

VILLAGE OF LAKE ZURICH
Planning & Zoning Commission
70 East Main Street



Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL: Chairperson Orlando Stratman, Vice-Chair Antonio Castillo, Joe Giannini, Sean Glowacz, Jake Marx, Scott Morrison, Mike Muir and Ildiko Schultz.
2. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES AND FINDINGS OF THE COMMISSION
 - A. Minutes of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, on [January 17, 2024](#). Motion to approve the minutes.
3. PUBLIC MEETING
(This agenda item includes items that do not require public testimony)
 - A. *Comprehensive Plan Update.* Teska Associates, the consultant working on updating Lake Zurich's Comprehensive Plan will present the findings of the Community Poll and other engagement activities completed as part of the effort to update the Village's Comprehensive Plan.

The role of the PZC is to serve as the "Steering Committee" throughout the process culminating in a recommendation to the Village Board to adopt the final Comprehensive Plan document.
4. PUBLIC HEARING
(This agenda item includes proposals presented to the Planning & Zoning Commission requiring public testimony, discussion and recommendation to the Village Board for final action.)

No new Applications have been received for consideration.
5. OTHER BUSINESS
6. STAFF REPORTS
This is an opportunity for staff of the Community Development Department to report on matters of interest to the Planning & Zoning Commission

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is an opportunity for residents to comment briefly on matters included on the agenda and otherwise of interest to the Commission. Public Comment is limited to 30 minutes total and up to 5 minutes per speaker.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Village of Lake Zurich is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations so that they can observe or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the Village's facilities, should contact the Village's ADA coordinator at (847) 438-5141 (TDB #438-2349) promptly to allow the Village to make reasonable accommodation.

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
VILLAGE OF LAKE ZURICH
Planning and Zoning Commission
70 East Main Street



Wednesday, January 17th, 2024.

1. CALL TO ORDER by Chairperson Orlando Stratman at 7.00pm.

Roll Call: Chairman Orlando Stratman, Commissioners Antonio Castillo, Sean Glowacz, Scott Morrison, Ildiko Schultz. Absent and excused: Mike Muir. Absent: Joe Giannini, Jake Marx. Also present: Community Development Dir. Sarosh Saher, Management Services Dir. Kyle Kordell and Village Clerk Kathleen Johnson.

2. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES AND FINDINGS OF THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, on December 13, 2023.

Motion to approve the minutes of December 13th, 2023 was made by Commissioner Castillo, seconded by Commissioner Morrison.

AYES: 3 Chairman Stratman; Commissioners Castillo, Morrison.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 2 Commissioners Glowacz, Schultz.

ABSENT: 3 Commissioners Giannini, Marx, Muir.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. PUBLIC MEETING

No items were received for consideration.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Motion was made by Commissioner Schultz, seconded by Commissioner Morrison, to open the Public Hearing at 7.03pm for the following 900 Winnetka Terrace – PUD for a Beauty Salon (2023-20): Application for a Special Use Permit for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to allow for the development of a beauty salon and spa located within the B-1 Local Community Business District. Applicant: Egle Jocubaitiene d/b/a Atelier de Beaute Owner: Atelier de Beaute, Inc.

AYES: 5. Chairman Stratman, Commissioners Castillo, Glowacz, Morrison, Schultz.

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3 Commissioners Giannini, Marx, Muir.

MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Stratman administered the Oath to speak to applicant Egle Jocubaitiene, Atty. Keith Hunt and Civil Engineer Robert Walker.

Dir. Saher introduced the applicant and representatives and Atty. Keith Hunt addressed the PZC on the application. There were questions about a sidewalk on Rt 12 (Rand Road) where there is a swale; construction materials; building renderings; hours of operation and deliveries; nearby residents had no issues with the building.

The Public Meeting was closed at 7.25pm on a motion by Commissioner Schultz, seconded by Commissioner Castillo.

AYES: 5. Chairman Stratman; Commissioners Castillo, Glowacz, Morrison, Schultz.

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3 Commissioners Giannini, Marx, Muir.

MOTION CARRIED.

There was deliberation on the sidewalk concern.

On application PZC 2023-20 Chairman Stratman entertained a motion to receive into the public record the staff review of compliance of this Application with the zoning standards as presented by staff; and to receive the testimony presented by the Applicants, by members of the public, by the PZC members, and by Village staff at tonight's Public Hearing; and make these standards, and testimony a part of the official record for the Application and Findings of the PZC; and to recommend that the Village Board approve the application for the PUD for a beauty salon and spa at 900 Winnetka Terrace.

Motion was made by Commissioner Castillo, seconded by Commissioner Schultz, to approve.

AYES: 5. Chairman Stratman; Commissioners Castillo, Glowacz, Morrison, Schultz.

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3 Commissioners Giannini, Marx, Muir.

MOTION CARRIED.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

6. STAFF REPORTS

Dir. Saher reported on the Comprehensive Plan and gave an update that there will be a presentation at the February 21st, 2024 PZC meeting.

The former TGIF building is proceeding as a marijuana dispensary and the Midlothian Manor proposal has been withdrawn by the petitioner.

Meeting packets will be available as paper and electronic as per the request of the Commissioners.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Schultz, seconded by Commissioner Castillo.

AYES: 5. Chairman Stratman; Commissioners Castillo, Glowacz, Morrison, Schultz.
NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3 Commissioners Giannini, Marx, Muir.
MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 7.39pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Johnson, Village Clerk.

Approved by:

Chairman Orlando Stratman

Date



Community Poll Summary

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Lake Zurich Together Comprehensive Plan

Report Prepared by Teska Associates, Inc. for the Village of Lake Zurich

DRAFT FEBRUARY 06, 2024



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Section 1 · Poll Overview

Executive Summary

The ‘Lake Zurich Together’ Poll was a significant step forward with engaging and hearing from residents and community members as part of the Village’s ongoing Comprehensive Planning effort.

