

WORKSHOP REPORT: STERLING GROVE SIMCOE LAPLACE

May 7, 2016
St. Antoine
Sheriff's Office
Training Center



Our voice. Our vision.



**EVANGELINE
CORRIDOR
INITIATIVE**

Funded in part by a federal **TIGER** grant

DISTRICT

Sterling Grove – Simcoe - LaPlace

LOCATION

St. Antoine Sheriff's Office Training Center – May 7, 2016 (10am – 1pm)

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Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the Author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the FHWA.

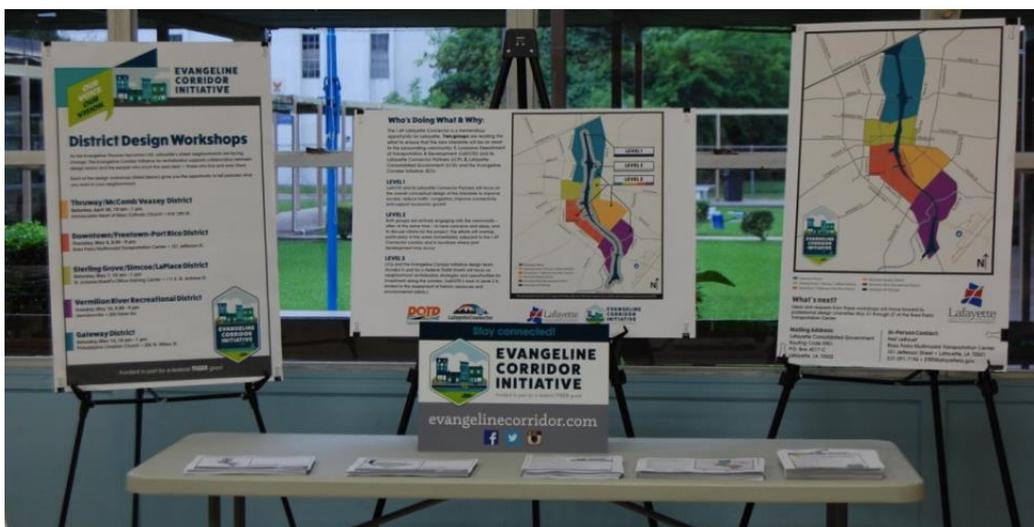
OVERVIEW

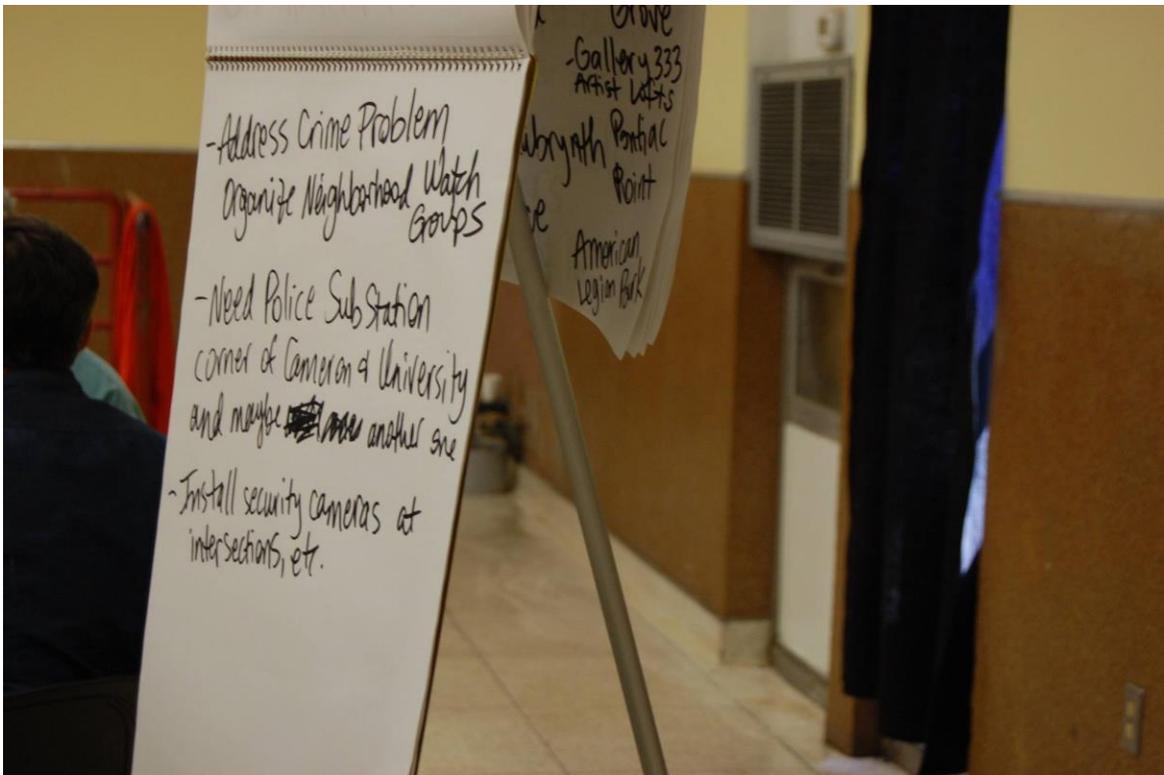
The purpose of the District Design Workshops was to bring together the communities adjacent to the existing Evangeline Thruway to lay the groundwork for developing a comprehensive future vision and plan for a renewed Evangeline Corridor. There is a great need for an extensive planning initiative to improve the districts at the neighborhood level, while linking them through a response to the unique environment that will be created by the anticipated I-49 Connector. Again, the Districts were proposed for the purposes of the TIGER grant and LCG and the ECI Team acknowledge that existing neighborhoods are within these districts and in some cases neighborhoods within districts may have distinct identities from one another. The Districts were formed based mainly on geographically identifiable borders serving to assist in public outreach efforts and general attributes. The Districts, as drawn, are for organizational purposes only. It is expected that the plans that are created will blend from one district to another, recognizing that the district plans, when pieced together, will form a cohesive corridor plan that recognizes and celebrates distinct neighborhood identities.

This Workshop Report is part of a series of five (5) district-based reports, each highlighting feedback gathered in five (5) separate 3-hour long community outreach events. The report(s) reflect the highly engaged open conversations that capture the concerns, aspirations, and suggestions that surfaced throughout various exercises led by facilitators along with groups of local neighborhood residents, business/property owners, and interested parties.

The report is divided into categories related to the overall planning effort that emerged directly from table conversations and exercises. Based around ideas of opportunities and challenges the elements include but are not limited to *economic development, culture and history, entertainment, safety, infrastructure, beautification, housing, recreation and environment and community*. A final section of the Report focuses on *Connector-Related Feedback* that serves as feedback that is collected by the ECI Team and delivered to the DOTD's Lafayette Connector Partners Team.

Lafayette Consolidated Government and the entire ECI team would like to express great appreciation to all those who participated in the workshops and shared the invaluable feedback that forms the basis of this report. The synthesized information contained herein directly informed the Charrette efforts and ultimately the plans and strategies designed for the neighborhoods and communities of each district.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Like many of the corridor districts, residents of Sterling Grove/Simcoe/LaPlace generally expressed that widespread development was something severely lacking from the area, and there were various perceptions of what kind of development should occur in the future and where it should occur. Even though the Evangeline Thruway is seen as a commercial corridor, especially to the north, many people felt that there weren't a variety of businesses in this particular area. They pointed to a lack of shopping and dining options, certainly on the local scale. Participants acknowledged the big box stores not far away (Super 1 and Walmart down the Thruway, Target down Louisiana Ave. extension towards I-10), but many residents travel even further to Breau's Mart or down Johnston (Albertson's) and Congress (Rouses) for groceries, produce and everyday goods. And though it isn't technically in the district, redevelopment of Northgate Mall was a big focus as a previously widely-used shopping destination. The residents want to have access to larger scale commercial development but desire local scale retail and food options within their immediate area.

There is growing sentiment among residents in this district that there is much more development attention given to the southside and residents would like to see similar economic movement. They know that development will bring job viability, but expressed that there needs to be incentives and support (tax credits) for small, locally-owned retail, especially because residents of the area are excited to shop small and will support their neighbors. More than a few people said that it was a challenge to gain loan and lending support from banks to open businesses in this area. People pointed to vacant businesses and buildings that could be transformed and reused. It was made clear that increased financial support and attention was needed to promote local business development and community.

While there was eagerness for increased development in general and especially in the LaPlace neighborhood west of the existing Thruway, there was caution about certain commercial placement. People expressed a desire to update and repurpose Jefferson Blvd from the underpass to Simcoe/Surrey. Though residents living in or near the Sterling Grove Historic District were dismayed and against dense and heavy commercial development encroaching on them – unless it was the appropriate scale and meshed with the historic character of Lafayette's oldest neighborhood. They don't wish to see hotels, gas stations or large retail. Participants agreed that new commercial development needs to respect the historic fabric while contributing to grow.

Desirable Elements

- Neighborhood grocery store (needs produce and organic options)
- Farmers market
- Bike service station
- Neighborhood drug store/pharmacy
- Coffee shop with teas and vegan options (non-corporate)
- Ice cream/dessert shop
- Local shopping and retail options
- Art galleries (creative local business) (the Art Center is vacant on weekend – rent out!)
- Food trucks or pop-ups serving lunch
- Restaurants – café/bistro like the Filling Station
- Wine bar (adult bar, not nightclub)

SAFETY

Safety of families and individuals, especially children is at the forefront of people's minds. Many parts of this district are deemed unsafe and crime-ridden especially at night. Precinct 1 was singled out, as was the crossing at Four Corners. Drug activity was noted in various parts of the District. Specifically it was mentioned that J. Wallace James Park has periodic issues with drugs and sex workers, making it an unsafe area for families. This could be attributed to a number of factors that are covered in this report, but a primary indicator was the lack of and need for increased police presence (i.e. beat cops, substations, patrol cars) as well as more security cameras. Increased street lighting and better applications of safety lighting was also discussed widely.

Beyond concerns around crime, safe streets and traffic-oriented issues were also a focus of anxiety. There was general consensus that for pedestrians and cyclists, crossing any street to reach Downtown would make someone feel uneasy and unsafe. Four Corners was again mentioned as a problem zone. Simply walking past vacant lots and abandoned cars to cross the Thruway was unappealing and unsafe. The railroad/coulee crossing near Walmart has bad visibility. It was noted that people still speed through and cut across the neighborhood past school buses and kids playing despite speed bumps in places (speed bumps were a good addition but not sure they work or there could be more).

In LaPlace, the area around the missions, specifically St. Joseph's Diner needs attention. It should be cleaned up, activated – find ways to keep the homeless from sleeping outside around it.

Desirable Elements

- Add a police substation in LaPlace area – increase street patrols
- Organize a neighborhood watch (and security cameras)
- Street lights (functional and aesthetic)
- Improve street interface (vacant lots)
- Mitigate speeding and street safety features

CULTURE AND HISTORY

Sterling Grove is one of the most recognized historic neighborhoods in Lafayette, and in 1984 became the first of only two neighborhoods listed on the National Register of Historic Places – Freetown Port Rico being added in 2015. It is composed of several historic homes of great architectural quality. Even lying next to under-developed, largely uninspiring and dilapidated Thruway, the core of Sterling Grove is charming, quaint, and quiet considering the immediately adjacent noise and traffic. The majority of participants expressed great pride in their homes and community neighborhood.. It has great historic value that many of the residents would like to see safeguarded and expanded upon.

St. Genevieve is a huge asset for the community and is one of the nicer architecturally significant churches in Lafayette. There are concerns of impact from the proposed interstate given its proximity and people have ideas about how its grounds could be made even more civic (see below).

An effort is underway to expand the historic district boundaries to encompass the adjacent neighborhood of Nickerson which retains its historic character, albeit at a slightly smaller, yet denser scale along Orange St. and Jefferson Blvd. As well as continuing S. Sterling towards Louisiana Ave.

Already having National Historic status, many residents would like to see increased local attention and designation.

Across the Thruway from Sterling Grove, LaPlace includes some of the city's oldest neighborhoods and is home to a growing faction of active community involvement. Although LaPlace doesn't enjoy or benefit from the level of historic architecture quality such as Sterling Grove, the area is improving along these lines with the restoration of homes and residents are noticing nearby areas that are gaining or potentially being considered for national or local historic status.

Desirable Elements

- Some Sterling Grove residents mentioned desire to be recognized by the city for local historic preservation designation and expressed concerns regarding current commercial zoning and impact on potential development
- More street sign designation of historic areas – historical markers
- Underpass should be painted to highlight cultural icons/talent
- Expand and take advantage of tourism perspective and historical value
- Continue historic walk and events in Sterling Grove and possibly expand to other areas
- Insert a Museum or community destination

RECREATION, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Virtually all participants acknowledged the value and need for functional recreation options and nice parks of diverse uses and wanted to see existing places improved and expanded. The district and adjacent area are already home to substantial park destinations and recreation facilities such as City Park (municipal golf course), Clark Field, Domingue Center, O.J. Mouton Pool, American Legion Park and Pontiac Point-- though it was generally felt that most of those were underperforming and in need of attention or upgrade. City Park, for example, is not exactly viewed as a park in the traditional sense as it is really a golf course (albeit a well-maintained and used public amenity in the area). People expressed that it could be made more diverse with the addition of a walking trail around or through the golf course. The Domingue Center, O.J. Mouton Pool and Clark Field could be updated and once again made a focus of the neighborhood and adjacent communities. This 'campus' was seen as a major opportunity for kids programs. Residents of LaPlace mentioned the desire for more recreational options (i.e. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, basketball, swimming pool).

Much was said about the state of American Legion Park. People generally thought it was a nice park, but highlighted need for improvements to cleanliness in spots, sidewalks, sewers instead of ditches and pointed to the fact that there is an influx and issue of homelessness especially in the evening. A similar concern was had for Pontiac Point – a historically rich and frequented area that has, in some people's minds, become more unsafe or less appealing in recent years, possibly due to homeless issues. People called for more connections to these parks through bike trails and walking trails (Elizabeth to Sterling, St. Charles and Orange to Pontiac Point, and Simcoe to LaPlace and American Legion Park).

Desirable Elements

- More green space - helps reduce and change pollution and beautifies (abandoned lot potential)
- Community gardens and pavilion (events and recreation) – St. Charles(?)
- Dog park and fountain

- Food Park and fruit trees - benefit community and homeless population
- Place for elderly people
- St. Genevieve pavilion and civic plaza
- Skate park (one near LaPlace already)
- The Greenhouse needs to be maintained
- Mature trees and vegetation
- Plaza in front of St. Genevieve – a similar green space
- Using the coulee – cover for a bike path, park/urban forest

COMMUNITY

The neighborhoods in this district on both sides of the existing Thruway have a very strong sense of community pride, but there is a debatable mix between positive and negative perceptions, and it can always be expanded and improved upon in terms of community assets and amenities.

SOME WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE COMMUNITY

- Charming
- Welcoming
- Diverse – economically, racially, politically
- Unique
- Dynamic
- Passionate
- Neglected, overlooked
- Vulnerable
- Subtle/Quiet/Peaceful
- Diamond in the rough
- Police are friendly
- Spacious
- Family Oriented
- Traditional
- Multi-generational
- Inclusive
- Litter
- Abandoned
- Blighted
- Disconnected

The diversity of the area, especially around Jefferson Blvd. was discussed and there are certainly a mixture of people and backgrounds in this district. Many of the highlighted ideas and concerns revolving around community coincide with values of the natural environment and recreational options. Amenities such as tennis courts, pool, and Boys & Girls clubs were mentioned (see other sections). They already use the club on Willow St. and areas around the Domingue Center and Clark Field. Neighborhood hubs for the community to gather were a focus point – they could have multiple uses (Pink Turtle on Mudd Ave. is gone – add a community center in front of the O.J. Mouton pool).

Conversations also focused on basic services (lack thereof) and amplified offerings the community would like to see. Options for healthcare and hospitals were very important. All of the doctors, medical facilities, and urgent care clinics are outside of the district. It's difficult to cross Jefferson to reach downtown – would go more often if it was easier and more inviting.

Desirable Elements (and local assets to keep)

- St. Genevieve Church and School
- St. Paul Church
- Moss Annex – alternative school
- Boys & Girls Club
- Art Gallery – Gallery 333, artist lofts
- Family activity outdoor/indoor
- Family oriented 50/50 business
- Child-care
- Love the art warehouse (LPTFA)
- Recreation center (YMCA)
- Senior citizen activity center
- A neighborhood museum - celebrate identity and history
- Want to see more renovated spaces that keep the character of neighborhood (111 Monroe St.)
- A community center in LaPlace
- Christmas decorations on light posts – doesn't have
- Community bathroom/showers would be nice
- Movie theater and other forms of entertainment

HOUSING

The value of the Sterling Grove Historic District was predominately mentioned in many conversations around housing in this area. Concerns there have been echoed in terms of wanting new development and new housing to fit in with the existing context and scale. Typical apartment complexes are not welcomed, though there is stereotype and debate around the nature of apartments. Though not as stately, the communities and “Fightingville” and Goldman St. to the north take great pride in their homes. While Sterling Grove emphasizes their status as a historic district that warrants protection and has perhaps been neglected, Simcoe and LaPlace to the west of the existing Thruway have a different outlook and challenge. Diverse and with largely low-income families, the area suffers in some spots from dilapidation, vacant lots and abandoned houses. It is estimated that there are approximately more than 60 adjudicated properties in LaPlace.

Homelessness is also a big issue in LaPlace that needs to be addressed. A few shelters are located in this area which contributes to the gathering of homeless individuals in this area and there are concerns that an overpass would exacerbate this.

Desirable Elements

- Community bathroom/shower for the homeless
- Better maintenance of homes in the area
- Variety of housing - single family residential, mixed- use housing and multi-use buildings
- Home ownership assistance for the elderly and lower income families – appropriately designed

- Habitat for Humanity presence (similar to McComb-Veazey, maybe Tiny House concepts)

BEAUTIFICATION

Though some parts of Sterling Grove and the adjacent streets are lined with grand trees and lush private landscaping, it was generally thought that the area was severely underperforming in terms of appearance. Lots owned by the city are considered a problem as they have overgrown grass – felt the city should be more responsible and quicker for maintenance of lots and mowing the sidewalk area. There is trash all along Moss St. though it was said that it wasn't the neighborhood's trash. Again adjudicated properties and abandoned lots abound and need to be addressed to promote neighborhood pride. It was mentioned that we need to get rid of dumpsters and old useless cars left in front yards. Homes and lots around Willow and Moss Sts. to Louisiana Ave. have many rundown properties.

Particular concern and highlights were the abandoned LUS water well property near Cameron and S. Pierce Sts. and around the old railroad tracks between Cameron and Monroe Sts. There are concerns about pollution that may be exacerbated by interstate construction and issues with connectivity because Buchanan St. is the only cross street through the area. There was also a question about whether or not the toxic materials at this site could spread to surrounding backyards, properties, and the aquifer.

Desirable Elements

Need better sidewalks and be more pedestrian-friendly
 Replacing street lights that are burnt out (add additional lighting for visibility and safety)
 Street sweeping to address trash build-up
 Large scale landscaping (i.e. dogwood trees on Mudd Ave.)

"We want green space or an urban forest...no buildings...to mitigate the sound."

