

RESOLUTION NO. 17192

AFFIRMING THE CITY OF AUSTIN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR'S VOLUNTARY 2025 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, benefits to the City of Austin for participation in the Minnesota Council on Local Results and Innovation's comprehensive performance measurement program are outlined in MS 6.91 and include eligibility for a reimbursement as set by state statute; and

WHEREAS, any city or county participating in the comprehensive performance measurement program is also exempt from levy limits for taxes, if levy limits are in effect; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Austin has adopted and implemented 10 of the performance measures, as developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation, and a system to use this information to help plan, budget, manage and evaluate programs and processes for optimal future outcomes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the City Council of the City of Austin, Minnesota will continue to report the results of the performance measures to its citizenry through the end of the year through posting on the city's website.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The City Council of the City of Austin, Minnesota will submit to the Office of the State Auditor the actual results of the performance measures adopted by the county/city.

Passed by a vote of yeas and nays this 5th day of May, 2025.

YEAS 6

NAYS 0

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



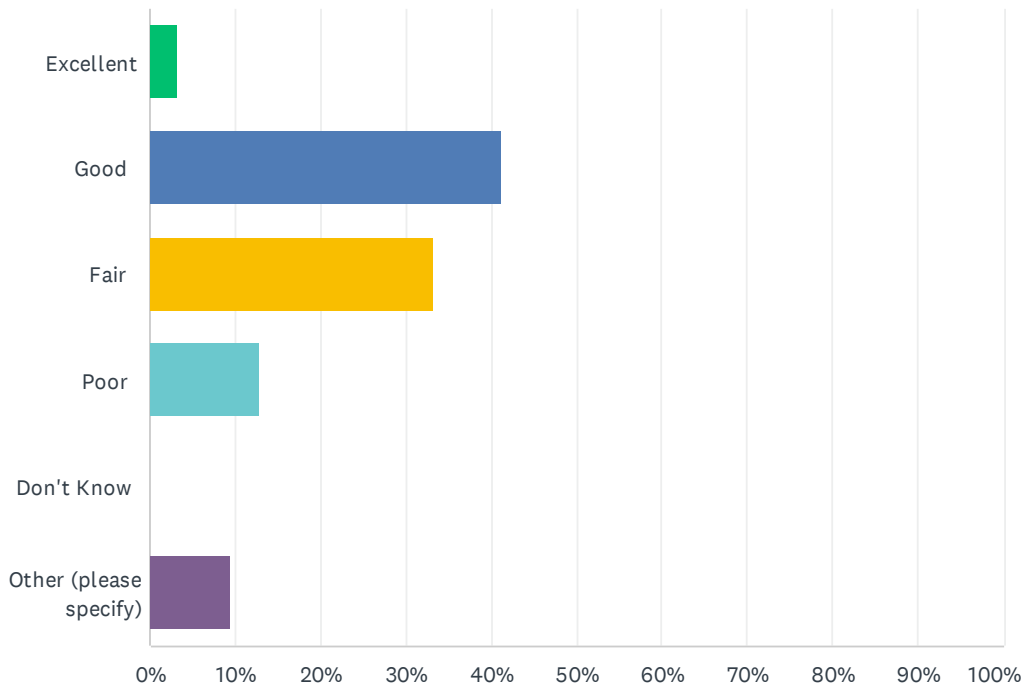
City Recorder



Mayor

Q1 How would you rate the overall appearance of the City?

