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City of Grand Junction Colorado

JOINT GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL
AND PLANNING COMMISSION

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2019

WORKSHOP, 11:30 A.M.
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM
250 N. 5TH STREET

To become the most livable community west of the Rockies by 2025

1. **Discussion Topics**

   a. Community Survey Results

2. **Next Workshop Topics**

3. **Other Business**

Grand Junction City Council

Workshop Session

Item #1.a.

Meeting Date: March 7, 2019

Presented By: Greg Caton, City Manager

Department: City Manager

Submitted By: Greg LeBlanc

Information

SUBJECT:

Community Survey Results

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The results of a 2018 community survey will be presented. The survey was distributed late 2018, with completed surveys being received until February of 2019. The purpose of the study was to gather community feedback on City of Grand Junction services and priorities. This survey research effort and subsequent analysis were designed to assist the City of Grand Junction in updating its comprehensive plan as well as informing other aspects of the services provided by the City.

BACKGROUND OR DETAILED INFORMATION:

The survey was conducted using two primary methods: 1) a mail-back survey sent to a random sample of City residents, and 2) an online, invitation-only web survey to further encourage response from those residents already within the defined random sample.

The analysis herein primarily focuses on responses from the overall random sample. However, results were segmented and analyzed by respondent age, neighborhood of residence, and length of residency in Grand Junction and those cross-tabbed results are also presented throughout the report.

A total of 5,000 surveys were mailed to a random sample of Grand Junction residents in November 2018. The final sample size for this statistically valid survey was 889, resulting in a margin of error of approximately +/- 3.3 percentage points calculated for questions at 50% response.

The underlying survey data were weighted by age to ensure appropriate representation of Grand Junction residents across different demographic cohorts in the sample. Using U.S. Census Data, the age distribution in the sample were adjusted to more closely match the population profile of Grand Junction residents. Due to variable response rates by some segments of the population, the underlying results, while weighted to best match the overall demographics of residents, may not be completely representative of some sub-groups of the Grand Junction population.

Top 10 Findings

1) Roughly two in three residents said Grand Junction is going in the right direction. Many of these respondents highlighted the growing economy, new businesses, focus on recreation, and increased diversity as reasons for their positive response. Among the 17% who said the City is generally going in the wrong direction, they were more likely to point out education quality, too much building, tax increases, homelessness, and degraded infrastructure as reasons why.

2) Overall, satisfaction runs high for the information that the City provides to citizens. In particular, residents are quite satisfied with the friendliness and helpfulness of City employees. As far as sources of information, residents are most satisfied with the City Website. This is especially the case among new City residents who have lived in Grand Junctions three years or less.

3) Overall, residents are satisfied with the overall quality of services provided by the City of Grand Junction, with 76% providing a rating of 4 or 5 where 5 means "very satisfied," and less than 5 percent provided a rating of 2 or 1 where 1 means "not at all satisfied." However, results highlight an opportunity for improving the level of excellence, given that twice as many respondents gave a rating of 4 (52%) as a rating of 5 (24%). Newer residents and older residents were particularly likely to be satisfied with the City's quality of service.

4) Residents rated their satisfaction with a variety of City services and amenities and, for the most part, indicated very high levels of satisfaction. Residents are particularly satisfied with all aspects of Fire & EMS services, friendliness of City employees in each department, water/sewer services, refuse services, proximity of parks to their homes, overall quality of Police services, and quality of City trails (each earning an average rating of at least 4.1 on a 5-point scale, where 5 means "very satisfied"). Some items earned lower average satisfaction ratings, including the North Avenue and Mesa Mall/24 Road commercial retail areas (2.8 and 3.1, respectively), enforcement of violations regarding cyclists and pedestrians (3.2), posting at City Hall as a source of City information (3.3), and recycling services (3.3). Recycling services was also mentioned in open-ended comments, and was identified as an area of concern in

particular by younger residents and those living in North West Grand Junction and Appleton.

5) There may be room for improvement in residents' general level of preparedness in the case of a major emergency event. Most respondents are "somewhat prepared" (63%). One in five said they are "somewhat unprepared" (20%) and 7% were "not at all prepared." Less than one in ten respondents indicated they were "extremely prepared" (9%). Making sure residents of North West Grand Junction and Appleton receive emergency preparedness messaging will be important, as these residents were the most likely to indicate being not at all prepared (12%).

6) A Community Center was selected as the top priority for Parks & Recreation facilities to add or improve in Grand Junction to better meet household needs, selected by the highest share of respondents as their number one priority (45%) and as one of their top five (77%). A Community Center was also the top-ranked item for increased funding support (59%). These findings corroborate findings from the Community Center study conducted last year, in which 71% of residents said it was "very important" to build a Community Center and 79% indicated they would likely support a sales tax increase for such an effort.

7) Beyond a Community Center, residents would be willing to support increased funding for several other community priorities. The priorities that received the highest shares of potential funding support include expanding environmental sustainability efforts (selected by 49% of respondents as a top-five priority), building more paths to parks, places of employment, retail, etc. (48%), increasing access to high-speed, reliable internet (45%), continuing to improve and build City infrastructure (34%), and improving safety at street intersections (31%).

8) Residents highlighted many things they like about where they live, selecting an average of 5.2 things they enjoy in their neighborhood and would like to preserve/protect. Top among them were general level of safety, quiet/low noise and traffic levels, overall cleanliness and maintenance, proximity to groceries and other basic services, and that residences are mostly owner-occupied.

9) For aspects of their neighborhoods they like least, about four in five residents cited at least one factor they wanted to improve; the average respondent chose 1.5 items. Meanwhile, 22% had nothing they disliked, highlighting that neighborhood perceptions are generally positive. Overall, the most disliked factors include regularly-visited places being farther than a 15-minute walk, a lack of access to trails and open space, and too much noise and traffic. Dislikes varied considerably by neighborhood of residence. City Center residents were more likely to feel unsafe, for example, while Fruitvale, Pear Park, and Orchard Mesa residents were more likely to dislike being farther than a 15-minute walk and lacking nearby parks and public spaces.

10) Residents were asked to rate whether there was an appropriate amount of various housing styles in the City; for each type residents were more likely to say the amount was “just about right” than either too much or too little. Townhomes/condominiums had the highest share of “just about right” responses (68%) while mobile homes had the least (53%). A notable share of respondents indicated there were too many mobile homes (43%). For all other housing types, a greater share of respondents indicated there were too few than too many; this was particularly the case for townhomes/ condominiums, single-family homes on large lots, and apartments. Younger residents and newer residents would like to see more single-family homes on large lots and apartments.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

SUGGESTED ACTION:

No action is necessary

Attachments

1. GJ Community Survey Final Results

City of Grand Junction Community Survey Final Results

February 2019

City of Grand Junction Colorado

Prepared for:

City of Grand Junction

Prepared by:

RRC Associates

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Boulder, CO 80303

303.449.6558

www.rrcassociates.com

RRC Associates

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to gather community feedback on City of Grand Junction services and priorities. This survey research effort and subsequent analysis were designed to assist the City of Grand Junction in updating its comprehensive plan.

Methodology

The survey was conducted using two primary methods: 1) a mail-back survey sent to a random sample of City residents, and 2) an online, invitation-only web survey to further encourage response from those residents already within the defined random sample.
The analysis herein primarily focuses on responses from the overall random sample. However, results were segmented and analyzed by respondent age, neighborhood of residence, and length of residency in Grand Junction. Those cross-tabbed results are available in the full report.

A total of 5,000 surveys were mailed to a random sample of Grand Junction residents in November 2018. The final sample size for this statistically valid survey was 889, resulting in a margin of error of approximately +/- 3.3 percentage points calculated for questions at 50% response.[1]

The underlying survey data were weighted by age to ensure appropriate representation of Grand Junction residents across different demographic cohorts in the sample. Using U.S. Census Data, the age distribution in the sample were adjusted to more closely match the population profile of Grand Junction residents. Due to variable response rates by some segments of the population, the underlying results, while weighted to best match the overall demographics of residents, may not be completely representative of some sub-groups of the Grand Junction population.

[1] For the total invitation sample size of 880, the margin of error is +/- 3.3 percent calculated for questions at 50% response (if the response for a particular question is "50%"—the standard way to generalize margin of error is to state the larger margin, which occurs for responses at 50%). Note that the margin of error is different for every single question response on the survey depending on the resultant sample sizes, proportion of responses, and number of answer categories for each question. Comparison of differences in the data between various segments, therefore, should take into consideration these factors. As a general comment, it is sometimes more appropriate to focus attention on the general trends and patterns in the data rather than on the individual percentages.

Top 10 Findings

1. Roughly **two in three residents said Grand Junction is going in the right direction**. Many of these respondents highlighted the growing economy, new businesses, focus on recreation, and increased diversity as reasons for their positive response. Among the 17% who said the City is generally going in the wrong direction, they were more likely to point out education quality, too much building, tax increases, homelessness, and degraded infrastructure as reasons why.

2. Overall, **satisfaction runs high for the information that the City provides to citizens**. In particular, residents are quite satisfied with the friendliness and helpfulness of City employees. As far as sources of information, residents are most satisfied with the City Website. This is especially the case among new City residents who have lived in Grand Junction three years or less.

3. Overall, **residents are satisfied with the overall quality of services provided by the City of Grand Junction**, with 76% providing a rating of 4 or 5 where 5 means "very satisfied," and less than 5 percent provided a rating of 2 or 1 where 1 means "not at all satisfied." However, results highlight an opportunity for improving the level of excellence, given that twice as many respondents gave a rating of 4 (52%) as a rating of 5 (24%). Newer residents and older residents were particularly likely to be satisfied with the City's quality of service.

4. Residents rated their satisfaction with a variety of City services and amenities and, for the most part, indicated very high levels of satisfaction. **Residents are particularly satisfied with all aspects of Fire & EMS services, friendliness of City employees in each department, water/sewer services, refuse services, proximity of parks to their homes, overall quality of Police services, and quality of City trails** (each earning an average rating of at least 4.1 on a 5-point scale, where 5 means "very satisfied"). Some items earned lower average satisfaction ratings, including the North Avenue and Mesa Mall/24 Road commercial retail areas (2.8 and 3.1, respectively), enforcement of violations regarding cyclists and pedestrians (3.2), posting at City Hall as a source of City information (3.3), and recycling services (3.3). Recycling services was also mentioned in open-ended comments, and was identified as an area of concern in particular by younger residents and those living in North West Grand Junction and Appleton.

5. **There may be room for improvement in residents' general level of preparedness in the case of a major emergency event**. Most respondents are "somewhat prepared" (63%). One in five said they are "somewhat unprepared" (20%) and 7% were "not at all prepared." Less than one in ten respondents indicated they were "extremely prepared" (9%). Making sure residents of North West Grand Junction and Appleton receive emergency preparedness messaging will be important, as these residents were the most likely to indicate being not at all prepared (12%).

6. A **Community Center was selected as the top priority** for Parks & Recreation facilities to add or improve in Grand Junction to better meet household needs, selected by the highest share of respondents as their number one priority (45%) and as one of their top five (77%). A Community Center was also the top-ranked item for increased funding support (59%). These findings corroborate findings from the Community Center study conducted last year, in which 71% of residents said it was "very important" to build a Community Center and 79% indicated they would likely support a sales tax increase for such an effort.

7. Beyond a Community Center, **residents would be willing to support increased funding for several other community priorities**. The priorities that received the highest shares of potential funding support include expanding environmental sustainability efforts (selected by 49% of respondents as a top-five priority), building more paths to parks, places of employment, retail, etc. (48%), increasing access to high-speed, reliable internet (45%), continuing to improve and build City infrastructure (34%), and improving safety at street intersections (31%).

