

SOUTH JORDAN CITY
CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING

February 21, 2023

Present: Mayor Dawn Ramsey, Council Member Patrick Harris, Council Member Don Shelton, Council Member Brad Marlor, Council Member Jason McGuire, City Manager Gary Whatcott, Deputy City Manager Dustin Lewis, CFO Sunil Naidu, Director of Strategy & Budget Don Tingey, Director of Commerce Brian Preece, Director of Public Works Jason Rasmussen, Associate Director of Public Works Colby Hill, Director of Administrative Services Melinda Seager, City Attorney Ryan Loose, City Recorder Anna Crookston, GIS Coordinator Matt Jarman, Senior IS Tech Phill Brown, IS Specialist Ken Roberts, Director of Planning Steven Schaefermeyer, City Engineer Brad Klavano, Fire Chief Chris Dawson, Deputy Police Chief Jason Knight, Director of Recreation Janell Payne, Art's Program Coordinator Tiffany Parker, Meeting Transcriptionist Diana Baun, Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave, Planning Commissioner Nathan Gedge, Executive Assistant to the City Manager Katie Olsen

Absent: Council Member Tamara Zander

Others: Karyl Baun, Sam Bishop, Zanna Bruening, Jonathan White, Alyssa Lonni, Meghna Kamath, Carly Pace, Tiffany Parker, Brenna Miller, Kevin Warner, Skyler Pedroza, Bridger Pedroza, Jason Yeaman, Kyrene Gibbs, Laura Gaillard, Emily Gray, Jared

4:42 PM
STUDY MEETING

A. Welcome, Roll Call, and Introduction: *By Mayor Dawn Ramsey*

Mayor Ramsey welcomed everyone present and introduced the meeting. She excused Council Member Zander who was absent from the meeting.

B. Invocation: *By Council Member Jason McGuire*

Council Member McGuire offered the invocation.

C. Mayor and Council Coordination

Council Member Shelton reminded everyone of the legislative meeting this Saturday at Jordan Valley Hospital at 8:00 a.m.

Mayor Ramsey discussed the current state of the legislature and that the council will be asked soon to start reaching out to legislators. She also noted how much she appreciated Representative

Pulsipher's efforts to collaborate with the city and find out how the city feels about certain issues.

Council Member McGuire noted that he believes Representative Pulsipher was the only one to vote "no" against the redistribution of the sales tax for the gravel pits.

Mayor Ramsey noted that was key, and she very much appreciated that. That already passed the House and Senate, and is the first time in 40 years that a change to the 50/50 sales tax distribution has taken place. The bill favors cities with gravel pits and hurts all the others. She had a meeting with the governor's office and told him what the impact is to South Jordan City. That when combined with all the other bills coming as unfunded mandates and cuts from revenue, they can't run a city if the state keeps taking all the money and the ability to even hold onto the money that the city has worked hard to keep to ensure property taxes stay low. The governor's office did listen, and The League intends to sign a veto letter asking the governor to veto the bill with many explanations as to why the process was out of order, that it is constitutionally challengeable, along with several other things.

Council Member Marlors asked what percentage of cities are being affected by this, and what the big item is that we are getting hit on.

Mayor Ramsey explained that this is taking a portion of our sales tax and distributing it to cities to cover their impact from gravel pits.

Attorney Loose briefly explained the bill and said that the House forced it through in a day while The League was still putting together numbers to show how much cities would lose if it passed. He noted that they are trying to incentivize cities to allow more gravel pits, because of all the controversy related to them.

Council Member McGuire added that it then ties into HB 527, where they are trying to take away local control from the counties related to gravel pits.

Mayor Ramsey said they anticipate sending in a letter that most of the cities in the state, not the ones benefitting from it, will likely sign. Whether the governor vetoes it or not, the expectation is that he will then convene both parties to really listen and open up another discussion regarding how best to handle the situation. Gravel pits have come back every year as an issue, and from a policy perspective, this is not the way to appropriately handle the impact from gravel pits.

Council Member McGuire asked what would keep this from spreading to other industries, like refineries, etc.

Mayor Ramsey responded that's the reason 50/50 has been fought against for 40 years because it creates winners and losers, and opens a door that could lead to something worse and worse.

D. Discussion/Review of Regular Council Meeting

Public Hearing Item

- Resolution R2023-11, Adopting the South Jordan Streetscape Master Plan for the City of South Jordan.

Council Member Shelton had some questions that he emailed to Colby Hill, and received a response from him yesterday. He noted that he forwarded his email, and the responses, to everyone and asked to have that added into the record (Attachment C).

E. Presentation Items

E.1. Art's Council member appointment (*By Director of Recreation Janell Payne*).

Director of Recreation Janell Payne briefly introduced the newest Art's Council applicant, Jason Yeaman.

Mayor Ramsey added that Mr. Yeaman took the photograph for the city's Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, and he has artwork hanging in City Hall as well. She then asked Mr. Yeaman to tell them a little bit about himself and his desire to be on the Art's Council.

Jason Yeaman said he was approached by Communications Manager Rachael Van Cleave about being a part of the Art's Council, and he has been looking for an outlet to serve. Getting involved with the local government is something he thinks is great and he has taken many photos of those in attendance. When not taking photos he is a defense contractor on the base, his group helps train fighter pilots. He has been married to his wife, for 21 years and he has a son and daughter, along with two dogs and he lives in Daybreak.

Council Member McGuire asked Mr. Yeaman if he had a background in any other arts.

Mr. Yeaman responded not professionally. He does some professional photography and likes to play music, along with a little bit of videography. He has done some cinematography and helped some independent films come to fruition, especially with his drones.

Mayor Ramsey noted that he works with Mountain Creek Middle School every year.

Council Member Marlbor asked if he has enough time for the extracurricular activities in the city with the arts, showing up to meetings and contributing.

Mr. Yeaman responded yes. He came here to investigate the requirements for the position and he was told they meet once a month for a few hours, and he can definitely spare the time for that.

Council Member Shelton asked about the kinds of drones he uses.

Mr. Yeaman has a Mavic 3 which is his latest purchase, he also has a FBP drone and a Mavic 2 Pro, which was his workhorse for many years.

Mayor Ramsey gave a brief explanation of the process, and that they will get in touch with him tonight with their decision.

E.2. Y2 Analytics Community Survey results *(By Director of Strategy & Budget Don Tingey) and Y2 Analytics*.

Kyrene Gibbs reviewed her prepared presentation of the survey results (Attachment A).

Mayor Ramsey noted the results tell her there are some messages the city needs to be better about sharing, regarding the work being done and telling stories about the great amounts of work going into planning for the long-term needs of a growing community. The community isn't as aware as she'd like them to be, and there is an education opportunity there to tell those stories and do more.

Ms. Gibbs noted the growing pains don't disappear overnight, so as things are being resolved she thinks residents will start to see the work going into this.

Council Member Harris said many residents are concerned with the issues being seen on the news, like water.

Council Member Marlbor noted the survey went out before the news of the Rio Tinto Annexation, so as a result of that alone he thinks there would be more concerns expressed in regards to growth.

Director Tingey said the last few days of the survey was when that announcement was made, and there were a lot of comments in the survey about water.

Ms. Gibbs continued reviewing the results in Attachment A.

Director Rasmussen noted that, in regards to water, five or more years ago the concerns expressed by residents were all about the rates being too high. There has been a switch, as all the concerns now related to water are whether or not there will be enough.

Ms. Gibbs continued reviewing results from Attachment A. She noted that a higher concern for the roads was an abnormal result, and asked if there was a new project, or something going on that might have prompted those concerns.

The council discussed and agreed that it's probably the pothole issues this year with the snow storms.

Ms. Gibbs said it's normal to have fluctuations in that score, especially when there is a project undertaken or an issue that many residents are encountering. She continued reviewing the results from Attachment A.

Council Member Harris asked if there were any comments on the frequency of city communication.

Ms. Gibbs discussed some questions that were asked in that area, and she noted they had not looked at those numbers broken out in terms of the specific channels of communication. However, she will follow-up with that after this meeting and let the city know if residents feel the current frequency of communication is right. She said that minus those residents who prefer email communication, the rest feel that the cadence of information received from the city is about right, and if anything they would be interested in receiving slightly more information from the city.

The council discussed the “newspaper” option in the survey and agreed that it’s probably the South Jordan Journal, even though the city doesn’t publish that.

Ms. Gibbs discussed social media and said there is definitely an opportunity to leverage city social media accounts, as residents expressed a desire to see more there. She continued reviewing results from Attachment A.

Council Member Harris believes that fewer residents are having to contact the city because of the updated city website, and the fact that it’s so much easier to use.

Ms. Gibbs continued reviewing the results from Attachment A, adding that most residents are indicating a high amount of efficiency when they do need to contact the city, with very few residents saying their question or concern was not addressed.

A discussion ensued regarding newer resident results versus longer term resident responses and the effect of the newer resident responses who indicated they were “unsure.”

Council Member Marlors said he believes that this next year will probably create some positives in terms of other recreational opportunities with the announcement of the Larry H. Miller properties and the stadium. He also thinks they will get a lot of negative feedback as far as continued growth because of the annexation, water and traffic. He thinks they have handled it well overall.

Director Tingey noted the ballpark announcement happened during the time of this survey as well.

F. Discussion Item

F.1. Art’s Council discussion (*By Arts Council Chair Laura Gaillard*).

Laura Gaillard reviewed her prepared presentation about the Art’s Council (Attachment B). She added that she hopes Jason Yeaman gets approved because she thinks he would be a wonderful addition to the Art’s Council.

Art's Program Coordinator Tiffany Parker gave a brief introduction, she worked for the city at the Recreation Center for 12 years and she is back as the new Arts Program Coordinator.

The council and staff discussed some of the new programs available, as well as the upcoming Art and Quilt Shows. Applications for both shows are available currently online.

Council Member McGuire motioned to move from the City Council Study Meeting to Executive Closed Session. Council Member Shelton seconded the motion; vote was unanimous in favor. Council Member Zander was absent from the vote.

RECESS CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING AND MOVE TO EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

G. Executive Closed Session

G.1. Discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION AND RETURN TO CITY COUNCIL STUDY MEETING

Council Member Shelton motioned to adjourn the Executive Closed Session and return to the City Council Study Meeting. Council Member Marlor seconded the motion; vote was unanimous in favor. Council Member Zander was absent from the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Shelton motioned to adjourn the February 21, 2023 City Council Study Meeting. Council Member Harris seconded the motion; vote was unanimous in favor. Council Member Zander was absent from the vote.

The February 21, 2023 City Council Study meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

This is a true and correct copy of the February 21, 2023 City Council Study Meeting Minutes, which were approved on March 7, 2023.

Anna Crookston

South Jordan City Recorder



SOUTH JORDAN
U T A H

SOUTH JORDAN CITIZEN SURVEY 2023 PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH





- 1 A large majority of residents believe the city is generally going in the right direction, consistent with prior years' evaluations. Only 12% view South Jordan as heading in the wrong direction.
- 2 Residents give the city especially high ratings for providing a safe community and opportunities to participate in city events.
- 3 Residents' major concerns continue to be focused on managing growth, but with a renewed sense of concern about water conservation efforts. Infrastructure and traffic issues are especially common looking toward the future 3-5 years from now.
- 4 Most residents feel that they are receiving a good value for their tax dollar (73%). District 1 residents continue to be the most satisfied with 76% indicating the value for their tax dollar as "Excellent" or "Good."
- 5 Ratings for city code enforcement have returned to prior year levels after a spike in satisfaction in 2022, while recycling ratings continue to rebound and zoning sees a slight increase in satisfaction.
- 6 Residents' city contact rates have continued to decline, while satisfaction with city interactions remains high, pointing to efficient communication channels and services. Regarding preferred information channels, half of residents say they prefer to receive updates about the city via email.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

SURVEY METHODOLOGY



Survey interviews were completed **January 7-23, 2023**. The sampling frame of South Jordan residents came from an updated panel list consisting of contacts from a South Jordan City **utilities list** and from the official **Utah Voter File**.

83%

We emailed **8,598 invitations** and sent approximately **3,000 text messages** to sampled residents. 1,410 emails bounced due to either incorrect email addresses or high spam filter settings, resulting in a **deliverability rate of 83%**.

92%

1,271 citizens responded. **1,174** of them completed the online surveys and had addresses in **South Jordan**. This results in a **response rate of approximately 92% overall**. Each email address could respond only once.

