

City of San Rafael Community Engagement and Communication Survey

Q: Is there anything else you would like to tell us about San Rafael decision-making or communication?

answered question 294
skipped question 661

#	Response Text
1	It is hard to communicate in the ways I'm comfortable which are phone, postal letter, in person. I don't use email. I have been active in other communities in past but given my chosen limits with electronic media, I feel literally out-of-touch.
2	more programs for childrens. better streets.
3	A la proxima lo ponen en espanol por favor que nomas lo llene por llenar no entendi
4	I used to go to meetings, and learned to really appreciate the hard work of some boards and commissions (DRB for example must spend hundreds of hours preparing, and they really helped us make better choices on our house), but we found Council meetings to be too long and too daunting, and it always felt like the decisions had all been made before the meeting started. I feel like the current mayor has tried really hard to reach out, but for whatever reason, what normal citizens want is buried under the wishes of big businesses and developers. Then last night we learned that while big money gets its way in San Rafael, beekeepers are being hounded for absolutely no reason. Every beekeeper I know spends more money on their hobby than they will ever recoup. But without bees I cannot even raise fruits and vegetables my garden. My garden plot has been successfully used by three generations of property owners, but the crop has been reduced for almost ten years now, coinciding with the well documented honey bee issues. Our town and our country NEEDS beekeepers to be wiling to help those of us who cannot do what they do. They should NOT be charged anything, and SR should NOT dictate how a beekeeper keeps his or her bees. This just looks like a money grab, and there are way too many variables in beekeeping techniques and in individual residential properties to make the proposed regulations anything other than ridiculous and ignorant. This is a terrible lesson for our kids.
5	No confusion abut who holds the power, City Council and City Manager make all the decisions, Other SR staff is great, but CM has been seen as being dismissive, and regarding citizens as invisible and without significance. In general, normal residents don't seem to have nearly as much influence in determining the City's character as where I grew up.
	We would not move here again. We really dislike the increasing number of big buildings, new development with total lack of human scale and disregard for historical charm of older city. San Rafael's charm should draw people downtown, but as it goes away, so will many of the rest of us. Other places have night spots too, but retain their historical scale in the pedestrian friendly downtowns. Flush that away and good schools will not be enough to keep us here. Novato has never looked so good to us as it does now. They seem to be learning from their mistake, San Rafael just keeps making more.
6	Residents opinions seems to be dismissed in favor of big businesses, and developers who propose outsized projects, and any outsider or recent arrival who complains about not getting their way at the hands of the city. Is SR just so afraid of being sued that the those of us who chose to raise our kids here can be so easily disregarded? We intensely dislike the look and direction of the new San Rafael. We wanted old town charm, and are getting bad design and bad neighbors.
7	Better transportation methods

8	I want to be involved in City decision making. How can I be involved?
9	Just be honest and upfront.
10	For Snapshot - can you enlarge it? Maybe put a comment from a department or departments on what they are doing. Personalize it a bit. Put more stress on notices, etc. in emails rather than just the website. Get meeting dates out earlier and do a reminder. Not enough notice ahead on many meetings. Great City Manager! Knows her stuff and listens!
11	Once a decision is made by City Officials or employees it is rarely if ever reversed. Even if evidence is shown that the decision was faulty. Also, certain City employees are less than truthful in their daily conduct.
12	I would like to see San Rafael enforce all of the laws that are currently on the books - not what the Feds or the President says to do. We should be a City of Laws - that ALL people follow.
13	I moved here from San Francisco, where I was fairly active in some issues, and also had kids in the city school system. Now that I am retired and my kids are out of the house, I am less active unless it involves Glenwood. I no longer have to commute, so rush hour traffic is not an issue now. The services are good, so that doesn't present an issue. I am traveling enough so I feel somewhat detached from day to day city issues. And while I fully support the ABAG plan, even the ongoing construction in Larkspur doesn't affect me. □ If I become more active, it will probably be because there are better communications, most likely electronic, that will help stir that interest.
14	I would like to see more community press releases and contact from the police department, particularly in regards to the increased gang activity and crime in Downtown San Rafael. I would also like to see press releases on current developments, ie. when the parking meters changed, that was a great opportunity to highlight your excellent parking services team. Thank you for your work.
15	I've tried to volunteer a couple of times without success. Commission job went to someone else but no suggestion to serve in another capacity which would seem like a logical response. No follow up on my attempt to volunteer within the City in some way a few years ago either. I get the impression one has to be very persistent when offering their services. Now working full time so I'm not offering at the moment.
16	I appreciate the hard work many, elected, employees and volunteers do to make SR a great place to live. Thank you
17	Be sure to fix the buckle in the sidewalk between the peacock fire station and peacock dr on the north side of the road please.
18	Maybe, but not at this time.
19	I would like to know who to write to regarding certain issues, like the cleanliness of the neighborhoods and what is being done to deter littering (either by hand or out of the many pick up trucks that have refuse flying out of them onto the street). It's a huge concern to me and I find it depressing to see how dirty San Rafael streets and my neighborhood is.
20	City seems to favor certain neighborhoods and their issues. City seems to dismiss real quality of life issues that affect those of us who are lumped into "The Canal." Council members should be elected by neighborhood to represent the concerns of their constituent community.
21	The City Manager needs to be more accepting of new ideas.
22	Why wasn't the neighborhood of Mont Marin shown on your list above?

