



City of Wilmington  
Department of Planning and Development

## 2028 Comprehensive Plan Update

*WILMAPCO 'S 20 19 Our Town:  
Planning for Tomorrow*

February 7, 20 19



# Agenda

- Wilmington 2028 – Comprehensive Plan Update Status
- Public Input
- Goals and Preliminary Action Items
- Current Plan Format
- New Plan Format
- Schedule
- Questions

# Public Input

## ENGAGEMENT

- ✓ **Interviews** (35)
- ✓ **Surveys** (2,367)
- ✓ **Public forums** (236 people at 5 forums)
- ✓ **Focus groups** (10)
  - Topics
    - Economic development
    - Creative sector: arts / culture / tech / entrepreneurs
    - Community development / blight / public safety
    - Connectivity
    - Environment
    - Parks and recreation
    - Youth programs and services
    - Youth ages 13-18
    - Community health and services
    - Spanish-speaking
- **Public forum**

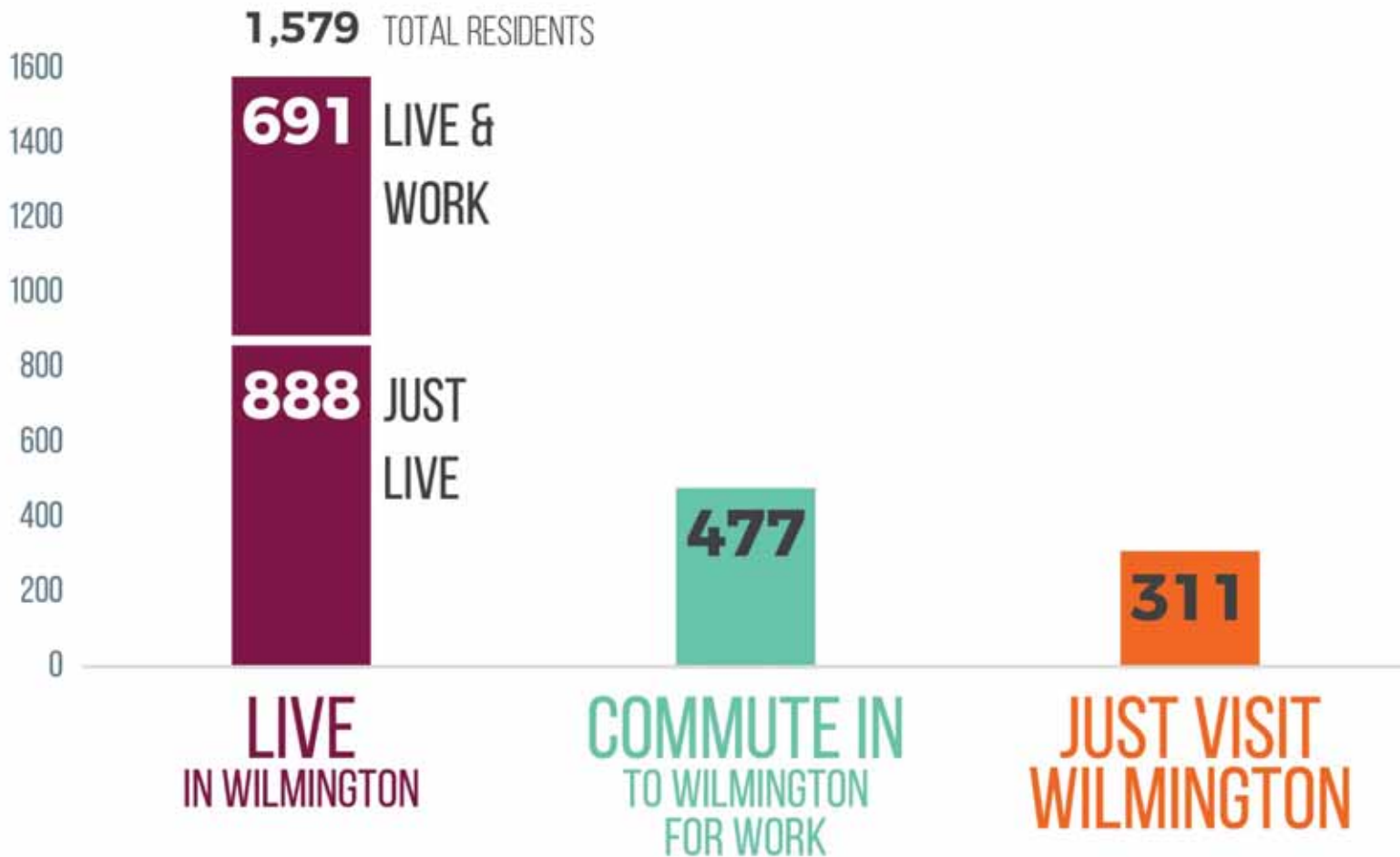
# SURVEY SAYS...

2367

PEOPLE COMPLETED THE SURVEY



# SURVEY RESPONDENTS' RELATIONSHIP TO WILMINGTON



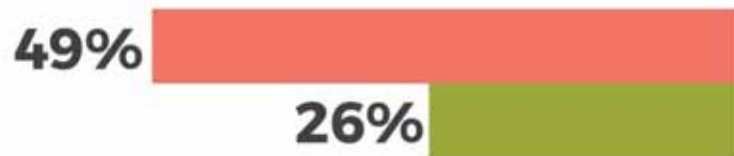
WILMINGTON 2028 SURVEY, SEPT - NOV 2017

# CITYWIDE: FEELINGS ABOUT THE CITY'S PAST & FUTURE

HAS WILMINGTON GOTTEN BETTER OR WORSE  
IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS?

 WORSE  BETTER

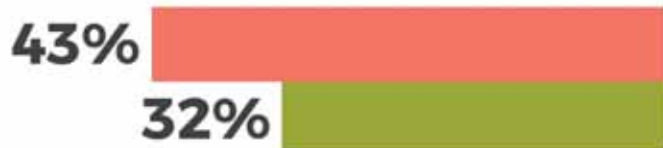
WILL WILMINGTON GET BETTER OR WORSE  
IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?



LIVE IN  
WILMINGTON



COMMUTE IN  
TO WILMINGTON  
FOR WORK



JUST VISIT



"More litter,  
more noise,  
more shooting,  
more drugs."

"More people  
and things  
to do."

"More people  
living & working  
in the city."  
"People won't be  
afraid to come  
shop and  
hang out."

"Crime continues  
to get worse."  
"Will be overrun  
with rental  
properties."

