



Appendix

Community Survey Results

January 3, 2011



P.O. Box 1225, Pittsburg, KS 66762
620-232-0688
"Direction through Analysis"

September 7, 2010

Mr. Tim Johnson, Assistant City Manager
City of Newton
201 E. 6th
P.O. Box 426
Newton, KS 67114-2215

Dear Tim:

The following material is being provided by Research Services to the City of Newton, Kansas. It pertains to the major areas of concern you have regarding the City and includes the results of the research, including the mail-out survey.

Statement of Objectives

A mail-out survey to residents of the City during April and May, 2010, was conducted as part of the City's Strategic Plan. A survey of perceptions of the City's efforts and future direction did not exist and, therefore, the primary research that was conducted was specific to your request.

The objectives of the study were to determine:

- How participants would describe the importance and satisfaction of various City services.
- The importance of undertaking various activities in Downtown Newton.
- How citizens rank various activities that contribute to the quality-of-life in Newton.
- The importance several City projects.
- If citizens perceive problems with either owner-occupied housing or rental housing in Newton.
- How willing citizens would be to pay for improvements or developments with the use of property tax, sales tax or other city-financed method.

Methodology

Data for the report were gathered from a mail-out survey to current Newton residents. Research Services obtained a random-sample of residents and in April, 2010, 1,675 questionnaires were mailed to residents. All completed questionnaires were mailed to Research Services no later than May 14, 2010, so that tabulations could occur. Of this total, 51 were returned as undeliverable and an additional 11 were unusable. Finally, 573 surveys were returned for a response rate of 36%. At the 95% confidence level this gives us a confidence interval of $\pm 4\%$.

The attached report provides you with a breakdown of the data you requested. I appreciate the opportunity to work with you and the City of Newton, Kansas. If you have additional questions, or if I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Mary Judene Nance
President

ReNewton 2030: A Comprehensive Plan

The twenty-year comprehensive plan for the City of Newton/City of North Newton is the result of nine months of research, community dialogue, and diligence on the part of the Newton-North Newton Planning Commission and the ReNewton steering committee. After assimilating hard data and anecdotal input, the steering committee, under the professional guidance of Tom Phillips, AICP, Phillips & Associates, and Timothy Johnson, Newton Assistant City Manager, has compiled the following document. It is a citizen-informed and influenced roadmap for staff and elected officials to utilize as we move the Newton community toward realizing its 2030 potential.

Included with the multi-dimensional comprehensive plan narrative is data from a research-based survey conducted by Mary Judene Nance of Research Services, Pittsburg, KS. The information was garnered from a random-sampling mailing of 1675 Newton residents in April 2010. 573 surveys were completed and returned for a statistically-significant response rate of 36%. The survey questions are included in the document along with a graphic presentation of each data component.

Information compiled from the Research Services survey supports and reinforces anecdotal data gathered throughout the ReNewton process. To help ensure citizens had multiple opportunities to offer ideas and feedback, the following modalities were incorporated into the ReNewton process:

- Five small group receptions, focusing on specific community issues
- Key group interviews of business, professional, and civic leaders
- Broad community dialogue retreats
- ReNewton summary points and feedback response sheets mailed out in Newton utility bills
- Interactive ReNewton website
- ReNewton Facebook page
- Research Services citizen survey

Neither the community survey, nor any of the individual anecdotal commentary should be taken out of context, but rather considered for the overall tone and direction suggested by Newton citizens.

Based on all accrued data and feedback, the following key observations, in no particular order, may be made:

- 93% of all respondents indicate they would like Newton to grow or remain the same. 51% of respondents under 40 desired Newton to remain the same.
- Respondents identified emergency services, utilities, and streets as the most important city service functions. They identified emergency services, parks, and trash/recycling as the services with which they were most satisfied.
- 67% believe strengthening downtown is important; 20% believe tax dollars should not be used to improve private property downtown. (67% of respondents had 'no opinion' as to whether tax dollars should be used to improve downtown properties; this could reflect a lack of understanding of possible funding mechanisms.)

- While respondents identified schools and the medical center as the best contributors to quality of life in Newton, they ranked downtown re-development, parks, and recreation/fitness facilities as the most important city projects. For citizens self-identifying as age group Under 40, the recreation center, parks, and re-development are rank order priorities.
- The library expansion ranked lowest of the five city projects identified, with slightly more (38% of Under 40s compared to 29% of all respondents) voicing a need for library expansion
- 80% all respondents believe the City should address rental housing concerns, with only 26% voicing a concern with owner-occupied housing.
- For respondents Under 40 yrs, 52% are willing/very willing to fund a recreation center with city dollars; 33% are willing/very willing to fund library expansion with City dollars; 52% willing/very willing to fund park projects, and 33% willing/very willing to fund downtown redevelopment with city dollars.

Data gathered from the research-based survey corroborates or compares anecdotal information collected through the community meetings, Facebook/Webpage interactive, utilities feedback mailer, etc in the following ways:

- 43% of citizens returning the response sheet sent out in utility bills identified the revitalization and redevelopment of the historic Main Street district as a priority
- 48% encouraged the City and County to recruit larger employers; citizens Under 40 in the Research Services survey were less than satisfied with current economic development/jobs creation efforts
- Facebook participants reflected little interest in building a new library, but would support enhancements to the current facility
- Facebook participants appeared enthusiastic about possibilities for developing and enhancing Main Street, and many voiced a desire to retain small town, locally owned businesses on Main Street.
- Creating a strong culture for city-wide, connected pedestrian/bike transportation was a priority that resonated throughout community dialogue groups, as did a focus on respect for the maintenance of the town's historic buildings and older neighborhoods.

It is perhaps worth noting that at this time, Newton residents responded at a higher rate through face to face communication/dialogue and paper responses than via on-line options. One would anticipate this trend changing in the near future.

The 2030 Comprehensive Plan, generated through the community outreach of the ReNewton Project, represents the vision and input of nearly 1500 local residents and civic leaders. The time and commitment of these engaged citizens provides direction for elected officials and city staff as decisions are made to shape a revitalized, robust community over the next twenty years.

Analysis

Based on the survey results, the following observations may be made:

- 69% of respondents were 50 years or older.
- 77% have lived here 10 years or more; 59% have lived here 20 years or more.
- 16% of respondents are age 39 or younger.
- Of those that work: 10% work in Hesston; 56% work in Newton; 20% work in Wichita.
- Most important city services: 1) emergency services, 2) utilities, and 3) streets.
- Most satisfied with city services: 1) Fire/EMS, 2) Police, 3) Parks and, Trash/Recycling.
- 67% believe strengthening downtown is important.
- Is the city doing a good job revitalizing downtown? Yes-31%; No38%; No Op-31%.
- 67% believe the city should not be involved in revitalizing downtown.
- Should tax \$ be used to improve private property downtown? No Op-67%; No-20%.
- Best contributes to quality of life: 1) Schools; 2) Medical Center.
- Most important city projects: downtown re-development; parks; recreation center.
- Ranking of city projects: 1) re-development of downtown; 2) recreation center; 3) parks.
- Under 40 yrs. Old rank: 1) recreation center; 2) parks; 3) re-development of downtown.
- Library expansion ranked lowest of 5 city projects.
- Need library expansion? 44%-No; 24%-No Opinion; 29%-Yes.
- Need library expansion (under 40 yrs. old)? 40%-No; 21%-No Opinion; 38%-Yes.
- Is there a problem with owner-occupied housing? 26%-Yes; 36%-No Op.; 38%-No.
- 87% believe the city should address housing.
- Is there a problem with rental housing? 40%-Yes; 41%-No Opinion; 19%-No.
- 80% believe the city should address rental housing.
- Of those under 40: 52% are willing or very willing to fund a recreation center with city \$.
- Of those under 40: 33% are willing or very willing to fund library expansion with city \$.

