



FINDLAY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
VISIONING REPORT
07.30.2021

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

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INTRODUCTION

The Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC), City of Cincinnati, and 3CDC have partnered on a project to improve recreation and community facilities in northern Over-the-Rhine (OTR). Through an RFP and interview process, the project team selected Barker Rinker Seacat (BRS), a Denver-based recreation-focused architecture firm, as lead architect. Cincinnati-based firms were then chosen to provide local support to BRS, including City Studios (architecture), Human Nature (landscape architecture), and Moody Nolan, Inc (community engagement).

Four existing CRC sites comprise the project:

- 1. OTR Recreation Center (1715 Republic St)
- 2. Findlay Playground (1811 Vine St)
- 3. Grant Park (73 E McMicken St)
- 4. Elm St Playground (1816-1820 Elm St)

Guided by a steering committee comprised of 20 individuals representing both OTR residents and stakeholders, the team launched an initial phase focused exclusively on community engagement. Over the course of 8 weeks, feedback was gathered through a variety of engagement sessions, including in-person and virtual workshops as well as surveys. The following report details these efforts and analyzes their results, so that the subsequent project phases can build from a strong foundation of community input.



SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT

INITIAL OUTREACH DETAILS

SESSION 1

QUESTIONNAIRE | DATE MAY 1ST - 20TH | TYPE ONLINE/HARD COPY | PARTICIPANTS 131

SESSION 2

IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION | DATE MAY 12TH | TYPE IN-PERSON | PARTICIPANTS 28

SESSION 3

VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION | DATE MAY 20TH | TYPE VIRTUAL | PARTICIPANTS 19

FOLLOW UP OUTREACH DETAILS

SESSION 4

ONLINE SURVEY | DATE JUNE 21ST - JULY 5TH | TYPE ONLINE/HARD COPY | PARTICIPANTS 158

SESSION 5

DISCUSSION GROUPS | DATE JUNE 21ST - JULY 5TH | TYPE IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL | PARTICIPANTS ~80

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This summary is intended to provide an overview of the feedback received during the five community engagement sessions. To understand the full breadth of the responses and results, please review section 2, Analysis and Results, of this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPATION

Demographically, the consultants find this engagement effort to be a valid representation of the community. The process involved a racially diverse group of participants, with approximately 50% of participants identifying as White and 40% identifying as Black or African American. Additionally, nearly 75% of participants were residents or employees in OTR, 19% were business owners, and 8% were individuals who interacted with the community in a different manner, such as coaching or volunteering.

EXISTING FACILITIES USAGE

This data is only representative of participants of the five engagement sessions and does not represent actual facility usage.

LOCATION:

- HIGH - Findlay Playground
- MODERATE - Elm St. Playground
- LIMITED - Grant Park and OTR Recreation Center

FREQUENCY:

- Of the session participants, there was an even split of people who use the recreation facilities daily, weekly, or monthly in contrast to those who seldom or don't use the facilities.



In each session, comments on existing conditions around the facilities arose. Below are the primary topics mentioned by participants. See section 2 for detailed results.

POSITIVE EXISTING CONDITIONS

CULTURE:

- Residents and visitors alike appreciate the neighborhood's cultural diversity.

GREEN SPACES:

- All study participants liked having green spaces in OTR.

GROWTH:

- Overwhelmingly, the continued growth of the community is desired. There are hopes OTR will gain additional amenities and that they will support growth in the future.

ART/MURALS:

- The community is fond of OTR's cultural art/murals and feel they add to its sense of place.

HOUSING:

- Historic buildings and improvements were viewed favorably amongst the participants as an aspect that makes the area attractive and is essential to the growth of the community.

NEGATIVE EXISTING CONDITIONS

SAFETY:

- Overwhelmingly, people felt safety was a concern in these areas.
- Participants feel that improvements need to be made in policing, lighting, and pedestrian safety.
- Participants feel that there is an excessive amount of criminal activity in the area.

TRAFFIC:

- Traffic flow was a concern, particularly related to vehicle speed, policing, and the use of roadways by recreational vehicles such as ATVs and dirt bikes.
- Adequate safe parking in the area is a concern. Coupled with inadequate lighting, this reduces a sense of safety for visitors and residents.

SANITATION & MAINTENANCE:

- Trash, litter and waste management is a primary concern.
- Play ground equipment upkeep and maintenance was a concern of parents of younger children. This perception keeps them from sending kids to use the equipment even if it is in working order.
- Broken, uneven, and overgrown pedestrian paths were seen as hazardous conditions.

COMMUNICATION:

- Many of the OTR residents want more of a say in the direction of the community's future growth.

ECONOMICS:

- There is sense of a lack of economic opportunity or support for the current minority residents.
- Participants feel there is a lack of businesses, specifically minority-owned businesses.
- There is a fear that the area is being gentrified.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In addition to feedback on existing conditions, each session asked participants questions related to what they felt was missing from the recreation sites and what they needed from their community. Below are the primary topics mentioned by participants. See section 4 for a detailed results.

GENERAL WANTS AND NEEDS

OUTDOOR SPACES:

- More Green Spaces
- Safe Places for Children to Play
- Outdoor Walking and Bike Paths
- Public Water Fountains
- Gathering Spaces for Community Activities
- Outdoor Spaces that Cater to Night Life Community Activities
- Respite Spaces for All Ages
- Historical and Cultural Markers, Stories and Murals in the Outdoor Environment
- Adequate Parking
- Landscaping and Streetscape Upkeep
- Pet Friendly Spaces

AMENITIES:

- Retail
- Dinning and Food Options
- Basic Services (Financial, Dry Cleaning, Grooming, Shipping, etc)

LEGACY COMMUNITY SUPPORT:

- More Black Owned Business Support
- Financial Literacy Support
- Affordable Housing and Programs
- Social Services and Outreach

CARE:

- Medical
- Pharmacy
- Child Care
- Mental Health

RECREATIONAL WANTS AND NEEDS

RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES:

- Family Activities
- Youth Activities
- Performances/Movies/Entertainment
- Sports Leagues
- Arts and Music
- Group Fitness Opportunities
- Summer Camp
- After School Sports Programs
- Gymnastics

RECREATIONAL FACILITY FEATURES:

- Theater/Performance Space
- Rentable Activity Spaces
- Multipurpose Spaces & Sports Facilities
- Playgrounds
- Gym
- Pool/Aquatics
- Basketball Court
- Classrooms
- Climbing Wall
- Exterior Activity Shelter
- Quiet Spaces
- Technology/Game Spaces
- Running Track
- Nurse/Care Space

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:

- Tutoring or Homework Help
- Finance Classes
- Parenting Resources Or Classes
- Nutritional

SOCIAL PROGRAMS:

- Mentorship Programs
- Job Placement
- Cultural Arts and Presentations

ENGAGEMENT DETAILS

ANALYSIS & RESULTS

This section of the document takes an in depth look at the 5 sessions and distills the information into groups, categories, and topics that will serve as a guiding tool for the Findlay Recreation project.

Session 1 - Questionnaire

Session 2 - In-person Visioning Session

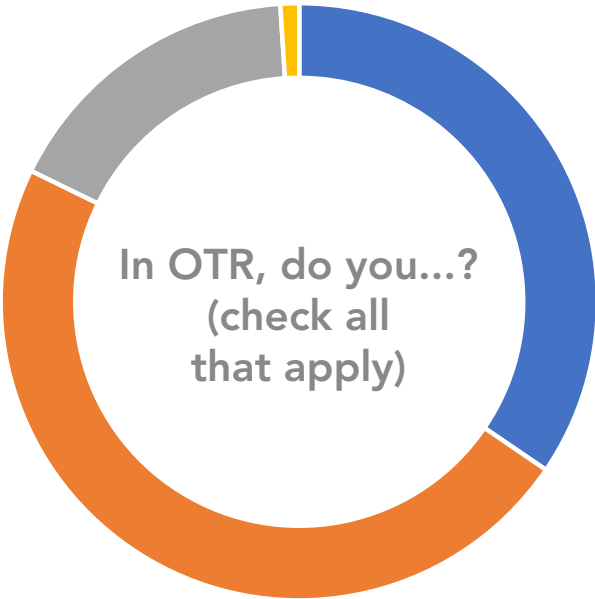
Session 3 - Virtual Visioning Session

Session 4 - Survey

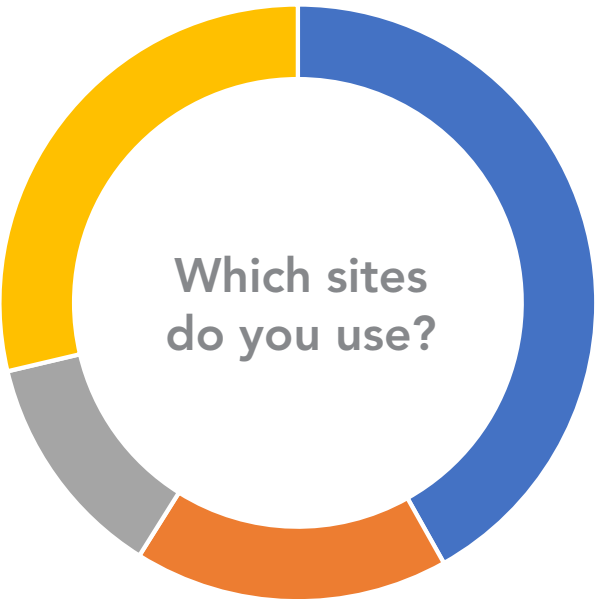
Session 5 - Discussion Groups

SESSION 1 ANALYSIS - Questionnaire Results

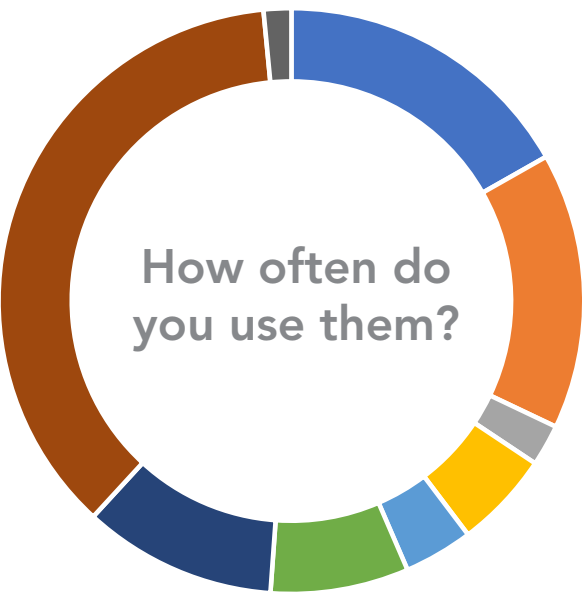
This questionnaire was comprised of 8 questions. 131 responses were received from community members.



