



# City of Albuquerque Climate Change Survey

2020 Summary Report by New Mexico First



New Mexico First  
P. O. Box 56549  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87187  
Phone: 505-225-2140  
Website: [www.nmfirst.org](http://www.nmfirst.org)  
Copyright© 2020

New Mexico First builds consensus on critical issues facing our state and communities and leads positive policy change through deliberative town halls, forums, task forces, research, and cross-partisan work on education, the economy, healthcare, natural resources, and good governance.

This summary was authored by Lilly Irvin-Vitela, Erika Robers, and Xavier Vallejo. New Mexico First typically grants permission to reproduce all or part of this document for educational or public policy purposes. Contact us for reproduction authorization.



## Contents

---

Introduction .....	1
Executive Summary.....	2
Methodology.....	5
Analysis of Survey Responses .....	7
Race Ethnicity Self-Report.....	7
Annual Household Income Self-Report.....	14
Age Group .....	15
Question: Which of the following would help improve your neighborhood?.....	16
Question: Which of the following actions would you most likely take? .....	20
Question: How do you get around the city?.....	21
Question: Which of the following changes would improve how you get around the city? Select up to 3 options .....	25
Question: Which of the following actions would help increase or improve the time you spend outside? Select up to 3 options .....	28
Question: Which of the following could help you decide what to throw away and what to recycle? Select up to 3 options .....	34
Do you feel that you can make an impact on climate change? .....	37
What is the best way for you to receive information? .....	38
Conclusion.....	40
Appendix In-Direct Themes by Question .....	41
Question: Which of the following would help improve your neighborhood?.....	41
Question: How do you get around the city?.....	42
Question: Which of the following changes would improve how you get around the city? Select up to 3 options .....	43
Reference Resources.....	44

## Introduction

The City of Albuquerque is in the process of updating the Albuquerque Climate Action Plan. Following the call of City Resolution R-19-187 to halt Albuquerque’s contributions to climate change and prepare for changing temperatures, the City is updating the Albuquerque Climate Action Plan. The City of Albuquerque Environmental Health Department is charged with updating and supporting implementation of a revised plan. Equity and inclusion in the planning process are core values in which the City has centered-this effort. The Environmental Health Department conducted an on-line survey to learn more about people’s attitudes, beliefs, and knowledge about priorities to address climate change.

Over the next 9 months, community members are sharing their voices to shape the next stage of Albuquerque’s climate change vision and spur citywide improvements. As part of that effort, residents were invited between July and September to take the 22-question Climate Survey. The survey was designed to strengthen understanding about public perspectives on what to prioritize and how to improve future green programs and projects. This information will set the foundation for the next Climate Action Plan and the planning process.

### Planning Process



## Executive Summary

---

3,112 people responded to this survey which was available in English and Spanish. Of the respondents, 4% responded in Spanish and 96% responded in English. The City provided an opportunity for people from across Albuquerque's 236 neighborhoods to participate. The survey was shared directly with stakeholders and on multiple online platforms. Notifications were also mailed to 5,000 residences within neighborhoods that experience high energy burdens. Additionally, income-qualified residents in 300 homes that received energy audits and upgrades took an in-depth climate survey with additional questions expanding on the Climate Survey.<sup>1</sup>

36 zip codes had one or more community members respond to the survey. The neighborhood with the highest participation rate was Nob Hill. The regions of the City with the greatest participation were the Northeastern and Southeastern quadrants who comprised 20% of survey respondents each. The Southwestern part of the city made up 12% of the participants in the survey. Over 21% of people who took the survey opted not to answer the question about their location.

Given the City's commitment to operationalizing the values of equity and inclusion, analyzing survey participation by income, race, ethnicity, and age identified the following:

- The largest group of responses were from people who identified as White or Caucasian at 63%.
- The next largest response was from people who declined to answer at 17%.
- 13% of people identified as Hispanic, Latinx, Chicana/o, or Mexicana/o.
- 3% of people identified as multi-racial.
- 2% of people identified as Native American/Indigenous.
- 1% of survey respondents identified as Black/African American. 1% of respondents identified as Asian.
- Less than 1% of the participants were under 18 years of age.
- 15% of participants were age 18-35.
- 32% of participants were ages 36-55.
- 37% of participants were ages 56-75.
- 5% of participants were over age 75.
- 3% of respondents reported an annual household income of less than \$10,000.
- 3% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

---

<sup>1</sup> Home energy audits and upgrades were provided to PNM income-qualified customers via a partnership program supported by Public Service New Mexico, the American Cities Climate Challenge, City of Albuquerque, Partnership for Community Action and Prosperity Works.

- 12% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$25,000 and \$40,000.
- 10% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$40,000 and \$55,000.
- 12% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$50,000 and \$70,000.
- 39% of respondents reported an annual household income of greater than \$70,000.

Eight questions were asked to better understand resident perspectives related to subject areas associated with climate change ranging from climate conscious neighborhoods, renewable energy, recycling and zero waste, sustainable buildings, and clean transportation. The questions included opportunities for prioritizing from among a range of options as well as some opportunities to add comments.

Some highlights about priorities include:

- The top three sustainability options prioritized for neighborhood improvement are to improve trees and vegetation (59%); create safer streets and paths (49%); and increase solar panels (47%).
- 1/3 of survey participants indicated that they would engage in an incentivized appliance upgrade to improve energy efficiency.
- 96% of survey participants stated that their primary way of getting around the city is by car.
- When asked what strategy would most improve how they get around the city, the top three responses were sidewalk upgrades (46%), bike lane upgrades (43%), and faster bus service (34%).
- Over ½ of the participants prioritized building more parks, trails, and recreational facilities in closer proximity to their homes as a strategy to improve time spent outdoors.
- The top two strategies people identified to support decision-making about what to recycle and what to toss were using recycling cart advice tag (51%) and using recycling promotional materials (41%).

**62% of Albuquerque survey participants had confidence that they could make a difference in climate change.**



The City is deeply committed to raising and hearing community voices in the planning and implementation process of the Climate Action Plan. In addition to conducting a survey, a citizen taskforce is also being brought together to consider community input and one another's perspectives to draft a plan of action. The City contracted with New Mexico First, a statewide non-profit that specializes in civic engagement in public policy to support selection of the taskforce, review and analyze data from community input, facilitate the taskforce, and work with the City and the Taskforce to draft the next Albuquerque Climate Action Plan. This report provides both quantitative and qualitative results from the survey as well as demographic information.

To stay informed and engaged, please visit <https://www.cabq.gov/sustainability/climate-action-plan>. Send your name and email to [sustainability@cabq.gov](mailto:sustainability@cabq.gov) to receive notices and updates



## Methodology

---

The on-line survey was completed by 3,112 people who could respond in English or Spanish. All responses in Spanish were professionally translated into English.

Participants were asked to share demographic information about race, ethnicity, neighborhood of residence, income, and age. The intent was two-fold:

- 1) to understand the extent to which goals around equity and inclusion were met
- 2) to understand who the responses represented

Participants also had the option to choose not to disclose demographic information and people elected this option.

Participants also responded to substantive questions about climate change opportunities available to the City for consideration in planning and implementation efforts related to City Resolution R-19-187 to halt Albuquerque's contributions to climate change and prepare for changing temperatures.

**Race and Ethnicity-** The race/ethnicity question was open-ended, and people had the freedom to answer questions using terms that were framed by personal identity rather than Census categorizations for race and ethnicity. The data provided in this report is reflective of the complex ways in which people understand race and ethnicity. Comparatively, according to the City of Albuquerque Demographic Quick Facts from 2018 Census information, 73.5% of the City is White. 4.6% of people are American Indian/Alaskan Native, 3.2% of residents are Black or African American, and 2.8% are Asian. 4.5% of Albuquerque residents are from two or more races and 49% of City residents identify as ethnically Hispanic or Latino.

**Location-**The information about place of residence is reported based on participant responses to pre-identified/recognized neighborhoods within the City of Albuquerque. In order to best analyze the geographical distribution of participants, the survey data was organized by quadrant, neighborhood, and zip code. Quadrants used were defined as the subsections of the City of Albuquerque divided by Interstate Highway 40 and Interstate Highway 25.

**Income-** The information about income is based on pre-determined income ranges starting at less than \$10,000 per year and ranging to \$70,000+ per year. The median household income in Albuquerque based on 2014-2018 Census Data is \$51,128.

**Age-** Survey participants identified their age across 8 ranges. There were participants who were younger than the age of 18 and participants over 76.

**Climate Change-** Participants were asked a series of questions in which they could select priorities or identify ideas or strategies among a list of pre-determined options. Six of the questions also allowed an “other/comment” field for open-ended responses.

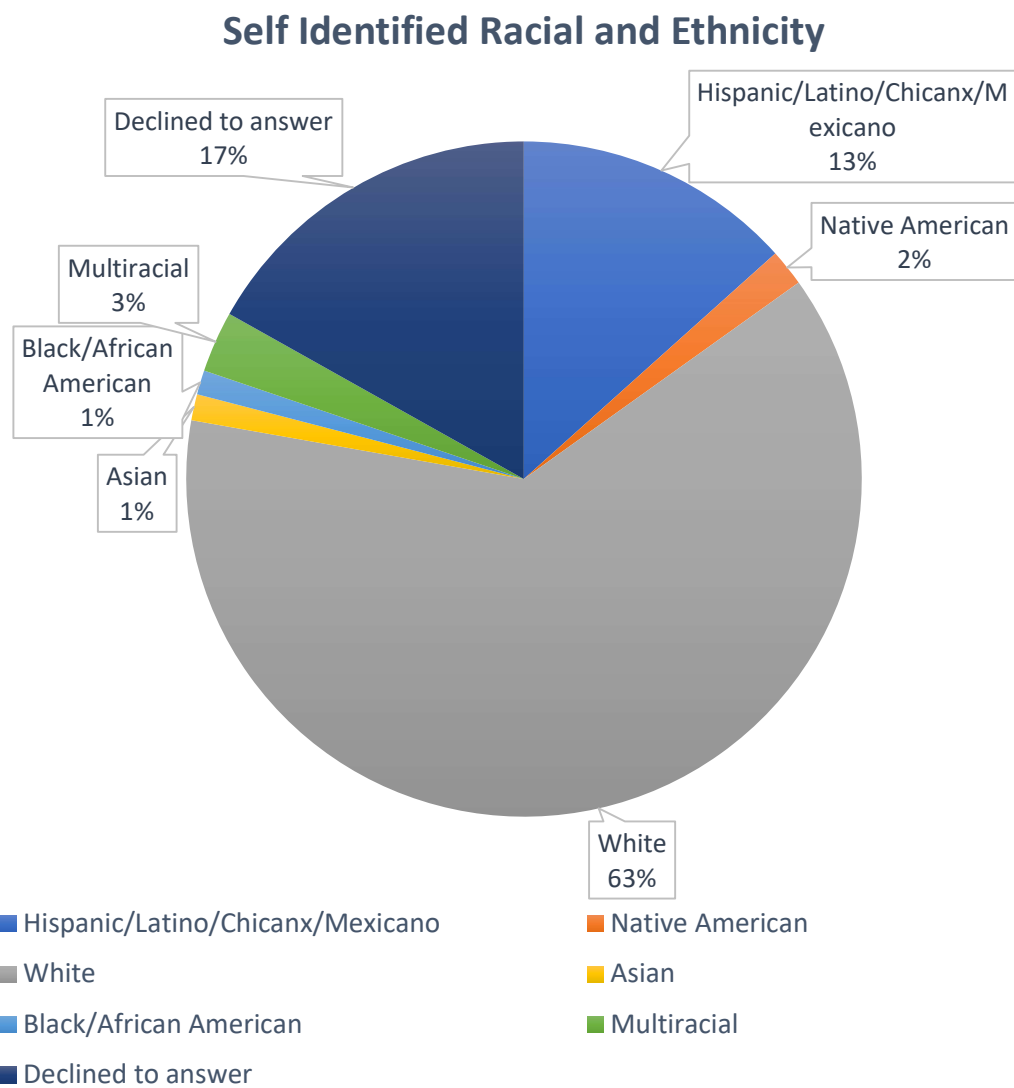
Open-ended responses were coded for similar meaning and themes and then included in a frequency count. For example, if people said they wanted more walking and biking paths, wanted more and better maintained portable toilets near trails, or were interested in more trees or shade on trails, items were grouped together under a common them of improved trails. In addition to completing frequency counts to understand trends and the prevalence of ideas or concerns in questions that allowed for an open-ended response, representative quotes from participant responses were also included in this summary as examples of the nature of public comment. If comments were unrelated to the survey directly or in-directly they were not coded.