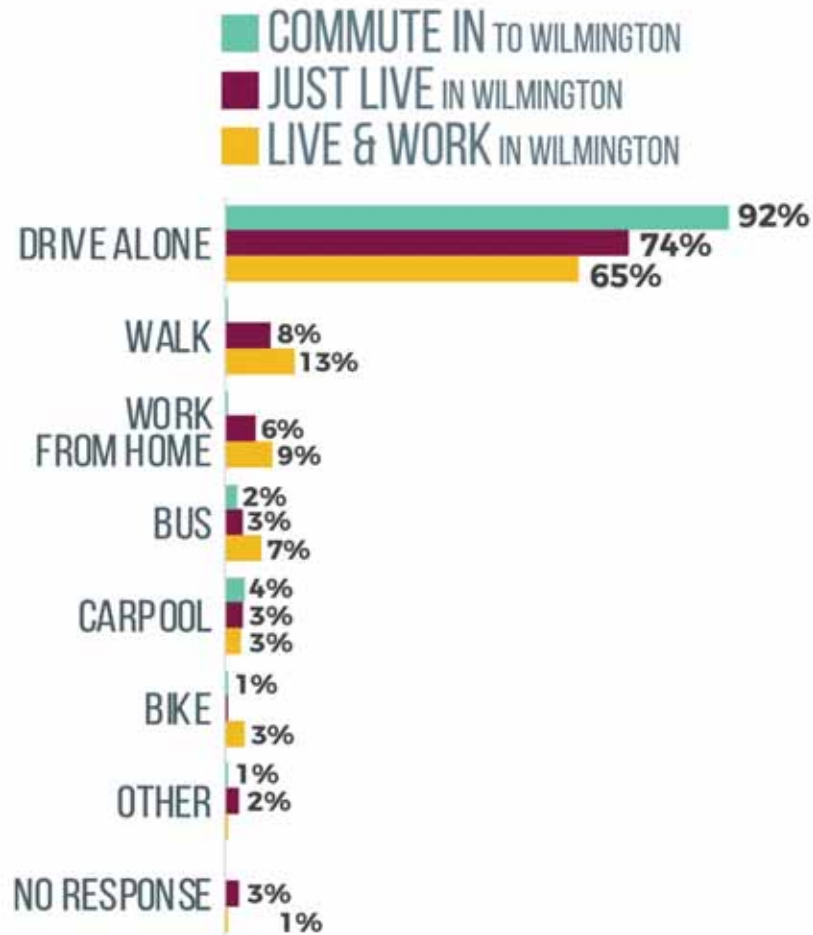


Wilmington in 2028 will...

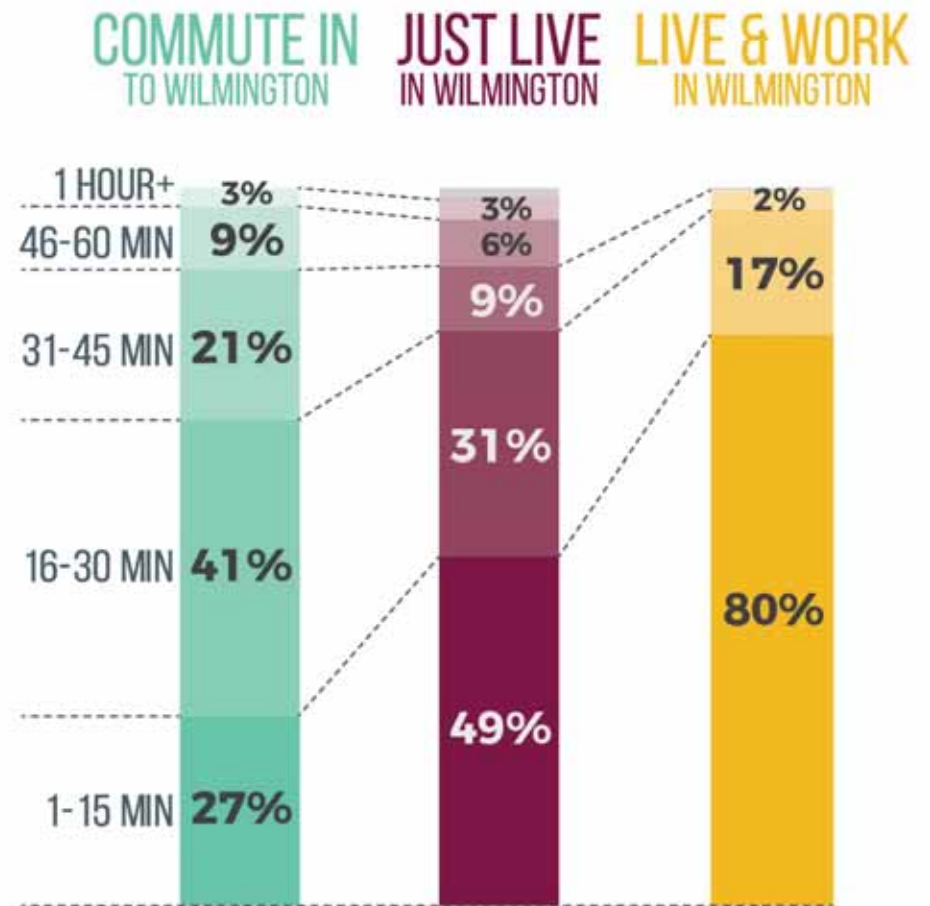
- 49 **Be safe**
- 36 **Be vibrant, with things to do**
- 26 **Be easy to get around (walk, bike, transit)**
- 24 **Have economic opportunities**
- 19 **Be community-oriented and engaged**
- 17 **Have youth opportunities**
- 16 **Have revitalized neighborhoods**
- 16 **Be clean and attractive**
- 12 **Be proud**
- 12 **Have affordable housing**
- 12 **Have great parks**
- 10 **Be green and sustainable**
- 8 **Have more residents**
- 6 **Be healthy**
- 6 **Be diverse and cosmopolitan**

# COMMUTING HABITS

## MODE OF TRAVEL TO WORK



## LENGTH OF COMMUTE





# PUBLIC FORUMS

**203** PEOPLE ATTENDED THE PUBLIC FORUMS

**33** CONTRIBUTED TO THE VIRTUAL FORUM

# Public Forum Locations

- Places and Dates
- Attend any location

**Wilmington**  
**2028** A Comprehensive Plan for Our City and Communities

**Join us at a public forum to talk about the future of Wilmington**

Drop in **whenever** and **wherever** it is most convenient for you and stay for as long or little as you can.

Come any time during the open hours to one of the five locations below:

*let's talk!* Bring your friends and family! Enjoy refreshments with your neighbors & **share your vision** for your community and the City of Wilmington.

