

# Community Forums on Special Assessments Update

Presented by: Melissa Richard, Communications Director

# Thank you

- West Fargo Public Schools
  - Hulbert Aquatic Center
  - Legacy Elementary School
  - Brooks Harbor Elementary School
- Flame of Faith United Methodist Church
- Eventide at Sheyenne Crossings
- Speakers
- West Fargo City Commission
- Small Group Leaders
- Attendees

# Survey Design and Analysis

- Pre- and post-survey distributed at first meeting
- Due to time constraints identified during the first meeting process was switched to one survey
- Data presented utilizes the completed post-surveys from the first meeting and completed surveys from the other three meetings
- Qualitative feedback from the small groups will be provided in the final report

# Survey Design and Analysis

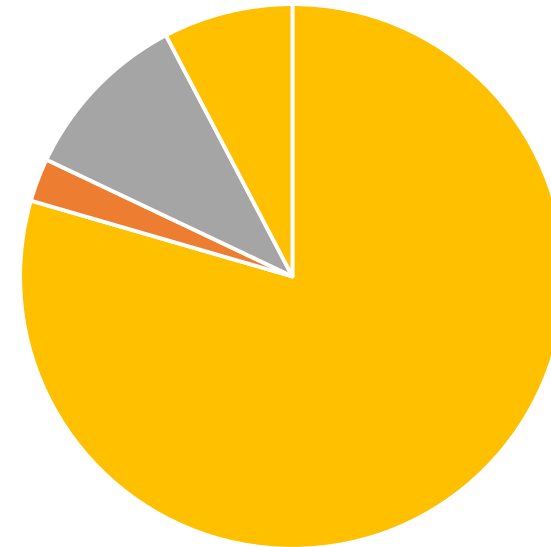
- Attendees were asked to
  - Identify as residential, commercial, both or other property owner
  - Rate 17 statements on a scale of 1 (strongly agree) to 5 (strongly disagree)
  - List preferred method of special assessment communication
  - Provide other comments
- Data presented includes:
  - Average score for the question
  - Distribution of responses on the scale
- All results have been adjusted to be a percentage of the number of responses received.

# Overall Event Statistics

## Attendance and Response

- Estimated 132 attendees
- 55 surveys completed
- 14 small group discussions

## Property Ownership



■ Residential ■ Commercial ■ Both ■ Other

Other:

Two attendees reported owning agriculture property.

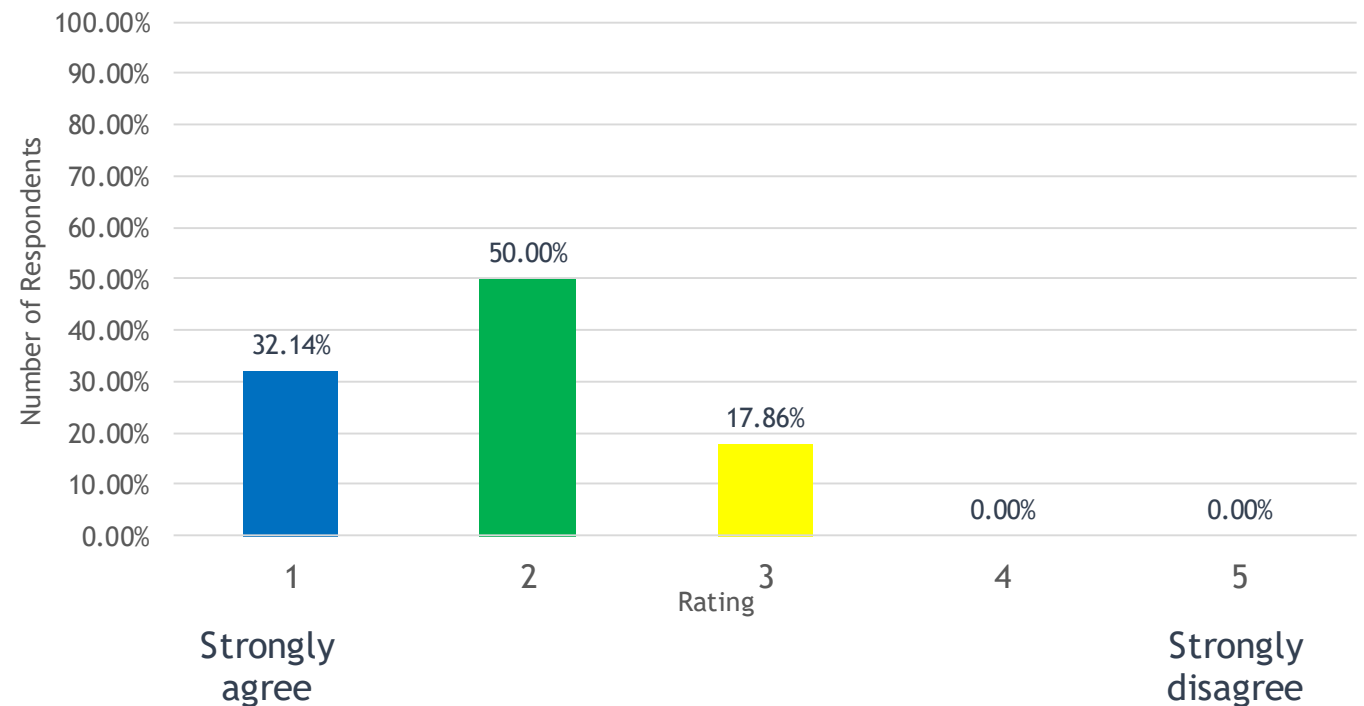
One attendee reported owning a rental property.

My knowledge of special assessments has increased because of this event.

## Average Response

1.9

## Response Distribution

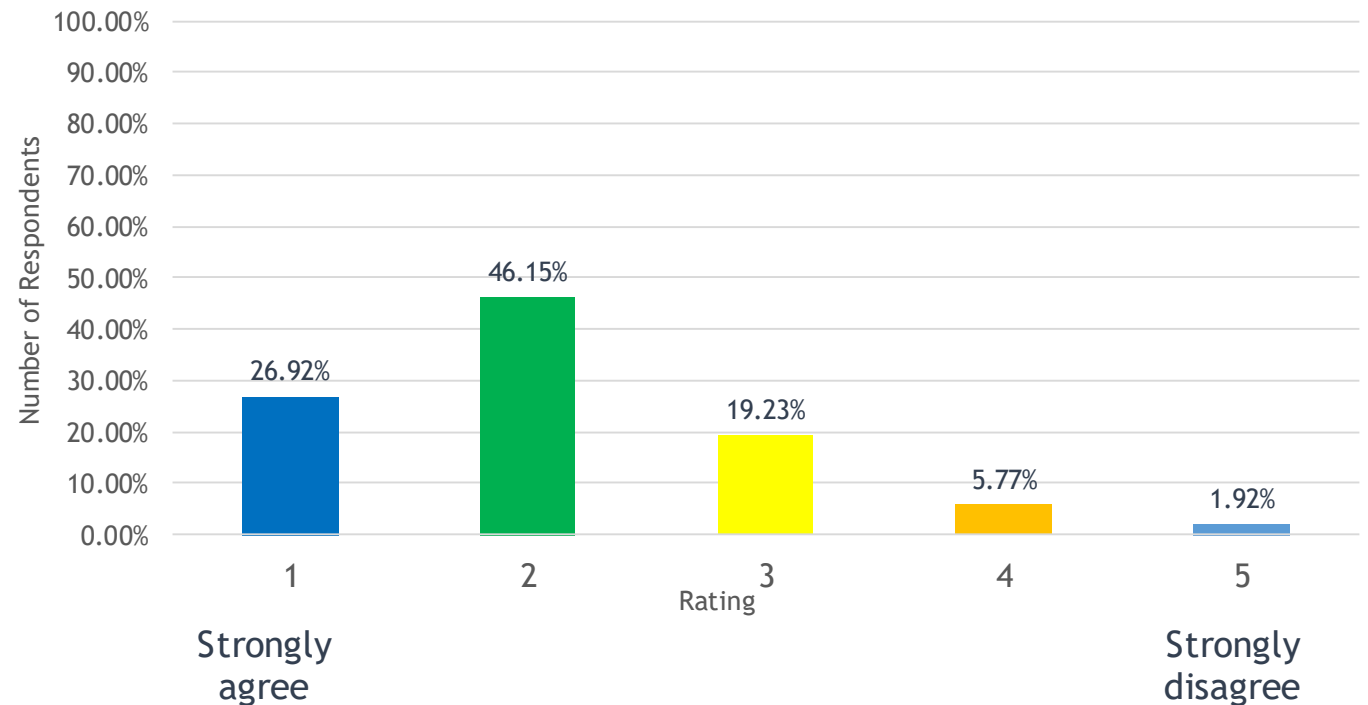


I would be willing to pay a higher lot price for a new home to fund the development's infrastructure instead of special assessments.

