

Ipswich Public Safety Reuse Survey - Results

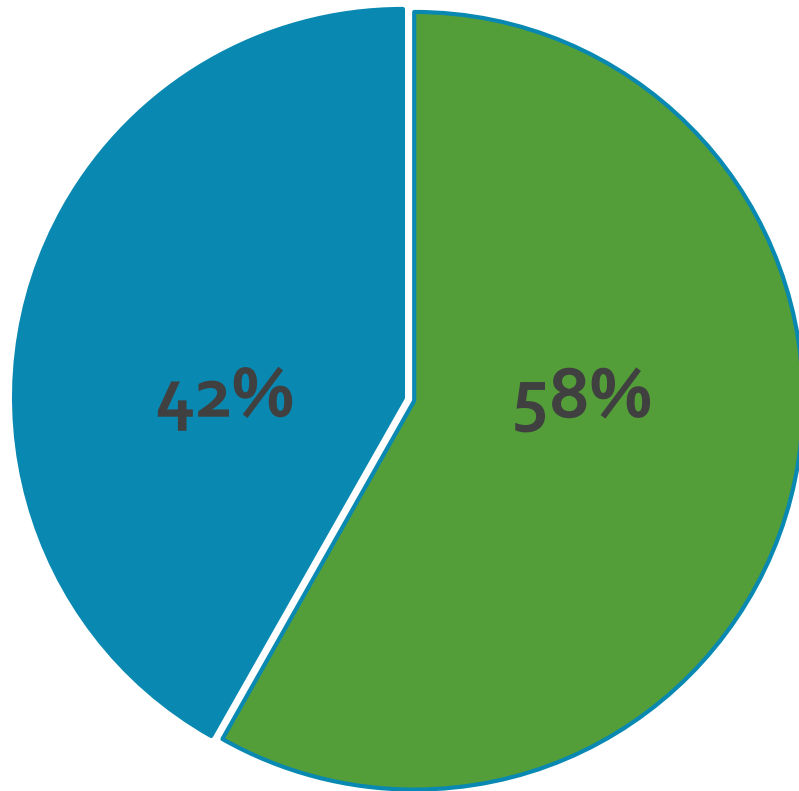
August 8th, 2022

Summary

- Survey results
 - 359 total responses
 - Survey ran for 30 days
 - Opened on July 6th
 - Closed on August 5th
- Takeaways
 - Majority of respondents do not want either site leased/sold for commercial use (although being fiscally conscious is a priority)
 - Overall, extending Town office space/other needs the Town may have were the least desirable uses
 - Many people want these decisions made in conjunction with questions around school buildings/needs; and, there was a commonly shared sentiment that these decisions should be examined through the lens of a cohesive Downtown/Town vision

Q1: What best describes your thoughts about the Firehouse (pick one)?