INFRASTRUCTURE

As is much the case in neighborhoods surrounding the corridor, the road and streetscape conditions are mediocre at best. Sidewalks, when they exist, are broken and not maintained. They should be improved to create appeal and walkability functions. There are a number of ditches of various sizes in the area which were accused of being eyesores and not functioning properly as drainage facilities (sewage problems and open ditch situations). Expressed was a need for more culverts rather than ditches that are left to wither. In terms of streetscapes, there was general thoughts regarding burying utilities such as electric and phone lines. But there should be an increase in street lighting (see safety above).

In regard to safety and infrastructure, it was noted that there is actually a decent amount of large truck traffic down S. Pierce St. in LaPlace – an otherwise quaint and appealing neighborhood street. There could be more traffic calming measures here as well as across the Thruway on St. Charles St. where speed limits could potentially be lowered. There were multiple mentions of speed and "abuse" of local neighborhood streets for through-traffic.

Desirable Elements

- Traffic calming measures to address speed issues

- Improved drainage – ditch upgrading
- Improved sidewalk conditions
- Bury utilities and enhance street lighting

ACCESS/MOBILITY/CONNECTIVITY

Connectivity and access are again the main concerns on most people’s minds. The existing Thruway has largely cut off the neighborhoods to the east from downtown and the rest of the city, while Congress St. prevents comfortable access for pedestrians and traffic hoping to enter downtown from the north. The railroad was an obstacle for some, but for the most part they either circumvent it by using the Jefferson St. underpass or they do try to cross it further north in LaPlace. The Buchanan Street railroad crossing does not have a crossing sign which can make people very nervous and unsafe. It was said that Mudd Ave. and Simcoe St. were the only decent rail crossing, but this was up for debate.

In terms of access, it was suggested that downtown should extend and bleed down Jefferson Blvd. to Simcoe St. to reach Pontiac Point. People felt that a redesign (revitalize the road surface) and reconnection of Jefferson St. across Thruway and match Cypress St.. It was suggested that roundabouts be considered on Moss St. and Mudd Ave. and at the Jefferson/Moss intersection and Surrey/Simcoe. This would reduce and slow traffic as well as hopefully address and reduce cut-through traffic.

Mobility is also at the forefront of residents’ minds. The increase in cycling and thinking about biking as a legitimate mode of travel has taken place, especially in LaPlace. It was suggested that on Mudd Ave. across the Thruway that the turning lane be removed in favor of a bike lane. Public bus use is a big topic for people living nearby Sterling Grove and also for residents of LaPlace. The bus and public transportation system needs a lot of work – more bus routes, covered bus stops, and stops with benches. Most stops in the neighborhood are just poles. Bus shelters for school kids is key! Demarcated crosswalks are necessary throughout the neighborhoods – they make walking safer. Linking Nickerson and Sterling is a big desire.

Accessibility for handicapped individuals is a concern. Already not easy to navigate around – sidewalks should be improved to accommodate! And handicap access to the park at Pontiac Point (Jefferson and Simcoe).

Desirable Elements

- Bus Shelters for school kids! - Better bus stops in general!
- Need more opportunities for transportation
- Handicap accessibility
- Additional bus stations and routes (near Northgate Mall) – express routes to come?
- Features to promote Thruway crossing and between neighborhoods - crosswalks b/w Nickerson/Sterling

“Officially became the wrong side of the tracks when the Thruway came through.”

“If downtown were more accessible, then a lot of the challenges would be eliminated.”

CONNECTOR-RELATED FEEDBACK

NOTES ON THE EVANGLINE THRUWAY (EXISTING & FUTURE USE)

Challenges, Concerns, and Existing Use

Question: What are your major routes to work, school, etc?

- Most take Mudd, Simcoe, Louisiana, and Moss as well as the Thruway. They all noted they try to avoid Johnston due to congestion.
-

Question: How would your ideal Evangeline Thruway look and function?

- Residents don't want to see the Thruway as a three-lane road. They were suggestions of two lanes with a landscaped media and ample lighting.
 - They want to see programs and incentives to help relocate and bring businesses onto Thruway after interstate construction.
 - They don't want this area to be a haven for the homeless.
 - Would like the Thruway to become a grand boulevard with featured roadway with streetscape, etc. and mixed use commercial/residential.
 - Change and remove land pollution along the railroad. Clean up pollution near tracks on second St. going into downtown (Vermilion, Taft, Jefferson) – industrial section.
 - "They already cut us in half when they built the Evangeline Thruway".
 - Lighting under the Jefferson underpass.
 - Railroad horn is a nuisance – make it a no blow zone please!
-

NOTES ON THE PROPOSED CONNECTOR

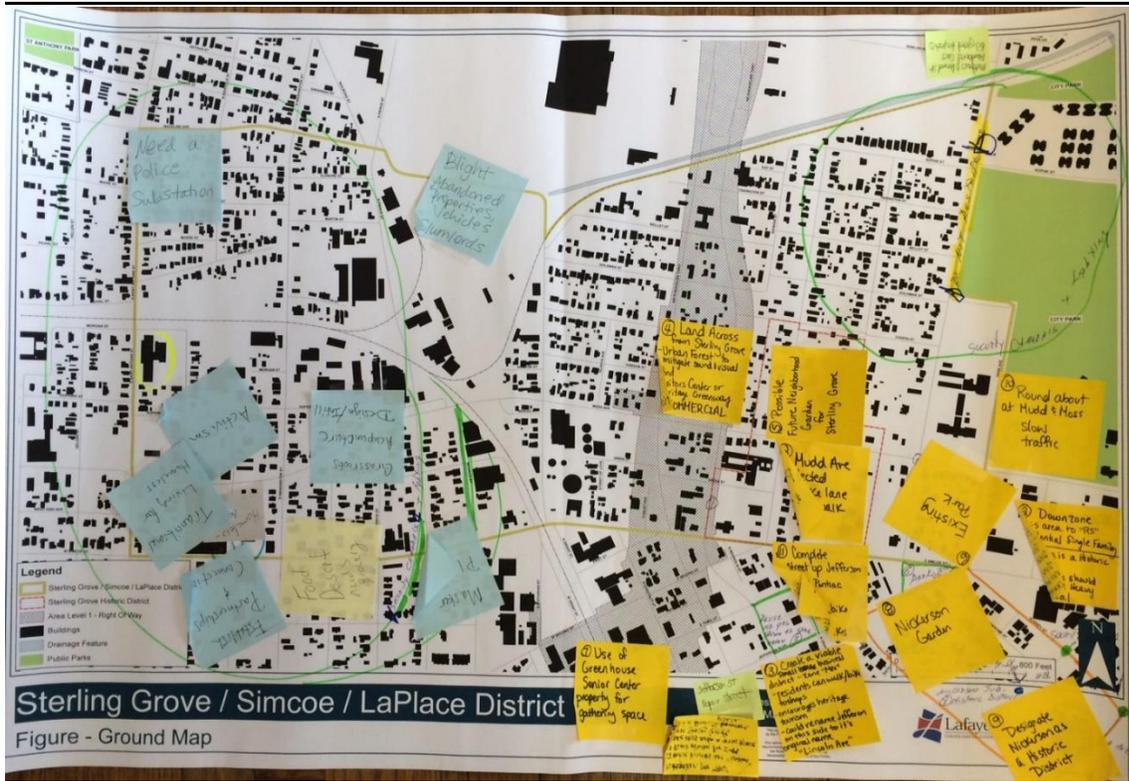
Question: Do you have other concerns about the connector?

- Many residents were concerned about homes and businesses that would have to be moved or destroyed to make way for connector. They also specifically mentioned the fear that many employees would lose their jobs and many business owners would go out of business by not being offered enough money from the state to move.
- There were also concerns about depreciation of property value following the interstate.
- Concerns were reiterated about the pollution and toxins that would be exposed to workers and residents if building begins before waste sites and abandoned sites have been cleaned.
- The safety of the interstate was a large concern. This including air and noise pollution as well as flying parts or hazardous materials after wrecks.
- Noise pollution and exit ramps into the historic neighborhood were also concerns.
- Concerns about truck routes and interstate exit ramps in Sterling Grove.
- An underpass killing the area is a concern.
- Anything under the interstate is a big attraction for crime and homelessness. Basketball court could come later, but would people actually use it?
- Lower bridge height encourages homelessness.
- Like the depressed option so there is more green space and more connectivity.
- We have to develop the area right up to the interstate the right way. Maybe a plaza?
- Boulevard at grade versus elevated interstate - rather see on-grade connector.
- Move slip ramps to Donlon and add landscaping - set slip ramps away from neighborhoods
- Do not want a heavy commercial area! Would like to block out the sound of the connector with an urban forest.

APPENDIX A: WORKSHOP CONTENT RESULTS

MAPPING EXERCISE

These images represent direct community comment and feedback elicited from the tables.

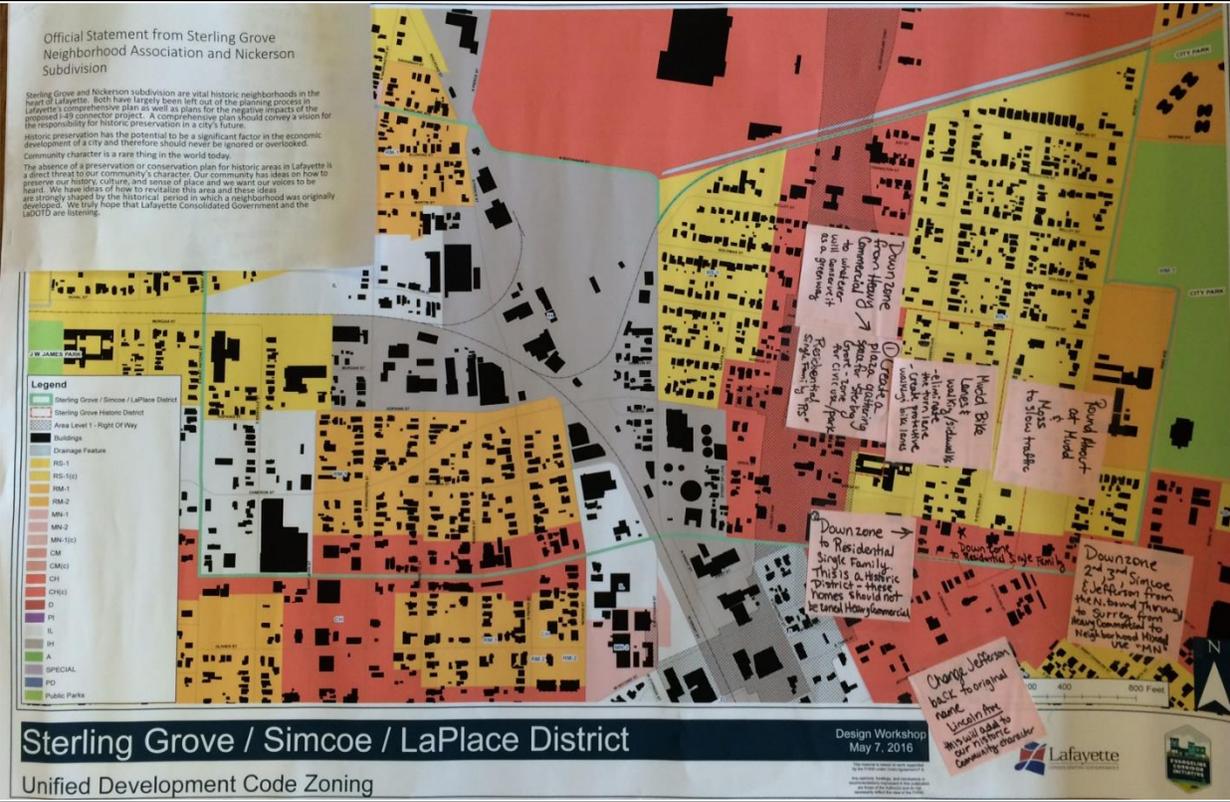




Sterling Grove / Simcoe / LaPlace District
 Figure - Ground Map

Design Workshop May 7, 2016

6 NS + Wayne Lafayette



Sterling Grove / Simcoe / LaPlace District
 Unified Development Code Zoning

Design Workshop May 7, 2016

6 NS + Wayne Lafayette

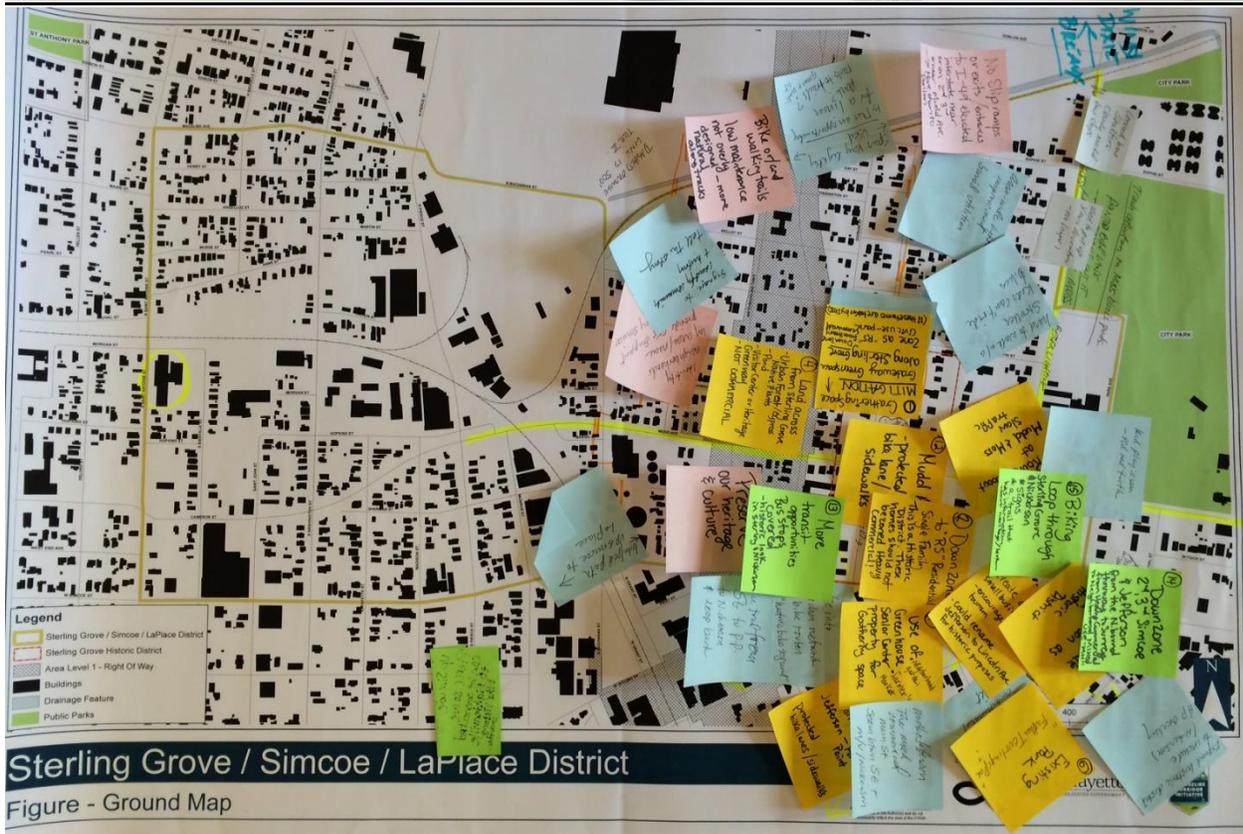
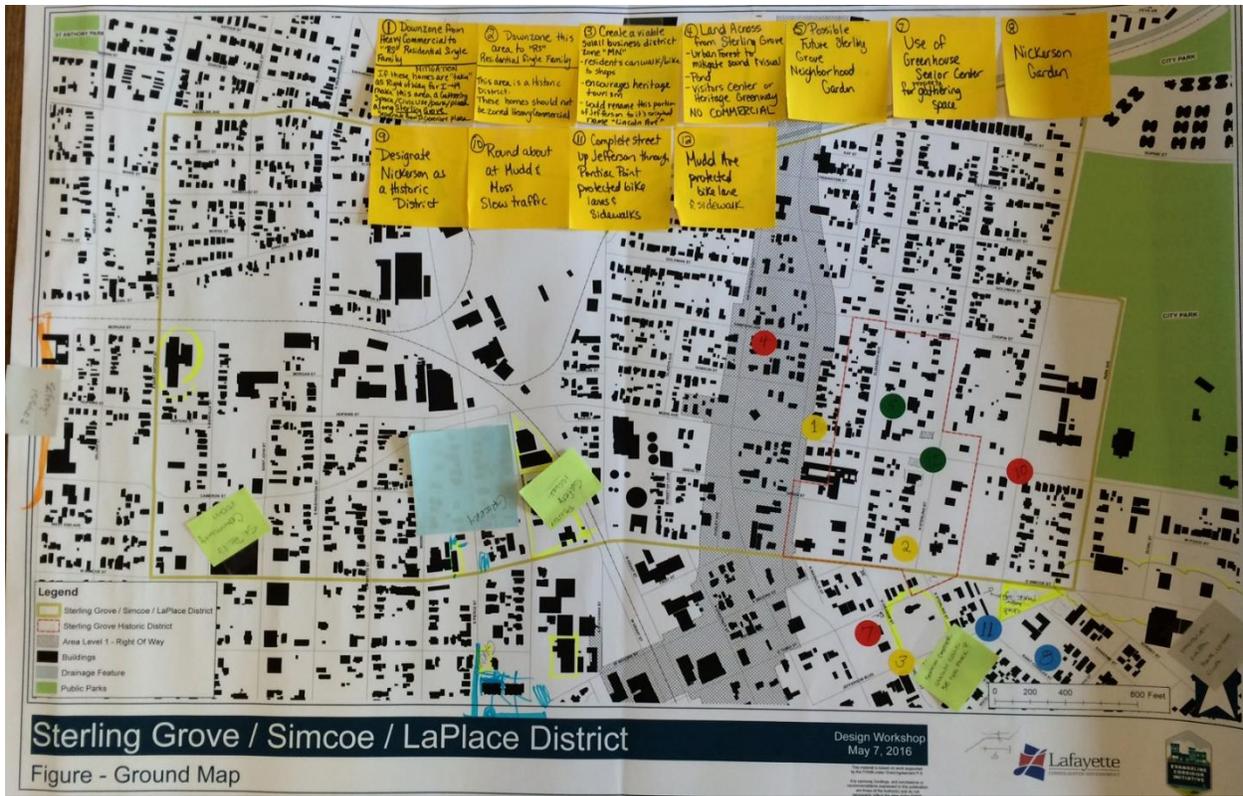


Table 2 ^{Stalin} Harry + Skyra

historic
charming
diverse - econ/race/politics
unduplicated
dynamic
passionate
neglected/overlooked
vulnerable
wrong side of the tracks
unknown
subtle
quiet
diamond in the rough
welcoming

Want

Recognition historic pres. zoning
plan w/ commitments
* representation
trust
acknowledgement of being left out
better city maintenance
better lighting
slow traffic on Mudd/Moss
reduce cut-through traffic
landscaping (dogwoods on Mudd)
redo sidewalks
bike lane - protected
culverts

Want less of

cut-through traffic
intrusive/incompatible zoning

parking intrusions

4 - walkability

- Can't walk to DT -

- ~~ET~~
- sidewalk
- crime
- bad/no lighting

- Nickerson/park (Poutine Point)
- need crosswalks
- Sinner letters on
- needs parking @ park

5. Corner stores
mom & pop business
community ctr.
(lost after the thruway)
ball courts

skate area
@ sk gon.
↳ pavilion

6. elevate/promote historic qualities

- for local
- for tourism
- take adv. of historic assets

Mudd ave

historic designation
recognition of Nickerson

Certainty of what will happen, when
- create safer enviro. ~~aff~~ investment

build on existing investment
tell the story of LFT

8. groceries - food desert

restaurants/cafe/bistro
nice bar

farmers mkt

community garden

Park - big green
- city park is inadequate

9. parks

- city
- Amer Legion / labyrinth

Greenhouse St. Gr

- underutilized
- full service comm. chr
- farmers mkt

10. REZONING of h.d. tedgors

3 LaPlace/Simcoe/Sterling Grove

minutes meeting

Diverse
 Neighborly/Connected
 Historic/Old
 Community Character

- Historic Homes
- Greenhouse in Sterling Grove
- Gallery 333 Artist Lofts
- Pontiac Point
- American Legion Park

- Northgate Mall
 - businesses
 - Lovely Park w/ Labrynth
 - Garden in LaPlace (for Muncipalities)

Wants/Needs:

Covered Bus Stops
 Jefferson Blvd - developed into mixed used zoning

Moss - don't restripe it
 Sidewalks by schools + other areas
 Don't compromise hist. integrity when developing

Bike paths - connect to existing
 Lower Speed Limits (St. Charles)
 4-way stops - make it safer

Get rid of vacant lots/
 abandoned cars
 Repurpose vacant lots

In Michigan - repurpose old homes for housing for homeless

- People need to take better care of their prop.
- Make area safer
- Tall grass - abandoned vehicles
- Trash problem
- Need to enforce ordinances ^{regulations}
- Need to remove blight, crime
- What regulations are there now?
- Need to enforce or make better
- Addressing homeless population

Need economic development -
 find ways to fund it.