### Average Response

2.1

### Response Distribution

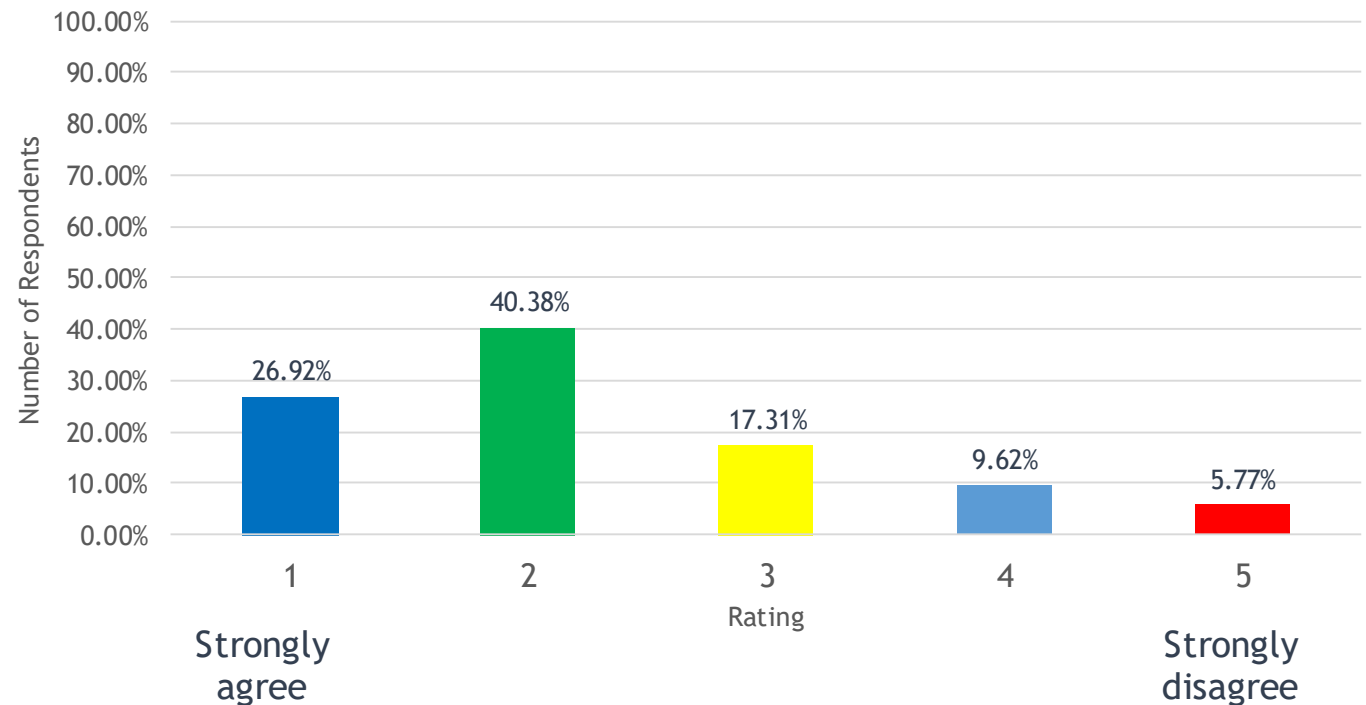


I understand how the City of West Fargo utilizes special assessments to fund infrastructure projects.

## Average Response

2.3

## Response Distribution



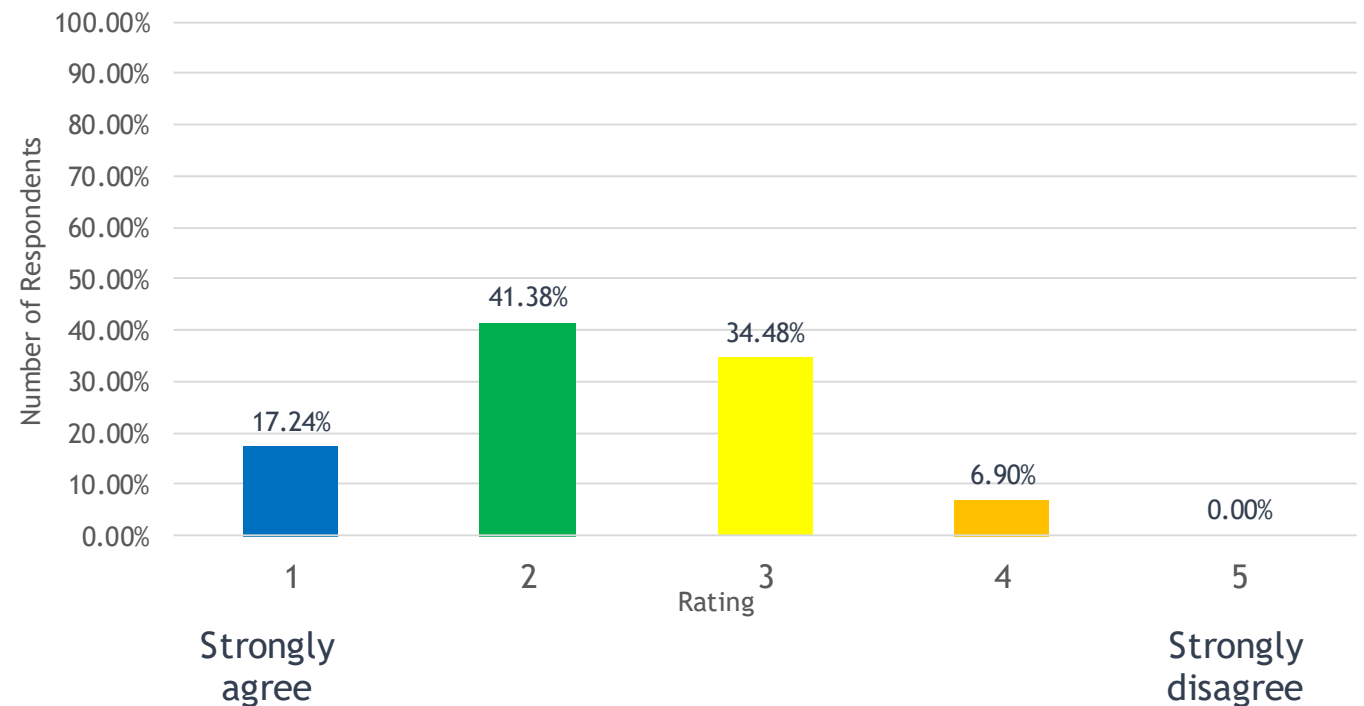


I feel my input regarding special assessments is valued because of this event.

