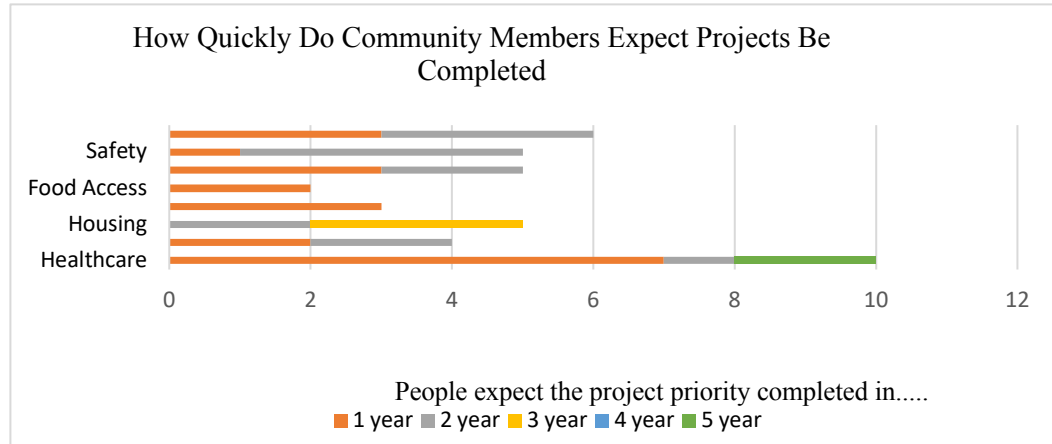


# EWRRRC 2021/22 Strategic Planning Report

## In-Person Meeting in April 2022

(~20 people between two in person events)

- Most people who attended expect most of the topics/projects could be done in one year.



- **Top 5 ideas in each topic;** a yellow highlighted item indicates 4 or more people support the idea. Green highlight indicates most project ready (low hanging fruit). Bold indicates top three categories.

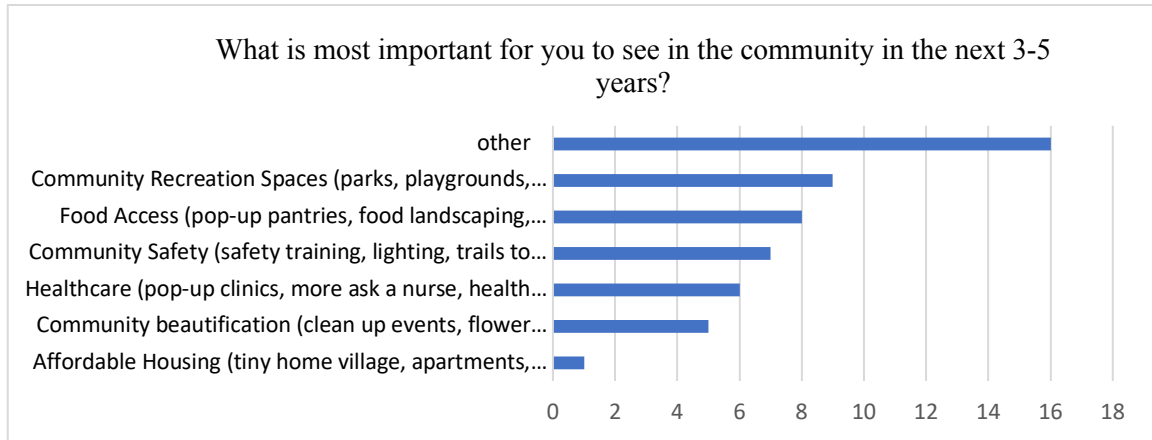
- Healthcare
  - Family, Adult, Child Mental Health Counseling
  - Outpatient treatment
  - Detox/Mental Health facility
  - Mobile Health providers
  - Telehealth
- Recreation
  - Outdoor multi-age exercise equipment
  - Kid-covered play pavilion (multi-use)
  - Dog park
  - Swing set
  - Folk dancing (like Ukrainian, Russian, etc. cultural activities)
- Housing
  - Fourplex Village in East Whatcom
  - Trailer Park
  - Income-based housing
- Communication
  - Reader board for Resource Center
  - Communication hub
  - Ham radio class
  - Community “pay phone” but maybe free? Available 24/7
- Food Access
  - Multi days a week Farmer’s Market accepting EBT
  - Mobile food bank location (little free pantries)
  - Mobile grocery store

*Foothills Food Bank is working on these processes/ideas and the EWRRRC participates in the Foothills Community Food Partnership to address this work.*
- Beautification
  - Quarterly large trash picks up
  - Community garbage cans
  - Donate to my neighbors who need help with garbage service
  - Incentive/stipend for community Adopt a Block
- Safety
  - Walking trail to stores & library
  - Crosswalk
- Youth & Family Services
  - Teen activities: Skatepark
  - Childcare
  - Incentivized Parenting Classes
  - Nature-based free kids’ program (After school/Summer)

# Online & Mailed Paper Survey to all of East Whatcom

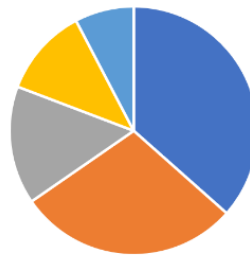
(Total of 52 responses)