**DROP IN ANY TIME DURING THE HOURS LISTED**

- 1 Nov 8 between 4 & 7 pm**  
P. S. DuPont Middle School  
701 W. 34th Street
- 2 Nov 13 between 4 & 7 pm**  
Kingswood Community Center  
2500 Bowers Street
- 3 Nov 14 between 4 & 7 pm**  
Woodlawn Library  
2020 W. 9th Street
- 4 Nov 21 between 4 & 7 pm**  
Southbridge Neighborhood House  
1219 B Street
- 5 Nov 30 between 4 & 6 pm**  
Mt. Carmel United Church  
800 N. Walnut Street

**Questions?**  
For more information: Call or email **Gemma Tierney** in the Department of Planning and Development at 302-576-3117 or [gtierney@wilmingtonde.gov](mailto:gtierney@wilmingtonde.gov)

# WHAT IS A GREAT STREET?

Take a look at the examples below, pick a street you like, then grab a card and fill in the blanks to tell us what makes it a great street.



## Downtown business district

- 1 Pedestrian-scale lighting  
Tree canopy & landscaping  
Wide sidewalks  
Ground floor retail and restaurants
- 2 Storefront windows  
Stormwater planters  
Pedestrian-scale lighting  
Benches
- 3 Shared street for cars, bikes and people, no curbs  
Reclaimed pavement  
Outdoor seating
- 4 Robust transit stations  
Separated bike lanes
- 5 Gateway to the city  
Landscaped median with pedestrian refuge

## Neighborhood commercial

- 6 Streetscape designed to slow traffic  
Neighborhood-oriented bike racks
- 7 Complete street provides dedicated space for transit and cyclists  
Planted median  
Pedestrian refuge
- 8 Public art  
Temporary closure for events
- 9 "Parklet" uses parking lanes to expand pedestrian space
- 10 Playful street furniture  
Ample space for pedestrians

## Neighborhood residential

- 11 Raised crosswalk and bumpout slow traffic and reduce crossing distance  
One-side on-street parking
- 12 Narrow street with separated bike lane  
One-side on-street parking
- 13 "Chicané" design mimics winding road to slow traffic  
Speed bump  
Bike friendly
- 14 Green stormwater bumpouts narrow wide street and calm traffic  
Kid-friendly  
Tree canopy
- 15 Landscaped front yards  
Tree canopy and sidewalk planters



