

Question #8: Do you have any other comments regarding the Resort Tax that you would like to share? Sixty-nine respondents commented. Several trends emerged as follows:

- 11 - would like to see resort tax money spent on marketing
- 12 - would like better communication on where the tax is spent
- 5 - are not happy with spending the tax on the police department
- 5 - thought it deterred or raised questions from tourists
- 4 - thought it did not negatively impact tourism
- 14 - had questions on infrastructure spending either questioning that it has gone to infrastructure or wants this as a priority. The desire to spend tax on parks and provide property tax relief were mentioned more than once.

Several comments at “each end of the spectrum” in favor and opposed to the tax. Representative: “Get rid of it” and “This is a vital source of revenue to support city services and a great way to spread the cost among all users, not only those who own property.”

Most innovative comment: issue tax exempt card for locals

Beartooth Front Community Forum Annual Spring Forum, March 27, 2015

Red Lodge Resort Tax – Survey Results

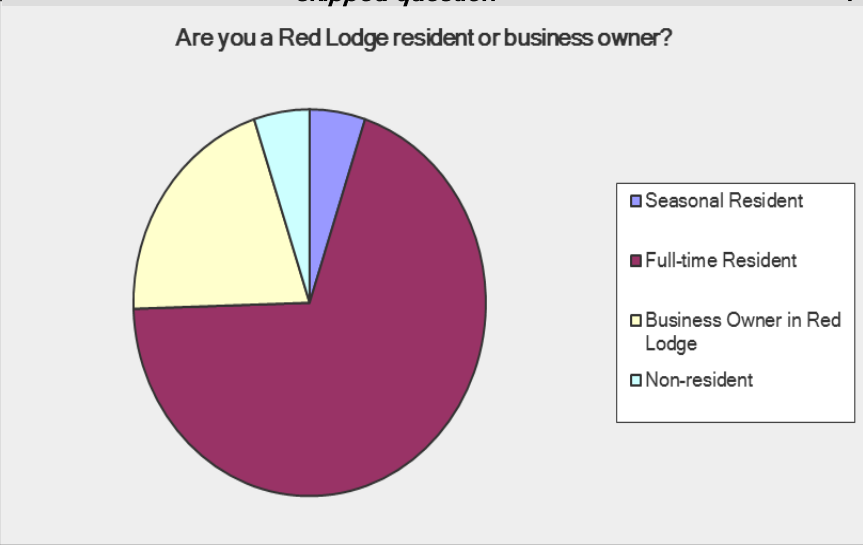


Beartooth Front Community Forum
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Seeking to preserve and enhance the quality of life along the Beartooth Front

ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS:

Question #1 Are you a Red Lodge resident or business owner?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Seasonal Resident	5.1%	8
Full-time Resident	69.4%	109
Business Owner in Red Lodge	20.4%	32
Non-resident	5.1%	8
<i>answered question</i>		157
<i>skipped question</i>		1



Question #8 Do you have any other comments regarding the Resort Tax that you would like to share?

Answer Options	Response Count
	65
<i>answered question</i>	65
<i>skipped question</i>	93

Compilation of Online and Written Survey Comments

Bases: There were 158 people who completed the online Survey and 16 written surveys for a total of 174 respondents. Surveys were completed between March 27th (16 written surveys completed on the night of the forum) and April 15th. Questions #2, #3, #7, and #8 provided opportunity for comment by the Survey respondents. Each response was reviewed and trends identified; reported as follows:

Question #2: Does the Red Lodge Resort tax impact any of your purchasing decisions? Eleven respondents provided comments on this question. Five respondents indicated they would purchase items in Billings, four stating they do so if those items were either higher priced (than Red Lodge) or large purchases, and one simply stating they buy in Billings because of no tax.

Question # 3: If you are a Red Lodge resident or business owner, do you feel the Resort Tax provided you more benefits than costs? Thirteen respondents provided comment. They were not really able to answer the question very well from their comments. The trend of those providing comment: They would like to see definitive and more frequent reporting of where the money is spent i.e., specific projects. Some business owners are not certain they are taxing correctly.

