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City of Sacramento General Plan Update and Climate Action Plan

Introduction

In February and March of 2020, the City of Sacramento hosted three (3) Pop-up workshops as part of the General Plan Update and Climate Action Plan. The Pop-up workshops were held to engage with the community, including disadvantaged neighborhoods, and collect feedback about key strategies for moving the citywide vision established in Phase 1 forward. These outreach events emphasize “meeting people where they gather,” in order to get their input on how the General Plan should shape the future of Sacramento.

Project Overview

The 2040 General Plan is the City’s blueprint for how and where Sacramento will grow over the next 20 years. It will contain policies that will guide everything from transportation, jobs, entertainment, and public safety, to the type of homes available and much more.

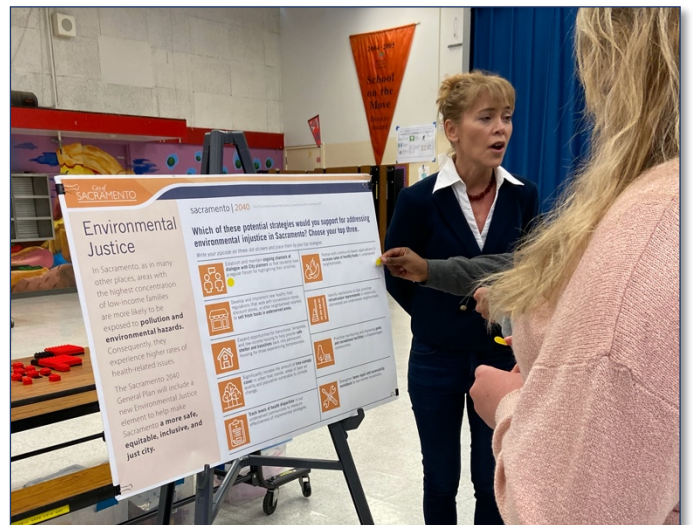
In 2019, the City initiated an update to the General Plan to ensure it remains responsive to the challenges of the coming years. Along with updates to the General Plan, the City is also preparing an ambitious Climate Action Plan that outlines a community-wide framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and establishes Sacramento as a climate leader. In 2020, the City is moving into the second phase of planning, during which the project team will be examining options and alternatives to address some of the issues identified in Phase I of the General Plan update and Climate Action Plan.

Purpose, Format, and Schedule

The Pop-up workshops engaged Sacramento residents in a conversation about strategies to address key community objectives related to climate change, sustainable and responsible growth, environmental justice and livability. At each of the three pop-up workshops, the project team engaged community members to provide their input on the feasibility of proposed strategies and solutions. These strategies were presented on interactive board displays, and community members provided their input and comments in a user-friendly format that involved post-it notes, or by voting with dot stickers.



A community member provides input on climate change strategies at the District 7 Pop-up workshop



Youth provide their input at the Urban Land Institute pop-up workshop

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The project team held three Pop-up workshops during February and March of 2020. Below is a schedule describing the location, time and date of each workshop:

Saturday, February 29 9:00 – 11:00 am	District 8’s Community Meeting Sam and Bonnie Pannell Community Center 2450 Meadowview Road
Saturday, February 29 11:00 am – 1:00 pm	District 7’s Annual Tree Planting & Volunteer Day Bill Conlin Sports Complex 7895 Freeport Boulevard
Saturday, March 7 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Urban Land Institute’s: “On My Block: Meadowview” Rosa Parks Middle School 2250 68 th Avenue

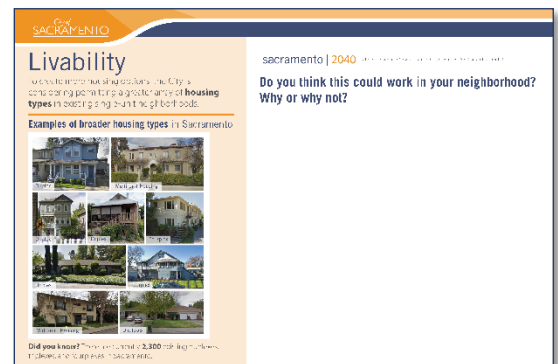
Board Displays

Below is an overview of the four interactive board displays that were present at the three Pop-up workshops*. A full-size Pdf of the board displays is available in the appendix of this document.

*Note: At the March 7th Urban Land Institute Pop-up workshop, the project team only collected feedback on Boards 2 and 4, “Climate Change and Environmental Justice.”

Interactive Board 1: Livability

This board display provides an overview of one of the City’s key proposed strategies for addressing livability and housing issues. It involves allowing a wider range of housing options in established Sacramento neighborhoods. The board also presents photo examples of multi-unit housing that exists today in Sacramento such as duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes. The board then prompts community members to answer the question with comments on post-it notes: **Do you think this could work in your neighborhood? Why or Why not?**



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Interactive Board 2: Climate Change

This board display gives an overview of one of the City's key proposed strategies for addressing greenhouse gas emissions. It would require all new buildings to be all-electric, eliminating the use of natural gas and fossil fuels for building operations in new construction. The board also presents photo examples of electric household appliances. The board then prompts community members to answer the question with comments on post-it notes: **Do you support this strategy to help Sacramento reduce its greenhouse gas emissions? Why or Why not?**

Climate Change

To help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the City is proposing that all new buildings be all-electric and eliminating the use of natural gas and fossil fuels for building operations. This would include transitioning existing buildings to all-electric where they undergo renovations and evaluating cost-effective options to transition existing homes that can be made by offering financial incentives.

