Colorado City Community Health Input Report

This is a final report of community health input gathered from residents within Colorado City, CO related to their health and quality of life.

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Researcher Background

The principal researcher for the data collection campaign was the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (PDPHE) in partnership with the Sangre de Cristo Volunteers for Community (VFC) and Valley First volunteer groups in Colorado City. The mission of PDPHE is to promote and protect the health and environment of Pueblo County. To accomplish its mission, PDPHE conducts a county-wide Community Health Assessment (CHA) every 3-5 years to determine the most critical health needs in Pueblo County. PDPHE and Pueblo County stakeholders then determine strategies to address the issues identified in the CHA. To accomplish the strategies selected, PDPHE explores grant programs dedicated to fulfilling the identified work. One such program is the Achieving Community Change Together (ACCT) program, funded through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Health Disparities and Community Grant Program. The ACCT program is aimed at addressing the built environment through community-led solutions to decrease obesity in Pueblo County. The work is completed at the neighborhood level and addresses upstream determinants of health. Through data collection, the ACCT program helps community residents identify priorities throughout the neighborhood, leading to proposed projects that will improve the built environment.

Communities Being Served

The two identified neighborhoods the ACCT program is working with from May 2022 – June 2023 include:

1. The West Side of the City of Pueblo (including the Hyde Park neighborhood)
2. Colorado City in Pueblo County

Colorado City Background

Colorado City is in south Pueblo County, East of Rye, and South of the city of Pueblo as depicted in Image 1. It lies in an area known as Greenhorn Valley, which includes both Colorado City and Rye.

The Colorado City community sits in US Census Tract 28.04 which has a total population of 4,716, with 18% (865 individuals) identifying as having a disability. The community is categorized as rural with its own Metropolitan District governed by five board members elected by Colorado City residents. The community is nearly evenly split between females and males: females 53% (2509) and males 47% (2493) and has an age demographic leaning toward older adults (Image 2) *(US Census 2020)*.

Image 1: Colorado City Represented in the Red Boundary Lines.

Image 2: Colorado City Age
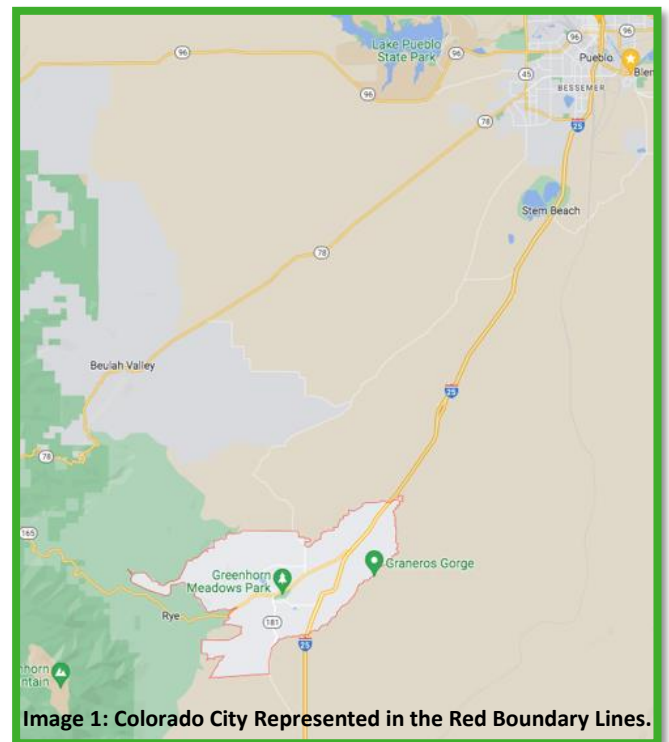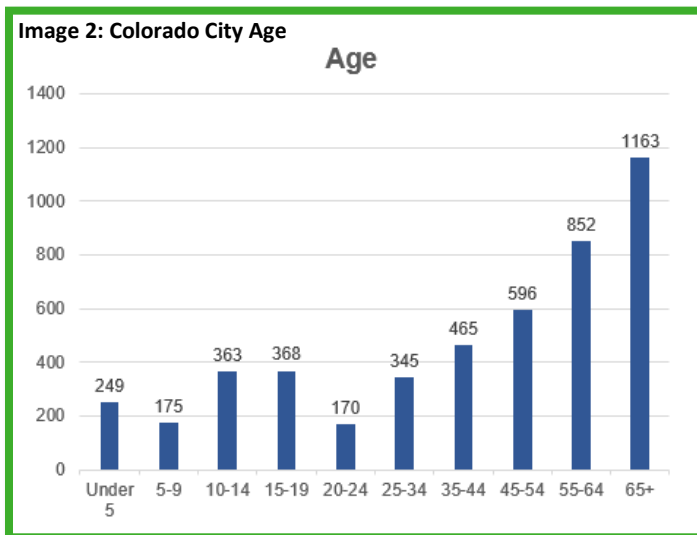
12% of individuals in the community identify as Hispanic or Latino/a and 19% of households are renter occupied. The household income varies with 293 households making $35,000 - $49,999; 288 households making $50,000 - $74,999; and 320 households making $100,000 - $149,999. This demographic makeup differs significantly from the rest of Pueblo County and could contribute to a unique set of needs in the community compared to other areas in the county.

Partner Background

The Sangre de Cristo Volunteers for Community (VFC), founded in 2009, is a nonprofit resident coalition of Colorado City volunteers that believes members of a community are in the best position to encourage positive change from within. Their mission is "Enriching lives and celebrating nature in Southern Colorado". They were formerly known as Volunteers for Change but have since updated their name to more accurately reflect the services they offer. The VFC provides Colorado City with services such as food collection and open food pantries, cardboard recycling, holiday gift-giving, community gardens, and many other community service programs and events. The VFC recently purchased a vacant community building from the Colorado City Metro Board with the intent to create a community center with activities and programming for community residents. The VFC is interested in the data collected and community priorities related to improvement projects and the potential use of the community center.

Valley First, another nonprofit resident coalition, was founded in January 2022 with the mission of "Improving our community one step at a time". Valley First emphasizes valuing everyone and wanting to be a catalyst for positive change. The board, comprised of volunteer resident leaders, developed the non-profit to support, empower, and progress the Colorado City and Rye communities. Valley First most recently created a list of potential community projects they wish to implement over the next few years. They are interested in the data collected and community priorities regarding these projects.

ACCT program staff partnered with the Sangre de Cristo Volunteers for Community (VFC) and Valley First community groups to determine what methods of data collection would best fit the culture in the Colorado City community, as well as determined the information to be collected from Colorado City community residents. The three entities have since partnered to implement community-wide data collection, analyze the results, and build this report.

Data Collection Campaign

PDPHE, the VFC, and Valley First partnered to determine data collection methods used for a community health input campaign. The methods, as described below, were determined to be most appropriate and culturally sensitive for the Colorado City community from May 16 – July 31, 2022.

Method 1: Community Surveys
A community survey was selected as the primary source of data collection. Partners agreed that 22 questions were to be asked on a questionnaire addressing topics such as community involvement and satisfaction, food access, safety, physical activity, community projects, and individual demographics. Survey responses were supplied by either a sample population of randomly selected households throughout the Colorado City community or interested community members in the Colorado City and Rye areas (known as Greenhorn Valley residents) who were not selected to be a part of the random sample.

Two separate survey collectors were created to separate sample responses from public responses. The sample survey collector was administered to the sample population through door-to-door canvassing by PDPHE staff, and online QR codes, and/or links via door hangers left at sample household residences. The public survey collector was administered through social media posts with links, quarter sheet handouts with links and QR codes, in-person collection at community events, email distribution lists with links, and word of mouth.

Sampling Methods

To ensure the information gathered from the community health input campaign was unbiased and representative of the Colorado City community, PDPHE and its partners used a random sampling technique to determine which households would be targeted to solicit feedback regarding community needs. PDPHE staff used Pueblo County's Geographical Information System (GIS) to obtain all addresses in the Colorado City Community to use as a base for the random sampling process. PDPHE's epidemiologist then used the list of addresses to calculate the statistical number of households needed to provide a 95%, 90%, 85%, and 80% confidence level of community representation for the data collected. The original goal of the community input campaign was to have 285 randomly sampled households provide feedback representing 95% confidence level. PDPHE assumed a 50% response rate for all households contacted and selected an original total of 550 random households contacts. No further stratification of the Colorado City community was made.

As efforts continued, additional random households were selected to replace eliminated households, which accumulated to a total over 700 randomly selected households to participate in the community survey. With a total of 304 responses (165 from a randomized sample, 139 from the general population), the findings listed in this report are representative of the Colorado City population with an 85% confidence interval and shows a 23% survey response rate.

Community Feedback Contact Attempts

Once PDPHE and its partners established how many and which Colorado City households would be part of the random sample population, PDPHE decided to use a three-attempt approach to reach those households during the data collection campaign.

The first contact attempted was through an informational postcard sent in late May 2022 to all randomized households asking individuals to take the survey online using a QR code or survey link. The postcards also provided information about the purpose of the data collection, the community partners involved in the data collection, and a notification that PDPHE staff would be in the neighborhoods collecting input over the upcoming weeks. The intent was to mail postcards to all sample households in Colorado City, wait two weeks, and then proceed with the second contact attempt. In June 2022, however, Colorado City's privately-run postal service stopped operations due to a lease agreement with the Colorado City Metro expiring. Without an updated lease in place, Colorado City did not have postal service available for community members for the first few weeks of June 2022. Colorado City residents had to drive to Pueblo's main post office to collect their mail. Due to the change in circumstance, all items mailed during the transition period were returned to sender. These included the postcards mailed to the sample households in late May by PDPHE. Because of this unforeseen barrier, the second attempt for the data collection campaign was considered more of a first attempt for PDPHE's staff and the Colorado City community.

The second contact attempt was completed through an in-person canvassing campaign. During the first part of June 2022, PDPHE hired two Community Connectors who were tasked with canvassing the sample households and collecting survey responses. The Connectors visited each sample household in person to gather input via a paper survey that was uploaded to the online sample survey collector. All individuals who took the survey in person were provided a $5 gift card to either 1) Walmart or 2) Bolt Burgers and Shakes as a "Thank You" for providing their input. If individuals were not available or home during the time the Community Connectors canvassed, the Connectors left an informational door hanger at the house that provided information about the purpose of the data collection, the community partners involved in the data collection, and a notification that the Community Connectors would be back in the neighborhoods for another attempt in a couple of weeks. Any household that refused to take the survey was removed from the sample population and no further attempts to contact them were made. The Community Connectors then waited at least 11

days before beginning a third contact attempt for sample households to allow time for individuals to take the survey online using the QR code or link that was provided on the door hangers.

