

A Community Conversation about the future of Broad Street

Una Conversación Comunitaria sobre el futuro de La Broa'

SEPTEMBER 6, 2017
IGLESIA VISIÓN EVANGELICA

CITY OF PROVIDENCE
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
MAYOR JORGE O. ELORZA
BONNIE NICKERSON, AICP, DIRECTOR



Agenda

- ▶ 7:00 – Welcoming Remarks
- ▶ 7:10 – Presentation
- ▶ 7:20 – Roundtable Workshop
- ▶ 8:15 – Report Back and Wrap-Up

Broad Street

- 2.6 miles from Crossroads to Cranston line
- 30,000 people living within 1/3 mile of Broad Street (less than a 10 minute walk)

Upper South
Providence

Lower South
Providence

Broad Street

Elmwood

Washington Park

South Elmwood

Data Sources: Unless otherwise noted, all data is adapted from the US Census 2015 American Community Survey. Census tracts 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 12 were used to represent the study area.

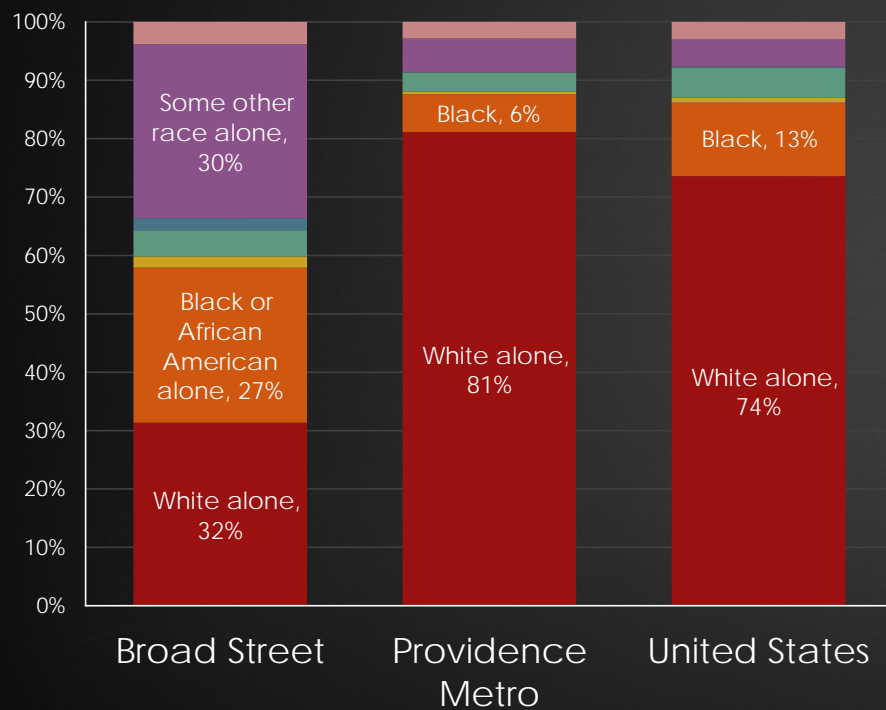
Goals

- ▶ Give the community a voice in neighborhood planning
- ▶ Set a community-led vision for the future of Broad Street
- ▶ Determine actionable steps for realizing the community-led vision