- 34.5 Live
- 47.7 Work
- 16.8 Own a Business
- 1.0 Live Nearby



- 41.9 Findlay Playground (New Findlay Recreation Area)
- 17.1 Grant Park
- 12.4 OTR Recreation Center / the Hub
- 28.7 Elm St Pocket Park (Old Findlay Recreation Area)



- 16.8 Daily
- 15.3 Weekly
- 2.3 Monthly
- 5.3 Yearly
- 3.8 Frequently
- 7.6 Occasionally
- 10.7 Rarely
- 36.6 Never
- 1.5 N/A

SESSION 1 ANALYSIS - Questionnaire Results

Based on participant answers provided on the cards, these word clouds were generated showing the frequency that a word or topic was mentioned.

Below each cloud is a brief synopsis of the cloud and discussions pertaining to the questions.

What do you like about these sites?



The participants liked that all of the sites are close in proximity to other businesses and their home. The sites are considered family friendly, offer open space for activities, and help to create a positive community atmosphere. Many respondents use the green spaces and play areas, and a number of participants stated that they bring their dogs to the open spaces despite the lack of formal dog areas.

What do you dislike about these sites?



The community's response to the question focused primarily on the high level of trash and crime. Many of the responses were related to litter, lack of safety, and the existing playground equipment being broken. Many respondents would prefer more amenities, improved lighting, and more programmed activities.

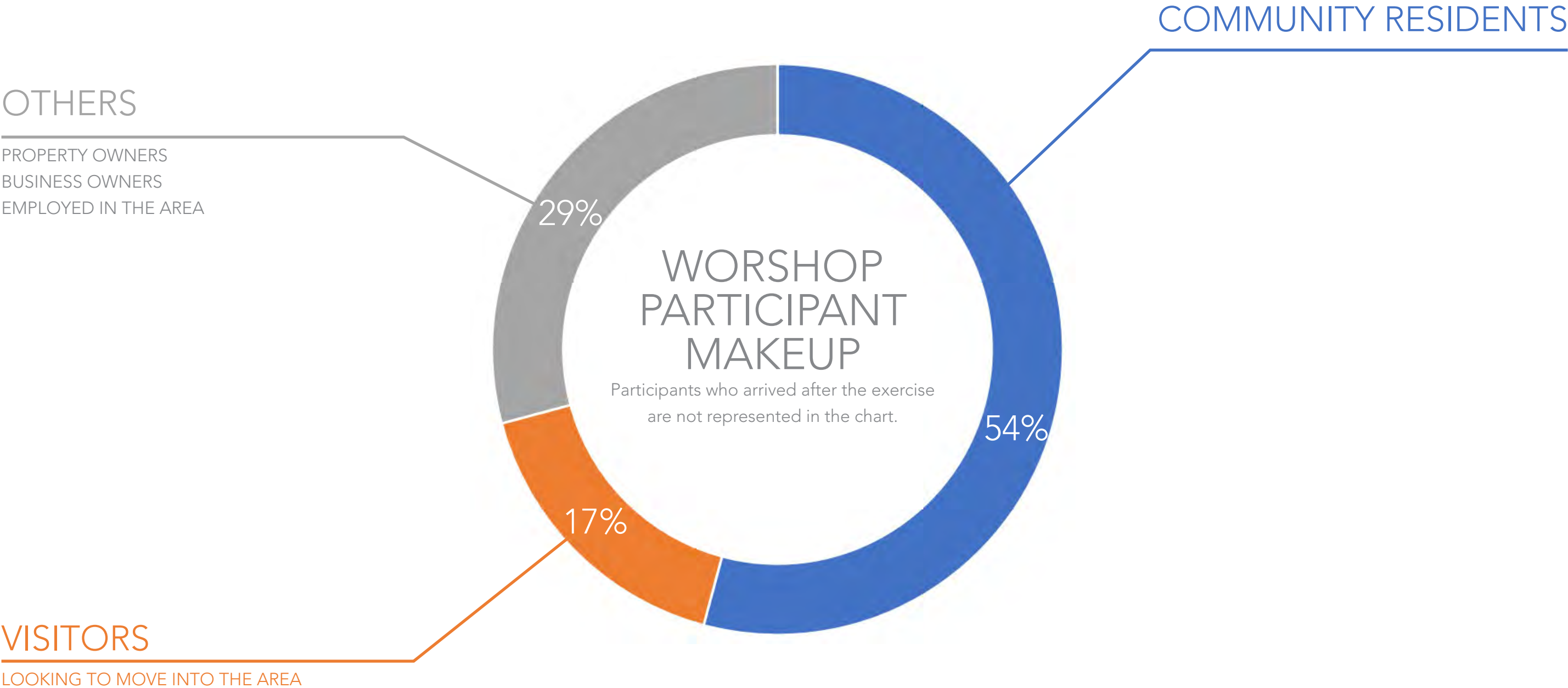
What is missing from these sites?



Respondents are looking for many of the basic needs expected in any park site, including dog parks, programming, kid friendly activities, clean restrooms, artwork, and updated equipment.

SESSION 2 ANALYSIS - Exercise One: Sign-In Card Results

Demographic snapshot of the workshop participants who filled out a sign-in card



SESSION 2 ANALYSIS - Exercise Two: Wants & Needs Results

Based on participant answers provided on the cards, these word clouds were generated showing the frequency that a word or topic was mentioned. Below each cloud is a brief synopsis of the cloud and discussions pertaining to the questions.

What does your community need more of?



The community's response to the question was two part. First, many participants acknowledged the need for recreation areas, particularly open green space. Many expressed that what is currently available doesn't meet their needs. Second, respondents indicated that they see a lack of business in the part of OTR near the project sites. In both cases, the participants noted that they often go to other parts of OTR or other neighborhoods to find the amenities they're looking for.

What is missing from your community/neighborhood?



The community's response to the question primarily focused around a safety. Some participants focused on environmental issues such as lighting, uneven sidewalks, pedestrian and bike safety, and vehicles speeding. Others focused on activity-related issues such as crime and large groups of people hanging out on the sidewalks and streets. All of these items discouraged people from using the recreation sites.

What could make life in your community more enjoyable?



Many of the responses to the question centered on improving the maintenance of these sites and city infrastructure, including safe traffic flow, adequate parking, clean streets, waste management, a variety of transportation options, suitable outdoor spaces, sidewalk upkeep, and policing.

SESSION 2 ANALYSIS - Exercise Three: Bullseye Results

First through individual selection and then group discussion, participants prioritized images and topics into three categories of needs - love, like and maybe. These categories represent what participants **LOVE** based on the bullseye they created together.



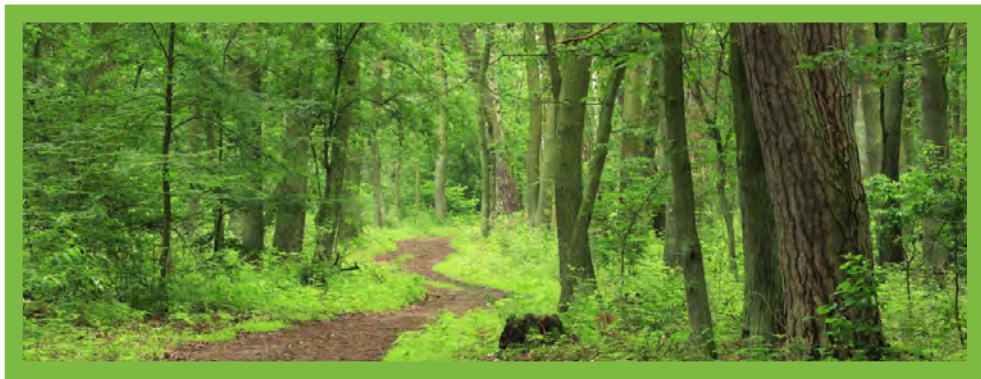
SAFETY

- LIGHTING
- TRAFFIC
- POLICING
- PLACES TO PLAY
- NOISE
- LITTER
- TRANSPORTATION



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING
- ARTS & CRAFTS ACTIVITIES
- TECHNOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES
- PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
- PLAY SPACES
- DIVERSE GROUP ACTIVITIES
- SOCIAL SKILLS ACTIVITIES
- MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS
- AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
- GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES



GREEN SPACES

- DOG PARKS
- PLAY AREAS
- WALKING AREAS
- PLAY GROUNDS
- OUTDOOR ATHLETIC AREAS
- SPACES TO RUN
- RELAXING AREAS
- RESPIRE AREAS
- BIKE PATHS
- WATER FOUNTAINS

SESSION 2 ANALYSIS - Exercise Three: Bullseye Results

First through individual selection and then group discussion, participants prioritized images and topics into three categories of needs - love, like and maybe. These categories represent what participants **LIKE** based on the bullseye they created together.



HISTORY

- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- MURALS
- OTR PRIDE
- EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE
- HISTORIC COMMUNITY
- PEOPLES STORIES
- WHO WE ARE



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

- EVENING ACTIVITIES
- DIVERSE ENTERTAINMENT
- FUN GATHERINGS
- SAFE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES
- COMMUNITY EVENTS
- NIGHT LIFE
- MUSIC / ART / SOCIAL



SUSTAINABLE

- AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT
- SELF SUSTAINING INFRASTRUCTURE
- PARKING
- RETAIL & RESTAURANTS
- DEVELOPMENT
- INVESTMENT IN PEOPLE
- FINANCIAL LITERACY HELP
- FINANCIAL HELP AND SUPPORT

SESSION 2 ANALYSIS - Exercise Three: Bullseye Results

First through individual selection and then group discussion, participants prioritized images and topics into three categories of needs - love, like and maybe. These categories represent what participants considered **MAYBES** based on the bullseye they created together.



POPULATION

- INCREASE RESIDENTS
- LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS
- OUTREACH PROGRAMS
- ATTRACT RESIDENTS



DESTINATION

- MAKE AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE
- DISTRICT VERNACULAR
- AMENITIES THAT ATTRACT VISITORS
- A PLANNED STOP
- MURAL ART DISTRICT
- PLACE FOR KIDS TO BE KIDS



DIVERSITY / CULTURE

- BLACK OWNED BUSINESSES
- EDUCATION
- CULTURAL EVENTS
- MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMING
- BLACK LED EVENTS
- DIVERSE LEADERSHIP
- OPPORTUNITIES



SUSTAINABILITY

- CARBON FOOTPRINT
- GREEN INITIATIVES
- RECYCLING
- SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

SESSION 3 ANALYSIS - Exercise One: Wants & Needs Results

Based on participant answers provided on the cards, these word clouds were generated showing the frequency that a word or topic was mentioned. Below each cloud is a brief synopsis of the cloud and discussions pertaining to the questions.

What does your community need more of?



Safety was a top concern for participants responding to the question. Similar to other sessions, some respondents focused on design and built environment issues such as uneven sidewalks, pedestrian and bike safety, and traffic calming. Others focused on activities such as crime, police relations, and creating kid- and family-friendly spaces.

