



Magellan Strategies

City of Fountain Public Safety Ballot Measure Voter Opinion Survey Topline Results

Magellan Strategies is pleased to present the topline results of a live telephone and online survey of 853 registered voters in the City of Fountain, Colorado. The interviews were conducted from May 18th – June 1st, 2022. This survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.26% at the 95 percent confidence interval. The survey data was weighted to be representative of the voter turnout demographics within Fountain, Colorado for a midterm election cycle.

T1. For statistical purposes only, could you please verify that you are registered to vote in the City of Fountain, Colorado?

Yes..... 100%

T2. Although it is a long way off, how likely are you to vote in a City of Fountain ballot measure election regarding public safety needs this November?

Extremely Likely to Vote 73%
Very Likely to Vote 17%
Somewhat Likely to Vote 8%
Unlikely to Vote..... 2%

T3. Thinking now about public safety in the City of Fountain. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Fountain Police Department is doing?

Total Approve 77%
Total Disapprove 16%
No Opinion 7%

Strongly Approve 47%
Somewhat Approve..... 30%

Strongly Disapprove..... 7%
Somewhat Disapprove 9%

T4. Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Fountain Fire/EMS Department is doing?

Total Approve	92%
Total Disapprove	2%
No Opinion	6%
Strongly Approve	74%
Somewhat Approve.....	18%
Strongly Disapprove.....	1%
Somewhat Disapprove	1%

T5. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “The Fountain Police Department is fiscally responsible and spends taxpayer money wisely.”

Total Agree	55%
Total Disagree.....	18%
No Opinion	27%
Strongly Agree	32%
Somewhat Agree.....	23%
Strongly Disagree.....	9%
Somewhat Disagree	9%

T6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “The Fountain Fire/EMS Department is fiscally responsible and spends taxpayer money wisely.”

Total Agree	69%
Total Disagree.....	4%
No Opinion	27%
Strongly Agree	43%
Somewhat Agree.....	26%
Strongly Disagree.....	1%
Somewhat Disagree	3%



T7. Do you think crime in the City of Fountain has increased, declined, or stayed about the same in the past couple of years?

Total Increased	71%
Stayed About the Same	19%
Total Declined	6%
Unsure or No Opinion.....	4%
Definitely Increased	41%
Probably Increased	30%
Definitely Declined	2%
Probably Declined.....	4%

T8. Do you think fire risk in the City of Fountain has increased, declined, or stayed about the same in the past couple of years?

Total Increased	64%
Stayed About the Same	28%
Total Declined	4%
Unsure or No Opinion.....	4%
Definitely Increased	32%
Probably Increased	32%
Definitely Declined	1%
Probably Declined.....	3%

T9. Would you support or oppose a property tax increase to create a dedicated funding source for Fountain’s Police, Fire, and EMS services, personnel, and programs?

Total Support	56%
Total Oppose	34%
Undecided.....	10%
Strongly Support	31%
Somewhat Support.....	25%
Strongly Oppose	24%
Somewhat Oppose.....	10%



Before we continue, it is important to understand that the city has not decided to put a ballot measure before voters this November to fund public safety services and programs. However, your honest responses to the following questions will help the city make that decision. So, let's continue the survey now.

T10. This November, the City of Fountain is considering a public safety ballot measure to create an annual, dedicated \$1.7 million funding source for the city's Police, Fire/EMS services, personnel, and programs.

The ballot measure would ask voters to approve a 6.2-mill property tax increase. A 6.2-mill increase would cost a homeowner about \$178 annually or \$15 per month for a home with an assessed value of \$410,000.

Knowing this information, if an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve a 6.2 mill increase to fund public safety services, personnel, and programs, or would you vote no and reject it?

