



*Values and Performance of
King County Government*

Third Round of Countywide Community Forums

May 23 – June 22, 2009

Final Report



A King County program in the Auditor's Office



Summary

The Countywide Community Forums is a King County public engagement program overseen by the King County Auditor. The program is independently funded and run by volunteers. It is designed to give King County residents the opportunity to make their opinions count on important policy topics.

For more information or to view the reports from previous rounds of forums on budget and on transportation, consult www.kingcounty.gov/auditor/communityforums or email chantal.stevens@kingcounty.gov. To register to attend future forums, go to www.communityforums.org or email communityforums@kingcounty.gov.

Between May 23 and June 22, 2009, 249 registered citizens met in homes, libraries and workplaces to view informational materials, have a discussion and fill out a questionnaire on the topic of *Values and Performance of King County Government*. The responses were compiled by the Auditor's Office into this report.

Demographics and Process Questions

Respondents are self-selected and tend to be older (83% over 40) and better educated (72% have a four-year degree or more) than the general population. They are longtime King County residents (77% for 20 years or more) who vote regularly (82% in most elections), but, according to a previous round, are not actively involved in attending public or town hall meetings. They come from all over King County: 24% from Unincorporated King County, 26% from Seattle, 10% from Bellevue and the balance from suburban cities in North, East and South King County.

Fifty-nine percent of the respondents in Round 3 had participated in a previous round of Countywide Community Forums and 67% thought the forums were *on the right track*.

Policy Questions

While 51%¹ of respondents had a positive view of King County as a place to live today, 35% had a positive view of King County five years from now.

Among a series of stated King County goals, respondents agreed most strongly that *King County protects natural resources* (43% agree) and *King County keeps people safe* (40% agree) and disagreed most that *King County serves those most in need* (22% disagree) and *King County provides high quality customer service and accountability* (29% disagree). When asked about King County's communication achievement, the stronger responses were to note dissatisfaction with the *overall level of public involvement* (35% dissatisfied) and the *overall effectiveness of communication with the public* (35% dissatisfied).

¹ Unless otherwise noted, the responses were on a scale of 1 to 5. Cited percentages combine either 1 and 2, or 4 and 5 in the rating, but exclude neutral responses (3).

When King County is making choices between programs and services, more respondents (36%) chose *maximizing the “benefit per dollar” spent* as either a top 1 or 2 priority. As the county sets an agenda for the next five years, 46% of respondent believe the County should take into consideration *economic development and job creation in the region* as either a top 1 or 2 priority.

When asked where King County should focus more attention over the next five years, the areas that received a majority of support for more attention were: *Bus (Metro) transit services* (61%), *Road and Bridge maintenance and repair* (61%), *Police services* (53%), and *Emergency services, including EMS* (51%). When asked to prioritize King County’s agenda for the next five years, the following priorities were picked most often as either top 1, 2, or 3 choice: *Building an integrated, more effective public transportation system* (37%), *Accountability & transparency* (33%), *Building regional economic strength* (32%).

In a series of statements provided by the King County Council and related to Criminal Justice, Public Health, Human Services and METRO Bus Service, a majority of respondents clearly agreed or disagreed only with the following statements: *Preventing the transmission of communicable disease is an important government function* (64% agree); *King County should prioritize human services that are proven most effective in reducing involvement in the criminal justice system, even if other programs are cut* (60% agree); *King County should be involved in protecting and improving the health of residents* (56% agree); *In a budget crisis, King County should focus on maintaining human services that provide critical, life saving services (such as emergency homeless shelters in the winter), because demand for these services rises as economic conditions worsen* (55% agree); *I believe that prevention/intervention services within the criminal justice system are more cost effective, actually reduce crime, and should be prioritized at a higher level over incarceration.* (54% agree); *Walkable communities, good trail systems, or other elements that encourage healthy behaviors, are important to me* (54%); *The County should reduce law enforcement services to urban unincorporated areas to encourage incorporation or annexation in those areas* (53% disagree); *King County should preserve programs that assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, even if other programs are cut* (53%).

No clear majority emerged as to where budget cuts should happen when asked about Criminal Justice, Public Health, Human Services and METRO Bus Service, but respondents disagreed most with having further cut in Sheriff’s Department (50%) and bus service (45%). Nevertheless, *no tax increase* was chosen as the preferred option when asked what kind of tax could be raised to pay for Criminal Justice (44% said no tax increase), Human Services (42%), Public Health (41%), Bus service (39%).

Demographic Questions

1. (D-1) Which form of the Opinionnaire® survey response are you using right now?	249	100%
Paper form response	169	68%
Web form response	80	32%
(D-2) Over your lifetime, how long have you lived <u>or</u> worked in King County?	249	100%
Less than 1 year	0	0%
1 - 5 years	15	6%
6 - 10 years	12	5%
11 - 19 years	30	12%
20 years or more	191	77%
Not Identified	1	0%
(D-3) What is your Gender?	249	100%
Male	143	57%
Female	102	41%
Not Identified	4	2%
(D-4) What is your Age Range?	249	100%
10 -19 years	5	2%
20 - 29 years	14	6%
30 - 39 years	20	8%
40 - 49 years	43	17%
50 - 59 years	55	22%
60 - 69 years	63	25%
70 - 79 years	37	15%
80 years or older	9	4%
Not Identified	3	1%
(D-5) What is your primary Racial or Ethnic Heritage?	249	100%
American Indian or Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)	0	0%
Asian (non-Hispanic)	3	1%
Black or African American (non-Hispanic)	3	1%
Hispanic or Latino/Latina	2	1%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)	4	2%
White or Caucasian (non-Hispanic)	212	85%
Blended Racial Heritage (non-Hispanic)	5	2%

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King County
Responses

Other (please specify in the ANSWER COLUMN)	7	3%
Not Identified	13	5%
6. (D-6) What is your primary Employment Status?	249	100%
Self-Employed or Business Owner	36	14%
Work for any For-Profit Business	59	24%
Work for any Non-Profit Organization	12	5%
Work for any City Government	2	1%
Work for any County Government	7	3%
Work for WA State, Federal or Tribal Government	7	3%
Work for any Educational Institution	13	5%
Student	8	3%
Unemployed and seeking work	8	3%
Homemaker, Volunteer, Retired, Disabled or otherwise not employed	95	38%
Not Identified	2	1%
7. (D-7) What is the highest level of Education you have completed?	249	100%
Grades 1-8	0	0%
Some High School	5	2%
High School Graduate (including GED)	12	5%
Some College or Technical School	35	14%
Technical School Graduate or Two-year College Graduate	19	8%
Four-year College Graduate	69	28%
Some Post-Graduate Education	39	16%
Post Graduate Degree (Masters, Ph.D., M.D., J.D., etc.)	69	28%
Not Identified	1	0%
8. (D-8) What is your primary Household Family Description?	249	100%
Single Parent with children	6	2%
Dual Parent with children	54	22%
Extended Family sharing one home	10	4%
Single-person household	39	16%
Living with a Roommate or Roommates	11	4%
Living with a Spouse or Companion	120	48%
Homeless with or without children or other family	1	0%
Other description	5	2%
Not Identified	3	1%
9. (D-9) Did you vote in the most recent Presidential election?	249	100%
No. I am not eligible to vote.	5	2%
No. However, I just became eligible and plan to vote in the future.	3	1%
No. However, I'm eligible and could have voted if I wanted to.	4	2%