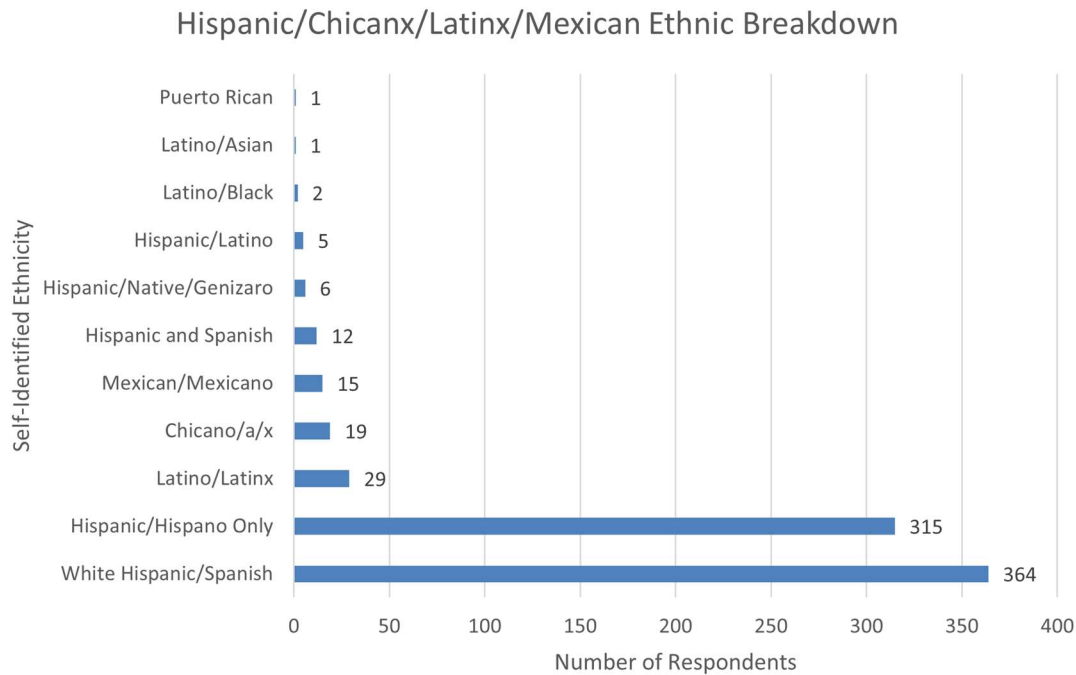
## Analysis of Survey Responses

### Race Ethnicity Self-Report

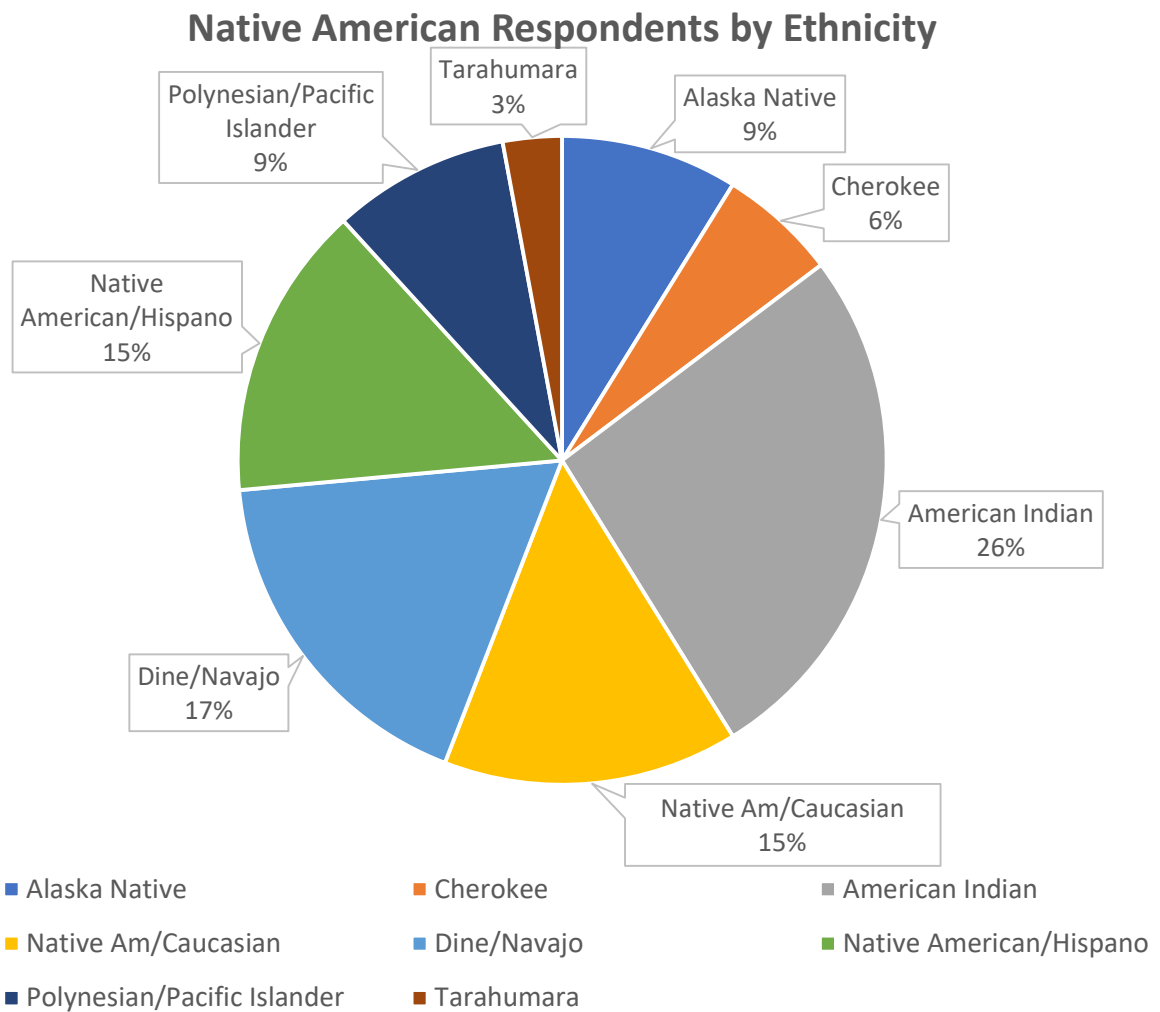
Participants were prompted in an open-ended question to self-report about race and ethnicity. Some responses distinguished between race and ethnicity. Others did not. The largest group of responses were from people who identified as White or Caucasian at 63%. The next largest response was from people who declined to answer at 17%. 13% of responses identified as Hispanic, Latinx, Chicana/o, or Mexicana/o. 3% of respondents identified as multi-racial. 2% of people identified as Native American/Indigenous. 1% of survey respondents identified as Black/African American. 1% of respondents identified as Asian.



49% of Albuquerque residents identify as Hispanic or Latino. 13% of survey participants identified similarly. Of the 13% of respondents who identified ethnically as Hispanic, Chicanx, LatinX, or Mexican, the specific responses, included 12 people who identified as Hispanic/Spanish, 15 people who identified as Mexicana/o, 29 identified as LatinX, 315 people identified as Hispanic only, and 364 people identified as White/Hispanic.



According to 2018 Census Data, 4.6% of Albuquerque's population are American Indian or Alaska Native. Of the 2% of survey respondents who identified similarly as Native American, 26% identified generally as Native American. 17% identified as Navajo/Dine. 15% identified as Native American/Hispanic. 15% identified as Native American/Caucasian. 9% identified as Polynesian/Pacific Islander. 9% identified as Alaska Native. 6% identified as Cherokee. 3% identified as Tahumara.



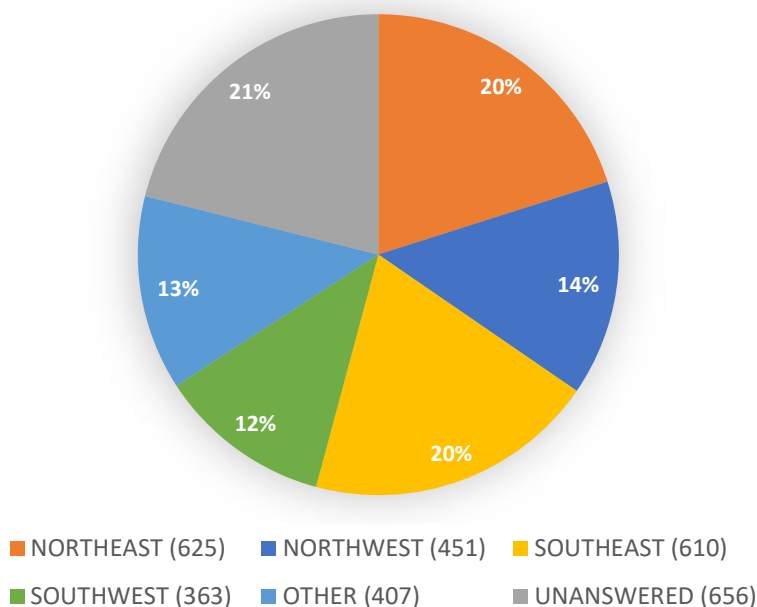
### Geographical Area (Neighborhood / Zip Code)

The survey data was organized by quadrant, neighborhood, and zip code. Quadrants were defined as the subsections of the City of Albuquerque divided by Interstate Highway 40 and Interstate Highway 25. The neighborhoods specified within the survey data were pre-identified by the City of Albuquerque.

According to the survey data, approximately 20% of survey respondents are residents of the Northeast Quadrant of Albuquerque. An additional 14% are of the Northwest Quadrant, 20% of the Southeast Quadrant, and 12% of the Southwest Quadrant. Of the total population of survey respondents, 13% lived in neighborhoods not included in the pre-identified list of neighborhoods provided by the City of Albuquerque. The survey question was unanswered by approximately 21% of all survey respondents. Each of the defined quadrants are further specified by neighborhood.

## PARTICIPANTS BY QUADRANT

NOTE: QUADRANTS WERE CREATED USING INTERSTATES 40 & 25



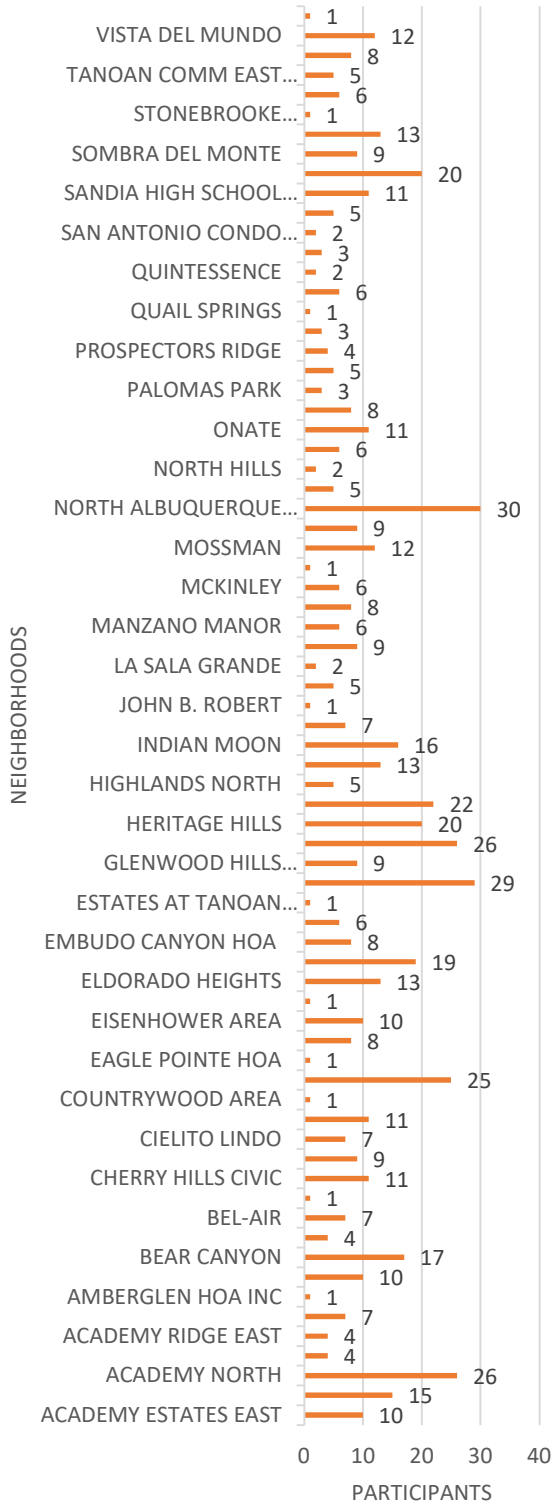
The Northeast quadrant of Albuquerque encompassed a total of 72 neighborhoods and 625 participants. The North Albuquerque Acres Community (30 participants), Glenwood Hills (29 participants), Academy North (26 participants), Heritage East (26 participants), and Del Norte (25 participants) had the largest numbers of responses.

The Northwest quadrant of Albuquerque encompassed a total of 62 neighborhoods and 451 participants. The Near North Valley (69 participants), Stronghurst (57 participants), Alvarado Gardens (29 participants), Ventana Ranch (25), and Los Griegos (23 participants) had the largest numbers of responses.