Open for approximately 9 weeks, from October 25, 2023 to January 8, 2024, the poll received a total of 368 responses from a broad range of community members. A deep dive into demographics is provided on the pages that follow with some highlights provided in the sidebar at right.

Poll questions were developed based on insights gained from the community conditions analysis, public outreach to date, and findings of the 2023 National Community Survey. A variety of input formats were utilized including open-ended, multiple-choice, ranking, and rating.

Questions were grouped into the following categories with educational content interspersed:

- Places, Spaces, and Community Design
- Connectivity, Mobility, and Accessibility
- Environment and Sustainability

Respondents learned about the poll from an array of marketing and communication sources including Benchmarks (31%), social media (18%), and the D95 Newsletter (15%). A robust promotional campaign included print and digital outreach, alongside events and word-of-mouth to raise awareness.



Participant Snapshot

See demographic section for details

33%



LONGTIME RESIDENTS

1 in 3 have lived in the Village for 20+ years

22%



NEWER RESIDENTS

1 in 5 have lived in the Village less than 5 years

59%



35-54 YEARS OF AGE

Majority are in the family age bracket aligning with Village demographics



Themes: Wishes & Wants

Following a thorough review of feedback we are happy to report that the majority of respondents have a positive image of Lake Zurich and enjoy living here. Consensus generally centered on loving the quality of life and schools, scenic natural environment, facilities, amenities and quick convenience. With regard to the future, “core wishes and wants” focused on the desire for Lake Zurich to become a more modern, vibrant, connected and beautiful community. Feedback and ideas on how these wishes take root and come to fruition are expanded upon in throughout this report.

To start, below are some top level themes of the feedback received via the poll:



Greater diversity and density of destinations, shops, dining & things to do

Increase variety of shopping, dining, and entertainment destinations with a special focus near the Lake to create a bustling Main Street vibe. More open spaces and parks are welcome, as are specific activities for teens, a night out, alfresco dining, and businesses that attract day-to-evening foot traffic.

Visible arts, culture and seasonal activities that invite you to explore & linger

Infusing more visible and accessible public art, streetside performances and busking, cultural celebrations, and seasonal activities; events in the Main Street Area to activate and attract more businesses; special focus on outdoor performances, concerts, and creative temporary art / fairs.



Safe, walkable, and inviting sidewalk and trail network that connects to destinations

Accessible network of walking and biking infrastructure; improvements to the streetscape that are inviting, safe, and active; consider how streetscape improvements can enhance activity in Main Street and to other destinations; consider public information/wayfinding.

Maintain existing housing & explore new options for varying life stages, styles and needs

Prioritize maintenance of existing housing stock and explore a greater variety to ensure full circle living; one should be able to move to Lake Zurich, raise a family, downsize and age in place. Quality architecture and site design matter, as do single and multi story structures, access and affordability.



Demographics

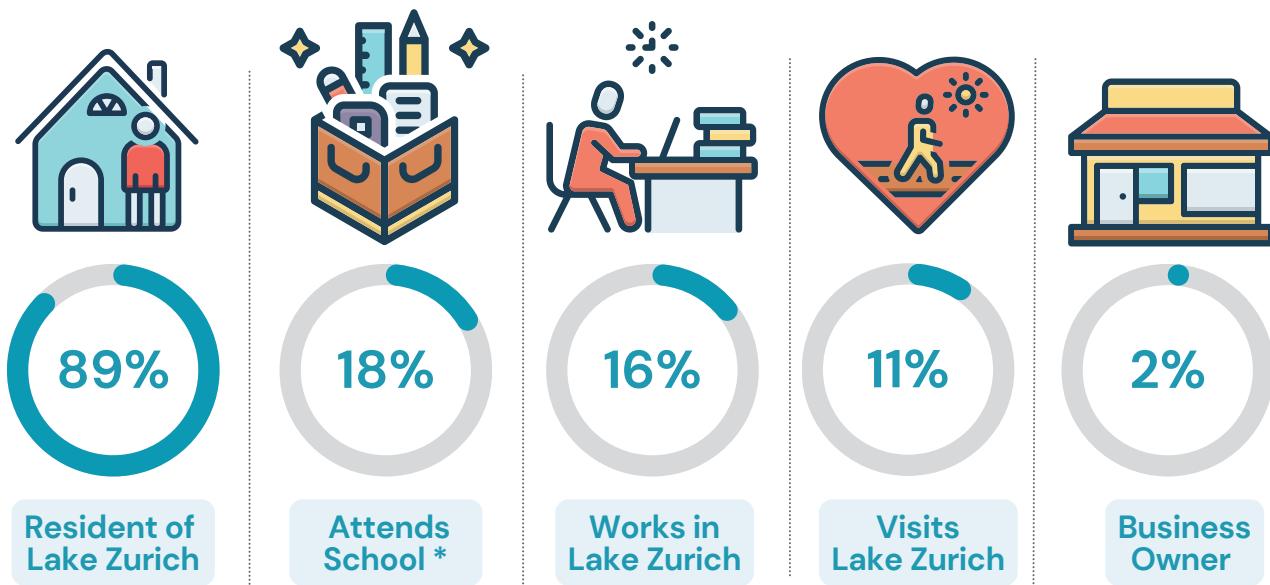


A Growing Family-Friendly Community for Everyone

Lake Zurich is a dynamic community that takes pride in its charming, family-friendly atmosphere. To ensure we get a comprehensive understanding of the needs and priorities of our residents, we aim for balance and variety in our polling. Our goal is to engage community members of all ages, affiliations, and backgrounds to guarantee that the project and plan reflect the needs of residents.