Analysis

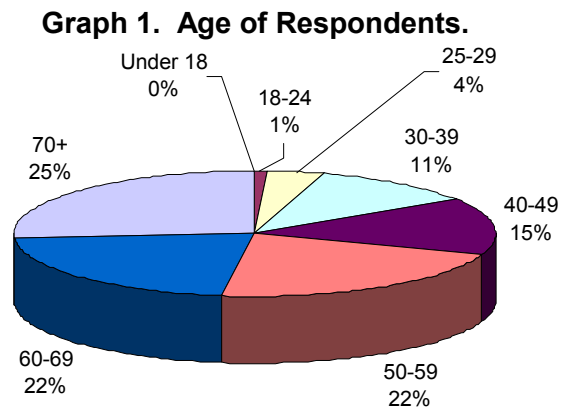
- Of those under 40: 52% are willing or very willing to fund park projects with city \$.
- Of those under 40: 33% are willing or very willing to fund downtown redevelopment with city \$.
- 38% of all survey respondents indicated they would like for the population of Newton to stay the same, as compared to 51% of those under 40 years of age. Additionally, 55% of all respondents indicate they would like for the population to grow versus 42% of those under the age of 40.
- Those under the age of 40 are less satisfied with the City's efforts to attract new jobs as compared to all survey respondents.
- Once again, those under the age of 40 are less satisfied with the City's overall economic development efforts than all respondents.
- When asked to indicate the importance (on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very unimportant and 5 being very important) of five projects, those under the age of 40 rated parks and expansion of the library as more important than all survey respondents. The projects were: re-development of downtown; development of the south side; parks; expansion of the library; and recreation center.
- More survey participants (as a percent) in the under 40 age group indicated the City does need an expanded City library.
- Those under the age of 40 are more satisfied with the quantity of affordable, entry-level housing.
- Of those who indicated there is a problem with either owner-occupied or rental housing in Newton, more of the group of all survey respondents believe the City should address the situation rather than those under 40.
- Those under 40 are more willing to fund a recreation center, library expansion and/or parks than all survey respondents.

Findings: Demographics

Below, are the findings from the resident mail-out survey. In some instances you may find that the total does not add up to 100%. In those cases, some residents have elected not to answer a particular question.

1. What is your age?

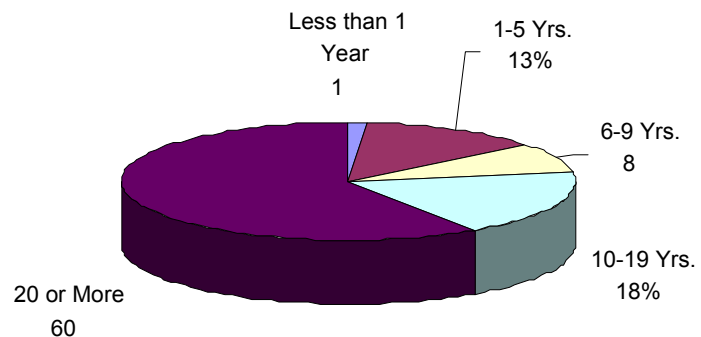
0.0%	Under 18
0.9%	18 – 24
3.7%	25 – 29
11.2%	30 – 39
14.8%	40 – 49
21.5%	50 – 59
21.6%	60 – 69
26.1%	70+



2. When asked how many years they have lived in Newton, over half of the respondents indicated they have lived in the City twenty or more years.

1.4%	Less than 1 year
12.7%	1 – 5 years
8.0%	6 – 9 years
17.8%	10 – 19 years
58.8%	20 or more years

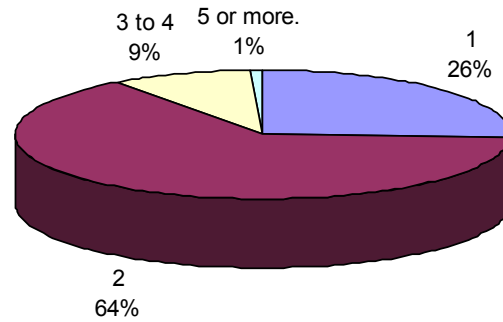
Graph 2. How Many Years Have You Lived in Newton?



Respondents were asked how many adults (18 or older) are living in the household. The majority of respondents indicated there are two adults living in the household.

25.5%	1 adult
64.4%	2 adults
9.2%	3 – 4 adults
0.9%	5 or more adults

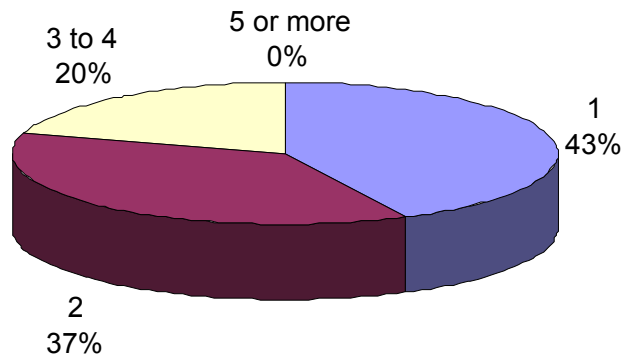
Graph 3. Number of Adults in Household.



- The next question asked respondents to indicate how many children (if they have children under 18 years of age) are living in the household.

42.4%	1 child
36.7%	2 children
20.1%	3 – 4 children
0.0%	5 or more children

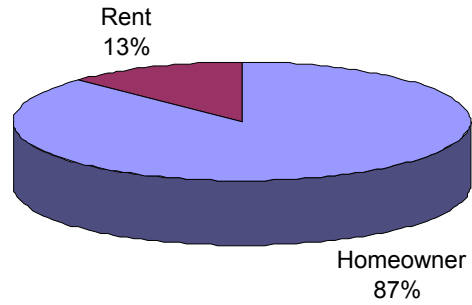
Graph 4. Number of Children (18 years of age & under) Living in Household.



4. As a follow-up to the previous question respondents were asked if they rent their residence or are a homeowner. Over 80% of the respondents indicated are homeowners.

87.2%	Homeowner
12.8%	Rent

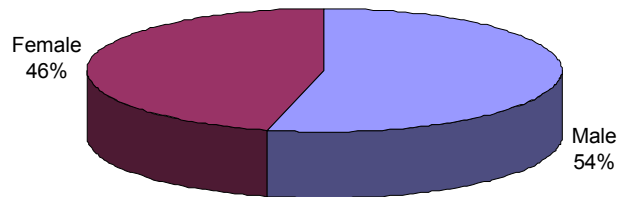
Graph 5. Do you Rent your Residence or are you a Homeowner?



5. Respondents were then asked to indicate their gender.

53.9%	Male
46.1%	Female

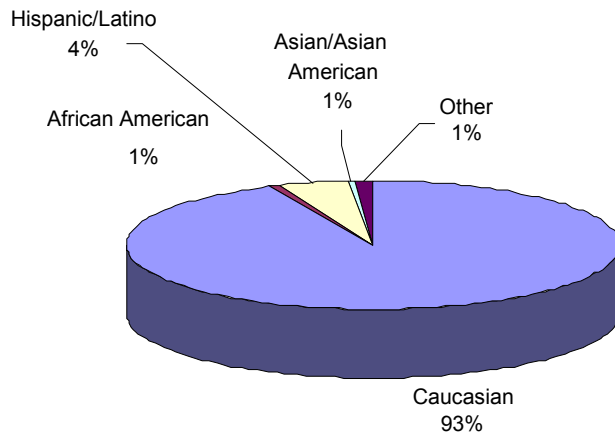
Graph 6. Gender.



6. The race of respondents was the next question on the survey. As you may see, the majority of those responding indicated they are Caucasian.

93.1%	Caucasian
0.7%	African American
4.4%	Hispanic/Latino
0.7%	Asian/Asian American
1.1%	Other

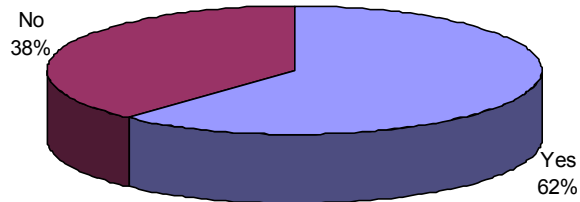
Graph 7. Race.



7. Next, survey participants were asked if they work outside of the home and, if so, where they travel to work.

61.7%	Yes
38.3%	No

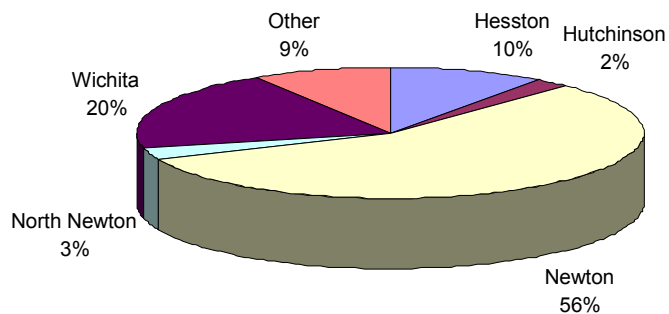
Graph 8. Do you Work Outside of the Home?



8. Where do you travel to work?

9.9%	Hesston
2.3%	Hutchinson
56.1%	Newton
2.9%	North Newton
19.9%	Wichita
8.8%	Other

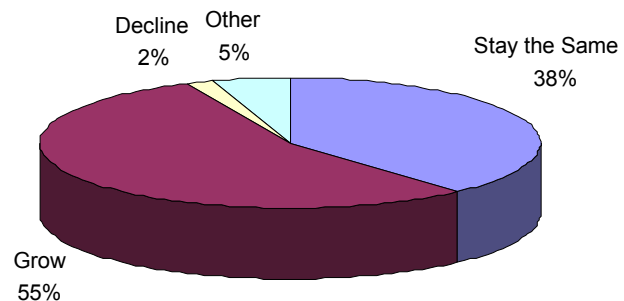
Graph 9. Where Do You Travel to Work?



