 days a week with no apparent destination.
99	Please work on controlling growth - too much .. it takes away from so many good things (green, facilities' capacity, mental health etc etc. no need to "allow" more pharmacies / dentists ... totally breaking down your own local business please do not look at any public transportation - prefer to keep Komoka separated from surrounding city problems

Response ID	Comment as written
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Policies are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
110	Rural taxpayers are often forgotten about and ignored. We benefit from very few services for our high tax dollars. Rural lands have turned into lucrative lands for industrial and commercial activities with no enforcement.
144	We do need larger businesses to support the tax base, however, don't want a large portion of the budget to be used in marketing material or advertising that doesn't return the required ROI. I'd like to be updated somewhere about what is going on with this initiative and any progress made across Middlesex Centre.

Theme: Environment, climate & natural heritage

Response ID	Comment as written
8	Although more subdivisions equal more dollars for the municipality we need to pause and consider the value of farmland lost. This cannot be reversed once land is paved over.

Response ID	Comment as written
10	Clean up Kilworth Heights. The tower of bricks is cheap and doesn't represent this area well. OPP presence at the intersection of Crestview and Daventry—a four-way stop. So many speeders and people running the lights. Make the water bills more variable and adjust the bill at the end of the year. Kilworth Heights also needs to be addressed. No paths, awful street lamps. Any Sifton development in West 5 or London looks nice and well-planned.
25	Environmental and health concern should be top priority.
42	I have been waiting for a number of years for a dangerous tree to be removed from the road allowance in front of my house. I see many trees in the community that need to be removed or pruned. Better management of this resource is critical.
48	I would like the municipality to consider the environment and local wildlife when planning. We need to consider the future of the municipality and not just the economic situation in the present. It would benefit everyone to plan ahead of time to be more climate change ready. This could include adding electric vehicle infrastructure, planting more trees for cleaner air, collecting rain water, and designing communities to be climate change resilient.
70	Maintaining quality of life services is essential. Green bin and similar programs that appease the "woke" members of our community (who belong back in the big city) are a complete waste of time and money. I have serious doubts about the overall effectiveness of much of the MCX workforce. In my contact with many employees it appears that they are poorly motivated and expectations for their performance are virtually non-existent. It seems like some employees are in a contest to see who can perform the least amount of work possible. It may be worth investing in some actual workforce enhancement coaching or more legal expertise to assist in removing some of the poorly performing employees.
73	More focus on sustainability, community gardens and environmental initiatives. I really appreciate the pollinator garden at middlesex center and would like to see more of that.
78	My children cannot safely walk to school which should be 15 minutes without going out of the way an additional 15 minutes to walk on sidewalks. Please consider children's safety and add walking options along Young street in Delaware on the hill. Water activities in Delaware would be nice too. Summers are increasingly hotter and we have nothing local to stay cool for kids. Thank you
104	Put in place a Green Belt that stops London taking over farmland. Do not allow data centres and more windmills

Response ID	Comment as written
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Policies are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
106	Rather than a green bin program, which is very costly, I would rather see better education on composting
114	Slow development until such time that traffic measure and road infrastructure catches up with a ridiculous growth rate. Protect current green space.
138	Too many staff in the office need more boots on the ground actually engaged in delivering service shouldn't have to wait 6 months to have a tree trimmed.

Theme: Fire, emergency & community safety

Response ID	Comment as written
4	A cross walk is required to get from Meadowcreek to the rail trail. Our children and senior citizens use this trail all of the time and it is a huge hazard to cross the road.... As evidenced by the OPP who frequently sit in the fire station to catch people speeding in and out of town at this area. A flashing light cross walk needs to be implemented here just like the one heading north on Hyde Park road! Please make this a priority to protect all Iderton citizens, but especially our youth and senior citizens!
12	Consider allocating additional funds to follow through with suggestions in the fire service master plan.
17	Critical infrastructure should be the primary focus for expenditures when budgets are limited. Roads (both maintenance and conversion of gravel to paved in areas where gravel roads carry a lot or an increasing amount of traffic due to increased housing, requiring frequent maintenance because of this), waste management, improved water services and improved fire/emergency services are more important than sidewalks, bike lanes and trails that are used by a few rather than the majority
28	Fire services need the funding
29	Fire station in komoka/kilworth. Protections against large federal/provincial projects like data centres or unwanted plants. Let the citizens dictate.
30	Fire Services and the Fire Chief are doing an amazing job. They should get the equipment they need to continue to provide great services to the communities.
72	More AEDs and promotion of availability
93	personal budgets are maxed out, and the municipality needs to tighten the belt and continue only necessary expenses(police, fire, roads, current recreation) and postpone the want to have expenses like walking/bike trails, sidewalks(unless the road needs updating)
130	The municipality should be prioritizing tax dollars on roads/infrastructure/services such as fire etc rather than frivolous spending on trails/pickleball/tennis courts etc. Also, quit awarding contracts to those contractors who repeatedly go overbudget and overtime!

Theme: Governance, engagement & transparency

Response ID	Comment as written
16	Councillors should continue to prioritize core services like roads and water as these are the services people rely on and use everyday. Staffing levels at the municipal office should be frozen or reduced to focus on what people need.
29	Fire station in komoka/kilworth. Protections against large federal/provincial projects like data centres or unwanted plants. Let the citizens dictate.
38	I am not a fan of the suggestion in surveys like this that all the changes the municipality would want to do should be funded by taxpayer dollars. Before supporting cost initiatives it would be very helpful to see the efficiency of spending first. It is much easier to support things if there is transparency in spending and a feeling that our tax investments are maximized.
79	My major concern is how decision making is established in the municipality often the outcomes of concerns, petitions and disagreements addressing issues are basically a fore gone conclusion leading to residents frustration and the attitude of many of Why bother to get involved. The numbers of candidates running for mayor and councillors is a classical example of a lack of objectivity in the established processes.

Response ID	Comment as written
115	Some increase in co-operative accountability measures between council and police services may support best practices when it comes to knowing and responding to traffic safety issues and school property monitoring.
133	There appears to be extreme financial mismanagement here. FTE should be cut back and more respect for taxpayers. People are struggling and the less government waste the better. Not only should you strive to not increase taxes, you should be thinking of ways to reduce your burden on the taxpayers. Less vanity projects like a new head office which is not necessary. Also who is accountable or taking on the OPP? We need someone with a backbone to stand up to OPP. Requests for additional funding. I am personally available and would work for free to come in and consult about how to cut waste and run things more like a business, please contact [email removed]... last note, there should be no pay increase for council if there is any tax increase on citizens.
136	This survey had nothing substantive regarding the budget and was a waste of time. Provide a proposal next time.
154	Would like to see the overall results of this survey. Also water rates often go up in the summer to water lawns and plants which does not increase waste water which we pay for. Would like to see summer rates reduced.

Theme: Growth, development & land use

Response ID	Comment as written
1	No high density housing
2	- review of reserves -infrastructure work supporting higher density growth
5	A slow down in development residential/commercial as the county does not provide efficient services for what we already have and I do not support raising taxes to fund additional development.
8	Although more subdivisions equal more dollars for the municipality we need to pause and consider the value of farmland lost. This cannot be reversed once land is paved over.
10	Clean up Kilworth Heights. The tower of bricks is cheap and doesn't represent this area well. OPP presence at the intersection of Crestview and Daventry—a four-way stop. So many speeders and people running the lights. Make the water bills more variable and adjust the bill at the end of the year. Kilworth Heights also needs to be addressed. No paths, awful street lamps. Any Sifton development in West 5 or London looks nice and well-planned.
14	Control expansion better. Growth is not always good
29	Fire station in komoka/kilworth. Protections against large federal/provincial projects like data centres or unwanted plants. Let the citizens dictate.
40	I believe Middlesex County will continue to expand as London continues to grow and develop. My biggest concern, however, is traffic, which is one of the main reasons I chose not to live in the city. I think we need to start looking at better long-term transportation infrastructure around London. It's almost as if we need a highway running north from the 401 through Thames Centre, as well as another route running east from Thorndale toward Ilderton. Ideally, both routes could eventually connect the 401 to the 402 around the county. Planning and investing in this infrastructure now would be extremely beneficial for the region's long-term growth. Look at the Greater Toronto Area, they're dealing with the consequences of not having planned and built their highway network around Toronto more effectively from the beginning. We have an opportunity to learn from that and plan ahead while London and Middlesex are still growing. We should be thinking about what the region will look like 20–30 years from now, not just addressing the traffic problems we have today. And on a smaller scale, I also think Dorchester could use brighter street lighting.