Answered: 243 Skipped: 1

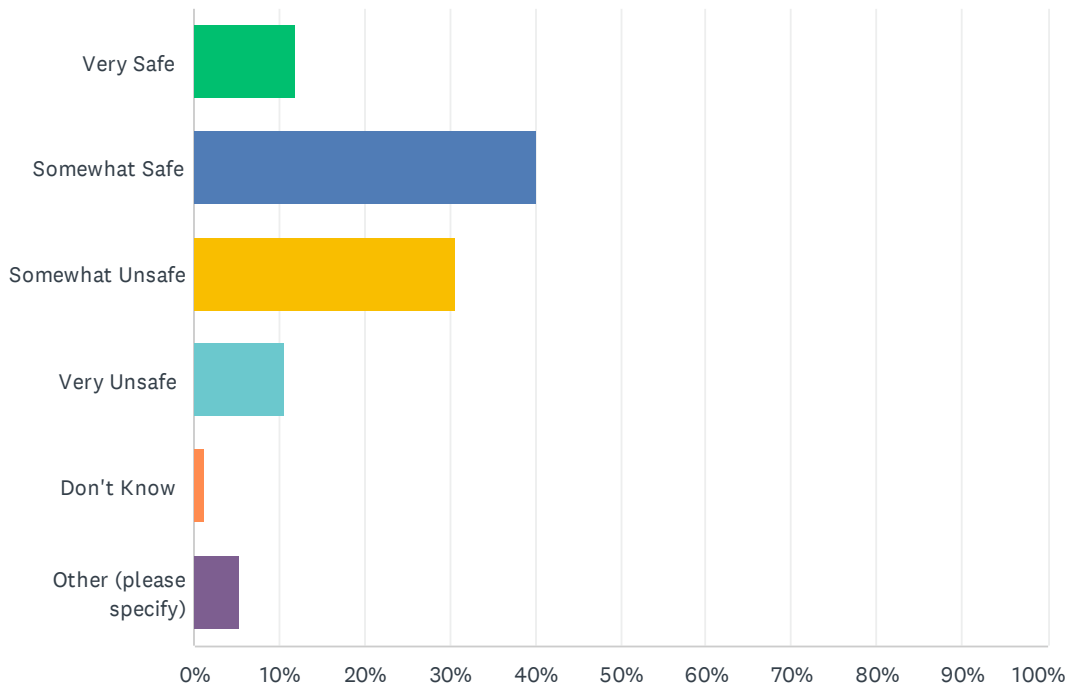


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	3.29%	8
Good	41.15%	100
Fair	33.33%	81
Poor	12.76%	31
Don't Know	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	9.47%	23
TOTAL		243

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	The City adopts a reactive approach to cleaning up properties. The Council and Administration have not presented any positive solutions to benefit the City. One positive solution is to have the cook farm open year-round or in the spring, allowing citizens to clean up their yards twice a year.	6/13/2025 9:59 AM
2	The removal of so many trees makes areas look uninviting. Hopefully new trees will be planted.	6/9/2025 8:45 PM
3	So many dead Ash trees	6/9/2025 7:38 PM
4	Graffiti is OUT OF CONTROL. Nothing seems to be even attempted to curb the graffiti, including on all the new utility boxes on boulevards.	6/9/2025 6:49 PM
5	So thankful people mow their yards and take care of trash.	6/9/2025 6:41 PM

Q2 How would you describe your overall feeling of safety in the City?

