

Status Check

Seattle Citizens Assess
Their Communities and
Neighborhood Plans

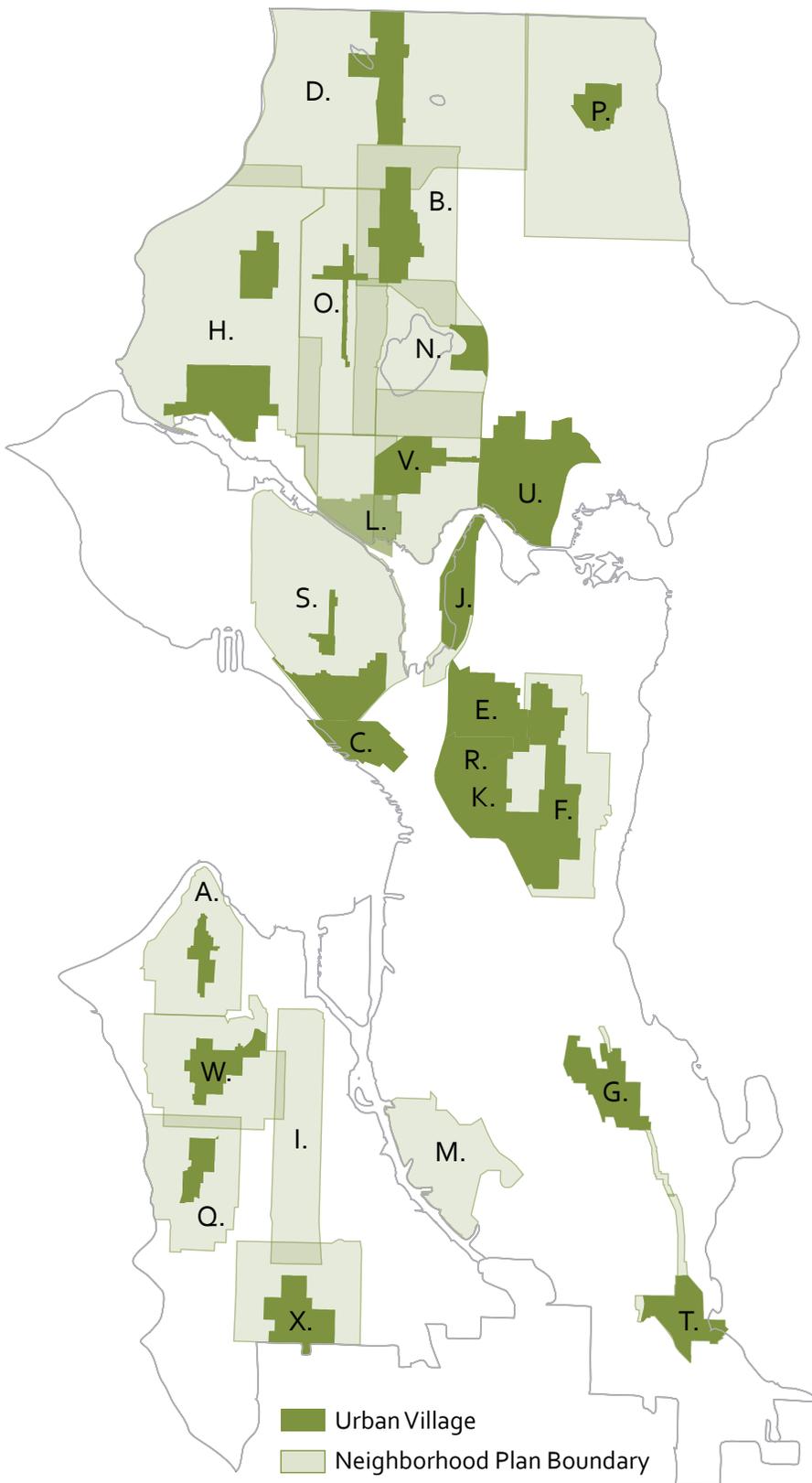
Summary of city-wide Questionnaire Responses



Status Check: How is Your Neighborhood Doing?