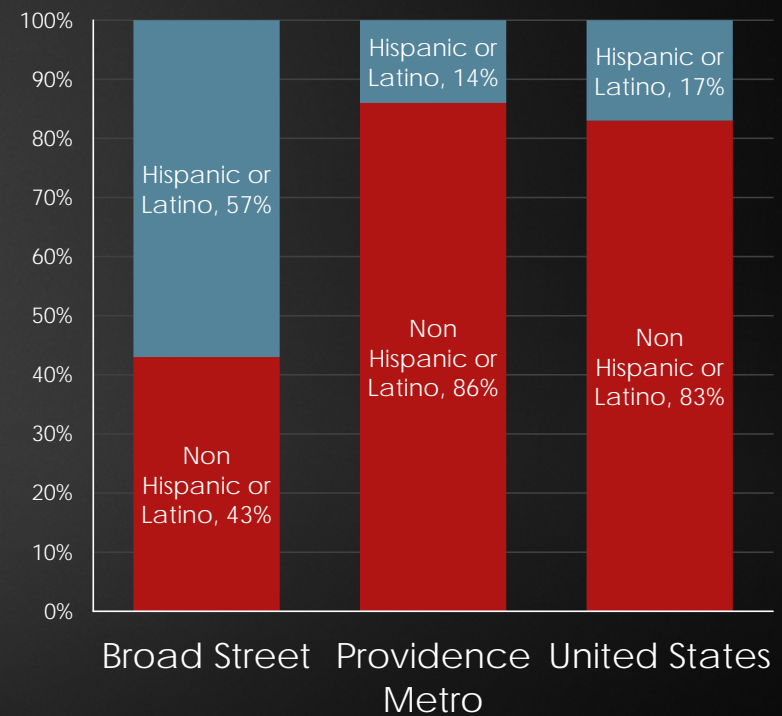
Background

Broad Street: Diversity

Race



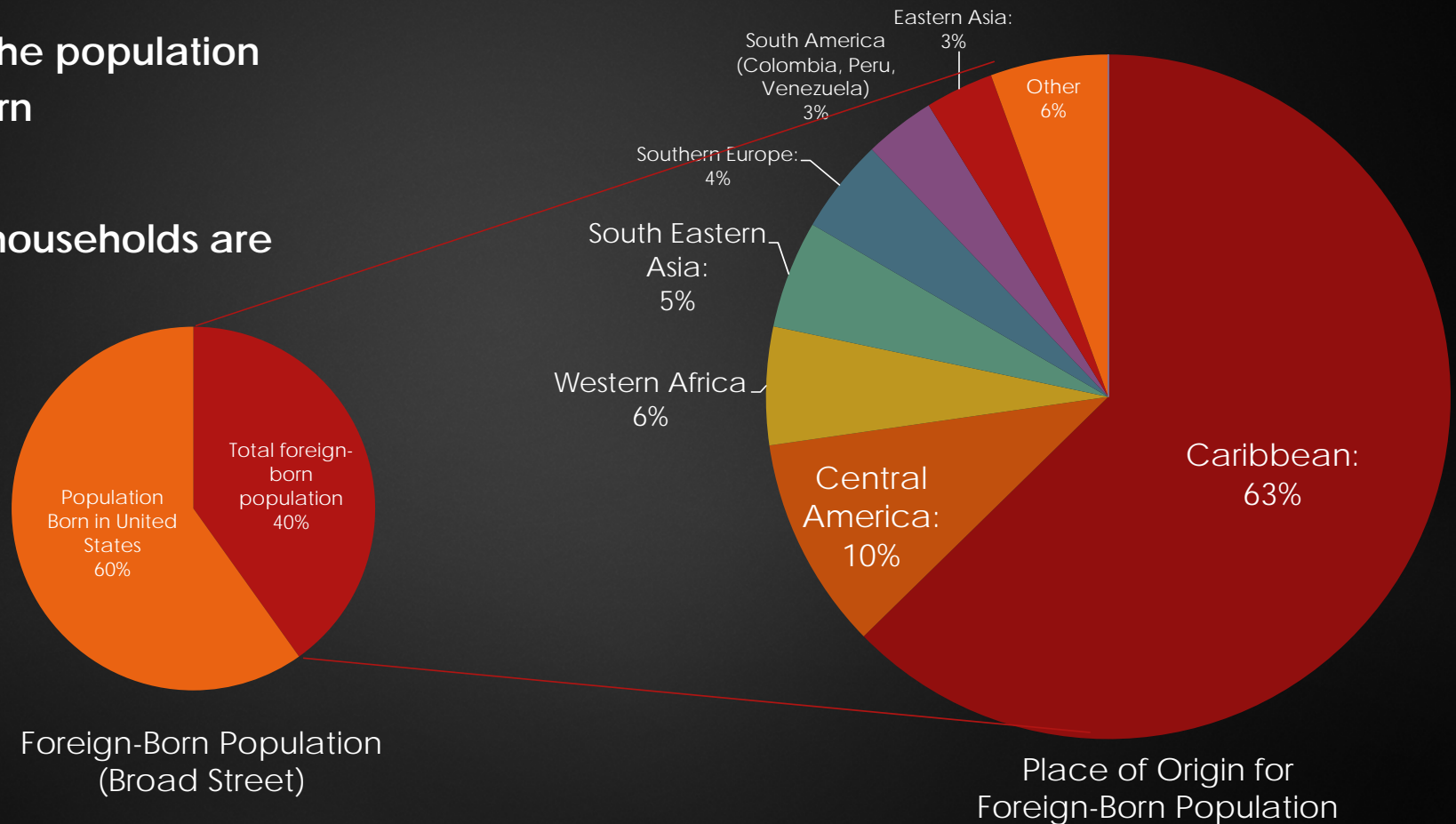
Ethnicity



Broad Street: Diversity

40% of the population
is foreign-born

60% of households are
multilingual



Broad Street: **Income Statistics**



34% of people live in poverty (compared to 14% in metro Providence, and 16% nationwide)

Median household income is ~50% less than metro Providence average

Broad Street: **Transportation Statistics**



25% of households do not have a car

40% of working residents do not commute to work alone in a car

2X as many people carpool, take public transit, walk, and bike

Broad Street: **Transportation Statistics**

Broad Street experienced the **highest number of crashes** involving people walking or riding a bicycle out of any corridor in Providence (2009 – 2015).

82

crashes involved
a person walking
or riding a bicycle
(2009 -2015)

11

crashes resulted in
a fatal or serious
injury to someone
walking or riding a
bike (2009-2015)