- Want neighborhood grocery store
- Revitalize Sterling Grove by Jeff. st.
- Don't want big chains or commercial developments
- Want Local businesses
- Local Retail
- Need to fix pot holes
- Fix Jeff. Blvd.
- Redesign Jeff. & Mall

Park - Needs to be better utilized, but you don't feel safe

Pontiac Point

Lafayette Senior Center - make it for the whole community in some way

Old Texaco Station - abandoned
 - revitalize

Nickerson & Sterling Grove would like to be combined
 make whole thing historic district

- LaPlace should all be together
- want to rename Jefferson Blvd. to its original name, Lincoln

Address Crime Problem
 Organize Neighborhood Watch Groups

- Need Police Sub Station
 corner of Cameron & University and maybe ~~see~~ see another one
- Install security cameras at intersections, etc.
- Protected Bike Paths
- Pocket Parks for abandoned lots
- Create safe places for families playgrounds

Change people's perceptions about our neighborhoods
 We Love our neighborhoods

- Buses not running on Sunday is a problem.
 BUS routes are not efficient
 Need cover at stops
- Grand Boulevard - would be great for thruway

4 STEPLING GROVE (Blaine + Emily)
 LOCATION (CONCRETE)
 FAMILY-ORIENTED
 TRADITIONAL
 MULTI-GENERATIONAL
 HISTORIC PROTECTION
 PARK (needs improvement)
 INFRASTRUCTURE
 LCG Take care of our neighborhood like you take care of the neighborhood on the other side of the railroad
 COMM GARDEN
 4 CORNERS
 TREES
 GATHERING PLAZA

BIKE SERVICE (neighborhood convenience air for bikes)
~~STATION~~ (Small)
 NO GAS STATION
 WALKABILITY
 better sidewalks
 Want more of:
 LCG cleaning/maintenance
 Patrolling
 Police response
 update sewerage
 lighting
 bringing sidewalks/streets up to grade

Better lighting for all streets (HISTORICAL lighting)
 maintenance/change lights
 Same attn. as other areas
 grass cutting
 street sweeper (more often)
 LCG maintenance around R/p tracks
 City-enforce dumpster/trash old cars/report
 makes neighborhood unique
 - HISTORIC DIST.
 - core hist of this town
 - must be preserved
 High ground

H's designed ONEWAY → streets grid
 Need full designation of NAT'L HIST DIST.
 WANT:
 Old-time grocery store
 kids can buy candy
 more healthy food options
 NO FAST FOOD
 healthy restaurant options
 PLACE for elderly / kids to gather like parks, etc.
 FABRIC store (small community alterations / pressing shop)

Connector Q's
 Only safe place to walk/bike across thruway is @ Jefferson St.
 - walkers don't feel safe - have to run
 2: Have to drive for groceries ROUTES / Walmart / Super 1 (WISH we had more small mom/POP neighborhood options for shopping)
 3: We walk over the underpass

3 (P/E) some ppl have to cross on foot - Need automatic gates at every crossing - more arms - NO BLOW ZONES
 4. Transit system is unreliable
 NO BUS STOPS
 Sometimes use bus system if car is broken
 more efficient/scheduling every 1/2 hour
 More bus stops
BUS SHELTERS!
 4 corners near super 1 near LCG

IF YOU COULD CHANGE 1 THING:
 - consideration from LCG for the neighborhood
 - CITY maintenance / grass
 - MORE PATROL
 5. Rosa Parks nice bldg ("should give it a star system")
 6. CAR / BUS are primary ALSO BIKES
 7. some of our homes are in the plenty of way some homes are in level 2
 Bus concerns

NO ELEVATED HWY.
 - Prefer a BOULEVARD thru LFT.
 - Loop (separate) for Hwy.
 - Tech Ridge route
 underpass / paint upkeep mural?
 cultural icons / talent
 8. Four corners
 - feels unsafe to cross many areas on bike / car
 - car/coulee near walmart Bad VISIBILITY when crossing
 9. Best area along the thruway / not near our neighborhood
 tourist center and further
 Boulevard would be great

DOG PARK / walks (bags/pick up mandatory)
 Small drug store / organic (drug expansion)
 donut shop
 Neighborhood Pharmacies

NOISE
 POLLUTION
 VISUAL
 VAGUENESS
 CRIME
 CONCERNS

add to WANTS list:
 coffee shops / teas / vegan options
 NOT Starbucks
 No large corporate biz

TABLE 6

AJ + Wayne

Standing

- Maintenance of city/private owned adjacent lots
 - vacant lots
 - LUS owned water well (Moss well)

Words to Describe

- Blighted
- Forgotten
- Neglected
- Not Connected

- Railroad
 - left/unused rail/areas
 - toxic chemicals/water quality effects
 - DOTD → toxic chemicals released during construction

- Proper railroad track lights
- More small retail + grocery
- Initiatives for small business owners
- Support + Community
- More restaurants in neighborhood
- More places to get fresh produce
- Grocery stores that are safe
- North Gate Mall vacancies
 - ↳ ~~vacancies~~ formerly shopped here
- City takes care of property
 - ↳ generate area pride
- Places for kids
 - ↳ Boy + Girls Club
 - ↳ Domingue Rec Center
 - ↳ Clark field

Changes

- Clean up railroad + abandoned lots
- No development until the area is cleaned
- Fix abandoned properties
 - high grass
 - homeless living in boarded houses
 - having to call for city to cut grass on lots they own
- No light industrial / commercial zoning in S.G. neighborhood
 - destroys area character
- History → preserved - structures - houses
- Bike routes

- Pocket parks
- Playgrounds
- Safe bike lanes + ways for kids to get to play areas
- Security
 - ↳ cameras
 - ↳ Police patrol
 - ↳ J. Wallace James park → coin use because unsafe
- Museums
 - ↳ history of the area/neighborhood
- Community center needed in LaPlace
- Retail
 - ↳ business incubator
 - ↳ ~~business~~ → antiques
- Walking trail ~~trail~~ around golf course
- I-49 noise concerns

Neil T. Lebouef

From: Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association <sgnalafayette@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2016 8:23 AM
To: Neil T. Lebouef
Cc: Bill Barrois; Michael Costello; Olivier Chatelain de Pronville; Lou Gibbens
Subject: Re: Evangeline Corridor Initiative - Draft District Workshop Reports Available for Public Comment
Attachments: Sterling Grove SGNA ECI map.png

Good Morning Neil,

Please find the link to the survey put together by SGNA and comments of residents living under the boundaries of Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association (NORTH: Railroad track north of Sophie St, EAST: Moss St, Mudd Ave, Park Ave, Surrey St., SOUTH: Louisiana Ave, WEST: Evangeline Thruway).

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-HZF7SW8M/>

There are serious concerns with the boundaries of the Sterling Grove, Laplace, Simcoe district created by ECI, due to strong differences such as commercial and residential between east and west and economic or socio-demographic differences. A fair business practice indicates that this district needs to be redesigned taking into consideration the request made by the residents on the maps at the charrette for Sterling Grove, Simcoe, Laplace and the results and comments of this survey. I have attached a map of what the district on the East side of Evangeline for Sterling Grove should be. We can discuss this matter at your convenience.

Thank you

Olivier Chatelain de Pronville

President

Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association

On Tue, Jul 26, 2016 at 10:29 AM, Neil T. Lebouef <nlebouef@lafayettela.gov> wrote:

Dear Workshop Participant:

Thank you for taking part in the Evangeline Corridor Initiative's workshop within your District. The workshops were intended to identify the opportunities and challenges of those who live and work there.

Your feedback and comments were extremely helpful as our community plans its vision for the Interstate 49 Connector and improvements to the corridor area.

Our team has completed the draft reports for each District Workshop which are available at www.evangelinacorridor.com for your review.

Once you have reviewed your District's report, if you wish to submit a public comment, please email ETRT@lafayettela.gov or fill out an [ECI Public Comment Card](#) and mail or email to the listed address by July 29, 2016. If you need additional time to comment please contact us and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Please watch for future invitations to follow-up events. We appreciate your continued participation in this process!

Sincerely,

The Evangeline Thruway Redevelopment Team and

The Evangeline Corridor Initiative Team

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STERLING GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (S.G.N.A.)

President: Dr. Olivier Châtelain de Pronville

Vice-President: Dr. Bill Barrois

Treasurer: Mr. Michael Costello

Secretary: TBA

Contact: sgnalafayette@gmail.com

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167

167

167

94

728-8

RaceTrac

Hebert Golf Course

N P Moss Annex

Lafayette

US Post Office

Google

NE Evangeline Thruway

NW Evangeline Thruway

SE Evangeline Thruway

County Hwy 728-1

Bellot St

Division St

Elizabeth Ave

Sophie St

Tissington St

Bellot St

Goldman St

Chopin St

Mudd Ave

Elizabeth Ave

E Simcoe St

E Simcoe St

E 3rd St

Jefferson Blvd

S Orange St

S Sterling St

St Charles St

Ransome St

Eighth St

Eighth St

S Chestnut St

Magnoia Ave

S Orange St

S Sterling St

St Charles St

11th St

Lee Ave

St

M

W

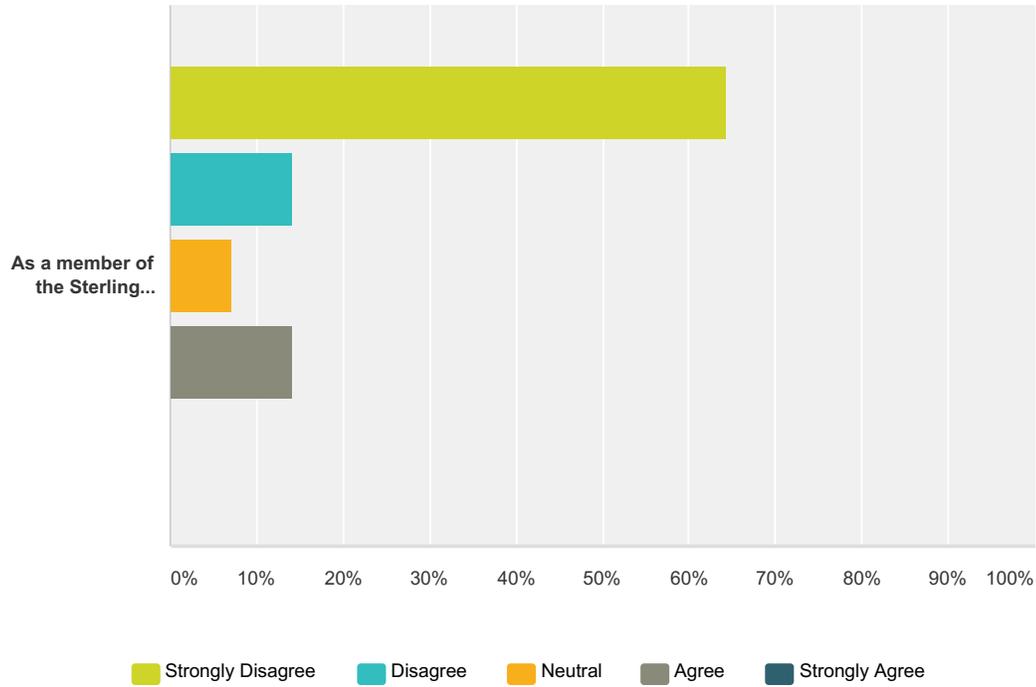
9th

LO

728-4

Q1 The boundaries set by the ETRT, TIGER and/or ECI teams for the Sterling Grove/Simcoe/Laplace planning district are an accurate representation of our community and our needs. <http://mpo.lafayettela.gov/TIGER/map/I49ConnectorSterlingSimcoeDist.pdf>

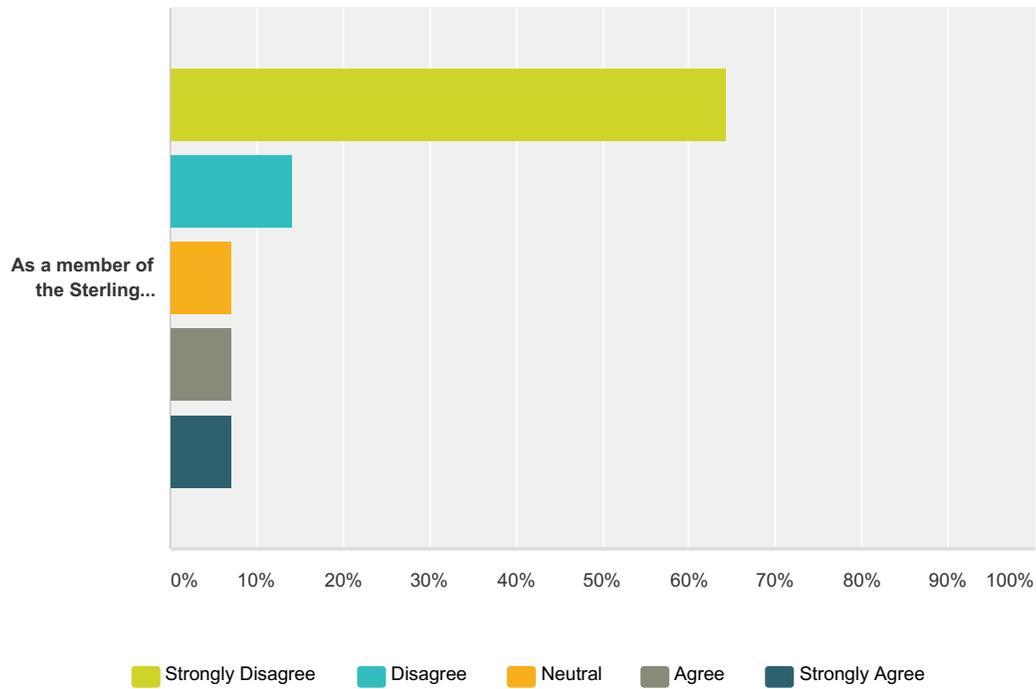
Answered: 14 Skipped: 2



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
As a member of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association I	64.29%	14.29%	7.14%	14.29%	0.00%	14
	9	2	1	2	0	

Q2 The boundaries set forth by the ETRT, TIGER and/or ECI teams for the Sterling Grove/Simcoe/Laplace planning district are logical and allow for accurate responses pertaining to the economic development, safety, recreational, community, housing, beautification, access, mobility and connectivity needs of the neighborhoods within the boundaries.
<http://mpo.lafayetteela.gov/TIGER/map/I49ConnectorSterlingSimcoeDist.pdf>

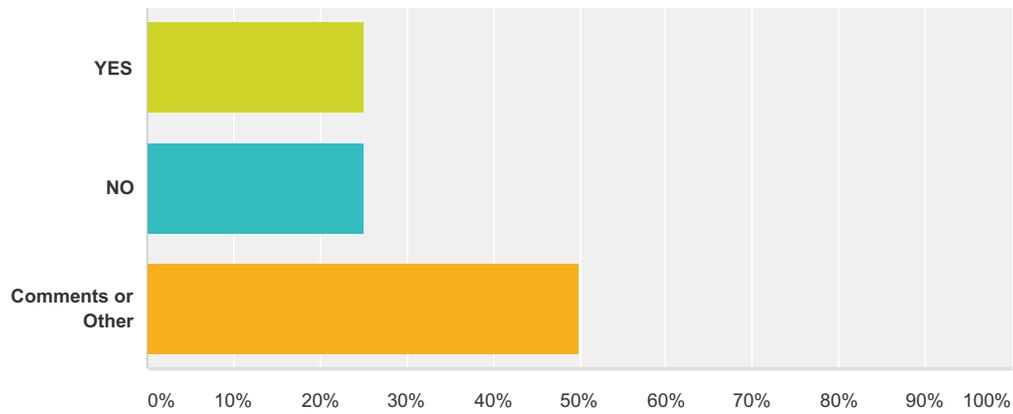
Answered: 14 Skipped: 2



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
As a member of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association I	64.29% 9	14.29% 2	7.14% 1	7.14% 1	7.14% 1	14

Q3 There are two representatives that have been placed on the Evangeline Thruway Redevelopment Team (ETRT) that speak and vote on behalf of the Sterling Grove/Simcoe/LaPlace planning district. As a member of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association do you feel that they are acting in the best interest of our community in the way they represent this planning district?