What is missing from your community/neighborhood?



Several important themes arose from the question. First, a lack of parking, specifically for residents was a concern for participants. Second, respondents stressed the importance of Black-owned spaces to them. Third, attendees wanted to see more inclusive storytelling, including how OTR's past is connected to its present.

What could make life in your community more enjoyable?



Safety again appeared as an important topic for participants in the question. Similar comments that were made in response to question 1 were stated, such as improving sidewalks and pedestrian safety, slowing down cars, and removing non-road vehicles such as ATVs and dirt bikes. There was also a repeated emphasis on creating spaces safe for kids.

SESSION 3 ANALYSIS - Exercise Two: Bullseye Results

First through individual selection and then group discussion, participants prioritized clustered images and topics into two categories of needs - must have and nice to have. These categories represent what participants **MUST HAVE** based on the bullseye they created together.

community growth



Fitness



Culture



Art, greenspace, landscaping, gathering spaces, multiple uses



family friendly spaces

Pedestrian safety/priority over cars



SESSION 3 ANALYSIS - Exercise Two: Bullseye Results

First through individual selection and then group discussion, participants prioritized clustered images and topics into two categories of needs - must have and nice to have. These categories represent what participants think would be **NICE TO HAVE** based on the bullseye they created together.

festivities



event space



Places for Pets



Innovation



Food trucks



Meditation / Zen Park



Travel & the World like Experiences

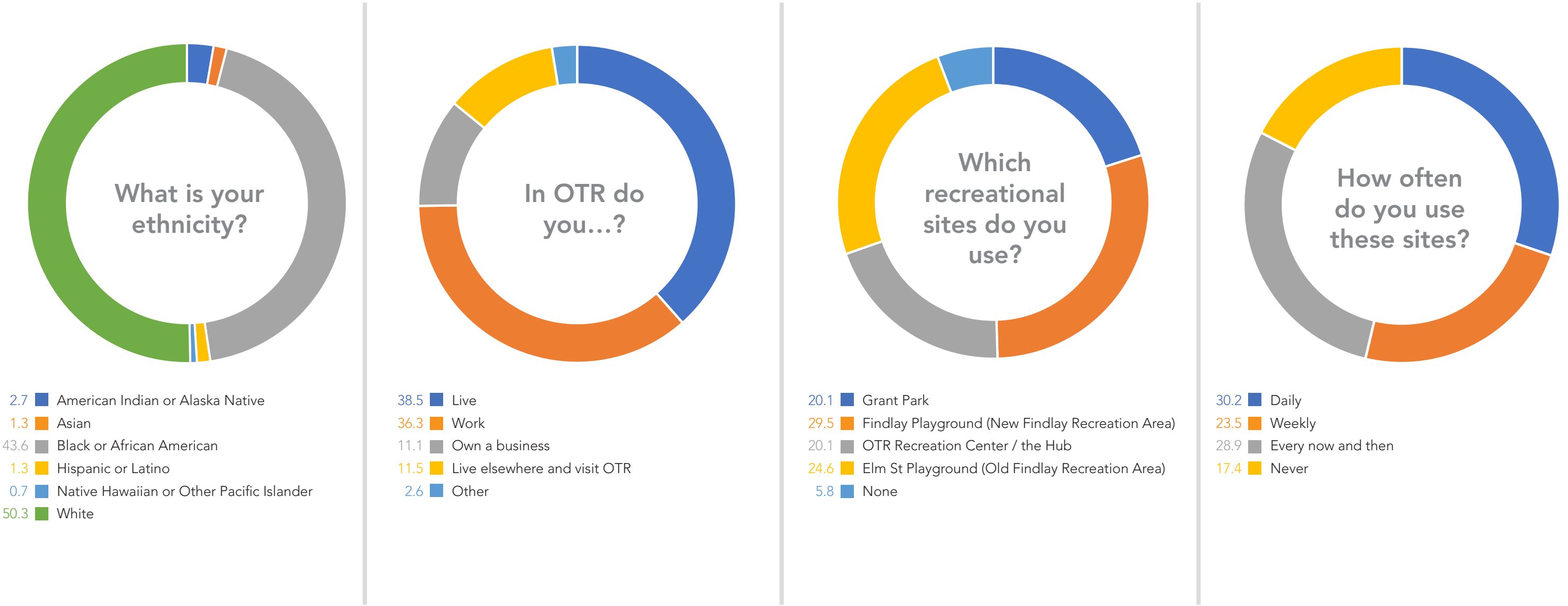


Carnivals



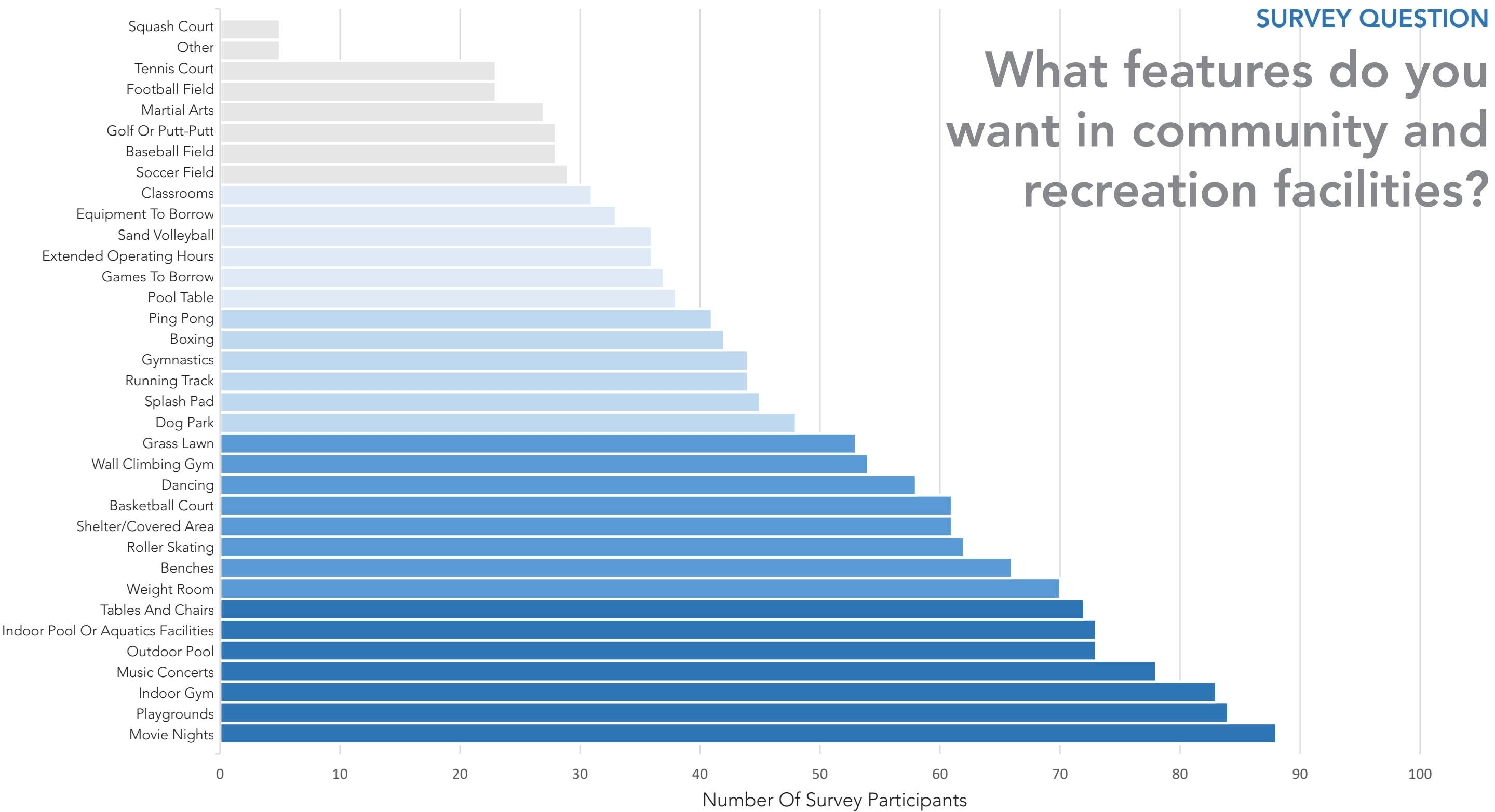
SESSION 4 ANALYSIS - Survey Results

Some of the survey questions focused on understanding the user and how they interacted with the project sites. None of the information has been modified from the exact values of the survey results.



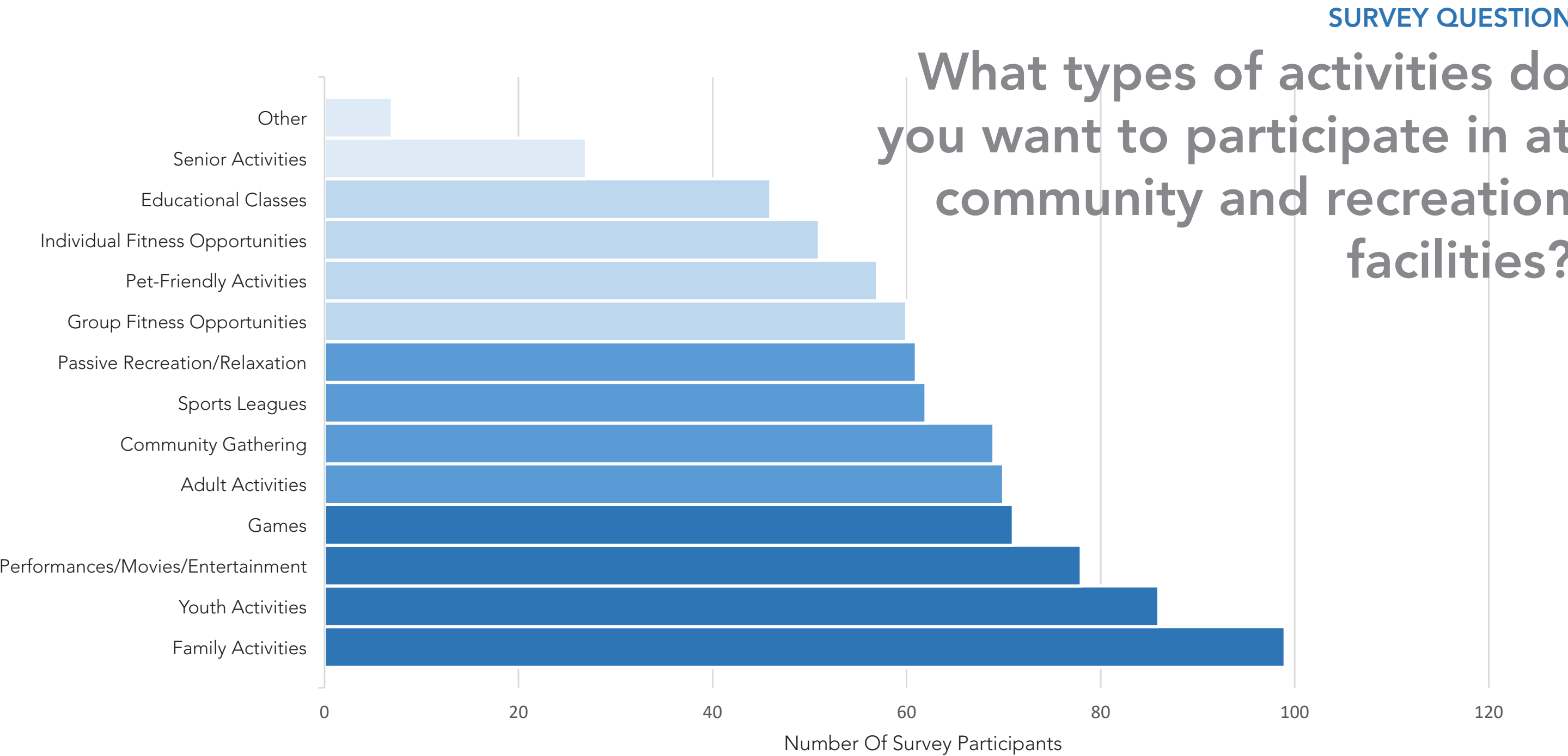
SESSION 4 ANALYSIS - Survey Results

These results have been charted to show selections visually by priority. None of the information has been modified from the exact values of the survey results.