Response ID	Comment as written
44	I like the small, quiet town feel. I would not like to see fast increase in the town growth and expansion of lands beyond boundaries.
50	I would like to see development confined to the existing urban areas of the municipality, with no creep into rural areas. Middlesex Centre came into being in part to act as a buffer zone to curb London sprawl. The approval of a medical centre attached to an arena on Gideon Road last year was an example of what I would not wish to see happening; there was ample land in Kilworth for such a development (for example, on the unused golf range opposite the YMCA).
69	Lower property taxes for Timberwalk and Clear Skies as at these taxation rates due to high priced (overpriced homes) it is cheaper to move back to London. So far, more car breaks in 4 years in Ilderton than 50years in London. Small town life has been nothing but expensive and a disappointment. Looking to leave, as our many of my neighbours. You'll have even more empty developments.
85	Our community has exploded in population and will continue to grow. We have outgrown our facilities. We need to start adding additional facilities to accommodate this growth! ie: arena
94	Planning development in settlement areas only. Luring businesses to our township by changing zoning in agricultural areas to suit their needs should not be used as a way to increase the tax base. Study the need for township trucks to be driving around 7 days a week with no apparent destination.
99	Please work on controlling growth - too much .. it takes away from so many good things (green, facilities' capacity, mental health etc etc. no need to "allow" more pharmacies / dentists ... totally breaking down your own local business please do not look at any public transportation - prefer to keep Komoka separated from surrounding city problems
102	Property taxes increase with no benefits. Maintain roads that we have. Stop taking cash in lieu of parkland. Stop supporting developers we don't need provincial money.
104	Put in place a Green Belt that stops London taking over farmland. Do not allow data centres and more windmills

Response ID	Comment as written
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Polices are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
114	Slow development until such time that traffic measure and road infrastructure catches up with a ridiculous growth rate. Protect current green space.
119	Stop approving these ridiculous looking home and commercial projects. The one behind the arena is an eyesore - should have been a few highrise 6 floor type buildings surrounded by nice parkland, with possibilities for community gardens etc. The shoeboxes being erected are ugly and are being built with ill conceived parking - many families living in the area have at least one SUV or pick up which don't fit in the designated spaces allotted for the townhouses. The other development along Oxbow is also a mess with some of the land now up for sale. The commercial development along Glendon with Shoppers and no frills is also ugly. Take a look at other communities who get it right eg. Bridgehampton Commons.
141	Water costs need to be addressed. Also eliminating more urban sprawl considering the rail lines I'm Komoka .

Response ID	Comment as written
148	We need more trails, we live here to have more nature outside of the city and that is lacking. Also assume the Kilworth heights subdivision, we have been paying taxes for 4 years but are still unassumed and don't get the same services.

Theme: Other / general comment

Response ID	Comment as written
3	"The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money." There is no control on your rate increases. You have become a problem. Ask a few people.
51	I would like to see the conversation get underway regarding a PUBLIC High School being built within the komoka/delaware/kilworth boundaries that would house all of these students. The closest option is 25 Kilometres away in Arva. While this was the norm for many years, the population in the delaware/komoka/kilworth has exploded and can now support having a public high school in our area. Medway will simply not be able to meet the capacity.
113	Simple improvements to keep fixing up our towns.
127	The Ailsa Craig Food Bank has been trying to build a new food bank and thrift store for the last 10 years. They have the land the warehouse and now they need funding for the fl food bank and thrift store. Imagine the needs of the food bank now - if 10 years ago they needed a new facility

Theme: Positive feedback & appreciation

Response ID	Comment as written
22	Delaware should have a splash pad. It's one of the only areas without one and with increasing hot weather, it would be a great addition. Young St going up the hill in Delaware really needs a sidewalk. It's not safe to walk up the hill without it. The Delaware library is not stroller / wheelchair accessible. Could a ramp be added at the door? Would be good to know who to contact in case of animal control concerns such as a rabid raccoon. Doesn't seem like anyone exists in this role or there's any help for this. Really like our existing garbage and recycling collection schedule. Think the municipality does a good job of snow removal too.
37	I am happy about new staff at the arena. people are nice again and helpful
64	Keep up the great work!
86	Our county is fantastic! We don't need to find ways to spend money on non essential projects when we have high water and tax rates
88	Overall we're happy with the services provided by our Municipality.
124	Thank you for providing an opportunity for residential voice collection!
125	Thank you for this survey. This town is a beautiful place and outdoor oasis by the river. We love living here in Delaware with all the hills for walking and the parks for our (now) Grandkids can have activities. Except it is not safe for them to cross Longwoods.
155	Ya'll doing a good job!
157	You are doing a great job. Keep up the good work!
158	You are doing a good job
159	You have a difficult task. Thank you for all of the work you do.

Theme: Recreation, parks & community facilities

Response ID	Comment as written
20	Cut pickle ball
22	Delaware should have a splash pad. It's one of the only areas without one and with increasing hot weather, it would be a great addition. Young St going up the hill in Delaware really needs a sidewalk. It's not safe to walk up the hill without it. The Delaware library is not stroller / wheelchair accessible. Could a ramp be added at the door? Would be good to know who to contact in case of animal control concerns such as a rabid raccoon. Doesn't seem like anyone exists in this role or there's any help for this. Really like our existing garbage and recycling collection schedule. Think the municipality does a good job of snow removal too.
37	I am happy about new staff at the arena. people are nice again and helpful
50	I would like to see development confined to the existing urban areas of the municipality, with no creep into rural areas. Middlesex Centre came into being in part to act as a buffer zone to curb London sprawl. The approval of a medical centre attached to an arena on Gideon Road last year was an example of what I would not wish to see happening; there was ample land in Kilworth for such a development (for example, on the unused golf range opposite the YMCA).
53	I would prefer to see more money invested in library programs for all ages, as well sports and recreational facilities
59	It would be great to see pickleball courts added in Poplar Hill
60	It would be nice to have some money spent in Ilderton. Having pickleball courts and lights at the court. Larger parking area for courts and fields. Could pickleball courts be considered by the church on Hyde park and utilize share costs for church parking lot for parking.
61	It would be wonderful one day to have a walking path around Poplar Hill Park that would be kept clear of ice and snow in the winter. This would be very helpful to aging residents as it would provide a safe place to walk during the winter months.
71	Middlesex needs to seriously consider more recreational facilities as we are so far behind. Arenas, ball diamonds, fitness centres, outdoor and indoor. kids, adults and seniors all benefit from activity ... its additional employment and much more.
72	More AEDs and promotion of availability
74	More follow up on projects that have already been completed! An example the recent paving of the asphalt around the soccer pitches. Yesterday I counted at least ten areas that the weeds are pushing through the pavement, someone could easily trip and fall. This could become an issue for our community if someone might think to sue for injuries should that happen!! I think it is the responsibility of company that did the work to fix the issues. Is that ever followed up with the maintenance crew for our community? An other example is the trees that were planted along Queen and Springer a couple of years ago. At least 90% of them are dead because they were never watered during their period of early growth.
75	More library services or programs would be beneficial. Safer active transportation should be implemented. More pickleball options.
76	More outdoor recreation facilities. Tennis court, basketball courts, etc.
84	NO to increased services, unless they are a total user pay system. ie - NO free dog park
85	Our community has exploded in population and will continue to grow. We have outgrown our facilities. We need to start adding additional facilities to accommodate this growth! ie: arena
92	People with dogs would find a dedicated dog park very helpful.
93	personal budgets are maxed out, and the municipality needs to tighten the belt and continue only necessary expenses(police, fire, roads, current recreation) and postpone the want to have expenses like walking/bike trails, sidewalks(unless the road needs updating)
95	Please consider a dog park