Answered: 244 Skipped: 0

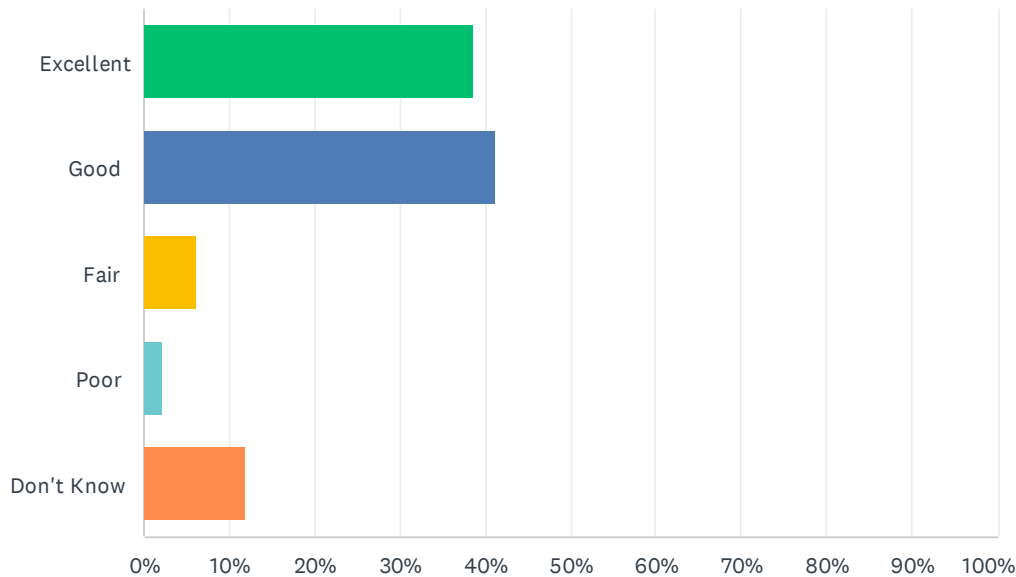


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very Safe	11.89%	29
Somewhat Safe	40.16%	98
Somewhat Unsafe	30.74%	75
Very Unsafe	10.66%	26
Don't Know	1.23%	3
Other (please specify)	5.33%	13
TOTAL		244

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Most murders in recent years have been in my NW neighborhood.	6/9/2025 6:49 PM
2	I feel safe in my neighborhood and at my place of employment. I do live in the northwest area near Wescott Field and there can be a bit of trouble around here however we have not had any issues at our home or businesses.	6/9/2025 6:31 PM
3	Very safe, but I mostly get to town for shopping. My daughter has not indicated that she feels unsafe at her home in town though.	6/9/2025 6:31 PM
4	Overall, I think the city is somewhat safe compared to Rochester or Minneapolis. However, I don't think women should walk or bike alone at night like they could have twenty years ago.	5/20/2025 7:48 PM
5	Lack of properly staffed full time Fire Dept	5/16/2025 1:10 PM

Q3 How would you rate the overall quality of fire protection services in the City?

Answered: 243 Skipped: 1

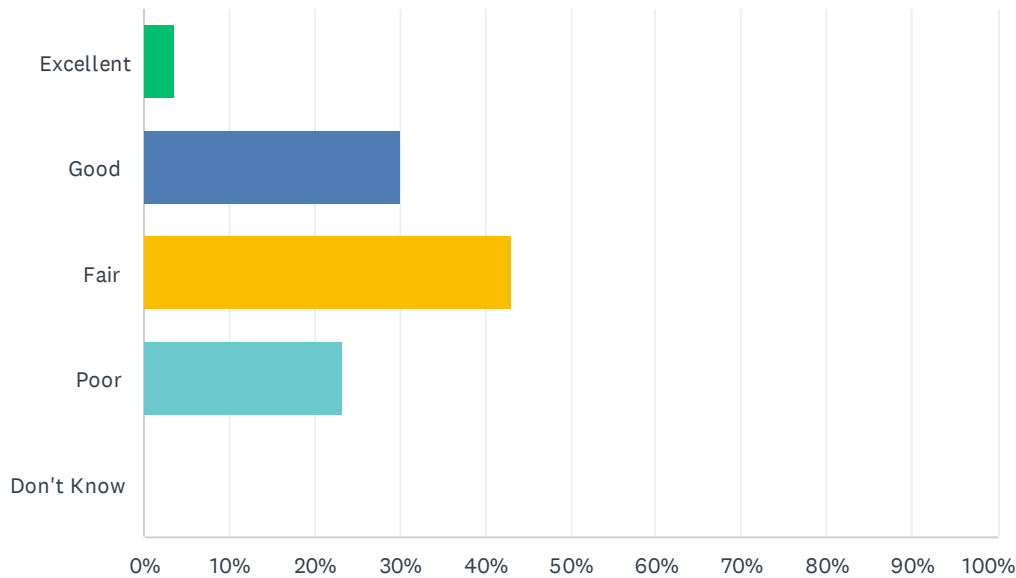


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	38.68%	94
Good	41.15%	100
Fair	6.17%	15
Poor	2.06%	5
Don't Know	11.93%	29
TOTAL		243

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We have never had to experience a fire however, we have appreciated all of the volunteer work that the fire department shows in our community.	6/9/2025 6:31 PM
2	Grossly understaffed Full time staff.	5/16/2025 1:10 PM
3	I haven't had enough run ins with thia to have an opinion.	5/15/2025 9:40 AM
4	I feel very safe with the protocols in place and the team behind them	5/14/2025 10:40 PM
5	More houses need to have smoke alarms.	5/14/2025 3:41 PM
6	I have thankfully never needed to use this service, so I don't know.	5/13/2025 2:22 PM
7	People burn leaves and trash without permits constantly, smoking up neighborhoods and making it hard to be outside. They often don't watch their fires either.	5/13/2025 7:02 AM
8	They do a lot but they need more people	5/12/2025 1:31 PM

Q4 How would you rate the overall condition of City streets?