23	The City web site is outdated. Accessing and viewing recreational programs is outdated and time consuming. Also, notifications to neighbors from the Planning Department has gone down hill. If they can't notify neighbors of constructions, permits, remodels around you, perhaps emailing would be best. Good neighbors make good communities.
	Parks are in dire need of improvement: Santa Margarita, Bernard Hoffman, etc.
24	Start informing with concise mail; no attachments please, I don't have the time to read them and like interpretation of nonsense before it's on my plate.. but we need to be thoroughly informed all the time.
25	we feel completely blindsided by a number of issues, from the County school for at risk kids to the potential to far too much clustered low income housing.
26	The City Meeting Agenda/Meeting site is inadequate in that Staff Reports are difficult to get to come up on line on issues.
27	Great to do this survey to improve communication
28	There is no communication and you seem so surprised when people say they have no idea you have had meetings regarding certain items. Your communication skills are appalling. Snapshot is nice but you need to let people know what is going on as things come up.[] 2 perfect examples: spending 3/4 million dollars on new parking meters with higher fees right after increasing our taxes and to date NOT informing ANYONE regarding PG&E removing contaminated soil from their lot on Lindaro Street.
29	Do something about the horrible downtown parking situation. It is too expensive and the meter people ticket unnecessarily. It is very unfair to people who wrk downtown. [] Also, please put a Stop sign at the top of the hill before San Pedro School.
30	Why is there an unincorporated area?
31	Since we are often affected by the decisions made by the city, which surrounds us, I would like our needs to be considered in the same way as those of city residents.
32	the mayor seems unreceptive to doing much that is useful on the houses of prostitution and human trafficking and the homeless. prior to election he denied the issue and laughed it off in a public meeting, and now the plans for deterring seem so feeble compared to say Alameda county, etc I would like there to be a citizens group with some power to address these issues and save San Rafael from the direction it seems to be helplessly going.
33	There is no dialog. I give an opinion, but there is no discussion or response.
34	No input
35	Pandering to feel good social policies without regard to absolute fiscal responsibility is ruining out community.
36	"Snapshot" could be a very reliable source of information, but there have been many lapse in consistency
37	I love living in SR. Lovely city, friendly. I've been here for many years both in homes and apartments. Now that I'm older, disabled, and have little money, I find it close to impossible to survive because the rents are so incredibly high.
38	Some of the policemen need better training in dealing with other human beings. I've never had a problem but I've watched a couple of them with those less fortunate and it wasn't very nice.
39	I think we need shelters for homeless and better counselors who aren't on the take and pocketing \$\$ meant to help the homeless. I know this by talking to people on the street occasionally. Seems to be the same or similar stories from different corners. If I knew who to report this to without putting myself in danger, I'd do it. I have a feeling it's a widely known, and perhaps accepted, evil.

40	north side of frietas parkway is [] poorly maintained and needs to be redeveloped.[] bury the wires, new fencing and renew the landscaping.
41	Transparency -- providing clear, fact-based information to residents -- should be the standard operating procedure for the City Council, Mayor and City Manager. There is never a reason for hiding facts in order to substantiate unpopular, controversial views. When that is done, the residents know it and become additionally suspicious and negative. The residents may not always agree, but clear, articulate, fact-based reasons by the City for particular decisions and/or actions will be better respected and understood than obvious coverups. For example, during the City Council meeting about purchasing/installing new parking meters, the Mayor made several obviously-untrue statements to substantiate purchasing/installing the meters. The Council also did not include the annual (large) meter maintenance fees for the new meters, during discussion of the cost of the meters. If purchasing the meters was important/necessary, the Mayor, City Council and City Manager should be able to articulate the reasons in a transparent fashion. The rationale given for purchasing and installing the meters was/is extremely flimsy. I learned that the meters had already been purchased prior to the City Council meeting discussing the meters. This is but one example of many that leads residents to have a bad taste in their mouths about what the City is doing with the residents' money. There is NO reason for the City to be anything but transparent. Public relations campaigns and coverup do nothing more than make residents suspicious and angry.
42	Post progress reports about issues and projects on the city website. For example, what were the results of the investigation into the accident in January 2014 when a dump truck struck and killed a pedestrian.
43	Where is the web site where San Rafael decision-making or communication is located from council embers, commissioners, police and fire, parks, etc.
44	Elected officials set policy and staff run government on a daily basis. Politicians need to let staff do their job and stay out of their business. In San Rafael you have a conflict of interest, which is illegal, with Politicians meddling in staff decisions.
45	Lincoln Avenue needs a regular street-cleaning program, as in the Canal. I often call Public Works or Code Enforcement about furniture/debris dumped on side-walk, the apt. management a the corner of Laurel and Lincoln should clear its side-walk of ivy. The businesses along Lincoln must suffer due to the filth in the streets. Could your yellow-T-shirt brigade come up our way, please?
46	Currently, a work in progress....you are getting better and better. Thank you.
47	Actively engage with communities located within the sphere of influence and engage city agencies and departments in issues raised.
48	I am increasingly angry with the 200 or so cars and trucks that park in my neighborhood, the owners of which do not live in my neighborhood. The trash often left behind, the grocery carts, the alarm sounds, the condoms, and the possible illegal activities are making me feel less safe. People in the most consistently impacted areas can't have friends over because there is no place to park. When I asked that at least paint the corners red I was told there was no \$ or manpower to do it. All of my neighbors want "no parking between 2AM and 6AM" on our streets and so do I. Why aren't we listened to????? We have a nice neighborhood with underground utilities and HOA oversight of landscaping and home upkeep. All of these out of area vehicles make Spinnaker Point look like the Canal area...congested and junky. There was a shooting in the little city park adjoining Spinnaker Point earlier this year. Will it take that kind of violence in my neighborhood to get the city to deal with this issue?

49	The decline of services, parks, infrastructure, and degradation of Boyd park especially are very distressing, all going to the black hole of employee pensions, salaries, benefits. These are the issues that are not being effectively communicated about. If the city thinks more revenue would be appropriate, they need to beat the drum to reform prop 13, rather than fooling us about library and paramedic bonds that do only one thing.. allow more money to be shifted to pensions, etc..
50	I appreciate the neighborhood communication and news I get from Peacock Gap and Glenwood neighborhoods.
51	Not enough information about local happenings in local newspaper. Also not much traffic law inforcement.
52	It seems like the open public input meetings do not have much influence city decisions.
53	it's interesting that your survey never mentions Homeowners Associations, which are prominent "local government" organizations in many communities. This mirrors the disdain and disregard SR supervisors, mayors and staff members have toward these locally elected bodies and representatives.
54	I ask Carolyn Lenert why the paving of Del Ganado seems to go from smooth to some kind of spray paint covering previous street surface. She knew.....
55	I'm regularly out of town for work, but it's relatively easy to stay up-to-date. I think the city government is doing a great job.
56	need to communicate directly to a wider range (ex. 1000 ft from a project rather than 500 ft.), encourage the IJ to have a separate section everyday of all (county-wide) official public meetings for the next 7 days - maybe on the front page on the left. Hopefully they would do it as a public service. People who can't afford a paper could read the meeting schedule without buying a paper.
57	San Rafael is now facing a number of serious problems that need to be addressed now. The ABAG high density challenge, the increassing pressure on all city services due to higher pensions, health care costs, and the seemingly inability to gain control of the downtown homeless are just 3 of the problems that immediately come to mind. The public tax payers deserves better sidewalks and streets than we currently have. These problems should be addressed. Our tax dollars don't seem to be spent on our behalf !
58	make clear the distinction between city council and the bd of supervisors..It seems that certain topics are covered by both .
59	I'd like to know who has the right to make grocery stores charge 10 cents a bag for our groceries. This is absurd as not everyone will have their own bags. The public should not be charged for a bag to load their already expensive groceries. Also, why can't we get the walkway by the wetlands past Baypoint Lagoons next to the vacant lot cleaned up. It's disgusting. We don't need more housing to create more traffic. There is to much already. I lived here in the 50's when there was a train and not much traffic. It will be a major traffic jam when the train starts stopping blocking the intersections. Where will you put the cars for parking? Where are people going to go when they get off the train without any way to get there? All I can invision is a huge mess with little ridership.