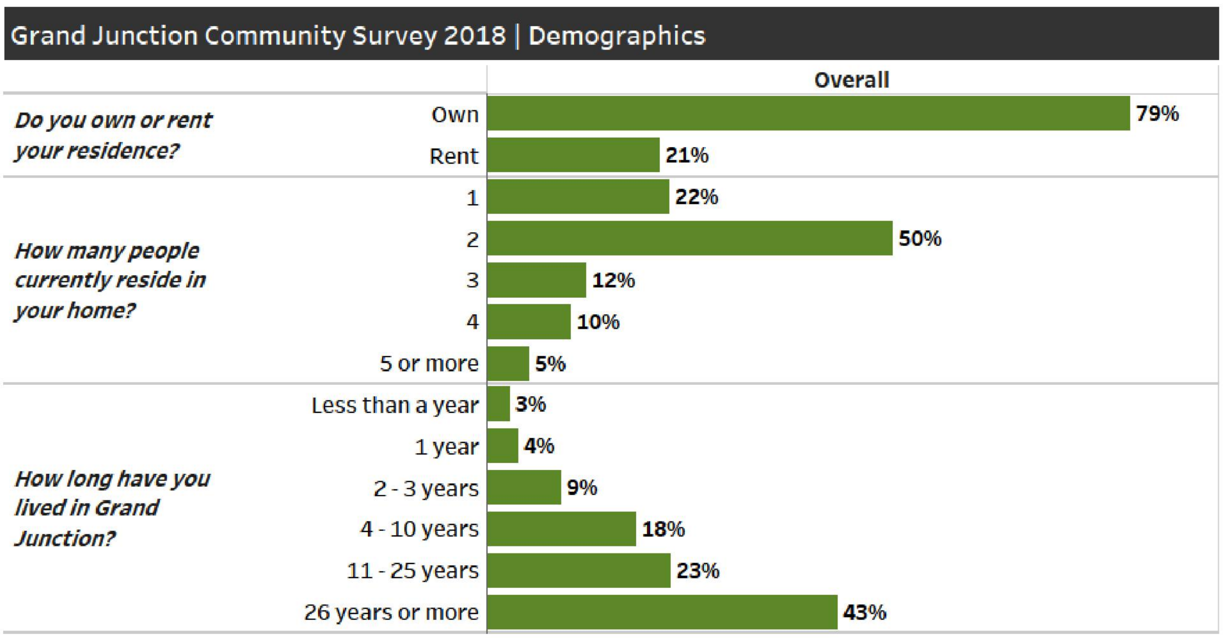
8. **Residents highlighted many things they like about where they live, selecting an average of 5.2 things they enjoy in their neighborhood and would like to preserve/ protect**. Top among them were general level of safety, quiet/low noise and traffic levels, overall cleanliness and maintenance, proximity to groceries and other basic services, and that residences are mostly owner-occupied.

9. For aspects of their neighborhoods they like least, about four in five residents cited at least one factor they wanted to improve; the average respondent chose 1.5 items. Meanwhile, 22% had nothing they disliked, highlighting that **neighborhood perceptions are generally positive**. Overall, the most disliked factors include regularly-visited places being farther than a 15-minute walk, a lack of access to trails and open space, and too much noise and traffic. Dislikes varied considerably by neighborhood of residence. City Center residents were more likely to feel unsafe, for example, while Fruitvale, Pear Park, and Orchard Mesa residents were more likely to dislike being farther than a 15-minute walk and lacking nearby parks and public spaces.

10. Residents were asked to rate whether there was an appropriate amount of various housing styles in the City; for each type residents were more likely to say the amount was "just about right" than either too much or too little. Townhomes/condominiums had the highest share of "just about right" responses (68%) while mobile homes had the least (53%). A notable share of respondents indicated there were too many mobile homes (43%). For all other housing types, a greater share of respondents indicated there were too few than too many; this was particularly the case for townhomes/ condominiums, single-family homes on large lots, and apartments. **Younger residents and newer residents would like to see more single-family homes on large lots and apartments.**

Demographics

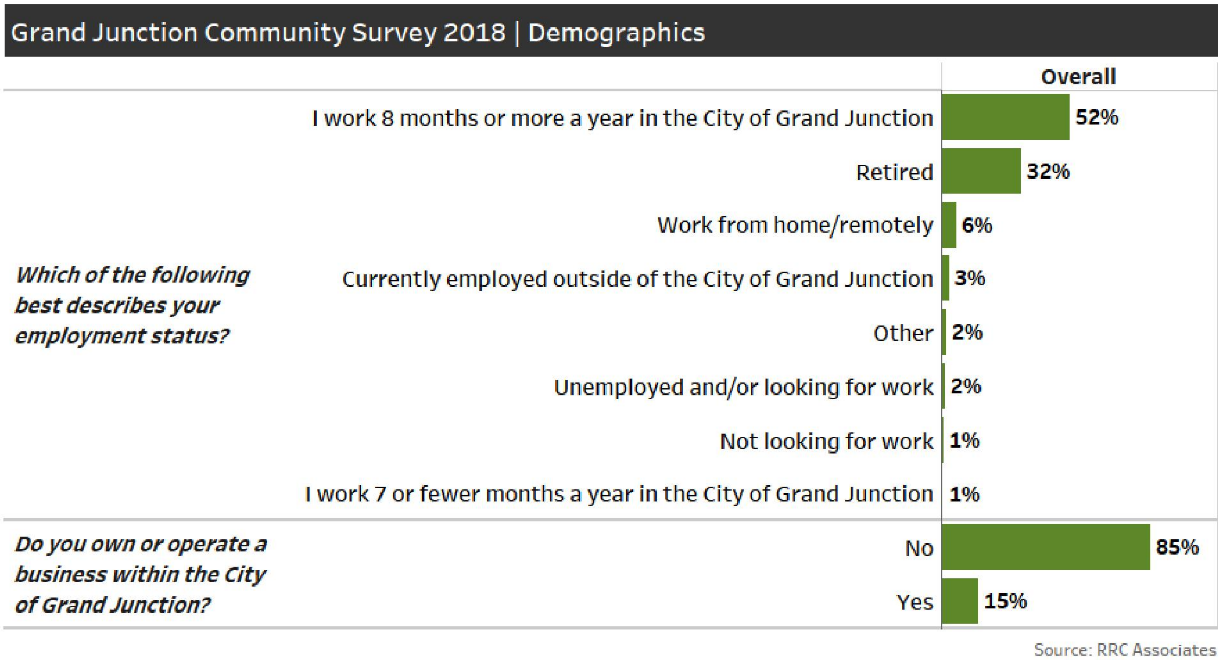
About four in five respondents own their homes (79%) while one in five rent (21%). The largest share of respondents live in two-person households (50%), followed by those in one-person households (22%), three-person households (12%), four-person households (10%), and those with five or more household members (5%). About 16% of respondents are relative newcomers to the City, having lived there three years or fewer. Eighteen percent have lived in the City between four and 10 years, 23% between 11 and 25, and 43% 26 years or more.

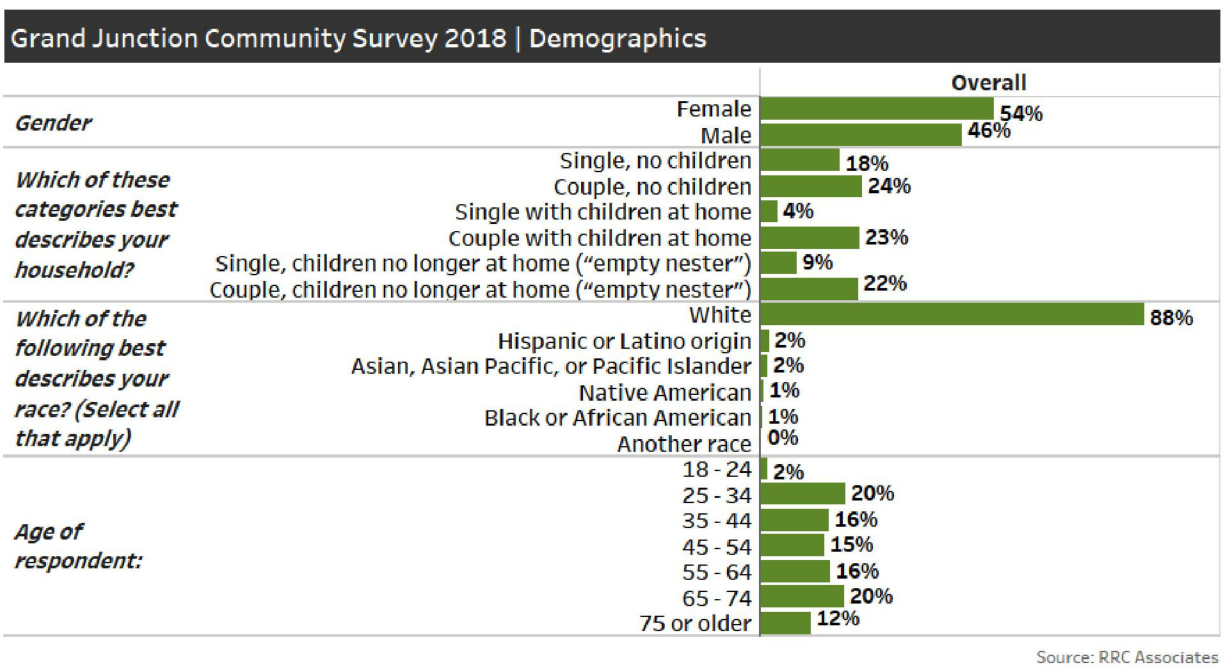


Source: RRC Associates

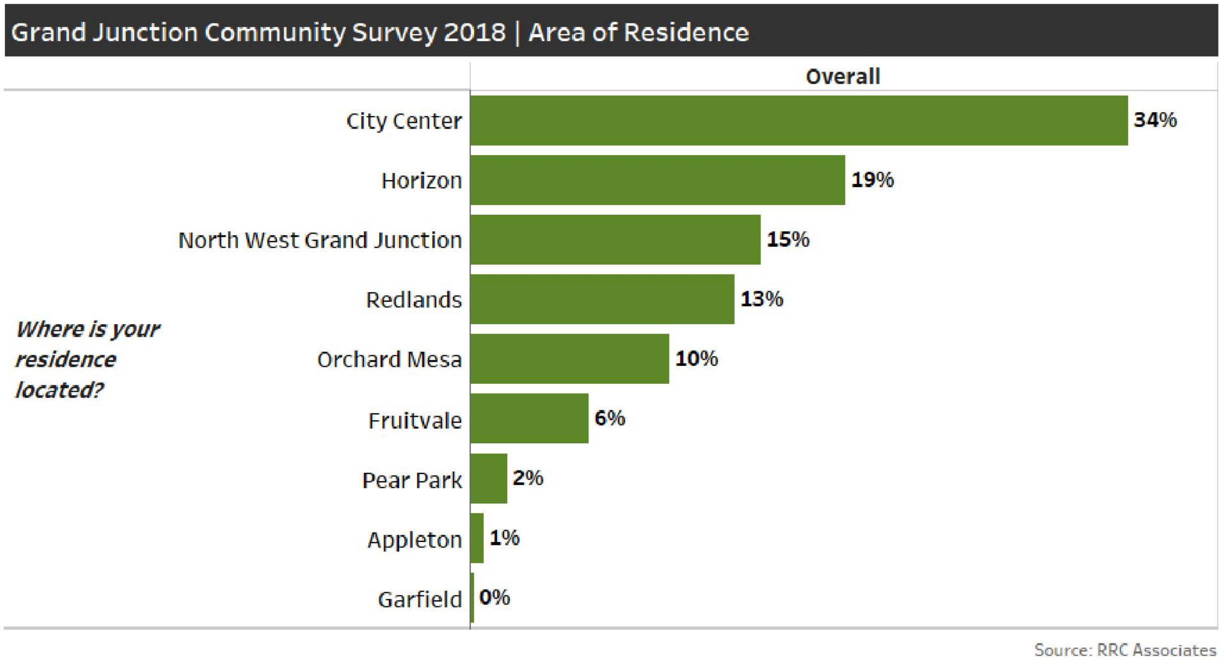
Just over half of respondents work 8 months or more per year in the City of Grand Junction (52%) and about one-third are currently retired (32%). Progressively smaller shares of respondents work from home/remotely (6%), outside of the City of Grand Junction (3%), or are in other work situations. Fifteen percent of all respondents own or operate a business within the City.