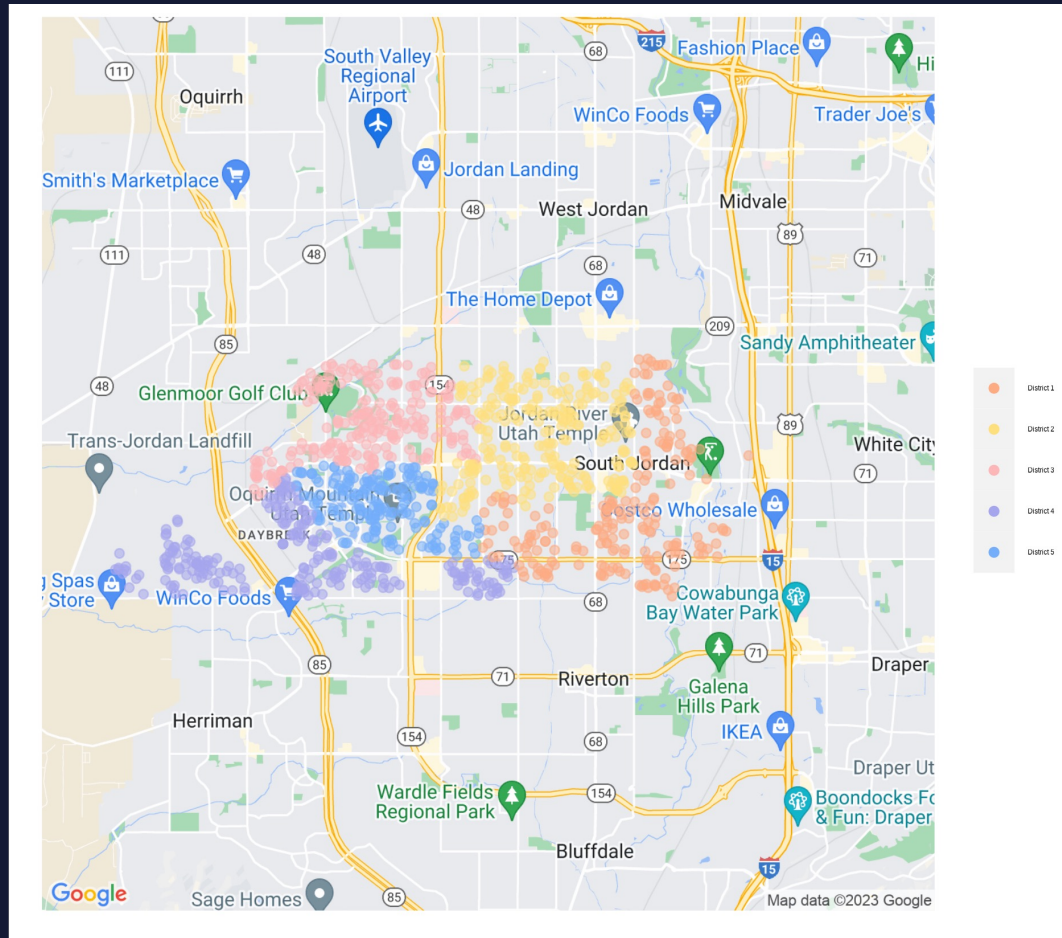
+ 2.8
-

1,174 interviews among an estimated adult population of **80k** results in a **margin of error for the survey of plus or minus 2.8 percentage points**. Responses were weighted on age, gender, and city council district to **better approximate city demographic composition**.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



We have significant representation in each of South Jordan's five City Council districts with roughly 190-379 panelists residing in each district.



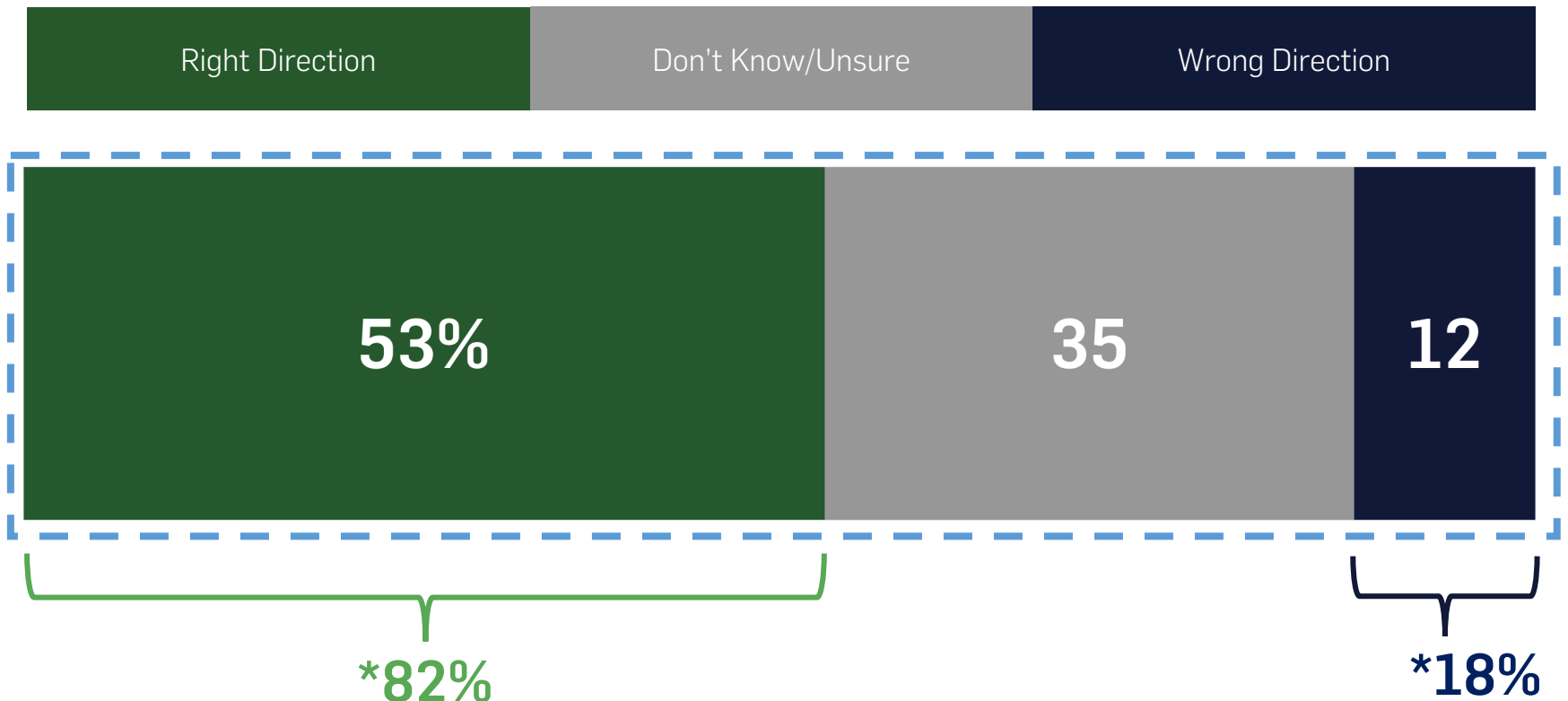
CITY DIRECTION & PERCEPTIONS

CITY HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Just over half of respondents (53%) say the city is headed in the right direction. Just 12% say things are headed in the wrong direction, and about 1-in-3 residents are unsure. Excluding those who decline to express an opinion, more than 8-out-of-10 respondents feel the city is headed in the right direction.

Q

Overall, would you say the city of South Jordan is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?



**Percentages represent proportion of respondents after filtering out "Don't know/unsure" responses*

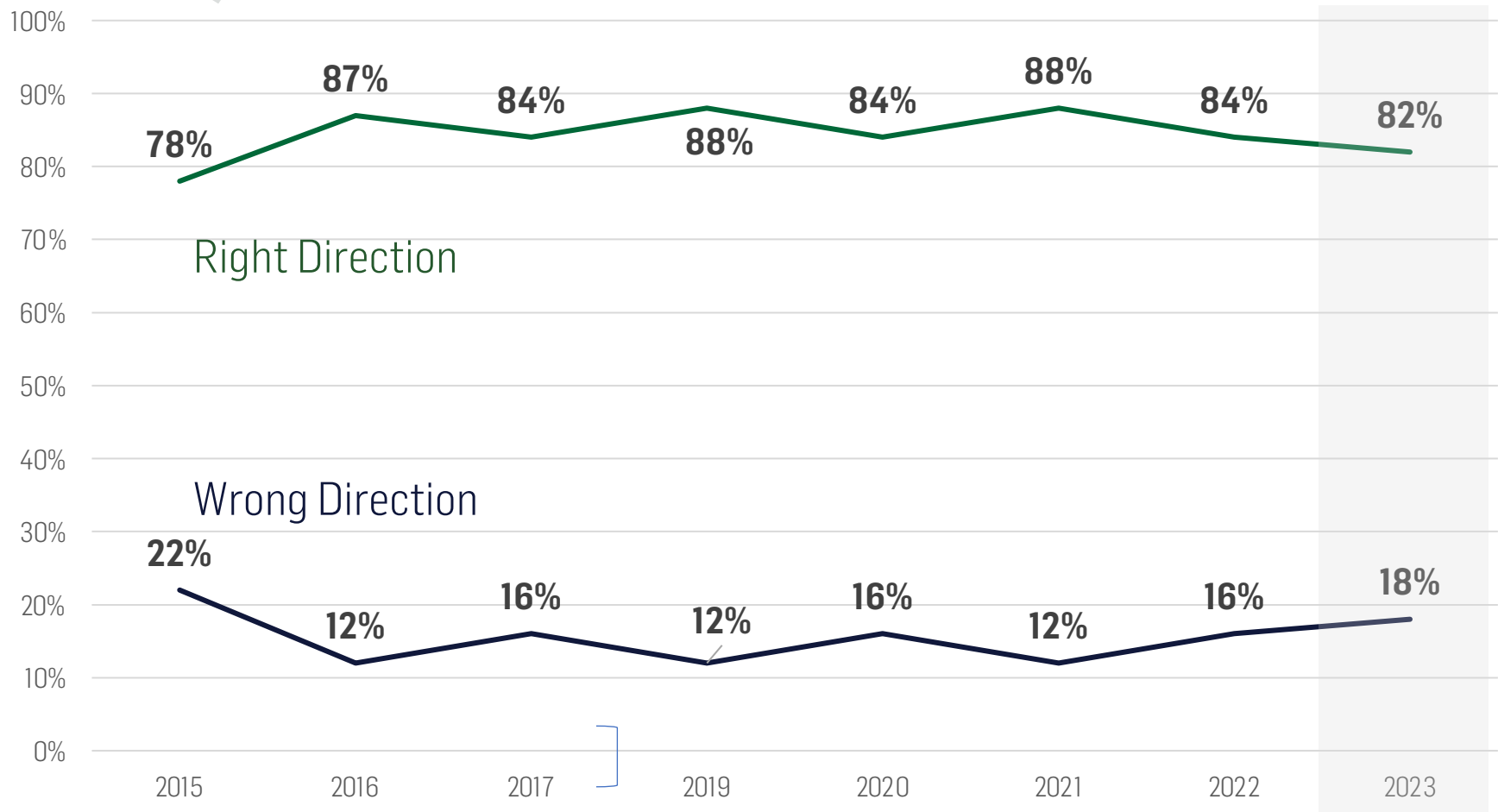
CITY HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Statistically, the share of residents who say the city is headed in the right direction is down slightly (-2 percentage points) from previous years. The proportion of residents who say things are headed in the wrong direction is slightly higher compared to previous years, but still lower than in 2015.

Q

*Overall, would you say the city of South Jordan is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?

