

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05-028R**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF URBANA  
AND URBANA HOME CONSORTIUM (CHAMPAIGN/URBANA/CHAMPAIGN  
COUNTY)**

**FY 2024-2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Urbana has been designated an entitlement city under the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and as such is eligible for Community Development Block Grant (hereinafter "CDBG") funds upon proper submittal being made to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter "HUD"); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Urbana has been designated lead entity for the Urbana HOME Consortium in accordance with the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, and as such is eligible to receive HOME Investment Partnerships (hereinafter "HOME") funds on behalf of the City of Urbana, City of Champaign, and Champaign County; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 5, 1995, HUD published a final rule in the Federal Register requiring a five-year consolidated plan and annual action plans for all HUD community planning and development formula grant programs, consolidating into a single annual submission the planning, application, and reporting aspects of the CDBG, HOME, Emergency Shelter Grants, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Programs, and the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urbana City Council approved the *City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium (Champaign/Urbana/Champaign County) FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan* on June 8, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urbana Community Development Commission, assisted by Urbana Community Development Services staff, has prepared the *City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium Annual Action Plan FY 2024-2025* (hereinafter the "Annual Action Plan"); and

**WHEREAS**, on October 18, 2023 and January 22, 2024, notices were published on the City of Urbana website describing the Annual Action Plan, requesting public input, and announcing public hearings that were held on October 24, 2023 and January 30, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 23, 2024, a notice was published on the City of Urbana social media and website describing the Annual Action Plan; announcing a public review period beginning February 23, 2024 and ending March 25, 2024 during which members of the public are able to view a Draft Annual Action Plan and provide input.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. That the *City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium Annual Action Plan FY 2024-2025*, in substantially the form as attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby approved.

Section 2. That the Mayor is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City of Urbana to take any action necessary in connection with said Annual Action Plan to implement the CDBG and HOME programs and to provide such additional information as may be required.

Section 3. That upon review and comment by the Urbana City Council, the Mayor is hereby designated to execute subgrantee agreements for programs and activities identified in said Annual Action Plan.

Section 4. That subgrantee agreements for programs and activities identified in said Annual Action Plan shall be subject to review and approval by the Urbana City Council before execution by the Mayor.

DS

**PASSED** by the City Council this 28th day of May, 2024.

AYES: Evans, Hursey, Kolisetty, Bishop, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAYS: None.

ABSTAINS: None.



DocuSigned by:

*Darcy E. Sandefur*

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Darcy E. Sandefur, City Clerk

**APPROVED** by the Mayor this 31st day of May, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

*Diane Wolfe Marlin*

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Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor

# Community Needs Survey 2024

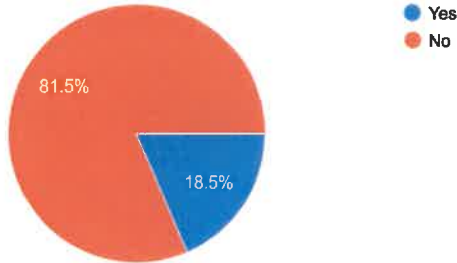
216 responses

[Publish analytics](#)

Do you represent or work for a community service provider in Champaign County?

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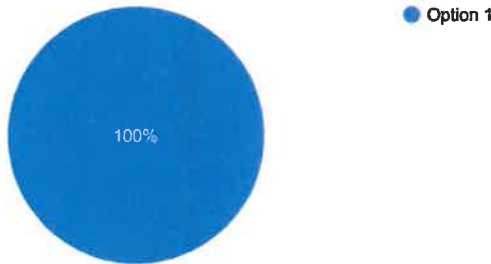
216 responses



Service Provider

5 responses

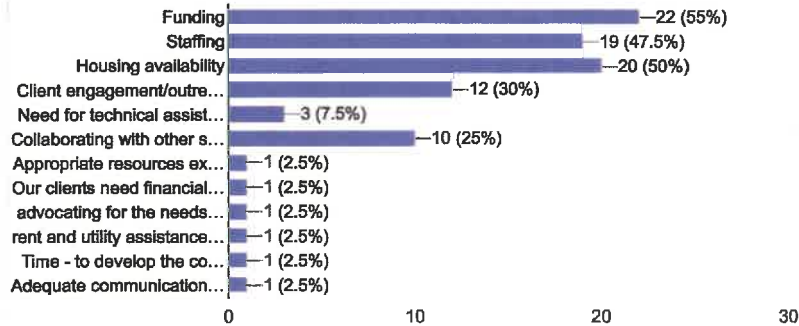
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What are the biggest challenges or obstacles your organization faces in addressing community needs? (Select all that apply.)

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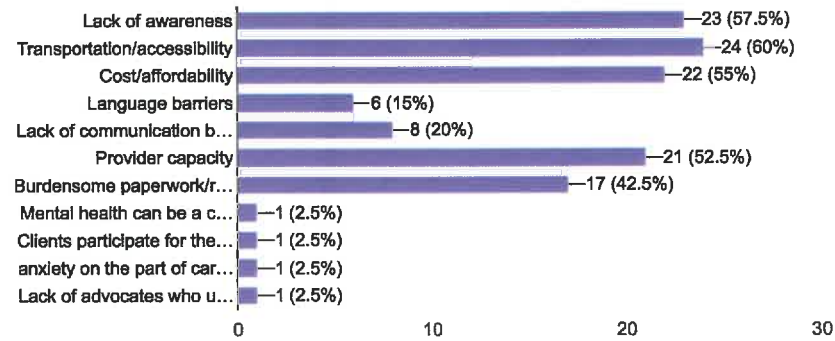
40 responses



Among your clients, which barriers do you think make it difficult for people to get the services they want or need? (Select all that apply.)

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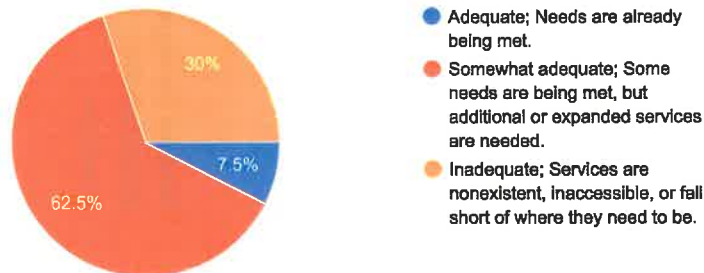
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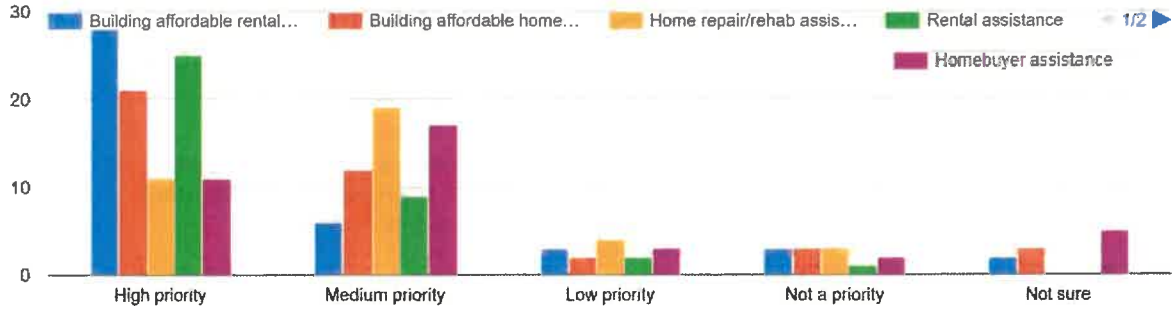
In general, how adequate do you feel services currently are for low-income residents in the community?

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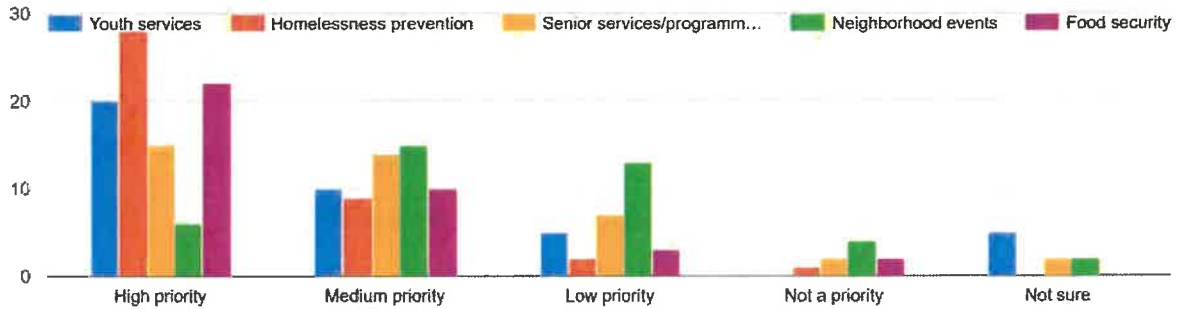
40 responses



Please rate the priority/need for the following housing services in Champaign County. (Scroll right to see additional options if using mobile web browser.)



Please rate the priority/need for these other services in Champaign County. Please rate the priority/need for the following housing services in Champaign County. (Scroll r...t to see additional options if using mobile web browser.)



Please describe any emerging trends you are observing in your service population.

36 responses

No assistance for folks with pets. Limited availability housing assistance for families. Limited assistance for those waiting for disability determination.

increased need for mental health services

A significant number of my clients are struggling with getting assistance due to lack of clear communication with agencies who should be helping, understaffing issues and/or being left alone to flounder due to the lengthy periods they have to wait through in order to get more assistance (this especially applies to rental assistance)

Lack of transportation access means it's more difficult for members of community to get to service providers, whether it's for healthcare, food pantries, or government offices. Even with a bus pass, certain places are difficult to get to or do not have consistent routes.

Overall increased need for our services

lack of knowledge of what is available.

Low-income seniors: Increased desire to stop trying due to overwhelm and consistent confusion. So many are so sick of how complicated Medicare is, especially when you then add in Medicaid and low-income services. Seniors are incredibly overwhelmed and the older they get, they less they want to be involved in the decision making. They seek an "expert" who will tell them the best choice to make. Many of my appointments are spent trying to get them to stop asking me to give them the "best choice" for their situation as many of them will keep asking me for a direct answer after I provide them with a more vague answer which requires them to make the final decision. More and more I can see how our seniors are being so easily taken advantage of: They keep asking others to make decisions for them, people they barely know. This is how insurance brokers keep messing up Medicare plans!

Rents have soared and a growing number of people cannot afford the housing on the market.

Landlords requesting 3 times the monthly rent for a deposit. This is not affordable.

Difficult child behaviors post-covid; parents struggle with affordability of our programming.

Panhandlers standing by the stoplights on major roads around town

not working-unable to find jobs willing to hire older workers, older adults on limited social security funds

The population we service is anxiety ridden about expressing medical needs inconvenient to routine services especially emergency/medical issues.

Rent heights

There are NO affordable housing options for those who are in Social security. How can someone afford \$700 a month when they only receive a maximum of \$934 a month?

parents unengaged and unequipped to parent their teens

We are continuing to experience a large waitlist for client who want a shelter bed

For clients working full time, there is a growing disparity between their income and the cost of housing. While rental assistance is very helpful, it is not a long term solution to address the rising cost of housing, inflation, and wages not matching these costs. There needs to be more affordable housing for people that they can pay market rent for without a subsidy.



Apathy, rise in problematic behaviors amongst youth, creation of dependency through social programs with low expectations

Lack of money to buy food and necessities

Lack of supportive housing options for individuals with disabilities, or lack of landlords willing to accept housing vouchers

Lack of affordable, housing at every level, especially for new arrivals.

There is a tremendous lack of services for adults with developmental, spectrum, and other health impairments that seem to fall through the cracks of "high priority" service providers in the state. Many of these folks exceed the low-IQ minimum standard requirements, which bongs them out of much-needed services that would allow them to carve out meaningful, independent lives.

Since COVID people's "normal" are more escalated. We're seeing more folks with undiagnosed MH issues, and/or who have been through the MH orgs in town and don't trust any of them.

The the shelter is always full and there are no other options that are "low barrier."

Higher rents, higher credit score requirements

Lots of foreign population working.

Homeless families

Family growth

Huge need for translators

Yes

People in Urbana cannot afford rent, even working people. We need to dramatically expand rental assistance offerings and affordable housing options.

void in music and arts therapy programs; modes in programming which connect with youth in a way that improves school attendance and engagement

Foster parent housing and food security. Foster care youth in the 18-21 age range. DCFS claims to have housing supports, however often this group is left unhoused while DCFS is still their guardian.

I have noticed that we are unable maintain services with younger women in lower income backgrounds. They stop attending services and difficult to get ahold of, being able to provide more transportation or assistance with free phones etc would be of benefit.

Home prices are bought by landlords before first time homebuyers have a shot.





Are there any specific subpopulations (e.g., veterans, youth, LGBTQ+) with unique needs that are not being adequately served?

29 responses

Not sure.

LGBTQ+ people are absolutely not being adequately served. Disabled folks, especially those with more stigmatized mental illnesses, are so inadequately served that it's absurd.

Staffing is needed for these individual populations that can fully understand the options available for each group.

Seniors and veterans

low middle class is having trouble. No money but don't qualify for help

Seniors: At home care organizations do not pay their staff well enough for the work they are doing so they are understaffed (and by employees who just want a paycheck because those who do care refuse to work at these awful organizations) and it's causing severe issues for the seniors in the area. So many seniors rely on organizations and insurance companies to help get them the care they need, but nothing is being done because no one is available. Or, the client is difficult and no staff exist who can manage working with the client, which is more understandable but still alarming to me that nothing is in place for those who are suffering and incapable of really seeing how poorly their behavior is affecting their situation. Seniors lose the ability to manage much of their mental health struggles as they continue to age and often aren't physically/mentally capable of adjusting certain behaviors. While I understand how many could not handle these scenarios, we currently have no one who can. Those organizations need serious regulating or there needs to be more intense government social services who regularly work with the difficult cases within our community to ensure everyone has proper care. We are leaving citizens to rot in their homes because no one is available to help and no one cares because they are "a mean old person who is just hateful and selfish". The lack of education on this, even within senior services, is astounding to me.

Most of the people we serve who cannot find affordable housing are people with disabilities and single mothers with children.

Youth: Having more traveling education specialists or evaluators through the school districts would be very helpful.

LGBTQIA+ services and education, housing for sex offenders in programs

Yes. I have seen LGBTQ+ communities discriminated against in my twenty-five years experience at work.

Mental health

LGBT and seniors

Not that I am aware of

Yes.

