



Ward 2 Survey Responses

From Office of Ward 2 Council Member Robin Wonsley

October 1, 2022

As an independent Democratic Socialist, Council Member Wonsley is committed to bringing working class people into the center of local politics. The Ward 2 office strives to find new ways to reach residents and invite them to be involved. We value and work closely with residents and organizations who are already organized and engaging with local civic matters, and simultaneously try to reach people who are not already engaged, who are often younger and disproportionately renters and residents of color.

In May, the Ward 2 Office published a survey for all Ward 2 residents asking their opinions on a broad range of political priorities. The survey was published online in English and Somali, and publicized through traditional channels like our Ward 2 social media and email, through neighborhood associations, unions, and community organizations. We took the additional step of sending a piece of mail to all the residential addresses in Ward 2 (over 33,000 residents at roughly 11,000 addresses) inviting them to take the survey and attend a virtual or in-person community conversation about the topics it covered.

The survey was an experiment in a new method of constituent engagement. We worked with city's experts in data management, IT, and Neighborhood and Community Relation to develop a tool that we thought might help advance our goal of bringing more people into the political process.

We had no idea how well the survey would work. Now, we can identify what worked and what can be improved, as well as use the aggregated responses as data points in ongoing political work.

Key successes of the survey include nearly 1,000 residents participating, about 3% of the entire Ward. This is particularly notable since the survey was open from May to August when college students, who are a significant percentage of the Ward 2 population, are out of town. Based on rates of constituent engagement with our office, we are confident that the survey was successful in expanding the number of individuals who directly communicated political opinions and priorities with our office. The survey was a great tool for tabling at community events. We had over 20 respondents who completed the survey at the Como Sustainable Living Fair or Open Streets Franklin, many of whom were young residents who were not actively engaged with local government.

We can also identify some ways that the survey was not successful. While we are confident that we engaged a number of residents who would not ordinarily have participated, 3% participation is still far from our goal of mass community engagement. The self-reported demographic data indicates that the respondents still skew older and were more likely to be homeowners than Ward 2 as a whole. It also skewed heavily towards the south of the Ward. In order to make the survey a low-barrier activity for Ward 2 residents and remain in compliance with Government Data Practices, the survey was completely anonymous and did not require any verification that the respondent actually lives in Ward 2. This means that we have no idea what percentage of respondents are residents and what percentage, if any, are not Ward 2 residents.

Based on these observations, we are working to strengthen future community engagement work. We are going to do a Student Survey in September so that as students return to campus, their opinions are collected and integrated into our overall understanding of the Ward. We are planning to include a checkbox attesting to Ward 2 residency at the beginning of future engagement activities as a way to better filter participation to better represent those who live in the Ward. These are just some of many takeaways that we have learned through the survey process. It is exciting and meaningful for the Ward 2 Office to sharpen the ways we gauge resident priorities and support their needs.

Due to the challenges described above, the results of the survey should be understood as one data point amongst many rather than firm conclusions. We hope they can be useful contributions to ongoing discussions about a broad range of political topics, as well as contributing to the shared goal of engaging more working-class residents into the political conversations happening citywide.

Survey Administration

- Sent via US mail to all 11,441 mailing addresses in Ward 2, excluding dorms. Approximately 2,000 were unable to be delivered due to empty residence.
- Additionally publicized via Ward 2 email list social media, neighborhood associations, community groups, unions, and community events.
- Language options in English and Somali.
- Instructions included that the survey should only be completed by Ward 2 residents, but no other form of evidence or attestation was required.
- We collected 950 responses between May 5th and August 18.
- All questions were optional, including demographics.
- We are conducting a separate survey for students starting in September.