9. Survey participants were next asked to indicate if they would like the population of Newton to stay the same, grow or decline. While over half of the respondents indicated they would like the population of the City to grow, it is interesting to note that over one-third of the respondents indicated they would like for the population to stay the same.

38.3%	Stay the same
54.8%	Grow
1.6%	Decline
5.1%	Other

Graph 10. What Would You Like to see Regarding the Population of Newton?



Findings: City Services

10. The following question, asked survey participants to indicate (on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very unimportant and 5 being very important) the importance of City services. Below, is a list of the services and the mean score.

Service	Mean	No. Respondents	Rank
Fire/EMS	4.79	559	1
Police	4.65	564	2
Water & Wastewater	4.35	562	3
Streets	4.2	555	4
Trash/Recycling Pick-Up	4.08	557	5
Parks	3.87	557	6
Snow Removal	3.74	559	7
Library	3.43	564	8
Code Enforcement	3.4	556	9

11. As a follow-up, the next question asked respondents to indicate (on a similar 1-5 scale, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied) their degree of satisfaction on the same City services. Below are the services and the mean score.

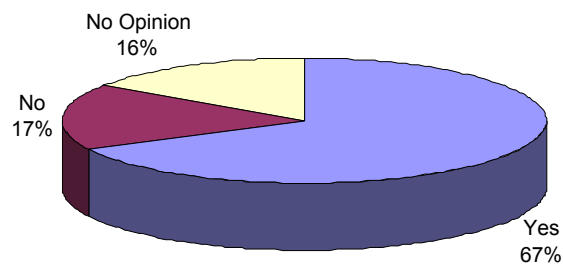
Service	Mean	No. Respondents	Rank
Fire/EMS	4.48	562	1
Police	4.02	568	2
Parks	3.91	553	3
Trash/Recycling Pick-Up	3.91	559	4
Streets	3.62	555	5
Library	3.56	561	6
Water & Wastewater	3.55	561	7
Snow Removal	3.46	556	8
Code Enforcement	2.81	545	9

Findings: Downtown

13. Next a series of four questions asked respondents about Downtown Newton. The first question asked if strengthening Downtown was important to the respondent. Over two-thirds of the respondents indicated that “yes” it is important to them.

67.5%	Yes
16.8%	No
15.5%	No Opinion

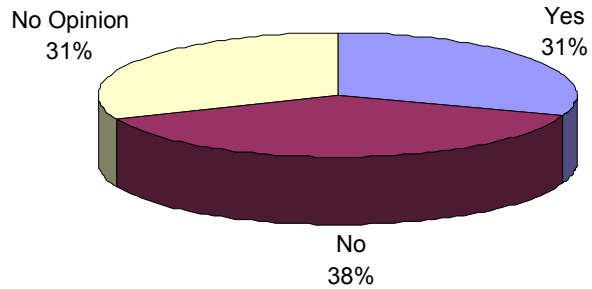
Graph 11. Is Strengthening Downtown Important to You?



14. The second question in this line, asked respondents if the City is doing a good job revitalizing the Downtown. As you may see the responses are mixed to this particular question.

30.5%	Yes
37.9%	No
31.4%	No Opinion

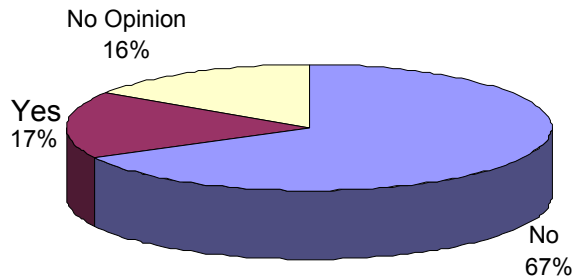
Graph 12. Is the City Doing a Good Job Revitalizing Downtown



15. The third question in the series asked respondents if the city should be involved in revitalizing Downtown. In this instance, respondents overwhelmingly believe that the City should not be involved in the revitalization of the Downtown.

15.8%	Yes
67.2%	No
17.0%	No Opinion

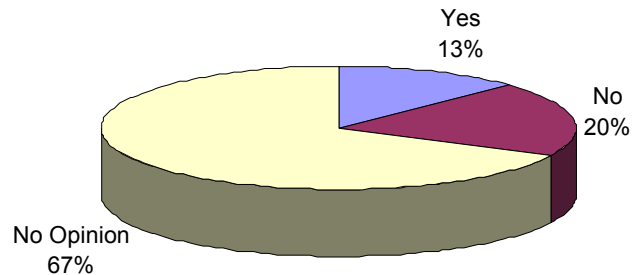
Graph 13. Should the City be Involved In Revitalizing Downtown?



16. The fourth and final question asked respondents if City tax dollars should be used to improve private property in Downtown. It is interesting that over two-thirds of the respondents indicated they had no opinion in this regard.

12.8%	Yes
19.5%	No
67.7%	No Opinion

Graph 14. Should City Tax Dollars be used to Improve Private Property in Downtown Newton?



Findings: Economic Development

The next series of questions asked survey participants to indicate how satisfied they are (on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied), with the City's economic development efforts.

17. Assisting Existing Businesses

How Satisfied Are you with City's Economic Development Efforts in Assisting Existing Business?



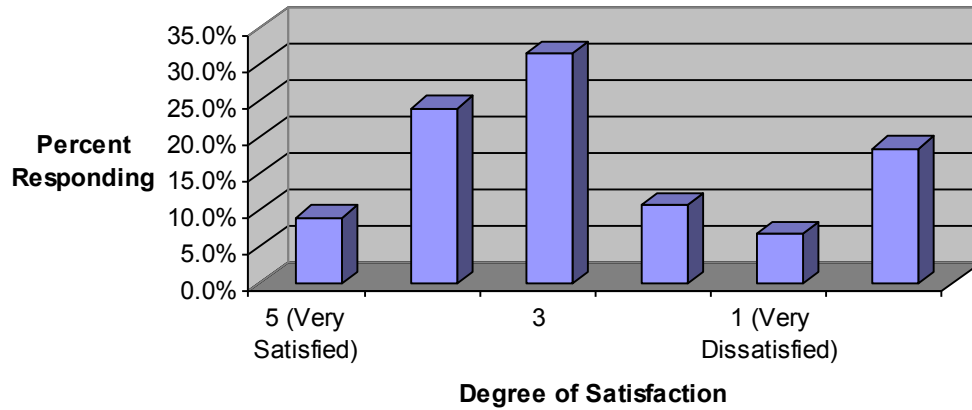
18. Attracting New Jobs

How Satisfied are you with the City's Economic Development Efforts in Attracting New Jobs?



19. Overall Economic Development Efforts

How Satisfied are you with the City's Overall Economic Development Efforts?



Findings: Quality of Life

20. Respondents were then given a number of items that could contribute to the quality-of-life in Newton and asked to rank their top five (1-5). Below, are the items and the mean score.

<u>Quality-of-Life</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Schools	1.74	1
Medical Center	2.23	2
Streets	3.00	3
“Stroll” Districts	3.10	4
Neighborhood Improvements	3.40	5
Shopping	3.41	6
Restaurants	3.42	7
Recreation Facilities	3.50	8
Hiking/Biking Trails	3.54	9
Downtown	3.57	10
Entertainment	3.59	11
Public Spaces enhanced with Art	3.61	12
Parks	3.68	13
Arts & Cultural Events	3.82	14

21. Next, a list of City projects was given and survey respondents were asked to rate on a scale from 1 to 5 (with 1 being very unimportant and 5 being very important), how important they are. Below, are the projects and the mean score.

<u>City Project</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Re-development of Downtown	3.53	1
Parks	3.40	2
Recreation Center	3.24	3
Development of South Side	3.02	4
Expansion of Library	2.83	5

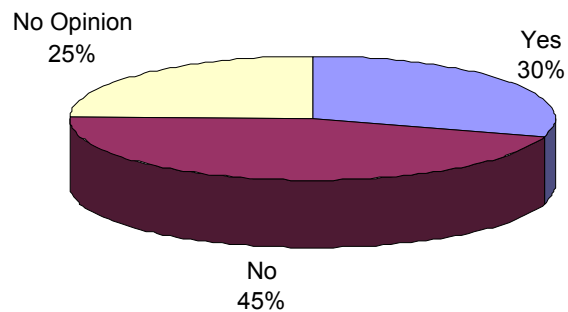
22. Respondents were then given the same list of City projects and asked to rank the projects 1-5. The rankings are as follows:

1. Re-development of Downtown
2. Parks
3. Recreation Center
4. Development of South Side
5. Expansion of Library.

23. Do you believe the City of Newton needs an expanded public library was the next question.

28.6%	Yes
43.8%	No
23.8%	No Opinion

Graph 15. Do you Believe the City needs an Expanded Public Library?

