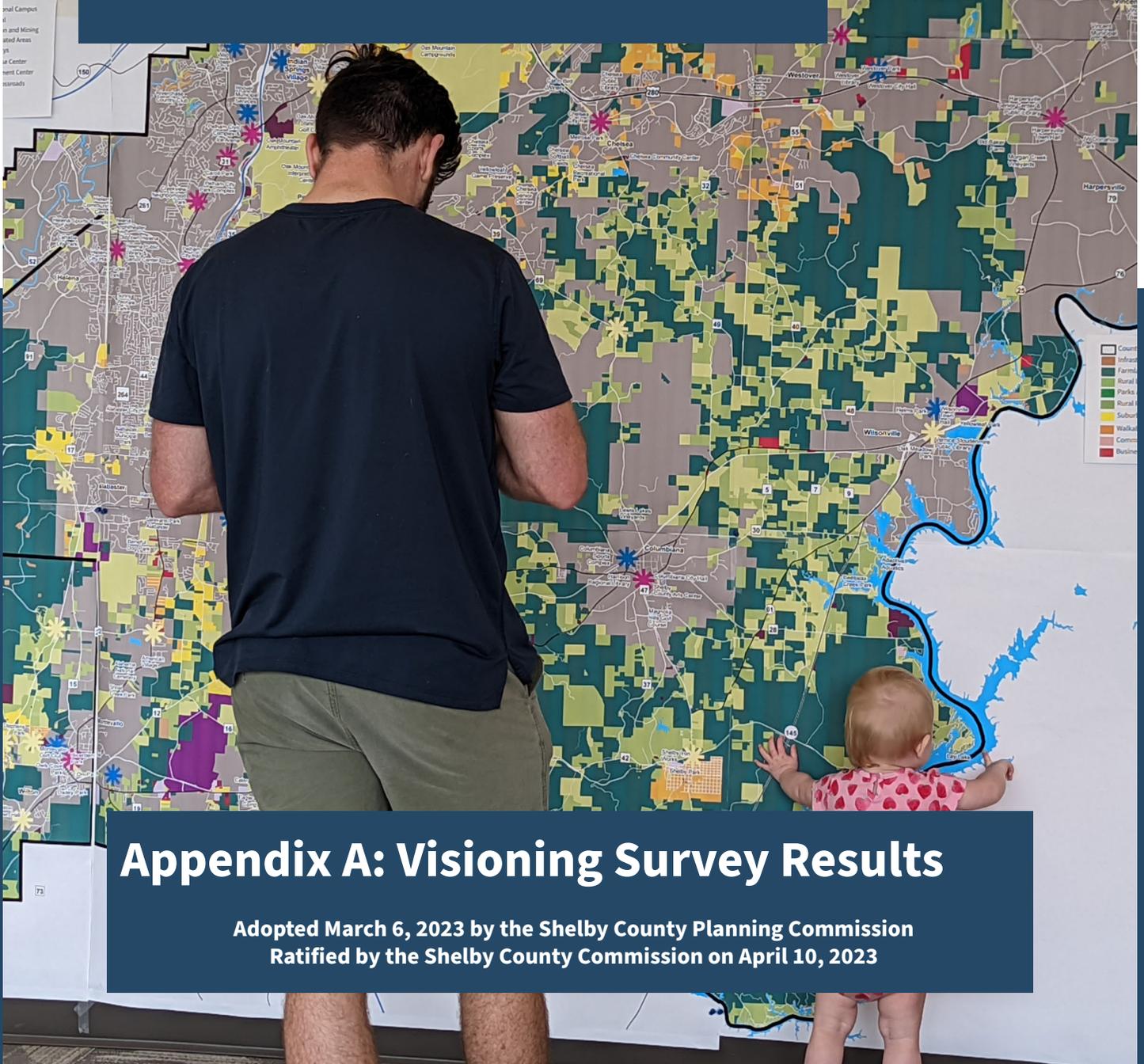




Shelby County

Comprehensive Plan



Appendix A: Visioning Survey Results

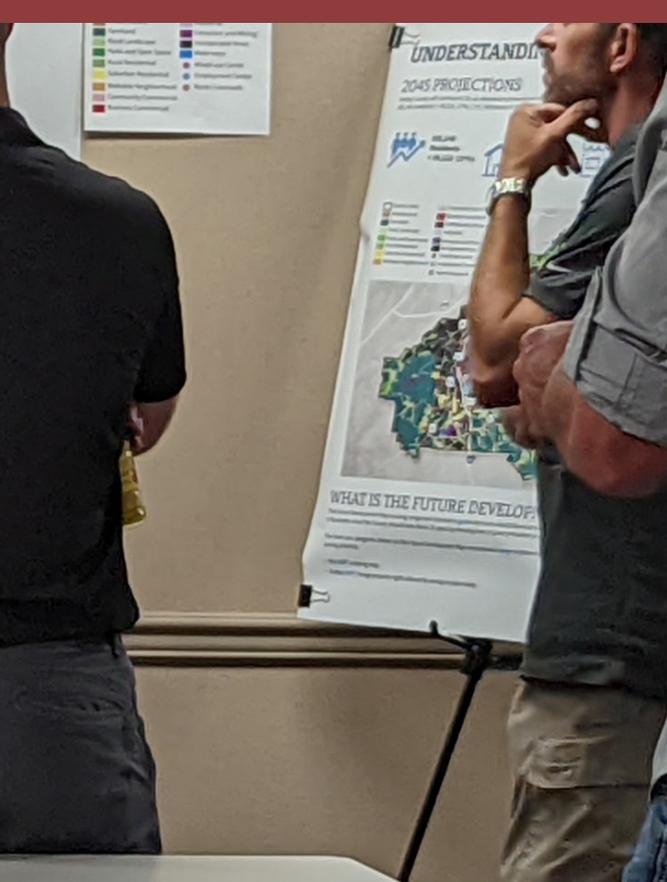
Adopted March 6, 2023 by the Shelby County Planning Commission
Ratified by the Shelby County Commission on April 10, 2023

appendix a

Visioning Survey Results



Visioning Survey Results 4



Visioning Survey Results

The Visioning Survey associated with the development of this Comprehensive Plan was open from August 17 through December 1, 2021, and resulted in 2,095 responses. 51% of responses were from unincorporated areas of Shelby County and the remainder were from incorporated municipalities. The survey included questions on a variety of topics and included several opportunities for respondents to map their responses. The survey was disseminated at pop-up events and through digital outreach methods, including ads in the Shelby County Reporter, social media posts, and e-blasts to email lists built through previous outreach efforts by the Shelby County Department of Development Services. Topics that emerged from the Visioning Survey were instrumental in shaping the recommended actions in the Comprehensive Plan and the results are summarized below.

