



Union Square CNI

Summary of Input from the Neighborhood Task Force Meeting

July 25, 2024

INTERFACE STUDIO



About the Meeting

PURPOSE

To gather the Neighborhood Task Force and any members of the public who would like to attend to:

- **Update attendees** on the Neighborhood portion of the Union Square CNI planning process
- **Report back on what we heard** at the June Listening Session where we discussed the plan's overall vision for the future of Union Square
- **Discuss particular strategies** that would achieve the the goals that are emerging from the process

ATTENDANCE

About **25 people** attended the meeting.

There was a mix of Task Force members and members of the public.

*It is important to keep in mind that the data collected at this meeting **does not represent the views of the entire neighborhood.** These perspectives may contain clues to neighborhood views, but they are only the perspectives of a small group.*

About the Meeting

ACTIVITIES

Participants were asked to take part in two activities.

Activity 1: Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down

The first activity presented feedback on five themes that we heard at the June listening session, along with particular strategies that could contribute to each theme. Participants were asked to vote “thumbs up” or “thumbs down” on the strategies they support the most or the least.

THEME 1 Connectivity and Mobility

WHAT DID WE HEAR AT THE JUNE LISTENING SESSION?










- There is a need for **safer connections** in the neighborhood for people of all ages and abilities through **more crosswalks, bike lanes, improved lighting, and ADA accessible sidewalks.**
- There is a desire to **reduce speeding** in the neighborhood through better enforcement.
- It is important to **improve connectivity to other neighborhoods**, especially through public transportation.

Thumbs Up 👍 or Thumbs Down 👎?

We want to know which strategies you like the most, and which ideas you don't like at all.
We took your ideas and added a few more below.

Grab some stickers and show us what you want 👍 and what you don't 👎

Add your own ideas too: grab a sticky note and put it on the board!

SLOW TRAFFIC		<i>Any Other Ideas? Write It Down!</i> 📝	
 CURB BUMP-OUTS ○○○○○○○○○○	 SPEEDING CAMERAS ○○○○○○○○○○		 PAINTED STREETS ○○○○○○○○○○
PEDESTRIAN SAFETY			
 MORE CROSSWALKS & PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS ○○○○○○○○○○	 ADA ACCESSIBLE SIDEWALKS ○○○○○○○○○○	CONNECTIONS	
BIKE SAFETY		 IMPROVED CONNECTIONS TO DOWNTOWN ○○○○○○○○○○	
 BIKE LANES ○○○○○○○○○○	 BIKE SHARE ○○○○○○○○○○	TRANSIT	
		 IMPROVED TRANSIT STOPS ○○○○○○○○○○	

Example of one of the activity boards

About the Meeting

ACTIVITIES

Participants were asked to take part in two activities.

Activity 2: Putting Strategies On The Map

The second activity included a five foot tall map of the neighborhood and asked participants to call out locations where they think strategies should happen - or where things are already great.

Where Are Strategies Needed?

We want to know where you think things need to change, and where they should stay the same.

Think about the ideas you liked from the other boards. Where do they need to happen? And where should we make sure to preserve things that are already great?

- 1 Grab some numbered stickers 📍 and put them on the map where you think something needs to change - or where things are already great.
- 2 Write the number from your sticker on the idea board, along with a note describing your idea.

KEY LOCATIONS

- School
- Hospitals/Health Center
- Grocery Store
- Shopping
- Park
- Community Garden
- Community Center
- Government Buildings/Civic Services
- Transportation
- Commercial Corridors
- CNI Neighborhood Boundary

UNION SQUARE
A CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD

The mapping activity board

Strategies Were Presented Under 5 Key Themes



Connectivity and Mobility

What have we heard about this throughout the project?

- **There is a need for safer connections** in the neighborhood for people of all ages and abilities through more crosswalks, bike lanes, improved lighting, and ADA accessible sidewalks.
- **There is a desire to reduce speeding in the neighborhood** through better enforcement and street design.
- **It is important to improve connectivity to other neighborhoods**, especially through public transportation and improved design.