Response ID	Comment as written
96	Please consider allowing the walking track at the Komoka Wellness centre be available at all times to Middlesex Centre residents instead of just between 11-1. Walking is good for our health, and some cannot lift weights or run on treadmills, so a membership for the YMCA is not needed. And, not everyone can go between 11 and 1 to do this. In the winter especially, when sidewalks are slippery and roads are dangerous to walk on.
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Polices are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
107	Reduce water costs! Way way way too expensive! Don't bother with a green bin program. Waste of money. London doesn't offer even proper sized existing recycling bins so they are not a leader in this. A fenced in off leash dog park in Ilderton is required! We have nothing and lots of space to accommodate this simple request. It's terrible no place to run our dog. Also we need lights for evening tennis and we need more courts too many people use them and never enough courts and lights would allow people to play longer into the evening. Solar Lights on the Ilderton railway path. Lots of money would've been saved this summer as you hardly had to cut lawns with all of the drought so I'm sure there's extra funding there to help Ilderton out.

Response ID	Comment as written
121	Summer recreation for all ages - splash pad is for little kids. Build an outdoor heated pool for all ages - babies to seniors. Heated is a must for maximum usability - one can dream, we already know the answer will be no.
122	Supporting upgrades to the diamonds in Poplar Hill including an outfield fence to diamond one, a shed or better storage for the equipment to maintain the diamonds such as the rakes, chalk, liner, bases, etc. covered dug outs on diamond two at poplar hill.
125	Thank you for this survey. This town is a beautiful place and outdoor oasis by the river. We love living here in Delaware with all the hills for walking and the parks for our (now) Grandkids can have activities. Except it is not safe for them to cross Longwoods.
126	The addition of a recreational pool (fitness/lane swims, recreation swims, swimming lessons) would add great value (physical, social) to the Middlesex area. There are much smaller communities with recreation pools, and there is clearly a lot of interest and a need for a pool in this area with the growing population and high level of interest in swimming activities.
129	The importance of outdoor activity for residents in urban areas needs to be emphasized. It is a public health issue. The proposed extension of the Ilderton rail trail needs to go ahead. Farmers should be invited to the table to determine where their access points need to be. There is an access point on the Ilderton rail trail north to 12 mile for the farmer who owns land on both sides of the trail. It works. Compromise works. The trail does not need to be paved as is the case with the north part of the Ilderton trail. Komoka has its swanky recreation centre but the residents who live in the north part of Middlesex Centre are not getting much in the way of recreational amenities. We are not all hockey players, curlers or in need of chair yoga classes. Please build the trail extensions.
130	The municipality should be prioritizing tax dollars on roads/infrastructure/services such as fire etc rather than frivolous spending on trails/pickleball/tennis courts etc. Also, quit awarding contracts to those contractors who repeatedly go overbudget and overtime!
151	With so many people struggling financially, it's difficult to see municipal governments purchasing expensive new vehicles and constructing impressive new facilities for staff, all funded by taxpayers. Public spending should reflect the financial realities of the communities it serves. When budgets are tight, these types of expenses should be the first to be reviewed and reduced—not the essential services that residents rely on every day. In many other developed countries, there is a greater balance between public sector spending and the financial circumstances of the people paying for it. Taxpayers deserve to see their money directed first toward delivering high-quality services, rather than unnecessary upgrades or luxuries. You continue to increase development and population in our areas but recreation facilities are so terrible in comparison to anywhere. The Komoka ymca ice for instance is now generally catered to elite groups and programs, not accessible to its local community - which is the y foundational belief. Who let this happen? The local league Delko soccer community play on fields that are old, uneven and too long of grass for the game of soccer. Pickleball/tennis facility are old, and flood. Dog parks are not accessible to general population. For instance, Weldon park is not central location, have to pay, walk leashed dog to an unfenced area which is next to unfenced play areas. Let's promote happy healthy and fair balanced communities.
153	Would like to see more consideration for rural parts of the municipality. Rather than adding walking paths and new pickleball courts and sidewalks etc. to the towns, while much of the rural roads are still dirt like they were 200 years ago. Many other municipalities in southwestern Ontario have at least tar and chipped many if not all roads in there region.

Theme: Roads, traffic & pedestrian safety

Response ID	Comment as written
4	A cross walk is required to get from Meadowcreek to the rail trail. Our children and senior citizens use this trail all of the time and it is a huge hazard to cross the road.... As evidenced by the OPP who frequently sit in the fire station to catch people speeding in and out of town at this area. A flashing light cross walk needs to be implemented here just like the one heading north on Hyde Park road! Please make this a priority to protect all Ilderton citizens, but especially our youth and senior citizens!
7	Adelaide and Ilderton road intersection needs change too many accidents happen there
10	Clean up Kilworth Heights. The tower of bricks is cheap and doesn't represent this area well. OPP presence at the intersection of Crestview and Daventry—a four-way stop. So many speeders and people running the lights. Make the water bills more variable and adjust the bill at the end of the year. Kilworth Heights also needs to be addressed. No paths, awful street lamps. Any Sifton development in West 5 or London looks nice and well-planned.
17	Critical infrastructure should be the primary focus for expenditures when budgets are limited. Roads (both maintenance and conversion of gravel to paved in areas where gravel roads carry a lot or an increasing amount of traffic due to increased housing, requiring frequent maintenance because of this), waste management, improved water services and improved fire/emergency services are more important than sidewalks, bike lanes and trails that are used by a few rather than the majority
18	Cross walk on Komoka road
22	Delaware should have a splash pad. It's one of the only areas without one and with increasing hot weather, it would be a great addition. Young St going up the hill in Delaware really needs a sidewalk. It's not safe to walk up the hill without it. The Delaware library is not stroller / wheelchair accessible. Could a ramp be added at the door? Would be good to know who to contact in case of animal control concerns such as a rabid raccoon. Doesn't seem like anyone exists in this role or there's any help for this. Really like our existing garbage and recycling collection schedule. Think the municipality does a good job of snow removal too.
23	Don't allow any speed controller. They don't deter speeders.
24	Don't complete road improvements before house construction finishes (i.e. Arrowwood path cul-de-sac). Curb and gutter will need to be replaced due to equipment damage
31	For my household living on Denfield rd, we would like to see a continuation of paved shoulders in residential areas and a greater presence of law enforcement controlling speed, and if possible a reduction in heavy truck traffic. We live in the 60kph zone leaving denfield (south) and would love to see that 50 zone extended. The 23 homes/families that live in that 500m stretch would really appreciate it.
32	Gravel roads are 18th century technology. Get on with paving and quit worrying about walking trails. London township had a plan and was paving gravel roads before we became Middlesex centre
33	Gravel roads don't need to be paved, stop cheaping out on the gravel composition used on the roads, it's barely gravel, more like mud, which is part of why they're in such bad conditions all the time. Stop spending money on useless things like walking trails to London, no one needs it. Pay your winter maintenance staff to work 'normal' winter hours instead of a set shift like they appear to now. Spend money on training roadworks employees on how to properly do their jobs.
35	have police spend more time to control speeds &careless drivers in community s