Shelby County Comprehensive Plan

Summary of Survey Results

Published January 25, 2022



Shelby County Comprehensive Plan Survey

Shelby County, located in central Alabama, has 808 square miles of diverse landscape and consists of 17 municipalities and unincorporated areas that approximately 223,000 people call home. The Shelby County Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2004. While many projects were implemented and partnerships thrived, it is time to look forward and consider how Shelby County will grow in the next 20 years. A comprehensive plan assists in guiding future growth and development and addresses issues such as residential development, parks and recreation, land use, transportation, natural resources, economic development, quality of life, and public facilities. The Plan will serve as a blueprint to guide decision-making to create livable communities. As we look to the future, how do we create sustainable places and communities that people love? Effective outreach involves understanding the citizen base. By listening to responses to key questions such as what do you like about Shelby County? Dislike? How do you envision Shelby County in the future? Shelby County is utilizing the software based Public Input platform to provide a robust online survey experience for citizen input and participation. Security measures are integrated to protect the integrity of the survey and privacy of the user.

- Introduction
- Quality of Life and Future Development**
- Parks and Recreation
- Transportation
- Wrap-Up

Rank what you consider to be the strengths of the County, from highest to lowest. (To start, click on the answer option that you feel is the highest priority. After making your selections, you may click and drag the answers to rearrange your priority.)

YOUR TOP PRIORITY

- Quality of public schools
- Quality of and access to parks and recreational facilities
- Community appearance
- Workforce availability
- Healthy business community
- Strong and stable housing market
- Arts, music, and cultural events and programs
- Family friendly atmosphere
- Natural resources and beauty (rivers, streams, lakes, mountains etc.)
- Other

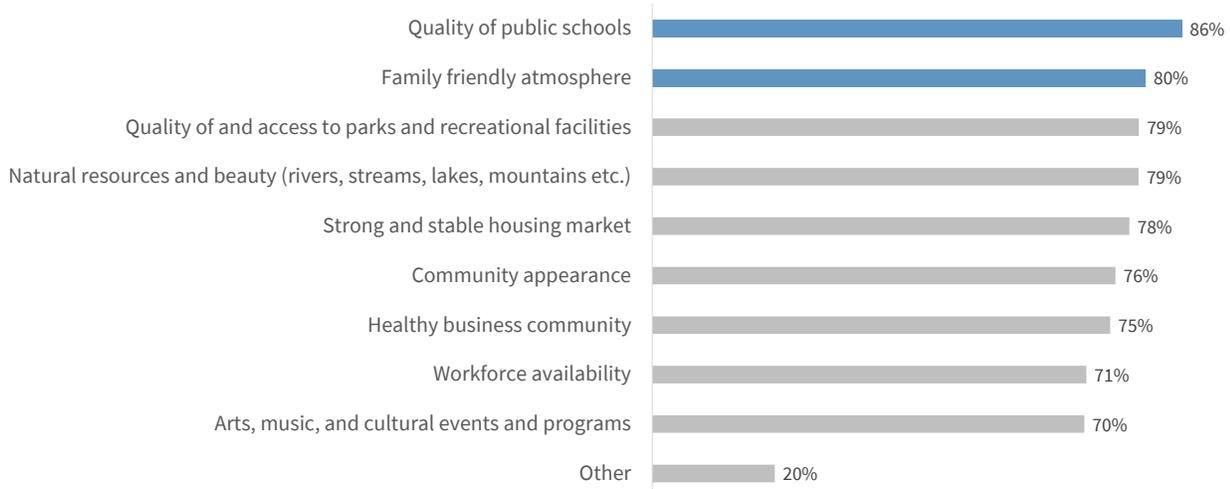


Survey Results

Survey was open August 17 – December 1, 2021
2,095 respondents

Rank what you consider to be the strengths of the County, from highest to lowest.

Question 4



Rank what you consider to be the strengths of the County, from highest to lowest.

Question 4 (Continued)

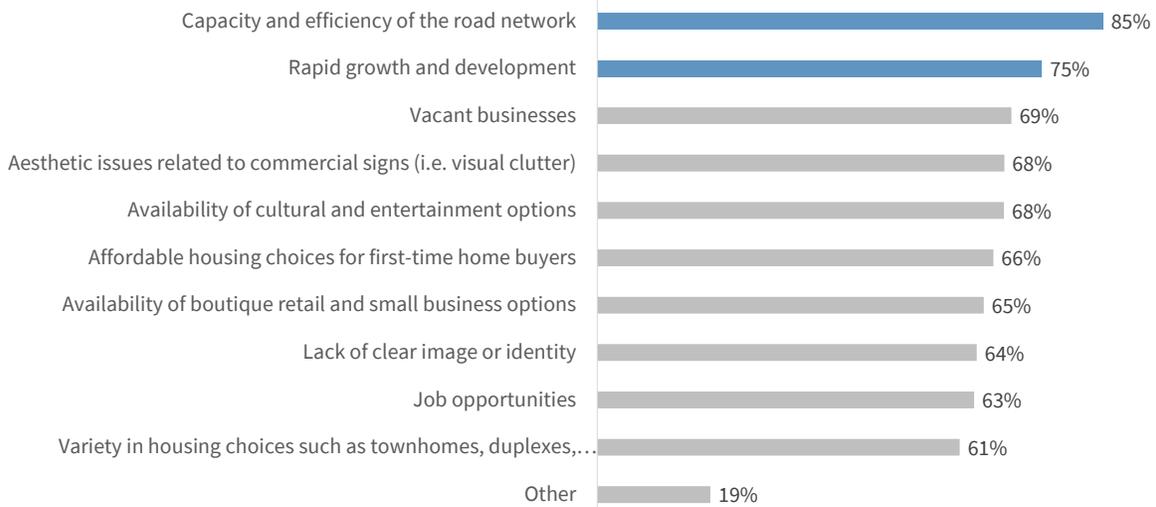
Other responses include:

- Transportation infrastructure
 - Mixed sentiment, with some ranking it high (e.g., road condition) and some ranking it low (e.g., congestion)
- Public safety
- Pride in the character of the County's rural areas
- Relatively low tax rates

7

Rank what you consider to be the most important quality of life challenges facing the County, from highest to lowest.

Question 5



Rank what you consider to be the most important quality of life challenges facing the County, from highest to lowest.

Question 5 (Continued)

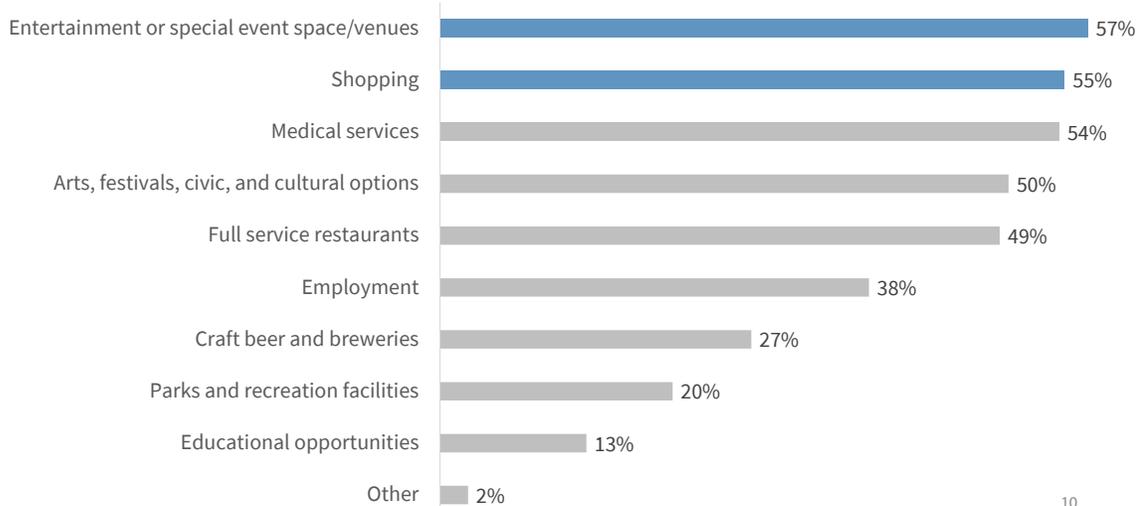
Other responses include:

- Quality of public schools, including perceived overcrowding
- Lack of bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Infrastructure concerns, particularly concern that infrastructure keeps pace with growth
- Issues with train crossings
- Public safety
- Planning and zoning concerns
- Lack of public transit

9

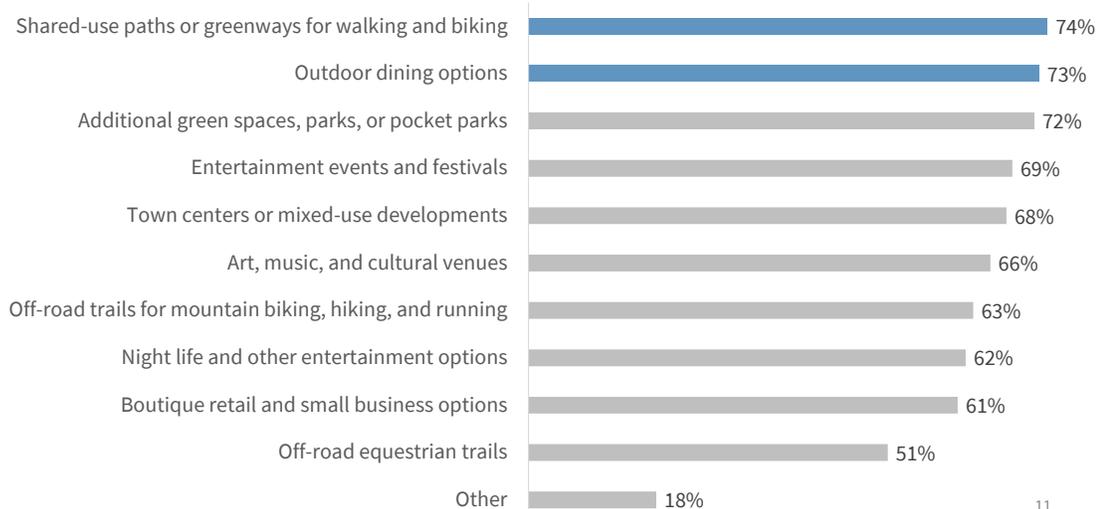
What goods/services/destinations do you leave the County for most frequently? Choose all that apply.

Question 6



Rank what amenities you feel are most needed in the County, from highest to lowest.

Question 7



Rank what amenities you feel are most needed in the County, from highest to lowest.

Question 7 (Continued)

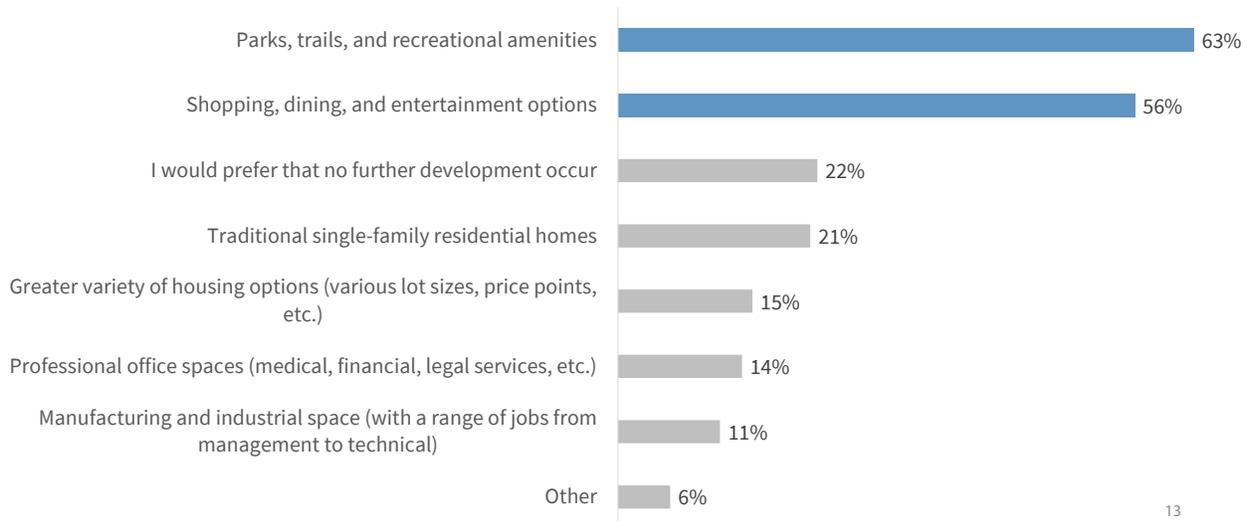
Other responses include:

- Dedicated sports facilities for recreation
- Restaurants and dining options, mainly full-service sit-down restaurants
- Internet access
- Public transit
- “Big box” stores

12

If future development were to occur in your area, what would you like the focus to be? Choose all that apply.

Question 8



13

If future development were to occur in your area, what would you like the focus to be? Choose all that apply.

Question 8 (Continued)

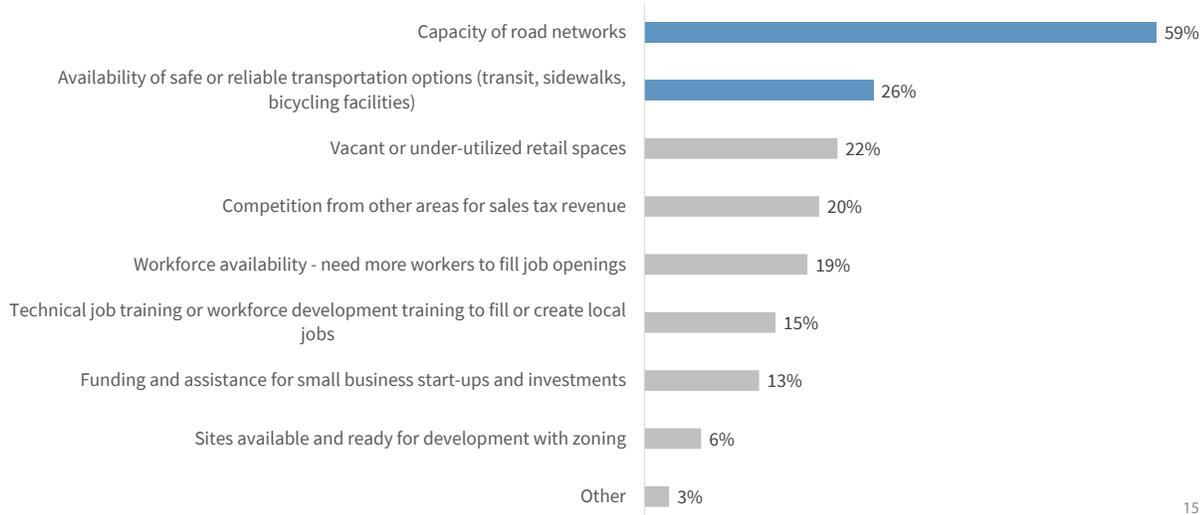
Other responses include:

- Traffic concerns
- Infrastructure concerns, particularly concern that infrastructure keeps pace with growth
- Concerns about perceived school overcrowding
- Developments with pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Desire to preserve the natural environment
- Arts and cultural options
- Local small businesses

14

What do you feel are the biggest challenges to economic growth in the County? Rank your top two.

