Summary of 2013 & 2014 Surveys



Let Our Resources Work For You.





With rapid changes in economic and demographic trends, it is increasingly necessary to critically examine how to plan for these changes. The choices of how we shape the built environment greatly impact the economic vitality and resiliency of our communities.



page 1

Introduction

Visual preference surveys (VPS) are designed to gather the public's preferences for the natural and built environments of their community. The process often entails viewing a series of images and collecting the overall desirability. The Framework For Our Future VPS was designed to delve deeper into the images to gauge the desirability of specific elements.

The focus of this VPS study was on design elements for commercial corridors. The aesthetics of commercial areas, their functional design choices, and offered public amenities are crucial to economic health of commercial corridors and downtowns. In the increasingly competitive retail marketplace, it is difficult to compete based on price alone. If our brick and motor stores are to survive against online competitors, we need to create vibrant environments to entice and retain commercial activity. Thus insuring the long-term economic viability of our local businesses.

This VPS was conducted for the counties of Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, and Wexford in 2013 and Charlevoix, Emmet, Manistee, and Missaukee in 2014. The 2013 online survey collected a total of 514 responses from July to September. The 2014 online survey collected a total of 32 responses from May to July.

The images were selected from Sitephocus, an on-line image library of the built environment. Images were limited to communities outside the Grand Vision region to reduce local biases. A separate report is available for each of the Grand Vision counties and includes data summaries for each image from the respective report county with comparison data from all survey participants.

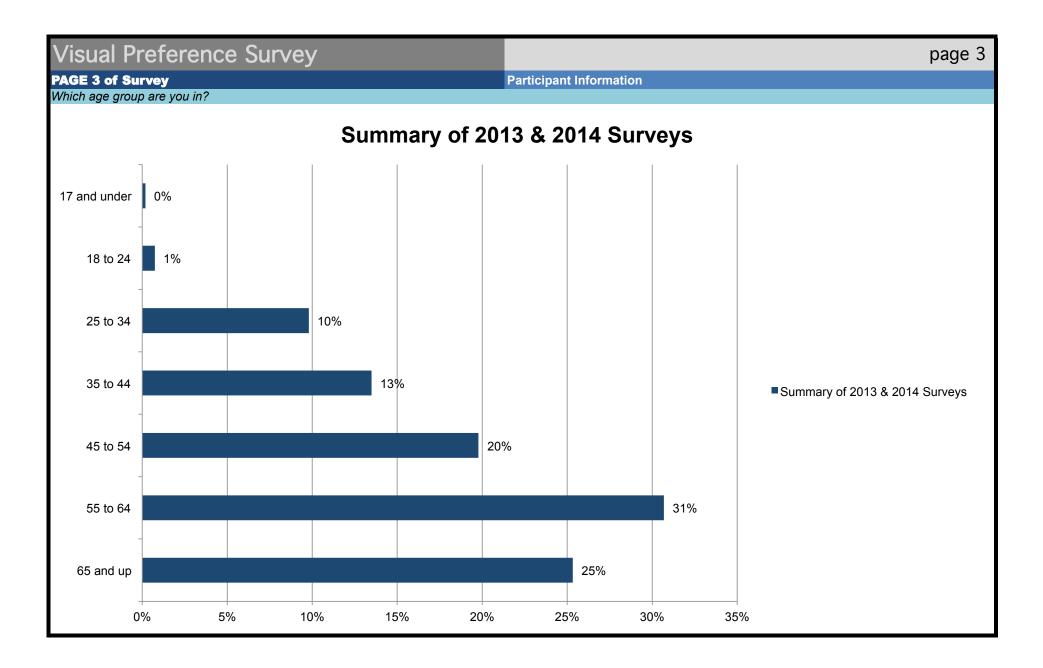
Many of the images contained a question where the survey participant was asked to indicate if the site depicted in the image was appropriate for Main Streets in smaller communities, Downtowns in larger communities, and Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors. The highest and lowest scoring images were indicated for both the selected county and the total survey population.

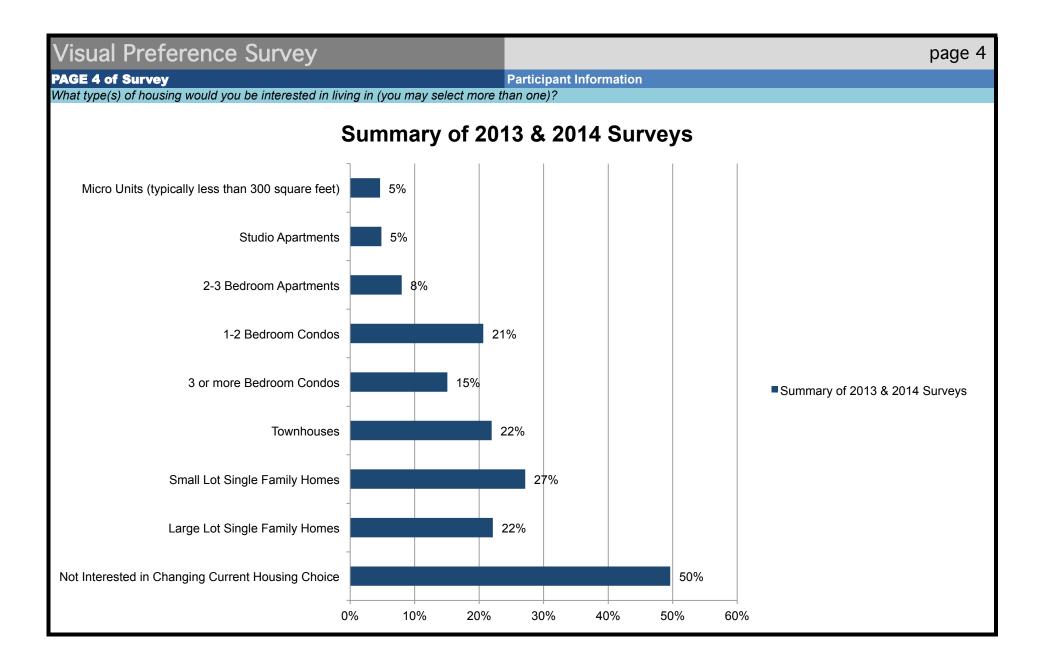
The survey contained additional questions asking participants about their interest in various housing types, their views on potential growth areas, as well as a limited amount of demographic questions. The results of these none image based questions are contained in the first few pages of the report.