*Percentages exclude "DK/Unsure" responses

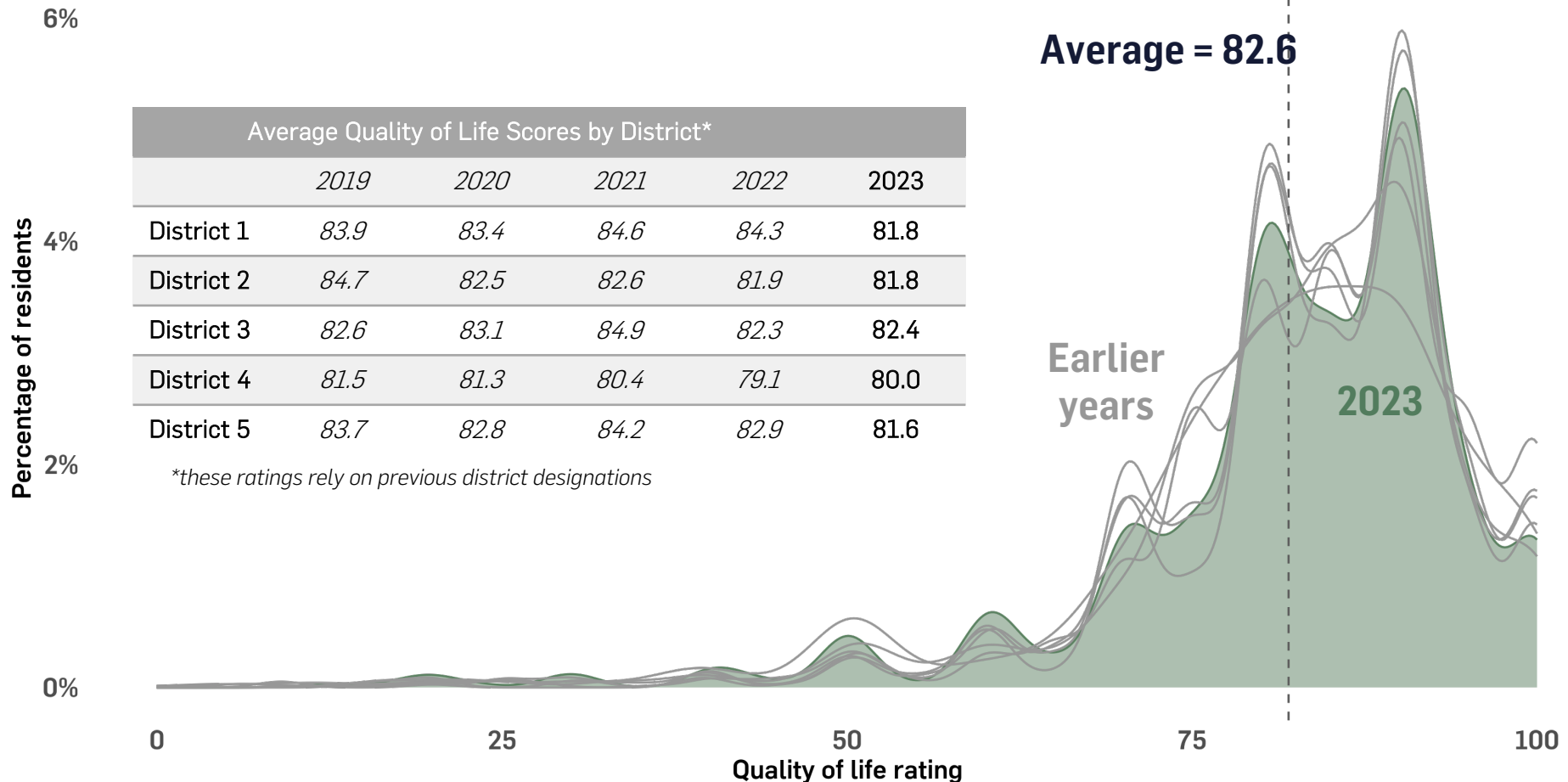


OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE: 82/100

Residents reported a high quality of life, consistent with past years. Residents in District 3 offer the highest quality of life ratings on average.

Q

All things considered, on a scale from 0 to 100, with 0 being very low and 100 being very high, how would you rate your overall quality of life in South Jordan?

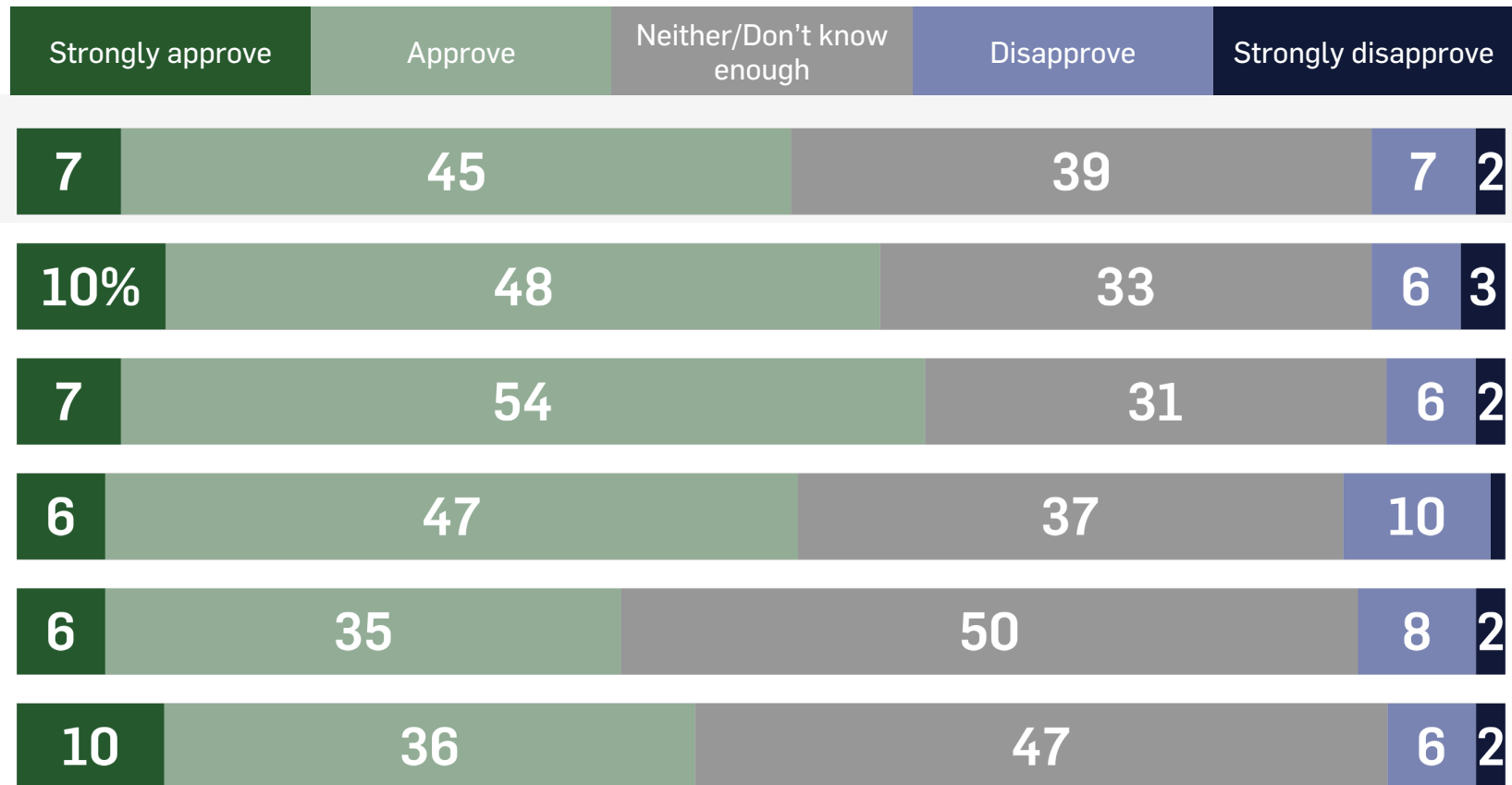


MAJORITY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL

52% of residents approve of how the Mayor and City Council are doing their jobs; this approval level is down 17 points from last year. Job approval is highest in District 2.



Do you approve or disapprove of how the South Jordan Mayor and City Council are handling their jobs?

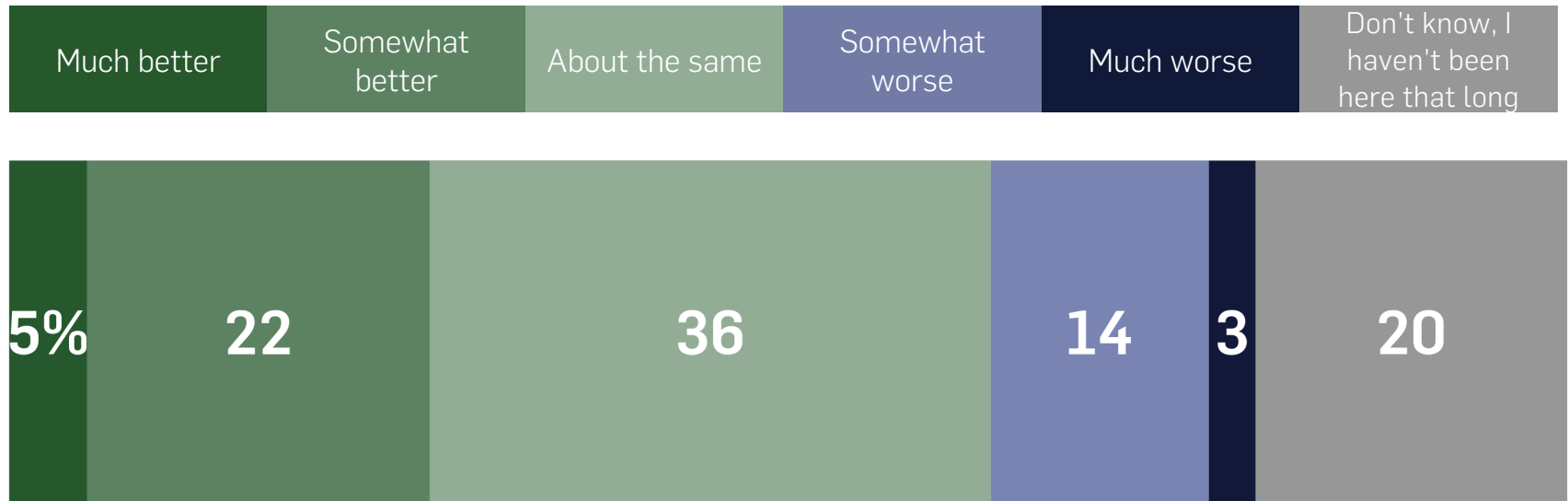


SOUTH JORDAN BETTER THAN 5 YEARS AGO

27% of residents say that South Jordan is better than it was 5 years ago. 20% say they have not been here long enough to make the comparison, and 17% say South Jordan is somewhat or much worse than it was 5 years ago.

Q

How would you rate the City of South Jordan today compared to five years ago?
Would you say it is...



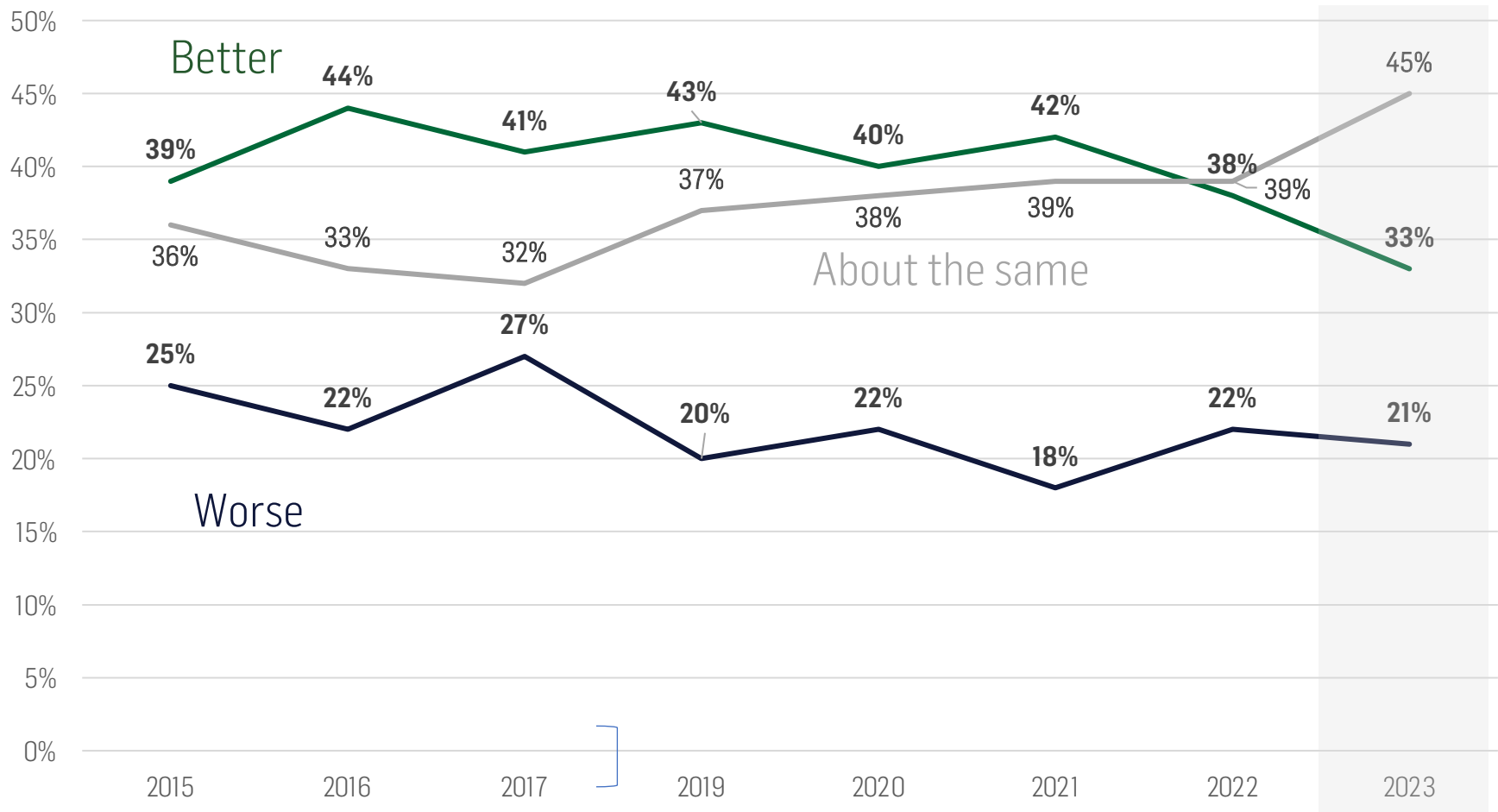
SOJO LARGELY SEEN AS MAINTAINING STATUS QUO

33% of residents say the city is better now than it was five years ago (down by -5 percentage points from last year), while slightly fewer respondents (21%) say that it is worse compared to last year. Nearly half of respondents reported that things in South Jordan are about the same as they were five years ago—a positive reflection given the consistently high quality of life ratings over time.