Prepared by
Seattle Planning Commission
October 2009

MAP OF THE 24 TARGETED NEIGHBORHOODS



- A. Admiral
- B. Aurora/Licton Springs
- C. Belltown
- D. Broadview/Bitter Lake/Haller Lake
- E. Capitol Hill
- F. Central Area
- G. Columbia City/Hillman City/Genesee
- H. Crown Hill/Ballard
- I. Delridge
- J. Eastlake
- K. First Hill
- L. Fremont
- M. Georgetown
- N. Green Lake
- O. Greenwood/Phinney Ridge
- P. Lake City
- Q. Morgan Junction
- R. Pike/Pine
- S. Queen Anne
- T. Rainier Beach
- U. University Community
- V. Wallingford
- W. West Seattle Junction
- X. Westwood/Highland Park

What is this report?

This report contains responses to an online questionnaire sponsored by the Seattle Planning Commission as part of the Neighborhood Status Check. The Commission hosted a virtual meeting in the summer of 2009 including a questionnaire that asked participants the same four questions asked at a series of community meetings. The Commission has prepared a companion report that summarizes the in-person neighborhood discussions. The questionnaire was developed to gather information about whether and how the neighborhood has changed in the past 10 years since the neighborhood plan was adopted from those who live, work, attend school and have businesses there.

The online meeting allowed an additional 4,576 participants to weigh in and be a part of the neighborhood Status Check process. The charts below illustrate the responses by neighborhood and by how long the respondent has lived, owned a business, regularly visited, worked or attended school in the neighborhood.

What is included in this report?

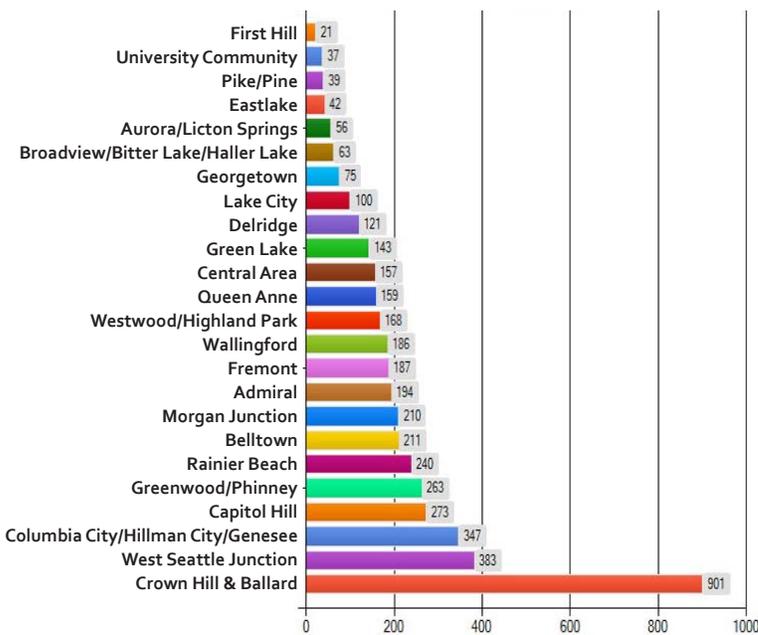
This report includes two sections:

1. Overview of all responses to the on-line questionnaire.
2. A full transcript from the online questionnaire for each of the 24 neighborhoods illustrated in the map to the left.