Our polling results show that we have heard from a diverse range of respondents, including new and long-standing residents, employees, visitors, and students. We have learned that more than 10% of respondents speak a language other than English at home, showcasing the Village's growing cultural diversity.

How are you connected to Lake Zurich?

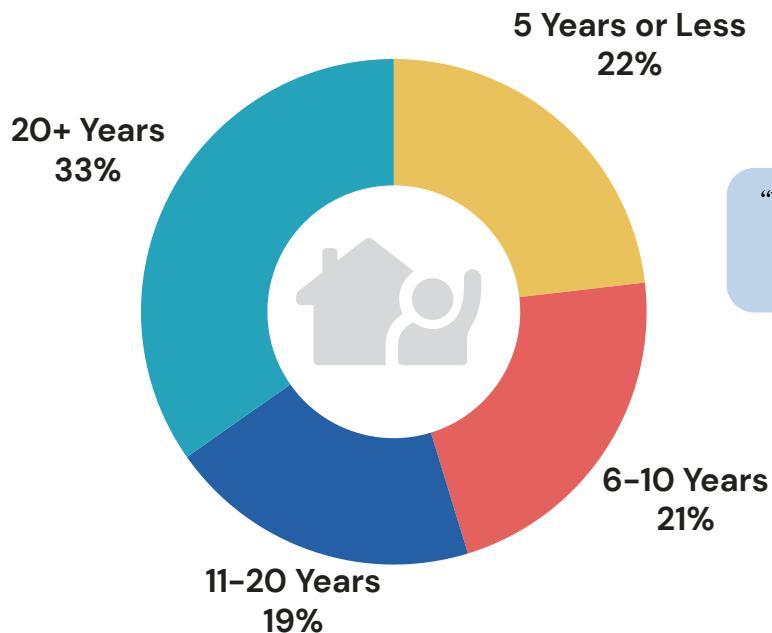


* Includes respondents whose have household member or child that attends school in Lake Zurich.

What is your gender?



Poll Demographics (continued)...

If a resident, how long have you lived in Lake Zurich?

“Lake Zurich is a new home for me. While I enjoy this community, I am still learning more about it.”

“I love that the park district and schools have such a broad range of quality activities.”

“Vision for the future: More developed downtown that is more aesthetically coherent; a leader in sustainable development.”

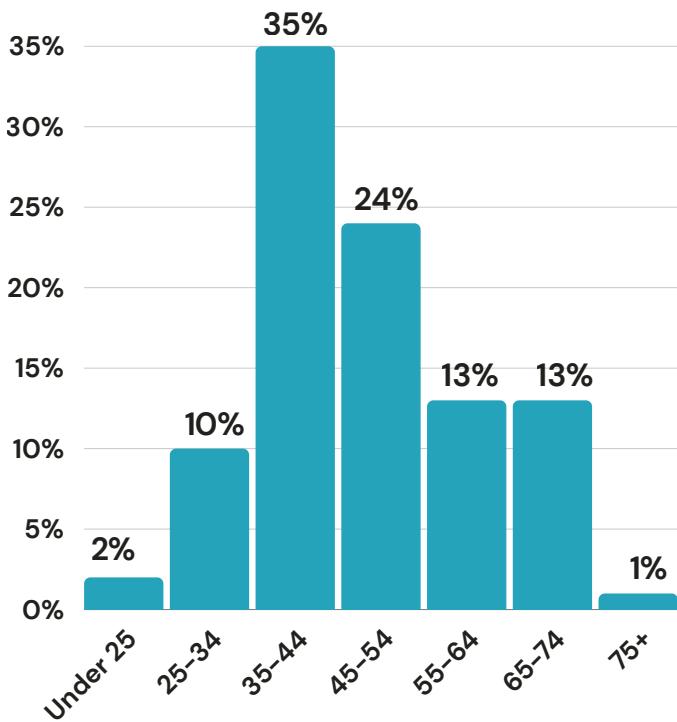
“It feels like home! We love our close knit school community and the beauty of our town.”

“Lake Zurich has fantastic programs focused on sustainability! Proud to be a member of the community.”

14% of respondents speak a language other than English at home including:

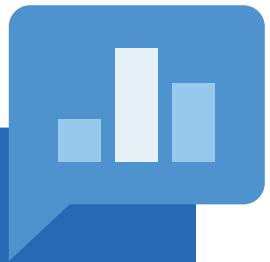
Ukrainian Latvian
 Korean Portuguese Bulgarian
 Greek Spanish
 Hindi
 Polish Russian
 ASL Gujarati
 Albanian Tamil / Telugu
 Japanese

Which age bracket do you belong to?



Section 2 · Context

Poll Methodology



Development & Best Practices

The only poll of its kind. Questions for the Lake Zurich Together Poll were developed based on insights gained from the community conditions analysis, public outreach to date, and findings of the 2023 National Community Survey, a scientific survey.

- Special attention and considerable thought was taken to ensure the focus of questions was informed, content was relatable and engaging, and input shared was additive to other sources of feedback.
- Imagery and educational content was specifically curated for the Lake Zurich Community and in many cases sourced from within community.
- These steps were taken to help mitigate outreach fatigue and frustration by participants who may have participated in other engagement activities and surveys that asked like questions.
- It is important to note this is not nor did it intend to be scientific poll. Findings here do not replace the considerable data provided by the 2023 NCS Report.

– Snapshot of Educational Slides from the Lake Zurich Together Community Poll –

What is placemaking?

Placemaking is about strengthening connections between people and the places we share. It can refer to community design, streetscapes, activities, land uses, and other ingredients that promote community health, happiness and well-being. This first series of questions will focus on placemaking and community vibrancy.



