

# Livability In The 'Burg

A Community Conversation

## Summary of Data from Listening Session III, 11-4-17

### Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

- **Question 1:** Environmentally, do you feel that safety at the city's parks and public spaces, such as rec centers and libraries, is a hot issue or not an issue? Hot 5; Not 5 (**50% HOT**) (**50% NOT**)
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we improve the safety of public spaces and buildings?
    - Install panic buttons like at colleges
    - Community policing
    - Better lighting and signage
    - Look out for one another
    - Better concrete
    - More ramps, sidewalks, hydration stations
- **Question 2:** Do you believe the city's parks and public spaces are accessible for people of all abilities? Hot 9; Not 1 (**90% HOT**) (**10% NOT**)
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we improve the accessibility of parks and public buildings for pedestrians including those using assistive devices such as wheelchairs, walkers or canes?
    - Install ramps for mobility-challenged
    - Improve sidewalks
    - Add more seating and shade
    - Diversity of materials used
    - Better signage
    - Curb the ducks!
- **Question 3:** Are amenities, such as seating, shaded areas and drinking fountains at the city's parks and public spaces a hot issue or not? Hot 10; Not 1 (**91% HOT**, **9% NOT**)
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we improve the comfort of our parks and public spaces?
    - Provide more seating and shade canopies
    - Provide more and cleaner restrooms and hydration stations
    - Fix broken, cracked walks, cobblestones in historic areas to be accessible for strollers and walkers
    - Provide family-friendly parking
    - Better public transportation
    - Blue emergency (not sure what that is)

## Health Services and Supports

- **Question 1:** Are opportunities to achieve and sustain a healthy, active lifestyle within our city a hot issue or not? Hot 9; Not 1 **(90% HOT) (10% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we better support a healthy, active lifestyle?
    - Better communication on what resources we have
    - Establish a clearinghouse for all information
    - Establish a community representative to go to the people
    - Offer health fairs
    - Collective education re: people with disabilities
    - Bike-sharing and bike paths
    - Better access to in-home health services
    - Appoint neighborhood block captains to look out for homebound.
- **Question 2:** Is the variety of medical professionals, facilities and in-home service providers a hot issue or not? Hot 5; Not 5 **(50% HOT) (50% NOT)**
  - **Follow up question:** How can we improve health care delivery options in the city?
    - Improve communication on what is available
    - Offer transitional care after leaving hospital and follow-up
- **Question 3:** currently, is it a hot issue or not a hot issue regarding how our home and community can support our independence as you age? **Out of time, did not answer.**

## Respect and Social Inclusion

- **Question 1:** Is the voicing of or listening to the wants, needs and opinions of people of all ages a hot issue or not? Hot 8; Not 0 **(100% HOT) (0% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we facilitate more inclusiveness for people of all ages?
    - Do a better job of teaching children about health issues; start young
- **Question 2:** Do you feel there are intergenerational activities for all ages within the city? Hot 5; Not 3 **(65% HOT) (35% NOT)**
  - **Follow up question:** What types of intergenerational activities interest you most or do you wish to experience more of?
    - Have senior community do more with younger people at ALF's and day-care centers
    - Volunteer in hospitals, intergenerational interaction
    - Community gardening

## Civic Participation and Employment

- **Question 1:** Is the availability of flexible job opportunities for people of all ages a hot issue or not? Hot 8; Not 1 **(91% HOT) (9% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we better support and encourage more job opportunities for all ages?
    - Offer a menu of job opportunities
    - Educate employers
    - Offer job-sharing opportunities

- Provide training to develop skill sets for non-college trades
  - Better and more user-friendly job application processes
  - Offer incentives for elders to teach
  - Provide on-line data-base on what's out there
  - Call 411 for social workers/facilitators to make connections to jobs
- **Question 2:** Is the issue of job-related training exist within St. Petersburg a hot issue or not?  
Hot 9; Not 0 **(100% HOT) (0% NOT)**
  - Follow-up question: What kinds of job-related training need to be available here?
  - Training in computer science and technology for trades
  - Offer training in jails and prisons
  - Urban farming
  - Financial management
  - Envision mental sustainability
  - Do more to promote literacy
- **Question 3:** Is access to people of all ages are welcomed to participate in the deliberations of decision-making bodies, such as community councils and/or committees, a hot issue or not?  
Hot 3; Not 6 **(33% HOT) (66% NOT)**
  - Follow-up question: How can the city encourage greater civic participation from citizens of all ages?
    - Using libraries to provide info about colleges
    - Be a community participant
    - Have better voter education to encourage voting
    - Go to meetings, talk to council