60	By-and-large, the City Council does its job, apparently despite the sheer boredom and tedium of the "set-piece" largely anti-climactic council meetings where "staff" weighs in with its recommendations that seem to have been vetted behind closed doors. Council members should keep only San Rafael's best interests up front without filtering all through their personal political prisms, political posturing for future office, or obeisance to unelected unaccountable outside agencies. There was a time when local newspapers (not necessarily only here in Marin) had cogent and concise reporting on city issues, debates, votes, and the implications thereof. The IJ doesn't/can't do it, and if it exists, I'm not aware of a similar communications delivery vehicle today (not written in bureaucratese).
61	neighbors and I have contacted city about very old wooden bridge that appears to be in poor shape - southern heights. Contact said he'd provide us with results of bridge evaluation, schedule repairs etc. Called/emailed. Never given results and project dates.
62	Snapshot newsletter is great.
63	My neighborhood, Spinnaker Point, is, in the last 3 years, beginning to experience some serious issues both with the Wetlands and the parking from the Canal. This development was approved by the city planners and the City needs to take responsibility for many issues now rearing their heads. I have felt in many of our efforts to discuss solutions to these issues with the City that we have been passed off and told that the City has no responsibility or cannot do anything. Because of these responses, I feel that we are not members of the greater San Rafael community but rather a bad child that needs to be silenced. Again, the City approved this development and needs to at least deal with the consequences by working with us to come up with solutions. And stating that the City has limited resources AFTER we all just voted for another tax increase to provide those services so eagerly advertised will not work. The Measure was passed and you have additional resources. Enough!
64	I am very interested in seeing that a place for the REST program be found and funded.
65	There was and still is a lack of information about why the council is considering so much additional housing and business by Larkspur Landing! The traffic problems there are NOT going away for years, and until the traffic impact is very low, very little new construction/additions should be allowed. [] For the EIR to say that the traffic impact of the big additions studied will be small is ABSURD! Get another, better company to assess the traffic impacts!
66	I have only been active in city decision making process when the Pacifics baseball team was proposed. I felt heard and the majority of neighborhood concerns were addressed. [] Since then I have not been involved. It would be nice to be on an email list for updates on matters of interest.
67	Snapshot is not as interesting as it used to be.
68	City hall only cares about the business district and monied people who complain or threaten to sue. Normal residents get short shrift from elected officials. Staff is much nicer!
69	No
70	Take additional steps to reach out to residents: surveys, email blasts, newspapers, mailings, flyers.
71	The email for the City Planning Commission Meeting should contain a digest so one doesn't have to navigate to the website.
72	For many, a 'Webinar' or similar Internet-based two-way communication should be implemented & publicized. For others, more neighborhood bulletin boards can serve to unite while also contrasting citizen interests
73	No. I'm been generally satisfied.

74	We need to fix the parking issue in Spinnaker Point. It is past urgent now. I have people urinating in front of my house on the curb! Then walking to their homes in the Canal. This must stop.
75	City Council members often have closed minds and are not open to diverse opinions. They are only available when running for office.
76	The city should be hiring GreenMBA graduates for various departments, and should be working with systemic thinking consultants to solve city issues.
77	Too many vagrants around the new bike paths :(
78	All of the bums near albert park and the riff raff on B (from 7-11 and safeway up to 4th) is bad for the neighborhood. I can't say I like that whole situation single bit
79	San Rafael was a wonderful place to live when we moved here 22 years ago. It has become steadily worse. The homeless, the drug addicts, gang shootings are all everyday problems now. This is not true in San Anselmo or Larkspur. Why?
80	The Next Door online communities are very strong in San Rafael. I would recommend joining these different groups to disseminate information and spark dialog.
81	Solving the problems of the most vulnerable neighborhoods in San Rafael should be the top priority for the city and its elected officials.
82	Focused on survival, career-income, and national progressive politics. Am really concerned with tea party and right wing networking and "news" now being opinions and marketing - often not based on facts but focused on fears and ignorance.
83	Communication is a major part of creating a better city. Without this tool, our city remains uncertain of the future and divided.
84	It feels like the Board of Supervisors does what it wants and is heavily influenced by money (example Dutra).
85	I bought a home here 2 years ago. Aside from the ridiculous homeless problem in San Rafael, I have absolutely no idea what is going on in the community - or where to find that information. (I have a masters degree in journalism and communications.) I like to stay informed on issues. Thank you.
86	San Rafael decision making is biased in favor of money.
87	I love the weekly snapshot email blast. That is very informative and helps me feel engaged in / aware of city happenings.
88	It is time for the politicians to listen to the people who voted them into office on promises to do good for all. I think everyone is fed up with the homeless, burglaries & the indifference of those supposly serving the public.
89	I would like the cost of living to be lower, as well as get more information regarding city council happenings.
90	My only complaint is that our neighborhood was railroaded into having speed humps installed, and even though trucks going over the humps have caused damage to my house, the HOA insists that the city made the decision to put them in, and the city insists that they were installed at the neighborhoods request, even though it was only a small contingent of homeowners who wanted them. There was a definite breakdown of communication there. I fear that the same thin is about to happen again with the issue of overnight parking permits for the neighborhood. Aside from that, I think that the city does a great job with the resources it has.
91	Sidewalk issues need to be addressed and addressed fairly in Terra Linda. They are dangerous, especially for children and the elderly, and the City's solution so far has been inadequate and irresponsible.
92	San Rafael should work to keep it friendly to small businesses and local residents. (too many taxes and fees=sales tax, parking meters, etc.)

