nashville**next**

PHASE 1 Summary Results

What's Inside

The first phase of public input in NashvilleNext touched thousands of Nashvillians across the county and from all walks of life. Community members attended public meetings, and planners attended community meetings. Adults and children alike participated at NashvilleNext booths in community events. The public also discussed ideas for the future online and in social media. This report documents the first phase of public involvement and reports the results.

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For all comments received in phase 1, see the Phase I Comment Report, available online at www.NashvilleNext.net

What we asked

The first phase of NashvilleNext asked the public to provide their vision for Nashville's future, based on around three questions:

- What do you love about Nashville (what are the things to preserve or enhance)?
- What needs to be improved (what are our weaknesses to be overcome)?
- What do you want for the future of Nashville in 2040?

In addition to these specific questions, the public as also engaged through a series of seven nationally recognized experts in planning issues, and through the release of 18 background reports written by local experts. Planners also presented information on key trends and the NashvilleNext process at community meetings and online, through documents and videos.

How we did it

NashvilleNext provided multiple opportunities for the public to envision Nashville's future:

More than a thousand Nashvillians attended the kick-off event, speaker, or community and neighborhood leader training, providing hundreds of ideas for Nashville's future.

Metro Planners attended community meetings such as neighborhood associations, business groups, and civic organizations, taking public comments through surveys and group discussions.

Planners and volunteers from the community attended community events to connect to participants who would not otherwise engage in the process.

Online surveys and talk.nashvillnext.net, an online discussion site, collected additional ideas from the public.

Total Participation in Phase 1

Each time NashvilleNext receives public input, we are able to count it in three ways. **First**, the piece of information we received (such as a sticky note or a completed survey), called "inputs." **Second**, the number of different ideas contained in the input (each separate idea receives a code; no single idea should be coded twice). These are called "coded comments." **Third**, some tools for collecting input allow other Nashvillians to "up-vote" ideas they agree with (such as through dots or "liking" it online).

Type	Inputs	Coded comments	Up-votes
NashvilleNext meetings	756	1,083	981
Book-a-Planner	1,129	2,390	105
Community Events	592	734	161
Online / Email	941	1,741	1,390
Traveling Exhibits	20	23	0
TOTAL	**3,438**	**5,971**	**2,637**

Kick-off

February 16, 2013

Hundreds of Nashvillians attended the kick-off event at the Main Public Library. Below, participants write their vision for Nashville's future on sticky notes. They used dots to show agreement with other participants' ideas.

Speakers

February – May 2013

Six nationally recognized speakers spoke to hundreds of Nashvillians about major national trends and how they relate to Nashville:

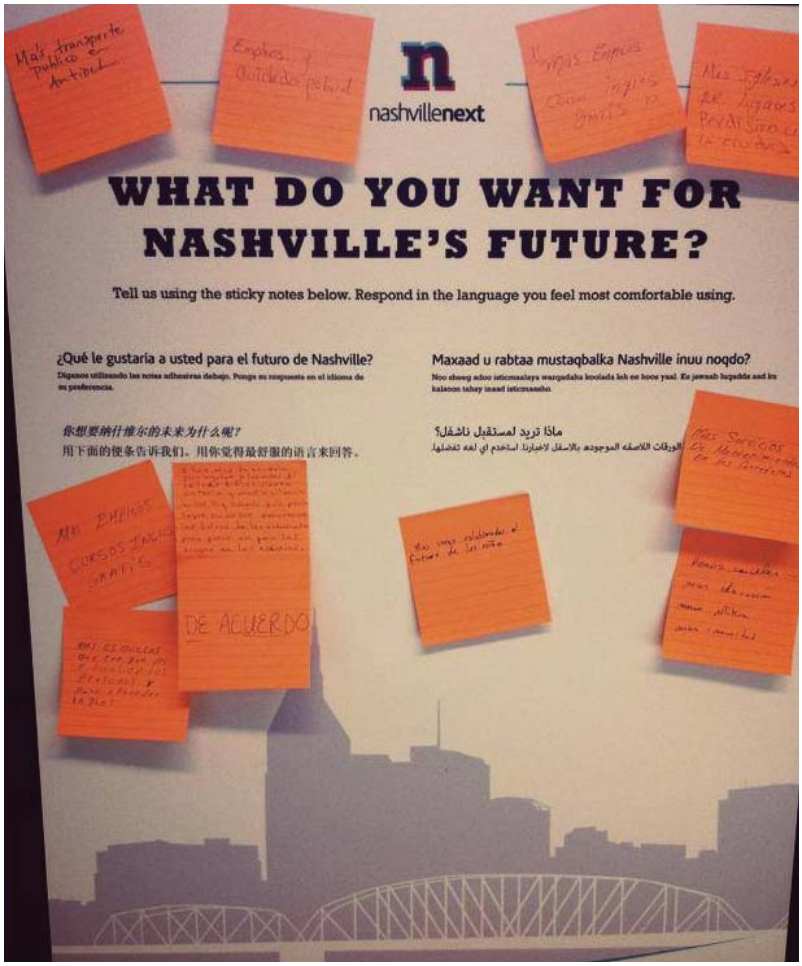
- Parris Glendening, President, Smart Growth America Leadership Institute
- Mitchell Silver (**left**), President, American Planning Association
- Dr. Henry Cisneros, Chairman, CityView
- Doug Farr, President, Farr Associates
- Ellen Dunham-Jones, Professor, Georgia Teach
- William Fulton, Vice President, Smart Growth America
- Amy Liu, Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution

Community meetings & events

Planners visited more than 50 community meetings, business organizations, and neighborhood associations, as well as 25 community events, to tell the public about NashvilleNext and take their ideas for the future. **Above**, NashvilleNext neighborhood leaders training; **below**, Earth Day.