Lake Zurich's Main Street Area

According to the National Community Survey, 33% of Lake Zurich respondents noted the vibrancy of the Main Street Area as excellent or good. The Village has made Main Street revitalization a top priority over the last few years and seeks to continue building on those efforts!



Environment & Sustainability

To pursue **sustainability** is to create and maintain an environment under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations. 86% rated Lake Zurich's natural environment as excellent or good, underscoring the need to preserve these resources.



Mobility & Accessibility

Mobility and Accessibility are the “ying and yang” of transportation. **Mobility** is *how far you can go* in a given amount of time, while **accessibility** is *how much you can get to* in that time. Finding the right balance and creating a safe transportation network for all users is key.



Poll Methodology (continued)...

◆ Quantitative & Qualitative Balance

Close-ended questions were predominately used to generate quantitative data with measurable variables. The answers to these close-ended questions are objective and can be presented back in accessible formats showing overall percentages with how respondents answered — see graphs and charts that follow.

Open-ended questions were used more sparingly to generate local insights on general topics. Best practice is to include only a few open-ended questions to ensure poll completion given these types of responses take more time. The Lake Zurich Together Poll included two open response questions at the start of the survey to establish key words and phrases regarding the current state of the Village and desired future vision.

◆ Question Structure & Settings

A balanced set of questions and answer choices were provided and worded to be neutral and avoid bias. It is important to allow all respondents to provide honest feedback based on varying perspectives.

Per best practice, to increase response rate and user experience with completing the poll, we made the majority of questions optional. This increases participation and allows respondents to skip those questions they feel unsure about or simply don't feel comfortable answering, as may be the case with demographic questions.

◆ Reporting & Results

In terms of data review and reporting, many of the poll questions allowed participants to select up to three (3) answer options. In these cases percentages reported will add up to over 100%; i.e. 60% selected X, another 50% selected Y, etc.

To discourage misrepresentation of data and skewing of results by participants, the poll was set to only allow one entry per device and answer types were set to randomize, meaning they would appear in a different order each time it was taken.

◆ Ongoing Engagement & Marketing

Feedback as part of the Lake Zurich Together Community Poll does not stand alone. Public input from all types of project engagement will inform the themes and guide development of the comprehensive plan.

In addition to dedicated poll marketing as highlighted on the pages that follow, there has been a breadth of community engagement activities that have taken place to date. All of these events collectively contributed to building awareness about Lake Zurich's comprehensive plan and getting folks involved with sharing ideas and taking the poll:

- **Focus Groups** · Jul – Sept 2023
- **Stakeholder Interviews** · Aug 2023
- **Farmers Market Pop-Up** · Sept 2023
- **Community Workshop** · Oct 2023
- **High School Focus Group** · Dec 2023
- **Staff, Commission & Board Meetings** · Ongoing

Getting the Word Out & Community Sharing

The Poll was launched on October 25, 2023 to coincide with the first Community Workshop. Following the workshop steady marketing continued to roll out for the next 9-weeks via print, digital and in-person means.

The Village promoted the poll via their Benchmarks Newsletter throughout the months of October, November, and December 2023 reaching thousands of Lake Zurich residents. As a frame of reference, Benchmarks goes to 6,200 residents with an average open rate of 4,400. Emails were also sent directly to new residents via the Village's listserv, which included ~120 recipients as of December 2023.

Dedicated posts via Facebook were shared and re-shared. Meanwhile, news blasts via the project website were sent steadily informing folks of the poll's opening, response rate and closure. Postcards and posters were also shared, posted, and distributed at events, focus groups and to the School District.



Benchmarks is sent to 6.2K community members with an average Open Rate of 4.4K

BENCHMARKS *

What Does the Future of Lake Zurich Look Like?



Last week's Lake Zurich Together Community Workshop at the Ela Area Public Library was attended by around 60 residents, generating many positive ideas about what the future of our community should look like.

We still need lots of voices to be heard as we update the Lake Zurich Comprehensive Plan for the future!

Community Poll

Spend 10 minutes and cast your votes on places, spaces, connectivity, mobility, and environmental sustainability in this important community poll.

[Community Poll - Tell Us!](#)



Marketing Snapshot

Community Workshop Poll Station

Distribution of Postcards / Posters

Village Benchmarks Newsletters

Village Facebook Posts

Lake Zurich High School Student Focus Group

D95 Superintendent Newsletters

[LakeZurichTogether.org](#) Newsblasts

Mayor's State of the Village Annual Report

Getting the Word Out & Community Sharing (continued)...

At the beginning of December 2023, a special workshop with students at Lake Zurich High School was hosted to connect with freshman through senior students.

District 95 then marketed the poll in their newsletter extending the poll's reach. All of these avenues were instrumental in building awareness and hearing from residents, parents, students, teachers, and employees.

Recognizing the importance of Lake Zurich as a family-oriented community, this dedicated outreach and youth engagement was extremely beneficial in boosting input as part of the poll and project as a whole.

"I love Main Street, the promenade, and parks... these places host many events and are fun spots to hangout. In the future I'd like Lake Zurich to be a welcoming, connected community with accessible, fun activities for families and teens."

– Poll response shared by participant under the age of 18

STATE OF THE VILLAGE ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Mayor's Message

We do it together, Lake Zurich!
Another year of successfully meeting the challenges in our mutual quest to make Lake Zurich better.

"Lake Zurich kicked off its Comprehensive Plan update in 2023 with several engagement sessions with Village officials, the business community, students from Lake Zurich schools, and resident groups. Moving into 2024, we will continue to engage Village residents as we identify opportunities to enhance and shape our community's vision for the next decade. Visioning and goal setting will unfold into Spring 2024, with focus areas and priorities being identified over Summer with a new Plan being finalized in Fall 2024. Visit LakeZurichTogether.org to get involved!"