There was a relatively even gender balance among respondents in the sample (54% female, 46% male). Forty-two percent of respondents are singles or couples without children, 27% are households with children at home, and 31% are empty-nesters. The largest share of respondents would describe themselves as White (88%). Although there were smaller shares of respondents age 18-24 (2%) or 75+ (12%), there were similar levels of representation among those between the ages of 25 to 74, with each cohort comprising 15-20% of the sample.

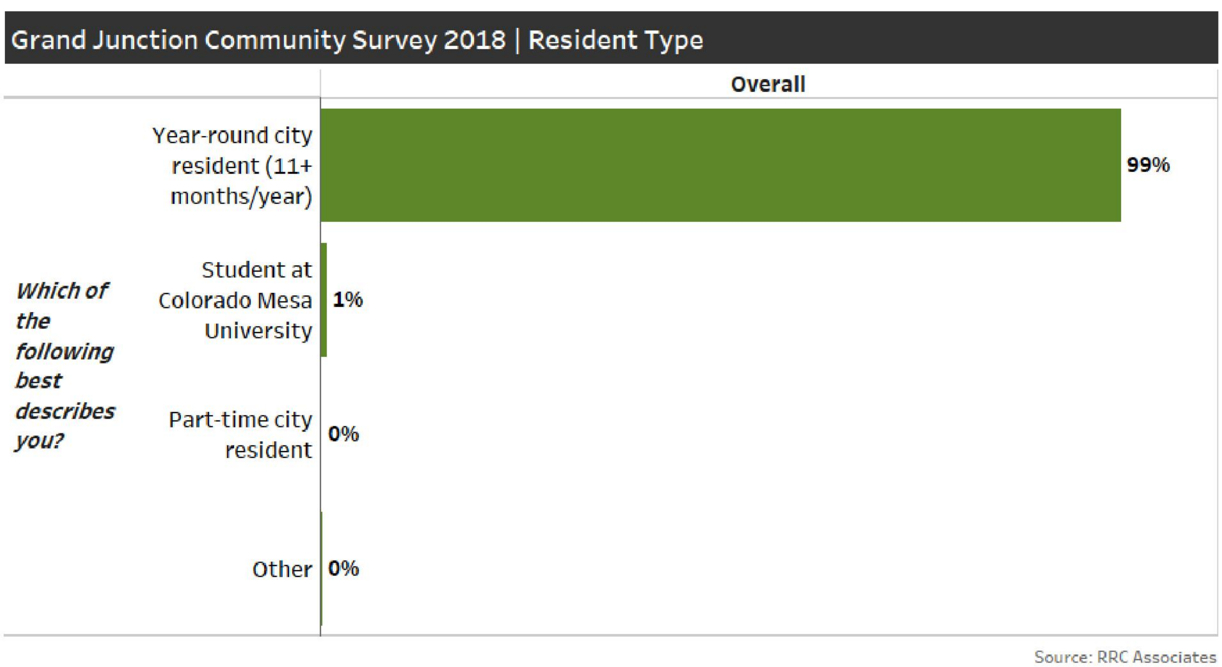




Just over one-third of respondents reside within the City Center (34%), followed by those who live in Horizon (19%), North West Grand Junction (15%), Redlands (13%), Orchard Mesa (10%), Fruitvale (6%), Pear Park (2%), Appleton (1%), and Garfield (<1%).

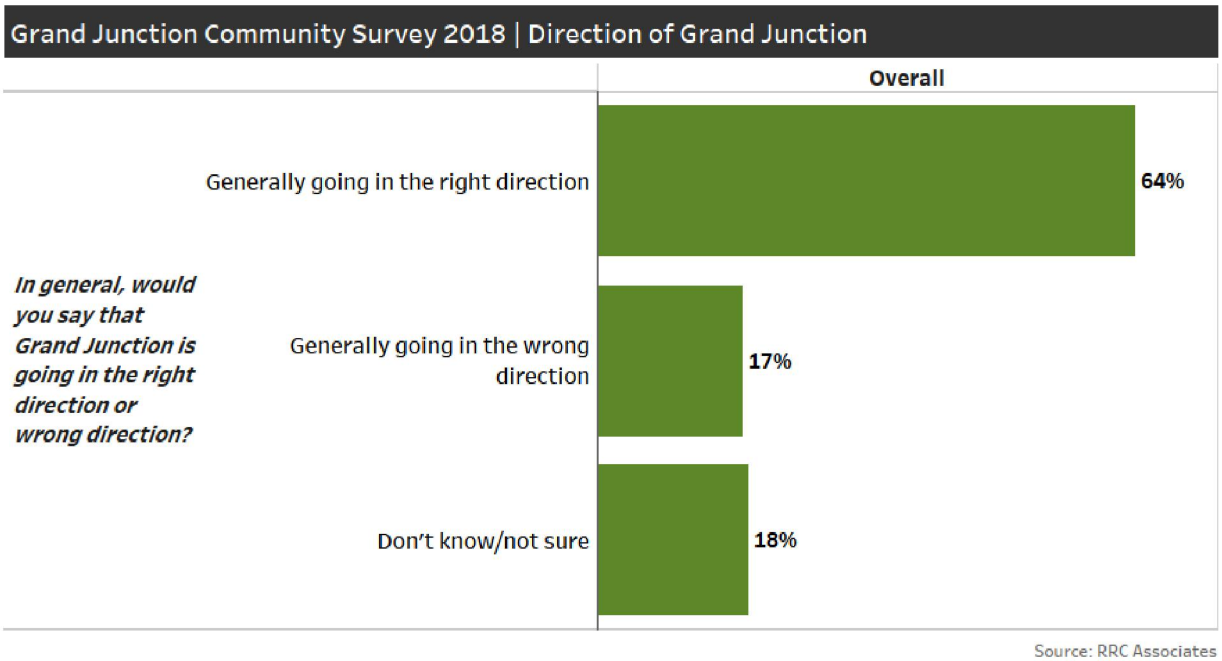


Nearly all respondents to the survey are year-round residents of the City (99%). Just one percent of respondents are students at Colorado Mesa University. Of this group, the majority do *not* live in housing owned/managed by the University (96%).

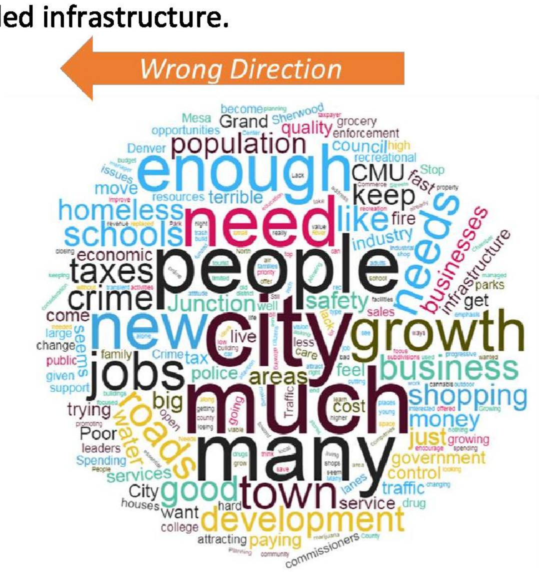


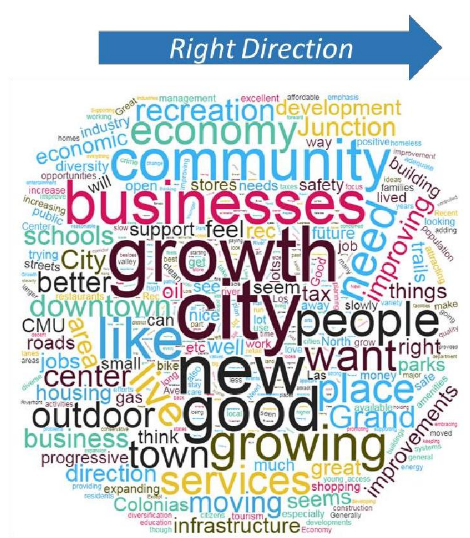
Direction of Grand Junction

Roughly two in three respondents indicated that Grand Junction is generally going in the right direction (64%). Smaller and similar shares of respondents said the City is going in the wrong direction (17%) or that they are not sure (18%).



Respondents were asked to explain their answer in a few words. The word clouds below highlight the themes that were mentioned with greatest frequency. Those that think the City is headed in the right direction are satisfied with the growing economy, new businesses, focus on recreation, and increased diversity. Those that think the City is headed in the wrong direction are worried about education quality, too much building, tax increases, homelessness, and degraded infrastructure.