Question 9



15

What do you feel are the biggest challenges to economic growth in the County? Rank your top two.

Question 9 (Continued)

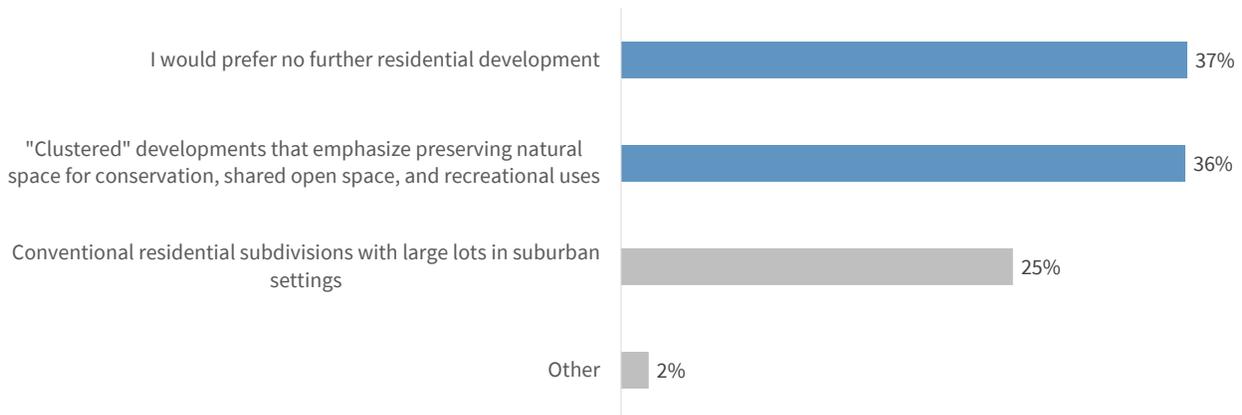
Other responses include:

- Perceived school overcrowding
- Local government, administration, and leadership
- Public safety
- Infrastructure capacity concerns
- Perceived low wages and high inflation
- Local tax rates
- Internet access

16

If new residential development were to occur in your area, which of the following development strategies would you prefer?

Question 10



17

If new residential development were to occur in your area, which of the following development strategies would you prefer?

Question 10 (Continued)

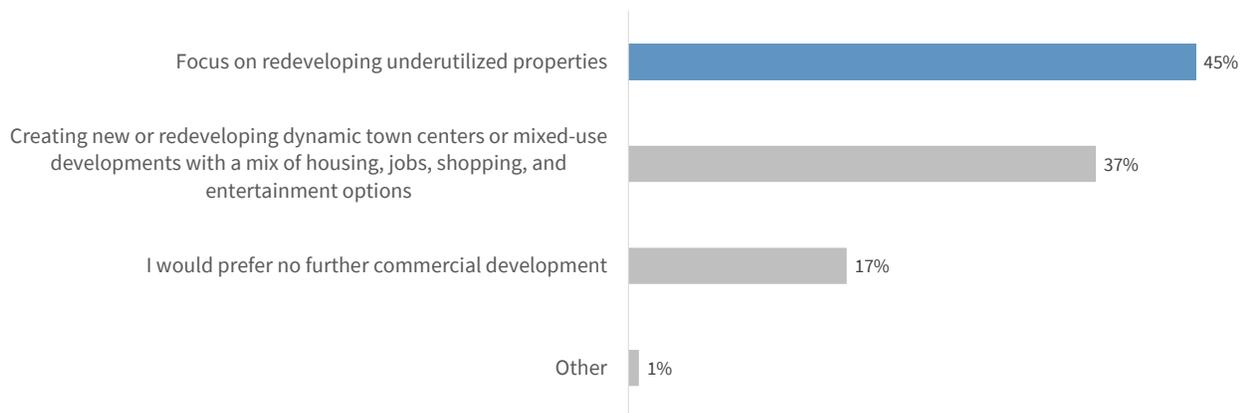
Other responses include:

- Traffic and congestion concerns
- “Starter” family homes
- Infrastructure concerns
- Mixed-use
- Homes that are affordable
- Walkable developments
- Senior homes

18

If new commercial development were to occur in your area, which of the following development strategies would you prefer?

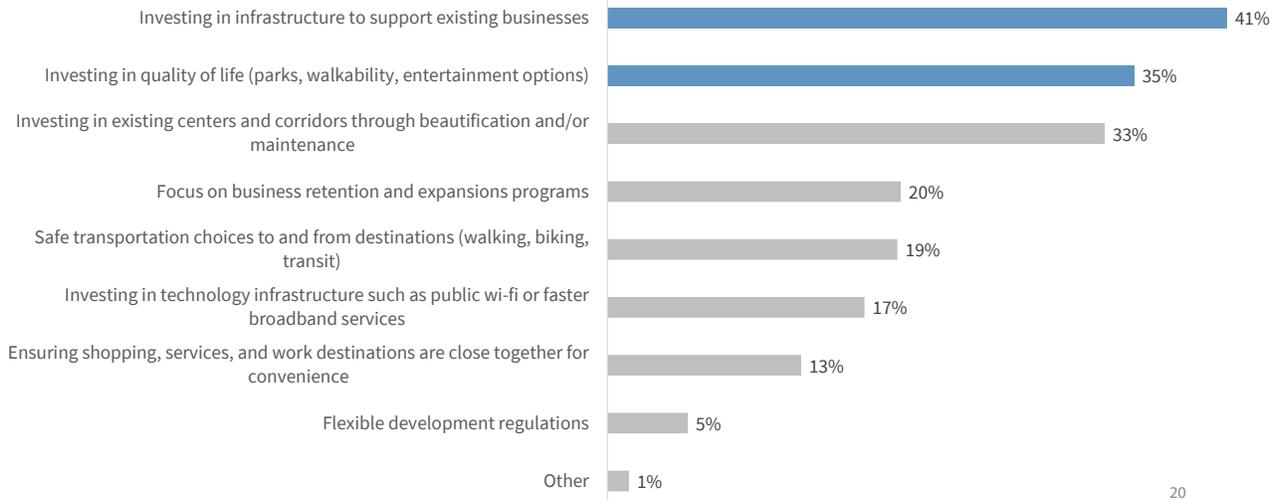
Question 11



19

What do you believe are the best ways to retain existing businesses in the County? Rank your top two.