## Average Response

2.3

## Response Distribution

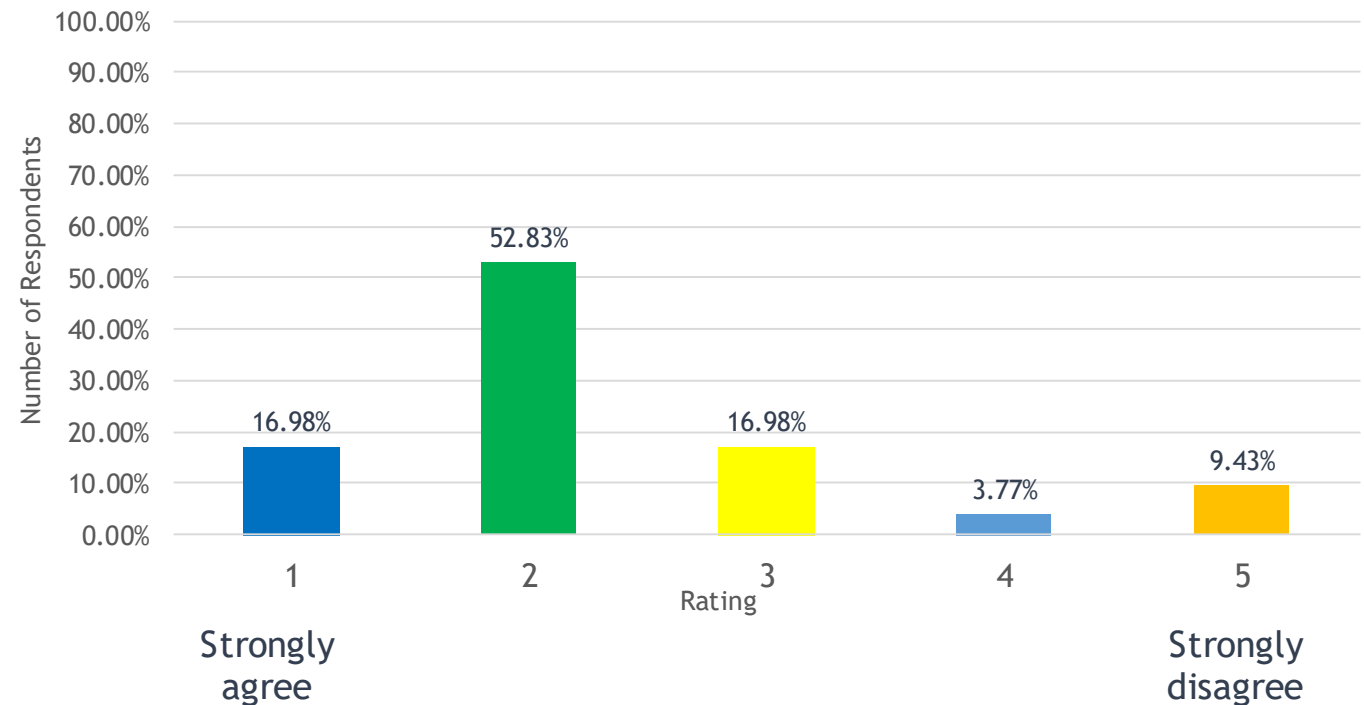


I would be willing to pay higher sales taxes to fund infrastructure projects instead of special assessments.

### Average Response

2.4

### Response Distribution

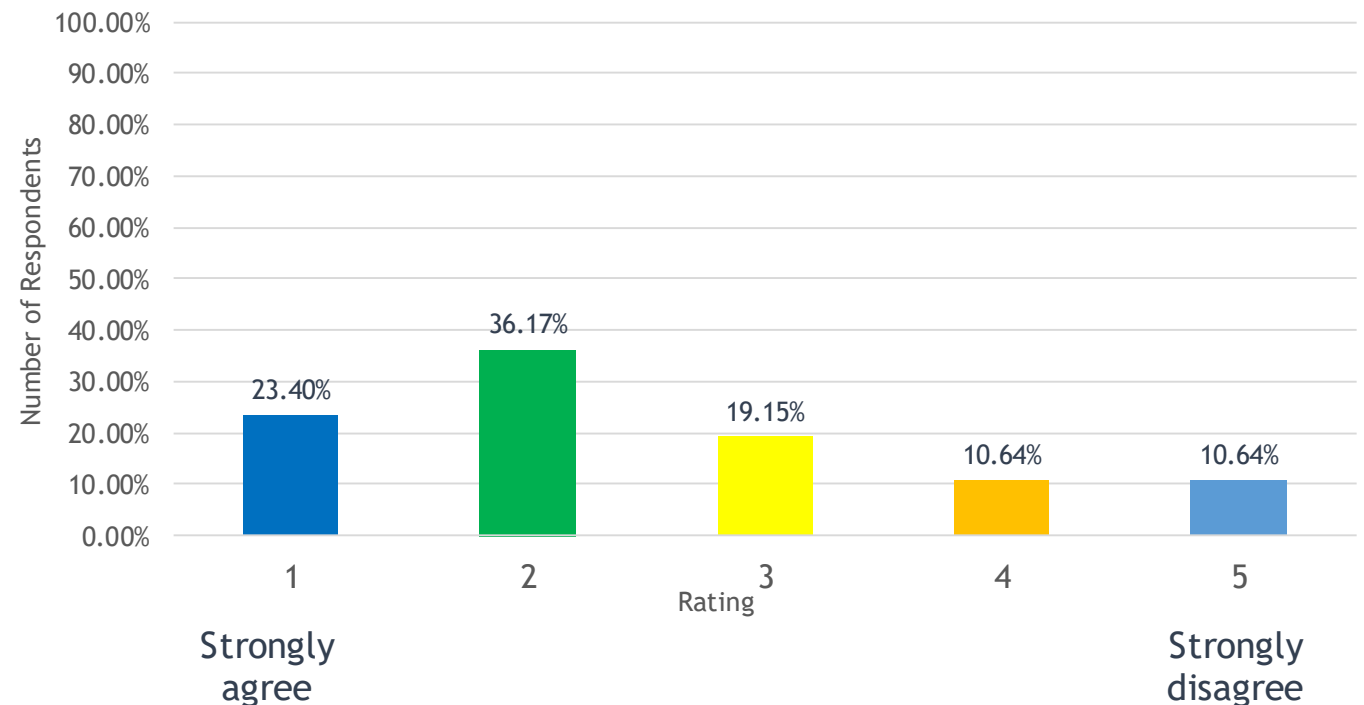


As a property owner, I feel I have a responsibility to seek out information about future infrastructure projects that could result in special assessments for my property.

## Average Response

2.5

## Response Distribution

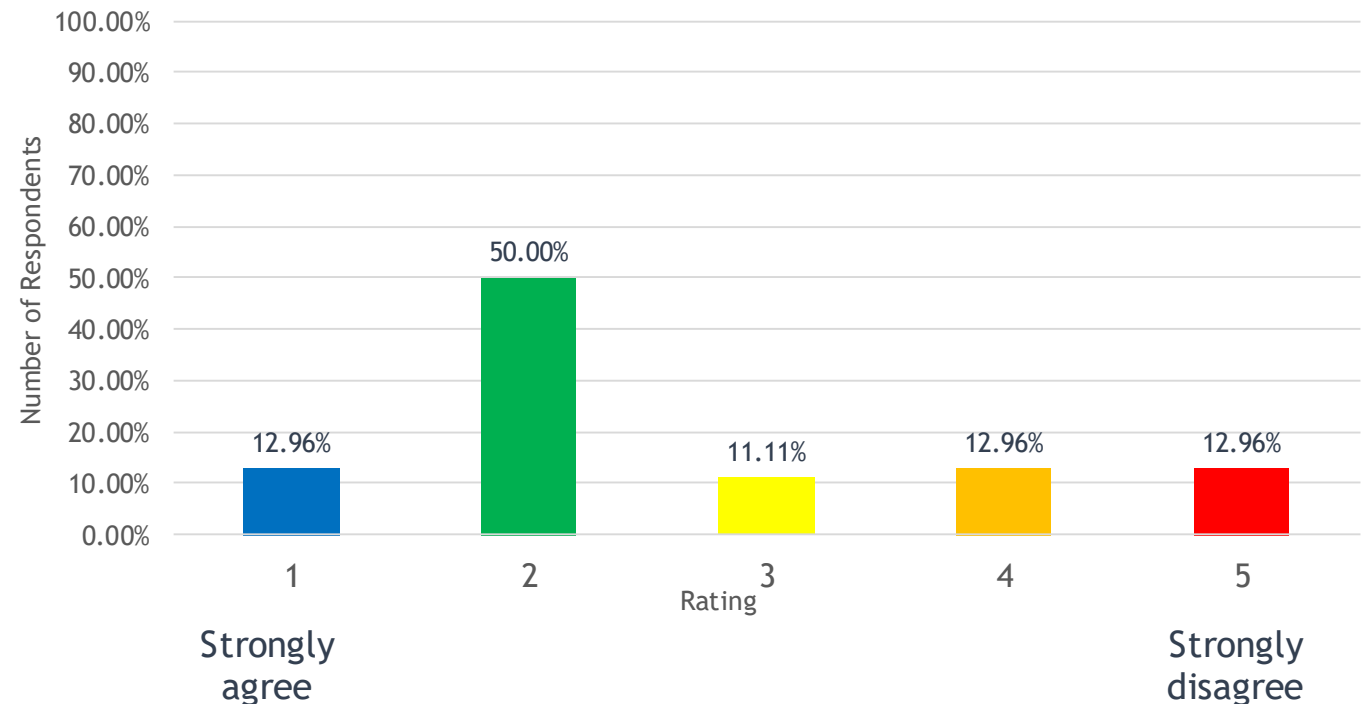


I would be willing to pay higher utility fees to fund infrastructure projects instead of special assessments.