Electric Appliances

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Do you support this strategy to help Sacramento reduce its greenhouse gas emissions? Why or why not?

Interactive Board 3: Sustainable & Responsible Growth

This board display gives an overview of one of the City's key proposed strategies to promote active and walkable neighborhoods. It would facilitate mixed-use development near light rail stations and along future rapid bus corridors. The board also presents a photo example of what these "transit-forward" streets could look like, and then prompts community members to answer the question with comments on post-it notes: **Do you think this could work in Sacramento? Why or Why not?**

Sustainable & Responsible Growth

To help promote a sustainable and responsible growth, the City is proposing to facilitate compact mixed-use development near light rail stations and along future high-frequency bus routes. This is new development, including housing, offices, and shops, would:

- create vibrant and walkable neighborhoods
- support better transit and
- minimize urban sprawl

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Do you think this could work in Sacramento? Why or why not?

Interactive Board 4: Environmental Justice

This board display gives an overview of several of the City's proposed strategies to make Sacramento a more safe, equitable, inclusive, and just city. The board then presents nine (9) proposed strategies to address environmental injustices, and asks community members to answer the following prompt with dot stickers: **Which of these potential strategies would you support for addressing environmental injustice in Sacramento? Choose your top three.**

Environmental Justice

In Sacramento, as in many other places, communities of color, low-income families, and people of color are more likely to be exposed to pollution and environmental hazards. Consequently, they experience higher rates of health-related issues.

The Sacramento 2040 General Plan will include a new Environmental Justice element to promote Sacramento a more safe, equitable, inclusive, and just city.

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Which of these potential strategies would you support for addressing environmental injustice in Sacramento? Choose your top three.

After you decide on three dot stickers and show them to your facilitator.

Improve air quality by reducing emissions of outdoor air pollutants.	Help all people access and afford a variety of healthy foods.
Develop and implement new water flowage rules that protect water resources, protect public health, and ensure water safety.	Identify and remediate lead in public infrastructure improvements.
Expand public and private lead abatement and remediation to low-income and public housing.	Expand the availability of public and private lead abatement and remediation.
Reduce water consumption and increase water efficiency in public and private buildings.	Expand the availability of public and private lead abatement and remediation.
Reduce levels of lead in drinking water in public and private buildings.	Expand the availability of public and private lead abatement and remediation.

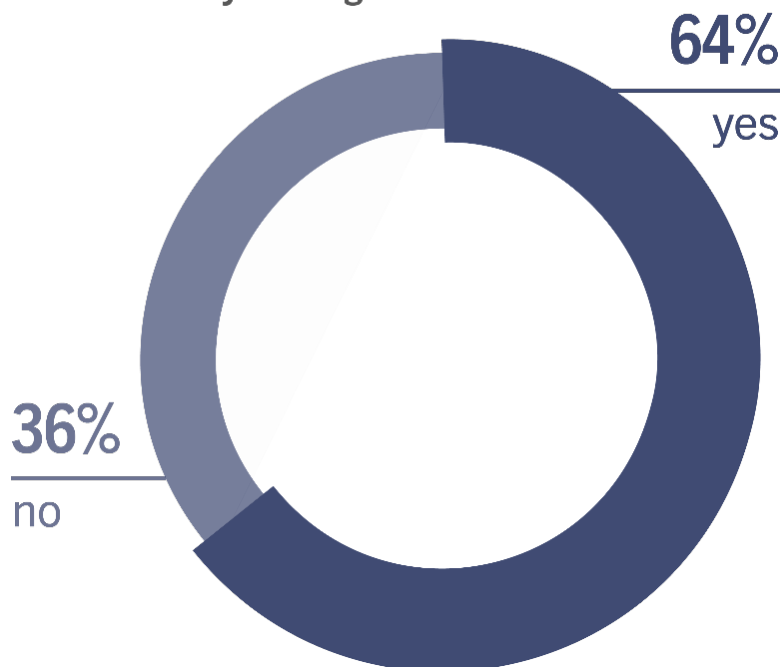
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Key Themes

When asked about the City's strategy to promote **livability** in Sacramento, community members at all three pop-up workshops showed overall support for allowing more diverse housing options in single-unit neighborhoods.

Do you think that more diverse housing options could work in your neighborhood?