PDPHE staff and the Community Connectors used a "Canvas Tracking Document" to document whether sample households: 1) Completed the survey, 2) Refused to take the survey, 3) Were not home or asked the Community Connectors to come back, or 4) Were not visited during the second contact attempt. The tracking document was then used for efficient organization and planning around the third contact attempt.

The third contact attempt was nearly identical to the second contact attempt except for two factors: 1) Community Connectors visited houses on different days of the week than during the previous attempts and 2) PDPHE increased the "Thank You" incentive from $5 Walmart or Bolt's Burgers and Shakes gift cards to $10 gift cards. The increase from $5 to $10 was to further incentivize residents to take the community survey. Aside from those differing factors, the third attempts were implemented the same as the second.

Method 2: Neighborhood Stakeholder Meeting
The VFC, Valley First, and PDPHE also decided to host one community meeting where Greenhorn Valley community residents could come and discuss community needs. Originally, the meeting was intended to be a broad public meeting where themes around community needs could be identified, and community projects could be discussed. As the data collection campaign unfolded, community themes arose without the need for a community meeting and the community meeting's purpose shifted to be a neighborhood stakeholder meeting to discuss the themes identified in the community input survey collected. The stakeholder meeting was held on July 21, 2022, from 1:00 - 2:30 PM MST with members of VFC, Valley First, and neighboring households of the Susan Kalman Peaks to Prairie Community Center (Community Center). The main topic of discussion was how use the new Community Center based on the community input gathered through the community health input survey. Since the community building is in the middle of a residential area, the VFC greatly valued the input of the immediate neighbors, as they could be directly affected by the building's use (i.e., noise from concerts, weddings, etc.). The meeting was held in person and allowed stakeholders and immediate neighbors to provide their ideas and priorities regarding community programs and projects that could be held at the new Community Center, along with options that could be considered for other projects or activities.

Results of the Stakeholder Meeting
Following a brief introduction on the VFC and Valley First's individual purposes and goals for the community, PDPHE presented the collected survey data pertaining to potential programs and projects for the area. After discussing the most favored ideas, a small discussion was held to determine the best location for these activities and the specific group to manage each proposal.

For the VFC, a consensus was reached that the new Community Center would be best suited for education, culture, nature, and senior-focused programs, as well as a hub for working to improve the Colorado City walking trails. Other suggestions for the VFC to provide were ping pong tables and tournaments, art classes, renting space for businesses and events, and potlucks. If such events were to take place, residents suggested a quality method of communication to notify the neighboring areas in advance, in addition to appropriate regulations adhering to community standards and courtesies.

Activities identified for Valley First to lead were more geared toward building a new recreation center, refurbishing the Greenhorn Valley football field, building a little league or softball field, and refurbishing the playgrounds in both the Applewood Mobile Home Park and Greenhorn Valley Park. Concerns were mentioned regarding the cost, liability, and regulations of a new swimming pool within a recreation center. Regarding these points, suggestions were made to renovate the existing recreation center and pool. Another area, an empty field furnished with stadium lights, was identified as a location that could be renovated and used.

Another focal point of the discussion was to determine the interests of teens and tweens via avenues of communication with the local high school and middle school. Residents felt that there were not adequate activities for those given age groups in the community. Most activities for teens and tweens are in Pueblo, 30 minutes away from Colorado City. The group stakeholders decided more conversations with tweens and teens were warranted to gain a stronger understanding of their needs and wants.

Successes and Barriers to Data Collection Efforts

Overall, the data collection process saw significant success. The sampled population (165 residents) represents an 85% confidence level of the entire Colorado City population. Additionally, 139 general responses were received from individuals outside of the sample. Given the population and geography of the canvased area, safety, and postal barriers, the responses received were considerable in both size and quality. Connections were made widely throughout the community on an individual level as well as on a larger scale with the help from local businesses, volunteer committees, and events where large groups of Colorado City residents were reached in a short period of time. Many passionate residents were enthused to have the opportunity to share their thoughts and visions for the community they call home.

Although the canvasing effort was successful, significant barriers were encountered. The first source of communication with residents in the area was attempted through postcards addressed to physical residential addresses. As previously mentioned, during the time of the data collection campaign, Colorado City's postal service was closed. In addition, most residents of the Colorado City area have P.O. boxes as opposed to mailboxes with a physical address. As a result, every postcard was returned. Another setback to the data collection was the geographic layout of the community itself. Along with odd street layouts and physical barriers like gates, fences, dogs, and wildlife, addresses were often not visible or incorrect compared to the address displayed on the navigation application used. Next, being that Colorado City is a tight-knit community, homeowners were frequently wary when unknown persons, the Community Connectors, approached their residency. Therefore, many people chose not to answer or answered with reproach. As an aging community with a largely conservative mindset, there were many interactions with members that outright dismissed the idea of changes within their community. These barriers are just a few examples of the difficulties experienced when trying to collect data among the residents. Had these barriers not been present, perhaps additional data could have been gathered.

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Community Input Results

In this report, data gathered from the Community Input Survey (Method 1) will be reported in two separate data sets shown together in Figures and Tables. The first data set is comprised of responses from the sample population, and the second is from combined responses from both the general Colorado City and Rye population (Greenhorn Valley residents) and the representative sample population. The data being reported was gathered from May 16 – July 31, 2022. For the Community Survey, input was received from 139 members of the general population and 165 members of the sample population, providing a total of 304 responses. The findings listed in this report labeled "sample population" are representative of the Colorado City population with an 85% confidence interval and shows a 23% survey response rate. Results solely from the Greenhorn Valley residents (general population) can be found in Appendix A.

Results from the Neighborhood Stakeholder Meeting held on July 21, 2022 (Method 2) have been reported on a previous page (page 5).

NOTE: The sample data results in this report contain responses from 165 individuals who were part of a randomized sample population that responded to the community input survey by July 31, 2022. Due to the decision to use a randomized sample, responses from the sample population are considered representative of the entire Colorado City community with an 85% confidence interval. The combined data, also called aggregate data, reflects the responses from the randomized sample population in addition to opinions gathered from 139 Greenhorn Valley residents who were not a part of the randomized sample but also responded to the survey by July 31, 2022, at 5:00pm MST.

Respondent Demographics

Of the 22 questions asked in the community survey, 6 were demographic descriptions of the respondents regarding age, gender, race and ethnicity, and geographic location (zip code). Answers to the demographics questions from respondents are as follows:

Figure 1 depicts the racial/ethnic breakdown of both the 165 sample respondents (sample population) and the total 304 respondents, including those listed in the sample population (total population). When asked "How would you describe yourself?", most respondents (81% of the sample and 77% of the total) described themselves as Caucasian or White, followed by Hispanic or Latino/a at 10% and 8%, respectively. For both the sample and total populations, about 7% declined to state a racial/ethnic background. Both sample and total populations also had respondents self-identify with additional identities that included Jewish, Bohemian, or two or more backgrounds.

Figure 1: Race/Ethnicity of Respondents
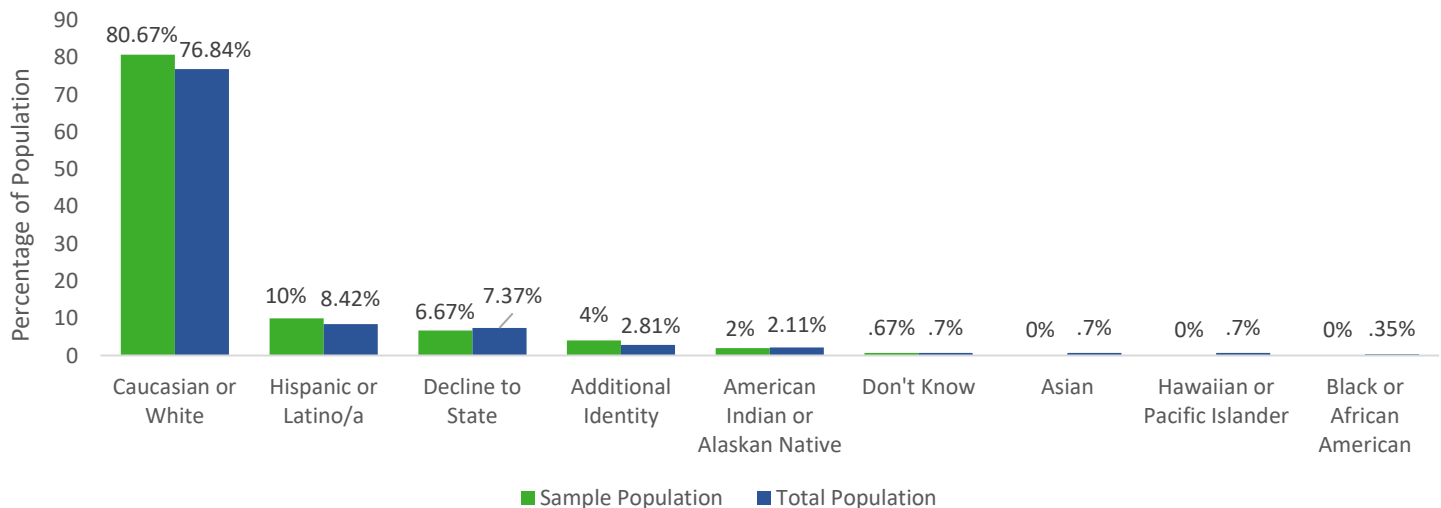
Figures 2 and 3 portray the age demographic breakdown of the 165 sample respondents and the 304 total respondents respectively. Most sample respondents identified as age 65+ (46%), followed by ages 55-64 (17%). Most total respondents identified as age 65+ (30%), followed by those aged 35-44 (22%).
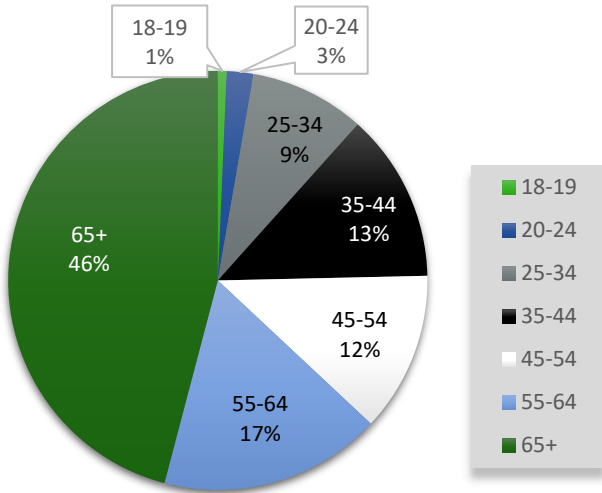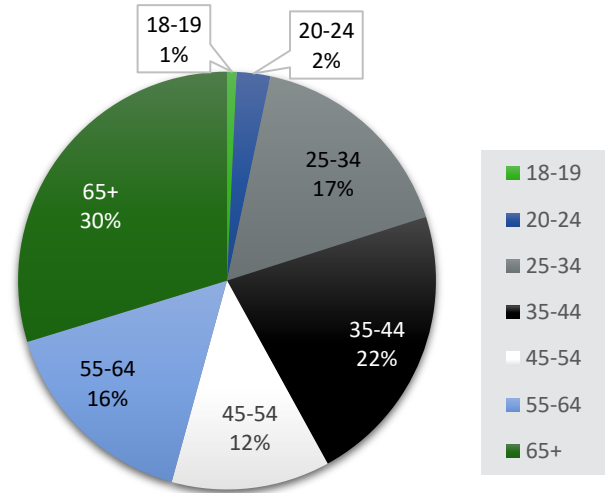
Figure 2: Sample Respondent Age