Response ID	Comment as written
40	I believe Middlesex County will continue to expand as London continues to grow and develop. My biggest concern, however, is traffic, which is one of the main reasons I chose not to live in the city. I think we need to start looking at better long-term transportation infrastructure around London. It's almost as if we need a highway running north from the 401 through Thames Centre, as well as another route running east from Thorndale toward Ilderton. Ideally, both routes could eventually connect the 401 to the 402 around the county. Planning and investing in this infrastructure now would be extremely beneficial for the region's long-term growth. Look at the Greater Toronto Area, they're dealing with the consequences of not having planned and built their highway network around Toronto more effectively from the beginning. We have an opportunity to learn from that and plan ahead while London and Middlesex are still growing. We should be thinking about what the region will look like 20–30 years from now, not just addressing the traffic problems we have today. And on a smaller scale, I also think Dorchester could use brighter street lighting.
42	I have been waiting for a number of years for a dangerous tree to be removed from the road allowance in front of my house. I see many trees in the community that need to be removed or pruned. Better management of this resource is critical.
46	I think the municipality should focus on its core responsibilities—community and road safety, infrastructure, and the maintenance of municipal services. I believe taxpayers should receive the essential services that a municipality is responsible for providing, rather than expecting the municipality to provide additional services based on what individual residents feel they personally deserve. Municipal resources are limited, and decisions should be based on what provides the greatest benefit to the community as a whole, rather than trying to accommodate every individual request or expectation. This would allow the municipality to focus its time, resources, and tax dollars on maintaining safe roads, reliable infrastructure, and the essential services that residents depend on.
49	I would like to see a crosswalk where the library and medical centre are. The one north of Ilderton Rd. serves no purpose at all!
55	In consideration of choosing which roads to pave. I would like to mention that in the old "Lobo township" territory there is very few paved roads in comparison to other parts of the township.
57	Increase traffic lights and roundabouts on Glendon for road safety. Reduce speeds throughout Glendon. Making a left off of Kilworth Park and Tunks is unsafe. Repair old River Road to allow through traffic OR make it a private road that is privately maintained by owners along the road. It's frustrating to not be able to use a road for years that's public and paid for by my taxpayers but only accessible to those who live there. Just make it private then.
58	Instead of pushing walking trails maintain the roads. Gravel roads are 150 year old technology.
65	LESS ON LUXURIES AND MORE ON NEEDS ROAD MAINTENANCE CAN YOU JUSTIFY SERVICES TO OTHER MUNICIPALITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS ABOVE OUR TRUE NEEDS
67	Lights at Springfield Way and Wellness Centre both on Glendon!
68	Lights at Springfield Way and Wellness Centre on Glendon
74	More follow up on projects that have already been completed! An example the recent paving of the asphalt around the soccer pitches. Yesterday I counted at least ten areas that the weeds are pushing through the pavement, someone could easily trip and fall. This could become an issue for our community if someone might think to sue for injuries should that happen!! I think it is the responsibility of the company that did the work to fix the issues. Is that ever followed up with the maintenance crew for our community? Another example is the trees that were planted along Queen and Springer a couple of years ago. At least 90% of them are dead because they were never watered during their period of early growth.

Response ID	Comment as written
78	My children cannot safely walk to school which should be 15 minutes without going out of the way an additional 15 minutes to walk on sidewalks. Please consider children's safety and add walking options along Young street in Delaware on the hill. Water activities in Delaware would be nice too. Summers are increasingly hotter and we have nothing local to stay cool for kids. Thank you
87	Our gravel roads need better gravel
89	Pave the roads!
90	Paving gravel roads is a high priority to me
93	personal budgets are maxed out, and the municipality needs to tighten the belt and continue only necessary expenses(police, fire, roads, current recreation) and postpone the want to have expenses like walking/bike trails, sidewalks(unless the road needs updating)
102	Property taxes increase with no benefits. Maintain roads that we have. Stop taking cash in lieu of parkland. Stop supporting developers we don't need provincial money.
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Polices are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?

Response ID	Comment as written
108	Roads and pedestrian safety needs to be a priority. The safety of our children crossing major roads (ie Komoka Rd) needs to be addressed with a proper lit crosswalk to attend school
111	Safety in Delaware is lacking for children returning from school. It has never been addressed for biking or walking from Delaware Central or Our Lady of Lourdes.
114	Slow development until such time that traffic measure and road infrastructure catches up with a ridiculous growth rate. Protect current green space.
116	Speed limits in town to be 40 in all places rather than 50.
125	Thank you for this survey. This town is a beautiful place and outdoor oasis by the river. We love living here in Delaware with all the hills for walking and the parks for our (now) Grandkids can have activities. Except it is not safe for them to cross Longwoods.
130	The municipality should be prioritizing tax dollars on roads/infrastructure/services such as fire etc rather than frivolous spending on trails/pickleball/tennis courts etc. Also, quit awarding contracts to those contractors who repeatedly go overbudget and overtime!
132	The water rate is crazy. Put in more roundabouts on Glendon. Traffic control at Tunks and Glendon
135	There was a lot of money wasted on the Glendon Drive round-about. The coloured concrete was a prime example of waste.
137	Too many staff in the fancy new office. Council needs to focus on delivering service. If there were less staff in the office more staff could be hired to look after the roads and perform maintenance. Use AI and technology to replace office staff and improve customer service and experience.
139	Treat us all fairly. we pay for others to live on nice roads but its not safe For us to walk on our own road (melrose) due to no speed limit. We cant take a walk because drivers blast down our road 140km/hr and its unpaced
145	We do not need more bike paths that long term will be a strain on rate payers. We can't even maintain our gravel roads properly.
146	We feel that agricultural lands carry an unfair portion of the municipality's tax base considering the services they are getting. Since the population of Middlesex Centre has exploded in recent years, resulting in increased traffic, we think some of the intersections where there have been multiple accidents including fatal accidents, should have flashing lights installed around the stop signs at these intersections. Ex. Adelaide and Ilderton Rd. and Vanneck and Ilderton Rd. The Denfield Road should be paved all the way through to Medway Road. This may alleviate traffic on the other North-South roads like Hyde Park and Wonderland, which have seen greatly increased volumes of traffic in recent years.
153	Would like to see more consideration for rural parts of the municipality. Rather than adding walking paths and new pickleball courts and sidewalks etc. to the towns, while much of the rural roads are still dirt like they were 200 years ago. Many other municipalities in southwestern Ontario have at least tar and chipped many if not all roads in there region.
156	Yardwaste pickup, traffic controls (more lights and more police monitoring side roads)

Theme: Rural equity & community fairness

Response ID	Comment as written
43	I have lived in Ilderton almost 30 years and feel our services have decreased all around. Very tired of all the amenities being added in Komoka, very little value here for us...we have to drive there to participate in many programs. We can't even walk up our own sidewalk side by side without bushes overgrowing. Why would I want to pay more for another community to get more? Same township maybe, but communities are significantly apart.

Response ID	Comment as written
45	I think it's important to consider what services and amenities are available to each community in Middlesex. The taxes and fees should be charged accordingly. If one community has services but another doesn't, the fees should only apply to those WITH the services. Its our choice to live in specific areas. If I wanted/needed more, I can choose to move to an area offering those services. If I stay where I am, I should not have to pay for things I not have access to. The water bills for communities outside Ilderton, Komoka/Kilworth, Delaware is completely unfair.
46	I think the municipality should focus on its core responsibilities—community and road safety, infrastructure, and the maintenance of municipal services. I believe taxpayers should receive the essential services that a municipality is responsible for providing, rather than expecting the municipality to provide additional services based on what individual residents feel they personally deserve. Municipal resources are limited, and decisions should be based on what provides the greatest benefit to the community as a whole, rather than trying to accommodate every individual request or expectation. This would allow the municipality to focus its time, resources, and tax dollars on maintaining safe roads, reliable infrastructure, and the essential services that residents depend on.
55	In consideration of choosing which roads to pave. I would like to mention that in the old "Lobo township" territory there is very few paved roads in comparison to other parts of the township.
94	Planning development in settlement areas only. Luring businesses to our township by changing zoning in agricultural areas to suit their needs should not be used as a way to increase the tax base. Study the need for township trucks to be driving around 7 days a week with no apparent destination.
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No attitional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Polices are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used.