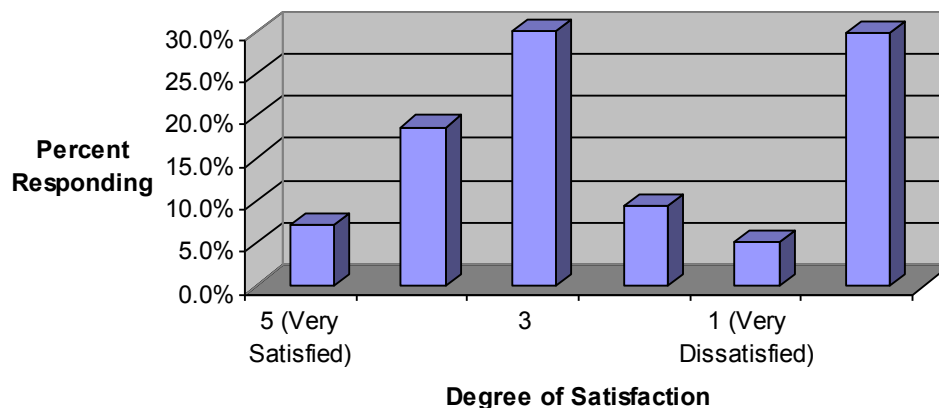


Findings: Housing

24. Members in the survey were asked to indicate on a scale (from 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied) how satisfied they are with the quality and quantity of affordable, entry-level housing.

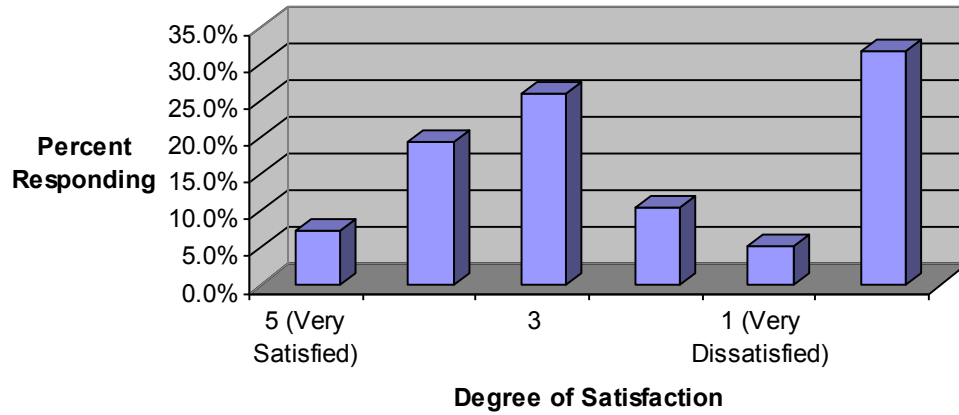
Quality of Affordable, Entry-Level Housing

How Satisfied are you with the Quality of Affordable, Entry-Level Housing (includes to rent or buy)?



Quantity of Affordable, Entry-Level Housing

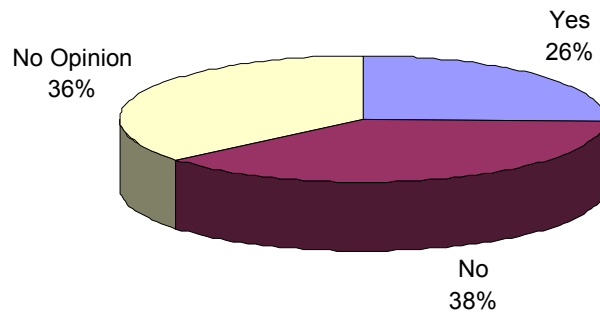
How Satisfied are you with the Quantity of Affordable, Entry-Level Housing (includes to rent or buy)?



25. Respondents were asked if there is a problem with owner-occupied housing in Newton. If they indicated that there is a problem, they were then asked a follow-up question to specify what the problem might be and if they believe the City should address the situation. Below, are the results.

25.6%	Yes
38.0%	No
36.1%	No Opinion

Graph 16. Is There a Problem with Owner-Occupied Housing in Newton?

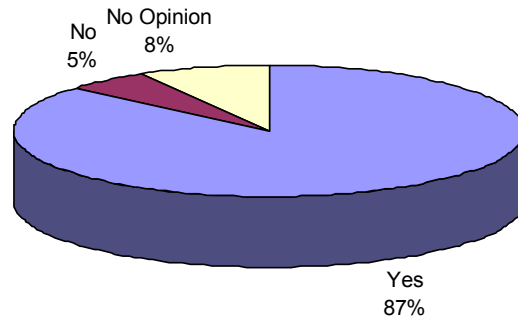


26. When asked to indicate what the problem is, the majority of respondents indicated that property maintenance and/or house maintenance are the reasons.

Should the City address the situation?

86.4%	Yes
5.4%	No
8.2%	No Opinion

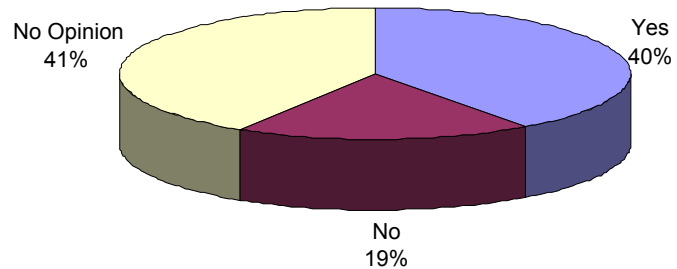
Graph 17. Should the City Address the Situation?



27. Next, survey participants were asked these same questions only this time it referred to rental housing in Newton.

39.4%	Yes
18.7%	No
40.6%	No Opinion

Graph 18. Is there a Problem with Rental Housing in Newton?

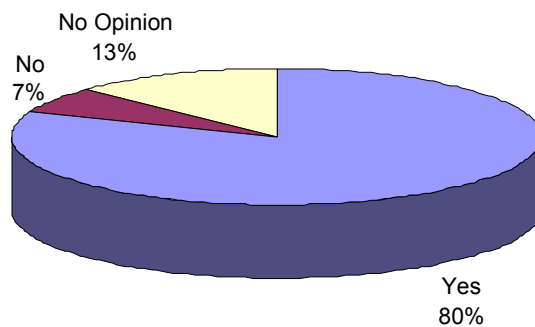


28. When asked to indicate what the problem is the majority of respondents indicated that upkeep of property, housing maintenance and sufficient quantity were all reasons for problems in this particular area.

Should the City address the situation?

80.7%	Yes
6.6%	No
12.7%	No Opinion

Graph 19. Should the City Address the Situation?



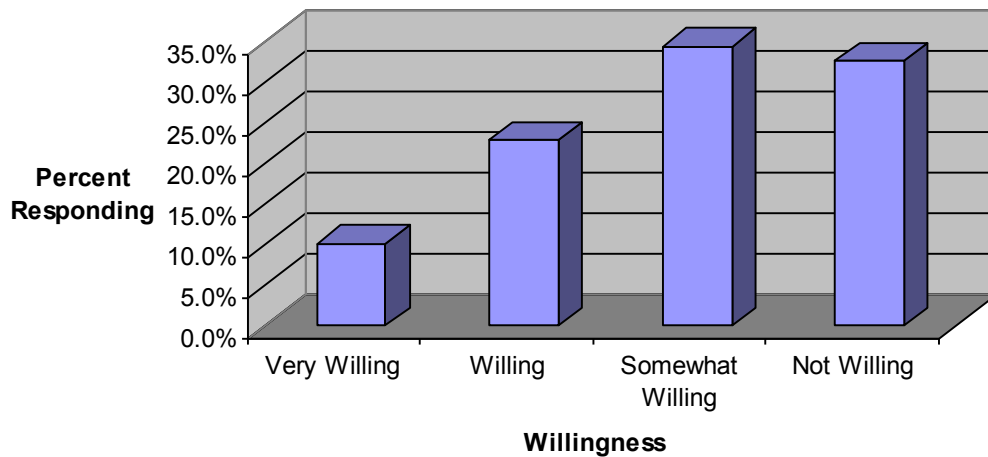
Findings: Community Improvements

29. Survey participants were then given a list of possible improvements or developments and asked to indicate their willingness to help fund them (through property tax, sales tax or other city-finance method).

