

ReFIVE

a community plan for fifth avenue

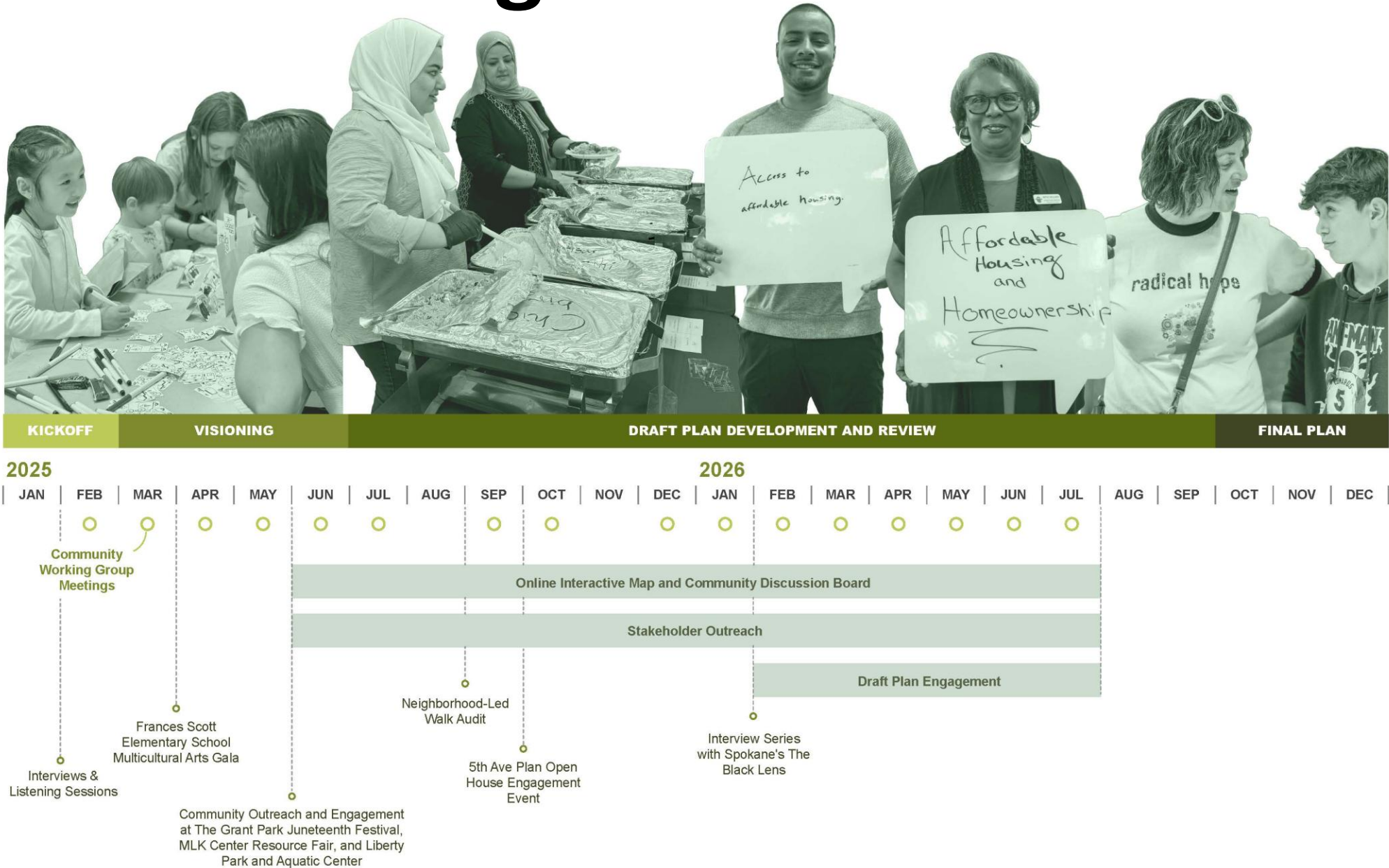
Community Engagement Summary

October 2025



How are we listening?