FACEBOOK POSTS

Village of Lake Zurich
December 21, 2023 ·

LZ High School Focus Group: Freshman to Seniors Share Fresh Ideas for the Future

The 'Lake Zurich Together' team enjoyed an inspiring evening of ideation with Lake Zurich High Schoolers on Tuesday, December 5th! Shout-out to District 95 and Dr. Walsh, Principal of Lake Zurich High School, for facilitating the future-focused event.

Students ranging from freshman to seniors gathered in the school's Innovation Hub between 6 and 8 pm to learn and share their perspectives. They were first provided with an overview of what a Comprehensive Plan is, what it guides and impacts, the project timeline, and how public outreach is essential to preserving and improving the community residents want.

LakeZurichTogether.org

LZ High School Focus Group: Freshman to Seniors Share Fresh Ideas for the Future

38 2 comments 1 share

DISTRICT 95 SUPERINTENDENT NEWSLETTER

'Lake Zurich Together' Comprehensive Plan



A Request from the Village of Lake Zurich

[Lake Zurich Together Community Poll: Closing January 8th!](#)

Hey students, parents & teachers! The Village of Lake Zurich is updating its comprehensive plan and wants to hear your ideas on how it can arrive at its best future self. **What would you like to see prioritized or improved over the next 5-10 years?** Think about quality of life, arts and culture, things to do, getting around, the Main Street Area, commercial corridors and more! Visit the project website at LakeZurichTogether.org to take a short 10-minute poll.

After completing the poll you can sign-up for project updates and [add ideas to an interactive map and input wall](#).

Section 3 · Findings

Summary of Results by Question

Q1

In a few words, please share what you love most about Lake Zurich as it is TODAY; what makes it special to you?

Keywords reiterated the most are highlighted in the circles below; the size of the circles indicates the frequency/popularity of the response. Additional quotes are provided below to help bring the spirit of these keywords and community sentiments full-circle.

- Respondents love Lake Zurich for its small town vibe with access to big city things. This balance of convenience and access within a quaint, friendly community is cherished.
- The sense of community and abundance of family-friendly amenities, events, quality schools and facilities are treasured.
- Being nestled in nature alongside the Lake, with plentiful parks is like, "vacation year round." Folks love Lake Zurich's natural environs, scenic trails, views and seasons.



“Feels very residential and family oriented but has commercial needs right at our fingertips.”

“Family atmosphere, kindness, caring, GREAT police and fire responders.”

“Supportive community, shops/dining conveniently located, library, fun events for families, the lake.”

“Having the Lake and Parks is like living being on vacation year round.”

“The walking path around Lake Zurich, Paulus Park, the variety of places I can walk to from my home.”

“Small town feel with all the amenities of a larger suburb.”

Results by Question (continued)...

Q2

In a few words, please share how you hope to describe Lake Zurich in the next 5-10 years:

Keywords reiterated the most are highlighted in the circles below; the size of the circles indicates the frequency/popularity of the response. Additional quotes are provided below to help bring the spirit of these keywords and community sentiments full-circle.

- Maintain the quaint, small-town character and family-friendly nature of Lake Zurich and continue to channel investment and TLC into the Main Street Area; shape a more bustling and vibrant destination.
- In the spirit of, "if you build it they will come," focus points noted improving walkability and bikability to facilitate and spark increased activity. This may in turn attract a broader mix of shops and day-to-evening activities.
- Entertainment, night life, and dining options for all ages and at various price points are desired as are opportunities to infuse arts and culture - food, drink, crafts, music - that unite residents and bring together a cohesive business community.



“Continue to be cozy but have more businesses and walkability thru the downtown.”

“Cool/trendy downtown by the beach with family friendly restaurants, outdoor spaces/live music.”

“Would love to see a thriving downtown with walking/biking lanes connecting to community.”

“Continued great community with continued improvements to the downtown area.”

“Artistic community with bustling local businesses.”

“Entertainment and night life comes to life in LZ!”

“Controlled growth, no hassle traffic, more entertainment options.”

“Diverse in racial and ethnic backgrounds, welcoming of all race/religions, celebrates all cultures.”

“Keep the population steady, retain green spaces, better/more free public lake access.”

“Strive for more inclusion paired with continued transparency in our local government.”

Results by Question (continued)...

PART 1: PLACES, SPACES AND COMMUNITY DESIGN

Placemaking is about strengthening connections between people and the places we share. It can refer to community design, streetscapes, activities, land uses, and other ingredients that promote community health, happiness and well-being. This first series of questions focused on placemaking and community vibrancy.

Q3 Which elements of "place" are most important to you?

Note: Poll participants were allowed to select up to five answer options; each answer option included a representative image to help convey the concept. Results below reflect the top six categories and include the total percentage of participants who chose that option and the image paired with such.



72% Variety of shops, businesses and restaurants



67% Places to dine and gather outdoors



57% Quality parks and open space



52% Inviting and active streetscape



45% Ease of getting around by walking, rolling, or biking



41% Ability to sit and enjoy nature

Respondents had the option of selecting "other" and entering input; below are some of those comments:

more bike lanes, less parking
community recreation spaces

places for middle school and high school age kids to gather safely and build their own community

more wheelchair and disability accessible
affordable housing for LZ workers

Results by Question (continued)...

Q4

Thinking specifically about the Main Street Area, which of the following would improve the experience and function the most?

Note: Poll participants were allowed to select up to five answer options; each answer option included a representative image to help convey the concept. Results below reflect the total percentage of participants who chose that option and the image paired with such.