Schools

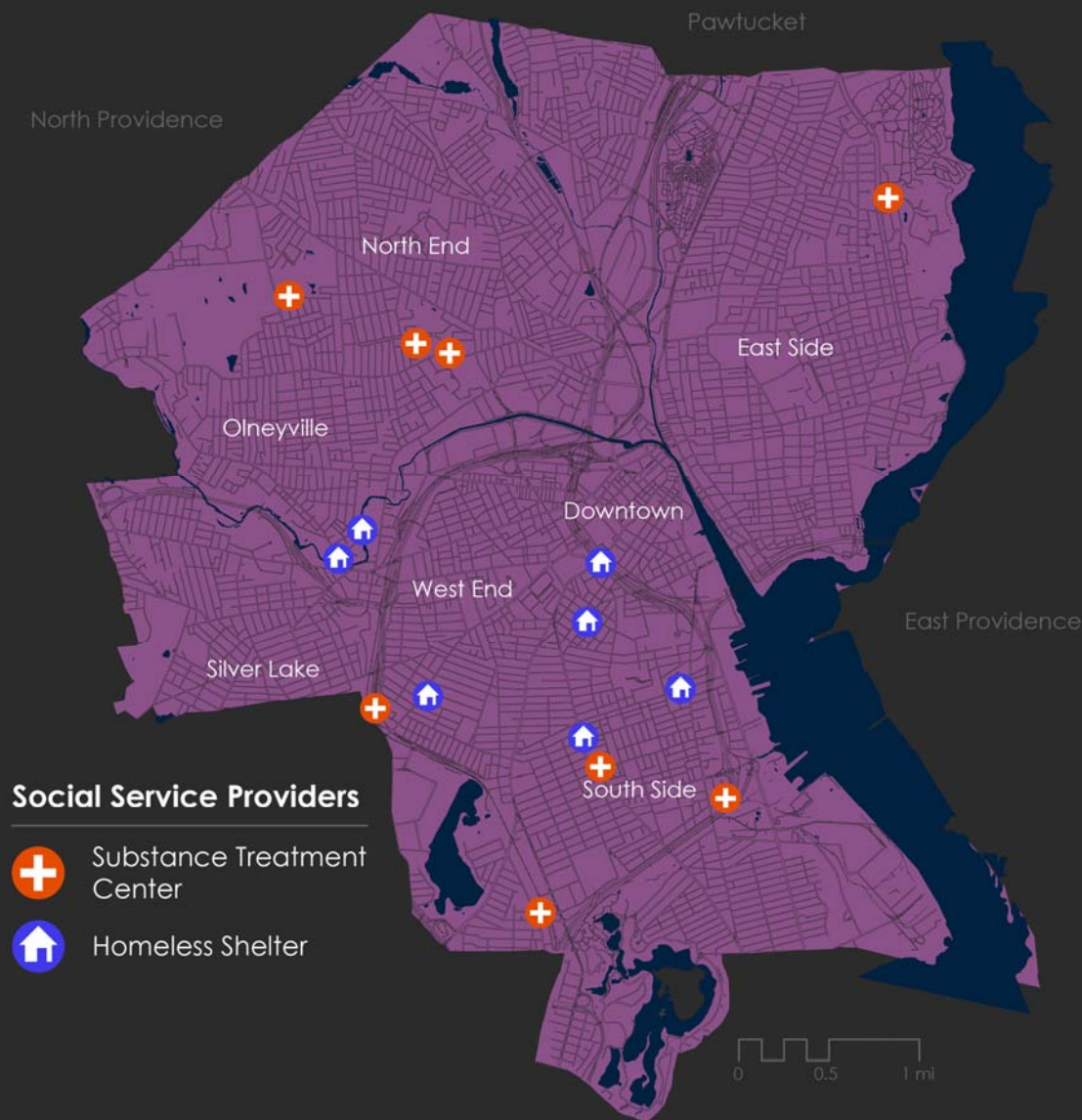
**>5,000 elementary,
middle school, and
high school students**
at schools along Broad Street
between Downtown and
Roger Williams Park



Services

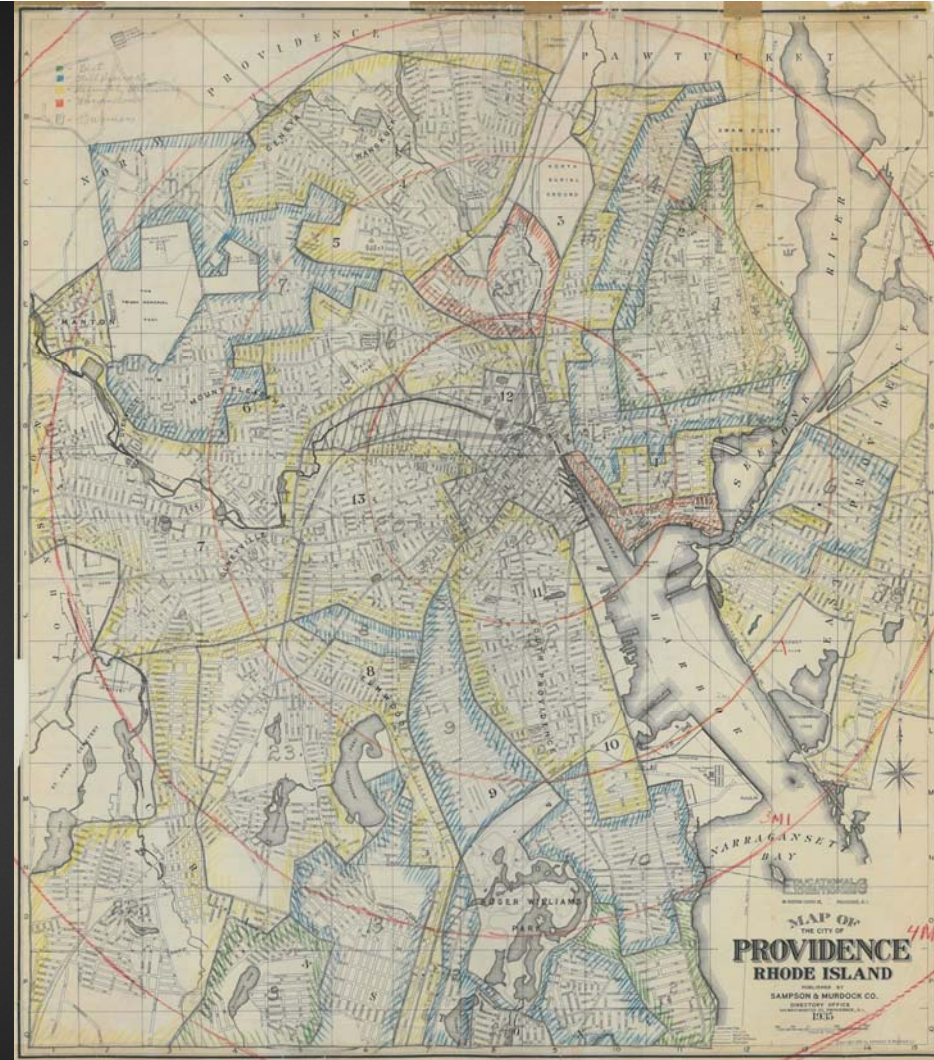
- The Southside has the highest concentration of homeless services locations in Providence.
- Of the 7 shelters for individuals in Rhode Island, 4 are located in the South Providence.