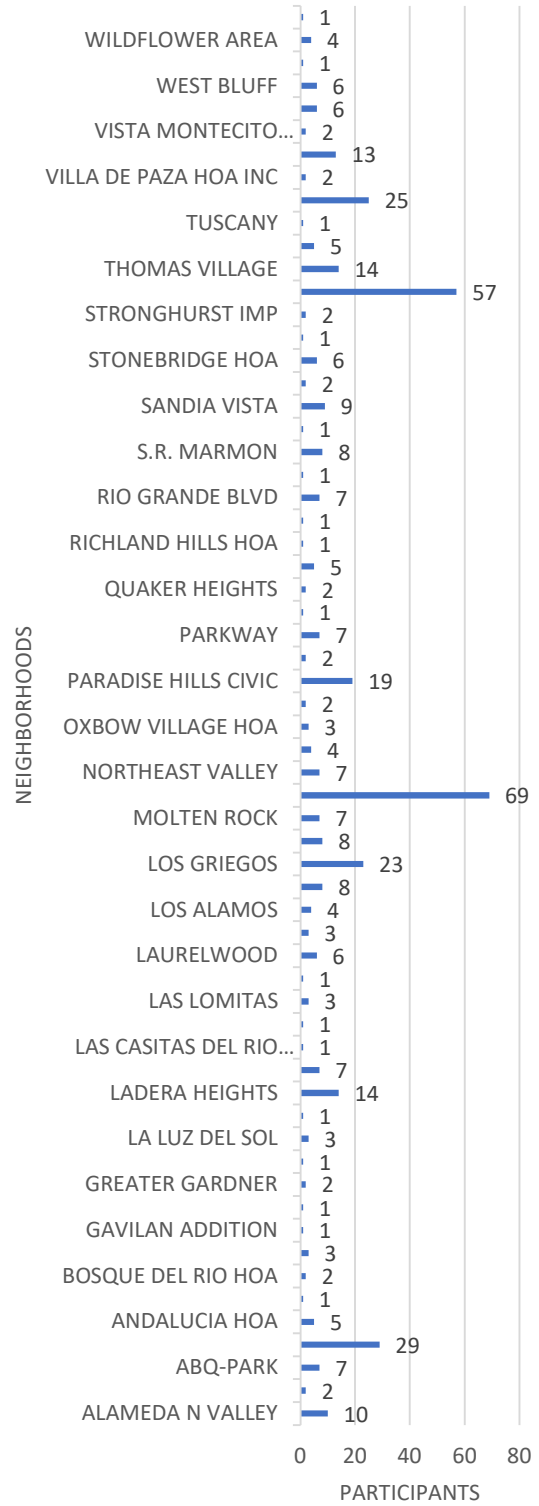
The Southeast quadrant of Albuquerque encompassed a total of 42 neighborhoods and 610 participants. The Nob Hill (101 participants), Parkland Hills (52 participants), Southeast Heights (40 participants), Summit Park (29 participants), and Four Hills Village (28 participants) had the largest numbers of responses.

The Southwest quadrant of Albuquerque encompassed a total of 39 neighborhoods and 363 participants. The Downtown (56 participants), Reynolds Addition (33 participants), Barelas (30 participants), Huning Highland Historic District (17 participants), and the Sawmill Area (17 participants) had the largest numbers of responses.

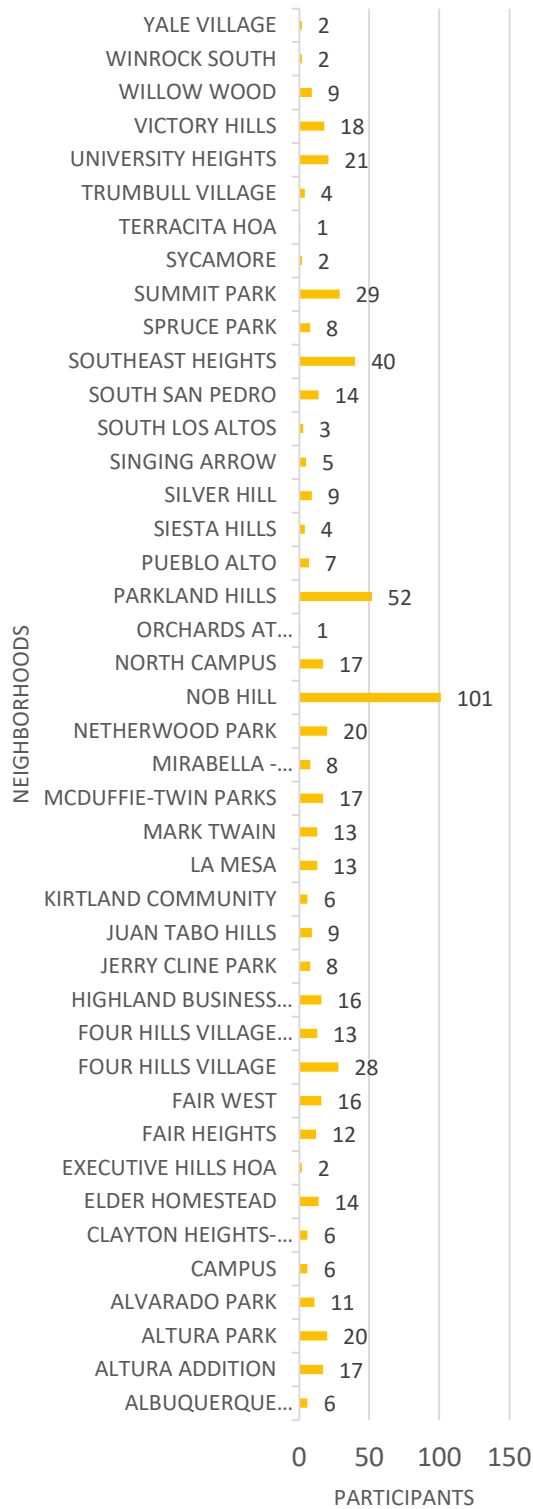
## NORTHEAST QUADRANT



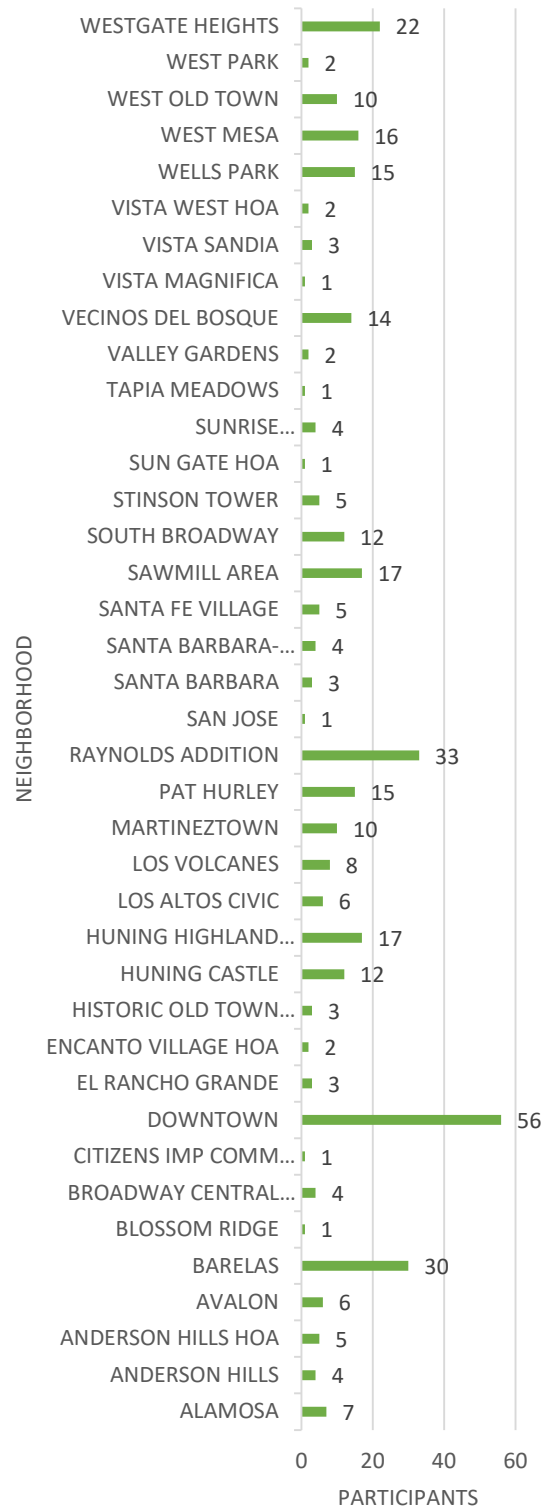
## NORTHWEST QUADRANT



## SOUTHEAST QUADRANT



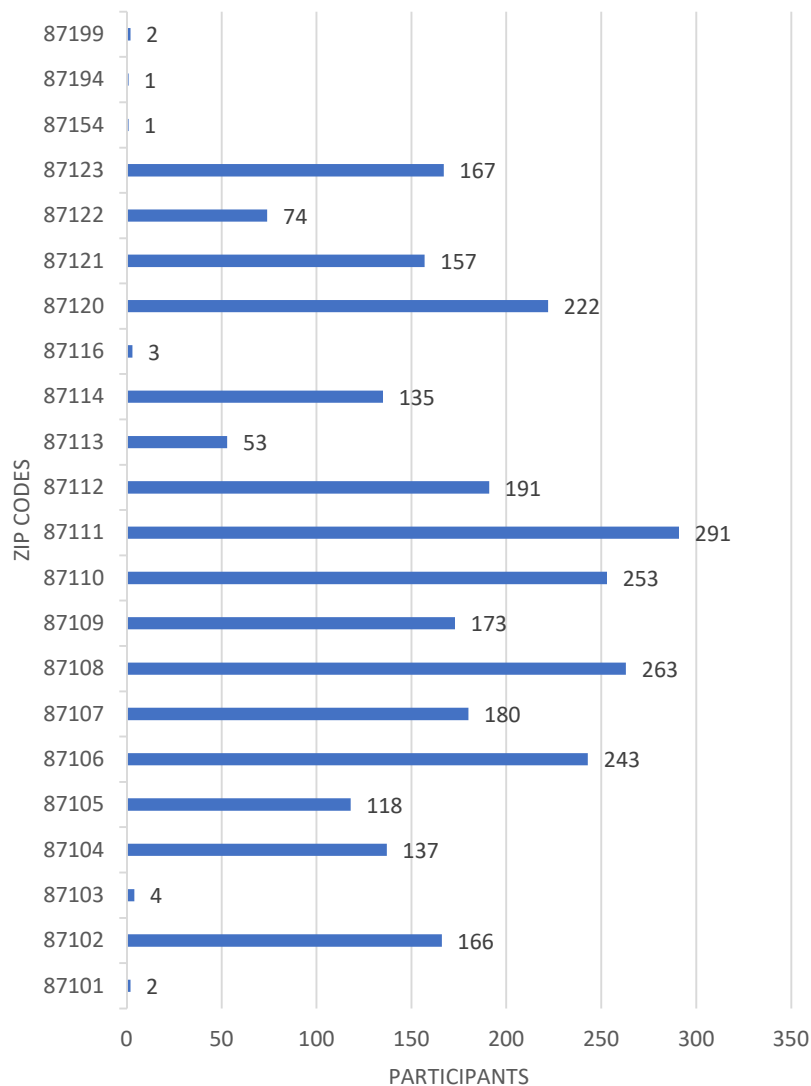
## SOUTHWEST QUADRANT





Of the 36 zip codes located within Albuquerque city limits, only 22 contained one or more survey respondents. Approximately 276 of the survey respondents either entered a zip code located outside of Albuquerque city limits, did not specify which zip code they reside in, or did not answer the survey question. Of the zip codes that contained participants, 87111 (291 participants), 87108 (263 participants), 87110 (253 participants), 87106 (243 participants), and 87120 (222 participants) were identified to house the largest numbers of responses.

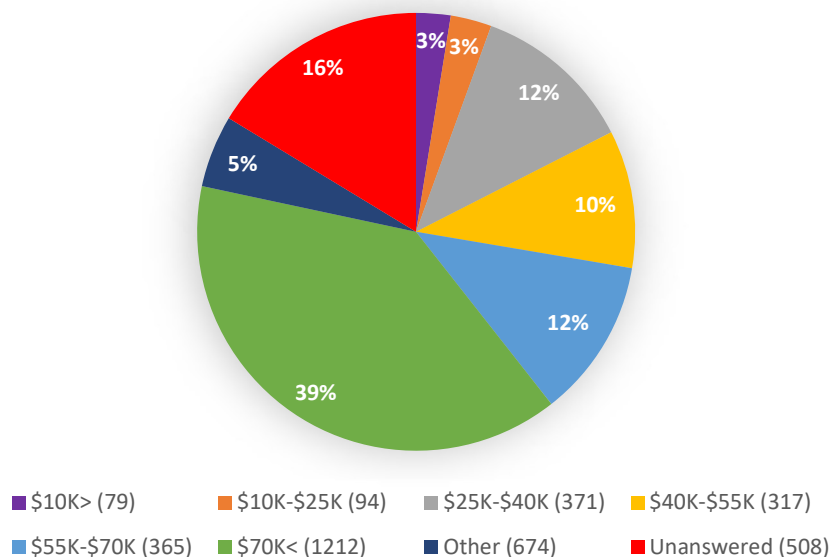
## PARTICIPANTS PER ZIP CODE



## Annual Household Income Self-Report

Most survey participants who shared information about income, were at or above an income of \$51,228 which is the median income for the City of Albuquerque. At least 18% of the respondents live with a very low to low-income. Almost 40% of participants in the survey reported an income at least \$18,772 greater than the City's median income level.

