



CRPP

THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH & PUBLIC POLICY



LARIMER COUNTY 2018 CITIZEN SURVEY

We need your help. Larimer County Government, together with The Center for Research and Public Policy, Inc. (CRPP), are conducting an independent Citizen Survey among all adult residents of Larimer County. **This important survey** includes questions about satisfaction with County services, as well as your views on taxes, growth, County government transparency, new facilities/programs as well as community needs and sources for information.

Your individual responses are strictly confidential. Your name, email address or contact information will never be associated with any of your responses. Once your completed survey arrives, CRPP immediately disassociates any contact information from the respective completed survey. Contact information is then removed from our systems. **ONLY** composite aggregate data will be presented to Larimer County. The 1974 U.S. Privacy Act prohibits survey firms from associating surveys with respondent information after promising confidentiality.

DEADLINE: Please complete your survey and mail prior to **June 8, 2018.**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Thanks for your participation. Throughout the survey please **circle the number associated with your answer or simply circle your answer.** Most of the time, questions require just one answer. However, several questions will include the direction: **“Please indicate all that apply”** – this allows you to provide as many answers to that question as you wish. Also, sometimes we use scales – either with words or numbers. It is important that you understand the scale before answering each of these questions. **If you don’t know an answer simply circle “unsure or not applicable”.** Thank you for your participation.

GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Are you at least eighteen years of age and a current resident of Larimer County?

- 01 Yes (Continue)
 - 02 No (Terminate)
 - 03 Don’t Know/Unsure (Terminate)
-

QUALITY OF LIFE

1. Would you say your overall quality of life in Larimer County is...?

- 01 Very good
- 02 Good
- 03 Poor
- 04 Very poor
- 05 Unsure

2. Thinking about your standard of living today, would you say, compared to two years ago, it is...?

- 01 Improved
- 02 The same and good
- 03 The same but poor
- 04 Declined
- 05 Unsure

AWARENESS

3. How familiar are with the Larimer County government? Would you say...?

- 01 Very familiar
- 02 Somewhat familiar
- 03 Somewhat unfamiliar
- 04 Not at all familiar
- 05 Unsure

RATING SERVICES

The following are several services, in a number of areas, provided by Larimer County government. **Based on all that you know or have heard from friends, family, peers or co-workers**, please indicate if you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied or not at all satisfied.

Community Planning, Infrastructure and Resources	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Not at all Satisfied	Unsure
4. Landfills (not trash collection), recycling, hazardous waste, solid waste services	01	02	03	04	05
5. Parks and open space (such as Horsetooth Reservoir and The Devil's Backbone)	01	02	03	04	05
6. Maintaining non-city roads, bridges	01	02	03	04	05
7. Land use planning, zoning enforcement, and building inspections (outside city limits)	01	02	03	04	05
8. Events at The Ranch - Larimer County Fairgrounds including the Budweiser Events Center	01	02	03	04	05
9. Meeting transportation needs	01	02	03	04	05
10. Animal control services (outside city limits)	01	02	03	04	05

Again, based on all that you know or have heard from friends, family, peers or co-workers please rate the following...

Human and Economic Health Services	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Not at all Satisfied	Unsure
11. Public health services (such as immunization clinics, tracking infectious disease, home visits)	01	02	03	04	05
12. Food and water safety services (such as restaurant inspections, water quality controls)	01	02	03	04	05
13. Public assistance (such as medical, food and financial)					
14. Child protective services (including family support, foster care and adoption services)	01	02	03	04	05
15. Senior services (such as advocacy, information and referrals)	01	02	03	04	05
16. Economic development	01	02	03	04	05
17. Employment and training services	01	02	03	04	05
18. Services to military veterans	01	02	03	04	05
19. Research based educational programs (such as food safety, 4-H, and Agricultural Management)	01	02	03	04	05

Again, based on all that you know or have heard from friends, family, peers or co-workers please rate the following...

