

WHAT'S NEXT
Vancouver?
ENVISIONING OUR CITY'S FUTURE

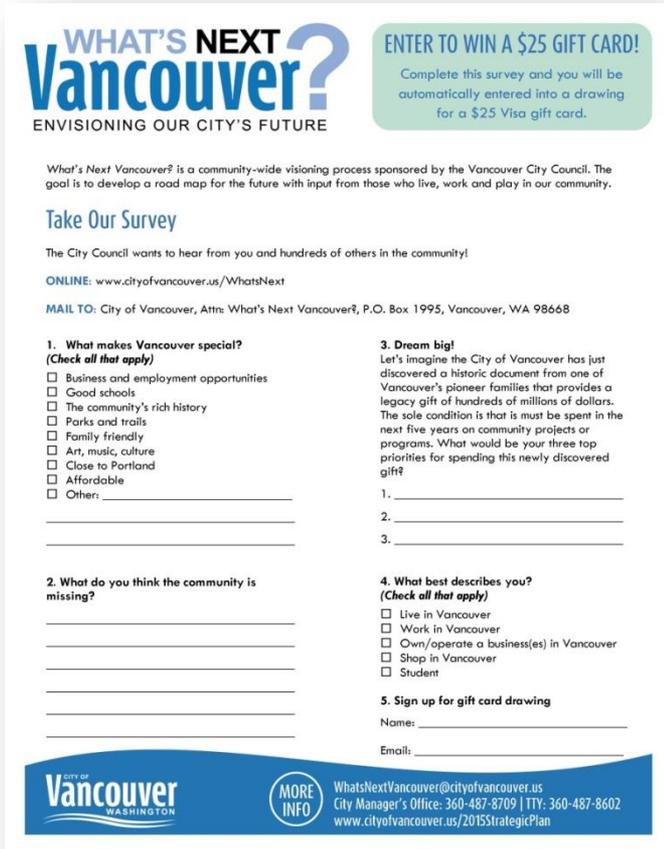
City Council Strategic Plan Update
August 24, 2015



Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Community Survey #1 – Preliminary Results
3. Council Discussion
4. Next Steps

Distributing the survey was key to getting more than 2,200 surveys!



City Council (Thank you!)

- ✓ Facebook, Twitter
- ✓ Emails to friends, family, neighbors, others
- ✓ Distribute paper survey at community meetings

Neighborhood associations

Partner organizations

Community events

City staff

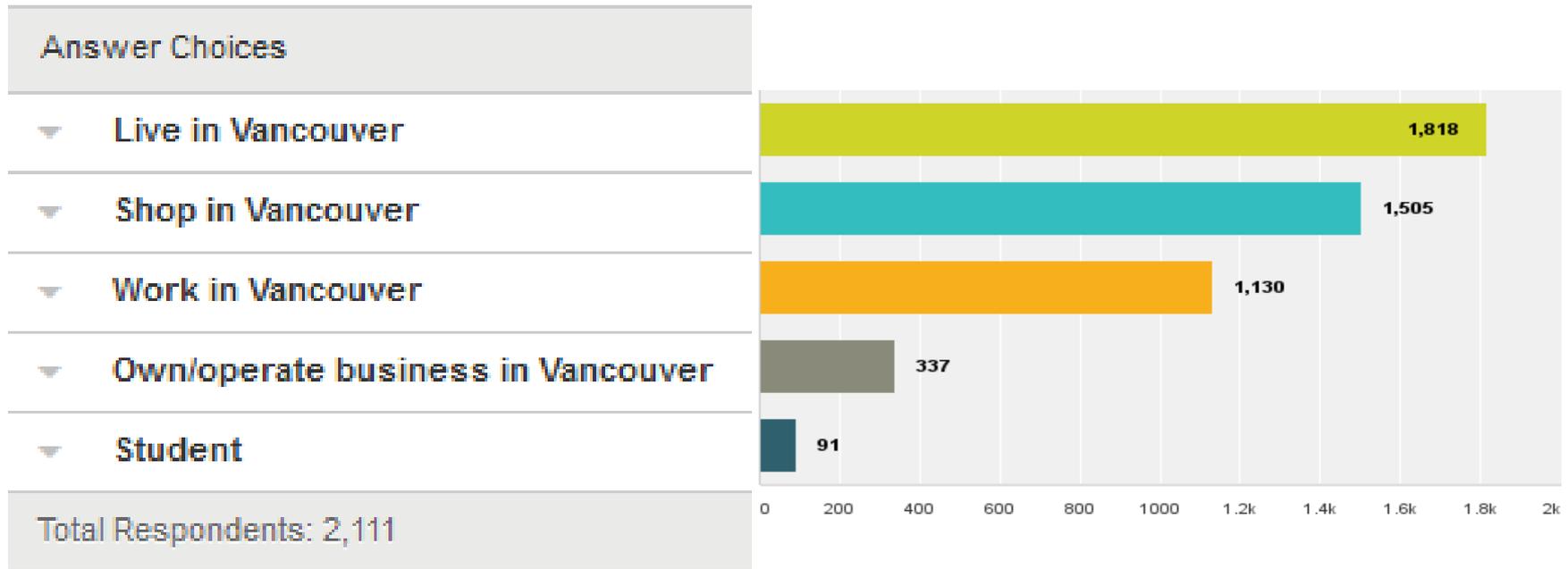
The Messenger / website / Facebook / Twitter