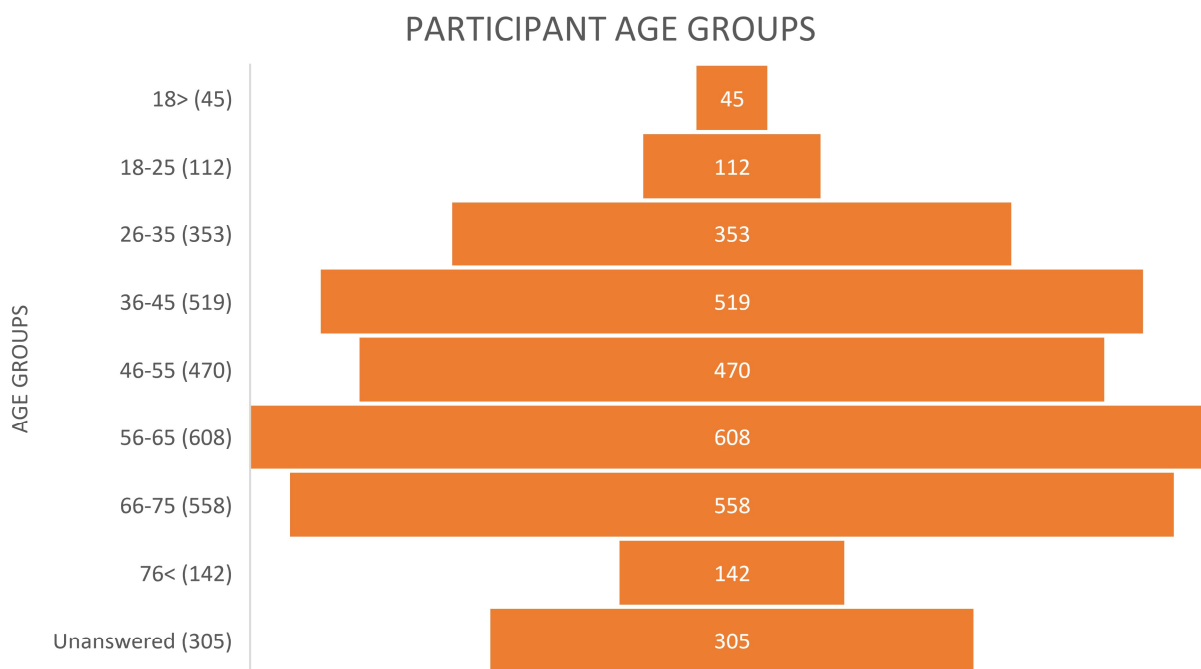
### PARTICIPANT ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME



- 3% of respondents reported an annual household income of less than \$10,000.
- 3% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$10,000 and \$25,000.
- 12% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$25,000 and \$40,000.
- 10% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$40,000 and \$55,000.
- 12% of respondents reported an annual household income between \$55,000 and \$70,000.
- 39% of respondents reported an annual household income of greater than \$70,000.
- 5% of respondents reported an undisclosed annual household income.
- 16% of respondents did not respond to the survey question.

## Age Group

Albuquerque residents across the lifespan weighed in on the survey and their priorities and beliefs about climate change. 5% of respondents were 25 or younger and 5% were over 76 years of age. People ages 56-65 were the most likely to participate in the survey. The median age in Albuquerque is 38. Those who participated in the survey were older than the median.

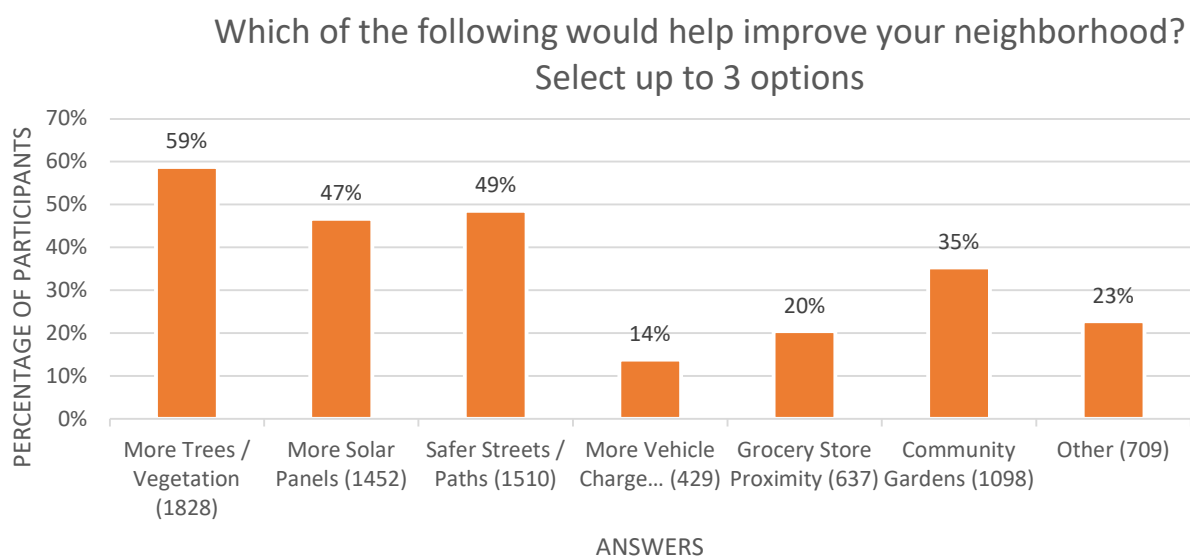


- 1% of respondents were younger than the age of 18.
- 4% of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 25.
- 11% of respondents were between the ages of 26 and 35.
- 17% of respondents were between the ages of 36 and 45.
- 15% of respondents were between the ages of 46 and 55.
- 19% of respondents were between the ages of 56 and 65.
- 18% of respondents were between the ages of 66 and 75.
- 5% of respondents were older than the age of 76.
- 10% of respondents did not respond to this survey question.

## Question: Which of the following would help improve your neighborhood?

In this question, people could choose up to three options. There was also an open-ended response marked other on this question which allowed participants in the survey to share additional ideas.

### QUANTITATIVE- EACH RESPONSE BY PERCENTAGE IS PROVIDED.

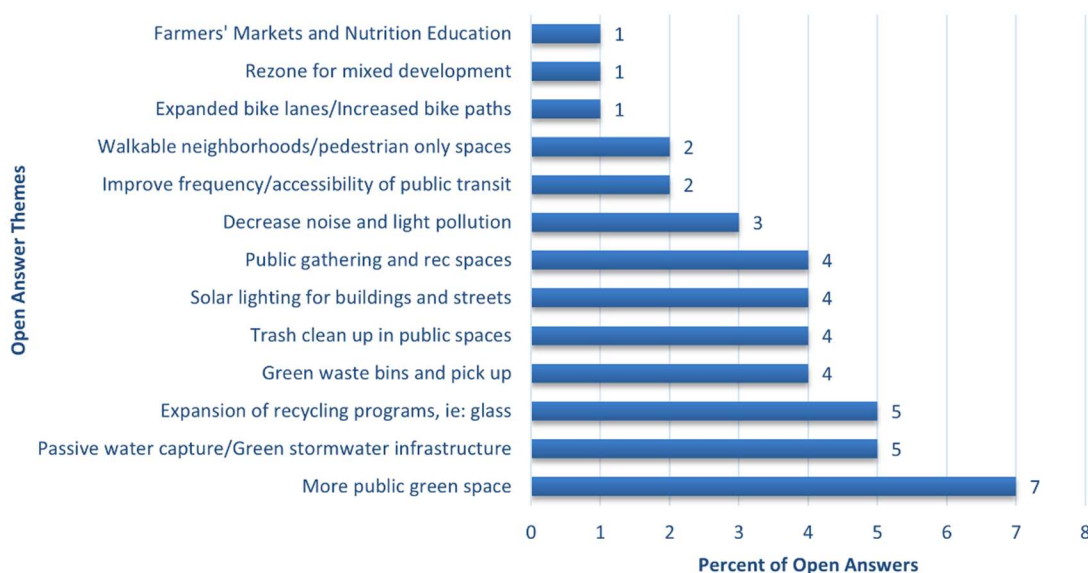


- 59% said that more trees and vegetation would help improve their neighborhood.
- 47% said more solar panels would be an improvement.
- 48% said safer, more bike and pedestrian-friendly streets or paths as an improvement.
- 14% said more e-vehicle charging stations would be an improvement.
  - A smaller percentage of the Hispanic population identified this as a priority compared to the general population.
  - 51% of people ages 56-75 favored e-charging stations as a neighborhood improvement.
- 20% said closer proximity to grocery stores, public transportation and amenities were a top priority.
  - A larger proportion of respondents from zip codes 87106 and 87108 saw this as a necessary improvement.
- 35% said community gardens are a top neighborhood improvement strategy.
  - A larger proportion of African Americans and Asian Americans supported community gardens. Overall,

- 525 of people who identified as a racial or ethnic minority identified community gardens as a top strategy for neighborhood improvement.
- 20% answered the open-ended response with other suggested improvements. (Please see an analysis of open-ended responses in the graph below.)

Qualitative N=598

### Which of the following would help improve your neighborhood?



#### DIRECT THEMES, FREQUENCY, QUOTES FROM OTHER/COMMENTS FIELD

##### 1. More public green space (40) 7%

- “Edible landscapes!! All over the place especially near public transit!”
- “It would be nice if the city would add trees next to multi-use trails instead of wasting them in medians.”
- “Shaded trails would entice more cyclists and pedestrians to use them.”
- “More hiking trails and maintenance of trails.”
- “Must have EQUITY in mind. We need more trees in some areas more than other. Prioritize International District and other areas high in poverty.”

##### 2. Passive water capture and green stormwater infrastructure (27) 5%

- “Through curb cuts, pervious strips along medians and other GSI features, cleaning stormwater by filtering it through tree and shrub roots”
- “Reducing water use on lawns and non-indigenous plants.”

- “Dig in permaculture swales in all City parks. It will slow the movement of water down the mountain and help keep water at higher levels in the valley.”
- “More water efficient plans for residents...i.e. no more freshwater toilets and reusing gray water for your yard.”
- “Xeriscape WITHOUT ROCKS!!! Less rocks/gravel to keep it cooler.”
- “Do NOT put in sidewalks or asphalt parking lots. Use gravel, wood chips, for every tree you take out, plant two.”

### **3. Expansion of recycling programs, especially glass (26) 5%**

- “Recycling availability and incentives (ex. bottle consignment program)”
- “Opportunities to recycle furniture, partially used household goods like paint, furnishings, appliances etc.”
- “Glass recycling receptacles”
- “More Public Recycling bins”

### **4. Green waste bins and pick up (24) 4%**

- “Green curbside or drop off facilities”
- “More composting education and community composting”
- “Provide residential compost bins”
- “Incentives for regenerative gardening”

### **5. Trash clean up in public spaces (23) 4%**

- “More trash cans and recycle cans for all the plastic bottles that lay littering the park”
- “Cleaning up weeds and trash along existing and pedestrian paths”

### **6. Use of solar lighting for public buildings and streetlights (22) 4%**

- “More solar powered street lighting”.
- “Solar panels shading existing cement arroyo channels-resultant electricity to go to nearby schools, clinics, libraries, enforcement and fire stations.”
- “Solar community projects that create micro-centers of power production”
- “Covering alleyways with tall pergolas that have solar panels on top and shared community space beneath”

### **7. More public gathering/rec spaces for youth and families (21) 4%**

- “Revamp parks especially those in the poorer communities because they are in poor conditions and decidedly not safe for children.”
- “More family-friendly zoning of open spaces”

- “Community events after COVID 19 that bring a sense of unity and gathering”
- “Public pools and community centers”

**8. Decrease noise and light pollution (15) 3%**

- “Light pollution reduction by lowering streetlights”
- “Dark skies streetlights”
- “Enforcement of noise pollution codes”

**9. Improve public transit- frequency and accessibility (14) 2%**

- “Additional bus stops, improved coordination of timing for bus transfers, and all routes running later into the evening.”
- “Better public transportation (more frequent buses, a fare card that can be reloaded online)”
- “Public transportation which was better linked to common destinations points in the city”

**10. Walkable neighborhoods/pedestrian only spaces (10) 2%**

- “ADA compliant sidewalks”

**11. Expanded bike lanes and increased bike paths (8) 1%**

- “Physically protected bike paths and intersections”
- “Safer Pedestrian and Bike Infrastructure, particularly if it involves a good tree canopy would totally transform my experience of this city”

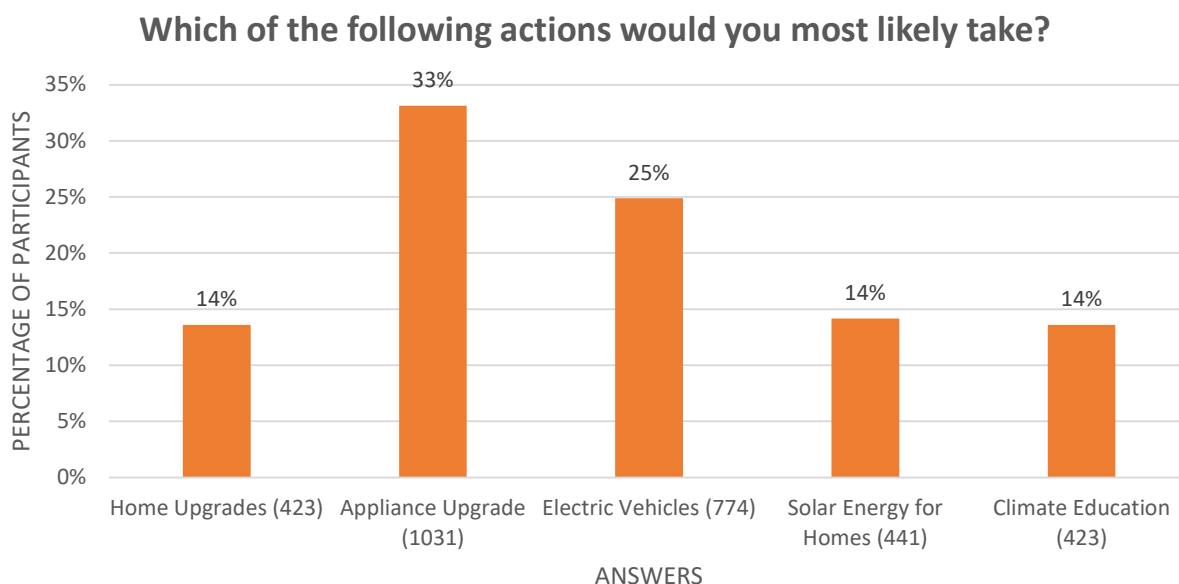
**12. Rezone for mixed use development (8) 1%**

- “Infill instead of expansion and use of vacant storefronts”
- “Less commercial development; use available/vacant storefronts instead of allowing more building”

**13. Farmer's markets and public education on nutrition and climate (7) 1%**

- “Farmer's markets accessible to low income people”
- “Healthy take-out food choices, health food choices”

Question: Which of the following actions would you most likely take?