Public Records and Information Services	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Not at all Satisfied	Unsure
20. Motor vehicle services (such as registrations, titles and license plates)	01	02	03	04	05
21. Determining property values for tax purposes and the appeals process	01	02	03	04	05
22. Handling voter registration and elections					
23. Communication with residents about County services	01	02	03	04	05
24. Maintaining official records (such as real estate deeds, marriage licenses)	01	02	03	04	05
25. The collection and distribution processes for taxes and tax record keeping	01	02	03	04	05

Again, based on all that you know or have heard from friends, family, peers or co-workers please rate the following...

Public Safety Services	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Not at all Satisfied	Unsure
26. Alternatives to jail (such as work release, community corrections or service and home detention)	01	02	03	04	05
27. Medical investigations (of deaths not resulting from natural causes)	01	02	03	04	05
28. Providing Courts specifically for drug, DUI and mental health related offenses					
29. Criminal case prosecution	01	02	03	04	05
30. Operation of the Larimer County jail that serves all municipalities and rural areas	01	02	03	04	05
31. Emergency Management (including preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery)	01	02	03	04	05
32. Enforcing laws and providing public safety in rural areas	01	02	03	04	05
33. Protecting the public from wildfires and forest fires	01	02	03	04	05

PERCEPTIONS

The following are several statements about life in Larimer County today. For each, please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree.

Perception Statements	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unsure
34. Larimer County government listens to the peoples' voices	01	02	03	04	05
35. Larimer County leaders appear to have a sound plan for our future	01	02	03	04	05
36. Larimer County tax dollars are spent wisely	01	02	03	04	05
37. My local taxes are increasing faster than my ability to pay them					
38. County regulations protect our quality of life	01	02	03	04	05
39. Larimer County is transparent about policies and budgets	01	02	03	04	05
40. Larimer County history is worth preserving	01	02	03	04	05
41. Larimer County is growing too fast	01	02	03	04	05
42. The Larimer County region is a great place to work	01	02	03	04	05
43. I have confidence in Larimer County government	01	02	03	04	05
44. It appears Larimer County partners effectively with non-profit organizations and other government agencies	01	02	03	04	05
45. Overall, Larimer County appears headed in the right direction	01	02	03	04	05

FACILITIES & PROGRAM SUPPORT

A recent Larimer County sponsored study shows the need for expenditures in program and facility needs over the coming 20 years. The following are several of the facilities or programs that will be needed or need improvements. For each, please indicate how willing you will be to pay more in taxes to allow such improvements.

Willingness to Pay More in Taxes for...	Very Willing	Somewhat Willing	Somewhat Unwilling	Not at all Willing	Unsure
46. Additional courtroom facilities	01	02	03	04	05
47. Fleet maintenance shops (for County trucks, cars, and other mobile equipment)					
48. Human services (such as food stamps, child and adult protection, public health)	01	02	03	04	05
49. Correctional programs (such as alternatives to jail/prison)	01	02	03	04	05
50. Jail expansion	01	02	03	04	05

COUNTY NEEDS

We need your help in determining our priorities. The County can't do everything and can't do everything all at once. The following are several possible goals or objectives for the future. In your opinion, for each of the following, please indicate how you would prioritize each using a scale of one to ten, where one is a very low priority and ten is a very high priority.

Prioritizing County Goals/Objectives	Very Low Priority									Very High Priority	Unsure
51. Enhancing broadband service in rural areas	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
52. Increasing fire and flood prevention/mitigation	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
53. Increasing social services for seniors, veterans, children	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
54. Addressing housing affordability for all citizens	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
55. Enhancing law enforcement / services	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
56. More regional planning to manage growth	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
57. Enhancing mental health services	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
58. Improving transportation infrastructure	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
59. Increased job and employment training and placement services	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

VIEWS ON GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Larimer County has adopted several Guided Principles. Please rate how well you think Larimer County government is currently meeting their Principles using a scale of one to ten, where one is not at all and ten is very well.

