

Livability In The 'Burg

A Community Conversation

Summary of Data from Listening Session IV, 2/24/2018

Transportation

- **Question 1:** Within our city, is having adequate transportation options for those who do not drive a hot issue or not? Hot 8; Not 1 **(90% HOT) (10% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** What transportation options would you like to see expanded or developed?
 - Light rail link to Tampa
 - Autonomous vehicles downtown
 - Improved bus system
 - Rickshaws
 - Ferry
- **Question 2:** Is safety within the city for pedestrians and bicyclists a hot issue or not? Hot 12; Not 0 **(100% HOT) (0% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we make St. Pete safer for pedestrians and bicyclists?
 - Better police enforcement
 - More lights
 - Adult helmet laws
 - More and better crosswalks and signs
 - Bike lanes
 - Fill in missing sidewalks
 - Raise awareness of regulations
 - Have hotels provide rules to guests for walking and biking
 - Make it fun to learn rules and apply them
 - Crosswalk flags for walkers
- **Question 3:** Is accessibility to current transportation options available in St. Pete a hot issue or not? Hot 9; Not 2 **(90% HOT) (10% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we increase transportation accessibility for when we need it?
 - Change won't happen
 - Smart cars would be less expensive
 - Petition elected officials for light rail
 - Use buses more effectively; make them smaller on less-busy routes
 - More education about riding buses
 - Invite elected officials to meetings like this

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 5; Not 5 (**50% HOT**) (**50% NOT**)
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we increase opportunities for social interaction?
 - Increase awareness
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - Social media
 - Partner with print publications to increase awareness
 - Neighborhood associations and rec centers; marquee boards in rec centers
 - Post signs about neighborhood meetings; get city to collaborate in this
- **Question 2:** Is accessibility and affordability of social opportunities offered in St. Pete a hot issue or not? Hot 8; Not 4 (**66% HOT**) (**33% NOT**)
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we make social opportunities more accessible and affordable?
 - Comments:
 - Lower fees for events at rec centers
 - More awareness of DART
 - Free library memberships
 - Create culture of community-gathering
- **Question 3:** Do you use Facebook or other social media to help you stay close to neighbors, friends and family? Hot 8; Not 3 (**82% HOT**) (**18% NOT**)
 - **Follow-up question:** What would help you benefit more from the internet to sustain relationships with people who matter to you?
 - Use land lines
 - Use Zoom and alternative technologies
 - Hold annual get-togethers with city to share how they better utilize social media, i.e., Next Door

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 6; Not 5 (**52% HOT**) (**48% NOT**)
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we improve the safety of public spaces and buildings?
 - Smoking at building entrances is a problem
 - LED lighting and signage
 - Sidewalks
 - Remove panhandlers
- **Question 2:** Do you believe the city's parks and public spaces are accessible for people of all abilities? Hot 8; Not 3 (**92% HOT**) (**8% 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?

- Bring back benches
 - Rickshaws
 - Public restrooms in parks, with handicapped accessibility
- **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 11 Not 0 **(100% HOT, 0% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we improve the comfort of our parks and public spaces?
 - Provide more shade canopies and water
 - Keep homeless from using playgrounds to sleep

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 7; Not 4 **(68% HOT) (32% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we better support a healthy, active lifestyle?
 - We already do
 - Tai chi classes that are affordable and accessible
 - Provide more info on existing services
- **Question 2:** Is the variety of medical professionals, facilities and in-home service providers a hot issue or not? Hot 6; Not 3 **(62% HOT) (38% NOT)**
 - **Follow up question:** How can we improve health care delivery options in the city?
 - Improve delivery options
 - Open a community hospital
 - Doctors make home visits
 - Public health education
 - Increase funding
 - Make home health care more affordable
 - Better ER options
 - Enforce safety codes at hospitals
- **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? Hot 9; Not 1 **(90% HOT) (10% NOT)**
 - Offer more activities for inter-generational competitions
 - Offer more mentoring activities
 - Promote Lunch Pals at schools
 - Central area for volunteers
 - WIN program to support modifications
 - Increase resources for in-home health care
 - Collaborate with WIN and Habitat for Humanity
 - Make DNR choices clearer and easier to navigate

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 9; Not 3 **(87% HOT) (13% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we facilitate more inclusiveness for people of all ages?