Answered: 242 Skipped: 2

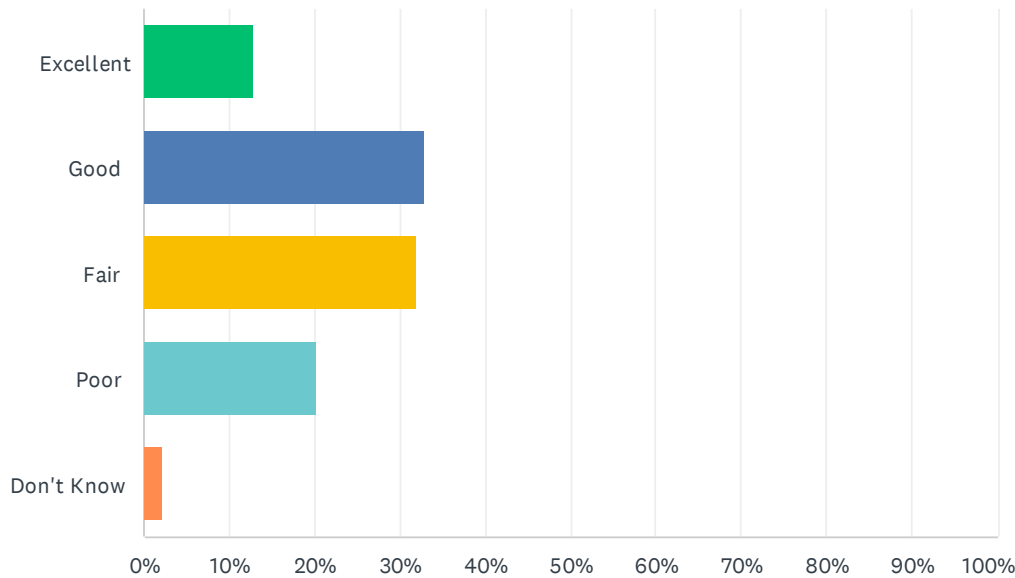


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	3.72%	9
Good	30.17%	73
Fair	42.98%	104
Poor	23.14%	56
Don't Know	0.00%	0
TOTAL		242

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	please fix the roads.	6/10/2025 10:37 PM
2	It's nice to see repairs being made	6/9/2025 8:45 PM
3	Have you been to Albert Lea? Their streets are horrible!	6/9/2025 6:41 PM
4	Ministries with potholes and low manhole covers as well as abandoned vehicles that do not get ticketed and auto towed	6/9/2025 6:31 PM
5	The main surface streets are good, especially since they have been repaired in the last few years. The side streets are not great, but at least I don't see a lot of potholes. Sidewalks are in poor condition, though.	5/20/2025 7:48 PM
6		5/13/2025 12:14 PM
7	Needs new management and crew. They wait until things are falling apart to do basic repair, have ZERO ability to think beyond what they have done for the past 100 years, pretend like	5/13/2025 8:41 AM

Q5 How would you rate the overall quality of snowplowing on City streets?