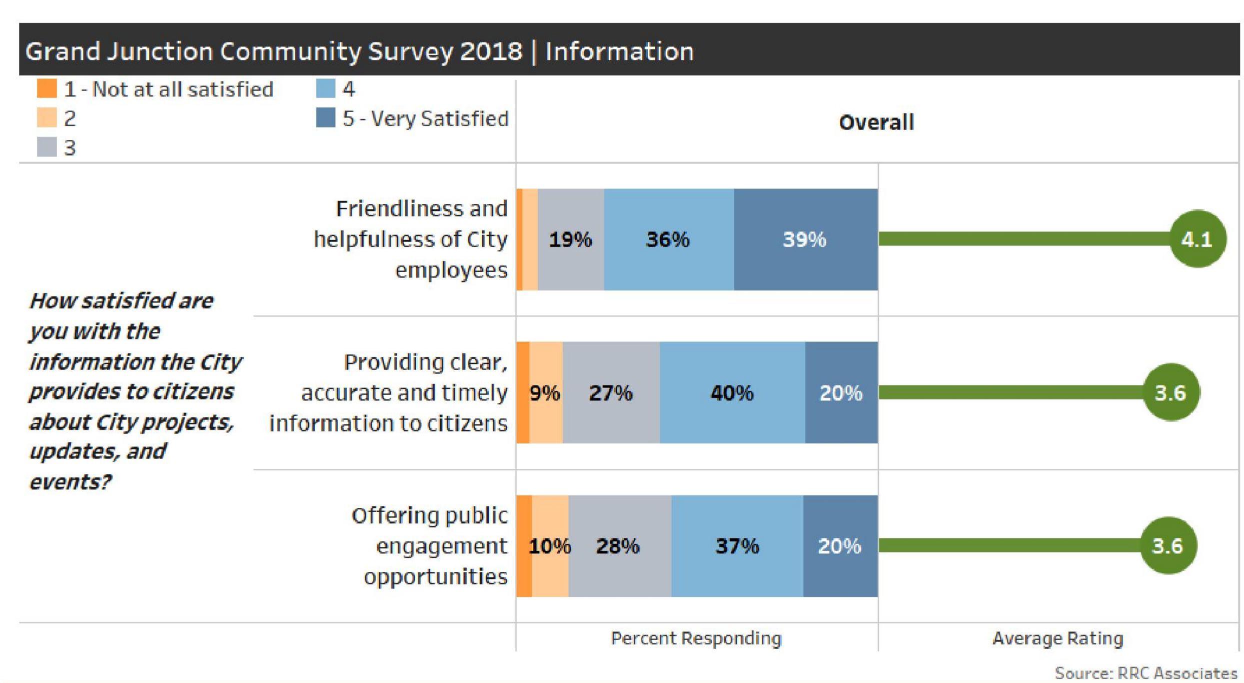




Communication

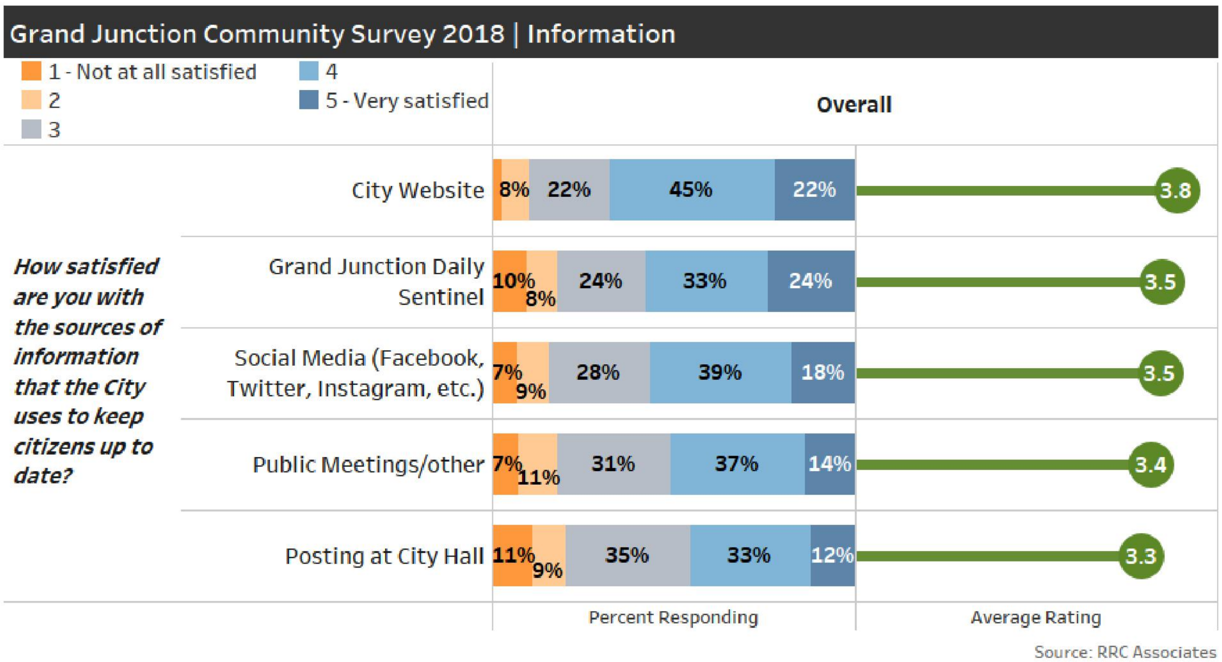
Satisfaction with Information

When it comes to information the City provides to citizens about projects, updates, and events, residents were most satisfied with the friendliness and helpfulness of City employees (75% provided a rating of 4 or 5 where 5 means "very satisfied," with an average rating of 4.1). They were slightly less satisfied with the provision of clear, accurate, and timely information (60% satisfied, 3.6 average) or the availability of public engagement opportunities (57% satisfied, 3.6 average).



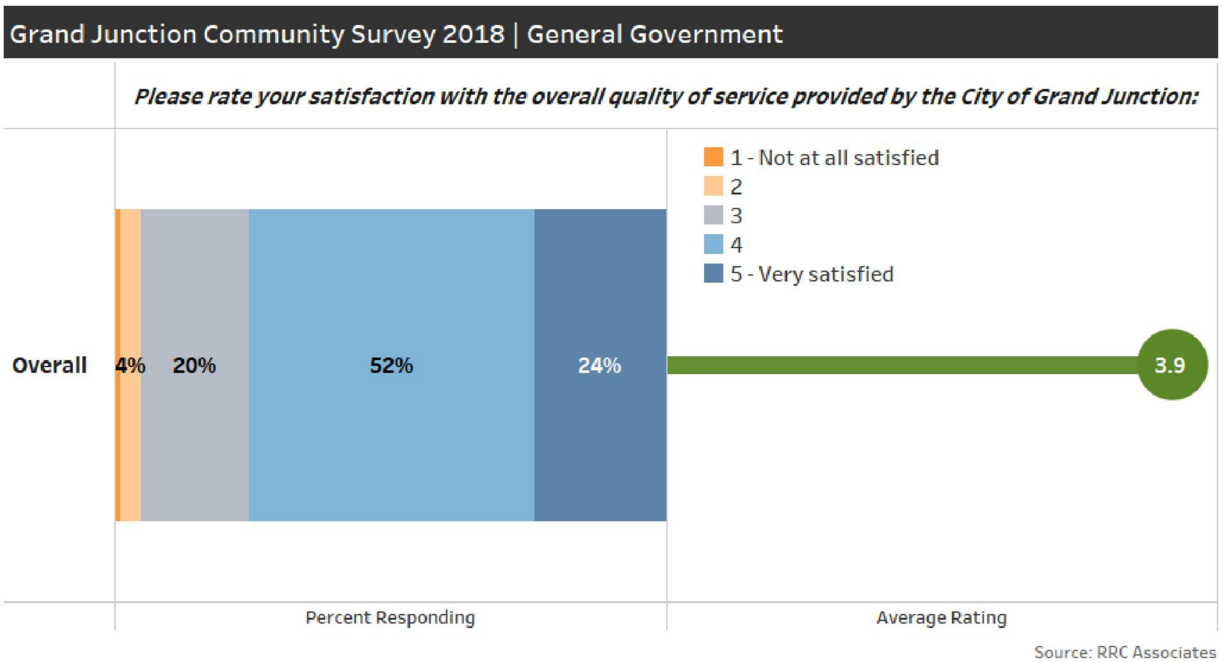
Satisfaction with Information Sources

Regarding sources of City information, residents were most satisfied with the City website (67% satisfied, 3.8 average rating). Satisfaction ticked down for each of the following: the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel (57%, 3.5), social media (57%, 3.5), public meets/other (51%, 3.4), and posting at City Hall (45%, 3.3).



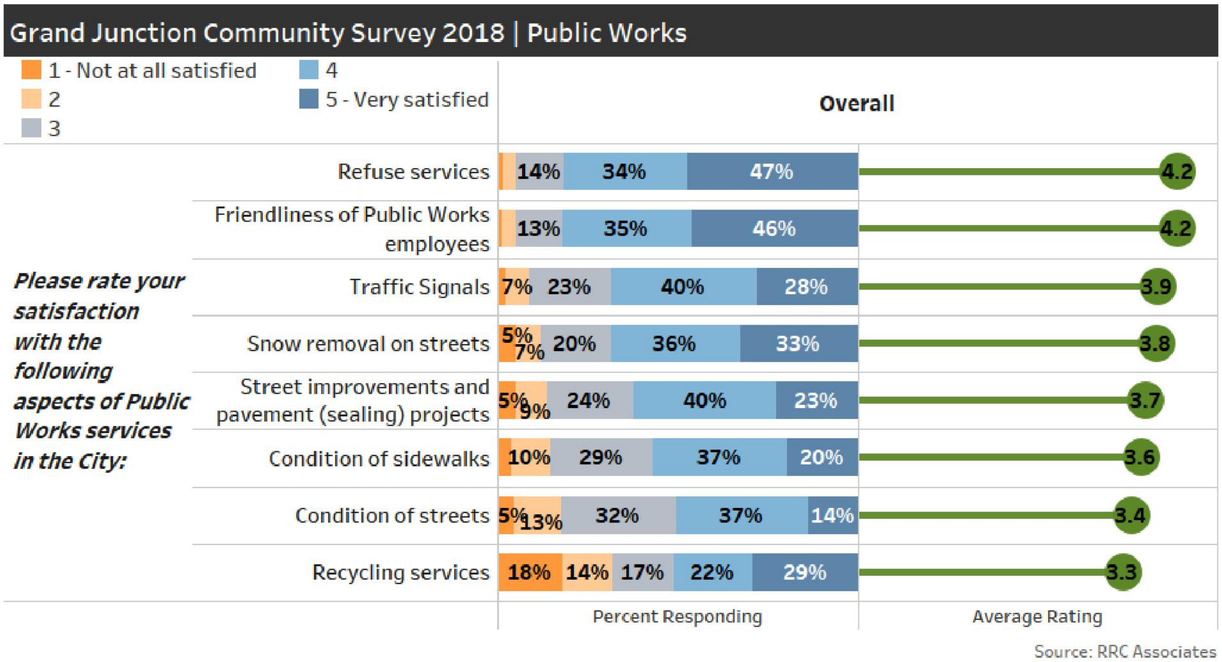
City Services: General Government

About three-quarters of residents are “satisfied” with the overall quality of service provided by the City of Grand Junction (76% provided a rating of 4 or 5, where 5 means “very satisfied”). One in five were more neutral in their satisfaction, providing a rating of 3 (20%), while less than 5 percent of respondent were “dissatisfied” (providing a rating of 1 or 2).



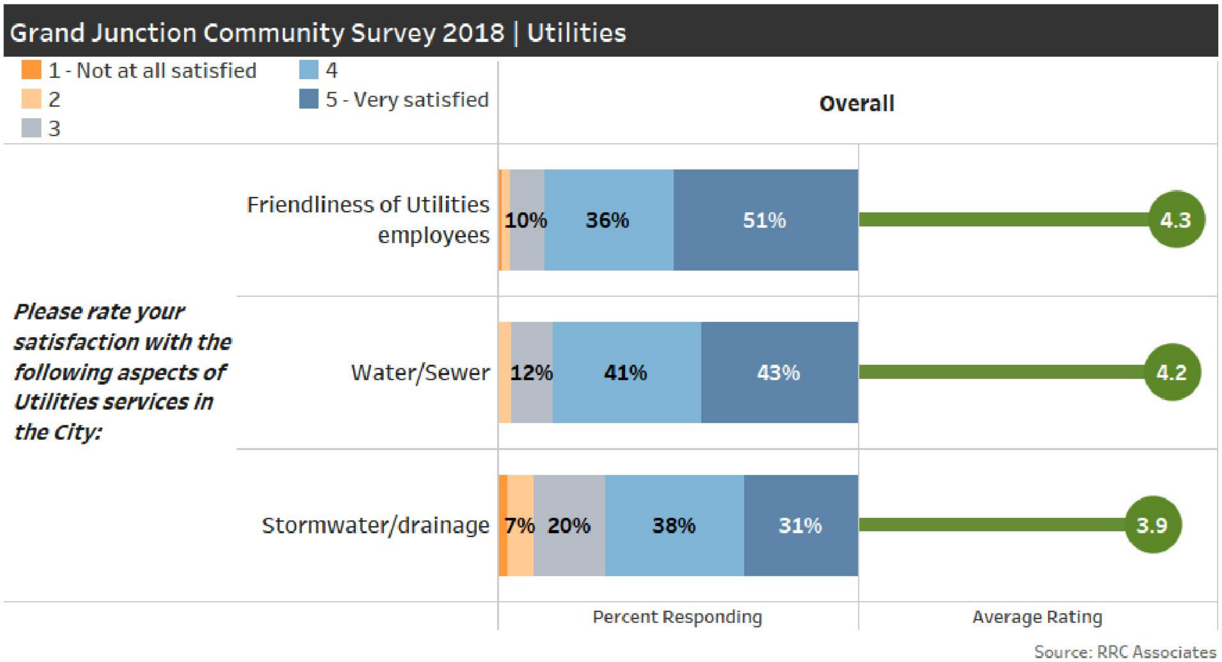
City Services: Public Works

Satisfaction was highest for refuse services and friendliness of Public Works employees (each received 81% “satisfied” and a 4.2 average rating). Recycling services earned the highest share of 1 and 2 ratings (32% “dissatisfied,” 3.3 average rating).