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King County
Responses

Yes. I have voted in all elections since becoming eligible, with very few exceptions.	205	82%
Yes. I have voted in at least half of the elections since becoming eligible.	24	10%
Yes. However, I have voted in less than half of the elections since becoming eligible to vote.	3	1%
Yes. However, it was exceptional for me to vote and I have rarely done so since becoming eligible to vote.	1	0%
Some other reason	1	0%
Not Identified	3	1%
 10. (D-10) If you live in King County, who is your King County Councilmember?	 249	 100%
Bob Ferguson (district #1)	11	4%
Larry Gossett (district #2)	41	16%
Kathy Lambert (district #3)	28	11%
Larry Phillips (district #4)	22	9%
Julia Patterson (district #5)	9	4%
Jane Hague (district #6)	41	16%
Pete von Reichbauer (district #7)	10	4%
Dow Constantine (district #8)	13	5%
Reagan Dunn (district #9)	59	24%
I work in King County but live elsewhere	4	2%
Not Identified	11	4%
 (D-11, D-12) Where do you live in King County?	 223	 100%
Unincorporated King County	61	24%
Auburn	4	2%
Bellevue	24	10%
Black Diamond	1	0%
Bothell	2	1%
Burien	1	0%
Des Moines	1	0%
Enumclaw	3	1%
Federal Way	3	1%
Issaquah	12	5%
Kenmore	2	1%
Kent	4	2%
Kirkland	9	4%
Lake Forest Park	2	1%
Maple Valley	2	1%
Mercer Island	3	1%
Newcastle	3	1%
Redmond	8	3%
Renton	6	2%

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King County
Responses

Sammamish	3	1%
SeaTac	1	0%
Seattle	64	26%
Shoreline	2	1%
Snoqualmie	1	0%
Woodinville	1	0%
Not identified/live outside King County	26	10%

Questions from the King County Executive

Quality of life in King County Government

(T-1) <i>Where would you rate King County as a place to live?</i>	249	100%
Best Possible Community - 1	18	7%
2	109	44%
3	81	33%
4	27	11%
Worst Possible Community - 5	6	2%
Abstain	6	2%
Object	2	1%
Average Score	2.56	

(T-2) *Where on the same scale would you say that King County stood five years ago?* 249 100%

Best Possible Community - 1	20	8%
2	116	47%
3	70	28%
4	16	6%
Worst Possible Community - 5	7	3%
Abstain	16	6%
Object	4	2%
Average Score	2.45	

(T-3) *Now, thinking about the future, where on the same scale would you say that King County will stand five years from now?* 249 100%

Best Possible Community - 1	20	8%
2	68	27%
3	73	29%
4	50	20%
Worst Possible Community - 5	18	7%
Abstain	15	6%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	2.90	

(T-4) *Compared to other communities you know, how do you think King County will compare five years from now?* 249 100%

Best Possible Community - 1	24	10%
2	77	31%
3	59	24%

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King County Responses

4	49	20%
Worst Possible Community - 5	9	4%
Abstain	21	8%
Object	10	4%
Average Score	2.73	

Summary (1=Best 5=Worse)

(T-1) Where would you rate King County as a place to live?	2.56
(T-2) Where on the same scale would you say that King County stood five years ago?	2.45
(T-3) Now, thinking about the future, where on the same scale would you say that King County will stand five years from now?	2.90
(T-4) Compared to other communities you know, how do you think King County will compare five years from now?	2.73

Your perception of King County Government

Thinking about the Regional and Local County services shown in a table up earlier on this page, please rate your overall satisfaction with the following qualities and values:

(T-5) The overall quality of services provided by King County.	249	100%
Very Satisfied - 1	15	6%
2	82	33%
3	97	39%
4	27	11%
Very Dissatisfied - 5	12	5%
Abstain	12	5%
Object	4	2%
Average Score	2.74	

(T-6) The overall quality of customer service you receive from King County employees.	249	100%
Very Satisfied - 1	15	6%
2	71	29%
3	76	31%
4	40	16%
Very Dissatisfied - 5	9	4%
Abstain	35	14%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.80	

(T-7) The overall value you receive for your King County taxes and fees.	249	100%
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Very Satisfied - 1	10	4%
2	60	24%
3	69	28%
4	53	21%
Very Dissatisfied - 5	33	13%
Abstain	20	8%
Object	4	2%
Average Score	3.17	

Summary (1=Very satisfied 5=Very dissatisfied)

(T-5) <i>The overall quality of services provided by King County.</i>	2.74
(T-6) <i>The overall quality of customer service you receive from King County employees.</i>	2.80
(T-7) <i>The overall value you receive for your King County taxes and fees.</i>	3.17

Potential goals for King County

How strongly would you agree or disagree with the following primary goals for King County?

(T-8) *"King County government keeps people safe."* 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	25	10%
2	74	30%
3	81	33%
4	33	13%
Strongly Disagree - 5	13	5%
Abstain	18	7%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	2.71	

(T-9) *"King County government promotes equity and social justice."* 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	29	12%
2	63	25%
3	70	28%
4	26	10%
Strongly Disagree - 5	20	8%
Abstain	26	10%
Object	15	6%
Average Score	2.74	

(T-10) *"King County government keeps people healthy."* 249 100%

<i>Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government</i>		King County Responses	
Strongly Agree - 1	19	8%	
2	62	25%	
3	84	34%	
4	27	11%	
Strongly Disagree - 5	13	5%	
Abstain	26	10%	
Object	18	7%	
Average Score	2.77		
<i>(T-11) "King County government provides high quality customer service and accountability."</i>		249	100%
Strongly Agree - 1	15	6%	
2	46	18%	
3	84	34%	
4	49	20%	
Strongly Disagree - 5	23	9%	
Abstain	28	11%	
Object	4	2%	
Average Score	3.09		
<i>(T-12) "King County government serves those most in need."</i>		249	100%
Strongly Agree - 1	15	6%	
2	41	16%	
3	84	34%	
4	38	15%	
Strongly Disagree - 5	17	7%	
Abstain	35	14%	
Object	19	8%	
Average Score	3.01		
<i>(T-13) "King County government protects natural resources."</i>		249	100%
Strongly Agree - 1	28	11%	
2	79	32%	
3	78	31%	
4	20	8%	
Strongly Disagree - 5	13	5%	
Abstain	22	9%	
Object	9	4%	
Average Score	2.59		
<i>(T-14) "King County government promotes livable and prosperous communities."</i>		249	100%