The project team facilitated a breadth of outreach and engagement activities across every stage of the Plan development process. Spanning all engagement efforts, **co-creation**, **accessibility**, and **creativity** were key elements of our approach to best meet community members where they're and collect a diversity of input.



How are we listening?



“

Harness the history, acknowledge who is there now, make sure the long game benefits the community to the greatest extent.”

Interviews & Listening Session Participants

- Betsy Wilkerson, Council President
- Lisa Gardner, City of Spokane & NAACP Spokane President
- Luc Jasmin III, 5th Avenue Forward Coalition
- Jillisa Winkler, Carl Maxey Center
- Betsy Williams, Take Up the Cause
- Chauncey Jones, Take Up the Cause
- Kristin Day, Principal at Frances Scott Elementary School
- Lily Navarette, District 2 Council Member
- Paul Dillon, District 2 Council Member
- Mr. Michael Brown, Spokane Eastside Reunion Association & Fresh Soul Restaurant

Community Interviews and Listening Sessions, January 2025 - February 2025

How are we listening?

Spanning all engagement efforts, **co-creation**, **accessibility**, and **creativity** were key elements of our approach to best meet community members where they're and collect a diversity of input.



Frances Scott Elementary Multicultural Gala, April 2025



How are we listening?

Our online interactive map and discussion board allow all 5th Avenue community members to participate, regardless of schedule conflicts. **The site is still live! Check us out at <http://spokane5thavenue.com>**

The screenshot displays the 'Spokane 5th Avenue' website interface. At the top, a red header bar contains the 'SETA' logo on the left, and navigation links for 'Interactive Map' and 'Community Discussion' in the center, with a language dropdown set to 'English' on the right. The main content area is split into two panels. The left panel features a map of the 5th Avenue corridor, with a green-shaded area indicating the project zone. Numerous location pins are placed along the map, and a 'Map Layers' dropdown is visible in the top-left corner of the map area. A black button with a plus icon and the text 'Add A Comment' is positioned at the bottom-left of the map. The right panel contains three comment boxes, each starting with a 'Resident' label. The first comment suggests 'more sidewalks; native plants; paved roads; public transit' and has 0 likes. The second comment states, 'I believe walkability is vital to community culture and local engagement. From Freya to Liberty Park would benefit from thoughtful and walkable development' and also has 0 likes. The third comment mentions 'connecting Fresh Soul neighborhood to the other neighborhoods via walking and biking would create' and is partially visible.

What we heard

“

I think that that's the biggest piece that we're looking for, is the restoration of the community that was once thriving.”



We asked community members to dream BIG: if they could improve the neighborhood, what would they want to see?

Community priorities:

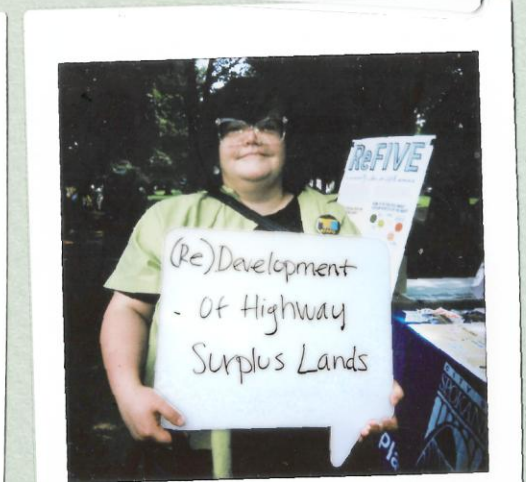
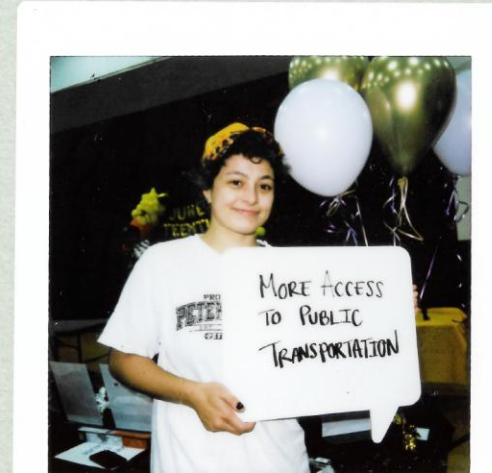
- Support mobility and accessibility
- Improve food access: community gardens and farmers' market
- Cultural and historical preservation
- Expand commercial development and third places; “More stuff to do!”
- Improve neighborhood walkability and traffic calming
- Making the 5th Avenue neighborhood a *destination*