80% Broad mix of shops and restaurants



54% Upper story and rooftop dining for lake views



48% Evening events and nightlife



45% Parklets and expanded patio seating



31% Building and design standards



29% Playful gathering spaces

Respondents had the option of selecting "other" and entering input; below are some of those comments:

pedestrian only street

activity options for all ages and all financial levels

a reason to linger

keep property across from promenade open to public

more flowers and trees

bury utility lines

more options to dine, drink, walk

Results by Question (continued)...

Q5

How can the Village enhance arts and culture in Lake Zurich? What would you like to see most?

Note: Poll participants were allowed to select up to five answer options; each answer option included a representative image to help convey the concept. Results below reflect the total percentage of participants who chose that option and the image paired with such.



49% Busking and outdoor concerts



38% Murals and public art



36% Creative, temporary public space activations



34% Educational workshops and classes



32% Art fairs featuring local artists



31% Interactive pop-up experiences

Respondents had the option of selecting “other” and entering input; below are some of those comments:

high quality family friendly cultural events

vastly improved streetscape

space and area appropriate sculptures

park district field house

expanded farmers market

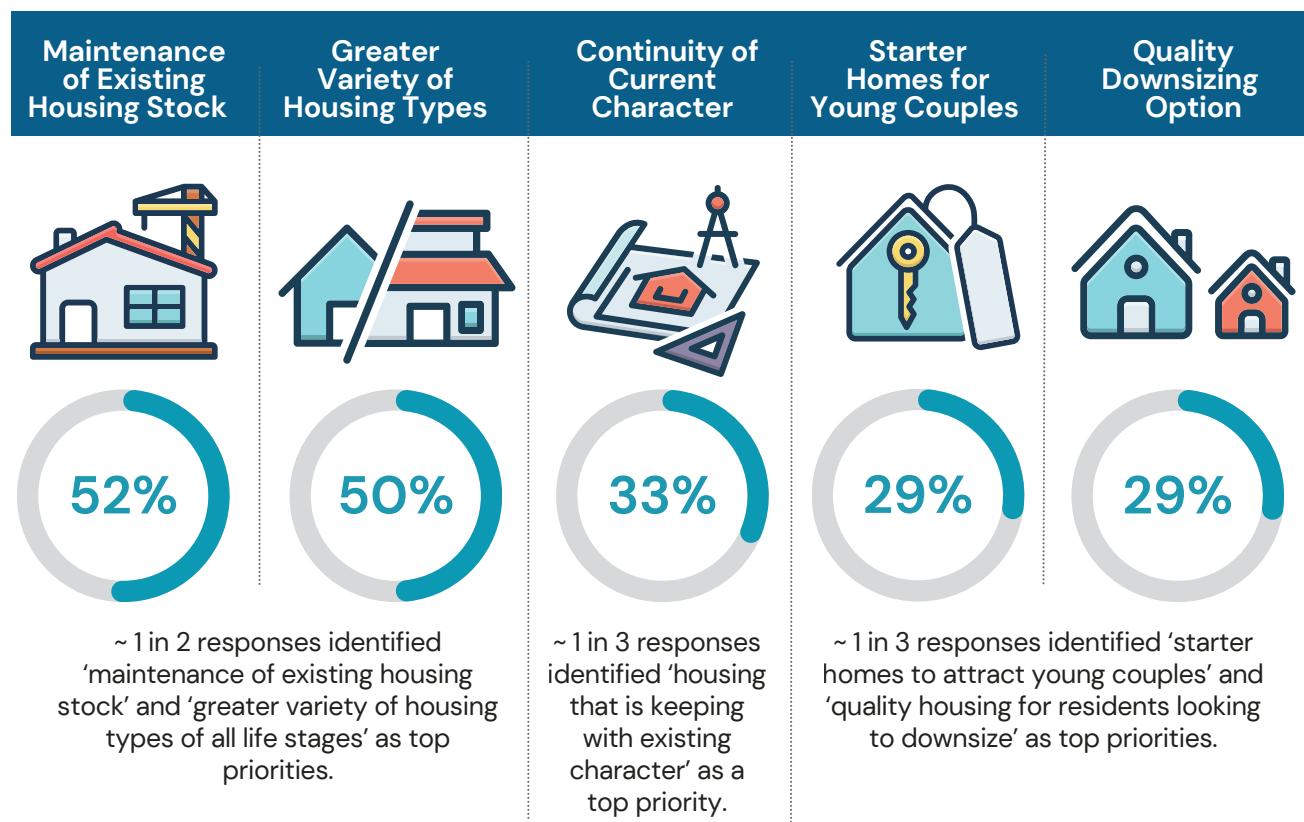
invest in infrastructure modernization before art

Results by Question (continued)...

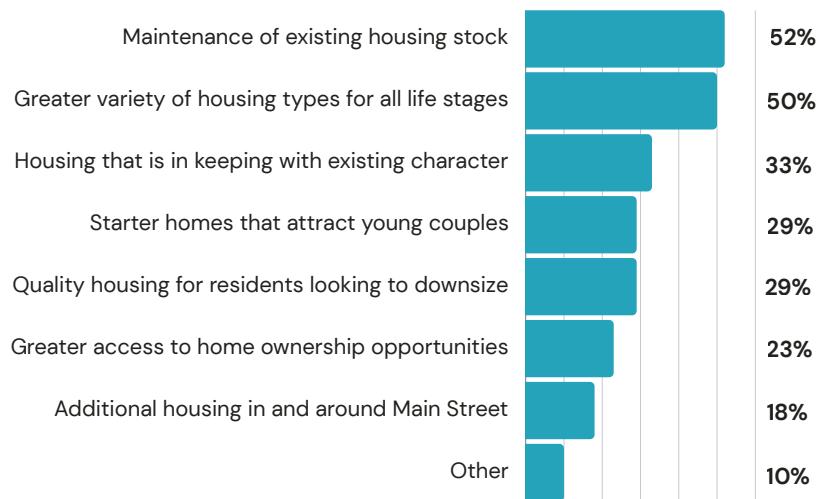
Q6

What should be prioritized relative to housing in Lake Zurich?