- 18-19: 1%
- 20-24: 3%
- 25-34: 9%
- 35-44: 13%
- 45-54: 12%
- 55-64: 17%
- 65+: 46%

Figure 3: Total Respondent Age

- 18-19: 1%
- 20-24: 2%
- 25-34: 17%
- 35-44: 22%
- 45-54: 12%
- 55-64: 16%
- 65+: 30%

Figures 4 and 5 show the gender breakdown of the 165 sample respondents and total respondents. Sixty-one percent of sample respondents identified as female, followed by 36% male, with 2% declining to state. Sixty-one percent (61%) of total respondents identified as female, followed by 36% male, and 2.5% declining to state.
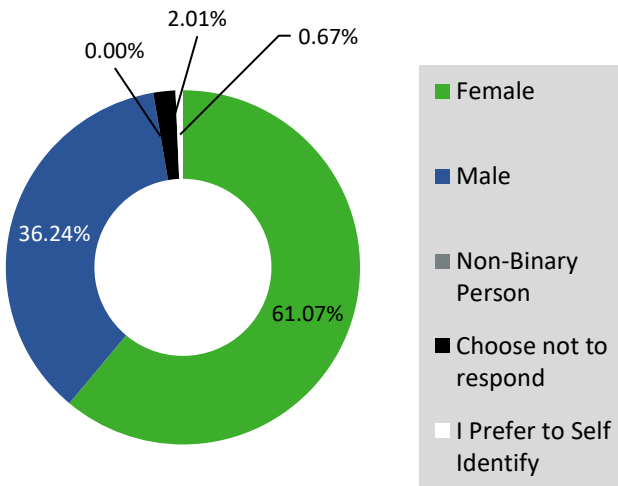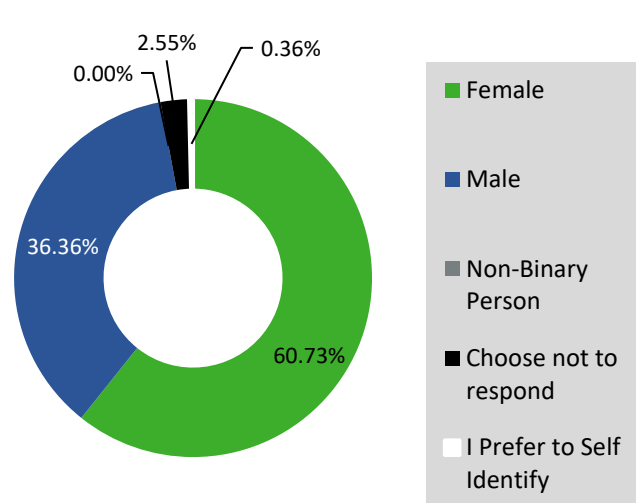
Figure 4: Sample Respondent Gender

- Female: 61.07%
- Male: 36.24%
- Non-Binary Person: 0.00%
- Choose not to respond: 2.01%
- I Prefer to Self Identify: 0.67%

Figure 5: Total Respondents Gender

- Female: 60.73%
- Male: 36.36%
- Non-Binary Person: 0.00%
- Choose not to respond: 2.55%
- I Prefer to Self Identify: 0.36%

Figures 6-9 illustrate residential demographics of respondents based on zip code, whether the residents live in Colorado City year-round, and the length of time the respondents have resided in the community. Most of the sample respondents (91%) reside in the 81019-Colorado City zip code, live in Colorado City year-round (98%), and have resided in the community for 10 years or more (55%). Of the total respondents, 74% reside in the 81019-Colorado City zip code, most live in Colorado City year-round (96%) and have resided there for 10 years or more (45%). All respondents, both sample and non-sample populations, reported either living in Colorado City, Rye, or the Greenhorn Valley area.

Figure 6: Respondent Zip Code

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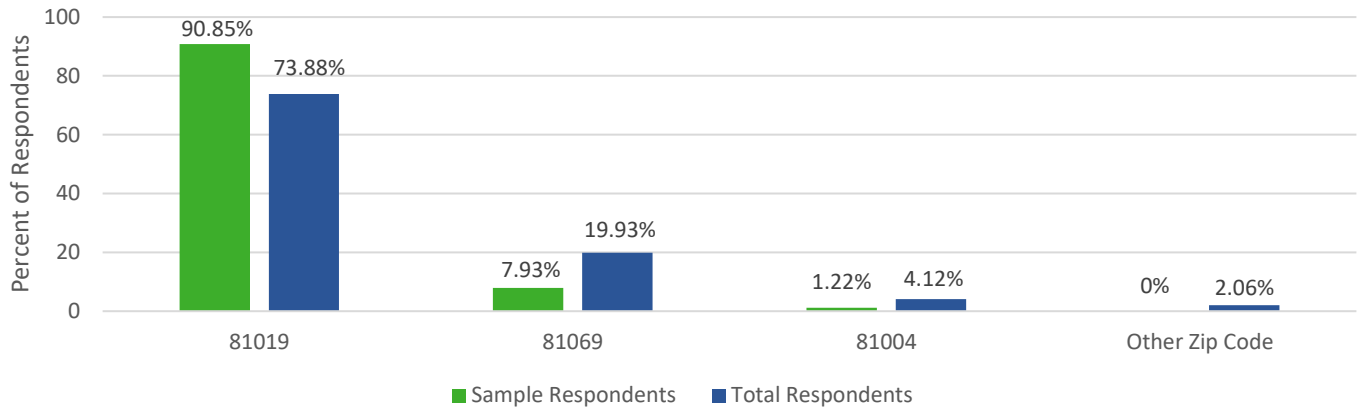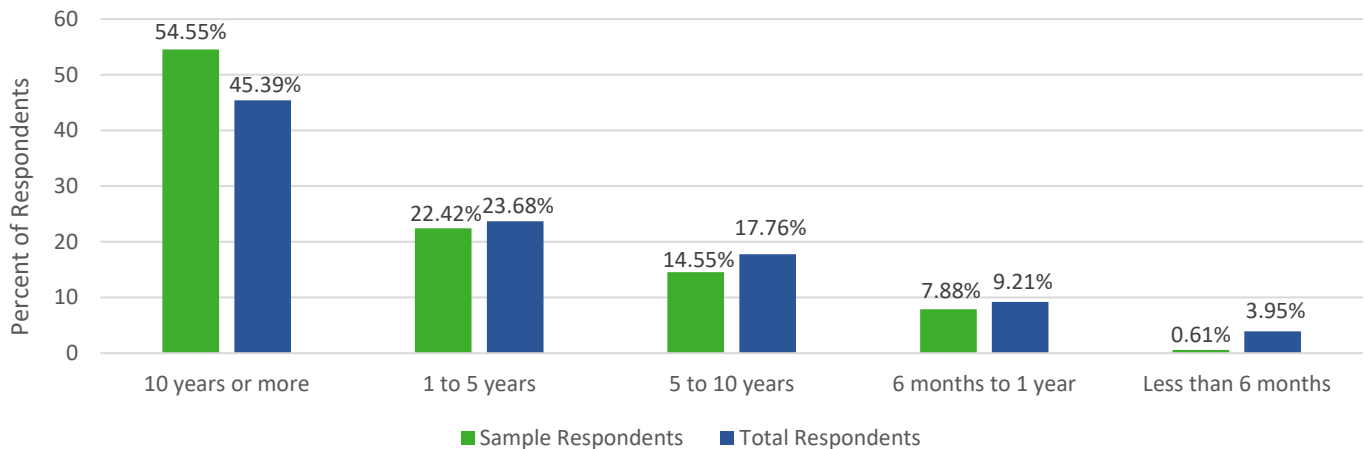### Figure 7: Respondent Length of Residency

Figure 7: Respondent Length of Residency

Figure 8: Sample Respondent Year-Round Occupancy

1.97%
98.03%
Yes No
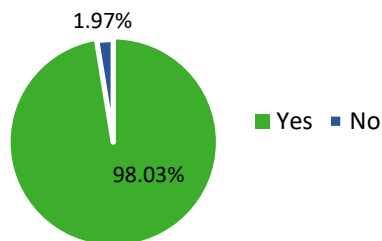
Figure 9: Total Respondent Year-Round Occupancy

4.18%
95.82%
Yes No

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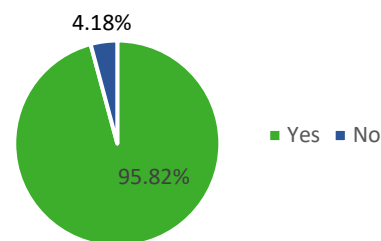
Community Satisfaction and Involvement