I don't think the LGBTQ+ populations needs are being met in current emergency shelter services due to lack of awareness and training of staff.

Those with criminal records.

Individuals with disabilities



**Refugees and Immigrants**

**Spectrum Disorders, those with mental illness (i.e. BPD, PTSD, etc.), adults who have aged out of IEP mandated services, but who often do not qualify for SSDI.**

**People who are trying to get social security but are under 55 are THE hardest to house.**

**People experiencing Homelessness**

**Veterans dont get discounts at very many places. They served our country for our freedom. They need to be recognized more.**

**LGBTQ+ have very few options and face prejudices in congregate settings**

**Refugee, immigrant, migrant community**

**Yes**

**Individuals with disabilities often cannot afford rent and are at risk of homelessness**

**early childhood through k-12 do not have adequate arts and music therapy programming**

**Really need more services/supports geared towards our traumatized youth and LGBTQ+ population.**

**Champaign has done a great job of building up their library and having more spaces available for teens to exist in freely. Urbana needs more locations to serve low income populations IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS. The only free programming available after school hours is at schools and at the library.**

Please describe any other gaps you feel exist in addressing local housing needs.

30 responses

Lack of coordination between agencies, Emergency housing for families, expand emergency housing during bad weather, illegal evictions during long term hospital stays,

no other than lack of affordable options

There aren't enough shelters for families. People are forced to choose between letting their kids be safe and sheltered or being actually able to live with their children. Housing-related agencies are also understaffed and underfunded and frequently have significant barriers for minority populations seeking help.

We need to make it as easy as possible to build housing so there is an abundance of housing and we aren't beholden to the few landlords that provide affordable housing with sometimes substandard quality.

Help for people with evictions or undocumented

lack of affordable assisted living and nursing home places for seniors

I do not work directly with housing needs so I'm not really the most accurate person for this particular question. I will say for seniors it's the lack of nursing home beds as well as appropriate assisted living facilities in the area. It's like we are doing all we can to get our seniors to want to leave the area. Champaign IL: "A great place to live, but please don't die here. We don't want that so we'll just make senior living here so impossible that you won't want to stay past the age of 64."

1. We have plenty of rental housing in Champaign-Urbana but it is unaffordable to households with incomes below 150% of area median income. 2. Too little is done to enforce property maintenance codes other than to displace people once a place has to be declared unfit for human habitation.

Local affordability of townhouses and condos—turn them into co-op homes like they have at Winfield village. Lastly, please keep working to ensure WALKABLE COMMUNITIES where people live.

affordable stable permanent housing that doesn't have lot of crime and drug use, no urbana emergency shelter

All people in our community deserve guaranteed safe shelter, transportation, abundant nutritious food, access to free quality education, health care, information and alternatives in all these parameters.

Not enough affordable housing  
Rent keep going up every year

Transportation outside of CU

need to expand housing options for after shelter, supportive housing, affordable housing

There is a great need for affordable housing and program that assist clients with their long-term stability goals

Domestic violence survivors are being failed.. courage connection is not meeting the need. Appropriate crisis and long-term housing are crucially needed.

All of our shelter providers are almost always at capacity which leaves people unsheltered throughout the year. Additionally, people are often "stuck" in shelters because there is a lack of



affordable housing even for people with full-time employment.

Affordable housing for first time renters (i.e. high school graduates- especially ones with unsafe home environments)

Allowing too many rental properties in affordable YET aging communities. Placing affordable housing in certain neighborhoods-which is still a form of redlining.

Lack of availability and lack of affordable housing

Affordable housing is so limited, mostly run down and not well maintained even for people who work and have an income.

It is too competitive, and lacks transparency. It is too much like a lottery, when it should be a clear-cut process, just like getting a driver's license. Why do Americans with Disability have to beg, or wait years, for a place to call home?

Not enough affordable housing—never enough. VERY little affordable housing for folks under 55 who are disabled and need SSI.

There are not enough low barrier housing resources and transitional housing. 16 women's beds are not enough to serve the community.

Things are so expensive here the middle class person cant afford to buy a house and taxes are ridiculous high on houses.

On site mental health help

Yes

The length of time it is taking for housing vouchers to go through approval.

It feels almost impossible to find an affordable apartment in a decent neighborhood. I have lived in the same neighborhood for 8 years and it has maintained relatively quiet, but costs have been rising quickly and i worry about that changing with the new strip club opening a few blocks up.

Lack of affordable homes for ownership and rental for low income individuals



## What do you think could be done to address those gaps?

32 responses

Take abandoned buildings owned by the city and rehab for emergency or family housing. Churches should step up and assist during bad weather to take in people. Emergency housing shelter should have support from mental health agencies, de-escalation training for staff, Easier access to general assistance from each city.

Not sure

Reducing and/or removing barriers to service, ensuring agencies are accessible and treating their clients appropriately, more mental health support and case management support for those receiving help, prioritizing social services over authorities who harass and threaten homeless populations, etc.

Build more housing, make landlords publish their rents, hire staff to address housing human rights violations.

Training and oversight

more supportive living and nursing homes

We'll start with the city listening to protesters when they beg council members to not sell such important community staples, such as the county nursing home, to people who have a documented track record of running such facilities with significant quality of care issues and sometimes even into the ground entirely. I mean, if people had been listened to years ago this may not be happening today. However, since that wasn't what happened and advocates were ignored for profit over senior care (which is how seniors are always treated), we now have to find a new solution. I am new to this, though, so I am unsure of possible options to address this gap. I would definitely start with citizens being taken seriously when we show up with receipts validating claims about a person's background who is trying to buy such an important community staple such as a nursing home. What a fine mess we find ourselves in now!

1. More HOME funds should be spent on Tenant Based Rent Assistance or any other rent subsidy program. 2. Housing Authority should INCREASE the number of households in Champaign who receive a Housing Choice Voucher. When Housing Authority undertook developing 200 units in other counties the justification was that HACC would receive developer fees that it could use for programs here in Champaign County. Top priority for that money should be more vouchers. Anything Urbana officials can do to bring that about would be wonderful.

A small grocery store with fresh food and a community gathering place with cafe area that allows outside food. All within 5 blocks of every new housing development.

The community needs less government intervention and more Jesus

more affordable housing, urbana emergency shelter

Permanently capping police funding (with the option of downsizing), steadily increasing free and easy access to counseling services, community support groups, and addressing all the above stated dire community needs.

Urbana Champaign needs a rent gap that the rent needs to stop going

municipalities and HACC investing in those items in an coordinated manner

Create affordable housing opportunities and create more emergency/transitional beds

Consult with community members and community leaders.



We need more funding to increase emergency shelter beds as well as affordable housing.

Maybe a service that pairs young adults to live together in an apartment/house and potentially provide them with some adult life skills

Programs that foster resilience

Stop letting landlords buy all the houses

More service providers that focus on housing options

Build more affordable apartments. Incentives and regulations to require developers to not just build high end, student and single housing, but to make a percentage of their new builds affordable and large enough for families.

Make renting easier, make buying homes easier - prioritize affordable housing, over luxury development. Promote employment for all by encouraging all local employers to hire folks regardless of ability. Educate landlords, educate builders and developers, make it a commitment of our community to house all, to protect all, and to help everyone in our community live meaningful lives.

More transitional housing and more affordable housing. People on SSI are rent burdened paying market rate rent (the basic payment for SSI if you don't have work credits is about \$950 per month).

Expand shelter services

Seems wages have gone up but groceries have doubled in price and price of gas, lot rents go up and roads dont get fixed the working class do not have a chance to think about housing because paying 250000 to 300000 for a house is not even close to being able to live. Taxes and insurance is high to.

More money

Yes

music and arts therapy programming such as drumming circles, HBCU camps for kids, drum & flag corps, radio & hip hop camps, choirs, step clubs, Hip Hop Express Bus, prevention theatre (where youth write and perform their own plays); music instrument instruction through BBL Fine Arts Camp, etc.

Funding. Improving the districts education system to engage these students and assist in teaching them goals for independence.

Raise the percent of money that low income families receive on housing, and be more upfront with renters in low income housing how their rent amount is calculated.

More units being built



Please feel free to share any other thoughts on how the Urbana HOME Consortium can most effectively allocate spending on housing and other community needs.

21 responses

Agencies who get grants for housing aren't serving all populations for housing assistance. Meaning, there isn't wide access to housing navigation for folks who need it.

Not sure

not sure

I work for seniors and I don't know that the Urbana HOME Consortium does anything for my population. Many don't: My population is always the first to be overlooked and ignored, but they are the ones needing some of the most direct and consistent help: the more they age the more help they need and the more difficult it becomes to find the help they need. Make it stop.

Tenant based or project based rent subsidy is the greatest need for preventing homelessness and housing people who are now homeless. Support for projects like the Hope Village which will provide housing to extremely low income people (income below 30% AMFI) as well as providing rent subsidy funds to Regional Planning Commission, Cunningham Township or any other housing partner serving very low income people, would be, from our perspective, the best use of HOME Consortium funds. Thank you.

See the book 'a pattern language' for how to design a walkable community for how people live and move. THANK YOU FOR ASKING US!!

Invest in introducing more people to Jesus

Pay for or build a homeless shelter in urbana

Absence of guaranteed healthy and safe homes, schools and work for anyone militates against peaceful, secure, and thriving Urbana spaces for everyone in our community

Make home ownership affordable for people tidy is really trying please this rent is higher than most mortgages

Fully supporting domestic violence survivors and their children.

I would like to see the Urbana HOME Consortium funding to support the priorities of the CSPH Strategic Plan - expanding permanent housing in particular.

Walk the neighborhoods with different lenses-especially in the evening hours. I'll walk them with you. -Renayee Westfield

It seems to me, as an advocate for individuals with disability, that the local housing game is a monopoly. Only some understand the rules and how to play, while others are left out of the room and cannot even see the instructions. Having one or two days out of the year where one can sign up for limited available housing adds undue pressure to folks who already misinterpret the world around them. This makes individuals who already feel excluded feel even more unwelcome. We need to demand change in the process, as well as add more homes to the inventory.

Affordable Housing PLEASE!!!!

So far i have not see any programs for people to do here to teach cooking crochet scrapbook. There isnt alot offered in community churches dont reach out to adults either for programs they offer. Seems nobody cares about people.

Outreach, more staff everywhere



### Remove blight

Yes

### Rent assistance!

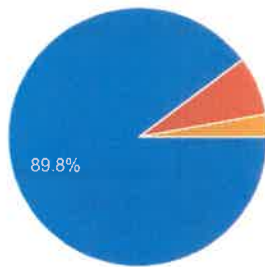
I think that being sure we are selecting businesses that reflect Urbana's historic values, allowing permits for businesses that are of benefit to low income families, not creating spaces for further addiction and debauchery.

### Resident Survey

#### Where do you live?

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176 responses

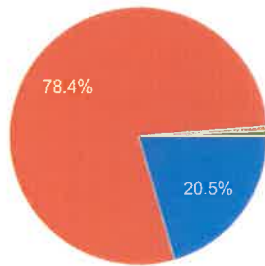


- City of Urbana
- City of Champaign
- Champaign County
- Outside Champaign County

#### Do you rent or own your primary residence?

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176 responses

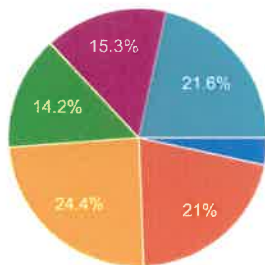


- Rent
- Own
- My wife owns the home.
- Homeless

#### Age

 Copy

176 responses



- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 and over

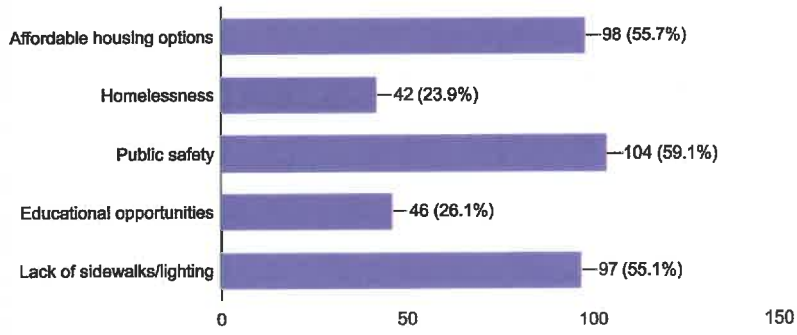




Which of the following needs or issues are a concern in your neighborhood? (Select all that apply.)



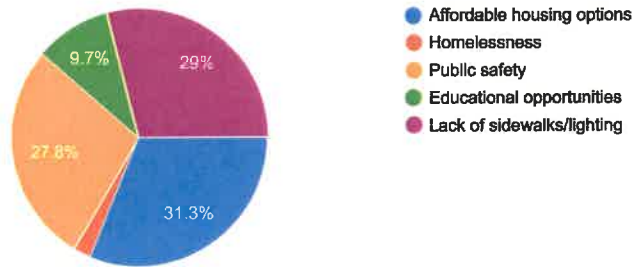
176 responses



Of the issues identified in the previous question, which is the greatest need in your neighborhood?



176 responses



Please provide any additional information about why the selection you made above is a concern in your neighborhood, including any specific examples you wish to share.

116 responses

Gun violence

Bus lines and bus stops are poorly lit, or not at all. This poses a risk for pedestrians, bike riders, and drivers alike.

Rent continues to increase and outside developers are increasingly creating luxury student apartments that are too expensive. Affordable housing and affordable rent are needed, especially as rent assistance programs are temporary.

The sidewalks are cracked and broken making it very difficult to use them. There is no lighting in our neighborhood at all.

Too many property owners are converting/flipping housing stock for rentals at higher than existing housing stock prices. Brings in new, wealthier neighbors but also drives out long-time residents who can neither afford to purchase nor rent at the new prices. Those properties owned by non-residents and awaiting a flip are allowed to deteriorate and are frequently rented in manner that would suggest an incomplete vetting of tenants resulting in high turnover and negative impact on neighborhood.

Our need is quality, caring, elder care both supportive living and nursing care. We need an option that is not owned by a corporation and driven by profits but rather people focused and quality of life focused priced at a level that keeps the system viable but doesn't gouge the elder in care.

I feel that opportunity mitigates many of the other issues. Whether a person is learning trade skills, given academic opportunities, or learning skills in health, agriculture or other fields; education helps folks develop the critical thinking skills needed to navigate your way through life.