Q

*How would you rate the City of South Jordan today compared to five years ago?
Would you say it is...

**Percentages exclude "DK/Unsure" responses*



SOUTH JORDAN FAVORITES: SAFETY AND COMMUNITY

What do you like most about living in South Jordan?



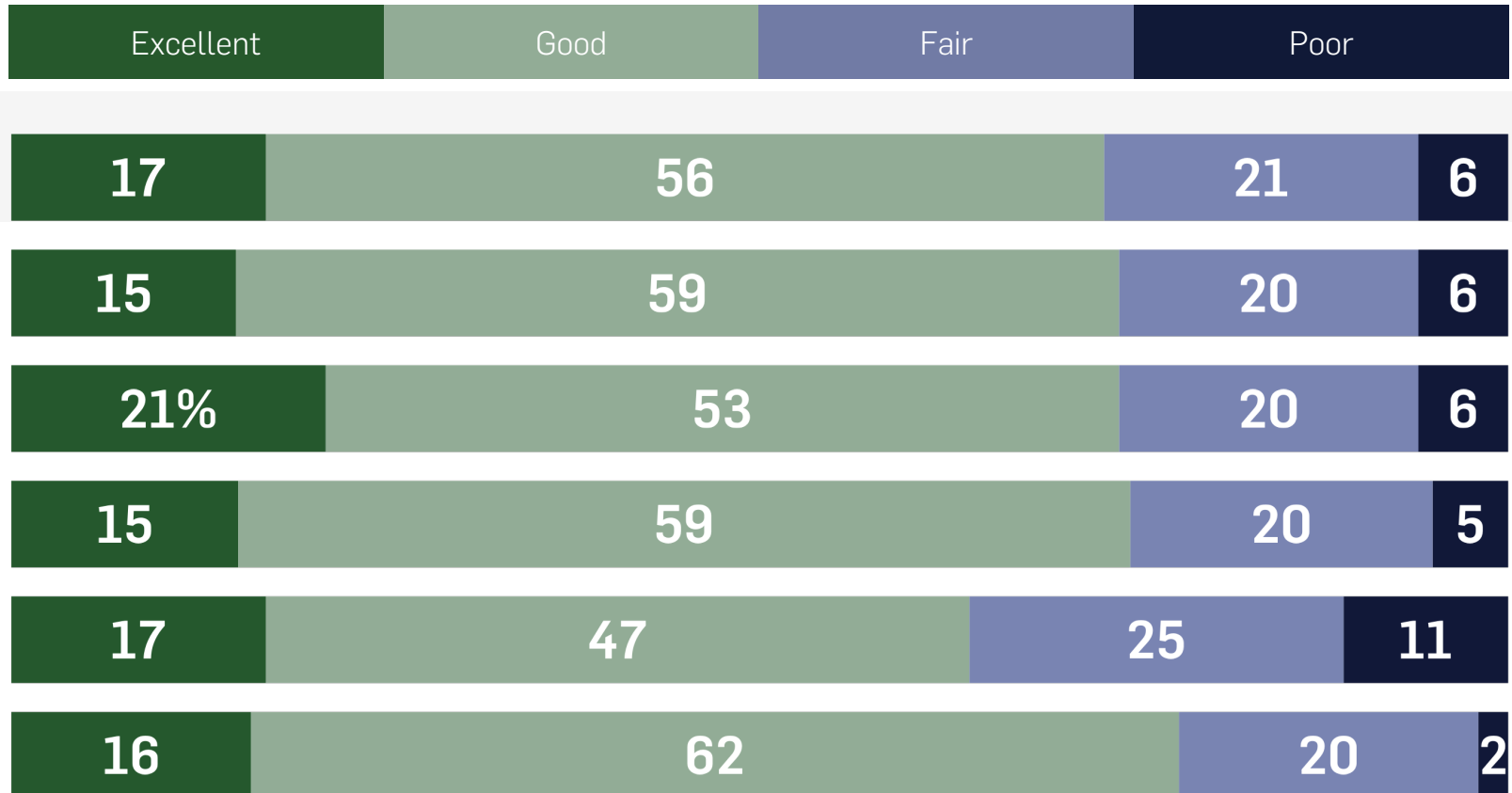
*Only words mentioned >2 times are shown in the visualization above

GOOD SERVICE VALUE THROUGHOUT THE CITY

73% of residents feel that the value of their tax dollar is good or excellent. Only 6% think that it is poor. District 5 rates the service for their tax dollar the highest.



In general, how do you rate the service you receive from South Jordan for your tax dollar?

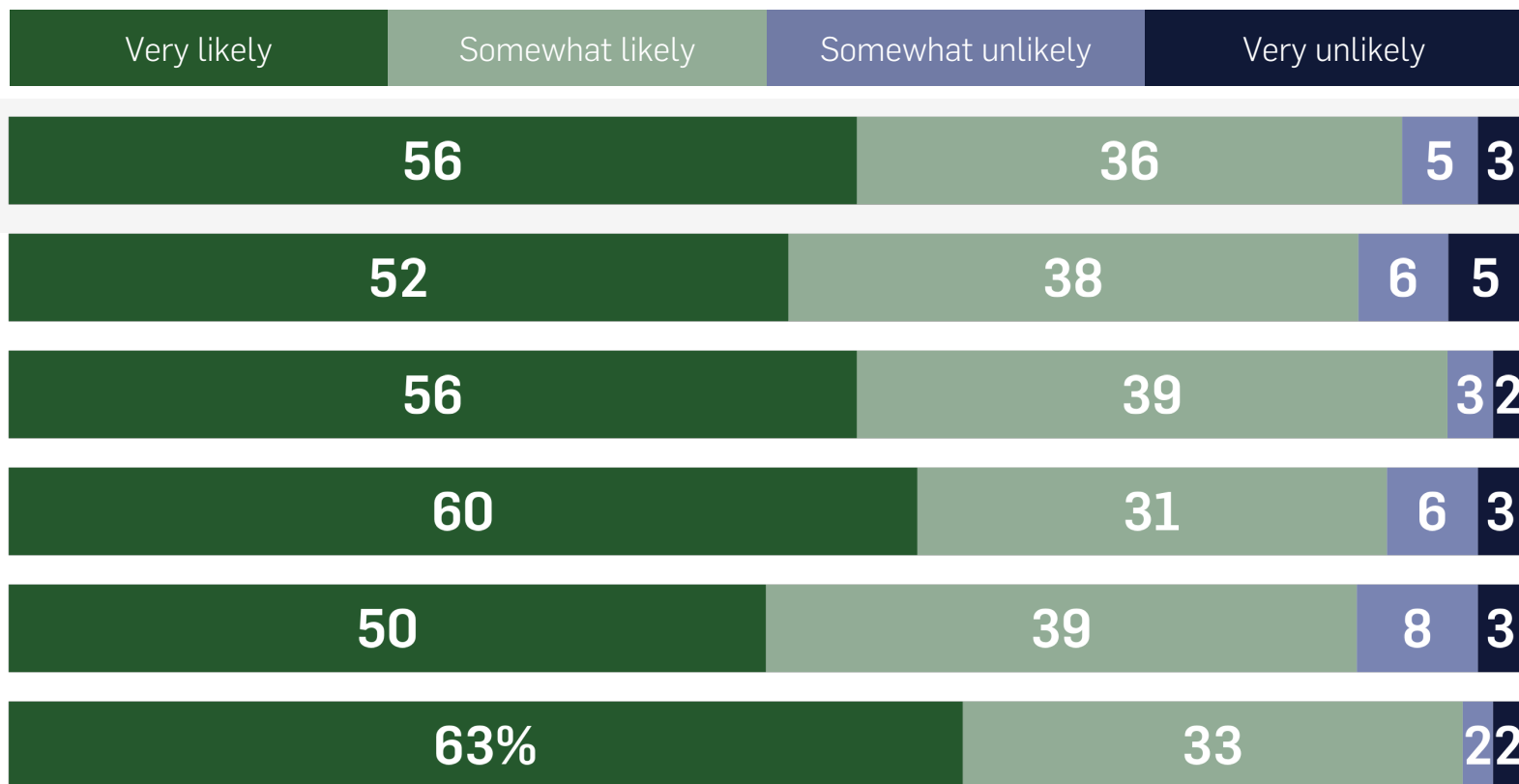


SOUTH JORDAN HIGHLY RECOMMENDABLE

Likelihood to recommend South Jordan as a good place to live is very high—92% of residents say they would recommend South Jordan to family and friends.



How likely are you to recommend the City of South Jordan to friends and family as a good place to live?



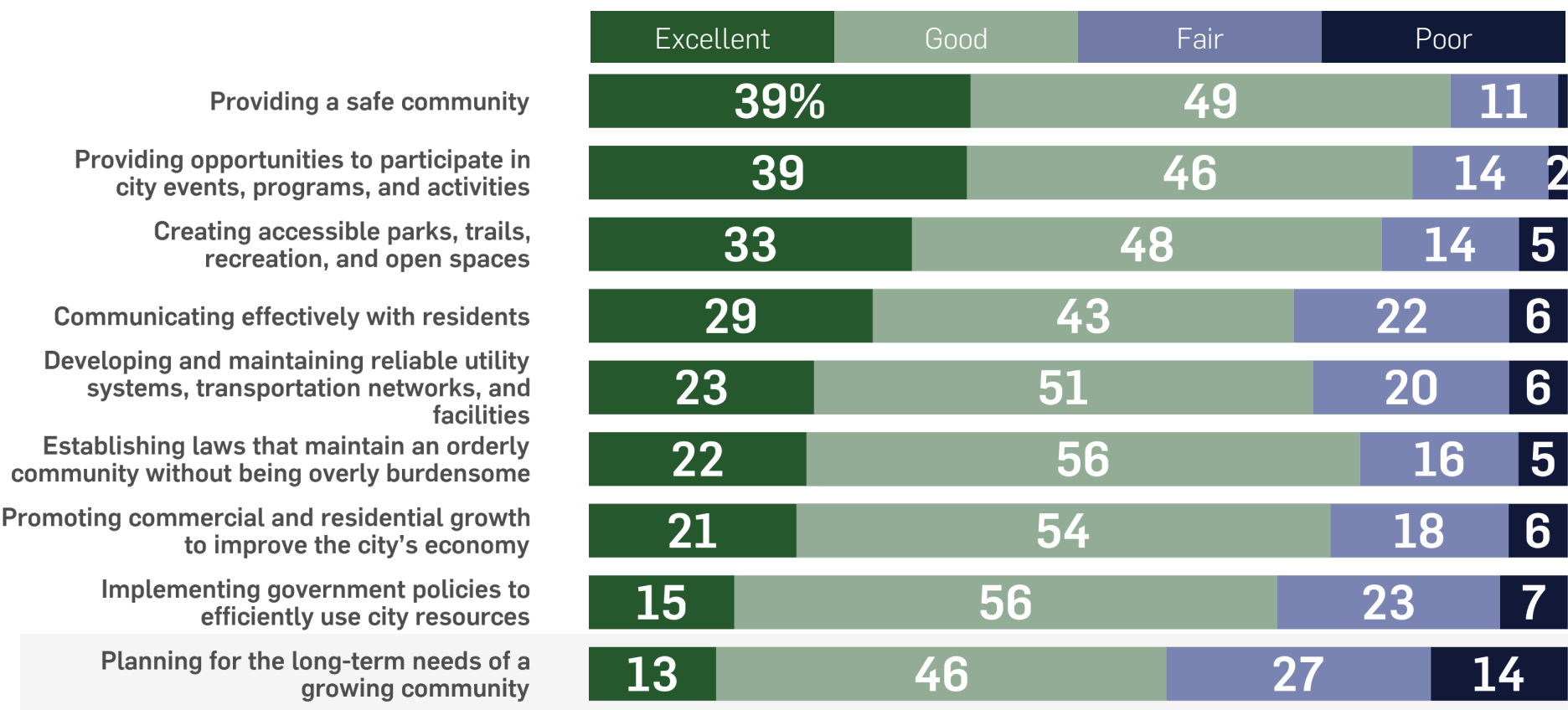
COMMUNITY PRIORITIES AND CITY SERVICES

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT IN PLANNING FOR GROWTH

Residents reported improvement in performance for all community priorities. Planning for long term growth continues to be rated the lowest, though a majority of residents suggest the City is doing an excellent or good job in that regard as well.