The Task Force's Top Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down Ideas



Connectivity and Mobility

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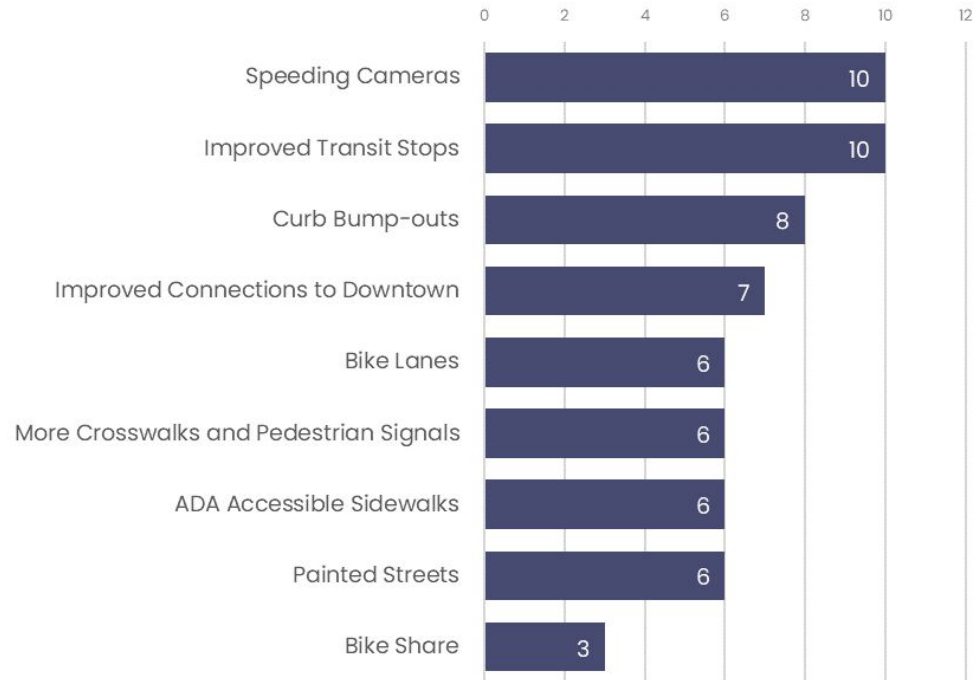
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The Task Force's Full Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down Data

Connectivity and Mobility:

Which Ideas Have the Most Enthusiastic Support?

Number of participants who voted in favor of various ideas at the Union Square Neighborhood Task Force Meeting, July 25, 2024



Education & Economic Mobility

The Task Force's Top Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down Ideas

What have we heard about this throughout the project?

- **There is a need for more after-school programs, indoor recreation spaces, and educational resources for youth.**
- **There is a need for more opportunities for adult education and job training and more access to resources like money management classes and computer labs.**
- **Seniors need a place of their own.**



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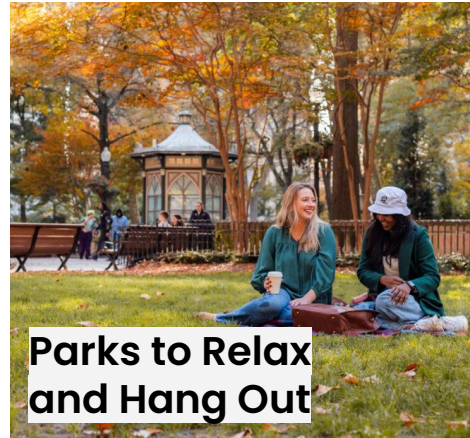


Health and Safety

The Task Force's Top Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down Ideas

What have we heard about this throughout the project?

- **A sense of safety and access fresh food are key** to making this a great place to live.
- **Violent crime is a major issue**, particularly in areas South of Columbus Avenue and Kimberly Square.
- **Residents want improved neighborhood amenities that bring people together**, like better parks and recreation spaces.
- **Many residents want more water recreation** like a public pool or more spraygrounds.