Rent is increasing every year faster than inflation or wages

We just sold our home in order to move into a retirement community. The amount we sold it for has enabled us to move to the retirement/care facility, but no one but an already economically well-established couple could afford it. It was out of reach for a first time home buyer. That's true all over our neighborhood.

Rent for a small house is over \$1000 monthly!

I wish it were easier to cross Lincoln going to campus on a bike . Also, people seem to run red lights on vine st frequently

This area is a combination of modest homeowners and rental housing, with a few apartment complexes. The rental units are not well-maintained and are expensive, and their owners snap up any privately-owned properties that come on the market, driving the overall housing quality down.

I have had individuals knocking on my door at all hours of the night who are known problems by the police

I live near Cottage Grove and Washington and there are no streetlights in the area, which prevents me from walking my dog in the evening.

I often see homeless people carrying their personal belongings in plastic bags around Linnold Square, which is close to where I live.



Rental housing in general is overpriced and of low quality - more inspectors and regulations on rent prices and ownership of investment properties need to be implemented

Hire more police, and LET THEM DO THE JOB OF LOCKING UP CRIMINALS!!

I live in a neighborhood that is primarily starter homes. We bought our house for ~\$104,000 about 6 years ago. It's now projected at a worth over \$140,000. This is entirely because of a lack of supply and increased demand. It's a small home that should not be worth that much. With home loan rates of 7%, this seems like a real challenge for people.

In fact using <https://www.zillow.com/mortgage-calculator/house-affordability/> with the the median household income of 41,115 (the 2018-2022 median income in 2022 dollars via <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/urbanacityillinois/PST045222>), that person can purchase a home worth \$136,000 to \$158,000 depending on whether they save \$0 to \$20,000 for a downpayment.

If my house is prices outside the range of people at the median income level, there is a severe housing problem in our community.

Sometimes the road is not shoveled for a while, making it dangerous to drive, and it would also be nice to have street lights, but I know that that is expensive, so its not a large concern

Urbana brick sidewalks are not in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. These are rarely level, often slick, and always dangerous. This has gone beyond an aesthetic conversation for this city. It is ableist to not prioritize the repair or replacement of sidewalks in the city.

More lighting will help with safety for residents in the area

There are many cracks in the sidewalks which makes it difficult for those who use a wheelchair to maneuver and provide their mobility. There are street lights however many of them do not work.

I also wish trash would be picked up. There is random metal, broken liquor bottles, and other trash along the sidewalks and grass areas.

Frequent gunshots in the neighborhood.

It's hard to walk on already uneven sidewalks when it's dark out and no street lights in most areas. I have tripped several times and also making walking at night not feel safe.

The rent revolves around UIUC and that is not fair for people trying to find affordable housing and if you find it it's in buildings that are falling apart and or poor service and the landlords around here just capitalize on those that have less.

Finding a decent 1b1b under \$1000/mo is very difficult

You can't really see people walking in the street or the sidewalk that's my biggest issue I

It is very dark on a lot of streets throughout Urbana

Several shootings next to my house over the last six years, since I moved here. I heard a few of them myself and saw the police and talked to them. Also slashed tires once and saw someone on camera trying to get into my car.

There are no sidewalks in our neighborhood. There are mire families with young children Increasingly we see careless driving.

Housing is unaffordable everywhere!



I've been hearing more about crime and accostings in recent months. Generally gets worse during the summer. Would feel better with more patrols around.

There are occasional strange people who walk the train tracks behind my home. It's just creepy.

Several houses in neighborhood are unoccupied and in disrepair and

Wages are not high enough for mortgage prices (or rent prices for that matter)

By Public Safety, I have in mind concerns that do not pertain directly to "high crime." I am shoe-horning my concerns into this category, because NONE of your categories address my uppermost concerns regarding Community Needs. First, there is insufficient traffic monitoring in my neighborhood. At long last the city installed vehicle speed radar detection devices on Washington Street, but drivers ignore them. I see drivers hitting upper 40s-50s mph routinely. I know that police are diverted to investigating and monitoring more serious crime, but couldn't the city hire traffic monitors who could refer violators to police officers? Second, street maintenance in Urbana is abysmal! The poor condition of streets is a hazard to residents. Divert money from other programs and more aggressively seek grant funding or use funding from state/federal programs to fix the streets!!!

Several violent crimes and a home break in have occurred within several blocks of our home.

Numerous reports of repeat violent offenders at large in SE Urbana; aggressive panhandling, frequent theft and burglary

Last week I saw a person looking through the garbage for something to eat outside the Post Office in Urbana. People near downtown Urbana and Schnucks ask for money or stand on street corners with signs asking for money or help. Homelessness is a problem in Champaign-Urbana and affordable housing is needed to house camp hope in champaign, il people so they will not have to endure homelessness and the health issues that come with that.

Pedestrian and bike traffic on Country Club road between the children's home and Broadway needs to be better supported

About half of the houses in my neighborhood don't have sidewalks. Also there doesn't seem to be enough street sweep cleans to keep the sewer drains cleared. Neighborhood at ash and park.

The increase in prices translates to even higher property taxes which are already way way too high.

We will be receiving some new sidewalks and lighting but it is a very small area in the neighborhood. Many young children in the neighborhood who need to walk in the streets.

Home prices are so high that only "investors" can afford them. They turn these into rental properties to extract wealth from lower-class citizens, who cannot build equity in this arrangement.

My coworkers and friends are struggling to find affordable housing options. Rentals that are affordable and within a timely commute (15 min or less bus route, walk, bike ride). A lot of us do not have vehicles so a residence close to our workplace is essential.

High crime rates. Breaking into vehicles and homes.

I have had shots fired in front of my house, and an elderly neighborhood has been attacked while sitting in his yard.

There are existing older homes in need of rooves, tree trimming, cleaning, shed removal, etc. that could become lovely homes for families in need.



We need more lights on our streets, its too dark.

#### Thefts

All of the housing in this town is geared towards students. I love annd anp the campus. It helps build the town. However that's not all that exists here. Even if off campus, landlords will literally tell you they rent to students. The ones that are willing to rent to non students revolve their move in process around the students. For example you can only move in around mid to late august. If your previous lease ends early August, like most do, you will be homeless for 2 weeks. There needs to be housing that meets our non-student citizens needs! The apartments on vine and main are beautiful but sadly the majority of ppl I know including myself can't afford them. I work for the university and the rent there would be my entire paycheck for one 2 week pay period. Our options are get 3 jobs and afford the nice units and never actually get to live in it b/c you have to work to afford it. Or live in a non-safe neighborhood. If those neighborhoods could be made safe that could be a great thing.

There are no sidewalks and many people walk. We walk over 1 mile to Thomas Paine elementary down Webber, Fairlawn, etc. and people are always speeding by on their way to work but there are no sidewalks for half the way so we are always on the road. Also these roads can be kind of dark at night, a lot of the side streets, so extra lighting would make me feel safer at night.

It is very concerning that there seems to be a large amount of outside investment companies that are allowed to buy up affordable housing in mixed and low-income neighborhoods. Many times, houses are bought and rented out for high rental fees and then are neglected and go to ruin, there has been a burned-out abandoned house on my street for three years at least. Being able to buy a home for some, are the only way to build generational wealth.

Many streets with no sidewalks and the lighting is pretty much only a long main roads.

The lack of some curbs and deteriorating sidewalks in historic east Urbana is getting concerning. Even a road like S Urbana Ave going right by the Police and Fire departments, there is no curbs on the side of that road for some reason. The residents are then forced into walking in the street which is dangerous, especially around the speeding employees who work there. The sidewalks in the area are of low quality and need better, safer connections throughout the neighborhood. The street widths are far too wide for a neighborhood like this. Narrower streets will keep the traffic slower, and easier to cross.

actually, it is the lack of financial and economic opportunities, which begins with education.

Lighting on my street would go a long way toward public safety. Having a street that has a giant pool of water every time it rains would be amazing as well.

Poverty, violence, poor health, and lack of opportunity all contribute to the need for safety. I am in what \*could\* be considered a mixed income neighborhood but it feels very impoverished and scary due to drugs, gangs, and violence.

Increased evening police presence in the neighborhoods of Urbana.

The entrance to my road is the curve on Philo and is super dangerous for those walking

My rent has increased by \$400 in the last 4 years, and my income has been able to keep up.

While I think all the issues are interconnected, people having an affordable place to live is where you need to start to fix other issues.

I live in downtown Urbana because it is more affordable than campustown, midtown, or downtown Champaign. I like to live without a car so being near a transit hub nearby groceries is a boon. Rents have steadily increased over the past few years, though, and I can only afford to stay because my partner moved in with me and helps with rent.



Reckless drivers come through my neighborhood at high speeds all day and night. Too many kids, pets, and elders for that. Traditional traffic calming measures would help. License plate readers would not.

There are many empty apartments near to our home. They are kept in terrible shape by mostly absentee landlords. This kind of environment creates nooks and crannies where individuals can prey on one another and illegal activities can go on in unsupervised areas.

Random break ins, stealing mail from mail box, porch pirates, speeding like it's the Daytona 500, running stop sign at Myra Ridge Susan Stone primarily N to S and vice versa traffic.

Rental rates are increasing annually with no increases in wages or improvements in the property.

As you are well aware, Urbana has high taxes and I am hard pressed to maintain my home. I am still appalled that last year you invited the community to apply for porch replacement. I applied and never heard anything else. The process caused me to feel manipulated. It was as if you needed interested homeowners and that was the end of the matter. I would have liked to have seen the finished work. I even sent my contact info to an email address. No response at all. Furthermore, you did say the recipients were chosen in a lottery system. My point is there was no accountability on your part and you could have chosen anyone to your liking and we would be none the wiser. I am highlighting how lackadaisical the process was and frankly I am offended to have been involved.

There is starting to be an influx of illegals that are starting to cause safety concerns and bring crime into the communities.

Because there is a rise of homeless people. Even in my current apartment complex we have homeless folks that huddle around the building when it was cold.

There are too many murders that happen within a 0.5 mile radius of where I live.

I am excited to see what comes out of the Wiley shakeup in USD116 - are the rooftop solar rumors true? Thomas Paine too?

Allow secondary housing on residential lots.

Rent is disproportionately high compared to local wages and costs of living.

We have sidewalks, but many are not in good condition. I broke my ankle on an uneven sidewalk last year. Likewise, we have lighting, but it isn't nearly bright enough. Most streetlights are so high they are in trees, so they don't provide enough light.

I live near a residential neighborhood that continually has shootings and other violence. I live by a 3 way stop. People run the stop signs daily. I have had people gas it to hurry and beat me through the intersection. The other corner is a traffic light. People don't stop when it's red. We have traffic enforcement and the street lacks sidewalks. I see families going to the bus stop and have no choice but to walk in the street. It is only a matter of time before somebody gets seriously injured or killed.

The amount of Criminality that is allowed to run rampant is like cancer. It starts small ignoring, noise ordinances, disturbances of peace and domestics, then we end in shootings.

Perhaps forcing evictions of tenants with repeated calls to police.

Also the extreme amount of harassment Asian people get from this community is offensive. Cannot ride a bus or go to the store without community members sexually harassing them or getting irate due to not giving money to panhandlers.

Especially after one of that community shot a man for saying no over a cigarette. And after attacking the Thai and Lao community at Golden Wok.



Panhandling needs to start being charged as menacing as how rude and fear inducing it can be.

A person attempted to car jack me while I was pulling out of my driveway. Reported to police but they didn't seem to care.

crime is way out of control

Cars drive way too fast on my street.

My 2bd 1ba duplex has my rent going from \$850.00 currently to \$1,175.00 at lease renewal. The explanation: when you move out we can rehab the unit and get more money for the unit based on the current market. By the way I currently have an open gap in between my sofet & roof as well as many other structural issues to the roof. So in short, landlords won't do repairs on affordable housing just to make you move but I can't afford to live anywhere else in Urbana.

Aging infrastructure

We are forced to walk in the unlit street to leave out neighborhood even on dark snowy days

There are very few sidewalks in my neighborhood (Burkwood Dr) and there is almost no lighting

In Myra Ridge, there are virtually no street lights. Some yards have their own small street lights, but ours hasn't worked for 3 years.

There have been incidents of vandalism to the vehicles in my apartment complex parking lot - some of them in the middle of the evening, not late at night. Also there are signs of people loitering in our parking lot. As a woman who lives alone, I feel afraid to be in my lot after dark because of this. I would like increased police patrols in the parking lots, especially because our complex, Amber Pointe, sets off the street. Not much of our parking can be observed from the road alongside the complex.

Also, on nearby streets (Windsor and Stone Creek) people race motorcycles or cars and it is scary to be on those roads at night.

Rents and home prices have gotten more and more expensive as more companies have been buying properties for investments. It's harder to find non-student housing and homeownership is still impossible for me even with small "starter" homes or fixer uppers.

There's also more streetlights that have been going dark and stretches of sidewalk that either get overrun by mud or are nearly unusable due to tree roots damaging them.

It's in a relatively bad neighborhood

Very difficult to walk neighborhood at night due to uneven/cracked/narrow sidewalks and poor lighting to see any hazards. Neighborhoods should be accessible to their residents at night, not just during the day when most people aren't even home. A fixation on "dark skies" is creating issues of ableism and lack of accessibility.

In particular, the roads are all messed up. Pot holes, broken and cracks that devalue vehicles that have to drive over it every day and destroy the shocks etc. of the vehicles.

Most of the area doesn't have lights, and the potholes are pretty bad.

At night the streets are so dark you can't see who's walking and driving requires high beam lights.

Lots of pedestrian traffic, and as I grow older, it's sometimes hard to see at night

We need a youth center somewhere near King School in Urbana to keep the youth occupied and off the streets



We don't have but maybe 4 lights for the entire mile stretch of road on this block. The sidewalk is ok as long as it's not blocked. But since the class of people has changed we need better lighting in the area.

We need more people friendly areas and transition away from motor vehicles. More sidewalks and bike paths would be good.

Pool light, cut off tree branches

The drivers in Champaign/Urbana are getting worse and worse. Reckless aggression and music at sound levels loud enough to rattle house windows from blocks away.

Scovill street between Lynn and Philo needs more street lights. It is a very dark road to walk and/or travel on after dark. Hardly any homes use their porch or driveway lights. It isn't safe. It might help with the uptick in crime and vandalism as well.

We have sidewalks but tree roots have raised slabs creating walking hazards.

