

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Value for Taxes

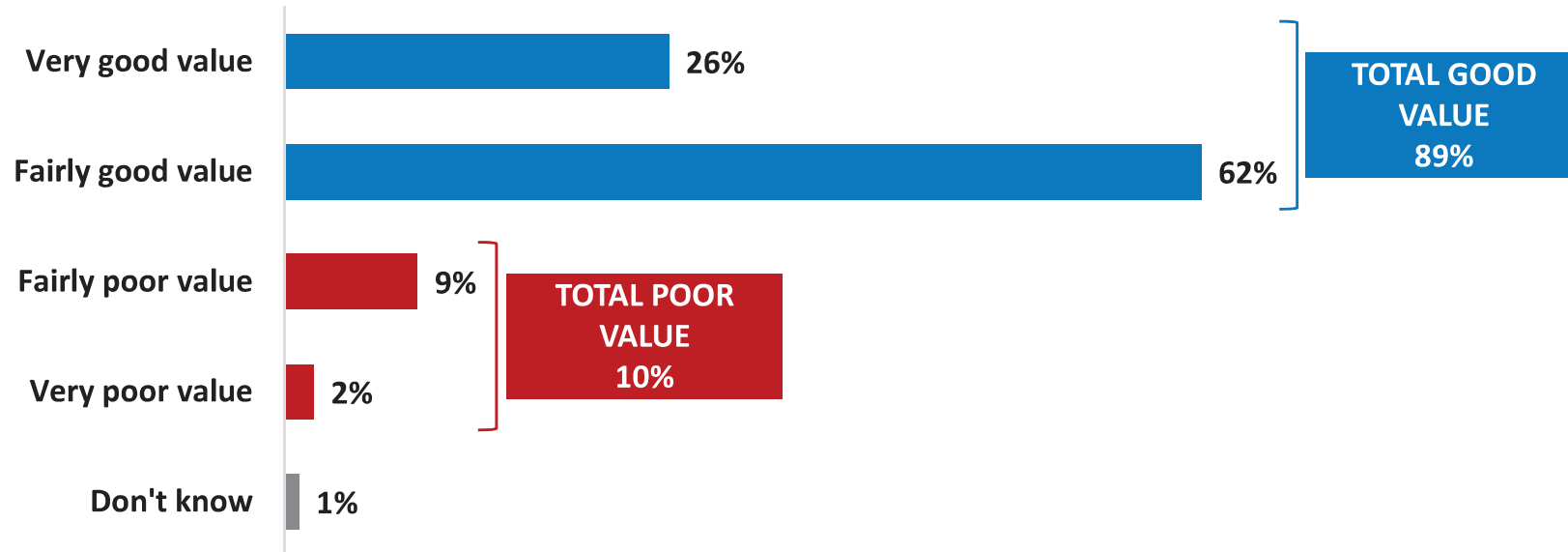
A large majority (89%) of residents say they receive good value for their municipal tax dollars. This includes 26% saying 'very good value' and 62% saying 'fairly good value'.

- This year's results are consistent with 2016.
- Port Moody residents are more likely than the municipal norm to say they receive good value for their taxes, both overall (89% 'very/fairly good value' in Port Moody vs. 81% norm) and in intensity (26% 'very good value' in Port Moody vs. 20% norm).

Analysis by Demographic Subgroup

The perceived value for municipal taxes is consistent across all key demographic subgroups.

Value for Taxes



	2012 (n=401)	2014 (n=400)	2016 (n=400)	2018 (n=400)	Norm
Total Good Value	87%	90%	89%	89%	81%
Very Good Value	26%	30%	25%	26%	20%

Q8. Thinking about all the programs and services you receive from the City of Port Moody, would you say that overall you get good value or poor value for your tax dollars? (Is that very or fairly good/poor value?)

Base: All respondents (n=400)

Suggested Program and Service Improvements

(Coded Open-Ends, Multiple Responses Allowed)

Citizens offer a variety of suggestions for improving civic programs and services. While no single suggestion stands out from the rest, the top five open-ended responses all focus on one of two themes: recreation and transportation.

- The top recreation-related mentions include “recreation” (13%), “parks/green space/trails” (9%), and “sports fields/facilities” (9%).
- The top transportation-related mentions include “traffic congestion” (12%) and “maintenance of roads and sidewalks” (10%).

Nearly three-in-ten (29%) citizens decline to provide any suggested improvements (includes 27% saying “none/nothing” and 2% saying “don’t know”).

