

**City Council Agenda Item 3.A
Meeting of February 9, 2026**



Title: 2026 community survey review

Report from: Sarissa Seracki, Senior Management Coordinator

Submitted through: Erik Nilsson, City Attorney
Moranda Dammann, Assistant City Manager
Mike Funk, City Manager

Presenter: Peter Leatherman, The Morris Leatherman Company

Action Requested: Review community survey and provide input.

Summary Statement

Each year the city conducts a statistically valid telephone survey of residents on a variety of topics of interest. These topics range from demographic, quality of life, city services, public safety, natural environment, development and redevelopment, city parks and recreational facilities, public transit issues, city government and staff, local authority and communication issues. Staff is currently in the process of reviewing the annual survey questions and developing areas of topics and themes to add for the 2026 survey.

Strategic Plan Relatability

N/A

Background

For many years, the City of Minnetonka has consulted with The Morris Leatherman Company to conduct an annual community survey. This survey is a statistically valid telephone survey of approximately 400 Minnetonka residents on a variety of topics and allows the organization to ensure high quality of services and watch trends from year to year. The community survey is conducted in the month of March annually and results are delivered back to the organization in April or May.

The city uses the community survey to inform strategic planning and budgeting decisions, help set performance targets and strengthen community engagement. It is important for residents to have the opportunity to share their opinions. It is equally important for them to feel confident that their voices are being heard. Conducting a survey is a proactive approach to initiating and completing the communication loop with the community.

At the April 28, 2025 city council study session, Peter Leatherman presented the 2025 community survey results. The 2025 results can be found in the [April 28 agenda packet](#).

Staff is currently in the process of reviewing the community survey questions and developing areas of topics and themes to add for the 2026 survey. Staff plans to continue with the annual topics ranging from demographics, quality of life, city services, public safety, natural environment, development and redevelopment, city parks and recreational facilities, public transit issues, city government and staff, local authority and communication issues. The city council is asked to provide input regarding the 2026 survey

topics and themes. The survey currently includes 164 questions; it is recommended to reduce the total number of questions to approximately 115, where it was previously.

Potential topics for 2026:

- Sales tax - include five requested projects
- New residents - where did they live previously?
- Review of tax questions
- Immigration impacts

Recommend removing these 2025 themes:

- E-bikes
- Organized garbage collection
- Chemicals on lawns
- Noise from leaf blowers
- Overnight street parking
- Storage of garbage and recycling cans
- Programming for teenagers

Recommend keeping these 2025 themes:

- Short-term rentals

Discussion Questions

Are there additional topics or themes the city council would like incorporated into the annual community survey?

ATTACHMENTS:

[2025 Minnetonka Community Survey Results](#)

[2025 Minnetonka Executive Summary](#)