Source:
Elmwood/Southside Crimewatch, Elmwood Neighborhood Assoc., South Providence Neighborhood Assoc.

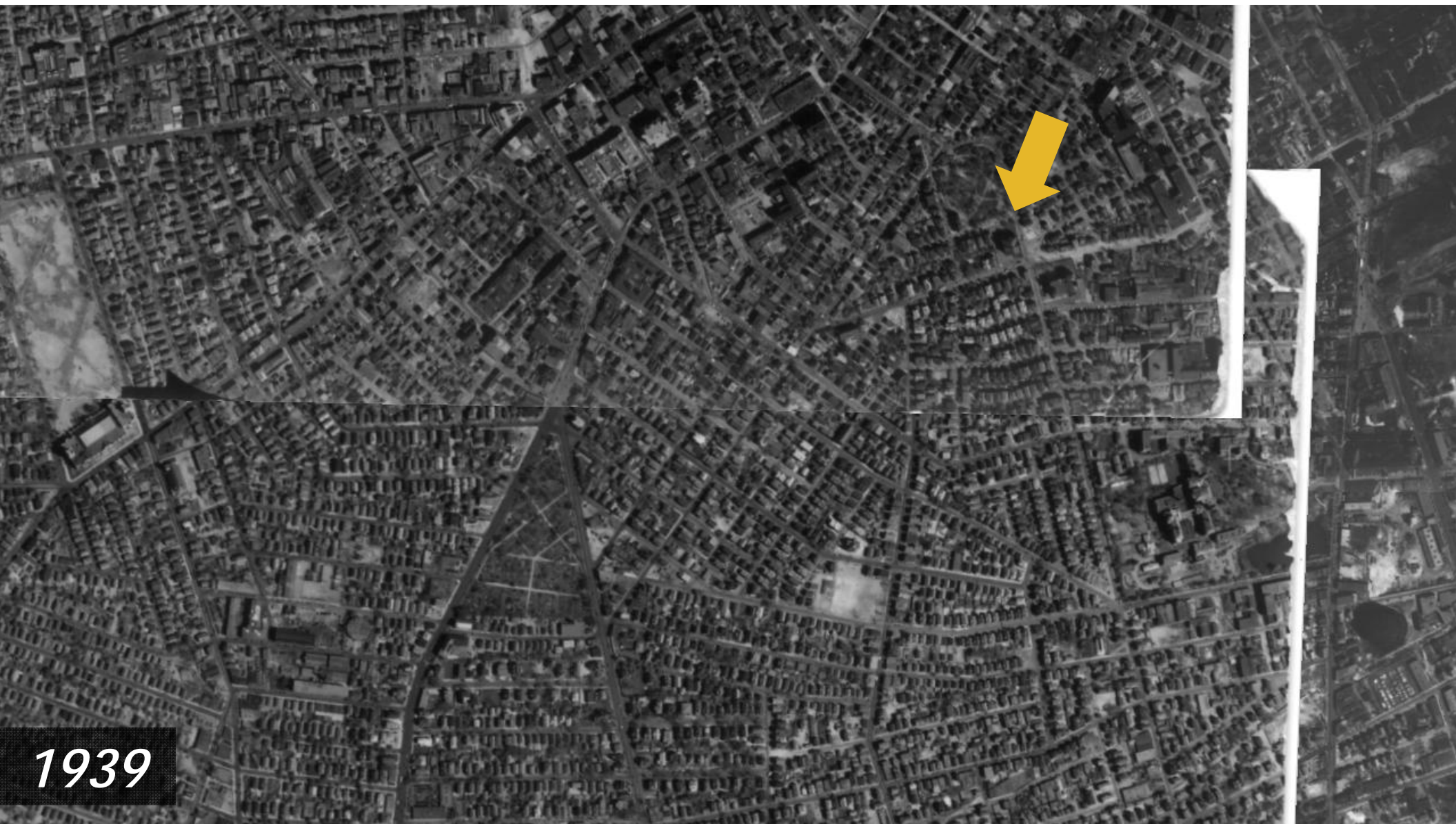


Legacy Issues

- ▶ The Southside still suffers from discriminatory programs and practices of the 20th century:
 - ▶ Redlining
 - ▶ Highway building
 - ▶ Urban renewal



1935 HOLC map of Providence deemed South Providence "Definitely Declining," making it difficult to qualify for a home loan.



