

## Southeast Area Plan – Phase 1 Interim Community Feedback Summary

April 7, 2025

This summary includes input to date from the public from the first phase of the Planning process for the Southeast Area Plan. It includes feedback provided at in-person or virtual meetings and interactive online mapping Feedback is organized by the seven elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Comments are grouped by common themes, assets, issues, and opportunities for each of the elements. Similar comments are grouped together under one row with a tally of how many people commented on that topic in the right column and source of the feedback.

Comment	#	Source
<b>Land Use</b>		
<b>Land Use – Redevelopment to Mixed Use:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Redevelop commercial space into mixed use space to increase housing density and eliminate excess parking/pavement in various areas (see detailed feedback summary for specific areas)</li><li>• More multi-unit residential in areas: along Atwood Avenue, American Family site</li><li>• More utilization/density in the areas: Karmenta Center, undeveloped land west of the church at 4917 Milwaukee Street (3 stories max), Milwaukee Street and Milo Lane, more TR-C3 in Eastmorland, 4513 Milwaukee Street</li></ul>	24	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Land Use – Commercial:</b>	11	(OC)
<b>Assets</b>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Love businesses in little strip mall on Monona Drive and E Buckeye Road</li> <li>• Amazing small, locally owned businesses in Rolling Meadows Shopping Center</li> <li>• Like spaces for local business owners to have affordable space to operate and provide important amenities for neighbors Ace Hardware/Jade Monkey commercial strip</li> <li>• Like great restaurants and businesses that are vibrant, unique, and POC-owned</li> </ul> <p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need corridors of services like more small local restaurants/commercial amenities and more grocery options around the areas: North and South of 12/18, along Atwood Avenue, near Meadowlark Drive and Oynx Lane, Monona Drive and E Buckeye Road, Meadow Park Townhomes off N Wallbridge Avenue, and along Milwaukee Street</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Land Use – General:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add hotel near Milwaukee Street and Corporate Drive or Atlas Avenue and Cottage Grove Road</li> <li>• Increase access to amenities in areas: west of Highway 51, North of Sigglekow Road</li> <li>• Increase affordable housings like in City-owned lots in Owl Creek to have permanently affordable housing</li> </ul>	3	(OC)
<b>Transportation</b>		
<p><b>Traffic Safety/Speeding:</b></p> <p><b>Assets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good improvements along Dempsey Road (especially at Davis Street)</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues</b></p>	12	(OC) (PM1)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highway 51 has high speeds with limited visibility</li> <li>• Near crashes on E Buckeye Road and Vondron Road</li> </ul> <p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sync light timing along Cottage Grove Road and Stoughton Road to support through traffic</li> <li>• Create physical barriers, repaint lines, plant trees to calm traffic</li> <li>• Add rumble strips to off ramp to alert drivers to slow down through the curve for Highway 51</li> <li>• Righthand lanes should be right turn only on Sprecher Road and Milwaukee Street</li> <li>• Need turn lane toward YMCA on Westbound Cottage Grove Road and Claire Street</li> <li>• Left turns are difficult on Swanton Road and Milwaukee Street</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety:</b></p> <p><b>Assets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monona Court is great for walking/biking and could be nice in other places</li> <li>• Like bike paths and lanes on E Buckeye Road</li> <li>• Like Pedestrian crossing at Highway 51 and Portland Parkway</li> <li>• Like new off-street path on Atwood Avenue</li> <li>• Love Cottage Grove Road</li> <li>• Multi-use path connecting Commercial Ave and Blettner Blvd is great safe connection under Highway 30</li> </ul>	47	(OC) (PM1)