- Most common answers in “other” were: food access and community recreation spaces and safety”
- The top choices were Community Recreation Spaces, Food Access, and Safety
- People requested a dog park and exercise classes



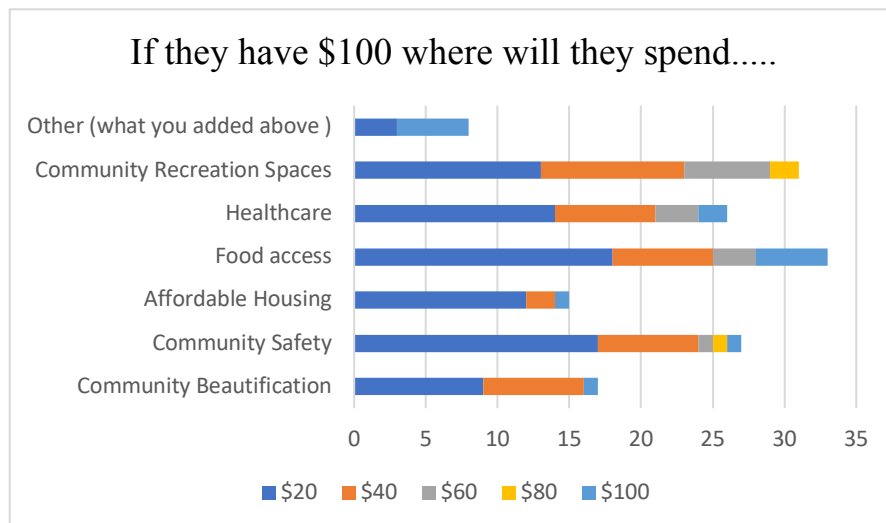
- As was true with the in-person meeting, most people expect to see the change in 1-2 years.

Realistically: considering, funding, planning, staff, etc: how soon do you think you could see your top priority completed?

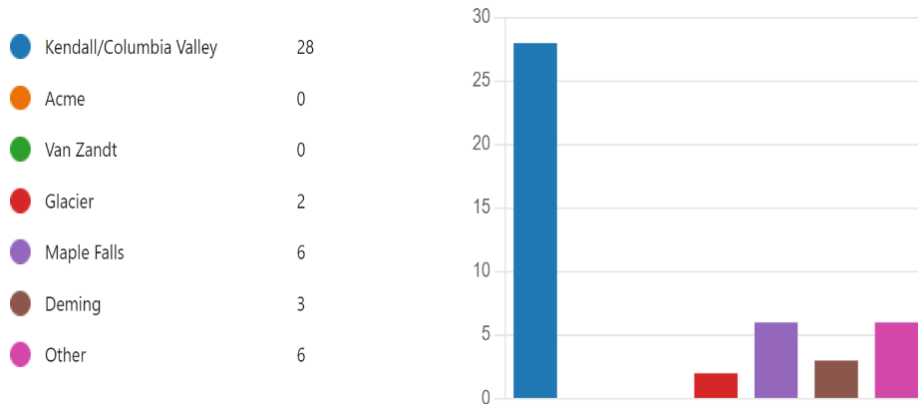


■ 1 year from now ■ 2 years from now ■ 3 years from now ■ 4 years from now ■ 5 years from now

- Top choices for funding were: Food Access and Community Recreation Spaces echoing what was learned at the last EWRR Strategic Planning in 2015; Healthcare and Safety were neck and neck for funding.



## Where are you from?



- **People also shared the community needs**
  - Animal Control Services (free program for spayed/neutered)
  - Kids programs (summer program)
  - Change the event time to non-working times
  - Secure drop off/pick up Mailbox at EWRRRC
- **Comments and Feedback:**
  - **Critical**
    - It would be nice to have more community centered events at the EWRRRC itself.
    - I think that a number of beautification projects could be done on a volunteer/donation basis in public spaces if well coordinated.
    - There is no point in most of your community options because you hold your events such as mental health and healthcare DURING WORKING HOURS. I don't know if you live on this planet but stuff is hitting the fan and people can't miss work with this inflation.
    - We need more sheriff deputies up here, as well as animal control. It has gotten way out of control in regards to animals on the loose, people neglecting their animals, and people not getting their pets spayed or neutered when there are free programs available for this.
    - I would like the EWRRRC to have a secure regulation mailbox drop so we don't have to drive to Maple Falls or Deming. It is not safe in my area to leave outgoing mail in my mailbox for pick up.
  - **Positive**
    - Excited to be a neighbor :)
    - You are all doing a great job!
    - I'd love to help in any way I can.
    - You are doing great work, but I think the choices here could have been more specific or each contained examples like were given for community beautification.

### **Planners After Action Notes:**

- Recommend outreach three months prior next strategic planning through flyers, social media, reader boards, pop-ups and partners.
- Encourage historical review and celebrations be posted on the webpage and in the building six months in advance- this is helpful for folks who were not able to participate in the past and to set the stage.
- Aim for next strategic planning in early 2025 to be completed by 2026.
- Continue with surveys: mailed, online, over the phone, and in person options in addition to a facilitated meeting onsite.