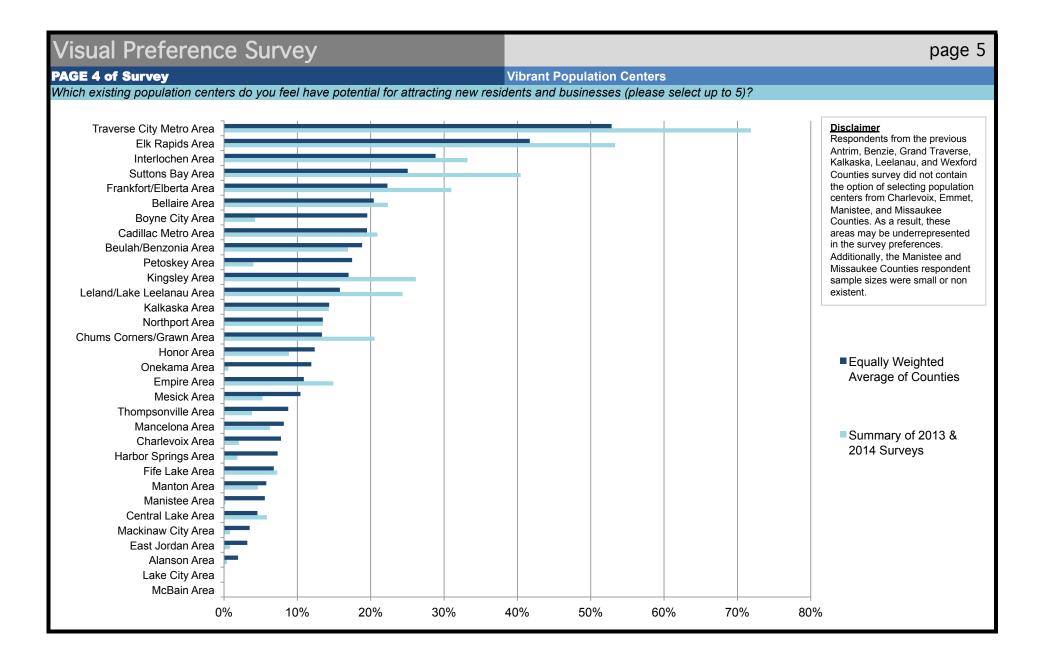


Let Our Resources Work For You.



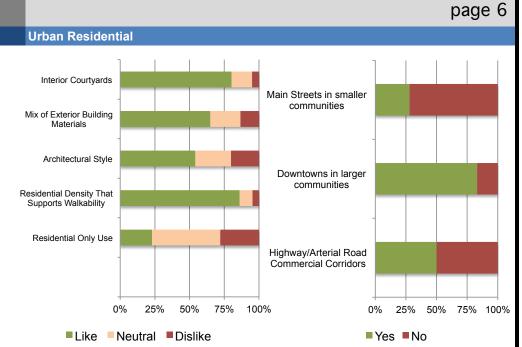






PAGE 6 of Survey



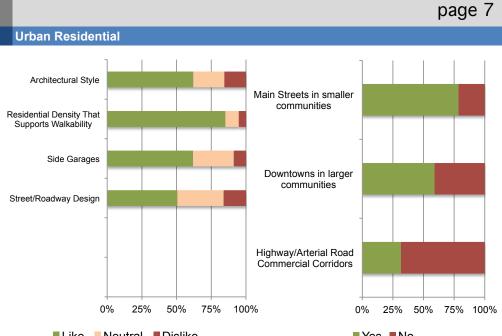


Question 6		Results		Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	28%	72%	472	
Downtowns in larger communities	83%	17%	499	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	50%	50%	465	

Question 7	Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses
Interior Courtyards	80%	15%	5%	501
Mix of Exterior Building Materials	65%	22%	13%	501
Architectural Style	54%	26%	20%	497
Residential Density That Supports Walkability	86%	9%	5%	500
Residential Only Use	23%	49%	28%	484

PAGE 7 of Survey





Like Neutral Dislike

Question 8		Results	Highest/Lowest Rating	
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	79%	21%	487	
Downtowns in larger communities	59%	41%	481	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	32%	68%	468	

Question 9		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Architectural Style	62%	22%	16%	487	
Residential Density That Supports Walkability	85%	10%	5%	485	
Side Garages	62%	29%	9%	487	
Street/Roadway Design	51%	33%	16%	478	