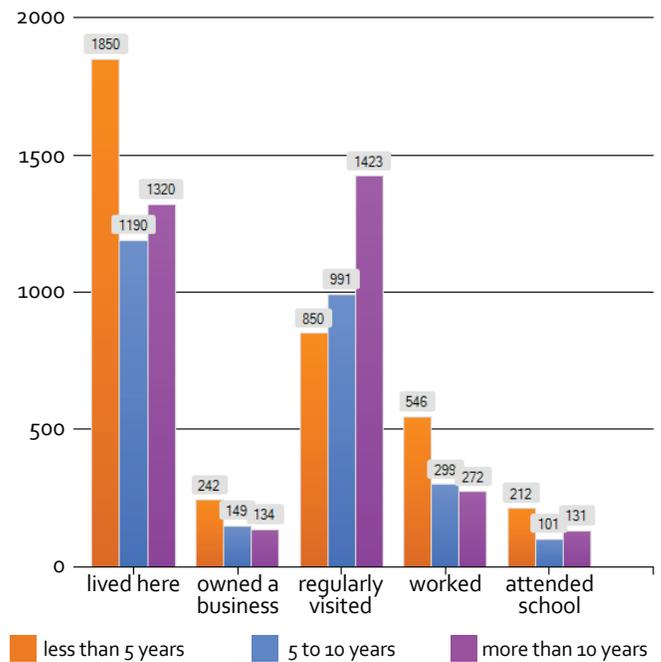
Neighborhood Discussions

In addition to the virtual meeting, the Planning Commission also assisted on a series of neighborhood discussions in June and July of 2009. The Commission and Neighborhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) hosted five open house meetings that included 24 neighborhood discussions. Approximately 250 people participated in the five meetings. Please see the Commission's Summary of Neighborhood Discussions for more information.

Final Responses by Neighborhood



Final Responses by Tenure



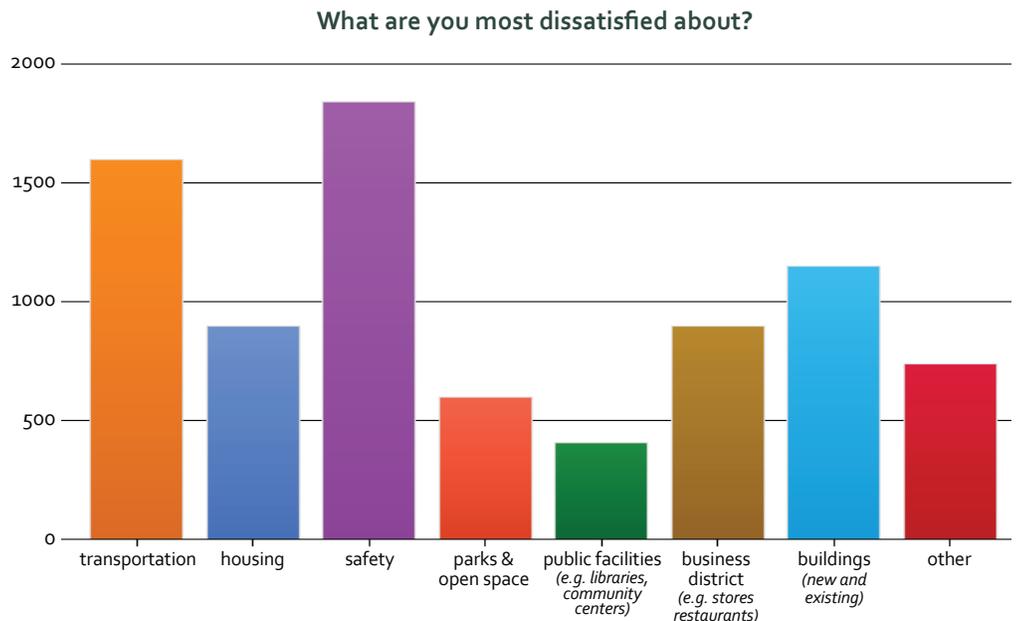
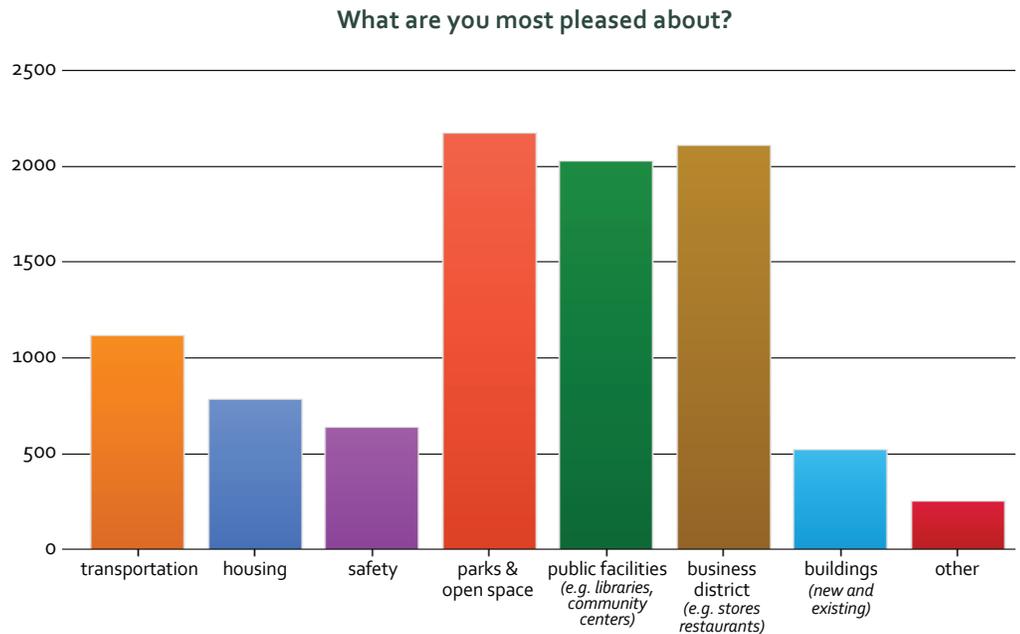
PLEASE NOTE: statistical sampling was not used for the online questionnaire; responses do not necessarily represent the community as a whole.