Response ID	Comment as written
	Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
109	rural residents do not benefit from sidewalks, paths through the villages- but they are part of our taxes- perhaps different levy for those living in those areas if they feel they need them
110	Rural taxpayers are often forgotten about and ignored. We benefit from very few services for our high tax dollars. Rural lands have turned into lucrative lands for industrial and commercial activities with no enforcement.
129	The importance of outdoor activity for residents in urban areas needs to be emphasized. It is a public health issue. The proposed extension of the Ilderton rail trail needs to go ahead. Farmers should be invited to the table to determine where their access points need to be. There is an access point on the Ilderton rail trail north to 12 mile for the farmer who owns land on both sides of the trail. It works. Compromise works. The trail does not need to be paved as is the case with the north part of the Ilderton trail. Komoka has its swanky recreation centre but the residents who live in the north part of Middlesex Centre are not getting much in the way of recreational amenities. We are not all hockey players, curlers or in need of chair yoga classes. Please build the trail extensions.
134	There needs to be installation of fiber internet lines on Harris Road (Delaware) between Carriage Rd and Martin Rd. Currently, there is only satellite internet available. Residents on Martin Road and further along on Harris Rd (from Martin Rd to Victoria St) have access to fiber internet. All residents, including long-term residents in this area should equally be able to access fiber internet, not just the new residents in newly constructed homes. Thank you.
139	Treat us all fairly. we pay for others to live on nice roads but its not safe For us to walk on our own road (melrose) due to no speed limit. We cant take a walk because drivers blast down our road 140km/hr and its unpaced
146	We feel that agricultural lands carry an unfair portion of the municipality's tax base considering the services they are getting. Since the population of Middlesex Centre has exploded in recent years, resulting in increased traffic, we think some of the intersections where there have been multiple accidents including fatal accidents, should have flashing lights installed around the stop signs at these intersections. Ex. Adelaide and Ilderton Rd. and Vanneck and Ilderton Rd. The Denfield Road should be paved all the way through to Medway Road. This may alleviate traffic on the other North-South roads like Hyde Park and Wonderland, which have seen greatly increased volumes of traffic in recent years.
150	Why are my taxes in Coldstream so much higher than Poplar Hill?
153	Would like to see more consideration for rural parts of the municipality. Rather than adding walking paths and new pickleball courts and sidewalks etc. to the towns, while much of the rural roads are still dirt like they were 200 years ago. Many other municipalities in southwestern Ontario have at least tar and chipped many if not all roads in there region.

Theme: Staffing, administration & efficiency

Response ID	Comment as written
6	A way to cut some costs, tender out the lawn cutting

Response ID	Comment as written
16	Councillors should continue to prioritize core services like roads and water as these are the services people rely on and use everyday. Staffing levels at the municipal office should be frozen or reduced to focus on what people need.
19	Cut back on administration and office staff add frontline workers to deliver improved services. The new office does not need to be filled with office staff.
26	Ever since the new office has been built there has been a glut of new administrative staff added. Reduce administrative staff focus on delivering front line service (roads, water, parks). We do not need fancy, we need functional.
33	Gravel roads don't need to be paved, stop cheaping out on the gravel composition used on the roads, it's barely gravel, more like mud, which is part of why they're in such bad conditions all the time. Stop spending money on useless things like walking trails to London, no one needs it. Pay your winter maintenance staff to work 'normal' winter hours instead of a set shift like they appear to now. Spend money on training roadworks employees on how to properly do their jobs.
37	I am happy about new staff at the arena. people are nice ... and helpful
66	less staff standing around in parks and at facilities
70	Maintaining quality of life services is essential. Green bin and similar programs that appease the "woke" members of our community (who belong back in the big city) are a complete waste of time and money. I have serious doubts about the overall effectiveness of much of the MCX workforce. In my contact with many employees it appears that they are poorly motivated and expectations for their performance are virtually non-existent. It seems like some employees are in a contest to see who can perform the least amount of work possible. It may be worth investing in some actual workforce enhancement coaching or more legal expertise to assist in removing some of the poorly performing employees.
77	Must find efficiency in maintaining services , allow more volunteer positions to reduce staff overhead, Engage public in shared efforts
94	Planning development in settlement areas only. Luring businesses to our township by changing zoning in agricultural areas to suit their needs should not be used as a way to increase the tax base. Study the need for township trucks to be driving around 7 days a week with no apparent destination.
98	Please reduce spending! Staff, unneeded infrastructure such as elaborate fireballs and township offices are not needed. Be frugal and start acting like the money your spending is your own.
128	The budget should focus on providing frontline service, roads, water, parks, etc.. not spent on administration or the office. People want to see and use well maintained infrastructure.
131	The municipality wastes a lot of money and can't seem to plan things very well. Too much overhead from excess staffing results in uncontrolled tax increases. We currently pay significantly more property taxes than the following municipalities for the same assessed values: Perth South - 37% less, Thames Centre - 31% less, Lucan-Biddulph - 30% less, North Middlesex - 27% less, Adelaide-Metcalf - 25% less. We are getting minimal return for this excessive taxation.
133	There appears to be extreme financial mismanagement here. FTE should be cut back and more respect for taxpayers. People are struggling and the less government waste the better. Not only should you strive to not increase taxes, you should be thinking of ways to reduce your burden on the taxpayers. Less vanity projects like a new head office which is not necessary. Also who is accountable or taking on the OPP? We need someone with a backbone to stand up to OPP. Requests for additional funding. I am personally available and would work for free to come in and consult about how to cut waste and run things more like a business, please contact [email removed]... last note, there should be no pay increase for council if there is any tax increase on citizens.

Response ID	Comment as written
137	Too many staff in the fancy new office. Council needs to focus on delivering service. If there were less staff in the office more staff could be hired to look after the roads and perform maintenance. Use AI and technology to replace office staff and improve customer service and experinece.
138	Too many staff in the office need more boots on the ground actually engaged in delivering service shouldn't have to wait 6 months to have a tree trimmed.
149	We need to control costs in all departments. The building department is very bloated compared to neighbouring municipalities and is the costs are far too high. They need to be investigated and brought in line with neighbouring municipalities RESPONSE: This comment is factually incorrect related to the building department. Middlesex Centre offers building permit services to local residents and businesses, and to residents and businesses in Adelaide Metcalfe, Lucan Biddulph, Newbury, North Middlesex and Southwest Middlesex through shared service agreements that recoup costs. This sharing of services along with our early adoption of online building permitting resulted in efficiencies that were recognized with a provincial innovation award in 2023 (Association of Municipalities of Ontario, P.J. Marshall Innovation Award). It should be noted that the building department is self-funded through building permit fees.

Theme: Taxes, affordability & spending

Response ID	Comment as written
2	- review of reserves -infrastructure work supporting higher density growth
5	A slow down in development residential/commercial as the county does not provide efficient services for what we already have and I do not support raising taxes to fund additional development.
9	Appalled at the budget increase last year as very few individuals receive that kind of rise in their wages. Also you need to look at how the accumulation of increases year over year not just in one year. Driving interested individuals away from the community with the taxes and water bills
11	Consider a 10% cut across all budgets of all departments
13	Consideration needs to be given to the tax increases. Residents are struggling and are also experiencing inflation increases to their hydro, gas, and groceries, it would be nice to see the municipality be responsible and reduce tax increases to ensure minimal impact to residents.
15	Cost of living is getting too high. Anything that would increase it is - now is not the time to do it
21	Decrease in taxes paid to you because you don't give value for the dollar spent
38	I am not a fan of the suggestion in surveys like this that all the changes the municipality would want to do should be funded by taxpayer dollars. Before supporting cost initiatives it would be very helpful to see the efficiency of spending first. It is much easier to support things if there is transparency in spending and a feeling that our tax investments are maximized.