Demographics

- All demographic questions were optional.
- For Neighborhood, Housing, Age, and Student Status, respondents could select only one option. For Race & Ethnicity and Gender, respondents could select multiple options, and/or select “Other” and write their own answer.
- Demographic data is not systematically collected by Ward. For purposes of comparing respondent demographics with the Ward 2 population, we used a [Custom Geography on the Minnesota Compass](#) which roughly approximates the Ward based on the census tracts that most closely match the Ward boundaries. Because this is the closest available approximation of Ward 2 demographics, we refer to it as a point of comparison.

How to Read These Results

Red = Strongly Agree

Orange = Agree

Grey = Neutral or Unknown

Light Blue = Disagree

Dark Blue = Strongly Disagree

City Government Structure & Access

1. **If I need a service or want help with a problem, I know what number to call to reach a representative from the city.**

53.5% Agree (18.3% Strongly Agree + 35.2% Agree)

15.4% Neutral or Unknown

31.1% Disagree (21.3% Disagree and 9.8% Strongly Disagree)



2. **I have used 311 to access city services.**

61.8% Agree (27.5% Strongly Agree + 34.3% Agree)

7.2% Neutral or Unknown

31% Disagree (16.9% Disagree and 14.1% Strongly Disagree)



3. I receive the information I need about voting and elections.

86.5% Agree (41.8% Strongly Agree + 44.7% Agree)

7.7% Neutral or Unknown

5.9% Disagree (3.7% Disagree and 2.2% Strongly Disagree)



4. My neighborhood has unique needs and priorities that would benefit from increased attention by the city.

54.8% Agree (24.6% Strongly Agree + 30.2% Agree)

30.2% Neutral or Unknown

15% Disagree (9.6% Disagree and 5.4% Strongly Disagree)



5. I support making Election Day a municipal holiday.

64.1% Agree (47.7% Strongly Agree + 16.4% Agree)

13% Neutral or Unknown

22.9% Disagree (9.2% Disagree and 13.7% Strongly Disagree)



6. I support giving municipal voting rights to all long term Minneapolis residents regardless of immigration status.

50.4% Agree (36.7% Strongly Agree + 13.7% Agree)

9.7% Neutral or Unknown

40% Disagree (9.7% Disagree and 30.3% Strongly Disagree)



Minneapolis Police Department

1. I trust MPD to deliver high quality, respectful services to all residents.

35.7% Agree (18.8% Strongly Agree + 16.9% Agree)

13.1% Neutral or Unknown

51.2% Disagree (22.7% Disagree and 28.5% Strongly Disagree)



2. I feel scared or uncomfortable around MPD officers.

33% Agree (11.9% Strongly Agree + 21.1% Agree)

16.4% Neutral or Unknown

50.6% Disagree (21.6% Disagree and 29% Strongly Disagree)



3. I want the city to create more opportunities for residents to process the traumatic events of the Civil Unrest of 2020.

36.9% Agree (15.3% Strongly Agree + 21.6% Agree)

22.6% Neutral or Unknown

40.6% Disagree (16.7% Disagree and 23.9% Strongly Disagree)



4. I think oversight and authority over MPD should be transferred to a democratically elected civilian body.

36.6% Agree (22.5% Strongly Agree + 14.1% Agree)

15.1% Neutral or Unknown

48.3% Disagree (12.8% Disagree and 35.5% Strongly Disagree)



5. I think Mayor Frey is taking the necessary actions to address racism and excessive force by MPD.

30.6% Agree (11% Strongly Agree + 19.6% Agree)

21.8% Neutral or Unknown

47.6% Disagree (19.6% Disagree and 28% Strongly Disagree)



6. I am concerned about the amount of taxpayer money the city is paying out in police misconduct settlements and police workers compensation claims.

71.3% Agree (45.6% Strongly Agree + 25.7% Agree)

14.5% Neutral or Unknown

14.2% Disagree (7.7% Disagree and 6.5% Strongly Disagree)



Public Safety Beyond Policing

1. I believe MPD should be integrated into a public safety department once they meet minimum standards of safe and equitable functioning.