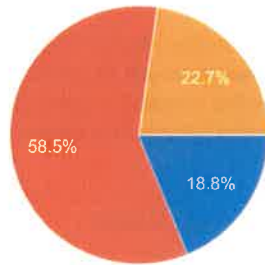
The few blocks south of Vine and Illinois leading up to Vine and Washington is always obnoxious—it is a constant mix of cars fighting over the lane change (loud/angry honking several times a day), cars backed up because of the 4-way stop at Vine and Washington, or for whatever reason general civilians screaming at any given time.

15 more responses are hidden \*CONTINUED RESPONSES INCLUDED IN ATTACHMENT

In general, how adequate do you feel services currently are for low-income residents in the community?



176 responses



- Adequate; Needs are already being met.
- Somewhat adequate; Some needs are being met, but additional or expanded services are needed.
- Inadequate; Services are nonexistent, inaccessible, or fall short of where they need to be.





Please provide any additional comments related to specific service needs in your community.

72 responses

Need more safe transportation, more bike paths, and bridges for people and animals to cross busy roads.

All homeless and housing support organizations are overtaxed, beyond capacity, and still have gaps and needs (mental health resources, resources for marginalized communities, mental health and case management assistance)

Our neighborhoods are becoming increasingly unwelcoming to folks who do not drive. MTD stops are moved or located in hazardous areas. Sidewalks are either non-existent or deteriorating. Elderly and low income owners do not have access to capital that would allow them to update, rehab, or even maintain their homes. City services might be available but increasing reliance on internet based communication (like this survey) restrict access and opportunity to learn about programs.

Recreation

It's not that the services are not there; it's the convoluted and extremely tedious steps that those that need the services have to endure to acquire those services. Additionally, some of the most needy persons of those services are not capable of filling out pages and pages of forms to get the assistance they may direly need.

The sidewalks are cracked, uneven, and inaccessible to anyone who uses mobility devices

Some neighbors don't secure their trash bins and trash flies out with wind

There is a need to make sure that all the basic needs of the poor, the infirm, and the old are sufficiently met. The institutions of local and state governments will do well to focus on building and strengthening the services instead of increasing spending on policing and prisons. A genuine commitment to building functioning and effective communities will enhance social health.

Need to stop paying for lazy people, and get our property taxes lowered

I'm not acquainted with the level of services for low-income residents, but I'd rather support them rather than work against them.

Need more help for low-income women, shelters for women, and more hands up to people who need the help.

There are services, but there is not enough public outreach to meet people where they are to tell them about the resources available to them. And assistance for those who fill out the forms because there is a lot of jargon that makes those forms difficult to fill out. Also assistance for those who primary language isn't English getting services they need should be provided.

I don't work for public housing, but I work with a lot of apartments that deal with public housing, and the system is a vocal complaint from many of them.

I have seen plenty of homeless people and many panhandlers. People have asked me for money and rides countless times.

Public transportation is inefficient. Cycling is not supported by infrastructural decisions. For example: it should be possible to reach any of the pools safely on foot, by bike, car or public transportation.



Everything seems alright. Looked into the budget a while back and noticed a bit more money going to programs that studies generally seem to discredit than I would prefer. We have enough sidewalks, but their condition is pretty messed up.

I don't know how to judge the community's needs for this.

There are not enough affordable housing or affordable rentals available

What is the participation rate among low-income residents in the existing services in each of the categories listed: educational opportunities, recreation, after-school programs, and transportation? If the targeted population is not fully utilizing existing services, it doesn't make sense to create additional services. (I cannot make a sound recommendation without this data.) Assuming some of these programs are not being used to the extent available, maybe the city could explore ways to enable low-income residents to use existing services more effectively? or find out why utilization falls short?

We need more housing for homeless families and vets . We have the money to give other countries but we need to take care of our own first.

In the city as a whole we need more affordable housing and better street lighting.

We have a substantial stock of low-priced rentals

I went to a presentation on Hope Village at the Urbana Library. I am grateful the project is under way but at the meeting some of the people who live close to Hope Village talked about their neighborhood being low income and they needed help. I believe there is a great need for support for lower income communities to prevent homelessness.

I appreciate the existing programs but the need just seems great

My section of Urbana seems to be ignored by the city. I have to file complaints about issues and they only sometimes get resolved. Mostly neighbors with trash in their yards but a lot of noise issues too mostly from the renters very late at night.

expanding bussing would help those with limited transportation.

There are various food pantries in town, but you still need to pick up the food. If there are services that do food pantry dropoffs, I am not aware. It's hard for the elderly residents without cars to access these specific services.

I am unsure what services are available.

Housing costs are out of control. Local ownership has been eroded by huge corporate and absentee landowners.

More Street Lights

More police

I grew up in East urbana and would love to see south east urbana be as great as it has the potential to be. Safe and more business!! I'm currently closer to downtown urbana. south of Lincoln square and love the neighborhood vibe.

sidewalks need repairs and are sometimes inaccessible for mobile challenged individuals,

Not being low-income, it's hard to answer questions about the needs of that community.

lack of business and investment opportunities

Increased bus service and bus infrastructure are needed near me



Drastically increase food security and resources, including affordable or free culturally aware/sensitive (and trauma-informed) mental health providers, community education, neighborhood resources (how to be a good neighbor, how to talk to your neighbors), better oversight of rental home inspections and response to blighted neighborhoods, better oversight of landlords and poorly maintained properties, funding (grants, scholarships, partnerships) to increase home ownership, more staffing/funding for social work partnerships with Urbana PD to respond to issues.

Small business grants and use of empty commercial spaces that promotes loitering and people not wanting to live here

Maybe it is just my perception of UMS/UHS is lots of absenteeism, low test scores, low grades, and frequent fights at dismissal. The most affordable parts of town in NE Urbana are not well-served by the Ruby (1-hour frequency) and Gold routes (AM/PM weekday service only). I wish there were more townhomes—more than just by Colorado and by the interstate. One shining light is the parks district, though. The programming at Phillips Rec, cleanliness of the parks and their constant improvement are a source of pride.

I have no comments.

Do not invite illegals!

We need for

I am not familiar with services for low-income residents, because I do not need them.

The Carle Foundation need to pay their fairshare. The lost revenues to this community due to the profitability of that non-for-profit corporation are astounding and atrocious. The board are all whitecollar bandits bleeding this community dry and anyone associated with that organization should be ashamed.

Utilities have sky rocketed so things like LiHeap do not go far enough. Internet, a car and a cell phone are required for finding and maintaining a job here these days but there is very little assistance for these. If you get solar then you end up paying more because Liheap won't cover it. Cap rent or provide more resources to offset costs required to actually live in this town.

I'm unhappy with the changes happening at 116 and I'm concerned it will have negative repercussions on the neighborhood.

I think if tax dollars are going to provide affordable housing then there should be some stipulation as to who is allowed in the housing and rules put in place. I'm tired of seeing my tax dollars going to affordable housing that turns into drug dealer neighborhoods

There needs to be HD cameras along all the main streets. And add the plate cameras in Urbana.

Extra cameras placed in locations where those arrested frequently and in large numbers in an area live.

Those who stay at the Homeless Shelter need to have a photo taken, and fingerprints which are given to police.

Or stay elsewhere.

Restrict stay at Homeless Shelters to those who can prove longterm residence in Chambana within 7 years.

Many of Urbana's previous zoning and policing decisions have had a huge negative impact on the city. These impacts are on quality of life and public safety. I plan on leaving if things don't improve.

stop giving cash to illegals

My answer is more for Urbana as a whole. It is hard for needy individuals to find and/or apply for help.



I am not a low income resident, but I have friends that are. It seems some needs are met (transportation and recreation are good), but there can always be more support for them

I appreciate the programs and assistance we are trying to give to income residents. I said somewhat adequate because if it was fully fixed, it'd be a lot harder to see the homelessness and housing segregation in our town.

I would like to see increased filtration and ventilation of air in public indoor spaces - city buildings, courts, restaurants, stores, schools, hospitals/clinics, offices, etc. - to meet or exceed AHSRAE Standard 241, Control of Infectious Aerosols.

We need more protected pedestrian crossings around downtown, with signage and paint and thrust out curbs. I'd also like to see more restrictions requiring owner occupancy for single family resident housing, and rent caps based on minimum wage for other housing. Also the stretch of Springfield avenue from the Philips rec center to Lincoln Ave is a Disaster, both the road and much of the sidewalk is terrible.

There should be no reason there so many homeless people on our community

There is a severe lack of single-family homes for sale. This is in part because existing single-family homes are bought up by landlords who then charge by the bedroom. Another contributing problem is all the single-family homes being turned into Air BNBs.

There's no help available if you don't have young children or elderly person of the required age. Revise to 55 year old or AARP status.

King Park needs to be upgraded

There are plenty of opportunities for low income families and residents in our area they're just being underutilized or abused. I think a better regulation on how they're used would be a better use of most of those funds.

Just pool light needs, cut off the front tree branches

It is my sincere hope the City doesn't use the \$500k grant on the usual and customary projects. Bold leadership and vision is desperately needed in these challenging times.

Need to help seniors with home improvement more food resources and counseling

My neighborhood has terrible roads and housing blight is allowed everywhere, leading to ppl thinking they can dump trash.

Our schools are failing

Low-income housing needs to be expanded to meet the needs of immigrant families. Urbana School District has an academically thriving French Dual Language program. But the program is at risk of being dissolved because Urbana is not able to meet the housing and job needs of Congolese immigrants.

More support for homeowners for home repairs.

Affordable housing and homelessness are interlinked. Lots of gunfire nearby

Immigrant resources are needed.

I wish there was an option for not sure in question above. Given the larger unhoused population, I bet we could do more- but that means taking an integrative approach - to address income distress, behavioral health issues, better addiction treatment options, social services and job training/ Ed programs.



Our comment here is regarding a very big but simple project, namely the start of spreading and educating a big improvement in Society, which is a big necessity and a great opportunity for Urbana-Champaign. The school system must include, which sooner or later it will be done, the education of the following method and system for the big-picture knowledge and hence for stability in society (in addition to the education for detailed knowledge). I am sure that if Washington and Lincoln would have known the ideas for this method and system for stability, they would have started to initiate them. In our time this initiation is much more feasible. Therefore we ask the City of Urbana to consider helping to start a implementing in school the education/ spreading the ideas for this method and system for stability in Society.

From a lifetime effort here in Urbana-Champaign

- We recognize that the Societies are tragically unstable/ divided now and were divided along history by the lack of the big-picture knowledge and by negative propaganda, both in society and in science. As a result the Societies were dominated along history and also in our time by tragic divisions, conflicts, wars, and finally by self-destruction.

- We found and published that surprisingly these tragic instabilities can be simply reduced if people start learning the big-picture knowledge in Society by:

"The Systematic Practice of the Method for Broad Thinking on the Major Opposing Views of liberals and conservatives, as the Only Way to See the Missing Facts and to Adopt Functional and Wise Views for the Problems and Solutions at the Foundations of Light, Physics, Science In General, and of Society."

We published a paper with a title close to this in Journal of Physics and Astronomy, Vol. 11, Issue 2.

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Please consider this proposal, and may you need to discuss with me on it ...

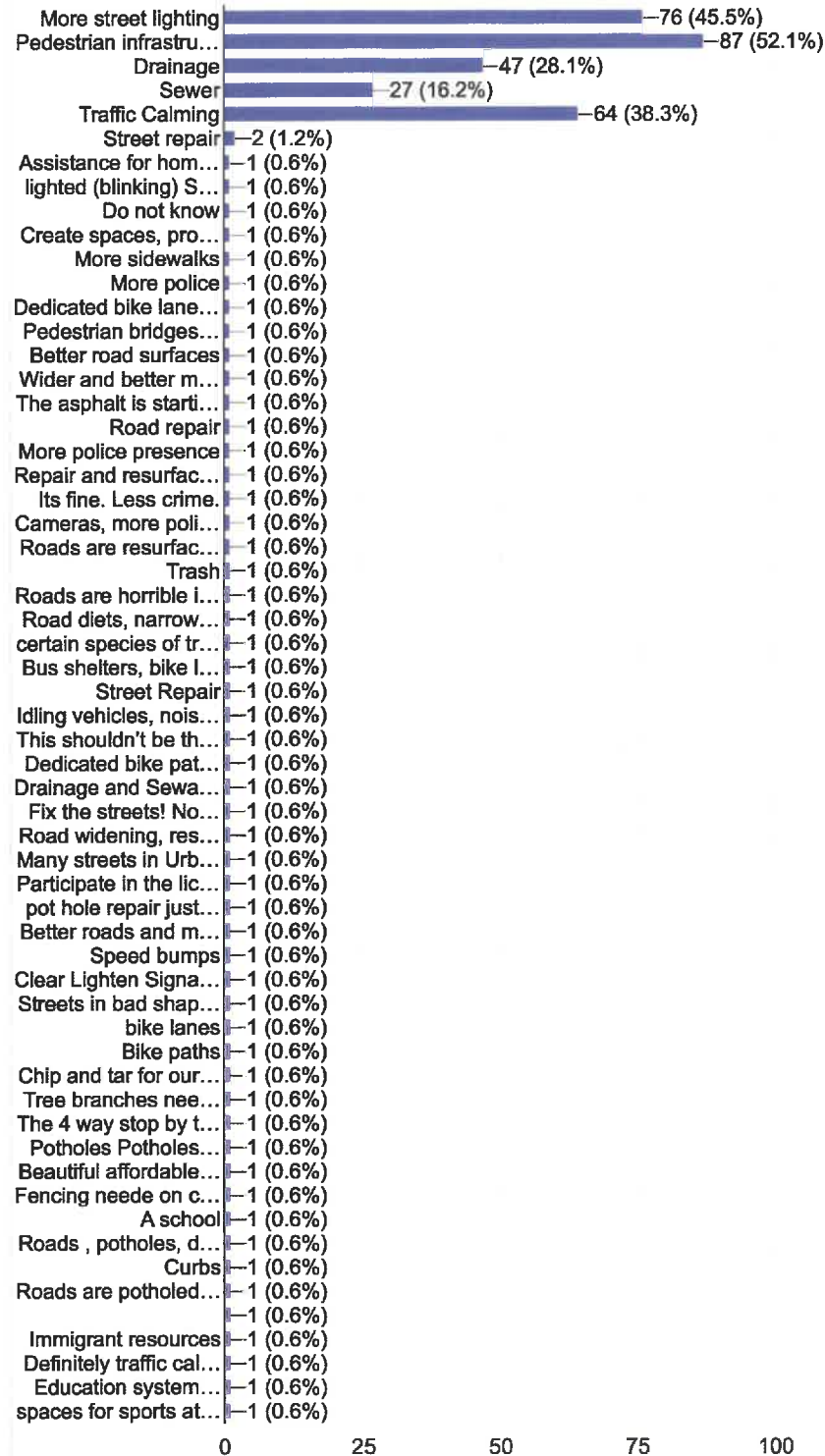
more positive teen engagement is of critical importance





Which infrastructure improvements, if any, are needed in your neighborhood? (Select all that apply.)