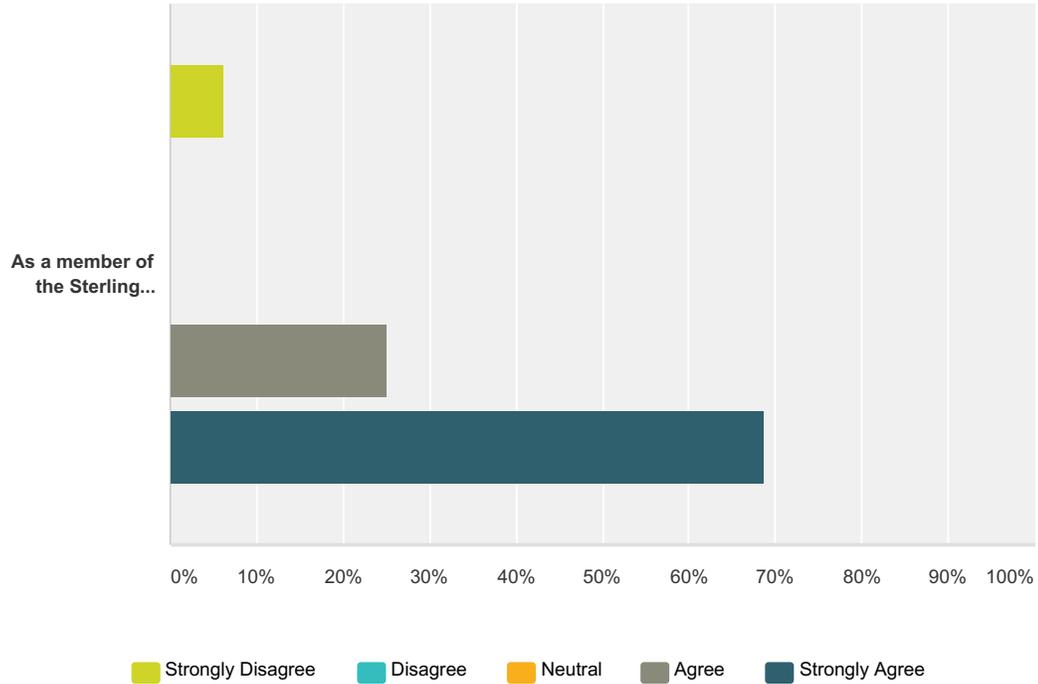
Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
YES	25.00% 4
NO	25.00% 4
Comments or Other	50.00% 8
Total	16

Q4 The ETRT should have at least one resident/homeowner from each neighborhood within the planning districts as a representative of the needs of that community.

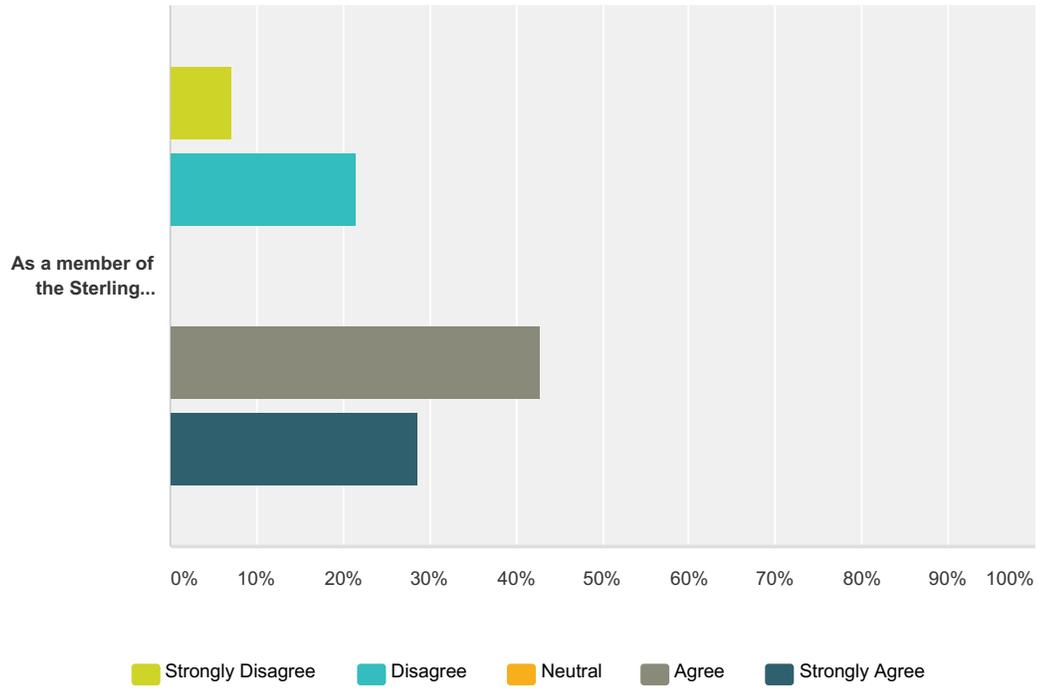
Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
As a member of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association I	6.25% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	25.00% 4	68.75% 11	16

Q5 Do you agree with the statement on page 4 under the heading of Economic Development, "A major takeaway was that more connection was needed between commercial entities and more local scale retail/food options."

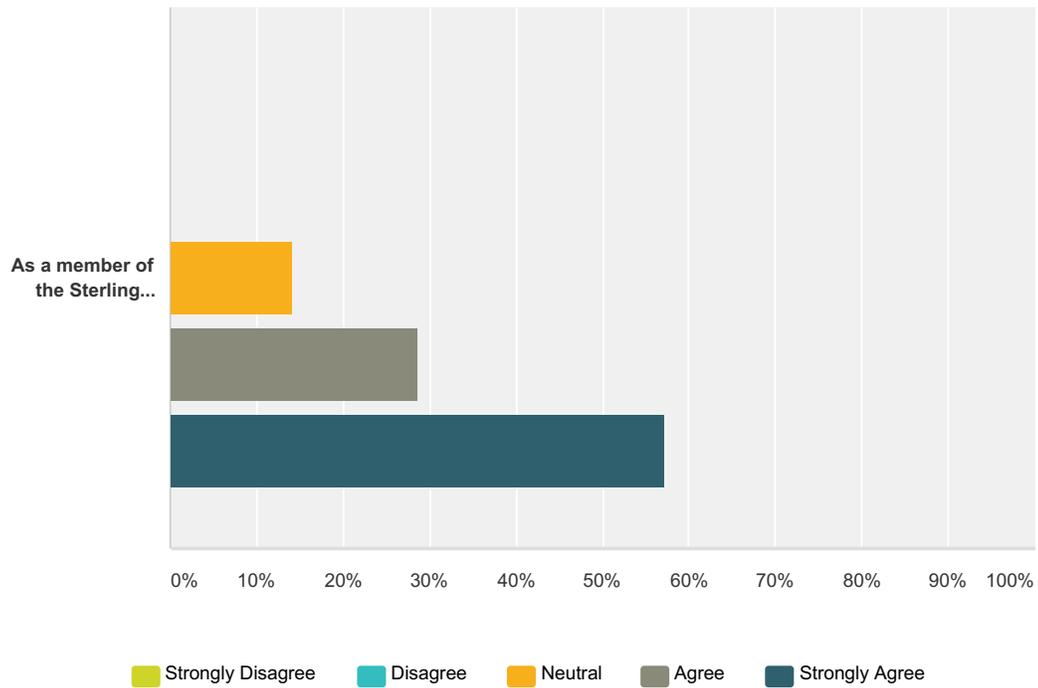
Answered: 14 Skipped: 2



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
As a member of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association I	7.14%	21.43%	0.00%	42.86%	28.57%	14
	1	3	0	6	4	

Q6 Do you agree with the statement on page 4 under the heading of Economic Development, "It was made clear that increased financial support and attention was needed to promote local business development and community."

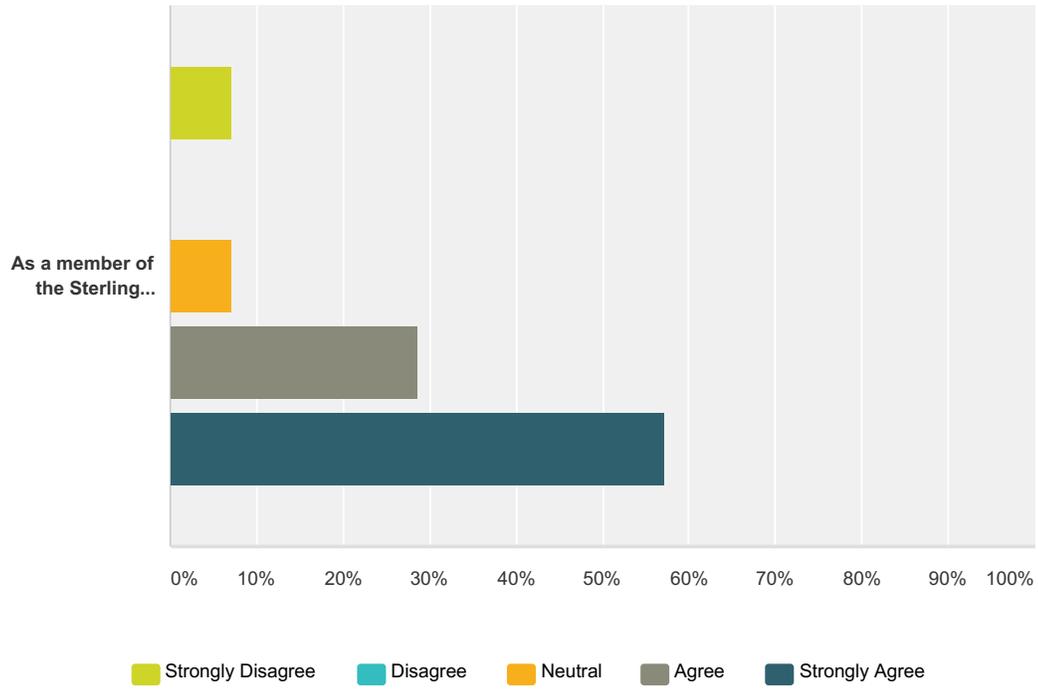
Answered: 14 Skipped: 2



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
As a member of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association I	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	14.29% 2	28.57% 4	57.14% 8	14

Q7 Do you agree with the statement on page 4 under the heading of Economic Development, "Participants agreed that new commercial development needs to respect the historic fabric while contributing to growth."

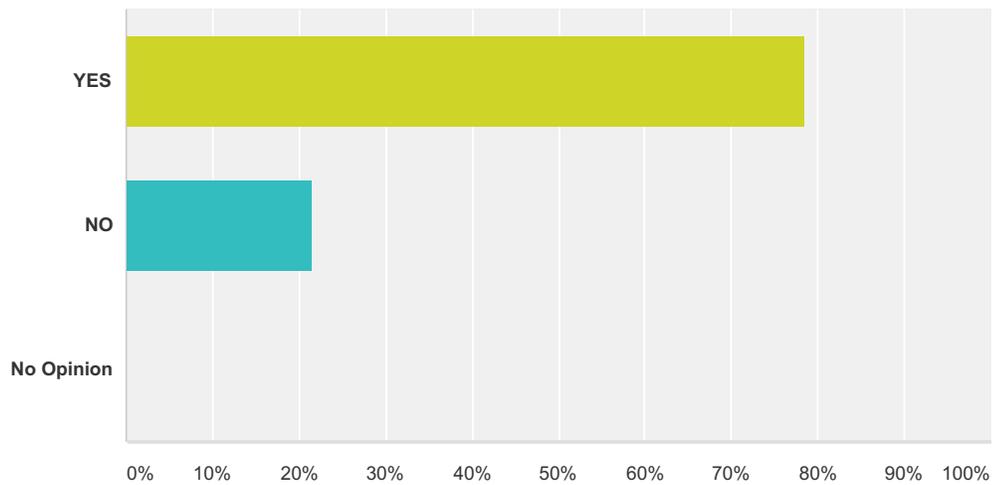
Answered: 14 Skipped: 2



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
As a member of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association I	7.14% 1	0.00% 0	7.14% 1	28.57% 4	57.14% 8	14

Q8 This question comes from the board members of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association Do you feel that rezoning/down-zoning the areas within and surrounding our neighborhoods from Heavy Commercial use to a more neighborhood friendly zoning is an important process for SGNA to pursue with help from Lafayette Consolidated Government? (keep in mind that zoning dictates future land use and therefore has an impact on what types of commercial development can come into an area)

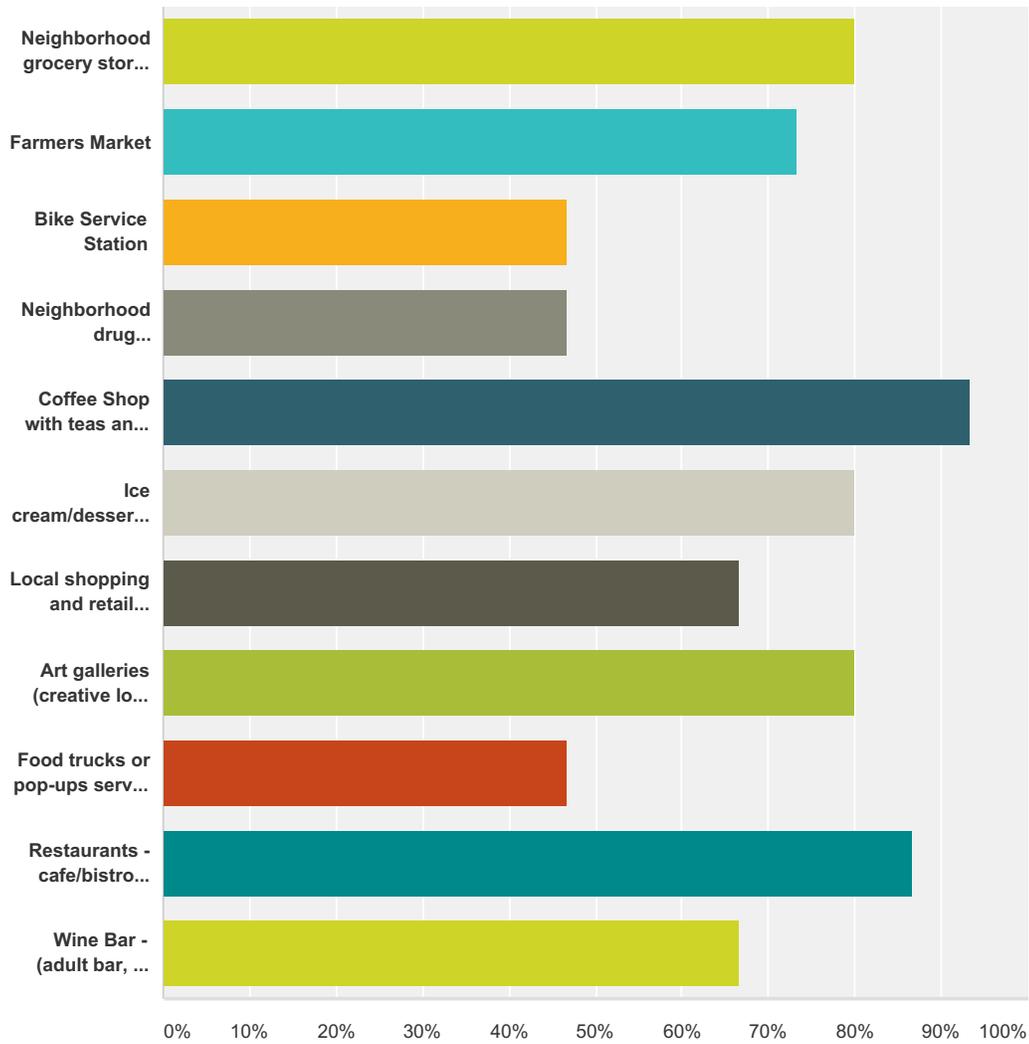
Answered: 14 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
YES	78.57% 11
NO	21.43% 3
No Opinion	0.00% 0
Total	14

Q9 The following statements are listed under "Desirable Elements" on p. 4 of the Sterling/Simcoe/LaPlace Workshop Report. Please select all of the items that describe "Desirable Elements" that you would like to see in specifically the Sterling Grove, Snodgrass, Nickerson, Parkerson, Simcoe, Orange, Jefferson areas.

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1

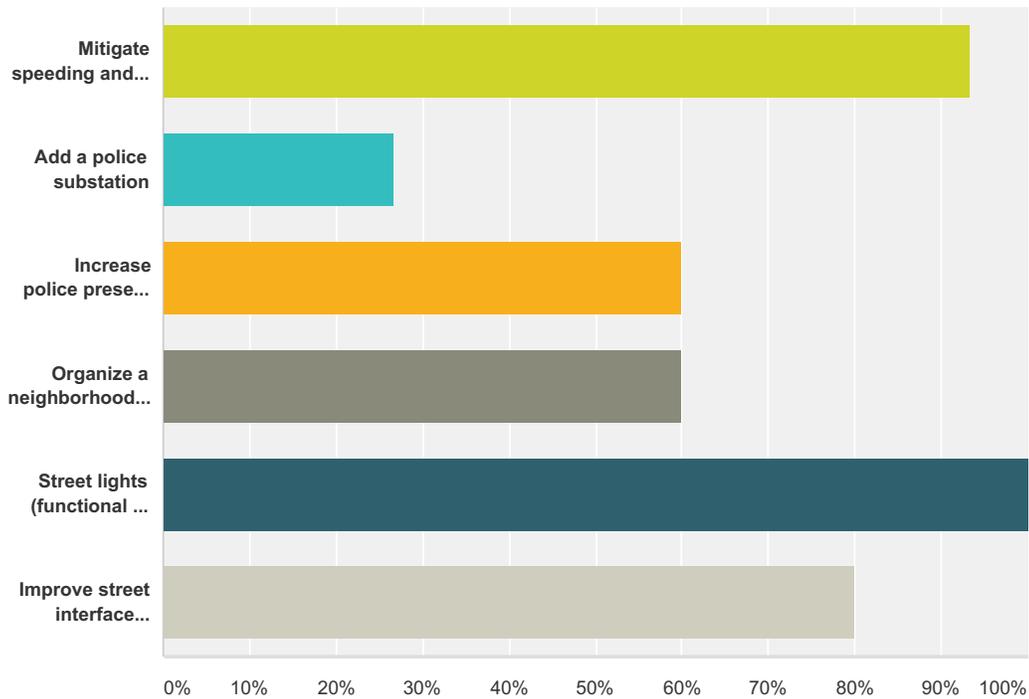


Answer Choices	Responses
Neighborhood grocery store (needs produce and organic options)	80.00% 12
Farmers Market	73.33% 11
Bike Service Station	46.67% 7
Neighborhood drug store/pharmacy	46.67% 7

Coffee Shop with teas and vegan options (non-corporate)	93.33%	14
Ice cream/dessert shop	80.00%	12
Local shopping and retail options	66.67%	10
Art galleries (creative local buisness) (the Art Center is vacant on weekend - rent out!)	80.00%	12
Food trucks or pop-ups serving lunch	46.67%	7
Restaurants - cafe/bistro like the Filling Station	86.67%	13
Wine Bar - (adult bar, not nightclub)	66.67%	10
Total Respondents: 15		

Q10 The following statements appear on p. 5 under the heading of "Safety". Please check off all statements that represent what you would like to see as a resident within the boundaries of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association.