Like Neutral Dislike

	Results	Highest/Lowest Rating	
Yes	No	Responses	
76%	24%	474	
94%	6%	478	
44%	56%	459	
	Yes 76% 94%	76% 24% 94% 6%	Yes No Responses 76% 24% 474 94% 6% 478

Question 11		Results				
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses		
Mix of Residential and Commercial Uses	87%	9%	4%	480		
Architectural Style	65%	27%	9%	479		
Fronting on Boulevard Street	82%	14%	4%	478		
Street/Roadway Design	67%	23%	10%	474		

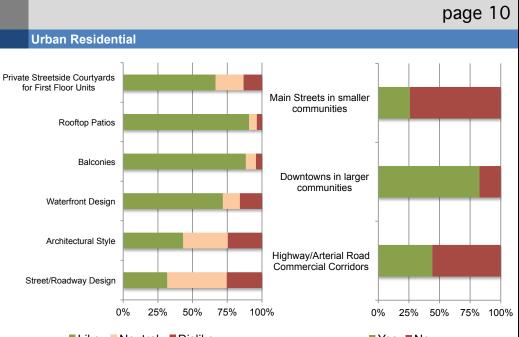


Question 12		Results	Highest/Lowest Rating	
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	86%	14%	470	
Downtowns in larger communities	86%	14%	466	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	40%	60%	452	

Question 13		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Mix of Materials	76%	15%	9%	469	
3rd Floor Stepback From Lower Floors	80%	15%	5%	471	
Architectural Style	65%	26%	9%	469	
Street/Roadway Design	47%	40%	13%	462	

PAGE 10 of Survey



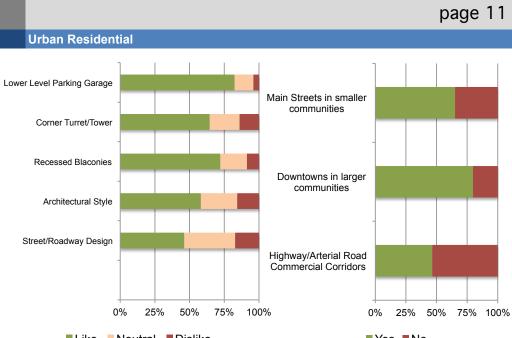


Like Neutral Dislike

Question 14		Results		Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	26%	74%	446	
Downtowns in larger communities	83%	17%	462	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	44%	56%	441	

Question 15	Results				
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Private Streetside Courtyards for First Floor Units	67%	20%	13%	460	
Rooftop Patios	91%	6%	4%	460	
Balconies	88%	7%	4%	462	
Waterfront Design	72%	12%	16%	461	
Architectural Style	43%	32%	25%	456	
Street/Roadway Design	32%	43%	25%	447	





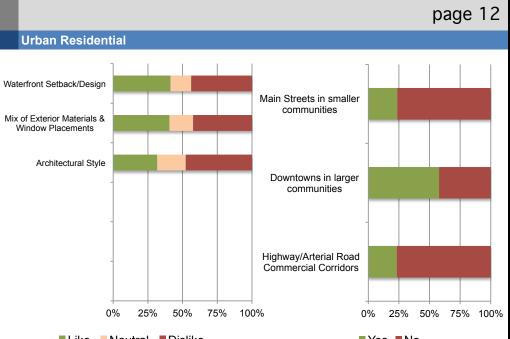
Like Neutral Dislike

Question 16		Results		Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	65%	35%	450	
Downtowns in larger communities	80%	20%	450	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	46%	54%	435	

Question 17		Results				
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses		
Lower Level Parking Garage	82%	14%	4%	454		
Corner Turret/Tower	64%	22%	14%	450		
Recessed Blaconies	72%	19%	9%	452		
Architectural Style	58%	26%	16%	447		
Street/Roadway Design	46%	37%	17%	444		

PAGE 12 of Survey





Like Neutral Dislike

Question 18	Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
s this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	24%	76%	431	
Downtowns in larger communities	58%	42%	443	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	23%	77%	421	

Question 19		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Waterfront Setback/Design	41%	15%	44%	441	
Mix of Exterior Materials & Window Placements	41%	17%	42%	439	
Architectural Style	32%	21%	48%	438	

Visual Preference Survey page 13 PAGE 13 of Survey **Urban Residential** Variation of Unit Design For Each Floor Main Streets in smaller communities Landscaped Setback Grouped Buildings of 3 to 4 Units Downtowns in larger communities Architectural Style Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 0% 25% 50% 75% 100% 25% 50% 75% 100% 0% Like Neutral Dislike ■Yes ■No Question 20 Results Highest/Lowest Rating Is this building form appropriate for... Responses Yes No Main Streets in smaller communities 435 60% 40%

47%

29%

53%

71%

433

422

5					
Question 21	Results				
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Variation of Unit Design For Each Floor	61%	21%	19%	437	
Landscaped Setback	74%	14%	12%	435	
Grouped Buildings of 3 to 4 Units	66%	22%	12%	438	
Architectural Style	45%	31%	24%	429	

Downtowns in larger communities

Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors

Visual Preference Survey page 14 PAGE 14 of Survey **Urban Residential** Townhouse Units Main Streets in smaller communities Front Porches Architectural Style Downtowns in larger communities Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 0% 25% 50% 75% 100% 0% 25% 50% 75% 100% Like Neutral Dislike ■Yes ■No Question 22 Results Highest/Lowest Rating Is this building form appropriate for... Responses Yes No Main Streets in smaller communities 88% 12% 434 Downtowns in larger communities 80% 20% 430 Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 26% 74% 414 Question 23 Results Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities. Dislike Like Responses Neutral Townhouse Units 12% 4% 84% 431 3% 2% Front Porches 95% 435 Architectural Style 84% 11% 5% 431