167 responses



Please feel free to share any specific infrastructure issues in your neighborhood, noting the location (for example, "Poor lighting at the northeast corner of Vine and Elm Street")

88 responses

Sidewalk is missing on Southwood dr near bus stop

More lighting could be used around green street and elm in Urbana and the sidewalks are often unlevel or nonexistent along side streets.

These needs are apparent and have been well documented over the years - read the reports.

Kinch street and philo rd are in desperate need of maintenance and repair.

Blinking stop signs at Fairview, Busy and Coler intersections.. Also at Goodwin, Beslin and Fairview intersection.

Need lighting on Nevada and Walnut streets.

There is poor lighting on Harding Dr on the section of the road closest to Philo

Absent lighting on Cottage Grove near Washington. Very fast drivers southbound Cottage Grove.

Replace stop signs with stop light at Vine and Florida, or at least during busy times a traffic officer.

Bigger jail to detain more criminals

Poor sidewalks in HEUNA. This is not a winter issue. It is rains the brick gets muddy and slippery for all pedestrians. They are often overgrown with moss creating hazardous conditions for people on wheelchairs and those on foot.

Poor lighting along Cottage Grove between Washington and Florida. Lack of stop signs along that stretch leads to drag racing and speeding. The stop sign at Cottage Grove and Pennsylvania is ignored the majority of the time from those on Cottage Grove

Trash in front of Wiley school. Kids play over there and there is broken glass bottles, cigarette buds, paper, and trash.

Sidewalks down Florida could use some tending too.

Poor lighting along Austin Dr. and Ivanhoe Way.

Just walk down Pennsylvania the state streets/ fairlawn/ cottage to see the lack of lightening in parts that's well lit/ parts that are not at all.

Pot holes all over the street making it hard to also bike and sidewalks are uneven.

Crossing Lincoln Street in some areas is very dangerous as there is a need for more crosswalks. A crosswalk should be added on Lincoln and Oregon. Snow removal from the sidewalks in historical urbana doesn't happen to the best quality. The brick sidewalks are very uneven and dangerous

I don't feel comfortable with cars park on our street because we can't see them in their cars because they have tinted windows

Corner of east Nevada and S Walnut is very dark



Hagan Blvd needs better surfacing, GH Baker Drive surface, light, sidewalks bike paths

No sidewalks on streets like Wabash and Lynn south of Washington. Washington Avenue is a high speed runway for 4 wheel vehicles (think appreciate the recent addition of electric speed signage). Bike lanes need to be wider and there's always branches and rocks in them.

Sidewalks to the East of UIUC are in a pretty dire state.

Sump pump draining into South Race St at 710 and drowning the sidewalk. Sidewalk and pedestrian crossing at Race and Washington feels very unsafe, have almost been hit multiple times.

Pot holes forming on east Main Street

My street is blacktop and in good repair. ALL HEAVILY TRAVELED ROADS are badly in need of resurfacing

No sidewalks and poor lighting on Willow or Golfview

Draining is a chronic problem during and after heavy rainfall along Washington St. and other areas in HEUNA. Pooling poses mobility/fall hazards to residents. No doubt Public Works staff is insufficient to remediate drainage issues, but you wouldn't need full-time salaried staff to address this issue. Interns could do an assessment/survey, and low-level staff could target the areas of greatest concern in a timely manner following heavy rainfall. The city cannot expect residents to clear clogged street drains.

More lighting on Timothy trail and in the whole neighborhood.

In area bounded by Vine, Anderson, Pennsylvania and Florida sidewalks need repair and several homes have required sewer line repair.

Florida Avenue from Vine to Lincoln is in terrible shape, as is Oregon from Lincoln to Goodwin.

I live on Mumford near YR school, and have asked for a speed table or a stop sign at cottage grove. People FLY down the street and kids cross wherever they want after school.

intersection of Lynn and Fairlawn. Street floods during rain.

Many people speed down Kerr between Broadway and Cunningham, and down Division between country club road and Kerr. There are lots of kids playing in the neighborhood, so it could be dangerous.

From Vine to Cottage Grove, both Washington and Oregon are treated like speedways. At night, motorcyclists use it as a literal racetrack.

side walks are not level/accessable for physically impaired

East Urbana...

Poor lighting in the neighborhoods behind Thomas Paine Elementary

Noise du to new grocery store

None

Poor lighting all over east Urbana neighborhoods

We live along Mumford and people race through all the time. It seems dangerous a lot of the time.





S Urbana Ave is in dire need of servicing with curbs and a quality sidewalk system. The area around the Lincoln Square Mall is quite sad and the roads surrounding it create a moat around downtown Urbana. There is no reason for there to be 4/5 lane road widths surrounding the downtown Urbana area. If you want your residents to give back to its community, that community needs to be better connected to itself. The apartment building at Main and Vine is a great example that people want to live closer to downtown. Building more housing and less parking lots is a surefire way to make the downtown area more livable and walkable. Give more priority to pedestrians, bikers and buses, and less priority to private vehicles (and the residents who own them that live outside of Urbana i.e. Philo, Sidney, St. Joseph) and downtown will become a place people will want to BE and LIVE IN, not just pass through.

Poor drainage/ too small storm drain at N Willow rd. East side of street by toro loco parking lot silver maples throughout the community spreading their little helicopters..

At the corner of Country Squire Drive and Lunch there has been a street wide puddle every rain in the 15 years I've lived here. They've fixed part of the intersection, but they never fixed the transition between the concrete and the tar and chip that is put down regularly. The amount of money the city has wasted on tar and chip is this area rather than permanently fixing this area over the last decade is disgusting.

Huge turnover at 1002 E. Harding and 906 E. Harding (Ambassador East and Ambassador West 'condos'). The loudest, poorest, and most volatile people tend to live here and the population rotates on. 3-4-6 month basis. Suspected drug dealing and sex work. Dangerous behavior such as lighting fireworks in the middle of the street and aiming them at other properties. Lots of junk and trash left in the street. These properties are highly suspicious as I don't believe there are any owner-occupied units.

Poor sidewalks all down Fairlawn Drive

Lanes feel quite wide at Main Street in downtown, there is speeding along Race between University and Main at night/weekends, and I love the trees but brick sidewalk tend to buckle around them.

Washington Street between Race and Busey is a speed alley. Along the same stretch, a lot of water stands in the street, sidewalks are sinking. Drainage is generally an issue, and in winter it becomes an ice issue.

Cars moving too fast down University in downtown Champaign and to the east

The street lighting that exists in the Vawter/Silver area is provided by exterior lights on the apartments. I have not visited that area at night to see what the city is providing, but I know it's been dark in that area.

Poor lighting around Lincolnshire West. A desire to make the city more walkable and bike-able on the west-side of Champaign. Urbana has the same issue \*\*unless\*\* you're on campus.

CONSTANT RACING ON AIRPORT ROAD IN EVENINGS

There are far too many reckless drivers, but specifically Dodson and S Smith streets are very often a free-for-all.

the streets are a [REDACTED] joke and the dump gravel [REDACTED] is obnoxious. Florida Ave, basically all across town, until your east of Philo, is flat out unacceptable.

Flooding at Florida and Rutledge

Poor lighting and drainage on Anderson. Sidewalks on the east side of Anderson aren't great either.



I live on North Smith road between 150 and main Street. We can hardly get out of our driveways because people refuse to stop at the traffic light and the three-way stop. These are all traffic violations, but there's not enough officers to control the area. We take our lives into our hands daily driving on this road. Families that use this road to get to the bus stop are taking their lives in their hands daily. It's gotten out of hand

Poor street condition on Rutherford

Zero street lights on Montclair Rd. - this should be improved.

Traffic calming on Washington St east of Vine. Despite addition of "your speed" signage, drivers continue to accelerate once they are past signs.

Cars speeding on Lincolnwood.

Poor lighting and no sidewalks near Burkwood Dr and Cottage grove

Bad/broken street lights on Park Ridge Drive in Urbana (and throughout Myra Ridge)

I'm not sure how to fix the vehicular racing on Windsor between High Cross road and Philo road or along Stone Creek road. Maybe more stop signs or stop lights?

Zero drainage on Springfield Ave by the Philips rec center. Lack of safe pedestrian crossings by the Firestone, strawberry fields, and Springfield and Main Street. Pedestrians cyclists and motorists all treat it as a free for all.

Poor lighting and deteriorating sidewalks in Myra Ridge neighborhood.

Poor lighting on Mumford Drive between vine and Anderson Rd.

Beslin & wright st in Urbana need speed bumps

Streets are not smooth, cracks streets, poor lightening, no sidewalk Street Walking.

We definitely need stop signs at the East and West corners of West Eads Street and Matthews Street because of speeding in a residential neighborhood. We are concerned for the safety of children

Right lane merge on Florida right after crossing Lincoln is unsafe and unnecessary. Farthest right lane approaching lincoln and the light on florida should be right turn only.

Crumbling pavement on South Walnut Street. Drainage will become a problem again if Mayor's idea of building apartment complexes south of Lincoln Square becomes a reality

Poor lighting on East Pennsylvania Avenue between Anderson and Cottage grove

Poor lighting on eastern ave, Perkins, Kerr and Carroll. Terrible drainage on the sidewalk on Perkins road.

Secure neighbors watch with light

Sidewalk issues west side Hillcrest street

Inadequate lighting in the University Downs neighborhood near Meadowbrook Park, standing water during precipitation on Brookens Circle near the corner of E Willard St due to a dip in the road

N/A

Poor lightning on high and Brady



Kerr and Cunningham is too fast- ppl race dangerously and dump trash. We are getting sidewalks through the equity grant but geraldine road is trash and needs repair.

Poor street lighting on Brighton Drive between Anderson and Cottage Grove. Lots of pedestrians at night and only half the block is lit up. In the summer the trees all but block the lights.

Pedestrian/bike bridge on high cross road over I-74

Vine street needs its roads re-paved all of the way to Windsor Road

Roads in neighborhood around Yankee Ridge have noticeably deteriorated since fiber cable was installed. My driveway (503 Eliot) is subsiding into the manhole cover - reported numerous times, only one response to patch with blacktop, which has also subsided.

The side walks on Race between Nevada and Green are terrible for walking: uneven, parts fill with water and lots of tree roots

It feels dark on some streets like maple has no street lights and I walk my dog on south Anderson near Mumford and some of those streets between Anderson and Vine seem dark (but that's just a perception based on my flawed memory).

The education system must include the education for a method and system for stability

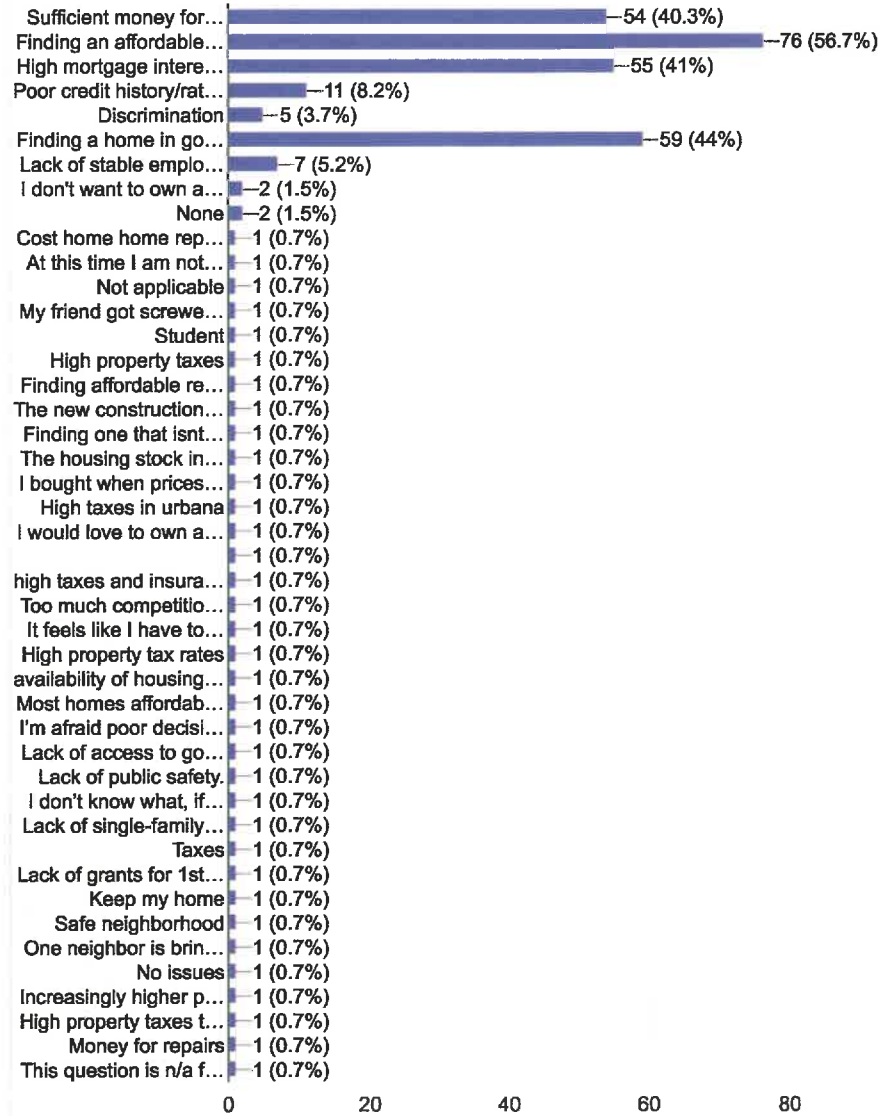
lighting and crosswalks at bradley and lincoln near the bus stop- lots of students live in apartment complexes near there





If you own your home, or would like to become a homeowner, what barriers, if any, have you experienced to purchasing a home? (Select all that apply.)