City Services: Utilities

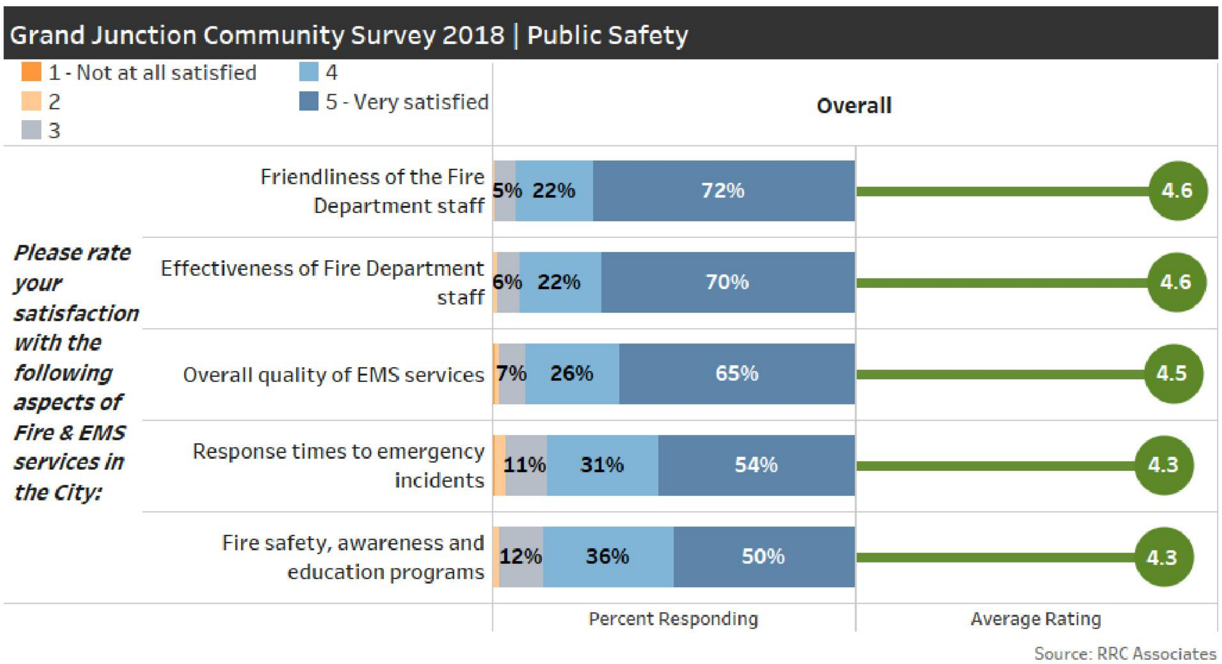
Satisfaction was generally quite high for each aspect of Utilities services probed, particularly for the friendliness of Utilities employees (89% satisfied, 4.3 average rating).



City Services: Public Safety

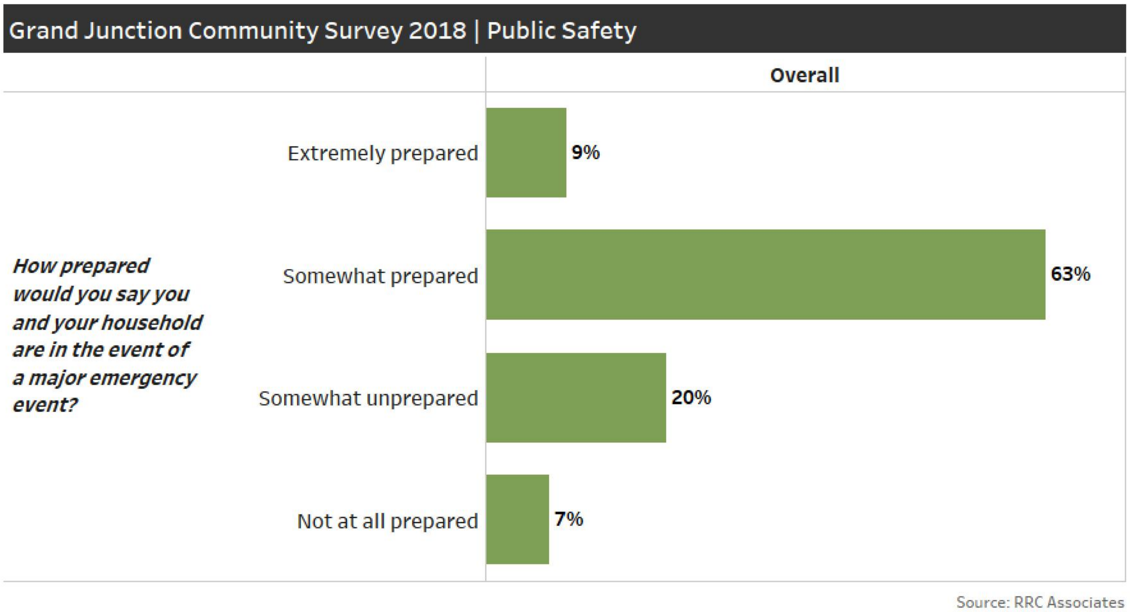
Fire & EMS

All five aspects of Fire & EMS services were the highest-rated City services in the survey. Residents were particularly positive about the friendless of Fire Department staff (94% satisfied, 4.6 average rating) and effectiveness of Fire Department staff (92% satisfied, 4.6 average rating).



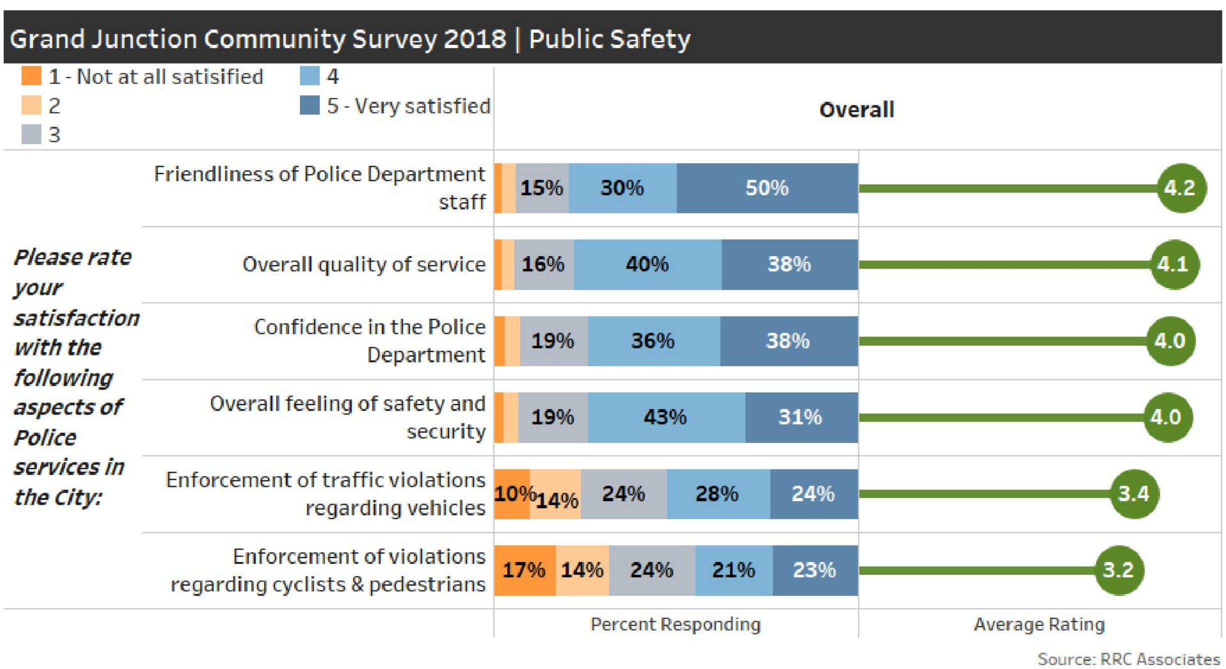
Level of Emergency Preparedness

The largest share of respondents indicated being "somewhat prepared" in the event of a major emergency event (63%). One in five said they were "somewhat unprepared" (20%) and 7% were "not at all prepared." Fewer than one in ten respondents were "extremely prepared" (9%).



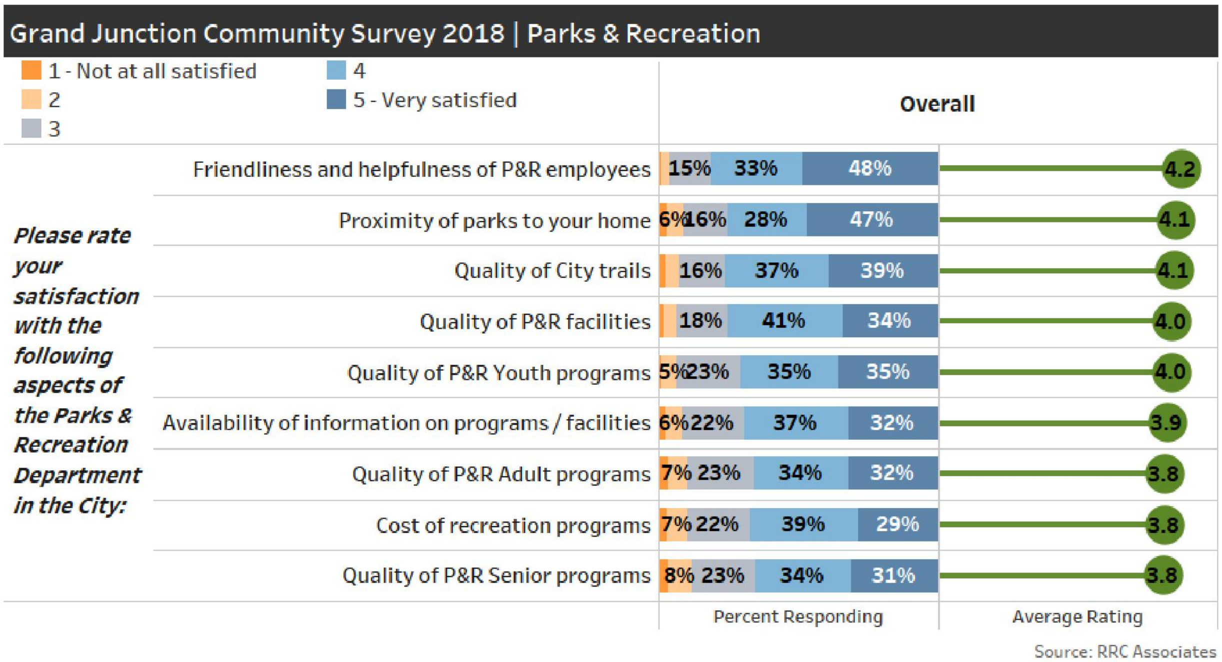
Police Services

Satisfaction was very high for the friendliness of Police Department staff (80% satisfied, 4.2 average rating), overall quality of service (78%, 4.1), confidence in the Police Department (74%, 4.0), and overall feeling of safety and security (74%, 4.0). Respondents were more likely to indicate dissatisfaction with enforcement of traffic violations regarding vehicles (24% dissatisfied, 3.4 average rating) and cyclists and pedestrians (31%, 3.2).