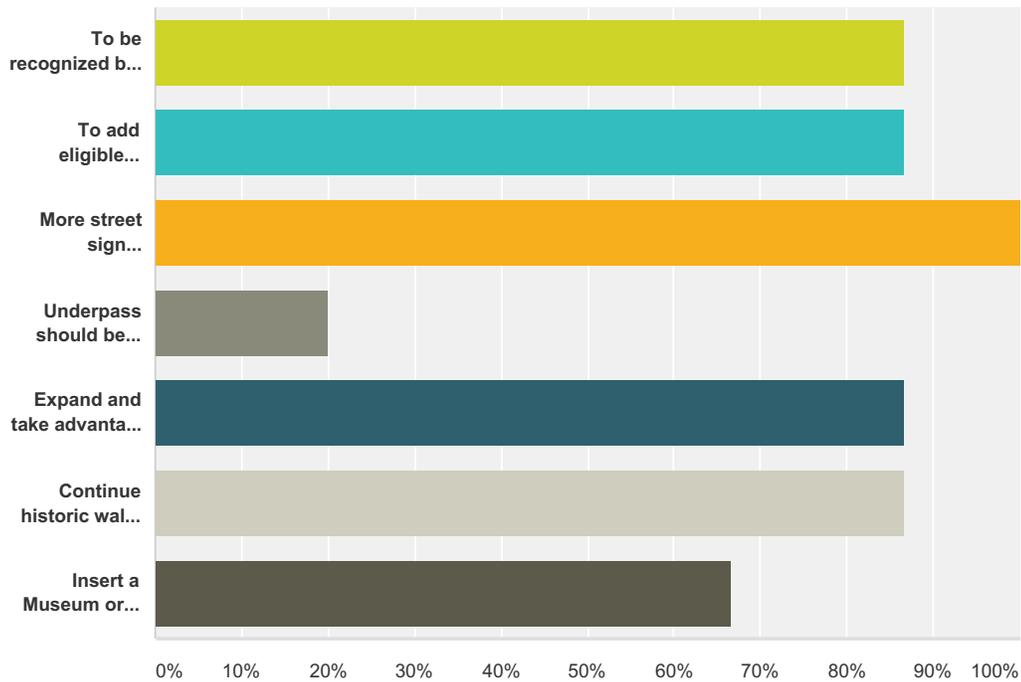
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Mitigate speeding and street safety features	93.33% 14
Add a police substation	26.67% 4
Increase police presence and street patrols	60.00% 9
Organize a neighborhood watch (add security cameras)	60.00% 9
Street lights (functional and aesthetic)	100.00% 15
Improve street interface (vacant lots)	80.00% 12
Total Respondents: 15	

Q11 The following statements appear under the heading of "Culture and History". Please choose all the items that you feel are appropriate for areas of Sterling Grove, Snodgrass, Simcoe, Jefferson (Eastside of thwy), Nickerson, Parkerson areas.

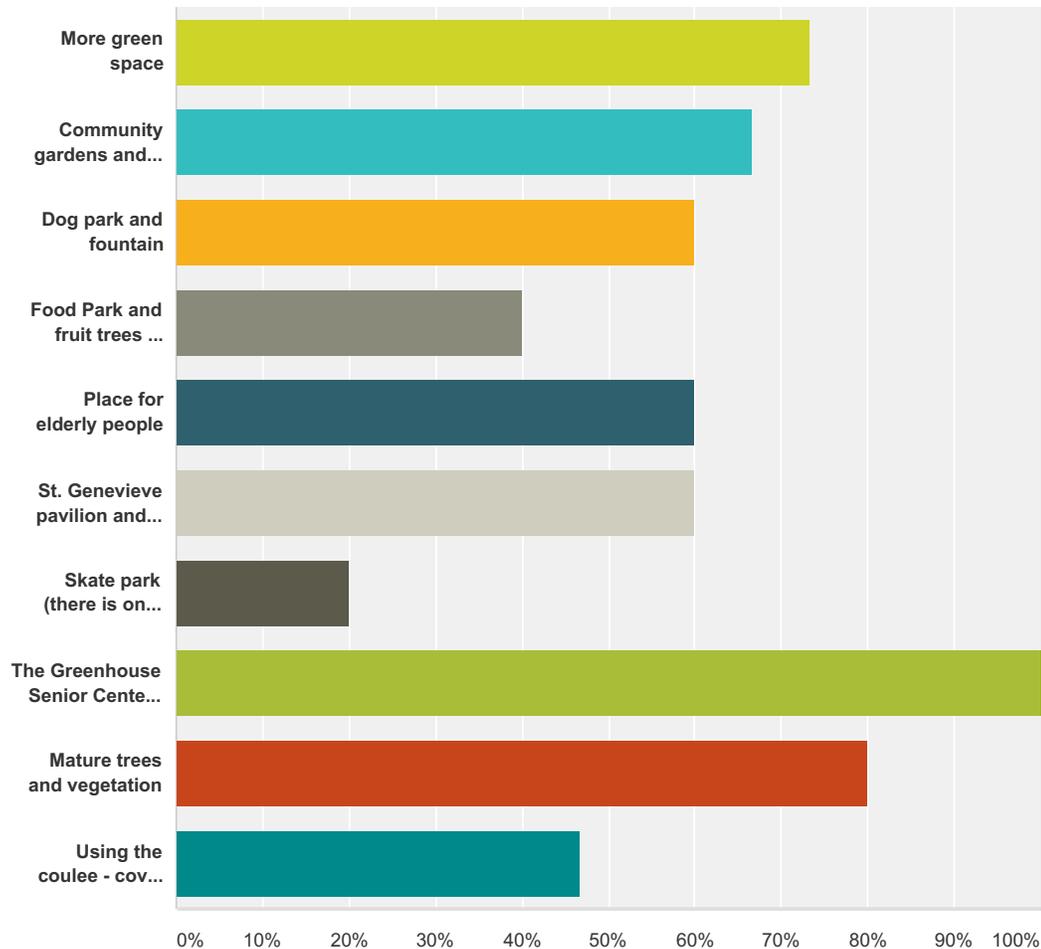
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
To be recognized by the city for local historic preservation designation	86.67% 13
To add eligible historic homes within Snodgrass, Nickerson, Parkerson, Simcoe and Jefferson (on Eastside of thwy) to the National Historic Registry	86.67% 13
More street sign designation of historic areas - historical markers	100.00% 15
Underpass should be painted to highlight cultural icons/talents	20.00% 3
Expand and take advantage of tourism perspective and historical value	86.67% 13
Continue historic walk and events in Sterling Grove and possible expand to other areas	86.67% 13
Insert a Museum or community destination	66.67% 10
Total Respondents: 15	

Q12 The following statements appear on p. 6 under the heading of "Recreation, Natural Environment". Please check off all statements that represent what you would like to see as a resident within the boundaries of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association.

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1

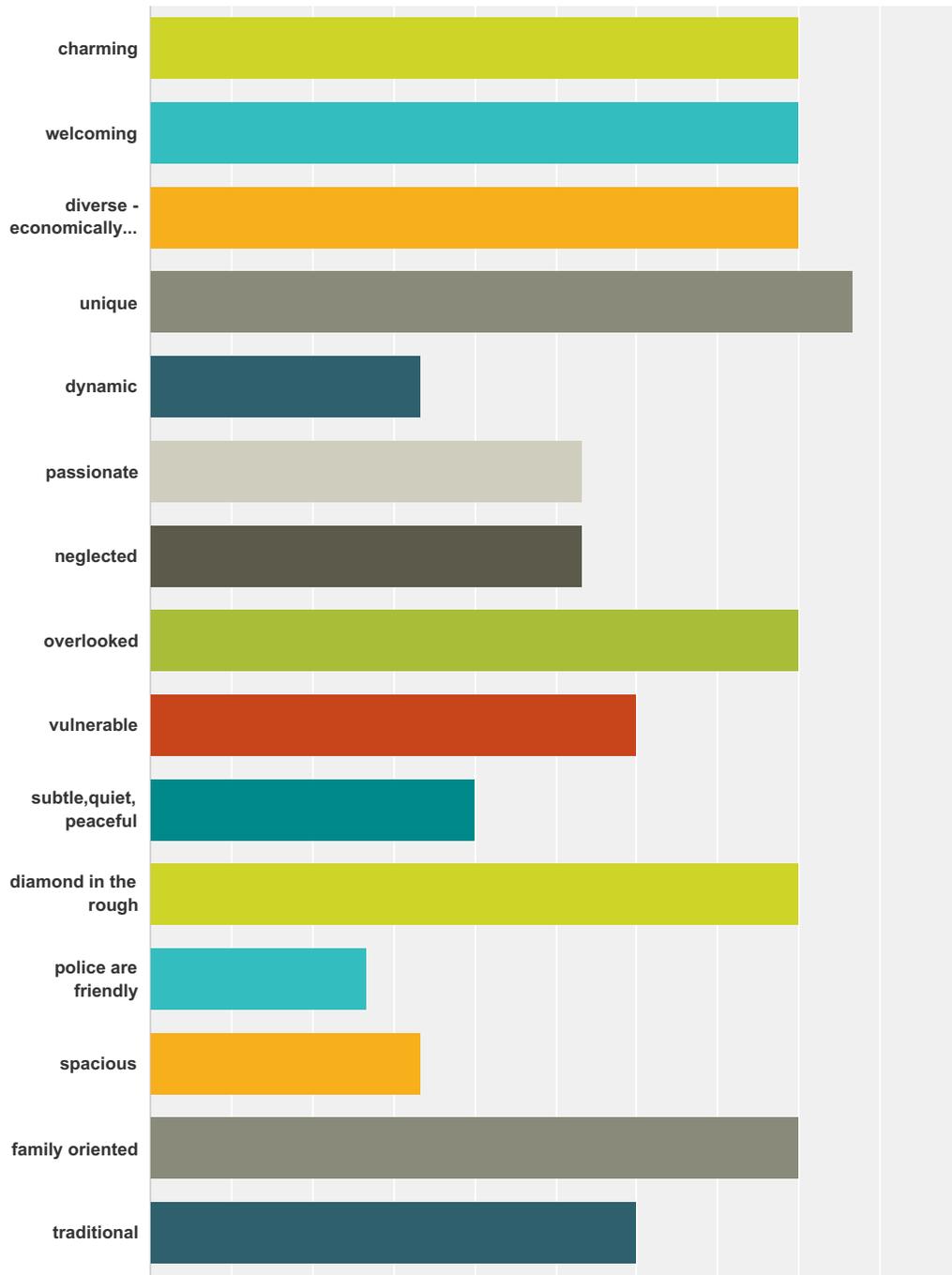


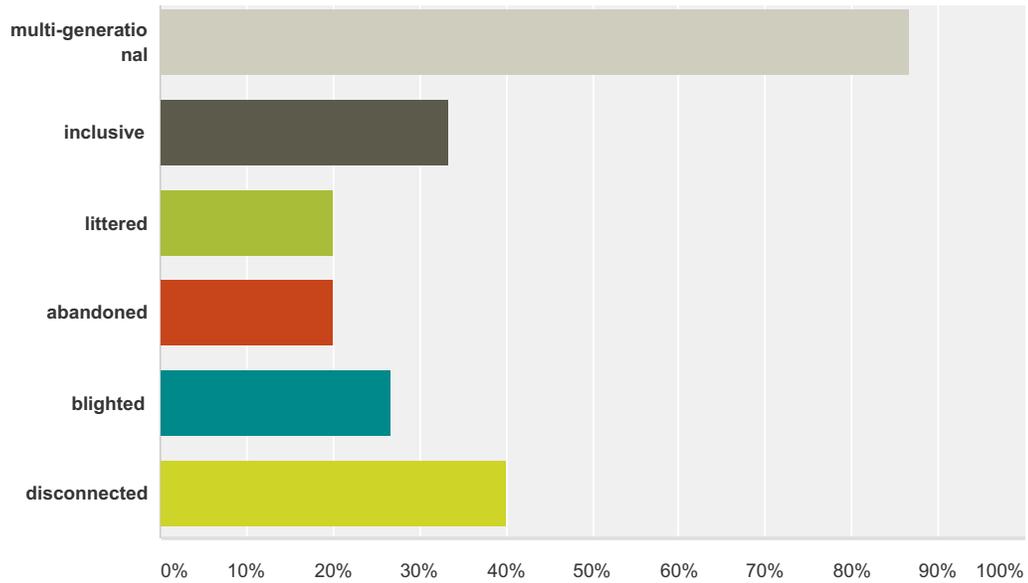
Answer Choices	Responses
More green space	73.33% 11
Community gardens and pavilion (events and recreation) - St. Charles ?	66.67% 10
Dog park and fountain	60.00% 9
Food Park and fruit trees - benefit community and homeless population	40.00% 6
Place for elderly people	60.00% 9
St. Genevieve pavilion and civic plaza	60.00% 9

Skate park (there is one near LaPlace already)	20.00%	3
The Greenhouse Senior Center needs to be maintained	100.00%	15
Mature trees and vegetation	80.00%	12
Using the coulee - cover it for a bike path, park/urban forest	46.67%	7
Total Respondents: 15		

Q13 The following words appear on p. 7 under the heading "Community". These words are listed to describe the areas within the TIGER, ECI planning district for Sterling Grove, Simcoe, LaPlace. Please check only the words(postive and/or negative) that you would choose to describe the neighborhoods of Sterling Grove, Snodgrass, Nickerson or Parkerson.

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1

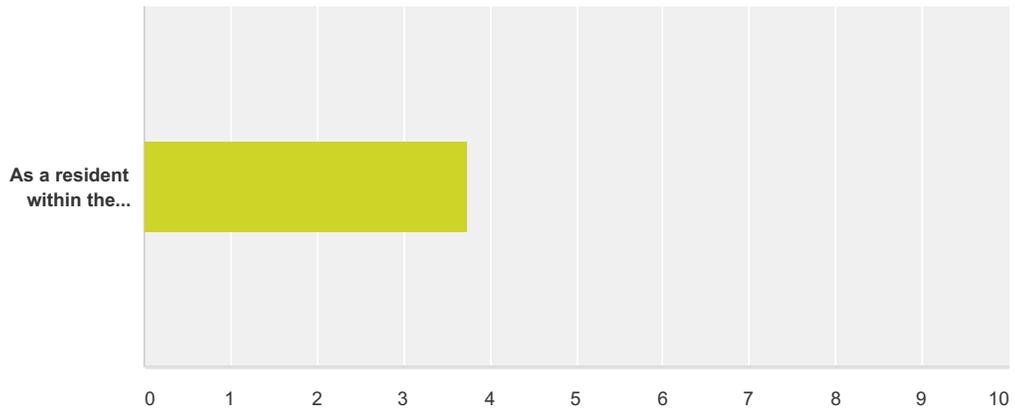




Answer Choices	Responses	
charming	80.00%	12
welcoming	80.00%	12
diverse - economically, racially, politically	80.00%	12
unique	86.67%	13
dynamic	33.33%	5
passionate	53.33%	8
neglected	53.33%	8
overlooked	80.00%	12
vulnerable	60.00%	9
subtle, quiet, peaceful	40.00%	6
diamond in the rough	80.00%	12
police are friendly	26.67%	4
spacious	33.33%	5
family oriented	80.00%	12
traditional	60.00%	9
multi-generational	86.67%	13
inclusive	33.33%	5
littered	20.00%	3
abandoned	20.00%	3
blighted	26.67%	4
disconnected	40.00%	6
Total Respondents: 15		

Q14 Do you agree with the following statement found on p.8 under the heading "Community"? "Options for healthcare and hospitals were very important. All of the doctors, medical facilities, and urgent care clinics are outside of the district. It's difficult to cross Jefferson to reach downtown - would go more often if it was easier and more inviting."

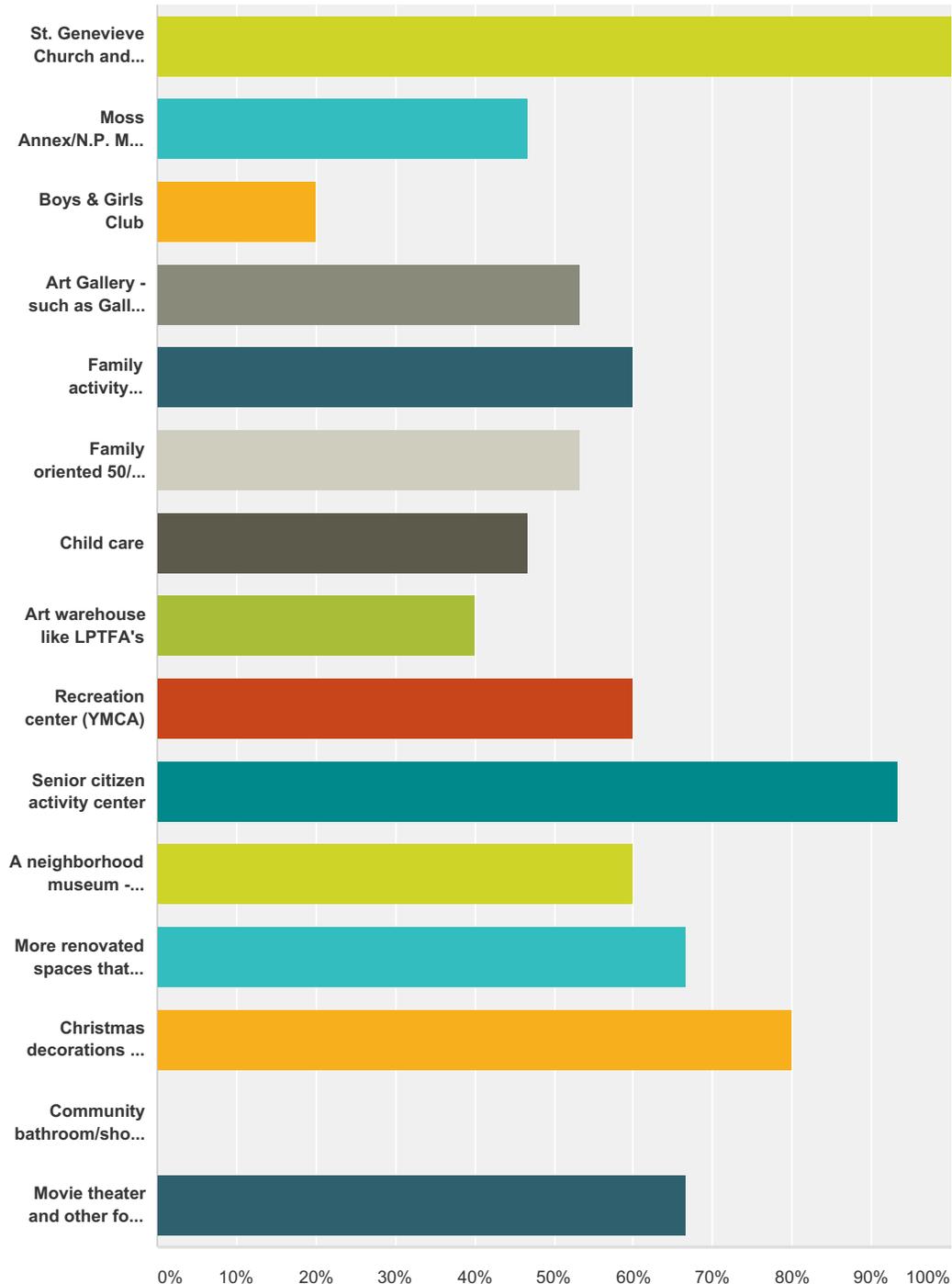
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral (please explain in comments below)	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total	Weighted Average
As a resident within the boundaries of the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association I	6.67% 1	13.33% 2	13.33% 2	33.33% 5	33.33% 5	15	3.73

Q15 The following are listed in bullet form on p. 8 under the heading "Community" as desirable elements and local assets to keep. Please check off all elements that you feel are desirable to our neighborhoods within the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association boundaries.