Question 12



What do you believe are the best ways to retain existing businesses in the County? Rank your top two.

Question 12 (Continued)

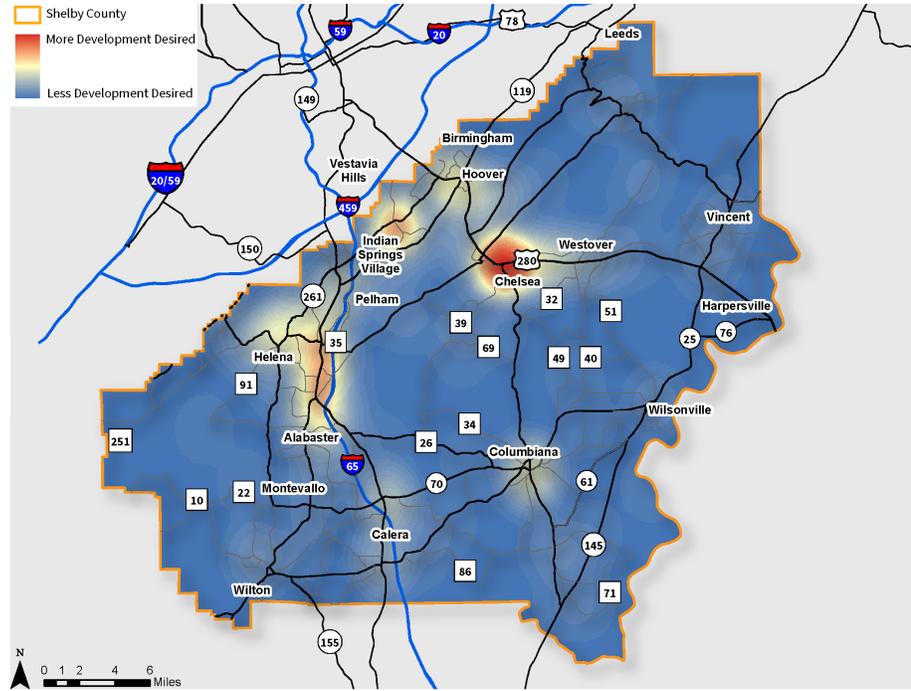
Other responses include:

- Tax rate concerns
- Quality of public schools
- Providing and assisting the workforce
- Public safety

21

Are there any areas in the County where you feel development should be focused? Please place a pin on the page and write your comment.

Question 13



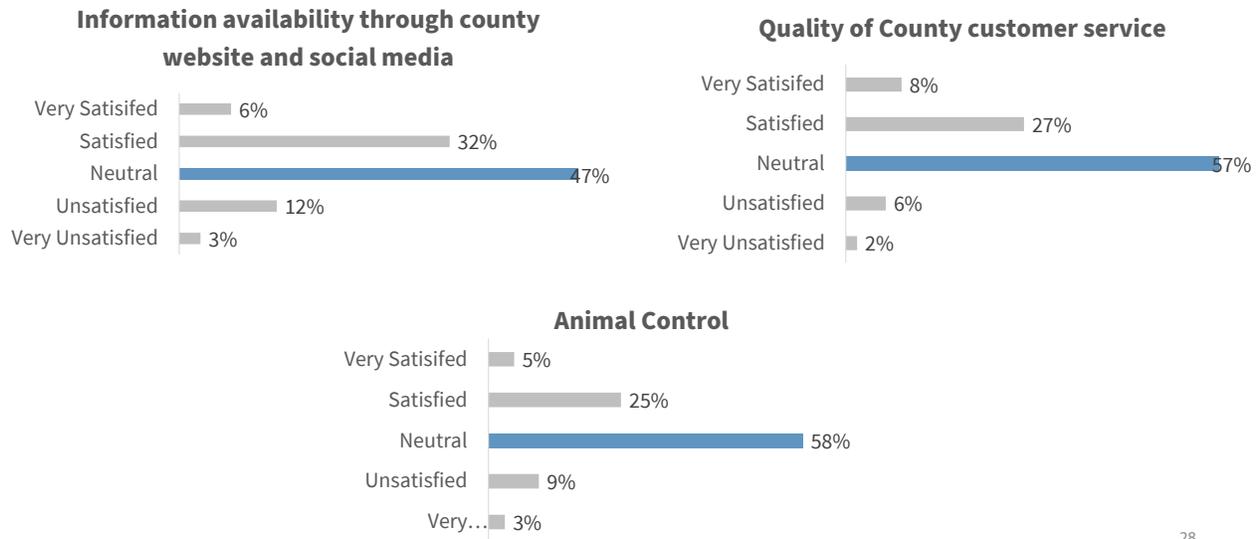
Are there any areas in the County where you feel development should be focused? Please place a pin on the page and write your comment.

Question 13 (Continued)



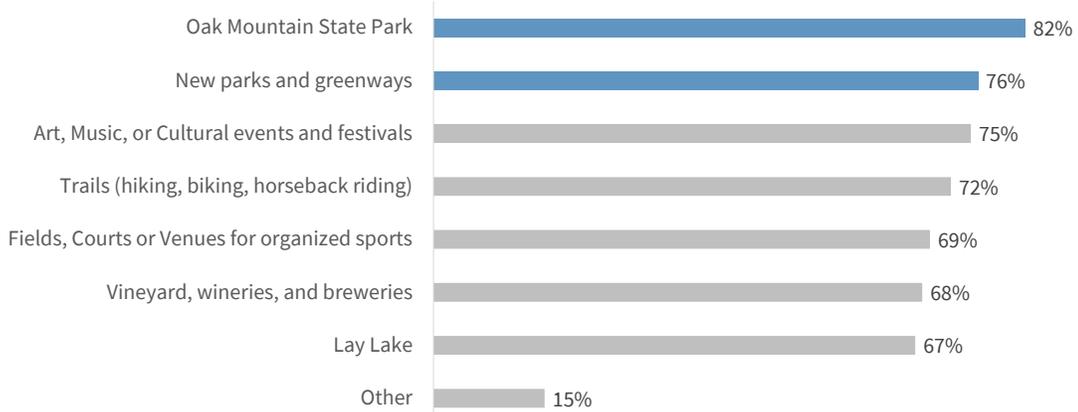
Rate your satisfaction with the following:

Question 15 (Continued)



Tourism is a key component of Shelby County's economic vitality. Rank what you think should be the funding priority for the following tourism attractions in Shelby County, from highest to lowest.