The elected officials of South Jordan have set priorities that they use to help them make decisions. Officials would like to know how well they are doing at meeting these priorities. To the best of your knowledge, how would you rate South Jordan's performance in each of the following categories?

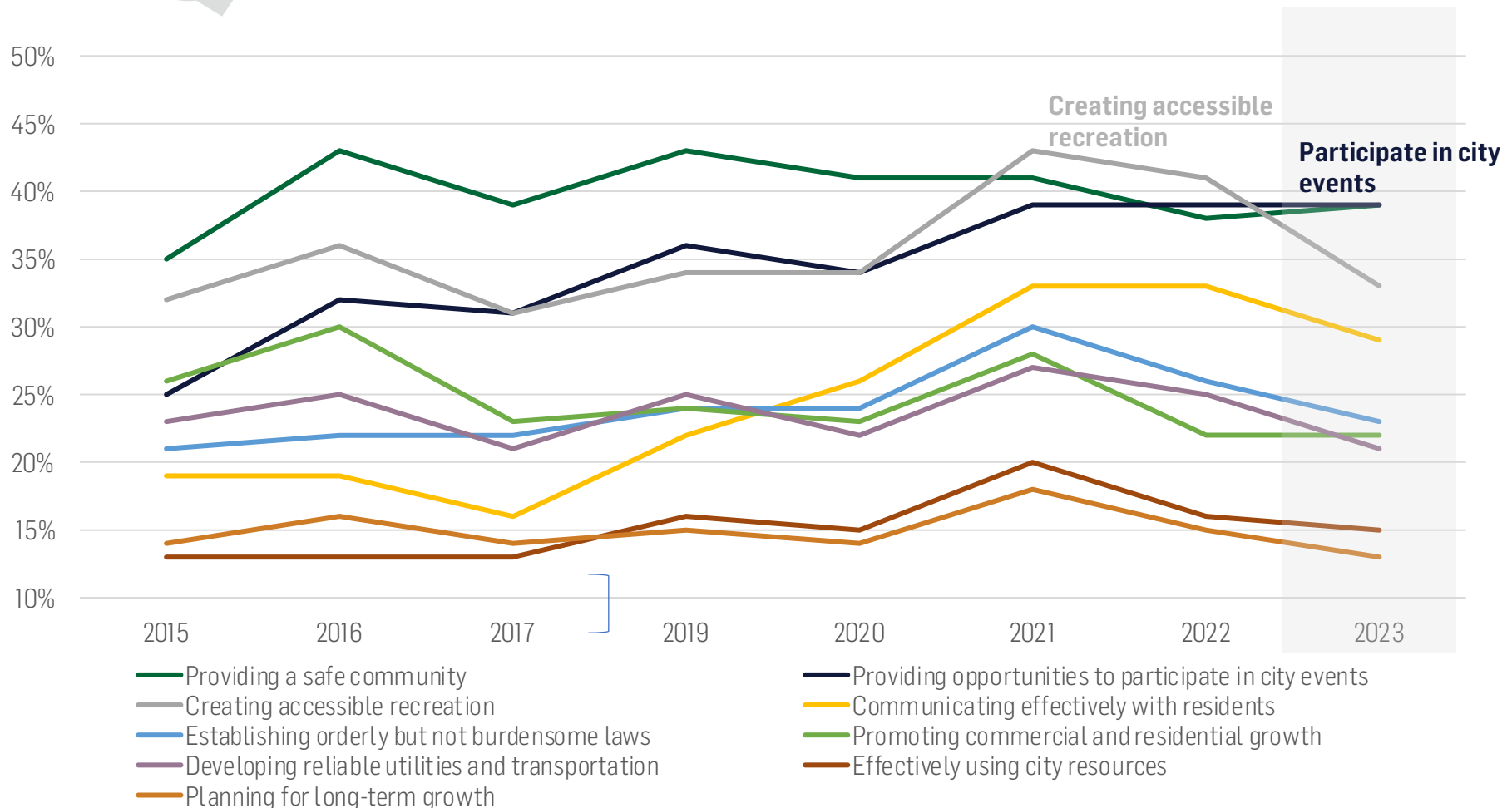


ACCESSIBLE RECREATION DOWN FROM 2022

Creating accessible recreation saw the greatest decline (-8 percentage points) and has returned to pre-pandemic levels. Providing opportunities for city events has made the steadiest improvement since 2015.

Q

How would you rate South Jordan's performance in each of the following categories?
(% rated as excellent)



TOP ISSUE TODAY & TOMORROW: GROWTH

Q In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing South Jordan **today**?

Q What is the most important issue facing South Jordan in the next 3-5 years?

[illegible][illegible]

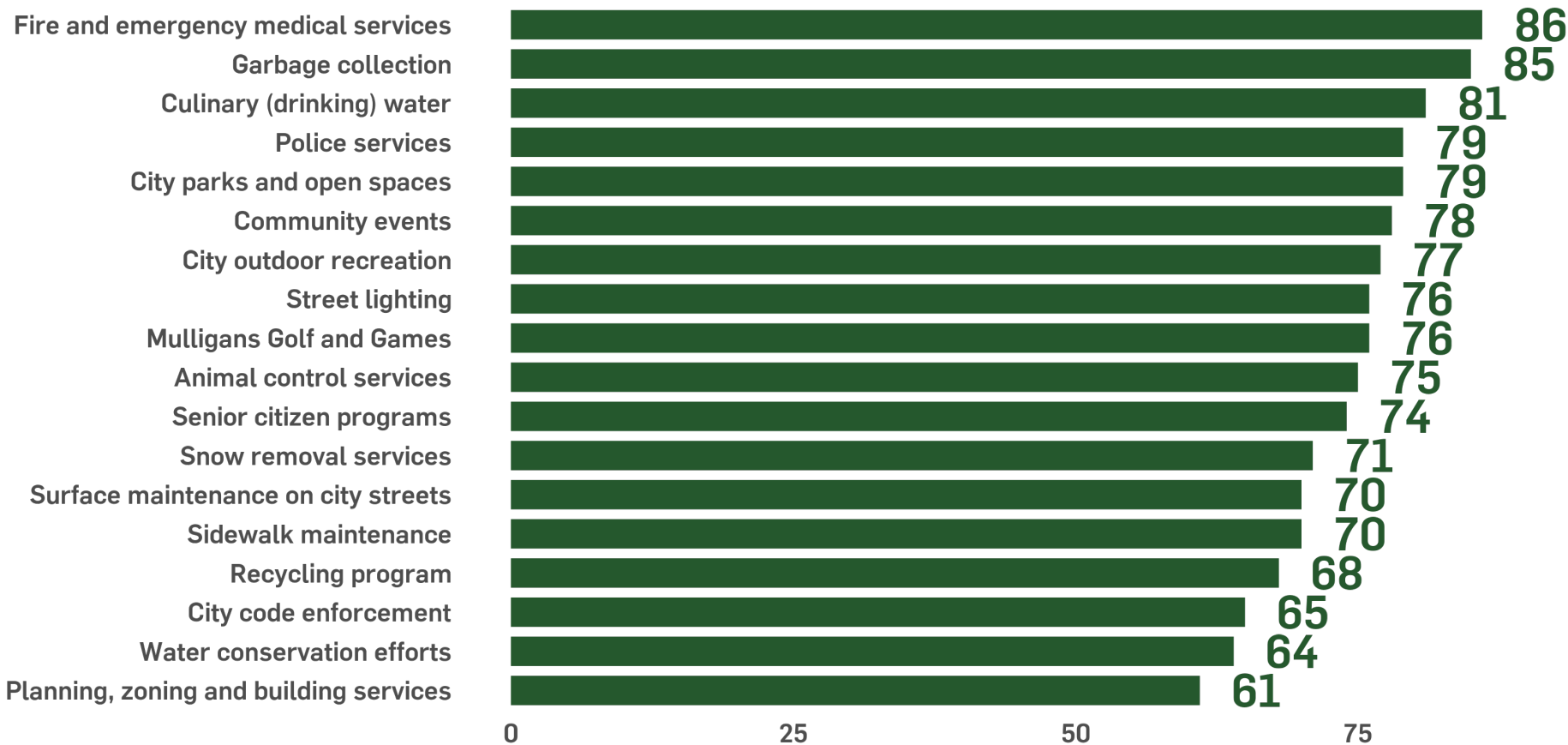
FIRE & EMS, GARBAGE SERVICES RECEIVE TOP MARKS

Residents give the highest service ratings to fire and emergency medical, garbage collection, drinking water, and police: all over 80/100. They give the lowest ratings to water conservation and planning, zoning, and building services.

Q

The elected officials of South Jordan have set priorities that they use to help them make decisions. Officials would like to know how well they are doing at meeting these priorities. To the best of your knowledge, how would you rate South Jordan's performance in each of the following categories?

Average Score for City Services

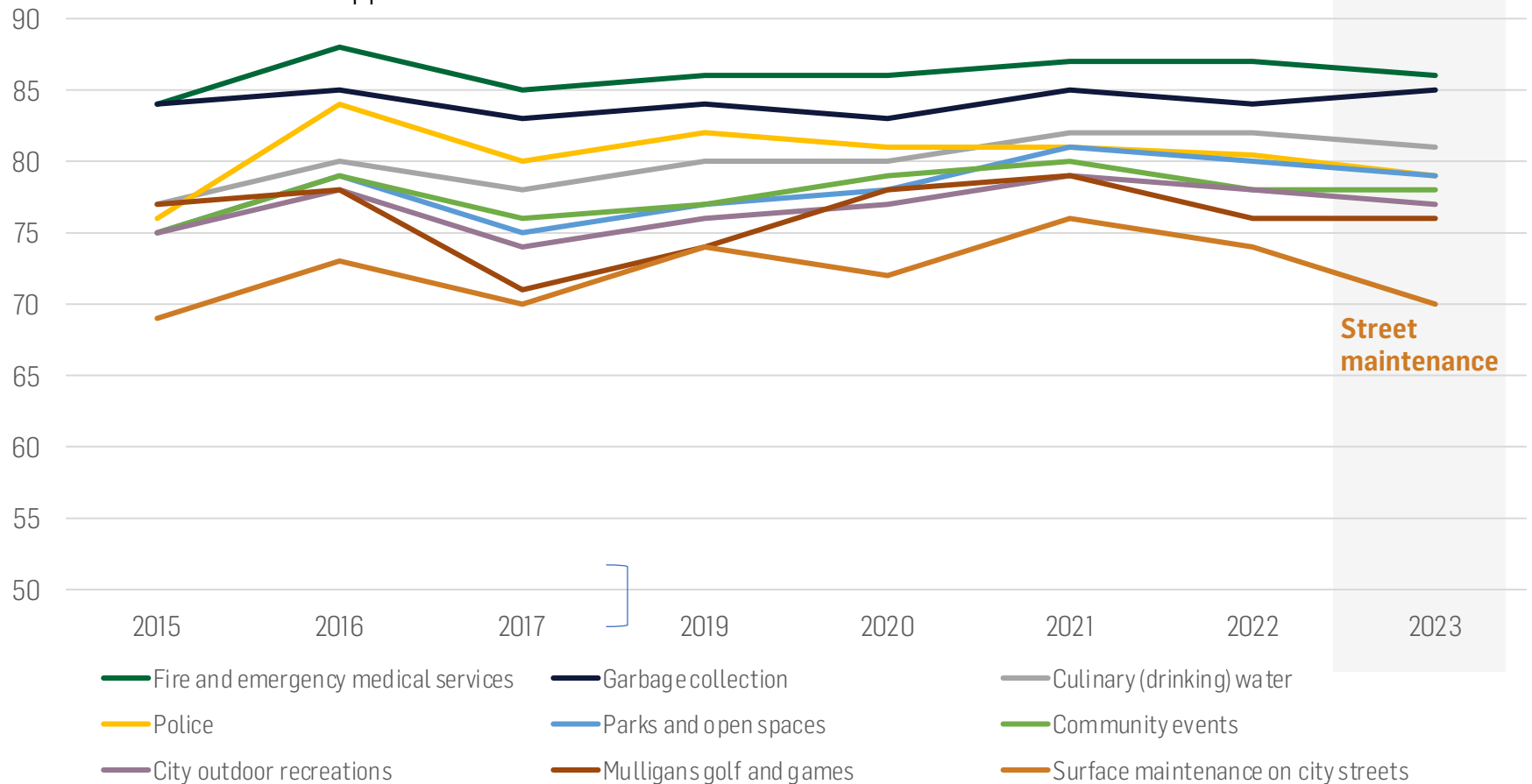


TOP TIER SERVICES: MAJORITY CONSISTENTLY HIGH

Most top tier services have remained consistent since the previous year. Fire & EMS continues to be the highest-rated city service. Surface maintenance on city streets was the only service to decrease (-4 percentage points).