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King County
Responses

Strongly Agree - 1	15	6%
2	69	28%
3	74	30%
4	45	18%
Strongly Disagree - 5	23	9%
Abstain	16	6%
Object	7	3%
Average Score	2.96	

Ranked Summary (1=strongly agree 5=strongly disagree)

(T-13) "King County government protects natural resources."	2.59
(T-8) "King County government keeps people safe."	2.71
(T-9) "King County government promotes equity and social justice."	2.74
(T-10) "King County government keeps people healthy."	2.77
(T-14) "King County government promotes livable and prosperous communities."	2.96
(T-12) "King County government serves those most in need."	3.01
(T-11) "King County government provides high quality customer service and accountability."	3.09

Please rate your overall satisfaction with the following communication areas from King County.

(T-15) *The availability of information about County programs and services* 249 100%

Very Satisfied - 1	12	5%
2	66	27%
3	86	35%
4	49	20%
Very Dissatisfied - 5	14	6%
Abstain	19	8%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.94	

(T-16) *The overall level of public involvement in King County government* 249 100%

Very Satisfied - 1	7	3%
2	45	18%
3	70	28%
4	72	29%
Very Dissatisfied - 5	28	11%
Abstain	23	9%
Object	4	2%
Average Score	3.31	

(T-17) *The County's website* 249 100%

Very Satisfied - 1	14	6%
2	50	20%
3	75	30%
4	18	7%
Very Dissatisfied - 5	5	2%
Abstain	86	35%
Object	1	0%
Average Score	2.69	

(T-18) Overall effectiveness of County communication with the public 249 100%

Very Satisfied - 1	7	3%
2	46	18%
3	85	34%
4	66	27%
Very Dissatisfied - 5	21	8%
Abstain	22	9%
Object	2	1%
Average Score	3.21	

Summary (1=Very satisfied 5=Very dissatisfied)

(T-17) The County's website	2.69
(T-15) The availability of information about County programs and services	2.94
(T-18) Overall effectiveness of County communication with the public	3.21
(T-16) The overall level of public involvement in King County government	3.31

King County's focus over the next 5 years

Below is a list of many of the services King County provides. These may not necessarily be the programs you believe are currently the *best*, or the programs you believe are the *worst*. We would like to know which programs you think the county should focus on the most over the course of the next five years, where "focusing more attention" means analyzing, improving and/or expanding, and "focusing less attention" means the opposite.

(T-19) Agriculture management services 249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	21	8%
2	42	17%
3	74	30%
4	40	16%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	33	13%
Abstain	35	14%

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King County
Responses

(T-24) <i>Elections and voter registration</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	41	16%
2	52	21%
3	103	41%
4	25	10%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	17	7%
Abstain	8	3%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.68	
(T-25) <i>Emergency services, including emergency medical services</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	58	23%
2	70	28%
3	92	37%
4	11	4%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	5	2%
Abstain	10	4%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.30	
(T-26) <i>Flood management services</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	30	12%
2	52	21%
3	100	40%
4	35	14%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	12	5%
Abstain	17	7%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.77	
(T-27) <i>Forestry management services</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	23	9%
2	51	20%
3	86	35%
4	41	16%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	22	9%
Abstain	23	9%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.95	

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King County
Responses

(T-28) *Human services, such as mental health, drug/alcohol treatment, housing or other services* 249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	57	23%
2	51	20%
3	62	25%
4	31	12%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	21	8%
Abstain	22	9%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	2.59	

(T-29) *Local land use planning* 249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	43	17%
2	53	21%
3	55	22%
4	45	18%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	38	15%
Abstain	11	4%
Object	4	2%
Average Score	2.92	

(T-30) *Local parks* 249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	26	10%
2	53	21%
3	103	41%
4	34	14%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	20	8%
Abstain	11	4%
Object	2	1%
Average Score	2.87	

(T-31) *Police services* 249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	54	22%
2	79	32%
3	69	28%
4	22	9%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	10	4%
Abstain	12	5%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.38	

(T-32) *Programs to protect and preserve the environment* 249 100%

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King County
Responses

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	52	21%
2	47	19%
3	52	21%
4	46	18%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	39	16%
Abstain	8	3%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	2.89	

(T-33) *Property assessment services*

249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	11	4%
2	34	14%
3	118	47%
4	41	16%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	28	11%
Abstain	12	5%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	3.18	

(T-34) *Prosecutor*

249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	20	8%
2	63	25%
3	102	41%
4	29	12%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	11	4%
Abstain	18	7%
Object	6	2%
Average Score	2.77	

(T-35) *Public defense*

249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	21	8%
2	58	23%
3	109	44%
4	28	11%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	8	3%
Abstain	17	7%
Object	8	3%
Average Score	2.75	

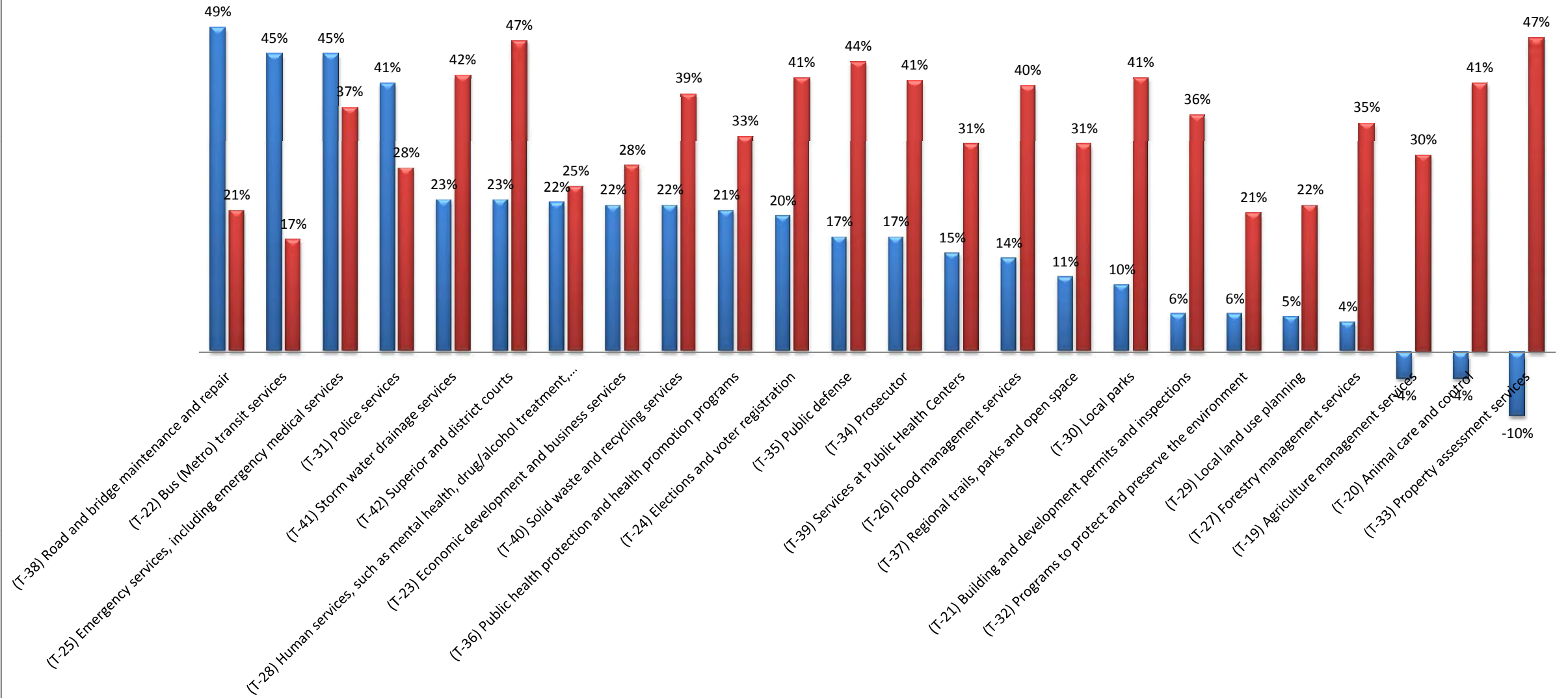
(T-36) *Public health protection and health promotion programs*