Question 16



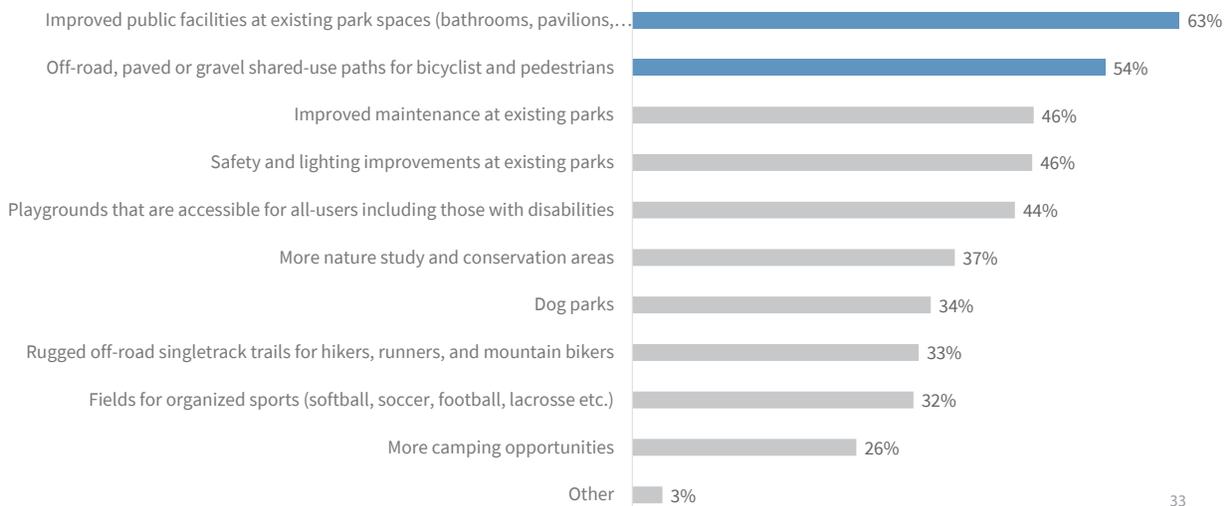
Are there any areas in the County where you would like to see additional trails or parks and green space? Are there are existing parks that need specific improvements or maintenance? Please place a pin and comment on the location.

Question 17 (Continued)



Rank the top 5 recreational amenities you feel are most needed in the County, from most to least.

Question 18



Rank the top 5 recreational amenities you feel are most needed in the County, from most to least.

Question 18 (Continued)

Other responses include:

- Splash pad
- Connectivity to get to and move between parks and recreation areas
- Gardens

34

What types of outdoor parks and recreational activities do you and your family most enjoy (i.e. canoeing, hiking, tennis, boating, mountain biking etc.)

Question 19



35

What parks do you most frequently visit in Shelby County?

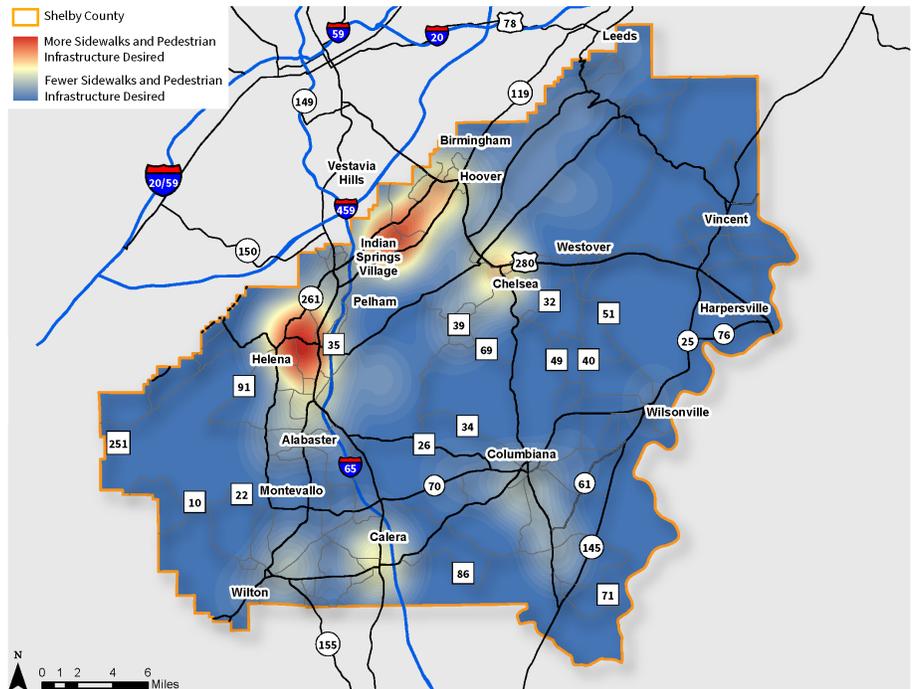
Question 20



36

Place a point or line on the map for locations where you would like to see additional sidewalks or pedestrian facilities.

Question 21



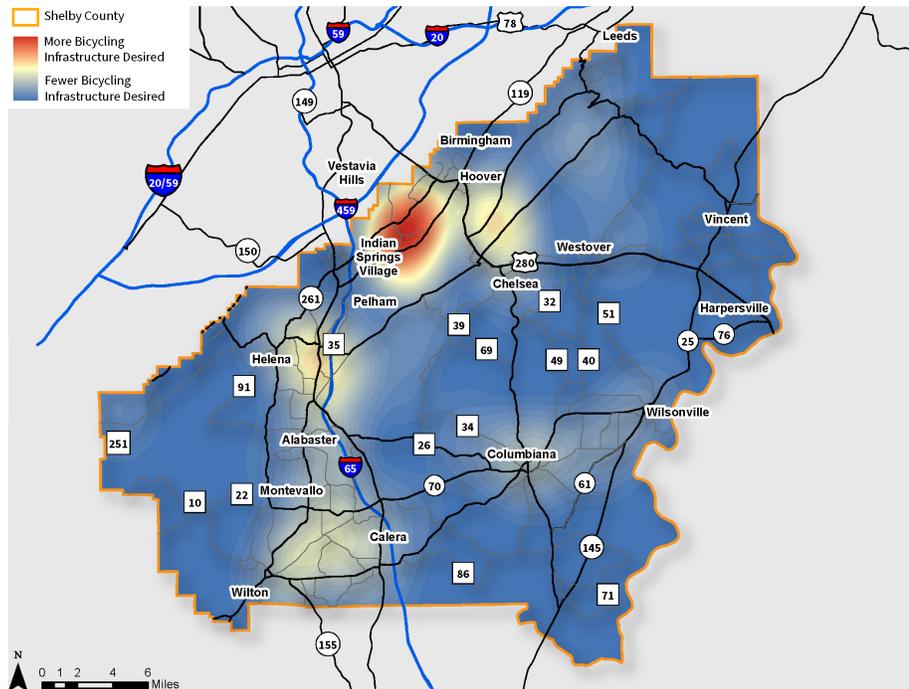
Are there any areas in the County where you would like to see additional trails or parks and green space? Are there are existing parks that need specific improvements or maintenance? Please place a pin and comment on the location.

Question 21 (Continued)

Columbiana Chelsea area
 Meadowbrook area
 119 corridor
 Bike lane
 Caldwell Mill Road
 Access to schools
 Riverwoods area
 Alabaster area
Sidewalk
 Park connectivity
 Westover area Pelham area Old Cahaba area
 Valleydale Road
 Helena area 280 corridor Montevallo area
 Access to Oak Mountain
 Greenway

Place a point or line on the map for locations where you would like to see additional bicycling infrastructure such as bike lanes.

