FY2026 District 9 Community Budget Survey

The District 9 office developed and conducted a survey to ask our District's constituents one critical question: How should we invest in our San Diego communities? Our office worked to ensure transparency and intentional community engagement for this upcoming FY 2026 budget cycle. The office reached out to District 9 constituents, stakeholders, businesses and the greater San Diego community by phone, email, and social media to widely distribute our Budget Priorities survey. We heard from 332 respondents through our survey, who all have shaped our priorities.

Our office included short questions and an open response question for community members to submit their thoughts on neighborhood budget priorities. Lastly, the office began the task of incorporating all relevant responses and data points to our final budget priorities memo.

Transparency and accessibility are guiding values in our budget development process. We are sharing the results of our survey out of transparency and to share the priorities of our district directly with City staff developing the budget.

Summary results of the survey questions are below:

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Addressing homelessness			214	66%
Affordable housing			143	44%
Arts and cultural events			74	22%
Clean neighborhoods			199	61%
Creating a pedestrian friendly, walkable community			145	45%
Graffiti removal			87	27%
Improving bike infrastructure			52	16%
Maintaining and repairing sidewalks			189	58%
Maintaining and repairing streetlights			133	41%
Maintaining and repairing streets and roads			217	67%
Parks and open spaces			163	50%
Public Safety			154	47%
Public Transportation			87	27%
Stormwater channel maintenance			114	35%
Support for small/local businesses			82	25%
Other			35	10%
		Total Responses	322	100%

What are the issues in District 9/your neighborhood that you care about the most? Select all that apply.

Overall, how safe is District 9 as a place to live?

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Very Safe			38	11%
Somewhat Safe			155	47%
Neutral			52	16%
Somewhat Unsafe			61	18%
Very Unsafe			17	5%
		Total Responses	323	100%

What would increase your feeling of safety in your neighborhood? Select all that apply.

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Addressing homelessness			186	58%
Greater police presence			139	43%
Greater policing transparency and accountability			90	28%
Gun safety measures and violence prevention			109	34%
Less litter and trash			181	56%
More community services and programs			112	35%
More enforcement of the law			122	38%
Traffic enforcement and road safety			142	44%
Other			28	8%
		Total Responses	319	100%

From what you know of the budget, please tell us whether you feel the City of San Diego is headed in the right direction, wrong direction, neutral, or unsure.

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Right Direction			37	11%
Unsure/Don't Know			92	29%
Neutral			60	18%
Wrong Direction			128	40%
		Total Responses	317	100%

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Arts and culture funding			26	8%
Brush management and fire prevention			54	16%
Climate action and sustainability			48	14%
Community Plan updates			26	8%
Environmental services (such as trash pickup)			39	12%
Equity and Diversity			18	5%
Graffiti abatement			18	5%
Homelessness and Housing			171	53%
Library - Increasing/Maintaining Hours			26	8%
Library - Materials and Technology			17	5%
Lifeguard services			8	2%
Maintaining City facilities (like parks, recreation centers, and libraries)			90	27%
Park & Rec programming			42	13%
Police services			89	27%
Stormwater infrastructure			59	18%
Street repair and resurfacing			161	50%
Street sweeping			20	6%
Tree planting and maintenance			65	20%
Waste and litter removal			68	21%
		Total Responses	322	100%

With limited resources, it is important for us to understand your top budget priorities. Select the top 3 budget items that you would prioritize in the next budget:

In the event there are budget shortfalls, consider the following potential budget reductions and indicate how acceptable it would be to you if that reduction was made to help balance the City's budget:

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			120	37%
Not too acceptable			92	28%
No Opinion			49	15%
Somewhat acceptable			46	14%
Completely acceptable			16	4%
		Total Responses	323	100%

Reduce clean-up of illegal dumpingand curbside collection events

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			150	46%
Not too acceptable			96	29%
No Opinion			38	11%
Somewhat acceptable			28	8%
Completely acceptable			11	3%
		Total Responses	323	100%

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			79	24%
Not too acceptable			92	28%
No Opinion			56	17%
Somewhat acceptable			61	19%
Completely acceptable			33	10%
		Total Responses	321	100%

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Reduce grants to community-based nonprofitsand arts and cultural organizations	Reduce grants to	community-based	nonprofitsand ar	ts and cultura	l organizations
--	------------------	-----------------	------------------	----------------	-----------------

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			74	23%
Not too acceptable			75	23%
No Opinion			56	17%
Somewhat acceptable			64	20%
Completely acceptable			51	15%
		Total Responses	320	100%

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Reduce homeless services, including direct assistance, temporary shelters, and placement in permanent housing

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			175	54%
Not too acceptable			63	19%
No Opinion			30	9%
Somewhat acceptable			27	8%
Completely acceptable			27	8%
		Total Responses	322	100%

Reduce maintenance of parks, trees, and open space

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			141	43%
Not too acceptable			117	36%
No Opinion			24	7%
Somewhat acceptable			34	10%
Completely acceptable			7	2%
		Total Responses	323	100%

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Reduce janitorial and restroom cleaning at libraries, recreation centers, and parks

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			160	49%
Not too acceptable			95	29%
No Opinion			33	10%
Somewhat acceptable			27	8%
Completely acceptable			8	2%
		Total Responses	323	100%

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Reduce maintenance of streets and roads

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			208	64%
Not too acceptable			68	21%
No Opinion			19	5%
Somewhat acceptable			22	6%
Completely acceptable			5	1%
		Total Responses	322	100%

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Reduce streetlight and traffic signal maintenance

Answer Choice	0%	100%	Number of Responses	Responses Ratio
Not at all acceptable			168	52%
Not too acceptable			78	24%
No Opinion			34	10%
Somewhat acceptable			34	10%
Completely acceptable			8	2%
		Total Responses	322	100%