Mayor's Youth Summit

NashvilleNext was the theme of the 2013 Mayor's Youth Summit. [Number] students from across the County described challenges they faced, what they wanted for Nashville's future, and what they could do to make change happen.



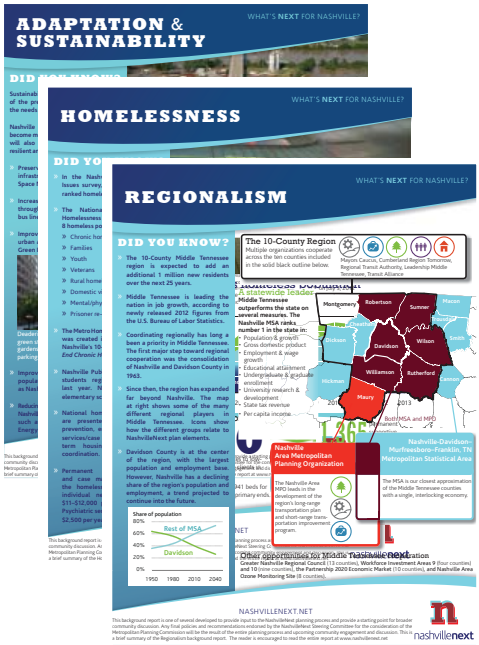
Changing strategies

Traveling stations

After a mid-point review of the demographics of NashvilleNext participants (see page 7-8), a new tool was developed to engage youth, low literacy residents, and immigrants.

Traveling stations use three-part boards designed to engage specific audiences. For example, the immigrant community station (**left**) provides the phase 1 questions and invitation to participate in English, Spanish, Chinese, Somali, and Kurdish.

The traveling stations are placed at strategic locations (such as Casa Azafrán and community centers) to connect to these audiences.



Background reports

February – May 2013

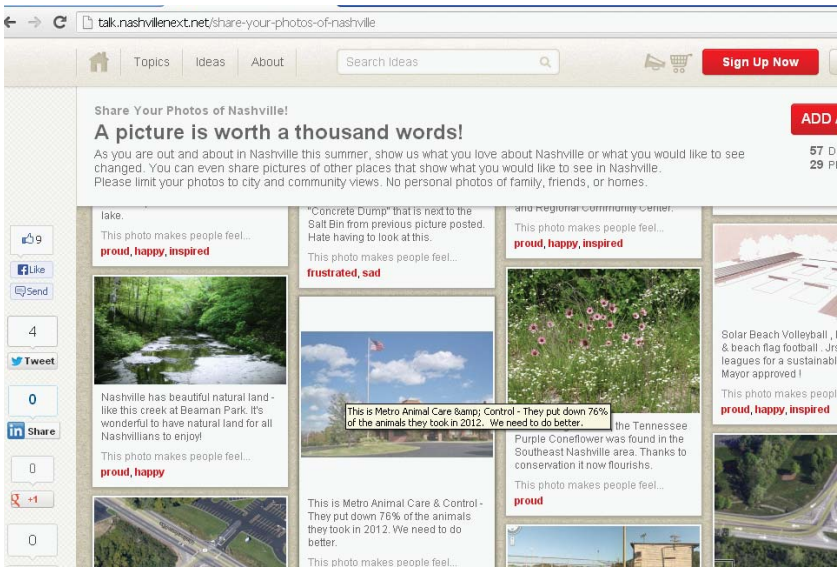
Eighteen background reports were written by local experts and Metro officials to reflect the current practice in Nashville, state of the art approaches across the country, and recommendations for consideration during NashvilleNext.

The reports and two-page summaries are available online on the following topics:

- Arts & culture
- Children & youth
- Demographic change & population diversity
- Economic development
- Education
- Natural resources & green space
- Equity & inclusion
- Hazard adaptation
- Historic preservation
- Housing
- Libraries
- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Public infrastructure & investment
- Public Safety
- Regionalism
- Transportation

talk.NashvilleNext.net

Launched February 2013



talk.NashvilleNext.net is the online discussion website for NashvilleNext. Throughout phase 1, more than 400 participants contributed 250 ideas and made 577 comments. Overall, the site had 3,400 visitors. NashvilleNext.net, the primary site for the process, had 16,000 visits.

Media coverage & outreach

NashvilleNext has received ample media coverage, in print, radio, and television.