249 100%

Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	43	17%
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Focus of Attention - Net Support for MORE ATTENTION v. NEUTRAL ATTENTION

■ Net Support for MORE Attention - % who support MORE minus % who support LESS
 ■ % who are NEUTRAL - Neither MORE nor LESS



<i>Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government</i>	King County Responses	
	2	58 23%
	3	81 33%
	4	31 12%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	17	7%
Abstain	14	6%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	2.66	
<i>(T-37) Regional trails, parks and open space</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	24	10%
	2	68 27%
	3	78 31%
	4	37 15%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	27	11%
Abstain	12	5%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.89	
<i>(T-38) Road and bridge maintenance and repair</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	56	22%
	2	95 38%
	3	53 21%
	4	22 9%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	7	3%
Abstain	12	5%
Object	4	2%
Average Score	2.27	
<i>(T-39) Services at Public Health Centers</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	46	18%
	2	45 18%
	3	78 31%
	4	37 15%
Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	17	7%
Abstain	23	9%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.70	
<i>(T-40) Solid waste and recycling services</i>	249	100%
Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	35	14%
	2	61 24%
	3	97 39%

<i>Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government</i>		King County Responses	
	4	30	12%
	Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	11	4%
	Abstain	12	5%
	Object	3	1%
	Average Score	2.66	
 (T-41) <i>Storm water drainage services</i>		249	100%
	Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	27	11%
	2	64	26%
	3	104	42%
	4	23	9%
	Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	11	4%
	Abstain	17	7%
	Object	3	1%
	Average Score	2.68	
 (T-42) <i>Superior and district courts</i>		249	100%
	Focus Much MORE Attention - 1	21	8%
	2	60	24%
	3	117	47%
	4	19	8%
	Focus Much LESS Attention - 5	5	2%
	Abstain	21	8%
	Object	6	2%
	Average Score	2.67	

Ranked Summary (1=Focus Much More Attention 5=Focus Much less attention)

(T-22) <i>Bus (Metro) transit services</i>	2.26
(T-38) <i>Road and bridge maintenance and repair</i>	2.27
(T-25) <i>Emergency services, including emergency medical services</i>	2.30
(T-31) <i>Police services</i>	2.38
(T-28) <i>Human services, such as mental health, drug/alcohol treatment, housing or other services</i>	2.59
(T-23) <i>Economic development and business services</i>	2.63
(T-36) <i>Public health protection and health promotion programs</i>	2.66
(T-40) <i>Solid waste and recycling services</i>	2.66
(T-42) <i>Superior and district courts</i>	2.67
(T-41) <i>Storm water drainage services</i>	2.68
(T-24) <i>Elections and voter registration</i>	2.68
(T-39) <i>Services at Public Health Centers</i>	2.70
(T-35) <i>Public defense</i>	2.75
(T-26) <i>Flood management services</i>	2.77
(T-34) <i>Prosecutor</i>	2.77

(T-30) <i>Local parks</i>	2.87
(T-32) <i>Programs to protect and preserve the environment</i>	2.89
(T-37) <i>Regional trails, parks and open space</i>	2.89
(T-29) <i>Local land use planning</i>	2.92
(T-21) <i>Building and development permits and inspections</i>	2.92
(T-27) <i>Forestry management services</i>	2.95
(T-20) <i>Animal care and control</i>	3.05
(T-19) <i>Agriculture management services</i>	3.10
(T-33) <i>Property assessment services</i>	3.18

Values and Tradeoffs for service delivery decisions

Given that the countywide strategic plan will guide policy and decision making over the next five years, we would like to get your input on how you think the county should make decisions and think about tradeoffs across programs and services. The following value statements are intended to get a sense of which ones you think are most critical to the way the county should prioritize and make decisions around service delivery.

"When King County is making choices between programs and services, I think those choices should be based on _____."

(T-43) ... <u>the ability to reach the largest number of people</u> .	249	100%
First Priority	12	5%
Second Priority	17	7%
Third Priority	25	10%
Not a Top Priority	124	50%
Object	7	3%
Abstain/did not understand the question	64	26%
Average Score (max.=3)	0.53	
(T-44) ... <u>the ability to promote fairness and opportunity for all across race and socioeconomic status</u> .	249	100%
First Priority	14	6%
Second Priority	24	10%
Third Priority	20	8%
Not a Top Priority	121	49%
Object	6	2%
Abstain/did not understand the question	64	26%
Average Score (max.=3)	0.61	
(T-45) ... <u>effectiveness at accomplishing its goals</u> .	249	100%

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
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	First Priority	21	8%
	Second Priority	36	14%
	Third Priority	40	16%
	Not a Top Priority	82	33%
	Object	6	2%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	64	26%
	Average Score (max.=3)	0.98	
(T-46) ... <u>maximizing the "benefit per dollar" spent.</u>		249	100%
	First Priority	61	24%
	Second Priority	31	12%
	Third Priority	32	13%
	Not a Top Priority	56	22%
	Object	5	2%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	64	26%
	Average Score (max.=3)	1.54	
(T-47) ... <u>the ability to reach people most in need.</u>		249	100%
	First Priority	33	13%
	Second Priority	32	13%
	Third Priority	16	6%
	Not a Top Priority	98	39%
	Object	6	2%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	64	26%
	Average Score (max.=3)	1.00	
(T-48) ... <u>funding sustainability.</u>		249	100%
	First Priority	25	10%
	Second Priority	33	13%
	Third Priority	35	14%
	Not a Top Priority	87	35%
	Object	5	2%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	64	26%
	Average Score (max.=3)	0.98	
(T-49) ... some other choice.		249	100%
	First Priority	10	4%
	Second Priority	4	2%
	Third Priority	8	3%
	Not a Top Priority	158	63%
	Object	5	2%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	64	26%

Average Score (max.=3)

0.26

Ranked Summary (based on top 3 priorities - Max score=3)

"When King County is making choices between programs and services, I think those choices should be based on _____."