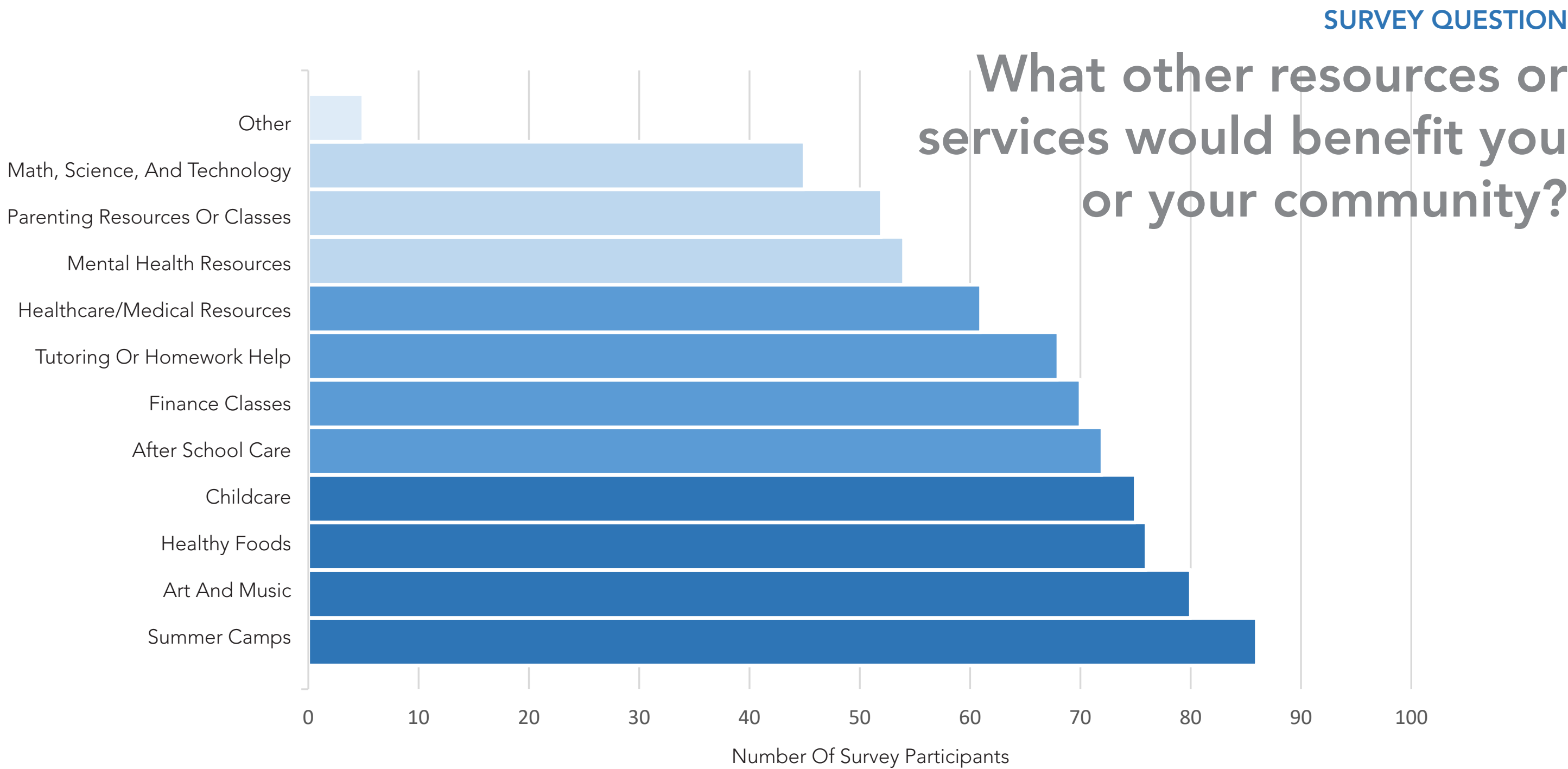
SESSION 4 ANALYSIS - Survey Results

These results have been charted to show selections visually by priority. None of the information has been modified from the exact values of the survey results.



SESSION 4 ANALYSIS - Survey Results

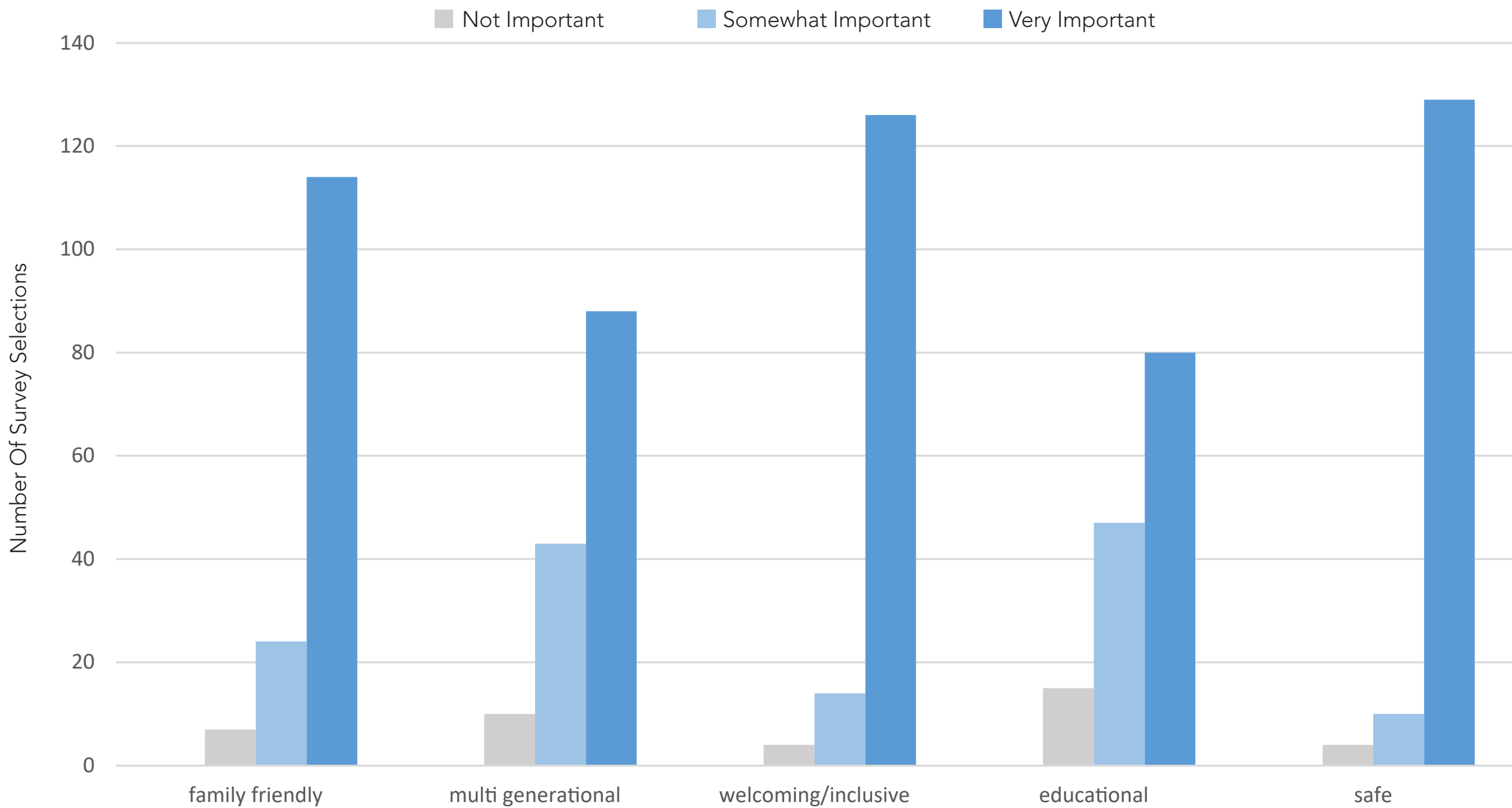
These results have been charted to show selections visually by priority. None of the information has been modified from the exact values of the survey results.



SESSION 4 ANALYSIS - Survey Results

These results have been charted to show selections visually by priority. None of the information has been modified from the exact values of the survey results.

SURVEY QUESTION
How important are these qualities in community and recreation facilities?



SESSION 5 ANALYSIS - Group Discussion Results

As part of the outreach effort for the survey, the project team attended meetings with neighborhood stakeholders to share copies of the survey and take notes on conversations with attendees. These are the notes that resulted from those group discussions. Feedback from these sessions aligns with input from the other sessions and supports the report’s overall findings.

