

# Survey Results: Open City Hall

#### **Background**

The City of Loveland has administered a Quality of Life Survey annually for many years. In 2014, for the first time, the City added an online survey presented through the City's new *Open City Hall* web forum. It garnered an additional 394 responses from residents who answered questions identical to those in the standard mailed survey. The addition of the Open City Hall survey raised Loveland residents' participation by about 30 percent.

#### Methodology

The 24 questions were posted on the Open City Hall forum on June 23, 2014. Established users of the interface were invited to respond through an invitation generated through Open City Hall. The Public Information Office sent additional email invitations, each with a link to Open City Hall, to residents via email contactor Constant Contact. Most of those addresses are of residents who are online utility bill payers. The PIO also posted announcements on the City's website, Facebook page and Twitter account. The deadline to respond was July 24, 2014. Residents who received the standard survey were asked to respond by July 11, 2014. As with the standard survey, results from this data will be analyzed by City leaders to identify issues, trends, and topics for discussion.

- A total of 394 responses were posted. Seventy-eight of these were from registered users of Open City Hall. An additional 316 responses came in from unregistered respondents.
- Like the mailed survey, initial questions requested basic demographic information from respondents including age, residency, employment, type of residence and Internet use.
- Twenty-four statements about City services gave respondents the choice to strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree or select no opinion in response to the statements.
- Also like the standard survey, respondents were given the opportunity to provide additional comments. This direct feedback from residents is listed in the Comments and Suggestions section of the Open City Hall survey report.
- Overall, respondents rated City services favorably and many of the ratings were comparable to those on the standard survey.

# **Summary of Highlights**

#### **About the ratings:**

Rating figures attached to each of the statements about city services, facilities and amenities are percentages of total respondents who chose favorable "strongly agree" or "agree" replies to the

statements. In some cases, the number of respondents who chose the "no opinion" response exceeded 40 percent of the total, skewing the results to indicate a less favorable rating than if the sample had included only those respondents who indicated interest in the statement topic. Nevertheless, in the interest of making year-over-year comparisons, those "no opinion" responses were included in the sample total for each statement. Ratings across the survey were generally favorable with 18 of the total 24 questions rating 70 or above, and responses to five of the 24 questions showing a rating of 93 or above. Eight questions produced ratings between 80 and 89 and five were in the 70 to 79 range.

#### **Quality of City Services**

Respondents were asked to rate basic City services provided by departments such as Water & Power, Police, Fire and Public Works. Overall, City services were rated highly.

- Loveland's efforts to deliver reliable electricity received the highest rating in this category at 95 (3 points less than the rating for the same question on the standard survey).
- A question asking if alternative transportation options are usable and provide an alternative to driving received the lowest rating in this category at 51 (three lower than the same question on the standard survey).

#### **Quality of Infrastructure**

Respondents were asked to rate the quality of roadways, storm water facilities, the water waste system and other parts of the city's infrastructure.

- The highest ratings in this category were tied at 87 in response to the questions about sewer system reliably and the streets being safe to drive.
- The lowest response in this category, at 75, was in response to the question on water runoff from storms being controlled and minimizing flooding.

#### **Quality of Community Amenities**

Residents were asked to rate opportunities for recreation, programs for youth and senior citizens, community events and opportunities to enjoy the arts.

- The highest rating in this category was in response to the question on the City providing quality parks and trails at 93.
- The lowest rating in this category, at 48, was in response to the City providing quality youth activities. However, the statement received a "no opinion" response of 42 percent.

# **Quality of Development & Growth**

Residents were asked for their opinions on how the City performs its role in promoting economic development and business attraction.

- The highest rating in this category, at 70, was in response to Loveland attracting shopping opportunities the community desires.
- The lowest rating in this category of 33 was in response to Loveland attracting jobs that pay well from employers who offer benefits. The statement elicited the lowest rating of any on the survey, but also drew a 27 percent "no opinion" response.