In the community input survey, respondents were asked "Overall, how satisfied are you living in this community?". About 40% of sample respondents and 44% total respondents identified themselves as somewhat satisfied living in the Colorado City community, followed closely behind by those who feel very satisfied (38% of sample, 39% of total) living in the community. Only 6% of the sample respondents and just under 4% of total respondents reported feeling very dissatisfied with living within the community (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Respondent Overall Community Satisfaction
Question: Overall, how satisfied are you living in this community?
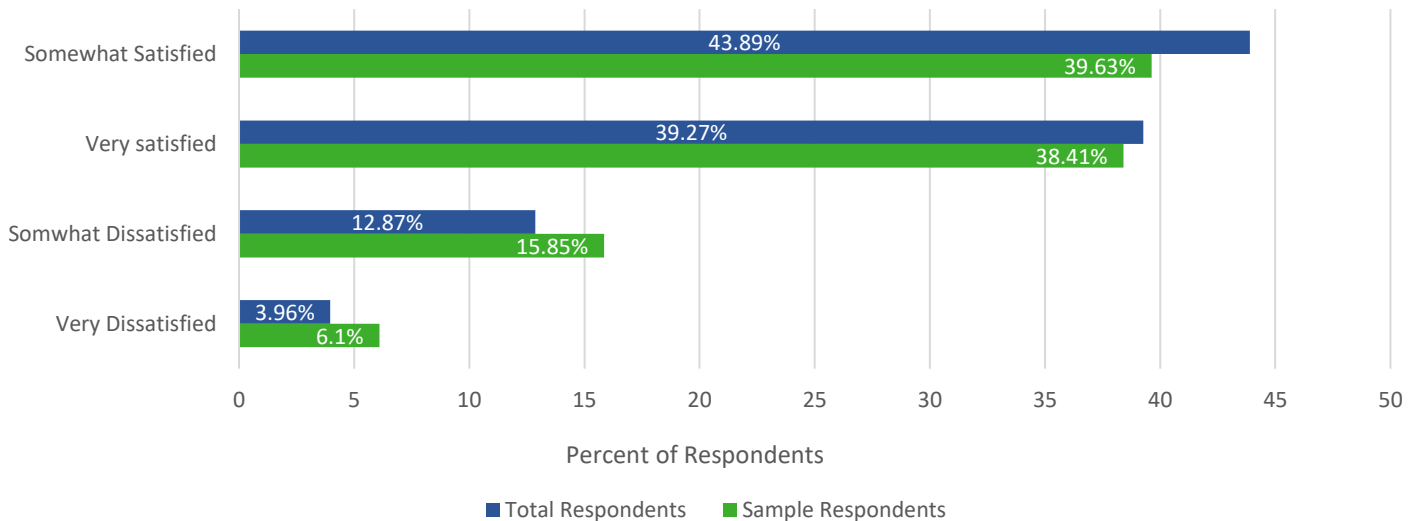
Individuals were also asked an open-ended question stating, "In your opinion, what could be done, if anything, to improve your community?". Both sample and total respondents could provide as many suggestions as desired, some of which are provided in Table 1 below. The top three suggestions for both the sample and total respondents included water quality improvement (1st), more/better water rights infrastructure, accessibility, prices, conservation (2nd), and improved postal service (3rd). The remaining top suggestions from the sample were slowing down community growth and more community activities (tied for 4th), and awareness/knowledge of opportunities/better outreach, more activities for youth, and new or improved trail systems (tied for 5th). More community activities and more activities for youth (tied for 4th), and new or improved trail systems (5) were among the remaining top suggestions from the total respondents (Table 1). For a full list of suggestions to improve the community, see Appendix B.

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Table 1: Top Suggestions to Improve the Community

Category	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=472)*	Percent of Frequency	Rank**
Community Resources/Opportunities	**112**	**24%**	
More community activities (festivals/events/sports/markets)	31		4
More activities for youth	31		4
More community involvement/participation	8		
Access to animal services	7		
Access to health professionals/services	6		
Conservation (animal/nature)	5		
Development	**73**	**15%**	
Water rights/infrastructure/accessibility/price/conservation	39		2
Concerns about increased community growth	15		
More/closer businesses	16		
Environment	**61**	**13%**	
Water quality/improvement	61		1
Parks and Recreation	**60**	**13%**	
Recreation center with classes (yoga, Zumba, etc.)	14		
Add sports field/park/playground	8		
New/improved trails	8		
Update the current parks/fields	7		
Update/Renovate playground	5		
Better/more park amenities (garbage cans, bathrooms, signs)	5		
Cleaning public areas	5		
Government	**51**		
Postal service	34		3
Dissatisfaction	9		
Neighborhood Improvements/Amenities	**40**	**8%**	
New/improved trail systems (sidewalks)	18		5
Clean up neighborhoods/maintenance	15		
Improve infrastructure (general)	7		
Police/Enforcement/Safety/Traffic Safety	**34**	**7%**	
Streets (improving)	11		
Overall/more improved code enforcement	5		
Add/update traffic amenities (lights/signs)	5		
Information/Awareness	**16**	**3%**	
Awareness/knowledge of opportunities/outreach	12		
Resident Behavior/Attitude	**10**	**2%**	
Completion of ideas/projects (discouragement)	5		
Individual Factors	**8**	**2%**	
Barrier Breakdown	**8**	**2%**	
Better hours of operation	8		
Nothing/No Suggestions	7	**2%**	

*Sample and General combined; Table only highlights themes that had a frequency of 5 or higher; 32 respondents did not answer this question
**Rank for top 5

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When asked, "How involved do you feel you are in this community?", 39% of sample respondents identified feeling somewhat involved in the community, 35% responded they felt a little involved in the community, and 22% feel not involved at all in the community. Forty-two percent (42%) of the 304 total respondents identified as feeling somewhat involved in the community, 31% responded they felt they were a little involved, and 16% feel they are not involved at all in the community (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Respondent Community Involvement
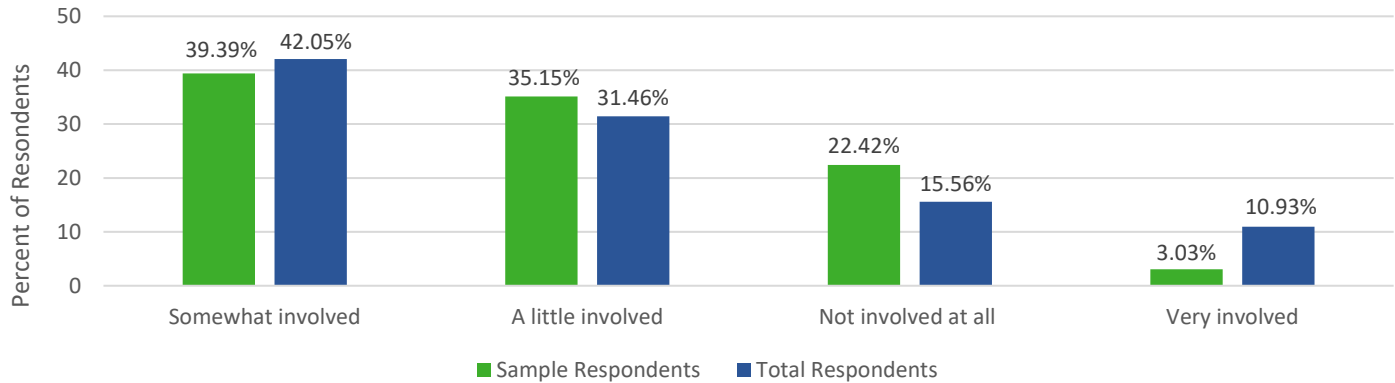
PDPHE, the VFC, and Valley First also asked questions regarding specific barriers and suggestions for improvement pertaining to community involvement. Table 2 and Figure 13 shown below display some of the sample and total respondents' answers to those questions. For the sample population, the biggest barriers to being involved in the community were lack of awareness/knowledge of opportunities (1), no time (2), work (3), age (4), and neighbors/community attitude (5). The top five barriers for total respondents included no time (1), lack of awareness/knowledge of opportunities (2), work (3), age and illness/health (tied for 4th), and neighbors/community attitude (5). For the full list of barriers to community involvement, see Appendix C.

Table 2: Top Barriers to Community Involvement (N=306)

Category	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=306)*	Percent of Frequency	Rank**
Individual Factors	**234**	**76%**	
Time	50		1
Lack of awareness/knowledge of opportunities/outreach	39		2
Work	34		3
Age	19		4
Illness/Health	19		4
Busy with other projects/activities/interests/responsibilities	15		
Children	13		
New to the community	11		
No interest	8		
More options	5		
Resident's Behavior/Attitude	**24**	**8%**	
Neighbors/Community Attitude	18		5
Not enough completion of projects/ideas (discouragement)	5		
Nothing/No Suggestions	**15**	**5%**	
Community Resources/Opportunities	**14**	**5%**	
Not enough community activities (festivals/events/sports/markets)	5		
No Barriers	**11**	**3.6%**	
Already involved/get exercise	7		
Government	**9**	**3%**	
Dissatisfaction	9		

*Sample and General Populations combined; Table only highlights themes that had a frequency of 5 or higher; 36 respondents did not answer this question.
**Rank for top 5

When asked what would get them more involved in the community than they are now, sample respondents stated increased awareness/knowledge of opportunities (1), more community activities (2), more time (3), better neighbors/community attitude (4), and completion of community projects (5).

When asked the same question, the total population also suggested increased awareness/knowledge of opportunities (1), more community activities (2), more time (3), better neighbors/community attitude and completion of community projects (tied for 4th), and formation of new groups/clubs and more activities for youth (tied for 5th).

Figure 12 below shows the top suggestions to improve community involvement from both the sample and total respondents.

Figure 12: Suggestions to Improve Community Involvement

Community Safety

Figures 13 and 14 show how the sample and total respondents felt when asked if they had concerns regarding safety in the Colorado City community. Most respondents answered they did not have concerns about safety.

Figure 13: Sample Respondent Safety Perception
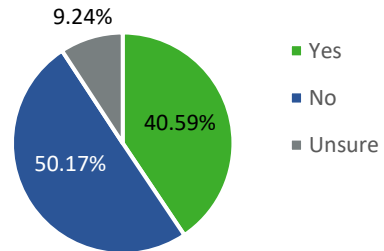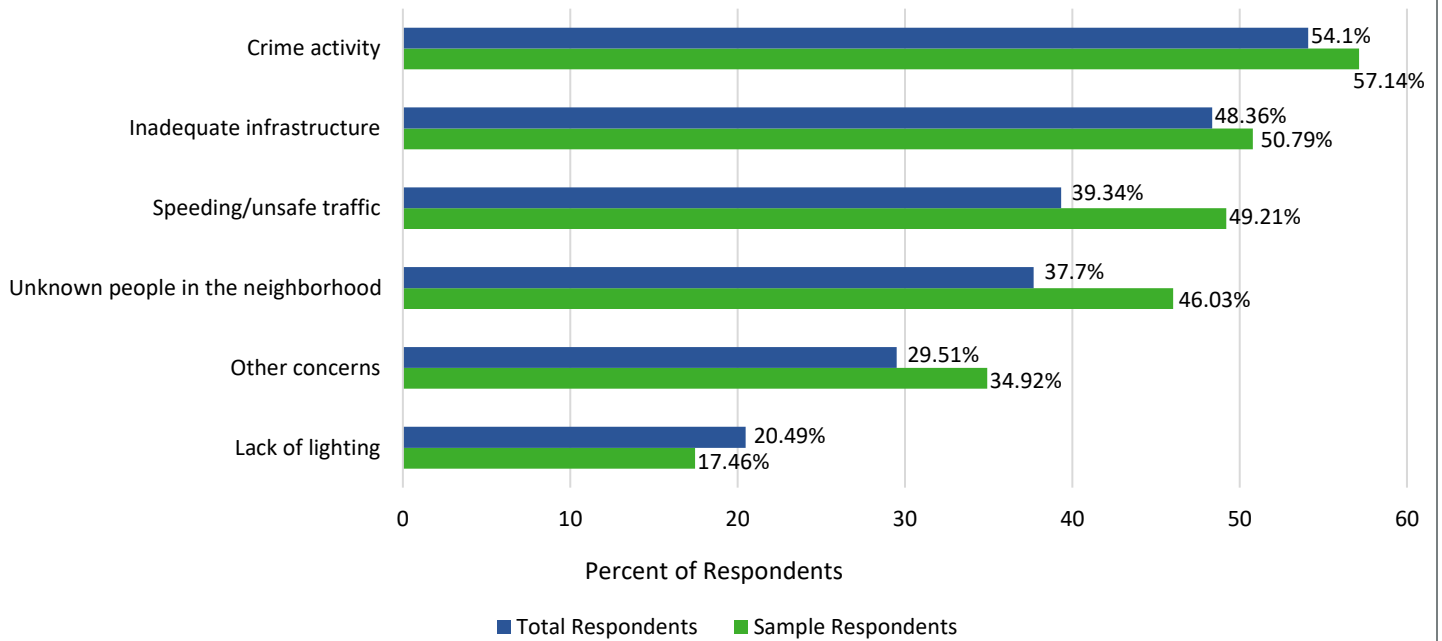Question: Do you have concerns about safety in the community?