Answered: 241 Skipped: 3

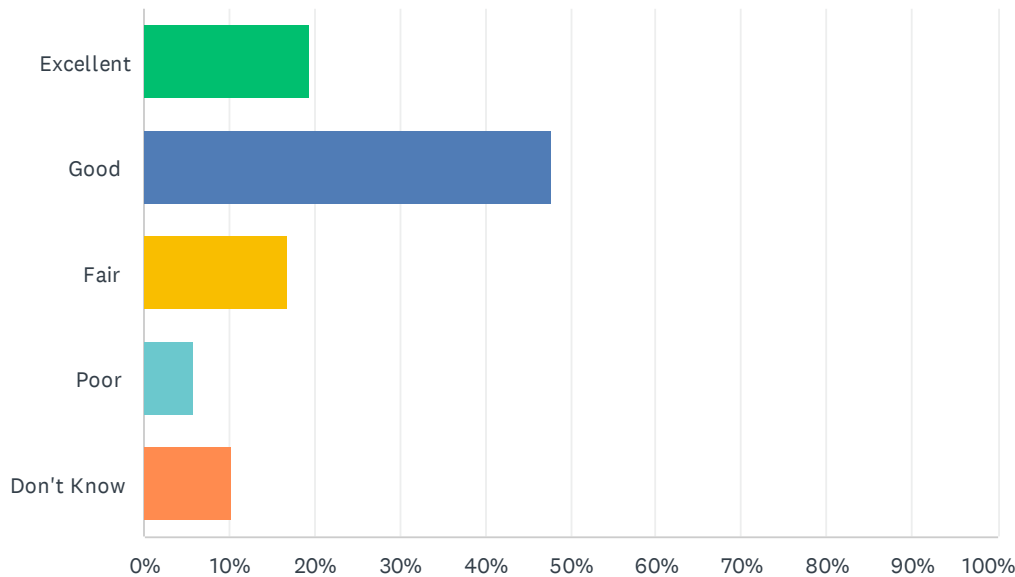


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	12.86%	31
Good	32.78%	79
Fair	31.95%	77
Poor	20.33%	49
Don't Know	2.07%	5
TOTAL		241

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	The street department could perform its tasks more efficiently if the City adopted an even-odd approach to parking. Many cities across Minnesota have implemented this strategy, which significantly reduces the time required for snow plowing, leads to cleaner streets, and helps minimize accidents. This is yet another positive measure that the Council and Administration could consider.	6/13/2025 9:59 AM
2	This is the worst city service. Other cities can plow down to the asphalt except for austin for some reason	6/12/2025 8:28 PM
3	Plow drivers usual are very timely and do a good job!	6/10/2025 8:23 PM
4	Enforcement of parking rules during a snow event would be helpful	6/10/2025 6:17 PM
5	They've just given up when it only snows an inch or two. Most intersections are slick with no salt or sand.	6/9/2025 8:51 PM
6	The service provided is appreciated	6/9/2025 8:45 PM
7	Very poor, especially the residential streets	6/9/2025 7:38 PM

Q6 How would you rate the dependability and overall quality of City sanitary sewer services?