# **2014 Quality of Life in Loveland Open City Hall – Summary of Responses** (Numbers are percentages of total responses)

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Statements on Quality of Life in Loveland from Strongly Agree to No Opinion	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
Loveland delivers reliable electricity.	51.3	43.5	2.1	1.6	1.6
My family feels safe in our community.	35.8	54.8	6.3	1.8	1.3
Loveland's neighborhoods, parks and thoroughfares are clean.	30.3	62.1	5.7	1.3	0.5
Residential recycling and trash services meet customer needs.	47.2	43.3	7.7	.5	1.3
The City provides quality parks and trails.	42.2	50.9	3.9	.5	2.6
The City provides quality Fire/Rescue services.	46.0	38.9	0.3	1.0	13.8
Loveland provides quality drinking water.	38.0	50.8	4.7	1.6	5.0
The sewer system in Loveland works reliably.	31.9	54.8	5.7	0.5	7.0
The City provides quality Police services.	34.1	44.7	7.8	3.1	10.3
There are plentiful opportunities to enjoy the arts.	41.0	46.4	4.9	1.0	6.7
There are sufficient opportunities to gather as a community. (Festivals/Community Events)	25.6	58.7	7.2	0.5	8.0
The library services provided to our community are current and meet our community needs.	37.1	43.8	4.6	0.3	14.2
There are abundant recreational opportunities for all members of my family.	26.9	59.6	8.8	0.5	4.1
Street surfaces are drivable and safe.	15.2	72.4	10.9	1.3	0.3
Water runoff from storms is controlled and minimizes flooding.	16.1	58.5	15.8	3.6	6.0
I can travel by car to locations in Loveland with minimal delays.	18.3	57.9	19.9	3.6	0.3
I feel well informed about City services.	14.1	57.6	15.7	2.3	10.3
Loveland is attracting shopping opportunities our community desires.	15.4	54.6	19.8	5.2	5.0
The City provides activities and services needed by senior citizens.	17.1	34.0	2.9	0.3	45.7
The City Council is approving development that enhances the quality of life in our community.	8.0	38.4	17.0	9.3	27.3
The City provides quality youth activities.	15.0	33.2	9.3	0.3	42.2
Alternative transportation options are usable and provide options to driving my car (i.e., buses, bike lanes, sidewalks).	9.0	42.4	23.7	8.0	17.0
There are sufficient opportunities to participate in Loveland Government.	9.8	42.0	9.3	2.6	36.3
Loveland is attracting jobs that pay well from employers who offer benefits.	4.1	28.8	24.4	15.5	27.2

# Open City Hall Survey Report



Loveland City Council, Nov. 25, 2014

# Demographic Information from Responders

	%	Count
1 year or less	5.1%	20
1-2 years	7.7%	30
3-5 years	15.4%	60
6-10 years	15.9%	62
More than 10 years	55.9%	218

#### Do you live in a single-family home or multi-family building?

	%	Count
Single-family home	87.9%	340
Multi-famliy building	12.1%	47

# Which of these locations is nearest to where you work?

		%	Count
Loveland		65.4%	240
Greeley		4.4%	16
Fort Collins		15.3%	56
Longmont/Denver/Boulder		13.4%	49
Windsor	I	1.6%	6

#### How frequently do you use the Internet?

		%	Count
Daily		97.7%	377
2-3 times per week	T.	1.8%	7
2-3 times per month		0.5%	2

# How often do you visit the City's official website, www.cityofloveland.org?

	%	Count
Weekly	12.2%	46
Monthly	51.6%	195
2-3 times per year	28.3%	107
Never	7.9%	30

# How frequently do you watch live or recorded City Council meetings broadcast on Channel 16?

		%	Count
Weekly		0.5%	2
Monthly	1	2.6%	10
2-3 times		15.5%	59
Never		81.4%	310

# How often do you view live or recorded City Council meetings through the City's website?

	%	Count
Weekly	0.8%	3
Monthly	1.5%	6
2-3 times per year	15.2%	59
Never	82.5%	321

# Statements on Quality of Life in Loveland

# My family feels safe in our community.

%	Count
35.8%	137
54.8%	210
6.3%	24
1.8%	7
1.3%	5
	35.8% 54.8% 6.3% 1.8%

# The City provides quality Fire/Rescue services.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	46.0%	176
Agree	38.9%	149
Disagree	0.3%	1
Strongly disagree	1.0%	4
No opinion	13.8%	53

# The City provides quality Police services.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	34.1%	132
Agree	44.7%	173
Disagree	7.8%	30
Strongly disagree	3.1%	12
No opinion	10.3%	40