9.70%
39.39%
50.91%

- Yes
- No
- Unsure
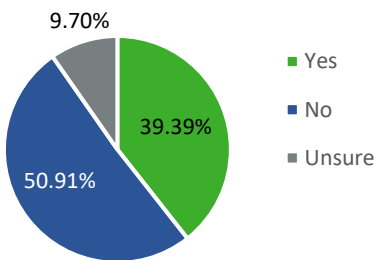
Figure 14: Total Respondent Safety Perception
Question: Do you have concerns about safety in the community?
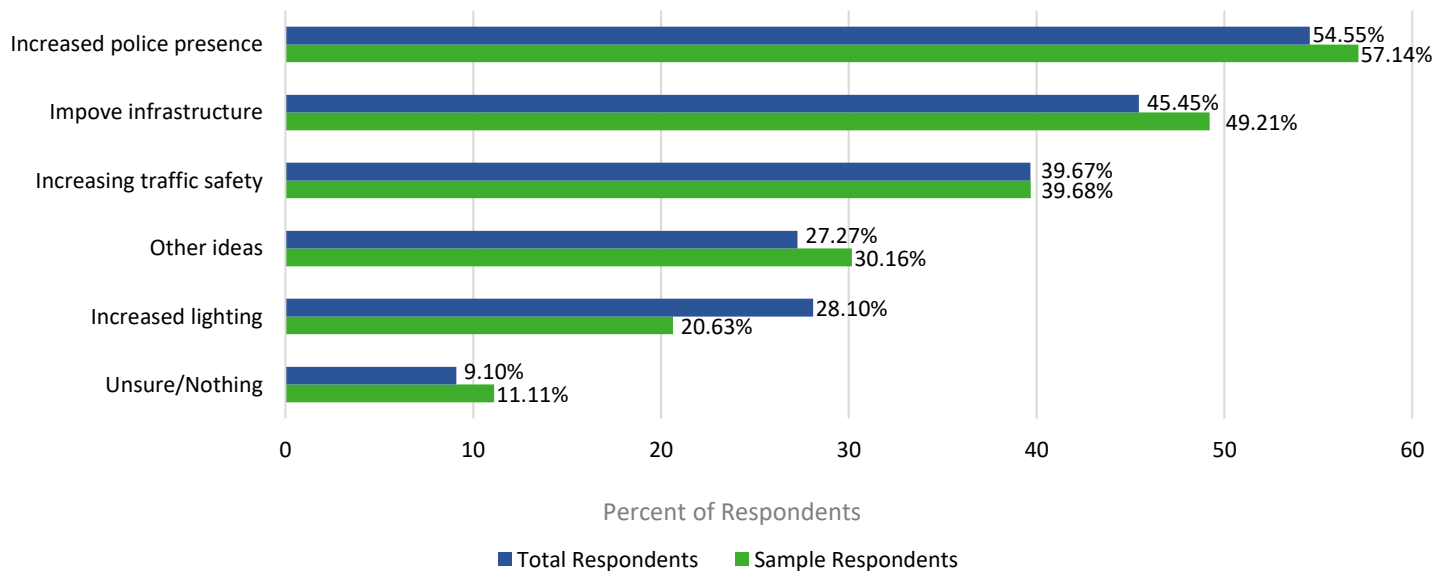

9.24%
40.59%
50.17%

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Of the sample and total respondents (39% and 41% respectively) who did identify as having concerns about safety in the community, more than half selected "Crime activity" as their number one ranked concern (shown in Figure 15). The second and third most selected safety concerns were "Inadequate infrastructure" (51% of sample, 48% of total) and "Speeding and unsafe traffic" (49% of sample, 39% of total).

Figure 15: Respondent Safety Concerns

Figure 15: Respondent Safety Concerns

Crime activity — 54.1% (Total), 57.14% (Sample)
Inadequate infrastructure — 48.36% (Total), 50.79% (Sample)
Speeding/unsafe traffic — 39.34% (Total), 49.21% (Sample)
Unknown people in the neighborhood — 37.7% (Total), 46.03% (Sample)
Other concerns — 29.51% (Total), 34.92% (Sample)
Lack of lighting — 20.49% (Total), 17.46% (Sample)

Percent of Respondents

■ Total Respondents ■ Sample Respondents

After identifying specific safety concerns in the community, respondents were asked to select solutions they felt would improve safety in the community (Figure 16). Increased police presence ranked number one among both sample and total respondents (57% and 55% respectively), with improved infrastructure ranking second (49% of sample, 45% of total), and increased traffic safety ranking third (40% of sample, and 40% of total).

Figure 16: Respondent Safety Improvement Ideas

Figure 16: Respondent Safety Improvement Ideas

Increased police presence — 54.55% (Total), 57.14% (Sample)
Impove infrastructure — 45.45% (Total), 49.21% (Sample)
Increasing traffic safety — 39.67% (Total), 39.68% (Sample)
Other ideas — 27.27% (Total), 30.16% (Sample)
Increased lighting — 28.10% (Total), 20.63% (Sample)
Unsure/Nothing — 9.10% (Total), 11.11% (Sample)

Percent of Respondents

■ Total Respondents ■ Sample Respondents

Respondents were also given the opportunity to provide other safety concerns and safety improvement suggestions that were not included in the pre-populated list in the survey. The top three safety concerns within the "Other Concerns"

category are displayed in Table 3. Among the sample respondents, the top safety concerns included poor water quality, concerns regarding the homeless population, and a lack of police presence/surveillance (all tied for 1st). Among total respondents, the top three safety concerns identified included lack of police presence/surveillance (1), poor water quality and drug use (tied for 2nd), concerns of the homeless population and unknown people in the community (tied for 3rd). For the full list of "other" safety concerns, see Appendix E.

Table 3: Top Safety Concerns

Category	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=51)*	Percent of Frequency	Rank**
Police/Enforcement/Safety/Traffic Safety	**21**	**41%**	
Lack of police presence/surveillance	5		1
Unknown people	3		3
Environment	**7**	**14%**	
Water quality/improvement	4		2
Resident Behavior/Attitude	**5**	**10%**	
Drugs, drug users/decrease usage	4		2
Homelessness/Transient/Non-residents	**4**	**8%**	
Homeless population/homelessness	3		3
Neighborhood Improvements/Amenities	**4**	**8%**	
Community Resources/Opportunities	**3**	**6%**	
Development	**3**	**6%**	

*Sample and General combined; Table only highlights themes that had a frequency of 3 or higher
**Rank for top 5

The top "Other Suggestions" to improve safety provided by the sample and total respondents are shown in Table 4. Among sample respondents, the top suggestions, other than those selected from the pre-populated list, included more traffic law enforcement and getting rid of drugs within the community (tied for 1st), water quality improvement, getting help for drug users, and placing cameras throughout the community (all tied for 2nd). The top three safety improvement suggestions submitted by the total population included more traffic law enforcement and getting rid of drugs within the community (tied for 1st) and placing cameras throughout the community (2). For the full list of suggestions to increase safety, see Appendix F.

Table 4: Suggestions to Increase Safety

Category	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=40)*	Percent of Frequency	Rank
Police/Enforcement/Safety/Traffic Safety	**15**	**37.5%**	
More traffic law enforcement	4		1
Cameras	3		2
Substance Use	**6**	**15%**	
Get rid of drugs, drug usage/decrease usage	4		1
Community Resources/Opportunities	**5**	**12.5%**	
Development	**3**	**7.5%**	
Neighborhood Improvements/Amenities	**4**	**10%**	

*Sample and General combined; Table only highlights themes that had a frequency of 3 or higher
**Rank for top 3

Physical Activity

Also in the survey, respondents were asked how often they engage in physical activity beyond day-to-day activities. Most respondents (29% of the sample; 36% of the total) reported getting 30 minutes to 2.5 hours per week outside of their typical day-to-day activities as depicted in Figure 17. This is just under the 2.5 hours minimum of physical activity recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (Figure 17).

Figure 17: Respondent Physical Activity
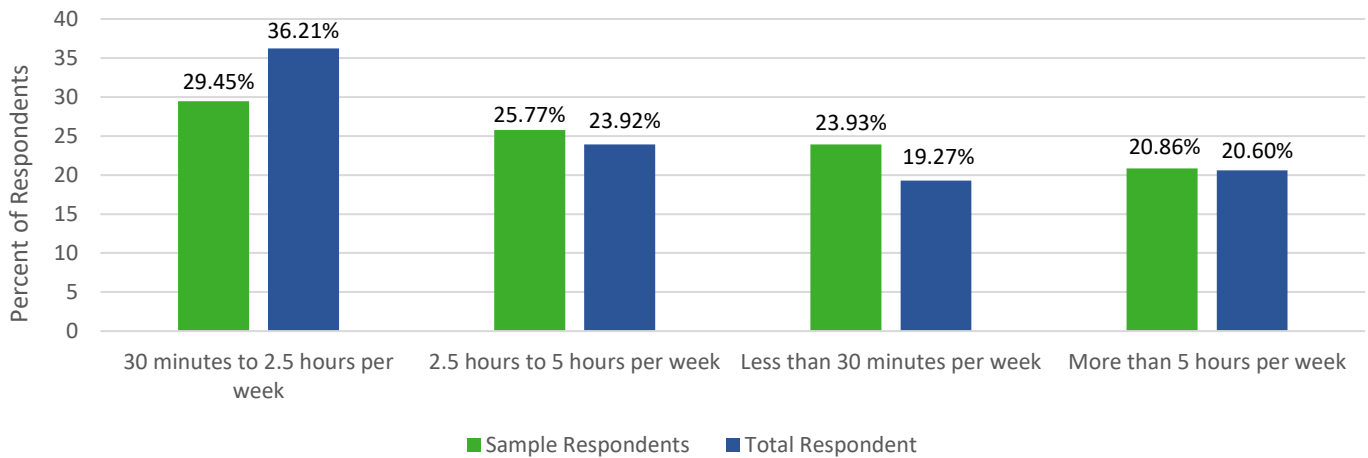
Respondents then were asked what, if anything, keeps them from getting more physical exercise than they currently do. Most sample and total respondents (31% and 26% respectively) reported having health/physical issues that restrict the amount and/or type of exercise they can do, followed by lack of time (25%) for total respondents and nothing for sample respondents (26%). Figure 18 (shown below) also shows the additional barriers to physical activity that were not selected as the top three.