- More activities for inter-generational competitions
- More mentoring activities
- Promote Lunch Pals at schools
- Have a central area for volunteers
- **Question 2:** Do you feel there are intergenerational activities for all ages within the city?
Hot 8; Not 3 **(78% HOT) (22% NOT)**
 - **Follow up question:** What types of intergenerational activities interest you most or do you wish to experience more of?
 - More neighborhood events
 - More intergenerational events

Civic Participation and Employment

- **Question 1:** Is the availability of flexible job opportunities for people of all ages a hot issue or not? Hot 10; Not 1 **(91% HOT) (9% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we better support and encourage more job opportunities for all ages?
 - More advertising of job opportunities
 - Create a job bank or time bank to trade services/skills with needs on in-kind basis
 - Encourage employers to offer flexible work schedules
 - Offer more job opportunities for youths
- **Question 2:** Is the issue of job-related training within St. Petersburg a hot issue or not?
Skipped this question.
- **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 10; Not 1 **(92% HOT) (8% NOT)**
 - Follow-up question: How can the city encourage greater civic participation from citizens of all ages?
 - Hold city council meetings in evening
 - Encourage all decision-making bodies to be open
 - Put policy issues to referendums
 - City have intentional program to entice public participation
 - FAST – gets citizens engaged
 - Central volunteer information base
 - Use social media more

Housing

- **Question 1:** Are the options for affordable housing the city offers within its boundaries a hot issue or not?
Hot 5; Not 3 **(62% HOT) (38% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can the city better support housing options and affordability for people as they age?
 - Work with government for affordable housing
 - Pressure federal government to do more for affordable housing

- **Question 2:** Is safety from residential or personal-related crime in your neighborhood a hot issue or not? Hot 2; Not 6 **(25% HOT) (75% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** How can we make our neighborhoods safer?
 - Improve policing
 - Neighborhood Watch
 - Lock your cars
 - Better lighting
- **Question 3:** Thinking about accessibility and your current home, are modifications to meet your needs as you age a hot issue or not? Hot 9; Not 2 **(92% HOT) (8% NOT)**
 - Follow-up question: What resources or modifications would be necessary to help you live independently in your home as you age?
 - Modify doorways
 - Tubs and showers
 - Universal design

Communication and Information

- **Question 1:** Is the way information is transmitted about events and entertainment in St. Petersburg a hot issue or not? Hot 8; Not 3 **(82% HOT) (18% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** What mode of communication do you prefer to learn about what is happening in St. Pete?
 - Mode of communication: Weekly communication from city by email; Stpete.org
 - Local newspapers – Paradise, Tampa Bay Times
- **Question 2:** Is the way you are informed about public and private resources and services in St. Petersburg a hot issue or not? Hot 5; Not 4 **(64% HOT) (36% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up question:** What would help you stay better informed?
 - Signs in neighborhoods
 - Local newspapers
 - TV community news
 - Neighborhood association communications
- **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 6; Not 2 **(75% HOT) (25% NOT)**
 - **Follow-up Question:** What resources would help you access and use the internet more effectively?
 - AARP tech workshops
 - Libraries
 - Internet access for all
- **Points made on Post-Its**
 - Volunteer opportunities: Seniors in Services, based in Tampa but volunteer opportunities are in Pinellas. Also RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)
 - Warm water pools for seniors and toddlers: two pools
 - 88-ish for exercise, 96-ish for standing still
 - Sloped entry
 - Day and evening availability
 - Indoor, with air temp controlled

- Arthritis Foundation classes offered year-round
- Noise control
- Warm showers
- Next Door has more ads than posts in Pass-a-Grille; it is getting more commercial
- Smoking at entrances to buildings is a health hazard
- Shut down the home-based barbecue businesses. Massive grills are allowed to exist in front of homes and in the streets, No one listens to complaints of smoke – city says call the police, police say call the city, no one will do anything. The smoke is a health hazard.