Q

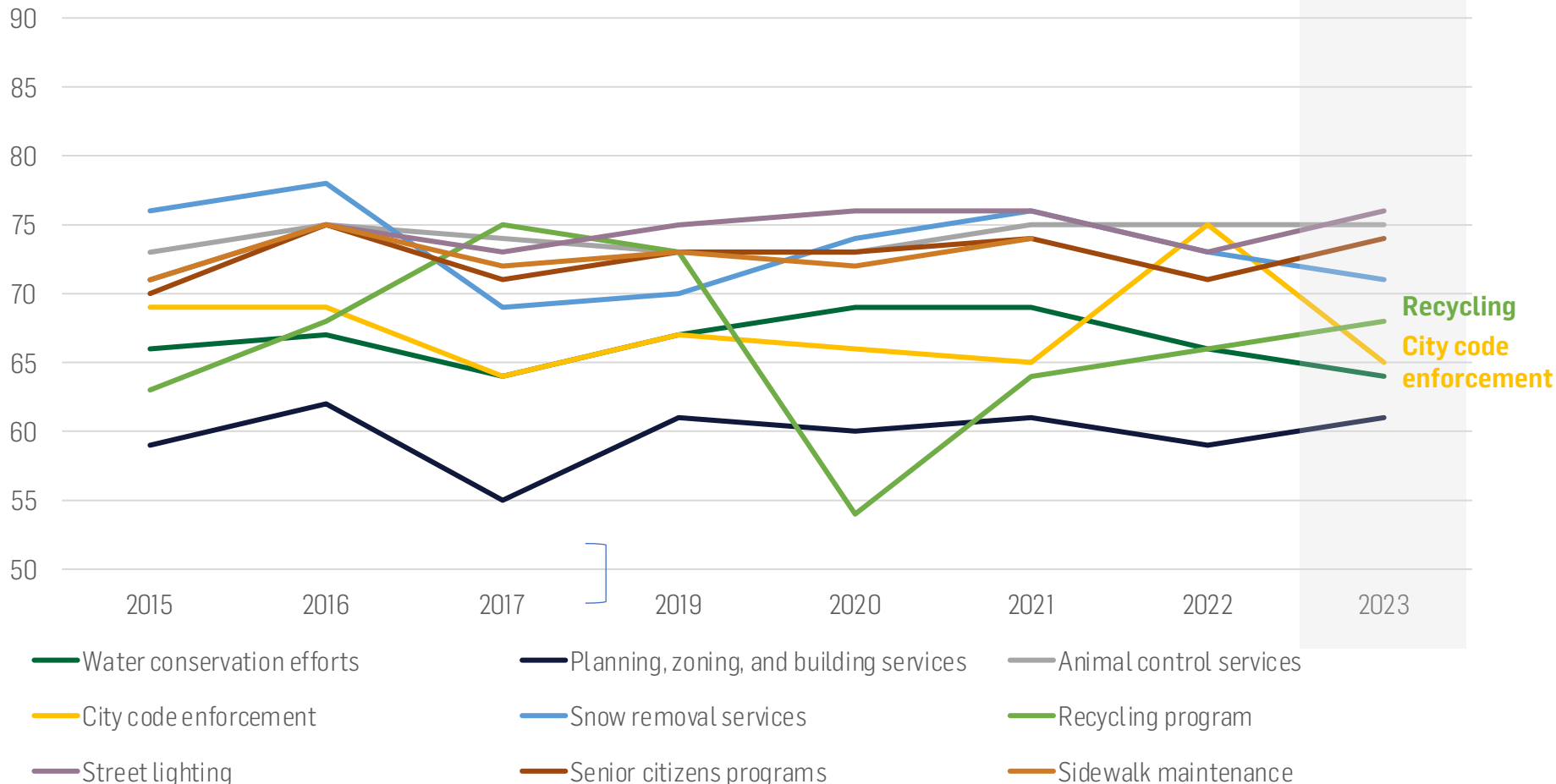
South Jordan provides a number of services to its residents. Please rate each of the following city services using a 0 to 100 scale with 0 meaning you are completely dissatisfied and 100 meaning you are completely satisfied. If you are unfamiliar with a service, select Not applicable.



SECOND TIER: RECYCLING CONTINUES TO RISE

After a positive movement last year, satisfaction with city code enforcement has returned to 2021 levels. Recycling ratings continue to rebound since 2020. Other services like planning and zoning, senior citizen programs, and street lighting see slight increase since last year, while satisfaction with water conservation and snow removal have declined.

Q South Jordan provides a number of services to its residents. Please rate each of the following city services using a 0 to 100 scale with 0 meaning you are completely dissatisfied and 100 meaning you are completely satisfied. If you are unfamiliar with a service, select Not applicable.



SERVICE NEEDS FOCUS ON WATER CONSERVATION & SNOW REMOVAL

Majority of citizens cite issues such as parking and snow removals as large parts of their experience with South Jordan City services in the past year.

Q

If you have any comments you would like to briefly share about your experience with any South Jordan City service in the past year, please enter them here.



"We need to take water use and conservation much more seriously."

"Recent snow removal performance is bad."

"Stop the high-density developments! There is not enough water nor roads to accommodate the continued growth."

"Water rebate was simple and [easy]. I think this is a great service to reduce outdoor water use."

"Poor snow plowing on both neighborhood streets and alleyways."

*Only words mentioned >2 times are shown in the visualization above

NEWS & CONTACTING SOUTH JORDAN

EMAIL RANKED AS TOP INFORMATION SOURCE

Half of respondents said that email from the city is their preferred method to receive information. Other social media accounts are least used, and almost least preferred.

Q

From which source **do you currently/would you prefer to receive** most of your information about South Jordan City? Please rank each of the following information outlets in order where (1) is the source where you get the MOST information and (7) is the source where you get the LEAST information about the City.