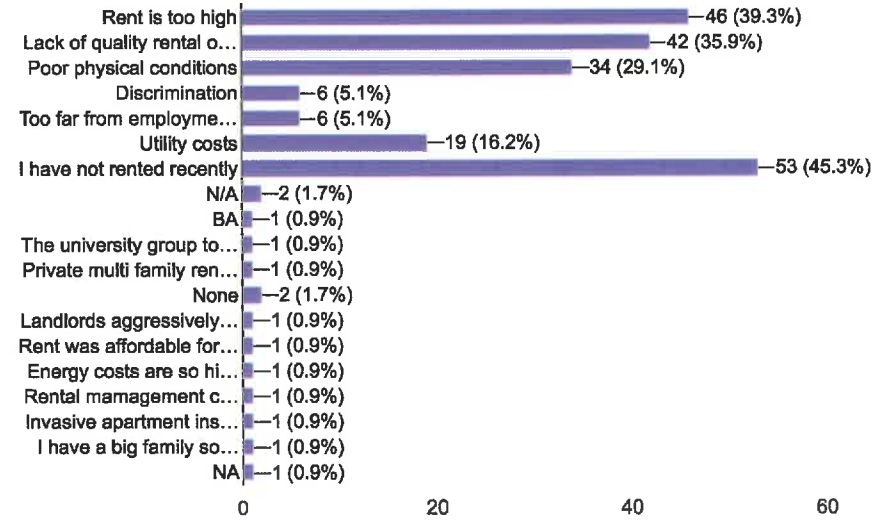
134 responses



If you rent, or have rented recently, what issues, if any, have you experienced? (Select all that apply.)

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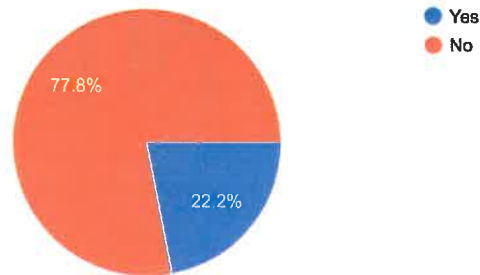
117 responses



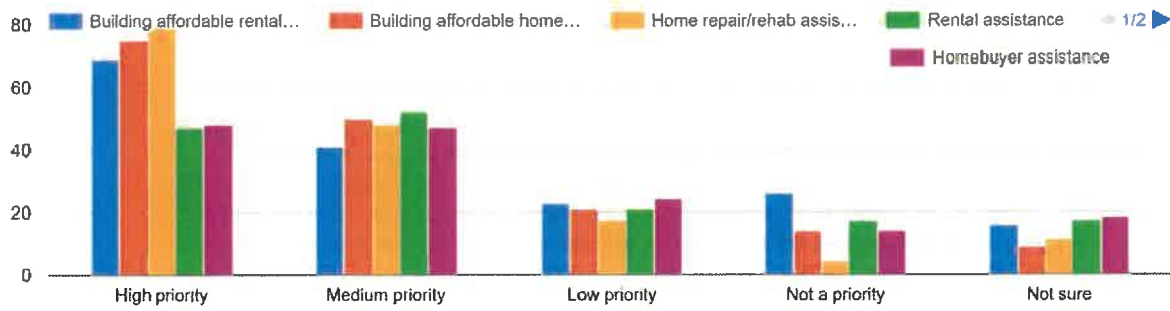
Have you or your household ever had to temporarily give up paying for food, utilities, or healthcare to pay your rent or mortgage?

 Copy

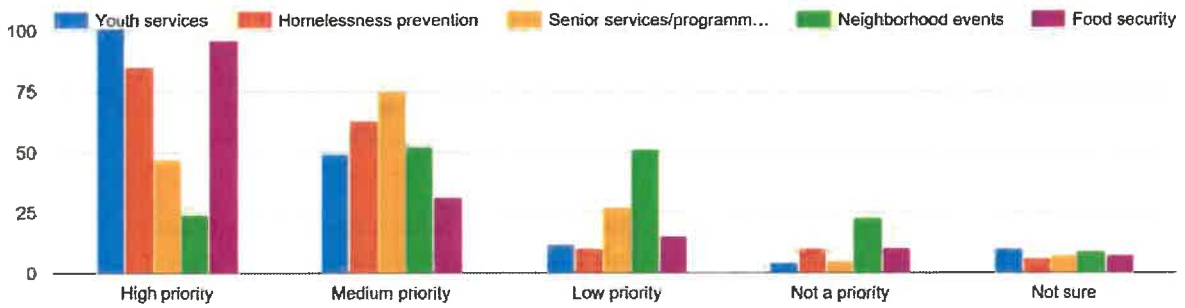
176 responses



How should the City prioritize spending for different kinds of housing projects? (Scroll right to see additional options if using mobile web browser.)



How should the City prioritize spending on other public services? (Scroll right to see additional options if using mobile web browser.)



Please provide any additional information about the prioritizations you made above, including any specific examples you wish to share.

51 responses

Kids need more support, food, health and activities to keep the brain from going idle.

I live with 2 children in a home with lead paint and active knob and tube wiring. Low income families cannot afford to rewire their homes.

I believe that if there could be any other service added, it should be one where the youth interact with the seniors in the city. Our youth need to make the connection with our seniors and gain the wisdom and knowledge that many of our seniors can pass on to help them navigate certain life experiences they may have. Additionally, it is imperative that our youth, especially youth of color, engage more in civic matters and be exposed to the employment possibilities available to them in those areas; as well as learning how government (actually) works.

The city needs to attract business downtown. I don't know if this would mean lower taxes or other economic incentives. It's a shame to see so little activity and so many empty places. Revitalize through a Main Street program?

Hire more cops to lock up criminals

Regarding the housing situation, we need to be concerned with the long term. Providing financial assistance now is fine, but it should only be done if we can address the root cause (lack of supply). One potential option would be to remove zoning laws and allow people to invest in the city, building the housing we need for the future.

Regarding other services, anything that can be done to alleviate the pains of poverty will help most with crime. As far as I'm aware, our community still sees a violent crime rate that's higher than the national average. We as a community should be pooling our resources to reduce poverty and thereby reduce crime.

Home repair/rehab assistance is needed in the area as many homes are older and need these repairs, low-income individuals like myself can afford to purchase the home, but then cannot afford to make the proper repairs as they come up because there isn't any help for homeowners for these issues

I would love to see more specific programs for pre teens and teenagers beyond sports. There isn't much for them. STEM project, Arts, music, and life skills.

More interventions should be had to get the homeless into stable housing so that they may rebuild their lives. It's shouldn't just be removing homeless people from public spaces

We need mote events in downtown Urbana. It's a beautiful area and we need to keep it alive

Everything's already pretty low-cost. Taxes are a common complaint though - it's why a lot of kids don't stick around after graduating. U of I trains good engineers, and then they move somewhere else.

Main Street could use pavement patches. Not rock and bitumen fill.

The city cannot compensate for all social problems. Obviously the Urbana schools are a catastrophe, but the city should not attempt to make up for the schools' shortcomings. Youth services should be the purview of public schools. Homelessness is best addressed by private entities, which can target specific services. Two areas where the city can make a difference and improve quality of life in Urbana are food security and services for seniors.



Currently I volunteer at The Daily Bread Soup Kitchen and know Champaign-Urbana has food insecurity issues. When I worked at UIUC I knew there were students who were food insecure.

None

The seniors get some assistance around town but after helping friends and family with finding assistance, I learned that seniors actually get very little help. For example, a lot of seniors apply for link and clearly they no longer work anymore and they get like \$50. I know Stonecreek was a good help to provide food and deliver it but I don't think they have the food pantry anymore and that kind of hurts the Urbana community.

I would love to afford a home I'm sure I could pay my mortgage because I pay rent and rent is high. I have reached out to homeowner programs in town, and they actually have never even returned my call.

Youth programs for our teens seems to be a high priority. There have been so many shootings that involve teenagers. It's scary. A program to specifically combat That would be amazing. There are people terrified to send their middle in high school students to Urbana school district. It shouldn't be that way.

Summer youth services are so important for families, and the city does a great job through the parks department. I would like to see this continue and expand, especially summer camps and childcare assistance

I know someone who has been renting a house and the landlord just informed them the rent will increase 23 percent, that is unacceptable!

Basic needs first! Take care of food, sheltering and protecting elders and youth (food, shelter, safety). Social events may help, especially in reducing isolation, but not as a first step. Youth programs need to focus on mental health, safety, and emotional and neurological regulation for individuals and families. All programs addressing these issues need to acknowledge the root causes of systemic classism, racism, sexism, etc. in order to make effective change. Community members need to be included (beyond surveys) in decision making and program development and delivery (and evaluation).

Rental properties and the process does not prompt long term housing security and should not be a priority

A lot of kids in my area get into trouble and I think it is primarily because they don't have more appropriate things to do. With the cost of food being ridiculously high, food security is becoming more of an issue. There are a lot of homeless people in this area, so it's clear we need more services to prevent homelessness and assist those who are homeless.

Policies deterring homelessness and eviction are the most important to our community, even if investing in them does not directly benefit me personally. Few things are as disruptive to a person's life as removing their shelter and it should be our goal as a community to view shelter as a right. Food is important but there are federal supports and the situation does not seem as dire. The downsides of homelessness seem so much larger than the other items here.

There are many rental units in the Silve/Vawter area not are not in a condition to rent. One whole building is closed because the condition of the apartments is not livable. Why can't the city do something to see that existing housing is up to code and available? Could the city buy these apartments and make them rentable? Why is the discussion always about new housing, while no one ever talks about taking current rental stock that is below code and making it livable.

Our youth need to learn the importance of working. They expect to live with their parents for the rest of their lives and incentives for working and getting something of their own.

Please think about the working class. Think of those who are struggling so hard that they haven't grocery shopped in months. Struggling so hard that you can't live anywhere practically





safe. All of the "cheap" apartments are extremely run down, ran by slumlords, and have a high crime issue.

I am in the general mindset that housing costs across the board for renters and homeowners are far too high with no end in sight. There is no way property values are actually what they appear to be.

we need a ██████ more shelter beds and we need non-for-profit in-patient addiction recovery services

Make sure Carles mini housing project stays true to what they claim it's purpose was.

Our schools are being tasked to solve problems they were never equipped to solve. Youth services and making sure low income families are not fighting to survive so they can focus on healing, connecting and creating community.

Cameras at all major bus stops with live feeds to police.

I think good youth services might help prevent other issues. The schools can't do it all.

Public safety is sorely lacking in Urbana.

Investment in affordable housing should not be concentrated in disadvantaged areas. I know UIUC helps us to have quality transit, but we still need investment in transit. I recently took a CUMTD survey because there are considering modifications to a route that would negatively affect me. You all need to consider transportation when asking about investment in public services.

I think food security is not a city government issue, others are doing a lot about it.

I think homelessness and public safety should be the highest concerns. Giving people the opportunity to be housed and safe gives them the chance to get their lives in order and contribute to society. It is better for everyone, so the focus should be on that. Bringing communities together through events and programming will create stronger neighborhoods as well.

Update Fencing around the properties.

Unless all existing rental units are full, why build more buildings, but use what might be available. Also, many of these needs are intertwined, so it's difficult to prioritize.

They are building more than enough apartments for students in our neighborhood. We need more affordable apartments or house's for people who reside or live in our community year long. Many have been living here all their lives. We really don't need more Habitat for Humanity homes in our neighborhood either.

Side road needs to be fixed

I lived (and still work in) Urbana until a little more than a year ago. When I looked to purchase a home, it was more affordable in Champaign and had safer neighborhoods than in Urbana for what funds I had. Urbana should consider rent control. Landlords have no incentive to be reasonable. Also, my apartment complex was purchased by an out of state management company with absolutely no interest in the community other than taking rents. I was basically told that I should appreciate that my rent wasn't as high as it could have been and that they had to charge market rates.

Stop wasting time/money debating global or national issues upon which city council has absolutely no influence.

I would love to stay in Urbana but house are either too expensive to buy or falling apart and in a bad area. It's really unfortunate as I've come to love the area but want to buy a house.



Too much focus is given to low income. That tent needs to expand to include the working class above the poverty level.

Need to help seniors more and not discriminate

Contribute fund to recruit non-profit nursing home operator

Youth fights in the schools make people leave Urbana. Good teachers also flee. Rather than give \$ to any of the ineffective youth orgs here, I would focus on supporting our school district with staffing needs (extra hall/lunch staff and social workers, as well as intensive family outreach in the homes by social workers).

The Urbana School District is currently failing students & employees due to awful actions that ignore community input (it is not asked for in a meaningful way). With schools being closed and staff being ignored, large numbers of staff will leave, thus making the district (and city) worse. Home values will fall and people will leave Urbana. City administrators need to tell district admin and the board to start listening to stakeholders and collaborating with them before things get even worse.

Many older homes in Urbana. Don't have money to make safety repairs. We are currently living with active knob and tube wiring and lead paint throughout the house.

Who else is offering affordable and accessible active adult/ senior programs & services besides the PD. Not everyone is interested or can afford OLLIE programs.

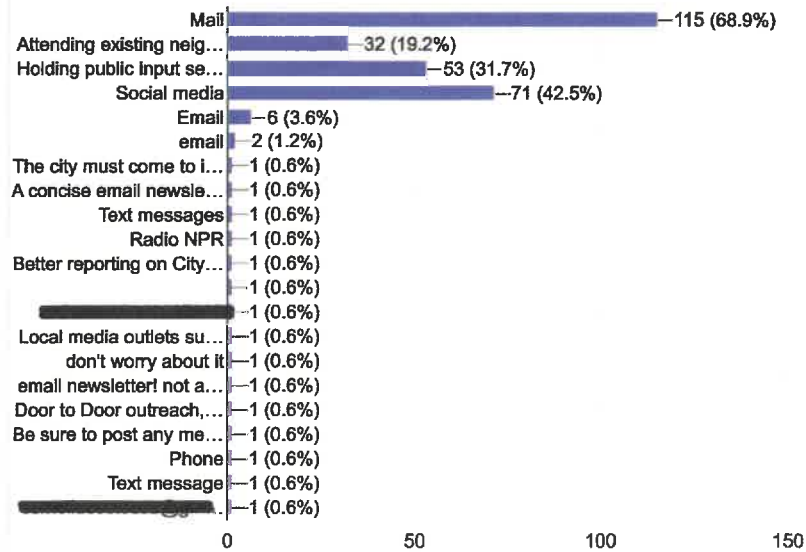
I do not have practical ideas in this respect.

Develop programs for teens and young adults that are engaging and reduce any barriers to participation. many teens/kids cant rely on parents for support or transportation to community activities

The City values public input. What are the best ways for the City to reach you\*? (Select all that apply.)  Copy

\*You will **NOT** be placed on a mailing list based on your response. This question is to help the City identify effective outreach strategies.

167 responses



Please share any additional thoughts on housing and community development needs in your community that have not been addressed by previous questions.