Answered: 243 Skipped: 1

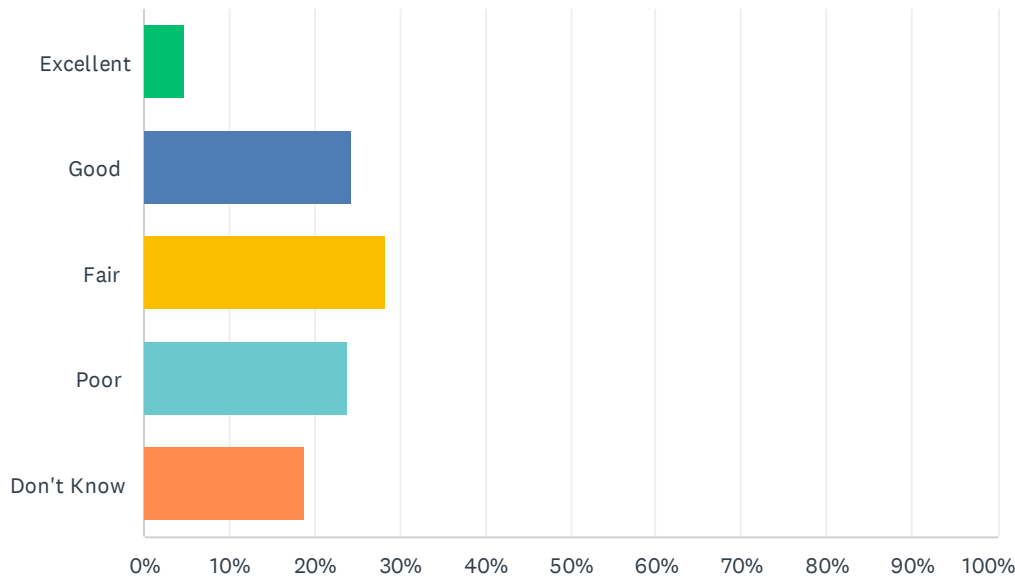


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	19.34%	47
Good	47.74%	116
Fair	16.87%	41
Poor	5.76%	14
Don't Know	10.29%	25
TOTAL		243

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Storm drains that are blocked during heavy rains are an issue	6/10/2025 6:17 PM
2	No issues	6/9/2025 8:45 PM
3	Tax payers are facing the brunt of WWTP costs	5/16/2025 1:10 PM
4	But the smell in the SE could be better	5/13/2025 5:37 PM
5	It sounds like the city is finally fixing some of the issues in the south east.	5/13/2025 8:41 AM
6	Need to work on the smell. If the wind is just right it can be very unpleasant, it is easy to say it is the plant however where I live is between them and it is when the wind is blowing from waste center that is the issue	5/13/2025 6:25 AM
7	Still needs work. Back ups. Hormel has strained things over the years. Now we are being charged so much in city fees. Too much chlorine in water as well at times.	5/12/2025 9:56 PM
8	No significant issues but the utilities requirement for the sump pump changes was ridiculous. Then charging customers \$100 per month if they have not done that seems inappropriate.	5/12/2025 7:06 PM

Q7 How would you rate the fiscal management and health?

Answered: 239 Skipped: 5

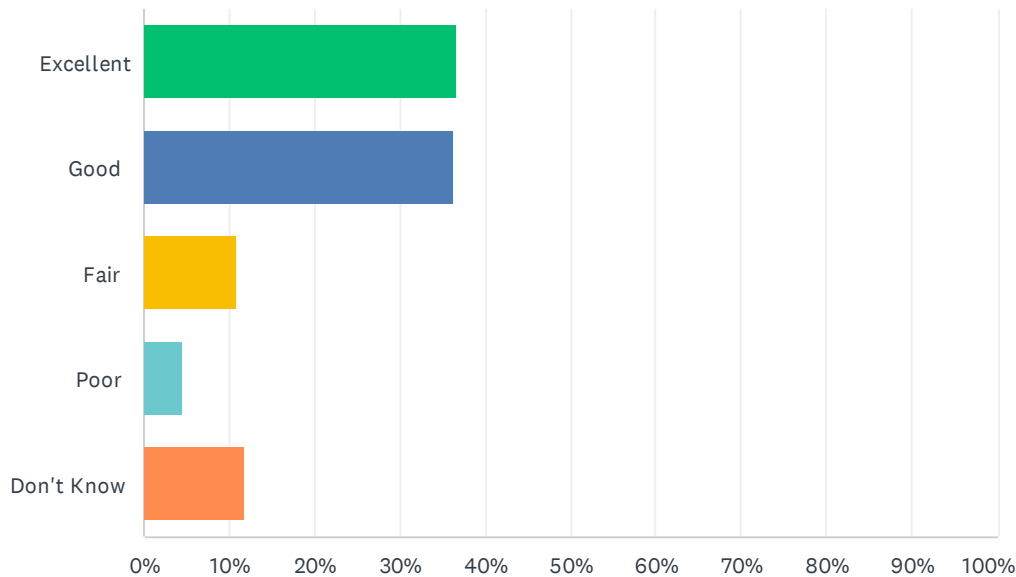


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	4.60%	11
Good	24.27%	58
Fair	28.45%	68
Poor	23.85%	57
Don't Know	18.83%	45
TOTAL		239