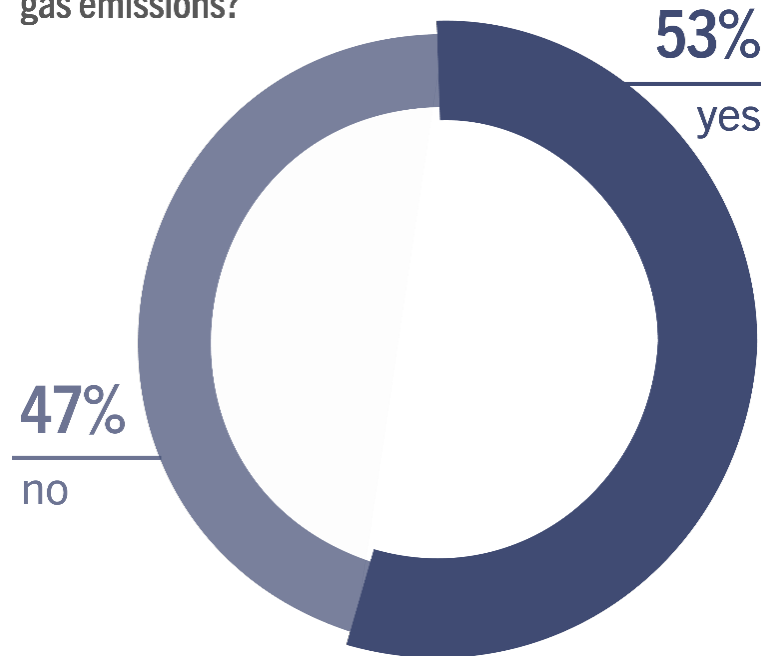
Those respondents that showed support for more diverse housing options listed several priorities for housing including affordability, ADA accessibility, senior-friendly housing, and transitional housing for individuals experiencing homelessness. Those that were opposed to the proposed strategy pointed out that their single-family neighborhoods would not have enough land to support additional multi-unit housing.

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Respondents were more evenly split over the City's proposed strategy to address issues around **climate change**.

Do you support requiring buildings to be all-electric to help Sacramento reduce its greenhouse gas emissions?



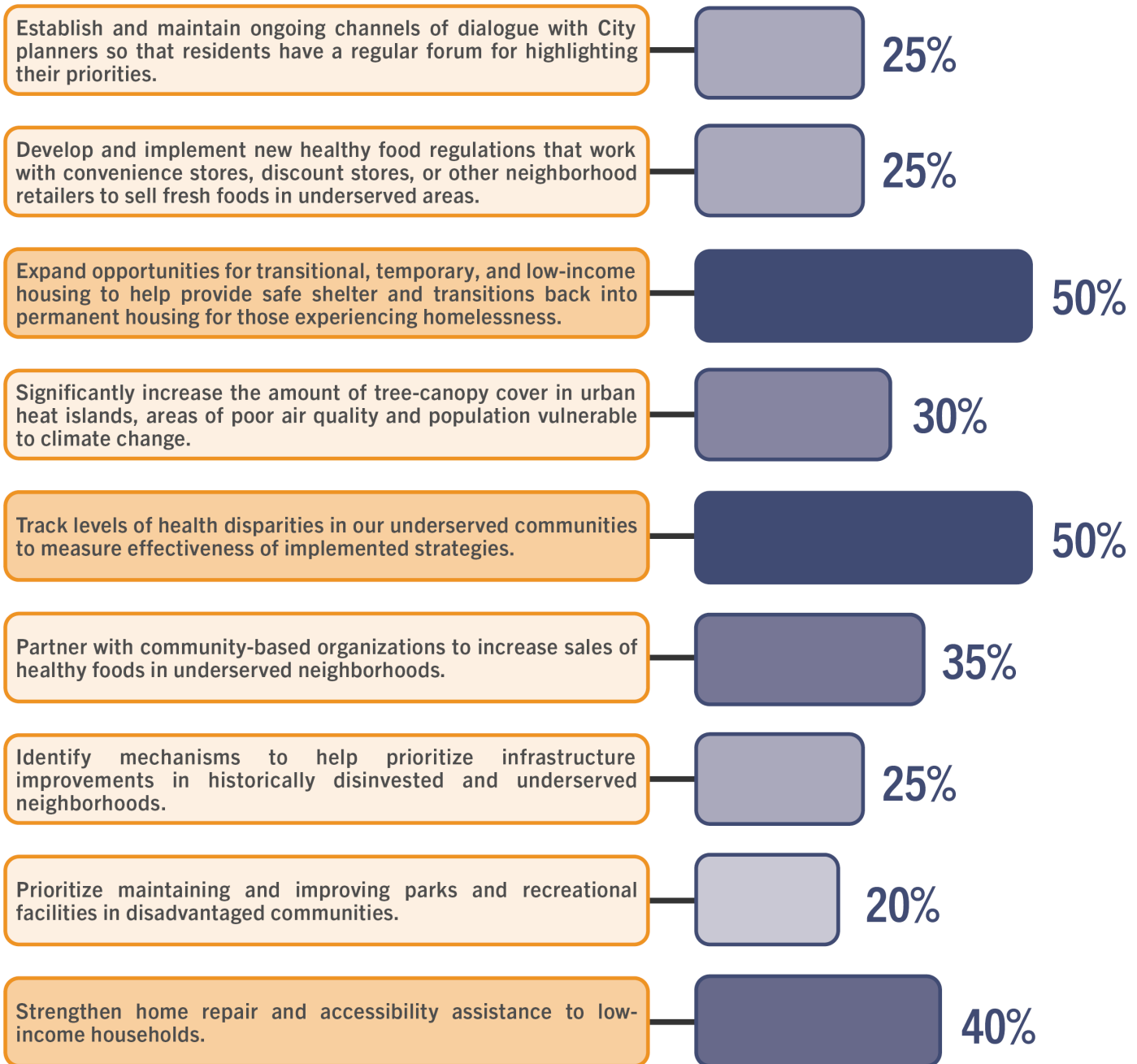
Comments provided for this topic by community members frequently expressed concern over whether electrification is both safe and sustainable, noting that the electric grid might be overloaded more often. Supporters were enthusiastic about helping to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that Sacramento produces. Other priorities that respondents listed were limited utility options, affordability of transitioning to all electric appliances, and consideration for other alternative energy options like wind or solar.