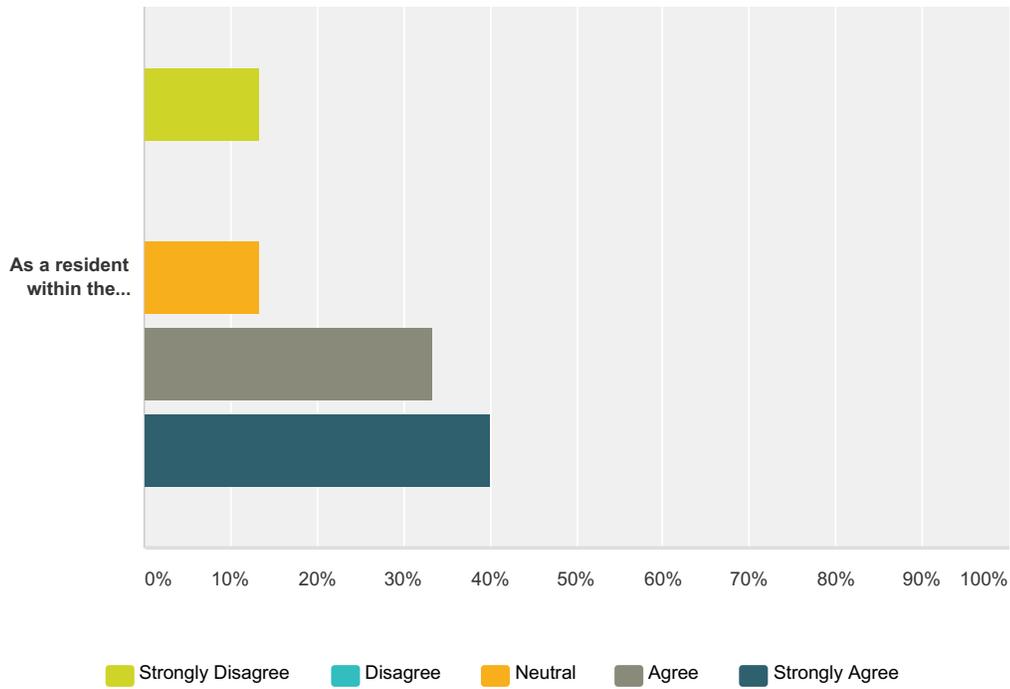
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
St. Genevieve Church and School	100.00%	15
Moss Annex/N.P. Moss Preparatory School - alternative school	46.67%	7
Boys & Girls Club	20.00%	3
Art Gallery - such as Gallery 333, artist lofts	53.33%	8
Family activity outdoor/indoor	60.00%	9
Family oriented 50/50 business	53.33%	8
Child care	46.67%	7
Art warehouse like LPTFA's	40.00%	6
Recreation center (YMCA)	60.00%	9
Senior citizen activity center	93.33%	14
A neighborhood museum - celebrate identity and history	60.00%	9
More renovated spaces that keep the character of the neighborhood	66.67%	10
Christmas decorations on light posts	80.00%	12
Community bathroom/showers would be nice	0.00%	0
Movie theater and other forms of entertainment	66.67%	10
Total Respondents: 15		

Q16 How do you feel about the following statement found on p. 8 under the heading of "Housing" in regards to new housing needs for the area within the SGNA boundaries? "Typical apartment complexes are not welcomed, though there is stereotype and debate around the nature of apartments."

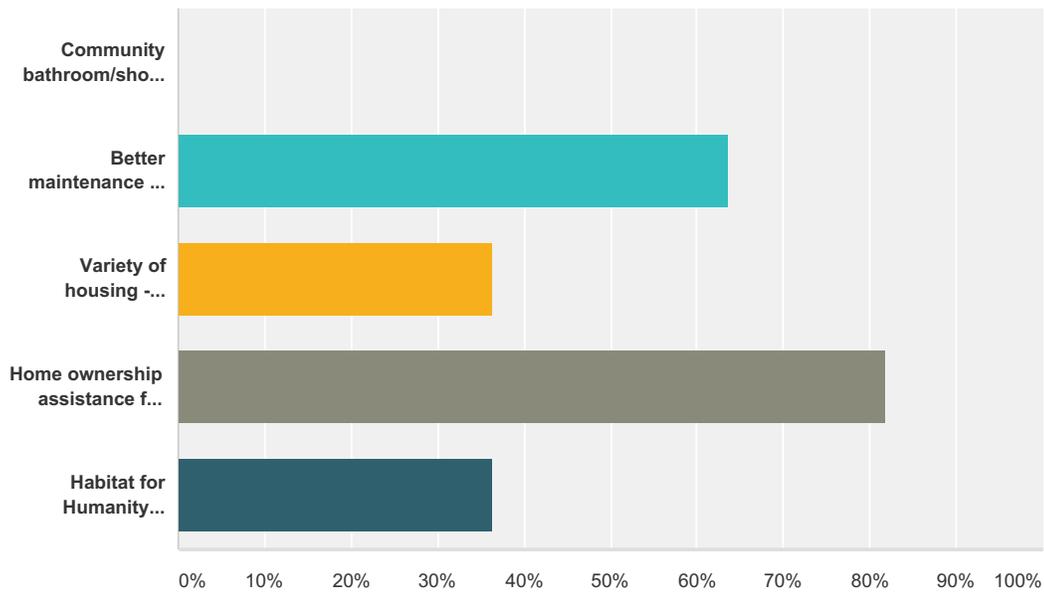
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
As a resident within the Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association boundaries, I	13.33% 2	0.00% 0	13.33% 2	33.33% 5	40.00% 6	15

Q17 The following statements are listed under "Housing" on p. 8 of the Sterling/Simcoe/LaPlace Workshop Report. Please select all of the items that describe "Desirable Elements" that you would like to see in the Sterling Grove, Snodgrass, Nickerson, Parkerson areas as well as Simcoe & Jefferson on the Eastside of the Thruway.

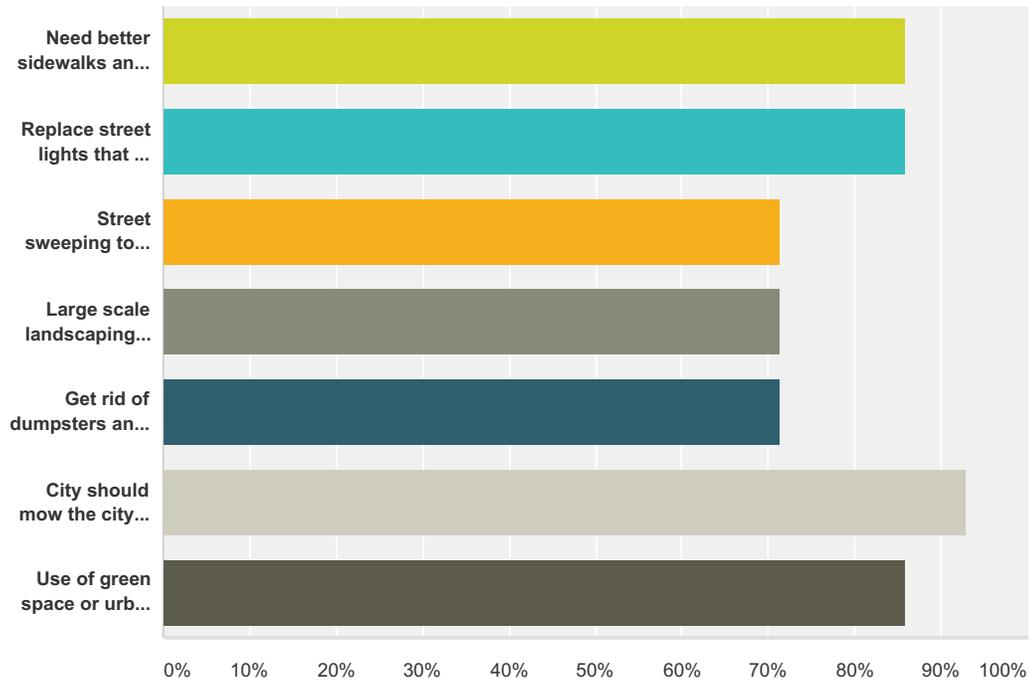
Answered: 11 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
Community bathroom/shower for the homeless	0.00% 0
Better maintenance of homes in the area	63.64% 7
Variety of housing - single family residential, mixed use housing and multi-use buildings	36.36% 4
Home ownership assistance for the elderly and lower income families - appropriately designed	81.82% 9
Habitat for Humanity presence (similar to McComb Veazey, maybe Tiny House concept)	36.36% 4
Total Respondents: 11	

Q18 The following statements are listed under "Beautification" on p. 9 of the Sterling/Simcoe/LaPlace Workshop Report. Please select all of the items that describe "Desirable Elements" that you would like to see in the Sterling Grove, Snodgrass, Nickerson, Parkerson areas as well as Simcoe & Jefferson on the Eastside of the Thruway.

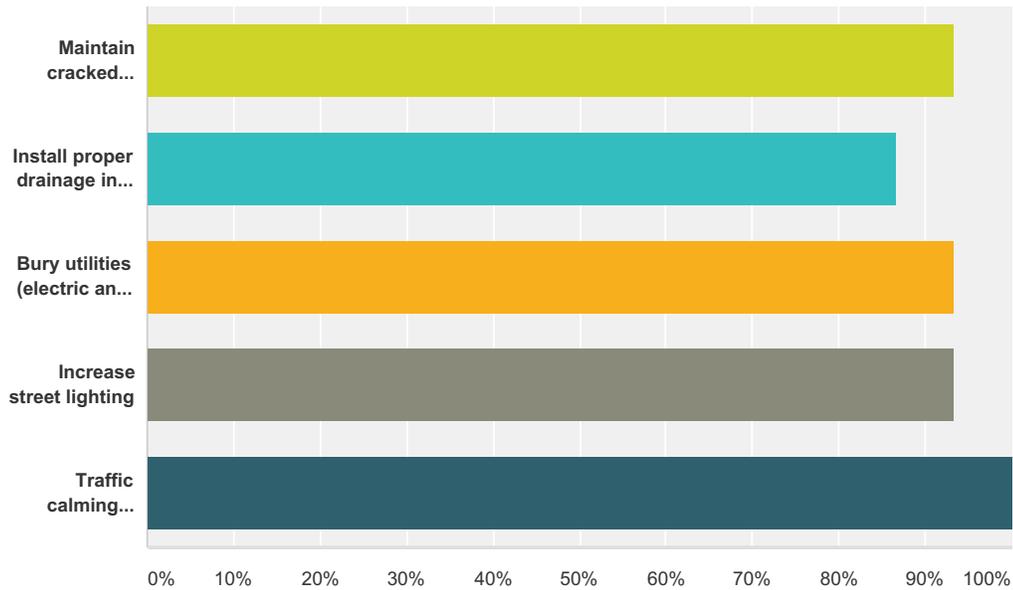
Answered: 14 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
Need better sidewalks and be more pedestrian friendly	85.71% 12
Replace street lights that are burned out (add additional lighting for visibility and safety)	85.71% 12
Street sweeping to address trash build up	71.43% 10
Large scale landscaping (i.e. dogwood trees on Mudd Ave.)	71.43% 10
Get rid of dumpsters and old useless cars left in front yards	71.43% 10
City should mow the city owned land more often	92.86% 13
Use of green space or urban forest to mitigate for negative sound impacts from I-49 project	85.71% 12
Total Respondents: 14	

Q19 The following statements are listed under "Infrastructure" on p. 9 & 10 of the Sterling/Simcoe/LaPlace Workshop Report. Please select all of the items that describe "Desirable Elements" that you would like to see in the Sterling Grove, Snodgrass, Nickerson, Parkerson areas as well as Simcoe & Jefferson on the Eastside of the Thruway.

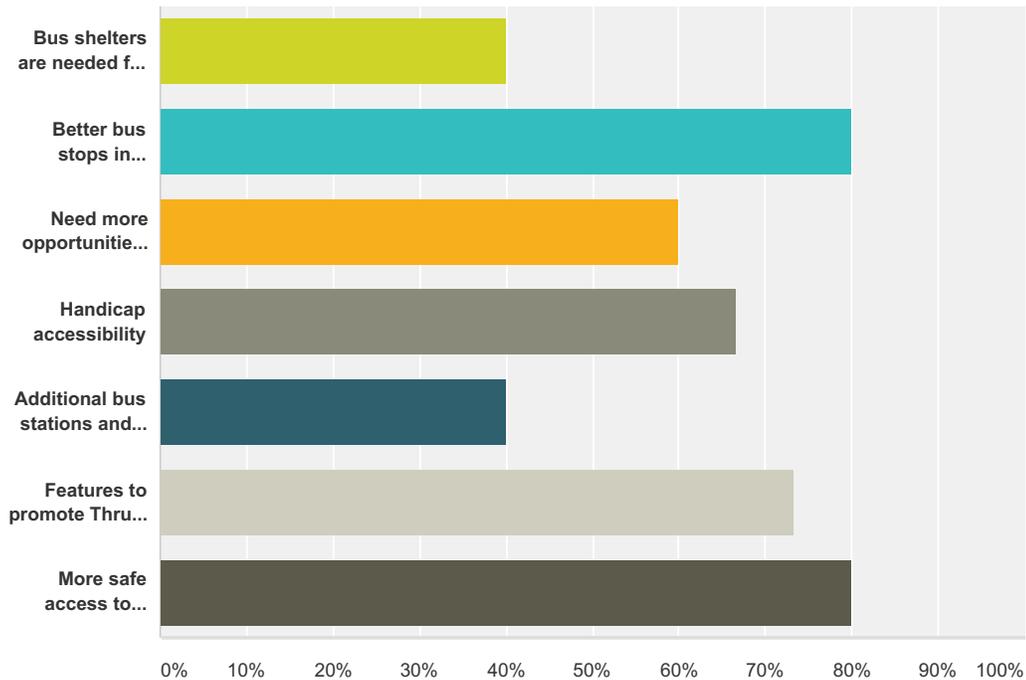
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Maintain cracked sidewalks	93.33% 14
Install proper drainage in front of homes (use of culverts instead of open ditches)	86.67% 13
Bury utilities (electric and phone lines)	93.33% 14
Increase street lighting	93.33% 14
Traffic calming measures to address speed issues	100.00% 15
Total Respondents: 15	

Q20 The following statements are listed under "Access/Mobility/Connectivity" on p. 10 of the Sterling Grove/Simcoe/LaPlace Workshop Report. Please select all of the items that describe "Desirable Elements" that you would like to see in the Sterling Grove, Snodgrass, Nickerson, Parkerson areas as well as Simcoe & Jefferson on the Eastside of the Thruway.

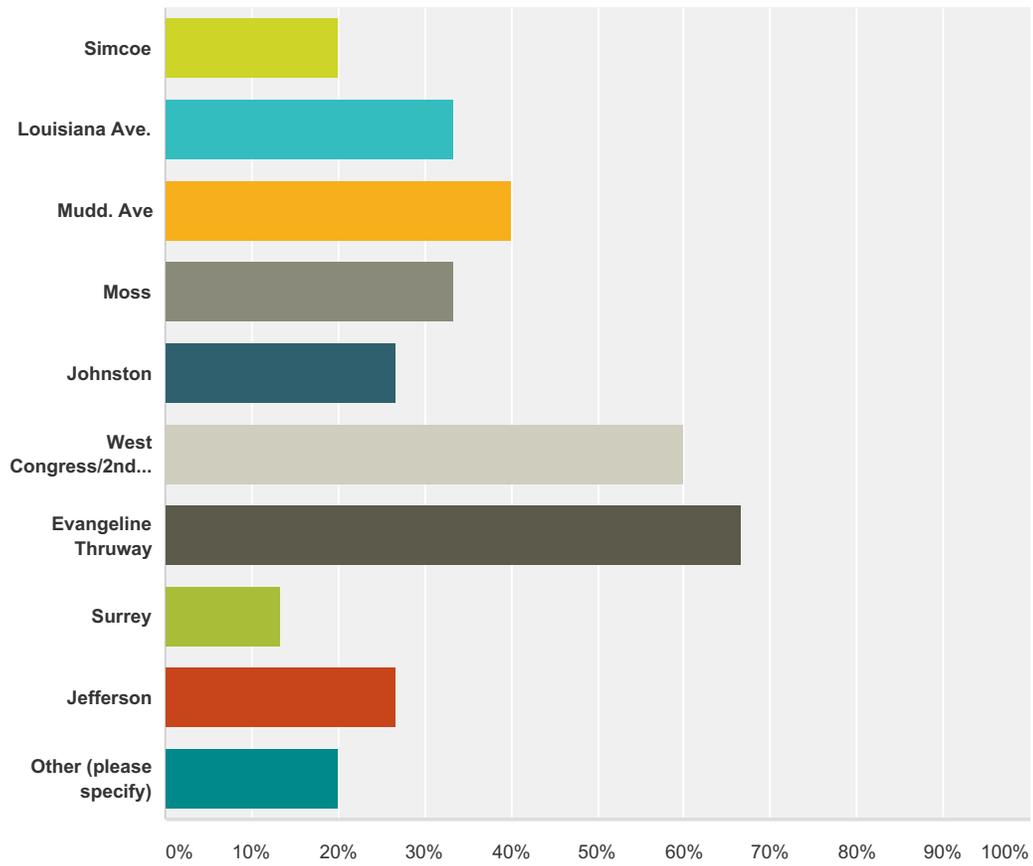
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Bus shelters are needed for school kids	40.00% 6
Better bus stops in general	80.00% 12
Need more opportunities for transportation	60.00% 9
Handicap accessibility	66.67% 10
Additional bus stations and routes (near Northgate Mall)- express routes to come?	40.00% 6
Features to promote Thruway crossing and between neighborhoods - crosswalks b/w Nickerson/Parkerson/Sterling Grove	73.33% 11
More safe access to downtown	80.00% 12
Total Respondents: 15	

Q21 What are your major routes to work, school, etc..?