93	I am a homeowner in San Rafael who will be returning to live permanently here in a few years. I grew up here and feel that I need to be a part of the city and community. Please be sure that you do things with citizens in mind and citizens input. Regulations, initiatives, and other efforts by the city to move forward into the future will go much more smoothly
94	Pls pay attention to the lagoon problems near our home. We need the City to step up & be responsible. Spinnaker Pt donated over \$2500. to the Public Works Department to help defray expenses. Also, the current parking problem. We need the city to make major decisions. Painting round corners red, tagging commercial vehicles loaded with junk, etc., & cars parked more then the legal limit.
95	I have little respect for the city attorney.
96	Members should be more timely with addressing important issues with it's residents, sense of urgency to fix complaints and problems
97	no, but I did not have a website for the City of San Rafael. Once I have that, I will be more mindful of what is going on and participate as much as I can.
98	Respond to neighborhood problems with more action such as the acute parking problem in Spinnaker Point and the Lagoon public health problem
99	I persoally believe no one really listens to concerns and decide what to do based on their own bias
100	Everyone at the City has been great. Open and willing to listen and try to help.
101	no
102	I am very active in national politics, but haven't been too interested in City politics (which is probably the wrong way to go!). When I know a candidate running for office I do participate,
103	Parking / canal people always use our streets
104	Generally good Govt. Many neighbors and friends don't comprehend how system works. As former DPW Admin. I try to educate on traffic and development complaints. Often seems that people complain because they don't understand. Thanks for the survey opportunity.
105	Please make the protection of our health and our environment your top priority and pass a "Precautionary Principle" Ordinance for San Rafael. Thank you.
106	City leaders (manager, police dept, fire dept, etc) coming to Board meetings (i.e. Sp. Pt.) is very helpful in connecting us to the city, giving us an opportunity to discuss problems. Open gatherings downtown are excellent, we can meet & chat. More communication is always best, we want to know that San Rafael is interested in helping us. For instance, the city is working with Sp. Pt. with our problem of over-parking on Catalina and our cul-de-sacs, which we greatly appreciate. I believe we all agree we need to provide parking for residents of the Canal, the major problem is where. Hopefully we can come up with a solution that's agreeable to all.
107	I am unclear where the city council stands on affordable housing. The county needs it and the voices against it are embarassing for the county. We need better transporation and housing to make the county viable for the long term. As one of the cities in the county with a broad economic range of our residents, SR needs to speak up for low and middle income people. Please do not be bullied by those who want to close the door to Marin County. You know that it is fundamentally racist but it is also unsustainable for our local economy.

108	I don't actively seek information. What I read in the Marin IJ is as detailed as my information is. I do not feel as if I could make a difference because it seems as if I would need to devote all my time to do so. My impression of City affairs is that is it steeped in politics and strong personalities; that it is an insiders game and I am on the outside.
109	Listen to the people.
110	more information in the mail about pending decisions on current problems.. email ok too.
111	I guess the biggest negative for me about living here is the parking and meter/tickets situation. I hate shopping downtown because of that.
112	It would be nice if government officials remembered that they serve the people. I feel as a taxpayer that I get little in return for my money. Responsibility for erivices have been transferred from the government[] to the people and yet we pay taxes for them. Where are the street sweepers? City Maintenance workers? Cops? Used to see them, no longer. [] Yet, I am continually ask to pay more and more for less and less. Taxpayers seem to be paying for everyone else, but get almost nothing back.
113	City Hall pretty much does what it wants to & at its own pace, in spite of citizens' well-conceived input (based upon my observations of successful actions in the private sector over the past 40 years. So my recommendation for your improvement is not in the communication realm, but to actually create effective change through your actions instead of being such obstructionists.
114	I wish my pet peeve, no bus service in Peacock Gap for residents or children, would get attention. Even if there isn't a solution, it would be nice to know it makes the list.
115	Thank you for fielding this survey!
116	As a new homeowner in San Rafael (6 months), I would like to get a better understanding of city's pending issues and decision making process. I prefer hard copy mail, but would check online if I knew exactly where to look. Thanks!
117	-Traffic is a major concern (from East SR to the freeway). Improvements have been made but more are needed. (No parking at any time on either side of 3rd St in front of United Market is NECESSARY for the thousands of East SR residents traveling to and fro. It's difficult, even with the current "trial" in lace. More needs to be done to prepare for thebLoch Lohmond development coming on line. Make the changes now so we don't have to wait 5+more years for another assessment.[] -I read your city website and appreciate your agenda but am often flabbergasted by it. What you have to deal with that really doesn't deal with our daily lives is surprising. [] -San Rafael is an incredible place to live, next to the bay which offers so much. It's beautiful but is not a draw to many newcomers that value excellent schools. We have them and they are not advertised. SR needs to get on the IJ bandwagon and post all the good things going on at SR High. There are incredible students and athletes at this school who need to be recognized. Keep up the press! If SR kids would stay in SR for Middle School and High School it would be fabulous. Dvidson's principal and SR High's principal are so devoted. They have created incredible multi cultural environments for learning and it's working. The community needs to know! Publisize the accomplishments of Davidson and San Rafael High. Keep the IJ informed of what's going on in or schools. It will increase desire for our area, property values, and comfort that yougchildren growing up here can thrive through High School. There are so many wonderful families in East San Rafael who spend thousands on a private school education. There is a fabulous education offered here, 5-10 minutes from home that should be celebrated.
118	Open the door and let some fresh air in.[] Things tend to get a bit stuffy around here.
119	going to the sidewalk meeting tonight. I'll let you know.

120	Andrew your wife is rude mean. You as well really should learn to listen you think you are lol King. You are rude ego run. I think at the two official events I have been two you are so out of touch. And around town stay off your cell phone in your car. When in store or high school/ kid event watch what you say.
121	I prefer a mobile app to receive updates, engage in social discussions, and get critical city alerts.
122	Just that I hate that new high density building is going up on San Pedro. There is enough traffic, and we will lose the view and the character of the area. I do appreciate that the parking is gone next to united, that make a huge improvement to the morning commute
123	I feel that City officials don't listen objectively and are pre-disposed to their own perception of what life should be like in San Rafael, as opposed to the actual needs are of a community.
124	I do not agree with the home owners paying to fix the side walks. I did not plant the trees several decades ago which are causing the problems on our sidewalks now!
125	At the city council meetings I attended regarding the Loch Lomond development, around 2003, sometimes neighbors who spoke were actually laughed at and derided by council members. This really soured me on the attitude of the city council toward the needs of eastern San Rafael, which makes up 25% of SR's population. I felt we were treated callously and do not know if the current council has a different attitude, or gives a damn about what we want or think. Many of us are older and it seemed the attitude at that time was "just a bunch of old folks, they're going to die off anyway."
126	I'm very disappointed about how the city is handling the public nuisance and health threat that is being caused by the City's refusal to maintain our lagoon.
127	It would be nice to know how input is really used. I do hear that decisions are not necessarily fair but on heavily influenced by long time business interests and developers.
128	Plan Bay Area is a fiasco and communication with residents should have started many years ago. Terrible communication on this issue.
129	I think it is important for the City to distinguish itself as being a different entity from the County as County politics seem much more volatile than City politics. As both are in San Rafael I need to think twice about which one I am reading about.
130	I would like the City to be more proactive in solving our critical parking issues. Residents from the Canal District use our streets for parking every day and night and often leave litter. It has come to the point that visitors to our neighborhood can find no parking. I often feel unsafe with this environment. Please deal with the Canal District's Parking Shortages. Thank you!
131	The mayor is an accessible. The city manager does not want to collaborate with citizens. This is quite different from the previous mayor and our previous city managers.
132	It is snail-like and non-responsive. Residents do not seem to be a priority.
133	While City representatives are willing to listen to specific concerns/complaints raised, it seems that the knee-jerk response most often is "we can't do it" or "it doesn't fit withing our model" rather than "let's see how/if we can make this work for you and us (the City)."
134	I don't trust SR is fiscally responsible. When SR raised sales tax, the goal should have been to work towards balanced budget without the increase. Instead, the increase became a tax grab never to be rescinded because the city doesn't care there should be accountability with taxpayer money.