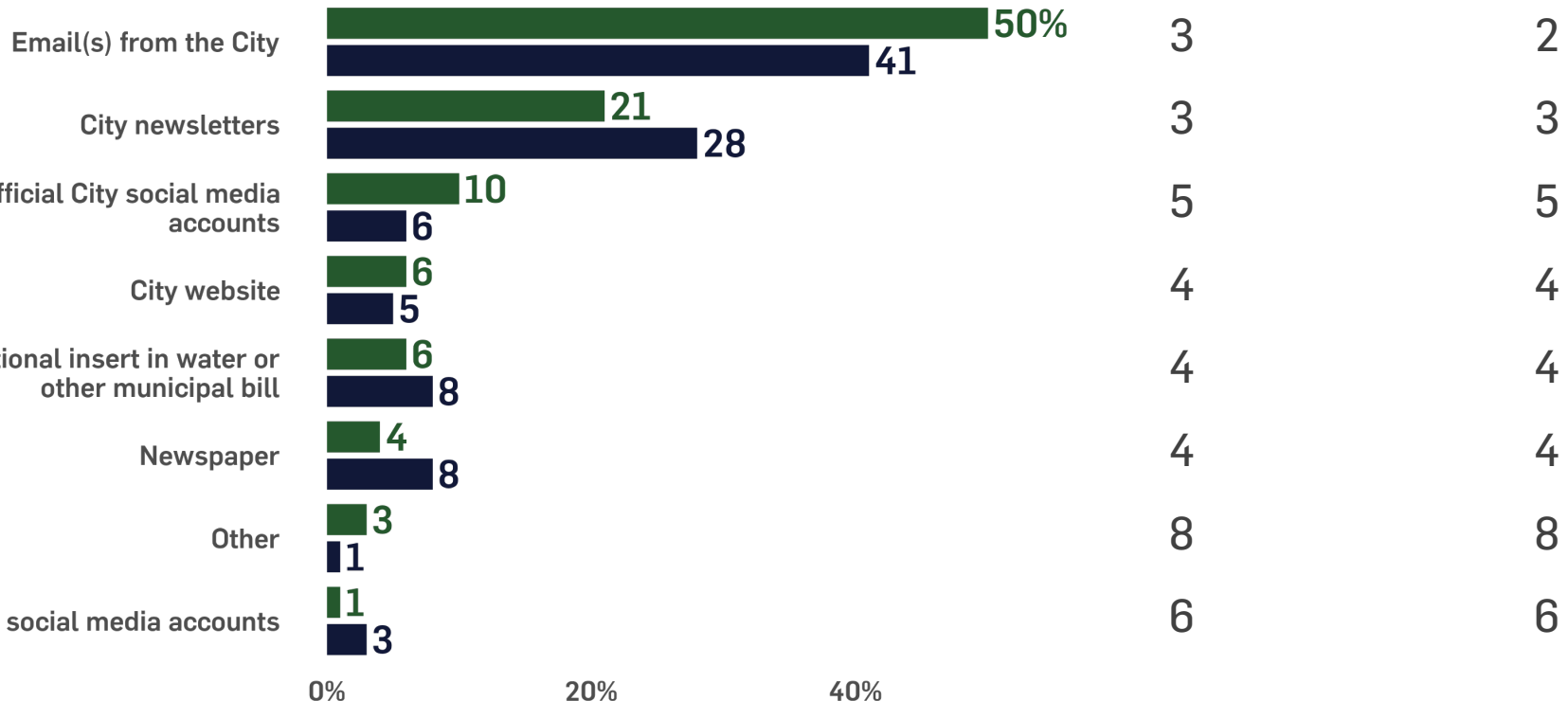
% Chosen as #1

■ Preferred Info Method

■ Current Info Method

Preferred Method
Average Rankings

Current Method
Average Rankings

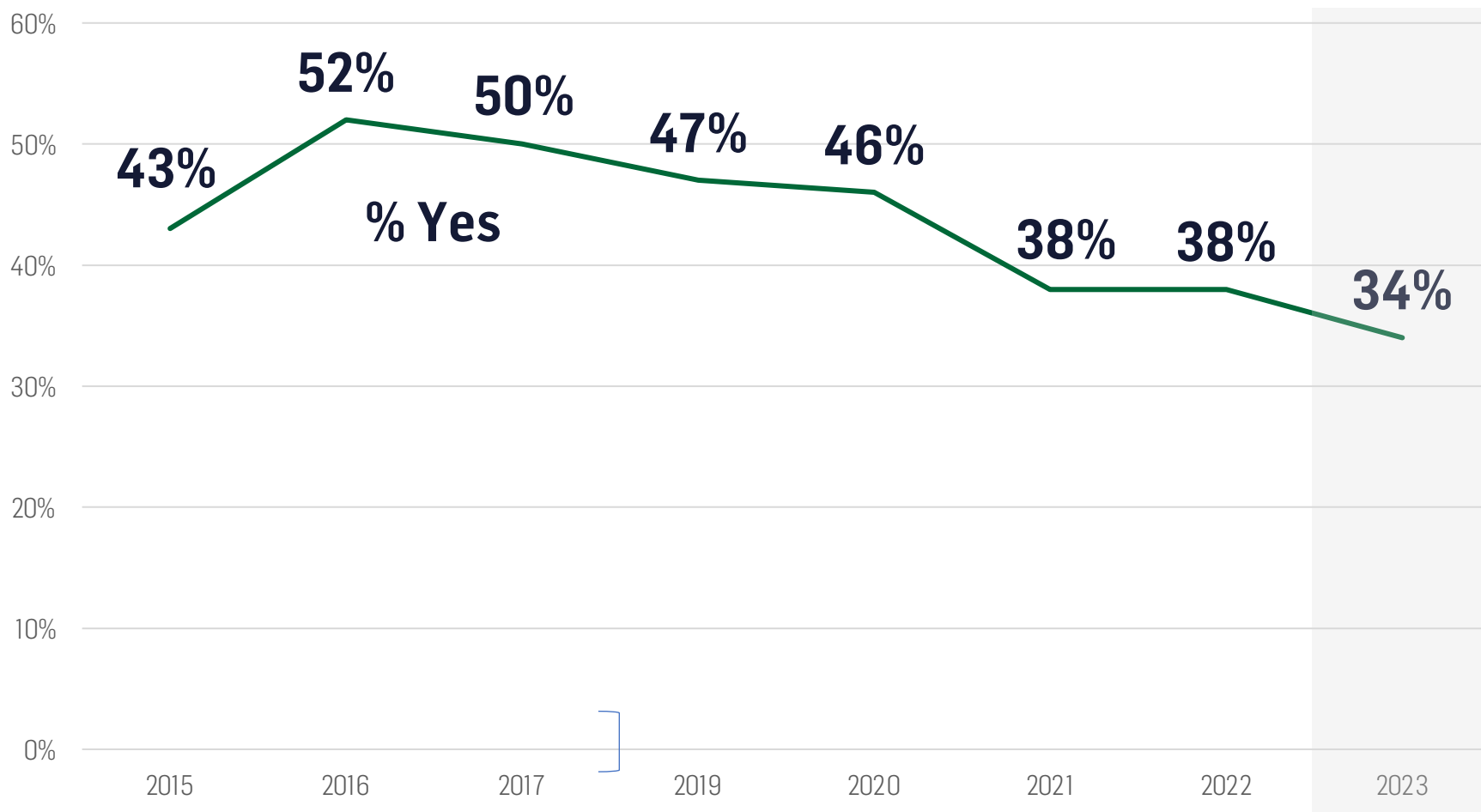


CONSISTENT DECLINE IN COMPLAINT OFFICE CONTACT

34% of respondents contacted a South Jordan office within the past year, down by -4 percentage points from last year. This continues a downward trend from 2016's all-time highest contact rate of 52%.

Q

During the past year, have you contacted any South Jordan office to seek service, information, or to file a complaint?

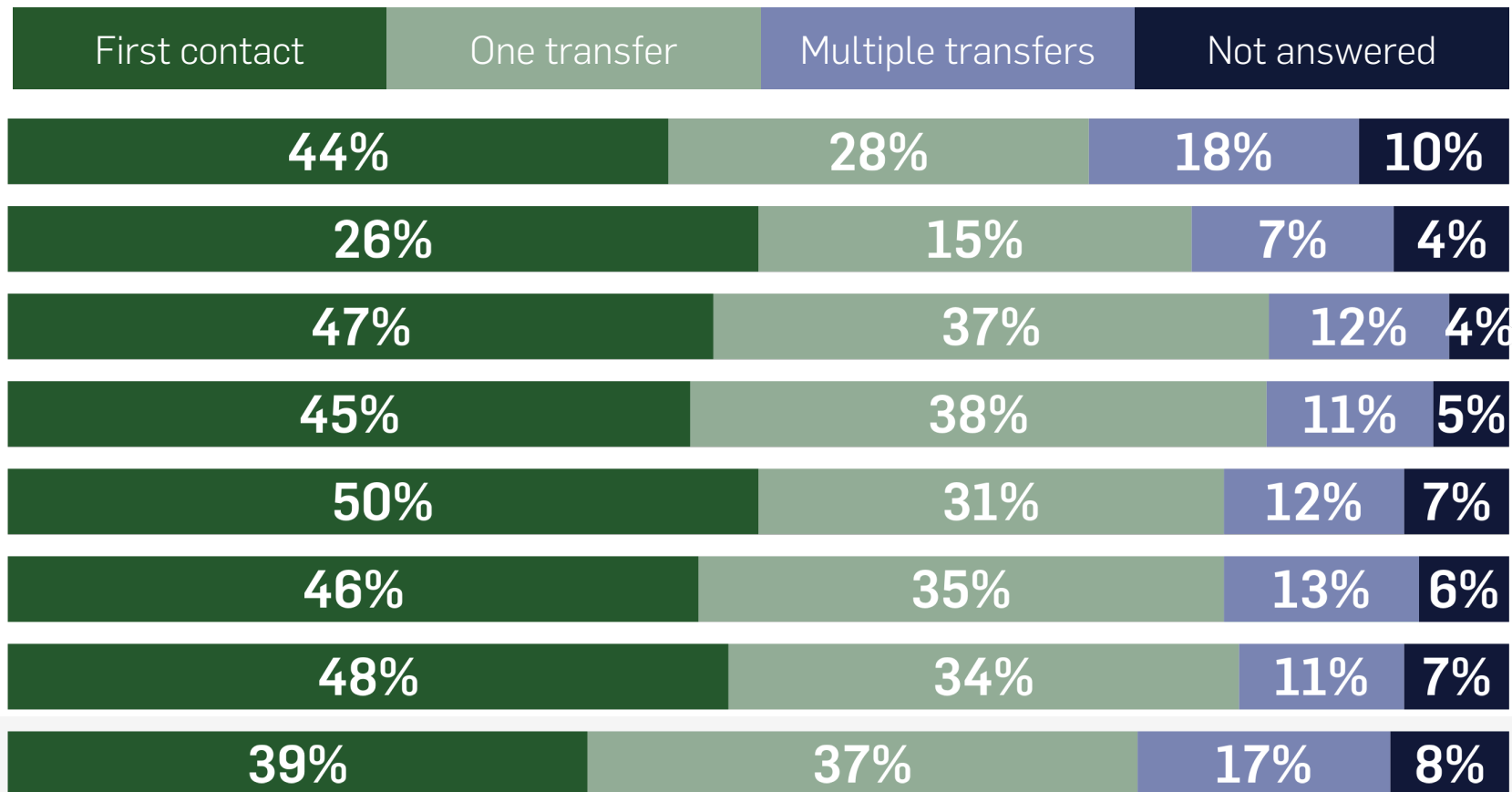


CONTACT RESOLUTION CONSISTENT OVERALL

48% of residents say the issue or question about which they contacted the city was resolved on their first contact and 34% had their question or issue addressed in one transfer. Overall, we see consistently high, efficient issue resolution from year to year. Compared to 2022, there is a slight negative movement (-9 percentage points) in first contacts.



When you have contacted South Jordan offices to seek service, information, or to file a complaint, were you able to have your request answered on the first contact or did it require a transfer(s)?

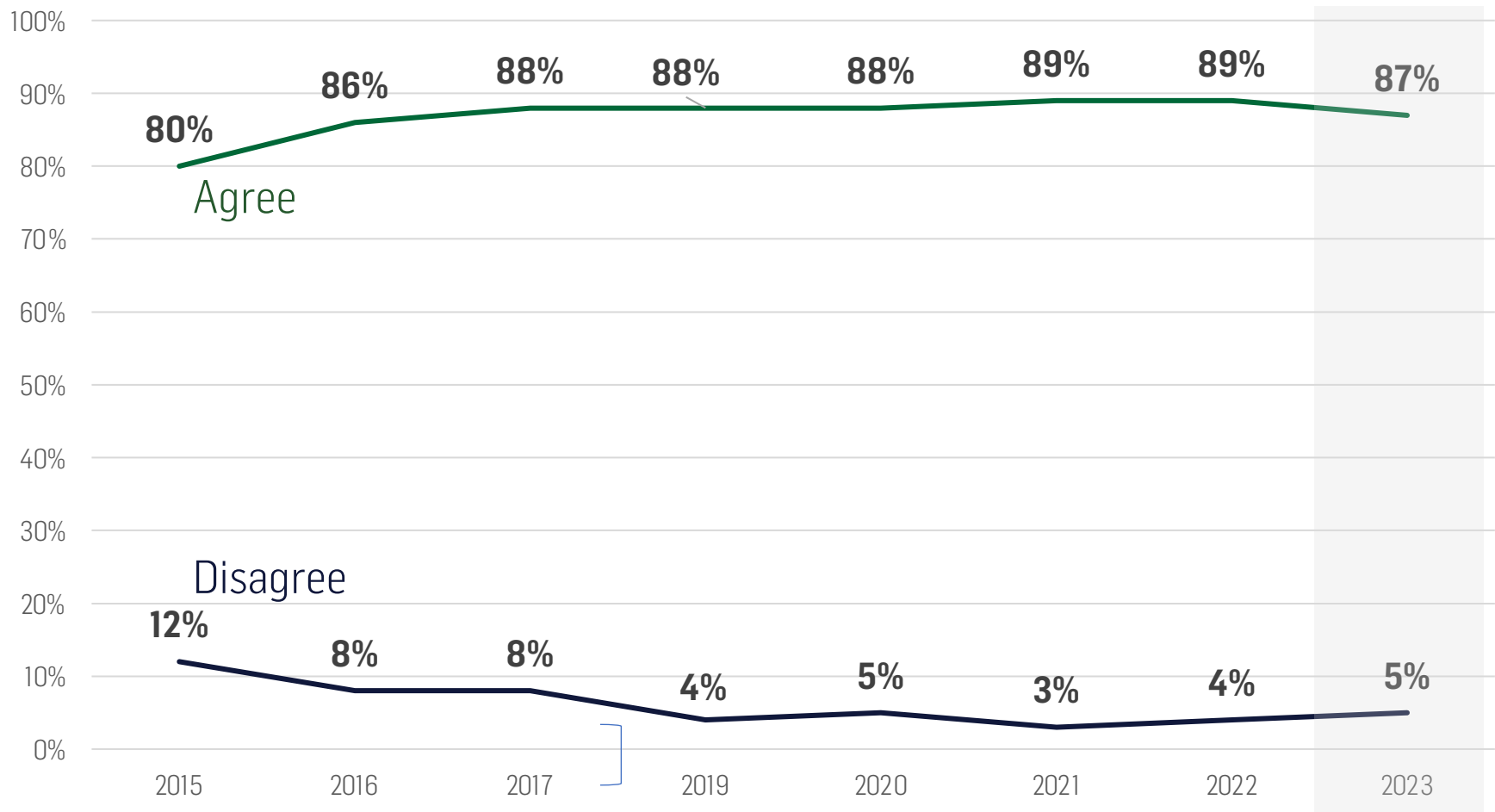


HIGH PROFESSIONALISM OF CITY OFFICIALS

87% of respondents say that they were treated with courtesy and professionalism when they contacted the city offices. This has remained relatively constant since 2017.

