

### **Recovering from COVID Together: Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: What are the City's priorities as we return to normalcy?**

**A:** We know that safe neighborhoods and parks, libraries, programs for children, youth and seniors, and well-maintained are more important than ever as we recover from COVID. However, like our residents the City itself has also been affected financially by this past challenging year for us all.

**Q: Do these challenges impact emergency response?**

**A:** Fast response times to 911 calls are critical for saving lives, and we are working to maintain the rapid response times of our City's police, paramedics, firefighters, and emergency medical workers who are the first responders and save lives. Rising County costs and historical state takeaways make this harder to maintain.

**Q: Now that schools are beginning to re-open, how do these challenges impact our kids?**

**A:** Nothing is more important than keeping our children safe. Studies show that between 3 and 6 PM – the hours after school ends and before parents typically return home from work – children without an afterschool activity are 3 times more likely to get into trouble. As kids return to school and parents to work, additional funding is needed to help maintain these supervised afterschool park, recreation and library programs to keep children safe, off the streets and out of trouble.

**Q: Has the community identified any priorities as we all return to normalcy?**

**A:** Yes. We want to thank any resident who gave us their input on service priorities in the City's recent community survey. Priorities we have heard to date include:

- Preventing robberies and burglaries
- Maintaining 911 emergency response times
- Maintaining the number of fire engines in service and gang and youth violence prevention programs
- Maintaining safe and clean public areas
- Repairing potholes and roads
- Addressing homelessness

**Q: How can I get more information or provide input?**

**A:** We want to hear from you! Join the conversation and let us know YOUR service priorities by completing an online community input survey at [www.moval.org/JoinTheConversation](http://www.moval.org/JoinTheConversation). Your input will continue to be used into the future as part of our strategic policy planning.