135	The lower ratings here mainly deal with completeness of information. The city is great about keeping people informed at the top-line level. However, when I want to dig into something - - read the actual reports and such, finding that info on the website can be more challenging than it should be. It's obvious that the city is TRYING to make it available, and it almost always is (once you find it) but it seems no one is looking at the overall website experience from an outsider's perspective and editing it to maximize consistency and simplicity.
136	It does not communicated that the City does very much for the City beyond the basics (fire/police) etc. I don't believe that the City is very dynamic in it's approach - very poor communications outreach.
137	The quarry continues to cause future heart and lung disease but these dangers were swept under the carpet by "compromise". The Loch Lomond building project has narrow streets and not enough parking. Who ok'd that one? Why would anyone give the time and effort to get involved in such an opaque project? Why were't at least major parts of the telephone lines, electrical and cables under south San Pedro when the road was torn up? Is is still too late?
138	I think emails to the community would be useful when decisions need to be made. People aren't going to go to the website as a regular activity. One could sign up for updates so that those who don't want information would not get it. Lots of other public entities do this.
139	Transparancy needs to improve
140	My experience is that the city leaders would rather defer, deflect, obfuscate and avoid issues rather than be a constructive partner in solving problems.
141	I am sorry that there does not seem to be enforcement of the new smoking ordinance as it applies to the workplace. I am also concerned about the smoke from cigarettes that drifts into nearby homes & peace disturbing loud voices at some of the multiplying so-called 'clean & sober' frat-houses.
142	website is pretty good. the key thing missing is a complete calendar on home page of all meetings of boards, commissions and even quasi-official groups. it should be a single calendar, ideally w/ hyperlinks to other parts of website, depending on what meeting it is. People should be allowed to sign up to receive this calendar in an email.
143	I would appreciate a monthly or quarterly e-newsletter highlighting issues, decisions and city news. It could include an easy way to contact decision makers with ideas and comments.
144	My parents lived in Spinnaker Point for many years. I continue to own that home/property. Parked cars, from folks not living in Spinnaker Point, is a real problem; cars & trucks are parked in front of my place for days. If folks want people to visit, there is no room to park their vehicle. What a mess! Do we need resident placards/stickers? Let's tow away those other / non-resident vehicles.
145	Stop catering to illegal immigrants.
146	Think about ways to get information out about city services/issues without waiting until a decision has to be made.
147	No
148	I did not realize that you had a website but now plan to visit iit often. Hope that it enables some 2-way communication. This survey was a great idea. Thanks!
149	No thank you and be sorry but I am not able to be involved in any activety.much luck to all of you.
150	Very happy with our City Council, the City Staff, and the fact that they all accessible!
151	I am happy to know my supervisor Susan Adams.
152	More representation of minorities in the decision-making process- More communication in different languages, Vietnamese, Spanish, etc.

153	My answers to many of the questions were negative, not because I have any big beef about communication but just to indicate that I feel it could be improved some.
154	The City needs to communicate better on the steps they are taking regarding the homeless situation in San Rafael. This issues is top of mind for every resident. You cannot meet with anybody in SR and not have this topic come up. So many of my SR neighbors DO NOT shop in SR because of the homeless all over the downtown area. Joggers are worried about the homeless encampments in the hills, and residents are worried about the fires. Residents have had enough of the situation. I know specifically of one family who chose not to move here because of the homeless they saw all over SR. The local businesses are experiencing awful situations of feces on their property fronts, and I have witnessed alcohol thefts at Safeway, but they have a "no-chase" policy. I won't allow my teenaged daughters to go to downtown SR. I bring them to Corte Madera. The deterioration of downtown SR is often a topic of conversation with friends. The City Council needs to be more aggressive in making policy decisions to solve this problem. Clearly, the Ritter House needs to relocate to another city. SR can no longer take the burden of the county's social problems.
155	never receive enough advance time re when you are going to approve/disapprove(?) utility rate increases.
156	Knowing How to get access to the City's communication needs to be better communicated.
157	It would be great to have more publicity towards our fine public schools.
158	My experience is that design decisions are not open to true public input. Stone walling, a lack of creativity and vision are lacking. If one travels to any other city San Francisco, Novato Fairfax, to name of few have all superior physical improvements that make San Rafael look ancient. For example, who thinks fourth street is alive and improving? Answer... no one. it is because of poor planning decisions. Adding the plaza and parking structures? How about increasing the housing density on fourth street so it had people that can walk to shops? Why does the city resist 60 degree parking, which is so much safer and easier for shoppers , by reducing the 10 foot wide sidewalks to say 6 feet? Take a look at sucessful downtown shopping streets like San Anselmo, or Piedmont, small sidewalks work much better. Even Clement street in San Francisco with 20 times the activity has 60 degree parking and smaller sidewalks. And why is San Rafael the only city in the Bay Area to paint 20 feet of RED no parking on every block? Lame ? Or is San Rafael trying to kill the street parking to force people to park in their over built parking lots? Increase business = increase in TAX Revenue. Increase parking tickets is soooo short sided. It says to shoppers go to the malls. Any most don't want to go to Northgate. San Rafael seems stuck in the 1950's planning wise. It can be so much more. I hope progressive new thinking begins here.
159	Fix the homeless problem. Downtown is littered with homeless people. Other local cities benefit because most will not use our downtown.
160	I have always felt decisions are very one sided in favor of the City powers to be!
161	Please listen up to neighborhood meetings concerns,,grassroots...
162	Home owners in this area are idiots . They act like they own the whole neighborhood . They are racist and have called the police serval times when non whites are in the area . These people should be ignored . They are worthless
163	no
164	Haven't thought of the city's website...plan on familiarizing myself with it! Thank you!
165	Gary Phillips reached out to me about the homeless issue and I really appreciate that. It's not every mayor that would call a constituent.