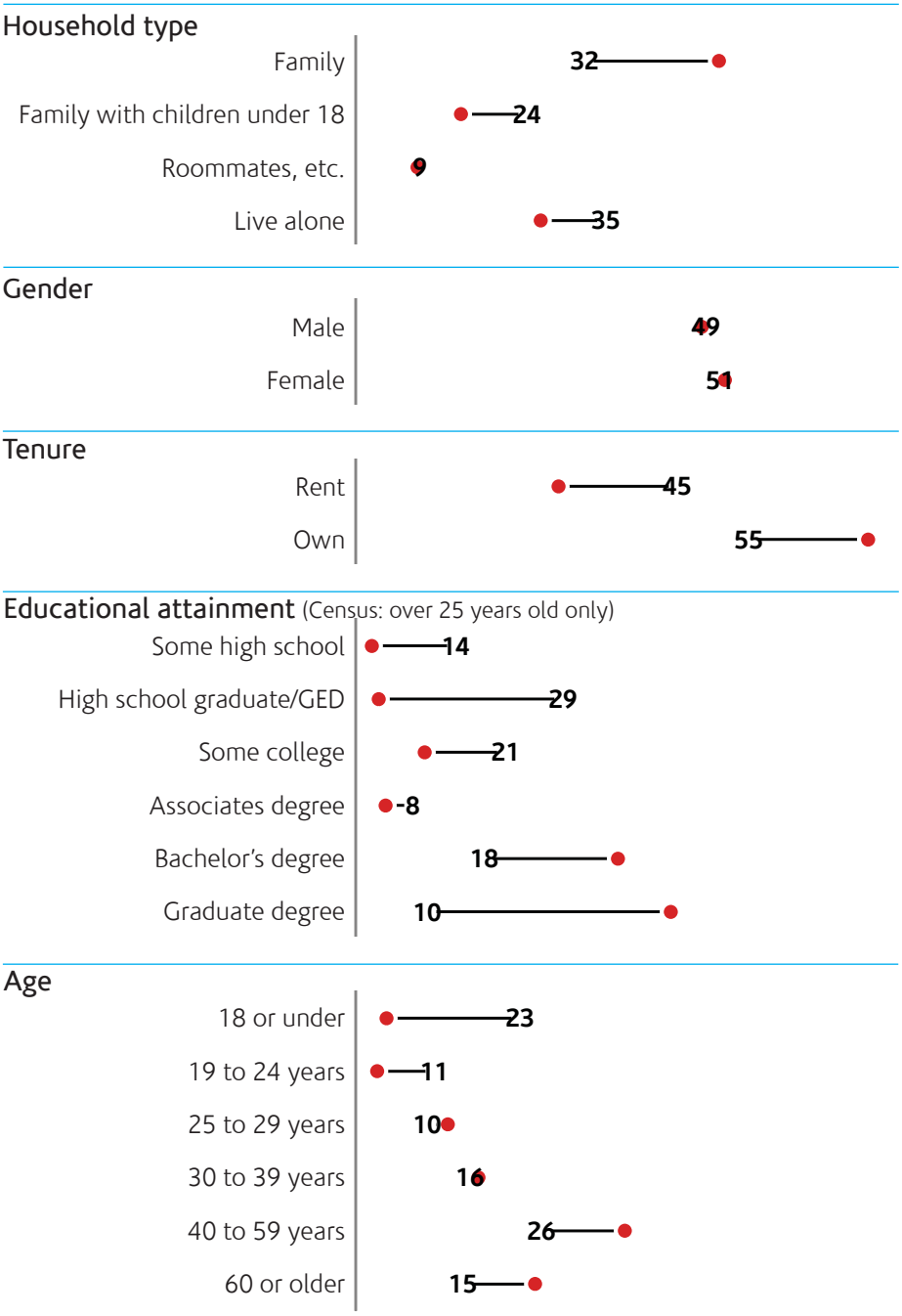
Notices were also included in Nashville Energy Services utility bills.

Email lists were also heavily used to promote NashvilleNext events and opportunities.

NashvilleNext also has an active social media presence, with 957 Facebook Likes and 810 Twitter followers.

Participation Demographics

Whenever possible, NashvilleNext participants are asked demographic information, to monitor who is participating, so that gaps in participation can be addressed. Because most participants do not provide this information, this should be used as a rough guide only. In particular, several tools used to address gaps (suich as attending community events or the traveling stations) do not provide demographic information.