Figure 18: Respondent Barriers to Physical Activity

![Pueblo Department of Public Health & Environment]
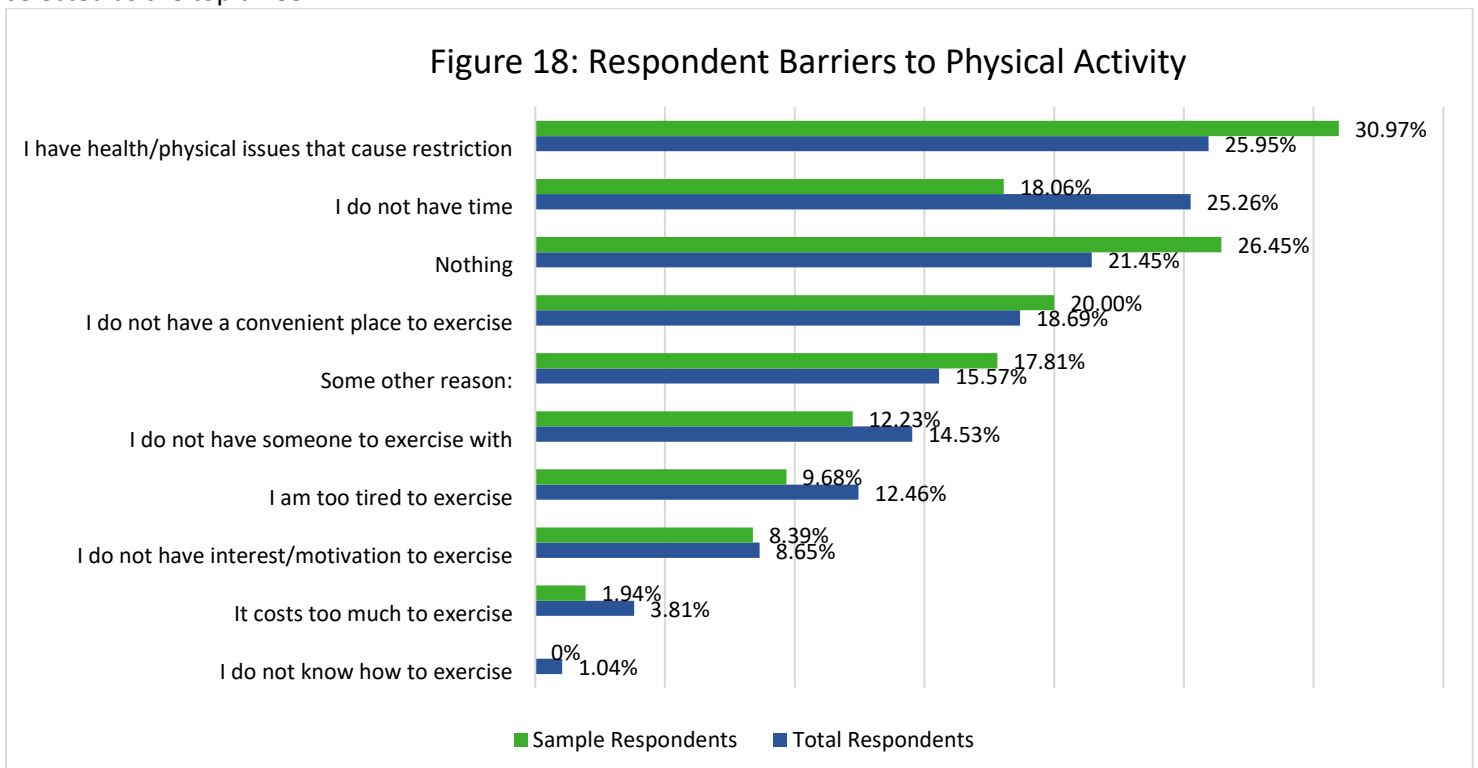
While being asked about barriers to physical activity, respondents were given the option to select "Some other reason" and write in their own personal barriers to what prevents them from getting more exercise. The top responses that were given are displayed in Table 5. Among the sample respondents, the top three "Other" barriers included poor weather (1), poor trail systems, specifically sidewalks (2), and limited hours of operation for community buildings (3). Among the total respondents, the top three barriers added in the "Other" section included poor trail systems, specifically regarding sidewalks and poor weather (tied for 1st). For the full list of "Other" barriers to physical activity, see Appendix G.

Additionally, respondents were given the option to provide suggestions on what could potentially remove those barriers and increase their ability to engage in physical activity. The top responses that were provided are displayed in Table 5. Among the sample respondents, the top suggestions included building a recreation center with classes (1), having someone to exercise with (2), and new/improved trail systems and more time (tied for 3rd). Among the total respondents, the top suggestions to reduce barriers included building a recreation center with classes (1), someone to exercise with, and having more time (tied for 2nd), and new or improved trails (3). For the full list of "other" suggestions to increase physical activity, see Appendix H.

Table 5: Ways to Increase Physical Activity

Category	Frequency: Total Respondents Codes (N=238)	Percent of Frequency	Rank
Individual Factors	**78**	**33%**	
Someone to exercise with	16		2
Time	16		2
Illness/health	11		
More options	11		
Work	7		
Parks and Recreation	**71**	**30%**	
Recreation center with classes (yoga, Zumba, etc.)	34		1
New/improved trails	15		4
Community Resources/Opportunities	**35**	**15%**	
Formation of new groups/clubs	13		5
More community activities (festivals/events/sports/markets)	9		
Nothing/No Suggestions	**19**	**8%**	
Neighborhood Improvements/Amenities	**17**	**6%**	
New/improved trail systems (sidewalks)	16		3
Barrier Breakdown	**10**	**4%**	
Better hours of operation	10		

*Sample and General combined; Table only highlights themes that had a frequency of 5 or higher; 86 respondents did not provide feedback.
**Rank for top 5

Community Accessibility

Figures 19 and 20 represent whether respondents felt they have adequate access to community amenities such as trails, activities, and community buildings in Colorado City. 72% of sample respondents reported they do not have trouble accessing amenities, while 19% stated they do have difficulty accessing amenities. 73% of total respondents felt they do not have trouble accessing amenities, and 21% felt they do have difficulty accessing amenities.

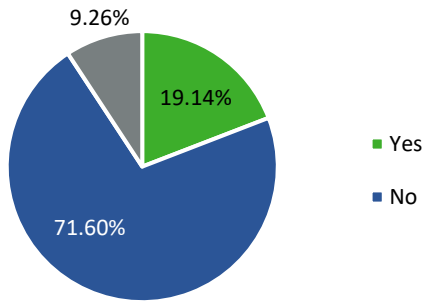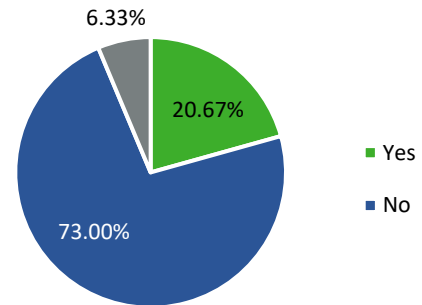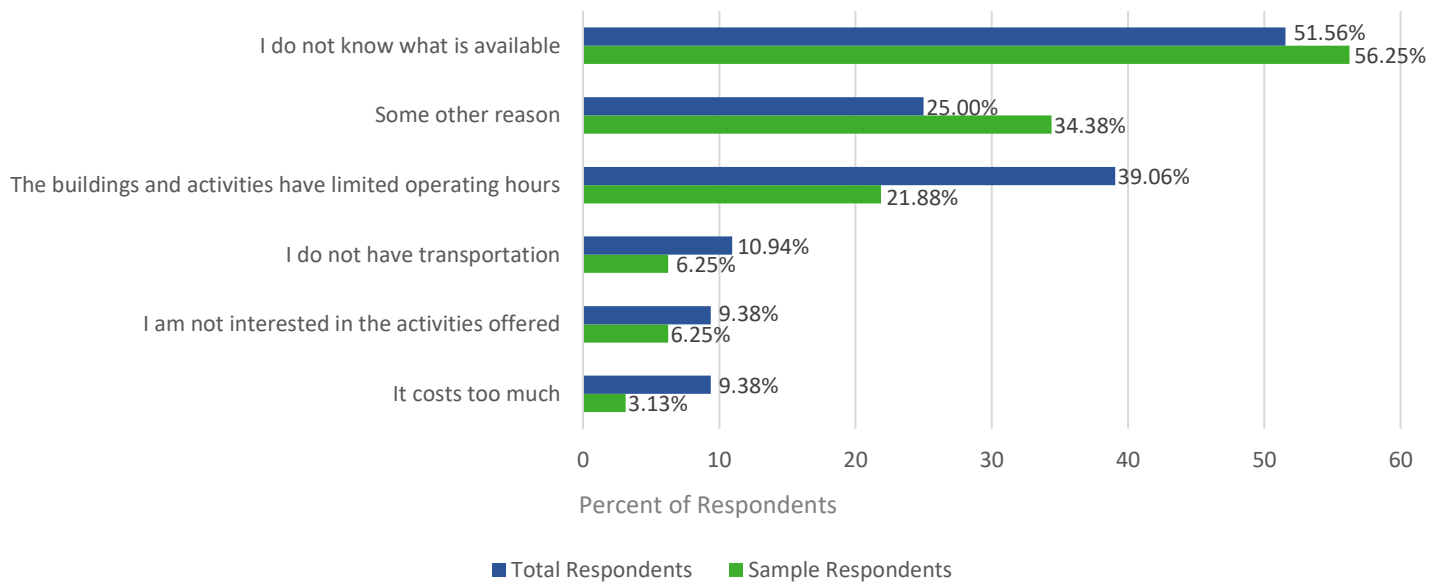**Figure 19: Sample Respondent Trouble Accessing Amenities**

9.26%

19.14%

71.60%

- Yes
- No

Figure 20: Total Respondent Trouble Accessing Amenities

6.33%

20.67%

73.00%

- Yes
- No

Among the 19% of sample respondents and 21% of total respondents that identified as having trouble accessing amenities, 56% of sample respondents and 52% of total respondents felt the biggest barrier was "Not knowing what is available". This was followed by "Some other reason" (34%) for sample respondents and "Limited operating hours" (39%) for total respondents.