# WHAT IS A GREAT STREET?

267  
responses

## Top street types



# WHAT IS A GREAT STREET?

267  
responses

## Desired characteristics of most mentioned streets

**Market Street**  
[52 mentions]

pedestrian-friendly  
inviting  
friendly

**Union Street**  
[28 mentions]

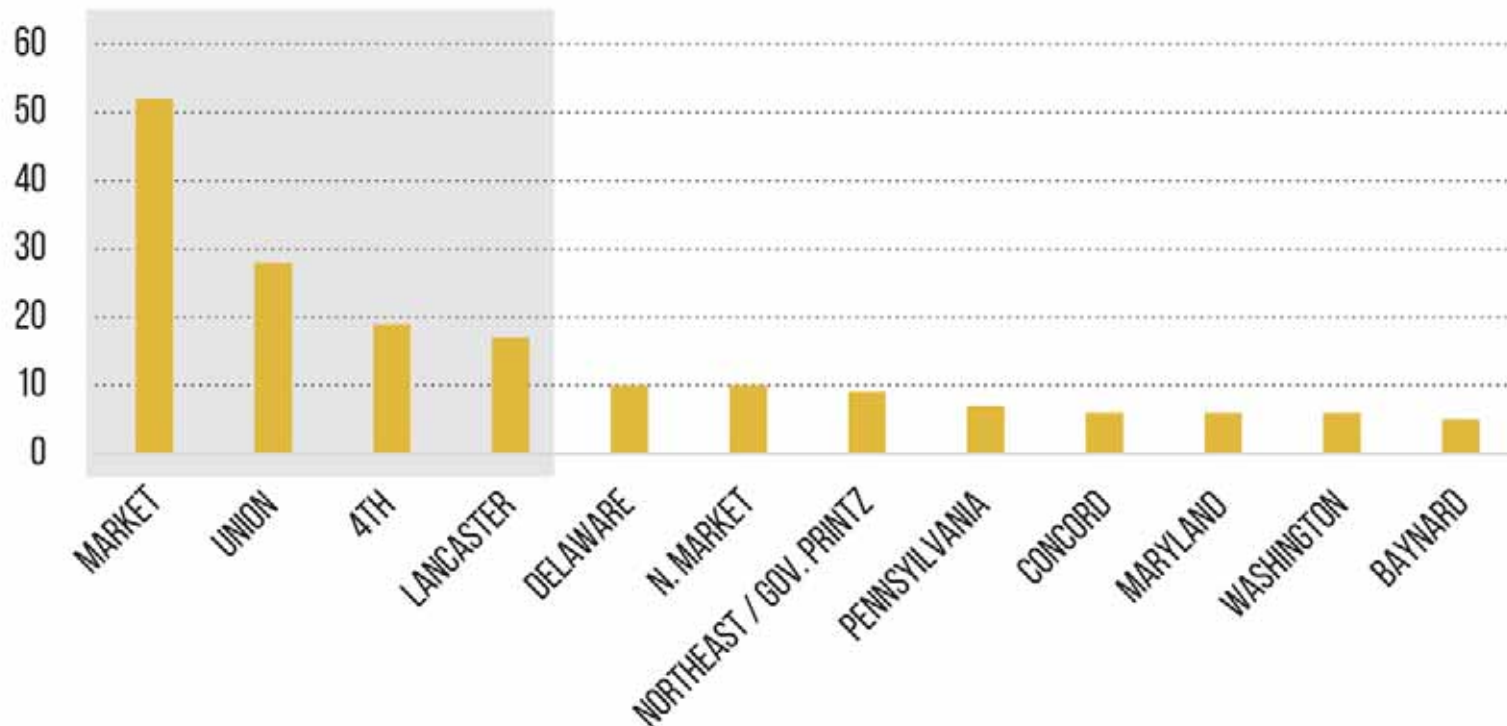
people-oriented  
inviting  
attractive

**4th Street**  
[19 mentions]

festive  
beautifying  
inviting  
creative  
fun

**Lancaster Avenue**  
[17 mentions]

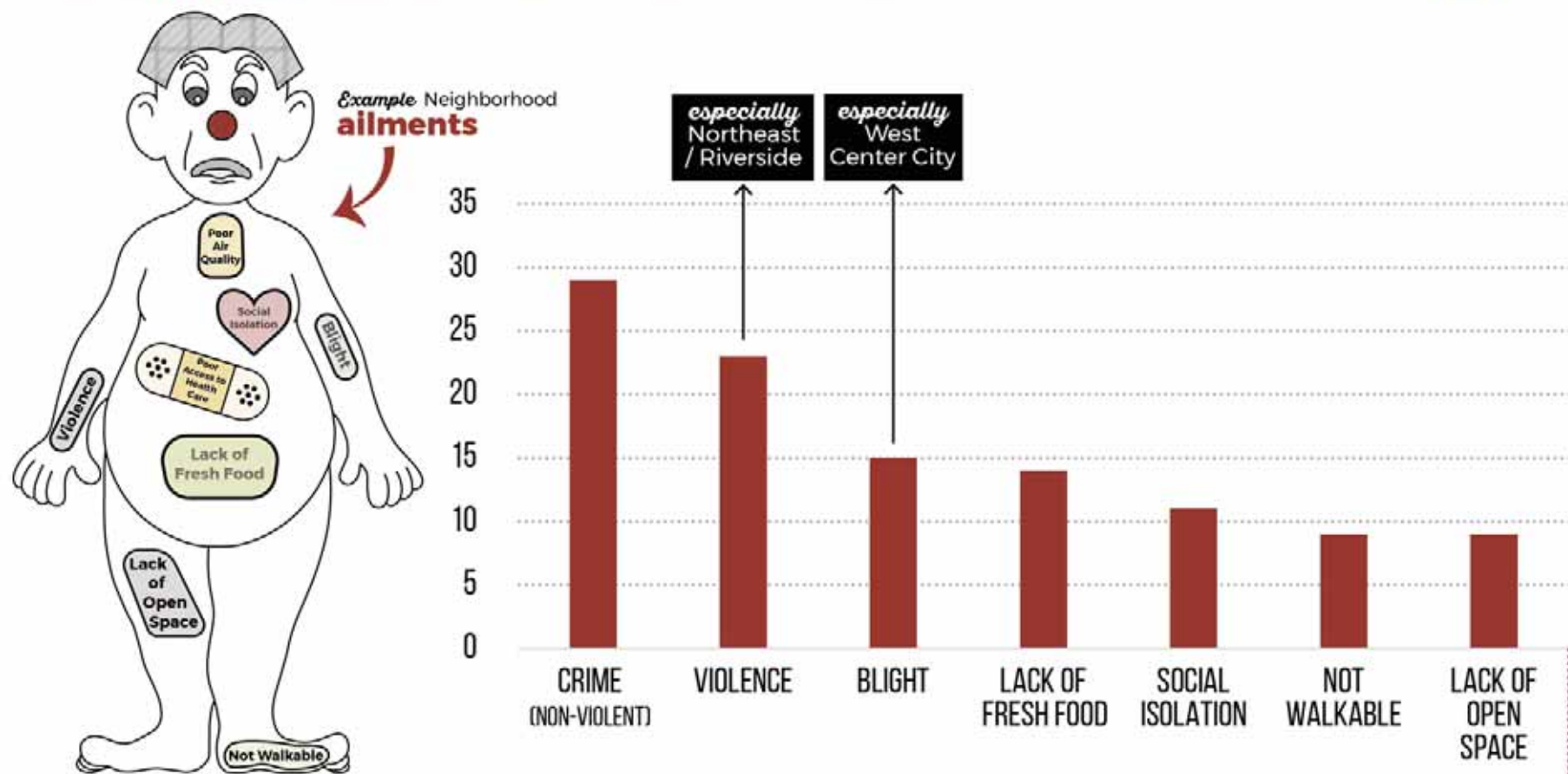
people-oriented  
attractive  
landscaped



# Wilmington NEIGHBORHOOD DOCTOR

139  
responses

What **ailments** does your neighborhood need help with to be **healthy**?



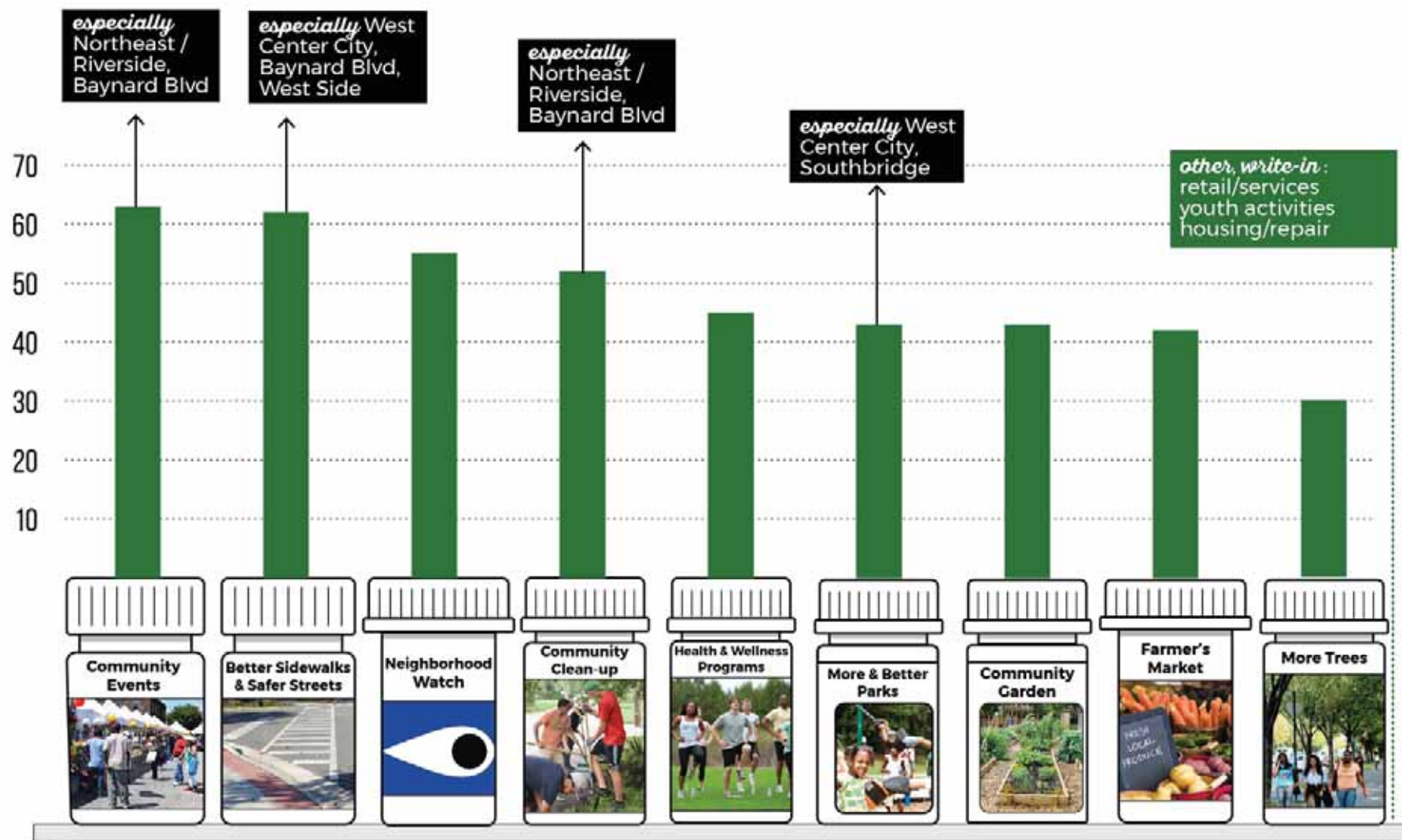
*other, write-in:*  
lack of maintenance  
apathy  
lack of activities



