



Community Budget Workshop Meeting Input Summary

At the April 18, Community Budget Workshop Meeting, community members were given the opportunity to prioritize a list of budget balancing alternatives. Participants were placed in six small groups and given four stickers which were to be applied to a list of predefined alternatives, allowing participants to show their individual preferences for solutions to closing the budget gap.

The predefined categories included both expenditure reductions and revenue enhancements and were broad by design. Facilitators emphasized the sticker exercise was meant only as a starting point for the small group budget conversations. Facilitators also captured creative solutions offered by residents that fell outside of the predefined categories.

Preferences of resident participants for predefined categories

Number of stickers received	Expenditure Reduction
14	Reduce Administrative & Support Positions
9	Defer Infrastructure & Equipment
8	Police Reductions
8	Parks, Rec & Cultural Arts Reductions
6	Reduce Street & Sidewalk Maintenance
3	Fire & Emergency Reductions
3	Reduce Affordable Housing Programs
0	Reduce Transit Service
Revenue Enhancements	
35	Property Tax Increase of 2 cent/ per \$100 of property value =
7	Property Tax Increase of 1 cent/ per \$100 of property value =
4	Property Tax Increase of 1.5 cent/ per \$100 of property value =
0	Property Tax Increase of 1.25 cent/ per \$100 of property value =

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Other options identified by participants

TDA funds to Asheville (for operational things like festivals, DT patrol, etc.)
Property tax increase of 3 cents/\$100 of property value
Percentage decrease on overall budget
Option to give feedback on other city services
Across the board cuts 5.5%
Solicit more funding from TDA
Regional park authority
Luxury tax
Tax increase and rebates
Economic development
4% across the board cuts
Public/private partnerships
Returns from investments
Raise admission to WNC Nature Center
Rather pay more in property tax than see reduction in housing trust fund
Negotiate NCGA for changes to hotel tax/ sales tax and compensation for water
Sell Civic Center