Visual Preference Survey page 15 PAGE 15 of Survey Streetscape Balconies Extending Over Sidewalk Main Streets in smaller communities Street Cafe Building Lighting Downtowns in larger communities Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 0% 25% 50% 75% 100% 25% 50% 75% 100% 0% Like Neutral Dislike ■Yes ■No Question 24 Results Highest/Lowest Rating Is this building form appropriate for... Responses Yes No Main Streets in smaller communities 90% 10% 426 Downtowns in larger communities 90% 10% 425 Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 23% 77% 401 Lowest Question 25 Results Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities. Like Dislike Responses Neutral Balconies Extending Over Sidewalk 9% 7% 84% 427 3% 2% Street Cafe 95% 426 **Building Lighting** 88% 10% 2% 425

Visual Preference Survey page 16 PAGE 16 of Survey Streetscape Building Signage Main Streets in smaller communities Sidewalk Signage Recessed Store Entrances Downtowns in larger communities Sidewalk Paving Material Architectural Style Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 1 0% 25% 50% 75% 100% 25% 50% 75% 100% 0% Like Neutral Dislike ■Yes ■No

Question 26		Results	s Highest/Lowes		
ls this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses		
Main Streets in smaller communities	83%	17%	424		
Downtowns in larger communities	95%	5%	427	Highest	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	32%	68%	399	· ·	

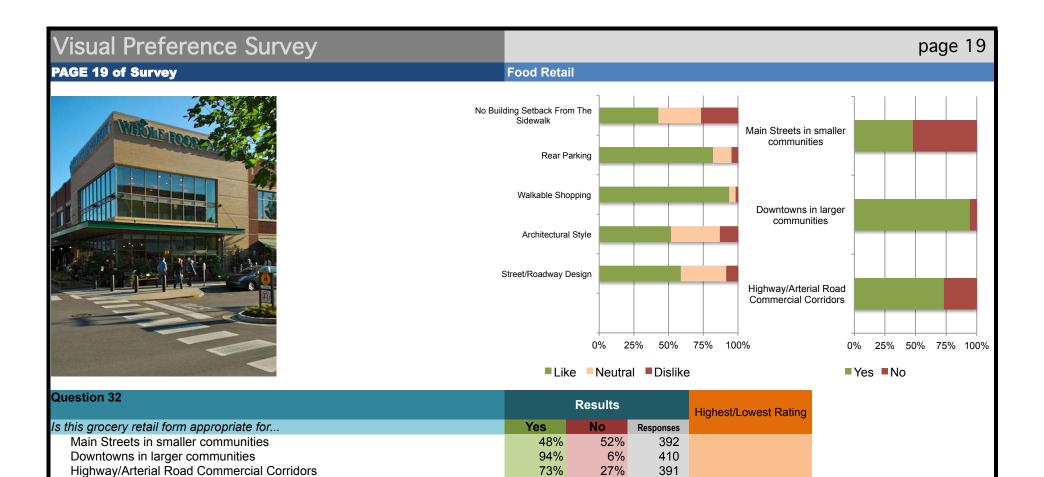
Question 27	Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses
Building Signage	65%	22%	13%	424
Sidewalk Signage	58%	26%	16%	424
Recessed Store Entrances	89%	9%	2%	426
Sidewalk Paving Material	87%	8%	5%	423
Architectural Style	76%	17%	6%	413

Visual Preference Survey page 17 PAGE 17 of Survey Streetscape Awning Over Sidewalk Main Streets in smaller communities Dedicated Sidewalk Area to Street Cafe Architectural Style Downtowns in larger communities Street/Roadway Design Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors - Rait 84. 0% 25% 50% 75% 100% 25% 50% 75% 100% 0% Like Neutral Dislike ■Yes ■No

Question 28	Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	78%	22%	412	
Downtowns in larger communities	91%	9%	420	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	30%	70%	392	

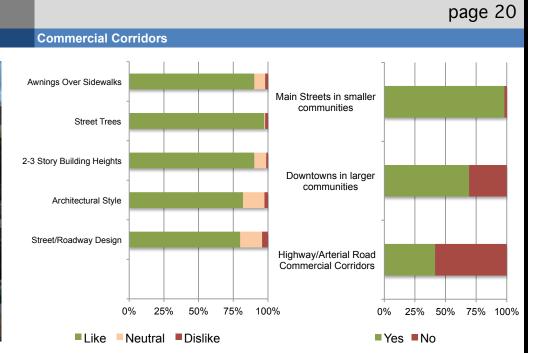
Question 29		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Awning Over Sidewalk	79%	11%	9%	419	
Dedicated Sidewalk Area to Street Cafe	83%	9%	7%	418	
Architectural Style	75%	18%	7%	416	
Street/Roadway Design	67%	23%	10%	405	