Media coverage

www.cityofvancouver.us/WhatsNextVancouver

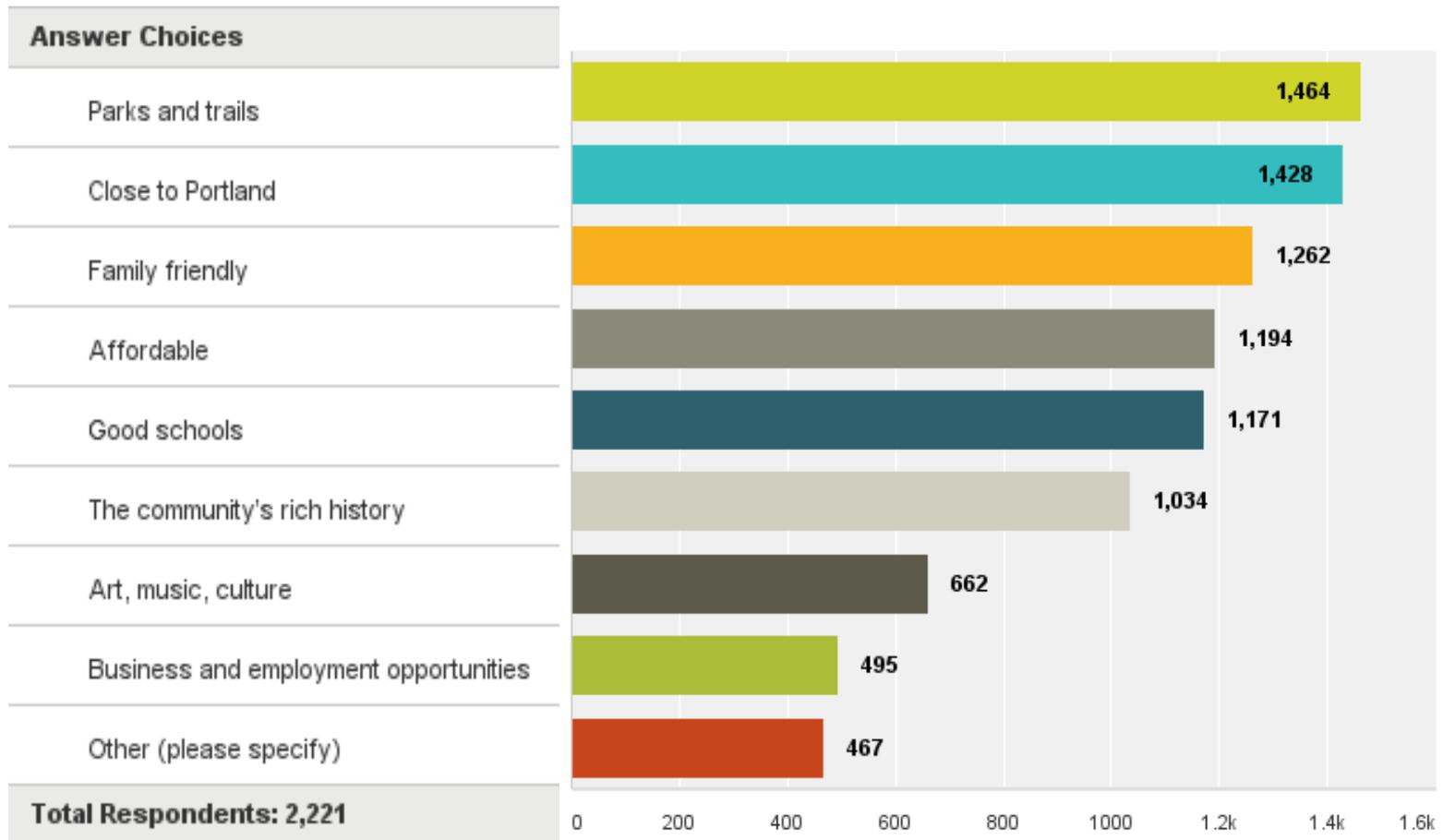
What best describes you?