Legend

50 Davidson County (Census 2010)
• nashvillenext participants

How to interpret these charts

50 — • Shows over-representation
• — **50** Shows under-representation

Findings

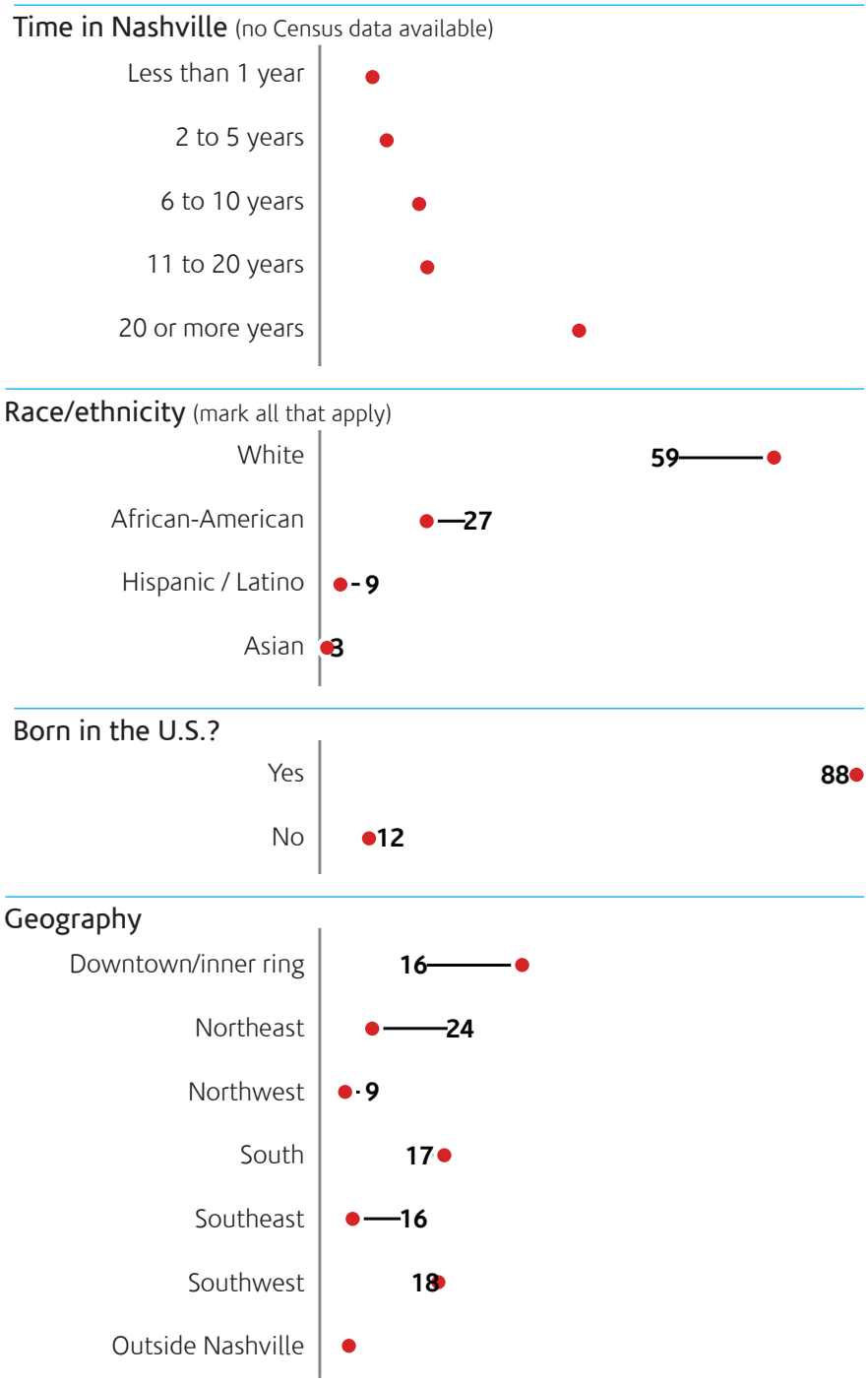
Families without children in the household are over-represented. Families with children and people living alone are both under-represented.

Owners are significantly over-represented, and renters are under-represented.

Participants had higher levels of education than the public at large.

The age of participants skewed older, primarily because of light participation among children under 18 and young adults under 25.

Participation Demographics



Legend

50 Davidson County (Census 2010)
• nashvillenext participants

How to interpret these charts

50 —— • Shows over-representation
• —— **50** Shows under-representation

Findings

White participants are over-represented; African-American and Hispanic participants are under-represented.

Immigrants participate roughly in line with Census figures.

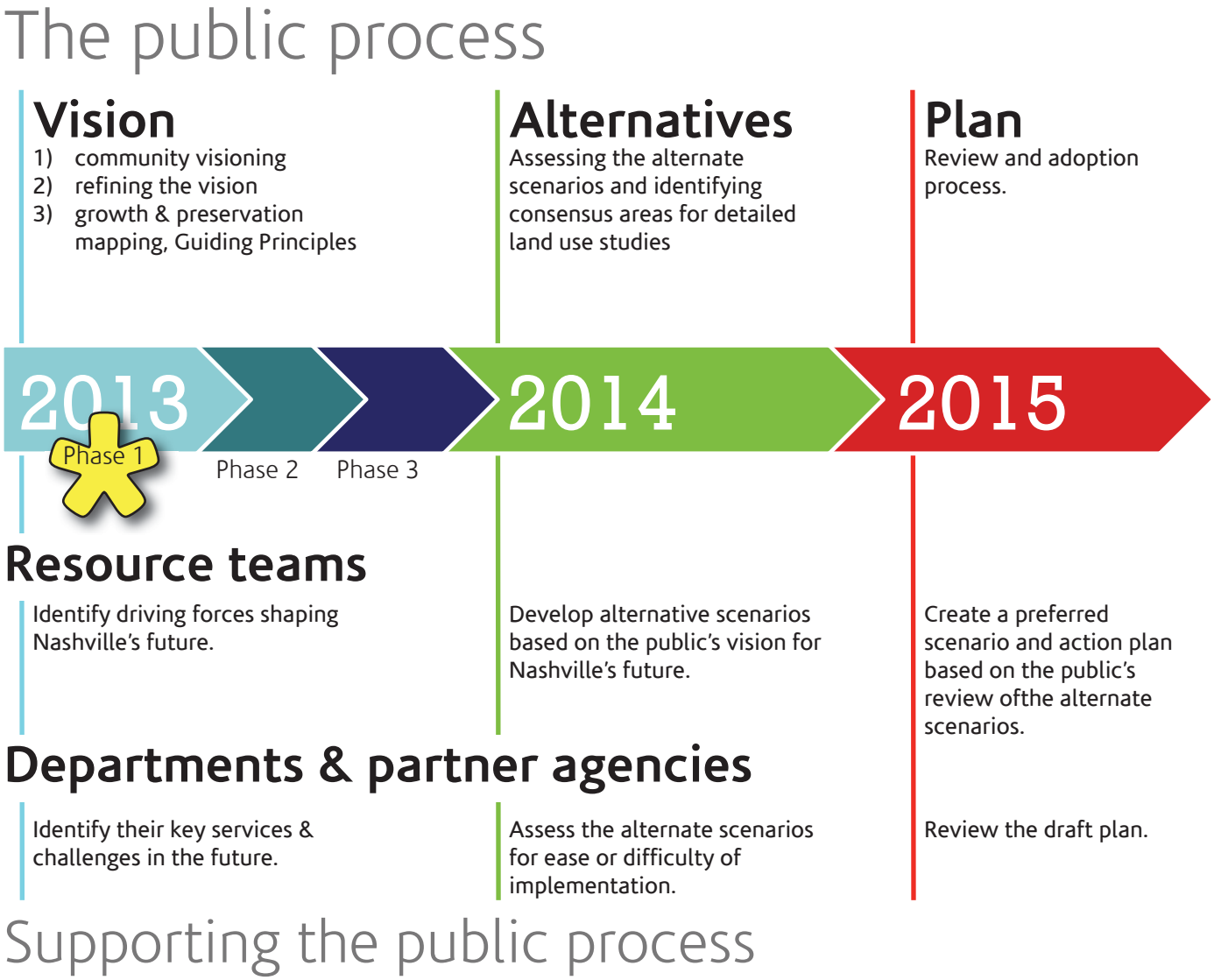
Geographically, downtown and inner-ring neighborhoods are over-represented. Northeast and southeast neighborhoods are under-represented.