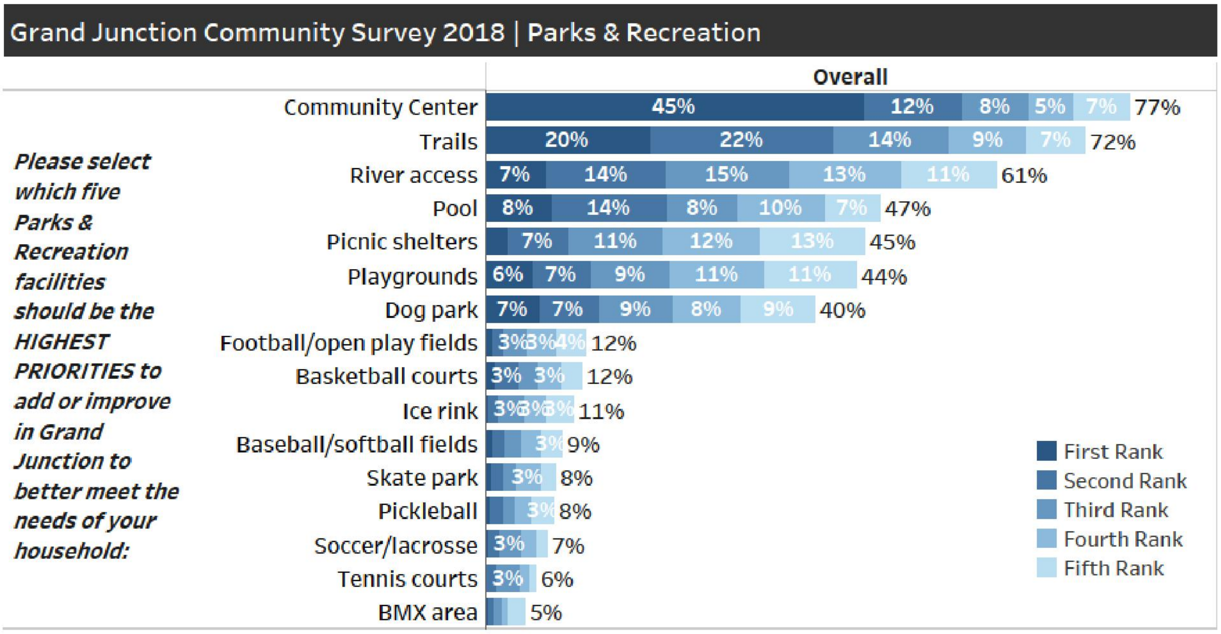
City Services: Parks and Recreation

Satisfaction ratings were very high for all aspects of the Parks & Recreation Department probed in the survey, particularly for friendliness and helpfulness of Parks & Rec employees (81% satisfied, 4.2 average rating). Quality of senior programs received the lowest rating, but it was still quite high overall (65% satisfied, 3.8 average rating).



Parks and Recreation Priorities

The highest Parks & Recreation facility priority is a Community Center, with 45% of respondents selecting it as a first priority and 77% selecting it as a top-five item. Trails (selected as a top-five item by 72% of respondents), river access (61%), pool (47%), picnic shelters (45%), playgrounds (44%), and dog park (40%) round out the top selections.

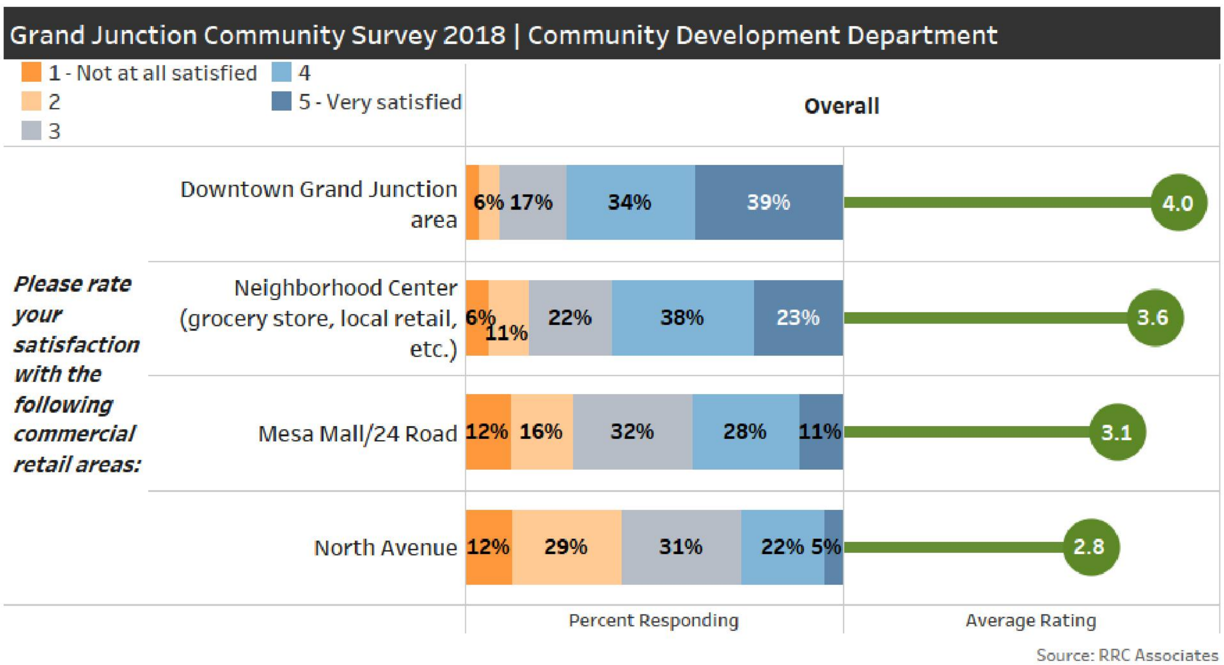


Source: RRC Associates

City Services: Community Development Department

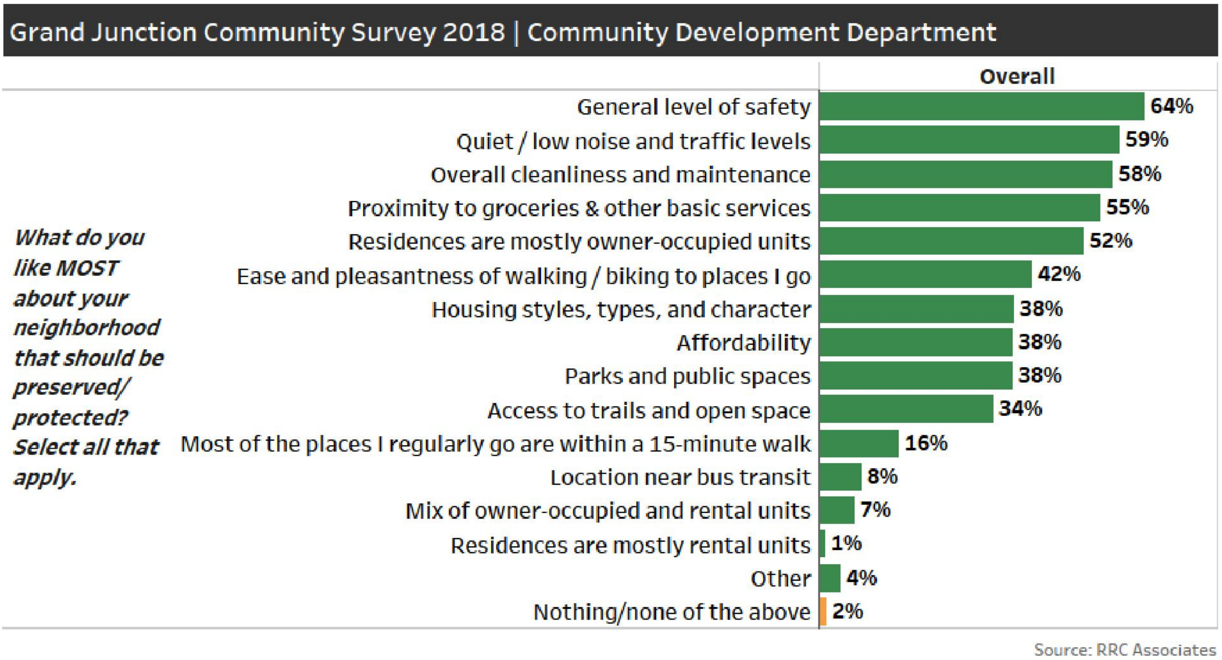
Commercial Retail Area Satisfaction

Respondents were most satisfied with the Downtown Grand Junction commercial retail area (73% satisfied, 4.0 average rating). More mixed ratings were received with regard to Neighborhood Center (61% satisfied, 3.6 average), Mesa Mall/24 Road (39% satisfied, 3.1 average), and North Avenue (27% satisfied, 2.8 average).



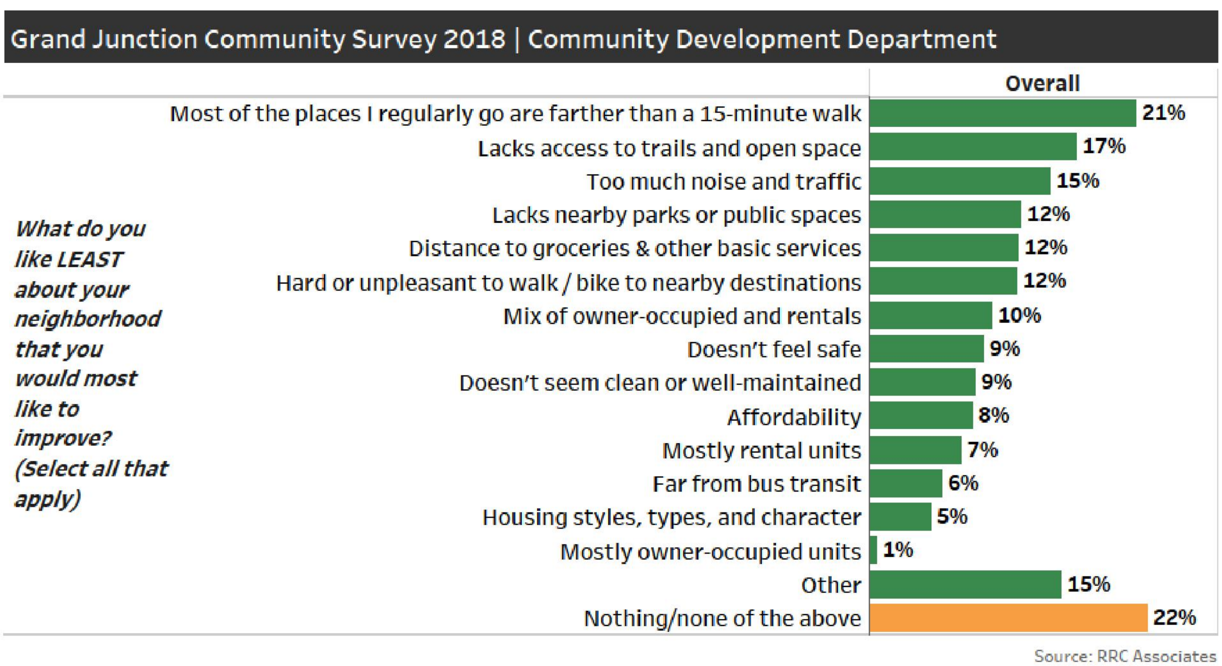
Like Most About Neighborhood

Nearly two-thirds of all respondents indicated that the general level of safety was something they like most about their neighborhood that should be preserved/protected (64%). Other items respondents liked most include quiet/low noise and traffic levels (59%), overall cleanliness and maintenance (58%), proximity to groceries and other basic services (55%), and that residents are mostly owner-occupied units (52%). Only 2% of respondents selected nothing/none of the above.



Like Least About Neighborhood

For aspects of their neighborhood they like the least, about four in five residents cited at least one factor, while about 22% of respondents had nothing they disliked that they wanted to improve. The least-liked factor cited was that most places are farther than a 15-minute walk (21%). Lack of access to trails and open space (17%) and too much noise and traffic (15%) round out the top three.