40.6% Agree (16.5% Strongly Agree + 24.1% Agree)

18.7% Neutral or Unknown

40.8% Disagree (13.2% Disagree and 27.6% Strongly Disagree)



2. I believe the city should support and expand non-police public safety services regardless of any changes to MPD.

70.3% Agree (43% Strongly Agree + 27.3% Agree)

10.6% Neutral or Unknown

19.1% Disagree (9% Disagree and 10.1% Strongly Disagree)



3. I believe City Council should have oversight and accountability over all public safety workers.

32.5% Agree (15.1% Strongly Agree + 17.4% Agree)

19.3% Neutral or Unknown

48.3% Disagree (14% Disagree and 34.3% Strongly Disagree)



4. I believe the city should explore community-centered uses of the building at Lake & Minnehaha instead of reestablishing it as an MPD Precinct.

39.2% Agree (25.4% Strongly Agree + 13.8% Agree)

16.3% Neutral or Unknown

44.5% Disagree (9.6% Disagree and 34.9% Strongly Disagree)



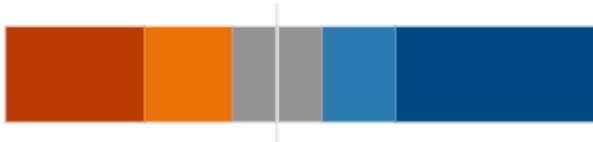
Infrastructure

1. Highway I-94 is scheduled to undergo major reconstruction over the next decade. I support converting I-94 into a street-level boulevard with bike lanes, sidewalks, and green space in addition to multi-lane roads.

38.1% Agree (23.4% Strongly Agree + 14.7% Agree)

15.4% Neutral or Unknown

46.5% Disagree (12.4% Disagree and 34.1% Strongly Disagree)



2. I support the creation of an Urban Farm and community space at the East Phillips Rooftop Depot site.

60.4% Agree (33.3% Strongly Agree + 27.1% Agree)

21.3% Neutral or Unknown

18.2% Disagree (5.6% Disagree and 12.6% Strongly Disagree)



3. I support redesigning Hennepin Avenue with dedicated bus and bike lanes.

52.3% Agree (31.7% Strongly Agree + 20.6% Agree)

13.2% Neutral or Unknown

34.6% Disagree (9.8% Disagree and 24.8% Strongly Disagree)



4. I want the city to invest more in BIPOC-owned small businesses along East Lake Street.

61.2% Agree (32.4% Strongly Agree + 28.8% Agree)

18.9% Neutral or Unknown

19.8% Disagree (6.5% Disagree and 13.3% Strongly Disagree)



Municipal Snow & Ice Removal

1. I support the creation of a municipal shoveling program.

49.5% Agree (24.7% Strongly Agree + 24.8% Agree)

18.4% Neutral or Unknown

32.2% Disagree (12.6% Disagree and 19.6% Strongly Disagree)



2. I have slipped or been injured on icy sidewalks, or know someone who has.

60.6% Agree (23.4% Strongly Agree + 37.2% Agree)

10% Neutral or Unknown

29.4% Disagree (15.9% Disagree and 13.5% Strongly Disagree)



3. Icy sidewalks make it more difficult for me to walk, bike, push a stroller, or get around generally.

70.6% Agree (27.2% Strongly Agree + 43.4% Agree)

10% Neutral or Unknown

19.4% Disagree (11.6% Disagree and 7.8% Strongly Disagree)



4. I have been ticketed and had to pay the city a fine for not shoveling.

3.6% Agree (1.4% Strongly Agree + 2.2% Agree)

8.3% Neutral or Unknown

88.2% Disagree (32.1% Disagree and 56.1% Strongly Disagree)



5. I support including approximately \$10 million allocation in the 2023 City Budget for a snow removal program on key pedestrian streets and all transit stops.

50.2% Agree (23.6% Strongly Agree + 26.6% Agree)

18.7% Neutral or Unknown

31.1% Disagree (10.9% Disagree and 20.2% Strongly Disagree)



Housing

1. I support Rent Control that caps rent increases at 3% annually for all rental units, and does not allow landlords to exceed that cap between tenants.