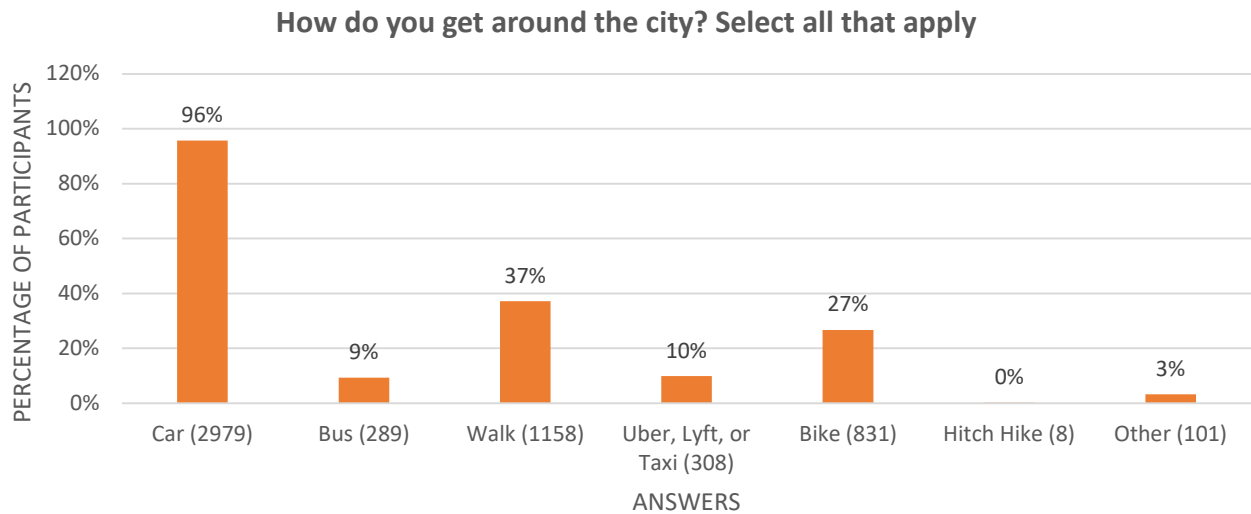
**Quantitative- Each response by percentage is provided.**



- Home Upgrades- 14% of respondents identified that they would apply for financial assistance to upgrade my home and lower my utility bill.
- Appliance Upgrades- 33% of people who responded to this question stated they would use a rebate to make an energy efficient home or appliance upgrade. A smaller percentage of people between 36-55 (21% compared to 32% of respondents) said they would use a rebate. Lower income earners rated this strategy as a priority.
- Electric Vehicles- 25% supported the use tax credits or rebate to help purchase an electric vehicle.
- Solar Energy for Homes- 14% supported the use of tax credits to help pay for installing solar at their home
- Education about Climate Change- 14% of respondents to this question said they would spend an hour or more learning about climate change. A larger percentage of higher income earners in the \$70K+ range supported this action.



## Question: How do you get around the city?



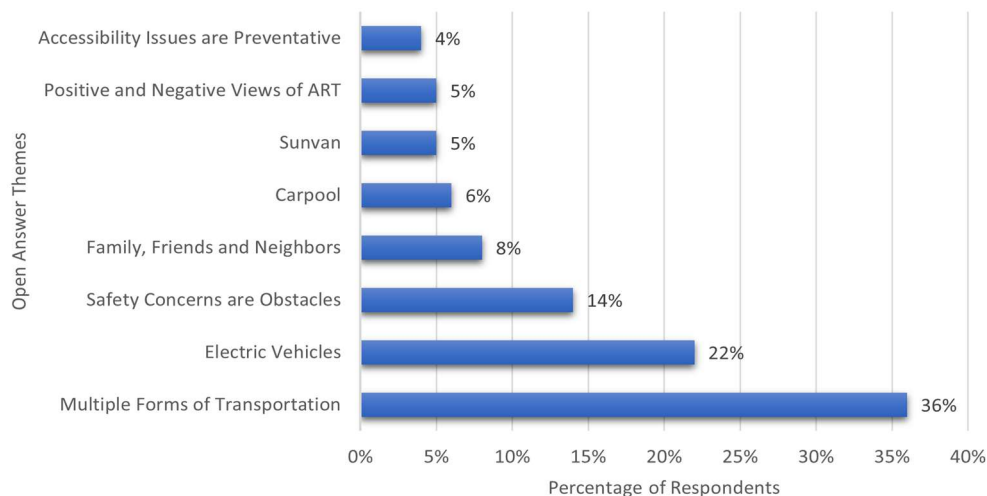
### Quantitative- Each response by percentage is provided.

- 96% of respondents reported getting around by car
- 9% of respondents reported getting around primarily by bus
- 27% of respondents reported getting around by bike.
- Only Spanish speakers reported to use hitch hiking as a form of transportation.
- Other/Open-ended questions (79 people)



## DIRECT THEMES, FREQUENCY, QUOTES FROM OTHER/COMMENTS FIELD

### How do you get around the city? Direct Themes



#### 1. Multiple Forms of Transportation

Of the people who replied to the other prompt, 36% identified using multiple forms of transportation

- “I bicycle 4 times a week to work and back and use my motorcycle once a week to shop.”
- “I only use the car when I need to go a long way; am looking into bus schedules to use even less”
- “I have been just recently given a car but I much rather use the bus or walk. When necessary I used Lyft”
- “Walk, Bike and drive in that order”

#### 2. Electric Vehicles

22% of the people who responded to the other category identified using a e-vehicle such as an e-car, e-scooter, or e-bike

- “Electric car that I charge at home with electricity generated by my solar panels”
- “My short-range 2012 electric car.”
- “electric kick scooter”
- “electric bike”
- “Plug-in electric”
- “Both of our vehicles are electric”

### 3. Safety Concerns

14% of people who responded to the “other” question identified safety concerns ranging from crime and street design to pedestrian safety and the need for more policing

- “Do not feel safe using bus in Alb. especially along Central.”
- “Used to take city bus until it became dangerously unsafe, unpleasant. Where are decent, clean uniforms for driver?”
- “I would bike if it were safer.”
- “I would bike, but the paths aren’t complete and biking in traffic is too dangerous”



### 4. Family, Friends, and Neighbors

8% of respondents identified relying on a family member, friend, or neighbor for transportation

- “ride share with neighbors”
- “I wish there are more busses because many times I have to ask a friend for a ride”
- “I borrow a friend’s vehicle.”

### 5. Carpool

6% reported using a carpool currently and/or pre-pandemic

- “Carpool when possible”
- “Carpool (pre-pandemic)”

### 6. Sunvan

5% of respondent to the other question referenced using Sunvan

- “Sun van or lift”
- “Sunvan”

## **7. Positive and Negative Views of ART**

5% of people who responded to the other question reference ART with slightly more critiques of ART than those who found it beneficial

- “We used the ART Bus quite a bit before the pandemic.”
- “Not ART”

## **8. Disability and Accessibility**

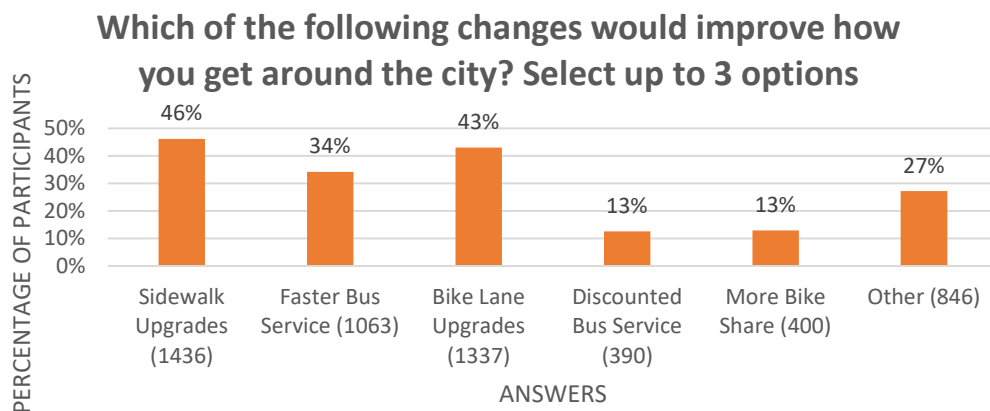
4% identified getting around via wheelchair and two expressed challenges with design that isn't wheelchair friendly

- “I hobble with a ski pole sometimes a wheelchair thru dangerous streets and badly designed curb cuts that are designed to actually throw the disabled into the dangerous traffic, and make music legal...”
- “I am a disabled senior, absolutely need my car and can't drive very far. We have seen the disaster that senior residences turned out to be.”
- “Power wheelchair”

## **9. Creative Transport**

Golf carts, hoverboards, rail runner, horseback, roller skating and running were each identified once as a mode of transportation in the survey.

Question: Which of the following changes would improve how you get around the city? Select up to 3 options

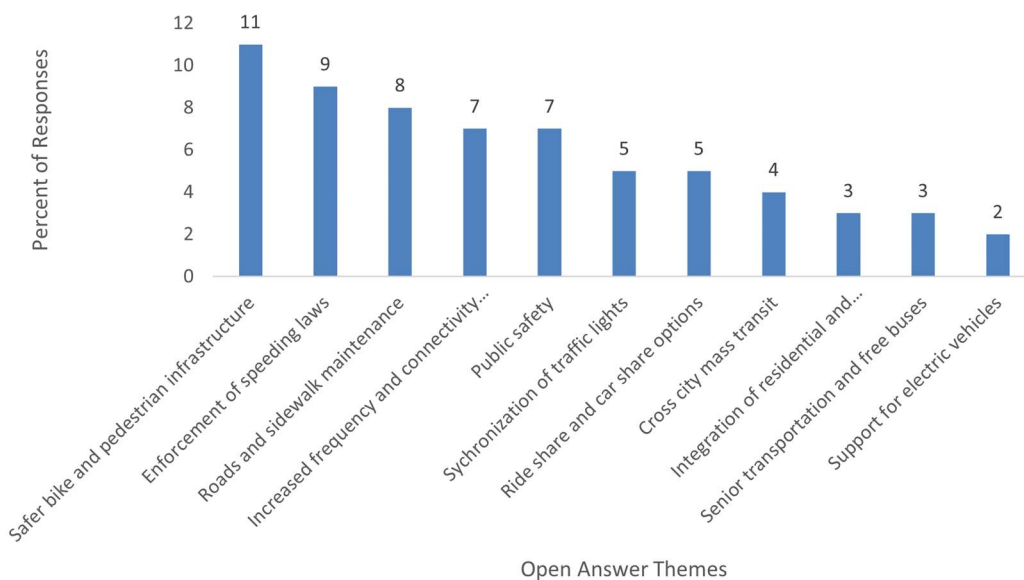


**Quantitative- Each response by percentage is provided.**

- 46% support sidewalk upgrades or expansion
- 34% support faster or more frequent bus service
- 43% support bike lane upgrades and or expansion
- 14% support discounted bus service
- 13% support more bike share or scooter options
- 27% support other recommended improvements through an open-ended question. Please see details below.

#### DIRECT THEMES, FREQUENCY, QUOTES FROM OTHER/COMMENTS FIELD

Which of the following changes would improve how you get around the city?



1. **Safer bike and pedestrian infrastructure separate from streets -11%**
  - “Bike/walk only roads and paths”
  - “Provide shade for multi-use trails and sidewalks”
  - “Connect bike lanes and bike trails; more extensive and connected bike trails covering the entire city.”
  - Wider sidewalks away from the street. Using an easement for space between sidewalk and street.”
  
2. **Enforcement of speeding laws, driver education and/or lower speed limit - 9%**
  - “Enforcing traffic laws.”
  - “Making streets safer for pedestrians (and cyclists) by lowering and enforcing speed limits
  - “Bring back traffic cameras”
  - “Educational requirements for motorists. I've been hit 12 times in the 28 years that I've been bicycling in Albuquerque.”
  