Succeeding in Meeting Established Guiding Principles	Not at All									Very Well	Unsure
60. Being good stewards of public resources	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
61. Promoting innovation and continuous improvement	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
62. Empowering people to take responsibility	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
63. Cultivating partnerships with cities and neighboring counties	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
64. Being a fulfilling and enjoyable place to work	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11

COMMUNICATION

65. Please indicate where you get most of your information about “happenings” in and with Larimer County government? **Please indicate all that apply.**

Code	Sources for Information
01	Printed newspapers
02	Online newspapers
03	Social media
04	Websites
05	Official Larimer County website
06	Friends/neighbors/co-workers
07	County offices
08	County employees I see in the community
09	County events
10	Electronic media (such as TV, radio, podcasts)
11	Emails including emailed newsletters
12	None of these
13	Other:

66. If any, which of the following **print newspapers** do you use for information about Larimer County government happenings? **Please indicate all that apply.**

Code	Sources for Information
01	Fort Collins Coloradoan
02	Loveland Reporter Herald
03	Estes Park Trail Gazette
04	Estes Park News
05	Berthoud Surveyor
06	North 40 News
07	None of these
08	Other:

67. If any, which of the following **online newspapers** do you use for information about Larimer County government happenings? **Please indicate all that apply.**

Code	Sources for Information
01	Fort Collins Coloradoan
02	Loveland Reporter Herald
03	Estes Park Trail Gazette
04	Estes Park News
05	Berthoud Surveyor
06	North 40 News
07	None of these
08	Other:

LARIMER COUNTY EMPLOYEES

68. Have you had contact with at least one Larimer County employee over the past year?

- 01 Yes **(Continue)**
- 02 No **(Go to Q70)**
- 03 Unsure **(Go to Q70)**

69. Please rate your experience with the last Larimer County employee you have been in contact with.

- 01 Very satisfied
- 02 Somewhat satisfied
- 03 Somewhat dissatisfied
- 04 Not at all satisfied
- 05 Unsure/don't recall

DEMOGRAPHICS

The following questions are used for statistical purposes only.

70. Are you male or female?

- 01 Male
- 02 Female
- 03 Other

71. Please indicate your age?

- 01 18-25
- 02 26-35
- 03 36-45
- 04 46-55
- 05 56-65
- 06 65 or older

72. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 Don't know / not sure

73. Which one of these groups would you say best represents your race?

- 01 White
- 02 Black or African-American
- 03 Asian
- 04 Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- 05 American Indian or Alaska Native
- 06 Other

74. What is your highest grade of school completed?

- 01 Did not graduate from high school
- 02 High school graduate or GED
- 03 Associates degree
- 04 Some college
- 05 College graduate
- 06 Post-graduate or professional degree

75. What is your current employment status? **Please indicate all that apply.**

- 01 Working full-time
- 02 Working part-time
- 03 Working multiple jobs
- 04 Student
- 05 Retired
- 06 Unemployed – looking for work
- 07 Unemployed – not looking for work
- 08 Unemployed – unable to work because of disability
- 09 Unsure/other

76. Please tell us the number of children you have living at home who are under 18 years of age?

- 01 _____ **(Please enter number, no ranges, no words)**
- 02 Unsure
- 03 Prefer not to answer

77. Which of the following categories best describes your total family income before taxes?

- 01 Under \$20,000
- 02 \$20,000 to less than \$30,000
- 03 \$30,000 to less than \$40,000
- 04 \$40,000 to less than \$50,000
- 05 \$50,000 to less than \$60,000
- 06 \$60,000 to less than \$75,000
- 07 \$75,000 to less than \$100,00
- 08 \$100,000 to less than \$200,000
- 09 \$200,00 or more
- 10 Unsure
- 11 Prefer not to answer

78. Which of the one following best describes where you are currently living within Larimer County?

Code	Currently living in...
01	Fort Collins
02	Loveland
03	Berthoud
04	Estes Park
05	Johnstown
06	Timnath
07	Wellington
08	Windsor
09	Laporte
10	Red Feather Lakes
11	Bellvue
12	Drake
13	Glen Haven
14	Livermore
15	Masonville
16	Virginia Dale
17	Other (Please specify:)