Answered: 347 Skipped: 12

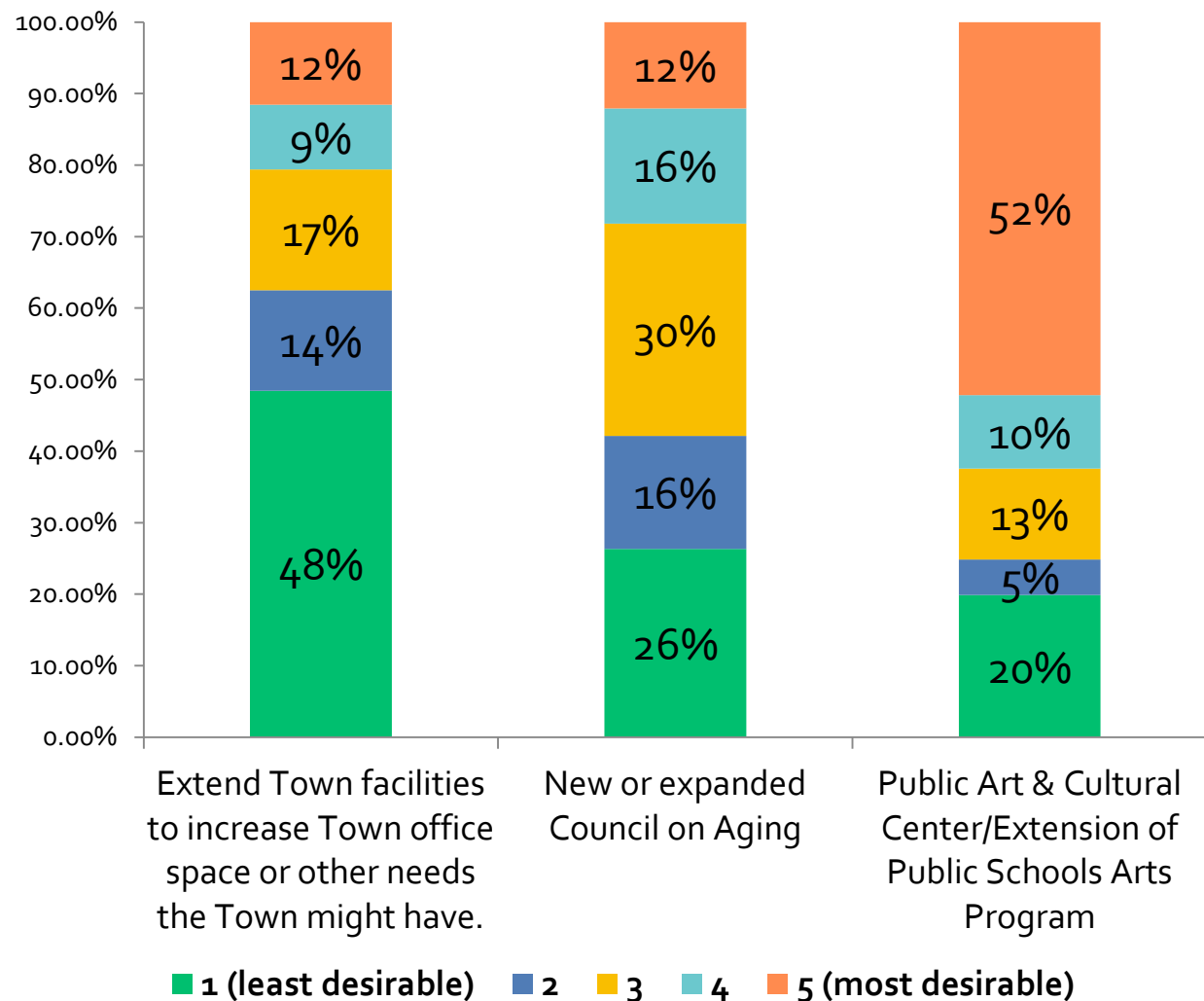


- The town should repurpose it for municipal use.
- This is an asset that the town should lease or sell for private commercial use.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
The town should repurpose it for municipal use.	58.21% 202
This is an asset that the town should lease or sell for private commercial use.	41.79% 145
TOTAL	347

Q2: If the site is repurposed for municipal use, please rate each of the following potential uses from 1-5 with 1 being the least desirable and 5 being the most desirable:

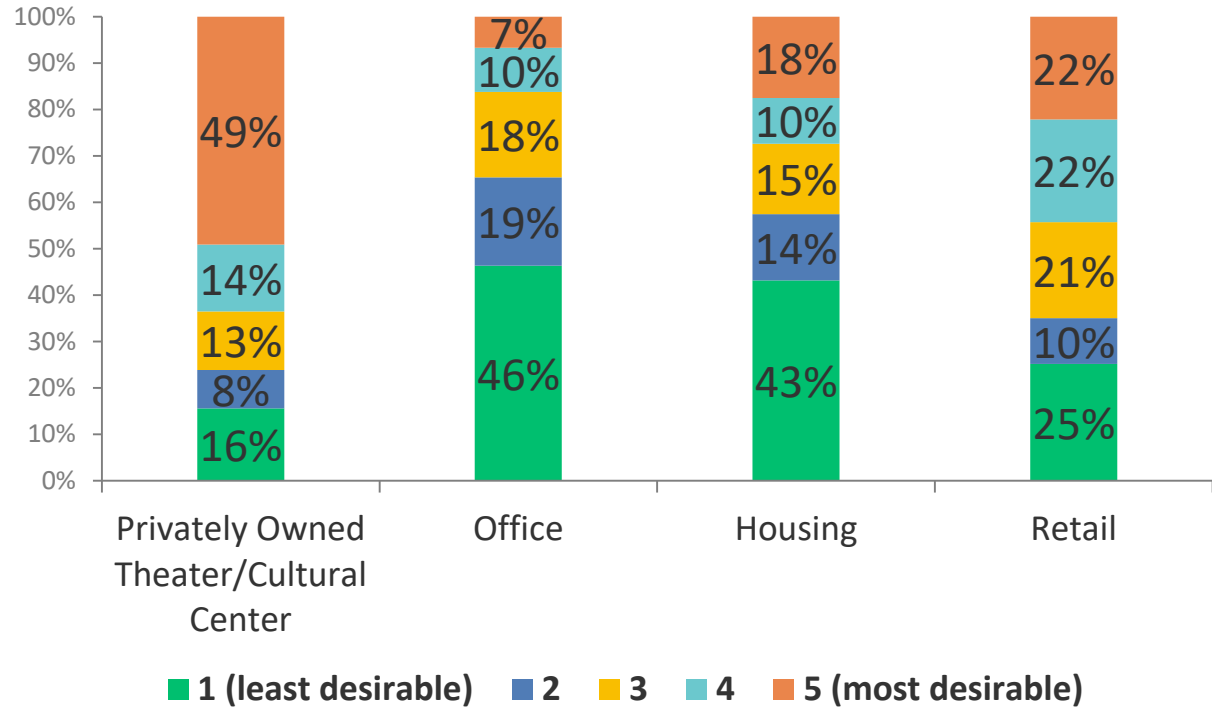
Answered: 327 Skipped: 32



	1 (LEAST DESIRABLE)	2	3	4	5 (MOST DESIR- ABLE)
Extend Town facilities to increase Town office space or other needs the Town might have.	48.44% 155	14.06% 45	16.88% 54	9.06% 29	11.56% 37
New or expanded Council on Aging	26.32% 85	15.79% 51	29.72% 96	16.10% 52	12.07% 39
Public Art & Cultural Center/Extension of Public Schools Arts Program	19.88% 64	4.97% 16	12.73% 41	10.25% 33	52.17% 168

Q3: If the site is leased or sold for private commercial use, please rate each of the following potential uses from 1-5 with 1 being the least desirable and 5 being the most desirable:

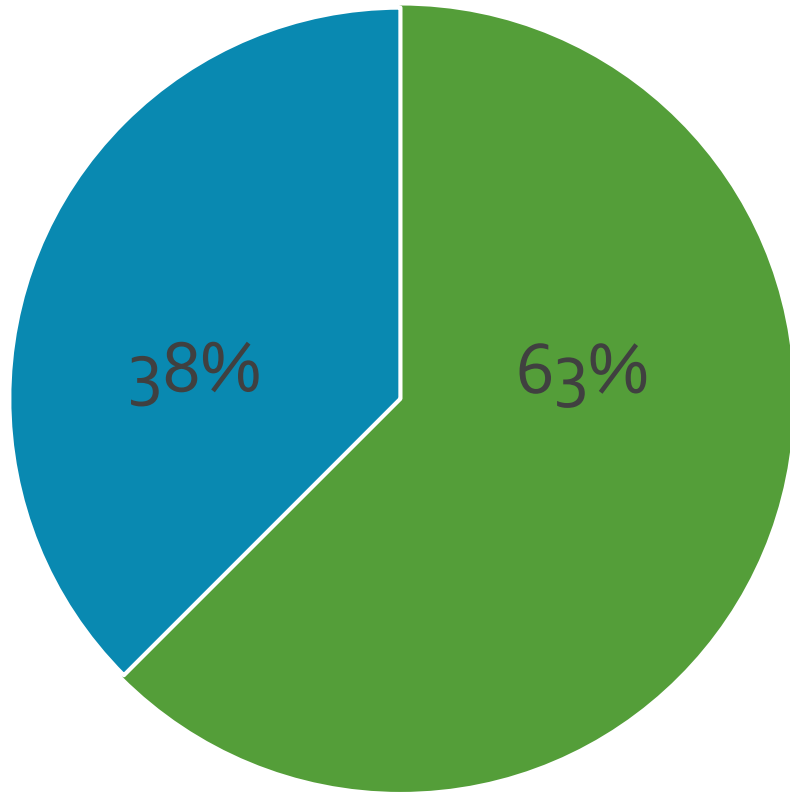
Answered: 344 Skipped: 15



	1 (LEAST DESIRABLE)	2	3	4	5 (MOST DESIRABLE)
Retail	25.15% 84	9.88% 33	20.66% 69	22.16% 74	22.16% 74
Housing	43.15% 145	14.29% 48	15.18% 51	9.82% 33	17.56% 59
Office	46.32% 151	19.02% 62	18.40% 60	9.51% 31	6.75% 22
Privately Owned Theater/Cultural Center	15.59% 53	8.24% 28	12.65% 43	14.41% 49	49.12% 167

Q4: What best describes your thoughts about the Police Station and Adjacent Town-Owned Sites