These same two themes were also evident in 2016 although some differences are noted. For example, while “maintenance/condition of roads and sidewalks” was the number one suggestion in 2016 (16%), it is down 6 points this year and places third overall.

Analysis by Demographic Subgroup

“Recreation” is mentioned more often by those who are 35-54 years of age (19% vs. 7% of 55+ years, 10% of 18-34 years), those with children at home (22% vs. 7% of those without children at home), and those who have lived in Port Moody for 11-20 years (19% vs. 8% of 21+ years, 12% of 10 years or less).

“Traffic congestion” is mentioned more often by those who are 35+ years of age (includes 15% of 35-54 years and 13% of 55+ years vs. 4% of 18-34 years).

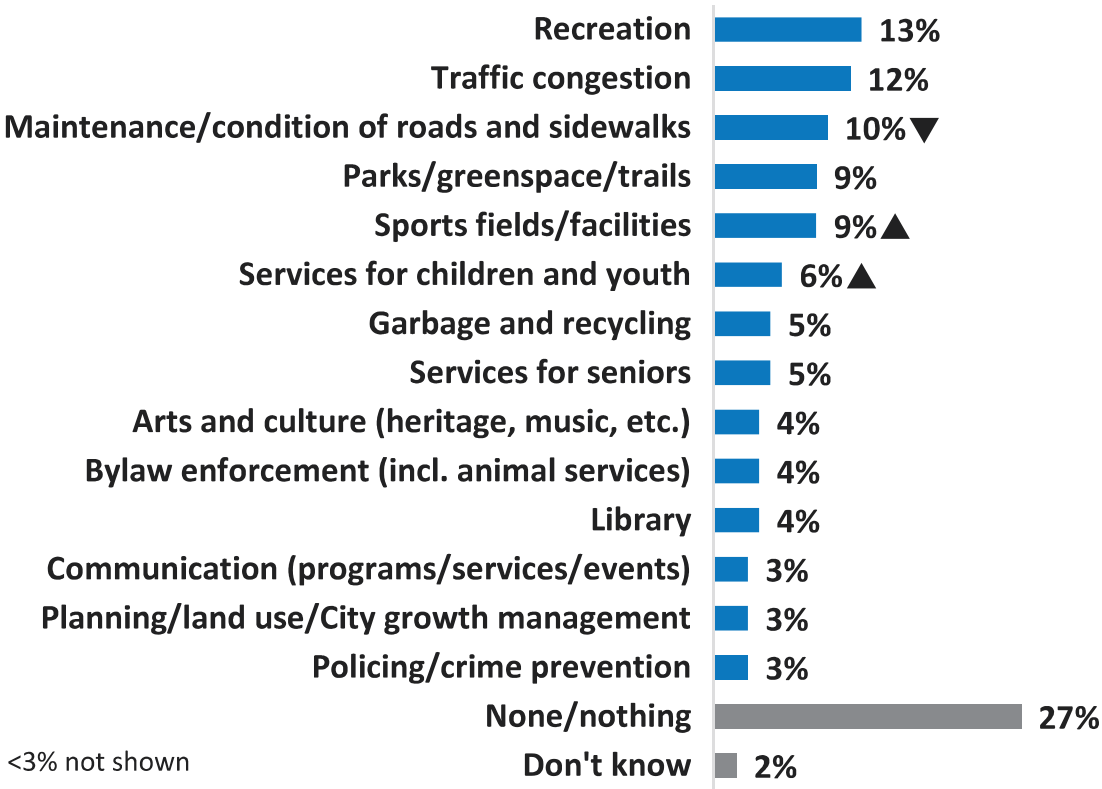
“Maintenance of roads and sidewalks” is mentioned more often by men (14% vs. 7% of women) and those who have lived in Port Moody for 11-20 years (15% vs. 6% of 21+ years, 9% of 10 years or less).

“Sports fields/facilities” are mentioned more often by those with children at home (15% vs. 5% of those without children at home) and those who have lived in Port Moody for 11-20 years (14% vs. 4% of 21+ years, 8% of 10 years or less).



Suggested Program and Service Improvements

(Coded Open-Ends, Multiple Responses Allowed)



2016 Top Mentions (n=400)	
Maintenance/condition of roads and sidewalks	16%
Recreation	13%
Traffic congestion	11%
Parks/greenspace/trails	9%
Garbage and recycling	7%

Q8b. What, if any, City programs and services would you most like to see improved? Anything else?
Base: All respondents (n=400)

Balancing Taxation and Service Delivery Levels

When asked about balancing taxation and service delivery levels, 55% of citizens say they would prefer the City to increase taxes compared to 35% opting for cutting services.