# Wilmington NEIGHBORHOOD DOCTOR

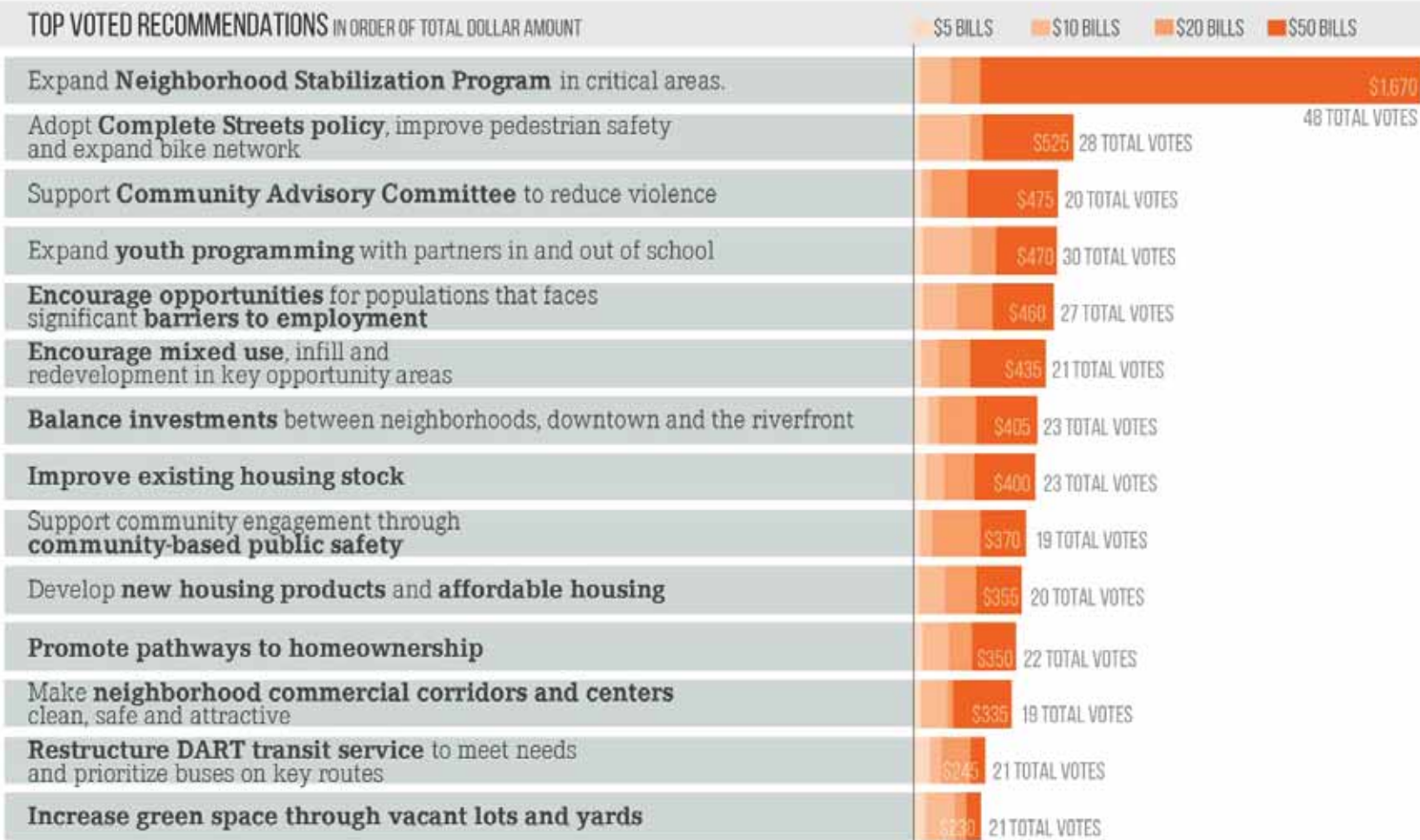
139  
responses

What would you **prescribe** for your neighborhood to be **healthy**?



# TOP KEY CITYWIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

PARTICIPANTS WERE EACH ASKED TO "SPEND" A TOTAL OF \$100 ON A LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS. THEY WERE GIVEN A \$50 BILL, A \$20 BILL, TWO \$10 BILLS, AND TWO \$5 BILLS.



# 5 Goal Areas

- I. Strong and safe neighborhoods
- II. Healthy and thriving communities
- III. Robust local economy
- IV. Connected city and region
- V. Sustainable and resilient city