Answered: 2,111



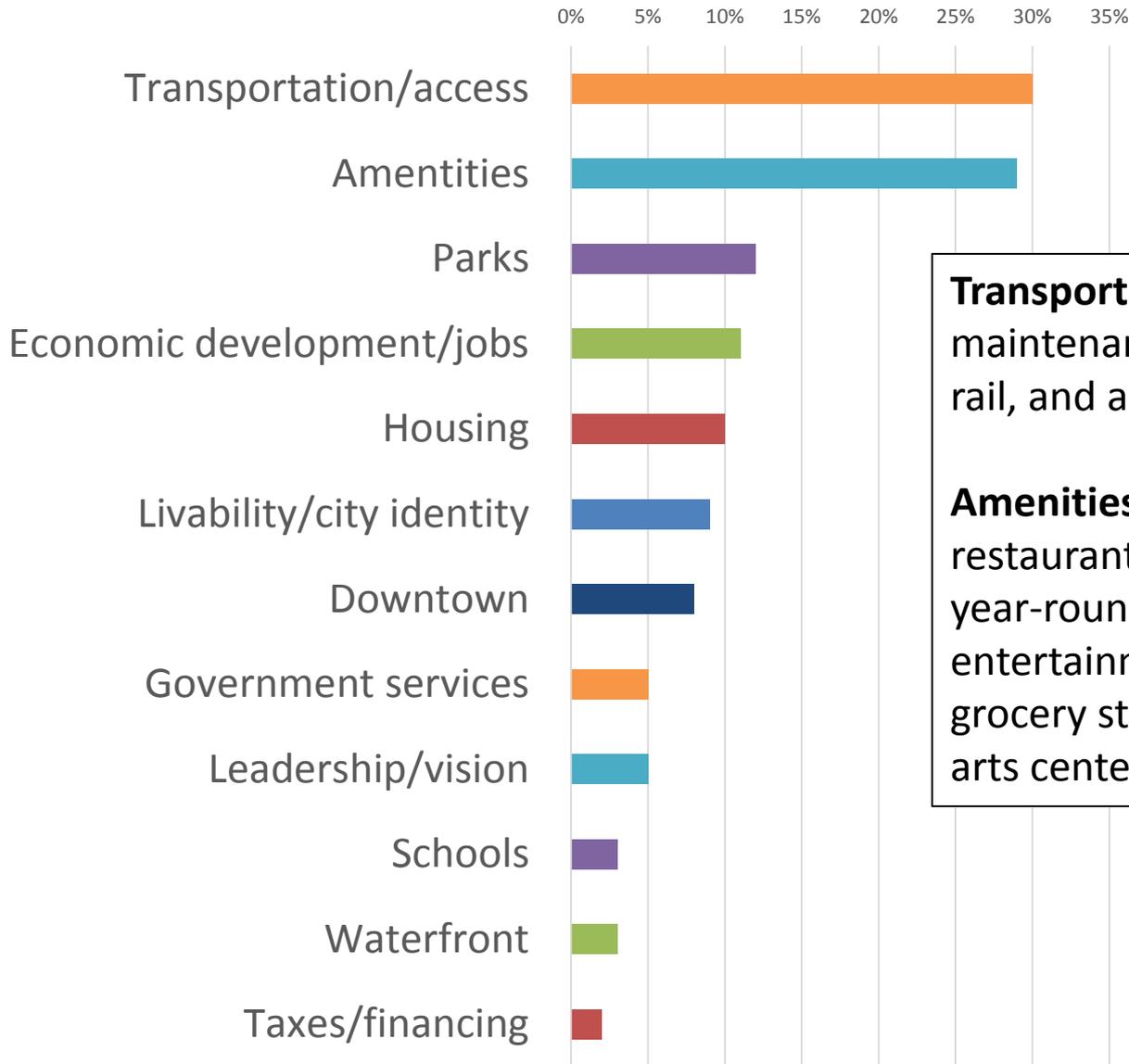
What makes Vancouver special?