44.5% Agree (28% Strongly Agree + 16.5% Agree)

11% Neutral or Unknown

44.6% Disagree (12.7% Disagree and 31.9% Strongly Disagree)



2. I support universal Tenant Opportunity to Purchase, which gives current renters the chance to buy the unit at market rate before it is put onto the market.

57.6% Agree (28.9% Strongly Agree + 28.7% Agree)

16% Neutral or Unknown

26.4% Disagree (11.3% Disagree and 15.1% Strongly Disagree)



3. I support funding increased educational outreach to renters and landlords about their rights and responsibilities.

63.3% Agree (28.6% Strongly Agree + 34.7% Agree)

16.7% Neutral or Unknown

20% Disagree (8.5% Disagree and 11.5% Strongly Disagree)



4. I support increasing the amount of public housing units in Ward 2 and citywide.

53.4% Agree (29% Strongly Agree + 24.4% Agree)

16.2% Neutral or Unknown

34.4% Disagree (16.2% Disagree and 18.2% Strongly Disagree)



5. I support a fee on rental units that are kept vacant for extended periods of time, and using that revenue for affordable housing.

44.4% Agree (23.4% Strongly Agree + 21% Agree)

21.2% Neutral or Unknown

34.3% Disagree (13.7% Disagree and 20.6% Strongly Disagree)



6. I support restricting or regulating AirBnB or other short-term rental companies.

44.3% Agree (21% Strongly Agree + 23.3% Agree)

23.1% Neutral or Unknown

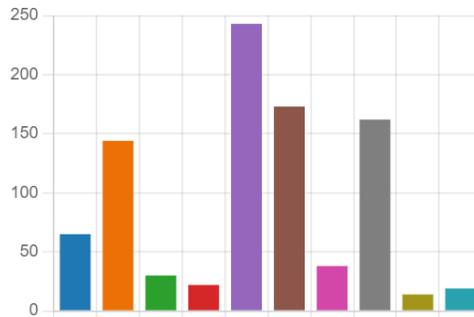
32.6% Disagree (13.2% Disagree and 19.4% Strongly Disagree)



Your Neighborhood

- 96% of respondents answered the question.
- 7% of respondents live in Como. 16% of Ward 2 residents live in Como.
- 15% of respondents live in Cooper. 9% of Ward 2 residents live in Cooper.
- 26% of respondents live in Longfellow. 12% of Ward 2 residents live in Longfellow.
- 17% of respondents live in Seward. 18% of Ward 2 residents live in Seward.
- 21% of respondents live in Prospect Park or East River Road. 28% of Ward 2 residents live in Prospect Park-East River Road.
- 11% of respondents live in East Bank, West Bank, Stadium Village, or Riverside. 17% of Ward 2 residents live in the University of Minnesota Neighborhood, the closest geographic approximation of those areas.

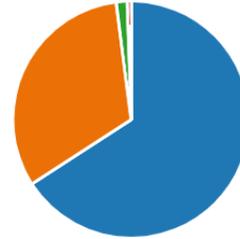
Como	65
Cooper	144
East Bank	30
East River Road	22
Longfellow	243
Prospect Park	173
Riverside	38
Seward	162
Stadium Village	14
West Bank	19



Your Housing

- 97% of respondents answered the question.
- 64% of respondents are homeowners. 36% of Ward 2 residents are homeowners.
- 33% of respondents rent. 57% of Ward 2 residents are renters.