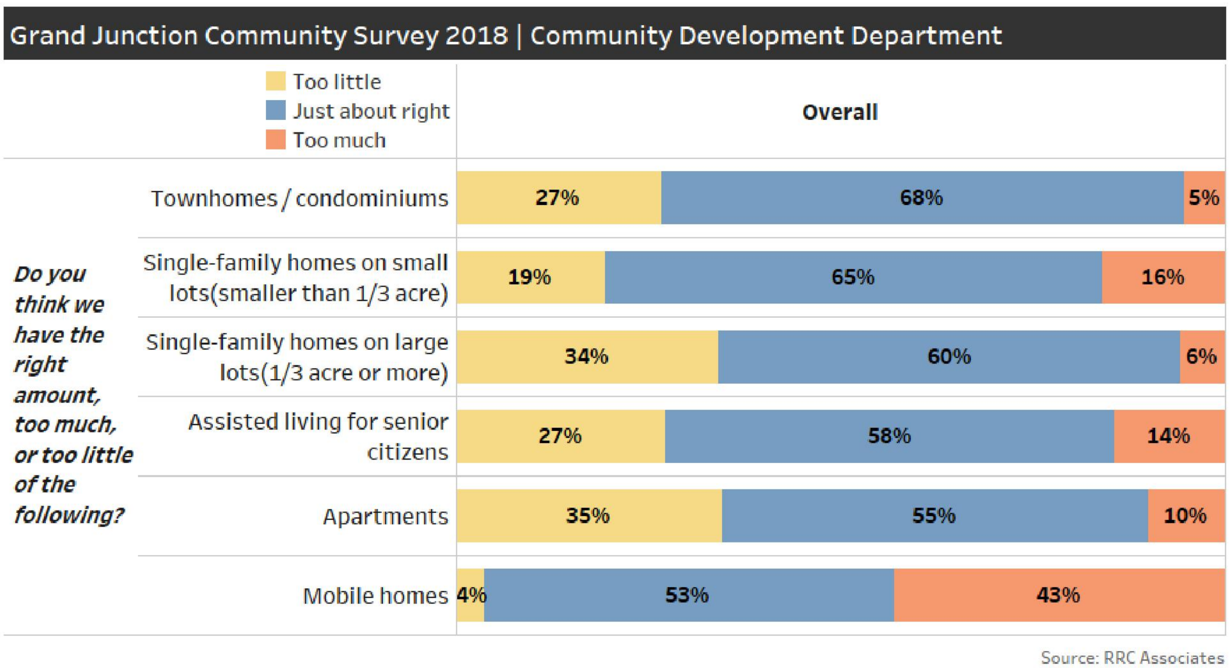
Neighborhood dislikes varied by neighborhood of residence. City Center residents were more likely to say they don't feel safe and that there are mostly rental units. Fruitvale, Pear Park, and Orchard Mesa residents disliked being farther than a 15-minute walk to most places and lacking nearby parks and public spaces. Horizon and Garfield residents were more likely to dislike their lack of access to trails and open space and hard or unpleasant walk/bike to nearby destinations. North West Grand Junction and Appleton residents were also most likely to select a hard or unpleasant walk/bike, as well as affordability. Redlands residents were the most likely to say nothing was a concern, meaning they were the most satisfied with their neighborhood overall. However, they were more likely than residents of other areas to select distance to groceries and other basic services and being far from bus transit.

Respondents also cited "other" reasons not listed. Frequently mentioned items by neighborhood are summarized below:

- City Center: homelessness, safety, trash/cleanliness, rowdy college students, noise/traffic
- Fruitvale, Pear Park, Orchard Mesa: homelessness, lack of sidewalks, lack of code enforcement
- Horizon & Garfield: traffic, speeding, frustration around zoning decisions
- North West Grand Junction & Appleton: traffic, high density, lack of open space, lack of sidewalks
- Redlands: speeding, police presence/enforcement

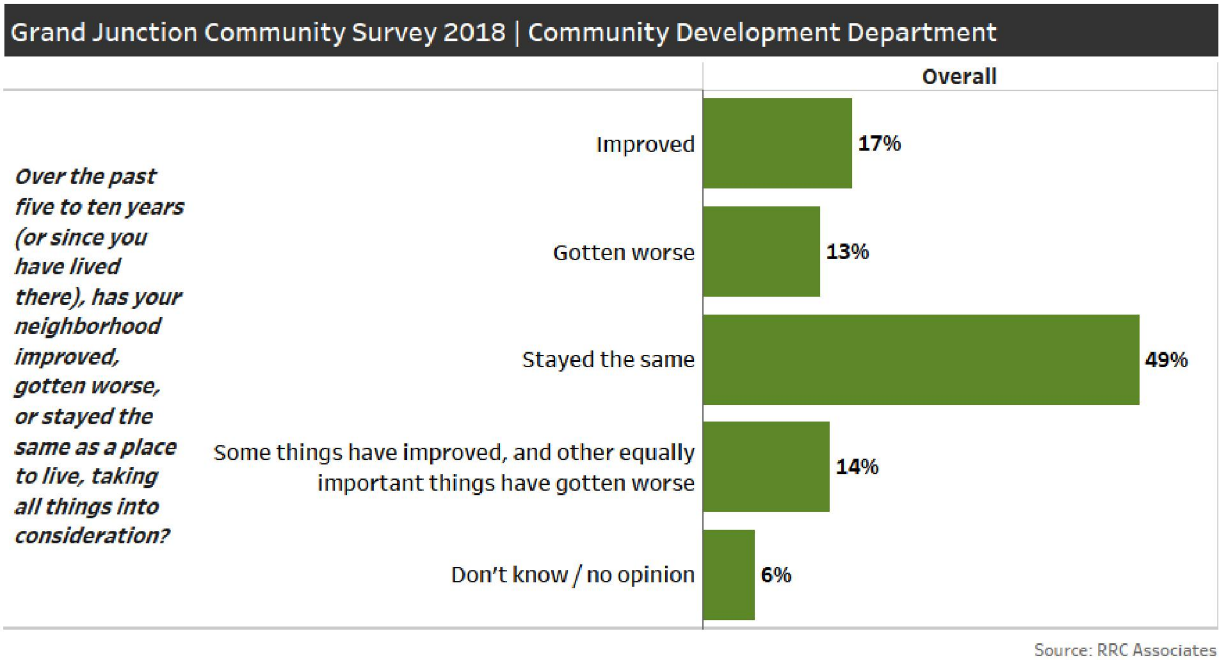
Housing Type Perceptions

For each housing style, residents were more likely to say the amount was "just about right" than either too much or too little. Townhomes/condominiums had the highest share of "just about right" responses (68%) while mobile homes had the least (53%). A notable share of respondents indicated there were too many mobile homes (43%). For all other housing types, a greater share of respondents selected "too little" than "too much"; this was particularly the case for townhomes/condominiums, single-family homes on large lots, and apartments.

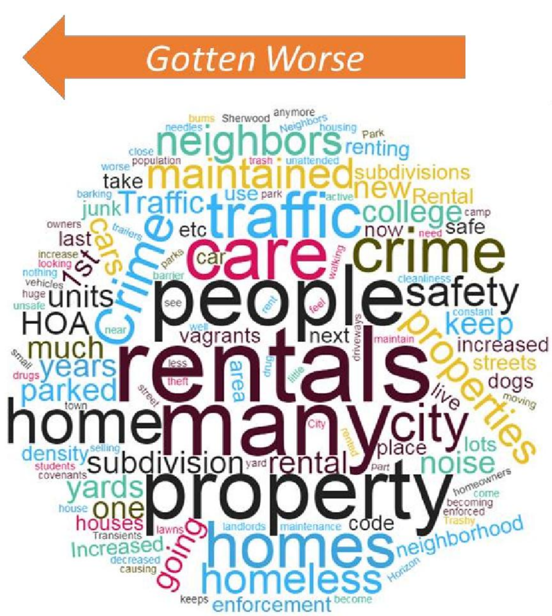


Direction of Neighborhood

About half of all respondents indicated that their neighborhood has stayed the same since they have lived there (49%). Relatively similar shares said it has improved (17%), gotten worse (13%), or that some things have improved and others have gotten worse (14%). Six percent didn't have an opinion.

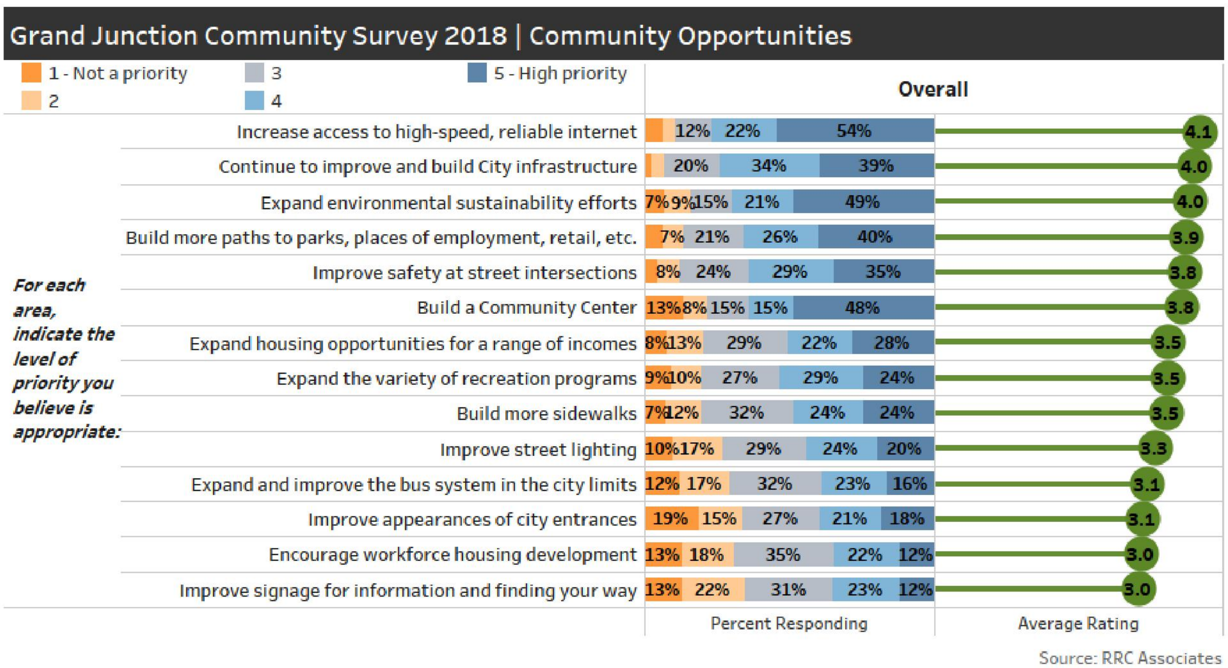


Respondents were asked to list the factors that most influenced their response. Most respondents noted that their neighborhood has stayed the same, with many remarking on the stability of their areas and friendliness of neighbors. However, there were many who have noticed change. For those who said their neighborhoods have gotten worse, rental turnovers, noise, crime, and neighborhood appearance were frequently mentioned. Among those who said their neighborhoods have improved, they mentioned new trails and street improvements, newer tenants fixing up houses, and generally improved neighborhood aesthetics.