Question 1: Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 10 years ago and are in their mid-life. How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted, (or since you've been there)?

Responses varied greatly throughout the city and within each neighborhood. Some people described significant changes in the number of new residents, buildings, businesses, new parks or libraries, while others said that nothing has changed in their neighborhood.

Question 2: What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you most pleased about? What are you most dissatisfied about?

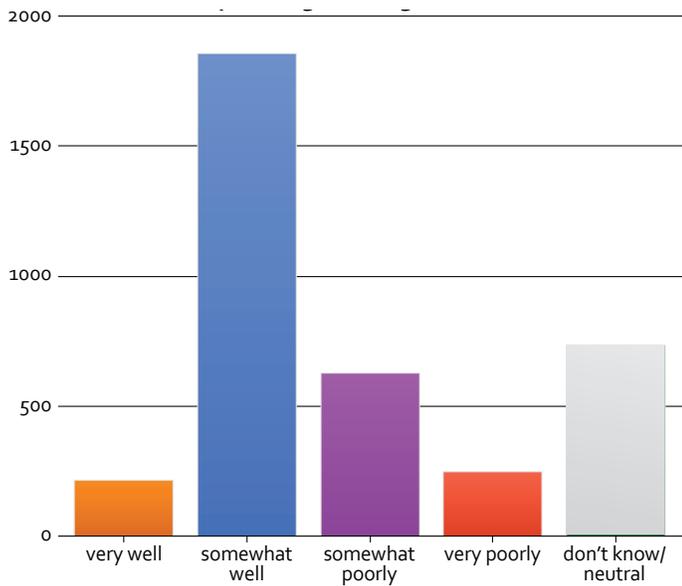
Although responses varied throughout the city and within each neighborhood, very broadly speaking, respondents were more pleased about parks & open space, public facilities (such as libraries and community centers) and business districts, while they were most dissatisfied about safety and transportation.



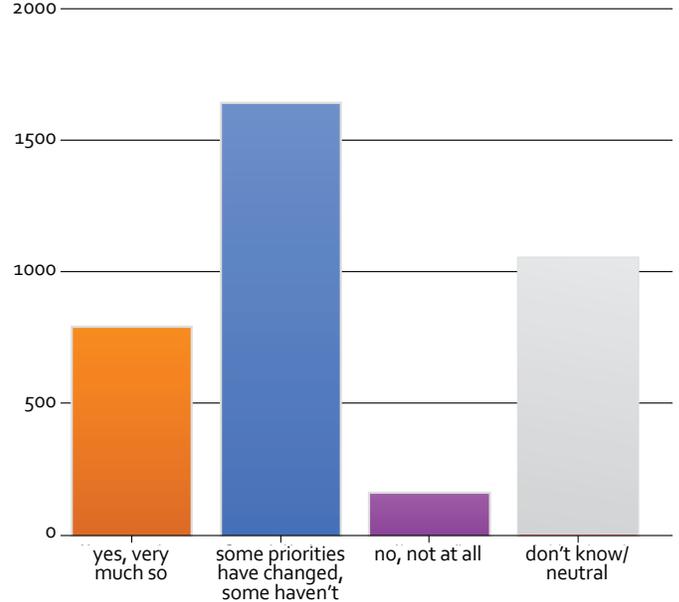
Question 3: How well are your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies being achieved? Are they still the priority?