Response ID	Comment as written
39	I appreciate the services Middlesex Centre provides, but I believe affordability needs to be a much bigger priority in the 2027 budget. Residents are dealing with increasing property taxes at the same time as significant increases in water, wastewater and other household costs. Before increasing taxes or introducing new fees, I would like Council to look harder at operating efficiencies, new staffing, reserve contributions and whether non-critical capital projects can be delayed. Core services such as roads, fire and emergency services and existing infrastructure should come first. I am particularly concerned about the cost of water and wastewater in Ilderton. I understand these systems are rate-funded, but the fixed charges and continued increases are becoming difficult to justify. I would like to see a detailed review of these costs, including reserve contributions, capital plans and whether growth-related infrastructure is being funded as much as possible through development charges, developer contributions and government grants rather than existing residents. Growth is important, but existing residents should not continually be asked to absorb higher costs because the municipality is growing. Before adding new programs and services, please focus on affordability, maintaining what we already have and getting the best possible value from the money residents are already paying.
45	I think it's important to consider what services and amenities are available to each community in Middlesex. The taxes and fees should be charged accordingly. If one community has services but another doesn't, the fees should only apply to those WITH the services. Its our choice to live in specific areas. If I wanted/needed more, I can choose to move to an area offering those services. If I stay where I am, I should not have to pay for things I not have access to. The water bills for communities outside Ilderton, Komoka/Kilworth, Delaware is completely unfair.
46	I think the municipality should focus on its core responsibilities—community and road safety, infrastructure, and the maintenance of municipal services. I believe taxpayers should receive the essential services that a municipality is responsible for providing, rather than expecting the municipality to provide additional services based on what individual residents feel they personally deserve. Municipal resources are limited, and decisions should be based on what provides the greatest benefit to the community as a whole, rather than trying to accommodate every individual request or expectation. This would allow the municipality to focus its time, resources, and tax dollars on maintaining safe roads, reliable infrastructure, and the essential services that residents depend on.
47	I think there must be a significant focus on cost maintaining/reduction. The last 2 years of increases have been too high - 3.7% in 2025 and 4.4% in 2006. I think the increase should be kept at 2% or less.
52	I would not want to be part of a budget discussion. I feel like no one will ever be pleased no matter what you do. All the best to you, spend wisely!
57	Increase traffic lights and roundabouts on Glendon for road safety. Reduce speeds throughout Glendon. Making a left off of kilworth park and Tunks is unsafe. Repair old River road to allow through traffic OR make it a private road that is privately maintained by owners along the road. It's frustrating to not be able to use a road for years that's public and paid for my taxpayers but only accessible to those who live there. Just make it private then.
62	Keep taxes low.
63	Keep the tax increase at the minimum or not at all. Keep applying for grants to help the people and promote it. Add more businesses to our municipality in order to diversify our tax base.
65	LESS ON LUXURIES AND MORE ON NEEDS ROAD MAINTENANCE CAN YOU JUSTIFY SERVICES TO OTHER MUNICIPALITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS ABOVE OUR TRUE NEEDS
69	Lower property taxes for Timberwalk and Clear Skies as at these taxation rates due to high priced (overpriced homes) it is cheaper to move back to London. So far, more car breaks in 4 years in Ilderton than 50years in London. Small town life has been nothing but expensive and a disappointment. Looking to leave, as our many of my neighbours. You'll have even more empty developments.

Response ID	Comment as written
81	New initiatives that attract businesses create employment opportunities and better income source for the city. We already pay one of the highest in terms of property tax and water bills compared to London area
84	NO to increased services, unless they are a total user pay system. ie - NO free dog park
86	Our county is fantastic! We don't need to find ways to spend money on non essential projects when we have high water and tax rates
93	personal budgets are maxed out, and the municipality needs to tighten the belt and continue only necessary expenses(police, fire, roads, current recreation) and postpone the want to have expenses like walking/bike trails, sidewalks(unless the road needs updating)
97	Please consider the devastating increased cost of living in today's society and just as families have to cut their living expenses to eat , please do not raise property taxes and water bills in the next budget.
98	Please reduce spending! Staff, unneeded infrastructure such as elaborate fireballs and township offices are not needed. Be frugal and start acting like the money your spending is your own.
100	Private sector and self employed individuals are not getting COLA increases, This practice needs to be kept in check at all levels of government. Increases need to be on merit not just for showing up.
101	Property tax is increasing every year. As a senior I find it very difficult to make ends meet. To me the best option is either to reduce the tax for everyone or at least the seniors.
102	Property taxes increase with no benefits. Maintain roads that we have. Stop taking cash in lieu of parkland. Stop supporting developers we don't need provincial money.
103	Property taxes should be frozen for years or reduced. Property taxes and the resultant services have become a poor value proposition over the years.

Response ID	Comment as written
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Polices are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically in 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
117	Spend less
118	Start decreasing taxes. It's utterly insane that in a cost of living crisis there is even the thought of increasing taxes for anything. Start helping out the average person and decrease taxes and don't spend our money on stupid stuff. Do the bare minimum a municipality should do.
123	Tax rates are out of control with little increase in local services. Is there ever a cut to benefits and pensions or wage freezes at the Municipality like private business need to implement when money is tight?
130	The municipality should be prioritizing tax dollars on roads/infrastructure/services such as fire etc rather than frivolous spending on trails/pickleball/tennis courts etc. Also, quit awarding contracts to those contractors who repeatedly go overbudget and overtime!

Response ID	Comment as written
131	The municipality wastes a lot of money and can't seem to plan things very well. Too much overhead from excess staffing results in uncontrolled tax increases. We currently pay significantly more property taxes than the following municipalities for the same assessed values: Perth South - 37% less, Thames Centre - 31% less, Lucan-Biddulph - 30% less, North Middlesex - 27% less, Adelaide-Metcalf - 25% less. We are getting minimal return for this excessive taxation.
133	There appears to be extreme financial mismanagement here. FTE should be cut back and more respect for taxpayers. People are struggling and the less government waste the better. Not only should you strive to not increase taxes, you should be thinking of ways to reduce your burden on the taxpayers. Less vanity projects like a new head office which is not necessary. Also who is accountable or taking on the OPP? We need someone with a backbone to stand up to OPP. Requests for additional funding. I am personally available and would work for free to come in and consult about how to cut waste and run things more like a business, please contact [email removed]... last note, there should be no pay increase for council if there is any tax increase on citizens.
140	Use common sense, if you personally wouldn't spend the money, why do you expect taxpayers to fund your grandiose plans
148	We need more trails, we live here to have more nature outside of the city and that is lacking. Also assume the Kilworth heights subdivision, we have been paying taxes for 4 years but are still unassumed and don't get the same services.
151	With so many people struggling financially, it's difficult to see municipal governments purchasing expensive new vehicles and constructing impressive new facilities for staff, all funded by taxpayers. Public spending should reflect the financial realities of the communities it serves. When budgets are tight, these types of expenses should be the first to be reviewed and reduced—not the essential services that residents rely on every day. In many other developed countries, there is a greater balance between public sector spending and the financial circumstances of the people paying for it. Taxpayers deserve to see their money directed first toward delivering high-quality services, rather than unnecessary upgrades or luxuries. You continue to increase development and population in our areas but recreation facilities are so terrible in comparison to anywhere. The Komoka ymca ice for instance is now generally catered to elite groups and programs, not accessible to its local community - which is the y foundational belief. Who let this happen? The local league Delko soccer community play on fields that are old, uneven and too long of grass for the game of soccer. Pickleball/tennis facility are old, and flood. Dog parks are not accessible to general population. For instance, Weldon park is not central location, have to pay, walk leashed dog to an unfenced area which is next to unfenced play areas. Let's promote happy healthy and fair balanced communities.