Recreation Center

10.1%	Very Willing
22.8%	Willing.
34.4%	Somewhat Willing.
32.7%	Not Willing

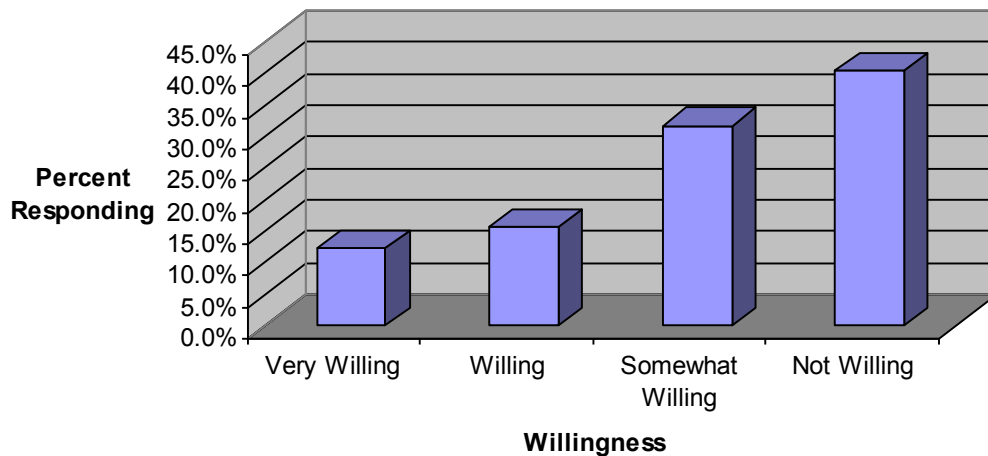
Willingness to Help Fund a Recreation Center.



Library Expansion

12.2%	Very Willing
15.6%	Willing
31.7%	Somewhat Willing
40.5%	Not Willing

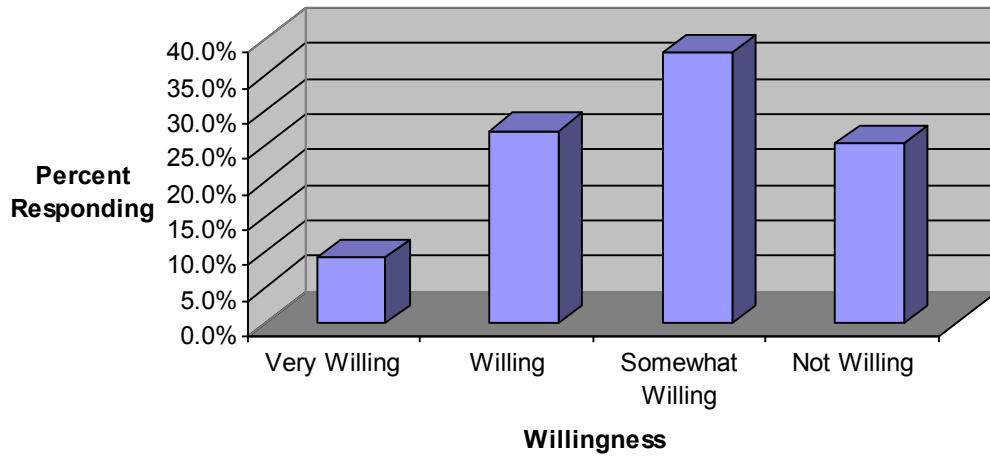
Willingness to Help Fund a Library Expansion.



Parks

9.3%	Very Willing
27.1%	Willing.
38.2%	Somewhat Willing.
25.4%	Not Willing

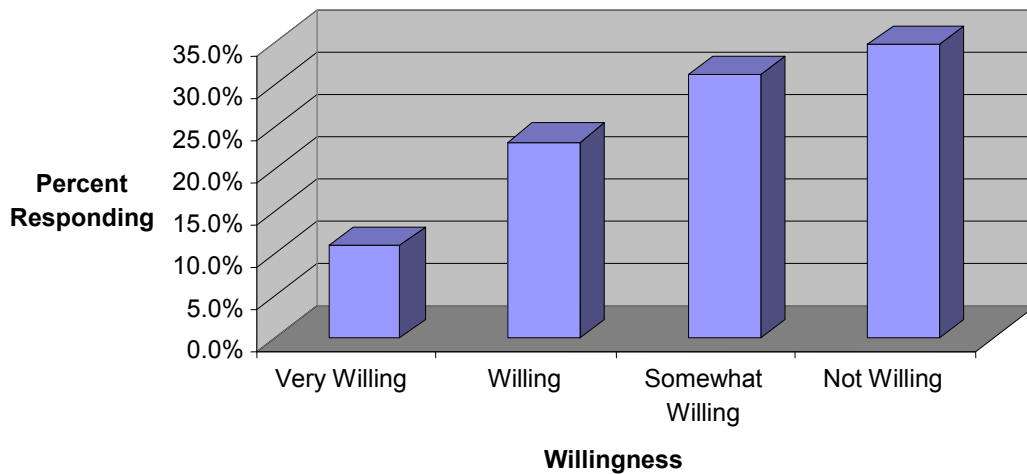
Willingness to Help Fund Parks.



Redevelopment of Downtown

10.9%	Very Willing
23.2%	Willing.
31.2%	Somewhat Willing.
34.7%	Not Willing

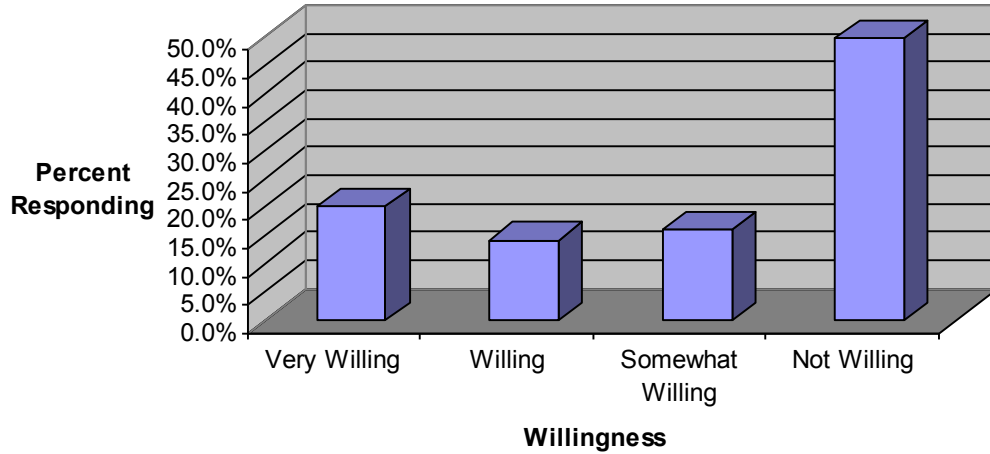
Willingness to Help Fund the Re-Development of Downtown.



Other

20.1%	Very Willing
14.1%	Willing
16.1%	Somewhat Willing
49.7%	Not Willing

Willingness to Help Fund Other Projects.



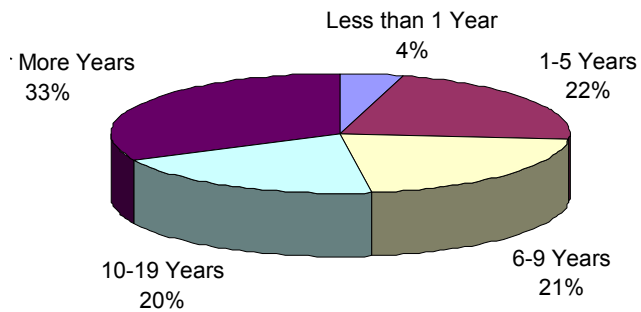
Findings: Citizens Under 40 Years of Age - Demographics

Because it is the City’s desire to attract young professionals to live and work within the City, the following survey results are limited to those under the age of 40.

30. How many years have you lived in Newton?

4.4%	Less than 1 year.
22.2%	1 – 5 years.
21.1%	6 – 9 years.
20.0%	10 – 19 years.
32.2%	20 or more years.

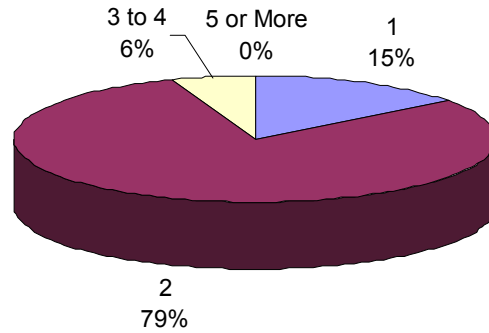
Graph 21. How Many Years Have you Lived in Newton (those less than 40 years of age).