Question 22



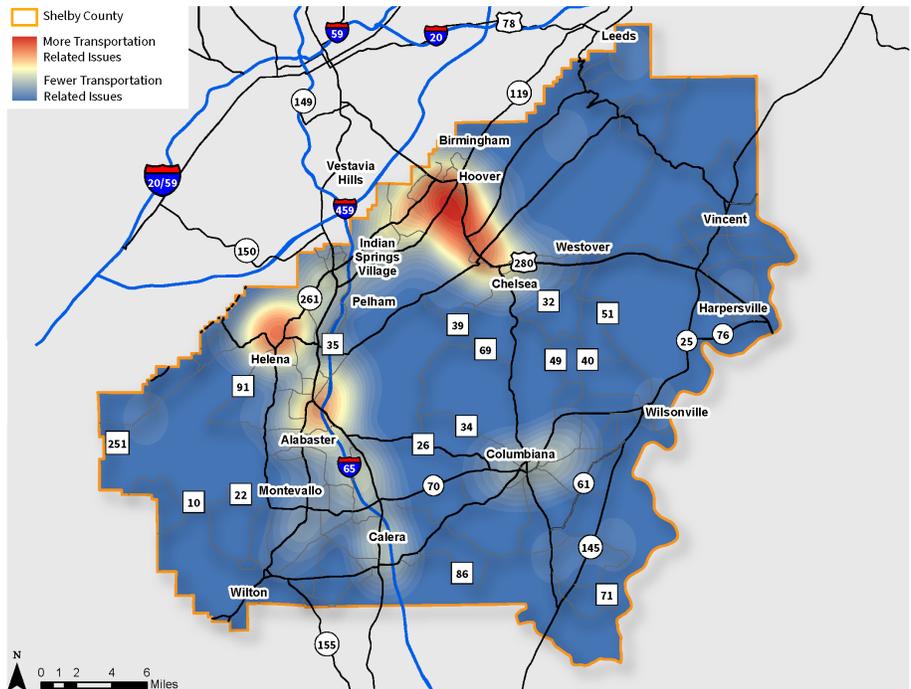
Place a point or line on the map for locations where you would like to see additional bicycling infrastructure such as bike lanes.

Question 22 (Continued)

52 corridor 11 Pelham area 43 corridor
 119 corridor 41 Alabaster area
 Access to Oak Mtn State Park
 Caldwell Mill Road 280 corridor
 Montevallo area
Bike lane
 Access to parks
 Valleydale Road
 Access to Heardmont Park
 Access to schools

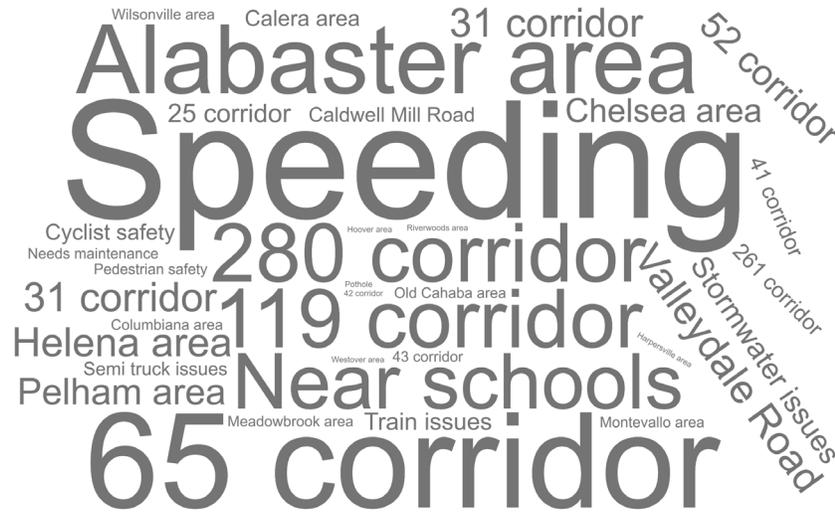
Place a point or line on the map for locations where you feel there are transportation related issues such as speeding, maintenance, congestion, or any other safety related issue. Please be as specific as possible in your comment.

Question 23



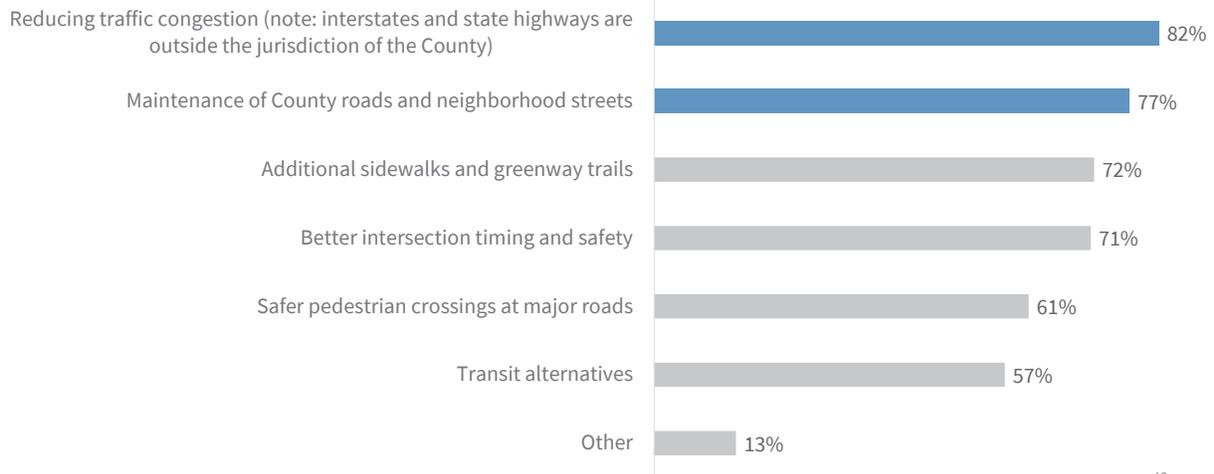
Place a point or line on the map for locations where you feel there are transportation related issues such as speeding, maintenance, congestions, or any other safety related issue. Please be as specific as possible in your comment.

Question 23 (Continued)



If the County were to receive additional transportation funding, where would you prefer that money be invested? Rank your answers from highest to lowest priority.

Question 24



If the County were to receive additional transportation funding, where would you prefer that money be invested? Rank your answers from highest to lowest priority.

Question 24 (Continued)

Other responses include:

- Non-county roads
- Address train issues, particularly delays caused by trains
- Additional bicycle lanes
- Increasing connectivity of the road network
- Speed enforcement
- Stormwater issues
- Investment in and around Calera, Chelsea, Pelham, Columbiana, and Harpersville

44

What is your “big idea” for Shelby County?