1939



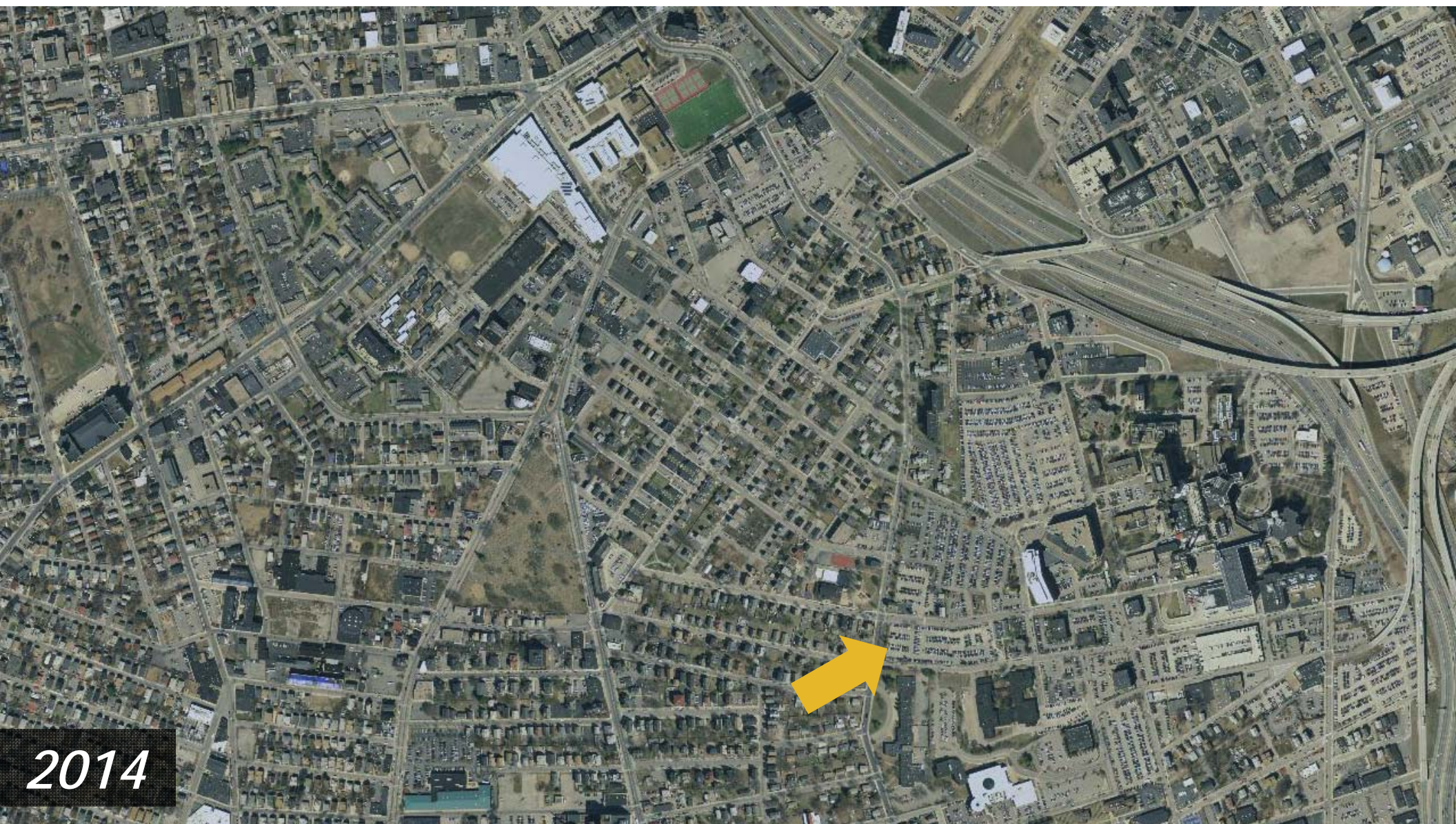
1962



1972



1981



2014

Community Engagement

Community Engagement

- ▶ **Community Conversations**

- ▶ Southside Cultural Center (Mar 11)
- ▶ Southside Cultural Center (May 13)
- ▶ Iglesia Visión Evangelica (Sep 6)

- ▶ **Attending meetings in the community**

- ▶ Neighbors for Revitalization (Mar 9)
- ▶ South Providence Neighborhood Association (Apr 27)
- ▶ District 2 Crime Watch Meeting (May 23)
- ▶ Providence Latino Business Association (Jun 13)
- ▶ Academia Liderazgo, Iglesia Visión Evangelica (Jul 6)
- ▶ Trinity Square Working Group (Jul 21)
- ▶ Trinity Square Working Group (Aug 1)