Figure 21: Respondent Barriers to Amenities

Barrier	Total Respondents	Sample Respondents
I do not know what is available	51.56%	56.25%
Some other reason	25.00%	34.38%
The buildings and activities have limited operating hours	39.06%	21.88%
I do not have transportation	10.94%	6.25%
I am not interested in the activities offered	9.38%	6.25%
It costs too much	9.38%	3.13%

Percent of Respondents

- Total Respondents
- Sample Respondents

Some of the top "other reasons" the sample and total respondents felt they didn't have adequate access to community amenities were limited hours of operation, poor maintenance of the neighborhood/lack of cleanliness throughout the neighborhood, and poorly controlled weeds/bushes/trees. Additional barriers listed by respondents can be seen in Table 6 below. For the full list of "other" barriers to accessing community amenities, see Appendix I.

Table 6: Barriers to Accessing Community Amenities

Category and Child Codes	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=16)*	Percent of Frequency	Rank**
Community Resources/Opportunities	3	19%	
Lack of activities for youth	1		
Poor handicap accessibility	1		
No activity/community center	1		
Individual Factors	2	12.5%	
Illness/Health	1		
Physical limitations	1		
Information/Awareness	1	6%	
Lack of awareness/knowledge of opportunities/outreach	1		
Barrier Breakdown	2	12.5%	
Hours of Operation	2		1
Neighborhood Improvements/Amenities	4	25%	
Weeds/trees/bushes/etc. (private)	2		1
Poor maintenance/ neighborhood cleanliness	2		1
Parks and Recreation	3	19%	
Lack of access to parks/recreation centers	1		
No recreation center with classes (yoga, zumba, etc.)	1		
Lack of new/improved trails	1		
Police/Enforcement/Safety/Traffic Safety	1	6%	
Lack of traffic restrictions	1		

Figure 22 displays what the sample and total respondents felt would help remove the barriers they identified in the prior question. "More diverse options for activities" ranked number one (57% for sample, 51% total) while "Expanded operating hours for activities and buildings" followed behind at 39% (sample) and 42% (total).

Figure 22: Increasing Respondent Access to Amenities
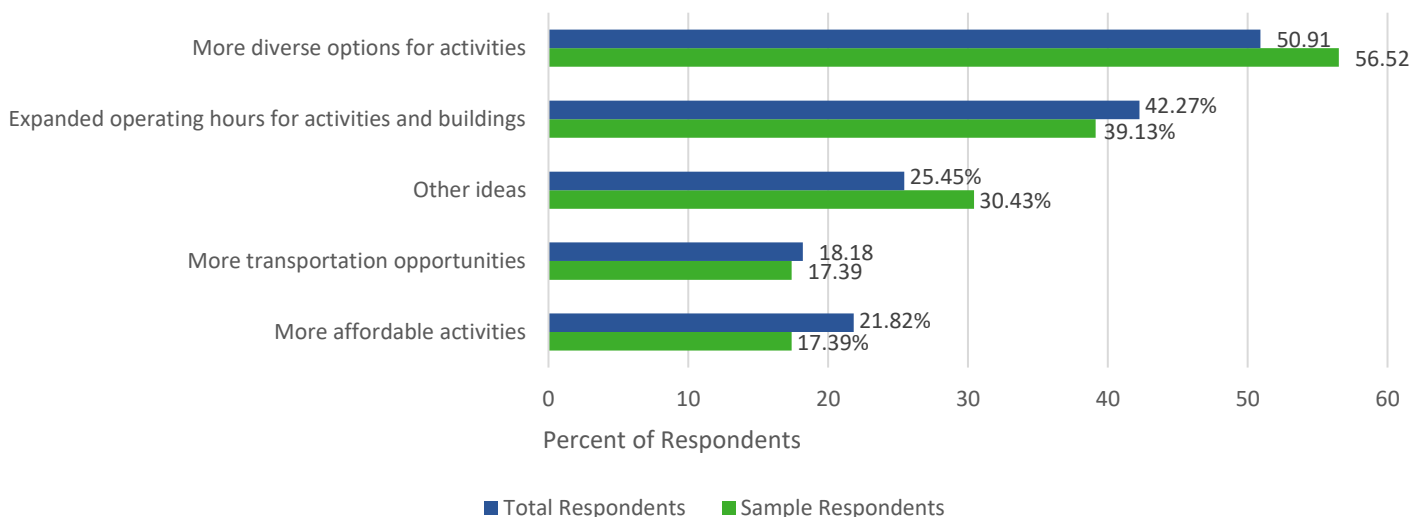
Some respondents also provided "Other Ideas" for increasing access to amenities, in addition to the pre-populated list. The top "other" ideas suggested included Increasing awareness/knowledge of opportunities within the community, expanded hours of operation, improved local government, and better handicap accessibility as shown in Table 7. For the full list of "Other Ideas" to increase access to amenities, see Appendix J.

Table 7: Increasing Access to Community Amenities

Category and Child Codes	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=12)	Percent of Frequency	Rank**
Information/Awareness	6	50%	
Awareness/knowledge of opportunities/outreach	6		1
Community Resources/Opportunities	1	8%	
Better handicap accessibility	1		2
Government	1	8%	
Dissatisfaction	1		2
Barrier Breakdown	1	8%	
Better hours of operation	1		2
Neighborhood Improvements/Amenities	1	8%	
Maintenance/clean up neighborhoods	1		2
Parks and Recreation	1	8%	
Recreation center with classes (yoga, Zumba, etc.)	1		2
Police/Enforcement/Safety/Traffic Safety	1	8%	
More traffic restrictions	1		2

***Sample and General combined
****Rank for top 2

Healthy Food Access

In Question 13 of the community survey, respondents were asked if they felt they have adequate access to healthy food options within the community. As depicted in Figures 23 and 24, 48% of sample respondents and 50% of total respondents said they felt they have adequate access, while 44% of the sample and 42% of total respondents felt they did not.
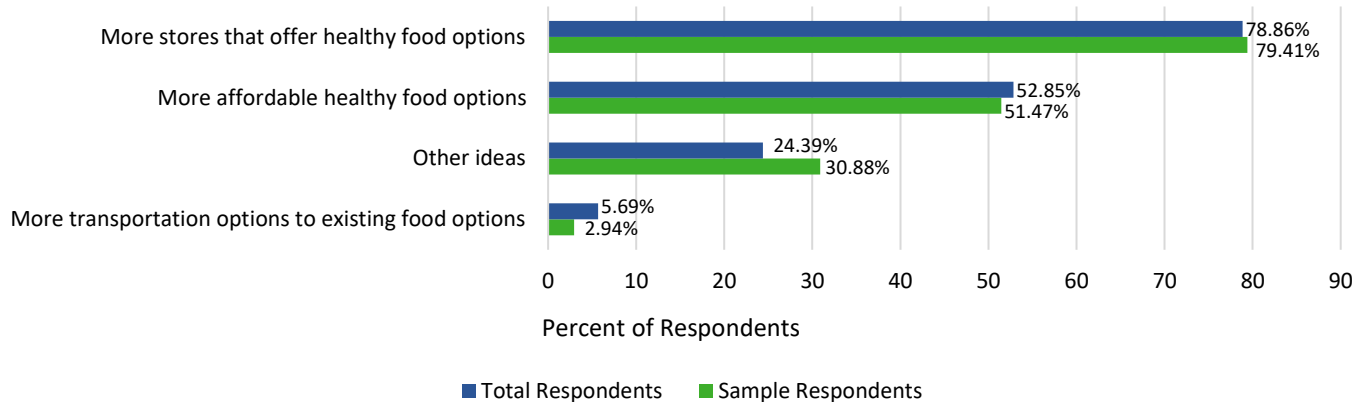
Figure 23: Sample Respondent Access to Healthy Food

Unsure 8%
Yes 48%
No 44%

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure
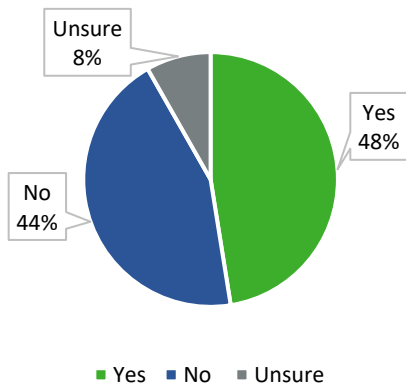
Figure 24: Total Respondent Access to Healthy Food

Unsure 8%
No 42%
Yes 50%

■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure
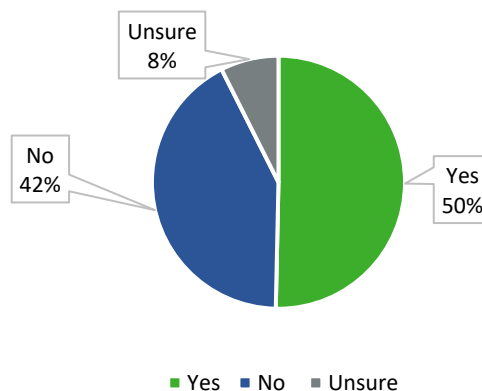
The respondents who did not feel they had adequate access to healthy foods were then asked what they felt would help increase healthy food access. Most (79% of the sample and total) identified needing additional grocery or food stores that offer healthy food options within the community. Over half (51% sample, 53% total) also felt having more affordable healthy food options was a solution to the barriers that exist as well, as shown in Figure 25.

Figure 25: Increasing Respondent Access to Healthy Food

Like the other multiple-choice questions in the community survey, respondents could provide "Other Ideas" when asked, "What could be improved to ensure adequate access to healthy food options".

Around 31% of the sample and 24% of total respondents that felt they did not have adequate healthy food access provided their own ideas for improvement. The top ideas suggested are displayed in the word cloud below, Figure 26.

Among the sample population, the top three suggestions for increasing access to healthy food options include better food quality/selection (1), regular farmers' markets (2) and more or closer businesses (3). Among the total respondents, the top three suggestions include better food quality/selection (1), farmers' markets and more or closer businesses (tied for 2nd) and lowering food costs (3). For the full list of ideas to increase healthy food access, see Appendix K.

Figure 26: Improving Access to Healthy Foods

Community Interests and Desired Projects

One piece of data the Valley First and VFC groups specifically wanted to know from the community survey was asked in Question 14. Respondents were asked "what, if any, cultural, social and/or health related activities would you like to see in your community?", and they were provided a list of possible activities to choose from as well as an "Other ideas" section where they could provide ideas not listed. Group classes such as yoga, tai chi, and stretching ranked as the most

frequently desired activities of the pre-populated list, with concerts and plays ranking second, and informational nature walks or classes coming in third (Figure 27).