### Average Response

2.6

### Response Distribution

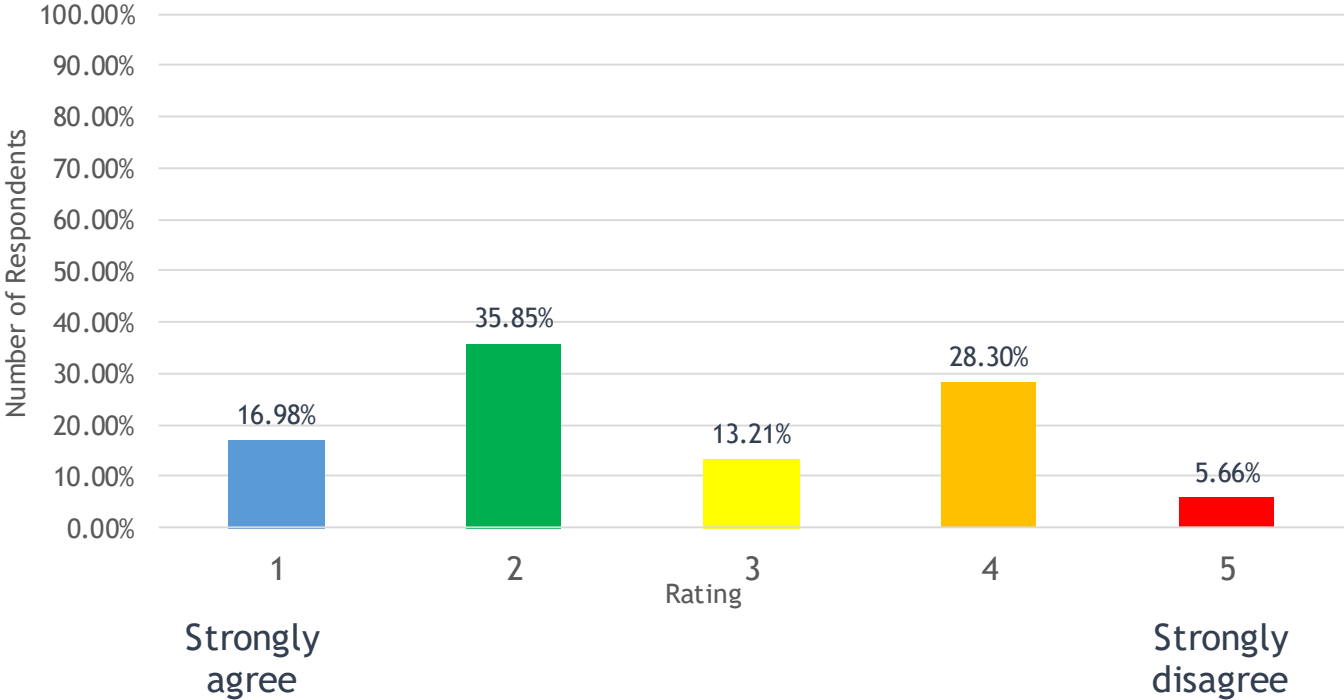


I understand how to file a protest against a special assessment.

### Average Response

2.7

### Response Distribution

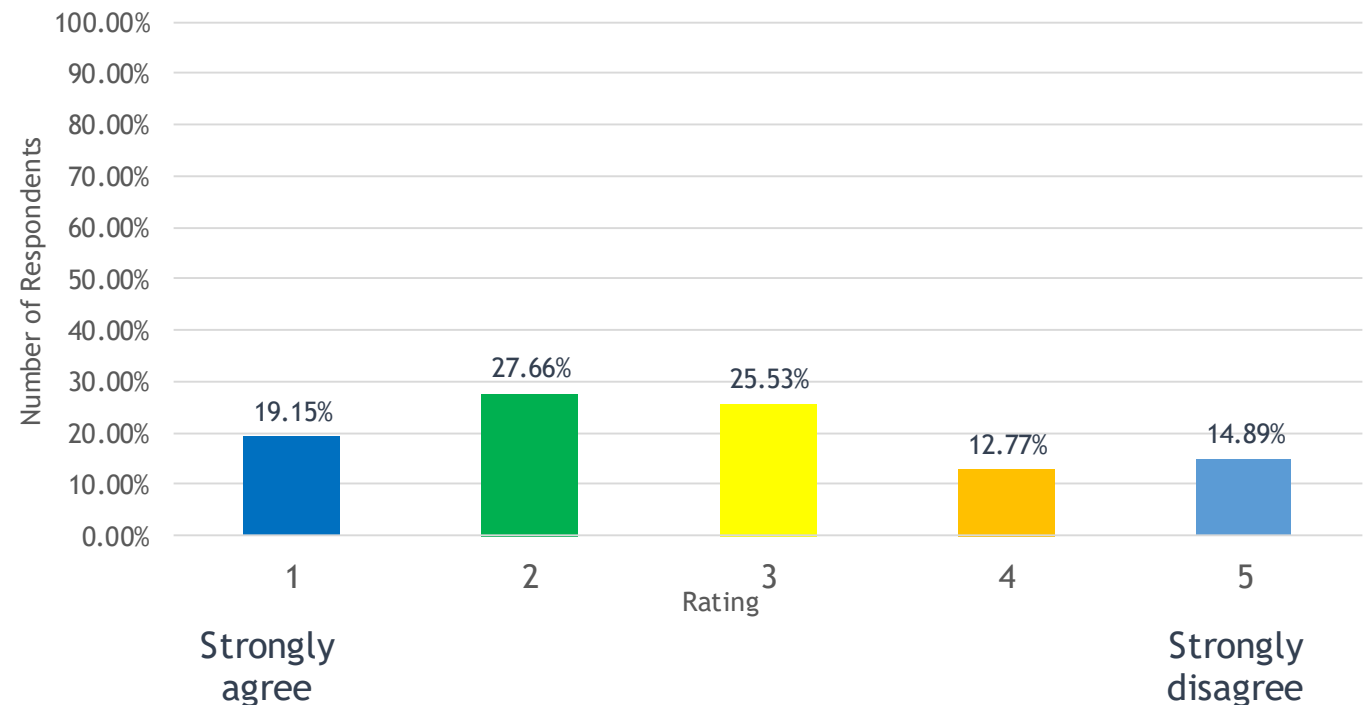


I can easily find information about my property's current special assessments.

### Average Response

2.8

### Response Distribution

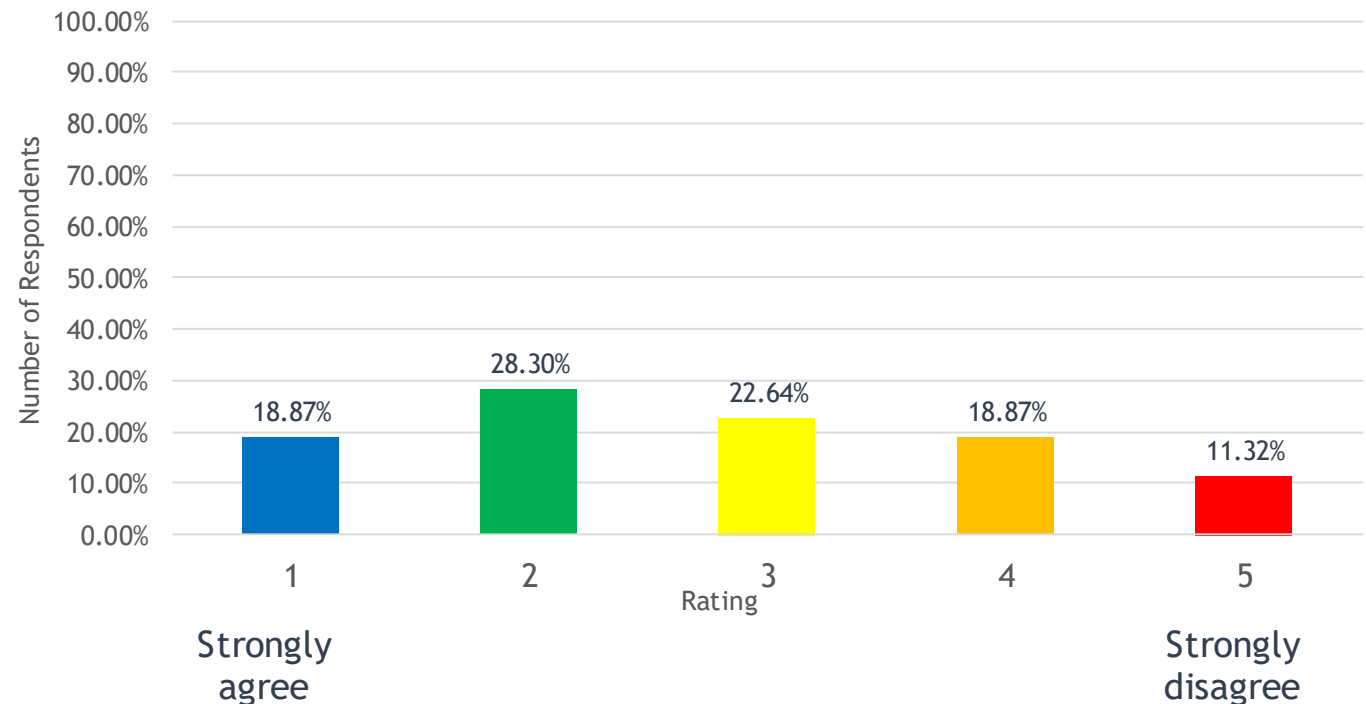


I would be willing to have the City of West Fargo forego infrastructure projects, even if it means decreased services, to avoid special assessments.