Note: Participants were given the option to select up to three priorities, which is why total percentages reported below add up to more than 100%.



“retain single family homes as primary housing stock”
 “more affordable rental options”
 “design standards to ensure quality -- whether rental, single family, or condo”
 “more mixed-use developments”
 “housing types that attract post-college grads and young couples to return to Lake Zurich”

Detailed Chart of Answer Responses by %

Results by Question (continued)...

PART 2: CONNECTIVITY, MOBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Connectivity through and beyond Lake Zurich is an important part of enhancing the transportation network. Understanding travel patterns and preferences helps to identify opportunities for future investment. This next set of questions focused on connectivity, mobility and accessibility priorities.

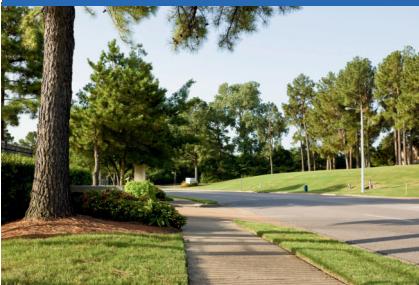
Q7

What elements of mobility are most important to you?

Note: Participants were given the option to drag and drop each statement in order of preference.

1

Connected Sidewalk Network



2

Safe Streets to Walk/Bike/Roll



3

Local & Regional Trail Network



Q8

Which factor(s) discourage you from walking and/or bicycling?

Note: Participants were given the option to select up to three priorities, which is why total percentages reported below add up to more than 100%. They also had the option of selecting “other” and entering input; some of those comments are highlighted below.

1

70% Sidewalk connectivity and infrastructure

2

48% Traffic volume / driver behavior

3

46% Bike connectivity and infrastructure

“There isn't a fluid sidewalk or walkway that you can take around the entire lake..”

“Realistically, the town is surrounded by busy roads”

“Would like a bridge or tunnel over Rt. 12 & Rt. 22”

“There is no way to walk around the lake safely”

“A place / way to lock-up my bike”

“Sidewalks on Old Rand are very narrow”

“Crossing Rand Road”

“Lake of lighting in areas”

“Disability”

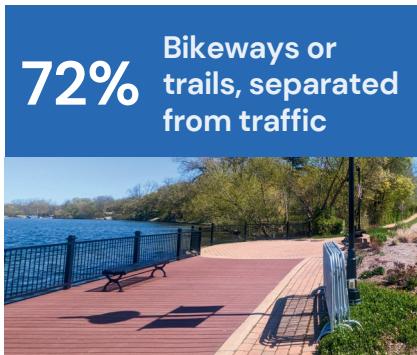
“Use a walker”

“Old age”

Results by Question (continued)...

Q9 In which conditions are you comfortable bicycling?

Note: Participants were given the option to select all options that apply.

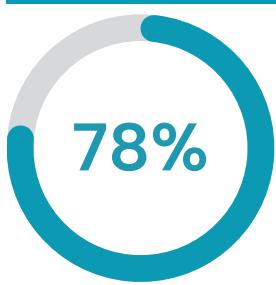


94% Do not feel comfortable riding on-road, without bike lanes or wide shoulders

**Q10 What destinations do you or would you like to walk/roll/bike to?**

Note: Participants were given the option to select up to four options, below are the top 4 responses and some of the comments shared for those that identified "other".

Parks/Nature Preserves



Main Street Area



Dining Out Restaurants



Community Institutions



Respondents had the option of selecting "other" and entering input; below are some of those comments:



"Bars" "The Lake" "Local businesses"
 "It is not safe for my kids to bike across main roads"
 "Within our neighborhood"



"Sidewalks are very narrow on Old Rand Road, sidewalks are sloped on one side of Route 12 and it feels unsafe as there are no guards..."

Results by Question (continued)...

Q11

Please rate your level of support for the following ideas that could enhance mobility and accessibility:

Note: Participants were allowed to rate each idea based on the three options noted.

Not Supportive Neutral Strongly Supportive



Streetscape Design: Improving the aesthetic and functional aspects of streets can make them more pedestrian-friendly, encouraging walking.



Street Closures for Events/Festivals: Temporarily closing streets for community events and festivals can encourage pedestrian activity and shopping.



Shuttle Network: A shuttle service between key areas like Main Street, nearby Metra stations and local businesses may encourage transit use.



Wayfinding Signage: Installing clear and informative signs that direct people to local destinations can improve ease of accessibility.



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: Installing a network of EV charging stations may make it more convenient for residents to switch to electric cars.



E-bike Incentives: Offering subsidies for e-bike purchases may encourage use of this eco-friendly mode of transportation.