Theme: Trails, sidewalks & active transportation

Response ID	Comment as written
17	Critical infrastructure should be the primary focus for expenditures when budgets are limited. Roads (both maintenance and conversion of gravel to paved in areas where gravel roads carry a lot or an increasing amount of traffic due to increased housing, requiring frequent maintenance because of this), waste management, improved water services and improved fire/emergency services are more important than sidewalks, bike lanes and trails that are used by a few rather than the majority

Response ID	Comment as written
22	Delaware should have a splash pad. It's one of the only areas without one and with increasing hot weather, it would be a great addition. Young St going up the hill in Delaware really needs a sidewalk. It's not safe to walk up the hill without it. The Delaware library is not stroller / wheelchair accessible. Could a ramp be added at the door? Would be good to know who to contact in case of animal control concerns such as a rabid raccoon. Doesn't seem like anyone exists in this role or there's any help for this. Really like our existing garbage and recycling collection schedule. Think the municipality does a good job of snow removal too.
27	Extending the rail trail to London is of particular interest to me.
31	For my household living on Denfield rd, we would like to see a continuation of paved shoulders in residential areas and a greater presence of law enforcement controlling speed, and if possible a reduction in heavy truck traffic. We live in the 60kph zone leaving denfield (south) and would love to see that 50 zone extended. The 23 homes/families that live in that 500m stretch would really appreciate it.
32	Gravel roads are 18th century technology. Get on with paving and quit worrying about walking trails. London township had a plan and was paving gravel roads before we became Middlesex centre
33	Gravel roads don't need to be paved, stop cheaping out on the gravel composition used on the roads, it's barely gravel, more like mud, which is part of why they're in such bad conditions all the time. Stop spending money on useless things like walking trails to London, no one needs it. Pay your winter maintenance staff to work 'normal' winter hours instead of a set shift like they appear to now. Spend money on training roadworks employees on how to properly do their jobs.
41	I do not want my tax\$ used to fund a trail to London. We have parks and sidewalks which are well used. do not need to appease the very few that MIGHT use it.
43	I have lived in Ilderton almost 30 years and feel our services have decreased all around. Very tired of all the amenities being added in Komoka, very little value here for us...we have to drive there to participate in many programs. We can't even walk up our own sidewalk side by side without bushes overgrowing. Why would I want to pay more for another community to get more? Same township maybe, but communities are significantly apart.
56	In the previous question, decreasing water rates would be good and also more trails in and around town. The one in ilderton is highly used.
58	Instead of pushing walking trails maintain the roads. Gravel roads are 150 year old technology.
61	It would be wonderful one day to have a walking path around Poplar Hill Park that would be kept clear of ice and snow in the winter. This would be very helpful to aging residents as it would provide a safe place to walk during the winter months.
75	More library services or programs would be beneficial. Safer active transportation should be implemented. More pickleball options.
78	My children cannot safely walk to school which should be 15 minutes without going out of the way an additional 15 minutes to walk on sidewalks. Please consider children's safety and add walking options along Young street in Delaware on the hill. Water activities in Delaware would be nice too. Summers are increasingly hotter and we have nothing local to stay cool for kids. Thank you
82	No new sidewalks on areas already developed
83	No sidewalks on Mill Street, no trail connection to London!
91	Paying money for trails we do not need is not desired. Instead use that money to reduce our outrageous water development fees.
93	personal budgets are maxed out, and the municipality needs to tighten the belt and continue only necessary expenses(police, fire, roads, current recreation) and postpone the want to have expenses like walking/bike trails, sidewalks(unless the road needs updating)

Response ID	Comment as written
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Polices are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
109	rural residents do not benefit from sidewalks, paths through the villages- but they are part of our taxes- perhaps different levy for those living in those areas if they feel they need them
112	Sideways done Ilderton rd so kids can walk to school
120	Stop trying to place sidewalks on Mill street in Ilderton Ontario, going back to pre 1990 when they extended the subdivision on Mill street they remove 1 1/5 feet of each property to make the road wider to eliminate sidewalks. I was in favour of this when we moved in.

Response ID	Comment as written
129	The importance of outdoor activity for residents in urban areas needs to be emphasized. It is a public health issue. The proposed extension of the Ilderton rail trail needs to go ahead. Farmers should be invited to the table to determine where their access points need to be. There is an access point on the Ilderton rail trail north to 12 mile for the farmer who owns land on both sides of the trail. It works. Compromise works. The trail does not need to be paved as is the case with the north part of the Ilderton trail. Komoka has its swanky recreation centre but the residents who live in the north part of Middlesex Centre are not getting much in the way of recreational amenities. We are not all hockey players, curlers or in need of chair yoga classes. Please build the trail extensions.
130	The municipality should be prioritizing tax dollars on roads/infrastructure/services such as fire etc rather than frivolous spending on trails/pickleball/tennis courts etc. Also, quit awarding contracts to those contractors who repeatedly go overbudget and overtime!
145	We do not need more bike paths that long term will be a strain on rate payers. We can't even maintain our gravel roads properly.
147	we have lots of sidewalks for walkers dont need a "rail trail"
148	We need more trails, we live here to have more nature outside of the city and that is lacking. Also assume the Kilworth heights subdivision, we have been paying taxes for 4 years but are still unassumed and don't get the same services.
153	Would like to see more consideration for rural parts of the municipality. Rather than adding walking paths and new pickleball courts and sidewalks etc. to the towns, while much of the rural roads are still dirt like they were 200 years ago. Many other municipalities in southwestern Ontario have at least tar and chipped many if not all roads in there region.

Theme: Utilities, internet & other infrastructure

Response ID	Comment as written
2	- review of reserves -infrastructure work supporting higher density growth
17	Critical infrastructure should be the primary focus for expenditures when budgets are limited. Roads (both maintenance and conversion of gravel to paved in areas where gravel roads carry a lot or an increasing amount of traffic due to increased housing, requiring frequent maintenance because of this), waste management, improved water services and improved fire/emergency services are more important than sidewalks, bike lanes and trails that are used by a few rather than the majority
46	I think the municipality should focus on its core responsibilities—community and road safety, infrastructure, and the maintenance of municipal services. I believe taxpayers should receive the essential services that a municipality is responsible for providing, rather than expecting the municipality to provide additional services based on what individual residents feel they personally deserve. Municipal resources are limited, and decisions should be based on what provides the greatest benefit to the community as a whole, rather than trying to accommodate every individual request or expectation. This would allow the municipality to focus its time, resources, and tax dollars on maintaining safe roads, reliable infrastructure, and the essential services that residents depend on.
54	Ilderton's power grid is sub par and needs to be upgraded. Too many outages!