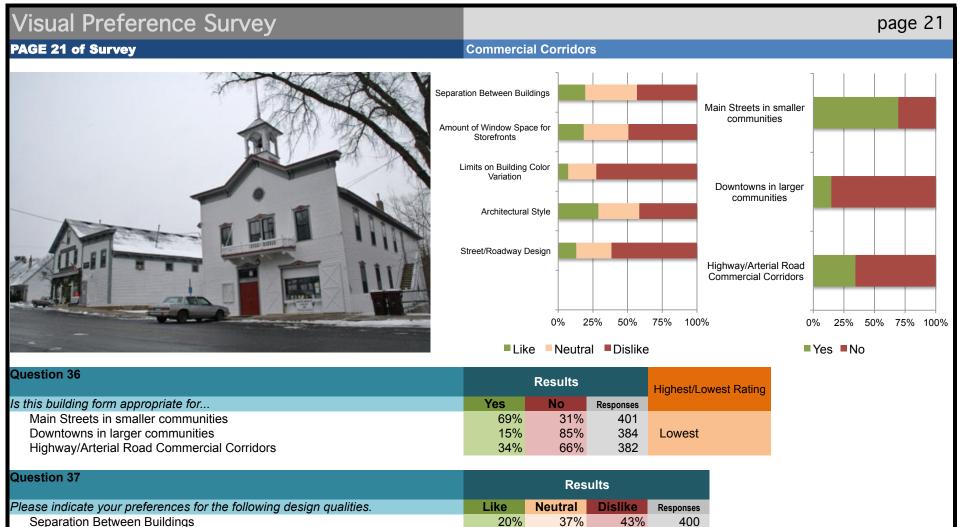
Question 33		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
No Building Setback From The Sidewalk	43%	31%	27%	410	
Rear Parking	82%	13%	5%	410	
Walkable Shopping	94%	5%	2%	410	
Architectural Style	52%	35%	13%	406	
Street/Roadway Design	59%	33%	8%	404	

PAGE 20 of Survey



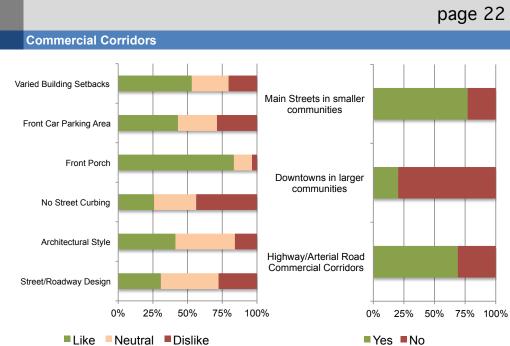
Question 34	Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	98%	2%	408	Highest
Downtowns in larger communities	69%	31%	393	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	41%	59%	389	

Question 35		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Awnings Over Sidewalks	90%	8%	2%	407	
Street Trees	97%	1%	2%	405	
2-3 Story Building Heights	90%	9%	1%	406	
Architectural Style	82%	15%	2%	401	
Street/Roadway Design	80%	16%	4%	400	



lease indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Re
Separation Between Buildings	20%	37%	43%	
Amount of Window Space for Storefronts	18%	32%	49%	
Limits on Building Color Variation	7%	20%	73%	
Architectural Style	29%	29%	42%	
Street/Roadway Design	13%	25%	62%	

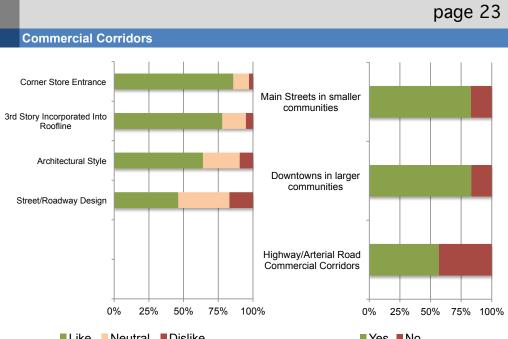
PAGE 22 of Survey



Question 38 Results Highest/Lowest Rating Is this building form appropriate for... Yes No Responses Main Streets in smaller communities 23% 391 77% 20% Downtowns in larger communities 80% 379 Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 31% 69% 387

Question 39	Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses
Varied Building Setbacks	53%	27%	20%	392
Front Car Parking Area	43%	28%	29%	392
Front Porch	83%	13%	4%	392
No Street Curbing	26%	30%	44%	391
Architectural Style	41%	43%	16%	390
Street/Roadway Design	31%	42%	28%	383

PAGE 23 of Survey



Like Neutral Dislike

Question 40	Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	83%	17%	390	
Downtowns in larger communities	83%	17%	389	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	57%	43%	375	

Question 41	Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses
Corner Store Entrance	86%	11%	3%	394
3rd Story Incorporated Into Roofline	78%	17%	5%	393
Architectural Style	64%	26%	10%	389
Street/Roadway Design	46%	37%	17%	384

PAGE 24 of Survey





Like Neutral Dislike

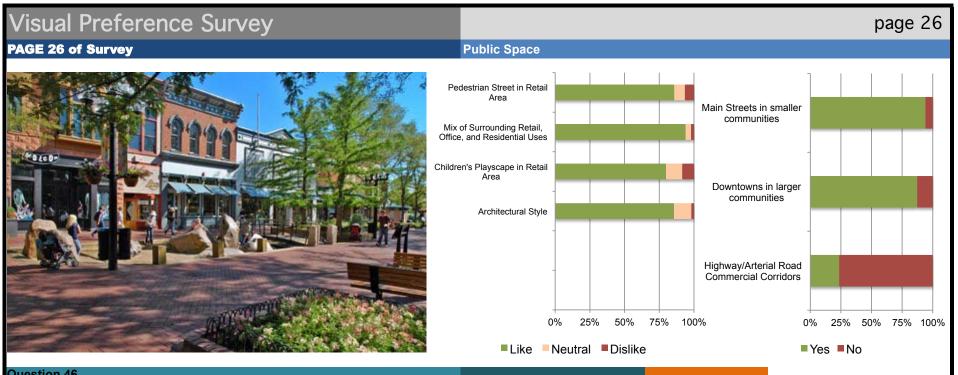
Question 42		Results		
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Main Streets in smaller communities	83%	17%	384	
Downtowns in larger communities	37%	63%	376	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	53%	47%	373	