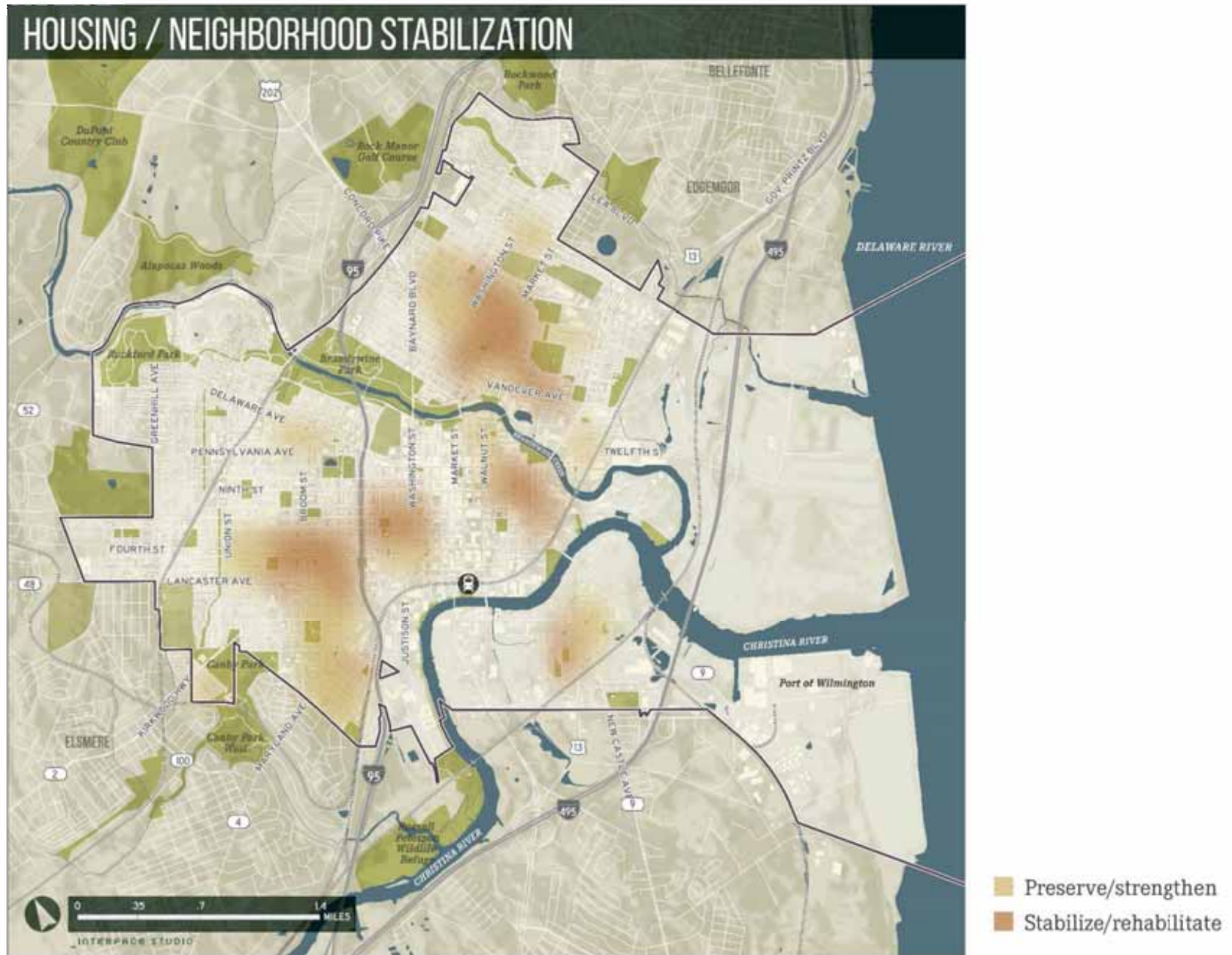
# Preliminary Ideas

## I. Strong and safe neighborhoods

1. Target crime and blight reduction in critical areas
2. Promote pathways to homeownership for existing residents
3. Cultivate neighborhood cohesion through shared experience and communal investment
4. Strengthen neighborhood character by ensuring infill and new construction fit in with basic neighborhood patterns



# Target crime and blight reduction in critical



# Preliminary Ideas

## II. Healthy and thriving communities

1. Provide youth with opportunities through education, mentorship, training and jobs
2. Invest in and maximize civic spaces like parks, community centers, libraries and schools to provide cross-programming, services and training with a focus on equity
3. Expand the reach of arts and cultural institutions and link to civic infrastructure
4. Promote health and wellness through active design, programs and campaigns



## Example: active design and healthy community spaces at public and institutional facilities



# Preliminary Ideas

## III. Robust Local Economy

1. Build an inclusive economy of diverse businesses and a workforce of the future
2. Nurture a creative environment to attract talent and support start-up and creative/tech sector
3. Support vibrant commercial and mixed use corridors and centers that are walkable and offer access to jobs, services and amenities
4. Ensure efficient and responsive city government to retain and attract residents and businesses
5. Market city assets : open space, arts and culture, events, jobs, small businesses, history, affordability, livability



## Example: Making the arts visible throughout the city



# Preliminary Ideas

## IV. Connected City and region

1. Design streets that are safe and accessible for everyone
2. Improve key corridors for better connections, safety, balance of uses, and to highlight gateways to the city
3. Improve the transit experience to better serve riders, increase access to all parts of the City and Region
4. **Engage in cooperative planning activities** with adjacent governments to better coordinate land use along the City's borders



## Example: Great Streets



Making the Connection



Downtown Business District



Neighborhood Main Street



Neighborhood Street

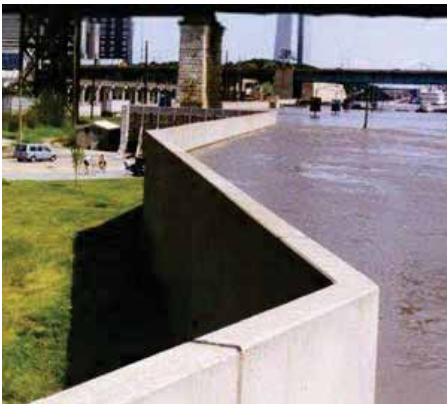
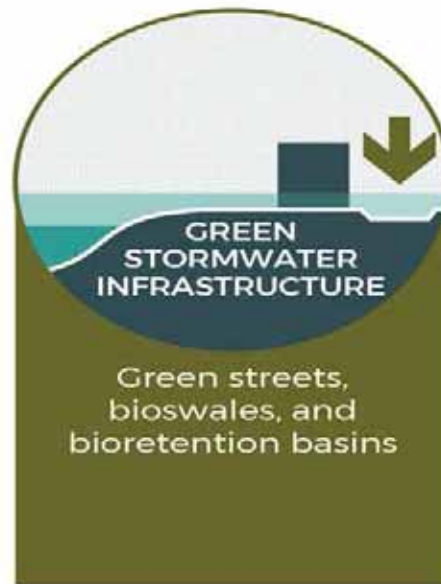
# Preliminary Ideas

## V. Sustainable and resilient City

1. Increase tree canopy and native habitat throughout the city
2. Embed sustainability and resilience in city government as a model for the whole city
3. Protect residents and businesses from the impacts of climate change