48 responses

People\businesses shouldn't be able to own more than two homes in Champaign county. Hurts first time home buyers, as most houses are kept as rentals through multiple generations. We can't afford homes built past the 70's. It slows down the economy to have so few people own so much.

I am a live-in, unpaid, caregiver for a parent. I neither rent or own property, however I am extremely engaged in the needs of my community. I think it is important that the city hold the owners of rental property more accountable when the property is not maintained, causing the neighborhood and properties to be under-valued in many ways. The residents become under valued and the attitudes towards their needs are often low priority. My neighborhood needs basic essential services; a grocery store within walking distance, a bank branch, a pharmacy or drugstore nearby; maybe even a restaurant. Because, historically, my neighborhood has been so low priority, the city has left money on the table. Many in my neighborhood drive to Champaign for the services mentioned above. These are sales taxes that could, and should, be recycled in the city of Urbana. There are many properties surrounding my neighborhood that are tax exempt properties as well, mostly churches, hospital, and university owned. Although they may supply some kind of employment for residents that live close by, those wages do not keep up with the cost of living, And I don't know of, or have heard of, many educational opportunities available to the unskilled labor class to help increase their possible advance in position or income. \*BTW, the question regarding whether one rents or owns property should add "OTHER" or "NEITHER" , with an "explain" area, since you made it a "required to answer" question. Many that may take this survey may reside with a relative or friend, and not pay rent or expenses. However, that doesn't mean they don't have an interest in their community.

Stop waisting money on "feel good" projects and get more cops on the street so our community is safer

You're going to run into a lot of NIMBYs, but there are many of us who want to see the government and our community invest more. I'm fine with higher taxes when we're working to solve the long-term, big problems.

Would love to see a program to help homeowners with cost in cutting trees down or prune them. This could help prevent down power lines, street closures, and reduced cost in clean up after a storm.

Urbana is great, I love calling it my home. But we need to NOT defund the police or fall into the liberal trap of so many other city's. Take note and do the right thing

Stronger enforcement of traffic laws/rules with more police on the streets and cameras

Would recommend fixing what we have before pursuing anything new. As it is, we're paying a lot of money for roads that don't get fixed and sidewalks that'd be more usable if they were still grass.

People who can afford to live and eat decently will be good citizens

In order to overcome its poor reputation as a high-tax, left-leaning (neither of which is actually a bad quality in my book, but they are used to disparage the city), politically supercharged, utopian (not so good) community, the city needs to prioritize basic infrastructure, starting with road conditions. Roads are a city's first and last impression, and streets in poor condition are a constant reminder of the shortcomings of city government.

The city should embrace relatively low-cost programs to address low-income housing shortages, rather than envision costly new construction. There is a ton of rental units in Urbana in very poor condition. Obviously these are privately owned, but couldn't the city create some very attractive incentives for owners to undertake improvements? Give them rebates if they correct and improve their rental properties, rather than investing in new construction on the



periphery. I know HEUNA better than other neighborhoods, but there is a lot of rental property here in very poor condition. (There is a separate problem of unoccupied single-family structures that are dilapidated, but city staff seems constrained in their ability to compel owners to take necessary remediation.) Find a way to improve the city's core. (Unfortunately, the city suffers from a bad rep among construction professionals regarding code enforcement, which won't facilitate willingness to undertake repairs and rehabilitation on the part of rental property owners. I don't know enough about that situation to make any kind of recommendation.) Improving rental units in the core capitalizes on already existing transportation and access to grocery stores.

I'm not really sure about solutions in my neighborhood. I am good secure and I own my home, but I know I have neighbors that struggle. The houses in my neighborhood are older, and it is difficult to maintain the houses.

Maintain the cities parks and greenspace. Provide safe walking routes in terms of footing and crime prevention.

Please help asylum seekers and refugees.

None

We have lived in the same 4 block radius in Urbana for the last five years, first renting and now as homeowners. We like the neighborhood. But our 9 year old daughter has gone to 1) school online 2) school in person at Leal 3) school at Wiley 4) school at Thomas Paine and now 5) probably back to Leal next year. This is insane. Every time the school district changes something it messes up our day-to-day. And they never accepted our petition to keep her at Leal (which we filed every year), even the first year when we moved literally across the street.... currently I have a 1 hour commute to work on two different buses + a walk because she goes to Thomas Paine now and there is no school bus service since we are 1.2 miles away from the school and not over 1.5....if I wanted a 1 hour commute to work I would live in Chicago not Urbana. Before when she went to Wiley or Leal I had a pleasant 25 minute walk to work. Also every time she changes school she loses some friends, it's not easy to do. Please talk to the school district and ask them to stop messing things up and just let them be, or if they have to make changes do it all at once in one year and not over and over again. Hoping the new redistricting is the last change they make for a while. If the city has any influence on this process, please stand up for families and ask the board to stop changing things around every year.

once again, the east Urbana neighborhoods are neglected, and unscrupulous landlords continue to not be held accountable for neglect and blight in what used to be working class decent neighborhoods.

Stop hiring more cops! There are more than enough police in Urbana. Invest in community services instead.

Rising costs of utilities, combined with climate change, are of concern to me. More options for eco-friendly renting such as rental credits for solar panels (or enticements for landlords to install solar), curbside composting, and water conservation programs along with 'no mow May' limiting noise pollution from household and commercial lawn equipment, and increasing insect hotels, bat houses, and other environmentally helpful resources.

I am not sure why Champaign and Champaign county input is needed in Urbana? If this is truly a survey for our city, input wouldn't extend to people who don't live here.

Limitations need to be put on investors buying up housing, preventing people from being able to purchase their own homes to actually live in.

Thank you for seeking input.

I think that the resources and money that you guys get me to help more homeless people. Every homeless person is not on drugs. We are just in a bad situation. The rent is too high, and



the money that they're paying at jobs are only enough to make enough to pay your rent with no food.

Please give us affordable rental housing, and affordable home buying chances without it getting ate up by real estate investors.

Community blight is growing. We need to address that before building more apartments on fresh ground.

ADUs need to be available and legal everywhere in this community

Senior housing.

Don't build more housing that long term residents can't afford. Don't build neighborhoods that depend on cars. Listen to your low income families with small children to find out how to lift everyone up in the community.

Urbana has plenty of low income properties. The problem is the people that are renting have to put up with the crime of the people that are allowed to move in. I think if you're on assistance there needs to be rules in place in order for you to continue to receive assistance. I work hard and I do not mind helping others but I don't want my hard earned money being used to house drug dealers and gang members that needs to be cleaned up.

Less and Less Community Care or Services to the Demographic shooting up the neighborhoods until they show they can act like they deserve the Services.

This may not be pertinent to this survey but it's time for license plate readers in Urbana.

If this community does not improve on public safety I'm moving.

There are many properties in my neighborhood (HEUNA) in disrepair and some even look abandoned. There are also apartment rental units that seem to invite criminal activity. These should addressed. Some streets north of Illinois between Urbana and Cottage Grove have no sidewalks, curbs, or obvious parking. This should be a priority for the safety of pedestrians. It could also make snow removal more effective and efficient.

We need to reduce parking minimums and allow for upzoning. It seems like CU only allows single family homes and luxury multi-family. We need more middle housing like affordable quadplexes.

The only thing I would do beyond what's been talked about is making the area around affordable housing nicer. For instance, a lot of the homes closer to both downtowns are in pretty bad shape. Above ground power lines, run down video gambling storefronts, and a lack of sidewalks can just tank a home's value.

I think the issue to a lot of the systemic problems we have is making generational wealth more accessible, and that's going to happen primarily through making home buying affordable and a worthwhile investment. Investing in the areas around low income areas helps uplift the home values.

And this is more of a state/federal thing, but also some caps on # of homes that can be rented out per individual. When someone else's housing becomes a financial investment, the incentives don't align with what is best for the renter. That's not a grant-related thing though haha. Thanks to whoever is reading this for all your work and care for our town and its people!

After school program for kids

Tree trimming backyard

Before retirement in 2013 I worked in the Cunningham Township Supervisor's Office, so am familiar with social services providers.



We need assistance now, because we have been overlooked for too long

I love the City of Urbana, and Champaign, and am not aware of problems that were asked in the questions above. In general, available houses and mortgage interest rates (which we can't control) are a problem. I recently bought a house, and found it but sheer luck of being in the right place at the right time, as we had been looking for sometime and got the loan when the rates were low.

My interests for the City are various and many, but the thing that gets my goat is all of the plastic trash the is blowing around and is stuck up around businesses. I personally think that businesses should clean up the trash around their establishments and insure that their dumpsters are secure. I'm sure places like Walmart, Schnucks, McDonalds etc. etc. can afford to use employee man-hours to PICK-UP the trash around and near their properties!!

No additional thoughts.

Don't wait until the last minute to let people know about meetings. Use multiple ways to reach out to the community, email, social media, the farmers market. Local businesses would probably be fine with posting flyers as well. Don't assume people are not interested. Assume that the city staff are not getting the information out effectively enough.

Heavy truck traffic between Bradley & Springfield on Duncan has been causing misery for nearby residents since the mid 90s and City of Champaign says residents need to deal with it by contacting the trucking companies themselves because it's not the city's problem.

In my opinion the City really needs to begin recognizing the needs of other demographic groups other than low income residents. I have my fingers crossed that this \$500k grant will be the beginning of this much needed municipal planning.

Needs help with repair interior and exterior

The road behind busey woods and the country club is packed and ppl use their bikes on it to get places, but that's dangerous. Consider widening and adding a sidewalk. Also, start paying attention to how corrupt usd116 has been behaving in last 2 years. People are mad and leaving this town bc of them

The streets in certain parts of Urbana need serious repair. I'm not sure where the high property tax dollars are going at times.

Lots of programs and events available thru the park district. Not sure how well they are meeting g the needs of active/older adults.

My lifetime goal was to find the method and system for stability in society and science

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Google Forms



## RESIDENT NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERN RESPONSES CONT'D

Timestamp	Please provide any additional information about why the selection you made above is a concern in your neighborhood, including any specific examples you wish to share.
3/18/2024 12:17:09	Without adequate lighting, it can be difficult for drivers at night to see pedestrians, cyclists, + people walking pets.
3/18/2024 17:40:16	Currently local or state government doesn't have any rent control legislation. Legislation is desperately needed both on state and local level. Affordable not cheaply constructed housing is needed for seniors and middle income residents. There's a housing crisis in our community no one is talking about.
3/18/2024 18:35:46	Use to be very quiet kids were good until certain people move in neighbor hood too much marquana
3/18/2024 19:52:46	Usd 116 is broke and making people leave urbana. You need to be in talks with them yesterday about all that's going down to make anyone with means flee this town bc of their poor decision making and civil rights violations on our kids (Wiley closure).
3/18/2024 20:09:59	Hardly any street lights and there are lots of cracks in the sidewalk. Very unsafe to walk at night.
3/18/2024 20:15:09	The Urbana school district is failing the students of Urbana. I realize that the city is independent of the school district. However, families with children want to live in an area with good schools. The school district recently closed the top performing elementary school in the city. A school that had a high population of low SES and minority students. They are using funds they don't have
3/18/2024 20:32:46	My neighborhood school (Wiley) was closed.
3/18/2024 21:45:21	Urbana School District is currently looking to eliminate another neighborhood school (2 in 2 years). We were attracted to Urbana because of the neighborhood school model. Removing an elementary school from another neighborhood (Yankee Ridge or Thomas Paine) and overcrowding our elementary schools will seriously harm Urbana's marketability to families with elementary age children.
3/19/2024 7:44:04	Old homes in need of repair and vacant
3/19/2024 11:02:45	There was just a shooting a couple of blocks away. The city should do more community policing. Rent apartments for new police officers to move into where there's rising or steady crime rates.
3/19/2024 16:01:53	Would like to see the High Cross Road Bridge over 74 have a bike/pedestrian side path for crossing. There are many folks that cross on foot/bike and it's super dangerous. We have many lower income trailer parks and housing on both sides of the interstate.
3/20/2024 10:09:43	Gun violence
3/21/2024 22:56:18	We have a bunch of cobblestone sidewalks and roads that are difficult for my husband to navigate since he's losing his sight.
3/22/2024 21:30:37	Our neighborhood school has a large population of students who enroll at our school for a few months, then move due to housing issues. It's very hard to be successful in school or feel like part of the school community when you switch schools every six months
3/24/2024 20:25:34	Occasionally incidents happen in my neighborhood- a murder of an Uber driver 1 block away, burglaries, people being mugged.
3/25/2024 11:20:55	There is very little participation in community, and in particular, among king school. the school coul & should function as a neighborhood community hub/center, but there is relatively no sense of community in this area. check the participation % of this survey, very few surveys will have been completed by individuals in the area around king...

**From:** [Director](#)  
**To:** [Belcher, Brea den](#)  
**Subject:** AAP and lots  
**Date:** Friday, March 22, 2024 3:39:20 PM

**\*\*\* Email From An External Source \*\*\***  
Use caution when clicking on links or opening attachments.

Hi Brea den,

I hope you are doing well. I wanted to turn in some feedback as it relates to the AAP.

First, I want to say that Habitat truly does need additional support to continue building. We have seen an increase of 30% in our building costs since the start of the pandemic, and that equates to house production costs that increased by \$40,000 per house. Tree clearance, infrastructure support, and building cost funds are all appreciated and needed to continue our mission and fulfill the needs of the community.

The need for affordable home ownership continues to grow. Last year, we had 223 applicants for 6 homeownership openings. There are hundreds of individuals hoping to pursue homeownership in Urbana, but that dream is out of reach for them.

Also, my board looked at the Lierman and Washington location, and we are definitely interested in pursuing further discussions. They are very excited. I have stressed the need for confidentiality at this point, but I also asked our architects to sketch something up for homeownership options.