Community members in all three Pop-up workshops showed overall support for one of the proposed strategies to encourage **sustainable and responsible growth**. Respondents noted that there are several examples of complete and walkable neighborhoods in Sacramento already, and want to see this strategy applied to help create complete neighborhoods in other areas of the City as well. Priorities listed for promoting sustainable growth include ADA accessibility, more frequent and widespread public transit routes, and more parking at transit stops.

On the next page is a graph depicting the overall response to proposed strategies to promote **environmental justice**. Note: The top three most chosen strategies are highlighted in orange.

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Compilation of Feedback

The Sacramento 2040 project team received more than 70 responses from community members during the three Pop-up workshops. Below is a compilation of feedback the project team received, separated by the location of each Pop-up workshop.

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District 8 Community Meeting

The Sacramento 2040 team held a Pop-up workshop at the District 8 Community Meeting held at the Sam & Bonnie Pannell Community Center from 9:00 – 11:00 am on February 29, 2020. More than 25 community members attended and provided their input on the interactive board displays.

When asked about one of the City’s strategies to promote **livability** in Sacramento, around 80% of community members showed support for allowing a wider range of options that could allow for duplexes and triplexes in established neighborhoods. Some were opposed, as they felt there was not enough land or space for multi-unit apartment complexes in established District 8 neighborhoods.

Around half of the comments provided on this interactive board expressed that affordable housing options should be made a priority. Other priorities listed for increasing livability were making sure housing options are ADA accessible, providing senior-friendly housing options for the aging population, creating transitional housing for individuals experiencing homelessness, and directing resources towards improving parks and recreation, instead of just housing in District 8.



Regarding one of the potential strategies to address **climate change**, there was less of a consensus on whether buildings should be required to be all-electric. Some respondents showed concerns over whether electricity is a sustainable form of energy, while others worried that there would be less options for utility company choices for Sacramento residents. Around one third of respondents were supportive of the strategy and even encouraged the City to invest in more alternative energy options like solar and wind. A few community members cautioned that some low-income residents would have trouble making the switch to all electric appliances. To help low income residents with a transition to all-electric appliances, respondents want to see a rebate or financial assistance program.



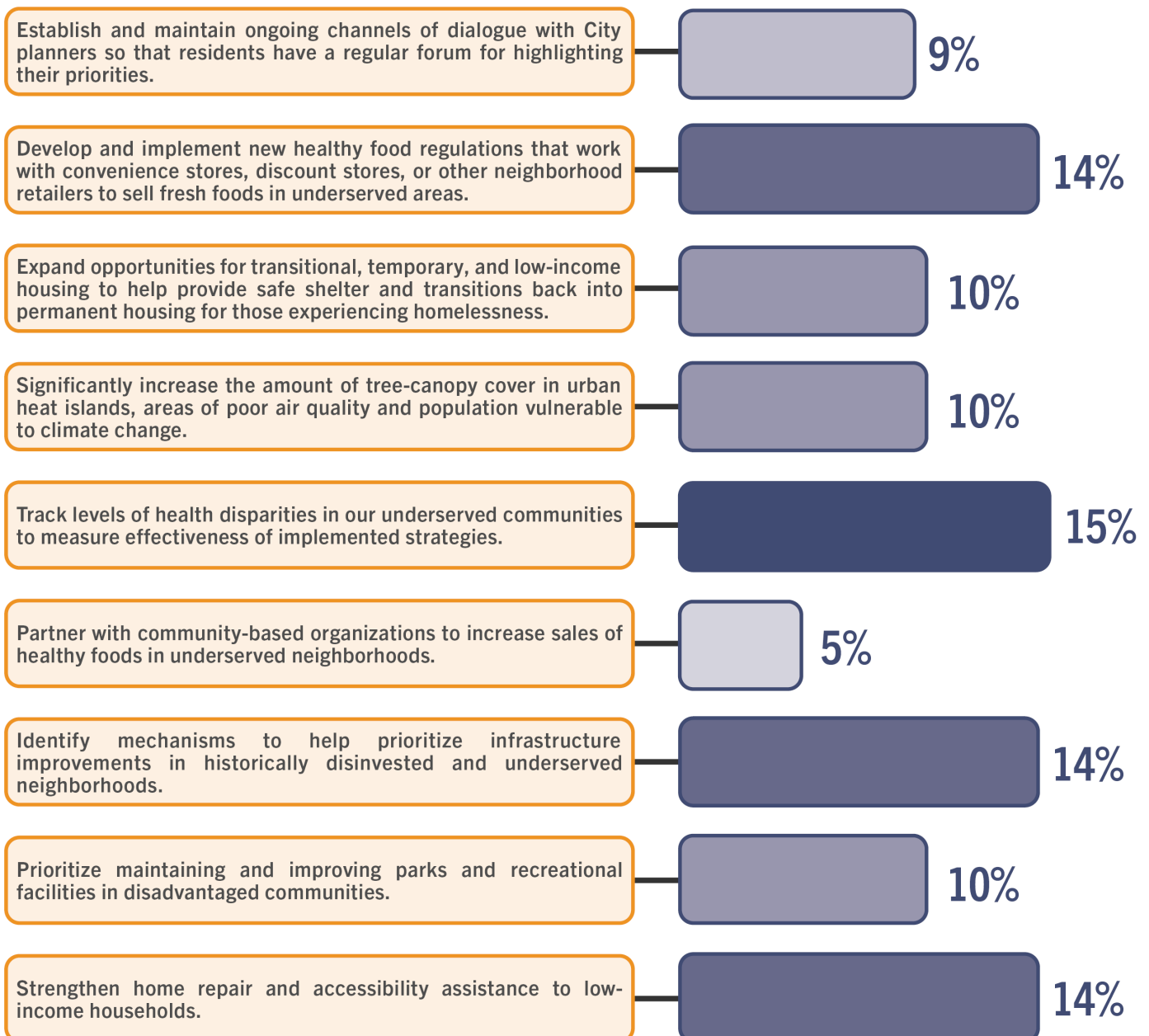
When asked about one of the proposed strategies to promote **sustainable and responsible growth**, most community members who attended the District 8 Pop-up workshop showed support for encouraging mixed-use development near transit stations. Those that were not supportive pointed out that mixed-use and commercial development would not work in their district, since there