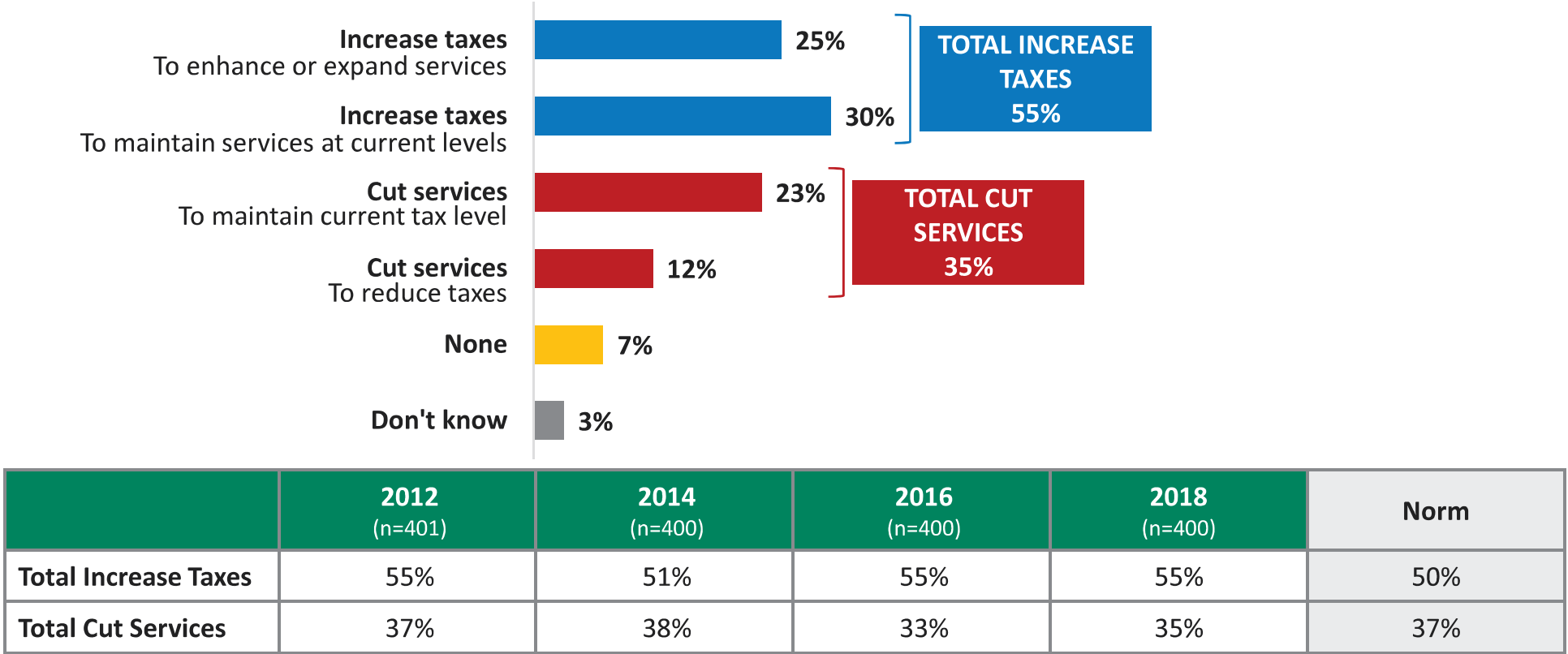
- Looking at tax increases specifically shows that 30% of citizens say they would prefer the City ‘increase taxes to maintain services at current levels’ while 25% say ‘increase taxes to enhance or expand services’.
- Preference for service cuts is predominately driven by a desire to maintain rather than reduce taxes (23% say ‘cut services to maintain current tax level’, 12% say ‘cut services to reduce taxes’).

This year’s results are similar to 2016 and to the municipal norm.

Analysis by Demographic Subgroup

A preference for tax increases is higher among younger residents (69% of 18-34 years vs. 46% of 55+ years, 55% of 35-54 years) and those who have lived in Port Moody for 10 years or less (62% vs. 48% of 21+ years, 55% of 11-20 years).