Grant Park Celebration, Juneteenth Weekend 2025
MLK Center Resource Fair, Juneteenth Weekend 2025
NAACP Spokame Juneteenth Fireside Chat, Juneteenth Weekend 2025



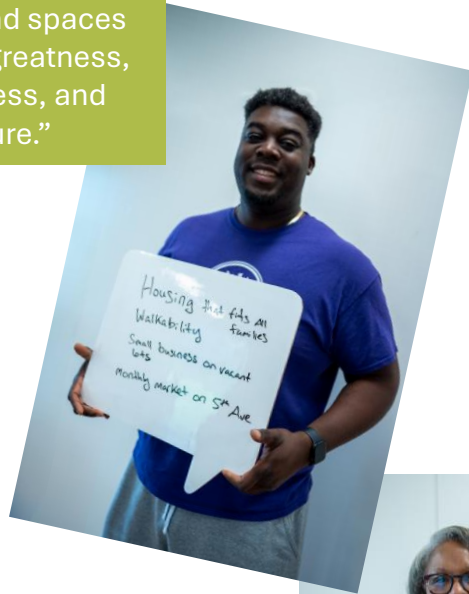
What we heard

Themes across responses reflect a **deep connection to the community's history**, a **desire for economic and cultural empowerment**, and a **commitment to preserving Black identity** and experiences in the face of historical injustices. Folks also express a desire for **affordable housing solutions**, commercial and economic opportunity, and **improved traffic safety particularly for youth**.



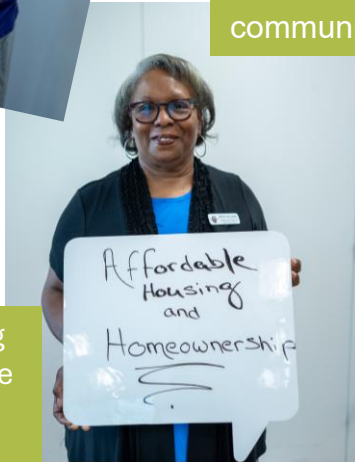
What we heard

"I am also advocating for places and spaces that inspire greatness, connectedness, and pride in culture."



"Healing and Repair, Equitable development."

"We want to make a beloved community."



"Emphasis on addressing historical inequity and the continuous building on a thriving community."

"Hope through collaboration & investment."



"Ensuring that our legacy and inheritance embody compassion, equity, and lasting impact in economics, health, education, and housing to sustain success for future generations."

"At 5th Avenue, we strive to build not just a neighborhood but a beacon of hope and success within our city."



"This community is so deserving of resources, ingenuity and investment."



What we Heard

“Crosswalks, speeding concerns, clear sidewalks, street lighting”

“Multifamily housing, community hub”

“People want to do things in the neighborhood and not have to leave”

“Traffic calming on 5th between Havana and Freya”

“Low-cost housing, studio and small-scale buildings”

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Housing Baseline Conditions + Goals and Strategies

Goal F
Home In 5th Avenue

- F.1. Increase housing options and affordability levels
- F.2. Promote homeownership, especially for first-time buyers
- F.3. Sustain homeownership for community members
- F.4. Use innovative tools to acquire sites for affordable housing

WHAT ARE YOUR HOUSING EXPERIENCES AND PRIORITIES IN THIS AREA?

Percent of Homeowners who are BIPOC in the 5th Avenue versus Spokane overall, 2013 and 2023

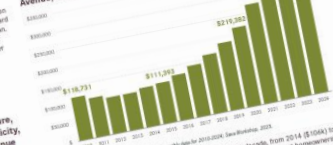


Local centers looking to enter into homeownership without being pushed out of the neighborhood or experiencing severe cost burden (paying 50% or more of monthly income toward housing) will struggle to find a suitable option. Most of the neighborhood's Black renter households, and many of its Hispanic renter households, have left the area.