81%

4 of 5 Strongly Support Improving Streetscape Design and Walkability



75%

3 of 4 Strongly Support Temporary Street Closures for Events and Festivals

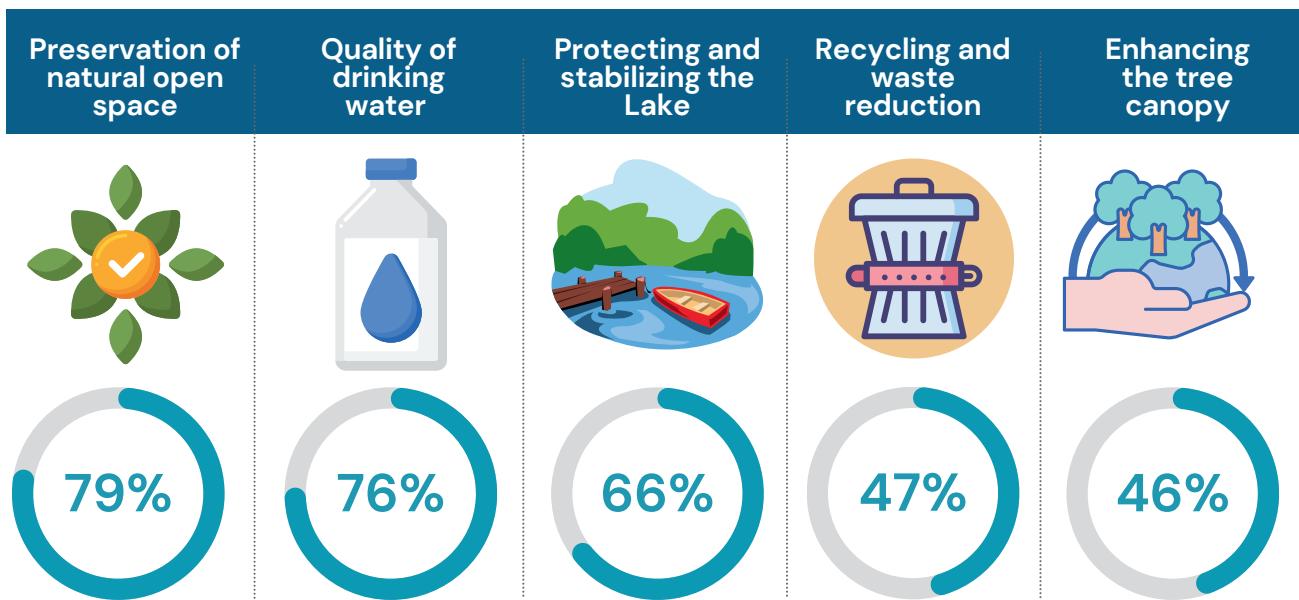
Results by Question (continued)...

PART 3: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

To pursue sustainability is to create and maintain an environment under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations. As part of the 2023 National Community Survey, 86% rated Lake Zurich's natural environment as excellent or good, underscoring the need to preserve these resources. This last series of questions focused on sustainability and the environment.

Q12 Select the top 5 sustainability elements most important to you:

Note: Participants were given the option to select up to five options, below are the top 5 responses and some of the comments shared for those that identified "other".



Respondents had the option of selecting "other" and entering input; below are some of those comments:

- “Sidewalk connectivity and infrastructure”
- “Plant lots of trees up /down Rand at the median.”
- “Cycling infrastructure”
- “All of these are great ideas. I choose All”
- “We have a lake which is amazing but outside of Paulus Park, there is no way to access it/view it/walk by it that makes sense for families. Pavillion is the only place...”
- “Self-sufficiency: being able to have a garden and raise small animals (chickens, rabbits, etc.).”
- “Encourage private property owners to plant trees and ground cover to eliminate landscaping services.”



76%

3 in 4 poll participants believe the Village should be a leader in helping to advance sustainability, reduce carbon emissions and increase initiatives to protect our environment.

16% of participants responded that they were neutral on the topic with 8% noting varying levels of disagreement.

Next Steps: Goals & Objectives

The depth and clarity provided by poll participants was both refreshing and reinforcing to dive into. Feedback here predominately reaffirms the needs and priorities identified as part of prior engagement events and activities, both online and in-person.

Future visioning is as much about understanding what folks want to see remain, as it is learning about desired improvements. Community members long-standing and new continue to share their love for Lake Zurich's family-friendly vibe, amenities, schools, parks and events... and they want to keep building on these assets!

Two prime focus areas – the Main Street Area and access/mobility -- are talking center stage with respect to their potential to support healthy living, active lifestyles and ability to live well and age in place. While we can't control the market, continued investment in Lake Zurich's streetscape infrastructure paired with creative and strategic programming can add draw-power and help cultivate a more vibrant business mix over time. Success here is in parallel with mobility enhancements and making it easy, inviting, and safe for all people and abilities to get around, shop and linger. Whether for general enjoyment, recreation, shopping, or traveling to/from key destinations -- activities, accessibility, connectivity and comfort are key ingredients. Understanding how these pursuits come to fruition given conditions, land ownership, roadway jurisdictions and physical space is the next question we need to solve and balance to the best of abilities.

As we close out Phase 2 and look ahead to Phase 3, consensus of visioning efforts will be applied to draft future goals. Objectives herein will be rooted in outreach findings, analysis, and other community projects, plans and investments. For example, much of Lake Zurich's infrastructure upgrades are focused on water systems and finding a new source, most likely from Lake Michigan. Relative to parks, placemaking, and programming -- the Village was recently awarded a \$600K OSLAD grant to fund enhancements to Paulus Park. These include renovation of the aged water splash pad, a new bandshell, community space with game tables, baggo courts, and shoreline restoration with landscaping, which build upon improvements completed in 2022.

Thanks again to all who took part in the poll! Please keep sharing and remain involved. Implementation of Lake Zurich's future Comprehensive Plan is reliant on capacity building, local leadership, creative partnerships and the community at-large being stewards of the plan.



PHASE 1

Research & Analysis
Summer 2023



PHASE 2

Visioning & Goals
Spring 2024



PHASE 3

Focus Areas & Priorities
Summer 2024



PHASE 4

Plan Draft
Fall 2024



Opportunities to further strengthen Lake Zurich's sense of community and social infrastructure will be considered through a variety of lenses and planning arenas; from day to evening, residents of all ages and backgrounds, business owners and local organizations.