Question 43		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
One Story Building Height	34%	40%	26%	388	
Street Trees	83%	8%	9%	387	
Architectural Style	34%	37%	28%	381	
Street/Roadway Design	26%	33%	40%	383	



Question 44	Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	92%	8%	384	
Downtowns in larger communities	50%	50%	372	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	24%	76%	368	

Question 45		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Pedestrian Use of Street	74%	10%	16%	386	
Varied Building Height	72%	19%	8%	384	
Architectural Style	64%	26%	10%	378	
Signage Extending Over Sidewalk	60%	30%	10%	377	



Question 46	Results			Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this public space appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses				
Main Streets in smaller communities	94%	6%	380				
Downtowns in larger communities	87%	13%	377				
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	23%	77%	362				

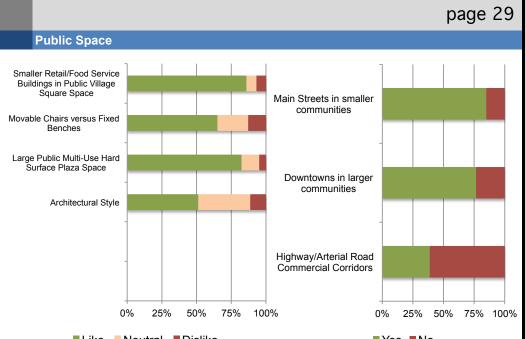
Question 47		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Pedestrian Street in Retail Area	86%	8%	7%	381	
Mix of Surrounding Retail, Office, and Residential Uses	94%	4%	2%	380	
Children's Playscape in Retail Area	80%	12%	8%	377	
Architectural Style	86%	13%	2%	376	



Visual Preference Survey							oage 2	28
PAGE 28 of Survey	Public Spa	се						
	Pedestrian Only S				<i>N</i> ain Streets in small communities	er		
	Mix of Paving Mat				Downtowns in large communities	er		
	Architectural	Style			Highway/Arterial Roa Commercial Corridor	ad rs		
Question 50	Lik		5% 50% al ■Dislike			0% 2 • Yes	~~~	_ 00%
Is this public space appropriate for	Yes	No	Deenenee	Highest/Lo	west Rating			
Main Streets in smaller communities Downtowns in larger communities Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	72% 84% 27%	28% 16% 73%	Responses 369 371 358					
Question 51		Res	ults					
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities. Pedestrian Only Street Repetition of Storefront Design Mix of Paving Materials Architectural Style	Like 74% 32% 84% 56%	Neutral 14% 35% 12% 32%	Dislike 13% 33% 4% 13%					

PAGE 29 of Survey

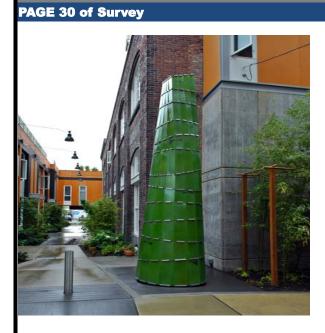


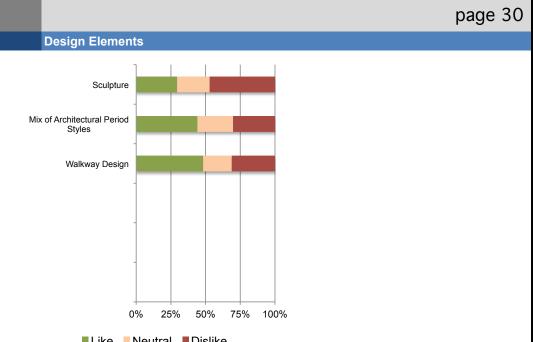


Like Neutral Dislike

Question 52	Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this public space appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	85%	15%	377	
Downtowns in larger communities	77%	23%	371	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	39%	61%	354	

Question 53	Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses
Smaller Retail/Food Service Buildings in Public Village Square Space	86%	7%	7%	377
Movable Chairs versus Fixed Benches	65%	22%	13%	375
Large Public Multi-Use Hard Surface Plaza Space	82%	13%	5%	375
Architectural Style	51%	37%	11%	371