3. **Roads and sidewalk upgrades and maintenance -8%**
  - “Better quality roads and decent maintenance of streets”
  - “Level sidewalks, currently all are slanted and hard on hips and knees inadequate for any type of walking”
  - “ADA complaint pathways & curb cuts throughout city.”
  
4. **Bus accessibility; increase frequency and connectivity -7%**
  - “Workable bus service and routes. My neighborhood really has no bus service to nearby commercial areas”
  - “It's about interconnection - folks that make decisions about bus routes and times should be folks who rely on buses”
  - “Buses should run later for bars/clubs”
  
5. **Public safety; at bus stops, on buses and in neighborhoods -7%**
  - “Feeling safer to walk alone as a female\_
  - “Closer and safer ways to walk to stores, pedestrian crossings\_
  - “Safety measures to feel confident taking public transportation, walking, etc.”
  
6. **Synchronization of traffic lights -5%**
  - “timed stoplights”
  - “Better synchronized traffic lights. Pollution can be reduced by cutting idling vehicles and frequent starts and stops.”

**7. Ride share and car share options and carpool lane- 5%**

- “Car share service (like eGo car share, Car2Go, ZipCar)”
- “Ride Share rebates”
- “Add more incentives for car-pooling.”
- “More parking/park and ride options for events”
- “Designate commuter carpool lanes”

**8. Light rail in lieu of buses/cross-city mass transit- 4%**

- “Rail line or streetcar”
- “Subways in the city”
- “Major bus routes replaced with elevated electric trains

**9. Integration of residential and commercial districts- 3%**

- “More community clustering of necessities, services, & amenities”
- “Group houses, grocery stores, post office, drug store closely together. Infill Albuquerque vacant lots”
- “Create urban density so walking, biking, scooting is a realistic option for people.”
- “Neighborhood grocery store”

**10. Senior transportation and free buses -3%**

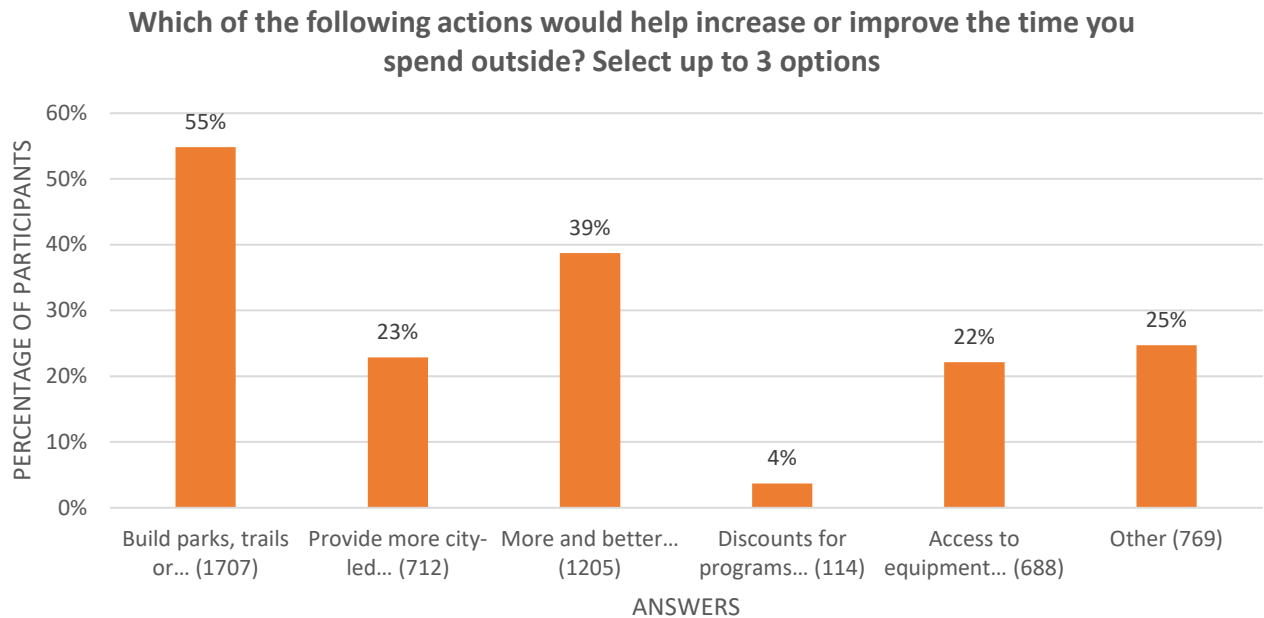
- “Safe senior transportation”
- “Free buses”
- “3-wheel bike for elders/mobility scooters for rent”

**11. Support for electric vehicles -2%**

- “Electric vehicle charging stations”
- “Tax breaks for electric cars”



Question: Which of the following actions would help increase or improve the time you spend outside? Select up to 3 options



**Quantitative- Each response by percentage is provided.**

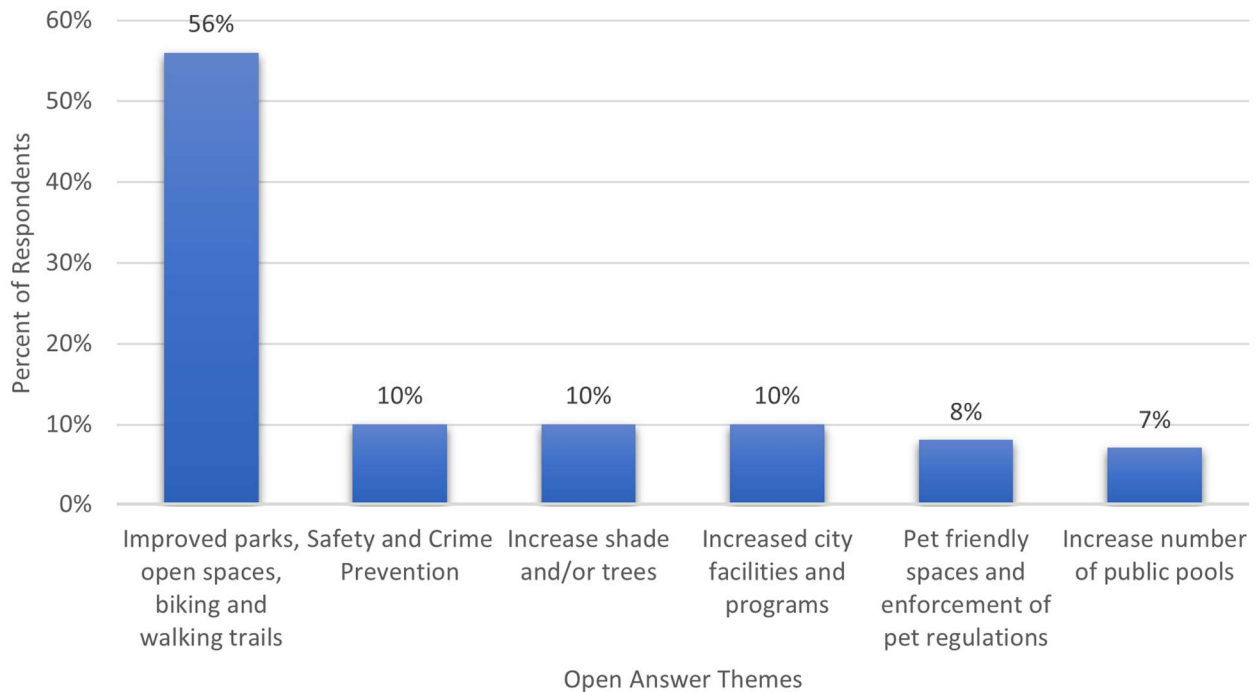
- 55% prioritize building parks, trails, or recreational facilities in closer proximity to their homes
- 23% prioritize providing more city-led programs or activities
- 39% prioritize providing more or better information on facilities and programs
- 26% prioritize discounts to access programs and facilities
- 22% prioritize access to equipment to better enjoy the outdoors





**DIRECT THEMES, FREQUENCY, QUOTES FROM OTHER/COMMENTS FIELD**

## Which of the following actions would help increase or improve the time you spend outside?



### 1. 56% of people who provided a detailed narrative response supported improving parks, open space, biking and walking trails, and trailhead access and maintenance

- “Separate walking and biking lanes - especially around the Rio Grande Nature Center and bike paths. They are dangerous for walkers.”
- “complete a walking trail all the way around Arroyo del Oso golf course, not just a trail on the south side”
- “Use some vacant land to create a park or park-like space”
- “More local parks all over town. Public transportation to hiking areas - Elena Gallegos, and Ski basin.”
- “MAINTAIN the Parks we have. Build bike/pedestrian friendly walkways around the older parks.”
- “improve safety at parks and trails; provide clean restroom facilities at parks”

**2. 10% of people who replied other advocated for improved public safety related to crime prevention and response**

- “Reduce crime”
- “Reduce the level of terror associated with bicycling on the city's streets and roads”
- “Safer streets for pedestrians! We have some of the highest pedestrian and cyclist deaths in the country! Most especially Lead and Coal!”
- “Enhance police protection”

**3. 10% of people who responded to this open-ended question identified the need to increase trees and or shade**

- “More trees along sidewalks - I would be more likely to walk short distances in the summer rather than drive.”
- “More vegetation, like trees, bushes, flowers”
- “More shaded space”
- “Also, the play equipment at a lot of parks is not covered and is too hot for most of the year.”

**4. 10% of people encouraged an increase in City facilities and programs**

- “I spend so much time outdoors/would love to see more racket sport activities”
- “I live in an incredibly privileged neighborhood near Los Ranchos - the disparity between my neighborhood at the end of Candelaria and those just a few blocks east is SHOCKING - the area above Sawmill and between Los Ranchos and I-25 deserves some serious equity and updates!”
- “Discounts for programs and facility access.”

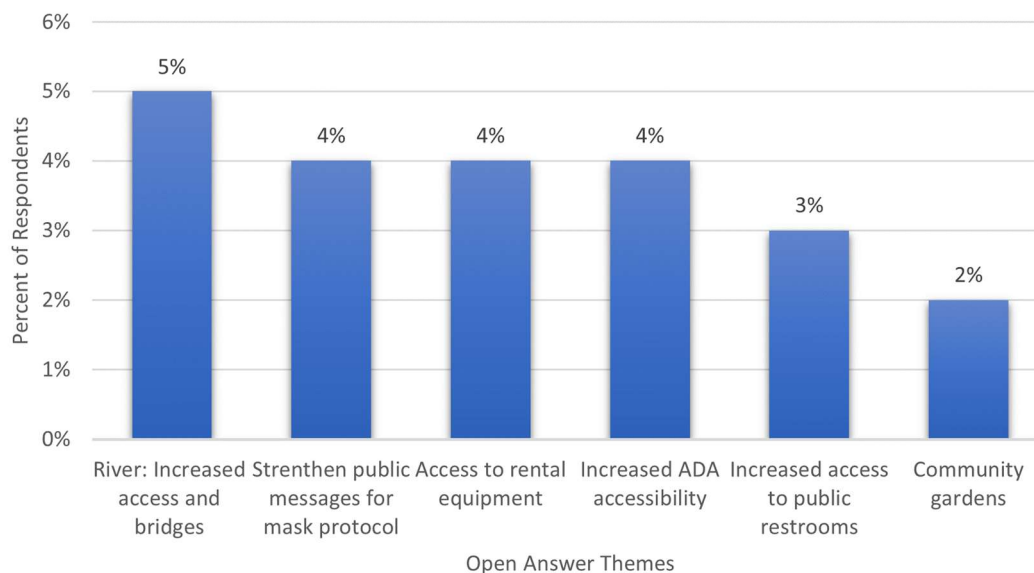
**5. 8% of people want more pet-friendly outdoor spaces or better clarity and enforcement of how people and pets share outdoor spaces**

- “More and larger dog parks!”
- “The City should also be more proactive in ensuring that all pets are licensed and altered and leashed when in public.”
- “More dog friendly public transportation options”
- “Make the bosque safer. Force ppl to keep their dogs on leash”

## 6. 7% of respondents wanted the City to increase the number of community pools

- “Pool closer to me”
- “Outdoor resort style swimming pools”
- “Community center for kids to play, compared to playing video games, swimming pool, basketball, soccer, playground, solar powered street lights lots of them.”
- “An Olympic swimming pool near Cibola or CNM Westside campus”
- “City swimming pool at North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center”
- “Increase all indoor and outdoor utilization of city owned swimming pools, perhaps with a more robust and sophisticated reservation system.”

### Which of the following actions would help increase or improve the time you spend outside? (Less frequent responses)



## 7. 5% of respondents want the City to improve responses to homelessness

- “Homeless shelters and other supports for transient populations to keep them out of the parks and other open areas. I sometimes worry for my safety or the safety of my children in outdoor spaces. “
- “Safe areas like the parks, free of needles and homeless so I can ride my bike/walk dogs for exercise and not feel threatened.”
- “More safety in park areas. I will not visit most places in town because of needles and razor blades I keep finding. Also, our public parks and trails are filled with homeless people who are on drugs.”