## Average Response

2.8

## Response Distribution

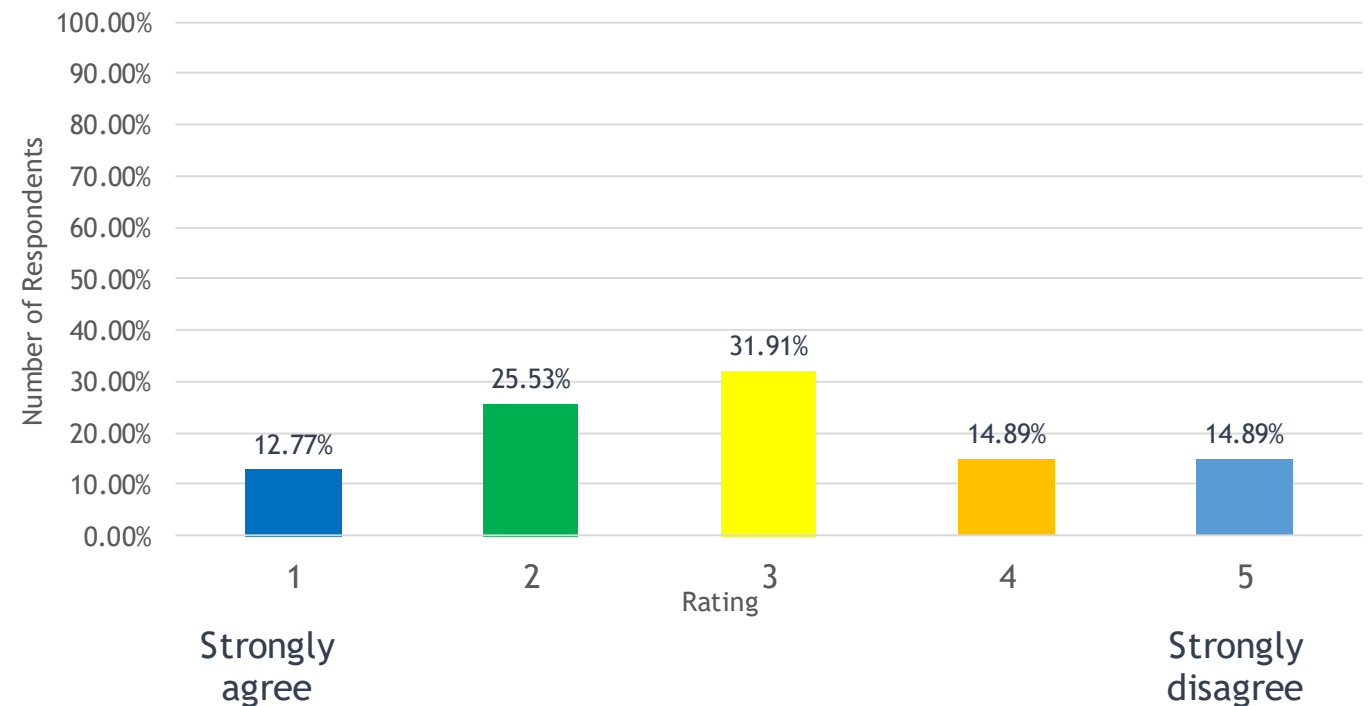


I can easily find information about my property's pending special assessments.

## Average Response

2.9

## Response Distribution



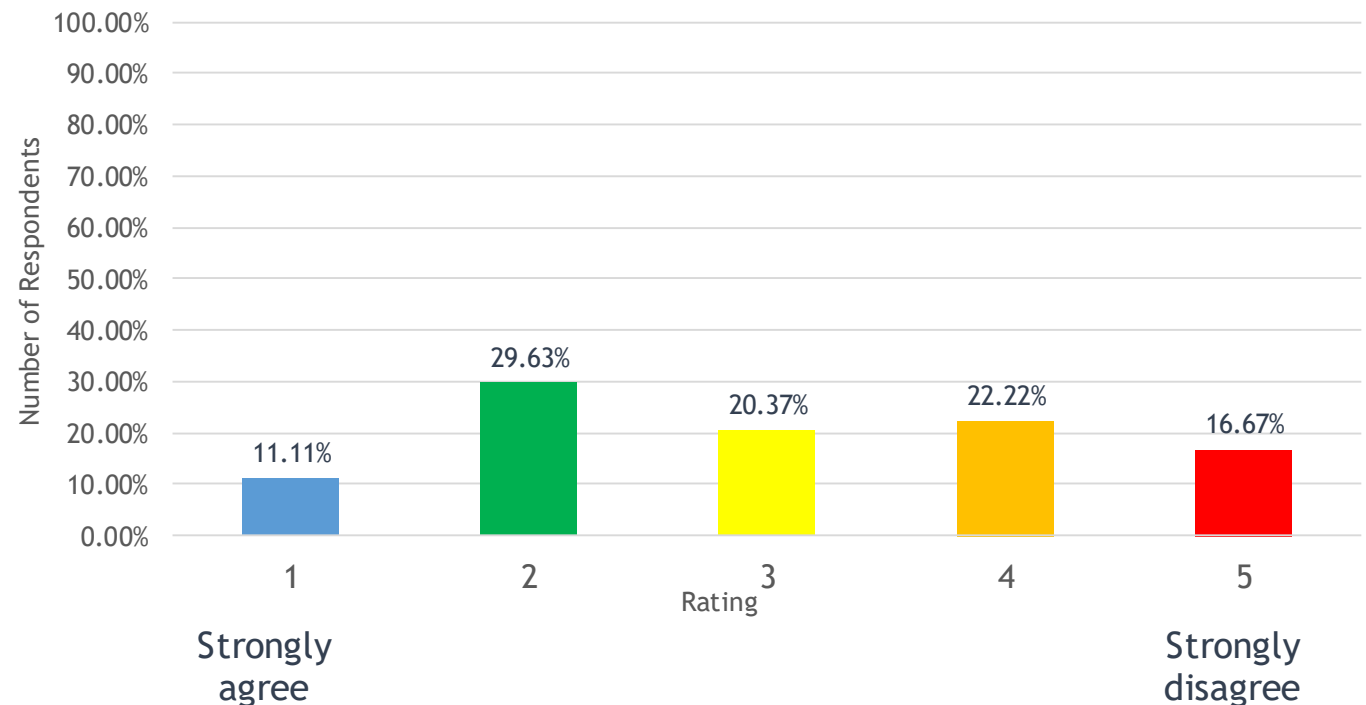


I would be willing to pay higher property taxes to fund infrastructure projects instead of special assessments.