166	too often public meetings on a proposed project are scheduled when working people cannot make them, are too structured, too driven by consultants, and people get the impression that they are "rigged".
167	I think our biggest issue is homelessness and loitering. I am not sure why we have to take care of all of Marin's street people. One afternoon I drove around a block downtown and counted 25 loiterers / homeless individuals. My son walks from Dominican to Davidson Middle School. I do not feel comfortable with that walk.[] [] This all added to the fact that a new train will be dumping people into San Rafael, makes for a potential dangerous scenario.[] [] This would not be acceptable in Mill Valley, or San Anselmo, or Larkspur.
168	Keep making an effort. Only so much you can do, but do all of what you can.
169	Looking forward to bring engaged and informed.
170	I plan to move out of the area due to the extreme liberal attitude here, and getting moreso. Cost of living is outrageous, highest taxes in state!, schools getting worse---TLHS, where my kids went is now "ghetto" (according to my kids) due to the influx of students from the Canal area. The good teachers are leaving. Our letters-to-the-editor for the IJ don't get published because they reflect conservative values. I moved from Chicago to CA in 1972 for "the better life." I would never make that decision now. 3 of my 4 children have left the state for political and economic reasons. There are few decent jobs for the 20 to 30 year olds and my son who moved to the southeast now owns his second home in Georgia. He left because he couldn't find a job here and the cost to buy a home is almost impossible. The direction this state has moved is toward economic disaster. Companies like Toyota are leaving for states like Texas where they support entrepreneurs instead of demonizing them. I could go on and on, but you get the idea!
171	Reaching out to neighborhood associations like MARA Montecito Area Residents Association is a good way to communicate and connect with residents. San Rafael is fortunate to have strong and active neighborhood associations.[] It is funny that you don't have Dominican on here. I bet they are peaved. ha ha.
172	There is often a lack of transparency and buck-passing about how and why certain policies and expenditures are approved, disapproved, or tabled. For example, where was the public discussion about pensions, benefits, and retirement plan participation? Since most of the pension deficits accrue from highly-paid employees, what is the city doing to eliminate or reduce double dipping?
173	Is the Dominican not a recognized San Rafael designated area? Your Survey didn't list it as an option in Question #7
174	City of San Rafael website is great!!
175	I hope to someday be able to bring out of town friends to our downtown and not be embarrassed by all of the homeless roaming around. I bring my friends to Larkspur and Fairfax instead. Sad.
176	The Eichlers of Terra Linda are unique and historic, and a great asset to San Rafael as people desire these unusual architectural gems. Please take them and their surroundings into consideration when making decisions.
177	More concrete actions for homeless issues and better traffic and bike lanes
178	I've been complaining to the city about an autistic group home on Belle and Clyde for four years and NOTHING has been done to stop their noise and destruction to neighbors' property.

179	I am a 24/7 caregiver for a spouse with advanced Alzheimer's Disease, and cannot attend meetings. I have almost no social life at this point, and have minimal support or coverage to do things like get groceries, etc. I am also coping with a chronic homeless problem, with the homeless leaving personal item under my shrubs - blankets, used condoms, empty food containers, feces, and I'm getting damned tired of cleaning it up.
180	We need sidewalks on Mountainview!!!
181	Two things that would really help from my perspective: (1) A better job with 'push' emails or blog notifications about City Council issues and upcoming decisions; and (2) A much easier way of sending comments or questions on current City Council issues to specific members or the whole group ... perhaps a dedicated 'Issues and Answers' blog?
182	Please listen to the RESIDENTS of San Rafael and not the special-interest groups. You MUST solve the homeless problem, no matter what the small group of people involved with Ritter House and St. Anthony's say or do. They don't represent the vast majority of San Rafael residents who must avoid our own downtown.
183	I have complained about the Frietas Pwy side walks for sometime now especially the one that stretches from the Senior housing to Northgate one where most of them shop. My husband is handicapped and uses a scooter the side walks are so uneven that the scooter tips over. I realize that this is a great undertaking because of the roots of the trees but something has to be done before someone is seriously injured.
184	Lately it feels as if elected officials are pushing their own agenda instead of representing their constituents (e.g. Susan Adams and her ABAG-pushed low-income housing). I don't need to get involved as long as officials are doing what residents want. If they don't, then I get angry and start getting involved. Hope this makes sense!
185	No
186	I'D LIKE TO SEE A CAN DO ATTITUDE FROM THE CITY. INSTEAD THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS NO OR NOT MY JOB.
187	It's not very transparent, there seems to be an "in-crowd" that only talk to other "in crowd" members to make behind closed door decisions. It is hard for ordinary citizens to be heard and actually be listened to, especially if they don't agree with the preset agenda.
188	Please improve City website, post updates on crime and current issues. The IJ is not a good source for news.
189	Done deals with insiders with little input. Not to mention fact that Firefighters union owns the council as no one elected without their ok in over 30 years which is why they have exorbitant spiked extravagant pensions. Second, major crime wave due to Sanctuary for ILLEGAL (NOT UNDOCUMENTED) ALIENS. Detect, detain and deport.
190	clean up B st vagrants
191	I recently realized it's important to know about city planning. Anxious to be more involved & will be!
192	City Council doesn't listen to community input. Outrage over several serious issues within San Rafael have gone unaddressed or seem to go against residents, business owners, but tend towards special interest. San Rafael has gone seriously downhill, with no relief in sight. Council doesn't listen, people go elsewhere to shop, businesses go elsewhere to open stores.
193	With today's electronic and social media there is no reason that more citizens in San Rafael are not informed of what is happening in our town.
194	The police department twitter site does an excellent job engaging the community. The whole city should adopt their model.
195	I have provided feedback on the police dept website about traffic dangers to pedestrians, particularly at second and Lindero street. Nothing has happened and it seems the city tolerates aggressive driving...someone is going to be killed again unless people start being ticketed again for not yielding to peds. More minor peeve is the touted no smoking ordinance downtown which is ignored even when police are present.