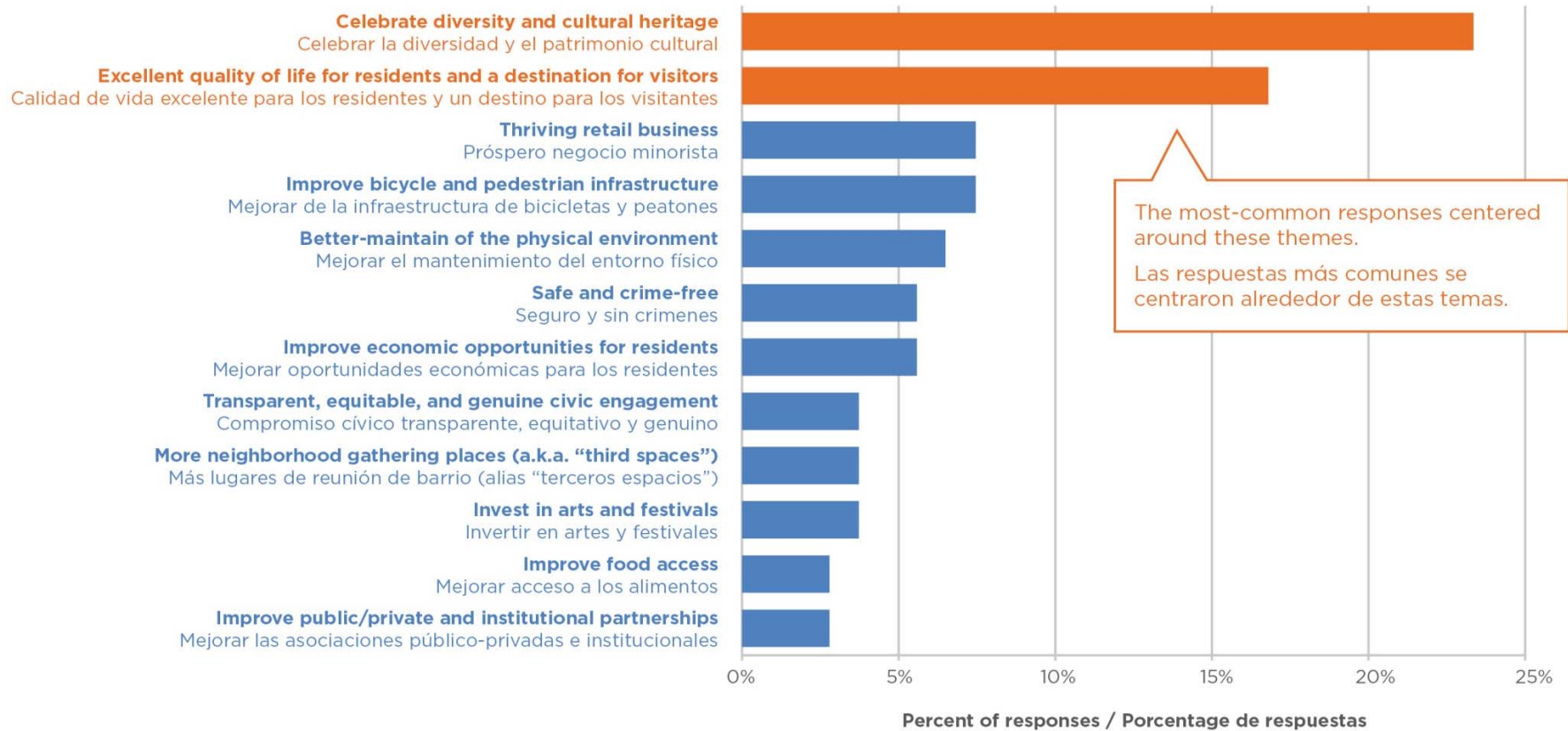
- ▶ **Online stakeholder survey**



Q1:

- ▶ **In a few words, describe your vision for Broad Street. What is the identity that you want Broad Street and South Providence to have? What captures the true essence of South Providence and Broad Street?**
- ▶ En pocas palabras, describe su visión para La Broa'. ¿Cuál es la identidad que desea que La Broa' y el South Side tenga? ¿Qué captura la esencia verdad de La Broa' y el South Side?

Q1: Your Vision for Broad Street Su Visión Para La Broa'



N = 107

Response categories with two or fewer responses not shown.