**8. 5% of respondents want the City to increase access to and across the river**

- “More safe community gathering options. Rio Grande River access and activities.”
- “Make the parks and river access easily accessible to those who use walker and wheelchairs for mobility. Getting to the river when you use equipment is pretty much impossible. There are few trails that are accessible to those who use mobility aids. The city needs to be accessible to ALL people.”
- “Voluntary recycling and clean-up of existing facilities. I would love to see ALBQ take the lead on clean up coupled with recycling of the material picked up. The river and various trails would benefit and could help educate citizens on recycling options. There are not enough recycling containers and ideally, should be made mandatory.”
- “Better river access points, portage trail for Alameda dam”

**9. 4% of the respondents identified the need to strengthen understanding about mask norms**

- “Enforce open space basic rules on mask wearing and mountain bikes yielding to walkers”
- “Stop requiring useless masks outside.”
- Post signs at city parks that a mask is required until we have a vaccine against COVID 19.

**10. 4% of respondents had additional suggestions about increasing access to equipment through rental/equipment library and maintenance/cleanliness during COVID**

- “Access to equipment to better enjoy the outdoors”
- “Rental scooters at open spaces and bio park for the handicapped”
- “I hadn't thought about supporting access to equipment before, but that's a really neat idea - especially such things that would make kayaking or paddle-boarding, mountain-biking, snowshoeing, etc. more accessible - perhaps there could be something like a library for equipment rentals? Adventure ABQ! Or Get Fit ABQ!”

**11. 4% of respondents identified improved access to open space for people with disabilities as a top priority**

- “Maintain the bike/handicapped trails within the bosque and build more bike/handicapped trails that are in beautiful settings”
- “More access to wheelchairs in city parks”

**12. 3% of the survey participants identified the need for increased or improved public restrooms in parks and open spaces**

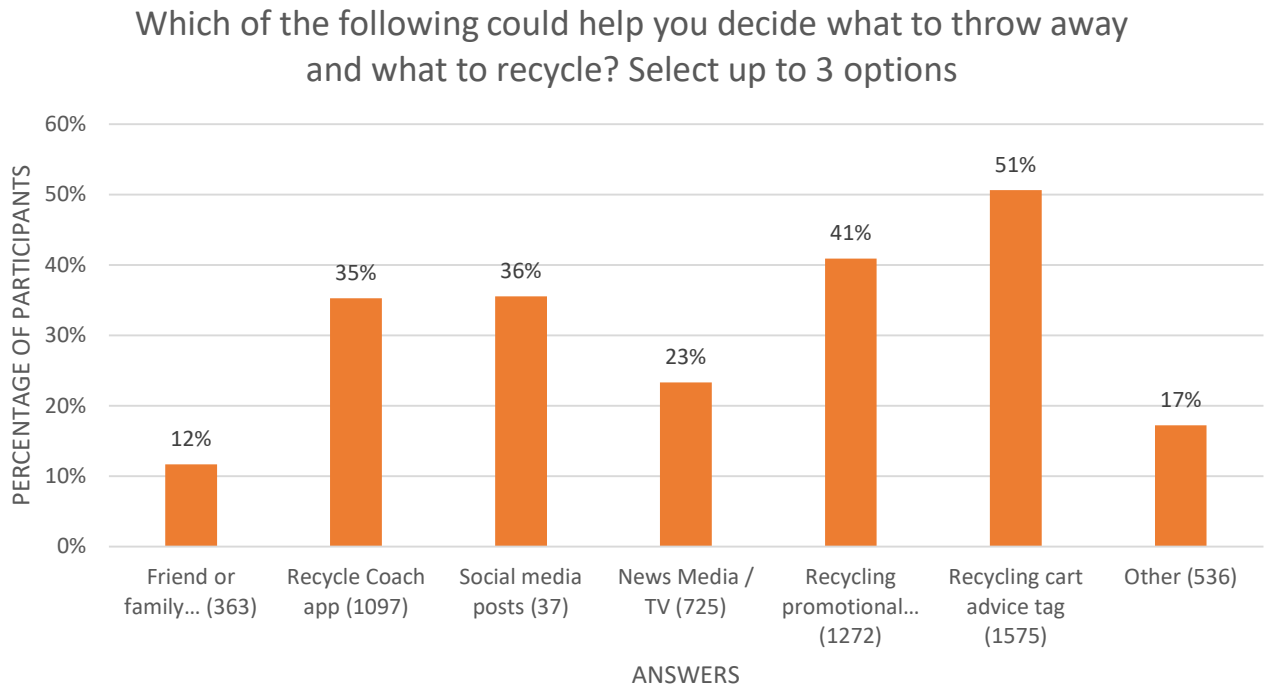
- “Toilets at parks”
- “We need restrooms in the parks! I, along with many other people, can't be away from a restroom too long.”
- “Parks are poorly equipped. No splash pads, few basketball and other sports courts or poorly maintained, no restrooms.”
- “I would use the city parks more if they had clean and safe restrooms.”

**13. 2% of respondents identified community gardening**

- “More community gardens, too!”
- “Also, door to door homeowner gardening education- in addition to community gardens, encourage homeowners to cultivate front yard/back yard. Also, water rebates, free soaker hoses for growing food.”
- “Community gardening”
- “gardening workshops/classes and community gardening activities”



Question: Which of the following could help you decide what to throw away and what to recycle? Select up to 3 options

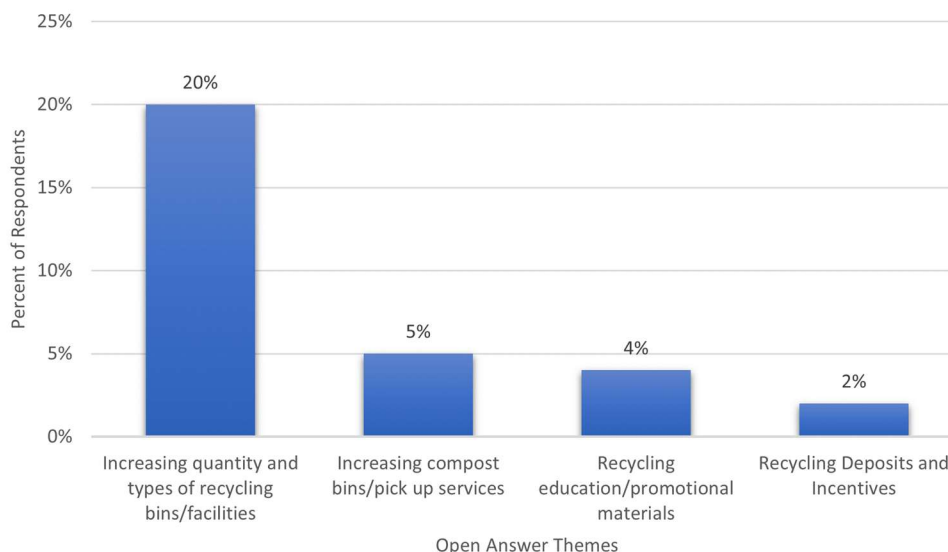


**Quantitative- Each response by percentage is provided.**

- 12% said they would rely on a friend or family members advice
- 35% said they would use the recycle coach smart phone app
- 35% said they would use social media posts/city website information
- 23% said they would use news media/television/radio
- 41% said they would use recycling promotional materials
- 51% said they would use recycling cart advice tag
- 17% had other ideas about how to support recycling decision-making

## DIRECT THEMES, FREQUENCY, QUOTES FROM OTHER/COMMENTS FIELD

### Which of the following could help you decide what to throw away and what to recycle?



1. **Recycling Bins and Facilities-** Increasing and improving recycling bins and information displayed on them was mentioned by 20% of respondents.
  - “A facility that specializes and has more bins for specific types of recyclables.”
  - “More frequent pick-up at the Villas at Menaul”
  - “Glass recycling closer to my home. The glass recycling was moved from the San Mateo Walmart area to places very far away. We have to drive a long way to recycle glass now and this adds to the pollution, plus, Zuni is always backed up so cars are backed up and polluting the air while trying to get out of this neighborhood to recycle the glass.”
  - “tour of recycle plant, have repair fairs, workshops, repair centers”
  - “We are diligent in our recycling. It is best to expand the items the city takes and make clear where drop off areas are for large or unusual items like appliances, batteries, and lightbulbs”.
  
2. **Composting-** Increasing composting was mentioned by 5% of respondents.
  - “We pay for composting pick up services and are aware that ABQ is behind other cities in this respect.”
  - “Compost pickup service”
  - “Ability to community compost.”
  - “More composting education and community composting, Fewer lawns, more native plants.”

- “Green/Compost Bins- Nearly all (80-95%) of my trash bin is filled with compostable waste. A green bin pick up 2-3 times a month would alleviate 95% of my "garbage, especially spring through late fall (November). I compost a lot myself, but not tomato, squash, and most flower and weed refuse. My compost bin does not get hot enough. Neighbors with grass in the back yard also fill their trash bins. Thank you for asking. I see so much about other communities that do and it really irritates me that ABQ does not. St. Louis botanical garden & community recycles their plastic into plant pots and lumber. ABQ should invest in their own true recycling plant that makes new pots or lumber or something. Especially something from packing Styrofoam. Also do something about electronics. Most people I know throw them in the trash because of the fee and inconvenience of trying to find a place to recycle them. There is never enough notice and I and my friends usually find out about an even 2-3 weeks afterwards.”

**3. Recycling Education-** Strengthening education on cleaning and sorting standards was mentioned by 4% of respondents.

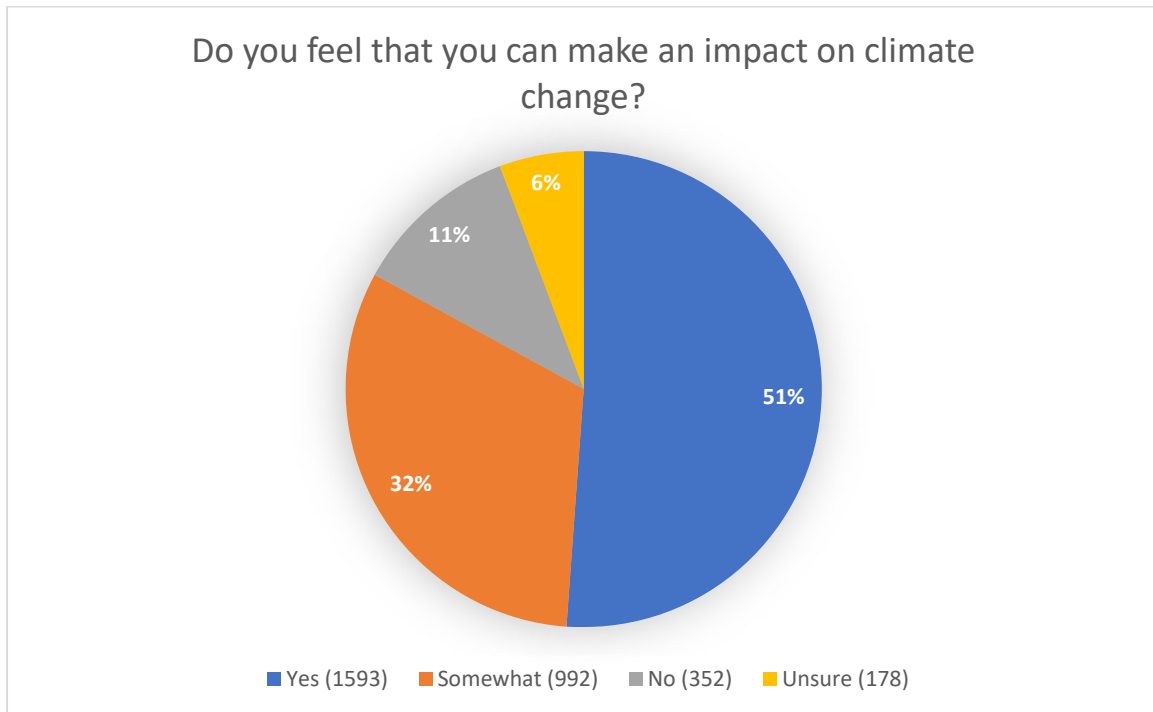
- “A concise fridge magnet”
- “Cart advice tag”
- “Recycling promotional materials (billboards, magnets, fliers etc.)”
- “I'm the only one in my household that recycles and often have to fish recyclables out of the trash (if I see them). I can't seem to get my wife and kids to create the habit. Perhaps some educational materials or online resources to help create a family culture of recycling.”