## Average Response

3.0

## Response Distribution

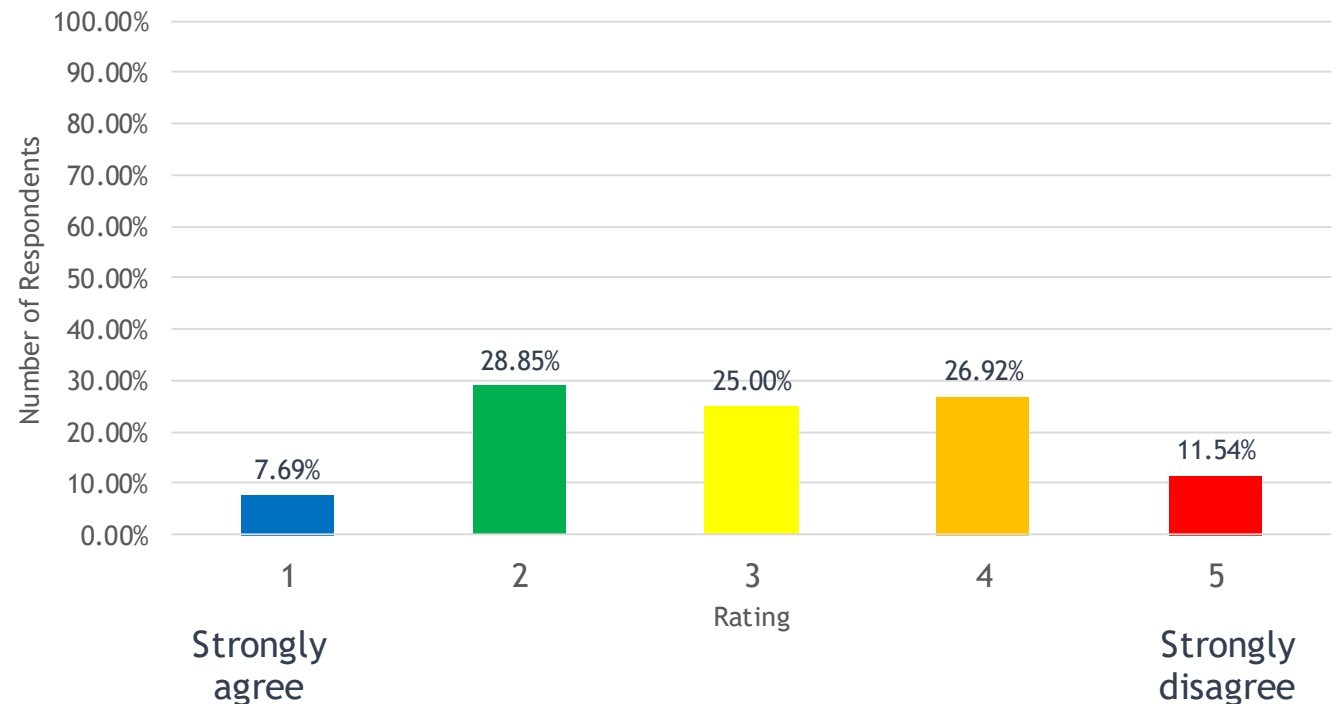


Generally, I feel like the City of West Fargo only **completes** infrastructure projects that are necessary.

### Average Response

3.1

### Response Distribution

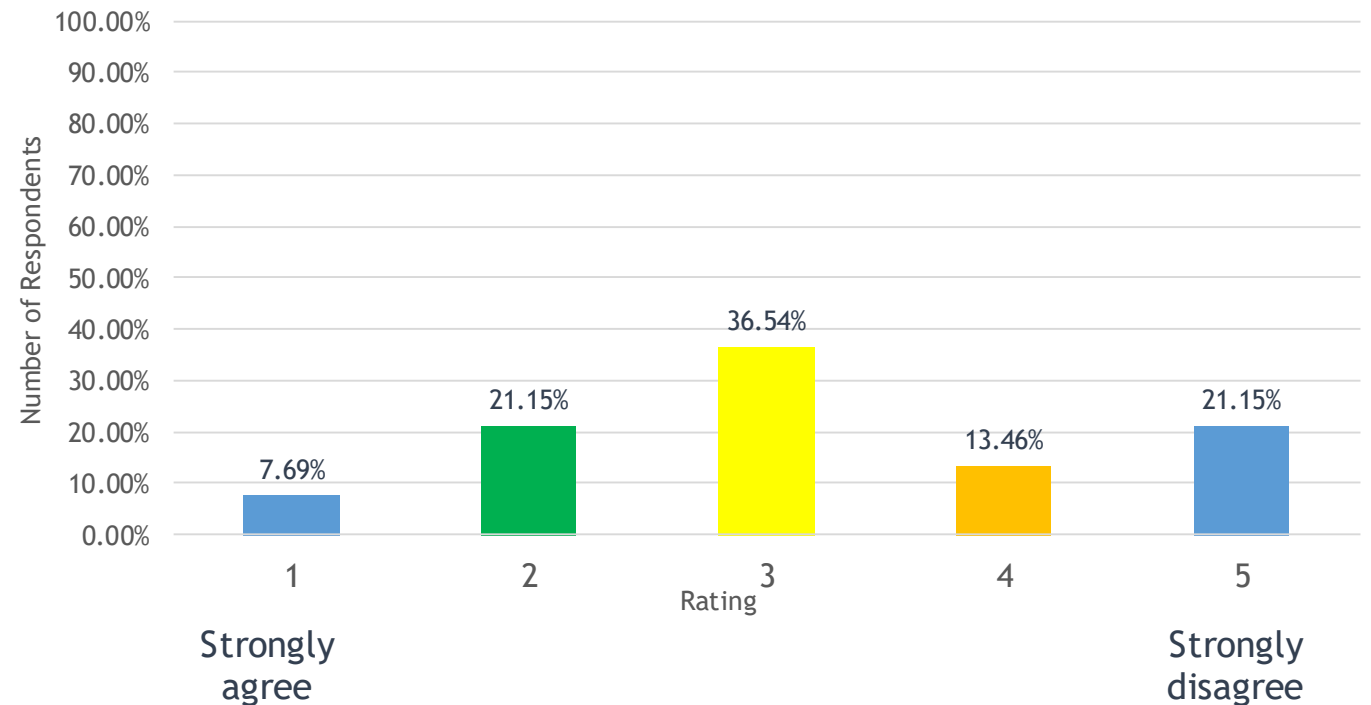


I feel I benefit from the lower interest rate special assessment bonds receive.

### Average Response

3.2

### Response Distribution

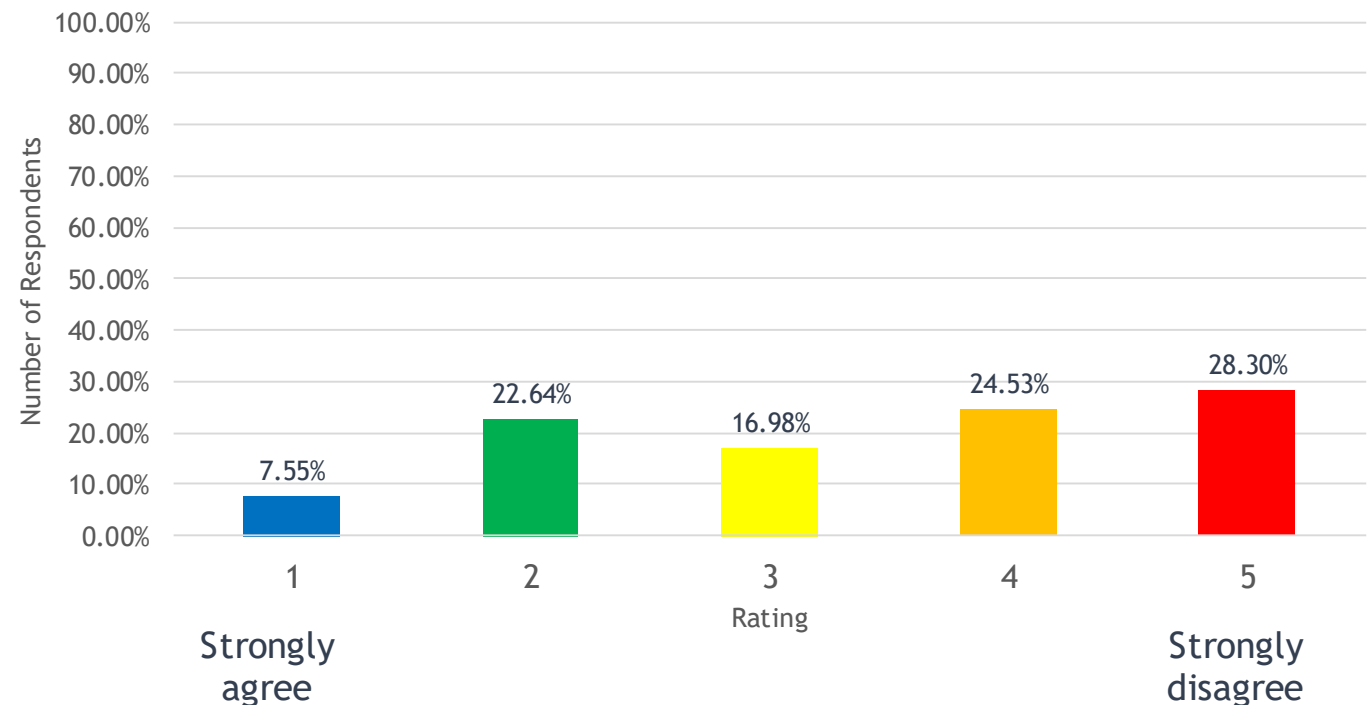


I feel the City of West Fargo is using special assessments appropriately to fund infrastructure projects.