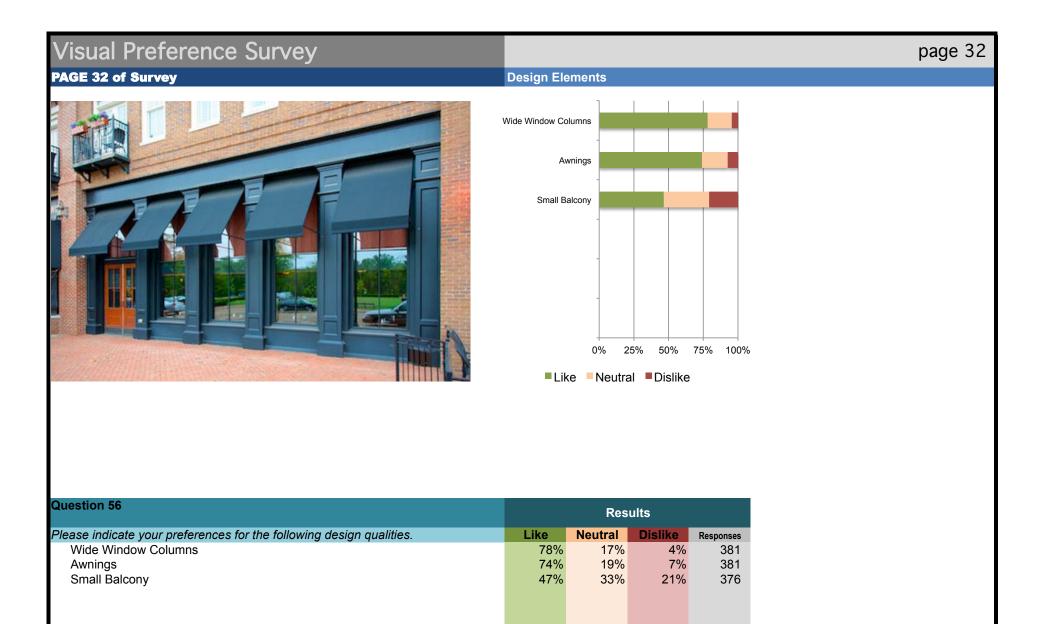


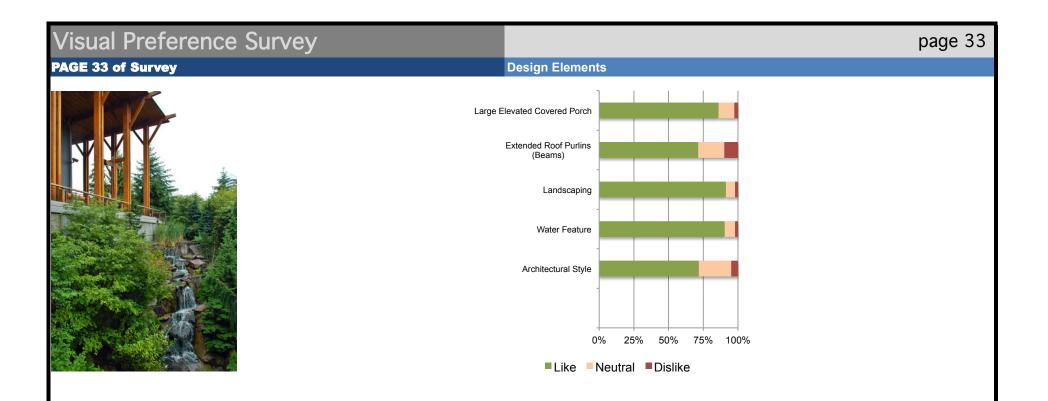


Like Neutral	Dislike
--------------	---------

Question 54		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Sculpture	29%	23%	47%	380	
Mix of Architectural Period Styles	44%	26%	30%	381	
Walkway Design	48%	21%	31%	379	





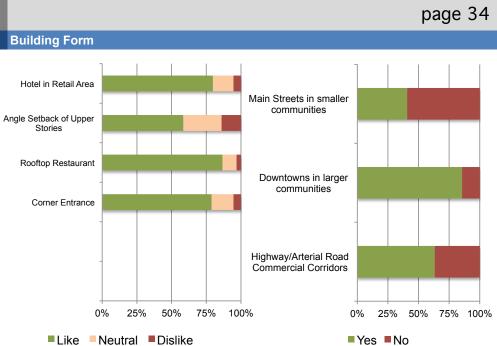


Question 57		Results				
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses		
Large Elevated Covered Porch	86%	11%	3%	380		
Extended Roof Purlins (Beams)	71%	19%	10%	378		
Landscaping	91%	7%	2%	379		
Water Feature	91%	7%	2%	379		
Architectural Style	72%	23%	5%	373		

PAGE 34 of Survey





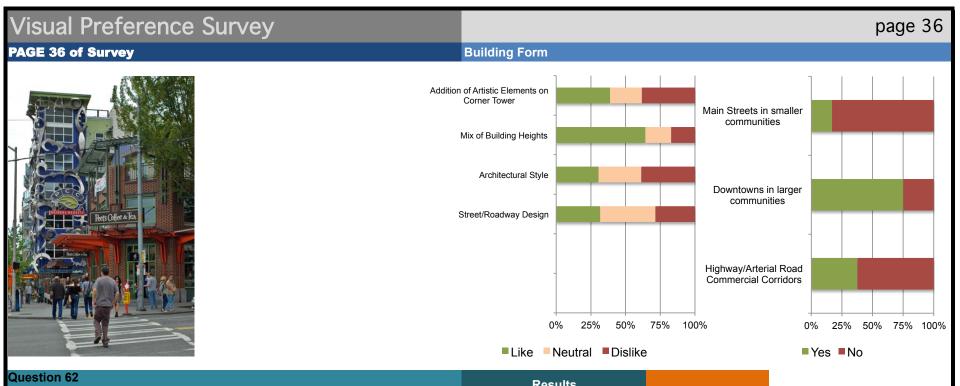


Question 58 Results Highest/Lowest Rating Is this building form appropriate for... Responses Yes No Main Streets in smaller communities 59% 356 41% Downtowns in larger communities 86% 14% 374 Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 63% 37% 361

Question 59		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Hotel in Retail Area	80%	15%	5%	375	
Angle Setback of Upper Stories	58%	28%	14%	373	
Rooftop Restaurant	87%	10%	3%	375	
Corner Entrance	79%	16%	5%	372	