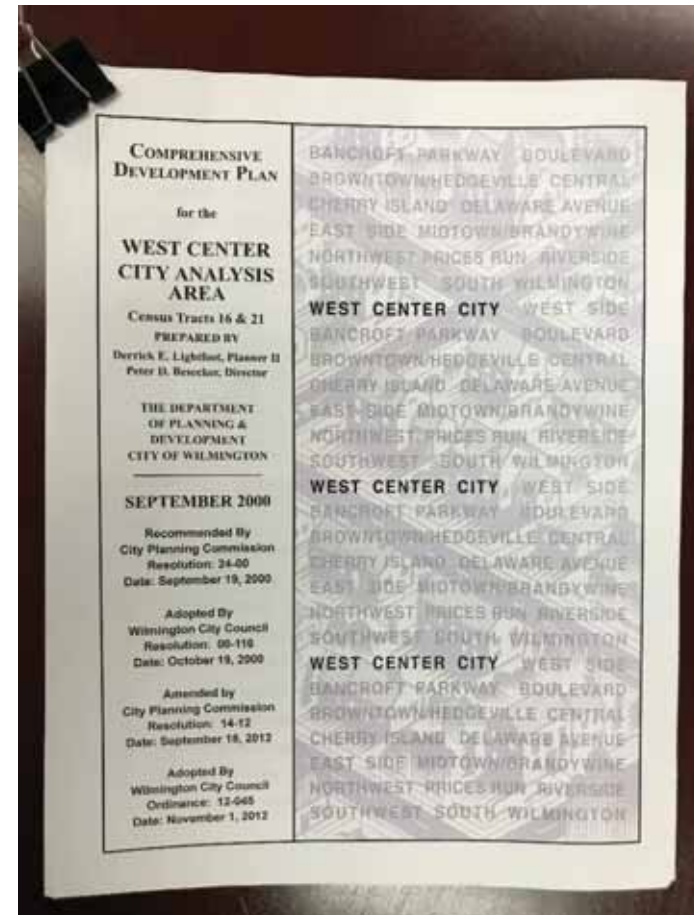
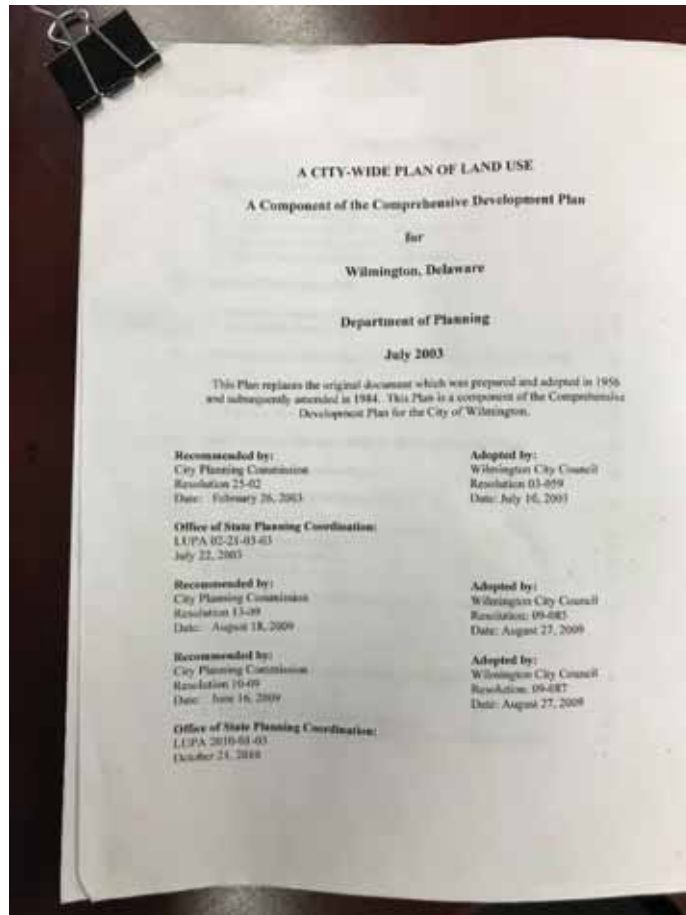
## Example: flood and sea level rise resilience measures



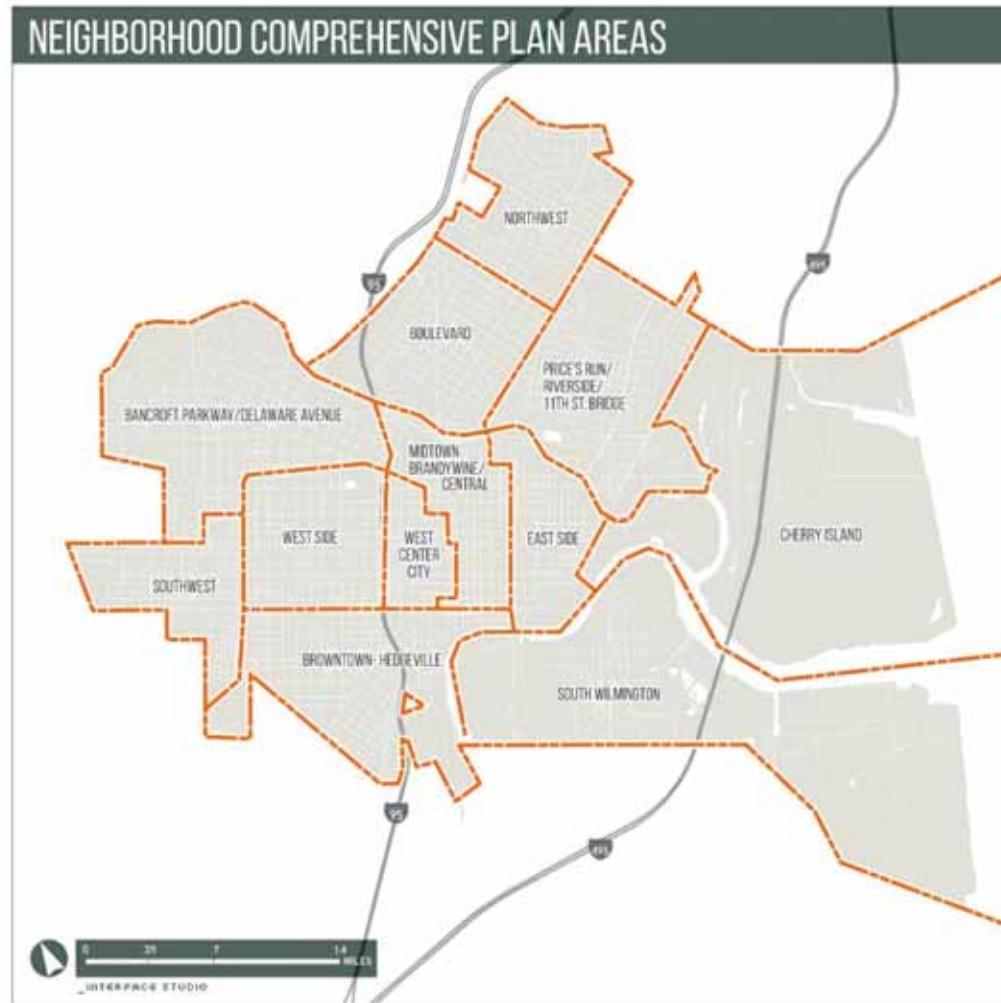
# Current Plan Form at

- Citywide Component
  - This is what we have used to satisfy State requirements.
- 12 Neighborhood Plans
  - These plans are updated on an as needed basis for the most part and dates vary.