Question # 5 Which items do you believe Resort Tax dollars are spent on? (check all that apply)

Parks	14
Water and Sewer	16
Advertising & Marketing	5
City Staff	3
Property Tax Relief	15
Sidewalk Repair	11
Floodplain Management	4
Police Equipment	4

Question #6 Would you support extending the Resort Tax beyond 2022?

Yes	14
No	2
Undecided	

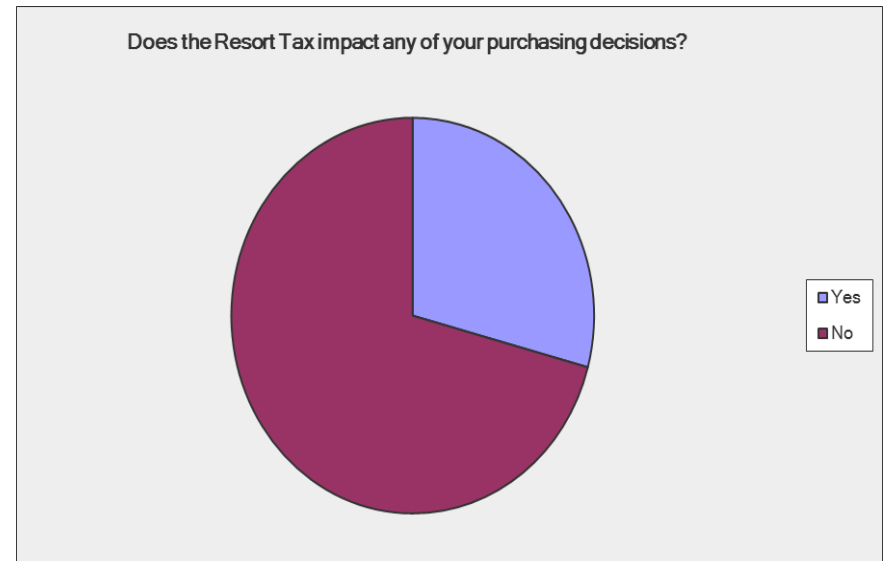
Question #7 This Question is for Business Owners only. Do you feel you adequately understand the administration of the tax (knowing what to tax and whether it makes sense) and reporting requirements?

Strongly Understand	1
Mostly Understand	4
Mostly NOT Understand	
Not Understood	

Question #8 Do you have any other comments regarding the Resort Tax that you would like to share?

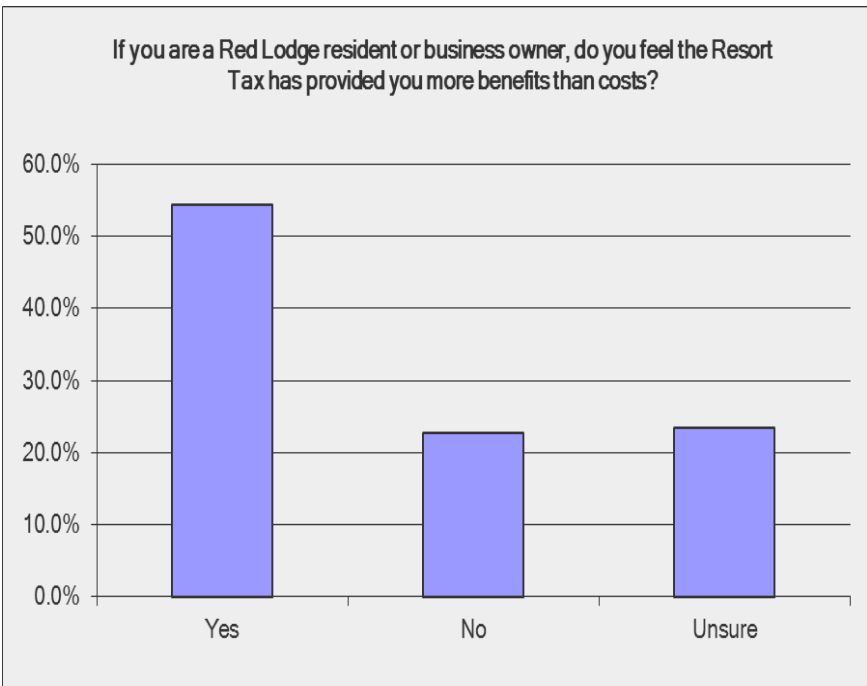
See compilation

Question #2 Does the Resort Tax impact any of your purchasing decisions?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	29.2%	45
No	70.8%	109
Sometimes (please specify)		9
<i>answered question</i>		154
<i>skipped question</i>		4