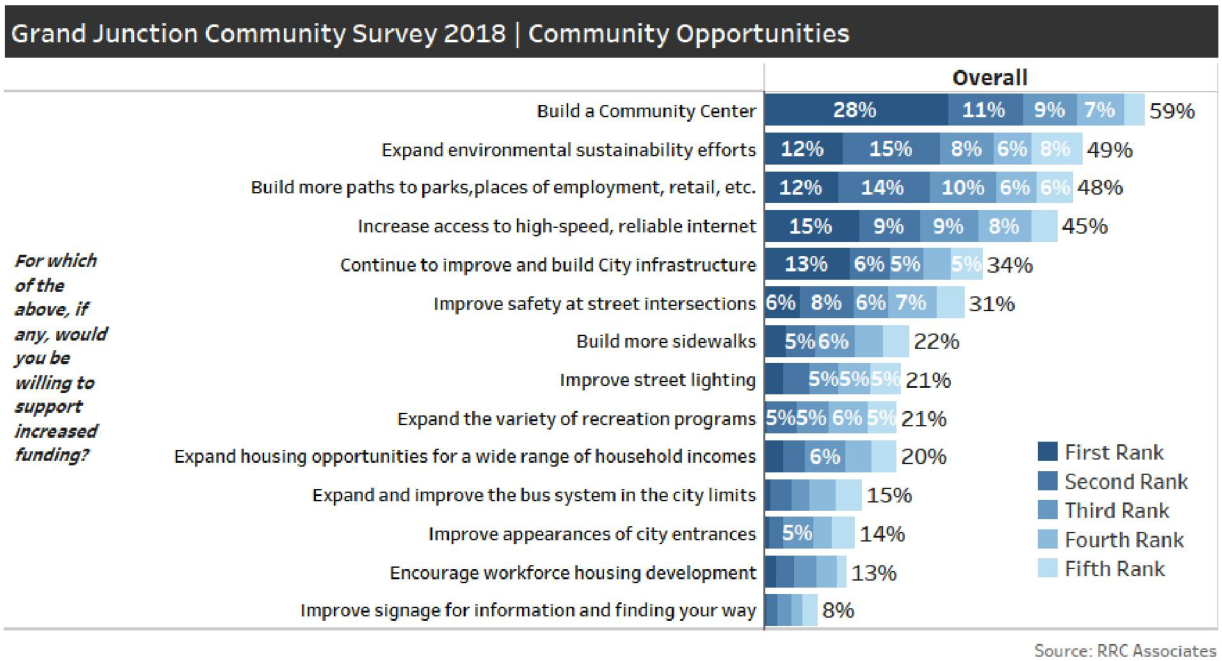


Community Opportunities

Six items had notably high shares of respondents indicating a higher priority level for consideration: increasing access to high-speed, reliable internet (76% provided a rating of 4 or 5 where 5 means "high priority," 4.1 average rating), continuing to improve and build City infrastructure (73%, 4.0), expanding environmental sustainability efforts (70%, 4.0), building more paths to parks, retail, etc. (66%, 3.9), improving safety and street intersections (64%, 3.8), and building a Community Center (63%, 3.8).

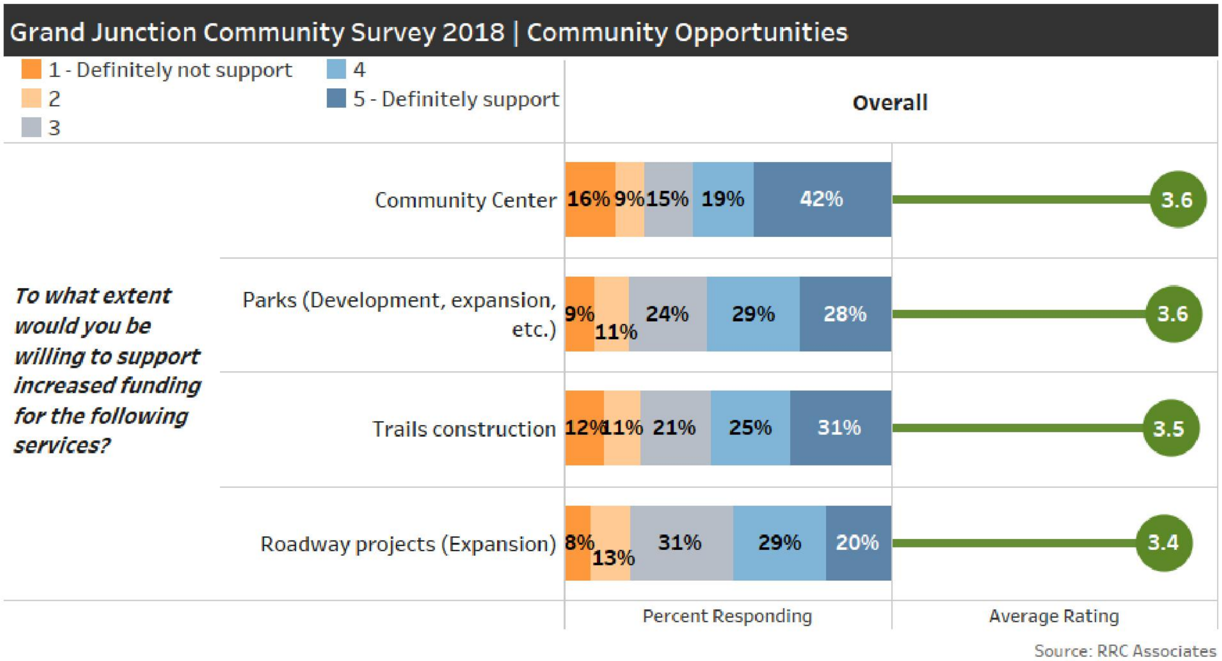


When asked to rank their top priorities, the same six items rose to the top of the list; however, priorities shifted somewhat within those top six items. Building a Community Center was the highest-ranked item, chosen by 28% as a first priority and 59% as one of their top five. In a second tier of response were environmental sustainability (selected by 49% as a top-five item), building more paths (48%), and internet access (45%).



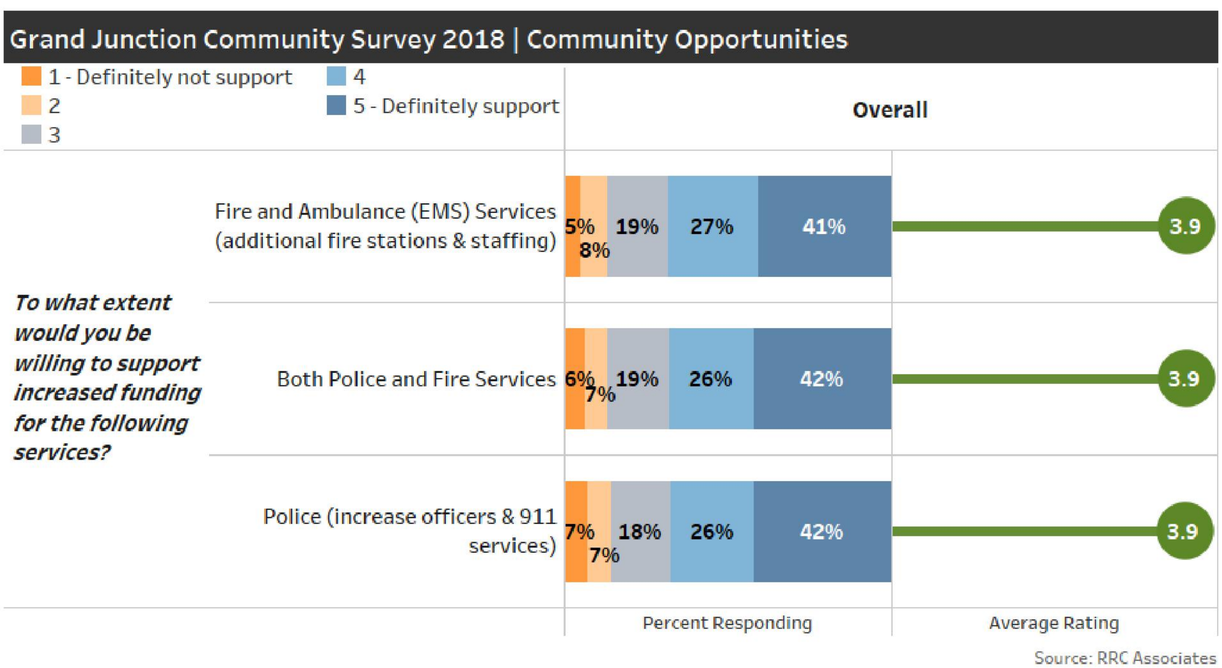
Municipal Services Funding Support

Respondents provided similar ratings of funding support for the four municipal services probed. However, Community Center earned a higher share of “definitely support” responses (42%) than the other items.



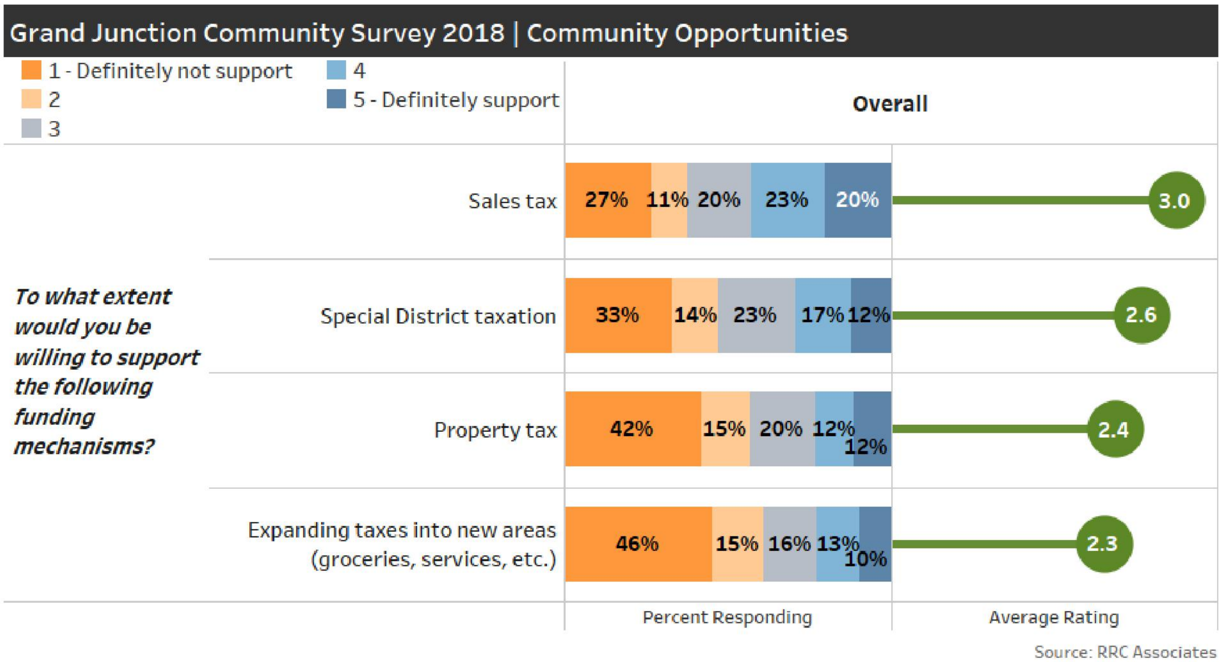
Public Safety Services Funding Support

Respondents indicated nearly identical and relatively high levels of funding support for all three public safety services probed (78% support, average rating of 3.9 for each).



Type of Funding Support

Respondents were more supportive of a sales tax (43% support, 3.0 average rating) than the other funding mechanisms (23-29% support, 2.3-2.6 average rating), although levels of support were generally low for each item.



Suggestions

At the end of the survey, respondents were given the opportunity to provide specific comments related to their survey responses. Themes that came up throughout the survey were again prominent in this comment field, including concerns around increased taxes, homelessness, rapid growth, quality of internet access, recycling services, and lack of infrastructure like sidewalks. A random selection of verbatim responses is shown below. The full listing of responses is provided in the appendix and should be read in their entirety for the full depth and breadth of respondent feedback.

I am reluctant to fund taxes to support city police because I live in area 5 and we do not get much of a police presence. Recycling is a priority and should be mandatory. I'm willing to pay for this service (curbside recycling and composting) more than any other.

We love Grand Junction, but wish more quality shopping in Valley. We have expressed our feelings about growth and density- seems no one listens to us.

I enjoy Grand Junction and would not live anywhere else, it's just right.

I have lived here for 40 years and have been continually surprised about how many areas of the city have unimproved streets- esp. lack of sidewalks. It's a safety issue in my mind.

There were no questions touching on the heart of the city. How we help our poor deal with poverty, etc. I'd like to see us grow a bigger heart AND look forward to solving issues coming: water, homelessness, health care, and inclusiveness.

We are taxed too much already, wages haven't increased as quickly as taxes have. For people on a fixed income, it is extremely difficult.

Grand Junction is growing too fast- traffic is terrible. Attracting new businesses is bringing in people from large cities who do not appreciate our way of life.

I work in the tech industry. Our internet options in the area are abysmal. Related jobs are also very hard to find that offer proper pay. I feel we need to improve recycling of all refuse, and especially make it easier to recycle electronics as it is hard to find and then execute recycling of items. Keep up the recreation activities, this is our strong point!