1 Cornerstone Resident Meeting - In-Person

6/17/21

Participants: 18

- Spray ground/splash pad
- Walk pets; need mutt mitts
- Basketball court
- Rugby
- Field hockey
- Soccer
- Parking
- Food and drinks, like Washington Park Porch
- Cleaning litter and dog poop
- Sports that don’t need much equipment
- Seating to watch while kids are playing
- Park attendants
- Gymnastics/tumbling
- Track team
- Summer camp with field trips
- Miss the Boys and Girls Club now that it’s closed
- Counseling for kids
- Restrooms, including women’s hygiene products
- Indoor and outdoor pool

2 Wesley Chapel Mission Center High School Group

6/23/21

Participants: ~20

- Seesaw
- Mostly use parks to hang out vs playing games/sports
- When hanging out, mostly sit on playground equipment and maybe start using it
- Outdoor and indoor pools
- Need spaces to be monitored, cleaned, and have rules that are enforced
- Ziegler Park pool gets too busy, so kids can’t always get in
- Hang out at the pool; not on swim team
- Gaga ball
- Soccer
- Football
- Badminton
- Don’t go to the Hub (the rec center) because it feels dangerous outside
- Weight room
- Zip line
- Playground roundabout or merry-go-round
- Cleaning litter is important
- Tennis courts

SESSION 5 ANALYSIS - Group Discussion Results

As part of the outreach effort for the survey, the project team attended several meetings with neighborhood stakeholders to conduct further discussions regarding the survey. These are the notes that resulted from those group discussions. Feedback from these sessions aligns with input from the other sessions and supports the report’s overall findings.

3 Cornerstone Resident Meeting - Virtual 6/24/21

Participants: 9

- Volleyball
- Softball field – adult league
- Used to go to the Hub (rec center) pre-COVID 3-4x per week
 - Weight room
 - Run on basketball court
 - Pool tables occasionally
- At the Hub, if they were offered, they would use
 - Exercise classes
 - Washington Park classes like bootcamp
- Support groups (ex. AA); event/classroom space for these activities
- Outdoor grills
- Reservable space for gathering
- Bike a loop from OTR to Smale Park to Eden Park

4 Our Daily Bread 6/28/21

Participants: ~30

How do you use the parks or Hub now?

- Listen to music
- Lift weights
- Boxing
- Basketball courts
- Hang out and relax

Current concerns

- Safety (at least 10 people said this)
- Homelessness; being bothered by police
- Drug use

What do you wish was in the parks or Hub?

- Swings
- Partner with churches to hold services there
- Kids activities
- Seating and tables
- Drinking fountains
- Water park
- Swimming pool; used to use the Hub until the pool closed
- Relaxing
- Restrooms
- Connection to Findlay Market
- Stage for entertainment
- Free little library
- Music
- Plants and flowers
- Playgrounds
- Wall climbing
- Rope course
- Spider playground equipment (like Grant Park)
- Baseball
- Fishing
- Cards

Other

- Go to senior center for games, field trips, friends; could do the same things in the parks
- Go to other parks that are bigger and where you can be alone or have a quiet space
- Findlay Playground is mostly used by people 40+
- Go to parks in Kentucky because they’re clean, safe, and quiet
- Go to Washington Park
- Like to have activities going on around you, even if you don’t participate
- Want places to take grandkids to

ENGAGEMENT DETAILS

INITIAL OUTREACH DETAILS

- Session 1 - Questionnaire
- Session 2 - In-person Visioning Session
- Session 3 - Virtual Visioning Session

SESSION 1

Questionnaire

Location: Online
Date/Time: May 1 - May 20, 2021
Duration: 3 Weeks
Of Participants: 131



SESSION 2

In-Person Visioning Session

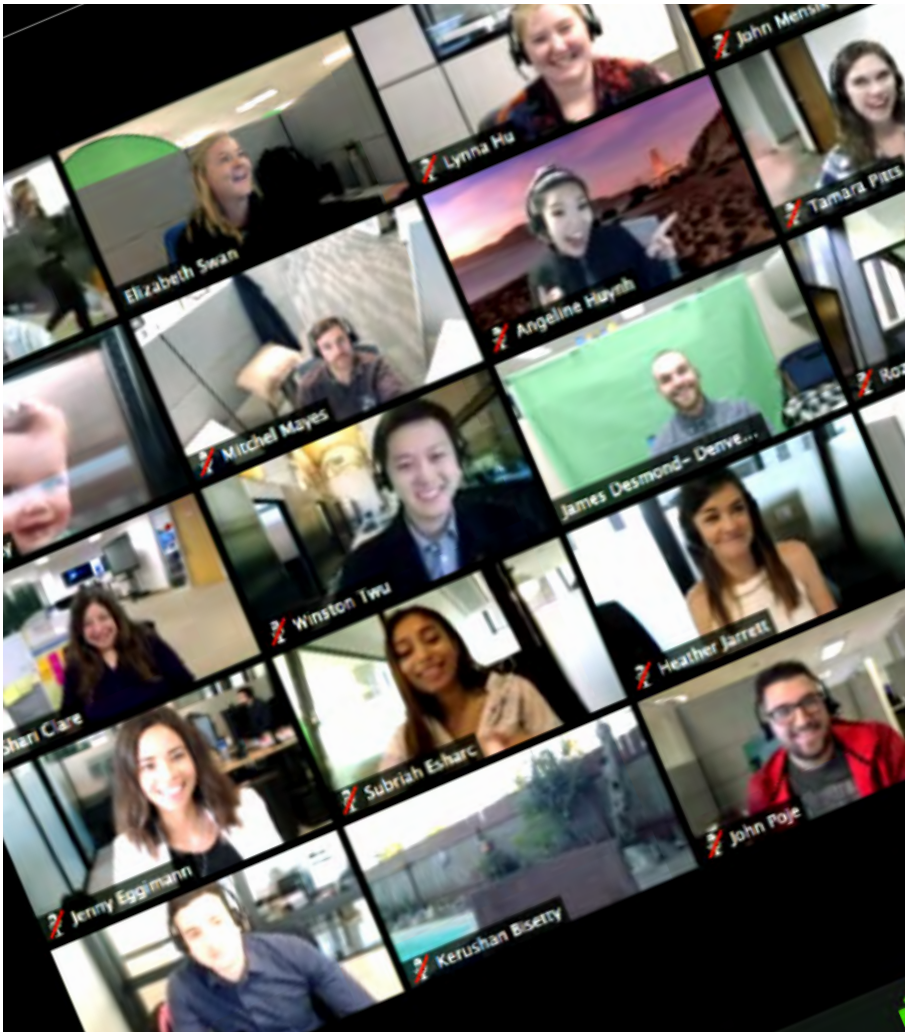
Location: Grant Park
Date/Time: May 12, 2021
Duration: 1.5 Hours
Of Participants: 28



SESSION 3

Virtual Visioning Session

Location: Zoom Meeting
Date/Time: May 20, 2021
Duration: 1.5 Hours
Of Participants: 19



SESSION 1

QUESTIONNAIRE

To provide an additional engagement opportunity for those who couldn't attend one of the two workshops, a short questionnaire was distributed. Similar to the workshops, the questionnaire was intended for open ended feedback.

SESSION 1 - QUESTIONNAIRE

SESSION ACTIVITIES

This questionnaire was comprised of 8 questions. 131 responses were received from community members.

- 1. What is your age?
- 2. Do you.... (check all that apply)
 - Live in OTR?
 - Work in OTR?
 - Own a business in OTR?
 - Other: _____
- 3. How long have you been a part of this community?
- 4. Which sites do you use? (check all that apply)
 - Grant Park
 - Findlay Playground
 - OTR Community Center
 - Elm St Pocket Park
- 5. How often do you use them?
- 6. What do you like about the sites?
- 7. What do you dislike about the sites?
- 8. What's missing from these sites?

SESSION 2

IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION

This section of the document looks at the in-person work-session that was held at Grant Park and the activities that took place.

SESSION 2 - IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION

SESSION ACTIVITIES

This session was comprised of 3 exercises, which we conducted with 28 community members at Grant Park.

EXERCISE ONE: Sign-In Card

Participant filled out contact cards, so they could be included in future project updates.

Name:

Email:

How are you affiliated with this community?

☒ I live in this community.

☐ I'm visiting from another community.

☐ Other

EXERCISE TWO: Wants & Needs

Participants provided their views and opinions of what the community needs.

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?

Local / healthy food

Recycling bins

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?

jobs, housing, pride

homeowners

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?

Shared goals of improving & maintaining development

EXERCISE THREE: Bullseye

Participants looked through a bank of images and chose those that they felt best described needs of the community.

The group then deliberated and reduced the number of images, sorting them into one of three categories - maybe, like, and love.

Once complete, the group chose two presenters to explain why the images they had chosen as a group were the most important.



SESSION 2 - IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION

Exercise Two: Wants & Needs

Participants provided their views and opinions of what the community needs.

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Local/healthy food
Recycling bins

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
jobs, housing, pride
home owners

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Shared goals of improving & maintaining development

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Bike/pedestrian-friendly
spaces, not spaces, active commerce

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Safe, family-friendly spaces
gardens

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Parks/non-commercial community space

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
safety & security/policing
job opportunities

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
safety & security

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
restaurants, ice cream/coffee shops

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Green space, especially family-oriented
Residents

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Safe green space
Places to gather

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Fewer cars, better transit

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Green space, public space, less
paved outdoor zones; full service
food market

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
pedestrian only zones, pocket
parks, food truck zones

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Pedestrian flow/plan; easy public
transport - street that is more
robust & more urban, small
paved walking paths around civic nodes

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
INVITING/CLEAN/SAFE/EXCITING
PUBLIC SPACES FOR ALL

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
MORE ACTIVE STREET
LEVEL BUSINESSES

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
ACTIVE STREETS, SAFE
FUN, CLEAN, AND BUSY

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Safe streets, beautiful public
spaces, developed buildings,
affordable housing, businesses

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
residents, businesses
Safe to clean streets

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Safe & clean public spaces
more people of all types &
incomes, active streets

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Safe green spaces, more foot traffic/activity

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
More lighting, ability to have events in the park (in
utilizing currently) More retail

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
More activities to be able to socialize w/ other community
members. Safe area

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
FOOT TRAFFIC / SHOPS & BUSINESSES
PEOPLE/ACTIVITY

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
MARKET - THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS
A FOOD DESERT

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
GET EVERYTHING FIXED UP
LIKE DTR SOUTH OF LIBERTY

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
employment opportunities
long-term investment &
good property owners including
landlords

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
affordable retail/commercial

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
litter management
traffic enforcement/bike &
ped safety

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Regular community-wide gatherings,
investment in empty buildings

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Holiday traditions, new perspectives

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
(noise & litter)
Quality of Life police enforcement

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Innovation, Science &
Technology Expression

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
All of the above

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Inspiring purpose in youth
& families

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Residents - More population,
Greater Density

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Nothing - More than more
spaces like the Elm st. yard

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
I like the current trajectory
we are to keep growing

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Diverse housing options, small
grocery stores, urban infill/infrastructure

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Safe, equitable biking,
walking, and handicapped infrastructure

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Less trash/litter/environmental hazards.
Public transit/answer 2: infrastructure

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
our community needs more places to
gather and shop. More local commerce,
find options north of liberty

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
We do not have enough grocery
and restaurant options here in
North OTR. We also are missing
pleasant seating spaces w/ greenery

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
I would enjoy a park with greenery
and perhaps a water feature, seating
space where I could drink a coffee

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
SAFE OUTDOOR SPACES
LIGHT & CAMERAS

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
ENCLOSED DECENT SIDE
DOGS PARK

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
SAFE OUTDOOR PARKS

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
- lights, cameras
- OUTDOOR DINING

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
enclosed dog park space

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
- designated outdoor
refreshment areas
- closed off side streets

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
• More family/activity opportunities
• More trees
• More policing (to stop loitering,
public drinking, loud music)

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
• Useful park spaces (keep
them green, but designed
for actively engaging
kids, young adults, old adults!)