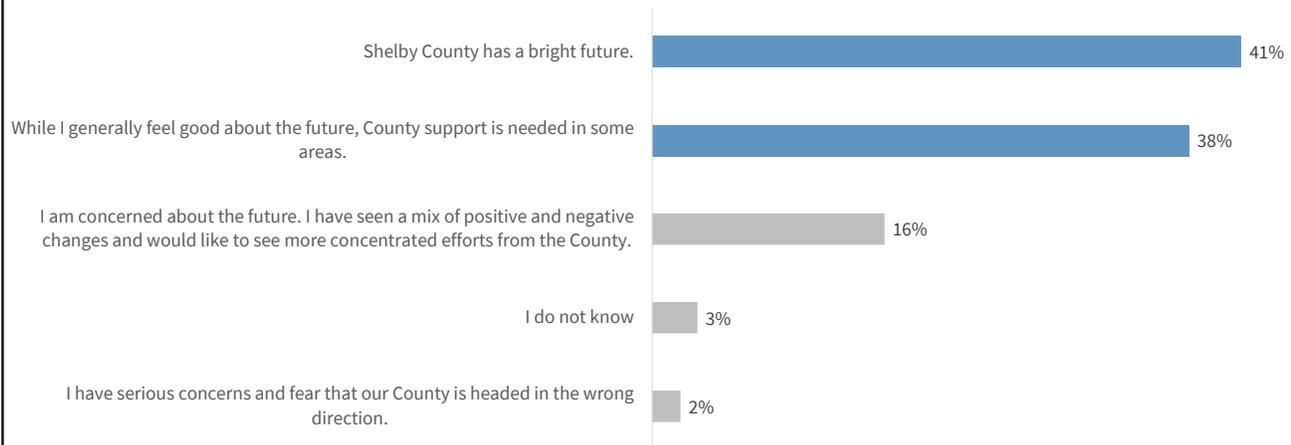
Question 25



45

Overall, how do you feel about the future of Shelby County?

Question 26



46

Overall, how do you feel about the future of Shelby County?

Question 26 (Continued)

Other responses include:

- Shelby County's growth
 - Mixed sentiment, and wariness toward perceived overdevelopment
- Transportation issues
- Planning and zoning concerns, including some annexation concern
- Infrastructure concerns, especially desire for infrastructure to keep pace with growth
 - Some concern about Birmingham Water Works Board, annexation, and
- Desire to preserve natural areas
- Unincorporated areas
 - Some desire to remain unincorporated, yet some perception of neglect
- Transparency in government and opportunities for resident involvement

47

In what City do you work?

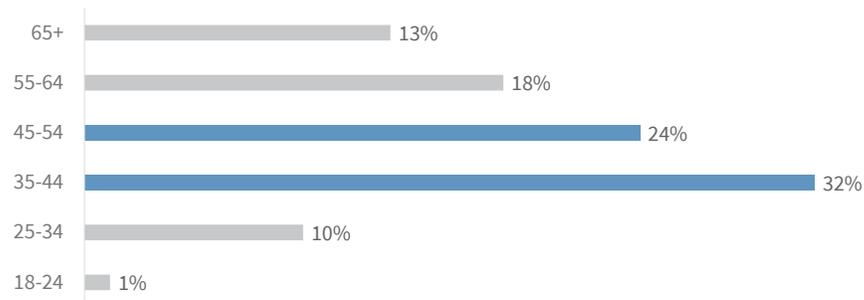
Question 30



51

What is your age group?

Question 31



52

Overall, how do you feel about the future of Shelby County?

Question 26 (Continued)

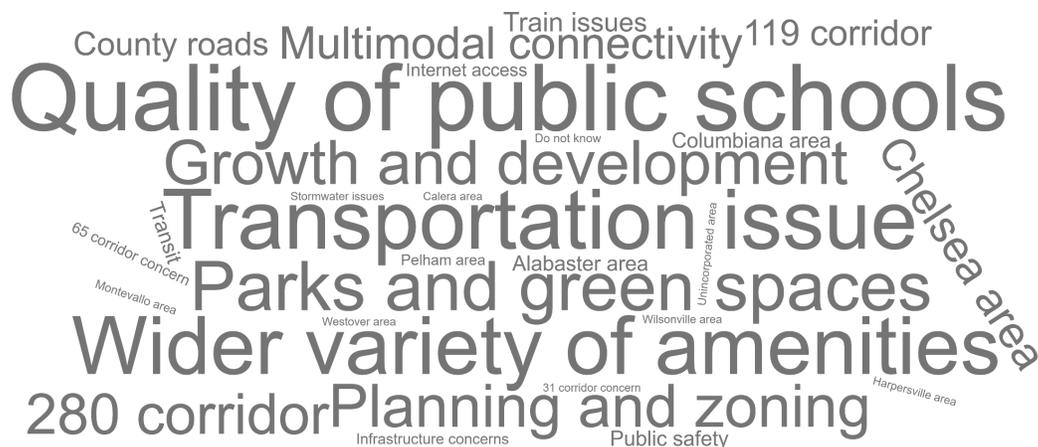
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- Unincorporated areas
 - Some desire to remain unincorporated, yet some perception of neglect
- Transparency in government and opportunities for resident involvement

47

What other comments would you like to share with the Planning Team?

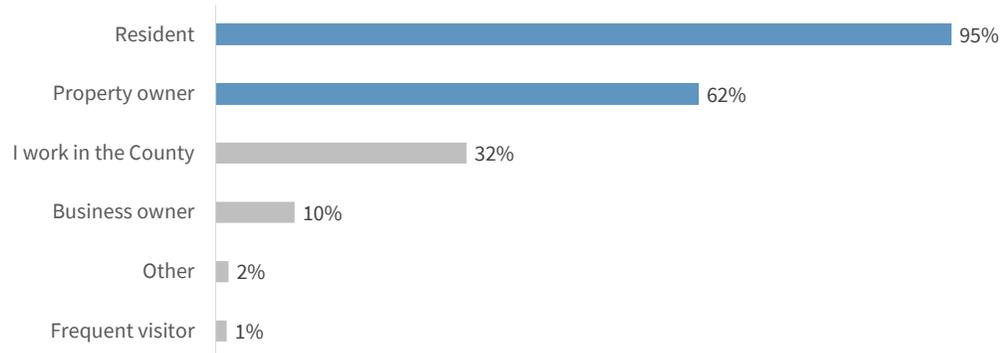
Question 27



48

Please tell us your relationship to the County. Choose all that apply.

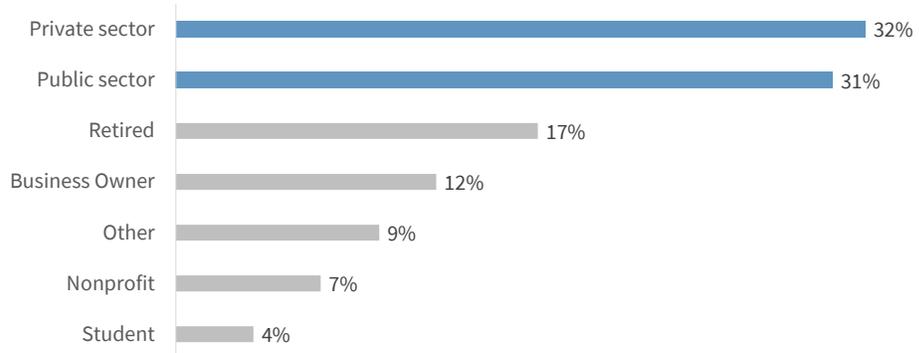
Question 28



49

What is your occupation?

Question 29



50