<p><b>Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of lack of pedestrian access on Highway 51</li> <li>• Crossing view is blocked by Hill on Lakeview and Buckeye on Lake Loop</li> <li>• Close to cars on Monona Drive from Cottage Grove Road</li> </ul> <p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make traffic stop/yield to cyclist/pedestrians crossing instead of bikes/pedestrians having to stop for cars</li> <li>• Add green paint to improve visibility of bike lanes and make bike lanes protected</li> <li>• Add bike route street icons to Stonehaven Dr. as well as Ellen Ave. from E Buckeye to Vondron Rd., Wagon Trail</li> <li>• Extend medians to create refuge islands for pedestrians and cyclists to more safely cross the street</li> <li>• Use parked cars, pinch points and protected bike lanes to chicane Cottage Grove Rd. from about Atwood Blvd. to I-90 and beyond</li> <li>• Add dedicated bike lane on Vondron Road, Sandlewood Cir., Pebblebrook Dr., S. Thompson Dr. from Capitol City Path all the way to Cottage Grove Rd., Ellen Ave. from E Buckeye to Cottage Grove Rd., and Starker Ave</li> <li>• Use curb extensions to designate the beginning/end of those parking zones and make drivers more aware of pedestrians/cyclists crossing or waiting to cross</li> <li>• Close streets to through traffic in front of schools to allow safe plaza for students</li> <li>• Better bike/pedestrian safety infrastructure: Milwaukee Street, crossings at Highway 51, Milo Lane and Easley Lane, Marsh Road and Siggelkow Road, Wittwer Road, Starker Ave &amp; and Deerwood/Acewood, Cottage Grove Road, Fair Oaks Drive, and Royster Oaks Drive and Maher Avenue</li> </ul>		
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<b>Connectivity (Road/Bike/Ped):</b>  <b>Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unimproved section of Monona Drive is a critical gap in the bike network</li> <li>• Monona's "No bike on sidewalk" signs are incorrect</li> <li>• People do not ride in shoulder due to safety concerns on Monona Drive</li> </ul> <b>Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve Connection in various areas (see detailed feedback summary for specific areas)</li> </ul>	46	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Street Design:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convert Highway 51 to urban boulevard with more housing and businesses, connect Tompkins through Highway 51, add more pedestrian access to frontage roads, reduce footprint, noise, traffic, number of lanes, and increase pedestrian/bike safety and access</li> <li>• Convert intersection to roundabout on: Diamond Dr and Portland Pkwy, Cottage Grove Rd and Meadowlark Drive, Agriculture Drive and Femrite Drive,</li> <li>• Extend Cottage Grove Rd median on across Vernon Ave and Inwood Way to only allow right in/right out</li> <li>• Add road diet and expand sidewalk into multi-use path on Agriculture Drive and Marsh Road</li> <li>• Less parking and shoulder bike lanes on E Buckeye Road</li> <li>• Keep street parking to both sides of Wittwer Road north of playfields</li> </ul>	6	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Transit:</b>	4	(OC)

<p><b>Assets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Love C2 bus line as an alternate to biking</li> </ul> <p><b>Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Stop Zone from Buckeye makes transit less accessible/usable</li> </ul> <p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend routes</li> <li>• additional rapid transit lines connect Madison and Monona both East and West of Highway 51</li> <li>• Re-add service to the Meadows Apartments on N Thompson Drive and Swanton Road</li> <li>• Third BRT route which loops around Lake Monona connecting Atwood Ave, Monona Dr, W Broadway, Moorland Ave, Rimrock, John Noland, and share 151 with lines A and B up to First Street</li> </ul>		(PM1)
<p><b>Street/Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve transit to intercity bus services (ex. transit between busses and new Amtrak station)</li> <li>• Shelter is minimal and need updating at Dutch Mill Park and Ride</li> <li>• Add B-cycle rack at Atwood Ave at Cottage Grove Road and Claire Street at Cottage Grove next to Lussier Family East YMCA</li> </ul>	4	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Neighborhoods and Housing</b>		
<p><b>Neighborhood Design:</b> Alleyways are great for safe cycling, slower speeds and trash collection, like seeing diversity in housing design</p>	2	(OC)

<b>School Comments [staff note: the City does not control school attendance areas or school expansions]:</b> Before and after school is not appropriately managed and kids are running through the streets at Monona Grove High School and Kennedy School	2	(OC)
<b>Economy and Opportunity</b>		
<b>Businesses/Economic Development/Jobs:</b> Assess the area south of Atlas Ave. and north of Cottage Grove Road to see if denser commercial/office space is viable with an Economic Feasibility Study	1	(OC)
<b>Culture and Character</b>		
<b>Neighborhood Gathering Spaces (Third Spaces)/Destinations and Activation:</b>  Neighborhood lacks a gathering indoor/outdoor space throughout the year without barriers to entry (like needing to purchase something) in Heistand Neighborhood and Rolling Meadows Neighborhood, Need neighborhood serving destinations and activation in: Milwaukee Street beyond Hiestand Park, Atwood Ave at Cottage Grove Road, E Buckeye neighborhood/corridor, Unity Church lot (along Tompkins Drive), Strip mall needs a facelift like Ace Hardware building, more activation, and use parking lot space next door	8	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Library:</b> Love Pinney Library	2	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Gateway streets:</b> Have proper gateway streets/ intersections for the City like on Broadway and Dutch Mill	1	(OC)