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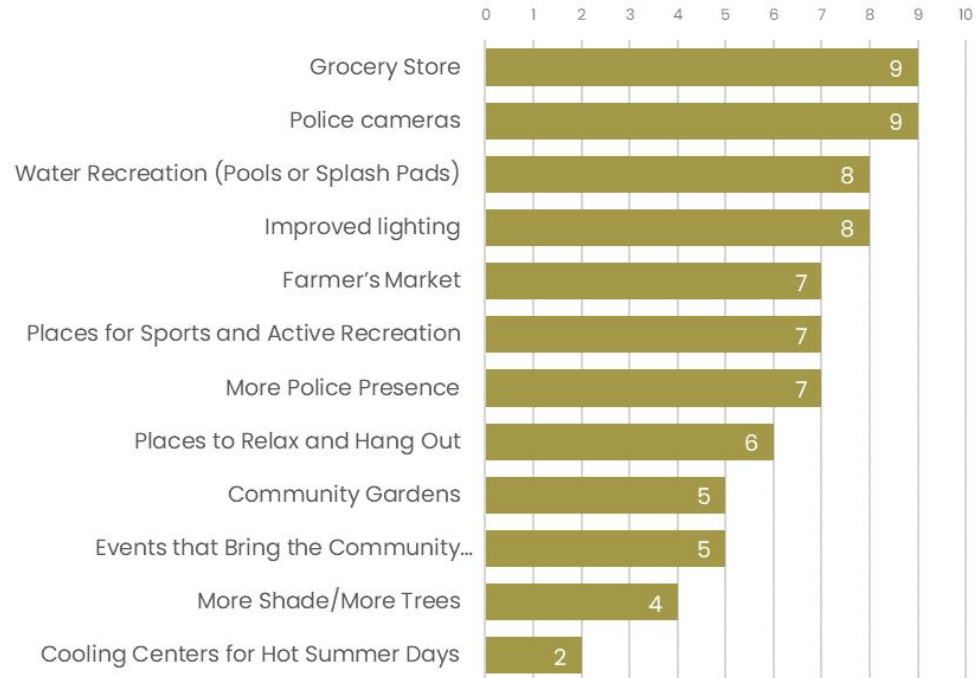
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Businesses & Culture

The Task Force's Top Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down Ideas

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- **There are not many stores** with retail or neighborhood services that serve local residents.
- **People would like more cultural activities** and reasons for the community to gather.
- **It would be nice to be able to shop without driving or taking the bus somewhere else.**



Businesses & Culture

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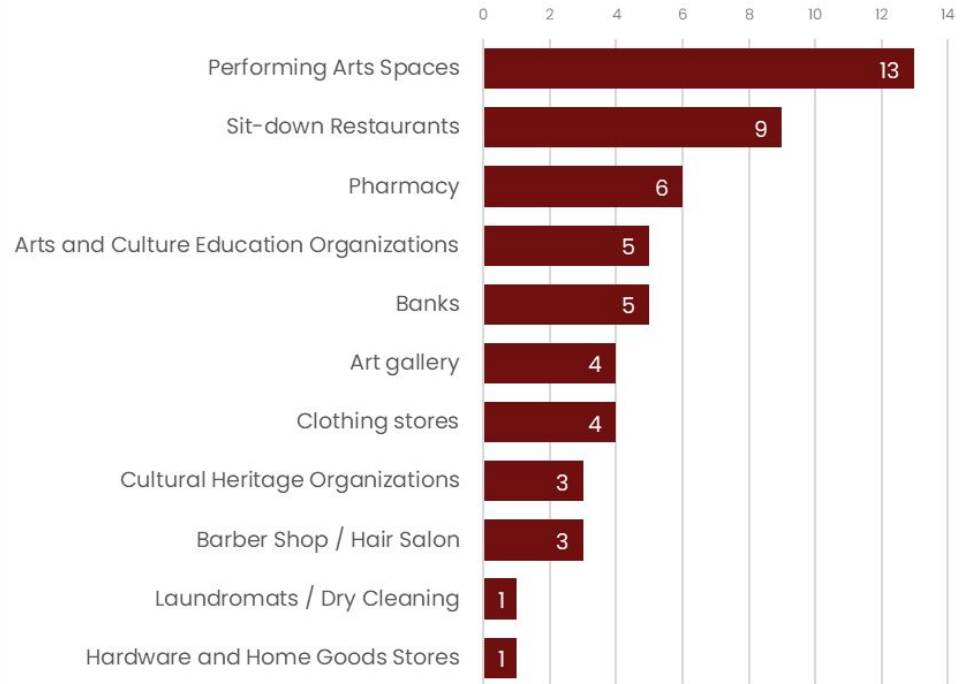
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Housing and Affordability

The Task Force's Top Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down Ideas

What have we heard about this throughout the project?

- **It is important to protect affordability for current residents**, especially for families and young people.
- **It is important to increase the supply of affordable housing** - especially affordable homeownership.
- **The aging housing stock needs to be preserved so families can stay.** Many homes are over 100 years old.
- **Some people feel the neighborhood is already densely packed.** It is important to consider strategies that will give residents more "room to breathe."



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