Figure 27: Respondent Preferred Community Activities
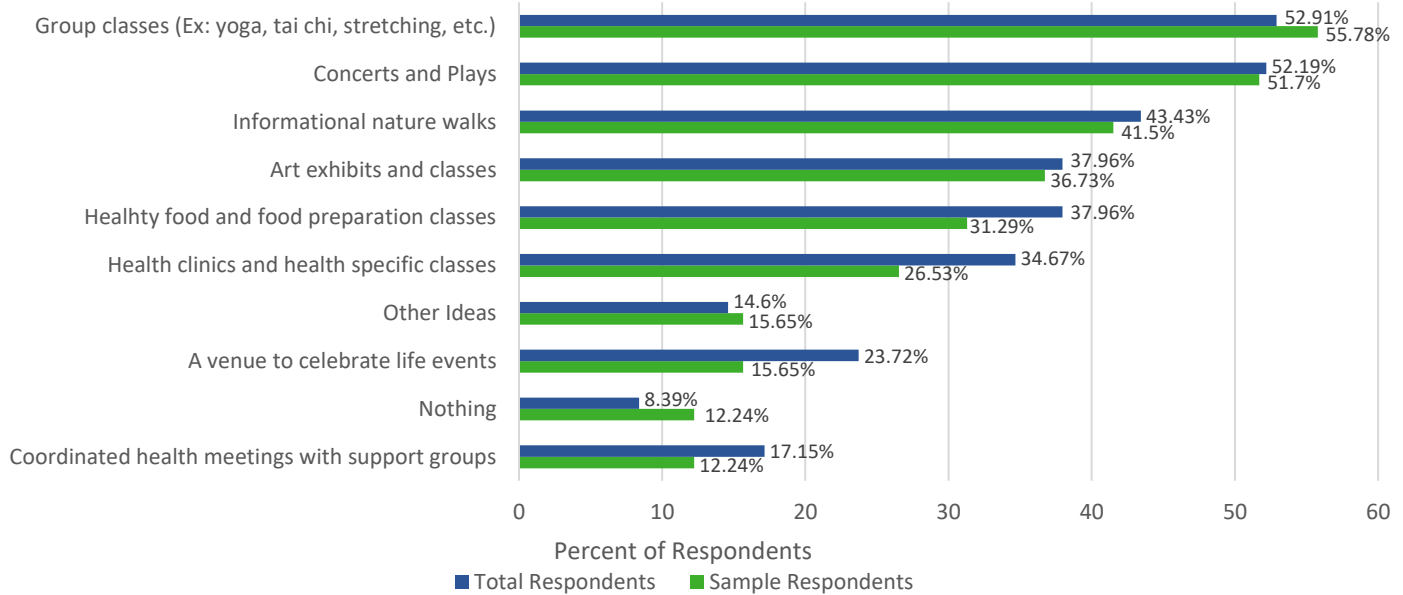
The top "Other Ideas" listed by sample and total respondents are shown in Table 8. The top responses among the sample and total respondents were more community activities, more community classes, and regular farmers' markets. For the full list of "Other ideas", please see Appendix L.

Table 8: Cultural, Social or Health-Related Activities in Community

Category and Child Codes	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=45)*	Percent of Frequency	Rank**
Community Resources/Opportunities	**30**	**67%**	
More community classes (parenting, recycling, online, arts/crafts, etc.)	8		1
More community activities (festivals/events/sports/markets)	8		1
More activities for youth	5		2
Farmers' Markets	4		3
Parks and Recreation	**8**	**18%**	
Recreation Center with classes (yoga, zumba, etc.)	3		
Barrier Breakdown	**3**	**7%**	
Better hours of operation	3		

*Sample and General combined; Table only highlights themes that had a frequency of 3 or higher
**Rank for top 3

Lastly, respondents were asked to rank 11 potential community projects in order of importance, with 1 being the most important to them and 11 being the least important. When chosen as the most important priority, the selected community project was given a higher weight than the other projects in the data collection system. This provided a weighted average score where the greater the score the higher the priority of the project.

Among both the sample population and total respondents, building a new recreation center, providing educational programs, and improving the Colorado City walking trails were among the most important community projects. The priority breakdown of the remaining projects for the sample population and total respondents is depicted in Figure 28.

Figure 28: Community Project Prioritization
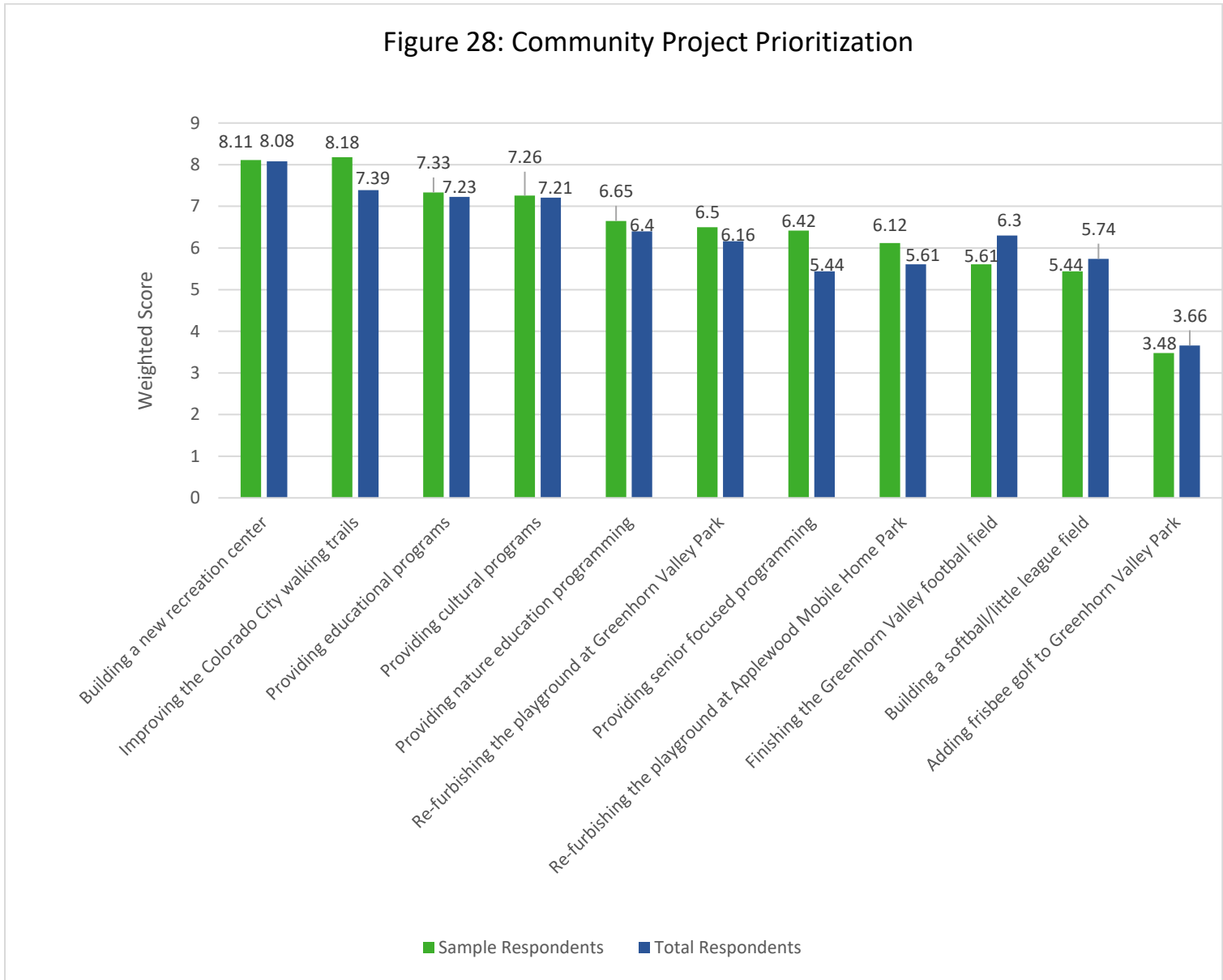
Like in many other questions, respondents were given the opportunity to list "other ideas" for projects that were not pre-populated and ranked in the question above. The top projects suggested by respondents in addition to the ranked projects are provided in Table 9 below.

Table 9: Do you have any other project ideas to help make your community better?

Top Responses	Frequency: Total Respondent Codes (N=68)*	Percent of Frequency	Rank**
Parks and Recreation	28	41%	
Recreation Center with classes (yoga, Zumba, etc.)		9	2
Cleaning public areas		7	3
New/improved trails		6	
Add sports field/park/playground		6	
Community Resources/Opportunities	27	40%	
More community activities (festivals/events/sports/markets)	11		1
More community classes (parenting, recycling, online, arts/crafts, etc.)	7		3
Formation of new groups/clubs	5		
Farmers' Market	4		
Neighborhood Improvements/Amenities	7	10%	
New/improved trail systems (sidewalks)	7		3
Development	6	9%	
Water rights/infrastructure/accessibility/price/conservation	6		

*Sample and General combined; Table only highlights themes that had a frequency of 5 or higher; 184 respondents did not respond to this question
**Rank for top 3

Some of the top projects listed in the "other ideas" section included more community activities such as sports events, festivals, and Farmers' Markets (1), a recreation center with classes (2) cleaning up public areas (3), forming new community clubs/classes (3), and new or improved trail systems (3), among other suggestions. The full list of other ideas for projects can be found in Appendix M.

Summary and Data Usage

This report provides valuable information into how Colorado City residents feel about their community and what their thoughts are on how to improve it. The information provided in this report also highlights what residents feel are issues, opportunities, and priorities in the Colorado City community.

When reviewing the demographic makeup of survey respondents compared to the makeup of the Colorado City community, the data collection effort, overall, proved to be relatively successful in its mission of gathering representative community feedback regarding health and quality of life. The survey results showed a higher percentage of females responded to the survey than originally planned (61.07% of sample respondents, 60.73% of total respondents) and compared to the demographic makeup of the community (53.64%). For age, the data collection effort matched or surpassed the overall population makeup in all age brackets except for 18-19 year-olds. Finally, most respondents identified as Caucasian, which matches the demographic makeup of the community. In all, the data gathered in this report provides a well-rounded sample of individuals who represent the Colorado City community.

Overall, the data collected shows several key themes that, if addressed, would help improve the health and quality of life within the Colorado City community.

The first priority identified was improving the water quality and accessibility in the community, followed by providing reliable postal service to the area. Secondly, the community mentioned the need for more community activities that residents, especially youth, could participate in. Aside from time, residents felt increasing operation hours for community buildings and services, improving the Colorado City trail systems, and overall community awareness of what is available would increase their involvement in the community and participation in physical activity. In general, community members are satisfied with their community, but improvements in certain areas of public and community service could increase their satisfaction even more.

The information gathered will assist PDPHE, the VFC, and Valley First with researching, partnering, creating an action plan, and securing resources that can help resolve community issues and accomplish resident priorities over the coming years.

Now that the data has been collected, analyzed, and reviewed, the next step is to create a detailed and achievable action plan that can be implemented throughout the Colorado City community. If the action plan is relevant and built from the community input received, then action items developed using this report will likely be well received by residents within the community and project implementation will be successful.

Appendices and References

US Census Bureau (2020). Decennial Census. Retrieved from
https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?g=1400000US08101002804&tid=DECENNIALPL2020.P1