(T-46) ... maximizing the "benefit per dollar" spent.	1.54
(T-48) ... funding sustainability.	0.98
(T-45) ... effectiveness at accomplishing its goals.	0.98
(T-47) ... the ability to reach people most in need.	1.00
(T-44) ...the ability to promote fairness and opportunity for all across race and socioeconomic status.	0.61
(T-43) ...the ability to reach the largest number of people.	0.53
(T-49) ... some other choice.	0.26

"As the county sets an agenda for the next five years I believe it should take into consideration _____."

(T-50) ... Environmental concerns. 249 100%

First Priority	37	15%
Second Priority	39	16%
Third Priority	28	11%
Not a Top Priority	86	35%
Object	7	3%
Abstain/did not understand the question	52	21%
Average Score (max.=3)	1.14	

(T-51) ... the county's responsibilities in responding to natural disasters or emergency. 249 100%

First Priority	30	12%
Second Priority	58	23%
Third Priority	52	21%
Not a Top Priority	55	22%
Object	2	1%
Abstain/did not understand the question	52	21%
Average Score (max.=3)	1.32	

(T-52) ... economic development and/or job creation in the region. 249 100%

First Priority	63	25%
Second Priority	53	21%
Third Priority	35	14%
Not a Top Priority	43	17%
Object	4	2%

<i>Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government</i>		King County Responses	
	Abstain/did not understand the question	51	20%
	Average Score (max.=3)	1.70	
(T-53) ...	<u><i>the government's ability to provide a social safety net in the future.</i></u>	249	100%
	First Priority	36	14%
	Second Priority	32	13%
	Third Priority	45	18%
	Not a Top Priority	76	31%
	Object	8	3%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	52	21%
	Average Score (max.=3)	1.15	
(T-54) ...	something else.	249	100%
	First Priority	28	11%
	Second Priority	15	6%
	Third Priority	13	5%
	Not a Top Priority	139	56%
	Object	2	1%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	52	21%
	Average Score (max.=3)	0.65	

Ranked Summary (based on top 3 priorities - Max score=3)

"As the county sets an agenda for the next five years I believe it should take into consideration _____."

(T-52) ...	<i>economic development and/or job creation in the region.</i>	1.70
(T-51) ...	<i>the county's responsibilities in responding to natural disasters or emergency.</i>	1.32
(T-53) ...	<i>the government's ability to provide a social safety net in the future.</i>	1.15
(T-50) ...	<i>Environmental concerns.</i>	1.14
(T-54) ...	something else.	0.65

Over the next five years, I would like to see King County, as my regional government, focus on _____."

(T-55) ...	<u><i>environmental stewardship and growth management.</i></u>	249	100%
	First Priority	22	9%
	Second Priority	18	7%
	Third Priority	8	3%
	Fourth Priority	13	5%
	Fifth Priority	19	8%

<i>Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government</i>		King County Responses	
	Not a Top Priority	115	46%
	Object	5	2%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
	Average Score (max.=5)	1.29	
(T-56) ...	<u><i>leading the region in preparing for climate change.</i></u>	249	100%
	First Priority	7	3%
	Second Priority	11	4%
	Third Priority	6	2%
	Fourth Priority	7	3%
	Fifth Priority	10	4%
	Not a Top Priority	149	60%
	Object	10	4%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
	Average Score	0.64	
(T-57) ...	<u><i>promoting equity across race and socioeconomic status.</i></u>	249	100%
	First Priority	8	3%
	Second Priority	5	2%
	Third Priority	2	1%
	Fourth Priority	11	4%
	Fifth Priority	10	4%
	Not a Top Priority	156	63%
	Object	8	3%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
	Average Score	0.51	
(T-58) ...	<u><i>working to reduce the number of people in jail and the dependence on our criminal justice system.</i></u>	249	100%
	First Priority	10	4%
	Second Priority	15	6%
	Third Priority	26	10%
	Fourth Priority	16	6%
	Fifth Priority	27	11%
	Not a Top Priority	99	40%
	Object	7	3%
	Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
	Average Score	1.28	
(T-59) ...	<u><i>improving public safety.</i></u>	249	100%
	First Priority	29	12%
	Second Priority	27	11%

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

Third Priority	12	5%
Fourth Priority	20	8%
Fifth Priority	9	4%
Not a Top Priority	101	41%
Object	2	1%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	1.71	

(T-60) ... assuring equal access to health protection, health promotion and provision of health services. 249 100%

First Priority	16	6%
Second Priority	16	6%
Third Priority	20	8%
Fourth Priority	10	4%
Fifth Priority	14	6%
Not a Top Priority	118	47%
Object	6	2%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	1.23	

(T-61) ... promoting opportunities for children/child development. 249 100%

First Priority	3	1%
Second Priority	5	2%
Third Priority	7	3%
Fourth Priority	9	4%
Fifth Priority	12	5%
Not a Top Priority	158	63%
Object	6	2%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	0.44	

(T-62) ... building an integrated, more effective public transportation system. 249 100%

First Priority	19	8%
Second Priority	35	14%
Third Priority	37	15%
Fourth Priority	27	11%
Fifth Priority	15	6%
Not a Top Priority	63	25%
Object	4	2%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	2.12	

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

(T-63) ... enhancing arts and culture in the region . 249 100%

First Priority	0	0%
Second Priority	3	1%
Third Priority	7	3%
Fourth Priority	7	3%
Fifth Priority	7	3%
Not a Top Priority	168	67%
Object	8	3%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	0.28	

(T-64) ... accountability and transparency . 249 100%

First Priority	31	12%
Second Priority	28	11%
Third Priority	24	10%
Fourth Priority	15	6%
Fifth Priority	13	5%
Not a Top Priority	87	35%
Object	2	1%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	1.93	

(T-65) ... building regional economic strength . 249 100%

First Priority	33	13%
Second Priority	26	10%
Third Priority	21	8%
Fourth Priority	19	8%
Fifth Priority	13	5%
Not a Top Priority	83	33%
Object	5	2%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	1.96	

(T-66) ... improving the health and well-being of people and communities . 249 100%

First Priority	10	4%
Second Priority	13	5%
Third Priority	13	5%
Fourth Priority	12	5%
Fifth Priority	18	7%
Not a Top Priority	127	51%
Object	7	3%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%

Average Score 0.95

(T-67) ... some other priority.	249	100%
First Priority	10	4%
Second Priority	3	1%
Third Priority	8	3%
Fourth Priority	5	2%
Fifth Priority	1	0%
Not a Top Priority	170	68%
Object	3	1%
Abstain/did not understand the question	49	20%
Average Score	0.49	

Ranked Summary (based on top 5 priorities - Max score=5)

Over the next five years, I would like to see King County, as my regional government, focus on _____."