Answered: 304 Skipped: 55

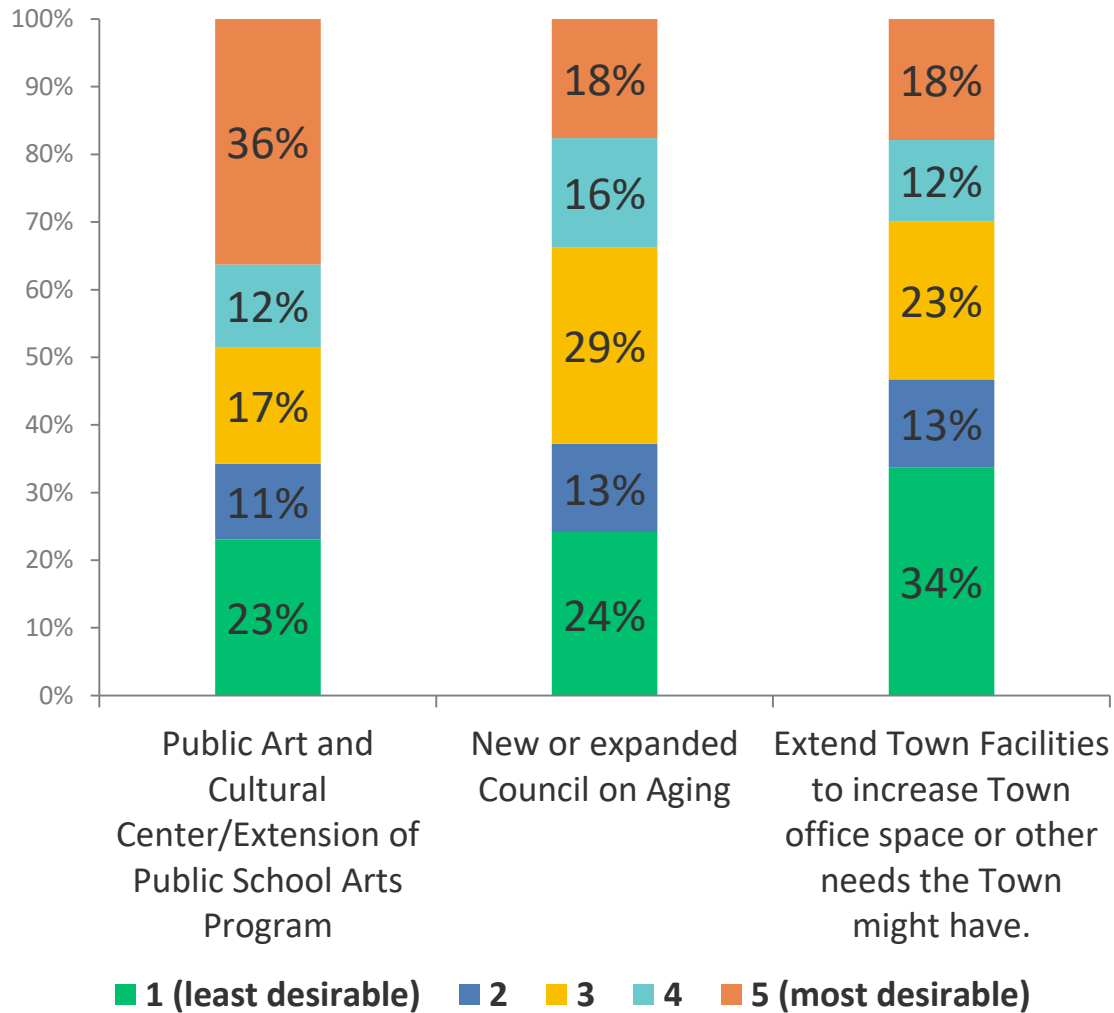


- The Town should repurpose it for municipal use.
- This is an asset that the Town should lease or sell for private commercial use.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The Town should repurpose it for municipal use.	62.50%	190
This is an asset that the Town should lease or sell for private commercial use.	37.50%	114
TOTAL		304

Q5: If the site is repurposed for municipal use, please rate each of the following potential uses from 1-5 with 1 being the least desirable and 5 being the most desirable:

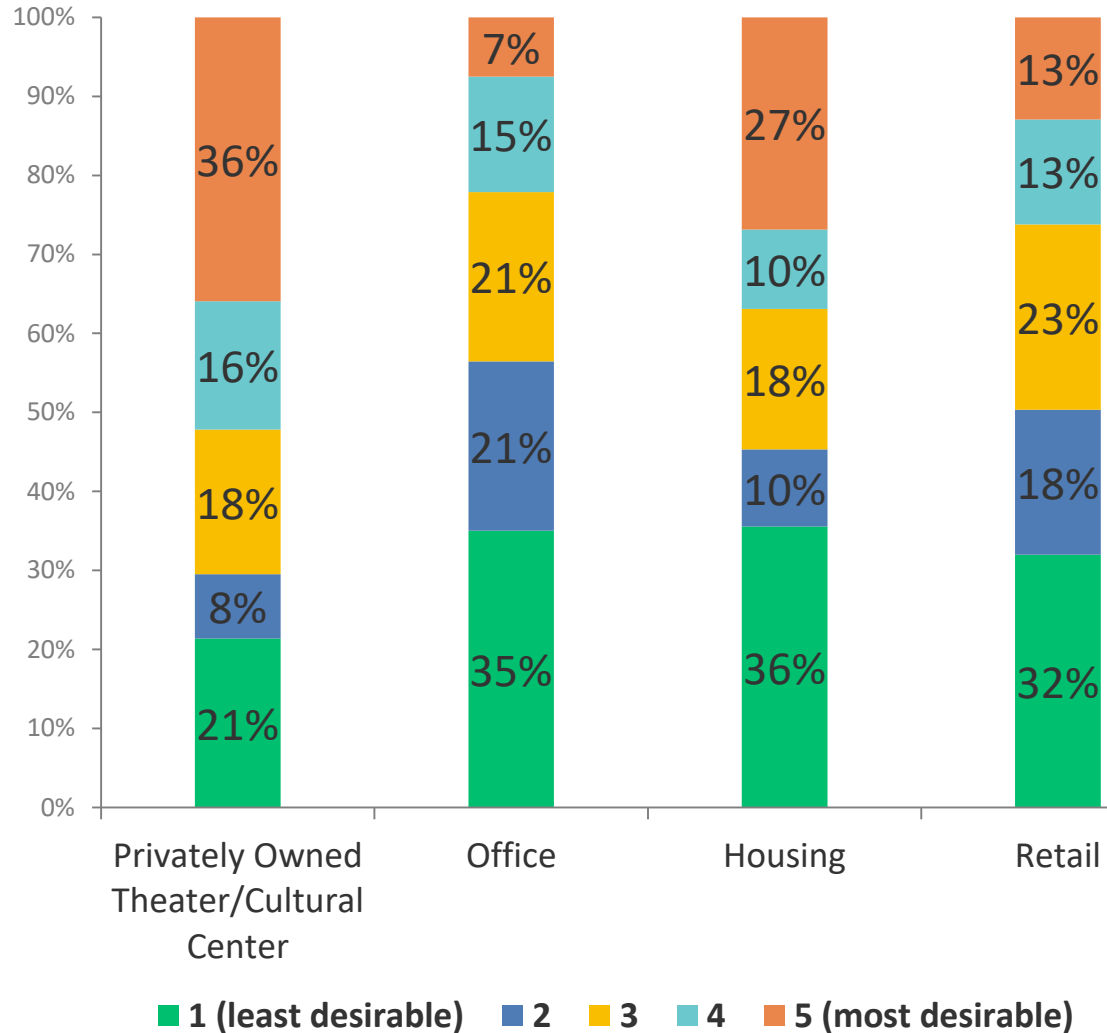
Answered: 297 Skipped: 62



	1 (LEAST DESIRABLE)	2	3	4	5 (MOST DESIRABLE)
Extend Town Facilities to increase Town office space or other needs the Town might have.	33.68% 98	13.06% 38	23.37% 68	12.03% 35	17.87% 52
New or expanded Council on Aging	24.14% 70	13.10% 38	28.97% 84	16.21% 47	17.59% 51
Public Art and Cultural Center/Extension of Public School Arts Program	23.05% 68	11.19% 33	17.29% 51	12.20% 36	36.27% 107

Q6: If the site is leased or sold for private commercial use, please rate each of the following potential uses from 1-5 with 1 being the least desirable and 5 being the most desirable:

Answered: 304 Skipped: 55



	1 (LEAST DESIRABLE)	2	3	4	5 (MOST DESIRABLE)
Retail	31.97% 94	18.37% 54	23.47% 69	13.27% 39	12.93% 38
Housing	35.57% 106	9.73% 29	17.79% 53	10.07% 30	26.85% 80
Office	35.03% 103	21.43% 63	21.43% 63	14.63% 43	7.48% 22
Privately Owned Theater/ Cultural Center	21.36% 63	8.14% 24	18.31% 54	16.27% 48	35.93% 106

Q7: Please provide any specific reuse suggestions you have in the comment box.

Answered: 178 Skipped: 181

- Main themes
 - People appear more concerned about preserving the Fire building than the Police building
 - Many responses about the Fire Station site being incorporated into School plans, and the recommendation these topics be discussed in conjunction
 - *"With the school building project about to take off- there should be clear communication about both of these capital investments; decisions made on both of these could influence each other & it would not be good to have each project progress without communication between the groups which could better identify some needs of the town"*
- Many responses around:
 - Teen/youth center
 - Senior-related uses
 - Arts corridor downtown; connection of Riverwalk; more Downtown cohesion; need for Cultural spaces
 - Many comments about reducing tax burden; favoring options that bring in the most direct revenue or tax revenue to the town
- Other use ideas with multiple comments: preschool, more activities (bowling, movie, playgrounds), green spaces, parking, community gardens
- Mixed-uses on both sites seem to be favored

Q8: If there is anything you do not want to see on the site please include it in the comment box.

Answered: 150 Skipped: 209

- Many comments were made around not selling either property
- Uses mentioned many times as undesirable:
 - Office space
 - Service oriented businesses
 - Retail
 - Town offices
 - School use
 - Parking
 - Many comments about no housing whatsoever/no expensive housing/no affordable housing/no condos