Changes in outreach

Because of these findings, more emphasis was placed on gaining access to smaller audiences, such as members of the Al-Farooq mosque, traveling station, and on going to more community events in the northeast or southeast or that are likely to have a greater number of people from our under-represented communities.

The NashvilleNext process

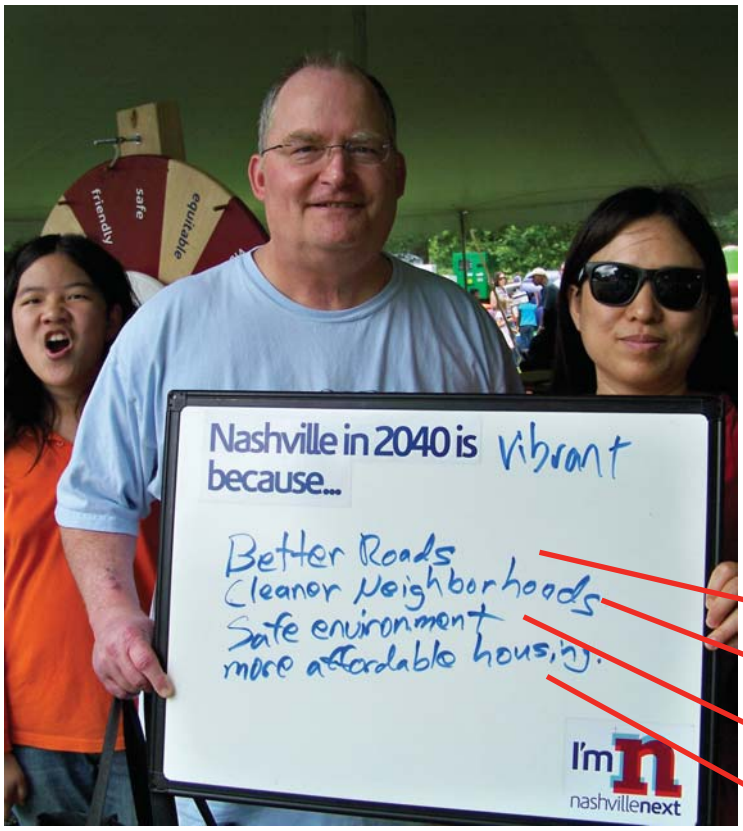
The diagram below illustrates NashvilleNext's two-and-a-half-year process. In particular, it shows the relationship between the public process (top) and the supporting processes involving Resource Teams for each plan element and Metro Departments and related agencies.

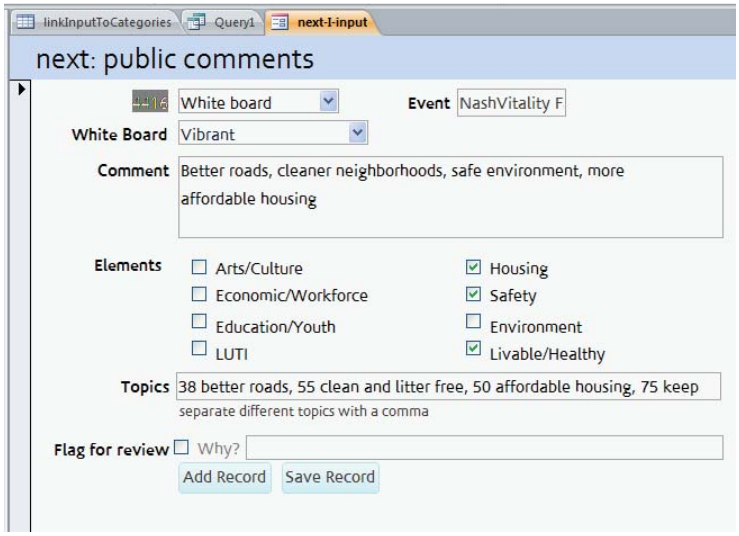


Phase 1 & next steps

Planners collected 5,700 ideas and conducted a 1,000-person telephone survey. The results were summarized to 37 key visioning themes, which form the basis of the second phase of NashvilleNext, conducting through community meetings, and paper and online surveys throughout July and August 2013.

The communities priorities will be used to create a set of Guiding Principles (available for review in October and November 2013) that will guide the remainder of the process.