Response ID	Comment as written
105	Question relating to trails, is not supported as this should be developed with new growth by a developer and not a cost to existing tax base or stick to the requirement of conservation areas and authorities. Question relating to gaps in sidewalk. This should be a cost of a developer or development charges not a cost of existing tax base. These gaps were created by poor staffing decisions. Question relating to gravel roads being paved. No! Your creating short cuts and quicker roads within an area that is already struggling with speed and lack of policing. More hard surface creates more runoff and more need for storm sewers or municipal drains. Roads should stay status quo. More paving creates higher speeds and more commuters to London. At one time MC was trying to be greener and the increased paved roads would promote more cars and traffic. Question relating to bike lanes. No additional funds should be spend on roads until existing infrastructure is handled and upgraded to meet the needs of growth. Fast growth has created smaller roads being used for heavy traffic and they are deteriorating too quick. The municipality is focusing too heavily on growth areas and not enough on existing areas. Newly re-paved streets in Komoka have standing water and ponding, including no storm sewers. Residents are paying for storm sewers and a reserve for storm replacement and upgrades with no plans for services to be added. There is a very large lack of development policies within MC and it is highly visible. Numerous developments have happened with traffic impact studies and all new developments have scared away the existing wildlife that use to existing around the Thames River. Polices are needed to control the hard surfacing that is increasing the local water levels and temperatures as well as lighting the night sky. Having developments that are dark sky compliant is simple and an easy solution to help migrant birds. The budget needs to be controlled to ensure proper use of funds. MC spending has increased drastically is 10 years and no increase to service level has increased to majority of residents. We have reduced access to wellness centre. Our facilities are being used by more outside residents then local residents. Players and users outside of the municipality should be paying higher rates. There is no economical benefit for a person from London to use our facilities as they will not spend any funds in the community. They can commute back home and MC does not benefit. Reduce the out of municipality users to keep costs to local tax base lower. High number of employees. MC has continued to increase staff numbers but no increase to service level for the community. Each position should be justified towards the benefit of the community. Coordination with the County towards traffic and construction needs to happen. When county does work and road closures, smaller municipal roads should not be used. Force traffic to stay on the higher volume roads. Install and work towards more traffic calming measures. Large commercial uses of residential streets is not proper. 15 years ago MC wanted to create Glendon to be a 'main street', instead making No Frills access off a residential street keeps Glendon as a highway with higher speeds. Public Works appears to have a high amount of excess equipment. It should be noted the cost different to owning and maintaining equipment to contracting equipment and services. Do we need large 53' live bottom gravel trucks? How often do they get used?
114	Slow development until such time that traffic measure and road infrastructure catches up with a ridiculous growth rate. Protect current green space.
130	The municipality should be prioritizing tax dollars on roads/infrastructure/services such as fire etc rather than frivolous spending on trails/pickleball/tennis courts etc. Also, quit awarding contracts to those contractors who repeatedly go overbudget and overtime!
134	There needs to be installation of fiber internet lines on Harris Road (Delaware) between Carriage Rd and Martin Rd. Currently, there is only satellite internet available. Residents on Martin Road and further along on Harris Rd (from Martin Rd to Victoria St) have access to fiber internet. All residents, including long-term residents in this area should equally be able to access fiber internet, not just the new residents in newly constructed homes. Thank you.

Theme: Waste collection & organics

Response ID	Comment as written
17	Critical infrastructure should be the primary focus for expenditures when budgets are limited. Roads (both maintenance and conversion of gravel to paved in areas where gravel roads carry a lot or an increasing amount of traffic due to increased housing, requiring frequent maintenance because of this), waste management, improved water services and improved fire/emergency services are more important than sidewalks, bike lanes and trails that are used by a few rather than the majority
22	Delaware should have a splash pad. It's one of the only areas without one and with increasing hot weather, it would be a great addition. Young St going up the hill in Delaware really needs a sidewalk. It's not safe to walk up the hill without it. The Delaware library is not stroller / wheelchair accessible. Could a ramp be added at the door? Would be good to know who to contact in case of animal control concerns such as a rabid raccoon. Doesn't seem like anyone exists in this role or there's any help for this. Really like our existing garbage and recycling collection schedule. Think the municipality does a good job of snow removal too.
34	Green bin is fine for town people but farms compost already
36	Having yard waste pickup is more important than food bin pickup.
70	Maintaining quality of life services is essential. Green bin and similar programs that appease the "woke" members of our community (who belong back in the big city) are a complete waste of time and money. I have serious doubts about the overall effectiveness of much of the MCX workforce. In my contact with many employees it appears that they are poorly motivated and expectations for their performance are virtually non-existent. It seems like some employees are in a contest to see who can perform the least amount of work possible. It may be worth investing in some actual workforce enhancement coaching or more legal expertise to assist in removing some of the poorly performing employees.
106	Rather than a green bin program, which is very costly, I would rather see better education on composting
107	Reduce water costs! Way way way too expensive! Don't bother with a green bin program. Waste of money. London doesn't offer even proper sized existing recycling bins so they are not a leader in this. A fenced in off leash dog park in Ilderton is required! We have nothing and lots of space to accommodate this simple request. It's terrible no place to run our dog. Also we need lights for evening tennis and we need more courts too many people use them and never enough courts and lights would allow people to play longer into the evening. Solar Lights on the Ilderton railway path. Lots of money would've been saved this summer as you hardly had to cut lawns with all of the drought so I'm sure there's extra funding there to help Ilderton out.
152	Would like a composting initiative, however the reduced waste collection should take care of costs for organic collection. The same amount of waste /organic waste will be th same overall
156	Yardwaste pickup, traffic controls (more lights and more police monitoring side roads)

Theme: Water & wastewater rates/services

Response ID	Comment as written
9	Appalled at the budget increase last year as very few individuals receive that kind of rise in their wages. Also you need to look at how the accumulation of increases year over year not just in one year. Driving interested individuals away from the community with the taxes and water bills

Response ID	Comment as written
10	Clean up Kilworth Heights. ... OPP presence at the intersection of Crestview and Daventry—a four-way stop. So many speeders and people running the lights. Make the water bills more variable and adjust the bill at the end of the year. Kilworth Heights also needs to be addressed. No paths, awful street lamps. Any Sifton development in West 5 or London looks nice and well-planned.
17	Critical infrastructure should be the primary focus for expenditures when budgets are limited. Roads (both maintenance and conversion of gravel to paved in areas where gravel roads carry a lot or an increasing amount of traffic due to increased housing, requiring frequent maintenance because of this), waste management, improved water services and improved fire/emergency services are more important than sidewalks, bike lanes and trails that are used by a few rather than the majority
39	I appreciate the services Middlesex Centre provides, but I believe affordability needs to be a much bigger priority in the 2027 budget. Residents are dealing with increasing property taxes at the same time as significant increases in water, wastewater and other household costs. Before increasing taxes or introducing new fees, I would like Council to look harder at operating efficiencies, new staffing, reserve contributions and whether non-critical capital projects can be delayed. Core services such as roads, fire and emergency services and existing infrastructure should come first. I am particularly concerned about the cost of water and wastewater in Ilderton. I understand these systems are rate-funded, but the fixed charges and continued increases are becoming difficult to justify. I would like to see a detailed review of these costs, including reserve contributions, capital plans and whether growth-related infrastructure is being funded as much as possible through development charges, developer contributions and government grants rather than existing residents. Growth is important, but existing residents should not continually be asked to absorb higher costs because the municipality is growing. Before adding new programs and services, please focus on affordability, maintaining what we already have and getting the best possible value from the money residents are already paying.
45	I think it's important to consider what services and amenities are available to each community in Middlesex. The taxes and fees should be charged accordingly. If one community has services but another doesn't, the fees should only apply to those WITH the services. Its our choice to live in specific areas. If I wanted/needed more, I can choose to move to an area offering those services. If I stay where I am, I should not have to pay for things I not have access to. The water bills for communities outside Ilderton, Komoka/Kilworth, Delaware is completely unfair.
56	In the previous question, decreasing water rates would be good and also more trails in and around town. The one in Ilderton is highly used.
81	New initiatives that attract businesses create employment opportunities and better income source for the city. We already pay one of the highest in terms of property tax and water bills compared to London area
91	Paying money for trails we do not need is not desired. Instead use that money to reduce our outrageous water development fees.
97	Please consider the devastating increased cost of living in today's society and just as families have to cut their living expenses to eat , please do not raise property taxes and water bills in the next budget.
107	Reduce water costs! Way way way too expensive! Don't bother with a green bin program. Waste of money. London doesn't offer even proper sized existing recycling bins so they are not a leader in this. A fenced in off leash dog park in Ilderton is required! We have nothing and lots of space to accommodate this simple request. It's terrible no place to run our dog. Also we need lights for evening tennis and we need more courts too many people use them and never enough courts and lights would allow people to play longer into the evening. Solar Lights on the Ilderton railway path. Lots of money would've been saved this summer as you hardly had to cut lawns with all of the drought so I'm sure there's extra funding there to help Ilderton out.

Response ID	Comment as written
132	The water rate is crazy. Put in more roundabouts on Glendon. Traffic control at Tunks and Glendon
141	Water costs need to be addressed. Also eliminating more urban sprawl considering the rail lines I'm Komoka .
142	Water rates need to be reduced!
143	Water/wastewater rates are too high for the services received.
154	Would like to see the overall results of this survey. Also water rates often go up in the summer to water lawns and plants which does not increase waste water which we pay for. Would like to see summer rates reduced.