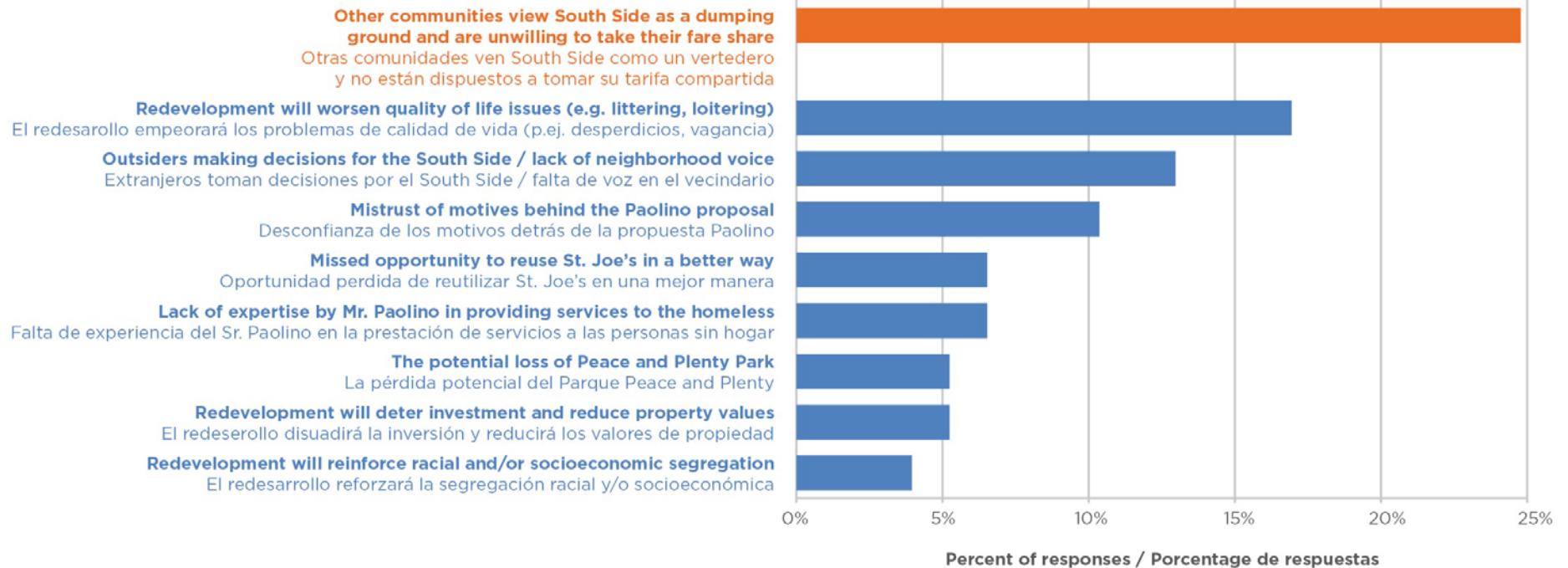
Categorías de respuesta con dos o menos respuestas no mostradas.

Q2:

- ▶ **What are your two biggest concerns about the Saint Joseph's property?**
- ▶ ¿Cuáles son tus dos más grandes preocupaciones sobre la propiedad del hospital Saint Joseph's?

Q2: Your Concerns About Saint Joe's Sus Preocupaciones sobre Saint Joe's

The most-common responses centered around this theme.
Las respuestas más comunes se centraron alrededor de esta tema.



N = 77

Response categories with two or fewer responses not shown.

Categorías de respuesta con dos o menos respuestas no mostradas.

Q3:

- ▶ **What is your vision for the Saint Joseph's property? What would you like to see happen there?**
- ▶ ¿Qué es tu visión para la propiedad del hospital Saint Joseph's? ¿Qué querrías ver pasar ayá?

Q3: Your Vision for Saint Joe's Su Visión para Saint Joe's

Percent of responses / Porcentaje de respuestas

0% 5% 10% 15% 20%

Housing

Viviendas

Social Services

Servicios sociales

Retail (e.g. shops, restaurants)

Venta al detalle (p.ej. tiendas, restaurantes)

Recreation/community center

Centro de recreación/comunidad

Mixed Use

Usos mezclados

Business incubator, accelerator, or co-working space

Incubadora de negocios, acelerador o espacio de trabajo compartido

Grocery store or marketplace

Supermercado o plaza del mercado

Green space and trees

Parques y árboles

Demolish the facility

Demoler el campus

Art production or performance space (e.g. studio, venue)

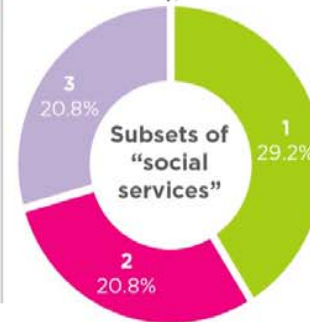
Espacio de producción o actuación artista (p.ej. taller, lugar de encuentro)

Community involvement/ transparent process

Participación de la comunidad / proceso transparente

Catalyze investment in and improve perception of the South Side

Catalizar la inversión y mejorar la percepción del South Side



- Youth programming (e.g. childcare, tutoring)**
Programación Juvenil (p.ej. cuidado de niños, tutoría)
- Professional services (e.g. legal services, health clinic)**
Servicios profesionales (p.ej. servicios legales, clínica de salud)
- Supportive services (e.g. violence victims, drug addiction)**
Servicios de apoyo (p.ej., víctimas de violencia, drogadicción)



- Mixed income**
Engreso mixto
- Affordable**
Asequible
- Type unspecified**
Tipo no especificado
- Market rate**
Tasa del mercado
- Senior**
Más antiguo
- Ownership**
Propiedad
- Rental**
Alquiler

N = 124

Response categories with two or fewer responses not shown.

Categorías de respuesta con dos o menos respuestas no mostradas.

Q4:

- ▶ **What other ideas or concerns do you have for Broad Street? Is there anything else that you would like to see the City pursue? In what ways can the City be a more active partner?**
- ▶ ¿Cuáles otras ideas o preocupaciones tienes para La Broa'? ¿Hay algo más que le gustaría que la Ciudad persiga? ¿De qué manera puede la Ciudad ser un socio más activo?