(T-62) ... <i>building an integrated, more effective public transportation system .</i>	2.12
(T-65) ... <i>building regional economic strength .</i>	1.96
(T-64) ... <i>accountability and transparency .</i>	1.93
(T-59) ... <i>improving public safety .</i>	1.71
(T-55) ... <i>environmental stewardship and growth management .</i>	1.29
(T-58) ... <i>working to reduce the number of people in jail and the dependence on our criminal justice system .</i>	1.28
(T-60) ... <i>assuring equal access to health protection, health promotion and provision of health services .</i>	1.23
(T-66) ... <i>improving the health and well-being of people and communities .</i>	0.95
(T-56) ... <i>leading the region in preparing for climate change .</i>	0.64
(T-57) ... <i>promoting equity across race and socioeconomic status .</i>	0.51
(T-67) ... <i>some other priority .</i>	0.49
(T-61) ... <i>promoting opportunities for children/child development .</i>	0.44
(T-63) ... <i>enhancing arts and culture in the region .</i>	0.28

Questions from the King County Council

Questions on Criminal Justice

Background: In the area of criminal justice, King County funds District (misdemeanor) Court and Superior (felony) Court, the downtown jail and Norm Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent, the Youth Services Center and juvenile detention program, Office of the Public Defender, King County Prosecutor, and King County Sheriff functions.

(T-68) "My neighborhood should have more police patrols." 248 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	29	12%
2	37	15%
3	86	35%
4	31	12%
Strongly Disagree - 5	32	13%
Abstain	28	11%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	3	

(T-69) "All crimes should be investigated diligently." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	59	24%
2	62	25%
3	64	26%
4	33	13%
Strongly Disagree - 5	13	5%
Abstain	11	4%
Object	7	3%
Average Score	2.48	

(T-70) "Some crimes are unavoidable and it is a waste of taxpayer resources to treat every crime as serious." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	53	21%
2	41	16%
3	40	16%
4	29	12%
Strongly Disagree - 5	50	20%
Abstain	15	6%
Object	21	8%
Average Score	2.92	

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

(T-71) "The county should reduce law enforcement services to urban unincorporated areas to encourage incorporation or annexation of these areas." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	22	9%
2	20	8%
3	28	11%
4	34	14%
Strongly Disagree - 5	98	39%
Abstain	25	10%
Object	22	9%
Average Score	3.82	

(T-72) "I believe that prevention/intervention services within the criminal justice system are more cost effective, actually reduce crime, and should be prioritized at a higher level over incarceration." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	92	37%
2	43	17%
3	43	17%
4	25	10%
Strongly Disagree - 5	17	7%
Abstain	23	9%
Object	6	2%
Average Score	2.24	

Questions on Public Health

Background: Seattle & King County Public Health protects the health of all county residents. Public Health's work includes: tracking infectious diseases like tuberculosis, influenza, and STDs, and helping coordinate the medical response; working with grocery stores and restaurants to ensure that employees handle and store food properly and remove dangerous recalled products; ensuring safe drinking water; improving access to health care and providing direct services at ten centers, and partnering with businesses and community groups to encourage healthy behaviors.

(T-73) "King County should be involved in protecting and improving the health of residents." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	63	25%
2	78	31%
3	55	22%

<i>Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government</i>		King County Responses	
	4	17	7%
Strongly Disagree - 5		18	7%
Abstain		14	6%
Object		4	2%
Average Score		2.35	
(T-74) "Preventing the transmission of communicable disease is an important government function."		248	100%
	Strongly Agree - 1	77	31%
	2	81	33%
	3	53	21%
	4	12	5%
Strongly Disagree - 5		9	4%
Abstain		11	4%
Object		5	2%
Average Score		2.12	
(T-75) "Walkable communities, good trail systems, or other elements that encourage healthy behaviors, are important to me."		248	100%
	Strongly Agree - 1	79	32%
	2	54	22%
	3	63	25%
	4	22	9%
Strongly Disagree - 5		16	6%
Abstain		8	3%
Object		6	2%
Average Score		2.32	
(T-76) "King County should be involved in providing health services for people who are uninsured, like immunizations, family planning, and maternal and child support."		249	100%
	Strongly Agree - 1	68	27%
	2	48	19%
	3	45	18%
	4	30	12%
Strongly Disagree - 5		40	16%
Abstain		11	4%
Object		7	3%
Average Score		2.68	
(T-77) "King County should provide a safety net for those with no other health care options."		249	100%

Strongly Agree - 1	64	26%
2	47	19%
3	44	18%
4	33	13%
Strongly Disagree - 5	40	16%
Abstain	14	6%
Object	7	3%
Average Score	2.73	

Questions on Human Services

Background: In King County, "human services" refers to a wide range of programs and services that provide critical, life saving services for individuals and families in need. Services include counseling for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, therapy and treatment for veterans returning home from war with post traumatic stress syndrome, and services for youth at risk of becoming involved with the criminal justice system. These and other human services also help keep criminal justice costs down by addressing the causes of recidivism: homelessness, mental illness and substance abuse.

(T-78) "Funding human services should be a priority, even if it is not required by law for King County to provide these services." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	52	21%
2	40	16%
3	59	24%
4	41	16%
Strongly Disagree - 5	42	17%
Abstain	8	3%
Object	7	3%
Average Score	2.92	1%

(T-79) "In a budget crisis, King County should focus on maintaining human services that provide critical, life saving services (such as emergency homeless shelters in the winter), because demand for these services rises as economic conditions worsen." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	71	29%
2	65	26%
3	39	16%
4	26	10%
Strongly Disagree - 5	27	11%
Abstain	15	6%
Object	6	2%

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

Average Score 2.44

(T-80) "King County should preserve proven programs that prevent or reduce homelessness, even if other programs are cut." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	42	17%
2	67	27%
3	53	21%
4	29	12%
Strongly Disagree - 5	32	13%
Abstain	13	5%
Object	13	5%
Average Score	2.74	

(T-81) "King County should preserve programs that assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, even if other programs are cut." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	48	19%
2	83	33%
3	64	26%
4	17	7%
Strongly Disagree - 5	17	7%
Abstain	12	5%
Object	8	3%
Average Score	2.44	

(T-82) "King County should prioritize human services that are proven most effective in reducing involvement in the criminal justice system, even if other programs are cut." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	63	25%
2	87	35%
3	40	16%
4	18	7%
Strongly Disagree - 5	18	7%
Abstain	14	6%
Object	9	4%
Average Score	2.30	

Questions on Metro Bus Service

Background: King County Metro funds local and regional bus service throughout King County. It operates a fleet of 1,300 mass transit vehicles that serve an annual ridership of 100 million. Metro also operates the 600-vehicle vanpool program that makes more than 2.9 million trips per year.