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are so many single-family neighborhoods. Other priorities that community members listed are making street development ADA accessible, more frequent and widespread public transit routes as well as and lower fares to create less of a dependency on motor vehicles. Respondents also wanted more parking options at transit stations.

The final interactive board on **environmental justice** asked community members to choose their top three strategies. One community member left a comment listing pollution caused by paint and body shops, logistics centers, 5G cell sites or towers, the Title V program as important things to consider when discussing Environmental Justice in South Sacramento. Below is a graph depicting the most frequently chosen strategies.



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District 7 Annual Tree Planting & Volunteer Day

The Sacramento 2040 team held a Pop-up workshop at the District 7 Annual Tree Planting & Volunteer Day held at the Bill Conlin Sports Complex from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm on February 29, 2020. More than 20 community members attended and provided their input on the interactive board displays.

When asked about one of the City’s strategies to promote **livability** in Sacramento, respondents were split over whether the City should allow more diverse housing options in single-unit neighborhoods. Some pointed out that the Pocket area has a lot of single-unit development, and these residents would be more opposed to this strategy. Those supporting more diverse housing options, wanted to see more duplexes and smaller homes as opposed to large apartment complexes.

Regarding one of the City’s strategies to address **climate change**, respondents were not in agreement over the City’s proposed idea to make buildings all-electric. Some were unsure if relying on electricity was efficient or sustainable, as a long-term energy option. Other reasons listed were concerns about low-income families not being able to afford the transition to all-electric appliances and personal preferences for using natural gas appliances. Many respondents, however, were enthusiastic about electrification, noting that electric cooking appliances are potentially safer for users. Community members also encouraged the City to add more charging stations for electric vehicles in District 7.

When asked about one of the City’s strategies to promote **sustainable and responsible growth**, all respondents showed support for the City’s proposed strategy to encourage mixed-use development at transit stations.

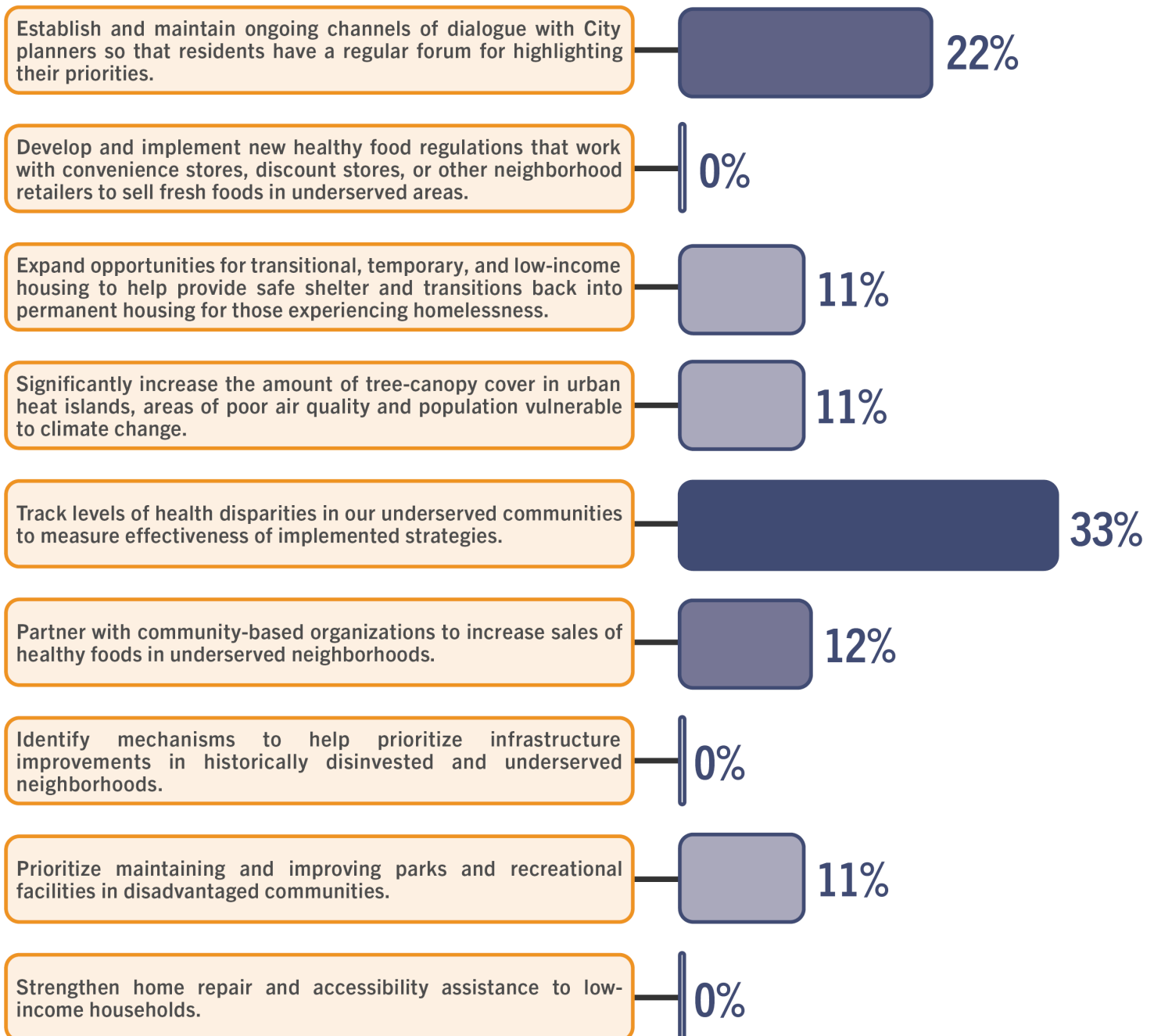
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Below is a graph depicting the most frequently chosen strategies.