Q4: Other Ideas

Otras Ideas

The most-common responses centered around these themes.

Las respuestas más comunes se centraron alrededor de estas temas.



N = 71

Response categories with 2 or fewer responses not shown.

Broad Street Projects Updates

Streetscape Improvement Grant

- ▶ Secured **\$99,000** from Commerce RI for upper Broad Street:
 - ▶ Address littering / install waste receptacles,
 - ▶ Install tree fences to protect young trees,
 - ▶ Install bike racks.
- ▶ **Status:**
 - ▶ Product research underway
 - ▶ Awaiting grant agreement,
 - ▶ Outreach to merchants and schools planned to determine optimal locations



Broad Street Ped/Bike Safety

- ▶ Secured **\$2.5 million** to enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety along Broad Street corridor
 - ▶ Broad St experiences most crashes citywide
 - ▶ Partnering with City depts and community orgs to collect data on transportation habits and safety issues
- ▶ Status:
 - ▶ Design/engineering team selected
 - ▶ Robust public planning process to launch Fall 2017



Special Redevelopment Plan for Vacant Houses

- ▶ A plan for redeveloping vacant and abandoned properties that are a blight on the neighborhood
- ▶ Enables PRA to transfer those properties to local developers, CDCs, others who can repurpose them.
- ▶ Proposal can be accessed at:
 - ▶ http://providenceri.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_Legifile.aspx?MeetingID=7441&ID=14084
- ▶ Status: City Council is holding a public hearing on Sep 11 at 5:30PM at City Hall



93 Superior Street

Broad Street Cultural Tourism Initiative

- ▶ **\$4,500** pilot initiative to promote cultural tourism on Broad Street
 - ▶ Highlight monthly events on Broad
 - ▶ Create and promote marketing materials
- ▶ Collaboration between DPD, AC+T, RI Latino Arts, Quisqueya in Action, PWCVB
- ▶ More info at:
<http://artculturetourism.com/celebrate-broad-streetcelebra-la-broad/>
- ▶ **Status: underway!**



Mayor Elorza announcing the tourism initiative at a press conference in April, 2017

Workshop

Workshop Format

- ▶ We have **60 minutes** for this exercise
- ▶ Your table nominates a table leader. Bilingual individuals are encouraged to volunteer!
- ▶ Your table leader asks your table a series of six questions
- ▶ Participants at your table jot down their responses on sticky notes
- ▶ Your table leader asks each participant to say a few words about her response, then collects the sticky note on an easel pad
- ▶ Once everyone responds to the six questions, your table nominates a representative to report back to the entire room
- ▶ Your table representative has **1 minute** to summarize the themes that emerged at your table

Question 1:

- ▶ In a few words, describe your vision for Broad Street. What is the identity that you want Broad Street and South Providence to have? What captures the true essence of South Providence and Broad Street?

En pocas palabras, describe su visión para La Broa'. ¿Cuál es la identidad que desea que La Broa' y el South Side tenga? ¿Qué captura la esencia verdad de La Broa' y el South Side?

10 minutes for responses!

Question 2:

- ▶ What are your ideas for how we (the City, the community) can advance your vision for Broad Street? Think of at least two steps that can be taken to move your vision forward.

¿Cuáles son sus ideas sobre cómo podemos (la ciudad, la comunidad) alcanzar su visión para La Broa'? Piensa en al menos dos pasos que se pueden tomar para mover su visión hacia adelante.

5 minutes for responses!

Question 3:

- ▶ What is your biggest concern about the Saint Joseph's property?

¿Cuál es tu más grande preocupación sobre la propiedad del hospital Saint Joseph's?

10 minutes for responses!

Question 4:

- ▶ What is your vision for the Saint Joseph's property? What would you like to see happen there?

¿Qué es tu visión para la propiedad del hospital Saint Joseph's?

¿Qué querrías ver pasar ayá?

10 minutes for responses!

Question 5:

- ▶ How can the City and community work together to address your concern about Saint Joseph's and/or help achieve your vision for the property?

¿Cómo pueden la Ciudad y la comunidad trabajar juntos para tratar su preocupación por Saint Joseph's y / o ayudar a lograr su visión de la propiedad?

5 minutes for responses!

Question 6:

- ▶ What other ideas or concerns do you have for Broad Street? Is there anything else that you would like to see the City pursue? In what ways can the City be a more active partner?

¿Cuáles otras ideas o preocupaciones tienes para La Broa'? ¿Hay algo más que le gustaría que la Ciudad persiga? ¿De qué manera puede la Ciudad ser un socio más activo?

10 minutes for responses!

Report Back + Wrap Up

Stay Connected

- ▶ Sign up for email updates at the front desk
- ▶ Check the website for updates: providenceri.gov/planning/broadstreet
- ▶ Contact south side planner, Allen Penniman:
 - ▶ apenniman@providenceri.gov
 - ▶ 401-680-8523
- ▶ Invite us to your meetings!
- ▶ Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: [@ProvPlanning](#)

What themes emerged at your table?

- ▶ Table representatives, please summarize the dialogue at your table

1 minute per representative!

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