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
• More/greater redevelopment of
buildings on Vine St., McMichan
& other

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Available Day Care
Better Schooling

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
A sense of family/
community

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Trash ~~clean~~ / Street
maintenance

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Residents, stores, basic
services (drug store, hotel, etc.)

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Modern rec center

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Fewer vacant buildings, more
active public spaces

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Basic need stores (grocery, drug store)
More buildings being occupied w/
mix of affordable & market price
housing

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
- Decrease drug street selling
- Community rec center

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
- Greater integration among the
diverse community members

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Local/healthy food
Recycling bins

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
jobs, housing, pride
home owners

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Shared goals of improving &
maintaining development

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Bike/pedestrian-friendly
spaces, not spaces, active commerce

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Safe, family-friendly spaces
gardens

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Parks/non-commercial community space

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
safety & security/policing
job opportunities

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
safety & security

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
restaurants, ice cream/coffee shops

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Green space, public space, less
paved outdoor zones; full service
food market

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
pedestrian only zones, pocket
parks, food truck zones

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Pedestrian flow/plan; easy public
transport - street that is more
robust & more urban, small
paved walking paths around civic nodes

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Green space, especially family-oriented
Residents

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
Safe green space
Places to gather

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Fewer cars, better transit

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
Green space, public space, less
paved outdoor zones; full service
food market

2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?
pedestrian only zones, pocket
parks, food truck zones

3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?
Pedestrian flow/plan; easy public
transport - street that is more
robust & more urban, small
paved walking paths around civic nodes

WANTS & NEEDS

1. What does your Community need more of?
memorials/memorials featuring
local neighborhood residents

SESSION 2 - IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION

Exercise Three: Bullseye

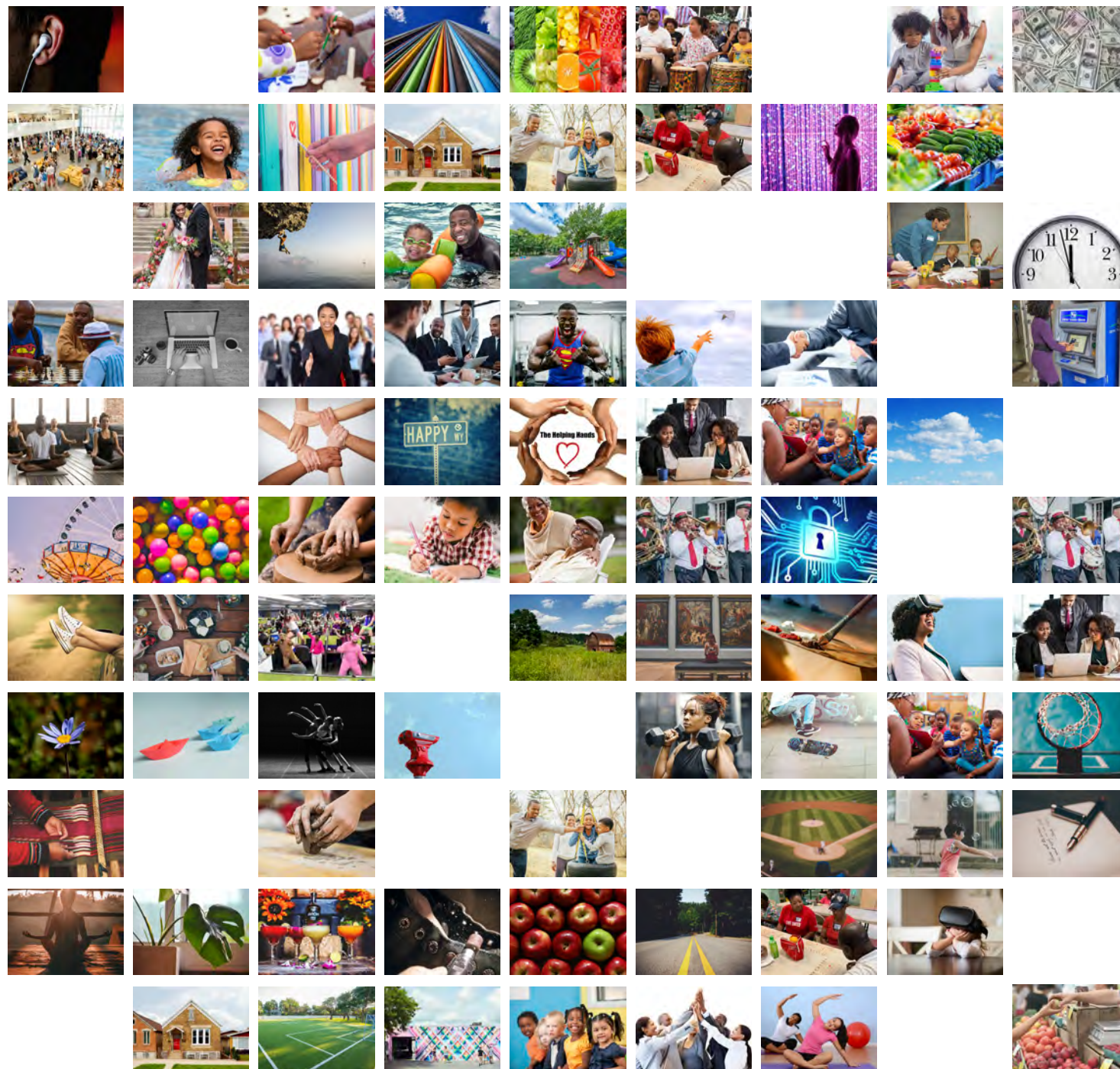
Participants looked through a bank of images and chose those that they felt best described needs of the community. The group then deliberated and reduced the number of images, sorting them into one of three categories - maybe, like, and love. Once complete, the group chose two presenters to explain why the images they had chosen as a group were the most important.



SESSION 2 - IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION

Exercise Three: Bullseye

Final bullseye image selection and prioritization. Images on the left were the original images and all images on the right were the final images chosen.



SESSION 2 - IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION

Exercise Three: Bullseye

Transcript of community bullseye presentation

LOVE



SPEAKER 1
I'll start with the middle ones. Safety is first priority, we're not gonna be able to bring people back to the neighborhood to do all these things unless it's safe.



SPEAKER 1
The one below is about engaging the youth for skills and just get their energy out and have programming focused toward the youth in the area.



SPEAKER 1
This one's about green space, we think that's an important aspect that needs to remain because it's such a limited resource in the middle of the city. So we don't want to lose that completely.



SPEAKER 1
This last one goes back, again, to giving youth positive activities to get their energy out, learn teamwork, and learn key aspects of growing up down here.



SPEAKER 2
I think this other picture also includes an aspect of technology in it. So additionally, a little bit more academic type of children's programming.

LIKE



SPEAKER 1
We liked stories, just learning, and knowing the stories of kind of a wide variety of people down here and not just losing those stories and that history is important.



SPEAKER 1
The one below it is a combination of lighting, and kind of being active at night and all hours of the day. Having that kind of vibrancy, not just during the day but 24/7



SPEAKER 2
Here we had arts activities for children. I guess I could go into the adult realm as well.



SPEAKER 2
The food image here was almost more about sustainability, or at least tied to sustainability. Other types of food options. Someone mentioned the food desert issue around here. So other types of commercial food options, as well as sustainable home grown.



SPEAKER 2
The photo with the trombone is there as entertainment to attract people to fun activities, arts types of activities.



SPEAKER 1
This last one ATM was a combination of financial literacy and kind of connecting the neighborhood on an economic level. Then also kind of from a small business aspect of bringing in vibrancy and investment in the area.

MAYBE



SPEAKER 2
This was density, population density. So you know, we don't need 44,000 people as somebody said, but I think we only have six or 7,000 now so we need more. I live that every day. I moved in five years ago on Elder Street and almost nobody else has moved in yet. Vine Street shut down. So we need more people living around here.



SPEAKER 2
I also overlooked Findlay Park and I see the dogs out there all the time. I think a dog park would be a great idea. A lot of people use that.

SPEAKER 1
The other aspect of that was just keeping the neighborhood walkable, thinking about, you know, ways of people getting here that aren't just cars.

SESSION 2 - IN-PERSON VISIONING SESSION

Exercise Three: Bullseye

Transcript of community bullseye presentation

MAYBE



SPEAKER 1
The solar panels were more about sustainability. Whatever we're doing, just think about that aspect and incorporating it.



SPEAKER 1
This here was more about the arts.

SPEAKER 2
Yes, neighborhood art like somebody mentioned in arts district. Also I would say it's related to the big murals that could make the neighborhood look beautiful, with permanent art.



SPEAKER 1
This one is going back to the kids and giving them a safe space to just let them be free and to get that energy out. That they know this is a kind and safe space. You know, it's an area where things are happening that you can kind of let them go.



SPEAKER 1
The top ones about culture. Bringing different cultures together and celebrating that culture in different ways.



SPEAKER 2
Over here, this globe is a bit of that cultural aspect as well somewhat about diversity as well. Many people around here think broader than Over-the-Rhine, even though Over-the-Rhine is such a beautiful place.



SPEAKER 2
The bottom one was more- again activities for children. So get them physically working, get them stronger, get them doing productive activities. But it sometimes has to be structured it has to be programmed in order for them to actually want to take advantage of.

SESSION 3

VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION

This section of the document looks at the virtual visioning workshop, which was held online. Through an interactive platform, participants could drag and drop images, post-its, and audio features to express their wants and needs.