# Loveland's neighborhoods, parks and thoroughfares are clean.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	30.3%	116
Agree	62.1%	238
Disagree	5.7%	22
Strongly disagree	1.3%	5
No opinion	0.5%	2

# Residential recycling and trash services meet customer needs.

		%	Count
Strongly agree		47.2%	183
Agree		43.3%	168
Disagree		7.7%	30
Strongly disagree	l	0.5%	2
No opinion	l .	1.3%	5

# Loveland attracts the shopping opportunities our community desires.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	15.4%	59
Agree	54.6%	209
Strongly disagree	5.2%	20
Disagree	19.8%	76
No opinion	5.0%	19

# Loveland attracts jobs that pay well from employers who offer benefits.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	4.1%	16
Agree	28.8%	111
Strongly disagree	15.5%	60
Disagree	24.4%	94
No opinion	27.2%	105

# Loveland provides quality drinking water.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	38.0%	145
Agree	50.8%	194
Strongly disagree	1.6%	6
Disagree	4.7%	18
No opinion	5.0%	19

# Loveland delivers reliable electricity.

Strongly agree		51.3%	197
Agree		43.5%	167
Disagree	L	2.1%	8
Strongly disagree	I	1.6%	6
No opinion	I	1.6%	6

% Count

# Water runoff from storms is controlled to minimize flooding.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	16.1%	62
Agree	58.5%	226
Disagree	15.8%	61
Strongly disagree	3.6%	14
No opinion	6.0%	23

# The sewer system in Loveland works reliably.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	31.9%	122
Agree	54.8%	210
Disagree	5.7%	22
Strongly disagree	0.5%	2
No opinion	7.0%	27

# I can travel by car to locations in Loveland with minimal delays.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	18.3%	71
Agree	57.9%	224
Disagree	19.9%	77
Strongly disagree	3.6%	14
No opinion	0.3%	1

# Alternative transportation options are such as buses, bike lanes and sidewalks are usable and provide opportunities to avoid driving my car.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	9.0%	35
Agree	42.4%	165
Disagree	23.7%	92
Strongly disagree	8.0%	31
No opinion	17.0%	66

#### Street surfaces are drivable and safe.

		%	Count
Strongly agree		15.2%	59
Agree		72.4%	280
Disagree		10.9%	42
Strongly disagree	I	1.3%	5
No opinion		0.3%	1

#### The City provides quality parks and trails.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	42.2%	164
Agree	50.9%	198
Disagree	3.9%	15
Strongly disagree	0.5%	2
No opinion	2.6%	10

# There are abundant recreational opportunities for all members of my family.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	26.9%	104
Agree	59.6%	230
Disagree	8.8%	34
Strongly disagree	0.5%	2
No opinion	4.1%	16

# There are sufficient opportunities to gather as a community at festivals and other events.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	25.6%	99
Agree	58.7%	227
Disagree	7.2%	28
Strongly disagree	0.5%	2
No opinion	8.0%	31

# There are plentiful opportunities to enjoy the arts.

		%	Count
Strongly agree		41.0%	159
Agree		46.4%	180
Disagree		4.9%	19
Strongly disagree	L	1.0%	4
No opinion		6.7%	26

# The City Council approves development that enhances the quality of life in our community.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	8.0%	31
Agree	38.4%	149
Disagree	17.0%	66
Strongly disagree	9.3%	36
No opinion	27.3%	106

#### Library services provided to our community are current and meet our community's needs.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	37.1%	144
Agree	43.8%	170
Disagree	4.6%	18
Strongly disagree	0.3%	1
No opinion	14.2%	55

# The City provides quality youth activities.

Strongly agree	15.0%	58
Agree	33.2%	128
Disagree	9.3%	36
Strongly agree	0.3%	1
No opinion	42.2%	163

% Count

# The City provides activities and services needed by senior citizens.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	17.1%	66
Agree	34.0%	131
Disagree	2.9%	11
Strongly disagree	0.3%	1
No opinion	45.7%	176

# Citizens enjoy sufficient opportunities to participate in Loveland government.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	9.8%	38
Agree	42.0%	163
Disagree	9.3%	36
Strongly disagree	2.6%	10
No opinion	36.3%	141

# I feel well informed about City services.

	%	Count
Strongly agree	14.1%	55
Agree	57.6%	224
Disagree	15.7%	61
Strongly disagree	2.3%	9
No opinion	10.3%	40