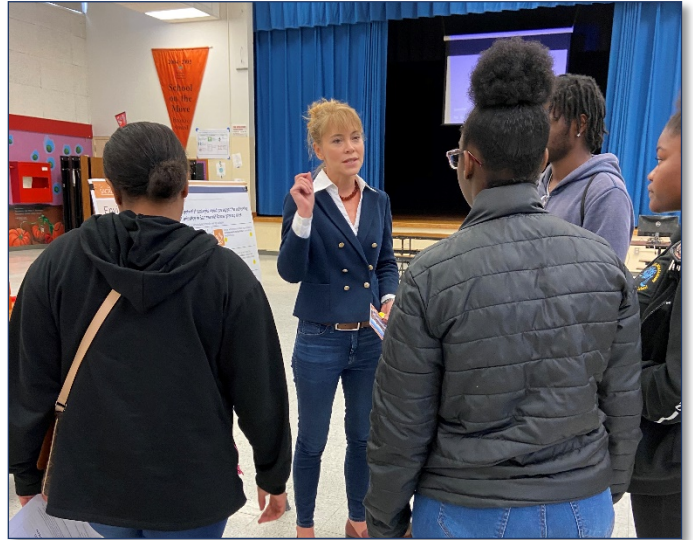
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Urban Land Institute “On My Block: Meadowview”

The Sacramento 2040 team held a Pop-up workshop at the Urban Land Institute’s youth event “On My Block: Meadowview” held at Rosa Parks Middle School from 1:00 – 2:00 pm on March 7, 2020. More than 15 youth participants attended and provided their input on the interactive board displays.