### Average Response

3.4

### Response Distribution

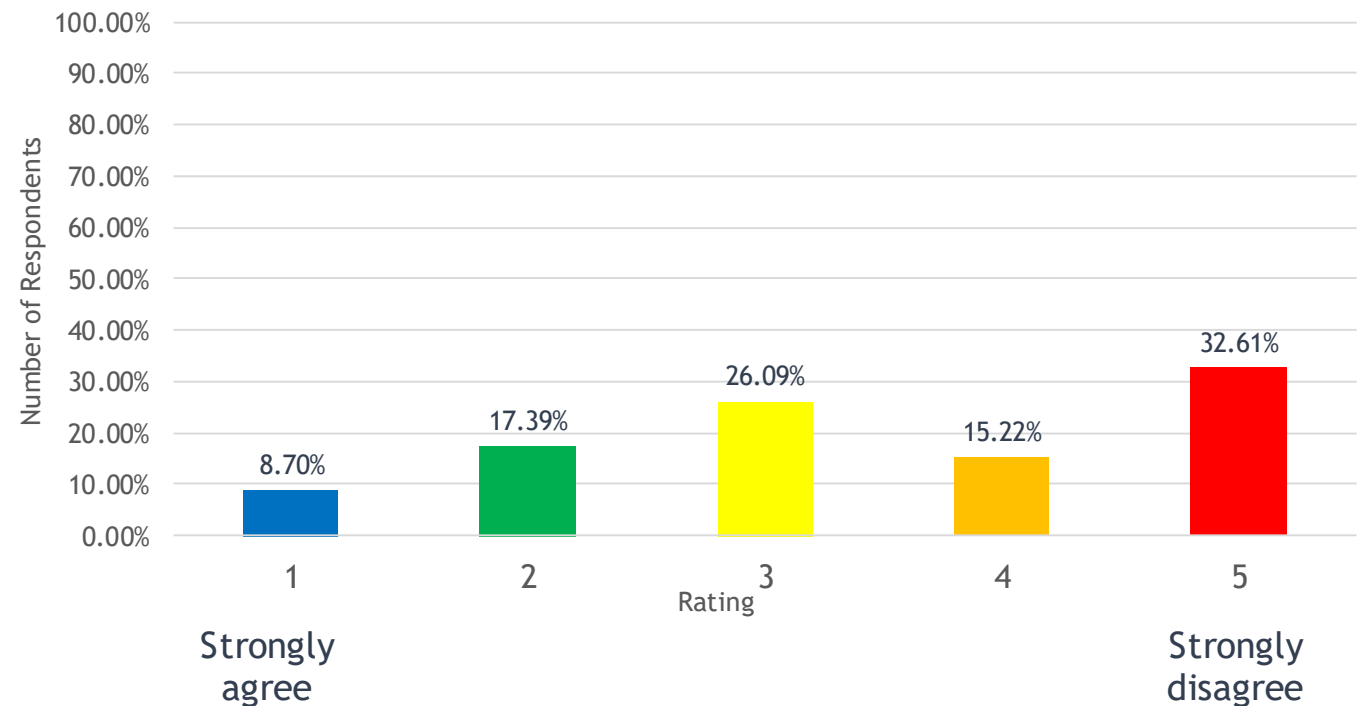


I feel like my concerns about special assessments are considered by the City of West Fargo.

### Average Response

3.5

### Response Distribution

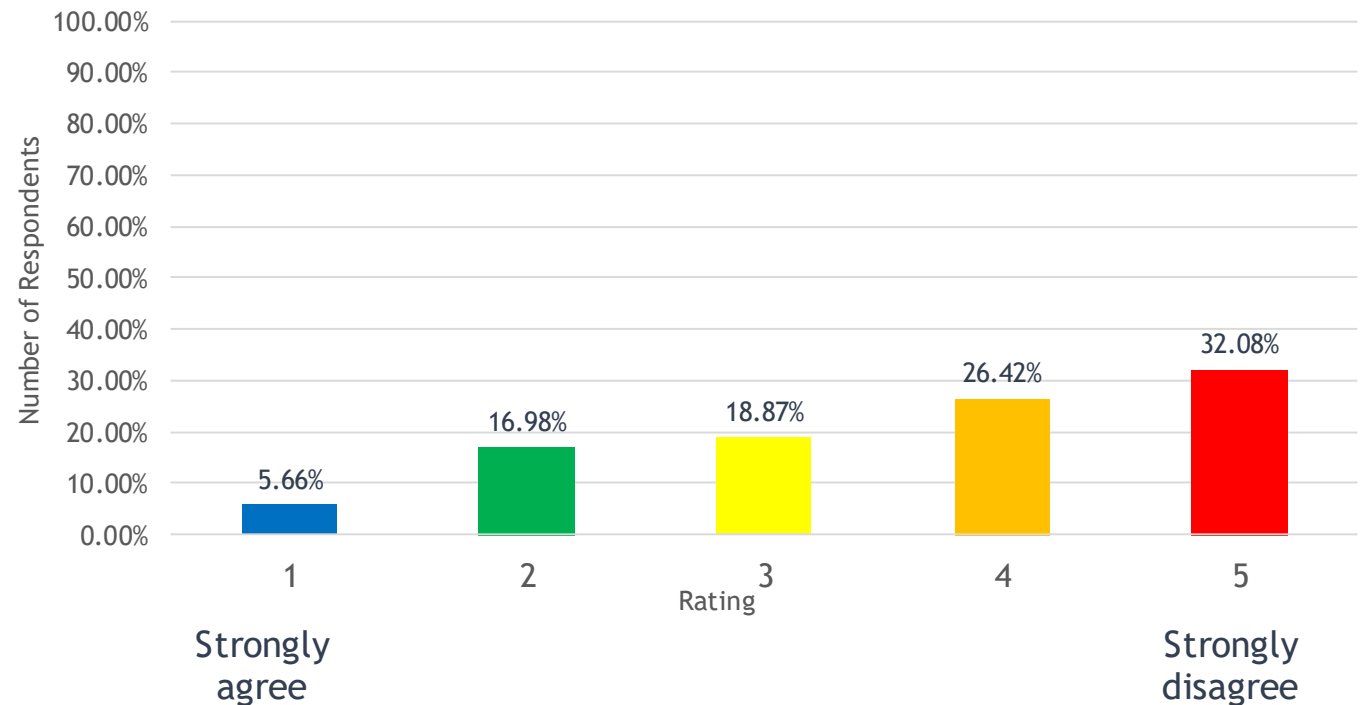


I feel special assessment districts are fairly created by the City of West Fargo.