Q

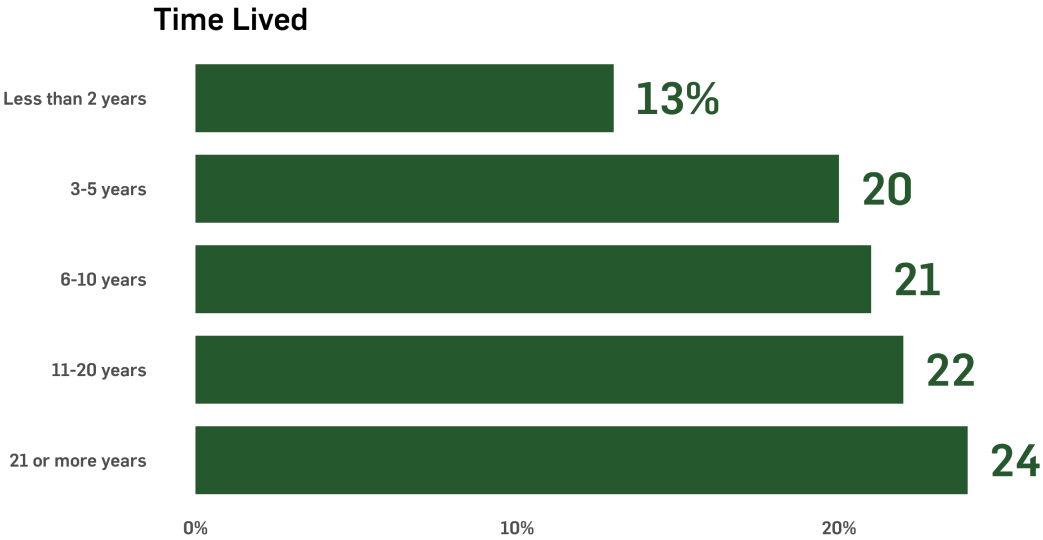
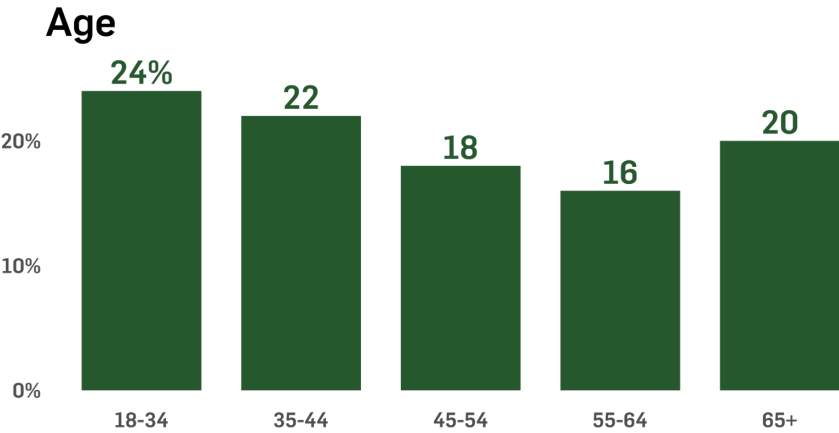
To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: **I was treated with courtesy and professionalism when I contacted the South Jordan City offices?**



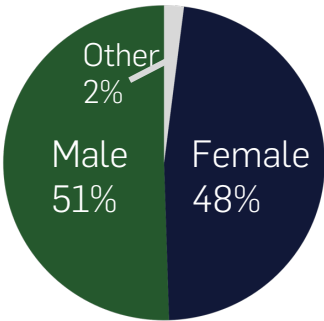
SAMPLE COMPOSITION

DEMOGRAPHICS

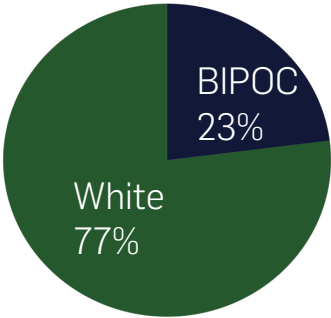
Q (Age)- Please select the year you were born [recoded into age ranges]
(Time Lived)- How long have you lived in South Jordan?
(Gender) – Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?



Gender



Ethnicity



Income

Under \$25,000	1%
\$25,000 – 39,999	1
\$40,000 – 49,999	4
\$50,000 – 74,999	10
\$75,000 – 99,999	14
\$100,000 – 124,999	15
\$125,000 – 149,999	12
Over \$150,000	44



SOUTH JORDAN

Arts Council

2022 in Review

2022 Arts Council

-Mural Highlights-



BASEBALL & SOFTBALL MURALS:

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL COMPLEX MURALS WERE COMPLETED AT CITY PARK.

CROSSWALK MURALS:

CROSSWALK MURALS ON TOWNE CENTER DRIVE WERE COMPLETED.

TRAIL MURAL:

THE MURAL ON JORDAN RIVER TRAIL WAS COMPLETED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GET TO THE RIVER COMMUNITY EVENT.

Theatre Production

THE MUSIC MAN

SUMMER 2022

SOUTH JORDAN

COMMUNITY CENTER



2022 Arts Council

-Program Highlights-

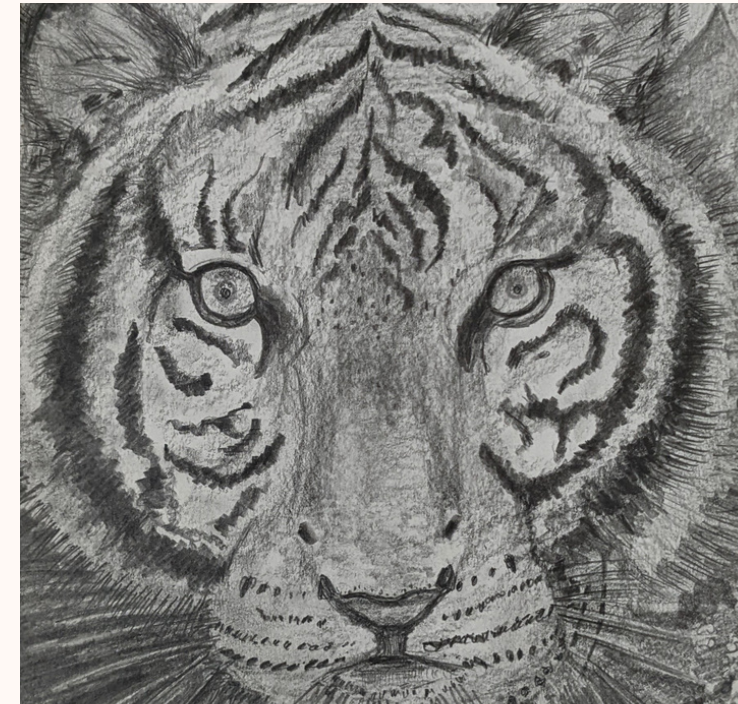
ARTIST ON DISPLAY: YEAR-ROUND

ANNUAL ART SHOW: MARCH-APRIL

PUMPKIN CARVER: OCTOBER

GINGERBREAD CONTEST: NOVEMBER

ICE SCULPTURE: DECEMBER



Arts Council Plans for 2023

-Art Shows & Contests-



ANNUAL ART SHOW: MARCH-APRIL

SOJO SUMMERFEST POSTER CONTEST :

MARCH

QUILT SHOW: MAY

GINGERBREAD CONTEST: NOVEMBER

Arts Council Plans for 2023

-Visual Public Display-

ARTIST ON DISPLAY: YEAR-ROUND

UTILITY BOX ART: SPRING-FALL

PUMPKIN CARVER: OCTOBER

ICE SCULPTURE: DECEMBER



Arts Council Plans for 2023

-Community Engagement-



VINTAGE DANCE: YEAR-ROUND

SOCK PUPPET IMPROV GROUP: YEAR-ROUND

THEATER: SUMMER

GEOCACHING MURALS: SUMMER-FALL

COMMUNITY ORNAMENT PROJECT: NOVEMBER

From: [Don Shelton](#)
To: [Dawn Ramsey](#); [Dustin Lewis](#); [Gary Whatcott](#); [Jason McGuire](#); [Patrick Harris](#); [Ryan Loose](#); [Brad Marlor](#); [Tamara Zander](#); [Anna Crookston](#)
Subject: Fwd: Questions/Thoughts on Streetscape Master Plan
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 4:43:35 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Colby Hill <cohill@sjc.utah.gov>
Date: February 20, 2023 at 6:30:07 PM MST
To: Don Shelton <DShelton@sjc.utah.gov>
Cc: Dustin Lewis <DLewis@sjc.utah.gov>, Jason Rasmussen <JRasmussen@sjc.utah.gov>
Subject: Re: Questions/Thoughts on Streetscape Master Plan

Hello Mr. Shelton,

I am happy to do my best to answer your questions and have provided a response to your questions below. As always, if you have further questions, just let me know.

Thank you,
Colby Hill

On Feb 20, 2023, at 4:37 PM, Don Shelton <DShelton@sjc.utah.gov> wrote:

Hi Colby,

I have a few questions after reviewing the Master Plan and wanted to give you time to review and respond prior to our meeting tomorrow.

Questions:

- Page 37 Packet, Page 3 Plan: Goal 2, objective 1: Transfer Park Strip maintenance. Can you give us examples of park strips the city currently maintains that you plan to transfer maintenance to others? Also, please comment on how that transition will occur.

There are a few collector and arterial roads that the city currently maintains park strips where the municipal code states that the adjacent land owner (generally residents) should maintain those park strips. For your information the code states the following:

16.04.190.E.4.a. Landscaping And Maintenance:

The applicant shall install all required collector street landscaping improvements and properly maintain said improvements until the City releases one hundred percent (100%) of the improvement guarantee. After satisfactory installation of landscaping in collector street park strips and the one hundred percent (100%) release of the improvement guarantee for said landscaping, **the City will accept responsibility for maintenance of the park strips along collector streets where collector street fencing has been installed along the rear and side property lines of lots only in single-family residential subdivisions.**

A few examples of locations where we are currently maintaining park strips outside of what the code above states are on homes that face the road on 1300 West, some on 10400 south and 11400 South.

*One thing to keep in mind is that in most cases where the city is maintaining these types of park strips, the city has included this maintenance in deals with the home owners as part of the right-of-way negotiations. **Perhaps the most important thing that I can say about this is that we do not have any plans or intentions of transferring maintenance of these park strips to the residents.** Our intent was to understand and quantify the park strips that we are maintaining outside of the municipal code. This information helps us better understand the financial commitment that is made when these types of deals are entered into and will help us as we negotiate in similar future circumstances.*

- Objective 3: Eliminate turf grass.

Our intent with this objective is to reduce maintenance resources and conserve our water resources. We understand that there may be some concerns with this. As we have discussed in the past, when one drives into our city from neighboring cities, it is very easy to tell when one has crossed city boundaries into South Jordan. South Jordan certainly has a unique and beautiful feel to it. We are proud of this and we do not want to lose that feel. However, we also understand that our water resources are dwindling and we need to find efficiencies in our maintenance, and we feel that eliminating turf grass in our park strips it is the responsible thing to do. Turf grass is a very thirsty plant and unfortunately it is difficult to water efficiently. Often when watering park strips, much of the water overshoots the park strip and ends up in the gutters, street, and sidewalks. By replacing the turf grass with the plant selections found in the plan, we believe that we can continue to

provide that unique and beautiful feel that South Jordan is known for and reduce our maintenance resources and conserve our water resources because we will be able to direct the water to the root of the plant. We also hope that by changing the landscaping, we will be more efficient in our maintenance efforts.

- Page 42 Packet, Page 8 Plan, Figure 2.05 specifies sod.

In this section of the plan, the consultant is reviewing current planning and engineering documents. Figure 2.05 is a reference to a currently allowed rear and side facing park strips on collector streets. This will need to change if this plan is adopted, and sod will no longer be allowed in future developed park strips of the same orientation (single family rear and side facing park strips on collector streets).

- Page 49 Packet, Page 15 Plan: Why specify a specific brand of controller?

Where the the only park strips and streetscapes that we will be converting will be maintained by the city, our desire is to have all of the park strip and streetscape controllers connect to our central control system. We use the Rainbird IQ system for all of our parks irrigation controllers and it allows us to communicate with each controller from a central location (our parks offices). Through this central control communication, we have the ability to edit programming, gathering statistics, schedule rain delays, receive warnings and alerts, and a whole host of other communications. This eliminates the need to visit each controller to perform these functions. We currently manage over 200 individual park strip and streetscape controllers and as you can imagine, it is a daunting task. By specifying the controller in the plan, we will be able to take advantage of all of these central control functions and work more efficiently.

- Page 66 Packet, Page 32 Plan: Should 4800 West and 10200 South Priority be increased given the opening of the Bingham Creek Regional Park?

The priorities listed in the plan are flexible. We want to make sure that we are spending tax dollars wisely and so will be working with other departments in the city as we begin implementing this plan. For example, there are some UDOT projects coming up that may affect some of the arterials we have park strip maintenance responsibility for and we do not want to spend tax dollars only to have the park strip removed or torn out for a road project. Having said that, the thought from the consultant and from staff who participated in creating this document was that the city would get more bang for our buck (so to speak) by prioritizing our major east and west arterials, because it is assumed that most of the traffic on those roads are our residents, which is why 10600 South and 11400 South are under priority 1. The small section of 2700 West was identified as a good test section for implementing this plan, and that is why it ranked higher.

I can report that the Bingham Creek Park Authority Board, the City, and Salt Lake County, have all agreed that the park strips adjacent to the park should be re-landscaped using a similar water-wise landscaping. I believe money is being set aside and this work is being added to the contractor's scope. I will gather more information about this and send it to you.

Before we move forward with any projects related to this plan or before we request funds for future projects, we will review the priorities and remaining areas to be converted and make adjustments as necessary.

Thanks so much,
Don S.
Sent from my iPhone