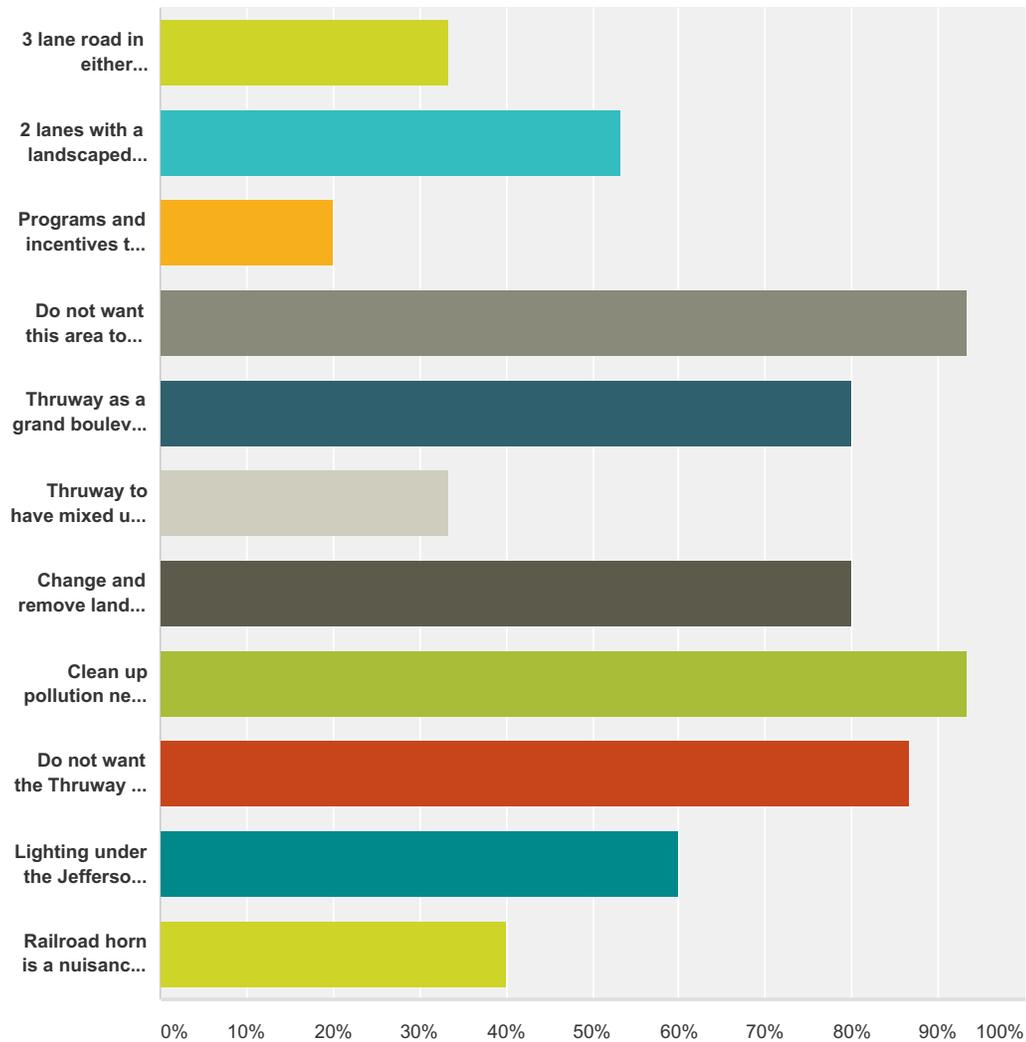
Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Simcoe	20.00% 3
Louisiana Ave.	33.33% 5
Mudd. Ave	40.00% 6
Moss	33.33% 5
Johnston	26.67% 4
West Congress/2nd St.or 3rd	60.00% 9
Evangeline Thruway	66.67% 10
Surrey	13.33% 2
Jefferson	26.67% 4
Other (please specify)	20.00% 3
Total Respondents: 15	

Q22 Please check off all boxes below that would describe your ideal Evangeline Thruway look and function.

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1

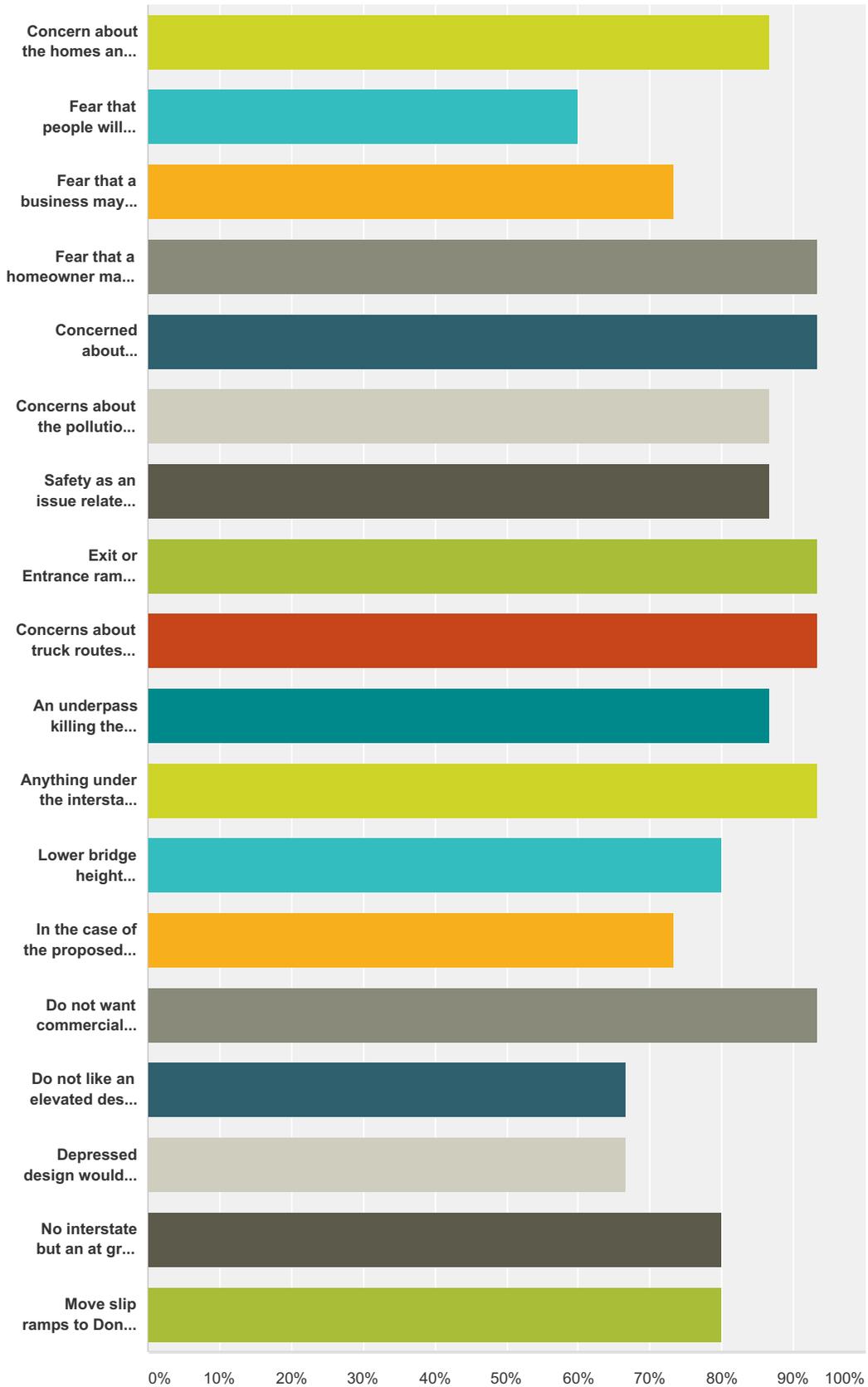


Answer Choices	Responses
3 lane road in either direction as it is now	33.33% 5
2 lanes with a landscaped median and ample lighting	53.33% 8
Programs and incentives to help relocate and bring businesses onto the Thruway after the I-49 Connector is complete	20.00% 3
Do not want this area to be a haven for the homeless	93.33% 14
Thruway as a grand boulevard with featured roadway with streetscape	80.00% 12
Thruway to have mixed use commercial/residential	33.33% 5
Change and remove land pollution along the railroad	80.00% 12
Clean up pollution near tracks on 2nd St. going into downtown (Vermilion, Taft, Jefferson - industrial section)	93.33% 14

Do not want the Thruway to be a roadway/highway etc. that will divide our community in half	86.67%	13
Lighting under the Jefferson underpass	60.00%	9
Railroad horn is a nuisance - make it a No Blow zone	40.00%	6
Total Respondents: 15		

Q23 Please check off as many boxes below as they pertain to any concerns you may have about the I-49 Connector. If you do not see a concern listed that you would like to have added to the report, please add it to the comment box below.

Answered: 15 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
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Concern about the homes and businesses that will have to be moved or destroyed to make way for the connector.	86.67%	13
Fear that people will lose their jobs if a business is relocated or purchased in the right of way for the connector	60.00%	9
Fear that a business may not be able to survive a forced move due to receiving too little from the state in the acquisition of that business	73.33%	11
Fear that a homeowner may not be able to relocate to a similar home in square footage, land, etc. due to receiving too little from the state in the acquisition of that home	93.33%	14
Concerned about depreciation of property value following the interstate	93.33%	14
Concerns about the pollution and toxins that would be exposing workers and residents to harmful levels if construction begins before waste sites and abandoned sites have been cleaned	86.67%	13
Safety as an issue related to an interstate going through town (noise pollution, air pollution, parts from cars flying through the air after a wreck, hazardous waste issues following a wreck)	86.67%	13
Exit or Entrance ramps too close to historic neighborhoods	93.33%	14
Concerns about truck routes and interstate exit/entrance ramps in Sterling Grove/Mudd Ave. area	93.33%	14
An underpass killing the area is a concern	86.67%	13
Anything under the interstate (such as playgrounds or basketball courts) is a big attraction for crime and homelessness	93.33%	14
Lower bridge height encourages homelessness	80.00%	12
In the case of the proposed cut and cover 6F option it would have to become elevated around the Mudd Ave. area where ramps would be low encouraging homeless encampments	73.33%	11
Do not want commercial development to mitigate noise impact on historic neighborhoods. Would prefer urban forest.	93.33%	14
Do not like an elevated design at all but would prefer a depressed design	66.67%	10
Depressed design would be ideal and keep it depressed past the railroad if that track can become abandoned	66.67%	10
No interstate but an at grade boulevard design - an on grade connector	80.00%	12
Move slip ramps to Donlon and add landscaping - set slip ramps away from neighborhoods	80.00%	12
Total Respondents: 15		

Q24 Please describe your overall experience and treatment as it relates to the format of the Evangeline Corridor Initiative ECI or TIGER Grant workshops/charettes.

Answered: 12 Skipped: 4

STERLING GROVE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION SURVEY
PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM WITHIN SURVEY

Question 1

These boundaries are terribly inaccurate due to the fact that it spans multiple neighborhoods with very different demographics and needs. Sterling Grove attended private meetings with ECI staff and public ETRT meetings to express concern over these boundaries but no solution was ever offered or discussed as an option by either team.

7/29/2016 6:30 AM

These boundaries are incongruent with helping residential area. The left of I49 is commercial and the east is residential. To different makeup. This will adversely affect residents.

7/28/2016 10:03 PM

Map link not working so I can't answer this question.

7/28/2016 4:16 PM

Why were we ever put with Laplace ... this was never made clear to me. The identity of Laplace, the topology and the neighborhood culture is very different from Sterling Grove.

7/28/2016 4:02 PM

Link for the map showing the boundaries for the sterling grove area is not working so I can't answer. the question

Question 2

The boundaries for all planning districts were not logical and did not allow for fair and accurate responses from the public. Sterling Grove, Simcoe and LaPlace district spanned an East/West area crossing the Thruway. McComb Veazey only represented neighborhoods on the East side of the Thruway and was not representative of the historic Nickerson and Parkerson neighborhoods that attempted to be added to the Sterling Grove boundaries. LaPlace had their neighborhood cut in half where one half of their community was included within the Downtown boundaries and the other half was grouped with Sterling Grove.

7/29/2016 6:30 AM

There is uncertainty about commercial zoning along parameter of Sterling Grove, Laplace, Simcoe AND Nickerson neighborhoods.

7/28/2016 8:09 PM

Map link not working so I can't answer this question

7/28/2016 4:16 PM

As mentioned above, the two neighborhoods have a different identity and configuration, different history and culture: the needs of the LaPlace residents are different from the residents in Sterling Grove. Therefore setting boundaries that put these two neighborhoods together cannot yield an accurate nor comprehensive view of what each neighborhood needs and / or want.

7/28/2016 4:02 PM

Links not working.

7/28/2016 11:04 AM

Sterling Grove, Nickerson and parts McComb should be joined for purposes of development and planning because of their multiple demographic similarities and architectural inventory and their shared developmental connection to the Jefferson St. business corridor.

7/27/2016 5:27 PM

We should concentrate on our neighborhood and its similar surroundings. the district that ETRT, etc has come up with is misrepresentative of this area.

7/25/2016 10:04 AM

Sterling Grove is more aligned with Nickerson and Parkerson. neighborhoods. These eastern neighborhood should be one district. Laplace, Simcoe and the neighborhood north that is not taken into consideration by ECI should be another district west of the highway.

7/21/2016 7:51 PM

Question 3

Absolutely !!!

7/28/2016 8:09 PM

I have not seen any actions that they have taken on behalf of Sterling grove so I can't really answer this BUT it only seems logical that the best way to represent our neighborhood is to have someone in that position From Our Neighborhood.

7/28/2016 4:16 PM

Don't know what their views are as they have not been documented to the neighborhood But folks inside of our neighborhood close to the area of discussion (effected area) should be representing the local neighborhoods.

7/28/2016 11:04 AM

Sterling Grove is underrepresented and should have been given special attention and outreach by the various planning organizations as required by the FEIS and ROD for the I-49 Connector.

7/28/2016 8:53 AM

I think our represenatives do have the knowledge and the best interest of our neighborhood in mind when dealing and communicating with the ETRT.

7/27/2016 5:27 PM

I didn't feel that anyone outside of the SG Neighborhood Association acted in the best interest of the neighborhoods. The planning council seemed stacked with people who did not live in affected communities.

7/27/2016 2:16 PM

Harry Weiss and Bill Hunter have their own agendas put forth by the companies they work for. This is a clear conflict of interest. Weiss was hired to redevelop this city for the One Acadiana chamber of commerce. He goes around claiming he is a volunteer but is clearly aligned with a commercial organization that stands to benefit immensely from the 49 Connector and any redevelopment of this city. And hes paid by them. They don't live in Sterling Grove and do not care about it at all. They work against our SGNA group and do not listen to us, only fight us. I feel the honorable thing to do would be to recuse themselves instead of going around claiming to be benevolent and helping, when they obviously have a conflicting agenda. This is unethical and deceitful.

7/25/2016 10:04 AM

Harry Weiss is a consultant for One Acadiana/Chamber of commerce and Bill Hunter is an architect with Architect Southwest and as such they have the best interest of their respective employers in mind over our community.

7/21/2016 7:51 PM

Question 4

I would suggest that each planning district have one acting member on the ETRT team paired with someone appointed by the city. The two should work with the neighborhoods they represent to give accurate feedback. The proposed TIGER Grant timeline should have been followed but did not guide the teams at all. What seemed like 3 months or more of community involvement ended up being condensed into a week and a half for feedback and planning.

7/29/2016 6:30 AM

A least one, okay-- At least 2 is preferable.

7/28/2016 8:09 PM

At least one but that person should be voted into that position by the other members of the neighborhood association not appointed by any other entity.

7/27/2016 5:27 PM

I don't recall anyone being included from Nickerson on ETRT. There was a meeting called by a representative from the TIGER grant.

7/27/2016 2:16 PM

I agree, however it should be 2-3 residents, not one, so that the ETRT can't dominate and control the residents. We don't go for "window dressing".

7/25/2016 10:04 AM

However I believe there should be three residents to give a full perspective of the communities involved.

7/21/2016 7:51 PM

Question 5

Many residents expressed wanting to have local scale retail/food options that were within walking or biking distance from their homes. Many times emphasis was put on the need for rezoning to Neighborhood Mixed Use instead of Commercial Heavy because many types of commercial entities are not appropriate for development within neighborhoods. Even though residents added this request to maps, notes, etc... this specific request still does not appear in the TIGER Workshop Report for Sterling Grove, Simcoe, LaPlace for the specific areas of Sterling Grove, Nickerson and Parkerson neighborhoods including Jefferson and Simcoe on the East side of the Thruway. I would like to request that the TIGER/ECI/ETRT teams add a specific statement that the city of Lafayette and LCG are committed to working with Sterling Grove, Nickerson and Parkerson to downzone all Commercial Heavy areas surrounding these historic neighborhoods and within the Simcoe/Jefferson area to a more neighborhood centric zoning - specifically any historic homes currently zoned Commercial Heavy be downzoned to RS Residential Single and any retail areas zoned Commercial Heavy be downzoned to "MN" Neighborhood Mixed Use.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

This sentence has a double meaning

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

I would rather see small businesses locally owned within walking distance, no corporation please, no gas stations.

7/28/2016 4:19 PM

i think it would be nice to be able to walk to downtown in a more safe way.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Connections between commercial entities and more local scale retail food options are two distinct things that should not be mixed in one sentence: this manipulative tactic allows to push connection between commercial entities, when what is really needed is more local scale non corporate retail/food options.

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 6

It would be nice if the ETRT members appointed by the local city government would outline in the ECI/TIGER workshop or charette report exactly how they intend to lend this much needed increased financial support and attention to promote LOCAL business development not just support for large privately funded development groups.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

Under the supervision of the local neighborhood association

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

We do need smaller functional businesses that are required by the local neighborhoods along the throughway but NO alcahaulic beverage dispensers are needed. We have enough problems with that now.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

What does financial support entail and what control is lost.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

I think the attention is there, its just the wrong type of attention and support

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Question 7

We simply cannot allow heavy commercial businesses intruding on our Historic neighborhoods.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

We need to build new development in line with our type of neighborhood, a historic district not a commercial zone like Costco Land aka Ambassador Town Center. Which the name itself is a joke. Where is town and what center?????

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Question 8

Yes and I would add that LCG needs to ask the association for the opportunity to meet with the residents who are members of SGNA with the purpose of explaining the rezoning process. I also think that LCG should schedule a series of meetings and workshops with SGNA and all resident members so that timely and accurate feedback can be assembled. This is the least that LCG Planning and Zoning can do for Sterling Grove/Nickerson and Parkerson considering the fact that these neighborhoods were never approached about forming a neighborhood coterie unlike the other neighborhoods included in this federal grant. Freetown Port Rico, Downtown, LaPlace and McComb Veazey all had neighborhood groups formed with the assistance of LCG Planning and Zoning and were able to receive assistance in the development of neighborhood plans, zoning changes as they were part of the comprehensive plan and new unified development code. Sterling Grove, Nickerson and Parkerson did not receive this same level of assistance and were forced to work within a very tight timeline to have their opinions count as part of this grant process.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

It is possible to maintain the dignity of a neighborhood and have "light commercial" zoning to enhance and accommodate the residents of the neighborhood.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

I am zoned commercial and I don't plan on leaving any time soon. But when I do this will help me get a higher price for my property. I have NO intention of developing commercially at this time but don't want to box myself in either with more rules and regulations.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

Please downzone - bringing heavy commercial development would be detrimental to the quality life of the residents and to the historical character of the neighborhood.

7/28/2016 4:19 PM

I agree, however, zoning should allow for business use such as, offices, restaurant/cafe/music venue, B&B, etc.

7/28/2016 9:01 AM

Absolutely...and I feel as though the neighborhood associations should have membership on those zoning boards or a strong subcommittee to make suggestion the the LCG zoning commission much like the French Quarter or Garden District Commissions do in New Orleans. Sterling Grove Historic District has been stymied and disregarded by previous administrations and commissions even when we attempted to get help upgrading our infrastructure or to strengthen our neighborhood codes.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

This is currently the most important thing we can focus on. Making sure that Sterling Grove is not completely surrounded by walmarts, gas stations and hotels,any housing projects or industrial businesses.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Question 9

These types of business would seem like

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

Allready have a Jefferson drug store it has been there for over 50 years.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

These all sound good to me.

7/28/2016 4:19 PM

No more establishments serving alcohol. Between downtown and the Simcoe strip, there is enough.

7/27/2016 3:02 PM

Creating a town center between the two neighborhoods is a good idea. It will create connectivity to the other neighborhoods that are of similar fabric to ours, that would be the Nickerson and Parkerson areas.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Rephrasing with "Mature bar" would take away the confusing connotation of "Adult bar". We want in our neighborhood.elegant and refined places such as bistro, wine bar or tapas bars not sports bar or clubs.