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Raising of taxes is concerning	6/10/2025 6:17 PM
2	Glad city officials work hard to keep our taxes under control.	6/9/2025 6:41 PM
3	Why are taxpayers paying for updates to an airport that is used by 1% of the population???	6/9/2025 5:35 PM
4	City employees are overpaid. Our tax dollars could be spent more wisely to prevent fraud, waste and abuse.	5/20/2025 7:48 PM
5	Over taxed year over year. Unsustainable	5/16/2025 1:10 PM
6	Could put some money into other things other than downtown all the time. There's more to austin.	5/15/2025 9:40 AM
7	Depends on who you listen to. Seems like the city approves bids on just about everything, but audit services. Can the city just explore other options besides the current auditors who just listen to the finance director?	5/13/2025 4:14 PM
8	Need stop just raising taxes and look at programs/areas around that we can work to cut spending.	5/13/2025 6:25 AM

Q8 How would you rate the quality of the City library programs and facilities?

Answered: 240 Skipped: 4

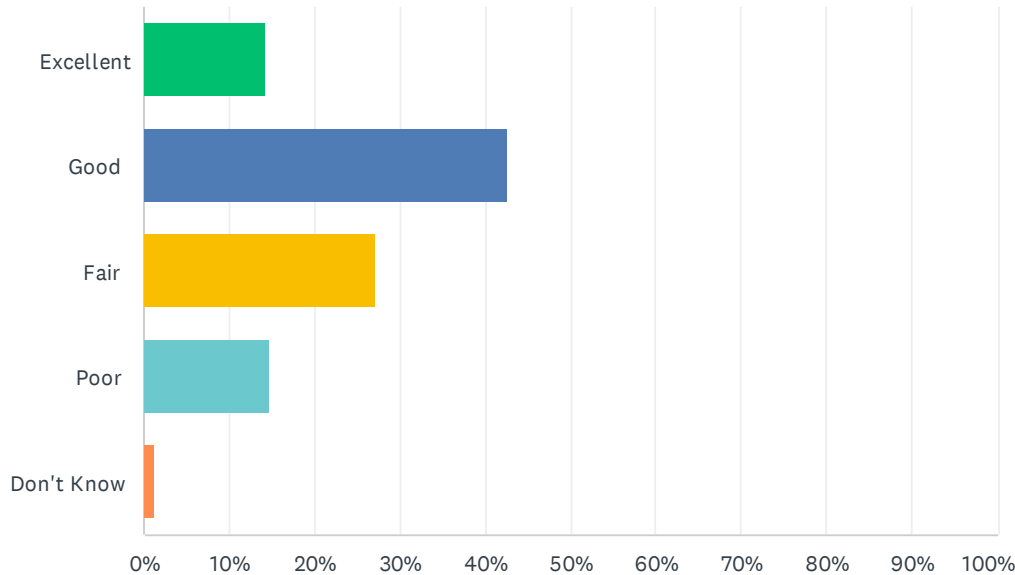


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	36.67%	88
Good	36.25%	87
Fair	10.83%	26
Poor	4.58%	11
Don't Know	11.67%	28
TOTAL		240

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We really enjoy the library all the services & activities	6/10/2025 8:23 PM
2	The library is vital to our community. Knowledgeable staff and resources available to all is so important	6/9/2025 8:45 PM
3	Get rid of the gay/trans programs. I don't feel welcome at the library with small kids.	6/9/2025 6:41 PM
4	The library is the best part of this town!	5/20/2025 7:48 PM
5	Too much placed in this area	5/16/2025 1:10 PM
6	The library seems over staffed. Many times, when I'm in there, people are just sitting in multiple locations. Reduce the number of people working at a time and open up more hours. Programs seem to get cancelled a lot.	5/13/2025 4:14 PM
7	One of the best parts of this city. It seems to be one of the few areas where the city actually has pride in what it does.	5/13/2025 8:41 AM
8	The library is the crown jewel of this town!	5/13/2025 7:02 AM

Q9 How would you rate the overall quality of City recreational programs and facilities (e.g., parks, trails, park facilities, etc.)?