Very generally speaking, respondents indicated that their neighborhood plan vision and key strategies are being implemented somewhat well and that their neighborhood priorities are mostly still the same. At the same time, many respondents are not sure how well the plan is being implemented or whether or not priorities have changed.

How well are the vision and key priorities being achieved?



Are they still the priorities?

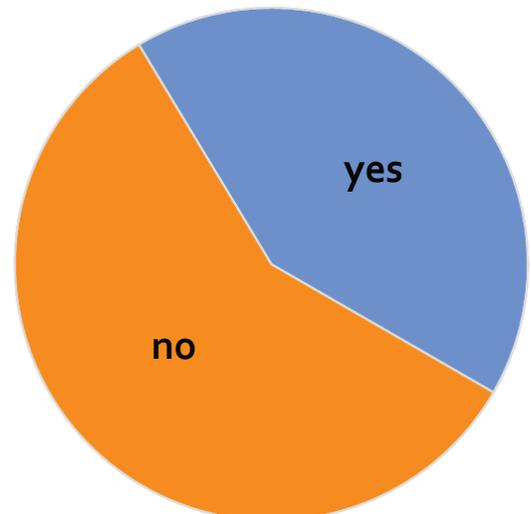


Question 4: The city is completing neighborhood plan status reports focusing on demographics, development patterns, housing affordability, public amenities and transportation networks. What should there be more focus on (or less focus on) as the neighborhood status reports are completed in the coming months? Are there any important gaps in the draft status report?

Fewer people responded to this question than the other three. Again, there was a wide variety among the responses. While some people said there should be less focus in the status reports on parking, housing or community development, for example, others said there should be more focus on these topics.

Additionally, many of the people who responded to this question focused more on gaps in their neighborhood plans or public services than the draft status reports.

Are there any important gaps in the draft status reports?



Acknowledgements



Seattle Planning Commission

Josh Brower, Chair	Mark S. Johnson
Leslie Miller, Vice-Chair	Martin H. Kaplan
Linda Amato	Kay Knapton
Catherine Benotto	Amalia Leighton
David Cutler	Kevin McDonald
Jerry Finrow	Christopher Persons
Chris Fiori	Matt Roewe
Colie Hough-Beck	Michelle Zeidman

About the Commission

The Planning Commission, established by charter in 1946, is an independent voluntary 16 member advisory body appointed by the Mayor, City Council, and the Commission itself. This diverse group is made up of people who bring a wide array of valuable expertise and perspectives to important planning decisions in the city of Seattle. The role of the Commission is to advise the Mayor, City Council, and City departments on broad planning goals, policies, and plans for the physical development of Seattle. It reviews land use, transportation and neighborhood planning efforts using the framework of Seattle's Comprehensive Plan and the long-range vision described in the Plan.

Layout & graphic design by Katie Sheehy, Seattle Planning Commission

Special Thanks

All of the people who took the time to participate in our virtual meeting.

Members of the Neighborhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) who partnered with us to define the four questions asked at the open house meeting discussions and in the online questionnaire.

And our Seattle Planning Commission staff – Barbara Wilson, Director; Diana Canzoneri, Demographer and Senior Planning Analyst; Katie Sheehy, Planning Analyst & Urban Planner; Robin Magonegil, Administrative Assistant; Michael Pickford, Commission Intern – for all that they do to ensure the Commission provides value-added, high quality work to the City from our independent and objective perspective.