31. Number of adults in the household.

14.6%	1
79.8%	2
5.6%	3 – 4
0.0%	5 or more

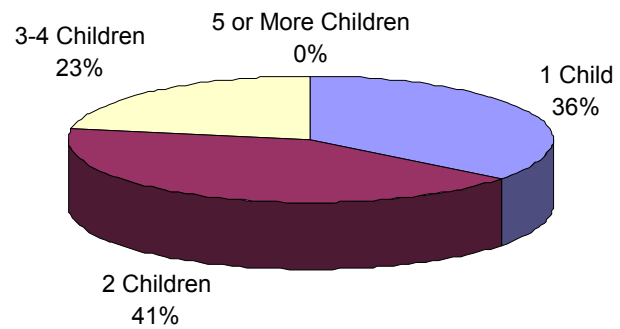
Graph 22. Number of Adults in Household (those less than 40 years of age).



32. The next question displays the number of children (under the age of 18) those under the age of 40 have in their household.

35.5%	1 child
41.9%	2 children
22.6%	3 – 4 children
0.0%	5 or more children

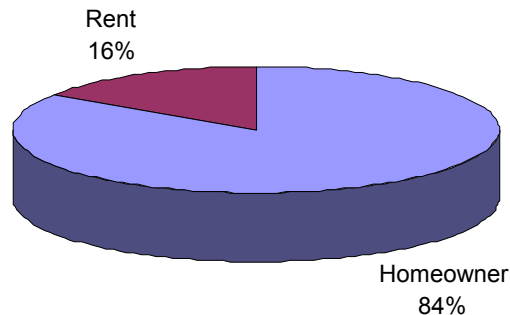
Graph 23. Number of Children (those less than 40 years of age).



33. Survey participants were then asked if they rent or own their residence.

84.4%	Homeowner
15.6%	Rent

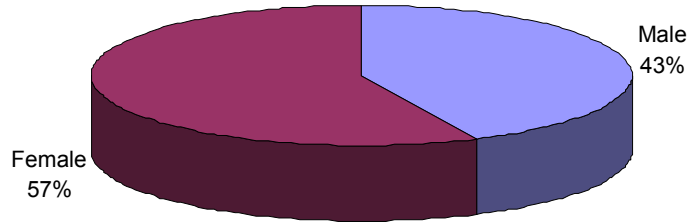
Graph 24. Are you a Homeowner or do you Rent your Residence (those less than 40 years of age).



34. Gender.

43.3%	Male
57.2%	Female

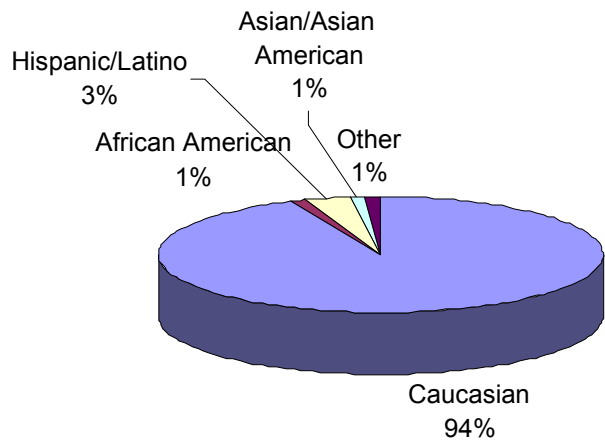
**Graph 25. Gender
(those less than 40 years of age).**



35. Race.

93.0%	Caucasian.
1.1%	African American
3.3%	Hispanic/Latino
1.1%	Asian/Asian American
1.1%	Other

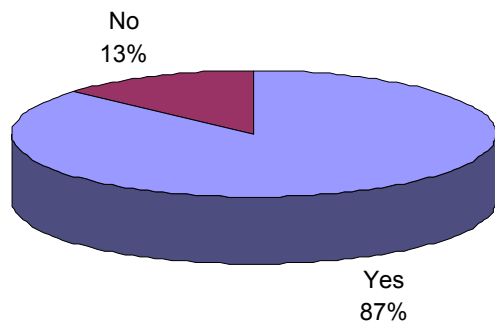
**Graph 26. Race
(those less than 40 years of age).**



36. Do you work outside of the home?

86.7%	Yes
13.3%	No

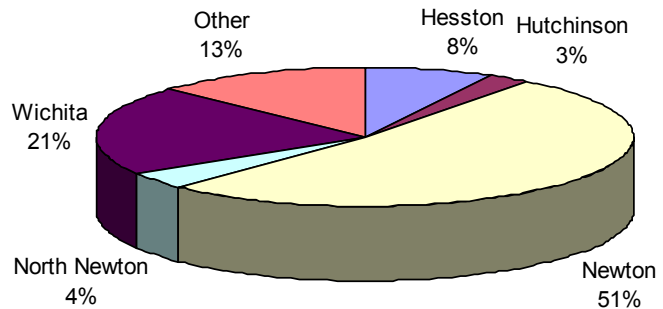
**Graph 27. Do you Work Outside of the Home
(those less than 40 years of age)?**



37. Where do you travel to work?

7.8%	Hesston
2.6%	Hutchinson
52.0%	Newton
3.9%	North Newton
20.8%	Wichita
13.0%	Other

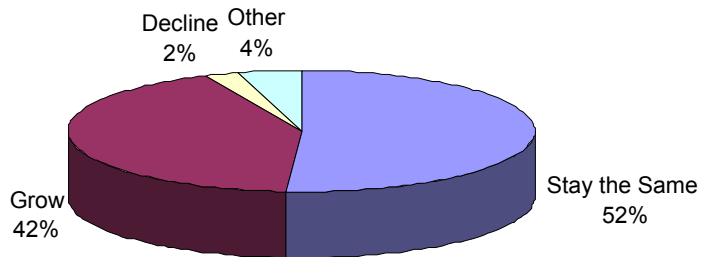
Graph 28. Where do you Travel to Work?



38. Would you like the population of Newton to stay the same, grow or decline?

51.1%	Stay the Same
42.2%	Grow
2.2%	Decline
4.4%	Other

Graph 29. Would you Like the Population of Newton to Stay the Same, Grow or Decline (those less than 40 years of age)?



Findings: Citizens Under 40 Years of Age - City Services

39. How important are each of the following City services on a scale from 1 (very unimportant) to 5 (very important).

Service	Mean	Rank
Fire/EMS	4.85	1
Police	4.60	2
Water & Wastewater	4.33	3
Parks	4.31	4
Streets	4.22	5
Library	3.83	6
Snow Removal	3.82	7
Trash/Recycling Pick-Up	3.78	8
Code Enforcement	3.39	9

40. Indicate your degree of satisfaction on a scale from 1 (very unimportant) to 5 (very important) on the following City services.

Service	Mean	Rank
Fire/EMS	4.64	1
Parks	4.24	2
Police	3.94	3
Library	3.87	4
Streets	3.53	5
Water & Wastewater	3.51	6
Snow Removal	3.49	7
Code Enforcement	3.44	8
Trash/Recycling Pick-Up	3.42	9

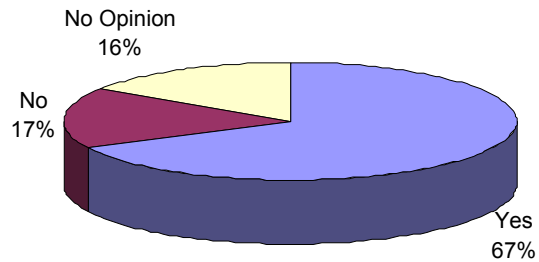
Findings: Citizens Under 40 Years of Age - Downtown

The following questions asked about several items regarding Downtown Newton.

41. Is strengthening Downtown important to you?

67.4%	Yes
16.9%	No
15.7%	No Opinion.

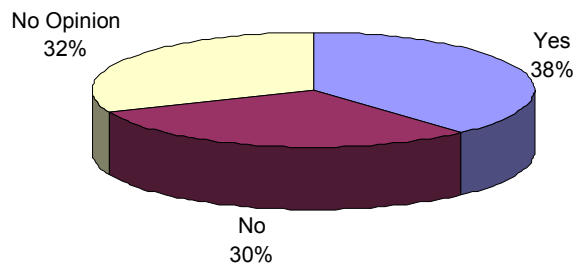
Graph 30. Is Strengthening Downtown Important to You (those less than 40 years of age)?