Answered: 237 Skipped: 7

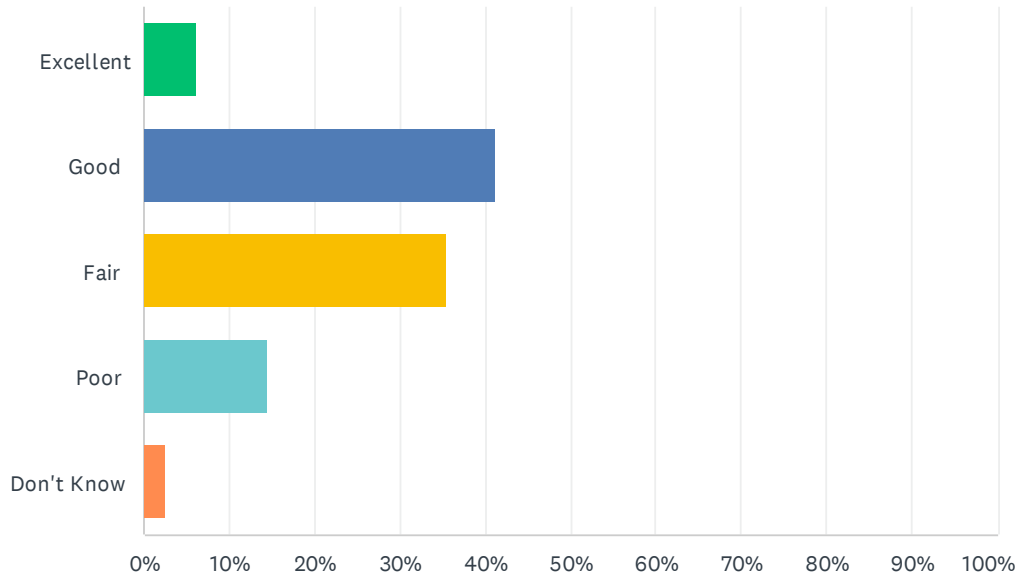


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	14.35%	34
Good	42.62%	101
Fair	27.00%	64
Poor	14.77%	35
Don't Know	1.27%	3
TOTAL		237

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We have too many parks to manage and need to reevaluate how to give back to the prairie. Additionally, as a city, we have too many empty lots. What can we do to sell those?	6/13/2025 9:59 AM
2	There needs to be a park for special needs/handicapped children	6/9/2025 9:21 PM
3	Does Riverside arena qualify here? If so you need to upgrade the locker room facilities for kids. One bathroom for a whole hallway of kids? Went to an Austin bruins game and you could barely walk around the front of the arena. It's old figure it out	6/9/2025 8:51 PM
4	The walking/bike trails are great! Thank you for winter maintenance. I appreciate walk-ability in the winter. Please continue to clear paths in winter, thank you.	6/9/2025 8:45 PM
5	Todd Park is beautiful. Schindler's bike trail is excellent. Sad people vandalize our parks. Graffiti needs to be covered immediately as a deterrent.	6/9/2025 6:41 PM
6	I would like to write this as excellent, however many parks specifically parks inside of Todd Park are not kept up, was visiting the Isaac Walton building last weekend and noticed many	6/9/2025 6:31 PM

Q10 How would you rate the overall quality of services provided by the City?

Answered: 240 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	6.25%	15
Good	41.25%	99
Fair	35.42%	85
Poor	14.58%	35
Don't Know	2.50%	6
TOTAL		240

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	This a good community but it needs a vision and leadership to help it thrive.	6/13/2025 9:59 AM
2	The city needs to do a better job on junk cars in yards and people not mowing their lawn	6/11/2025 7:00 PM
3	Pool should stay open until labor day	6/10/2025 8:23 PM
4	City administrator needs to go.	6/9/2025 6:49 PM
5	Officer Blake in the schools is awesome.	6/9/2025 6:41 PM
6	Possibly cut the Crew in half and maybe more work would be done, I'm sure this is an ongoing theme and I do understand that there are many unions involved	6/9/2025 6:31 PM
7	I lived in a city out west that would dedicate one weekend a year to clean up yards. They provided free dumpsters located at a few areas around the city. The services were either donated or reduced by the waste management. I love the free leaf site at Cook Farm in the fall and would love a free drop-off site to take tree branches. Also, I think the free mulch at the skate park is awesome. So many nice services to help people keep up their homes!	5/20/2025 7:48 PM