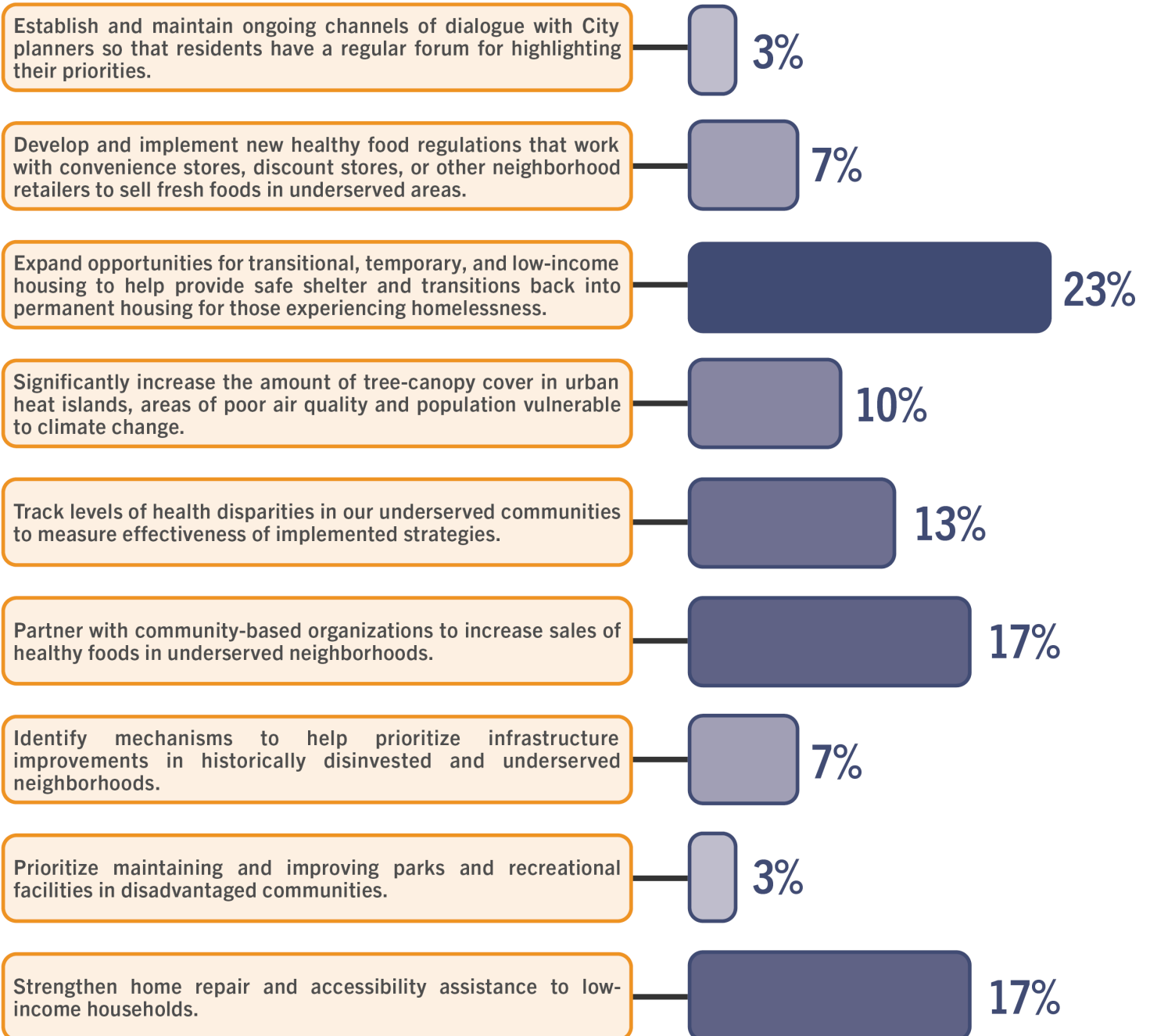
Regarding one of the City’s strategies to address **climate change**, respondents were split on whether the City should require buildings to be all-electric. Those that were opposed, noted safety of electric appliances, efficiency of the electric grid and cost/difficulty for the older residents to transition to all new electric appliances. Respondents who were proponents of the strategy were enthusiastic about addressing the growing concerns with greenhouse gas emissions.



The second interactive board on **environmental justice** asked community members to choose their top three strategies. The next page shows a graph depicting the most frequently chosen strategies.

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Notification

An email notification was sent to a City database of more than 69,000 community members. A copy of each notification flier was also posted on the General Plan Update project website and on Councilmember Rick Jennings and Councilmember Larry Carr's social media.



District 8 Pop-up workshop notification flier



District 7 Pop-up workshop notification flier

Appendix

- Community member comments
- Board displays
- Notification flier

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Community Member Comments

Livability:

- More multi-use buildings that have commercial businesses and housing would be great, especially if they are also fully ADA accessible.
- This will work if you consider all age groups for housing. Currently, there is a lack of decent and affordable housing for seniors.
- I believe that having options as far as housing types benefits the residents as far as rental options.
- Housing needs to be created with Universal Design concepts. Handicapped people cannot live in these homes and cannot even visit these homes.
- These do not meet the current planned community development. This is more Midtown, not District 8.
- There is not enough land or space for this in District 8. We need more affordable housing. Currently, our parks and other community resources need updating.
- Homeless transitional housing that is affordable.
- I think it is helpful for this district. I support it.
- More low-income housing, and more rent control.
- Be mindful to plan for a growing number of aging and elderly who cannot afford rising housing costs.
- Yes! I live in a duplex, it works great!
- Seems like it would work.
- People need more privacy, we want more single-family homes, especially at a lower price.
- Duplex, smaller single-family homes, not so much apartments.
- You will get a lot of push-back from families in District 7 about this, especially the Pocket.

Climate Change:

- Will the electricity be sourced from sustainable sources? Otherwise it is not zero emissions. Electricity costs more than natural gas. How will this affect low-income folks?
- Wouldn't all-electric building operations eventually cause a monopoly on SMUDs pact?
- Require or more greatly educate and incentivize solar.
- Yes, especially for the tiny home community.
- We need to go as green as possible. Make the City vehicles electric, invest in battery power with rebates to people in the City that use them (SMUD), and utilize wind energy.
- Will this make SMUD a monopoly? What is the source of energy?
- Not sure if the grid can grow and stay sustainable.
- This seems like a good idea but not realistic enough due to such a low-income community.
- This would not work for me, because I cook everyday with gas. Although, we do like our new electric water heater.
- All electric is better, gas is potentially dangerous.
- Why not solar energy?
- More charging stations for electric cars!
- Is electric really efficient?

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- No, because what if the power goes out?
- No, because if the power goes out, we cannot cook our food.
- Yes, because there would be fewer electric problems.
- No, because that is a lot of work.
- I support this change, because using electric appliances will help the ecosystem and climate change.
- Yes, because it is bad for us and for the Earth.
- I do not support it because there are more electrical fires than gas fires. More risk of children hurting themselves.
- Yes, because it is much safer and with gas you can have many complications.
- No because there is a lot of hazards that can go wrong and cause problems in the end.
- I support reducing greenhouse gas emissions because Greenhouse gas emissions cause global warming and global warming can cause extreme climate change.
- No, it will take years of people of old age to transition to new things.
- Changing to electric would not be that great because fires can occur which would not help with pollution.