Total Yes, Approve.....	57%
Total No, Reject.....	34%
Undecided.....	9%
Definitely Vote Yes, Approve.....	29%
Probably Vote Yes, Approve	28%
Definitely Vote No, Reject	22%
Probably Vote No, Reject.....	12%



We now will share some information about the reasons why the city is considering a ballot measure to create a dedicated funding source for public safety services, personnel, and programs. After reading/hearing the information, please indicate if you are more likely to vote yes and approve the ballot measure or if you are more likely to vote no and reject it. Let's get started:

T11. Crime has increased statewide and in the City of Fountain, including assault by 14%, menacing (physical threats) by 19%, burglary by 19%, vehicle theft by 50%, and drug and narcotic violations by 59%. To address these trends and provide an acceptable level of public safety to residents, additional funding is needed. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 71%
Total More Likely to Reject 21%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 8%

Much More Likely to Approve 43%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 28%

Much More Likely to Reject 13%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 8%

T12. The City of Fountain's Police and Fire/EMS services are being stretched due to a growing population and rising crime rates. Residential housing growth in Fountain is accelerating dramatically with an estimated 17,000 to 23,000 people moving into our community in future years. Without additional resources, it will be difficult for our Police and Fire Departments to provide an acceptable level of services to Fountain residents. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 74%
Total More Likely to Reject 19%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 7%

Much More Likely to Approve 47%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 27%

Much More Likely to Reject 12%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 7%



T13. Unfortunately, law enforcement legislation from the state in the past few years has resulted in less accountability for criminals, the decriminalization of drugs, and lower severity of penalties and sentencing for some criminal offenses. In addition, the Colorado “catch and release” system has made it more difficult for law enforcement to keep people in jail. For these reasons, additional funds will help our police do their job. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 64%
Total More Likely to Reject 27%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 9%

Much More Likely to Approve 41%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 23%

Much More Likely to Reject 17%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 10%

T14. Each call received by the Police Department falls into one of two categories. Priority 1 calls are incidents of a violent nature like domestic violence, assault, mental health, suicide, or homicide. Priority 2 calls involve incidents of a less violent nature like car theft, noisy neighbors, or a burglary/break-in. In the past five years, there has been a 43% increase in Priority 1 calls, which require more time and resources than a Priority 2 call. More police resources are needed to address both Priority 1 and Priority 2 calls in an acceptable amount of time. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 72%
Total More Likely to Reject 20%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 8%

Much More Likely to Approve 43%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 29%

Much More Likely to Reject 13%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 7%



T15. If approved, the ballot measure would fund a third full-time ambulance unit and additional firefighter capabilities. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 80%
Total More Likely to Reject 14%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 6%

Much More Likely to Approve 52%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 28%

Much More Likely to Reject 9%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 5%

T16. Fountain District 8 School District plans to build 6 more schools in the next eight years. As a result, the police department will need more officers to fill these schools and maintain officers in existing schools with a growing population. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 67%
Total More Likely to Reject 24%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 9%

Much More Likely to Approve 42%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 25%

Much More Likely to Reject 16%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 8%

T17. The city plans to build a new Fire Station with a Police Substation on the East side of Fountain near the intersection of Link and Watchmen Roads by 2025. This ballot measure will NOT fund its construction. However, this ballot measure would pay for the salaries of six new firefighters and paramedics for the new station. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 77%
Total More Likely to Reject 15%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 8%

Much More Likely to Approve 49%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 28%

Much More Likely to Reject 10%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 5%



T18. The new Fire Station-Police Substation is estimated to decrease a Fountain homeowner’s insurance by \$400 to \$600 annually if the homeowner’s insurance company uses the city’s Insurance Services Office (ISO) in their insurance policy calculation. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 75%
Total More Likely to Reject 17%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 8%

Much More Likely to Approve 48%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 27%

Much More Likely to Reject..... 10%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 7%

T19. If the ballot measure is approved, six police officers will be hired to support increased traffic enforcement, reduced response times, increased police presence city-wide, and resources dedicated to addressing crimes against children, sex trafficking, and financial crimes. Knowing this information, are you:

Total More Likely to Approve..... 76%
Total More Likely to Reject 20%
Unsure or No Opinion..... 4%

Much More Likely to Approve 52%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve 24%

Much More Likely to Reject..... 14%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject..... 6%



*T20. If the ballot measure is approved, funds would be used to address the difficulties in **retention / recruiting, enhanced training, officer wellness, and the increased stress** our police officers and firefighters are experiencing. Studies have shown overworked and understaffed police, and fire/EMS lead to a sense of hopelessness. This environment results in less proactive and productive public safety employees. Knowing this information, are you:*

Total More Likely to Approve.....	75%
Total More Likely to Reject	18%
Unsure or No Opinion.....	7%
Much More Likely to Approve	50%
Somewhat More Likely to Approve	25%
Much More Likely to Reject	13%
Somewhat More Likely to Reject.....	5%

T21. Thank you for learning why the City of Fountain is considering a ballot measure to fund public safety services this November. As a reminder, if approved, the ballot measure would create an annual, dedicated \$1.7 million funding source for Fountain Police, Fire/EMS services, personnel, and programs.

The ballot measure would ask voters to approve a 6.2-mill property tax increase. A 6.2-mill increase would cost a homeowner about \$178 annually or \$15 per month on a home with an assessed value of \$410,000.

Knowing this information, if an election were being held today, would you vote yes and approve this public safety ballot measure, or would you vote no and reject it?

Total Yes, Approve.....	70%
Total No, Reject.....	26%
Undecided.....	4%
Definitely Vote Yes, Approve	39%
Probably Vote Yes, Approve	21%
Lean Toward Voting Yes, Approve	10%
Definitely Vote No, Reject	16%
Probably Vote No, Reject.....	4%
Lean Toward Voting No, Reject	6%



T22. Please describe the reasons why you would vote yes and approve the public safety ballot measure.

**Verbatim responses are in a separate document.*

T23. Please describe the reasons why you would vote no and reject the public safety ballot measure.

**Verbatim responses are in a separate document.*

T24. Please describe the reasons why you are undecided about approving or rejecting the public safety ballot measure.

**Verbatim responses are in a separate document.*

T25. Finally, the City of Fountain is also considering a ballot measure that would ask voters to approve or reject a 1% sales tax increase for street maintenance and road repairs. If the 6.2-mill property tax public safety ballot measure and the 1% sales tax increase for street maintenance were on the ballot this November, how would you vote?

Approve Both Ballot Measures	35%
Approve Public Safety Only	20%
Reject Both Ballot Measures.....	18%
Approve Street Maintenance Only	12%
Undecided.....	15%

And now we have some questions for statistical purposes only.

T26. Are you:

Female.....	52%
Male	48%
I Prefer to Identify as	<1% ^o

T27. Are you between the ages of:

18 to 34	21%
35 to 44	19%
45 to 54	20%
55 to 64	20%
65 Plus.....	20%



T28. Do you rent or own your home?

Own 85%
Rent 9%
Prefer Not to Say 6%

T29. For statistical and weighting purposes only, are you registered to vote as an Unaffiliated voter, a Democrat, a Republican, or are you registered with another party?

Republican 37%
Unaffiliated 34%
Democrat 26%
Other Party 3%

T30. How would you describe your household income?

Less than \$25,000 5%
\$25,000 to \$49,000 14%
\$50,000 to \$99,000 34%
\$100,000 to \$149,000 24%
More than \$150,000 12%
Prefer Not to Say 11%

Survey Methodology

This data collection for this survey employed MMS text messages and live telephone interviews among registered voters in the City of Fountain, Colorado. There was also a live link on the City website that allowed citizens to participate in the survey. The survey response data was weighted to reflect the voter turnout demographics for a midterm election in Fountain, Colorado. The interviews were conducted from May 18th – June 1st, 2022. This survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.26% at the 95 percent confidence interval.