**4. Recycling Deposits and Incentives-** Deposits and incentives for recycling were mentioned by 2% of respondents.

- “Cash back on glass paper and plastic recycling”
- “Real recycling industry and collection--i.e. glass, deposit oval containers of merchandise”
- A recycling returns program where it is easier to be reimbursed for recycling to create more interest in recycling. Much like the Oregon deposit program.”
- “Making deposits on aluminum cans”



## Do you feel that you can make an impact on climate change?



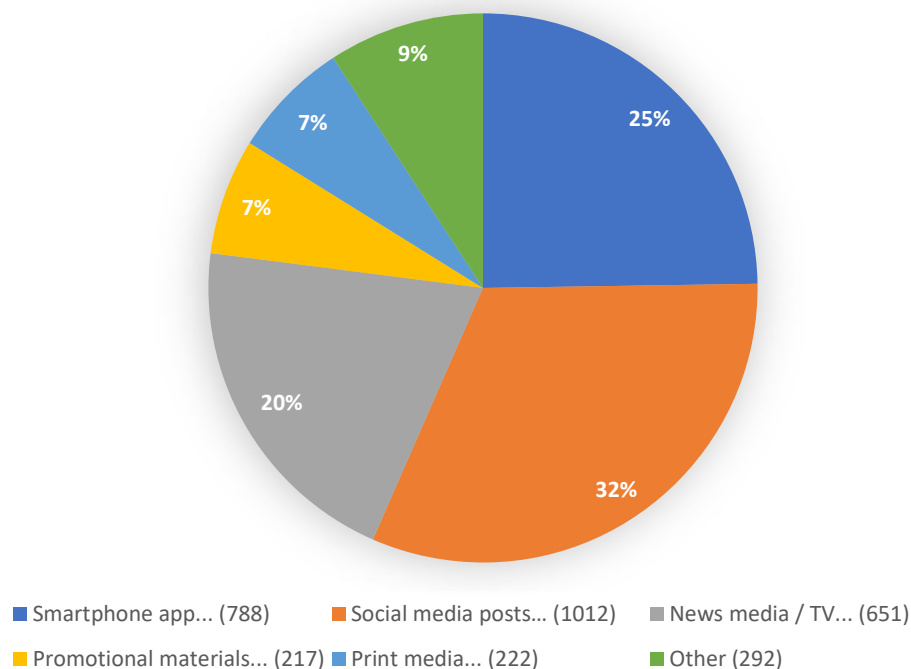
**Quantitative**-Each response by percentage is provided.

- 51% said yes
- 32% said no
- 11% said somewhat
- 6% were unsure



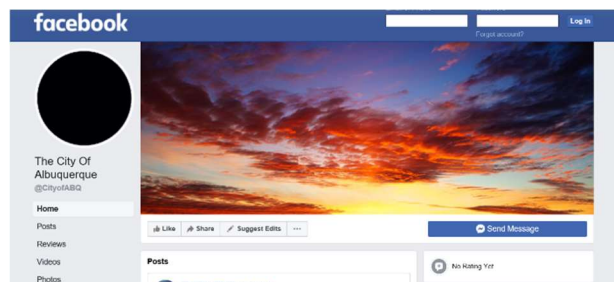
## What is the best way for you to receive information?

What is the best way for you to receive information?



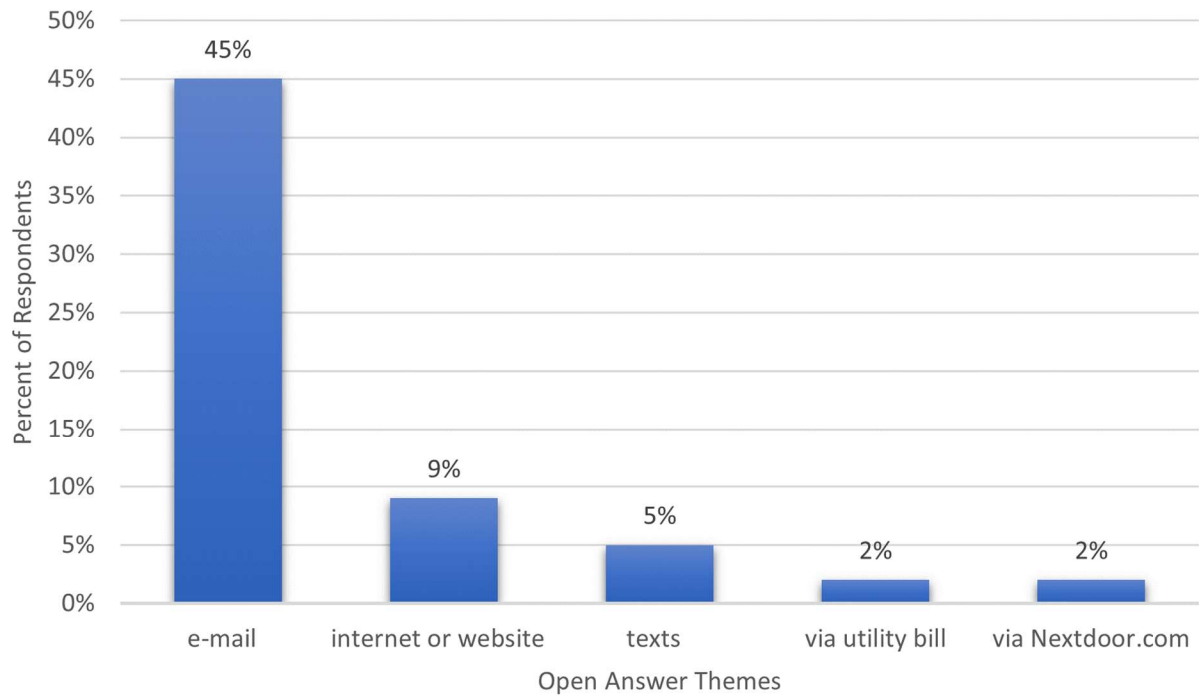
**Quantitative-** Each response by percentage is provided.

- 20% prefer news media- television/radio-
- 7% prefer print media- newspaper/magazines-
- 7% prefer promotional materials
- 25% would prefer a smart phone application
- 32% prefer social media posts
- Other- 292 people responded to the other/open-ended question. Please see details below.



## QUALITATIVE/OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES

### What is the best way for you to receive information?



- 45% prefer e-mail
- 9% prefer internet or website
- 5% prefer texts
- 2% prefer notice via utility bill
- 2% prefer notice via Nextdoor.com

## Conclusion

Receiving over 3,000 community responses to an on-line Climate Survey speaks to significant community interest in climate action. The time and attention survey participants expended to prioritize and select climate mitigation strategies and contribute analysis to open-ended questions shows interest and buy-in to community-driven change efforts.

**Why We Wrote This Brief:** New Mexico First is committed to civic engagement in public policy.

Independently reviewing and analyzing community input and presenting it in a report as a functional tool for Climate Action Taskforce members and other formal and informal decision-makers is an important way to amplify community perspectives, knowledge, wisdom, and assets.

This report was contracted by the City of Albuquerque.

### What is New Mexico First?

New Mexico First, a statewide public policy organization that engages people in critical issues facing their state and communities. The cross partisan, nonprofit group builds consensus through rigorous research, and inclusive and transparent stakeholder deliberation across New Mexico. New Mexico First partners with communities on 5 policy pillars: education, natural resources, ethics in government, health, and the economy. Reports and inclusive convenings inform policy discussions, legislative options, and learning. NMF research also provides the foundation for New Mexico First's unique town halls that convene people to develop proposals to improve the state. The reports are available at [nmfirst.org](http://nmfirst.org). The organization was co-founded in 1986 by retired U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman (D) and the late Senator Pete Domenici (R).

[nmfirst.org](http://nmfirst.org). The organization was co-founded in 1986 by retired U.S. Senator Jeff Bingaman (D) and the late Senator Pete Domenici (R).



### Contact Us

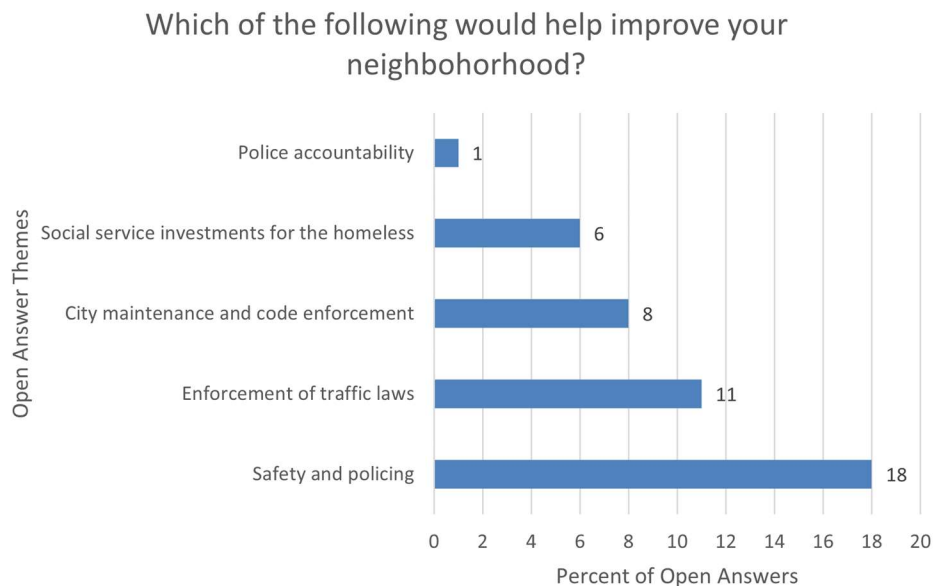
nmfirst.org  
info@nmfirst.org  
505.225.2140

**How can you get involved?** Stay tuned in to New Mexico First's research by subscribing to our blog, supporting our work, or advancing principled and constructive dialogue in your community. More information at [nmfirst.org](http://nmfirst.org)

## Appendix In-Direct Themes by Question

---

### Question: Which of the following would help improve your neighborhood?



#### 1. Safety and policing (105) 18%

- “Until something is done about crime, enjoying the outdoors is problematic”
- “Police (peace) officers walking or riding bikes in the community”

#### 2. Enforcement of traffic laws (66) 11%

- “Less people driving 50+ miles per hour through our residential area endangering our kids and pets.”
- “An appropriate number of speed bumps to keep kids safe in family neighborhoods”
- “Better lighting, more streetlights- safety”

#### 3. City maintenance and code enforcement (47) 8%

- “City doing upkeep and enforcement for graffiti, weeds, litter”
- “oversight and enforcement of City Ordinances regarding weeds, litter, abandoned properties, derelict vehicles etc.”

#### 4. Social services investments for the homeless and those with addictions (36) 6%

- “Programs to help downtown's homeless find dignified and sustainable ways to get off the streets”
- “better services for people in poverty, including laundry facilities”

## 5. Police accountability (6) 1%

- “less crime in shopping and entertainment areas”
- “More police patrol presence”

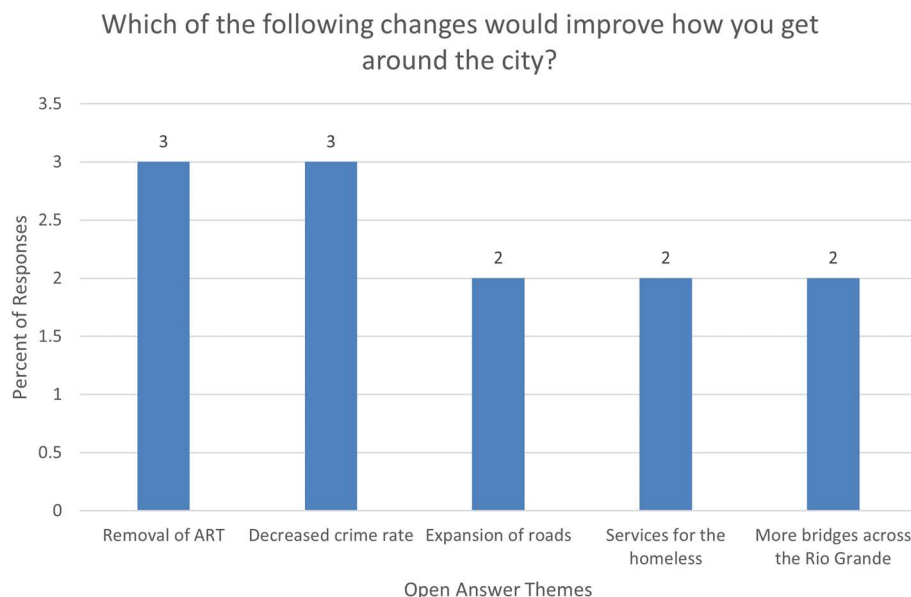
### Question: How do you get around the city?

Law enforcement issues were raised more than three times in this open-ended section and one person took the opportunity to express their disbelief about climate change.



- “Treat the police better.”
- “Need more police to feel safe.”

## Question: Which of the following changes would improve how you get around the city? Select up to 3 options



### 1. Removal of ART (26) 3%

- “Removal of ART. The bus in the median, and the structures it involves, makes crossing Central dangerous.”
- “Get rid of the inefficient ART mess and install a light rail”

### 2. Decrease crime rate (25) 3%

- “Improve the rate of crime in the city so that people are more comfortable going out and staying out.”
- “improving on crime rates and safety in the city so bikers and pedestrians feel safe traveling”

### 3. Expansion of road lanes/more and wider lanes (20) 2%

- “A beltway, and better vehicle access across the river (expand Alameda).”
- “More right turn lanes to help traffic congestion.”
- “Widen Paseo del Norte west of the river.”

### 4. Services for the homeless and panhandlers (19) 2%

- “House those in need, who set up homeless camps along my bike route.”
- “Low income housing”

### 5. More bridges to cross the Rio Grande (14) 2%

- “More roads or bridges to cross the river to access the east side or the west side.”
- “Expand bridges on Alameda, Montano, and bridge and make turn lanes longer to alleviate traffic on either end of bridges.

## Reference Resources

<https://www.cabq.gov/sustainability/climate-action-plan>

<http://www.cabq.gov/sustainability/sustainability>

<https://www.cabq.gov/economicdevelopment/business-development/demographics>

<https://www.cabq.gov/@@csesearch?q=community+gardens>