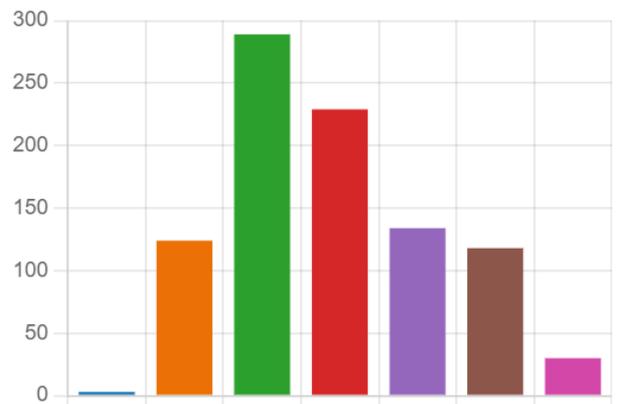
● I own my home	608
● I rent	296
● I live in a UMN or Augsburg dorm	14
● I am transient, unhoused, or in ...	5



Your Age

- 97% of respondents answered the question.
- <1% of respondents are under the age of 18. 9% of Ward 2 residents are under 18.
- 13% of respondents are aged 18-24. 38% of Ward 2 residents are aged 18-24.
- 30% of respondents are aged 25-39. Approximately 23% of Ward 2 residents are aged 25-39. This is approximate due to discrepancies between the census data categories and survey data categories.
- 24% of respondents are aged 40-54. Approximately 11% of Ward 2 residents are aged 40-54. This is approximate due to discrepancies between the census data categories and survey data categories.
- 14% of respondents are aged 55-64. 9% of Ward 2 residents are aged 55-64.
- 12% of respondents are aged 65-75. 5% of Ward 2 residents are aged 65-75.
- 3% of respondents are aged 75+. 3% of Ward 2 residents are aged 75+.

● Under 18	3
● 18 - 24	124
● 25 - 39	289
● 40 - 54	229
● 55 - 64	134
● 65 - 75	118
● 76 +	30



Are you a student?

- 97% of respondents answered the question.
- 15% of respondents are students. There is not demographic data available about student status.

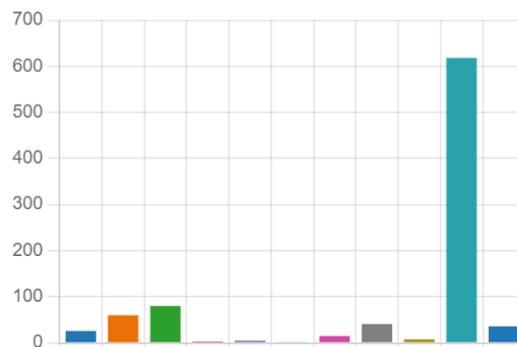
● Yes, I am a current student	140
● No, I am not a student	784



Your Race & Ethnicity- check all that apply:

- 86% of respondents answered the question.
- 3% of respondents selected “American Indian/Alaska Native” as one of their answers. 1% of Ward 2 residents are American Indian or Alaska Native.
- 7% of respondents selected “Asian” or “Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander” as one or more of their responses. 11% of Ward 2 residents are Asian or Pacific Islander.
- 10% of respondents selected “Black/African American,” “Somali,” “Oromo,” “Eritrean,” or “Ethiopian” as one or more of their answers. 12 % of Ward 2 residents are Black or African American.
- 4% of respondents selected “Hispanic or Latino” as one of their responses. 6% of Ward 2 residents are Hispanic or Latino of any race.
- 65% of respondents selected “White or Caucasian” as one of their responses. 66% of Ward 2 residents are White.
- 6% of respondents selected more than one response. 4% of Ward 2 residents selected “two or more races” on the census.

● American Indian/Alaska Native	26
● Asian	60
● Black/African American	80
● Eritrean	3
● Ethiopian	5
● Oromo	2
● Somali	15
● Hispanic or Latino	41
● Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	8
● White or Caucasian	618
● Other	36



Your gender- check all that apply:

- 90% of respondents answered the question.
- 44% of respondents selected “Woman” as one or more of their answers. Ward 2 is approximately 49% Women based on the last census.
- 37% of respondents selected “Man” as one or more of their answers. Ward 2 is approximately 51% Men based on the last census.
- Non-binary and/or gender nonconforming is not represented on the census.