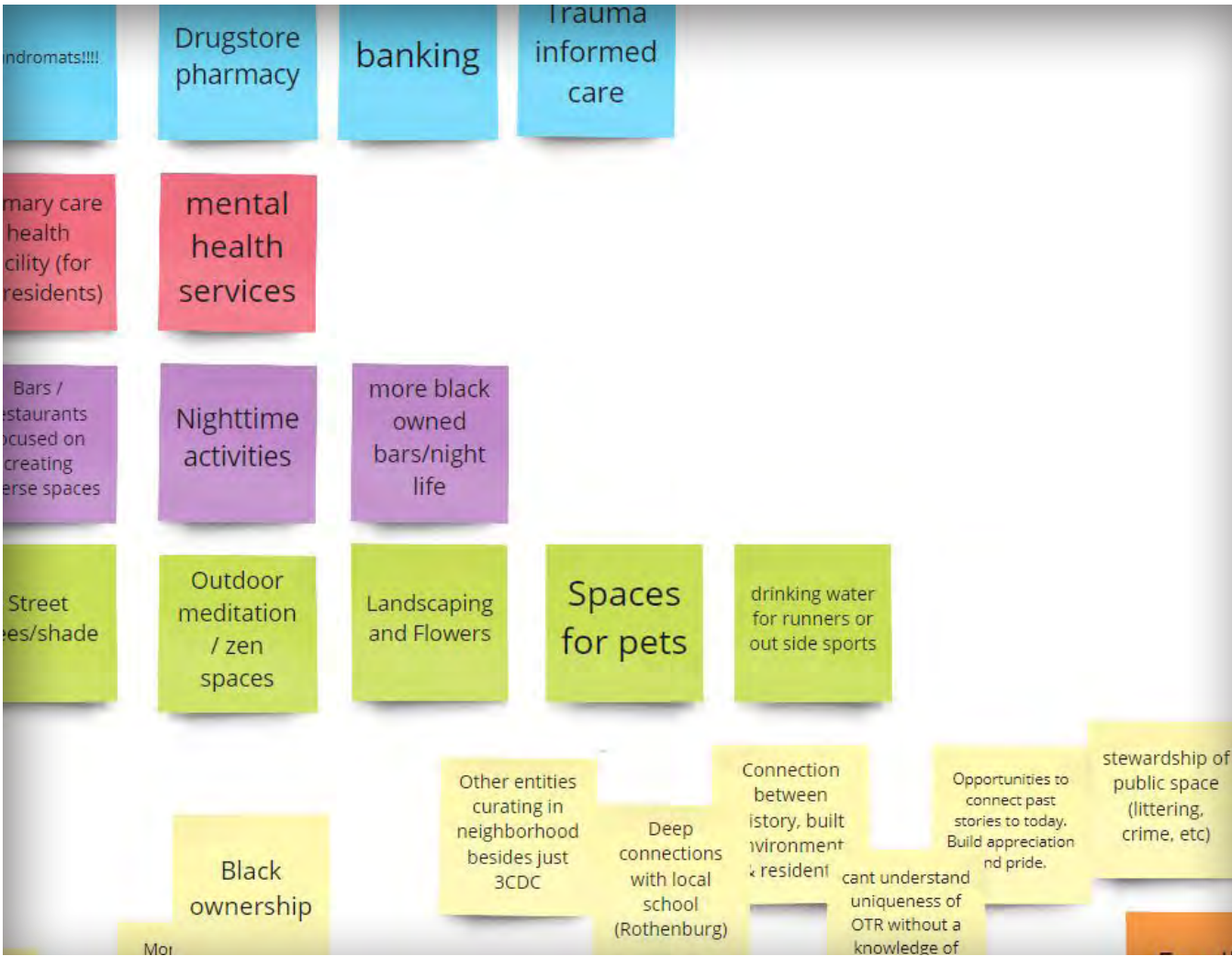
SESSION 3 - VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION

SESSION ACTIVITIES

This session was comprised of 2 exercises, which we conducted with 19 community members.

EXERCISE ONE: Wants & Needs

Participants provided their views and opinions of what the community needs by typing their thoughts onto post-it notes and dropping them under each question heading.



EXERCISE TWO: Bullseye

Participants looked through a bank of images and chose those that they felt best described needs of the community by dragging and dropping them onto the virtual basketball court.

Once participants selected their images, each image was reviewed and the person who selected it discussed its importance to them. The group then deliberated and sorted them into clusters of images representing topics important to them.



SESSION 3 - VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION

Exercise One: Wants & Needs

Participants were asked to answer 3 questions pertaining to their personal views and opinions of what the community needs. Each participant could give multiple answers. We then grouped the answers into categories based on what they addressed.

Q1. What does your Community need more of?

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

- FAMILY ACTIVITIES
- have active activities for our youth and adults
- After school programing

SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE

- Laundromat in OTR
- affordable housing
- More job opportunities in tOTR
- ANOTHER CHILDCARE CENTER IN OTR

HEALTH & WELLBEING

EQUITY & EQUALITY

- Black decision makers
- Black-led events
- More opportunities for others to curate
- Diversity
- More nightlife options for black community
- To feel like they belong in OTR

SAFETY

- Safe Spaces: Programming for neighborhood residents, including children. Spaces for people and their pets.
- Safe outdoor spaces for families and residents
- safe places to gather
- SAFE STREETS where cars are slowed down and kids are safe to play
- safety
- More pedestrian space on sidewalks

SOCIAL

- More opportunities for community interaction
- Live Outdoor music events
- Nighttime cultural opportunities

HISTORY & EDUCATION

- Connections between built environment, history, and current residents
- More information about history

PUBLIC AND OPEN SPACE

- Tall, mature trees that provide canopy/shade on the streets and in parks
- Green spaces
- Amenities similar to the other new parks in OTR
- Public restrooms and amenities
- Findlay Park Dog Park
- More dog space
- Shared indoor public spaces for community

CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

- Well-maintained facilities for athletics (both indoor and outdoor)

PARKING & ACCESS

- Better transit, pedestrian, bicycle support
- residential parking
- sidewalk improvements
- More parking for our volunteers
- Parking

SESSION 3 - VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION

Exercise One: Wants & Needs

Participants were asked to answer 3 questions pertaining to their personal views and opinions of what the community needs. Each participant could give multiple answers. We then grouped the answers into categories based on what they addressed.

Q2. What is missing from your Community/Neighborhood?

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

- Family activities
- Family Friendliness
- Gathering place that draws together ALL residents
- ways to gather as neighbors

SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE

- banking
- Laundromats
- New age corner store/bodega - still black led
- more non touristy shopping opportunities
- Drugstore pharmacy
- Daycare
- child care
- childcare

HEALTH & WELLBEING

- Primary healthcare facility (for all residents)
- mental health services
- Trauma informed care

EQUITY & EQUALITY

- Black ownership
- Sense of pride/ownership of property
- more black owned bars/night life

SAFETY

- Safe space for dogs
- Safety
- Safety (at certain times and certain locations)
- Lighting
- Safe spaces for our kids
- stewardship of public space (littering, crime, etc)
- More friendly police presence (eye contact and talking to people)

SOCIAL

- Bars / restaurants focused on creating diverse spaces
- Nighttime activities
- Programming in parks

HISTORY & EDUCATION

- cant understand uniqueness of OTR without a knowledge of our past
- Connection between history, built environment, & residents
- Opportunities to connect past stories to today. Build appreciation and pride.
- Context of how neighborhood's history is tied to current day
- Deep connections with local school (Rothenburg)

PUBLIC AND OPEN SPACE

- focus on pedestrians over cars
- Residential parking
- Strategic neighborhood wide parking solution
- PARKING
- residential parking permits or space

CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

- Public Trash Cans and Adequate pick-up

PARKING & ACCESS

- Street trees/shade
- Outdoor meditation / zen spaces
- Landscaping and Flowers
- Spaces for pets
- drinking water for runners or outside sports

SESSION 3 - VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION

Exercise One: Wants & Needs

Participants were asked to answer 3 questions pertaining to their personal views and opinions of what the community needs. Each participant could give multiple answers. We then grouped the answers into categories based on what they addressed.

Q3. What could make life in your Community more enjoyable?

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

- Increased pride in the area
- More young adults living there
- More residents w kids of all ages
- Community facility that facilitates ongoing relationships

SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE

HEALTH & WELLBEING

- Lessen the block parties and loud music during the day
- Reduction of loud vehicles (stereos, motorcycles, engines)
- Loud music, especially late at night is a big issue

EQUITY & EQUALITY

- Black led art and events
- Ownership of homes by black people
- More night life options that cater to the black experience owned by black people
- More art installations and art events led by multi-cultural folks

SAFETY

- Construction of Safer Sidewalks (ADA Standards)
- Safe/fun spaces for adolescents & teenagers
- SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY
- Streets safe for kids to bike
- More pedestrian improvements, slowing down cars
- Serious funding from City for "Vision Zero"
- Eliminate non-street illegal traffic (ATV's, loud dirt bikes)
- Fewer motorcycle / ATV / loud car races

SOCIAL

- More Music
- More collaboration between OTR organizations

HISTORY & EDUCATION

- More signage about historic places, buildings
- History that INCLUDES the contribution of black people to the community

PUBLIC AND OPEN SPACE

- Places for dogs and their owners
- Programming (Ziglar Park is amazing)
- Findlay park dog park. I find that there isn't a large safe place for the dogs to play. Washington park is nice but a smaller space for larger dogs and people in Findlay park can be hostile about dogs playing in the park even on leash.

CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

- beatification! Murals, Landscaping
- Less trash
- Crowd Control/Litter Control
- Need more clean, safe, and free public restrooms
- people not picking up their dog poop and trash issues we seem to be tolerant of the image of the nasty nati