Balancing Taxation and Service Delivery Levels



Q9. Municipal property taxes are the primary way to pay for services provided by the City of Port Moody. Due to the increased cost of maintaining current service levels and infrastructure, the City must balance taxation and service delivery levels. To deal with this situation, which one of the following four options would you most like the City to pursue?

Base: All respondents (n=400)



Suggestions for Non-Taxation Revenue Generating Ideas

(Coded Open-Ends, Multiple Responses Allowed)

Overall, six-in-ten (60%) citizens decline to provide any suggestions for non-taxation revenue generating ideas that they would like City Council to consider (includes 55% saying “none/nothing” and 5% saying “don’t know”).

Of the open-ended suggestions that are provided, no single item is mentioned by more than 6% of respondents. The top suggestions include “more parking meters/paid parking” (6%), “more paid community events” (5%), “raise/add user fees” (4%), and “new/higher development fees” (4%).

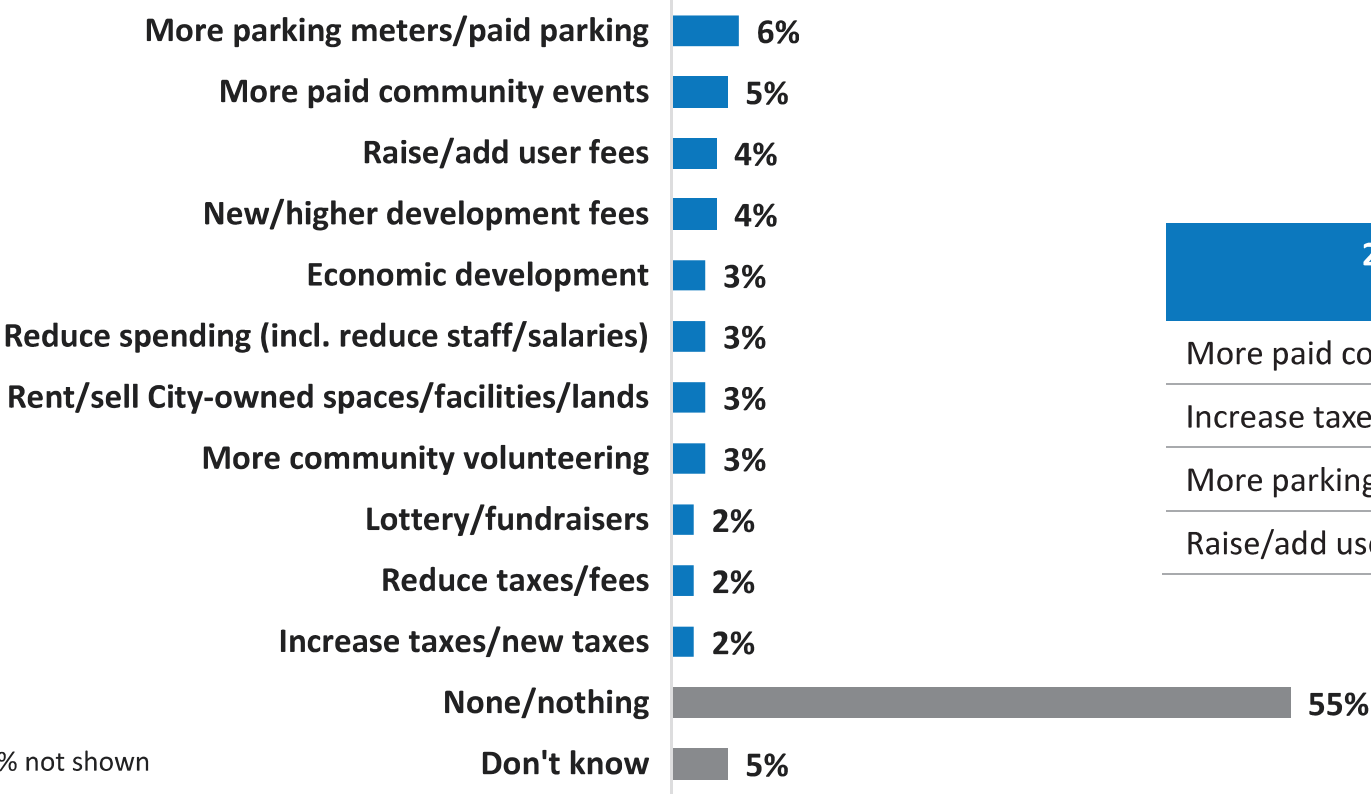
These results are similar to 2016.