Thanks,

Chad

Chad Hoffman

*Executive Director*

217-819-5111

*Habitat for Humanity of  
Champaign County*

[www.cuhabitat.org](http://www.cuhabitat.org)

Improving lives through housing



Champaign County Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless (CSPH)  
**March Board Meeting**

Meeting location: Zoom Meeting <a href="https://ccrpc.zoom.us/j/83820938460">https://ccrpc.zoom.us/j/83820938460</a> Meeting ID: 838 2093 8460 --- One tap mobile +13092053325,,83820938460# US +13126266799,,83820938460# US (Chicago)		Date: 03/05/2024
Meeting Leader: Breaden Belcher	Recorder: Nina Sibley	Start time: 3:00pm End time: 3:55 pm

**Agenda**

Topic	Presenter	Status/Update
Introductions and Announcements / Requested Additions to Agenda	All	Breaden Belcher called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. There were no requested additions to the agenda.
Approval of 02.06.2024 Meeting Minutes	Breaden Belcher	Breaden Belcher requested a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2024, meeting. Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried.
Agency Presentation: Dimension-F (15 minutes)	Jeanine Bumba	Provided overview of Services, 2 teams – one is US one in the Congo; support poverty fighting projects; help with food insecurity, housing, medical equipment, and school supplies. Also assists with school registration for immigrant children. Goal is to create permanent social change. Collects donations from local groups and ship them overseas to Africa. Working on opening a healthcare center in the Congo, a dining kitchen in Champaign, a shelter in CU for immigrants, and a special needs education school in the Congo.
City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium Annual Action Plan for FY 2024-2025 (15 minutes)	Nick Olsen (City of Urbana); Betsy Barclay (City of Champaign)	Betsy: Seeking input on 2024-25 Annual Action Plan process. Gave overview of funding sources (CDBG and HOME) and consortium plans and processes for completing reports. Provided estimate grant amounts and explained process for planning how funds will be allocated. Gave overview of eligible activities under CDBG and HOME. Nick added that Urbana and Champaign use funds for similar activity types. Nick: Gave overview of identified community needs. Shared current Consolidated Plan goals and explained that activities must tie back to the goals identified. Betsy: Gave overview of Champaign’s public input process. Draft annual action plan is published and available for public comment from March 1 – April 1. Nick: Gave overview of Urbana’s public input process. The public comment period for Urbana is from February 23 – March 25. Provided link to needs survey in chat. Encouraged group to complete the community needs assessment survey.

Emergency Shelter Providers Capacity Information (10 minutes)	City of Champaign Township/Strides, CCRPC ESF, Courage Connection, CTSO, CU at Home, Cunningham Children's Home, GCAP, The Salvation Army	COCT/Strides: announced underwear drive through May 1, asked group to spread word and consider hosting a drive to collect donations; 29 people on waitlist, 13 actively seeking shelter, filled to capacity (64 beds), 1 outreach cot filled CCRPC: must be 7+ months pregnant or family with minor children; 5 families should go down to 4 tomorrow; 8 hotel rooms in use Courage connection 10 beds 3 openings for singles – no family beds available CTSO: in chat 2 current openings, 1 on waitlist, 2 units not habitable due to maintenance work being completed Cunningham Children's Home: at capacity with wait list GCAP – no update provided Salvation Army – 5 beds all filled, 1 person on wait list CU at Home - full
Subcommittee/Workgroup Updates (10 minutes)	Nathan Alexander Charlene Murray Melissa Courtwright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LGBTQ Workgroup – no updates; Katie added committee planning to have training in person during CSPH meeting, possible in May or June</li> <li>• Outreach Coordinator Group – looking to crate multi-agency intake process; discussed long-term plan for weather emergencies; taking closer look at 3rd party verifications, next meeting 25<sup>th</sup> of March</li> <li>• Homeless Coalition – no updates, continuing plans to increase capacity in winter and emergency outreach response plan</li> </ul>
CSPH Announcements (10 minutes)	All	Braeden: Announced City of Urbana funding opportunity, invited service providers to apply for the Youth Services Grant Program; Apply online <a href="#">here</a> ; grant assistance workshop will be held on March 14 for agencies interested in applying for funding; application deadline is April 1, 2024.

<p>Next meetings:</p> <p><u>CSPH Executive Committee</u> 03/20/24, 12pm via Zoom 03/27/24, 12pm via Zoom</p> <p><u>CSPH Meeting</u> 04/02/24, 3pm via Zoom</p>		<p><u>Upcoming Program Presentations</u></p> <p>If your agency would like to present on your services at an upcoming CSPH meeting, or if you have suggestions on presentation topics, please contact Katie Harmon at <a href="mailto:kharmon@ccrpc.org">kharmon@ccrpc.org</a>.</p>
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## **DRAFT Community Reinvestment Group – Minutes**

3/20/24 – Champaign Neighborhood Services – 205 W Park Ave, Champaign

Meeting called to order by John Vasquez at 9:05

Minutes review:

No additions or edits to February 14, 2024 CRG minutes; approved.

### **Nonprofit updates**

CU Habitat:

Chad Hoffman— Habitat is in the middle of 2 projects about to be completed, and is getting started with two new builds.

Allison Garrett—Habitat has upcoming homeowner education courses, and she will provide more information the group.

Housing Authority of Champaign County:

Katie Difanis—Highlighted HACC’s family self-sufficiency program and the HOPE Fair Housing event.

### **Municipal updates**

Champaign:

Jennifer Carlson- The City of Champaign is launching its Vital Home Rehab program for qualifying households with substantial rehab needs. General program details: 150% AMI qualification for households with costs impacted by COVID. There is an application page live on the City of Champaign website.

Champaign is also doing an comprehensive evaluation of its programs manual, and is looking for feedback on removing barriers to accessing services. Champaign is considering increasing income threshold for non-disabled households, and looking for home-ownership age/income demographic data. Allison from Habitat said she often works with younger families she thinks would be interested in home rehab assistance. HACC stated many households graduating from their rental programs are younger.

Nick Olsen- The City of Urbana’s Youth Services Grant application is currently open.

Betsy Barclay from Champaign and Nick Olsen from Urbana presented on the Annual Action Process and current programming. Both cities are currently in the public input process.

### **Open discussion**

John Vasquez spoke to the need to develop a pipeline between private, non-profit, and public resources for housing. There was a discussion about coordinating resources and local gaps.

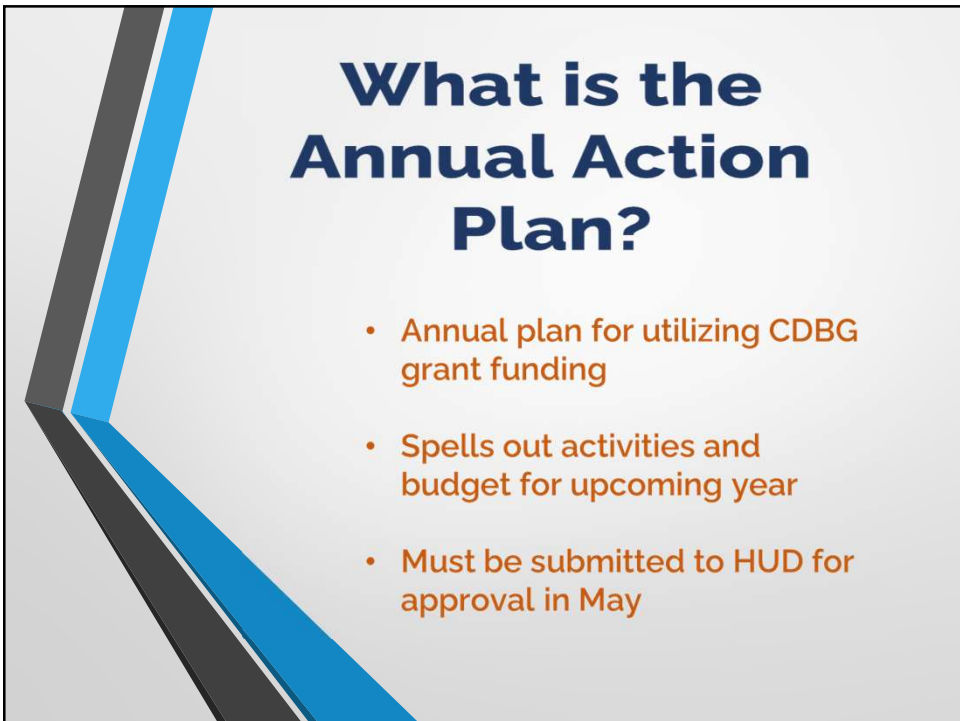
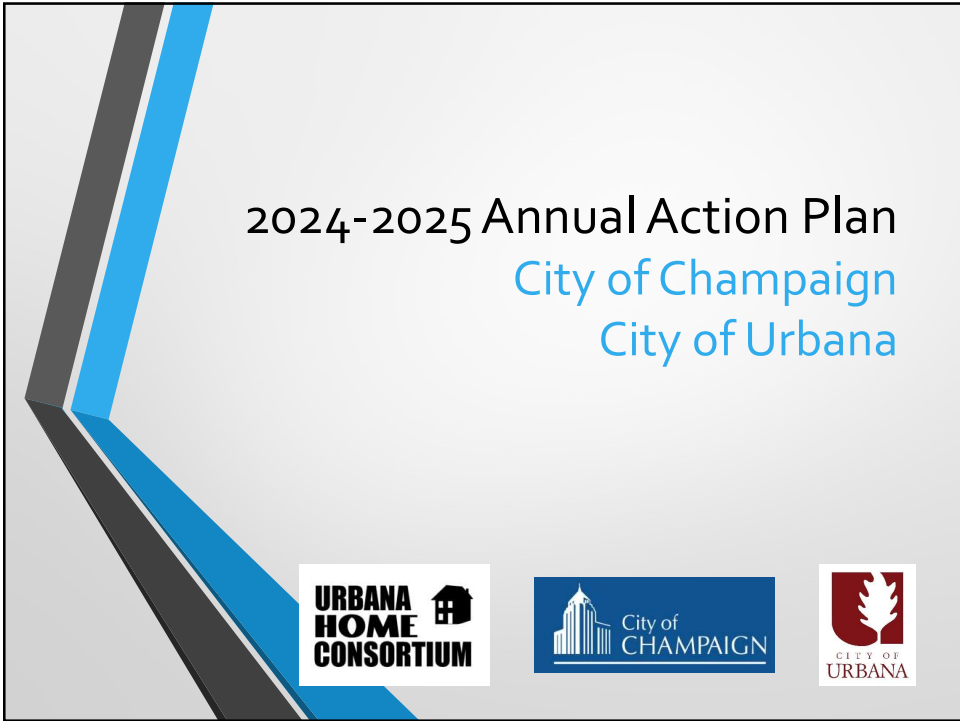
Jennifer Carlson asked if there was support for site clearance for affordable housing. Chad Hoffman from Habitat said that it does make a big difference in their development costs.


**Next meeting**

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at Champaign. Shelby from Champaign suggested reaching out to other groups that used to attend CRG, but no longer do.

Adjournment:

Adjourned at 10:01.

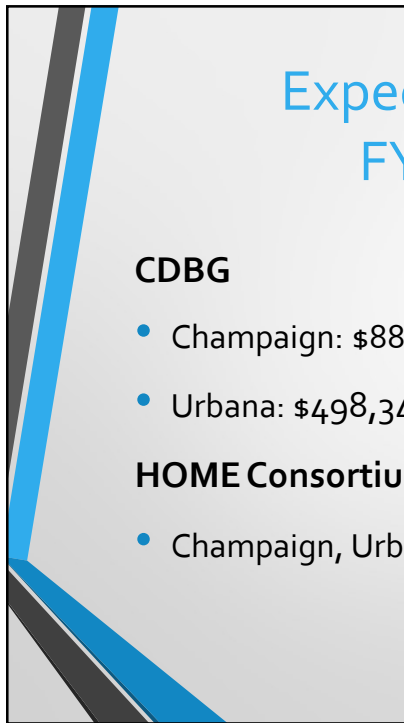




<b>Consolidated Plan</b>	<b>Annual Action Plan</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5-year plan</li><li>• Overarching Goals</li><li>• Strategies</li><li>• Resources</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 Year plan</li><li>• July 1 – June 30</li><li>• Specific activities</li><li>• Allocation budget</li></ul>

Consolidated and Annual Action Plan Cycle	
2020-2024 Consolidated Plan	FY 2020-21 AAP
	FY 2021-22 AAP
	FY 2022-23 AAP
	<b>FY 2023-24 AAP</b>
	<b>FY 2024-25 AAP</b>



## Expected Resources FY 2024-2025

**CDBG**

- Champaign: \$885,663
- Urbana: \$498,343

**HOME Consortium**

- Champaign, Urbana, County: \$779,013

## CDBG Eligible Activities

- Public services (15% cap)
- Public facilities and infrastructure
- Single-family housing rehabilitation
- Blight reduction
- Lead Based Paint remediation

## HOME Eligible Activities

- Housing rehabilitation
- Down-payment assistance
- Tenant Based Rental Assistance
- Housing construction



## Community Needs

### Affordable Housing

- 48.2% of renters in Champaign County are housing cost-burdened, spending more than 30% of their income on housing. 18% of homeowners are cost-burdened. (ACS 1-year estimates, 2022)
  - 30.3% of renters are *severely* cost burdened, paying more than 50% of income on housing
  - 69.3% of very low-income households (below 30% of the area median) are cost burdened
- Homeownership Rate: 53.5%
  - 26.6% for Black households (ACS 5-year estimates, 2018-2022)
- Median gross monthly rent for a 2-bedroom rental unit is \$1,001 (ACS 5-yr., 2018-22)
  - A household needs an annual income of over \$40,040 annually to afford this (without cost burden)
- Median monthly homeowner costs (with a mortgage) are \$1,591 (ACS 5-yr., 2018-22)
  - A household needs an annual income of over \$63,640 annually to afford this (without cost burden)

## Consolidated Plan Goals

- Provide decent affordable housing opportunities
- Address barriers to affordable housing
- Preserve existing affordable housing supply
- Coordinate with Housing Authority
- Support services & training for low-income persons
- Support homeless needs
- Reduce lead exposure risk
- Support infrastructure improvements
- Preserve consortium neighborhoods




## City of Champaign Public Input Process



- Comment period: March 1— April 1
- Community and neighborhood groups
- Public hearings

March 21, 2024	Neighborhood Services Advisory Board Meeting at 5:30 pm Champaign City Building Council Chambers Champaign 102 North Neil Street Champaign, IL 61820
March 26, 2024	Champaign City Council Study Session at 7:00 pm Champaign City Building Council Chambers 102 North Neil Street Champaign, IL 61820

## City of Urbana Public Input Process



- Comment period: February 23—March 25
- Public hearings & meetings
- Community needs survey
- Community groups



Community Needs Survey  
(Open Feb. 23-March 25)

A large QR code is centered on a light gray background. To the left of the QR code, there are decorative diagonal stripes in blue, gray, and white.

*Share your thoughts!*

*What do you feel are the priorities for your agency and our community in the coming year?*



City of Champaign Neighborhood Services:  
217-403-7070 or [neighborhoodservices@champaignil.gov](mailto:neighborhoodservices@champaignil.gov)

City of Urbana Grants Management: 217-384-2447 or [grants@urbanaininois.gov](mailto:grants@urbanaininois.gov)

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