Question 61		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Use of Iconic Architecture For Civic Buildings	38%	22%	40%	378	
Varied Setbacks	45%	26%	29%	374	
Architectural Style	24%	22%	53%	371	
Street/Roadway Design	23%	45%	32%	370	

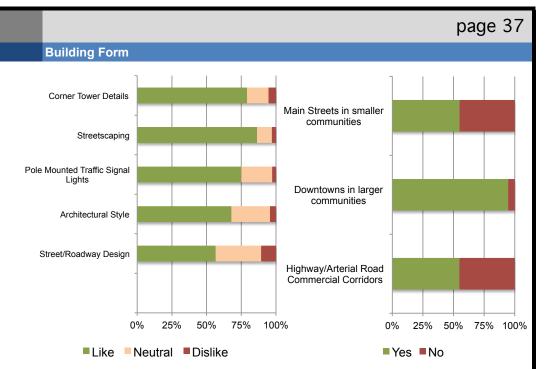


Question 62		Results		Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	17%	83%	361	
Downtowns in larger communities	75%	25%	373	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	38%	62%	348	

Question 63		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Addition of Artistic Elements on Corner Tower	39%	23%	38%	371	
Mix of Building Heights	64%	19%	17%	372	
Architectural Style	31%	31%	39%	370	
Street/Roadway Design	32%	40%	28%	369	

PAGE 37 of Survey

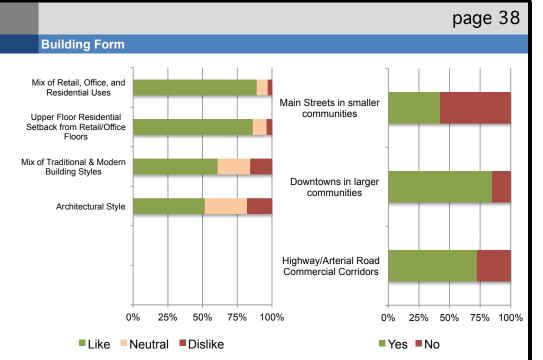




Question 64 Results Highest/Lowest Rating Is this building form appropriate for... Yes No Responses Main Streets in smaller communities 55% 45% 361 Downtowns in larger communities 95% 5% 370 Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 55% 45% 352

Question 65		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Corner Tower Details	79%	15%	5%	369	
Streetscaping	86%	11%	3%	372	
Pole Mounted Traffic Signal Lights	75%	22%	3%	369	
Architectural Style	68%	28%	4%	367	
Street/Roadway Design	57%	33%	11%	366	

PAGE 38 of Survey



Question 66		Results		Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	42%	58%	353	
Downtowns in larger communities	85%	15%	360	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	72%	28%	353	

Question 67		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Mix of Retail, Office, and Residential Uses	89%	8%	3%	364	
Upper Floor Residential Setback from Retail/Office Floors	86%	10%	4%	362	
Mix of Traditional & Modern Building Styles	61%	23%	16%	363	
Architectural Style	52%	30%	18%	360	

PAGE 39 of Survey





Question 68 Results Highest/Lowest Rating Is this building form appropriate for... Responses Yes No Main Streets in smaller communities 355 63% 37% Downtowns in larger communities 53% 47% 355 Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 74% 26% 351

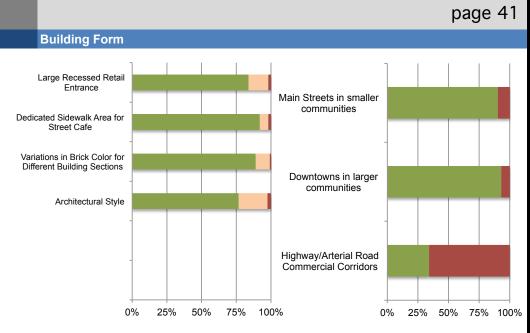
Question 69		Results				
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses		
Corner Courtyard Building Setback	73%	21%	6%	364		
Elevated First Floor Level From Sidewalk	58%	25%	17%	364		
Varied Setbacks	69%	23%	8%	362		
Architectural Style	52%	30%	17%	362		
Street/Roadway Design	41%	40%	19%	354		

Visual Preference Survey page 40 PAGE 40 of Survey **Building Form** Tower Element Main Streets in smaller communities Varied Setbacks from Sidewalk for Landscaping & Architectural Elements Architectural Style Downtowns in larger communities Street/Roadway Design Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors 0% 25% 50% 75% 100% 25% 50% 75% 100% 0% Like Neutral Dislike ■Yes ■No

Question 70		Results		Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	53%	47%	349	
Downtowns in larger communities	95%	5%	361	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	54%	46%	342	

Question 71	Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses
Tower Element	66%	22%	12%	364
Varied Setbacks from Sidewalk for Landscaping & Architectural Elements	84%	12%	4%	365
Architectural Style	60%	34%	7%	361
Street/Roadway Design	49%	39%	12%	356





Like Neutral Dislike

Question 72	Results			Highest/Lowest Rating
Is this building form appropriate for	Yes	No	Responses	
Main Streets in smaller communities	90%	10%	358	
Downtowns in larger communities	93%	7%	360	
Highway/Arterial Road Commercial Corridors	34%	66%	346	

Question 73		Results			
Please indicate your preferences for the following design qualities.	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Responses	
Large Recessed Retail Entrance	84%	14%	2%	363	
Dedicated Sidewalk Area for Street Cafe	92%	6%	2%	363	
Variations in Brick Color for Different Building Sections	89%	10%	1%	362	
Architectural Style	77%	21%	3%	356	