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 10

It was clearly communicated that LaPlace has a much larger issue with crime and violence. They specifically asked for a police substation at 4 corners in place of the Less Pay hotel. Sterling Grove does not need a police substation.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

LCG needs to cut grass and take care or better care of public grounds

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

Ditches should be covered with drainage culverts. Sidewalks should be widen to encourage walking/strolling through neighborhood.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

We have requested many of these in the past and they have been refused.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

We should keep crime to a minimum by keeping an eye on our houses. Our neighborhood isn't "blighted" as is the thoughts from LCG. It is a historically wealthy and well kept area, but we need to keep the surrounding areas from becoming crime ridden or it may encroach on our area.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Security Cameras allow for less officers on the street and decrease crime by monitoring nocturnal activity

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question11

A museum or historic display could be created for Sterling Grove/Nickerson/Parkerson relating to the development of Lafayette as it changed from Vermilionville to Lafayette. Perhaps a playground with a train theme to represent the growth of a city once the railroad came to

town. LaPlace has a very different history and their story should be featured in some way within their neighborhood.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

Unclear about "Insert" museum or community destination.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

Consideration should be given to combining the Sterling Grove, Nickerson, McComb neighborhoods and renaming the area the "Lafayette Upper Garden District"

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

We should go about connecting us to Parkerson and Nickerson areas and adding them to the National Historic Registry

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

yes to a Museum in the plantation. there is already a community designation on Mudd Avenue

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question; 12

We need park and gathering space for our neighborhood. I would like to see the multi-generational park constructed on the underutilized grounds of the Senior Art Studio land. This would be a place for senior citizens, adults and children to gather for the purpose of reconnecting and health/physical fitness. I like the idea of a food park or fruit trees but please remove the comment (benefit homeless population) - Sterling Grove/Nickerson/Parkerson does not have a homeless issue like LaPlace does - this needs to be stated in the workshop reports. Sterling Grove area does not need this negative stigma nor do we need to create a problem where this isn't one.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

No to a dog park, yes to the fountain. Fruit trees are good to attract wildlife not homeless. We have the greenhouse and it is underused and needs to be shared with the neighborhood

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

If "food park" is the same as a "community garden" then I am in favor of this. The Greenhouse Senior Center is for elderly people but a nice park next to GSC with walking paths and ample benches and water fountains is ideal. It is, most of the time, under-used. Understanding that it was built specifically for senior citizens but there could also be "neighborhood events held there at scheduled intervals. The small state park needs to be beautified and maintained.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

We don't need more areas for vagrants to sleep. We need gated community so people stay and take care of their homes and feel safe especially the 300 block or N Sterling St.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

I'm not sure what coulee this refers to, but a bike path would be nice. I also would like these additions to discourage the use by the homeless. I don't use the parks downtown with my children because of the homeless sleeping on benches etc there.

7/27/2016 10:11 PM

I feel as though covering the coulee and dedicating it as a walking/bike path with adequate security could be of immense value to the whole of the upper garden district neighborhood

areas.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

We should use the Greenhouse and surrounding area as a town center. This would include many things but it would be a central point between our area and the Nickerson/Parkerson areas

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

the food park and fruit tree is not for Sterling Grove but for Simcoe or Laplace. Furthermore, it seems like a utopian fantasy.

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 13

Neglected and overlooked by the city. Vulnerable to development abuse and 49 connector.

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

City government has neglected some infrastructure within the neighborhoods.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

Sterling Grove is overlooked and much of Lafayette does not know it exist, it is thus vulnerable to abuse from developer.

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 14

If I need a doctor or hospital I simply drive to one. For the families that live nearby that do not have transportation I believe that the bus routes and schedules need to be a priority for the city to refine. Sterling Grove/Nickerson/Parkerson does not want a hospital or social services center within it's neighborhoods. There is a local pediatrician and drug store located nearby and that is sufficient. We do not need any services for homeless or anyone in need of transitional housing.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

Downtown is on JEFFERSON. You don't cross Jefferson to get downtown. Perhaps difficult to cross THRUWAY.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

If its safer and easier to get downtown yes we would bike more regularly and spend more time around the down town area and sterling, Nickerson areas

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

We do have a pediatrician across the street from our boundaries and a pharmacy on Jefferson and although we use to have several other practitioners I don't think the physical location or makeup of the neighborhood limits, in any way, my seeking medical care or a doctor's advice.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

there is no need to have these facilities right here. I agree that it would be nice to cross the Thruway at Jefferson to downtown on foot. however the current heavy commercial businesses there attract a very undesirable crowd and make that walk at night quite dangerous. This is why we don't need any more heavy commercial zoning, its ugly and attracts the wrong things.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Sterling Grove is too small to doctors. We already have a pharmacy and a family practitioner. we don't need a medical center. Crossing Evangeline on a bicycle or foot is only somewhat safe at Jefferson. once on the west side of Evangeline thruway, it gets dangerous because of vagrants loitering along the sidewalk next to the underpass. If LCG was concerned about the safety of its' citizens, a few patrol deterring that pattern, and police cars parked at the gas station could put an end to this pattern, thus reconnecting downtown with Sterling Grove.
7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 15

small movie theater or space for live plays - not large movie theater

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

No corporate movie theater a small multi-use movie and acting theater.

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

Whatever does NOT attract vagrants such as showers and fruit trees

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

A lot of these listed things are not in Sterling Grove but some would be ok to have there.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

No shower or public bathroom in Sterling Grove. Don't create a vagrancy and homelessness problem that does not exist currently in Sterling Grove

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 16

I do not think that there is a debate about apartments. No apartments or multiple family housing. This is a single residential neighborhood. Bed and breakfast and AirBnB are ok but not mixed use housing.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

No apartment complexes in our neighborhood

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

The nature of these neighborhoods is to maintain single family dwellings.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

Has to be high rent apartments and designed historically not new wave.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

I do not see the need to build "typical apartment complexes". This neighborhood has a history and a culture of its own, therefore we do not want to disrupt the fabric by imposing a style that does not belong. Please keep architecture and style consistent with the local setting.

7/28/2016 4:19 PM

I feel as though appartments are a deviation from the neighborhood "norm" of a single family residence. If it is a multi unit structure it's an apartment, if it's a single unit structure then it's a rental home. I consider multi family residences/structures to be an inclusiuon (intrusion) in this neighborhood.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

This is a single family home neighborhood. yes, some apartment complexes can be nice but they are large and not needed here. This is a historic area, the houses are average of 100-200 yrs old. Apartments would destroy this fabric and attract people who do not care about the historic nature of this neighborhood.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

We are a historic neighborhood, we don't want condos or apartments in our neighborhood. Two stories high building maximum. Everything that is built i\nder SGNA's district has to respect the local historic architecture.

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 17

None - We DO NOT need community bathrooms or showers. If this is kept in the report it needs to say for LaPlace only because they do have a homeless shelter and food shelter.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

None of that

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

Absolutely NO community bath/showers.

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

Gated streets that tours can be guided through the area by the museum that needs to be added to highlight the historic ambiance of the area.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

The residents have pride in their homes and take good care of their properties. The city however does not seem to worry about caring for the open ditches, culverts, the sidewalks or the roads.

7/28/2016 4:19 PM

I would like to see what was originally sold to us by the original task force. An expansive, wide green space seperating the eastern and western bordering divide of the neighborhood and the corridor, putting as much seperation between the residences and the Big Ugly Bastard as possible. It should be heavily landscaped with mature live oaks, chestnut oaks, red oaks, cypress, crape myrtles, willows etc, trees common to the neighborhood. It should be well lit with adequate security and with serious thought given to low maintenance needs and long term self sustainability.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

I don't wish to see any of this, and the homes in our area are already properly maintained. No way do we want homeless showers or a variety of housing. It is a historic district, no apartments or housing projects. You wouldn't suggest to River Ranch a homeless bathroom/shower would you?! If you want to help homeless, get them off the street, not perpetuate it by giving them places to sleep and live on the street.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Again we don't want community bathroom/shower for the homeless. Do not create a problem that does not exist in our neighborhood!

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 18

This is very important - Maintain areas owned by the city and DOTD so that the work blighted is not used for Sterling Grove/Nickerson/Parkerson. The residents here take great pride and care in their homes and should not be described as blighted. Please add to workshop report specifically that residents living in closest proximity to the Thruway and I-49 connector do not want multi use 3-4 story commercial buildings to be used as mitigation for sound impact - instead we want urban forest or trees/vegetation to mitigate sound and visual impacts.

7/29/2016 7:30 AM

Street lights need to be historic

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

Existing sidewalks and drainage HAVE to be maintained and sidewalks to interface between downtown and all surrounding neighborhoods.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

Bury overhead power, telephone and cable lines. Install period style street lighting. Many sidewalks are broken, sunken, or ditched....fix and upgrade them. Install period street signs. Create new and upgrade the landscaping of the existing triangular green spaces on Simcoe and Jefferson with more substantial signage (concrete, art nouveau, possibly commissioning local artists) designating the neighborhood areas. Encourage or financially incentivise property owners to "fix up" (paint, landscape) properties within the neighborhoods.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

these are all acceptable and should be done by the city already. Instead theyre too busy painting low quality bike lanes instead of fixing the sidewalks and adding LED street lights.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

IT would be nice if Lafayette Consolidated Government started taking care of Sterling Grove as they do in neighborhood south of town.

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 19

Historic lights installed. No speed bumps, bottle necks or round about.

7/28/2016 11:22 PM

Fixing existing drainage ditches under sidewalks that drain peoples property would be a great start.

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

Yes to all.

7/28/2016 4:19 PM

See my thoughts from the section above.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

put historic grade street light in neighborhood under SGNA.

7/21/2016 8:51

Question 20

Handicap accessibility shall be a given. Need more opportunities for PUBLIC transportation .

7/28/2016 9:16 PM

All sidewalks should be even with the road when you come to a corner intersection with a street

7/28/2016 5:09 PM

Minimize the highly obstructive and long term destructive effects of a huge, loud, difficult and expensive to maintain, overhead structure. Wed the two sides of the corridor together with a cut and cover. Create a green space entrance into Lafayette for the local traffic and a buried expressway underground for the thru traffic and consider the Teche Ridge route for heavy industrial, commercial traffic.

7/27/2016 5:26 PM

Like I said, rezoning to remove and prevent heavy commercial would help keep it more of a neighborhood and increase walkability to downtown.

7/25/2016 10:25 AM

Walking safely through traffic and across the highway by creating better crosswalks and safety measures such as emergency call boxes and removal of vagrants from Jefferson at Evangeline on the west side to eliminate crime.

7/21/2016 8:51 PM

Question 21

No comments.

Question 22

Railroad horn is nostalgic. The railroad is not going anywhere so shouldn't the horn.

7/28/2016 9:31 PM

See my comments in section 20 of Connectivity

7/27/2016 5:06 PM

Didn't see it here, but no ugly raised highway right next door.

7/27/2016 3:04 PM

Big fan of a grand boulevard concept

7/25/2016 10:28 AM

The city should have asked the railroad company to put safety railroad crossing gates 40 years ago. There are unprotected road crossing along downtown, this unacceptable in this time and day. LCG must get this taken care of now, and forbid trains to use their horn in town.

7/21/2016 9:02 PM

Question 23

Prefer Tech Ridge option moving through traffic AROUND town instead of through it. Then at grade boulevard thruway would work.

7/28/2016 5:15 PM

I am very concerned about ramps in the area of Mudd and Simcoe as the increased traffic will have very destructive effects on the integrity of the Sterling Grove historic neighborhood.

7/27/2016 5:06 PM

I am against an elevated interstate. Would prefer a grand boulevard design.

7/25/2016 10:28 AM

WE don't want the depressed highway coming out of ground by Sterling Grove historic district
7/21

Question 24

I was very disappointed that according to the TIGER proposed timeline found on the LCG website it stated that Public Involvement planning should have started in Aug of 2015 for the Sterling Grove area to help identify goals and objectives but we didn't start any of the process until May of 2016 and were left scrambling to force our way into the process. It was also very disappointing that our neighborhoods were verbally and personally attacked by contracted workers from SouthWest Architects simply because of our persistence in ensuring that we were allowed to participate in this grant process. This has not been a community centered or open and sensitive redevelopment or Ladder to Success program as it has been marketed as.

7/29/2016 7:40 AM

I believe it is a farce.

7/28/2016 11:34 PM

Much more work to be done. When ECI first began, our neighborhoods/ communities were not invited/involved. So when we did, we had much catching up. Our neighborhood leaders are the best. They work hard and keep us informed. Kudos to them. I am appreciative.

7/28/2016 9:38 PM

did not attend

7/28/2016 5:16 PM

In order to fulfill its mission, the TIGER Grant / ECI ? ETRT should have done a better job at involving people. It seems that interactions were prevented and avoided. No public forums, no questions allowed in public, but "comment cards" instead on which we have to write and submit. I am very grateful for the Sterling Grove residents who brought us together as a group as we did not have any organized representation. While other neighborhoods had Coteries, Sterling Grove had nothing in place and was never approached by the city to form one. To this day, we do not know the reasons behind this. So we elected some neighborhood representatives to form a neighborhood association. These representatives have been attending all meetings, voiced concerns for us and most of all have endeavored to keep the process as crystal clear as possible by educating all neighbors on the TIGER Grant Process. To this day, if we had not come together as a group by ourselves and had not organized ourselves, we would not have had access to a fair participation and engagement in the TIGER Grant/ ECI / charettes process. The information available to the public was not made clear by TIGER GRANT, ECI - the website publishes many documents that are voluminous and long to read. If SGNA (Sterling Grove Neighborhood Association) had not offered to explain what the TIGER Grant process is about, we would have been kept out of the loop. One has to offer clear and open

communication in order to keep neighborhood well informed if they really care about the residents' accurate feedback. Otherwise the process becomes flawed.

7/28/2016 4:41 PM

Sterling Grove has not been given the individualized outreach required by the FEIS and ROD.

7/28/2016 9:05 AM

Not a very good experience.

7/28/2016 8:12 AM

Divisive...I do not think that the project organizers were always forthcoming with the members of the SGHD. If it weren't for our SGHD representatives we would have been left out of the decision making process and would have been dictated to by outside entities that do not share our concerns.

7/27/2016 5:06 PM

Very professional but tedious.

7/27/2016 4:07 PM

The experience has been horrible. I remember going to one meeting with all the council members and community members. ECI folks all offered lunch and talked at will while we sat in folding chairs, watched them eat, and when we spoke had a buzzer ding at 2 or 3 minutes. Absolutely unwelcoming and divisive process. Most ECI folks seem to be connected to city politics or somehow benefitting from the deal, at the expense of people who live far away from them. Only people who seemed to live near the project and be on ECI council were downtown development folks, and our interests often didn't align.

7/27/2016 3:09 PM

I found the workshops to be a window dressing to make it appear as if the citizens of the various areas were actually getting their voices heard. I found that they paid lip service more than actually listened. By law they have to consult with the community but used the opportunity to influence and try to direct the process to fit their agenda. If not for certain groups getting heavily involved, ETRT, ECI, LCG, DOTD, DDA, 705, etc. would have run roughshod over everyone. These little elitist groups comprised of salaried "volunteers" as well as public employees are working toward their own goals. I was insulted and lied to on a constant basis. This is such an unethical and corrupt way to do business.

7/25/2016 10:33 AM

During the workshop of the imposed ECI district (Sterling Grove/Simcoe/Laplace), we came prepared with maps and post-it for every table in the room. Every table had the same requests for the neighborhoods under SGNA. None of these requests appear in the report, only verbal comments made are reported. Out of fairness and ethical practices, please adjust these reports to include what was requested on the maps. Thank you.

7/21/2016 9:08 PM

Neil T. Lebouef

From: S Lorio <townfolkinc@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2016 7:45 PM
To: ETRT
Subject: Public Comment Re: ECI Draft Report for LaPlace Neigjborhood

To Whom It May Concern:

As President of TownFolk, Inc. and a participant in the ECI workshops pertaining to LaPlace Neighborhood, I would like to submit the following for public comment:

TownFolk and the majority of residents we have spoken to in the LaPlace neighborhood are in favor of a police substation as part of the complete redevelopment of the Four Corners area. A planned police substation was included in the Comprehensive Plan, the Better Block Four Corners event, the Downtown Development Master Plan and favored by neighborhood consensus gathered in various charettes, coterie meetings, town hall meetings, and TownFolk meetings.

As a result, Ordinance No. O-010-2015 was introduced to the City Council on January 6, 2015, as Agenda Item No. 34; and adopted on January 20, 2015, as Agenda Item No. 13. This ordinance included an agreement by the city to purchase the Less Pay Motel for the purposes of a police substation. It reads in part, "...declaring the police substation and public plaza a public necessity". These same sentiments were also expressed by participants in the ECI workshops.

Crime is a serious issue facing the residents of LaPlace and the areas surrounding Four Corners, along the proposed University Corridor. While revitalization is desired by all, effectively addressing the ongoing crime issues is an imperative first step toward successful revitalization.

There are many hardworking people of every race and socioeconomic level in LaPlace and surrounding areas who love their neighborhoods, and want to see the University/ Four Corners area revitalized. However, we also have a strong desire to see a major reduction in crime. A police substation, along with help from local government and law enforcement would help to make this a reality. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jennifer B. Doucet
President, TownFolk, Inc.

Neil T. Lebouef

From: Heather B. <baldwinh555@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2016 12:34 AM
To: ETRT
Subject: Evangeline Corridor

Good evening,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment about the upcoming massive undertaking to plan and implement the Evangeline Corridor. Although I disagree that it is an essential expense, I do think that in the long run, if planned and implemented thoughtfully, this may rejuvenate many portions of our city. Considering an effort at this scale, something like landscaping might seem trivial, but I disagree and so do many experts in this area. This corridor is going to produce noise and air pollution, divide neighborhoods and have various impacts on the commercial properties associated with the area during implementation as well as following it. After many visits to places such as The Woodlands, Houston and Austin, Texas, which share many of the same native plant species as Lafayette, I think thoughtful landscaping with native plant species is paramount to an aesthetically pleasing city environment which envelops a park-like tone associated with some of the busiest parts of the city.

I would like to encourage the planners to consider incorporating native plants in the form of small and large scale plantings which would reduce maintenance/mowing costs, reduce rain runoff, improve water quality, and promote a more vigorous landscape which is aesthetically pleasing, and depending on placement, may serve to reduce noise, and promote a more environmentally friendly landscape to counter the hustle and bustle of the corridor.

Lafayette is an ideal location to incorporate such an effort because we are located in one of the most botanically and biologically rich locations in North America. Our soil types are amenable to restoring freshwater wetlands, bottomland and upland forests and beautiful native tallgrass prairie wildflowers. Landscapes with native vegetation require less maintenance, and are more vigorous throughout the year because they are locally adapted to environmental extremes such as our brutal summers and soggy winters. If one of the goals of the process is to promote unity between neighborhoods, then a vigorous and diverse landscape thoughtfully designed, may enhance the experience and use of communal areas such as parks, or pathways while promoting our city as a beautiful and environmentally mindful place.

Thank you for considering my comments.
Have a great day!

Heather Baldwin
Member of the Acadiana Native Plant Project

Neil T. Lebouef

From: Sarah SCHOEFFLER <cadistyle@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2016 9:13 AM
To: Heather B.
Cc: ETRT
Subject: Re: Evangeline Corridor

Excellent Heather Baldwin!! My sentiments also Sarah Schoeffler.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jul 28, 2016, at 12:33 AM, Heather B. <baldwinh555@gmail.com> wrote:

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