Despite the relative affordability of 5th Avenue housing stock within the city context, area residents are not aligned with current sales prices and daily mortgage rates for first-time homeowners.

Population by housing tenure, stratified by race and ethnicity, 2013 and 2023 in 5th Avenue

Average Sales Prices for Homes in 5th Avenue, 2010-2024



Sale prices in 5th Avenue have risen, then doubled over the past decade, from 2014 (\$108K) to 2024 (\$212K). This dramatic shift creates a high barrier to entry into the current homeownership market, especially for first-time buyers.

Percent of Households that are Homeowners in 5th Avenue, by Race and Ethnicity, 2023



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CONNECTIVITY BASELINE CONDITIONS

Goal C
Connected Neighborhood

- C.1. Make the neighborhood more accessible
- C.2. Make streets and sidewalks more safe and pleasant for people
- C.3. Improve access to transit
- C.4. Improve connections within the neighborhood and to nearby destinations

Datapoints for Sidewalk Network Completeness



Which locations are the highest priority for sidewalks, curb ramps or crosswalks?

This map highlights the gaps in the neighborhood for sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks, and streetlights.



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?



City Zoning

Color	Designation
Blue	Residential Single-Family
Orange	Residential Medium-Density
Green	Residential Single-Family
Yellow	Residential Medium-Density
Purple	Residential Single-Family
Light Blue	Residential Medium-Density
Dark Blue	Residential Single-Family
Light Green	Residential Medium-Density
Dark Green	Residential Single-Family
Light Orange	Residential Medium-Density
Dark Orange	Residential Single-Family
Light Purple	Residential Medium-Density
Dark Purple	Residential Single-Family

Goal A
Healthy People

- A.1. Increase the community's access to fresh produce and healthy food
- A.2. Create and expand programs that increase active living
- A.3. Strengthen community health

Goal B
Livable Neighborhood

- B.1. Encourage walkable, active, and playful community spaces
- B.2. Promote environmental restoration and mitigate impacts from the Riverfront
- B.3. Build neighborhood resilience to urban heat

Goal C
Connected Neighborhood

- C.1. Make the neighborhood more accessible
- C.2. Make streets and sidewalks more safe and pleasant for people
- C.3. Improve access to transit
- C.4. Improve connections within the neighborhood and to nearby destinations

Goal D
Healthy People

- D.1. Increase the community's access to fresh produce and healthy food
- D.2. Create and expand programs that increase active living
- D.3. Strengthen community health

THE BIGGEST OF YOUR BIG IDEAS!

MORE FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ↑

#1

Stuff To Do

Destination for fun!
Youth & community activities & spaces
Events

three way tie!

#1

Housing

Affordable housing!
Mixed use
Homeownership

#1

Getting Around

Bikeability & Walkability
Connectivity/Access
Transit
Safety

#4

Commercial Activity

Mixed use
Small businesses

#5

Youth

Safety
Activities & spaces

#5

Community

Involvement
Connections

#7

Parks Green Space

More of them!
Community gardens

also...

Food Access
Safety
Public Realm (art, landscaping, etc.)
Vacant Land

Community members reacted to 8 statements about the neighborhood, highlighting key priorities.

Neighborhood strengths:

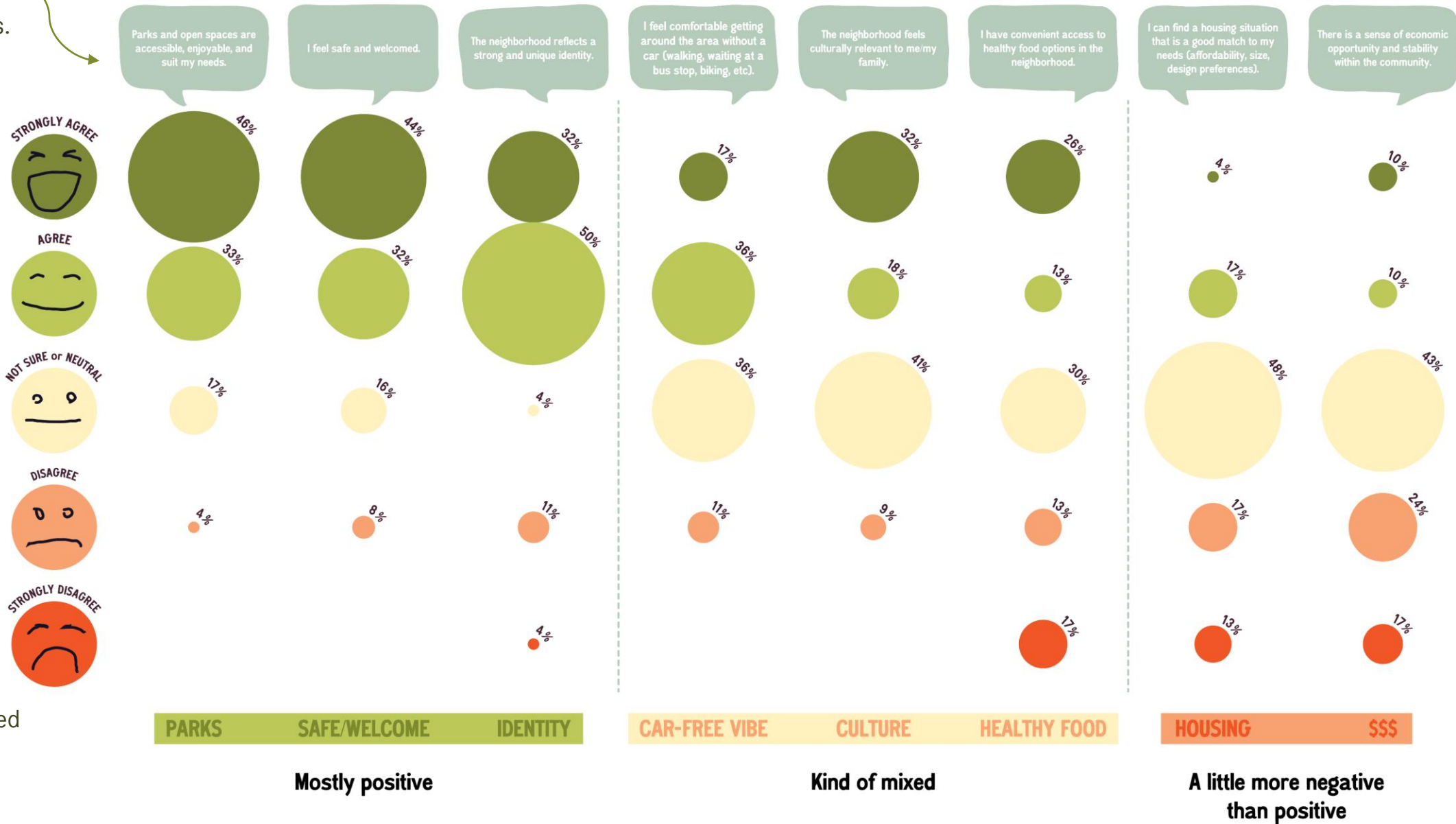
- Parks and open spaces
- Safe and welcoming
- Sense of community

Areas for improvement:

- Housing
- Economic opportunity
- Food access

The project team collected 202 responses on this interactive activity.

is it “SPOT ON” or “OH, C’MON!” ?



How did community input influence the Plan?

We started
with

Community ideas and input

- Interviews and focus groups
- Community working group
- Pop-ups at local events
- Online map and discussion board
- Community open house

Which
defined the

Topics for Study

- Walkability
- Homeownership
- Community Identity
- Community Wealth Building
- Connectivity
- Restore the Land

And became
the

Framework of the Plan

- Goal A: Community Identity
- Goal B: Connected Neighborhood
- Goal C: Livable Neighborhood
- Goal D: Community Wealth Building
- Goal E: Home in 5th Avenue



SEVA WORKSHOP