(T-83) "Metro should reduce weekend and all day service on low ridership routes." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	52	21%
2	67	27%
3	45	18%
4	36	14%
Strongly Disagree - 5	23	9%
Abstain	20	8%
Object	6	2%
Average Score	2.60	

(T-84) "I would prefer if Metro reduced the amount of bus service available before they impact security and cleanliness of my bus trip." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	24	10%
2	40	16%
3	42	17%
4	47	19%
Strongly Disagree - 5	48	19%
Abstain	36	14%
Object	12	5%
Average Score	3.27	

(T-85) "I would still use the bus if there were no longer shelters at transit stops." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	73	29%
2	46	18%
3	42	17%
4	16	6%
Strongly Disagree - 5	17	7%
Abstain	49	20%
Object	6	2%
Average Score	2.27	

(T-86) "Whenever possible, Metro should prioritize service that gets people to and from light rail lines or train stops over directly serving other destinations." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	24	10%
2	42	17%
3	62	25%
4	39	16%
Strongly Disagree - 5	47	19%

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

Abstain	26	10%
Object	9	4%
Average Score	3.20	

(T-87) "Even though Metro will have raised bus fares by \$0.75 over two years (up to a total of \$2.75 each way for a commuter bus trip), I would rather pay an even higher fare if it means keeping bus routes intact." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	58	23%
2	47	19%
3	53	21%
4	27	11%
Strongly Disagree - 5	28	11%
Abstain	29	12%
Object	7	3%
Average Score	2.62	

Questions on Prioritizing Services

(T-88) "I think further cuts to the Sheriff's department should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	24	10%
2	29	12%
3	34	14%
4	45	18%
Strongly Disagree - 5	80	32%
Abstain	32	13%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	3.60	1%

(T-89) "I think further cuts to the District and Superior Courts should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	23	9%
2	39	16%
3	66	27%
4	49	20%
Strongly Disagree - 5	35	14%
Abstain	32	13%
Object	5	2%
Average Score	3.16	1%

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

(T-90) "I think further cuts to jails should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	31	12%
2	41	16%
3	54	22%
4	45	18%
Strongly Disagree - 5	40	16%
Abstain	31	12%
Object	7	3%
Average Score	3.10	1%
		0%

(T-91) "I think further cuts to bus service should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs." 249 100%

		0%
Strongly Agree - 1	23	9%
2	45	18%
3	35	14%
4	49	20%
Strongly Disagree - 5	62	25%
Abstain	29	12%
Object	6	2%
Average Score	3.38	1%
		0%

(T-92) "I think further cuts to Public Health should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs." 249 100%

		0%
Strongly Agree - 1	21	8%
2	42	17%
3	59	24%
4	48	19%
Strongly Disagree - 5	48	19%
Abstain	25	10%
Object	6	2%
Average Score	3.28	1%

(T-93) "I think further cuts to Human Services should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs." 249 100%

		0%
Strongly Agree - 1	43	17%
2	43	17%
3	50	20%
4	41	16%
Strongly Disagree - 5	43	17%
Abstain	24	10%
Object	5	2%

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

Average Score 2.99 1%
0%

94. (T-94) Rather than having to make continued reductions, the one tax increase I would most be willing to support for **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** would be: 249 100%

a Sales Tax increase 36 14%
a Property Tax increase 18 7%
a Utililty Tax increase 26 10%
No tax increase 109 44%
Some other tax increase 27 11%
Abstain 13 5%
Object 20 8%

95. (T-95) Rather than having to make continued reductions, the one tax increase I would most be willing to support for **PUBLIC HEALTH** would be: 249 100%

a Sales Tax increase 35 14%
a Property Tax increase 27 11%
a Utililty Tax increase 19 8%
No tax increase 101 41%
Some other tax increase 38 15%
Abstain 13 5%
Object 16 6%

(T-96) Rather than having to make continued reductions, the one tax increase I would most be willing to support for **HUMAN SERVICES** would be: 249 100%

a Sales Tax increase 36 14%
a Property Tax increase 16 6%
a Utililty Tax increase 26 10%
No tax increase 105 42%
Some other tax increase 35 14%
Abstain 16 6%
Object 15 6%

(T-97) Rather than having to make continued reductions, the one tax increase I would most be willing to support for **BUS SERVICE** would be: 249 100%

a Sales Tax increase 33 13%
a Property Tax increase 23 9%
a Utililty Tax increase 19 8%
No tax increase 98 39%

<i>Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government</i>	King County Responses	
Some other tax increase	53	21%
Abstain	10	4%
Object	13	5%
 (T-98) "Tax increases should be used to maintain existing programs before adding new programs."	 249	 100%
Strongly Agree - 1	71	29%
2	49	20%
3	20	8%
4	19	8%
Strongly Disagree - 5	33	13%
Abstain	20	8%
Object	37	15%
Average Score	2.45	
 (T-99) "Tax increases should restrict implementation of any new programs, even those that have proven to be more successful than existing programs."	 249	 100%
Strongly Agree - 1	22	9%
2	13	5%
3	40	16%
4	47	19%
Strongly Disagree - 5	67	27%
Abstain	24	10%
Object	36	14%
Average Score	3.66	
 (T-100) "Residents of the unincorporated areas of the County should pay similar taxes to residents in cities."	 249	 100%
Strongly Agree - 1	71	29%
2	42	17%
3	29	12%
4	21	8%
Strongly Disagree - 5	47	19%
Abstain	24	10%
Object	15	6%
Average Score	2.67	

**Criminal Justice, Public Health, Human Services and METRO Bus Service
Statements ranked from Strongly Agree (1) to Strongly Disagree (5)**