Sustainable & Responsible Growth:

- Multi-use buildings and neighborhoods designed to create less need for transportation outside of Midtown area.
- Parking of cars!
- Yes! Be sure to build in full accessibility.
- High frequency public transit is a great idea. What about lower fares for designated areas?
- Downtown is not in our district. Not in Del Paso, there is too many single-family homes. Commercial zoning is not realistic.
- The plan has too many gaps in the routes. Otherwise, it looks good.
- More street life! Mixed use is good.
- Yes! Because it already does.
- Yes, I love it.
- Yes, this is a great idea.

Environmental Justice:

- None of these strategies address the pollution of Paint and Body shops, logistics centers, cell towers (5G), Title V, being sited in South Sacramento. You cannot talk about Environmental Justice and ignore this.

Livability

To create more housing options, the City is considering permitting a greater array of **housing types** in existing single-unit neighborhoods.

Examples of broader housing types in Sacramento



Did you know? There are currently **2,300** existing duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes in Sacramento.

**Do you think this could work in your neighborhood?
Why or why not?**

Climate Change

To help reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change, the City is considering requiring new buildings to be **all-electric** and **eliminating the use of natural gas and fossil fuels** for building operations.

This would include transitioning existing buildings away from natural gas **when they undergo renovations** and assisting low-income residents to transition their homes from gas to electric by offering **financial incentives**.

Electric Appliances



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Do you support this strategy to help Sacramento reduce its greenhouse gas emissions? Why or why not?

Sustainable & Responsible Growth

To help promote sustainable and responsible growth, the City is considering facilitating **compact mixed-use development near light rail stations and along future high-frequency bus routes.**

This denser new development, including housing, offices, and shops, would:

- create vibrant and walkable neighborhoods
- support better transit; and
- minimize urban sprawl



Do you think this could work in Sacramento? Why or why not?

Environmental Justice

In Sacramento, as in many other places, areas with the highest concentration of low-income families are more likely to be exposed to **pollution and environmental hazards**. Consequently, they experience higher rates of health-related issues.

The Sacramento 2040 General Plan will include a new Environmental Justice element to help make Sacramento **a more safe, equitable, inclusive, and just city**.

Which of these potential strategies would you support for addressing environmental injustice in Sacramento? Choose your top three.

Write your zipcode on three dot stickers and place them by your top strategies.



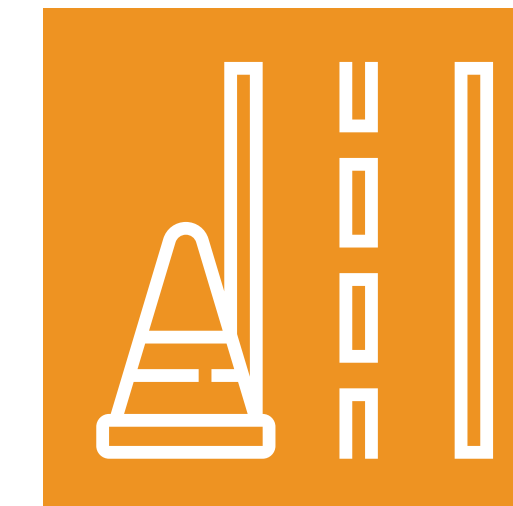
Establish and maintain **ongoing channels of dialogue with City planners** so that residents have a regular forum for highlighting their priorities.



Partner with community-based organizations to **increase sales of healthy foods** in underserved neighborhoods.



Develop and implement new healthy food regulations that work with convenience stores, discount stores, or other neighborhood retailers to **sell fresh foods in underserved areas**.



Identify mechanisms to help prioritize **infrastructure improvements** in historically disinvested and underserved neighborhoods.



Expand opportunities for transitional, temporary, and low-income housing to help provide **safe shelter and transitions** back into permanent housing for those experiencing homelessness.



Prioritize maintaining and improving **parks and recreational facilities** in disadvantaged communities.



Significantly increase the amount of **tree-canopy cover** in urban heat islands, areas of poor air quality and population vulnerable to climate change.



Strengthen **home repair and accessibility assistance** to low-income households.



Track levels of health disparities in our underserved communities to measure effectiveness of implemented strategies.

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Share your ideas for an improved Sacramento!

★ Saturday ★
February 29
12:00-1:00 pm



Bill Conlin
Sports Complex
7895 Freeport Blvd
Sacramento, CA



District 7
Conlin Tree Planting
& Volunteer Day



PROVIDE YOUR INPUT ON:

Livability • Mobility • Climate Change • Environmental Justice

Your input will help plan for how and where our City will grow over the next 20 years.

For more information, visit the project website at: www.sac2040gpu.org

For questions, contact Elise Brockett at ebrockett@aimconsultingco.com

City of
SACRAMENTO

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Share your ideas for an improved Sacramento!

★ Saturday ★
February 29
9:00-10:30 am



Sam and Bonnie Pannell
Community Center
2450 Meadowview Rd
Sacramento, CA



Annual District 8
Community Meeting



PROVIDE YOUR INPUT ON:

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