Question #3 If you are a Red Lodge resident or business owner, do you feel the Resort Tax has provided you more benefits than costs?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	54.4%	81
No	22.8%	34
Unsure	23.5%	35
It's Complicated (please specify)		13
<i>answered question</i>		149
<i>skipped question</i>		9



WRITTEN SURVEY RESULTS

Question #1 Are you a Red Lodge resident or business owner?

Seasonal Resident	0
Full-time Resident	11
Business Owner in Red Lodge	5
Non-resident	

Question #2 Does the Resort tax impact any of your purchasing decisions?

Yes	1
No	13
Sometimes	2

Question #3 If you are a Red Lodge resident or business owner, do you feel the Resort Tax has provided you more benefits than costs?

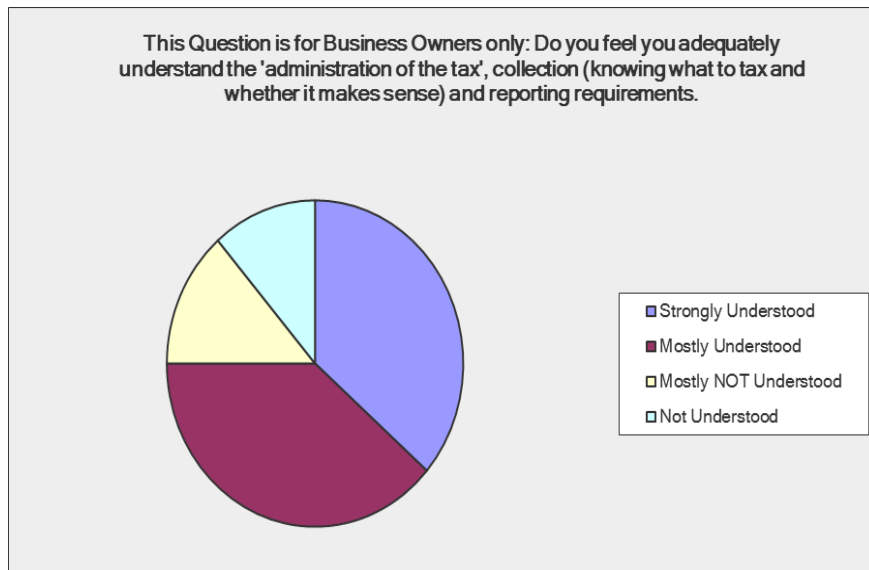
Yes	14
No	
Unsure	1
Did not answer	1

Question #4 Do you feel all Resort Taxable items should be taxed or do you feel that only items geared to tourists should