Analysis by Demographic Subgroup

Analysis by demographic subgroup is not recommended for this question due to the small number of respondents offering specific suggestions.

Suggestions for Non-Taxation Revenue Generating Ideas

(Coded Open-Ends, Multiple Responses Allowed)



Mentions <2% not shown

2016 Top Mentions (n=400)	
More paid community events	6%
Increase taxes/new taxes	6%
More parking meters/paid parking	5%
Raise/add user fees	5%

Q10. What suggestions, if any, do you have for non-taxation revenue generating ideas that you would like City Council to consider? Anything else?

Base: All respondents (n=400)



Support for Debt Financing

Support for debt financing is mixed, with similar proportions saying they would support (50%) and oppose (48%) the City going into debt to help finance new amenities. The intensity of opposition, however, is double that of support (24% 'oppose strongly' vs. 12% 'support strongly').

- These results are consistent with 2016.

The leading open-ended reason behind opposition is the belief that the City “should have the money in advance/prior to spending”, mentioned by 44% of those who oppose the City going into debt to help finance new amenities. Other reasons include “do not need new amenities/things are fine as is” (27%) and “concerned about tax impact” (12%), among others.

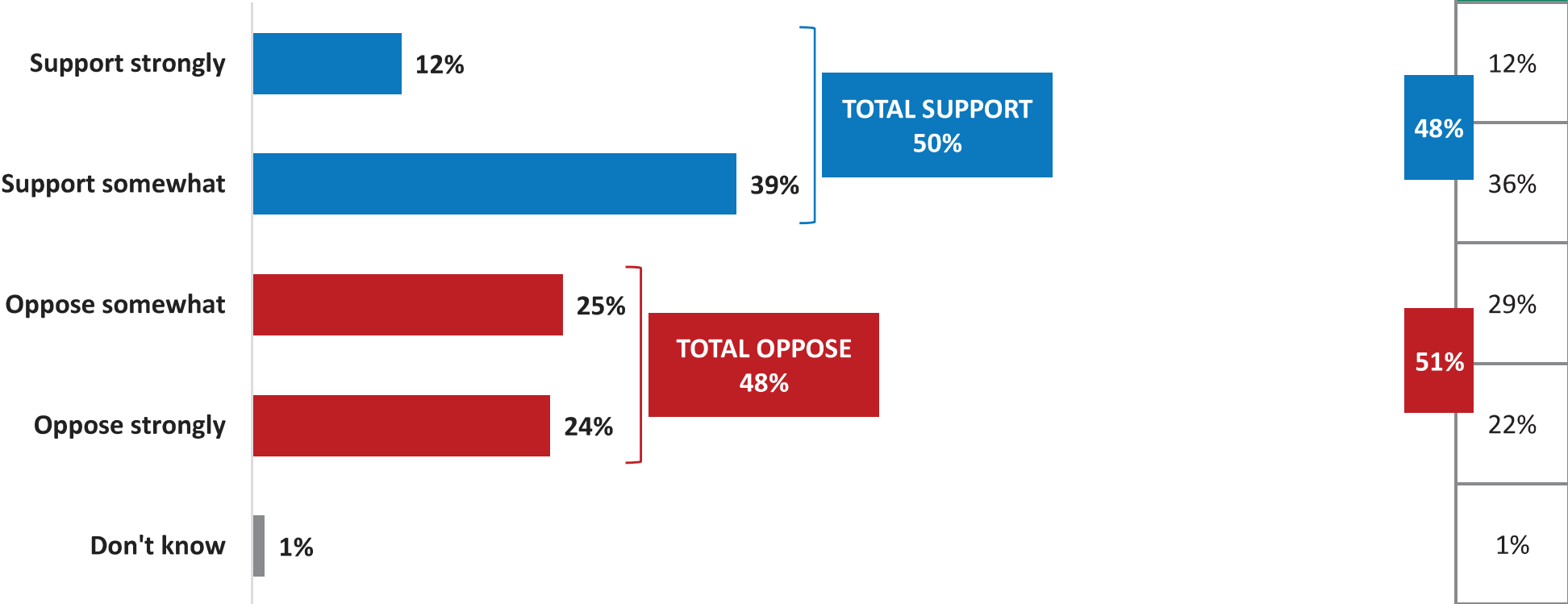
- These are similar to the main reasons mentioned in 2016.