Answered: 2,221



What do you think the community is missing?

Answered: 1,973

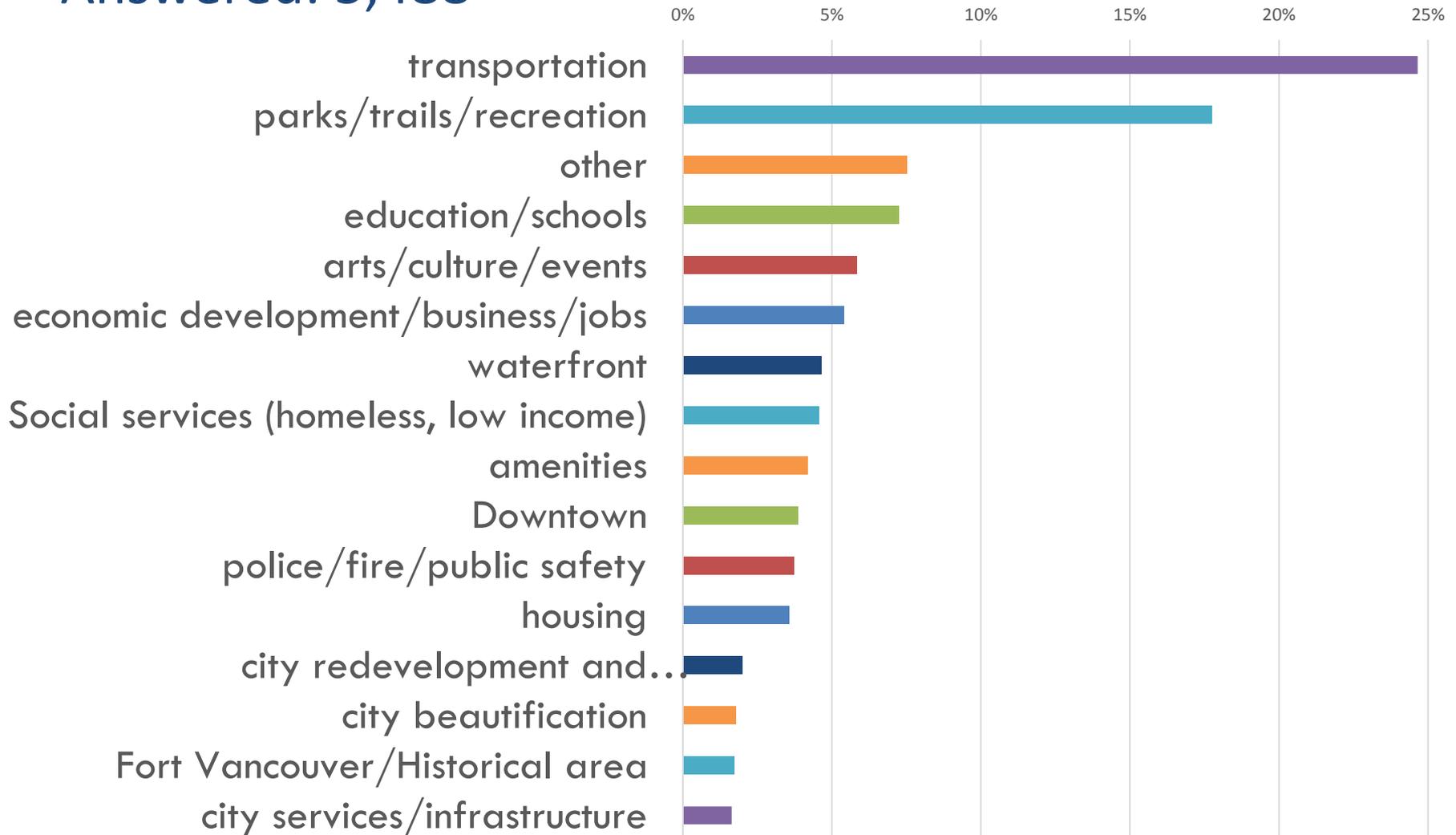


Transportation/access: street maintenance, transit options, light rail, and a new bridge crossing.

Amenities examples: more restaurants, shopping, night-life, year-round community events, entertainment options, downtown grocery store, public art, performing arts center, etc.

What are your top three priorities?

Answered: 5,488



Transportation

“Build that bridge!”

“Fix the crumbling roads, clean signs, sidewalks.”

“A better transit system.”

“Light rail throughout community and linking to Portland.”

“Improve road grid for all users (cars, buses, cyclists, peds.)”



Parks / Trails / Recreation

“Better fund parks, trails and recreation programs.”

“Make all the parks bigger and more green.”

“A connected trail from east Vancouver to downtown Vancouver.”

“Finish our parks and the trail systems that need completion.”

“Beautiful neighborhood parks.”



Community Themes

A desire to maintain and take care of what the city has.

“Maintain the capital assets the city already owns.”

“Upgrade infrastructure-fix the streets! Maintain medians, maintain sidewalks.”

“Money to maintain the parks, trails, streets that we have; and money to complete the purchase and development of the parks system, trails system, and street system we need and have planned for.”

“More effort to appreciate and improve or maintain what we have in Vancouver. As a city dweller, I'm saddened by the (often intentional) littering, noise pollution, homelessness, unmaintained roads and unkempt park or open space landscapes.”

“Create a sustainable endowment model for developing and maintaining a rich park system.”

The community has an aspiration to become more than a bedroom community.

“Walkability. Livability . We need smart growth. It's a fact that young, educated people look first for livable cities where cars are an option, not a necessity.”

“Develop job opportunities that allow the community to work where they live.”

“Business and employment opportunities, parks and trails, art, music and culture.”

“We need good places to eat. Art, music, culture . Jobs.”

“A thriving central area with restaurants shopping, culture that is built in a way to highlight the natural beauty.”

“A max train! I was so sad that the newest plan to bring the Max over the river didn't work out. It would improve traffic and make Vancouver into a more livable city.”

Council Discussion

Initial impressions? Any surprises?

How can the City of Vancouver capitalize on these community themes?

Next Steps

Partner Forum

September 18
Noon-1:30 p.m. / City Hall

City Council
Retreat

October 16