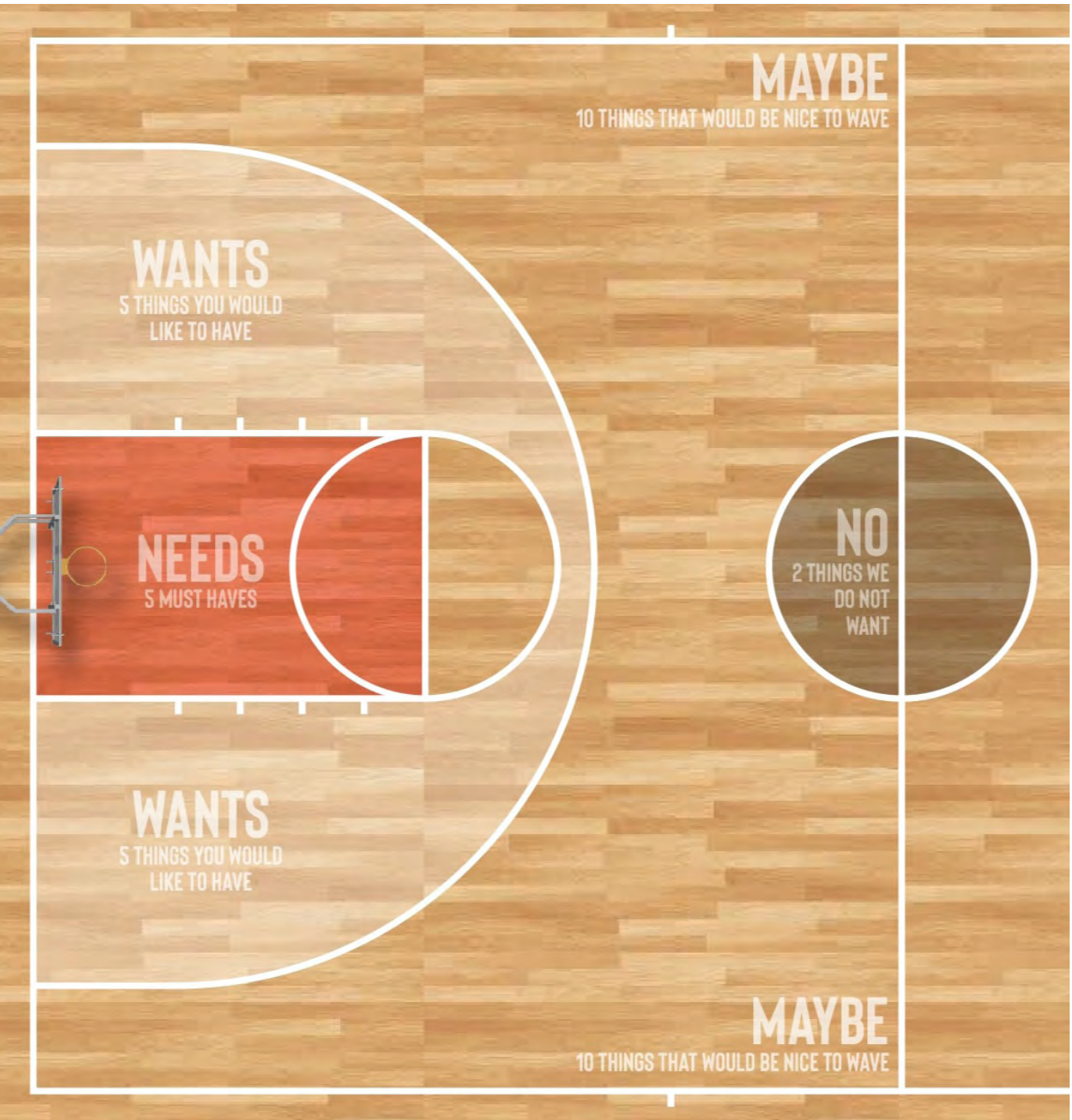
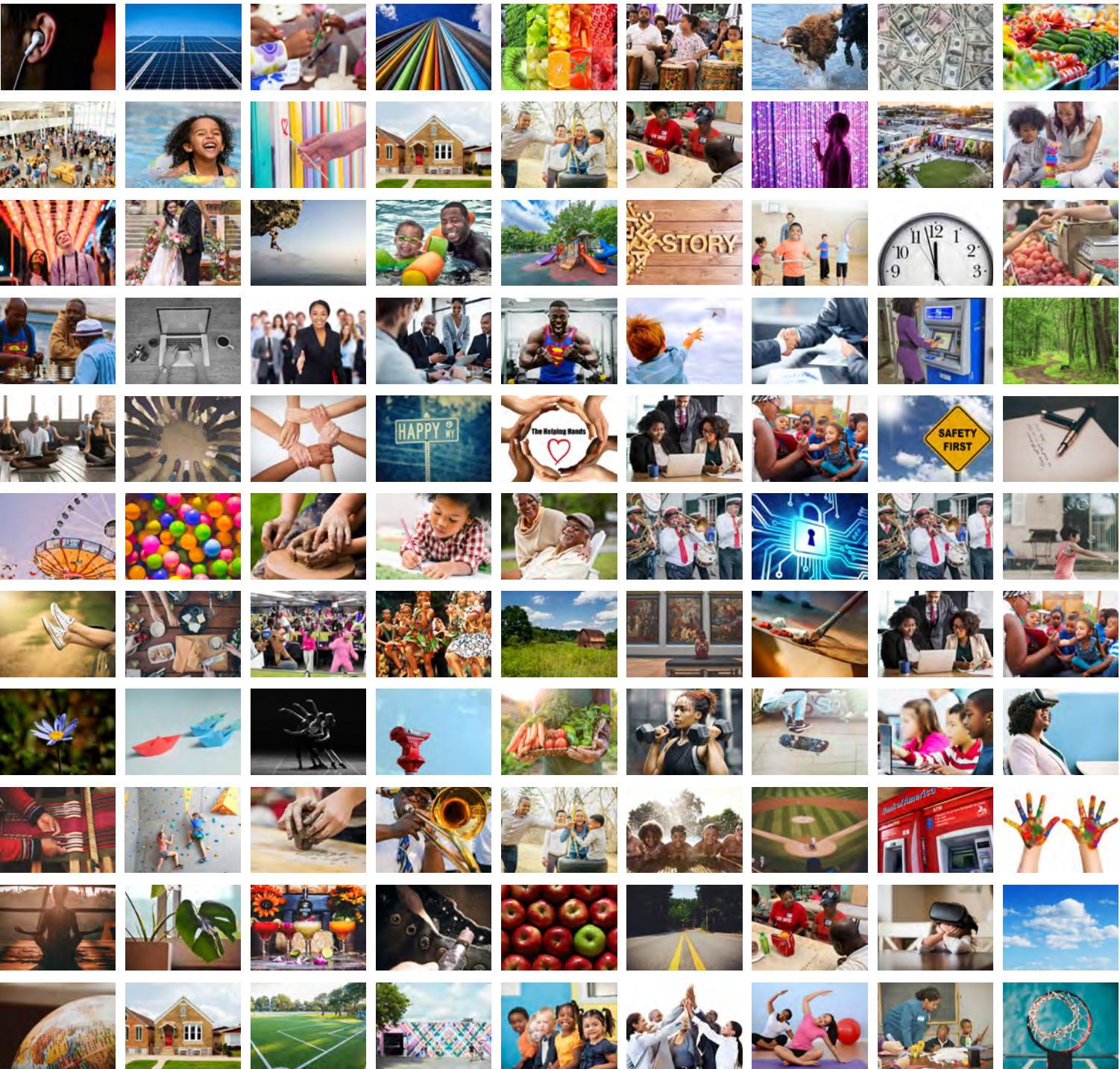
PARKING & ACCESS

- Reduction of parking abuses (parking on sidewalks, parking in bus stops, construction workers taking all spaces)
- Hate to harp on it - parking! If you don't rent from Motel, it can be difficult and very expensive

SESSION 3 - VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION

Exercise Two: Bullseye

Visual bullseye image selection and prioritization. Participants chose images from the group on the left and dropped them onto the basketball court based on if they represented needs, wants, maybes, or nos.



SESSION 3 - VIRTUAL VISIONING SESSION

Exercise Two: Bullseye

Final categorization of images and notes, clustered by topic



ENGAGEMENT DETAILS

FOLLOW UP OUTREACH DETAILS

Session 4 - Survey

Session 5 - Discussion Groups

SESSION 4

Survey

Location: Online/hard copies
Date/Time: June 21 - July 5, 2021
Duration: 2 Weeks
Of Participants: 158



SESSION 5

Discussion Groups

Location: In Person/Virtual
Date/Time: June 21 - July 5, 2021
Duration: 2 weeks
Of Participants: ~80



SESSION 4

SURVEY

These questions built on the themes from sessions 1-3 and sought to gather more detailed feedback.

SESSION 4 - SURVEY

SESSION ACTIVITIES

The survey was available both online and through hard copies at neighborhood locations including the OTR Rec Center, Grant Park, Findlay Playground, the Ziegler Park pool desk, the Findlay Market information desk, and the Peaslee Neighborhood Center. 158 responses were received over a two week period.

1. Which sites do you use? (check all that apply)

- Grant Park
- Findlay Playground (New Findlay Recreation Area)
- OTR Recreation Center / the Hub
- Elm St Playground (Old Findlay Recreation Area)

2. How often do you use these sites?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Every now and then
- Never
- If you never use them, please tell us why.

3. What types of activities do you want to participate in at community and recreation facilities?
(Choose up to 10)

- Family activities
- Youth activities
- Adult activities
- Senior activities
- Sports leagues
- Group fitness opportunities
- Individual fitness opportunities
- Educational classes
- Games
- Performances/movies/entertainment
- Community gathering
- Passive recreation/relaxation
- Pet-friendly activities
- Other _____

4. What features do you want in community and recreation facilities? (Choose up to 20)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Weight room | Tennis court |
| Indoor gym | Soccer field |
| Squash court | Football field |
| Gymnastics | Baseball field |
| Boxing | Sand volleyball |
| Dancing | Running track |
| Roller skating | Equipment to borrow |
| Wall climbing gym | Dog park |
| Martial Arts | Music concerts |
| Golf or putt-putt | Movie nights |
| Games to borrow | Classrooms |
| Ping pong | Grass lawn |
| Pool table | Shelter/covered area |
| Playgrounds | Benches |
| Indoor pool /aquatics facilities | Tables and chairs |
| Outdoor pool | Extended operating hours |
| Splash pad | Other _____ |
| Basketball court | |

SESSION 4 - SURVEY

SESSION ACTIVITIES

The survey was available both online and through hard copies at neighborhood locations including the OTR Rec Center, Grant Park, Findlay Playground, the Ziegler Park pool desk, the Findlay Market information desk, and the Peaslee Neighborhood Center. 158 responses were received over a two week period.

5. What other resources or services would benefit you or your community? (Choose up to 7)

- Childcare
- After school care
- Tutoring or homework help
- Summer camps
- Healthcare/medical resources
- Mental health resources
- Healthy foods
- Finance classes
- Parenting resources or classes
- Math, science, and technology
- Art and music
- Other _____

6. How important are these qualities in community and recreation facilities?

	VERY	SOMEWHAT	NOT
Family-friendly	☐	☐	☐
Multi-generational	☐	☐	☐
Welcoming/inclusive	☐	☐	☐
Educational	☐	☐	☐
Safe	☐	☐	☐
Other _____	☐	☐	☐

7. What is your ethnicity?

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other _____

8. In OTR, do you... (check all that apply)

- Live
- Work
- Own a business
- Live elsewhere and visit OTR
- Other _____

SESSION 5

DISCUSSION GROUPS

As part of the outreach effort for the survey, the project team attended several meetings with neighborhood stakeholders to share the survey and gather conversation-based feedback.

SESSION 5 - DISCUSSION GROUPS

SESSION ACTIVITIES

At the meetings below, the project team shared hard copies of the surveys to the groups. For those who preferred not to complete a survey, the team prompted conversation by asking questions from the survey and taking notes on participant responses. Across five meetings, the team talked with approximately 80 people. These meetings included:

- Two resident meetings, one in-person and one virtual, with Cornerstone Renter Equity, an affordable housing nonprofit whose office is located near the OTR Recreation Center.
- One in-person meeting with a group of high schoolers working with the Wesley Chapel Mission Center, a nonprofit located across from Grant Park that provides after school programs for neighborhood youth.
- One morning spent talking with guests of Our Daily Bread, a soup kitchen and social center located near Findlay Playground.
- One afternoon spent at a skate party hosted by the OTR Recreation Center for a group of students from Taft High School, which serves students in OTR.

We want to thank
all of those who contributed to this community engagement effort.