<b>Green and Resilient</b>		
<b>Parks:</b>  <b>Assets</b>	22	(OC) (PM1)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monona Golf Course is a valuable green space for outdoor activities year-round for both humans and animals</li> <li>• Acewood Park is a great open space with an enjoyable bike path, and it is a joy when the goats graze the park</li> <li>• Great park and open space in Kenndy Park, Edna Taylor Park, Heritage Sanctuary, Heistand Park, and Eastmoreland Park</li> <li>• Ontario Park is a heavily utilized, popular park for neighbors to bring children. These pocket parks feel safe and pleasant for neighbors to frequent.</li> </ul> <p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would be nice for a food forest in Lake Edge Park</li> <li>• Need like for path that diverges through Ontario Park</li> <li>• Would like renovated park shelter, dedicated walking path throughout the wooded area and connect to the lower part of park, and clearer signage about walking in woods during Frisbee Golf season</li> <li>• Add a labyrinth garden or some other attractive outdoor amenity (that doesn't disturb nearby neighbors) to McGinnis Park</li> <li>• Convert basketball court into a full court or more versatile court at Portland Park</li> <li>• Increase park access</li> <li>• Add pocket park in area next to water tower on Spaanem Avenue and Allis Avenue</li> <li>• Convert portion of Eastmoreland Park into dog park</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Stormwater:</b> Stormwater from Milwaukee Street does not have a drain at the Corner of Milwaukee Street and Milo Lane, there are no drains on Boyton Place causing Hamlet Place and Milo Lane to flood</p>	2	(OC) (PM1)



<b>Wildlife/Invasive Species:</b> Love wildlife along Lake Edge, O.B. Sherry Park is great place to see wildlife, Birds frequent these waters, appreciate the native plants here on Capitol City Path just west of Dempsey Road, monitor green spaces for invasive species	3	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Trees/Greenery:</b> Add trees along length of Highway 51 to provide shade and curb speeding and along Acewood Boulevard, add and protect greenspace, would like thoughtful approach to future tree canopy	1	(OC)
<b>Effective Government</b>		
<b>Intergovernmental coordination:</b> Work with Monona to connect bike paths and bus routes	2	(OC)
<b>Health and Safety</b>		
<b>Traffic Safety/Speeding:</b> speeding is present on W Dean Avenue to avoid Pflaum Road, Wilshire Lane, Dempsey Road, Highway 51, Milwaukee Street, Maher Avenue	5	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety:</b> speeding makes walkability challenging (Raymond, Whitney, McKenna, Schroeder); need more biking/transit – add more sidewalks and bikeable roads; crossing of Raymond to get to school needs to be improved	4	(OC)
<b>Sidewalks:</b>  <b>Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Widen sidewalks across the railroad and add turning radius on Dempsey Road near Capitol City Trail</li> <li>Add sidewalks to Lake Edge Boulevard, Maher Avenue, south side of E Buckeye Road, Monona Court, north side of Milwaukee Street between W Corporate Drive and Regas Road, S Stoughton Rd</li> <li>Extend sidewalk which runs through parking lot north of the Pinney Library across Pinney St</li> </ul>	5	(OC)
<b>Litter/Debris:</b> Glass and metal debris on Bridge across and surrounding blocks of Agriculture Drive and Tradesmen Drive	2	(OC)

<b>Neighborhood Safety:</b> Gun shots prevalent in area along east of N Thompson Drive and North of Swanton Road and the Hiestand neighborhood, Drug use in Hiestand Park, car theft and burglars in the Heistand neighborhood	2	(OC) (PM1)
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Other – Planning Process:</b> Commenting map is a great idea	1	(OC)

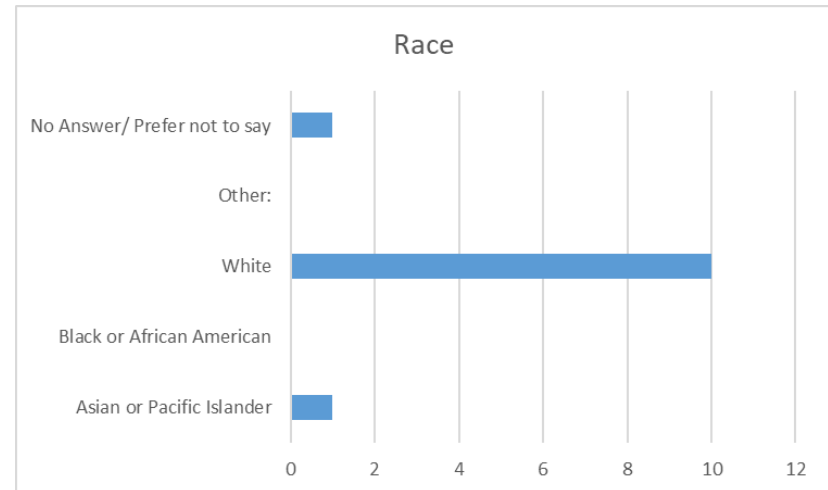
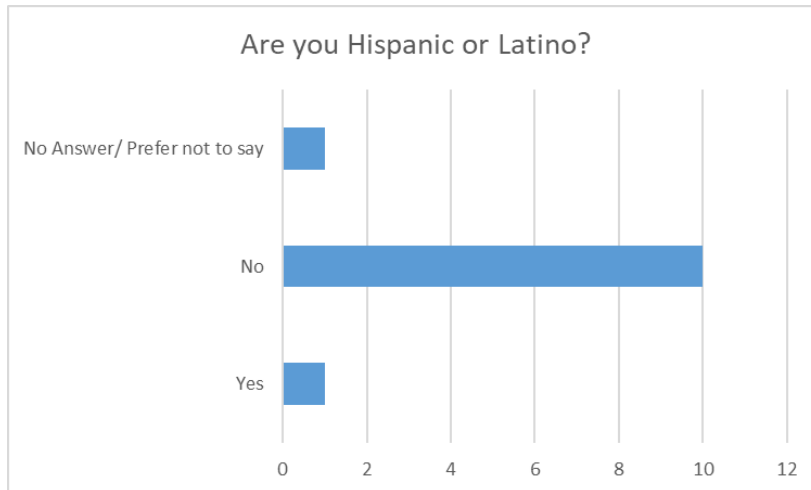
#### Key for Feedback Source