## Housing

- **Question 1:** Are the options for affordable housing the city offers within its boundaries a hot issue or not?  
Hot 10; Not 0 **(100% HOT) (0% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can the city better support housing options and affordability for people as they age?
    - Mandate a percentage of new multi-unithousing be affordable
- **Question 2:** Is safety from residential or personal-related crime in your neighborhood a hot issue or not? Hot 4; Not 6 **(40% HOT) (60% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we make our neighborhoods safer?
    - Offer subsidies for first-responders to live in neighborhoods
    - Coordinate between faith communities, neighborhood associations, and rec centers
    - Better lighting is key
    - Crime-watch groups
    - Have more patrol cars visible in neighborhoods
    - Put police officers on foot in neighborhoods; walk and talk
    - Install safety apps on mobile phones
    - Next Door (unsure what that is)
    - RAID (also unsure of what this is)

- **Question 3:** Thinking about accessibility and your current home, are modifications to meet your needs as you age a hot issue or not? Hot 6; Not 3 **(66% HOT) (33% NOT)**
  - Follow-up question: What resources or modifications would be necessary to help you live independently in your home as you age?
    - Universal design – modifications to existing homes for:
      - Grab bars, door handles, doorways, etc.
    - Financial support for modifications
    - Toileting support
    - Public-private partnerships to defray cost of modifications
    - Relax building codes to allow aging in place
    - Financial assistance to renters to modify/improve environment
    - Education, communication and planning for modifications likely to be needed for aging in place safely
    - Evacuation assistance
    - Clearing house

## Communication and Information

- **Question 1:** Is the way information is transmitted about events and entertainment in St. Petersburg a hot issue or not? **Vote not recorded**
  - **Follow-up question:** What mode of communication do you prefer to learn about what is happening in St. Pete?
    - Internet
    - Person to person
    - Direct email
    - Utility bill inserts
    - Newspaper
    - Radio
    - Local newspapers
    - Valpak
- **Question 2:** Is the way you are informed about public and private resources and services in St. Petersburg a hot issue or not? Hot 6; Not 4 **(60% HOT) (40% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** What would help you stay better informed?
    - Social media
- **Question 3:** Is the use of the internet by yourself or with the help of others to research and locate community services when you need them a hot (important) issue or not? Hot 3; Not 6 **(33% HOT) 66% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up Question:** What resources would help you access and use the internet more effectively?
    - AARP example
    - Libraries
    - Classes

## Transportation

- **Question 1:** Within our city, is having adequate transportation options for those who do not drive a hot issue or not? Hot 6; Not 0 **(100% HOT) (0% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** What transportation options would you like to see expanded or developed?
    - Light rail
    - More senior transportation options
    - Education/public awareness of Uber, Lyft
    - Increased frequency of bus runs
    - Ride-sharing
    - Intergenerational (can't read word, maybe) Training for senior transportation background checks
- **Question 2:** Is safety within the city for pedestrians and bicyclists a hot issue or not? Hot 8; Not 0 **(100% HOT) (0% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we make St. Pete safer for pedestrians and bicyclists?
    - Stop jay-walking
    - More and better lighting and improve crosswalks
    - Subsidies for bike safety staff
    - More traffic-calming, lower speed limits'
    - Better visibility for bike paths
    - More sidewalks for walking
- **Question 3:** Is accessibility to current transportation options available in St. Pete a hot issue or not? Hot 6; Not 2 **(75% HOT) (25% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we increase transportation accessibility for when we need it?
    - Expand trolley loop
    - Provide more wheelchair lifts
    - More education about riding buses and helping people volunteer

## Social Participation

- **Question 1:** Is the amount and manner in which social forums are available to you in order to have fun with people who share your interests a hot issue or not? Hot 6; Not 3 **(66% HOT) (33% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we increase opportunities for social interaction?
    - Conduct surveys to get people's opinions
    - Have more events that are fun – pay it forward
    - Pay what you can – promote plus one
    - Invite people to come with you
    - Have block captains to extend invitations
- **Question 2:** Is accessibility and affordability of social opportunities offered in St. Pete a hot issue or not? Hot 0; Not 8 **(0% HOT) (100% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** How can we make social opportunities more accessible and affordable?

- Comments:
  - Send texts
  - Using more clos(sp?) groups for same people on issue
  - More face-to-face events
- **Question 3:** Do you use Facebook or other social media to help you stay close to neighbors, friends and family? Hot 18; Not 2 **(90% HOT) (10% NOT)**
  - **Follow-up question:** What would help you benefit more from the internet to sustain relationships with people who matter to you?
    - No responses