### Average Response

3.6

### Response Distribution

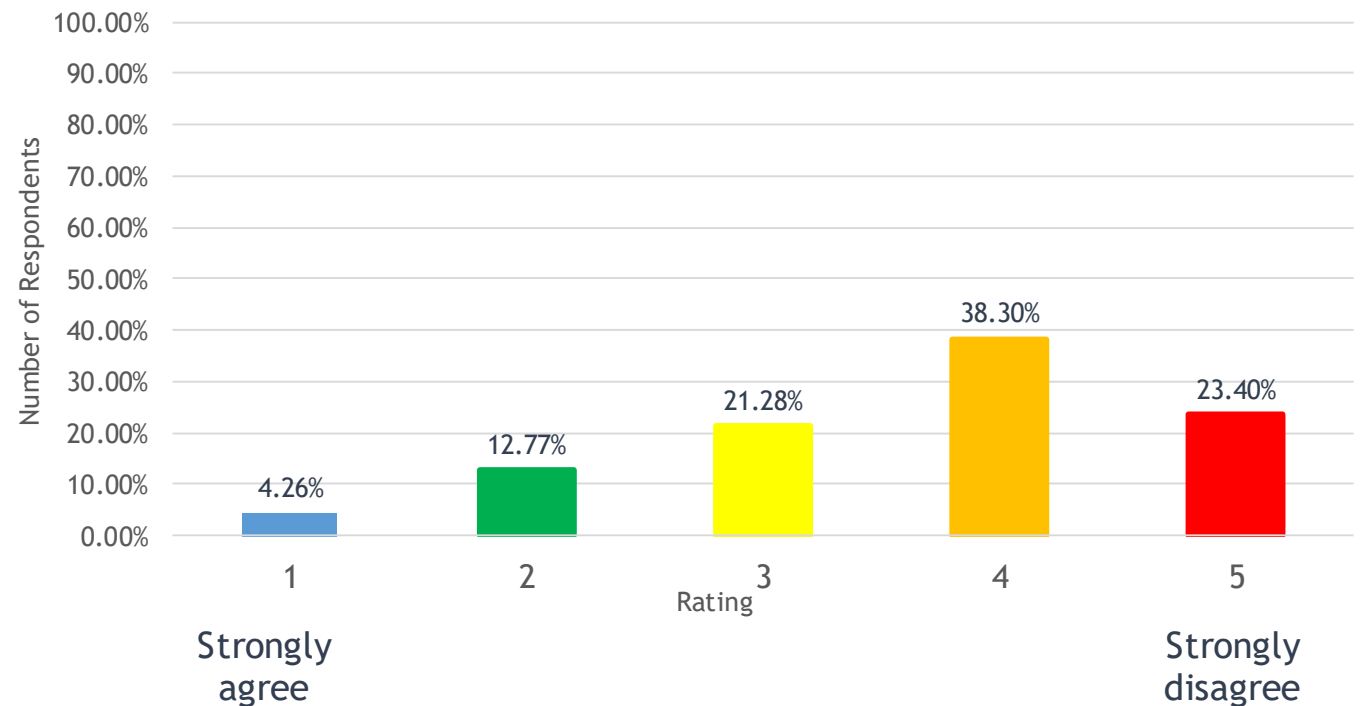


I can easily find information about future infrastructure projects that may result in special assessments to my property.

### Average Response

3.6

### Response Distribution

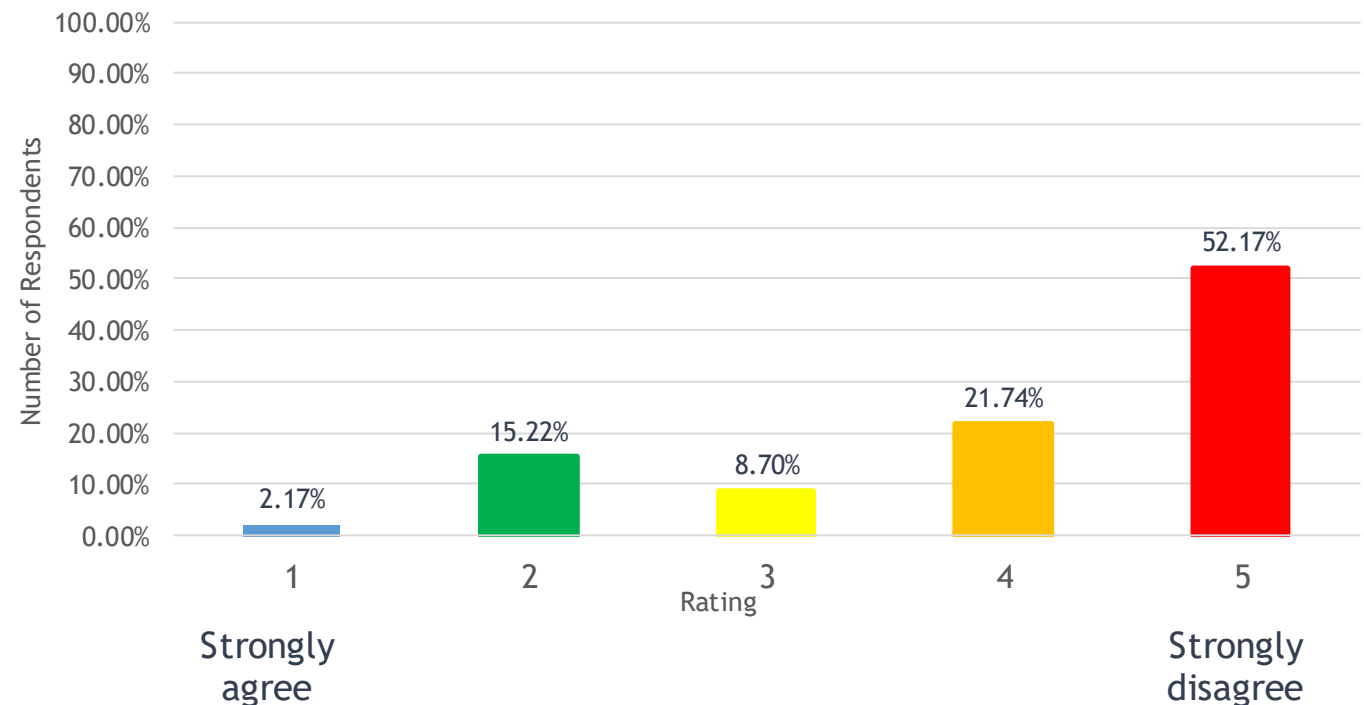


I feel the special assessment notification process used by the city is sufficient in getting information to property owners.

## Average Response

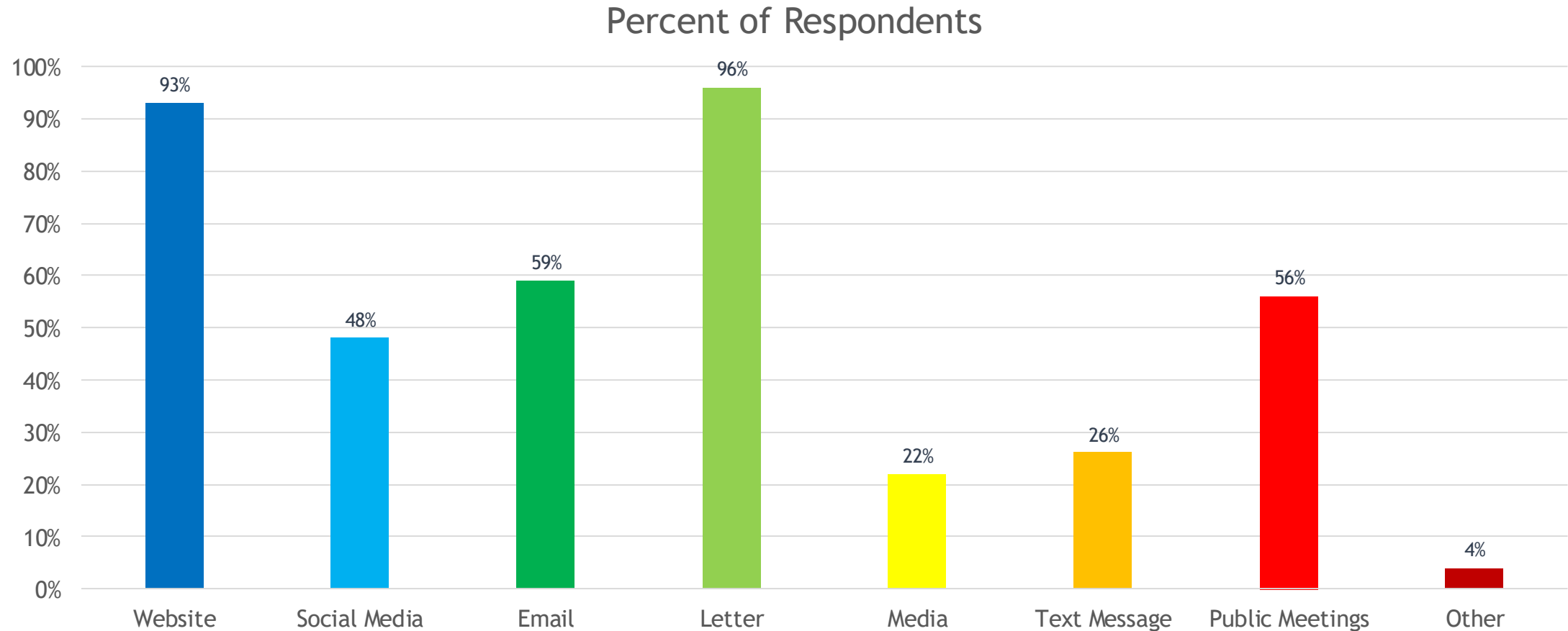
4.1

## Response Distribution





# How would you prefer the City of West Fargo shares information about special assessments?



# Themes from Small Group Feedback

- Communications
- Forecasting projects
- Developer funds
- Sales tax

# Next Steps

- Investigate options to address feedback
- Post presentation online with link to survey
- Hold final forum 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 28, at Brooks Harbor Elementary School
- Compile meeting and online feedback into final report
- Present final report to West Fargo City Commission