(T-74) "Preventing the transmission of communicable disease is an important government function."	2.12
(T-72) "I believe that prevention/intervention services within the criminal justice system are more cost effective, actually reduce crime, and should be prioritized at a higher level over incarceration."	2.24
(T-85) "I would still use the bus if there were no longer shelters at transit stops."	2.27
(T-82) "King County should prioritize human services that are proven most effective in reducing involvement in the criminal justice system, even if other programs are cut."	2.30
(T-75) "Walkable communities, good trail systems, or other elements that encourage healthy behaviors, are important to me."	2.32
(T-73) "King County should be involved in protecting and improving the health of residents."	2.35
(T-81) "King County should preserve programs that assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, even if other programs are cut."	2.44
(T-79) "In a budget crisis, King County should focus on maintaining human services that provide critical, life saving services (such as emergency homeless shelters in the winter), because demand for these services rises as economic conditions worsen."	2.44
(T-98) "Tax increases should be used to maintain existing programs before adding new programs."	2.45
(T-69) "All crimes should be investigated diligently."	2.48
(T-83) "Metro should reduce weekend and all day service on low ridership routes."	2.60
(T-87) "Even though Metro will have raised bus fares by \$0.75 over two years (up to a total of \$2.75 each way for a commuter bus trip), I would rather pay an even higher fare if it means keeping bus routes intact."	2.62
(T-100) "Residents of the unincorporated areas of the County should pay similar taxes to residents in cities."	2.67
(T-76) "King County should be involved in providing health services for people who are uninsured, like immunizations, family planning, and maternal and child support."	2.68
(T-77) "King County should provide a safety net for those with no other health care options."	2.73
(T-80) "King County should preserve proven programs that prevent or reduce homelessness, even if other programs are cut."	2.74
(T-70) "Some crimes are unavoidable and it is a waste of taxpayer resources to treat every crime as serious."	2.92
(T-78) "Funding human services should be a priority, even if it is not required by law for King County to provide these services."	2.92
(T-93) "I think further cuts to <u>Human Services</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	2.99
(T-68) "My neighborhood should have more police patrols."	3.00

(T-90) "I think further cuts to <u>jails</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.10
(T-89) "I think further cuts to <u>the District and Superior Courts</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.16
(T-86) "Whenever possible, Metro should prioritize service that gets people to and from light rail lines or train stops over directly serving other destinations."	3.20
(T-84) "I would prefer if Metro reduced the amount of bus service available before they impact security and cleanliness of my bus trip."	3.27
(T-92) "I think further cuts to <u>Public Health</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.28
(T-91) "I think further cuts to <u>bus service</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.38
(T-88) "I think further cuts to <u>the Sheriff's department</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.60
(T-99) "Tax increases should restrict implementation of any new programs, even those that have proven to be more successful than existing programs."	3.66
(T-71) "The county should reduce law enforcement services to urban unincorporated areas to encourage incorporation or annexation of these areas."	3.82

Questions from the Councilor Coordinator

In our previous Round 2 forums on the King County Budget (February-March, 2009), and even though no questions were asked about it, many Citizen Councilors offered an opinion (both for and against) on the creation of a state and/or county income tax. Because it came up more often than we would have expected, we wanted your opinions on three increasingly specific statements about the creation of an income tax for the exclusive benefit of the county.

(T-101) *"The State Legislature should give King County voters the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very wealthiest income earners of our county."* 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	68	27%
2	10	4%
3	14	6%
4	9	4%
Strongly Disagree - 5	108	43%
Abstain	27	11%
Object	13	5%
Average Score	3.38	

102. (T-102) *"The State Legislature should give King County voters the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very wealthiest income earners of our county **BUT ONLY IF** one or more other general taxes (such as property and/or sales taxes) were reduced across the board for everyone by the same amount raised by the new county income tax."* 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	30	12%
2	11	4%
3	24	10%
4	23	9%
Strongly Disagree - 5	114	46%
Abstain	27	11%
Object	20	8%
Average Score	3.89	

103. (T-103) *"The State Legislature should give King County voters the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very wealthiest income earners of our county but only if one or more other general taxes (such as property and/or sales taxes) were reduced across the board for everyone by the same amount raised by the new county income tax **AND ONLY IF** there were strict limits placed on total King County spending."* 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	26	10%
2	20	8%
3	27	11%
4	30	12%
Strongly Disagree - 5	102	41%
Abstain	27	11%
Object	17	7%
Average Score	3.79	

Summary (1=Very satisfied 5=Very dissatisfied)

(T-101) "The State Legislature should give King County voters the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very wealthiest income earners of our county." 3.38

103. (T-103) "The State Legislature should give King County voters the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very wealthiest income earners of our county but only if one or more other general taxes (such as property and/or sales taxes) were reduced across the board for everyone by the same amount raised by the new county income tax **AND ONLY IF** there were strict limits placed on total King County spending." 3.79

102. (T-102) "The State Legislature should give King County voters the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very wealthiest income earners of our county **BUT ONLY IF** one or more other general taxes (such as property and/or sales taxes) were reduced across the board for everyone by the same amount raised by the new county income tax." 3.89

Process Questions

Please help choose future topics for the *Countywide Community Forums*, and help evaluate and improve the process you have just experienced, by answering the following process questions.

104. (P-1) **What topic would you like to discuss in future *Countywide Community Forums*?** 248 100%

A specific transportation proposal	47	19%
Environmental protection in King County	28	11%
Tax Reform in King County	71	29%
Public Safety and the Justice System in King County	40	16%
Some other topic	31	13%
Abstain	27	11%
Object	4	2%

(P-2) *Did you previously participate in Rounds 1 or 2 of the Countywide Community Forums? (Round 1 was on the topic of Transportation in June/July 2008 while Round 2 was on the King County Budget in February/March 2009.)* 249 100%

Yes. Both rounds	69	28%
Yes. One of the two previous rounds.	78	31%
No. I only recently found out about the forums.	46	18%
No. I knew about the forums, but was not interested in the previous topics.	4	2%
No. I wanted to attend, but was not able to.	37	15%
Abstain	14	6%
Object	1	0%

(P-3) *How do you rate the information presented in the 20-minute "Values and Performance of King County Government" video?* 249 100%

Excellent	10	4%
Good	67	27%
Fair or average	69	28%
Poor	48	19%
Very poor	12	5%
Abstain	41	16%
Object	2	1%

(P-4) *In general, do you think the 20-minute "Values and Performance of King County Government" video was fair and evenhanded?* 249 100%

Countywide Community Forums: Values & Performance of King County Government

King County
Responses

Very fair and even handed	47	19%
Somewhat fair and even handed	73	29%
Somewhat biased	47	19%
Very biased	18	7%
Abstain	57	23%
Object	7	3%

(P-5) **Did you think the length of this Opinionnaire® has been:** 249 100%

About right	80	32%
Long but OK	95	38%
Too long	44	18%
Too short	4	2%
Other	4	2%
Abstain	19	8%
Object	3	1%

(P-6) How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement, "Overall, I believe the Countywide Community Forums are on the right track." 249 100%

Strongly Agree - 1	91	37%
2	76	31%
3	37	15%
4	9	4%
Strongly Disagree - 5	14	6%
Abstain	19	8%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.03	