42. Is the City doing a good job revitalizing Downtown?

38.2%	Yes
30.3%	No
31.5%	No Opinion

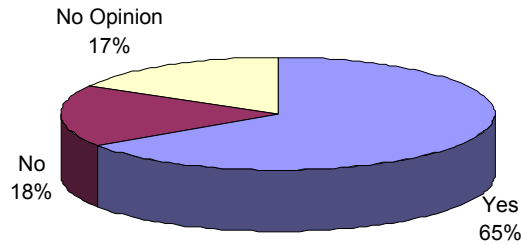
Graph 31. Is the City Doing a Good Job Revitalizing Downtown (those less than 40 years of age)?



43. Should the City be involved in revitalizing Downtown?

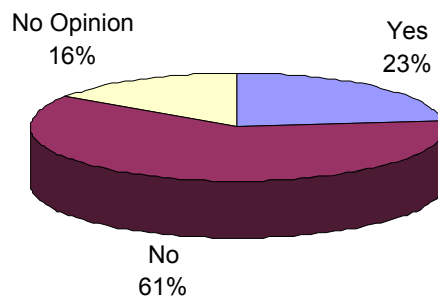
65.6%	Yes
17.8%	No
16.7%	No Opinion

Graph 32. Should the City be Involved in Revitalizing Downtown (those less than 40 years of age)?



44. Should City tax dollars be used to improve private property in Downtown Newton (i.e. facades, etc)?

Graph 33. Should Tax Dollars be Used to Improve Private Property in Downtown Newton (those less than 40 years of age)?

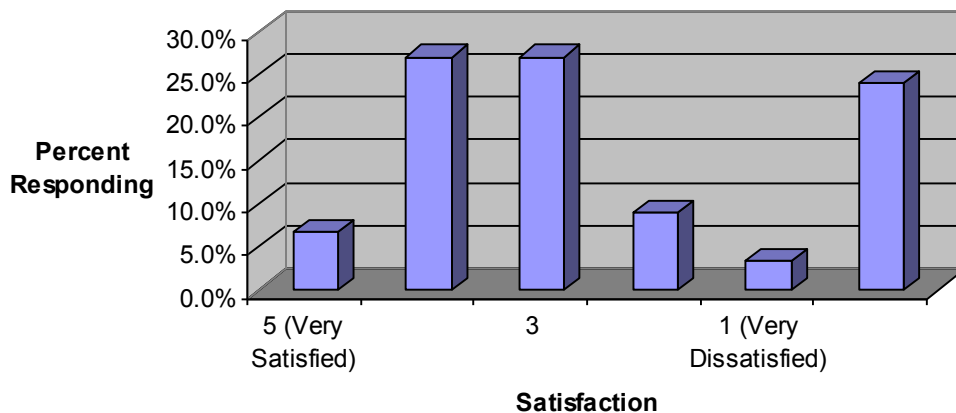


Findings: Citizens Under 40 Years of Age – Economic Development

45. Please indicate how satisfied you are with the City’s economic development efforts.

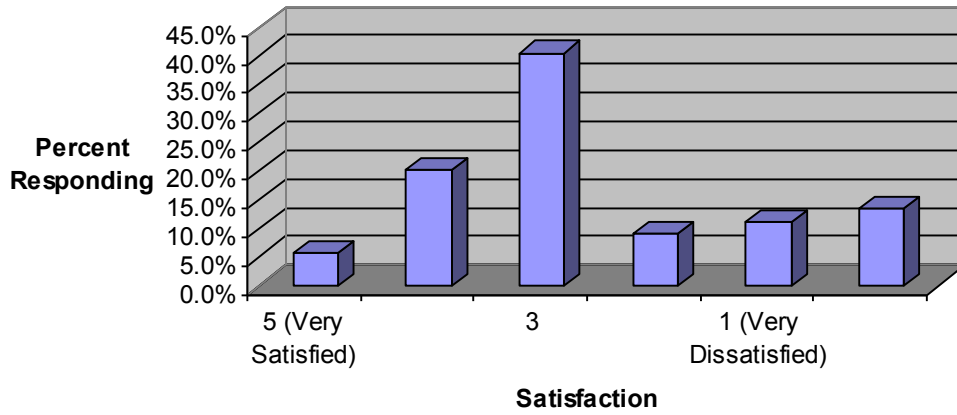
Assisting existing businesses.

How Satisfied are you with the City's Economic Development Efforts to Assist Existing Businesses (under 40 years of age).



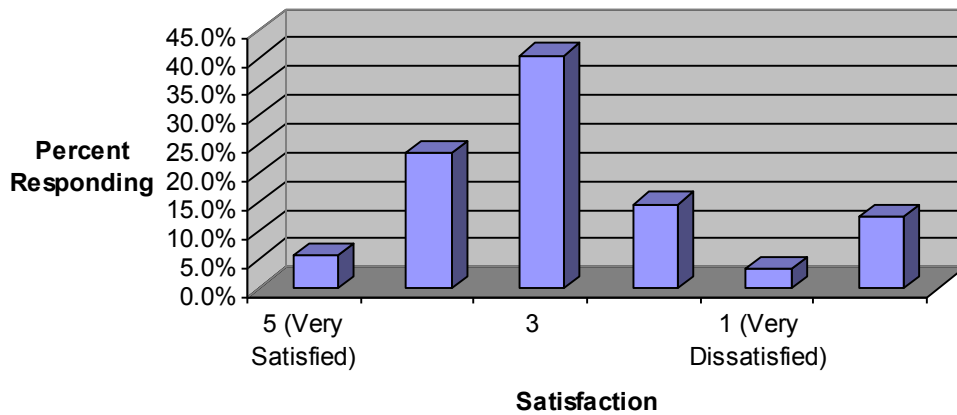
Attracting new jobs.

How Satisfied are you with the City's Economic Development Efforts to Attract New Jobs (under 40 years of age).



Overall economic development efforts.

How Satisfied are you with the City's Overall Economic Development Efforts (under 40 years of age).



Findings: Citizens Under 40 Years of Age – Quality of Life

46. Rank the top five items that you believe contribute to the quality-of-life in Newton.

Item	Mean	# Responding	Rank
Schools	1.59	71	1
Medical Center	2.37	59	2
Shopping	2.68	28	3
Arts & Cultural Events	2.80	5	4
Public Spaces enhanced with Art	3.00	3	5
Streets	3.30	33	6
Neighborhood Improvements	3.35	26	7
Parks	3.41	49	8
Recreation Facilities	3.46	35	9
Entertainment	3.46	24	10
Restaurants	3.54	41	11
Downtown	3.80	15	12
Hiking/Biking Trails	3.83	23	13
“Stroll” Districts	4.00	1	14

47. Respondents were then given a list of five City projects and asked to indicate how important each of the projects are on a scale from 1 to 5 (1 being very unimportant and five being very important).

Project	Mean	# Responding	Rank
Parks	4.09	90	1
Recreation Center	3.99	88	2
Re-Development of Downtown	3.52	87	3
Development of South Side	3.28	88	4
Expansion of Library	3.28	87	5

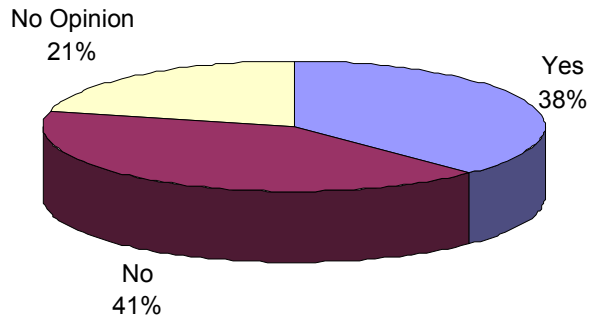
48. Respondents were then given the same list of City projects as above and asked to rank 1-5 them in order of importance.

Project	Rank
Recreation Center	1
Parks	2
Re-Development of Downtown	3
Development of South Side	4
Expansion of Library	5

49. Do you believe the City of Newton needs an expanded public library?

37.7%	Yes
41.1%	No
21.1%	No Opinion

Graph 34. Do You Believe the City of Newton Needs an Expanded Public Library (those less than 40 years of age)?

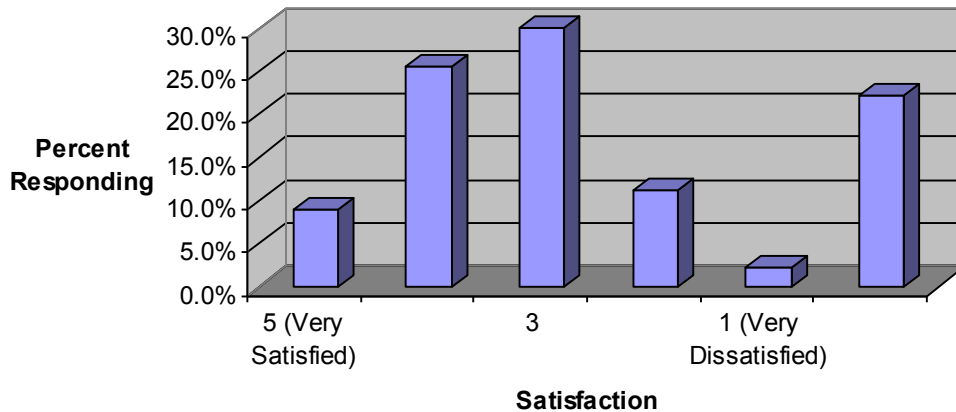


Findings: Housing

50. Please indicate your satisfaction with the following housing questions (on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being very dissatisfied and 5 being very satisfied).