Tracking and coding public input

Every input received in the first phase of NashvilleNext was entered into a database, tracking its source and related plan elements. Additionally, all comments were assigned one of 183 codes to identify each separate idea they contained.

Left, for example, is a whiteboard completed by a family at the NashVitality Family Festival (June 2013).

Bottom left is a screenshot of the database entry for this whiteboard.

Below are the codes assigned to the four ideas identified in the whiteboard.

38 Better roads

55 Clean & litter free

75 Keep Nashville safe

50 Affordable housing

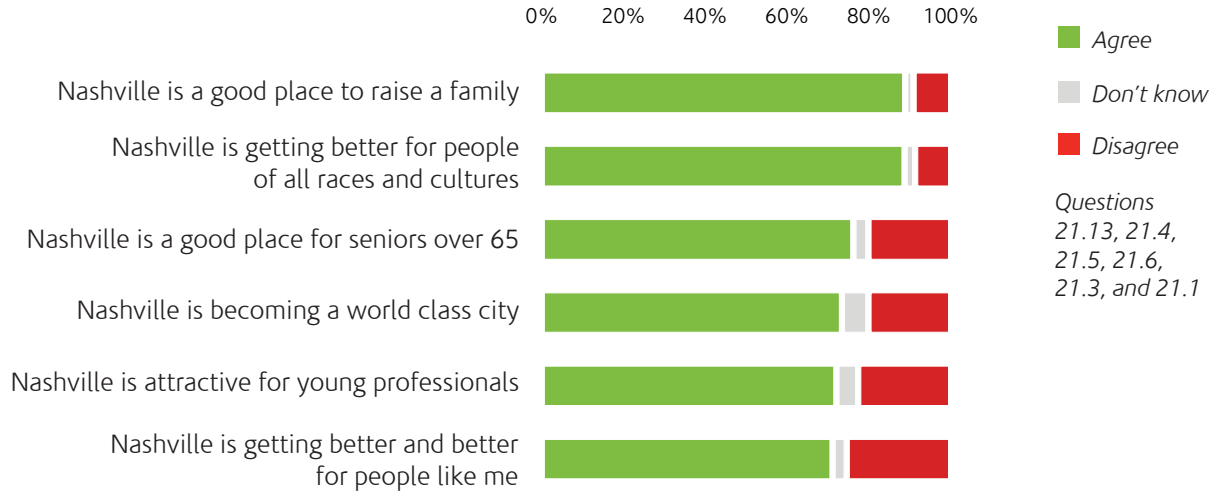
The 183 codes were created based on the public input, and were further grouped into 10 overarching themes (such as "transportation")

Community survey

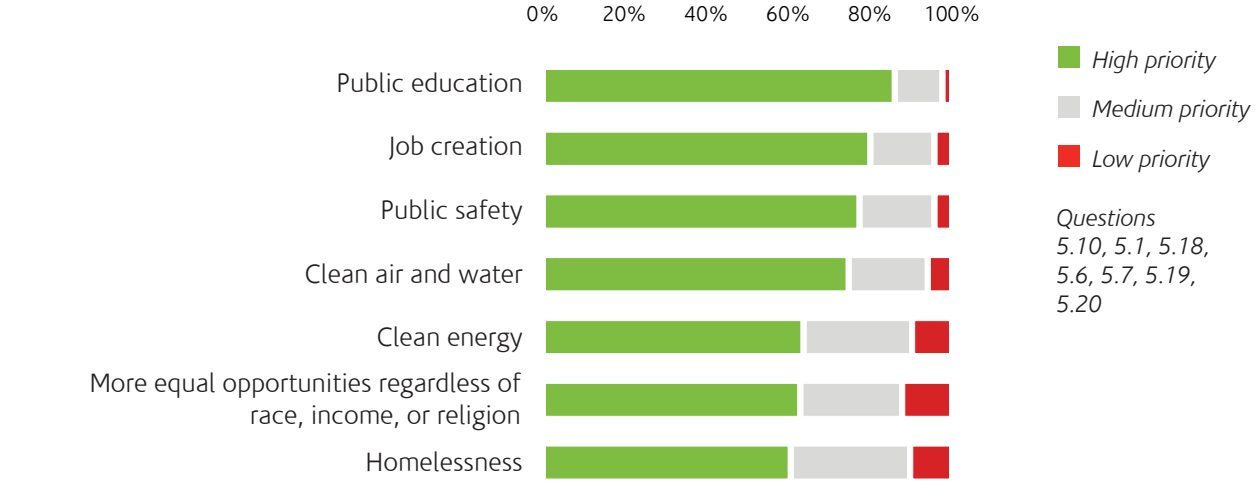
August – September, 2012

In addition to visioning outreach, a 1,000 person scientific poll was conducted in early stages of developing NashvilleNext. Highlights from the resutls are shown below; full results are available at www.NashvilleNext.net.

Do you generally agree or disagree with the following statements?



For each of the following, tell me if it should be a high, medium or low priority for elected officials and community leaders to work on and invest in for the future



This word cloud was created with the set comments gathered during Phase 1. It provides an automated, visual way of seeing the topics of most concern to Nashvillians.

Top ideas

The following table shows the ideas with the most comments and up-votes, as well as how often those comments were made in response to each of the three questions: What do you love about Nashville? What should be improved? What would you like for Nashville's future? (Totals may not align because of comments that only responded to one question, such as the white boards.)