Yes, all items	10
No, only some items	4
Did not answer	2

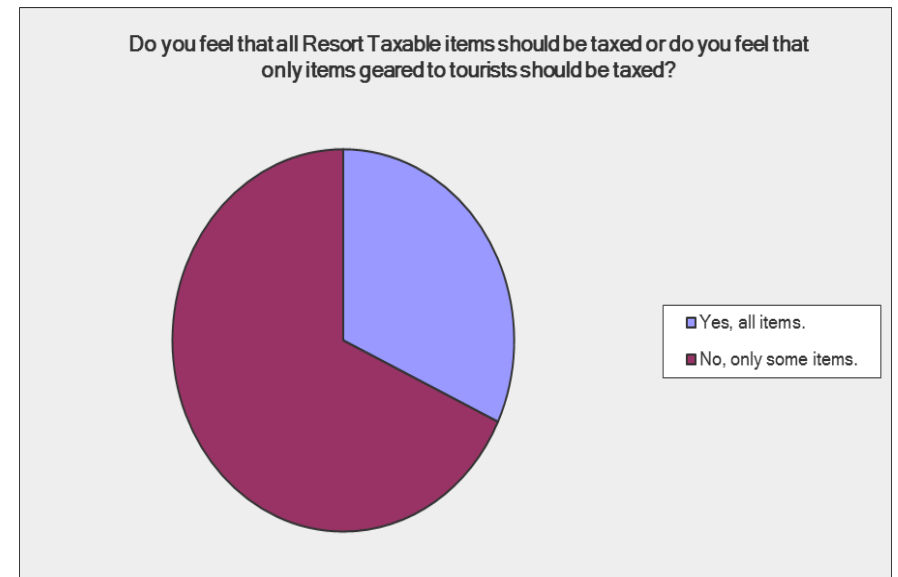
Question #7 This Question is for Business Owners only: Do you feel you adequately understand the 'administration of the tax', collection (knowing what to tax and whether it makes sense) and reporting requirements.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Understood	36.4%	16
Mostly Understood	38.6%	17
Mostly NOT Understood	13.6%	6
Not Understood	11.4%	5
Please Explain		11
<i>answered question</i>		44
<i>skipped question</i>		114



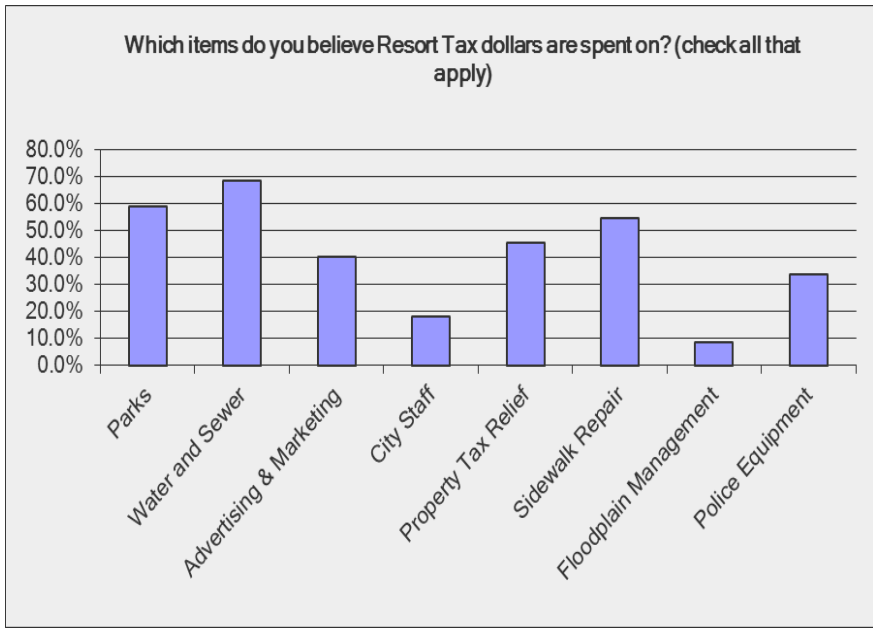
Question #4 Do you feel that all Resort Taxable items should be taxed or do you feel that only items geared to tourists should be taxed?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, all items.	32.0%	49
No, only some items.	68.0%	104
<i>answered question</i>		153
<i>skipped question</i>		5



Question #5 Which items do you believe Resort Tax dollars are spent on? (check all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Parks	59.1%	88
Water and Sewer	68.5%	102
Advertising & Marketing	40.3%	60
City Staff	18.1%	27
Property Tax Relief	45.6%	68
Sidewalk Repair	54.4%	81
Floodplain Management	8.7%	13
Police Equipment	33.6%	50
answered question		149
skipped question		9



Question #6 Would you support extending the Resort Tax beyond 2022?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	60.9%	95
No	18.6%	29
Undecided	20.5%	32
answered question		156
skipped question		2