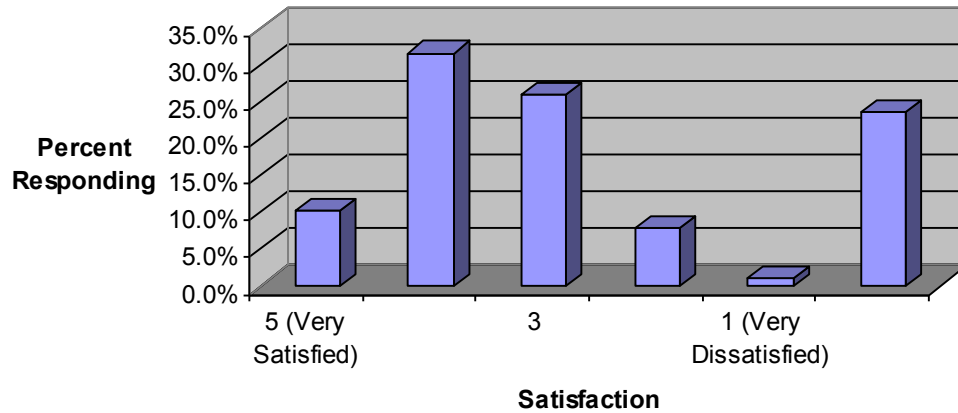
Quality of affordable, entry-level housing (includes to rent or buy).

How Satisfied are you with The Quality of Affordable, Entry-Level Housing (under 40 years of age).



Quantity of affordable, entry level housing (includes to rent or buy).

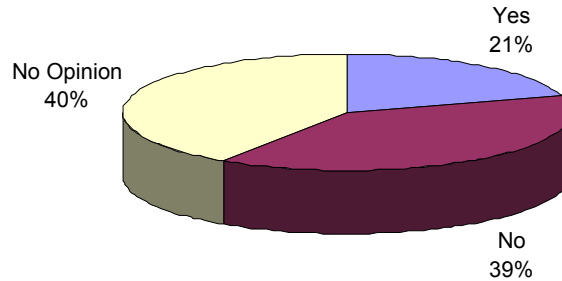
How Satisfied are you with the Quantity of Affordable, Entry-Level Housing (under 40 years of age).



51. Is there a problem with owner-occupied housing in Newton?

20.5%	Yes
38.6%	No
40.9%	No Opinion

Graph 35. Is There a Problem with Owner-Occupied Housing in Newton (those less than 40 years of age)?

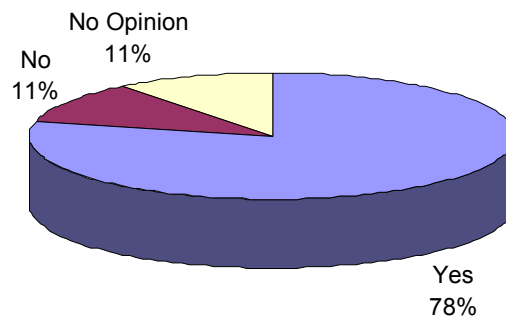


When asked to indicate what the problem is, the majority of respondents indicated that property maintenance was the main issue.

52. Should the City address the situation?

79.0%	Yes
10.5%	No
10.5%	No Opinion

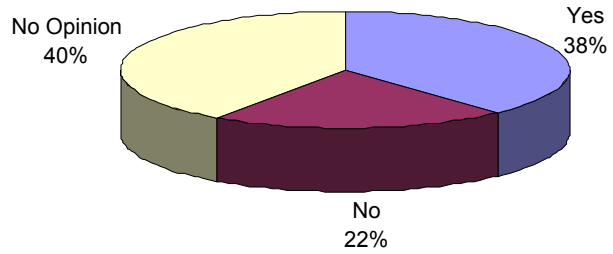
Graph 36. Should the City address the Situation (those less than 40 years of age)?



53. Is there a problem with rental housing in Newton?

37.9%	Yes
21.8%	No
40.2%	No Opinion

Graph 37. Is There a Problem with Rental Housing in Newton (those less than 40 years of age)?

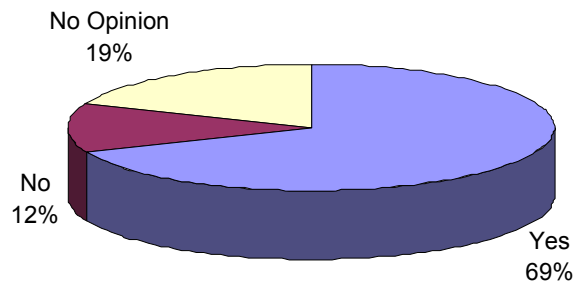


When asked what the problem is, the majority of respondents indicated that upkeep of property was an issue.

54. Should the City address the situation?

68.8%	Yes
12.5%	No
18.8%	No Opinion

Graph 38. Should the City Address the Situation (those less than 40 years of age)?



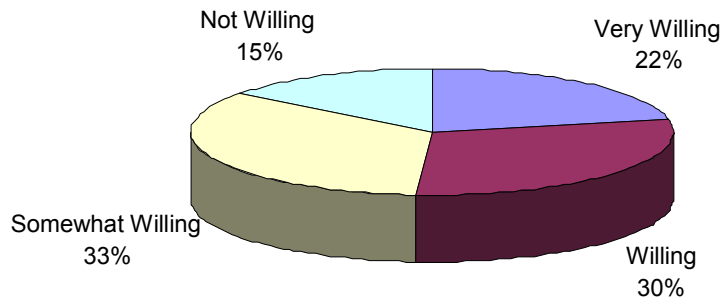
Findings: Community Improvements

55. A listing of four improvements or developments were provided and respondents were asked to indicate their willingness to fund them either through property tax, sales tax or other city-financed method).

Recreation Center

21.6%	Very Willing
29.6%	Willing
34.1%	Somewhat Willing
14.8%	Not Willing

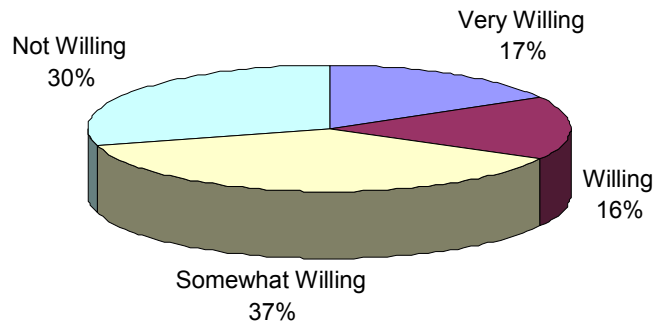
Graph 39. Willing to Fund a Recreation Center (those less than 40 years of age).



Library Expansion

17.1%	Very Willing
15.9%	Willing
37.5%	Somewhat Willing
29.6%	Not Willing

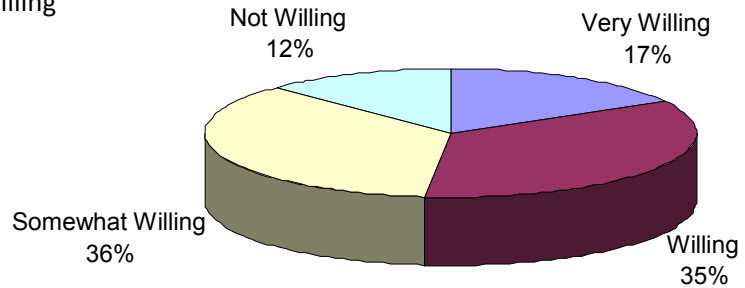
Graph 40. Willing to Fund a Library Expansion (those less than 40 years of age).



Parks

16.9%	Very Willing
34.8%	Willing
36.0%	Somewhat Willing
12.4%	Not Willing

Graph 41. Willing to Fund Parks (those less than 40 years of age).



Re-Development of Downtown

11.4%	Very Willing
21.6%	Willing
35.2%	Somewhat Willing
31.8%	Not Willing

Graph 42. Willing to Fund Re-Development of Downtown (those less than 40 years of age).