Idea codes	All comments	Comments by question		
		Love	Improve	Future
Transit	882	5	461	377
Stronger schools	534	31	289	201
Parks, greenways, and open space	481	203	121	118
Walkable	406	21	202	164
Sense of community	390	305	8	38
Diverse Nashville	353	165	63	76
Bicycling	229	19	120	72
Entertainment opportunities	226	129	18	50
Urban living	213	45	85	75
Diverse arts & music	203	134	20	35

10 themes

Each idea submitted in the first round of NashvilleNext is coded into one or more of 183 ideas for the Nashville's future. Those 183 ideas were grouped into 10 overarching themes.

Most ideas submitted stand alone. However, in some settings (talk.NashvilleNext.net and at NashvilleNext public meetings), participants are able to show support for others' ideas. These are counted as "up-votes" and are tallied separately.

In other cases, where a small number of comments are explicitly opposed to an idea (such as the comment "No more bike lanes"), these comments are coded as "Alternate ideas" related to the idea they oppose.

ID	Theme	Comments	Up-votes	Alternate ideas
1	Transportation	1,289	905	16
3	Welcoming spirit/equity/diversity	1,031	235	6
4	Leisure/fun/entertainment/art/parks	907	443	9
5	Education, youth, economy	884	402	6
8	Neighborhoods, places, housing	713	397	11
7	Sustainable Nashville	430	323	0
6	Governance	172	64	2
2	Healthy Nashville	139	86	0
9	Safety	128	37	3
11	About the plan/implementation	39	4	0

Code report

This section lists the 183 codes by theme, and reports the number of comments, up-votes, and alternate views included for each.

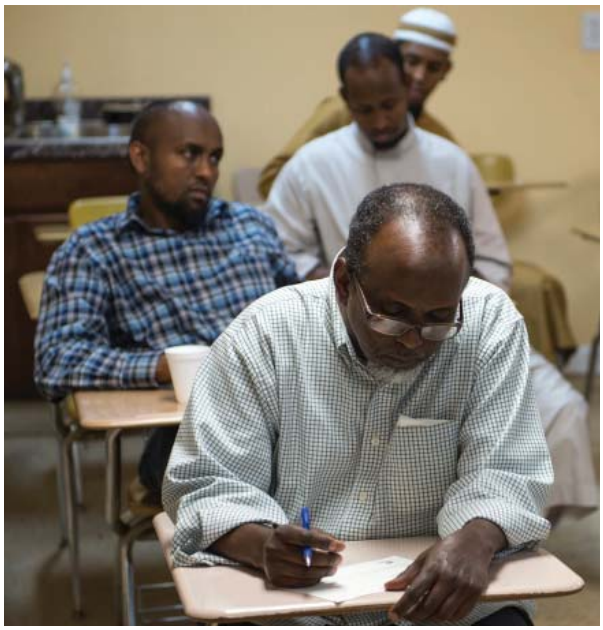
		comments	up-votes	alternate views
1	**Transportation**	**1289**	**905**	**16**
13	Transit	**488**	394	3
27	Walkable	**222**	184	0
24	Bicycling	**121**	108	4
110	Reduce traffic	**119**	42	1
108	Good transportation system	**98**	24	0
38	Better roads	**87**	44	1
82	Cheap, convenient parking	**33**	17	6
162	Geographic location and amenities	**28**	2	0
44	Prefer walking, biking, transit to cars	**20**	13	0
1	Traffic calming	**17**	33	1
45	Safe roads	**12**	17	0
36	Complete streets	**12**	7	0
12	Airport improvements	**12**	6	0
46	Alternative energy vehicles	**8**	6	0
64	Connected streets	**5**	7	0
37	Cover I-40	**4**	1	0
161	Ferries across the Cumberland River	**1**	0	0
182	Driverless cars	**1**	0	0

Code report

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
3	**Welcoming spirit/equity/diversity**	**1031**	**235**	**6**
60	Sense of community	**311**	79	0
57	Diverse Nashville	**276**	77	3
176	Big city, small town feel	**83**	0	1
18	Civic	**69**	7	0
85	More equitable	**50**	2	0
159	Family friendly	**46**	9	0
120	Affordable living for all kinds of people	**46**	7	0
7	Aging population	**30**	10	0
88	Everyone can find what they want in Nashville	**23**	0	0
157	Fun and vibrant	**23**	0	0
77	Faith community	**17**	5	0
79	LGBT Nashville	**11**	0	0
145	Overlapping issues (health, poverty, education)	**9**	14	0
53	Black history	**9**	18	0
78	Business community	**5**	0	0
174	Open to change	**4**	0	0
113	People like it and stay here	**3**	0	1
165	Accessibility & universal design	**3**	4	0
185	Everything about Nashville	**3**	0	1
190	Quality of life	**2**	0	0
186	Gritty culture	**2**	0	0
153	Gentrification	**1**	0	0
128	Services for Latinos	**1**	1	0
126	The Singularity	**1**	0	0
121	Civil Rights office	**1**	2	0
189	Healthy non-profit sector	**1**	0	0

Code report

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
4	**Leisure/fun/entertainment/art/parks**	**907**	**443**	**9**
16	Parks, greenways, and open space	**326**	155	1
14	Entertainment opportunities	**168**	58	1
58	Diverse arts & music	**160**	43	0
135	Food options	**78**	36	0
20	Arts	**37**	28	0
97	Sports	**35**	8	1
95	Baseball	**23**	20	0
99	Preserve the Fairgrounds	**20**	38	6
52	Libraries	**15**	11	0
102	Country music	**15**	10	0
63	Public art	**12**	16	0
62	Community centers	**9**	10	0
146	Pools	**4**	5	0
152	Access to art	**2**	5	0



Working with immigrant communities

Somali men record their thoughts on Nashville's future during a Book-a-Planner session at the Al Farooq mosque.