196	Use Open Source Government Software and Git repositories to foster community engagement.
197	This is the first time I've been contacted and I appreciate it!!! Although I've lives in Marin for 25 years, I've never gotten involved in local politics, but am very active from a Service standpoint through my Rotary Club in SR.
198	the perception is that the city doesn't is sitting back taking input, which means you receive input only from the activists and not the average citizen. At the County level we are working to implement several crowdsourcing tools such as SeeClickFix and Inqiri, along with the currently-used Peak Democracy tool, to actively seek out community input from ALL stakeholders. Not just the loud ones. I'd be happy to meet with staff to give a brief overview of our experience thus far. kmercer@marincounty.org
199	I have had generally good experiences with city staff, but often only after repeatedly contacting them for assistance. My impression is that the mayor and most officeholders give lip service to addressing chronic problems with vagrants, massage parlors, crime, etc., but take far too little visible action to make it clear that the people of this city are VERY concerned about its future. The trend is in the wrong direction, as I see too many vagrants increasingly living in parks and downtown, which contributes to an ongoing decline in the quality of life, which is noticeable.
200	I appreciate very much how responsive individual city employees are to suggestions, inquiries, requests. VERY much appreciated-- librarians, park personnel, planning staff, Cory with volunteering. Good work.
201	I have applied and been interviewed a few times for different volunteer positions but have been turned away. I just want to get involved, but it seems like the council picks those that they know. They don't want to go 'young'.
202	There should be move involvement/oversight of the school districts and how they manage the schools and their expenditures. I've been a volunteer & employee of local grammar school and what I've seen makes me very concerned.
203	You should have "cliff notes" More ppl might get "involved."
204	The website and city communication should also be translated in Spanish. Also, the City of San Rafael should be present & reach out to all the neighborhoods including the Canal. Events and meetings should also be noticed in different ways, not just technology especially since not everyone may have consistent access to technology.
205	no, thanks!
206	we need safer traffic for pedstian.and bikes. people are being killed being hit by cars. people seem to need to be eduction in traffae laws and courcesy both pedestrian and drivers
207	City Snapshot is good, but more advance notice on upcoming hearings/meetings/events. Perhaps add a calendar for the upcoming (not current month) so that public has more time to plann attendance. don't spend city money changing website, spend more time with outreach -- partner with SCHOOLS
208	Clear, concise and timely
209	Have you thought about using Twitter to announce important decisions?
210	I am forth generation at my address.
211	As a working parent with a wife who works evenings it is difficult to attend evening public meetings. I would like to be more engaged but honestly I haven't taken the initiative to watch the archived city council meetings let alone weigh in heavily on the issues that concern me or my family. So there you go.[] [] I find my neighborhood association an invaluable resource for updates but find local media lacking in coverage that isn't seeped in opinion.
212	Thanks for reaching out via this survey. I know how hard the mayor and the city council members work considering they are not full time employees.

213	At the website there should be a page displaying "current issues" and a link to the appropriate committee will be holding mtgs related to the topic. For ease of understanding each topic should have a pro and con arguments similar to what is in election materials.
214	our roads are a mess. please repave redwood highway frontage road
215	I feel left out of the decision-making process because I am a Marinwood resident who is not allowed to vote for San Rafael council. With our voices unheard, but yet affected by decisions made by the City of San Rafael, our disenfranchisement is a travesty.
216	To involve community in the decision- making is a roll that have been delegated to known people or friends of friends. It is time to educate the neglected sector (minority) about the process of it and how to get involve and be part of it. As A. L. said "A house divided against it self cannot stand" is time to work together.
217	Susan Adams has not been listening to us and has tried to gloss over our concerns about the future of Marinwood. The Bridge housing proposal expects residents of Marinwood to subsidize the taxes Bridge won't have to pay. ALSO, THE SITE SHOULDN'T HAVE HOUSING ON IT. No one should have to live right on the freeway and on top of a toxic plume from a dry cleaners. Susan Adams and Steve Kinsey didn't think through a lot of important details on the Bridge Housing project. How about planning affordable housing for essential workforce like firefighters, police, teachers, hospital workers , who all earn 'too much' for Bridge, but too little to live in Marin easily. We also need safe and healthy senior housing, not right next to the freeway.
218	I appreciate the effort to get the citizens more engaged. I just wish I had more time to get more involved.
219	There's far too much corruption, back-slapping, manipulation, glad-handing, and corporate behavior.
220	Id like to hear about the plan to Reduce the homeless population in downtown
221	I feel bad decisions are being made with the dealings of the homeless and "massage parlors" .
222	Minutes are long, buried and the decision making not easily understood. Use less city speak, for the lay person to understand. Don't only rely on your website for postings, use more or other resources and then folks where it is! Engage community representatives from all of SRafael on commission about engagement that Kate Colin stated she would do when she ran and has yet to occur. It was a very important idea to many.
223	Poor or no enforcement of leash laws and traffic safety.
224	San Rafael has made terrible decisions in the 34 years I have lived here. What was once a wonderful place to live has turned into a crowded and difficult place to live comparatively. Parking has really deteriorated in my neighborhood, and nobody from the City cares--I believe it is all about revenue and greed--meter maids are marking tires of residents. The red zones are crazy long in my neighborhood in some places, and are nonexistent and we have dangerous corners a block away. It just doesn't make sense.
225	-----
226	Like that city officials agree to attend Gerstle Park Neighborhood meetings to discuss issues important to all of us
227	City decisions affect neighboring communities, too. As a Kentfield neighbor I prefer to do business in my immediate community, which includes SR, because it keeps those businesses alive. That in turn keeps our neighborhood vital. It's good for all. SR must consider its neighbors when making decisions of this magnitude. Please don't adopt impediments to accessing local businesses and services that break the bond with SR'S neighbors. Marin is a nearly fully built out county. Creating infrastructure to serve much higher densities in the future is a false premise.

228	improving coordination between Depts would save time, money and resources, and improve the public perception of the City. For ex. trenching AFTER a street is newly paved ;happens so regularly it"s become a running joke in the neighborhood.[] Also the encampments on the N side of the Wolfe Grade hill are a fire danger.
229	Solve the homeless problem.
230	need to do something about the homeless, clean up the streets!
231	Snapshot is great. It provides me w/ lots of information about events and issues. Please continue to do.
232	I want you to be open and transparent. I want what is best for the communities of San Rafael, not what is dictated by ABAG or any state mandated group. They don't live here. We do.
233	I went to a SMART train meeting about the proposed station. It seemed like all the decisions had all ready been made so it was frustrating to not be able to talk to the folks that had all ready made the decisions.
234	Keep up the good work
235	I would like to know more about SR school district plans, operations and decisions.
236	STOP BUILDING (esp. few story buildings) & let public know EARLY PLANS of this so we can stop it or limit it--and not let the big money win! THE TRAFFIC IS WORSE EVERY YEAR (I've been in county for 30 years, my husband born/raised in San Rafael, CA
237	No just seems to be very divisive.
238	Didn't know about the website.
239	seems pretty good to me. I do trust most elected officials as well as their watchdogs in the community
240	I see little evidence that the city wants to communicate with the citizens. When we have tried to get red lines extended for safety, the city has told us it was not needed. They are wrong.
241	Do you have an email list
242	please repair sidewalks so I don't fall on walks!!
243	The property on the corner of B Street and 1st Street, across from 7-11 is a danger to the safety and peace of the neighborhood. There is obvious drug dealing and usage on the premises and on the streets. Thank you.
244	Keep up the good work
245	please make it easier to report online to the public works department for graffiti removal ..thank you!
246	As evidenced by the listing of neighborhoods, San Rafael Park and Mont Marin are overlooked and under served.
247	Just to stay as open as possible, be honest, inclusive and listen to your citizens. Take less time in making decisions. Become familiar with your city and neighborhoods and listen.
248	No. I am not as active as I once was, however I do keep informed through the I J and my neighborhood association.
249	I really appreciate strong and responsible government advocates such as City Development Chief, Paul Jensen. The Mayor has been created a more transparent process and is very open to discussion. I speak on behalf of the GPNA Board, that we appreciate everyone in SR City Government for real planning decisions and sometimes courageous votes to make this an excellent place to live for all.
250	Yes, there are fair and just pikemen, and their are walking and talking idiots, with no common sense.
251	I will start viewing the web site
252	Way to many hidden agendas and ego's. What VALUE does each decision bring to the community?