# Current Plan Form at



# The Neighborhoods

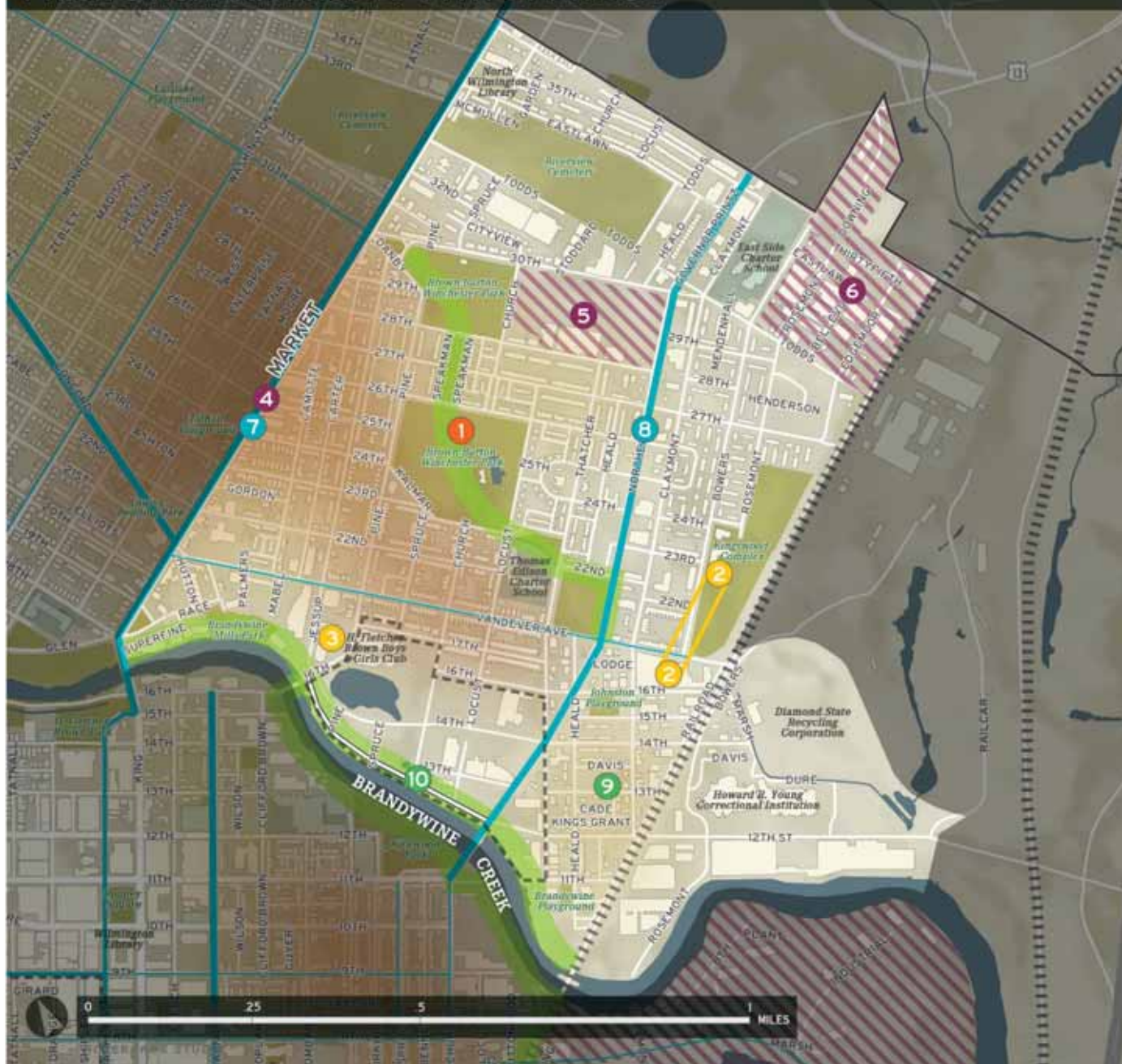


# New Plan Form at

- One document with both:
  - Citywide information
  - Neighborhood information



# PRICE'S RUN/RIVERSIDE/11TH ST BRIDGE



## Strong Safe Neighborhoods

- 1 Brown-Burton Winchester Park

## Healthy Thriving Communities

- 2 Warehouse Development & Kingswood Center
- 3 Northeast Service Center, Reeds Refuge, & Boys and Girls Club youth services

## Robust Local Economy

- 4 N. Market St. commercial
- 5 Former Del Tec site
- 6 Todds Lane Industrial Park

## Connected City and Region

- 7 N. Market St. gateway
- 8 Northeast Blvd. gateway

## Sustainable and Resilient City

- 9 Greenway flood mitigation
- 10 Greenway & riverwalk

## Connections

- Gateway corridor
- Main Street corridor
- Neighborhood connector
- Greenway

## Areas

- Opportunity area
- Employment center

## Housing/neighborhood

- Preserve/strengthen
- Stabilize/rehabilitate



# Price's Run/Riverside/11<sup>th</sup> St Bridge

## Strong and Safe Neighborhoods

- Reduce blight and crime, especially around N. Market Street
- Invest in Brown-Burton Winchester Park as central recreation and gathering space for the neighborhood.

## Healthy and Thriving Communities

- Connect the Warehouse Development with the adjacent Kingswood Community Center to strengthen youth and adult job training programs.
- Connect and maximize family and youth services around Northeast Service Center, Reeds Refuge, and Boys and Girls Club

## Robust Local Economy

- Support North Market Street as a Main Street Corridor and Gateway.
- Redevelop the former Del Tech Site as an employment hub.
- Redevelop the Todd's Lane Industrial Park and support construction of Downing Drive.

## Connected City and Region

- Make North Market Street an attractive, multi-modal corridors.
- Connect the neighborhood's park spaces through a greenway and riverwalk along the Brandywine Creek.

## Sustainable and Resilient City

- Protect residents and businesses, especially adjacent to low-lying areas around the Brandywine Creek, from the negative impacts of flooding and climate change.

## PLAN PHASES



**STARTING  
UP**

**RESEARCH &  
ANALYSIS**

**VISION &  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PLAN  
DEVELOPMENT**

up next!

## KEY TASKS

form Steering Committee

collect base information

Steering Committee kick off

interviews  
survey

public forums

focus groups

public forum

draft plan

final plan

**MONTH**

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

public launch



# Questions

[www.wilmingtonde.gov/government/city-departments/planning-and-development/wilmington-2028](http://www.wilmingtonde.gov/government/city-departments/planning-and-development/wilmington-2028)