(OC) Online Commenting Map

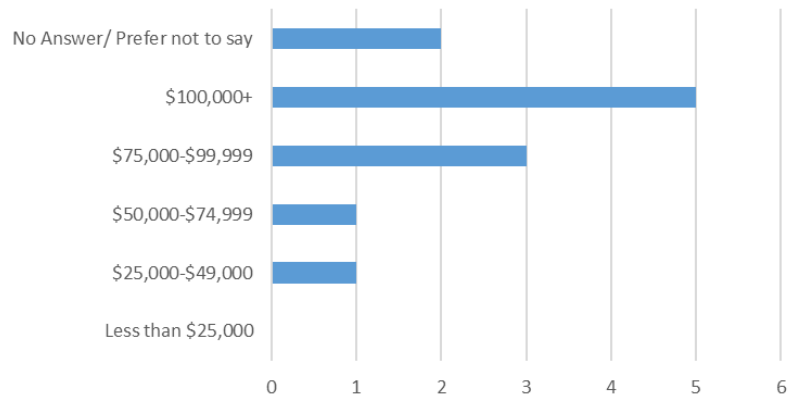
(PM1) Kickoff Public Meetings | Virtual & In-Person

### December 4, 2024 In-Person Meeting Attendee Demographics:

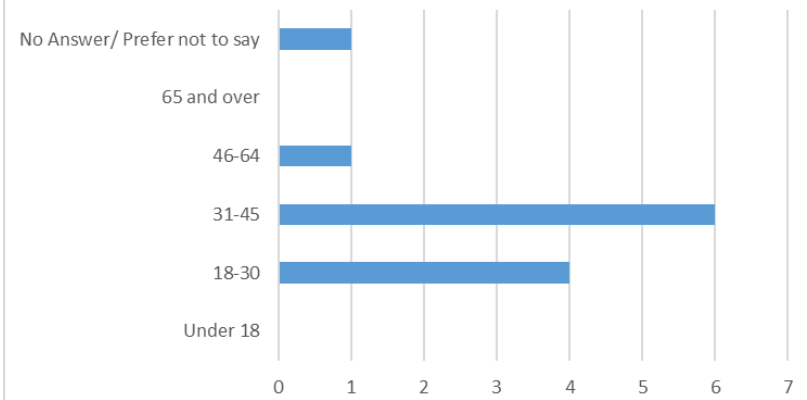
Public meeting attendee responses to demographics questions is optional. About a third of the approximately 35 attendees from the Southeast Area Plan meetings opted to provide demographic information. That information is summarized below.



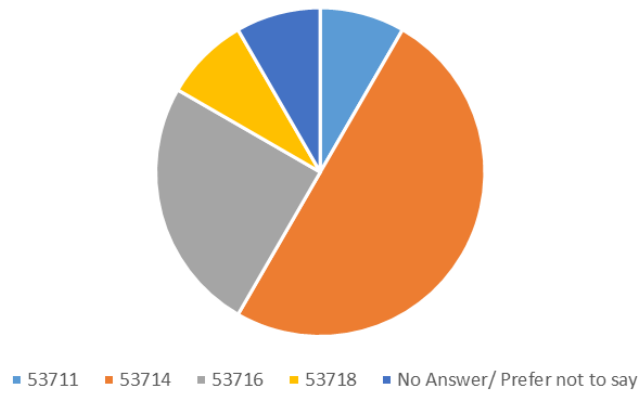
What is your household income?



What is your age?



What is your zip code?



Do you own or rent your place of residence?