Analysis by Demographic Subgroup

Support (combined 'strongly/somewhat support' responses) is higher among younger residents (61% of 18-34 years vs. 42% of 55+ years, 52% of 35-54 years) and those who have lived in Port Moody for 20 years or less (includes 60% of 10 years or less and 52% of 11-20 years vs. 40% of 21+ years).

Opposition (combined 'strongly/somewhat oppose' responses) is higher among older residents (55% of 55+ years vs. 39% of 18-34 years, 48% of 35-54 years) and those who have lived in Port Moody for 21+ years (59% vs. 40% of 10 years or less, 46% of 11-20 years).

Support for Debt Financing

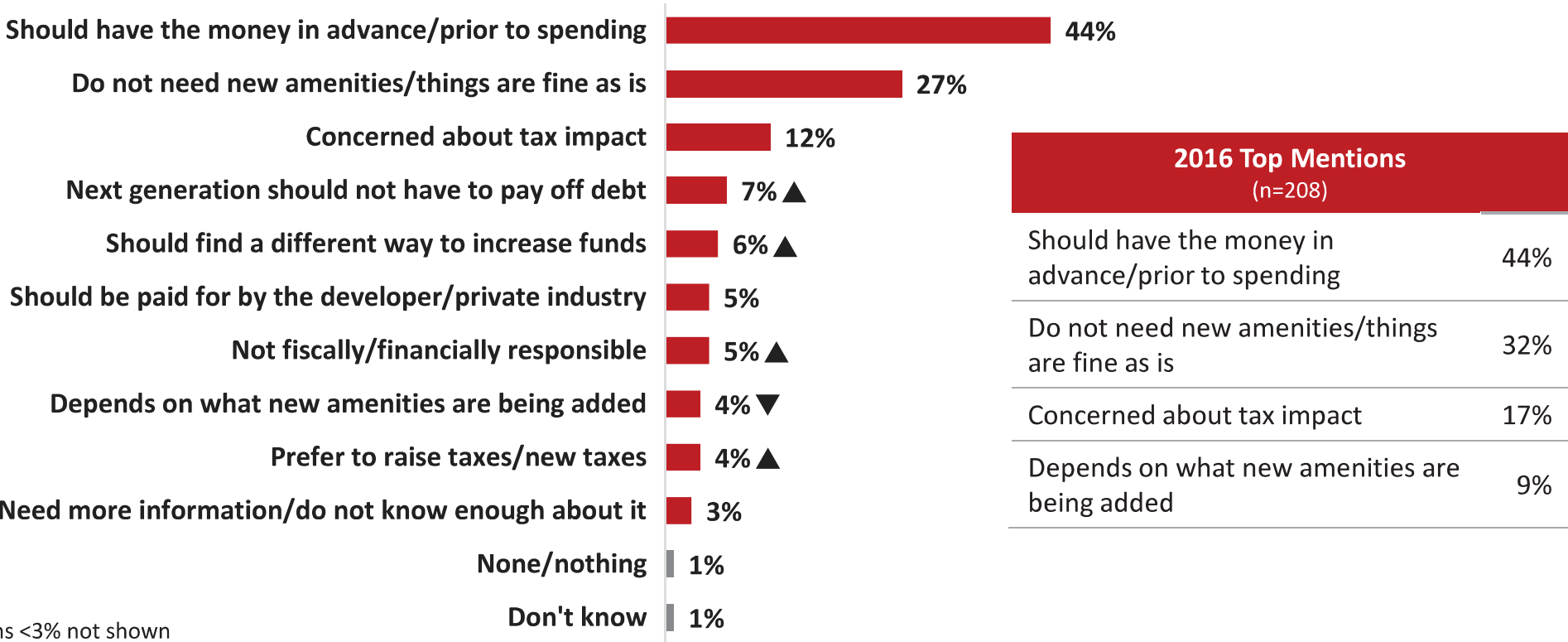


Q11. Like the rest of the region, Port Moody is growing and will require new amenities to keep pace with this growth. The City has limited ability to fund new amenities using existing finances. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the City going into debt to help finance new amenities? For example, a new library or soccer fields. (Is that strongly or somewhat support/oppose?)

Base: All respondents (n=400)

Reasons Opposed to Debt Financing

(Among those saying they oppose the City going into debt to help finance new amenities) (Coded Open-Ends, Multiple Responses Allowed)



Q12a. Why do you oppose the City going into debt to help finance new amenities? Any other reasons?
Base: Those saying they oppose the City going into debt to help finance new amenities (n=202)