253	As a Marinwood resident, I do not vote in city elections so I pay little to no attention to them.
254	Marinwood is in the unincorporated area and not the city of San Rafael. I don't understand why it is part of #7.
255	San Rafael seems to be disappointingly "hard line" toward homeless people.
256	The City should be telling other jurisdictions to participate in the issues rather than not.
257	Please pay more attention to the needs of older adults, a growing population.
258	I think you have a fabulous city government and the police department is exceptional!
259	Your sanctuary and homeless policies are dismal. It makes me ill to see how SR has changed. Dirty and frightening. All decision making is "politically correct" and nothing is common sense.
260	traffic safety & neighborhood crime issues are important areas of good city communication
261	SIDEWALKS
262	Where do you recommend I get City information? Some comes from speakers at Rotary meetings, other info comes to me from the IJ on line.
263	It's wonderful to see the new businesses in downtown AND YET very frustrating to hear from a new business, where Sabor of Spain was, being held up in the political bull! He's been paying rent since LAST April waiting for permits! It's a win win for the city and the business owner so why is this process taking so long and who do you need to know to make this happen? IT'S RIDICULOUS!
264	Make a way for citizens to easily access information. Maybe periodically mention in local newspapers that there is a city manager newsletter(I saw in this survey) and encourage people to join. Maybe a facebook page.Maybe as a closing line on some city stories in local newspapers, mention these resources.[] Also if you don't hear from the residents it might be because they have nothing major to complain about!!
265	I think the building concern about homelessness in San Rafael may be the issue that brings about a change in communication between the city and residents. Social media is being utilized heavily among residents to discuss this issue, leading to better dissemination of information and then more pro-active communication from residents to the city.
266	Everything seems to be a done deal by the time it gets to a public hearing. Phillips should not appoint himself to every committee.
267	We feel that the city is basically run by the chamber of commerce & the Marin Builders Exchange. Neighborhood & resident concerns seem to be of little real concern, except @ election time.
268	Relocate Ritter and St Vinnie's to Marin Square. Make it a one stop shop and work with the County to offer even more county run (and paid for) services in the same location. Sutter will sell and a combination of County, MCF and city collaboration can see this through. Downtown would be significantly mitigated of the issues if this were to happen.
269	Please make our health and environment a top priority. All toxic chemicals should be banned from Marin water and environment.
270	Make sure srpd has enough resources to clean up the crime coming here from the canal area and richmond. Stop building that has destroyed the character of san rafael. Deal with the ins to deport illegals out of san rafael.deal with 4th street loitering crime and massage parlors.
271	keep the process open!
272	Need more transparency. Toyota sign approval by city council good example. dRB wants revisions and Toyota goes over their head to council and it just goes thru with no notice to neighbors. Typical.

273	<p>It takes a lot of interaction with many people to keep up with all the things that are happening in the city. Many issues are complex and remain unexplained--one example is the issues surrounding Ritter Center, which has two parcels under two separate use permits: it's take a long time to understand that, and that leads to much unnecessary criticism of both the city and Ritter.[]</p> <p>[]</p> <p>There's also a lack of vision beyond the constant grabbing of sales-tax dollars. A retail recruitment expert needs to be brought in immediately; the head of Economic Development needs to learn the meaning of the word yes and admit that there is a parking problem which keeps people away from downtown; the parking head needs to learn there is far more than just giving out tickets--take a peek at the city of Tempe, Arizona, and what they do in that area; there needs to be a 24/7 shelter for those out on the streets to draw them away from downtown.[]</p> <p>[]</p> <p>And good luck to all who are trying to bring all of this about.</p>
274	Need more info on the homeless situation / disaster downtown and more proactive information on public works projects / street repaving etc
275	We should court Google Fiber.
276	This is a wonderful City to live in! I feel very lucky that I landed here more by chance than design.
277	It's the best in Marin County and maybe the Bay Area.
278	Don't make decisions without informing the citizens of San Rafael, and holding meetings to find out how your constituents feel about the issue. Don't schedule meeting during the day when working citizens can't make it.
279	Survey Monkey is a great tool for getting feedback on issues. I hope this gets used more often to poll residents on a wide range of topics.
280	I would like more fluid communication between the City Council and my neighborhood, particularly regarding the wetlands at Starkweather Park.
281	SR going downhill fast. Businesses are fleeing because of the heavy-handed, power-hungry bureaucrats. I beg you to put these "civil servants" in their place.
282	<p>Thanks for doing this survey. []</p> <p>The San Rafael Snapshot has really improved.[]</p> <p>I LOVE San Rafael.</p>
283	None at this time.
284	Centralize your outreach to your website --- info is too fragmented right now. Also, improve the website with more modern technologies.
285	The city appears to get input that is skewed by special interest groups such as sustainables, transit and housing advocates; meanwhile residents who don't have much time find themselves under represented. Lately, since the Civic Center SAP it has felt like residents have had to spend an inordinate amount of time undoing decisions progressed by these special interests.
286	More often updates on city events please
287	I want RSS feeds for all the departments. I get the best information through the library's website and Facebook page.
288	I like the Snapshot and receive a lot of information from the IJ. I would like to see more communication about the progress on the homeless issue in San Rafael. It's getting out of control and needs immediate action.

289	<p>Upgrade planners' public engagement skills.¶ Upgrade public's planning skills.¶ To receive respect, city employees need to give it. The community members have deep local knowledge often discounted or ignored completely.</p>
290	<p>Involvement in City affairs by those of us who don't live or work in the City but are heavily affected by it is very important.</p>
291	<p>Elected officials too quick to dismiss the suggestions and opinions of residents. It has bordered on the rude on more than one occasion. Non-paid boards listen better than those who have been elected.</p>
292	<p>City website needs lots of improvement.</p>
293	<p>There should be a way for residents to sign up for email alerts on issues or subjects of interest. For example, any time there's something going on with SMART...or the library.</p>
294	<p>I'm convinced the council and the bureaucracy have their own agenda and care little for alternative ideas. The smart train and renovation of public safety facilities are excellent examples</p>