Code report

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
5	**Education, youth, economy**	**884**	**402**	**6**
3	Stronger schools	**375**	159	1
136	Vibrant economy with more job opportunities	**145**	31	2
56	Higher education (colleges & universities)	**58**	10	0
92	Local/small business/entrepreneurs	**44**	17	0
4	Youth opportunities	**31**	21	0
71	Creativity and innovation	**26**	30	0
133	Tourism	**24**	4	2
111	Equitable access to schools and opportunities	**22**	9	0
59	Wireless & internet access	**16**	20	0
72	Local talent and skills	**15**	0	0
87	Vocational education	**14**	0	0
94	Place-focused economic development	**14**	18	0
67	Teachers and teaching	**12**	9	0
123	Young people	**9**	0	0
151	Manufacturing	**9**	12	0
6	After school, summer school, early education	**8**	3	0
89	Jobs for low-income households	**7**	0	0
195	Well-paying jobs	**7**	0	0
98	School vouchers	**4**	0	0
112	Curricula	**4**	10	0
130	Attract new people and talent	**4**	4	0
70	Creative class	**4**	2	1
168	Graduation rates	**4**	7	0
184	Attract major corporations	**4**	0	0
122	Student mentors	**4**	5	0
76	Education for immigrants	**3**	5	0
5	Adult literacy	**2**	0	0
178	School siting	**2**	5	0
173	Lifelong learning	**2**	0	0
170	Support for families	**2**	0	0
164	State capitol	**2**	1	0
54	Class size	**1**	10	0
166	Access to childcare	**1**	0	0

Code report

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
5	**Education, youth, economy**	**884**	**402**	**6**
181	Free market	1	1	0
163	Four-day workweek	1	2	0
180	Parent involvement with education	1	0	0
83	White-collar jobs	1	1	0
179	Limit payday lenders	1	6	0

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
8	**Neighborhoods, places, housing**	**713**	**397**	**11**
91	Urban living / Downtown	127	86	4
41	Residential neighborhoods	77	15	0
50	Affordable housing	66	34	1
84	Preserve history	61	31	1
55	Clean and litter-free	57	34	0
48	Beautiful Nashville	53	25	0
147	Homelessness	46	30	0
51	Convenient services and retail in all parts of town	43	45	1
49	Housing options	40	37	2
137	Re-use of existing buildings and areas	38	21	0
28	Rural character	27	4	1
139	Support smaller urban villages	17	16	0
177	Limit sprawl / smart growth	15	0	0
19	Support for new development	14	4	1
61	Streets as public spaces/Improve the pikes	8	0	0
124	Sustainable housing options	7	8	0
194	Single-family homes	5	0	0
42	Keep incompatible uses apart	5	0	0
47	Cayce Homes	3	7	0
191	High quality development	2	0	0
156	Clothing optional spaces	1	0	0
154	Community places	1	0	0

Code report

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
7	**Sustainable Nashville**	**430**	**323**	**0**
8	Local food production	**57**	68	0
104	Sustainability	**56**	12	0
31	Recycling/Composting	**46**	68	0
65	Conserve resources & protect the environment	**44**	11	0
167	Pleasant climate	**37**	4	0
68	Trees	**35**	19	0
103	Riverfront development	**34**	72	0
142	Responsible Infrastructure	**30**	3	0
40	Green infrastructure & stormwater	**26**	11	0
15	Alternative energy	**16**	11	0
86	Celebrate our creeks, rivers, and lakes	**14**	2	0
155	Slow population growth	**11**	0	0
129	Bury or consolidate utilities	**9**	27	0
90	Energy efficiency & conservation	**5**	3	0
143	Safe from natural hazards	**4**	0	0
183	Light pollution	**2**	5	0
188	Reduce noise pollution	**2**	0	0
30	Cumberland River	**2**	7	0

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
6	**Governance**	**172**	**64**	**2**
118	Invest across the county	**40**	6	0
93	Efficient Metro	**38**	14	0
105	Lower taxes	**30**	7	0
100	Leadership	**23**	15	2
175	Engagement and participation in Metro decisions	**20**	10	0
149	Regionalism	**11**	1	0
141	Metro communications	**5**	5	0
119	Sustainable Metro	**3**	6	0
192	Reduce regulations	**2**	0	0

Code report

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
2	**Healthy Nashville**	**139**	**86**	**0**
2	More opportunities for active living	**40**	11	0
35	Healthy, fresh food access	**30**	48	0
106	Healthcare	**29**	1	0
34	Wellness programs	**15**	22	0
11	Air quality	**7**	1	0
17	Spay/neuter animal programs	**6**	2	0
144	Healthy places	**5**	0	0
116	Smoke-free	**3**	0	0
117	Medical marijuana	**2**	1	0
193	Reduce teenage pregnancies	**1**	0	0
187	Mental health	**1**	0	0

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
9	**Safety**	**128**	**37**	**3**
75	Keep Nashville safe	**96**	33	1
127	Police and firefighters	**23**	4	1
171	Felon reintegration	**4**	0	0
74	Allow guns	**3**	0	1
169	Emergency prepardness	**2**	0	0

		comments	up-votes	alternate views
11	**About the plan/implementation**	**39**	**4**	**0**
158	Prepared for the future	**33**	4	0
66	Implementation	**5**	0	0